
CHALLENGES OF PAPER MILLS AND THE COMMERCIALIZATION OF SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT

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– BACKGROUND

- Contemporary discussion on research misconduct and why researchers deviate their behavior from good scientific practices
- Individual misconduct vs produced misconduct
- Gap in understanding the reasons that stand behind the purchase of papers in paper mills.
- A case study (Shakirova, 2023):
 - scholars used the intermediation of paper mills and then had their papers retracted by due to violation of peer review
 - they believed that it was an unfortunate misunderstanding from the side of the journal

– PAPER MILLS

Co-Authorship

SHOP OF THE MANUSCRIPTS: TO BUY A
MANUSCRIPT: TO SELL A MANUSCRIPT

LIST OF SCIENTIFIC MANUSCRIPTS TO BUY :
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Paper mills

- commercial business that sells papers or co-authorships and/or applies a series of dishonest practices to publish a paper

On demand papers

- Authorship fraud (money involved)
- Contamination of literature due to misconduct (plagiarism, fabrication, falsification, etc.)

– COMMERCIALIZATION OF MISCONDUCT

- Paper mills commercialize scientific misconduct
 - Before: misconduct by individual researchers
 - Now: misconduct became also a business
 - Broker-like or consultation companies
 - Mimic legitimate business
 - Possess official legal registration
 - Offer publication-related services
 - But: sale co-authorship slots, violate peer review
 - Guarantee publication and indexation in bibliographic databases

– BUSINESS AWARD WINNERS

The image shows a screenshot of the Scientific Publications website. The background is a grayscale photograph of a modern office interior with a large potted plant and geometric ceiling lights. In the top left corner, the logo for Scientific Publications is displayed, featuring a stylized bird or owl head. In the top right corner, there are links for 'EN' and a search icon. A gold award badge is highlighted with a red border, containing the text 'Ukrainian Business Award 2023 winner'. A large white text overlay in the center reads 'MAINTENANCE UNTIL INDEXING' and 'Publication in journals from the Scopus database, Web of Science, professional editions of Ukraine'. At the bottom left, there is a blue circular button with a white arrow icon and the text 'COVER A PUBLICATION'.

SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS

EN Q

Ukrainian Business Award 2023 winner

MAINTENANCE UNTIL INDEXING

Publication in journals from the Scopus database, Web of Science, professional editions of Ukraine

COVER A PUBLICATION

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BKOHTAKTE Search registration

To come in Registration

Sale purchase co-authorship Scopus, WoS (Scopus)

Information

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Details of the co-authorship service: <https://science-publisher.org/detailed-description-of->

