Kotilava project - or how to make the journals of Finnish learned societies open

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Traits of society publishing in Finland

- Journal economy is based on
  - Voluntary work
  - Government subsidies
  - Subscriptions of members and others
  - Society support
- Strong dependence on members -> cautiousness in front of OA or web publishing in general
- Traditions and collegiality

Picture: National Board of Antiquities. Pietinen collection. Finna.

Starting point (2014)

- Majority of journals were published in printed form
- 30 % of society journals were open (gold OA)
  - On the OJS platform of the FFLS or on societies' webpages
- 30 % journals were published in license-based Elektra and Edilex databases
- SHERPA policies were published only by 20 % of journals

Picture: Mikko Huldin, Federation of Finnish Learned Societies

Kotilava project 2015-2017

- *Kotimaiset lehdet avoimiksi ja vaikuttamaan – Finnish Academic Journals Towards Immediate Open Access*
- Funded by the Ministry of Education and Culture
  - As a part of Open Science and Research Initiative
  - 256 000 € for two subprojects
- Subproject 1:
  - Federation of Finnish Learned societies
  - Developing the OJS platform of FFLS
- Subproject 2
  - National Library of Finland
  - Developing a funding model for Finnish OA journals

OPEN SCIENCE
AND RESEARCH

Goals of Kotilava

- The Finnish OA journals have sustainable funding
- The Finnish journals meet the requirements of domestic and international readers, authors and research funders in an open environment
- The impact of Finnish science and scholarship grows

Subproject 1, FFLS

Technical infrastructure

- DOI, ORCID – support
- ARTO, DOAJ – API, support
- Creative Commons – support
- National peer review label - support
- XML – support
- Fundref - support

Appearance

- Responsive layout
- Eye candy
- Branding: name, logo, domain name

Foci

System development

- OJS 3
- New Finnish translation, hosted at github
- Solving system deficiencies and bugs
- Documentation for user-statistics and article-level metrics

Maintenance

- Agreements with journals
- Solutions for long-term preservation
- Internal documentation for maintenance, updates and technical support

Subproject 2, National Library

Outlining a funding model based on a consortium

- Surveying current OA funding models
- Proposition for a Finnish solution
  - Funders
  - System and its maintenance
  - Criteria for the journals funded by the consortium

Estimating the funding needed in the system

- Price of an article: Total of current publishing expenses – expenses of printing and posting / number of refereed articles
- Estimate of the number of domestic referee articles published in the unviersities and the universities of applied sciences

Foci

Discussions between publishers and funders

- Motivating potential funders
- Motivating publishers to new practices and quality requirements

