

## **"One damned thing after another"**

The journal monopoly, how it came to be, what it means for science and what we can do about it

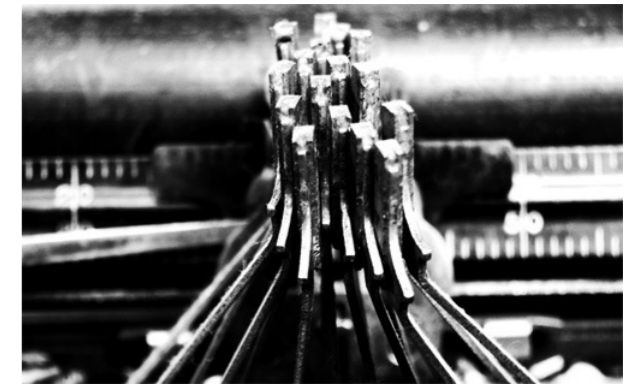
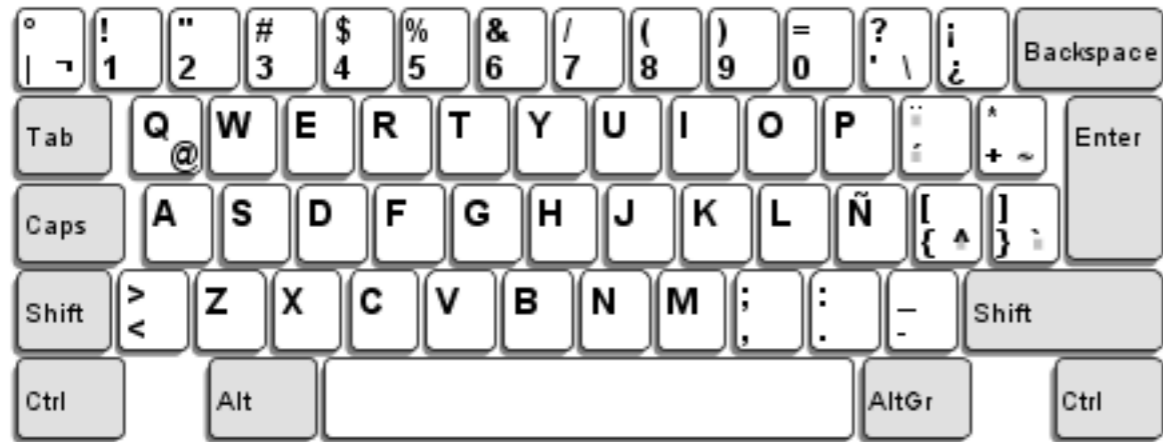
Pandelis Perakakis

University of Granada / Open Scholar

<http://openscholar.org.uk> – @ppandelis / @os\_soc

**Lyon 10 October 2016**

# QWERTY



# DVORAK



**63% less work  
40% faster typing**

# **Vital processes in Science**

**Validation**

**Evaluation**

**Dissemination**

PHILOSOPHICAL  
TRANSACTIONS:  
GIVING SOME  
ACCOMPT  
OF THE PRESENT  
Undertakings, Studies, and Labours  
OF THE  
INGENIOUS  
IN MANY  
CONSIDERABLE PARTS  
OF THE  
WORLD.

*Vol I.*

For *Anno 1665, and 1666.*

In the *SAVOY*,  
Printed by *T. N.* for *John Martyn* at the Bell, a little with-  
out *Temple-Bar*, and *James Allestry* in *Duck-Lane*,  
Printers to the *Royal Society*.

LE  
JOURNAL  
DES  
SCAVANS

*Du Lundy V. Janvier M. DC. LXV.*

Par le Sieur DE HEDOVILLE.



A PARIS,

Chez *JEAN CVSSON*, rue *S. Jacques*, à l'Ima-  
ge de *S. Iean Baptiste*.

M. DC. LXV.

AVEC PRIVILEGE DV ROY.

Increasing specialisation of science

Increase in the number of scientific papers being published

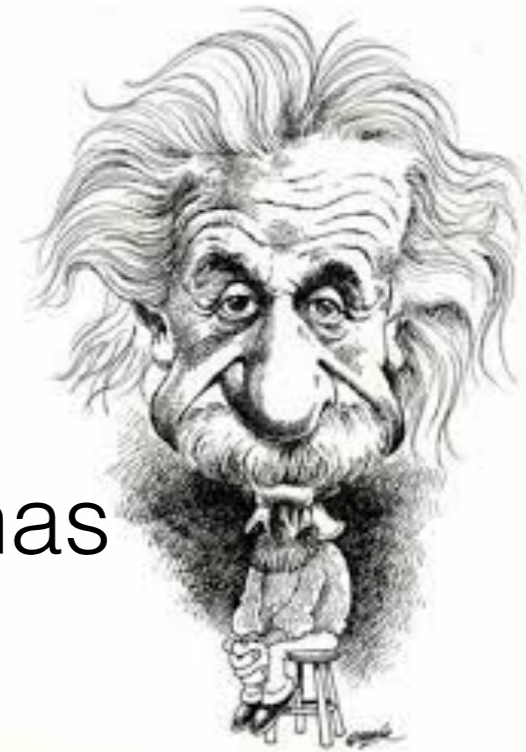
Introduction of technologies for copying papers

Dear Sir,

We (Mr. Rosen and I) had sent you our manuscript for publication and had not authorized you to show it to specialists before it is printed. I see no reason to address the in any case erroneous comments of your anonymous expert. On the basis of this incident I prefer to publish the paper elsewhere.

Respectfully,

P.S. Mr. Rosen, who has left for the Soviet Union, has authorized me to represent him in this matter.



# The peer review drugs don't work

A process at the heart of science is based on faith rather than evidence, says Richard Smith, and vested interests keep it in place

Peer review is supposed to be the quality assurance system for science, weeding out the scientifically unreliable and reassuring readers of journals that they can trust what they are reading. In reality, however, it is ineffective, largely a lottery, anti-innovatory, slow, expensive, wasteful of scientific time, inefficient, easily abused, prone to bias, unable to detect fraud and irrelevant.

Perhaps the biggest argument against the peer review of completed studies is that it simply isn't needed. With the World Wide Web everything can be published, and the world can decide what's important and what isn't. This proposition strikes terror into many hearts, but with so much poor-quality science published what do we have to lose?

**Richard Smith, former *British Medical Journal* editor**

**May 28, 2015**

# Effects of Editorial Peer Review

## A Systematic Review

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Tom Jefferson, MD

---

Philip Alderson, MBChB

---

Elizabeth Wager, MA

---

Frank Davidoff, MD

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**Conclusions** Editorial peer review, although widely used, is largely untested and its effects are uncertain.

*JAMA. 2002;287:2784-2786*

[www.jama.com](http://www.jama.com)



Trusted evidence.  
Informed decisions.  
Better health.

## Editorial peer review for improving the quality of reports of biomedical studies

**Published:**

18 April 2007

**Authors:**

Jefferson T, Rudin M, Brodney

Folse S, Davidoff F

**Authors' conclusions:**

At present, little empirical evidence is available to support the use of editorial peer review as a mechanism to ensure quality of biomedical research.



News Feature

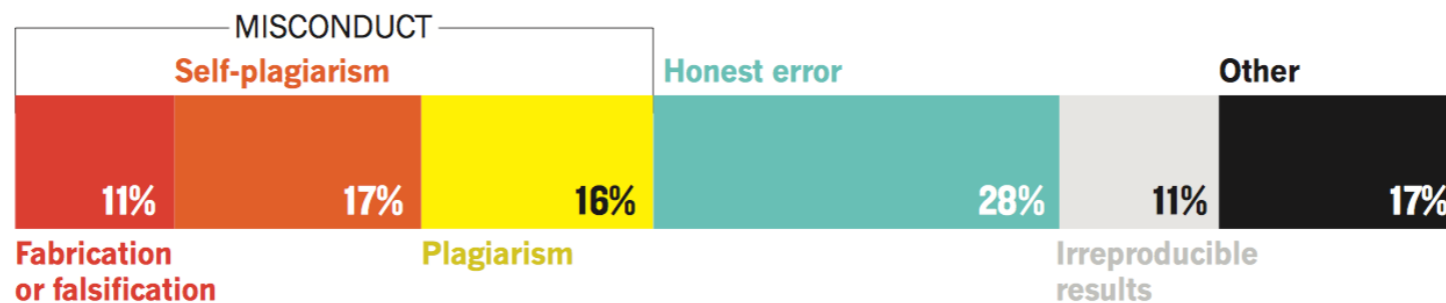
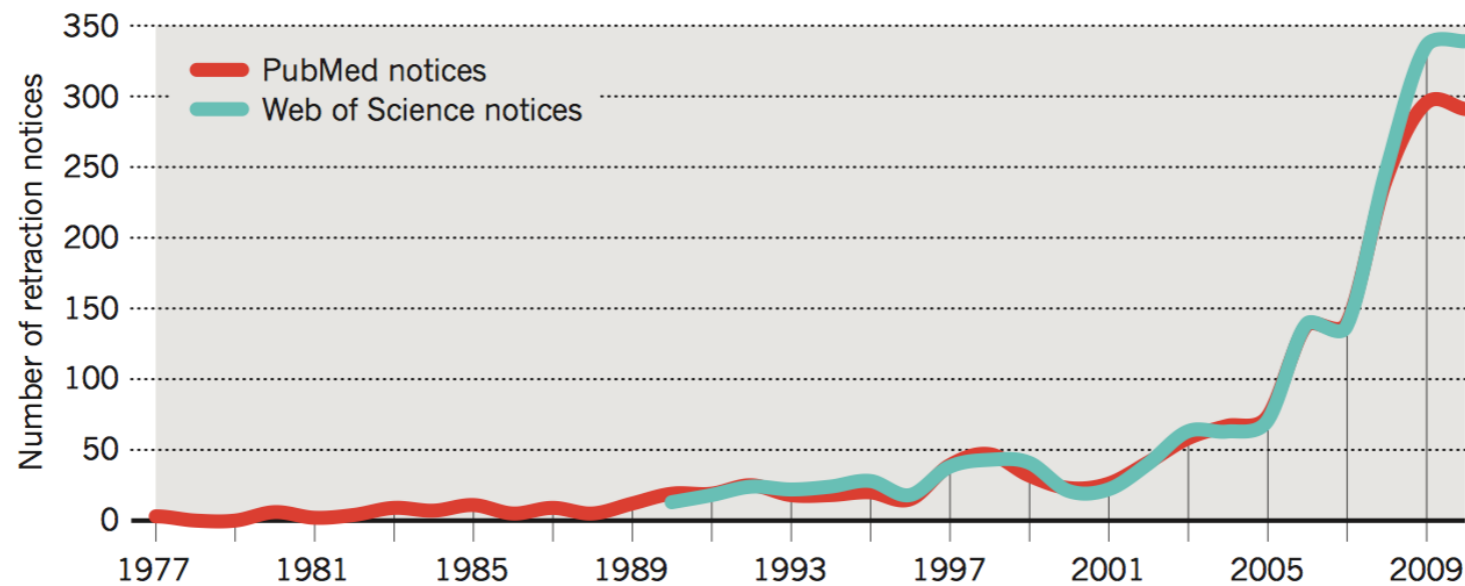
# Science publishing: The trouble with retractions

