

A Paper Mill Is Targeting Scientific Reports, Authors from China and West Asia May Be the Costumers

Jalil Manafian, an author from Iran, published 7 articles on Scientific Reports in 2024. All of them have fishy authorship patterns: (1) Chinese authors were listed as first authors for the articles, the 8 Chinese authors (one as the second author) were from 8 different institutions; (2) the others authors for each article were from multiple nations in West and South Asia, such as Iran, Saudi Arabia, India and others. The widespread cooperations between these authors suggesting the articles potentially originated from paper mill, although the 5GH team has no details whether Manfian is running this paper mill.

Most of the articles (5 of 7) were submitted to the journal, Scientific Reports, a Nature Portfolio title, within a short period between April and May in 2024. However, the journal and/or the publisher, Springer Nature, did not notice these patterns, or did not consider these patterns questionable, the articles were published months after the submission, most between August and October, 2024.

Part of Manafian's other publications has similar authorship patterns. According to his ResearchGate profile, Manafian has published over 200 articles until recently. The 5GH team checked part of Manafian's publications, and found 48 articles with similar authorship patterns. The investigation is still under process, and the team is checking Manafian's other publications, more questionable articles may be detected in the coming days.

Those articles targeted journals like Results in Physics, Optical and Quantum Electronics, International Journal of Modern Physics B, and others. And some of the Chinese costumer were from top universities like Peking University. Please find the Supporting Information for more details about the articles.

