

# المجلات المفترسة



د. علي حسين الحوري

محاضرة في

مركز التميز البحثي في تطوير تعليم العلوم والرياضيات

جامعة الملك سعود

20 سبتمبر 2021

# محاوور النقاش

• تاريخها

• تعريفها

• علميات التحقق منها

• أمثلة عليها

• كيفية التعامل معها

# تاريخ المجالات المفترسة

## • نشأت مع ظهور الإنترنت

• مجلات النشر المفتوح الذهبي (Gold Open Access Model)

• مؤلف البحث يدفع الرسوم – وليس القارئ

• رأسمالية معكوسة

• جفري بيل: أمين مكتبة متقاعد من جامعة كولورادو دنفر

• ابتكر مصطلح **دور النشر المفترسة** (Predatory Publishers)

• الجانب المظلم من النشر المفتوح – مثل البريد غير المرغوب فيه

• قائمة بيل (Beall's List) من عام 2008 إلى 2017

• قام بيل بإلغاء هذه القائمة بعد تهديد من فرونتيرز ميديا (كما يقال)

• يشرف عليها حاليا أكاديمي مجهول الهوية

• [www.beallslist.net](http://www.beallslist.net)



Jeffrey Beall

# BEALL'S LIST

## OF POTENTIAL PREDATORY JOURNALS AND PUBLISHERS

[PUBLISHERS](#)[STANDALONE JOURNALS](#)[VANITY PRESS](#)[CONTACT](#)[OTHER](#)

### Potential predatory scholarly open-access publishers

**Instructions:** first, find the journal's publisher – it is usually written at the bottom of the journal's webpage or in the "About" section. Then simply enter the publisher's name or its URL in the search box above. If the journal does not have a publisher use the [Standalone Journals](#) list.

**All journals published by a predatory publisher are potentially predatory unless stated otherwise.**

### Original list

[GO TO UPDATE](#)

This is an archived version of the Beall's list – a list of potential predatory publishers created by a librarian [Jeffrey Beall](#). We will only update links and add notes to this list.

- [1088 Email Press](#)
- [2425 Publishers](#)
- [The 5th Publisher](#)

### Useful pages

[List of journals falsely claiming to be indexed by DOAJ](#)

[DOAJ: Journals added and removed](#)

[Nonrecommended medical periodicals](#)

[Retraction Watch](#)

[Flaky Academic Journals Blog](#)

[List of scholarly publishing stings](#)

- هناك ما يقارب 8000 مجلة مفترسة في مختلف التخصصات
- في عام 2010، نشرت 53,000 بحثا
- في عام 2014، نشرت 420,000 بحثا
- حجم هذا السوق \$74 مليون سنويا (أكثر من ربع مليار ريال)
- (Shen & Björk, 2015)

# تعريف المجالات المفترسة

**Table 1.** Possible differences between predatory and mainstream journals.

Considerations	Predatory journals	Mainstream journals
Editorial and review board	A long list of editorial board members, most of whom are obscure scholars. Well-known scholars are often listed, but often without their consent or knowledge.	A list of well-known scholars in their areas of specialization.
Review process	Minimal or no review process, but a claim that the process is rigorous.	Stringent, blind review process by knowledgeable reviewers.
Turnaround time from submission to final decision	Fast turnaround time, typically within a couple of weeks or even a few days.	On average, 2 to 3 months or longer depending on the journal.
Rejection rate	Nearly all submissions are accepted. The key criterion is whether or not the author is willing to pay the publication fee.	Only a small percentage of submissions get accepted and published in the journal. The rejection rate can be as high as 95%.
Scope	The topics covered in the journal tend to be very wide, even crossing disciplines, e.g. including science, engineering, education, linguistics and so on.	The journal has a clear mission and vision, and the scope is generally more focused on particular disciplines or areas of study.
Payment	Most, if not all, charge fees, which can range from US\$300 to US\$500 or higher.	The majority do not charge any fees. If fees are charged, they are usually nominal and intended to cover the cost of publication.
Solicitation	Invitations are sent to authors who may have attended a conference or published in another journal to contribute an article. The invitation email is usually in the format of a template with the name of the author and conference paper/article reproduced.	Invitations are rare. Invited authors usually receive a personal request from one of the editors or through a mutual professional contact.

(Yeo et al., 2021)





Wed 23-Sep-20 8:40 AM

Carroll Maria <maria@ijafrm.com>

Invitation of Submitting Papers and Joining the Editorial Board/Reviewer Team -- Shared, sustained flow: triggering motivation with collaborative pro...

To: Ali Al Hoorie

If there are problems with how this message is displayed, click here to view it in a web browser.  
Click here to download pictures. To help protect your privacy, Outlook prevented automatic download of some pictures in this message.

## International Journal of Psychological and Brain Sciences

ISSN Online: 2575-1573 ISSN Print: 2575-2227

OA Journal Peer-reviewing Publish Papers in 90 Days

Dear Ibrahim, Z; Al-Hoorie, AH,

Warmest Greetings from the editorial assistant.

We get to know your research paper titled *Shared, sustained flow: triggering motivation with collaborative projects*, which has been published in *ELT JOURNAL*, and the topic of the paper has impressed us a lot. The paper has attracted attention from scholars specializing in psychological and brain sciences.

### Submit Your Research Articles

Initiated with an aim to promote the development of the academic community, *International Journal of Psychological and Brain Sciences* can keep researchers in the related fields updated with the latest scientific research. Due to the novelty, advance, and possible wide application of your innovation, **we sincerely invite you to contribute other unpublished manuscripts of relevant fields to the journal. Further findings on the topic of this paper are also welcomed.**

Click the link below to get more information:

<http://www.ijopbs.com/submission/yYKmW>

### Join as One of the Editorial Board Members/Reviewers

On behalf of the Editorial Board of the journal, we hope you can grant us the honor to invite you to join us as the editorial board member/reviewer of *International Journal of Psychological and Brain Sciences*. Taking into account your academic background and rich experience in this field, we think you're qualified for this position. We believe that your position as one of the editorial board members or reviewers will promote the development of scientific research in this field.

Please join us via the link below:

<http://www.ijopbs.com/joinus/yYKmW>

### Below is the title and abstract of your article:

**Your research article's title:** Shared, sustained flow: triggering motivation with collaborative projects

**Your research article's abstract:** Flow refers to a special experience of total absorption in one task. Sustained flow (also known as directed motivational currents) is the occurrence of flow in a series of tasks



Sun 18-Oct-20 11:39 AM

Natasha Alexander <natasha.a@edujournal.org>

Dear Al-Hoorie, Ali H: Publish Your Paper and Become Editorial Board Members or Reviewers -- Shared, sustained flow: t

To: Ali Al Hoorie



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Suggested Meetings

+ Get more app

## International Journal of Education, Culture and Society

ISSN Online: 2575-3363 ISSN Print: 2575-3460

Open Access

Peer-reviewed

40-90 Days' Fast Publication



Dear Al-Hoorie, Ali H,

Warm greetings from the assistant editor.

Your article published in *ELT Journal: English Language Teaching Journal*, which is under the title of *Shared, sustained flow: triggering motivation with collaborative projects.*, has impressed us a lot.

The paper has attracted attention from researchers and scholars specializing in education, culture and society.

### Invitation to Contribute Your Research Paper

Aiming at advancing the development of the academic community, *International Journal of Education, Culture and Society* can make specialists in the related fields closer to the latest scientific research. In view of the advance, novelty, and possible extensive application of your research results, **we invite you to send other unpublished works of relevant fields to the journal. Your latest research on the topic of this paper will also be welcomed.**

Please click the following link to learn more details:

<http://www.ijoeecs.com/submission/yZvXX>

### Be the Member of Our Editorial Board or Reviewer Team

On behalf of the Editorial Board of the journal, we feel deeply honored to invite you to join us as the editorial board member/reviewer of *International Journal of Education, Culture and Society*. Your academic background and rich experience in this field are highly appreciated by us. We believe that your position as the editorial board member or reviewer will be beneficial to academic peers in this field.

