### Motivation to Publish in SCOPUS and High Impact Journal Paper





**EXCELLENCE THROUGH COMPETENCY** 



# Aims of this workshop



To 'clarify' the publishing process.
To observe good practice in academic writing.
To provide tips, insider knowledge and key questions to maximize your chances to publish in the impact journal.
To encourage all of you to publish in JAMT.
Follow-up: We always available to help.
To get you sharing your knowledge, i.e. to get you writing.



### FREE formula !!



Excellence Through Competency

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## Content



- What are the Challenges?
- What is a Research/Journal Paper?
- Why We Need to Write and Publish a top tiered Journal Paper?
- Type of Referred Journal Papers
- Which is the Suitable Journals?
- The Structure of a Typical Journal
- How to Start Writing the Good Academic Articles



# WHY WE NEED TO WRITE AND PUBLISH

- Knowledge contribution.
- Spreading of **research output.**
- Enhance author prestige This may attract recognition and networking and promotion.
- Enhance University/Institute recognition and reputation-This may affect ranking, student intake and research funding.
- Demonstrate **continued technical leadership-** This technical knowledge demonstrating the level of our research.
- Critical reviewing by subject specialists.
- Practical and industrial exposure is enhanced by attributed publications.
- Developing an international profile.
- Enlarging Networking.
- Job requirement.
- Personal satisfaction.



### WHAT IS YOUR PERSONAL REASON FOR PUBLISHING?





### ACADEMIC PUBLICATION



- Types of journals
  - Indexed Journal (ISI and Scopus higher priority)
  - Open Access journals (DOAJ)
  - Other journals (Non-indexed)
  - Conference proceedings (Indexed / Non-indexed)



# Submitting the Paper 10 em

Where to submit??

Scope of Journal

>ISI/Scopus Indexed

►IMPACT Factor

►Journal Format

➢ Publication frequency

> Publication history Always A Pioneer. Always



Always

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# Taylors and Francis's Journals





# Springer's Journals 10 Mem







# **H-INDEX**



- The *H-index* is an index that attempts to measure both the scientific productivity and the apparent scientific impact of a scientist.
- The index is based on the set of the scientist's most cited papers and the number of citations that they have received in other people's publications.
- The definition of the index is that a scholar with an index of h has published h papers each of which has been cited in other papers at least h times.
- Thus, the *h*-index reflects both the number of publications and the number of citations per publication.
- H-index can also be applied to the productivity and impact of a group of scientists, such as a department or university or country.







YEAR :

OTHERS		PUBLICATIONS					RANKING & RATING		
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# WHAT ARE THE UMAN

- Writing Research Paper ????
- Publish in Journal ???
- Why bother ???
- Too difficult !!!
- I have No time !!!

I have No research project / funds !!!







- ✓Identify journals relevant to your fields/areas
- Make it a point to submit to the top journals first
- Ensure your papers have the quality required
- Have an internationally renown researcher/author as research collaborators

# ✓Never give up!

Once you have got an acceptance, then it will be much easier





Inbox

Ms. Ref. No.: JMAD-D-16-07344 Title: APPLICATION OF THIXOFORMING FOR CoCrCuFeNi HIGH ENTROPY ALLOY Materials and Design

Dear Dr. Mohd Shukor Salleh,

Given your expertise in this area, I would appreciate your comments on the above paper. I have included the abstract of the manuscript below to provide you with an overview.

You have 7 days to accept or to decline this review invitation. If you accept this invitation, your comments will be due in 14 days, from the date the invitation is accepted. If you are unable to act as a reviewer at this time, I would greatly appreciate your suggestions for alternative reviewers.

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# WHY PAPERS ARE REJECTED?

- ► Rejection before review
- ► Rejection after review
- >Other reasons for rejection



# REJECTION BEFORE REVIEW

Papers doesn't fit to the scope journal

- Paper does not make a contribution to new knowledge in the discipline
- Paper does not meet established ethical standards
- The paper is poorly written
- Paper has not been prepared according to the journal's guidelines for presentation





- Paper describes a poorly conducted study
- The research conducted was inadequate
- The literature review is inadequate
- The paper has methodological problems
- The data have been interpreted poorly
- The analysis is weak
- The paper duplicates other work/does not report on anything new





#### Materials and Design 64 (2014) 142-152

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Materials and Design

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/matdes

#### Microstructure and mechanical properties of thixoformed A319 aluminium alloy



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Materials & Design

M.S. Salleh a,b, M.Z. Omar a,\*, J. Syarif a, K.S. Alhawari a, M.N. Mohammed a

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Materials & Design

Volume 76, 5 July 2015, Pages 169-180



### Evaluation of the microstructure and dry sliding wear behaviour of thixoformed A319 aluminium alloy

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Received 12 October 2014, Revised 12 March 2015, Accepted 28 March 2015, Available online 28 March 2015.

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### PROBLEMS WITH WRITING/ I PRESENTATION

>The paper is poorly written

- >The author guidelines have not been followed
- >The paper is over the journal's limit
- The paper has been carelessly prepared (editor may view that if the author is careless in writing, he/she must be careless also while conducting the research)



CRITERIA THAT EDITORS/REVIEWERS NORMALLY USED

- ✓ Contribution to knowledge
- ✓ Innovativeness and originality
- ✓ Meets journal objectives
- ✓ Clarity of writing
- ✓Use of literature
- ✓Quality of arguments
- $\checkmark$  Research methodology and data analysis
- ✓ Research implications

# CONTRIBUTION TO KNOWLEDGE



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### INNOVATIVENESS AND ORIGINALITY





# MEETS JOURNAL 1000M OBJECTIVES



# CLARITY OF WRITING



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# USE OF LITERATURE





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"papers are much like lawyers arguments. Building the evidence piece by piece, the authors must present a compelling argument. The process starts with the research question, and then adds a contextual or conceptual background, the identification of an appropriate message to answer the research question, the gathering of suitable data, analysis of those data, interpretation of that data and discussion of the results again, I am constantly surprised at how few authors know how to build an argument".

What did the editors say?

### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY AND DATA ANALYSIS



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BEING PUBLISHED MEANS...



- Your paper is <u>improved</u> through the interventions of editors, reviewers, sub-editors and proof-readers
- Your paper is actively promoted it becomes available to a far greater audience
- Your writing is <u>trustworthy</u> material which has been published carries a QA stamp. Someone apart from the author thinks it's good





#### **Retraction Watch**

# A new record: Major publisher retracting more than 100 studies from cancer journal over fake peer reviews

with 19 comments

Springer is <u>retracting 107 papers</u> from one journal after discovering they had been accepted with fake peer reviews. Yes, 107.

To submit a fake review, someone (often the author of a paper) either makes up an outside expert to review the paper, or suggests a real researcher — and in both cases, provides a fake email address that comes back to someone who will invariably give the paper a glowing review. In this case, Springer, the publisher of *Tumor Biology* through 2016, told us that an investigation produced "clear evidence" the reviews were submitted under the names of real researchers with faked emails. Some of the authors may have used a third-party editing service, which may have supplied the reviews. The journal is now published by SAGE.



Tracking retractions as

The retractions follow another sweep by the publisher last year, when <u>Tumor Biology</u> retracted 25 papers for compromised review and other issues, mostly authored by researchers based in Iran. With the latest bunch of retractions, the journal has now retracted the most papers of any other journal indexed by <u>Clarivate Analytics' Web of Science</u>, formerly part of Thomson Reuters. In 2015, its impact factor - 2.9 - ranked it 104th out of 213 oncology journals.