**A surge in withdrawn papers is highlighting weaknesses in the system for handling them.**

Richard Van Noorden

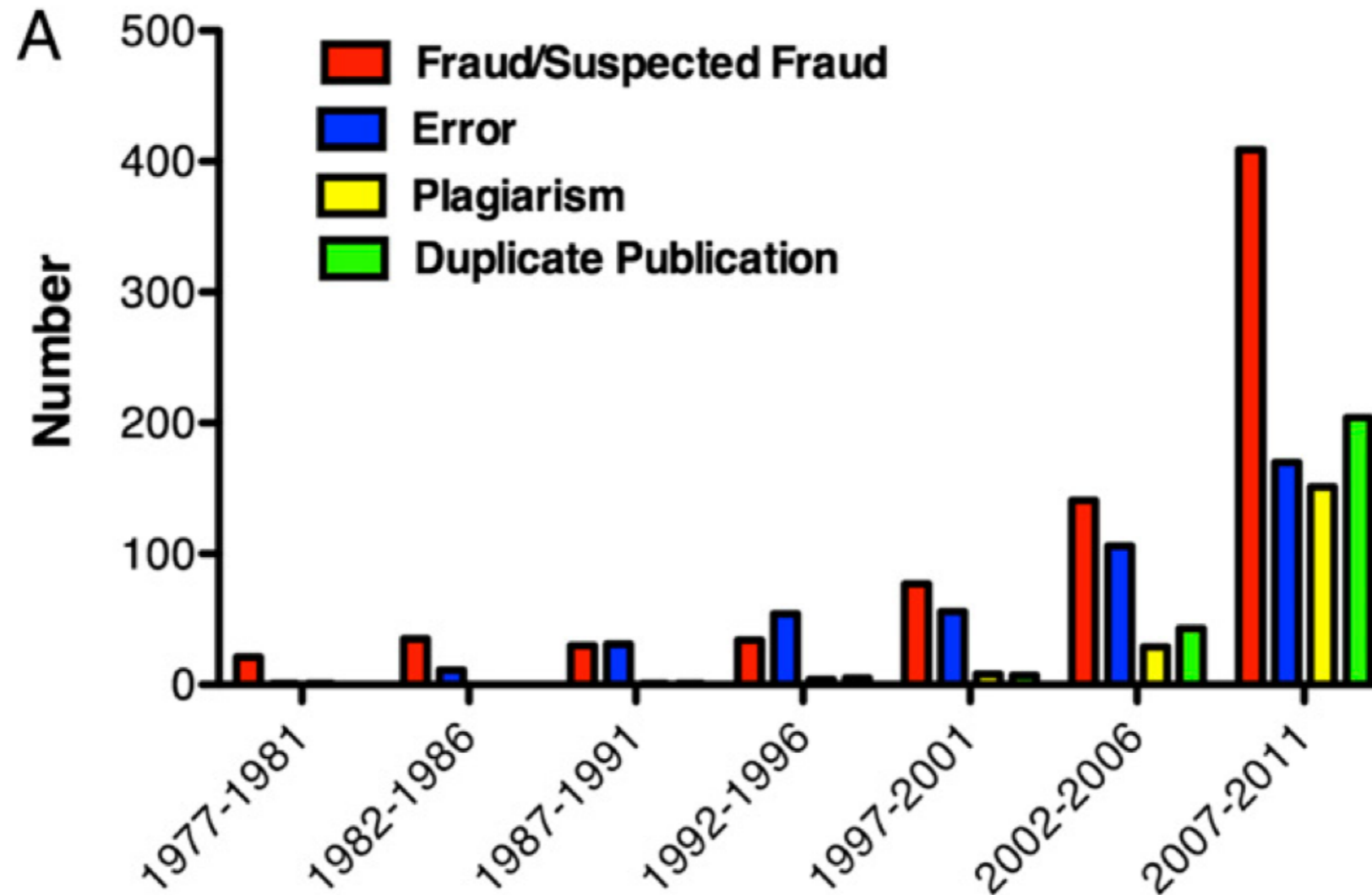
## RISE OF THE RETRACTIONS

In the past decade, the number of retraction notices has shot up 10-fold (**top**), even as the literature has expanded by only 44%. It is likely that only about half of all retractions are for researcher misconduct (**middle**). Higher-impact journals have logged more retraction notices over the past decade, but much of the increase during 2006–10 came from lower-impact journals (**bottom**).



# Misconduct accounts for the majority of retracted scientific publications

Ferric C. Fang<sup>a,b,1</sup>, R. Grant Steen<sup>c,1</sup>, and Arturo Casadevall<sup>d,1,2</sup>



RESEARCH ARTICLE

# Estimating the reproducibility of psychological science

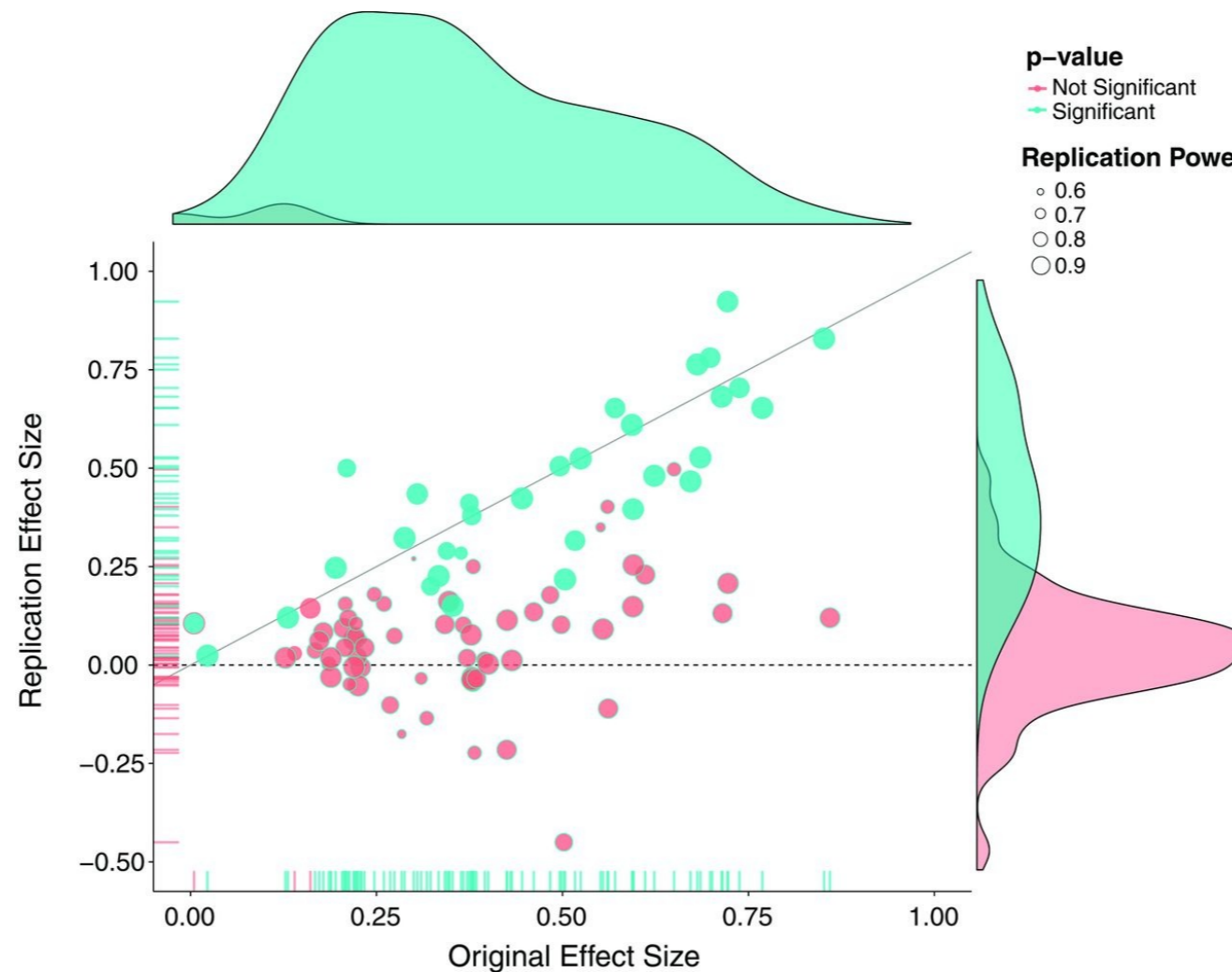


Open Science Collaboration<sup>\*,†</sup>

*\*All authors with their affiliations appear at the end of this paper.*

*†*Corresponding author. E-mail: [nosek@virginia.edu](mailto:nosek@virginia.edu)

Science 28 Aug 2015:  
Vol. 349, Issue 6251,  
DOI: 10.1126/science.aac4716



# Drug development: Raise standards for preclinical cancer research

C. Glenn Begley & Lee M. Ellis

**85 per cent of preclinical studies could not be replicated**

## **Building a stronger system**

What reasons underlie the publication of erroneous, selective or irreproducible data? The academic system and peer-review process tolerates and perhaps even inadvertently encourages such conduct<sup>5</sup>. To obtain funding, a job, promotion or tenure, researchers need a strong publication record, often including a first-authored high-impact publication. Journal editors, reviewers and grant-review committees often look for a scientific finding that is simple, clear and complete — a 'perfect' story. It is therefore tempting for investigators to submit selected data sets for publication, or even to massage data to fit the underlying hypothesis.

