

Choosing a Journal for our article and Publication Process

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Let's remember that

- **Academic Publishing is a Business**

Who Publishes Academic Journals?

- Large publishers (Elsevier, Springer, Wiley-Blackwell, etc.).
- Professional societies (American Heart Association, American Physiological Society, etc.).
- Legitimate non-profit organizations focused on publishing (PLOS, Frontiers).
- New open-access venues (legitimate and non-legitimate).

Publishing Models

- **Subscriber fee model:** subscribers (usually libraries) pay the publication fees for the journal. Journal retains the copyright on the article. A typical model for commercial publishers.
- **Open access model:** authors pay the costs of publishing their article and retain the copyright on the article. **Warning:** legitimate open-access publishers charge \$1500-\$2000 per article.
- **Amalgam model:** authors pay page charges to partially defer costs, but the publisher retains the copyright and requires a subscription to access the journal. A typical model for academic society publishers, who often provide free journal access to their members.

How is the reputation of a journal determined?

- Impact factor (*Thomson-Reuters*). 2021 IF = A/B , where
 - A = number of times that citable items published in 2019 and 2020 were cited in indexed publications in 2021.
 - B=total number of citable items published in 2019 and 2020.
- H-index (*Scopus, Google, etc.*) and other indices.
- Readership (*usually gauged by the number of downloads from the publisher's servers*)
- The reputation of a journal is largely a product of its ability to solicit and select articles that will be widely read and cited.
- Hence, the reputation of a journal rests on the quality of its editorial process.

Impact Factor (IF)

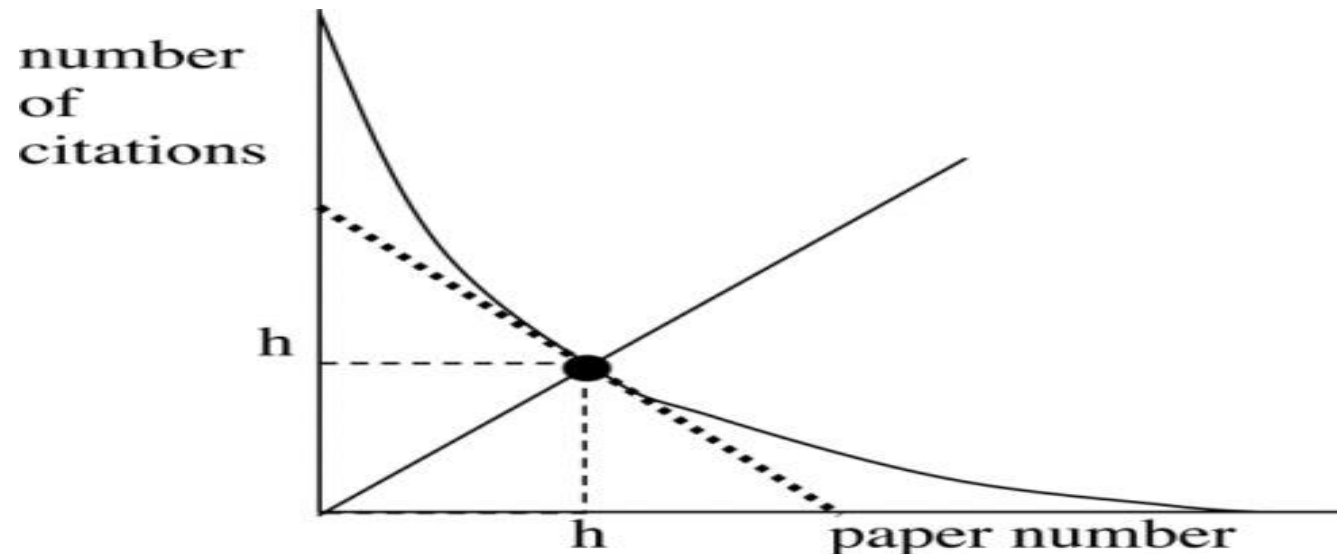
Calculating the 2022 Journal Impact factor for a journal =

Number of times articles or other items published in *this journal* during 2020-2021 were cited in indexed journals during 2022

Number of “citable” articles published in *this journal* in 2020 and 2021

H-Index

- Definition: “A scientist has index h if h of their N papers have at least h citations each, and the other $(N - h)$ papers have no more than h citations each.”
- Translation of definition: If you list all of an author’s publications in descending order of the number of citations received to date, their h -index is 10 if at least 10 papers have each received 10 or more citations.



