

Operation Model of International Academic Journals and Case Study

5th China-based English Academic Journal Seminar Changsha April 26-27, 2010

Dieter Merkle

Changsha, China, April 2010



Operation Model of International Academic Journals

- 1) Introduction
- 2) Academic Publishing
- 3) The Daily Business
- **4)** Journal Development



- Dieter Merkle is an Editorial Director in the Physical Sciences and Engineering Global Publishing Unit of Springer
- Responsible for Springer's European Engineering publishing activities
 - 10 Publishing Editors plus staff in Heidelberg, Berlin, Dordrecht,
 London
 - Roughly 500 new book titles per year
 - Currently 55 journals
- Background
 - Dr.rer. nat. (PhD) in Physics
 - almost 20 years experience in scientific publishing



- Springer is the world's second largest scientific publisher
 - Almost 2,000 scientific journals
- Springer is the largest Open Access journals publisher
- Springer is the largest scientific book publisher in the world
 - 4,500 new titles per year
 - Backlist of over 45,000 titles available
- Springer is the largest scientific e-book publisher
 - More than 34,000 titles available online



- •Founded in 1983
- •12 issues, 170 articles, 2200 pages per year
- Biggest journal in engineering
- •Relevant in Chemical Engineering, Aerospace Technology, and Flow Physics.



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Driving Mechanisms History of Academic Publishing





<u>Anagram: Encrypted announcement of scientific achievement</u>

6accdae13eff7i3l9n4o4qrr4s8t12ux = "Given an equation involving any number of fluent quantities to find the fluxions, and vice versa"

>>Priority<<

1665: First scientific journals

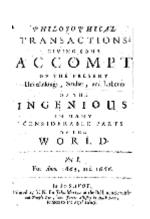
Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society

"The Royal Society was steadfast in its not yet popular belief that science could only move forward through a transparent and open **exchange of ideas** backed by experimental evidence"

>>Communication<<

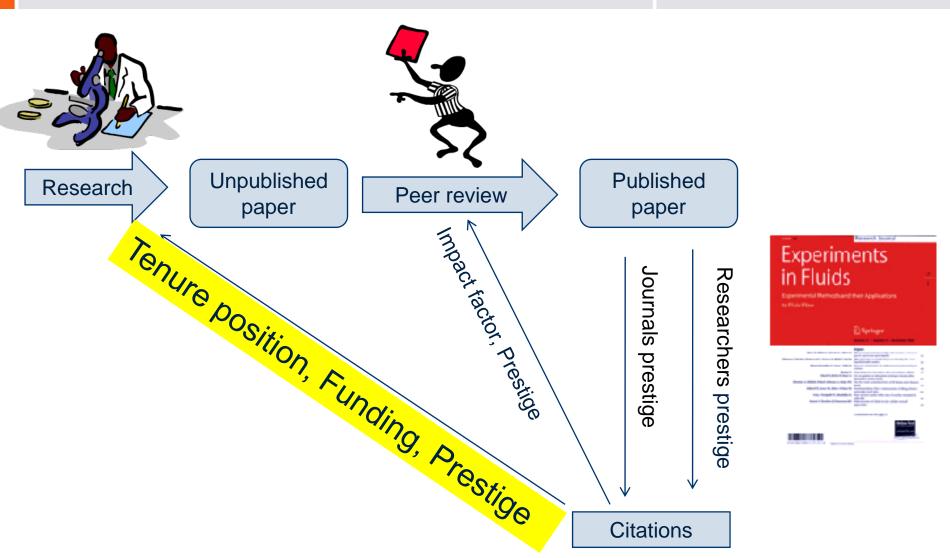
First recorded scientific Peer-Review Process

>>Evaluation<<



Driving MechanismsPublish or Perish





Stakeholders: Key stakeholders



Authors are the providers of the all-important content

Authors demand:

- Provision and preservation of a formal public record of their research
- Reputable and high quality forum for publication
- Peer review
- Speed and efficiency
- Accuracy and presentation
- Support and advice

Stakeholders: Key stakeholders



Readers are the End-users or our journals

Readers demand...

