

subscriptions, site licensing, pay-per-view access to scientific journals

subscriptions site licenses



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publisher

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editing
reviewing
composing



publisher's
Web server



usernames
passwords



individual
subscribers



Internet
address



Institutions' staff
And affiliated
personnel



credit-card
payments



everyone else



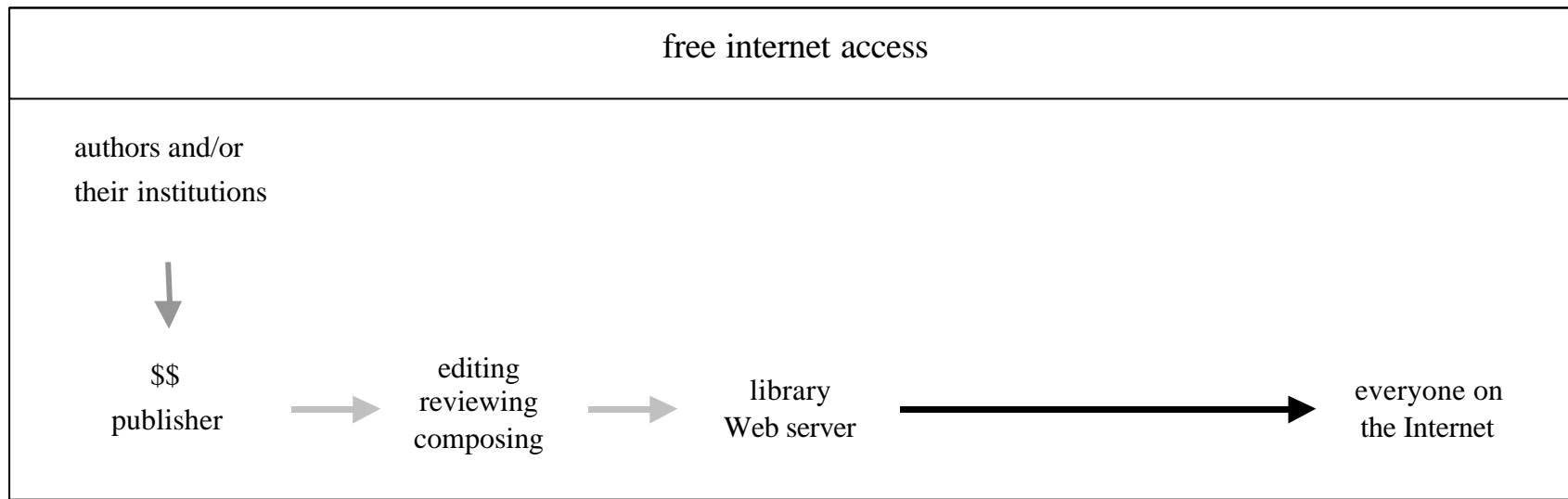


Figure 2. Choices made now by scientific societies may shape the future of access to the scientific literature. Currently most journals offering articles in electronic form are funding these services through "toll gate" devices: subscriptions, library site licenses and pay-per-view plans. In these systems archives are generally kept by the publishers (rather than by libraries), who charge for access to them. In a free-access system, only authors or their institutions pay the publishers, who potentially rely on the Web servers and digital archiving maintained by research libraries. Novel copyright arrangements would be required. The author argues that those who pay for and do research wish their results to be made available without cost.