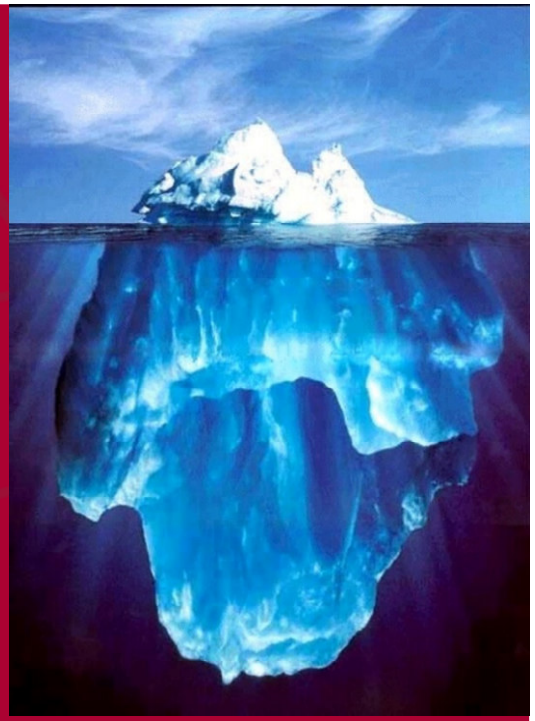
Motivations for reviewing manuscripts submitted to Elsevier Journals

Mario Malički, Jadranka Stojanovski, Bahar Mehmani

PEERE "New Frontiers of Peer Review"
www.peere.org
peereinfo@peere.org

cost
EUROPEAN COOPERATION
IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Background



Rise of scientific publications per year

2.5 million articles - 3% increase per year

Typical reviewer spends 5 hours per review and does 8 reviews per year

420.000 hours
70.000 (Swedish) working days
350 years

(STM report 2015)

Background

Correia, Antónia, and Metin Kozak. "The review process in tourism academia: An elaboration of reviewers' extrinsic and intrinsic motivations." *Journal of Hospitality and Tourism Management* 32 (2017): 1-11.

people's aspirations and life goals

interest/enjoyment, felt pressure and tension, and feelings of relatedness

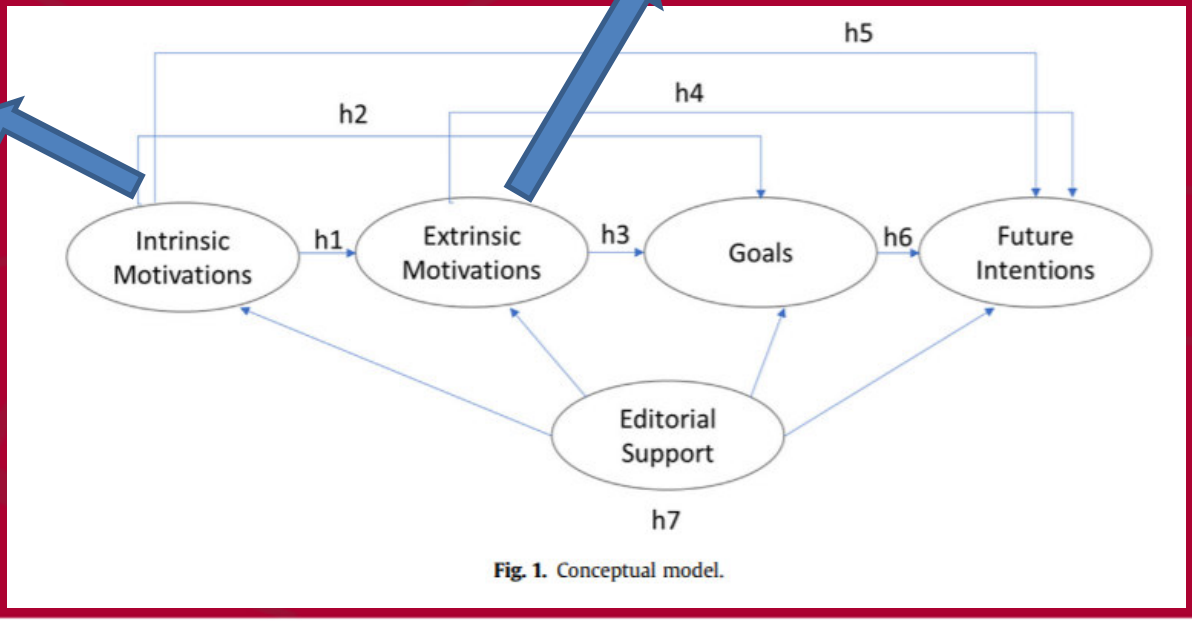


Fig. 1. Conceptual model.

cost EUROPEAN COOPERATION IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Zaharie, Monica Aniela, and Codruţa Luminiţa Osoian. "Peer review motivation frames: A qualitative approach." *European Management Journal* 34.1 (2016): 69-79.

