

## GOOD GROWTH IN OA IN TROMSØ

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After having analysed some preliminary data about the publishing activities of researchers from the University of Tromsø in 2012 (and compared them to earlier years) we see a clear trend towards OA publishing. We have no information as to whether this is part of a national or global trend, but we would like to share our numbers with others.

Year	Total no of articles	Gold OA	Gold OA share	Hybrid articles	Total OA	Total OA share	TA articles
2004	572	31	5,4 %	0	31	5,4 %	541
2005	652	49	7,5 %	0	49	7,5 %	603
2006	665	47	7,1 %	0	47	7,1 %	618
2007	743	59	7,9 %	0	59	7,9 %	684
2008	874	71	8,1 %	3	74	8,5 %	800
2009	992	79	8,0 %	5	84	8,5 %	908
2010	1059	84	7,9 %	13	97	9,2 %	962
2011	1194	131	11,0 %	58	181	15,8 %	1013
2012	1285	216	16,8 %	62	278	21,6 %	1007

The data we have analysed are raw data from Cristin, the national CRIS where all researchers have to report all their publishing activities in order to secure funding for their institution's (and their faculty/institute/research group) budgets. This means reporting can be assumed to be nearly 100 per cent complete. Our data was accessed some weeks before the final reporting, so some details may not be exact, but the overall picture cannot be much wrong.

All numbers here are about articles that our researchers have been involved in as authors, an article where one of our researchers is one out of five hundred authors count as 1 article, not as 1/500<sup>th</sup> of an article.

A major finding is that the gold OA publishing rate has had a very strong increase. The gold OA rate went from 5.4 per cent in 2004 to 7.5 in 2005 and stayed at 7.1–7.9 2006–2010. Then in 2011 the rate grew to 11.0, which we saw as a strong growth – until this year's numbers showed a gold OA rate of 16.8 per cent.

Parallel to this, there has been growth in the use of hybrid OA. For a year (July 2010–June 2011) we had a deal with Springer that meant our authors met a price of EUR 0 when going for the hybrid option, this naturally meant a strong increase in the use of hybrid. Hybrid numbers are difficult to come by, for earlier years we have used a Springer tool, for 2012 we

actually employed a student to go through all our articles in journals that had a hybrid option, to find all OA articles in these journals. Some readers may remember my lamenting this lack of tools to find hybrid OA articles in ScieCom info no. 1 2012. (Frantsvåg 2012)

We had expected a dramatic fall in the use of the hybrid option in 2012, but it stayed on the new, high level – giving a hybrid OA share of 4.8 per cent. This adds up to a total OA share of 21.6 per cent.

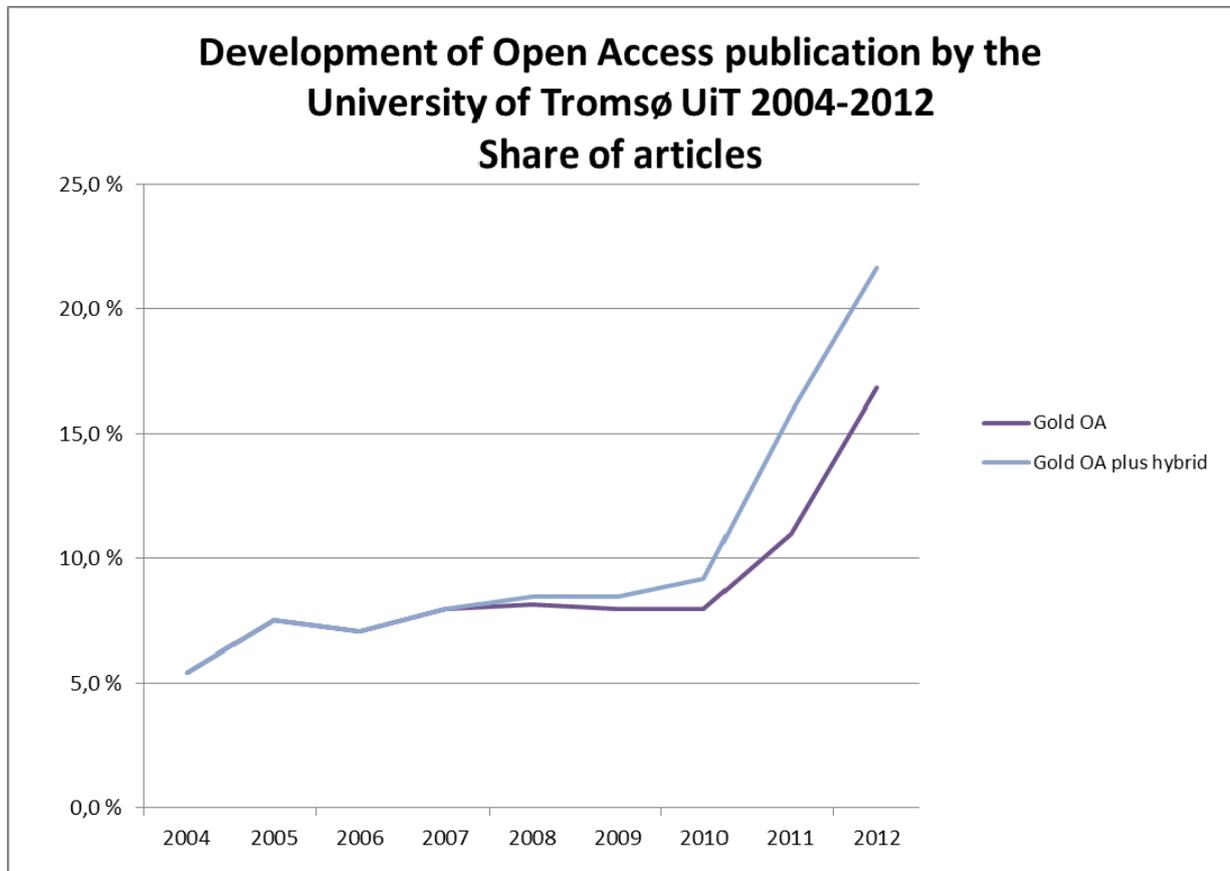
The hybrid OA numbers show an uptake of the hybrid option of about 9 per cent – 62 articles out of 691 published in journals offering an OA option, were using that OA option. Compared to Bo-Christer Björks estimates of uptake on a global basis of 1–2 per cent (Björk 2012), this is about 5 times above the norm.

While the total number of articles has increased, we see a decrease in the number of TA articles from 2011 to 2012. The decrease is not large, but it could be a first sign that TA publishing is on the decline.

We believe our numbers to be relatively high, but not unique, and part of a trend that shows OA publishing to enter a stage of rapid growth that in a few years'

time will make OA the dominant publishing strategy. Our publishing fund may be part of the explanation of the rapid growth here in Tromsø, but there is no way the fund can be the major explanation. The growth in

the number of Gold OA articles from 2011 to 2012 was 85, while the fund funded 27 articles in the same period, out of a Gold OA total of 216. The numbers we see, must reflect a need and a willingness on the part of scientists, to make their works available OA.



**References:**

Björk, B.-C. (2012), The hybrid model for open access publication of scholarly articles: A failed experiment?. J. Am. Soc. Inf. Sci., 63: 1496–1504. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1002/asi.22709>

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