

Machines and Algorithms - Research Journal

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1. Introduction

Journal Title	Machines and Algorithms
Mission Statement	Our mission is to advance the frontiers of computational sciences, including core and interdisciplinary, by providing a premier platform for disseminating groundbreaking research, innovative methodologies, and transformative applications across all facets of computation. We aim to foster interdisciplinary collaboration, bridge theoretical and applied domains, and address the evolving challenges of science, technology, and society through computational innovations. By uniting diverse perspectives from academia, industry, and beyond, our journal seeks to inspire discovery, fuel innovation, and catalyse impactful solutions that shape the future of computation, applications and its impact on the society.
Journal Frequency	3 issues per year (with early access available)
Journal Format	Online
Journal Language	English (US)
Open Access Policy	Fully open access
Peer Review Policy	Double blind

2. Article Types

The journal "Machines and Algorithms" covers a broad spectrum of computing and computation-related research. Below are the types of articles that should be published in this journal:

Original Research Articles	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Novel algorithms, computational models, or machine-based solutions.• Advances in artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning (ML), and deep learning (DL).• Theoretical and empirical studies in computer science and engineering.
Review Articles	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Comprehensive surveys on emerging trends in computing (e.g., quantum computing, neuromorphic computing).• Critical analyses of existing algorithms, hardware architectures, or computational paradigms.
Short Communications / Letters	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Brief reports on significant preliminary findings or algorithmic improvements.• Comments on previously published works with new insights.
Case Studies & Applications	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Real-world implementations of algorithms in robotics, healthcare, finance, etc.• Performance evaluations of computing systems in industry or academia.
Theoretical Contributions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Formal proofs of computational complexity, optimization, or algorithmic correctness.• New mathematical models for computation (e.g., bio-inspired

	computing).
Software & Hardware Innovations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Descriptions of novel computing architectures (e.g., GPUs, TPUs, neuromorphic chips). • Open-source software tools, frameworks, or libraries for computational research.
Benchmarking & Comparative Studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance comparisons of algorithms, hardware, or computing paradigms. • Reproducibility studies in machine learning and high-performance computing.
Opinion & Perspective Articles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussions on ethical, societal, and economic impacts of computing advancements. • Future directions for research in algorithms and intelligent machines.
Tutorials & Educational Content	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pedagogical articles explaining fundamental or advanced computing concepts. • Guides on implementing algorithms or using computational tools.
Datasets & Data-driven Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of new datasets for benchmarking ML/AI models. • Studies leveraging large-scale computational data analysis
Interdisciplinary Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computing applications in biology, physics, neuroscience, or social sciences. • Hybrid approaches combining algorithms with other scientific domains.
Replication Studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critical type of research that involves repeating a previously published experiment or computational analysis to verify its results. In computing and algorithmic research, replication ensures the reliability, robustness, and generalizability of findings

3. Potential Audience

The **potential audience** of a research journal refers to the groups of individuals or organizations that may read, cite, or benefit from the published content. Identifying this audience helps shape the journal's scope, marketing strategy, and editorial policies.

Academic Researchers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computer Science, Artificial Intelligence, Data Science, Mathematics, Physics, Engineering, Computational Biology, and related disciplines.
Industry Professionals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Software Development, IT, Machine Learning, Robotics, Finance, Healthcare, and Telecommunications
Interdisciplinary Scientists	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computational Biology, Computational Physics, Computational Social Science, Digital Humanities, and more.
Policy Makers and Analysts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computational research impacting cybersecurity, ethical AI, smart cities, and national or global tech strategies.
Entrepreneurs and Innovators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Startups and tech entrepreneurs looking for computational breakthroughs and technologies with commercialization potential.
Practitioners in Emerging Fields	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quantum Computing, Blockchain, IoT, Edge Computing, and AR/VR, Application of computation to push the boundaries of their fields.

Corporate Research and Development Teams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Innovative computational methods and technologies to incorporate into products or improve processes.
Journalists and Science Communicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computational discoveries and advancements to report on or explain to a wider audience
Government and Defense Researchers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computational technologies related to data security, encryption, simulations, and decision-making systems.

4. Journal Aim and Scope

Machines and Algorithms is a double-blind peer-reviewed and open access triannual academic research journal serving the broad computing, engineering, and biomedical communities. The journal aims to cover topics in various sub-disciplines of computational data science, engineering science, and biomedical informatics. It also welcomes research on emerging trends in computing technologies that address pertinent challenges. Special emphasis is placed on novel algorithms, advancements in machine intelligence, and data-driven approaches, along with their applications across various scientific and industrial domains.

The journal serves as a comprehensive platform for publishing high-quality, peer-reviewed research that explores all aspects of computation, from foundational theories to real-world applications. The journal welcomes contributions from researchers, practitioners, and educators across disciplines, emphasizing interdisciplinary collaboration and the impactful integration of computation into various fields of science, technology, and society. Through its broad scope, the journal aspires to be a hub for innovation, fostering the exchange of ideas that drive progress in computational research and applications. The scope includes, but is not limited to:

Core Areas of Computation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Algorithms and data structures • Theoretical computer science and computational complexity • Parallel and distributed computing • High-performance computing and cloud computing • Quantum computing • Networks (Computer, Sensor, Optical, Wireless etc.)
Emerging Technologies and Methodologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Artificial intelligence, machine learning, and deep learning • Blockchain and distributed ledger technologies • Internet of Things (IoT) and edge computing • Robotics and autonomous systems • AR/VR and computational graphics
Interdisciplinary Applications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computational biology and bioinformatics • Computational physics and chemistry • Digital humanities and social sciences • Computational finance and economics • Healthcare and medical imaging • Smart cities, sustainability, and environmental science

Systems and Software	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Software engineering and programming languages • Operating systems and systems architecture • Database management and big data analytics • Cybersecurity and cryptographic systems
Computational Ethics and Society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responsible AI and ethical computing • Computational approaches to societal challenges • Policies and regulations for emerging technologies

5. MnA Team

MnA staff consists of Advisory board members and Editorial Board members.

Advisory Board

The Advisory Board plays a vital role in shaping the long-term direction and reputation of *Machines and Algorithms*. Composed of distinguished scholars and professionals, the Board provides strategic guidance that helps the journal remain relevant, forward-looking, and closely aligned with developments in the field. While the Editorial Board manages the journal's day-to-day operations, the Advisory Board offers high-level support that strengthens the journal's vision and standing within the research community.

