The Evolution of Open Access Journal Publishing 2010-2016
A Closer Look at Journals Indexed in Scopus

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COASP 2017 // 21.9.2017
My background and perspective

» Research has been focusing on how OA has been introduced and changed the scholarly journal publishing industry.

» Chairman of FinnOA, an unofficial working group for advancing open access to research publications in Finland.

» Member of the strategy group for journal publisher negotiations on behalf of the Finnish university library consortium (FinElib).

http://hdl.handle.net/10138/45238
This is work-in-progress

» Preliminary intermittent results, adjustments to data coding still pending. Metadata entry still missing for ~1% of included journals.

» Final results will be submitted for peer-review and journal during October 2017. Preprint likely.

» All feedback welcome (mikael.laakso@hanken.fi)
Background
What do we know?
About the growth of Open Access

GOAJ2
Gold Open Access Journals 2011-2016

Walt Crawford

https://waltcrawford.name/goaj2.pdf

PeerJ Preprints
The State of OA: A large-scale analysis of the prevalence and impact of Open Access articles

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  - Independent Scholar
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https://peerj.com/preprints/3119/
What do we know?
About converting journals to OA

Converting Scholarly Journals to Open Access: A Review of Approaches and Experiences

By David J. Solomon, Mikael Laakso, and Bo-Christer Björk

With interpolated comments from the public and a panel of experts

Edited by Peter Suber

Published by the Harvard Library
August 2016

This entire report, including the main text by David Solomon, Bo-Christer Björk, and Mikael Laakso, the preface by Peter Suber, and the comments by multiple authors is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License.
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https://dash.harvard.edu/handle/1/27803834
What do we not know?

Lack of a recent unified study that would incorporate

» How open access journal publishing has developed longitudinally relative to subscription content, including relative share of delayed open access (and hybrid open access).

» A differentiation between journals that have started as OA from the start and journals that have converted to OA.

» APC prevalence and APC levels of OA journals based on the OA “origin” of the journal.
Inclusion criteria:
Scopus-indexed journals included in either DOAJ or ROAD
How many Scopus-indexed journals (published >0 documents in 2016)

DOAJ
2570

DOAJ + ROAD
1752

ROAD
2671

In either:
3489

In neither:
17210

Work-in-progress, please do not cite
Some pre-existing data could be leveraged

### Delayed Open Access: An Overlooked High-Impact Category of Openly Available Scientific Literature

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Delayed open access (OA) refers to articles that are available online in a more limited version before the embargo date, but become open access after a certain period. Unlike traditional OA, delayed OA offers more control over the embargo duration and is often perceived as a "safe" alternative. This allows researchers and publishers to balance the interests of authors and readers, ensuring that information is accessible to the public while maintaining the integrity of the research.

### Open Access Article Processing Charges (OA APC) Longitudinal Study 2016 Dataset

Heather Morine-D'Almeida, Wallyse Buitelaar, Myrian D’Almeida De Rezende, Tarah Laurent Kakou, Kathryn Leprano, Salim Merhi, Anitha Onoegbule, Jihun Souhab, Victoria Volkmann and Sara Wheeler
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Abstract: This article documents Open access article processing charges (OA APC) rates in 2016. This dataset was developed as part of a longitudinal study of the OA market by a third of the full open access journals that used the APC business model. APC data for 2016, 2013, 2014, and 2012 are primarily obtained from publishers' websites, a process that requires analytic skill as many publishers offer a diverse range of pricing options, including multiple APC models and different pricing by article type, length or work involved and/or distance. For author contributions to editing or the society publisher or based on perceived ability to pay. This version of the dataset stems heavily from the work of Web Crawford, and includes all entries 2012–2015 dataset; in particular Crawford's work has made it possible to confirm "no publication fee" status for a large number of journals. DOAJ metadata for 2014 and 2013 APC abstract provided by Selin, Kalkan and Björk are part of the dataset. Data from the OA dataset are provided by Crawford and Selin, and Björk, and include a basis for studies of factors such as journal size, subject, or country of publication that might be worth testing for correlation with business model and/or APC size.

### Scopus title list

- A longitudinal comparison of citation rates and growthamong open access journals
- Delayed Open Access: An Overlooked High-Impact Category of Openly Available Scientific Literature
- Open Access Article Processing Charges (OA APC) Longitudinal Study 2016 Dataset

### Data Citation

Date 2017, 2(2), 13; doi:10.17936/jic20313
Date Descriptor
Open Access Article Processing Charges (OA APC) Longitudinal Study 2016 Dataset

### Notes

- Delayed open access (OA) refers to articles in subscription journals made openly available online for free, typically through the publisher's OA policy or via Open Access platforms. This model aims to balance the interests of authors and publishers, ensuring that information is accessible to the public while maintaining the integrity of the research.
- Open Access Article Processing Charges (OA APC) are fees paid by authors or their institutions to publish their research in OA journals. The dataset includes all entries from 2012 to 2015, providing a comprehensive view of OA APC rates over time.
- Scopus is a bibliographic database that offers a wide range of indexing options and is often used by researchers to identify scholarly publications.
However, a lot was collected by visiting each journal website

» Collecting missing APC data
» Classifying journals as either Born OA/Converted OA
» Year added to DOAJ/ROAD
» DOAJ metadata "Year open access content began"
» Editorials, text on website
» Year of website creation
» Publisher change, license change
» Year of initial PDF metadata
Results
When did journals start OA publishing?

Work-in-progress, please do not cite
When did journals start OA publishing? (Cumulative)

Work-in-progress, please do not cite
Actively publishing journals
Born OA vs. Converted OA

Work-in-progress, please do not cite
Article volumes
Born OA vs. Converted OA

- Born, APC
- Born, no APC
- Converted, APC
- Converted, no APC

Work-in-progress, please do not cite
Journal APCs (in converted USD).

2028 no APC journals not visualised

Work-in-progress, please do not cite
Journal APCs (in converted USD).  
98,904 no APC articles not visualised

Work-in-progress, please do not cite
Full immediate open access in Scopus 2010-2016

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Work-in-progress, please do not cite
Conclusions

» The shift towards OA is strong, and the landscape has completely changed in the last five years.

» Still a lot of manual work involved to measure the development of OA publishing, however, things have and continue to improve.

» A lot could still be learnt from taking a closer look at how the thousands of converted OA journals have managed the transition

» The **ISSN-GOLD-OA 2.0** list is a great resource that should be used for similar studies in the future (https://pub.uni-bielefeld.de/data/2913654).

» The analysis will continue with by including factors like e.g. country and research discipline.
Thank You!

Questions?

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