

A Transformative Model for Open Access



Association for
Computing Machinery



Introducing ACM OPEN

The ACM OPEN model allows an institution's corresponding authors to publish an unlimited number of Open Access research articles in the ACM Digital Library (dl.acm.org) while also providing complete access to the contents found in the traditional "read only" subscription model. ACM OPEN allows for OA publishing across ACM's complete catalog of journals, conference proceedings and magazines. Key benefits include:



Unlimited access for all authorized users to the full-text subscription contents of the ACM Digital Library.



Unlimited OA publishing for all corresponding authors across ACM's entire catalog of magazines, conference proceedings and journals.



Fixed pricing for the length of the multi-year license term.



Automatic deposit at publication of all accepted research articles into an institutional repository.



Default CC-BY author rights on all accepted research articles.



Avoids administrative burden and cost fluctuation associated with other "Pay per article"-based models.

Our Vision Toward Total Open Access Publishing

The Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) is the world's oldest and largest scientific society dedicated to computer science. As a member-driven not-for-profit organization, ACM is governed by its diverse membership of more than 100,000 students, faculty, and practitioners around the world. At the direction of its members and volunteer boards, ACM announced its intention to sustainably transition to full Open Access (OA) research publishing within a multi-year period.

The goal of transitioning to full OA research publishing is central to ACM's mission as a scientific society to further innovation in computing. ACM's own internal research has looked at articles made open in its "Hybrid OA" publications. "Hybrid" refers to publications that allow for authors to make their articles OA by payment of an Article Processing Charge (APC) at the time of the article's acceptance for publication, meaning that Hybrid OA publications have some articles that are open and some that are behind subscription paywall. ACM has found that the articles made OA in these Hybrid publications are downloaded and cited at increased amounts compared to their paywalled counterparts.

The ACM Executive Committee is a directorial board comprised of volunteers elected by ACM membership and represents the organization's highest governing authority. Under its guidance, ACM OPEN was created to accelerate ACM's OA research publishing output.

Usage & Citation Benefit of Paid OA in DL

ACM compared the average number of downloads and citations for research articles published behind ACM DL paywall to the average number of downloads and citations for research articles published on an Open Access basis in the ACM DL.

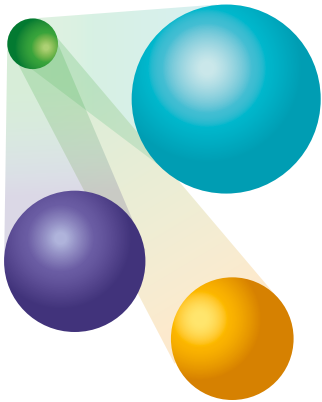
Open Access Downloads

Current DL
Subscription
Access **1x**

Conference
Open Access **3.7x**

Journal
Open Access **2.78x**

Magazine
Open Access **2.35x**



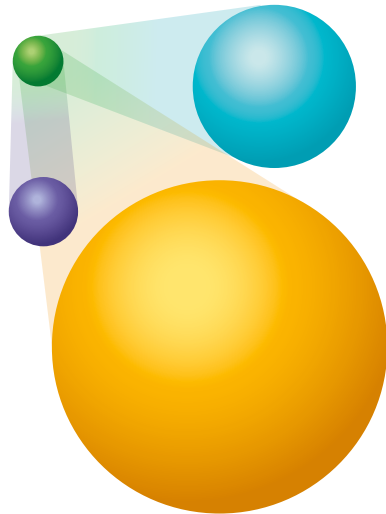
Open Access Citations

Current DL
Subscription
Access **1x**

Conference
Open Access **3.14x**

Journal
Open Access **1.36x**

Magazine
Open Access **6.45x**



* Based on thousands of OA articles published in the ACM DL from 2013-2019

Author Rights and Process

In accordance with major funder mandates, the ACM OPEN model provides a default Creative Commons CC-BY license for each eligible research article. Although CC-BY is the default author license under ACM OPEN, the participating author does have the choice to choose any of the Creative Commons license options, or to transfer copyright or exclusive publishing rights to ACM if they so wish.

