How to write great papers and get them accepted in good journals

From title to references

From submission to acceptance

Presented by: Anthony Newman
Senior Publisher,
Elsevier, Amsterdam

Location/Date: Indonesia
October 2013

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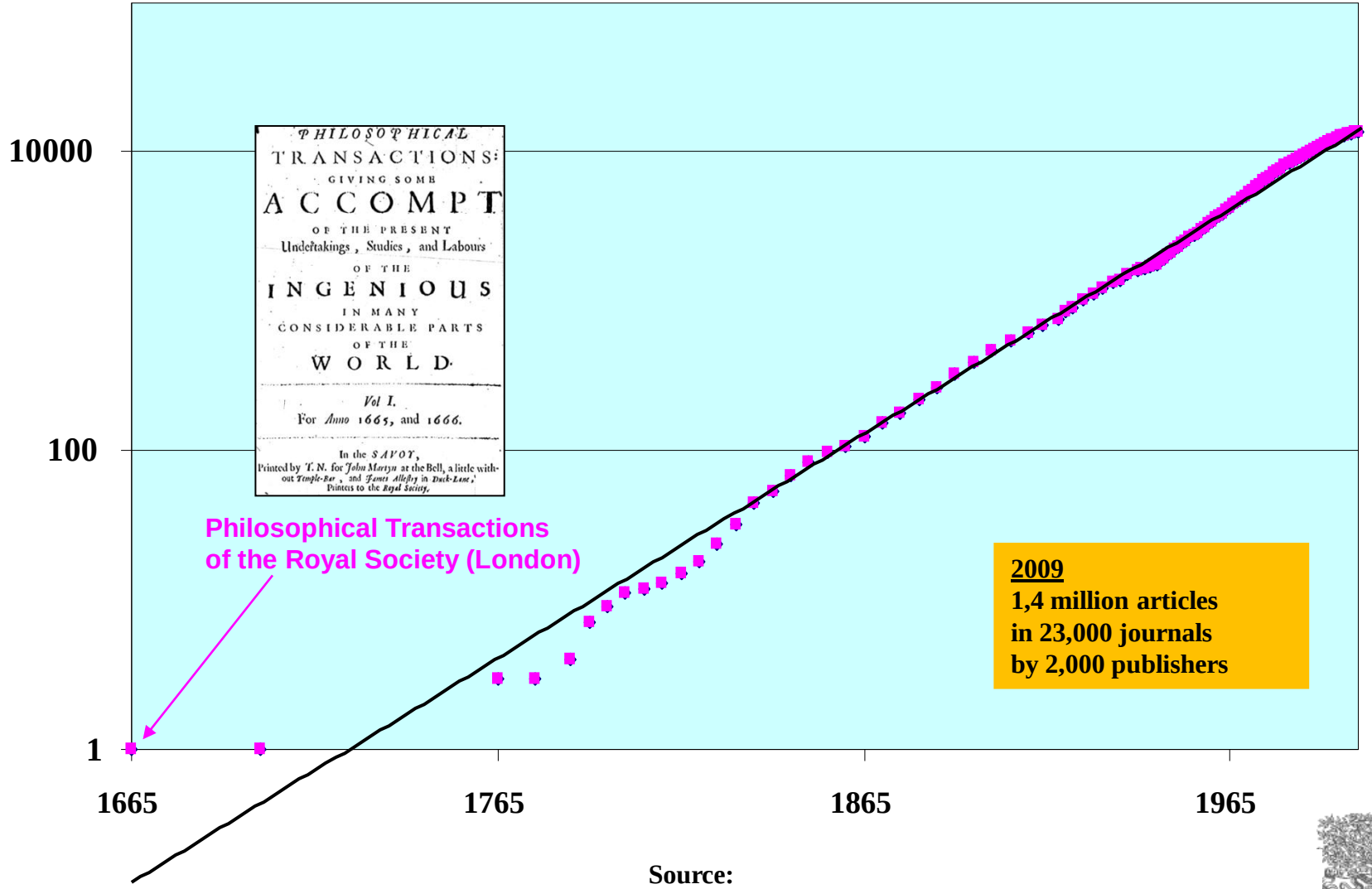
Workshop Outline

- **How to get Published**
  - Before you begin
  - Select your audience
  - The article structure
  - The review and editorial process

- **What not to do... (author ethics)**

Peer –Reviewed Journal Growth 1665-2001



Source:
M A Mabe The number and growth of journals *Serials* 16(2).191-7, 2003

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Elsevier Journal publishing volume

- 1,000 new editors per year
- 20 new journals per year

- Organise editorial boards
- Launch new specialist journals

- ***600,000+ article submissions per year***

Solicit and manage submissions

- 200,000 reviewers
- 1 million reviewer reports per year

Manage peer review

- ***40%-90% of articles rejected***

Edit and prepare

- 7,000 editors
- 70,000 editorial board members
- 6.5 million author/publisher communications /year

Production

- ***280,000 new articles produced per year***
- 190 years of back issues scanned, processed and data-tagged

Publish and disseminate

- ***11 million researchers***
- ***5,000+ institutions***
- ***180+ countries***
- ***400 million+ downloads per year***
- 3 million print pages per year

Archive and promote

- ***11 million articles now available***

Trends in publishing

- **Rapid conversion from "print" to "electronic"**
  - 1997: print only
  - 2009: 55% e-only (mostly e-collections)
25% print only
20% print-plus-electronic
  - 2013: 95+% electronic access
- **Changing role of "journals" due to e-access**
- **Increased usage of articles**
  - at lower cost per article
- **Electronic submission**
  - Increased manuscript inflow
- **New publishing models**
  - E.g. "author pays" models (open access), "delayed open access" (open archiving), etc.

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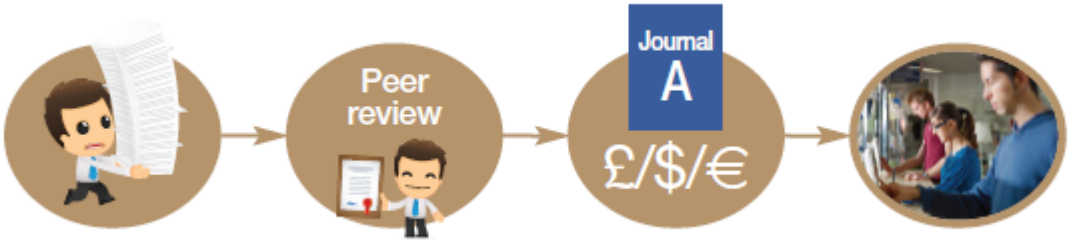
Open Access Information

Gold Open Access



Gold Open Access

- After acceptance, research is made immediately, permanently open access
- Readers can copy and reuse the content as defined by user licenses.
- Costs are covered by a open access publication fee
- Some funding bodies & institutions will reimburse authors for such fees.

Benefits of Gold

- Immediate open access
- You can choose your user license
- Authors retain copyright
- Share the final published article

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Tips for publishing Gold Open Access?

Find the right journal	Look for reputable journals
Collect key info	Check your funding body and institution's policies
Keep your AAM	See your journal's posting policy
Make your article OA	Select a license and pay an OA fee
Publish OA	Share the final version of your article!

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Green Open Access

Green Open Access

- After publication and acceptance in a subscription journal author publish in a journal
- The article is immediately available to subscribers
- After a delayed period of time (an embargo) authors can post their manuscript to an institutional repository for public use
- Applies to the accepted author manuscript and preprint versions
- Cost of publication are covered and dependent on the subscription model.

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Complying with new polices

Three key funder developments:

- **Research Councils UK**

RESEARCH COUNCILS UK

- **European Commission - Horizon 2020**
  - **Every EU country to develop their own policy**

- **Office of Science and Technology Policy (US)**

Office of Science and Technology Policy

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Your personal reason for publishing

- **However, editors, reviewers, and the research community don't consider these reasons when assessing your work.**

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Always keep in mind that …

…. your published papers, as a permanent record of your research, are your passport to your community !

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Why publish?

Publishing is one of the necessary steps **embedded in the** scientific **research process**. It is also necessary for graduation and career progression.

What to publish:

- **New and original results or methods**
- **Reviews or summaries of** particular subject
- **Manuscripts that advance** the **knowledge** and understanding in a certain scientific field

What NOT to **publish**:

- Reports of no scientific interest
- Out of date work
- **Duplications** of previously published work
- Incorrect/unacceptable conclusions

You need a STRONG manuscript to present your contributions to the scientific community

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What is a strong manuscript?

- Has a novel, clear, useful, and exciting message
- Presented and constructed in a logical manner
- Reviewers and editors can grasp the scientific significance easily

Editors and reviewers are all busy scientists – make things easy to save their time

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How To Get Your Article Published

Before you start

Practical Advice - Information

- **Find out what's Hot**
  - http://info.scopus.com/topcited/
  - http://top25.sciencedirect.com/
  - Almetrics Application
- **Find the trends of the subject area**
  - Search tips (including alerts)
  - Journals, authors, publications per year (Scopus)
- **Evaluate which journal is right for your manuscript**
  - Impact Factor
  - Journal Analyzer (Scopus)
  - SNIP & SJR (www.journalmetrics.com)
  - *h*-Index
- **Find out more about the journals**
  - Who are the editors?
  - Guide for authors

SciVerse Applications

SJR SCImago Journal & Country Rank

IF & SNIP & SJR

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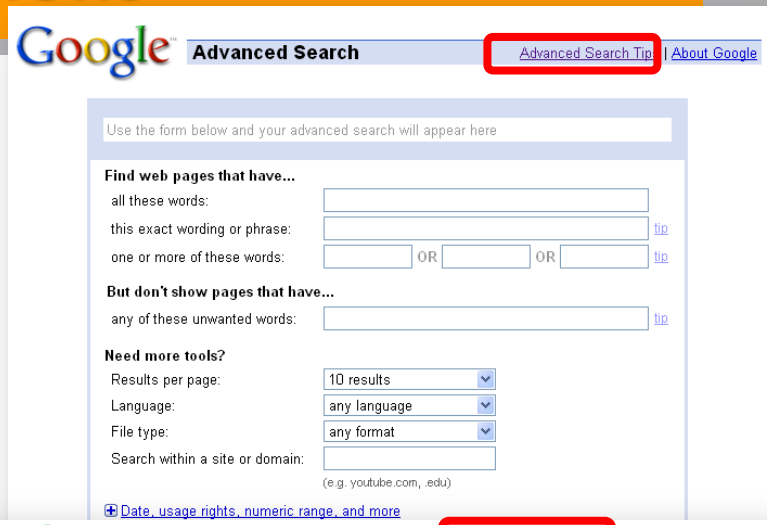
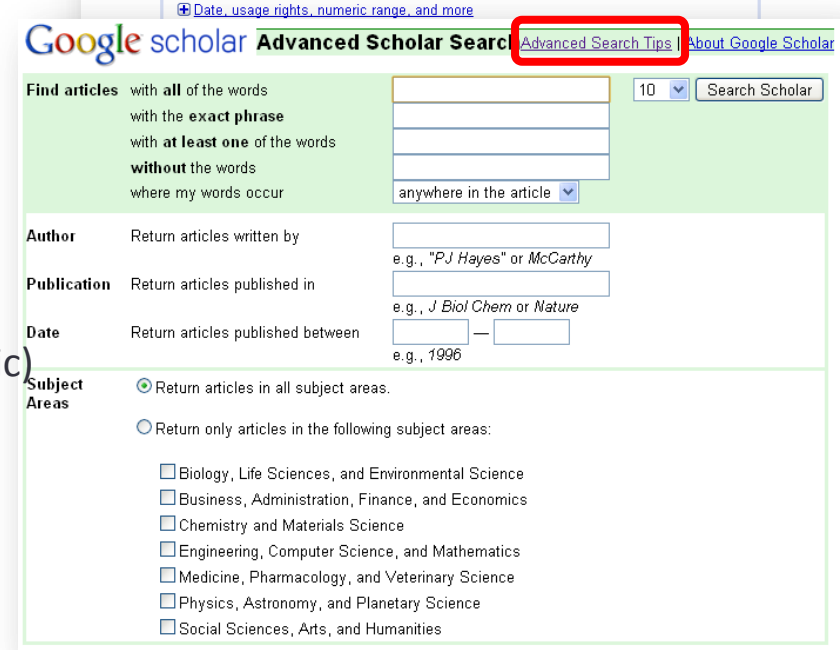
Use the advanced search options

- **Within Google and Google Scholar use the advanced searches and check out the Search Tips.**

- **In ScienceDirect, Scopus, WoS/WoK and other databases use proximity operators:**
  - w/n ← Within - (non order specific)
  - pre/n ← Precedes - (order specific)

E.g. wind w/3 energy





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Find out what's Hot (downloads)

