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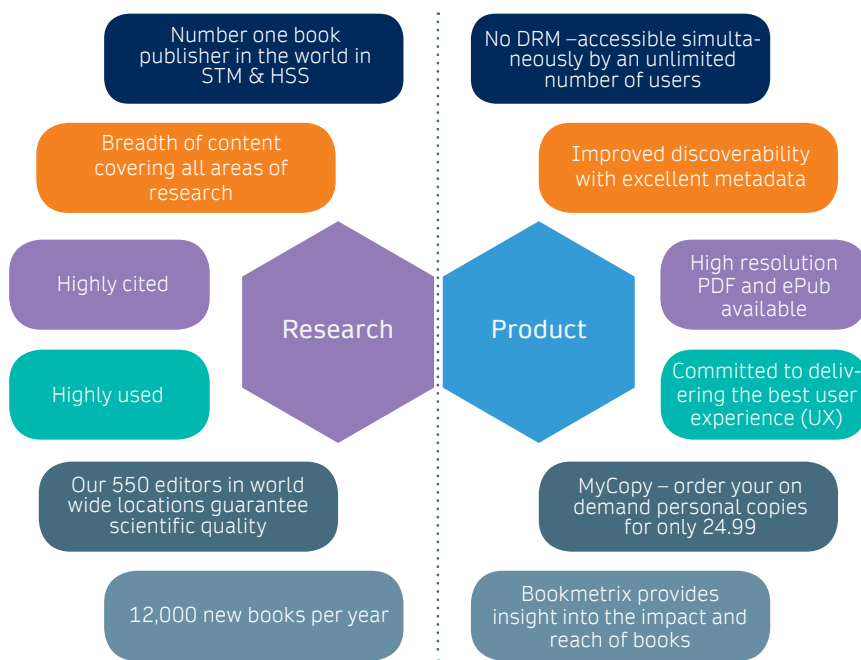
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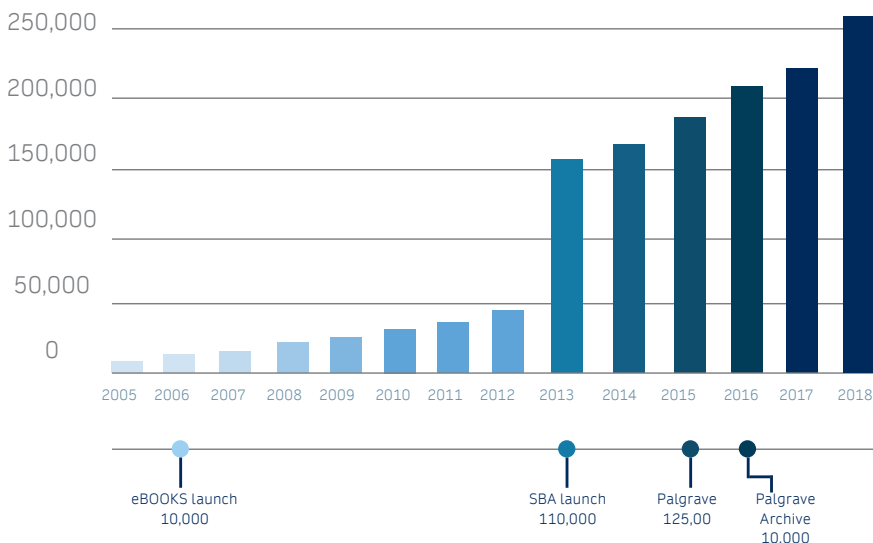
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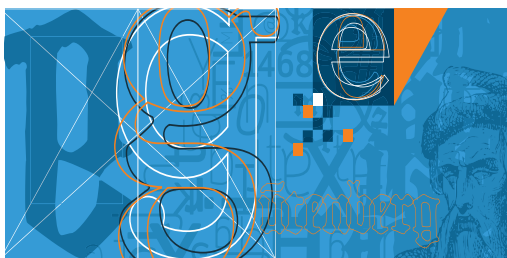
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Johannes Gutenberg (c.1395 – c.1468)

Johannes Gutenberg was a German inventor whose introduction of mechanical movable type printing into Europe is widely regarded as laying the basis for the modern knowledge based economy. Whereas movable type had been used in Asia previously, Gutenberg's innovation was developing a casting system using molten type metal that produced many duplicates of the same letter. This process was used to print the 42-line or Gutenberg Bible, which was acclaimed for both its technical quality and its beauty. Gutenberg referred to the process as "Das Werk der Bücher" – the work of the books – an indication perhaps that, although he had invented the printing press, he understood his real legacy to be the books that the process created.

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