Open Access in Asia

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15th Fiesole Collection Development Retreat
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OA mandate is still a long way to go in Asia.
OA mandate status

Advanced Search ROARMAP: Registry of Open Access Repositories Mandatory Archiving Policies
http://roarmap.eprints.org/
Publishers in Asia are actively publishing OA journals.
Anatomy of open access publishing: a study of longitudinal development and internal structure

Mikael Laakso and Bo-Christe Björk

Abstract

Background: Open access (OA) is a revolutionary way of providing access to the scholarly journal literature made possible by the Internet. The primary aim of this study was to measure the volume of scientific articles published in full immediate OA journals from 2000 to 2011, while observing longitudinal internal shifts in the structure of OA publishing concerning revenue models, publisher types and relative distribution among scientific disciplines. The secondary aim was to measure the share of OA articles of all journal articles, including articles made OA by publishers with a delay and individual author-paid OA articles in subscription journals (hybrid OA), as these subsets of OA publishing have mostly been ignored in previous studies.

Methods: Stratified random sampling of journals in the Directory of Open Access Journals (n = 787) was performed. The annual publication volumes spanning 2000 to 2011 were retrieved from major publication indexes and through manual data collection.

Results: An estimated 340,000 articles were published by 6,713 full immediate OA journals during 2011. OA journals requiring article-processing charges have become increasingly common, publishing 166,700 articles in 2011 (49% of all OA articles). This growth is related to the growth of commercial publishers, who, despite only a marginal presence a decade ago, have grown to become key actors on the OA scene, responsible for 120,000 of the articles published in 2011. Publication volume has grown within all major scientific disciplines, however, biomedicine has seen a particularly rapid 16-fold growth between 2000 (7,400 articles) and 2011 (120,900 articles). Over the past decade, OA journal publishing has steadily increased its relative share of all scholarly journal articles by about 1% annually. Approximately 17% of the 1.66 million articles published during 2011 and indexed in the most comprehensive article-level index of scholarly articles (Scopus) are available OA through journal publishers, most articles immediately (12%) but some within 12 months of publication (5%).

Conclusions: OA journal publishing is disrupting the dominant subscription-based model of scientific publishing, having rapidly grown in relative annual share of published journal articles during the last decade.

Keywords: Open access, scientific publishing

**Figure 2** Annual volumes of articles in full immediate open access journals, split by type of open access journal.
Figure 3 Open access publisher output across geographic regions.

Open Access @ NPG
OA @ NPG

- NPG is actively expanding the open access options it offers to authors, with new open access journal launches and open access options on many subscription journals.

- The first of these models were introduced in 2005, with the addition of open access options on 11 journals in 2009.

- Further open access options on a number of journals were introduced in 2010 and 2011.

- Currently, over sixty journals published by NPG offer open access options or are open access.

- NPG published over 2000 open access articles in 2012.

http://www.nature.com/libraries/open_access/index.html
Top 10 countries publishing in Scientific Reports, 2011-2013 July

- USA
- China
- Japan
- UK
- Germany
- Italy
- France
- Spain
- Australia
- Canada
China is more active than Japan in OA publishing.
Article count (July 2013)

Japan

China

Nature
Nature Communications
Scientific Reports
Nature Genetics
Nature Materials
Nature Physics
Nature Cell Biology
Nature Neuroscience
Nature Medicine
Nature Immunology
Nature Structural & Molecular Biology

Nature
Nature Communications
Scientific Reports
Nature Genetics
Nature Materials
Nature Cell Biology
Nature Physics
Nature Nanotechnology
Nature Medicine
Nature Neuroscience
Nature Structural & Molecular Biology
Article count with CC>=0.5 (July 2013)

Japan

China

Nature
Nature Communications
Scientific Reports

Nature
Nature Communications
Scientific Reports
Article count (2013 extrapolated)

Japan

China

Nature
Nature Communications
Scientific Reports

Nature
Nature Communications
Scientific Reports
Authors in China and Japan are more receptive to OA publishing.
Nature Publishing Group surveys authors every year, and in January 2013 asked questions about OA activity and attitudes. NPG received over 23,000 responses to this survey, and respondents were comprised of a mix of authors published in NPG-journals and non-NPG journals alike.

Some clear differences emerged between authors based in China and Japan and those based in the US and Europe. Firstly, it was suspected that authors in China and Japan tended to have budget allocated within their grant for publication costs – this did indeed to be more common than in the US and Europe.
Those authors who had published under an OA model were asked why. Authors from China and Japan were much more likely to give ‘publishing’ reasons for choosing OA – believing that an OA paper would receive more citations, be read more widely and be published faster.

<table>
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<th>Reason</th>
<th>US</th>
<th>Europe</th>
<th>China</th>
<th>Japan</th>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;Open access publications are thought to generate higher citations&quot;</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;Open access publications are thought to be read more widely&quot;</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;I thought that open access would allow for my paper to be published faster than the current standard&quot;</td>
<td>25%</td>
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Those authors who had not published OA were asked why not. It is apparent that awareness of OA is much greater in the US and Europe, and that concerns about perceptions of quality seemed to be highest in the US.

What are the reasons that you have not published OA?

- "I am not aware of open access as a publishing model"
- "I was unable to fund an article processing charge"
- "I am concerned about perceptions of the quality of open access publications"
• There is stronger support in the scientific community and more funds available for OA in Asia despite lack of government mandates.

• This translates to unusually high numbers of OA papers in *Nature Communications* and *Scientific Reports* from Japan and in particular China.

• Frustrations over lack of visibility of Asian research in the West and a belief that OA will increase visibility may be driving Asian (Japan and China) scientists to publish OA with more determination than their Western colleagues.
thanks