

Can Japanese university libraries keep up
with the changes in scholarly
communication worldwide? or
Scholarly Communication in Contemporary Japan: Societies,
Libraries, Vendors, Funders and Others

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Outline

- A view from Japanese university libraries
 - Agent-mediated librarianship
 - The Japanese version of “serials crisis” in 1990s
 - “Electronic journals” coming at the turn of the century
 - Consortial, direct, price negotiation(JANUL, PLUC, ...)
- SPARC Japan and society publishing
 - Libraries efforts to change scholarly journal market in 1990s
 - SPARC Japan and Japanese societies
 - Government commitments?
- Japanese scholarly communication on the move
 - Threats: Mergers, China, R&D funding, university reform
 - Wandering intermediaries: Agents, databases, utilities
 - Unclear future

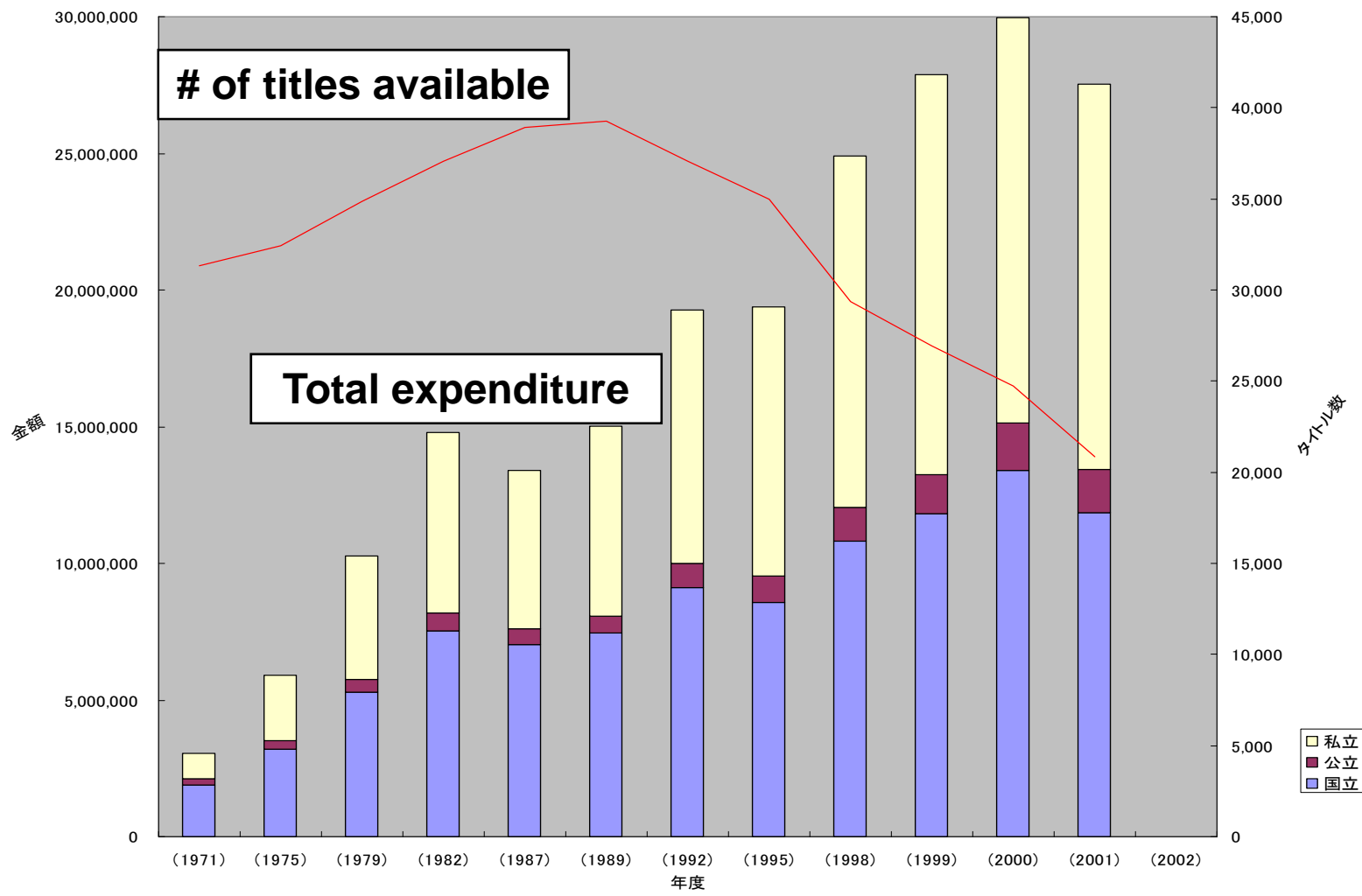
University libraries in the past

- Discrepancy between faculty and library
 - Who collects and pays for what?
 - Intermediaries on campus?
 - NO “budget” after all: Only for subscription but still post hoc
- Talking only to agents
 - No knowledge of “publishers”(hanmoto)
 - Unilaterally dictated pricing/markup by “sole agents”
 - Almost outsourced library work, deep dependency
- A different world on campus
 - Secured positions
 - No budget, no responsibility

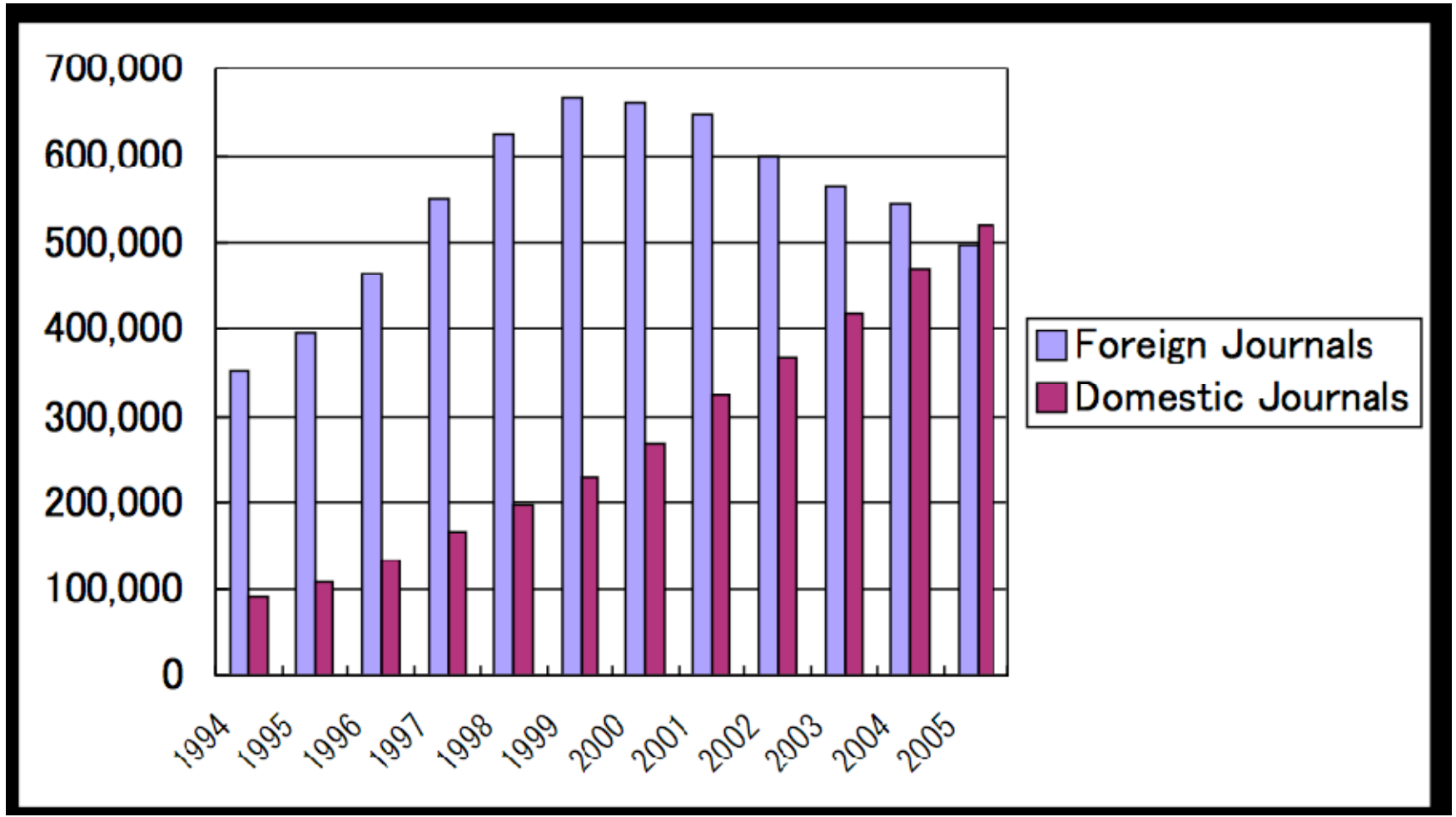
“Serials crisis”

