

# Why Are We Not Boycotting Academia.edu?

Pascal AVENTURIER

INRA Institut National de la Recherche  
Agronomique, France

[Pascal.aventurier@avignon.inra.fr](mailto:Pascal.aventurier@avignon.inra.fr)

@Pascal\_Av

[Why Are We Not Boycotting Academia.edu?](#)

8th dec 2015 Coventry



FRENCH NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

- INRA produces scientific knowledge and works for economic and social innovation in the areas of food, agriculture and the environment.
- 8 488 employees, 213 research Units
- Open Access Institutional Repository Prodinra  
<http://www.inra.fr/prodinra>

**Introducing myself : I have been leading the Regional Scientific Information Team since 2002.**

**Co-leader of the scientific information technology group : research data, linked open data, open access technologies, *digital and social tool practices***

Since 2008



my experiment

PIIRUS

VIVO | connex Agrivivo



MyScienceWork



Nature Networks

zotero

ResearchGate

Academia.edu  
share research

MENDELEY

8 million users  
45 million documents  
in database

29 million users  
8 million documents

2.5 million users  
+ 200 million documents

# Repositories ?

**RANKING WEB OF REPOSITORIES**

Universities Hospitals Business Schools Research Centers

SEARCH

HOME NORTH AMERICA LATIN AMERICA EUROPE ASIA AFRICA ARAB WORLD OCEANIA BY AREAS TOP INSTITUTIONALS TOP PORTALS

[Home](#) » Top Portals

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**About the Ranking**

- Methodology
- Objectives

**Resources**

- Best Practices
- Links

 www.mavr.net







## Top Portals

World Rank	Name	Country	Size	Visibility	Edu Rich	scholar
1	ResearchGate	Germany	5	3	1	2
2	Sociedad Electronic Library Online Brazil Scielo Brazil	Brazil	4	2	2	5
3	Academia.edu	United States	3	1	43	16
4	Scopus	United States	8	5	4	4
5	Brillier Electronic Press Repress	United States	1	7	15	15
6	Republika.hr	Croatia	15	4	81	11
7	HAL-Hyper Article en Ligne	France	20	8	13	10
8	Open Access Repository Academic Archive On-line	United States	16	11	9	7
9	China National Knowledge Infrastructure	China	2	10	136	1
10	Scientific Electronic Library Online Chile Scielo Chile	Chile	9	9	22	17

**ResearchGate, Academia and Mendeley**

In this edition the three cited services are ranked under the Portals. It is not a common situation, but sometimes authors are depositing their papers in these websites instead of their own institutional repositories. The limited added value provided by the current generation of repository software and the inability of library managers and repository webmasters in improving profiling and other customization options are leading to this unfortunate emerging trend.

For this reason, we are showing the great performance of these "competitors" for increasing awareness: It is badly needed to improve repositories with a strong end-user (authors) orientation.

[source](#)

[Ranking web of repositories](#)

[http://repositories.webometrics.info/en/node/25.](http://repositories.webometrics.info/en/node/25)

# Visibility

## Google Scholar indexes Academia.edu and Researchgate

The screenshot shows a Google Scholar search results page. The search query is "general framework for the rapid development". The results are filtered by "Academia.edu [PDF]".

**Scholar** About 2,510,000 results (0.09 sec)

**Articles** [PDF] **General framework for the rapid development** of interactive paper applications academia.edu [PDF]  
MC Norrie, B Signer, N Weibel - Proc. CoPADD, 2006 - academia.edu  
ABSTRACT Citations form the basis for a web of scientific publications. Search engines, embedded hyperlinks and digital libraries all simplify the task of finding publications of interest on the web and navigating to cited publications or web sites. However the actual ...  
Cited by 55 Related articles All 9 versions Cite Save More

**Any time** **EMBOSS: the European molecular biology open software suite** yimg.com [PDF]  
P Rice, I Longden, A Bleasby - Trends in genetics, 2000 - cell.com  
... The **rapid** increase in large-scale sequencing and the challenges of the post-genomic era lead to a need for the **rapid development** of new applications, or the enhancement of existing software. This has been limited by the need for a **general** purpose- **framework** for the ...  
Cited by 4484 Related articles All 16 versions Cite Save

**Sort by relevance** A conceptual **framework** and a toolkit for supporting the **rapid** prototyping of context-aware applications uci.edu [PDF]

# Main functionalities

- Finding researchers or experts, be more visible (profile)
- Find relevant documents
- Disseminate your publications
- Create a network of followings/followers
- Discuss topics

Aventurier, P., Coaud, S. (2013). *Les réseaux sociaux pour les scientifiques*. Presented at La science 2.0. séminaire des professionnels IST, Seillac, FRA (2013/04/09-11).

# Secondary functionalities

- Find a job (contact with companies or job offers)
- Manage and share bibliography
- Exchange with the intermediary of groups/communities or with people sharing the same interest : topics, skills expertise
- Evaluate or discuss document : Open peer-review, annotation
- Share information (Questions/answers)
- Metrics / documents consultations



- Q1 Why have researchers been so ready to campaign against for-profit academic publishers such as Elsevier, Springer, Wiley-Blackwell, and Taylor & Francis/Informa, but not against for-profit platforms such as Academia.edu, ResearchGate, and Google Scholar?

