

### Koninklijke Bibliotheek National library of the Netherlands



Dioscuri The emulator for digital preservation

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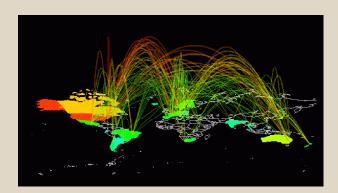
2 April 2009 – Chapel Hill, NC, USA



### **ISUDEDICOLORI** Emulation as a preservation strategy

### Our digital life...







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Software Exception

A fatal exception OE has occurred at 0167:BFF9DFFF. The current application will be terminated.

\* Press any key to terminate the current application.

 Press CTRL+ALT+DEL again to restart your computer. You will lose any unsaved information in all applications.

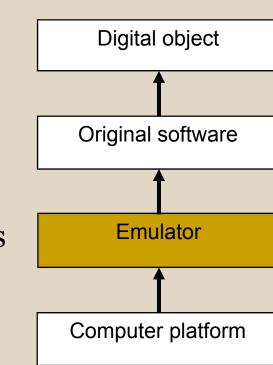
Press any key to continue



### Emulation

= adapt the computer environment to render the digital object authentically.

- Substitute for old hardware
- No changes to digital object
- Renders static and dynamic objects
- Create once, apply for all
- No periodic conversions
- Proven technology (gaming industry, corporate solutions, cross-platform)

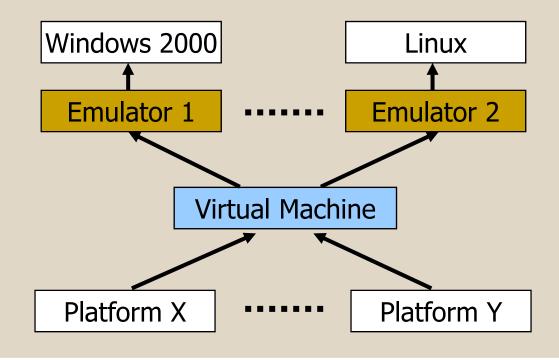




### **Dioscuri: durable & modular emulator**

Two key features: durability and modularity

• Durable -> emulator has to endure time. This can be done by making the emulator portable to a wide range of computer platforms using a Virtual Machine (VM).

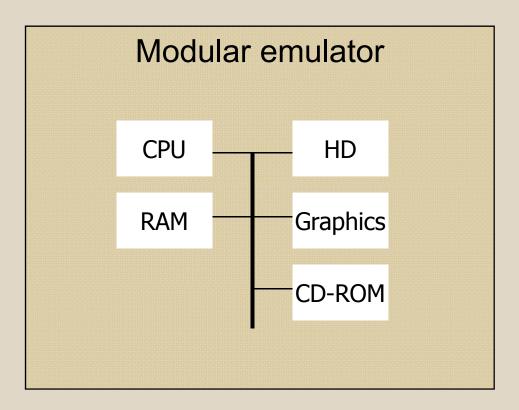


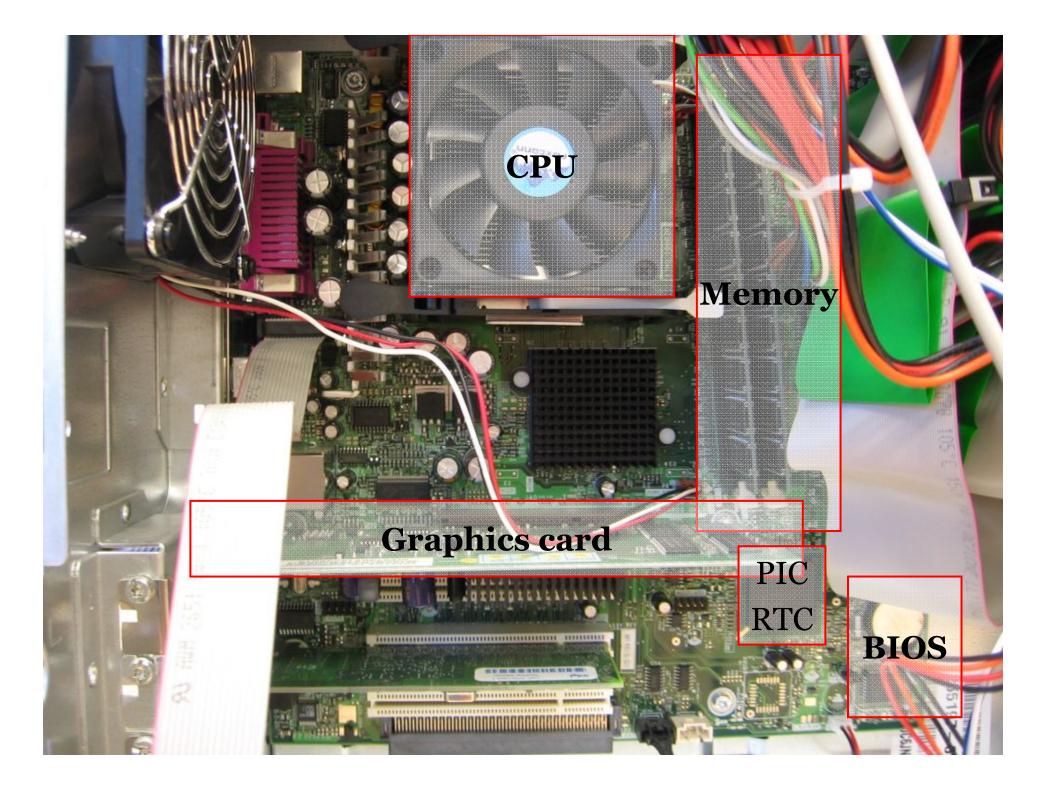
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## What is modular emulation?

