




THE STATUS OF OPEN ACCESS JOURNALS

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& SPARC Europe

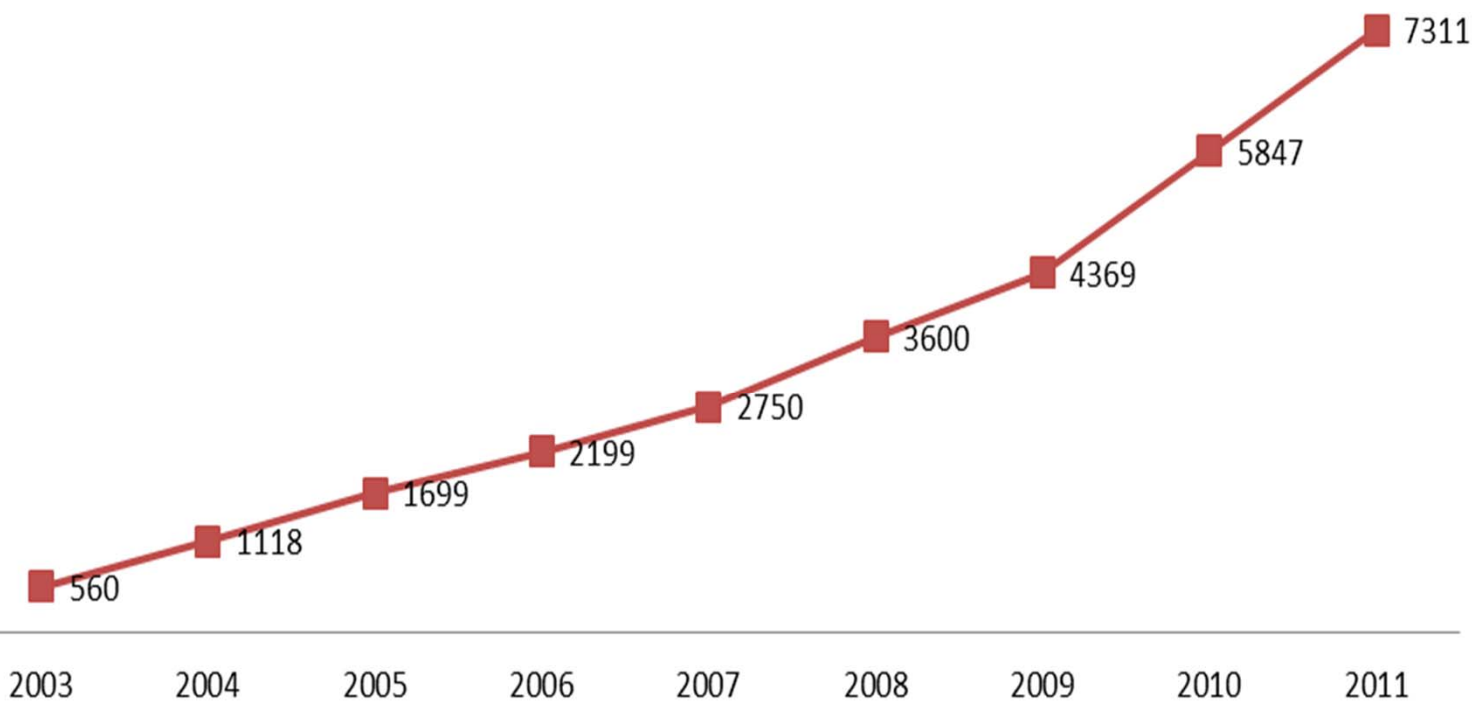
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- Based on figures from the Directory of Open Access Journals (www.doaj.org)
 - Figures do not represent the real number of OA-journals, but merely journals discovered and processed (evaluated) by the DOAJ-team in Lund
 - Disclaimer: Not speaking on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

