

Korean Association of Medical Journal Editors (KAMJE)
Seoul, South Korea | December 9, 2017

How to Improve Your Chances of Publication Success: Tips and Guidance for Authors

Presented by:

Donald Samulack, PhD
President, U.S. Operations
Editage / Cactus Communications

@Samulack
@Editage

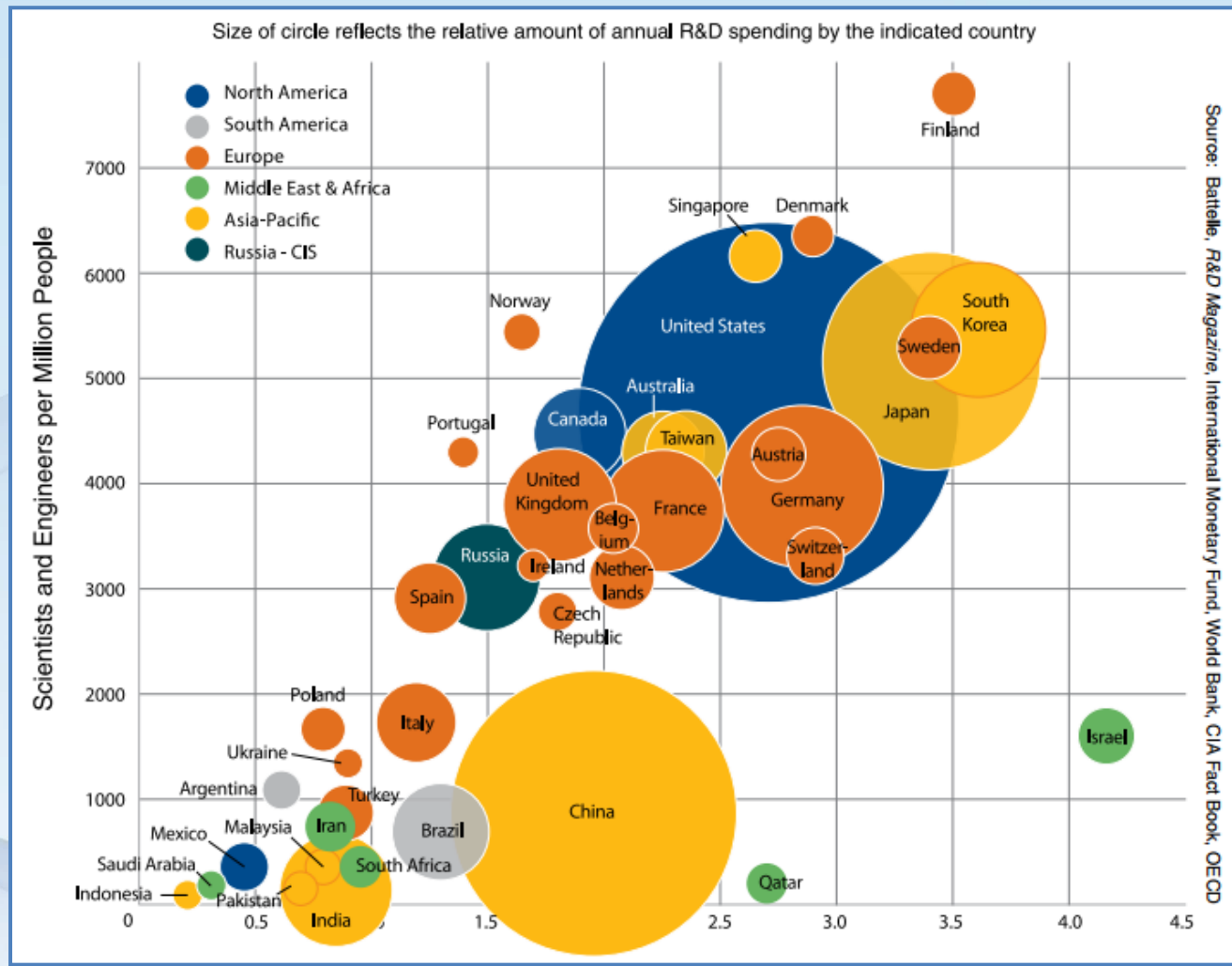
Helping Authors Get Published
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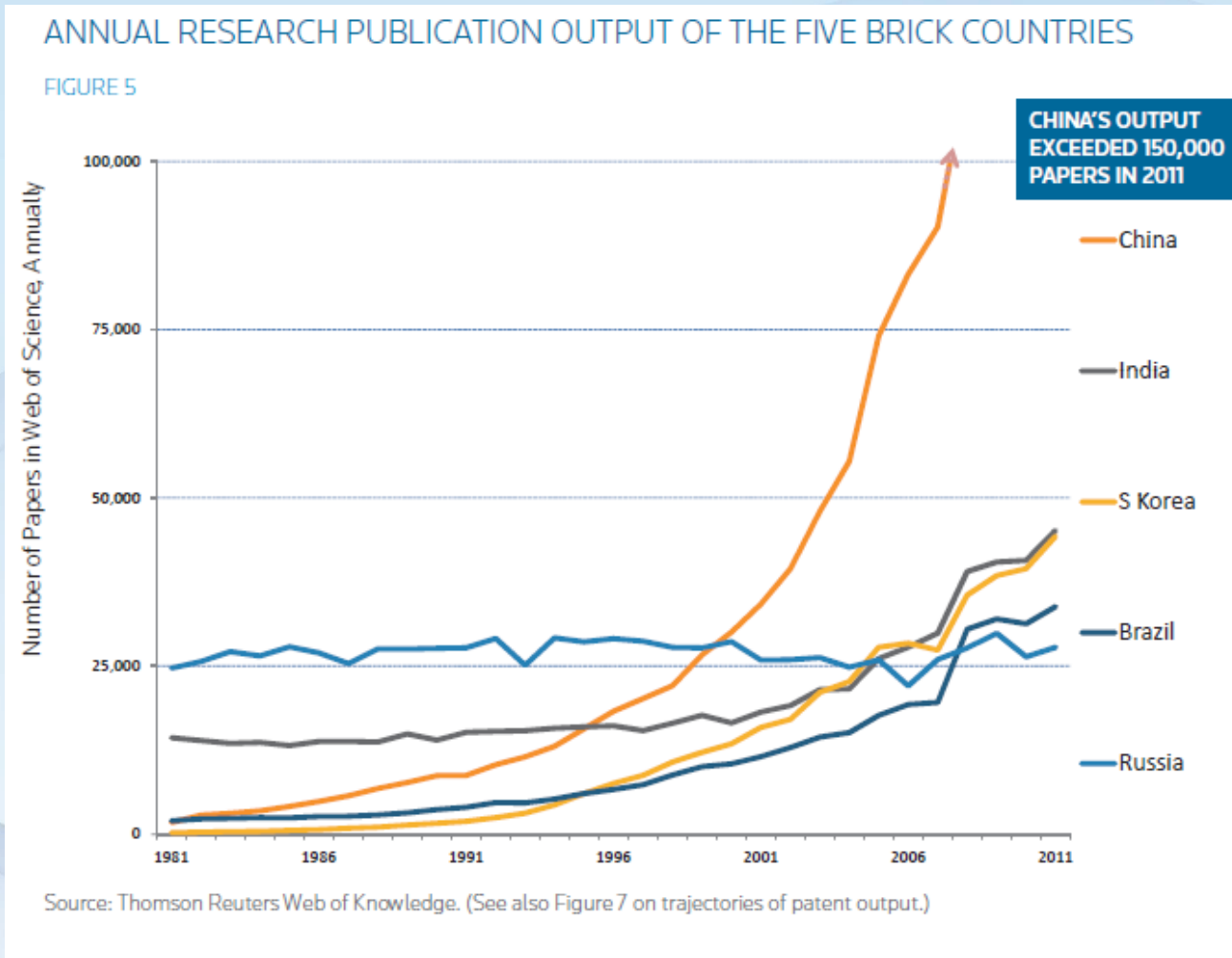
Survival of the Fittest



South Korea's Scholarly Commitment is Impressive



South Korea Is Making Its Mark in the Literature



South Korea Is Making Its Mark in the Literature

Nature Publishing Index (Weighted Fractional Count; 2017)

- Global

| Country |
|--------------------------------|
| United States of America (USA) |
| China |
| Germany |
| United Kingdom (UK) |
| Japan |
| France |
| Canada |
| Switzerland |
| ✓ South Korea |
| Spain |
| Italy |
| Australia |
| India |

9th

- Asia-Pacific

| Country |
|---------------|
| China |
| Japan |
| ✓ South Korea |
| Australia |
| India |
| Singapore |
| Taiwan |
| New Zealand |
| Thailand |
| Vietnam |
| Indonesia |
| Malaysia |
| Nepal |

3rd

The Researcher Mindset

“Unfortunately, neither the researcher’s fascination with their work, nor their desire for a clear-cut recipe for success in publishing is of much help in actually getting published.”