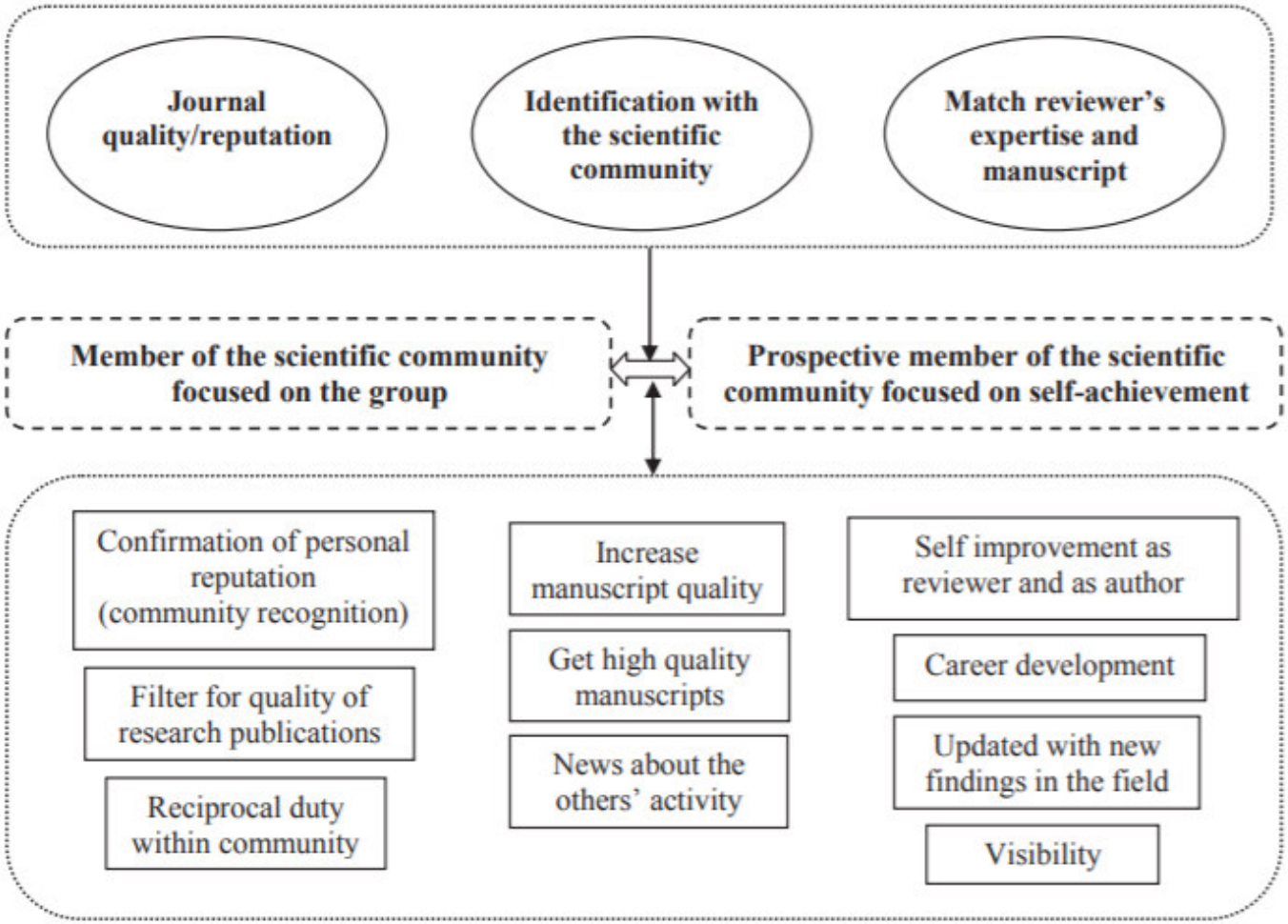


Fig. 1. Motivation frames thematic map

Zaharie, Monica Aniela, and Codruţa Luminiţa Osoian. "Peer review motivation frames: A qualitative approach." *European Management Journal* 34.1 (2016): 69-79.