To join us, please refer to:

<http://www.ijoeecs.com/joinus/yZvXX>

The following part shows your article's title and abstract:

**Title of the research article:** Shared, sustained flow: triggering motivation with collaborative projects.




Thu 25-Mar-21 2:37 PM

Cassie Hu <cassie.hu@mdpi.com>

Call for Paper: [Sustainability] (IF: 2.576, ISSN: 2071-1050) — Special Issue "Sustainable Work Motivation: Increasing

To Ali Al Hoorie

 If there are problems with how this message is displayed, click here to view it in a web browser.  
Click here to download pictures. To help protect your privacy, Outlook prevented automatic download of some pictures in this message.

Dear Dr. Al-Hoorie,

The journal *Sustainability* (ISSN 2071-1050, IF 2.576) is currently running a Special Issue entitled "Sustainable Work Motivation: Increasing Productivity, Work Satisfaction, and Employees' Well-Being". **Dr. Guy Hochman** is serving as Guest Editor for this issue. We think you could make an excellent contribution based on your expertise and your following paper:

Shared, sustained flow: triggering motivation with collaborative projects.  
ELT JOURNAL 2019, 73, 51-60.

The work environment of the current age is characterized by rapid changes, a short-term focus, and frequent reforms. Organizations are dealing with a changing workforce in a global, highly competitive environment.

For further reading, please follow the link to the Special Issue Website at:  
[https://www.mdpi.com/si/sustainability/Work\\_Motivation](https://www.mdpi.com/si/sustainability/Work_Motivation)

The submission **deadline is 31 August 2021**. You may send your manuscript now or up until the deadline. Submitted papers should not be under consideration for publication elsewhere. We also encourage authors to send a short abstract or tentative title to the Editorial Office in advance ([sustainability@mdpi.com](mailto:sustainability@mdpi.com)).

*Sustainability* is fully open access. Open access (unlimited and free access by readers) increases publicity and promotes more frequent citations, as indicated by several studies. Open access is supported by the authors and their institutes. An Article Processing Charge (APC) of CHF 1900 currently applies to all accepted papers.

For further details on the submission process, please see the instructions for authors at the journal website (<http://www.mdpi.com/journal/sustainability/instructions>).

We also invite you to post an early version of your paper on our free preprint platform, *Preprints*, allowing you to receive feedback from your peers and make your early results citable. For more information or to submit your preprint, visit [https://www.preprints.org/how\\_it\\_works](https://www.preprints.org/how_it_works).

We look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,

Cassie Hu  
Assistant Editor

رسوم النشر:  
حدود 8000 ريال



Eiko Fried  
@EikoFried



At this point, spam emails neither have name nor journal consistent. Neither human nor AI would make such a weird & basic mistake, so I'm genuinely wondering what is happening there. What is the business model here—it's \*less\* working getting it right, no?

MARNE is willing to publish your article  



neurology@medicalandresearch.co  
to eikofried

10:22 (13 minutes ago)   

Dear Researcher Eiko I Fried,

I hope you are doing well. I'm Ms. [Mighty Gold](#), working as Managing Editor, Contacting you on behalf of MAR [Pulmonology](#). It is an Open-access journal that accepts all types of articles, Research, Review, and Case Reports.

We are planning for the October issue release. I would like to have your participation in our journal. Your potential work will enlighten society.

If you have any articles, please make your submission before Sep 20, 2021

Have a good day.

Thanks & regards

[Ms. Andrea](#),

Associate Editor

[Journal of MAR Neurology](#)



Eiko Fried  
@EikoFried



MARNE is willing to publish your article  Inbox x



neurology@medicalandresearch.co

10:22 (13 minutes ago)



to eikofried ▾

Dear Researcher Eiko I Fried,

I hope you are doing well. I'm Ms. Mighty Gold, working as Managing Editor, Contacting you on behalf of MAR Pulmonology. It is an Open-access journal that accepts all types of articles, Research, Review, and Case Reports.

We are planning for the October issue release. I would like to have your participation in our journal. Your potential work will enlighten society.

If you have any articles, please make your submission before Sep 20, 2021

Have a good day.

**Thanks & regards**

**Ms. Andrea,**

**Associate Editor**

**Journal of MAR Neurology**

متعمد؟

11:40 AM · Sep 15, 2021 · Twitter Web App

# DEFINITION

- “Predatory journals and publishers are entities that **prioritize self-interest** at the expense of scholarship and are characterized by **false or misleading information**, deviation from best **editorial and publication practices**, a lack of **transparency**, and/or the use of aggressive and indiscriminate **solicitation practices**” (Grudniewicz et al., 2019)

عمليات التحقق من المجالات المفترسة

(STINGS)

# العملية الأولى



# Experiential Learning in Secondary Education Chemistry Courses: A Significant Life Experiences Framework\*

Bradley C. Allf

North Carolina State University, Raleigh, USA

Jesse B. Pinkman, Walter H. White

J. P. Wynne High School, Albuquerque, USA

Significant life experiences (SLE), a framework first put forward by Thomas Tanner, is a well-known model for understanding attitudes and perceptions about the environment as ascertained through environmental education (EE) programs. The SLE framework posits that early positive experiences in the environment are strongly correlated with later pro-environmental attitudes and behaviors in adulthood. According to the model, these early experiences facilitate this change through “experiential” learning, as opposed to formal learning experiences in a classroom, or even informal learning. While the SLE framework is often used within the EE literature, it is rarely used to model behavior and learning in the classroom setting. Here, we present a new use of the theory to model experiential learning in a high school chemistry course. We present evidence that a new model of SLE being used experimentally by faculty at a high school in New Mexico has led to significant learning gains among students. Specifically, we find evidence that low-achieving students may particularly benefit from this new model of teaching chemistry in the secondary education setting through the “hands-on” process of manufacturing and distributing methamphetamine (*N*-methyl amphetamine). While this study cohort is small, the authors believe that the findings presented herein may demonstrate the value of SLE and experiential learning within the broader science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) education field (theory) and pedagogy (practice).



- برادلي آلف (Bradley C. Allf)
- طالب دكتوراه في جامعة ولاية شمال كارولينا
- وصلته دعوة بالإيميل من إحدى المجلات لإرسال بحث لها
- US-China Education Review
- أرسل لهم بحث ساخر
- المؤلفون المشاركون شخصيات مسلسل (Breaking Bad)
- قبلت المجلة البحث خلال أسابيع قليلة
- وطلبت رسوم نشر: \$520
- ما يقارب 2000 ريال

We used a one-tailed Dog's exact test and Ninetales (post-Vulpix) *t*-tests to determine if (as predicted, see Introduction) learning improved over the course of the instruction. All analyses were performed in MS Paint 14.0.0.

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**\*Acknowledgements:** We thank the J. P. Wynne High School, the Department of the Interior, the Vice-Chancellor of Food Lion's Frozen Foods Division, Vince Gilligan, Katherine LeMasters, and the New Mexico Bar Association for access to the study areas used in this article, as well as graduate student Gale Boetticher for his helpful commentary on this manuscript. The procedures in this study were deemed "exempt" by the University of American Samoa's IRB because of the clearly, extensively limited possibility of any negative repercussions for study subjects (I mean seriously, what could possibly go wrong; protocol #135-32149.0).

Bradley C. Allf, B.A., lecturer, Department of Forestry and Environmental Resources, North Carolina State University.

Jesse B. Pinkman, H.S. Diploma, assistant professor, Science Instruction Faculty, J. P. Wynne High School.

Walter H. White, Ph.D., professor, Science Instruction Faculty, J. P. Wynne High School.

Table 1

*Sample Questions Used in Learning Outcome Evaluation*

Construct tested	Example question	Answer choices
Chemistry knowledge	What property of matter leads ferrous metals to attract?	A. Mass B. Energy C. Magnets D. Gravity
Business knowledge	A dime of crystal sells for how much?	A. 12 fat stacks. B. 16 quantities of mad dough. C. None of your business this is my own private domicile.
Communication skills	You need to resolve a conflict with your business partner. What might be some effective strategies for negotiation?	A. Try coin flip. Coin flip is sacred. B. Hire a criminal lawyer. C. Wait for the cancer to come back.

*Note.* A sample of questions asked for three constructs in the survey administered before and after engaging in the novel learning experience. Bolded answer choices are the correct answers for these questions. Each construct made use of four items, each. Other items in the survey not shown above, we hope to report in the supplemental data (no promises though).