—*Benson and Silver, 2013 (What Editors Want)*

Essential Knowledge for Success

- What is publishable (new) science
- How to target the right journal for your research
- Should you write a full report or something else
- What are impact factors and other new metrics
- Who should be an author
- How to write a scientific paper
- What are general and field-specific ethical requirements
- How to write a pre-submission inquiry
- How to write an effective cover letter
- How to follow Instructions for Authors
- How to submit a paper properly
- Who does what in peer review
- How to understand decision letters
- How to respond to reviewer comments
- Trends in scientific publishing

How to Target the Right Journal

- Mission
- Scope
- Audience
- Access
- Translations
- Archives
- Frequency, circulation, online traffic
- Acceptance/rejection rate
- Average time taken from submission to publication
- Copyright and permissions
- Impact factor and article-level metrics
- Corrections/retractions
- Ethical requirements

How to Write a Scientific Paper

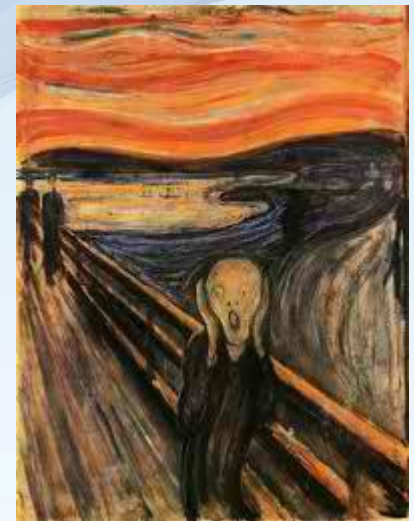
- What is the overall structure of a full scientific paper in your field
- What are the most important sections you need to look at that will get you to the peer review stage
- What are the requirements in your specific field (e.g., trial registration, data deposition, subject documentation)
- How to use citations to avoid plagiarism
- How to construct useful figures and tables
- If there are any other specific ethical requirements
- If you can and how to write a pre-submission inquiry
- How to write an effective cover letter
- How to write clear and correct scientific English

The Research Challenge

- You believe you have something to contribute to the scientific literature
- You believe that your data is good
- You have a hard time writing and expressing yourself in English
- You are under great pressure to publish in high-impact peer-reviewed western journals

Tip #1

You Need to Learn How to Navigate the Publication Process.



How to Navigate the Process

The Standard Approach:

- Choose the science
- Select the audience
- Select the journal
- Write the manuscript, submit, and hope it is accepted

INCORRECT!

Before you even start the process, you need to understand one very important concept:

Tip #2

You need to write to please the reviewers.

Who Are the Gatekeepers?

The hard cold truth of *Publish or Perish*:

- You are not writing for yourself
- You are not writing for the simple intent of writing
- You are not writing for your career advancement

You are **ONLY** writing to please two “Gatekeepers”

- 1) The Journal Editor
- 2) The Peer Reviewer(s)

They are the only people that **YOU** need to solve for, and in **THAT** order!



Who Are the Gatekeepers?

- Always keep in mind that the **Journal Editor** and the **Peer Reviewer** are professionals just like you!
 - No matter where they come from,
 - No matter what country they live in, and
 - No matter their discipline of study.

They are just like you:

- Successful in research
- Successful as writers



The Job of the Journal Editor

The Journal Editor has the job to determine whether your manuscript will:

- Interest the journal readership?
- Advance knowledge in the field?
- Improve coverage of this particular topic in the journal?
- Improve the reputation of the journal and help increase the journal's Impact Factor?

They are busy people and they are also thinking about:

- Publication timelines
- High publishing standards
- Budgetary constraints
- Pleasing editorial boards
- Managing staff
- ...and many other things!

The Gatekeepers = The Key to Success

Tip #3

Anything you do that makes the job of the
Journal Editor or of the Peer Reviewer
easier, makes the manuscript more
attractive!

Should You Contact the Journal Editor?

Yes. Absolutely. Have the conversation before you submit the manuscript! ...especially, if you have never submitted a paper to the journal before.

Reasons:

- You will save time if the format or subject matter of the paper is out of the scope of the journal
- When the manuscript is received, the Journal Editor will already have a positive perception
- You will no longer be simply a name on a piece of paper

Tip #4

Do not fear contacting the Journal Editor.

How Do They Look at Your Paper?

Editorial triage:

- They read the cover letter
- They read the title of the manuscript
- They read the abstract
- They look at the results
- They jump to the discussion and conclusions

... and yes, unfortunately, they look at the names on the by-line to see if they recognize any well-known researchers.

Tip #5

The quality of the writing is perceived as an indicator of the quality of the research.

Quirks of the English Language

You dno't have to be raelly smrat to raed tihs. In the Elgnsih lugnagae it deosn't mttar in waht oredr the ltteers are in a wrod. The olny iprmoatnt tihng is taht the frist and lsat ltteers are pneiostiod in the rghit pclae. The rset of the lrtetes can be jmulebd and you can sitll raed it wiuthot porbelm. Tihs is bcuseae the huamn barin deos not raed ervey lteter by istlef, but lokos for sncetnene and luganage petatnrs.

Tip #6

Always seek the support of a native English speaker to help edit the written language.

So Where Do You Start?

Before your manuscript reaches the Journal Editor, evaluate the manuscript carefully:

- Have you selected the right manuscript structure and journal for your research?
- Are your findings complete?
- Is your study novel?
- How will your study advance knowledge in the field?
- Have you followed the journal guidelines?
- Are there any grammatical or typographical errors?

Tip #7

Ensure your manuscript is publication-worthy.

Structural Elements to Consider

Did you follow the standard **IMRAD** scientific format when writing your manuscript?

Introduction | **M**aterials + Methods | **R**esults | (**a**nd) | **D**iscussion

Did you review the Instructions for Authors for the journal?

Tip #8

The full-text **Instructions for Authors** for most western health sciences high-impact journals can be found at <http://mulford.utoledo.edu/instr/>

- This resource also contains links to some of the most respected research and authorship guidelines, such as ICMJE, COPE, CONSORT, etc.

Instructions for Authors



THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO

Mulford Health Science Library
Instructions to Authors in the Health Sciences

3000 Arlington Avenue, Toledo, OH 43614 419-383-4225

AUTHOR GUIDELINES

[COPE Guidelines](#)

[EASE Guidelines](#)

[Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Publication \(Vancouver Style\)](#)

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

[ICMJE Conflict of Interest Form](#)

COPYRIGHT

[SHERPA Publisher Copyright Policies and Self-Archiving](#)

[SPARC Author's Addendum](#)

OPEN ACCESS

[NIH Public Access Plan](#)

Instructions to Authors in the Health Sciences

These pages provide links to Web sites which provide instructions to authors for over 6,000 journals in the health and life sciences. All links are to "primary sources" - that is, to publishers and organizations with editorial responsibilities for the titles.

Alphabetical Listings of Journal Titles

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Search

☐ Journal title begins with:

☒ Journal title contains:

Add special character:

Instructions for Authors



THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO

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Instructions to Authors in the Health Sciences

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COPYRIGHT

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[SPARC Author's Addendum](#)

OPEN ACCESS

[NIH Public Access Plan](#)

Journal Titles Beginning with P

Jump to: [Pa-Pc](#) | [Pd-Pg](#) | [Ph-PI](#) | [Pm-Po](#) | [Pp-Pt](#) | [Pu-Pz](#) | [Search Again](#)

[Pacing and Clinical Electrophysiology: PACE](#)
[Paediatric Anaesthesia](#)
[Paediatric and Perinatal Epidemiology](#)
[Paediatric Respiratory Reviews](#)
[Paediatrics and Child Health](#)
[Pain](#)
[Pain Management Nursing](#)
[Pain Medicine](#)
[Pain Physician](#)
[Pain Practice](#)
[Pain Research and Management \(PDF file\)](#)
[Palliative and Supportive Care \(PDF file\)](#)
[Palliative Medicine](#)
[Pancreas](#)
[Pancreatology](#)
[Panminerva Medica](#)
[Parasite Immunology](#)
[Parasite: Journal de la Société Française de Parasitologie \(No web site on 9/17/12\)](#)
[Parasites and Vectors](#)
[Parasitology \(PDF file\)](#)
[Parasitology Research](#)

International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE)

Recommendations for the Conduct, Reporting, Editing and Publication of Scholarly Work in Medical Journals (ICMJE Recommendations)

The screenshot displays the ICMJE website's 'Recommendations' page. At the top, the ICMJE logo is on the left, and a search bar is on the right. Below the logo is a navigation menu with links: 'Recommendations' (highlighted in blue), 'Conflicts of Interest', 'Journals Following the ICMJE Recommendations', 'About ICMJE', and 'News & Editorials'. The main content area features a sidebar on the left with links to 'Recommendations', 'Browse', 'About the Recommendations', 'Roles & Responsibilities', 'Publishing & Editorial Issues', 'Manuscript Preparation', 'Translations', 'Archives', and 'Subscribe to Changes'. The main content area has a breadcrumb trail 'Home > Recommendations' and a heading 'Recommendations'. Below this, it says 'Read the Recommendations for the Conduct, Reporting, Editing, and Publication of Scholarly work in Medical Journals.' A large graphic shows the title of the recommendations document with a 'DOWNLOAD' button. Below the graphic, it says 'Download the full PDF to print or view on your computer and/or tablet.' and 'Looking for Translations or Archives?'. At the bottom, it says 'Rather access the Recommendations on the web? Browse the full content by choosing one of the sections below.' and lists 'About the Recommendations', 'Purpose of the Recommendations', and 'Who Should Use the Recommendations?'. A 'KEEP UP-TO-DATE' section on the left sidebar asks for an email to receive updates when the recommendations are updated, with a 'Subscribe to Changes' link.

ICMJE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE of MEDICAL JOURNAL EDITORS

Enter search terms SEARCH

Recommendations Conflicts of Interest Journals Following the ICMJE Recommendations About ICMJE News & Editorials

Recommendations

Browse

About the Recommendations

Roles & Responsibilities

Publishing & Editorial Issues

Manuscript Preparation

Translations

Archives

Subscribe to Changes

KEEP UP-TO-DATE

Request to receive an E-mail when the Recommendations are updated.

Subscribe to Changes

Home > Recommendations

Recommendations

Read the **Recommendations** for the Conduct, Reporting, Editing, and Publication of Scholarly work in Medical Journals.

Recommendations for the Conduct, Reporting, Editing, and Publication of Scholarly Work in Medical Journals*

1. About the Recommendations
A. Purpose of the Recommendations
B. Who Should Use the Recommendations?

A. Preparing a Manuscript for Submission to a Journal
B. Publishing a Manuscript

DOWNLOAD

Download the full PDF to print or view on your computer and/or tablet.
→ Looking for Translations or Archives?

Rather access the Recommendations on the web? Browse the full content by choosing one of the sections below.

