5-22-2019

404 Reasons to Use Perma.cc

Angela Hackstadt
University at Albany, ahackstadt@albany.edu

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarsarchive.library.albany.edu/ulib_fac_scholar

Part of the Law Librarianship Commons, Scholarly Communication Commons, and the Scholarly Publishing Commons

Recommended Citation
Hackstadt, Angela, "404 Reasons to Use Perma.cc" (2019). University Libraries Faculty Scholarship. 118.
https://scholarsarchive.library.albany.edu/ulib_fac_scholar/118
404 Reasons to Use Perma.cc
Angela Hackstadt | ahackstadt@albany.edu
University at Albany, SUNY


50% of URLs cited by United States Supreme Court cases suffer from link rot or content drift (Zittrain et al, 2013).

76% of URLs cited in Science, Technology, Mathematics (STM) articles suffer from content drift (Jones et al, 2016).

61% of URLs to public health information published by NGOs suffer from link rot or content drift (Crowe & Hodge, 2006).

Perma.cc is a service developed by Harvard’s Library Innovation Lab to preserve web-based content cited by scholars and the courts. Unlike archiving techniques that rely on random captures of web content, Perma.cc creates a permanent link at the request of a user, ensuring future scholars can review a source as it appeared at the time of citation.

- If the page is updated later, the Perma Linked version is preserved.
- There’s no need to worry about content drift!
- Perma Linked web pages can be viewed later — even if the original URL breaks. No more link rot!

Government information is not immune to link rot or content drift. In a study of food waste legislation scholarship, 24% of URLs to government sources suffer from link rot (Hackstadt, 2019). One notable example of content drift is demonstrated below.

Overview of Greenhouse Gases, by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is cited by two authors writing about U.S. food waste legislation:

"Methane is a greenhouse gas twenty times more damaging to the atmosphere than carbon dioxide," (Vaz, 2015)

Government information is not immune to link rot or content drift. In a study of food waste legislation scholarship, 24% of URLs to government sources suffer from link rot (Hackstadt, 2019). One notable example of content drift is demonstrated below.

"Methane accounted for approximately ten percent of all greenhouse gas emissions from human activities in 2010," (Haley, 2013)

Overview of Greenhouse Gases, by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is cited by two authors writing about U.S. food waste legislation:

"Methane is a greenhouse gas twenty times more damaging to the atmosphere than carbon dioxide," (Vaz, 2015)

Government information is not immune to link rot or content drift. In a study of food waste legislation scholarship, 24% of URLs to government sources suffer from link rot (Hackstadt, 2019). One notable example of content drift is demonstrated below.

"Methane accounted for approximately ten percent of all greenhouse gas emissions from human activities in 2010," (Haley, 2013)

Overview of Greenhouse Gases, by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is cited by two authors writing about U.S. food waste legislation:

"Methane is a greenhouse gas twenty times more damaging to the atmosphere than carbon dioxide," (Vaz, 2015)

Government information is not immune to link rot or content drift. In a study of food waste legislation scholarship, 24% of URLs to government sources suffer from link rot (Hackstadt, 2019). One notable example of content drift is demonstrated below.

"Methane accounted for approximately ten percent of all greenhouse gas emissions from human activities in 2010," (Haley, 2013)

Overview of Greenhouse Gases, by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is cited by two authors writing about U.S. food waste legislation:

"Methane is a greenhouse gas twenty times more damaging to the atmosphere than carbon dioxide," (Vaz, 2015)