

Extending the openCost exchange format beyond journal articles: A hands-on lab for (other) text-based publications

Wednesday 18 March 2026 14:00 (1h 30m)

The openCost exchange format currently provides a standardized way to share publication cost data for journal articles. While this approach has proven to be a practical and widely applicable starting point, it does not yet sufficiently cover other text-based publication types that play an important role in scholarly publishing.

This hands-on lab focuses on how the openCost exchange format can be extended to include additional text-based publication types, initially concentrating on books, book chapters, and conference proceedings. The session will introduce a preliminary proposal for these publication types within the openCost exchange format. This draft is intended as a starting point for discussion and further development.

Participants are invited to actively engage with this draft and share their perspectives and experiences. Key discussion points will include which publication types are missing or particularly urgent from an institutional point of view, whether further text-based formats should be considered, which cost types from the current article-based model can be transferred to other publication types, and where additional or more granular cost information may be required. The session will also explore similarities and differences across publication types in order to assess how far a common modelling approach can be applied.

The results of the session will directly inform the further development of the openCost exchange format, ensuring that future extensions are based on concrete institutional needs and use cases.

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