Piloting with 11 volunteering journals

Did not materialise due to the lack of funding
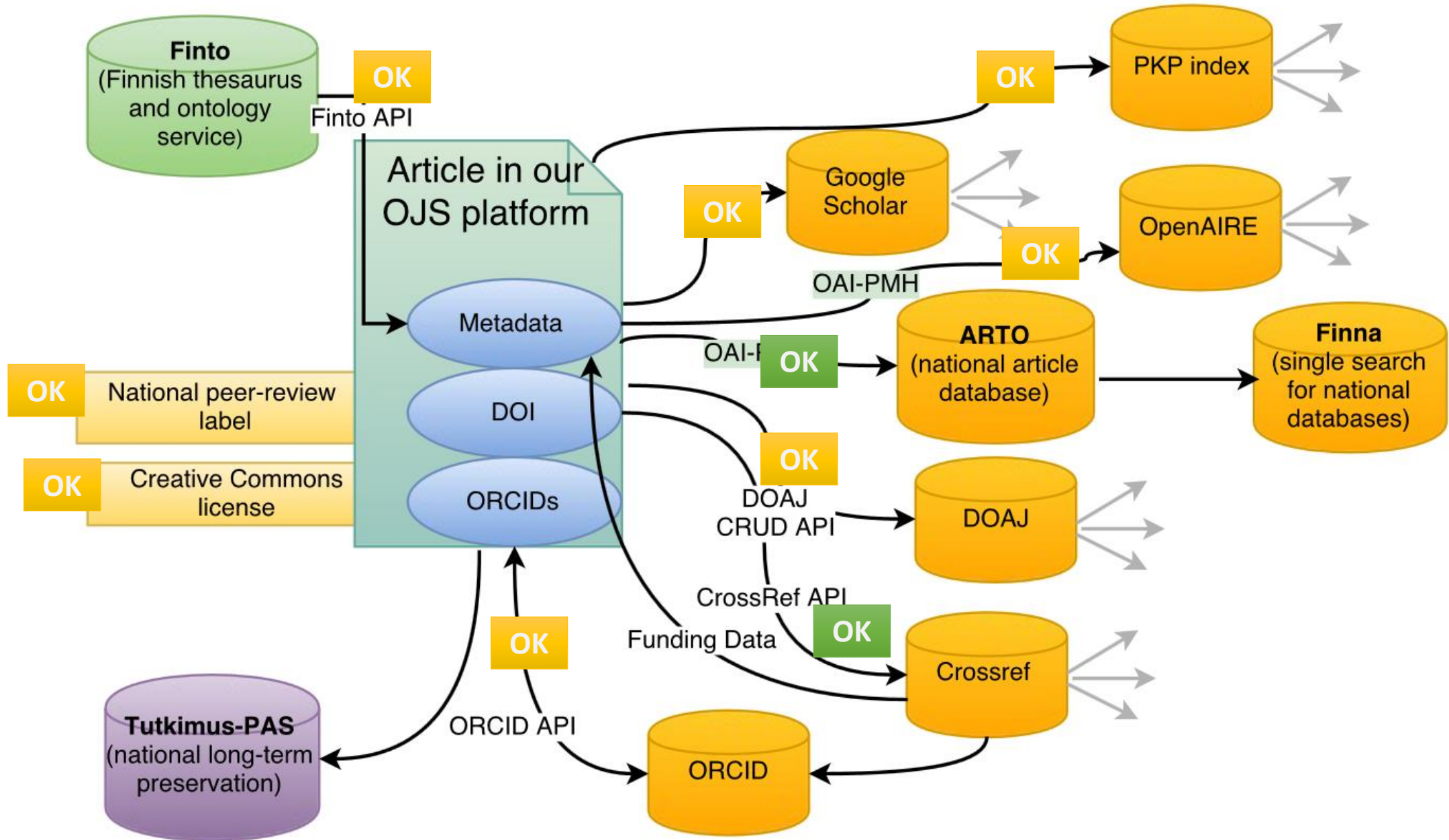
The flow of ideas in Kotilava
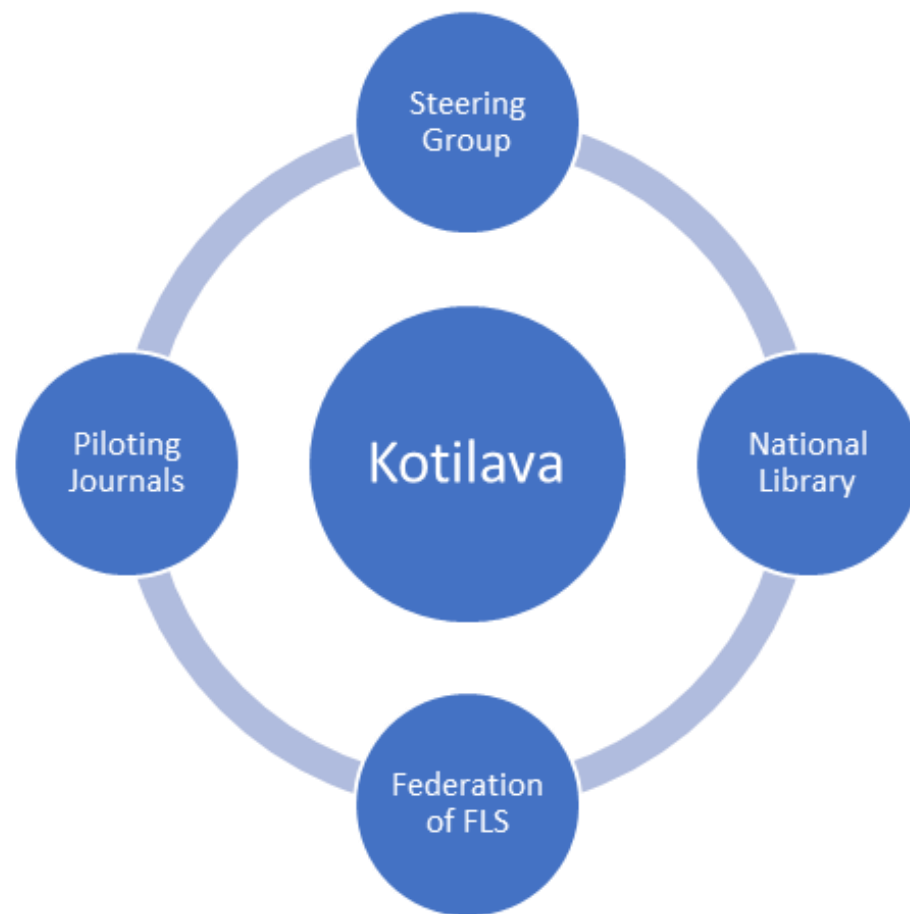
Progress by now: subproject 1

