



LEEDS
BECKETT
UNIVERSITY

Citation:

Behringer, R (2013) Interoperability Standards for MicroLearning.

Link to Leeds Beckett Repository record:

<https://eprints.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/id/eprint/725/>

Document Version:

Article (Other)

The aim of the Leeds Beckett Repository is to provide open access to our research, as required by funder policies and permitted by publishers and copyright law.

The Leeds Beckett repository holds a wide range of publications, each of which has been checked for copyright and the relevant embargo period has been applied by the Research Services team.

We operate on a standard take-down policy. If you are the author or publisher of an output and you would like it removed from the repository, please [contact us](#) and we will investigate on a case-by-case basis.

Each thesis in the repository has been cleared where necessary by the author for third party copyright. If you would like a thesis to be removed from the repository or believe there is an issue with copyright, please contact us on openaccess@leedsbeckett.ac.uk and we will investigate on a case-by-case basis.

Google Trends:

Mobile Learning:



Ubiquitous Learning:



Micro Teaching:



Interoperability Standards for MicroLearning

Alphabet Soup

- AICC: Aviation Industry Computer-Based Training Consortium
- CMI: Content Management Interactions
- CP: Courseware Cartridge
- LTI: Learning Tools Interoperability
- QTI: Question Tools Interoperability
- SCORM: Sharable Content Object Reference Model
- SOX: Standards Object Model
- SI: Schools Interoperability Framework
- SI2: Student Information System

MicroLearning: Edmodo

<https://www.edmodo.com/>

Teacher-Learner Interaction

mediated by technology:



Interoperability

Learning Objects (LOs) are not bound to an LMS, but can be used in different LMSs.

Necessary: course content and structure descriptors.

Syntactic interoperability: through HTML and JavaScript.
Semantic interoperability: through standards.

Older interoperability standards:

- AICC (since 1993)
- SCORM (since 2000), using XML.

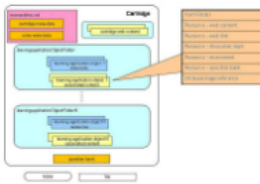
Improved Standards

- Content Cartridge (larger focus on blended learning, more inclusion of instructor)
- xAPI (TinCan): takes SCORM further and improves usability and interaction from the student
- LTI provides a standard for third party plugins
- QTI provides standardized representation of questions and tests
- SI2 provides capability for institutional exchange

Requirements of MicroLearning

- Learning content to be broken down in small segments.
- Large number of content bits to be supported.
- Many user interactions.
- Non-linear sequencing of content.
- Mobile device support.

Common Cartridge Application



Source: Edmodo

AICC

First interoperability standard. Originally file-based, then web-based. JavaScript runtime interface. Allows distributed course content.

- CRS file: general course information.
- AU file: lessons.
- IES file: course elements.
- CST file: course structure.

SCORM

Content packaging in XML files. Runtime specification for communication with LMS through JavaScript. Sequencing of course navigation in XML file.

manifest.xml contains the tree structure of the SCOs.

The SCORM Generalised Model



From: IMS Global Learning Consortium

Advantages

Well supported by most LMSs.
Both AICC and SCORM use CMI data model.

Shortcomings

Security problem in SCORM through JavaScript.
Limited scalability and distributability of learning content,

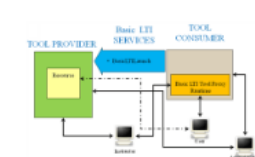
SIS Architecture



Comparison SCORM - xAPI

- | SCORM | xAPI |
|--|---|
| Requires content ingestor extensions | Requires less communication |
| Content must be loaded in an LMS | Content can exist anywhere |
| Tracks full path, parent nodes, conditions | Tracks wide variety of learner experience |
| Tracks format of learning activity | Can track informal, self-paced learning |

LTI Architecture



Relevance of Interoperability Standards

Details are only important for software developers.
But learning content developers need to use authoring tools which support these newest standards.
Also, LMS needs to support those standards.

Recommendation for MicroLearning

Developers should ensure compatibility with newest Interoperability standards:
SC, xAPI, LTI, QTI.

Thank you for your attention!

Questions?