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| Website link: https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/browse/conferences/title | | Publication time: 2 months after acceptance | | | | | |
| Paper ID | Title of the article | Position 1 | Position 2 | Position 3 | Position 4 | Position 5 | Position 6 |
| | | INR 7500/ USD 150 | INR 6500/ USD 125 | INR 5500/ USD 100 | INR 4500/ USD 90 | INR 4000/ USD 80 | INR 3500/ USD 70 |
| Paper_27 | Deep Learning based Stock price Prediction using LSTM and Bidirectional Neural Network | Bkd | Avl | Avl | Avl | Bkd | Bkd |
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| Paper_29 | Computer and Electronics in Precision Agriculture | Bkd | Avl | Bkd | Avl | Avl | Avl |
| Paper_30 | A Multiple Linear Regression Model for Crop Production using Machine Learning and Neural Network | Bkd | Avl | Avl | Avl | Bkd | Avl |
| Paper_31 | An Novel Approach for Predicting and Analyzing Diabetes using Machine Learning Technique | Bkd | Avl | Avl | Avl | Bkd | Bkd |
| Paper_32 | Enhancing Collaborative Intrusion detection networks against insider attack using supervised intrusion network | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Bkd | Bkd |
| Paper_33 | Multilayer Statistical Intrusion Detection model for Wireless Network | Bkd | Avl | Avl | Avl | Bkd | Avl |
| Paper_34 | Neural Network based Intrusion Detection system for critical infrastructure | Bkd | Avl | Avl | Avl | Bkd | Avl |
| Paper_35 | Online Robustness Model for Intrusion detection model for IP Based ubiquitous Sensor Network | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Bkd | Bkd |
| Paper_36 | Dimensional Reduction approach for Large scale data using Big Data techniques | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Bkd | Bkd |
| Paper_37 | Anomaly Detection in very large scale system using Big data | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Bkd | Bkd |
| Paper_38 | Handling Data and model drift for world application using Big data | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Bkd | Bkd |
| Paper_39 | Handling Interpretability of Deep Learning Model in real time application by implementing big data Techniques | Bkd | Avl | Avl | Avl | Bkd | Bkd |
| Paper_40 | computational Intelligence gence soft computing on satellite application | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Bkd |
| Paper_41 | A review on application of Artificial neural Network on secondary structure prediction | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Bkd | Bkd |
| Paper_42 | Stegnography based image hiding using security application | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Bkd |
| Paper_43 | Research on Image Stegnography using based on Sudoku matrix and LSB Value with multi level encryption | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Bkd |
| Paper_44 | A Three -bit Image Stegnography for enhancing image quality in Medical Application | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Bkd |
| Paper_45 | A secure Image Stegnography using LSB and XOR Operation | Bkd | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl |
| Paper_46 | Design of IOT network using Deep learning model for Anomaly Detection | Bkd | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl |
| Paper_70 | Artificial Intelligence based Early Detection of Cardiac Disease using Smart Wearables | Bkd | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Bkd |
| Paper_71 | Mimic Deep Learning Technique for Retinal Images Denoising in IoT based Medical Devices | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Bkd |
| Paper_72 | Masked Face Detection using Lightweight Deep Learning based Model for IoT based Healthcare applications | Bkd | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl |
| Paper_73 | Signal Quality Evaluation and Processing for QRS Detection in ECG based Smart Healthcare Systems | Bkd | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl |
| Paper_74 | Human Activity Recognition with Anomaly Prediction for E-Health Systems using Lightweight AI | Bkd | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl |
| Paper_75 | Lightweight deep learning model for task scheduling in Resource Constrained Internet of Things | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Bkd | Bkd |
| Paper_76 | Biomedical Images Analysis for Disease Diagnosis using Sensor based Machine Learning Model | Bkd | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Bkd |
| Paper_77 | Cluster based Routing Protocol Design using Neural Networks for Wireless Sensor Networks | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Bkd | Bkd |
| Paper_78 | Path Selection for Packet Transmission in Mobile Devices Communications by Deep Learning Technique | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Bkd | Bkd |
| Paper_79 | Early Identification of Faults using Hybrid CNN Model for Industrial Internet of Things | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Bkd |
| Paper_80 | Severity of Diabetic Retinopathy Detection for Early Prevention using Lightweight Deep Learning Model | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Bkd |
| Paper_81 | Adaptive Convolutional Neural Network for Chronic Kidney Disease Prediction | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Bkd |
| Paper_82 | Patient Healthcare Analysis and Emergency Alerting using Adaptive Neuro Fuzzy Technique | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Bkd |
| Paper_83 | Intelligent Approach for CT and MRI Image Fusion using Wavelet Transform Aided CNN Approach | Bkd | Avl | Avl | Avl | Bkd | Avl |
| Paper_84 | Skin Disease Classification using Hybrid AI based Localization Approach | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Bkd |
| Paper_85 | An IoT Based Smart Healthcare Medical System using Deep Learning Algorithm | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Bkd |
| Paper_86 | Privacy and Security Enabling for Healthcare Data using Lightweight Deep learning with Cryptography | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Bkd | Bkd |
| Paper_87 | Adaptive Packet Transmission Using Stable Routing Method In Mobile Communications | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Bkd |
| Paper_88 | Lightweight Cryptography Approach for Multifactor Authentication in Internet of Things | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Bkd |
| Paper_89 | Lightweight Deep Learning Model for Object Detection in Resource Constrained Environments | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Bkd | Bkd |
| Paper_90 | Minimizing Memory Usage for Resource Constrained Devices using Deep Convolutional Neural Networks | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Bkd |
| Paper_91 | Plant Disease Classification for Precision Agriculture Applications in Resource Constrained Environments | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Bkd |
| Paper_92 | Maximizing Quality of Service for IoT based Edge Environments using Lightweight AI | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Bkd |
| Paper_93 | Lightweight Machine Learning Algorithm for Automatic Detection of Diabetic Retinopathy in IoT | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Bkd |
| Paper_94 | Hybrid Deep Learning Algorithm for Pulmonary Nodule Detection using Body Sensors | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Bkd |
| Paper_95 | Deep Ensemble Learning Model for Face Recognition using Smart Phone | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Bkd |
| Paper_96 | Hybrid Cryptography for Intrusion Detection and Prevention in Wireless Communications | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Bkd | Bkd |
| Paper_97 | Signal Quality Assessment for Speech Recognition using Deep Convolutional Neural Networks | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Bkd |
| Paper_98 | UAV-Edge assisted Data Processing and Management for Industrial Internet of Things | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Avl | Bkd |
| Paper_99 | Task Scheduling and Load Balancing for Minimization of Response Time in IoT Assisted Cloud Environments | Bkd | Bkd | Bkd | Avl | Avl | Bkd |

– BUSINESS MODELS

- Gap in the literature
- Paper mills have a variety of business models
 - Sale papers
 - Sale co-authorship slots
 - Sale topics, when slots are sold, ghost-writer writes a paper
 - Paraphrase and revise substantially a paper written by an author
 - Violate a peer review process
- Paper mills are international business and they collaborate

– MASSIVE RETRACTIONS

Physics publisher retracting nearly 500 likely paper mill papers

A physics publisher is retracting 494 papers after an investigation “indicated that some papers may have been created, manipulated, and/or sold by a commercial entity” – aka a paper mill.



