

October 22-28, 2012, Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Bangalore

Open Access (OA) literature is digital, online, free of charge, and free of most copyright and licensing restrictions. What makes it possible is the internet and the consent of the author or copyright-holder

Primary vehicles for delivering OA to research articles

OA journals ("gold OA"):

OA journals conduct peer review.

OA journals find it easier than non-OA journals to let authors retain copyright.

Some OA journal publishers are non-profit and some are for-profit

A growing number of universities maintain funds to pay publication fees on behalf of faculty who choose to publish in fee-based OA journals (Author-pays model)

Some OA proponents use a color code to classify journals: gold (provides OA to its peer-reviewed research articles, without delay), green (permits authors to deposit their peer-reviewed manuscripts in OA repositories), pale green (permits, i.e. doesn't oppose, preprint archiving by authors), gray (none of the above)

Examples:

- Advances in Astronomy (Gold)**
- Astronomy & Astrophysics (Green)**
- Astrophysical Journal (Pale Green)**
- The Journal of Physical Chemistry A (Gray)**

OA repositories ("green OA"):

OA repositories can be organized by discipline (e.g. arXiv for physics) or institution (e.g. DASH for Harvard, Prints for IIAP). When universities host OA repositories, they usually take steps to ensure long-term preservation in addition to OA.

OA repositories do not perform peer review themselves. However, they generally host articles peer-reviewed elsewhere.

OA repositories can contain preprints, postprints, or both

OA repositories can include preprints and postprints of journal articles, theses and dissertations, course materials, departmental databases, data files, audio and video files, institutional records, or digitized special collections from the library which include Historical contents.

OA repositories provide OA by default to all their contents. Most of the repositories allow "dark deposits" which can be made OA at any later date. This is useful in working with publishers who permit green OA only after an embargo period. Authors may deposit new articles immediately upon publication and switch them to OA when the embargo period expires.

IIAP Publications

