

Court: Searchable books database is 'fair use'

June 10 2014

A New York federal appeals court says the creation of a full-text searchable database of millions of books is a fair use of copyrighted works.

The 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled Tuesday. The case was brought after several research universities agreed to let Google electronically scan their [books](#). Those schools included the University of Michigan, the University of California at Berkeley, Cornell University and the University of Indiana.

Authors and several authors' groups sued after 13 universities in 2008 announced plans to create a repository for the [digital copies](#). The repository has more than 10 million books.

The [appeals court](#) also said the copyrighted works can be provided in formats accessible to people with disabilities.

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Citation: Court: Searchable books database is 'fair use' (2014, June 10) retrieved 25 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2014-06-court-searchable-database-fair.html>

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