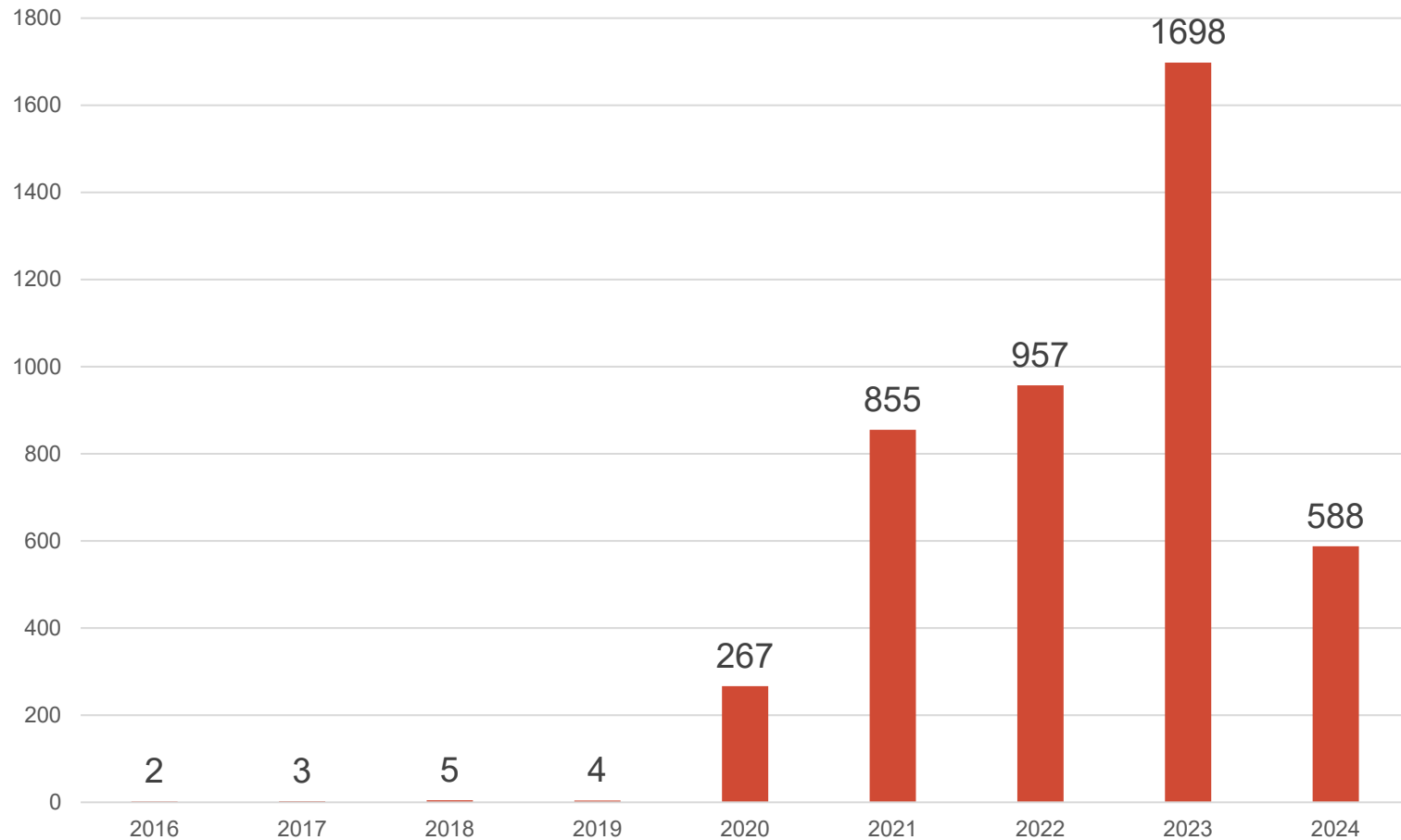
Elsevier journal retracts nearly 50 papers because they were each accepted on the “positive advice of one illegitimate reviewer report”

