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Smart Publishing

tips to master the publication process

Thomas Henkel

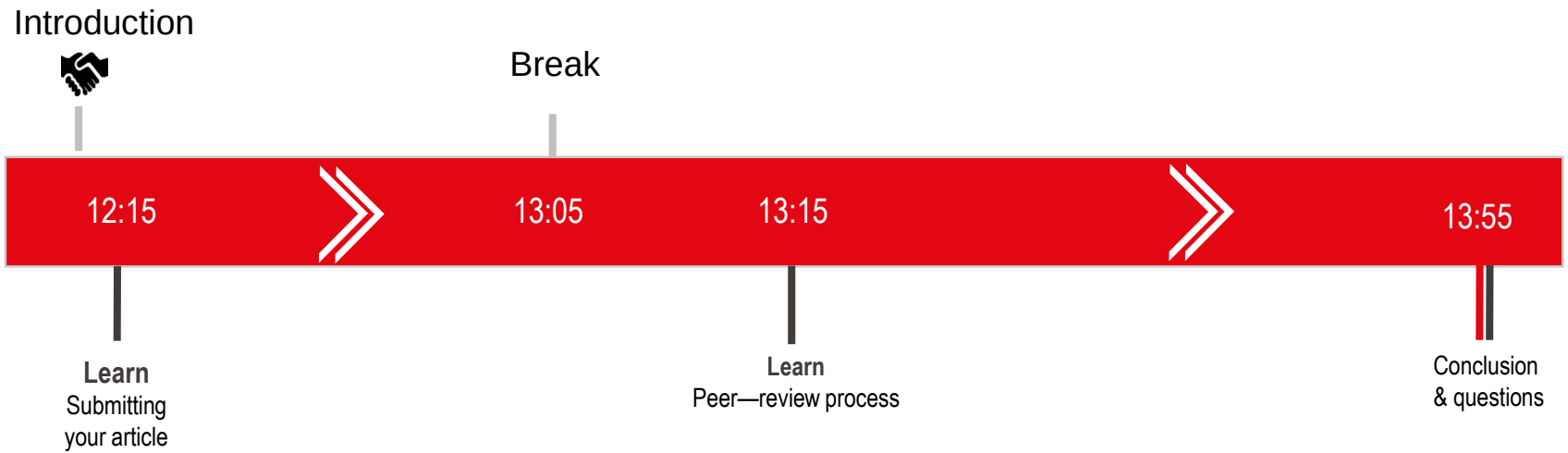
&

Mathilde Panes

École polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne

November 17, 2020

Program of the day



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ANON., [sans date]. [object HTMLTextAreaElement] free vector icon designed by [object HTMLInputElement]. In : *Flaticon* [en ligne]. [Consulté le 14 mai 2019]. Disponible à l'adresse : https://www.flaticon.com/free-icon/hand-shake_1342#term=shaking%20hands&page=1&position=7

Submitting your article

- Publishing context
- Journal selection
- Authorship
- Open Access roads

What can you publish?

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- Peer-reviewed article
- Book
- Book chapter
- Book review
- Data paper
- Preprint
- Video abstract
- ….

When do you publish?

- Too early → premature publication
- Too late → beware of competitors

Our recommendations:

- Publish a short communication to mark your research territory
- Present something new
- Do not publish anything if you plan to patent
- Do not split your research into too many publications to avoid «salami science»

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Where ? Journal Typology

Multidisciplinary	Disciplinary Specialized	Megajournals (Open Access)
• Nature • Science	• Cell • Diabetes • Journal of Nuclear Materials	• PLoS One • IEEE Access • Nature Communications • Frontiers in Psychology

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How to choose a journal?

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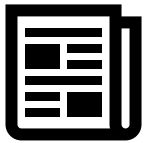
Journal specificities	Contextual constraints
Typology	Funder’s requirements
Business Model	Institutional Policy
Prestige (Bibliometrics)	Practices of your domain / lab
Publishing agreement conditions	
Findability	



Who publishes? About authorship

Increasing number of authors

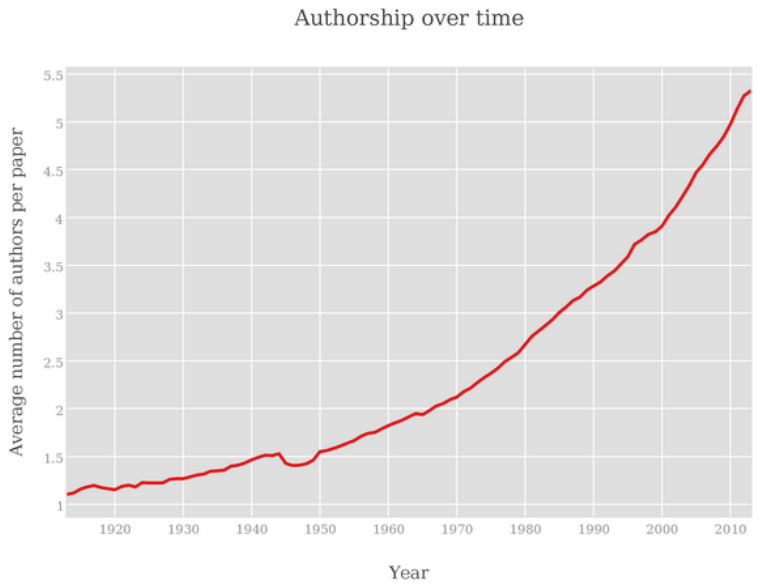
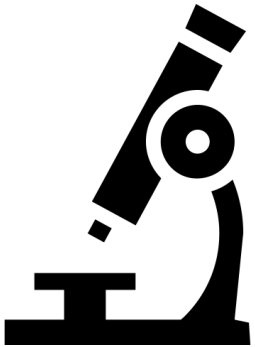


Figure 2: The average number of authors per paper has increased 5-fold over the last century

Fig. 2 published under CC BY license in
ABOUKHALIL, Robert, 2015. The rising trend in authorship. The Winnower [online]. 11 June 2015. [Accessed 24 January 2020]. DOI 10.15200/winn.141832.26907. Available from: https://thewinnower.com/papers/37-the-rising-trend-in-authorship.

Authorship issues

WHO DESERVES TO BE AUTHOR OF A PAPER?



ESSENTIAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE RESEARCH

+

PARTICIPATION IN THE WRITING OF THE MANUSCRIPT

+

APPROVING THE MANUSCRIPT FINAL VERSION

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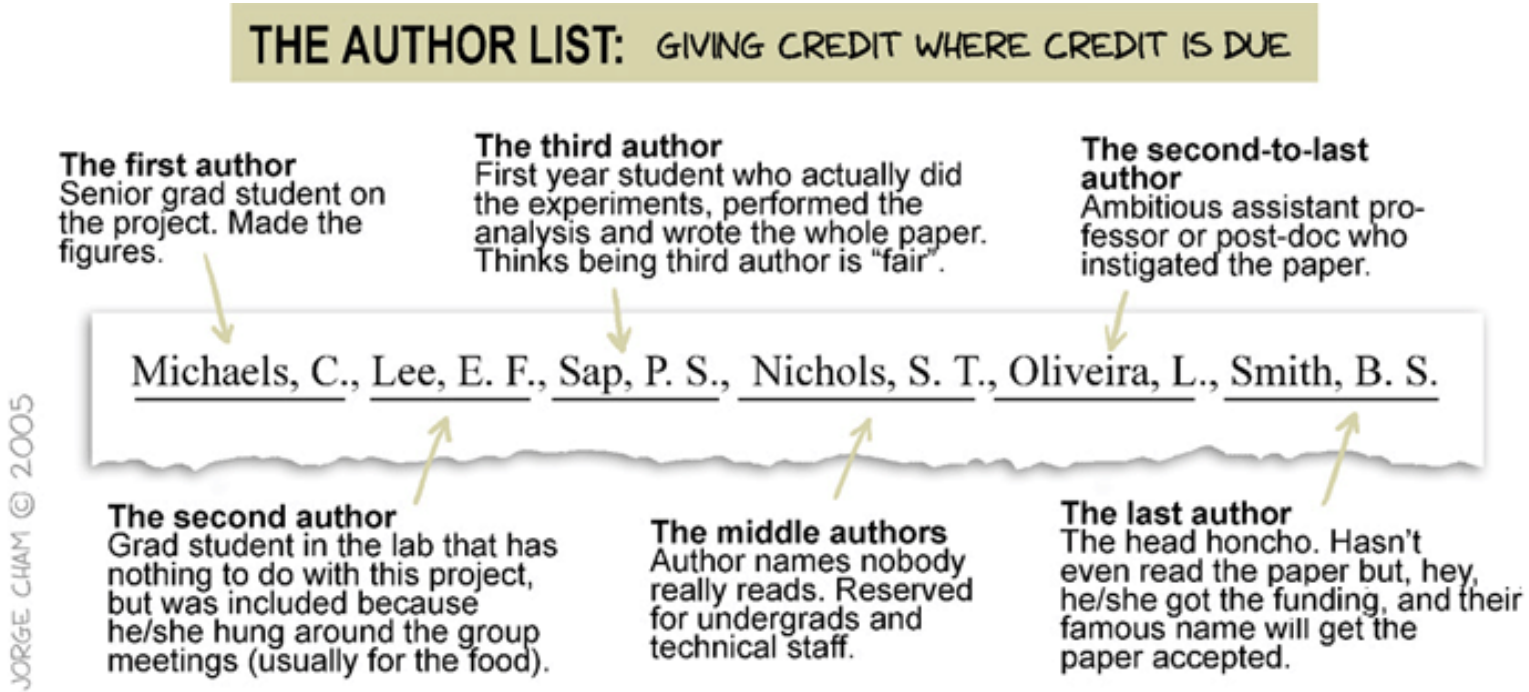
Authorship issues



"Piled Higher and Deeper" by Jorge Cham / www.phdcomics.com

Originally published on March 13, 2005 at http://www.phdcomics.com/comics.php?f=562 [retrieved on Jan 24, 2020]

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Conceived and designed the experiments: LC SJ RN LN PC PAM. Performed the experiments: LC RN. Analyzed the data: LC SJ RN LN PC. Contributed reagents/materials/analysis tools: SJ PC PAM. Wrote the paper: LC SJ RN LN PC PAM.

References

1. Avise JC (2004) Molecular Markers, Natural History and Evolution. Sunderland Massachusetts: 2nd edn. Sinauer Associates. 684 p.
2. Cañón J, García D, García-Atance MA, Obexer-Ruff G, Lenstra JA, et al. (2006) Geographical partitioning of goat diversity in Europe and the Middle East. Anim Genet 37: 327 334.

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SMART PUBLISHING

What is Open Access?

“Open-access (OA) literature is digital, online, free of charge, and free of most copyright and licensing restrictions.”

Peter Suber (Open Access, 2012. MIT Press):

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Swiss National Science Foundation
OA Policy

«The SNSF requires grantees to make the results of SNSF-funded projects available in an open access (OA) publication or database. As of 2020, all results will have to be available in open access.»

- Selecting the OA route (green or gold)
- Providing OA to publications (with or without an embargo period)

- Embargo : for articles (up to 6 months), for books (up to 12 months)

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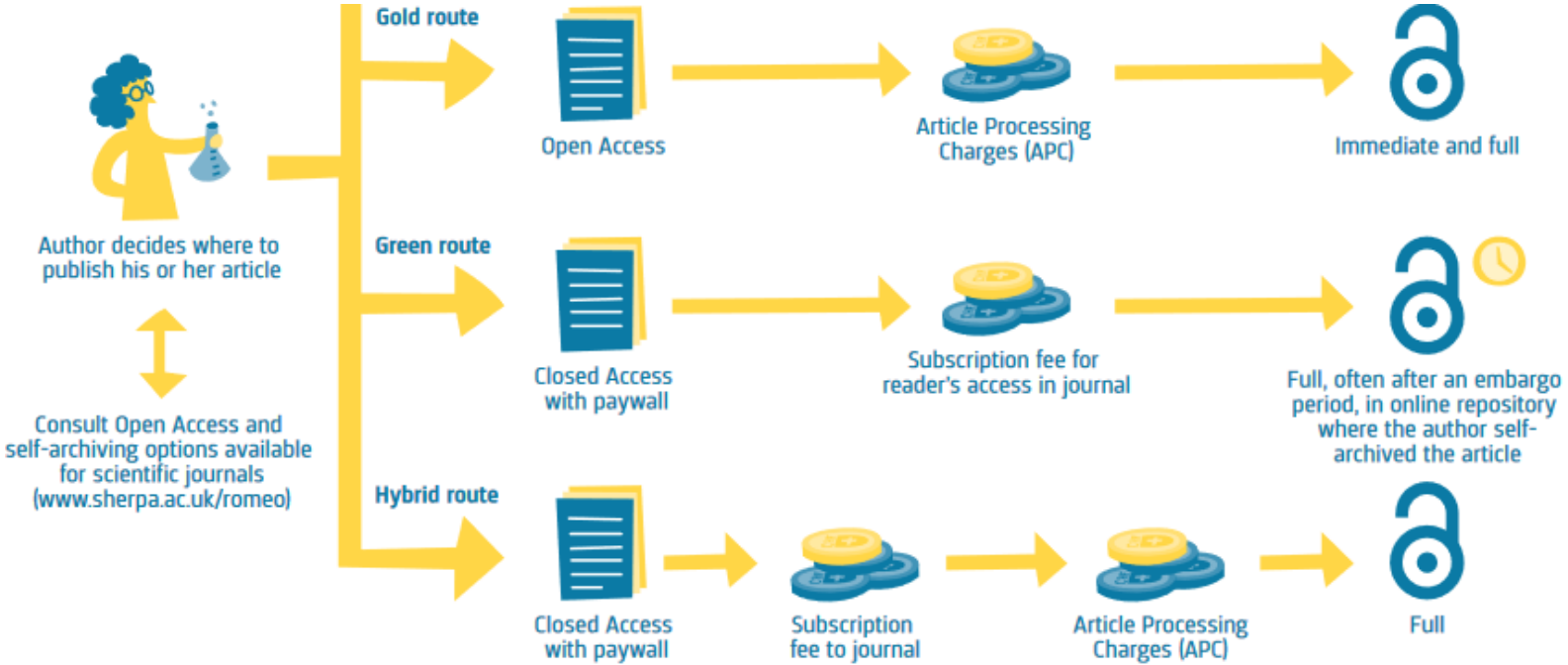
Roads to publish in Open Access



Source: Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences (2019) Open Science in Switzerland: Opportunities and Challenges. Swiss Academies Factsheets 14 (2). (CC-BY)

