

ARCHIVING THE ARCHIVES: ARCH2

INTRODUCTION

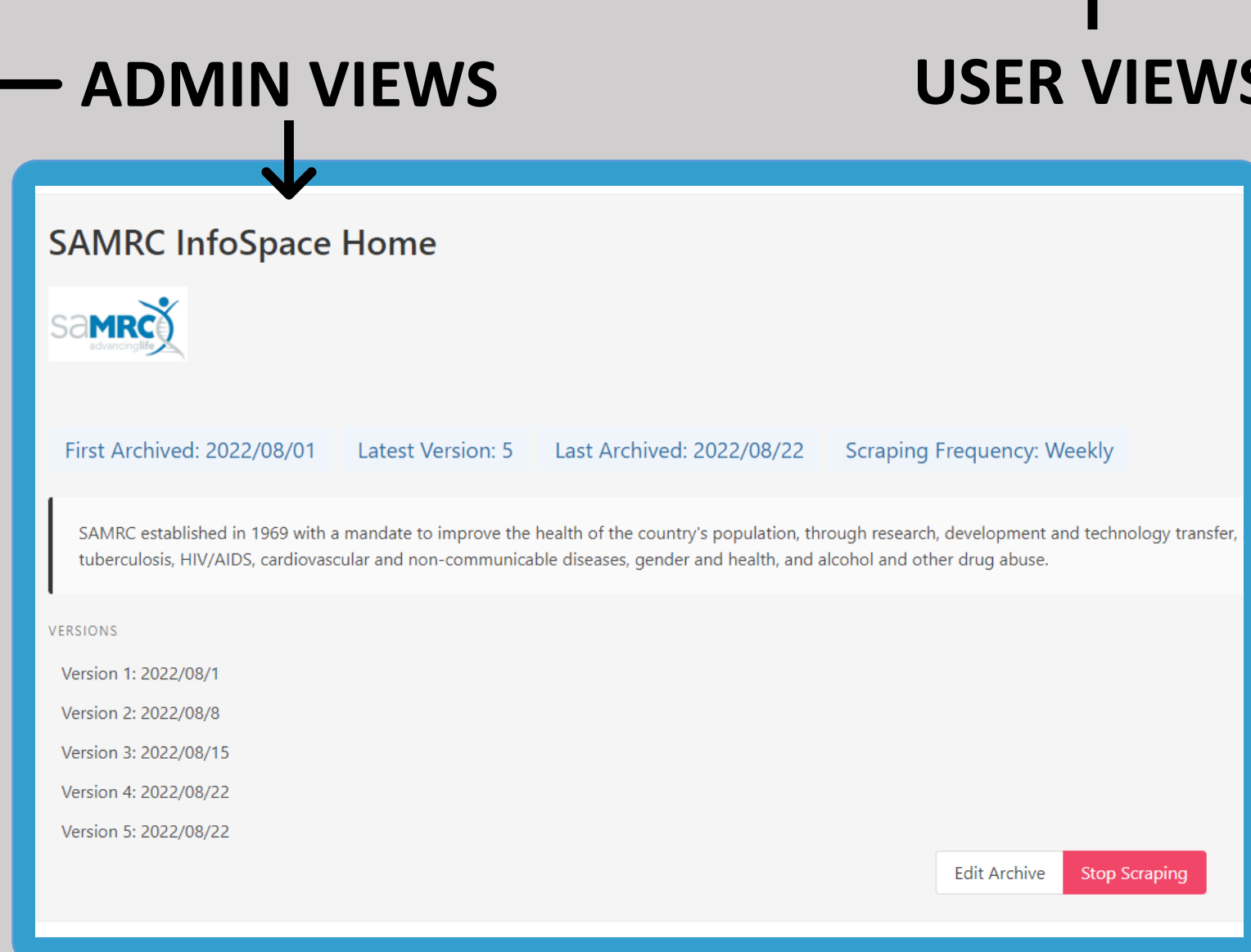
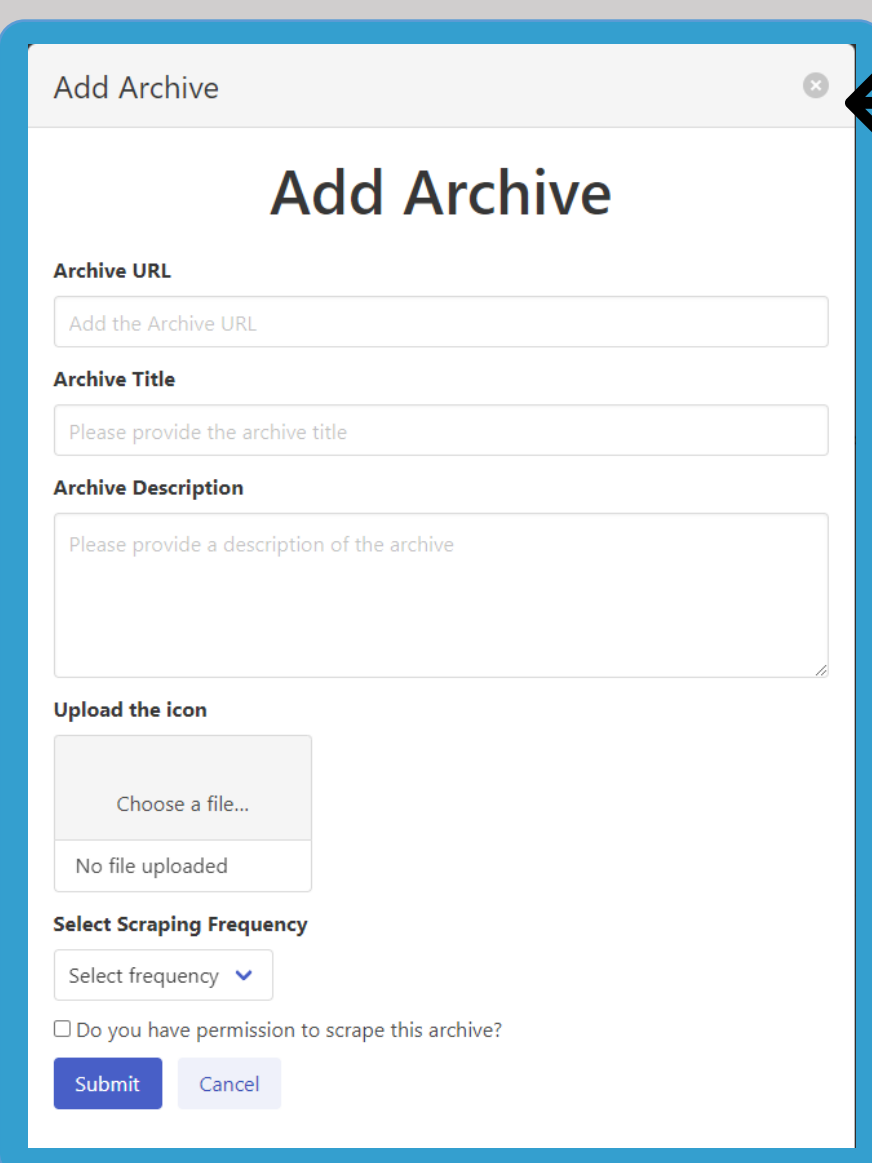
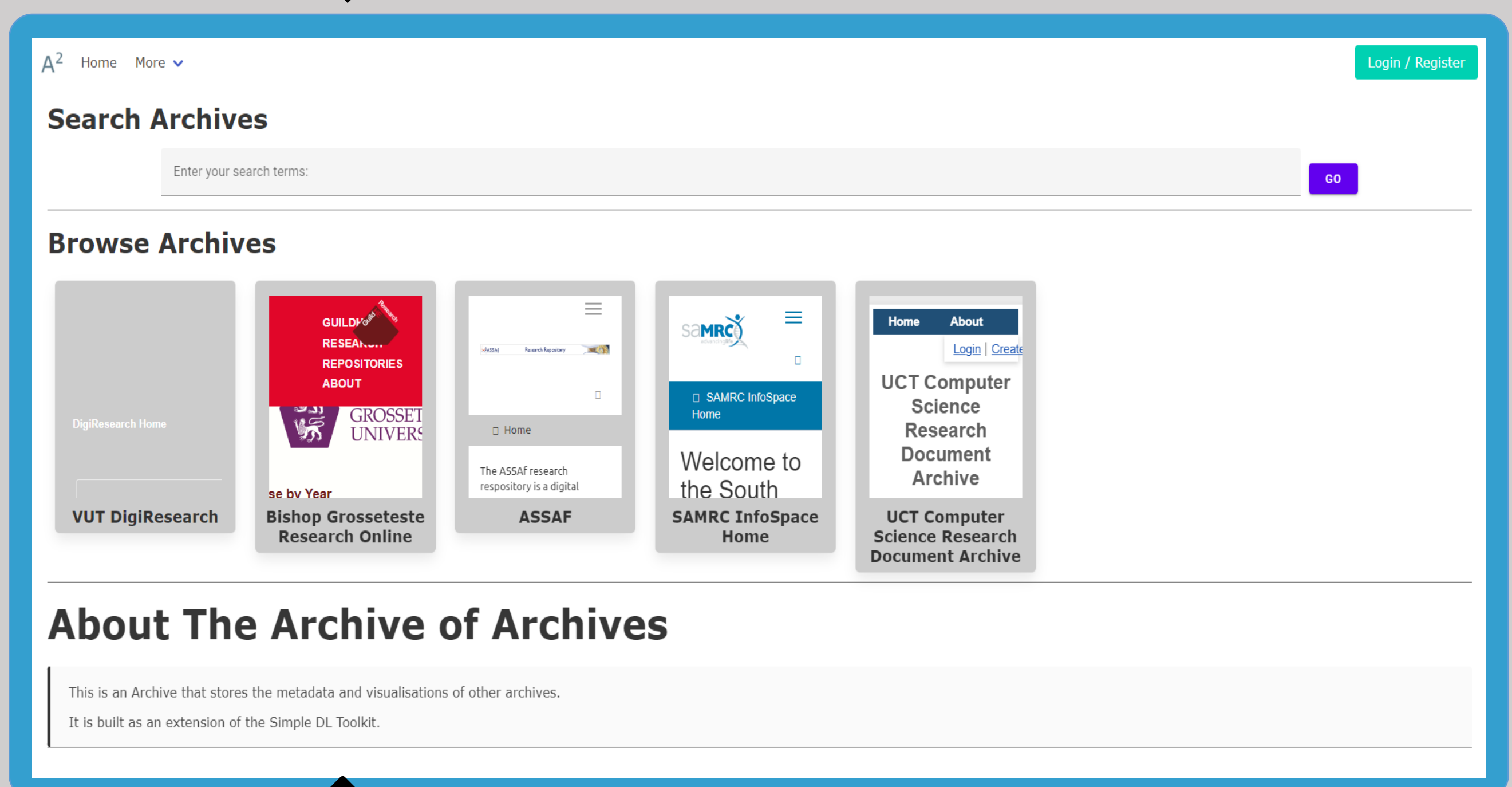
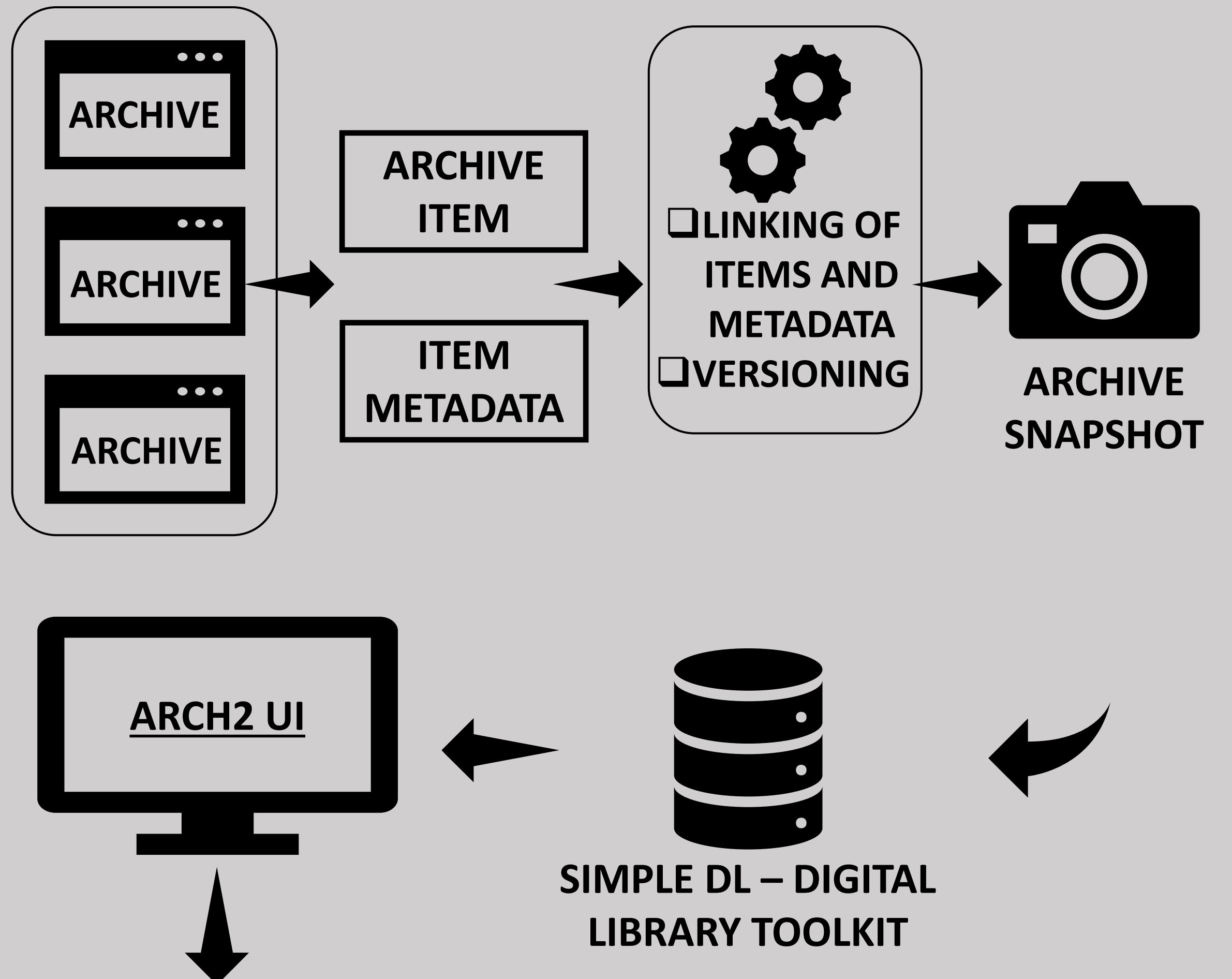
Digital archives are crucial in preserving digital items of the past and present for use in the future. They are inherently reliant on larger organisations as they require funding, time and expertise to construct and maintain. Because of this, they are at risk if something happens to that organisation, resulting in the loss of knowledge. This is particularly prevalent in low resource environments, commonplace in Africa. A new type of system, an archive of archives, was therefore developed to enable the public preservation of archives that were built using popular archiving tools.

AIM

The aim of our project is to create a safe haven for archives by expanding a current digital library system called SimpleDL, into an archive called the Archives of Archives. The Archive of Archives creates accurate snapshots of archives and preserves them in a simple flat file system. The core components of this Archive of Archives are: user interface, versioning, admin tool and archive indexing feature.

PROJECT OUTCOMES

- ✓ Successful snapshot creation and indexing by linking archive items from a custom archive web scraper and item metadata harvester.
- ✓ Successful snapshot versioning.
- ✓ User Interface that successfully displays multiple archive snapshots.
- ✓ Easy to use archive admin tool that can add, remove and modify archives.



Supervisor:
A/Prof. Hussein Suleman

Second Reader:
A/Prof. Melissa Densmore

Team:
Craig Stevenson
Callum Fraser
Alex Olivier

Contact:
OLVALE005@myuct.ac.za

