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Access to Federally Funded Research

The American Mathematical Society (AMS) supports open research and a balance of open access publishing models.

The AMS is fully committed to an open research ecosystem, while ensuring equity and inclusiveness in publishing and accessing scholarly mathematical content. The AMS is also committed to ensuring that the burden of public access (PA), or open access (OA), is not placed on individual researchers.

The AMS supports an equitable and inclusive mathematical publishing culture.

- Approximately 19% of AMS authors receive research funding from a federal agency, with the result that there are limited funds available for Gold Open Access (article processing charge model) publishing. Given the significant concerns over equitable access to publishing for mathematicians with low or zero funding sources, the AMS does not support expanding Gold OA/PA.
- The impact of mathematical research is long-term. Correct mathematical results are as valid today as they will be in 30, or even 300 years. Equally, correct results from 300 years ago are still valid. According to a recent study on journal usage, mathematics is at the extreme for the life of journal articles. Across all subject disciplines in the study, journal half-lives peaked between two and four years. However, 17% of all journals had usage half-lives that exceeded six years, with mathematics journals at the extreme—36% of mathematics journals examined had usage half-lives exceeding six years.
- AMS support for an open ecosystem of mathematical publishing includes the preprint server arXiv in which the article of record coexists with preprints in progress. Mathematicians value a preprint-to-published-article-of-record ecosystem.

The AMS maintains a balanced portfolio of open publishing models.

The AMS offers zero embargo on its journals, deploying Green OA, and Diamond OA, as well as two Gold OA Mirror journals. The AMS supports the subscription model in combination with a path to openness. It is important to note that about 70% of AMS revenues come from publishing activities, including subscription revenues from books, journals, and the database MathSciNet®. AMS annual revenues are currently around $32 million, with surplus funds going directly back into our programs and services for mathematicians. If subscription revenues were to evaporate, the ability of the AMS to provide services and programs that fortify the US mathematical sciences community would likely also disappear.

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1This document is a summary of the AMS Primer on Open Access, found here: www.ams.org/open-access.
3Usage half-life is defined as the time taken for a group of articles to reach half of their total number of downloads.
4info.arxiv.org/

About the American Mathematical Society

Founded in 1888, the American Mathematical Society is dedicated to advancing research and connecting the diverse global mathematical community through our publications, meetings and conferences, MathSciNet, professional services, advocacy, and awareness programs. The AMS has 25,000 individual, and over 500 institutional members worldwide and supports mathematical scientists at every career stage.

AMS peer-reviewed journals are top-ranked and of the highest quality in mathematical research. Every year, the AMS publishes almost 100 books, including research monographs, graduate and undergraduate textbooks, conference proceedings, translations, and works of popular mathematics, including children’s books.

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