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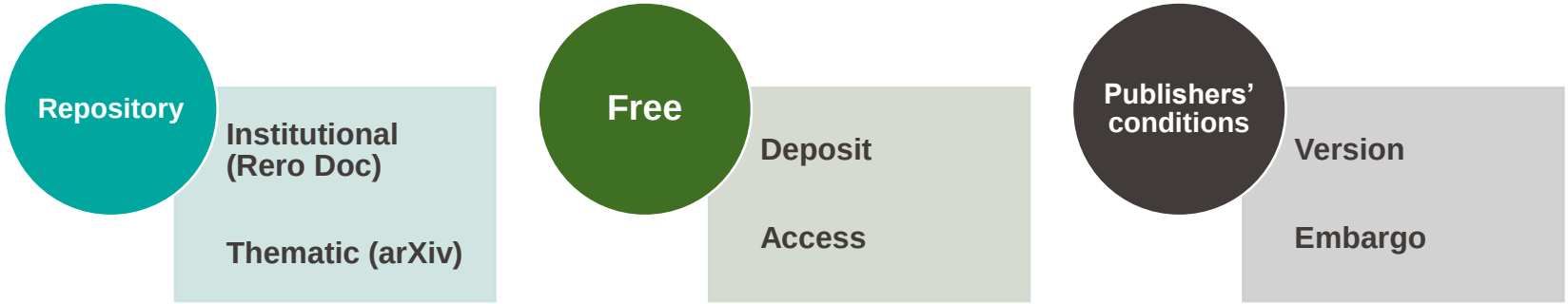
Green Open Access



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Gold and Hybrid OA :
Article Processing Charge (APC)

Title	APC price (14.01.2020)
PLoS One	1’595 $
Optics Express	1’842 $
Nature Communications	4’380 €
EMBO Molecular Medicine	3’300 €
Cell Reports	5’200 $
BMC Biology	2’990 $
eLife	2’500 $

Source : Incites Journal Citation Reports – Thomson Reuters

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Transformative agreements : a new standard ?

- Plan S + Swissuniversities OA strategy: accelerate the transition to Open Access
- New multi-year deals between big publishers and libraries consortia, including reading and publishing fees
- APC are included in the agreement, up to a capped number of APC per year
- Corresponding authors can publish in hybrid (and gold) journals
- UNIFR (in the Swiss Consortium of Academic Libraries) : agreement signed with Elsevier and Springer (2020-2023); agreement with other publishers in preparation
- A great uncertainty : sustainability of this new model
- Stay tuned, it evolves very quickly

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Financial Support at UNIFR for Open Access publications

- Open Access Fund
  - Gold OA publication (not hybrid)
  - Partial (50%) reimbursement of the APC up to 1000.-
  - PhD Students: 100% up to 2000.-
- Agreements with some editors: https://www3.unifr.ch/researcher/en/openscience/open-access/apc-reductions.html
- Further information:
  - www.unifr.ch/openaccess
  - openaccess@unifr.ch

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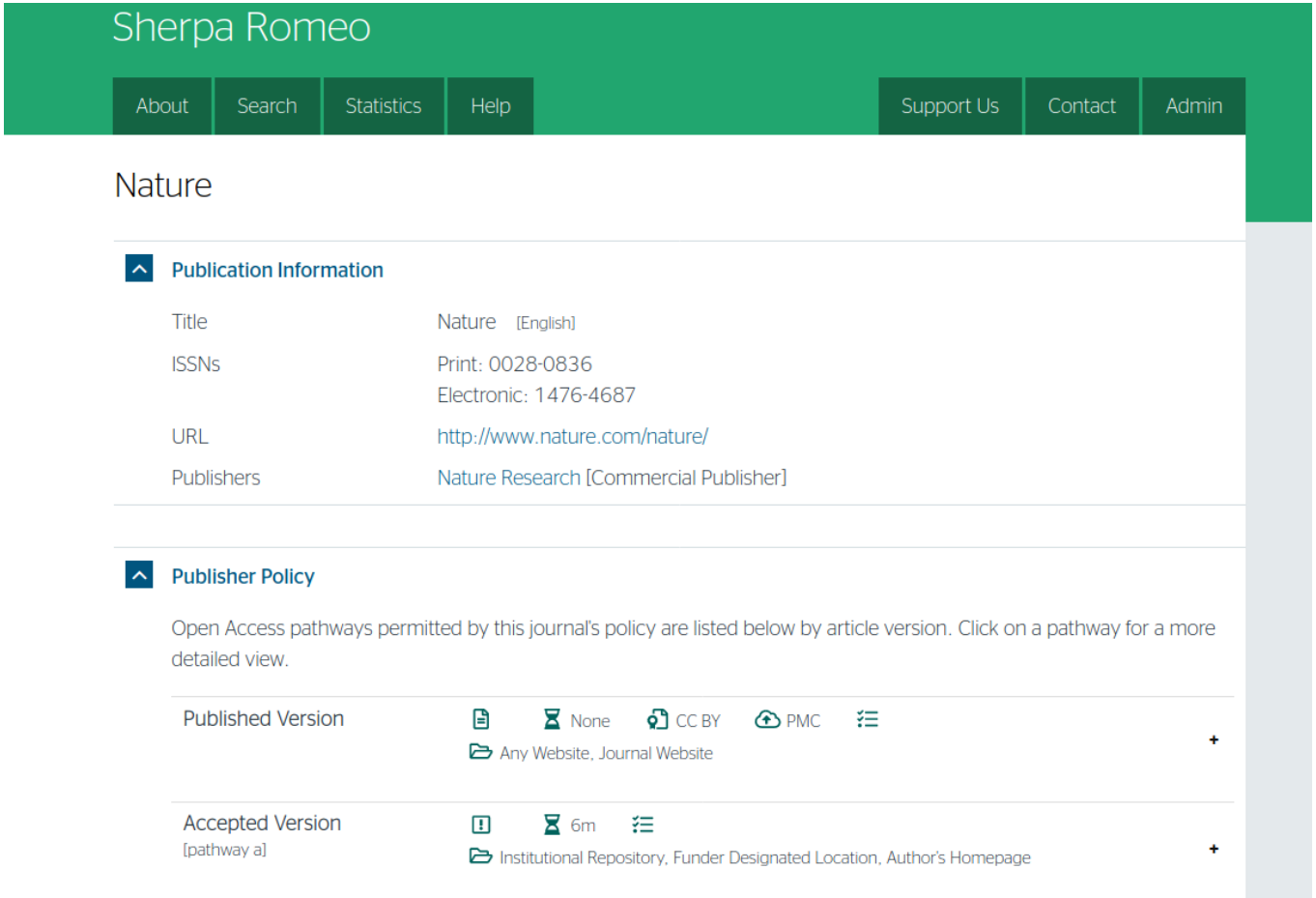
How to know about publishers' OA policies?



https://v2.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo

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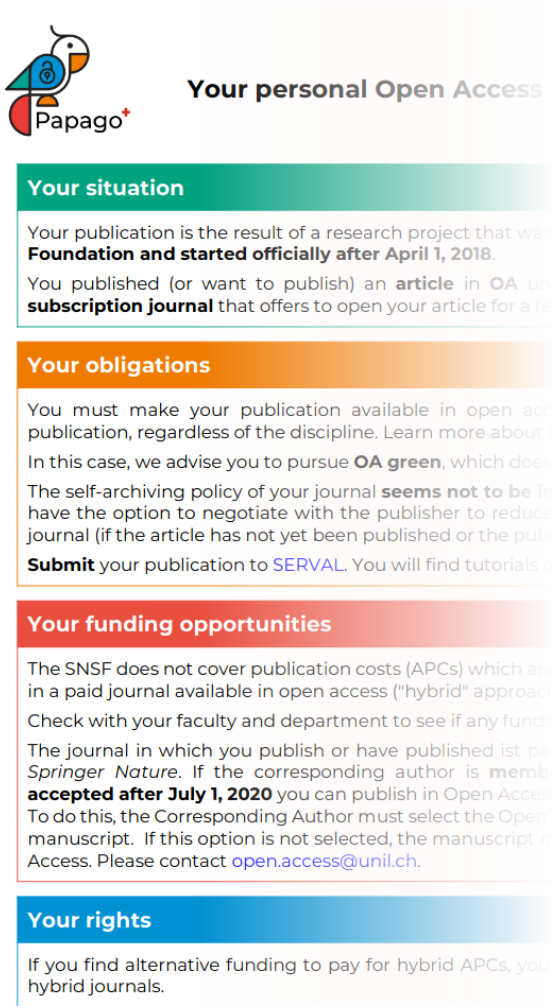
Papago