- OJS platform entitled Journal.fi was opened in January of 2017
- 30 journals trained to use it
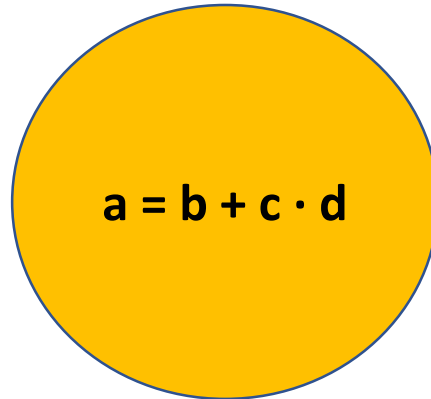- 20 more journals announced to be interested in joining this year
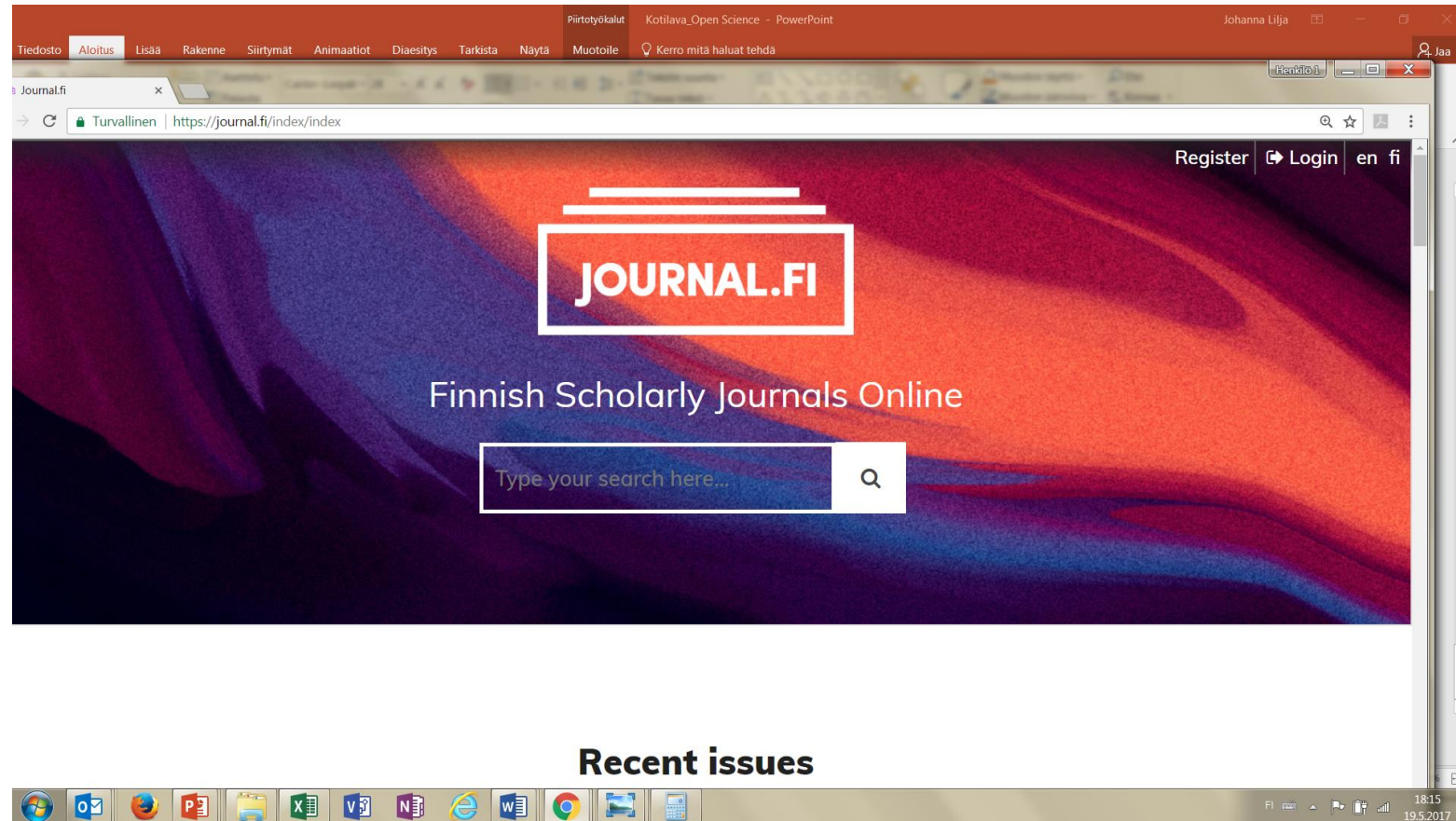
Infrastructure 2017/5

