



Publications I: Your Way to Worldwide Recognition

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ES Series on Scientific Research

When to publish?

What to publish?

Type of publications

When to start writing?

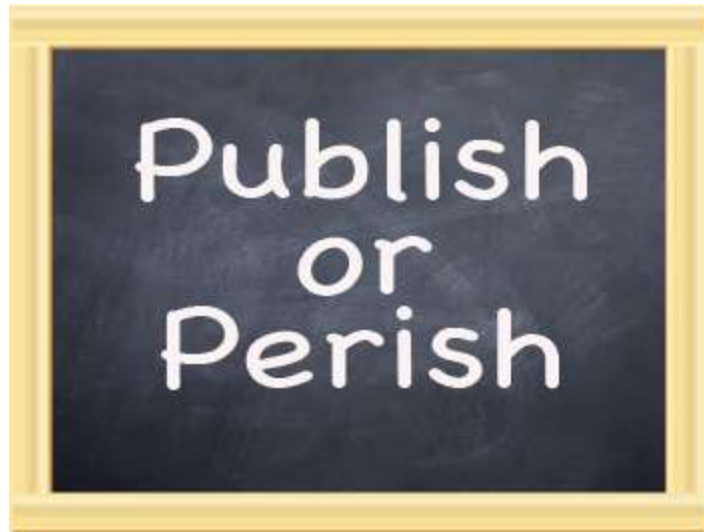


Getting your paper noticed

Dealing with rejections

What to do to enhance your writing skills?

Why publish?



source: <http://awisblog.wordpress.com/awis-in-action/2013-2/june-2013/publish-or-perish/>

Why publish?

- Person A is an idiot
- Person A is smart but does research like idiots
- Person A is smart, does research brilliantly, but writes like idiots

To the outside world,
they will all look the same!!



When to publish?

- As soon as you have an answer, backed by data, send your paper
- Have a roadmap: milestones
 - Can be aligned with conference deadlines

What to publish?

- Avoid least-publishable unit (LPU)
 - May look nice from the outside
 - But will give you bad reputation



Source: <http://www.economist.com/node/21552574>

When to start writing?

As soon as you start doing research!!

- Helps you focus
- Editing is easier afterwards
- Acts as your research notebook

Be Careful:

The way you explain your thoughts and experiments in the submitted paper may be different than the reality!

Where to send your work?

- In your field: are journals stronger or conferences?
 - In most fields journals are stronger, but in some fields (like computer architecture) conferences are way stronger.
- If journals
 - What is the journal impact factor?
 - What is the turnaround time?
 - Is it indexed?
- If conferences:
 - What are the strongest 6 conferences in your field?
 - Arrange them by strength
 - Do not overestimate or underestimate your work when choosing the venue.