Publisher retracts 350 papers at once

Journal retracts 122 papers at once



– Retractions by year



Source: Retraction Watch Database

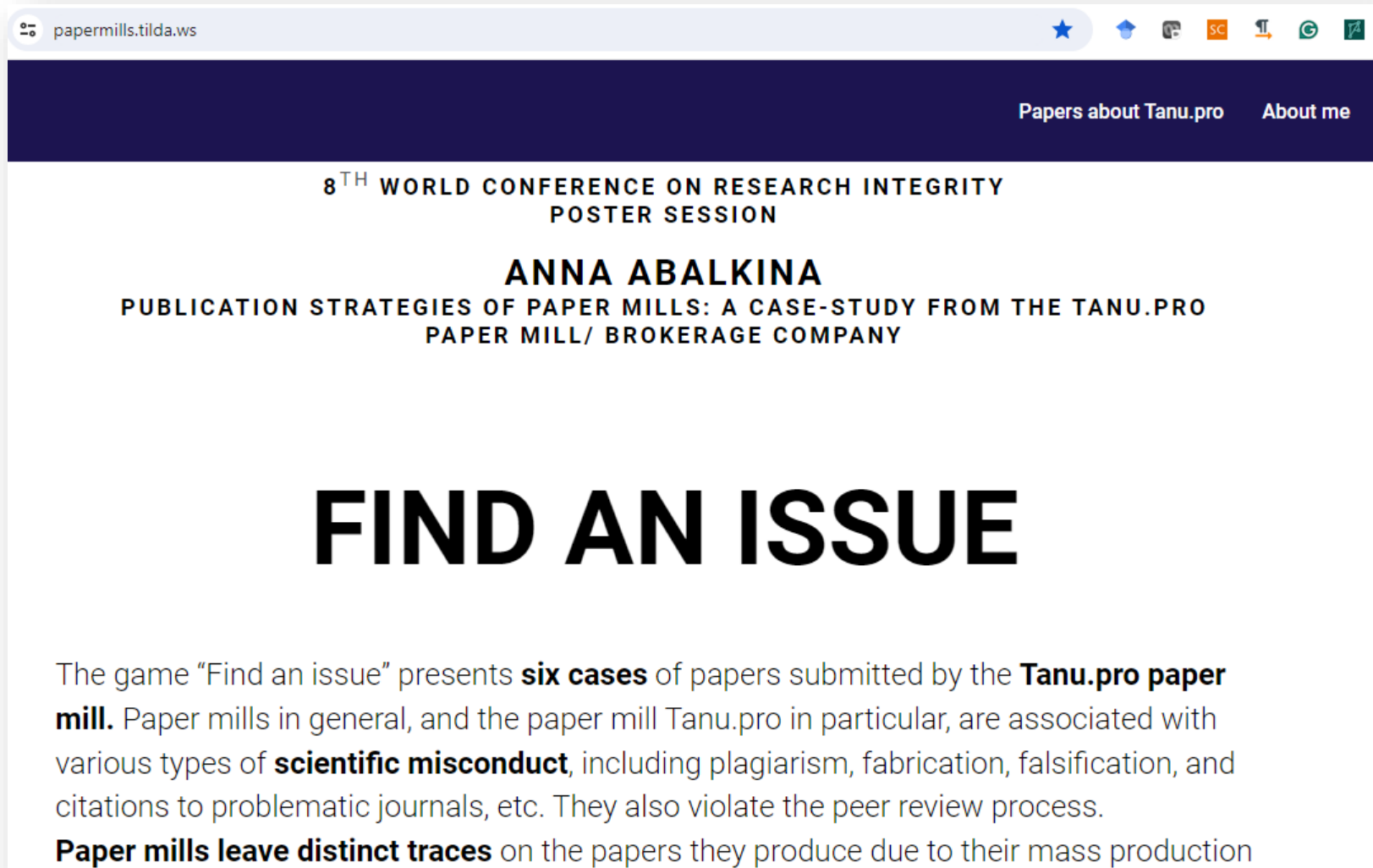
FANTASTIC PAPER MILLS AND WHERE TO FIND THEM

– DETECTION CHALLENGE

- By a journal
 - Peer-review fraud (Day 2022, Abalkina&Bishop, 2023)
 - Common submission practices (same e-mail, etc.)
 - Request of the authorship changes after acceptance of the manuscript (COPE Council 2021)
- By publishers and academic community
 - Common structures and templates of a paper (Byrne & Christopher 2020, Cabanac et al. 2021, RSC 2021)
 - Plagiarism (Retraction Watch 2016, RAS 2020)
 - Fabrication and falsification of text/data/images (Bik et al. 2016, Christopher 2018, van der Heyden 2021)
 - Incorrect nucleotide sequence reagent (Labbé et al, 2019)
 - Citation manipulation (Christopher 2021)
 - Offers detection (Abalkina 2023).
 - Weird emails (Abalkina&Bishop, 2023)
 - Tortured phrases (Cabanac et al., 2021)

– FIND AN ISSUE

<https://papermills.tilda.ws/>



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Papers about Tanu.pro About me

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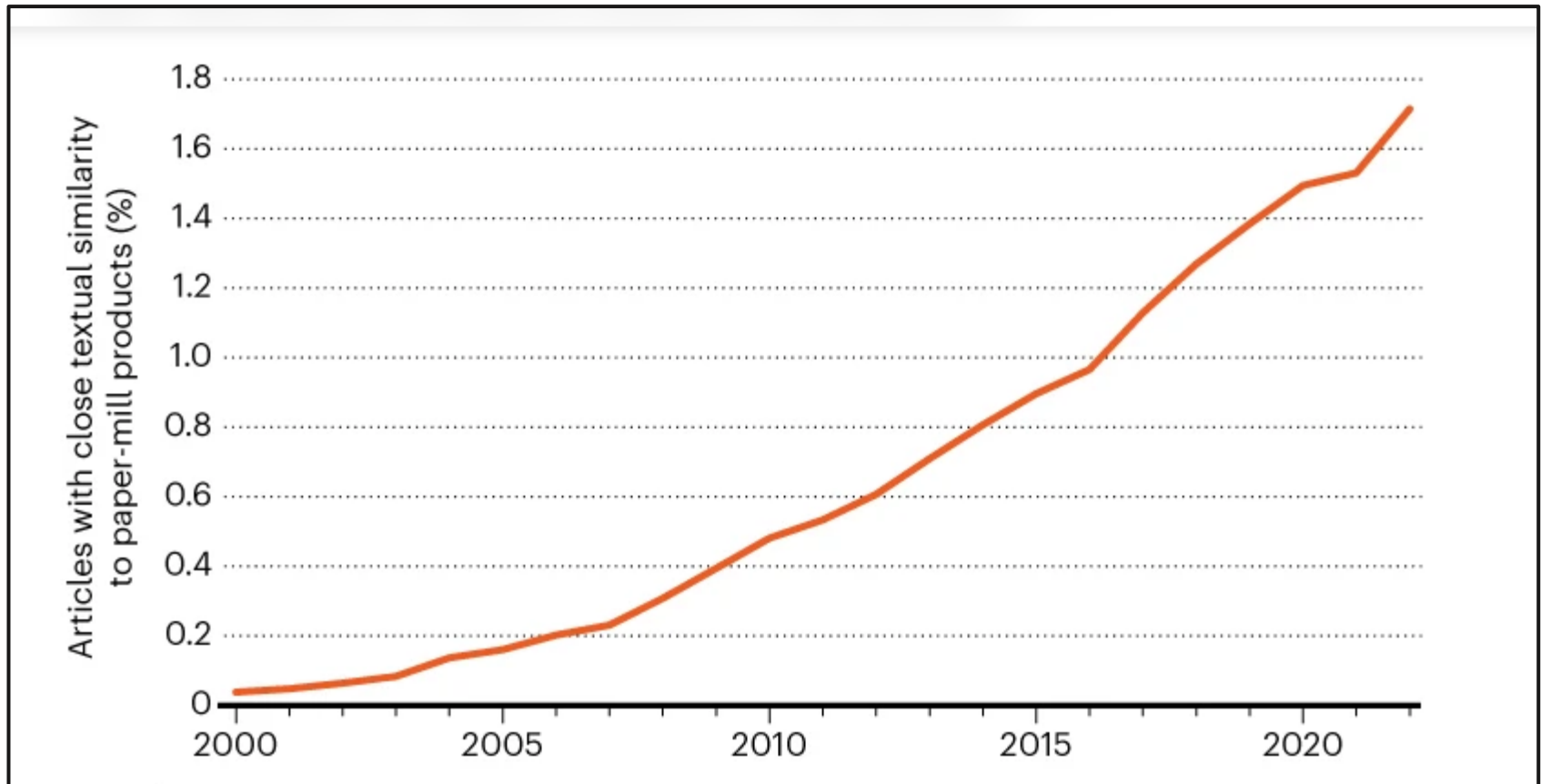
ANNA ABALKINA
PUBLICATION STRATEGIES OF PAPER MILLS: A CASE-STUDY FROM THE TANU.PRO
PAPER MILL/ BROKERAGE COMPANY