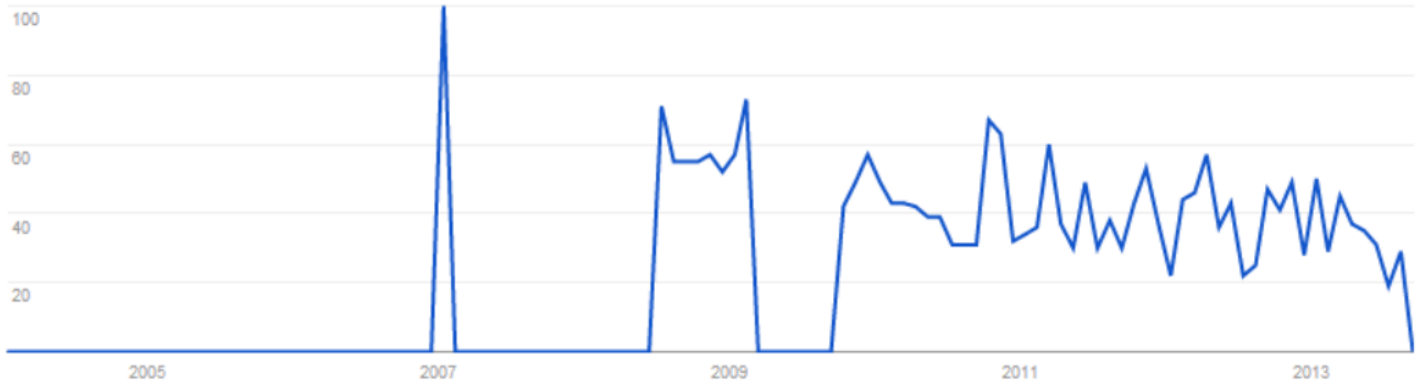
**Interoperability
Standards
for MicroLearning**

Google Trends:

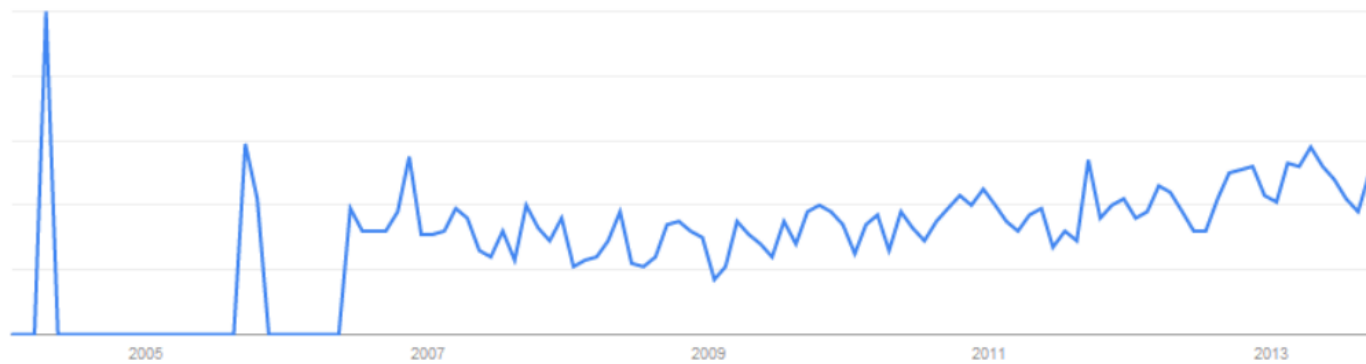
Mobile Learning:



Ubiquitous Learning:



MicroTeaching:

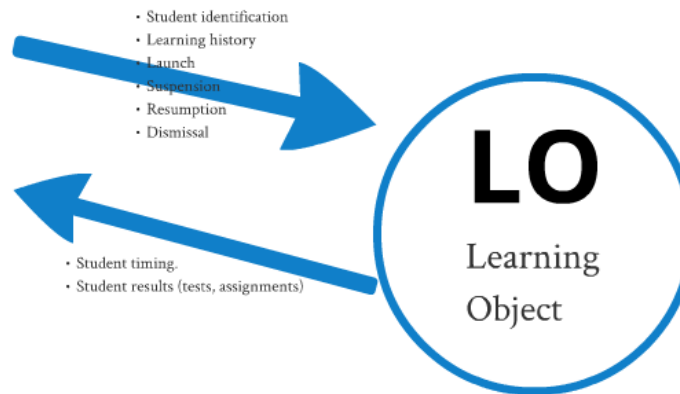
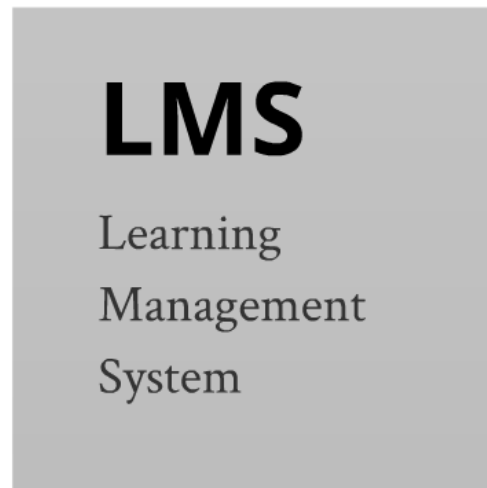


