




**Recognising peer review: what we've  
learned along the way**

ASAPbio, February 2018



**Our mission is**  
to **speed up research**  
by **harnessing** the power  
of **peer review**

# Publons gives researchers cross-publisher recognition for peer review



## Private Dashboard - Reviews

For Andrew R. H. Preston

**ADD A REVIEW**

Add or load a review using the button above, edit existing reviews by clicking in the Edit column, or add value to existing reviews by clicking in the Progress column.

**SHOW FILTERS** Use filters to display results by verification status, visibility settings, and more.

DATE	MANUSCRIPT	JOURNAL	PROGRESS	EDIT	VIEW	CITATIONS	ALTMETRIC
2016-12-12	Evidence for a limit to hu...	-				44	
2016-07-09	Is there any relationship ...	Journal of Informe...				-	-
2016-03-24	Which relationship there ...	Journal of Informe...				-	-
2016-03-10	Test Manuscript 29	Publons				-	-
2015-07-21	The Metric Tide: Correlat...	-				-	
2014-05-17	Electronic transitions in ...	Journal of Applied ...				3	-
2014-04-19	Electronic transitions in ...	Journal of Applied ...				3	-

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**Public Profile**

- Profile
- Stats

**Activity**


- Notifications (111)
- Pending records

**Records**

- Review records**
- Editor records
- Publication records
- Publication scores
- Endorsements
- Awards

**Tools**

- Export verified record
- Followed publications
- Your year in review
- Publons widget
- Partner dashboard
- Academy



**Verified reviewer**

- 60 Reviewer Merit
- 11 reviews
- 8 papers scored
- 4 Editor Merit
- 1 editorial record
- 2 reviews recognised
- 1 review rated

**IDENTIFIERS**

- publons.com/a/1/
- orcid.org/0000-0003-3284-119X
- researcherid.com/rid/M-5306-2017

**PROFILE** **STATISTICS**

## Andrew R. H. Preston

Postdoc - Department of Physics, Boston University - Present  
PhD - School of Chemistry and Physical Sciences, Victoria University of Wellington

**BIO**

Andrew is the co-founder and CEO of Publons. Currently based in London, UK.

He received his PhD in condensed matter physics from Victoria University of Wellington in 2010 and did his postdoctoral research in x-ray spectroscopy at Boston University.

**EDITORIAL BOARD MEMBERSHIPS**

- Publons

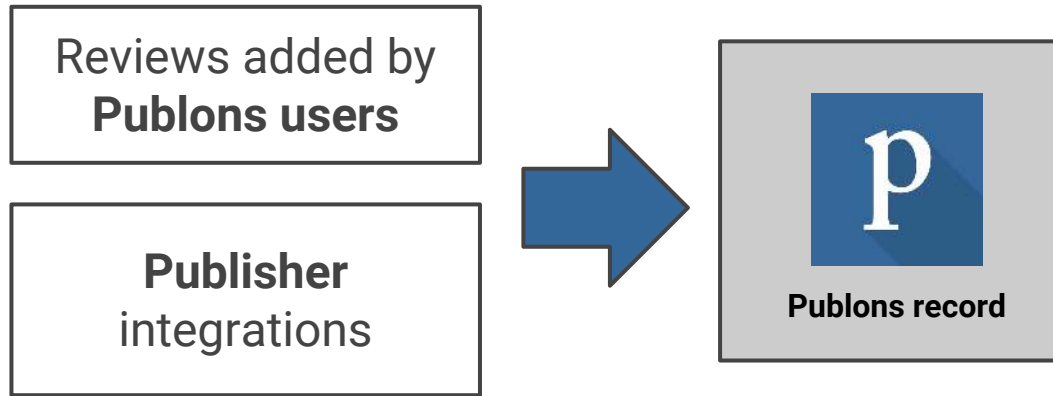
**HAS REVIEWED FOR**

- (2) Journal of Informetrics
- (2) Journal of Applied Physics
- (1) Radiation Physics and Chemistry
- (1) Publons

**PRE PUBLICATION REVIEWS**


- 2016 Reviewed for Journal of Informetrics
- 2016 Reviewed for Journal of Informetrics
- Mar 2016 Reviewed for Publons
- 2014 Reviewed for Journal of Applied Physics

## Two simple ways to add reviews



# Two clicks to a downloadable record of your verified contributions

Verified Peer Review Record  
PREPARED BY PUBLONS ON SEPTEMBER 18TH 2016



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Andrew R. H. Preston  
<https://publons.com/a/1>

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Publons Rankings

64th percentile of reviewers from Boston University on Publons up until September 2016.







