# About arXiv

arXiv.org. Accessed August 14,2022. <https://arxiv.org/>

Hopefully, the publishers are on their way to recognizing preprints as a formal channel of scientific communication. The authors also need to cooperate with the publishers by providing the correct information about the preprint postings and updating the details according to the journal publishers' guidelines.

A preprint is any "complete written description of a body of scientific work that has yet to be published in a journal" (Bourne et al., 2017). This can include data, poster presentations, or even completed manuscripts that haven't been submitted for peer review.

The preprints are often not indexed by mainstream

bibliographic services.

there is a strong imperative for the

palaeontology research community to ensure that

there is broad-scale access to the research that

they produce

medRxiv

One of the first in this new wave was the discipline-based server, bioRxiv – set up by the Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory in 2013 to cover the life sciences

RePec

arXiv,

SSRN

Preprints are also increasingly indexed in large scholarly databases and search engines (*e.g.*, PubMed, Crossref, Lens, Dimensions, Microsoft Academic), and major manual referencing

styles have issued guidance on how preprints should be cited in scholarly papers

In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic led to a large increase in the posting of preprints, as well as scrutiny and the number of comments they received on both social media platforms

NIH only changed their policy to allow preprints to be cited in grant applications in

March of 2017; and some journals only very recently allowed preprints to be cited in articles

Recognizing the growing interest in preprints, NLM is today launching the first phase of the [NIH Preprint Pilot](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/about/nihpreprints/), which will test the viability of making preprints searchable in [PubMed Central (PMC)](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/) and, by extension, discoverable in [PubMed](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/), starting with COVID-19 pre-prints reporting NIH-supported research on [June 9, 2020](https://nlmdirector.nlm.nih.gov/2020/06/09/the-nih-preprint-pilot-a-new-experiment-for-a-new-era/).

In fact, recognizing the value of such work, NIH is now doing a [preprint pilot](https://nlmdirector.nlm.nih.gov/2020/06/09/the-nih-preprint-pilot-a-new-experiment-for-a-new-era/) to include discoverability of that research via PubMed and PubMed Central.

The Coalition for Responsible Sharing (CfRS) was formed in October 2017 by a group of society, not-for-profit and commercial publishers and information analytics businesses to engage with article-sharing platforms and scholarly collaboration networks which undertake, contribute to or otherwise allow or encourage unauthorized posting of publishers' copyrighted content.

Elsevier is a signatory to the [STM Voluntary Principles](https://www.stm-assoc.org/2015_06_08_Voluntary_principles_for_article_sharing_on_scholarly_collaboration_networks.pdf) for article sharing on Scholarly Collaboration Networks and a member of the [Coalition for Responsible Sharing](https://www.responsiblesharing.org/).

Some society-owned titles and journals that operate double-blind peer review have different preprint policies. Please check the journals Guide for Authors for further information

Many journals will now consider an article that has appeared on a preprint server, and grant-awarding bodies on both sides of the Atlantic allow preprints to be cited in grant and fellowship applications

preprints', 'working papers', or 'manuscript drafts' depending on the discipline—here we refer to these all as 'preprints', using the emerging standard term

Mechanisms for more formal dissemination emerged in the early 1990s with arXiv, a repository that now hosts more than 1.3 million preprints in physics, mathematics, and allied fields. SSRN, a preprint service originally for social science research, started in 1994. And, since 2013, more than two dozen preprint services have launched representing a wide variety of topics, indicating growing recognition of this mechanism of communication across all areas of scholarship

Although preprints only recently rose to prominence, they were first introduced in 1961 as part of a US National

Institutes of Health project called the Information Exchange Groups ( Cobb  M﻿.  The prehistory of biology preprints: a forgotten experiment from the 1960s. ﻿ *PLoS Biol*. 2017;15(11):e2003995. doi:[10.1371/journal.pbio.2003995](http://dx.doi.org/10.1371/journal.pbio.2003995))

Since 1991, physicists and mathematician s have been using the arXiv preprint repository to circulate articles and ideas, to the envy of many biologists. Afte rnumber of failed attempts, including ClinMedNetprints(1999–2005) and NaturePrecedings(2007–2012),2 biology prerint servers were launched in 2013—Peer J Preprints and bioRxiv (ColdSpringHarborLaboratory)

One of the first in this new wave was the discipline-based server, bioRxiv – set up by the Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory in 2013 to cover the life sciences – which has been a focus of discus-sion and debate (Abdill &Blekhman, 2019; Luther, 2017; Vale, 2015). However, there are a considerable number of other disci-plinary servers, including several set up by the Center for Open Science, such as SocArXiv, engrXiv and PsyArXiv (all of which were launched in 2016), as well as platforms such as ESSOAr, set up by the American Geophysical Union in 2018. At the same time, national servers have been launched, includ-ingChinaXiv (for China), IndiaRxiv (for India) and INA-Rxiv (Indonesia) (Mallapaty, 2019). Funders of research have also set up platforms that enable the sharing of articles before peer-review, including, in 2016, Wellcome Open Research, for Wellcome-funded researchers. In addition, a number of journal publishers have added the dissemination of preprints to their workflows. The open access (OA) publisher, PeerJ, began offering preprint services in 2013, MDPI in 2016 and Cambridge University Press in 2019. Whilst the first of these has now closed its server, significantly it cites its reason for doing so as the change in the pre-prints landscape between 2013 and 2019: "the academic community is now well-served with other preprint venue options" (PeerJ, 2019). A number of jour-nals, primarily in biomedical sciences, have adopted a dif-ferent model, and now deposit submissions from authors in bioRxiv on behalfof authors (where the author agrees to this). Journals practising this model in bioRxiv include Proceed-ings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS), titles pub-lished by PLOS and many published by Frontiers (bioRxiv, n.d.). The F1000Research publishing platform has promoted anovel publication model involving preprints, in which immedi-ate release of author submissions as preprints is followed byopen peer review, with revised versions of a paper(alongside author responses to reviewer comments) published in the journal as they are made.

**Previuos Studies**

Elsevier

##### John Wiley

##### Karger

##### SAGE

##### Springer

##### Taylor & Francis

##### Wolters Kluwer Health - Lippincott Williams & Wilkins