[1] Supporting Information </WuGH/2024/Manafian.xlsx>

Part of Manafian's Publications with Chinese First Author					
DOI	Author(s)	Journal	Submitted	Accepted/Published	
10.1007/s11082-021-03461-2	Wenjian Wang (Xidian University, China), Kobra Hasanirrokhi, Jalil Manafian, Mostafa Abotaleb, Yintang Yang (Xidian University, China)	Optical and Quantum Electronics	2021-08-17	2021-12-08	
10.1007/s11082-022-04033-8	LuYu Sun (Henan Vocational College of Water Conservancy and Environment, China), Jalil Manafian, Onur Alp Ilhan, Mostafa Abotaleb, Ather Y. Oudah, A. S. Prakash	Optical and Quantum Electronics	2021-12-09	2022-07-21	
10.1007/s11082-023-05232-7	Yufeng Qian (Hubei University of Technology, China), Jalil Manafian, Mohammed Asiri, Khaled Hussein Mahmoud, Ali Ihsan Alanssari, Abdullah Saad Alsubaie	Optical and Quantum Electronics	2022-10-18	2023-07-26	
10.1007/s11082-024-06497-2	Xu Cheng Gui (Chengdu University of Technology, China), Jalil Manafian, Gurpreet Singh, Baharak Eslami, Sanaa Fathy Mahmud, Karrar Hatif Mohammed, Naief Alabed Alkader	Optical and Quantum Electronics	2023-10-22	2024-01-30	
10.1007/s11082-024-06805-w	Jianwen Cheng (Hunan City University, China), Jalil Manafian, Gurpreet Singh, Anupam Yadav, Neha Kumari, Rohit Sharma, Baharak Eslami, Naief Alabed Alkader	Optical and Quantum Electronics	2024-01-06	2024-03-07	
10.1007/s11082-024-06928-0	Yingnan Qi (Ningxia Normal University, China), Jalil Manafian, Kamal Mahir Suleman, Anjan Kumar, Neha Kumari, Rohit Sharma, Mehdi Fazli, Tarek Awad	Optical and Quantum Electronics	2024-01-02	2024-03-31	
10.1007/s11082-024-07041-y	Lan Lan (Dalian University, China), Jalil Manafian, Baharak Eslami, A. H. A. Hussein, K. H. Mahmoud, A. S. A. Alsubaie, Ammar Ghanim Taki, Afandiyeva Hajar	Optical and Quantum Electronics	2023-12-02	2024-04-29	
10.1007/s12346-022-00658-y	Yingfang Pan (Shandong Foreign Trade Vocational College, China), Jalil Manafian, Subhiya M. Zeynalli, Riyadh Al-Obaidi, R. Sivaraman Ammar Kadi	Qualitative Theory of Dynamical Systems	2022-01-27	2022-08-31	
10.1007/s12346-023-00896-8	Minghan Liu (Hainan Hanbor & Shipping Holding Co. Ltd., China), Jalil Manafian, Gurpreet Singh, Abdullah Saad Alsubaie, Khaled Hussein Mahmoud, Parvin Mustafayeva	Qualitative Theory of Dynamical Systems	2023-07-03	2023-10-13	
10.1007/s12346-024-01004-0	Xianqing Rao (Shangrao Normal University, China), Jalil Manafian, Mehrrad Gavahi (Xi'an Jiaotong University, China), Baharak Eslami, Maha Khalid Abdulameer, Enas R. Alwaily, Qurbanova Afat Qahraman Qizi	Qualitative Theory of Dynamical Systems	2023-11-03	2024-02-23	
10.1016/j.rinp.2021.104168	Haixia Zhang (Xuchang University, China), Jalil Manafian, Gurpreet Singh, Onur Alp Ilhan, Angelina Olegovna Zekiy	Results in Physics	2021-02-01	2021-04-06	
10.1016/j.rinp.2021.104490	Ziqiang Li (Zhengzhou University of Aeronautics, China), Jalil Manafian, Natig Ibrahimov, Afandiyeva Hajar, Kottakkaran Soppy Nisar, Wasim Jamshed	Results in Physics	2021-04-16	2021-07-03	
10.1016/j.rinp.2021.104713	Lei Huang (Jiangsu Union Technical Institute, China), Jalil Manafian, Gurpreet Singh, Kottakkaran Soppy Nisar, Mahyuddin K.M. Nesution	Results in Physics	2021-05-22	2021-08-14	
10.1016/j.rinp.2021.105066	Guiping Shen (Shaoyang University, China), Jalil Manafian, Dinh Tran Ngoc Huy, Kottakkaran Soppy Nisar, Mostafa Abotaleb, Nguyen Dinh Trung	Results in Physics	2021-09-28	2021-11-25	