To be sure that their article is accepted for ACM OPEN, authors at ACM OPEN participating institutions should be sure to use their institutional email domain when submitting the article for review and for author rights choice after acceptance. Institutional email domain is the primary means by which ACM is recognizing author affiliation for ACM OPEN, so **we request that authors do not use a generic private domain such as gmail.com or yahoo.com, etc.**

Also provided in the ACM OPEN license is the automatic deposit of all research articles published by the ACM OPEN-licensed institution into its non-commercial institutional repository. This provision includes all such articles published OA in their final published Version of Record (“VOR”) form, and all other articles not yet published OA in their “Accepted Manuscript” form. It is envisioned that eventually all future research articles will be deposited in their VOR form once ACM has reached 100% OA research publishing sustainability.

Creative Commons is a nonprofit organization that provides standardized global licenses to grant copyright permission for creative and academic works. The CC-BY license is the most liberal reuse license provided by Creative Commons, and allows reusers to distribute, remix, adapt, and build upon the material in any medium or format, provided attribution is given to the creator.





Frequently Asked Questions

Who is eligible for Open Access publishing under the ACM OPEN license model?

All corresponding authors from an institution participating in ACM OPEN will have their research articles published Open Access in ACM journals, conference proceedings and magazines in perpetuity at the time of publication at no cost to the authors.

What article types are eligible for OA publication in the ACM OPEN license model?

All fully peer-reviewed research articles newly published in ACM's magazines, conference proceedings and journals are eligible.

Does the same level of content access exist under ACM OPEN?

Under the ACM OPEN agreement, faculty and students will continue to receive unlimited and unrestricted access to all articles in the ACM Digital Library, as according to ACM's regular terms of use found at the following URL: https://www.acm.org/publications/policies/dl_use_policies.

How is my institution's ACM OPEN Tier classification determined?

Your institution's ACM OPEN Tier is determined by the average annual number of affiliated corresponding authored peer-reviewed research articles published over the most recent full 3 year period. Current ACM OPEN-participating institutions will have their ACM OPEN Tier for the next license period determined by using the annual average from the final 3 years of their current ACM OPEN license period.

Newly participating institutions will have their tier fixed on April 1 of each year based on the publication data from the last 3 full calendar years. For example on April 1, 2030 all new ACM OPEN-participating institutions would be tiered according to their average publication output from the January 1, 2027 to December 31, 2029 period.

Why should an institution encourage its researchers to publish their work Open Access?

If you publish your paper Open Access, you can retain your rights as an author and your work becomes immediately accessible to the world for free. As a result, your research will be more widely disseminated and will have greater impact. Authors are able to choose a Creative Commons CC-BY license.


How will my article be Open Access?

Corresponding Authors will have the option to select the rights assignment option of their choice, including the option for all individual co-authors of the published article to retain the copyright to their article, provide ACM with an exclusive license to publish their article, provide ACM with a non-exclusive license to publish their article, and in the case of the authors' copyright retention, to make their published article shareable via the use of a Creative Commons license, with CC-BY as the default option.

Once fully executed, may the ACM OPEN license agreement, including financial information be published?

Yes, however we ask for the actual signatures in the license to be redacted for purposes of identity protection.

To learn more about the ACM OPEN model, please visit us at <https://libraries.acm.org/subscriptions-access/acmopen> or contact us directly at acmopen@hq.acm.org



*ACM is committed to an Open Access future.
ACM OPEN is how we will get there.*

TU/e library is excited about ACM's transformative model for Open Access publication. ACM made a clear commitment to transition to a fully sustainable and Plan S compliant OA scholarly publisher and we support that. This deal therefore is an important step in supporting our researchers in the transition towards Open Access publishing for all peer reviewed scholarly articles and proceedings.

*— Merle Rodenburg,
Director Data
Management and Library,
TU/e (Eindhoven
University of Technology)*



**Association for
Computing Machinery**

1601 Broadway, 10th Floor
New York, NY 10019-7434, USA

For more information about ACM Open, please visit
libraries.acm.org/subscriptions-access/acmopen
or contact ACM at acmopen@hq.acm.org