

# Institutional repositories

## Alma Swan

### Institutional Repositories



**Dr. Alma Swan**  
Enabling Open Scholarship  
Key Perspectives Ltd

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### What are institutional repositories?

- Digital collections
- Most usually institutional
- Sometimes centralised (subject-based)
- Interoperable
- Form a network across the world
- Create a global database of openly-accessible material
- Currently >2000 in total

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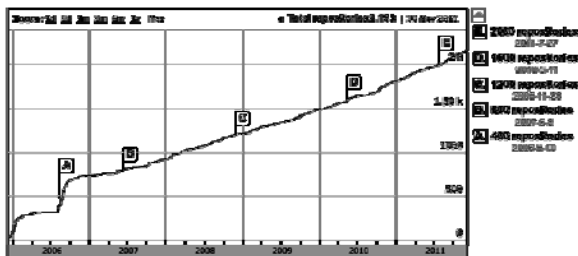
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Source: OpenDOAR: [www.opendoar.org](http://www.opendoar.org)

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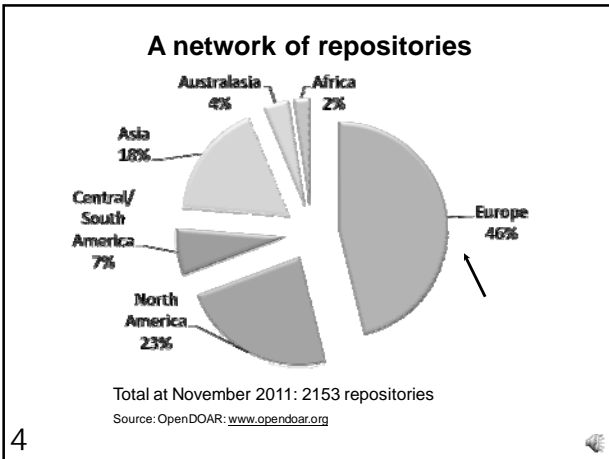
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- ### Repository types
- Institutional (universities, research institutions)
    - Collect directly from institutional authors
  - Centralised (PubMed Central, arXiv, RePEc, OpenAIRE)
    - Collect directly from authors
    - Harvest from institutional repositories
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- ### Technical notes (1)
- Operate in compliance with OAI-PMH
  - Thus interoperable
  - Mostly open source software (e.g. EPrints, DSpace)
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### Technical notes (2)

- Repository services:
  - Institutional (e.g. usage statistics, author profiles, publishing)
  - National or global (ROAR\*, OpenDOAR\*\*, ROARMAP\*\*\*, national search services)
- Google and other Web search engines

\* Registry of Open Access Repositories: <http://roar.eprints.org/>

\*\* Open Directory of Open Access Repositories: <http://opendoar.org/>

\*\*\* Registry of Open Access Repositories Mandatory Archiving Policies: <http://roarmap.eprints.org/>

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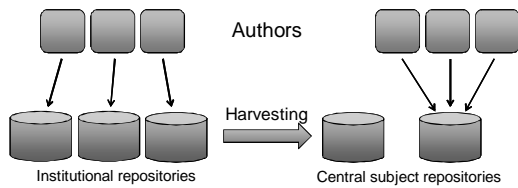
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### Repository models (1)



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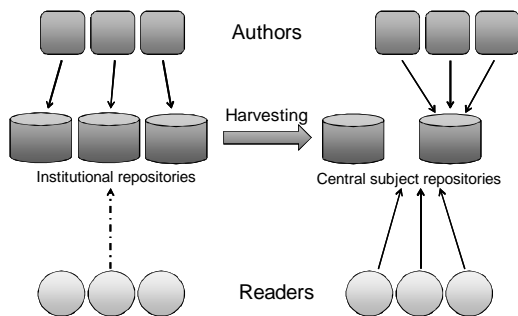
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### Repository models (2)



