

The Accidental Coder

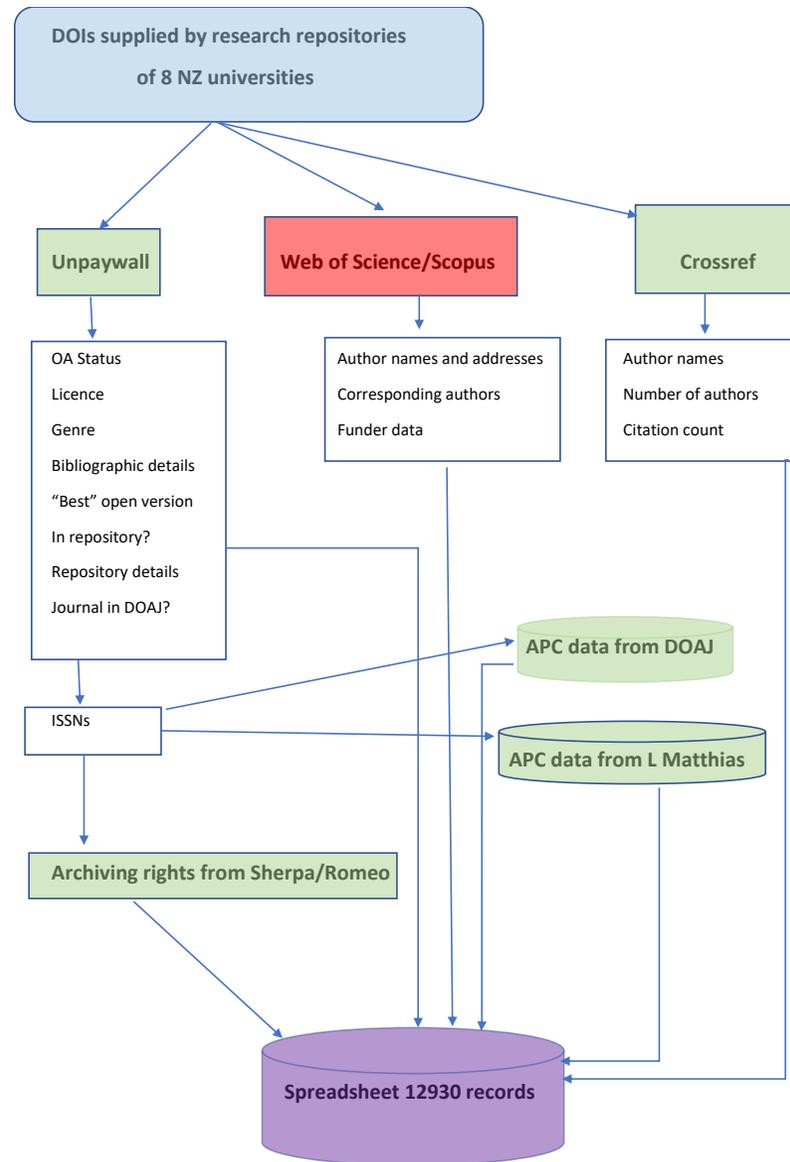
Bruce White

Massey University

3 February 2021

The Situation

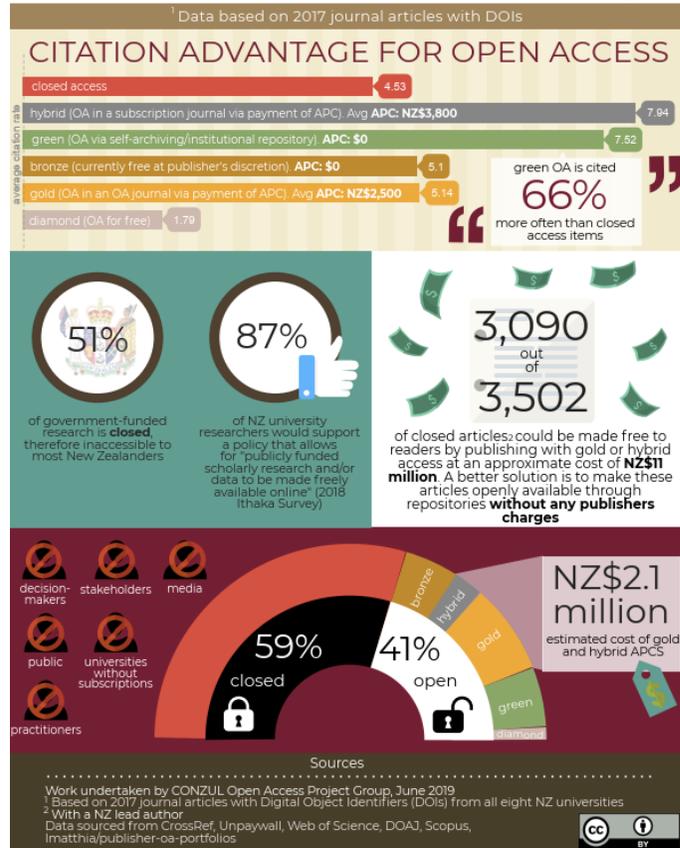
- CONZUL Open Access Project 2019 – an environmental scan
- We wanted rich data on what was going on with Open Access in New Zealand universities
- There was no single source that gave us the level of detail we needed
- Data had to be accessed and combined from different sources – Unpaywall, Crossref, Sherpa/Romeo, commercial databases
- This could be done by using APIs using DOIs as a starting point



