

# Of Scientific Publications and Scientific Integrity

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*Scientific Methodology and (em)Pirical / ex)Pperimental) Evaluation*

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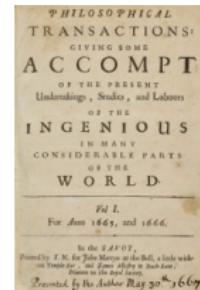
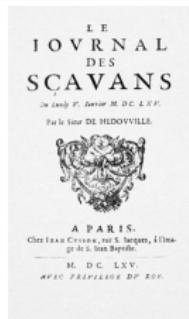
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- Screening for obvious errors: Seek&Blastn
- Correcting scientific literature

# Journals as a way to build Knowledge

A long story started in 1665

- Paris : *Journal des sçavans*.
- Londres : *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society*,



Aims:

- written by and for specialists.
- contribution to the scientific discussion.
- standing on the shoulders of giants: discovering truth by building on previous discoveries.

# Example of a publication in 1944

[Avery et al., 1944]

## **STUDIES ON THE CHEMICAL NATURE OF THE SUBSTANCE INDUCING TRANSFORMATION OF PNEUMOCOCCAL TYPES**

### **INDUCTION OF TRANSFORMATION BY A DESOXYRIBONUCLEIC ACID FRACTION ISOLATED FROM PNEUMOCOCCUS TYPE III**

**By OSWALD T. AVERY, M.D., COLIN M. MacLEOD, M.D., AND  
MACLYN McCARTY,\* M.D.**

*(From the Hospital of The Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research)*

#### PLATE 1

(Received for publication, November 1, 1943)

Biologists have long attempted by chemical means to induce in higher organisms predictable and specific changes which thereafter could be transmitted in series as hereditary characters. Among microorganisms the most striking example of inheritable and specific alterations in cell structure and function that can be experimentally induced and are reproducible under well defined and adequately controlled conditions is the transformation of specific types of Pneumococcus. This phenomenon was first described by Griffith (1) who succeeded in transforming an attenuated and non-encapsulated (P)

# Example of a publication in 1944

[Avery et al., 1944]

The original observations of Griffith were later confirmed by Neufeld and Levinthal (2), and by Baurhenn (3) abroad, and by Dawson (4) in this laboratory. Subse-

Another interpretation of the phenomenon has been suggested by Stanley (28) who has drawn the analogy between the activity of the transforming agent and that of a virus. On the other hand, Murphy (29) has compared the causative agents of fowl tumors with the transforming principle of Pneumococcus. He has suggested that both these groups of agents be termed "transmissible mutagens" in order to differentiate them from the virus group. Whatever may prove to be the correct interpretation, these differences in viewpoint indi-

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## Example of a publication Jan. 2022

[Miller and Wang, 2022]

# Ostrich eggshell beads reveal 50,000-year-old social network in Africa

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-021-04227-2>Jennifer M. Miller<sup>1,2</sup> & Yiming V. Wang<sup>1,2</sup>