- Personal Open Access Assistant
- Contextual information concerning
  - Your situation
  - Your obligations
  - Your funding opportunities
  - Your rights
- Integration of Sherpa/Romeo
- Integration of instutitional agreements with publishers (comming soon)
- www.unifr.ch/openaccess



Open Access Publishing: Trap

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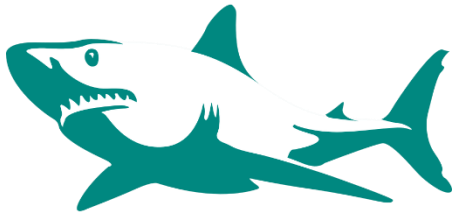
Predatory Journals



- Expensive APC
- Poor quality (no peer-review)
- Poor editorial and publishing services

Check:

the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)

the Committee of Publication Ethics (COPE)

the Open Access Scholarly Publishers' Association (OASPA)

Think Check Submit

Let’s take five

Icons from wanicon on flaticon,com

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Ready to publish?

Before the submission

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- Format your article ➞ author's guidelines
- Find an appealing title and catchy keywords
- Prepare an impactful cover letter

Remember that you only have one shot to impress! Get it right!

Cover Letter – Tips

Good practices	To be avoided
• Similar to an application letter	• Copy / paste the abstract
• Convince the editor	• Typo and spelling errors
• Highlight novelty an impact of your research	• Exceed 2 pages
• Independent reviewers suggestion	• Complain about previous rejection
• Potential conflicts of interest	• Speak negatively about other studies or researchers
• Directly addressed to the Editor in Chief	• Over-interpret your findings

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The peer review process

START

AUTHOR

Submits the manuscript *(MS abbrev.)*

HAPPY END

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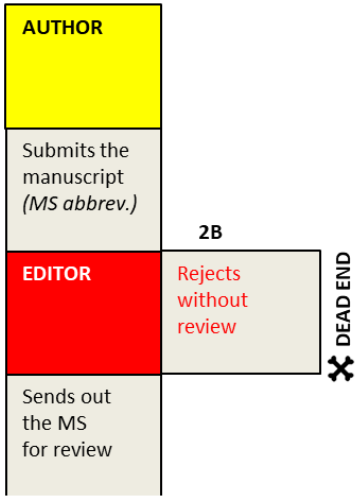
The peer review process

START



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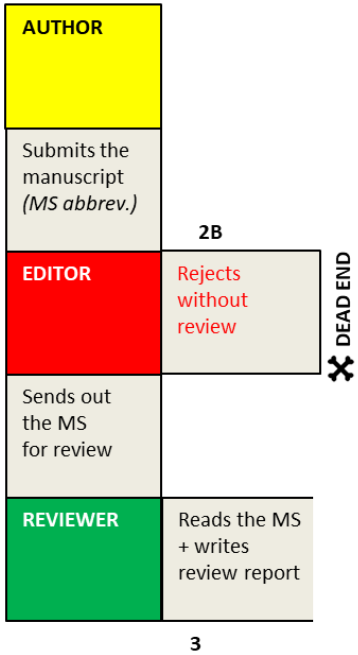

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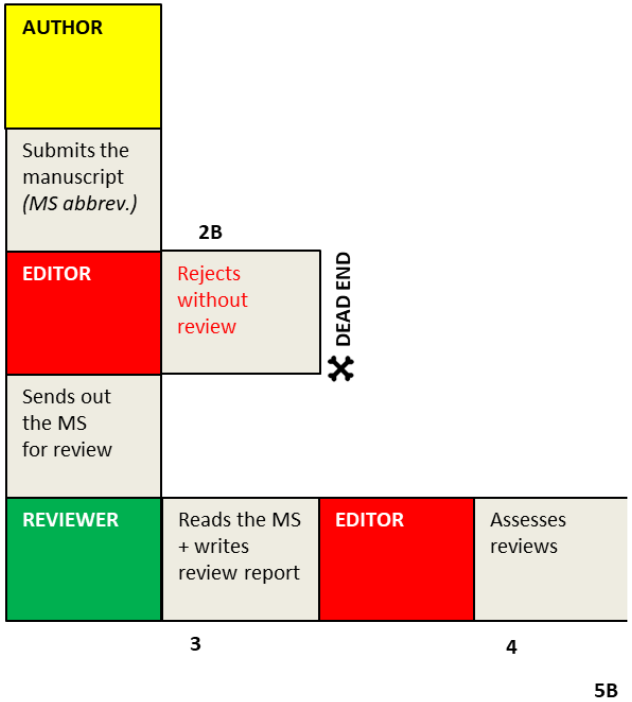

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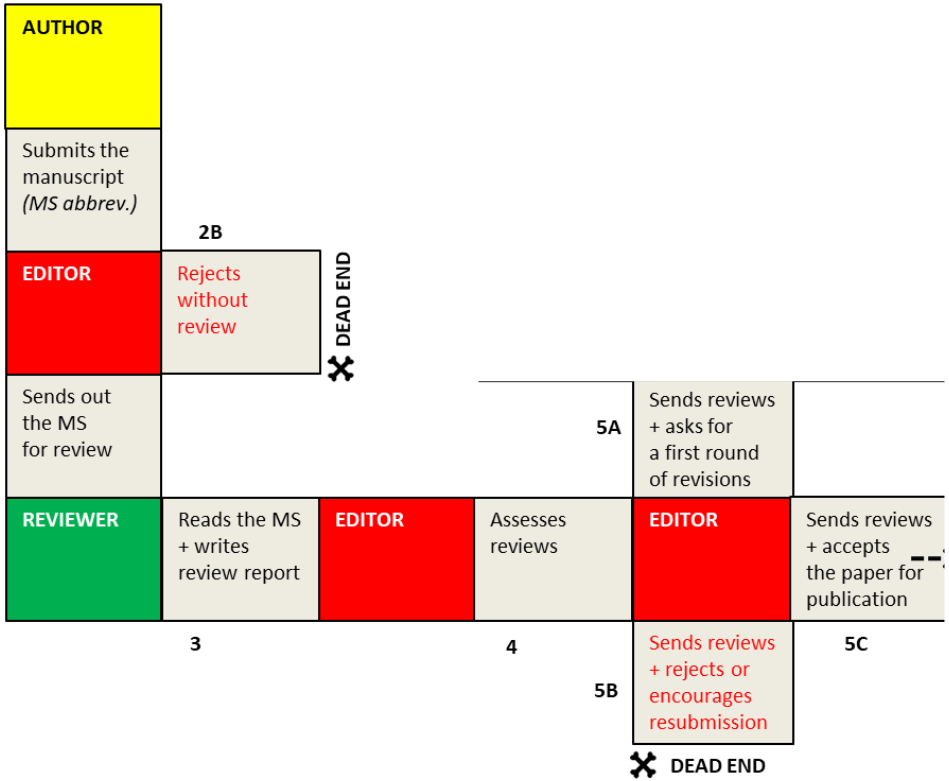

