Open Access – a funder's perspective

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The Human Genome Project



Ensemble





Ensembl Genome Browser

Search Ensembl

Search all species for

Anything

with

Lookup

About Ensemble



Ensembl is a joint project between EMBL - EBI and the Sanger Institute to develop a software system which produces and maintains automatic annotation on eukaryotic genomes. Ensembl is primarily funded by the Wellcome Trust.

Access to all the data produced by the project, and to the software used to analyse and present it, is provided free and without constraints. Some data and software may be subject to third-party constraints [details].

Ensembl presents up-to-date sequence data and the best possible <u>annotation</u> for metazoan genomes. Available now are <u>human</u>, <u>mouse</u>, <u>rat</u>, <u>fuqu</u>, <u>zebrafish</u>, <u>mosquito</u>, <u>Drosophila</u>, <u>C. elegans</u>, and <u>C. briggsae</u>, Others will be added soon.

For an introduction to the Ensembl project, take the Ensembl

Ensembl Species

Human	v. 18.34.1	4 Nov 2003
Mouse	v. 18.30.1	6 May 2003
Rat	v. 18.3.1	4 Nov 2003
Zebrafish	v. 18.2.1	2 Jul 2003
Fugu	v. 18.2.1	3 Mar 2003
Mosquito	v. 18.2a.1	1 Oct 2003
Fruitfly	v. 18.3a.1	2 Jul 2003
C. elegans	v. 18.102.1	2 Jul 2003
C. briggsae	v. 18.25.1	3 Mar 2003
imilarity caarchae (multi-enaciae)		DI ACT/CCAHA)

Similarity searches (multi-species)
Fast data/sequence retrieval (multispecies)

Access to whole genome shotgun data (includes additional species) BLAST/SSAHA)

EnsMart

Trace Server

The present

SECTION B: Copyright Assignment

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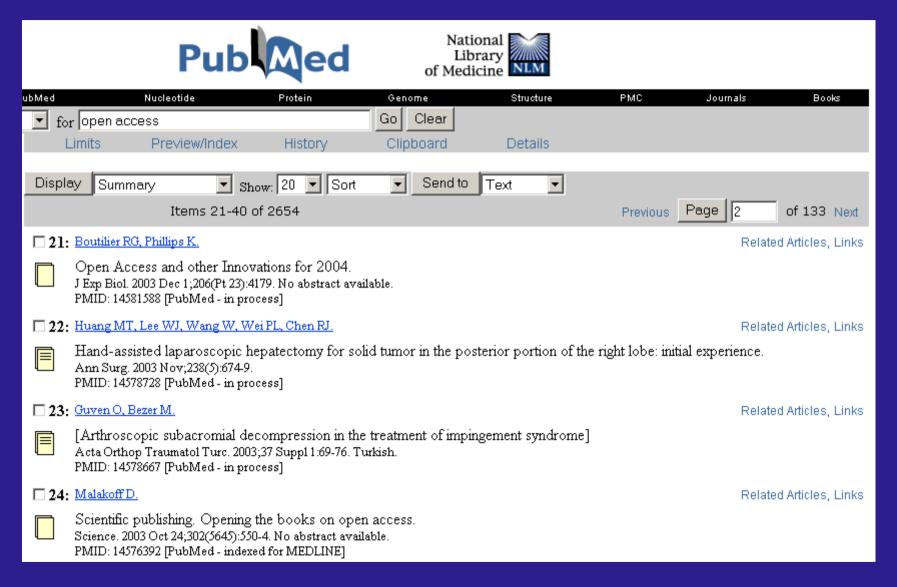
Clinical and Experimental Immunology

