Conservação Preventiva em Bibliotecas e Arquivos

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In the last decade, our understanding of modeling for the purpose of preventive conservation in libraries and archives has grown substantially and allows us to explore a variety of environmental management and conservation treatment scenarios in large institutions. Large surveys of collection users enabled us to develop suitable long-term preservation horizons and an understanding of the extent of damage that makes general library and archival material unfit for use. Non-destructive material surveys allow us to measure those physical properties that define the rate of damage accrual, which, in conjunction with the Collections Demography dose-response function, provides heritage managers with estimations of the predicted collection lifetimes in diverse environmental management scenarios. The process can be explored in the form of an online app, however, quantitative measurements of paper properties obtained in a specific collection can be used to elaborate isochrone and demographic plots, evaluated against the long-term planning horizon for that specific collection. Scenarios may include preventive and interventive actions aiming to preserve the fitness-for-use of collection items in terms of their ability to withstand manual handling, and consider cooling, dehumidification and deacidification, as well as combinations thereof, including under scenarios of climate change.