- The North American “serials crisis”
 - Big science with big funding → more publications → Publishers coming in → shift to institutional subscription → Unit price rising → Fewer subscribers → Unit price rising
- Japan not so much affected due to economic growth, Yen rates appreciation
- But in 90s,
 - Nationwide steep decrease of subscribed titles by Japanese university libraries
 - Worse, nobody noticed the phenomenon until 2000
 - Corroborated by increase of ILL transactions

Library statistics



Change in the number of filled requests for foreign and domestic journals(1994-2005)



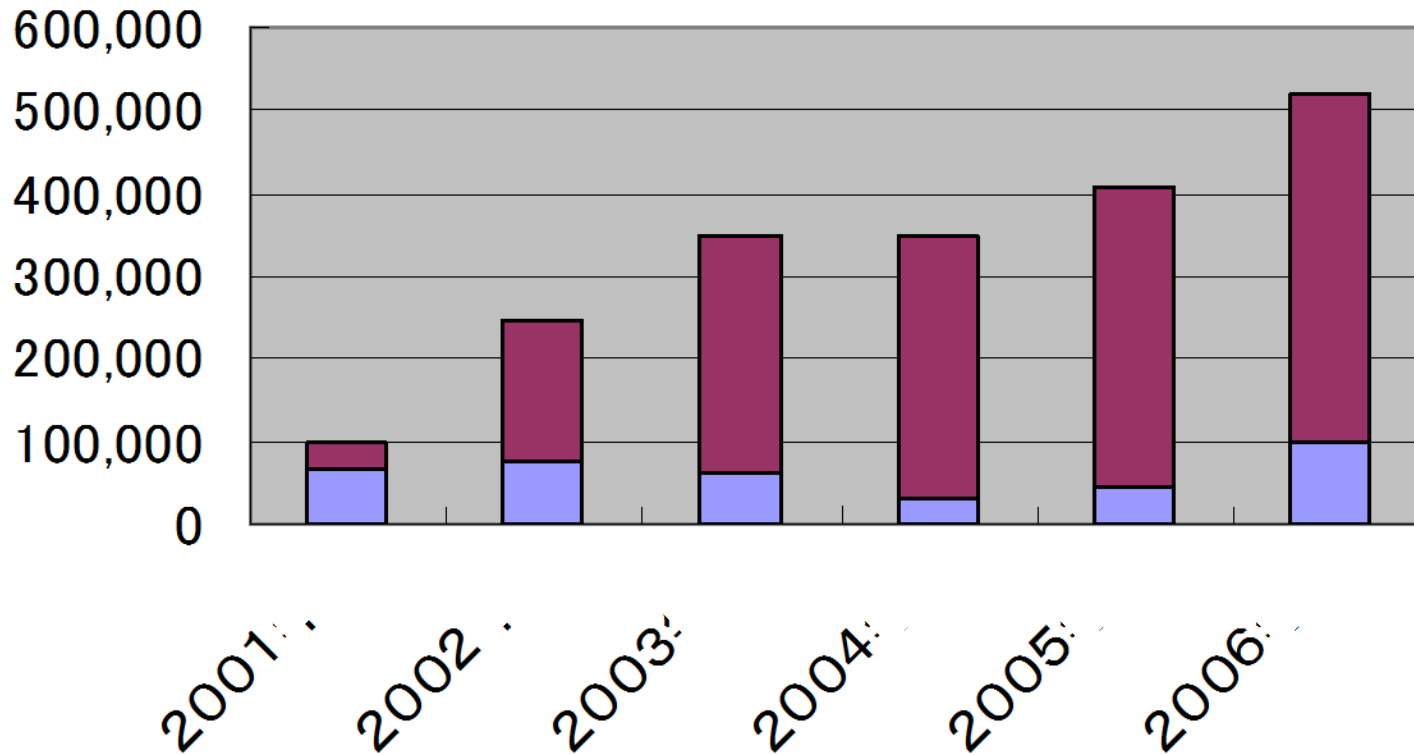
“Electronic journals” coming on line

