



SCOAP³ (Sponsoring Consortium for Open Access Publishing in Particle Physics): Expectations of a Large Research Institution

SCOAP³ U.S. Focal Meeting
Berkeley, 29th February 2008

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The Max Planck Society (MPS)



The Max Planck Society for the Advancement of Science is an independent, non-profit research organization that primarily promotes and supports research at its own institutes.

78 Institutes in 3 Sections:

29 ChemPhysTech

30 Biomedical

19 Humanities & Social Sciences

Basic research; dedicated to excellence

Highly distributed: One organization; but treated and operated like a consortium

Local libraries & MPDL as central unit

Budget 1.4 Bill. EUR (public funding)

Staff 12,500 Total Employees

4,500 Researchers

large number of visiting scholars

MPS and Open Access

- Initiator & host of Berlin Conference & Declaration (Oct 2003)
 - Driven by Max Planck directors
 - <http://oa.mpg.de> (currently 248 signatories worldwide; 6 from U.S.)
- Broad understanding of and approach to Open Access
 - The serials crisis of course does matter...
 - ...but the thrust for OA comes even more so from “eScience” and the requirements for the emerging new ways of scholarly communication
- Interest in OA Green...
 - MPS Institutional Repository eDoc since 2002 (19,500 full texts stored)
- ...but our true concern is with OA Gold
 - Various MPS-wide Article Charge Agreements since 2004
 - Most recently with Springer (covering 500-700 MPS publications per year)
 - Unified budget for subscription and publication costs since Spring 2005
 - This is the background and anchor of our commitment to SCOAP³.

MPS and SCOAP³

- At the establishing meeting on 3 Nov 2006, we welcomed SCOAP³ as “a logical next step” and pledged our support
 - Engagement backed by Presidential Board, committees, MPI directors
- Member of SCOAP³ Working Party (Report Apr 2007)
 - As non-physicists representing a broad-band institution
- Organizing the German contribution of 1 Mill. EUR
 - Complex country structure: highly federal & multi-source funding
 - Preparatory meeting in Mar 2007 (consensus and procedure within 3h)
 - MPS / HGF-DESY / TIB Hannover (backed by DFG for university libraries)
 - Tri-party signature Aug 2007 as first country commitment
 - Further discussion in GASCO (“national ICOLC”) Jan 2008 (tbc)
- Once consolidated we will help to transfer the SCOAP³ model and experience into other scientific domains
 - Currently joint work on EU proposal to be submitted by 18 Mar 2008

SCOAP³: Principal and Practical Considerations

- Engagement is driven by fundamental strategic interest: OA is inevitable for scholarly communication of the future
 - If this means risk, then we have to take it
- We have a unified budget; hence we can easily control and shift the cost for subscription and publication costs
- We have done our calculations (results fit on 1 page Excel spreadsheet):
 - Know MPS share of the HEP publications (core and non-core)
 - ➔ arXiv & ISI Thomson (via STN interface) & SPIRES data
 - Know MPS consortium subscription costs for the HEP journals (core and non-core)
 - ➔ extrapolated from subscriptions how they went into our big deals
- From our calculations we know that our prospective SCOAP³ publication costs will not be higher than our current subscription costs (no obstacle for redirection)
- We are sure we can (a) redirect the subscription money and (b) do this without running the risk of paying twice
- We have already begun to prepare for SCOAP³ in our talks with publishers
 - SCOAP³ clause already in 2008ff. license agreement with APS; Springer next.



Final Prophesizing Exercise

- We are sure that SCOAP³ can be done,
- we are convinced that SCOAP³ needs to be done,
- and we are optimistic that the experience & organizational framework can be re-used in other communities later on.



Thank you for your attention!



Dr Ralf Schimmer

Max Planck Digital Library

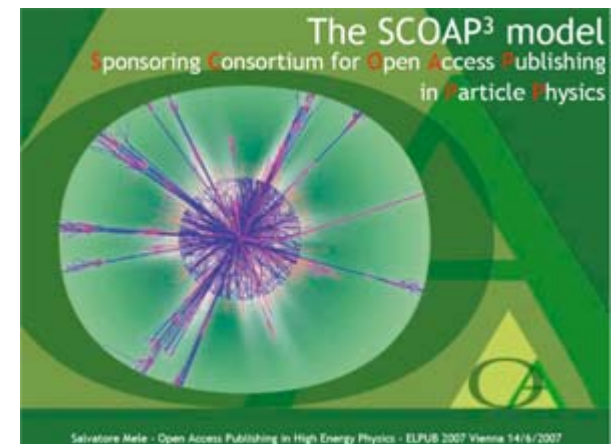
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Golden Road - SCOAP³