Here's more from Springer's official statement, out today:

After the retractions as a result of fake peer review (amongst others) in 2015 and 2016 that involved Tumor Biology, the decision was made to screen new papers before they are released to production. Based on this extra screening, new names of fake reviewers were detected and in order to clean up our scientific records, we will now start retracting these affected articles.

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# SOME KEY QUESTIONS



#### Readability

- Does it communicate?
- Is it clear?
- Is there a logical progression without unnecessary duplication?

### Originality

• Why was it written? What's new?

### Credibility

- Are the conclusions valid?
- Is the methodology robust?
- Can it be replicated?
- Is it honest don't hide any limitations of the research?
- You'll be found out.

### Applicability

- How do findings apply to the world of practice?
- Does it pinpoint the way forward for future research?

#### Internationality

• Does it take an international, global perspective?



# **BEFORE YOU** WRITE A PAPER...



- Type of Manuscript
- Who is your audience
- Choose the right journal
- Author Guides



# ORIGINALITY OF YOUR IDEA



- □ Is there anything challenging in your work?
- □ Is the work directly related to a current hot topic?
- □ Have you provided solutions to any difficult problems?

# If all answers are "YES", then start preparations for your manuscript





# SHORT COMMUNICATIONS



• Much shorter than full articles.

## **Sample Short Communications Titles**

- A proposed rapid screening technique for new reverse osmosis membranes. Desalination, 285, p. 399-400 (2012)
- Dispersion of particulate clusters via the rapid vaporization of interstitial liquid. Powder Technology, 215-216, p. 223-226 (2012)



# ORIGINAL RESEARCH

- Standard for disseminating completed research findings
- Typically 8-10 pages, 5-12 figures, 3-6 tables, 25-50 references
- Draft and submit the paper to appropriate journal
- Good way to build a scientific research career



# **REVIEW PAPERS 10 PM**

- Critical synthesis of a specific research topic
- Typically 10+ pages, 5+ figures, 80-150 references
- Typically solicited by journal editors
- Good way to consolidate a scientific research career

## Sample Review Paper Titles

"Cross-flow microfiltration applied to oenology: A review"

"Boron removal from saline water: a comprehensive review"

"Review on solvent extraction of cadmium from various solutions"

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# JOURNAL SELECTION



- It is not (only) the Impact Factor, it is (mainly) the right audience!
- Consult the Journal homepage to learn:
- Aims and scope
- Accepted types of articles
- Readership
- Current hot topics
  - go through the abstracts of recent publications
  - **TIP:** Articles in your references will likely lead you to the right journal.

DO NOT gamble by submitting your manuscript to more than one journal at a time.

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# **Consult** the Journal Homepage



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#### Aims & Scope of Materials & Design

Supports Open Access

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Editor-in-Chief: Alexander M. Korsunsky

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#### Announcements

#### Heliyon Partner Journal

This journal is now partnering with Heliyon, an open access journal from Elsevier publishing quality peer reviewed research across all disciplines. Partner journals

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# READ THE 'GUIDE FOR AUTHORS'! AGAIN

- Apply the Guide for Authors to your manuscript, even to the first draft (text layout, paper citation, nomenclature, figures and table, etc.). It will save your time, and the editor's.
- All editors hate wasting time on poorly prepared manuscripts.



ISSN: 0925-8388



#### Journal of Alloys and Compounds

An Interdisciplinary Journal of Materials Science and Solid–State Chemistry and Physics

> Supports Open Access

Editor-in-Chief: L. Schultz

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The Journal of Alloys and Compounds is intended to serve as an international medium for the publication of work on **solid materials** comprising **compounds** as well as **alloys**. Its great strength lies in the diversity of discipline which it encompasses, drawing together results from **materials science**, solid-state... Read more

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#### Announcements

#### Heliyon Partner Journal

This journal is now partnering with Heliyon, an open access journal from Elsevier

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## LANGUAGE EDITING SERVICES



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## WHY IS LANGUAGE UM IMPORTANT?

# Save your editor and reviewers the trouble of guessing what you mean

## **Complaint from an editor:**

"[This] paper fell well below my threshold. I refuse to spend time <u>trying to understand</u> what the author is trying to say. Besides, I really want to send a message that they can't <u>submit garbage</u> to us and expect us to fix it. My rule of thumb is that if there are more than 6 grammatical errors in the abstract, then <u>I don't waste my time</u> carefully reading the rest."



## WHICH IS THE SUITABLE JOURNAL?

- Quality of research output -decide on subject area
- Decide on type of journal paper
- Read papers from that journal if your not familiar with the journal

# COHERENCE

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# ONLINE SUBMISSION



- Article is submitted online and all of the review procedure also happens online
- Speeds up the editorial process
- Is invaluable for authors in low-income countries



# TARGET TO AVOID<br/>DESK REJECT!

## "Many papers are rejected simply because they don't <mark>fulfil journal requirements.</mark> They don't even go into the review process"

- Identify a few possible target journals/series but be realistic
- Follow the Author Guidelines scope, type of paper, word length, references style, etc
- Find out where to send your paper (editor, online submission e.g. Scholar One/Editorial manager).
- Check author guidelines which can be found in a copy of the journal/series or the publisher's web site
- Read at least one issue of the publication (Benchmarking)
- Include a cover letter opportunity to speak directly to the editor, convince them of the importance of your manuscript to the journal



## HOW TO PREPARE MANUSCRIPT?

□Write in clear and concise manner

- Do not copy text straight from other articles (plagiarism) (check using <u>www.turnitin.com</u>)
- Prepare article, figures and table according to the journal's 'Guide for Authors'

Check references (use <u>www.scopus.com</u>; <u>www.sciencedirect.com</u>), Endnote; Mendeley; other systems

□For practical advice, e-mail: authorsupport@elsevier.com



# PUBLISHING ETHICS



- No duplicate submissions permitted
- Appropriate identification of prior research / researchers
- Appropriate identification of co-authors
  - Include all co-workers involved
  - Obtain permission from co-authors before submitting paper
- Must be original research
  - not a rewritten version of previous paper
- Accurate results (not interpretations)

NOTE: Industry wide software "crosscheck" being rolled out to detect plagiarism, or dual submissions.



Submit to the right journal (scope, speed and prestige)

o Submit one article only to one journal

• Check the English! (http://www.proof-reading-service.com/)

o Pay attention to the structure

Pay attention to journal requirements (GfAs)
Be honest!



# KEY ELEMENTS OF PUBLISHING

- Ethical Issues
- Style and language
- Structure of paper
- Components of paper
- Article submission/journal selection
- Publisher's process/peer review



# THE PRINCIPLES OF STYLE



- Oshort sentences
- Oshort paragraphs
- DNo jargon
- ONO abbreviations

Prefer nouns and verbs to adjectives and adverbs
Cut all duplicities/falseness/double standard



# THE PRINCIPLES OF STYLE



- Avoid figures of speech and idioms
- Prefer active to passive
- Prefer the concrete to the abstract
- Don't hassle/harass
- Be relaxed / comfortable
- Don't be too talkative /informal
- Don't be satisfied with yourself
- Be careful with slang /jargon /dialect
- Add a dash of colour, just a dash



## HOW TO PREPARE A GOOD MANUSCRIPT?

### The general structure of a full article

- Title Make them easy for indexing and **Abstract** searching! (informative, attractive, Keywords effective) Main text (IMRAD) Introduction ➤ Methods Journal space is precious. Make your article **R**esults > And as brief as possible Discussions Conclusions Acknowledgement
  - Reference
  - Supplementary materials
    - Highlights
    - Novelty

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## THE STRUCTURE OF A TYPICAL JOURNAL PAPER



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# List of Co-authors

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# Is there a limit number of co-author????

