



Polo bibliotecario di Scienze, Farmacologia e Scienze Farmaceutiche

Scuola di Dottorato di Ricerca in Bioscienze e Biotecnologie



# Resources and Tools for Bibliographic Research

## Scientific Communication

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## Definition

**Scientific communication** is the process of publication and dissemination of research findings.

These results take the form of intellectual production: preprints, journal articles, monographs, theses, technical reports, patents, conference proceedings, ...

Often these intellectual products become published articles in journals for the scientific community.



## Types of journal articles published in scientific journals:

There are several types of journal articles; the exact terminology and definitions vary by field and specific journal, but the most used are:

**PAPER** or **ARTICLE** = complete description of current original research findings, with clearly defined structure. They are usually between five and twenty pages. Scientific articles published in scientific journals are primary sources.

**LETTER** or **COMMUNICATION** = short description of important current research findings that are usually fast-tracked for immediate publication because they are considered urgent, usually without experimental data. It 's a preliminary document in which the author communicates to the scientific community what is working on. It may be followed by paper in which the research is further developed.



## Types of journal articles published in scientific journals:

**RESEARCH NOTE** = short descriptions of current research findings that are considered less urgent or important than *Letters* (or *Communications*)

**REVIEW** = a review is a body of text that aims to review the critical points of current knowledge and or methodological approaches on a particular topic.

It provides an overview and critical analysis of relevant published scholarly articles, research reports, books, theses etc. on the topic or issue to be investigated. Reviews are secondary sources; they do not report any new or original experimental work.



## Scientific Journals: definition and brief history

**Journal** or **serial** = publication that appears in intervals of time longer than 24 hours.

**Scientific journals** =

- ✓ addressed to the scientific community (expert audience)
- ✓ selected contents
- ✓ referee system



## Scientific Journals: definition and brief history

**Science magazines** (such as New Scientist, La Recherche, Scientific American) =

- ✓ non-expert audience
- ✓ dissemination of scientific knowledge to the general public
- ✓ referee system not present



## Scientific Journals: definition and brief history

The history of scientific journals dates from 1665:

- Journal des Sçavans (Paris, 1665)
- Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London (London, 1665, still active) = the first journal in the world exclusively devoted to science

In Italy:


- Atti dell'Accademia del Cimento (Firenze, 1667)
- Giornale de' Letterati (Roma, 1668)





## Scientific Journals: STM (Scientific, Technical, and Medical) Journals

In Human and Social Sciences the monograph is often the highlight of a researcher's career and is the preferential means of scientific communication.

Instead, in STM field it is imperative to publish research as soon as possible, so journals are the main way to quickly disseminate information  strong impact on the market of scientific communication.



## Scientific Journals: STM (Scientific, Technical, and Medical) Journals

### Effects:

- huge increase of published titles
- concept of “core journals”
- oligopoly of commercial publishers
- regular increase in the price of scientific journals higher than the average inflation



## Traditional process of publishing a scientific paper

- Submitting manuscripts
- Assignment of peer reviewers
- Peer review process and editing of the original submission in line with the reviewers' comments
- Production process



## Scientific writing

The **publication** of the results of research is an **essential part of the scientific method**. If they are describing experiments or calculations, they must supply enough details that an independent researcher could repeat the experiment or calculation to verify the results.

Scientific communication is based on a formal and rigorous structure.



## Scientific writing

We can distinguish four basic sections – *Introduction, Materials and methods, Results, Discussion (IMRaD)* – and other textual elements.

This structure is a guide both for authors and readers.



## Scientific writing: structure of a scientific paper

- Title and Author/Authors
- Abstract
- Keywords
- INTRODUCTION
- MATERIALS AND METHODS
- RESULTS
- DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS
- References or Literature Cited

The real article





## Peer review

Peer = someone of equal standing with another

Review = critical inspection or examination

Scholarly peer review (also known as **refereeing**) is the process of subjecting an author's work or research to the scrutiny of others who are experts in the same field, before a paper describing this work is published in a journal.



## Peer review

This process encourages authors to meet the accepted standards of their discipline and prevents the dissemination of irrelevant findings.

Reviewers are typically anonymous and independent, to help foster criticism and to discourage cronyism in funding and publication decisions.

