

## BOOK REVIEW

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*Qualitative and Quantitative Analysis of Scientific and Scholarly Communication* is an attempt to gather all the findings from various surveys of different disciplines in order to help journal editors, authors, and students from different subjects to learn more about plagiarism. This includes typical problems such as cut-and-paste, duplication of conference proceedings, self-plagiarism, team plagiarism, and review papers with a high level of similarity, how to detect plagiarism, to deal with it, and to avoid it.

The book is organized into three parts: General Plagiarism Issues, Discipline-Specific Plagiarism Issues, and What to Do About It. The first part of the book covers four chapters where plagiarism is defined, differences between Anglophone and non-Anglophone journals are clarified, publication in more than one language is explained, and a case study is exemplified. The following part contains two chapters which deal with biosciences: Replication of Methods Sections and Computing and Electrical and Electronic Engineering: Republication of Conference Papers. The last part has five chapters and discusses publication ethics awareness, avoiding plagiarism and dealing with it as an author and an editor, detecting plagiarism, and the plagiarism future.

Chapter one gives some definitions of the term plagiarism as opposed to academic honesty. It goes without saying that the advent of technology and Internet has made committing as well as detecting plagiarism easier; therefore, plagiarism, being an authorial misconduct, has to be dealt with by the editors. This chapter also makes clear the reasons why individuals commit plagiarism among which are the ease of copying and lack of suitable training. Academic journal editors have to ensure the publication integrity and take action after determining the plagiarism. Different types of plagiarism are enumerated and it is noted that although tools such as CrossCheck are invaluable, more examination is needed on the part of the editors.

Chapter two deals with the attitudes of editors towards different kinds of plagiarism regarding different disciplines and countries as well as such differences between editors. These are dealt with regarding native English speaking that is Anglophone countries and non-native English speaking or non-Anglophone countries. Through a survey, using CrossCheck in checking submitted articles, similarity

reports and republication of papers from conference proceedings were compared. The attitude of non-Anglophones is not as rigorous as Anglophones, indeed there are small changes.

Chapter three highlights some issues related to bilingual submissions such as transparency processes and permission, indexing and referencing. It is noted that without transparency, multilingual publications may be considered as misconduct and then as duplicate publications.

Chapter four considers fields in which tables and figures are the key elements of the research and text-matching tools like CrossCheck are not able to examine plagiarism (if any) in these elements; therefore, a case of plagiarism may need a closer investigation when the CrossCheck has shown a low similarity index in such fields. This chapter helps to deal with such problems through a case study. Besides, the importance of the journal editor having expert knowledge in the topic and judging idea plagiarism is noted.

Chapter five investigates opinions regarding copying methods section and how to handle this section (in the life sciences) as well as republication of conference proceedings. It is shown that an author may use one of the approaches to write the methods section and it is more common to repeat a published method than giving a citation only or completely rewriting the description. The author analyzed the descriptions of a method using CrossCheck to determine the duplication extent and has given some clues to prepare the methods section regarding the bioscience papers. In this study the behavior of authors was classified into some categories and more than 50% were shown to use more than one style in the methods sections. Three kinds of expression were enumerated, regarding the analysis of methods section, including description, citation and attachment.

Chapter six takes into account the issue of republicating conference papers which is prevalent in fields such as computing, electrical and electronic engineering. A study is conducted to find out the attitudes of editors towards this issue in these fields. However, the extent of which editors accept the publication of these types of articles is unclear. A study was done on the requirements on the part of the authors to make some changes before paper republication, to which 99% of editors were positive, and the nature of these changes. Also, some reasons for changes are stated among which are avoiding duplicate publication and journal policy. Editors of these fields should not totally rely on CrossCheck; they must follow their reviewers to determine the value needed for publication.

Chapter seven is about ethics awareness in publication and that, with respect to education, plagiarism is an ethical problem globally. Some scientific integrity offices have been introduced in more developed countries as well as less developed countries. China, as an example, is investigated with respect to the awareness progress related to the academic and publication ethics.

Chapter eight deals with avoiding plagiarism on the part of authors. According to the Oxford University website, just correcting references or changing some words in order for the paraphrase to be unnoticeable will not ensure that the content is free from plagiarism. In order to fulfill the responsibilities as an honest author, some university conduct rules for authors and guidelines for publishers are enumerated and described as examples.

Chapter nine examines potential plagiarism. As noted earlier in this book, a high score from plagiarism detecting tools does not necessarily show plagiarism. In the same vein, a low score does not prove that there is no plagiarism. More importantly, ideas should be examined closely. Since these tools cannot determine non-textual elements duplication or duplication in different languages, the editors and their reviewers are in charge of checking any familiar material, relying on their knowledge. A description is provided related to how CrossCheck works at two stages. It is noted that each paper is crosschecked twice, first before sending to international reviewers and then just before publication online, since there is a time-lag in updating the database, during which the plagiarism must be checked. Four types of plagiarism are described in this chapter, one of which is uncited or excessive extracts.

In chapter ten, a list of sources is given related to expert advice among which is the Committee On Publication Ethics (COPE), which provides the ethical guidelines on scientific standards. Other associations are pertinent to editing and to different fields. A COPE flowchart is presented to show how to handle suspected plagiarism both in a submitted and a published manuscript. Using JZUS procedure when detecting a plagiarism is described. Some basic forms of plagiarism are identified at JZUS together with suggested remedies for each form. It has been mentioned that there should be some sanctions for people guilty of plagiarism, one of which is that they may lose their position. Some guidance related to the sanctions are also offered by COPE.

In the final chapter, the global concern of scientific integrity of research is stated and it is shown to be impressed by the role of journals. The author speaks about the 4<sup>th</sup> WCRI which she attended and gave a presentation about plagiarism. Then she mentioned that scientific integrity and evaluation transparency are indispensable. COPE has also presented the transparency principles. She believes that plagiarism is a moral issue and the culture which accepts it should be changed.

This book provides clear definitions of plagiarism and explains that although there are many detecting tools with respect to plagiarism such as CrossCheck, these tools are not able to detect non-textual elements such as figures and are not of use in all languages. It is the duty of editors and reviewers to examine the content closely and provide the materials that are free from plagiarism relying on their expert knowledge. It is important to ensure integrity in publication and transparency in multilingual publication. The author elaborates on how to handle plagiarism regarding methods section and republicating conference papers. The author believes that handling plagiarism is a cultural issue and researchers should avoid it while paying attention to the ethics as part of a culture.