

How to get your manuscript published?

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Senior Editor
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Today's Presentation

1. Why publish?
2. Before you start...
3. Effective writing
4. How to choose your journal
5. Preparing your manuscript
6. Submitting your manuscript

Why publish?

1.0

Why publish? To exchange ideas globally...



Research Cycle & Necessity to Publish

Write always simple...

“If you can’t explain something simply,
you didn’t understand it well...”

– Albert Einstein



- ✓ Write to **express** not **impress**
- ✓ Consider your audience – their native language may **not** be English
- ✓ Follow **K.I.S.S.** method of writing

Keep It Simple Short



Qualities of publishable findings

- **New** – Nobody has published such findings before
- **Useful** – Findings have important, practical use, or solve an important problem in the field

How to identify hot topics?

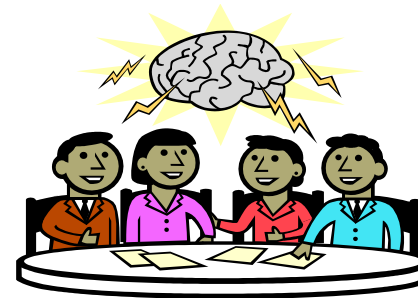


**Look for clues —
unexplained findings,
controversies**



**Read the literature,
including related
fields**

How to identify hot topics?



Attend International Conferences & Meetings

Before you start...

2.0

Before you start... Make time to read!

Read often



- At least... 30–60 min each day
- 2–4 hours, once a week
- Discuss with colleagues (coffee breaks)
- Journal club (1 h meeting once a week)

Reading improves your writing

How?

What to do

Structure & style

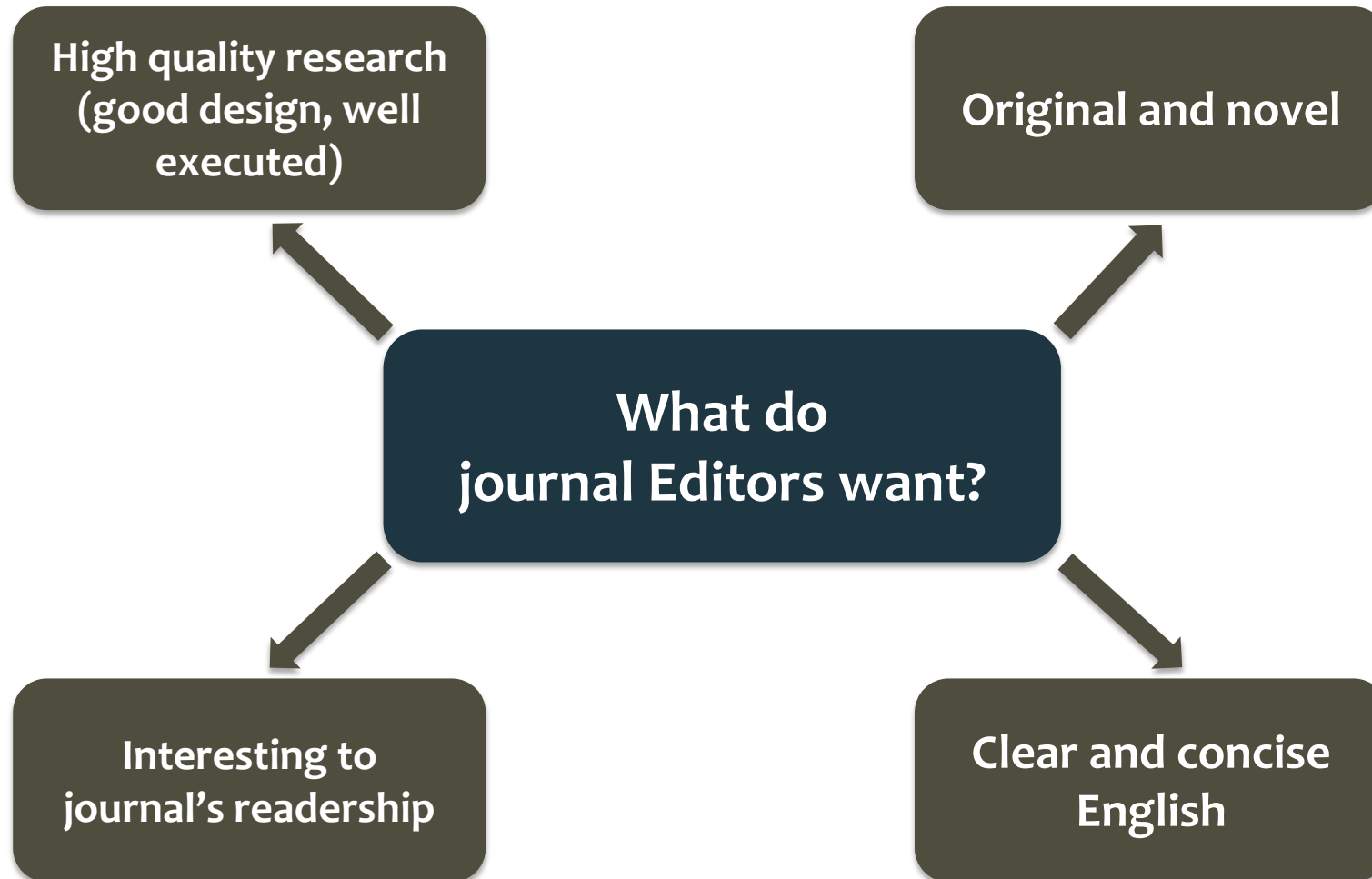
Journal quality

Argument
structure

Get new ideas

What *not* to do

Before you start... Ask yourself “what do Editors want?”



Writing... Six steps before writing your manuscript

- Think about **why** you want to publish your work, and **whether** it's publishable
- Decide what **type** of the manuscript to write
- Choose the **target** journal
- Pay attention to journal **requirements** in the Guide for Authors
- Pay attention to the **structure** of the paper
- Understand publication **ethics** to avoid violations

Effective writing

3.0

Be an effective communicator

Your goal is not only to be published, but also to be widely read in your field

- ✓ **Write effectively**
- ✓ **How to choose an appropriate journal**
- ✓ **Logically organize your ideas**

Improve readability

Use short sentences

Limit your sentences to 15 words
One idea per sentence

Use active voice

More simple, direct, and easier to read

Passive:

The models comparing the economic growth and diversification of the Middle East and Central Asia were evaluated.

Active:

We evaluated the models comparing the economic growth and diversification of the Middle East and Central Asia.

Sentence structure

Which sentence suggests that you
will get a raise?

1. You deserve a raise, but the budget is tight.
2. The budget is tight, but you **deserve a raise.**

Stress position


*Readers focus at the **end of the sentence** to determine what is important.*

Logical flow of ideas

The stress position also introduces the topic of the next sentence

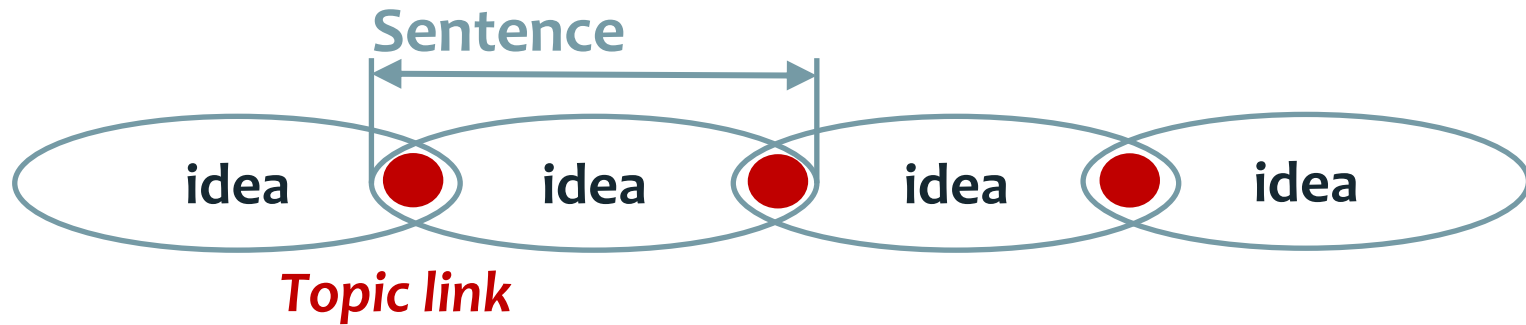
The budget is tight, but **you deserve a raise.** **Your salary will**
increase at the beginning of next year.

Stress position **Topic position**



The topic position introduces the idea of the current sentence

Logical flow of ideas



TiO₂ surface modification of the scaffold considerably improved its **catalytic efficiency**. **The increased efficiency** was prominent early in the reaction but **decreased over time**. **The lack of long-term effects** of TiO₂ surface modification was likely due to the reaction being conducted in an **aqueous environment**. **Evaluating additional solvents** to improve the catalytic efficiency over time is **currently being investigated**.

