





< Economic Analysis of the Digital Economy

Searching for Physical and Digital Media: The Evolution of **Platforms for Finding Books**

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PUBLISHED DATE April 2015

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ISBN 978-0-226-20684-4

DOL

10.7208/chicago/9780226206981.003.0005

CONFERENCE HELD JUNE 6-7, 2013

BOOK: ECONOMIC ANALYSIS OF THE DIGITAL ECONOMY

BOOK EDITORS: AVI GOLDFARB, SHANE M. GREENSTEIN & CATHERINE E. TUCKER

PUBLISHER: UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS

This chapter provides a data-driven overview of the different online platforms that consumers use to search for books and for booksellers, and documents how the use of these platforms is shifting over time. Our data suggest that, as a result of digitization, consumers are increasingly conducting searches for books at retailer sites and using closed systems (e.g., the Kindle and Nook) rather than at general search engines (e.g., Google or Bing). We also highlight a number of challenges that will make it difficult for





to the pricing of books and other digital media, as well as consumer search behavior.

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