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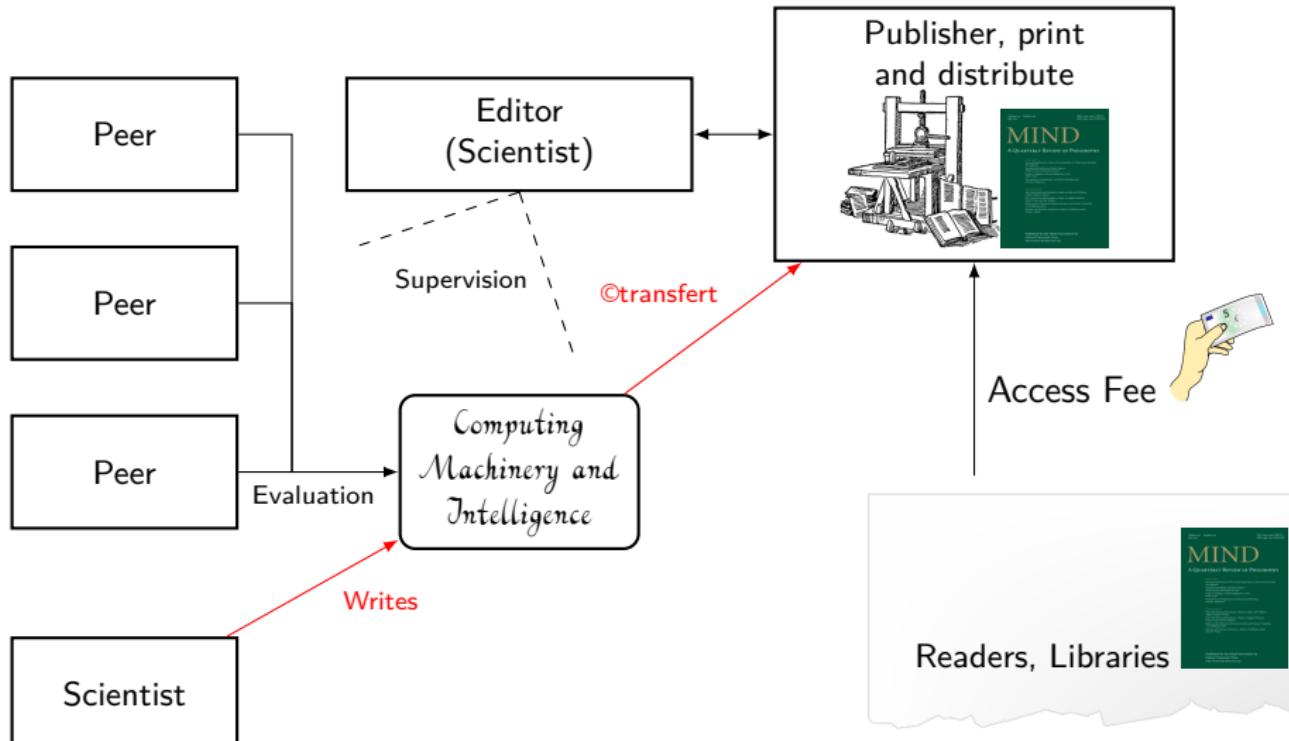
Open access

 Check for updates

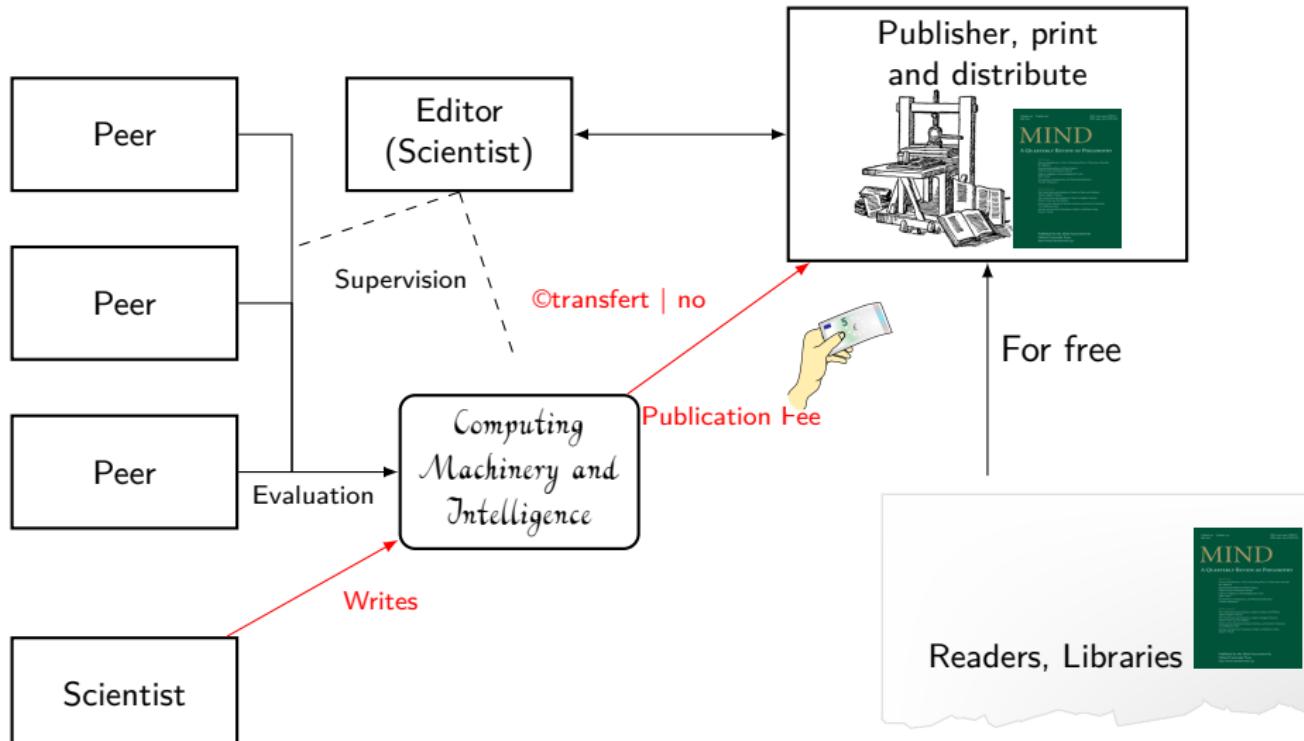
Humans evolved in a patchwork of semi-connected populations across Africa<sup>1,2</sup>; understanding when and how these groups connected is critical to interpreting our present-day biological and cultural diversity. Genetic analyses reveal that eastern and southern African lineages diverged sometime in the Pleistocene epoch, approximately 350–70 thousand years ago (ka)<sup>3,4</sup>, however, little is known about the

