

MAPPING APCs AT THE UNIVERSITY OF GOTHENBURG

Presented by Pauline Jönsson and Karin Henning, Team for publishing and bibliometric services



Background

During 2017 employees from the Team for publishing and bibliometric services and the Licensing team at the University Library charted the publication costs for University of Gothenburg (GU) for 2016. The investigation was performed in cooperation with the Grants and Innovation Office and resulted in an extensive report, which is followed up annually.

Methods

Two methods were combined:

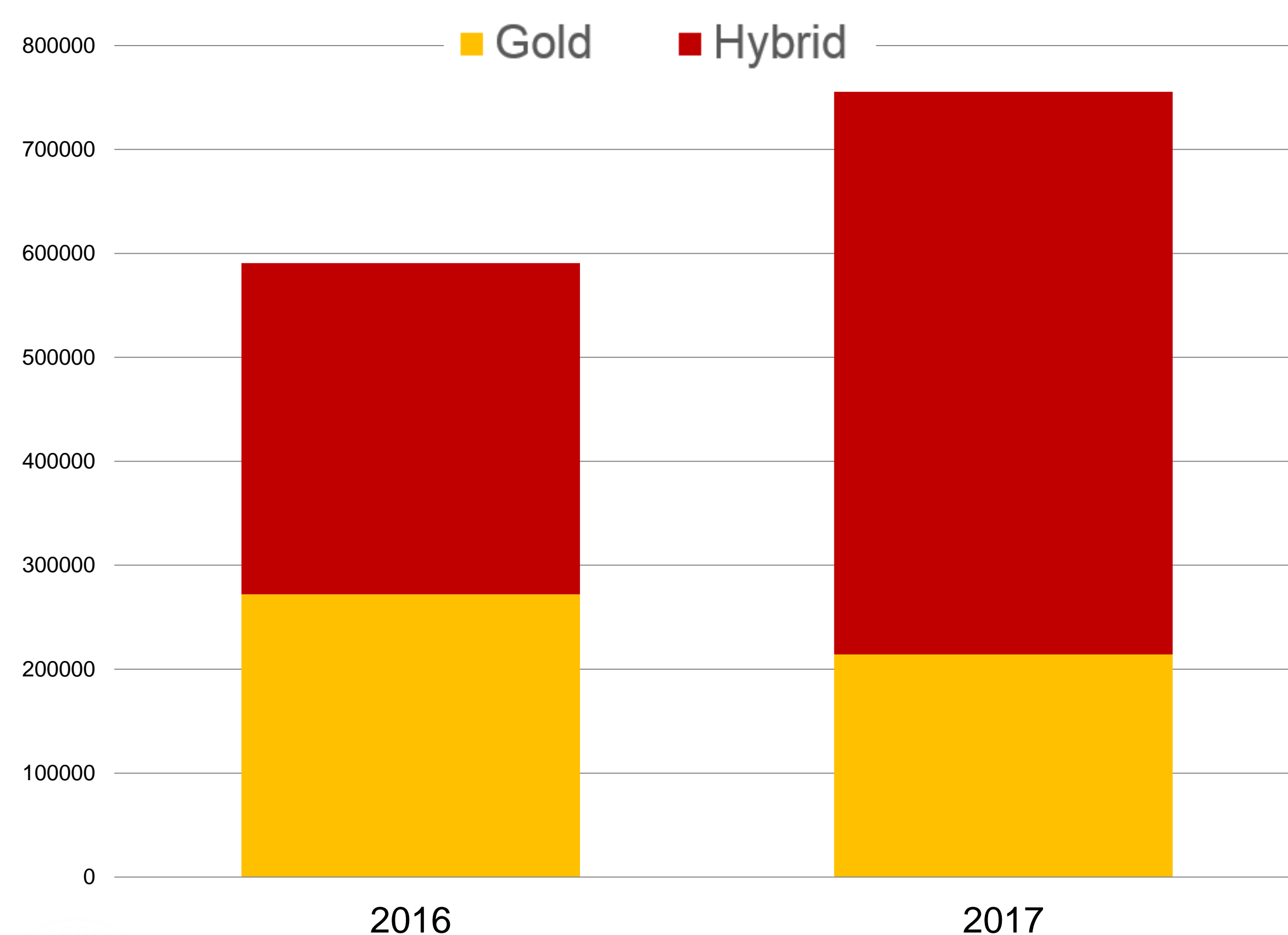
a) Tracking invoices containing APC-costs in the university's economy system.

b) Contacting publishers asking for APC costs.

