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The PEER Project: Learning about the Green Road

8th Berlin Conference
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Chinese Academy of Sciences
National Science Library, Beijing

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Content

- Project data
- Why PEER
- Setup of PEER
- PEER research projects

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Project Data

- Funding
  - 50 % European Union
  - Programme: eContent+
- Start
  - September 2008
- Duration
  - 3 years
  - recently granted a 9 month extension to May 2012
- Coordination
  - The International Association of Scientific, Technical and Medical Publishers (STM)
- Website
  - http://www.peerproject.eu/

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This project is about the

green road to Open Access,

also called self-archiving.

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Current Situation

Rapid growth of institutional repositories

Individual funding agency mandates

Publisher experimentation: allowing self-archiving

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Agreement and Disagreement

There is agreement between publishing and research communities that access to the results of publicly funded research is important to maximize its use and impact.

However,
they hold different views on

- **whether mandated deposit in open access repositories is necessary**
- **the embargo periods that would be appropriate.**
- **the impact this may have on journals**

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Key Problems & Issues

- Impact of systematically archiving stage-two outputs (accepted manuscripts) is not clear
  - on journals and business models
  - on wider ecology of scientific research
- Varying policies are confusing for authors and readers
- Lack of understanding and trust between publishers and research community

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Background

- EU High Level Expert Group debated on systematic Green OA
- There is no clear evidence
  - of what the impact of archiving research outputs in open access repositories will be if implemented on a broad and systematic scale.
  - of effect of embargos
- STM proposed to High Level Expert Group an experiment to find out

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Expected Results

- Greater understanding of the effects of large-scale deposit in OA repositories
- Evidence to inform future policies
- Scenarios illustrating how to maximise the benefits of traditional publishing and archiving
- Trust and mutual understanding between publisher and research communities

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A Ground-breaking Collaboration

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Stakeholders in Scholarly Communication

- Publishers
- Researchers – authors and users
- Libraries and repositories
- Funding agencies
- All of the above stakeholder groups are represented within PEER, both within the consortium & an advisory board

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PEER Consortium

- The PEER consortium (5 Executive members):
  - International Association of Scientific, Technical and Medical Publishers (STM) - Co-ordinator
  - European Science Foundation (Europe Union)
  - Göttingen State and University Library (Germany)
  - Max Planck Society (Germany)
  - Institut National de Recherche en Informatique et en Automatique (France)

- Plus technical partners
  - SURF (Netherland)
  - University of Bielefeld (Germany)

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Cooperating Publishers

- BMJ Publishing Group
- Cambridge University Press
- Elsevier
- Nature Publishing Group
- IOP Publishing
- Oxford University Press
- Portland Press
- Sage Publications
- Springer
- Taylor & Francis Group
- Wiley-Blackwell

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Participating Repositories

- eSciDoc.PubMan, Max-Planck-Gesellschaft zur Förderung der Wissenschaften e.V. (MPG)
- HAL, CNRS & Institut National de Recherche en Informatique et en Automatique (HAL)
- Göttingen State and University Library (UGOE)
- University Library of Debrecen, Hungary (ULD)
- Social Science Open Access Repository (SSOAR)
- Plus Koninklijke Bibliotheek (preservation)(KB)

