

Publishing in open access journals

Bane or Boon?

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OPEN ACCESS Freely available online

 PLOS one

Unexpected High Losses of *Anopheles gambiae* Larvae Due to Rainfall

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November 2007 | Issue 11 | e1146

Definition



Open access (OA) refers to unrestricted online access to articles published in [scholarly journals](#)

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Main providers open access



Public Library of Science (PLoS):
7 journals; medicine
and biology

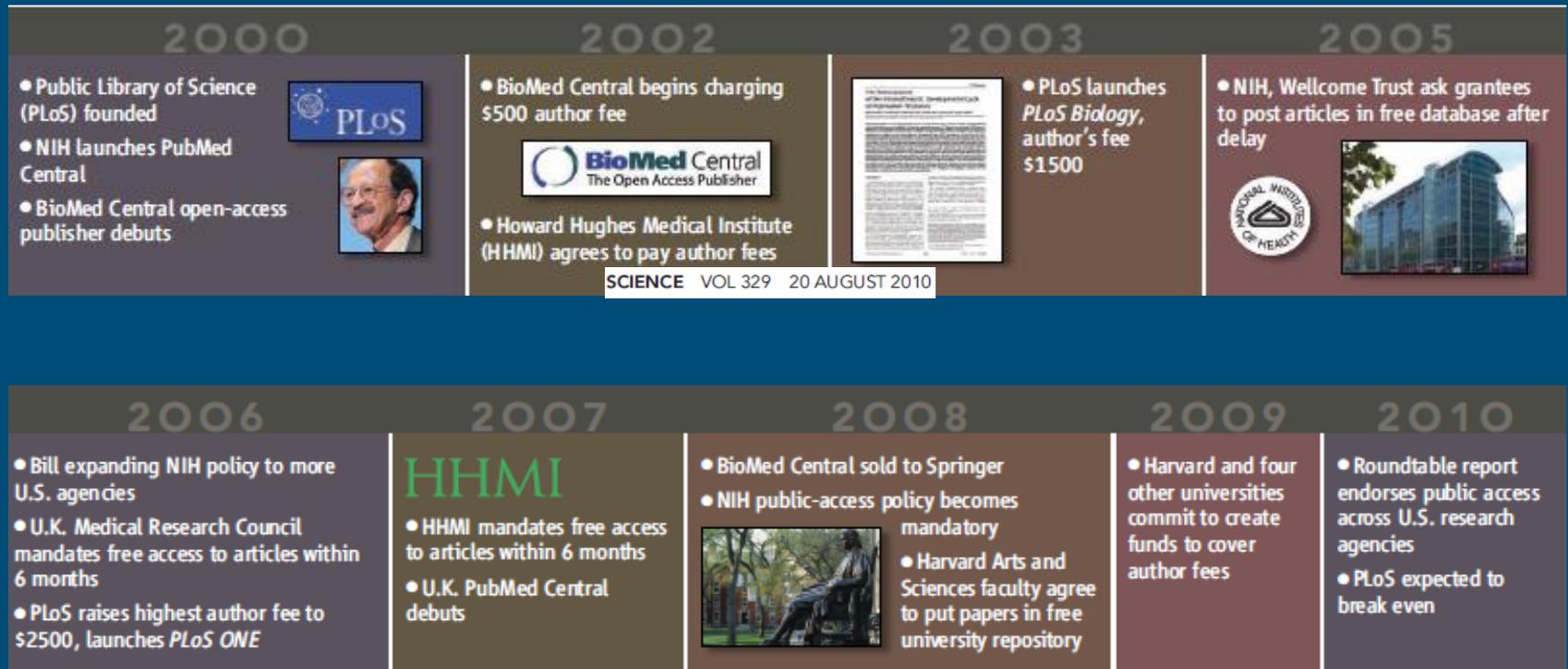


Biomed Central: 206 peer reviewed open
access journals; emphasis on medicine
and biology



