



# **Income sources as underlying business models' attributes for scholarly journals: preliminary findings from analysing open access journals' data**

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On behalf of the SOAP consortium

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project-soap.eu

# Outline of the presentation

- SOAP – Project information
- Aims and objectives
- Methodology
- First observations
- Summary and future work
- Further information and contact details

# SOAP Info – Background

- Study of Open Access Publishing (SOAP)
- Funded by the European Commission (FP7 Science and Society)
- Runs from March 2009 to Feb 2011
- Co-ordinated by CERN, the consortium represents key representatives of publishers, libraries, funding agencies and a broad spectrum of subject disciplines

# SOAP Info - Partners

Research Organizations, Funding Agencies and Publishers



# Aims and objectives

- Focuses on the “gold” open access
- Will describe and analyse open access publishing models
- Will investigate researchers’ position towards open access
- Will provide data and information for the European Commission, libraries, funding agencies, publishers and researchers

# Methodology

- A. Quantitative assessment of existing open access models
- B. Large-scale survey among researchers on knowledge, understanding, attitudes, desires and practices towards open access
- C. Validation of results and knowledge extension with real-world scientific communities

# Methodology - A

- **Source:** Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ, <http://www.doaj.org>)
- **Reasoning:**
  - Reputation and visibility as the most comprehensive registry of open access scholarly journals
  - Quality control of open access journals as being either peer-reviewed or having other forms of editorial assurance
  - Availability of an initial sample of descriptive metadata on publisher and journal information with ease of access
  - Permission to locally ingest and further enrich the data

# Some first observations

- Open access journals – DOAJ
  - More than 4,000 journals (July 2009)
  - Various languages
  - Various publishing platforms (aggregation services, open source software, etc.)
- Publishers – DOAJ
  - More than 2,500 publishers
  - Different sizes (defined by number of journals owned)
  - Grouping:
    - 14 large publishers (own more than 50 journals or have published more than 1000 articles per year (2007 or 2008))
    - All other publishers



## Open access journals - DOAJ

size of publisher by number of DOAJ journals	DOAJ publishers		DOAJ journals	
1	2,271	88 %	2,271	56 %
2 to 9	287	11 %	849	21 %
10 to 49	25	1 %	358	9 %
≥ 50	5	0 %	554	14 %
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,588</b>		<b>4,032</b>	

## 14 large publishers - DOAJ

shorthand	full name	number of journals	articles per year
bmc	BioMed Central	176	8,993
iucr	International Union of Crystallography	1	5,165
plos	Public Library of Science	7	4,368
ansi	Asian Network for Scientific Information	13	2,514
hindawi	Hindawi Publishing Corporation	85	2,044
copernicus	Copernicus Publications	18	2,012
osa	Optical Society of America	1	1,961
waset	World Academy of Science, Engineering and Technology	18	1,960
bentham	Bentham Open	154	1,663
medknow	Medknow Publications	59	1,574
ias	Indian Academy of Sciences	10	1,152
oup	Oxford University Press	2	1,032
acadj	Academic Journals	10	1,001
ispub	Internet Scientific Publications	62	657

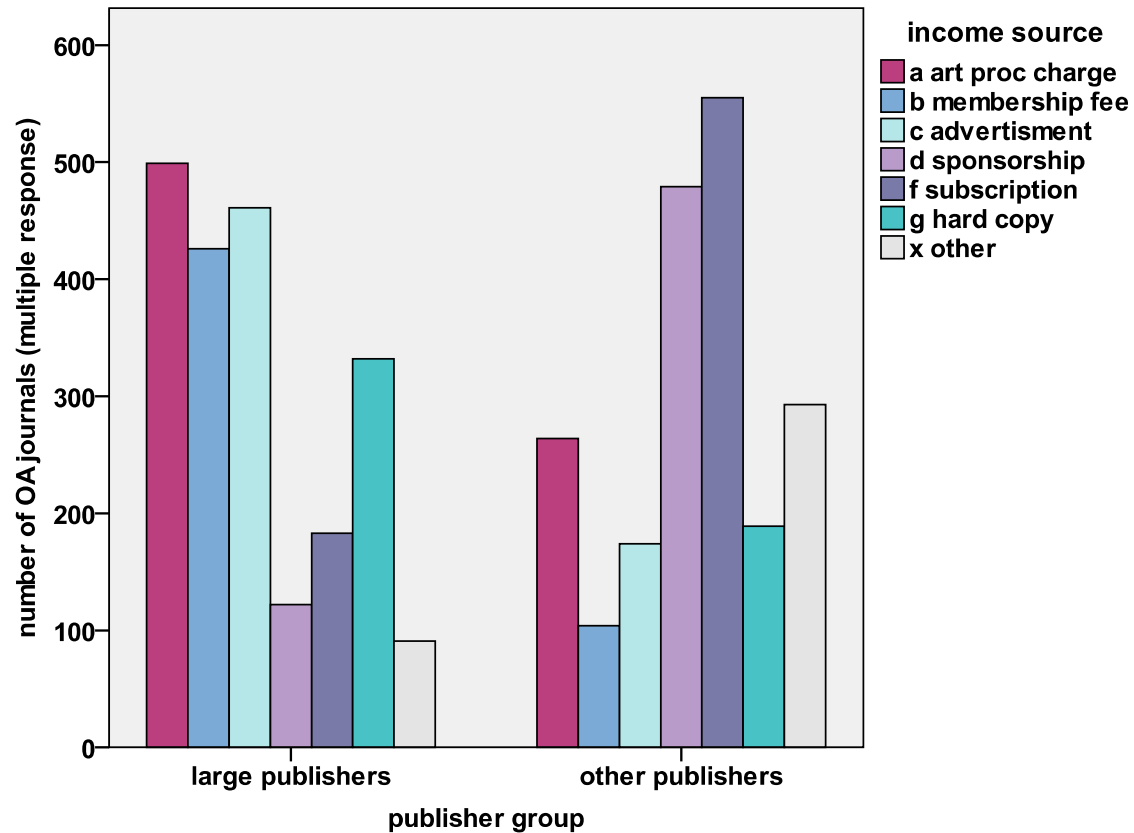
# Income sources as attributes of open access publishing models

