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Present situation of permission to upload papers of publications in Japan to IRs

—Activities of SCPJ (copyright policy database of Japanese academic societies)—



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Introduction

SCPJ stands for Society Copyright Policies in Japan. The mission of SCPJ (Society Copyright Policies in Japan) project is to facilitate the registration of papers published in Japanese academic journals by promoting their copyright policy information.

It is necessary for researchers and library staff to confirm the copyright policy of the journals and treat copyright of the papers appropriately in order to upload the papers published in academic journals to IRs. We can search copyright policies of up to 9,000 academic journals in US and Europe via SHERPA/RoMEO website in UK. But we have to inquire of each academic journal publisher the copyright policy even now in Japan.

In 2006, to improve this situation, University of Tsukuba, Kobe University, Chiba University started SCPJ project funded by National Institute of Informatics, then built and opened SCPJ database, showing the status of permission to upload the papers of the academic society in Japan to IRs. In this project we have been working since 2006 to enrich the SCPJ database contents, based on results of the former investigation in 2005 by "digital contents project" of Japan Association of National University Libraries.

Purpose

We aim to report the usage of SCPJ, suggest the value, and consider the situation of permission to upload the Japanese Journal papers to IR via data analysis of SCPJ.

Methods

1. Data Analysis of SCPJ

First, we calculate the ratio of each color from the data registered in SCPJ, and compare the ratio with SHERPA/RoMEO in the pie chart. We make the difference of the situation between Japan and the Western countries clear by comparison.

Next, we show the shift of the ratio of each color from March to November 2007 in the bar chart, and consider how far the self-archiving has become popular among the societies in Japan.

2. Traffic Analysis of SCPJ

We analyze the access log to SCPJ database, and calculate the number of accesses every month from March to November 2007. In addition, we calculate the number of accesses according to the domain, and grasp the tendency.

Analysis Result

1. Data Analysis of SCPJ

About two-thirds of societies are gray. That means "under consideration" at SCPJ (see Figure1).

When we compare SCPJ with SHERPA in four (green, blue, yellow and white) colors, the ratio of green and yellow are greatly different. But the ratio of blue doesn't have a big difference.

Considering that blue societies of SCPJ permit archiving publisher's PDF, it seems that they are apt to concentrate on archiving their publications on their web site and they do not understand a true aim of self-archiving.

One of the reason for being gray is they are on a small-scale. We guess that they don't have decision-making information because of their scale.

On the other hand, societies except gray have increased gradually (see Figure2). Moreover, the graph shows that some of white societies change into blue one. Thus, we can show the understanding of societies is being obtained gradually by our appealing.

