We present the first version of the International Children's Digital Library (ICDL). As a five-year research project, its mission is to enable children to access and read an international collection of children's books through the development of new interface technologies. This paper will introduce the ICDL and an initial analysis of the first seven weeks of the ICDL's public use on the Web.
project of the University of Maryland and the Internet Archive, a project funded by the National Science Foundation, The Institute for Museum and Library Science, and the Kahle/Austin Foundation. Digital format; An exploration of the relationship between access to digital resources and the use of physical books by children; A beginning attempt to determine what constitutes "fair use" to children's books in a digital age; and An investigation of how access to this digital library can inform the creation of technology for children, improve library practices, and influence children's attitudes toward books, reading, technology, libraries, and the world around them. 2. CHILDREN'S DIGITAL LIBRARIES Developing new technologies appropriate for children can be challenging, since young people can have difficulty reading, typing, spelling, and are continually changing in their interests and abilities [6, 9, 14, 18, 20]. While there is an emerging and significant research field devoted to digital libraries and information retrieval, we have found that the vast majority of content and interfaces are targeted at adults or older students. Of the online digital libraries appropriate for children, there are a disappointing number of large-scale collections to explore... 4. ANALYSIS OF USER LOG DATA In an attempt to try and understand how the library is actually being used by the general web public, we have analyzed the log data.