- Fast and easy access to information
- Straightforward navigation of e-content
- Improved findability
- Relevant, authoritative content
- Free access at the point of use



"It will not be read if it is not online!"

1. Content has to be online and linked to others

Online

Interlinking

2. Content to be "findable"

A & I Services

Push & Pull Marketing

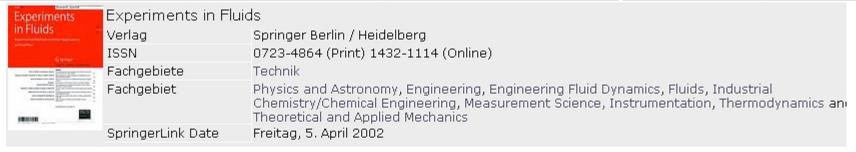
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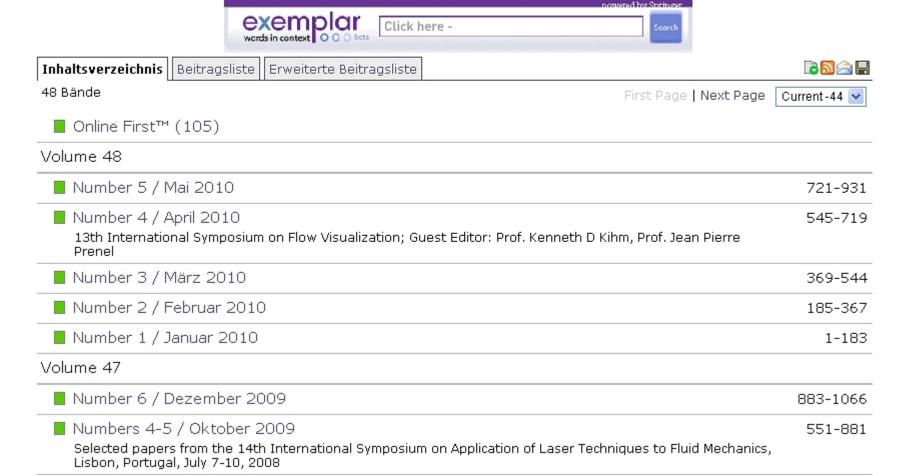
Search Engine Optimization

Media

Case: We are Online





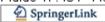


Media Case: We are Interlinked



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MATH MathSciNet

Media Case: We are Findable





Tipp: Suchen nur nach Ergebnissen auf Deutsch. Sie können Ihre bevorzugten Spracheinstellungen in Einstellungen angeben.

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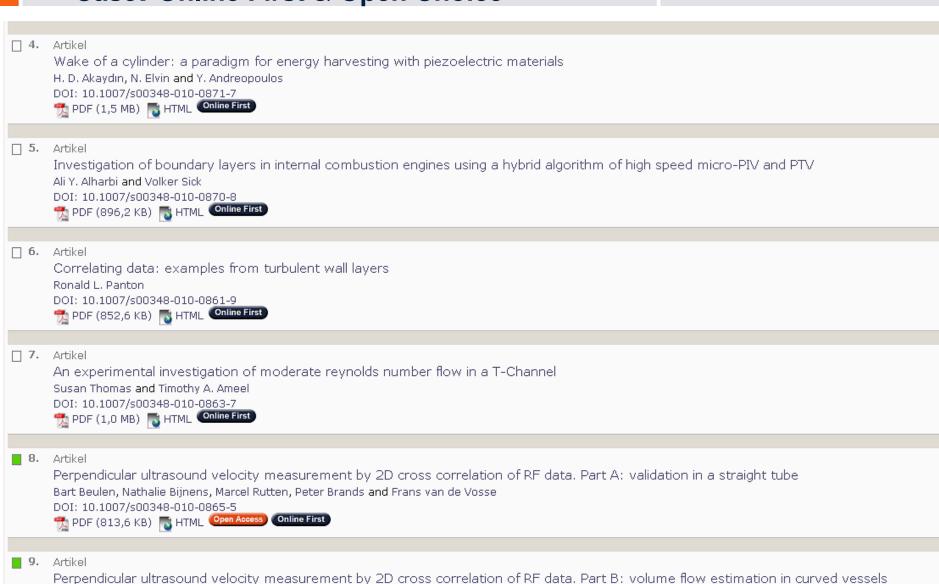
Publication ModelsCase: Online First & Open Choice