*Nature* **483**, 531–533 (29 March 2012) | doi:10.1038/483531a

Published online 28 March 2012

*Jointly published by Akadémiai Kiadó, Budapest  
and Springer, Dordrecht*

*Scientometrics, Vol. 81, No. 2 (2009) 549–565*

DOI: 10.1007/s11192-008-2141-5

# **Rejecting and resisting Nobel class discoveries: accounts by Nobel Laureates**

JUAN MIGUEL CAMPANARIO

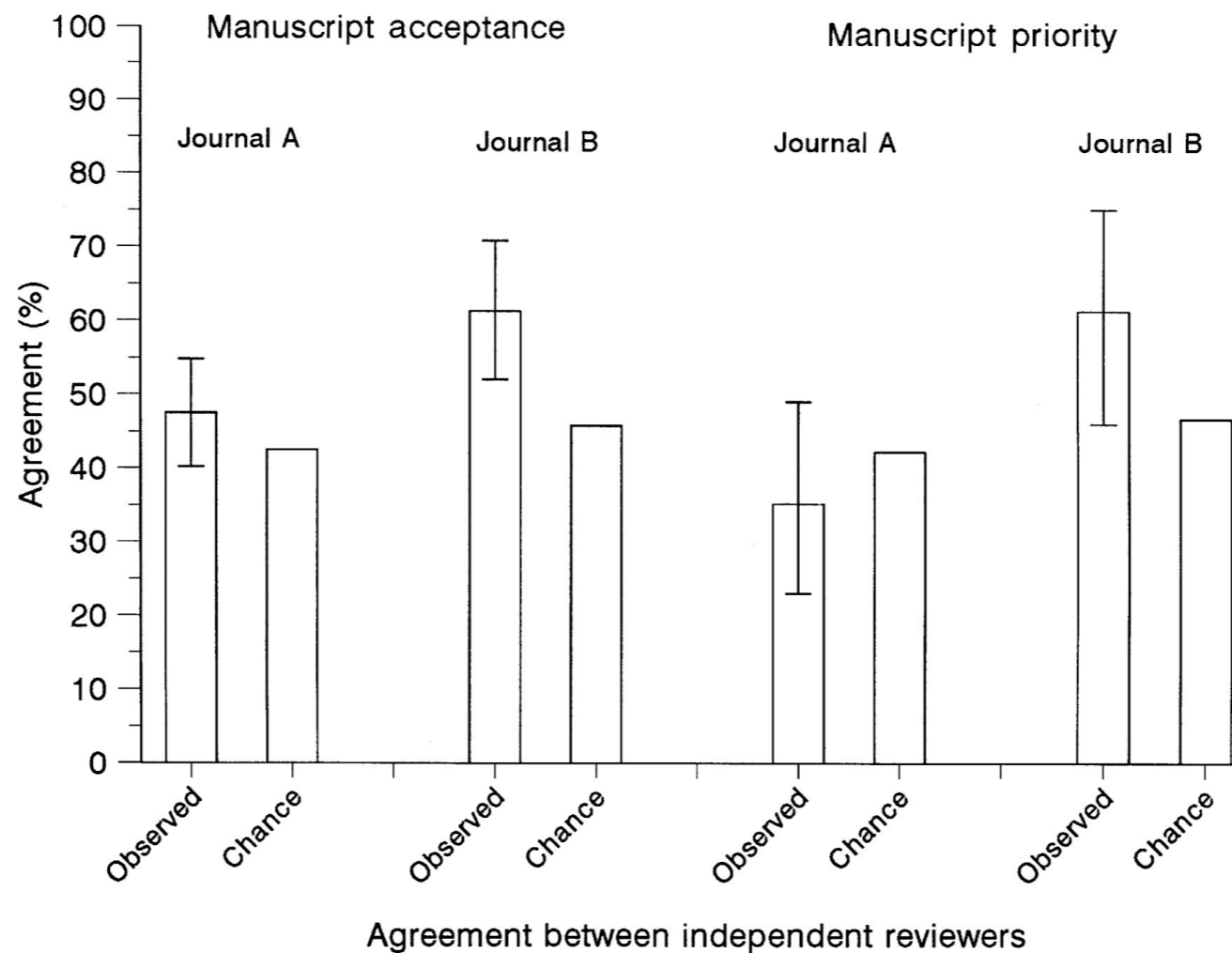
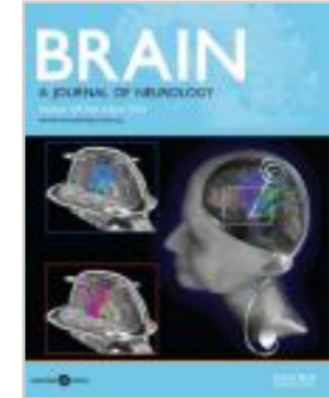
*Departamento de Física, Universidad de Alcalá, 28871 Alcalá de Henares, Madrid, Spain*

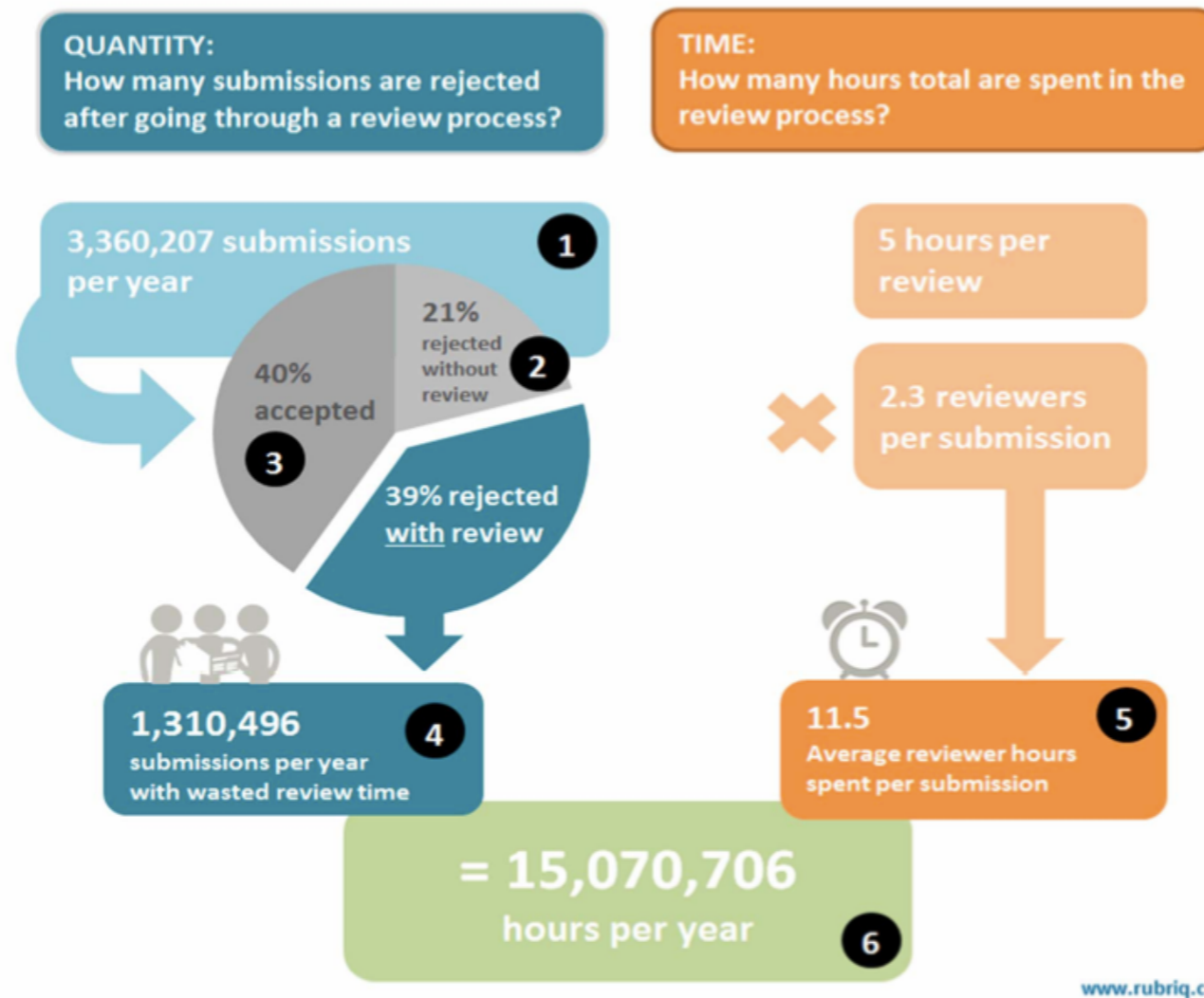
I review and discuss instances in which 19 future Nobel Laureates encountered resistance on the part of the scientific community towards their discoveries, and instances in which 24 future Nobel Laureates encountered resistance on the part of scientific journal editors or referees to manuscripts that dealt with discoveries that later would earn them the Nobel Prize.

# Reproducibility of peer review in clinical neuroscience: Is agreement between reviewers any greater than would be expected by chance alone? 🚫

Peter M. Rothwell, Christopher N. Martyn

DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1093/brain/123.9.1964> 1964-1969 First published online: 1 September 2000





# Unpaid peer review is worth £1.9bn



Study tallies 'hidden subsidy' of global scholarly communications system. Zoe Corbyn reports

Activities, costs and funding flows in the scholarly communications system in the UK  
Report commissioned by the Research Information Network (RIN)

May 29, 2008



Pandelis, I have good news. [redacted] says he will send the [redacted] paper to ...a very good friend of ours





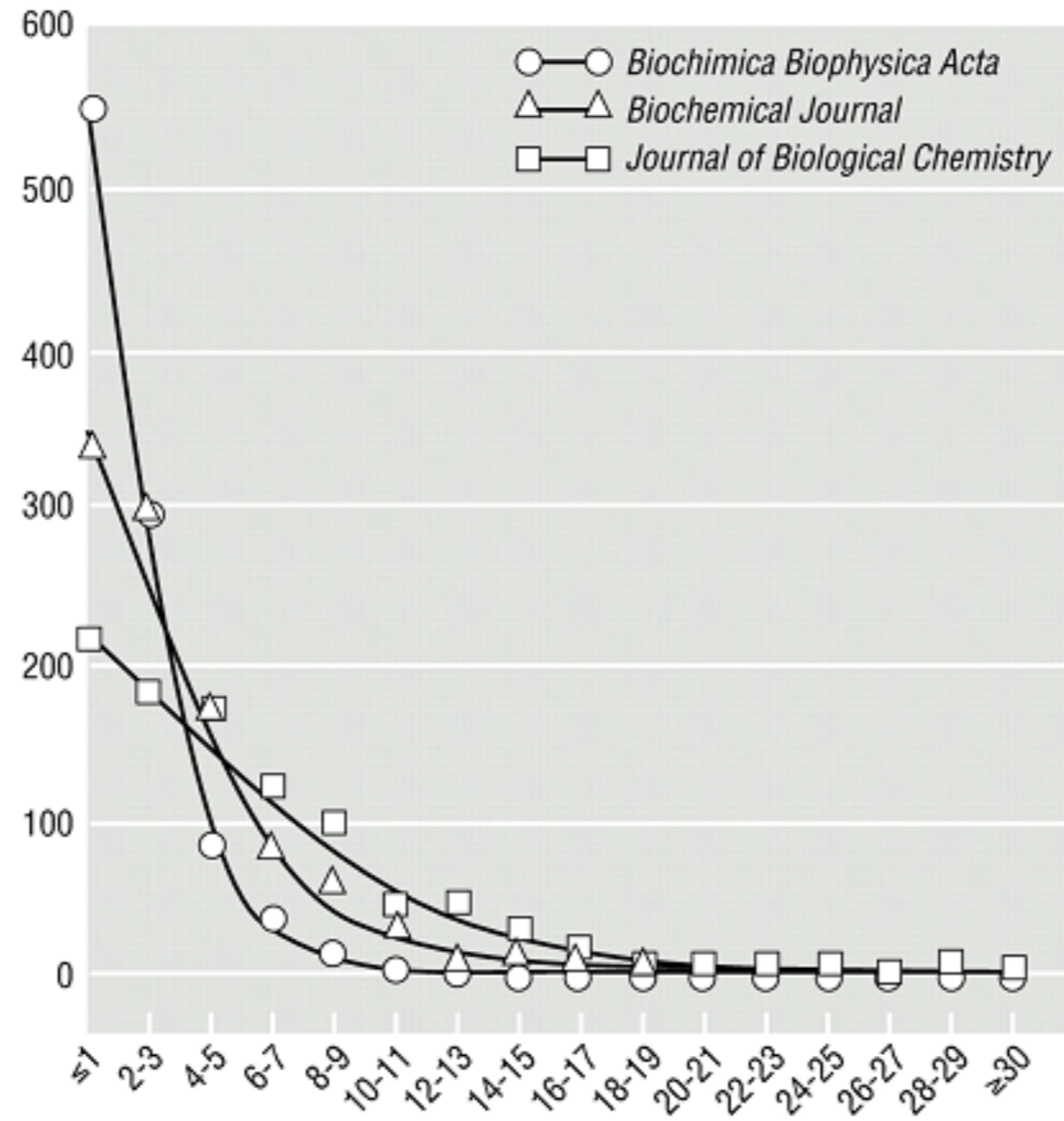
**1955:** Garfield, E. “Citation indexes to science: a new dimension in documentation through association of ideas”.  
Science