Logical flow within your manuscript

Topic sentence

Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer mortality for men and women. Despite smoking prevention and cessation programs and advances in early detection, the 5-year survival rate for lung cancer is only 16% with current therapies. Although lung cancer incidence rates have risen in the United States, more lung cancer is now diagnosed when considered together in former- and never-smokers than in current smokers. Thus, even if all of the national anti-smoking campaign goals are met, lung cancer will remain a major public health problem for decades. New ways to treat or prevent lung cancer are therefore needed.

Support

Stress sentence

Topic sentence

One potential therapeutic target for lung cancer is the Wnt signaling pathway. The canonical Wnt signaling pathway in mammals consists of a family of secreted lipid-modified Wnt protein ligands that bind to a family of 7-pass transmembrane Frizzled (Fzd) receptors, as reviewed...

How to choose your journal?

4.0

Choose your journal before writing your manuscript

Author guidelines

- Manuscript structure
- Word limits
- Reference style

Aims and scope

- Topics
- Readership
- Be sure to *emphasize*

Relevant references

Writing style

But *after* evaluating the *novelty* and *relevance* of your findings

Novelty of findings... an example!

“In my study, I showed that a previously published nanoporous membrane can help remove particulate matter specifically found in water reservoirs in Turkey.

My study will be useful for material scientists, environmental scientists, and policy makers.”

Novelty of findings... an example

How new are they?

Small advance in what is
already known

New application for a
previously published material

Lower impact
factor journal

Conceptual advance

New material or device for a
important application

Higher impact
factor journal

Relevance of these findings

Where are they useful for?

Findings specific to a
certain region

Regional journal

Findings applicable
worldwide

International
journal

Relevance of these findings

Whom are they useful for?

Findings applicable to
specific discipline

Materials scientists

Specialized
journal

Findings applicable to
other disciplines

Materials & environmental
scientists, policy makers

Broad-focused
journal

Publication model

How much accessibility?

Academics only

Academics and general
public

Subscription
journal

Open access
journal

After evaluating these findings...

**An open access, broad-focused
regional journal with a lower
impact factor**

Factors to consider

Aims and scope

Readership

The screenshot displays the homepage of the Journal of Nanoparticle Research. The header includes the journal's title, a tagline 'An Interdisciplinary Forum for Nanoscale Science and Technology', and the Editor-in-Chief's name, Mihail C. Roco. It also lists ISSN numbers for print and electronic versions and the journal's number (11021). A 'Read Online' button is visible. Below the header, there are social media links (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, etc.) and a 'RECOMMEND TO LIBRARIAN' button. The main content area features a table with three columns: Speed, Usage, and Impact. The Speed column shows '31 No. of days from submission of the manuscript to first decision' and '19 No. of days from 'accept' to online first publication'. The Usage column shows '441,265 No. of downloads', '177.0 Usage Factor', and '136 No. of articles downloaded via major media platforms'. The Impact column shows '2.184 Impact Factor 2014', '0.834 i10i - 2014 (Source Normalized Impact per Paper)', '0.627 i10i - 2014 (Springer Journal Rank)', '47 Altmetrics', and '96% Journal Author satisfaction (survey results published with Springer again)'. On the right side, there are links for 'View Open Access Articles', 'All volumes & issues', 'Editorial March 2014: Looking Forward (p...)', 'FOR AUTHORS AND EDITORS', '2014 Impact Factor 2.184', 'Aims and Scope', 'Submit Online', 'Open Choice - Your Way to Open Access', 'Instructions for Authors', 'Author Academy: Training for Authors', 'SERVICES FOR THE JOURNAL', 'Contacts', 'Download Product Flyer', 'Shipping dates', 'Order back issues', 'Bulk Orders', and 'Article Reprints'.

... *The first interdisciplinary journal devoted to Nanoparticle science and technology* ...

- An interdisciplinary journal devoted to Nanoparticle science and technology
- Focuses on concepts, properties, phenomena, and processes related to particles, tubes, layers, macromolecules, clusters and other finite structures of the nanoscale size range
- Covers synthesis, assembly, transport, reactivity, and stability, and emphasizes realization and application of systems, structures and devices with novel functions obtained via precursor nanoparticles
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The **Journal of Nanoparticle Research** is a monthly peer-reviewed journal that explores the specific concepts, properties, phenomena and processes of structures at the nanoscale.

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The **Journal** fosters the interdisciplinary dissemination of knowledge by encouraging synergetic approaches originating from a wide range of disciplines, such as Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Health Care.

Factors to consider

Aims and scope

Readership

Indexing

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ABSTRACTED/INDEXED IN

Science Citation Index Expanded (SciSearch), Journal Citation Reports/Science Edition, SCOPUS, INSPEC, EMBASE, Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS), Google Scholar, EBSCO, CSA, Academic OneFile, Academic Search, CEABA-VtB, CSA Environmental Sciences, Current Contents/Physical, Chemical and Earth Sciences, EI-Compendex, Ethicsweb, Gale, INIS Atomindex, OCLC, PASCAL, ReadCube, Referativnyi Zhurnal (VINITI), SCImago, Summon by ProQuest

Perspective articles have a wide breadth of appeal because they evaluate research, industrial and societal trends centered around nanotechnology. See the bigger picture!

Related subjects » Characterization & Evaluation of Materials » Inorganic Chemistry - Nanotechnology » Optics & Lasers » Physical Chemistry

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Speed



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177.0
Usage Factor



136 No. of articles discussed via Social Media platforms

Impact



2.184
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0.834 SNIP – 2014
Source Normalized Impact per Paper



0.627 SJR • 2014
SCImago Journal Rank



47
h5-index



96% Journal Author satisfaction
likelihood to publish with Springer again

Metrics

Top Journal

Recognized as a top Open Choice journal for its exceptional output of open access articles.

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☐ Please send me information on new Springer publications in Nanotechnology.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

[How to stay informed of new content](#)

[RSC's Global Leadership & Service Award...](#)

Factors to consider

Aims and scope

Readership

Indexing

Metrics

Author guides

The screenshot displays the homepage of the Journal of Nanoparticle Research. At the top, the journal's title and a brief description are provided, along with the Editor-in-Chief's name, ISSN numbers, and a 'Read Online' button. A 'RECOMMEND TO LIBRARIAN' button and social media links are also present. A sidebar on the right offers links to 'View Open Access Articles', 'All volumes & Issues', 'Editorial March 2014: Looking Forward', and 'FOR AUTHORS AND EDITORS'. The main content area features a list of navigation options: 'Aims and Scope', 'Submit Online', 'Open Choice - Your Way to Open Access', 'Instructions for Authors', and 'Author Academy: Training for Authors'. Below this, a 'Free App' section promotes the journal's mobile availability. A red-bordered box highlights a detailed description of the journal's aims and scope, which includes its interdisciplinary focus, coverage of various nanoscale phenomena, and its commitment to open access and author training. A green-bordered box at the bottom lists the journals where the journal's content is abstracted and indexed.

Journal of Nanoparticle Research
An Interdisciplinary Forum for Nanoscale Science and Technology
Editor-in-Chief: Mihail C. Roco
ISSN: 1388-0764 (print version)
ISSN: 1572-896X (electronic version)
Journal no. 11021

Read Online

RECOMMEND TO LIBRARIAN

FOR AUTHORS AND EDITORS
2014 Impact Factor 2.184

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Factors to consider

Aims and scope

OPEN ACCESS

Indexing

Metrics

Author guides

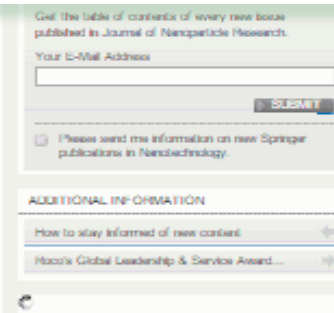
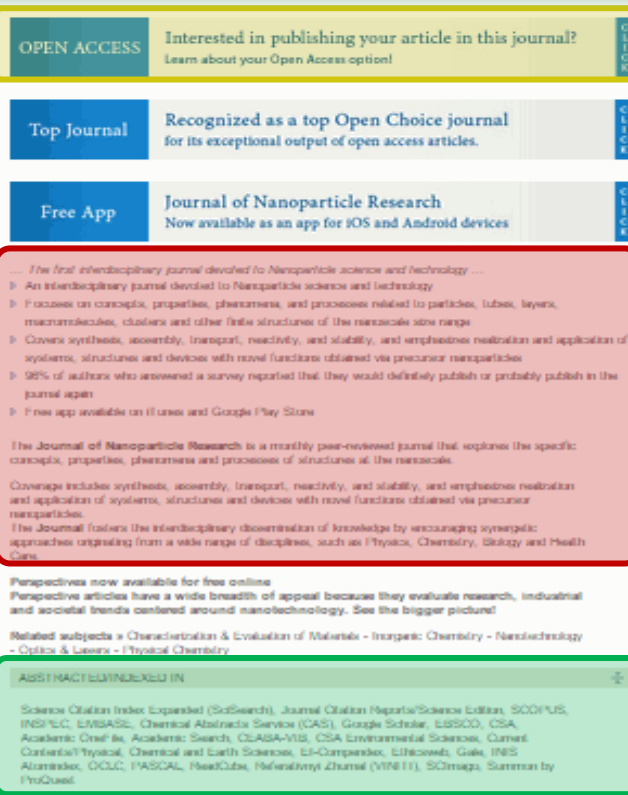
Open access

