Fostering trust through transparent peer review

September 26, 2023

Clarivate™

Agenda

Trends in faked peer review retractions

Ivan Oransky | Co-Founder, Retraction Watch; Distinguished Writer In Residence at NYU; EiC of Spectrum

The battle for research integrity: no victory without openness

Ludo Waltman | Professor, CWTS, Leiden University.

Transparent peer review at Royal Society of Chemistry

Nicola Nugent | Publishing Manager, Quality & Ethics, RSC

Supporting the shift to transparent peer review

Josh Dahl | Product Director, Clarivate

Q&A

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Trends in Faked Peer Review Retractions

Ivan Oransky, MD
Co-Founder, Retraction Watch
Distinguished Journalist In Residence, New York University
Editor in Chief, Spectrum
@ivanoransky
@retractionwatch

Retraction Watch

July 2012

Elsevier parasitology journal retracts paper after finding author made up peer reviewer email addresses

Note to authors: If a journal asks you to suggest reviewers for your submitted manuscript, don't thank them by faking the reviewer's emails.

You might just get caught.

That's what happened recently at *Experimental Parasitology*, according to the retraction notice for "*Entamoeba histolytica*: Cloning, expression and evaluation of the efficacy of a recombinant amebiasis cysteine proteinase gene (ACP1) antigen in minipig:"

August 2012

South Korean plant compound researcher faked email addresses so he could review his own studies

Scientists frustrated by the so-called "third reviewer" — the one always asking for additional experiments before recommending acceptance — might be forgiven for having fantasies of being able to review their own papers.

Hyung-In Moon

But one Korean scientist, Hyung-In Moon, managed to do just that, through what must have seemed like clever subterfuge at the time. And he got away with it for a while — until he didn't, as witnessed by this retraction notice for "Larvicidal activity of 4-hydroxycoumarin derivatives against *Aedes aegypti*," published in *Pharmaceutical Biology*, an Informa Healthcare title:

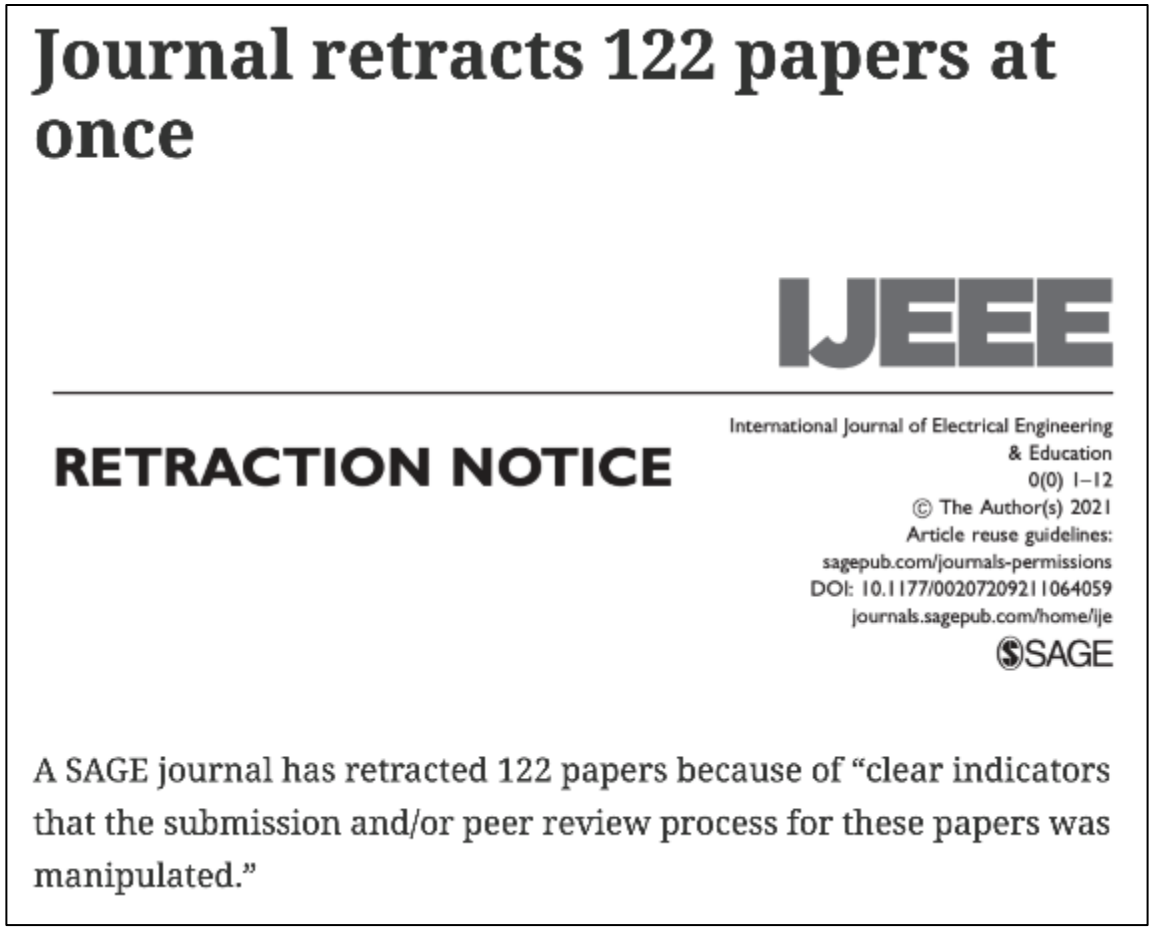
November 2014

Retraction Watch

December 2014

Retraction Watch

December 2021



Journal retracts 122 papers at once

IJEEE

RETRACTION NOTICE

International Journal of Electrical Engineering & Education
0(0) 1–12

DOI: 10.1177/00207209211064059
journals.sagepub.com/home/ije
SAGE

A SAGE journal has retracted 122 papers because of "clear indicators that the submission and/or peer review process for these papers was manipulated."