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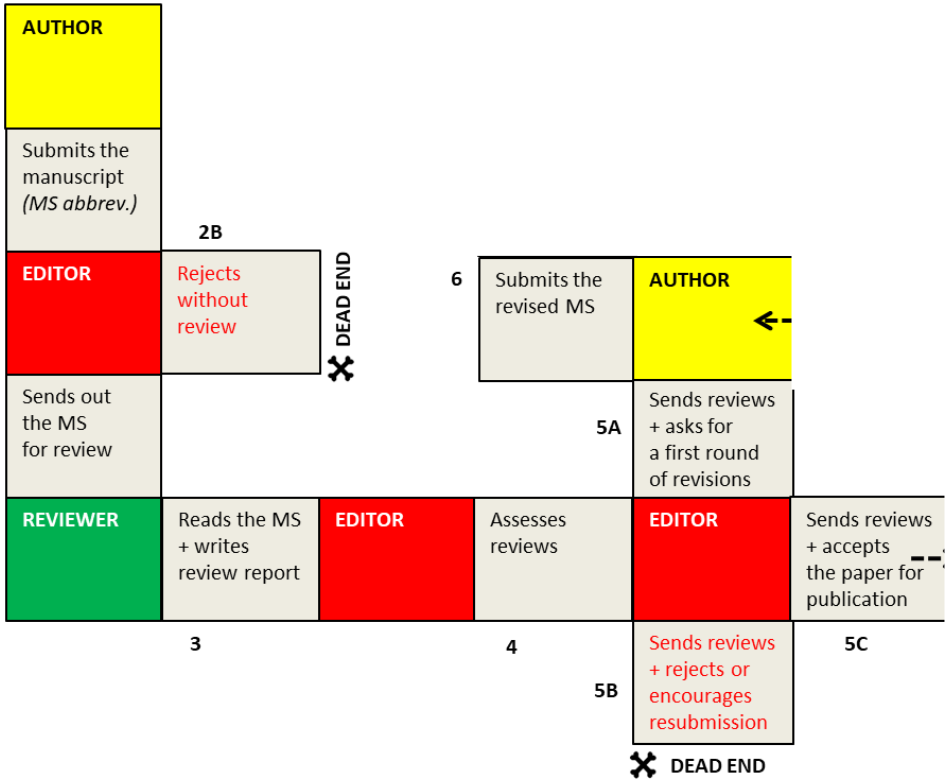

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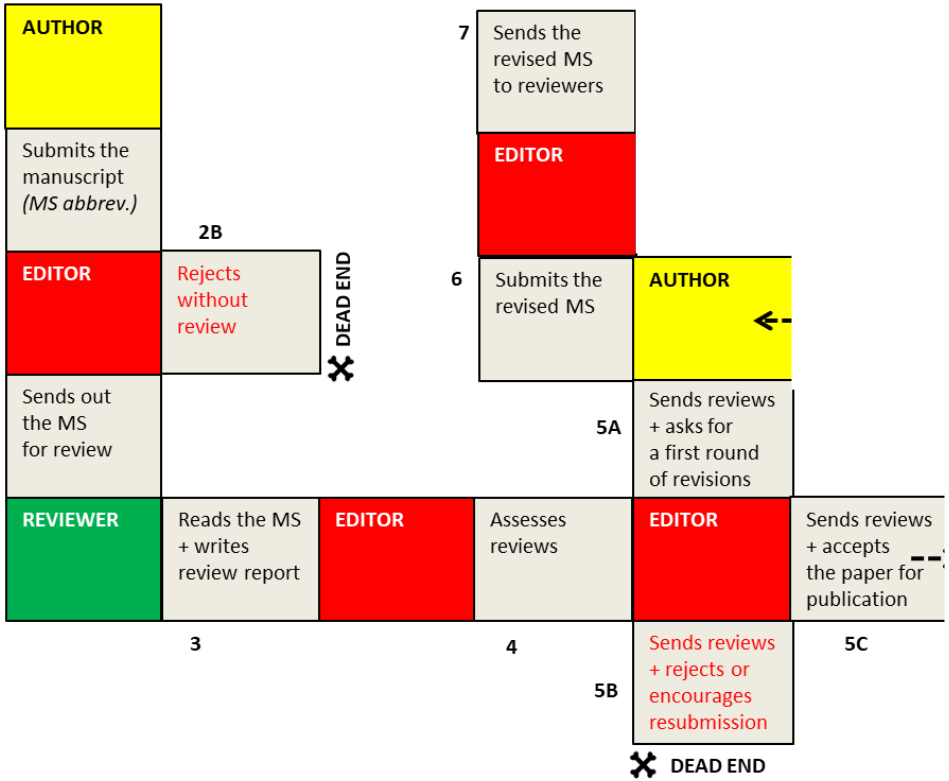

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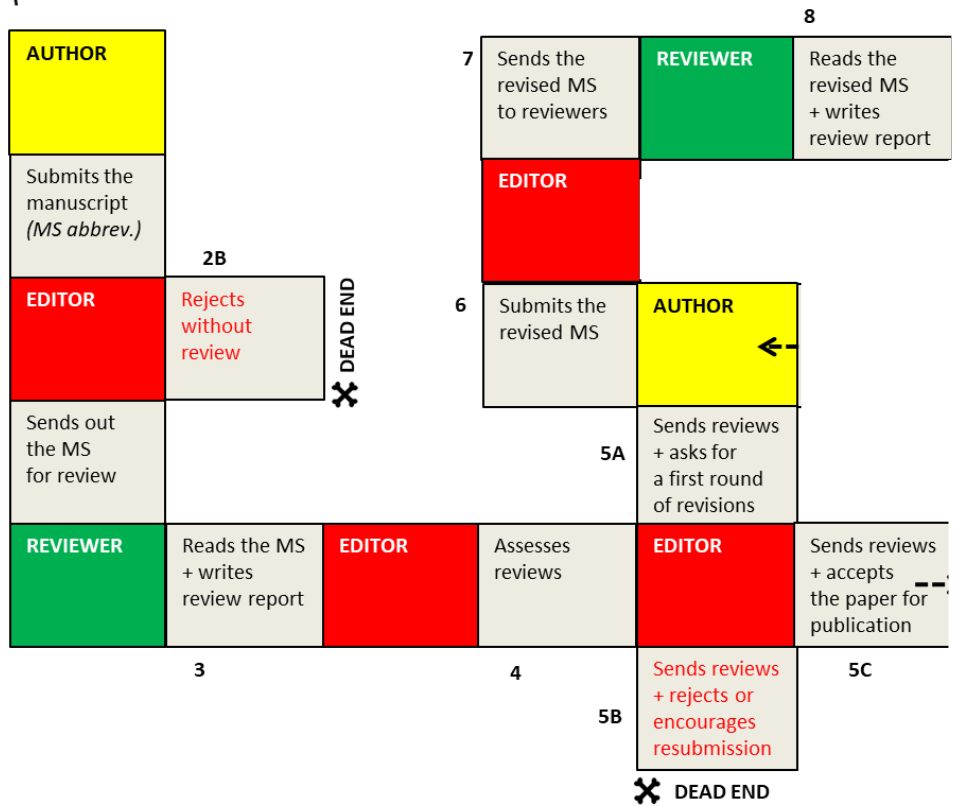