Impact factor

2014 Impact Factor

2.184

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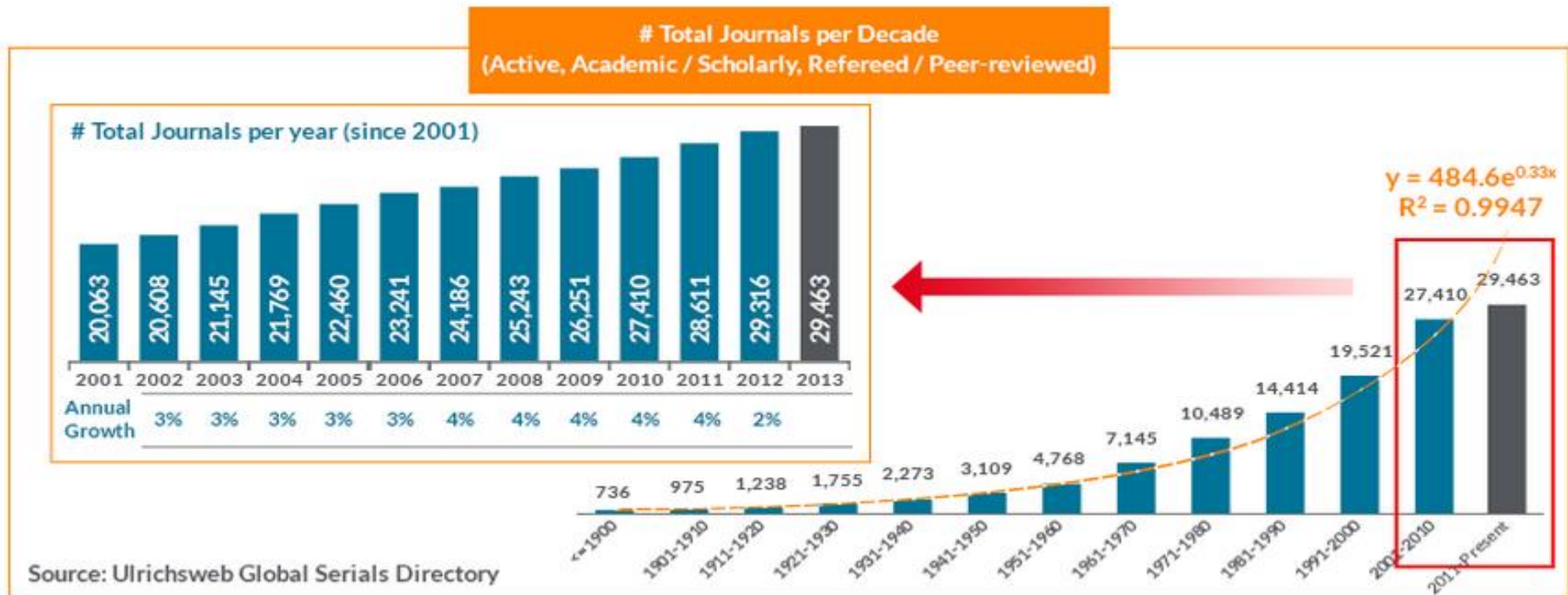
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Finding the right journal

How many journals are there?

Total journals

>30,000



Finding the right journal

How many journals are there?

Total journals

> 5

Springer journals

2800

DOAJ

10,586¹

Springer journals

8739²

Too many to choose from!

1. DOAJ.org (accessed 29/5/15)

2. <http://ip-science.thomsonreuters.com/cgi-bin/jrnlst/jlresults.cgi?PC=D> (accessed 29/5/15)

Springer Journal Selector

A free online tool to find suitable journals for your manuscript

springer.com/gp/authors-editors/journal-author

Enter your abstract or article description

When the solar irradiance propagates between the outer magnetospheric regions and the ionosphere, dynamic processes of the magnetosphere-ionosphere-thermosphere system are affected at the lower end of their paths by the interaction of radiation with the neutral troposphere. The main target of this work is to investigate the relationship between the diurnal magnetic field variations resulting from solar activities and the variation in the troposphere

Find your target journal

- ☒ Only journals with an Impact Factor
- ☐ Only journals with Open Access options

Find your target journal







Research summary

Springer Journal Selector

Recommended journals

We recommend the following journals

SORT RESULTS BY ▼ Match Title Impact Factor Frequency Model

	Acta Geophysica Impact Factor : 0.91	Frequency : Continuous	Model: Hybrid
	Space Science Reviews Impact Factor : 5.519	Frequency : Continuous	Model: Hybrid
	Cosmic Research Impact Factor : 0.244	Frequency : Semimonthly	Model: N/A
	Surveys in Geophysics Impact Factor : 4.125	Frequency : Continuous	Model: Hybrid
	Radiophysics and Quantum Electronics Impact Factor : 0.955	Frequency : Monthly	Model: N/A
	J. Geodesy Impact Factor : 2.808	Frequency : Continuous	Model: N/A

Filter by:

- Impact factor
- Publishing frequency
- Open access

Filter your results to find the best match

Impact Factor

☒ Show only journals with an Impact Factor



Frequency

Any ▼

Publishing model

☒ Any ☐ Open Access ☐ Hybrid

Refine Journal Results

Springer Journal Selector

Space Science Reviews

Impact Factor: 5.519 *

Frequency: Continuous

Aims & Scope :

As an international key journal on scientific space research, its purpose is to provide a comprehensive synthesis of the various branches of space research. The emphasis is on scientific results and instruments in the fields of astrophysics, physics of planetary systems, solar physics, and physics of magnetospheres & interplanetary matter. Space Science Reviews publishes invited papers and topical volumes, engaging guest editors whose expertise matches the topic at hand. Commonly used title ab

Journal's aims & scope, IF, and publication frequency

- Published recently?
- Cited in your paper?



Similar articles from this journal



+ Low Latitude Ionospheric Electrodynamics

Published 2011 - Jan



+ Trends in the Neutral and Ionized Upper Atmosphere

Published 2012 - Jun



+ MESSENGER: Exploring Mercury's Magnetosphere

Published 2007 - Dec



+ Observations of Stratosphere-Troposphere Coupling During Major So...

Published 2012 - Jun

Preparing your manuscript

5.0

Logical organization of ideas

You need to answer *4 key questions* for your readers:

1. *Why* did your study need to be done?
2. *What* did you do?
3. *What* did you find?
4. *How* will your study advance the field?