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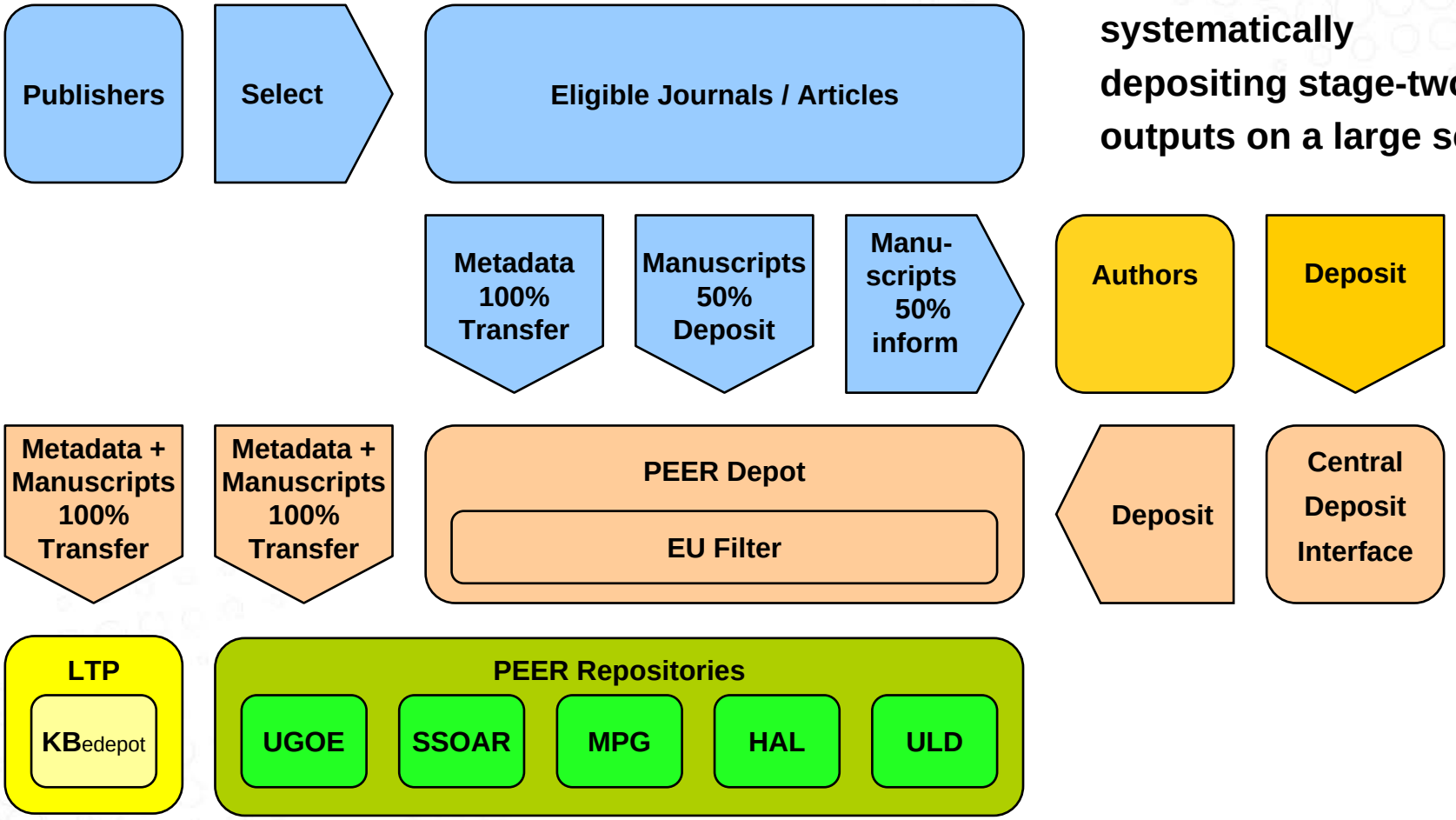
The PEER Approach



Develop an "observatory" to monitor the impact of systematically depositing stage-two outputs on a large scale

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Technical Challenges Faced

- Non uniformity of publisher outputs
- Varying requirements by repositories
- EU filtering of content
- Embargo management for author deposits
- Author authentication for deposit
- Non uniformity of log files
- Inclusion of ‘retained’ stage-2 content from publishers

