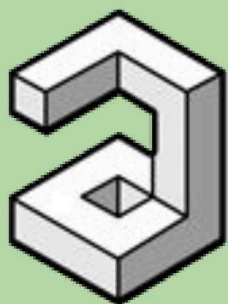


The Importance of Publication Costs in Unsub and OpenAlex

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OpenAlex

openalex.org

OpenAlex

A Scientific Knowledge Graph

OR

An open & comprehensive index of scholarly works, citations, authors, institutions, and more

OpenAlex Entity Types

- Authors: ~240 million
- Works: ~236 million
- Venues: ~108k
- Institutions: ~124k
- Concepts: ~60k

Recent talks on OpenAlex

NIH VideoCast - Introducing OpenAlex: an open and complete index of the global research system

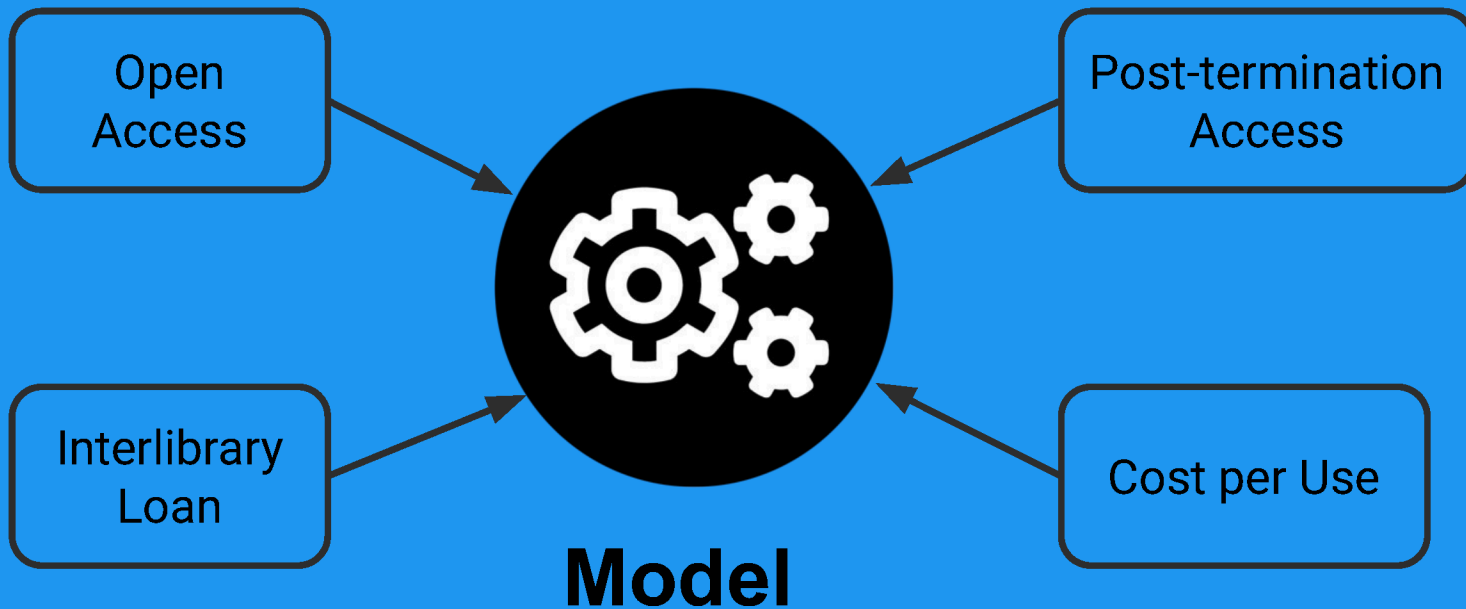
W13: 2nd Workshop on Scientific Knowledge Representation, Discovery, and Assessment (Sci-K 2022)



unsub

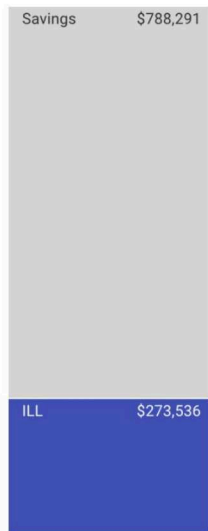
unsub.org

**What factors
to consider?**



\$273,536

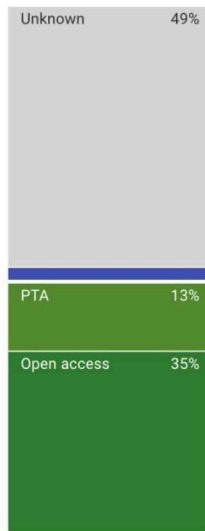
Annual cost (26%)



