

Tracking publishing system costs at scale using Open Research Information

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Understanding the full costs of scholarly publishing across national and regional systems remains a challenge. What information is available is generally limited and the best data is usually confidential and private. The argument for Open Research Information is that the benefits of sharing outweigh the risks. We sought to examine this by building a large scale model of costs and savings in the scholarly publishing system using public information.

Combining bibliographic resources including OpenAlex and OpenAIRE with cost information at the level of APCs (DOAJ, OpenAPC, datasets of APC list prices) and agreements (eg ESAC) we can estimate the overall profile of publishing costs and use these to model the development of future costs under various sets of assumptions.

In this talk I will show how a national, regional and global model of publishing costs can be built and critically examine which countries offer the best-case studies of providing Open Research Information allowing us to validate this model.

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Cameron Neylon has been involved in advocacy for Open Access and Open Research for over 20 years. From 2015-2024 he was Professor of Research Communications at Curtin University where he co-founded and co-lead the Curtin Open Knowledge Initiative. He is a Steering Board member of CoARA, the Steering Group for the Barcelona Declaration and the advisory board of Open Citations. He was a co-author of the Principles for Open Scholarly Infrastructure, the altmetrics manifesto, the books Open Knowledge Institutions, Reading Peer Review, Supporting Research Communications: a guide and Open Scholarship and the Need for Collective Action.

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