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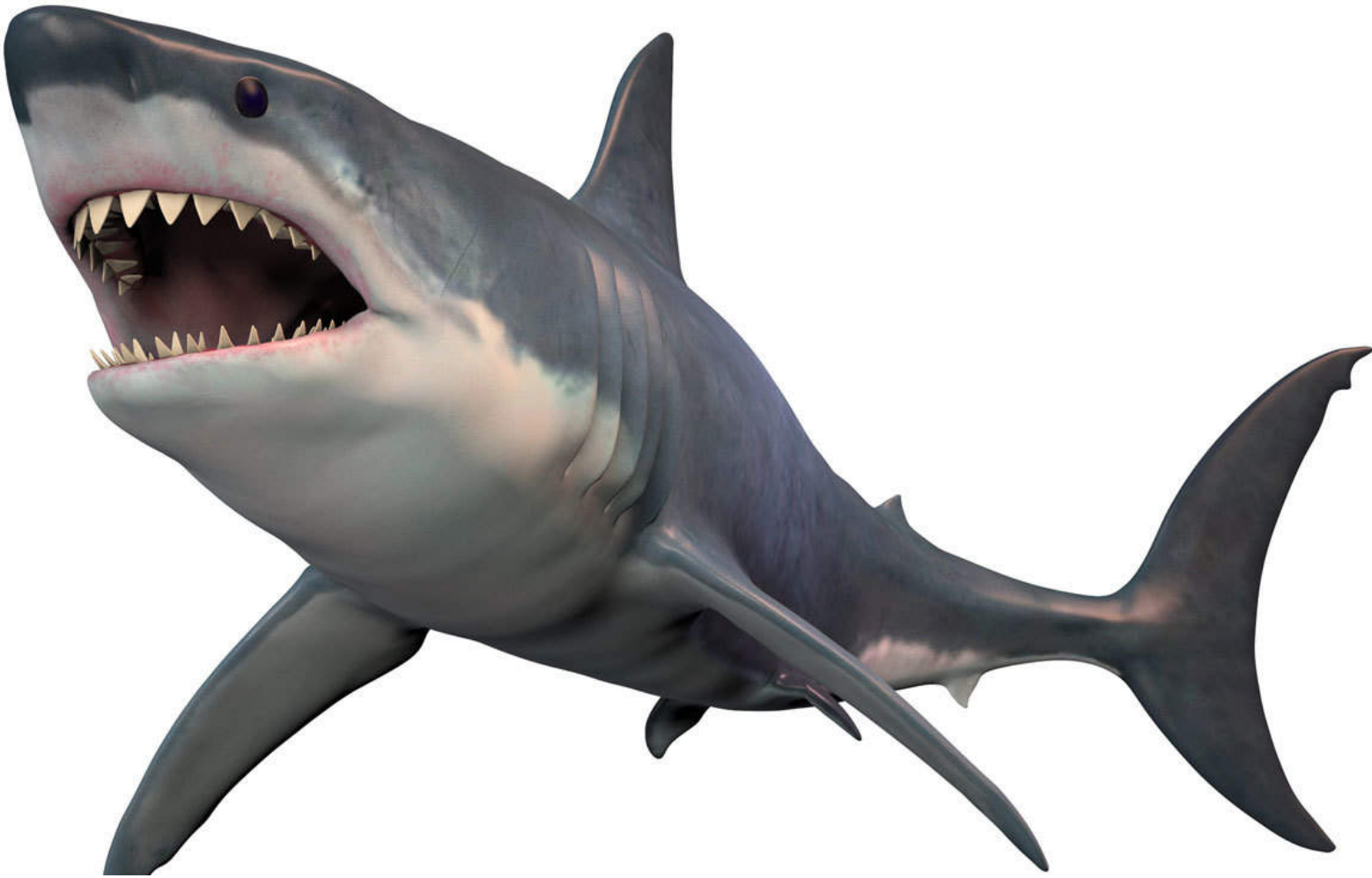