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# Publication process

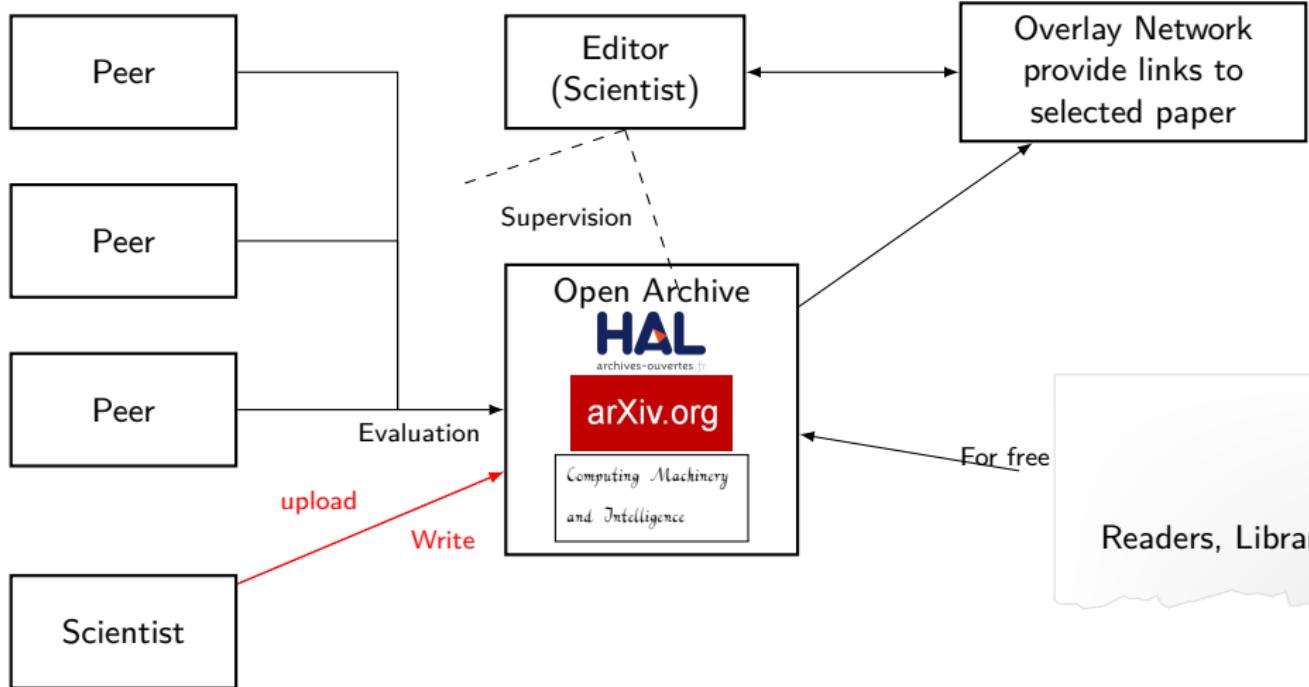


# Publication : Gold Open Access





# Overlay Journal : les épi-journaux [épisciences.org](http://episciences.org)



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# Where?

