

Technical Paper Writing Research Forum Talk 15th February 2024



Need to write a Research / Technical Paper



Ideally it is

- To communicate and share the new discoveries in Engineering or technology to improve the quality of life and for providing better human care.
- Make contributions to society

More often is

- to be advance in the field
- to get the research funding/grants
- to get the tenure
- to improve the scientific impact of institute / individual
- recognition by peers





Is it a Skill to write Technical Papers?

- Many papers are badly written
- Good writing is a skill you can learn
- You will get more brownie points (more papers accepted, Cited in google scholar, Scopus indexed, etc.)
- Your ideas will have more impact
- You will have better ideas





Global View of Publication in Science & Engg.

Approximately 35,000 journals published regularly

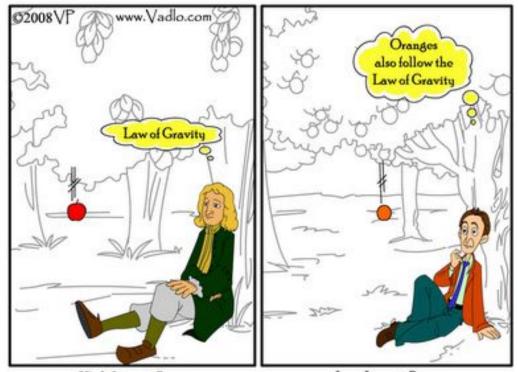
22,000 of them are SCI, Web of Science, UGC or Scopus abstracted

Total number of papers published annually exceeds 2.5 million

Over 50% are never cited by any one – Why?



Publishing in High Impact Journals-It's the idea which matters



High Impact Paper

Low Impact Paper



From Good Research to Good Writing..

- Quality is state of mind
- Good science lead to great findings, and
- Great findings need to be reported in the best possible way to the world



A Good Paper Starts with Good Plan





A Good Paper Starts with Good Plan



- Relate the Paper with the scope of the meeting or Journal
- Explain some sort of methodology
- Present useful, technically sound information
- Support your conclusions with solid evidence







Why Read Papers?

- So you know what's happening
- Avoid reinventing the wheel
- does happen commonly,
- too many wheels already exists
- Find interesting research topics



Why not to Read Papers?



- Cannot read everything
- Should not read everything
- Can suppress innovation
- once you see solutions using a particular theme,
 often hard to think differently



Read or not to Read - Confusion!!

- Read, of course !!
- Know what's important
- Know what can be ignored without significant loss of information





Read a Technical Paper

- Read once-Read write!
- Take notes as you read: Develop a system of underlining, marking, and/or paraphrasing in the margins that is meaningful to you.



What to Read?

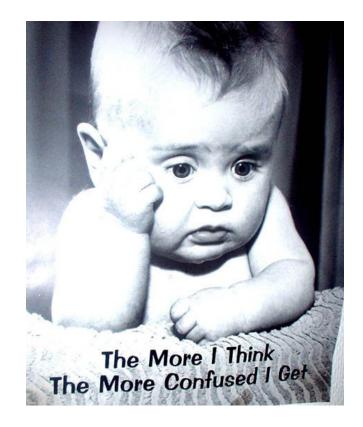
- Major conferences / Reputed Journals of recent years or a few years behind, but still can be useful
- Tech reports from active research groups
- Survey / overview papers
- White Papers
- more technical IEEE Personal Communications, ...
- newsletters ACM SIGCOMM, ACM SIGMOBILE, ...







Where do we Begin?





Types of Technical Writings

- Review Articles
- Research Reports
- Research Projects for Funding
- Patents
- Dissertation of Thesis





Types of Technical Writings: Research Articles

- Ultimate Product of Intellectual Pursuit
- Report on research findings that are
- Sound (Valid)
- Previously unknown (Novel and original)
- Add new understanding, observation, proofs
- It has required structure and style IMRaD (Introduction, Material, Results and Discussion).



Attributes of a Good Manuscript

- Concise but powerful
- Story like
- To the point
- Free from grammatical and stylistic errors
- Recognizing contributions of others
- Technically correct



Remember: Four Questions of writing Manuscript

- What is the?
 INTRODUCTION
- What did you do?
 METHODS
- What did you find? RESULTS
- What does that means? DISCUSSION



The Writing Process..