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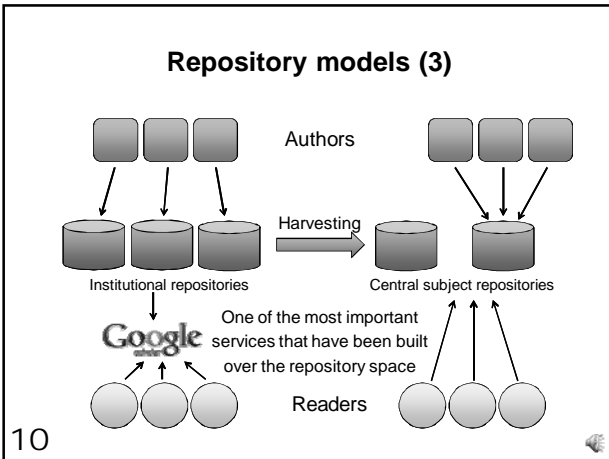
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- Institutional repositories**
- Potential for growth in numbers is large
  - Fulfil a number of functions
  - Main function to date is to provide Open Access
  - Benefits for:
    - Institution
    - Authors
    - Research
    - Wider society
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- Institutional roles of repositories**
- Maximise the visibility of research outputs
  - Showcase the institution
  - Collect and curate the digital scholarship of the institution
  - Provide research monitoring and assessment tools
  - Support data-intensive research
  - Support collaborative or multi-disciplinary research
  - Support teaching and learning activities
  - Provide space for work-in-progress
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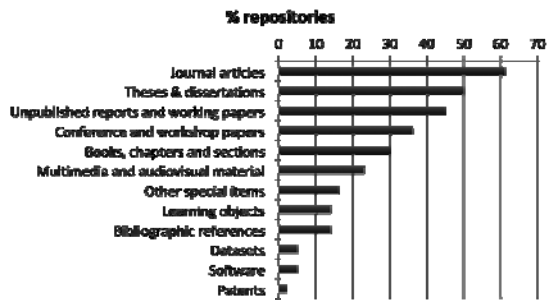
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### What they contain



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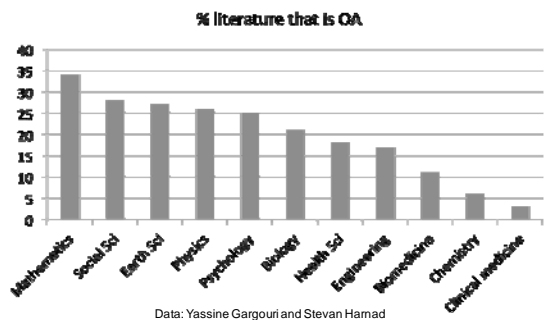
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### Levels of OA in repositories by subject



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### Benefits to institutions

- Fulfils a university's mission to engender, encourage and disseminate scholarly work
- Provides a complete record of its intellectual effort
- Provides a permanent record of all digital output
- Is a research management tool
- Is a marketing tool for universities
- Provides maximum Web impact for the institution

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### Benefits to authors

- Visibility
- Usage
- Impact
- Personal profiling and marketing

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### Visibility and usage through repositories

Repository	Full-text items	Downloads per month
ORBi (Univ Liege, Belgium)	40,000	45,000
USIR (Univ Salford, UK)	1,500	25,000
School of Electronics & Computer Science (Univ Southampton, UK)	6,000	30,000

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### Author testimony (1)

"Self-archiving in the PhilSci Archive [an open access repository for philosophy] has given instant world-wide visibility to my work.

As a result, I was invited to submit papers to refereed international conferences/journals ..."

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### Author testimony (2)

"... ePrints [university repository] provides access to research from a global audience..."

I have received many queries from researchers in countries where the research agenda is less well developed, seeking information about my research."