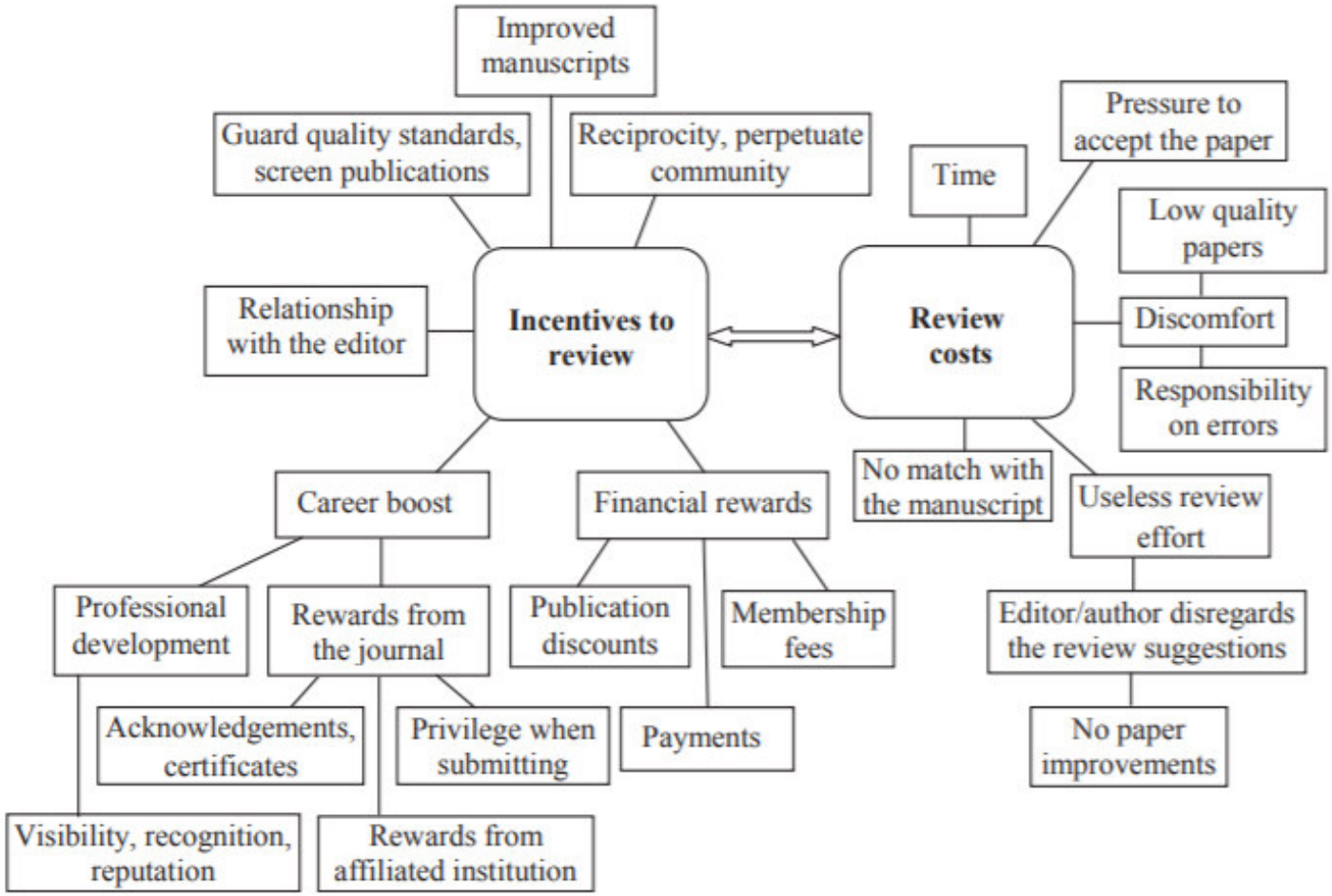
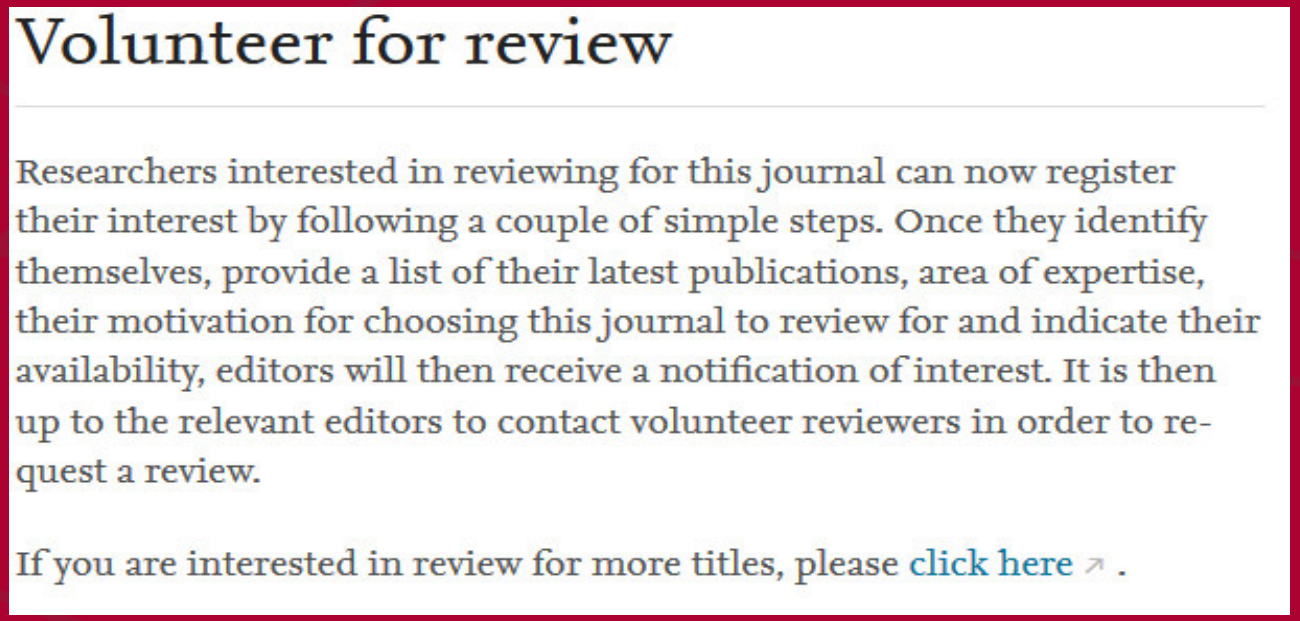


