

Technical and Scientific Writing

Course code (ENGL-03402)

Course Instructor: Dr. Khezina Rafiq

Structure of a Paper

Scientific writing follows a rigid structure – a format developed over hundreds of years

Consequently, a paper can be read at several levels:

- Some people just will refer to the title
- Others may read only the title and abstract
- Others will read the paper for a deeper understanding

Components of a Paper

Section	Purpose
Title	Clearly describes contents
Authors	Ensures recognition for the writer(s)
Abstract	Describes what was done
Key Words (some journals)	Ensures the article is correctly identified in abstracting and indexing services
Introduction	Explains the problem
Methods	Explains how the data were collected
Results	Describes what was discovered
Discussion	Discusses the implications of the findings
Acknowledgements	Ensures those who helped in the research are recognised
References	Ensures previously published work is recognised
Appendices (some journals)	Provides supplemental data for the expert reader

Authors Listing

- ONLY include those who have made an intellectual contribution to the research
- OR those who will publicly defend the data and conclusions, and who have approved the final version
- Order of the names of the authors can vary from discipline to discipline
 - In some fields, the corresponding author's name appears first

Title

- Describes the paper's content clearly and precisely including keywords
- Is the advertisement for the article
- Do not use abbreviations and jargon
- Search engines/indexing databases depend on the accuracy of the title - since they use the keywords to identify relevant articles

Abstract

- **Briefly** summarize (often 150 words) - the problem, the method, the results, and the conclusions so that
 - The reader can decide whether or not to read the whole article
- Together, the title and the abstract should stand on their own
- Many authors write the abstract last so that it accurately reflects the content of the paper

See: The Structured Abstract: An Essential Tool for Research
http://research.mlanet.org/structured_abstract.html

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

Methods

- Provide the reader enough details so they can understand and replicate your research
- Explain how you studied the problem, identify the procedures you followed, and order these chronologically where possible
- Explain new methodology in detail; otherwise name the method and cite the previously published work
- Include the frequency of observations, what types of data were recorded, etc.
- Be precise in describing measurements and include errors of measurement or research design limits

Results

- Objectively present your findings, and explain what was found
- Show that your new results are contributing to the body of scientific knowledge
- Follow a logical sequence based on the tables and figures presenting the findings to answer the question or hypothesis
- Figures should have a brief description (a legend), providing the reader sufficient information to know how the data were produced

Discussion/Conclusion

- Describe what your results mean in context of what was already known about the subject
- Indicate how the results relate to expectations and to the literature previously cited
- Explain how the research has moved the body of scientific knowledge forward
- Do not extend your conclusions beyond what is directly supported by your results - avoid undue speculation
- Outline the next steps for further study

References

- Whenever you draw upon previously published work, you **must** acknowledge the source
- Any information not from your experiment and not 'common knowledge' should be recognized by a citation
- How references are presented varies considerably - refer to notes for authors for the specific journal
- Avoid references that are difficult to find
- Avoid listing related references that were not important to the study

Harvard Reference Style

Uses the author's name and date of publication in the body of the text, and the bibliography is given alphabetically by author

- Adams, A.B. (1983a) Article title: subtitle. Journal Title 46 (Suppl. 2), 617-619
- Adams, A.B. (1983b) Book Title. Publisher, New York.
- Bennett, W.P., Hoskins, M.A., Brady, F.P. et al. (1993) Article title. Journal Title 334 , 31-35.

Vancouver Reference Style

Uses a number series to indicate references; bibliographies list these in numerical order as they appear in the text

1. Adams, A.B. (1983) Article title: subtitle.
Journal Title 46 (Suppl. 2), 617-619.

2. Lessells, D.E. (1989) Chapter title. In: Arnold, J.R. & Davies, G.H.B. (eds.) Book Title , 3rd edn. Blackwell Scientific Publications, Oxford, pp. 32-68.

3. Bennett, W.P., Hoskins, M.A., Brady, F.P. et al. (1993) Article title. Journal Title 334 , 31-35.



Jane suddenly realised that her reference list had too many self citations...

Article Submission

- Select your journal carefully
- Read the aims and scope
- Think about your target audience and the level of your work – do you have a realistic chance of being accepted?
- **Follow the guidelines** in the notes for authors and include everything they ask – it makes the editor's job easier...
- Articles should **not** be submitted to more than one journal at a time

See: Instructions to Authors in Health Sciences

<http://mulford.mco.edu/instr/>

Online Submission

- Many publishers now offer a completely electronic submission process
- 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

Author Priorities for Journal Selection (Elsevier)

- Key (Determining) factors
 - Impact Factor
 - Reputation
 - Access to the target audience
 - Overall editorial standard
 - Publication speed
 - International coverage
 - Open Access or HINARI participating publisher
- Marginal (Qualifying) factors
 - Experience as a referee
 - Track record
 - Quality and colour illustrations
 - Service elements

Author Priorities for Journal Selection (INASP)

- Quality / prestige
- Collection / specialisation
- Habit / previous publication
- Speed / time delay

Journal Selection for Authors from Low-Income Countries (discussion)

Rank on a Scale of 5:1 -

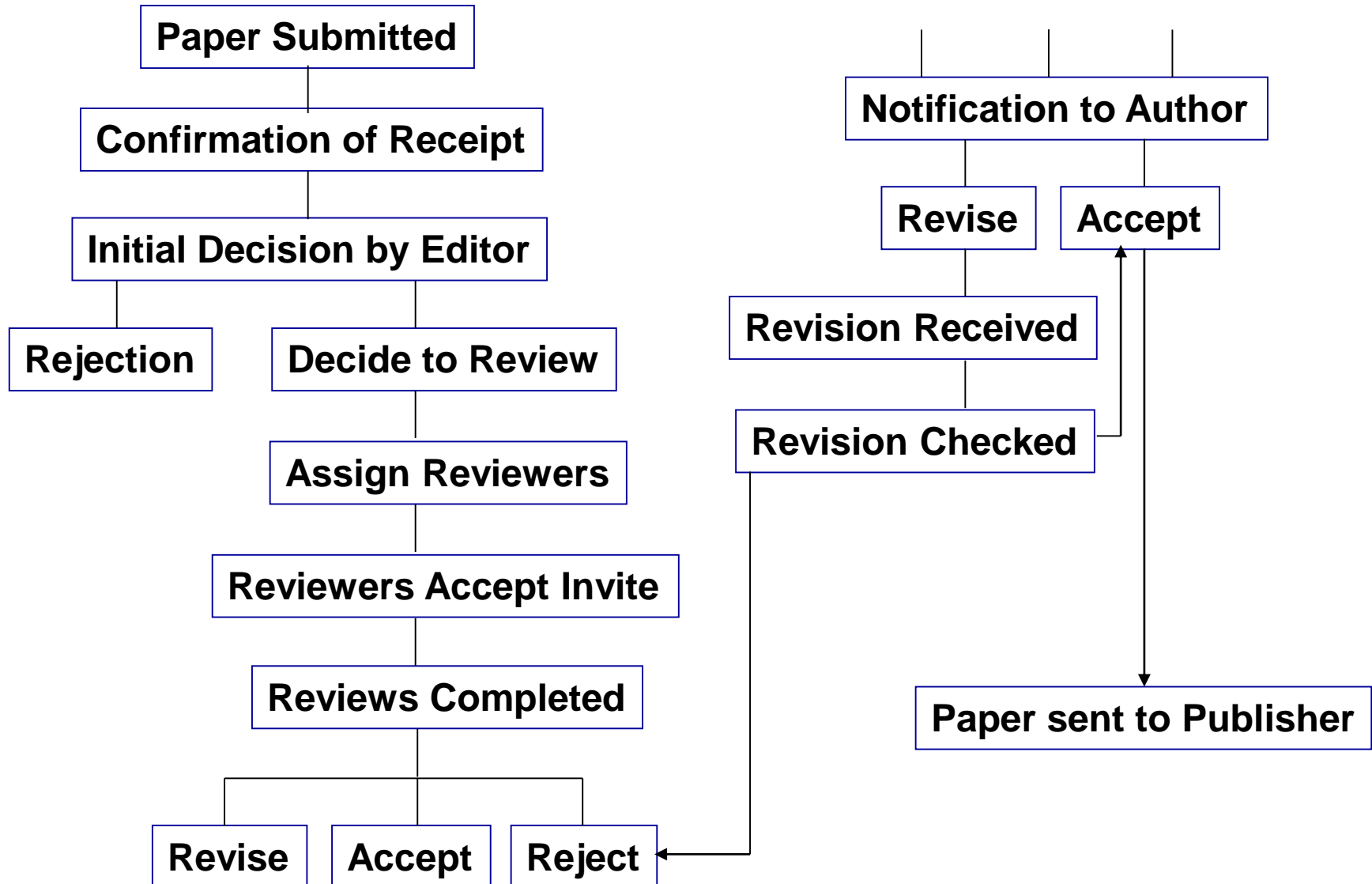
5 (very useful), 4 (somewhat useful), 3 (average),
2 (somewhat not useful), 1 (not useful)

- Impact Factor
- Reputation or quality/prestige
- Access to the target audience or specialization
- Overall editorial standard
- Publication speed
- International coverage
- Habit/previous publication
- Open Access or HINARI/AGORA/OARE participating publisher
- Other

After Submission

- Most journal editors will make an initial decision on a paper - to review or to reject
- Most editors appoint two referees
- Refereeing speed varies tremendously between journals
- Authors should receive a decision of Accept, Accept with Revision (Minor or Major), or Reject
- If a paper is rejected, most editors will write to you explaining their decision
- After rejection, authors have the option of submitting the paper to another journal - editor's suggestions should be addressed

Overview of Peer Review Process



What is the main purpose of peer review ?

Peer review is intended to serve two primary purposes. Firstly, it acts as a filter to ensure that only high quality **research** is published, especially in reputable journals, by determining the validity, significance and originality of the study.

What is peer review and why is it important?

Peer review involves subjecting the author's scholarly work and research to the scrutiny of other experts in the same field to check its validity and evaluate its suitability for publication. A **peer review** helps the publisher decide whether a work should be accepted

What is the process of peer review?

Scholarly **peer review** (also known as refereeing) is the **process** of subjecting an author's scholarly work, research, or ideas to the scrutiny of others who are experts in the same field, before a paper describing this work is published in a journal, conference proceedings or as a book.

