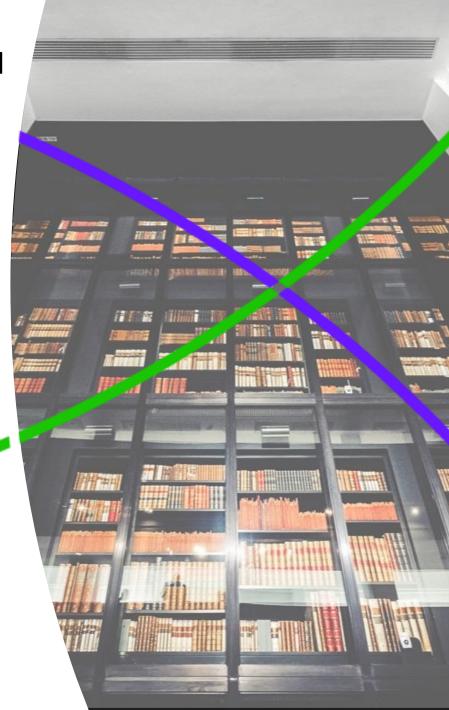
How to get your research published – the smart use of Web of Science

Kun Yu, PhD 10/19/2017



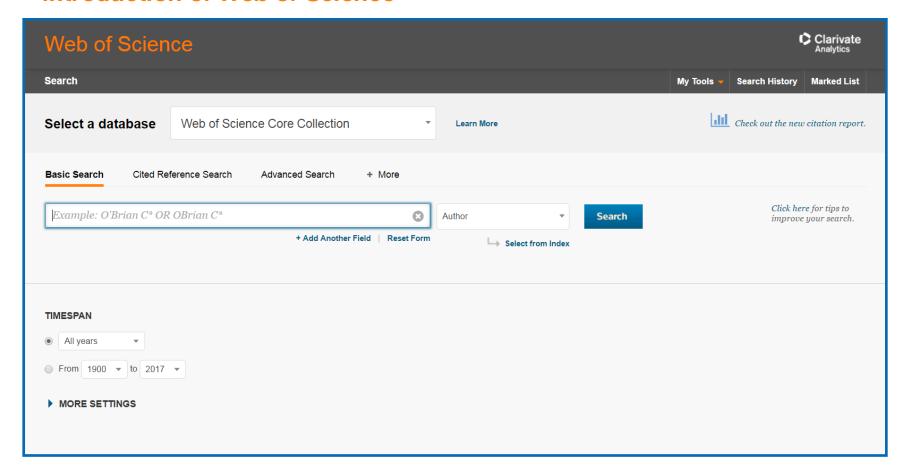


Today we will cover

- Locating a hot research topic
- Peer review
- How to write a good paper
- Publication ethics
- Choosing the right journal









- introduction of Web of Science

Web of Science Core Collection (1900-present)

Access the world's leading scholarly literature in the sciences, social sciences, arts, and humanities and examine proceedings of international conferences, symposia, seminars, colloquia, workshops, and conventions.

[less]

Navigate with cited reference searching and Author Finder

Create a visual representation of citation relationships with Citation Mapping

Capture citation activity and trends graphically with Citation Report

Use the Analyze Tool to identify trends and patterns

Backfiles available to 1900

Your edition(s):

Science Citation Index Expanded (1900-present)

Social Sciences Citation Index (1900-present)

Arts & Humanities Citation Index (1975-present)

Conference Proceedings Citation Index- Science (1990-present)

Conference Proceedings Citation Index- Social Science & Humanities (1990-present)

Book Citation Index - Science (2005-present)

Book Citation Index- Social Sciences & Humanities (2005-present)

Emerging Sources Citation Index (2015-present)

Current Chemical Reactions (1985-present)

(Includes Institut National de la Propriete Industrielle structure data back to 1840)

Index Chemicus (1993-present)









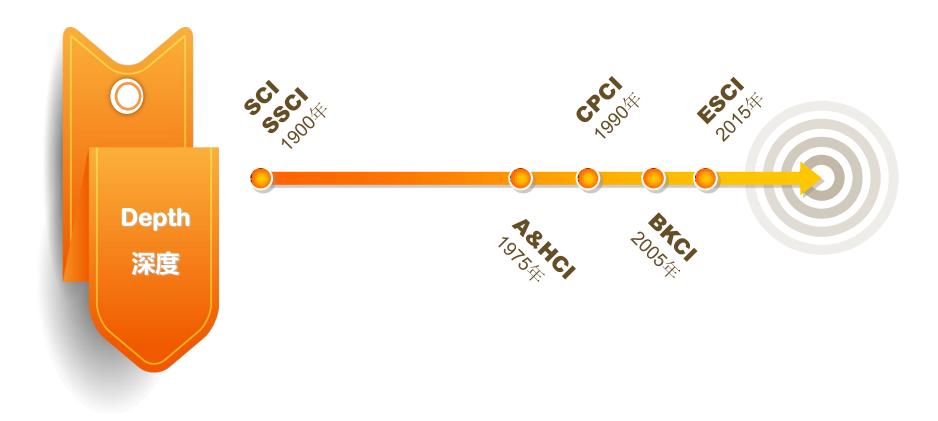
- · Science Citation Index Expanded (科学引文索引) 176个学科的<mark>8800多</mark> 种高质量学术期刊。
- · Social Sciences Citation Index (社会科学引文索引) 56个社会科学学科 的3200多种权威学术期刊。
- · Arts & Humanities Citation Index (艺术与人文引文索引) 收录28个人文 艺术领域学科的1700<mark>多种</mark>国际性、高影响力的学术期刊的数据内容 。
- Conference Proceedings Citation Index Science+ Social Science & Humanities(会议录引文索引– 自然科学版+社会科学与人文版) 超过 160,000个会议录,有自然科学、社会科学两个版本,涉及250多个学科。
- · Emerging Sources Citation Index 截止至2017年10月收录6900多种学术 专著,且每个星期都在增加。