- a) **article processing charge**: a charge applied for the processing of an article.
- (b) **membership fee**: journal income via a membership option.
- (c) **advertisement**: journal income through accepting and hosting advertisements.
- (d) **sponsorship**: journal income through sponsorship, by single or multiple institutions/organisations or at an individual level.
- (e) **subsidy**: financial assistance by an organisation hosting the publishing activity or by a funding agency concerned by assuring that the publishing activity remains ongoing.
- (f) **subscription**: income from subscription to the print version of the journal.
- (g) **hard copy**: income from hard copy sales, either individual volumes or the archives of the journal with some given periodicity.
- (x) **other**: article page charge, colour page charge, off-prints and reprints sales, print on demand, income via conference fees, donations, services to authors (copy-editing, proof reading, etc.), etc.

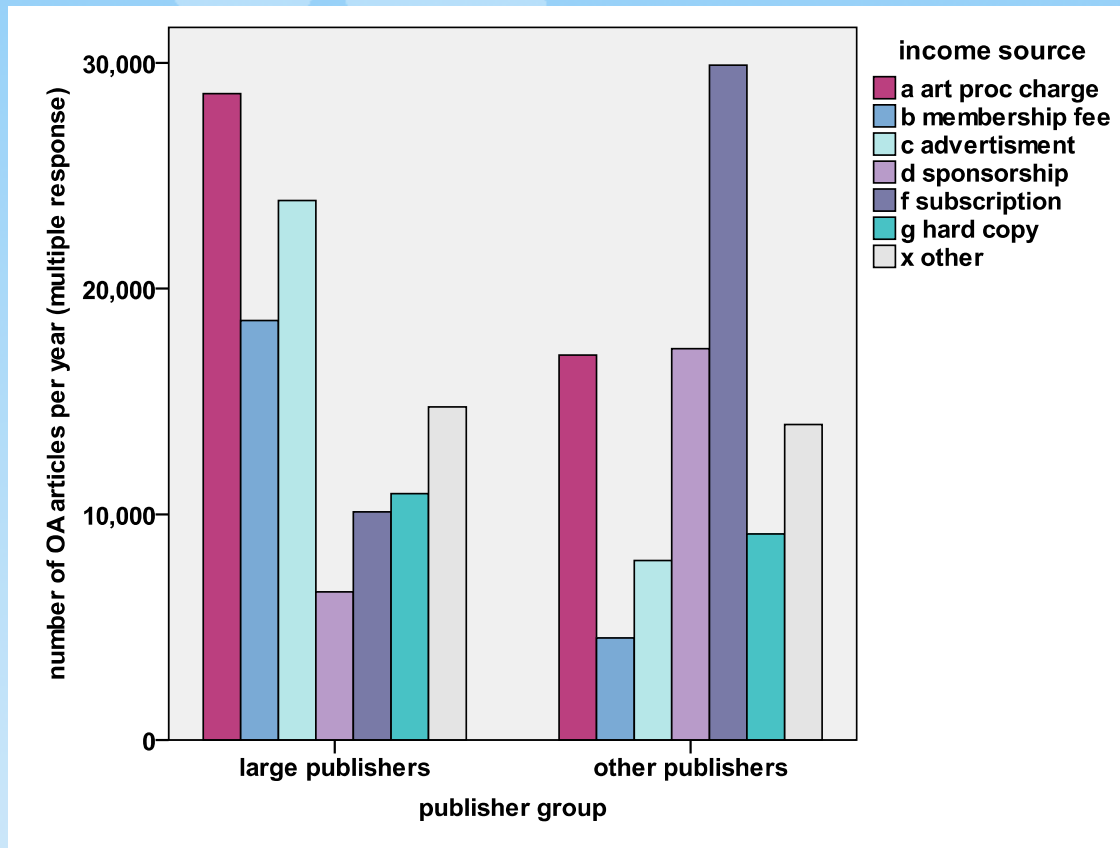
# Some first observations

- Income sources – 14 large publishers
  - “article processing charges”, “membership fees” and “advertisements”
- Income sources – other publishers
  - “subscription to the print version of the journal”, “sponsorship” and “other” sources of income (e.g. article page charge, off-prints and reprints sales, print on demand, donations, etc.)

## Income sources – Number of OA journals



## Income sources – Number of OA articles per year



# Summary and future work

- Bottom-up approach using DOAJ open access journals' data
- Rough overview of income sources as means for sustaining journal operations
- Open access publishing models & attributes report – to be released in June 2010
- SOAP survey – closing end of August 2010
- SOAP project workshop – 13 January 2011

# Further information

- Project team: [info@project-soap.eu](mailto:info@project-soap.eu)
- Website: <http://soap-fp7.eu>
- SOAP survey: [http://surveymonkey.com/soap\\_survey\\_d](http://surveymonkey.com/soap_survey_d)
- SOAP workshop: <http://project-soap.eu/final-workshop>



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