Advantages and disadvantages of peer review

Provides valuable feedback so that researchers can revise and improve their papers before publication. Enables journal editors to select the most important research findings for publication in their journals, based upon the objective, independent **reviews** of an expert group

Publishing Tips

Editors and reviewers are looking for original and innovative research that will add to the field of study; keys are:

- For research-based papers, ensure that you have enough numbers to justify sound statistical conclusions
- For a larger study, it may be better to produce one important research paper, rather than a number of average incremental papers

Technical Writing

- What is technical writing?
 - Writing (communication) is an essential skill for all professionals
 - Technical writing is the writing of those involved in the technical fields, i.e., science and engineering.
- In science and engineering
 - Write technical reports
 - Write technical proposals
 - Various forms of technical communication

Technical versus creative

- Technical writing lacks the emotional impact
- Technical writing avoids use of rich metaphors and figures of speech.
- Typically sentence structures are simple and direct.
- “Technical writing is precise, objective, direct, and clearly defined.”

Art of Scientific Writing

- **There is no form of prose more difficult to understand and more tedious to read than the average scientific paper.**

Francis Crick

Types of Scientific Writings

- Research Articles or Research Papers
- Review Articles
- Research Reports
- Research Projects for Funding
- Patents
- Dissertation or Thesis

Types of Scientific Writings- *Research Articles*

- Ultimate Product of Intellectual Pursuit
- Report on research findings that are
- Sound (Valid)
- Previously unknown (Novel and original)
- Add new understanding, observation, proofs
- It has required structure and style IMRaD (Introduction, Material, Results and Discussion).

Global View of Publication in Science and Engineering

- Approximately 35,000 journals published regularly
- 22,000 of them are ISI or Scopus abstracted
- Total number of papers published annually exceeds 2.5 million
- Over 50% are never cited by any one

International Research Publications

Facts and Figures

- *ISI Web of Knowledge* claims to hold over 40 million items and 7387 science and engineering journals and 2257 social science journals.
- Google Scholar has almost taken over the world bibliometry.

Number of Journal Published

(Thomson Reuters-Web of Science –Master Journal List)

Field	Number of Journals
Arts & Humanities Citation Index	1632
Biochemistry and Biophysics	473
Life Sciences	1408
Engineering, Computing & Technology	1329
Clinical Medicine	1519
Arts & Humanities	1338
Agriculture, Biology & Environmental Sciences	1261
Chemistry Citation Index	545
Biotechnology Citation Index	321
Biological Abstracts	4479

<http://science.thomsonreuters.com/mjl/>

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Biotechnology Citation Index	321
Biological Abstracts	4479

<http://science.thomsonreuters.com/mjl/>

Global View of Publications in Science-Hard Facts

- Over 50% of research papers receive no citation
- 90% readers glance through the content list only
- Only 5% open the journal to review through the titles
- Less than 2% scientists read the abstract and introduction
- Less than 1% read rest of the paper!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

What are High Impact Factor Journals?

- Impact factor of journal is the frequency of its citations.
- High impact factor journals are the ones which have high frequency of citations by others.
- It is a superficial, but internationally accepted, measure of quality of journals
- A good high impact journal may publish a paper which have low to zero citations.

What is an Impact Factor of a Journal

- Reflecting the average number of citations of an article in a journal
- Appears in Journal Citation Reports - Science Citation Index
- Journals with high impact factors considered to be more scientifically important and more prestigious.

$$\text{Impact Factor} = \frac{\text{Citations in 2012 to articles published in 2011 and 2010}}{\text{Articles published in 2011 and 2010}}$$

Journal Impact Factor 2009

Journal	Impact Factor
<i>Nature</i>	34.480
<i>Science</i>	29.747
<i>LANCET</i>	30.758
<i>Angewandte-Chemie</i>	11.829
<i>Tetrahedron</i>	3.219
<i>Acta Crys. E</i>	0.453

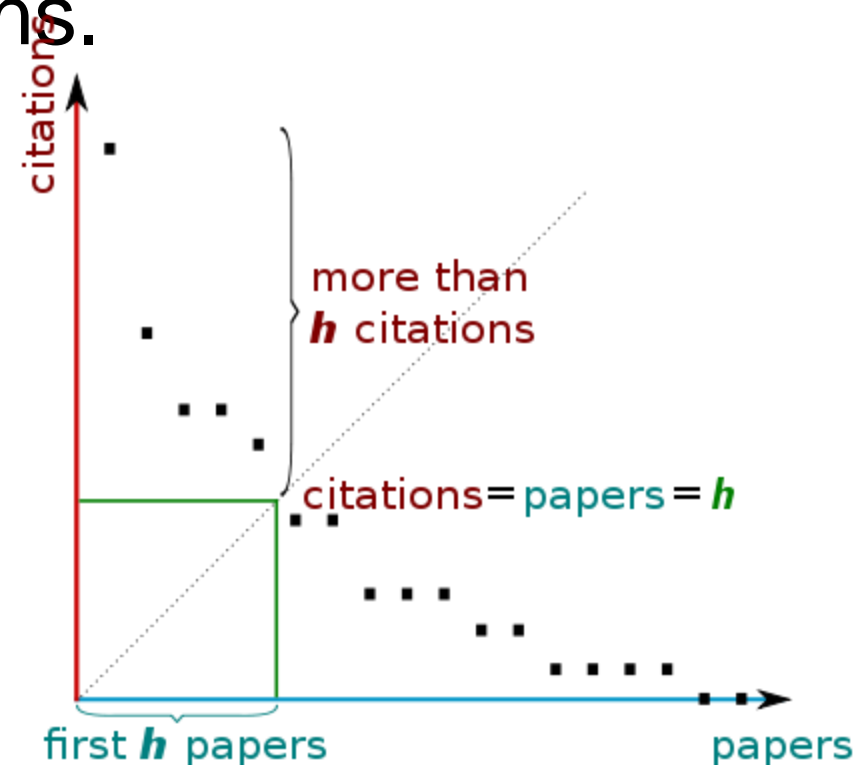


H-Index or Hirsch Index or Hirsch Number

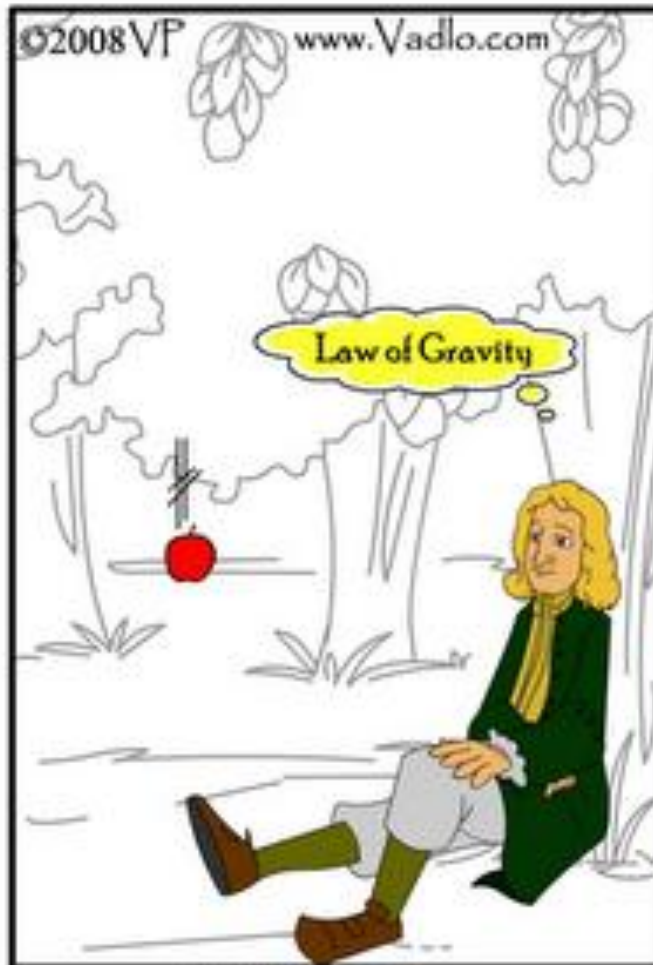
- It measure both the productivity and impact of the published work of a researcher.
- The index is based on the set of the scientist's most cited papers and the number of citations.
- The index can also be applied to the productivity and impact of a group of scientists, such as a department or university or country.

H-index or Hirsch index or Hirsch number

- The h-index is based on a list of publications ranked in descending order by the Times Cited. The value of h is equal to the number of papers (N) in the list that have N or more citations.



Publishing in High Impact Journals-It's the idea which matters



High Impact Paper



Low Impact Paper

E-Journals Vs Print Journal

E-Journals

Merits	Demerits
Easily accessible	Non-availability of full text (Sometime)
Online submission	Subscription only for a fixed duration
Online editing	Poor quality of Portable Document File
Time Savings	No perpetual access
On spot access	Can not read at your leisure
Can download any article with/without payment	Continuity of content is disturbed
	Problems in downloading

Print-Journals

Merits	Demerits
Easily accessible	Increased time spent in searching information
Personified copy	Non-availability of Indexes in some journals
Legibility	Expensive according to number of copies
No dependency on computer/electricity	Require more space
Can read at your leisure	
No need of link/continuity	
Can keep all printed versions to eyesight at a glance	

Why it is Important to Publish in High Impact Factor Journals

- *Publish or perish*
- Greater visibility of research findings
- Increase chances of citations
- Greater recognition among peers
- Associated benefits such as promotions, productivity allowances, etc

Which Manuscript are Published in High Impact Factor Journals

- Work of established scientists
- Results of general interest
- Novelty of findings
- Concise and well written

