

05/05/2017

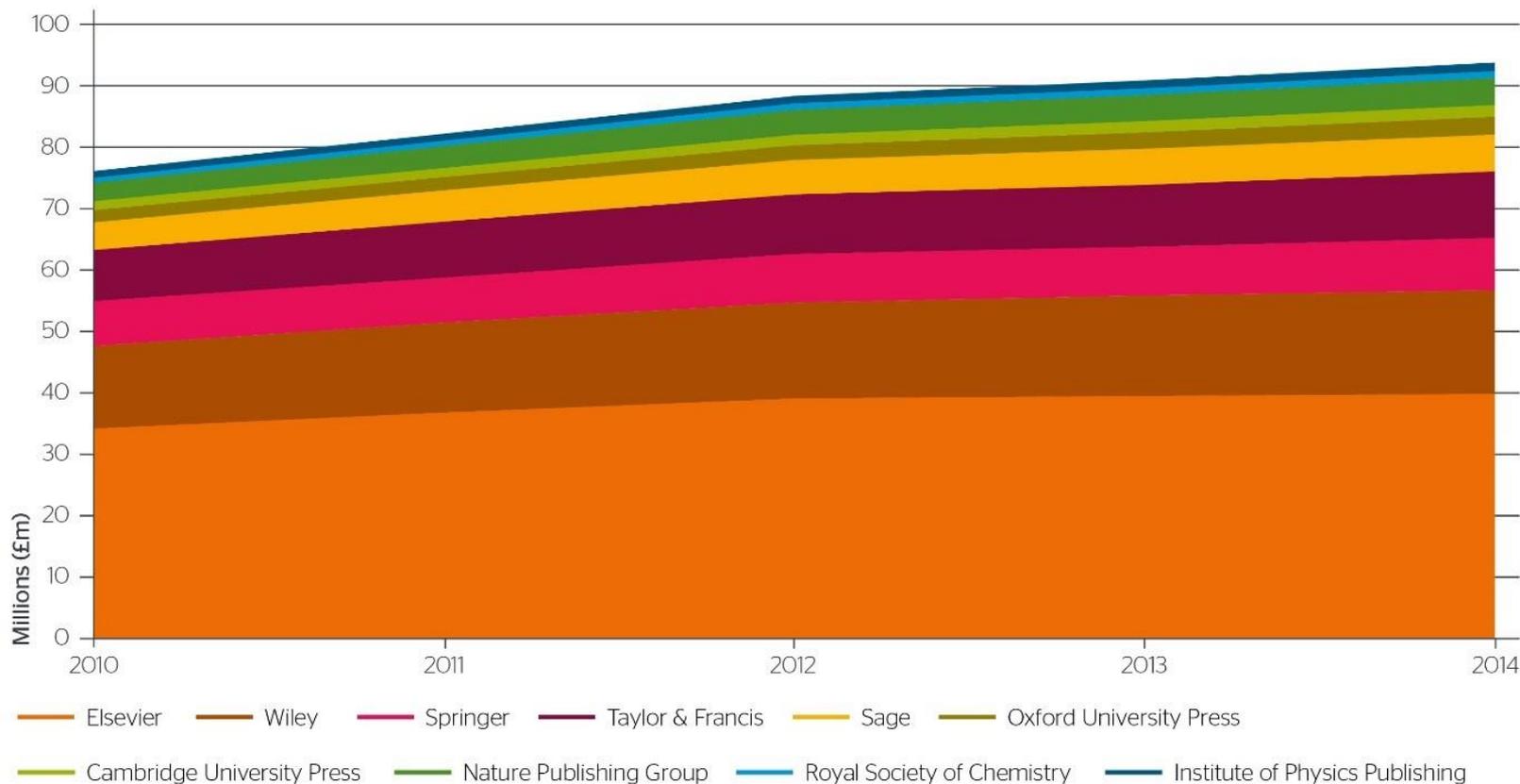
Big deals and the transition to OA?