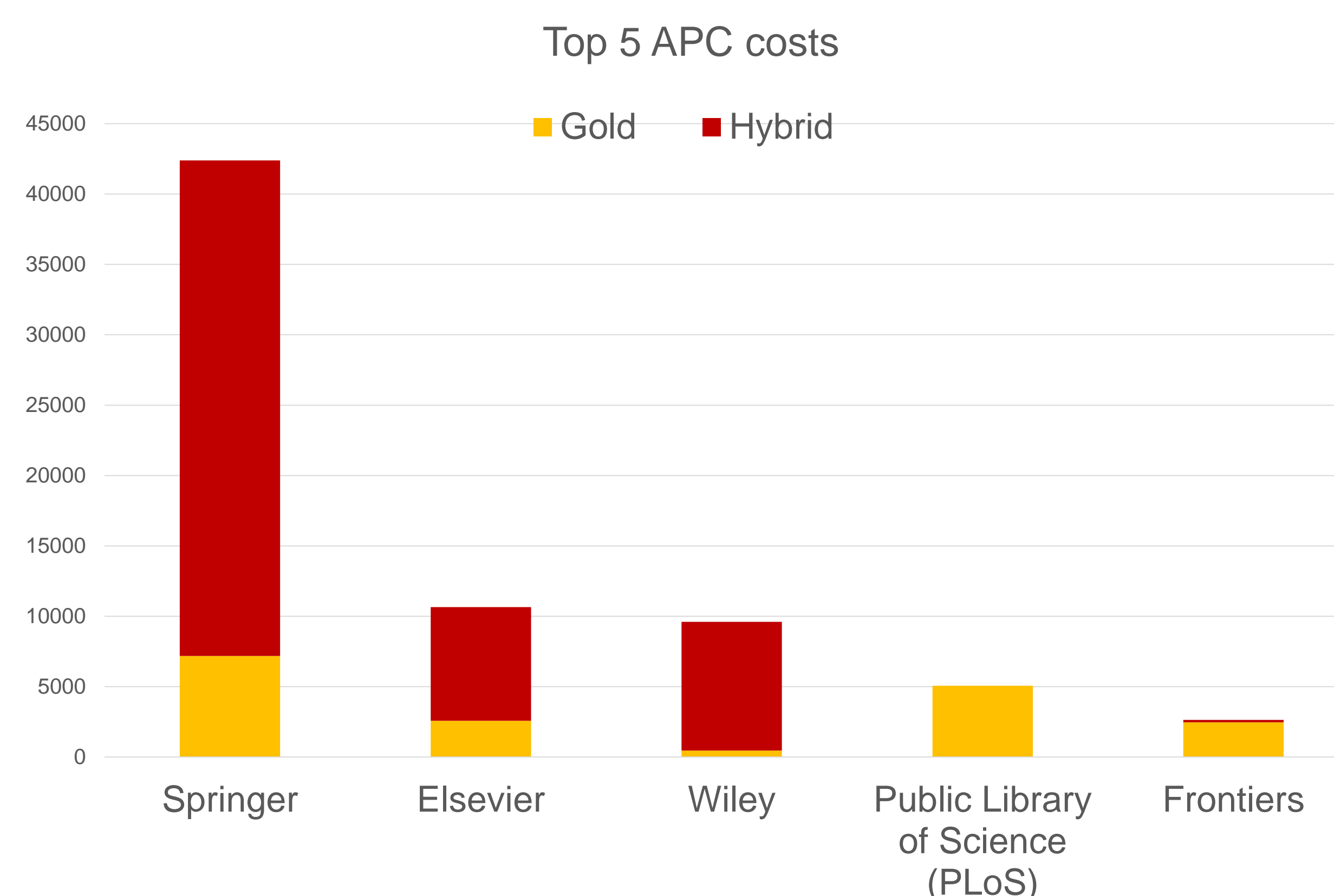
In both cases only the largest scientific publishers were contacted.

These methods have provided us with a minimum APC cost. However, we are aware that there are costs we have not been able to find.

Numeral results: ~590 000 EUR 2016, ~ 755 000 EUR 2017



APC costs per publisher (top 5 at University of Gothenburg)



What we have learned and some ideas for the future

- Put together a cross-functional team.
- Not all costs could be found in the invoice system...
- ... however, hopefully these numbers can improve with a designated account. Although, for obvious reasons, it is hard to measure how much we are missing.
- Our results can be used in negotiations and serve as a foundation for an OA fund sponsoring gold OA.
- Use procured knowledge to reallocate costs and focus on healthy open access publishing.
- Increase the overall knowledge about publication costs throughout the university.
- Clarify the role of librarians as experts within this area.

