




THE STATUS OF OPEN ACCESS JOURNALS

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& SPARC Europe

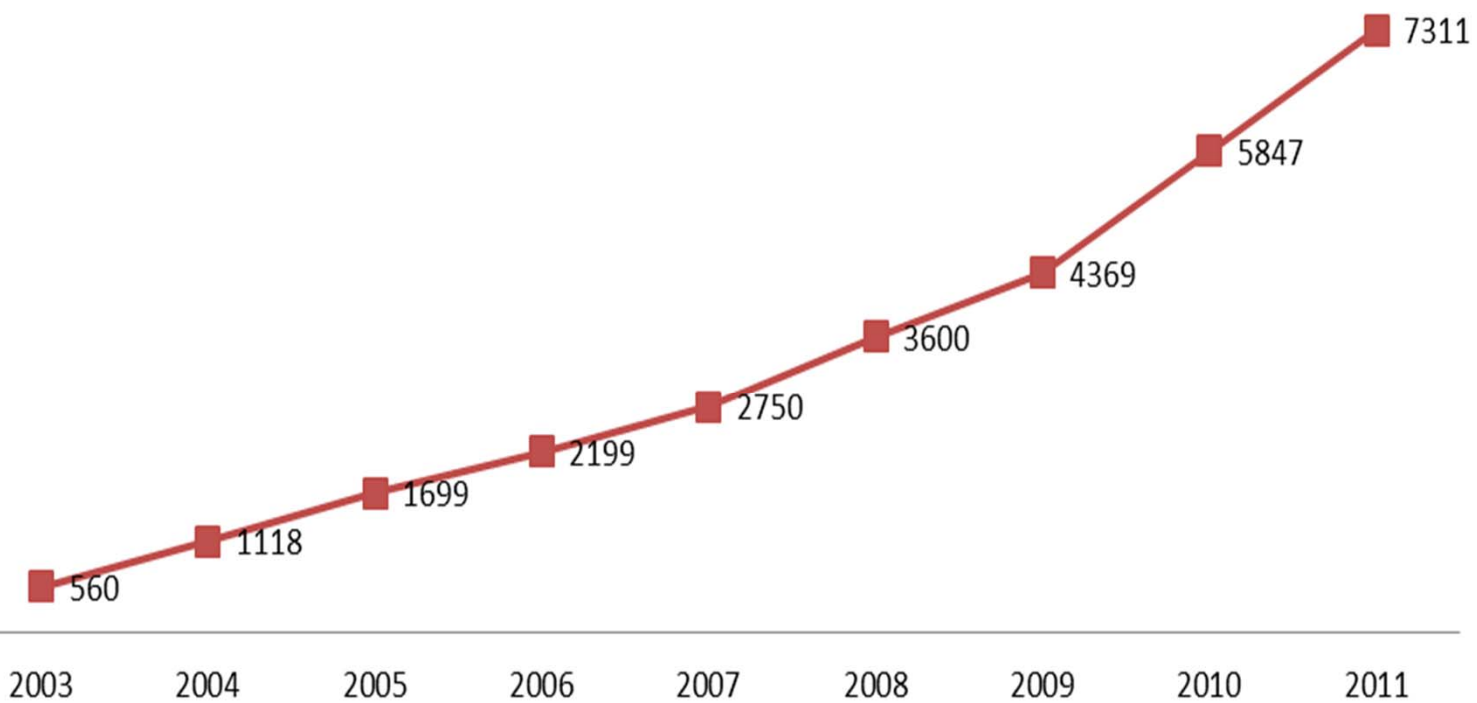
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- Based on figures from the Directory of Open Access Journals (www.doaj.org)
 - Figures do not represent the real number of OA-journals, but merely journals discovered and processed (evaluated) by the DOAJ-team in Lund
 - Disclaimer: Not speaking on behalf of DOAJ/Lund

