

Analysis of open access scholarly publishing in Global South. A case study of open access Journals in North Africa

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Introduction : Open access scholarly publishing is particularly important in North Africa in order to enable African scholars have access to high quality peer reviewed articles, and also to enable researchers across the globe have access to articles published by Africans researchers without any form of restriction. In response to the important need of access to scholarly Publishing in the North Africa, many editors have recently promoted OA journals. However, a disconnect between the business model of scholarly publishing, the lack of support and of experience for ensuring the quality and the transparency of the editorial process have perpetuated the OA publishing in the North Africa.

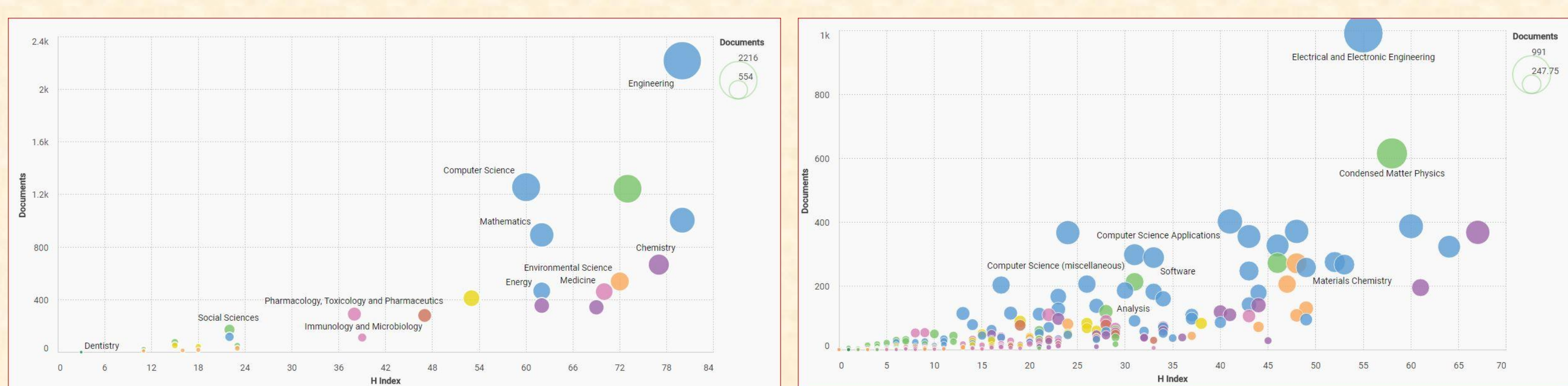


Fig. 1: Number of publications in Algeria in 2016-2017, Source: Scientific Journal Rankings

