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# Knowledge as a commons: How to improve the peer review and dissemination of research outputs

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Barcelona Knowledge Hub  
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# Knowledge as a commons

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Ideas are not of the same nature as material products since when you give an idea, you do not lose it. Therefore **knowledge is not a product to be traded, but a commons to be shared** since its exchange is a **positive-sum game**.

*Charlotte Hess and Elinor Ostrom,  
Understanding knowledge as a Commons,  
MIT Press, 2006*

**Elinor Ostrom received in 2009 the Nobel prize in economic sciences**, together with Oliver Williamson, for : *'her analysis of economic governance, especially the commons showing how common resources can be managed successfully by the people who use them rather than by governments or private companies'*.

# Elinor Ostrom (1933-2012)

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She was professor of political science at Indiana University (USA) and the only woman who has ever received the Nobel prize in economic sciences.



# What research is about?

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Research is a collaborative endeavour, in both space and time, that advances through discussions, seminars, conferences and peer-reviewed articles.

Publishing means making the research outputs publicly available for their evaluation and use.

Peer reviewing means checking the content of articles by peers, *i.e.*, researchers in activity (not employees of the publishers), able to find errors and to assess originality of the results.



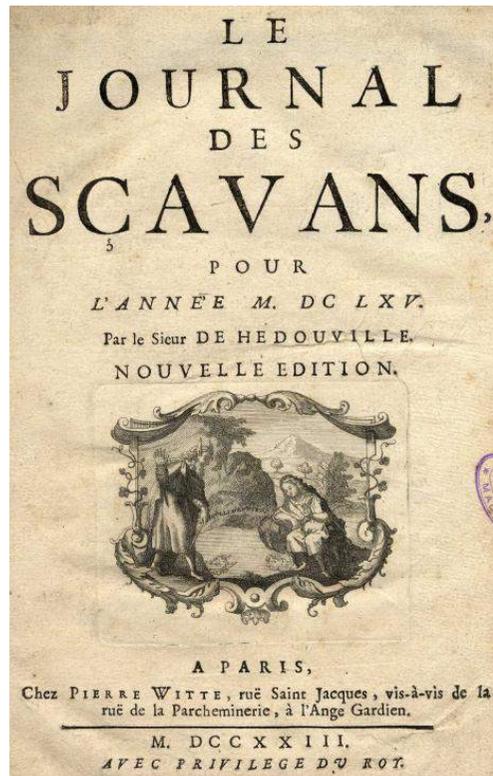
This guarantees the validation, reproduction, transmission and conservation of the research outputs for the advancement of knowledge.

# Peer-reviewed scholarly journals

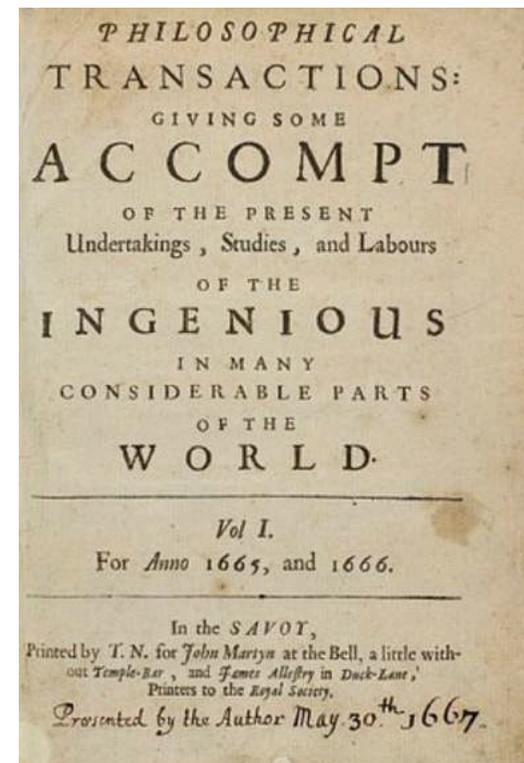
The publication of research outputs in peer-reviewed journals is the backbone of the present research system.

It was founded on *January 5th 1665* for sharing ideas and results.

It is also used today for evaluating researchers and projects.



*Paris, 5<sup>th</sup> January 1665*



*London, 6<sup>th</sup> March 1665*

How is the  
scholarly publishing system  
today?

# Business model of peer-reviewed journals



Researchers acting as editors

Researchers write articles, typeset them in final format, review those of their peers, are editors of scholarly journals.



Taxpayers

Their salaries are paid by taxpayers

After papers are accepted by reviewers and editors, publishers put them online, insure their visibility, occasionally print them, and sell them.