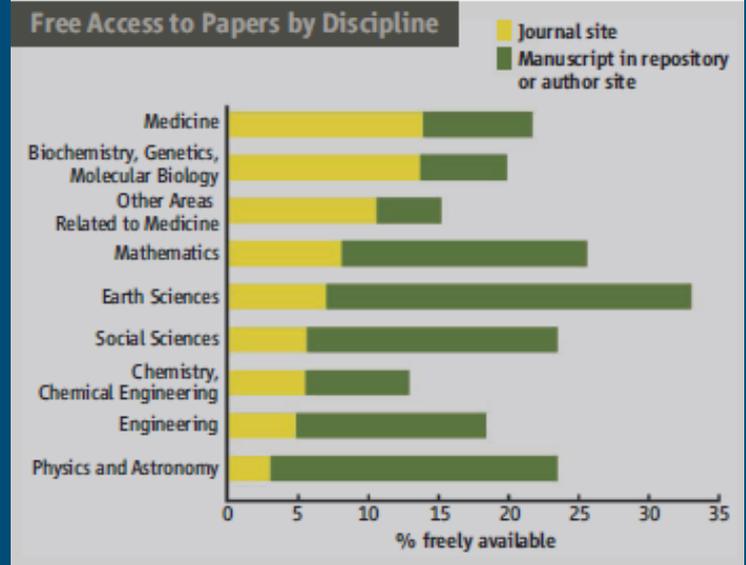
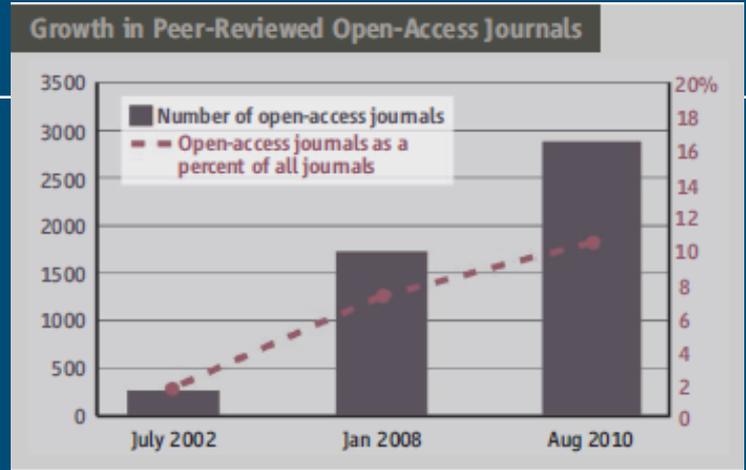
Hindawi Publishing Corporation: 200 peer
reviewed open access journals; wide range of
disciplines

Development of open access:



Source: Kaiser, *Science* Vol 329 20 August 2010

Open access on the rise

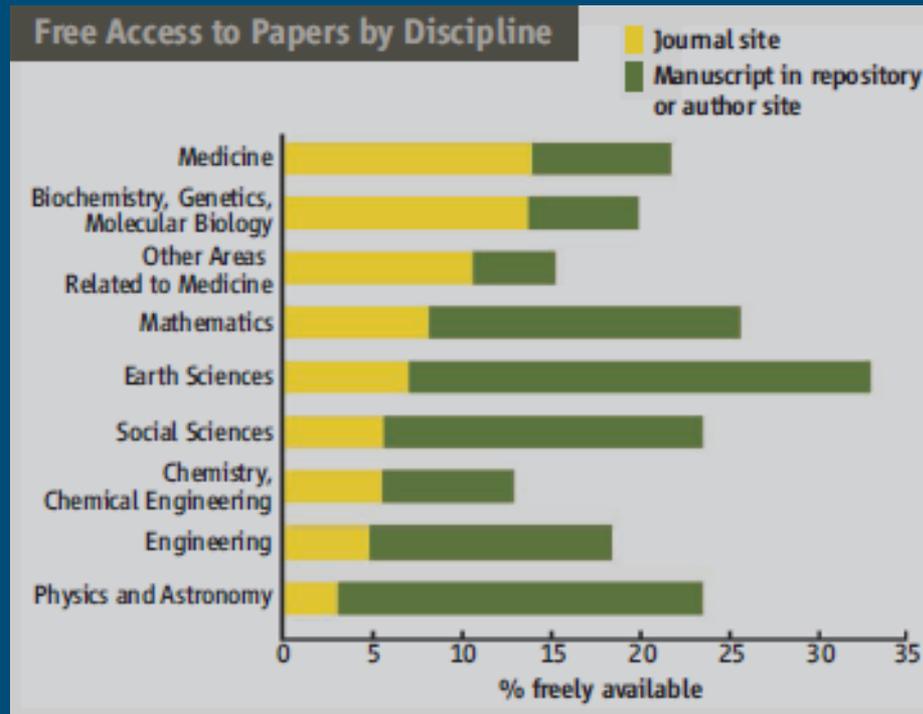


Free for all. Open-access journals are on the rise; about 20% of a sample of 1837 articles published in 2008 were eventually free.

Source: Kaiser, Science 20 Aug 2010

Golden Road: publishing in OA journals with author payment

Green Road: making available (for free) reprints of published articles, usually paid for by institutional subscriptions **Wageningen UR**



Public Library of Science



PLOS family:

- peer review
- open access
- high publication fees
- mostly medicine

The PLoS Journals

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Biomed Central



BMC family:

- peer review
- open access,
- no publication fees if institutional subscription
- Varied topics, but also heavy on medicine

Evolutionary biology Journals

[BMC Evolutionary Biology](#) all content Open Access

[EvoDevo](#) all content Open Access

[Frontiers in Zoology](#) all content Open Access

[Investigative Genetics](#) all content Open Access

Family practice Journals

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[BMC Family Practice](#) all content Open Access

[Osteopathic Medicine and Primary Care](#) all content Open Access

Gastroenterology Journals

[BMC Gastroenterology](#) all content Open Access

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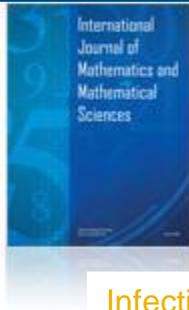
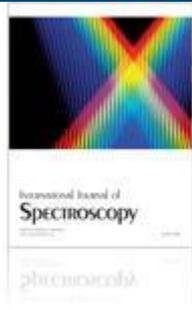
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[Stem Cell Research & Therapy](#) all research articles Open Access; other content currently available free of charge



Hindawi family:

- peer review
- open access
- article processing charges
- varied topics, notably medicine, physics, chemistry (some biology)

[Infectious Diseases in Obstetrics and Gynecology](#)
[Influenza Research and Treatment](#)
[Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Infectious Diseases](#)
[International Journal of Medicinal Chemistry](#)
[International Journal of Aerospace Engineering](#)
[International Journal of Agronomy](#)
[International Journal of Alzheimer's Disease](#)
[International Journal of Analytical Chemistry](#)
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[International Journal of Differential Equations](#)
[International Journal of Digital Multimedia Broadcasting](#)
[International Journal of Distributed Sensor Networks](#)
[International Journal of Ecology](#)
[International Journal of Electrochemistry](#)
[International Journal of Endocrinology](#)
[International Journal of Evolutionary Biology](#)

