How to Publish in High Quality Journals and Book Series:
Questions and Issues You Should Consider

Chu-Ren Huang
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

I.   Writing a Paper for Submission

Q1. Should I present the paper at a conference before submitting it as a journal paper/book chapter?

A1. Yes. Definitely.
(1) For good feedbacks to improve quality (and chance for success) of you paper
(2) To have public record and to lay claim on your new idea asap! (Remember, when the idea you have is published by others before your publication, it is NOT yours any more.)
(3) Some conference proceedings are indexed and can help to build your track record….

Q2. How do I choose the best conference to submit to? (Of course, high impact, high quality etc. …. but how do we know?)
A2. Choose a conference to optimise the return:
        (1) Is it indexed? E.g. SCOPUS or CPCI (part of Web of Knowledge)
        (2) What is the impact factor of the conference?
                Check GoogleScholar Metrics: https://scholar.google.com.hk/citations?view_op=top_venues&hl=en
        (3) Avoid conference without full papers/proceedings (see A1.1-3)
        (4) small scale thematic workshops with good match often provides very good discussion as well as post-workshop publication opportunities.

An Good Example: PACLIC
-SCOPUS Indexed
-GoogleScholar h5 = 10, h5 median = 15 (comparable to a decent linguistic journal)

II. Before Submission: Choosing a journal/book series
Q3. How to find a high quality journal
A3a. An easy way (but incomplete) to check the quality of a journal:
        SJR: Scimago Journal and Country Rank
        Journal Ranking: http://www.scimagojr.com/journalrank.php
        SJR Language and Linguistics:
        http://www.scimagojr.com/journalrank.php?area=1200&category=1203
        -Find an optimal field
        -Choose Q1 or Q2; maybe Q3 (esp. for niche areas), but avoid Q4
A3b. Is the book (series) SCOPUS indexed?
A3c. Which Journals to Avoid: The Predatory Publishers (e.g. Beall's List)

Q4. How to find a journal that is a good match for your paper
A4a. Read the papers published in the journal. Did they publish papers relevant to your current research papers recently?
A4b. Did you cite papers from from this journal?
A4c. How long does it take for the journal to reach first decision?
A4d. Make a list, and check it twice: is it on recognised list of your institution?

Q5: To OA or Not to OA? (OA = Open Access)
(Is OA the evil empire, the necessary evil, or knight in shining armour?)
A5a: Yes, fast turnaround time (to first decision)
    PLoS ONE: Roughly 30 days
    Lingua Sinica:; Roughly 60 days.
A5b: High impact visibility:
    PLoS ONE: among the journals with highest impact factors: SJR H=181
    Even brand new journals like Lingua Sinica, Glossa, or Functional
    Linguistics receive high visibility and are read widely.

In Lingua Sinica, since 2015 (typical download of a paper 500-600 times)
Downloaded >1,300 times
    Tang, Sze-Wing. "A generalized syntactic schema for utterance particles in Chinese." Lingua Sinica 1, no. 1 (2015): 1-23.
    https://link.springer.com/article/10.1186/s40655-015-0005-5
Downloaded >1,200 times
    Huang, Chu-Ren., 2015. Notes on Chinese grammar and ontology: the endurant/perdurant dichotomy and Mandarin DM compounds. Lingua Sinica, 1(1), pp.1-22.
    https://link.springer.com/article/10.1186/s40655-015-0004-6

A5c: But the APC (Author Processing Fees) are too expensive….
    -Some journals will waive APC
    -Some institutions support APC
    -EU, US and other projects now typically support APC's
    -And there may be no other alternatives…..
      There is a trend for funding agencies to require OA publication….
      And it is getting harder for traditional journals to survive
      People may not bother to cite a paper if it is not accessible online….

III. What to do to after publication? (esp. if the journal is not OA)
Q6. Can I self-archive?
A6. Policy varies from publisher to publisher, but a typical (and friendly) one from CUP

http://journals.cambridge.org/images/fileUpload/documents/J-APA_and_Open_Access_JUN15.pdf

-There typically a one-year embargo time

-After that, it is typically allowed to be put on institutional repository and/or your own website.

-These restrictions are typically on the published formal copy of the paper. Typically, there is no serious restriction on sharing the authors' own submission copy (i.e. before review/revision/acceptance, the original copy you submitted); and less restriction on the final submitted (and accepted copy) prepared by the author [i.e. NOT the published copy.]

Q7. How to update/manage my academic profile online
GoogleScholar
ORCID
AuthorID/WoS
SCOPUS/Mendele
ResearchGate, academia.edu etc.