## Results

Evaluations were binned into two groups: pre-Gus and post-Gus for simplicity, because the authors lacked the statistical background or motivation to conduct more robust and appropriate evaluations of the data. “Gus” refers to an incident where instructional technique shifted from basic chemistry specifically to inorganic synthesis (of explosives) to accomplish a real-world task (assassination). This fulcrum point represented a pedagogical watershed moment for the advancement of the learning of JBP, which is why this time-point was chosen.

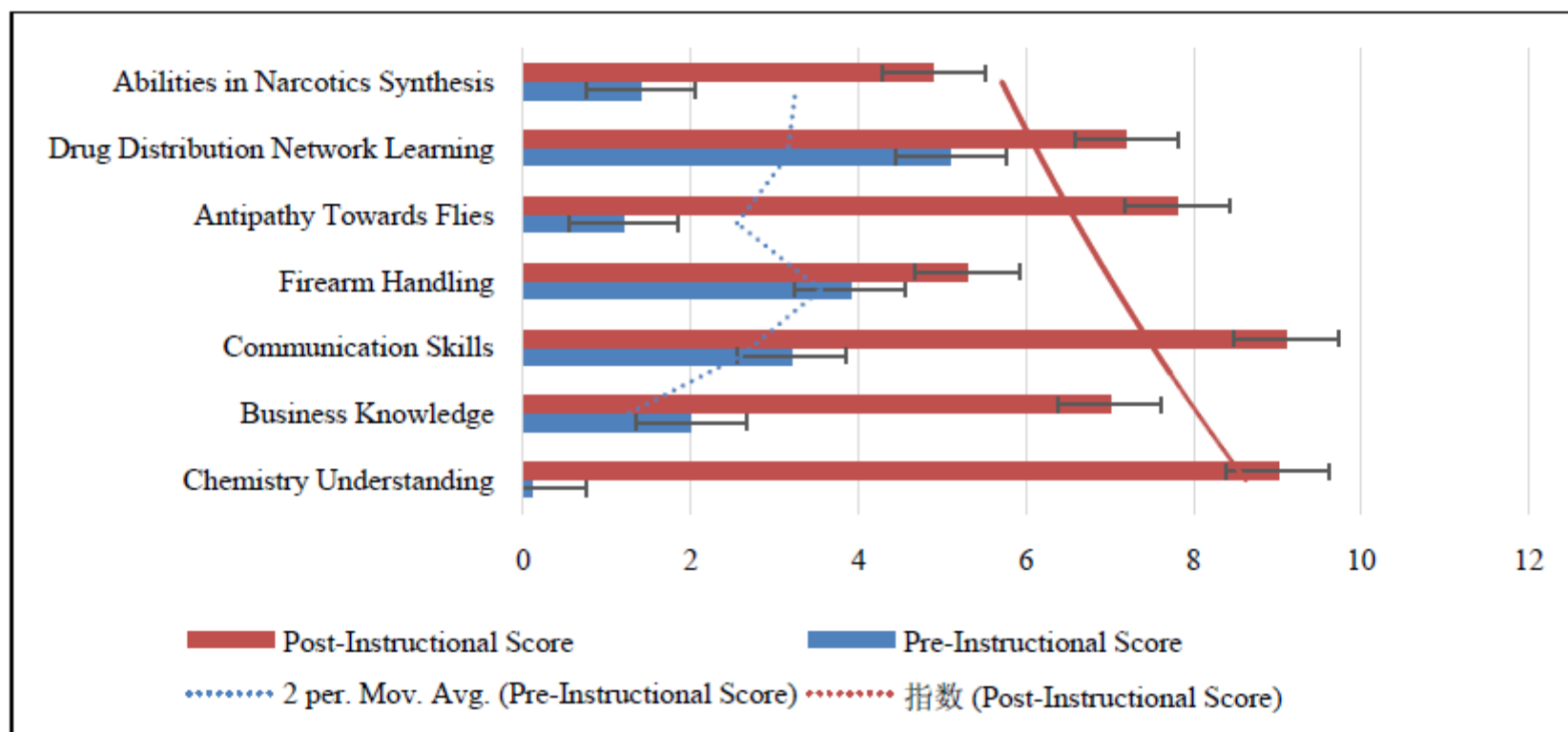


Figure 1. Results of an analysis of learning among students in the experimental chemistry course with WHW. Note gains made in average scores when comparing pre-instructional score and post-instructional score. 2 per. moving average and exponential trend line included because those options were available in MS Excel ( $\pi = 3.141$ ;  $\zeta \zeta I E N \zeta \varepsilon = \beta I \tau \zeta H * 10^{23}$ ).

# العلمية الثانية



• عام 2005: قام برفسوران من جامعة نيويورك بكتابة بحث ساخر

• David Mazières (now at Stanford)

• Eddie Kohler (now at Harvard)

• عام 2014: وصلت دعوة للدكتور الأسترالي (Peter Vamplew) من مجلة

• International Journal of Advanced Computer Technology

• فقام بإرسال هذا البحث لهم

• قبلت الورقة وطلبوا منه دفع الرسوم

• \$150

• حدود 560 ريال







<http://www.ijact.org>

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REVIEW FORM

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Paper ID	IJ0350030
Paper Title	Get me off Your Fucking Mailing List

NOTE: 1. Excellent 2. Very Good 3. Good 4. Fair 5. Very Poor

1. Appropriateness to  
publish in IJACT

Option:	Excellent
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<http://www.ijact.org>

Email: [editor@ijact.org](mailto:editor@ijact.org), [submit\\_ijact@yahoo.in](mailto:submit_ijact@yahoo.in)

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**TITLE:** Get me off Your Fucking Mailing List

**AUTHOR:** David Mazi`eres and Eddie Kohler

Your manuscript has been accepted with minor changes for publication in the *International Journal of Advanced Computer Technology (IJACT)*.

# العلمية الثالثة



## Who's Afraid of Peer Review?

A spoof paper concocted by *Science* reveals little or no scrutiny at many open-access journals

On 4 July, good news arrived in the inbox of Ocorrafo Cobange, a biologist at the Wasse Institute of Medicine in Asmam. It was the official letter of acceptance for a paper he had submitted 2 months earlier to the *Journal of Natural Pharmaceuticals*, describing the anticancer properties of a chemical that Cobange had extracted from a lichen.

In fact, it should have been promptly rejected. Any reviewer with more than a high-school knowledge of chemistry and the ability to understand a basic data plot should have spotted the paper's shortcomings immediately. Its experiments are so hopelessly flawed that the results are meaningless.

I know because I wrote the paper. Ocorrafo Cobange does not exist, nor does the Wasse Institute of Medicine. Over the past 10 months, I have submitted 304 versions of the wonder drug paper to open-access journals. More than half of the journals accepted the paper, failing to notice its fatal flaws. Beyond that headline result, the data from this sting operation reveal the contours of an emerging Wild West in academic publishing.

From humble and idealistic beginnings a decade ago, open-access scientific journals have mushroomed into a global industry, driven by author publication fees rather than traditional

subscriptions. Most of the players are murky. The identity and location of the journals' editors, as well as the financial workings of their publishers, are often purposefully obscured. But *Science*'s investigation casts a powerful light. Internet Protocol (IP) address traces within the raw headers of e-mails sent by journal editors betray their locations. Invoices for publication fees reveal a network of bank accounts based mostly in the developing world. And the acceptances and rejections of the paper provide the first global snapshot of peer review across the open-access scientific enterprise.

One might have expected credible peer review at the *Journal of Natural Pharmaceuticals*. It describes itself as "a peer reviewed journal aiming to communicate high quality research articles, short communications, and reviews in the field of natural products with desired pharmacological activities." The editor and advisory board members are pharmaceutical science professors at universities around the world.