Advantages



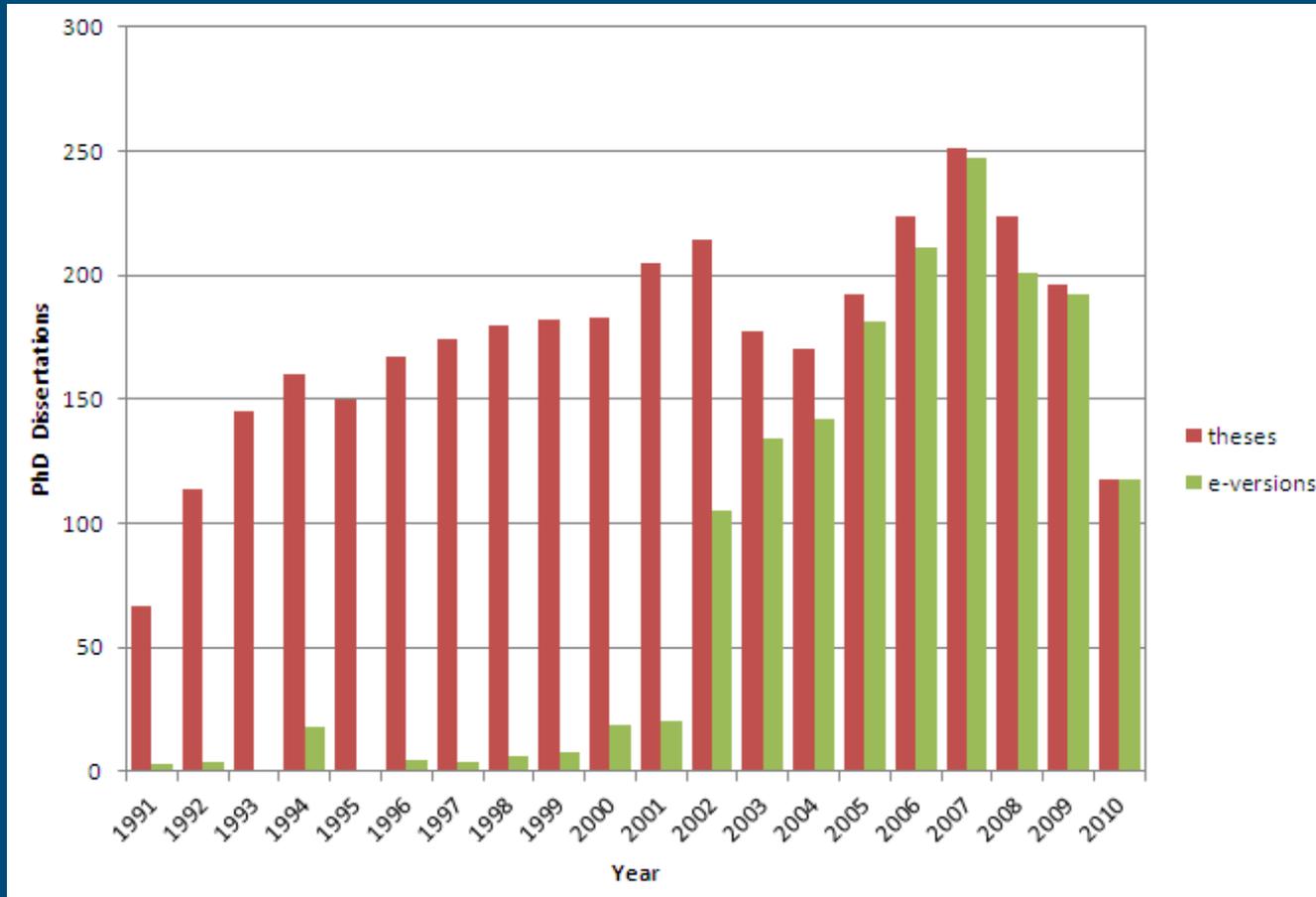
- Rapid distribution of scientific data
- Free access for anyone, including your peers
- Repository expected to remain available for ever
- Research paid for with public funds is made available to the public-at-large
- Quotation advantages? Up to 8% in first two years (this is being disputed)

Criticism



- High publication fees, therefore not available to all academics
- Ownership of data (especially if the work is sponsored by a commercial company)

Wageningen UR and open access



Wageningen University PhD theses and electronic versions

Wageningen UR and open access



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- Wageningen Library is providing (limited) financial support for open access publications of PLoS journals;
- This will aid to make WUR research highly visible and accessible
- Authors can select for a selected time of embargo (for instance to protect data, or while a new grant proposal is being evaluated)



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