82nd percentile of reviewers from Victoria University of Wellington on Publons up until September 2016.

78th percentile of reviewers in Physics and Astronomy (all) on Publons up until September 2016.

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Peer Review Summary






Reviewed 5 manuscripts for journals including *Journal of Applied Physics* and *Journal of Informetrics*; placing in the 76th percentile for verified review contributions on Publons up until September 2016.

		Journal of Applied Physics
		Journal of Informetrics
		Publons

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Pre-Publication Review List

A list of all verified pre-publication reviews up until September 2016.

	Jul 2016	Journal of Informetrics
	Mar 2016	Journal of Informetrics
	Mar 2016	Publons
	May 2014	Journal of Applied Physics
	Apr 2014	Journal of Applied Physics



Matthias Lein

- Senior Lecturer - School of Chemical and Physical Sciences, Victoria University of Wellington
- Editorial Board Member, Journal of Chemistry

“My Head of Department gave me specific feedback on two aspects of my [promotion] application. One was my teaching, the other was my Publons profile. **It really stood out that someone could verify what I had done in terms of peer review.** Needless to say that my Head of Department is a physicist, so he likes evidence!”

**280k+**  
reviewers

**1.6m+**  
reviews

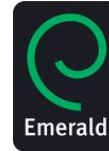
**25k+**  
journals



**SPRINGER NATURE**



**WILEY**



**2,000** journals integrated  
across many top publishers



## What we've learned

# Peer review for the arXiv?



PUBLONS AUTHORS TOPICS INSTITUTIONS LOGIN

try: "arxiv 1109.4897"

Search

## Get credit for evaluating academic research

At Publons you can rate, review, and discuss any journal article - and get credit for doing so. Want to write a review of a pre-print posted at the arXiv? Want to ask a methodological question about a paper you read in *Phys Rev Lett*? Want to share your opinions on the OPERA neutrino paper? Want to suggest someone to review your latest paper? Lookup a paper in the search bar above to get started.

Build up reputation by writing valuable reviews, participating in useful discussions about academic research, and evaluating the contributions of other users. Use your user profile to broaden your resume. You can even put your paper through the whole peer review process - without having to deal with any journals.

Join the Publons community and help build a free and open alternative to the journal-dependent academic publishing industry.

[Read more on our blog](#)

### Set up a profile

Email

Password

Repeat password

Signup

### Lookup any journal article

arxiv 1109.4897

Search

### Rate, review, discuss

Phys Rev Lett



### Build a profile



**Richard Feynman**

Professor at Caltech

29

publons

# Peer review for the arXiv?

Few used it.

Key learnings:

- Editors are really important
- Tap into what people are already doing
- Scale **really** matters
- Incentives **really** matter

# Open review?

Few wanted it.

Key learnings:

- This is a coordination problem
- Work within the system
- Incentives *really* matter

Change takes time. Maybe the time for open review is now?

## Review policy

SAGE Publishing has set a default review policy [1] **preventing reviewers from signing their reviews** and **preventing them from displaying review content**. To override this for Hand, please set a journal specific review policy using the dropdowns below [2].

Choose when a reviewer may sign their name and display review content. Changes may take a few minutes to propagate to all reviews.

Allow reviewers to display

Journal the review was carried out for

Reviewers can display review content

Never

Authors of manuscripts

Must opt in prior to review publication

Reviews of manuscripts that cascade to another journal

Cannot be displayed

SAVE

# Tagging?

On October 5th 2016, Nature published an article showing statistical evidence for a limit to maximum human lifespan.

Within days, post-publication reviewers had analysed and identified statistical issues on Publons. The scores they added told a completely different story when compared to the Altmetric popularity score (and what we will one day see in citation counts).

Publons now has thousands of similar scores added by expert reviewers.

But how many would we need to be truly useful? (I define useful as **“used in the evaluation process”**.)



#### REVIEW BADGES

- 0 pre-pub reviews
- 5 post-pub reviews

#### IDENTIFIERS

- publons.com/p/518732/
- 10.1038/nature19793

#### NAVIGATE

Abstract

## Evidence for a limit to human lifespan

Published in Nature on Oct. 5, 2016

#### ABSTRACT

Driven by technological progress, human life expectancy has increased greatly since the nineteenth century. Demographic evidence has revealed an ongoing reduction in old-age mortality and a rise of the maximum age at death, which may gradually extend human longevity<sup>1, 2</sup>. Together with other...

