

A philosophical framework for a morally legitimate definition of scientific authorship in Natural sciences.

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5th World Conference
on Research Integrity

Universiteit Utrecht

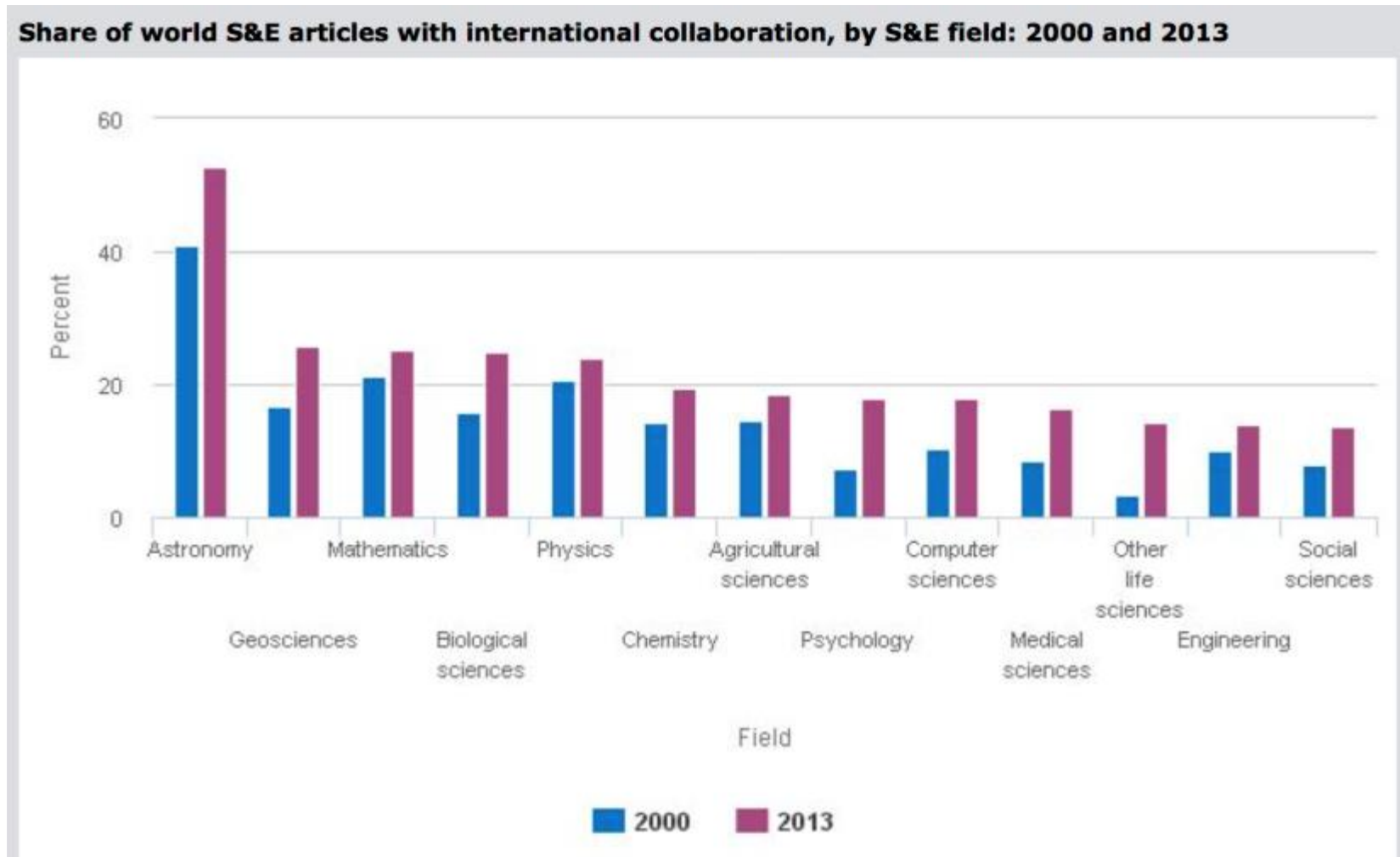


Radboud Universiteit



Promoting Integrity as an
Integral Dimension of
Excellence in Research

Publications are increasingly collaborative and international in authorship.*



* National Science Board. 2016. [Science and Engineering Indicators 2016](#). Arlington, VA: National Science Foundation (NSB-2016-1)

Current definitions of scientific authorship.