Brief overview

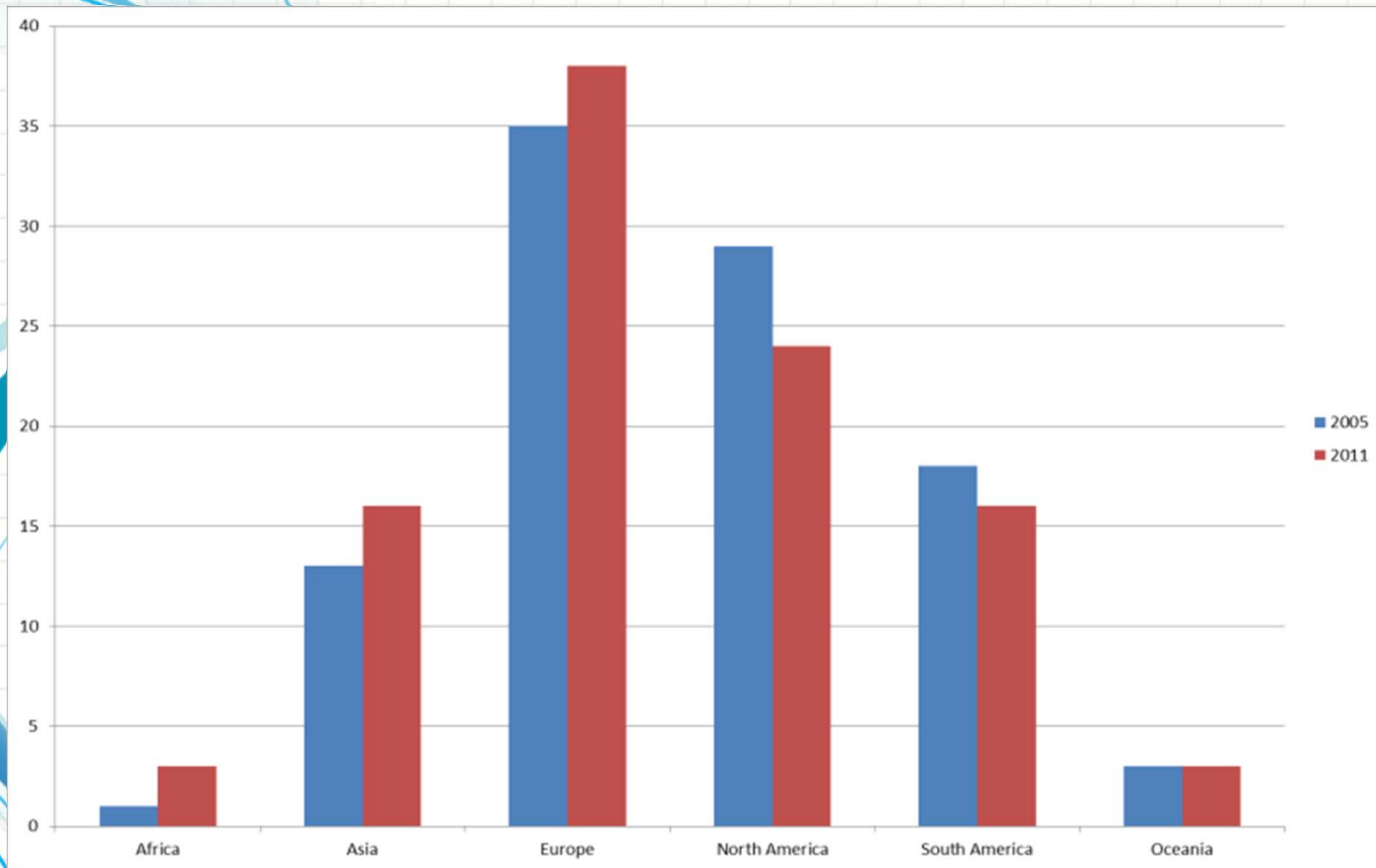
- +7300 journals (scholarly, peer-reviewed, no embargo, extensive use and re-use rights)
- Published in more than 115 countries
- Accepting articles in more than 55 languages
- Diversity of OA-journals mirrors diversity of subscription based journals – high impact & low impact

Number of Journals

—■— Number of Journals



Journals per continent (percentage of total)



Article level metadata

	Article level metadata	No article level metadata	Article level metadata	level metadata
Africa	142	95	60%	40%
Asia	619	558	53%	47%
Europe	1347	1427	49%	51%
North America	679	1089	38%	62%
South America	513	628	45%	55%
Oceania	112	102	52%	48%
	3412	3899	47%	53%

A diverse collection!

No of journals per publisher	No of publishers	Percentage of total journals
100+	4	11%
20+	25	21%
10+	65	28%
5+	150	36%
1	2741	38%

Article processing charges (APC)

APC	No APC
2040	5063
29%	71%

APCs – per continent

	APC	No APC	APC	No APC
Africa	143	93	60%	39%
Asia	295	791	24%	65%
Europe	645	2092	23%	74%
North America	794	925	44%	51%
South America	83	1026	7%	87%
Oceania	80	136	36%	61%
	2040	5063	29%	71%

License information (machine readable)

CC by	CC by +	Any CC	No machine readable info
15%	9%	24%	76%

Improving the functional quality of OA-journals I

- **Additional information about the Journal/Articles to be provided by the Publishers:**
- Original and translated journal title, article title and abstract
- Article Processing Charges (in relevant currency)
- Whether the journal has article submission charges (in relevant currency)
- APC waiver policy

Improving the functional quality of OA-journals II

- **Additional information about the Journal/Articles to be provided by the Publishers:**
 - Number of articles published (previous year)
 - Acceptance rate (previous year)
 - Link to information about peer-review procedures and/or to information about the editorial board
 - Link to copyright policy/license (machine readable)

Improving the functional quality of OA-journals III

- Additional functionality of the journals that should be provided by the publishers:
 - Link to download statistics
 - RSS-feeds
 - DOI
 - Provision/upload of references
 - Official journal title abbreviation

What else needs to be done?

- Experiments with article level metrics:
 - We need new metrics to challenge the regime of the Journal Impact factor
 - Promising experiments with article metrics are underway
- Aggregation & consolidation:
 - Aggregators and platform providers like SciELO, Redalyc, BioLine, Public Knowledge Project (Open Journals Systems) etc. are doing a fantastic job
 - The "lonely" journals need to find a "home"
 - Aggregation and consolidation adds significant value to the journals in terms of technical functionality and capability, visibility and impact.

Open Access Journals are here to stay

- But
- If we want OA to prosper and grow we must support the publishers in improving the technical and functional quality of their journals!
- Plenty of room for improvements!
- UNESCO should partner with organizations already working on this to build capacity!



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
ATTENTION**

LARS BJØRNSHAUGE