## Possible choices

- ① Journal, international / national
- ② Conference International / national
- ③ Workshop, Symposium,... (with or without proceedings)
- ④ Report – Preprint [HAL](#), [arXiv](#)

## Ranking

- Commission
- Classement national [Brésil](#) / [Australie](#)
- Classement international

# Different process

## Journals

- Regular submission
- Call for papers numéro spécial,
- Evaluation Accepted, Minor revisions, Major revisions, Rejected
- Version finale

## Conferences

- Call for papers, Instructions to authors
- Evaluation, Rebutal
- Acceptation/Refus

# How to choose

**Co-author ship ⇒ team discussion**

multi-critères

- Vitesse de diffusion (rapport de recherche)
- Recrutement (conférence nationale)
- Reconnaissance (Journal)
- ...

# Beware plagiarism!

- for ever

## Notice of Violation of IEEE Publication Principles

**"Efficient Implementation of QRD-RLS Algorithm using Hardware-Software Co-design"**  
by Napur Lodha, Nivesh Rai, Aarthy Krishnamurthy, Hrishikesh Venkataraman  
in the 2009 IEEE International Symposium on Parallel & Distributed Processing (IPDPS 2009),  
2009, pp. 1 – 4.

After careful and considered review of the content and authorship of this paper by a duly constituted expert committee, this paper has been found to be in violation of IEEE's Publication Principles.

This paper contains significant portions of original text from the paper cited below. The original text was reused with insufficient attribution (including appropriate references to the original author(s) and/or paper title) and without permission from all coauthors.

Due to the nature of this violation, reasonable effort should be made to remove all past references to this paper, and future references should be made to the following article:

**"Hardware-Software Co-design of QRD-RLS Algorithm with Microblaze Soft Core Processor"**

by Napur Lodha, Nivesh Rai, Rahul Dubey, Hrishikesh Venkataraman  
in the Third International Conference on Information Systems, Technology and Management  
(ICISTM-09), 2009, pp. 197 – 207.

# Information Systems for science



## Increasing number of information sources:

- Publishers repositories
- Open archive and dedicated social networks



## Various characteristics and goals:

- free vs toll acces, Peer review vs non-Peer review
- Spreading knowledge / State of the art / Scientometrics



## Scientific publications are at the heart of the system:

- Ideally: Knowledge diffusion.
- In practice: (Ac)Counting unit.



# Ranking Publications, Journals, Scientists and Univ.

## Librarian

What are the must-buys for my readers?

## Students

Where to study? With whom? In which country? Where shall I submit my research?

## Scientist

Where shall I submit my research?

## Government

Who deserve investment? What for? Which scientific field?

## Research Administration

Who shall I hire? Who deserve a promotion?

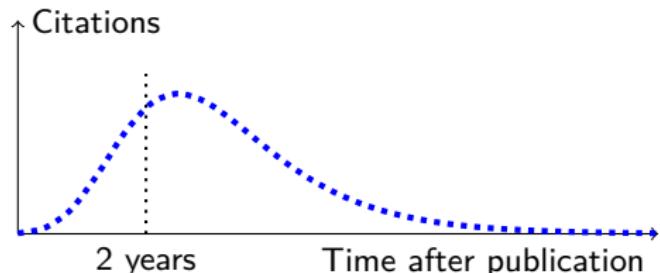
## Publisher

Which journal? At what price?

# Ranking scientists and journals: examples

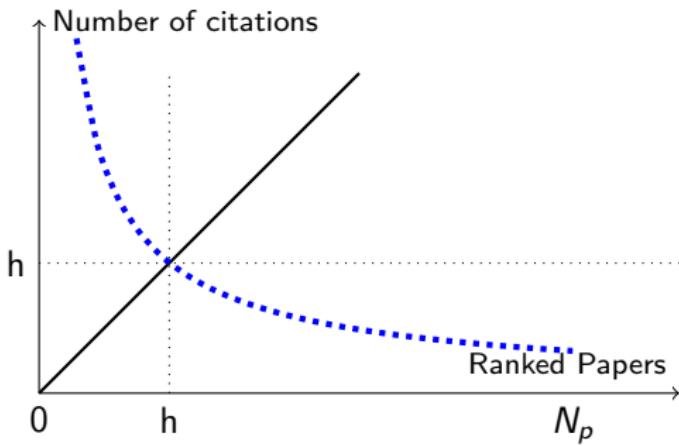
## Definition (Impact Factor)

Average number of citations to papers published by the journal over the last two years. Computed since 1975.