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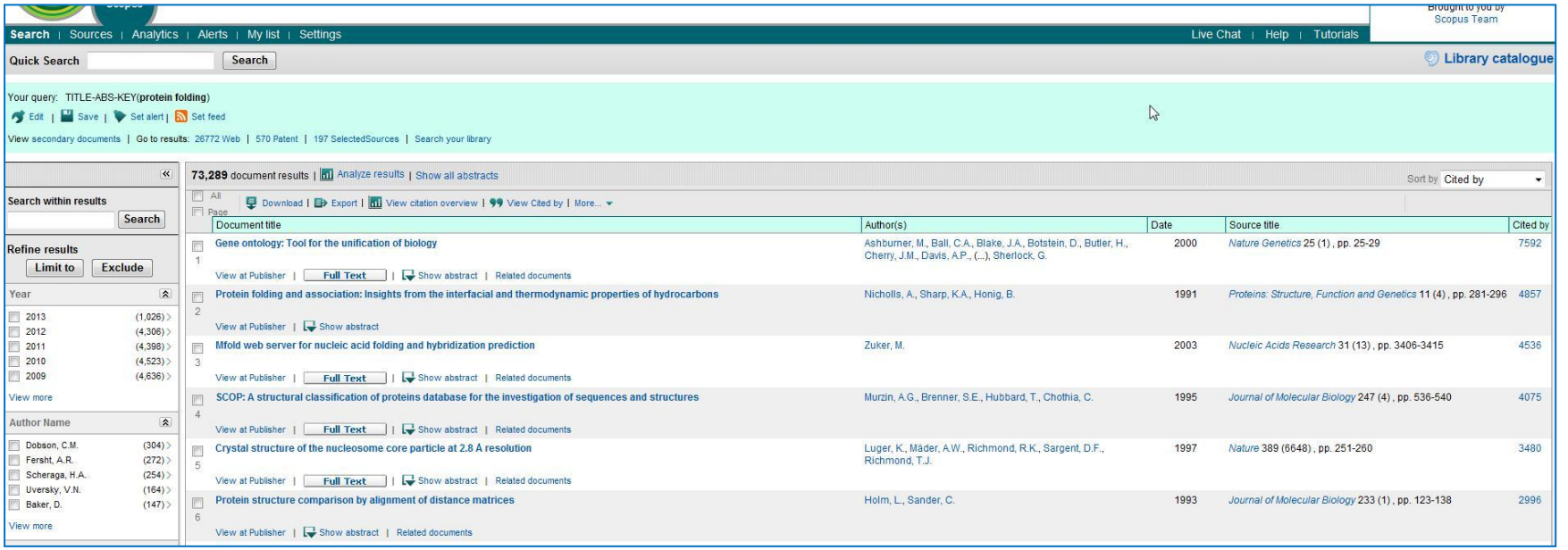
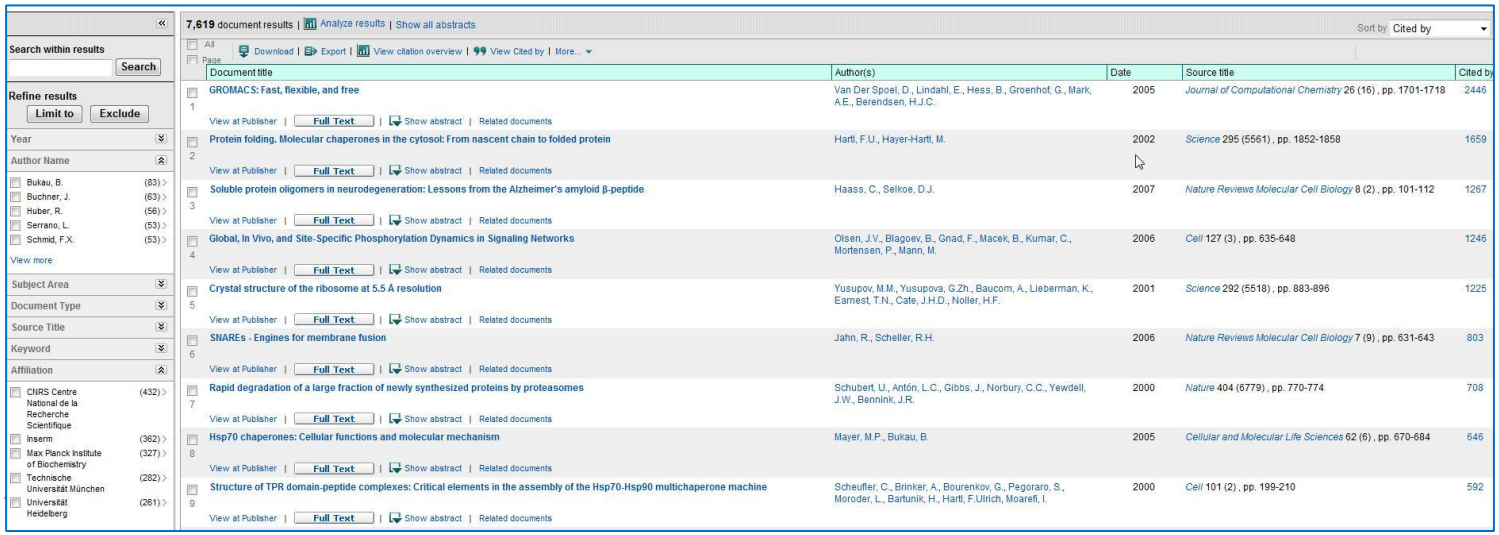
Find out what is being cited and from where





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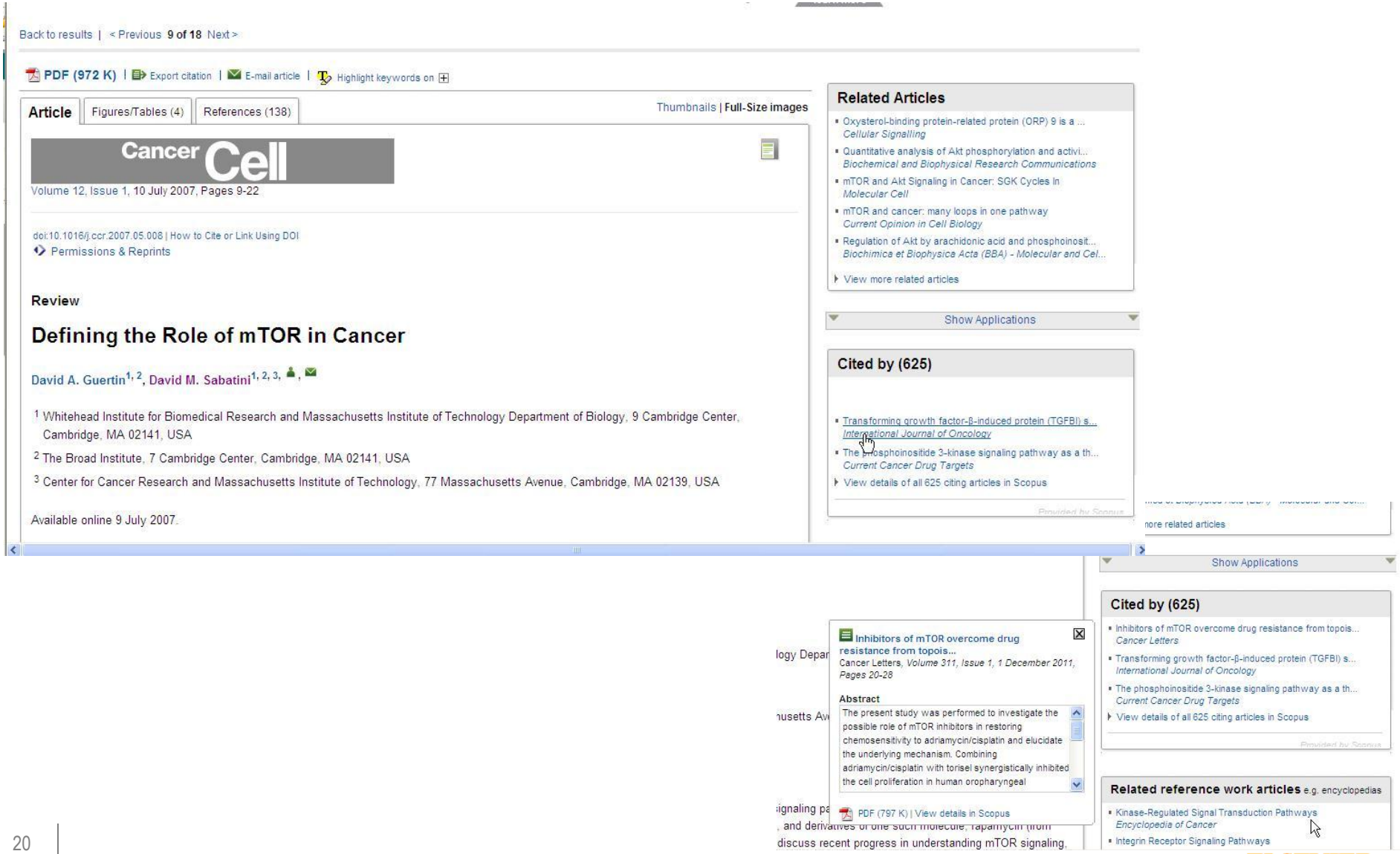
Find out who is being cited



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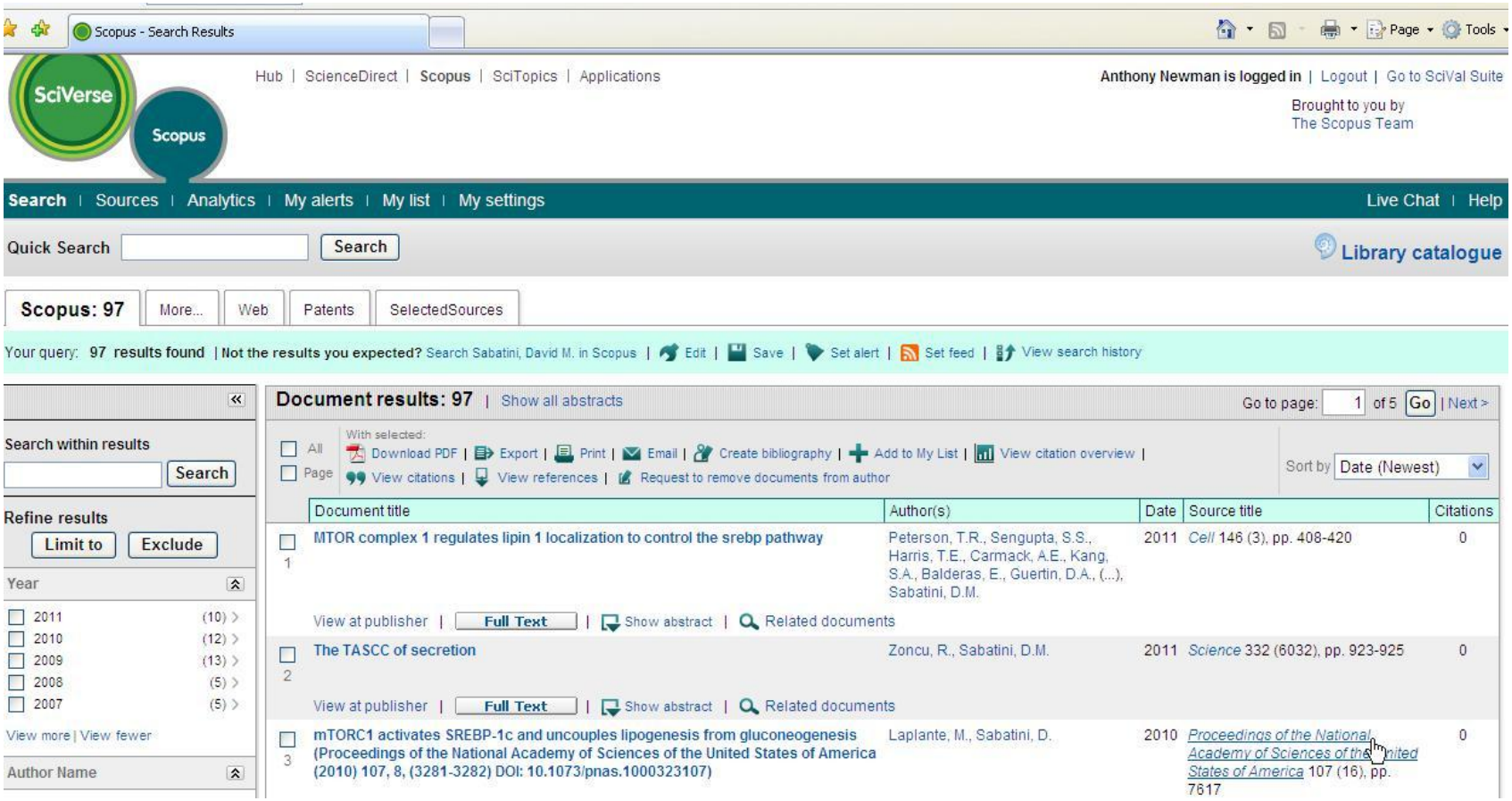

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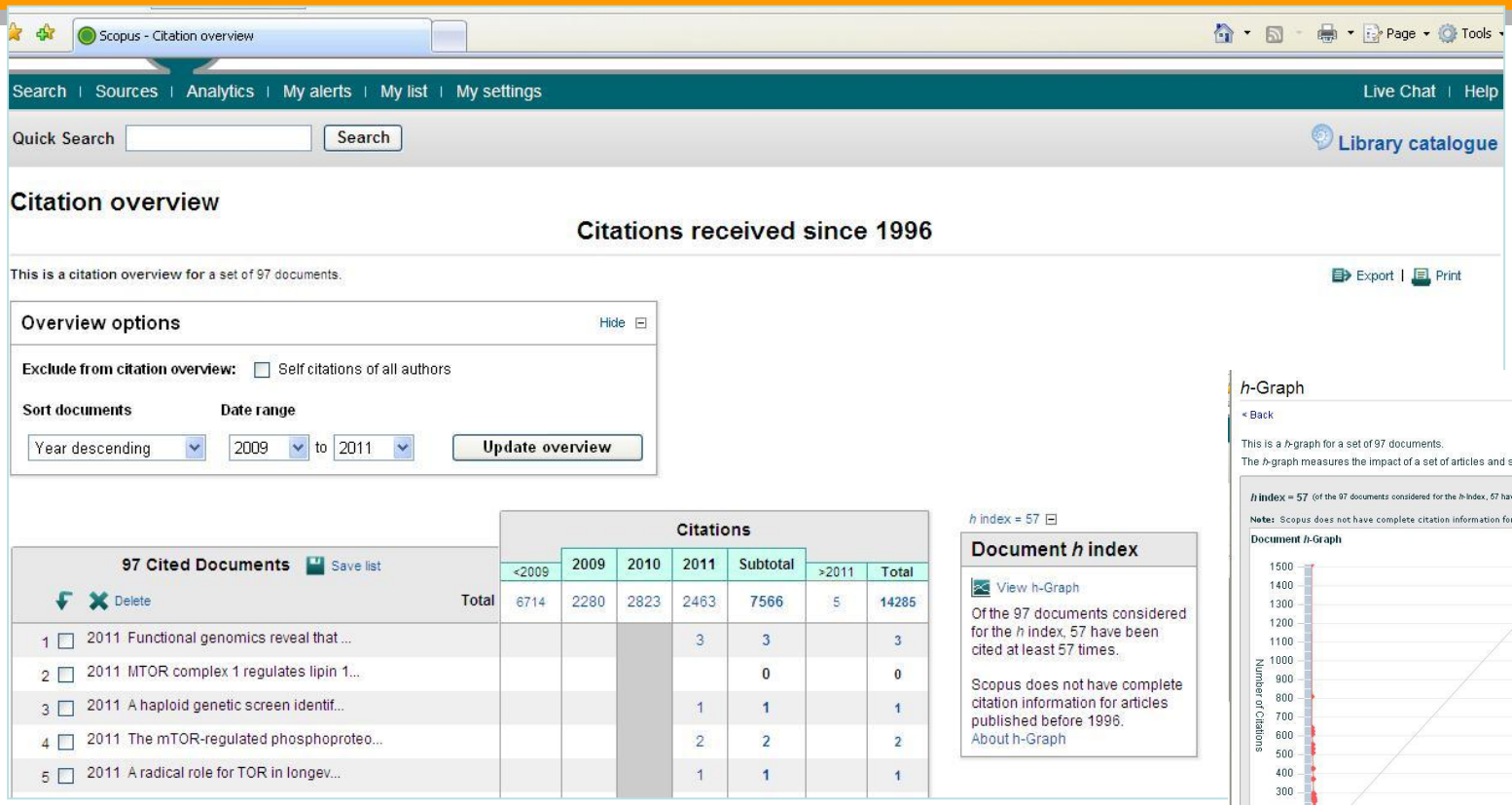
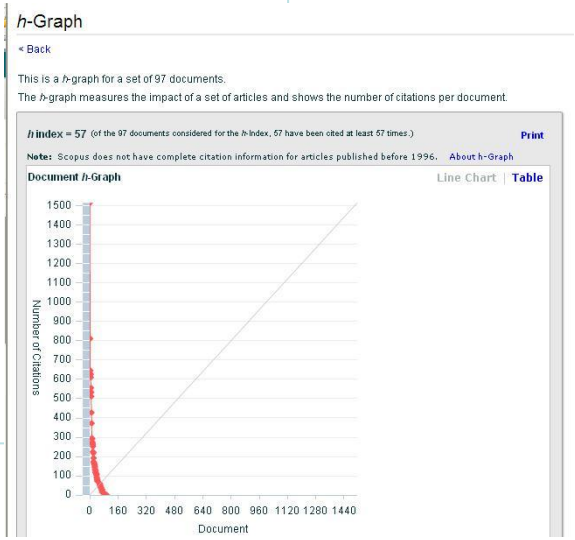
Find out who is being cited – in more depth





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Questions to answer before you write

Think about **WHY you want to publish your work**.