**1958:** Foundation of ISI (Institute for Scientific Information)

**1961:** Publication of SCI (Science Citation Index)

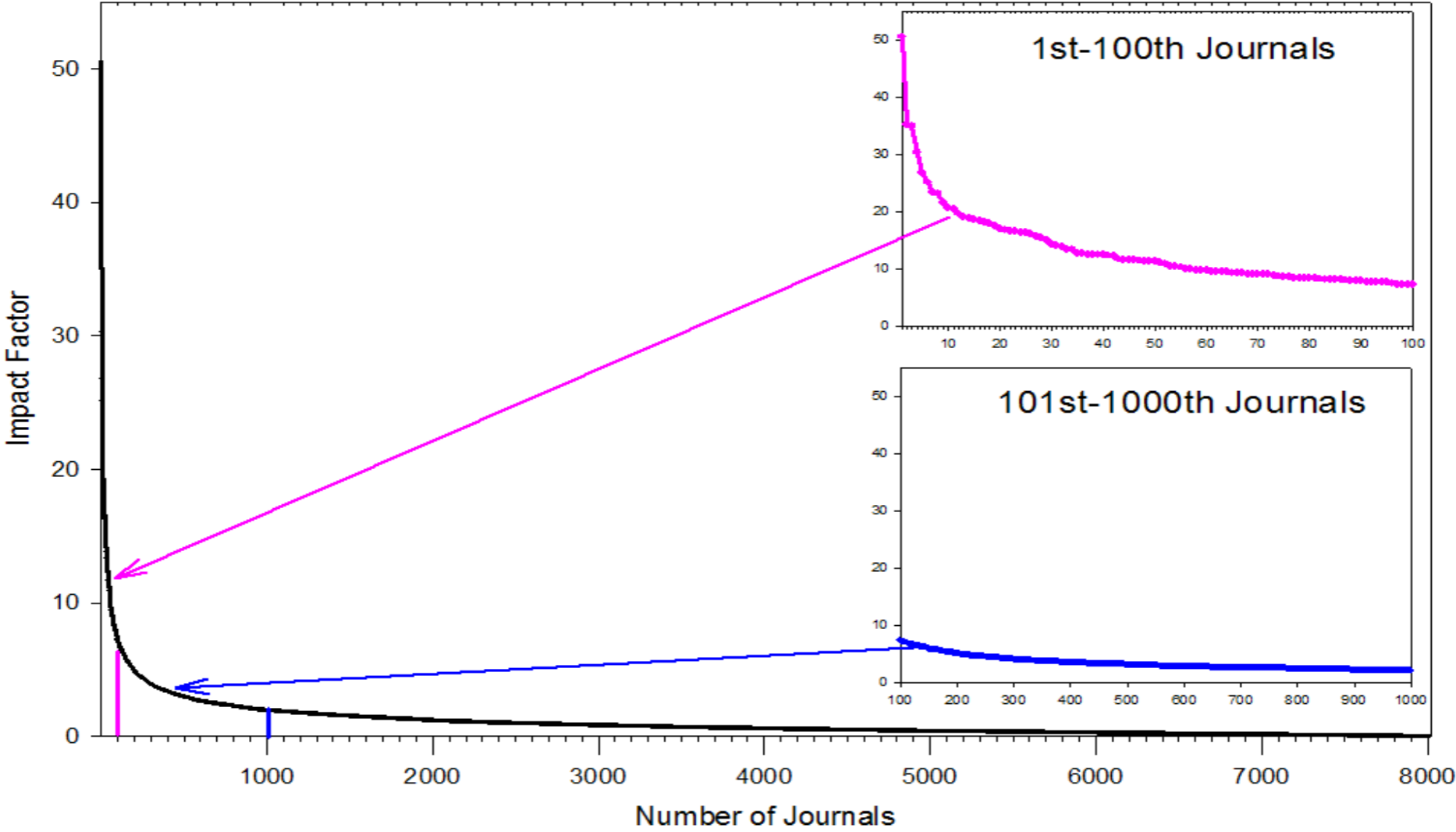
**1992:** ISI bought by  for \$210 million

# The IF as a measure of article quality



# The journal monopoly

*Journal Impact Factors (1974-2001): 8011 ISI Journals*



# University rankings

## Indicators and Weights for ARWU

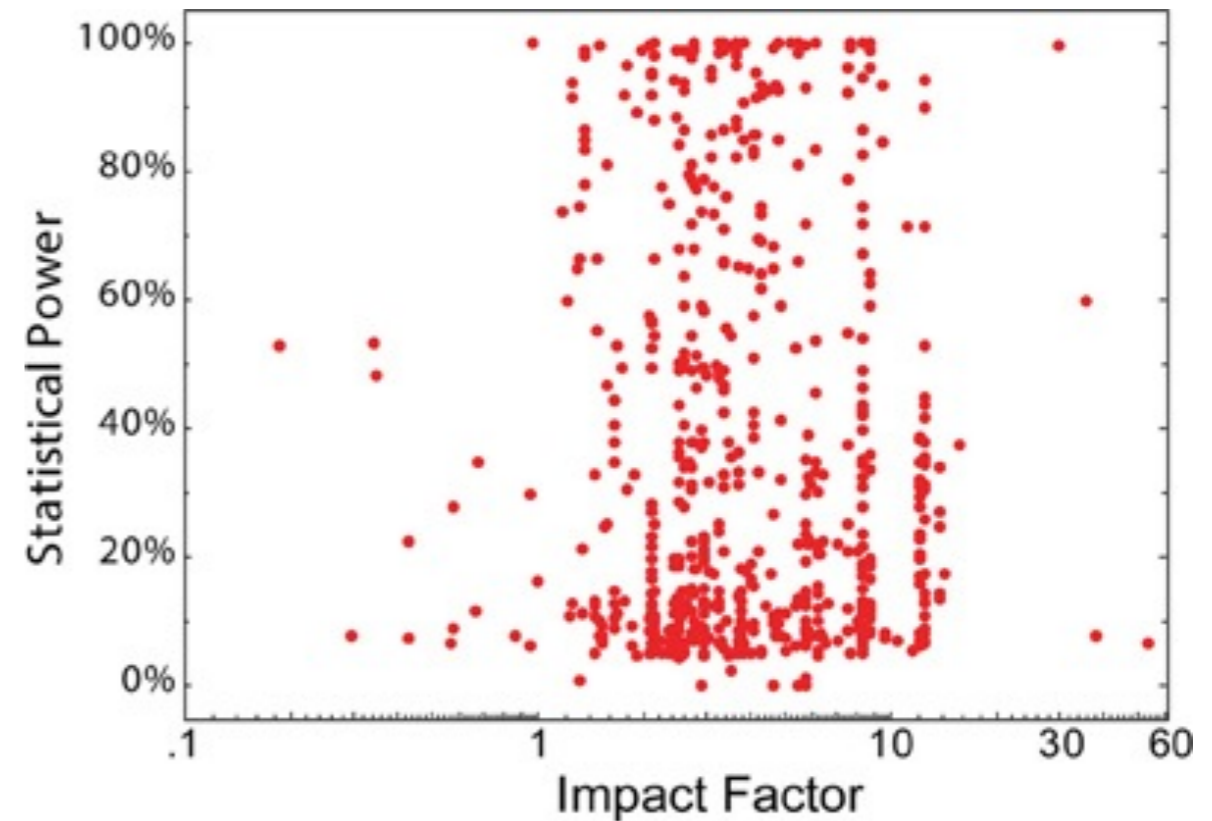
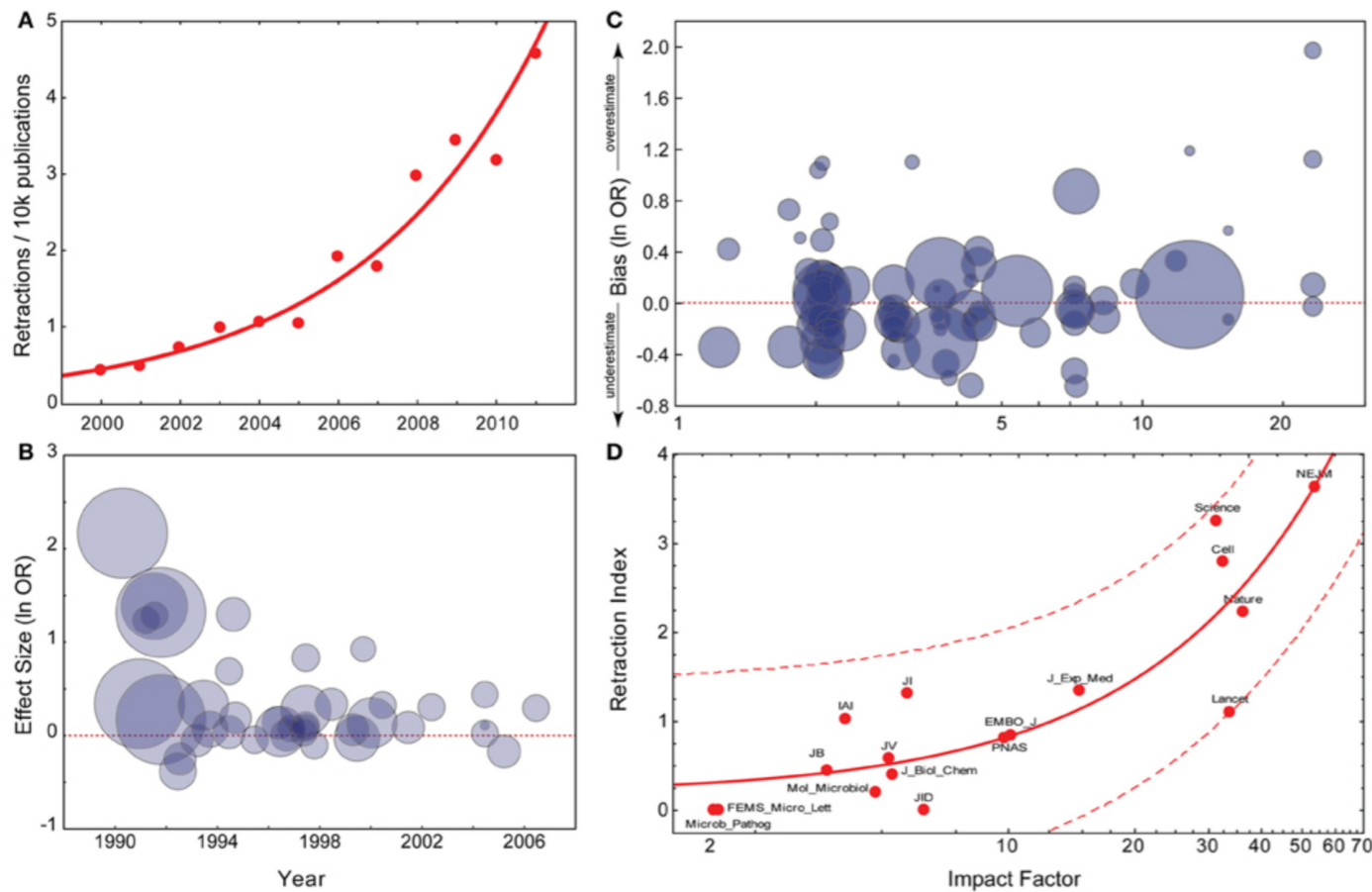
Criteria	Indicator	Code	Weight
Quality of Education	Alumni of an institution winning Nobel Prizes and Fields Medals	Alumni	10%
Quality of Faculty	Staff of an institution winning Nobel Prizes and Fields Medals	Award	20%
	Highly cited researchers in 21 broad subject categories	HiCi	20%
Research Output	Papers published in Nature and Science*	N&S	20%
	Papers indexed in Science Citation Index-expanded and Social Science Citation Index	S&S	20%
Per Capita Performance	Per capita academic performance of an institution	PCP	10%
Total			100%

\* For institutions specialized in humanities and social sciences such as London School of Economics, N&S is not considered, and the weight of N&S is relocated to other indicators.

