



QuickTime™ and a  
TIFF (Uncompressed) decompressor  
are needed to see this picture.

### Open source knowledge



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### Knowledge flows



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How do the chaotic open source flows of knowledge, which have no evident tendency towards predictability let alone to equilibrium, become reconciled with a world of national and university hierarchies, economic markets, and institutions that routinely require stability and control in order to function?

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In the k-economy, public good  
knowledge flows are vectored by a  
system of status production.

This assigns value to knowledge, and  
arranges it in ordered patterns.

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The new system for assigning ordered  
values to knowledge ('k-status') includes

- league tables and university rankings in research  
(to be mediated by institutional classifications)
- publication metrics and citation metrics
- journal hierarchies
- other comparative measures such as learning  
outcomes

*tendentious and problematic they all are, but they are here to stay*

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### Antinomy of the k-economy

Traditional status competition in universities is  
framed by closure, by the absolute scarcity of status,  
by one dominant circuit of knowledge

Open source ecology is characterized by many  
circuits of knowledge, by hyper-abundance, by  
dissemination without limit

(Industry will source innovations from both 'ordered  
knowledge' and 'knowledge without value')

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## Reflexivities of the k-order

- impact (Hazelkorn, 2008)
- self-determination and heteronomy
- diversity and variety
- is it possible to move up on the basis of merit?
- engagement with stakeholders
- creativity

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## R is for rankings

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## M is for metrics of publication and citation

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Between the k-order and open source, establish

plurality of rankings and  
multiplicity of indicators

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