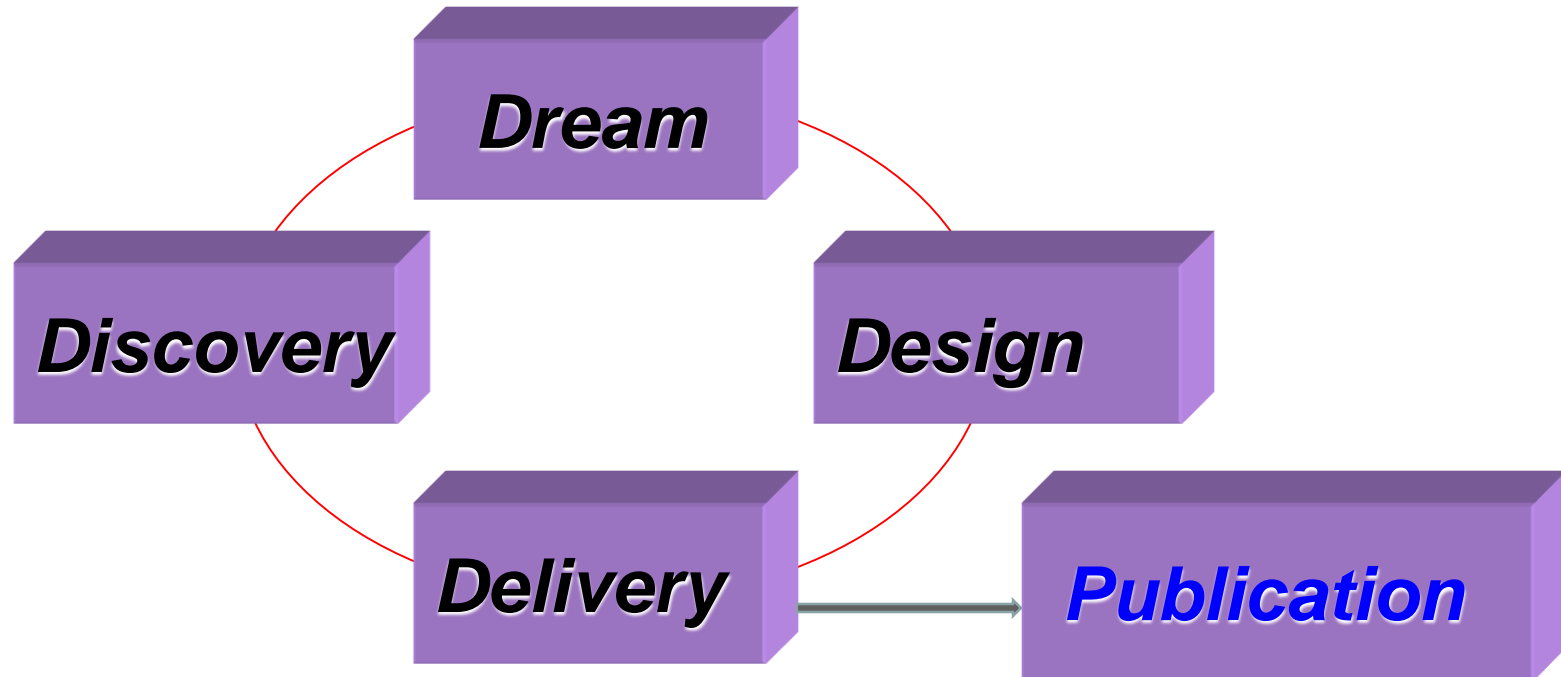
Attributes of a Good Manuscript

- Concise but powerful
- Story like
- To the point
- Free from grammatical and stylistic errors
- Recognizing contributions of others
- Technically correct

From Good Research to Good Writing

- Quality is state of mind
- Good science lead to great findings, and
- Great findings need to be reported in the best possible way to the world

Research Paradigm



“Creativity is fundamental attribute of science, which is driven by curiosity.”

Prof. Dr. M. Iqbal Choudhary, Dawn, Sunday December 6, 2009.

Why Publishing Research Articles is Important?

Ideally it is

- to communicate and share the new discoveries in science to improve the quality of life and for providing better healthcare.
- Make contributions to society

More often is

- to be advance in the field
- to get the research funding/grants
- to get the tenure
- to improve the scientific impact of institute/individual
- recognition by peers

When to Publish or Not to Publish?

- Quality of the scientific study
- Invention and innovation
- Depth of the study
- Interest of scientific community and layman
- Audience
- Message in the publication
- Time of publication

Deciding the Journal for Publishing

- **Aim high-** Go for first tier journals if you have time and temperament to write a good manuscript.
- Decide the target journal before writing or drafting the article.
- Prefer those journals which publish similar work or the journal articles you are citing for your work.
- If you think that your competitor is ahead of you, go for second tier rapid publication journal, because it is important to first

Points to be Considered before Publishing

- Targeted audience
- Prestige of journal and your own institution
- Access (open access/ subscribed)
 - availability free of charge on the World Wide Web
 - On payment
- Impact factor of the journal
- Probability of acceptance
- Publication time

How Important Citations are???



"I was published a couple of years ago in a crap journal and nobody is citing me"



"I was published a couple of years ago in a mid-tier journal. I've got slightly more citations than expected"



"I was published recently in a good journal. Citations are as expected."



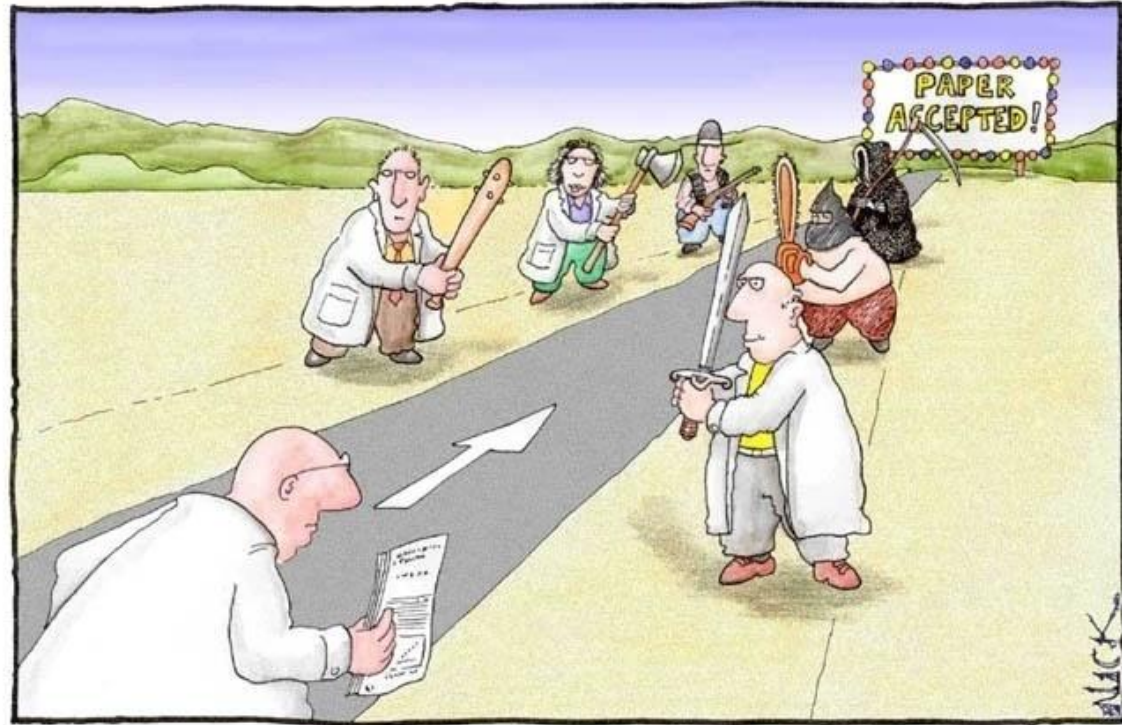
"I was published recently in a good journal and I'm getting lots of citations."

What is Peer Review Process?

- Exciting the reviewer's mind is far more important than exciting the reader's mind.

- It is likely that no one will ever read your paper more thoroughly than the reviewer.

- Suggest referees that appreciate your work
(political)



Most scientists regarded the new streamlined peer-review process as 'quite an improvement.'

www.weirdscience.ca

Kinds of the Research Articles

Letters

Articles

Communications

Research notes

Supplemental articles

Criteria of a Good Research Publication

- Novel idea (out of the box thinking)
- Quality science/research
- Good writing and attractive presentation
- Published in high impact journal

Remember a good article is the one that is read and cited!

Writing is a critical step in science although scientists are not trained to write.

Even very creative experiments and novel results will have dull impact if the manuscript is not written well.

Key to Writing Skills

- The path to writing well is to read excellent writers and write.....and write...and write.
- “Free write” your thoughts. Don’t worry about structure initially.
- Use the best paper in your field as a template and try to convert your free write-up into a format.
- Keep writing concise, dynamic and simple in construction.
- Convey enthusiasm in your writing so it attract the audience.

When to Write a Draft of Manuscript?

- **Best practice-** Prepare the figures and write the draft as the experiment is progressing
- **Second Best practice-** Write the first draft at a meeting where work is first presented. The experiment will be fresh in mind and free time in the evenings may be sufficient to write a draft.
- **Alternatively,** the script of a seminar can often be used as a starting draft.
- **The worst practice-** to write a paper after you have left the place (lab.) where the work was performed.

Divide and Conquer!!!!!!!

- Divide and work on.....
Eat an elephant bit by bit
- If you get stuck on a particular section, just skip to a different section that is easiest to write.
- *It means the easiest first and the most difficult latter.*

Attractive and Catchy Title –

makes reader going
through the
article for sure

Graphics plays an
important role in
catching the eyes of
readers.

