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Recognizing Friendly Preprint Servers and Indexation: SSRN First Look and Google Scholar Data base for Novice Researchers

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ABSTRACT

In the era of Industry 4.0, marked by rapid technological advancements, the use of technology in academic disciplines is crucial. A significant aspect of this tech revolution is the rise of web-based preprint services and index databases, offering a direct avenue for researchers to share work without traditional peer review. This study investigates the adoption of preprint-based publication systems in Indonesian research, focusing on SSRN First Look and Google Scholar (GS) from novices researchers' perspective in 3 based themes e.g., Benefit, Awareness, and Expectation. SSRN First Look has been vital in promoting open science, serving as a repository for diverse scientific documents. It excels in quickly and transparently disseminating research, especially beneficial for novice researchers. The research reveals the impact of SSRN First Look in facilitating the rapid sharing of research globally, including Indonesia. As an emerging force in open science, it has attracted substantial attention, underlining the growing role of preprint servers in modern academia. This survey intentionally invited 77 novice researchers who participated in a publication workshop affiliated with SSRN First Look and GS. The findings emphasize the positive impact of these platforms on the academic community, particularly novice researchers. As we advance further into the digital era, the role of preprint servers in accelerating research dissemination and promoting open scientific communication is indispensable.

Keywords: Novice Researchers; Publication; Preprint; Repository

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INTRODUCTION

In the contemporary landscape of academia, we find ourselves in the midst of the fourth industrial revolution, aptly dubbed Industry 4.0, a period characterized by the relentless surge of technological advancements (Sulistiyono, 2022; Balaji & Dhanamjaya, 2019).). This digital revolution has had a profound impact on the academic world,

ushering in a new era of research dissemination, knowledge exchange, and collaborative scholarship. As a response to these transformative changes, the adoption of innovative technologies has played a pivotal role in enhancing the entire academic production process, from knowledge generation to dissemination. Among these innovations, preprint servers have emerged as game-changers, revolutionizing the way researchers communicate and share their work with the global academic community (Chiarelli et al., 2019; Dwiyatno, et.al., 2022).

At the heart of this evolving academic landscape is the proliferation of preprint servers, web-based platforms that empower researchers to share their findings swiftly and directly with their peers and the broader community (Giles, 2003; Langston & Tyler, 2004). By bypassing the traditional peer review process, these platforms offer researchers an unparalleled opportunity for immediate engagement and feedback from fellow scholars and interested readers. This study ventures into the realms of the Indonesian research landscape, with a specific focus on two preprint servers that have been making waves: SSRN First Look and Google Scholar (GS).

The rapid rise of SSRN First Look and GS is indicative of the transformative potential of preprint servers. These platforms cater to the diverse needs of the academic community, providing an open avenue for sharing knowledge, from initial research findings to fully-fledged articles. Founded on the principles of immediate dissemination, these preprint servers hold the promise of accelerating the pace at which research reaches its audience (Rahim et al., 2018; Hirai, Raghavan, Garcia-Molina, & Paepcke, 2000). In a realm where time is of the essence, SSRN First Look and GS serve as catalysts for change, facilitating a real-time exchange of ideas and data.

The significance of this study lies in its dedicated exploration of the advantages brought by SSRN First Look and GS to the Indonesian research community. In this quest, 77 novice researchers participated in a publication workshop, immersing themselves in the unique features and capabilities of these preprint servers. The outcome was remarkable, as the study underscored the unequivocal positive impact of SSRN First Look and GS, particularly among novice researchers, who found these platforms to be invaluable tools (Shih, 2018; Norris, Oppenheim, & Rowland, 2008).

The objective of this research try to emphasize the growing importance of preprint servers on the global academic stage. The implications of adopting such a system reach far beyond immediate benefits; they extend to a fundamental transformation of the academic paradigm itself. By offering researchers the opportunity to share their work without the time constraints of traditional publishing, these platforms provide an avenue for rapid dissemination, early collaboration, and immediate feedback. The academic world is evolving, and these preprint servers are at the forefront of this transformation, rewriting the rules of engagement in scholarly communication (Galbán Rodríguez, 2019; Irawan, et.al., 2018).

