

# Infrastructure and Services for Digital Collections:

## Automated Obsolescence Notification

**Adrian Burton**

Leader,  
Australian Partnership for Sustainable Repositories  
(APSR)

DigCCurr 2007  
Chapel Hill, April 2007

# APSR Partners

**The Australian National University**

**The University of Sydney**

**The University of Queensland**

**The National Library of Australia**

**The Australian Partnership for Advanced Computing**



Supported by:



The Australian Government's  
Commitment to Innovation

An Innovative Action Plan for the Future

The Systemic Infrastructure Initiative

# Obsolescence Notification



# Automated Obsolescence Notification System (AONS)

**Aim:** To make collection managers aware of files in their collections that require preservation action





# AONS

AONS is a loosely-coupled group of services to **identify, notify, and evaluate** the risk of file format **obsolescence**.

It is particularly designed for large repositories that are:

- Long-lived
- Heterogeneous
- Where creators are not responsible for stewardship
- Without options for preservation on ingest

## AONS Core Functions



Format Information



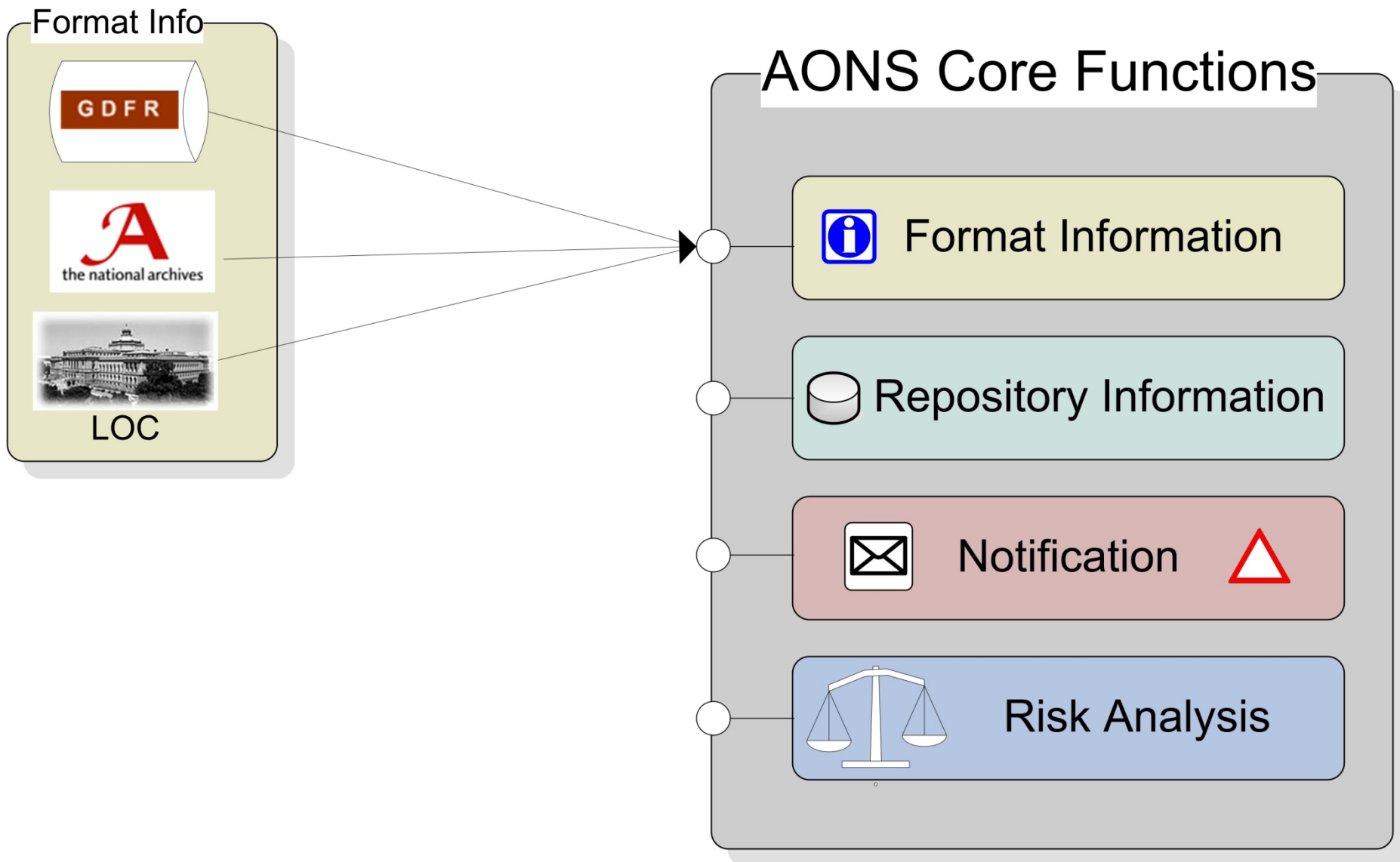
Repository Information

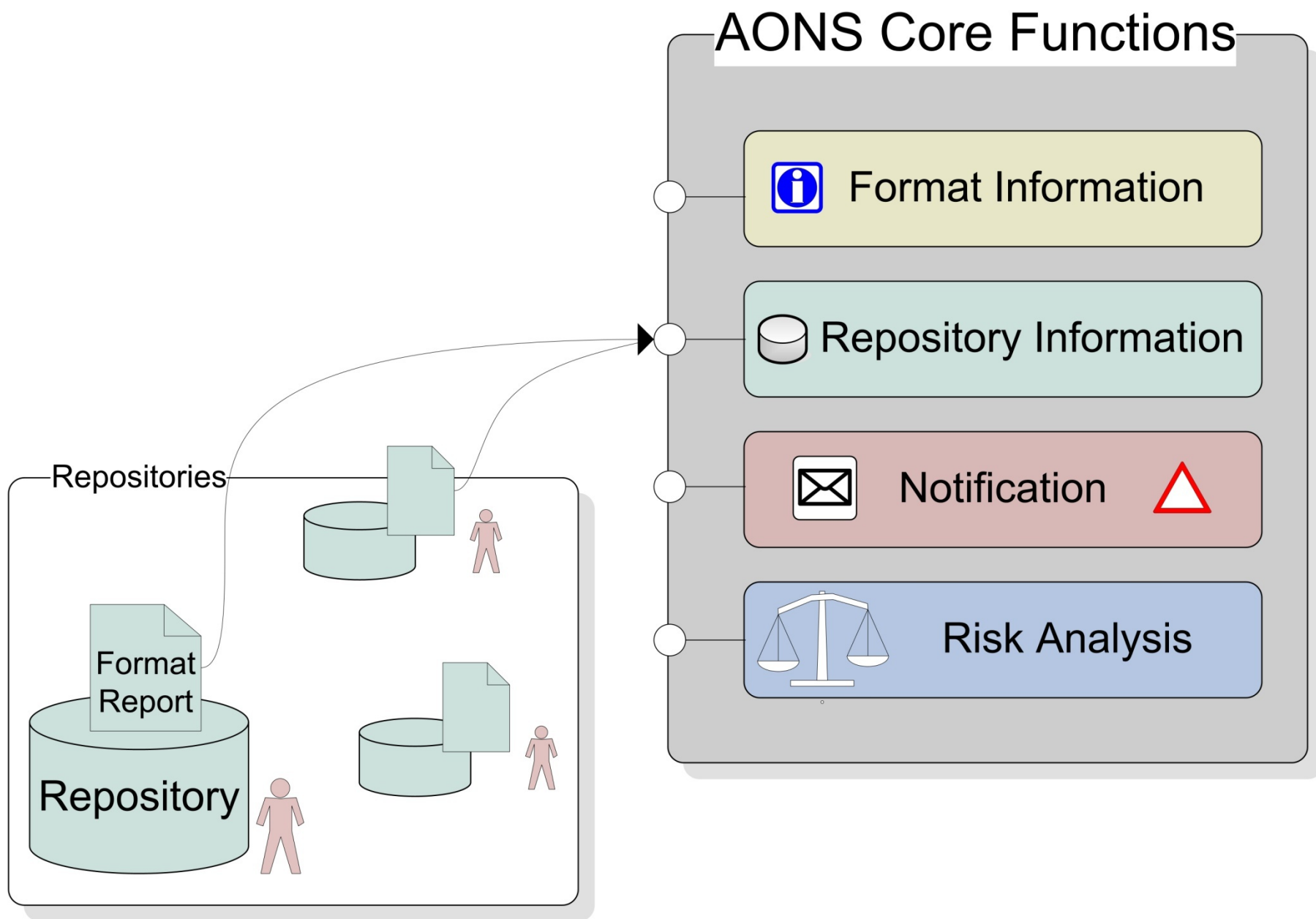


Notification



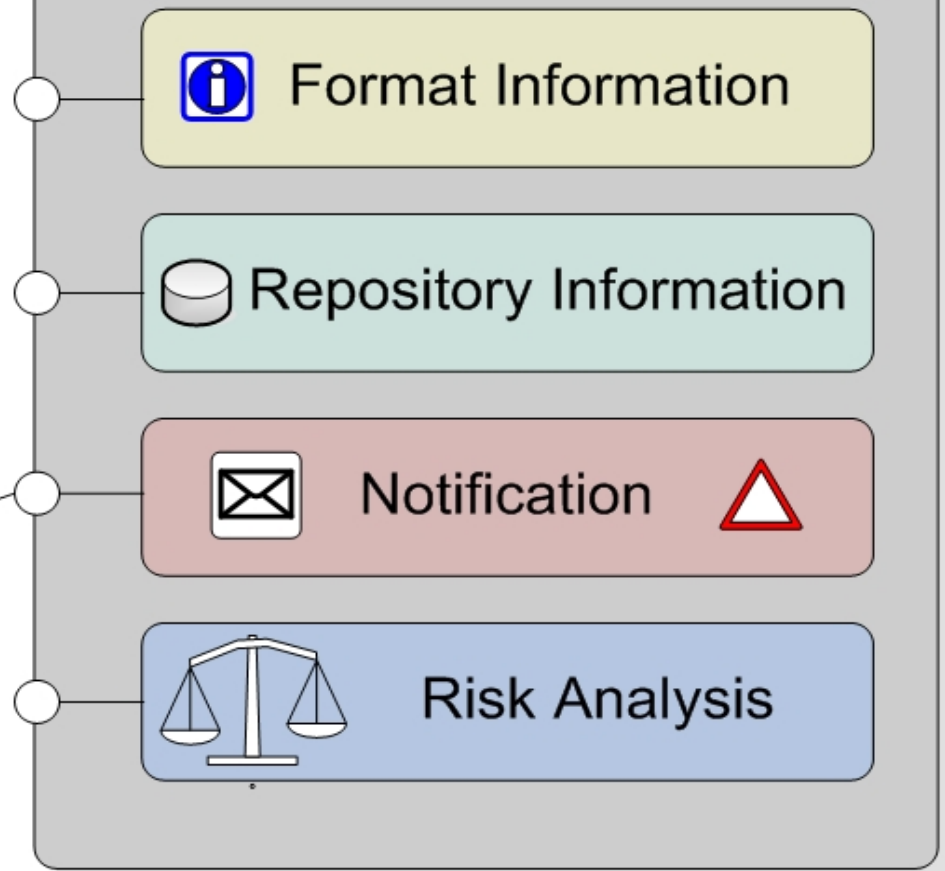
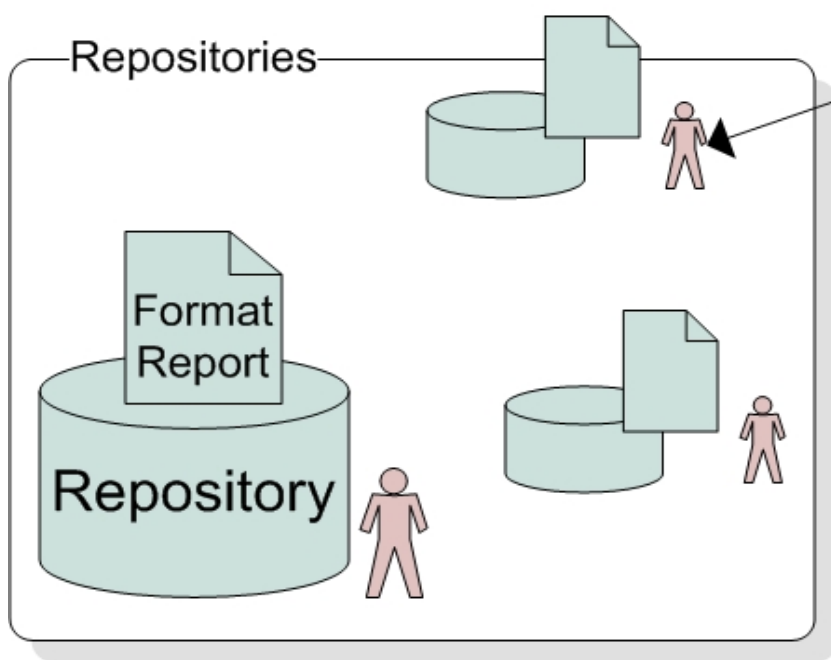
Risk Analysis



