Publishing Scientific Article in International Journal

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Why Publish?

- Disseminate new knowledge
- Improve theory and practice
- Join the scholarly conversation
- Contribute to institution's reputation

Why Refereed International Journals?

- Not commercial: no fees (most of them)
- Status
- More weight
- More rigour
- Reference Point (Researchers refer to)
- Academic Career
- Establish a name and Reputation
- Knowledge dissemination
- Lead to collaboration

How to Decide on A Journal?

- Decide on your paper's focus and audience
- Select journal(s)
- Review journal editorial policy
- Sample recent papers
- Align your paper to journal style
- Follow submission requirements
- Understand the review process

How to Decide on A Journal?

- Quality: Journal ranking
- Speed of publication
- Relevance of subject
- Ask staff/colleagues for help

Competition for space in international journals is intense

How to Decide on A Journal?

- **Journals used by yourself or mentors/colleagues**

  Which journals do you use frequently to keep track of new developments in your field? Which journals are used by the main researchers/authors in your area of research? Does the professional organization you belong to publish any journals?

- **Consider your desired audience**

  Knowing the scope and aim of the journal can help assess whether the article will reach the intended audience. If the target audience is international, select a journal with an international focus. If the target audience is limited to a select area of research, select a journal with a narrow focus as opposed to one with a multidisciplinary focus.

Source: http://becker.wustl.edu/pdf/preparepub.pdf

How to Decide on A Journal?

- **Impact and ranking & Indexing status by citation databases**
  Impact and ranking factors of journals are indicators of journal quality. Examples of impact and ranking factors include the frequency in which an average article from a journal is cited in other publications over a specified time period; the number of articles published per year (ISI Journal, SCOPUS, Professional Association, etc)

- **Journal information and reputation**
  Factors such as the circulation count, the number of years in publication, the language/s of the journal, frequency of publication, number of articles published per year, reputation of the publisher, journal, editorial members.

- **Acceptance/Rejection rate, Peer review process**
  Acceptance rates provide a measure of determining how competitive a particular journal is.

How to Decide on A Journal?

Best way: Is your work appropriate? Is the paper format follows the guidelines? If not, the manuscript will immediately be rejected by the editor and will not be seen by reviewers.

- *Visit the journal's website*. They often list their "aims and scope" and follow the author guidelines and formatting exactly.
- *Does your work meet the quality standards of the publication*?
- *Do you cite other articles from the journal*? A journal that you rely on heavily for background research is often an appropriate place to submit your work.

Writing Barriers

- Lack of momentum to write
- Limited writing support available
- Lack of time for writing
- Lack of confidence
- Fear of criticism and rejection
- Limited knowledge of the publication process
- Poor writing skills

Effective Writers

Strategies of professional writers

1. Schedule daily writing
2. Set daily word or page goals
3. Put off judging text during creation
4. Keep records of production
5. Reward goal achievement
6. Control writing setting and conditions
7. Obtain advice and feedback

Zimmerman, B. J. (1998). Academic studying and the development of personal skill: A self-regulatory perspective. *Educational Psychologist, 33,* 73-86.

Five habits of effective academic writers

1. Write regularly
2. Set realistic goals
3. Start writing before they are ready
4. Seek help on early drafts
5. Spend time on revision

Boice, R. (1990). *Professors as writers*: *A self-help guide to productive writing.* Stillwater, Oklahoma: New Forums Press.

Some Hints

- Start with a *conference paper*
- *Examine and study carefully a sample of journal papers*, this will give you some insights into the expectations and standards for a refereed journal paper
- *Decide on a journal* paper which is relevant to your area of research
- *Draft an outline* of your paper and discuss with co-author/colleague
- Produce the first draft
- *Pass paper to your colleagues for comments*
- Improve paper
- Submit paper

Focusing on A Topic

Asking questions while planning the research

- Is the topic researchable?
- Is the topic of enough interest?
- Will the results be of interest to others?
- Is the topic likely to be publishable?
  - Does the study (a) fill a gap, (b) replicate,
  - (c) extend, or (d) develop new ideas in the scholarly literature?

Basic of Writing A Paper : Importance of Structure

- Structure is everything
- Make sure that readers know where they are, where they are going, and why
- IMRaD
  - Introduction--Why did I do it?
  - Methods--What did I do?
  - Results--What did I find?
  - Discussion-- What might it mean? Limitations?

