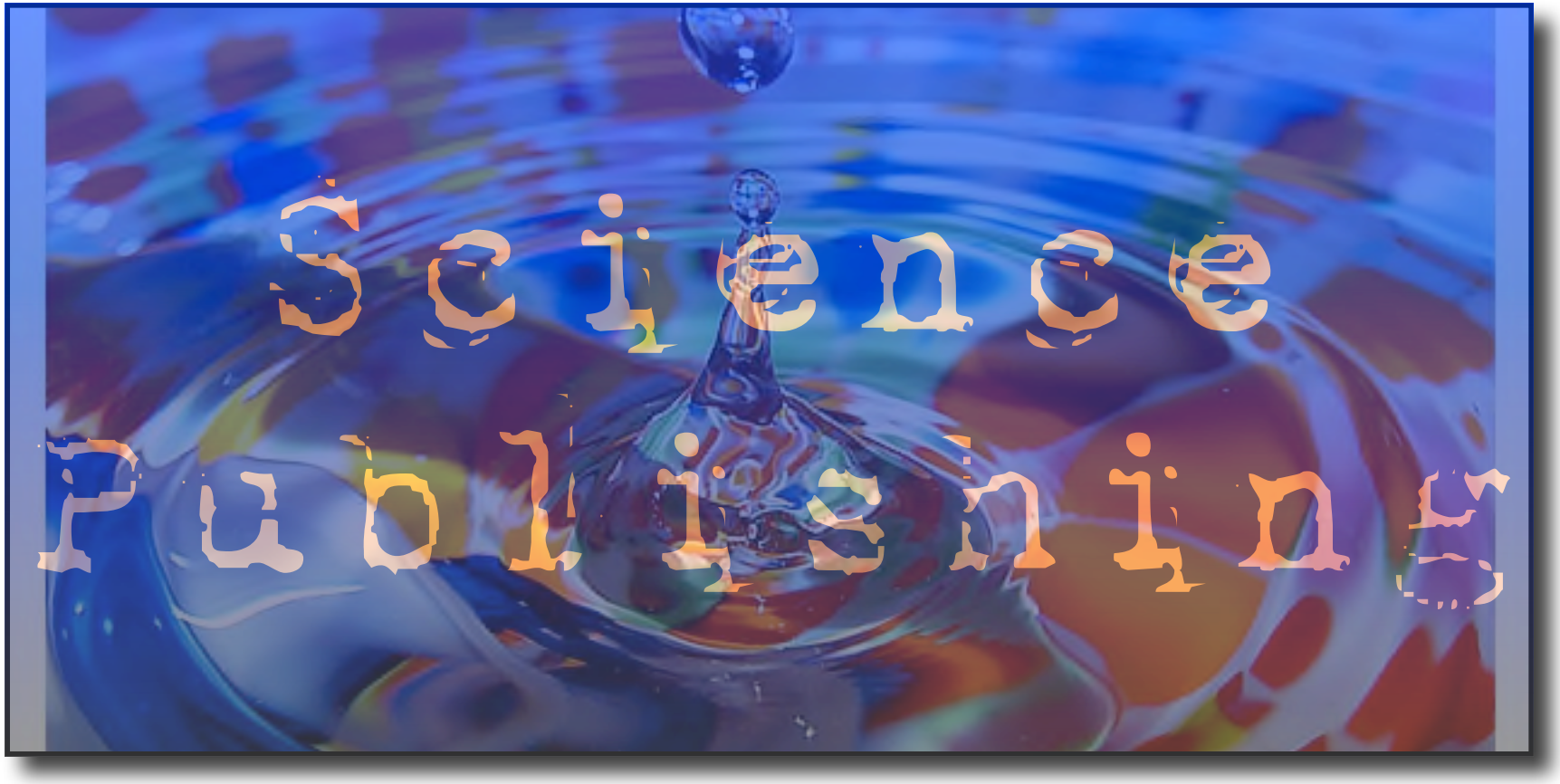
Open Access: Dogma and Pragma

Jan Velterop, Springer

Tokyo – December, 2006


Science
Publishing

ЦИТОЛОГИЯ И ГЕНЕТИКА
Международный научный журнал
CYTOLOGY AND
JOSHUA
Journal Of Science & Health at The University of Alabama
Lymphatic Research and Biology
ORNIS HUNGARICA
Vol. 10 No. 1-2
2000
Proceedings of the 5th Scientific Meeting of the BirdLife Hungary
Budapest, 1999
Journal of Insurance Medicine
Papageienkunde
Parrot Biology
SOFTWARE
PRACTICE & EXPERIENCE
InterScience
CHEMISTRY OF MATERIALS
Malaysian Journal of
SOIL SCIENCE
TRAKIA JOURNAL OF SCIENCES
Scientific Serial
Published by Trakia University
Series Biomedical Sciences
HUMAN MOVEMENT
HELMINTHOLOGI
OF STOMATOLOGY
TOBACCO INDUCED DISEASES
ЖУРНАЛ ПРИКЛАДНОЙ СПЕКТРОСКОПИИ
3
МАЙ-ИЮНЬ
1998
PSYCHOLOGY OF WOMEN QUARTERLY

No two journals have the same:

goals

motives

procedures

acceptance criteria

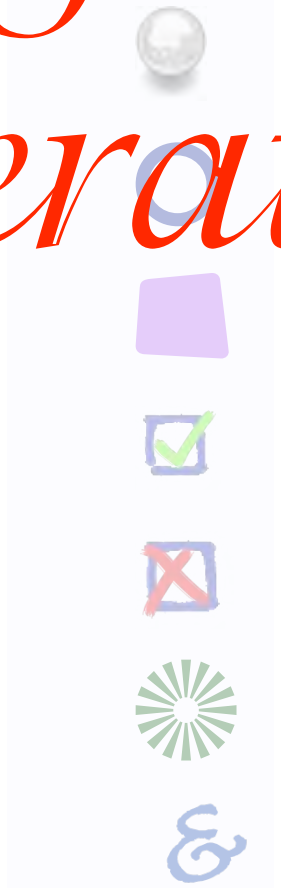
rejection criteria

ethics

et cetera

No two journals have the same:

Organise literature



‘Pecking’ order

No two journals have the same:

- goals
- motives
- procedures
- acceptance criteria
- rejection criteria
- ethics
- & et cetera

academic environment

Dogma

What dogma?

- Definition of OA
- OA only vs. hybrid journals
- OA publishing vs. self-archiving
- Institutional vs. central repositories
  - Repositories of Institutional Publications (RIP)

What dogma

- Definition of OA
- OA only vs. hybrid journals
- OA publishing vs. self-archiving
- Institutional vs. central repositories
  - ✤ Repositories of Institutional Publications (RIP)
- Value of publishing lies in the content
  - content? – the subscription model implies selling content
  - service: adding to the formal peer-reviewed literature

What dogma

- Definition of OA
- OA only vs. hybrid journals
- OA publishing vs. self-archiving
- Institutional vs. central repositories
  - Repositories of Institutional Publications (RIP)
- Value of publishing lies in the content
- OA necessary for *all* scientific literature
- OA undermines publishers' and societies' rights

Very good at

- Dogma
- Complicating
- Possessiveness

Very bad at

- Pragmatism
- Simplifying
- Sharing

Free-rider-ship?

- ***NOT*** a problem in open access
- OA means free-rider-ship for ***everyone***

Just imagine an advertiser complaining that he has to pay for an advertisement: "I'm only letting people know how good my wares are! I'm ***giving*** them information! Out of the goodness of my heart! All to ***their*** benefit! ***They*** will be free-riders if ***I*** pay for the advertisement!"

