

# The Hard Reality of Moving toward an Open Access Model

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## Hard Realities

Why journals are expensive

Why they needn't be

Typical worries about open access dispelled

Summary

- Who is open access *hard for*?
- Who is open access *hard on*?

What faculty and libraries can do

## Why Journals Are Expensive

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Actor</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Writing	author	free
Triage	editor	free
Reviewing	peers	free
Revision	author	free
Copy editing	peers/author	free
Typesetting	author	free

# Why Journals Are Expensive

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Writing	author	free
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Revision	author	free
Copy editing	peers/author	free
Typesetting	author	free
Access	publisher	
Archiving	publisher	
Marketing	publisher	

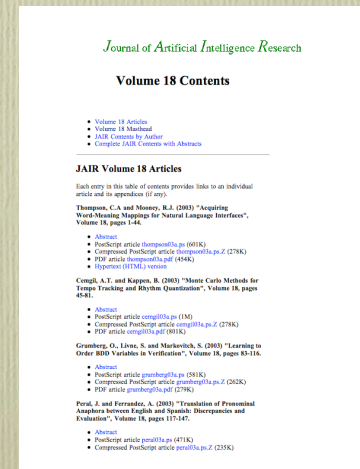
# Why Access, Archiving, and Marketing Are Expensive

<i>Access</i>	<i>Archiving</i>	<i>Solution</i>
Copies, lots, widely distributed	Copies, widely distributed, on paper	Copies, lots, widely distributed, on paper
		costing
		requiring marketing
		costing more

# Why Access, Archiving, and Marketing Needn't Be Expensive

<i>Access</i>	<i>Archiving</i>	<i>Solution</i>
Copies, lots, widely distributed	Copies, widely distributed, on paper	Copies, lots, widely distributed, electronically
		Copies, a few, widely distributed, on paper

# The JAIR Model



Writing, editing, reviewing, typesetting:  
*As usual, \$0*

Access:  
*Via web, \$0*

Archiving:  
*Via printed volumes, published by Morgan-Kaufmann, \$75*

# Typical Worries

- Electronic journals have less prestige
- Electronic journals aren't indexed
- No one wants to read articles online
- Electronic journals aren't archival

# Typical Worries

Electronic journals have less prestige

<i>Journal</i>	<i>ISI Impact %ile</i>	<i>Cost</i>
J of Machine Learning Research	100%	\$0
J of AI Research	66%	\$0
Average of Elsevier journals	56%	\$1695

# Typical Worries

- Electronic journals have less prestige
- Electronic journals aren't indexed
- J of Artificial Intelligence Research
  - INSPEC
  - Mathematical Reviews/MathSciNet
  - Science Citation Index Expanded
  - ...and unknown others

# Typical Worries

- Electronic journals have less prestige
- Electronic journals aren't indexed
- J of Machine Learning Research
  - ACM Computing Reviews
  - CompuMath Citation Index
  - Computer and Information Systems Abstracts
  - Current Contents/Engineering, Computing and Technology
  - INSPEC
  - Linguistics Abstracts
  - Mathematical Reviews/MathSciNet
  - PsycINFO/Psychological Abstracts
  - Research Alert
  - Science Citation Index Expanded
  - Zentralblatt MATH

# Typical Worries

Electronic journals have less prestige

Electronic journals aren't indexed

No one wants to read articles online

- So *print them out.*

# Typical Worries

Electronic journals have less prestige

Electronic journals aren't indexed

No one wants to read articles online

Electronic journals aren't archival

- True, but *open access* journals can be
- So *print them out.*

# Summary

Open access is not the same as electronic

- Electronic journals are no solution to the scholarly communication problem

The goal is not to lower prices

- The goal is to generate the least encumbered, highest quality scholarly communication

The hard reality of moving toward an open access model

- The process is not *hard for* those doing the writing, editing, reviewing, ...
- The process will be *hard on* a variety of people in the scholarly publishing field, commercial and noncommercial alike

# What Faculty Can Do

As editorial board members:

- Move journals to the JAIR Model
- Work for more open copyright agreements

As authors

- Only publish where open access is possible
  - Open access journals
  - Journals that allow noncommercial redistribution
  - Journals that allow alternative copyright arrangements
- Submit to and review for open access journals
- Stop supporting egregious publishers
- Make papers available through other channels

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# What Libraries Can Do

Cancel journals

Support open access methods

- Run and facilitate open access servers
- Publicize open access journals to faculty
- Archive printed copies of electronic journals

(Negotiate lower prices with publishers

- But it won't help in the long run)

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