Dysfunctional scientific publishing market and the DAFNEE initiative

https://dafnee.isem-evolution.fr/

https://zenodo.org/record/6224306



1. The problem

Facts about the scientific publishing market

2. The reasons

Demystifying the tyrany of bibliometry

3. The solutions

Addressing a collective action problem

Scientific publishing has a cost and a price

- Content acquisition
- Production
- Dissemination
- Indirect/fixed costs

~ \$400 per article

Yearly publishing market size

Total number of articles



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Where does the remaining 90% go?

~35% profit ~55% additional costs

(e.g. marketing, lobbying, paywalls)

The price of scientific publishing is not negligible

World: \$ 10¹⁰

→ salary and research cost of ~100,000 scientists

France: 2 x 10⁸ €

- → 40% ANR funding (AAPG)
- → 2000 PhD grants

Why such an anomaly?

- an oligopolistic situation
- costs often invisible to scientists
- importance of bibliometry in the evaluation of research

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- importance of bibliometry in the evaluation of research

How to move on?

- Universities, Research Institutes : negotiations
- Funding agencies: caps on eligible costs
- Scientists: informed, responsible behaviour

Diamond Open Access

Peer Community Journal

Hybrid Society journals

Systematic Biology
Journal of Evolutionary Biology
Proceedings B
PNAS

Non-profit Golden OA

PLoS eLife

Science Advances

Purely commercial journals

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DAFNEE

Purely compactial journals

DAFNEE

a Database of Academia Friendly jourNals in Ecology and Evolution

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Motivations:

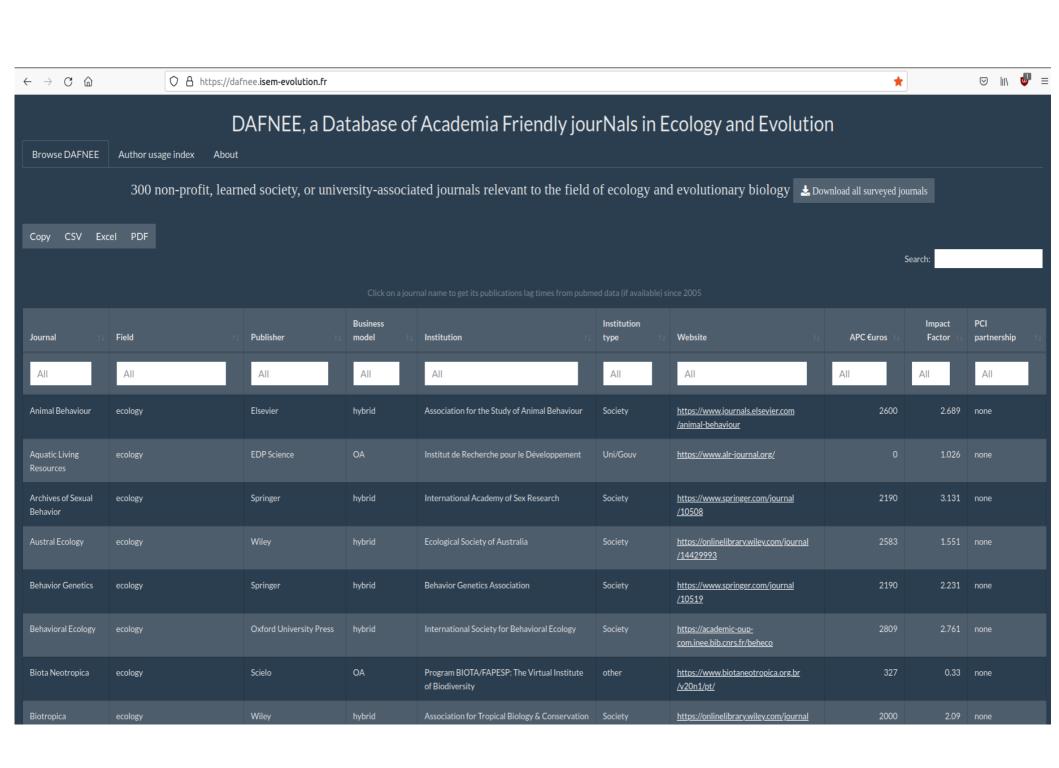
- inform scientists on journal business models in eco-evo
- promote academia-friendly journals