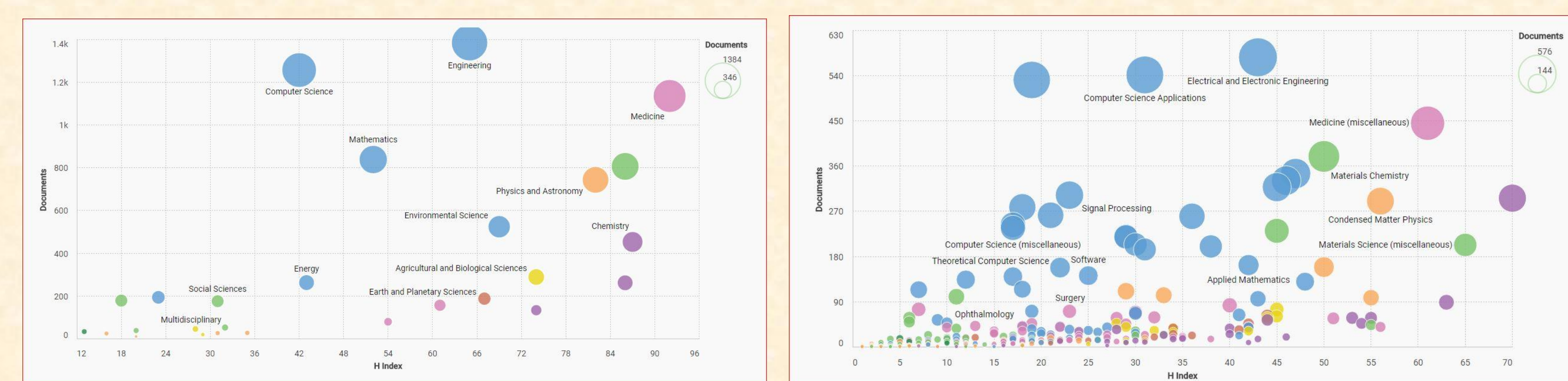


Fig. 2: Number of publications in Morocco in 2016-2017, Source: Scientific Journal Rankings

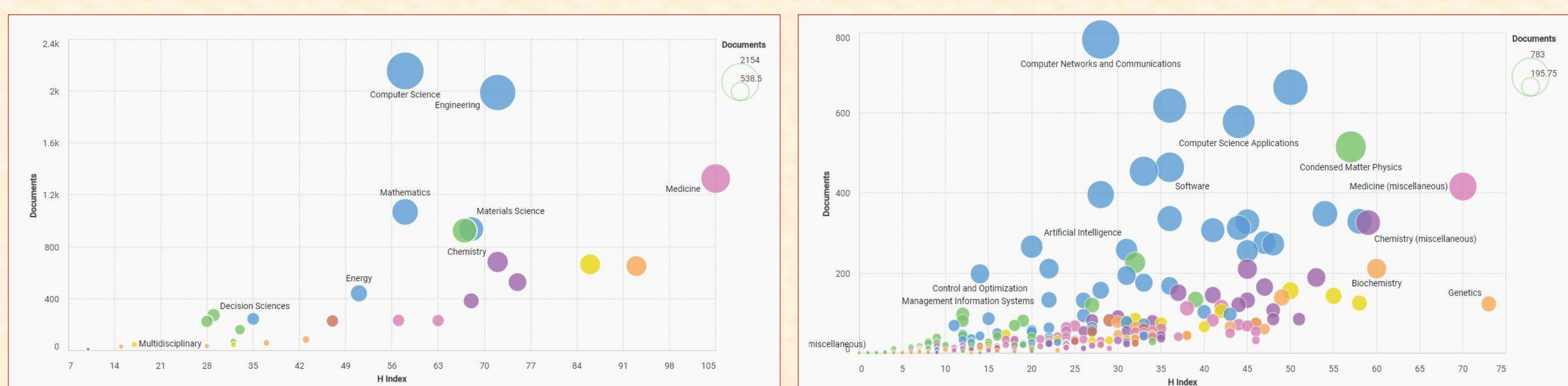


Fig. 3: Number of publications in Tunisia in 2016-2017, Source: Scientific Journal Rankings

Investment and publications in North Africa

1. Need to access academic journals.
2. Science, Technology and Medicine: The high quality articles are submitted to international scholarly journals' paywalls - to buy them back
1. Humanities and Social Science: published mainly in local journals – urgent to increase the impact
2. Developing Local aggregator and toll access to the journal articles
3. The cost for scholarly journals' paywalls are increasing dramatically year by year

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NEWS

Recensement des Revues Scientifiques Nationales (Mise à jour le 03/10/2017)

N°	Titre, sous-titre	Etablissement d'Enseignement ou de Recherche	ISSN
471	Les Cahiers du MECAS	U. TLEMCCEN	1112-5969
472	Gouvernance et Economie Sociale	U. TLEMCCEN	2353-0316
473	Revue Algérienne de Finances Publiques	U. TLEMCCEN	2170-1881
474	Revue Minerva	U. TLEMCCEN	2437-0703
475	Revue d'Etudes sur les Institutions et le Développement	U. TLEMCCEN	2335-1845
476	Genetics and Biodiversity Journal (GABJ)	U. TLEMCCEN	-
477	Revue Méditerranéenne de Droit et d'Economie	U. TLEMCCEN	2478-0006
478	BIOCENOSES	USTHB	2335-1306
479	Algerian Journal of Thermal Engineering	USTO	2335-1098
480	Algerian Journal of Research and Technology	USTO	2345-5946