• Modular -> emulator consists of modules.







### Results

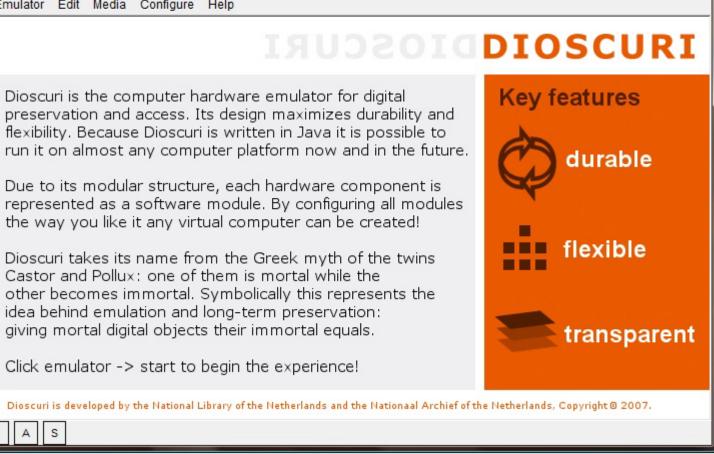
- **Dioscuri** modular emulator for digital preservation
- Current version: 0.4.0 (Beta)
- Programmed in Java using JVM
- Capable of:
  - Running MS-DOS, FreeDOS, Linux 16-bit (ELKS), MS Windows 3.0
  - Norton Commander 3.0, WordPerfect 5.1, DrawPerfect 1.1, many games like PC-versions of PacMan, Tetris, Chess and many more. Also DOS-based webbrowser Arachne.
  - XML-based module configuration
  - Text extraction from emulated environment into the clipboard of host computer.
  - Running on many platforms like Intel/Windows, PowerPC/Mac, Sun/Sparc Solaris.



### **INUD20IDDIOSCURI** Emulation as a preservation strategy

#### Dioscuri - modular emulator for digital preservation

Emulator Edit Media Configure Help



### nationaalarchief





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# **Open issues around emulation:**

- Is it legal?
- Using emulators is difficult, why?
- How do I get my software right?
- How will emulation fit in my organisation?
- How to get the data from the original carrier?
- Will it be sustainable?



### Next step: new project KEEP

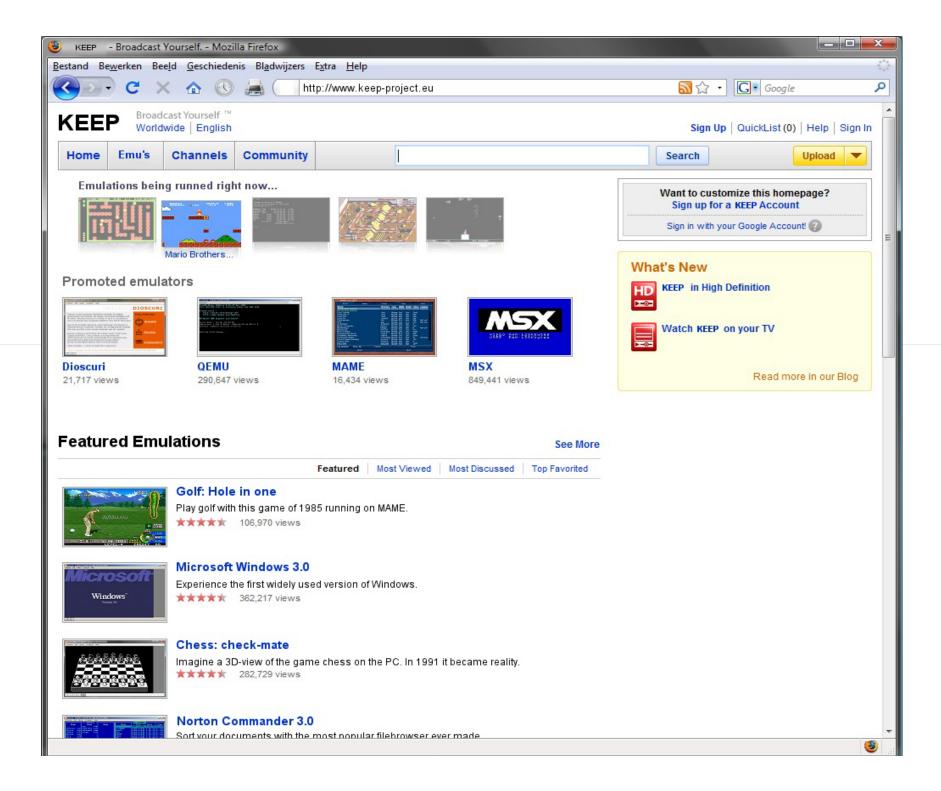


Keeping Emulation Environments Portable

**Objectives:** 

- Media transfer framework
- Build user friendly emulation services
- Define metadata model to support emulation
- Guarantee sustainability (portability)
- Legal study

### www.keep-project.eu





*RUD20IDIOSCURI* Emulation as a preservation strategy

### http://dioscuri.sourceforge.net



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# **Any questions?**

Dioscuri website:

http://dioscuri.sourceforge.net

Emulation project KB / Nationaal Archief: <u>http://www.kb.nl/hrd/dd/dd\_projecten/projecten\_emulatie-en.html</u>

Planets project:

http://www.planets-project.eu

KEEP project:

http://www.keep-project.eu

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