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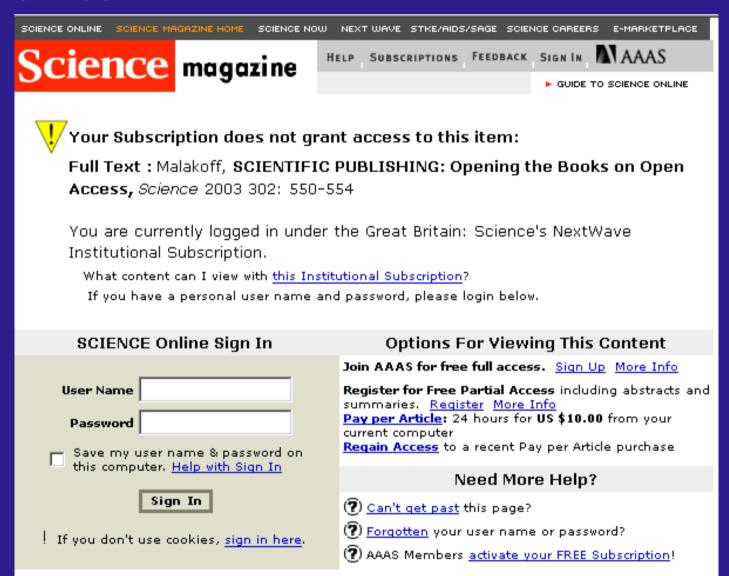
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Journal of Immunology

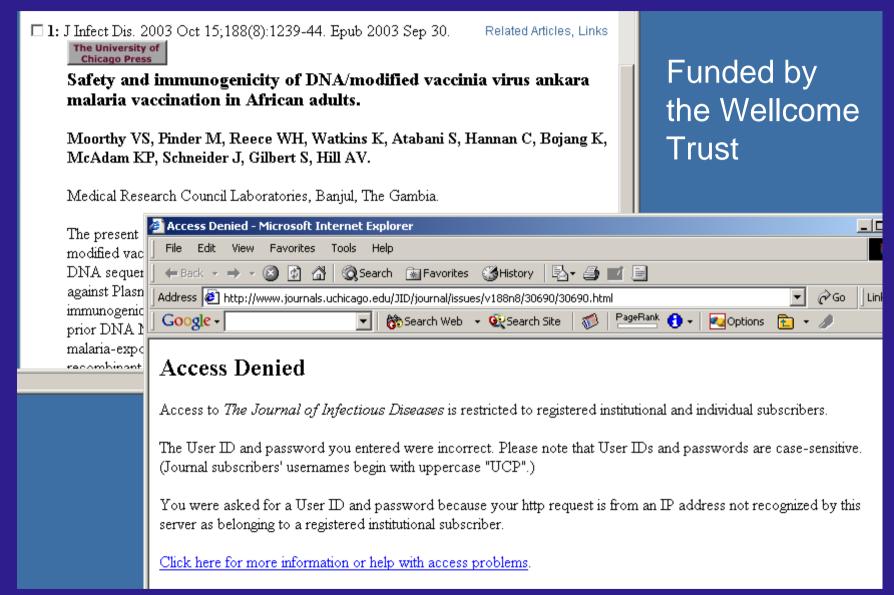
The web has transformed access to research results



.....almost



.....and this is why it matters



Why is open access important to the Trust?

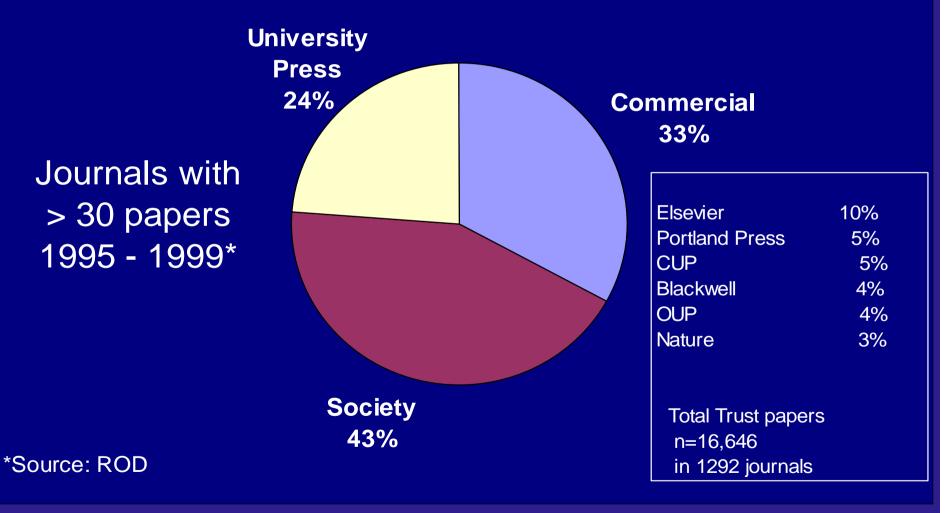
- Web developments have created a new publishing model - not fully realised whilst access mediated through subscriptions and bundle deals.
 - >90% of NHS-funded research available online full text
 - ≥30% immediately available to public
 - ➤ Only 40% immediately available to NHS staff
- Consistent with genome sequence release/access position
- Freely accessible dissemination of Trust-funded research is fundamental to our mission
- We pay for the research but do not have easy access to the results

Shouldn't those who pay for the research be able to read it?