# Deep impact: unintended consequences of journal rank



Björn Brembs<sup>1\*</sup>, Katherine Button<sup>2</sup> and Marcus Munafò<sup>3</sup>



# High Impact = High Statistical Standards? Not Necessarily So

Patrizio E. Tressoldi , David Giofré, Francesco Sella, Geoff Cumming

Published: February 13, 2013 • <http://dx.doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0056180>

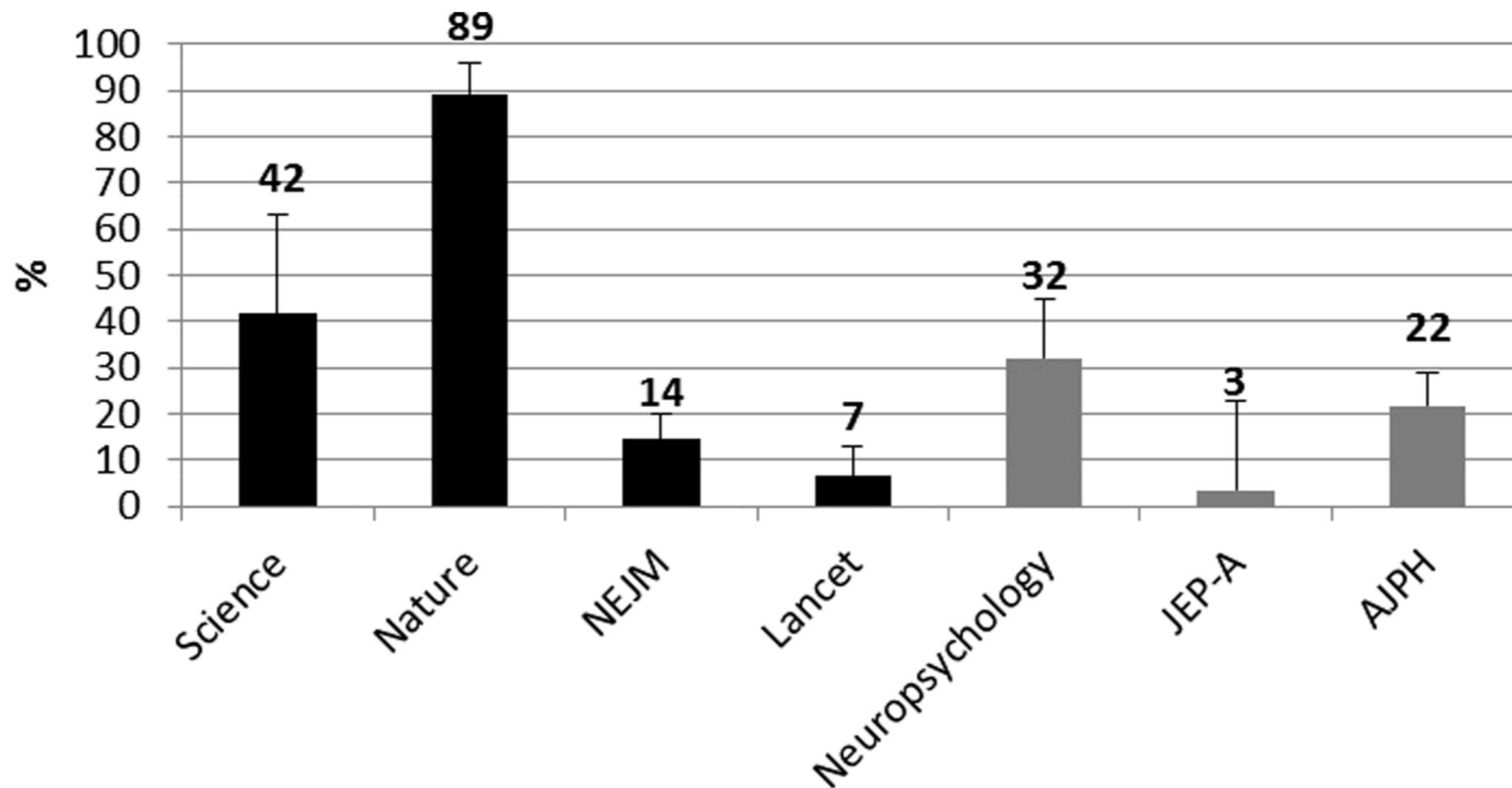
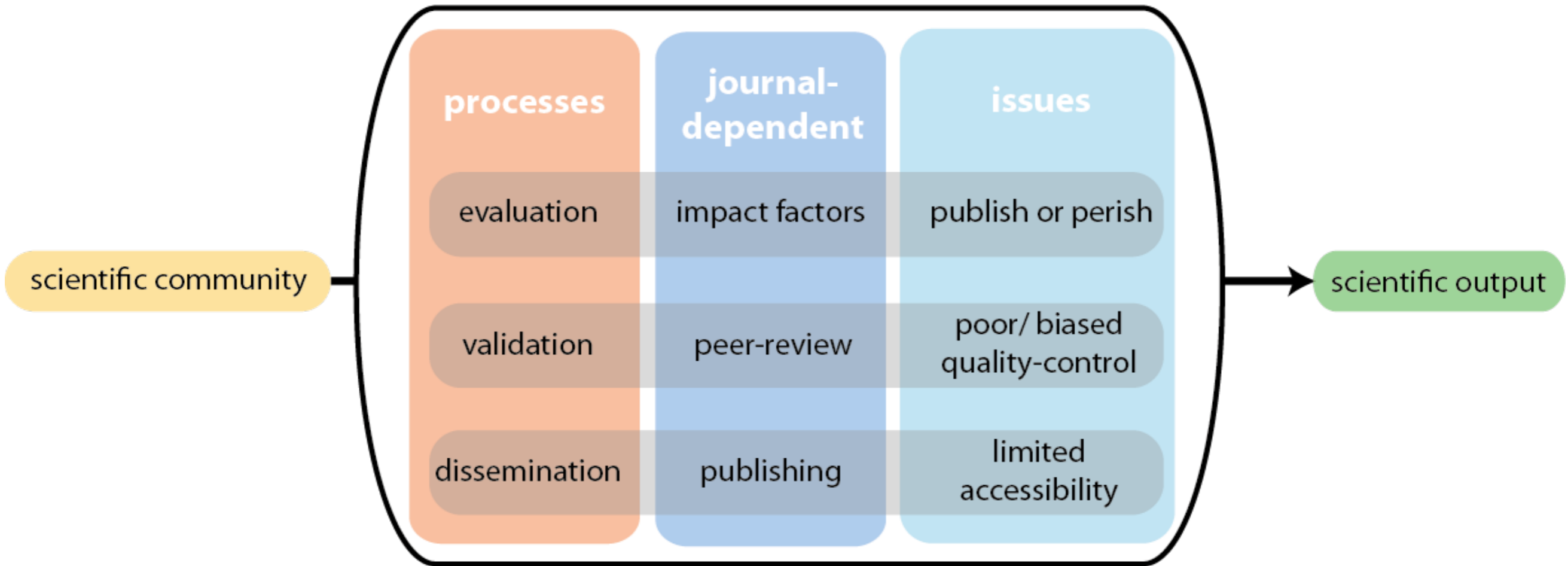


Figure 6. Percentages of selected articles in each journal that used NHST without CI, ES or Model and Power estimation.