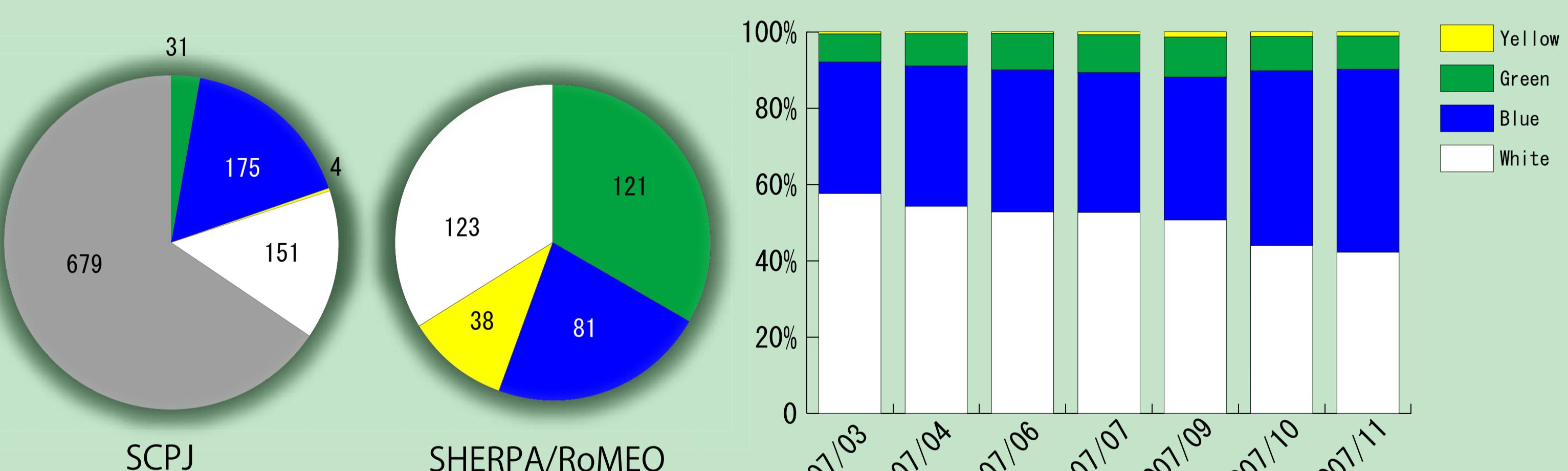


Figure 1 Archiving Permissions

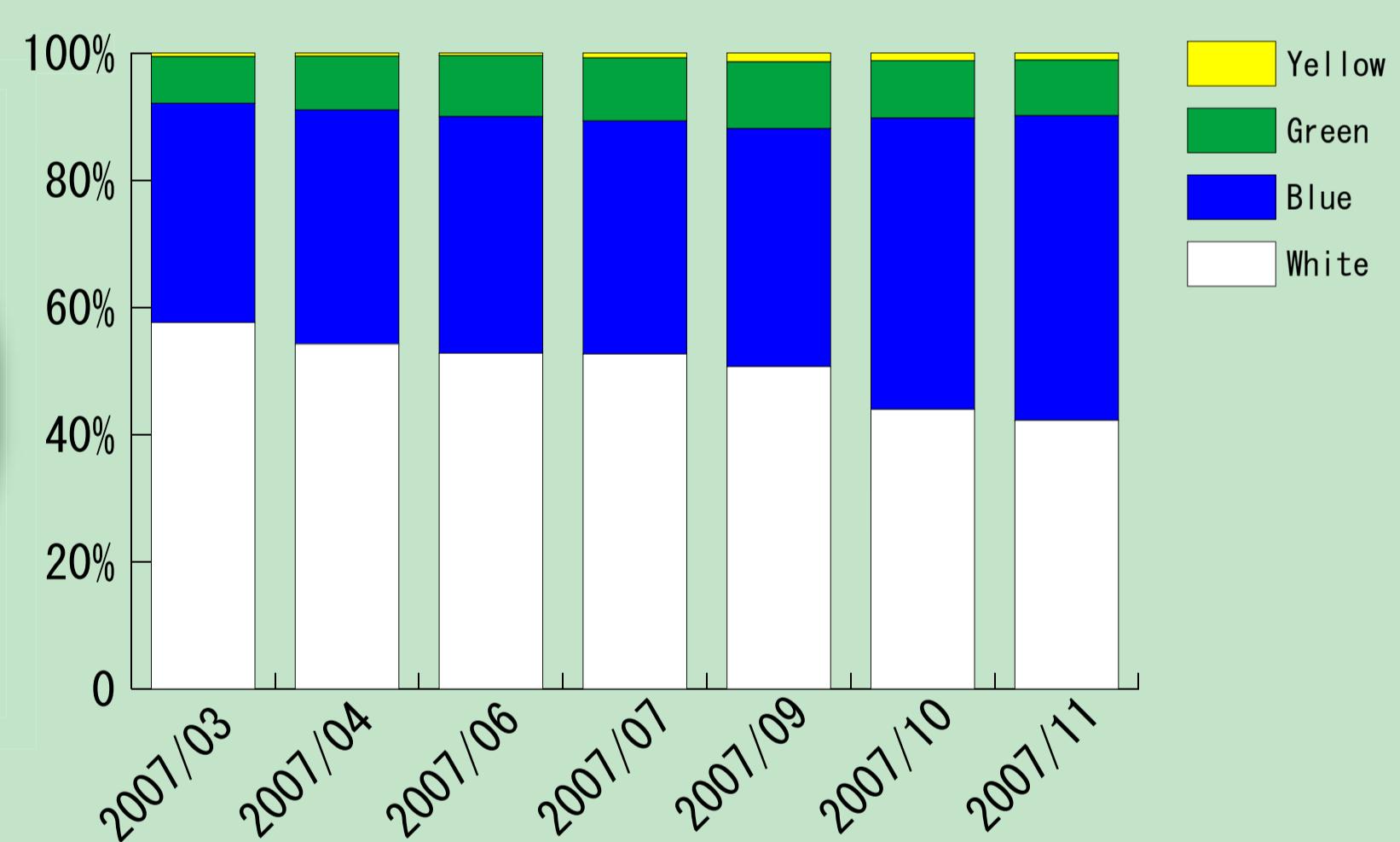


Figure 2 Ratios of four colors

2. Traffic Analysis of SCPJ

The traffic to SCPJ database is increasing very much (see Figure3). Especially, in July, it jumps up. because we presented SCPJ database at NII symposium. And on Oct-Nov, we added whole data of the academic societies in Japan (but we don't investigate their policies yet). So, the traffic has become heavy by much access involving search engines.