1. Outline

2. Draft

3. Revise

4. Edit





Creating an Outline

- Research: Perform initial research to learn about your chosen topic.
- Brainstorm: List all the ideas that you want to include in your paper.
- Organize: Group related ideas together.
- Order: Arrange material in subsections from general to specific or from abstract to concrete.
- Label: Create main and sub headings.



Choosing Your Topic..



- Breadth. You may need to start broad and let your research take you narrower.
- Originality. Choose a topic that will allow you to contribute to the field, rather than just regurgitate facts.
- Sources. On the other hand, also choose a topic that has scholarly grounding.



Narrowing Your Topic...

- Focus on a specific TYPE or CLASS
- Focus on a particular PLACE or REGION
- Focus on a certain TIME PERIOD
- Focus on a certain ASPECT
- Social, legal, medical, ethical, biological, psychological, economic, political, philosophical, etc.
- Focus on a specific POPULATION
- _o Gender, age, occupation, ethnicity, nationality, educational attainment, species, etc.
- Focus on a RELATIONSHIP with two or more topics
- COMBINE different kinds of focuses



Narrowing Your Topic - Brainstorming Strategies

- List
- Map
- Free-write

- Tour the library.
- Locate sources.







Outline - Tips

- Begin early! A strong, detailed outline is a crucial step of the writing process.
- Refer to your outline often. A strong outline provides a consistent backbone during the writing process.
- Be as specific as possible. This will be your guide throughout the entire writing process.



Outline - Tips

- Avoid having too many subheadings. This may indicate that you can further narrow the topic of your paper.
- Don't be afraid to change your outline. Further research may provide additional information or counterpoints.
- Allow yourself enough time to make changes. Attempting a complete overhaul of your paper the night before it's due is both frustrating and often futile.



What's in a Research Paper? - Basic Manuscript Outline

- Abstract
- Introduction
- Motivation
- Literature Survey / Review
- Proposed Idea & Methodologies
- Implementation Steps
- Result Analysis & Discussion
- Conclusions
- Future Work



Abstract

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- State paper objectives and scope
- Describe methods used
- Summarize results
- State principal conclusions



Abstract: Most Critical Part of a article / Manuscript

- Should be informative, indicative and reflects the main 'story' of the article.
- The only chance you have to get the reader's attention.
- Should be crisp, concise and accurate.
- Gives the quick idea of the contents (Stand alone).
- What and how was done
- Provide a brief conclusions
- I generally write abstract at the end
- The detailed information must be present in the body text, not in abstract.





Introduction

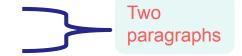


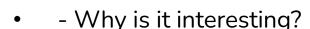
- Describe the author's contribution
- Clearly describe the nature and scope of the problem investigated.
- Review pertinent literature
- State your method of investigation and your justification



The Introduction (1 Page)

- Describe the problem
 - What is the broader context?
 - What is the particular problem?





- State your contributions
 - What is new? (novelty)
 - Why is it useful? (features of your solution)
 - How do you know? (evaluation)
- Assume reader is general attendee of target conference





Materials and Methods

- Experimental / Case Study Papers
- Purpose of experiments / case study
- Describe apparatus / experimental procedures
- Present data and observations
- Inferences



Materials and Methods

- Write the methods section first because it is the easiest to write.
- Provide enough details for competent researchers to repeat the experiment (Who, What, When, Where, How, and Why?)
- Start writing when experiments still in progress
- Sufficient information must be provided for reproducibility
- Study design-new methods must be described in detail
- Algorithms / Techniques / Design Strategy
- Statistical analysis and data collection
- Descriptive subheadings





Results



- Use descriptive headings that concisely state the results.
- Data representation-concise and accurate.
- Short and easy to understand
- Consistent with the abstract and introduction
- Give tables and figures where needed
- With sufficient information so that minimum text is required.
- Don't repeat information in graphics and text.



Results



- Appropriate numbering of figures and table mentioned in the text.
- Use significant figures where required.
- Avoid speculations and over discussion.
- Avoid using words such as proves, confirmed, removed all doubts, etc.
 Remember science is dynamic and ever changing.



Discussion

- Hardest section to write, but it is also the most important.
- Use descriptive headings that concisely summarize the interpretation of the results.
- Answer the question posed in introduction
- Correlation of your finding with the existing knowledge
- Discrepancies between new results and previously reported results.



Conclusion



- Identify key findings and application
- Should not be a summary of the work done abstract is doing fine with that.
- Consistent with experimental and introduction



References (IEEE / Springer Formats)



Abstract:

• Beharry, S.; Bragg, P.D. Properties of Bound Inorganic Phosphate on Bovine Mitochondrial F1F0-ATP Synthase. *J. Bioenerg. Biomembr.* **2021**, **33**, **35-42**

Book:

• Beall, H.; Trimbur, J. A Short Guide to Writing about Chemistry, 2nd ed.; Longman: New York, 2021; pp 17-32



References (IEEE / Springer Formats)

Journals:

• Labaree, D.C.; Reynolds, T.Y.; Hochberg, R.B. Estradiol-16a-carboxylic Acid Esters as Locally Active Estrogens. J. Med. Chem. 2001, 44, 1802-1814.

Encyclopedias:

• Diagnostic Reagents. Ullmann's Encyclopedia of Industrial Chemistry, 5th ed; VCH: Weinheim, Germany, 1985, p. 196



Starting Your Paper

Begin with the conclusions

- Describe how you got the results
- Describe the process and methodology
- Present the theory that explains the process
- Write simple Sentences
- Use Common Terminology





Ethics

- Plagiarism
- Duplicate manuscripts
- Unnecessary self citation
- Redundant publication
- Author conflicts of interest



"Welcome to the co-author's party!
You're number twenty-one!"



Plagiarism





Plagiarism Vs. Paraphrase

Direct quote from research:

 "Japan's beautiful Mount Fuji last erupted in 1707 and is now classified as dormant. Dormant volcanoes show no signs of activity, but they may erupt in the future."

Non-plagiarized paraphrase:

 Mount Fuji, the highest mountain in Japan, is actually a dormant volcano. Dormant means that it is not active. The last time Mount Fuji erupted was in 1707, and there is always the possibility of a future eruption.



Plagiarism Tools

Paid / Licensed Plagiarism Tools

- Turnitin
- iThenticate
- URKUND

Open Source Plagiarism Tools - Link



Rules of Thumb about Grammatical Issues

 leaving out a single comma can change the meaning



 If you didn't hyphenate it, it would be ambiguous







Use the active voice

The passive voice is "respectable" but it DEADENS your paper. Avoid it at all costs.

the reader NO YES It can be seen that... We can see that... We ran 34 tests 34 tests were run We wanted to retain these These properties were thought desirable properties "We" = the It might be thought that You might think this would authors this would be a type error be a type error

"We" =

you and

"You" = the reader



Use Simple & Direct Language

NO	YES
The object under study was displaced horizontally	The ball moved sideways
On an annual basis	Yearly
Endeavour to ascertain	Find out
It could be considered that the speed of storage reclamation left something to be desired	The garbage collector was really slow







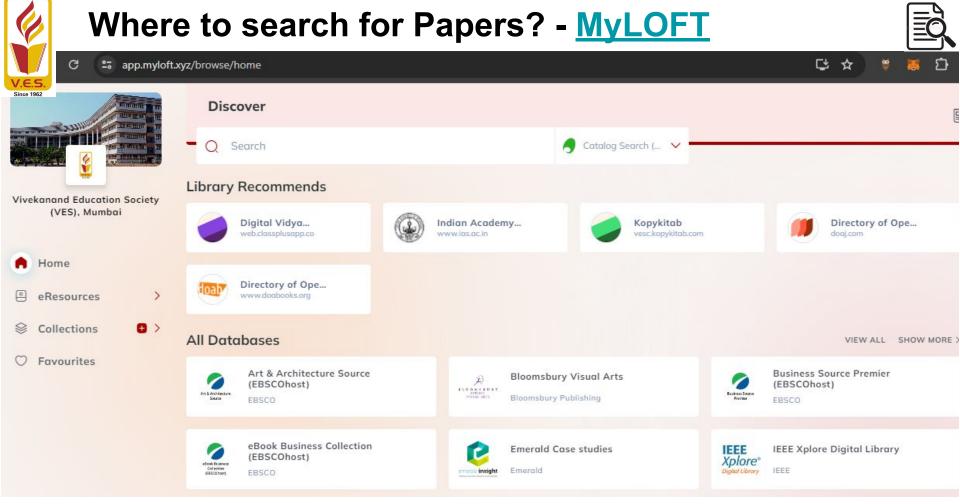




Where to search for Papers?



