



A COLLABORATIVE WAY TOWARDS OA: SUBSCRIBE TO OPEN (S2O) — THE LIBRARIAN'S VIEW —



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Roundtable discussion at LISA IX | Online | June 2021

WORK CULTURE IN ASTRONOMY



Observatories typically in **remote places**



Historically often **“solo librarians”**



Community (researchers and librarians)
closely connected



Tradition of **sharing and exchange**
(papers, data, code...)



CORE JOURNALS



Four journals > 35% of refereed literature



Governed by **Learned Societies**, published by commercial publishers

- American Astronomical Society (AAS) / IOP Publishing
- Royal Astronomical Society (RAS) / Oxford Univ. Press
- European Southern Observatory (ESO) / EDP Sciences

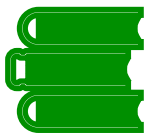


Community of researchers strongly influences publishing developments

READ ACCESS



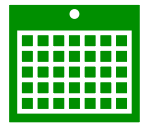
Wide-spread use of **Green OA** (arXiv/astro-ph)



Core journals digitised and **freely available** back to vol. 1



Publishers provide **temporary access** to selected recent articles

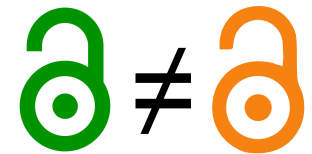


Access to core journal content often **one year** after publication



WHY FURTHER OA REGULATIONS?

- ▶ Open Access is here to stay; “free to read” is not OA
- ▶ Implement FAIR principles:
Findable / **A**ccessible / **I**nteroperable / **R**eusable
- ▶ Funders increasingly demand research from their grants to be OA
- ▶ OA is good science practice and brings many societal benefits; astronomy is not (should not be) outside of “industry standards”



THE PATH TOWARDS OA

Some thoughts from key players



Publishers:

flip to OA must be long-lasting ([sustainable](#)) with reliable partners



Readers:

prefer access to as many articles as possible ([multi-disciplinary research](#))



Authors:

want the move to OA to be seamless and [non-disruptive](#) (“Diamond OA”)



Libraries:

[cannot afford](#) rising subscription (or APC) costs; support [collaborative OA](#)

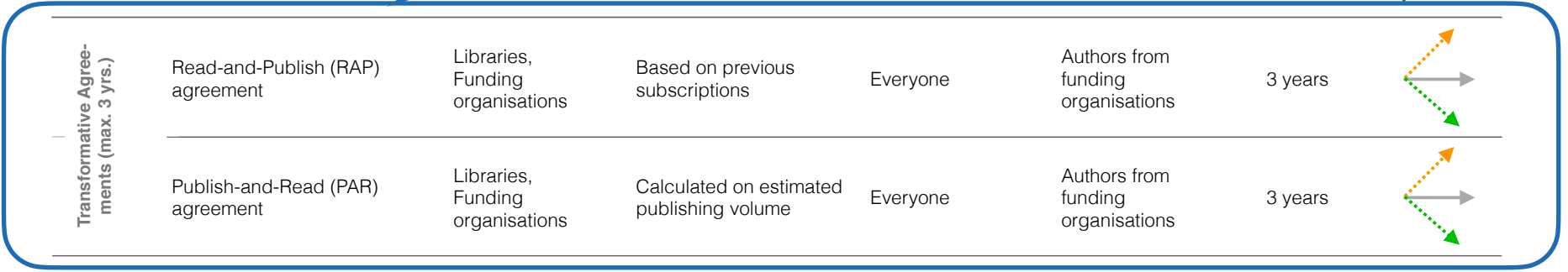
PUBLICATION BUSINESS MODELS

Status	Model	Who pays?	How much?	Who can read?	Who can publish?	Plan S compliant?	Costs? (*)
Closed	Subscription (incl. hybrid journals)	Libraries	Too much	Scientists at subscribing institutions	Everyone	No	
	Subscription + Self-Archiving using Rights Retention (e.g., <i>AAAS Science Magazine</i>)	Libraries	Too much	Everyone (Author Accepted Manuscript, AAM)	Everyone	Yes	 Costs of journal subscription
Gold OA (APCs)	Commercial and society publishers	Authors	Depends on publisher	Everyone	Paying authors	Yes	
	Overlay journals e.g., <i>The Open Journal of Astrophysics</i>	Authors	Very little	Everyone	Paying authors	Yes	
Transformative Agree- ments (max. 3 yrs.)	Read-and-Publish (RAP) agreement	Libraries, Funding organisations	Based on previous subscriptions	Everyone	Authors from funding organisations	3 years	
	Publish-and-Read (PAR) agreement	Libraries, Funding organisations	Calculated on estimated publishing volume	Everyone	Authors from funding organisations	3 years	
Diamond OA (Library support)	Subscribe to Open (S2O) e.g., <i>Annual Reviews</i>	Libraries, Funding organisations	Based on previous subscriptions	Everyone	Everyone	Yes	
	SCOAP3 (CERN-led HEP consortium)	Libraries, Sponsoring HEP organisations	Negotiations with publishers	Everyone	Everyone	Yes	

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Closed + Rights Retention	Subscription + Self-Archiving using Rights Retention (AAAS Science Magazine)					Yes	 Costs of journal subscription
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Where are they leading?
 Real savings?
 Can APC-based models be fair/equitable?
 How about small libraries?



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Currently based on grants and volunteer effort. Is it sustainable?

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WHY SUBSCRIBE TO OPEN (S2O)?

Disclaimer

- Member of the S2O Community of Practice (subscribetoopencommunity.org)

Advantages

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| Model | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Collaborative, predictable, transparent model ▶ Achieves universal OA (all authors, all articles) ▶ Can be implemented fast, is long-lasting (sustainable) |
| Library | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Uses existing infrastructure (budget handling, licensing, communication scientists and publishers, advice on recent developments, metrics) ▶ Reflects independence of small libraries, corresponds to information needs of specialised research community |
| Researchers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ High acceptance expected among astronomers (Diamond OA) |