Problems

Conflation of ***cost reduction*** and ***open access***

Cheaper is one of the worst enemies of ***better***

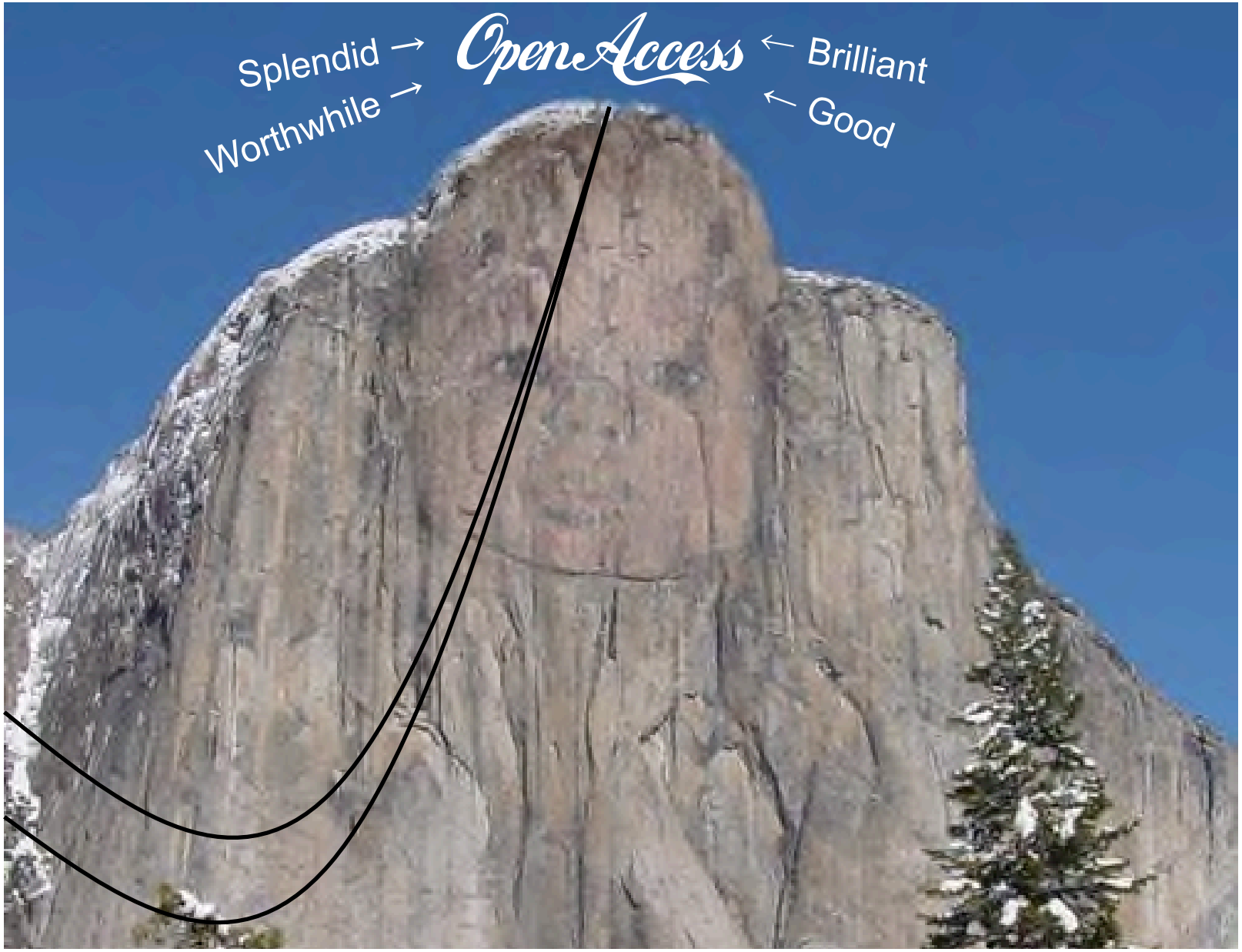
Confusion of ***perfection*** and ***improvement***

Better is one of the worst enemies of ***good***

Result: very little, very late, very slow

Ideology
Success

Consensus


Splendid
Worthwhile
Open Access
Brilliant
Good

‘Monsters’ on the tightrope to OA

- ‘Authors work hard on their papers, then *give them away* to the publishers, and now they have to pay for that?!’
- ‘Out of his *own pocket*!’
- ‘Our institute will have to pay *twice* (three times, four times, etc) as much if we were to publish all our papers in OA’
- ‘OA repositories are the *obvious* answer: they allow you to have your cake and eat it’
- ‘OA journals are for *lower quality* only; look at their Impact Factors’
- ‘OA is *not suitable* for all disciplines’

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Nonsense!