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The peer review process

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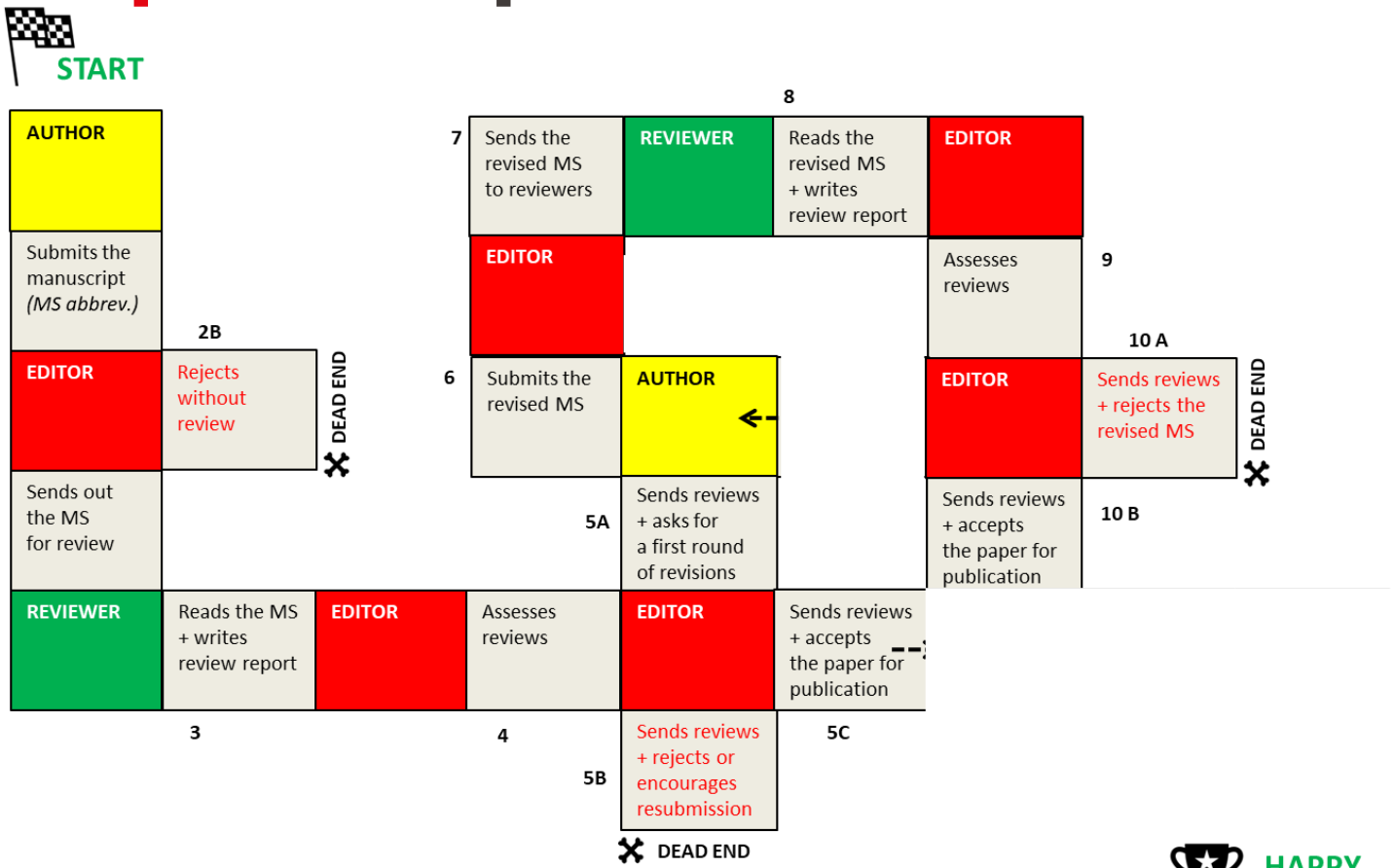
The peer review process