The 'problem' with offset deals

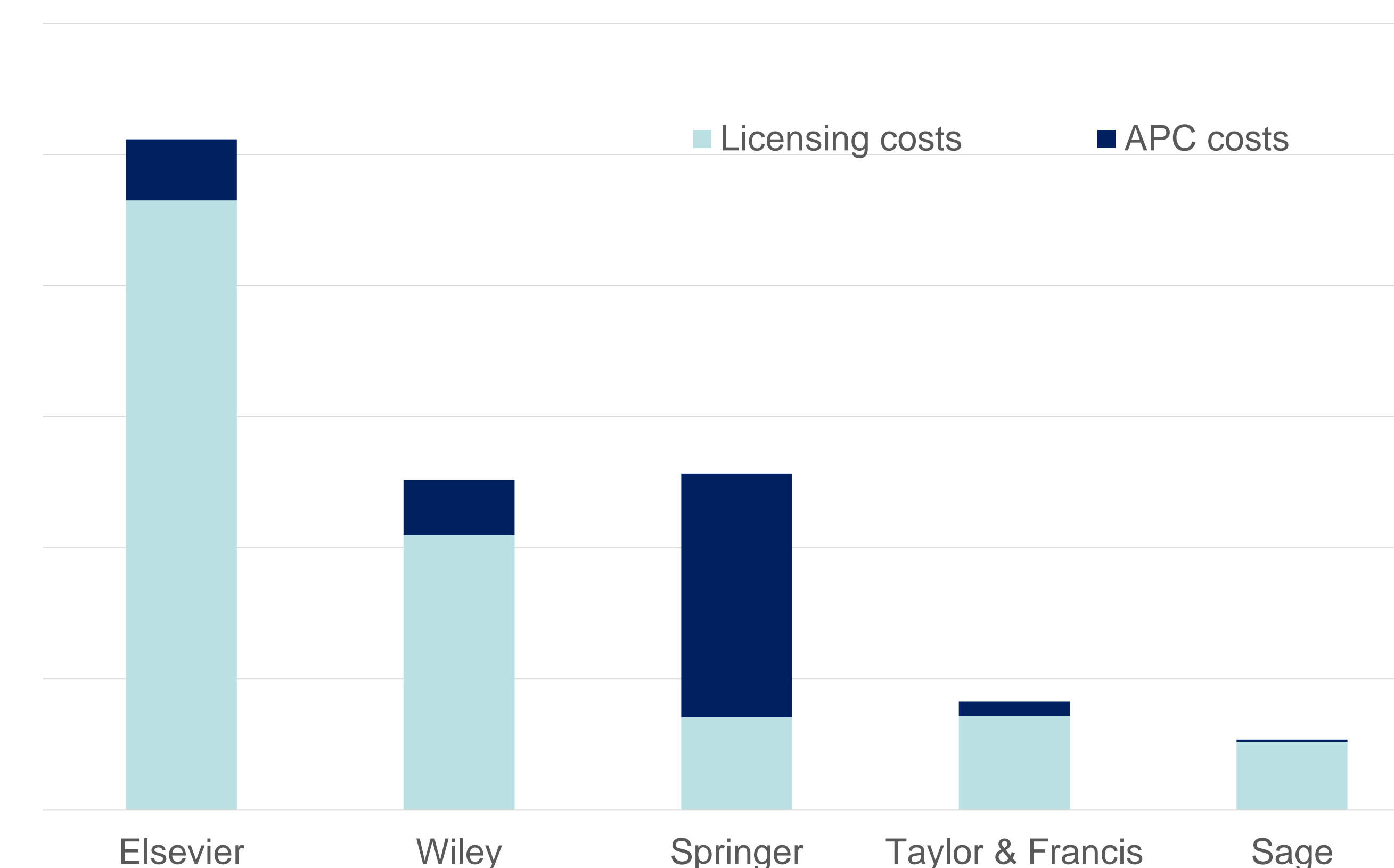
The University of Gothenburg is part of the Springer Compact agreement, an offset deal that provides reading access as well as allowing authors from GU to publish OA in Springer subscription journals.

When calculating costs for Springer all articles published under the agreement was counted with the regular APC fee for Springer (€2200). However, this calculation is somewhat misleading as the reading access is included in the deal.

In the left chart you can see how the hybrid costs have increased between 2016 and 2017. Our hypothesis is that this is due to the offset deals, resulting in the costs now being paid by the library - meaning we can track them more easily.

The chart to the right shows the total cost per publisher, illustrating the offset change for Springer.

Top 5 licensing + APC costs



For additional information, please contact:
 Name: Karin Henning & Pauline Jönsson
 E-mail: gup@ub.gu.se
 Website: ub.gu.se/publicera