Retraction Watch

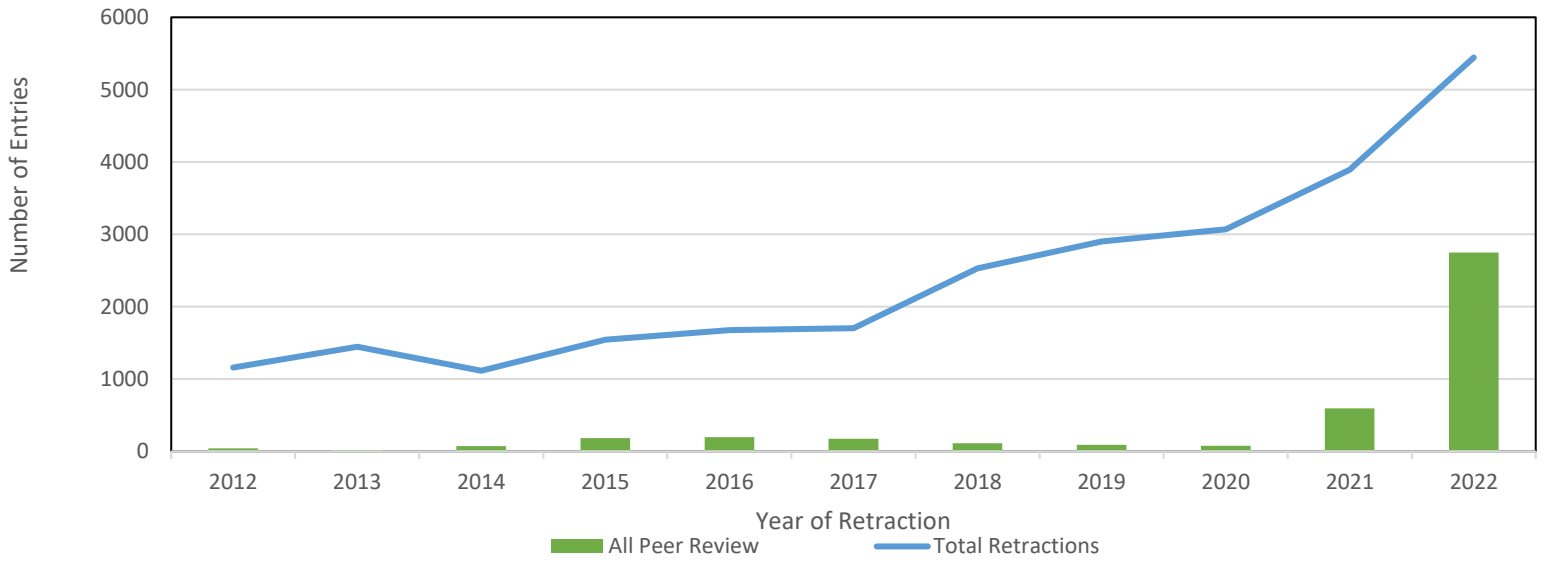
February 2022

Publisher retracts 350 papers at once

IOP Publishing has retracted a total of 350 papers from two different 2021 conference proceedings because an "investigation has uncovered evidence of systematic manipulation of the publication process and considerable citation manipulation."

Retraction Watch

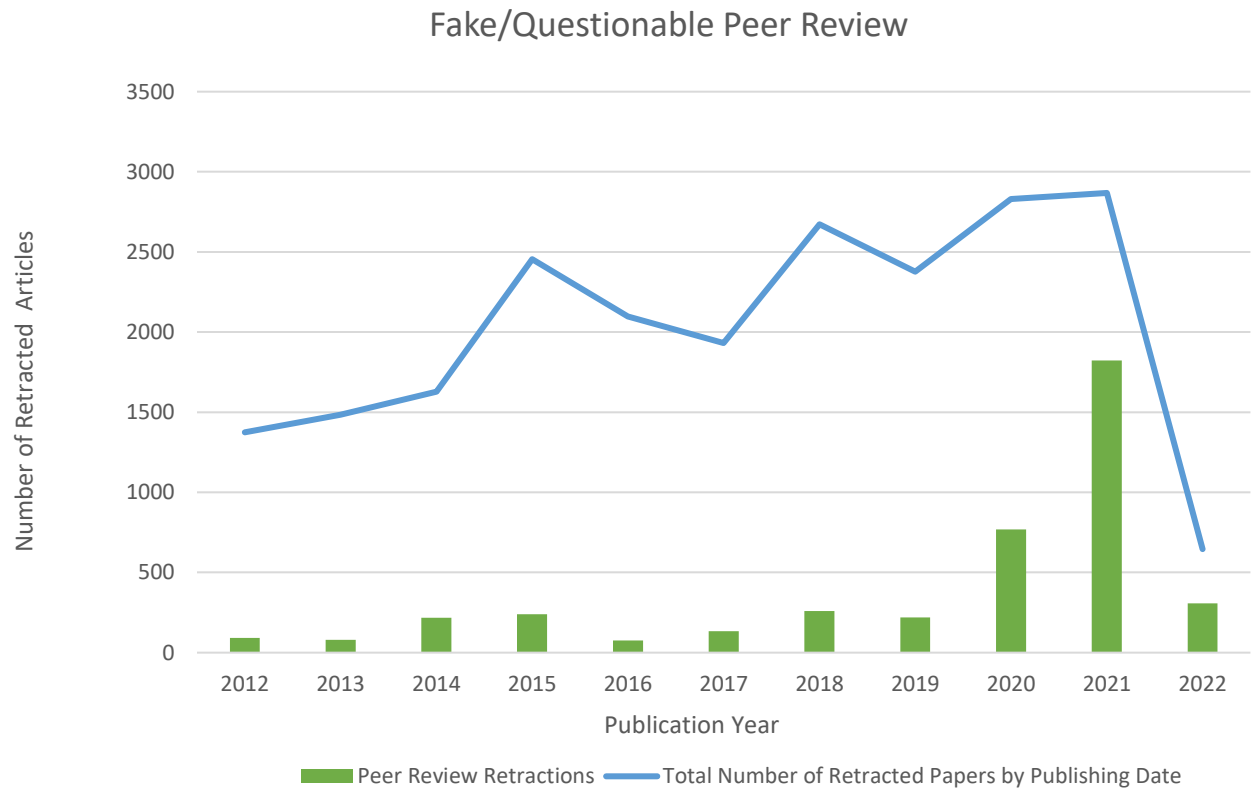
Fake and Questionable Peer Review Retractions



Retraction data from The Retraction Watch Database

Retraction Watch

Fake and Questionable Peer Review Retractions



Retraction data from The Retraction Watch Database

Retraction Watch

Contact Info

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http://retractionwatch.com

@retractionwatch

Retraction Watch

The battle for research integrity

No victory without openness

Ludo Waltman
Centre for Science and Technology Studies (CWTS)
Leiden University

Webinar: Fostering trust through transparent peer review
September 26, 2023

ResearchProfessional News

FUNDING INSIGHT 28 JUL 2023

The battle for research integrity is winnable

By James Brooks

Share

Policing the system

More in-depth peer review

More rigorous editorial checks

More stringent retraction policies

AI tools

Making the system even more bureaucratic and impersonal, and creating an arms race that can never be won

Changing the system

Reducing pressure to publish

Promoting open research cultures

Evaluating researchers based on their actual contribution to scientific knowledge production

Moving toward a system that incentivizes researchers to make truly meaningful contributions

How to change the system

CoARA

Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment

Our vision is that the assessment of research, researchers and research organisations recognises the diverse outputs, practices and activities that maximise the quality and impact of research. This requires basing assessment primarily on qualitative judgement, for which peer review is central, supported by responsible use of quantitative indicators.

