

Open access, maybe not the hottest issue for math publishing

Tom Koornwinder

Korteweg-de Vries Institute for Mathematics
University of Amsterdam

presentation at the meeting

Open Access versus Commercial Publishing in Mathematics and Computer Science

KNAW, Section Mathematics, May 15, 2013

Article processing charges

Springer: 3000 USD / 2200 EUR

Elsevier: 500 - 5000 USD, for instance:

Indag. Math. 1300 USD

J. Approx. Theory 2000 USD

Advances in Math. 1500 USD

London Math. Soc.:

Compositio Math. 2950 USD / 2000 EUR

- everywhere VAT not included
- current rate 1 EUR = 1.29 USD

Situation in the Netherlands

NWO:

- Grantees not obliged to publish open access.
- Special fund to stimulate open access publishing: maximally 5000 EUR per project.
- NWO appeals to researchers with established reputation that they give a good example and publish open access.

Directors of math institutes at Dutch universities:

- Never got requests from their staff for financial support of an open access publication.
- Majority would not respond positively to such a request.
- Majority has no explicit policy on open access, but most universities or university libraries do.

One director remarked:

Spending on open access should be balanced by lower subscription costs.

Elsevier amends its journal list prices to account for each and every sponsored open access article. Our subscription customers are not charged for open access articles – we do not double dip.

But how will money be transferred from library budget to institute or NWO budget?

CWI has a well formulated policy:

If the golden road is not possible then the green road, i.e., non-open access publications from research (partially) sponsored by CWI should have a post-refereeing version in the CWI repository.



Cornell University
Library

arXiv.org

Open access to 843435 e-prints in Physics, Mathematics, Computer Science, Quantitative Biology, Quantitative Finance and Statistics

Best place for every mathematician to put preprints:

- Universal access.
- New versions can be repeatedly posted, but older versions remain stored.
- Submission date stamp can settle priority.
- Last version can be a post-refereeing version with link to the doi of the journal paper.
- Respected or tolerated by most publishers.

Increasingly used by Dutch mathematicians, but not equally so in all parts of mathematics.

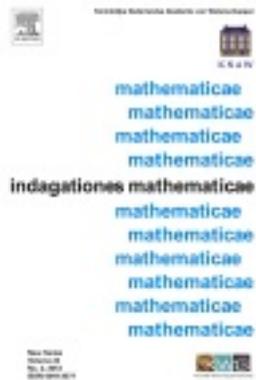


Foundation Compositio Mathematica

Compositio Mathematica

Algebraic Geometry

- Journal Compositio Math. founded by Brouwer in 1930s.
- Foundation dates back from 1950.
- For many years in cooperation with Kluwer.
- Since 2004 in cooperation with London Math. Society:
subscription cheaper and profit goes to the Foundation.
- Foundation uses profit to sponsor Dutch math activities.
- New open access journal *Algebraic Geometry* in 2014:
no article processing charges.



Indagationes Mathematicae

The quarterly journal for Mathematical Sciences of the Royal Dutch Mathematical Society (KWG)

- Originally equal to Proc. KNAW Series A: papers were communicated by members of KNAW, Section Math.
- Since 2010: owned by KWG; editorial board members not necessarily KNAW member; Section Math. advisory board
- Published by Elsevier, which pays KWG annually at least 20000 EUR.
- This income of vital importance for KWG: costs of Nieuw Archief can't be fully paid from member dues.

SYMMETRY, >>>>>>>>
INTEGRABILITY
and **G**EOMETRY:
METHODS and
APPLICATIONS >>>>>>>>

SIGMA is owned, operated and funded by researchers of the Department of Applied Research, Institute of Mathematics of National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Kiev

- Focus on mathematical physics, integrable systems, Lie theory, special functions,
- arXiv overlay.
- SIGMA is a non-profit, volunteer-run project. The papers are placed for open access, so there is no subscription, and the journal has no revenue. *If your organization would like to support us financially, please contact us.*

Episciences-Math

- A French initiative.
- New journals will be founded under this umbrella as arXiv overlay journals.



2011 Impact Factor:

Annals of Math.	2.928
Comm. Math. Phys.	1.941
Compositio Math.	1.187
SIGMA	1.071
Indag. Math.	0.195



MDPI (Multidisciplinary Digital Publishing Institute) is a platform for peer-reviewed, scientific open access journals which is operated by MDPI AG, based in Basel, Switzerland. MDPI publishes 118 diverse electronic, open access journals, including *Molecules* (launched in 1996).



mathematics

New journal *Mathematics* just started by MDPI.

- Editorial board has some good people.
- Article processing charge starts after first year.

Bedrogen door neptijdschriften

PUBLICEREN Wetenschappers worden belaagd en verleid door online tijdschriften met een twijfelachtige reputatie.

Herbert Blanckesteijn

NRC, 27 April 2013

- Spam caused by dubious open access journals.

Other threats (authors)

- Plagiarism.
- Publishing essentially the same paper several times.
- Authors publishing extremely much (>100 papers) in a very narrow area.
- Authors submitting papers cluttered with mathematical and typing errors: After rejection they either submit it unchanged elsewhere or they submit it in only partially corrected form. It may be accepted after the n -th iteration.

See Michael Cowling, *The future of mathematical publishing*, Notices Amer. Math. Soc. 59 (2012), no. 4.

Other threats (referees)

- Referees read papers incompletely and still recommend positively.
- Mathematical journal literature can be less trusted now than in the past.

Recommendations

1. Institute directors should make it mandatory that staff members put post-refereeing versions of their non-open access papers on arXiv or in repository.
2. Journals like SIGMA deserve some financial support.
3. Less is more, also for the number of journals and for the number of published papers.