

# Peer-Review

**Open**

Publisher Comment  
refereeing  
PeersScholarly Paper  
Author Accepted Results Impact Rejected Scientific  
Reviewer Standards method H-index Publication  
Evaluation Editorial Article Academia Quality  
Research Factor Work



Conference on Open Research Data in Slovenia  
Workshop on Open Peer Review  
November 15, 2019, Maribor  
Görögh Edit

# CONTEXT

Do we need Peer Review 2.0 and, if yes, how should it differ from the current model? (2013)

Issues to discuss:

1. Defining Open peer review
2. Alternativ peer review tools
3. Peer review and data
4. Group discussion: transparency, training, data sharing

# SIGNIFICANCE OF OPEN SCIENCE

Answering to the current state of scholarly communication:

- ✓ Slow, redundant, wasteful
- ✓ Moved by commercial interest
- ✓ Chaotic state of copyright
  - ✓ Crisis of science:
    - ✓ Access, reproducibility, serial, evaluation

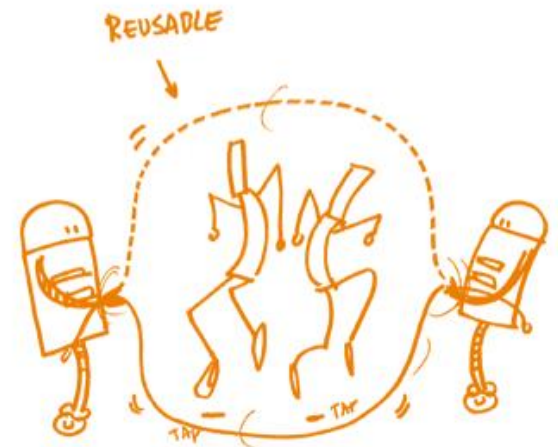


OPEN SCIENCE:  
JUST SCIENCE  
DONE RIGHT

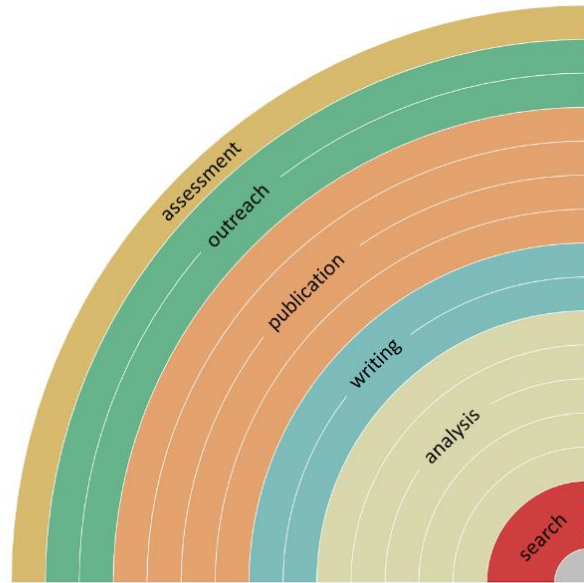


Science *without*  
open *is just*  
anecdote

# 4 FUNDAMENTAL RULES OF OPEN SCIENCE



# You can make your workflow more open by ...



- adding alternative evaluation, e.g. with altmetrics
- communicating through social media, e.g. Twitter
- sharing posters & presentations, e.g. at FigShare
- using open licenses, e.g. CC0 or CC-BY
- publishing open access, 'green' or 'gold'
- using open peer review, e.g. at journals or PubPeer
- sharing preprints, e.g. at OSF, arXiv or bioRxiv
- using actionable formats, e.g. with Jupyter or CoCalc
- open XML-drafting, e.g. at Overleaf or Authorea
- sharing protocols & workfl., e.g. at Protocols.io
- sharing notebooks, e.g. at OpenNotebookScience
- sharing code, e.g. at GitHub with GNU/MIT license
- sharing data, e.g. at Dryad, Zenodo or Dataverse
- pre-registering, e.g. at OSF or AsPredicted
- commenting openly, e.g. with Hypothes.is
- using shared reference libraries, e.g. with Zotero
- sharing (grant) proposals, e.g. at RIO



