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Reference Management Softwares

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1 Reference management softwares

1.1 About

Reference management software is software for scholars and authors for recording and utilising bibliographic citations(references). Once a citation has been recorded, it can be used time and again in generating bibliographies, such as lists of references in scholarly books, articles and essays.

These software packages normally consist of a database in which full bibliographic references can be entered. Modern reference management packages can usually be integrated with word processors so that a reference list in the appropriate format is produced automatically as an article is written, reducing the risk that a cited source is not included in the reference list. Reference management software collects a small database of the publications that have been used or are likely to be used by a particular author or group and this database can easily be housed on an individual's personal computer.

Researchers and research groups can store their documents in the library of the reference management software. Then they can synchronize and collaborate on their documents with other researchers.

2 Mendeley

2.1 About

It is a university social network, which makes easier to organize research and collaboration of researchers. It offers import of documents from another reference management software, searching of relevant documents based on what you read, online access of your documents wherever you are.

The work with mendeley can be summarized into 3 steps:

1. Download of Mendeley
2. Inserting your documents
3. Organize, edit and collaborate

<u>Features:</u>

- Mendeley allows reading documents, its highlighting and inserting of notes to documents.
- You can automatically watch folders by selecting folder. Whenever the content of folder is edited, it is automatically added into Mendeley library.
- Mendeley is accessible at the internet so you do not have to have Mendeley Desktop installed on you PC and still you will be able to browse in your library or in library of your group you are member in.
- You can create online presentation. All you have to do is to create your academic profile, save documents and publish your research.
- You can also intall the Word and OpenOffice Writer plug-in. It integrates Mendeley into your word processor. Once installed you will have toolbar buttons that will allow you to cite a document or generate a bibliography.
- You can also post comments and discuss your research in the groups you are member in.
- You can also download **web importer**, which downloads documents from websites, such as Wikipedia, Google Scholar, etc.
- There is also possibility to download documents from your own websites. All you have to do is add a button – Import Button. It allows you to download URL of the article. But the website has to be supported by the mendeley web importer, which means that the article must contain certain HTML metatags, which are consequently extracted. Despite the possibility of downloading articles from your own websites by using extraction of details from HTML metatags, there remains the problem of impossibility to automatically insert documents from Mendeley library to your own websites.

2.2 Practical testing

Collaborate:

- **Free version** offers you 1 private or invite-only (public can follow only) group with maximum 3 members (for example 10 members in a private group will cost you 74 USD per month), 1 GB of your personal web space and 100 MB of shared web space for each private or invite-only group.

Storage:

- You can add documents to your folders and organize your own library (1 GB personal web space). Or you can share documents with your collaborators inside your private group (100 MB shared web space). Each private group has 100 MB shared web space so basically if you are member in three different groups, each group has 100 MB shared web space, but all collaborators in the group have to manage this shared web space. Information about left free web space is shown only to the owner of the private group. So the owner of the private group has to manage this restricted web space.
- Public groups have unlimited shared web space. This type of groups anyone may join and contribute to. They are designed for open discussion groups around specific subject.

As you can see (Figure 1 and Figure2) the first user (Figure 1) has filled 3MB of his personal web space and his group (MyGroup) has filled 2 MB of its shared web space. The second user (Figure 2) has one private group (MyGroup2), which contains two members. These two members have to share this 100 MB shared web space, but each has own personal web space. Both are also members in a public group, but no information about shared web space for this group is shown, so I assume that the public groups have unlimited shared web space.
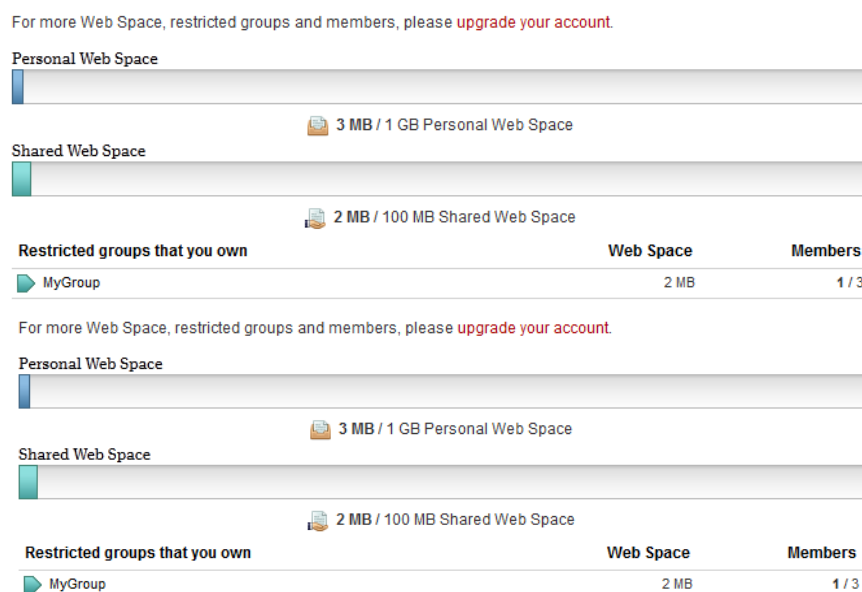

