

Unleashing knowledge with open access

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Part 1

Before **images** and **writing** (i.e. documents): **only one** sociology existed

Afterwards: **three** sociologies co-existed

- A **Human-Human** sociology
- A **Human-documents** sociology
- A **Document-document** sociology



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Human-to-human sociology



Tiago Ribeiro CC-by 2.0

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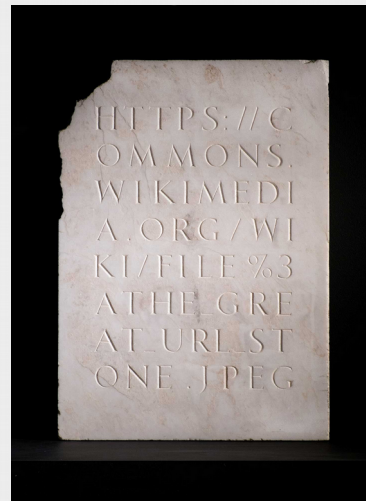
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Document-to-document sociology



Matl cc-by-sa



“Natur und Kunst” (Goethe) poem **quoted** in Leiden (NL)

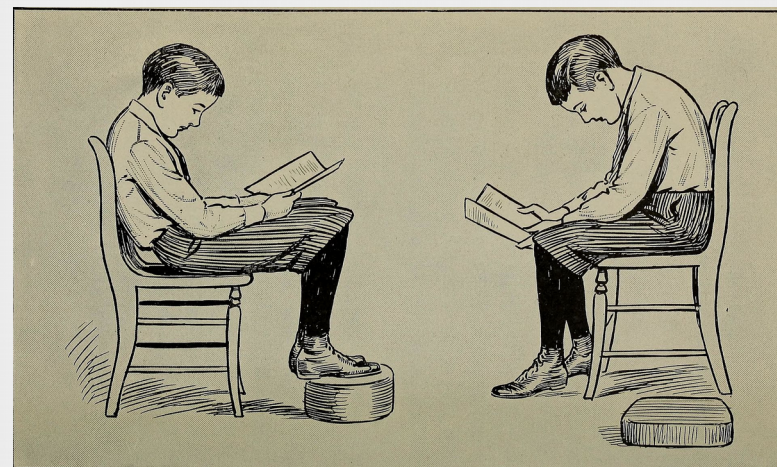
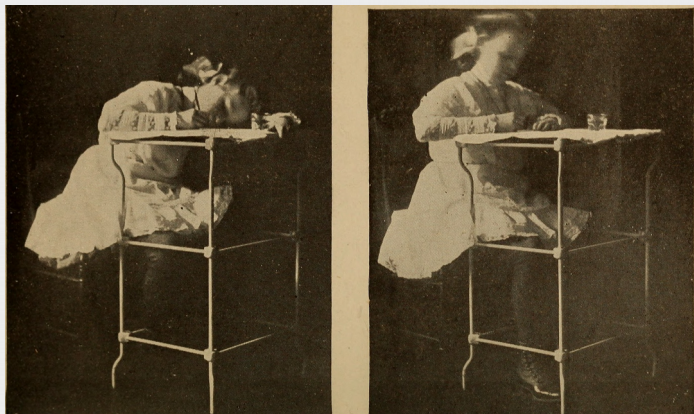
Egor Kraft, “The URL Stone”
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Human-document sociology



Public domain illustrations

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Obviously, the **triple sociology** is related to **technology**

- Between human beings: **writing**, **postal systems**, **print**, **telephones**,



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- Between humans and documents: **tools**, **pens**, **printing press**, **brush**, etc.

Delphine Ménard CC-by-SA 3.0



- Between documents: **libraries**, **shelves**, **footnotes**, **marginal notes**, **bibliographies**, **links**, etc.



Viisas Hiiri CC-By 4.0

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Yet, the triple sociology

is not about

technology!

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Part 2

The triple sociology, as applied to scholarly communication

- 1) How do researchers interact with each other?
(competition, collaboration)
- 2) How do researchers/scholars interact with documents?
(workflow)
- 3) How do scientific documents relate to each other
(Links, citations, comments)

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In the **digital** world, the **triple sociology** evolves in new ways.

Many **words**, old and new, emerge with new
(and often **fuzzy**) **meaning(s)**

They refer to even **fuzzier entities**

Examples:

Repositories

Portals, Mega-journals, **Platforms**

Journals

Articles, Crystals-of-Knowledge

Blogs, etc.

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In the digital context, let us ask:

what is...

an **article**?

a **Journal**?

a **portal**?

a **platform**?

And **where** does a repository **fit in all of this**?

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Words related to **humans** also **change**:

Authors reveal their “author functions”

Publishers reveal their “publishing functions”

And so do **readers**, **users**, **reviewers**, etc.

Furthermore, functions
can be distributed
among roles
in different and unfamiliar ways

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For example: the “publisher”

Ever since Henry Oldenburg, scholarly publishing means:

- **Registration** = author and title
 - **Certification** = peer review
 - **(Preservation = Library collections)**
 - **Dissemination** = book, journal, trade
 - **And, much more recently, Evaluation (= Impact factor)**
- The publisher is viewed as a monolith,
but it is only a print construct!**

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- Nowadays: these functions can be spread across various actors:
- **Registration** can be done by a **university**, a **research centre**, etc.
 - **Certification** can be handled by **peers**, independently of **journals** (e.g. **F1000 Research**)
 - **Certification** can become part of the **scientific record**

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Furthermore:

- Articles can correspond to “Crystals of knowledge”*, and not “versions of record”;
- Libraries can preserve digital files better than publishers
- Dissemination is replaced by Internet access
- Evaluation can be based on content, and not on the prestige of journals

Thomas Wiben Jensen and J.-C. Guédon with Niels Stern, ed., « Crystals of Knowledge Production: An Intercontinental Conversation about Open Science and the Humanities, » *Nordic Perspectives on Open Science*, 2015(1). <http://dx.doi.org/10.7557/11.3619> . <http://nopus.eu/index.php/nopus/article/view/3619> .F

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In the digital world,
publishing becomes
releasing

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Part 3

What about reputation, visibility, prestige, authority?