Anonymity may be unilateral or reciprocal (single- or double-blinded reviewing).





## Peer review

Referees' evaluations usually include an explicit recommendation of what to do with the manuscript or proposal:

- ✓ to unconditionally accept the manuscript or proposal
- ✓ to accept it in the event that its authors improve it in certain ways
- ✓ to reject it, but encourage revision and invite resubmission
- ✓ to reject it outright



## Intellectual property in scientific communication

### Intellectual property:

- Industrial property (patents, trade marks, designs)
- Copyrights
  - Economic rights allow the rights owner to derive financial reward from the use of his works by others
  - Moral rights allow the author to take certain actions to preserve the personal link between himself and the work

### Who retains these rights:

- authors
- publishers (when author transfers them to a third party)



## Intellectual property in scientific communication

When a paper is accepted for publication, usually the author signs over copyright to the publisher of the journal in which his/her article appears (moral rights, being personal to the author, can never be transferred).

But the author must be the owner of the copyright if he/she wants reuse his/her works after publication.

**WHAT ALTERNATIVES ?**



## New models of publishing: Open access

### Budapest Open Access Initiative (2002):

By "open access" to this literature, we mean its free availability on the public internet, permitting any users to read, download, copy, distribute, print, search, or link to the full texts of these articles, crawl them for indexing, pass them as data to software, or use them for any other lawful purpose, without financial, legal, or technical barriers other than those inseparable from gaining access to the internet itself.



## New models of publishing: Open access

Some initiatives developed to support new publishing models characterized by a shared free dissemination of scientific knowledge:

- *Gold road* = sustainable electronic publishing initiatives (e.g. BioMed Central)
- *Green road* = self-archiving, authors can deposit their papers in open archives (e.g. <<http://arxiv.org/>> and <[Padua@research](mailto:Padua@research)>)



## New models of publishing: Open access

Open access is a property of individual works, not necessarily journals or publishers (PLoS Public Library of Science).

An Open Access Publication is one that meets the following condition:

The author(s) and copyright holder(s) grant(s) to all users a free, irrevocable, worldwide, perpetual right of access to, and a license to copy, use, distribute, transmit and display the work publicly and to make and distribute derivative works, in any digital medium for any responsible purpose, subject to proper attribution of authorship, as well as the right to make small numbers of printed copies for their personal use.



## New models of publishing: Open Access Journals

**Open Access Journal model:** also known as "author-pays" or "paid on behalf of the author", where a publication charge is paid by the author, his/her university, or the agency which provides his/her research grant. The online distribution of individual articles and academic journals then takes place without charge to readers and libraries.



## New models of publishing: Open Access Journals

### Features:

- Free access to all articles published
- Storage of items in an open archive
- Visibility
- The author retains his/her copyright
- Lower costs for libraries and institutions
- Fast
  - publication
  - indexing in databases





# New models of publishing: Open Access Journals

## BioMed Central

[www.biomedcentral.com/home/](http://www.biomedcentral.com/home/)

The screenshot shows the BioMed Central website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, Journals, Articles, Gateways, About BioMed Central, and My BioMed Central. A search bar is located on the right side of the navigation bar. Below the navigation bar, there is a section titled 'Journals A-Z' with a sub-tab 'Browse by subject'. The main content area displays a list of journals under the 'Biotechnology' category, which is currently expanded. The list includes titles such as 'Agriculture & Food Security', 'AMB Express', 'Biological Procedures Online', 'Biotechnology for Biofuels', 'BMC Biotechnology', 'Chemistry Central Journal', 'Environmental Sciences Europe', 'EPMA Journal', 'Genetic Vaccines and Therapy', 'Journal of Animal Science and Biotechnology', 'Journal of Biological Engineering', 'Journal of Nanobiotechnology', 'Microbial Cell Factories', 'Silence', and 'Skeletal Muscle'. Other categories like 'Anesthesiology', 'Biochemistry', and 'Bioinformatics' are also visible but collapsed.



## New models of publishing: Open Access Archives and Repositories

Open-access *archives* and *repositories* make their contents freely available to the world.

They may contain unrefereed preprints, refereed postprints, or both.