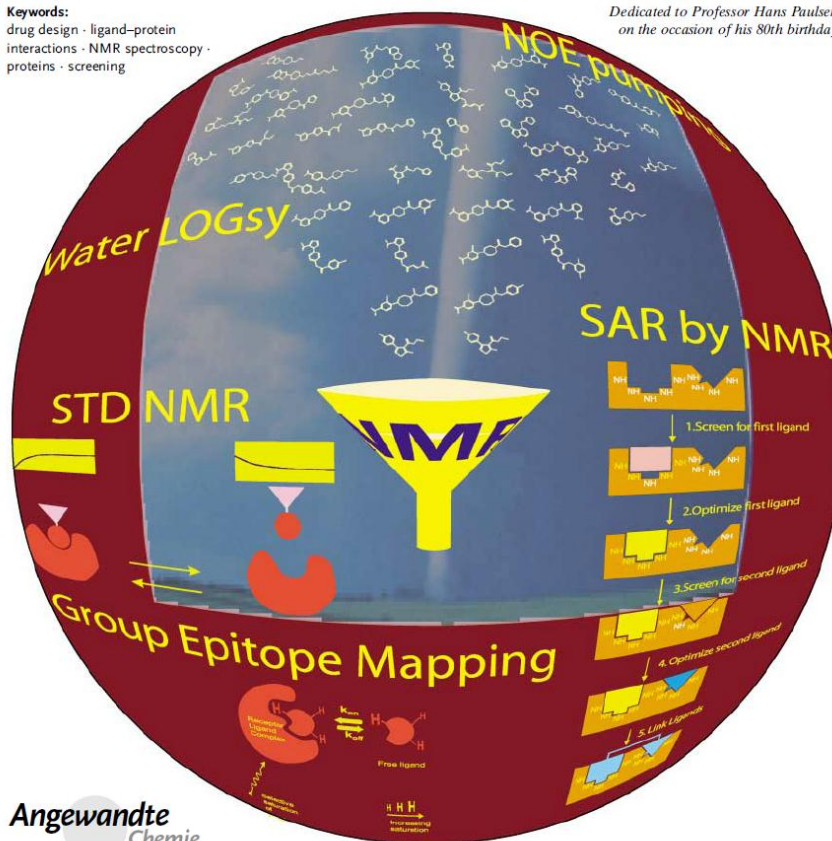
NMR Spectroscopy of Proteins

NMR Spectroscopy Techniques for Screening and Identifying Ligand Binding to Protein Receptors

Bernd Meyer* and Thomas Peters*

Keywords:
drug design · ligand–protein
interactions · NMR spectroscopy ·
proteins · screening

*Dedicated to Professor Hans Paulsen
on the occasion of his 80th birthday*



Angewandte
Chemie

The Impact of Article Titles on Citation Hits

- Most published articles are not cited- the title play a vital role
- Construction of an article title has a significant impact on citation frequency.
- By a study conducted by Thomas S. Jacques and Neil J. Sebire* there was a strong association between increasing title length and citation rate.

The Impact of Article Titles on Citation Hits-Contd.

Reason:

- Electronic searches are now preferred over other means, which includes SciFinder, PubMed, Web of Science, Google Scholar, etc.
- These searches are based on the title or key word .
- Longer, comprehensive titles are more likely to contain given search terms.
- Therefore the title should provide clear description, finding of study

Titles

- Titles do not exceed two lines in print.
- Titles do not normally include numbers, acronyms, abbreviations or punctuation.
- They should include sufficient detail for indexing purposes but be general enough for readers outside the field to appreciate what the paper is about.

Abstract- Most Critical Part of Paper

- Should be informative, indicative and reflects the main 'story' of the article.
- The only chance you have to get the reader's attention.
- Should be crisp, concise and accurate.
- Gives the quick idea of the contents (**Stand alone**).
- What and how was done
- Provide a brief conclusions
- **I generally write abstract at the end**

The detailed information must be present in the body text, not in abstract.

Skeleton of an Article

- Structured
 - IMRaD formula (will discuss more on next slide)
- Unstructured
 - Paragraphs- few sentences summarizing each section

Skeleton of an Article-Continued

IMRaD structure- Writing a draft

Introduction--- **W**hat is the?

Materials and methods/experimental
procedures-- **W**hat did you do?

Results-- **W**hat did you find?

and

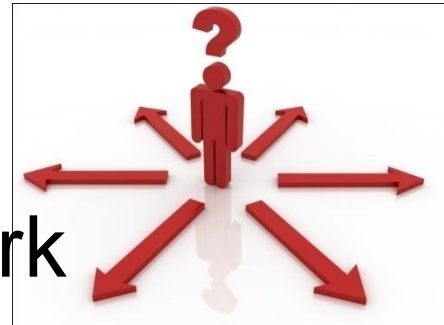
Discussion-- **W**hat does it mean?

Huth EJ. *Writing and Publishing in Medicine*, 3rd ed. Baltimore: Williams & Wilkins; 1999.

Scientific Writing: My Approach and Irreverent Opinions, Mark Yeager.

Introduction- *Setting the Scene*

- **< 2% readers actually cite your article**
 - **And among these < 2% approximately 98% reader just read the introduction**
- Brief background information of the current study
- Focused
- Integrated review of pertinent work
- Updated literature citation
- Should not be too long
- Importance of current study/advancement needed/summary of new findings



Introduction

- Ask question to yourself that why should anyone read your paper amongst the 1000's appearing that month?

Create-A-Research-Space

- It should introduce the topic and relates to the existing research.
- significance of your research.
- Capture your audience. Why is your experiment important?

Avoid comprehensive review, self citations, etc

Material and Methods

- Write the methods section first because it is the easiest to write.
- Provide enough details for competent researchers to repeat the experiment (Who, What, When, Where, How, and Why?)
- Start writing when experiments still in progress
- Sufficient information must be provided for reproducibility
- Study design-new methods must be described in detail
- Supplies, manufacturer, country needs to be added
- Animal, human, protections details
- Measurements/ instruments
- Statistical analysis and data collection
- Descriptive subheadings— general experimental methods, animals, spectral data, etc

You are not expected to do it.....



<http://www.nature.com/scitable/ebooks/english-communication-for-scientists-14053993/writing-scientific-papers-14239285>

Results

- **Use descriptive headings that concisely state the results.**
- **Data representation-concise and accurate.**
- **Short and easy to understand**
- **Consistent with the abstract and introduction**
- **Give tables and figures where needed**
 - **With sufficient information so that minimum text is required.**
 - **Don't repeat information in graphics and text.**

Results

- Appropriate numbering of figures and table mentioned in the text.
- Use significant figures where required.
- Avoid speculations and over discussion.
- Avoid using words such as **proves, confirmed, removed all doubts**, etc. Remember science is dynamic and ever changing.

Discussion

- Hardest section to write, but it is also the most important.
- Use descriptive headings that concisely summarize the interpretation of the results.
- Answer the question posed in introduction
- Correlation of your finding with the existing knowledge
- Discrepancies between new results and previously reported results.

Discussion

- **What is new without exaggerating.**
- **Conclusion/summary, perspectives, implications.**
- **Research limitations and need for future research.**
- **Theoretical implications and possible practical applications.**

Conclusion

- Identify key findings and application
- Should not be a summary of the work done- abstract is doing fine with that.
- Consistent with experimental and introduction

References

- Cite current and key pertinent references
- Reference citations must be accurate and complete
- Read the references
- Use correct style for journal

ACS Style References Citations

- Abstract:

Beharry, S.; Bragg, P.D. Properties of Bound Inorganic Phosphate on Bovine Mitochondrial F1F0-ATP Synthase. *J. Bioenerg. Biomembr.* **2001**, **33**, 35-42

- Book:

Beall, H.; Trimbur, J. *A Short Guide to Writing about Chemistry*, 2nd ed.; Longman: New York, 2001; pp 17-32.

ACS Style References Citations

- Journals:

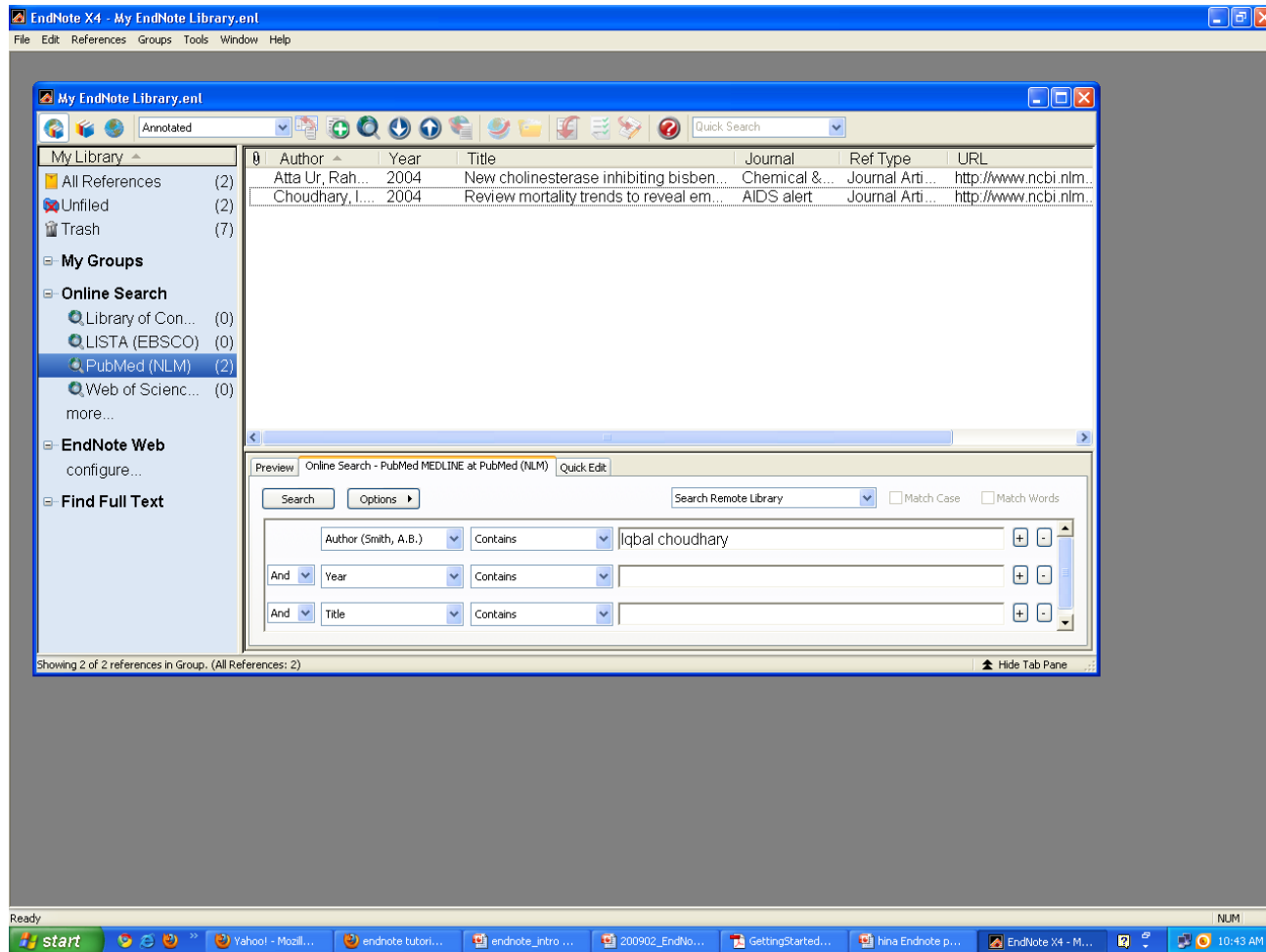
Labaree, D.C.; Reynolds, T.Y.; Hochberg, R.B. Estradiol-16 α -carboxylic Acid Esters as Locally Active Estrogens. *J. Med. Chem.* **2001**, *44*, 1802-1814.

- Encyclopedias:

Diagnostic Reagents. *Ullmann's Encyclopedia of Industrial Chemistry*, 5th ed; VCH: Weinheim, Germany, 1985, p. 196

Modern electronic tools for writing manuscripts

Use **EndNote** for references
...Bibliographies Made Easy™



Acknowledgments

- Funding agencies
- Intellectual contributions
- Dedications
- Notes

Final Step is Revision and Proofreading



Revision, Revision, Revision

- After writing the first draft, at least a dozen revision are usually needed to improve to the text.
- Make sure that all authors read the first draft. Give them timeline...

Revision and Proofreading

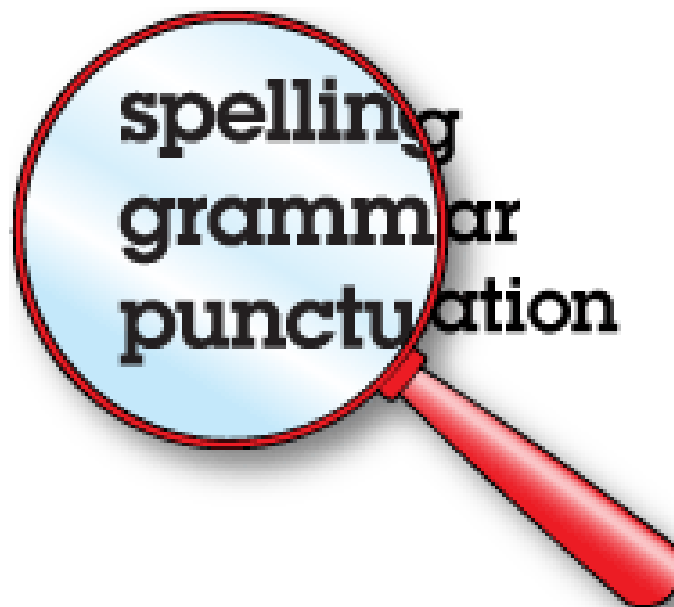
Revision

- Effectiveness of the study
- Supporting information
- Order and flow of the article
- Must be leaving reader with a new question



Revision and Proofreading

- Proofreading *All authors should participate*
- Grammar and spelling errors
 - Consistent verb tense
 - Vocabulary
 - Tighten the sentences
 - spell-check
 - Punctuation
 - typos
- Technical terms
 - Scientific symbols
 - Reaction scheme
 - Chemical structures/names
 - references



PROOFREADING MARKS

Marks & Meanings

Examples



capitalize

They fished in lake tahoe.



make it
lowercase

Five \$tudents missed the \$us.

sp.

spelling mistake

The day was cloudy and cold.
sp.



add a period

Tomorrow is a holiday.



delete (remove)

Kim knew the ~~the~~ answer.



add a word

^{pups}
Six were in the litter.



add a comma

He ate peas, corn and squash.



reverse words or
letters

An otter swam in the bed kelp.



add an apostrophe

The child's bike was red.



add quotation
marks

“Why can't I go?” she cried.



make a space

He read [#]twobooks.



close the space

Her favorite game is soft ball.



begin a new
paragraph

We had fun. [¶]Next we went to

To avoid

Jargon	Preferred use
a considerable amount of	much
on account of	because
a number of	several
Referred to as	called
In a number of cases	some
Has the capacity to	can
It is clear that	clearly
It is apparent that	apparently
Employ	use
Fabricate	make

Day, RA. "How to write and publish a scientific paper," 5th edition, Oryx Press, 1998.

Responsibilities of Authors_from Preparation of Manuscript to Submission

- New and original research
- Manuscript have been checked by all the listed authors.
- Obtain copyright permission if figures/tables need to be reproduced
- Proper affiliation
- Acknowledgement

Criteria for Acceptance

- Originality
 - Novel or creative research methodology
 - New and important research findings
- Scientific Quality (It is impossible to write a good paper on the basis of lousy science!!!!)
- Experimental design and methodology
- Research data representation
- Depth of the investigation
- Thorough and logical discussion of results

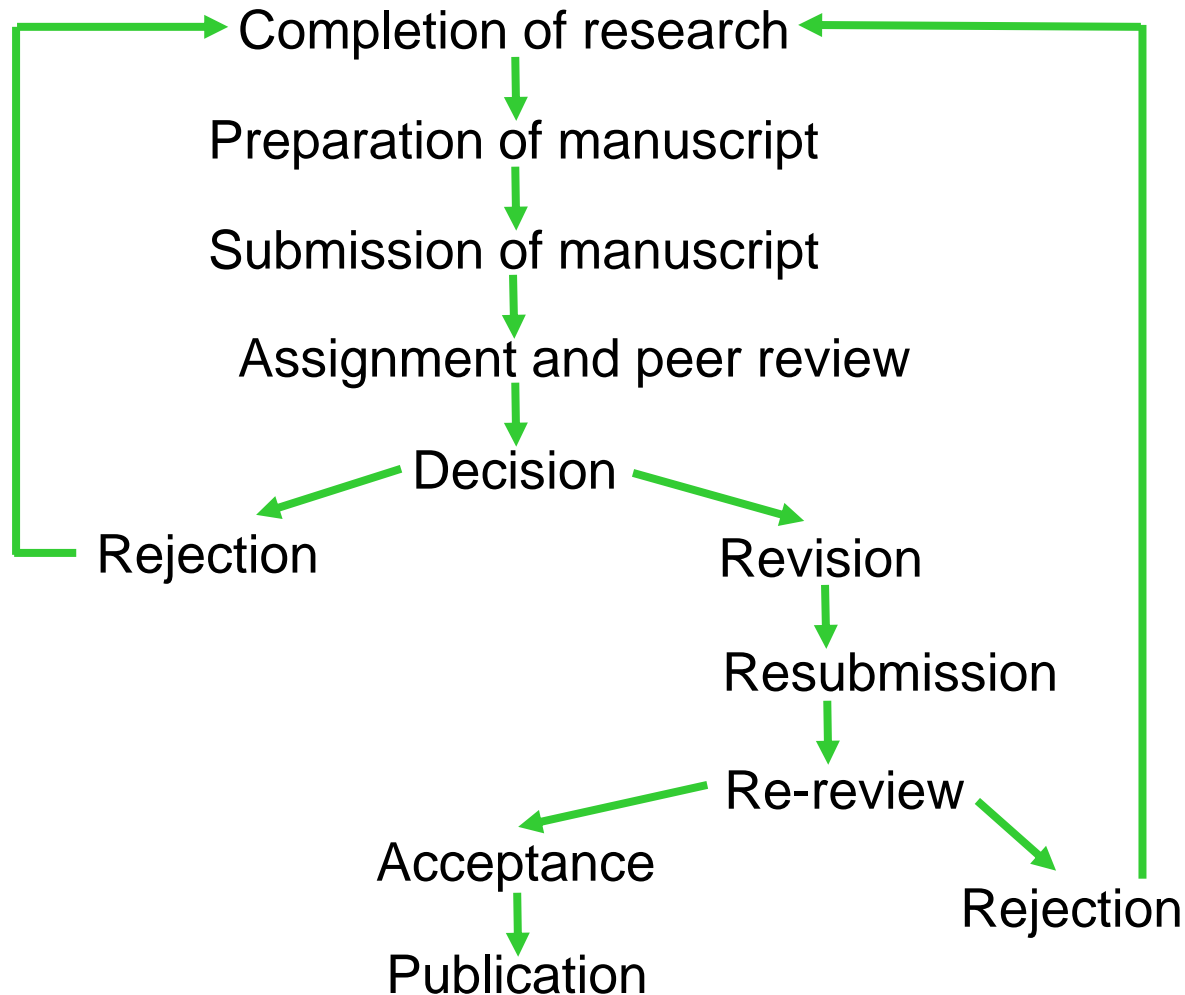
Criteria for Acceptance

- Clarity of Presentation
 - Organization/ presentation
 - Readability/ clarity of writing/ grammar
 - *Paper is much more likely to be rejected based on inadequate analysis than lack of originality*
- Importance in the scientific world

Major Reasons for Rejection

- The study is just confirmation of previous research
i.e. not novel
- Poor experimental design
- Targeted journal is not suitable
- Weakly written/presentation and language

Process of Research and its Publication



The most important factors that influence whether your manuscript will be considered/reviewed for publication are the title, abstract, cover letter, and your reputation based on your previous work.

Do's and Don't in Scientific Writings

- Be factual
 - Be honourable
 - Be legal
 - Be truthful
 - Be objectives
 - Be accurate
-
- Don't deceive
 - Don't falsify
 - Don't plagiarize

Ethics in Scientific Writings

- Authorship issues
- Informed consent/ **institutional review board/ ethical review board** approval
- Acknowledging past and present contributions of others
- Registered Clinical Trials
- Acknowledge Grants/funding
- Avoid Fragmentary or duplicate publications

Ethics in Scientific Writings

1. Falsification and Data alteration

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1. Duplicate manuscripts

2. Unnecessary self citation

3. Redundant publication

4. Author conflicts of interest

5. Animal use concerns

6. Human use concerns



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You're number twenty-one!"

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- Patent
- Book
- Chapter (of a book)
- Technical/ Research progress reports
- Grant proposal/Research proposals

Example

1. Unstructured

Angewandte's most cited article of 2010

Type of Article:
CommunicationsTitle: Cross-Coupling Reactions
Iron-Catalyzed S-Arylation of Thiols with Aryl Iodides
Format: Unstructured

Cross-Coupling Reactions

Iron-Catalyzed S-Arylation of Thiols with Aryl Iodides**

Arkaitz Correa, Mónica Carril, and Carsten Bolm*

Transition-metal-catalyzed cross-coupling reactions of aryl halides with nitrogen, oxygen, and sulfur nucleophiles are powerful tools for the formation of C–N, C–O, and C–S bonds, respectively.^[1] Although several palladium, nickel, and copper catalysts have proven to be highly effective in such coupling processes,^[2] the development of new and cheap alternative catalysts for the aforementioned transformations is still desirable.

Among the various cross-coupling types, S-arylation is comparatively less studied.^[3] Two factors make this process difficult: First, thiols are prone to undergo oxidative S–S coupling reactions, which result in the undesired formation of disulfides, and second, organic sulfur compounds can be effective metal binders, which leads to catalyst modification (or deactivation).^[4] However, given the prevalence of C–S bonds in a wide range of pharmaceutically active compounds and polymeric materials,^[5] it is desirable to find novel catalytic procedures that provide efficient access to such highly useful organic products. In this regard we envisaged the application of readily available, inexpensive, and environmentally friendly iron salts.^[6] A particular challenge was seen in the required suppression of the known ability of iron to effect disulfide formation.^[7]

Iron-catalyzed C–C coupling reactions have recently emerged as appealing synthetic methods, since easy-to-handle catalysts can be applied.^[8] As part of our ongoing efforts devoted to the development of novel iron-catalyzed processes,^[9] we introduced ligand-assisted FeCl₃-catalyzed N- and O-arylation reactions.^[10,11] To our delight, we have now found that these iron-based catalysts can also be applied to arylations of sulfur nucleophiles. Thus, this novel and experimentally simple iron-catalyzed C–S bond-forming process provides ready access to valuable aryl sulfides.

Initially, the coupling of thiophenol (**1**) and phenyl iodide (**2**) was selected as a model system to optimize the reaction conditions. As shown in Table 1, the best conditions for the iron-catalyzed N-arylation^[10a] provided promising results, and afforded thioether **3a** in 61% yield (Table 1, entry 1).

Table 1: Fe-catalyzed S-arylation of thiophenol (**1**) with phenyl iodide (**2**).^[a]

Entry	Fe source	Ligand ^[b]	Base	Solvent	Yield of 3a [%] ^[c]
1	FeCl ₃	DMEDA	K ₃ PO ₄	toluene	61
2	FeCl ₃	TMHD	Cs ₂ CO ₃	DMF	28
3	FeCl ₃	DMEDA	Cs ₂ CO ₃	toluene	trace
4	FeCl ₃	DMEDA	NaOH	toluene	trace
5	FeCl ₃	DMEDA	K ₂ CO ₃	toluene	51
6	FeCl ₃	DMEDA	Na ₂ CO ₃	toluene	trace
7	FeCl ₃	DMEDA	NaOAc	toluene	trace
8	FeCl ₃	DMEDA	KOtBu	toluene	trace
9	FeCl ₃	DMEDA	NaOtBu	toluene	91
10	FeCl ₃	DMEDA	NaOtBu	toluene	75 ^[d]
11	Fe(ClO ₄) ₂	DMEDA	NaOtBu	toluene	trace
12	[Fe(acac) ₃]	DMEDA	NaOtBu	toluene	trace
13	Fe	DMEDA	NaOtBu	toluene	trace
14	FeCl ₃	DMEDA	NaOtBu	toluene	trace ^[e]
15	FeCl ₃	none	NaOtBu	toluene	0

[a] Reaction conditions: **1** (1.0 equiv), **2** (1.5 equiv), [Fe] (0.1 equiv), ligand (0.2 equiv), base (2.0 equiv), solvent (1 mL mmol⁻¹ of **1**), 135 °C, 24 h. [b] DMEDA = *N,N'*-dimethylethylenediamine; TMHD = 2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-3,5-heptadione. [c] Yield of isolated product after flash chromatography. [d] Use of 5 mol % of FeCl₃ and 10 mol % of DMEDA. [e] Phenyl disulfide was used as the substrate instead of thiophenol (**1**). acac = acetylacetonate.

Conversely, the conditions for the iron-catalyzed O-arylation^[11] proved rather ineffective, and **3a** was obtained in very low yield (Table 1, entry 2). Moreover, the control experiment of the latter reaction in the absence of catalyst showed that under those conditions the product could also result from a classical aromatic nucleophilic substitution reaction.

Further experiments revealed a significant dependence of the S-arylation of **1** with **2** on the nature of the base. Thus, whereas K₃PO₄, K₂CO₃, and NaOtBu provided the arylated compound in moderate to excellent yield (Table 1, entries 1, 5, and 9), other bases such as Na₂CO₃, Cs₂CO₃, NaOH, NaOAc, and KOtBu only gave trace amounts of **3a** (Table 1, entries 3, 4, and 6–8). It is noteworthy that in all the reactions the undesired phenyl disulfide, which arises from an iron-catalyzed oxidation reaction of **1**, was detected as a by-product. Unfortunately, the use of less-oxidizing iron species (Table 1, entries 11–13), degassed solvents, or other diamine-type ligands such as *N,N,N',N'*-tetramethylethylenediamine or *trans*-1,2-diaminocyclohexane did not prevent such competitive oxidation processes. To determine if **3a** was obtained by direct S-arylation of **1** or, alternatively, a two-step procedure involving oxidation of the thiophenol and subsequent aryla-

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Supporting information for this article is available on the WWW under <http://www.angewandte.org> or from the author.

Abstract

Transition-metal-catalyzed cross-coupling reactions of aryl halides with nitrogen, oxygen, and sulfur nucleophiles are powerful tools for the formation of C–N, C–O, and C–S bonds, respectively.^[1] Although several palladium, nickel, and copper catalysts have proven to be highly effective in such coupling processes,^[2] the development of new and cheap alternative catalysts for the aforementioned transformations is still desirable.

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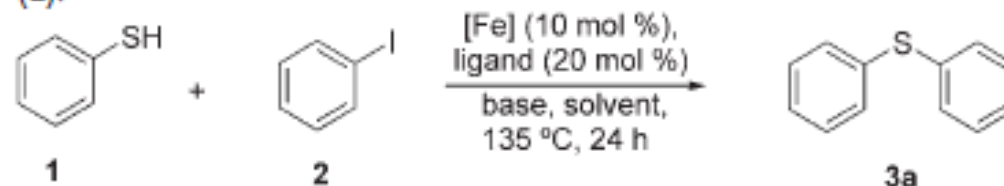
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Model Study

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Results and Discussion

tion of the resulting corresponding disulfide, thiophenol (**1**) was replaced by diphenyl sulfide as the starting material. The absence of any arylated product in this reaction (Table 1, entry 14) ruled out the latter reaction path.

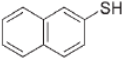
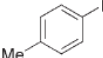
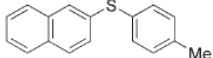


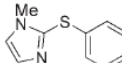


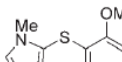
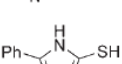

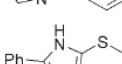
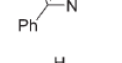

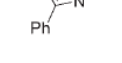
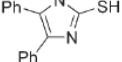
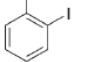
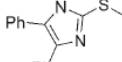
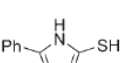

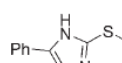
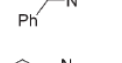

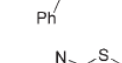
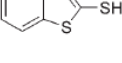

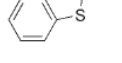
The importance of the ligand was revealed by a reaction carried out in its absence: In this case, the C–S coupling product was not observed at all, and diphenyl disulfide was the only product (Table 1, entry 15). Thus, the chemoselectivity of the iron-catalyzed S-arylation can be entirely controlled by the addition of a simple diamine ligand (Table 1, compare entries 9 and 15). The optimal reaction conditions for the S-arylation of thiophenol with phenyl iodide involved the use of 10 mol% of FeCl_3 , 20 mol% of DMEDA, and 2 equivalents of NaOtBu in toluene at 135°C .^[12] The use of 5 mol% of the iron source furnished **3a**, although in good but lower yield (Table 1, entry 10).

Table 2: Fe-catalyzed S-arylation of thiols with aryl halides.^[a]

R–SH + Ar–X		$\xrightarrow[\text{toluene, NaOtBu, 135 } ^\circ\text{C, 24 h}]{\text{FeCl}_3, \text{ DMEDA}}$		R–S–Ar	
1	2			3	
Entry	R–SH	Ar–X	Product		Yield [%] ^[b]
1				3 a	X = I, 91 X = Br, 0 X = Cl, 0
2		X = I, Br, Cl 		3 b	98
3				3 c	88 ^[c]
4				3 d	90 ^[c]
5				3 e	85
6				3 f	84
7				3 g	81
8				3 h	85

Results and Discussion

Next, the scope of this novel transformation in coupling reactions of other thiols with differently substituted aryl halides was evaluated (Table 2). In general, all reactions were very clean, and the thioethers **3** were obtained in high yields under the previously optimized conditions. In a few cases, trace amounts of the undesired disulfide were detected, but those could be separated during the purification by column chromatography. The current iron-catalyst system efficiently coupled thiols with electron-rich, electron-neutral, and electron-deficient aryl iodides (32–98 % yield, Table 2, entries 1–18). Furthermore, sterically demanding *ortho* substituents did not hamper the arylation reaction and the corresponding thioethers **3** were obtained in good yields (Table 2, entries 4, 11, 13, 16, and 17). Neither aryl bromides nor aryl chlorides were reactive under the standard conditions (Table 2, entry 1). Consequently, cross-coupling reactions with chloro-substituted aryl iodides proceeded exclusively at the iodo group

9				3 i	91
10				3 j	52 ^[d]
11				3 k	71 ^[d]
12				3 l	61
13				3 m	33 ^[e]
14				3 n	32
15				3 o	91
16				3 p	80
17				3 q	91

[a] Reaction conditions: R-SH (1.0 equiv), Ar-X (1.5 equiv), FeCl₃ (0.1 equiv), DMEDA (0.2 equiv), NaOtBu (2.0 equiv), toluene (1 mLmmol⁻¹ of R-SH), 135 °C, 24 h. [b] Yield of isolated product after flash chromatography. [c] Use of R-SH (1.6 equiv) and Ar-X (1.0 equiv). [d] Use of Cs₂CO₃ as base. [e] Use of K₃PO₄ as base.