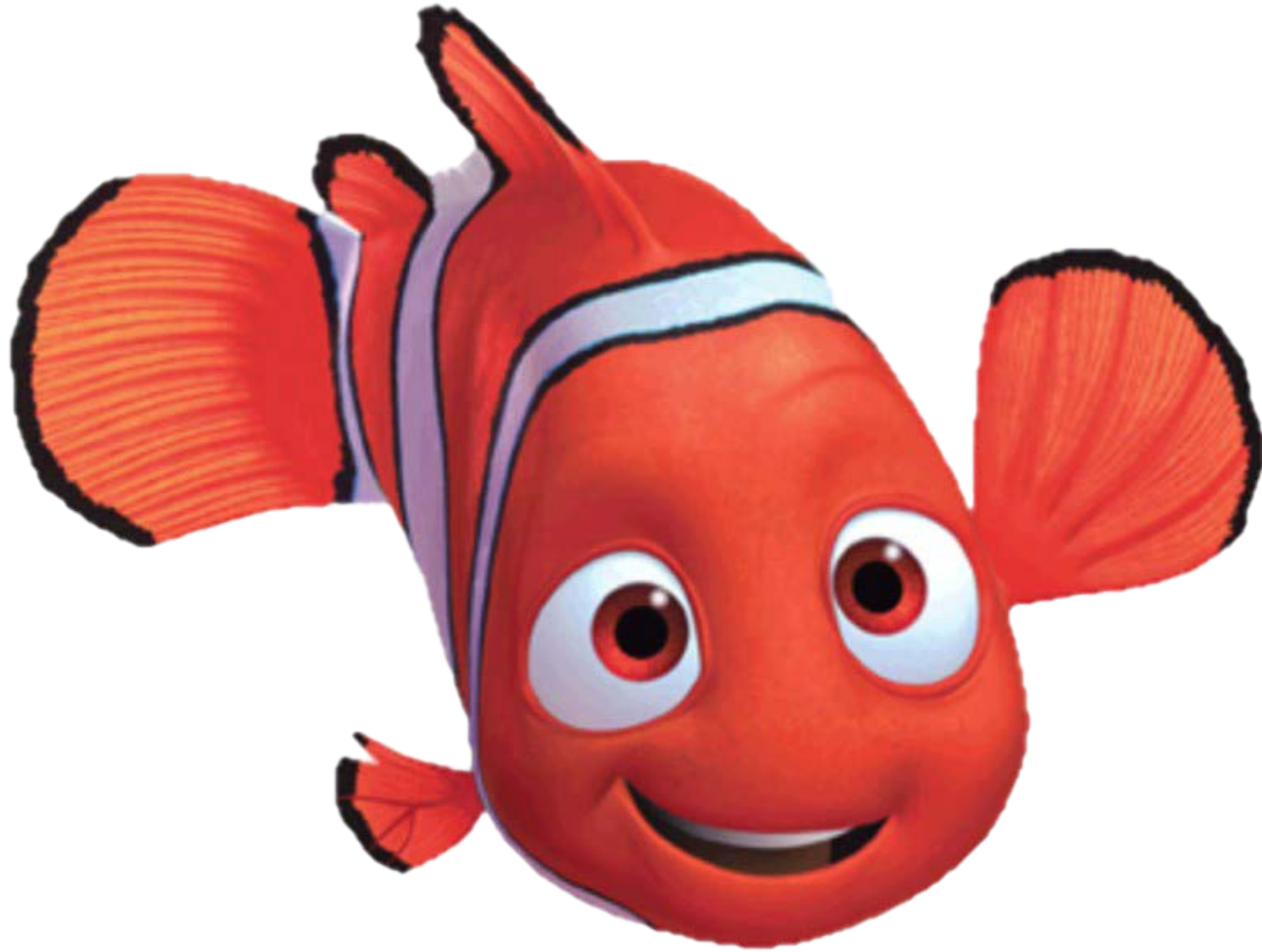
The good, the bad, and the predatory journals