Fifth year grad student who needs this publication to fill out his CV -- did no actual Grad student who wrote the paper work on the project Undergrad who did the only to discover his committee did "not think it should be included in actual lab work. The Effects of Author Position on Tenure Review his thesis John A. Smith Bill D. Jones Manuel LeBeug Eve Nye Rumfoldorph H.J.L. PI who brought Lab tech who made sure the Famous scientist whose name Hammerstone Paul I. Bossman on the paper will get it into top equipment worked -- the aware that he is an author on research would have never in the cash been done without him. the paper



# List of Co-authors





HIGHLIGHTS



□ 3-5 bullets that convey the core findings of the article

Maximum 85 characters (including spaces) per bullet point



## HIGHLIGHTS / Examples



- The shape factor of  $\alpha$ -Al increased when Mg amount is increased.
- T6 heat treatment has increased the strength of the thixoformed alloys.
- The elongation after T6 heat treatment is even significantly improved..
- Thixoformed alloy with high Mg content shows a brittle type fracture.



# **GRAPHICAL ABSTRACTS**



• Summarize article content in a concise, pictorial form



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1





# TITLE

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# TITLE



Title – what is the paper broadly about?

- $\succ$ Your opportunity to attract the reader's attention.
- Reviewers will check whether the title is specific and whether it reflects the content of the manuscript.
- Editors hate titles that make no sense or fail to represent the subject matter adequately;
- D Effective titles
  - ➤Identify the main issue of the paper
  - Begin with the subject of the paper
  - >Are accurate, unambiguous, specific and complete
  - Are as short as possible



# TITLE



Should be SIMPLE, CONCISE, EXPRESSIVE AND INFORMATIVE

Should **BE SPECIFIC** in describing the study

ATTRACTIVE

**ACCURATELY REFLECT** the investigation

Should be LABEL, NOT A SENTENCE

**SELECT THE WORDS** in title carefully for clarity and accuracy

Avoid ABBREVIATIONS AND TECHNICAL JARGON IF POSSIBLE

Avoid **PHRASES** 

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# Example



Ex: Experimental and Numerical Study of Thermo– Hydraulic Performance of Circumferentially Ribbed Tube with Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> Nanofluid

Tips: Highlight the "<u>strength</u>" of your paper

Ex: The Effect of Mg addition in Al-Si thixoformed alloys

Ex: The Significant Effect of Turbulent Characteristics on Heat Transfer Enhancement using Nanofluids: A Comprehensive Review

Ex: Recent Progress on Lattice Boltzmann Simulation of Nanofluids: A Review





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#### Microstructure and mechanical properties of thixoformed A319 aluminium alloy



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Materials & Design

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Materials & Design

Volume 76, 5 July 2015, Pages 169-180



#### Evaluation of the microstructure and dry sliding wear behaviour of thixoformed A319 aluminium alloy

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Received 12 October 2014, Revised 12 March 2015, Accepted 28 March 2015, Available online 28 March 2015.

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#### Journal of Alloys and Compounds 621 (2015) 121-130



### The effects of Mg addition on the microstructure and mechanical properties of thixoformed Al-5%Si-Cu alloys



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Microstructural evolution and mechanical properties of thixoformed A319 alloys containing variable amounts of magnesium

M.S. SALLEH a A 🖾, M.Z. OMAR <sup>b</sup>, K.S. ALHAWARI <sup>b</sup>, M.N. MOHAMMED <sup>c</sup>, M. A. MAD ALI <sup>a</sup>, E. MOHAMAD <sup>a</sup>

#### Show more

https://doi.org/10.1016/S1003-6326(16)64321-2

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## AUTHORS & AFFILIATIONS

- Affiliation: Give the whole address when writing the affiliation of each author.
- E-mail address is also very useful (increasingly required by journals)
- Sometimes Phone and Fax number also important



## AUTHORS & AFFILIATIONS



- Check the guidelines of the journal you propose to publish in.
- Full name is of advantage if
  - There is another scientist with your Surname and first initial
  - You are a woman in a male-dominated field. Specially important if you are the only author, so that your work isn't cited.





# Abstract

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# Abstract



### Introduction/Motivation (optional)

Importance of your work, the difficulty of the area, the impact it might have if successful

### Problem statement/study case

> What problem are you trying to solve. What is the scope of your work

### <u>Approach</u>

How did you go about solving or making progress on the problem. Did you use simulation, analytical model or prototype construction. What important variables did you control, ignore or measure.

### <u>Results</u>

> What is the answer

### <u>Conclusion (optional)</u>

What are the implication of your answer





### ABSTRACT



### Good Abstract

- Aim/ Objectives/ purposes of study (C) [1-2 sentences)
- Scope of the research/ significance of study [2-3 sentences]
- Describe the methodology used (C) [2-3 sentences]
- Summarize most important results (c) [2-3 sentences]
- Conclusion, practical implications, and recommendation (C) [1-2 sentences]
- Avoid acronyms and mathematical symbols

## Write a very strong abstract !









#### **SELF-CONTAINED**

Not include **NEEDLESS INFORMATION** 

A clear abstract will **STRONGLY INFLUENCE** if your work is considered further

Length limits are strict: (100-200 words)

Only include INFORMATION AND CONCLUSIONS that are contained in the main paper

Avoid include MATHEMATICAL EQUATION OR FORMULA

Avoid LONG INTRODUCTORY OR EXPLANATORY material

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Do not include any BIBLIOGRAPHIC, TABLE, OR FIGURE, REFERENCE, NO BULLET paragraphs.

Write in the THIRD PERSON

#### Answer the following **SPECIFIC QUESTIONS**:

- What was done?
- Why was it done?
- How was it done?
- What was found?
- What is the significance of the findings?

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# COMMON MISTAKES:

Missing CONTEXT/BACKGROUND

Missing PURPOSES/OBJECTIVES

Missing CONCLUSIONS

Missing IMPLICATIONS/APPLICATIONS

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### Abstract

Thixoforming is a viable technology for forming alloys in a semisolid state into nea Study case net-shaped products. In the present study, the effect of a thixoforming process or the microstructure and mechanical properties of A319 aluminium alloy was investigated. The ingots obtained from the cooling slope were thixoformed in a press after they remained at 571 C for 5 min, yielding a microstructure Approach predominantly composed of a-Al globules and inter-globular Si particles. Sor the thixoformed samples were treated with an ageing process (T6) and then hardness and tensile samples were prepared from the as-cast, asthixoformed and thixoformed T6. All the thixoformed samples were characterised using optical Results microscopy, scanning electron microscopy (SEM), energy dispersive X-ray (EDX) X-ray diffraction (XRD) as well as hardness measurements and tensile tests. The results indicate that the mechanical properties of the thixoformed A319 alloy increased after the T6 heat treatment (hardness of 124.2 -3.2 HV, tensile strength of 298 -3.0 MPa, yield strength of 201  $\pm$  2.6 MPa and elongation to fracture of 4.5  $\pm$ 0.3%). The fracture samples from the tensile test were analysed, revealing that the iron-rich intermetallic observed in the samples reduced the tensile strength and ductility of the thixoformed A319 alloys.

introduction



KEYWORDS



- Keywords mainly used for indexing
- It is the label of your manuscript.
- Avoid words with a broad meaning.

E.g., the word "soil" in "Soil Biology & Biochemistry" should not be selected as a keyword.