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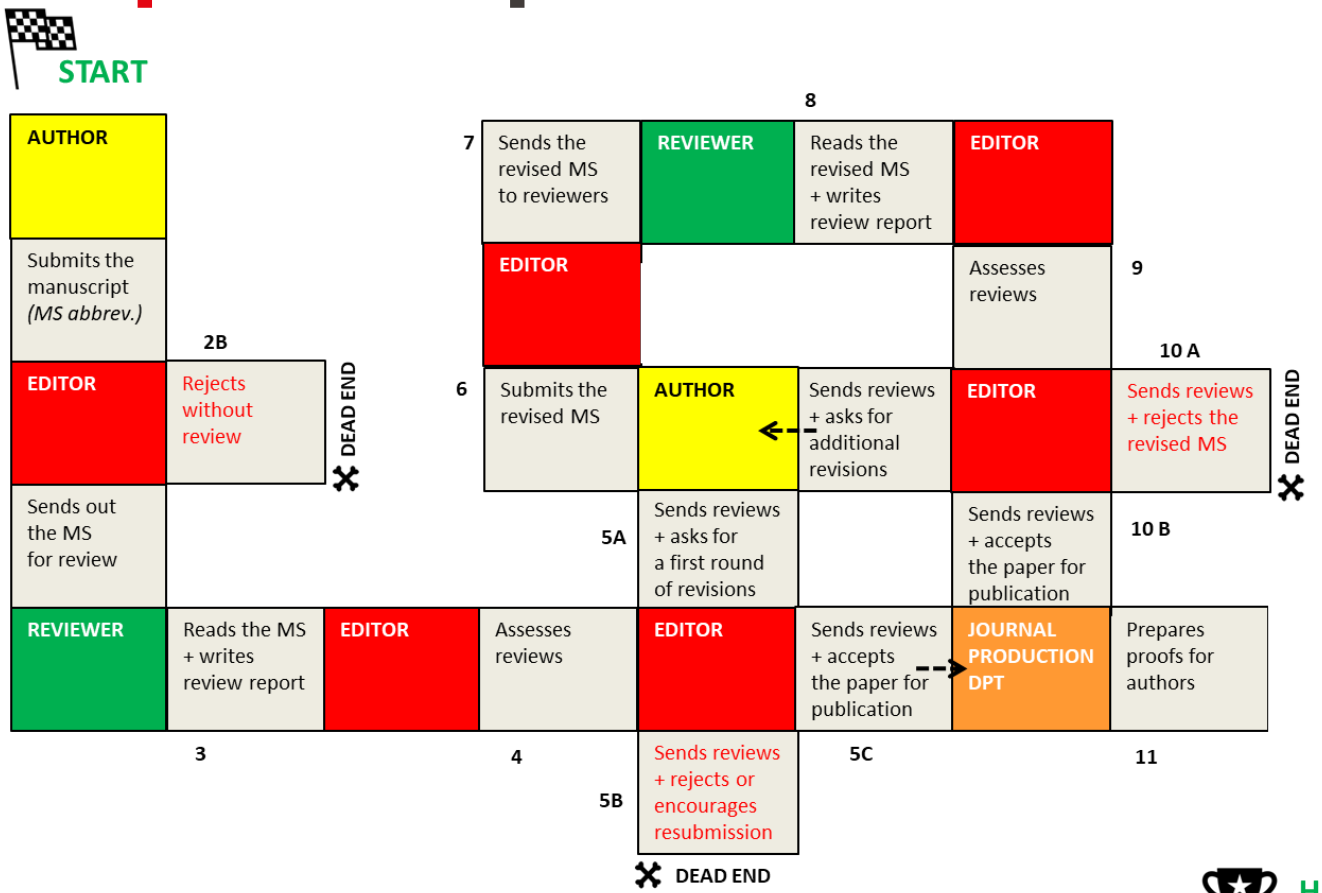
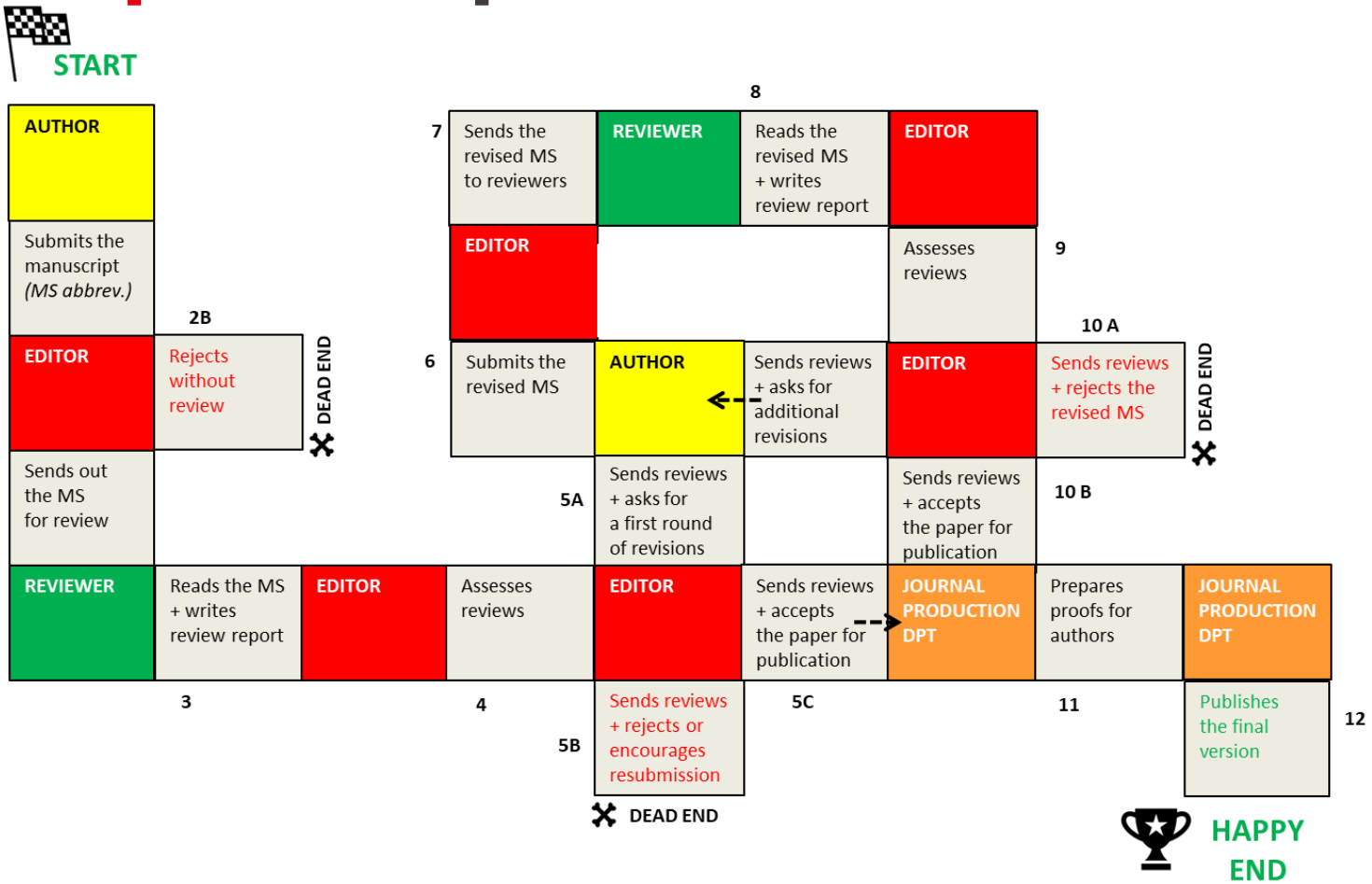
The peer review process



The peer review process



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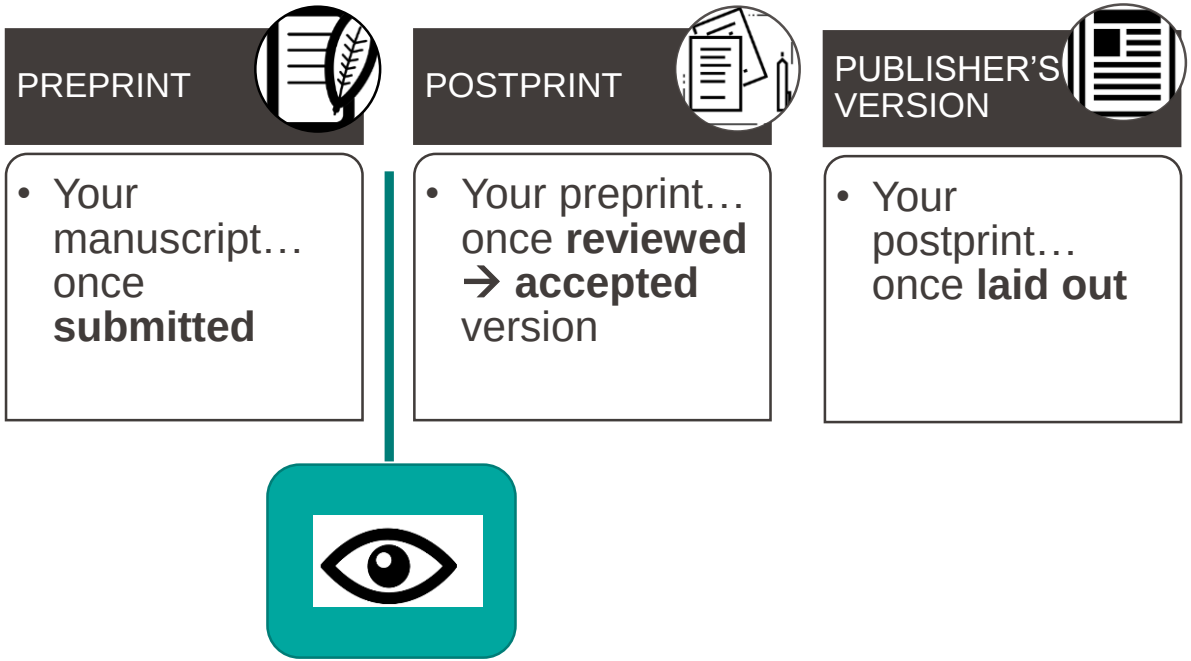
Peer Review process: from preprint to final version



Variants: open peer review

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- Authors – reviewers – editor are known to each other
- Article available online before the review process
- Reviewers' reports are disclosed along the article
- Versions are available online

Variants: open peer review

Peer Review reports for:

Development and performance evaluation of a GIS-based metric to assess exposure to airborne pollutant emissions from industrial sources

‹ Back to article

Original Submission		
6 Feb 2018	Submitted	Original manuscript
14 Mar 2018	Reviewed	Reviewer Report - Giorgio Assennato
4 Oct 2018	Author responded	Author comments - Thomas Coudon
Resubmission - Version 2		
4 Oct 2018	Submitted	Manuscript version 2
8 Oct 2018	Reviewed	Reviewer Report - Giorgio Assennato
Resubmission - Version 3		
	Submitted	Manuscript version 3
Publishing		
3 Jan 2019	Editorially accepted	
25 Jan 2019	Article published	10.1186/s12940-019-0446-x