- introduction of Web of Science



Citation Index 引文索引

Dr. Garfield 1955年在 <u>Science</u> 发表论文提出将引文索引作为一种新的文献检索与分类工具

Citation Indexes for Science

A New Dimension in Documentation

CITATION NE central X

"The uncritical citation of disputed data by a writer, whether it be deliberate or not, is a serious matter. Of course, knowingly propagandizing unsubstantiapproach to subject control of the literature of science. By virtue of its different construction, it tends to bring together material that would never be collated by

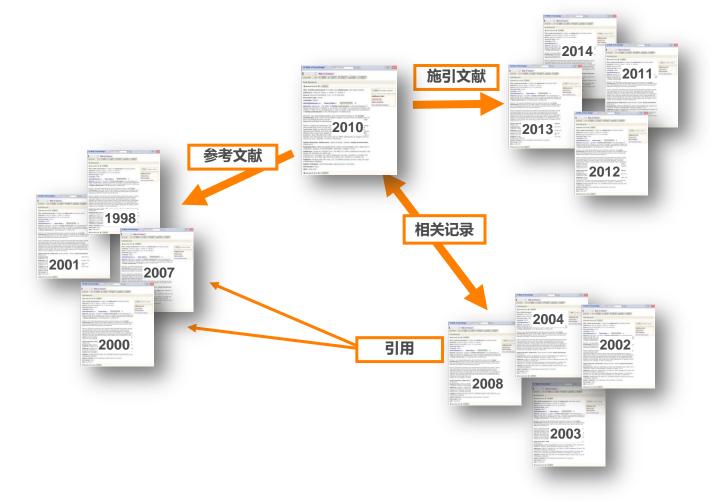
Dr. Garfield认为:将一篇文献作为检索字段从而跟踪一个Idea的发展过程及学科之间的交叉渗透的关系。

while the studies to which they pertain, having been reported more widely, are

If one considers the book as the macro unit of thought and the periodical article icro 'oug' the









- ESI Research Fronts

Essential Science Indicators 定量分析研究绩效的工具

- 来自于 Web of Science 的10年滚动数据,每一种期刊都被按照22个 学科进行了分类标引;
- 基于科学家、研究机构(或大学)、国家(或地区)及学术期刊的研究成果数量和影响力指标,以及在全球各研究领域中的排名
- 全球各学科领域的论文被引频次基准值
- 高被引论文、热点论文和研究前沿



