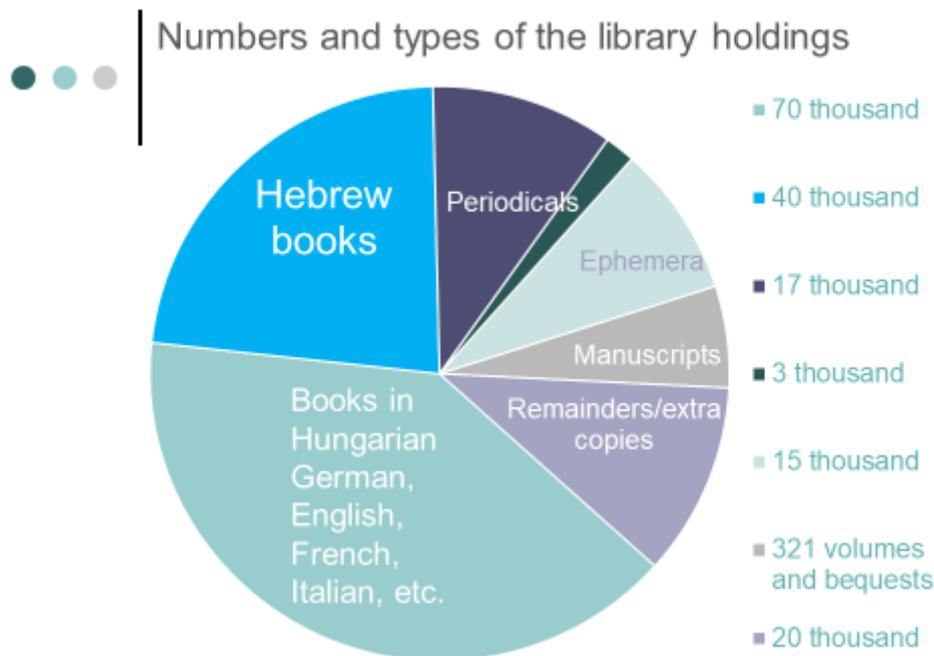


Handout

- **1. Who are we?**
 - **Brief history and holdings of the Library**
 - **2. Our projects and challenges**
 - **3. Our plan for modernization**
- 1. Who are we?**
- The Seminary and its library was founded in 1877 -> acquisition of old books, manuscripts (e.g. the bequest of Prof. Lelio Della Torre) by Prof. David Kaufmann (curator, 1877-99)
 - The library survived the Shoa and Eichmann’s visit to the Seminary in March 1944
 - From 1945 it became the book archive of the Shoa victims (books of Jewish communities, authorities and schools): resulting in resource & infrastructure problems
 - The library is the oldest still functioning Rabbinical Seminary library in Europe and the most active Library of the Neolog Jewish Community in Hungary.
 - We have been a university library since 2000 when the university was accredited
 - We have the most numerous Jewish book collection in Hungary and Central Europe also
 - Our maintainers are the Federation of Hungarian Jewish Communities and our University



TOTAL: 170 K

2. Our projects and challenges

- We **collect** documents according to our materials selection policy, and **preserve, process** and **make** them available for our readers (from the university and outer readers)
- Being a historical collection (I.) and university library as well (II.) we have multiple tasks:
- I. Preservation, rediscovery and disseminating the local Jewish culture, especially the Neolog Jewish heritage, and publications of the Hungarian Jewish Scholarship between the middle of the 19th and the middle of the 20th Century.

A) Our digitization and preservation projects between 2018 and 2020:

- – Digitization of works of Hungarian Jewish scholars, professors of the former Seminary like Bacher, Kaufmann, Goldziher, etc., and of the books about local history of the Jews
- Buying and borrowing great format Zeutschel book-scanners (A2+, A3+)
- Cooperation with the Hungarian National Digital Archive (MaNDA)→
- Funding staff, receiving digital tools, using their database for publishing digitized material
- Results: 450 OA digitised books available from our Library in the database of the Hungarian National Digital Archive (<https://en.mandadb.hu/>) and in Europeana
- Ongoing projects: Digitizing Hungarian Jewish Periodicals and Hebrew Manuscripts
- – Building a conservation workshop in the Library with the help of different Funds
- II. Being a university library, we focus on collecting current publications and digital databases like JSTOR, EBSCO, Shoah Visual History Archive and Hungarian databases

B) Re-cataloging project between 2017 and 2020:

- between 2013 and 2016: inventorying 90% of the collection in excel-databases
- -> Data-lists of the individual documents, such as Hebrew and Non-Hebrew Books, Periodicals and Printed Ephemera
- 2017-> clearing, analyzing and then migrating the data of the books from excel into the ILS, the Aleph catalog (results: making available and searchable individual records of the 110 K books)
- between 2018 and 2020 -> re-cataloging the books in the Aleph has been started and it is going on (results: 10 K bibliographic records of books and all records of the periodicals)

3. Plans for modernization of the Library

- Modernizing the reading room, storages and offices. See design plan of renewed reading room and interactive exhibition hall and display area of the old and rare books