Profit	Company	Industry
10%	BMW	automobiles
21% (not profit)	PLoS.org	non-profit scholarly publishing
23%	Rio Tinto	mining
25%	Google	search
29%	Apple	premium computing
35%	Springer	scholarly publishing
37%	Elsevier	scholarly publishing

- Social Platforms came after the publication process
- Lack of information about copyright transfert and right to reuse
  - 86% of french researchers don't know what Social networks policy is (Couperin Study)
- Nothing to pay : free to use
- Acurate feedback
- Enhanced citation **count+ 73 % ?**



## Four tough things universities should do to rein in costs

"Higher Education in America," former Harvard president Derek Bok notes that 98 percent of articles published in the arts and humanities are never cited by another researcher. In social sciences, it is 75 percent. Even in the hard sciences, where 25 percent of articles are never cited, the average number of citations is between one and two.

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/four-tough-things-universities-should-do-to-rein-in-costs/2015/11/25/64fed3de-92c0-11e5-a2d6-f57908580b1f\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/four-tough-things-universities-should-do-to-rein-in-costs/2015/11/25/64fed3de-92c0-11e5-a2d6-f57908580b1f_story.html)

Q2 Should academics refrain from providing free labours for these publishing companies too?

# No Open Access

The screenshot shows a document page on Academia.edu. At the top left is the word "ACADEMIA". A search bar contains the placeholder "Search...". On the right are "LOG IN" and "SIGN UP" buttons. Below the header is a large, light gray area containing a document preview. The document has a red "PDF" button at the top left. The title "Publication Practices in Motion: The Benefits of Open Access Publishing for the Humanities" is displayed prominently. Below the title is a profile picture of a woman, the name "Janneke Adema", and statistics: "UPLOADED BY", "VIEWS 58", "FILES 1 of 2", and "PAGES 213". Below these are "CONNECT TO DOWNLOAD" and social sharing buttons for Google+, Facebook, and Email. At the bottom left of the document preview, it says "213 Pages".

Publication Practices in Motion: The Benefits of Open Access Publishing for the Humanities

UPLOADED BY  
Janneke Adema

VIEWS 58 FILES 1 of 2 PAGES 213

CONNECT TO DOWNLOAD

g+ GET PDF f e

213 Pages

# How to query « sea-level and climate change » in Academia ?

The screenshot shows the Academia.edu search interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for HOME, ANALYTICS, SESSIONS, and a '+ UPLOAD' button. Below the navigation bar is a search bar with the placeholder 'Search...'. The main content area has a sidebar on the left titled 'Sea Level' with a 'edit' link. The sidebar lists five researchers: Dietmar Müller, Beverly Goodman, Vasile Ersek, Dago Jacques LABOREL, and Ali Masria, each with a small profile picture, their names, university affiliation, and department. To the right of the sidebar, there are three search results cards. The first card is for a publication by Mike Browne titled 'Ice sheet advance, dynamics, and decay configurations: evidence from west central Scotland'. The second card is for a publication by Mark Bourassa titled 'Remotely sensed winds for episodic forcing of ocean models'. The third card is for a publication by Mark Bourassa titled 'El Niño Tropical Pacific Ocean surface current and temperature evolution in 2002 and outlook for early 2003'. Each card includes a 'Bookmark' button and a 'Download (.pdf)' button.

No  
Query functions  
Exports data  
Interoperability

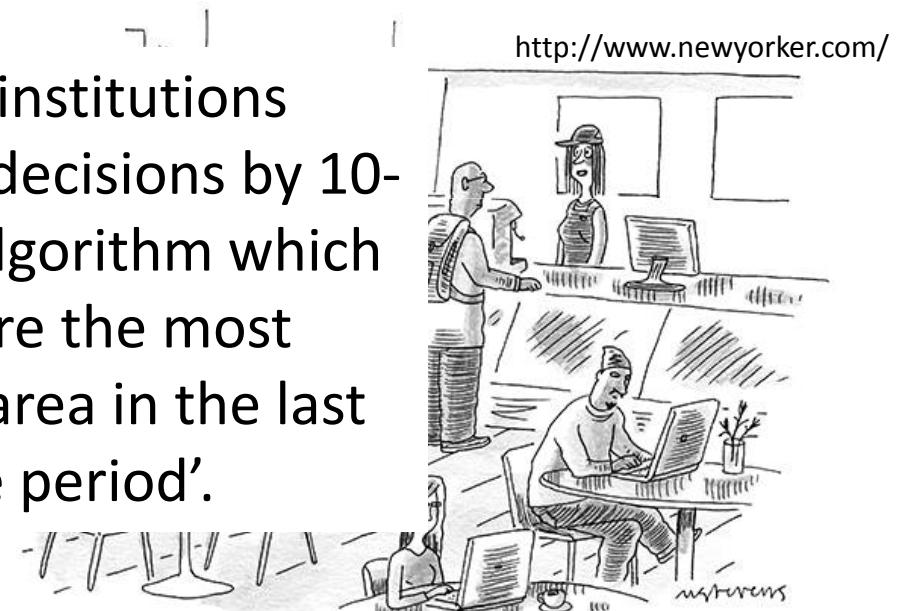
The screenshot shows the Academia.edu search interface for 'Sea Level' with a sidebar on the right. The sidebar is titled 'Metadata' and contains sections for 'Year?' and 'Journal?'. It also lists related research interests such as Holocene sea level change, Quaternary Geology, Coastal Geomorphology, Geoarchaeology, Impact of climate change on sea level rise, Paleoclimatology, Geomorphology, Sedimentology, GeoArcheology, Coastal and Island Archaeology, Coastal geoarchaeology, Global Environmental Change, Marine Geology, Maritime Archaeology, Earth Sciences, Coastal Sedimentology, Sequence Stratigraphy, Geology, Sea-Level Rise, and Paleceanography, each with a count of publications. The main content area shows the same search results as the previous screenshot, with the third result for Mark Bourassa's paper now including a 'Download (.pdf)' button.