The Program

NZ Open Access

What do we know?



<https://www.universitiesnz.ac.nz/sites/default/files/universitiesnz/OA%20CONZUL%20Environmental%20Scan%20version%201.02.pdf>

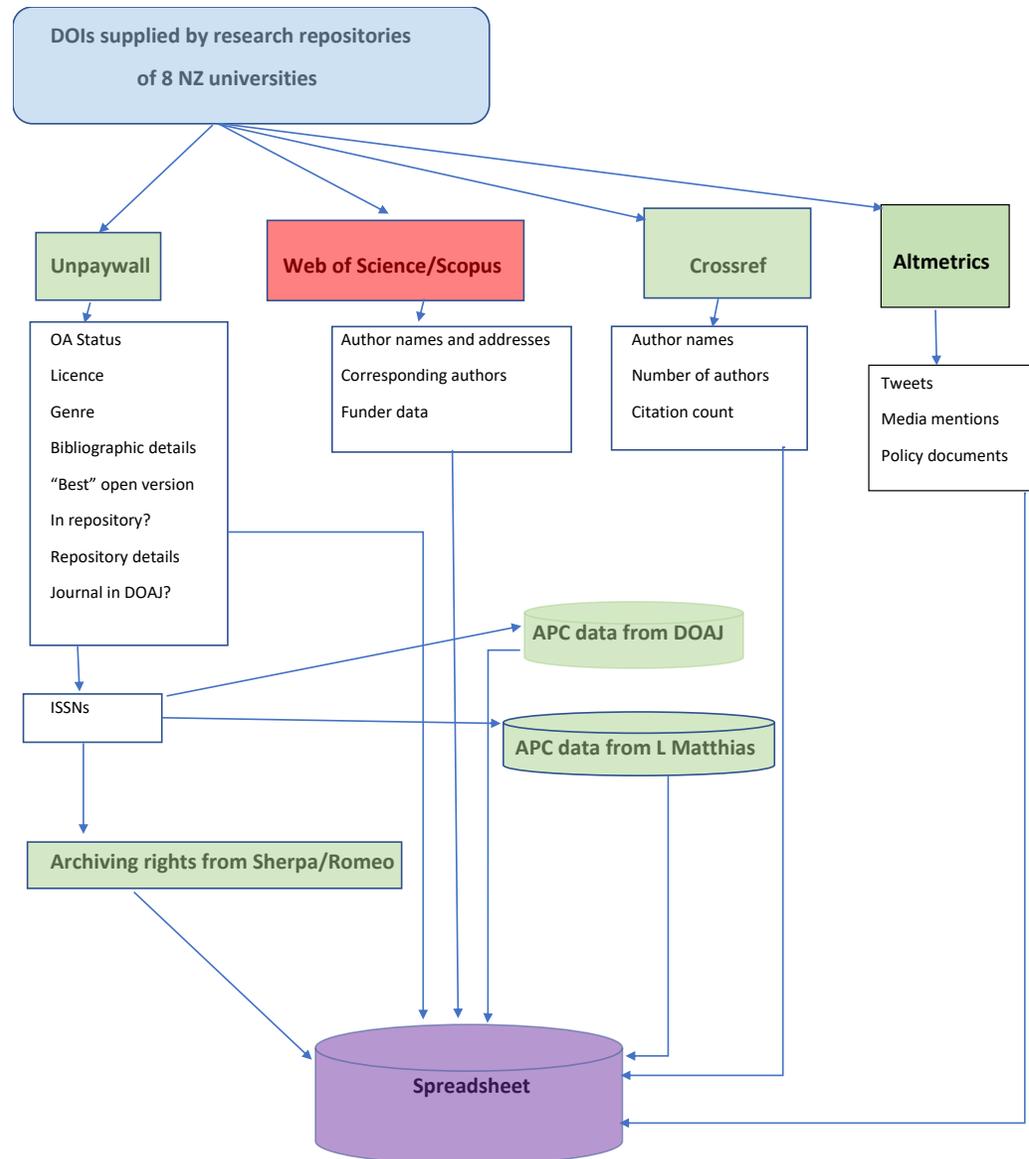
Only two out of five articles by New Zealand researchers are free-to-access: a multiple API study of access, its impact on open citation advantage, cost of Article Processing Charges (APC), and the potential to increase the proportion of open access