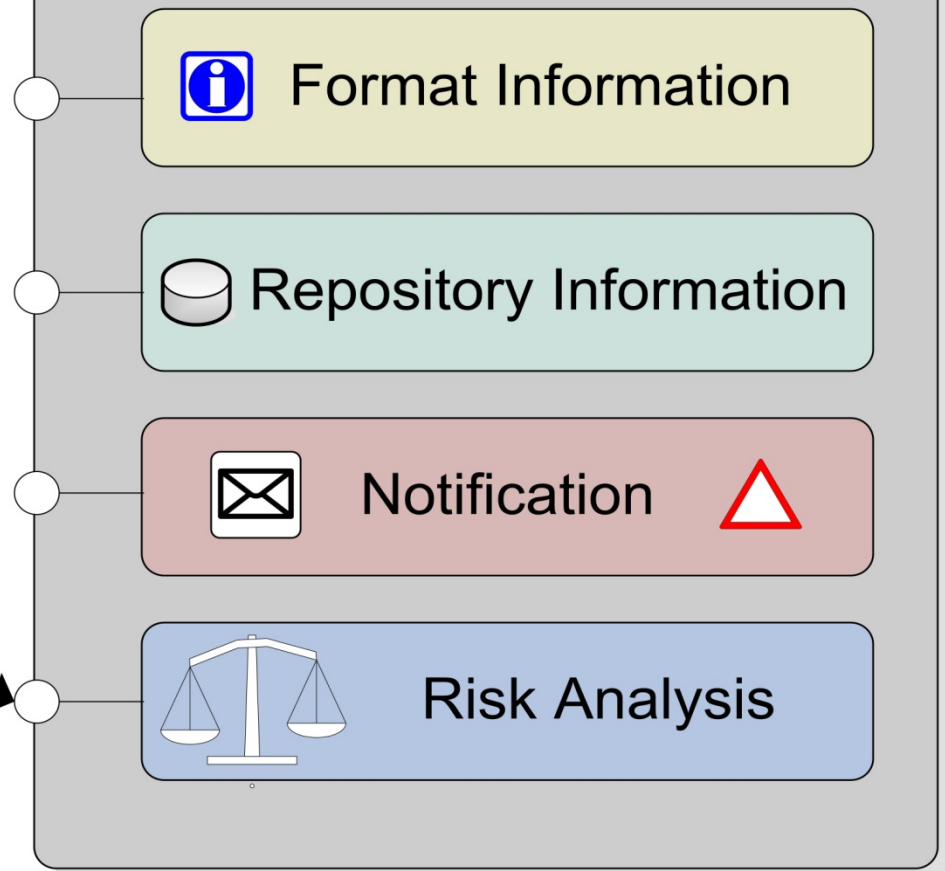
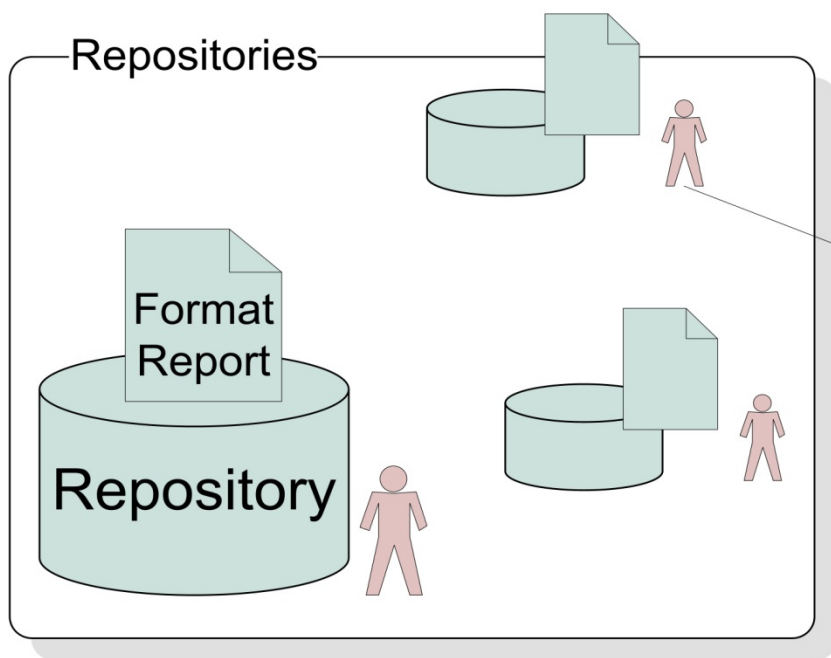