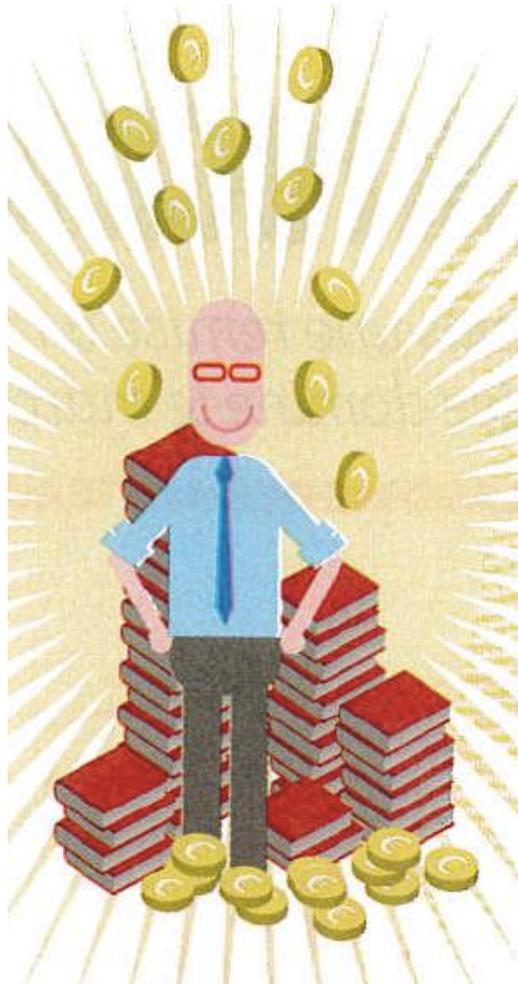


Publishers

Librarians negotiate subscription contracts, pay them, control access to the journals and curate collections of articles.

# Publishers own articles, journals and more...

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*Profit margin  
up to 40% !*

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Article DOI: 10.1080/14685248.2017.1284326

Author(s): Teluo Sakurai, Katsunori Yoshimatsu, Kai Schneider, Marie Farge, Koji Morishita, Takashi Ishihara

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# Who has access to peer-reviewed articles ?

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Only researchers working in institutions and countries rich enough to afford the very costly subscriptions to scholarly journals.

Researchers working for companies, or in poor institutions, teachers, students, retired researchers, and all citizens who finance public research do not have access to most of the scholarly articles.

By 2000 most of the famous scholarly journals have been bought by few major publishers, whose exceptional profits rely on the work that researchers and their funding agencies offer them for free.

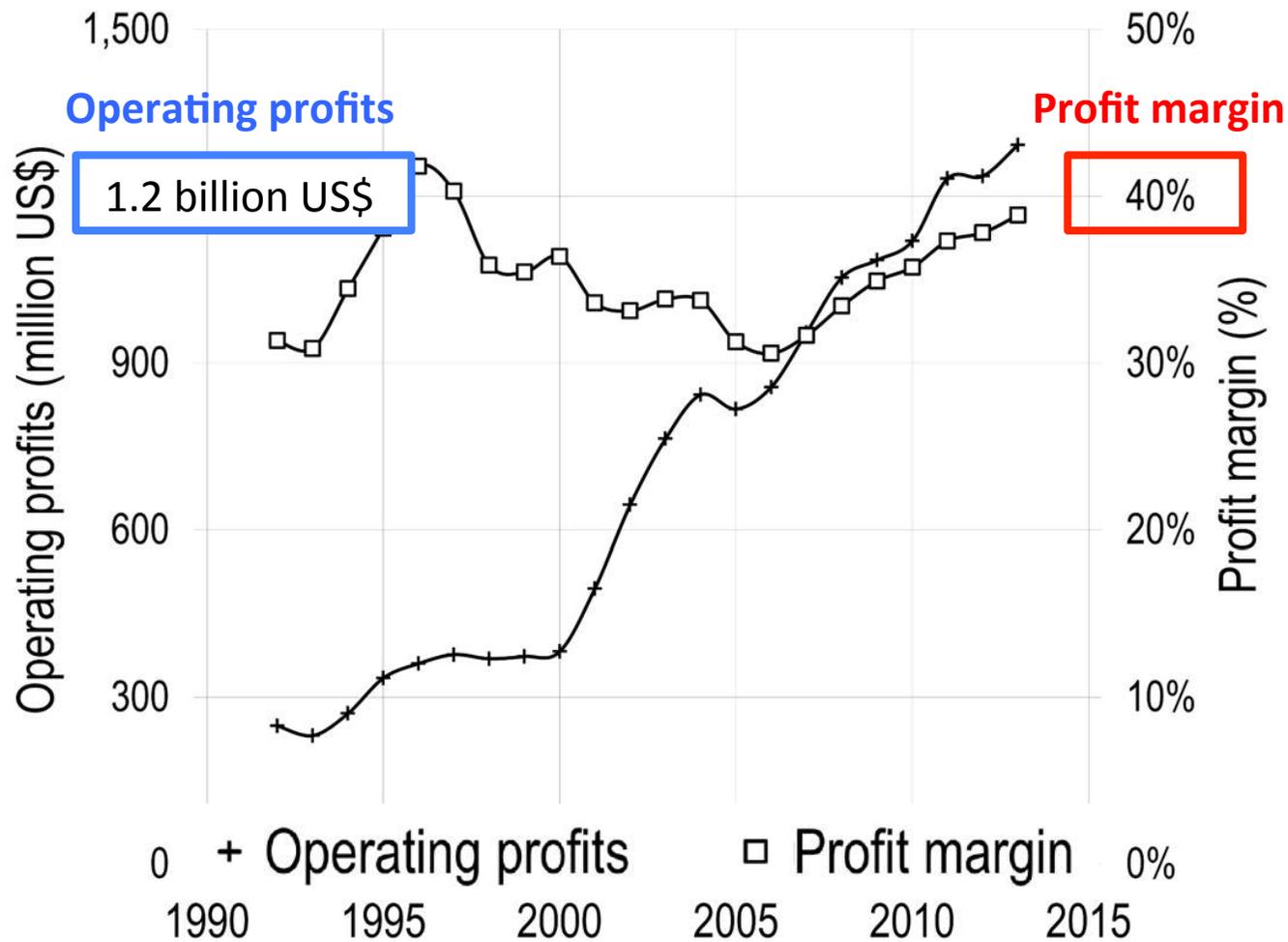
Publishers want to benefit from the digital revolution and the Web to develop online publishing and reduce their production costs, while preserving their business model designed for printing.