Maximilian Heimstädt

Workshop on Predatory Publishing | December 2, 2022 | University of Florence

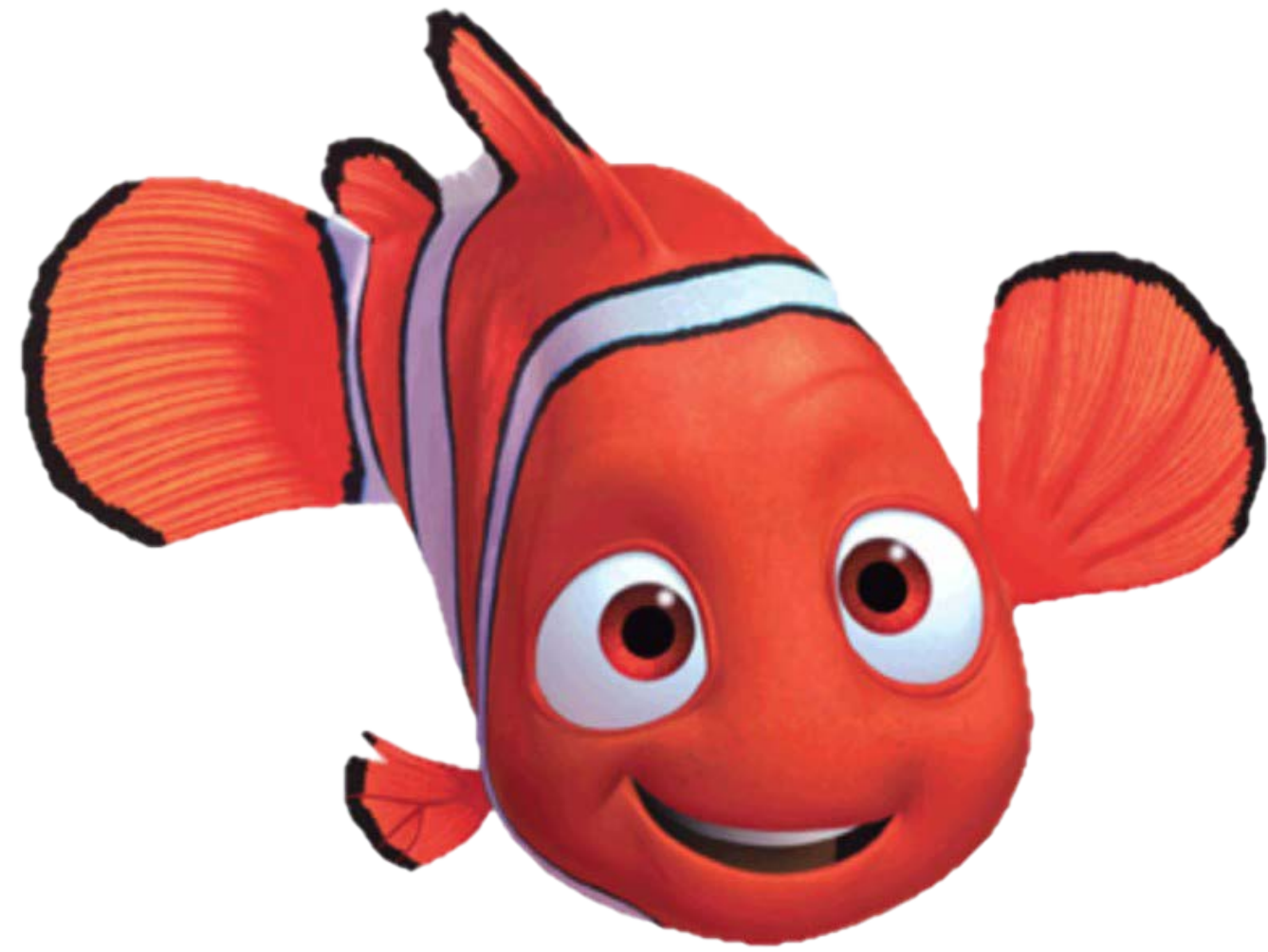
What is a predatory journal?