P. Aventurier [Why Are We Not Boycotting Academia.edu?](#)

# Business models = data exploitation



**Richard Price (Academia CEO)** : R&D institutions that can improve the quality of their decisions by 10-20%.' Price envisions developing an algorithm which "would tell an R&D company which are the most impactful papers in a given research area in the last 24 hours, 7 days, 30 days, or any time period'.



*"The coffee is free, but now we rent the tables."*

"A Quick Glance at Business Models of Academic Social Networking Services." *Hybrid Publishing Lab Notepad*. Accessed November 21, 2014. <https://hybridpublishing.org/2013/01/a-quick-glance-at-business-models-of-academic-social-networking-services/>.

# Who own the contents ?

- **Copyrighted articles** are behind paywall and authors cannot put the fulltext into social networks
  - Elsevier asked to retire the papers from Academia.edu (Dec 2013)

Recently Elsevier has begun sending take-down notices to Academia.edu for articles that authors have posted where they are in violation of the copyright transfer agreement that the author has signed. Most authors sign such agreements with publishers.

- No Reuse permission, only for personal purpose : view print copy.. (Academia terms of use)

See <http://scienceblogs.com/confessions/2013/12/10/around-the-web-elsevier-vs-academia-edu-vs-researchers/> or Voir aussi : <http://urfistinfo.hypotheses.org/2596> and <https://www.academia.edu/terms>

# CNRS (France) recommandations in Social Sciences

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Institut des sciences humaines et sociales (CNRS). The top navigation bar includes links for 'Rechercher' (Search), 'Le CNRS', 'Annuaires', 'Mots-Clefs CNRS', and 'Autres sites'. Below the navigation is the institute's logo and name. A sidebar on the left lists various sections such as 'Présentation de l'institut', 'La recherche en sciences humaines et sociales', 'Laboratoires de l'institut', etc. The main content area discusses 'HAL-SHS - Archive ouverte en Sciences de l'Homme et de la Société'. It highlights the use of social networks like ResearchGate and Academia.edu, noting their benefits for visibility and networking. It also cautions against depositing work on private company platforms like ResearchGate due to potential restrictions on access. The page ends with a note encouraging researchers to use HAL for its open access and long-term preservation features.

Rechercher  ok

Le CNRS | Annuaires | Mots-Clefs CNRS | Autres sites

Institut des sciences humaines et sociales  
Centre national de la recherche scientifique

Présentation de l'institut

La recherche en sciences humaines et sociales

Laboratoires de l'institut

Informations pratiques aux laboratoires

Europe et International

Carrières et emplois

Espace communication

Innovatives SHS 2013

Qui contacter pour...

Consulter les lettres d'information de l'INSHS

Informations aux directeurs d'unités

Rechercher sur ce site  ok

Accueil > La recherche en sciences humaines et sociales > Information scientifique et technique > HAL-SHS – Archive ouverte en Sciences de l'Homme et de la Société

**HAL-SHS - Archive ouverte en Sciences de l'Homme et de la Société**

Réseaux sociaux et archives ouvertes : HAL versus Academia.edu ou Research Gate

De plus en plus de chercheurs sont présents sur les réseaux sociaux, notamment ceux qui sont spécialement destinés à la science et aux chercheurs et enseignants chercheurs comme Research Gate, Academia.edu ou bien encore My Science Work.

Pour beaucoup de chercheurs la présence sur les réseaux sociaux permet notamment :

- de faire une page web et d'y faire figurer ses publications, ses activités, et de le faire rapidement avec un outil très simple d'utilisation et demandant un minimum de saisie ;
- d'améliorer sa propre visibilité et de la mesurer : la force de diffusion de ces réseaux sur le net est importante et le système interne de statistiques et de notifications sur les consultations de son profil ou de ses papiers informe sur la réception de ses travaux par la communauté scientifique ;
- de suivre des travaux de recherche et d'échanger des connaissances : les réseaux sociaux font partie des sources de veille du chercheur et lui permettent de suivre l'activité d'autres chercheurs et des thématiques intéressantes ;
- de se mettre en relation les uns avec les autres : les réseaux permettent de garder le lien entre les chercheurs. Leur aspect « Forum » permet d'engager le débat et leur orientation très internationale donne accès à des communautés plus larges au-delà de la France.

Tous ces réseaux sont basés sur le principe de la mise en ligne du texte intégral des articles. Ils prônent l'accès ouvert et encouragent les utilisateurs au partage des connaissances par le dépôt de leur travaux de recherche.

Participer à un réseau social c'est donc transmettre ses données et le texte intégral de ses publications à des entreprises privées comme Research Gate ou Academia. A minima, cela signifie laisser à ces entreprises privées des droits sur ses propres données et sur les travaux scientifiques déposés.

• Lire à ce sujet: [Protection et propriété des données sur Academia.edu et ResearchGate](#), Christophe Benech

Le dépôt dans une archive ouverte, comme HAL, est donc plus sécurisé et contrôlé et garantit à contrario de rester dans le cadre de la recherche publique, de permettre une description plus complète et plus riche de ses travaux scientifiques et surtout d'assurer réellement un accès libre, gratuit et pérenne à ses données.

On peut constater dans la communauté des chercheurs une certaine confusion entre ces deux outils, et donc entre les enjeux de la visibilité et ceux du libre accès.