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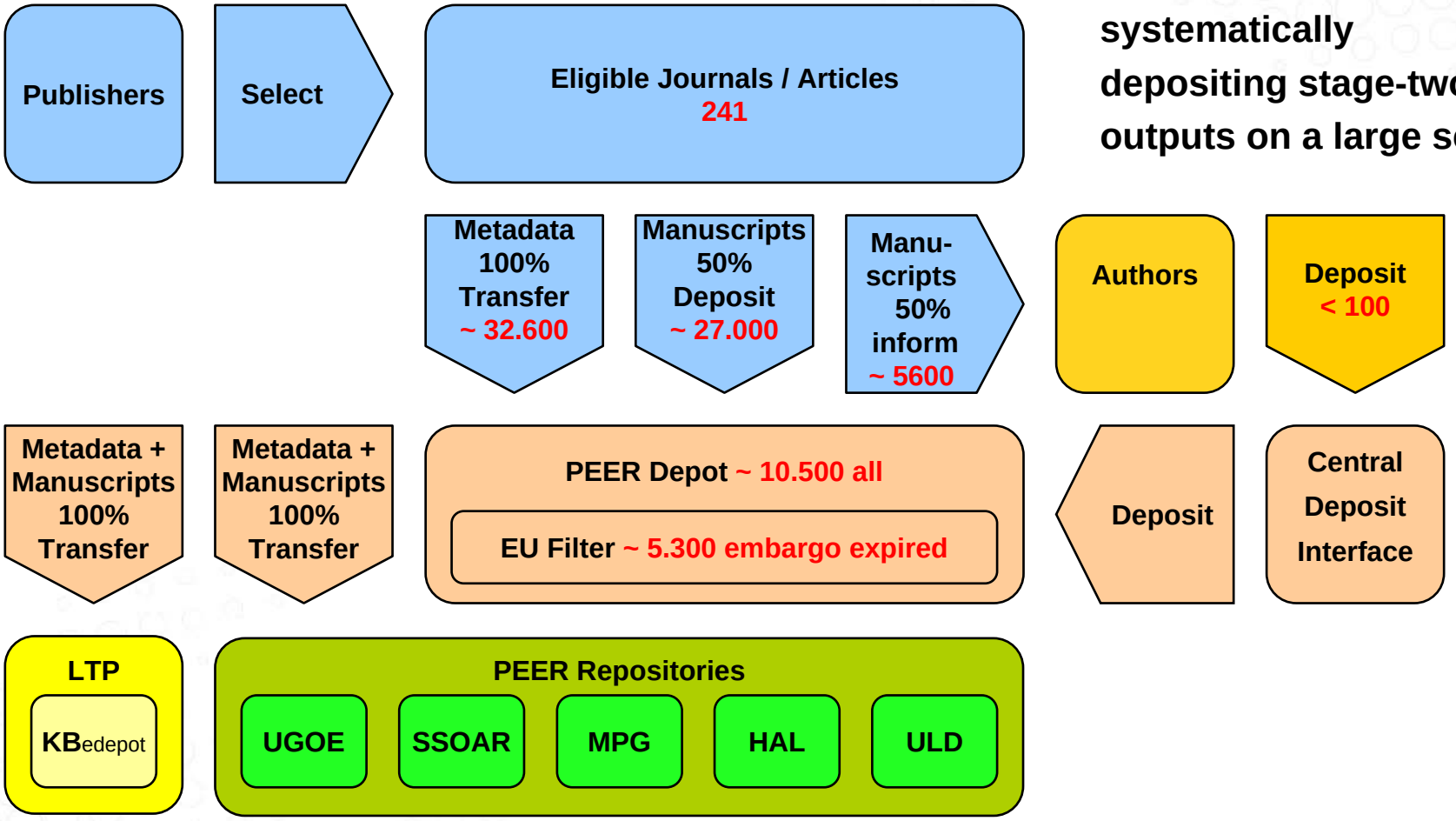
The PEER Approach



Develop an "observatory" to monitor the impact of systematically depositing stage-two outputs on a large scale