Type of Publications

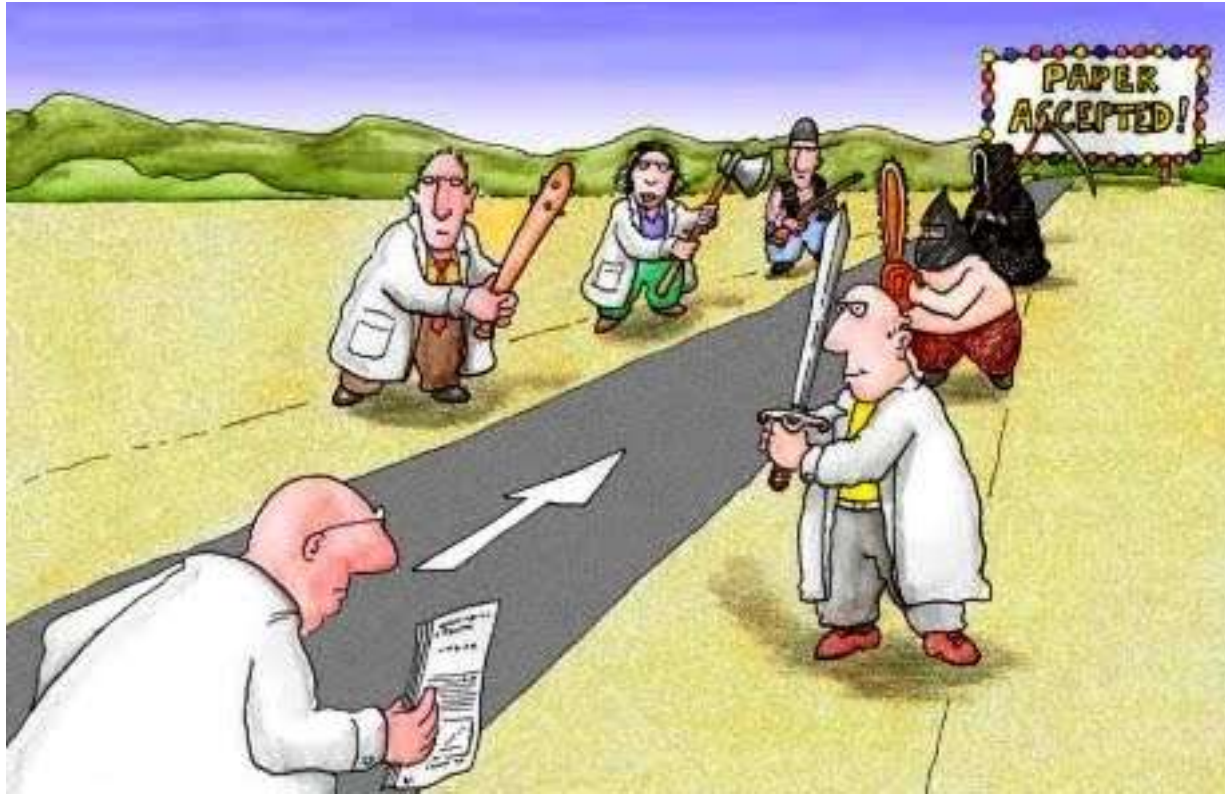
- Extended abstract
 - pitch
- Workshop paper
 - work-in-progress
- Conference paper
- Journal paper
- Grant proposal
 - I want money, here is why
- Report
 - This is what I did with the money/time/duty given to me

Again ... Type of publications

- Review paper
- Incremental improvement
- Negative contribution
- New idea
- Breakthrough (really!)

0-step ahead ... 1-step ahead ... 10-step ahead

The ROADMAP



- Double-blind
- Single-blind
- None

When you submit a paper and get reviews back:

– **Accept**

- Rare decision, nearly every manuscript may need some work

– **Accept with minor Revision**

- Authors need to address queries and criticisms, will generally be accepted

– **Accept with major Revision**

- Authors **MUST** address certain major key issues

– **Reject Request Resubmission**

- Not suitable now, and may not ever be, but could be worth a second look

– **Reject**

- Poor science, report without value, redundant or duplicate publication, “me too” reports, clear bias, or good/great paper but wrong audience