- Only abbreviations firmly established in the field are eligible (e.g., DNA).
- Check the Guide for Authors! (for Example, "Wear" journal.
- Try to avoid compound words





- Usually included under the title or abstract.
- Should be three to six words, which headline the subject matter.
- There are very important but often added as after thought
- Must get them right if we want our paper to be found in searches, read and cited.
- When writing keywords, think about the subject matter and categories we might use in a literature search of this topic.



### EXAMPLE OF KEYWORDS



Keywords: Heat transfer correlation Hydrogen Direct injection Injection timing Equivalence ratio *Keywords:* Hydrogen-fueled engine Time-averaged heat transfer Equivalence ratio Direct injection Nusselt number Reynold's number





# Introduction

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# INTRODUCTION

• Should introduce the subject area – generally

#### Should include:

Background of the study

Bring the reader from what is commonly understood to the point of appreciating the questions your research attempts to answer.

#### Literature review

Provide detailed background knowledge of earlier work Covering the latest development in the field. Provide an critical evaluation of methodologies used. Introduce the ideas that led to the present work.

Objectives or scope

Normally at the end of this section and **rationale** that lead you to do this research.



# **INTRODUCTION**

- **Clearly** state the:
  - Problem being investigated
  - Background that explains the problem
  - Reasons for conducting the research
- Summarize relevant research to provide context
- State how your work differs from published work
- Identify the questions you are answering
- Explain what other findings, if any, you are challenging or extending
- Briefly describe the experiment, hypothesis(es), research question(s); general experimental design or method
- Don't try to show readers that you have read everything

RELATE TO CURRENT KNOWLEDGE
INTRODUCE YOUR WORK
STATE RESEARCH QUESTIONS AND OBJECTIVES
LOGICAL

FRAMFWORK

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# **INTRODUCTION 10 Permission**

Editors like to see that you have provided a perspective consistent with nature of the journal.

- ➤You need to introduce the main scientific publications on which your work is based. (Cite a couple of original and important works, including recent review articles)
- However, they hate improper citations of too many references irrelevant to the work, or inappropriate judgments on your own achievements.
- > They will think that you have no sense of purpose at all!



# **INTRODUCTION**

COMMON WEAKNESSES

Unclear RESEARCH QUESTIONS

Ambiguous **OBJECTIVES** 

Indefinite **HYPOTHESIS** 

Does NOT PROVIDE JUSTIFICATIONS of the study

Does **NOT PROVIDES BENEFITS** of the study

Scopes is NOT ADEQUATELY DESCRIBED

**INSUFFICIENTLY DEFINED VARIABLES** (common in the social sciences studies)

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What do you ALREADY KNOW in the area concerned?

What are the **EXISTING THEORIES**?

Are there ANY INCONSISTENCIES OR OTHER SHORTCOMINGS?

What views **NEED TO BE (FURTHER) TESTED**?

What EVIDENCE IS LACKING, INCONCLUSIVE, CONTRADICTORY OR TOO LIMITED?

**WHY STUDY (FURTHER)** the research problem?

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# 12 GUIDING QUESTIONS

# **4-3-4-1 TECHNIQUES**

#### **CONCEPTUAL/THEORETICAL QUESTIONS**

- •What is ALREADY KNOW in the immediate area of concern?
- What are the EXISTING THEORIES that help explain the fact?
- What are the CHARACTERISTICS OF THE KEY CONCEPTS or the MAIN FACTORS OR VARIABLES?
- What are THE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THESE KEY CONCEPTS, FACTORS, OR VARIABLES?

#### **EMPIRICAL QUESTIONS**

- •How do WE KNOW what we know?
- •WHAT RESEARCH APPROACHES have been used to study the event?
- •What are the METHODOLOGICAL STRENGTHS, SHORTCOMINGS / LIMITATIONS?

#### **ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS**

- •Where are there INCONSISTENCIES or other SHORTCOMINGS in our knowledge and understanding?
- •What views NEED TO BE (FURTHER) TESTED?
- •What EVIDENCE IS LACKING, INCONCLUSIVE, CONTRADICTORY OR TOO LIMITED?
- •Why STUDY (FURTHER) the research problem?

#### FOCUS QUESTION

•What CONTRIBUTION CAN THE PRESENT STUDY be expected to make to the knowledge base?

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### SHORTCOMINGS OF LITERATURE REVIEW

Do NOT IDENTIFY THE GAPS in the literature

WHAT CONTRIBUTION CAN BE EXPECTED TO MAKE the knowledge base?

Argues THAT NOT ENOUGH IS YET KNOWN about the topic.

Do not provide IDEAS FOR GENERATION OF NEW KNOWLEDGE.

**NO CONCLUSION DRAWN** from the literature review.

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# INTRODUCTION

Watch for the following:

- > Never use more words than necessary.
- > Never make this section into a history lesson.
- >Long introductions put readers off.
- Introductions of Letters Short Communications) are even shorter.
- > We all know that you are keen to present your new data.
- But do not forget that you need to give the whole picture at first.
- Do not mix introduction with results, discussion, and conclusion.
- Always keep them separate to ensure that the manuscript flows logically from one section to the next.

Expressions such as "novel", "first time", "first ever", "paradigm-changing" are not preferred. Use them carefully.



# Introduction



- Introduction section should contain review of up to date literature.
- This section should explain the novelty of the work.
- It should also discuss the objective and significance of the work.
- This section should not normally exceed four typed pages (double spaced)



**First Stage: general statements** about a field of research to provide the reader with a setting for the problem to be reported.

#### General reference to previous research or scholarship: research topic prominent

- The X problem has been extensively studied.
- Xs have been studied extensively in vitro, using ...
- X has been intensively investigated recently due to its ...
- Markers for the prediction of X have been widely investigated.
- X has also been shown to reverse the anti-inflammatory effects of Y in ...
- Factors thought to be influencing X have been explored in several studies.
- The geology of X has been addressed in several small-scale investigations and ...
- The roles of X have been studied extensively (Jones, 1989; Johnson, 1994; Smith, 1998).
- The causes of X have been widely investigated (Jones, 1987; Johnson, 1990; Smith, 1994).
- X has been identified as a major contributing factor to the decline of many species of ... (1).
- The relationship between X and Y has been widely investigated (Smith, 1985; Jones, 1987, ...



## 1. Author as a subject

	compared the rate of labelled these subsets as measured both components of the used a survey to assess the various identified parents of disabled children as set up a series of virtual experiments using examined the flow of international students
Jones <i>et al.</i> (2001)	carried out a number of investigations into the studied the effects of X on unprotected nerve cells. analysed the data from 72 countries and concluded that interviewed 250 undergraduate students using semi-structured performed a similar series of experiments in the 1960s to show that reviewed the literature from the period and found little evidence for this conducted a series of trials in which he mixed X with different quantities of investigated the differential impact of formal and non-formal education on



# 2. Time frame reference

In 1959, a seminal article was published entitled ...

- In 1889, Brown performed a bilateral ablation of the ...
- In 1859, the publication of X had a major impact on ...
- In 1965, Jones published his major historic survey of ...
- In 1975, Smith et al. published a paper in which they described ...
- In 1984, Jones et al. made several amino acid esters of X and evaluated them as ...
- In 1981, Smith and co-workers demonstrated that X induced in vitro resistance to ...
- In 1990, Patel et al. demonstrated that replacement of H2O with heavy water led to ...
- In 1990, Al-Masry et al. reported a new and convenient synthetic procedure to obtain ...

Thirty years later, Smith (1974) reported three cases of X which ... In the 1950s, Gunnar Myrdal pointed to some of the ways in which ... Following World War 1, Fleming actively searched for anti-bacterial agents. Almost 20 years ago, Jones (1985) formulated his X theory, centred around ...



# 3. Research topics as subject

A seminal study in this area is the work of ... One study by Smith (2014) examined the trend in ... A recent study by Smith and Jones (2012) involved ... A recent systematic literature review concluded that ... A longitudinal study of X by Smith (2012) reports that ... Preliminary work on X was undertaken by Abdul Karim (1992). A key study comparing X and Y is that of Smith (2010), in which ... The first systematic study of X was reported by Patel et al. in 1986. Detailed examination of X by Smith and Patel (1961) showed that ... Analysis of the genes involved in X was first carried out by Smith *et al.* (1983). A significant analysis and discussion on the subject was presented by Smith (1988). The study of the structural behaviour of X was first carried out by Rao et al. (1986). A small scale study by Smith (2012) reached different conclusions, finding no increase in ... The study by Jones (1990) offers probably the most comprehensive empirical analysis of ...



# 4. Research objectives as subject

In an analysis of X, Smith *et al.* (2012) found ... In a follow-up study, Smith *et al.* (2009) found that ... In an investigation into X, Smith *et al.* (2012) found ... In a comprehensive study of X, Jones (2001) found that ... In a study conducted by Smith (1978), it was shown that ... In studies of rats given X, Smith and colleagues found that ... In another major study, Zhao (1974) found that just over half of the ... In a study which set out to determine X, Smith (2012) found that ... In a randomised controlled study of X, Smith (2012) reported that ... In a large longitudinal study, Smith *et al.* (2012) investigated the incidence of X in Y. In one well-known recent experiment, limits on X were found to be .... (Al-Masry, 2013)



### 5. Statement

The roles of X have been studied extensively (Jones, 1989; Johnson, 1994; Smith, 1998). The causes of X have been widely investigated (Jones, 1987; Johnson, 1990; Smith, 1994). X has been identified as a major contributing factor to the decline of many species of ... (1). The relationship between X and Y has been widely investigated (Smith, 1985; Jones, 1987, ...



# CRITICAL REVIEW ON THE

### **Highlighting contradict findings**

However, a number of studies show that significant differences do exist, albeit findings are somewhat contradictory.

Author found differences suggesting that....

In contrast, Author concluded that ....

In contrast, the study by Author indicated that ....

The above findings contradict the study by Author. Author examined...

However, interestingly, this is contrary to a study conducted by Author.

Despite prior evidence [2],....

These results were contradicted by the experiments of Author who considered ....

However, it was later shown by Author that ....



Alw

Second Stage: More specific statements about the aspects of the problem already studies by other researchers. (literature review)

### Highlighting similar findings

The research study by Author also found ....

Author also found that ....

Furthermore, Author concluded that ....

Furthermore, Author showed that ....

In addition, according to Author ...

In addition, Author showed that ...

The finding is consistent with findings of past studies by Author, which ....

The above finding is consistent with the study by Author. Author examined...

Research finding by Author also points towards ..

... is consistent with literature [4].



- Similarly, Author found ...
- Author added that the .....
- This is supported by Author study which reveal that .....
- Author also provided ...
- .... and found similar results to those obtained by Author.
- In addition to work of Author A, Author B provides ...
- ..... by Author also showed similar results.
- This is consistent with the .... of Author, which showed that ....



# Good LR



Nevertheless, study by Brosnan and Lee (1998) found the opposite to be true. Although their study showed no gender difference in computer anxiety, in the United Kingdom sample, males reported more computer anxiety than the females in the Hong Kong sample. Fogarty (1996) found that even though there was no significant gender differences in role conflict and role ambiguity, males were found to significantly experience higher level of role overload compared to the females. These findings are supported by the findings of Nobile and McCormick (2007) and Ragu-Nathan et al. (2008) which showed that males significantly experienced higher level of stress than their females' counterpart.

On the other hand, Martocchio and O'Leary (1989) claimed that men and women did not experience stress differently, both psychogical and physiological



stress in the workplace, which is consistent with the findings of Ivancevich *et al.* (1983). Similar results were also reported in the studies of Ibrahim *et al.* (2007) and Barkhuizen and R. th t at 1 (2) 18. The 1 undings of Burke (2008) supported these findings as her study showed no significant gender difference in the technological stress experienced by the baccalaureate nurse educators in Lousiana.

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In addition, Burke (2005) also reported that the level of technological stress experienced by her respondents did not significantly differ according to other demographic variables (age, ethnic origin, education level, working experience, and computer experience). Furthermore, Ibrahim *et al.* (2007) did not find any significant difference in stress level with respect to the types of occupation held by their respondents while Barkhuizen and Rothmann (2008) noted no significant difference in workplace stress in terms of age.

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In contrast, Ivancevich *et al.* (1983) discovered that the employees who were more senior and who were higher in the organisational hierarchy perceived greater stress compared to the others. Meanwhile, Martin *et al.* (2001) also discovered significant age differences in the stress level measured. Nevertheless, younger participants were found to experience more stress in the financial and environmental domains whilst the older participants experienced more stress in the health domain. In Nobile and McCormick (2007) study, it was revealed that occupational stress among teachers decreased with age. Teachers in the 20-30 age category were significantly more stressed with student discipline issues.

ompetency

Moreover, Nobile and McCormick's (2007) study also indicated significant



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# Third Stage: Statements that indicate the need for more investigation. (Research gap/novelty of the study)

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To date, Surprisingly,	x	has (still) not (yet) been	closely formally empirically extensively scientifically systematically comprehensively	studied. examined. investigated.
---------------------------	---	----------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------

There is a	current relative general notable surprising	paucity	of studies of well-controlled studies	investigating describing how that seek to identify predictors of
			of empirical research of high-quality research	in the field of focusing specifically on on the current prevalence of
			of scientific literature of evidence-based literature	specifically relating to on the experiences of describing the impact of



# Third Stage: Statements that indicate the need for more investigation. (Research gap/novelty of the study)

(Very) few studies have Few published studies have explored ... focused on .... controlled for ... examined how ... compared trends in ... attempted to define ... examined the role of .... measured X in humans. evaluated the effects of X on... assessed the implications of ... examined the consequences of ... actually examined the impact of ... provided quantitative evidence of ... systematically evaluated the use of ... attempted to quantify the impact of ... adequately tested the effectiveness of ... addressed the long term psychological effects of ... been published that specifically assess the use of ... been large enough to provide reliable estimates of ... been conducted to determine the possible effects of ...


# Third Stage: Statements that indicate the need for more investigation. (Research gap/novelty of the study)

There is little published data on ... No previous study has investigated X. The use of X has not been investigated. There has been no detailed investigation of ... There has been little quantitative analysis of ... Data about the efficacy and safety of X are limited. Up to now, far too little attention has been paid to ... A search of the literature revealed few studies which ... The impact of X on Y is understudied, particularly for ... Few studies have investigated X in any systematic way ... So far, very little attention has been paid to the role of X So far, however, there has been little discussion about ... In addition, no research has been found that surveyed ... Surprisingly, the effects of X have not been closely examined. Surprisingly, X is seldom studied and it is unclear to what extent ... In contrast to X, there is much less information about effects of ... X has hitherto received scant attention by scholars of the Y period. A systematic understanding of how X contributes to Y is still lacking. Despite the importance of X, there remains a paucity of evidence on ... There have been no controlled studies which compare differences in ... To date, the problem has received scant attention in the research literature. To date, there are few studies that have investigated the association between ... To date, no large-scale studies have been performed to investigate the prevalence of .... Although studies have recognized X, research has yet to systematically investigate the effect of ... Since the publication of X forty years ago, there has only been a limited amount of original research into the history of ...

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#### Third Stage: Statements that indicate the need for more investigation. (Research gap/novelty of the study)



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# Third Stage: Statements that indicate the need for more investigation. (Research gap/novelty of the study)

#### increased.

On the basis of the comprehensive literature review, the entropy generation, the exergy destruction and the pressure drop analysis of flat plate solar collectors using nanofluid as an absorbing medium had rarely been reported. The main objectives

> medium with suspended oxides in water inside a flat plate solar collector. On the basis of the broad literature review, the entropy generation, the exergy destruction and the pressure drop analysis of a flat plate solar collectors using SWCNT nanofluid as a working medium were rarely reported.

> The main aim of this study is on the expanded exergy, entropy generation, the exergy destruction and the pressure drop analysis for a flat plate solar collector using different nanofluids with different flow rates and volume fractions.

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collector. A review of the literature shows that there is no work on the flat-plate solar collector performance using CuO/water as the working fluid. For this purpose, a commercial flat plate collector is selected to carry out the experiments in North–East of Iran during summer 2012. The effect of the absorbing medium mass flow rate on the collector efficiency is investigated. The efficiency values of nanofluid and water (as two working fluids) are compared.

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# Fourth Stage: Very specific statements giving the purpose/objectives of the writer's study.

#### Focus, Aim, Objective:

The objective of the present work paper is to investigate ...

In this work we propose a simulation which uses ...

The objective of this study is to develop ...

This paper will focus on/examine/give an account of ....

The objectives of this paper are to determine whether ....

This paper seeks to address the following questions:

This paper critically examines/discusses/traces ....

The aim of this paper is to determine/examine ....

The aim of this study was to evaluate and validate ....

The present study examined numerically the ....

This study was spawned from the lack of research of ....

The objective of this paper is to numerically study ....



## Fifth Stage: Significant of the study

#### Significant of the study

To accomplish this aim and to respond to a recent call for research to...

- The findings of this study will help.....
- The contribution of this study is obvious as the resulting outcomes can be capitalized as guidelines to ....

The current study contributes to our knowledge by addressing four important issues. First, ....





# Methods and materials

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#### Describe how the problem was studied

- Include detailed information, so that a knowledgeable reader can reproduce the experiment.
- Previously published procedures need not be described in depth:
  - > Cite methods and note any changes to the protocol and/or
  - > Provide detailed methods in Supplemental Material
- Identify the equipment and materials used
  - Provide source and related product information (company, molecular weight etc)
- Write out full chemical/biological compound names (followed by abbreviation) then use abbreviations throughout paper
- Make sure that all symbols are defined.
- Reviewers will criticize incomplete or incorrect descriptions (and may recommend rejection).



#### METHODS

• EXPERIMENTAL

- Equipment, materials and method
- MODELING
  - Assumption, mathematical tools and method
- COMPUTATION/NUMERICAL
  - Inputs (B.C and I.C.), computational tools and method

Explain what is **ESPECIALLY DIFFERENT ABOUT METHOD** 

Give SUFFICIENT DETAIL that the reader can reproduce

For well-known methods: NAME OF METHOD, CITATION OF REFERENCE

For methods **PREVIOUSLY DESCRIBED** but not well known: **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF METHOD, CITATION OF REFERENCE** 

For methods that yourself develop: RELATIVELY DETAILED DESCRIPTION

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Should be written in **PAST TENSE** 

May include tables and figures—

- FLOWCHARTS
- DIAGRAMS OF APPARATUS (adopted form)
- Tables of EXPERIMENTAL CONDITIONS

#### How will you demonstrate that your **EXPERIMENT DESIGN OR METHODOLOGICAL APPROACH** is

- · thoroughly and accurately,
- valid and
- relevant to your research?

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Documents ALL METHODS PERFORMED in your study

Summarize in your OWN WORDS what you did

Describe in **DETAIL HOW THE RESULTS** were obtained so that a peer can repeat procedure

It should be **REPRODUCIBLE** 

For materials considered following THREE IMPORTANT POINTS

- Exact technical specification
- Quantities
- Preparation method and source

For industrial products, **AVOID TRADE NAMES** unless the nature of the product differ from one to another company

Use SCIENTIFIC NOMENCLATURE

Try to MAKE SUB-HEADINGS of the section consistent with the result

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Methodology need to be **DESCRIBED IN DETAIL**. More details is required for **UNUSUAL AND INNOVATIVE PROCEDURES** 

Remember that this section **SHOULD DESCRIBE THE METHOD ONLY.** It should **NOT PRESENT THE RESULTS** 

Statistical analysis must be pertain and thorough enough TO ENSURE THE ACCURACY OF THE CONCLUSIONS

**DEGREE OF FREEDOM, LEVEL OF CERTAINTY** should be reported in order **TO FACILITATE EVALUATION OF CONCLUSIONS** 

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**RAW DATA ARE NEVER INCLUDED** in scientific paper unless they are needed to **GIVE EVIDENCE FOR SPECIFIC CONCLUSIONS** or summation of the data

ANALYSIS EXPERIMENTAL DATA then present them in the FIGURE/TABLE and/or descriptions of the OBSERVATIONS

FIGURES ARE PREFERABLE TO TABLES and TABLES ARE PREFERABLE TO STRAIGHT TEXT

Present the converted data, MAKE A POINT CONCISELY and CLEARLY. The TABLE AND FIGURE SHOULD THEN BE PRESENTED, COMPLETE WITH TITLE.

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Avoid EXCESSIVE PRESENTATION DATA/ RESULTS WITHOUT ANY DISCUSSION

Discuss how data COMPARE OR CONTRAST WITH PREVIOUS RESULTS

**CITES EVERY ARGUMENT** with previous work

Do NOT DRAW CONCLUSIONS in the results section

The most common mistakes in this section are the inclusion of **UNNECESSARY DATA AND THEIR DOUBLE PRESENTATION** 

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# Results

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- Generally, tables give the actual experimental results.
- Graphs are often used for comparison of experimental results with those of previous works, or with calculated/theoretical values.
- No illustrations should duplicate the information described elsewhere in the manuscript.





- Illustrations should be used for ESSENTIAL data only.
  - Comment from an Editor: Can't you describe the results of Fig. 13 in the text, since this figure does not show much information of interest? You should realize that space is valuable!!
- The legend of a figure should be brief.
- It should contain sufficient explanatory details to make the figure understood easily without referring to the text.

Indication from a reviewer: readers often look at the figures first and many times go no further.





**APPEARANCES COUNT!** 

Un-crowded plots: 3 or 4 data sets per figure; well-selected scales; appropriate axis label size; symbols clear to see and data sets easy to differentiate.

Each photograph must have a scale marker of the professional quality on one corner.

Use color ONLY when necessary. If different line styles can clarify the meaning, never use colors or other thrilling effects.