Today few major publishers have acquired an oligopolistic position.

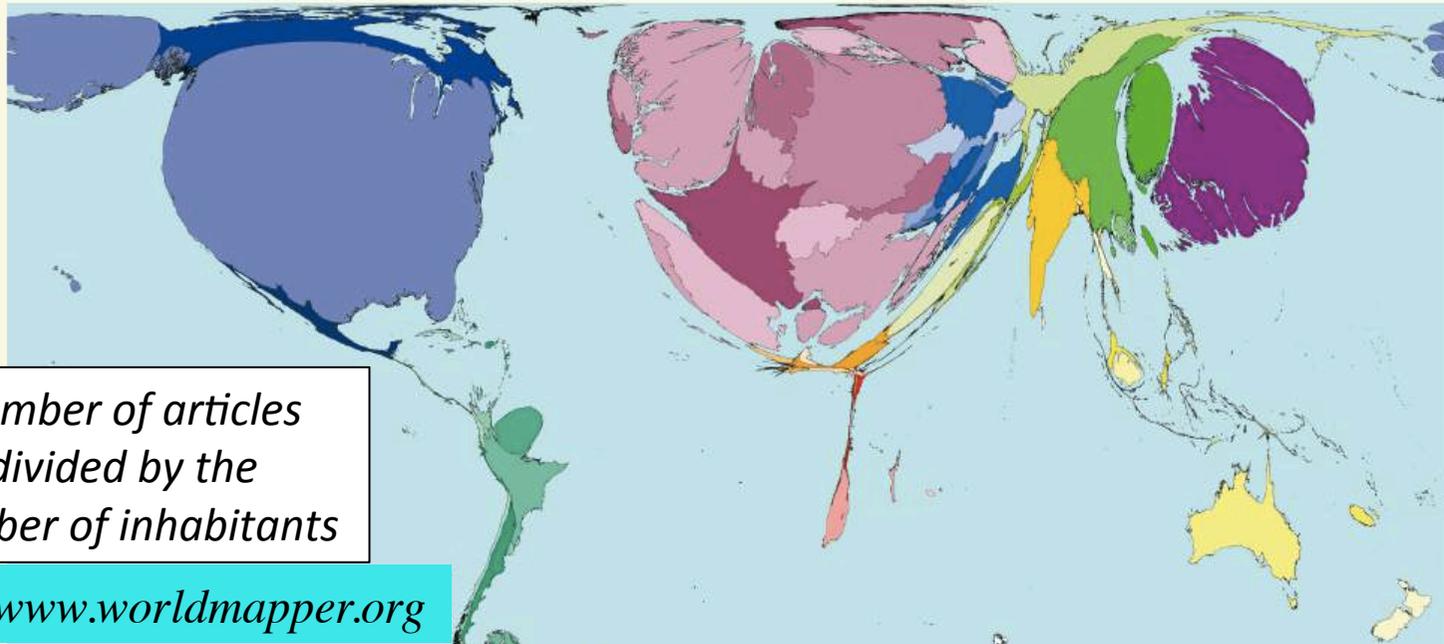
*Vincent Larivière et al., The Oligopoly of Academic Publishers, PLOS one, 10<sup>th</sup> June 2015*

Operating profits and profit margin of the publisher *Reed-Elsevier* for its Scientific, Technical and Medical (STM) division from 1990 to 2015



Vincent Larivière et al., *The Oligopoly of Academic Publishers*, PLOS one, 10<sup>th</sup> June 2015

# Density of peer-reviewed articles per country



Number of articles  
divided by the  
number of inhabitants

<http://www.worldmapper.org>

1	→	1	→	1	→	Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique*
2	→	1	→	1	→	Chinese Academy of Sciences*
3	→	1	→	1	→	Russian Academy of Sciences*
4	→	1	→	1	→	Harvard University
5	→	2	→	1	→	Helmholtz Gemeinschaft*
6	→	3	→	2	→	Max Planck Gesellschaft*
7	→	2	→	1	→	University of Tokyo

<http://www.scimagoir.com>

Today publishers impose their *Gold Open Access model*, which flips subscription costs into article processing charges that researchers have to pay to publish

⇒

researchers might get bankrupted or stop publishing!

How could be the  
scholarly publishing system  
tomorrow?