Bianca Kramer & Jeroen Bosman <https://10innovations.wordpress.com>

DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.1147025



Discrete Analysis



F1000

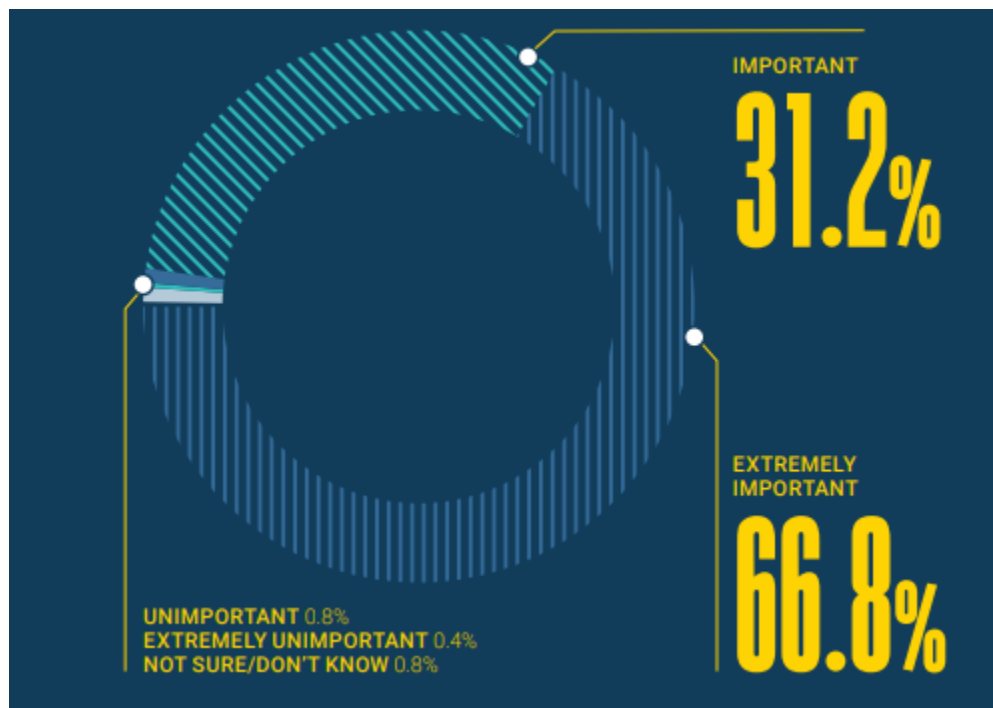


# SUCCESS OF AN OA PUBLISHING PLATFORM

1. **Quality control and moderation**

2. **Certification and reputation**

3. **Motivation and engagement**



<https://publons.com/static/Publons-Global-State-Of-Peer-Review-2018.pdf>

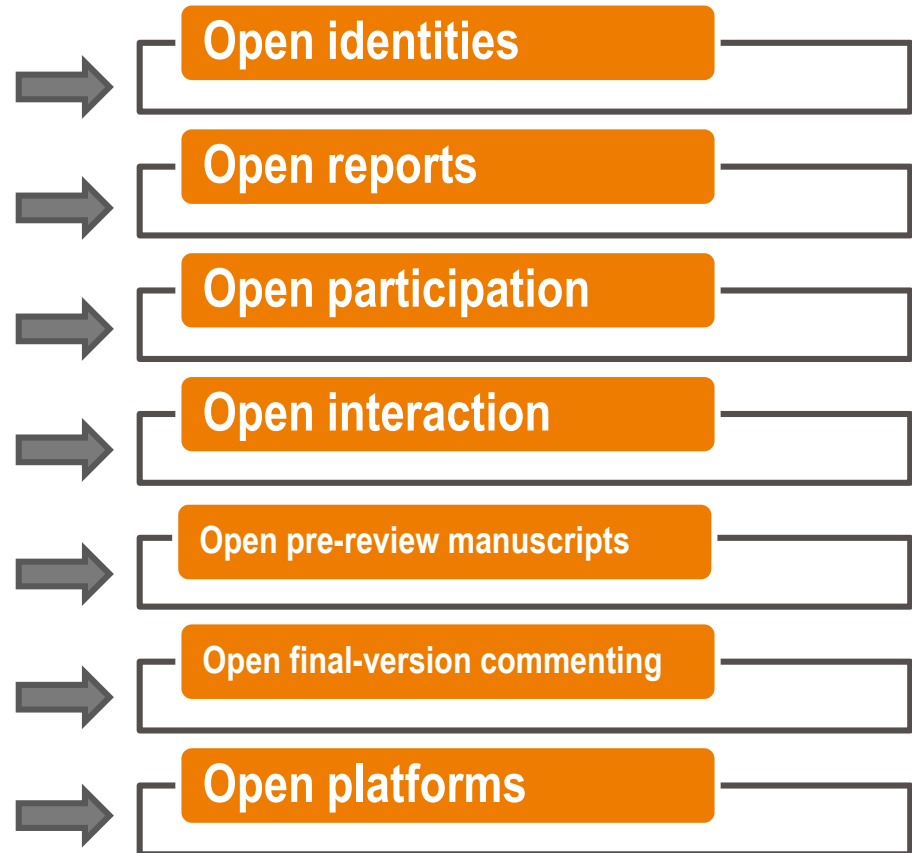
# PEER REVIEW REEVALUATED



- How different the principle of peer review from its practice?
- How do the web technologies change our expectations of scholarly communication (publishing, peer review)?
- Can these technologies change the critical state of peer review?
- Can the strong connection between peer review and journal publishing be broken?