About the Recommendations

Purpose of the Recommendations

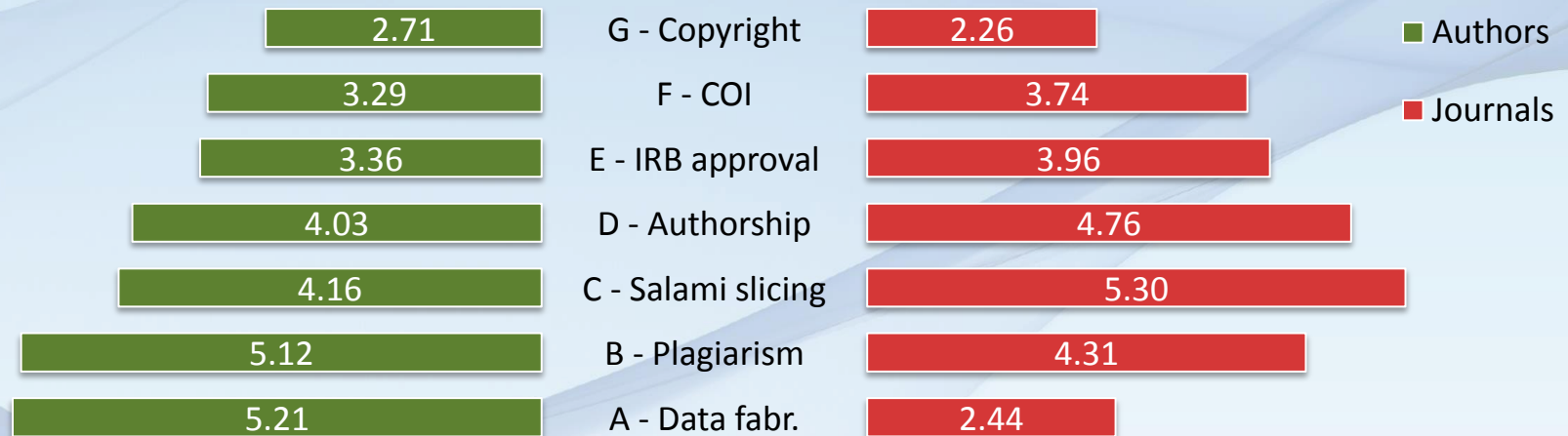
Who Should Use the Recommendations?

Understanding Publication Ethics

Q: How well do authors understand publication ethics?

How authors rate their understanding vs. how often journals encounter problems in these aspects

Parameters: A-Data fabrication and falsification; B-Plagiarism; C-Salami slicing; D-Authorship criteria; E-Ethical board approval for methods used; F-Conflicts of interest disclosure; G-Copyright transfer policies

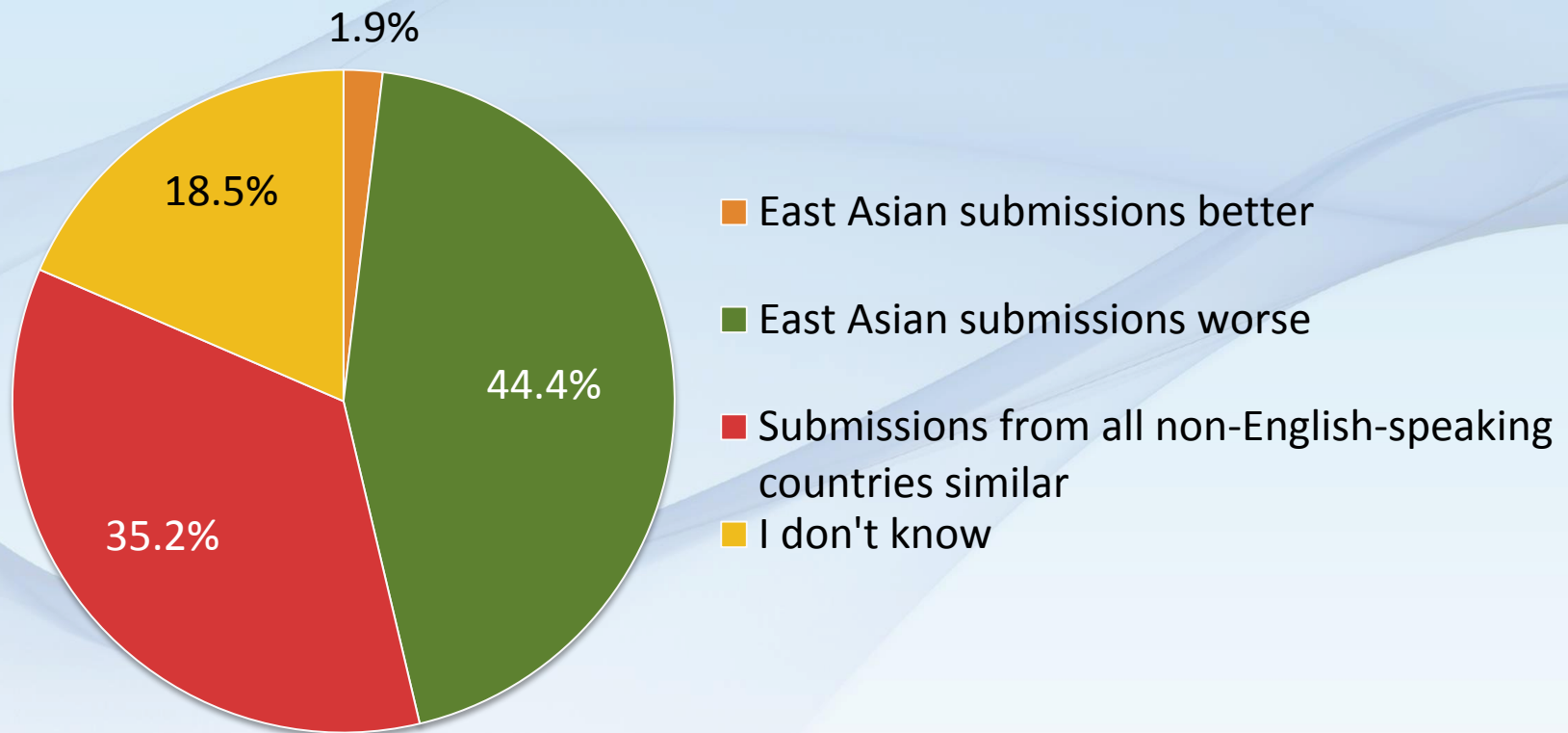


Scores indicate the average rank assigned to each parameter on a 1-to-7 scale, where 7 = best understood aspect (for authors) or most problematic aspect (for editors)

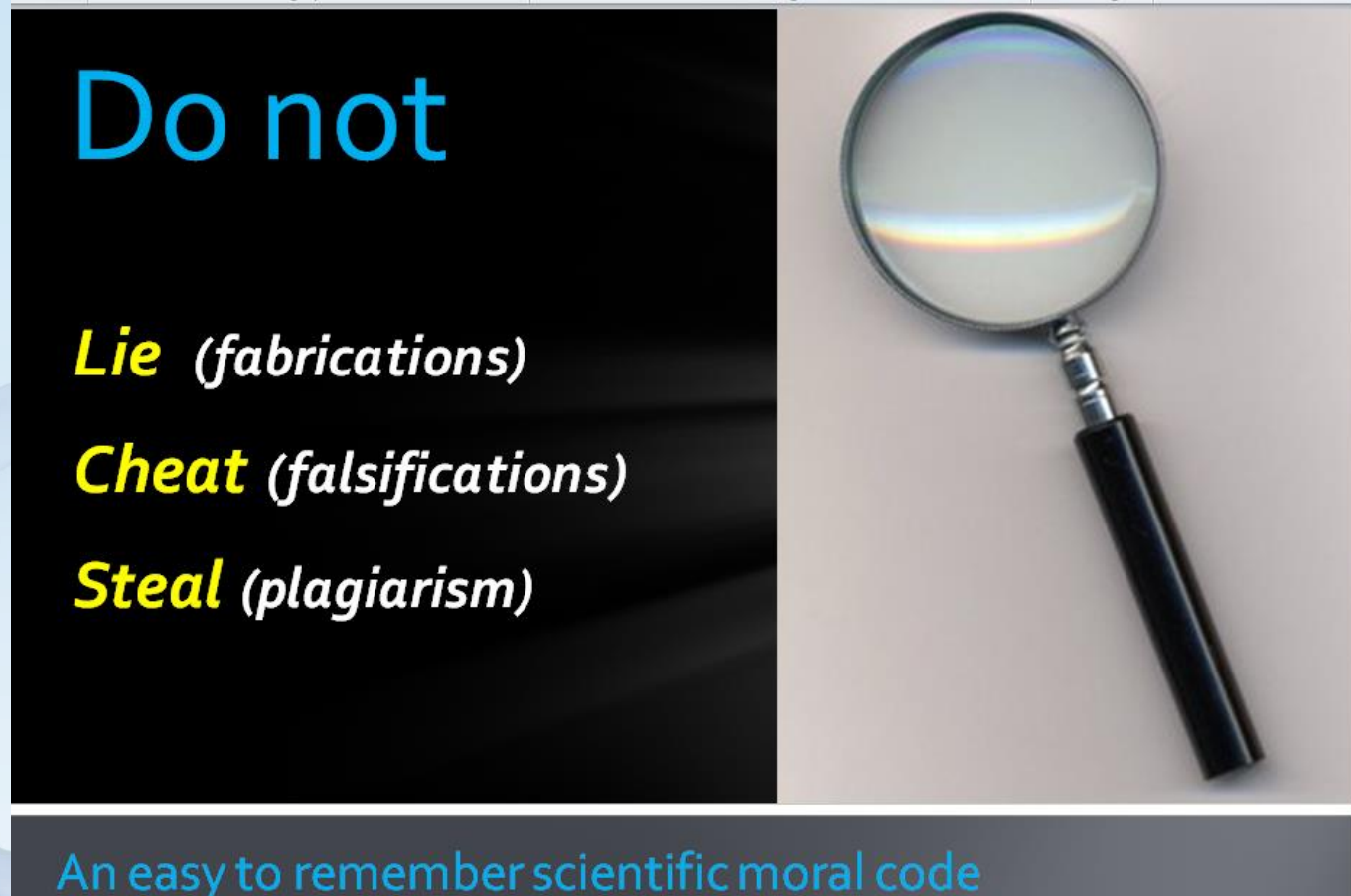
Understanding Publication Ethics

Q: How do East-Asian submissions compare with those from other non-English-speaking countries?