## AONS Core Functions



## AONS Core Functions

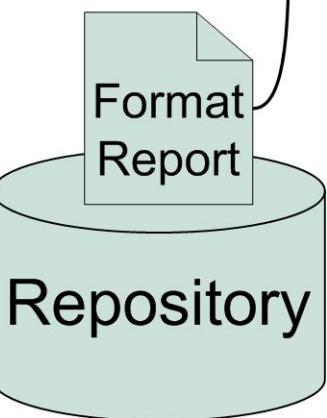


## Format Info



LOC

## Repositories



## AONS Core Functions



Format Information



Repository Information



Notification



Risk Analysis

## Format Info



LOC

## AONS Core Functions



Format Information



Repository Information



Notification

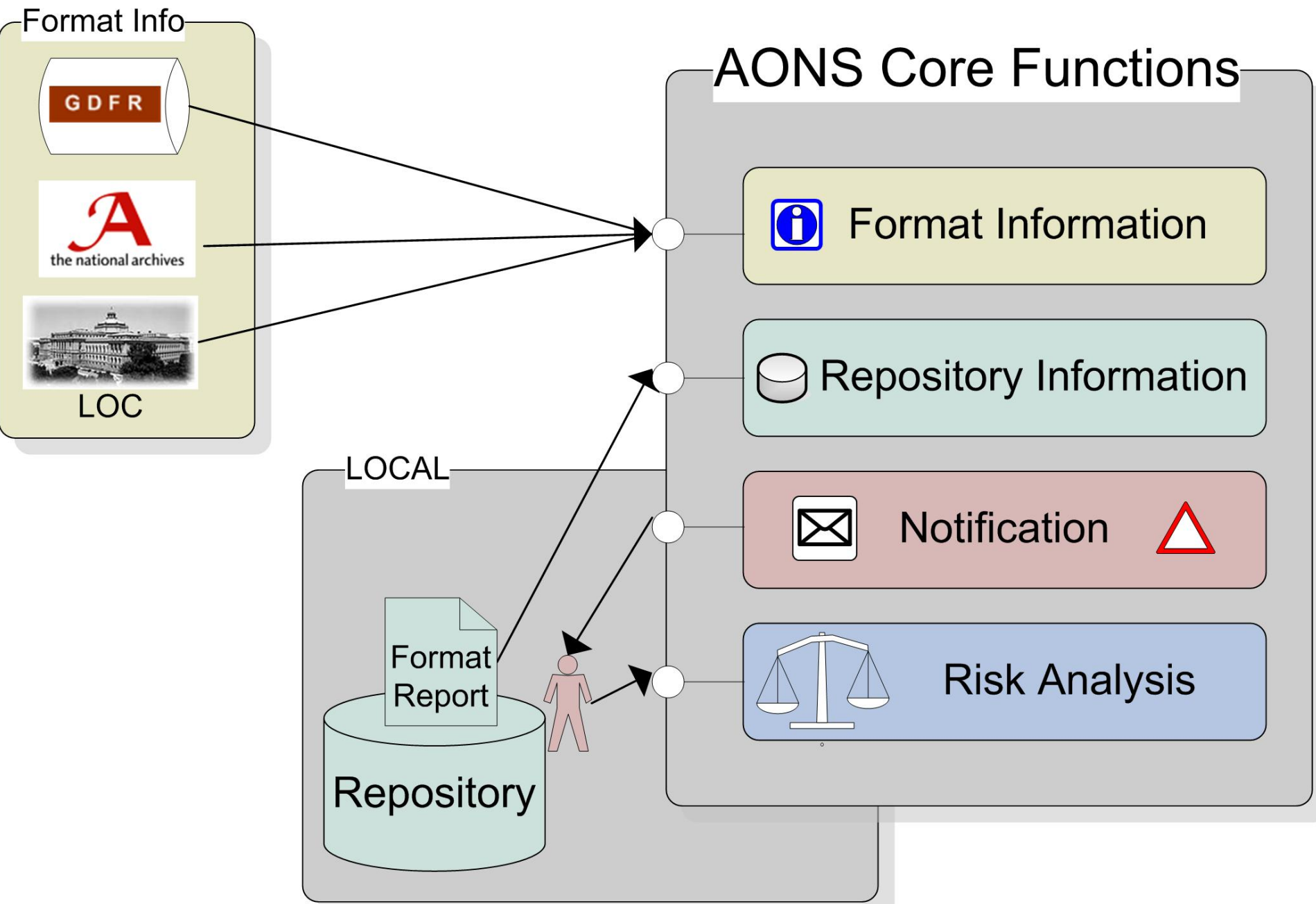


Risk Analysis

## LOCAL

Format  
Report

Repository



## Project Background

- 2005: PANIC architecture\*
- 2006: AONS 1, proof of concept system
- 2007: AONS 2, enterprise software, risk analysis, and pilot service

\*J.Hunter, S.Choudhury, "PANIC – An Integrated Approach to the Preservation of Complex Digital Objects using Semantic Web Services", International Journal on Digital Libraries: Special Issue on Complex Digital Objects, January 2006

## AONS Core Functions



Format Information



Repository Information



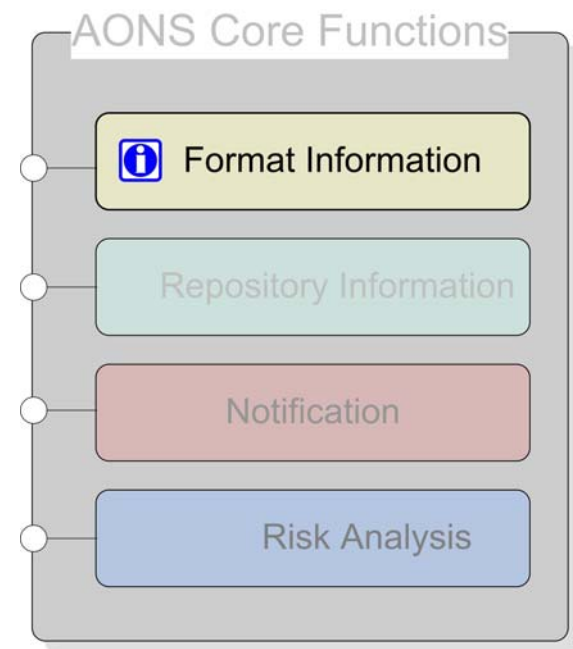
Notification



Risk Analysis

# Format Information

- PRONOM
- LOC – LCDFW (scraper)
- GDFR (Alpha 1)
- DCC RIF? NGDA?.....