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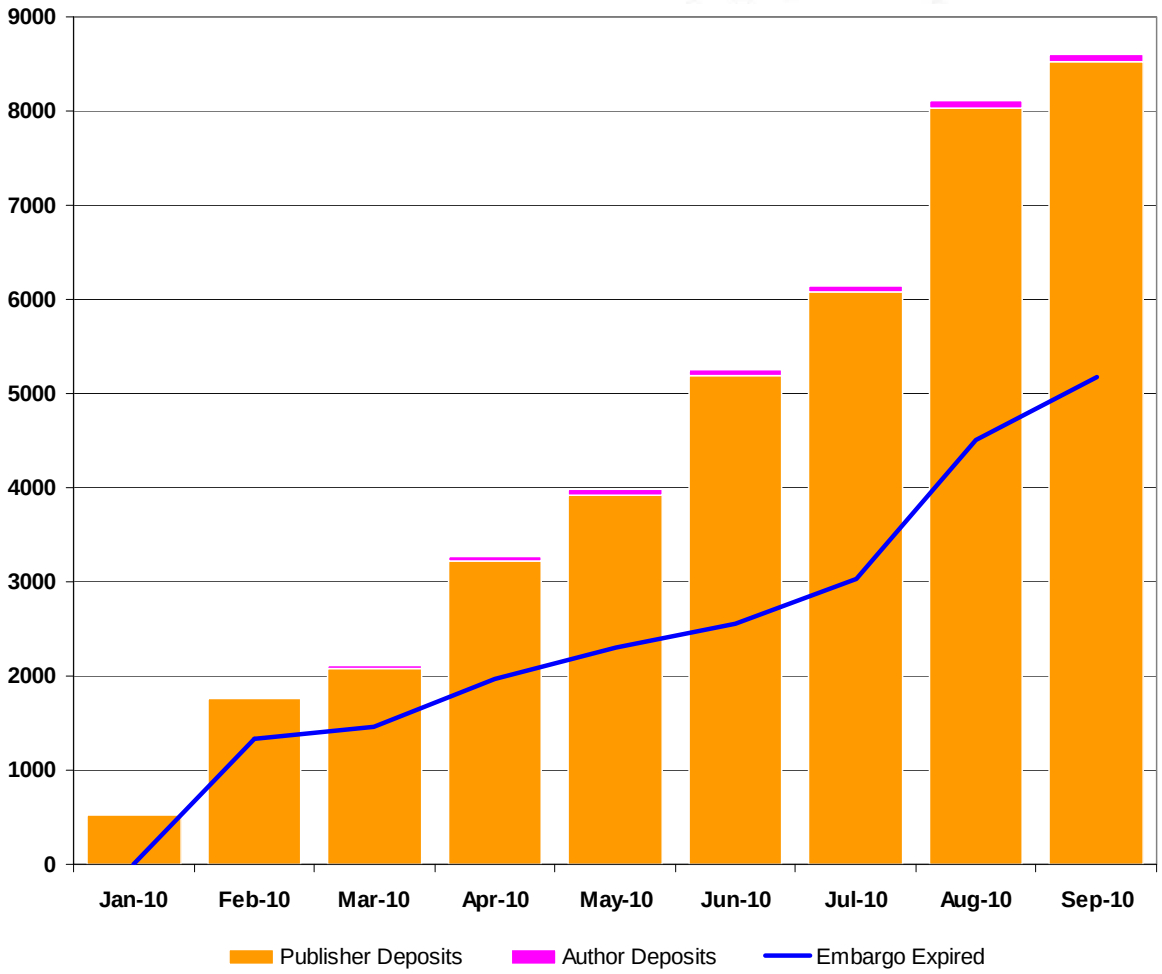
PEER: EU-Deposits Processes (cumulated)