In terms of compliance with ethical guidelines



What Are the Ethical Standards and Responsibilities of Authors?



SOURCE: Prof. Aboul Ella Hassanien, Cairo University, Egypt. Scientific Publications & Peer Review Ethics. <http://bit.ly/2aXmw7U>

Honesty in the Scientific World

DO NOT get caught:

- Plagiarism
 - Including “self” plagiarism
- Parallel submissions to multiple journals (duplicate publication)
- Preferentially picking the data that supports your hypothesis
- Offering “gift authorship”
- Not disclosing author contributions or conflicts of interest
- Fraudulent or manipulated data, figures, or tables

If caught:

- Your manuscript will likely face immediate rejection
- You may be prevented from future submissions to the journal
- If already published, the manuscript may be retracted

What Exactly Is Plagiarism?

From the dictionary

- To steal and pass off the ideas or words of another as one's own
- To use another's work without crediting the source
- To present as new and original an idea or product derived from an existing source

From Plagiarism.org

- To copy words or ideas without giving credit
- To change words but copying the sentence structure without giving credit
- To copy so many words or ideas it makes up the majority of your work, *whether or not you give credit*

Plagiarism = Bad!

- ORIGINAL ARTICLE - Arch Ophthalmol. 1998 Mar;116(3):387-91.

Ritleng intubation system for treatment of congenital nasolacrimal duct obstruction.

[Pe MR](#), [Langford JD](#), [Linberg JV](#), [Schwartz TL](#), [Sondhi N](#).

University Eye Center, West Virginia University, Morgantown 26506-9193, USA.

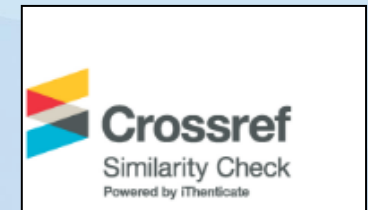
- DUPLICATE ARTICLE - J Chin Med Assoc. 2004 Jul;67(7):344-8.

The experience with Ritleng intubation system in patients with congenital nasolacrimal duct obstruction.

[Chen PL](#), [Chen CH](#), [Liao JF](#), [Cheng CJ](#).

Department of Ophthalmology, Tri-Service General Hospital, Taipei, Taiwan, ROC.

How Do Editors Determine If Content Is Plagiarized?



Quotes Excluded
Bibliography Excluded

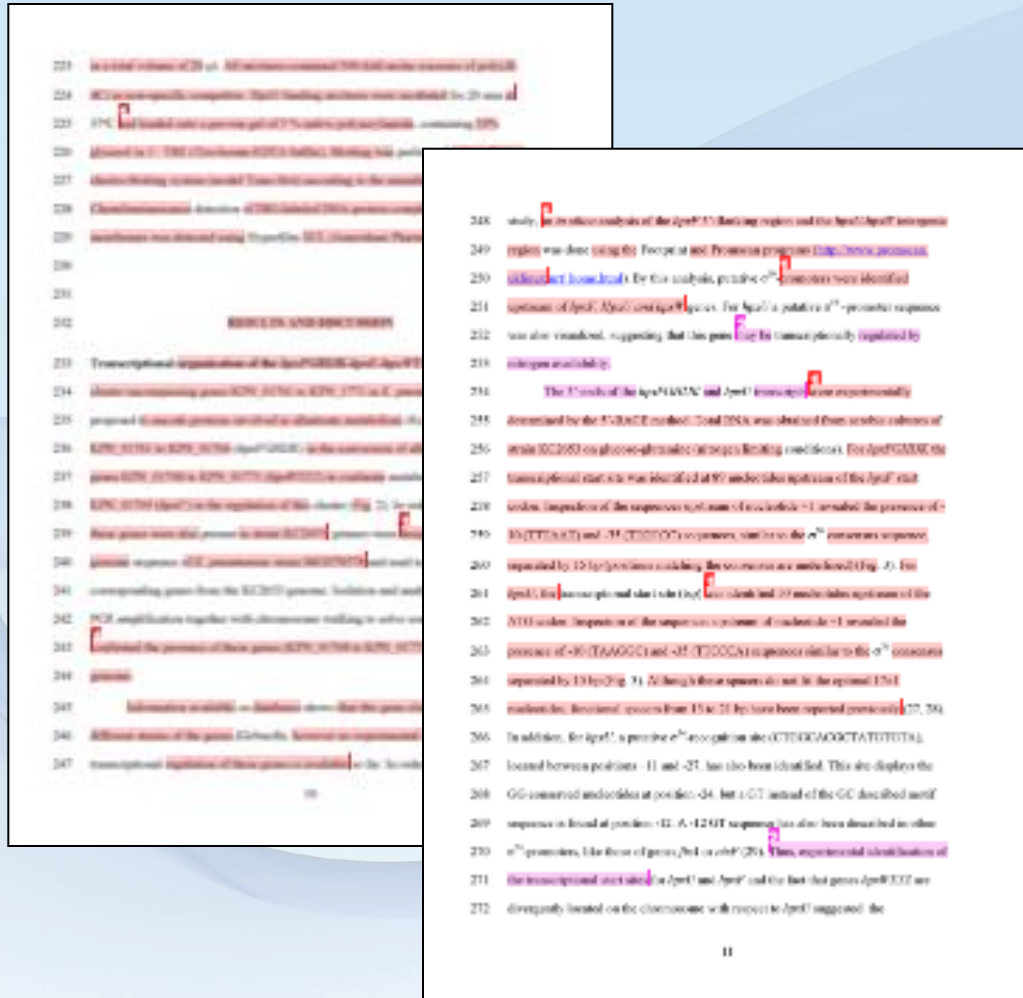
65%
SIMILAR

Match Overview



17 matches

- 1 Internet 2999 words
crawled on 17-May-2016
revistes.iec.cat 47%
- 2 CrossCheck 625 words
K. Guzman, "Transcriptional regulation of the gene cluste...
encoding allantoinase and guanine deaminase in Klebsiella" 10%
- 3 Internet 184 words
crawled on 14-Sep-2014
www.science.gov 3%
- 4 CrossCheck 87 words
Muratsubaki, H., "Enzymatic assay of allantoin in serum (...
ng allantoinase and allantoate amidohydrolase", Analytical 1%
- 5 Internet 70 words
crawled on 05-Oct-2010
endo.endojournals.org 1%

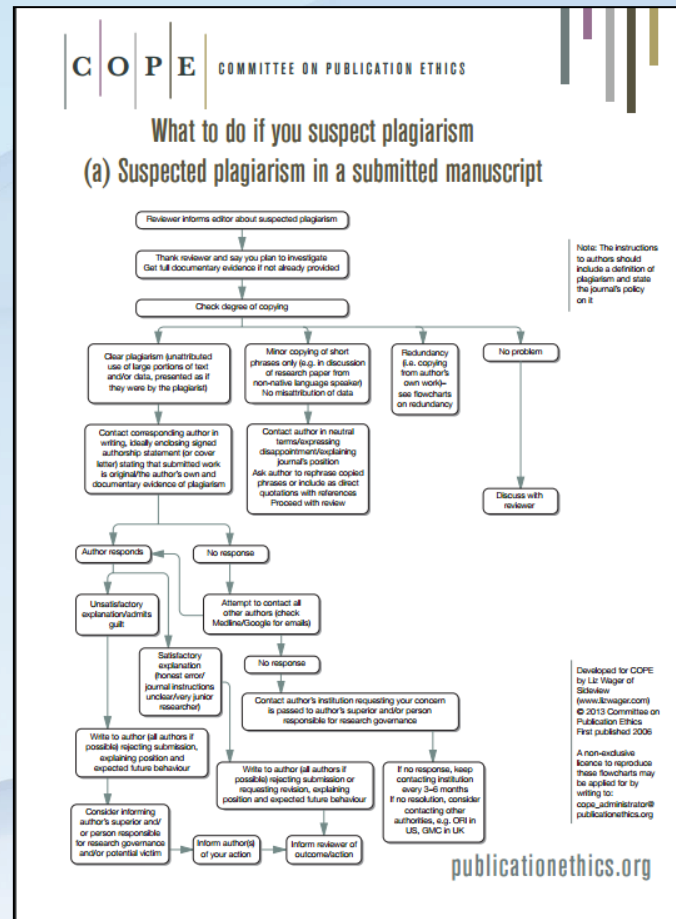


What About English Translations of Non-English Articles?

- If the work is of **global interest and importance**, and the **publisher of the original article gives permission**, a journal editor *may* be willing to consider publishing a translation
- The cover letter must state that the article was **previously published in another language**, and the publisher's **written permission must be provided**
- The **title should mention the translation** and a ***note*** should give details, for example: “This article is a direct translation of the article published as *[citation]* and is published with permission from *[publisher]*.”
- If the paper is accepted, **the Non-English article publisher should be asked to issue a notice of redundant publication**

What Will an Editor Do if They Suspect Plagiarism?

Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) Guidelines



How to Avoid Plagiarism



Tip #9

Cite the source while you are writing.

What About Images?