## Definition (h-index [Hirsch, 2005])

A scientist has index  $h$  if  $h$  of his or her  $N_p$  papers have at least  $h$  citations each and the other  $(N_p - h)$  papers have  $\leq h$  citations each.



# Other Funny Numbers.

## Citation Graph. 1

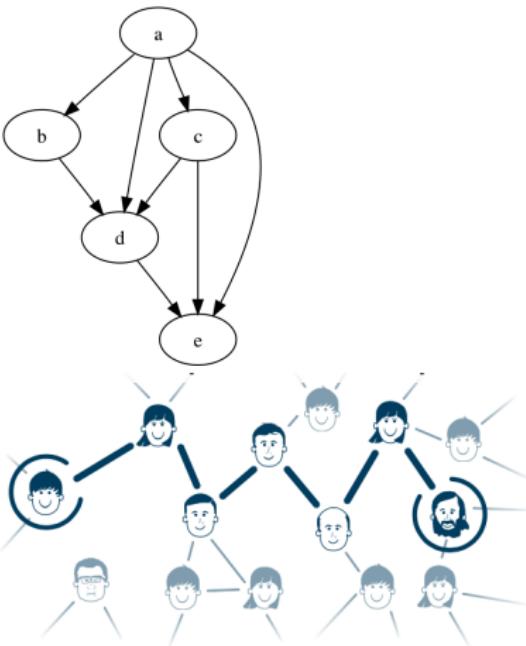
- Paper that cites other papers
-  Google Scholar

## Other index

- $h_5$ -index,  $g$ -index,  $h_m$ -index,  $a$ -index,  $hg$ -index,  $ar$ -index...

## Co-authors graph

- "Erdős number" the collaborative distance between an author and P. Erdős.
- "Dijkstra number" the collaborative distance between an author and E. W. Dijkstra.



# ARWU

Academic Ranking of World Universities (Shanghai ranking) since 2003

Table from Wikipedia:

Criterion	Indicator	Weighting	Source
Quality of education	(1) Alumni as Nobel laureates & Fields Medalists Weighting	10%	Official websites of Nobel Laureates & Fields Medalists
Quality of faculty	(2) Staff as Nobel Laureates & Fields Medalists. (3) Highly cited researchers in 21 broad subject categories	20%	Official websites of Nobel Laureates & Fields Medalists
Research output	(4) Papers in Nature and Science. (5) Papers indexed in Science Citation Index (...)	20%	Citation index
Per capita performance	(6) Per capita academic performance of an institution	10%	—

You are the Dean:

What should you do to improve your ranking?

# Quantitative rules.

2015 (not true any more): En France...

- *Publiant* : au moins 1 publication par an, ou 2 publications de rang A sur la période.
- *Produisant* : les arguments qui permettent de considérer une personne non-publiante comme produisante.

... elsewhere

- "at least one international publication per year"
- Rules for defence (MS Thesis, PhD thesis)

# Bonus for publication – AEF info – Dépêche n°588621 – 04/10/2018

**Exemples de primes à la publication d'un article en business school** (en euros, rémunération nette, chiffres 2018) :

Étoiles des revues	Primes versées par 8 Business schools françaises classées par le <i>Financial Times</i>							
	BS 1	BS 2	BS 3	BS 4	BS 5	BS 6	BS 7	BS 8
*	1 500	1 000	500	350	-	1 000	1 500	800
**	3 000	2 000	2 000	750	2 500	2 000	4 500	1 500
***	4 500	5 000	10 000	4 000	5 000	3 000	7 500	5 000
****	6 000	10 000	15 000	12 000	10 000	5 000	12 000	10 000
Prime moyenne	3 750	4 500	6 875	4 275	4 375	2 750	6 375	4 325

# Funding rules: SIGAPS [Gingras and Khelfaoui, 2021]

SIGAPS (Système d'Interrogation, de Gestion et d'Analyse des Publications Scientifiques). Gouvernemental funding for French Univ. Hospital according to SIGAPS Points.