# What do we need publishers for ?

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‘Since the creation of scientific journals 350 years ago, large commercial publishing houses have increased their control of the science system. While one could argue that their role of typesetting, printing, and diffusion were central in the print world, the ease with which these functions can be fulfilled in the electronic world makes one wonder: what do we need publishers for? [...] It is up to the scientific community to change the system in a similar fashion and in parallel to the open access and open science movements. Unfortunately, researchers are still dependent on one essentially symbolic function of publishers, which is to allocate academic capital, thereby explaining why the scientific community is so dependent on *The Most Profitable Obsolete Technology in History*’

Vincent Larivière et al., *The Oligopoly of Academic Publishers*, PLOS one, 10<sup>th</sup> June 2015

# The marginal cost of online publishing is 0

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‘While, in economic terms, printed journals can be considered as rival goods— goods that cannot be owned simultaneously by two individuals— online journals are non-rival goods : a single journal issue that has been uploaded by the publisher on the journal’ s website can be accessed by many researchers from many universities at the same time. The publisher does not have to upload or produce an additional copy each time a paper is accessed on the server as it can be duplicated *ad infinitum*, which in turn reduces the marginal cost of additional subscriptions to 0. In a system where the marginal cost of goods reaches 0, their cost becomes arbitrary and depends merely on how badly they are needed, as well as by the purchasing power of those who need them. [...] In such a system, any price is good for the seller, as the additional unit sold is pure profit.’

*Vincent Lrivière et al., The Oligopoly of Academic Publishers, PLOS one, 10<sup>th</sup> June 2015a*

# The Cost of Knowledge, 2012

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*Tim Gowers* and 33 mathematician colleagues called to boycott *Elsevier* and thus stopped the *Research Works Act*, a bill to the US Congress *Elsevier* was lobbying for.



*Sir Tim Gowers*  
*Fields medal 1998*

## 16556 Researchers Taking a Stand. *See the list*

Academics have protested against Elsevier's business practices for years with little effect. These are some of their objections:

1. They charge exorbitantly high prices for subscriptions to individual journals.
2. In the light of these high prices, the only realistic option for many libraries is to agree to buy very large "bundles", which will include many journals that those libraries do not actually want. Elsevier thus makes huge profits by exploiting the fact that some of their journals are essential.
3. They support measures such as SOPA, PIPA and the ~~Research Works Act~~, that aim to restrict the free exchange of information.

<http://www.thecostofknowledge.com/>

# Researchers want to recover control !

‘Neither author nor reader should have to pay to publish and a journal should not belong to its publisher but to its editorial board.

The dissemination of the peer-reviewed articles should be done using public infrastructures, from where articles should be accessible for free.’

*Marie Farge, Note for the French Minister of Research, June 29<sup>th</sup> 2012*  
[http://openscience.ens.fr/MARIE\\_FARGE/](http://openscience.ens.fr/MARIE_FARGE/)



Researchers proposed  
an alternative model :  
*Diamond Open Access*

*Diamond Sutra,*  
*the earliest complete survival*  
*of a dated printed book,*  
*China, 11th May 868*

*British Library, London*

# The Diamond Open Access model

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1

Authors keep their copyright and make their articles available in open access with a Creative Commons license CC-BY.

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2

The editorial board owns the journal (title and assets), while the editors and referees peer-review the articles for free, as before since this is part as their academic duty.

3

The publisher is no more the journal's owner but becomes a service provider, that the editorial board selects and hires by contract.

# Two Diamond Open Access journals

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1

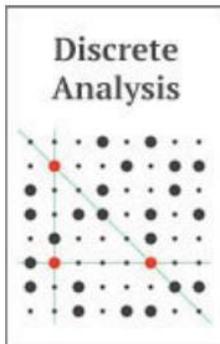


IPOP Journal · Image Processing On Line

*[//www.ipol.im](http://www.ipol.im) ISSN : 2105-1232 DOI : 10.5201/ipol*

Founded in 2010 by Jean-Michel Morel, IPOP has 41 editors. It is financed by CNES, ERC and 13 public institutions from 5 countries. Each article contains the **text**, the **algorithm** and the **source code**, which all are **peer reviewed**. The journal platform also provides **online demonstration facility** and an **archive of experiments**. IPOP thus ensures **open science and reproducible research**.

2



*<http://discreteanalysisjournal.com> ISSN : 2397-3129*

Founded in 2015 by Tim Gowers, DA has 12 editors. It is an **overlay journal on the open repository arXiv**. It is financed by Cambridge University (10\$/submission).

# We need public publishing platforms

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Public funding agencies should provide for free to researchers publicly-owned platforms developed in open source software, for peer-reviewing, publishing and archiving peer-reviewed articles, with the help of librarians and of publishers (as subcontractors).

Anyone from anywhere would have free (gratis and libre) access to any peer-reviewed publication (e.g., articles, data, codes, videos) without researchers having to pay to publish their results.

Funding agencies would thus control the quality of peer-reviewing, by selecting the journals having good practices and reputable editors, that will then be published for free.

Such publishing platforms would give the chance to researchers to experiment new ways of publishing (e.g., open peer-reviewing).

# Two public publishing platforms

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 Brasil  
+  
 África do Sul  
 Argentina  
 Brasil  
 Chile  
 Colômbia  
 Costa Rica  
 Cuba  
 Espanha  
 México  
 Peru  
 Portugal  
 Venezuela  
+  
 Bolívia  
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Created in 1999,  
it publishes  
**1249 journals**  
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agencies from Brazil  
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15 other countries.



Created in 1999,  
it publishes  
**451 journals**  
in open access,  
financed by public  
agencies from France  
(CNRS, EHESS, BSN,  
Aix-Marseille and  
Avignon universities).

How to insure a smooth transition  
from printing on paper  
towards online publishing?

# Green Open Access is the wisest model !

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Today publishers own scientific journals and control bibliometry, that they use as a marketing tool to insure their control.