MicroLearning: Edmodo

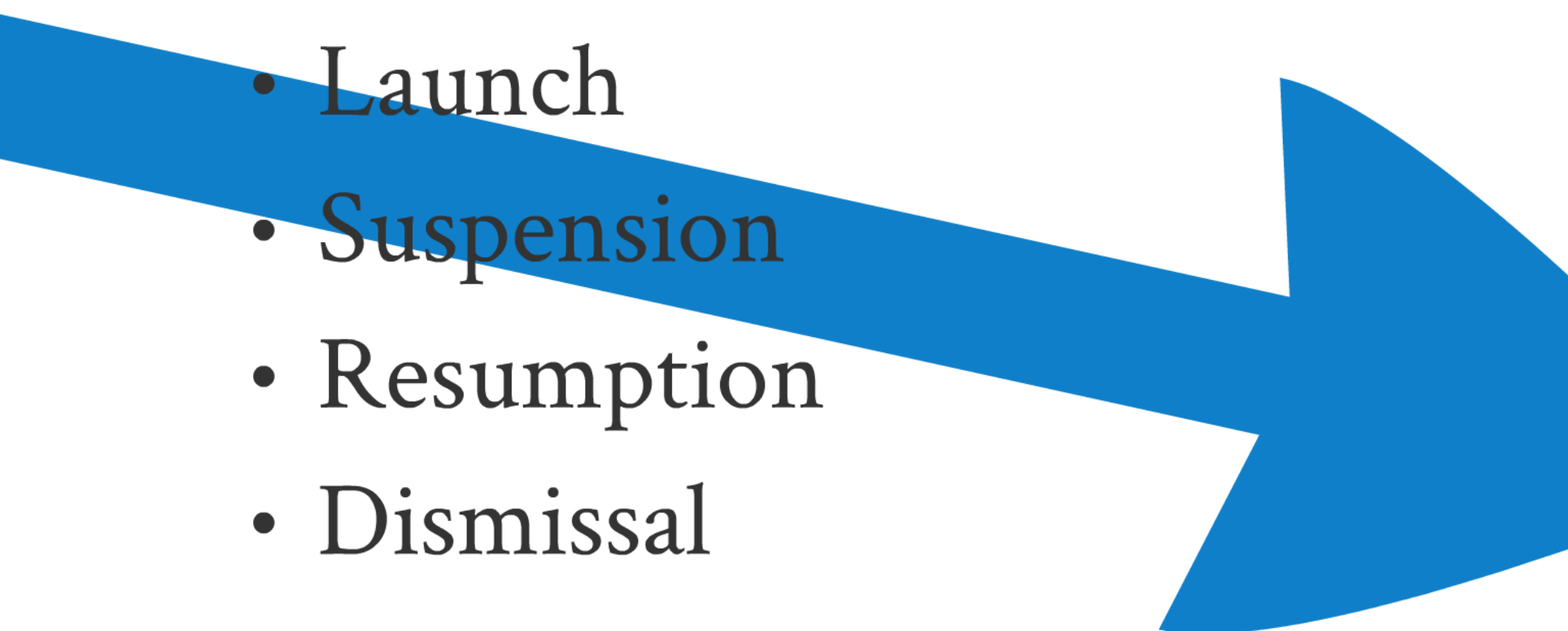
<https://www.edmodo.com/>


Teacher-Learner Interaction

mediated by technology:



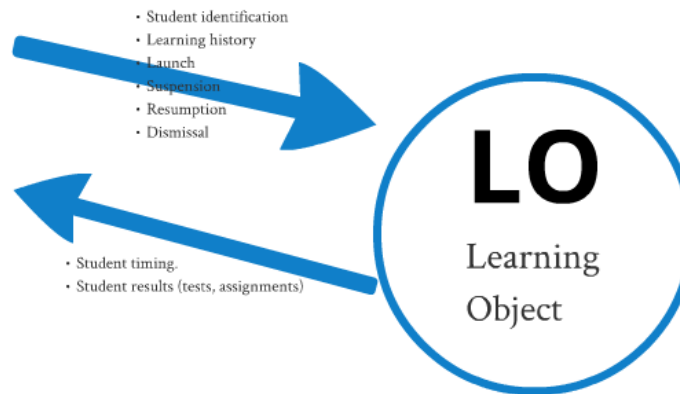
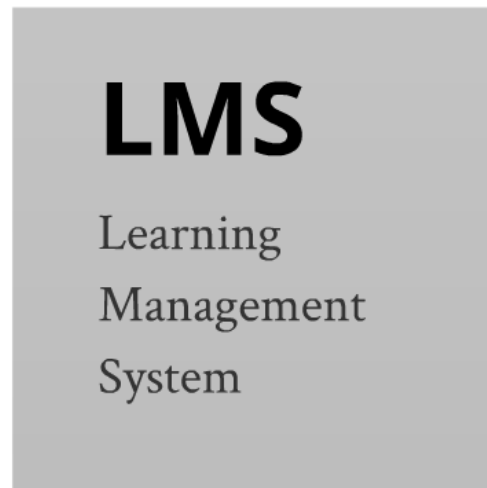
- Student identification
- Learning history
- Launch
- Suspension
- Resumption
- Dismissal



- 
- Student timing.
 - Student results (tests, assignments)

Teacher-Learner Interaction

mediated by technology:



Interoperability

Learning Objects (LOs) are not bound to an LMS, but can be used in different LMSs.