- My Library on Finger Tips (MyLOFT) https://app.myloft.xyz/user/login?institute=cl889vws2e4za0a21rrzunoaa
 - Springer
 - ScienceDirect
 - o IEEE
- <u>IEEExplore</u>
- Google Scholar
- <u>CiteSeerX</u>
- ScienceDirect

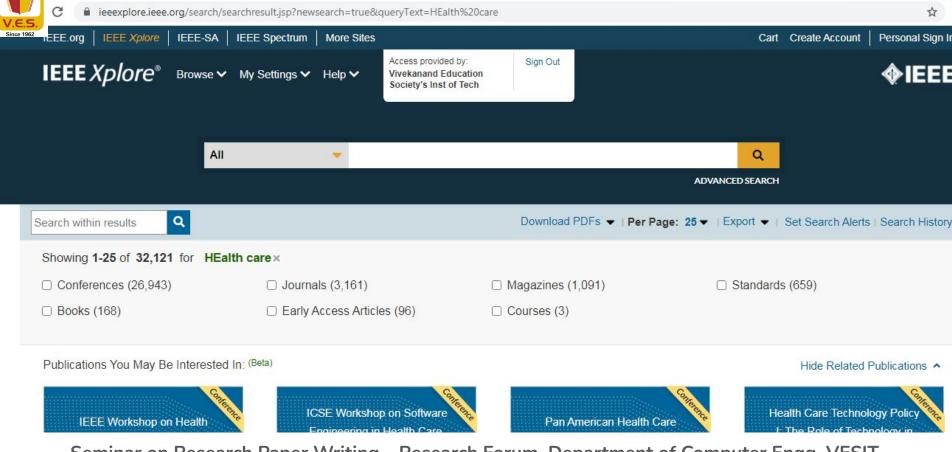


Seminar on Research Paper Writing – Research Forum, Department of Computer Engg. VESIT