Liam Earney

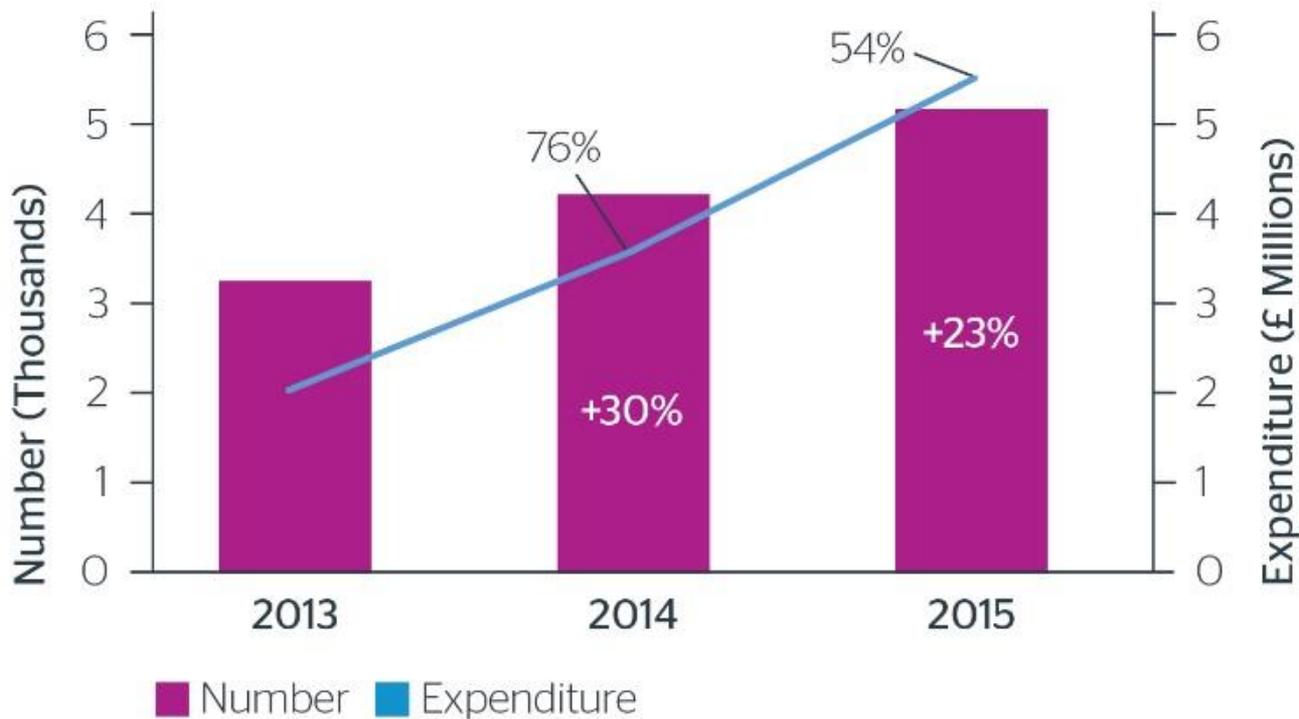
- » De Gruyter
- » Georg Thieme Verlag
- » IOP (Institute of Physics) Publishing
- » Royal Society of Chemistry
- » SAGE Publishing (including the Royal Society of Medicine and the Institution of Mechanical Engineers)
- » Springer
- » Taylor & Francis
- » Wiley

Reasons to be sceptical

Lessons from current efforts



- » Emphasise the association of gold OA with the payment of APCs
- » APCs tend to cost more than APCs in pure gold journals
- » Higher cost of administration compared with pure gold and green OA
- » Does one get what one has paid for?
- » Ensuring that there has been no double-dipping
- » Reinforces the status quo



"Article processing charges (APCs) and subscriptions - Monitoring open access costs" May 2016
Katie Shamash

<https://www.jisc.ac.uk/reports/apcs-and-subscriptions>

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Transparency

‘Whereas every deal brings with it a triumphant set of press releases, public details on the financial mechanics of these deals are non-existent.’