FIND AN ISSUE

The game “Find an issue” presents **six cases** of papers submitted by the **Tanu.pro paper mill**. Paper mills in general, and the paper mill Tanu.pro in particular, are associated with various types of **scientific misconduct**, including plagiarism, fabrication, falsification, and citations to problematic journals, etc. They also violate the peer review process.

Paper mills leave distinct traces on the papers they produce due to their mass production

– HOW MANY PAPERS ARE FROM PAPER MILLS?



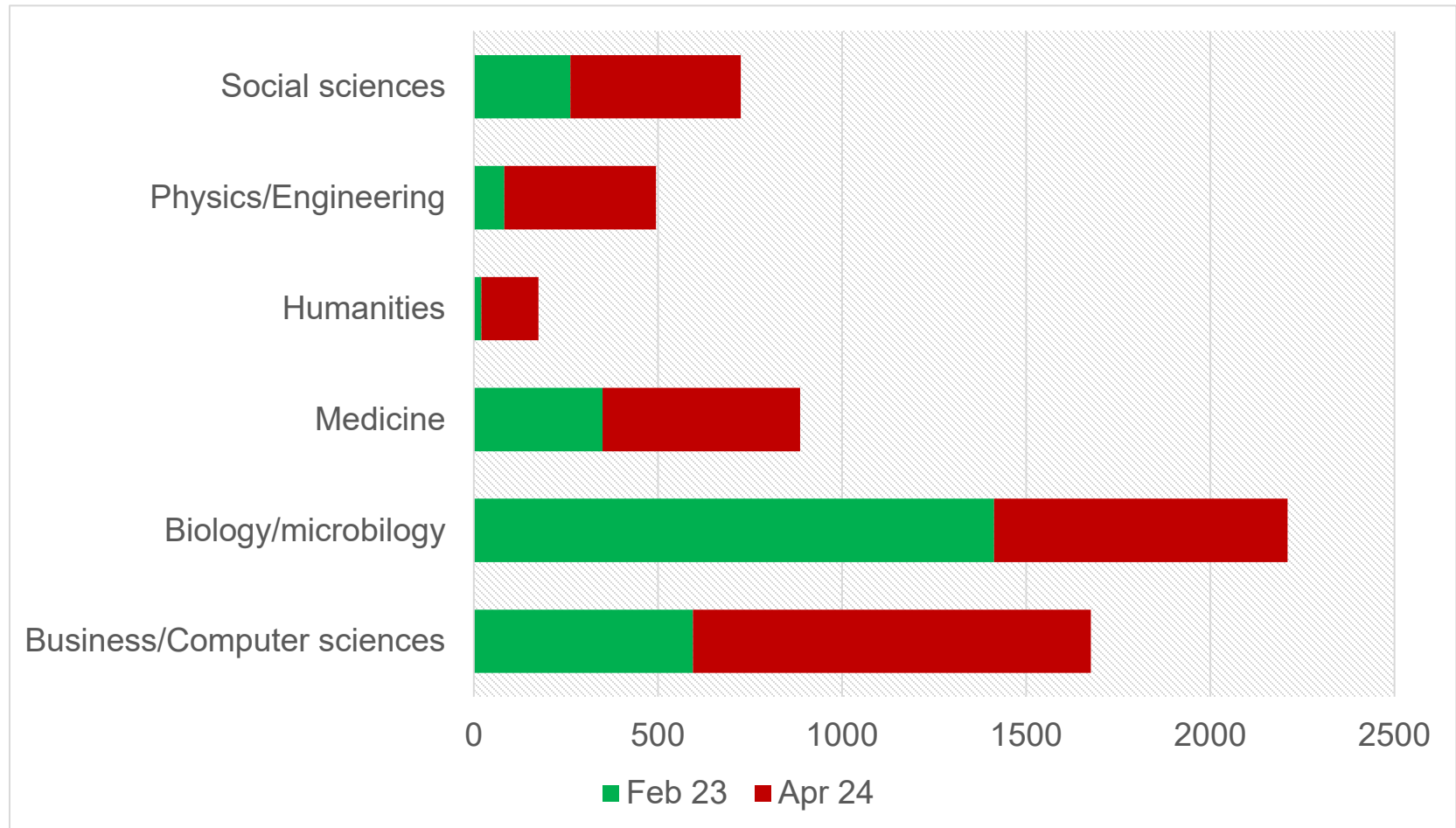
Source: *Nature* **623**, 466-467 (2023).