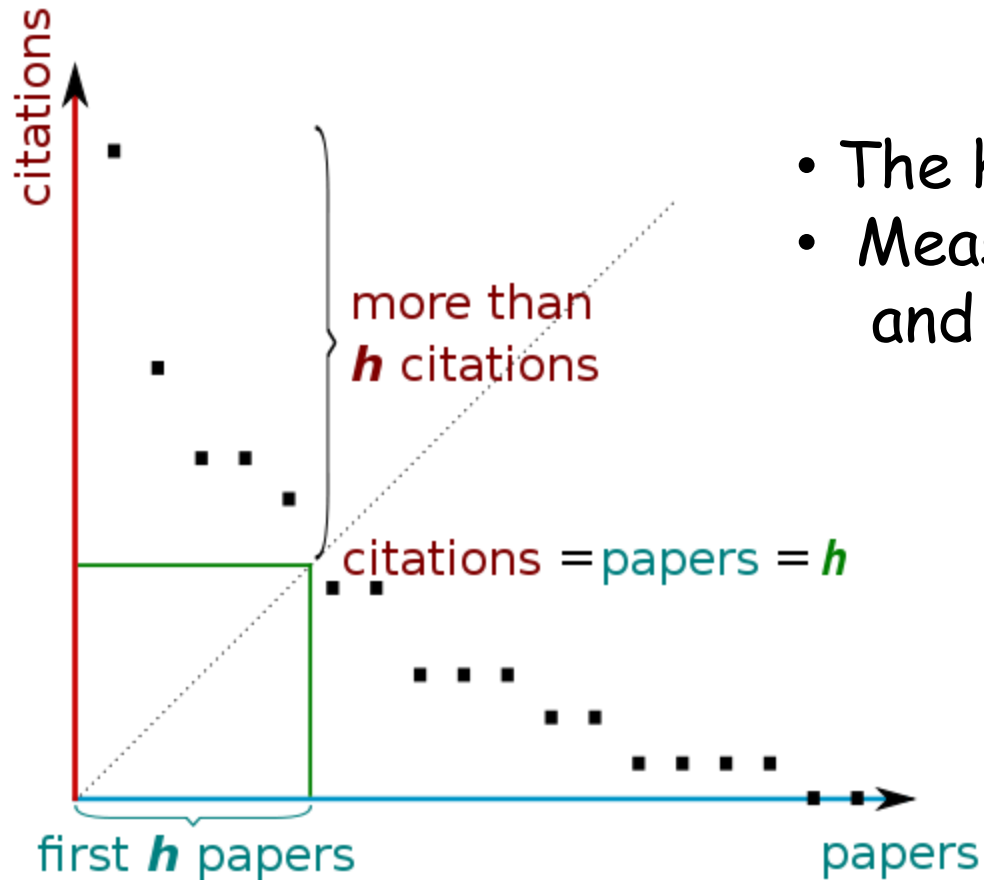
How to deal with Rejection?

- Be angry ... if you want ... but not for long!
- DO NOT argue with the editor
- Read carefully the reviews
 - Make a TODO list and plan “to do” it.
 - Decide: shall I send it to another journal or this one?
 - Act quickly!

Acceptance is NOT the end!

- Market your work
 - Put it on your website (yes ... you need to have one)
 - Put slides to summarize the work
 - Give talks
 - If somebody is doing related work, you may email him/her discussing how your work is related and whether you can collaborate
 - LinkedIn, twitter, facebook, researchgate

Assess yourself: h-index



- The higher the better index
- Measures productivity and impact of a researcher

Assess yourself: citations

- Eliminate self-citations
- Keep an eye on google scholar + Dbases of your field



How to enhance your **technical writing** skills

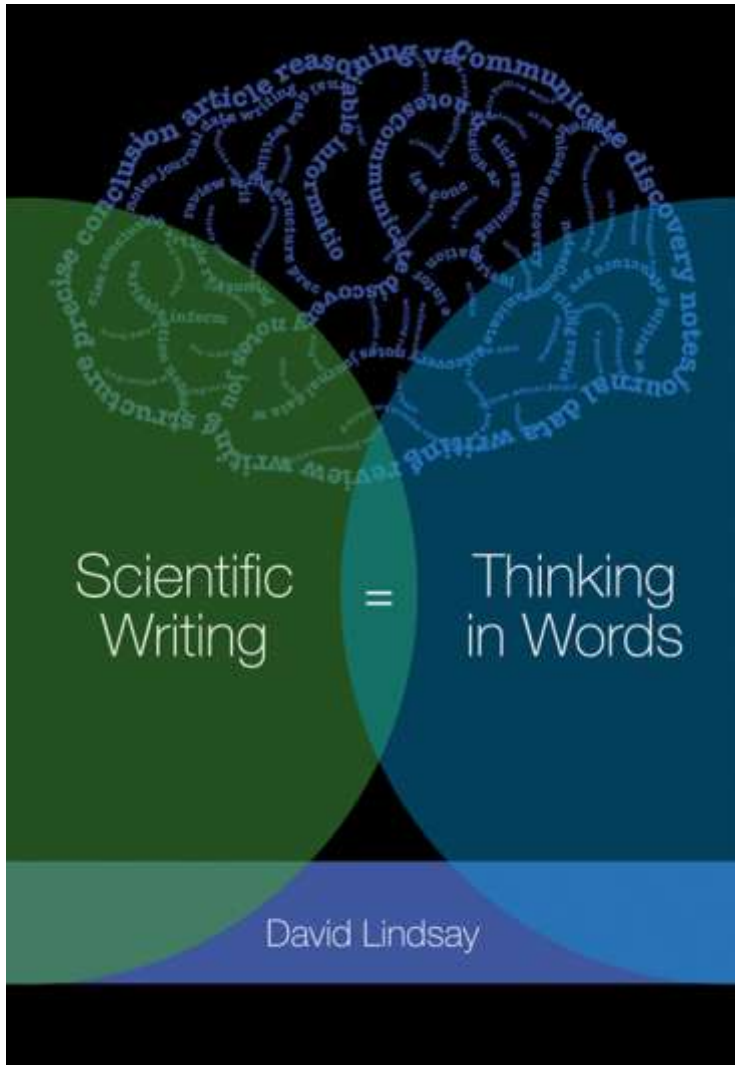
- Your grammar ... If your paper is full of typos and grammatical errors, it will be rejected ... Hands-down!
- How to sell
- Smoothness