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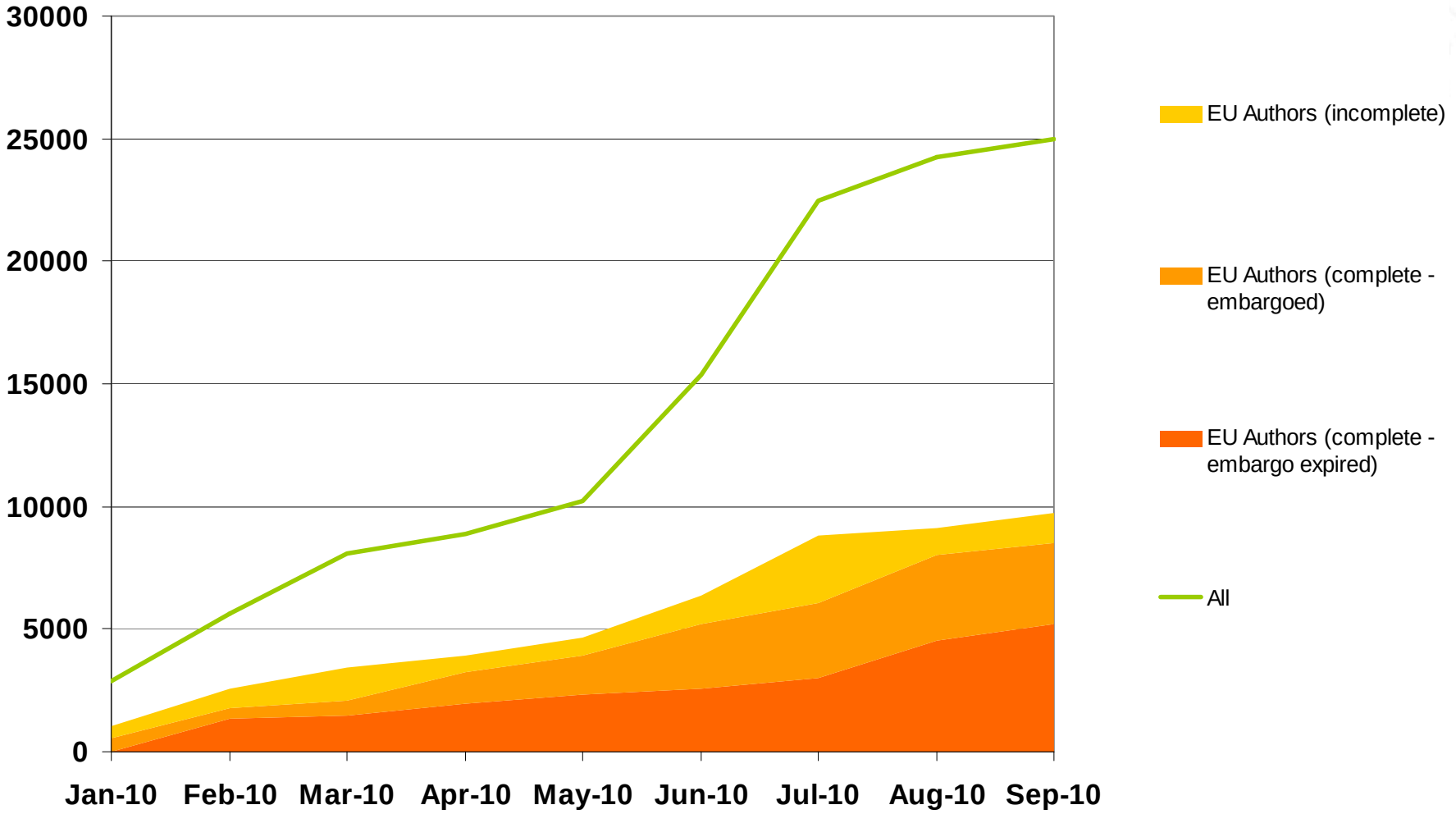
Publisher Deposits (cumulated)



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Achievements to Date

- Functioning collaborative infrastructure
  - Linking repositories and publishers
  - Organising the transformation and flow of content
  - metadata curation (quality control, embargo management etc.)
  - Usage data being collected from repositories and publishers
- Substantial quantities of content visible in repositories
- Appointment and first results from all three research teams

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Behavioral Research

- Research team
  - Department of Information Science and LISU at Loughborough University, UK

- Objectives:
  - Track trends and explain patterns of author and user behaviour in the context of so called Green Open Access.
  - Understand the role repositories play for authors in the context of journal publishing.
  - Understand the role repositories play for users in context of accessing journal articles.

- Example for research questions
  - In seeking information what choices do readers make in locating and selecting sources and in what ways do such choices influence the role played by repositories in information seeking behaviours?

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Behavioral Research: Baseline Report

- Growing awareness of Open Access as free electronic access to full-text journals
  - Scholars generally supportive of the ethos of OA, but concerns about copyright infringements and quality of material held in Open Access Repositories
- Lesser awareness of Open Access Repositories
- Survey findings show preference for Subject-based Repositories over Institutional Repositories

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Usage Research

- Research team:
  - CIBER group, University College London, UK
- Objectives:
  - Determine usage trends at publishers and repositories;
  - Understand source and nature of use of deposited manuscripts in repositories;
  - Track trends, develop indicators and explain patterns of usage for repositories and journals.
- Example for research questions:
  - Does the experiment result in the use of articles by groups who might otherwise be not able to access them?

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Economic Research

- Research team
  - ASK, Bocconi University, Italy
- Objective
  - Analyze the overall effects of large-scale Green OA on the economics of scholarly communication.
  - Investigate the cost of the large-scale deposit of stage-two research outputs; including the economic efficiency or cost of the process of deposit.
- Example for research question
  - Understand and compare access costs at journals and repositories.

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Thank you very much for your attention!

Questions?

Please visit

www.peerproject.eu

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