- In 1999, Elsevier attacked us with SD-21 and Yen pricing
- In 2000, National university libraries formed a consortial scheme and began to talk with publishers
 - to cope with “pricing” issues
 - to improve access to scholarly information on campus,
 - but did not pay attention to “our” societies
 - (then Wiley was ready, Blackwell was not)
- (J)ANUL liked online Big Deals, coped with price increase by canceling print
 - from 1000 to 6000 titles accessible
 - no substantial increase in expenditure on “foreign” journals
- A sea change in library landscape

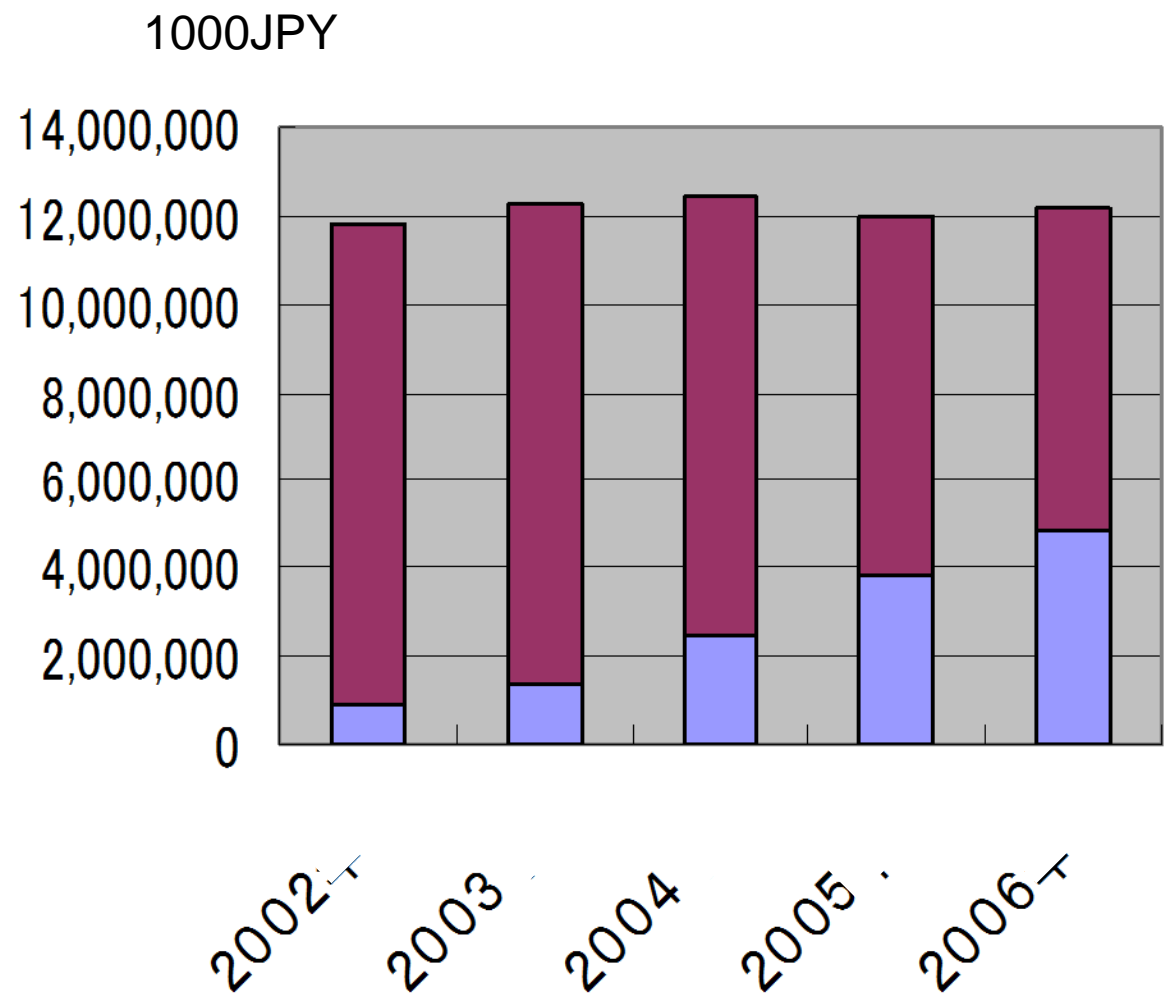
University library expenditure in Japan(2004)