Key responsibilities of the Advisory Board include:

- **Strategic Guidance:** Advising on the journal's long-term goals, growth areas, and overall development strategy.
- **Reputation Building:** Contributing their expertise and professional standing to enhance the journal's credibility and visibility.
- **Insight on Emerging Trends:** Highlighting new research directions, methods, and thematic areas gaining prominence in machines and algorithms.
- **International Outreach:** Offering suggestions to broaden the journal's global presence and encourage contributions from diverse research communities.
- **Advocacy and Promotion:** Serving as ambassadors for the journal by sharing its mission and achievements within their networks.
- **Support on Complex Matters:** Providing counsel on non-routine issues, including policy considerations and ethical concerns, when needed

Advisory Board Members

Sr No.	Member Name and Affiliation	Research Domain
1	Dr. Abdul Rahim Ahmad Department of Information Systems, King Faisal University, Alahsa, Saudi Arabia	
2	Dr. Qazi Mudassar Ilyas Universiti Islam Sultan Sharif Ali, Darul Islam, Bruni.	
3	Dr. Younghak Shin Department of Computer Engineering, Mokpo National University, South Korea	

4	Dr. Irfan Saleem Sohar University, Oman
5	Dr. Muhammad Aslam Department of Computer Science - UET Lahore
6	Dr. Sami Abdusalam Alnawali Department of Information Systems, King Faisal University, Al Ahsa, Saudi Arabia
7	Dr. Faheem Mushtaq Islamiaa University Bahawalpur
8	Dr. Hafiz Farooq King Faisal University, Saudi Arabia
9	Dr. Adnan Mujahid Histofy Ltd, UK
10	Dr. Amjad Rehman Prince Sultan University, Saudi Arabia
11	Dr. Waqar Mahmood Blueridge Global
12	Dr. Samra Bashir The University of Faisalabad, Faisalabad
13	Dr. Humayun Irshad PhotoDay.com
14	Dr. Kamran Shah University of Doha for Science and Technology, Qatar
15	Dr. Sarosh Hashmi Delta Insights Pty Ltd., Melbourne, Australia
16	Dr. Saba Saif CMH Lahore Medical College and Institute of Dentistry
17	

Editorial Board

The editorial board of a journal plays a pivotal role in maintaining its quality, integrity, and reputation. Their responsibilities are diverse, covering decision-making and content review. This board is responsible to manage the accountability for all aspects of the research work submitted to journal.

Here are the key responsibilities of an editorial board:

- Ensuring the Quality and Integrity of the Journal
- Manuscript Review and Decision-Making
- Shaping the Journal's Vision and Scope
- Conflict and Ethical Issue Resolution
- Monitoring Journal Metrics and Performance
- Collaboration and Communication

Editorial Team Members

Editor in Chief	Dr. Muhammad Usman Ghani Khan Department of Computer Science, University of Engineering and Technology, Lahore, Pakistan
Managing Editor	Dr. Sajid Iqbal Department of Information Systems, College of Computer Science and Information Technology, King Faisal University, Alahsa, Saudi Arabia
Managing Editor	Dr. Asif Raza Department of Computer Science, Bahauddin Zakariya university, Multan, Pakistan

Editors:

Sr No.	Editor Name and Affiliation	Research Domain
1	Dr. Abid Iqbal Department of Computer Engineering, College of Computer Science and Information Technology, King Faisal University, Alahsa, Saudi Arabia	
2	Dr. Shadan Khan Khattak Cardiff School of Technologies, Cardiff Metropolitan University, Wales.	
3	Dr. Fiza Zafar Centre for Advanced Studies in Pure & Applied Mathematics, Bahauddin Zakariya University, Multan	
4	Dr. Adnan Abid University of Punjab, Lahore, Pakistan	
5	Dr. Tahir Abbas Department of Communication and Cybersecurity, Bahaaudiiin Zakariya University, Multan	
6	Dr. Muhammad Nasir Mumtaz Bhutta Computer Science and Information Technology, College of Engineering, Abu Dhabi University, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates	
7	Dr. Muhammad Bilal Ahmad Dept of Computer Science, Columbia Basin College, Washington, USA	
8	Dr. Muhammad Nasir Mumtaz Bhutta Computer Science and Information Technology, College of Engineering, Abu Dhabi University, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates	

9	Dr. Sadia Aziz Melbourne Institute of Technology, Australia
10	Dr. Ali Haider Department of Computer Science, Lahore Garrison University, Lahore, Pakistan
11	Dr. Khadija Kanwal Institute of Computer Science and Information Technology, The Women University , Multan, Pakistan
12	Dr. MUHAMMAD Nabeel Asghar Department of Information Systems, College of Computer Science and Information Technology, King Faisal University, Alahsa, Saudi Arabia
13	Dr. Mahmood Ashraf Department of Communication and Cybersecurity, Bahaauddiin Zakariya University, Multan

Supporting Staff:

The supporting staff of a research journal is essential for ensuring smooth operations, maintaining quality, and facilitating the editorial workflow. These staff members work behind the scenes to manage day-to-day tasks and assist the editorial board. Below are the common roles and responsibilities of the supporting staff in a research journal:

1. Managing Editors – Dr. Sajid Iqbal, Dr. MUHAMMAD Asif Raza

The Managing Editor oversees the entire editorial process and acts as the primary contact point for authors, reviewers, and editors.

- Coordinate the manuscript submission, review, and production processes.
- Communicate with authors, reviewers, and editors to ensure timely progress.
- Manage the editorial software system (e.g., ScholarOne, Editorial Manager, OJS).
- Oversee deadlines for submissions, revisions, and issue releases.
- Ensure adherence to journal policies and ethical guidelines.

2. Assistant/Editorial Coordinator – Dr. Muhammad Nabeel

This role supports the Managing Editor and handles administrative tasks to maintain the journal's workflow.

- Handle correspondence with authors, reviewers, and editorial board members.
- Track the status of manuscripts throughout the editorial process.
- Schedule and prepare for editorial board meetings.
- Maintain accurate records and reports, including reviewer performance and submission statistics.

3. Production Editor – Mehreen Tariq

The Production Editor manages the post-acceptance phase of the publication process, focusing on formatting and ensuring the quality of the final publication. Responsibilities include:

- Oversee the copyediting, typesetting, and proofreading of accepted manuscripts.
- Ensure the publication adheres to the journal's style guide and formatting requirements.
- Coordinate with typesetters, graphic designers, and indexing services.
- Manage the scheduling of issues and ensure timely publication.

4. Copyeditor - Mehreen Tariq

The Copyeditor ensures that the language, grammar, and style of manuscripts are polished and consistent with the journal's standards.

- Correct grammar, punctuation, and syntax errors.
- Ensure consistency in formatting, style, and citation standards.
- Highlight and query ambiguities or inconsistencies in the content.

5. Proofreader - Mehreen Tariq

Proofreaders review the final versions of articles before publication to ensure accuracy and consistency.

- Check for typographical errors, formatting inconsistencies, and overlooked mistakes.
- Verify references, figure captions, and tables.
- Ensure the final layout is error-free and ready for publication.