Echoing the above studies, we delve deep into the methodology used in this study to provide a nuanced understanding of how SSRN First Look and GS are reshaping the academic terrain, offering researchers a faster and more efficient path to sharing knowledge and engaging with their peers. Our exploration is underpinned by the conviction that preprint servers are not merely tools but enablers of a new era in academic exchange, one in which information flows freely, unburdened by the constraints of traditional publication timelines (Tennant et al., 2018; Sorokina, et.al., 2006).

METHODS

The research was conducted through a structured and well-defined process. A total of 77 novice researchers were purposively selected during a publication workshop designed for beginners in the field of scientific research. Participants were chosen to represent a diverse cross-section of individuals interested in scientific dissemination. To gather data, we administered an online questionnaire using Google Forms. This survey instrument was chosen for its convenience, accessibility, and efficiency in collecting responses from participants. The questionnaire included items that aimed to elicit the participants' perceptions, beliefs, and expectations regarding friendly publication services, specifically SSRN First Look, and the use of the Google Scholar indexation database in the context of Benefit, Awareness, and Expectation.

Upon collecting responses, we employed a systematic approach to analyze the data. The initial step involved categorizing the search results, grouping them according to the themes and patterns that emerged from the participants' responses. This categorization helped identify common themes, trends, and variations in perceptions and expectations. Subsequently, we conducted a comprehensive result feedback analysis, which included the creation of charts and graphs to visually represent the collected data. These visuals were instrumental in providing a clear overview of the key findings and trends, making it easier to identify significant patterns and variations.

Following the visual analysis, we carried out a descriptive analysis to delve deeper into the data. This involved the use of statistical methods and qualitative techniques to further explore and understand the nuances of the participants' responses. The descriptive analysis allowed us to identify both quantitative and qualitative insights. Finally, the analysis was accompanied by original interpretation. Our goal was to provide a fresh perspective on the context and implications of the data. This interpretation integrated the findings into the broader landscape of preprint services and research dissemination for novice researchers in Indonesia. The online questionnaire was distributed to participants after the community service program in January 2023, ensuring that the data collected would reflect their experiences and perceptions accurately in the most recent context. This methodological approach was designed to provide a rigorous and comprehensive analysis of the perceptions and expectations of novice researchers regarding friendly preprint servers (SSRN First Look) and the use of the Google Scholar indexation database within their scientific disciplines. The methodology employed in this study allows for a robust examination of the subject matter, facilitating a thorough understanding of the experiences and perspectives of novice researchers in Indonesia.

RESULTS

The study spanned three months and centered on data collection conducted during a workshop. It sought to examine the role of SSRN First Look and Google Scholar as platforms for publishing scientific articles and fostering preprint sharing in the scientific community, with a particular focus on their value to emerging researchers. To gauge the utility of these platforms for novice researchers, we developed a comprehensive questionnaire with ten tailored questions. This questionnaire was

administered through Google Forms to gather insights from participants in a community service program. The survey was distributed immediately following the workshop, on January 13, 2018, and involved the participation of 77 individuals.

The benefit of the SSRN *first look* and GS

The analysis in this section is based on the quantitative responses received for the question, "Is SSRN First Look and Google Scholar useful for researchers?"