The Commitments

1. Recognise the diversity of contributions to, and careers in, research in accordance with the needs and nature of the research

2. Base research assessment primarily on qualitative evaluation for which peer review is central, supported by responsible use of quantitative indicators

3. Abandon inappropriate uses in research assessment of journal- and publication-based metrics, in particular inappropriate uses of Journal Impact Factor (JIF) and h-index

What kind of publishing and peer review system does this require?

QSS

March 17th, 2022

Quantitative Science Studies successfully completes transparent peer review pilot

EDITORIAL | 01 March 2022

Nature is trialling transparent peer review – the early results are encouraging

PCI

peercommunityin.org

F1000Research

eLife

eLife ends accept/reject decisions following peer review

eLife will emphasise the public peer review of preprints, restoring author autonomy and promoting the assessment of scientists based on what, not where, they publish.

And how do we get there?

PublishYourReviews

Open Research Europe

European Commission

Council of the EU Press release 23 May 2023 10:27

Council calls for transparent, equitable, and open access to scholarly publications

STRESSES that rigorous peer review should continue to be essential to scholarly publishing, with researchers taking responsibility for peer review and providing expert advice on editorial boards, ensuring scientific standards, validity and quality of the research; EMPHASISES that peer review should continue to build and maintain research integrity and trust in science, including by retraction of invalid publications; RECOGNISES that the peer review system is currently facing various challenges, e.g. increased number of submissions and reviewer fatigue; UNDERLINES the need to promote transparency through open peer review practices, and to give recognition to and reward researchers for peer review;

Plan S

Making full & immediate Open Access a reality

POLICY 10 JUL 2023

Coalition S consults on draft plan for 'responsible publishing'

Thank you for your attention!

Email: **waltmanlr@cwts.leidenuniv.nl**

Mastodon: **https://social.cwts.nl/@LudoWaltman**

Transparent peer review at Royal Society of Chemistry

Nicola Nugent

Publishing Manager, Quality & Ethics

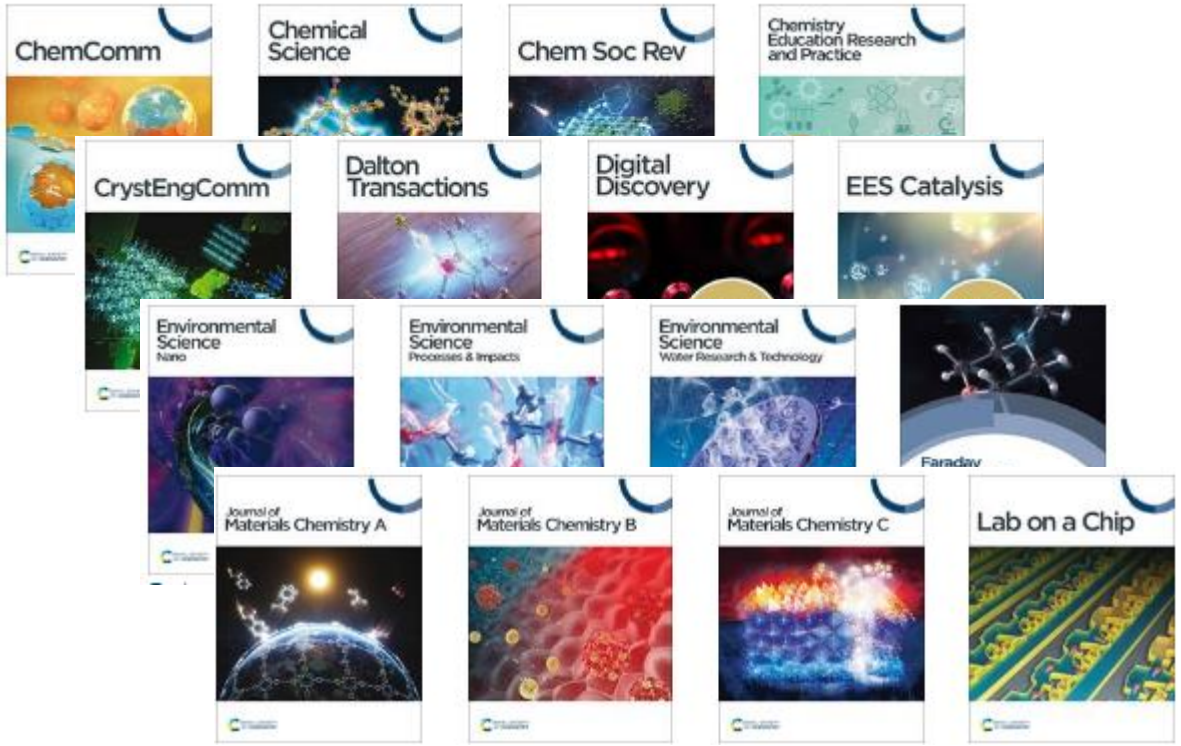
Royal Society of Chemistry

Our **purpose** is to help the chemical science community **make the world a better place.**

Our **vision** is a world in which the chemical sciences fulfil their **potential as a force for good.**

Part of our **mission** is to provide the opportunities and **tools for the chemical science community to** network, **create and exchange knowledge**, adapt and thrive.