- ESI Research Fronts

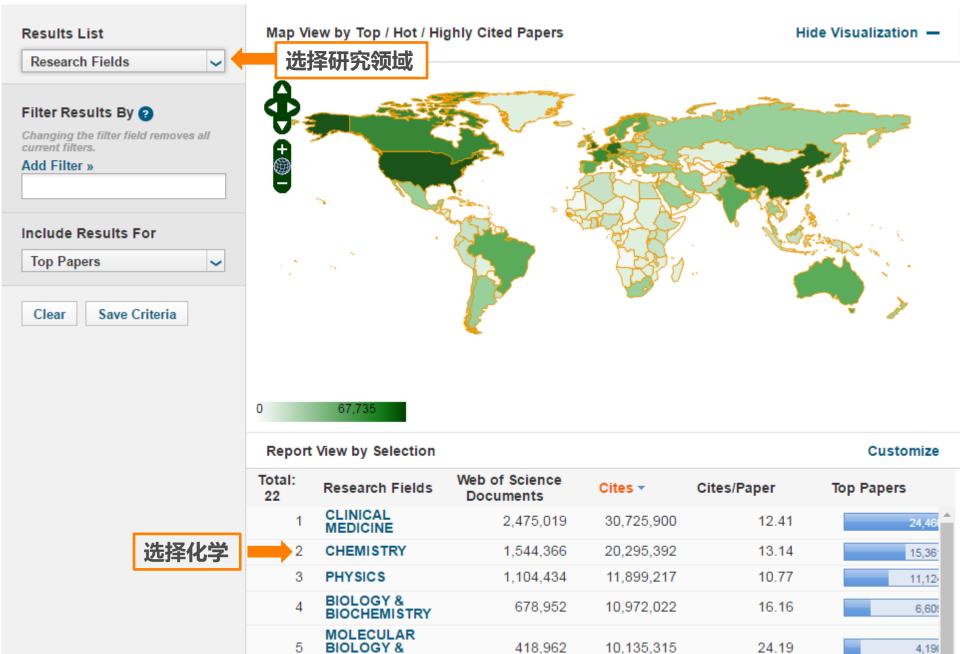
ESI高被引论文及热点论文定义

过去**10年**中所发表的,在统计时间点,被引次数在同年同学 科中达到该学科的前1%--高被引论文Highly Cited Paper

近**两年内发表**,在统计时间点,**近两个月的被引次数**达到该学科的**前0.1%**--热点论文HOT Paper

统计高被引论文之间的**引证关系**,采用**共聚类分析**得出关键词—研究前沿Research Fronts





GENETICS



对研究前沿关键词进行分析

HIGHLY SELECTIVE LUMINESCENT SENSING; INFRARED LUMINESCENT YTTERBIUM METAL-ORGANIC FRAMEWORK; LUMINESCENT NANOSCALE METAL-ORGANIC FRAMEWORK; LUMINESCENT CADMIUM METAL-ORGANIC FRAMEWORK; LUMINESCENT METAL-ORGANIC FRAMEWORK FILMS	45 2013.7	\rightarrow	有机金属配合物发光材料
TETRAPHENYLETHYLENE CORE-BASED 3D STRUCTURE SMALL MOLECULAR ACCEPTOR ENABLING EFFICIENT NON-FULLERENE ORGANIC SOLAR CELLS; HIGHLY EFFICIENT SOLUTION-PROCESSED NON-FULLERENE ORGANIC SOLAR CELLS; HIGH-PERFORMANCE NON-FULLERENE BASED ORGANIC SOLAR CELLS; EFFICIENT ORGANIC BULK HETEROJUNCTION SOLAR CELLS; EFFICIENT NON-FULLERENE POLYMER SOLAR CELLS ENABLED	39 2014.3	\rightarrow	非富勒烯型聚合物太阳能电池
LUMINESCENT LANTHANIDE METAL-ORGANIC FRAMEWORKS; LUMINESCENT MULTIFUNCTIONAL LANTHANIDES-BASED METAL-ORGANIC FRAMEWORKS; LUMINESCENT FUNCTIONAL METAL-ORGANIC FRAMEWORKS; FERROELECTRIC METAL-ORGANIC FRAMEWORKS; MICROPOROUS METAL-ORGANIC FRAMEWORKS	37 2012.3	\rightarrow	发光镧系金属-有机骨架材料
ASYMMETRIC N-HETEROCYCLIC CARBENE (NHC) CATALYZED ACYL ANION REACTIONS;N-HETEROCYCLIC CARBENE CATALYZED DOMINO REACTIONS;N-HETEROCYCLIC CARBENE CATALYZED ACTIVATION;N-HETEROCYCLIC CARBENE (NHC) CATALYS;ACYL ANION FREE N-HETEROCYCLIC CARBENE ORGANOCATALYSIS	34 2013.3		N-杂环卡宾(NHC)催化
ENANTIO SELECTIVE ELECTROPHILIC TRIFLUOROMETHYLTHIOLATION; LEWIS ACID-CATALYZED ELECTROPHILIC TRIFLUOROMETHYLTHIOLATION; SILVER- MEDIATED OXIDATIVE ALIPHATIC C-H TRIFLUOROMETHYLTHIOLATION; DIRECT CATALYTIC TRIFLUOROMETHYLTHIOLATION; COPPER-CATALYZED OXIDATIVE TRIFLUOROMETHYLTHIOLATION	30 2013.6	—	C-H键的三氟甲基化
COBALT(III)-CATALYZED DIRECTED C-H ALLYLATION:COBALT(III)-CATALYZED DIRECTED C-H COUPLING:COBALT(III)-CATALYZED C-H BOND AMIDATION:COBALT(III)-CATALYZED C-H AMIDATION:COBALT(III)-CATALYZED C2-SELECTIVE C-H ALKYNYLATION	29 2014.8	—	C-H键的烯丙基化、酰胺化、炔基化
ORGANOMETALLIC SANDWICH LANTHANIDE SINGLE-ION MAGNET; LANTHANIDE ORGANOMETALLIC SINGLE-ION MAGNETS; LANTHANIDE SINGLE-MOLECULE MAGNETS; ASYMMETRIC DY-2 SINGLE-MOLECULE MAGNET; SINGLE-MOLECULE MAGNET; SINGLE-MOLECULE MAGNET	28 2012.3	\rightarrow	镧系金属元素的单粒子磁体
EFFICIENT BLUE ORGANIC LIGHT-EMITTING DIODES EMPLOYING THERMALLY, DELAYED FLUORESCENT ORGANIC LIGHT-EMITTING DIODES; HIGHLY EFFICIENT ORGANIC LIGHT- EMITTING DIODES; ORGANIC LIGHT-EMITTING DIODES EMPLOYING EFFICIENT REVERSE INTERSYSTEM CROSSING; HIGHLY EFFICIENT ORGANIC LIGHT-EMITTING DIODE BASED	26 2013.5	\rightarrow	有机发光二极管
HIGH PERFORMANCE ORGANIC SOLAR CELLS;ALL- SOLUTION-PROCESSED BILAYER ORGANIC SOLAR CELLS;HIGH-EFFICIENCY ORGANIC SOLAR CELLS;POLYMER/FULLERENE BULK HETEROJUNCTION SOLAR CELLS;POLYMER-FULLERENE BULK HETEROJUNCTION SOLAR CELLS	25 2012.4	\rightarrow	高效有机太阳能电池



2012年国家自然科学基金委有机化学面上项目指南

- 有机化学是研究有机物质的来源与组成、合成与表征、结构与性质、反应与转化,以及功能与作用机理的科学,是创造新物质的重要学科之一。有机化学的新理论、新反应、新方法不仅推动了化学学科的发展,同时也促进了该学科与生命、材料、能源、信息、农业和环境等相关领域在更大程度上的交叉和渗透,进一步拓展了有机化学的研究领域,创造了新的学科生长点。当今有机化学研究的特点是:有机化学的分子设计与制备、分子识别与组装等概念正在影响着多个学科的发展;选择性反应尤其是催化不对称反应,已成为有机化学研究的热点;绿色化学作为有机化学研究中具有战略意义的前沿,正在为合理利用资源、解决环境污染和可持续发展等发挥重要的作用;有机化学与生命科学的交叉为研究和认识生命体系中的复杂现象及过程提供了新的方法和手段;有机化学与材料科学的交叉促进了新型有机功能物质的发现、制备和应用;新技术的发现与应用推动着有机化学的发展。
- 通过国家自然科学基金多年的持续资助,我国有机化学的基础研究在金属有机化学、物理有机化学、生物有机化学、天然有机化学和不对称合成等研究领域都取得了重要进展。今后,有机化学除了继续支持金属有机化学、不对称合成等优势学科外,将进一步加强下列几方面的基础研究:①物理有机和有机分析领域,重视发展新理论、新方法和新思路,关注人口与健康、农业、能源、环境和新材料等交叉领域的研究;②天然有机化学领域,加强新结构、新功能天然产物的发现,鼓励开展我国自己发现的、具有独特结构和重要生理活性天然产物的合成,同时鼓励发展新的合成方法;加强基于天然产物等活性小分子的化学生物学研究;③医药和农药创制领域,鼓励开展基于分子靶标的药物设计、新先导化合物和新靶标的发现以及结构与活性关系研究;④有机功能材料领域,加强分子设计、高效合成、组装与本征物理化学性质方面的研究;⑤超分子化学领域,注重分子识别、自组装方法及组装体的功能研究;⑥鼓励开展高效、高选择性的新型催化剂和试剂的研究及其应用,推动绿色化学与可持续化学的发展。



