

Researcher Wise Seminar Series

# Journals

Friday, 26 August 2016



**ENGINEERING**

## Why publish?

- Dissemination is an essential part of research
- Pride in your work
- Career: “Publish or perish”
- And now, with the rise of predatory journals.....  
“Publish *and* perish”

# Journals

- When I was a boy...
  - Journals by subscription: reader pays
  - Peer review
- Then came Open Access...
  - Author pays
  - Wider and faster dissemination
- And now, predatory journals...
  - For profit: author pays – no paper, no \$\$\$\$
  - ~~“Peer review”~~ becomes “Peer at”
  - Little or no quality control or review

# Characteristics of predatory journals

- Open access
- For profit: author pays (going rate often \$US 100)
- Rapid review, acceptance and appearance
- Spam, unsolicited emails
- Lack of transparency
- Not professional (emails, web site etc etc)
- Happy to publish rubbish: little or no quality control
  
- They attract the “naïve, unscrupulous and desperate”
- Beware!

## Opportunity!

- Email from welcomebackwinners@gmail.com; on behalf of \*Jeff Edwards [howellree@gmail.com](mailto:howellree@gmail.com)
- “Good Morning I am Jeff I contacted you concerning the fund \$ 5.2 Million dollars deposited in a bank here by my late client who bear the same name with you. Please contact for more details Thanks You, Jeff Edwards”

# Opportunity!

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*IJETR JOURNAL's IMPACT FACTOR: 0.997*

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*Kindly forward this e-mail to your Friends / Students/ Colleagues / Associates and Fellow Researchers who may be benefited out of this.*

**But what's wrong with  
publishing in these journals?**

**“A man is known by the  
company he keeps”**

**(Aesop)**



## Ike Antkare

- Ike wrote 102 papers, most in 2009
- 1 with multiple *other* authors cited (for the web-bots to find), the rest only citing *his own* papers – all 100-odd
- Google Scholar *h*-index of 94
  - Higher than Einstein
  - Papers “written” through Scigen (<https://pdos.csail.mit.edu/archive/scigen/>)
  - All papers total nonsense

<https://hal.inria.fr/hal-00713564/document>



## Typical reference list...

...

- [14] Ike Antkare. Constructing digital-to-analog converters and lambda calculus using Die. In Proceedings of OOPSLA, June 2009.
- [15] Ike Antkare. Constructing web browsers and the producer-consumer problem using Carob. In Proceedings of the USENIX Security Conference, March 2009.
- [16] Ike Antkare. A construction of write-back caches with Nave. Technical Report 48-292, CMU, November 2009.
- [17] Ike Antkare. Contrasting Moore's Law and gigabit switches using Beg. Journal of Heterogeneous, Heterogeneous Theory, 36:20–24, February 2009.
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- [19] Ike Antkare. Contrasting reinforcement learning and gigabit switches. Journal of Bayesian Symmetries, 4:73–95, July 2009.
- [20] Ike Antkare. Controlling Boolean logic and DHCP. Journal of Probabilistic, Symbiotic Theory, 75:152–196, November 2009.
- [21] Ike Antkare. Controlling telephony using unstable algorithms. Technical Report 84-193-652, IBM Research, February 2009.
- [22] Ike Antkare. Deconstructing Byzantine fault tolerance with MOE. In Proceedings of the Conference on Signed, Electronic Algorithms, November 2009.
- [23] Ike Antkare. Deconstructing checksums with rip. In Proceedings of the Workshop on Knowledge-Base, Random Communication, September 2009.
- [24] Ike Antkare. Deconstructing DHCP with Glama. In Proceedings of VLDB, May 2009.
- [25] Ike Antkare. Deconstructing RAID using Shern. In Proceedings of the Conference on Scalable, Embedded Configurations, April 2009.
- [26] Ike Antkare. Deconstructing systems using NyeInsurer. In Proceedings of FOCS, July 2009.
- [27] Ike Antkare. Decoupling context-free grammar from gigabit switches in Boolean logic. In Proceedings of WMSCI, November 2009.
- [28] Ike Antkare. Decoupling digital-to-analog converters from interrupts in hash tables. Journal of Homogeneous, Concurrent Theory, 90:77–96, October 2009.
- [29] Ike Antkare. Decoupling e-business from virtual machines in public-private key pairs. In Proceedings of FPCA, November 2009.
- [30] Ike Antkare. Decoupling extreme programming from Moore's Law in the World Wide Web. Journal of Psychoacoustic Symmetries, 3:1–12, September 2009.
- [31] Ike Antkare. Decoupling object-oriented languages from web browsers in congestion control. Technical Report 8483, UCSD, September 2009.

