

Today Figshare has 26 million-plus page views, 7.5 million-plus downloads, 800,000-plus user uploads, 2 million-plus articles, 500,000-plus collections, and 5,000-plus projects. Sixty percent of their traffic comes from Google. A sister company called Altmetric tracks the use of Figshare by others, including Wikipedia and news sources.

Figshare uses the revenue it generates from the premium subscribers, journal publishers, and institutions to fund and expand what it can offer to researchers for free. Figshare has publicly stuck to its principles—keeping the free service free and requiring the use of CC BY and CC0 from the start—and from Mark's perspective, this is why people trust Figshare. Mark sees new competitors coming forward who are just in it for money. If Figshare was only in it for the money, they wouldn't care about offering a free version. Figshare's principles and advocacy for openness are a key differentiator. Going forward, Mark sees Figshare not only as supporting open access to research but also enabling people to collaborate and make new discoveries.

Web links

- 1 figshare.com/articles/Journal_subscription_costs_FOIs_to_UK_universities/1186832
- 2 retr0.shinyapps.io/journal_costs/?year=2014&inst=19,22,38,42,59,64,80,95,136
- 3 figshare.com/features