How to enhance your **technical writing** skills

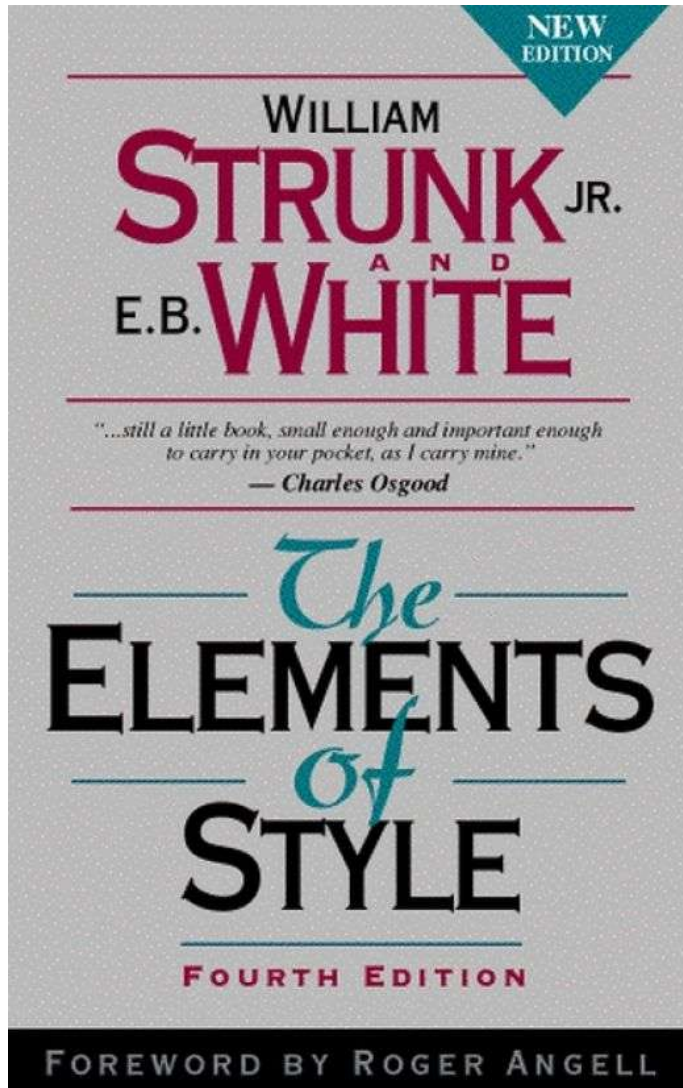
- Read a paper every week ... at least
- Keep aside the best 3 papers in terms of writing
- Ask yourself: Why they are the best in terms of writing?
- Do the following ... once a month
 - Pick one of these model papers
 - Read a section
 - Put it aside
 - Write down, in your language, that section.
 - Compare your writing with the original: which is better? why? what to do to enhance yours?
 - Move to the following section