Draft an Outline of Your Paper

- Abstract: Introduce the paper aim (set the context), research methodology, main contribution.
- Introduction: subject matter, introducing the paper including critical literature review: comprehensive, refereed papers.
- Research methodology: very clear, rigorous
- Main findings: facts and data, statistics, 2nd layer analysis, etc
- Testing and validation: If any
- Conclusions and further work
- References: APA, Harvard, etc

Title

A good title tells what the paper is about;

- Informative: describes the subject and perhaps the research context
- Specific: differentiates your research from other published papers on the subject
- Concise: gives only important details

Abstract

Content:

1. What was the purpose of the research?
2. Why was the research carried out?
3. How was the research conducted?
4. What did the researcher discover?

- The abstract should be a stand-alone summary of the entire paper.
  - Although it appears first, better to write the abstract last.
  - No references in abstract & Undefined abbreviations
- Be specific and concise.
  - Many journals have a limit on length.

Abstract

- Example:

  This paper describes the importance of applying proper management in dealing with delays in construction for a growing economy. The main objective of this paper is to identify the management tools that are practiced in the local construction industry in mitigating delay. It also aims to identify the main factors that lead to project delays and to suggest recommendations on how to overcome or mitigate effects of the problem. Data is gathered from responses from questionnaire survey and interviews with those involved in construction project. The surveys and research findings indicate that delay incidents occur mainly during the construction phase of a project and one or more parties usually contribute to delay. This paper highlights the importance of having more experienced and capable construction managers as well as skilled laborers to enable the industry to develop at a faster rate either nationally or internationally.

(Abstract extracted from the Journal of Construction Engineering and Management)

Abstract

- Example:
  Ion Dynamics and Water Percolation Effects in DNA Polymorphism

  The dynamics of ions and water at the surface of DNA are studied by computer simulations in a wide range of hydrations involving the zone of low-hydration polymorphism in DNA. The long-range mobility of ions exhibits a stepwise increase at three distinct hydration levels. The first of them is close to the midpoint of the water percolation transition as well as the midpoint of the transition between A- and B-DNA forms. It coincides with the onset of the dissociation of ion pairs on the DNA surface probably caused by the increase in the water dielectric permittivity due to the appearance of the spanning hydrogen-bonding network. The other two steps are attributed to the formation of percolating water layers on the surface of DNA accompanied by the progressive escape of ions from the DNA surface. The results agree with earlier experimental data and further corroborate the suggested universal mechanism of the low hydration polymorphism in DNA including intraduplex electrostatic condensation close to the water percolation threshold.

  (Abstract extracted from the Journal of the American Chemical Society)

Introduction

- Why did we start?
  - create reader interest (background information)
  - focus on an issue, a problem or a question relevant to the study
- What has gone before?

  critical review on previous research
- Why was this study needed?
  - discuss deficiencies in previous research on the topic
  - propose a new/different way of investigating the same topic/aspect of the topic

Methodology

- Methodology
- Justification
- Data Collection

Eg. The medium-term evaluation of the warranty and the traditional contracts was based on the performance and cost analyses over a 5-year warranty period. For the medium-term analysis, effectiveness was measured in terms of (1) the area bounded by the performance curve, threshold line, and the age=5 years vertical line; and (2) average pavement condition.

For each comparison pair of warranty and traditional contracts, tests of significance were carried out to ascertain whether any significant differences exist in the performance levels exhibited by pavements constructed using the two alternative contracting systems.

Result and Discussion

- **RESULTS**
  - state results
  - usually accompanied by tables, figures, charts which present data

eg. (Seaview Development Corp., Inc. 2005), eleven elements with different variables were tested in order to analyze the actual construction. All of the eleven elements listed in Table 1 somehow affected the quality of the final product of the construction. For instance, the surface of the concrete panels has a direct relationship with the construction of the concrete slabs; the curing compound, the type of chairs used, the type of bond breaker, the concrete mix, and the type of vibration method.

- **DISCUSSION**
  - Explain why your work contributes to research area
  - Evaluate results
  - State expected/unexpected outcome
  - Justify work
  - Refer to previous work
  - Make claims
  - Suggest recommendations
  - State limitations

Conclusion

Four basic steps to take in writing a conclusion

(the '4S' model)

Step 1: Summarise your research

Step 2: Spell out your contribution

Step 3: State the limitations of your study

Step 4: Suggest potential areas of further research

Flow

Consider the following passages. Underline the parts in passage b that differ from passage a. Why does b have better "flow" than a?

a) Lasers have found widespread application in medicine. Lasers play an important role in the treatment of eye disease and the prevention of blindness. The eye is ideally suited for laser surgery. Most of the eye tissue is transparent. The frequency and focus of the laser beam can be adjusted according to the absorption of the tissue. The beam "cuts" inside the eye with minimal damage to the surrounding tissue – even the tissue between the laser and the incision. Lasers are effective in treating some causes of blindness. Other treatments are not. The interaction between laser light and eye tissue is not fully understood.

b) Lasers have found widespread application in medicine. For example, they play an important role in the treatment of eye disease and the prevention of blindness. The eye is ideally suited for laser surgery because most of the eye tissue is transparent. Because of this transparency, the frequency and focus of the laser beam can be adjusted according to the absorption of the tissue so that the beam "cuts" inside the eye with minimal damage to the surrounding tissue – even the tissue between the laser and the incision. Lasers are also more effective than other methods in treating some causes of blindness. However, the interaction between laser light and eye tissue is not fully understood.