10.1016/j.rinp.2022.106032	Yongyi Gu (Guangdong University of Finance and Economics, China), Somaye Malmir, Jalil Manafian, Onur Alp Ilhan, As'ad Alizadeh, Ali J. Othman	Results in Physics	2022-07-24	2022-10-03	
10.1016/j.rinp.2023.106213	Yongyi Gu (Guangdong University of Finance and Economics, China), Syed Magsood Zia, Mubeen Israr, Jalil Manafian, Afandiyeva Hajar, Mostafa Abotaleb	Results in Physics	2022-12-11	2023-01-05	
10.1016/j.rinp.2023.106293	Ruijuan Li (Pingdingshan University, China), Zainab Ali Bu Sinnah, Zahra Montazeri Shatouri, Jalil Manafian, Mehdi Fazi Aghdasi, Ammar Kadi	Results in Physics	2023-01-16	2023-02-13	
10.1016/j.rinp.2023.106579	Xia Liu (North University of China, China), Baraa Abd Alreda, Jalil Manafian, Baharak Eslami, Mehdi Fazi Aghdasi, Mostafa Abotaleb, Ammar Kadi	Results in Physics	2023-03-06	2023-05-24	
10.1038/s41598-024-56719-6	Yuanjuan Liu (Lyuiliang University, China), Jalil Manafian, Gurpreet Singh, Naief Alabed Alkader, Kottakkaran Soppy Nisar	Scientific Reports	2023-09-29	2024-03-10	
10.1038/s41598-024-70439-x	Shaoting Wen (Huanghe Jiaotong University, China), Jalil Manafian, Sara Sedigh, Sibel Pagali Almada, Cesar Gallegos, K. H. Mahmoud, A. S. A. Alsubaie	Scientific Reports	2024-04-07	2024-08-16	
10.1038/s41598-024-70523-2	Wenfeng Li (Huanghe S&T University, China), Yangchun Kuang (Peking University, China), Jalil Manafian, Somaye Malmir, Baharak Eslami, K. H. Mahmoud, A. S. A. Alsubaie	Scientific Reports	2024-05-10	2024-08-19	
10.1038/s41598-024-74050-y	Jiaming Luo (Kashgar University, China), Jalil Manafian, Baharak Eslami, K. H. Mahmoud, Rohit Sharma, Neha Kumari & A. SA. Alsubaie	Scientific Reports	2024-04-21	2024-09-23	
10.1038/s41598-024-74333-4	Yun Guo (Wuhan Technical College of Communications, China), Yang Chen (Wuhan University, China), Jalil Manafian, Somaye Malmir, K. H. Mahmoud & A. SA. Alsubaie	Scientific Reports	2024-05-12	2024-09-25	
10.1038/s41598-024-75536-5	Haimei Chen (Shangjiu Institute of Technology, China), Jalil Manafian, Baharak Eslami, Maria José Mendoza Salazar, Neha Kumari, Rohit Sharma, Sanjeev Kumar Joshi, K. H. Mahmoud, A. SA. Alsubaie	Scientific Reports	2024-05-10	2024-10-07	
10.1038/s41598-024-80259-8	RuiYing Shao (Qingdao Huanghai University, China), Jalil Manafian, Onur Alp Ilhan, K. H. Mahmoud, Baraa Abd Alreda, A. SA. Alsubaie	Scientific Reports	2024-07-12	2024-11-18	
10.1142/S0217732323501183	Yuanjuan Liu (Lyuiliang University, China), Jalil Manafian, N. A. Alkader, Baharak Eslami	Modern Physics Letters A	2023-05-08	2023-08-11	
10.1142/S02177979221501733	Na Zhao (JiYuan Vocational and Technical College, China), Jalil Manafian, Onur Alp Ilhan, Gurpreet Singh, Rana Zulfigarova	International Journal of Modern Physics B	2021-02-28	2021-05-19	
10.1142/S02177979221502751	BaoLin Feng (Jiangmen Preschool Education College, China), Jalil Manafian, Onur Alp Ilhan, Anitha Manmohan Rao, Anand H. Agadi	International Journal of Modern Physics B	2021-05-24	2021-08-10	
10.1142/S0217797922502010	Wenjie Wu (Xi'an University of Finance and Economics, China), Jalil Manafian, Khalid K. Ali, Seydi Battal Gazi Karakoc, Abbas H. Taqi, Muhammad A. Mahmoud	International Journal of Modern Physics B	2022-05-20	2022-07-05	
10.1142/S02177979223501412	Yongyi Gu (Guangdong University of Finance and Economics, China), Jalil Manafian, Somaye Malmir, Baharak Eslami, Onur Alp Ilhan	International Journal of Modern Physics B	2022-07-16	2022-09-23	
10.1142/S02177979224501170	SiSheng Zhang (Henan University of Animal Husbandry and Economy, China), Jalil Manafian, Onur Alp Ilhan, Abduladheem Turki Jalil, Yaser Yasin, M. Abdulfadil Gates	International Journal of Modern Physics B	2022-10-27	2023-01-26	