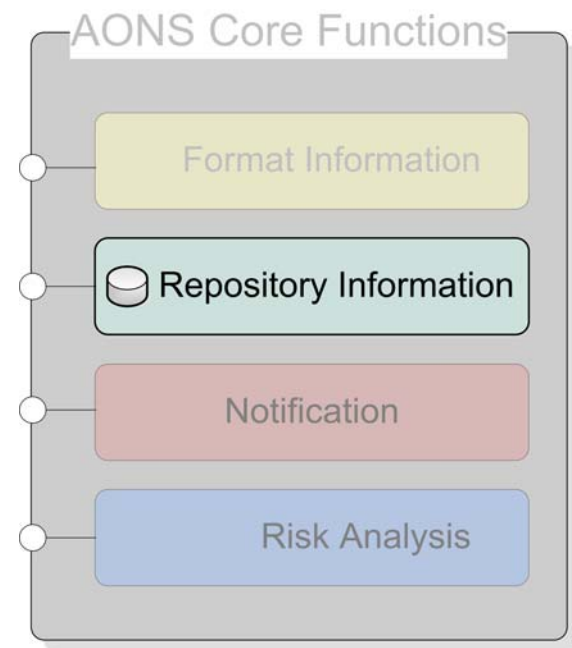
## ISSUES

- Standard ways to represent format information
- Unique ID's for formats
- Metric for measuring obsolescence
- Ongoing relationships with information providers



# Repository Information

- Managers self-register
- Repositories expose reports
- AONS “gets” the reports



## ISSUES

- authorisation/ authentication for registration
- scope of the service
- scaling to meet the needs of (eg) Internet Archive
- third party repository information aggregators

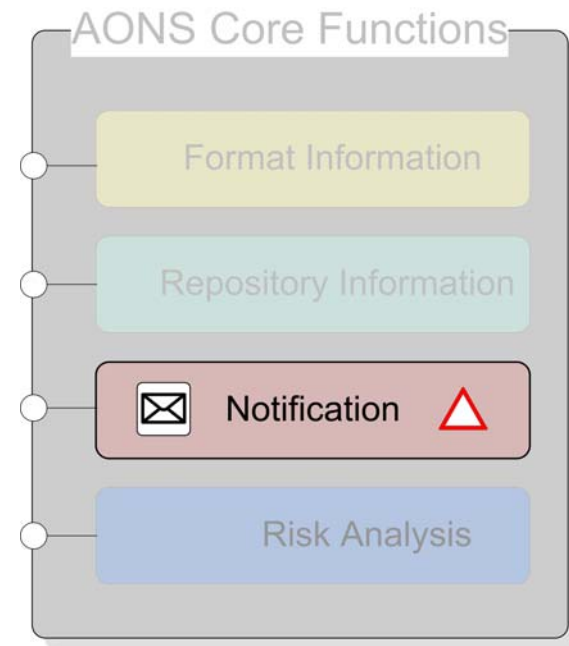


# Standard XML Format Report

```
<collection>
  <format name="name1" version="v1" puid="fmt1" count="200" />
  <format name="name2" version="v2" puid="fmt2" count="4000" />
  <format name="name3" version="v3" puid="fmt3" count="10" />
  <format name="name4" version="v4" puid="fmt4" count="300" />
</collection>
```

# Notification

- Email/ RSS....

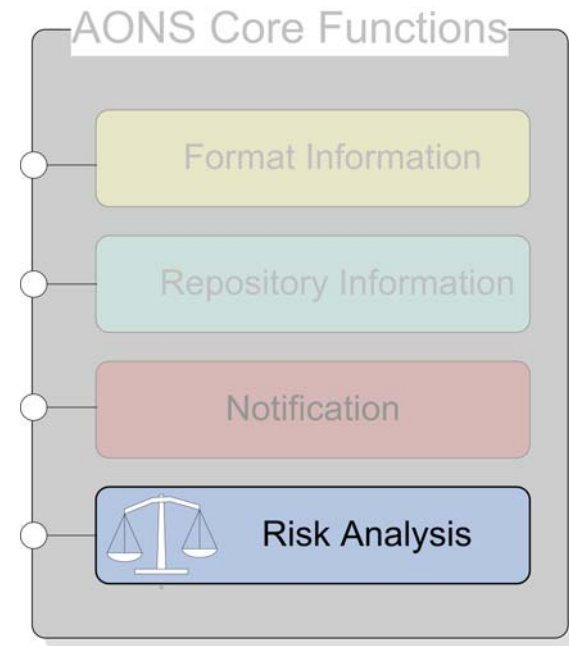


## ISSUES

- frequency
- granularity of detail (perhaps just a link)