2016年国家自然科学基金委有机化学面上项目指南

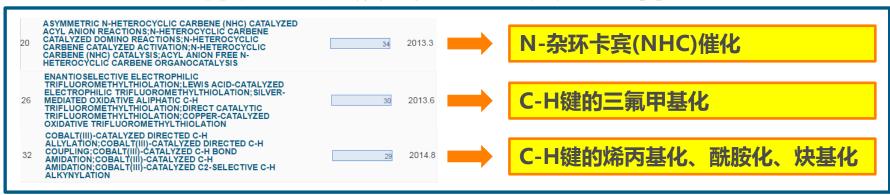
- 有机化学是研究有机物质的来源与组成、合成与表征、结构与性质、反应与转化,以及功能与作用机理的科学,是创造新物质的重要学科之一。从纵向的角度看,有机化学研究不断深化学科内涵,向宏观拓展、微观深入,力争全时空揭示分子结构一性质关系、化学键形成和断裂以及分子间相互作用的规律,寻求物质转化的最优条件,逐步实现创造和应用有机物质的精准化。从横向的角度看,有机化学积极拓展与其他学科的交叉融合,催生学科增长点,推动能源、健康、环境等领域重大科学问题的解决,促进国家经济和社会发展。当前有机化学研究的主要特点是:对有机物质结构、转化和相互作用规律的认识不断系统和深入,从而推动新反应、新试剂的发现;有机化学反应与合成更加注重选择性精准控制和原子/步骤经济性;惰性化学键与小分子的活化与转化、廉价金属催化、绿色合成、生物质转化等成为应对可持续发展需求的前沿领域;新结构/新活性分子与生物兼容性反应为解决分子层次的生命科学问题提供关键的物质和方法支持;创造全新功能材料分子和智能组装体系从源头上推动了材料科学的创新。
- 近年来,我国有机化学的基础研究无论在规模上还是在深度上都有了长足的进步,有机合成等领域已在国际上占有一席之地,形成了一些有特色的体系。但从近年来基金申请情况来看,我国的有机化学发展也存在如下突出问题:原创性和系统性仍不足、某些领域研究同质化明显、开辟和引领新领域和新方向的能力较弱、各分支学科发展不均衡及以论文为导向的急功近利倾向严重等。有机化学学科将继续支持各分支学科的发展,鼓励科学问题导向的原创性和系统性研究,强调研究思想、研究方向、研究内容以及评价方式的多元化,关注以物质转化为核心的有机合成基础研究原创性突破及对产业应用的源头贡献,进一步加强本学科与物理、材料科学和生命科学等领域的交叉。



2012 - 2016年国家自然科学基金委有机化学面上 项目指南研究前沿领域的变化

惰性化学键活化(碳氢活化)

有机化学领域的ESI研究前沿

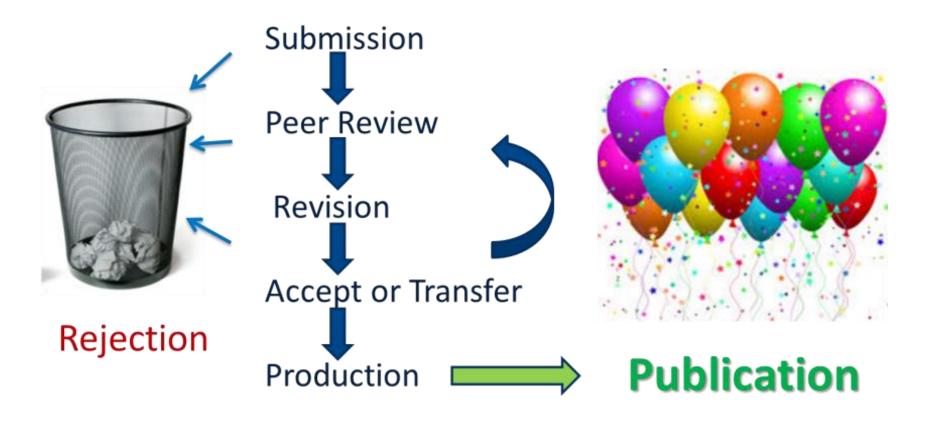


利用ESI研究前沿对基金资助领域进行预判





- the 'life' of a manuscript





- what is peer review?

- Assessment by independent experts
 - Usually at least two
 - Different reviewers may advise on different aspects
 - Chosen by the editor
- Journals provide guidelines
- Reviewers asked to return their report within two weeks (varies by journal)
- Constructive feedback helps:
 - Editor to make a decision
 - Authors to improve their manuscript



- what do peer reviewers look for?

- Quality
- Soundness of research
- Suitability of methods and analyses
- Soundness of analysis
- Appropriateness of the conclusions
- Reporting/clarity of the message
- Language/presentation
- Contribution to the literature
- Importance/interest
- Suitability to the journal's scope
- Research and publication ethics





- why peer review?