• Lire à ce sujet: [Les réseaux sociaux scientifiques, la visibilité et l'open access](#), Eric Verdeil

Nous voudrions ici inciter les chercheurs à utiliser les réseaux sociaux avec prudence et pour ce qu'ils sont, c'est-à-dire des outils de communication et de travail. Utilisez-les réservé à vos pairs pour leurs fonctions sociales uniquement et HAL pour la pérennité des données et le libre accès !!

/cotting Academia.edu?

<http://www.cnrs.fr/recherche/ist/HAL-SHS/reseaux-sociaux.htm><sup>17</sup>

# OFFICE OF SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

[Comments? Feedback'](#)

[HOME](#) » [FEATURES](#) » A SOCIAL NETWORKING SITE IS NOT AN OPEN ACCESS REPOSITORY

## A social networking site is not an open access repository

[Home](#)

[UC Open Access Policies](#)

[Deposit Your Work](#)  
[Get a Waiver/Embargo](#)  
[Implementation Plan](#)  
[Policy FAQ](#)  
[Policy History](#)  
[Publishers Contacted](#)  
[Read the Policies](#)

“What’s the difference between ResearchGate, Academia.edu, and the institutional repository?”

“I put my papers in ResearchGate, is that enough for the open access policy?

These and similar questions have been common at open access events over the past couple of years. Authors want to better understand the differences between these platforms and when they should use one, the other, or some combination.

First, a brief primer on what each service has to offer:

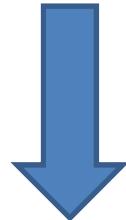


<http://osc.universityofcalifornia.edu/2015/12/a-social-networking-site-is-not-an-open-access-repository/>

# Suggestion

Insert the document in OA repository

- essential functionnalities
  - Long term preservation ,
  - link to institutional information systems (assessment)



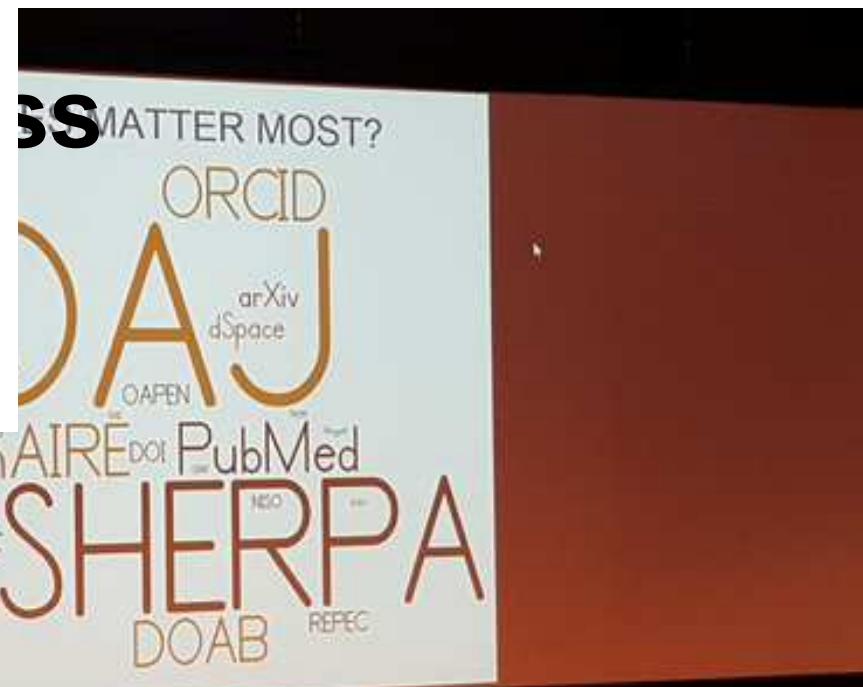
In Academia.edu just put the link and the abstract

- Q3 Are there non-profit alternatives to such commercial platforms academics should support instead?

## 'Open' is a win-win



## Open access tools



<https://twitter.com/DOAJplus/status/671631109621456896>



Traditional

Collection  
Workflow type

Workflows  
hypothetical



Modern

Collection  
Workflow type

Workflows  
hypothetical



<https://hypothes.is>

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Scientific publishers are forging links with an organization that wants scientists to scribble comments over online research papers.



## Annotate with anyone, anywhere

Our mission is to bring a new layer to the web. Use Hypothesis to discuss, collaborate, organize your research, or take personal notes.



Or...

Paste a link...

Annotate!

There's also a [bookmarklet](#) or you can [add it to your website](#).

A coalition of 40 world's key scholarly publishers, platforms, libraries, and technology organizations are coming together to create an open, interoperable annotation layer over their content.

[Why Are We Not Boycotting Academia.edu?](#)