There are two types of journals: good and predatory



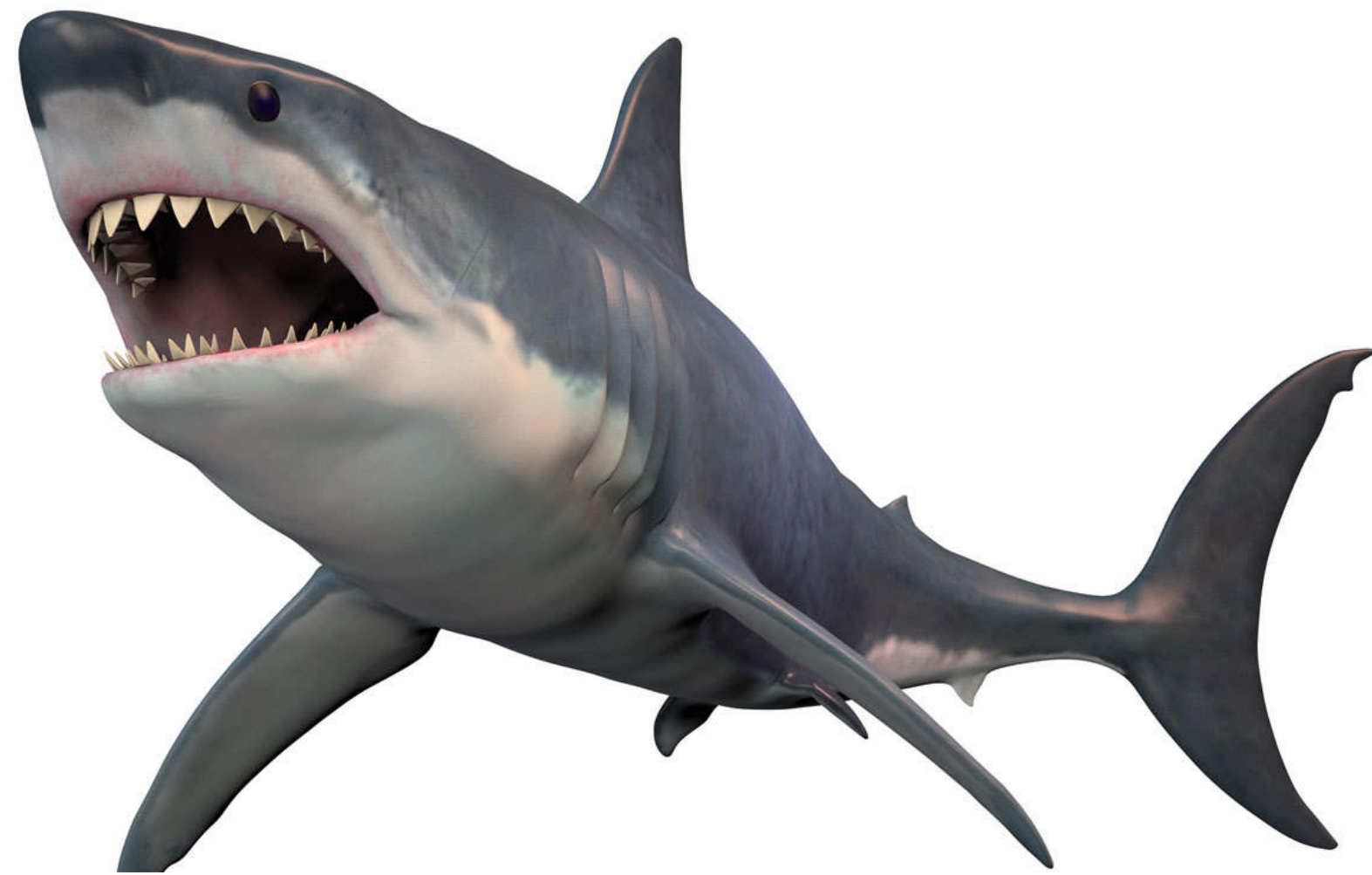
This dichotomy is too simple.

This dichotomy is part of the problem itself.



Good Journals

- \ Peer review process organized based on scientific rationality
- \ Can be run by for-profit publisher or by non-profit organization
- \ Journals on international journal rankings are good journals
- \ Not all good journals are part of such rankings (e.g., national journals)



Predatory Journals

- \ “They accept articles for publication [...] without performing promised checks for issues such as plagiarism, **scientific quality** or ethical approval”
- \ “The lack of adequate editorial practices and **scientific review** of accepted manuscripts leads to the publication of poor-quality research [...]”

