New journal models and publishing perspectives in the evolving digital environment

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Traditional **scholarly journals** functions

- Registration

- Certification

- Awareness

- Archiving (Roosendaal and Geurts, 1997)
  - Rewarding

Scholarly publishing **is fast changing**

- A set of "disruptive forces" drives the change:
  - Technological
  - Economic
  - Distributional
  - Geographic
  - Interdisciplinary
  - Social forces… (Cope, Kalantzis, 2009)

    … and above all

  - The critical mass of **open access** content

The **growth** of **Open Access** movement

- **In July 2009:**
  - OpenDOAR listed 1432 repositories = **28**% growth in 2008
  - ROAR listed 1418 repositories = **28**% growth in 2008
  - **11,3%** of usable copies of scientific articles can be found on the web (Bjoerk, Roos and Lauri, 2009)
  - Publishers offering open choice has grown from 9% in 2005 to 30% in 2008
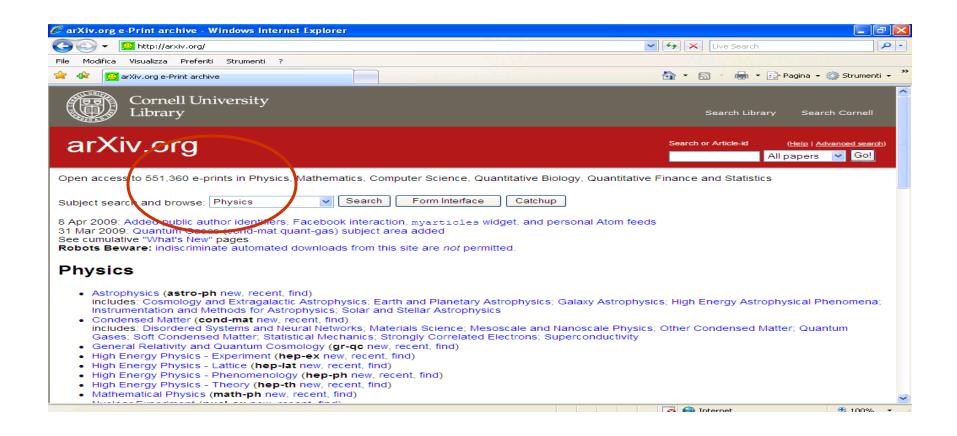
As **open content** grows…

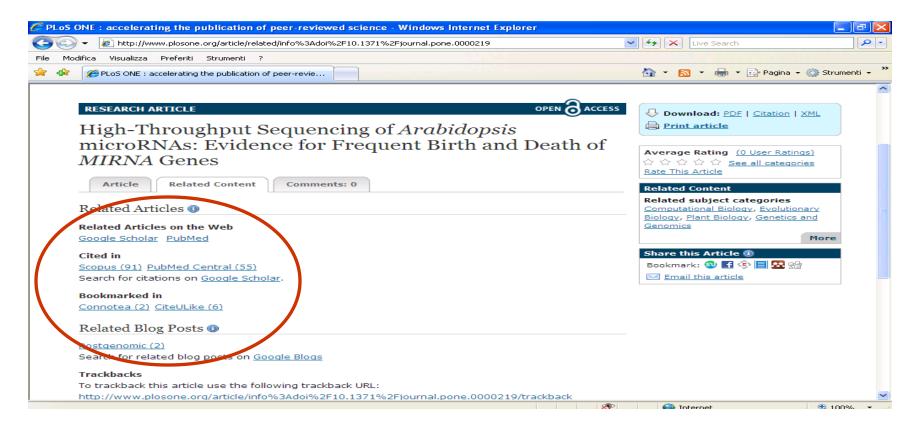- ➢ **Researchers**' attention is all concentrated on **article level**
  - ❖ from discoverability to research evaluation
- ➢ New **journal models** are evolving

- ➢ Publishers' **role** is challenged

Article level: **ArXiv**

Article level: **Article level metrics**

Article level: **Article of future**

New **journal models**

- Overlay journals

- Interjournals

- Different level journals

Overlay journal: definitions

- The notion was first expressed by Paul Ginsparg

- " An open access journal that takes submissions from the preprints deposited at an archive and subjects them to peer review […] Because an overlay journal doesn't have its own apparatus for disseminating accepted papers, […] **it is a minimalist journal that only performs peer review**" (Peter Suber, 2003)

- "**A quality-assured journal** whose content is deposited to and resides in one or more open access repositories" (Panayiota Polydoratou, Martin Moyle, 2008)

Overlay journal: functions

- **Certification –** quality is a great concern for researchers
  - Value-added functions
    - Increased visibility
    - Branding
    - Marketing
      - Preservation

Overlay journal: some examples

- In **Physics**
  - Physical Review D
  - Naboj is a post-filter service on preprint deposited in ArXiv
- In **Medicine**
  - Lund Virtual Medical Journal (Oezek, 2005)
- In **Mathematics**
  - Symmetry, Integrability and Geometry: Methods and Applications (SIGMA)

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The **RIOJA** Project

- **Repository Interface for Overlaid Journal Archives**
  - Funded by JISC (UK)
  - **Date**: March 2007 - June 2008
  - **Led by**: University College London in collaboration with Imperial College, Univ. of Glasgow, Cambridge and Cornell University
  - **Project goals:**
  - To develop an Application Programming Interface to foster automated interaction between the journal software (**OJS**) and the digital repositories (**ArXiv**)
  - To investigate the feasibility of overlay journal models

Interjournals

- Interdisciplinarity is a strong need for researchers
- New journals explore interdisciplinary forms
  - InterJournal
    - Publication of New England Complex Systems Institute
    - A journal covering topics on **science and engineering**
    - Papers are immediately published and later reviewed and assigned to **3 category parallel journals**
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A new role for **publishers**?

■ Publishers may lose the last function they hold: **certification**

■ Certification could be performed and controlled by:
  ☐ Scholarly communities
  ☐ Professional society
  ☐ Scientific social networks
  ☐ OAI-compliant peer review services (Rodriguez et al., 2005)

Value-added services for publishers

- Publishers should concentrate on value-added services:
  - **Navigational** services
  - **Semantic** discovery services
  - **Translation** services
  - Archiving and **preservation** services
  - **Evaluation** services:
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