# Open peer review

Open peer review is an umbrella term for a number of overlapping ways that peer review models can be adapted in line with the aims of Open Science.



Ross-Hellauer, 2017, "What is open peer review? A systematic review", F1000Research.  
DOI: 10.12688/f1000research.11369.2



## **Open identities**

**Authors and reviewers aware of each other's identity**

## **Open reports**

**Review reports published alongside relevant article**

## **Open participation**

**Wider community able to contribute to review process**

## **Open interaction**

**Direct discussion between author(s)/reviewers, and/or between reviewers**

## **Open pre-review manuscripts**

**Manuscripts/pre-prints available online in advance of peer review**

## **Open final-version commenting**

**Review or commenting on final “version of record” publications.**

## **Open platforms (“decoupled review”)**

**Review is facilitated by a different organizational entity than the venue of publication**



# OPEN IDENTITIES

## Positives

- Increase quality of reports
- Foster transparency to avoid conflicts of interest
- More civil language (in review and response)

## Negatives

- Difficulty in taking and giving critical feedbacks (reviewers might blunt their opinions for fear of reprisals esp. from senior peers)
- Labor-intensive process

# OPEN REPORTS

## Positives

- Feedback improves work and provide contextual information
- Giving better feedback - increase review quality
- Enable credit and reward for review work
- Help train young researchers in peer reviewing

## Negatives

- Higher refusal rates amongst potential reviewers
- Time-consuming and more demanding process
- Fear of being exposed (esp. for early career researchers)

# OPEN PARTICIPATION

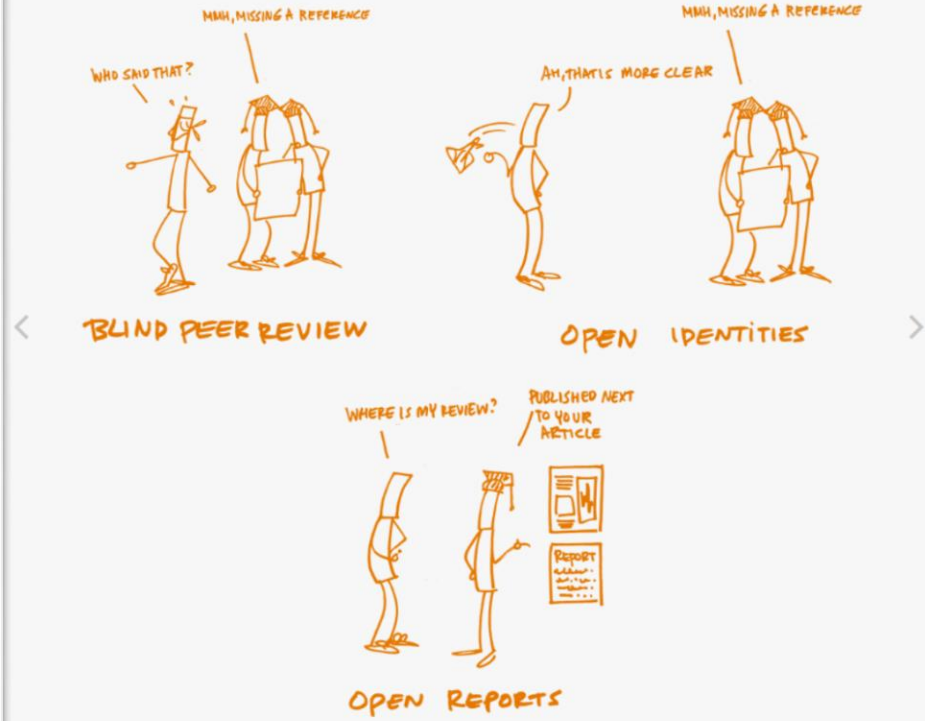
## Positives

- Expanding the pool of reviewers (including to those non-traditional research actors)
- Support cross-disciplinary dialogue
- Increase number of reviewers
- Being part of the debate

## Negatives

- Time issue: difficulties motivating commentators to take part and deliver useful critique
- Self-selecting reviewers tend to leave less “in-depth” responses
- Feedback from non-competent participants