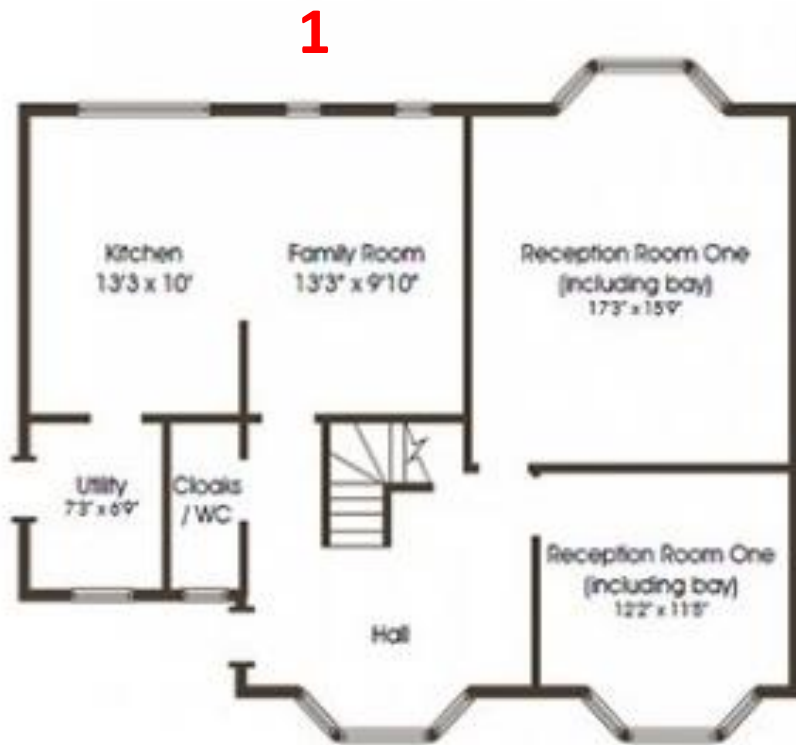
- Codes of conducts.
- Who is OR isn't an
- Subst

International coauthors might not be at the same page.

...leave room for
...etation, particularly in international
project groups.

An example

- Which one do you prefer?
- What is the difference between plan 1 and 2?

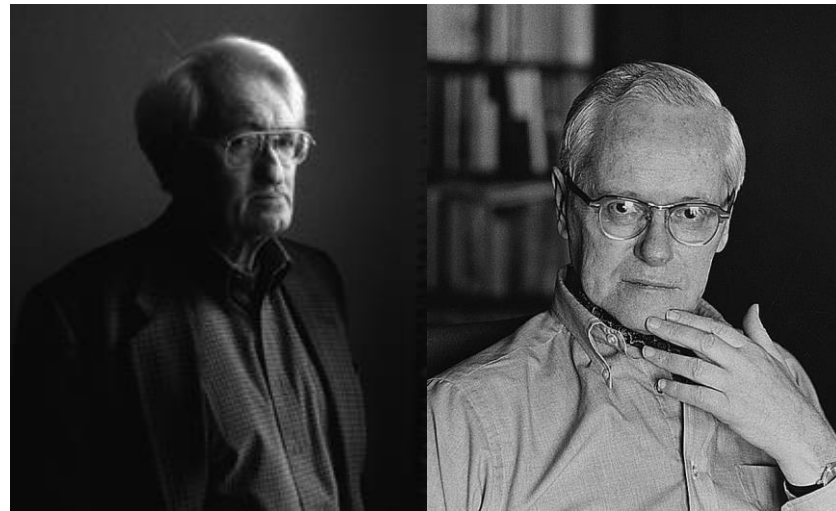


A philosophical and social framework for authorship of natural sciences.