(Table 2, entries 8 and 16). Importantly, the iron catalyst also proved efficient in coupling reactions of more challenging thiols bearing heterocycles such as benzisothiazole and imidazole, thus allowing access to heterocyclic sulfide derivatives which are present in numerous appealing compounds.^[13] Unfortunately, all attempts to couple aliphatic thiols (Table 2, entries 19 and 20) with aryl halides failed. The tolerance of potentially reactive functional groups such as carboxylic acids and esters to the described protocol is remarkable (Table 2, entries 4 and 7, res]

Summary

In summary, we have developed an efficient iron-catalyzed S-arylation protocol of aromatic and heteroaromatic thiol derivatives, which involves an inexpensive catalyst system formed by combining FeCl₃ and DMEDA. This method avoids the use of expensive and/or air-sensitive ligands and provides in most cases the desired sulfide in high yields. At the present stage, the success of the protocol is restricted to the use of aryl iodides as the electrophilic counterpart. This limitation is balanced by the fact that certain synthetically attractive heterocyclic thiols can be used as starting materials, which have not been utilized so far in these kinds of reactions. Overall the novel iron-catalyzed S-arylation reported here constitutes a promising C–S bond-forming process of potential industrial significance because of its operational simplicity and environmental and economic advantages. Its increased efficiency and enlargement of the substrate scope are currently under investigation by our research group.

Discussion

Experimental Section

General procedure for S-arylation of thiols: A sealable tube equipped with a magnetic stir bar was charged with thiophenol (**1**, 1.0 equiv), NaOtBu (2.0 equiv), and FeCl₃ (0.10 equiv). The aperture of the tube was then covered with a rubber septum, and an argon atmosphere was established. Phenyl iodide (**2**, 1.5 equiv), *N,N'*-dimethylethylenediamine (0.20 equiv), and toluene (1 mL mmol⁻¹ of **1**) were added by syringe. The septum was then replaced by a teflon-coated screw cap, and the reaction vessel was placed in an oil bath at 135 °C. After stirring the heterogeneous mixture at this temperature for 24 h, it was cooled to room temperature and diluted with dichloromethane. The resulting solution was directly filtered through a pad of silica and concentrated to afford the product, which was purified by chromatography on silica gel to yield thioether **3**. The identity and purity of the known products was confirmed by ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectroscopic analysis, and the new products were fully characterized. See the Supporting Information for full details.

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Table 2: (Continued)

Entry	R-SH	Ar-X	Product	Yield [%] ^{b)}
18				3r 80
19				3s 0
20				3t 0

[a] Reaction conditions: R-SH (1.0 equiv), Ar-X (1.5 equiv), FeCl₃ (0.1 equiv), DMEDA (0.2 equiv), NaOtBu (2.0 equiv), toluene (1 mL mmol⁻¹ of R-SH), 135 °C, 24 h. [b] Yield of isolated product after flash chromatography. [c] Use of R-SH (1.6 equiv) and Ar-X (1.0 equiv). [d] Use of Cs₂CO₃ as base. [e] Use of K₃PO₄ as base.

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the known products was confirmed by ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectroscopic analysis, and the new products were fully characterized. See the Supporting Information for full details.

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Structure–activity relationships of tyrosinase inhibitory combinatorial library of 2,5-disubstituted-1,3,4-oxadiazole analogues

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Abstract—Here the tyrosinase inhibition studies of library of 2,5-disubstituted-1,3,4-oxadiazoles have been reported and their structure–activity relationship (SAR) also have been discussed. The library of the oxadiazoles was synthesized under the microwave irradiation and was structures of these were characterized by different spectral techniques. From this study it could be concluded that for a better inhibition of tyrosinase, electronegative substitution is essential as most probably the active site of the enzyme contain some hydrophobic site and position is also very important for the inhibition purposes due to the conformational space. The electronegativity of the compounds is somewhat proportional to the inhibitory activity. The compound 3e (30-[5-(40-bromophenyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazol-2-yl]pyridine) exhibited most potent ($IC_{50} = 2.18 \mu M$) inhibition against the enzyme tyrosinase which is more potent than the standard potent inhibitor L-mimosine ($IC_{50} = 3.68 \mu M$). This molecule can be the best candidate as a lead compound for further development of drug for the treatments of several skin disorders.

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Key words

- Tyrosinase inhibitor; 2,5-Disubstituted-1,3,4-oxadiazole library; Melanin; Vitiligo; Hyperpigmentation; Depigmentation.
- Gel Electrophoresis, Enzyme, Catalysis, ELISA reader, ????????????

Exercises

- Suggest few more suitable title for this article
- What should be the key words?
- How we can we improve the abstract?

Introduction

1. Introduction

Tyrosinase (E.C. 1.14.18.1), also known as polyphenol oxidase (PPO), is a multifunctional copper-containing enzyme, widely distributed in plants and animals. It catalyses the *o*-hydroxylation of monophenols and also the oxidation of *o*-diphenols to *o*-quinones. Tyrosinase is known to be a key enzyme for melanin biosynthesis in plants and animals. Therefore, tyrosinase inhibitors should be clinically useful for the treatment of some dermatological disorders associated with melanin hyperpigmentation and also important in cosmetics for whitening and depigmentation after sunburn. In addition, tyrosinase is known to be involved in the molting process of

insect and adhesion of marine organisms.¹ In insects, several functions of this enzyme have been reported in the generation of *o*-diphenols and quinones for pigmentation, wound healing, parasite encapsulation, and sclerotization and the enzyme is an alternative target site for the control of insect pests. In food industry, tyrosinase is responsible for the enzymatic browning reactions in damaged fruits during post-harvest handling and processing. Control of enzymatic browning during processing is important in fruit pulp manufacturing. In addition, tyrosinase inhibitors are becoming important constituents of cosmetic products that relate to hyperpigmentation. Therefore, there is a concerted effort to search for naturally occurring tyrosinase inhibitors from plant, because plants constitute a rich source of bioactive chemicals and many of them are largely free from harmful adverse effects.²

Introduction

In recent years numbers of potent tyrosinase inhibitors have been reported from our and other groups. Very recently, we have reported two long chain esters, methyl 2 β (2*S*)-hydroxyl-7(*E*)-tritriacontenoate and methyl 2 β (2*S*)-*O*- β -D-galactopyranosyl-7(*E*)-tetratriacontenoate, showing strong to moderate inhibitory activities against tyrosinase.³ In another paper we have reported that, (+)-androst-4-ene-3,17-dione and its five metabolic analogues having steroidal skeletons, namely androsta-1,4-diene-3,17-dione, 17 β -hydroxyandrosta-1,4-dien-3-one, 11 α -hydroxyandrost-4-ene-3,17-dione, 11 α ,17 β -dihydroxyandrost-4-en-3-one and 15 α -hydroxyandrosta-1,4-dien-17-one, exhibited moderate inhibitory activities against the enzyme.⁴ Ahmad et al. in 2004 reported that, a new coumarinolignoid 8'-*epi*-cleomiscosin A together with the new glycoside 8-*O*- β -D-glucopyranosyl-6-hydroxy-2-methyl-4*H*-1-benzopyrane-4-one, exhibited strong inhibition against the enzyme tyrosinase, when compared to the standard tyrosinase inhibitors kojic acid and L-mimosine. The new coumarinolignoid exhib-

ited two times more potency than that of the standard potent inhibitor L-mimosine.⁵ Recently, Karbassi et al. reported the inhibition kinetics of two new synthetic bi-pyridine molecules, [1,4']bipiperidinyl-1'-yl-naphthan-2-yl-methanone (**I**) and [1,4']bipiperidinyl-1'-yl-4-methylphenyl-methane (**II**) of the catecholase activity of mushroom tyrosinase. The kinetics studies indicated that these are uncompetitive inhibitors and the values of the K_i are 5.87 and 1.31 μ M for **I** and **II**, respectively, which showed high potency. Fluorescent studies confirmed the uncompetitive type of inhibition for these two inhibitors. They also suggested that, the inhibition mechanism presumably coming from the presence of a particular hydrophobic site which can accommodate these inhibitors. This site could be formed due to a probable conformational change that was induced by binding of substrate with the enzyme.⁶

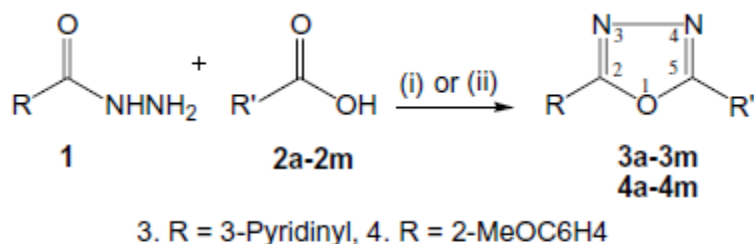
Here in this paper, we have discussed the tyrosinase inhibitory activities of a library of 26 analogues of 2,5-disubstituted-1,3,4-oxadiazoles, which were synthesized using microwave-assisted combinatorial synthetic approach and finally their structure-activity relationships (SAR) also have been discussed.

Results and Discussion

2. Results and discussion

2.1. General chemistry

The detailed chemistry and the synthetic parts of the compounds have been reported recently and discussed elsewhere.⁷ Briefly, a number of commercially available hydrazides were treated with different carboxylic acids

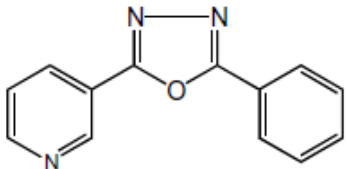
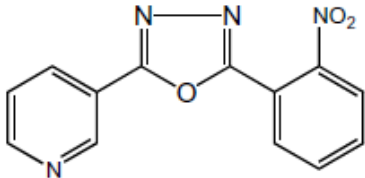
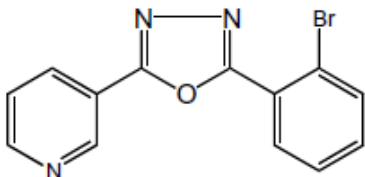


Scheme 1. Reagents: (i) POCl₃; (ii) POCl₃, Al₂O₃.