Royal Society of Chemistry; Publishing



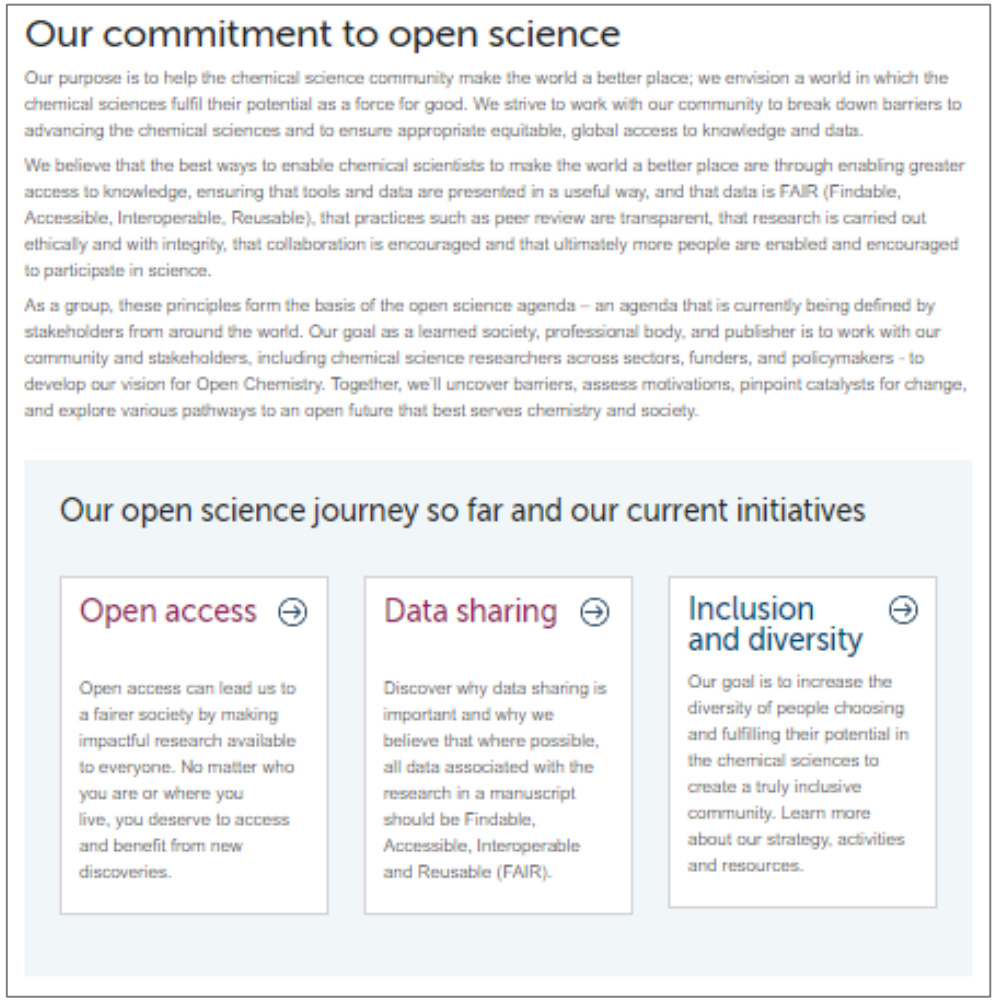
We publish over **50 world-leading journals** that span the core chemical sciences and related fields. Known for **rigorous, fair peer review and fast publication times**, our journals **publish the best science**, from original research articles to authoritative reviews.

Our Commitment to OS

Our purpose is to help the chemical science community make the world a better place; we envision a world in which the chemical sciences fulfil their potential as a force for good. We strive to **work with our community to break down barriers to advancing the chemical sciences and to ensure appropriate equitable, global access to knowledge and data.**

Read the full statement here:

https://www.rsc.org/journals-books-databases/open-science/



Our commitment to open science

Our purpose is to help the chemical science community make the world a better place; we envision a world in which the chemical sciences fulfil their potential as a force for good. We strive to work with our community to break down barriers to advancing the chemical sciences and to ensure appropriate equitable, global access to knowledge and data.

We believe that the best ways to enable chemical scientists to make the world a better place are through enabling greater access to knowledge, ensuring that tools and data are presented in a useful way, and that data is FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable), that practices such as peer review are transparent, that research is carried out ethically and with integrity, that collaboration is encouraged and that ultimately more people are enabled and encouraged to participate in science.

As a group, these principles form the basis of the open science agenda – an agenda that is currently being defined by stakeholders from around the world. Our goal as a learned society, professional body, and publisher is to work with our community and stakeholders, including chemical science researchers across sectors, funders, and policymakers - to develop our vision for Open Chemistry. Together, we'll uncover barriers, assess motivations, pinpoint catalysts for change, and explore various pathways to an open future that best serves chemistry and society.

Our open science journey so far and our current initiatives

Open access

Open access can lead us to a fairer society by making impactful research available to everyone. No matter who you are or where you live, you deserve to access and benefit from new discoveries.

Data sharing

Discover why data sharing is important and why we believe that where possible, all data associated with the research in a manuscript should be Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable (FAIR).

Inclusion and diversity

Our goal is to increase the diversity of people choosing and fulfilling their potential in the chemical sciences to create a truly inclusive community. Learn more about our strategy, activities and resources.

Why Transparent Peer Review?


Part of our commitment to open science
Transparent decision making
Showcase our high-quality peer review
Showcase the role of editors and reviewers
Educational for ECRs
Encourage even higher quality peer review
Trust

Our TPR timeline

2020

- TPR pilot phase began with launch of *RSC Chemical Biology*
- *ES Atmospheres* launched with TPR

2021

- *Digital Discovery* launched with TPR
- Review of TPR pilot phase demonstrated successes, and significant author demand
- Decision to roll out TPR across the portfolio

2022

- Decision to move to Clarivate service
- *Sustainable Food Technology*, *Industrial Chemistry & Materials*, *EES Catalysis and RSC Sustainability* launched with TPR using the Clarivate TPR service

2023

- *Chemical Science* and *RSC Advances* started offering TPR
- Rolling out to more journals throughout 2023 and 2024

How does it work?

Authors opt-in to TPR during manuscript submission

Transparent peer review

* To support increased transparency, EES Catalysis offers authors the option of transparent peer review. If authors choose this option, the reviewers' comments, authors' response and editor's decision letter for all versions of the manuscript are published alongside the article under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license. Reviewers remain anonymous unless they choose to sign their report.

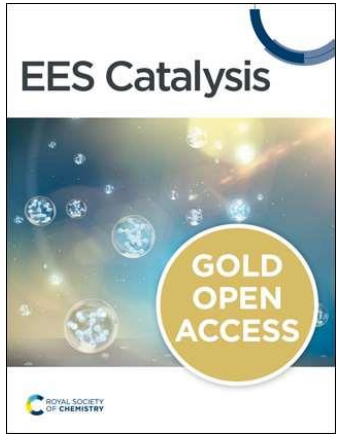
Please note that if you choose transparent peer review and your manuscript is transferred in from another RSC journal or is a resubmission, the decision letter and reviewer reports from the previous submission will not be published.