Some Links

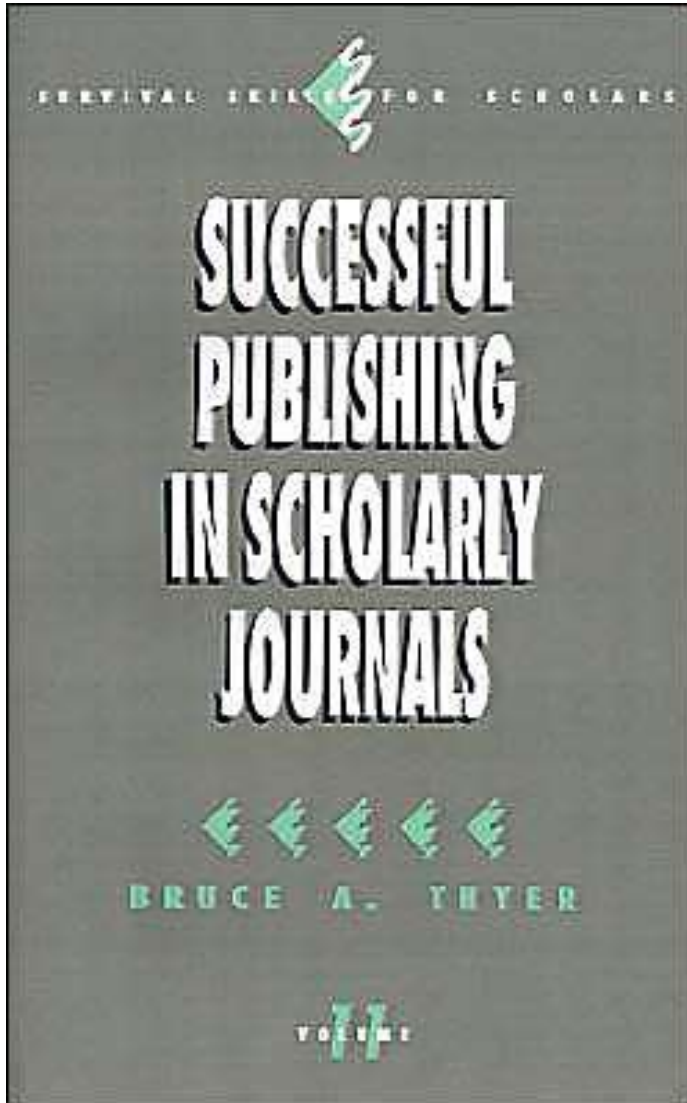
- Thomson Reuters (Web of Knowledge)
<http://wokinfo.com/>
- Google scholar
<http://scholar.google.com/>
- Scopus: <http://www.elsevier.com/online-tools/scopus>
- Digital Libraries:
 - ACM: <http://dl.acm.org/>
 - IEEE: <http://ieeexplore.ieee.org/Xplore/home.jsp>



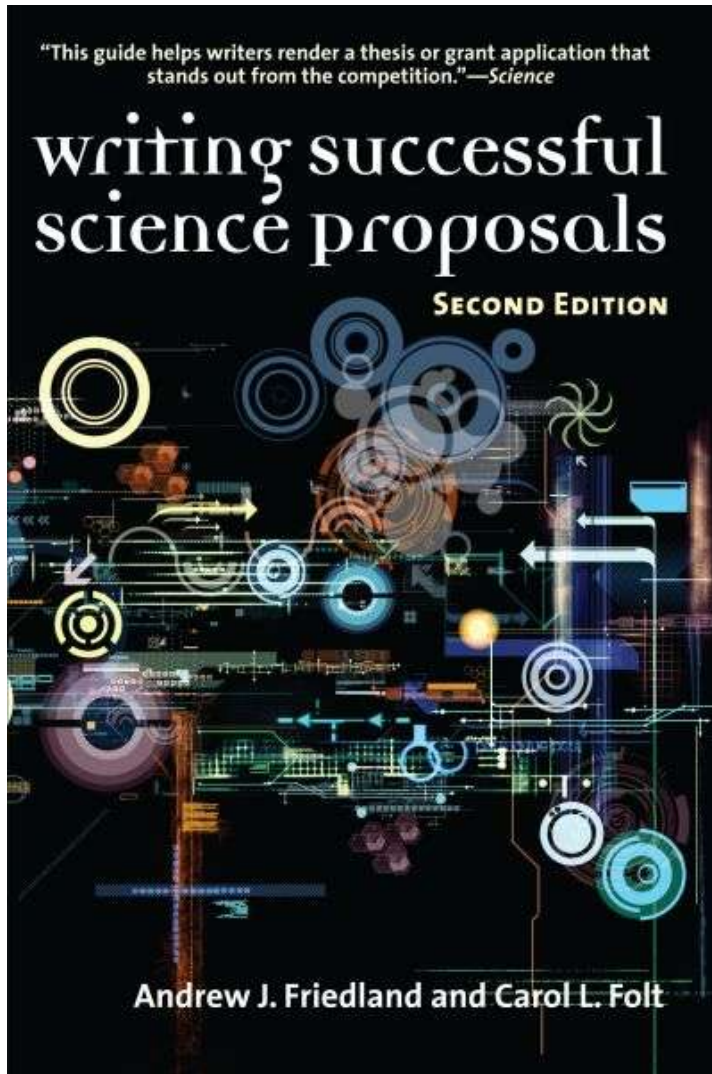
- Do your research and write at the same time.
- How does writing help your thinking?