Necessary: course content and structure descriptors.

Syntactic interoperability: through HTML and JavaScript.

Semantic interoperability: through standards.

Older interoperability standards:

AICC (since 1993)

SCORM (since 2000), using XML

Alphabet Soup

AICC Aviation Industry Computer-Based Training
Committee

CMI Computer Managed Instructions

CC Common Cartridge

LTI Learning Tools Interoperability

QTI Question Test Interoperability

SCORM Sharable Content Object Reference Model

SCO Sharable Content Object

SIF Schools Interoperability Framework

SIS Student Information Systems

AICC

First interoperability standard.

Originally file-based, then web-based.

JavaScript runtime interface.

Allows distributed course content.

CRS file: general course information.

AU file: lessons.

DES file: course elements.

CST file: course structure.

SCORM

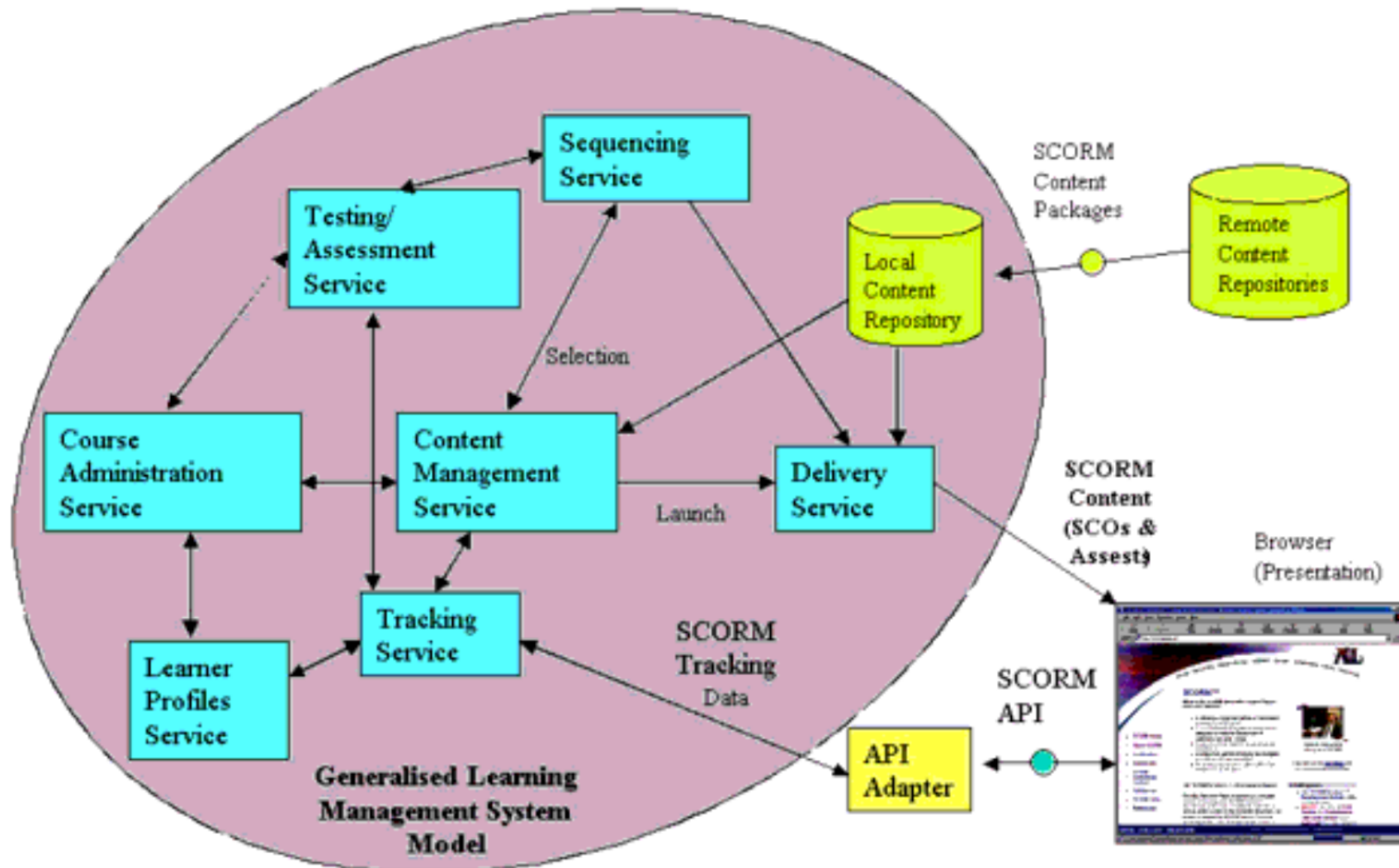
Content packaging in XML files.