6. Technical Support Staff - Hassan Khan

Technical support staff handle the journal's online platform, submission systems, and digital presence.

Maintain the manuscript submission and tracking system.

- Troubleshoot technical issues for authors, reviewers, and editors.
- Manage the journal's website and ensure it is user-friendly and up-to-date.
- Ensure proper integration with indexing databases (e.g., PubMed, Scopus).

7. Marketing and Outreach Team - Dr. Sajid Iqbal, Dr. Asif Raza, Hassan Khan

This team promotes the journal to increase its visibility and attract submissions.

- Develop and execute strategies to promote the journal.
- Manage social media accounts and campaigns to engage the research community.
- Organize events such as webinars or workshops to highlight journal activities.
- Liaise with indexing services and publishers to improve the journal's reach.

8. Peer Review Coordinator - Dr. Nabeel Asghar

The Peer Review Coordinator facilitates the peer review process, ensuring it is efficient and fair.

- Identify and invite qualified reviewers for manuscripts.
- Monitor reviewer deadlines and send reminders.
- Ensure that reviewer comments are clear and constructive.
- Resolve issues related to reviewer conflicts or unresponsiveness.

9. Data Manager/Archivist - Hassan Khan

Responsible for managing and preserving journal-related data and records.

- Maintain archives of published issues and submissions.
- Ensure compliance with data management and privacy policies.
- Prepare metadata for indexing in academic databases.

10. Finance and Administrative Staff

This team handles the financial and logistical aspects of running the journal. Manage the journal's budget, subscriptions, and author processing charges (APCs).

- Handle payments for reviewers, editors, and other stakeholders.
- Oversee contracts and agreements with vendors and service providers.

6. Publication Ethics

Author's Responsibilities

- **Authorship:** Authorship should be attributed to personnel with significant contribution to the study, manuscript drafting, and holding responsibility for the authenticity. General supervision, or financial support shall not suffice the authorship. Contribution of each author shall clearly be stated and contributing authors shall not be changed without prior written consent from the existing authors.
- **Acknowledgement of Funding Sources:** All authors shall fairly and clearly state the portion of the studies funded, supported or sponsored by any of the government, non-government or personal sources.
- **Conflicts of Interest/Disclosures:** Authors are required to declare any financial, academic, commercial, political or personal conflicts before the publication of the manuscript.
- **Data Ownership and Access:** Authors are expected to clarify the ownership, appropriate access and full understanding of the data being presented in the submitted manuscripts.
- **Reporting Standards:** It is essential that authors are aware of international standards on the publications, and are professional and authorised to conduct studies on living objects. Moreover, authors are expected to be fully aware of practices for multiple, redundant or concurrent publications and their mitigations consequences.
- **Ethical Approvals:** In cases where animals are used in the submitted manuscript, the methods section must clearly indicate approval from the ethics committee of the institute or organisation and should state that all efforts were taken to minimize pain and discomfort to the animal while conducting these experiments.
- **Ethics of Investigation:** Authors should make sure that the manuscript is designed according to the guidelines of the Helsinki Declaration as revised in 1975, otherwise the manuscript will not be accepted for publication or will be rejected later.
- **Permissions:** In case any part (e.g. table or figure) of the submitted manuscript has been taken from previously published work, it is the responsibility of the authors to obtain permission either from the publishers or from the authors depending on the copyright ownership. ResearchersLinks can demand this permission anytime, pre- or post-publication of the study.
- **Originality and Plagiarism Policy:** The Editorial Office will strictly monitor text plagiarism and obvious fraudulent data prior to the review process and if plagiarism is detected at this stage or later, the manuscript will be rejected and will not be reconsidered in any journal published independently or in association with ResearchersLinks, UK.
- **Appeal of Decision:** Authors have the right to appeal the Editor's decision in writing to the Editorial Office stating the reasons for appealing the decision with evidence and supporting

data.

Author Accountability

- Ensure data transparency and reproducibility.
- Be collectively accountable for all aspects of the work.
- Respond promptly to any requests for clarification, correction, or retraction.

Editors / Associate Editors / Editorial Members Responsibilities

- **Editorship:** Editors (chief editor, associate editor or member of the editorial board) are expert in the field and play central roles in the peer-review process. Editors are selected based on their excellent scientific qualification, and reputation in the field. They are expected to strictly follow guidelines to not only maintain quality of publications but also to ensure best possible publication ethics.
- **Confidentiality:** Editors shall only access the submitted manuscripts for evaluation of quality and peer-review process. They shall not disclose any contents (full or partial) in any media (electronic or print) before the publication of the material or without prior written consent of the authors. Any idea or concept generated through the submitted manuscript shall not be used for personal benefits or financial gain.
- **Assessment of Manuscripts:** Editors shall evaluate contents purely based on the scientific quality and advancement in the existing understanding. Decisions shall not be based on race, gender, geographical origin, religion, and ethnicity and on any other personal or commercial interests.
- **Flexibility and Cooperation:** Editors are required to suggest and support the ethical standards, be willing to consider retractions, rectifications, and erratum and cooperate with authors to improve the quality of publications.
- **Disclosure and Conflicts of Interest:** Editors shall not consider any submitted manuscript for the review process himself/herself where there is conflict of interests. In such situations, an alternative associate editor or member of the editorial board shall be considered.
- **Accountabilities:** In case publisher suspect any form of misconduct, malpractice or unethical act, the matter shall be investigated promptly in agreement with authors and would be solved with diligence.

Editor Accountability

- Impartial and ethical editorial decisions.
- Compliance with COPE's Best Practices.
- Prompt handling of ethical complaints and disputes.
- Issuance of corrections, retractions, or expressions of concern when necessary

Reviewers Responsibilities

- **Reviewership:** Reviewers are essential part of the peer-review process and are important benchmarks for quality publications. Although sometimes tedious and time consuming, reviewing a manuscript is also a privilege.
- **Pre-acceptance Obligations:** Reviewers are expected to only accept to review the manuscript when the scope of the research/study falls within his/her areas of expertise and

that they have sufficient time to submit the report timely.

- **Conflict of Interest and Willingness:** Reviewers shall decline to review the manuscript if there is any conflict of interest, the study is beyond the ken of knowledge or they are unable to submit the evaluation in time. They shall notify the editors at their earliest convenience and can/shall suggest alternative reviewers.
- **Confidentiality:** The journal follows double-blinded review in which names of the reviewers are not disclosed to authors and reviewers are also not aware of authors and their affiliations. Reviewers shall access the submitted manuscripts for evaluation of quality and peer-review process. They shall not disclose any contents (full or partial) in any media (electronic or print) before the publication of the material or without prior written consent of the authors. Any idea or concept generated through the submitted manuscript shall not be used for personal benefits or financial gain.
- **Objectivity:** Reviewers are requested to comment on scientific contents, appropriateness of the study and value of the outcome. They are requested to not assess the manuscripts based on race, gender, geographical origin, religion, and ethnicity and on any other personal or commercial interests.
- **Meeting Standards:** Reviewers shall adhere to the criteria set by the journal in the online portal. Any comments on competing interests, duplication of publication, unethical practice or dubious act shall be conducted to the editor in the “confidential comments to the Editor” section in the online submission system.