The Gold Open Access model leads to the creation of predatory journals of very poor quality, even fake journals.

To avoid this and to guarantee a smooth transition towards open access, researchers would like to preserve the main traditional journals which are useful, having a good reputation and good practices.



The wisest solution is the Green Open Access model, *i.e.*,

researchers should keep the academic freedom to publish their articles in the journals they prefer, and at the same time deposit a version in a public open repository.

[http://openscience.ens.fr/MARIE\\_FARGE](http://openscience.ens.fr/MARIE_FARGE)

# *Dissemin* to boost Green Open Access

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*Antonin Delpuch*, a student in computer sciences from ENS Paris, created in September 2014 the platform <http://dissem.in>, that is collectively developed in open source.



‘Spot your own paywalled papers.  
Liberate them in one click!’

# The team *CAPSH / Dissemin*

<http://dissem.in> is supported by the not-for-profit association CAPSH (Committee for the Accessibility of Publications in Sciences and Humanities) created on *September 5<sup>th</sup> 2015* by :

**Antonin Delpuch**

Graduate student, Computer Science  
École Normale Supérieure  
France



*"We need to take a stand against more traditional publishers"*



Creator and main developer of the platform *Dissemin*

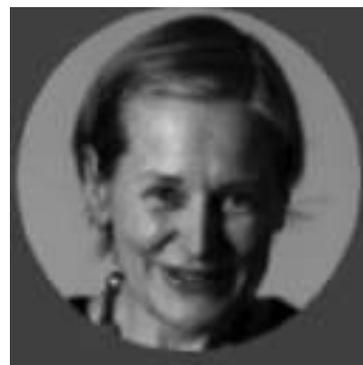
## Europe's Open Access Champion 2016



Antoine Amarilli



Pablo Rauzy



Marie Farge



Thomas Bourgeat

# Dissemin lists the articles of any researcher

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### Green open access

Many researchers do not use their right to make their papers freely available online, in addition to the paywalled version offered by traditional publishers. This forces libraries to buy overpriced electronic subscriptions to journals, when they can afford them at all.

Category	Count
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Available from the author	44065
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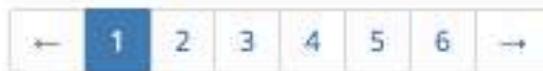
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Researcher

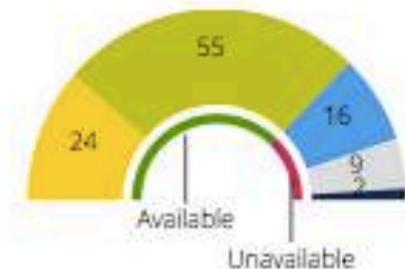
**Marie Farge**

0000-0002-4445-8625

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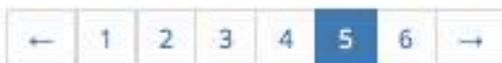
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Kai Schneider, Marie Farge  
Coherent Vortex Simulation (CVS) of 2D bluff body flows using an adaptive wavelet method with penalisation  
[Upload](#) | Springer Verlag, Notes on Numerical Fluid Mechanics and Multidisciplinary Design, 2003.

2002

Bartosz Protas, Kai Schneider, Marie Farge  
Geometrical alignment properties in Fourier- and wavelet-filtered statistically stationary two-dimensional turbulence  
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Kai Schneider, Marie Farge  
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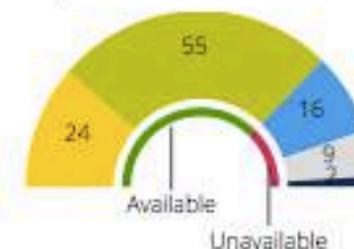
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# Coherent vortex extraction in three-dimensional homogeneous turbulence: Comparison between CVS-wavelet and POD-Fourier decompositions

Journal article by Marie Farge, Kai Schneider, Giulio Pellegrino, Alan A. Wray, Robert S. Rogallo

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## Abstract

The coherent vortex simulation (CVS) decomposes each realization of a turbulent flow into two orthogonal components: An organized coherent flow and a random incoherent flow. They both contribute to all scales in the inertial range, but exhibit different statistical behaviors. The CVS decomposition is based on the nonlinear filtering of the vorticity field, projected onto an orthonormal wavelet basis made of compactly supported functions, and the computation of the induced velocity field using Biot-Savart's relation. We apply it to a three-dimensional homogeneous isotropic turbulent flow with a Taylor microscale Reynolds number  $R_\lambda = 168$ , computed by direct numerical simulation at resolution  $N=256^3$ . Only 2.9%N wavelet modes correspond to the coherent flow made of vortex tubes, which contribute 99% of energy and 79% of enstrophy, and exhibit the same  $k^{-5/3}$  energy spectrum as the total flow. The remaining 97.1%N wavelet modes correspond to a incoherent random flow which is structureless, has an equipartition energy spectrum, and a Gaussian velocity probability distribution function (PDF). For the same flow and the same compression rate, the proper orthogonal decomposition (POD), which in this statistically homogeneous case degenerates into the Fourier basis, decomposes each flow realization into large scale and small scale flows, in a way similar to large eddy simulation (LES) filtering. It is shown that the large scale flow thus obtained does not extract the vortex tubes equally well as the coherent flow resulting from the CVS decomposition. Moreover, the small scale flow still contains coherent structures, and its velocity PDF is stretched exponential, while the incoherent flow is structureless, decorrelated, and its velocity PDF is Gaussian. Thus, modeling the effect of the incoherent flow discarded by CVS-wavelet shall be easier than modeling the effect of the small scale flow discarded by POD-Fourier or LES.