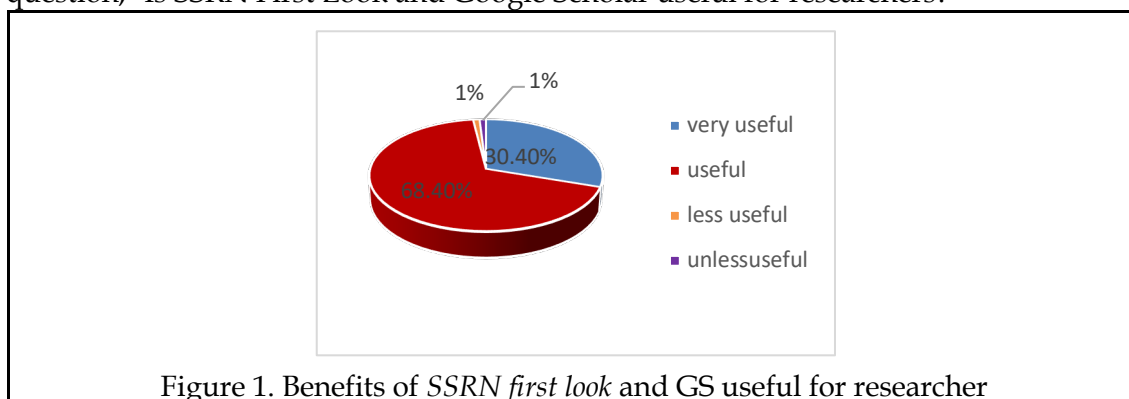


Figure 1. Benefits of SSRN *first look* and GS useful for researcher

The results of our analysis paint a compelling picture regarding the significance of SSRN First Look and Google Scholar for researchers, particularly novice researchers. A staggering 98.8% of the survey respondents expressed positive perceptions regarding the usefulness of these platforms. This substantial agreement among respondents underscores the importance of these platforms in facilitating scientific communication and knowledge dissemination among researchers at different stages of their careers. These overwhelmingly positive perceptions align with the notion that SSRN First Look and Google Scholar are emerging as pivotal players in fostering a culture of preprint sharing in the scientific community. For novice researchers, these platforms offer accessibility to a vast repository of research articles, facilitating the dissemination of their own work and increasing their visibility within the academic community.

Furthermore, the majority of respondents highlighted the tangible benefits that SSRN First Look and Google Scholar bring to researchers. The endorsement of these platforms as valuable tools for researchers signals the potential for increased collaboration, knowledge sharing, and innovation, as these platforms bridge the gap between seasoned academics and budding scholars. In summary, the results underscore the invaluable role that SSRN First Look and Google Scholar play in the scientific community, with their potential to support novice researchers as they engage in preprint sharing, disseminate their findings, and actively participate in the scholarly discourse. This broader impact is indicative of the evolving landscape of scientific communication, driven by platforms that embrace preprints and foster an environment of knowledge sharing and collaboration.

Awareness of the Importance of Publication using friendly publication platform

In assessing the significance of utilizing friendly publication platforms among novice researchers, we posed the question, "Is it very important to use a friendly publication platform for novice researchers?" This question was in line with the workshop's focus on publication-based frameworks such as SSRN First Look and Google Scholar, as elaborated in Figure 2.

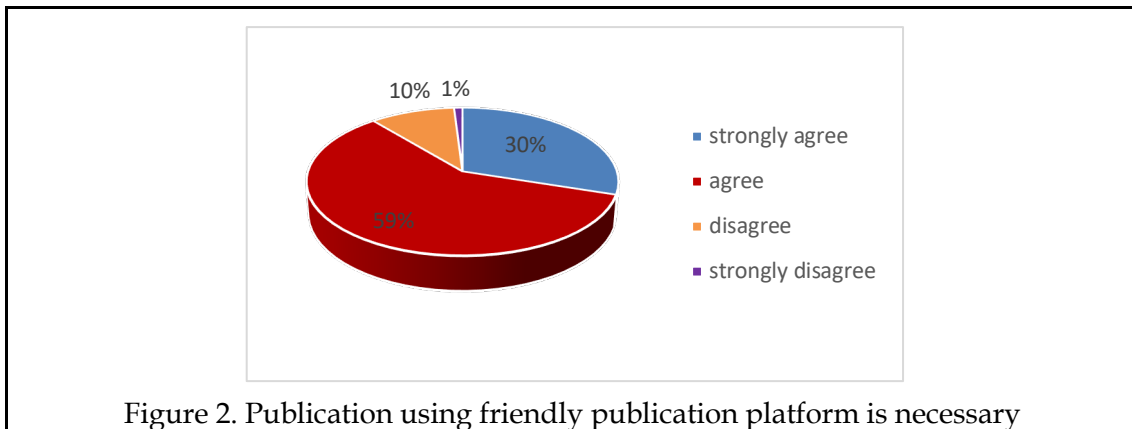


Figure 2. Publication using friendly publication platform is necessary

Figure 2 visually represents the survey results regarding the necessity of employing user-friendly publication platforms among novice researchers. The chart indicates that an overwhelming 86.1% of the respondents expressed a strong consensus on the importance of using such platforms. This significant majority view underscores the substantial impact that these platforms have on the scholarly activities of novice researchers.

