



Decide If Your Paper a Good Candidate for Peer Review

To be accepted for publication in a journal, a paper has to meet the criteria below:

New Material

- If your material has been published before or is currently being reviewed by another organization, it is not eligible for peer review.
- Authors must be able to transfer copyright of the published article to SPE if the paper is accepted for publication.

Relevance

- The paper is relevant to the technical scope of the journal and to the professional interests and activities of its audience.
- Ideally it should present new knowledge or technology that has the potential to help the reader in their professional work as practicing engineers.

Innovation

- It should present new knowledge or technology, or analyze previously known facts in a new way.
- A review paper is appropriate if it finds connections between previously unrelated facts or commonality between previously un-compiled facts and results, or makes deductions that give the reader substantiated guidance on the accuracy and applicability of the reviewed analyses.

Technical Detail

- It should be logically sound, and it should give sufficient detail to allow the reader to replicate the work it describes and to assess its applicability to other environments.
- The research design, methods, and analyses are adequately defined and clearly described, well integrated, well reasoned, and appropriate to the aims of the project.
- The paper should present sufficient detail of the application, methods and analyses employed and results achieved to allow the reader to replicate the work described but also to evaluate its applicability to the environment and problems on which they are working.
- Statistical tests are appropriate and the assumptions underlying the use of statistics are fulfilled by the data.
- The statistics are reported correctly and appropriately.

Presentation and Documentation

- It should present clearly and concisely in the SPE's standard format all relevant data and information to support the conclusions and to indicate their limitations.
- The text is well written and easy to follow.
- The introduction builds a logical case and context for the problem statement.
- The problem statement is clear and well articulated.
- The data reported are accurate (e.g., the numbers add up) and appropriate; tables, graphs and figures are used effectively and agree with the text.
- The amount of data presented is sufficient and appropriate.
- Results are presented effectively; the interpretations of the results are appropriate and the conclusions accurate.
- The conclusions are clearly stated and follow from the design, methods, and results; the justification of conclusions is well articulated.

- The study limitations are discussed.
- Statistical differences are distinguished from meaningful differences.
- Practical significance or theoretical implications are discussed.
- Reference citations are complete, accurate and up-to-date. The number of references is appropriate and their selection is judicious.

Professional Conduct

- It must avoid commercialism and plagiarism, and must not have been published previously.
- There are no commercial references.
- There are no instances of plagiarism.
- Ideas and materials of others are correctly attributed.
- Substantial portions of the data or study should not have been previously published.