OA repositories can be organized by

- discipline
- institution

When universities host OA repositories, they usually take steps to ensure long-term preservation in addition to OA.



# New models of publishing: Open Access Archives and Repositories

Disciplinary archives:

- PubMed Central
- The International Nucleotide Sequence Database Collaboration (INSDC)



NCBI Resources How To Sign in to NCBI

PMC US National Library of Medicine National Institutes of Health

PMC

PMC is a free full-text archive of biomedical and life sciences journals from the National Library of Medicine (NIH/NLM).

**Get Started**

- [PMC Overview](#)
- [Users' Guide](#)
- [Journal List](#)
- [PMC FAQs](#)
- [PMC Copyright Notice](#)

**Participate**

- [Add a Journal to PMC](#)
- [Participation Agreements](#)
- [File Submission Specifications](#)
- [File Validation Tools](#)

**Other Resources**

- [PMC International](#)
- [Open Access Subset](#)
- [E-utilities](#)
- [NLM LitArch](#)
- [PMC Citation Search](#)

**2.5 MILLION Articles**  
are archived in PMC.

Content provided in part by:

<b>1159</b> <i>Full Participation Journals</i>	<b>240</b> <i>NIH Portfolio Journals</i>	<b>1843</b> <i>Selective Deposit Journals</i>
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Contact

EBI > Databases > EMBL-Bank > Contact > Collaboration

### EMBL Nucleotide Sequence Database Collaboration

**The International Nucleotide Sequence Database Collaboration (INSDC)**

The INSDC consists of DDBJ (Japan), GenBank (USA) and the EMBL Nucleotide Sequence Database. The three databases exchange new and updated data on a daily basis to achieve optimal synchronisation.

DDBJ/EMBL/GenBank adhere to documented guidelines:

- The DDBJ/EMBL/GenBank [Feature Table Definition](#) regulating the content and syntax of the database entries.
- A set of [database policies](#) issued and published by the Int. [Advisors](#) to DDBJ/EMBL/GenBank.

This strong and successful collaboration is based on daily interactions between database staff as well as working meetings amongst the databases.

**Dataflow**

```
graph TD; NCBI[NCBI Genbank] <--> DDBJ[DDBJ DNA Databank of Japan]; DDBJ <--> EBI[EBI EMBL Nucleotide Sequence Database]; NCBI <--> EBI;
```

INSDC

**DNA Data Bank of Japan (DDBJ), Mishima, Japan**

- [Home page](#)
- [Sequence retrieval](#)
- [DNA sequence Submissions](#)

**EMBL Nucleotide Sequence Database (EBI), Hinxton, UK**

- [Home page](#)
- [Sequence retrieval](#)
- [DNA sequence Submissions](#)

**GenBank(NCBI), Bethesda, MD, USA**

- [Home page](#)
- [Sequence retrieval](#)
- [DNA sequence Submissions](#)



## New models of publishing: Open Access Archives and Repositories

Institutional archives:

**Padua@Research** is the institutional repository for the storage of research papers written at the University of Padova.

PhD Thesis are deposited in **Padua@Research**.



# PaDUA

@research

Accedi | Crea un account

Padova Digital University Archive

home info help contatti

Cerca  >>

**Ricerca:**  
> semplice  
> avanzata  
> solo record con full text

**Scorri le liste**  
Autore  
Anno  
Argomento  
Strutture  
Dottorato

**Statistiche**  
Statistiche  
Ultimi inserimenti

**Deposito**  
Registrati!  
Area utenti  
Deposito  
Copyright

**Link**  
Padua@thesis

## Benvenuti in Padua@research

Padua@research è l'archivio istituzionale per il deposito dei lavori di ricerca dell'Università degli studi di Padova. L'archivio ospita documenti in formato elettronico derivanti dall'attività scientifica di docenti, ricercatori e collaboratori dell'Ateneo. Vengono depositate in Padua@research anche le tesi di dottorato.

Il deposito, la modifica e l'accesso ai documenti avvengono in maniera semplice e diretta.

La procedura di [autoarchiviazione](#) rende visibile via web il testo completo dei documenti depositati. [\[Continua...\]](#)

### Cosa vuoi fare?

- [Cercare un documento](#)
- [Registrarmi](#)
- [Depositare un documento / Accedere alla mia area](#)
- [Depositare una tesi di dottorato](#)
- [Saperne di più](#)

Padua@Research supports [OAI 2.0](#) with a base URL of <http://paduaresearch.cab.unipd.it/cgi/oai2>



# New models of publishing: Open Access Archives and Repositories

[http://www.open\\_doar.org/](http://www.open_doar.org/)

## OpenDOAR

Directory of Open Access Repositories  
[Home](#) | [Find](#) | [Suggest](#) | [Tools](#) | [FAQ](#) | [About](#) | [Contact Us](#)

### The Directory of Open Access Repositories - OpenDOAR

[Search for repositories](#) | [Search repository contents](#) | [List of repositories](#) | [Repository Statistics](#)

OpenDOAR is an authoritative directory of academic open access repositories. Each OpenDOAR repository has been visited by project staff to check the information that is recorded here. This in-depth approach does not rely on automated analysis and gives a [quality-controlled](#) list of repositories.

As well as providing a simple [repository list](#), OpenDOAR lets you [search for repositories](#) or [search repository contents](#). Additionally, we provide tools and support to both repository administrators and service providers in sharing best practice and improving the quality of the repository infrastructure. Further explanation of these features is given in a project document [Beyond the list](#).

The current directory lists repositories and allows breakdown and selection by a variety of criteria - see the [Find](#) page - which can also be viewed as [statistical charts](#). The underlying database has been designed from the ground up to include in-depth information on each repository that can be used for search, analysis, or underpinning services like text-mining. The OpenDOAR service is being developed incrementally, developing the current service as new features are introduced. A list of [Upgrades and Additions](#) is available.

Developments will be of use both to users wishing to find original research papers and for service providers like search engines or alert services which need easy-to-use tools for developing tailored search services to suit specific user communities.

[OpenDOAR](#) is one of the SHERPA Services including [RoMEO](#) and [JULIET](#), run by the [Centre for Research Communications](#) (CRC). Current development work is [currently funded](#) by [JISC](#), with contributions from the CRC host organisation, the [University of Nottingham](#).

[OpenDOAR](#) has also been identified as a key resource for the Open Access community ([K.B. Oliver & R. Swain, 2006](#) - PDF) and identified as [the leader in repository directories](#) in a study by [Johns Hopkins University](#). OpenDOAR was one of the services which contributed to [SHERPA](#) being awarded the [2007 SPARC Europe Award for Outstanding Achievements in Scholarly Communications](#).

More information on the project is available on this site through the [About](#) page.

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**OpenDOAR has over 2000 listings!**

Growth of the OpenDOAR Database - Worldwide

Growth of the OpenDOAR Database

Proportion of Repositories by Continent - Worldwide

Repositories by Continent



## What can be done?

- check the publishers' policies: **Sherpa/RoMEO**

<http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/>

- use the "Addendum" to Publication Agreement

<http://www.arl.org/sparc/author/addendum.shtml>





# SHERPA RoMEO

... opening access to research

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Use this site to find a summary of permissions that are normally given as part of each publisher's copyright transfer agreement.

## Search

Search  **Journal titles or ISSNs**  **Publisher names**

for

find  **contains**  **starts with**  **Exact phrase only**  **ISSN**

Show open access mandate compliance in results for:

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- [SHERPA/RoMEO announces its 900th Publisher](#) - 21-January-2011
- [New SHERPA/RoMEO Journals Database](#) - 29-October-2010
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## Recently Added Publishers

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- [American School of Classical Studies at Athens](#) - 16-May-2011
- [Museu de Ciències Naturals de Barcelona \(Museum of Natural Sciences of Barcelona\)](#) - 13-May-2011
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[http://paduaresearch.cab.unipd.it/docs/SPARC\\_AUTHORRIGHTS2007-it.pdf](http://paduaresearch.cab.unipd.it/docs/SPARC_AUTHORRIGHTS2007-it.pdf)

## ADDENDUM PER L' AUTORE AL CONTRATTO EDITORIALE di PUBBLICAZIONE

<http://paduaresearch.cab.unipd.it/docs/SPARC%20AUTHOR%20ADDENDUM%20traduzione.pdf>



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