## MODES OF PEER REVIEW:



Decoupled peer review

Pre-publication peer review and commenting

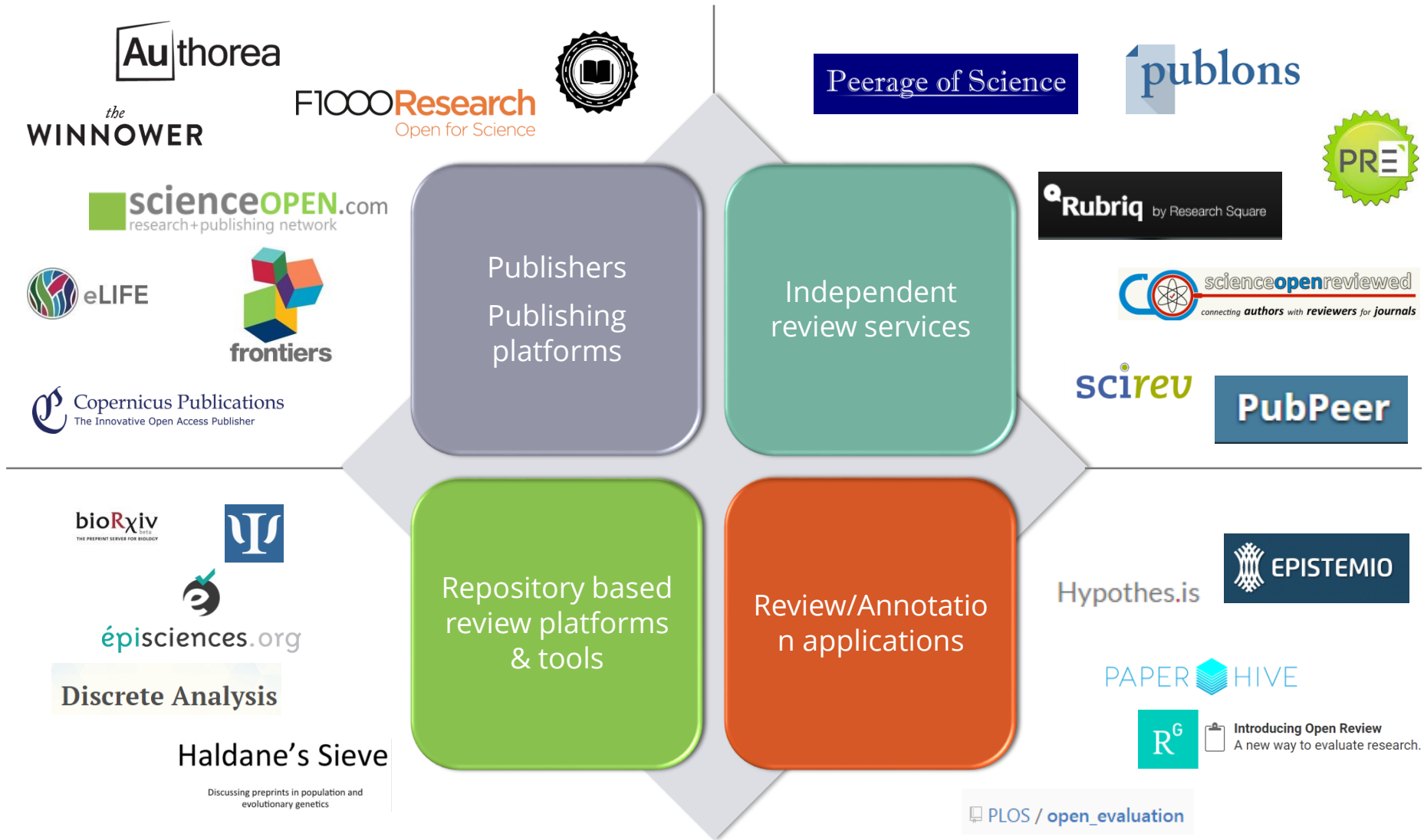
Post-publication peer review

Interactive peer review

Collaborative peer review

Open Science Training Handbook. <https://book.fosteropenscience.eu/>

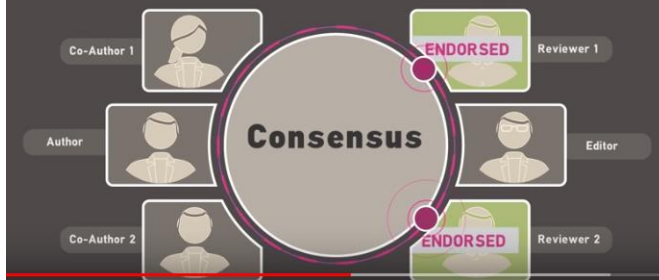
# ALTERNATIV PEER REVIEW TOOLS AND SERVICES



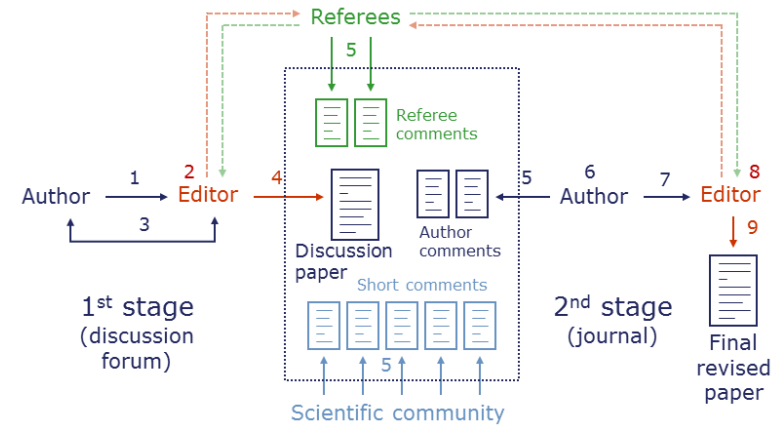
# PUBLISHING PLATFORMS



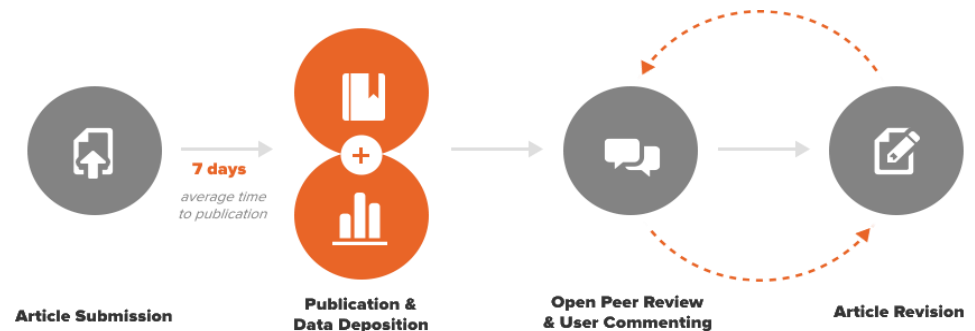
## Interactive Review Forum



Collaborative peer review



Interactive peer review



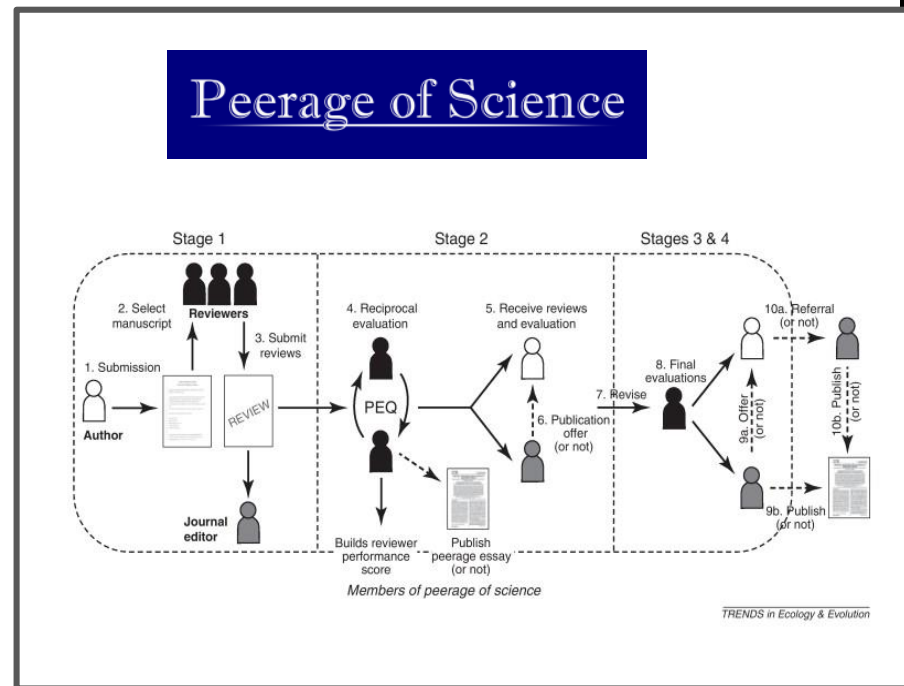
Post-publication peer review



# DECOUPLED PEER REVIEW

The image shows the Publons website interface. At the top, it says "Harness the power of peer review" and "JOIN THE GLOBAL COMMUNITY OF PEER REVIEWERS". Below this, it lists "190,000+ Researchers", "980,000+ Reviews", and "25,000+ Journals". There are buttons for "REVIEWERS", "EDITORS", "PUBLISHERS", and "INSTITUTIONS". A central text block reads: "Publons helps you get the recognition you deserve for keeping watch over science and research. Easily import, verify, and store a record of every peer review you perform and every manuscript you handle as an editor, for any".