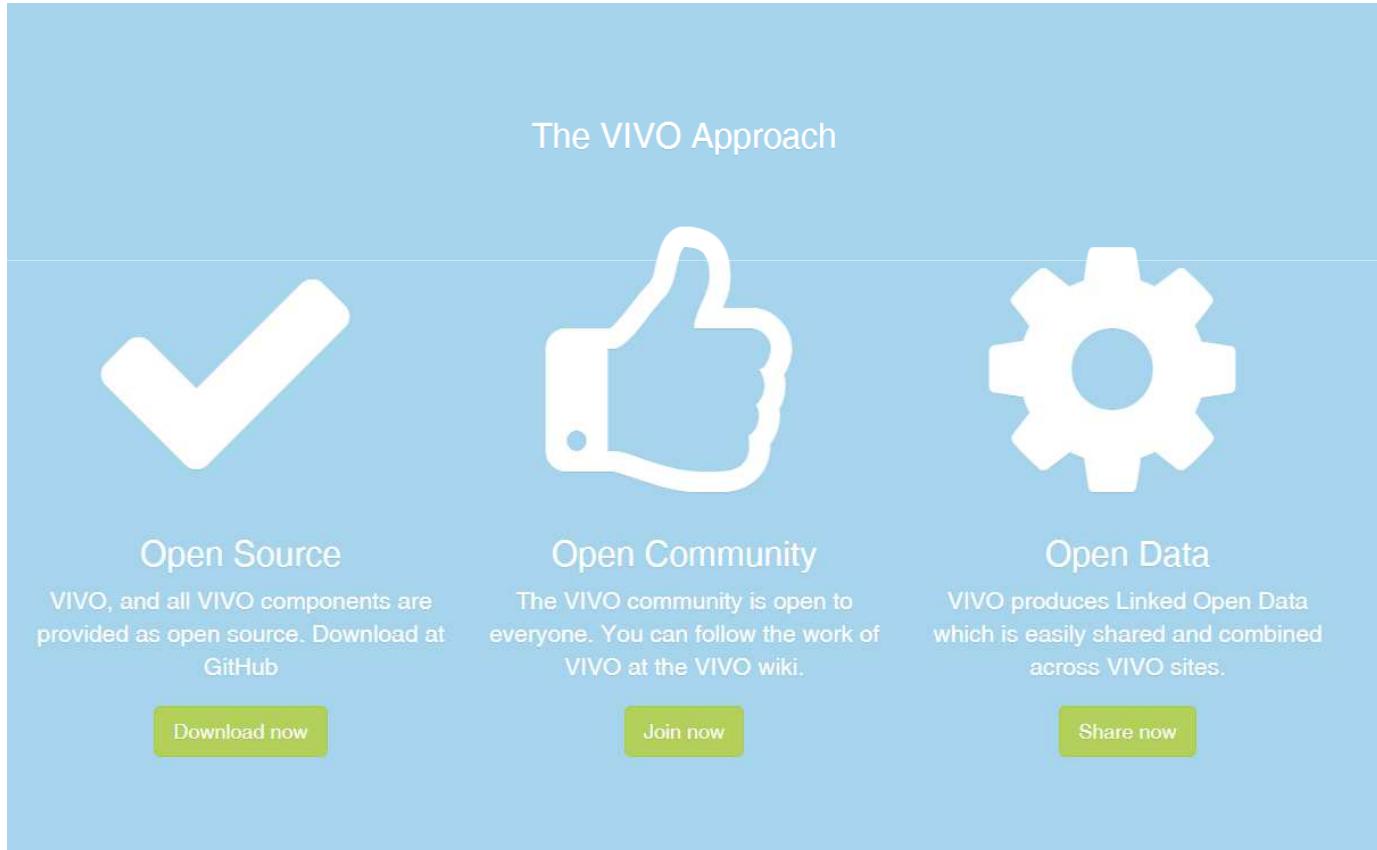
23

# Vivo

**VIVO is an open social platform (from Cornell Univ.)**  
more than 100 organizations around the world  
Vivo's institutions can be connected

- Connect – Share- Discover

<http://vivoweb.org/>



The VIVO Approach

**Open Source**  
VIVO, and all VIVO components are provided as open source. Download at GitHub

**Open Community**  
The VIVO community is open to everyone. You can follow the work of VIVO at the VIVO wiki.

**Open Data**  
VIVO produces Linked Open Data which is easily shared and combined across VIVO sites.

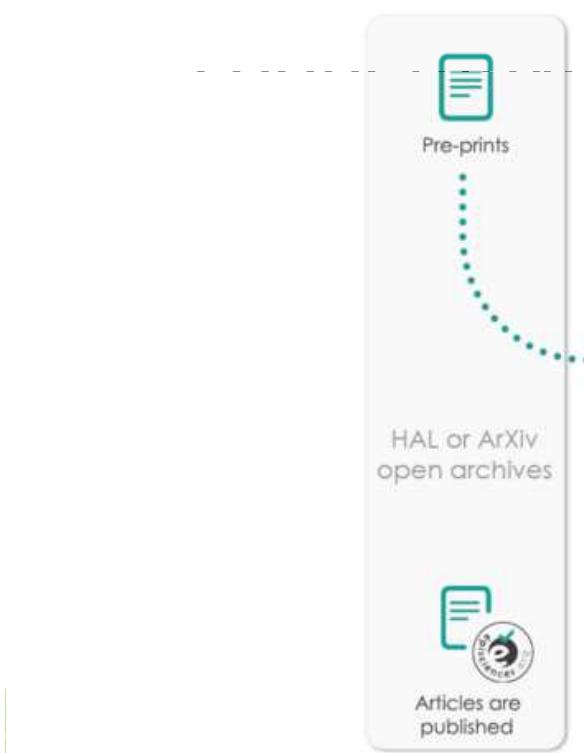
[Download now](#)    [Join now](#)    [Share now](#)

## Home

The Episciences.org project is involved in the open access movement.

The main idea is to provide a technical platform of peer journals taking their contents from preprints deposited

The editorial boards of such ejournals organize peer "overlay journals" built above the open archives; they



## Home

Digital Humanities is a convergence of humanities fields (linguistic, history, psychology...) using data archives, processing and interaction. Data mining is an interdisciplinary subfield of computer science, involving the methods at the intersection of artificial intelligence, machine learning and database systems. The Journal of Data Mining & Digital Humanities is concerned with the intersection of computing and the disciplines of the humanities, with tools provided by computing such as data visualisation, information retrieval, statistics, text mining by publishing scholarly work beyond the traditional humanities.