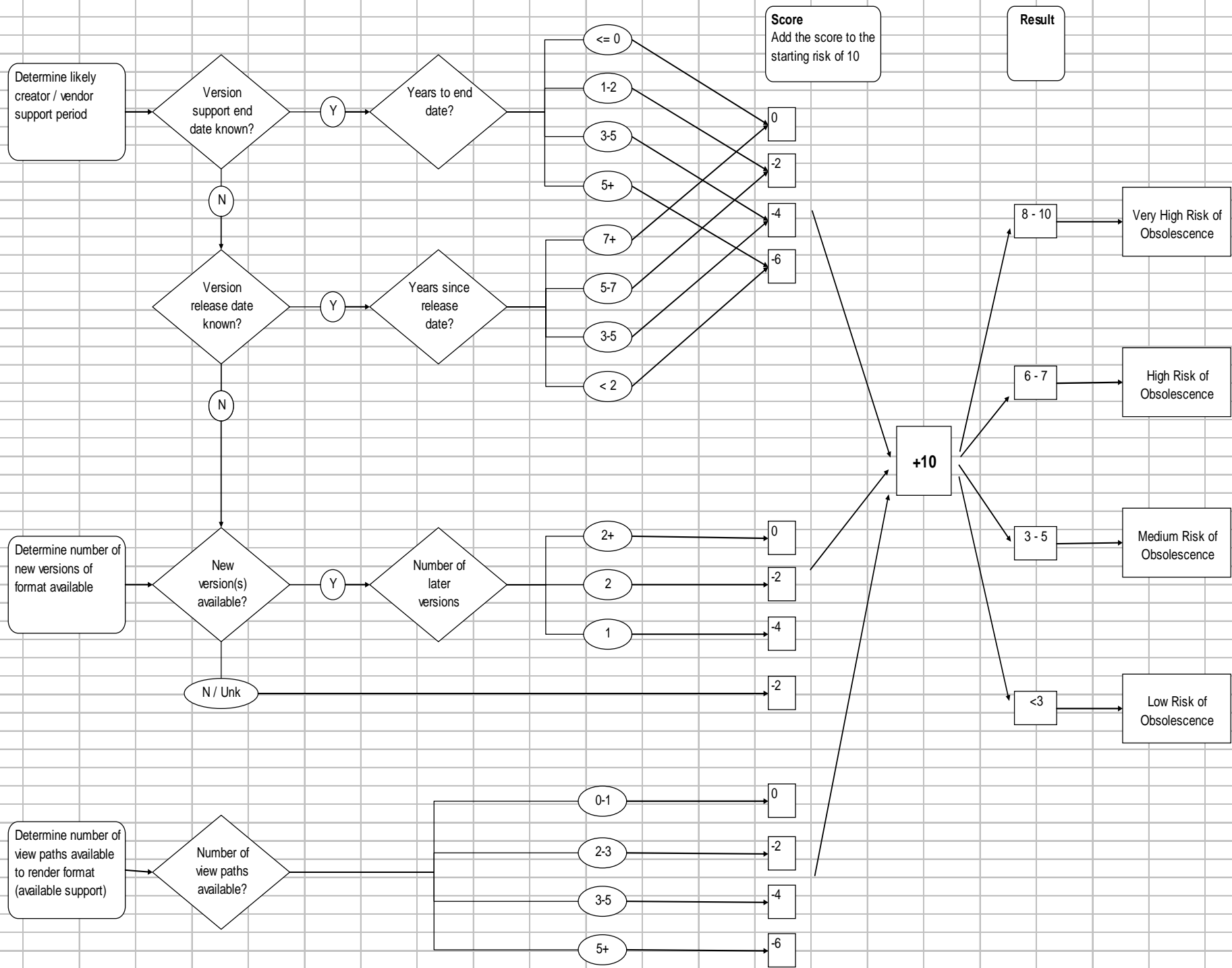
# Risk Analysis

- INFORM/ Deb Woodyard
- General vs individual risk
- Stateful web interface (My AONS)



## ISSUES

- what digital curators need to know to take action
- testing the metrics
- community risk may be supplied upstream
- other applications of the module





# Obsolescence Format Summary

Repository Name: *All*

Repositories contained within:

- ♦ [RepositoryX](#)
  - ◊ [RepositoryA](#)
  - ◊ [RepositoryB](#)
  - ◊ [RepositoryC](#)
- ♦ [RepositoryY](#)
- ♦ [RepositoryZ](#)

