



# Predatory Publishers are Poisoning Scholarly Communication

Editoras Predatórias estão Envenenando a  
Comunicação Científica

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# Publishing models for scholarly journals

Modelos de publicação de revistas acadêmicas

- Traditional (subscription) model
- Gold open access = free to reader, author pays a fee
- Platinum open-access = free to author, free to reader
- Delayed open access = subscription model but OA after some time

# Some economic aspects of open access

## Alguns aspectos econômicos de acesso aberto

- The change from subscription-financed journals to author-financed journals has many negative, unanticipated effects
- New business models focus on authors as revenue source
- Conflict of interest: more papers accepted = more income
- Not all subscription journals are good; not all OA journals are bad

# Predatory publishers and journals

## Editoras predatórias e revistas

- Predatory publishers (journals) are those that exploit the gold open-access model for their own profit
- They take advantage of, exploit, and pander to scholarly authors
- They pretend to be legitimate, copying established and respected journals' websites and practices
- Many do a poor or fake peer review

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is in Progress at Archive section

# History of predatory publishers

## História das editoras predatórias

- I first started to notice them in 2008 and 2009
- My first publication about predatory journals was in 2009
- I coined the term "predatory publisher" in summer 2010
- I started my current blog in early 2012
- Scholarly publishing has served certification and registration
  - Registration = Placing a claim on a research finding ("this is my discovery")
  - Certification = Validation of the research finding ("this discovery is valid science")

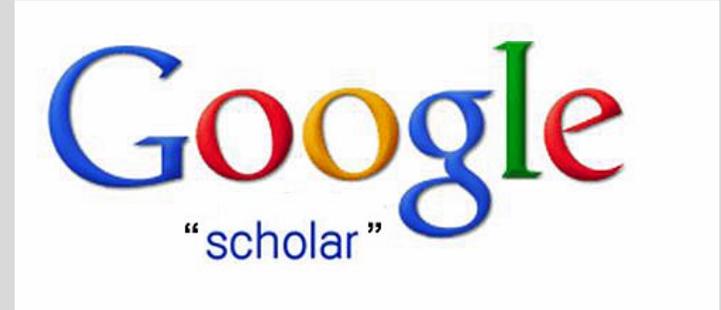
# Breakdown of research cultures

## Destruição das culturas de pesquisa

- Many have earned tenure and promotion through easy articles in predatory journals
- The role of merit in academic advancement is disappearing
- Never before has so much pseudo-science been published that looks like real science
- Some academic databases are filled with junk science
- Many researchers now expect cheap, easy, and fast publishing
- Open access advocates are in denial about the problems OA has caused
- It is possible for articles to be published open access yet still hidden

# Problems with Scholarly metrics

## Problemas com métricas Científicas



- Metrics can be gamed using predatory publishers
- Alternative metrics
- Backlash against the impact factor

### User profiles for Ștefan Vlăduțescu



#### Ștefan Vlăduțescu

Associate Professor of Communication and Journalism, University of Craiova

Verified email at central.ucv.ro

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### User profiles for Ștefan Vlăduțescu



#### Ștefan Vlăduțescu

Associate Professor of Communication and Journalism, University of Craiova

Verified email at central.ucv.ro

Cited by 150

# How predatory publishers damage science

## Como editoras predatórias danificam a ciência

- They've increased published research misconduct, such as plagiarism
- The pseudo-science they publish gets indexed in Google Scholar and other academic indexes
- They threaten demarcation, the division between science and pseudo-science, the cumulative nature of research
- They feed bogus research to societal institutions that depend on authentic science

# How predatory publishers damage science [2]

## Como editoras predatórias danificam a ciência [2]

- They are polluting taxonomy
- Pharmaceutical entrepreneurs are using predatory publishers to make invented compounds appear efficacious
- Author fees may prevent some authors from being able to publish their work, especially in middle-income countries and for unaffiliated researchers

# Increased Publication of Pseudo-science

## Aumentou a Publicação de pseudo-ciência

Pure and Applied Mathematics Journal

2013; 2(5): 169-173

Published online November 10, 2013 (<http://www.sciencepublishinggroup.com/j/pamj>)

doi: 10.11648/j.pamj.20130205.14



**The case against educated mathematical dogma (Precise mathematical Pi value by finite equation =3.14159292035)**

**$3 + \left(\frac{1}{7+\frac{1}{16}}\right)$  precise finite value**

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<http://dx.doi.org/10.4236/ijmnta.2013.21006> Published Online March 2013 (<http://www.scirp.org/journal/ijmnta>)



## Mohamed El Naschie's Revision of Albert Einstein's $E = m_0c^2$ : A Definite Resolution of the Mystery of the Missing Dark Energy of the Cosmos

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### ABSTRACT

The Egyptian engineering scientist and theoretical physicist Mohamed El Naschie has found a definite resolution to the missing dark energy of the cosmos based on a revision of the theory of Relativity. Einstein's equation of special relativ-

# Related scams

## Embustes relacionados

- Hijacked journals
- Paper mills



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# Fake Impact Factors

## Fatores de Impacto falsos

- Companies make up and sell impact factors to open-access journal publishers
- Many publish articles mistakenly believing that their work is in an impact factor journal
- Predatory journals advertise their bogus impact factors in spam email and on their websites



# Author services companies

## Empresas de serviços para autor

- Provide services such as copyediting, pre-publication peer-review, statistical, methodological review, research promotion
- Are not predatory
- Advantages those with money, who submit polished manuscripts
- Increasingly throw the costs of scholarly publishing on the authors, favoring those with money



# Resolving the problem of predatory journals

## Resolvendo o problema das revistas predatórias

- Little or no law enforcement action has taken place
- Publishers operate under freedom of the press protections
- They operate internationally, using mail forwarding services
- Some authors use them for easy publications, so they persist
- Open-access advocates minimize, ignore, deny the problems
- Restore the role of the consumer (reader, subscriber) in scholarly publishing
- Only way I know at this time is through education and awareness

Thank you.

Jeffrey Beall

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<http://scholarlyoa.com>