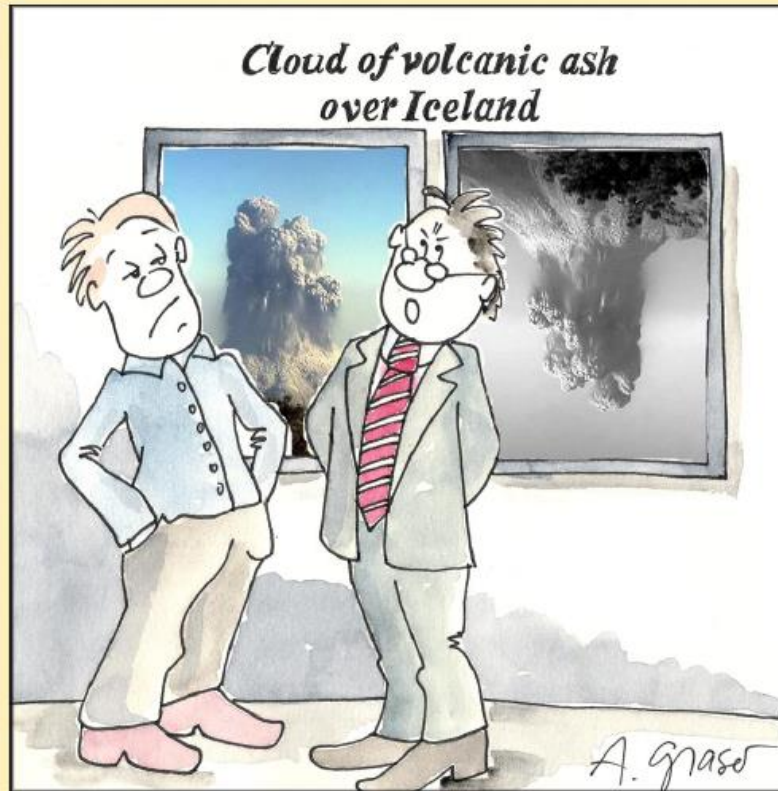
- Figures must accurately represent the original data
- If image manipulation is suspected, the editor may request the raw data
- Composite images (“splicing”) must be described in the figure legend and be clear in the figure
- Recommended reading:

What's in a picture? The temptation of image manipulation.
M. Rossner and K. M. Yamada. *J Cell Biol* 2004 166:11-15.
doi:10.1083/jcb.200406019

Image Manipulation = Bad!

Last laugh

by Annemarie Glaser



“Do you think anyone will notice that we used the photo from the *Times*?”

Identification of Image Manipulation

- **Tool for examining faint discontinuities** – *detects spliced images and erasures*
- **Tool for examining margins and edges** and **Tool for visualizing background noise** - *detects spliced images and subtle features, e.g., use of Photoshop “blur” tool, selective adjustments to contrast/brightness*
- **Tool for examining morphological features** – *detects adjustments to backgrounds or removal of elements in images*
- **Color compare tool for two grayscale images** – *compares grayscale suspected duplicate images*
- **Adobe Photoshop difference function** - *compares suspected duplicate images*



How to Resolve the Authorship Battle

- Authorship is always a sensitive issue. There are no rules, but there are guidelines to follow.
- Some journals will identify guidelines surrounding authorship and disclosures of contribution in the Instructions for Authors pages of the journal... read them carefully.

The International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) Recommendations for the Conduct, Reporting, Editing, and Publication of Scholarly Work in Medical Journals states:

Authors should meet conditions 1, 2, 3, and 4.

1. Substantial contributions to the conception or design of the work; or the acquisition, analysis, or interpretation of data for the work; AND
2. Drafting the work or revising it critically for important intellectual content; AND
3. Final approval of the version to be published; AND
4. Agreement to be accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved.

How to Resolve the Authorship Battle

Tip #10

Identify authors at the beginning of the study and review their contribution as the study progresses.

The Manuscript Cover Letter

The cover letter should not be too long or too short

It should include the following essential information:

- Title of the paper and author details; including author naming convention
- A short summary of the findings and scientific/clinical relevance
- What was your motivation for submitting to this specific journal?
- Assurances that journal Instructions for Authors guidelines were followed and that there are no conflicts of interest
- A statement that all authors agree to submit to the journal and that the manuscript is not under consideration for publication by another journal
- Identify “preferred” and “non-preferred” Peer Reviewers by name (including contact information, if available)
- Request a fast-track review process (if needed) in case there is a similar competing work about to be published elsewhere by a rival researcher

The Concept of a Journal is Changing

We used to think of a journal as only being in print. Then we thought of it as being either in print or online. Then we were introduced to the concepts of subscription versus open access. Then it just got crazy, where almost anything goes!

- If you can think of a model of publication, it is either already in place, or is being developed.
- The same goes for models of peer review!
- What is important is that the journal is respected, has a high readership, that your research belongs within the scope of the journal, and that the journal is read by the kinds of people who want/need to know about your research.
- What is most important is that the journal is indexed by the U.S. National Library of Medicine, that it is discoverable via PubMed, Google Scholar, Scopus, and a variety of other search engines, that the digital version is registered with a “digital object identifier” (DOI) number, that the journal is widely available, and that it is peer reviewed in some manner.

PeerJ: Redefining a Journal

Latest articles

Switch to Computer Science journal

Microwave scattering from human head models for brain stroke detection

Researchers present a microwave scattering analysis from multiple human head models. Their study incorporates different levels of detail in the human head models and its effect on microwave scattering phenomenon.

Bioengineering Biophysics Radiology and Medical Imaging Computational Science

A Skin, Fat, Skull, CSF, Blood, Dura, White Matter, Gray Matter, Dura

B Skin, Fat, Skull, CSF, Blood, Dura, White Matter, Gray Matter, Dura

C

D

PeerJ

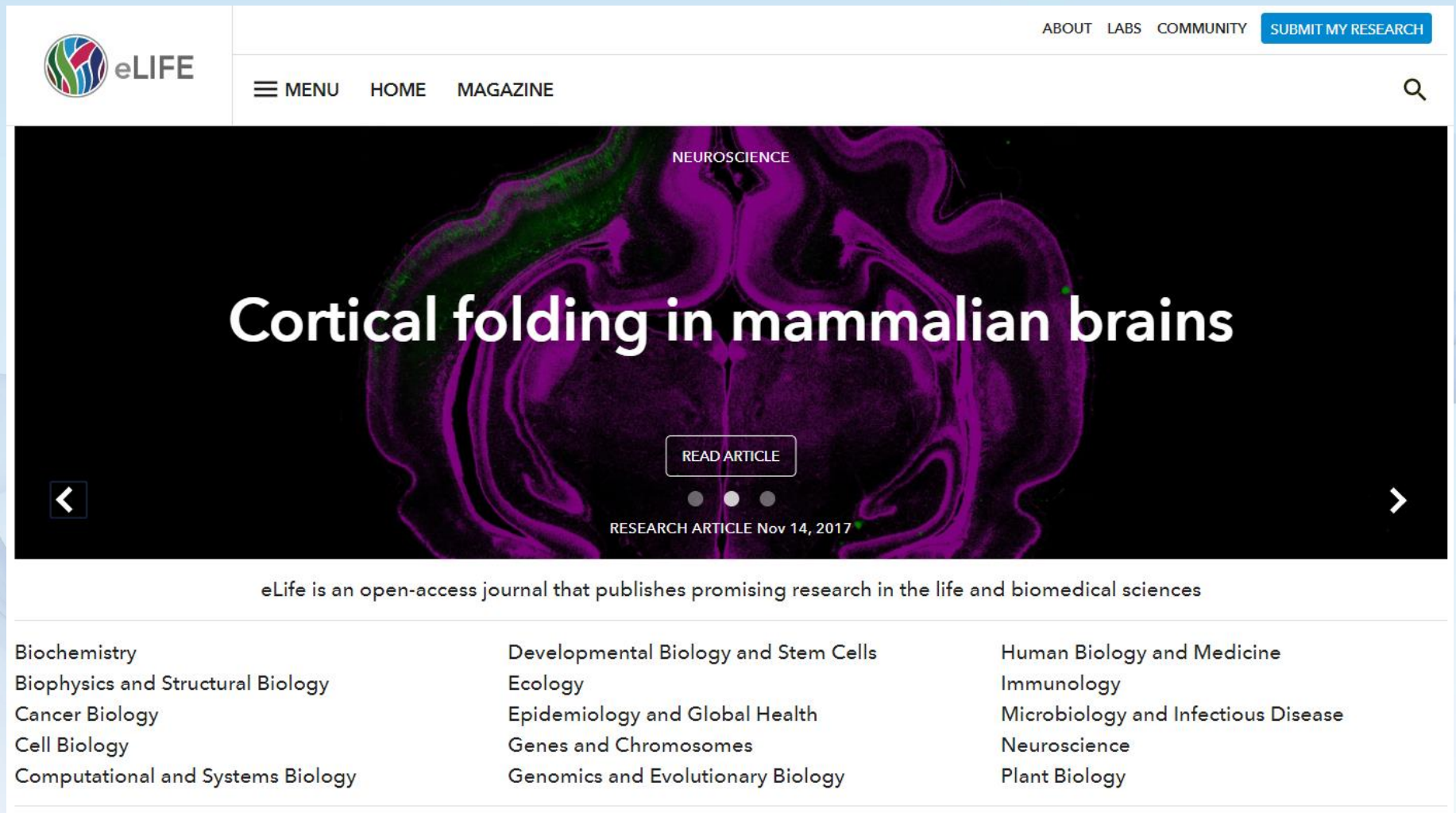
See PeerJ's citation distribution

The award-winning biological, medical and environmental sciences journal

PeerJ publishes the world's scientific knowledge through open access licensing. 4,181 peer-reviewed articles and 4,338 preprints since 2013.