- Ensures that published articles are scientifically sound
- An opportunity to improve manuscripts
- If rejected: take criticism on board before submitting to another journal!





- making a decision after peer review

- Editors make a decision on the basis of the comments from the reviewers and their own assessment
- Reviewers often disagree with each other
- Editors may overrule reviewers
- Editors, not the reviewers, decide ultimately what is published





- decisions after peer review



Accepted

- All main aspects of the manuscript been assessed
- The study has been judged to be sound
- Study meets the required threshold for the journal (e.g. significant clinical impact)



Revisions

- Further experiments needed (e.g. more controls)
- Discuss limitations more clearly
- Ensure data supports conclusions



Rejected

- Extensive revisions required.
- Stats not appropriate
- Lack of ethical approval or missing data
- Inappropriate controls or methods for analysis
- Data do not support conclusions
- No novelty
- Misconduct, e.g. Plagiarism
- Unsuitable for journal scope or threshold



- rejection reasons why

Scientific soundness

Results are not sound

Interpretation is fundamentally flawed

Ethical concerns



Manuscript cannot be published (in current form)

Interest/advance

Not in scope for this journal

Not a sufficient advance

Not relevant to this journal's readership



Manuscript suitable for a different journal





- what to do if you are asked to revise your manuscript

- Ensure you understand what reviewers and editors are asking for (if unsure make an informal query to the
 editor prior to submitting your response)
- Provide a full and concise point-by-point response to the reviewers and editors
- If you disagree with something, provide a clear rationale for your argument within the response and back up with references where possible
- Give clear indication where revisions in the manuscript have been made (tracked changes, highlighted)
- Always be polite and phrase your responses to reviewers in a neutral way



- what to do if your manuscript is rejected

- All scientific careers are faced with rejection
- Take reviewers advice and improve the study/ manuscript
- If you are invited to resubmit, do the revisions that the reviewers request.
- If you disagree with a decision to reject then you can ask the editor to reconsider this is called an appeal or rebuttal
- Not all journals consider appeals check policy
- Never send an appeal immediately after receiving a decision always leave enough time to be calm!
- Most journals will only allow one appeal per manuscript







- writing your manuscript

Sections of a scientific paper reflect the scientific process:

- Background
- Methods
- Results
- Discussion
- Conclusions



- plan ahead

A good research paper starts long before you start writing the paper Before you start your research, think about:

- What is your hypothesis or research questions?
- What study design do you need to investigate this?
- What are the appropriate methods to answer your question? (controls, sample size)
- Do you need ethics approval?
- Do you need consent?
- Do you need to register your study? (clinical trials)





- research ethics: ethics approval

- Reputable journals will only publish ethically conducted research
- Research involving human subjects, human material or human data must have been performed in accordance with the declaration of Helsinki
- All papers reporting studies involving human subjects, human material, or human data must have:
- A statement of ethics, including the name of the ethics committee





- the cover letter

Important to make a good first impression:

- Get the journal name right!
- Write in clear English
- Don't write it like an abstract
- Focus on the key finding
- Rationale for the study should be well argued
- Why this research important?
- Why is it a good fit for the journal?





- the abstract

A well written abstract should provide::

- Clear background and aims
- Appropriate level of details about study design and results
- Clear conclusions

Abstract

Background: DNA demethylases regulate DNA methylation levels in eukaryotes. *Arabidopsis* encodes four DNA demethylases, *DEMETER (DME)*, *REPRESSOR OF SILENCING 1 (ROS1)*, *DEMETER-LIKE 2 (DML2)*, and *DML3*. While *DME* is involved in maternal specific gene expression during seed development, the biological function of the remaining DNA demethylases remains unclear.

Results: We show that ROS1, DML2, and DML3 play a role in fungal disease resistance in *Arabidopsis*. A triple DNA demethylase mutant, *rdd* (*ros1 dml2 dml3*), shows increased susceptibility to the fungal pathogen *Fusarium* oxysporum. We identify 348 genes differentially expressed in *rdd* relative to wild type, and a significant proportion of these genes are downregulated in *rdd* and have functions in stress response, suggesting that DNA demethylases maintain or positively regulate the expression of stress response genes required for *F. oxysporum* resistance. The *rdd*-downregulated stress response genes are enriched for short transposable element sequences in their promoters. Many of these transposable elements and their surrounding sequences show localized DNA methylation changes in *rdd*, and a general reduction in CHH methylation, suggesting that RNA-directed DNA methylation (RdDM), responsible for CHH methylation, may participate in DNA demethylase-mediated regulation of stress response genes. Many of the *rdd*-downregulated stress response genes are downregulated in the RdDM mutants *nrpe1* and *ago4* show enhanced susceptibility to *F. oxysporum* infection.

Conclusions: Our results suggest that a primary function of DNA demethylases in plants is to regulate the expression of stress response genes by targeting promoter transposable element sequences.

The abstract is the only thing invited reviewers see before they agree to peer review



How to write a good paper - preparing your paper

- Read the journal's submission guideline
- Read the journal's editorial polices
- Format your article correctly
- Write clearly and concisely



How to write a good paper - *interpreting your results*

When writing your paper, think about:

- What do your results really show?
- How does this fit with existing knowledge?
- What is new about the findings?
- What are the limitations?
- What can be concluded from your data?