References

Style: Harvard System, Chicago Manual Style, American Psychological Association Style, etc.

EXAMPLE:

- Article in a journal

McLaren, P.. & Estrada, K. (1993). A dialogue on multiculturalism and democratic culture. Educational Researcher, 22. 27-33.

- Newspaper article

Morain, D. (1993, June 7). Poor counties hit hardest by budget cuts. The Los Angeles Times, p. A1.

- Proceedings of meetings/conferences

Eble, C. C. (1976). Etiquette books as linguistic authority. In P. A. Reich (Ed)., The Second LACUS Forum. 1975 (pp. 468-475). Columbia, SC: Hornbeam.

- Unpublished dissertation or thesis

Peter, B. (1995). The biographer as autobiographer: The case of Virginia Wolf. Unpublished master's thesis, Pace University, Riverdale, NY.

- Electronic media

Laroche, J. M. (1984, February). Typology of instructional theories [on-line]. International Review of Applied Linguistics in Language Teaching, 22, 41-52.

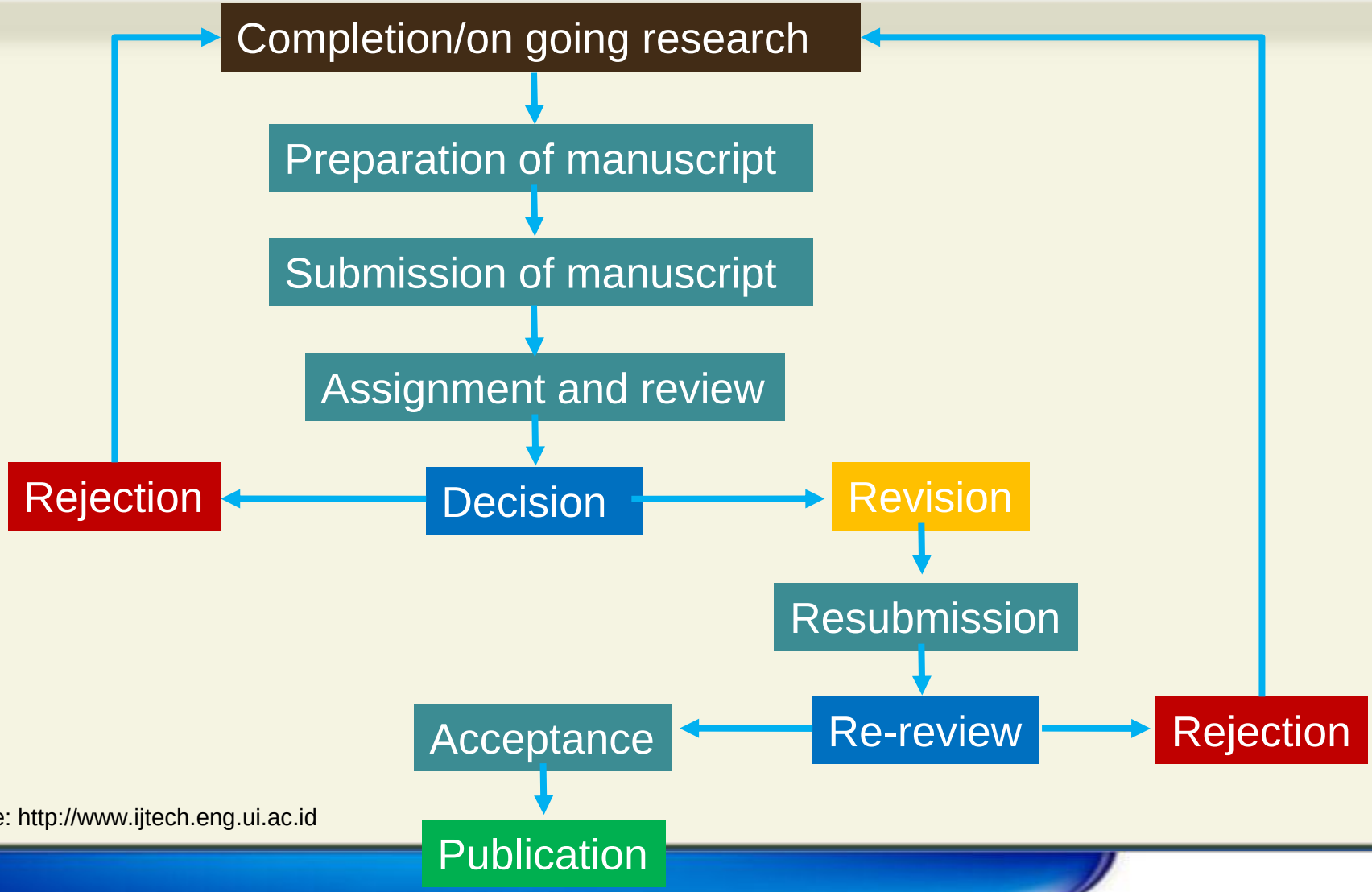
University Publications of America (Producer). (1992) Scholarly book reviews [CD-ROM]. Bethesda.