Annual cost

50.7%

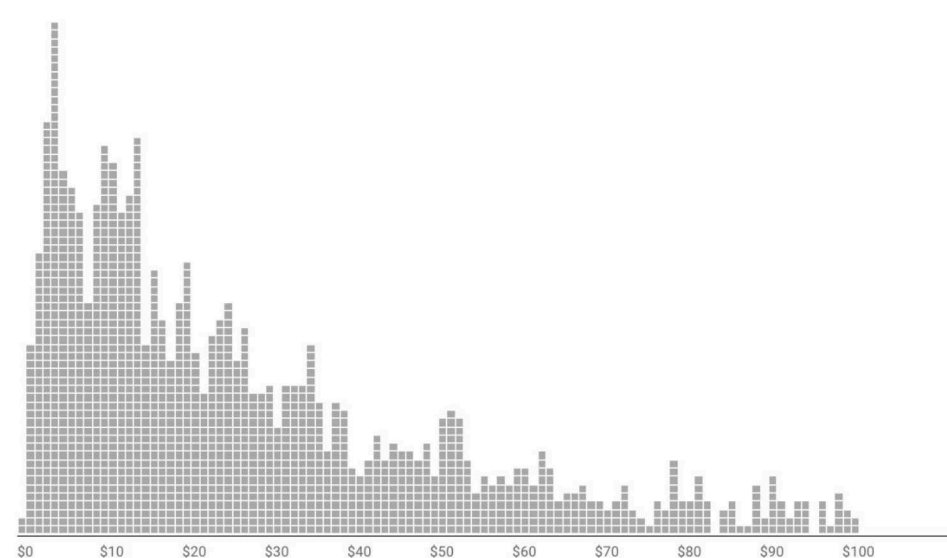
Access



Usage fulfillment

- 0 +

Subscribed journals



1468 journals, arranged by Cost Per Use (CPU)



240 additional journals with CPU > \$100



31 additional journals with no paywalled usage

Costs in Unsub: Subscription Prices

- Specifically: a-la-carte, or title-by-title price -> Cost Per Use
- Crucial to Unsub - journals excluded w/o a subscription price
- Until a month ago:
 - we collected publicly available subscription prices for the big 5 publishers (Elsevier, Wiley, SAGE, T&F, Springer Nature)
 - & support user price uploads
- Unsub now supports all publishers -> users uploads only

Costs in Unsub: Collecting Subscription Prices

- Subscription prices are sometimes available publicly
- Publishers
 - Big 5: subscription prices easier
 - Other publishers: not so easy*
- Currencies are tricky
 - Priced differently in different countries or simple rate conversion?
- Subscription prices aren't something librarians already had
- But little trouble getting prices from publishers

Costs in Unsub: Subscription Prices - Painful

For information on our 2021 journal changes, pl		http://media.wiley.com/assets/7331/09/Wiley_Price_list_Journal				
Journal Title						
Acronym						
Print ISSN	Material					
Vol & issues	Number	Media	USA	UK	Europe	Rest of World
A						
Abacus						
ABAC						
0001-3072	ABACC	Print & Online	\$1147.00	£806.00	€ 921.00	\$1570.00
1467-6281	ABACD	Online	\$918.00	£644.00	€ 737.00	\$1256.00
Vol 57 , 4 issues	ABACP	Print	\$918.00	£644.00	€ 737.00	\$1256.00
Academic Emergency Medicine						
ACEM						
1553-2712	ACEMD	Online	\$457.00	£245.00	€ 306.00	\$469.00
Rolling title Vol 28 , 13 issues						
Accounting & Finance						

Costs in Unsub: APCs

- Unsub now
 - APC report for big 5 publishers
 - APCs are not incorporated into the forecast
 - APCs are attributed via “[fractional authorship](#)” - not ideal
 - Not feasible for us to track APCs across all publishers
 - APCs were difficult to collect*
- Unsub future
 - Incorporate APCs into the forecast
 - With APCs, Unsub can be used for classic Big Deals & R&P / P&R deals
 - APCs come exclusively from openAPC/etc.
 - Unsub manages less APC related infrastructure

Costs in Unsub: openAPC

- A future ideal workflow for Unsub:
 - Unsub users contribute APCs to openAPC
 - Unsub queries and pulls in APCs from openAPC
 - Unsub forecasts incorporate APCs, allowing users to evaluate R&P / P&R deals
 - Maybe allow users to upload APCs directly to Unsub if they don't want to share to openAPC
- Benefits
 - Transparency
 - Estimate APCs when APCs missing?
 - More open data (e.g., APCs) = more questions can be answered
- Negatives
 - May not want to share data
 - May not be able to invest time required to share data

Costs in OpenAlex

- OpenAlex does not currently have any cost data
- We'd like to add to OpenAlex:
 - Article-level APCs
 - Journal-level APCs
- No timeline on this
- Would enable answering interesting questions
 - e.g. Do works that cost more to publish have more authors?

Wrap up: Costs in Unsub & OpenAlex

- Unsub can likely drive many users to contribute to openAPC & Unsub and it's users will benefit greatly
- Perhaps subscription prices can be managed outside Unsub as well?
- OpenAlex can enable answering so many questions by combining costs with other data (authors, institutions, works, etc.)
- Questions:
 - How do we convince institutions it's worth contributing their APC data?
 - For those articles/institutions missing APCs, are there best practices for their estimation?

get in touch!

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