Looking at the domain of the traffic, there is much access especially from "ac.jp" except search engines (see Figure4). "ac.jp" means Japanese academic domains. For example, URL of University of Tsukuba Library is "www.tulips.tsukuba.ac.jp". Much traffic from "ac.jp" means that Japanese academic institutions (especially universities and collages) use SCPJ database continuously. So, it can be said that it is the tool for searching the policies of academic societies in Japan.

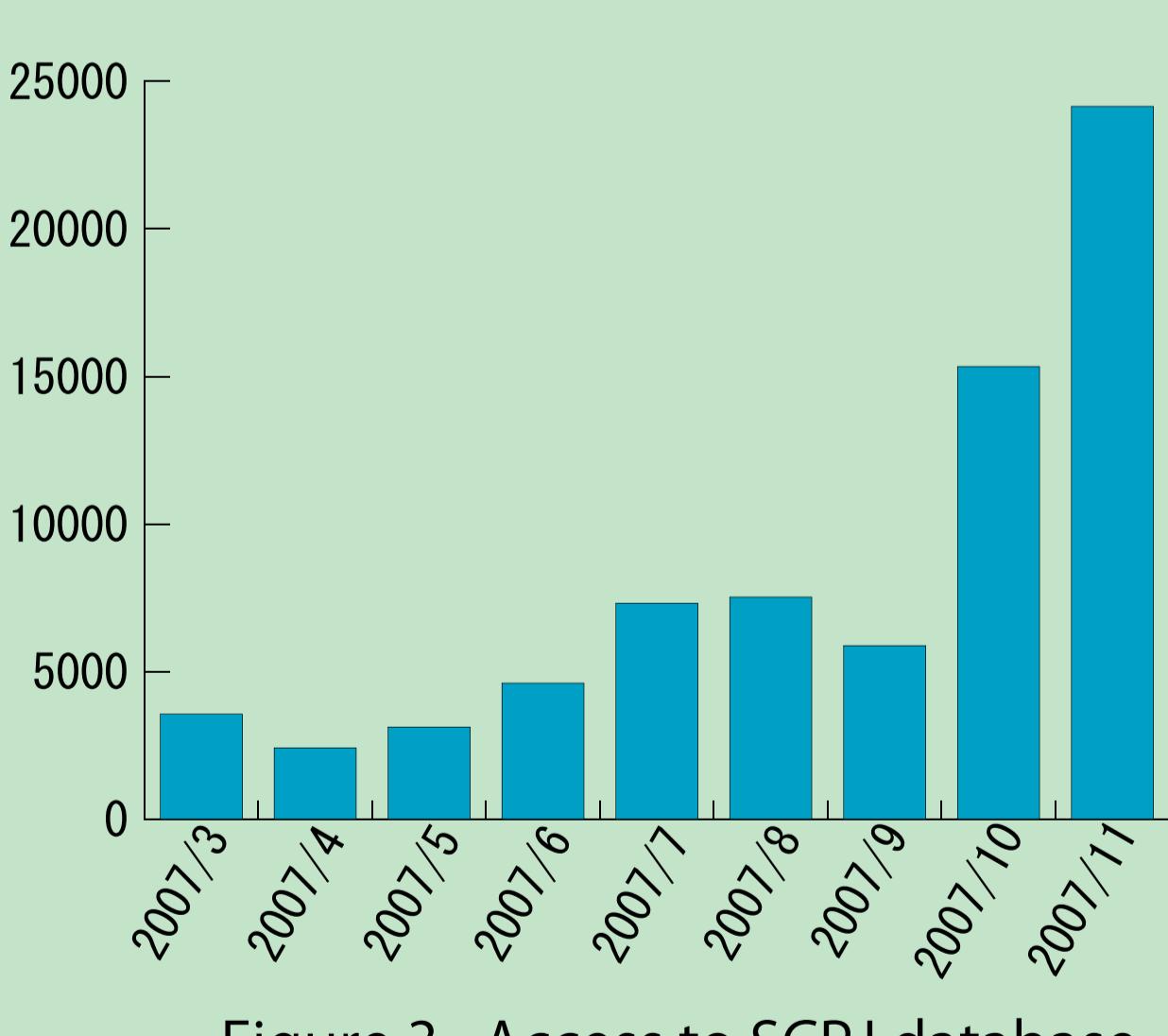


Figure 3 Access to SCPJ database

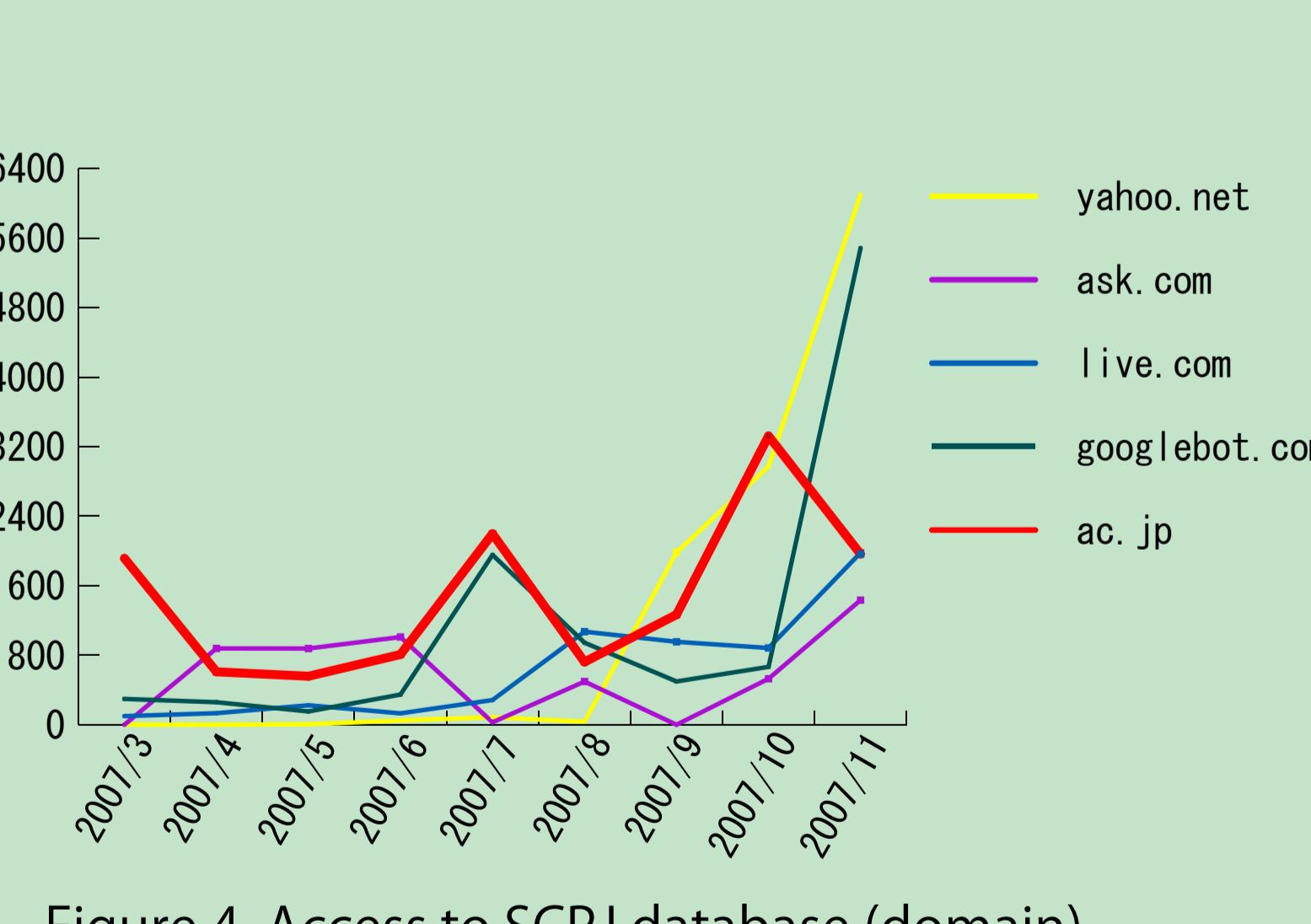


Figure 4 Access to SCPJ database (domain)

Conclusion and Future Directions of SCPJ

As above, we showed that many academic societies in Japan are under consideration in response to self-archiving and that activities of SCPJ project are useful in this situation.

Now we have the following ideas as future directions of SCPJ project. First, we will make an appeal in order to change the academic societies of White and Gray to Blue or Green. Second, we will add the data of commercial publishers to SCPJ database. And thirdly, it is international cooperation with some of the organizations having a common goal, for example, such as construction of an international portal site concerning copyright policy. On 22nd in January 2008, we and DRF(Digital Repository Federation) members arranged a meeting with SHERPA staff at University of Nottingham in UK. We proposed this idea in the meeting, and received a positive response from them.