## Journals ranking according to impact factor

Points are given to publications:

Mark	Rank	points
A	top 10%, (< 10%)	8
B	10% < ... < 25%	6
C	25% < ... < 50%	4
D	50% < ... < 75%	3
E	> 75%	2
NC	in PubMed but not in WoS	1

## Per author according to position

Publication point to be multiplied by:

factor	author position
4	First and Last authors
3	Second author
2	Third and before last authors
1	others

## Point value

In 2017 1 point is worth 648 € per year for 4 years.

## Exercise

How much will the gouv. give to your hospital if are first author of a *Nature* publication?

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# Information Systems for science – 3 types of scientometrics services



## Scopus vs Web of Science

- Fee based – Run by Private companies
- selected venues – Peer reviewed only
- Homemade databases of curated meta-data
- Coverage problem



## Google Scholar

- Scrapping the web
- Access for Free



## New comers: Dimensions.ai – OpenAlex

- Open meta-data provided by Crossref
- Fee based tool
- Provide curation and counting



# Citation Indexes for Science

[Garfield, 1955]

*In this paper I propose a bibliographic system for science literature that can eliminate the uncritical citation of fraudulent, incomplete, or obsolete data by making it possible for the conscientious scholar to be aware of criticisms of earlier papers.*

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R. K. Merton letter to E. Garfield, August 3, 1974, RKMP 168.5 – reported by [Csiszar, 2020]

*Watch out for goal displacement: Whenever an indicator comes to be used in the reward system of an organization or institutional domain, there develop tendencies to manipulate the indicator so that it no longer indicates what it once did.*

# Citation Indexes for Science

[Garfield, 1955]

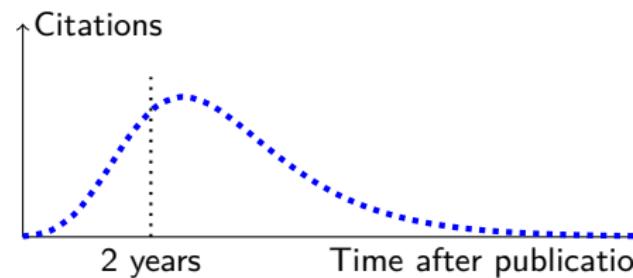
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*Watch out for goal displacement: Whenever an indicator comes to be used in the reward system of an organization or institutional domain, there develop tendencies to manipulate the indicator so that it no longer indicates what it once did.*

Computed yearly since 1975: *Impact Factor*

Year  $y$ : Average number of citations received that year to papers published by the journal over the last two years ( $y-1, y-2$ ).



# Citation Indexes for Science

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*Watch out for goal displacement: Whenever an indicator comes to be used in the reward system of an organization or institutional domain, there develop tendencies to manipulate the indicator so that it no longer indicates what it once did.*

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If it should turn out that over the next 10 to 20 years goal displacement does occur with the Science Citation Index, then we will simply have to abandon its uses as an indicator of quality, etc.