## Published in

American Institute of Physics, Physics of Fluids, **10**(15), 2003

DOI: 10.1063/1.1599857

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# Coherent vortex extraction in three-dimensional homogeneous turbulence: Comparison between CVS-wavelet and POD-Fourier decompositions

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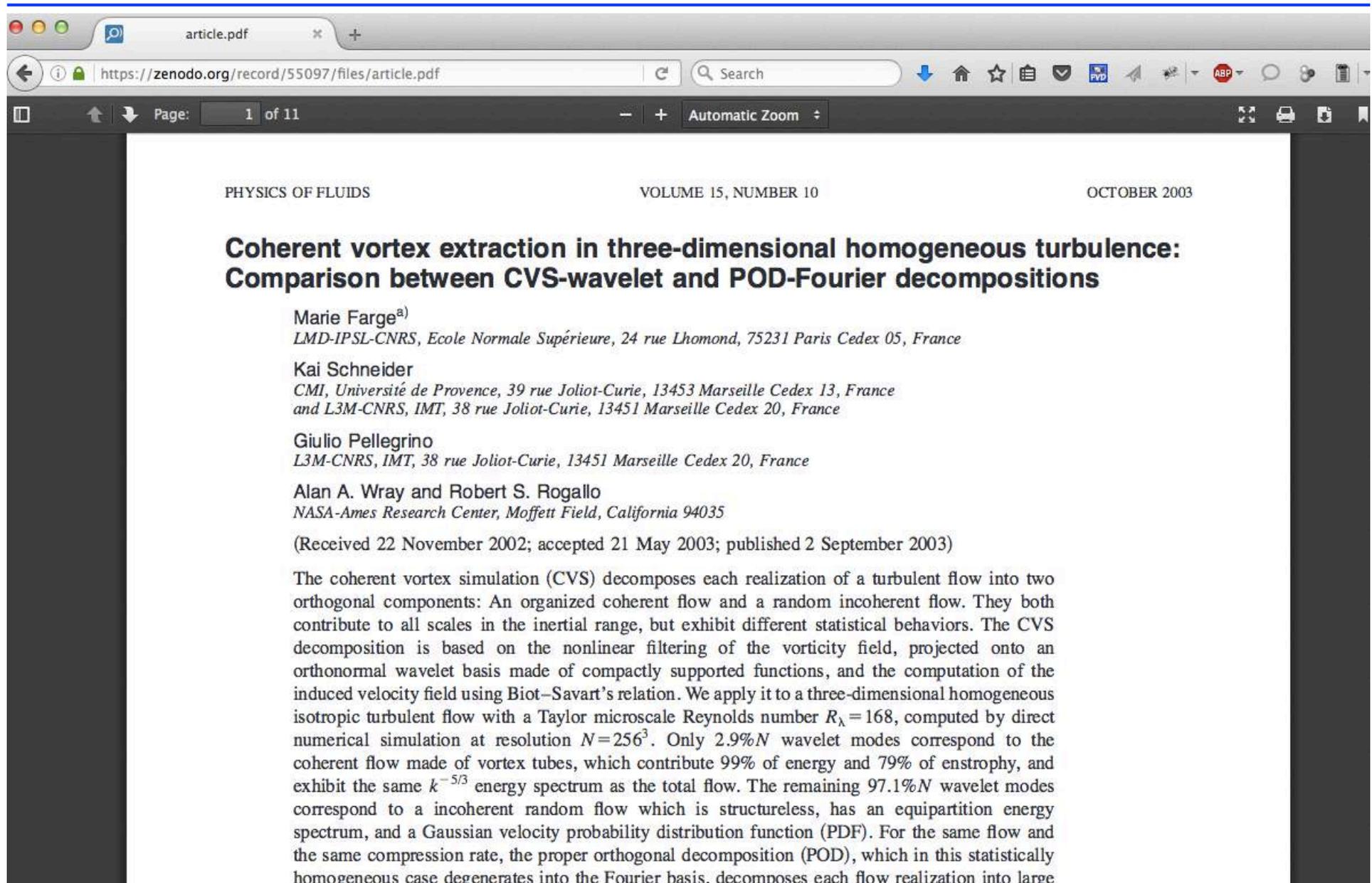
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## Abstract

