RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

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LECTURE N+4 03-12-2021

REVISION

Read the reviewer's comments carefully several times

Make a list of things to do to take care of the comments

Every comment needs a response

Some require major rewriting/rework (e.g. there is a recoverable mistake)

- Some require minor changes (e.g. the words are confusing)
- Some can be answered without a revision (e.g. the referee is wrong)

If two or more referees have made conflicting comments, check carefully

Take time to revise, but don't put it off for too long

Journals have a time limit within which a reply will be accepted

REPLY TO EDITOR

Submitted with the revised version

- Cover letter for resubmission
- Be polite and thank the referee(s)
- Summary of changes (editor may read only this)
- Details of changes corresponding to reviewers' comments
- □ If you disagree with any comment, explain why clearly, firmly, but politely
- not needed if submitting to a different journal

Acceptance

Celebrate!

REFEREE'S PERSPECTIVE

Request from the editor

- Accept/decline request
- Accept if you are sure you will be able to review
- Reviewing is a voluntary task; takes time
- Avoid conflict of interest, but be fair anyway
- Reviewing is community service
- Not polite to decline without a good reason
- Provides a view into how publication process works
- Try to avoid delays your paper may be held up in the same way

PREPARING A REPORT

Read the paper

Base your opinion on the main body of the paper

Prepare a report

- > Do claims match with results?
- Is any part confusing and requires an explanation
- Are there obvious technical problems?
- Missing references?
- Is it well written and free of simple mistakes?
- Comments to Editor

REFEREE'S PERSPECTIVE

Review resubmission

- > Check if the authors have taken care of all the objections
- Arguments acceptable?
- References added?
- Confusions removed?
- Accept if all yes
 - maybe with minor revisions

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IMPACT OF RESEARCH

- Social Impact of discoveries and inventions
- Important for jobs, promotions, awards
- Bibliometrics: measuring impact of research
- Citation analysis (Google scholar, Web of Science, INSPIRE-HEP ...)
 - > No resource is complete
- h-index: N papers with N or more citations (h = Hirsch)
 Altmetrics

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