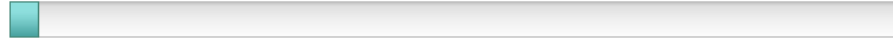Figure 1: Information about your web space

Figure 2: Information about your web space

<u>Mendeley Desktop:</u>

It is a tool for managing your library on your computer's desktop.

You can see there My Library card with all your documents in your library and then you can add selected documents to the shared web space of groups you are member in. Only private groups have restricted shared web space (100 MB).
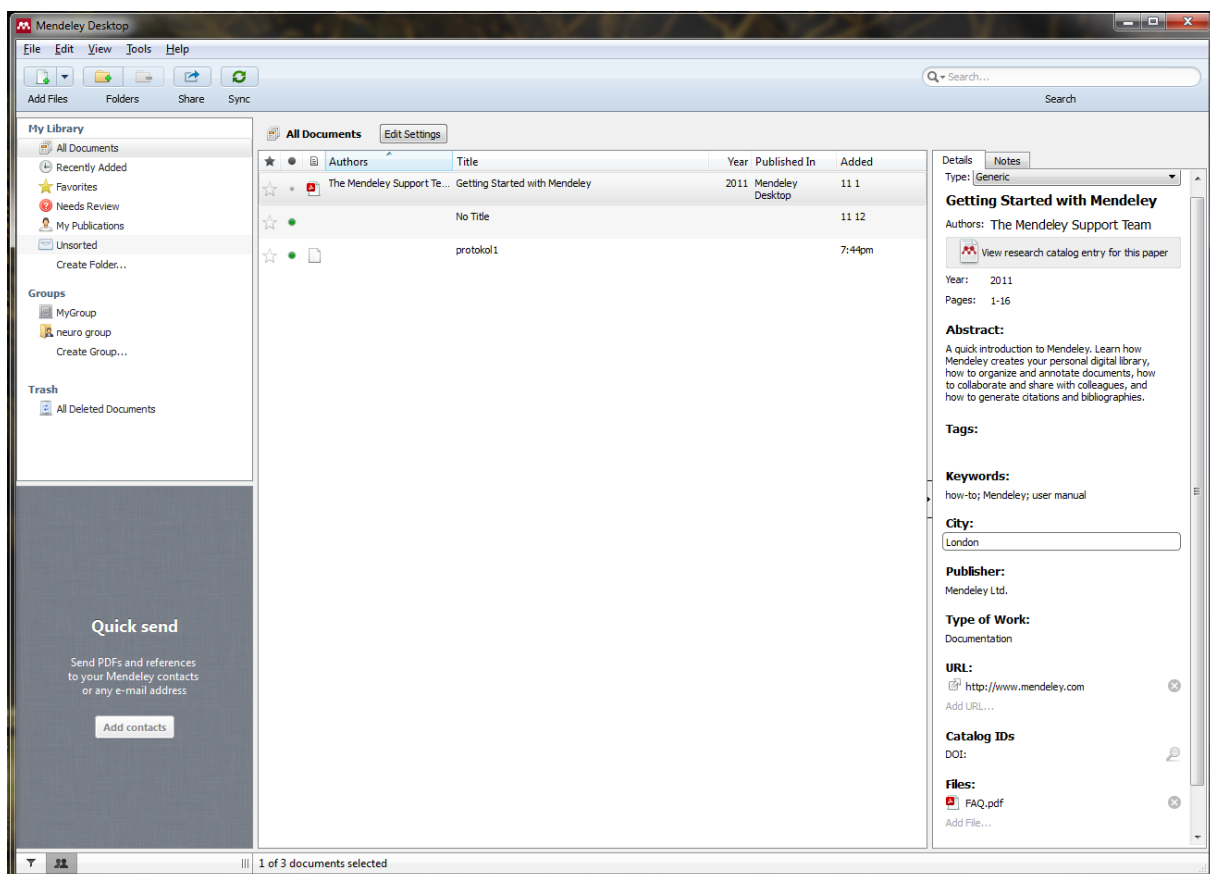