Introduction

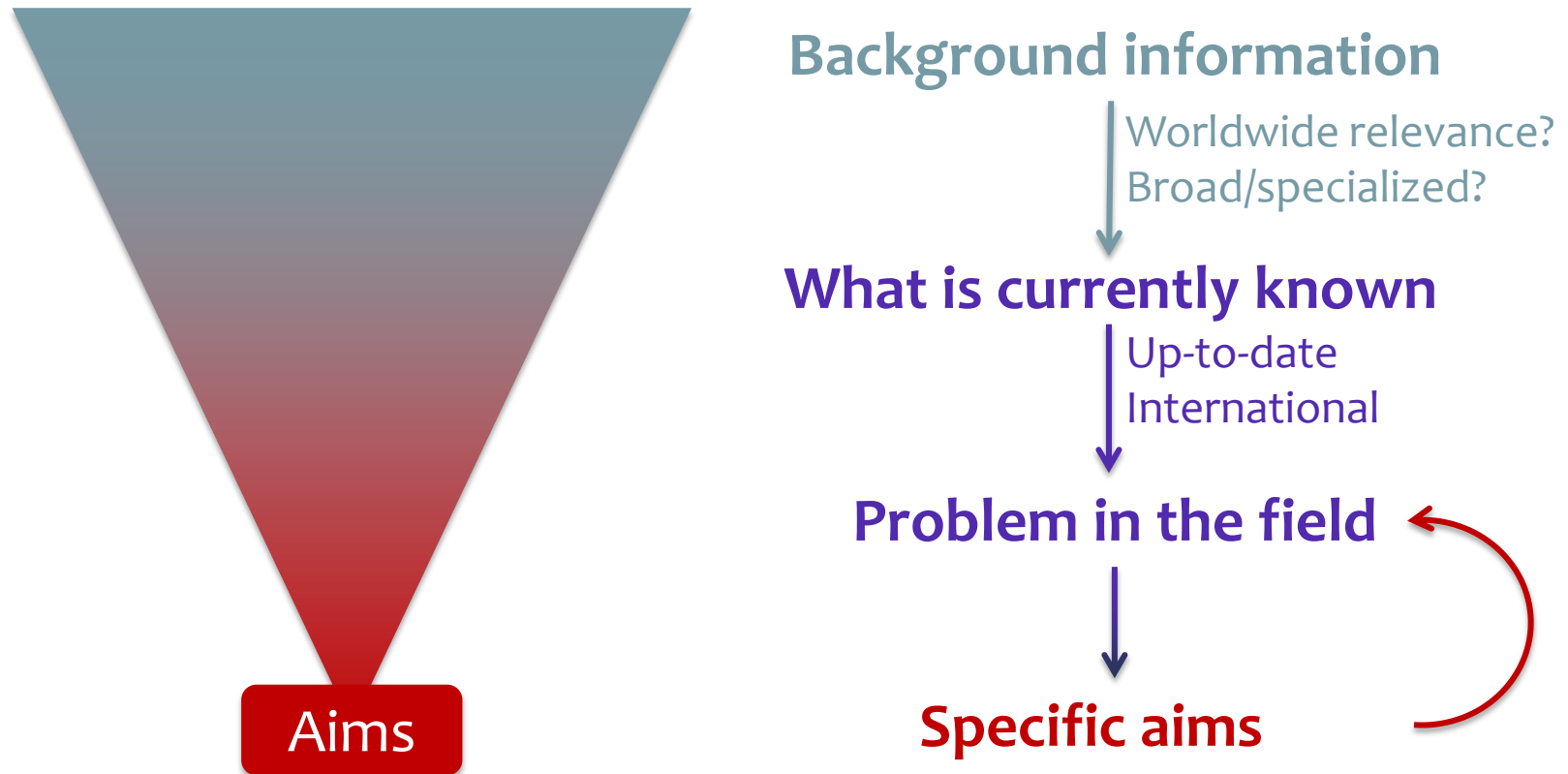
Methods

Results

Discussion

Introduction

Why does your study need to be done?



Introduction

Your aims should directly address the problem

Problem in the field

However, the long-term risk of type 2 diabetes in association with adiposity and weight change among women with a history of gestational diabetes mellitus (GDM) has not been clearly characterised.

**Specific
population**

Women with
history of GDM

2 variables

Adiposity (BMI)
Weight change

Outcome

Long-term risk of
type 2 diabetes

Introduction

Your aims should directly address the problem

Problem in the field

However, the long-term risk of type 2 diabetes in association with adiposity and weight change among women with a history of gestational diabetes mellitus (GDM) has not been clearly characterised.

Study aims

In this study, we examined the associations of BMI and weight change with the long-term risk of type 2 diabetes among women with a history of GDM.

Methods

What did you do?

What/who was used

- Samples or participants
- Materials
 - *Where purchased*

How it was done

- General methods
- Specific techniques
 - *Discuss controls*

How it was analyzed

- Quantification methods
- Statistical tests
 - *Consult a statistician*

Results

What did you find?

Logical presentation

1. Initial observation
2. Characterization
3. Application

Example:

1. Fabricate new membrane for water treatment
2. Evaluate physical and chemical properties (e.g., under different temperatures/pressures)
3. Efficacy in removing particulate contamination

Results

What did you find?

Logical presentation

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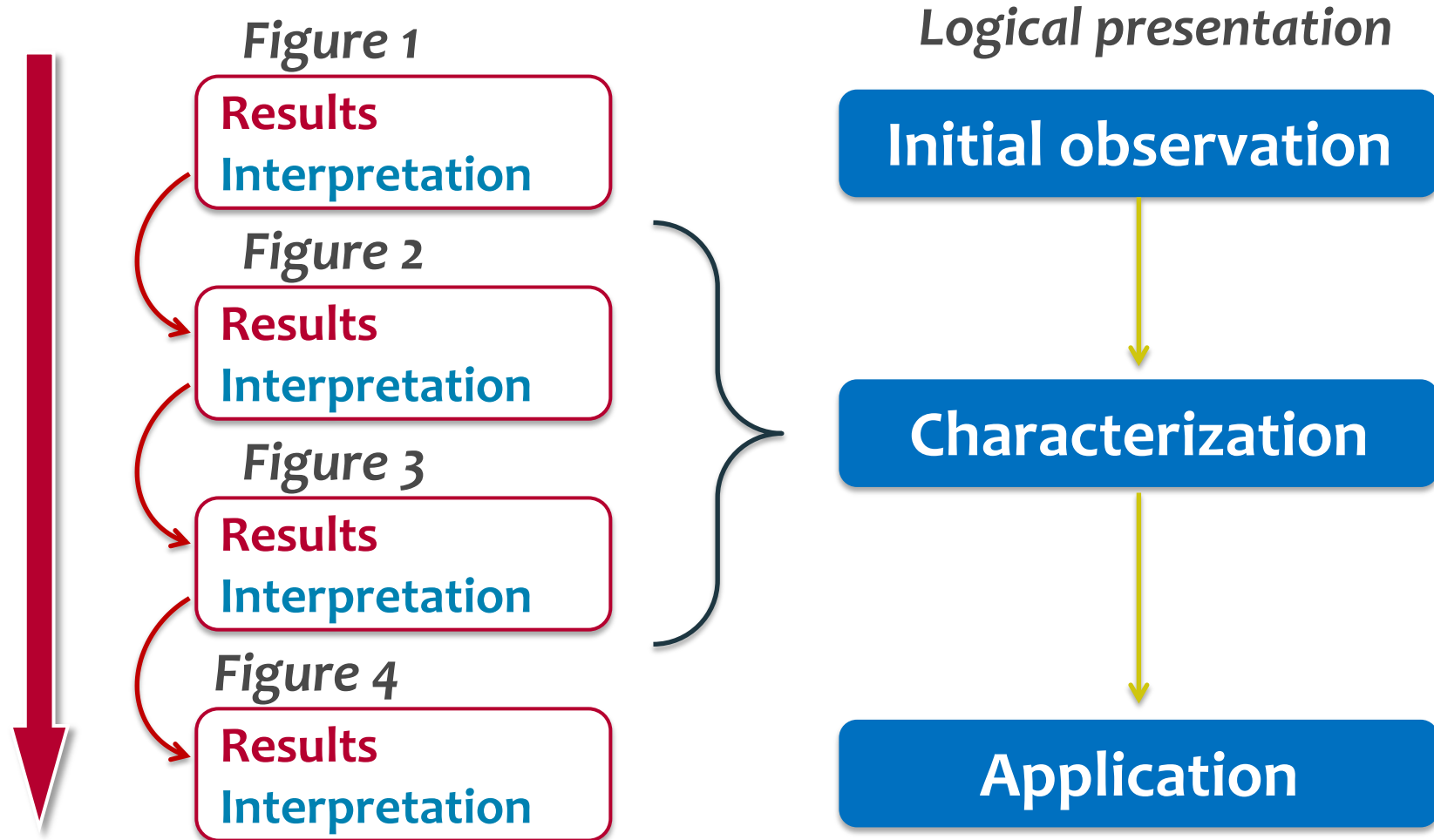
Subsections