The coherent vortex simulation (CVS) decomposes each realization of a turbulent flow into two orthogonal components: An organized coherent flow and a random incoherent flow. They both contribute to all scales in the inertial range, but exhibit different statistical behaviors. The CVS decomposition is based on the nonlinear filtering of the vorticity field, projected onto an orthonormal wavelet basis made of compactly supported functions, and the computation of the induced velocity field using Biot-Savart's relation. We apply it to a three-dimensional homogeneous isotropic turbulent flow with a Taylor microscale Reynolds number  $R_\lambda = 168$ , computed by direct numerical simulation at resolution  $N=256^3$ . Only  $2.9\%N$  wavelet modes correspond to the coherent flow made of vortex tubes, which contribute 99% of energy and 79% of enstrophy, and exhibit the same  $k^{-5/3}$  energy spectrum as the total flow. The remaining 97.1%N wavelet modes correspond to a incoherent random flow which is structureless, has an equipartition energy spectrum, and a Gaussian velocity probability distribution function (PDF). For the same flow and the same compression rate, the proper orthogonal decomposition (POD), which in this statistically homogeneous case degenerates into the Fourier basis, decomposes each flow realization into large scale and small scale flows, in a way similar to large eddy simulation (LES) filtering. It is shown that the large scale flow thus obtained does not extract the vortex tubes equally well as the coherent flow resulting from the CVS decomposition. Moreover, the small scale flow still contains coherent structures, and its velocity PDF is stretched exponential, while the incoherent flow is structureless, decorrelated, and its velocity PDF is Gaussian. Thus, modeling the effect of the incoherent flow discarded by CVS-wavelet shall be easier than modeling the effect of the small scale flow discarded by POD-Fourier or LES.

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PHYSICS OF FLUIDS

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## Coherent vortex extraction in three-dimensional homogeneous turbulence: Comparison between CVS-wavelet and POD-Fourier decompositions

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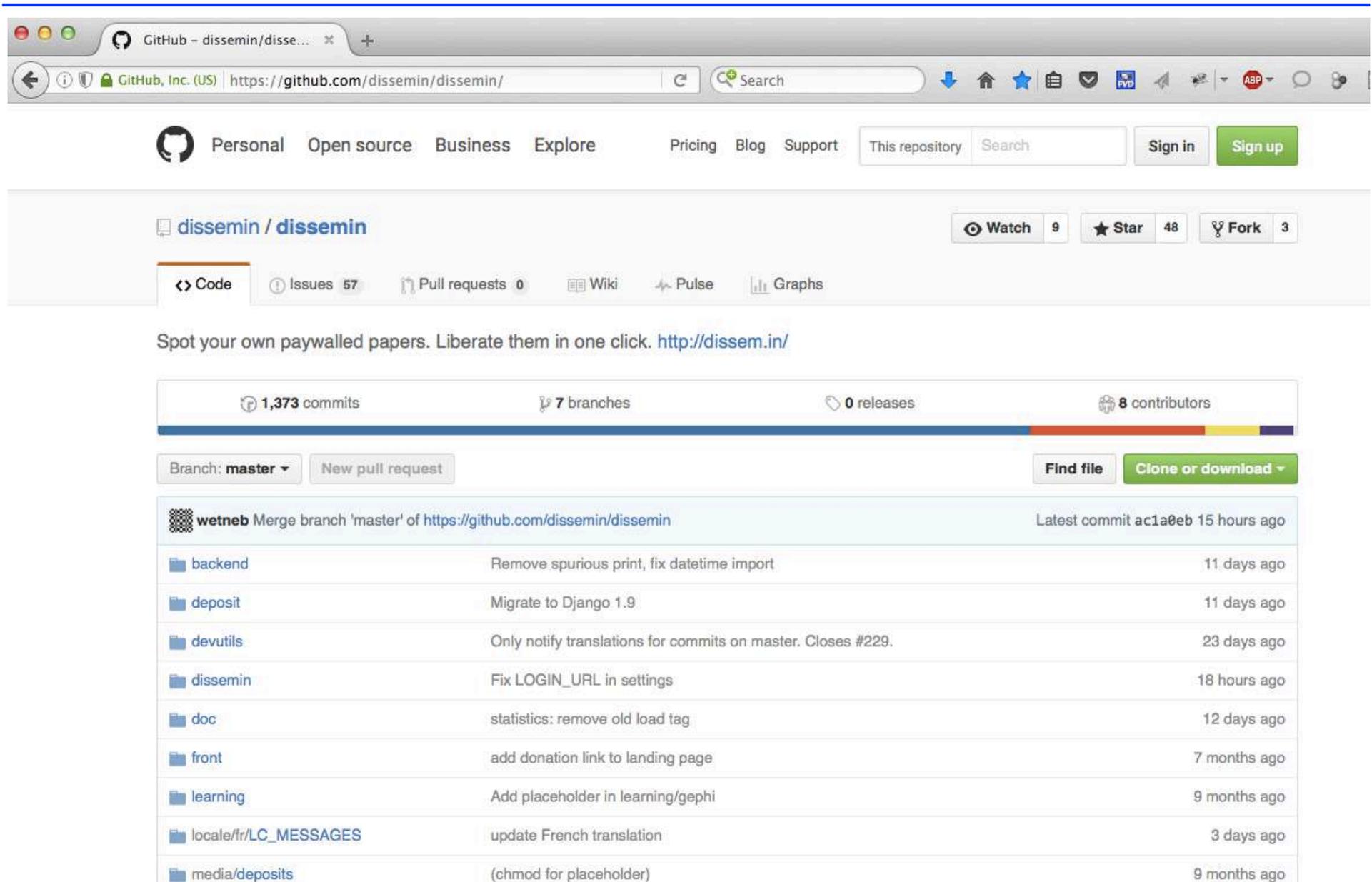
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(Received 22 November 2002; accepted 21 May 2003; published 2 September 2003)