1. What exactly do we mean with Good authorship?
2. What could be a familiar concept for communicating the norms of Good authorship to international co-authors?

Robert Merton

Jürgen Habermas



Habermas, and the communication of scientific knowledge.

Knowledge

Reflective versus productive.

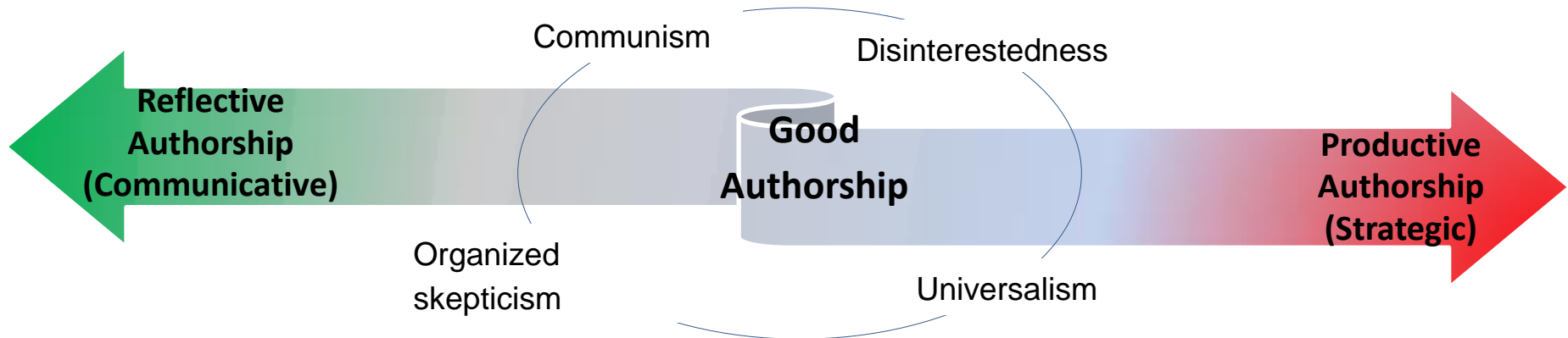
- Genuine discourse and
- Productive knowledge

Practical tensions...

- ...
- Motivations for domination
- Understanding

Mertonian values

- Merton recognized the reward system as a necessary feature of the scientific enterprise



Familiar concepts for communication of the norms of Good Authorship

- Habermas: "... both observer and interpreter are related to sectors of reality, the first by *immediate* experience and the second by *reflected* experience."

Witness & Messenger
useful metaphors for the
communication of the norms of GA.

... be seen as a
phenomenon.

Witness and Messenger as educational tools

- Personify the act of authorship.
- Help scientists to comprehend and feel the importance of norms.
- An educational take-away message that provides space for conversation and self-reflection.
- ✧ Are not aimed at providing a categorical prescription.

Conclusions

- ✓ Familiar concepts enrich existing definitions by making them more comprehensible and facilitating effective communication.
- ✓ Addressing authorship using universally comprehensible concepts will reduce the likelihood of misinterpretation of norms in international collaborations.

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- Dr. Mariette van den Hoven

Thank you

Past projects:

1. Doing the Right Thing: A Qualitative Investigation of Retractions Due to Unintentional Error

Hosseini, M., Hilhorst, M., de Beaufort, Fanelli, D. Sci Eng Ethics (2017)

2. PRINTEGER (Radboud University)

Ongoing project:

- Equal co-authorships in scientific publications

Mohammad Hosseini & Dr. Samuel Bruton (University of Southern Mississippi)

Future project:

EnTIRE (Dublin City University)



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