# Total rubbish is good enough for some

*International Journal of Advanced Computer Technology (Online)*



<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 F\*\*\*ing Mailing List

**AUTHOR:** David Mazières and Eddie Kohler

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

Originally a response to a spamming conference email, the paper was later submitted to this journal.

Rated as "excellent" by the journal's peer-review process and accepted for publication

<http://www.scs.stanford.edu/~dm/home/papers/remove.pdf>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International\\_Journal\\_of\\_Advanced\\_Computer\\_Technology](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_Journal_of_Advanced_Computer_Technology)

**OK, but how can I tell?**

## The black-list – avoid!

- Beall's list
  - ...of publishers
  - ... of stand-alone journals
- See <https://scholarlyoa.com/>  
<https://scholarlyoa.com/publishers/>  
<https://scholarlyoa.com/individual-journals/>

## The white-list – should be OK

- Journals by subscription: reader pays
- Open access:
  - Publisher a member of Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association <http://oaspa.org/>
  - Journal listed in the Directory of Open Access Journals <https://doaj.org/>
- Long established journals
  - Professional Institutions (IEEE, ASME etc)
  - Publishers (Elsevier, Springer etc)
  - Check on Web of Science, Incites etc
- Ask these questions:
  - In which journals do the landmark papers appear?
  - The papers I cite: in which journals do they appear?

## Shades of grey – warning signs

- Be careful, and if in doubt, avoid.
- Do your research
  - Impact factor
  - Journal indexes
  - Ask colleagues, supervisor etc
  - See references

# References/sources/guides

## **General**

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Predatory\\_open\\_access\\_publishing](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Predatory_open_access_publishing)

UoA Open Access webguide: <http://www.library.auckland.ac.nz/guides/open-access#=2&choosing-an-open-access-journal>

## **Open access journals: the white list – should be OK**

Publisher is a member of *Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association* <http://oaspa.org/>

Journal is listed in the *Directory of Open Access Journals* <https://doaj.org/>

## **Journal citation reports (ISI Journal Citations Reports)**

Available through UoA Lib portal <http://www.library.auckland.ac.nz/databases/>

Check them out at the Web of Science. Click Journal Citation Reports for an individual journal, journals in an area etc

These are OK: <http://ipscience.thomsonreuters.com/> and <https://jcr.incites.thomsonreuters.com>

**\*\*\* Not this one! Its counterfeit...** <http://isi-thomsonreuters.com/main>

## **Beall's site: the black list - avoid**

Beall's web site: <https://scholarlyoa.com/>

Beall's list of publishers: <https://scholarlyoa.com/publishers/>

Stand-alone journals: <https://scholarlyoa.com/individual-journals/>

Beall's criteria: <https://scholarlyoa.com/2012/08/04/criteria-for-determining-predatory-open-access-publishers/>

# “But it has an Impact Factor/is Indexed”

- Predatory metrics! The journals pay for inclusion.
- <https://scholarlyoa.com/other-pages/misleading-metrics/> has about 50 of them:

[AE Global Index](#)

[Advanced Science Index](#)

[African Quality Centre for Journals](#)

[American Standards for Journals and Research \(ASJR\)](#)

[Arab Impact Factor](#) = معامل التأثير العربي

[CiteFactor](#)

...

...



## **“But its on Google Scholar”**

- Google Scholar does not screen for quality and indexes predatory journals

## Summary

- On the black-list?
- On the white list?
- If in doubt, avoid.

# Characteristics of predatory journals

- Open access
- For profit: author pays (going rate often \$US 100)
- Rapid review, acceptance and appearance
- Spam, unsolicited emails
- Lack of transparency
- Smells unprofessional
- Happy to publish rubbish: little or no quality control

**Not professional**

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