JDMDH is a joint project of CNRS, INRA and Inria.



# Open Edition Funded by CNRS and Universities

OpenEdition : OpenEdition Books Revues.org Calenda Hypotheses

(i) Electronic resources in the humanities and social sciences [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [81](#)

Home

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**OpenEdition books**

*Focus*

**WIKIPÉDIA, OBJET SCIENTIFIQUE NON IDENTIFIÉ**  
Lionel Barbe, Louise Merzeau, Valérie Schafer (ed.)  
Presses universitaires de Paris Ouest, 2015

*Latest selections*

08 OCTOBER 2015  
**CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT**

16 JUNE 2015  
**GOUVERNER EN ISLAM ENTRE LE XE**

<http://www.openedition.org>

Q4 Could they take inspiration from the editors of *Lingua* (now *Glossa*) and start their own scholar-owned and controlled platform cooperatives for the sharing of research?

Or are such ‘technologies of the self’ or ‘political technologies of individuals’, as we might call them following Michel Foucault, merely part of a wider process by which academics are being transformed into connected individuals who endeavour to generate social, public and professional value by acting as microentrepreneurs of their own selves and lives?

# Trend : Researchers want to collaborate online

(Van Noorden , Nature 2014)

But sharing alone is not enough.

Knowledge only becomes useful when we can

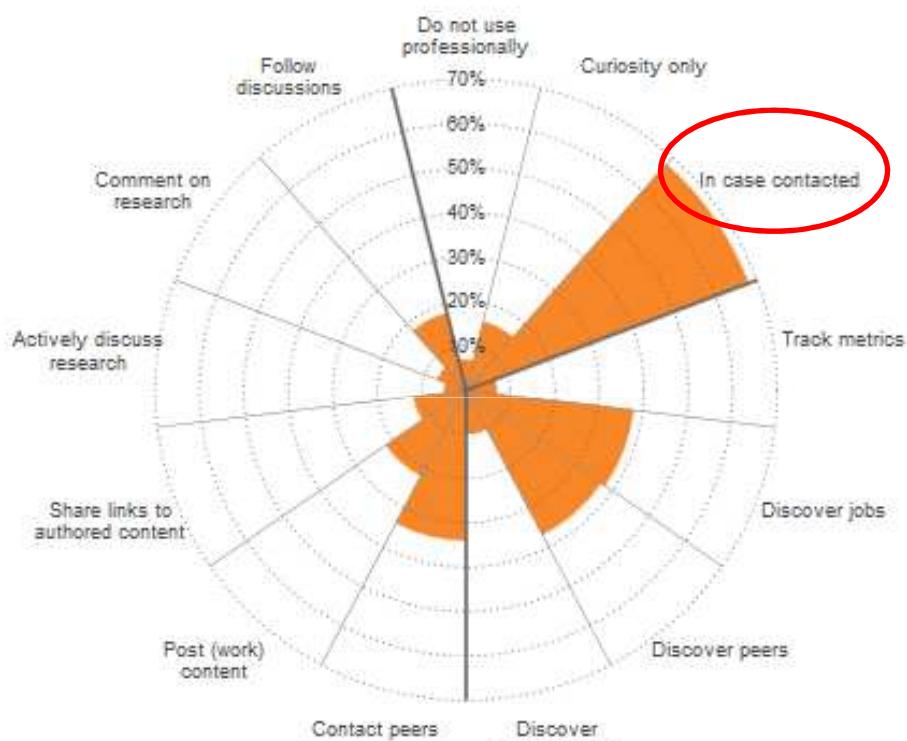
- distinguish between relevant and less relevant information,
- discuss aspects of the information
- annotate and improve on ideas,
- devise new approaches and collaborate online.

**open science : free and unrestricted access to information and use interactive media to collaborate online**

Olijhoek, Tom - Scientific social networks are the future of science

# Nature 2014. Van Nordeen survey

## LinkedIn



## Academia.edu



- Twitter (330 regular visitors)
- Facebook (340 regular visitors)
- LinkedIn (389 regular visitors)
- ResearchGate (1,589 regular

- visitors)
- Academia.edu (283 regular visitors)
- Mendeley (198 regular visitors)

Voices from the survey

pt Bo

- Twitter (330 regular visitors)
- Facebook (340 regular visitors)
- LinkedIn (389 regular visitors)
- ResearchGate (1,589 regular visitors)
- Academia.edu (283 regular visitors)
- Mendeley (198 regular visitors)

Voices from the survey

"It seems to be just a place to list my research outputs."