#### AUTHORS

- Xiao Dong
- Brandon Milholland
- Jan Vijg

#### CONTRIBUTORS ON PUBLONS

- 5 reviewers

#### FOLLOWERS ON PUBLONS



#### METRICS



Publons' low expert reviewer score tells a different story

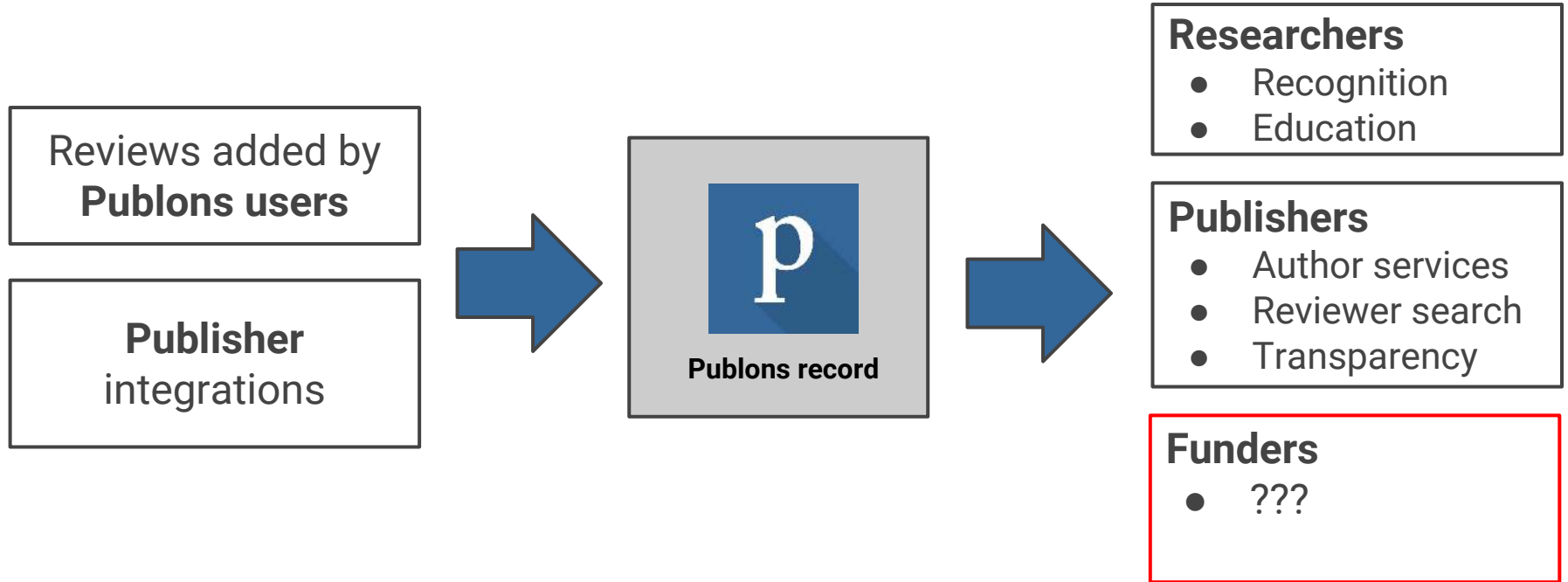
Very high Altmetric score

See the full discussion at [publons.com/p/518732/](https://publons.com/p/518732/)



**What's next?**

# Integrating peer review into the research lifecycle







# Clarivate Analytics

The scale, reach, and neutrality of Clarivate Analytics makes it possible for us to rapidly solve key issues in peer review for researchers, publishers, institutions, and funders.

[blogs.scientificamerican.com/observations/the-future-of-peer-review/](https://blogs.scientificamerican.com/observations/the-future-of-peer-review/)

# The Publons Academy

## Early career researchers

- **Coursework**  
To learn the craft of review
- **Mentorship**  
Supervisor provides subject specific expertise
- **Profile**  
Highlights expertise with post-pub reviews



## Editors

- **New reviewers**  
A source of motivated experts
- **Evaluate skills**  
Easily reference
  - Supervisor endorsement
  - Text of post-pub reviews

We believe that more  
**transparency** and better  
**cross-publisher tools** are  
essential to the future of research



**Publons**

The **home** of peer review

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@arhpreston