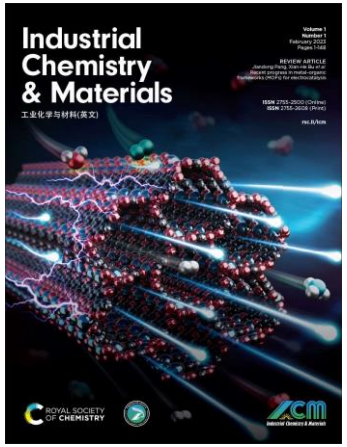
Please indicate whether you wish to choose transparent peer review.

- ○ I choose transparent peer review
- ○ I do not choose transparent peer review

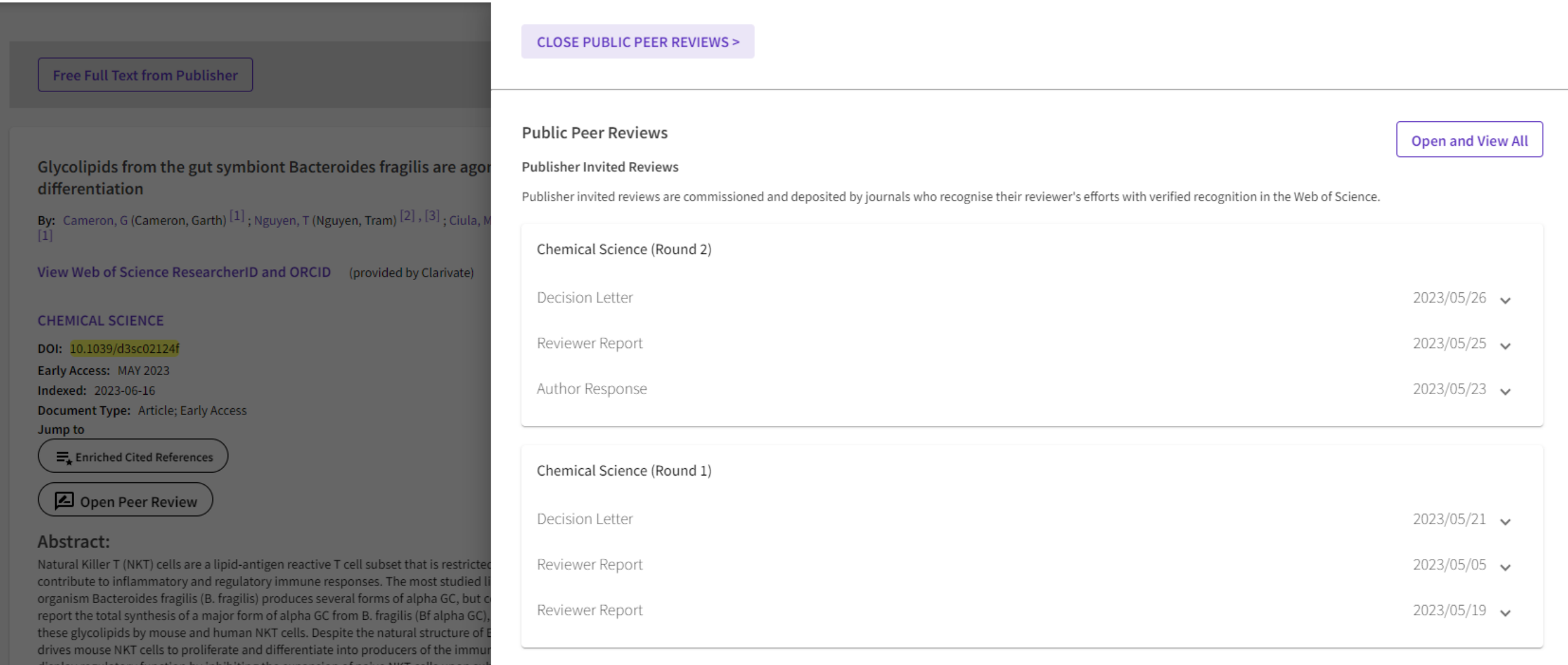
Setting up TPR with Clarivate

- Implement new opt-in questions for authors and reviewers in ScholarOne
- Grant Clarivate permission to register DOIs with our prefix
- Notify Clarivate when we publish articles
- Display a link to the TPR content on Web of Science from our article landing pages
- Set up TPR business processes and tailor author/reviewer messaging





Web of Science TPR



Thank you


Clarivate™
Supporting the shift to transparent peer review
Josh Dahl | Senior Product Director, Clarivate

"'Open peer review' (OPR), despite being a major pillar of Open Science, has neither a standardized definition nor an agreed schema of its features and implementations. The literature reflects this, with numerous overlapping and contradictory definitions."

Peer review where the identities of both author and reviewer are disclosed to each other?

Systems where reviewer reports are published alongside articles?

Systems where not only "invited experts" are able to comment?

Variety of combinations of these and other novel methods?