ACADEMIA.EDU USER, AGE 45–54, CHINA, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

# France : Consortium Couperin Survey on social media (2014)

1013/1698 Know Academic Networks , 705 use them

Academics  
networks

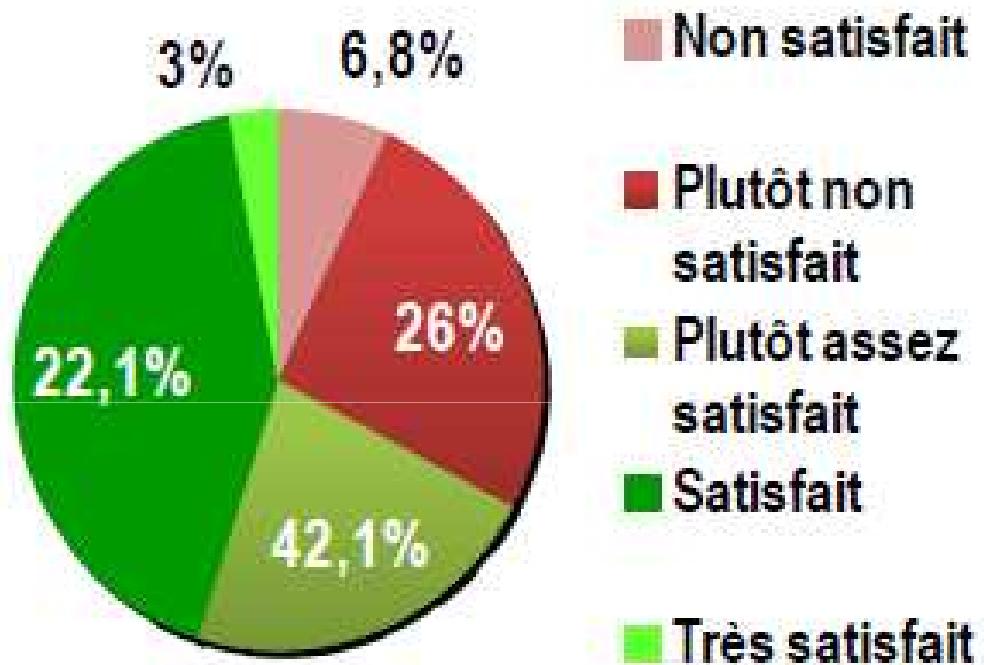
	Arts, Lettres et Langues	Droit, Economie, Gestion	Mathématiques Informatique	Sciences de la matière et de l'univers	Sciences de la vie	Sciences de l'Ingénieur	Sciences Humaines et Sociales	Toutes disciplines
<b>Tous RS "grand public"</b>	<b>73%</b>	<b>82%</b>	68%	67%	66%	73%	<b>74%</b>	71%
Facebook	<b>64%</b>	<b>62%</b>	47%	54%	52%	<b>58%</b>	<b>64%</b>	56%
Twitter	<b>21%</b>	<b>24%</b>	22%	14%	13%	9%	<b>25%</b>	18%
LinkedIn	35%	<b>62%</b>	44%	41%	42%	<b>50%</b>	41%	45%
Viadéo	7%	<b>26%</b>	11%	17%	17%	<b>24%</b>	19%	18%
<b>RS % know them</b>	46%	49%	<b>63%</b>	59%	<b>67%</b>	49%	<b>66%</b>	60%
<b>RS % use them</b>	33%	33%	41%	40%	<b>47%</b>	37%	<b>48%</b>	42%

[http://couperin.org/images/stories/openaire/Couperin\\_RS%20et%20OA\\_Etude%20exploratoire\\_2014.pdf](http://couperin.org/images/stories/openaire/Couperin_RS%20et%20OA_Etude%20exploratoire_2014.pdf)

# France : Consortium Couperin Survey on social media (2014)

705/1698 use them

Users made several critics  
Perennity  
Query functions etc..



[http://couperin.org/images/stories/openaire/Couperin\\_RSDR%20et%20OA\\_Etude%20exploratoire\\_2014.pdf](http://couperin.org/images/stories/openaire/Couperin_RSDR%20et%20OA_Etude%20exploratoire_2014.pdf)

# Opening your Draft to Feedback Not many used for evaluate papers

Last Updated: Aug 03, 2015 04:31PM PDT

When you upload a draft to Academia.edu, you can choose to open it to comments. To do that, select "Unpublished Draft" when uploading a new paper to your page.

Step 1: Start by identifying your upload as a draft.

The screenshot shows the 'What type of file would you like to upload?' section. It has three options: 'Published Work' (with a green document icon), 'Unpublished Draft' (with a blue document icon and a pencil), and 'Other'. A large blue arrow points from the text above to the 'Unpublished Draft' button.

Step 2: Selecting "Yes" will create a feedback session. Selecting "No" will proceed with the upload, without opening it to comments.

**Would you like to open your draft to comments?**

NO

YES

## Add Research Interests

Academics from the following research interests will have the ability to leave comments on your paper