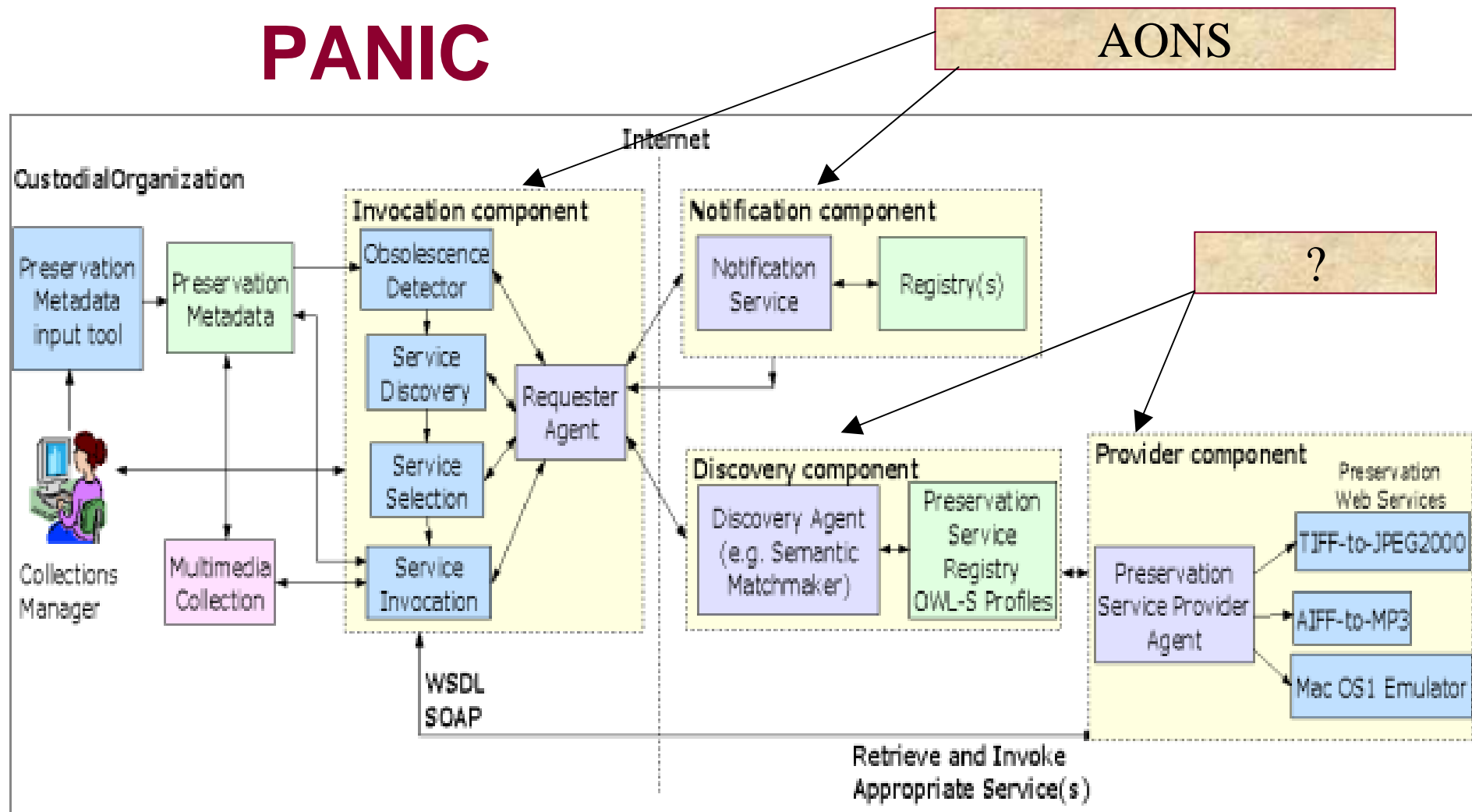
Current View of Repository All:

Name	Version Last Modified		Before Workflow		After Workflow				
			Risk (Community)	Risk (Contextual)	Risk (Net)	Risk (Community)	Risk (Contextual)	Risk (Net)	
<a href="#">AVI</a>	1.1	2007/03/12 13:40	5	10	15	5	10	15	<a href="#">Review</a>
<a href="#">Broadcast Wave</a>	1.1	2007/03/12 13:40	5	10	15	5	10	15	<a href="#">Review</a>
<a href="#">OpenOffice Draw</a>	1.1	2007/03/12 13:40	5	10	15	5	10	15	<a href="#">Review</a>
<a href="#">Windows Media Video</a>	1.1	2007/03/12 13:40	5	10	15	5	10	15	<a href="#">Review</a>
<a href="#">Plain Text file</a>	1.1	2007/03/12 13:40	5	10	15	5	10	15	<a href="#">Review</a>
<a href="#">TIFF</a>	1.1	2007/03/12 13:40	5	10	15	5	10	15	<a href="#">Review</a>

# AONS Design

- Loosely coupled SOA
- target independent
- Modular
- Robust Java enterprise software

# PANIC



<http://www.itee.uq.edu.au/~eresearch/projects/panic/index.html>

# Other Applications

- metadata schema obsolescence
- QA notification
- ....