Reviewer Accountability

- Conduct reviews that are fair, confidential, and timely.
- Provide constructive, unbiased, and evidence-based feedback.
- Support the integrity of the peer review process.

Publisher / Copy-Editor Responsibilities

- **Involvement and Cooperation in the Peer-Review Process:** We are committed to bridge all components of peer-review process for delivery of quality publications and benefiting researchers. Our all advertisements, reprinting, or other commercial interests shall not effect the decision of the editors, associate editors, and reviewers.
- **Article Withdrawal and Corrections to the Record:** The published articles may be considered for withdrawal if proven to be plagiarised, presenting fake, duplicate or fraudulent data, or showing clear evidences of infringements of ethical codes. Such articles (html, pdf, epub, eflip) will be replaced by the content stating the withdrawal of the manuscripts. Minor errors such as typos, textual changes, or clearer statements on the existing contents will be published as corrections.
- **Integrity and Quality of Services:** We will ensure that all contents are confidential before publication, meeting standard of archiving and abstracting and timely publication of the accepted manuscripts.

7. Journal Policies

Manuscript Submission and Handling

The *Machines and Algorithms (MnA)* journal manages all submissions through an online manuscript system to ensure efficiency, transparency, and a smooth editorial workflow. Every submitted manuscript enters a structured evaluation process designed to maintain scholarly integrity and publication quality.

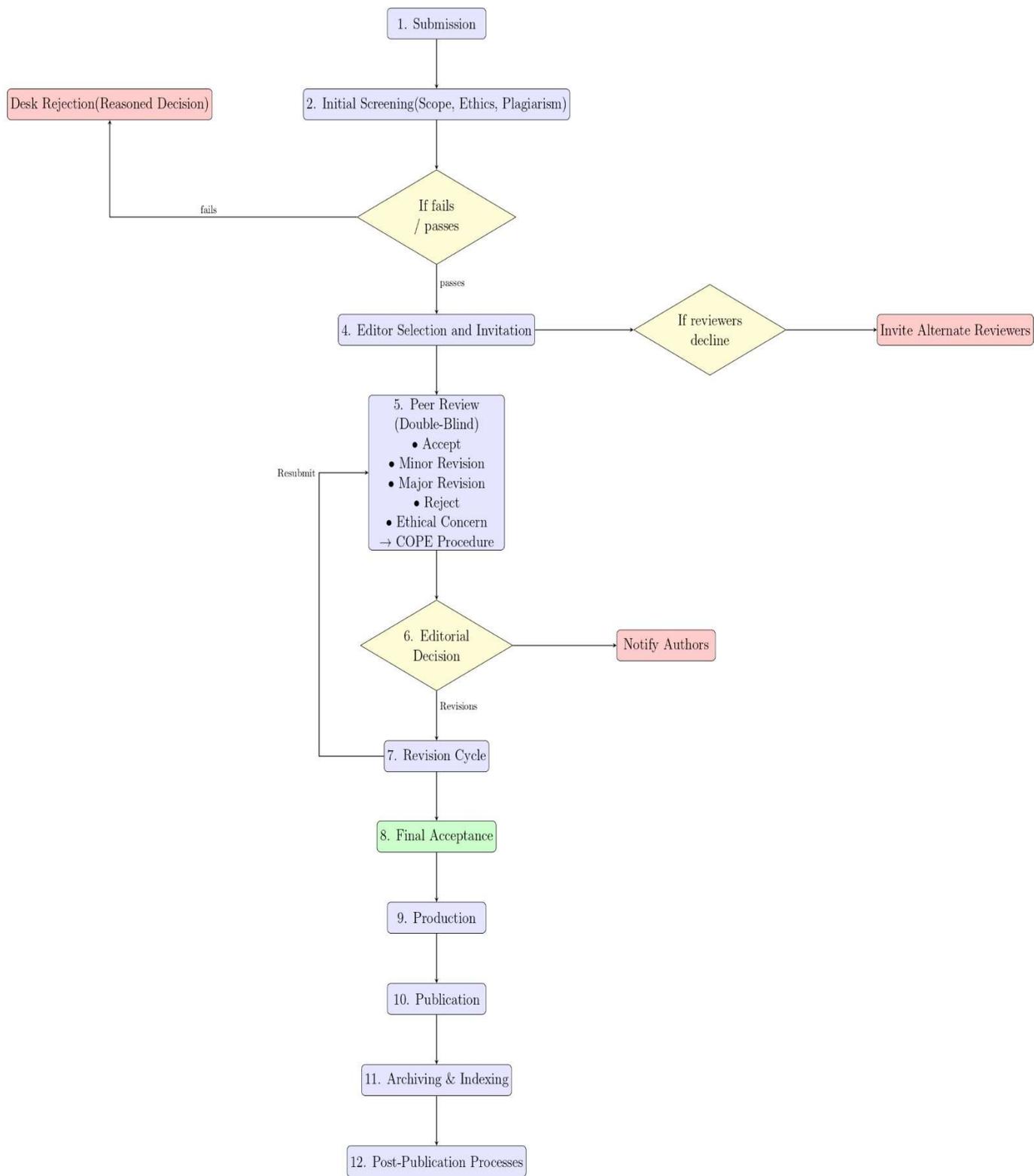


Figure 1: COPE – Compliant Article Submission and Processing Workflow

Submission Workflow Summary

1. Submission

Authors upload their manuscript, along with required metadata and declarations, through the MnA online submission system.

2. Initial Screening

The Editor-in-Chief (EIC) or a designated Associate Editor performs a preliminary review to check the manuscript's:

- Fit with journal scope
- Originality and relevance
- Compliance with formatting and ethical guidelines

3. Desk Evaluation

Manuscripts failing to meet minimum journal standards may be desk-rejected at this stage. Others move to the next step.

4. Editor Assignment

Suitable manuscripts are assigned to an Associate Editor / Editor with subject-matter expertise.

5. Reviewer Selection

The editor appoints qualified reviewers following the journal's ethical and conflict-of-interest policies.

6. Double-Blind Peer Review

The manuscript undergoes rigorous review by at least two independent experts.

7. Editorial Decision

Based on reviewer feedback, the editor makes a recommendation (accept, revise, or reject), which is confirmed by the EIC.