Below the website screenshot is a sample "Verified Peer Review Record" for Dr. Pierre Réveur, prepared by Publons on December 15th, 2015. The record lists the reviewer's name, profile picture, and a list of journals reviewed, including Journal of Chromatography B, Journal of Chromatography A, Journal of Pharmaceutical and Biomedical Analysis, Clinical Biochemistry, Plants Medica, Journal of Organic Chemistry, Analytical Chemistry Acta, Journal of Separation Science, Molecules, Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry, and TrAC - Trends in Analytical Chemistry.

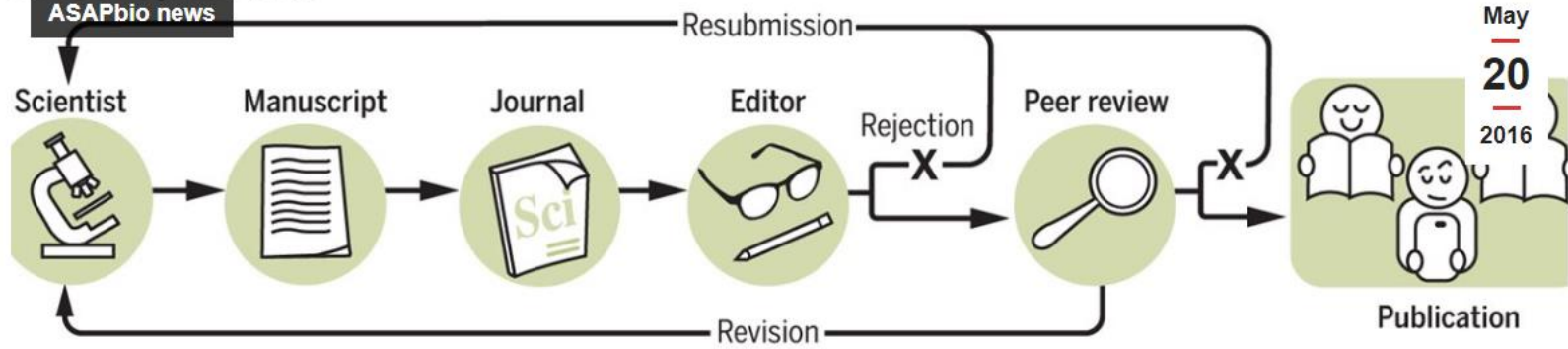


TRENDS in Ecology & Evolution

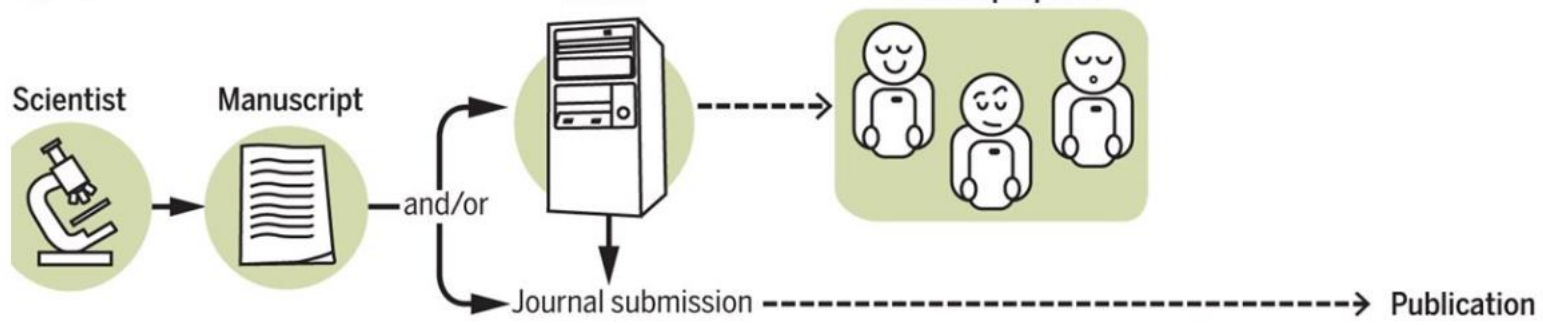
# PREPRINT BASED PUBLISHING



## Peer review publication



## reprint



<https://asapbio.org/asapbio-attendees-commentary-in-science>

# ANNOTATION/COMMENTING TOOLS

PAPER  HIVE

Peer-review and community proofreading

Improve and evaluate articles and books together

PaperHive allows a convenient and transparent post-publication peer review of academic literature. The system is optimized for documents of any size and multiple reviewers. All discussions are securely stored.