10.1142/S02177979224503089	Cheng Li (Changchun Institute of Technology, China), Jalil Manafian, Baharak Eslami, Khaled Hussein Mahmoud, Russul Reidh Abass, Bashar S. Bashar, Onur Alp Ilhan	International Journal of Modern Physics B	2023-01-28	2023-04-25	
10.1142/S0217984920500451	Meihua Huang (Nantong Open University, China), Muhammad Amin S. Murad, Onur Alp Ilhan, Jalil Manafian	Modern Physics Letters B	2019-07-19	2019-09-23	
10.1142/S021798492150408X	Wang Gang (Hubei University of Technology, China), Jalil Manafian, Fatma Berna Benli, Onur Alp Ilhan, Reza Goldaran	Modern Physics Letters B	2021-03-06	2021-06-08	
10.1142/S0217984921505655	Guangui Tao (Beijing Normal University, China), Jalil Manafian, Onur Alp Ilhan, Syed Magsood Zia, Latifa Agamaliev	Modern Physics Letters B	2021-07-24	2021-10-31	
10.1142/S0217984922500324	Xindi Shen (Shanghai University of Medicine & Health Sciences, China), Jalil Manafian, Meng Jiang, Onur Alp Ilhan, Shafik S. Shafik, Muhamed Zaidi	Modern Physics Letters B	2021-11-05	2022-02-10	
10.1142/S0217984923502044	Dingsi Li (Xi'an Polytechnic University, China), Jalil Manafian, Onur Alp Ilhan, Safa Alkhatyat, K. H. Mahmoud, Ali Alsalamy, Subhiya M. Zeynalli	Modern Physics Letters B	2023-05-01	2023-06-11	
10.1155/2020/8018064	Pengbo Wan (Wuhan University, China), Jalil Manafian, Hajar Farhan Ismael, Sizar Abid Mohammed	Advances in Mathematical Physics		2020-06-08	
10.1155/2021/1164838	Fan Yong-Yan (Cangzhou Normal University, China), Jalil Manafian, Syed Magsood Zia, Dinh Tran Ngoc Huy, Trung-Huy Le	Advances in Mathematical Physics		2021-10-12	
10.1155/2021/6672819	Lan Wu (Peking University, China), Xiao Zhang (Peking University, China), Jalil Manafian	Advances in Mathematical Physics		2021-04-21	
10.1155/2021/6680874	Qinjun Li (Xining Urban Vocational & Technical College, China), Danyal Soybas, Onur Alp Ilhan, Gurpreet Singh, Jalil Manafian	Advances in Mathematical Physics		2021-04-10	
10.1155/2022/6445482	Guangping Li (Cangzhou Preschool Teachers College, China), Jalil Manafian, Mirmehdi Seyyedi, R. Sivaraman, Subhiya M. Zeynalli	Advances in Mathematical Physics		2022-03-27	
10.1155/2022/8144911	Xiuxiang Wang (Xinxiang University, China), Jalil Manafian, Wayan Eka Mahendra, Azher M. Abed, Mustafa Z. Mahmoud, Guizhen Liang	Advances in Mathematical Physics		2022-05-18	
10.1515/phys-2022-0073	Xianqing Rao (Shangrao Normal University, China), Jalil Manafian, K. H. Mahmoud, Afandiyeva Hajar, Ahmed B. Mahdi, Muhamed Zaidi	Open Physics	2022-03-10	2022-07-03	
10.1515/phys-2023-0167	Xingxing Wu (Xinjiang Institute of Technology, China), Jalil Manafian, Gurpreet Singh, Baharak Eslami, Abdullah Aldurayhim, Noor Alhuda Mohammad Ali khalil, Ahmed Alawadi	Open Physics	2023-08-27	2023-12-05	
10.1515/phys-2024-0027	Qiaoling Yang (Tianjin Tianshi College, China), Jalil Manafian, Khaled H. Mahmoud, Abdullah Aldurayhim	Open Physics	2023-12-30	2024-04-09	
10.3934/math.2020163	Jalil Manafian, Onur Alp Ilhan, Sizar Abid Mohammed	AIMS Mathematics	2019-10-28	2020-02-24	
10.3934/math.2021441	Junjie Li (Xiamen University of Technology, China), Gurpreet Singh, Onur Alp Ilhan, Jalil Manafian, Yusuf S. Gasimov	AIMS Mathematics	2021-02-03	2021-04-25	
10.3934/math.2021515	Huiqing Wang (Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences, China), Md Nur Alam, Onur Alp Ilhan, Gurpreet Singh, Jalil Manafian	AIMS Mathematics	2021-05-10	2021-06-01	