- Prestigious editorial board
Including 5 Nobel laureates
- Widely read
13.3M views & downloads from a broad audience across multiple disciplines
- Quality peer review
Objective, in-depth reviewing based on methodological soundness

eLIFE: HHMI Becomes a Publisher



The screenshot shows the eLife website homepage. At the top left is the eLife logo. To its right are navigation links: MENU, HOME, and MAGAZINE. Further right are links for ABOUT, LABS, and COMMUNITY, followed by a blue button labeled SUBMIT MY RESEARCH. A search icon is located on the far right. The main banner features a purple and green brain scan image with the text "NEUROSCIENCE" at the top. The article title "Cortical folding in mammalian brains" is prominently displayed in white. Below the title is a "READ ARTICLE" button. At the bottom of the banner, it says "RESEARCH ARTICLE Nov 14, 2017". Below the banner, a line of text states: "eLife is an open-access journal that publishes promising research in the life and biomedical sciences". At the bottom, there are three columns of scientific fields: Biochemistry, Biophysics and Structural Biology, Cancer Biology, Cell Biology, Computational and Systems Biology; Developmental Biology and Stem Cells, Ecology, Epidemiology and Global Health, Genes and Chromosomes, Genomics and Evolutionary Biology; and Human Biology and Medicine, Immunology, Microbiology and Infectious Disease, Neuroscience, Plant Biology.

eLIFE

ABOUT LABS COMMUNITY SUBMIT MY RESEARCH

MENU HOME MAGAZINE

NEUROSCIENCE

Cortical folding in mammalian brains

READ ARTICLE

RESEARCH ARTICLE Nov 14, 2017

eLife is an open-access journal that publishes promising research in the life and biomedical sciences

Biochemistry
Biophysics and Structural Biology
Cancer Biology
Cell Biology
Computational and Systems Biology

Developmental Biology and Stem Cells
Ecology
Epidemiology and Global Health
Genes and Chromosomes
Genomics and Evolutionary Biology

Human Biology and Medicine
Immunology
Microbiology and Infectious Disease
Neuroscience
Plant Biology

Targeting the Right Journal

General versus specialist?



Traditional vs. other



International vs. national vs. regional?

Open access, copyright restrictions, publication or subscription fees?

Journal type & article format

- Experimental reports
- Applied research
- Methods journal
- Review journal
- Letter
- Short communications
- Cutting edge
- Cross-disciplinary

The Introduction of OA Mandate Policies

the WHITE HOUSE PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA

WE the PEOPLE YOUR VOICE IN OUR GOVERNMENT

CREATE A PETITION OPEN PETITIONS RESPONSES HOW & WHY

This petition has been responded to by the White House. See the response below.

WE PETITION THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION TO:

Require free access over the Internet to scientific journal articles arising from taxpayer-funded research.

We believe in the power of the Internet to foster innovation, research, and education. Requiring the published results of taxpayer-funded research to be posted on the Internet in human and machine readable form would provide access to patients and caregivers, students and their teachers, researchers, entrepreneurs, and other taxpayers who paid for the research. Expanding access would speed the research process and increase the return on our investment in scientific research.

The highly successful Public Access Policy of the National Institutes of Health proves that this can be done without disrupting the research process, and we urge President Obama to act now to implement open access policies for all federal agencies that fund scientific research.

Created: May 13, 2012

Issues: Economy, Education, Science and Space Policy

TOTAL SIGNATURES

65,704

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

European Research Area

Open Access Pilot in FP7

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH Public Access Policy

Funded by NIH? Publish with **BioMed Central**

BioMed Central will make the deposit into PubMed Central - saving you time

Log on

BioMed Central The Open Access Publisher

Home Journals Articles Gateways About BioMed Central My BioMed Central

Search BioMed Central Go

Advanced search

The Many Faces of Open Access (OA)

Delayed OA:

- No fees, but the embargo period may be lengthy
- Some subscription-based journals allow self-archiving

Green OA:

- Fees are typically minimal, but access may be limited
- Authors can self-archive in a privately supported database

Hybrid OA:

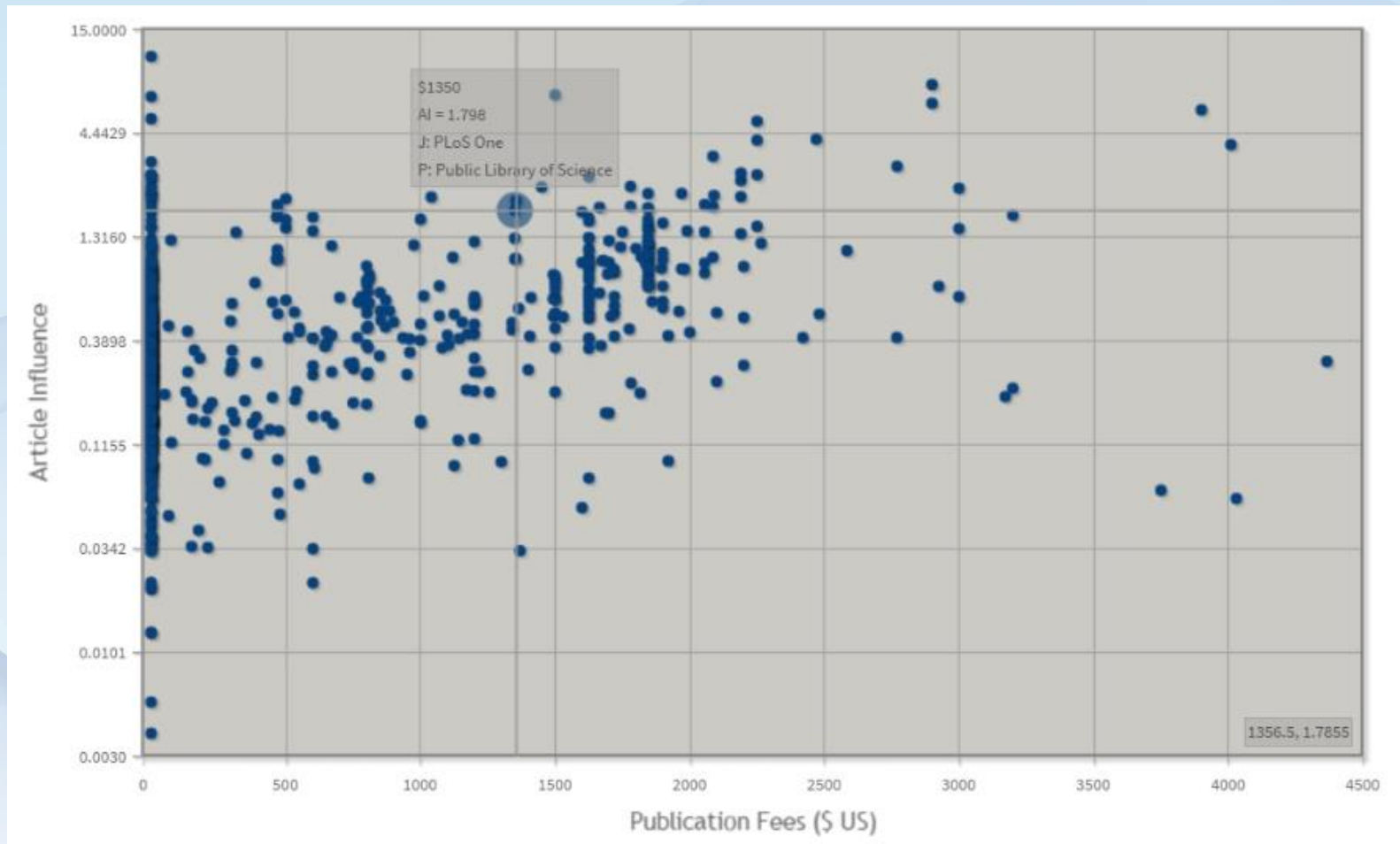
- Fees can be substantial, but access is immediate and widely available
- Authors can pay an extra fee to archive an article at the journal website

Gold OA:

- Authors must pay an often substantial fee to publish an article
- All articles are freely and immediately archived at the journal website

Rationalizing OA Journal Versus Cost

Cost Effectiveness for Open Access Journals



How to Choose a Journal

There are **MANY** factors to consider when choosing a journal to submit your manuscript to... and **Impact Factor** is only one of them!

- Scope of journal content and journal citation half life
- Readership (specialty, numbers, geographic location)
- Structure of the journal (subscription, open access, mixed)
- Indexed by the U.S. National Library of Medicine (NLM) / PubMed
- Peer review process and time required / time to publication
- Rejection rate of the journal
- Alternative metrics (social media, page views, downloads, etc.)

Tip #11

Impact Factor is only one metric in selecting a journal, and it is not a very good one.

How Is Impact Factor Calculated?

Impact Factor does not measure the quality of an article!

If **A** = the number of times that articles published in 2015 and 2016 were cited by indexed journals during 2017

and

If **B** = the total number of "citable items" published by that journal in 2015 and 2016.

(Where "Citable items" are usually articles, reviews, proceedings, or notes; not editorials or letters to the editor.)