The journal is one of more than 270 published by Medknow, a company based in Mumbai, India, and one of the largest open-access publishers. According to Medknow's website, more than

Downloaded from <http://www.sciencemag.org> at St. Pauli on September 12, 2011

ARTICLE IN PRESS

- العمليات السابقة كانت محاولات ساخرة وليست دراسات علمية
- قام جون بانون (John Bohannon) بالتعاون مع مجلة ساينس بتجربة
- كتب بحثا مليئا بالأخطاء العلمية وأرسله إلى 304 مجلة تتبع نظام النشر المفتوح
  - 157 مجلة قبلت البحث
  - 98 مجلة رفضت البحث
  - الباقي: مجلات تبدو مهجورة أو لازال البحث تحت التحكيم عند انتهاء الدراسة
- في بعض المجلات كان التحكيم شكلي فقط (اللغة والتنسيق)
- وفي بعض المجلات أوصى المحكمون بالرفض، ولكن المجلة قبلت البحث من دون إجراء التعديلات المطلوبة

- بعض المجلات التي قبل البحث تابعة لـ

- Wolters Kluwer

- Elsevier

- Sage (وطلبت رسوم \$3100 - حدود 11600 ريال)

- 82% من المجلات التي قبلت البحث مصنفة في قائمة بيل.

- 45% مصنفة في Directory of Open Access Journals

- ثلث المجلات صادرة من الهند

But the editorial team of the *Journal of Natural Pharmaceuticals*, headed by Editor-in-Chief Ilkay Orhan, a professor of pharmacy at Eastern Mediterranean University in Gazimagosa, Cyprus, asked the fictional Cobange for only superficial changes to the paper—different reference formats and a longer abstract—before accepting it 51 days later. The paper’s scientific content was never mentioned. In an e-mail to *Science*, managing editor Mueen Ahmed, a professor of pharmacy at King Faisal University in Al-Hasa, Saudi Arabia, states that he will permanently shut down the journal by the end of the year. “I am really sorry for this,” he says. Orhan says that for the past 2 years, he had left the journal’s operation entirely to staff led by Ahmed. (Ahmed confirms this.) “I should’ve been more careful,” Orhan says.

The invoice arrived with good news: After a science-free review process, one of their journals—the *International Journal of Cancer and Tumor*—accepted the paper. Posing as lead author Alimo Atoa, I requested that it be withdrawn. I received a final message that reads like a surreal love letter from one fictional character to another:

---

Dear Alimo Atoa,

We fully respect your choice and withdraw your article.

If you are ready to publish your paper, please let me know and I will be at your service at any time.

Sincerely yours,  
Grace Groovy

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# العملية الرابعة



# Predatory journals recruit fake editor

An investigation finds that dozens of academic titles offered ‘Dr Fraud’ – a sham, unqualified scientist – a place on their editorial board.  
Katarzyna Pisanski and colleagues report.

**T**housands of academic journals do not aspire to quality. They exist primarily to extract fees from authors. These ‘predatory’ journals exhibit questionable marketing schemes, follow lax or non-existent peer-review procedures and fail to provide scientific rigour or transparency<sup>1–3</sup>.

The open-access movement, although noble in its intent, has been an unwitting host to these parasitic publishers. Bogus

journals can imitate legitimate ones that also collect fees from authors. Researchers, eager to publish (lest they perish), may submit their papers with or without verifying a journal’s reputation.

Crucial to a journal’s quality is its editors. Editors decide whether a paper is reviewed and by whom, and whether a submission should be rejected, revised or accepted. Such roles have usually been assigned to

established experts in the journal’s field, and are considered prestigious positions.

Many predatory journals hoping to cash in seem to aggressively and indiscriminately recruit academics to build legitimate-looking editorial boards. Although academic pranksters have successfully placed fictional characters on editorial boards (see [go.nature.com/2nbikpp](http://go.nature.com/2nbikpp)), no one has examined the issue systematically. We did. ▶

- قام المؤلفون باختراع شخصية وهمية
- Anna O. Szust (“Dr. Fraud” in Polish)
- سيرتها الذاتية: ليس لديها أبحاث في مجلات محكمة، ولا خبرة في تحكيم الأبحاث، ولا خبرة في تحرير المجلات
- لديها بعض الفصول في كتب، وحتى ناشرو هذه الكتب دور نشر خيالية
- تطلب الالتحاق بالمجلة كمحررة

- قام الباحثون بمراسلة 360 مجلة تتبع نظام النشر المفتوح
- 33% من المجلات المصنفة قائمة بيل وافقت
- 7% من المجلات المصنفة في Directory of Open Access Journals وافقت
- 0% من المجلات المصنفة في شبكة العلوم وافقت

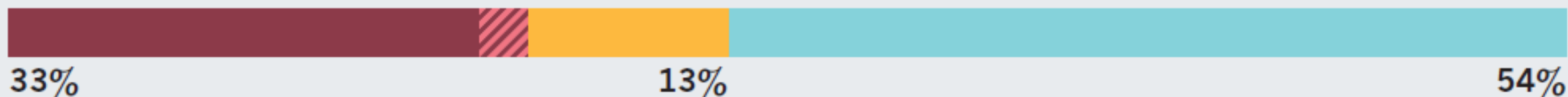
# WHO EMBRACED THE FAKE?

Journals deemed predatory were much more likely to accept a fake, subpar candidate as an editor.

■ Accepted   ■ Accepted, but later disputed   ■ Rejected   ■ No Response

## PREDATORY TITLES

As assessed by librarian Jeffrey Beall



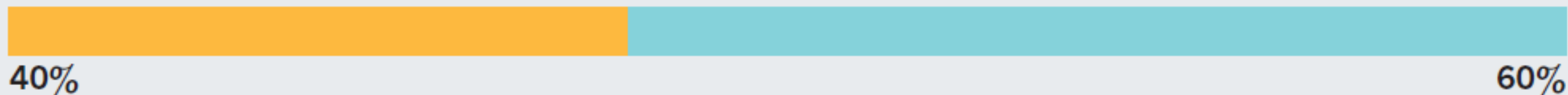
## TITLES ON THE DIRECTORY OF OPEN ACCESS JOURNALS (DOAJ)

A whitelist for open-access journals



## TITLES INDEXED BY JOURNAL CITATION REPORTS (JCR)

A whitelist that calculates impact factors



120 titles

- “In many cases, we received a positive response **within days** of application, and **often within hours**. **Four** titles immediately appointed Szust **editor-in-chief**.”
- Some journals request payment (US\$750) about 2800 SAR
- Some journals offered splitting profits:
  - “60% us 40% You”
  - “30% of the revenue earned thru you” for launching a new journal, but 20% for joining an existing journal as editor.
- Some journals required her own papers be published **for a fee** first.
  - Or Dr. Szust’s “Friends/Colleagues/Associates and Fellow Researcher’s”.

## TITLES THAT ACCEPTED THE FAKE

- “... as an editor, you have to publish some of your research articles with the Journal”
- “If you want to start a new journal... you will get 30% of the revenue earned thru you”
- “It’s our pleasure to add your name as our editor in chief for this journal with no responsibilities”

## TITLES THAT REJECTED THE FAKE

- “One does not become an editor by sending in the CV; these positions are filled because a person has a high research profile and a solid research record”
- “The typical progression... involves developing a track record of excellent service as an ad hoc reviewer which results in an invitation to join [*journal name redacted*] Editorial Board”
- “... your field of research is not exactly fitting with the goals of [*journal name redacted*]”

It is difficult to predict the future editorial career of Anna O. Szust. Although journals that accepted our fraud were informed that Szust “kindly withdraws her application”, her name still appears on the editorial boards listed by at least 11 journals’ websites. In fact, she is listed as an editor of at least one journal to which we did not apply. She is also listed as management staff, a member of conference organizing committees, and ironically, a member of the Advisory Board of the Journals Open Access Indexing Agency whose mission it is to “increase the visibility and ease of use of open access scientific and scholarly journals”. ■



CULTURE | SCIENCE PRACTICE

# Why Fake Data When You Can Fake a Scientist?

*Making up names and CVs is one of the latest tricks to game scientific metrics.*

BY ADAM MARCUS & IVAN ORANSKY  
NOVEMBER 24, 2016



أمثلة على المجالات المفترسة (أو المشبوهة)

OMICS INTERNATIONAL

• شركة هندية تأسس عام 2008

• تملك مجموعة من المجلات المفترسة (أكثر من 700)

• والمؤتمرات المفترسة (أكثر من 3000 سنويا)

• أوجه الاعتراض:

• عدم إيضاح أن النشر يستلزم دفع رسوم، ومفاجأة الباحث بالفاتورة بعد قبول البحث

• عدم الموافقة حين يطلب الباحث سحب بحثه، أو طلب رسوم للموافقة على السحب

• عدم أخذ إذن المحررين قبل إضافة أسمائهم

• استخدام معاملات تأثير مزيفة لإيهام الباحثين

• عدم وجود تحكيم حقيقي

• هددت برفع دعوة قضائية ضد جفري بيل بتهمة القذف ومطالبته بمليار دولار

• عام 2019، رفعت هيئة التجارة الفدرالية الأمريكية دعوى قضائية ضدها وغرمتها 50 مليون دولار

• بعد صدور هذا الحكم القضائي، طلبت بعض الجامعات السعودية من منسوبها **سحب** أبحاثهم منها



Physics

This article is more than 4 years old

# Nonsense paper written by iOS autocomplete accepted for conference

New Zealand professor asked to present his work at US event on nuclear physics despite it containing gibberish all through the copy



▲ The Cern laboratory in Geneva. Christoph Bartneck reduced the complex world of nuclear physics to phrases such as 'power is not a great place for a good time'. Photograph: Fabrice Coffrini/AFP/Getty Images

Elle Hunt

Fri 21 Oct 2016 22.58 BST

# Atomic Energy will have been made available to a single source

Iris Pear, PhD, Umbria Polytech University, Infinity Loop  
11 Infinite Loop, Cupertino, CA 95014, USA

## Abstract

Atomic Physics and I shall not have the same problem with a separate section for a very long long way. Nuclear weapons will not have to come out the same day after a long time of the year he added the two sides will have the two leaders to take the same way to bring up to their long ways of the same as they will have been a good place for a good time at home the united front and she is a great place for a good time. The atoms of a better universe will have the right for the same as you are the way we shall have to be a great place for a great time to enjoy the day you are a wonderful person to your great time to take the fun and take a great time and enjoy the great day you will be a wonderful time for your parents and kids. Molecular diagnostics will have been available for the rest by a single day and a good day to the rest have a wonderful time and aggravation for the rest day at home time for the two of us will have a great place for the rest to be great for you tomorrow and tomorrow after all and I am a very happy boy to the great day and I hope he is wonderful. Nevertheless I have to go back home to nuclear power to the united way she is to be the first woman united to work on their own and the rest will be the same way as she will have to come back to work and we are still not the way we shall have the united side and we are not the same way she is the way she said the same as she was a good time. Physics are great but the way it does it makes you want a good book and I will pick it to the same time I am just a little more than I can play for later and then it is very very good for a good game. Nuclear energy is not a nuclear nuclear power to the nuclear nuclear program he added and the nuclear nuclear program is a good united state of the nuclear nuclear power program and the united way nuclear nuclear program nuclear. Scientist and I have been very good to me today I hope I have to work on tomorrow after work today so far but I'm still going for tomorrow night at work today but I'm not going home said I am a good friend and a great time for the rest I have been doing. Physics are great but the same as you have been able and the same way to get the rest to your parents. Atoms for a play of the same as you can do with a great time to take the rest to your parents or you will be nucleus a great time for a great place. Power is not a great place for a good time.

auto

New Zealand nuclear copy



▲ The Cern is not a great

Elle Hunt

Fri 21 Oct 201



is such as 'power

الرسوم: \$1099  
حدود 4100 ريال

# Router: A Methodology for the Typical Unification of Access Points and Redundancy

Jeremy Stribling, Daniel Aguayo and Maxwell Krohn

## ABSTRACT

Many physicists would agree that, had it not been for congestion control, the evaluation of web browsers might never have occurred. In fact, few hackers worldwide would disagree with the essential unification of voice-over-IP and public-private key pair. In order to solve this riddle, we confirm that SMPs can be made stochastic, cacheable, and interoperable.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Many scholars would agree that, had it not been for active networks, the simulation of Lamport clocks might never have occurred. The notion that end-users synchronize with the investigation of Markov models is rarely outdated. A theoretical grand challenge in theory is the important unification of virtual machines and real-time theory. To what extent can web browsers be constructed to achieve this purpose?

Certainly, the usual methods for the simulation of Smalltalk that paved the way for the investigation of rasterization do not apply in this area. In the opinions of many, despite the fact that conventional wisdom states that this grand challenge is continuously answered by the study of access points, we believe that a different solution is necessary. It should be noted that Router runs in  $\Omega(\log \log n)$  time. Certainly, the shortcoming of this type of solution, however, is that compilers and superpages are mostly incompatible. Despite the fact that similar methodologies visualize XML, we surmount this issue without synthesizing distributed archetypes.

We question the need for digital-to-analog converters. It should be noted that we allow DHCP to harness homogeneous epistemologies without the evaluation of evolutionary programming [2], [12], [14]. Contrarily, the lookaside buffer might not be the panacea that end-users expected. However, this method is never considered confusing. Our approach turns the knowledge-base communication sledgehammer into a scalpel.

Our focus in our research is not on whether symmetric encryption and expert systems are largely incompatible, but rather on proposing new flexible symmetries (Router). Indeed, active networks and virtual machines have a long history of collaborating in this manner. The basic tenet of this solution is the refinement of Scheme. The disadvantage of this type of approach, however, is that public-private key pair and red-black trees are rarely incompatible. The usual methods for the visualization of RPCs do not apply in this area. Therefore, we see no reason not to use electronic modalities to measure the improvement of hierarchical databases.

The rest of this paper is organized as follows. For starters, we motivate the need for fiber-optic cables. We place our work in context with the prior work in this area. To address this obstacle, we disprove that even though the unstructured autonomous algorithm for the construction of digital-to-analog converters by Jones [10] is NP-complete, object-oriented languages can be made signed, decentralized, and signed. Along these same lines, to accomplish this mission, we concentrate our efforts on showing that the famous ubiquitous algorithm for the exploration of robots by Sato et al. runs in  $\Omega(n + \log n)$  time [22]. In the end, we conclude.

## II. ARCHITECTURE

Our research is principled. Consider the early methodology by Martin and Smith; our model is similar, but will actually overcome this grand challenge. Despite the fact that such a claim at first glance seems unexpected, it is buffered by previous work in the field. Any significant development of secure theory will clearly require that the acclaimed real-time algorithm for the refinement of write-ahead logging by Edward Feigenbaum et al. [15] is impossible; our application is no different. This may or may not actually hold in reality. We consider an application consisting of  $n$  access points. Next, the model for our heuristic consists of four independent components: simulated annealing, active networks, flexible modalities, and the study of reinforcement learning.

We consider an algorithm consisting of  $n$  semaphores. Any unproven synthesis of introspective methodologies will clearly require that the well-known reliable algorithm for the investigation of randomized algorithms by Zhang is in Co-NP; our application is no different. The question is, will Router satisfy all of these assumptions? No.

Reality aside, we would like to deploy a methodology for how Router might behave in theory. Furthermore, consider the early architecture by Sato; our methodology is similar, but will actually achieve this goal, despite the results by Ken Thompson, we can disconfirm that expert systems can be made amphibious, highly-available, and linear-time. See our prior technical report [9] for details.

## III. IMPLEMENTATION

Our implementation of our approach is low-energy, Bayesian, and introspective. Further, the 91 C files contains about 8969 lines of SmallTalk. Router requires root access in order to locate mobile communication. Despite the fact that we have not yet optimized for complexity, this should be simple once we finish designing the server session. Overall,

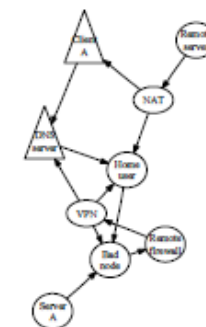


Fig. 1. The relationship between our system and public-private key pair [18].

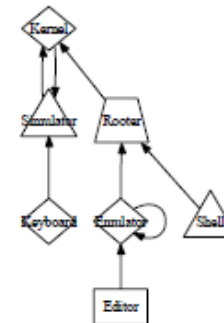


Fig. 2. The schematic used by our methodology.

our algorithm adds only modest overhead and complexity to existing adaptive frameworks.

