

# Hydra to Samvera

The Hydra Project started not long after Repository Fringe got going, starting with a meeting in September 2008 between the University of Hull, University of Virginia, Stanford University, and Fedora.

The Project started as, and remains, a community that seeks to create flexible and re-usable repository solutions over the Fedora digital repository system – a Lego® set for use by different institutions for different purposes.

Whilst developing into an open source software initiative, Hydra has always had at its heart the recognition that repositories are an increasingly important part of our University and Library environment, and looked for ways to enable those wishing to work together in enabling this to do so in community.

The change in name from the Hydra Project to the Samvera Community refreshes and re-instates this. Samvera is Icelandic for ‘togetherness’ or ‘being together’. It is by working together over the past nine years that the community has been able to produce the tools and solutions now available.

Participation is open to all via the Community’s mailing lists and Slack channels, plus, in the UK, the Samvera Europe User Group. Samvera also has a range of Interest and Working Groups to foster discussion and action on a range of repository-related topics to take the development of Samvera further.

Samvera’s vision for the future of repositories? Be flexible, be open, and work together to be sustainable.



<https://samvera.org>

## Upcoming!

Samvera Connect 2017 will take place on 6-9<sup>th</sup> November in Chicago, IL, hosted by Northwestern University

See the samvera-europe google group for details of upcoming UK meetings

## Timeline highlights

2008 – Initial meeting of project partners.

2010 – First software commit to GitHub in May. Initial project focus to that point was on principles and design.

2011 – All three initial institutional partners have implemented production Hydra repository solution. Code released for others.

2012 – Community members invited to become Hydra Partners – committed to help further the development of Hydra. LSE becomes first UK Partner to join Hull.

2013 – First release of Avalon, a Hydra head solution for audio-visual resources. First release of Sufia, a general purpose self-deposit repository solution. Number of Partners rises to 18.

2014 – First annual Hydra Connect conference held at University of California San Diego. Release of Fedora 4 and subsequent adaptation of Hydra to use this. Partners = 23

2015 – Development of Hydra-in-a-Box (now called Hyku) starts. Partners = 28

2016 – Hydra signs formal agreement with DuraSpace for banking and legal services in support of the developing community. Partners = 32

2017 – The Hydra Project becomes the Samvera Community. First release of Hyrax, successor to Sufia. Hyku released for local or hosted use. Partners = 35, number of users >70

## Samvera today

Hyku – packaged Samvera solution



Hyrax – basis for your own Samvera solution



Avalon – Samvera solution for audio-visual resources