Crotty, D (2016). What Should We Make of Secret Open Access Deals?. Feb 16 2016 Scholarly Kitchen
Blog: <https://scholarlykitchen.sspnet.org/2016/02/16/what-should-we-make-of-secret-open-access-deals/>

'confusion across the sector, leading some institutions to ignore the deals altogether and others to become increasingly frustrated with the management of the schemes'

Manista, F (2016). Jisc Off-Setting Workshops: Helping Universities Get the Most from the Deals. August 5 2016 Jisc Scholarly Communications blog: <https://scholarlycommunications.jiscinvolve.org/wp/2016/08/05/jisc-off-setting-workshops-helping-universities-get-the-most-from-the-deals/>

‘There have been difficulties in collecting data which has meant that we have been more reliant on opinion than perhaps we might have liked to at the outset of the review.’

Professor Sir Robert Burgess

Burgess, R (2015). Review of the implementation of the RCUK Policy on Open Access. Swindon: Research Councils UK. <http://www.rcuk.ac.uk/documents/documents/openaccessreport-pdf/>

Cost allocation

- » Assumes validity of status quo
 - › Concentration on e-journals
 - › Concentration on relatively small number of publishers
 - › Concentration on subscriptions
- » Allocation of costs between institutions
 - › Historical Print Spend
 - › Payment for Subscriptions vs Research output
 - › Moving from national to international allocation

Recognising diversity

» Institutions

- › Assumes institutions want to maintain Big Deals
- › Assumes institutions want to pursue hybrid Gold OA
- › Assumes all institutions have an interest in publishing research

» Publishers

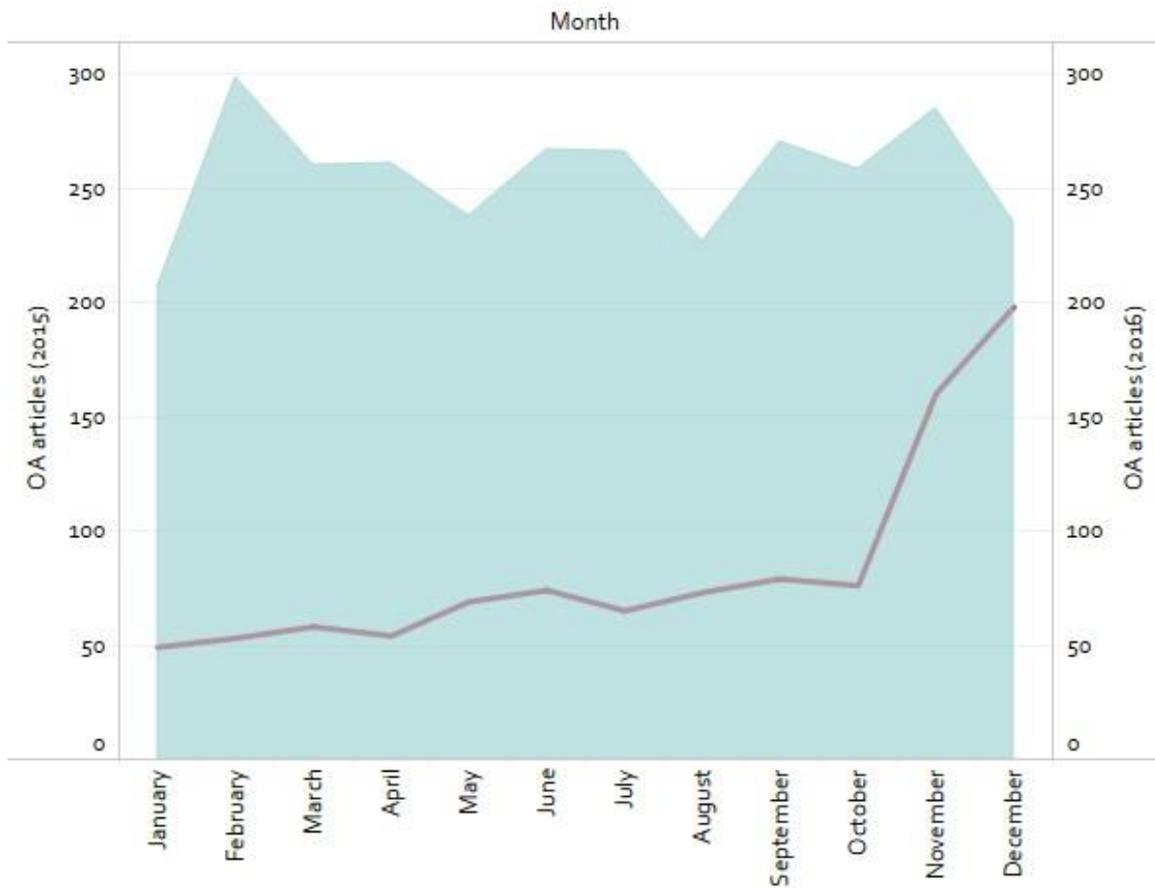
- › Assumes uniformity of publishers
- › Assumes persistence of current 'league table'

Reasons for pragmatic engagement?