- Is it **new and interesting**?
- Is it a current **hot topic**?
- Have you **provided solutions** to some difficult problems?
- Are you **ready** to publish at this point?

If **all answers are "yes", then start preparations for your manuscript**

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What type of manuscript?

- **Full articles/Original articles;**
- **Letters/Rapid Communications/Short communications;**
- **Review papers/perspectives;**

Self-evaluate your work: Is it sufficient for a full article? Or are your results so thrilling that they need to be shown as soon as possible?

Ask your supervisor and colleagues for advice on manuscript type. Sometimes outsiders see things more clearly than you.

Select the best journal for submission

- Look at **your references –** these will help you narrow your choices.

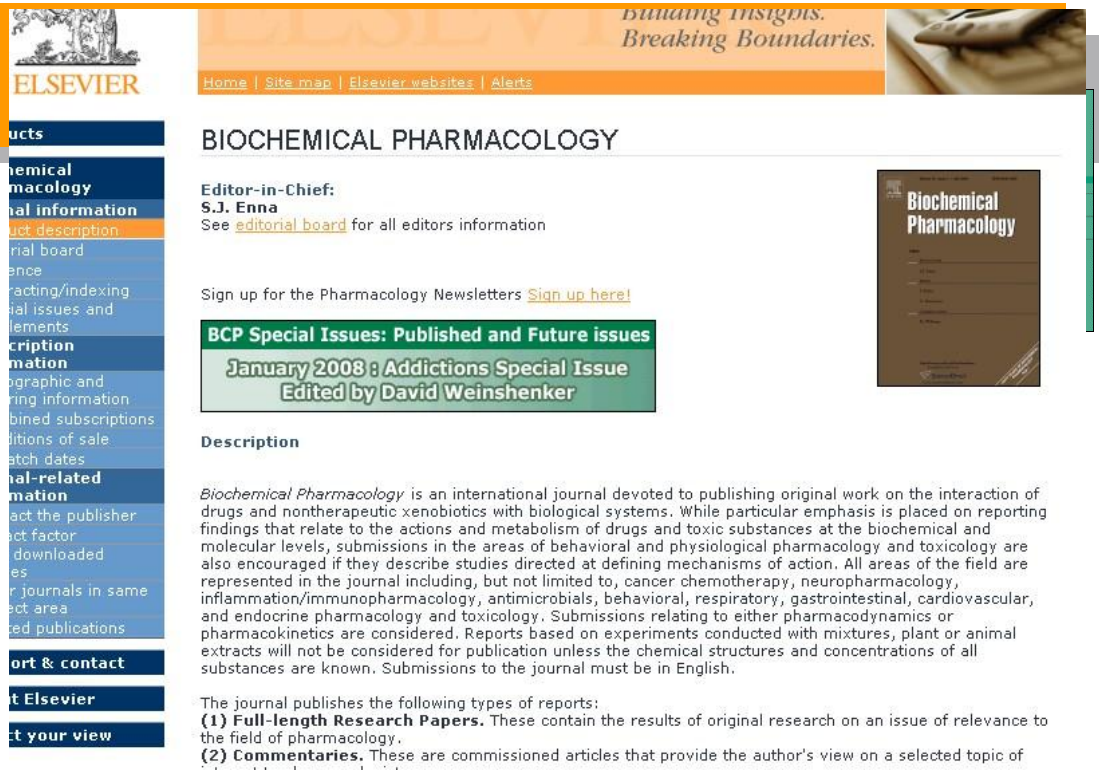
- **Review** recent publications in **each candidate journal**. Find out the hot topics, the accepted types of articles, etc.

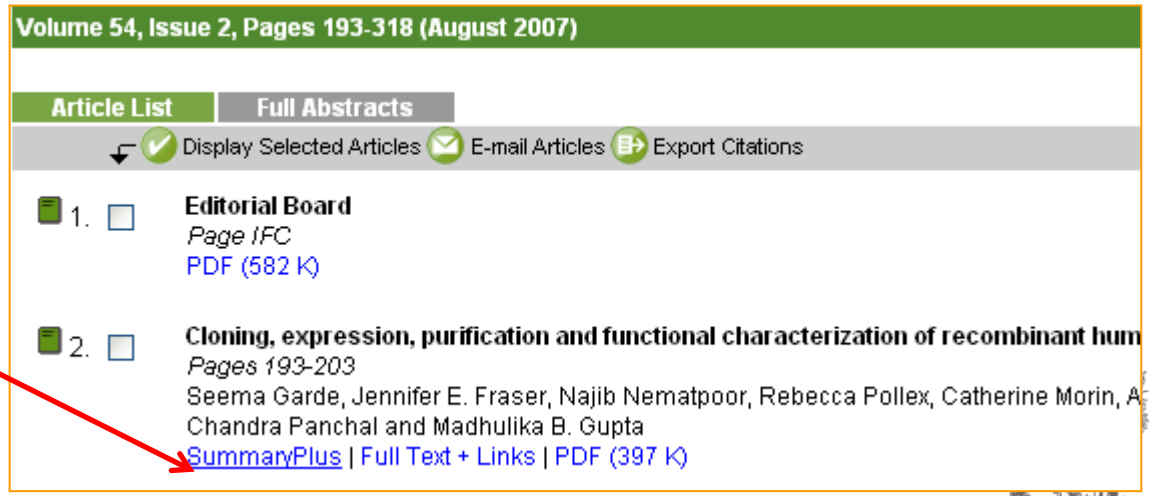
- Ask yourself the following questions:
  - Is the journal **peer-reviewed** to the right level?
  - Who is this journal's **audience**?
  - How **fast** does it make a decision or publish your paper?
  - What is the journal's **Impact Factor**?
  - Does it really exist or is **dubious**? (check for example Beall's List of Predatory Open Access Publishers)

- **DO NOT gamble by submitting your manuscript to more than one journal at a time.**
  - International ethics standards prohibit multiple/simultaneous submissions, and editors DO find out! (Trust us, they DO!)

Choose the right journal

- **Investigate all candidate journals to find out**
  - Aims and scope
  - Accepted types of articles
  - Readership
  - Current hot topics
    - go through the abstracts of recent publications)





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What is the Impact Factor (IF)?

Impact Factor

[the average annual number of citations per article published]

- For example, the 2011 impact factor for a journal is calculated as follows:
  - *A* = the number of times articles published in 2009 and 2010 were cited in indexed journals during 2011
  - *B* = the number of "citable items" (usually articles, reviews, proceedings or notes; not editorials and letters-to-the-Editor) published in 2009 and 2010
  - 2011 impact factor = *A*/*B*
  - **e.g. 600 citations = 2.000**

    150 + 150 articles

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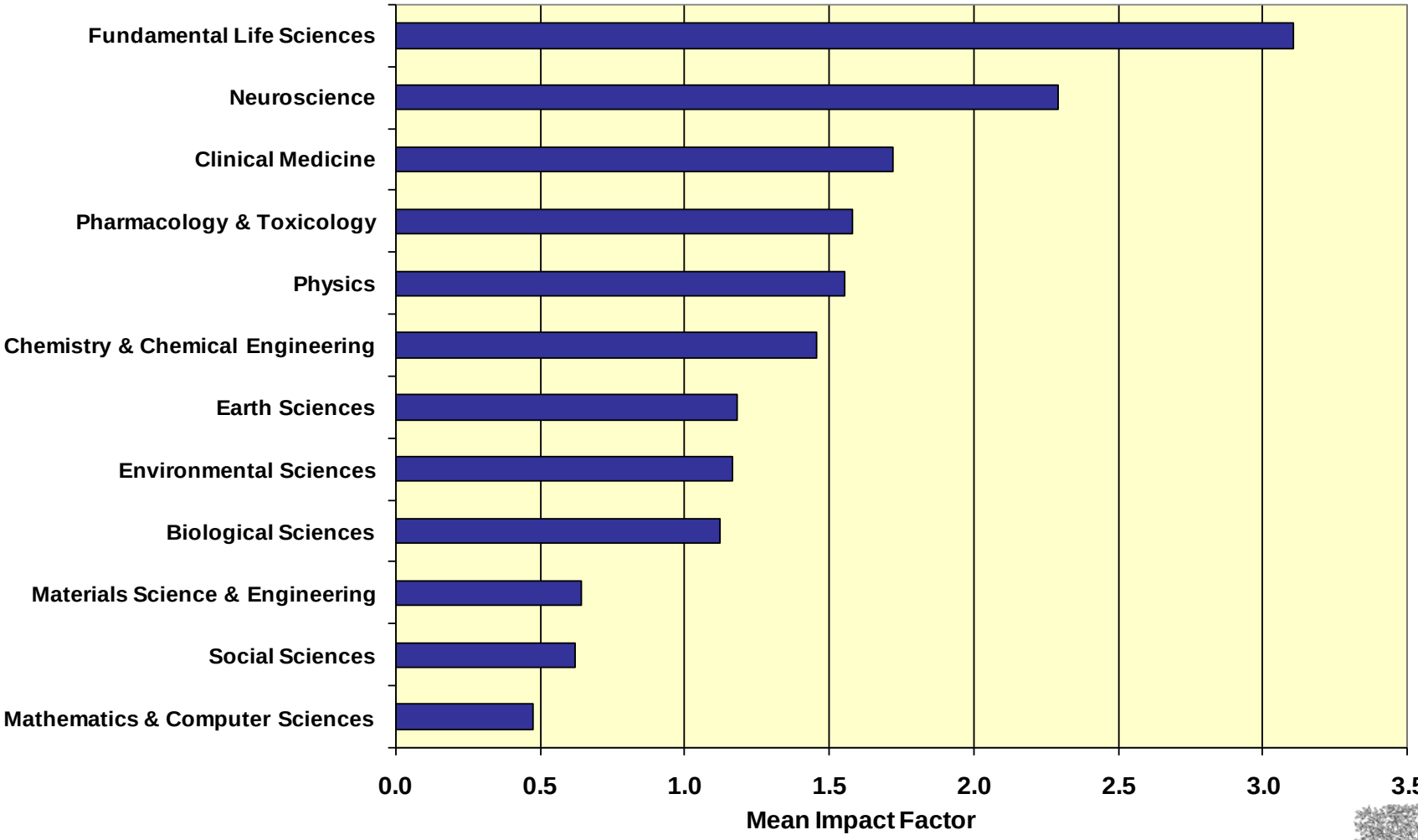
Influences on Impact Factors: Subject Area



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Journal A

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Results: 1362 Sc

Journal Title
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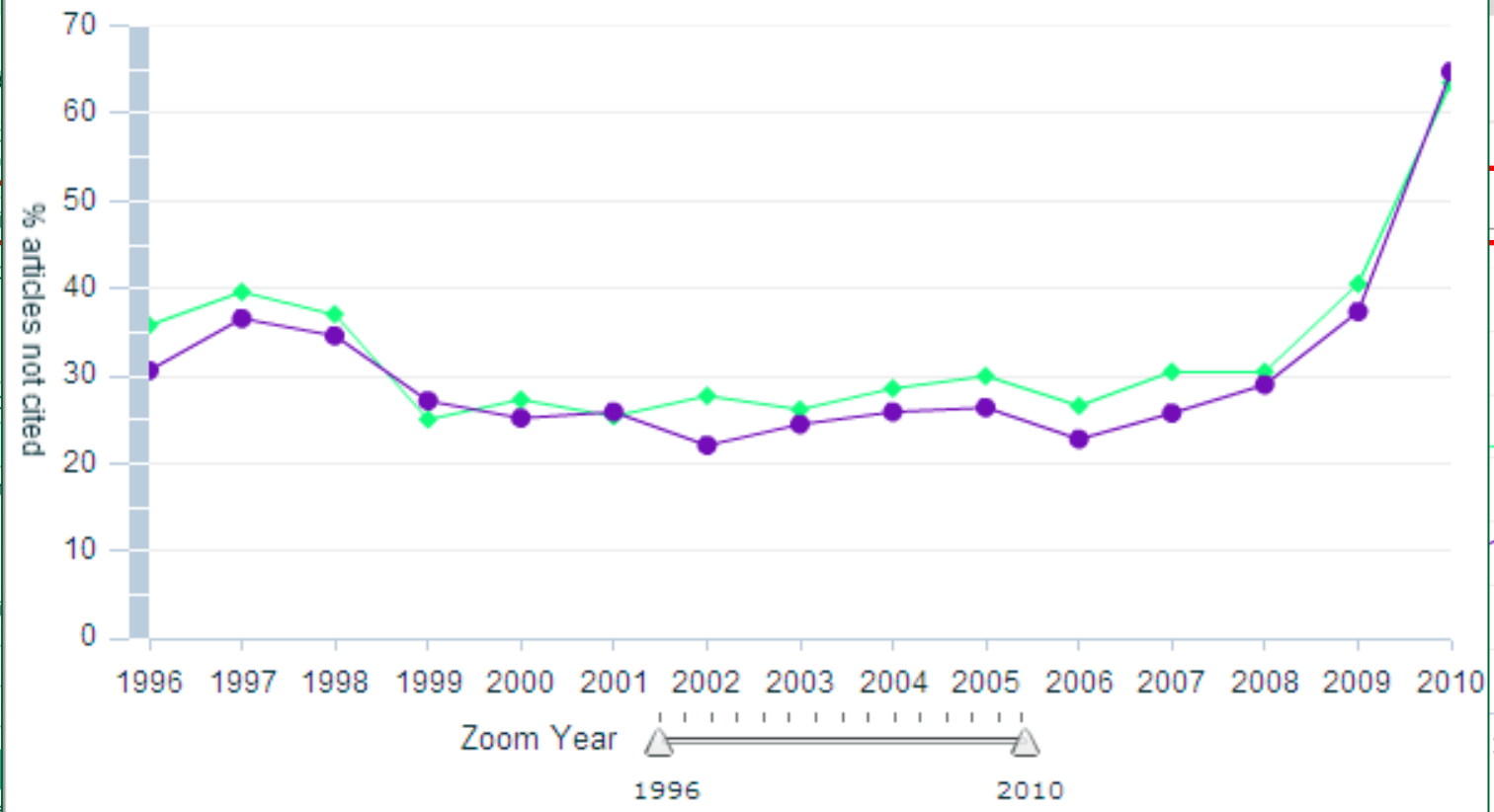
Calculations Last U