8. Revision and Resubmission

Authors submit revised manuscripts along with a detailed response-to-reviewers document.

9. Final Acceptance

Once the manuscript satisfies all scientific and ethical requirements, the EIC grants final acceptance.

10. Production

The article proceeds to copyediting, typesetting, proofing, and DOI assignment.

11. Archiving

A finalized version is published online and preserved in MnA's long-term archiving systems.

MnA is committed to maintaining confidentiality, fairness, and ethical standards throughout each step of this process.

Article Submission Policy

Submission Eligibility Criteria

The eligibility criteria for research submissions to a journal addresses the accountability issues for relevant researchers. However, common requirements to ensure the quality of submissions include:

Relevance

Authors should carefully review the journal's guidelines and ensure their work fits the specific field, discipline, or audience the journal targets.

Originality	The manuscript must present original work that has not been published elsewhere, including in other journals, conference proceedings.
Duplicate Submission	The submission should not be under review at another journal simultaneously.
Quality of the Research	The research should meet the journal's standards for rigor and validity: Sound methodology, Clear objectives and hypotheses, and robust data analysis. Results and interpretations must be well-supported by evidence.
Ethics Compliance	Studies involving human participants or animals must have ethical approval from relevant institutional review boards (IRBs) or ethics committees. Authors must confirm that informed consent was obtained from participants, where applicable. Authors should confirm compliance with ethical guidelines, such as the Declaration of Helsinki or equivalent.
Conflict of Interest Disclosure	Authors must disclose any potential conflicts of interest (e.g., financial, personal, or professional) that could influence the research.
Corresponding Author	One corresponding author will be responsible for all communication. The journal will allow multiple co-authorship.
Language and Presentation	The manuscript must be written in the journal's required language (i.e. English). It should follow clear and professional writing standards, free from grammatical or typographical errors.
Formatting and Structure	The manuscript must adhere to the journal's submission guidelines regarding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Word count and number of pages • Manuscript sections (e.g., abstract, introduction, methods, results, discussion, references). • Citation and reference style.
Adherence to Open Access	Authors must comply with the journal's open access policy
Funding Acknowledgment	Authors must disclose any funding sources and include an acknowledgment of financial support.
Checklist	The journal will provide a submission checklist to ensure authors include all necessary components (e.g., cover letter, title page, main manuscript, references, and any required disclosures).

Author Contribution

MnA follows the **CRediT (Contributor Roles Taxonomy)** system to ensure transparency in authorship and accountability in scholarly publishing. Each author must clearly indicate their specific contributions at the time of submission. The journal recognizes the following contribution roles:

<i>Role</i>	<i>Description</i>
Conceptualization	Formulating research ideas, hypotheses, or overarching goals. <i>Example: Proposing a new algorithm for federated learning.</i>
Methodology	Designing research methods, models, or experimental protocols. <i>Example: Creating a simulation framework for testing AI robustness.</i>
Software	Writing, debugging, or maintaining code/software used in the research. <i>Example: Developing a Python library for quantum algorithm simulations.</i>
Validation	Verifying results (e.g., replication, statistical checks). <i>Example: Testing a machine learning model's accuracy on unseen data.</i>
Formal Analysis	Applying mathematical, statistical, or computational techniques to data. <i>Example: Deriving theoretical bounds for an optimization problem.</i>
Investigation	Conducting experiments, simulations, or data collection. <i>Example: Running benchmarks on a new hardware accelerator.</i>
Resources	Providing materials, datasets, or tools (without direct analysis). <i>Example: Supplying a proprietary dataset for training models.</i>
Data Curation	Cleaning, annotating, or curating data for analysis. <i>Example: Labeling images for a computer vision study.</i>
Writing – Original Draft	Preparing the first draft of the manuscript.
Writing – Review & Editing	Revising, critiquing, or editing the manuscript.
Visualization	Creating figures, diagrams, or visual representations of data.
Supervision	Overseeing research planning/execution (PI/advisor roles).
Project Administration and Funding	Managing funding, logistics, or institutional approvals.

The author must submit the author contributionship at the time of paper submission. MnA will receive it at the time of paper submission.

Non-qualifying authors can be acknowledged in acknowledgement section.

Finally, MnA requires that:

1. All listed authors must have made **meaningful scholarly contributions**.
2. Contributions must be disclosed during submission.
3. Ghost authorship and honorary authorship are strictly prohibited.

Disputes on authorship are handled according to COPE guidelines.

Contributions to Conception/Design

This involves the intellectual foundation of the research, including:

- **Original Ideas:** Proposing the core hypothesis, research question, or novel methodology.
- **Theoretical Frameworks:** Developing mathematical models, algorithms, or computational approaches.
- **Study Design:** Structuring experiments, simulations, or analytical methods.
- **Technical Innovation:** Designing new software/hardware systems or architectures.

Contributions to Data Work

This covers data-related efforts essential to the research, such as:

- **Data Collection:** Acquiring datasets (e.g., scraping, lab experiments, surveys).
- **Data Curation:** Cleaning, annotating, or labelling data (critical in AI/ML).
- **Data Analysis:** Applying statistical/computational techniques to derive insights.
- **Code Implementation:** Writing software to process/generate data (e.g., simulations).

Article Submission Guidelines

We warmly welcome manuscript submissions throughout the year. Once your paper is received, it immediately enters a rigorous peer-review process, being sent out to several expert referees of international standing.

For a paper to be deemed suitable for publication, it must be reviewed and endorsed by a minimum of two reviewers after incorporating all necessary revisions. Once this standard is met, the accepted manuscript will be slotted for publication in an upcoming issue. Our journal is published thrice yearly, resulting in three new issues annually.

All articles must be submitted digitally using our dedicated manuscript management platform, the Open Journal Systems (OJS). Please use the following link to access the submission portal and begin the process: [<https://knovell.org/MnA/index.php/ojs/about/submissions>].

Manuscripts submitted for publication must be prepared according to the guideline given below.

Submission Process

Author Registration & Login

- Authors must create an account or log in to the journal's Online Journal System (OJS).

New Submission Initiation

- Author navigates to the "Make a New Submission" section and select the appropriate journal section (e.g., Research Articles, Review Papers).

Manuscript Upload

- Author uploads the manuscript in DOCX, RTF, PDF, or OpenOffice format.
- Manuscripts must follow the journal's custom format defined in the template provided under the Guide for Authors webpage at: [<https://knovell.org/MnA/index.php/ojs/Guideforauthors>].

Metadata Entry

- Title and Abstract
- Authors' names, affiliations, and ORCID IDs
- Keywords
- References

Cover Letter & Supplementary Files

- Author may upload cover letters, datasets, ethical approvals, or supplementary files.