Bart Beulen, Anna Catharina Verkaik, Nathalie Bijnens, Marcel Rutten and Frans van de Vosse

DOI: 10.1007/s00348-010-0866-4

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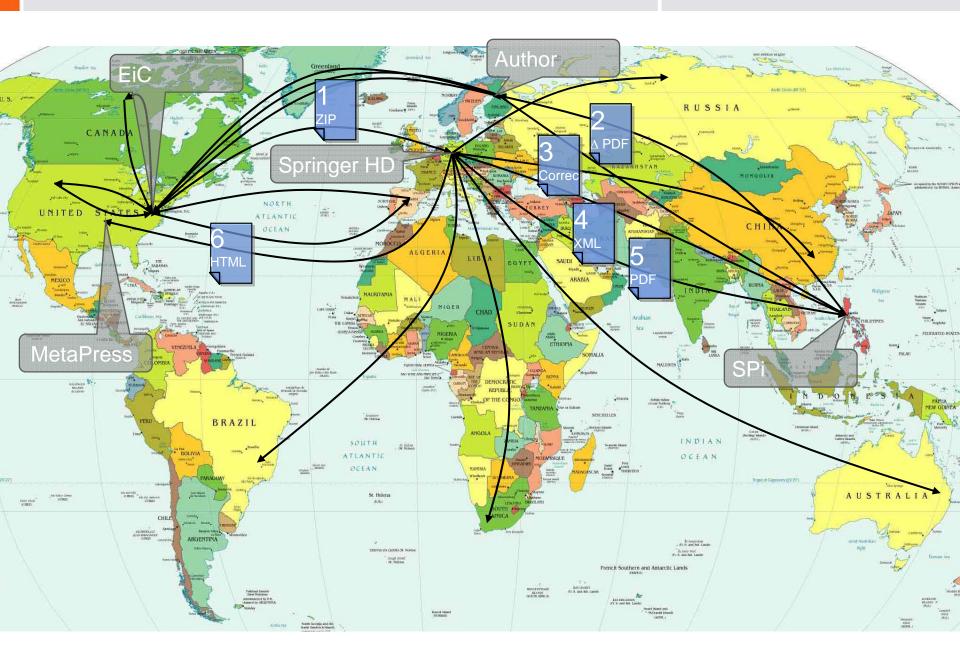


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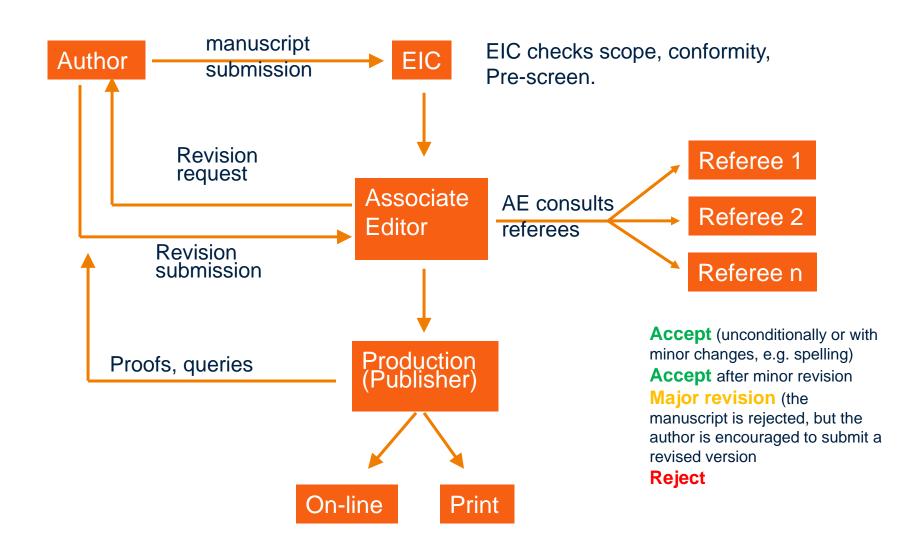
Journey of a Journal Article