<https://doi.org/10.1038/d41586-023-03464-x>

– CONSERVATIVE ESTIMATE OF A PAPER-MILL PROBLEM

- According to Adam Day, 400,000 papers from paper mills (Van Noorden, 2023)
 - Conservative estimate
- 1.5-2.0% of papers published in 2022 probably originate from paper mills (Van Noorden, 2023)
- 3.0% of papers in medicine and biology can be associated with paper mills (Van Noorden, 2023)
- But: we know only about massive production of paper-mill papers
 - Many paper mills are not identified
 - One-person paper mills
- Fragmented knowledge of paper mills
- There is a knowledge gap of paper mills in certain countries and disciplines

– PAPERS FROM PAPER MILLS BY DISCIPLINE



We should interpret this figure with caution. Many documented papers in other fields are not retracted

Source: Retraction Watch

– PEER REVIEW DUPLICATION (1)

The screenshot shows the article page for "Exploratory analysis of text duplication in peer-review reveals peer-review fraud and paper mills" in the journal "Scientometrics". The article is published on 08 September 2022, in Volume 127, pages 5965–5987, (2022). It has 895 accesses, 13 citations, 61 Altmetric mentions, and 2 mentions. The abstract states that comments received from referees during peer-review were analysed to determine the rates of duplication and partial duplication. It is very unusual for 2 different referees to submit identical comments, so the rare cases where this happens are of interest. In some cases, it

On the right side of the page, there is a "Use our pre-submission checklist" section with a checklist icon, and a navigation menu with "Sections", "Figures", and "References" tabs. Under "Sections", there are links for "Abstract", "Introduction", and "Methods".

357 peer reviewers have produced **duplicate comments** (0.5% of the accounts)

47 accounts probably are **controlled by paper mills**

PEER REVIEW DUPLICATION (2)

- Together with D.Bishop, professor in psychology, we scrutinized six papers in the J. of Community Psychology
- This journal has open peer review and all peer reviews can be openly accessed



The screenshot shows the article page for 'Paper mills: a novel form of publishing malpractice affecting psychology' in the journal 'Meta-Psychology'. The page includes the journal title, navigation links (Current, Archives, Announcements, About), and a breadcrumb trail (Home / Archives / Vol. 7 (2023) / Original articles). The article title is prominently displayed. Below the title, the authors 'Anna Abalkina' and 'Dorothy Bishop' are listed with their affiliations and ORCID iDs. A 'PDF' button is visible. The publication date is '2023-12-06' and it was updated on '2024-03-17'. The DOI is 'https://doi.org/10.15626/MP.2022.3422'. A 'Versions' section lists three versions: '2024-03-17 (3)', '2023-12-06 (2)', and '2023-12-06 (1)'. A yellow highlight is present on the journal title.

Meta-Psychology

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Paper mills: a novel form of publishing malpractice affecting psychology

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PDF

Published
2023-12-06 — Updated on 2024-03-17

Versions
2024-03-17 (3)
2023-12-06 (2)
2023-12-06 (1)

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.15626/MP.2022.3422>

- TANU.PRO PAPER MILL/BROKER COMPANY

Nearly 1,500 papers identified nowadays

Tanu.pro ☆ 📧 🌐

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| 627 | Reflections on th | CUESTIONES POLITICAS | | 2021 | 10.46398/cuestpol.3968. | politechnika.pro | tanu.pro | uohk.com.cn | nuos.pro | tanu.pro | | |
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| 641 | Criminal-legal er | CUESTIONES POLITICAS | | 2021 | 10.46398/cuestpol.3968. | ust-hk.com.cn | tanu.pro | nuos.pro | uohk.com.cn | tanu.pro | | |
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| 644 | The Role of Pub | CUESTIONES POLITICAS | | 2020 | 10.46398/cuestpol.3865. | ust-hk.com.cn | tanu.pro | tanu.pro | | | | |
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<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1nkfl2bGmbBEiRV0P-XDojz9l0p7-6Uqh6GmiJLpc5Ck/edit?usp=sharing>

– EXAMPLE OF WEIRD EMAILS

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Federation.

– RESULTS

- **All six papers had serious flaws**
 - Citations to predatory journals
 - Citations to suspicious journals where fake identities of reviews were included in the editor board
- **Peer review**
 - Superficial comments (change keywords, abstract, improve conclusions, correct typos)
 - Submitted on the same day
- **Peer-reviewers**
 - Fake identities
 - Members of editor board of one venue

– SUBMISSION DATES OF PEER REVIEWS

Journal of Community Psychology (Round 2)

| | | |
|-----------------|------------|---|
| Decision Letter | 2021/08/06 | ▼ |
| Reviewer Report | 2021/08/06 | ▼ |
| Reviewer Report | 2021/08/06 | ▼ |
| Author Response | 2021/08/04 | ▼ |

Journal of Community Psychology (Round 1)

| | | |
|-----------------|------------|---|
| Decision Letter | 2021/07/22 | ▼ |
| Reviewer Report | 2021/07/22 | ▼ |
| Reviewer Report | 2021/07/22 | ▼ |

– EXAMPLE OF A PEER REVIEW

Content: In this article, the authors elucidated the structural measures to prevent radicalism among youth. The novelty of the research is determined by the fact that the socio-psychological characteristics inherent in a young person, his superficial and uncritical perception of social life, determine his appeal to protest-activist methods of increasing his social status and role in public life, which are mostly spontaneous, spontaneous. Notable that the authors have given great attention to the topic. I can recommend this paper for publication because it is an original and relevant investigation. However, there are still some interpretations that need to be clarified:

1. In the paper, the authors used many figures and tables, which is certainly useful for readers. But some of the inscriptions on the figures are difficult to read. Please improve their quality.
2. It is necessary to revise the Conclusions section. Describe more clearly the obtained results.
3. Most of the references are too old. There is a need to refresh the literature.


Reviewed by: [Eric Leitmeir](#)

- WHO IS ERIC LEITMEIR?



