



AN INTRODUCTION TO OPEN ACCESS

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Scientific Communication

- Gutenberg's printing press
- Limited by economic facts and distribution logistic
- Recent advances in technological capabilities allow everybody to access to scientific communication (WWW in the late 80s and graphical web browsers in the mid 90s)
- Web 2.0



Scientific Communication

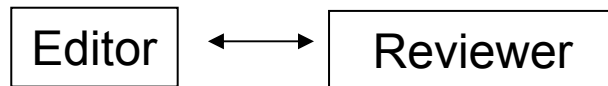
- Usually scientific communication has been carried out through publishing papers in scientific journals
- Journals have a great importance in transmission of new knowledge to the scientific community
- Double function of scientific journals: certificate and spread the knowledge

Targets of scientific journals:

- To keep informed to scientific community
- Indirect mechanism of evaluation of scientific activity
- To contribute to different investigation fields

Scientific Communication System

Author

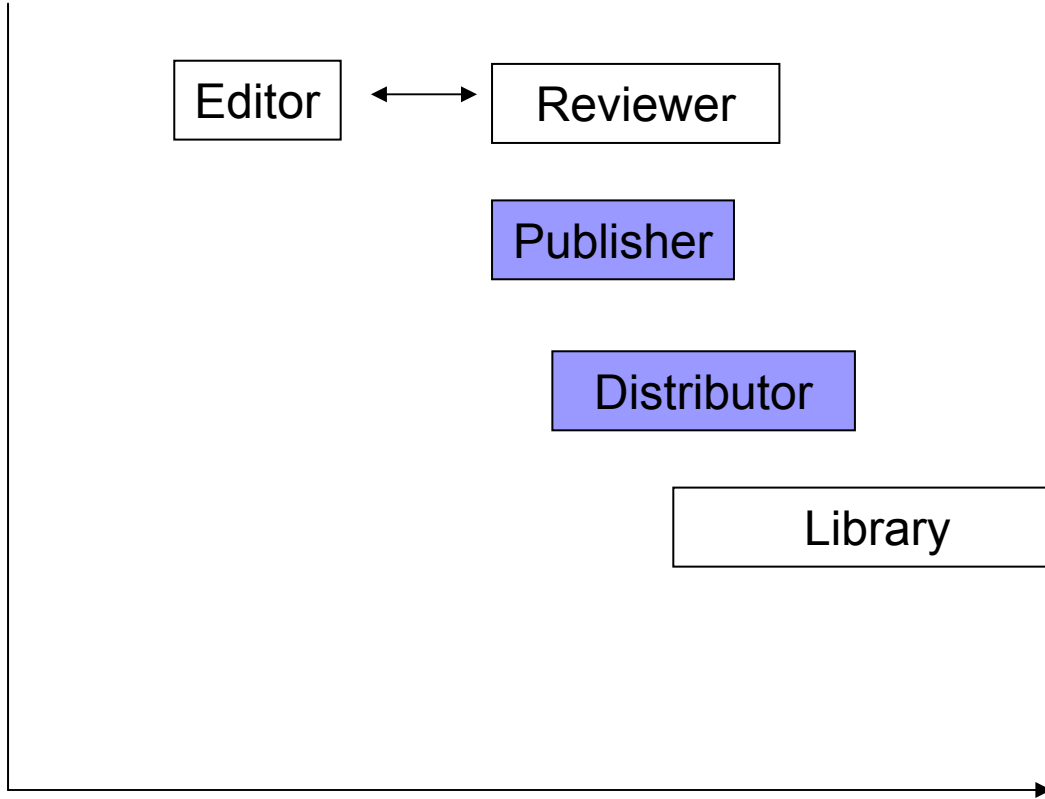


Publisher

Distributor

Library

Reader



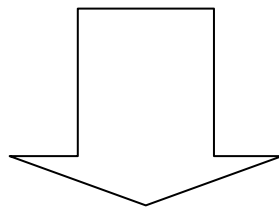


Electronic journals

- Until the 1990s published in printed form
- Pioneering electronic journals were a supplement to the hardcopy form, then electronic-only journals were launched
- Initial resistance: permanently and accesibly archived, legitimate avenues for publication
- Advantages of electronic journals: being accesible at any time of day or night, hipertex and powerful searchability
- Currently digital publishing domitates in most areas

The “Serials Crisis”

- Price increases. Monopolies
- Permit crisis (technological and legal barriers)
- Scientific institutions can not assure full access to scientific information
- Technology could be the solution to this issue: universal and immediate access (if editorial model were different)
- Current scientific communication model is based on an editorial system interested in economic rather than social benefits of science



Open Access



What is Open Access?

- Scientific information free available on the public Internet is the aim of this initiative
- This initiative questions the monopoly of great publishers according to the distribution of scientific information because of the barriers established in the scientific communication
- It appears in 2001 (Budapest Open Access Initiative) and then confirming in Bethesda (2003) and Berlin (2003) (3 B)



Budapest Open Access Initiative

By "open access" to this literature, we mean its free availability on the public internet, permitting any users to read, download, copy, distribute, print, search, or link to the full texts of these articles, crawl them for indexing, pass them as data to software, or use them for any other lawful purpose, without financial, legal, or technical barriers other than those inseparable from gaining access to the internet itself. The only constraint on reproduction and distribution, and the only role for copyright in this domain, should be to give authors control over the integrity of their work and the right to be properly acknowledged and cited.

<http://www.soros.org/openaccess/read.shtml>



OA Initiative (Budapest)

Key points:

- OA works are free available
- On-line available (digital documents available on Internet)
- Scientific works
- No economic benefit to the authors for their efforts
- “Peer review”
- Great number of allowed uses: author’s copyright maintenance and assurance of the integrity of the work
- Two strategies of OA



Two ways of OA: golden route and green route

OA shows two alternatives to the current market:

- Self-archiving (green route)
- Open-access Journals(golden route) (*peer review*)

Both strategies are complementary and try to make easy and improve the access to scientific information and empower its diffusion



Subscribers to OA initiative

- Budapest OA Initiative:
<http://www.soros.org/openaccess/view.cfm>

379 institutions
4.255 personal subscribers
- Berlín Initiative: <http://oa.mpg.de/openaccess-berlin/signatories.html>

183 institutions around the world



Benefits to institutions

- Contribute to return to the society the benefits evolved from the public funded science
- Achieve a wider dissemination – higher impact – of research activities
- Assure long-time preservation of the contents created by the Institution
- Help institution managers to control own reports and scientific publications
- Allow on-line access to research results and activities
- Obtain a higher exploitation of research results through increasing the number of potential readers, improving the chance of access to funding
- Increase social perception of the scientific research value
- Help funding institutions and researchers to find out scientific research in their areas of interest
- If funding institutions are committed to OA and self-archive, researchers will also assume this new model
- Speed up the scientific communication process: the results are faster disseminated, and read before



CSIC y OA

- CSIC has subscribed to the Berlin OA initiative in january 2006
- CSIC is developing a institutional self-archive with their own scientific publications (green route)
- CSIC is starting a program to edit their journals in OA model (golden route)



Thank you very much for your attention