Where to search for Papers? - IEEExplore

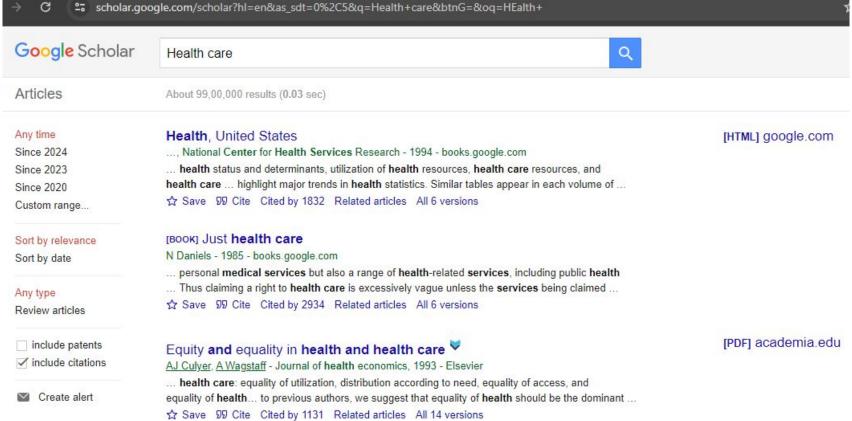


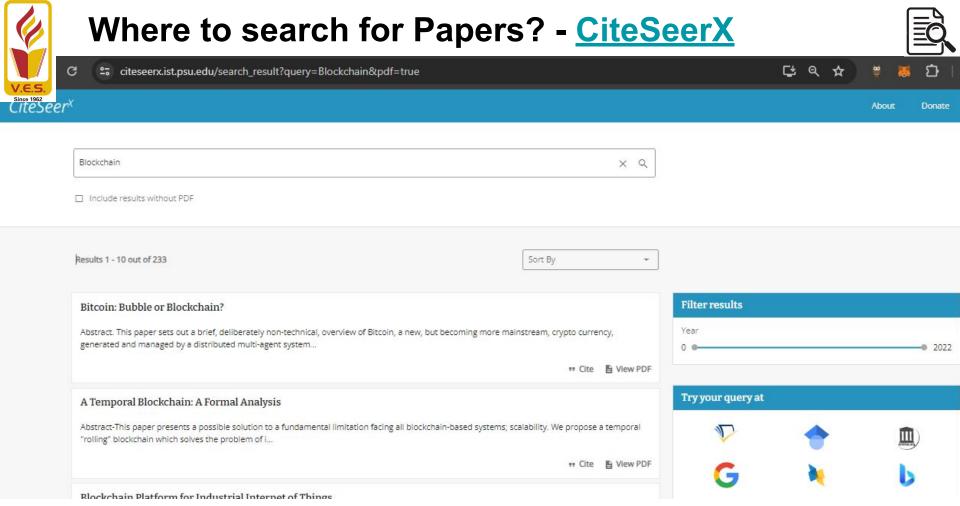




Where to search for Papers? - Google Scholar



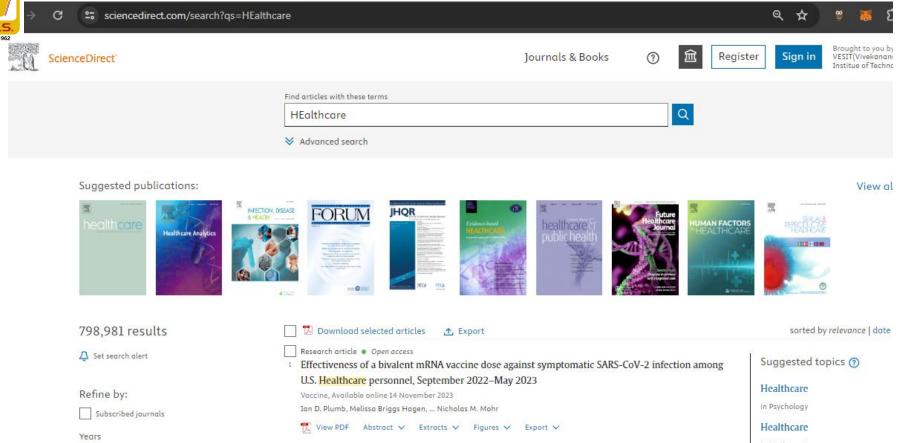






Where to search for Papers? - ScienceDirect







Where to Publish Papers?



- Conferences
 - <u>IEEE Conferences</u>
 - Springer Upcoming Conferences
 - EasyChair Smart Call For Papers
- Call for Book Chapters via Mails
- Research.com
 - Search Ranking of Journals & Conferences
- <u>List of UGC Approved Journals &</u>

Conferences

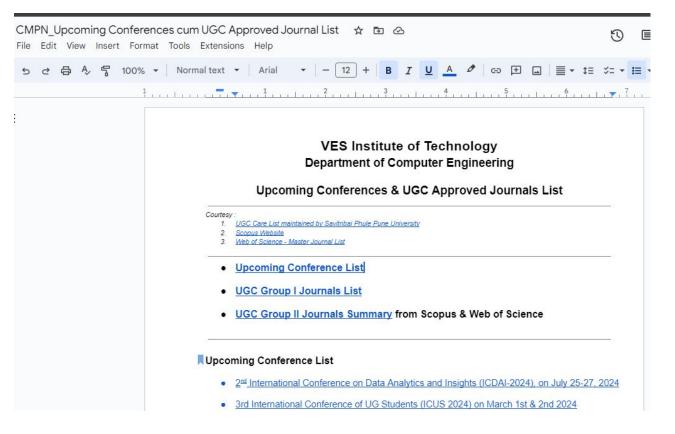
- Journals
 - Reputed Journals
 - SJR Science Journal Ranking
 - Scopus Indexed Journals
 - Fake Journals
 - Eg : https://www.ijsdr.org/
 - <u>Inderscience Journals</u> Peer Review Journals
 - Open Access Journals
 - Call for Journals via Mails



Where to Publish Papers?