Eric Leitmeir ✓

University of West Bohemia

 Web of Science ResearcherID: ADS-0289-2022


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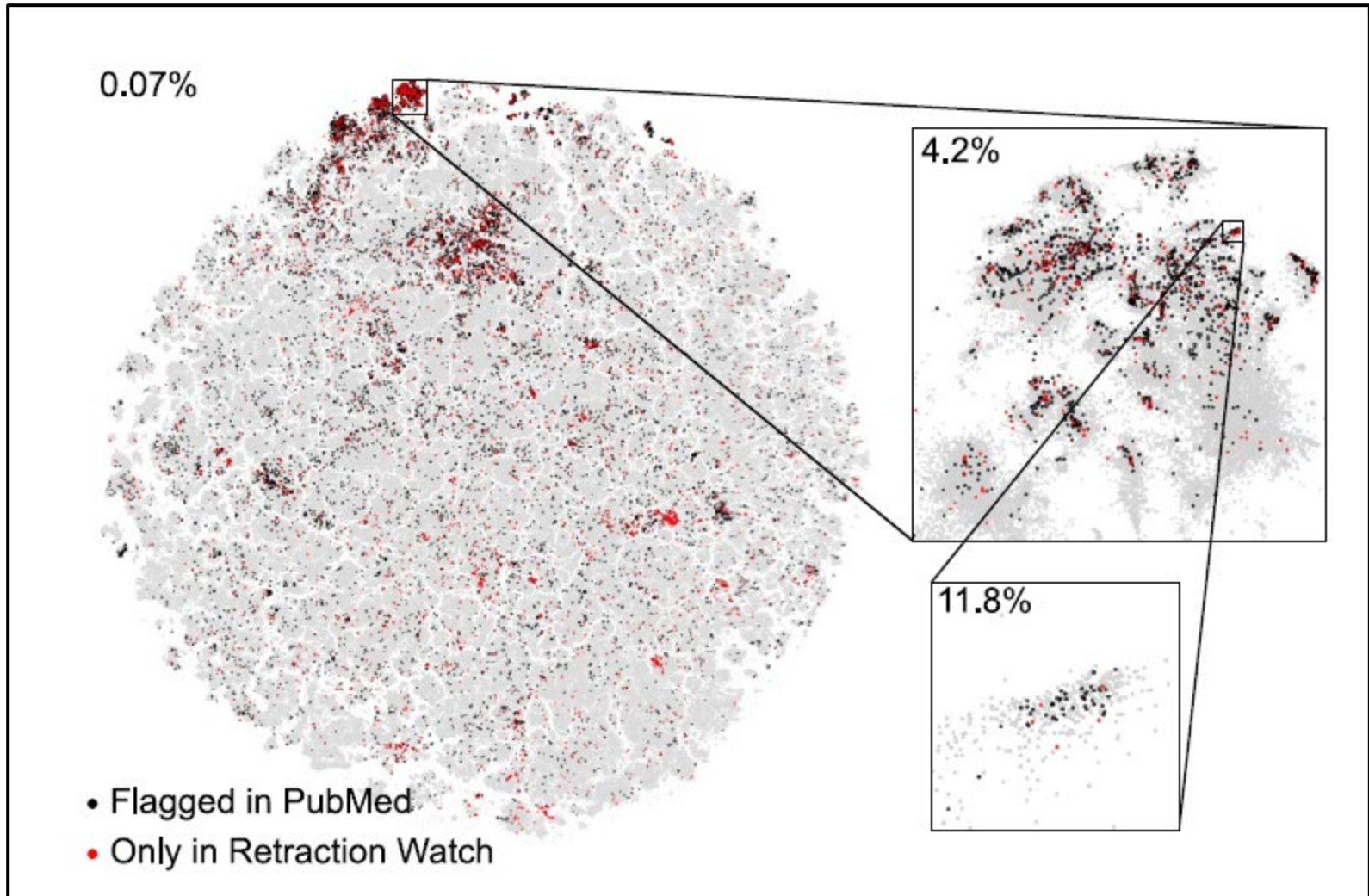
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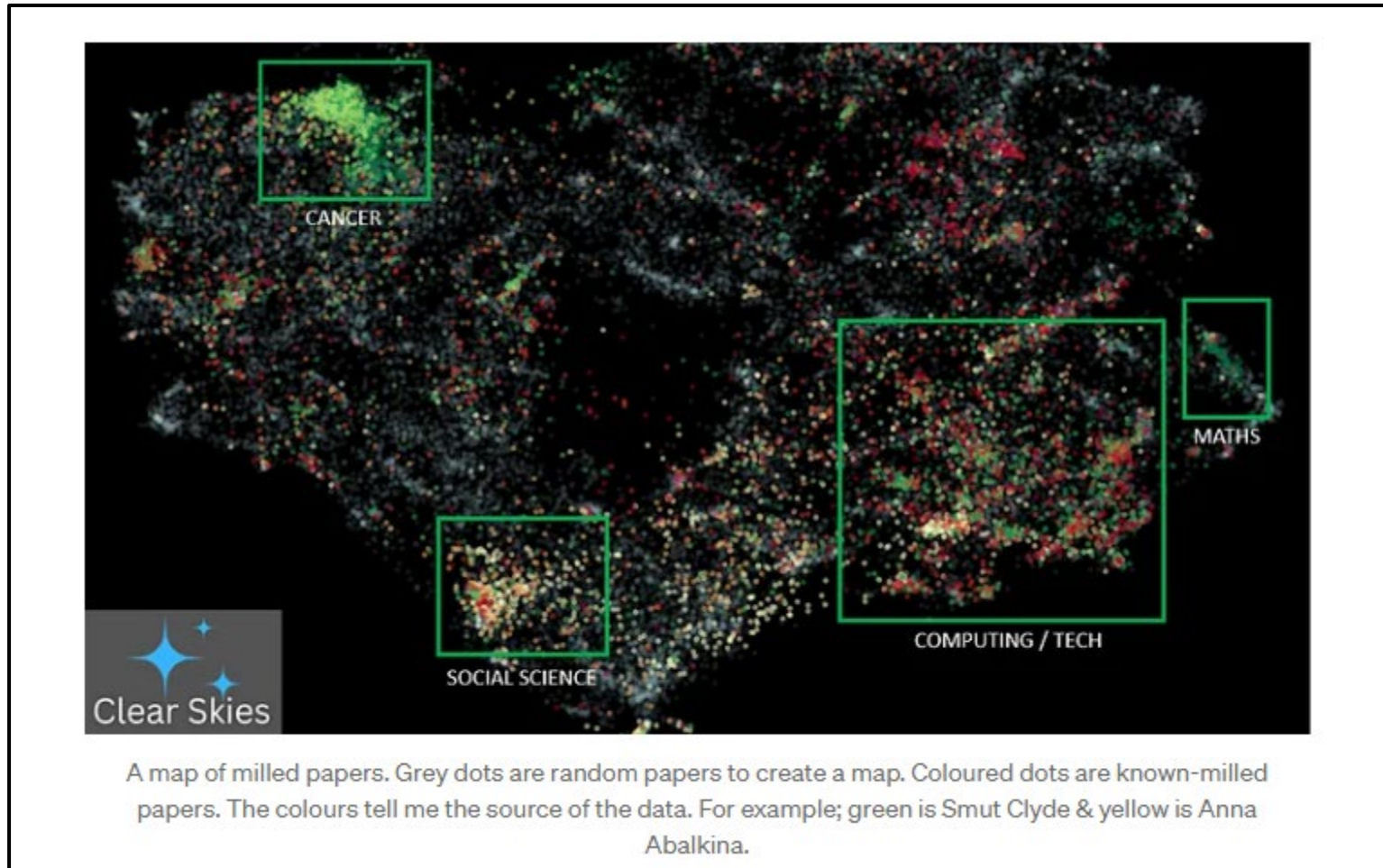
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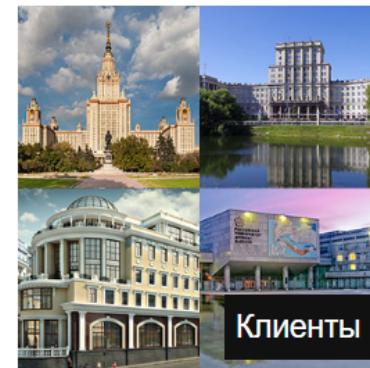
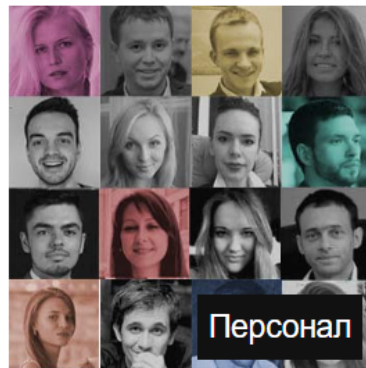
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Role of art programs for social and emotional learning for young children