SJR | SNIP | Citations | Documents | % Not Cited



Note: Scopus does not have complete citation information for articles published before 1996.
Calculations Last Updated: 19 Oct 2010

Journals In Chart

Exclude journal self citations | Clear chart

Nature — Show Info

Science — Show Info

About calculations

2010 2011 2012

Clear chart

Show Info

Show Info

Your Journals list for this manuscript

So you now have a sequence list of candidate journals for your manuscript?

Write your draft as if you are going to submit to the first on your list. Use its Guide to Authors

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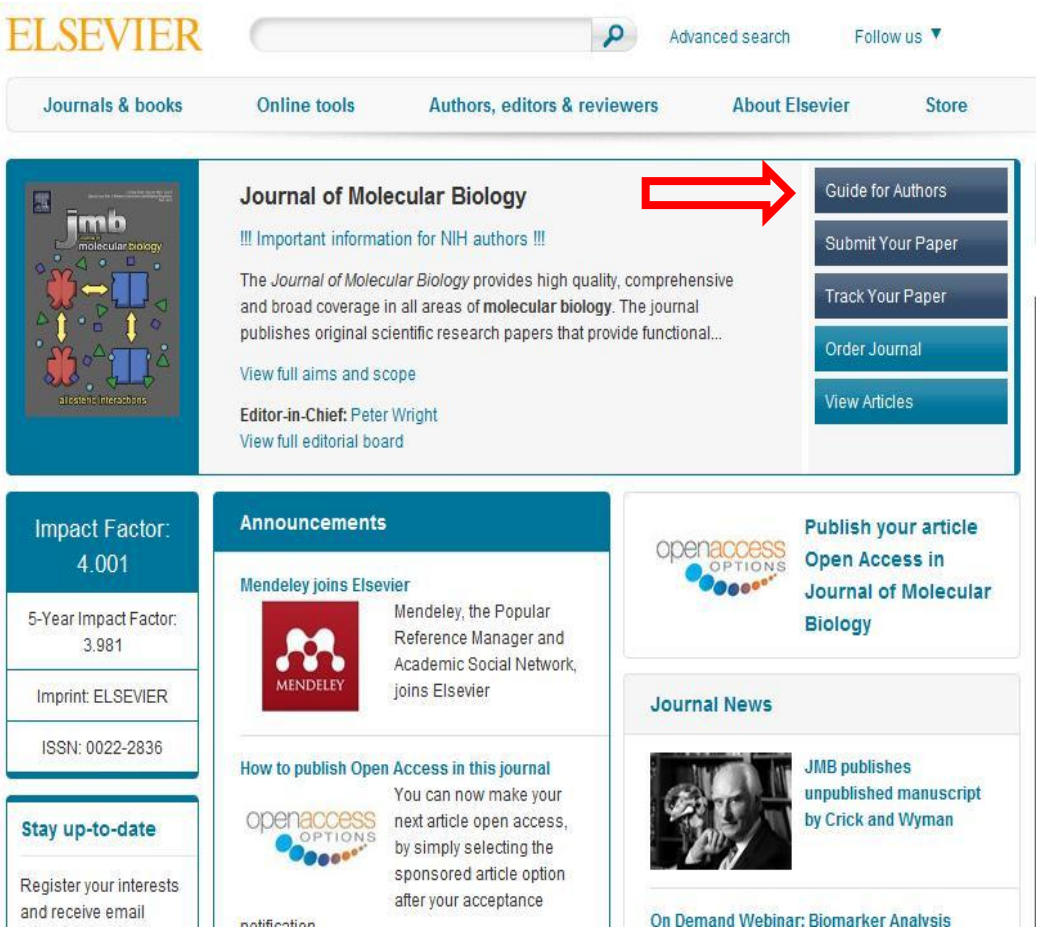
Read the 'Guide to Authors'- Again and again!

- **Stick to the Guide for Authors in your manuscript, even in the first draft (text layout, nomenclature, figures & tables, references etc.). In the end it will save you time, and also the editor's.**
- **Editors (and reviewers) do not like wasting time on poorly prepared manuscripts. It is a sign of disrespect.**



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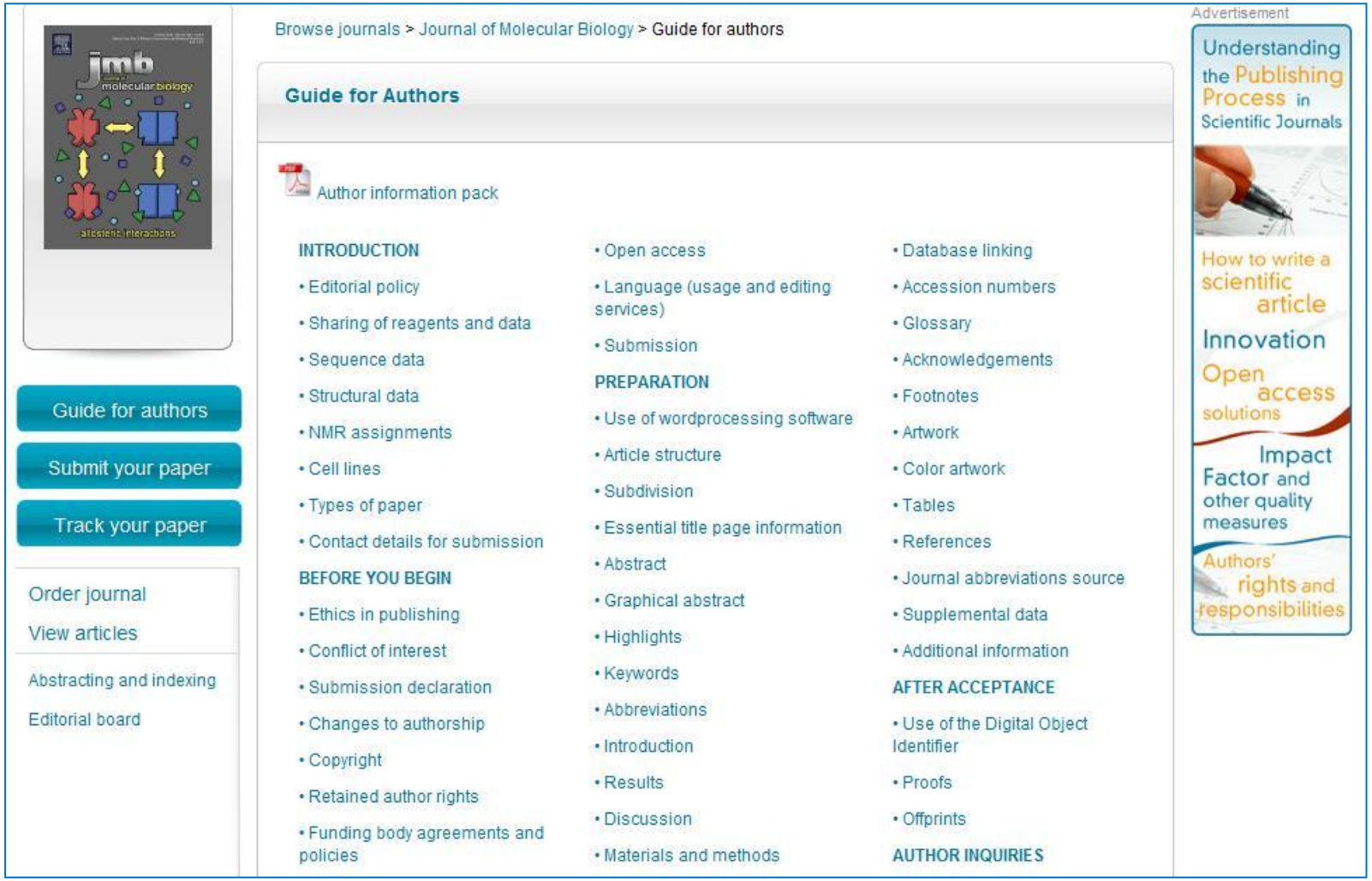
Read the ‘Guide to Authors’- Again and again!



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An international editor says…

"The following problems appear much too frequently"

- *Submission of papers which are clearly out of scope*
- *Failure to format the paper according to the Guide for Authors*
- *Inappropriate (or no) suggested reviewers*
- *Inadequate response to reviewers*
- *Inadequate standard of English*
- *Resubmission of rejected manuscripts without revision*

– Paul Haddad, Editor, *Journal of Chromatography A*

Scientific Language – Overview

Write with clarity, objectivity, accuracy, and brevity.

- **Key to successful scientific writing is to be alert for common errors:**
  - Sentence construction
  - Incorrect tenses
  - Inaccurate grammar
  - Not using English

Check the Guide for Authors of the target journal for language specifications

Scientific Language – Sentences

- Write direct and short sentences
- One idea or piece of information per sentence is sufficient
- Avoid multiple statements in one sentence

An example of what NOT to do:

"If it is the case, intravenous administration should result in that emulsion has higher intravenous administration retention concentration, but which is not in accordance with the result, and therefore the more rational interpretation should be that SLN with mean diameter of 46nm is greatly different from emulsion with mean diameter of 65 nm in entering tumor, namely, it is probably difficult for emulsion to enter and exit from tumor blood vessel as freely as SLN, which may be caused by the fact that the tumor blood vessel aperture is smaller."

Authorship

- **Policies regarding authorship can vary**
- **One example: the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors ("Vancouver Group") declared that an author must:**
  1. **substantially contribute** to conception and design, or acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data;
  2. **draft** the article or **revise** it critically for important intellectual content; and
  3. **give their approval** of the final full version to be published.
  4. **ALL three** conditions must be fulfilled to be an author!

All others would qualify as "Acknowledged Individuals"

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Authorship - Order & Abuses

- **General principles for who is listed first**
  - First Author
    - Conducts and/or supervises the data generation and analysis and the proper presentation and interpretation of the results
    - Puts paper together and submits the paper to journal
  - Corresponding author
    - The first author or a senior author from the institution
      - Particularly when the first author is a PhD student or postdoc, and may move to another institution soon.

- **Abuses to be avoided**
  - Ghost Authorship: leaving out authors who should be included
  - Gift Authorship: including authors who did not contribute significantly

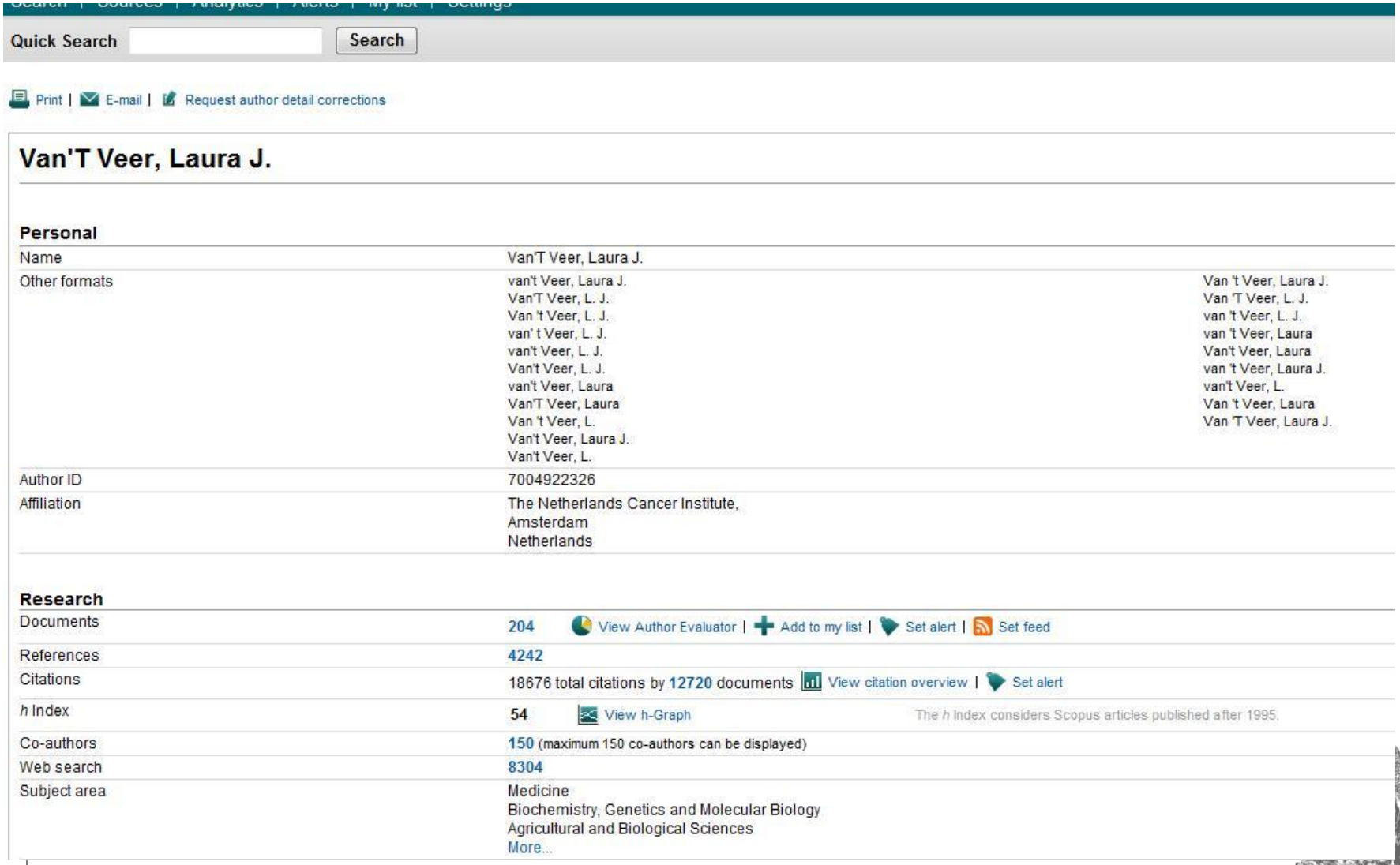
Author names: common problems

- **Different Spellings**
  - J**ä**rvinen / J**ae**rvinen / J**a**rvinen
  - Lue**ß**en / Lue**b**en / Lue**ss**en
  - van **H**arten / **V**anharten / Van
- First/Last Names
  - Asian names often difficult for Europeans or Americans
- What in case of marriage/divorce?