 Richard Kenneth Alistair White,  Anton Angelo,  Deborah Jane Fitchett,  Moira Fraser,  Luqman Hayes,  Jess Howie,  Emma Richardson,  Bruce Duncan White

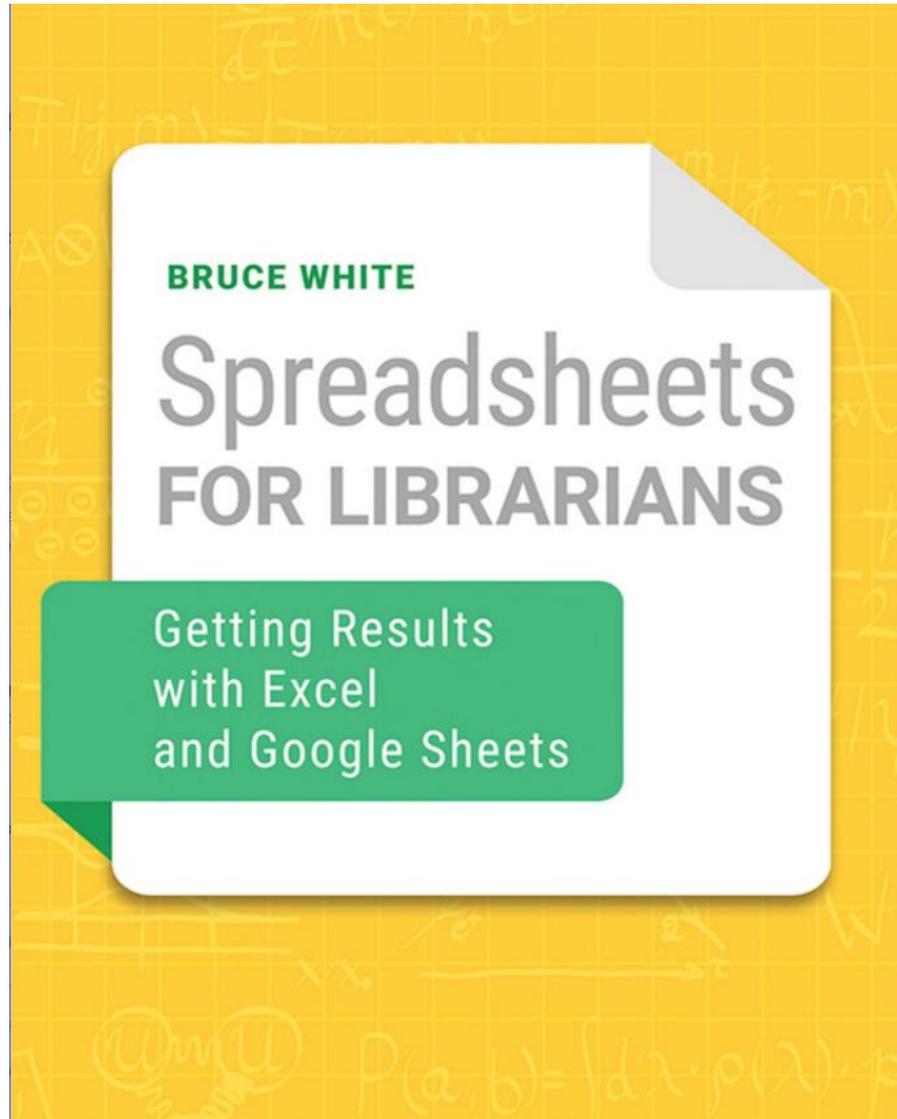
doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2020.06.23.164004>

This article is a preprint and has not been certified by peer review [what does this mean?].

<https://www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/2020.06.23.164004v2>



Altmetrics is tacked on



I'm a
spreadsheet
person



Spreadsheets are great at organizing and analyzing data – but not so good at capturing it

A reviewer put me onto APIs and Python, and I began working with some students to create code for a bibliometric project I had in mind. We didn't get very far.





The accidental coder

Adelaide November 2017

Time is a wonderful thing

So is Coursera

Was it worth it? Yes...

- Multiple data sources
- Ability to code allowed us to modify and build on the original idea
- Free from other people's preconceptions (to a point)
- Librarians need data skills and understandings

Was it worth it? Yes, but...

- Time-consuming
- Data sources change
- IT projects always need maintenance
- Start simple and invest time in learning the basics
- Be prepared to reinvent the wheel
- Document, document, document