BMC Environmental Health

F1000 Research

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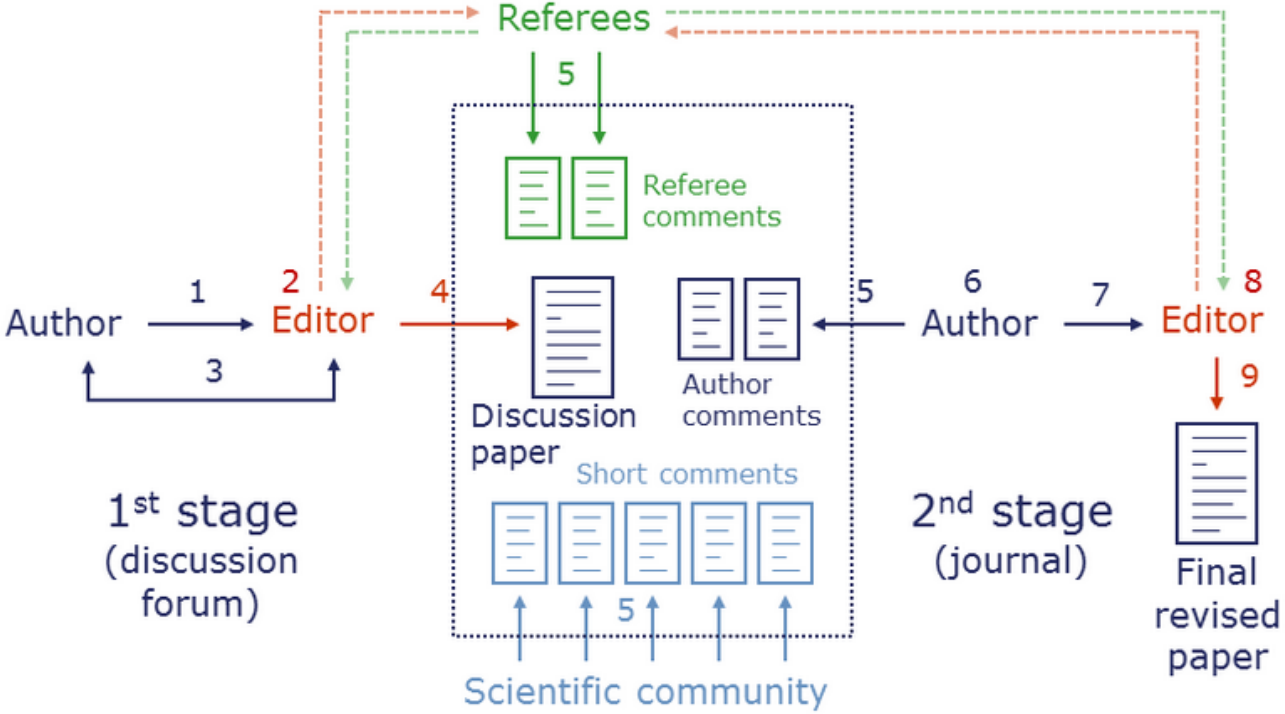
Variants: interactive peer review



1. Submission | 2. Access review | 3. Technical corrections | 4. Publication as D-paper | 5. Comments
6. Revision | 7. Revised submission | 8. Peer-review completion | 9. Final revised publication

Source: Copernicus Publications https://publications.copernicus.org/services/public_peer_review.html [Retrived on Feb 12 2020]

Variants: independent review before submission

- https://www.reviewcommons.org/

Reasons for rejection

- **Insufficient novelty**
- **Inappropriate scope and audience**
  - Not a good fit for the journal
- **Limited impact and urgency**

- Lack of interpretation
- Insufficiently extensive experiments, poor methodology

- Low quality of writing – incorrect formatting
- Inadequate literature citation
- “Salami” science
- Suspected (self-)plagiarism

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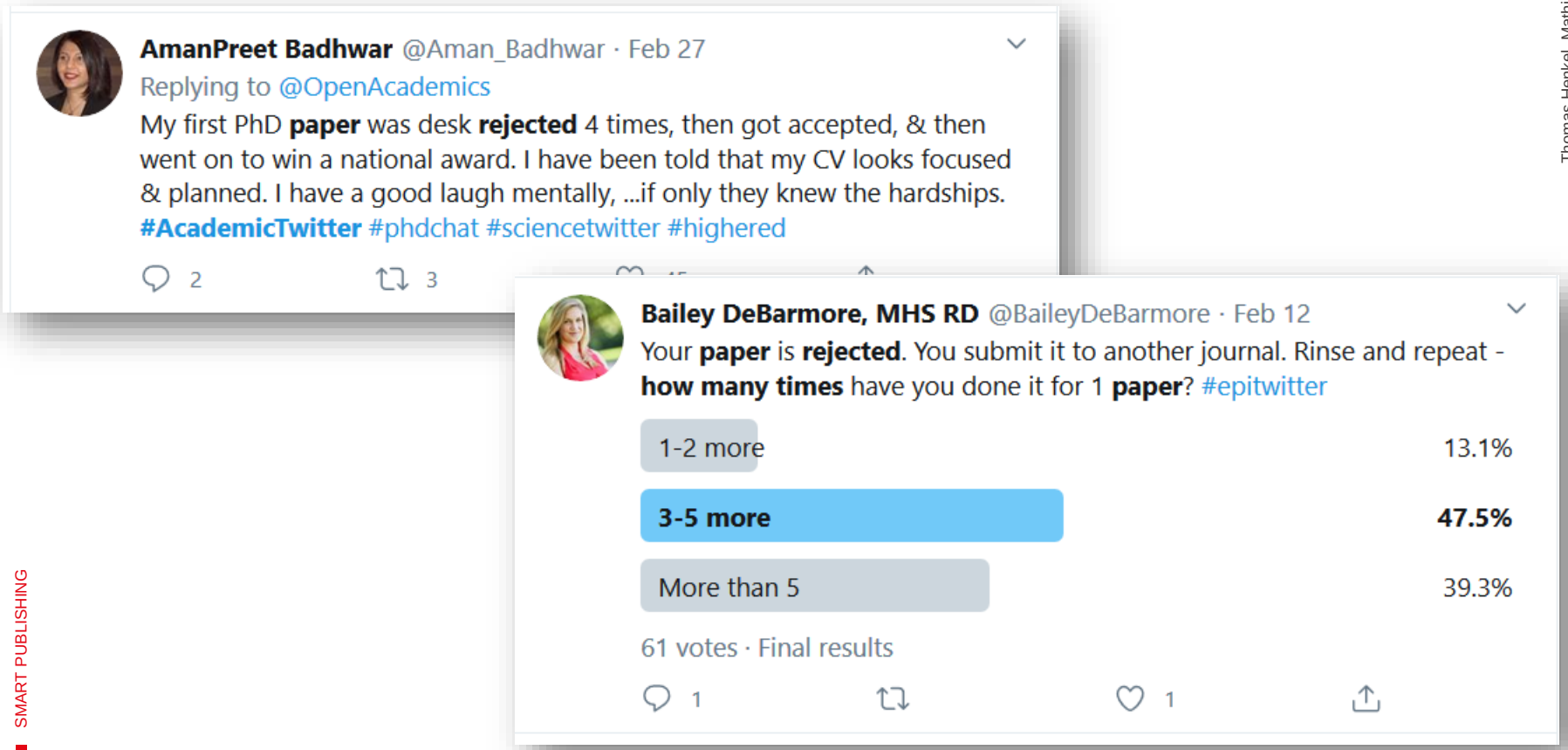
After rejection



Last step : agreeing to your publisher's agreement ?

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