

Thoughts about Open Access publication



Why do we publish

- ◆ To share our results, ideas, difficulties, with colleagues, our community, and more generally with the society

Why go Open Access

- ◆ To be able to share our results, ideas, difficulties, with all our colleagues, all communities, and more generally with the society

Current system issues

- ◆ For most of us, access to the publications of our field is easy
- ◆ There are minor access issues “on the move/at home”
- ◆ Some publications are not so widely available, and you often hit this issue when you go to multidisciplinary studies
- ◆ Society in its whole has no access to most scientific publications, making science look like a closed world

Auger and Open Access

- ◆ 2 FAL papers published in Open Access:
 - ◆ The northern site of the Pierre Auger Observatory
 - ◆ The Pierre Auger Observatory scaler mode for the study of solar activity modulation of galactic cosmic rays
- ◆ Conference papers (ASTRA, for ex.)
- ◆ All papers actually Open Access through ArXiv

If the problem is due to others, why should WE do something?

- ◆ Auger is a key player of our field: see KH opening talk and our citation indexes
- ◆ We can contribute to the transition to (at least) an hybrid open access distribution system (where both subscription types coexist)

What it is not about



Some comments

- ◆ Open Access does not mean lower quality journals for free
 - ◆ Many top journals offer Open Access (for a fee)
 - ◆ Impact factors are sometimes even better (JInst was ~ to NIMA and has now 3 times its impact factor probably thanks to LHC open access papers)
- ◆ Open Access usually means the community in some way pays to distribute its results to the whole world (instead of paying to get access to them)

What could Auger do?

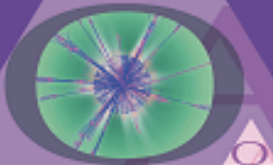
- ◆ Publicize that all our publications are Open Access through ArXiv and encourage our colleagues to do the same (ex: solar physics)
- ◆ Consider including an item in Operation Costs for Open Access publications (or share that among groups?)
- ◆ Join some consortium for Open Access (ex: express support to SCOAP³)

SCOAP³

Sponsoring Consortium for Open Access Publishing in Particle Physics

SCOAP³ - Sponsoring Consortium for Open Access Publishing in Particle Physics

Towards Open Access publishing in High Energy Physics



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SCOAP³

A **consortium** facilitates Open Access publishing in High Energy Physics by re-directing subscription money. This answers **the request** of the High Energy Physics community.

Today: (funding bodies through) libraries buy journal subscriptions to support the peer-review service and allow their patrons to read articles.

Tomorrow: funding bodies and libraries contribute to the consortium, which pays centrally for the peer-review service. Articles are free to read for everyone.

Read now:

- The Executive Summary of the Report of the SCOAP³ Working Party
- The complete report

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SCOAP³

Sponsoring Consortium for Open Access Publishing in Particle Physics

- ◆ <http://scoap3.org/>
- ◆ **Today:** (funding bodies through) libraries buy journal subscriptions to support the peer-review service and allow their patrons to read articles.
- ◆ **Tomorrow:** funding bodies and libraries contribute to the consortium, which pays centrally for the peer-review service. Articles are free to read for everyone.
- ◆ **22/09/2011:** SCOAP³ tendering process has started

SCOAP³

Sponsoring Consortium for Open Access Publishing in Particle Physics

- ◆ SCOAP³ is a consortium of:
 - ◆ High-Energy Physics funding agencies
 - ◆ High-Energy Physics laboratories
 - ◆ Leading national and international libraries and library consortia.
- ◆ LHC experiments have expressed their support to the initiative since 2007:

We strongly encourage the usage of electronic publishing methods for our publications and support the principle of Open Access Publishing, which includes granting free access of our publications to all. Furthermore, we encourage all collaboration members to publish in easily accessible journals, following the Open Access Paradigm.

Conclusions

- ◆ Open Access will likely be an important player in the future of publications
- ◆ Auger can wait for it or be a key player, at least in our field
- ◆ We all can as individuals give messages to our institutions, to committees, to review editors...
- ◆ For the collaboration, no concrete proposal, let's just think about it and discuss at next meeting in March