# Let's try

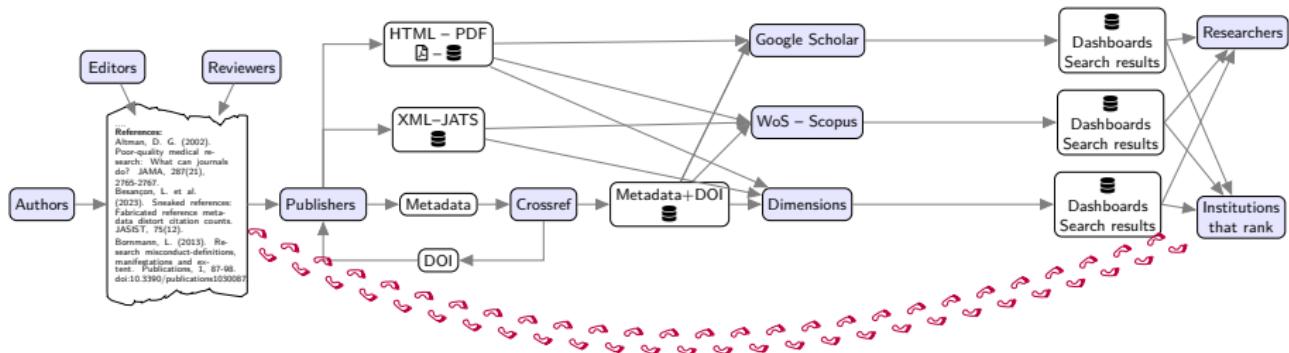
Compare 3 systems

- [Google Scholar](https://scholar.google.com): <https://scholar.google.com>
- [Web of Science](https://access.clarivate.com): <https://access.clarivate.com>
- [Dimensions.ai](https://www.dimensions.ai): <https://www.dimensions.ai>

# Information Systems for science

Scientific publications are at the heart science:

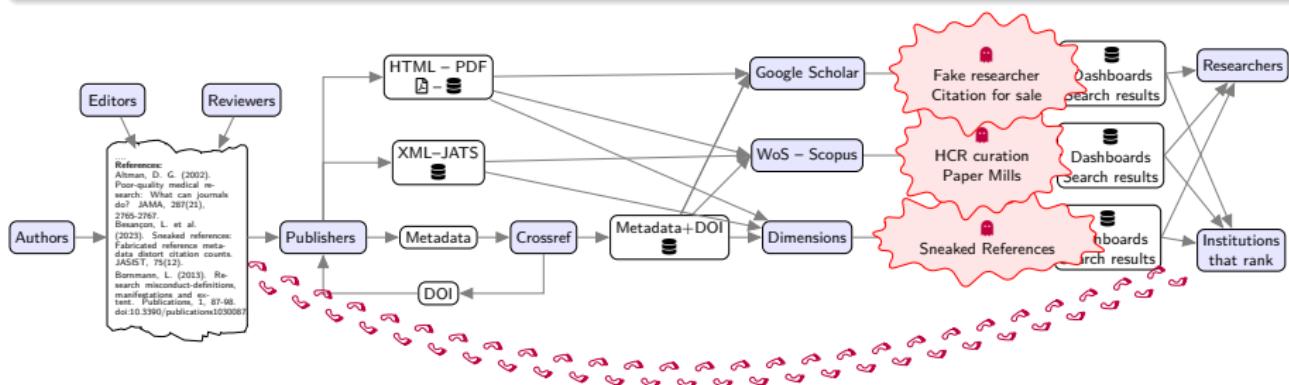
- Ideally: Knowledge diffusion.
- In practice: (Ac)Counting unit [?].



## Information Systems for science

Scientific publications are at the heart science:

- Ideally: Knowledge diffusion.
  - In practice: (Ac)Counting unit [?].



# Paper Mills – Review Mills

China's Publication Bazaar: [Hvistendahl, 2013]

Authorship for sale \$1600 à \$26600

Citation to buy in GS [Ibrahim et al., 2024]

*sold in bulk for either 300 USD per 50 citations or 500 USD per 100 citations*

Review Mills :[Oviedo-García, 2024]

Template usage in peer review reports at MDPI:

*pid_ma15144828*reviewer_5	*pid_ma15207053*reviewer_1	*pid_ma15238616*reviewer_3	*pid_ma16010188*reviewer_3	*pid_ma16072780*reviewer_1	*pid_ma16124233*reviewer_1
<p>The manuscript entitled "Changes in synthetic soda ash industry and its consequence for environment" presented study using comprehensive literature review approach. The influence of different parameters was studied and analyzed. The manuscript lacks clarity and needs much improvement before further processing. It seems like this paper is directly made from thesis without putting the additional efforts required for writing manuscripts. This reviewer recommends minor editing and resubmits for re-review. Comments: The English writing of the manuscript needs improvement. Therefore, it could benefit greatly from professional editing to improve technical writing and English. Please mention your study limits and suggest some future research topics. In References, the sources are written in different styles. Please update the reference list. It is necessary to bring in accordance with the requirements of the magazine for the design of References. If possible, indicate DOI. The literature can be expanded by studying some of these papers. Prediction of compressive strength of rice husk ash concrete through different machine learning processes. Compressive strength prediction of rice husk ash using multi-physics genetic expression programming. Prediction of compressive strength of rice husk ash concrete through</p>	<p>This paper presents "Bubble evolution under the action of chemical admixture and its effects on concrete properties". The topic is novel and the authors described the topic very well. However, in order to proceed for publication, following major comments should be incorporated. The English writing of the manuscript needs improvement. Therefore, it could benefit greatly from professional editing to improve technical writing and English. Please mention your study limits and suggest some future research topics. In References, the sources are written in different styles. Please update the reference list. It is necessary to bring in accordance with the requirements of the magazine for the design of References. If possible, indicate DOI. The literature can be expanded by studying some of these papers. Prediction of Marshall Flow and Marshall Stability of Asphalt Pavements Using Multi Expression Programming. Evaluation of Moisture Damage Potential in Hot Mix Asphalt Using</p>	<p>The manuscript entitled "Study on Rheological Properties, Modification Mechanism and Optimization Method of Waste PP/SBS Composite Modified Asphalt" presented experimental study. The influence of different parameters was studied and analyzed. The manuscript lacks clarity and needs much improvement before further processing. It seems like this paper is directly made from thesis without putting the additional efforts required for writing manuscripts. This reviewer recommends major editing and resubmits for re-review. Comments: The English writing of the manuscript needs improvement. Therefore, it could benefit greatly from professional editing to improve technical writing and English. Please mention your study limits and suggest some future research topics. In References, the sources are written in different styles. Please update the reference list. It is necessary to bring in accordance with the requirements of the magazine for the design of References. If possible, indicate DOI. The literature can be expanded by studying some of these papers. Predicting Marshall Flow and Marshall Stability of Asphalt Pavements Using Multi Expression Programming. Evaluation of Moisture Damage Potential in Hot Mix Asphalt Using</p>	<p>The manuscript entitled "Laboratory characterization of sustainable Thin Asphalt Overlay mixes with recycled aggregates" presented experimental and statistical study. The influence of different parameters was studied and analyzed. This reviewer recommends major editing and resubmits for re-review. Comments: The English writing of the manuscript needs improvement. Therefore, it could benefit greatly from professional editing to improve technical writing and English. Please mention your study limits and suggest some future research topics. In References, the sources are written in different styles. Please update the reference list. It is necessary to bring in accordance with the requirements of the magazine for the design of References. If possible, indicate DOI. The literature can be expanded by studying some of these papers. Predicting Marshall Flow and Marshall Stability of Asphalt Pavements Using Multi Expression Programming. Evaluation of Moisture Damage Potential in Hot Mix Asphalt Using</p>	<p>The manuscript entitled "Study on the mechanism of modification of construction waste to solidified silt" presented experimental study. The influence of different parameters was studied and analyzed. However, there seems to be little to no novelty in this study. This reviewer recommends major editing and resubmits for re-review. Comments: The English writing of the manuscript needs improvement. Therefore, it could benefit greatly from professional editing to improve technical writing and English. Please mention your study limits and suggest some future research topics. In References, the sources are written in different styles. Please update the reference list. It is necessary to bring in accordance with the requirements of the magazine for the design of References. If possible, indicate DOI. The literature can be expanded by studying some of these papers. Predicting Marshall Flow and Marshall Stability of Asphalt Pavements Using Multi Expression Programming. Evaluation of Moisture Damage Potential in Hot Mix Asphalt Using</p>	<p>The manuscript entitled "Experiment on the strength properties and hydration products of cement mortar with hybrid recycled powders" presented experimental study. 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# Gaming the metrics: Who and Why?

## A. Librarian

What are the must-buys for my readers?

## B. Scientist

Where shall I submit my research?

## C. Research Administration

Who shall I hire? Who deserve a promotion?

## D. Students

Where to study? With whom? In which country? Where shall I submit my research?

## E. Government

Who deserve investment? What for? Which scientific field?

## F. Publisher

Which journal? At what price?

Who wants to game the metrics?

A, B, C, D, E or F ?

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  - Screening for obvious errors: Seek&Blastn
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<https://cloud.univ-grenoble-alpes.fr/s/3Ro6LpMbP6fckFH>

