Should science always be open?

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“If I have seen further it is by standing on the shoulders of giants.”
— Isaac Newton, letter to Robert Hooke, 15 February 1676.
“Bernard of Chartres used to say that we were like dwarfs seated on the shoulders of giants. If we see more and further than they, it is not due to our own clear eyes or tall bodies, but because we are raised on high and upborne by their gigantic bigness.”
Where progress comes from
The Impressionist painters
Renaissance Florence
Network effects hugely increase the value of research.

\[ y \propto x^2 \]
So the natural tendency is to share
How we used to make copies of papers
19th Century memory stick
How we used to send copies of papers to colleagues
The World Wide Web was invented to solve exactly this problem.
The World Wide Web was invented to solve exactly this problem...
The World Wide Web was invented to solve exactly this problem

In article <64...@cernvax.cern.ch> I promised to post a short summary of the WorldWideWeb project. Mail me with any queries.

WorldWideWeb - Executive Summary

The WWW project merges the techniques of information retrieval and hypertext to make an easy but powerful global information system.

The project started with the philosophy that much academic information should be freely available to anyone. It aims to allow information sharing within internationally dispersed teams, and the dissemination of information by support groups.
Here's why this is important

“Like all developments of new communication networks, SMS, fixed telephones, the telegraph, the railways, and writing itself, the internet doesn’t just change *how well* we can do things, it qualitatively changes *what* we can do.”

“At network scale the system *ensures* that resources get used in unexpected ways. *At scale you can have serendipity by design, not by blind luck.*”

— Cameron Neylon.
Health care
Agriculture
“Your job is NOT to get tenure! Your job is to change the world.” — Jon Foley.
“Publish” means “make public”

Publishing is meant to open up the world
Journal of Pharmaceutical and Biomedical Analysis
Volume 48, Issue 3, 4 November 2008, Pages 1011–1014

Short communication

Detecting counterfeit antimalarial tablets by near-infrared spectroscopy

Floyd E. Dowell\textsuperscript{a}, Elizabeth B. Maghirang\textsuperscript{b}, Facundo M. Fernandez\textsuperscript{b}, Paul N. Newton\textsuperscript{c,d}, Michael D. Green\textsuperscript{\textsuperscript{e}}

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It's a tragedy when “publishing” actually locks the world up.
We're still doing publishing this way
Why?
What is the cost to publishers of being open?

What is the cost to the world of *not* being open?
What is the cost to the world of not being open?
Remember the mission

We're not groping towards cost savings.

We're transforming what research is and how it's used.
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Of course science should always be open!

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