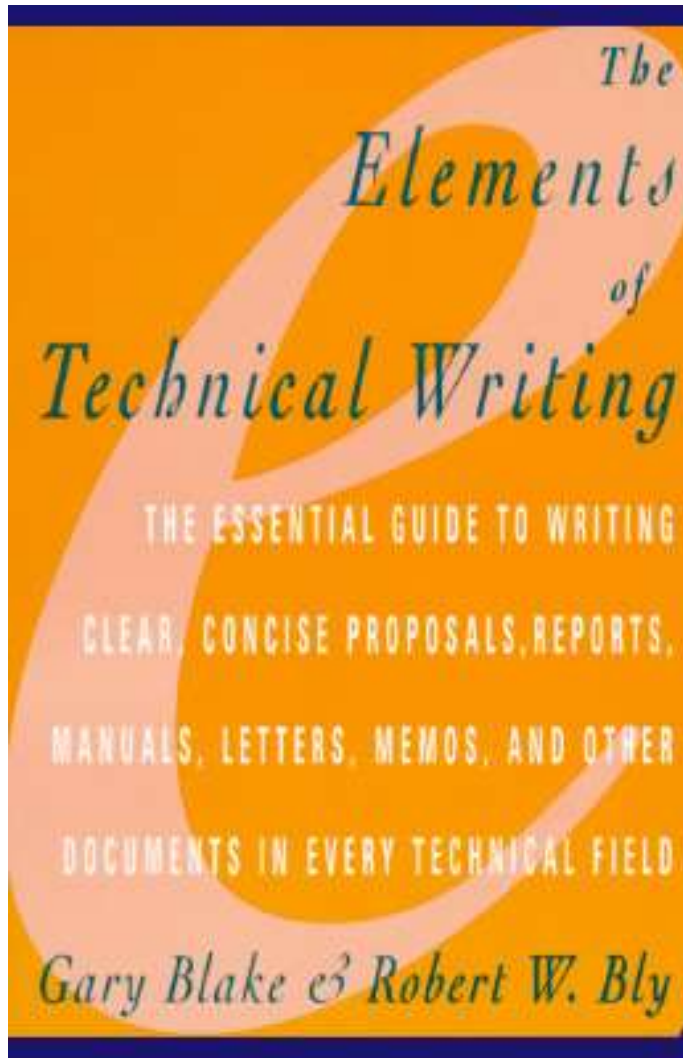
- The classic book for writing.
- Even for native English speakers
- Read it once a year!



- How to select a venue?
- How to revise?
- How to handle rejections?
- How to market your paper?



- Writing grant proposals
- The book targets NSF and NIH but the framework proposed is general enough.



- Nice compilation of tips words and rules
- Generic enough to be used for papers, reports, proposals,

Conclusions

- If you do research → publish
- Writing skill is not an afterthought ... It is essential
 - Need to train intensively
- Depending on your field, have a clear answer to:
 - What to publish
 - Where to publish
 - When to publish
 - How to market yourself

Have questions?
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