Any scientist can publish an assessment of the publications that she / he has read lately in less than one minute, by going to [epistemio.com](http://epistemio.com), searching the publication, and adding a rating. Ratings and reviews can be either anonymous or signed, according to authors' choice. Epistemio hosts freely these ratings and reviews and provides them under an open access licence.

 **hypothes.is**

The Hypothesis Project is a new effort to implement an old idea: A conversation layer over the entire web that works everywhere, without needing implementation by any underlying site.

# REDEFINING THE ROLES



- Gatekeeping function as a content filter
  - Typically closed system with a secretive and selective process
  - Organised around journals
  - Non-accountable editor-controlled “black box of peer review”
  - Structurally limited (2-3 people)
- 
- Collaborative, constructive peer review: quality control is achieved by consensus
  - Self-organised, open and unrestricted communities
- 
- Unrestricted content types and formats
- 
- Elected ‘moderators’ accountable to communities
  - Semi-automated matching of content to reviewers

# NEW OPTIONS

PLOS  
Journals  
Now  
OPEN for  
Published  
Peer  
Review



\* Preprint not offered for PLOS Medicine

<https://blogs.plos.org/plos/2019/05/plos-journals-now-open-for-published-peer-review/>

- Including some form of open peer review: *BMC* (owned by *Springer Nature*), *BMJ*, *Copernicus*, *eLife*, *EMBO Press*, *F1000Research*, *Nature Communications*, *Royal Society Open Science* and *PeerJ*.
- An open letter was published in *Nature* calling for publishers to begin to publish peer review reports.

# DATABASE FOR OPR

[More Information](#)

[User Stories](#)

[About](#)

[Stats](#)



A database of journal policies  
on peer review, co-reviewing, and preprinting

[Update or add records](#)

## Transpose database

[Download database](#)

Search journal title, ISSN, DOI, Publisher



[Add Filter](#) 

Verified  Off

<https://transpose-publishing.github.io/#/>

# DATA AND PEER REVIEW

## Data on Peer Review

- ✓ PEERE: New Frontiers for Peer Review

Goal: to analyze peer review in different scientific areas and evaluate the implications of different models of peer review.

<https://www.elsevier.com/connect/sharing-data-to-study-peer-review-as-part-of-peere-protocol>

- ✓ Guidelines for OPR implementations

Ross-Hellauer, T., Görögh, E. Guidelines for open peer review implementation. *Res Integr Peer Rev* 4, 4 (2019) doi:10.1186/s41073-019-0063-9

## Data for Peer Review

- ✓ The peer review of shared data sets is expected to decrease instances of scientific misconduct.

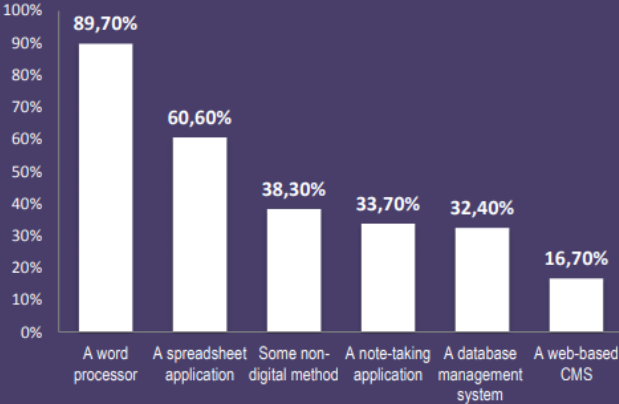
# DATA STORAGE AND SHARING



Figure 4: Access to research data (n=209)

Schöpfel J. and Prost H. (2016). Research data management in social sciences and humanities: A survey at the University of Lille (France). Prost LIBREAS. Library Ideas, 29

## Word processors and spreadsheets are the most common applications used to store and manage research assets



For storage and management of research assets, nine out of ten respondents reported using a word processor. Three out of five respondents stated they use spreadsheets, while about one third said they use database management systems, or note-taking and bibliographic citation management applications. Only one out of seven presently use web-based content management systems (CMS) to store and manage research assets.