Fig. 2. The benefits and the costs to review

Pilot study

April 2015 – April 2016 Elsevier had made it possible for researchers to apply to be reviewers through the Elsevier's Reviewer Recognition Platform and a pilot number of journal home pages



Volunteer for review

Researchers interested in reviewing for this journal can now register their interest by following a couple of simple steps. Once they identify themselves, provide a list of their latest publications, area of expertise, their motivation for choosing this journal to review for and indicate their availability, editors will then receive a notification of interest. It is then up to the relevant editors to contact volunteer reviewers in order to request a review.

If you are interested in review for more titles, please click here ↗ .

Peer review is the cornerstone of science, and Elsevier is dedicated to supporting and recognizing our journals' reviewers. ***My Elsevier Reviews Profile*** aims to create a standard way of recording and acknowledging your efforts.

Claim your non-Elsevier journal reviews and create/edit your public profile

Welcome AJE Language Editor

ees@journalexperts.com Test

We thank you for your contributions to the peer review process. If you are interested in reviewing for more titles, please let us know.

My Latest Review: September 2015, Sustainable Materials and Technologies

Claim your Book discount ? Claim your Webshop discount ?

My Review Status

Please find an overview of your review recognitions below.

Create a signature Report for 2015

Applications – 17.800

- Of those 17.490 unique emails/individuals
- 5.355 (31%) described their motivation to review and listed how many reviews they are willing to perform per year

Results - frequency

How often?	No of applicants	%
Monthly	3447	64
On a case by case basis	1072	20
Quarterly	734	14
Annually	101	2

Motivation

Median number of words 9 (IQR 6-16, range 1-1874 – CV copied)

Median number of reasons listed was 1 (69%), IQR 1-2, range 1 to 11

Preliminary coding – 80 categories/reasons

Why do you want to review for this journal?