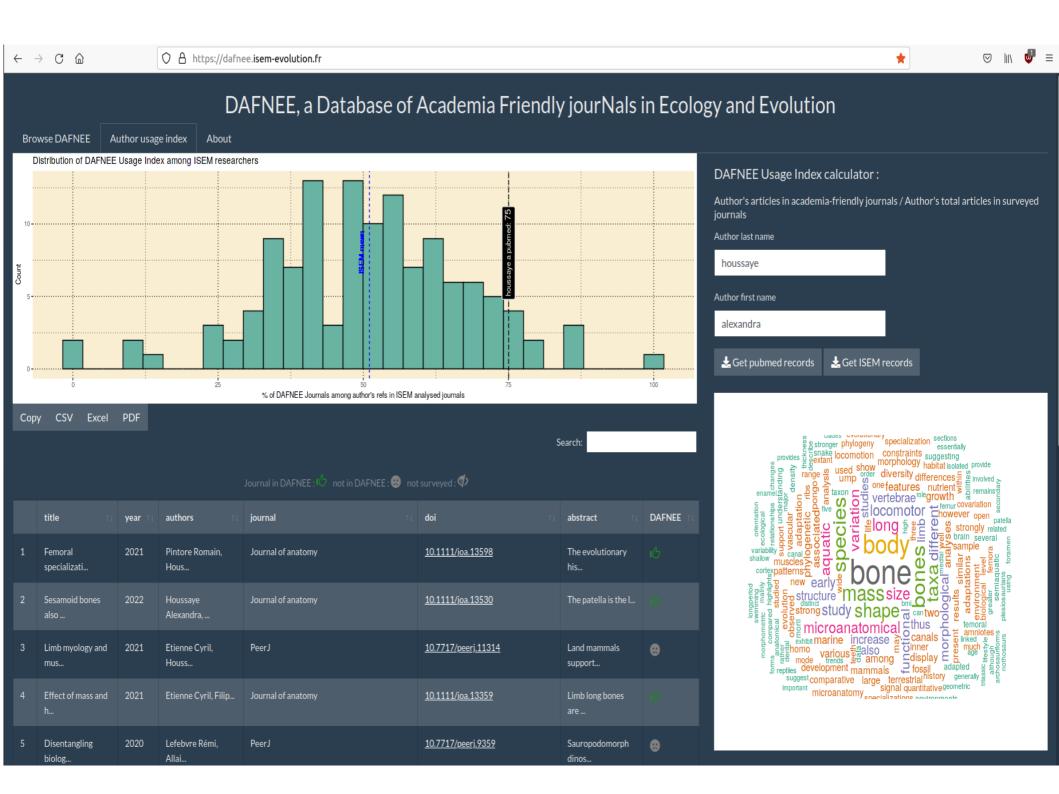
Content:

- 400 society, univ/museum or non-profit journals
- business model, publisher, partnership, APC, IF...

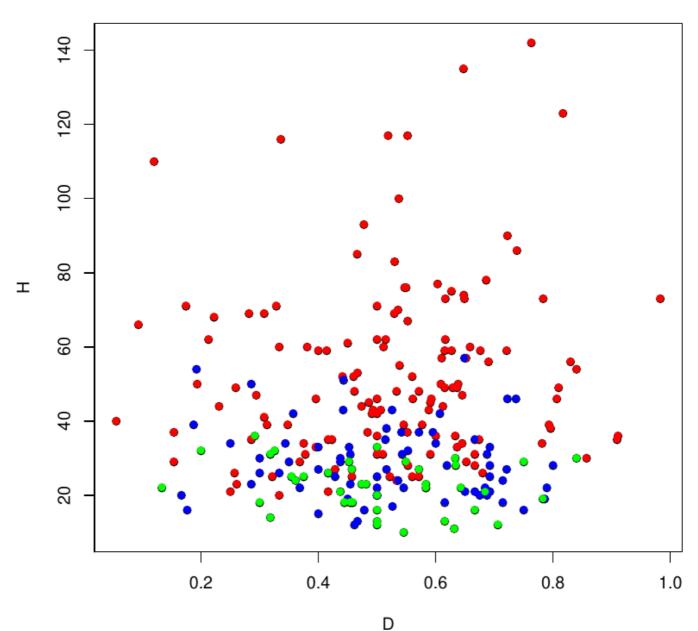
Curation:

- every 6 months, manually
- group of 10 scientists + staff from ISEM

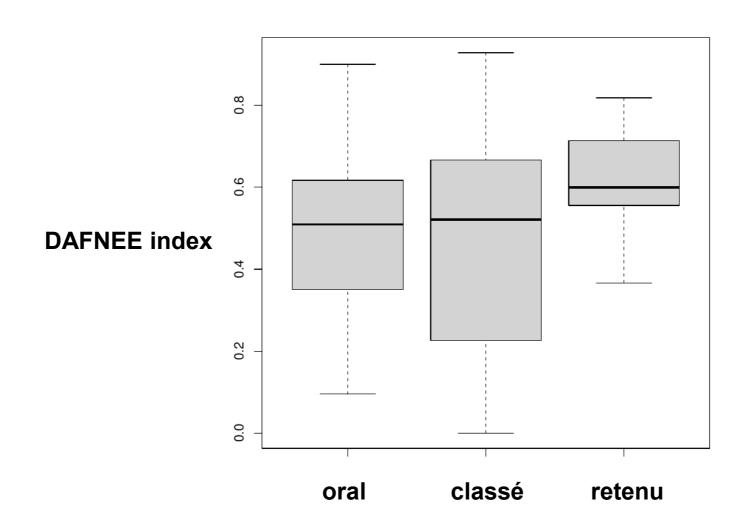




Favoring academia-friendly journals does not negatively affect a scientist's citation rate



Favoring academia-friendly journals does not negatively affect a scientist's hiring probability



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4. as an applicant (grants, jobs)

- include in CV a section on publication ethics explaining journal choices
- summarize the content of key papers + your contribution

5. as a regular scientist

- be aware that to spend public money for the sake of CV optimization is **not what tax payers are expecting from us**
- discuss about publication ethics with your friends, colleagues, advisors, students, employers, committee fellows, etc...