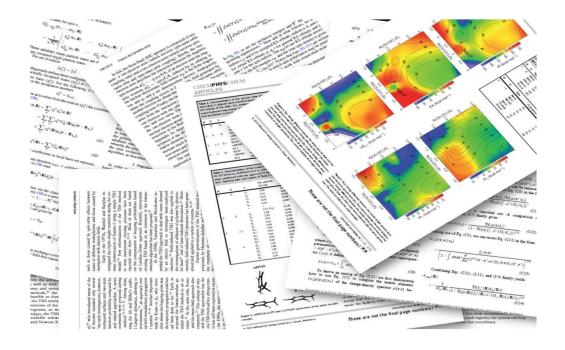


- 8 tips for writing a good paper

Tip 1:

Read lots of papers

- Join a journal club
- Read outside of your area





- 8 tips for writing a good paper

Tip 2:

Write clearly

- · Complex language is not needed
- Science is best when complex ideas are expressed in an easy to understand way
- Poorly written manuscripts get rejected
- You can use a professional copyediting service





- 8 tips for writing a good paper

Tip 3:

Don't write and edit at the same time

- Write the parts of the paper you're most excited about first
- Decide what the main message is early on
- Quality vs Quantity
- Get a colleague to feedback on your draft



- 8 tips for writing a good paper

Tip 4:

Don't forget about figures and tables

- Ensure these are high quality and clear
- Figure legends need to be descriptive
- Get a colleague outside of your field to feedback on your images



- 8 tips for writing a good paper

Tip 5:

Quality is everything

- Try to publish in as higher quality journal as you can
- One great study is better than several lesser quality studies
- Avoid trying to publish lots of papers from a single research project that provide only a small amount of new data



- 8 tips for writing a good paper

Tip 6:

Write clear responses to editors and reviewers

- Provide full, and concise point-by-point responses
- If you disagree, provide clear rationale for your argument and back up with references



- 8 tips for writing a good paper

Tip 7:

Become a reviewer

- Get used to how to critically assess science it helps you assess your own study
- Ask your supervisor if you can help with the next review they do



- 8 tips for writing a good paper

Tip 8:

Learn to live with rejection

- All scientific careers are faced with rejection
- Take reviewers' advice and improve the study/paper
- If you are invited to resubmit, do the revisions the reviewers ask for don't argue for the sake of it.





- types of publication misconduct

- Plagiarism
- Duplicate submission/publication
- Undeclared competing interests
- Unethical research involving humans or animals
- Data falsification/fabrication
- Image manipulation
- Gift/ghost authorship



- plagiarism

- Duplication of text or figures from <u>someone else's</u> work
- How much can you copy from someone else's work?
 - 1. None
 - 2. 10%
 - 3. 30%



- how do editors deal with plagiarism?

Follow COPE guidelines

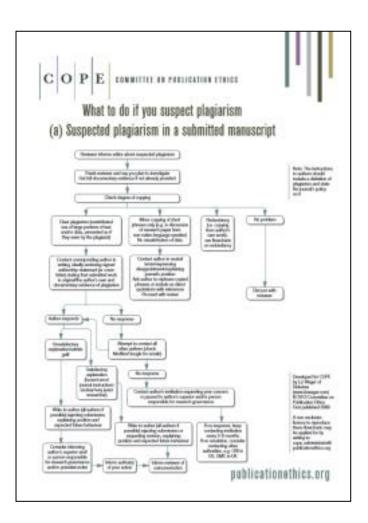
Use plagiarism detection software

During submission:

- Ask authors for an explanation
- May allow authors to re-write
- Manuscript may be rejected
- Editor may contact authors' institution

After publication:

May publish a retraction or correction





- text recycling (self-plagiarism)
- Duplication of text from your own previous work
- Usually without attribution
- Depends on journal's policy

Try to avoid repeating your published text

- If unavoidable:
 - Be transparent
 - Tell the editor
 - Cite the original article



- text recycling example

Transparently!

Methods (new article):

The full methods of this study have already been reported in our previous article [6]. Briefly, we conducted a randomised control trial involving patients over the age of 18 who had undergone and elective laparoscopic cholecystectomy in 2007/8 in one of four London teaching hospitals.

There is no need to repeat the description of the methods as the authors provide a citation for the details. This clarifies that the results reported in the new article are secondary outcomes from the previous study rather than misleading the reader into believing this was another study.



- duplicate submission

Is it ok to submit to more than one journal at once?

No!

Consequences of duplicate submission:

- Rejection of both manuscripts
- Editor may contact the authors' institution
- Duplicate publication
- May lead to retraction (14.2% of all retractions)
- Wastes editors' and reviewers' time



- competing interests

Competing interests (CI) can be:

- Financial
- Non-financial

Importance of declaring CI on submission

- Editor is aware during manuscript assessments
- Editor will not invite reviewers with the same CI.
- Reviewers are aware when assessing manuscript
- Readers are aware once published

Declaring a CI does not mean that an article will not be published



- competing interests examples

In your paper you report that a commercial sequencing technology works very well; you have shares in the company that makes the technology.

Is this a competing interest?

Yes – this is a financial competing interest



- competing interests examples

In your paper, you report that there are no adverse effects of smoking on fertility; your husband works in the cigarette industry.

Is this a competing interest?

Yes, this is a non-financial competing interest



- authorship

- Agree on authorship early
- Use ICMJE criteria
- Provide correct email addresses for all authors
- Tell the Editor about any changes

What problems can occur?

- Gift authorship
- Ghost authorship
- Authorship disputes

Authorship disputes can lead to delays



- who should not be an author?

