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Do we still need journals?

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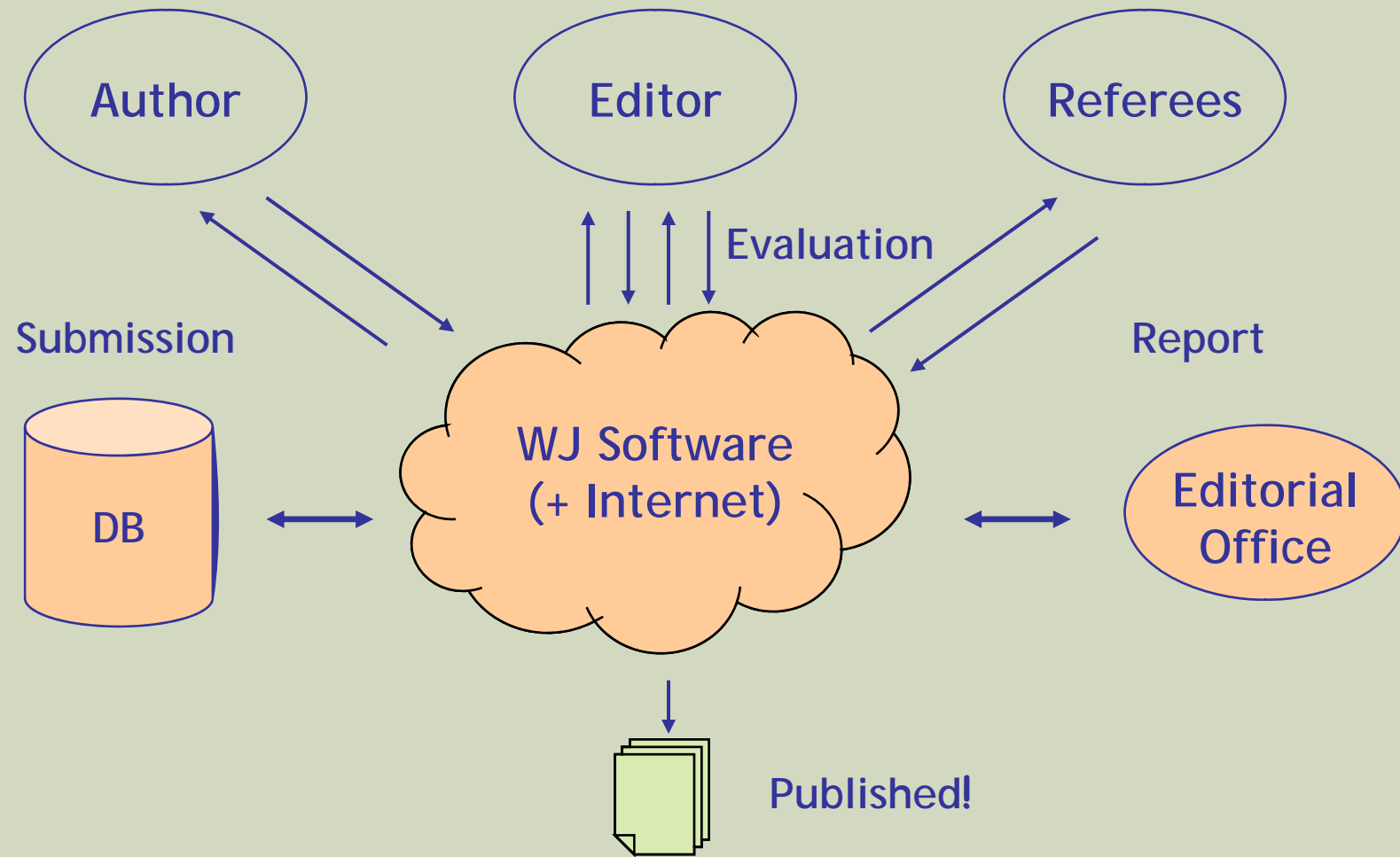


What is a journal?

The value added by a journal:

- Typesetting
- Distribution
- Preservation
- Peer review

Peer Review in the contemporary age



Is the peer review still useful?

A measure of its usefulness can be obtained by analyzing how papers published in journals are effective in terms of impact within the community.

Is the peer review still useful?

An approximate measure of this effectiveness is the number of citations collected.

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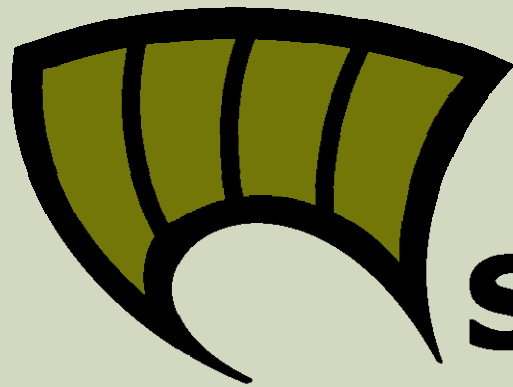
Form factors give a more detailed view of the impact than the simple impact factor:

- Most journals have a large tail at low impact factors
- Most papers receive less than 10 citations after publication

Is the peer review still useful?

The non refereed pre-print archives
have a form factor close to the
average journal

Is some sort of “open peer review”
already in place?



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