Brief overview

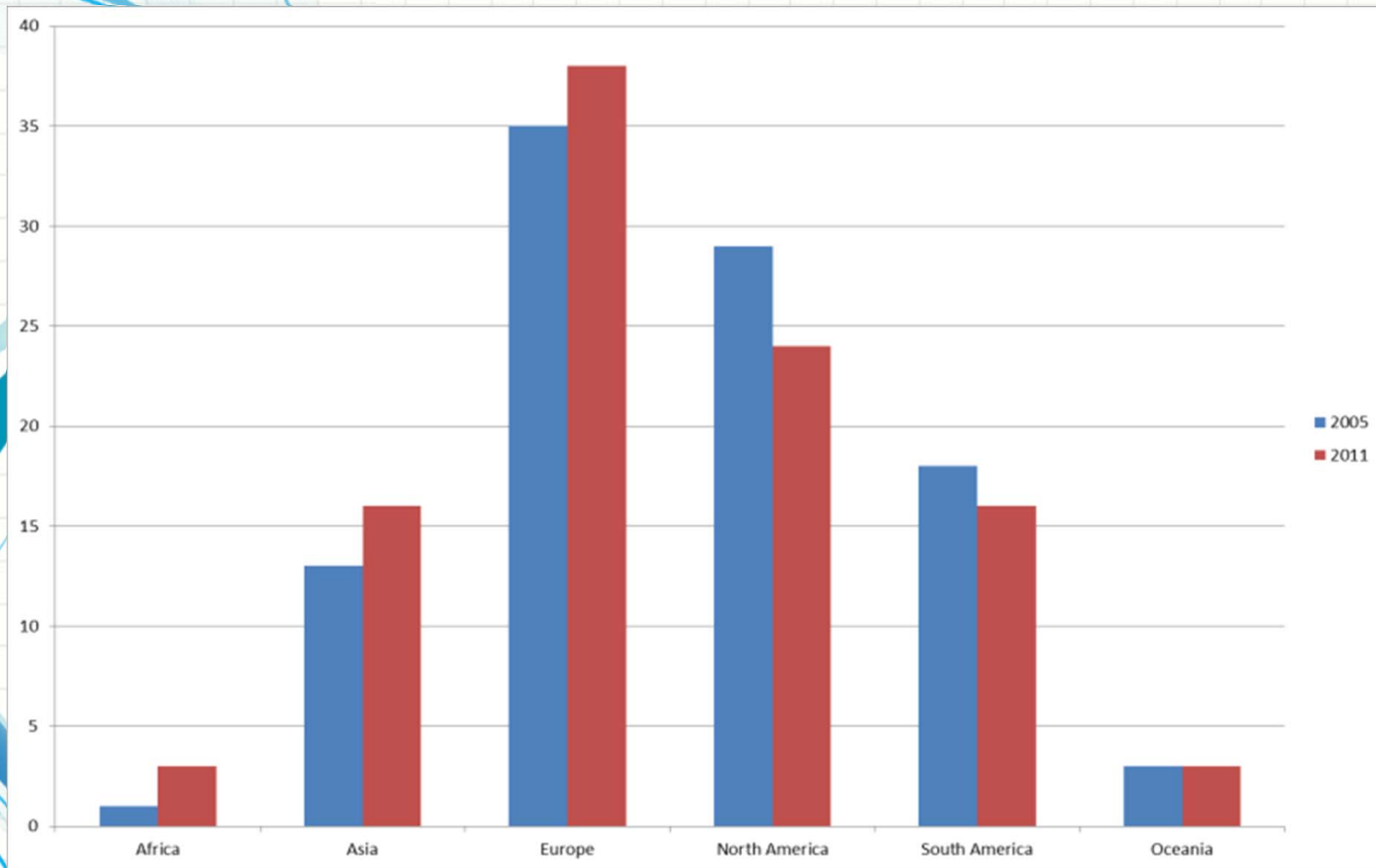
- +7300 journals (scholarly, peer-reviewed, no embargo, extensive use and re-use rights)
- Published in more than 115 countries
- Accepting articles in more than 55 languages
- Diversity of OA-journals mirrors diversity of subscription based journals – high impact & low impact

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

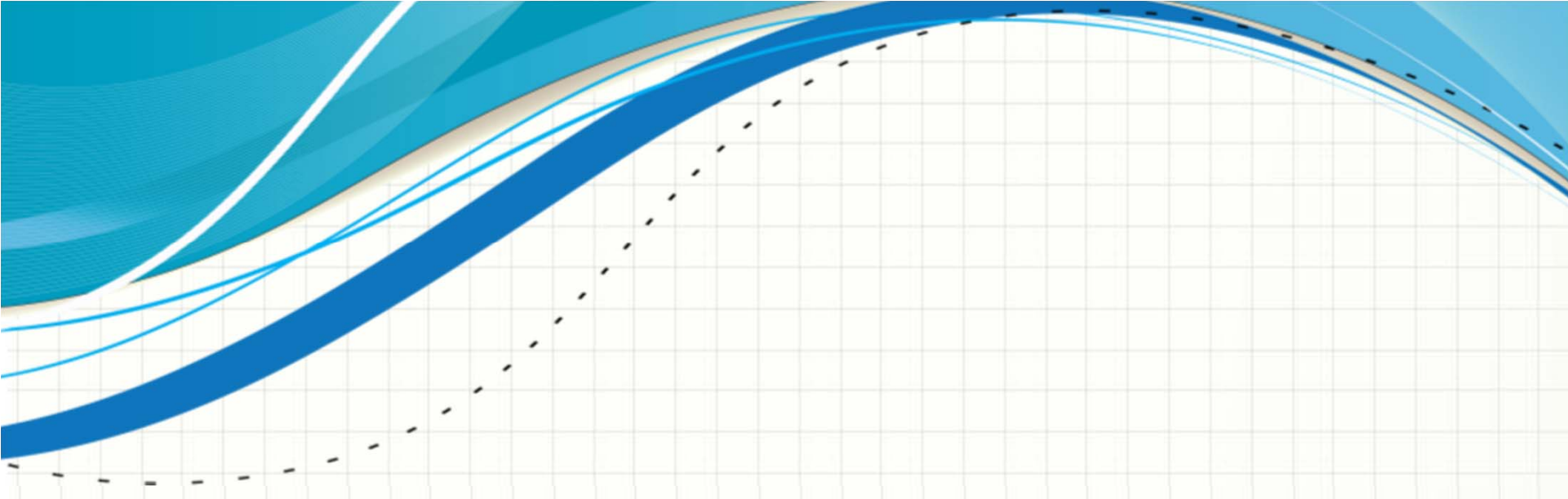
- Additional functionality of the journals that should be provided by the publishers:
 - Link to download statistics
 - RSS-feeds
 - DOI
 - Provision/upload of references
 - Official journal title abbreviation

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