How to improve your chance of getting your AHP/ANP paper published

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IJAHP, Editor-in-Chief

How many of you have had an AHP/ANP paper rejected?

• What were the given reasons?
THE PROBLEM AT HAND

It is possible to publish if we address a problem of high visibility and importance

Hostage Crisis in Peru 1996

Israeli-Palestinian Problem – 2015

A structured scientific solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict: the analytic hierarchy process approach

Thomas L. Saaty, Luis G. Vargas, H. J. Zimmer

Published 2016 in Decision Analytics
**Suggestion 1:** Determine for which journal your problem is of high visibility and importance!

THE METHODOLOGY
In the past we could have papers with “selling” titles as the one below

Artificial Intelligence in Medicine
Volume 7, Issue 6, December 1995, Pages 473-496

Paper
Clinical monitoring using regression-based trend templates
Ira J. Haimowitz R, B, Phillip Phuc Le B, Isaac S. Kohane C

Later on when regression was not so hot...

The Relationship between Work-Family Conflict and Job Satisfaction:
A Structural Equation Modeling (SEM) Approach
Nilgün Anafarta, Ph. D.
Associate Professor of Human Resource Management

Predictors of Teacher-Directed Student Use of Technology in Elementary Classrooms
A Multilevel SEM Approach Using Data from the USEIT Study
Helena Miranda & Michael Russell
Pages 301-323 | Published online: 21 Feb 2014
There was a time when AHP/ANP methodologies were hot

AHP  ANP

But the truth is that AHP/ANP have become mature methodologies similar to Regression and SEM
**Suggestion 2:** There are still some journals for which AHP/ANP is not commonly used. You need to find them!

THE THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK
You can frame the solution to your problem within a broader theoretical context

Regression

You can do the same for AHP/ANP

AHP

ANP
**Suggestion 3:** You need to find the proper theoretical framework for your study

YOUR PAPER/REPORT
Is there a right way to report AHP/ANP studies? MS/OR studies?

Ethical and Legal Principles for Scholarly Writing*:
• To ensure the accuracy of scientific knowledge,
• To protect the rights of research participants, and
• To protect intellectual rights.


The essence to scientific accuracy is the ability to validate and replicate studies

• This requires the report to adhere to a certain level of quality at all levels.
What do we need to validate/replicate ANP studies?: 18 variables

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualitative</th>
<th>Quantitative</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• How did the model come to be?</td>
<td>• Influence matrix (INFLUENCEM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Definitions of the clusters/nodes (FACTOR1, FACTOR2, FACTOR3)</td>
<td>• Consistency (CONSIST1, 2 &amp; 3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Examples of comparison questions (EXCOMPO)</td>
<td>• Cluster Comparison (CLUSTERCOMP)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• How was the group aggregated? (GAGGREG)</td>
<td>• Global Prior. for Crit. (FINALCRTPRIOR)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• How was group consistency addressed? (GCONSIST)</td>
<td>• Global Priority Altern. (FINALTEMPRIOR)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Report on each sub-network (SUBNET)</td>
<td>• Weighted Supermatrix (WEIGHTSUPMAX)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Sensitivity analysis (SENSITIVITY)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Ratings scales (if app.) (RATINGSCALE)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Provide relationship between sub-networks (SUBNETAGGREG)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Also, for the purpose of replicability, APA recommends...

• Data must be made available to the editor as requested during publication process
• Authors must make their data available to other scholars to confirm analysis and results
• Data must be kept by the authors for a minimum of five years
The Bigger Issue of QUALITY

Quality is the biggest context for validation and replication. Involves reporting aspects such as:
- Structure
- Readibility
- Clarity
- Completeness
- Parsimonious

What should authors do to increase their prospects of publication?

Authors

- Submit “full” (validation + replication) AHP/ANP papers even if they need to be downsized later or
- Submit papers within the journal page limit but make the remaining information available as appendix in the authors’ repository
- Replication information may be provided as an appendix which can be made available online in the author’s repository
You need to convince editors and reviewers that what you did was indeed well done.

**Suggestion 4:** Find ways to improve the validity, replicability and overall quality of your paper!
THANKS – QUESTIONS?

You can frame the solution to your problem within a broader theoretical context

Regression

SEM

The assimilation of enterprise information system: An interpretation systems perspective
Enrique Ma, Laurie J. Keoh, Brian S. Butler

The Higher-Ed Organizational-Scholar Tension: How Scholarship Compatibility and the Alignment of Organizational and Faculty Skills, Values and Support Affects Scholar’s Performance and Well-Being
\[\text{Miguel Perez-Abad, Enrique Ma, Leticia Bernal, and Ying Huang}\]