Citescore

- A new metric to help you track journal performance and make decisions.
- CiteScore is essentially the average citations per document that a title receives over a 4-year period. It is simple to replicate. CiteScore 2022 counts the citations received in 2019-2022 to articles, reviews, conference papers, book chapters and data papers published in scopus in the time period between 2019, and divides this by the number of publications published in 2019-2022.
- CiteScore includes more document types indexed by Scopus, including articles, reviews, conference papers, data papers and book chapters; while Impact Factor only includes "citable documents" which are articles and reviews.

Overview

- Deciding what (or when) to publish
- Identifying a target journal
- Following the journal's instructions
- Submitting the paper
- Understanding the decision process
- Revising a paper
- Answering queries
- Reviewing proofs

Deciding What (or When) to Publish

- Some factors to consider: quality of the work, extent of the work, interest to others
- Suggestions:
- Seek guidance in this regard from others in your field who are more experienced in publishing journal articles.
- Present your work orally first. Doing so can help in deciding whether the work is publishable and in shaping the paper.

Identifying a Target Journal

- Decide early (before drafting the paper). Do not write the paper and then look for a journal.
- Look for journals that have published work similar to yours.
- Consider journals that have published work that you will cite.

Websites to find the right journals

- DOAJ
- Elsevier Journal Finder
- Find My Journal
- Scopus
- Springer Journal Suggester
- FindMyJournal
- JANE (Journal Author Name Estimator)
- سامانه منبع یاب (<https://rsf.research.ac.ir/>)
- Journal black list (<http://blacklist.research.ac.ir/>)

Some Factors to Consider

- Audience
- Prestige
- Access
- Impact
- Publication time
- Quality of reproduction
- Likelihood of acceptance (Acceptance rate)
- Lead time

Journals' Instructions to Authors

- Usual locations: in the journal and on the journal's Web site
- A collection of instructions from biomedical journals, including dental journals:
<http://mulford.meduohio.edu/instr/>
- Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals:
<http://www.icmje.org/>

Using the Journal's Instructions

- Read the instructions to authors before starting to prepare your paper.
- Consult the instructions while preparing your paper.
- Check the instructions again before submitting your paper.

Some Questions the Instructions May Answer

- What categories of article does the journal publish?
- What is the maximum length of articles?
- What is the maximum length of abstracts?
- Does the journal have a template for articles? If so, how can it be accessed?
- What sections should the article include? What are the guidelines for each?

Some Questions

- What guidelines should be followed regarding writing style?
- How many figures and tables are allowed? What are the requirements for them?
- In what format should references appear? Is there a maximum number of references?
- In what electronic format should the paper be prepared?

Beyond the Instructions

- Look at some recent issues of the journal. Doing so can help you gear your paper to the journal.

The IMRAD Format for Scientific Papers

- **I**ntroduction: What was the question?
- **M**ethods: How did you try to answer it?
- **R**esults: What did you find?
- **A**nd
- **D**iscussion: What does it mean?

A More Complete View

- (Title)
- (Authors)
- (Abstract)
- **Introduction**
- **Methods**
- **Results**
- **Discussion**
- (Acknowledgments)
- (References)

Submitting the Paper

- Traditional submission (by mail)—now rare
- Electronic submission
 - Commonly via online submission system
 - Sometimes as e-mail attachment
- Inclusion of a cover letter (conventional or electronic)
- Completion of required forms

Before you submit

- Internal review
 - Ask your peers to read it to get an alternative perspective
 - Ask someone outside your field to read it
- Read the Instruction to Authors
 - Follow format and submission instructions
- Write a covering letter to the editor
 - Should clearly explain (but not overstate) the scientific advance
- Submit with the consent of all authors and to only one journal

Summary

- Writing for successful publication means
 - having a well designed, original study to write about
 - selecting an appropriate outlet/journal
 - knowing what you want to write
 - writing clearly
 - making the story interesting
 - highlighting the significance of the results
 - responding carefully and positively to referees' reports

Ten rules for getting published

1. Read many papers, and learn from both the good and the bad ones.
2. The more objective you can be about your work, the better the work will ultimately become.
3. Good editors and reviewers will be objective about your work.
4. If you do not write well in the English language, take lessons early; it will be invaluable later.
5. Learn to live with rejection.

Ten rules for getting published

6. Understand what makes good science and what makes good science writing: be objective about them.
7. Start writing the paper the day you have the idea of what questions to pursue
8. Become a reviewer early in your career.
9. Decide early on where to try to publish your paper.
10. Quality (not quantity) is everything.

Questions??

A scenic landscape photograph showing a dense forest of trees with autumn foliage in shades of orange, red, and yellow. The trees are reflected in a calm body of water in the foreground. The text "THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION" is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font across the lower portion of the image.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION