

## Session 4: Publication Ethics

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*Publishing in High Impact  
Journal*  
At  
Universitas Andalas,  
Padang,  
Indonesia.  
14 and 15 March 2017



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## Research Misconduct

As defined by Office of Research Integrity, US  
Dept. of Health and Human Services

Research misconduct means **fabrication**,  
**falsification** and **plagiarism** in **proposing**,  
**performing**, or **reviewing** or **reporting**  
research results

Honest error or difference in opinion is not included  
in this definition

**Known as FFP**



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## Research Misconduct

### **Fabrication :**

making up data/results which does not exist and recording them

### **Falsification:**

Manipulating research material, processes, result to achieve pre-planned outcomes  
Omitting data such that the results are not accurately represented.

### **Plagiarism:**

Using other person(s) material, ideas, sentences, paragraph, pictures etc. without appropriately acknowledging them.



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## Data Fabrication/Falsification

- ❖ *“Trimming”*: altering data
- ❖ *“Cooking”*: selective reporting of data
- ❖ *“Forging”*: making up the data



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## Consequences

- Manipulate data with intention to that deceive others (**cheating**)
- Failure to honestly fulfil scientific obligations.
- Mislead their colleagues
- Potentially impede progress in their field or research.
- Undermine their own authority and trustworthiness as researchers (**lose credibility**).

**In Research and  
Publication,  
FFP is a CRIME!**

## High profile case

Disgraced South Korean scientist guilty of fraud over faked stem cell research

A South Korean scientist who falsely claimed to have achieved major breakthroughs in stem cell research has been found guilty of fraud.



Prof Hwang Woo-suk

The Telegraph 26 Oct 2009

6:27AM GMT 26 Oct 2009

Hwang Woo-suk, 56, once a scientist with rock-star like status for bringing South Korea to the forefront of stem cell studies, had also been on trial on charges of misusing state funds and violating bioethics laws.

"He was guilty of fabrication," the Seoul court said in a verdict in the trial that stretched more than three years and included painstaking details about the scientific work Hwang and his team had performed at Seoul National University.



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## Plagiarism and Self-Plagiarism

### DEFINITION

- **Plagiarism:** using the ideas or words of another person without giving appropriate credit
- **Self-Plagiarism:** The copying or reuse of one's own research



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## Plagiarism

- ✧ All sources should be disclosed through appropriate **citation or quotation** conventions.
- ✧ If a large amount of other people's written or illustrative material is to be used, **permission** must be sought.



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## To Avoid Self Plagiarism

- Journals not interested to reproduce published material (self plagiarism) as it consumes valuable space.
- Sentences need to be “paraphrased”
- Use quotation mark for short quotes, and cite the original version
- Permission must be obtained to reproduce large objects, e.g. pictures, tables etc.



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## How Journals Detect Plagiarism

- **Similarity check** by Journal Admin before review process using software, for example *turnitin* and *crosscheck*.
- Information from reviewers or other editors
- Withdrawal of a paper from publication or review process (by authors)



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## Consequences

- Papers are **retracted** from journal
- Authors **banned** from publication in the journal (and possibly other journals too).
- Authors are placed on a “watch list”. Future submissions will be subjected to careful examination




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## High profile case



Science Insider  
Breaking news and analysis from the world of science policy

July 28, 2009

**Journal Editor Retracts Paper on Sperm Made From Stem Cells**

The paper, published online by *Stem Cells and Development* on 8 July with Karim Nayernia of Newcastle University in the United Kingdom as the corresponding author, had already received some criticism from other experts; Dr Allan Pacey of the University of Sheffield in the United Kingdom, for example, was quoted by *The Independent* as saying: "As a sperm biologist of 20 years' experience, I am unconvinced from the data presented in this paper that the cells produced ... can be accurately called 'Spermatozoa.'"

The paper's problems soon got much worse. Graham Parker, editor-in-chief of *Stem Cells and Development*, told ScienceInsider that he received an email on 10 July from the editors of another journal, *Biology of Reproduction*, claiming that **two paragraphs from Nayernia paper's introduction were copied without attribution from a 2007 review article** by Makoto Nagano of McGill University in Montreal, Canada, that was published in their journal.

Parker says Nayernia told him the offending text was inserted by a postdoctoral fellow. But Parker says the explanation he received was not consistent with an innocent mistake. "Once I had established that the suggested reason for the text's inclusion was not being substantiated I decided to retract the paper" on 21 July, Parker says.

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## Other Ethical Issues

- Authorships
- Multiple submissions
- Human/Animal violations
- Conflict of Interest

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## Examples of retracted papers

**RETRACTED:** Fluorescence lifetime increase by introduction of  $F^-$  ions in ytterbium-doped  $TeO_2$ -based glasses

*Journal of Alloys and Compounds*, Volume 393, Issues 1-2, 3 May 2005, Pages 279-282

Guonian Wang, Shixun Dai, Junjie Zhang, Shiqing Xu and Zhonghong Jiang

**RETRACTED:** Effect of  $F^-$  ions on spectroscopic properties of  $Yb^{3+}$ -doped zinc-tellurite glasses •

*Journal of Physics and Chemistry of Solids*, Volume 66, Issue 6, June 2005, Pages 1107-1111

Guonian Wang, Junjie Zhang, Shixun Dai, Jianhu Yang and Zhonghong Jiang

From Science@Direct (Elsevier)



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## Authorships



A physics paper with 5,154 authors has — as far as anyone knows — broken the record for the largest number of contributors to a single research article.

Only the first nine pages in the 33-page article, published on 14 May in *Physical Review Letters*<sup>1</sup>, describe the research itself — including references. The other 24 pages list the authors and their institutions.

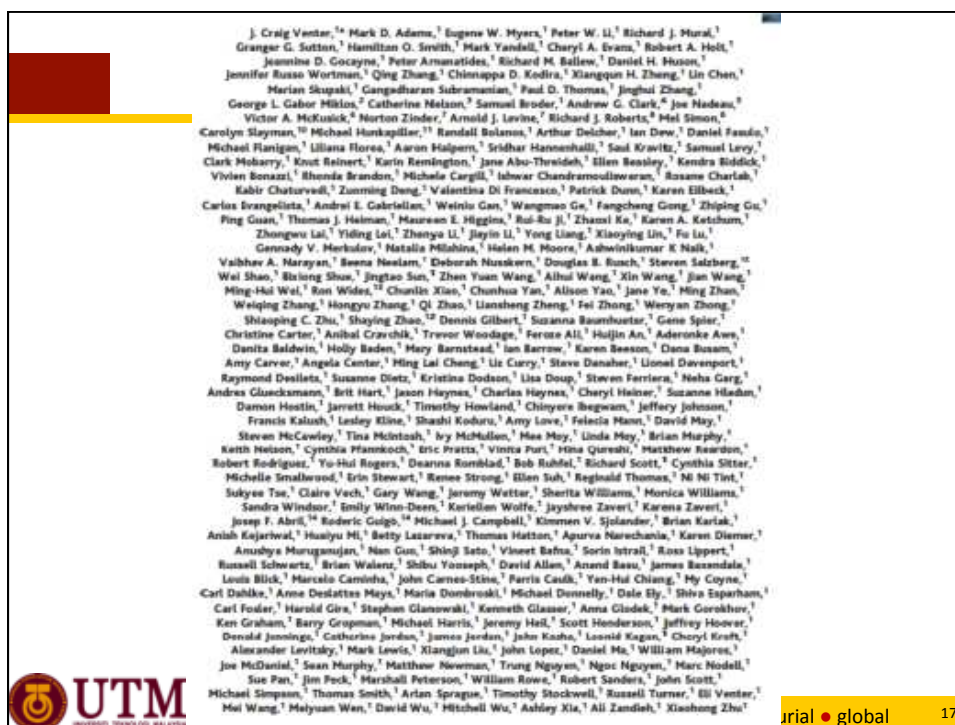


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## Sequence of Authorship

IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON POWER ELECTRONICS, VOL. 27, NO. 8, AUGUST 2012 3627

### An Improved Particle Swarm Optimization (PSO)-Based MPPT for PV With Reduced Steady-State Oscillation

Kashif Ishaque, Zainal Salam, *Member, IEEE*, Muhammad Amjad, and Saad Mekhilef, *Member, IEEE*

**First Author:**  
Doing most of the writing/work

**Second Author:**  
Supervisor/Second most contributor

Manuscript received September 14, 2011; revised September 21, 2011; accepted January 8, 2012. Date of current version April 20, 2012. Recommended for publication by Associate Editor M. Liserre.

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Color versions of one or more of the figures in this paper are available online at <http://ieeexplore.ieee.org>.

Digital Object Identifier 10.1109/TPEL.2012.2185713

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## Who qualify as Authors?

“Authorship credit should be based only on

- 1) **substantial contributions** to conception and design, or acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data;
- 2) drafting the article or **revising it critically** for important intellectual content; and
- 3) **final approval** of the version to be published.

**Conditions 1, 2, and 3 must all be met. “**



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## Duplicate Submissions

- Most journals consider simultaneously submitted manuscripts is not acceptable
  - May cause disagreement over right to publish (among publishers)
  - Unnecessary duplication of peer review and editing
- However, it is acceptable if
  - Paper has been rejected by another journal
  - the paper is withdrawn



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