Publishing articles from your PhD

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7 steps to success

1. Try to have more than one paper ‘in the pipeline’

2. Select the right journal and research it carefully
   
   • Read the journal’s scope and aims
   • Look at the contents of a recent issue and skim-read some articles
   • Find out who the editors are and what they have written
   • Know its ranking and reputation
     ➢ the ranking everybody loves to hate
   • Consider a journal special issue
7 steps to success

1. Try to have more than one paper ‘in the pipeline’
2. Select the right journal and research it carefully
3. Write a good paper!
   - Original
   - Rigorous
   - Significant
7 steps to success

1. Try to have more than one paper ‘in the pipeline’
2. Select the right journal and research it carefully
3. Write a good paper!
4. Be strategic in the way you present the paper
   • write clearly and avoid overly elaborate language
   • if English is not your first language, consider using a proofreader
   • remove all traces of it being PhD research
   • Abstract, Introduction and Conclusion are crucial
   • acknowledge limitations but don’t dwell on them
   • reference your preferred referees (a lot!)
   • be tactful, even where critical of other authors
   • reference relevant papers in your target journal
7 steps to success

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2. Select the right journal and research it carefully
3. Write a good paper!
4. Be strategic in the way you present the paper
5. Seek feedback from colleagues before submission
   • seminar and conference presentations
   • working papers
   • reading a draft article
7 steps to success

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2. Select the right journal and research it carefully
3. Write a good paper!
4. Be strategic in the way you present the paper
5. Seek feedback from colleagues before submission
6. Act promptly on comments from referees
   • minor revisions: may be editorial decision
   • major revisions / revise & resubmit: will go back to referees (same or different ones)
   • reject: this is the *expected* outcome. Try not to take it personally.
Making revisions

- Try not to react defensively
- Pay careful attention to editorial remarks (if any)
- If referees disagree, either use this to your advantage or query with editors the direction you should take
- Revise the paper taking seriously each of referees’ comments
- Keep a note of how you do so and turn this into a covering note when you resubmit
- Don’t use ‘track changes’ (unless you’re asked to)
- Aim to resubmit within 3 months unless otherwise instructed
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2. Select the right journal and research it carefully
3. Write a good paper!
4. Be strategic in the way you present the paper
5. Seek feedback from colleagues before submission
6. Act promptly on comments from referees
7. Don’t give up!