Peer Review Process As in Case





Case: Editorial Manager



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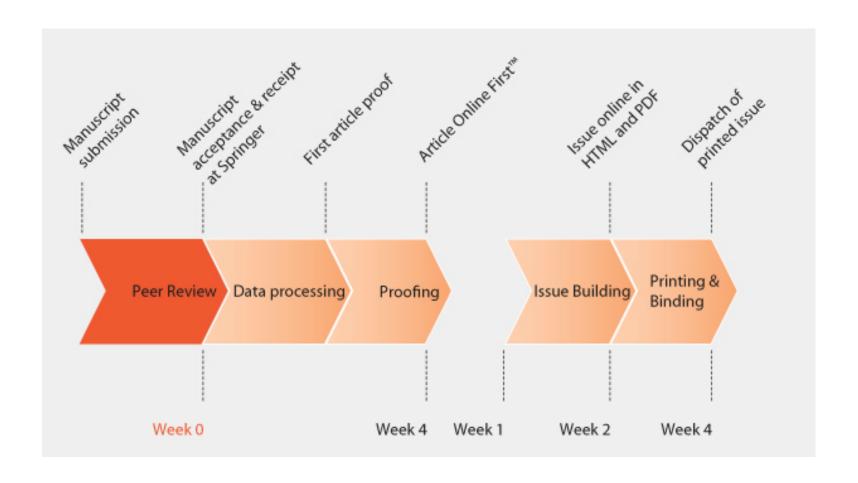
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Peer Review Process Case: Division of Workload



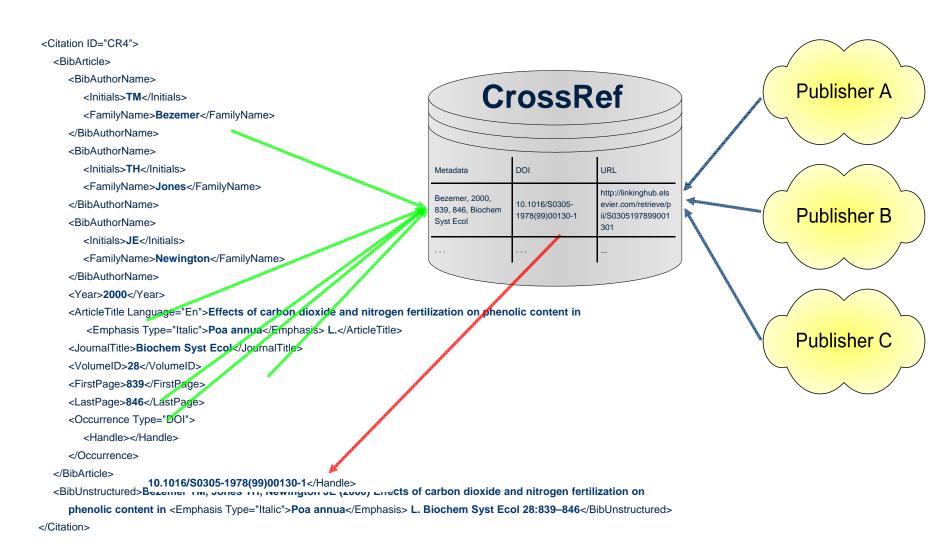
All submissions an Editor was assigned to during the specified time period. Note that an Editor could have been invited prior to the start of the time period, but the invitation must have been accepted during the time period.