	Books		Serials			Others	Total
	Japanese	Foreign	Japanese	Foreign Current	F Back issues		
National univ.	4,074,669	3,056,204	1,760,221	11,901,186	98,469	2,835,113	23,725,862
Loc Gov	1,184,717	525,729	335,164	1,665,584	41,129	242,793	3,995,116
Private	14,484,176	9,141,558	3,956,284	16,082,589	394,045	5,357,020	49,415,672
	19,743,562	12,723,491	6,051,669	29,649,359	533,643	8,434,926	

Gross sum of the numbers of journal titles accessible from Japanese national universities



Expenditure on “foreign journals” by national universities



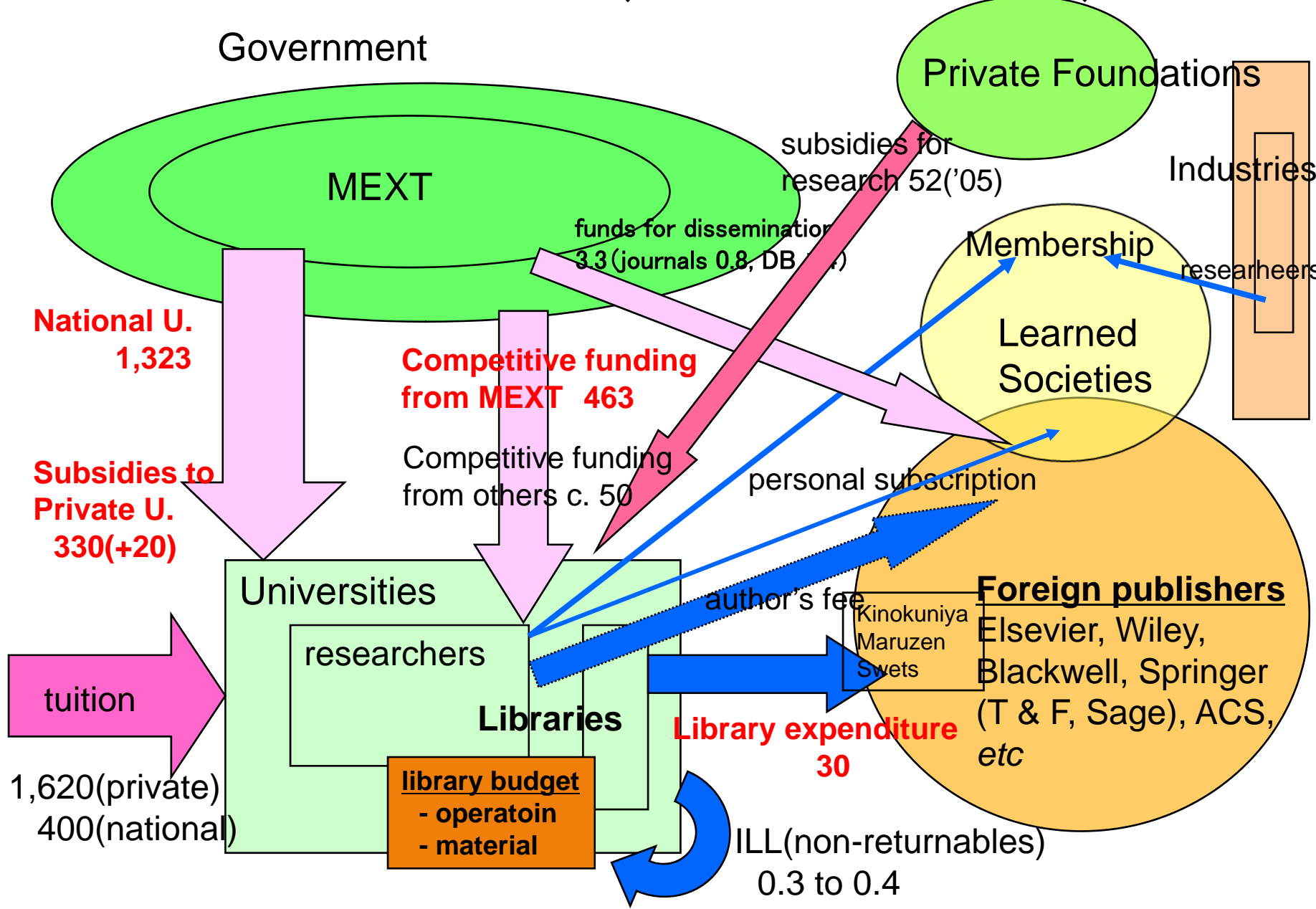
SPARC approached

- In 2001, Japanese university libraries approached by SPARC at ARL
 - just in the course of discussion on acquisition and dissemination of digital resource by university libraries at MEXT, then Monbusho
 - An idea of matching acquisition budget with enhanced dissemination, to a certain success in 2002FY, and additionally REO at NII
 - Funding for improving society publishing on top of JSPS's "Grant-in-Aid" subsidy on publications via NII from 2003FY
- SPARC moved to Open Access Advocacy from 2003
 - Cooling down somewhat
- MOU in 2006, rehabilitation and adjustment

MEXT reports on information infrastructure(2006)

- Reports on computer center/network, university library and society publishing after one full year discussion