Submission Confirmation

- Author reviews all information and confirm the submission.

Initial Screening Policy

Upon submission, every manuscript undergoes an initial screening by the **Editor-in-Chief (EIC)** or an assigned **Associate Editor**. This assessment ensures that only manuscripts meeting basic journal standards proceed to peer review.

The screening evaluates:

- Relevance to MnA's scope
- Originality and research significance
- Compliance with submission guidelines
- Ethical and legal transparency
- Plagiarism and text similarity (checked using similarity-detection tools)
- Structural completeness (figures, tables, references, declarations)

Manuscripts failing to meet the minimum criteria may be returned to authors for corrections or rejected without external review.

Screening Outcomes

Following initial evaluation, a manuscript may result in one of the following outcomes:

<i>Outcome</i>	<i>Description</i>
Proceed to Peer Review	Manuscript meets all screening requirements and is sent to reviewers.
Minor Revision Before Review	Authors are asked to correct formatting, ethical statements, or minor deficiencies before peer review.
Desk Rejection	Manuscript is unsuitable for peer review due to scope mismatch, low quality, or ethical concerns.

Communication with Authors

- Authors are informed of the initial screening outcome within **7 days** after submission.
- If revisions are required before peer review, clear instructions and deadlines are provided.
- Desk rejections include a brief explanation to help authors understand the editorial decision.

Desk Rejection Policy

MnA reserves the right to desk reject manuscripts that do not qualify for external peer review.

Desk rejections may occur for the following reasons:

- Falls outside the journal's scope or objectives.
- Fails to meet minimum quality or formatting standards.
- Shows ethical concerns, such as plagiarism or data manipulation.
- Lacks sufficient novelty, scientific contribution, or methodological rigor.
- Demonstrates poor English language or structure that impedes comprehension.

Desk rejection decisions are made objectively and communicated to the authors within two to three weeks of submission, along with a brief justification. Checklist for desk rejection:

Checklist

<i>Category</i>	<i>Screening Criteria</i>	<i>Decision Basis</i>
Relevance and Scope	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Does the topic align with the journal's aims• Is the manuscript type suitable	Out of scope → Reject
Originality and Contribution	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Does it present new findings or insights?• Does it offer significant theoretical or practical value?	Insufficient novelty → Reject
Structure and Format	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is the paper structured properly?• Does it follow journal formatting and reference style?	Poor structure or non-compliance → Reject
Ethical Compliance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is there evidence of plagiarism or self-plagiarism?• Are ethical approvals or consent statements provided (if applicable)?	Ethical concern → Reject
Quality of Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is the English clear and grammatically correct?• Are tables, figures, and references properly cited and labeled?	Unclear writing or poor presentation → Reject
Methodological Soundness	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Are methods described clearly and appropriately?• Is the sample/data adequate to support conclusions?	Weak methodology → Reject
References and Literature	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Does it include up-to-date, relevant references?• Are citations appropriate and accurate?	Outdated or irrelevant citations → Reject

Communication and Transparency

- Authors receive a formal email explaining the reason for desk rejection.
- Editors are encouraged to include constructive comments when possible to help authors improve the manuscript for resubmission or submission elsewhere.
- All desk rejection decisions are documented internally to ensure transparency and consistency.
- Authors who believe that their manuscript was inappropriately desk rejected may submit a written appeal within 2 weeks.
- The appeal will be reviewed by the Editor-in-Chief and, if necessary, an independent member of the Editorial Board.
- The decision on the appeal is final.

Editor Assignment Policy

Once a manuscript passes initial screening, it is assigned to an Associate Editor (AE) with appropriate expertise.

Assignment Criteria:

- Subject area alignment
- Availability and workload of editors
- Absence of conflicts of interest
- Balanced distribution of editorial responsibility

Assignment Process

Step 1: Editor Selection Criteria

An Associate Editor or Handling Editor is selected using the following criteria:

- Demonstrated expertise in the manuscript's field or methodology.
- No direct professional or personal relationship with the authors.
- Balanced workload to prevent delays in review.
- Regional and institutional diversity encouraged where possible.

Step 2: Assignment Confirmation

- The selected editor is notified via the journal management system.
- The editor must accept or decline the assignment within one week.
- If declined (due to conflict or unavailability), the manuscript is reassigned by the Editor-in-Chief/Associate Editor.

Step 3: Editorial Handling

Once accepted:

- The assigned editor oversees the peer review process, including reviewer selection, review quality assurance, and decision recommendations.
- The Editor-in-Chief retains final authority over the publication decision based on the editor's recommendation.

Conflict of Interest Management

Editors must declare any potential conflict of interest immediately upon assignment.

Examples include:

- Collaboration with any of the authors within the last 3 years.
- Employment at the same institution as an author.
- Personal, financial, or advisory relationships.

If a conflict exists, the manuscript is reassigned to another qualified editor without penalty or prejudice.

Workload and Timeliness

- Editors are expected to handle assignments promptly and efficiently.
- Each editor should manage a reasonable number of manuscripts concurrently (typically no more than 5–7 active cases).
- Editors who consistently delay assignments may be temporarily relieved or supported by additional editorial staff.

Quality Assurance

The Editor-in-Chief regularly reviews:

- Assignment distribution balance among editors
- Timeliness of review completion
- Reviewer selection diversity
- Editorial decisions and feedback consistency

Periodic performance evaluations ensure editorial accountability and continuous improvement.

Reassignment of Manuscripts

A manuscript may be reassigned by the Editor-in-Chief in the following cases:

- Editor fails to respond within 3 working days.
- Conflict of interest is identified post-assignment.
- Prolonged delay in review handling without justified reason.
- Upon author appeal requiring impartial reevaluation.

Record Keeping

All assignment decisions and changes are logged within the manuscript management system, including:

- Date of assignment and acceptance
- Name of assigned editor
- Declination reason (if applicable)
- Communication notes

This ensures full traceability and transparency in the editorial workflow.

Peer Review Policy

The peer review process is the cornerstone of MnA. It ensures that only high-quality, original, and scientifically rigorous work is published. This policy defines the principles, structure, and

procedures governing the **peer review system**, ensuring **fairness, transparency, confidentiality, and accountability** across all submissions.

Type of Peer Review

MnA follows a **Double-Blind Peer Review** model:

- Reviewers remain anonymous to authors.
- Authors remain anonymous to reviewers.
- Editors ensure that identifying details are removed from the manuscript before review.

This model upholds objectivity and prevents bias based on personal, institutional, or geographical identity.

