

# A Framework for Studying Motivations for Self-Archiving on Academic Social Network Sites

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## I. Introduction

- Sharing academic papers on academic social network sites (ASNSs) is a form of “self-archiving” that has been discussed at length in the context of open access repositories.
- Little research has examined self-archiving in the context of social media, especially ASNSs.
- As a first step to investigate users’ motivations for self-archiving their research work on ASNSs, the researchers developed a motivation framework integrating two existing models.

## III. Research Questions and Design

### Research Questions

- What motivates ResearchGate (RG) users to self-archive their research?
- How is the motivation of RG users related to their disciplinary characteristics?

### Sampling of Survey Participants

- Sampled survey participants in consideration of disciplinary characteristics
- Selected representative departments across disciplines

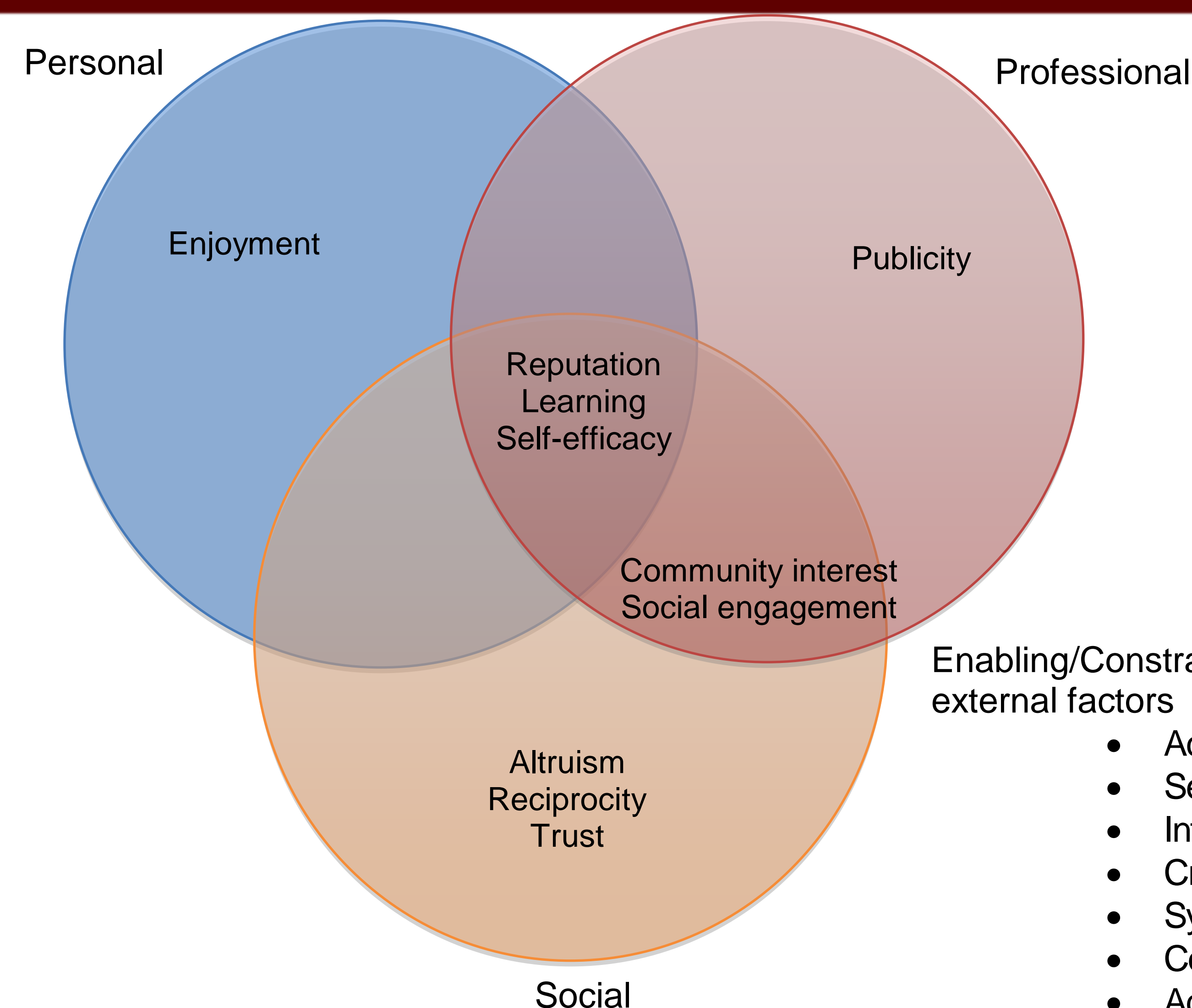
Type	Hard	Soft
Pure	Mathematics, Chemistry	Psychology, Sociology
Applied	Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering	Economics, Communications, Education

### Data Collection and Analysis

- Selected eight U.S. universities based on the total ResearchGate (RG) Score as of Spring 2016
- Gathered the email addresses of the users on Google, searching with the keywords of their name and affiliation (department and institution) information
- Sent an email invitation to the online questionnaire
- Collected 226 completed responses from 2,655 users