Do not include long boring tables! (e.g., chemical compositions of emulsion systems)

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#### An example of an unreadable figure with the unnecessary usage of color



Fig.1 TEM image of purified MWNTs

Fig.2 FTIR spectra of purified MWNTs

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### HIGH-QUALITY ILLUSTRATIONS





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### TABLES AND FIGURES CAPTIONS

- List all the Tables and Figures Titles on a separate page
- Each Tables and Figures is on a separate page
- Presents results of research
- Should be independent of text
- Titles should be specific
- Should be clear and include all units
- Should include some statistical understanding
  - Decimal places
  - Statistical analysis i.e. SD





Depth	Gravel	Sand	Mud
5 m	3,42%	81.41%	15,17%
50 m	2,5%	58.42%	39.08%
100 m	0,0%	32.5%	67.5%

#### Revision of the table



Water depth (m)	Gravel (%)	Sand (%)	Mud (%)
5	3.4	81.4	15.2
50	2.5	58.4	39.1
100	0	32.5	67.5

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#### DISCUSSION-At a Glance



What might it mean?

- **What is an overall finding?**
- Uhat are the strengths and weaknesses of the study in relation to other studies?
- Why might we have got different results?
- **What** might the study mean?
- Uhat questions remain unanswered and

**What** next?



### What the results mean

- $\succ$ It is the most important section of your article.
- A huge numbers of manuscripts are rejected because the Discussion is weak.
- Make the Discussion corresponding to the Results. But do not repeat the results.
- $\succ$  You need to compare the published results with yours.
- DO NOT ignore work in disagreement with yours challenge it and convince the reader that you are correct or better.



Check for the following:

- How do these results relate to objectives outlined in the Introduction section?
- > Do the data support your hypothesis?
- Are your results consistent with what other investigators have reported?
- Discuss weaknesses and discrepancies. If your results were unexpected, try to explain. Why?
- > Is there another way to interpret your results?
- What further research would be necessary to answer the questions raised by your results?
- > Have you explained what is new without overstating?





Watch out for the non-quantitative words! Low/high; Extremely; Enormous; Rapidly; Dramatic; Massive; Considerably; Exceedingly; Major,

minor; ...





Answer **RESEARCH QUESTION** 

Give SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

**UNEXPECTED FINDINGS** 

Establish NEWNESS (NEW KNOWLEDGE)

Explain **DISCREPANCIES** 

FURTHER RESEARCH AND IMPLICATIONS

(A GOOD ARTICLE IS THE ONE THAT IS READER READ AND CITED)

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#### WEAKNESS IN DISCUSSION SECTION

#### **NO DISCUSSION**

Comparison are made between current and previous findings

#### **NO POSSIBLE EXPLANATIONS** for **unexpected findings**

#### Does NOT GIVE NEW INFORMATION

## MAKE CONCLUSIONS that is NOT SUPPORTED BY THE DATA/ANALYSIS

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## Results and Discussion Urem

Results and discussions section is the most important

- □Part of the manuscript in which critical analysis of the results are done.
- Any limitations of the results presented or techniques used in the study are to be highlighted in this section.
- $\Box$ Care should be taken to avoid any errors of logic and facts.
- □Sufficient number of Figures and Tables with good quality



## Results and Discussion 10 length

#### Discussion of Results

- The discussion of the results begin with ...
- This finding highlights...
- The finding of the present study suggest that
- The findings suggest that .....
- The finding provides evidence that ...
- This study indicates that ...
- The results of the present study also suggest that ...
- The present findings also suggest that ...
- Our finding revealed that ...
- Among the plausible explanations for these findings is that ....
- The most striking result to emerge from the data is that .....
- Interestingly, this correlation is related to .....
- The correlation between X and Y is interesting because ......
- The more surprising correlation is with the .....
- The single most striking observation to emerge from the data comparison was .....

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# Results and Discussion

#### Reference to previous research: support

These results agree with the findings of other studies, in which ... These results are consistent with those of other studies and suggest that ... The results of this study will now be compared to the findings of previous work. The results of this study are in keeping with previous observational studies, which ...

further support the idea of ... confirm the association between ... are consistent with data obtained in ... match those observed in earlier studies. are in agreement with those obtained by ... are in line with those of previous studies. These results are in accord with recent studies indicating that ... seem to be consistent with other research which found ... mirror those of the previous studies that have examined ... are consistent with those of Smith and Jones (2015) who ... are in agreement with Smith's (1999) findings which showed ... support previous research into this brain area which links X and Y. corroborate the ideas of Smith and Jones (2008), who suggested that ...



# Results and Discussion

# Highlight your findings!!!!!

#### **Unexpected outcome**

What is surprising is that ...

Surprisingly, X was found to ...

One unanticipated finding was that ...

Surprisingly, no differences were found in ...

This finding was unexpected and suggests that ...

It is somewhat surprising that no X was noted in this condition ...

These findings are somewhat surprising given the fact that other research shows ...

Contrary to expectations, this study did not find a significant difference between ...

However, the observed difference between X and Y in this study was not significant.

However, the ANOVA (one way) showed that these results were not statistically significan



## **Results: Figure**

Fig. 7. XRD patterns of catalysts calcined at different temperature for 2 hours; (a) Un-sulfated  $SnO_2$  (b) 500°C for  $SO_4^2$ -/SnO<sub>2</sub>, (c) 400°C for  $SO_4^2$ -/SnO<sub>2</sub>, (d) 300°C for  $SO_4^2$ -/SnO<sub>2</sub>-Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (3), (e) 300°C for  $SO_4^2$ -/SnO<sub>2</sub>-SiO<sub>2</sub>(3) and (f) 300°C for  $SO_4^2$ -/SnO<sub>2</sub>.



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# Conclusion

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CONCLUSION



How the work advances the field from the present state of knowledge

- ➢ Without a clear conclusion section reviewers and readers will find it difficult to judge the work, and whether or not it merits publication in the journal.
- DON'T REPEAT THE ABSTRACT, or just list experimental results. Insignificant statements of your results are unacceptable in this section.
- You should provide a clear scientific justification for your work in this section, and Indicate uses and extensions if appropriate.
- Moreover, you can suggest future experiments and point out those that are underway.
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## CONCLUSION

#### • An example:

In conclusion, our results obtained with mice increase the knowledge on CPFinduced adverse effects, up to now limited to rats. They seem to suggest that not all the CPF effects measured in rats and the related doses can be directly extrapolated to mice, which seem to be more susceptible at least to acute treatment. Even though many questions. still remain open, our findings show that the mouse could be considered a suitable experimental model for future studies on the toxic action of organophosphorus pesticides focused on mechanisms, long term and age-related effects.

Contribution to the
 particular area

Practical significance

Future work clearly
 stated



CONCLUSION

THREE THINGS IN THE CONCLUSION SECTION

SUMMARIZES the FINDINGS

Summary of **CONTRIBUTIONS** 

Future research (**RECOMMENDATION FOR FUTURE WORK**)

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## CONCLUSION

Conclusions are NOT A WORDY SUMMARY of the study

It is **SHORT, CONCISE STATEMENTS** of the conclusions that you have made

It helps to organize these as SHORT NUMBERED PARAGRAPHS

**Ordered from MOST TO LEAST IMPORTANT** 

All conclusions should be **DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE RESEARCH** QUESTION.

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#### **Restatement of aims**

This paper has argued that ...

- This essay has discussed the reasons for ...
- In this investigation, the aim was to assess ...
- The main goal of the current study was to determine ...
- The purpose of the current study was to determine ...
- This project was undertaken to design ... and evaluate ...
- The present study was designed to determine the effect of ...
- The second aim of this study was to investigate the effects of ...

Returning to the question posed at the beginning of this study, it is now possible to state that ...





predict which ... establish whether ... determine whether ... develop a model for ... assess the effects of ... investigate impact of ... better understand the ... find a new method for ... evaluate how effective ... assess the feasibility of ... This study set out to test the hypothesis that ... explore the influence of ... gain a better understanding of ... objectively measure and assess ... examine the relationship between ... compare the two ways of treating ... critically examine the ways in which ... evaluate a new method of measuring ... provide the first systematic account of ... understand the views and experiences of ... review in detail the available information on ...