Each subsection
corresponds to
one figure

Factual description

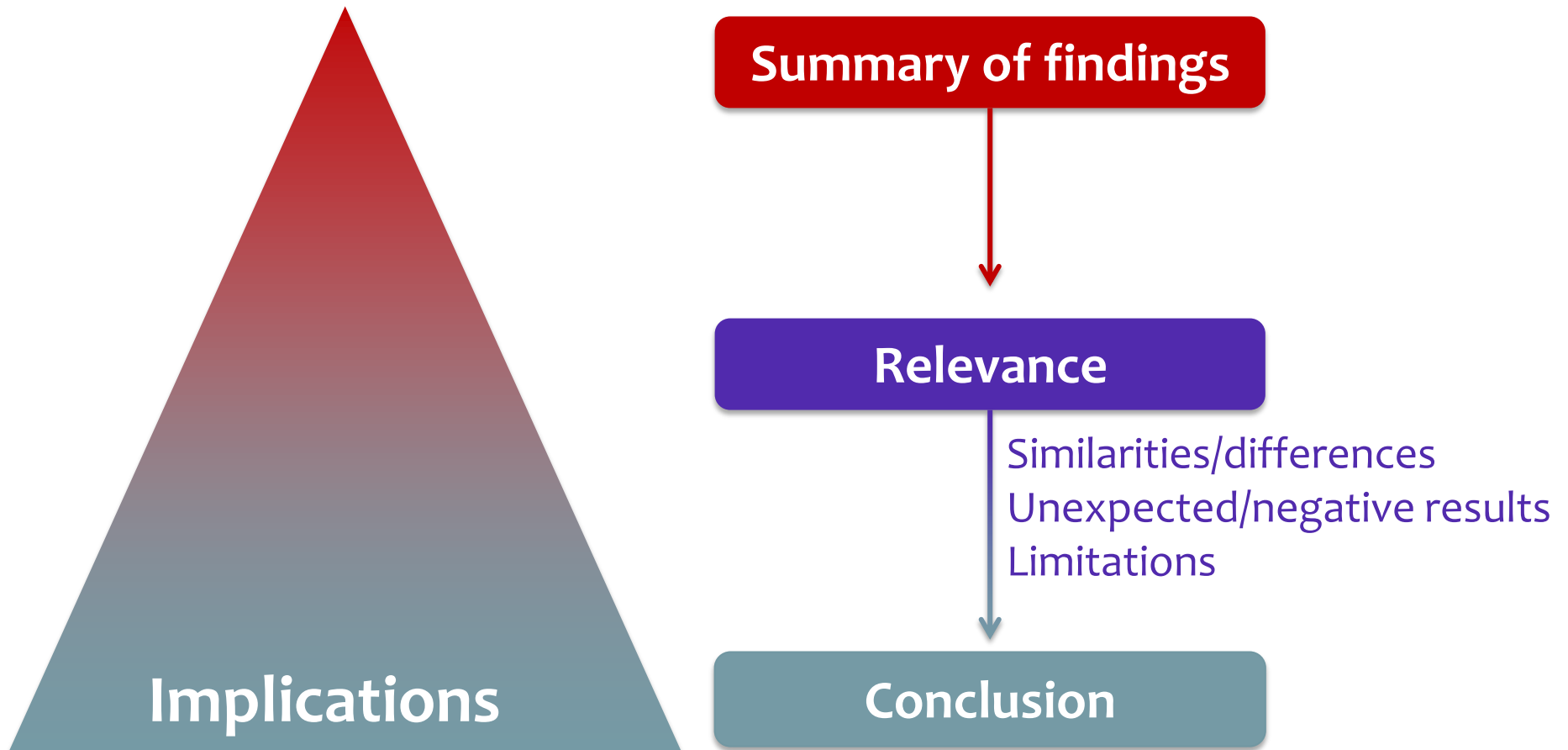
What you found, *not*
what it means

Combined Results – Discussion



Discussion

How your study contributes to the field?



Discussion

Strong conclusions... *What do you want your readers to remember about your study?*

In conclusion, polymeric nanoparticles could be used as a generic carrier of hydrophobic drugs for efficient delivery. Compared with drug administration alone, these nanoparticles mediated a higher and more rapid uptake of the encapsulated drug by nanoparticle-cell contact-mediated transfer. A contact-mediated mechanism of delivery into the cytosol could enable effective delivery of anticancer drugs directly to the intracellular molecular targets. Further understanding of this contact-based transfer mechanism will be important to exploit this novel delivery system for the administration of hydrophobic chemotherapeutic drugs to improve cancer therapy.

Discussion

Strong conclusions... *What do you want your readers to remember about your study?*

In conclusion, polymeric nanoparticles could be used as a generic carrier of hydrophobic drugs for efficient delivery. Compared with drug administration alone, these nanoparticles mediated a **higher and more rapid uptake** of the encapsulated drug by nanoparticle-cell contact-mediated transfer. A contact-mediated mechanism of delivery into the cytosol **could enable effective delivery of anticancer drugs** directly to the intracellular molecular targets. **Further understanding** of this contact-based transfer mechanism will be important to exploit this novel delivery system for the administration of hydrophobic chemotherapeutic drugs **to improve cancer therapy**.