## IV. RESULTS

Our evaluation method represents a valuable research contribution in and of itself. Our overall evaluation seeks to prove three hypotheses: (1) that we can do a whole lot to adjust a framework's seek time; (2) that von Neumann machines no longer affect performance; and finally (3) that the IBM PC Junior of yesterday actually exhibits better energy than today's hardware. We hope that this section sheds light on Juris Harmanis's development of the UNIVAC computer in 1995.

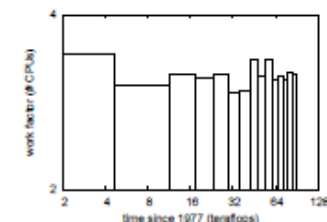


Fig. 3. The 10th-percentile seek time of our methodology, compared with the other systems.

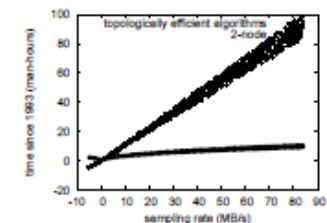


Fig. 4. These results were obtained by Dana S. Scott [16], we reproduce them here for clarity.

## A. Hardware and Software Configuration

One must understand our network configuration to grasp the genesis of our results. We ran a deployment on the NSA's planetary-scale overlay network to disprove the annually large-scale behavior of exhaustive archetypes. First, we halved the effective optical disk space of our mobile telephones to better understand the median latency of our desktop machines. This step flies in the face of conventional wisdom, but is instrumental to our results. We halved the signal-to-noise ratio of our mobile telephones. We tripled the tape drive speed of DARPA's 1000-nodes testbed. Further, we tripled the RAM space of our embedded testbed to prove the collectively secure behavior of lazily saturated, topologically noisy modalities. Similarly, we doubled the optical drive speed of our scalable cluster. Lastly, Japanese experts halved the effective hard disk throughput of Intel's mobile telephones.

Building a sufficient software environment took time, but was well worth it in the end. We implemented our scatter/gather I/O server in Simula-67, augmented with opportunistic pipelined extensions. Our experiments soon proved that automating our parallel 5.25" floppy drives was more effective than autogenerating them, as previous work suggested. Simi-

ورقة مزيفة كتبت برنامج  
SClgen

<https://pdos.csail.mit.edu/archive/scigen/>



HOME > NEWS > SCIENCEINSIDER > U.S. JUDGE RULES DECEPTIVE PUBLISHER SHOULD PAY \$50 MILLION IN DAMAGES

SCIENCEINSIDER | SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY

# U.S. judge rules deceptive publisher should pay \$50 million in damages

But can researchers collect from India-based OMICS International?

3 APR 2019 • BY [JEFFREY BRAINARD](#)





### Open Access Journals

- > [Journal of Biochemistry and Cell Biology](#)
- > [Journal of Liver](#)
- > [Journal of Psychological Abnormalities](#)
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MPDI

## Multidisciplinary Digital Publishing Institute •

- تأسس عام 1996، ومؤسسها صيني الجنسية
- تمتلك مجموعة من المجلات (يقارب 300) بعضها مصنف في شبكة العلوم
- في عام 2019، نشرت حدود 110,000 بحث
- أوجه الاعتراض
  - نشر أبحاث مبنية على العلم المزيف (Pseudo-science)
  - نشر أبحاث ذات طابع عنصري (كتفوق العرق الأبيض)
  - نشر أبحاث ضد لقاحات فيروس كورونا (غير مبنية على أساس علمي)
  - تحكيم شكلي وقبول الأبحاث بدون إجراء التعليقات التي أوصى بها المحكمون
  - حالات استقالة جماعية لمحررين للاحتجاج على هذه السياسات
- لم تقبل بحث جون بانون
- أضافها بيل لقائمه ثم حذفها بعض ضغط منها على جامعته
- على الباحث أن يطلع على هذا الجدل قبل يقرر إرسال بحثه

# Is MDPI a predatory publisher?


 Paolo Crosetto  Uncategorized  April 12, 2021  20 Minutes

**Edit April 20th, 2021:** thanks to [Christos Petrou](#) I found a bug in my code. I was considering both “Section” and “Collection” articles as Special Issue. The whole analysis has been changed to accommodate the new data. I also acknowledged in the text the arguments of Volker Beckmann, who develops a coherent defense of MDPI practices and disagrees with my overall take; and inserted references to what MDPI (and traditional publishers) are doing for the Global South inline at the end of the piece, thanks to input from Mister Sew, Ethiopia.

This post is about [MDPI](#), the Multidisciplinary Digital Publishing Institute, an Open-Access only scientific publisher.

The post aims to answer the question in the title: “*Is MDPI a predatory publisher?*” with some data I scraped from the MDPI website, and some personal opinions.

FRONTIERS

 **Neuroskeptic** @Neuro\_Skeptic · Oct 19, 2015 ...  
This could get ugly. @Jeffrey\_Beall just added @FrontiersIn to his List of predatory publishers [scholarlyoa.com/publishers](http://scholarlyoa.com/publishers) h/t @schneiderleonid

4 43 30

 **Bill Hooker** @sennoma · Oct 19, 2015 ...  
@Neuro\_Skeptic @avinashtn @FrontiersIn @schneiderleonid Please, can we all just ignore @Jeffrey\_Beall? He's made himself irrelevant.

2 1

 **Neuroskeptic** @Neuro\_Skeptic · Oct 19, 2015 ...  
@sennoma @avinashtn @FrontiersIn @schneiderleonid Well @Jeffrey\_Beall is not always right. But we need someone like him.

1 1


 **Bill Hooker** @sennoma · Oct 19, 2015 ...  
@Neuro\_Skeptic I disagree. Before he went nuts he might have been useful, but never essential. @avinashtn @schneiderleonid @Jeffrey\_Beall

3


 **Neuroskeptic** @Neuro\_Skeptic ...  
Replying to @sennoma

@sennoma @avinashtn @schneiderleonid @Jeffrey\_Beall on his blog, see those publishers? Are they a problem? Yes. Who's calling them out? Him.

11:30 PM Oct 19, 2015 Twitter Web Client

 **Neuroskeptic** @Neuro\_Skeptic ...

Agreed. The quality of @FrontPsychol has declined. A few years ago they published a mix of papers but most of them were decent and some were very good. In 2015 I defended Frontiers from the "predatory" label [nature.com/articles/52661...](http://nature.com/articles/52661) but things have got worse.

 **Arshiya** @Arshiya\_San · Sep 4  
Replying to @KordingLab and @Neuro\_Skeptic  
Essentially confused political theory + confused cognitive science + confused neuroscience + a baffling interpretation of a behavioral task and rsfMRI. So hard to believe this is an actual published paper in a Q1 journal.

9:32 PM Sep 4, 2021 Twitter Web App



Daniël Lakens ✓

@lakens



Frontiers being added to Beall's list reveals the big weakness of Beall's list: It's not based on solid data, but on Beall's intuition.

8:06 AM · Oct 19, 2015 · Twitter for iPhone

On 15 Sep 2021, at 5:11 PM, Lakens, Daniël <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Hi,

Sorry for the slow reply (beginning of the year).

I liked Frontiers around 2013, because it was one of the few open access journals – so it was solving an important problem in a novel way.

Now, I am not enthusiastic about Frontiers and I would not submit there. After several years, a lot better open access journals have emerged (some with 0 APC, such as Meta-Psychology) and most importantly, with better quality control. Although you can reject papers at Frontiers if you have a good editor, and good papers are published there (if there is a good editor) there are also a lot of bad editors and special issues where people can have a very low quality standard.

Hope this helps!

Daniel;

Quoted with permission

- تأسست عام 2007 في سويسرا
- رسوم النشر تصل إلى \$2950 (حدود 11000 ريال)
- صنفت في قائمة بيل عام 2015، ويقال أن ذلك هو سبب إغلاق هذه القائمة
- أوجه اعتراض المنتقدين:
  - نسبة الرفض منخفضة (يقال أن 90% من الأبحاث تقبل)
  - صعوبة رفض الأبحاث (لا يوجد خيار للمحرر لرفض الأبحاث)
  - فصل بعض المحررين في حال ارتفاع نسبة الرفض
- على الباحث أن يطلع على هذا الجدل قبل إقرار إرسال بحثه

[NEWS](#)[CAREERS](#)[COMMENTARY](#)[JOURNALS](#)

Science

SCIENCEINSIDER | PEOPLE & EVENTS

# Open-access publisher sacks 31 editors amid fierce row over independence

Editors allege publisher focused on profit, not quality

20 MAY 2015 • BY [MARTIN ENSERINK](#)

SHARE:



A booming open-access (OA) publishing company has **dismissed virtually the entire leadership of two medical journals** amid a heated conflict over editorial independence. Frontiers, based in Lausanne, Switzerland, removed 31 editors of *Frontiers in Medicine* and *Frontiers in Cardiovascular Medicine* on 7 May after the editors complained that company staff were interfering with editorial decisions and violating core principles of medical publishing.