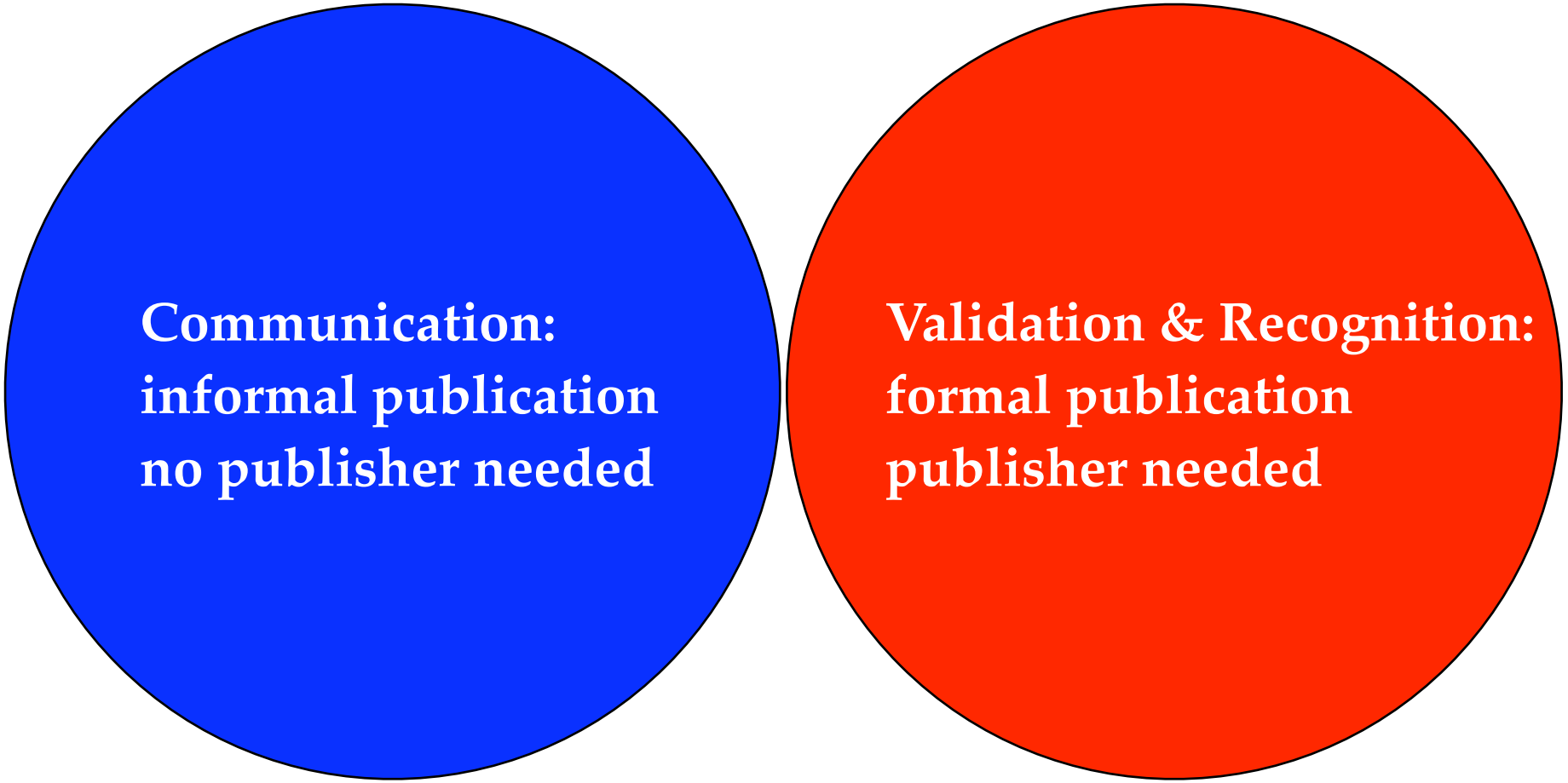
No issues?