Figure 3: Main Window of application

On the picture (Figure 3) you can see the main window of application running on your desktop. On the right there is column with information with your selected file. You can update all information about this document or you can add more documents to the specified title.
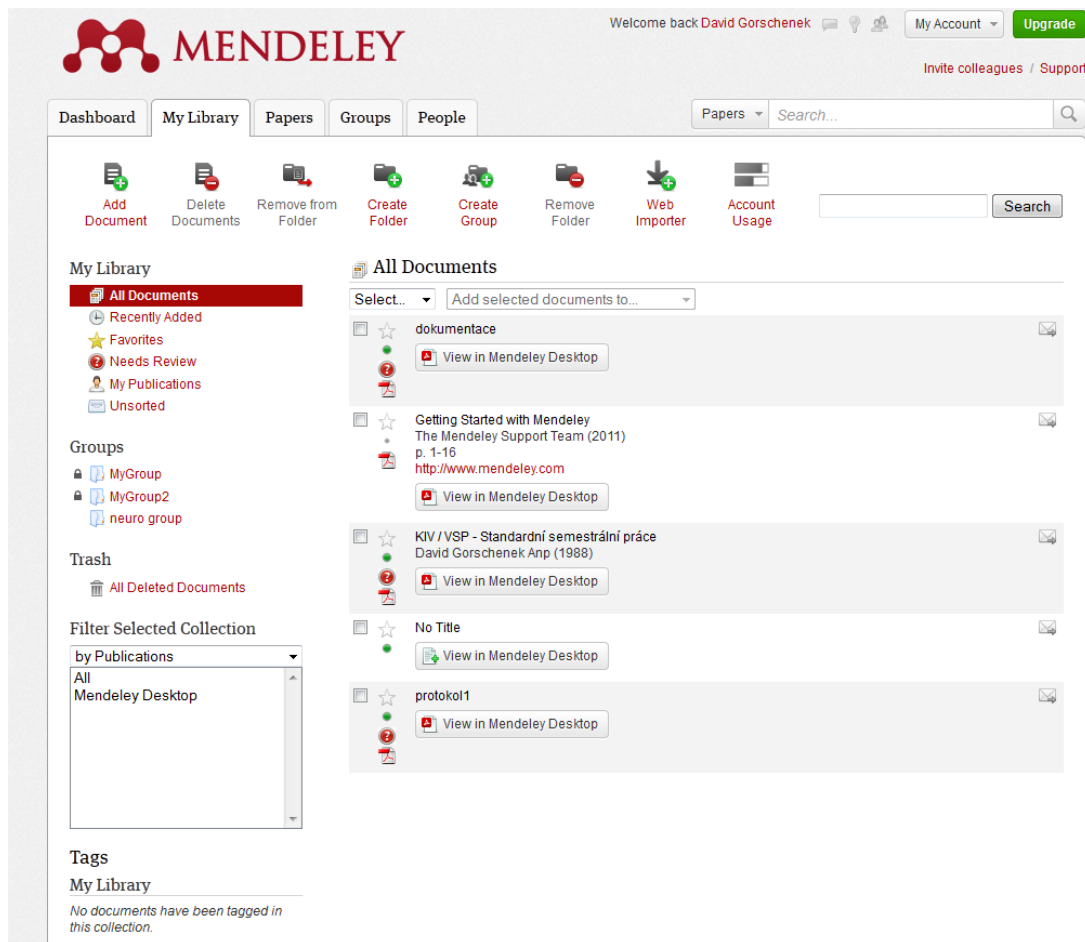
Figure 4: Web interface of your mendeley library

Usage of Mendeley:

- As you can see on both web and desktop application of mendeley, you can manage your own library by adding folders and documents to the specified folders.
- Then you can synchronize selected folders in your computer with mendeley so if you make any change in your computer folder the change will appear in your library in mendeley too.
- You can add selected documents or folders to groups you are member in by simple drag & drop action.
- You can add all types of documents (even zip files) to your library.
- You can mark documents as read/unread.
- You can mark your favorite documents with the star icon. Simply click to star, and click again to un-star. All favorite documents will appear in the Favorites Folder.
- File browser included in Mendeley supports smart search. It highlights the search term as you type.
- You can add highlights and notes to documents within Mendeley Desktop so you can share some notes with your collaborators directly in documents.