#### Summarising research findings

This study has identified ... This study has shown that ... The research has also shown that ... The second major finding was that ... These experiments confirmed that ... X made no significant difference to ... This study has found that generally ... The investigation of X has shown that ... The results of this investigation show that ... X, Y and Z emerged as reliable predictors of ... Multiple regression analysis revealed that the ... The most obvious finding to emerge from this study is that ... The relevance of X is clearly supported by the current findings. One of the more significant findings to emerge from this study is that ...





- The main finding can be summarized as follow: 1..2..
- The following conclussions can be made: 1..2...
- Important conclussions drawn from this work include: 1...2...
- The following conclussions were obtained. 1)....2)..
- Analysis of the computed results show the following: 1).....2)...
- In summary, the current study unveils just the tip of iceberg of ....
- The following is a summary of conclusions. 1...2)...



#### Significance of the findings

- The evidence from this study suggests that ....
- The results of this study indicate that ....
- The findings of this study suggest that ....
- The X that we have identified therefore assists in our understanding of the role of ....
- These findings enhance our understanding of ....
- This research will serve as a base for future studies and ....
- The current findings add substantially to our understanding of ....
- The current findings add to a growing body of literature on ....
- The study has gone some way towards enhancing our understanding of ....
- The present study, however, makes several noteworthy contributions to ....
- The findings from this study make several contributions to the current literature. First,...





#### **Recommendations for further work**

This research has thrown up many questions in need of further investigation. Further work needs to be done to establish whether ....

It is recommended that further research be undertaken in the following areas: Further

experimental investigations are needed to estimate ....

What is now needed is a study involving ....

More broadly, research is also needed to determine ....

Further research might explore/investigate ....

Further research in this field/regarding the role of X would be of great help in ....

Further investigation and experimentation into X is strongly recommended. A number of possible future studies using the same experimental set up are apparent. It would be interesting to assess the effects of ....

More information on X would help us to establish a greater degree of accuracy on this matter. If the debate is to be moved forward, a better understanding of .... needs to be developed.

These findings provide the following insights for future research: ....





 Should consider to acknowledge any help and assistance, such as research grant, scholarship, special permission, people who helped to review, comments, etc.



- Relevant and recent
- Be highly selective
- Read the references
- Do not misquote
- Use correct style for journal





Typically, there are more mistakes in the references than any other part of the manuscript. It is one of the most annoying problems, and causes great headaches among editors...

>Cite the main scientific publications on which your work is based

Do not over-inflate the manuscript with too many references – it doesn't make a better manuscript!

► Avoid excessive self-citations

> Avoid excessive citations of publications from the same region.



- Make the reference list and the in-text citation conform strictly to the style given in the Guide for Authors!!!
- Presentation in the correct format is the responsibility of the author, not the Editor!
- Checking the format is normally a large job for the editors. Make their work easier and they will appreciate the effort.
- Check the following:
  - > spelling of author names, year of publications
  - ➤ Usages of "et al.", and punctuations.







• Your list of references is a total mess!! Take a very careful look at articles in our journal and print your references accordingly. Thus, do not use the word 'and' between names of authors. Do not use a comma after the name of the journal. Do never use et al. in a reference. You MUST mention all authors!!! Do not mention the last page of an article; the first page is sufficient in our journal. And so on, and so on!!



### LANGUAGE – LONG SENTENCES



### Direct and short sentences are preferred!

• Long sentences will not make the writing more professional. They only confuse readers.

➢Nowadays, the average length of sentences in scientific writing is about 12-17 words.

It is said that we read one sentence in one breath.
Long sentences obstruct readers.

>One idea or piece of information per sentence is sufficient. Avoid multiple statements in one sentence.

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### LANGUAGE – LONG SENTENCES

#### Problems with long sentences:

- Inappropriate use of passive voice or dummy clauses (e.g., "It has been found that there had been many ...") makes sentences complex.
- Bad structure of sentences with wrongly used conjunctive words or dangling modifiers. (e.g., "because..., so...", "Although..., but...", "considering..., it is...")
- Excessive use of subordinate clauses in one sentence. (e.g., "It has already been found that when...there would be ... which...while...")
- Mixing different levels of parallelisms connected by "and" in one sentence.



#### LANGUAGE -REPETITION AND REDUNDANCY



- ≻At the present time
- ≻By means of
- ≻In order to
- ≻In view of the fact that
- ≻Red in colour
- ≻Small in size
- ➤Until such time as
- Adequate enough
- Research work
- ➤Schematic diagram



 $\rightarrow$  As for  $\rightarrow$  At present, or now  $\rightarrow$ By →To  $\rightarrow$ Since; because  $\rightarrow$ Red  $\rightarrow$ Small →Until  $\rightarrow$ Adequate  $\rightarrow$  Research, or work  $\rightarrow$ Scheme, or diagram

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# COMMON DRAWBACKS

#### Ethical Aspect:

- Plagiarism
  - Any text in the paper.
  - Tables, figures.
  - Zero tolerance.
- Self-plagiarism



- Is this paper look similar to your previous one?
- Copy-and-paste.
- Quotation and Paraphrase.
- Plagiarism checking tools.





#### COMMON DRAWBACKS IN WRITING PAPERS

#### Presentation Aspect:

- Write paper for you only!
  - **Suppose reviewers** have known everything you know.
- Lacking of context
  - Lacking of **problem definition** or crowded with them.
  - Lacking of literature review or unfairly diminish others work.

#### Purely descriptive

 No alternative, no comparison, no comments just "we did this, we did that..."



# COMMON DRAWBACKS

#### Presentation Aspect:

- Bad structured
  - Unbalance in parts.
  - Include irrelevant or unnecessarily long contents.
  - Incoherence/illogical.
- Incomprehensible writing
  - Many acronyms and abbreviations.
  - Inconsistence in notation usage.
  - Use footnote more than text.



# COMMON DRAWBACKS

#### Language Aspect:

Academic writing is a discipline!

- Writing paper with colorful language
  - Straight and simple.
- Write long and complex sentences
  - KISS Keep it short and simple
- Context repetition
  - Should not repeat ourselves.
- Inconsistent tense in a paragraph



#### COMMON DRAWBACKS IN WRITING PAPERS

#### Language Aspect:

Academic writing is a discipline!

- Active vs. Passive voice
  - Social Science research tends to use more active voice while formal English tends to use passive.

#### Bad word choice

- Over-sell/over-generalize words (e.g "paradigm")
- Buzz words (cool but shallow).
- Controversy words.

### Typos and bad graphics



# Conclusion: what leads to Acceptance

Attention to detail **Check and double check your work Consider the reviews DE**nglish must be as good as possible **P**resentation is important **Take** your time with revision Acknowledge those who have helped you **New** original and previously unpublished **C**ritically evaluate your own manuscript **Ethical rules must be obeyed** 



## FORMATTING



- Create a single word document
  - Cover page
  - Separate abstract page
  - **Text**
  - Separate table and figure pages
  - Figure captions
  - References







- Acknowledgements
  - Sponsors
  - Technical assistance
- Authors/Corresponding Author
  - Which order!!!
  - Student, Post-doc and Supervisor??



UNIVERSITI TEKNIKAL MALAYSIA MELAKA 'Where Great Technical Careers Begin'

#### Question???

MT: C. M. ----

H.A. . Transmitter

2.1

HARPY C