# scholarly communication model



# Journals became brands...

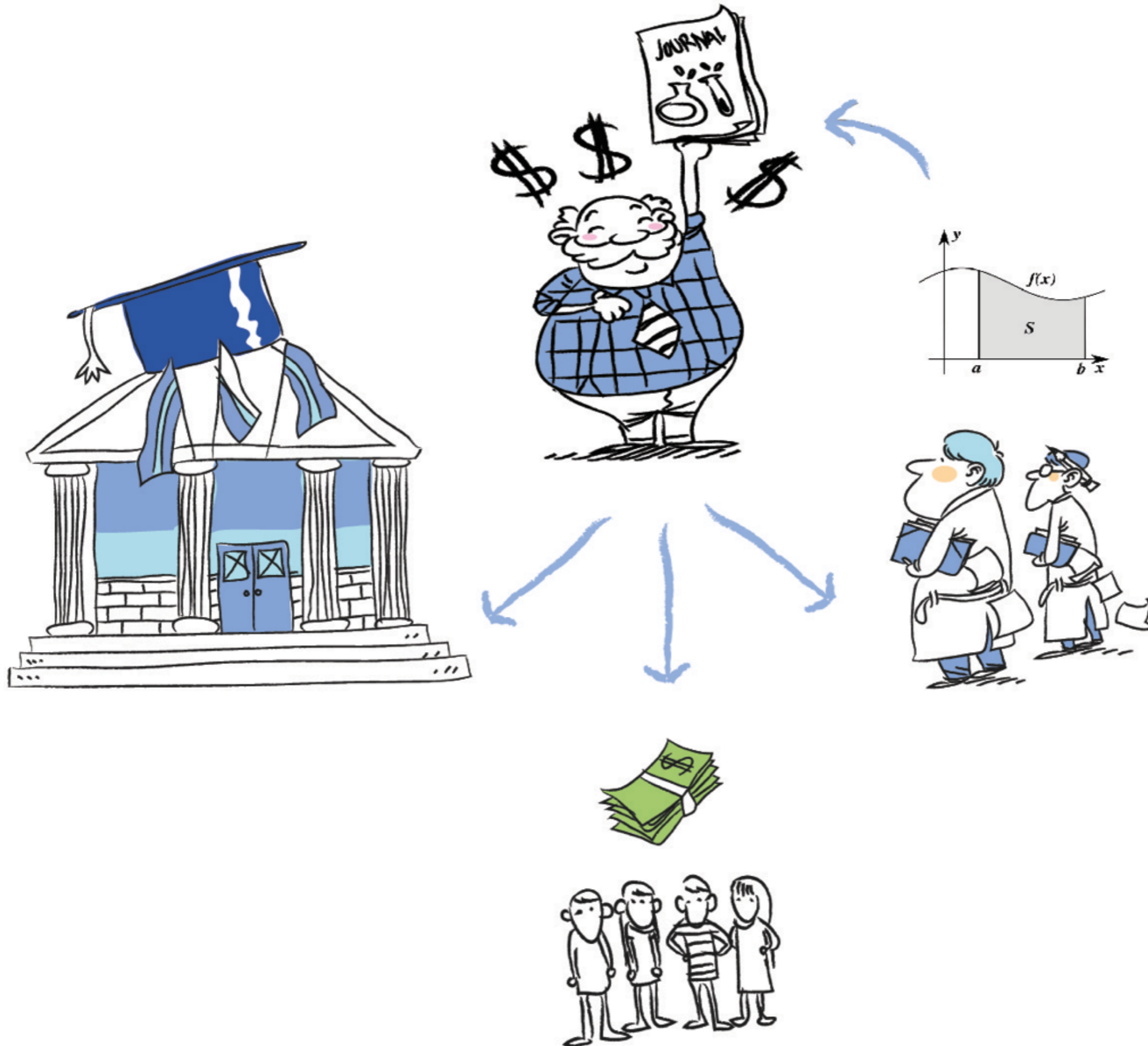


nature

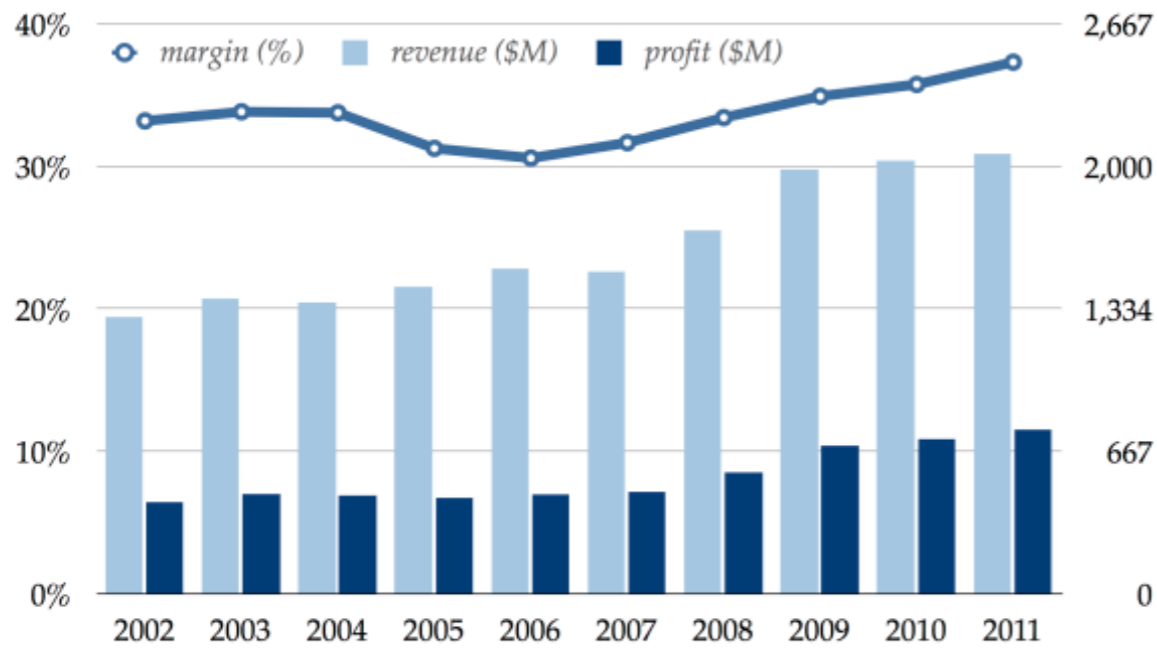




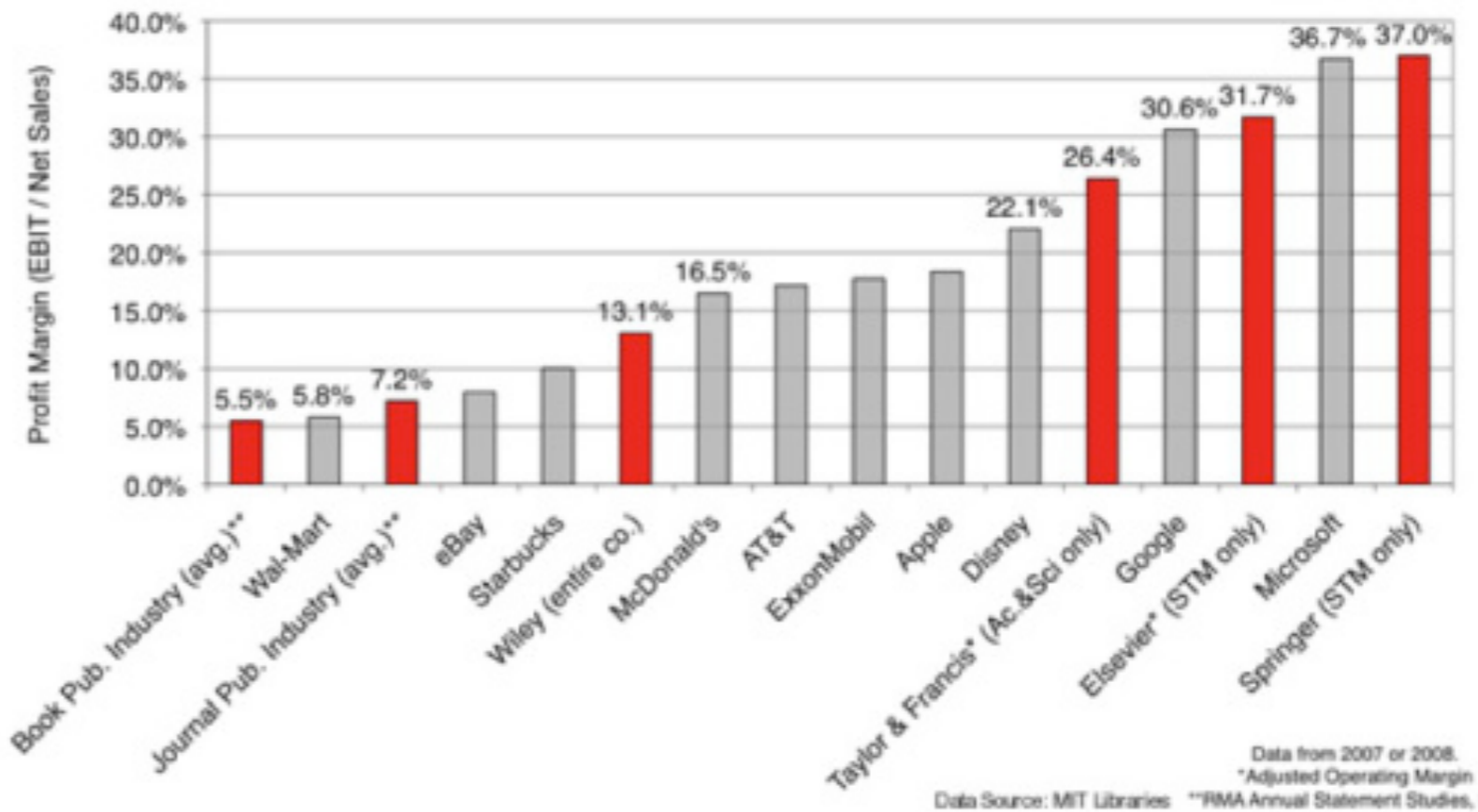
... and quite profitable ones



Elsevier historical profit margin

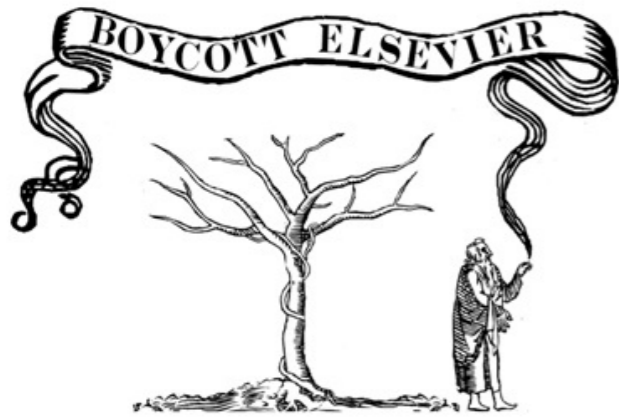


Profit Margins: Journal Publishers v. Other Companies



Data from 2007 or 2008.  
 \*Adjusted Operating Margin  
 Data Source: MIT Libraries \*\*FMA Annual Statement Studies, 2007

Data are from Mike Taylor, The obscene profits of commercial scholarly publishers, 2012



## The Cost of Knowledge

### 13968 Researchers Taking a Stand. [See the list](#)

Academics have protested against Elsevier's business practices for years with little effect. These are some of their objections:

1. They charge exorbitantly high prices for subscriptions to individual journals.
2. In the light of these high prices, the only realistic option for many libraries is to agree to buy very large "bundles", which will include many journals that those libraries do not actually want. Elsevier thus makes huge profits by exploiting the fact that some of their journals are essential.
3. They support measures such as SOPA, PIPA and the ~~Research Works Act~~, that aim to restrict the free exchange of information.

The key to all these issues is the right of authors to achieve easily-accessible distribution of their work. If you would like to declare publicly that you will not support any Elsevier journal unless they radically change how they operate, then you can do so by filling in your details on this page.

More information:

- [Statement of Purpose](#)
- [PolyMath journal publishing reform page](#)

[Read our blog](#), and follow the boycott on Twitter [here](#).

### Add your name to the list.

First and Last Name

Affiliation

Email   
only used once to verify your identity; never displayed, never shared

Subject

Comments   
(optional)

Link   
(optional)  
such as a link to a blog post of yours explaining your position

I plan to refrain from:  
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13968 people from  have signed.

Directory: [A](#)[B](#)[C](#)[D](#)[E](#)[F](#)[G](#)[H](#)[I](#)[J](#)[K](#)[L](#)[M](#)[N](#)[O](#)[P](#)[Q](#)[R](#)[S](#)[T](#)[U](#)[V](#)[W](#)[X](#)[Y](#)[Z](#)

#### Clayton A

LitRoost - Biology

won't publish,  
won't referee,  
won't do editorial work

Restrictive access to knowledge is one of the most harmful bottlenecks to human progress.

#### Gaell Mainguy A

S.A.P.I.E.N.S - Environmental Sciences

won't publish,  
won't referee,  
won't do editorial work

Open access is the only way to integrate knowledge successfully to foster advances in sustainability research and other key multidisciplinary challenges.

#### Gonzalez A

UQAM-Geology - Earth and Planetary Sciences

won't publish,  
won't referee,  
won't do editorial work

In support of an open publishing online portal and foremost the advancement of science.

<http://thecostofknowledge.com/>

# Budapest Open Access Initiative

[Home](#)

[BOAI10  
Recommendations](#)

The recommendations were developed by [leaders of the Open Access movement](#), which has worked for the past decade to provide the public with unrestricted, free access to scholarly research—much of which is publicly funded. Making the research publicly available to everyone—free of charge and without most copyright and licensing restrictions—will accelerate scientific research efforts and allow authors to reach a larger number of readers.

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BOAI](#)

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[What you can do to  
help](#)

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## Budapest Open Access Initiative

In response to the growing demand to make research free and available to everyone with a computer and an internet connection, a diverse coalition has issued [new guidelines](#) that could usher in huge advances in the sciences, medicine, and health.