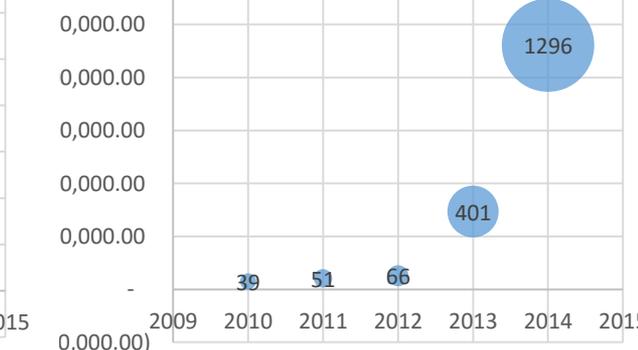
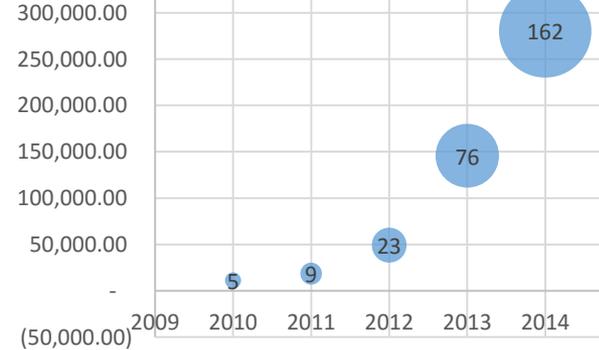
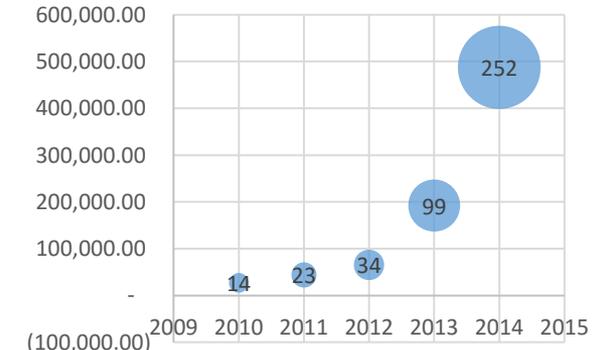
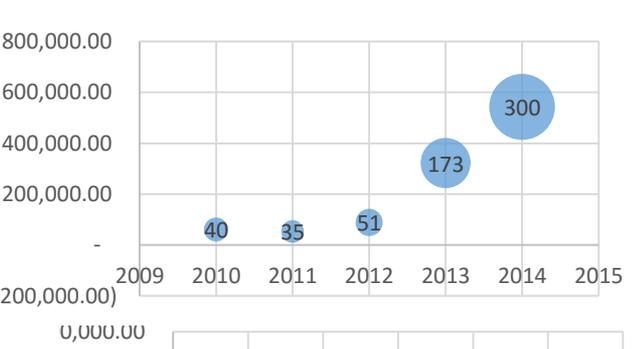
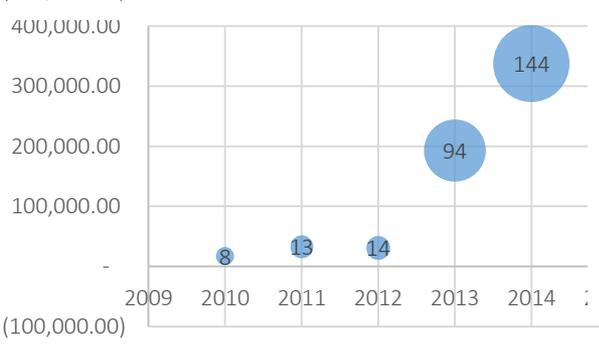
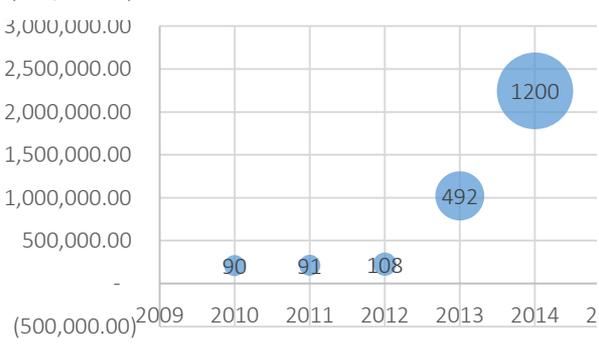
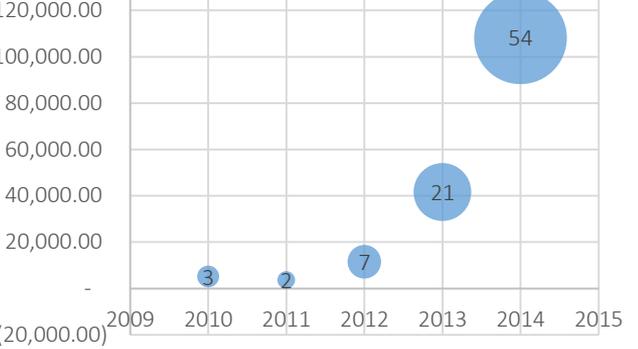
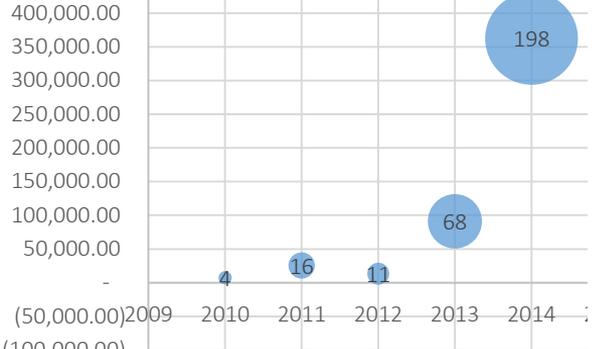
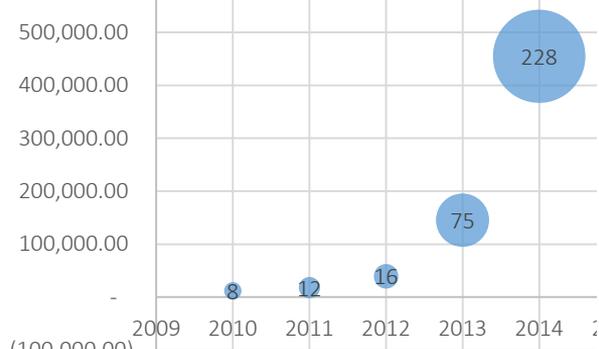
- » Recognise the current primacy of the Big Deal
 - › Growth in number of participants
- » Acknowledge that subscription output continues to grow
 - › OA output is not the only source of new content
- » Recognise the popularity of hybrid OA
 - › In UK c70% of OA is in hybrid journals
- » Make use of existing efficient institutional and consortium relations
 - › Accountability of central negotiation teams

Utilising existing relationships

» Contributes to a transition to OA?



- » Contributes to a transition to OA?
- » Are they affordable?



- » Contributes to a transition to OA?
 - » Are they affordable?
 - » Are they supporting efficient administration?
 - » Are they transparent?
-
- » Is a Big Deal focussed on OA qualitatively better than a traditional one?

Addressing the issues

- » Redirect existing infrastructure
 - › Support pure Gold, Green, infrastructure agreements
- » Recognise that we are not tied into OA Big Deals
- » Respond to the diversity of our stakeholders
- » Include service level descriptors
 - › Define expectations and penalties for all
- » Conditions around use of funds
 - › Transparency, pricing etc

Final thoughts

major failing of offsetting agreements lies in their assumption and continuation of the norms that govern the negotiation and implementation of existing big deals



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