Researchers are Janus-faced:
Both information seekers and status seekers



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OPEN ACCESS,

(SO FAR)

HAS BEEN WEAK

(AT BEST)

ABOUT RESEARCHER STATUS



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Lack of GOOD answers to status concerns explains the slow uptake of Open Access, particularly in repositories.

Publisher-led OA, by contrast, is driven by the publishers' monopolistic hold on status (impact factor).

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Within the triple sociology,
the crucial interaction is human-human.
The interaction between researchers
is managed through a form of competition
underpinned by the
commercial competition
of journals.

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Competition shapes technology,
not the reverse!

The impact factor
is the (bad) currency
of this competition

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The impact factor structures
competition from the individual
researcher to whole countries.
Rankings, rankings, rankings...

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Part 4

Meanwhile, repositories...



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Are **repositories** more than **silos**?

One common answer is:

No!

Thanks to **OAI-PMH, OAI-PMH, OAI-PMH...**

But how many **researchers** do you know
that, for example, use

OAISTERS?

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If you try...

No results match your search for '**ti:Hidden Features in Global Knowledge Production: (re)positioning Theory and Practice in Academic Writing**'.

Having trouble? Help us improve our search and [let us know](#) what you're trying to find.

Or, [save this search](#) for future reference.

Search

Library Items

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Search for an item in libraries near you:

Enter a title, subject or author:

ti:Hidden Features in Global Knowledge Production: (re)p

Search

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Yet, this is an **article** found in a
Scielo journal

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Google Scholar does work better

[HTML] [Hidden features in global knowledge production:\(re\) positioning theory and practice in academic writing](#)

[HTML] [scielo.br](#)

[J Windle](#) - Revista Brasileira de Linguística Aplicada, 2017 - SciELO Brasil

ABSTRACT A key challenge for applied linguistics is how to deal with the historical power imbalance in knowledge production between the global north and south. A central objective of critical applied linguistics has been to provide new epistemological foundations that ...

☆ [Autres articles](#) [Les 4 versions](#) [»»](#)

[Towards a practice theory of entrepreneuring](#)

[B Johannisson](#) - Small Business Economics, 2011 - Springer

... Scholars are desperate about **hiding** such mess by way of modeling, thereby possibly demonstrating ... for self-organizing, which means that its ability to deal with challenges is **secret**, **hidden** in the ... be avoided at all costs, is not negotiable if the process **features** of entrepreneuring ...

☆ [Cité 243 fois](#) [Autres articles](#) [Les 14 versions](#)

Part (but only part) of the solution, therefore, lies in optimizing the site for search engines (in particular Google Scholar)

On this see K. Arlitsch and P. S. O'Brien
and the COAR Webinar
first presented on September 18th, 2017

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But the way **forward** is not purely **technical**!

- 1) The researcher as status-seeker must be satisfied;
- 2) **Going beyond the present system requires going beyond commercialized, IF-driven, journals**;
- 3) Yet, the term “journal” is deeply entrenched.
- 4) Therefore, the word “journals” must be kept, but it must be **redefined**.

HOW?

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The **best model** for a **scholarly journal** is the traditional society journal

- 1) It is the **voice** of a **scholarly community**;
- 2) It **seeks** to **reach** other, **similar communities elsewhere**;
- 3) Its **financial** support is designed **NOT TO INTERFERE** with the **scholarly communication system in any way**;
- 4) It **locates** the “**journal**” close to the **workflow** of the **researchers**;
- 5) It places the “**journal**” under the exclusive **control** of **scholarly communities**;
- 6) **Reputation** is **gradually** built through **scholar-to-scholar interactions** that rely on **time-based community experience**;
- 7) **Quality evaluation** finds itself **aligned with reputation** within the **starting community**, and **beyond**;
- 8) Both **competition** and **cooperation** can now contribute to **knowledge production**

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Repositories
need
to recreate
“journals”.

How?

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It starts with **networking**,

of course...

but **networking** itself must
obey some **principle**

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Think
of an institutional depository as a
town,
a town peopled with documents...

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A town, to live, thrive, and grow,
needs to link to other towns
and requires a Hinterland

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Real towns relate to each other

According to two principles:

physical proximity,

economic complementarity

Depository towns can relate to each other

according to two principles as well:

Disciplinary or speciality “proximity”

Problem-solving complementarity

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Only when **repositories** relate to other **repositories** according to principles of **intellectual proximity** or **problem-solving complementarity** can they aspire to being a

platform

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Platforms, of course,
can network with other platforms

The fractal structure
of knowledge production
appears here

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Intellectual proximity lies closest
to the traditional notion of journals;

Intellectual complementarity
corresponds best
to the “mode 2” production of knowledge

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Organizing networking in this fashion allows to redefine evaluation and impact as a three-dimensional scheme:

- 1) Intellectual significance
- 2) Relevance to specific problem solving
- 3) Reach beyond traditional research actors (the Hinterland)

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Competition can be circumscribed to situations where it can be of use, rather than being a **mindless principle of management**

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“Intellectual
proximity and complementarity”
are also good ways to grow
effective communities,
and not just crowds

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Finally, it is clear that
repositories have two key and
strategic forms of positioning
themselves:

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- 1) They are able to stay close to the workflow of researchers;
- 2) They can contribute to “universal” science without neglecting direct and present concerns

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Danke schön!