Someone who has only been involved in:

- Acquisition of funding
- Collection of data
- General supervision

Contributors who do not meet the authorship criteria should be listed in the Acknowledgements

Authors should have made substantial contributions, according to ICMJE



- potential consequences of unethical behavior

- Article may be rejected
- Article may be retracted (if already published)
- Institution may be contacted
- May be unable to publish in the future (some) journals ban authors
- Loss of reputation
- Loss of employment



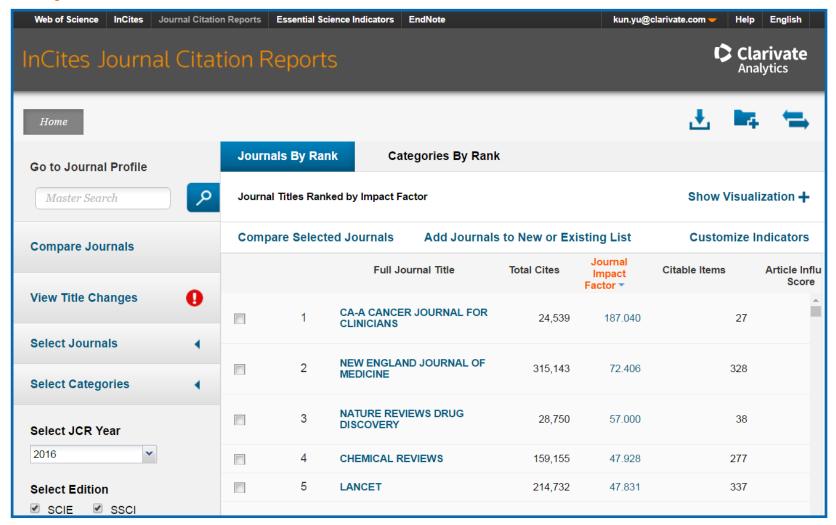


- factors need to be considered

- Impact factor
- Reputation in your field
- Audience broad vs specialist
- Speed
- Open access
- Peer review model



- Impact Factor

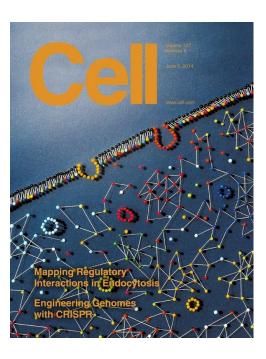




- reputation in your field

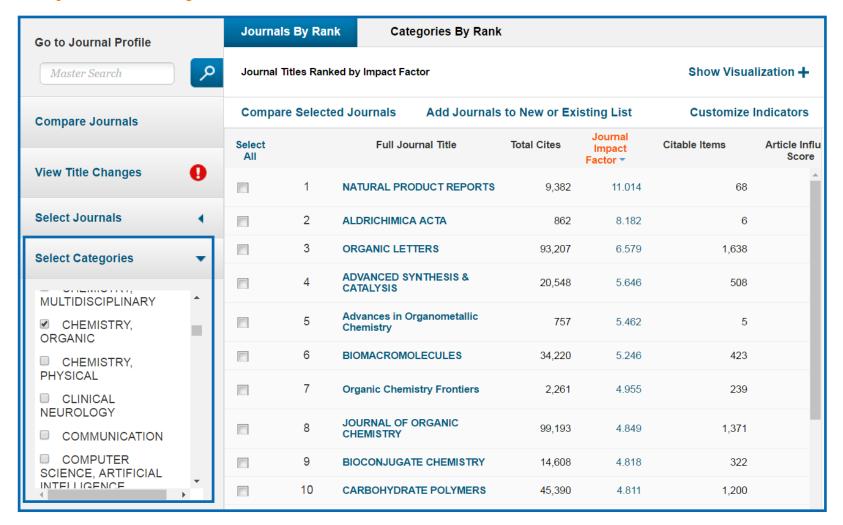






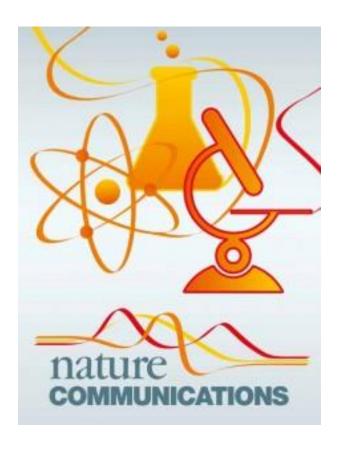


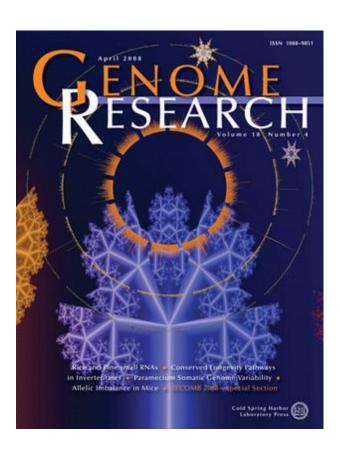
- reputation in your field





- audience: broad vs specialist







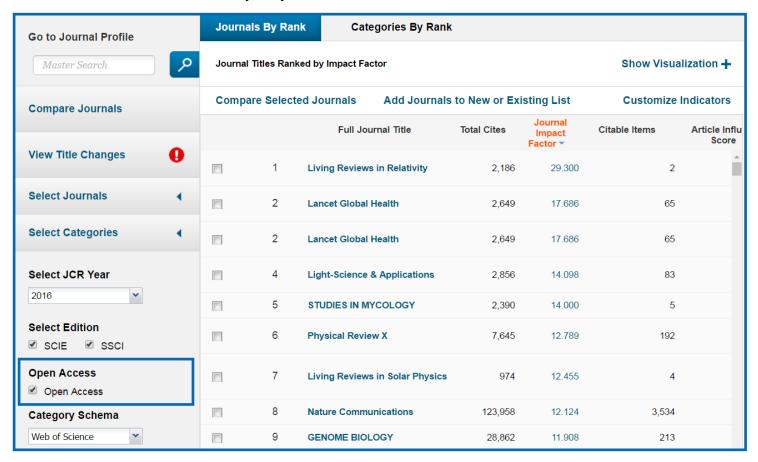
- speed

- Of the editorial process
- Of publication following acceptance
- Some journals give their average time for peer review on their website
- Some journals promise rapid publication on acceptance
- Ask your colleagues for their experience



- open access

- Make your research accessible to everyone
- Can increase the visibility of your research





- peer review model

- Single blind peer review reviewers are anonymous
- Double-blind peer review reviewers and authors are anonymous
- Open peer review author and reviewer names are revealed; reports posted online



- tips

If you are unsure, send a pre-submission enquiry

- Not a formal submission, just an email to the editors
- ...so you can approach several
- Please don't send the manuscript

What should go in it?