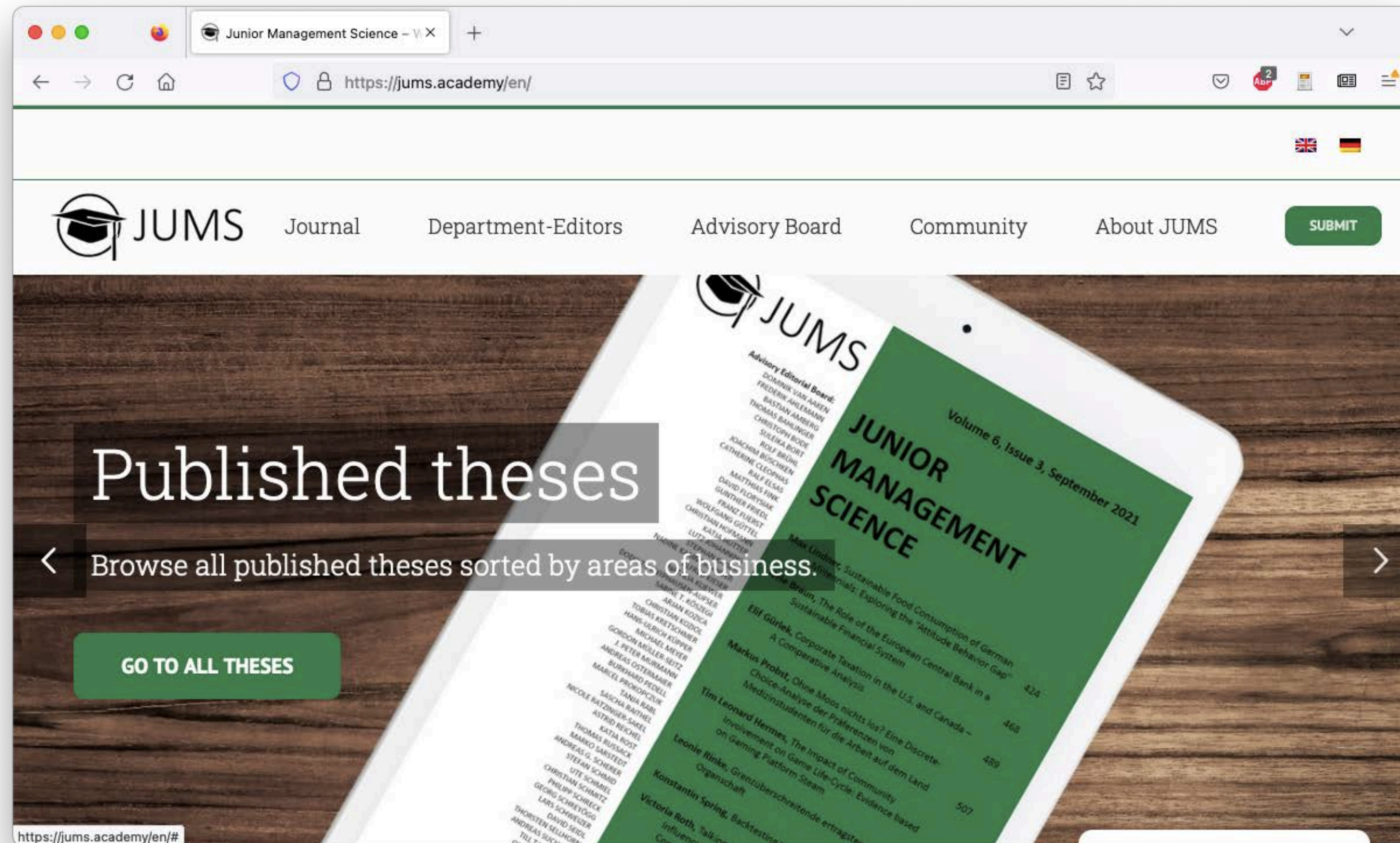
(Source: Announcement for this workshop)

Predatory journals lack proper peer review and as a result publish low-quality research.