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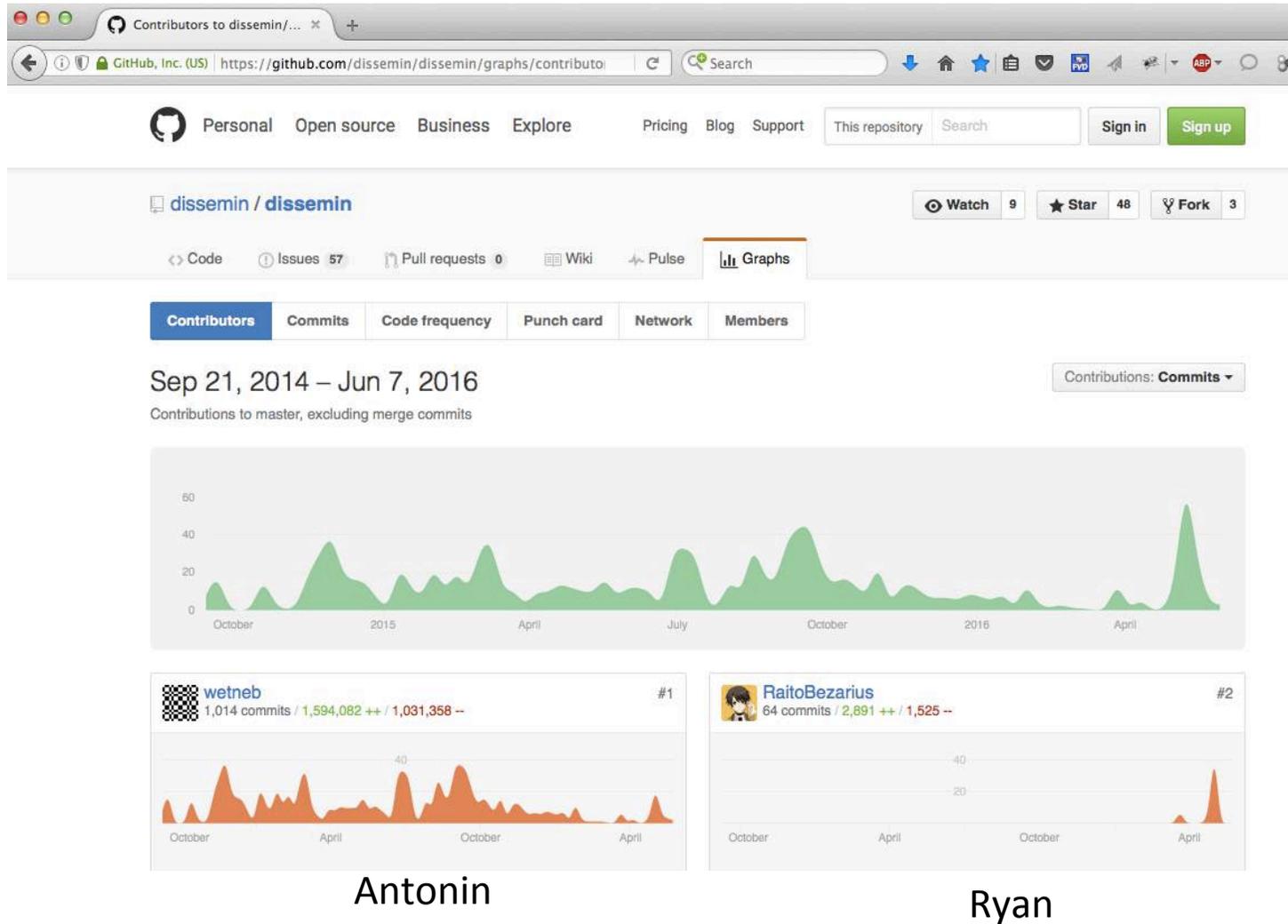
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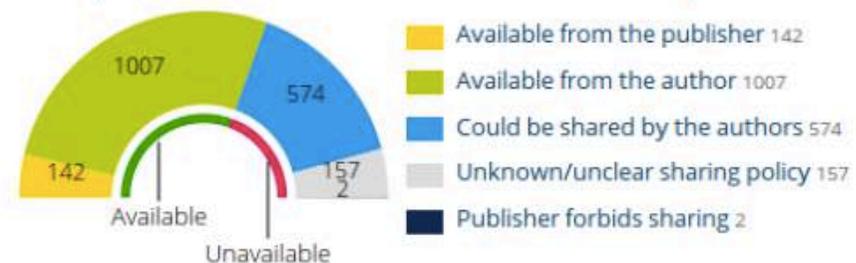
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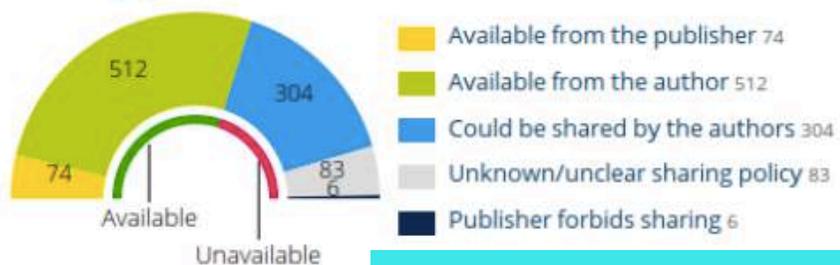
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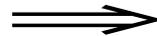
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# Conclusion

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*'Scholarly publishing and peer-reviewing in open access', Marie Farge, 2017  
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