Fig. 5: Scientific journal published in Algeria (480 journals need to be in DOAJ and other databases). Source : DGRSDT (access 19 /10/2017)

Transition from printed journals To Open Access

Algerian Scientific Journal Platform

ASJP

Accueil À propos Intégration Connexion عربي Recherche Avancée

Domaines

- Physical Sciences & Engineering
- Arts and Humanities
- Biochemistry, Genetics and Molecular Biology
- Business, Management and Accounting

Note de la DGRSDT : Les demandes d'intégrations des revues ne seront traitées que pour les éditeurs ayant participé à la formation du 22-12-2016 organisée au CERIST. Pour le reste des revues, des séances de formations seront programmées ultérieurement par la DGRSDT. Pour tout supplément d'information, merci de contacter la DGRSDT

Fig. 6: New platform , number of Journals : 376, Number of articles : 27583 , Source: ASJP (access 19 /10/2017) https://www.asjp.cerist.dz/en

IMIST

Portail des Revues Scientifiques Marocaines

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Revues Scientifiques Marocaines

Bienvenue !

Dans le cadre de la valorisation et la diffusion de la production scientifique marocaine, l'IMIST - CERIST, lance le projet « EDITION ELECTRONIQUE DES REVUES SCIENTIFIQUES MAROCAINES ». Ce projet consiste à prendre

Fig. 7: platform (OJS) of Moroccan Journals, number of Journals : 91 , Source: IMIST (access 19 /10/2017) https://www.asjp.cerist.dz/en

New policies for Scientific Journals in Algeria

- The National Commission for the Validation of Algerian Scientific Journals – decisions December 2016, All Algerian Scientific Journals (list of 480 journals) :
1. must be online and Open Access - No funding for print journals.
 2. must be included in the new platform of Algerian Scientific Journals - Aggregation
 3. the Editor of Algerian Journal can not ask for APCs from authors, the editor will receive a compensation.
 4. Printed Journals must be indexed in the New platform "ASJP" as Open Access Journals
 5. Journals need to be indexed in DOAJ, and other databases...in order to be visible on a global scale

Table 1: Top 10 countries (number of publications in Africa, 2017), Source: SJR country rank

Country	↓ Documents	Citable documents	Citations	Self-Citations	Citations per Document	H index
1 South Africa	20249	18684	21418	5833	1.06	361
2 Tunisia	7692	7231	4585	1340	0.60	144
3 Algeria	6377	6126	3791	1064	0.59	125
4 Nigeria	6141	5733	3763	848	0.61	153
5 Morocco	5694	5374	3739	1352	0.66	151
6 Kenya	2527	2292	3224	503	1.28	201
7 Ethiopia	1962	1874	1461	333	0.74	115
8 Ghana	1922	1804	1609	297	0.84	119
9 Uganda	1481	1307	2043	346	1.43	145
10 Tanzania	1368	1260	1527	224	1.12	136

Recommendations for Editors of Scientific Journals in North Africa

- Unrestricted copyright for the author
- No exclusive publishing rights
- No transfer of commercial rights
- Clear licensing conditions, Preferably use of Creative Commons licensing
- Embedded licensing information with articles
- No mention of false Impact Factor, instead use journal citation distribution and/or altmetrics

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DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.1025218>

Conclusion:

- Open Access Journals envisaged as regional and global common goods
- Professionalization, internationalization and sustainability of Open Access Journals in North Africa
- Creation of institutional OA repositories, African research results should be visible and discoverable on a global scale (Green Open Access)
- Promoting standards, transparency and best practice



References:

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- [5] Scimago Journal & Country Rank (SJR) : access (19/10/2017), <http://www.scimagojr.com/journalrank.php>