- Anonymous peer-review
- Author-side payment
- Pay and be published vs. pay and read
- Redistribution of costs
  - Policies of envy – the "You first, sir" effect
- Using a journal('s imprimatur) without paying for the work done
- Conflict between notions of 'mandate' and 'open'
  - Similar to "we won't tolerate intolerance"?
- Quality ☜☞ usage/cites
- Noösphere

Pragma

Pragma

- Transition
  - Hybrid
    - Open Choice – publisher gives the option; the author makes the choice to have OA
  - Self-archiving
- Sustainability
  - Publishing = part of research
    - *Cost of* publishing = part of *cost of* research
    - Funding flow



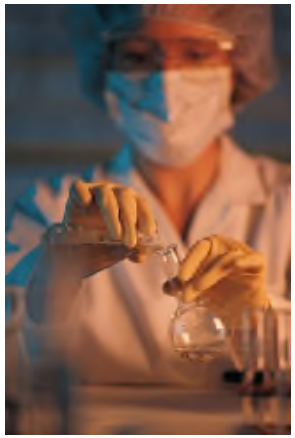
Problem: crackpots
& freedom of speech

Result: rubbish
on the web

Organising the whole process of formal publishing: needs a ‘publisher’

reader needs: reliability
author needs: recognition
funder needs: keeping the record, the ‘minutes’ of science

Funders



Article

Abstract

Covalent modifications of histones index structurally and functionally distinct chromatin domains in eukaryotic nuclei. Drosophila with its polytene chromosomes and developed genetics allows detailed cytological as well as functional analysis of epigenetic histone modifications involved in the control of gene expression pattern during development. All H3K9 mono- and dimethylation together with all H3K27 methylation states