1. I am an expert in a specific field/area – the volunteer specified the area – 40%

example: I'm a specialist in reproduction of goats and sheep

2. My expertise matches the journal's scope – not specified - 32%

example: I have chosen these journals as they related to my area of interest and expertise.

Why do you want to review for this journal?

3. I have a PhD/Am a PI/Work in – 13 %

example: I am a PhD in Chemical Engineering

4. I have publications in this journal - 8 %

example: I published in these journals

5. Due to the prestige of the journal - 7 %

example: The good reputation and impact factor

Other reasons

give back to the community, help authors

gain knowledge on reviewing, gain more expertise

gain ideas for my research, career advancement

improve or maintain the quality of the journal

I cited papers from this journal, papers from this journal cited me…..

Longer example

"High level of research work are published in these journal, Many of these journal accept blind review, which is very positive, process time from submission to publish are quite less (positive).
There Journal recognizes reviewers contribution by awarding as outstanding reviewers."

Interesting responses 1

- **Some individuals wrote their answers as a letter to editor**

Respected Sir/Madam,

I am working as GIS Manager in an evaluation project of large scale innovative pro-poor programs focused on reducing maternal mortality- MATIND at Indian Institute of Public Health Gandhinagar, Gujarat, India since 3 years. Prior to this I have worked as Research Associate at CEPT University, Ahmedabad; where I was associated with GIS and Remote Sensing research project are Watershed Mapping from AKRSP, Urban Mapping and Change Detection Study using Remote Sensing and GIS, Environmental Monitoring due to Industrialization from Ministry of Environment Forest, National Urban Information System of Jamnagar, Nadiad and Surat Town from TCPO and NRSC-ISRO, Land use and land cover dynamics and impact of human dimension in Narmada - Indian river basins from World Bank, NRSC ISRO, Urban Disaster Management and Emergency Response for Ahmadabad city of West zone from SAC-ISRO. GIS and Remote Sensing training Hands-on Practical Teaching, Training and Guiding of post graduate Faculty of Public Planning and Policy, Landscape - Urban Design and Graduate student of Architecture, Building Science of Technology Department in CEPT University.

As a graduate from Faculty of Technology Department, CEPT University, Ahmedabad in Masters of Science in Geomatics; Where I studied geographical information systems, Remote Sensing, Global Positioning System and its technology. I have knowledge of mapping and use of ArcGIS, Autocad, Erdas imagine and Microsoft packages well. I possessed excellent knowledge in cartography and GIS applications in solving various environmental problems.

Since now I attended various national and International conferences / workshops in presented paper & oral presentation and research papers published in peer reviewed journal. My research interests are in the areas of GIS, Remote Sensing, GPS, Terrain modeling, data fusion and pattern recognition, Space Science and Technology and its applications like Public health, Development Studies, Earth Science.

Sincerely,
Name Lastname

Interesting responses 2

- Full copy paste of a persons CV
- Look at my CV attached
- Look at my website/Google Scholar profile/LinkedIn
- Writing in 3rd person
- Writing in plural

Conclusions

- We often say there is a lack of reviewers available – this pilot shows at least there are those willing to conduct reviews – quality?
- 64% want to review once a month
- Most volunteers feel they should be reviewers as they have the expertise

Next steps

- Merge some categories
- Possibly recode some data
- Explore the differences based on the expressed frequency

Boycotts

- editorial board resigned
- libraries/consortia do not purchase
- researchers do not submitt/review

No d

#nodealn

TACT

I will recuse myself from all editorial and referee duties for all Elsevier journals, until a satisfactory deal has been reached between Elsevier and my country's / my institutions negotiators.

[Your Signature]

I DON'T WANT MY NAME TO APPEAR IN A PUBLIC SIGNATORY LIST

BCC YOURSELF

Sign Now

PEERE

www.p

peereir

Motivation

"Reviewing is an art in my opinion. I have good knowledge on the subject of above selected journals. I believe that participating, as a peer reviewer will motivate me to write, is fun and intellectually satisfying, provides an opportunity to be creative, and demystifies the academic publishing process."

Acknowledgments

- This project is a part of EU COST Action TD1306: New Frontiers of Peer Review (PEERE). Preliminary results have also been presented at the PERRE-KNOWESCAPE joint meeting in Valencia on 10 March 2016 and as an poster at EASE Conference June 11 2016.

Thank you!

and volunteer for review ☺