The recommendations are the result of a meeting organized by the Open Society Foundations to mark the [tenth anniversary](#) of [Budapest Open Access Initiative](#), which first coined Open Access. The recommendations include the development of Open Access policies in institutions of higher education and in funding agencies, the open licensing of scholarly works, the development of infrastructure such as Open Access repositories and creating standards of professional conduct for Open Access publishing. The recommendations also establish a new goal of achieving Open Access as the default method for distributing new peer-reviewed research in every field and in every country within ten years' time.

[Translations of the recommendations](#) have already been made in several languages, with more to follow.

For more on the recommendations, please see the [press release](#) as well as a [blog post](#) by Peter Suber which provides additional background on the Open Access movement.

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# The two roads to Open Access

Green

To achieve open access to scholarly journal literature, we recommend two complementary strategies.

**I. Self-Archiving:** First, scholars need the tools and assistance to deposit their refereed journal articles in open electronic archives, a practice commonly called, self-archiving. When these archives conform to standards created by the Open Archives Initiative, then search engines and other tools can treat the separate archives as one. Users then need not know which archives exist or where they are located in order to find and make use of their contents.

**II. Open-access Journals:** Second, scholars need the means to launch a new generation of journals committed to open access, and to help existing journals that elect to make the transition to open access. Because journal articles should be disseminated as widely as possible, these new journals will no longer invoke copyright to restrict access to and use of the material they publish. Instead they will use copyright and other tools to ensure permanent open access to all the articles they publish. Because price is a barrier to access, these new journals will not charge subscription or access fees, and will turn to other methods for covering their expenses. There are many alternative sources of funds for this purpose, including the foundations and governments that fund research, the universities and laboratories that employ researchers, endowments set up by discipline or institution, friends of the cause of open access, profits from the sale of add-ons to the basic texts, funds freed up by the demise or cancellation of journals charging traditional subscription or access fees, or even contributions from the researchers themselves. There is no need to favor one of these solutions over the others for all disciplines or nations, and no need to stop looking for other, creative alternatives.

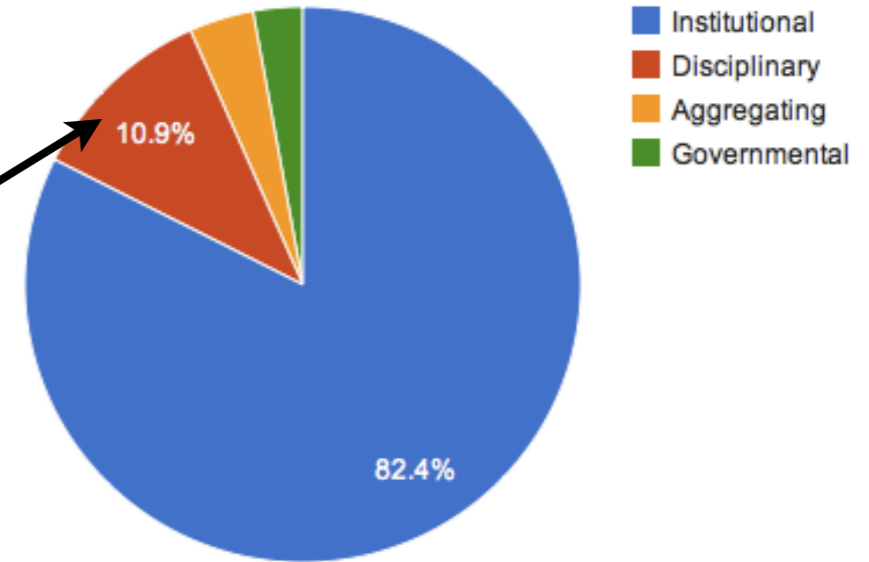
Gold

# green repositories

*OpenDOAR*



Open Access Repository Types - Worldwide



Total = 2532 repositories

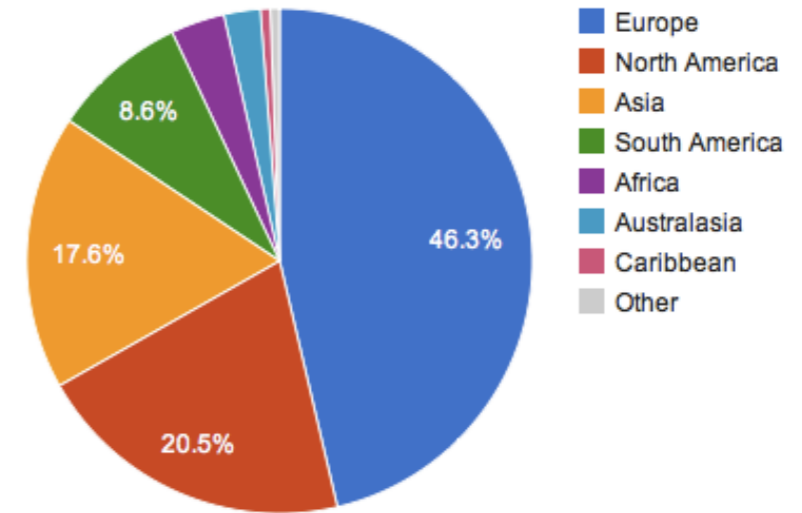
OpenDOAR - 01-Dec-2013

Growth of the OpenDOAR Database - Worldwide

OpenDOAR - 01-Dec-2013



Proportion of Repositories by Continent - Worldwide



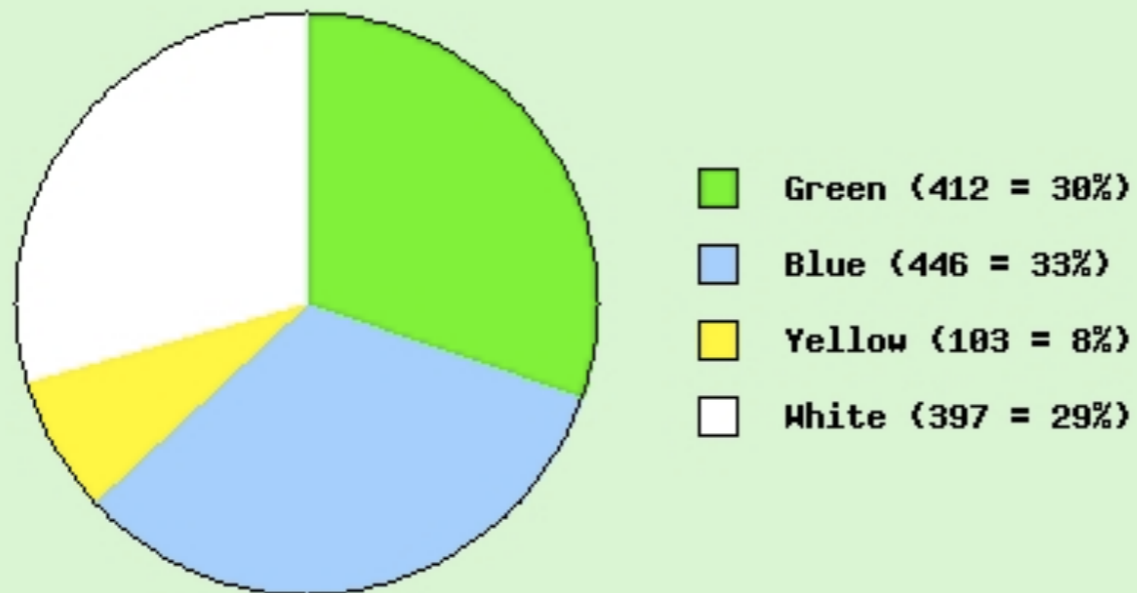
Total = 2532 repositories

OpenDOAR - 01-Dec-2013

<http://www.opendoar.org/>

Summary: **71%** of publishers on this list formally **allow** some form of self-archiving.

SHERPA/RoMEO Colours, excluding provisional policies



SHERPA/RoMEO 01-Dec-2013

Total = 1358 publishers

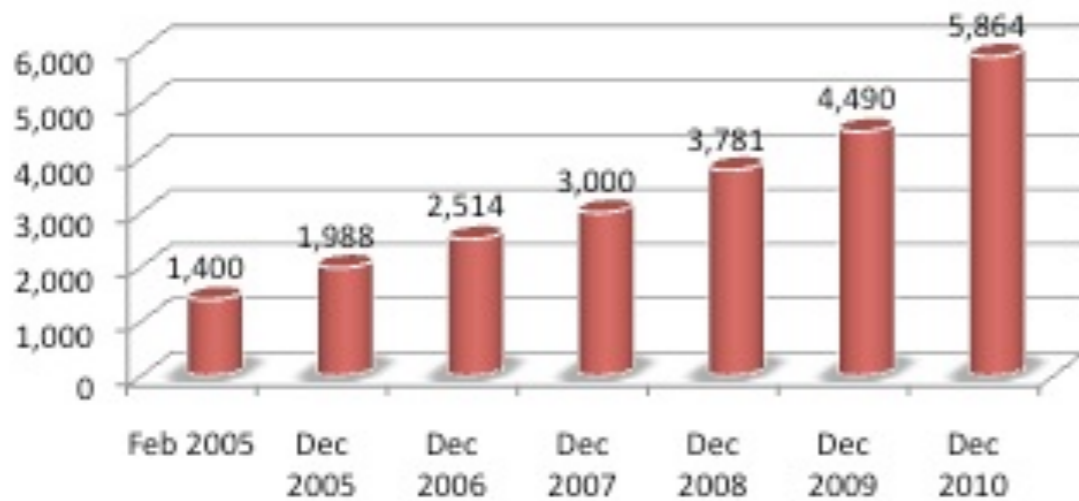
RoMEO colour	Archiving policy
<b>GREEN</b>	Can archive pre-print and post-print
<b>BLUE</b>	Can archive post-print
<b>YELLOW</b>	Can archive pre-print
<b>WHITE</b>	Archiving not formally supported