(a–m) in the presence of phosphorous oxychloride to afford 2,5-disubstituted-1,3,4-oxadiazoles 3 (a–m) and 4 (a–m) (Scheme 1). To establish the general validity of our newly developed method, several selected one-pot microwave-assisted syntheses were carried out. The reaction was found to proceed smoothly under microwave irradiation within 6–16 min whereas under reflux conditions in 4–10 h (shown in Tables 1 and 2). The products were isolated by simple cold aqueous work-up followed by either solvent extraction or precipitation and were finally purified by column chromatography wherever necessary to afford pure 2,5-disubstituted-1,3,4-oxadiazole. This method appeared to be the rapid and economical with wide range of applications.⁷

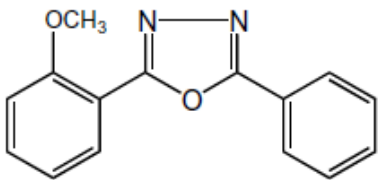
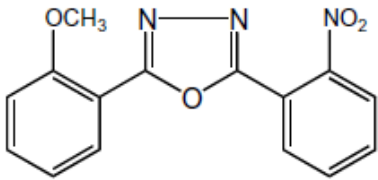
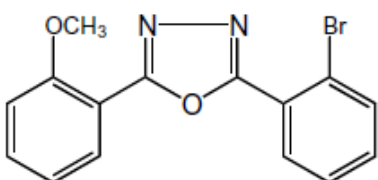
Results and Discussion

Table 1. Comparison between microwave-assisted and conventional method of synthesis of 2,5-disubstituted-1,3,4-oxadiazole **3** (a–m) in terms of time and yield

Sr.	R'	Structures	Microwave		Conventional	
			Time (min)	Yield (%)	Time (h)	Yield (%)
3a	C ₆ H ₅		12	92	6	81
3b	<i>o</i> -NO ₂ C ₆ H ₄		9	96	5	86
3c	<i>o</i> -BrC ₆ H ₄		12	92	6	76

Results and Discussion

Table 2. Comparison between microwave-assisted and conventional method of synthesis of 2,5-disubstituted-1,3,4-oxadiazole **4** (a–m) in terms of time and yield

Sr.	R'	Structures	Microwave		Conventional	
			Time (min)	Yield (%)	Time (h)	Yield (%)
4a	C ₆ H ₅		12	89	6	78
4b	<i>o</i> -NO ₂ C ₆ H ₄		9	95	5	80
4c	<i>o</i> -BrC ₆ H ₄		12	90	6	73

Results and Discussion

2.2. Tyrosinase inhibition studies

In the present studies, two types of 26 derivatives of the oxadiazole basic skeleton have been studied to explain their inhibition patterns and structure–activity relationships (SAR) against the enzyme tyrosinase, which is a multifunctional copper-containing enzyme, widely distributed in plants and animals and catalyses the *o*-hydroxylation of monophenols and also the oxidation of *o*-diphenols to *o*-quinones.¹

In one type of compounds, substitutions were changing at different positions of the phenyl ring at C-5 while keeping the pyridine ring constant at C-2. In another type of compounds, substitutions were changing at different positions of the phenyl ring while keeping the *o*-methoxy phenyl ring constant at C-2 position.

In a previous report it was found that 3-hydroxypyridine-4-ones is showing inhibition against tyrosinase.⁸ This was established that alkyl substitution at position 2 in the aromatic ring minimizes the interaction with tyrosinase. Several phenolic compounds have been reported to have potent tyrosinase inhibitory activity.^{9–11}

Compound **3a** exhibited potent tyrosinase inhibition and the IC_{50} value is $5.15\ \mu\text{M}$, where the IC_{50} value of reference tyrosinase inhibitor kojic acids (KA) is $16.67\ \mu\text{M}$. This compound was totally unsubstituted. When C-2'' position was substituted with $-\text{NO}_2$ group the resulting **3b** was showing highly potent ($IC_{50} = 3.18\ \mu\text{M}$) inhibition against tyrosinase, when compared with highly potent reference tyrosinase inhibitor L-mimosine (LM) ($IC_{50} = 3.68\ \mu\text{M}$). Due to the substitution of this $-\text{NO}_2$ group the resulting compound exhibited potent inhibition. But when the same phenyl ring was found to have bromine atom at C-2'' (**3c**, $IC_{50} = 5.23\ \mu\text{M}$) and C-3'' (**3d**, $IC_{50} = 6.04\ \mu\text{M}$)

Results and Discussion

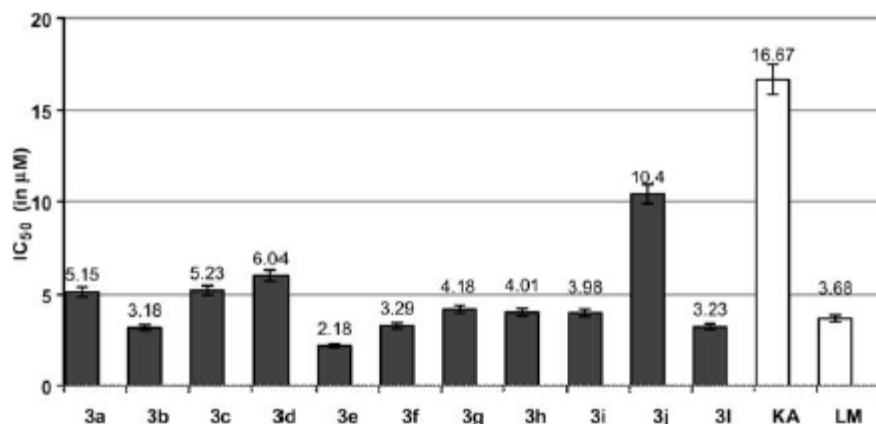


Figure 1. Graphical presentation of the comparative IC₅₀ values of the series 3 (a–m) against the enzyme tyrosinase.

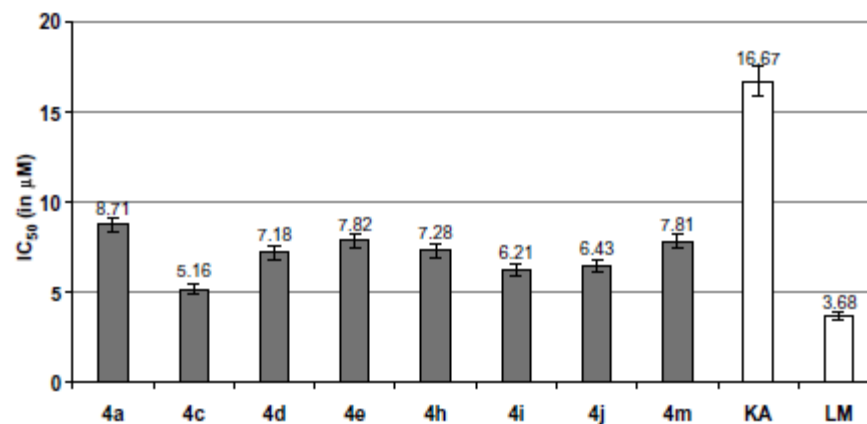


Figure 2. Graphical presentation of the comparative IC₅₀ values of the series 4 (a–m) against the enzyme tyrosinase.

Material and Methods

3. Materials and methods

3.1. General experimental

The ultraviolet spectra were measured in chloroform on a Lambda 5 UV/vis spectrophotometer (Perkin–Elmer). IR spectra (KBr discs or MeOH) were recorded on a Bruker FT-IR IFS48 spectrophotometer. EI mass spectra data were recorded with various MAT 711 (70 eV) spectrophotometers and data are tabulated as m/z . ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR spectra were recorded in CDCl_3 and $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ using Bruker AC400 (500 and 400 MHz) spectrophotometer, respectively. Splitting patterns are as follows: s, singlet; d, doublet; dd, double doublets; t, triplet; m, multiplet. Chemical shifts are reported in δ (ppm) and coupling constants are given in hertz. The progress of all reactions was monitored by TLC, which was performed on 2.0×5.0 cm aluminum sheets precoated with silica gel 60F₂₅₄ to a thickness of 0.25 mm (Merck). The chromatograms were visualized under ultraviolet light (254–366 nm) or iodine vapours.

3.2. Tyrosinase inhibition assay

Tyrosinase inhibition assays were performed in 96-well microplate format using SpectraMax[®] 340 (Molecular Devices, CA, USA) microplate reader according to the developed method earlier described by Hearing.¹⁴

First the compounds were screened for the *o*-diphenolase inhibitory activity of tyrosinase using L-DOPA as substrate. All the active inhibitors from the preliminary screening were subjected for IC₅₀ studies. Briefly, all the compounds were dissolved in DMSO and finally the solvent mixture was 2.5%. Mushroom tyrosinase (30 units, 28 nM) was first preincubated with the compounds, in 50 nM Na-phosphate buffer (pH 6.8) for 10 min at 25 °C. Then the L-DOPA (0.5 mM) was added to the reaction mixture and the enzyme reaction was monitored by measuring the change in absorbance at 475 nm (at 37 °C) of the formation of the DOPA chrome for 10 min.

Spectral Data

3.3. Spectral data of the compounds

3.3.1. 3'-(5-Phenyl-1,3,4-oxadiazol-2-yl)pyridine (3a). Yield 92%; mp 112–114 °C; R_f = 0.34 (ethyl acetate–acetone, 9:1); UV (methanol): λ_{\max} (log ϵ) 256 (2.32) nm⁻¹; IR (KBr) ν_{\max} : 3073 (C–H), 1667 (C=N), 1557 (C=C), 1287 (C–O), 832, 659 (C–Br); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 9.21 (d, 1H, J = 1.1 Hz, H-2'), 9.13 (dd, 1H, $J_{6',5'} = 4.9$ Hz, H-6'), 8.81 (br d, $J_{4',5'} = 8.3$ Hz, 1H, H-4'), 8.59 (dd, 1H, $J_{5',6'} = 4.9$, $J_{5',4'} = 8.3$ Hz, H-5'), 7.63 (dd, 2H, $J_{2'',3''/6'',5''} = 7.8$, $J_{2'',4''/6'',4''} = 2.3$ Hz, H-2''/H-6''), 7.50 (t, 1H, J = 7.8 Hz, H-4''), 7.38 (t, 2H, J = 7.8, H-3''/5''); EI MS (m/z): 223 (M^+ , 21), 145 (31), 106 (100), 77 (79), 78 (65), 68 (35), 51 (72). Anal. Calcd for C₁₃H₉N₃O: C, 9.95; H, 4.06; N, 18.82; O, 7.17. Found: C, 69.86; H, 3.97; N, 18.73; O, 7.08.

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