Academic Publishing  
Open Access

3.4K X  
9.5K X

BACK

SAVE

Select All



**Kevin Wu**

University of California, San Diego, Graduate Student,  
Biological Sciences



**Kate Miltenberger**

The Academia.edu Team, User Support, User Ops



**Patrick A T Brinich-Langlois**

St. Olaf College, Alumnus, Music

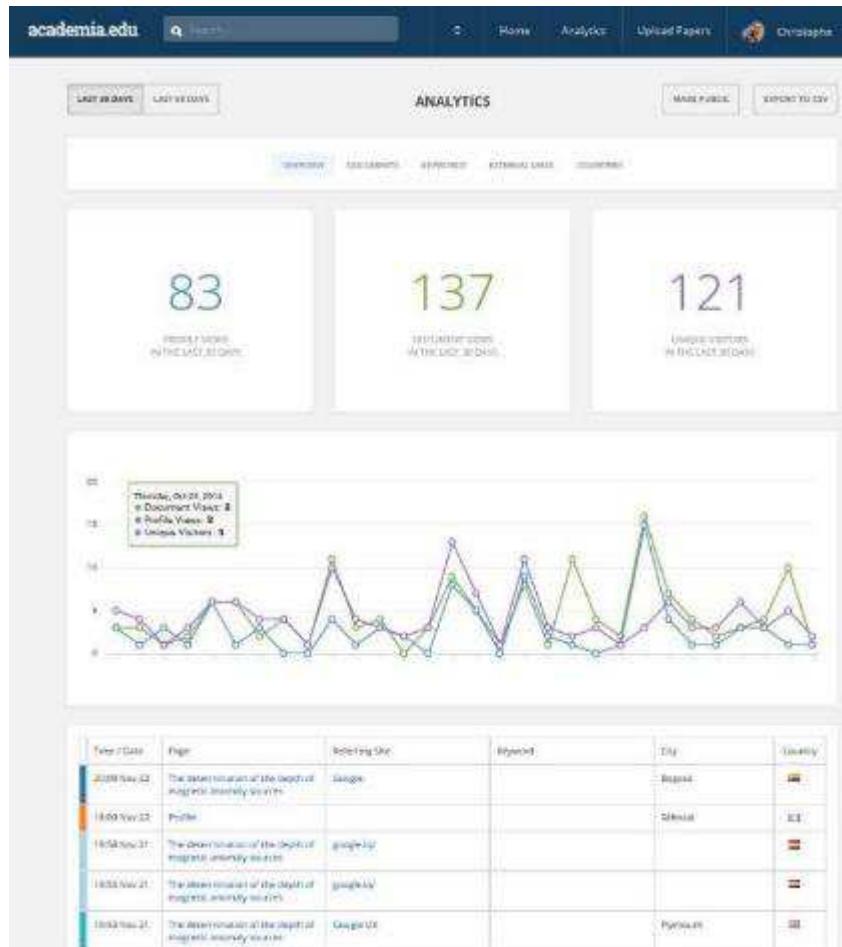
CONTINUE

nia.edu?

# Evaluation Metrics

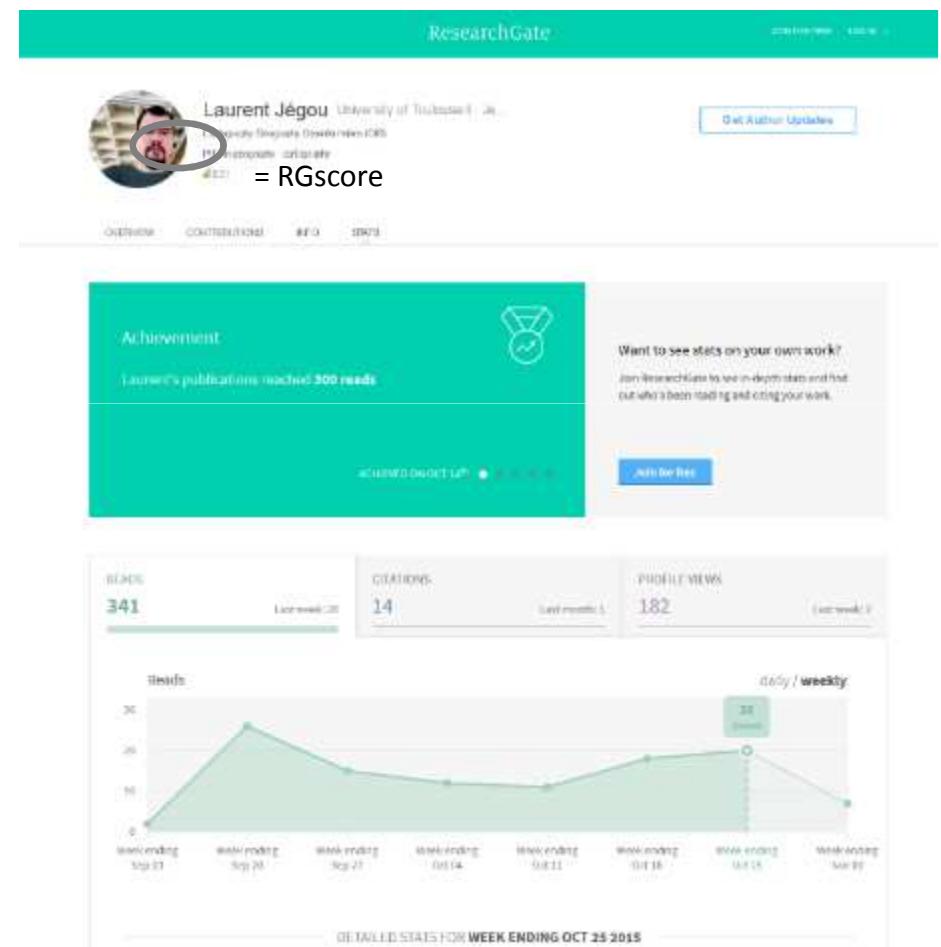
## Dispersion ?

### Are we giving too much importance to them ?



sur Academia (via C. Benech)

interface.)



sur ResearchGate

P. Aventurier [Why Are We Not Boycotting Academia.edu?](#)

Source : Aline Bouchard Urfist



# CONCLUSION

# Solution

- Work on researcher/laboratory numerical identity
- Work on scholarly communication
  - Write blog post about your research
  - Education in writing
- Deposit work in open access repository
- Work with tools respecting Open Science
  - Example : Vivo
  - Web annotation tools
- Create an Orcid Profile

# Deal with profit academic platform ?



Lambert Heller  
@Lambo



Following

Re academic platforms: "We're surrounded by honeypots... We haven't strategies / policies how to deal with them yet!"  
(@R\_Koenig at #pdsc14)

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