 - Endangered infrastructure after “Hojinka”
 - Need for Information infrastructure for science and scholarship
- Society publishing in the name of “dissemination”
 - Mainly quality problems in Japanese society publishing
 - Modes of publishing from societies in Japan(Self/Contract etc)
 - Abuse of “Impact Factor” and awareness of Open Access Movements
 - Promising role of institutional repositories for dissemination
 - Nationwide division of labor between NDL/J-STAGE/NII *etc*

Money flow for higher education and research in Japan(BJPY) (JPY0.12billion = US\$1M)



Prospects for funding for publishing

- General perception
 - Funding for society publishing is hard to justify(MEXT, JSPS)
 - Technologically transitional phase has ended, need for new business models(SPARC Japan)
 - Nationwide infrastructure thought to be necessary, but no party has any plan or any money, including NDL
 - Indigenous market is too slow catching up
- JSPS's grant for publishing
 - Shift to competitive tender in accordance with government wide regulation
 - Budget shrinking, apparently
 - Issues about principles of society management

(参考)

平成19年度科学研究費補助金（研究成果公開促進費）
応募・採択状況

(単位：件)

	応募件数	採択件数	採択率 (%)
学 術 定 期 刊 行 物	212	113	53.3%
欧 文 誌 (うち特定欧文総合誌として採択)	143	75 (2)	52.4%
和 文 誌	69	38	55.1%
学 術 図 書	929	229	24.7%
デ ー タ ベ ー ス (うち重点データベースとして採択)	291	114 (8)	39.2%
合 計	1,432	456	31.8%