Installation and setting up:

- You can download Mendeley Desktop application at http://www.mendeley.com/.
- Installation of Mendeley Desktop is quite easy and intuitive.
- After installation of application you will have your library already created.
- You can then create group on the left side in the Groups menu.
- After creating group you can add documents from your personal web space to the shared library of your group.
- All actions can be synchronized with web interface of your library by pressing the Sync button.

3 Qiqqa

3.1 About

Qiqqa is freeware reference management software that allows researchers to work with thousands of PDFs. It combines PDF reference management tools and citation manager. It integrates with Microsoft Word XP, 2003, 2007 and 2010 and BibTeX/LaTeX to automatically produce citations and bibliographies in thousands of styles. Researchers and research groups can store, synchronize and collaborate on their PDF documents, annotations, tags and comments using the internet cloud-based Qiqqa Web Libraries.

Qiqqa is a .NET4 application targeting the Windows XP, Vista and Windows 7 platforms. It is available as a standalone Windows setup application.

Features:

- Rich PDF viewer supporting annotating, tagging, notes, searching and cross-referencing.
- Filtering and reporting against your tags.
- A full-text search across your entire PDF library.
- Automatic extraction of paper metadata and integration with GoogleScholar.
- Sync your documents, metadata and annotations across multiple computers and to a private online Web Library.
- Optical character recognition(OCR) of PDF documents to support text searching of scanned PDFs.
- Automatically generate your citations and bibliographies in Microsoft Word XP, 2003, 2007 and 2010.
- Import your PDFs and metadata from other reference managers.
- You can create as many libraries as you need to keep your work segmented. Then Qiqqa alerts you to duplicates of PDFs in your library.
- If your document contains no metadata at all, Qiqqa looks for text that look like the title/author/year and use that automatically.
- Tags are a quick way of grouping documents. You can add tags to any document or if you already have your documents in a neat directory structure on your hard drive, you can use those folder names as tags.
- You can export your entire library to a combined BibTeX file for import elsewhere. BibTeX is the world's favorite metadata standard.
- You can create a summary document of the annotations in your library. The summary document can contain any combination of the abstracts, your own notes, your annotations, highlights, and links.
- You can also use feature called PDF to text, which removes all the formatting and images, and convert your full PDF to plain text with one click. One additional click gets it into Word.

3.2   Practical testing

Collaborate:

- If you like, you can share any of your libraries with other Qiqqa users, creating a group library. The documents are synced between all membeers, so you can all contribute. Library members can be admins (all powerful), contributors (can make modifications, but not admin), or viewers (cannot make modifications).

Storage:

- Qiqqa lets you sync your data between many computers by storing your data on the web. Qiqqa give you 200 MB for free.
- A library of 1 GB will cost $0.19 to upload, $0.19 for each month you leave it with Qiqqa, and $0.19 each time you want to sync the entire library to a new computer.
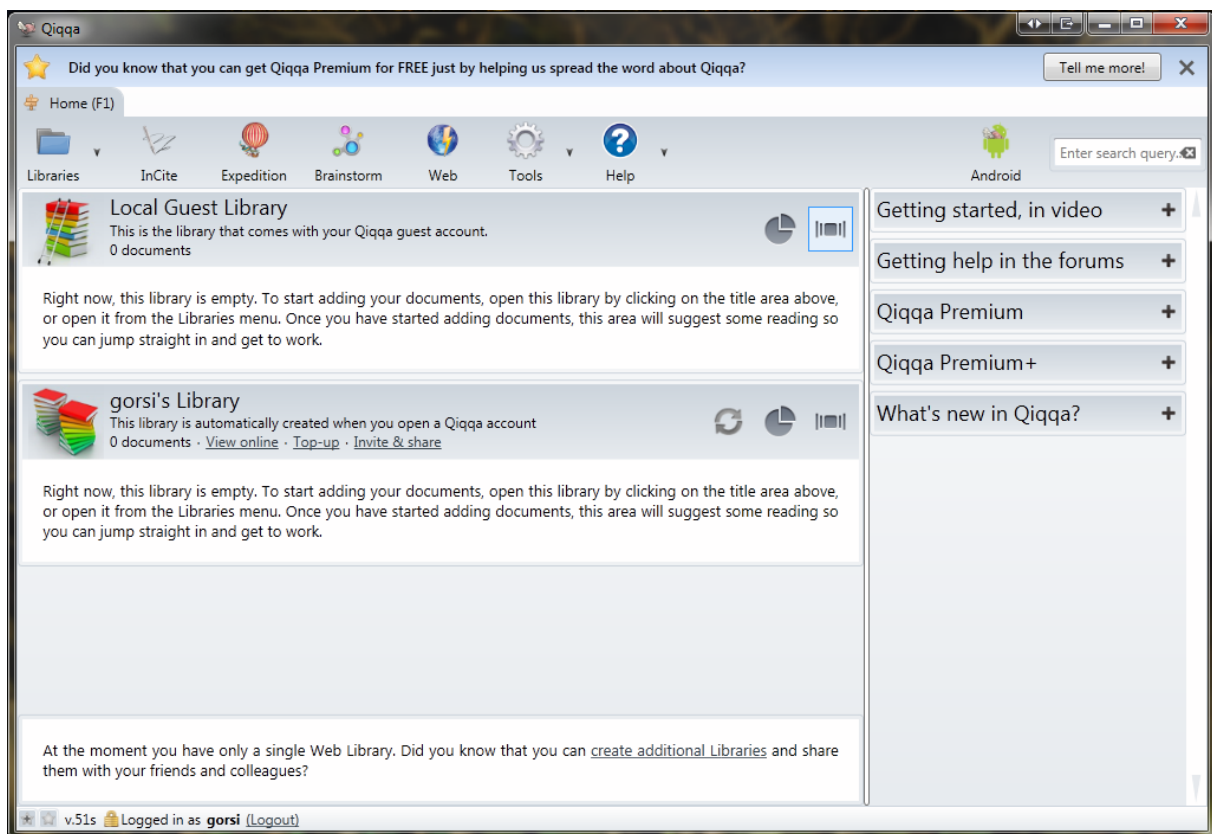

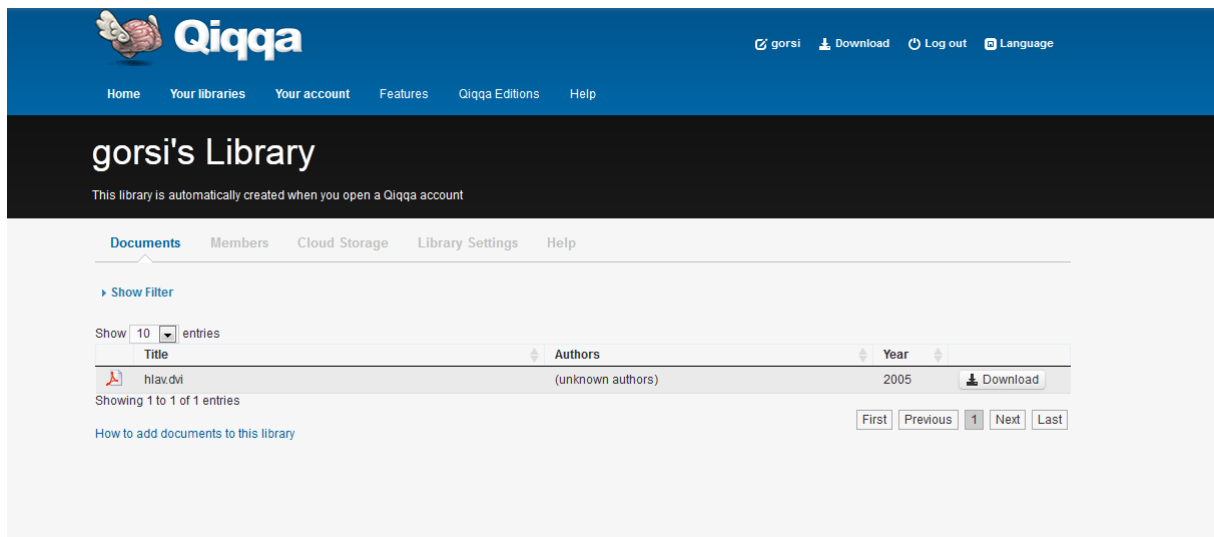**Figure 5: Main Window of the Qiqqa library application**

Figure 6: Web interface of your Qiqqa library

Usage of Qiqqa:

- You can import PDFs from your computer using simple Drag and Drop or from other programs such as EndNote, Zotero, Mendeley or any other program that can export to BibTeX format. Or you can import PDFs from your hard drive automatically by setting up a watch folder to have any new PDFs automatically imported.
- Qiqqa has integrated web browser for research. You can search multiple academic search engines at once to discover new papers and then you can get it into your library in one click (see Figure 7).
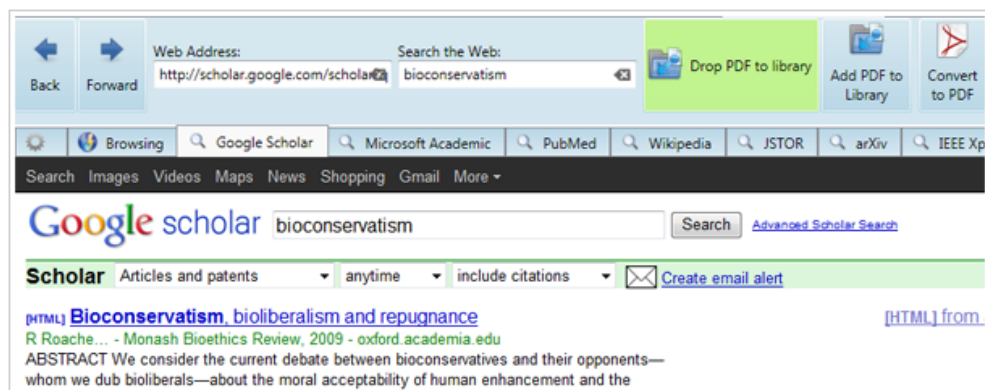

Figure 7: Integrated Web Browser in Qiqqa

- You can add your notes directly to a section of the document or you can draw in freehand on your document.
- You can create as much group libraries as you want. These libraries can contribute in only invited members. Infinite members can be part of a group library.
- Your group has only 200 MB of storage, but you can create new library with new 200 MB of storage.
- The free document library does not support .tex files. It only support PDF files.

<u>Installation and setting up:</u>

- You can download Qiqqa desktop application at http://www.qiqqa.com/.
- Installation of Qiqqa is also easy and intuitive.
- After installation of application you can create your own group library.
- Then you can invite people, who can contribute to the group library.
- After this process you can add documents (only PDF files) to your group library.
- All actions can be synchronized with web interface of your library by pressing the Sync Library button.

4   Zotero

4.1   About

Zotero is free and open-source reference management software to manage bibliographic data and related research materials (such as PDFs). It is a tool to help you collect, organize, cite and share your research sources. It is integrated in your web browser. It supports online syncing, generation of in-text citations and integration with the word processors Microsoft Word, LibreOffice, OpenOffice.org Writer and NeoOffice.

Features:

- Zotero automatically senses content of web pages and you can grab your research with a single click in your web browser and add it to your personal library.
- Zotero collects all your research in a single, searchable interface so you can add PDFs, images, audio and video files, snapshots of web pages.
- Zotero automatically indexes the full-text content of your library, enabling you to find exactly what you're looking for.
- Zotero organizes your research into collections. Research items can be added to any number of named collections and subcollections, which can be organized however you like. You can assign tags to your library items to organize your research using your own keywords. The tag selector enables you to filter your library instantly to view matching items.
- You can create citations in Word and OpenOffice without leaving your word processor and add references to the editor simply by dragging one or more references out of Zotero.

4.2   Practical testing

Collaborate:

- You can create and join research groups. Each group can share its own research library. Zotero groups can include as many members as you please. Zotero groups can be private or public, open or closed. You can decide, which group you want to create.

Storage:

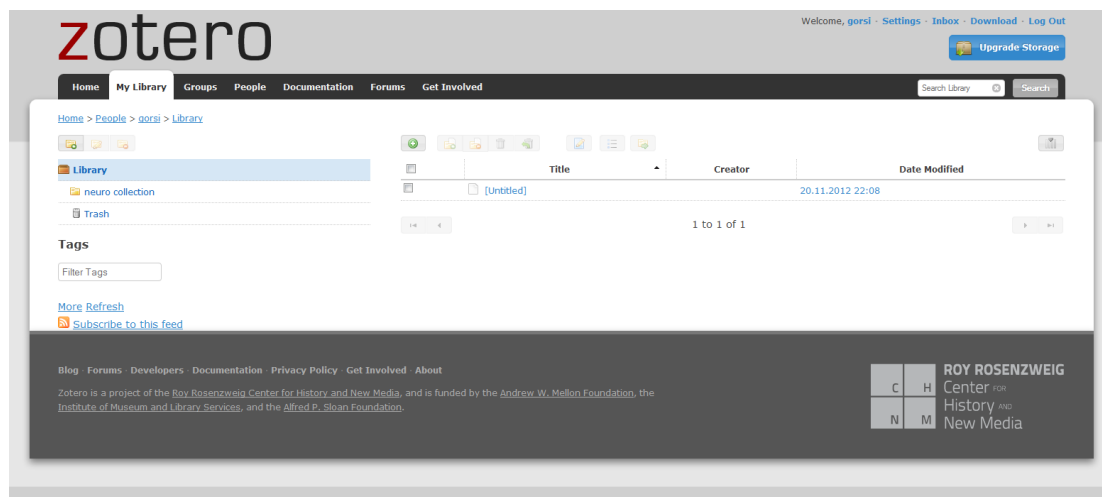- 100 MB free storage for library.

Figure 8: Web interface of your Zotero library

Figure 9: Information about your usage of storage

Usage of Zotero:

- You can add PDFs, images, audio and video files, snapshots of web pages, and really anything else.
- On many websites, such as library catalogs, PubMed, Google Scholar, Google Books, Amazon.com, Wikipedia, and publisher's websites, Zotero shows an icon when a book, article, or other resource is being viewed. By clicking this icon, the full reference information can be saved to the Zotero library. Zotero can also save a copy of the webpage, or , in the case of academic articles, a copy of the full text PDF. Users can then add notes, tags, attachments, and their own metadata (see Figure 10).
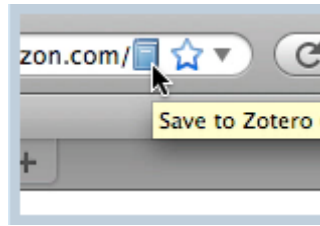
Figure 10: Grabbing research from web broker

- Zotero can automatically synchronizes your data across as many devices as you choose. Even if you don't have Zotero installed yet, you can always access your research from any web browser in the Word (see Figure 11).
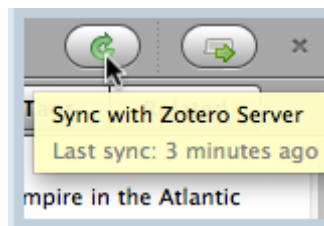

Figure 11: Syncing research library

- Zotero groups can include as many members as you please.
- No need to install application running on your local machine.
- But your library has only 100 MB free storage.

Installation and setting up:

- It is web application so there is no need to install application on your local machine.
- After log in on the web pages of Zotero you have your library.
- You can create group in the Groups tab.
- Then you can invite people, who can contribute to the group library.
- After this process you can add files to your group library.
- Actions in your private library can not be synchronized with the group libraries you are member in. You have to add documents to the group libraries explicitly.

5 WizFolio

5.1 About

WizFolio is a web based reference management software for researchers to manage and share their research. WizFolio uses plug-ins (HTML parsing technology) to collect bibliographic information from webpages.

Features:

- WizCite inserts citations from your WizFolio account directly into your documents and allows universal compatibility between different word processors and WordPress. Universal compatibility means that you can take a document cited in one word processor, import it into another word processor and still be able to continue to insert citations and to generate bibliography dynamically.
- All the citations inserted in your documents using WizFolio are stored on the cloud. This allows you and your colleagues to share bibliographic data of your references without having to send each other library files.
- WizAdd is a one-click web importer that is in your internet browser and imports bibliographic information from webpages into your WizFolio account. You can even use WizAdd on YouTube to embed videos directly into your WizFolio account. Supported browsers are Google Chrome 2.0, Firefox 3.6, Safari, IE7 and above.
- You can search Pubmed, Google Books, YouTube, Bing, Amazon Books within WizFolio.
- You can transfer your bibliography data to WizFolio from other reference management software such as Zotero, Mendeley, Endnote and Refworks.
- A bibliographic exporter can generate and export bibliography in RIS, BibTeX format or in any one of the major citation styles.
- You can organize with Folders, Flags, Tags, and Notes enhanced with on the fly handling of duplicates.

5.2   Practical testing

Collaborate:

- You can share your collections with any number of colleagues by simple Drag-n-Drop.
- Publicize your research work by sharing your publications and references on your Profile page.
- You can share some files with all colleagues or just selected colleagues or with public. You don't have to share file, you can share just bibliography or just abstract of the publication.