Be consistent!

If you are not, how can others be?

Author Profiles…be consistent if you can, or correct



Search | Sources | Analytics | Alerts | My list | Settings

Quick Search [ ] Search

Print | E-mail | Request author detail corrections

Van'T Veer, Laura J.

Personal

Name	Van'T Veer, Laura J.	
Other formats	van't Veer, Laura J. Van'T Veer, L. J. Van 't Veer, L. J. van' t Veer, L. J. van't Veer, L. J. Van't Veer, L. J. van't Veer, Laura Van'T Veer, Laura Van 't Veer, L. Van't Veer, Laura J. Van't Veer, L.	Van 't Veer, Laura J. Van 'T Veer, L. J. van 't Veer, L. J. van 't Veer, Laura Van't Veer, Laura van 't Veer, Laura J. van't Veer, L. Van 't Veer, Laura Van 'T Veer, Laura J.
Author ID	7004922326	
Affiliation	The Netherlands Cancer Institute, Amsterdam Netherlands	

Research

Documents	204 View Author Evaluator | Add to my list | Set alert | Set feed	
References	4242	
Citations	18676 total citations by 12720 documents View citation overview | Set alert	
h Index	54 View h-Graph	The *h* Index considers Scopus articles published after 1995.
Co-authors	150 (maximum 150 co-authors can be displayed)	
Web search	8304	
Subject area	Medicine Biochemistry, Genetics and Molecular Biology Agricultural and Biological Sciences More...	

ORCID: Author Profile 2.0

ORCID
Connecting Research and Researchers

- Open
- Researcher &
- Contributor
- ID

The Challenge:

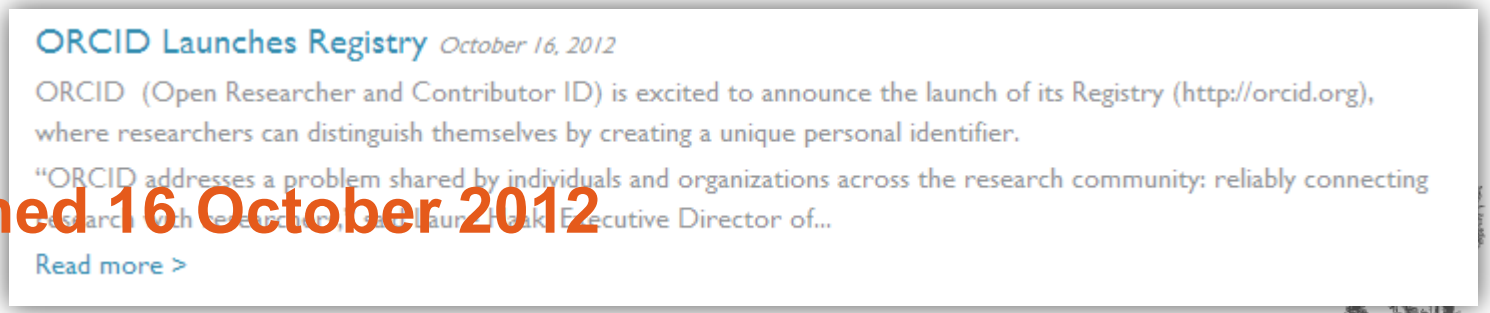
- **The scholarly record is broken**
- **Name ambiguity is an issue**

The Solution:

- **Establish a researcher identifier registry (partnership between Univs, Publishers, funding bodies…)!**

The Benefits:

- **Current authors can claim already published work**
- **New authors can establish unique identifier**



ORCID Launches Registry *October 16, 2012*

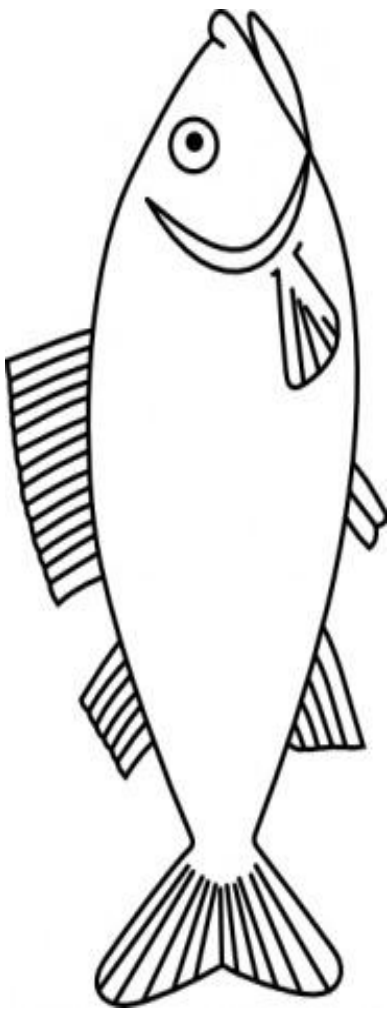
ORCID (Open Researcher and Contributor ID) is excited to announce the launch of its Registry (http://orcid.org), where researchers can distinguish themselves by creating a unique personal identifier.

"ORCID addresses a problem shared by individuals and organizations across the research community: reliably connecting research with researcher, said Laura Haak, Executive Director of...

Read more >

Launched 16 October 2012

General Structure of a Research Article



- Title
- Abstract
- Keywords

Make them easy for indexing and searching! (informative, attractive, effective)

- Main text (IMRAD)
  - Introduction
  - Methods
  - Results
  - And
  - Discussions

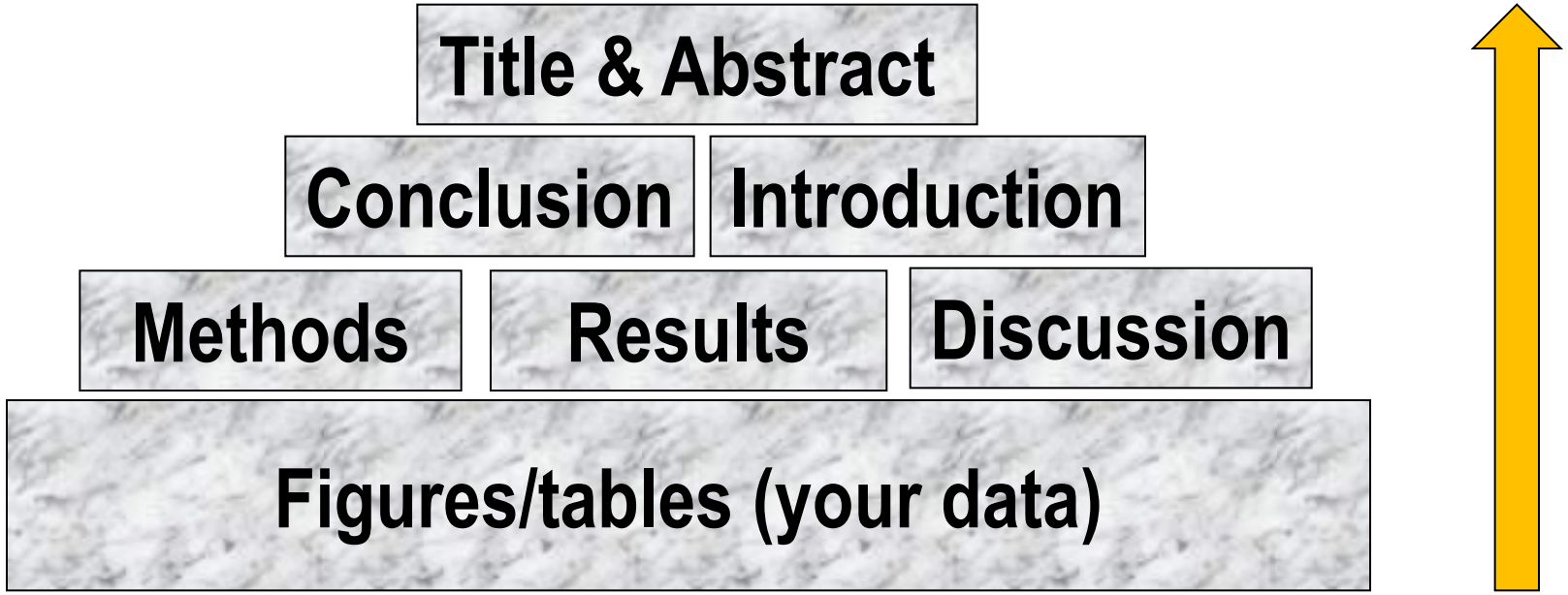
Journal space is not unlimited.

Your reader's time is scarce.

Make your article as concise as possible - more difficult than you imagine!.

- Conclusion
- Acknowledgement
- References
- Supplementary Data

The process of writing – building the article



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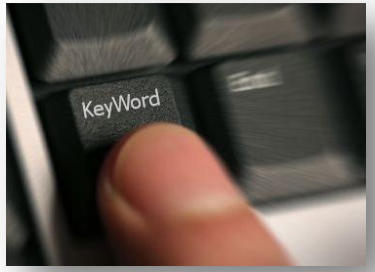
Title

- **A good title should contain the fewest possible words that adequately describe the contents of a paper.**

- **Effective titles**
  - Identify the main issue of the paper
  - Begin with the subject of the paper
  - Are accurate, unambiguous, specific, and complete
  - Are as short as possible
  - Articles with short, catchy titles are often better cited
  - Do not contain rarely-used abbreviations
  - Attract readers - Remember: readers are the potential authors who will cite your article

Keywords

In an “electronic world, keywords determine whether your article is found or not!



Avoid making them

- too general (“drug delivery”, “mouse”, “disease”, etc.)
- too narrow (so that nobody will ever search for it)

Effective approach:

Look at the keywords of articles relevant to your manuscript

Play with these keywords, and see whether they return relevant papers, neither too many nor too few

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Abstract

Tell readers what you did and the important findings

- One paragraph (between 50-250 words) often, plus Highlight bullet points
- Advertisement for your article
- A clear abstract will strongly influence if your work is considered further

Graphite intercalation compounds (GICs) of composition C*x*N(SO2CF3)2 · *δ*F are prepared under ambient conditions in 48% hydrofluoric acid, using K2MnF6 as an oxidizing reagent. The stage 2 GIC product structures are determined using powder XRD and modeled by fitting one dimensional electron density profiles.

A new digestion method followed by selective fluoride electrode elemental analyses allows the determination of free fluoride within products, and the compositional *x* and *δ* parameters are determined for reaction times from 0.25 500 h.

What has been done

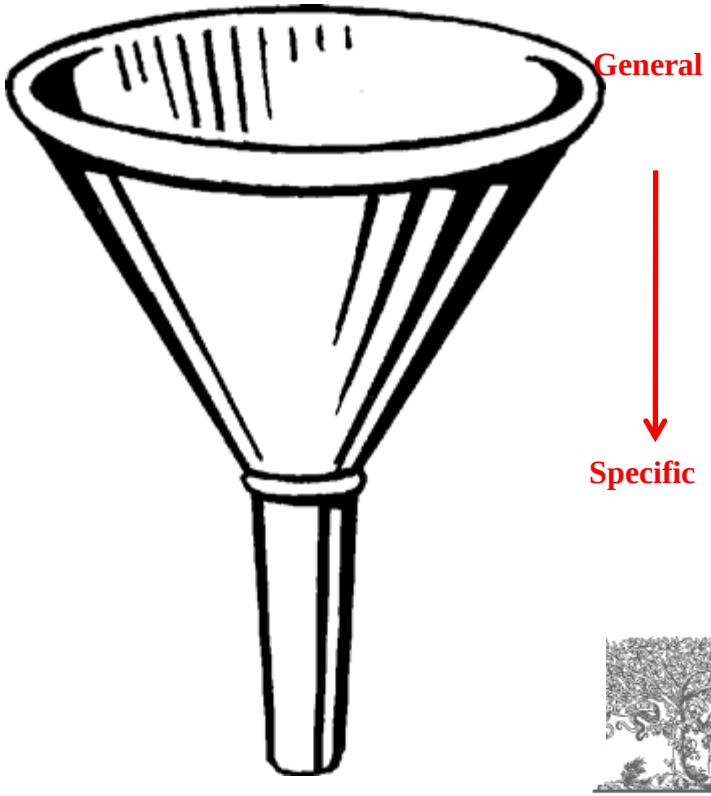
What are the main findings

Introduction

The place to convince readers that you know why your work is relevant, also for them

Answer a series of questions:

- What is the problem?
- Are there any existing solutions?
- Which one is the best?
- What is its main limitation?
- What do you hope to achieve?