* 1) 上記件数には継続課題も含まれている。

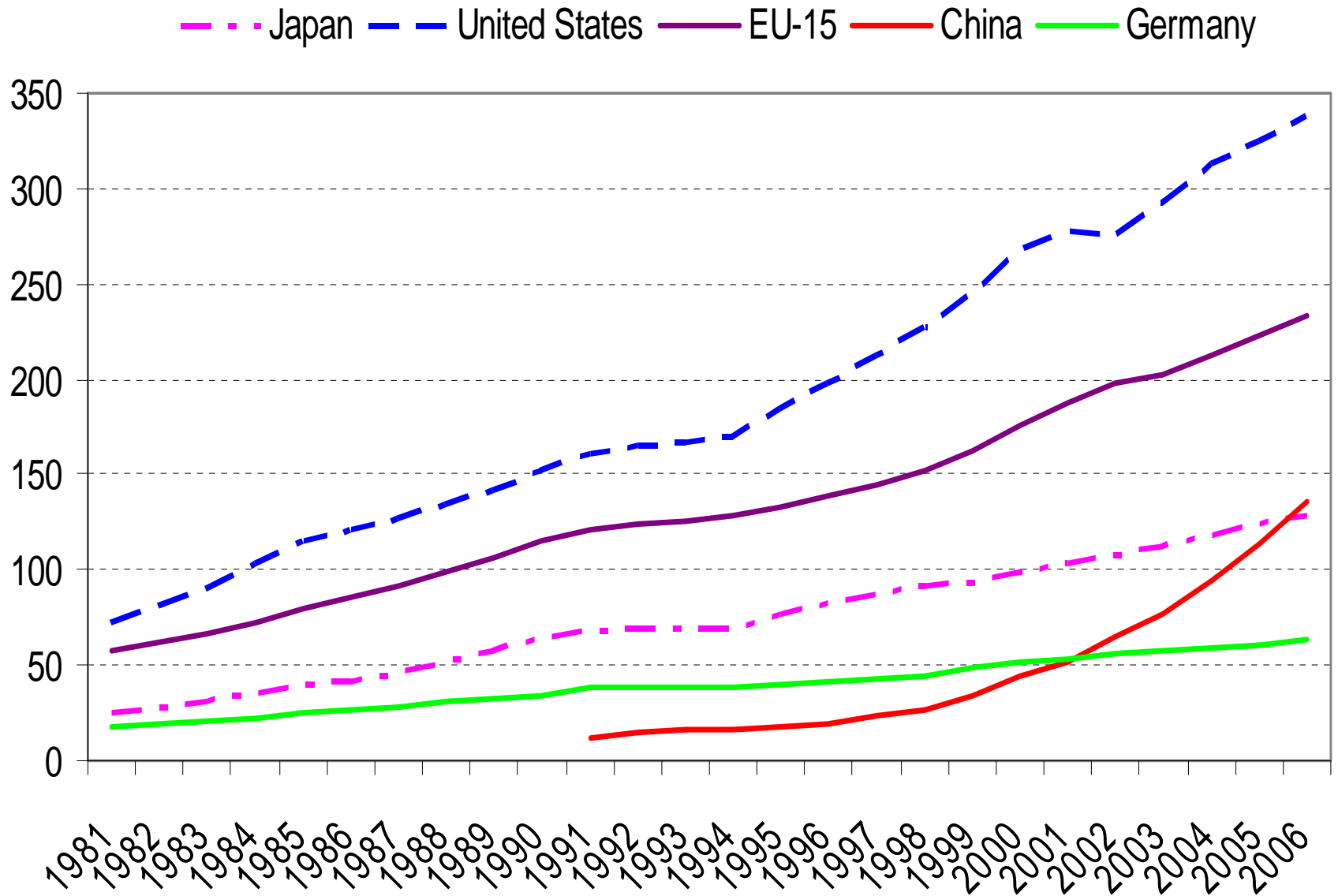
* 2) 特定欧文総合誌及び重点データベースは、欧文誌及びデータベースの採択件数の内数である。