Reviewer Selection Principles

Reviewer selection is guided by the following principles:

<i>Criterion</i>	<i>Description</i>
Expertise	Reviewers must have demonstrable expertise in the manuscript's subject area, reflected by publications, academic background, or professional experience.
Objectivity	Reviewers must be free from personal, institutional, or financial conflicts of interest.
Diversity	The journal encourages geographical, institutional, and gender diversity among reviewers to promote inclusiveness.
Confidentiality	Reviewers must maintain strict confidentiality of all materials and communications.
Professional Conduct	Reviewers are expected to provide fair, constructive, and evidence-based evaluations.

Reviewer Identification and Selection Process

Reviewers are identified through:

- The journal's reviewer database
- Editorial board recommendations
- Literature searches and citation networks
- Author suggestions (with validation by editors)
- Each manuscript is assigned to a minimum of two reviewers to ensure balanced and credible evaluations.
- Reviewers are selected based on topic match, availability, and previous review quality.

Reviewer Invitation and Acceptance

Step 1 – Invitation

- The **Handling Editor** sends an invitation via the journal management system or official email.
- The invitation includes the **title, abstract, and expected review deadline** (typically 7 days).

Step 2 – Reviewer Response

- Reviewers must accept or decline the invitation within **7 working days**.
- If declined, the reviewer may recommend an alternative qualified reviewer (without conflict of interest).
- If reviewer does not respond in given time, another reviewer is invited for review.

Step 3 – Confirmation

- Upon acceptance, the reviewer gains access to the **full manuscript** and supporting materials via the system.
- Reviewers confirm understanding of **confidentiality and ethics obligations**.

Reassignment of Reviewers

A reviewer may be replaced if:

- They fail to respond to the invitation within 7 days
- They decline or withdraw after initial acceptance
- Their review is delayed beyond the deadline
- Their review is found inadequate or biased

Reassignments are recorded in the editorial management system for audit and transparency.

Reviewer Responsibilities

Reviewers play a critical role in maintaining the integrity and reputation of MnA. They are expected to:

- Provide objective, constructive, and evidence-based feedback.
- Identify strengths, weaknesses, and originality of the manuscript.
- Evaluate the soundness of methodology and analysis.
- Flag issues of plagiarism, ethical misconduct, or data manipulation.
- Submit reviews within the assigned **3 weeks**, or notify editors promptly if more time is required.
- Maintain confidentiality and not use any content for personal benefit.

Decision after Peer Review

Once the reviewers submit their comments, the handling editor may make one of the following decisions on the manuscript.

<i>Decision Type</i>	<i>Description</i>
Accept Without Revision	The manuscript meets all journal standards and requires no further modification.
Minor Revision	The manuscript is scientifically sound but needs limited textual or formatting changes.
Major Revision	Substantial improvements are needed in methodology, analysis, or clarity before reconsideration.
Reject Resubmission Allowed	The manuscript is not ready for publication but may be reconsidered after extensive revision and resubmission.
Reject (Final Decision)	The manuscript is unsuitable for the journal or fails to meet scientific or ethical standards.

Decision Criteria

Editorial decisions are based on:

- Originality and contribution to the field
- Relevance to journal scope
- Soundness of research design and methodology
- Clarity and structure of writing
- Compliance with ethical standards (plagiarism, conflict of interest, consent)
- Reviewer feedback and consensus

Communication of Decisions

All decisions are communicated to the corresponding author via the journal's online system or official email. Decision letters include:

- The decision outcome
- Reviewer comments (anonymized)
- Editorial summary (if applicable)
- Next steps and resubmission guidelines

Authors must receive clear reasoning for all major decisions, especially in rejections.

Manuscript Confidentiality and Transparency

All participants in the peer review process (editors, reviewers, staff) must:

- Treat manuscripts as confidential documents during each stage of initial screening and peer review process.
- Ensure decisions on the manuscript are recorded in the editorial management system for transparency and quality assurance.
- Avoid sharing, discussing, or citing content prior to publication.
- Securely delete manuscript copies after review completion.
- Ensure screening outcomes are not influenced by author identity, institutional affiliation, nationality, or funding source.

Conflict of Interest Policy

Although the peer review process is double-blind, if a reviewer reasonably believes they can identify the authors (e.g., through subject matter, writing style, or self-citation patterns) and a potential conflict exists, they must **decline an invitation** if any of the following apply:

- Collaboration or co-authorship with the author(s) within the past **3 years**
- Employment at the same institution as the author(s)
- Financial, personal, or professional relationships that could bias judgment
- Involvement in related competing research

All conflicts, even potential ones, must be **disclosed immediately** to the Handling Editor. The Editor-in-Chief may reassign the review to maintain impartiality.

Quality of Reviews

The **Handling Editor** evaluates each completed review for:

- Depth and relevance of analysis

- Constructive feedback (strengths and weaknesses)
- Evidence-based comments supporting the recommendation
- Professional tone and adherence to ethical guidelines

Editors may provide feedback to reviewers to promote continuous improvement.

Exceptional reviewers may be recognized in an annual acknowledgment list or certificate.

Reviewer Recognition

To appreciate academic service, *MnA* may offer:

- Review Certificate – issued after each review
- **Certificates of Reviewing Excellence** - issued annually
- Acknowledgment on the journal's website - with reviewer consent
- Eligibility for **Editorial Board nomination** after consistent, high-quality contributions

Record Keeping

All reviewer assignments, responses, and evaluations are documented within the editorial system, including:

- Date of invitation and acceptance
- Reviewer names and institutions
- Review deadlines and completion dates
- Quality assessment and feedback notes

These records ensure transparency, ethical traceability, and compliance with indexing standards.

Misconduct and Review Integrity

The journal takes peer review ethics seriously. Any of the following will result in removal from the reviewer pool and possible institutional notification:

- Breach of confidentiality
- Plagiarism or data misuse
- Unprofessional or biased reviews
- Falsified reviewer identities

All suspected cases are investigated following **COPE Ethical Guidelines**.

Post-Review Transparency

To enhance scholarly trust:

- Accepted manuscripts may include reviewer acknowledgment (with consent).
- Editors may publish review statistics (average review time, acceptance rate, etc.) annually.
- Reviewers may request certificates recognizing their contributions.

Continuous Improvement

The editorial office regularly reviews the peer review process to:

- Monitor reviewer performance and diversity
- Improve efficiency and communication

- Align with evolving publishing standards and technology

Peer Review Timeframes

See Under Table : Paper Publication Timeframe

Review Process Summary

- **Initial Screening:** The Editor-in-Chief or Associate Editor checks scope, quality, and ethical compliance.
- **Reviewer Assignment:** Manuscript is sent to at least two experts.
- **Review Reports:** Reviewers assess content and submit structured reports.
- **Editorial Decision:** Based on reviewer feedback, the editor chooses one of the following:
 - Accept as is
 - Minor revision
 - Major revision
 - Reject
- **Author Notification:** Authors receive anonymized feedback and must address all reviewer comments.
- **Re-Review (if needed):** Revised manuscripts may be re-evaluated by the same or new reviewers.
- **Final Decision:** The Editor-in-Chief makes the final decision regarding acceptance or rejection.