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Pay attention to the following

- **Before you present your new data, put them into perspective first**
- **Be brief, it is not a history lesson**
- **Do not mix introduction, results, discussion and conclusions. Keep them separate**
- **Do not overuse expressions such as “novel”, “first time”, “first ever”, “paradigm shift”, etc.**
- **Cite only relevant references**
  - Otherwise the editor and the reviewer may think you don’t have a clue where you are writing about

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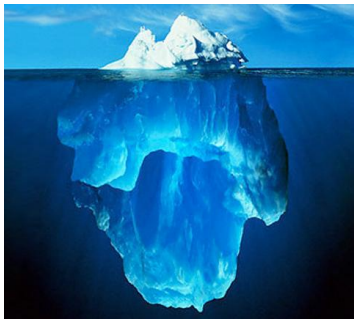
Methods / Experimental

- **Include all important details so that the reader can repeat the work.**
  - Details that were previously published can be omitted but a general summary of those experiments should be included
- **Give vendor names (and addresses) of equipment etc. used**
- **All chemicals must be identified**
  - Do not use proprietary, unidentifiable compounds without description
- **Present proper control experiments**
- **Avoid adding comments and discussion.**
- **Write in the past tense**
  - Most journals prefer the passive voice, some the active.
- **Consider use of Supplementary Materials**
  - Documents, spreadsheets, audio, video, ...

Reviewers will criticize incomplete or incorrect descriptions, and may even recommend rejection

Results – what have you found?

- **The following should be included**
  - the **main findings**
    - Thus not *all* findings
    - Findings from experiments described in the Methods section
  - Highlight findings that **differ** from findings in previous publications, and **unexpected** findings
  - Results of the **statistical analysis**



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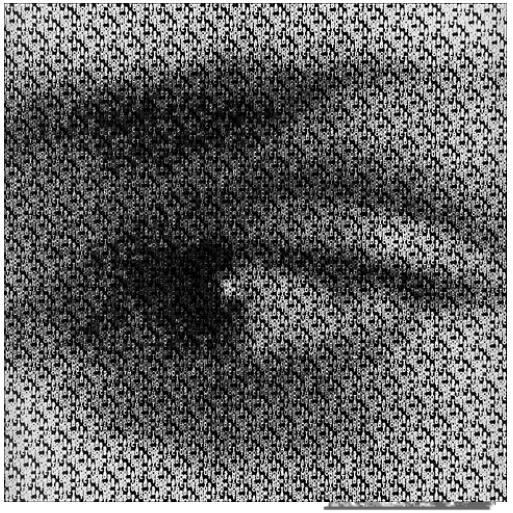
Results – Figures and tables

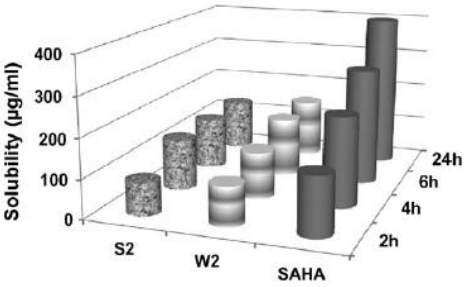
- **Illustrations are critical, because**
  - Figures and tables are the most efficient way to present results
  - Results are the driving force of the publication
  - Captions and legends must be detailed enough to make figures and tables self-explanatory
  - No duplication of results described in text or other illustrations

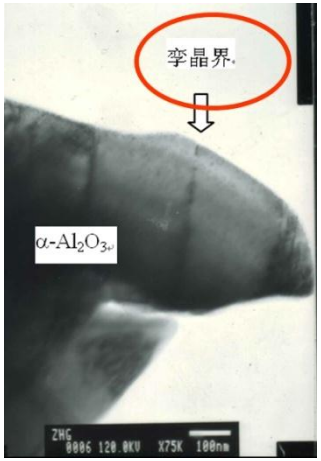
"One Picture is Worth a Thousand Words"
Sue Hanauer (1968)

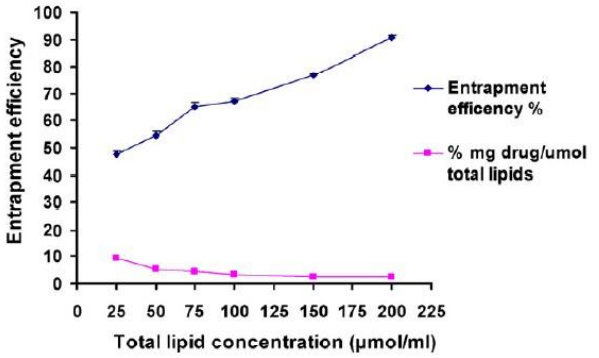


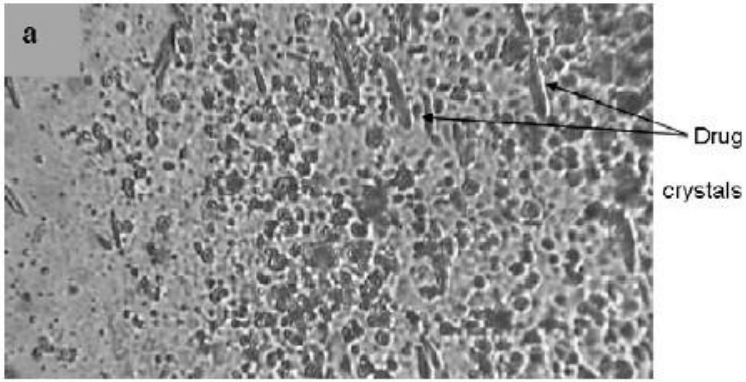
Results – Appearance counts!

- Un-crowded plots
  - 3 or 4 data sets per figure; well-selected scales; appropriate axis label size; symbols clear to read; data sets easily distinguishable.
- Each photograph must have a scale marker of professional quality in a corner.
- Text in photos / figures in English
  - Not in French, German, Chinese, Korean, ...
- Use color *ONLY* when necessary.
  - If different line styles can clarify the meaning, then never use colors or other thrilling effects.
- Color must be visible and distinguishable when printed in black & white.
- Do not include long boring tables!









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Discussion – what do the results mean?

- **It is the most important section of your article. Here you get the chance to SELL your data!**
  - Many manuscripts are rejected because the Discussion is weak

- **Check for the following:**
  - How do your results relate to the original question or objectives outlined in the Introduction section?
  - Do you provide interpretation for each of your results presented?
  - Are your results consistent with what other investigators have reported? Or are there any differences? Why?
  - Are there any limitations?
  - Does the discussion logically lead to your conclusion?

- **Do not**
  - Make statements that go beyond what the results can support
  - Suddenly introduce new terms or ideas

Conclusions

- **Present global and specific conclusions**
- **Indicate uses and extensions if appropriate**
- **Suggest future experiments and indicate whether they are underway**
- **Do not summarize the paper**
  - The abstract is for that purpose
- **Avoid judgments about impact**

References: get them right!

- **Please adhere to the Guide for Authors of the journal**
- **It is your responsibility, not of the Editor's, to format references correctly!**
- **Check**
  - Referencing style of the journal
  - The spelling of author names, the year of publication
  - Punctuation use
  - Use of "et al.": "et al." translates to "and others",
- **Avoid citing the following if possible:**
  - Personal communications, unpublished observations, manuscripts not yet accepted for publication
    - Editors may ask for such documents for evaluation of the manuscripts
  - Articles published only in the local language, which are difficult for international readers to find

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Supplementary Material

- **Data of secondary importance for the main scientific thrust of the article**
  - e.g. individual curves, when a representative curve or a mean curve is given in the article itself
- **Or data that do not fit into the main body of the article**
  - e.g. audio, video, ...
- **Not part of the printed article**
  - Will be available online with the published paper
- **Must relate to, and support, the article**

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- Submitt
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- Note sp conflicts

Professor H. D. Schmidt
School of Science and Engineering
Northeast State University
College Park, MI 10000
USA

January 1, 2008

Dear Professor Schmidt,

Enclosed with this letter you will find en electronic submission of a manu entitled "Mechano-sorptive creep under compressive loading – a microm model" by John Smith and myself. This is an original paper which neither previously nor simultaneously in whole or in part been submitted anywhere else. Both authors have read and approved the final version submitted.

Mechano-sorptive is sometimes denoted as accelerated creep. It has been experimentally observed that the creep of paper accelerates if it is subjected to a cyclic moisture content. This is of large practical importance for the paper industry. The present manuscript describes a micromechanical model on the fibre networ level that is able to capture the experimentally observed behaviour. In particular, th difference between mechano-sorptive creep in tension and compression is analyse John Smith is a PhD-student who within a year will present his doctoral thesis. T present paper will be a part of that thesis.

Three potential independent reviewers who have excellent expertise in the this paper are:

Dr. Fernandez, Tennessee Tech, email1@university.com
Dr. Chen, University of Maine, email2@university.com
Dr. Singh, Colorado School of Mines, email3@university.com

I would very much appreciate if you would consider the manuscript for publication in the *International Journal of Science*.

ely yours,

A. Professor

Final approval from all authors

Explanation of importance of research

Suggested reviewers

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Suggest potential reviewers

- Your suggestions will help the Editor to move your manuscript to the review stage more efficiently.
- You can easily find potential reviewers and their contact details from articles in your specific subject area (e.g., your references).
- The reviewers should represent at least two regions of the world. And they **should not** be your supervisor or close friends.
- Be prepared to suggest 3-6 potential reviewers, based on the Guide to Authors.

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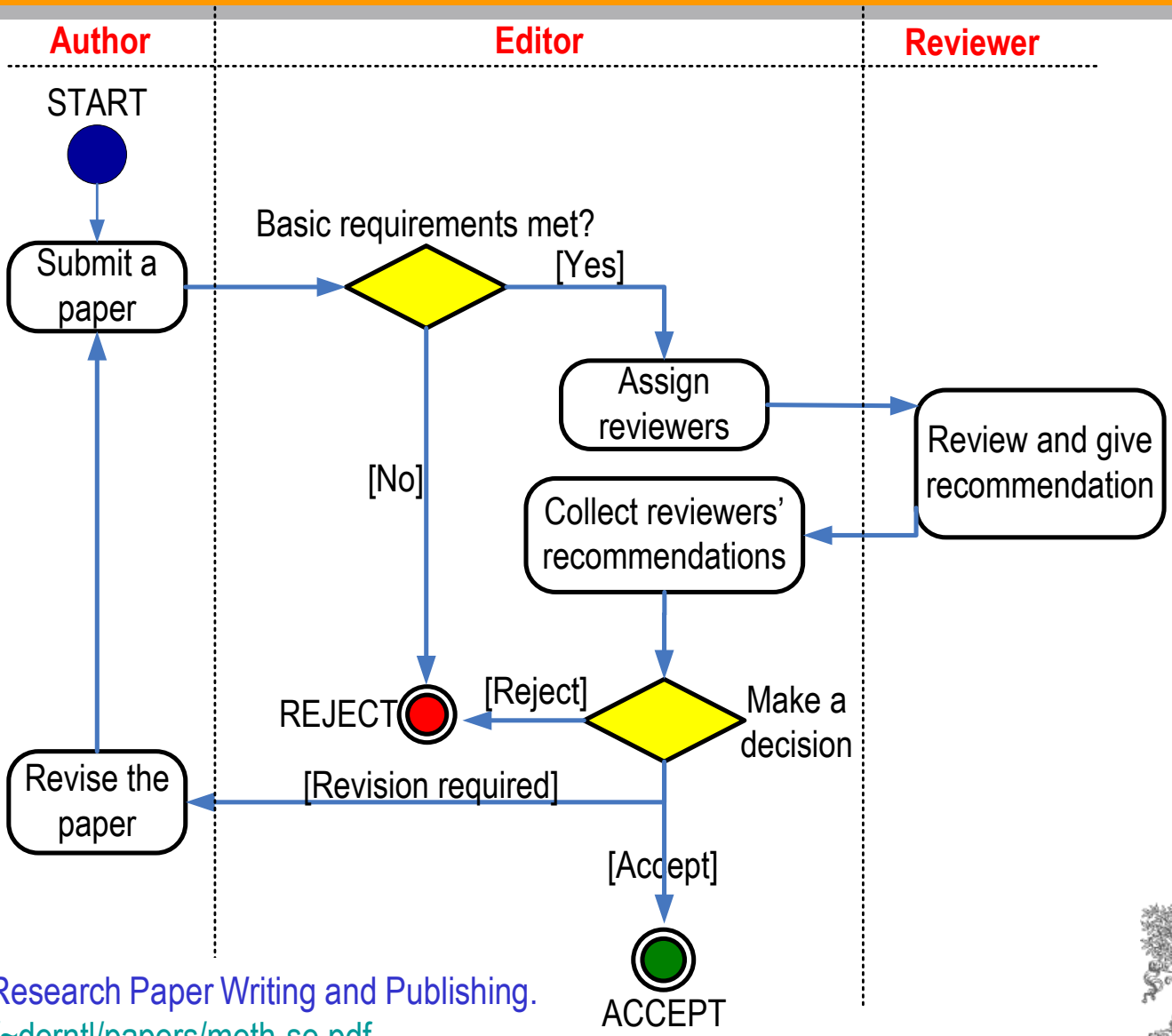
Do everything to make your submission a success

- **No one gets it right the first time!**
  - **Write, and re-write ….**
- **Suggestions**
  - After writing a first version, take several days of rest. Come back with a critical, fresh view.
  - Ask colleagues and supervisor to review your manuscript. Ask them to be highly critical, and ***be open to their suggestions***.
  - Make changes to incorporate comments and suggestions. Get all co-authors to approve version to submit.

Then it is the point in time to submit your article!

58

The Peer Review Process – not a black hole!



Michael Derntl. Basics of Research Paper Writing and Publishing.
http://www.pri.univie.ac.at/~derntl/papers/meth-se.pdf

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Initial Editorial Review

Many journals use a system of initial editorial review. Editors may reject a manuscript without sending it for review

Why?

- The peer-review system is grossly overloaded and editors wish to use reviewers only for those papers with a good probability of acceptance.

- It is a disservice to ask reviewers to spend time on work that has clear and evident deficiencies.