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Дошкольные годы являются ключевым периодом развития, в котором приобретаются и развиваются навыки, необходимые для последующего эмоционального и социального успеха.

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Методы. В исследовании приняло участие 300 детей в возрасте от 4 до 5 лет, которые обучаются в государственных детских садах. Художественное развитие включало изучение При определении социально- эмоционального состояния детей были привлечены родители, которые заполнили Ages and Stages Questionnaires: Social-Emotional разработанную (Sg Результаты

В результате исследования установлены основные закономерности влияния художественного образования на социальное и эмоциональное обучение и развитие детей.

Выводы. Результаты могут быть применимы для программ по профилактике и развитию эмоций в детских садах, указывая важность на их знания.

Данное исследование имеет потенциал в предотвращении поведенческих проблем, основанный на знаниях связи с эмоциями, социальной адаптацией и беспокойство детей раннего в Номер заказа № 974

Role of art programs in young children's social-emotional learning

Shubei Qiao^a, Olga Tapalova^b, Liliya Nasyrova^c, Ilona Tarasova^d, Daria Kozlovskaya^e

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Abstract

The purpose of this study is to determine the relationship between arts participation and social-emotional development of 300 preschool children (4 to 5 years) in Wuhan (China). Children received improvisation classes, sessions where they were asked to listen to and discuss music, and typical art lessons. Children were administered the Emotional Matching Test and the Ages & Stages Questionnaires: Social-Emotional. This study demonstrates that arts education affects preschool-age children's knowledge of emotions and social-emotional competence. The results showed a direct strong correlation between emotional knowledge and arts education with the correlation coefficient ranging from 0.718 to 0.8923. The findings of this study may be useful in designing programs for kindergartens to prevent psychosocial development delays and behavioural problems in children that are related to insufficient knowledge of emotions. Future research will benefit from the comparative study of social and emotional learning (SEL) programs, extracurricular social-emotional skills training, and SEL integrated into lessons.

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 - Who should detect them?
- Challenges of retraction
 - Journals’ reaction is a challenge for academic integrity
- The current system of paper-mill detection should be regularly monitored and improved
- Many instruments to fight paper mills refer to symptoms but not the cause

—
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