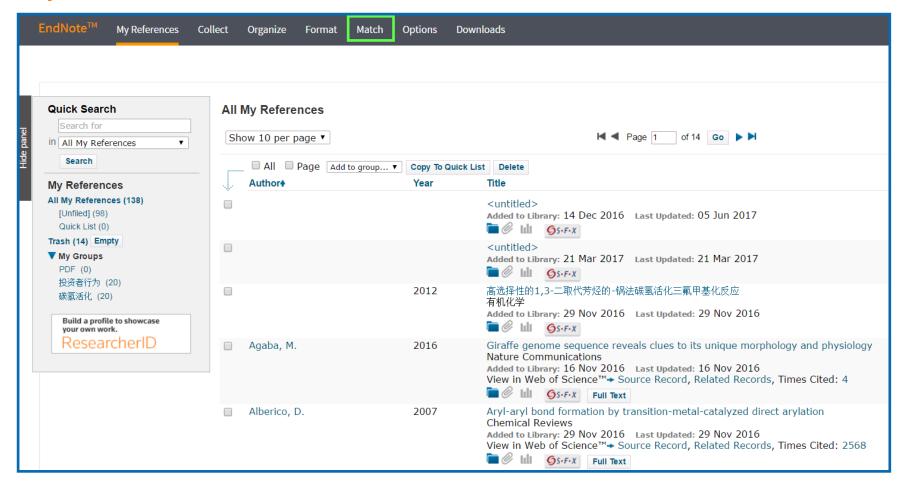
- Can just be an enquiry about scope
- Can be more detailed approach, key findings, significance of the work

What kind of response will you get?

- A definite no based on scope
- Discouraged from submitting based on advance and/or breadth of appeal
- Equivocal response –need to see the full manuscript
- Provisional yes the journal will probably send the manuscript for peer review

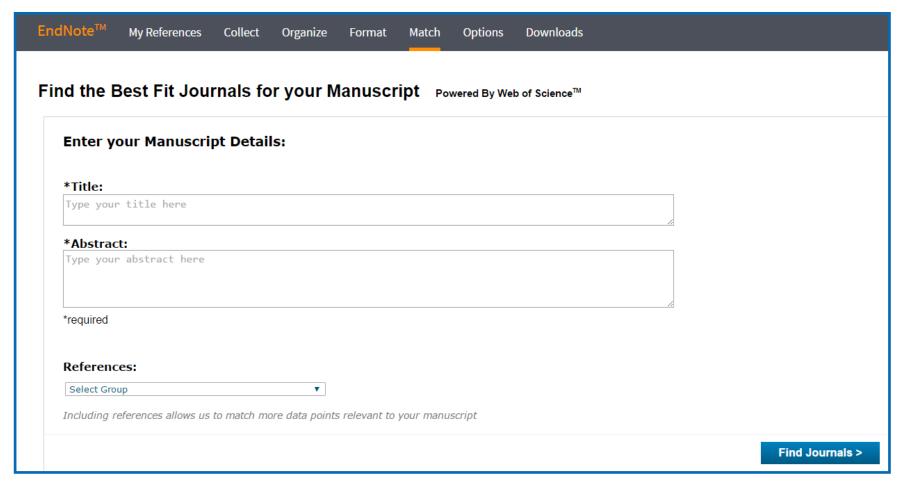


- tips





- tips





ADVANCED MATERIALS

Whitesides' Group: Writing a Paper**

By George M. Whitesides*

1. What is a Scientific Paper?

A paper is an organized description of hypotheses, data and conclusions, intended to instruct the reader. Papers are a central part of research. If your research does not generate papers, it might just as well not have been done. "Interesting and unpublished" is equivalent to "non-existent".

Realize that your objective in research is to formulate and test hypotheses, to draw conclusions from these tests, and to teach these conclusions to others. Your objective is not to "collect data".

A paper is not just an archival device for storing a completed research program; it is also a structure for *planning* your research in progress. If you clearly understand the purpose and form of a paper, it can be immensely useful to you in *organizing* and conducting your research. A good outline for the paper is also a good plan for the research program. You should write and rewrite these plans/outlines throughout the course of the research. At the beginning, you will have mostly plan; at the end, mostly outline. The continuous effort to understand, analyze, summarize, and reformulate hypotheses on paper will be immensely more efficient for you than a process

do *not* agree on the outline, any text is useless. Much of the *time* in writing a paper goes into the text; most of the *thought* goes into the organization of the data and into the analysis. It can be relatively efficient in time to go through several (even many) cycles of an outline before beginning to write text; writing many versions of the full text of a paper is slow.

All writing that I do—papers, reports, proposals (and, of course, slides for seminars)—I do from outlines. I urge you to learn how to use them as well.

2.2. How Should You Construct an Outline?

The classical approach is to start with a blank piece of paper, and write down, in any order, all important ideas that occur to you concerning the paper. Ask yourself the obvious questions: "Why did I do this work?"; "What does it mean?"; "What hypotheses did I mean to test?"; "What ones did I actually test?"; "What were the results? Did the work yield a new method of compound? What?"; "What measurements did I make?"; "What compounds? How were they characterized?". Sketch possible equations, figures, and schemes. It is







h-index
204

Average citations per item
129.76

Citing articles
99,655

Without self citations
98,536