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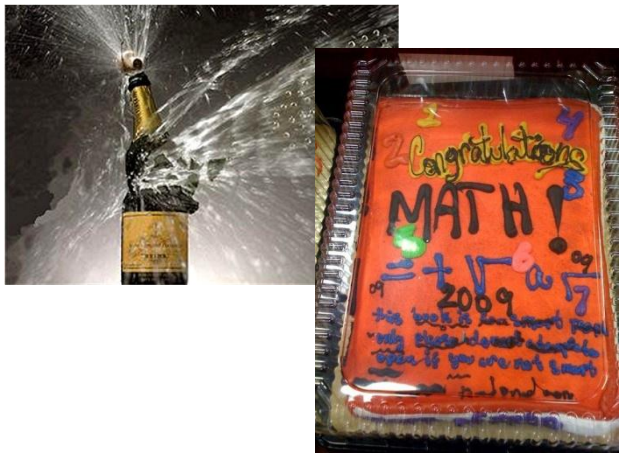
First Decision: "Accepted" or "Rejected"

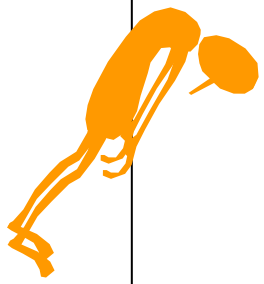
Accepted

- **Very rare, but it happens**



- **Congratulations!**
  - Cake for the department
  - Now wait for page proofs and then for your article to be online and in print

Rejected



- **Probability 40-90% …**
- **Do not despair**
  - It happens to everybody
- **Try to understand WHY**
  - Consider reviewers' advice
  - Be self-critical
- **If you submit to another journal, begin as if it were a new manuscript**
  - Take advantage of the reviewers' comments
  - They may review your manuscript for the other journal too!
  - Read the Guide for Authors of the new journal, again and again.

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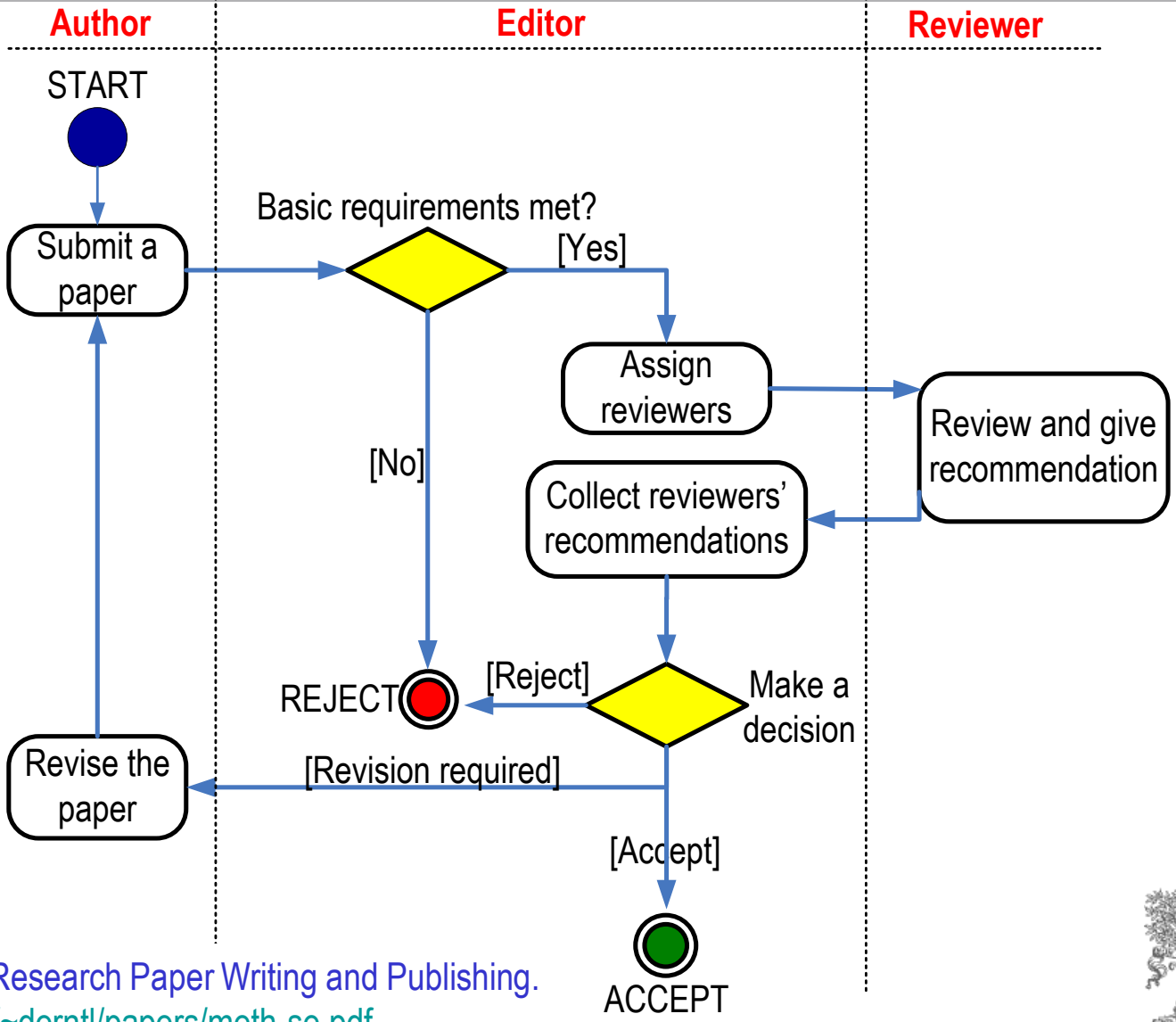
The Peer Review Process – revisions



Michael Derntl. Basics of Research Paper Writing and Publishing.
http://www.pri.univie.ac.at/~derntl/papers/meth-se.pdf

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First Decision: “Major” or “Minor” Revision

- **Major revision**
  - The manuscript may finally be published in the journal
  - Significant deficiencies must be corrected before acceptance
  - Usually involves (significant) textual modifications and/or additional experiments

- **Minor revision**
  - Basically, the manuscript is worth being published
  - Some elements in the manuscript must be clarified, restructured, shortened (often) or expanded (rarely)
  - Textual adaptations
  - “Minor revision” does NOT guarantee acceptance after revision!

Manuscript Revision

- **Prepare a detailed Response Letter**
  - Copy-paste each reviewer comment, and type your response below it
  - State specifically which changes you have made to the manuscript
    - Include page/line numbers
    - No general statements like “Comment accepted, and Discussion changed accordingly.”
  - Provide a *scientific* response to comments to accept, ...
  - ..... or a convincing, solid and polite rebuttal when you feel the reviewer was wrong.
  - Write in such a manner, that your response can be forwarded to the reviewer without prior editing
- **Do not do yourself a disfavour, but cherish your work**
  - You spent ***weeks*** and ***months*** in the lab or the library to do the research
  - It took you ***weeks*** to write the manuscript.....

.....Why then run the risk of avoidable rejection by not taking manuscript revision seriously?

Increasing the likelihood of acceptance

All these various steps are not difficult

You have to be consistent.

You have to check and recheck before submitting.

Make sure you tell a logical, clear, story about your findings.

Especially, take note of referees' comments. They improve your paper.

This should increase the likelihood of your paper being accepted, and being in the 30% (accepted) not the 70% (rejected) group!

What leads to acceptance ?

- **A**ttention to details
- **C**heck and double check your work
- **C**onsider the reviewers' comments
- **E**nglish must be as good as possible
- **P**resentation is important
- **T**ake your time with revision
- **A**cknowledge those who have helped you
- **N**ew, original and previously unpublished
- **C**ritically evaluate your own manuscript
- **E**thical rules must be obeyed

– Nigel John Cook
Editor-in-Chief, *Ore Geology Reviews*

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What NOT to do (Publishing Ethics)

Author's responsibilities

Ethics Issues in Publishing

Scientific misconduct

- Falsification of results

Publication misconduct

- Plagiarism
  - Different forms / severities
  - The paper must be original to the authors
- Duplicate publication
- Duplicate submission
- Appropriate acknowledgement of prior research and researchers
- Appropriate identification of all co-authors
- Conflict of interest

Plagiarism

- **A short-cut to long-term consequences!**
- **Plagiarism is considered a *serious offense* by your institute, by journal editors, and by the scientific community.**
- **Plagiarism may result in *academic charges*, but will certainly cause rejection of your paper.**
- **Plagiarism will *hurt your reputation* in the scientific community.**

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Duplicate Publication

- **Two or more papers, without full cross reference, share the same hypotheses, data, discussion points, or conclusions**

- **An author should not submit for consideration in another journal a previously published paper.**
  - Published studies do not need to be repeated unless further confirmation is required.
  - Previous publication of an abstract during the proceedings of conferences does not preclude subsequent submission for publication, but full disclosure should be made at the time of submission.
  - Re-publication of a paper in another language is acceptable, provided that there is full and prominent disclosure of its original source at the time of submission.
  - At the time of submission, authors should disclose details of related papers, even if in a different language, and similar papers in press.
  - This includes translations

Plagiarism Detection Tools

- **Elsevier is participating in 2 plagiarism detection schemes:**
  - TurnItIn (aimed at universities)
  - IThenticate (aimed at publishers and corporations)

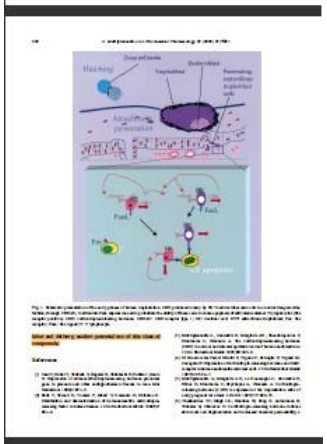
Manuscripts are checked against a database of 20 million peer reviewed articles which have been donated by 50+ publishers, including Elsevier.

All post-1994 Elsevier journal content is now included, and the pre-1995 is being steadily added week-by-week

- **Editors and reviewers**
- **Your colleagues**
- **"Other“ whistleblowers**
  - “The walls have ears", it seems ...

Publication ethics – Self-plagiarism

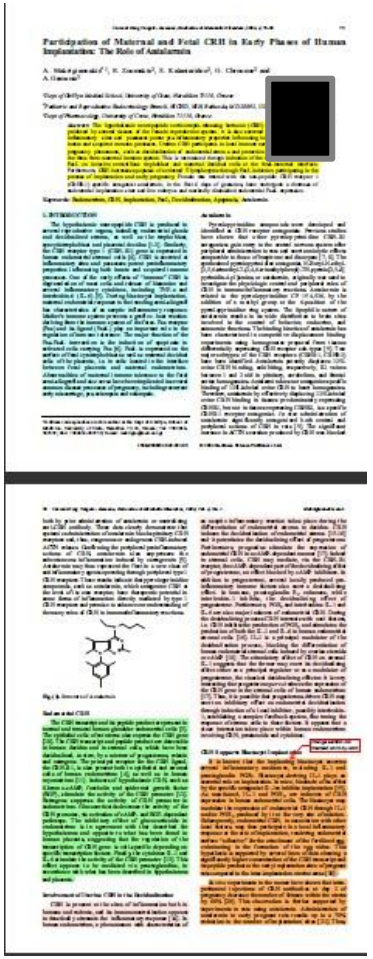
2003

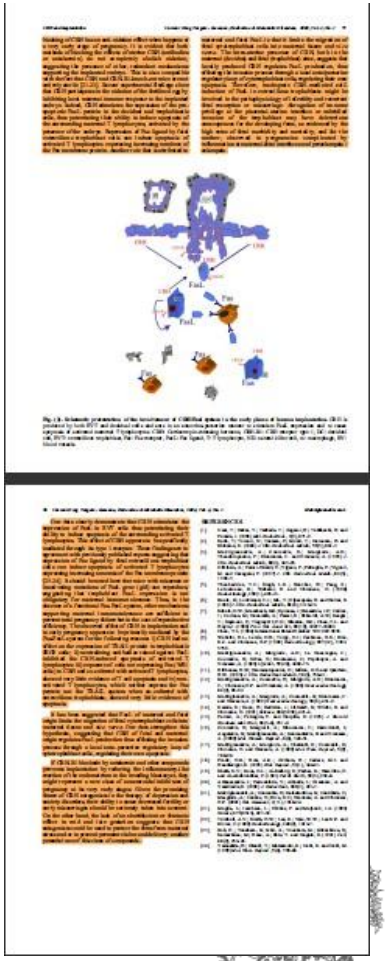


Same colour left and right

Same text

2004





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doi:10.1016/j.sigpro.2005.07.019 Cite or Link Using DOI

RETRACTED: Matching pursuit-based approach f[illegible]

[redacted]

Available online 24 August 2005.

This article has been retracted at the request of the Editor-in-Chief and P[illegible]
http://www.elsevier.com/locate/withdrawalpolicy.

Reason: This article is virtually identical to the previously published articl[illegible]
algorithm for SNR improvement in ultrasonic NDT" , *Independent Nonde[illegible]*
International, volume 38 (2005) 453 – 458 authored by [redacted]

RETRACTED

the echoes issuing from the flaws to be detected. Therefore, it cannot be cancelled by classical time averaging or matched band-pass filtering techniques.

Many signal processing techniques have been utilized for signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) improvement in ultrasonic NDT of highly scattering materials. The most popular one is the split spectrum processing (SSP) [1–3], because it makes possible real-time ultrasonic test for industrial applications, providing quite good results. Alternatively to SSP, wavelet transform (WT) based denoising/detection methods have been proposed during recent years [4–8], yielding usually to higher improvements of SNR at the expense of an increase in complexity. Adaptive time-frequency analysis by basis pursuit (BP) [9,10] is a recent technique for decomposing a signal into an optimal superposition of elements in an over-complete waveform dictionary. This technique and some other related techniques have been successfully applied to denoising ultrasonic signals co[illegible] taminated with grain noise in highly scatter[illegible] materials [11,12], as an alternative to the WT technique, the computational cost [illegible] BP algorithm being the main drawback.

In this paper, we propose a [illegible]el m[illegible] pursuit-based signal processin[illegible] [illegible] proving SNR in ultraso[illegible] NDT [illegible] highly scattering materials, such [illegible] and com[illegible]sites. Matching pursuit is use[illegible] [illegible] BP to reduce the complexity. De[illegible] its itera[illegible] nature, the method is fast en[illegible] to [illegible] real-time implemented. The perfor[illegible] [illegible] proposed method has been evaluated [illegible] both co[illegible]puter simulation and exp[illegible] [illegible] even when the input SNR [illegible] is lowe[illegible] 0dB (the level of echoe[illegible] [illegible]icrostructures is above the level of [illegible] echoes).

2. Matching pursuit

Matching pursuit was introduced by Mallat and Zhang [13]. Let us suppose an approximation of the ultrasonic backscattered signals $x[n]$ as a linear expansion in terms of functions $g_i[n]$ chosen from an over-complete dictionary. Let H be a Hilbert space. We define the over-complete dictionary as a family $D = \{g_i;\ i = 0, 1, \ldots, L\}$ of vectors in H, such as $\|g_i\| = 1$.