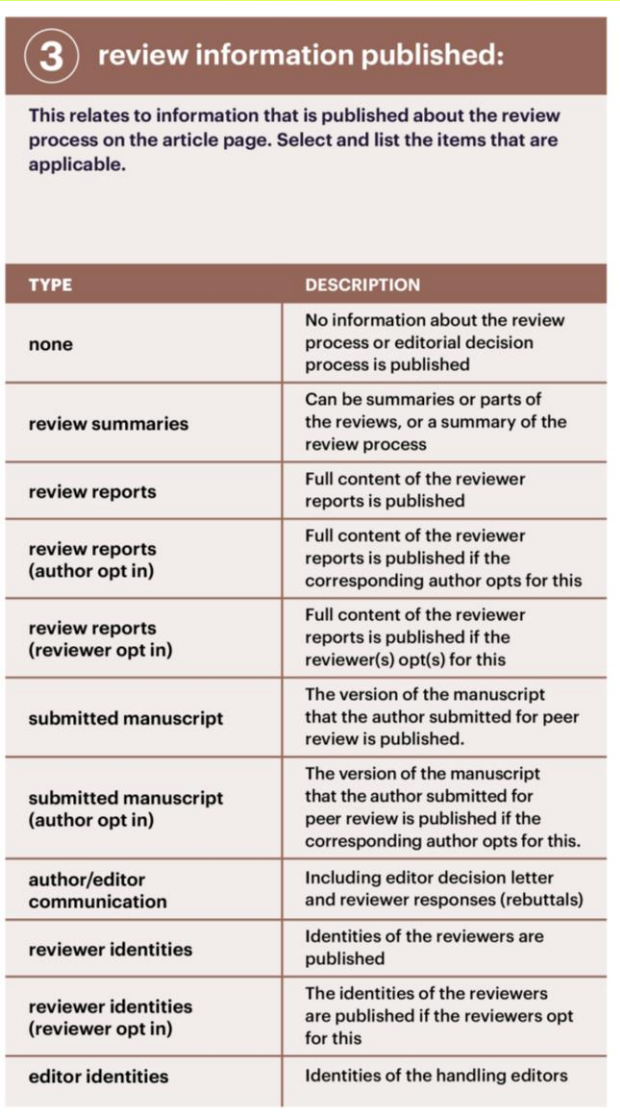
Clarivate™

Ross-Hellauer T. What is open peer review? A systematic review [version 2; peer review: 4 approved]. *F1000Research* 2017, **6**:588 (https://doi.org/10.12688/f1000research.11369.2)

Transparent Peer Review

review information published

- ✓ review reports
- ✓ review reports (author opt in)
- ✓ review reports (reviewer opt in)
- ✓ author/editor communication
- ✓ reviewer identities (reviewer opt in)
- ✓ editor identities



3 review information published:

This relates to information that is published about the review process on the article page. Select and list the items that are applicable.

TYPE	DESCRIPTION
none	No information about the review process or editorial decision process is published
review summaries	Can be summaries or parts of the reviews, or a summary of the review process
review reports	Full content of the reviewer reports is published
review reports (author opt in)	Full content of the reviewer reports is published if the corresponding author opts for this
review reports (reviewer opt in)	Full content of the reviewer reports is published if the reviewer(s) opt(s) for this
submitted manuscript	The version of the manuscript that the author submitted for peer review is published.
submitted manuscript (author opt in)	The version of the manuscript that the author submitted for peer review is published if the corresponding author opts for this.
author/editor communication	Including editor decision letter and reviewer responses (rebuttals)
reviewer identities	Identities of the reviewers are published
reviewer identities (reviewer opt in)	The identities of the reviewers are published if the reviewers opt for this
editor identities	Identities of the handling editors

https://www.niso.org/standards-committees/peer-review-terminology

What problem are we solving?

Part of the growing Open Science movement, but has also gained traction as a means of:

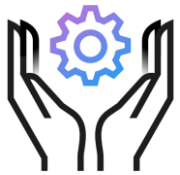
- improving research integrity and reproducibility;
- decreasing fraudulent peer review; and
- discouraging manipulation of the peer review process.

Adoption of transparent peer review has been restricted by a lack of viable integrated workflow options, resulting in manual solutions that:

- soak up editorial time and resource;
- inhibit rollout due to capacity; and
- often entail complex, legacy workflows.

Transparent Peer Review service on ScholarOne

Overcome barriers to adopting transparent peer review



Scalable

Implement a turn-key solution that seamlessly integrates into existing workflows.

Flexible

Adhere to data privacy regulations and honor author and reviewer preferences.

Automated

Save time with automated DOI assignment and auto-generated public pages for content.

Linked

Connect articles to their review content through persistent links and dynamic badges.

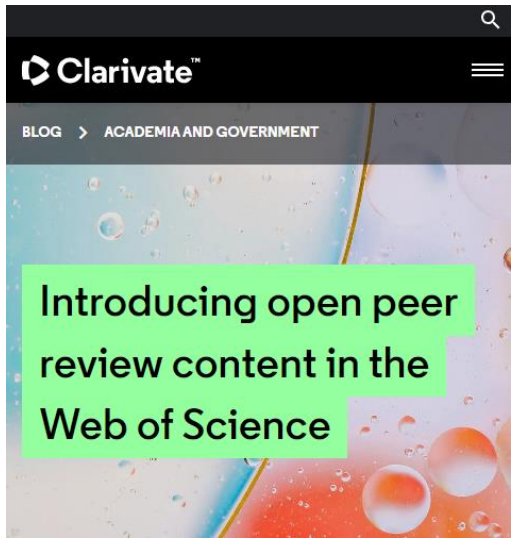
Our path to launching Transparent Peer Review