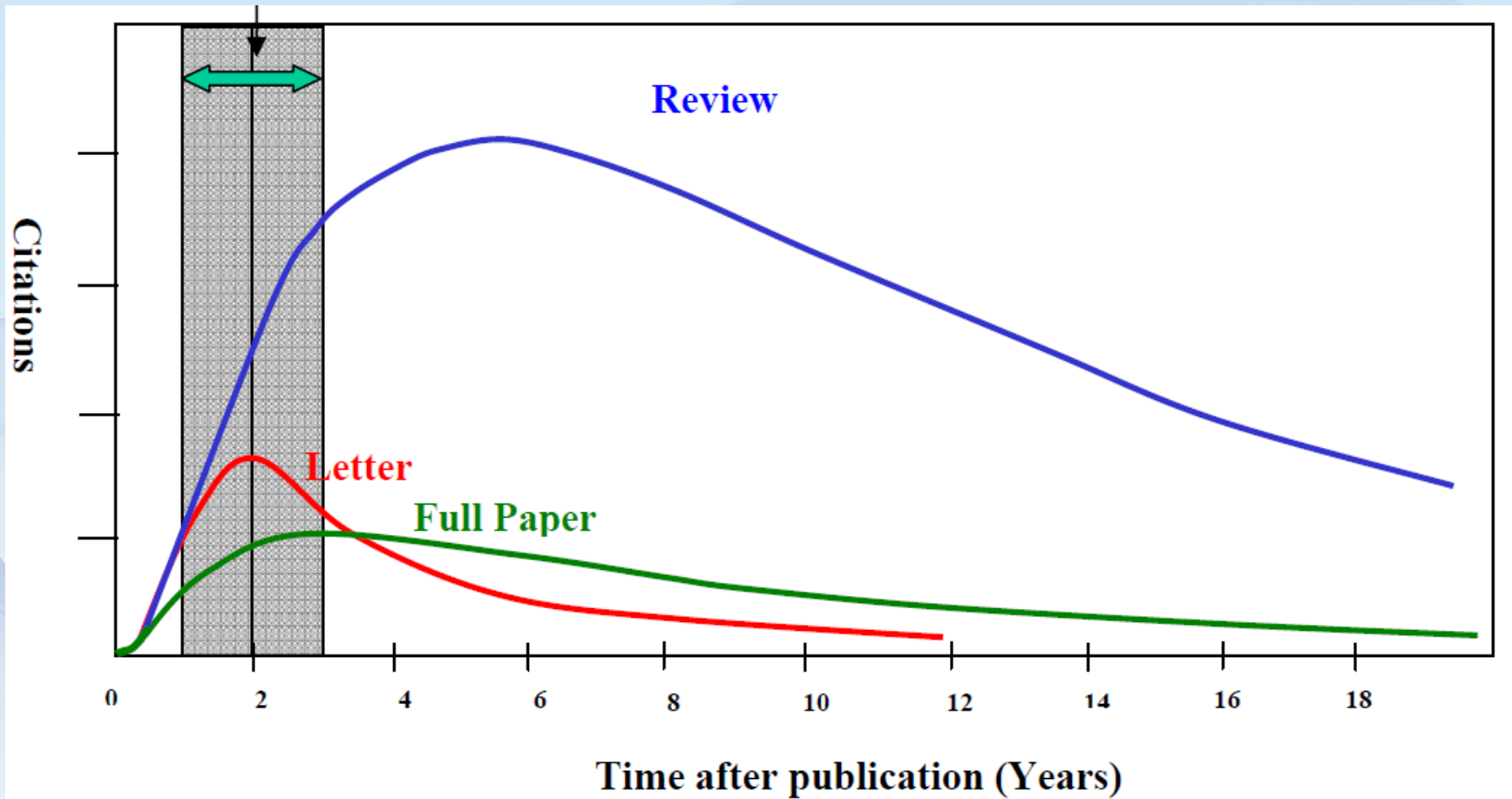
Then the 2017 Impact Factor (**IF**) for the Journal = **A/B**.

Therefore the Impact Factor is sensitive to:

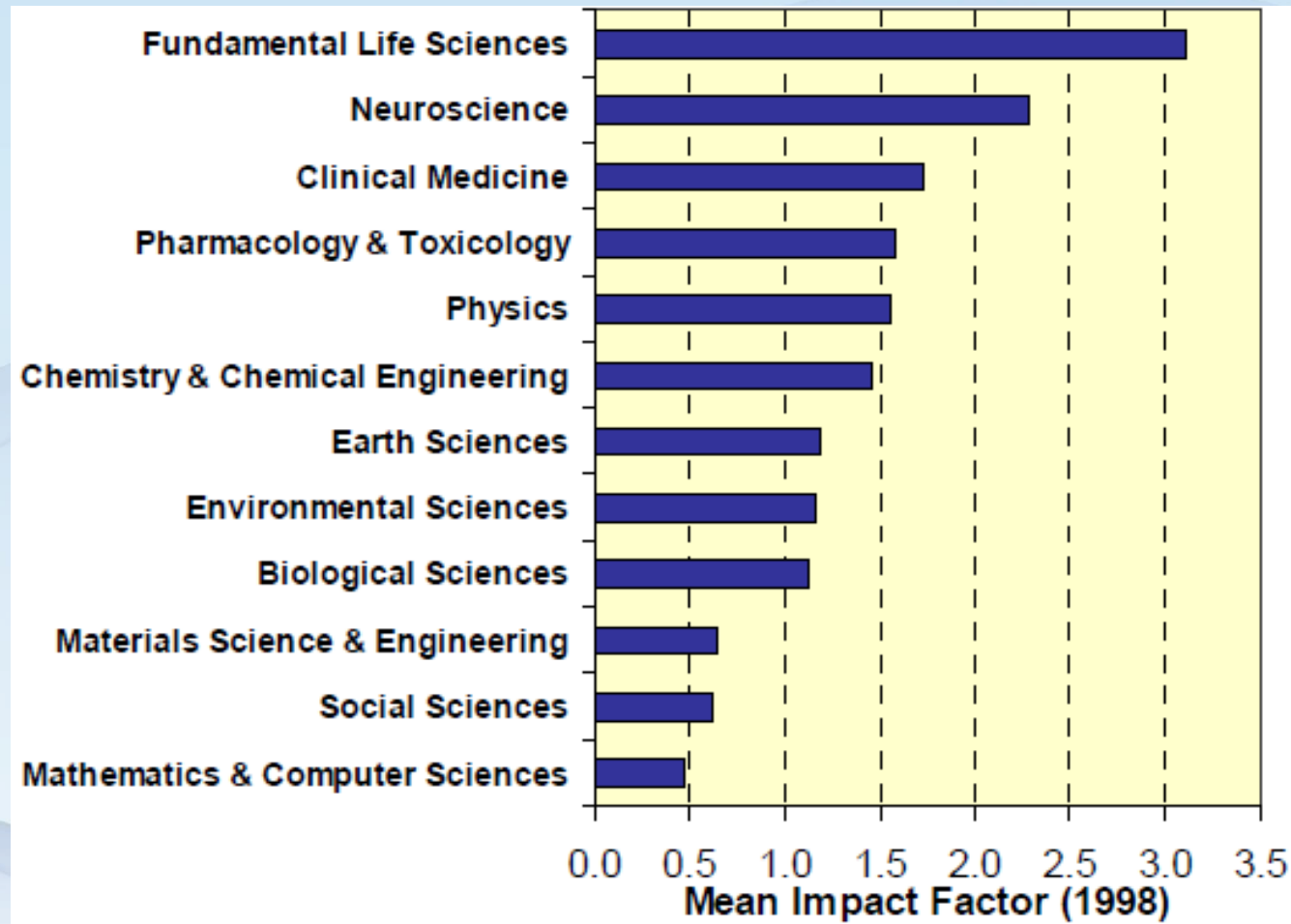
- The type and number of articles in a journal
- The time of year they are published
- Highly cited articles can be for the wrong reasons (e.g., highly controversial)

Impact Factor Varies by Type of Publication

Impact Factor Window



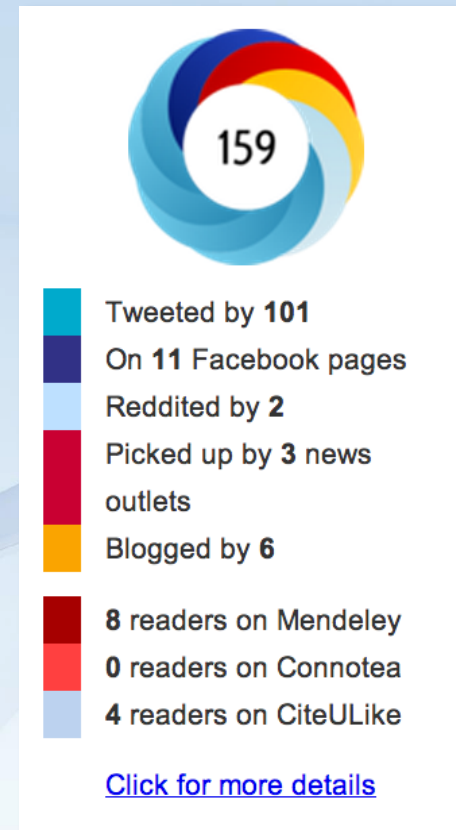
The Impact Factor Varies by Discipline



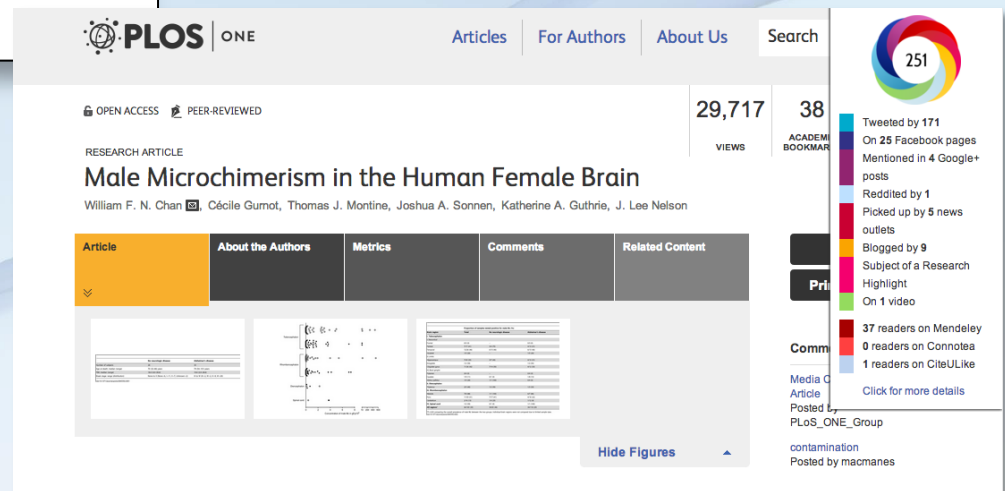
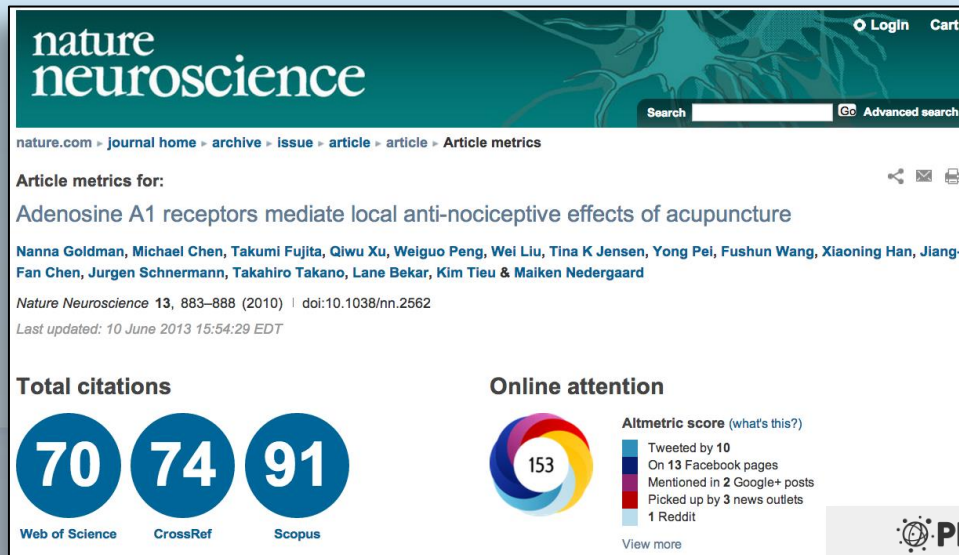
What Does Altmetric Measure?