The problem of choosing functions $g_i[n]$ that best approximate the analysed signal $x[n]$ is computationally very complex. Matching pursuit is an iterative algorithm that offers sub-optimal solutions for decomposing si[illegible] [illegible] terms of expansion functions chose[illegible] from a di[illegible]nary, where l^2 norm is used as the a[illegible]metric because of its mathem[illegible] [illegible] When a well-designed dictio[illegible] is [illegible] in [illegible] pursuit, the non-line[illegible] [illegible] the algorithm leads to compact a[illegible]ve [illegible] mode[illegible]

In each [illegible] of the [illegible] procedure, vector $g_i[n]$ whi[illegible] [illegible] the larges[illegible] [illegible] product with the analysed signal i[illegible] [illegible] The contribution of this vec[illegible] [illegible] then subst[illegible] from the signal and the process is repeated on the residual. At the mth iteration the [illegible] is

$$r^m[n] = \begin{cases} x[n], & m = 0, \\ r^{m-1}[n] + a_{\lambda(m)} g_{\lambda(m)}[n], & m \neq 0, \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

where $a_{\lambda(m)}$ is the weight associated to optimum atom $g_{\lambda(m)}[n]$ at the mth iteration.

The weight a_i^m associated to each atom $g_i[n] \in D$ at the mth iteration is introduced to compute all the inner products with the residual $r^m[n]$:

$$a_i^m = \frac{\langle r^m[n], g_i[n] \rangle}{\langle g_i[n], g_i[n] \rangle} = \frac{\langle r^m[n], g_i[n] \rangle}{\|g_i[n]\|^2} = \langle r^m[n], g_i[n] \rangle. \quad (2)$$

The optimum atom $g_{\lambda(m)}[n]$ (and its weight $a_{\lambda(m)}$) at the mth iteration are obtained as follows:

$$g_{\lambda(m)}[n] = \arg\min_{g_i \in D} \|r^{m+1}[n]\|^2 = \arg\max_{g_i \in D} |a_i^m|^2 = \arg\max_{g_i \in D} |a_i^m|. \quad (3)$$

The computation of correlations $\langle r^m[n], g_i[n] \rangle$ for all vectors $g_i[n]$ at each iteration implies a high computational effort, which can be substantially reduced using an updating procedure derived from Eq. (1). The correlation updating procedure [13] is performed as follows:

$$\langle r^{m+1}[n], g_i[n] \rangle = \langle r^m[n], g_i[n] \rangle - a_{\lambda(m)} \langle g_{\lambda(m)}[n], g_i[n] \rangle. \quad (4)$$

An article in which the authors committed plagiarism: it will not be removed from ScienceDirect ever. Everybody who downloads it will see the reason for the retraction…

Signal Processing
Volume 86, Issue 5, May 2006, Pages 962-970

Figure Manipulation – some things are allowed

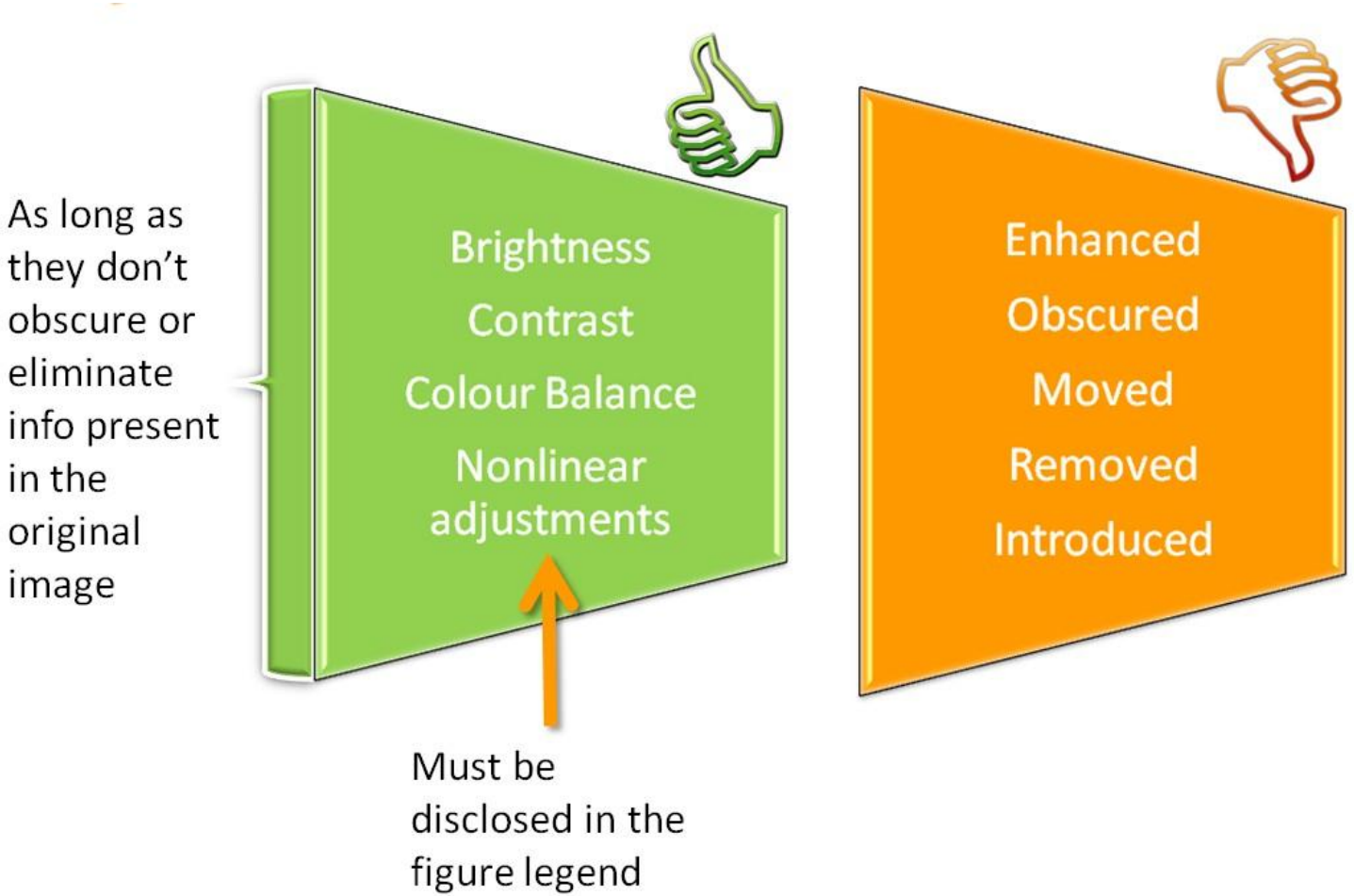
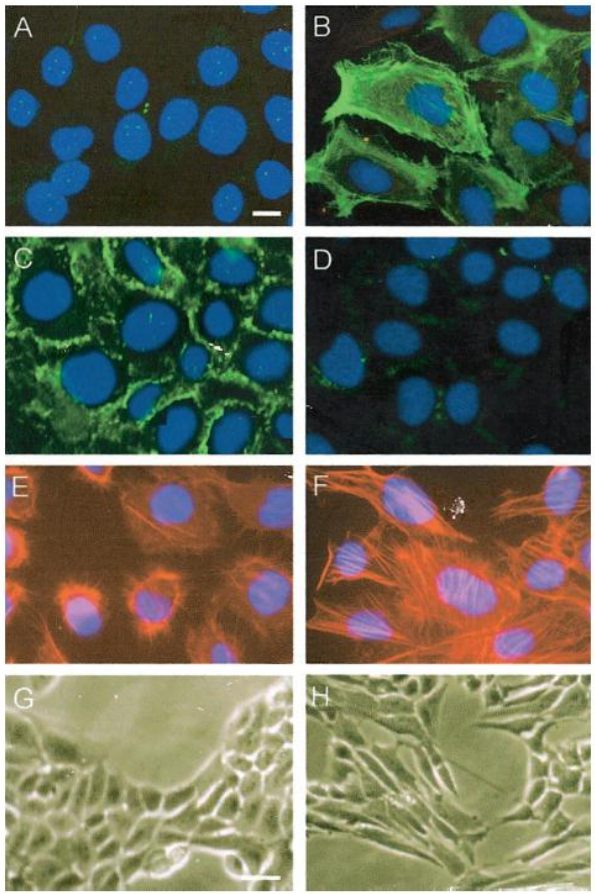


Figure Manipulation

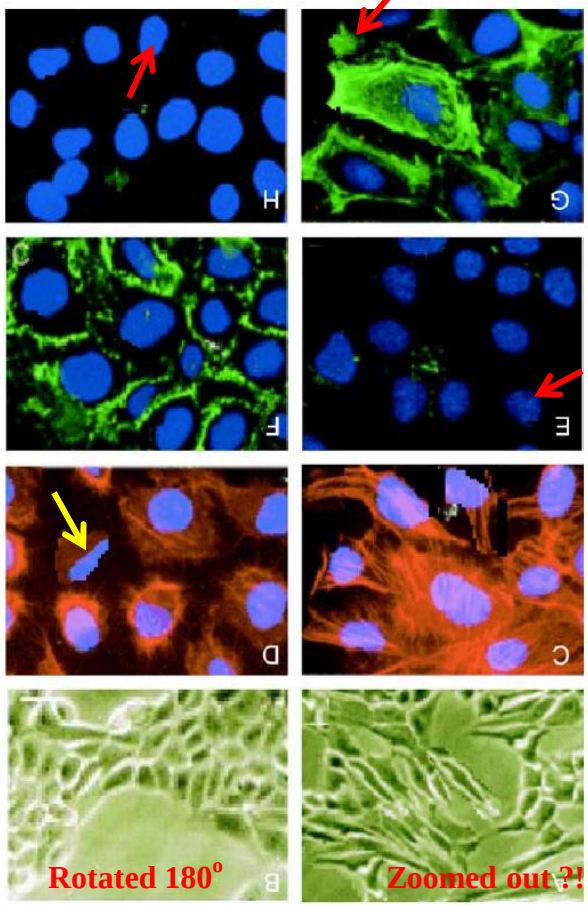
Example - Different authors and reported experiments

Am J Pathol, 2001

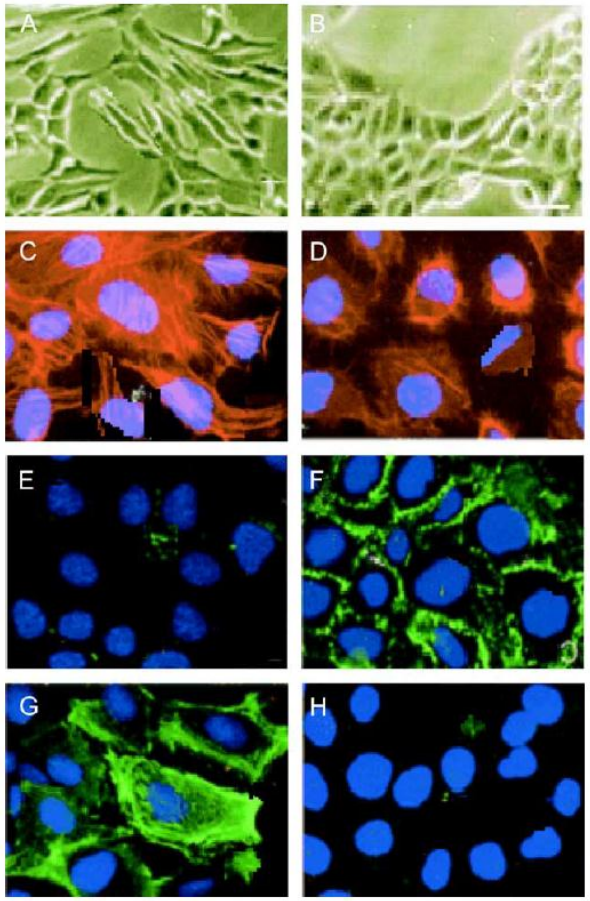


Worked on, added to, becomes:

Rotated 180°



Life Sci, 2004



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- Petey Young. Writing and Presenting in English. The Rosetta Stone of Science. Elsevier 2006
- EDANZ Editing training materials. 2006
- Jullian Eastoe. Co-editor, Journal of Colloid and Interface Science
- Peter Thrower. Editor-in-chief, Carbon
- Roel Prins. Editor-in-chief, Journal of Catalysis
- Nigel Cook. Editor-in-chief, Ore Geology Reviews.
- Frans P. Nijkamp, Journal of Ethnopharmacology
- Wilfred CG Peh. Editor, Singapore Medical Journal
- Malcolm W. Kennedy. Professor, Institue of Biomedical and Life Sciences, University of Glasgow, UK

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Further reading for you

- Mark Ware Consulting Ltd, Publising and E-learning Consultancy. Scientific publishing in transition: an overview of current developments. Sept., 2006. www.stm-assoc.org/storage/Scientific_Publishing_in_Transition_White_Paper.pdf
- Ethical Guildlines for Journal Publishing, Elsevier. http://www.elsevier.com/wps/find/intro.cws_home/ethical_guidelines#Duties%20of%20Authors
- International Committee of Medical Journal Editors. Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals: Writing and Editing for Biomedical Publication. Feb. 2006
- http://www.publicationethics.org.uk/guidelines
- http://www.icmje.org/index.html#ethic
- http://www.onlineethics.org/
- http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/
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- George D. Gopen, Judith A. Swan. The science of Scientific Writing. American Scientist (Nov-Dec 1990), Vol. 78, 550-558.
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- Peter Young. Writing and Presenting in English. The Rosetta Stone of Science. Elsevier 2006.
- Philip Campbell. Editor-in-Chief, Nature. Futures of scientific communication and outreach. June 2007.
- http://scholarlyoa.com/2012/12/06/bealls-list-of-predatory-publishers-2013/
- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kges3mN5rDk&feature=youtube_gdata_player
- Yaoqi ZHOU. Recipe for a quality Scientific Paper: Fulfill Readers' and Reviewers' Expectations. http://sparks.informatics.iupui.edu
- EDANZ Editing training materials. 2006 http://liwenbianji.com, http://www.edanzediting.com/english.html
- Anthony Newman, Ethics White Paper http://www.ifcc.org/media/161822/IFCC%20Ethics%20in%20Science.pdf

Questions?

Or for questions later, please contact a.newman@elsevier.com

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