Storage:

- You can have 1 GB file storage for free.
- Maximum filesize for upload is 5 MB and bandwidth per month is 200 MB (or 50 articles).
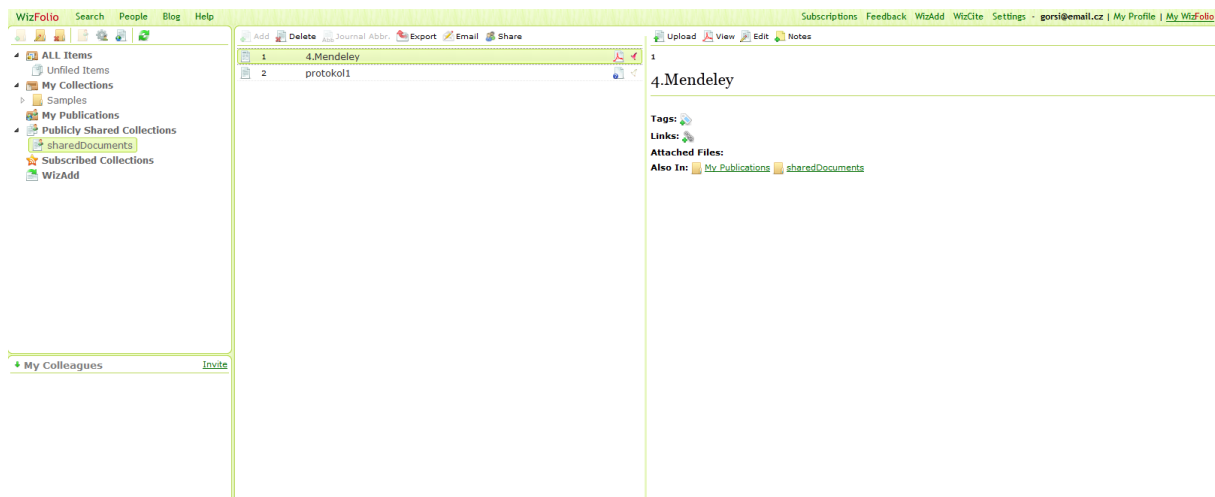- Maximum number of items is limited with 5000. Folder sharing is unlimited.

Figure 12: Web interface of WizFolio

Usage of WizFolio:

- My WizFolio is your own space on the cloud where you can manage all your research and private information in a familiar interface similar to Windows Explorer. It allows drag-n-drop and you can organize your information by folders, tags, flags or filters.
- It is possible to upload any type of files.
- My profile page is accessible page, which displays your name and research interests together with a list of your publications and your publicly shared collections of references. Changes in the My Publications folder in your WizFolio are immediately reflected on your profile page.
- The WizFolio Search page is optimised for scholarly publications. WizFolio Search returns results from WizFolio's Publicly shared collections, PubMed, Scholars Portal, CiteULike or Google Scholar. Features include a one-click save to your WizFolio account.
- You can import bibliographic information from webpages into your WizFolio account by clicking WizAdd, which is a one-click web importer (see Figure 13).

Figure 13: Example of WizAdd

- There is not visible information about using of storage on the main page. You have to click on settings link.

Installation and setting up:

- It is web application so there is no need to install application on your local machine.
- After log in on the web pages of WizFolio you have your library.
- You do not have to create groups. You can invite your colleagues, who then will be visible on the left side in the My Colleagues area.
- Instead of libraries you create collections and folders in collections.
- After that you can add files to your collection or to whichever folder you want to.
- Every folder you can share with any of your colleagues you select. Or you can share your folder with public.

6 Comparison

	File support	User friendliness**	Support of private groups**	Storage size	Word processor plugin
Mendeley	All*	3	1(3 members only)	1GB (private), 100MB (shared), infinite (public group)	Included
Qiqqa	Only PDF	4	5(infinite members)	200MB (200MB for each library)	Included
Zotero	All*	3	5(infinite members)	100MB	Included
WizFolio	All*	5	5(infinite members)	1GB	Included

*- By all is meant file formats, which is important for EEG research group. It is *.tex, .pdf, .doc, .odt, .xls*.

**- 1 is the worst, 5 is best.

7 Bibliography

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reference_management_software

http://www.mendeley.com/features/

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Qiqqa

http://www.qiqqa.com/About/Features

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zotero

http://www.zotero.org/

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/WizFolio

http://wizfolio.com/#&panel1-1