Author, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Australia

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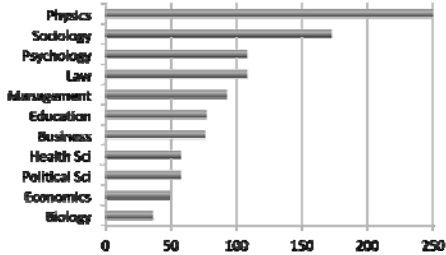
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### Impact

% increase in citations for OA articles compared to non-OA articles



Range = 36%-250%

(Data: Stevan Harnad and co-workers)

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### Personal profiling

**The Open Access citation advantage: Studies and results to date**

Alma Swan

Download

- PDF
- HTML

**Abstract**

This paper reports a summary of research studies on the Open Access citation advantage. There is a brief introduction to the main issues involved in measuring such studies, both methodological and interpretive. The study findings provide some details of the average methodological approaches and the main findings of each study.

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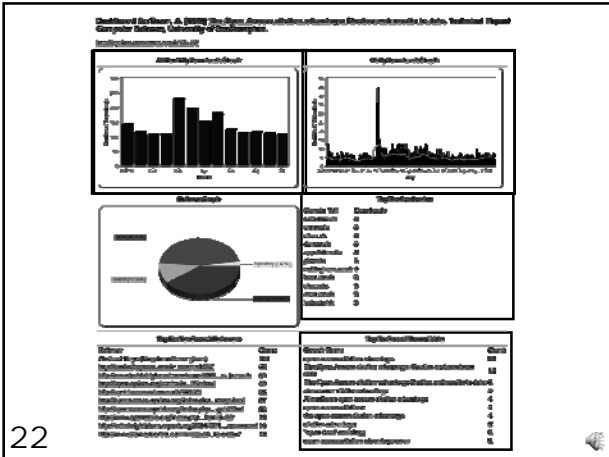
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### Benefits to research

- Researchers spend less time finding and accessing information:
  - For their own research
  - For peer review
  - For writing
- Interdisciplinary research is facilitated
- Research moves faster and more efficiently
- New technologies enable new kinds of knowledge creation

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### Benefits to wider society

- Professional communities
- Practitioner communities
- Patient advocacy groups (and patients!)
- Small and medium-sized businesses (SMEs)
- 'Other curious minds' (e.g. citizen scientists)

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### Which kinds of businesses could benefit from Open Access repositories?

- Healthcare services
- Civil engineers
- Construction companies
- Accountancy firms
- Archaeology services
- Horticulturalists
- Social service firms
- Consultancies

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### Author testimony (3)

"QUT ePrints has allowed me to discover new research partners, or contacts in the community. Just last week, the General Manager of Sustainable Development from an Australian rural industry called me – based on reading one of my research papers in ePrints.

He loved what he read ... and we are now in discussion about how we can help them measure their industry's social impacts."

Author, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Australia

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### Author testimony (4)

"...a few weeks ago X was contacted by a firm of solicitors in Melbourne. They are representing ... a number of Aboriginal people.

The lawyers had seen our article on ePrints and asked X if he would give expert evidence to a hearing in the Federal Court this month."

Author, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Australia

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### Business issues (1)

- Making the business case in an institution

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### The business case

#### Business reasons

- Visibility of research
- Free access to research
- Collection and preservation of outputs
- Research management
- Support collaborative research programmes
- Support data-intensive research
- Develop special/legacy collections
- Support teaching and learning

#### Institutional payoffs

- Improved visibility for institution
- Greater impact
- Marketing and showcasing
- Secure, trusted archive
- Easier assessment of the institution's research activities
- Facilitation of collaborative research
- Secure storage for research datasets
- Facilitation of workflow for researchers
- Securing the historical record

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### Business issues (2)

- Make the business case in an institution
- Set up a pilot (optional)
- Establish the repository
- Build or link to services that support it

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### Business issues (3)

- Develop a policy and advocate it to authors
- Put in place evaluation systems/processes
- Plan for sustainability
- Plan for change

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### The future I: supporting openness

- File formats
- Licensing issues

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### The future II: research data

- Open data
- Data management

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## Thank you

Two resources for more information:  
Enabling Open Scholarship ([www.openscholarship.org](http://www.openscholarship.org))  
OASIS ([www.openoasis.org](http://www.openoasis.org))

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