Conclusion

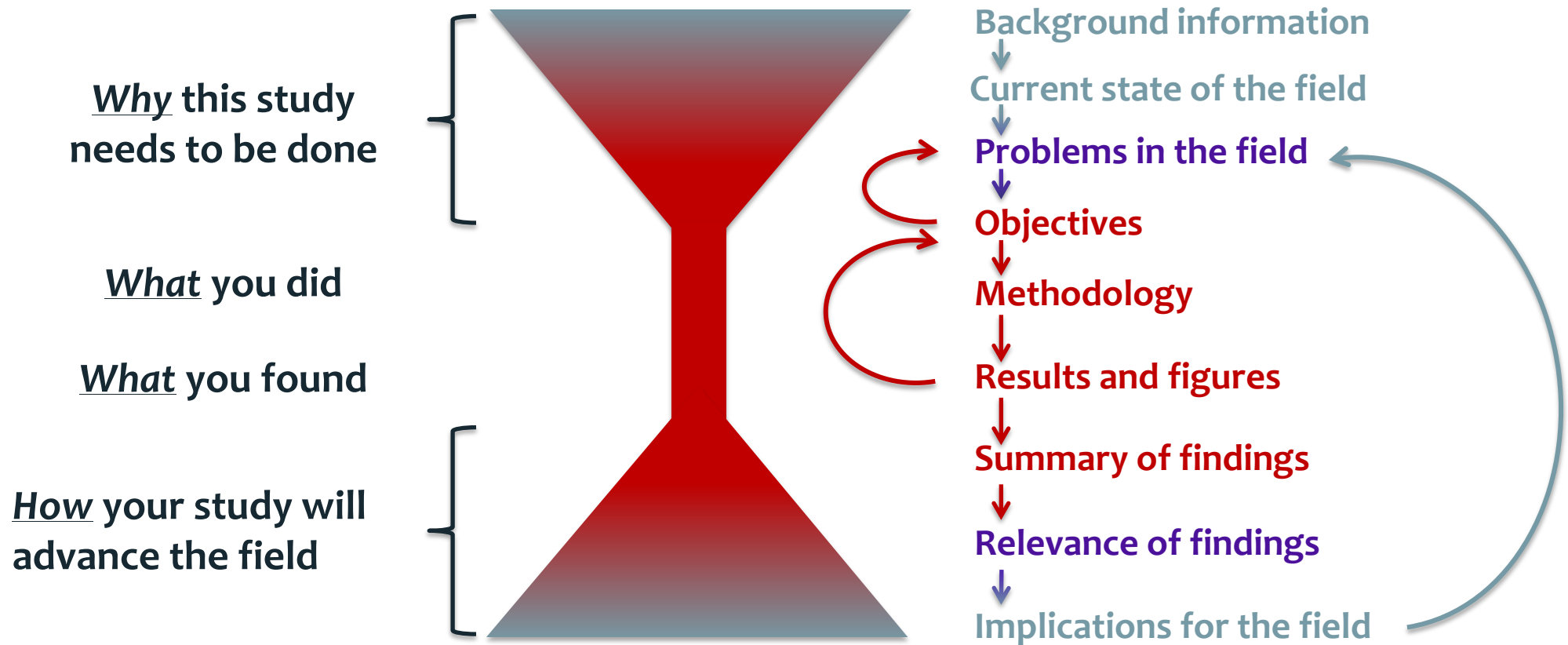
Key finding

Implications

Future
directions

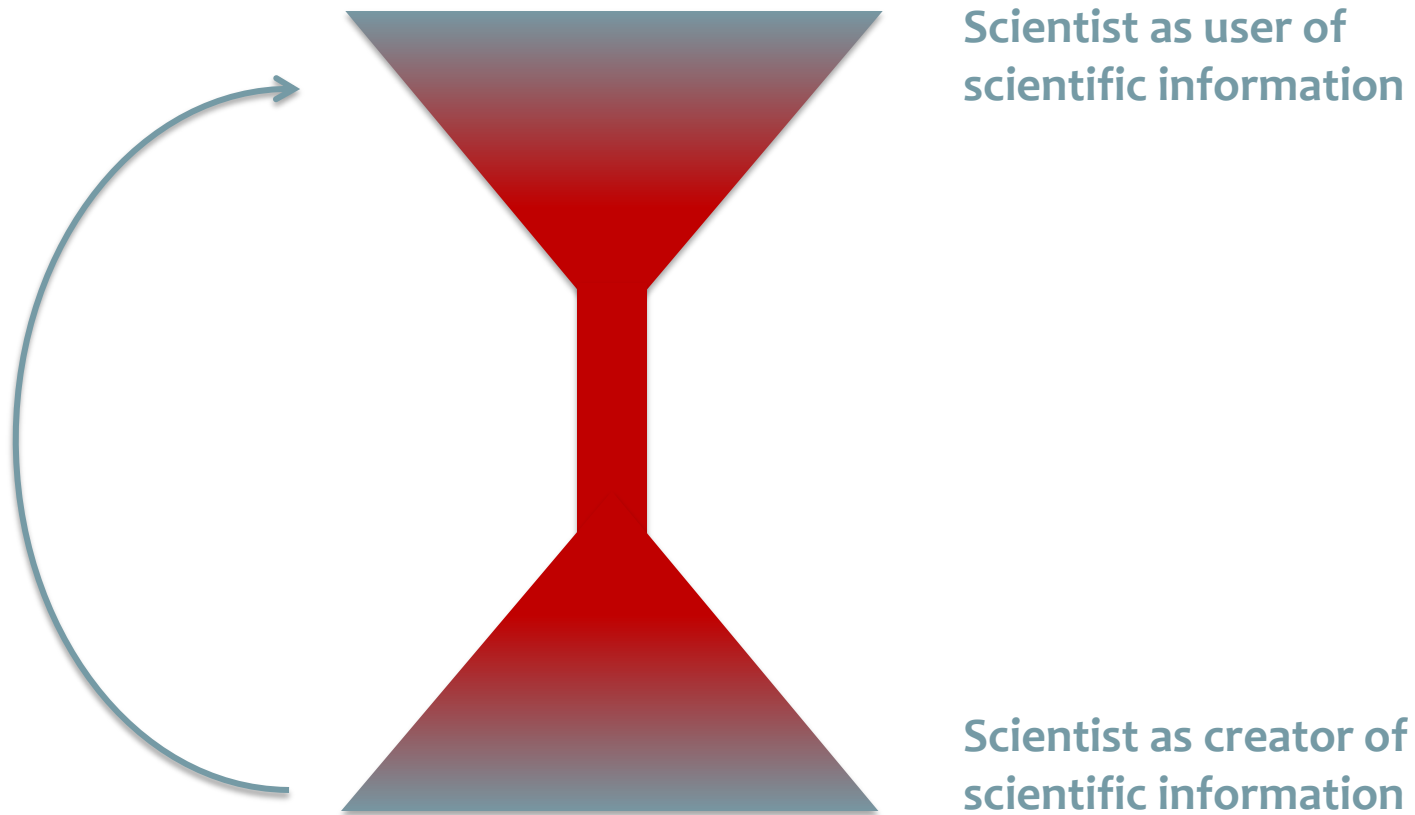
Linking your ideas

Answer the *four key questions* for your reader



Logically link your ideas throughout your manuscript

Research cycle and Necessity to publish



Research cycle and Necessity to publish



Who is hungry?



*First **impressions**
are important!*



First impression!



✓ You only get **one chance** to make a **good first** impression



Bill Gates

✓ If you **can't** make it good, at least make it **look** good

Abstracts – First impression of your paper

Aims

Importance of your topic

Results

Significance of your study

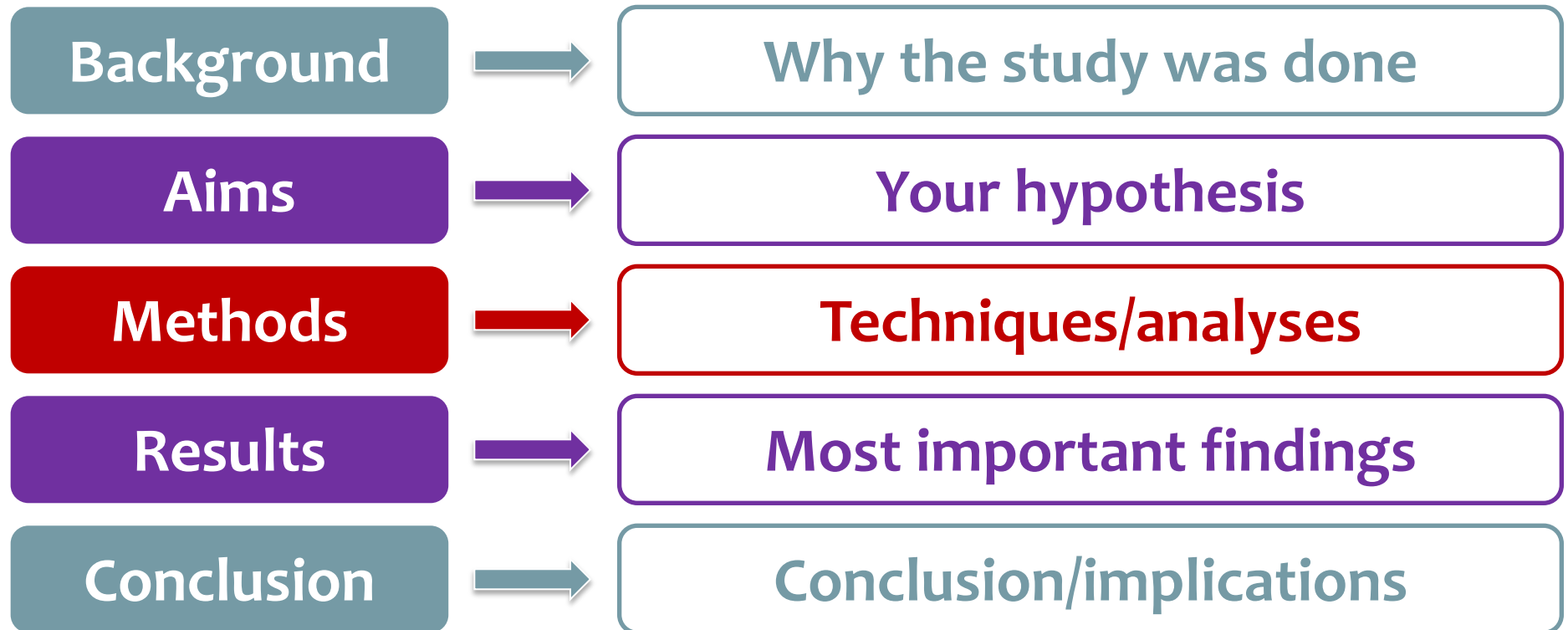
Conclusions

Relevance of your study

Clarity of your writing

Abstracts – First impression of your paper

Concise summary of your paper



Abstracts – First impression of your paper

In the Tahe oilfield in China, heavy oil is commonly lifted using the light oil blending technology. However, due to the lack of light oil, the production of heavy oil has been seriously limited. Here, we aimed to reduce light oil usage and maintain heavy oil production using a new compound technology of light oil blending and electric heating. We developed a pressure and temperature coupling model based on mass, momentum and energy conservation. The heat-transfer parameters and pressure drop are calculated by using the Hasan–Kabir and Hagedorn–Brown methods, respectively. This model also considers the effects of blending light and heavy oils as well as heating the electric rods. Our calculations demonstrate that electric heating coupled with light oil blending is much more effective than either alone. In conclusion, our study shows that the amount of light oil used can be reduced by combining the electric heating technology. This novel method should improve heavy oil production in regions lacking light oil.

Abstracts – First impression of your paper

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Why study needs to be done

What you did

What you found

How study contributes to the field

Submitting your manuscript

6.0

- ☒ ***Appropriate journal***
- ☒ ***Logically organized manuscript***
- ☒ ***Clear English***

Ready to submit!

Journal Editors are busy!



Cover letters – First impressions for Journal Editors

Significance and
relevance of study

Suitable to be published by their
journal

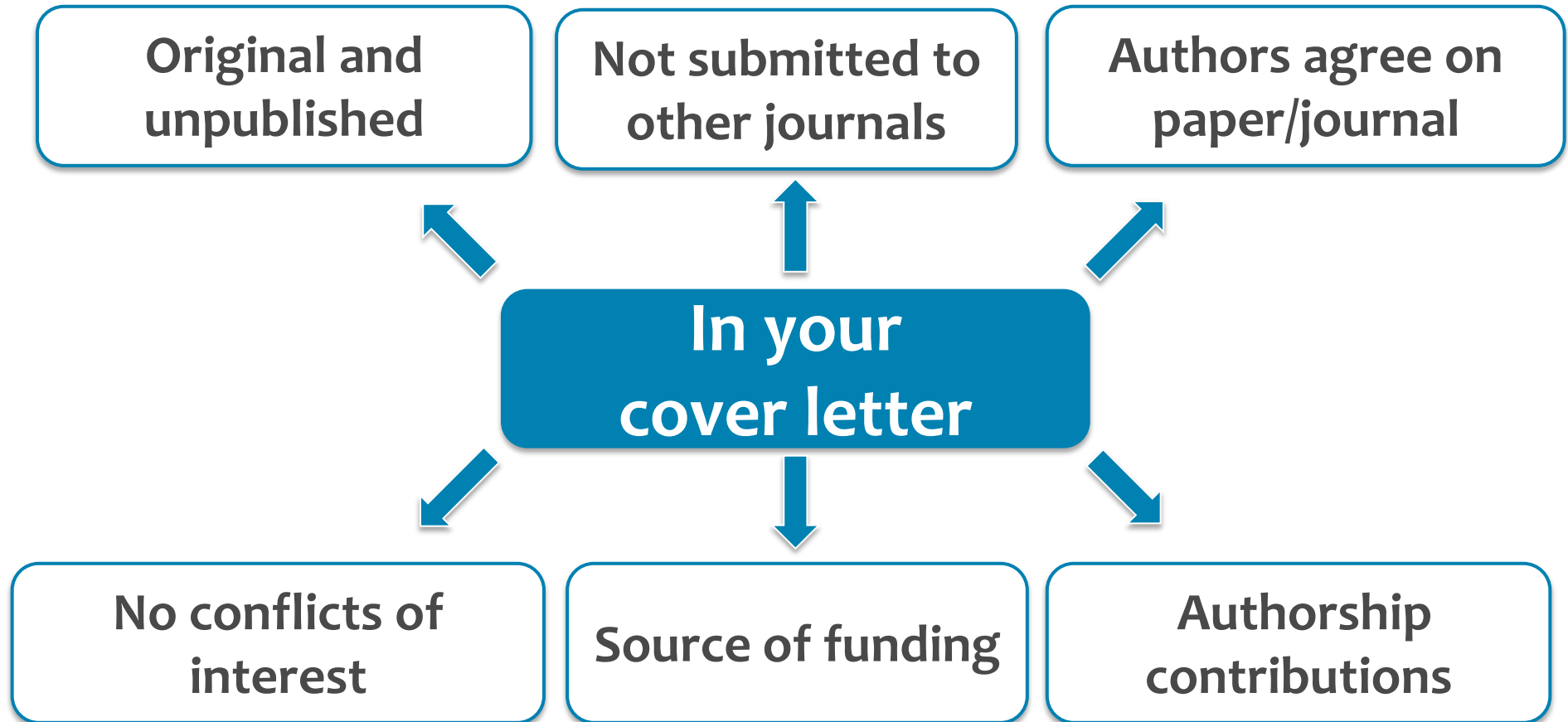
Interesting to their readers?