- Over 90% of research funded in UK universities is public money (government, research councils and charities)
- "...Speak to people in the medical profession, and they will say the last thing they want are people who may have illnesses reading this information, marching into surgeries and asking things. We need to be careful with this very, very high-level information."

 Oral evidence to House of Commons inquiry, March 1st 2004

Where do Trust-funded researchers publish?



wellcome^{trust}

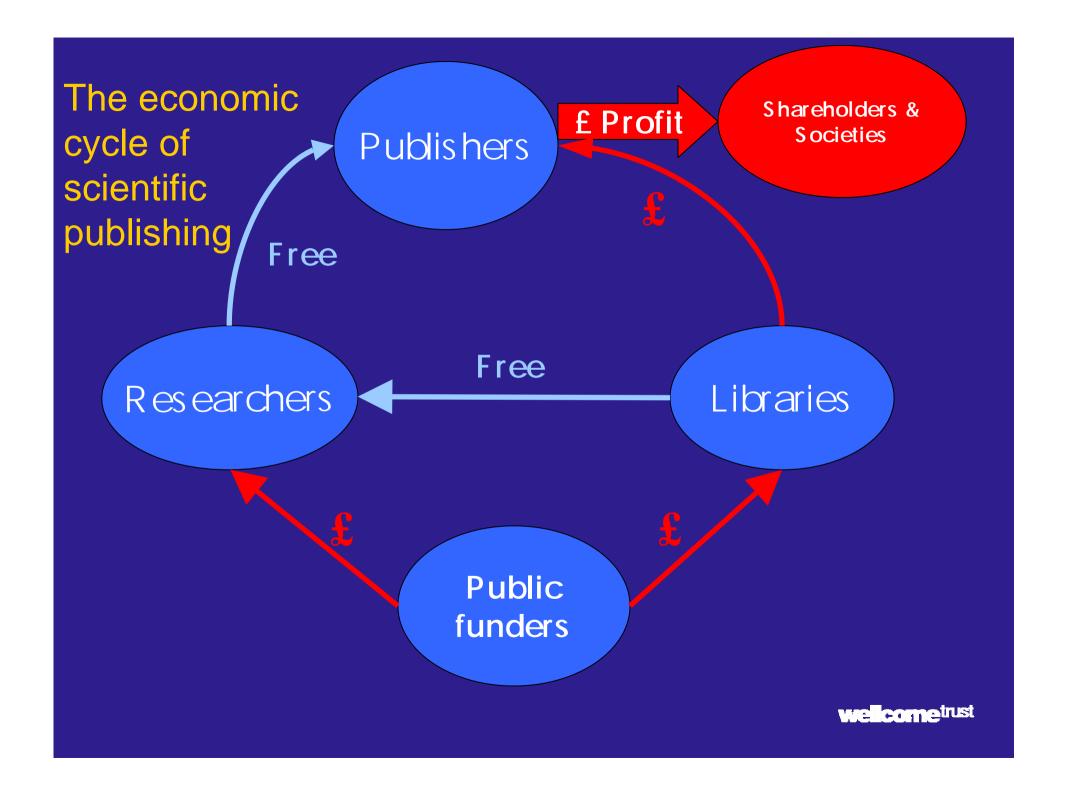
Economic analysis of scientific research publishing