In essence, the survey results revealed a strong collective belief among the participants in the value of these user-friendly publication platforms as crucial tools in the academic journey of novice researchers. The data collected and analyzed in this study offer compelling insights into the perception and importance attributed to these platforms within the scientific community. These findings can significantly inform and guide the strategies and practices of novice researchers in their efforts to disseminate their research findings and engage with the broader academic discourse.

Expectation on Publication using friendly publication platform

The pivotal question posed to our survey respondents was as follows: "Using these two platforms, I am expecting they can help us experience the publication process in an easy and user-friendly manner.". Chart 3.3, displayed, visually captures the overarching sentiment of the participants concerning the perceived importance of user-friendly publication processes. These findings underscore the significance attached to the ease and accessibility of publishing scientific research among novice researchers.

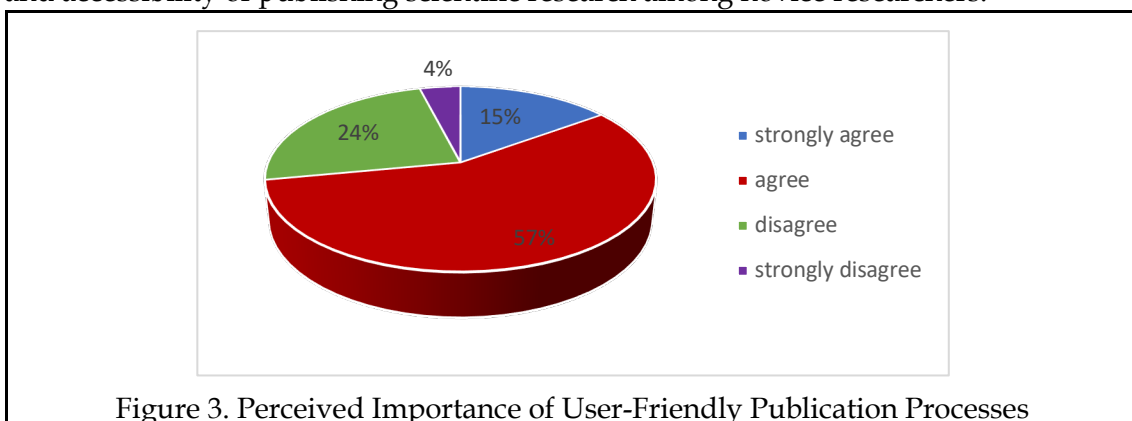


Figure 3. Perceived Importance of User-Friendly Publication Processes

The chart reveals a spectrum of attitudes held by the participants regarding the facilitation of the publication process through user-friendly platforms. It underscores the essential role that these platforms play in the academic aspirations of novice researchers.

The rich dataset gathered through this question illuminates the diversity of expectations and preferences within this cohort, with implications for the broader academic community.

One compelling aspect of the chart's data is the varying degrees of emphasis placed on the ease of publication by the respondents. While some participants might prioritize the streamlined process as a means of removing barriers to entry into academic discourse, others may view it as a means of enhancing the visibility of their research. These insights point to a multi-faceted landscape of motivations and expectations within the community of novice researchers.

The significance of these findings extends beyond mere curiosity; it has the potential to inform strategies for platform development and educational initiatives aimed at assisting emerging researchers. Understanding the specific expectations of novice researchers concerning user-friendly publication processes can foster more tailored support and resources for this demographic, thereby facilitating their integration into the scientific communication cycle.

DISCUSSION

In the realm of modern academia, the advent of Industry 4.0, characterized by relentless technological advancements (Sulistiyono, 2022), has ushered in a profound transformation. This digital revolution has significantly impacted research dissemination, knowledge exchange, and collaborative scholarship. As a response to these transformative changes, the adoption of innovative technologies has played a pivotal role in enhancing the entire academic production process, from knowledge generation to dissemination (Chiarelli et al., 2019).

Central to this evolving academic landscape are preprint servers, web-based platforms that empower researchers to share their findings swiftly and directly with their peers and the broader community (Giles, 2003). By bypassing the traditional peer review process, these platforms offer researchers an unparalleled opportunity for immediate engagement and feedback from fellow scholars and interested readers. In our study, we delve into the Indonesian research landscape, with a specific focus on two preprint servers that have been making waves: SSRN First Look and Google Scholar (GS).