List of UGC Approved Journals & Conferences

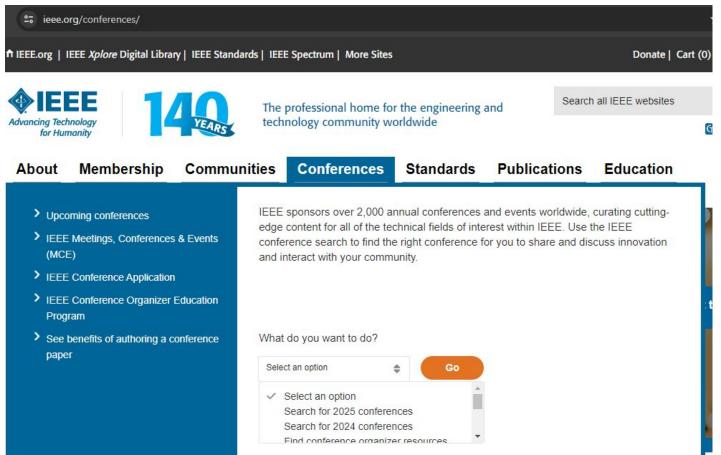






Where to Publish Papers? **IEEE Conferences**

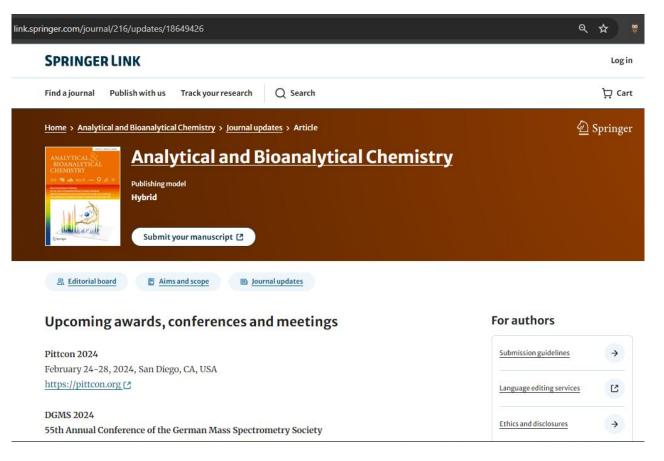






Where to Publish Papers? Springer Conferences

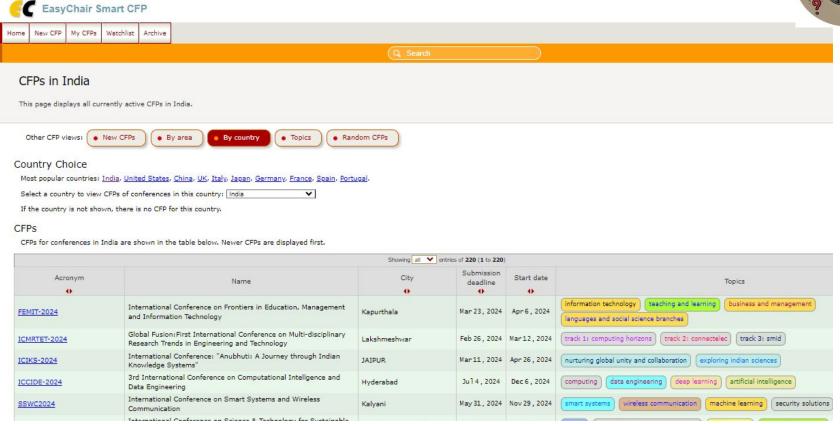






Where to Publish Papers? EasyChair Smart CFP







How to Search for Reputed Journals?