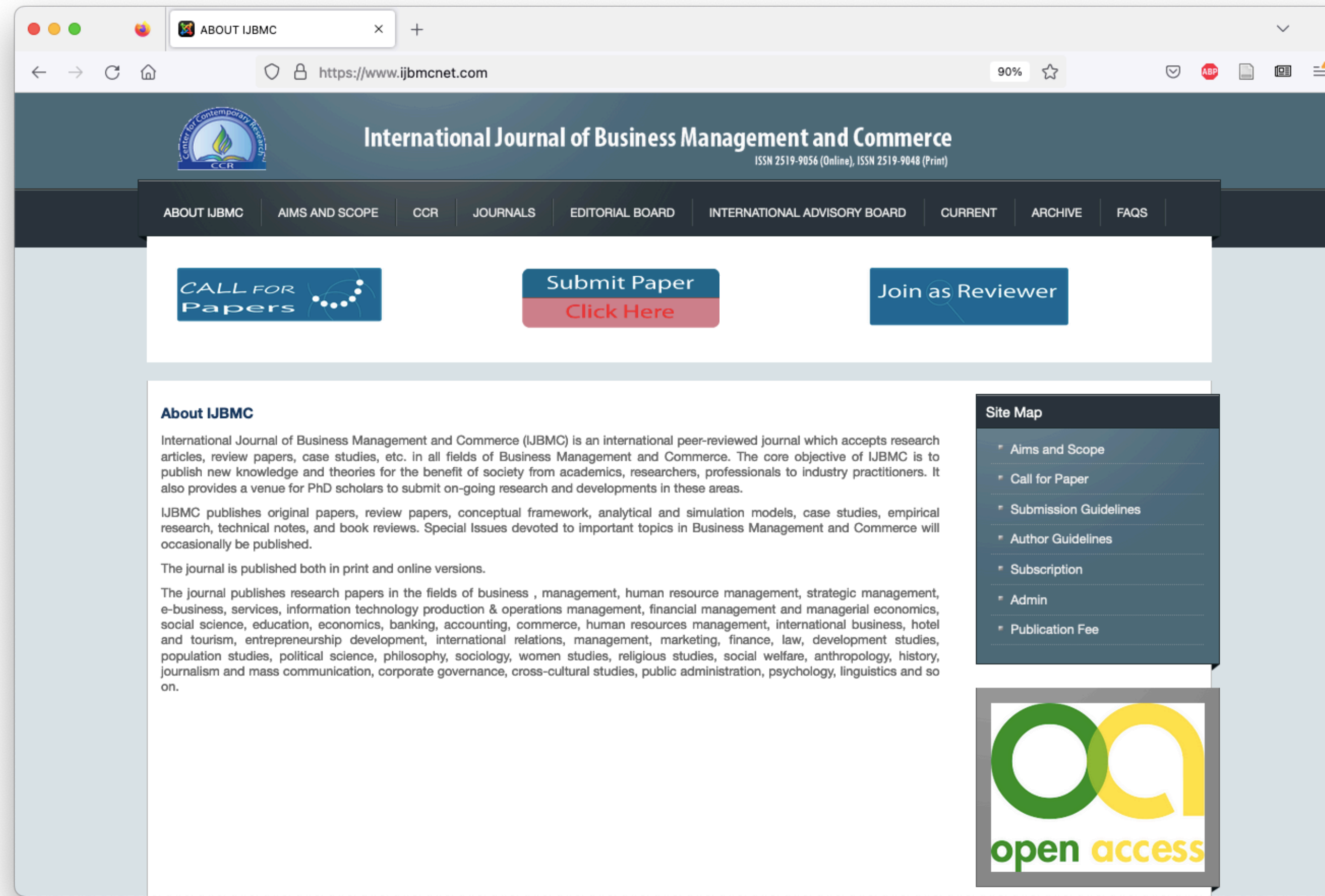
Types of journals with below-average quality

Journal type	Characteristics	Orientation
Aspirant Journal	Sometimes APCs, below-average peer review	Primarily science-driven
Junk Journal	APCs, formal but superficial peer review	Primarily profit-driven
Fake Journal	APCs, no peer review	Purely profit-driven