Progress by now: subproject 2

- Funding model is outlined
- Negotiations with the universities and the universities of applied sciences began in May of 2017
- 20 new journals are invited to test the model with universities from the beginning of 2018

$$a = b + c \cdot d$$

a = sum paid by a member organisation of the consortium

b = fixed charge (for the consortium administration)

c = number of articles published in the Kotilava journals by the researchers of this organisation

d = price of an article

The economy of a journal in the new funding model

- The articles of authors from the Consortium members are paid by Consortium

- The articles of other authors and other content (reviews, book reviews, editorials etc.) are paid with the government subsidy or by the society

- Society support included volunteer work is still included in the system
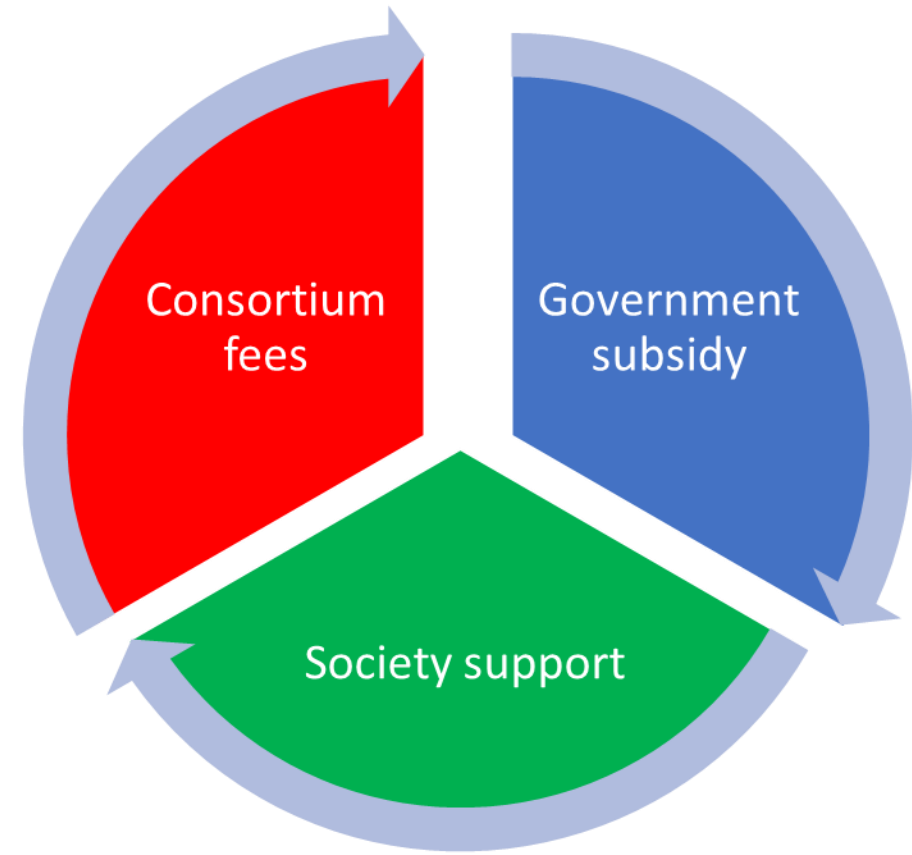
OA Policy in Kotilava

Funding model

-Immediate OA required

-Metadata CC0 required

-DOIs and ORCIDs required

-CC licences or other OA licences required

-Registration to DOAJ required

-SHERPA/RoMEO policy required

Journal.fi

- Immediate or delayed OA (max 12 months embargo) required

- Metadata CC0 required

- DOIs and ORCIDs recommended

- CC licenses recommended

- Registration to DOAJ recommended

- SHERPA/RoMEO policy (yellow, blue, green) recommended

Why differencies in OA policy?

- The more liberal policy of Journal.fi
  - Aims at inducing as many journals as possible to a national OA platform
  - Presumes that most journals will adopt the recommended features when they realise how useful they are
  - Mirrors the traditions of the FFLS: services for publishers are offered but they are not obligatory to use
- The more rigid policy of the funding model
  - Aims at making the domestic journals worth funding for consortium members
  - Guarantees that money given to journals will produce high quality OA publications with international standards

The national portal and funding model have aroused international interest

Keys of success so far

- Excellent workers in both of the subprojects
  - Antti-Jussi Nygård / FFLS
  - Riitta Koikkalainen / National Library
- Discussive atmosphere in the steering group, piloting group and the academic community in general
- Support from other ATT groups and projects
- Funding from ATT and other funders:
  - The Finnish Association of Scholarly Publishing
  - Open Aire FP 7

Picture: Jari Loisa: Federation of Finnish Learned Societies

Thank You!

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