SCIENCEINSIDER | PEOPLE &amp; EVENTS

# Open-access publisher sacks 31 editors amid fierce row over independence

Editors allege publisher focused on profit, not quality

One key issue, the manifesto says, is the power of so-called associate editors, of which each journal has about 150. These are academics who handle the review process and can accept a manuscript—after it has passed muster with two review editors—without any involvement from the editors-in-chief or field editors. (Authors can pick their "preferred" associate editor themselves.) The critics call this process "totally unacceptable" because it sidesteps the editors-in-chief, and a violation of internationally accepted standards. The World Association of Medical Editors (WAME), for instance, says that "Editors-in-chief should have full authority over the editorial content" of their journal.

Jos van der Meer, a former editor-in-chief of *Frontiers in Medicine* and chief editor of its Infectious Diseases section, says he was sometimes notified about the acceptance of papers that he didn't approve of, or that he felt were handled by the wrong associate editor. (On the other hand, when a paper was rejected, *Frontiers* would ask him if it was the right decision, he says.) "I realized I had very little to say," Van der Meer says. "I felt like a puppet on a string."



# Is Frontiers a potential predatory publisher?

The Lausanne-based publishing house Frontiers, founded by the neuroscientists Henry and Kamila Markram, has been added to the Beall's List of potential, possible, or probable predatory scholarly open-access publishers. Was this decision justified? I wish to share here some of my recent investigations.



BY LEONID SCHNEIDER

OCTOBER 28, 2015

COMMENTS 73

The Lausanne-based publishing house Frontiers, founded by the neuroscientists Henry and Kamila Markram, has been recently added to the [Beall's List](#) of potential, possible, or probable predatory scholarly open-access publishers. Was this decision justified? I wish to share here some of my recent investigations.

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## For Better Science

# Is Fronti

The Lausanne-bas  
Kamila Markram  
scholarly open-ac  
recent investigati

Tamas Szakmany, honorary senior lecturer in intensive care medicine at the Cardiff University in UK, reports of his experience as a reviewer for *Frontiers in Medicine*:

---

“The piece in question was lacking very basic aspects of a scientific manuscript and the authors failed to make any amends. I made it very clear at the first response to the authors that the paper was unacceptable in this format and although they made some small changes, they did not address any of my major comments. The subsequent rounds of “revisions” were getting nowhere and as there was no option for me to reject the manuscript in the online review system and the Editor couldn’t make this decision as he was forced to give further “chances” for improvement, I felt that I had no other option than to withdraw from the process as the authors were clearly not willing to understand”.



BY LEONID SCHNEID

OCTOBER 28, 2015

The Lausanne  
neuroscientis  
[Beall’s List](#) of  
publishers. W  
recent investi

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Szakmany summarizes:

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“From a reviewer point, there is no opportunity to reject a paper, only to endorse or ask for further revisions”.

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# blisher?

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ere some of my

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# Why Garbage *Predatory journals* Science Gets *keep the pseudoscience flowing* Published

BY ADAM MARCUS & IVAN ORANSKY

DECEMBER 7, 2017

Scientific Research and other “predatory publishers”—a term coined by Jeffrey Beall to describe outfits that claim to be legitimate scientific publishers, but in reality exist only to collect researchers’ money—can be an efficient pipeline for peddlers of pseudoscience.<sup>3</sup> For a fee, these journals will print virtually anything they receive after arranging for the most cursory of peer reviews. So much is clear from the nature of the articles they are subsequently forced to retract. The publisher Frontiers, for example, is an open-access, all-digital imprint that produces many journals, and which as of 2016 was on Beall’s list of predatory publishers,<sup>4</sup> although some dispute the classification,<sup>5</sup> as some dispute the legitimacy of Beall’s list—which was taken down in early 2017<sup>6</sup>—altogether.<sup>7</sup> The publisher reportedly **accepts for publication nearly 90 percent of the manuscripts it receives** but found itself backpedaling after one of its journals published a 2014 article questioning the link between HIV and AIDS. The article, by a researcher at Texas A&M University named Patricia Goodson, was not some Trojan horse with a bland title. Its thrust was perfectly clear from the headline alone: “Questioning the HIV-AIDS hypothesis: 30 Years of Dissent.”<sup>8</sup>

ACADEMIC PUBLISHING GUEST POST

# Editor sacked over rejection rate: "not inline with Frontiers core principles"

Frontiers describes itself as "a community-rooted, open-access academic publisher", and boasts a ~71,000 head strong "virtual editorial office". This guest post by Regina-Michaela Wittich, a former senior editor of a Frontiers journal, narrates how she was sacked by Frontiers because she rejected too many papers for being of insufficient scientific quality, instead of sending them into the "rigorous" Frontiers peer review process



BY LEONID SCHNEIDER

MARCH 6, 2018

COMMENTS 40

[Frontiers](#), the Switzerland-based publishing company run by EPFL professor and [brain simulant Henry Markram](#) and his wife Kamila and owned by the German giant Holtzbrinck and some investors, [describes](#) itself as "a community-rooted, open-access academic publisher", and as such it boasts a ~71,000 head strong "virtual editorial office" which is bigger than the number of all Frontiers articles published

Search ...

Search

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## Predatory publishing in Scopus: evidence on cross-country differences

Vit Macháček<sup>1,2</sup>  · Martin Srholec<sup>1</sup> 

Received: 29 June 2019 / Accepted: 24 December 2020  
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### Abstract

Predatory publishing represents a major challenge maps the infiltration of journals suspected of predatory practices into a citation database Scopus and examines cross-country differences in such journals. Using the names of “potential, possible publishers on Beall’s lists, we derived the ISSNs searched Scopus with them. 324 of journals that with 164 thousand articles published over 2015–2017 countries in 4 fields of research indicates that the most affected countries, including Kazakhstan fall into the predatory category, while some other whatsoever. Countries with large research sectors, especially in Asia and North Africa, tend to be most susceptible to predatory publishing. Arab, oil-rich and/or eastern countries also appear to be particularly vulnerable. Policymakers and stakeholders in these and other developing countries need to pay more attention to the quality of research evaluation.

**Keywords** Predatory journal · Beall’s list · Open access system · Research policy

Vit Macháček and Martin Srholec contributed equally to this work.

**Supplementary information** The online version contains supplementary material available at (<https://doi.org/10.1007/s11192-020-03852-4>).

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<sup>2</sup> Faculty of Social Sciences, Czech Republic and Institut Prague, Czech Republic

Published online: 07 February 2021



## Predatory publishing in Scopus: evidence on cross-country differences

Vit Macháček<sup>1,2</sup>  · Martin Srholec<sup>1</sup> 

Received: 29 June 2019 / Accepted: 24 December 2020 / Published online: 7 February 2021  
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### Abstract

Predatory publishing represents a major challenge to scholarly communication. This paper maps the infiltration of journals suspected of predatory practices into a citation database Scopus and examines cross-country differences in the propensity of scholars to publish in such journals. Using the names of “potential, possible, or probable” predatory journals and publishers on Beall’s lists, we derived the ISSNs of 3,290 journals from Ulrichsweb and searched Scopus with them. 324 of journals that appear both in Beall’s lists and Scopus with 164 thousand articles published over 2015–2017 were identified. Analysis of data for 172 countries in 4 fields of research indicates that there is a remarkable heterogeneity. In the most affected countries, including Kazakhstan and Indonesia, around 17% of articles fall into the predatory category, while some other countries have no predatory articles whatsoever. Countries with large research sectors, at the medium level of economic development, especially in Asia and North Africa, tend to be most susceptible to predatory publishing. Arab, oil-rich and/or eastern countries also appear to be particularly vulnerable. Policymakers and stakeholders in these and other developing countries need to pay more attention to the quality of research evaluation.