threats to Japan's science and communication

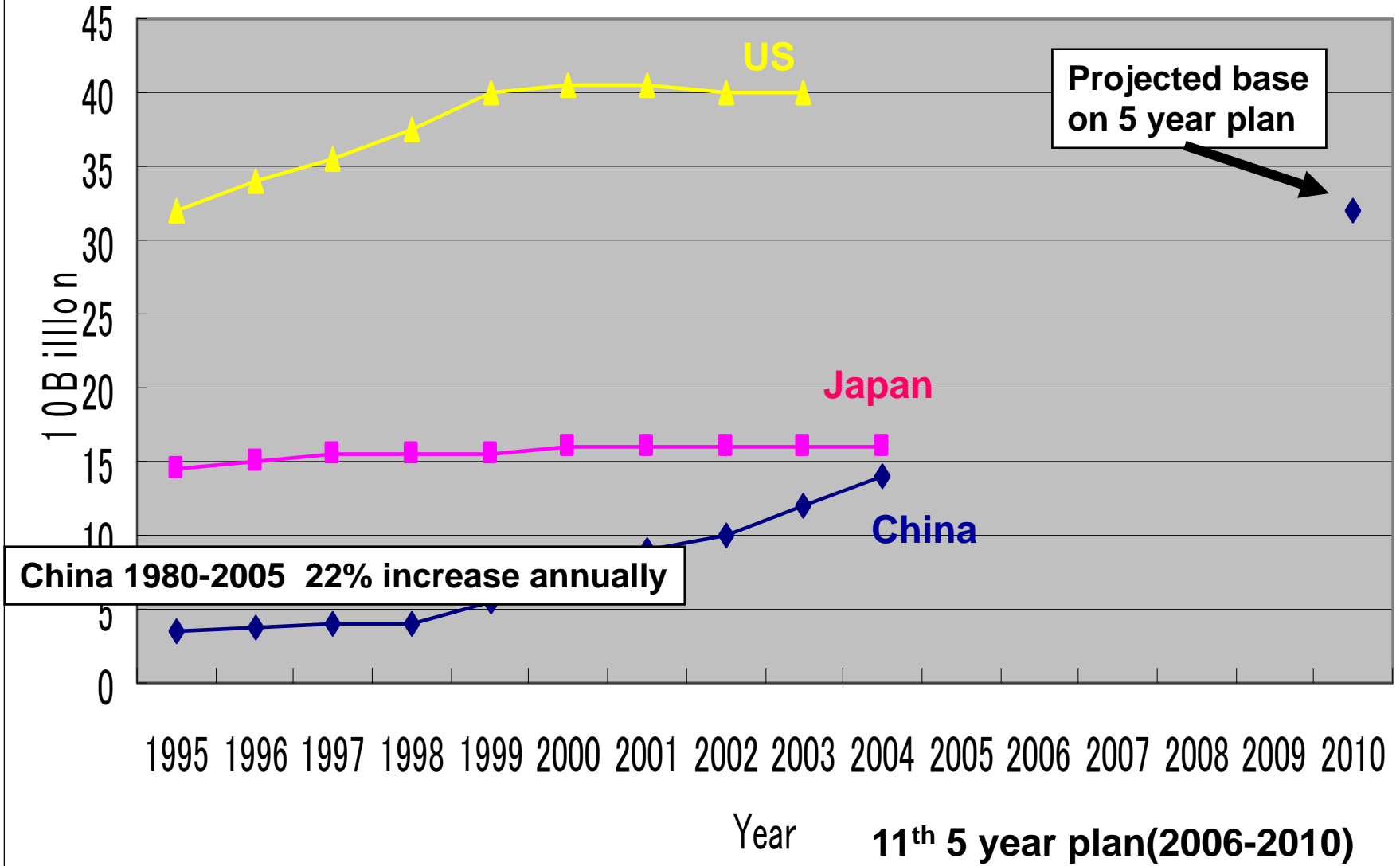
- China
 - Growing number of scientists, growing amount of research funding already having overtaken Japan
 - Growing huge intranet in many senses
 - Author/institution statistics not reliable due to a large number of foreign students in US/Japan/Europe
- University reform in Japan
 - Drive to competitiveness
 - Focus on education
 - No sense of bottom up cooperation, typically among libraries
 - future of NII's NACSIS utilities, JST's I&A database
 - Roles of agents going away

China overtook Japan in R&D funding (billion current PPP \$)

(The Science, Technology and Industry Outlook 2006, OECD)



S & T Funding



Unclear future

- **More funding → More publishing → More spending**
 - Can Japanese universities/university libraries keep up with the growth of scholarly communication?
 - Can Japanese society journals maintain quality of publishing(business as well as academic)?
 - Can Japanese universities maintain their institutional repositories for ever, or should they?
 - Can Japan support its scientific activities from their pockets for ever?
 - Is worldwide scholarly communication sustainable as it is? Or should or could there be any “breakthrough” in anything?
- No answers so far for any of the above