Clear and concise writing style?

Write an impressive cover letter



Publishing ethics

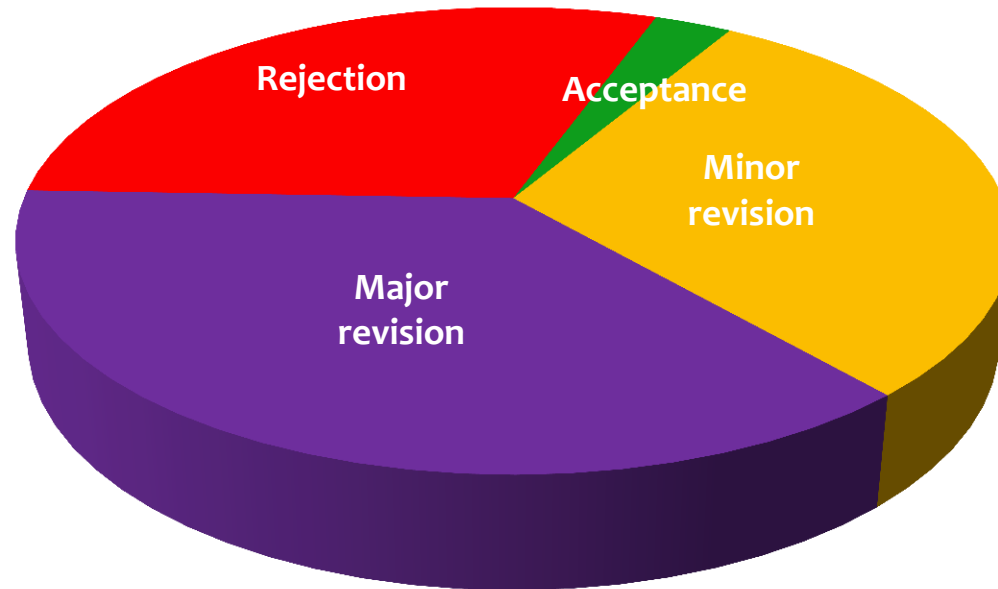


Publishing timeline

Submission to publication: 3–12 months



Peer review always improves



- ✓ Few papers are accepted without revision
- ✓ Rejection and revision are integral
- ✓ Peer review should be a positive experience

Reviewers



Point-by-point response

Polite &
professional

Respond to every
comment

Revision

Easy to see
changes

Refer to line and page numbers

Use a different color font

Highlight the Text

Point-by-point response

Dear Dr. _____: **[address editor by last name]**

Thank you for your consideration of our manuscript entitled _____ **[insert manuscript title]**. We have reviewed the comments of the reviewers and have thoroughly revised the manuscript. We found the comments helpful, and believe our revised manuscript represents a significant improvement over our initial submission.

In response to the reviewers' suggestions we have **[summarize the key changes here]**

Agreement

Reviewer Comment: *In your analysis of the data you have chosen to use a somewhat obscure fitting function (regression). In my opinion, a simple Gaussian function would have sufficed. Moreover, the results would be more instructive and easier to compare to previous results.*

Response: **We agree with the reviewer's assessment of the analysis.** Our tailored function makes it impossible to fully interpret the data in terms of the prevailing theories. In addition, in its current form it would be difficult to tell that this measurement constitutes a significant improvement over previously reported values. **We have redone the analysis using a Gaussian fitting function.**

Disagreement

Reviewer Comment: *In your analysis of the data you have chosen to use a somewhat obscure fitting function (regression). In my opinion, a simple Gaussian function would have sufficed. Moreover, the results would be more instructive and easier to compare to previous results.*

Response: We agree with the reviewer that a simple Gaussian fit would facilitate comparison with the results of other studies. **However**, our tailored function allows for the analysis of the data in terms of the Smith model [Smith et al, 1998]. We have added two sentences to the paper (page 3 paragraph 2) to explain the use of this function and Smith's model.

Understanding reviewer comments

“The English needs to be improved”

“Your writing is difficult to understand”

Grammar & Spelling

Long, complex sentences and paragraphs

Gaps in the logic

Poor manuscript organization

Too much information

Revision

Conduct additional experiments and analyses as suggested

✓ *If this is impossible, you **must** explain **why***

You **can disagree with reviewers, but provide evidence**

✓ *Cite **published** work*

Comply with deadlines

✓ *Extensions **are** granted*

Rejection... reasons?

**Inappropriate journal
selected**

Unlucky timing

Rejection... the content?

Incomplete data

Inappropriate methodology

Weak research motivation

Poor analysis

Inaccurate conclusions

Rejection... the manuscript?

**Journal requirements
not met**

Lack of detail

**Publication
ethics ignored**

**Inappropriate data
presentation**

**Poor grammar
and style**

**A well-written cover
letter missing?**

Summary of Today's Presentation

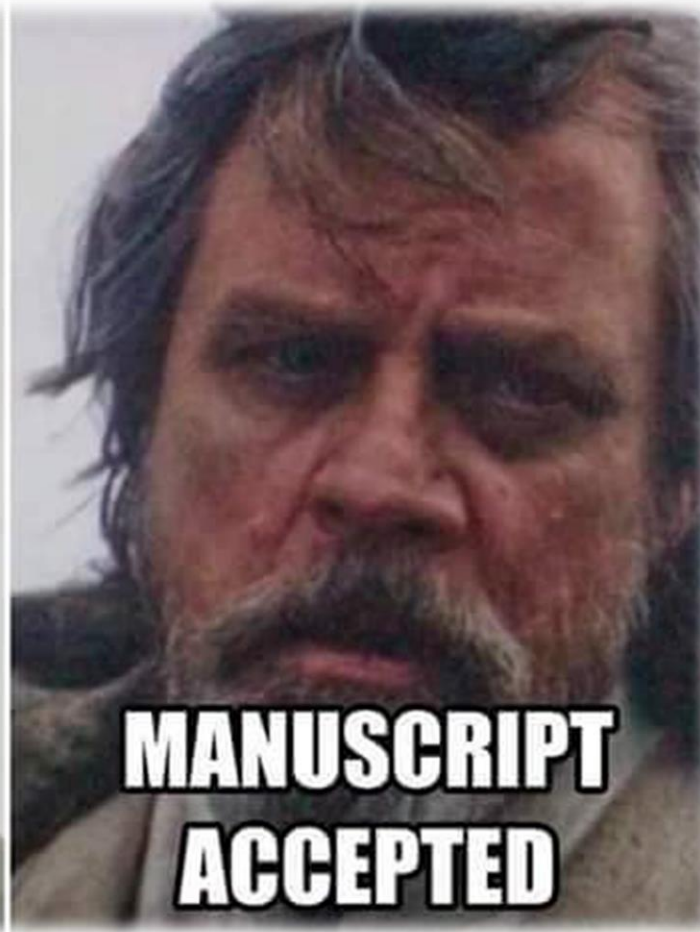
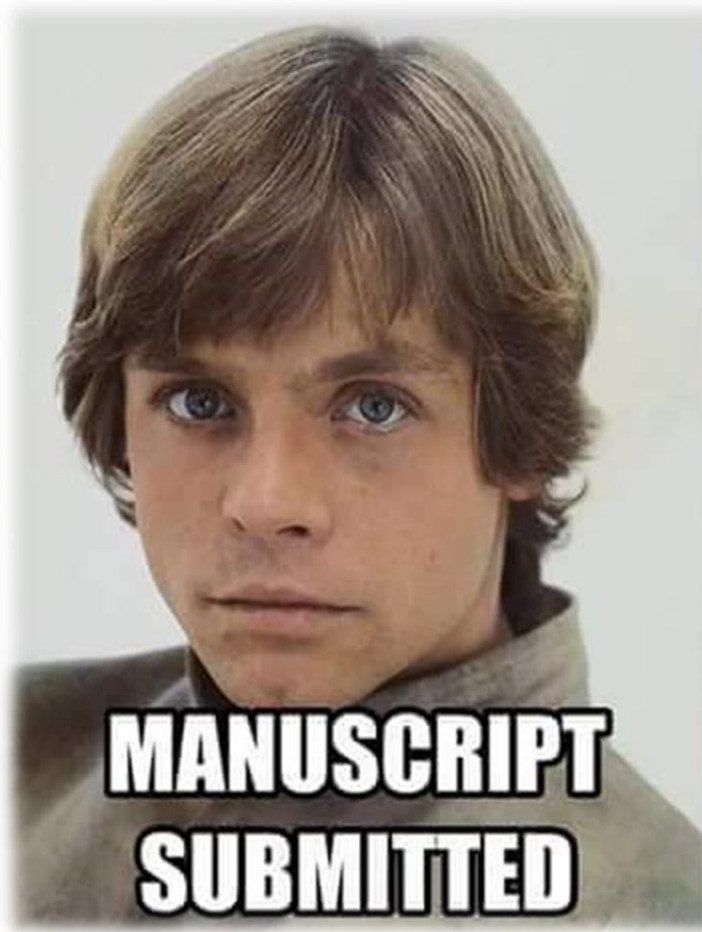
Six steps before writing your manuscript:

- Think about **why** you want to publish your work, and **whether** it's publishable
- Decide what **type** of the manuscript to write
- Choose the **target** journal
- Pay attention to journal **requirements** in the Guide for Authors
- Pay attention to the **structure** of the paper
- Understand publication **ethics** to avoid violations

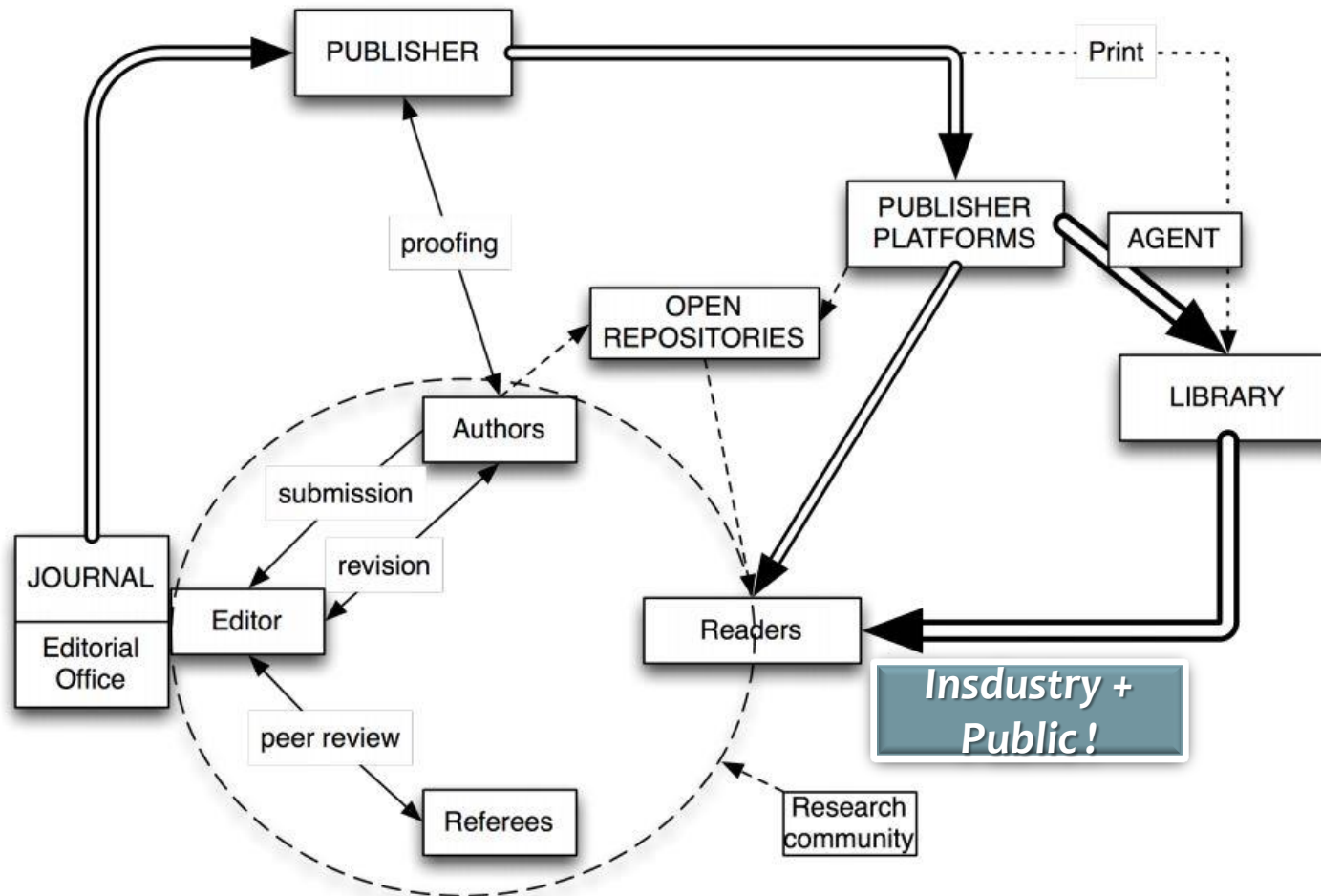
Answer four key questions when writing your manuscript:

- **Why** this study needs to be done? **INTRODUCTION**
- **What** you did? **METHODS**
- **What** you found? **RESULTS**
- **How** your study will advance the field – Implications? **DISCUSSION/CONCLUSIONS**

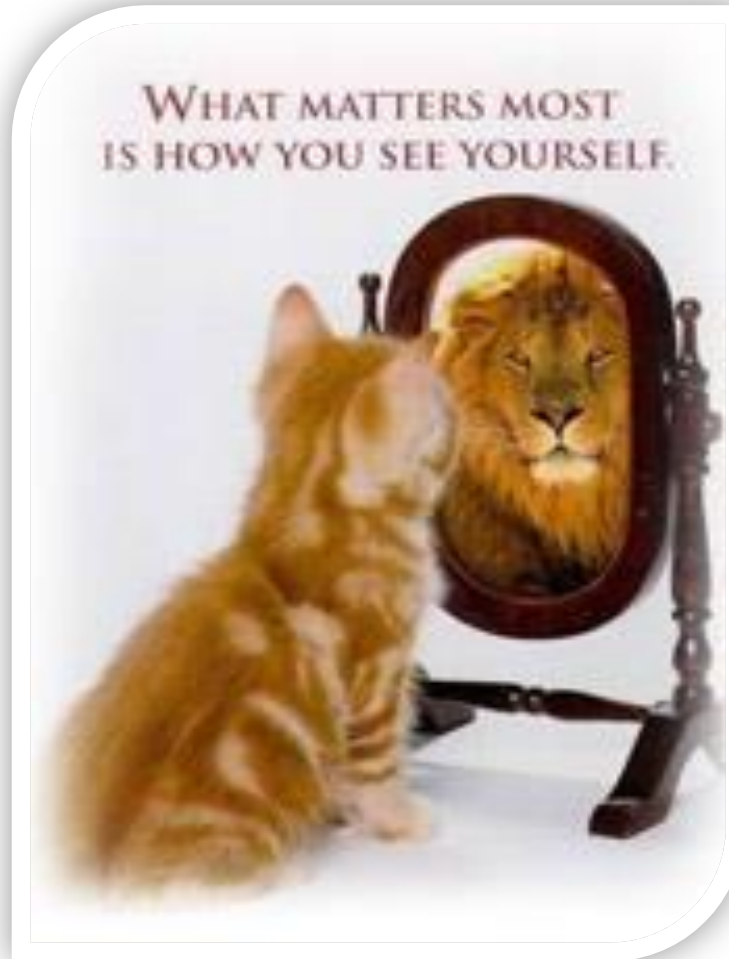
Publishing in academic journals is the key for success... **but this can be frustrating!**



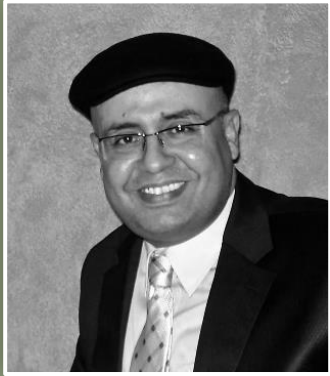
Publishing Cycle



Finally... don't neglect yourself!



Thank you...



Dr. Nabil Khélifi
Springer Research Group
MENA Program
Nabil.Khelifi@springer.com

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Edanz Editorial Support
Springer Editorial Development