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Three tales of marketization

The role of publication programs in the entry into an era of articlization in chemistry

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Background and context

Work on the emergence of disciplines or research fields, whether recent (Kastenhofer and Molyneux-Hodgson 2021) or older (Lemaine et al 1976), often uses journals, as well as conferences, as reflections of scientific activity. In these instances journals are seen as historical sources rather than historical phenomena in their own right. With a few notable and recent exceptions (Baldwin 2015; Csiszar 2017; Tesnière 2021; Fyfe et al. 2022), the existence of periodicals is taken for granted, without their existence being seen as requiring explanation (Secord, 2009: 444). Aside from work on the history of the book or the press, the transmission of knowledge in print is generally considered to be relatively transparent.

Purpose and objectives

- Our purpose is to examine the conditions for the development of a "publication program" that is not a major technological program but a mundane publication infrastructure (= the complex set of operations that consists in publishing, i.e. editing, producing and printing periodicals) in chemistry.
- We consider that chemistry journals are part of the "international machinery" of chemical information (Hepler-Smith 2015).
- The poster which aims to bring together **historical and contemporary approaches**, is based on 3 separate empirical studies. We make a slight detour via Open Access policies and do not concentrate on knowledge production but on the **conditions of trade** and propose 3 tales of marketization.