Editor	Total assignments	Pending assignments	Decisions made	Terminated assignments
Editor 1	183	21	78	84
Editor 2	175	20	111	44
Editor 3	51	2	49	0
Editor 4	39	2	35	2
Editor 5	51	6	45	0
Editor 6	51	2	49	0
Editor 7	66	10	56	0
Editor 8	51	4	47	0

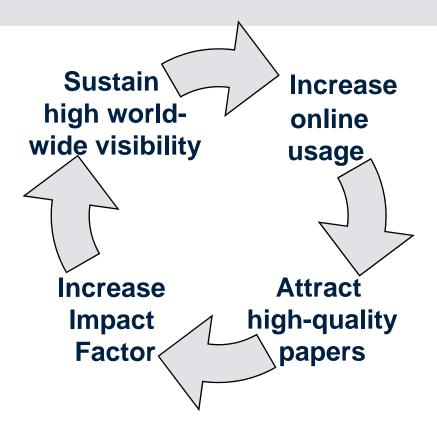


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- Librarians actively monitor usage of online resources
- In future renewal of journal sales will be increasingly dependent on usage
- Springer is active in increasing usage, i.e. the number of downloads of complete articles

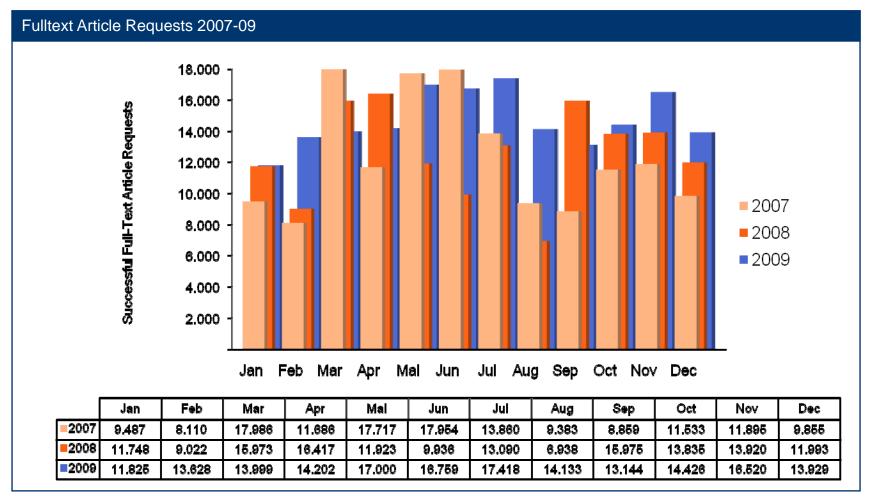


Past and Future Promotion Activities

- Collaboration with Search Engines, e.g. Google
- eCampaigns in 2009
- ToC Alerts
- Conferences in 2009
- Plans for promotion in 2010
- Experiments in Fluids Product Page new springer.com



Full-Text Article Requests (COUNTER Journal Report 1)



(Source: MetaPress)



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Key Indicators

- Submissions and copy flow: EM and production stats
- Decision and publication times and punctuality: EM
- Language: Copyediting costs/complaints
- Impact Factor: ISI-JCR (Journal Citation Report)
- Circulation: Sales stats
- Usage: Counter stats
- Revenues
- Profitability
- What people are saying



What's going on in the market for your journal?

- Competitor analysis: ISI-JCR
 - Which are the international competing journals?
 - How does your journal compare with these?
- International Funding in the subject area: WWW
- Which are the Highly cited papers ISI-JCR
- Talking to people



Copy flow

- Insufficient submissions? Surplus articles?Sustainable flow?
- Trend—up or down?
- Rejection rate: connected to IF
- Speed of Publication: attractivity to authors
- Special Issues, reviews: Can influence IF positively



Editorial performance

- Submissions: number, geography and topics
- Handling times: acceptance and publication
- Acceptance and rejection rates
- Repeat authors and/or new authors
- Focus on author care and author feedback



Editorial board

- A working board or window dressing?
- Structure
- International Coverage
- Range of Subject Expertise
- Monitor performance



Outputs: milestones, goals, plans

- What might these be?
 - A target Impact Factor by an agreed date
 - A target for article downloads
 - A proportion of authors from e.g. USA
- Development plan
- Three-year tracking/monitoring