Altmetric measures the number of times a research output:

- Gets cited
- Tweeted about
- Liked
- Shared
- Bookmarked
- Viewed
- Downloaded
- Mentioned
- Reviewed
- Discussed



Altmetric Data Alongside Impact Factor



Your Name Is Your Reputation!

- The naming convention for some foreign names can get quite confusing (Wang Ping vs. Western: Ping Wang)
- A name change because of marriage or for other legal reasons can have unforeseen professional consequences
- Publication under different variations of spelling of a name can lead to poorly tracked citations
- Odd characters in a name can lead to typographical errors in print, and multiple identities within PubMed

Tip #12

Use channels like ORCID (www.orcid.org; Open Research and Contributor ID) to register a uniform identity as a publishing scholar.

About ORCID

ORCID = Open Researcher and Contributor ID

ORCID is structured to provide unique identifying codes for researchers worldwide.

The screenshot shows the ORCID website homepage. At the top is the ORCID logo with the tagline "Connecting Research and Researchers". To the right of the logo is a navigation bar with links: "FOR RESEARCHERS", "FOR ORGANIZATIONS", "ABOUT", "HELP", and "SIGN IN". The main content area features the heading "DISTINGUISH YOURSELF IN THREE EASY STEPS". Below this, a paragraph explains that ORCID provides a persistent digital identifier. The three steps are listed with numbered icons: 1. REGISTER (Get your unique ORCID identifier, registration takes 30 seconds), 2. ADD YOUR INFO (Enhance your ORCID record with professional information), and 3. USE YOUR ORCID ID (Include your ORCID identifier on your webpage and in research workflows). On the right side, there is a "LATEST NEWS" section with three items: "Wed 2017-11-15 Announcing API 2.1 - ORCID IDs are now HTTPS!", "Wed 2017-11-15 Teaming with ORCID to Reduce Burden and Improve Transparency", and "Tue 2017-11-14 Getting to Know You, Part 2: ORCID's 2017 Consortia Survey". A large green arrow points down towards the "id" logo in the background of the news section.

ORCID
Connecting Research and Researchers

FOR RESEARCHERS FOR ORGANIZATIONS ABOUT HELP SIGN IN

DISTINGUISH YOURSELF IN THREE EASY STEPS

ORCID provides a persistent digital identifier that distinguishes you from every other researcher and, through integration in key research workflows such as manuscript and grant submission, supports automated linkages between you and your professional activities ensuring that your work is recognized. [Find out more.](#)

- 1 REGISTER** Get your unique ORCID identifier [Register now!](#)
Registration takes 30 seconds.
- 2 ADD YOUR INFO** Enhance your ORCID record with your professional information and link to your other identifiers (such as Scopus or ResearcherID or LinkedIn).
- 3 USE YOUR ORCID ID** Include your ORCID identifier on your Webpage, when you submit publications, apply for grants, and in any research workflow to ensure you get credit for your work.

LATEST NEWS

Wed 2017-11-15
Announcing API 2.1 - ORCID IDs are now HTTPS!

Wed 2017-11-15
Teaming with ORCID to Reduce Burden and Improve Transparency

Tue 2017-11-14
Getting to Know You, Part 2: ORCID's 2017 Consortia Survey

How to Manage Rejection

Journal decision letters can take many forms:

- Immediate rejection with no peer review and with no opportunity to re-submit
 - Out of scope of the journal
 - Research findings not novel
 - Serious English-language issues, plagiarism, or other critical flaws
- Immediate rejection with opportunity to re-submit
 - Manuscript not formatted for journal
 - Major English-language issues requiring attention
- “Major” revisions required as per Peer Reviewer’s comments
- “Minor” revisions required as per Peer Reviewer’s comments
- Provisional acceptance with minor revisions requested/required
- Acceptance for publication without need for (further) revision

The Response Letter

Date

Dr. Robert Smith
Editor-in-Chief
XYZ Journal

Dear Dr. Smith:

I would like to re-submit the attached manuscript entitled "**Name of the journal.**"

The manuscript has been carefully rechecked and appropriate changes have been made in accordance with the reviewers' suggestions. I used the Track Changes mode in Microsoft Word in the manuscript, and added some marginal "Comment" pointers as well. I am grateful for the reviewers' excellent comments and believe the manuscript is much stronger as a result.

The responses to their comments have been prepared and attached herewith.

In addition, I added four figures in this manuscript, which should have been included in the first manuscript. In the previous manuscript, I referred to these figures in the text, but mistakenly omitted them. I am sorry for this mistake. Because I referred to these figures in the previous manuscript, they are not new content. I believe the inclusion of these figures increased the clarity and impact of the manuscript. I request these figures be added.

I thank you and the reviewers for your thoughtful suggestions and insights, which have enriched the manuscript and produced a more balanced and better account of the research. I hope that the revised manuscript is now suitable for publication in your journal.

I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

Your name

Contact address
Telephone number
Email:

Should You Disagree With a Reviewer?

- Yes, it is okay to disagree with a Peer Reviewer's comment(s), and even the Journal Editor's comment(s)
- Make sure that it is a battle worth fighting and that you have firm ground on which to base your position
- Your response needs to be polite, and with a logical rebuttal. The rebuttal should always be reinforced with cited literature.
- Address each point in isolation, and then collectively in overview
- Responding to peer review comments (especially when you disagree) may be difficult. It is best to seek advice from colleagues and possibly outside editorial assistance.

What Is the Value of Social Media?

- Once published, the effort shouldn't stop there! There are numerous venues to promote and bring attention to your publication and to your research.
- Remember that alternative metrics are gaining value over Impact Factor.
- Making your research known through blogs and other forms of online social media, or by using research channels like Mendeley, ResearchGate, and Academia.edu can help drive awareness, and ultimately increase your citation rates.




Editage Insights – An educational resource (1 of 3)

- Editage Insights
 - www.editage.co.kr/insights
 - www.editage.com/insights

- ✓ Tutorials on all aspects of academic publication
- ✓ Guidance at every stage of the publication process
- ✓ Answers to all questions researchers ask
- ✓ Interviews and videos giving practical advice
- ✓ News, updates, and trends from the publishing industry

Editage Insights – An Educational Resource (2 of 3)

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The ethical approval for my study is not ready. What should I do?


I have a question on ethical approval. My paper is ready for submission, but I am a bit lost as my ethical approval is not ready. How should I prepare it? ...[Read more](#)

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The ethical approval for my study is not ready. What should I do?


I have a question on ethical approval. My paper is ready for submission, but I am a bit lost as my ethical approval is not ready. How should I prepare it? ...[Read more](#)



The need for ethics approval: A case study


The policies concerning the need for ethical approval by an institutional review board or ethics committee can be different in different countries. This can unfairly work against authors wanting to publish ...[Read more](#)

Industry Hot Topics




Journal indexing 101: Understanding the basics

By getting your journal indexed in a well-known database, you can increase its visibility, accessibility, and readership. This post provides an overview of indexing and shares some common journal databases to consider....[Read more](#)



How can I know the IF of a journal that has changed its title?

The journal named "Human Vaccines" (ISSN:1554-8600) changed its name in 2012 to "Human Vaccines & Immunotherapeutics" (ISSN: 2164-5515). In 2014, its IF was 3.643 and 2.131 in JCR, but its 2.131 when I check its IF from the ISSN number. The journal website states the IF as 3.643. How will the...[Read more](#)



Measuring the impact of science: An overview of the 2014 Research Excellence Framework report

How much of an impact does research have outside of science? Is scientific impact quantifiable? The Research Excellence Framework (REF) measures the impact of research conducted by British higher education institutions, and helps funding bodies make decisions about allocating funds to universities...[Read more](#)

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Editage Insights – An Educational Resource (3 of 3)

Content Relevant to Helping Authors Get Published

Submission and Peer Review

Manuscript status showing unsubmitted even after having paid the article processing charge

Industry Experts

"Predatory publishers use lots of tricks to make people think that they are legitimate"

Career Advancement

Considering presenting a paper at a scholarly conference?
Choose carefully

Publication Ethics

Beware of bogus publishers!

Publication Buzzwords

Saving oneself from the clutches of a predatory journal: A case study

Publication Planning

3 "Principles of transparency" to help authors assess journal credibility

Question Period / Open Discussion



Donald Samulack, PhD

President, U.S. Operations
Editage / Cactus Communications

E: donald.samulack@editage.com

T: (267) 332-0051 Ext. 104

C: (732) 357-5282

Skype: samulack

LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/in/samulack

ORCID: 0000-0003-2888-1439