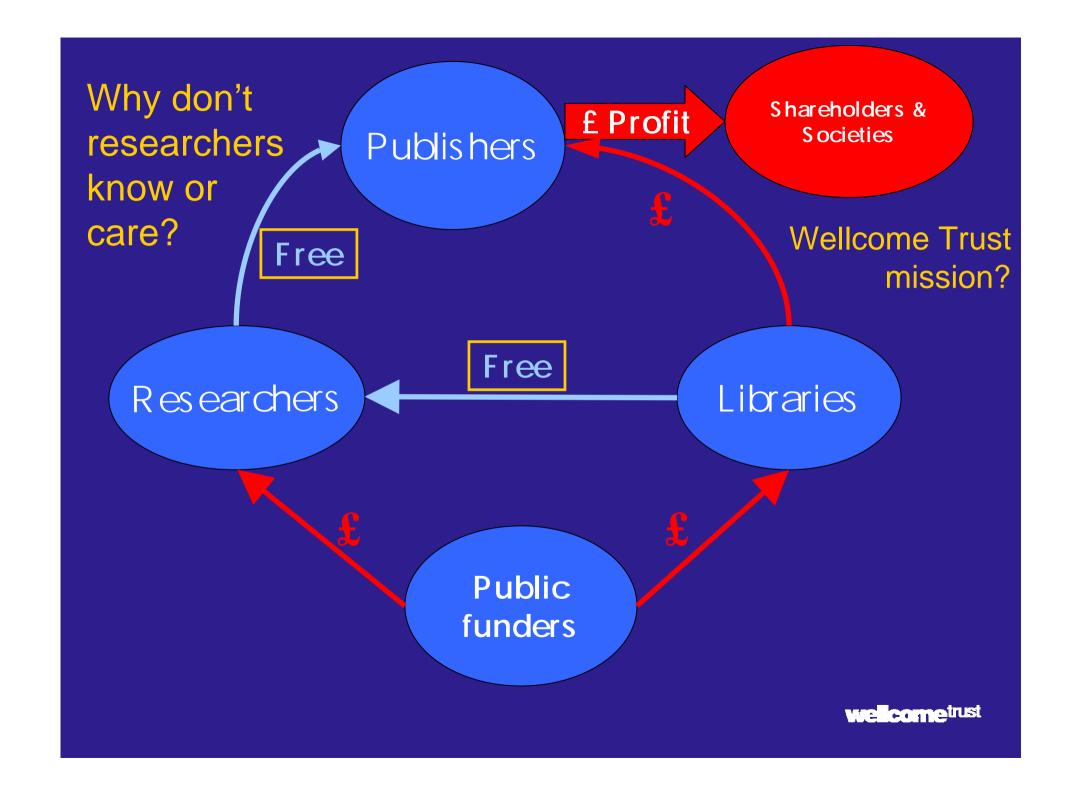


http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/scipubreport

Major concerns

- "excessive" profits: 35%+ margins
- subscription charge increases: 200% in last ten years - pressure on library budgets, reduction in number of subscriptions
- restrictive online access the bundle deal
- publisher retention of copyright





Alternative model - open access

- The copyright holder(s) must grant to the public a free, irrevocable, perpetual license to use, copy, distribute and make derivative works, in any medium for any purpose.
- A digital copy must be deposited in an open public archival repository (for example US National Library of Medicine's PubMed Central).

(Bethesda meeting)

What will it cost?



http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/publications

Will it cost more?

- Whole system savings of 30%
- Estimated costs per article:
 - \$2,750 subscription
 - \$1,950 open access
 - With submission fee of \$175, publication drops to \$550
- Alleged charges of \$10,000++ include contribution of funds to overheads, surplus or profit

What do authors like about current model?

- Hierarchy of journal quality
 - They know which are 'best' journals
 - They don't pay (page charges)
 - Added value: e.g. news and views, press releases
- Consequences of publication in 'best' journals
 - Promotion
 - Grants
 - Prizes



Why are 'best' journals 'best'?

- Turn down most submissions
- Provide added value (variable)
- USA ('international')
- Marketing

Where is quality control?

- Referees (free)
- Editorial board (honorarium)
- Editorial staff (salaried)

Funder initiatives

- Leadership demonstrate engagement with issues, join with other research funders, raise awareness in research community
- Fund cost of publication (marginal to research costs)
- Copyright encourage (and eventually enforce) author retention (involve publishers and IPR lawyers)
- Repository establish open access repositories
- Evaluation recognise intrinsic value of content of paper rather than title of journal

The future?

- More of the same? unlikely
- Increased use of repositories and selfarchiving – likely
- New open access vehicles for publishing including hybrid models e.g. PNAS
- More support from funders very likely e.g.
 Howard Hughes, Max Planck, CNRS,
 WHONIH, UK Research Councils?
- Tipping point?

The bottom line

It can not be right that access to the results of publicly funded research is restricted because the copyright to manuscripts is given away by researchers

The dissemination of the results of research is a marginal cost and part of the costs of the research itself