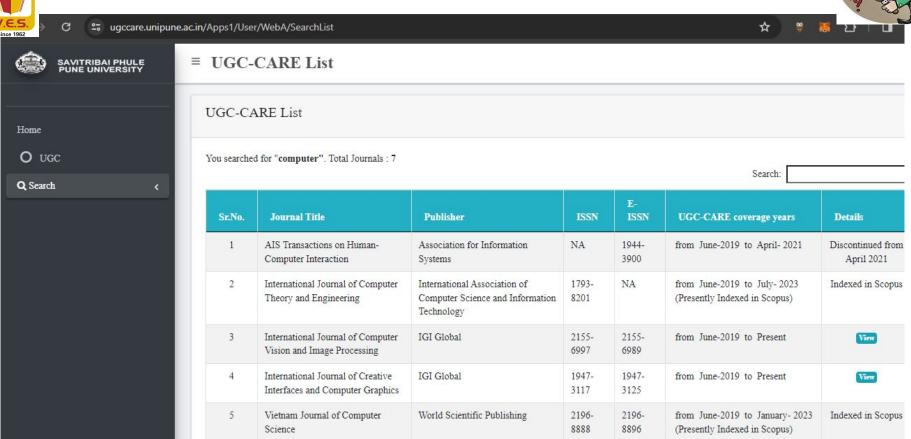


- 1. UGC approved Journals
- 2. Web of Science WoS Journals
- 3. Scopus Indexed journals.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1VU107bptSLAEY42ov2UbRkLgf04qY0XlYDsOuSFPpVk/edit



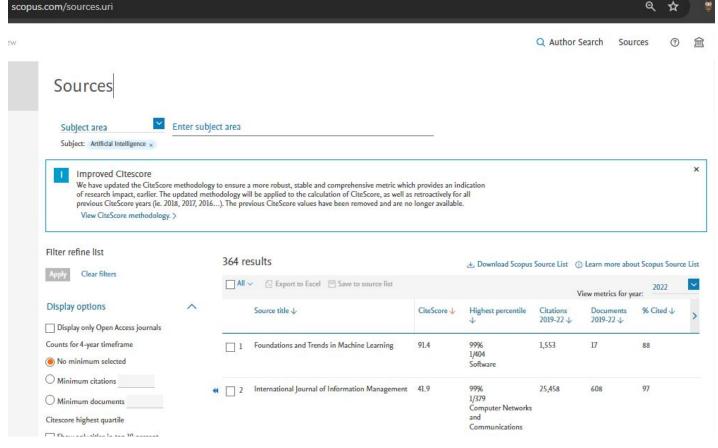
Where to Publish Papers? <u>UGC Approved Journals</u>





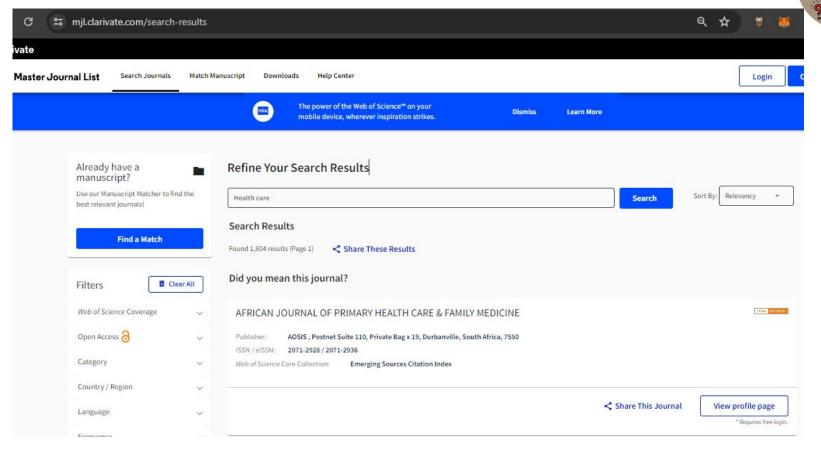
Where to Publish Papers? Scopus Indexed







Where to Publish Papers? Web of Science Indexed





How to Search for Reputed Journals?





https://docs.google.com/document/d/1VU107bptSLAEY42ov2UbRkLgf04gY0XlYDsOuSFPpVk/edit



How to Publish a Research Paper in International Journal



Further Reading:

- https://library.stonybrook.edu/scholarly-communication/know-journal-legitimate/
- https://www.ilovephd.com/how-to-identify-fake-journals/



Special Thanks

Dr. Nupur Giri, HOD, Computer Engineering

Dr. Gresha Bhatia, Dy. HOD, Computer Engineering