Submitting Your Paper

Follow guidelines strictly

Check the sample paper

Publication Process



Source: http://www.ijtech.eng.ui.ac.id

Review Policies

- Paper submission is assigned by an editor-in-chief/editorial board who is responsible for finding internal/external reviewers (normally 2 to 3).

- After the reviewers weigh in, the editor makes the final decision about the acceptance of the manuscript (the editor normally follows the reviewers' recommendations, but not necessary the case).

- The reviews processes will normally take 3 to 6 months. It is appropriate to contact the editor and kindly ask for an update if you do not hear from them by the end of 3 months.

Review Process (What Referees Look For)

The main concern of referees	
Significance	Are the findings original? Are they important? Is the paper suitable for this journal? Does the article justify its length?
Scholarship	Does the paper take into account relevant current and past research on the topic?
Presentation	Is the paper clear, logical, understandable and of the appropriate length?
Methods and Results	Is the methodology, and are the data and analyses appropriate? Are there sufficient data to support the conclusion? Are there long – term as well as short term measures? Are any weaknesses of the method commented on?
Reasoning	Are the logic, arguments, inferences and interpretations appropriate? Are counter – arguments or contrary evidence taken into account and discussed?
Theory	Is the theory sufficiently sound and supported by the evidence? Is it testable? Is it prefeable to competing theories?
Ethics	In papers describing work on animals or humans, has the work been approved by the appropriate ethics committee?

Is it interesting?
Is it new?
Is it true?

Hartley, J. (2008). *Academic writing and publishing. A practical handbook.* London: Routledge.

Review Results

- **Accepted:** "Which almost nobody gets,“ ;-)
- **Accepted with revision:** "Just make some changes" and "They're still interested in you!" (the editor and reviewers will list specific items that need to be addressed before final acceptance)
- **Reject:** Fix the problems, revise the paper and submit it to other journal.

Don't put off the revisions

  - If you are invited to revise, answer critiques carefully/thoughtfully and pay attention to details.
  - Never give up

Review Results

Major reasons for rejection:

- Confirmatory (not novel) - Not sufficiently original
- Theoretically or methodologically flawed
- Poor methodology and/or experimental design that lead to unreliable discussion/results
- Poorly written (paper structure, flow, format, etc)
- Literature/References/Variables are not comprehensive and accurate
- Inappropriate for journal

What do Editor Want

- Important work
- Original work
- Clear and engaging
- Valid/Truth

Hints

- Informative Abstract
- Critical literature review
- Solid research methods
- Robust Data collection and analysis
- Critical Discussion of findings
- Significant contribution
- Conclusions


Thank You!

Short Profile
Mohammed Ali Berawi, M.Eng.Sc, PhD

Dr. Berawi's work on value engineering/value management, knowledge and quality management, engineering design, and innovation has led to various publications in books, international journals, conferences, and consultancy proceedings. Dr. Berawi was selected as the most outstanding lecturer/researcher at the University of Indonesia (2009) and was a finalist for the UK Alumni Award (2008) and Toray Science and Technology Award (2014). His research leadership is reflected through his election as Editor-in-Chief of *Value World*, the journal of the Society of American Value Engineers (SAVE) (2008-2014) and as Editor-in-Chief for the *International Journal of Technology (IJTech*). He also serves as an editorial board member and invited referee for various international journals published in Canada, Ghana, the USA, and the UK.

Dr. Berawi has been involved in many national and international research collaborations and consultancies. He has been listed by Webometrics as one of the Top Scientists in Indonesia (2015-2017), and his biography featured in the 24th edition of *Who's Who in the World*.

Dr Berawi was appointed as Lead Advisor to the Republic of Indonesia's Ministry of Transportation (2012), Executive Director of CSID (2014), Director of Directorate of Research and Community Services at the University of Indonesia (2015), and currently serves as Chairman of Standing Committee on Infrastructure Strategic Policies for Indonesia Chamber of Commerce (KADIN Indonesia).