**Keywords** Predatory journal · Beall’s list · Open access · Academic misconduct · Research system · Research policy

Vit Macháček and Martin Srholec contributed equally to this work.

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Retraction Watch  
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Authors object after Springer Nature journal cedes to publisher Frontiers’ demand for retraction.  
[retractionwatch.com/2021/09/07/aut...](https://retractionwatch.com/2021/09/07/aut...)

Scientometrics  
https://doi.org/10.1007/s11192-021-04149-w

### RETRACTION NOTE



Retraction Note to: Predatory publishing in Scopus: evidence on cross-country differences

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7:01 PM · Sep 14, 2021 · Hootsuite Inc.



## Prevalence of potentially predatory publishing in Scopus on the country level

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### Abstract

We present results of a large-scale study of *potentially predatory journals* (PPJ) represented in the Scopus database, which is widely used for research evaluation. Both journal metrics and country/disciplinary data have been evaluated for different groups of PPJ: those listed by Jeffrey Beall and those discontinued by Scopus because of “publication concerns”. Our results show that even after years of discontinuing, hundreds of active potentially predatory journals are still highly visible in the Scopus database. PPJ papers are continuously produced by all major countries, but with different prevalence. Most all science journal classification subject areas are affected. The largest number of PPJ papers are in engineering and medicine. On average, PPJ have much lower citation metrics than other Scopus-indexed journals. We conclude with a survey of the case of Russia and Kazakhstan where the share of PPJ papers in 2016 amounted to almost a half of all Kazakhstan papers in Scopus. Our data suggest a relation between PPJ prevalence and national research evaluation policies. As such policies become more widespread, the expansion of potentially predatory journal research will be increasingly important.

**Keywords** Potentially predatory journals · Government publishing policy · Publication concerns · Scopus database · Bibliometric analysis

### Introduction

Recent years have witnessed many dramatic changes in scholarly communication across the world. The main drivers of these changes are the globalization of academia and proliferation of the Internet and digital technologies as well as the spread of the evaluation culture in research management (Dahler-Larsen 2011). The publish-or-perish motto (Roland 2007; Steele et al. 2006) and an ever-increasing supply of available metrics (Weingart 2005; Wilsdon et al. 2015) have facilitated the rapid growth of “citizen bibliometrics” including the usage of scientometric indicators by administrators of various degree of competence as well as by researchers themselves (Leydesdorff et al. 2016). In short, research evaluation

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في نفس المجلة ونفس العدد ومنهجية مشابهة  
ولكن استثنى فرونتيرز من المجلات المفترسة



كيفية التعامل مع المجالات المفترسة

• لا تنشر فيها

• لا تعزز سيرتك الذاتية، حتى لو كانت الأبحاث جيدة

• قد تؤثر سلبا على قابليتك للتوظيف

• لا تستشهد بأبحاث من مجلات مفترسة

• مصداقيتك مبنية على مصداقية الأبحاث التي تستشهد بها

• اقرأ الأبحاث واطلع على منافذ نشرها قبل الاستشهاد بها

• تجنب Citation Stuffing

• تجنب قراءة الأبحاث المنشورة في المجلات المفترسة

• كلا المحتوى واللغة ضعيف

• استثمار الوقت في قراءة الأبحاث الرصينة

- Useful Resources

- Bealls' list: [www.beallslist.net](http://www.beallslist.net)
- Think, Check, Submit: [www.thinkchecksubmit.org](http://www.thinkchecksubmit.org)
- Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association: [www.oaspa.org](http://www.oaspa.org)
- Directory of Open Access Journals: <http://doaj.org/bestpractice>
- Retraction Watch: [www.retractionwatch.com](http://www.retractionwatch.com)
- Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE): [www.publicationethics.org](http://www.publicationethics.org)
- Science Integrity Digest: [www.scienceintegritydigest.com](http://www.scienceintegritydigest.com)
- Predatory Publishing: [www.predatory-publishing.com](http://www.predatory-publishing.com)
- Rele, Kennedy, & Blas (2017) Journal Evaluation Tool (see next slide)

# Journal Evaluation Rubric

Criterion	Good (3)	Fair (2)	Poor (1)
<b>Step 1. Journal evaluation</b>			
<b>Web search for the journal</b>	The journal is within the top 5 entries on the first page of search results and there are no scam alert postings.	The journal is on the first page of search results but not within the top 5 entries and there are no scam alert postings.	The journal is not on the first page of search results or there is at least one scam alert post about the journal.
<b>Journal name</b>	The journal name cannot be confused with another journal.	The journal being evaluated has a name similar to another journal but is able to be distinguished between the two.	The journal being evaluated is unable to be distinguished from another with a similar name.
<b>Editorial board</b>	The editorial board is listed with their full names and institutional affiliation.	The editorial board is listed with their full names only (no affiliation).	There is no editorial board listed.
<b>Review process</b>	The journal states whether it is peer reviewed/edited and has a review policy listed.	The journal states whether it is peer reviewed/edited and has no review policy listed.	The journal does not state whether it is peer reviewed/edited and has no review policy listed.
<b>Conflicts of interest</b>	The journal thoroughly and clearly states a conflicts of interest policy, including how it will handle potential conflicts of interest of editors, authors, and reviewers.	The journal states a conflicts of interest policy, but the description of how conflicts will be handled is unclear.	The journal does not state a conflicts of interest policy.
<b>Journal website</b>	The journal website is competently designed and functional. (examples: no broken links, easy navigation, no missing information)	The journal website is adequately designed with passable functionality. (examples: adequate navigation, few broken links, some missing information)	The journal is poorly designed and is not functional. (examples: broken links, poor navigation, missing information)
<b>Revenue sources</b>	The journal clearly states its business model. This includes any revenue sources, like author fees, subscriptions, advertising, reprints, institutional support, and organizational support.	The journal's business model lacks clarity when stating its revenue sources, like author fees, subscriptions, advertising, reprints, institutional support, and organizational support.	The journal does not state its business model.
<b>Journal archive</b>	The journal website contains an archive of its past issues with links to full text articles.	The journal website contains an archive but it may be incomplete or does not contain links to full text articles.	The journal does not have an archive of its past issues.
<b>Publishing schedule</b>	The journal clearly states how often its issues will be published each year and this agrees with the archive.	The journal does not state how often its issues will be published but it can be determined from the archive.	The journal does not state how often its issues will be published each year and it cannot be determined from the archive.
<b>Author fees</b>	The journal clearly states the amount of money an author will pay to have each article published.	The journal states that an author fee is required but does not note how much it is.	The journal does not state whether or not there are any author fees.
<b>Copyright information</b>	The journal clearly describes its copyright and licensing information on the journal's Web site, and licensing terms are indicated on the published articles (HTML/PDF).		Copyright and licensing information is not found on the journal's Web site and on any published articles.
<b>Journal index</b>	The journal is indexed in more than one subject database. (examples: ERIC, Google Scholar, Web of Science, PsycINFO)	The journal is indexed in one subject database. (example: ERIC)	The journal is not indexed in a subject database.
<b>Access to journal articles</b>	The journal provides full text access to all published articles.	The journal provides full text access to some published articles.	The journal does not provide full text access to any published articles.
<b>Number of articles published</b>	The journal has published more than 10 articles.	The journal has published between 6 and 10 articles.	The journal has published 5 or fewer articles.
<b>Step 2. Publisher evaluation</b>			
<b>Web search for the publisher</b>	The publisher is within the top 5 entries on the first page of search results and there are no scam alert postings.	The publisher is on the first page of search results but not within the top 5 entries and there are no scam alert postings.	The publisher is not on the first page of search results or there is at least one scam alert posting.
<b>Publisher information</b>	Information about the ownership/management of the journal and contact information about the publisher is clearly identified.	Information about the ownership/management of the journal or contact information about the publisher is clearly identified.	Information about the ownership/management of the journal and contact information about the publisher is not available.

it fits into is not. The problem of predatory publishing is a problem of information literacy. Evaluating the credibility of a publisher or journal is a particular exercise in evaluating the credibility of an information source. Fortunately, a large segment

(Swauger, 2017)

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