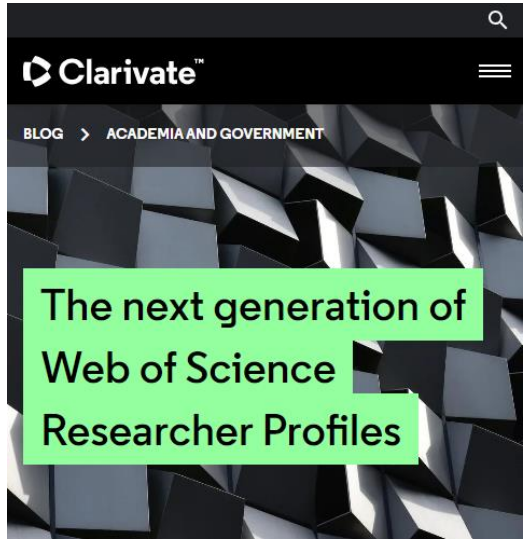
publons

acquired by Clarivate

Transparent Peer Review

pilot started





Transparent Peer Review

generally available on ScholarOne

2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023

WILEY

IOP Publishing

THE ROYAL SOCIETY PUBLISHING

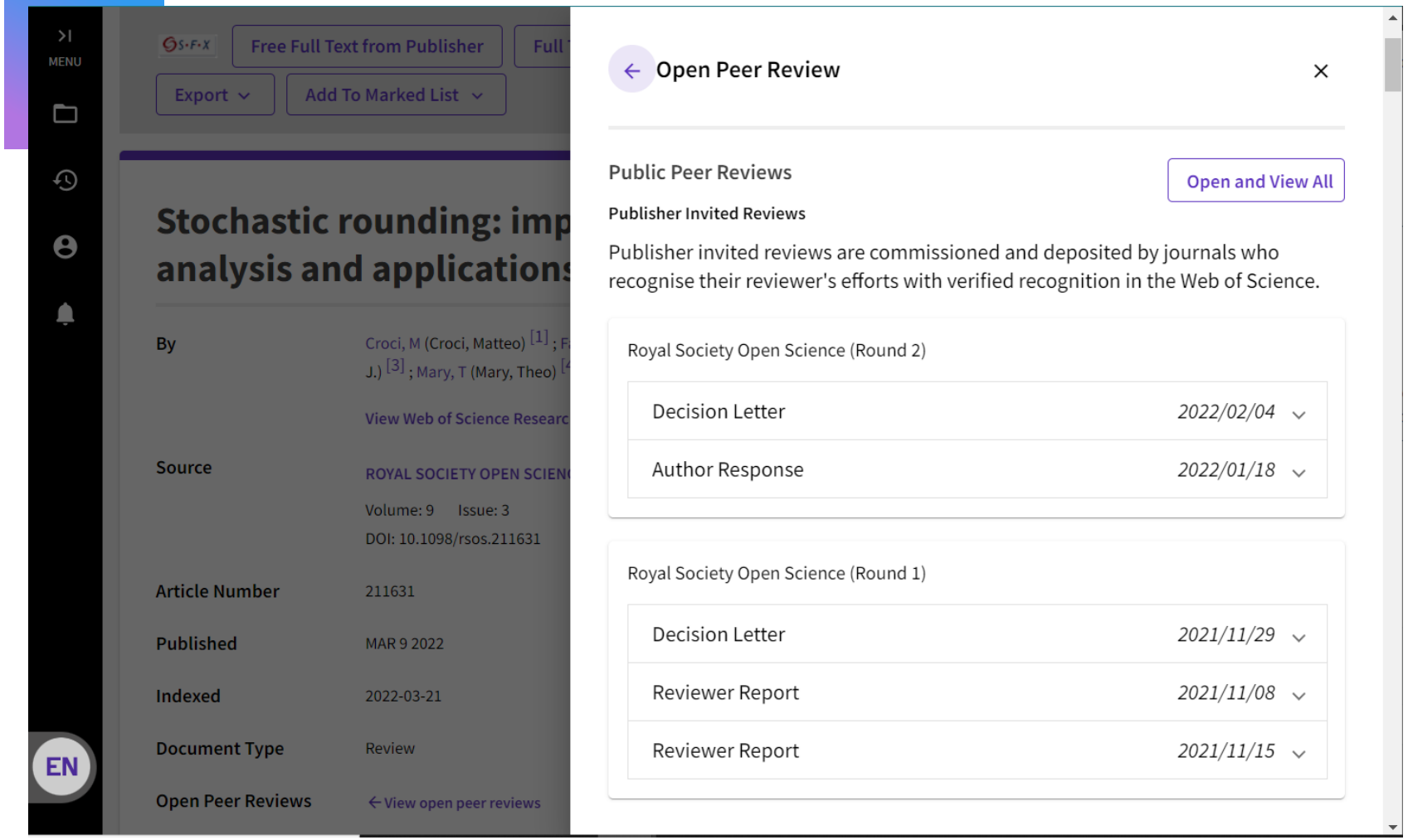
emerald PUBLISHING

The MIT Press

Sage

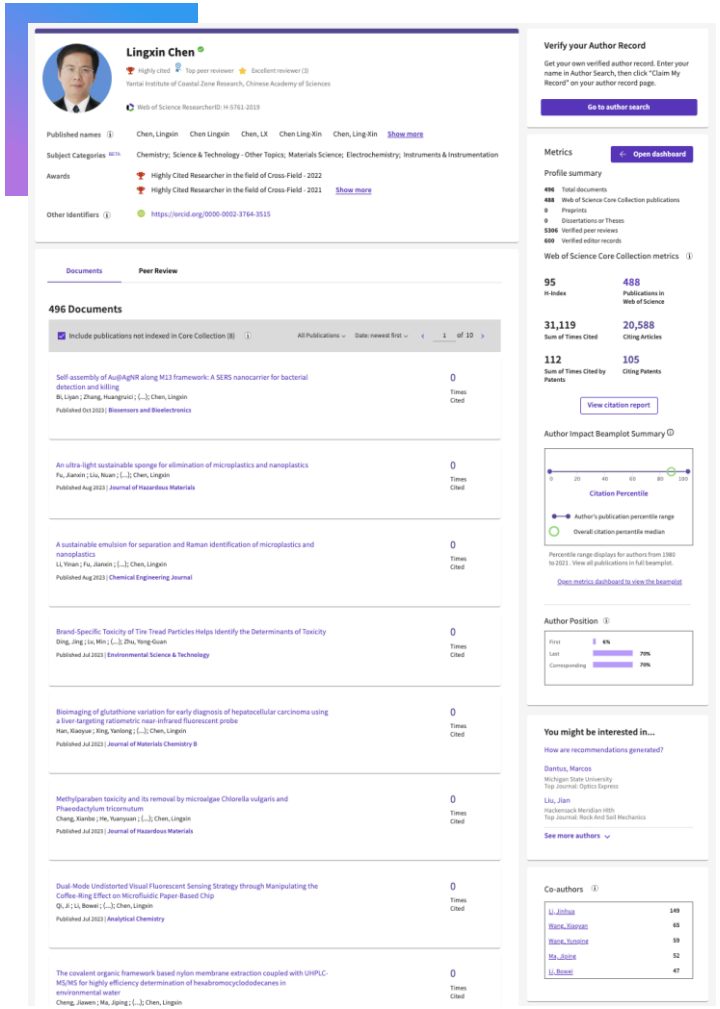
ROYAL SOCIETY OF CHEMISTRY

Open Peer Reviews in Web of Science



- Directly linked
- Discoverable
- Open
- Citable
- Integrated part of the scholarly record

Web of Science Researcher Profiles



- Broad coverage of scholarly output
- Detailed analytics
- Unique ResearcherID
- Freely available
- Downloadable CV