# and golden journals

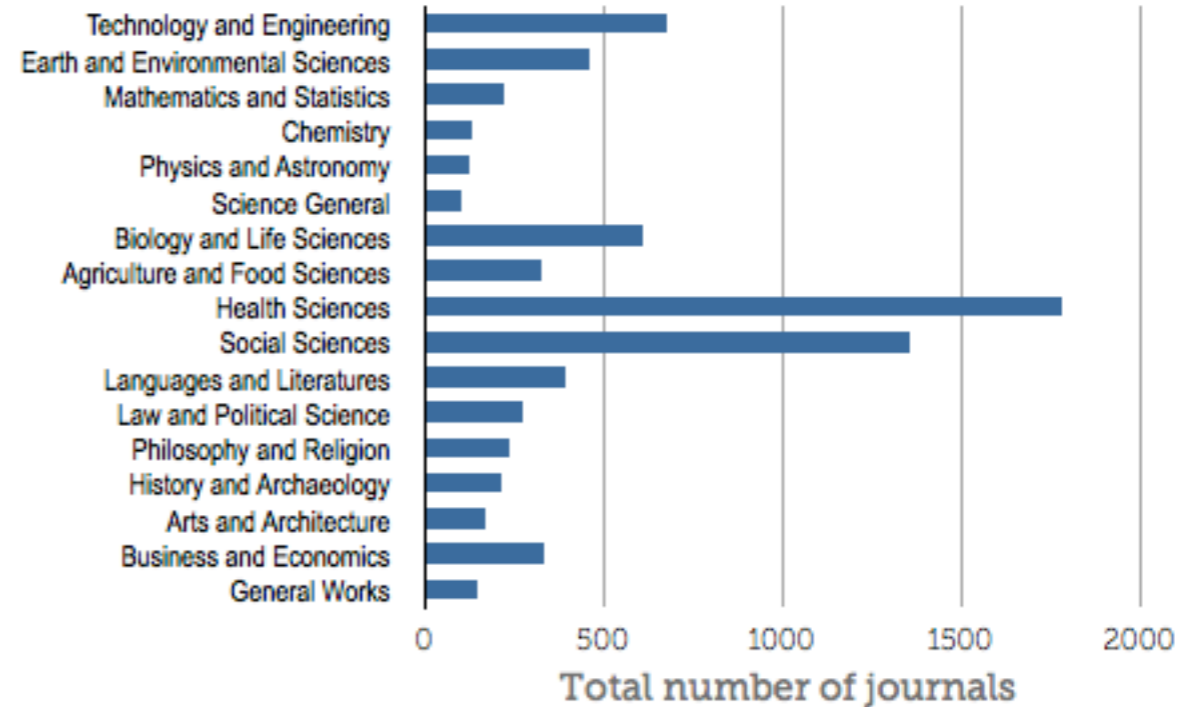
**DOAJ** DIRECTORY OF OPEN ACCESS JOURNALS



Directory of Open Access Journals: # titles 2005 -2010



Open Access journals, by subject (April 2011)



<http://www.doaj.org/>



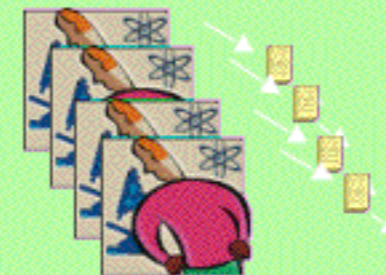
# The two open-access strategies: **Gold** and **Green**

## Open-Access Publishing (OApub) (BOAI-2)

1. Create or Convert 23,000 open-access journals (1000 exist currently)
2. Find funding support for open-access publication costs (\$500-\$1500+)
3. Persuade the authors of the annual 2,500,000 articles to publish in new open-access journals instead of the existing toll-access journals

## Open-Access Self-Archiving (OAarch) (BOAI-1)

1. Persuade the authors of the annual 2,500,000 articles they publish in the existing toll-access journals to also self-archive them in their institutional open-access archives.



**Why gold then???**

# how publishers think...



Whatever one may think about the relative merits of Green and Gold OA (a matter that my colleagues on the Kitchen and myself have discussed numerous times) or the economic implications of embargoes of various lengths, what is clear is that Green OA has no promise of delivering augmented revenues to the publisher, but Gold OA opens up a new customer, the author him or herself, who in many instances pays for the article to be OA. Gold OA, in other words, represents a business opportunity, whereas Green OA represents a business problem.

Thus we have the emergence of a relatively new market, where publishers fight to collect fees from this new class of customers: authors. How to compete is another matter. Most traditional publishers rely on the strength of their brands to bring the articles in. This is most obvious in cascading peer review, where the established publication represents the wide end of the marketing funnel and the Gold OA venues sit at the narrow end. (It's worth remembering that this model works for purely toll-access publications as well, as the enormous success of *Nature's* line-extension proves.) Other publishers focus on metrics of different kinds and boast of their Web-friendly tools for submission, discovery, and dissemination. As one would expect, wherever there is competition, the matter of pricing comes up. And here the established publisher may have a problem.



#### About Joseph Esposito

I am a management consultant working primarily in the world of digital media, software, and publishing. My clients include both for-profits and not-for-profits. A good deal of my activity concerns research publishing, especially when the matter at issue has to do with the migration to digital services from a print background. Prior to setting up my consulting business, I served as CEO of three companies (Encyclopaedia Britannica, Tribal Voice, and SRI Consulting), all of which I led to successful exits. Typically I work on strategy issues, advising CEOs and Boards of Directors on direction; I also have managed a number of sticky turnarounds. Among other things, I have been the recipient of grants from the Mellon, MacArthur, and Hewlett Foundations, all concerning research into new aspects of publishing.

[View all posts by Joseph Esposito »](#)

# Money is power!!!



“The Finch Report is a successful case of lobbying by publishers to protect the interests of publishing at the expense of the interests of research and the public that funds research,” argues University of Southampton cognitive scientist Stevan Harnad. “The Finch Report proposes doing precisely what the US Research Works

We therefore recommend that:

- i. a clear policy direction should be set towards support for publication in open access or hybrid journals, funded by APCs, as the main vehicle for the publication of research, especially when it is publicly funded;

*Key actions: overall policy and funding arrangements*

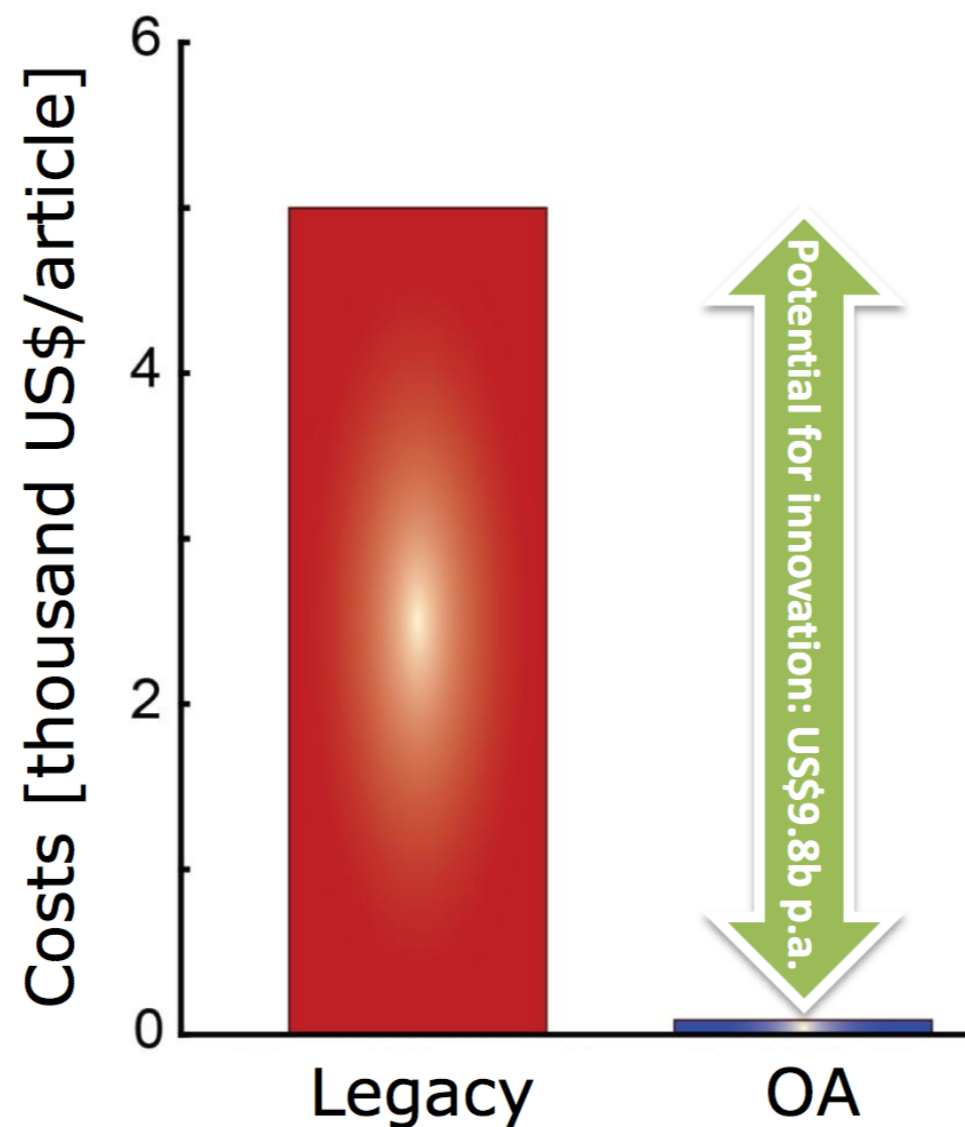
- i. Make a clear commitment to support the costs of an innovative and sustainable research communications system , with a clear preference for publication in open access or hybrid journals. (*Government, Research Councils, Funding Councils, universities*)

# THE TRUE COST OF SCIENCE PUBLISHING

*Cheap open-access journals raise questions about the value publishers add for their money.*

BY RICHARD VAN NOORDEN

428 | NATURE | VOL 495 | 28 MARCH 2013



# 575+ solutions and counting...



<http://dashboard101innovations.silk.co>



open scholar



Quality Evaluation & Information Retrieval



OpenAIRE

Open Access Infrastructure for Research in Europe



DIGITAL.CSIC

OPEN SCIENCE



ARVO CONSULTORES  
digital repositories



Confederation of Open Access Repositories

[openscholar.org.uk](https://openscholar.org.uk)

# The Self-Journal of Science

An open non-commercial repository with free journal-like services

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BETA VERSION - RELEASED ON 26 JANUARY 2015

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SJS is an open **repository** that provides free services of **peer review**, **evaluation** and **classification** through open and verifiable community-wide processes. You are welcome to use SJS for its inherent scientific merits while having your work also published in academic journals. SJS is offered by an open community of volunteer researchers with many ideas to improve the way science is currently organised, communicated and, importantly, evaluated. Read more about SJS and our community [here](#).



## **Available at:**

Code for DSpace v5 XMLUI (e-IEO)

<https://github.com/arvoConsultores/Open-Peer-Review-Module-->

Code for DSpace v4 JSPUI (digital.CSIC)

[https://github.com/arvoConsultores/dspace\\_cris--](https://github.com/arvoConsultores/dspace_cris--)

Wiki

<https://github.com/arvoConsultores/Open-Peer-Review-Module/wiki>



EndNote BASE f in tw RG See citations in PubMed Central  
 18 Statistics Cited 201 times in WEB OF KNOWLEDGE® See citations in Google Scholar See citations in Microsoft Academic Search

Title: Towards a unified paradigm for sequence-based identification of fungi

Authors: Kóljalg, Urmas; Dueñas, Margarita; Martín, María P. ; Tellería, M.\* Teresa; Larsson, Karl-Henrik

Keywords: Bioinformatics  
 DNA barcoding  
 Ecological genomics  
 Fungi  
 Microbial diversity

Issue Date: 2013

Publisher: Wiley-Blackwell

Citation: Molecular Ecology 22(21): 5271-5277 (2013)

[Review this work](#)

Choose option 1 if you consider that the work is scientifically acceptable. Choose option 0 if you consider that the authors should revise the work taking into account your evaluation. The scientific standard refers to various relevant parameters such as methodology, clarity of presentation, use of language, inclusion of key references, soundness, etc. Choose "No Applicable" if you do not wish to score these criteria or they are not applicable to the work under review

Scientific standards \*

Rate in a scale from 0-100 the importance of this work for its academic field. [0-100]  
 Importance of this work for its academic field \*

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