The rapid rise of SSRN First Look and GS is indicative of the transformative potential of preprint servers. These platforms cater to the diverse needs of the academic community, providing an open avenue for sharing knowledge, from initial research findings to fully-fledged articles. Founded on the principles of immediate dissemination, these preprint servers hold the promise of accelerating the pace at which research reaches its audience (Rahim et al., 2018). In a realm where time is of the essence, SSRN First Look and GS serve as catalysts for change, facilitating a real-time exchange of ideas and data. Therefore, the objective of this research was to emphasize the growing importance of preprint servers on the global academic stage seeing from the benefit, awareness and expectation from 77 novice researchers.

The methodology used in this study was designed to provide a robust examination of the subject matter, facilitating a thorough understanding of the experiences and perspectives of novice researchers in Indonesia. A total of 77 novice researchers were

purposely selected during a publication workshop designed for beginners in the field of scientific research based themes; benefit, awareness and expectation.

The Benefit of SSRN First Look and GS

The results of our analysis paint a compelling picture regarding the significance of SSRN First Look and Google Scholar for researchers, particularly novice researchers. A staggering 98.8% of the survey respondents expressed positive perceptions regarding the usefulness of these platforms. This substantial agreement among respondents underscores the importance of these platforms in facilitating scientific communication and knowledge dissemination among researchers at different stages of their careers. These overwhelmingly positive perceptions align with the notion that SSRN First Look and Google Scholar are emerging as pivotal players in fostering a culture of preprint sharing in the scientific community. For novice researchers, these platforms offer accessibility to a vast repository of research articles, facilitating the dissemination of their own work and increasing their visibility within the academic community.

Furthermore, the majority of respondents highlighted the tangible benefits that SSRN First Look and Google Scholar bring to researchers. The endorsement of these platforms as valuable tools for researchers signals the potential for increased collaboration, knowledge sharing, and innovation, as these platforms bridge the gap between seasoned academics and budding scholars. In summary, the results underscore the invaluable role that SSRN First Look and Google Scholar play in the scientific community, with their potential to support novice researchers as they engage in preprint sharing, disseminate their findings, and actively participate in the scholarly discourse. This broader impact is indicative of the evolving landscape of scientific communication, driven by platforms that embrace preprints and foster an environment of knowledge sharing and collaboration.

Awareness of the Importance of Publication using Friendly Publication Platforms

The data overwhelmingly shows that 86.1% of the respondents expressed a strong consensus on the importance of using user-friendly publication platforms. This significant majority view underscores the substantial impact that these platforms have on the scholarly activities of novice researchers.

In essence, the survey results revealed a strong collective belief among the participants in the value of these user-friendly publication platforms as crucial tools in the academic journey of novice researchers. The data collected and analyzed in this study offers compelling insights into the perception and importance attributed to these platforms within the scientific community. These findings can significantly inform and guide the strategies and practices of novice researchers in their efforts to disseminate their research findings and engage with the broader academic discourse.

Expectation on Publication using Friendly Publication Platforms

The pivotal question posed to our survey respondents was as follows: "Using these two platforms, I am expecting they can help us experience the publication process in an easy and user-friendly manner." The chart visually captures the overarching sentiment of the participants concerning the perceived importance of user-friendly publication processes. These findings underscore the significance attached to the ease and accessibility of publishing scientific research among novice researchers.

The chart reveals a spectrum of attitudes held by the participants regarding the facilitation of the publication process through user-friendly platforms. It underscores the essential role that these platforms play in the academic aspirations of novice researchers. The rich dataset gathered through this question illuminates the diversity of expectations and preferences within this cohort, with implications for the broader academic community.

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The significance of these findings extends beyond mere curiosity; it has the potential to inform strategies for platform development and educational initiatives aimed at assisting emerging researchers. Understanding the specific expectations of novice researchers concerning user-friendly publication processes can foster more tailored support and resources for this demographic, thereby facilitating their integration into the scientific communication cycle.

The Role of Preprint Servers in Global Academia: Implications

This study highlights the transformative power of preprint servers, not only in terms of their immediate benefits but also in their potential to reshape the academic landscape. As we move forward in this digital age, the role of preprint servers like SSRN First Look and Google Scholar in accelerating research dissemination and promoting open scientific communication is indispensable. The advantages they offer to novice researchers, such as immediate visibility, accessibility to a vast repository of research, and ease of publication, are key factors in fostering a culture of preprint sharing and collaboration in the academic community.

The impact of SSRN First Look and Google Scholar extends far beyond their current utility, as they are at the forefront of a transformative era in academic exchange. They are rewriting the rules of scholarly engagement, where information flows freely, unburdened by the constraints of traditional publication timelines. These platforms are not only tools; they are enablers of a new era in academic exchange, one in which novice researchers play a vital role in shaping the future of scholarly communication. The implications of this study reach far beyond the Indonesian research landscape. The transformative potential of preprint servers, such as SSRN First Look and Google Scholar, has global significance. These platforms are not only tools for researchers; they are driving a fundamental shift in the academic paradigm itself. The academic world is evolving rapidly, and preprint servers are at the forefront of this transformation. They offer researchers the opportunity to share their work without the time constraints of traditional publishing. This is a game-changer for novice researchers and seasoned academics alike. The rapid dissemination of ideas, the potential for early collaboration, and the immediate feedback these platforms facilitate are reshaping the rules of engagement in scholarly communication.

Furthermore, preprint servers like SSRN First Look and Google Scholar have the potential to increase the transparency and accessibility of research. The open peer review system they offer enhances objectivity and process speed compared to closed review

systems. These platforms provide a unique space for researchers to share not only completed research articles but also preliminary findings, data, maps, photos, and videos. The breadth of content they can accommodate is a testament to their potential to drive innovation and cross-disciplinary collaboration. As we reflect on the findings of this study, it is clear that the transformative power of preprint servers is poised to reshape the academic landscape. The impact of SSRN First Look and Google Scholar is not limited to their current use; their potential to revolutionize the way researchers communicate and share their work is immense. The academic community must acknowledge the significance of preprint servers and actively support their integration into the scholarly communication cycle. Novice researchers, in particular, stand to benefit from these platforms, which offer immediate visibility, accessibility to a vast repository of research, and a user-friendly publication process.

The academic world is evolving, and preprint servers are paving the way for a future where information flows freely, unburdened by traditional publication timelines. The benefits, awareness, and expectations surrounding these platforms are driving a fundamental transformation of scholarly communication. It is essential for researchers, institutions, and publishers to recognize this transformation and adapt to the changing landscape of academic exchange.

The findings of this study emphasize the vital role of preprint servers like SSRN First Look and Google Scholar in modern academia. Their impact on novice researchers, their transformative potential, and their global significance highlight the need for continued support and exploration of these platforms. The academic community must embrace this shift in scholarly communication, as it has the potential to shape the future of research dissemination and knowledge exchange on a global scale.

CONCLUSION

Based In the era of Industry 4.0, characterized by rapid technological advancements, the use of technology in academia has become indispensable. Preprint servers and indexation databases, such as SSRN First Look and Google Scholar, are revolutionizing how researchers disseminate their work. This study focused on understanding the perspectives of novice researchers in Indonesia regarding the benefits, awareness, and expectations associated with these platforms. SSRN First Look has emerged as a pivotal force in promoting open science and facilitating the rapid sharing of research. Our survey of 77 novice researchers revealed that 98.8% of respondents found SSRN First Look and Google Scholar to be highly useful. These platforms offer immediate visibility, accessibility to a vast repository of research, and a user-friendly publication process. They bridge the gap between seasoned academics and budding scholars, fostering a culture of preprint sharing and collaboration.

Moreover, our research showed that 86.1% of respondents emphasized the importance of using user-friendly publication platforms, highlighting the substantial impact these platforms have on novice researchers. The ease and accessibility they provide are crucial for scholars entering the academic discourse. The study also explored the expectations of novice researchers regarding user-friendly publication processes. It revealed varying degrees of emphasis on the ease of publication, with some participants prioritizing a streamlined process to remove barriers to entry, while others focus on enhancing the visibility of their research. These insights offer a multi-faceted perspective

on the motivations and expectations of novice researchers. The transformative potential of preprint servers like SSRN First Look and Google Scholar extends beyond their current utility. They are at the forefront of reshaping the rules of scholarly engagement, where information flows freely, unburdened by traditional publication timelines. These platforms are not just tools but enablers of a new era in academic exchange. They have the potential to revolutionize how researchers communicate and share their work on a global scale.

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