Sponsoring Consortium for Open Access Publishing in Particle Physics

- Initiated by CERN (European Organisation for Nuclear Research)
- Occasion: LHC (Large Hadron Collider) experiment
- Small community (15000 scientists)
- Long OA tradition (arXiv)
- Few HEP (High Energy Physics) journals (10)

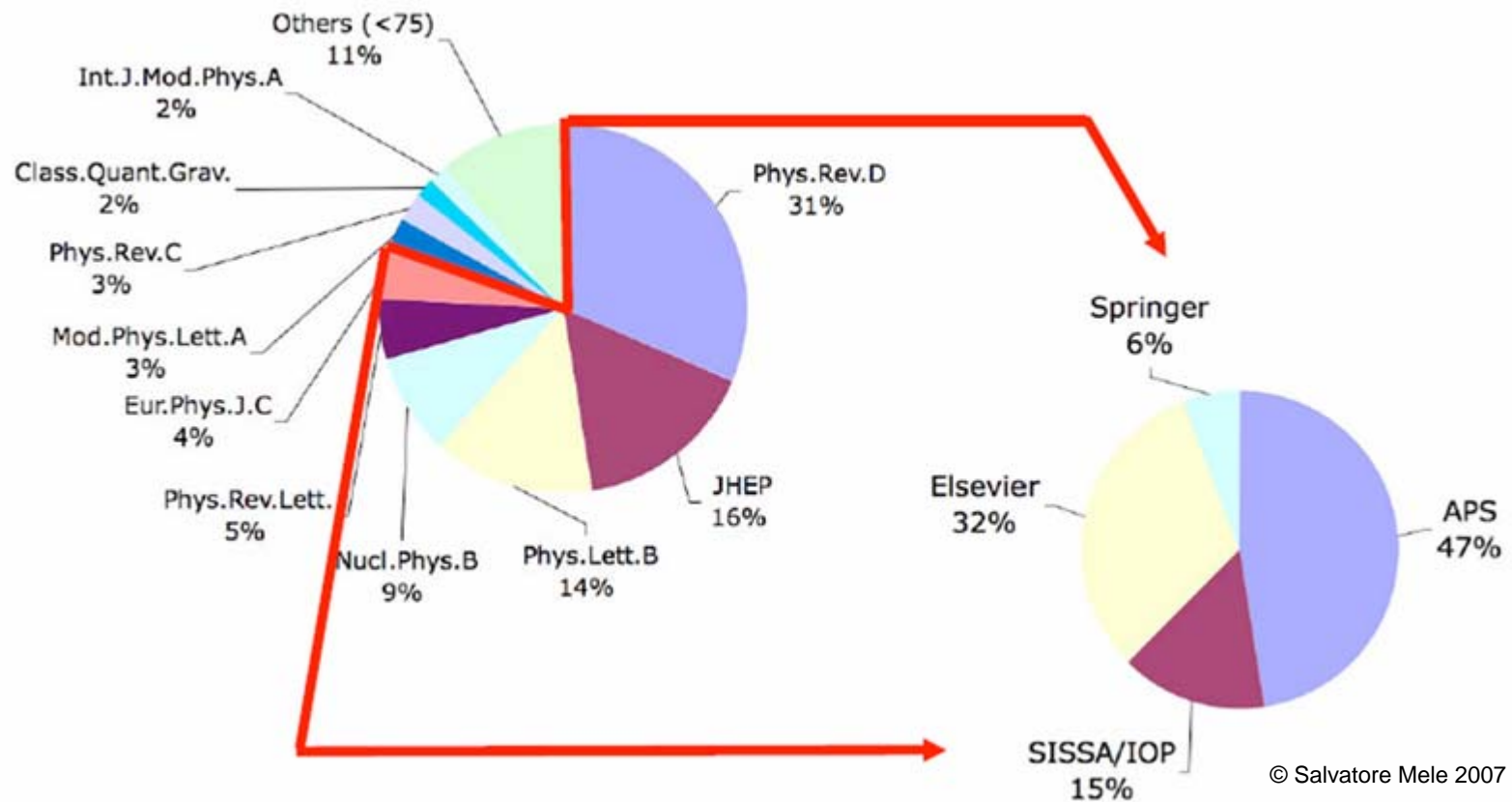
→ ~100 % Green OA without mandate



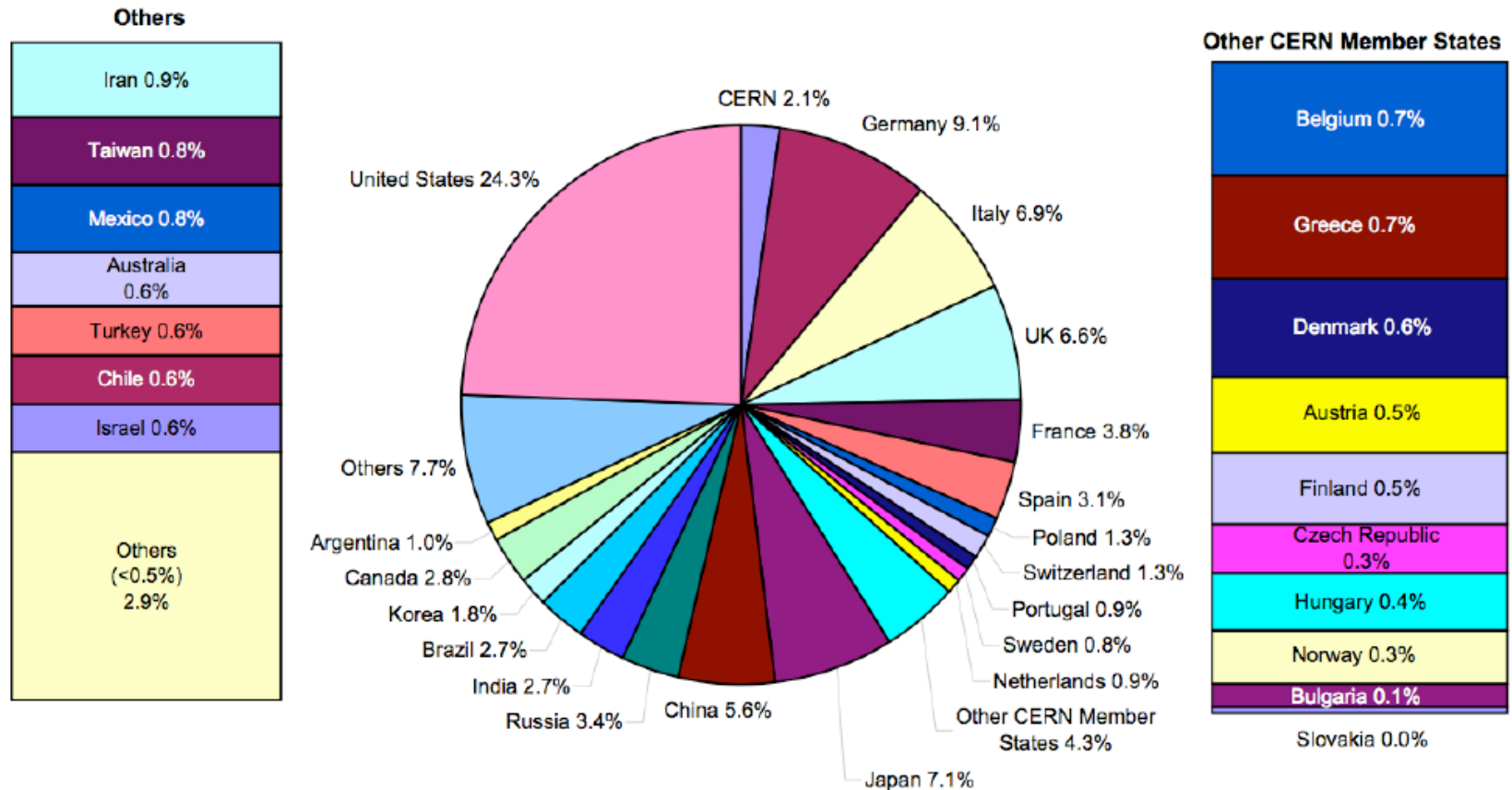
Golden Road – SCOAP³: Goals

- 100% OA of all HEP articles
 - Preserve quality standards (peer-review)
 - 5 „core“ and 1 „broadband“ journals (sponsoring model, hybrid model)
 - Re-direct money spent on subscription to SCOAP³
 - Long-term archiving of HEP publications
 - Inclusion of research institutions in developing countries
- ➔ approx. 10 Mio € as a budget envelope

Golden Road - SCOAP³: Potential Partners



Golden Road - SCOAP³: Cost Sharing



Cern Scientific Information Service

All of PRD, PLB, NPB, EPJC, JHEP. Only HEP fraction of PRL(11%) and NIM(23%)
Co-authorship is taken into account on a *pro-rata* basis
by assigning articles to countries according to their number of authors.

Golden Road - SCOAP³: Next steps

- Solicit and collect expressions of interest of potential funding partners
 - Germany was first respondent
 - Funding partners identify country-by-country schemes to re-direct journal subscriptions to SCOAP³
 - Once funding partners commit to sizeable fraction of budget send a tender to publishers and
 - determine final budget;
 - enlist remaining partners.
 - Formal agreement to establish SCOAP³
- ➔ Goal: have SCOAP³ operational for the first LHC articles!