Open Choice

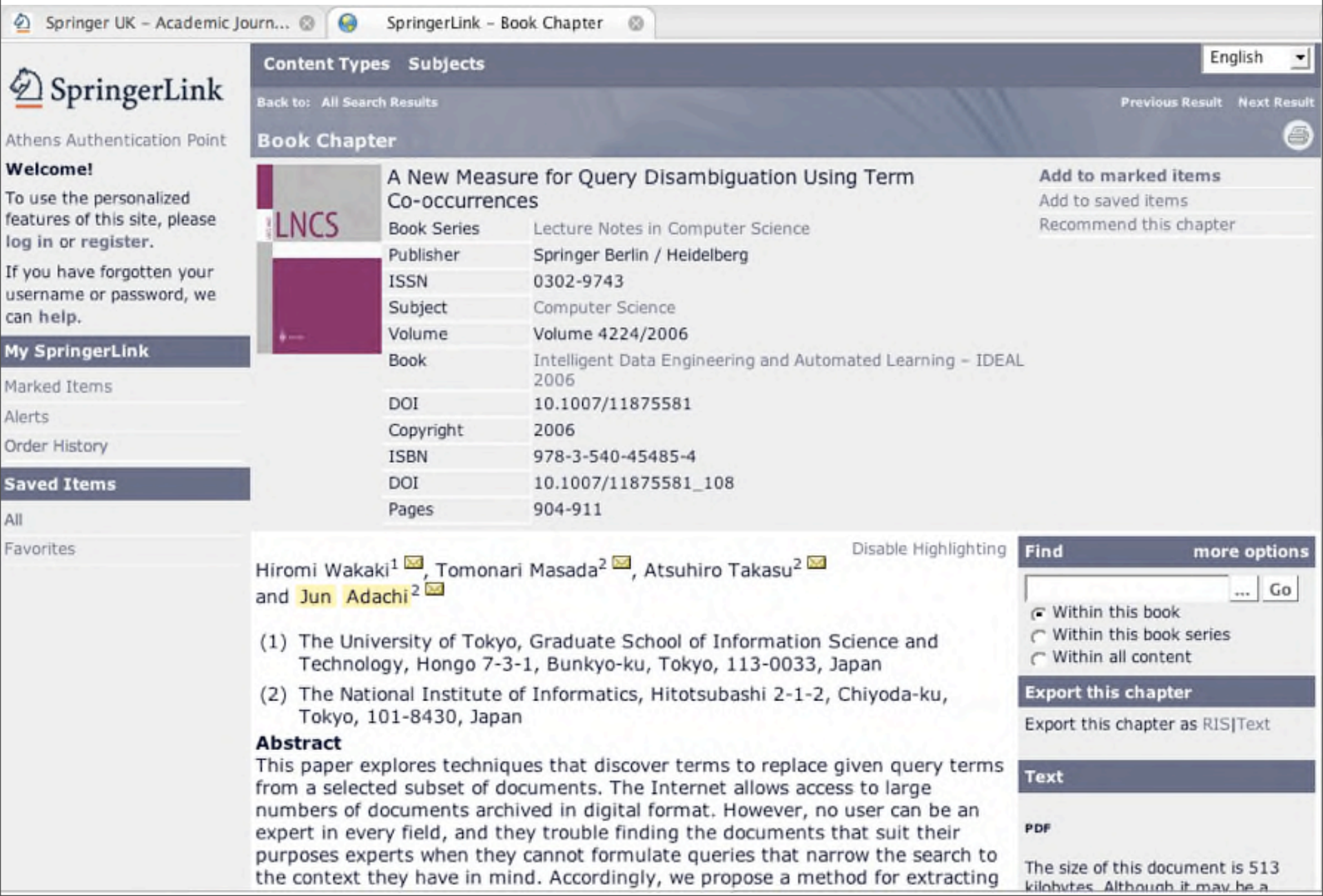
Funders

Open Access

Is Open Access enough?

- I may have open access, but what if the article is in a language I don't understand?
  - *Springer offers a multiple language abstract option, in order to enhance the article's find-ability, particularly in the author's own language*
- I may have open access, but what if I can't find what I want because I can't think of the right keywords, which is made worse by the fact that there are so many synonyms and homonyms
  - *Springer is starting to implement semantic tagging and disambiguation (of keywords, references, et cetera)*

We hope to learn from work like this:



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Content Types Subjects English

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Book Chapter

LNCS

A New Measure for Query Disambiguation Using Term Co-occurrences

Book Series	Lecture Notes in Computer Science
Publisher	Springer Berlin / Heidelberg
ISSN	0302-9743
Subject	Computer Science
Volume	Volume 4224/2006
Book	Intelligent Data Engineering and Automated Learning – IDEAL 2006
DOI	10.1007/11875581
Copyright	2006
ISBN	978-3-540-45485-4
DOI	10.1007/11875581_108
Pages	904-911

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(2) The National Institute of Informatics, Hitotsubashi 2-1-2, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, 101-8430, Japan

Abstract

This paper explores techniques that discover terms to replace given query terms from a selected subset of documents. The Internet allows access to large numbers of documents archived in digital format. However, no user can be an expert in every field, and they trouble finding the documents that suit their purposes experts when they cannot formulate queries that narrow the search to the context they have in mind. Accordingly, we propose a method for extracting

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The size of this document is 513 kilobytes. Although it may be a

Is Open Access enough?

- I may have open access, but what if the article is in a language I don't understand?
  - *Springer offers a multiple language abstract option, in order to enhance the article's find-ability, particularly in the author's own language*
- I may have open access, but what if I can't find what I want because I can't think of the right keywords, which is made worse by the fact that there are so many synonyms and homonyms
  - *Springer is starting to implement semantic tagging and disambiguation (of keywords, references, et cetera)*
- The article may be published with open access, but can I re-use it?
  - *Springer Open Choice articles can be re-used for any purpose as long as the author(s) and journal are properly acknowledged*

Food for thought

- 'Impact: Academic publishing is like tossing rose petals into the Grand Canyon and then waiting to hear the echo'

  (David Cohen in The Guardian, August 22, 2006)

- 'Copyright: Virtually irrelevant in scientific research since the system is built upon a form of organised plagiarism, a.k.a. ***Standing on the Shoulders of Giants***'

- 'Peer review: a test which, if passed, merely indicates acceptance that the article is scientifically sound in the eyes of peers – not that it is scientific truth – it is in the **nature** of **science** that today's conventional truths are often overturned tomorrow'

- '(Self)promotion: Articles are not unlike advertisements, in which the researcher is promoting his scientific prowess in the academic ego-system, in order to improve future career and funding prospects'

Thank you

ご清聴ありがとうございました！

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