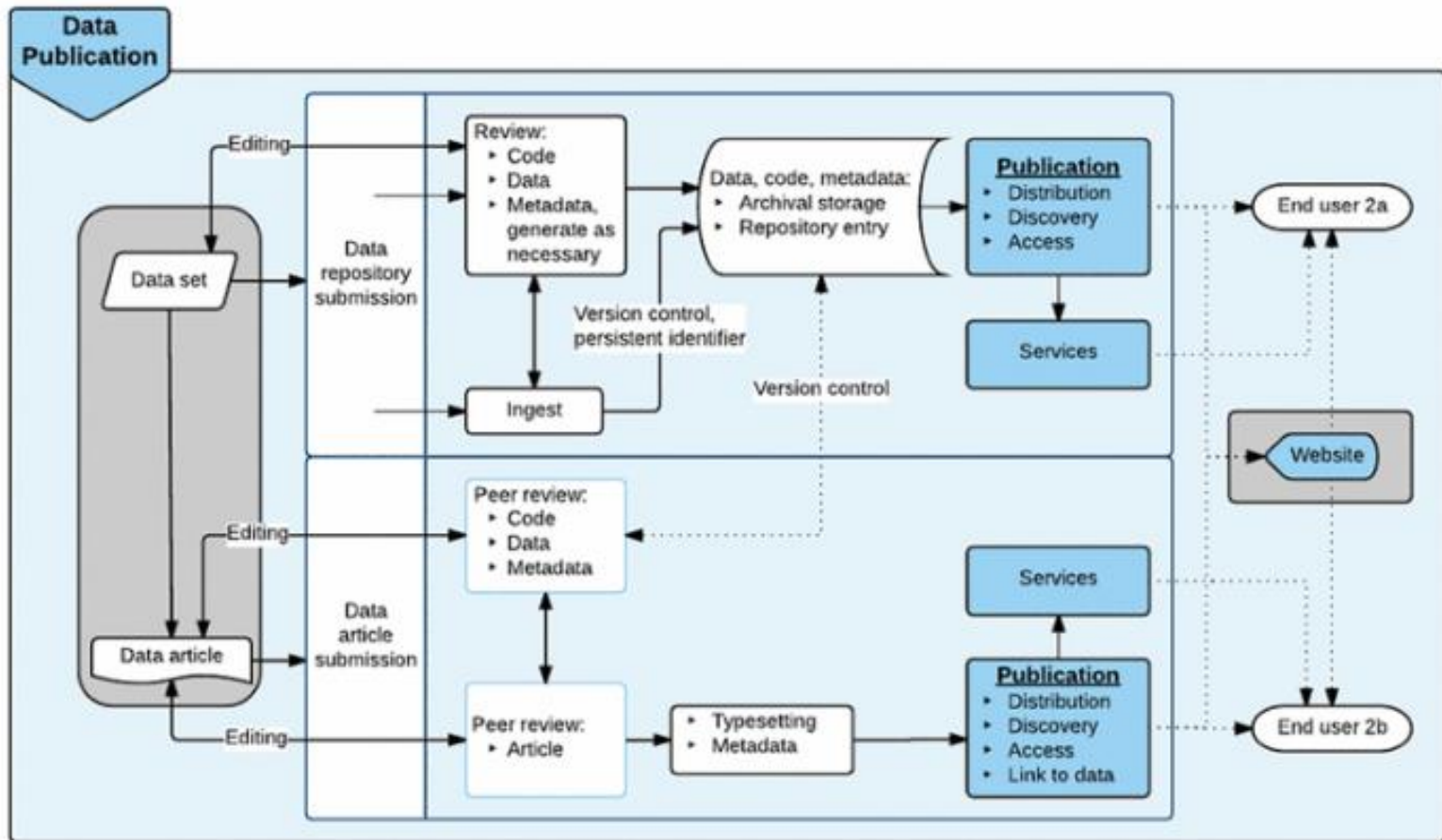
Use of applications to store and manage research assets. N= 2176

<https://zenodo.org/record/260101#.XEB7v1xKjcv>



# RESEARCH DATA PUBLICATION WORKFLOW

RDA-WDS Publishing Data Workflows Working Group (WG) has developed a data publication process:



# BENEFITS

- ✓ Visibility of research
- ✓ Acknowledgement of work (DOI)
- ✓ Linking data to published results
- ✓ Complying with H2020 data mandate
- ✓ Enhancing findability of data (metadata)
- ✓ Finding new collaborations and new research topics
- ✓ Adding to the researchers profile (ORCID, OpenID, VIAF)

# DISCUSSION

## Goals:

1. to discuss the challenges the participants might have encountered,
2. gather possible solutions for these problems
3. collect best practices and good examples how these aspects of the review process have been managed in different disciplines. Issues for discussion:

## Topics:

1. Increasing reliability and incentives (how higher **transparency** can contribute to better reviews and more active participation in the review process)
2. Encouraging **data sharing** and data availability (how access to data improve the review process)
2. **Training** for reviewers (how training young researchers incentivize participation)

# METHOD

1. Write a statement on some/all three topics (post-it)
2. Form groups and choose a topic to discuss first.
3. Rotating groups to review comments on other topics.

## Points of discussion:

1. Best practices, present solutions, present situation.
2. Barriers and challenges of implementation.
3. Solutions to move barriers.