Runtime specification for communication with LMS through JavaScript.

Sequencing of course navigation in XML file.

imsmanifest.xml contains the tree structure of the SCOs.

The SCORM Generalised Model



from: IMS Abstract Framework,
IMS Global Learning Consortium (2003)

AICC

First interoperability standard.

Originally file-based, then web-based.

JavaScript runtime interface.

Allows distributed course content.

CRS file: general course information.

AU file: lessons.

DES file: course elements.

CST file: course structure.

SCORM

Content packaging in XML files.

Runtime specification for communication with LMS through JavaScript.

Sequencing of course navigation in XML file.

imsmanifest.xml contains the tree structure of the SCOs.

Advantages

Well supported by most LMSs.

Both AICC and SCORM use CMI data model.

Shortcomings

Security problem in SCORM through JavaScript.

Limited scalability and distributability of learning content,

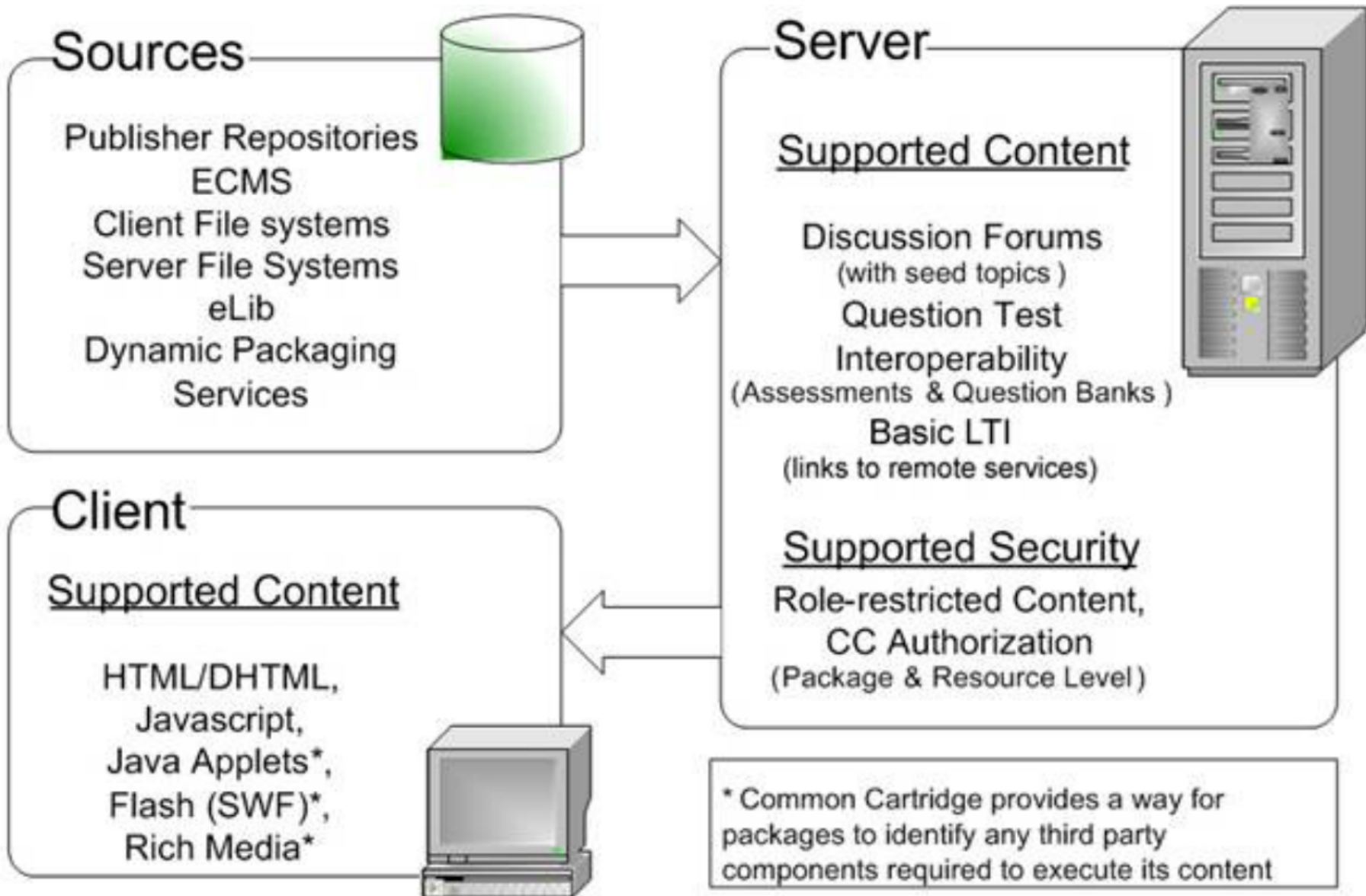
Improved Standards

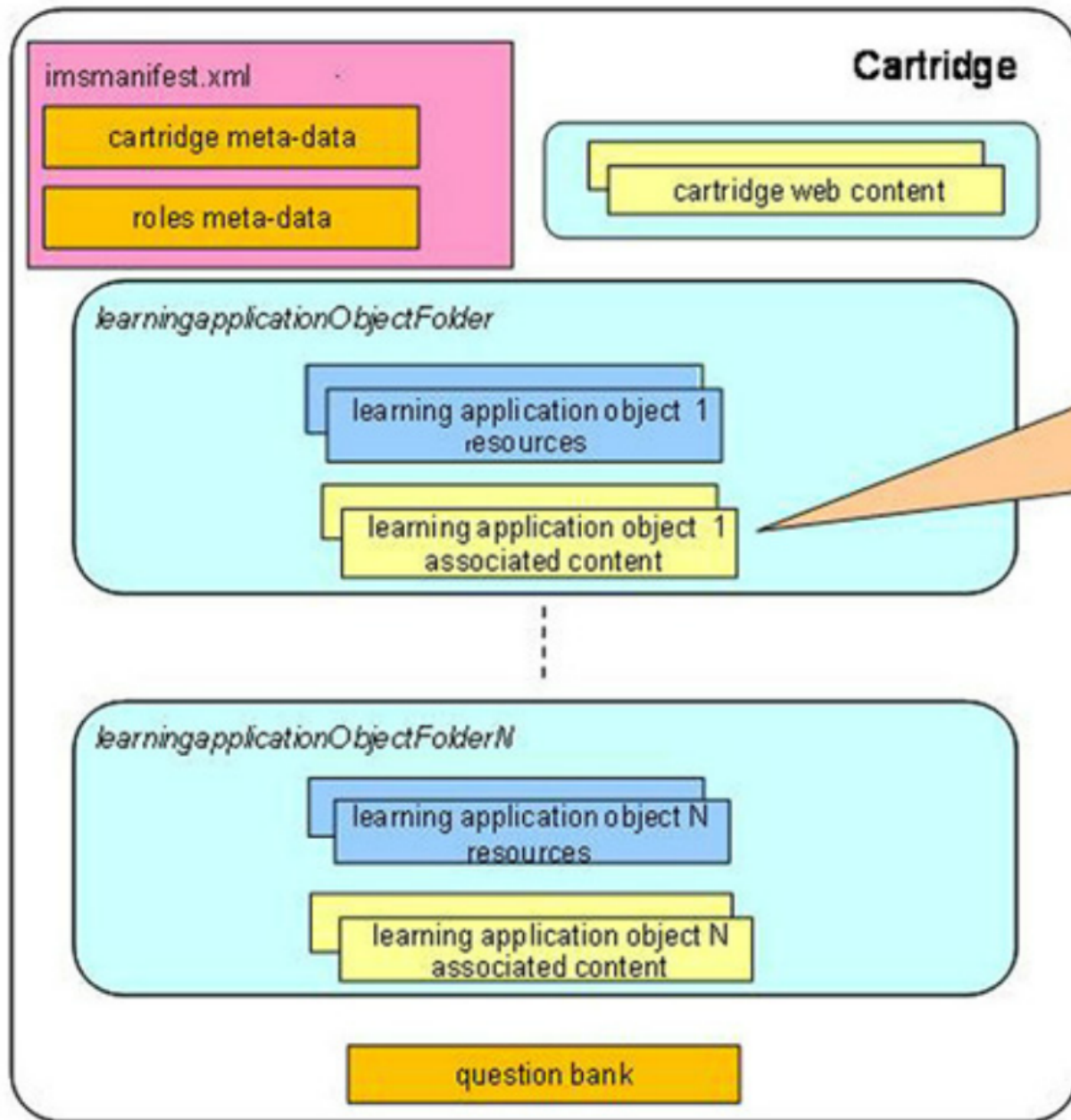
- Common Cartridge: larger focus on blended learning, more inclusion of instructor.
- xAPI (TinCan): takes SCORM further and improves scalability and interaction from the student.
- LTI: provides a standard for 3rd party plugins.
- QTI: provides standardised representation of questions and tests.
- SIS: provides capability for institutional exchange.