35 million+ profiles

32 million claimed WoS documents

19 million+ peer reviews

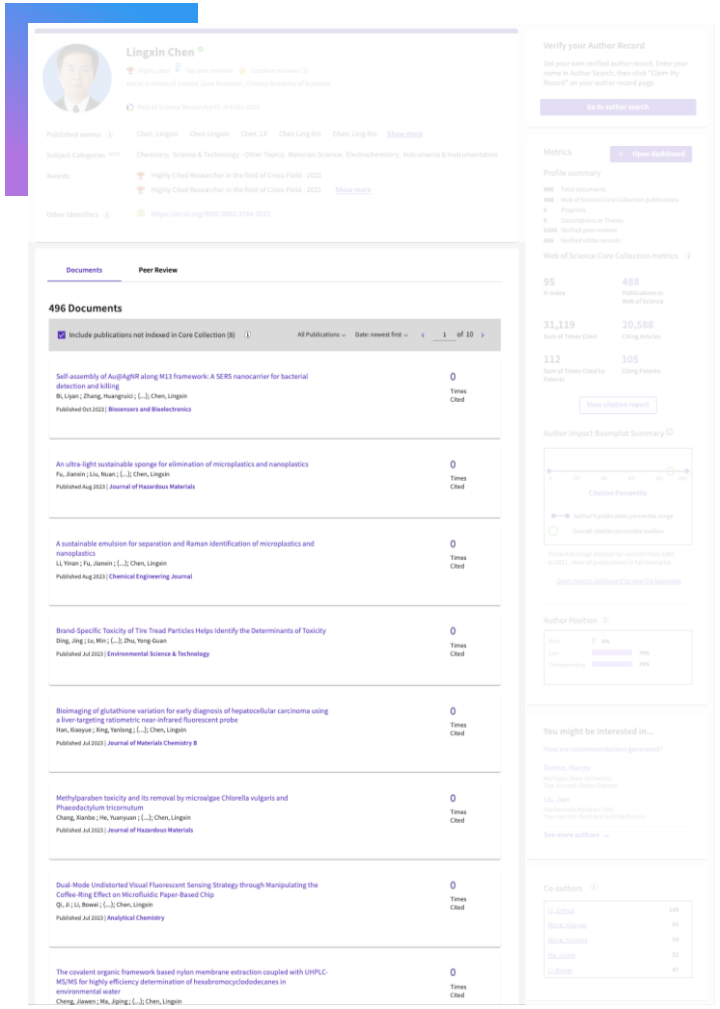
100k+ open peer reviews

2 million+ preprints

Clarivate™

Web of Science Researcher Profiles

Scholarly outputs



- Web of Science indexed publications and citations
- Non-indexed publications
- **Peer reviews**
- Editorships
- Preprints
- Dissertations and theses
- Awarded grants*COMING SOON*

Clarivate™

Current state of Transparent Peer Review

159

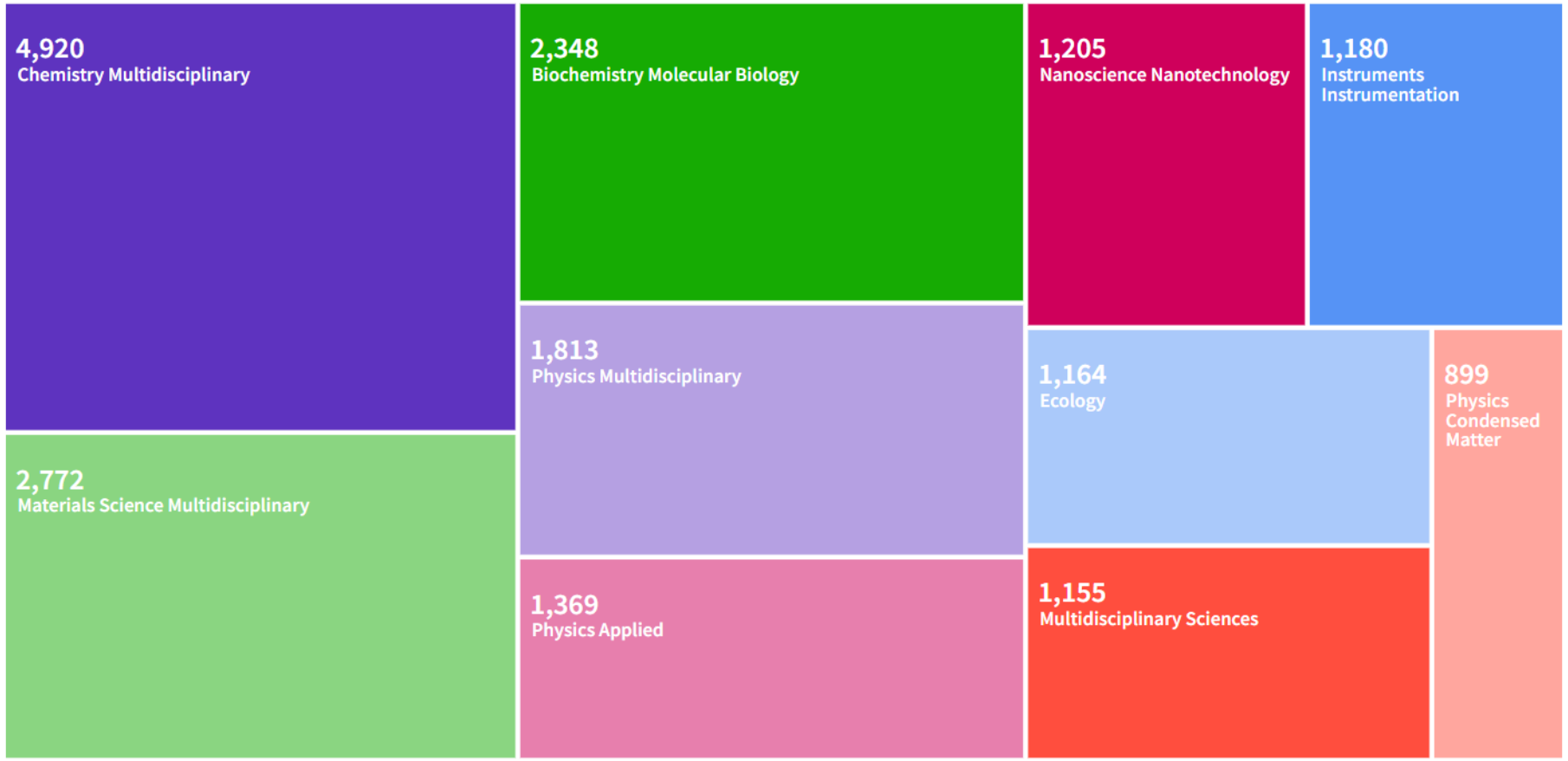
journals using TPR

32k

articles with published peer reviews

37%

author and/or reviewer opt-out[1]



Top 10 Web of Science Categories based on total articles published in 2022 for TPR journals

Clarivate™

[1]Out of over 52k eligible articles for Transparent Peer Review

What's next for Transparent Peer Review service on ScholarOne?

Adding support for Peer Review files

- Majority of journals on ScholarOne allow peer review file attachments
- Peer Review files can be included on reviewer reports and author's response to decision

Finalizing standards for set-up and onboarding

- Streamline set-up with simplified configuration options for author and reviewer questions
- Standard documentation for customers and end users

Enable any of the 8k journals on ScholarOne to move to transparent peer review

Clarivate™