Disciplines	Hard-applied	Hard-pure	Soft-applied	Soft-pure	Total
Num. of users selected	996	545	554	590	2,655
Num. of responses	53	51	59	63	226
Response rate	5.32%	9.35%	10.65%	10.68%	8.51%

## II. Integration of Two Motivation Frameworks



Enabling/Constraining external factors

- Accessibility
- Self-archiving culture
- Influence of external actors
- Credibility
- System concerns
- Copyright concerns
- Additional time and efforts

Integrated two motivation frameworks:

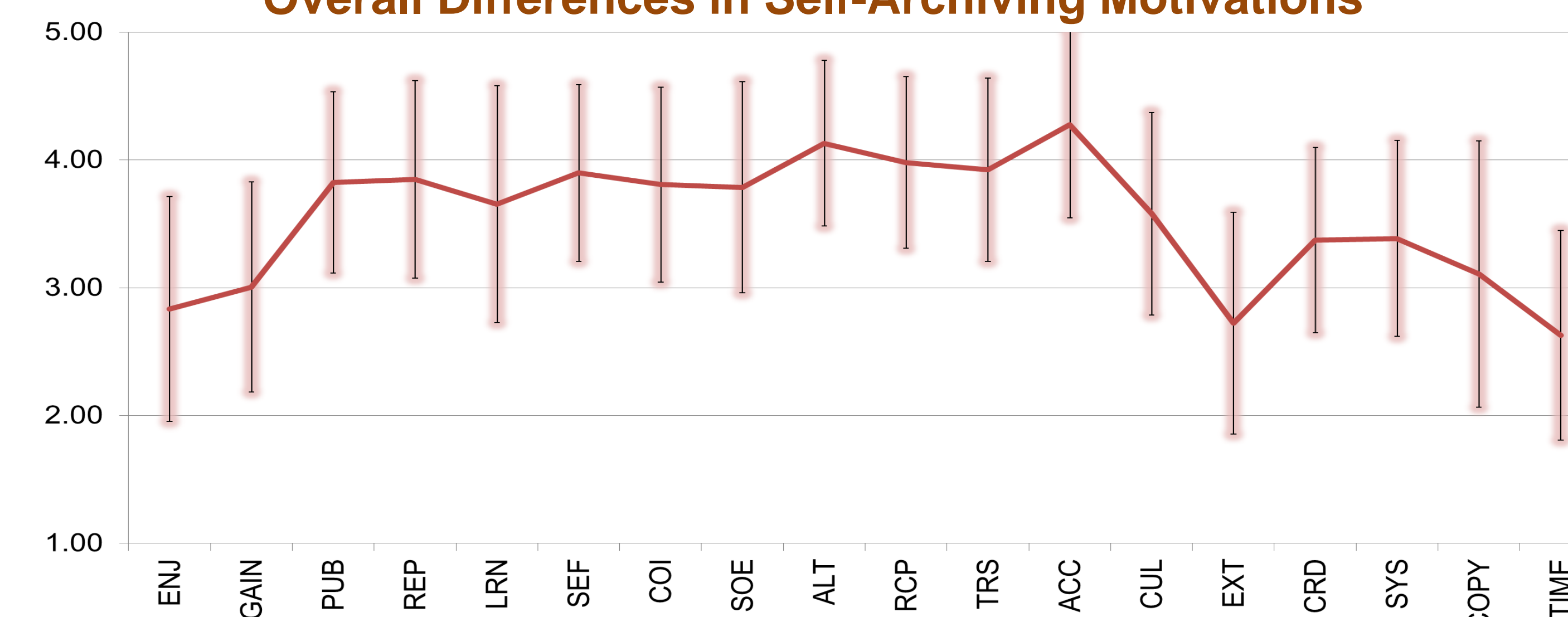
(1) Oh and Syn’s (2015) framework for sharing information in social media, and (2) Kim’s (2010) faculty self-archiving motivation framework.

Resolved issues of overlaps and ambiguities in the theoretical constructs by using the following four categories: (1) personal, (2) social, (3) professional, and (4) enabling and constraining external factors, which resulted in 18 motivational factors.

## IV. Preliminary Findings

Rank	Motivations	Mean	SD
1	Accessibility (ACC)	4.28	0.73
2	Altruism (ALT)	4.13	0.65
3	Reciprocity (RCP)	3.98	0.67
4	Trust (TRS)	3.92	0.72
5	Self-efficacy (SEF)	3.90	0.69
6	Reputation (REP)	3.85	0.77
7	Publicity (PUB)	3.82	0.71
8	Community interest (COI)	3.81	0.76
9	Social engagement (SOE)	3.79	0.83
10	Learning (LRN)	3.65	0.93
11	Self-archiving culture (CUL)	3.58	0.79
12	System concerns (SYS)	3.39	0.77
13	Credibility (CRD)	3.37	0.72
14	Copyright concerns (COPY)	3.11	1.04
15	Personal/Professional gain (GAIN)	3.01	0.82
16	Enjoyment (ENJ)	2.83	0.88
17	Influence of external actors (EXT)	2.72	0.87
18	Additional time and efforts (TIME)	2.63	0.82

Overall Differences in Self-Archiving Motivations



Disciplinary Differences in Self-Archiving Motivations