Requirements of MicroLearning

- Learning content to be broken down in small segments.
- Large number of content bits to be supported.
- Many user interactions.
- Non-linear sequencing of content.
- Mobile device support.

Common Cartridge Application





Item Folder
Resource - web content
Resource - web link
Resource - discussion topic
Resource - assessment
Resource - question bank
Intra-package reference

folder

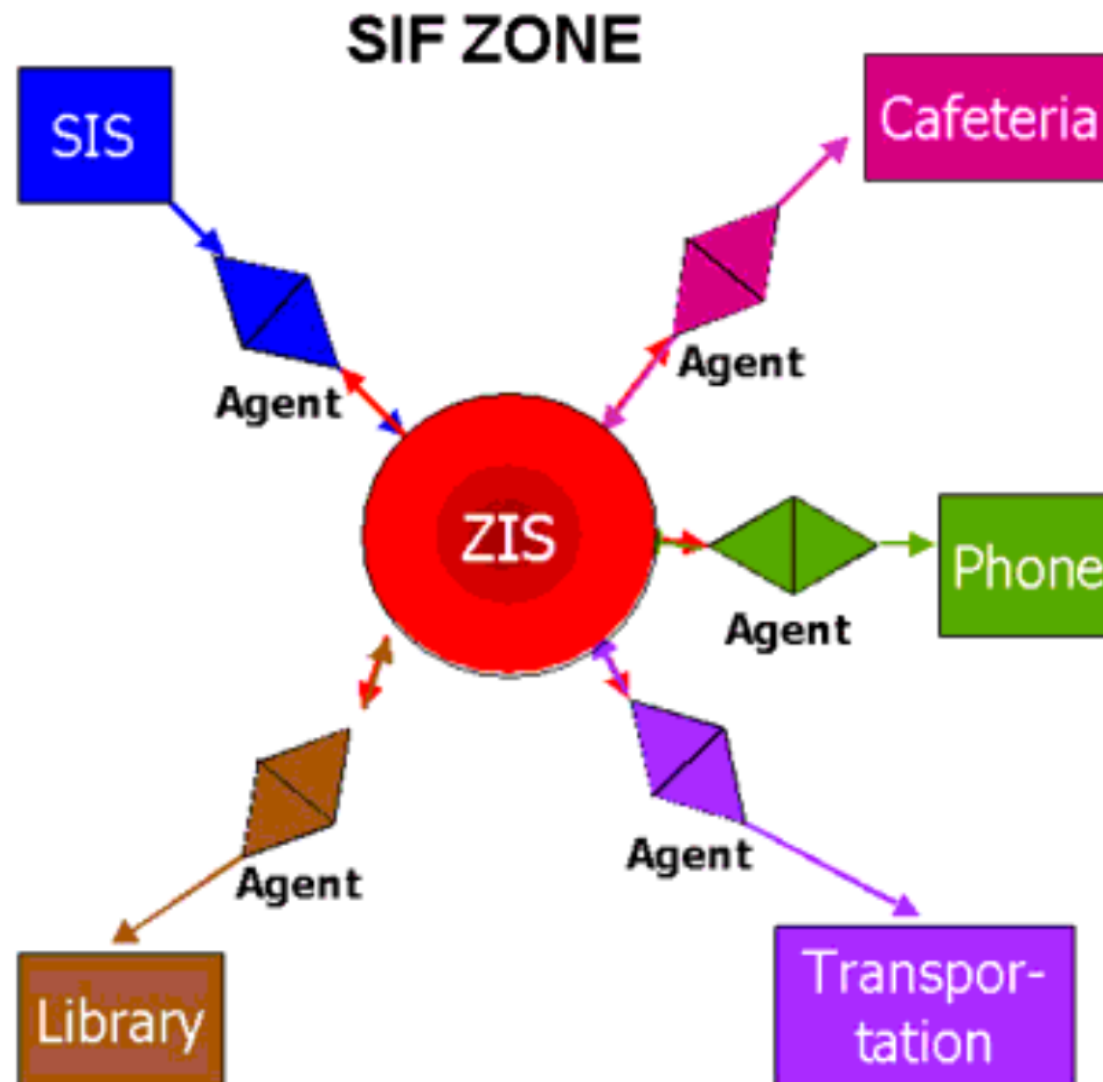
file

SIS Architecture

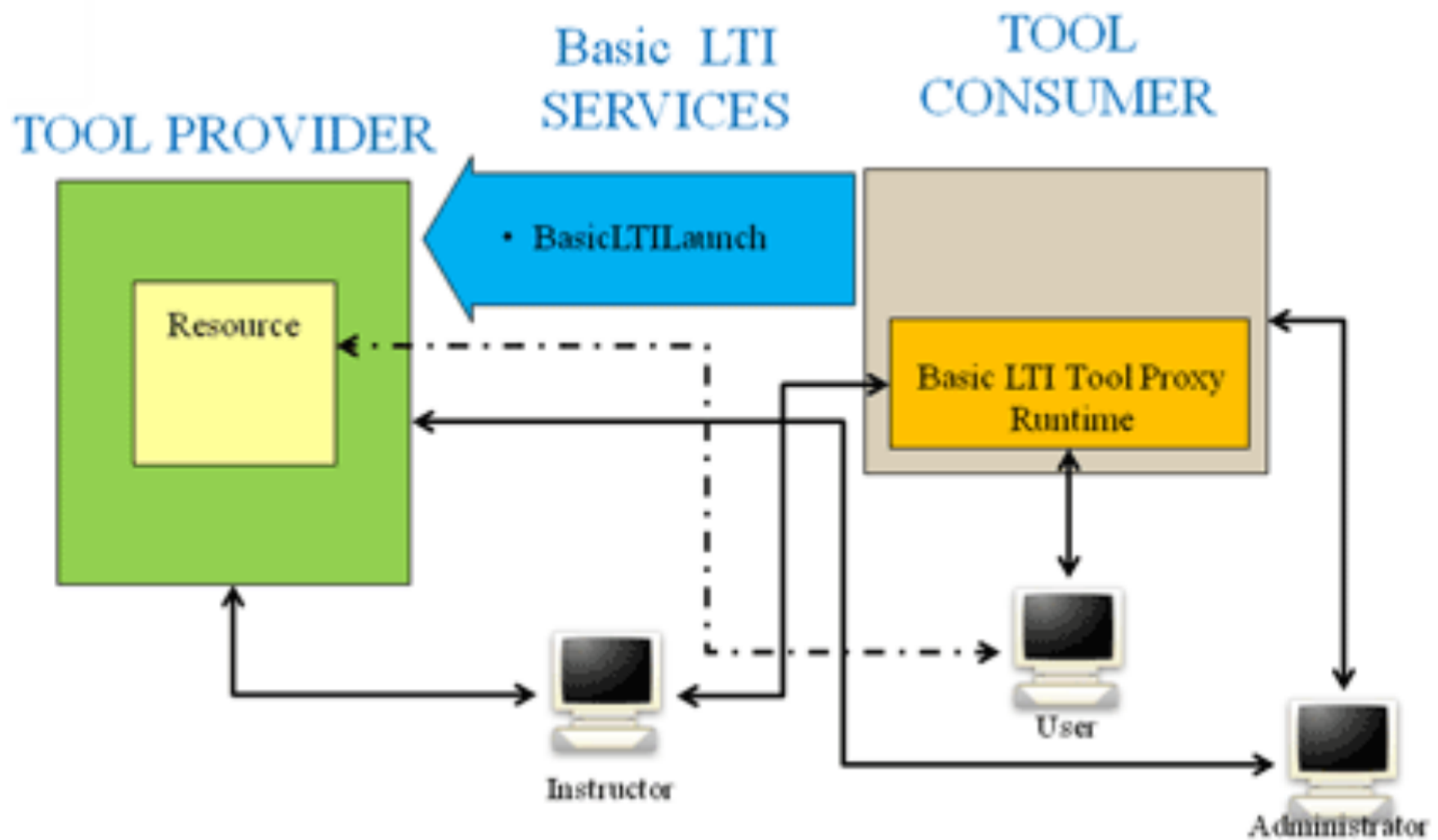
✧ A SIF Zone is a logical grouping of applications, in which each application has an Agent that communicates with other Agents through the Zone Integration Server (ZIS).

✧ The ZIS handles all security information and routes all messages.

✧ A SIF Zone is platform independent and vendor neutral meaning that all data can be shared dynamically.



LTI Architecture



Comparison SCORM - xAPI

SCORM:

- Requires constant internet connection
- Content must be housed in an LMS
- Tracks fail/pass, post-test score, completion
- Tracks formal eLearning courses

xAPI:

- Session-less communication
- Content can exist anywhere
- Tracks wide variety of learner experiences
- Can track informal, self-guided learning

Relevance of Interoperability Standards

Details are only important for software developers.

But learning content developers need to use authoring tools which support these newest standards.

Also, LMS needs to support those standards.

Recommendation for MicroLearning

Developers should ensure compatibility with newest Interoperability standards:

CC, xAPI, LTI, QTI.

*Thank you for
your attention!*

Questions?