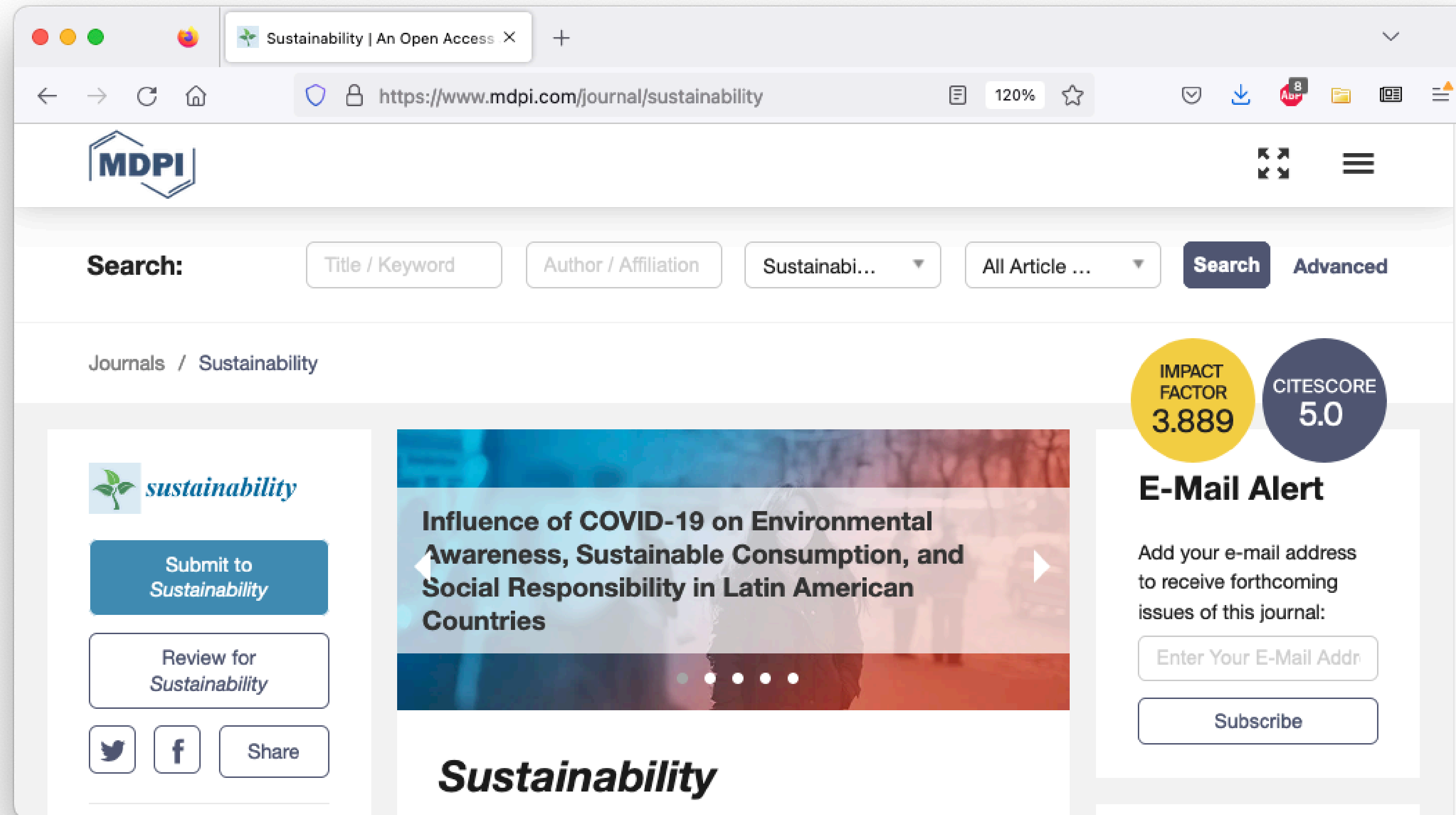
Example of an aspirant journal: *JUMS*

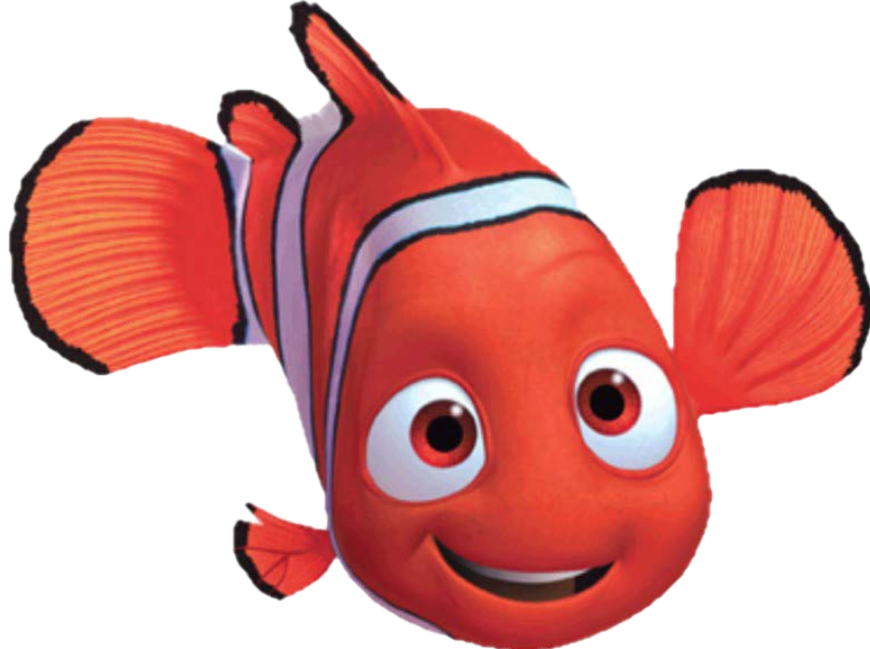


Example of a fake journal: *IJBMC*



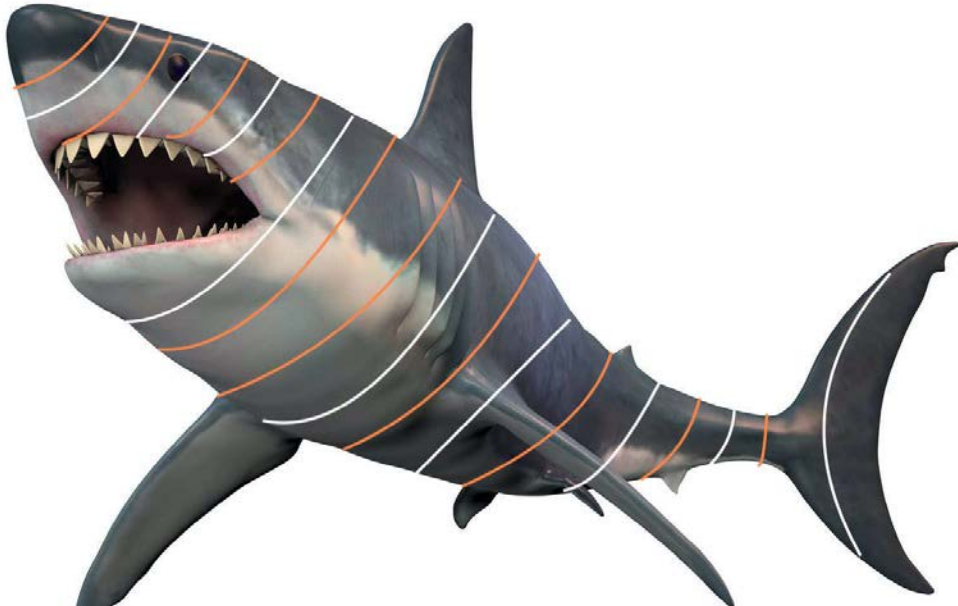
Example of a junk journal: *Sustainability*



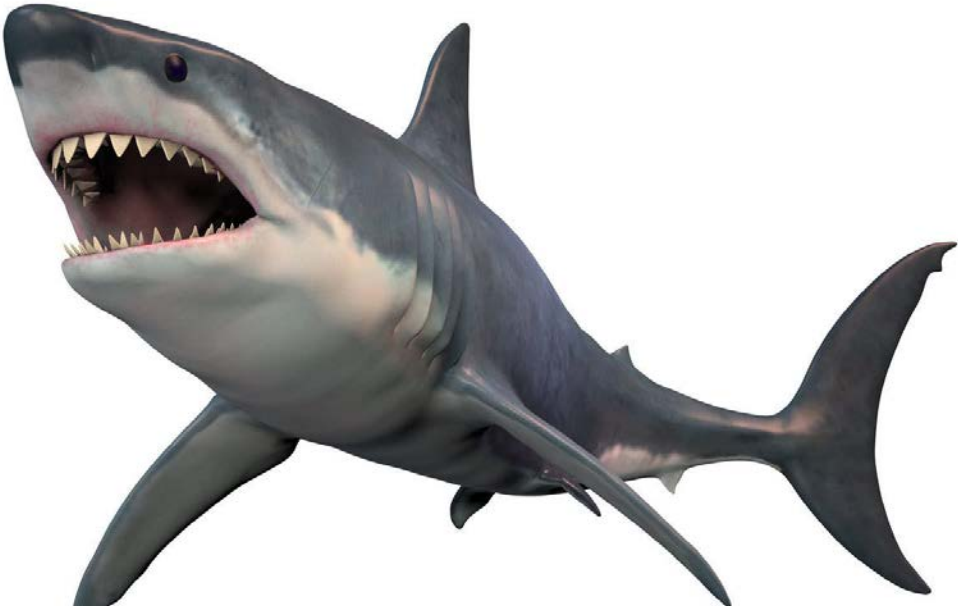


Good Journals

Aspirant Journals



Junk Journals



Fake Journals

What can be learned? What to do?

- \ Category “predatory journal” is important to raise awareness
- \ BUT: Journals evade definition and find grey areas
- \ We need to pay attention to these “junk journals”
- \ We need ongoing sensemaking in departments and associations
- \ Key question: Does a journal sacrifice scientific integrity for profit?

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