Plagiarism Policy:

At *Machines and Algorithms*, we maintain a **zero-tolerance policy** toward plagiarism. Upholding **originality, proper attribution, and academic honesty** is essential to maintaining the trust of the research community and the credibility of our publications. Submissions must pass plagiarism checks, ensuring proper attribution of sources and no self-plagiarism. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to:

- Copying **text, data, images, or ideas** from other works without proper citation.
- **Self-plagiarism** (reuse of significant parts of an author’s own previously published work without appropriate referencing or justification).
- Paraphrasing another’s work **without crediting the original source**.
- Submitting someone else's research or work as one's own.

Following types of plagiarisms are considered in journal submissions:

<i>Plagiarism Type</i>	<i>Description</i>
Direct copying	Word-for-word copying without quotation or reference
Mosaic/Partial Plagiarism	Blending copied material with original content

Paraphrasing without attribution	The act of rewriting someone else's ideas, findings, or arguments in your own words without giving credit to the original source
Self-plagiarism	Republishing or reusing one's own previous work without disclosure
Submitting work obtained from others	An unethical academic or professional practice of presenting someone else's work—whether entirely or partially—as your own.
Image or data plagiarism	act of using images, charts, graphs, tables, datasets, or any form of visual or statistical information created or collected by someone else without proper acknowledgment or permission, and presenting it as your own work

Author Responsibilities

- Authors must properly cite all sources.
- Obtain and share necessary permissions for using copyrighted material.
- Ensure that the submitted work is their own and has not been previously published or submitted elsewhere.

Plagiarism Detection Methods

- **Automatic Detection:** The journal will use Turnitin/iThenticate for plagiarism checking
- **Manual Review:** Peer reviewers and handling editor shall examine the manuscript for potential instances of plagiarism, including those defined under above plagiarism types table.
- **AI and LLM Tools:** These tools can help in detection of plagiarized text or to identify text patterns indicative of generative AI use without proper disclosure.

Handling Plagiarism

All plagiarism cases are handled in accordance with the COPE Guidelines.

- Initial screening and investigation.
- Notification to the author(s) and an opportunity to respond.
 - Global Similarity (overall): 15%
 - Local Similarity (from each source): <2%
 - Generative AI, if used, must be indicated in the document.
- Review of the evidence.
- Rejection of the submission.
- Retraction of a published article.
- Notification of the author's institution or funding agency.
- A ban on future submissions to the journal.

Contact for Concerns

To report suspected plagiarism or request clarification:
editor@mna.org

Copyright and Licensing Policy

License Applied

All articles published in Machines and Algorithms are licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License (CC BY 4.0).

Author Rights and Responsibilities

1. Authors Retain:

- Copyright of their work
- Right to self-archive pre-prints and post-prints
- Right to reuse in future works with proper citation
- Moral rights of attribution

2. Authors Grant to Journal:

- A non-exclusive license to publish under CC BY 4.0
- The right to be the first publisher
- The right to distribute and archive the article

3. User Rights (CC BY 4.0 Terms)

Users May:

- Share — copy and redistribute in any medium or format
- Adapt — remix, transform, and build upon the material
- For any purpose, including commercially

Users Must:

- Attribute — Give appropriate credit to the author(s)
- Link — Provide a link to the CC BY 4.0 license
- Indicate Changes — If the material was modified
- No Additional Restrictions — May not apply legal terms that restrict others

4. Author Agreement

By submitting to Machines and Algorithms, authors agree to:

- Publish under CC BY 4.0 license
- Ensure the work is original and not previously published
- Obtain permissions for third-party content
- Acknowledge all contributors appropriately
- Journal will not be responsible for any copyright infringement.

5. Third-Party Content

Authors are responsible for:

- Obtaining permission for any third-party content
- Providing proper attribution
- Ensuring compliance with third-party licenses

6. Archiving and Indexing

The journal may deposit articles in:

- Institutional repositories
- Subject-specific databases
- Long-term preservation systems

All archived copies will carry the CC BY 4.0 license notice.

7. How to Cite

When using content from *Machines and Algorithms*, cite as:

Author(s). (Year). Title. **Machines and Algorithms**, Volume(Issue), pages.

DOI: <https://doi.org/xxxx>

Retraction and Correction Policy

At *Machines and Algorithms*, we uphold the integrity of the scientific record. This **Retraction and Correction Policy** ensures transparency and accountability when errors or ethical issues arise in published articles. This policy outlines the process for:

- **Correcting honest errors**
- **Retracting articles with significant issues**
- **Issuing expressions of concern**
- **Preserving trust** in the academic publication process

Corrections (Errata)

A **correction** is issued when:

- There is a **minor error** (e.g., author name misspelling, incorrect figure label, formatting issues)
- The **scientific integrity** and conclusions of the article remain intact

The error **correction process** works as follows:

- Authors or readers may report the issue.
- Editors verify and assess the impact of the error.
- A correction notice is published and linked to the original article.
- If editor or reviewer finds significant amount of error, the paper could be rejected even after acceptance or it could be “retracted” if it is published.

Retractions

A **retraction** is issued when:

- There is evidence of misconduct (e.g., data fabrication, plagiarism, unethical research)
- The results are unreliable due to major errors or fraud
- There is duplicate publication or unauthorized reuse of content

The relevant Process works as follows:

- The editorial team conducts an internal investigation, often in consultation with the authors and, if applicable, their institutions.
- If misconduct or irreparable error is confirmed, a retraction notice is issued and the original article is clearly marked as retracted, but remains accessible for transparency.
- The retraction notice includes the reason and who initiated it.

Expression of Concern

An expression of concern may be published if:

- A serious issue is suspected but conclusive evidence is pending
- There are unresolved investigations at an author’s institution

- Editors believe readers should be alerted to potential problems

Retraction and Correction Visibility

- All retractions, corrections, and expressions of concern are:
 - **Openly accessible**
 - Linked to the original article
 - Indexed with a clear label (e.g., “[RETRACTED]”)
 - The journal will also add the reasons of retraction with the article

Ethical Framework

Machines and Algorithms adheres to best practices from the **Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE)**. See COPE Retraction Guidelines for more details.

Contact

To report concerns or request a correction:

editor@knovell.org

Revision Cycle Policy

This policy defines the procedures and standards for handling manuscript revisions following peer review. It ensures that all authors receive fair, constructive feedback and that revisions are processed efficiently, consistently, and transparently to uphold the quality and integrity of the journal.

This policy applies to all manuscripts requiring revisions—minor, major, or resubmission—after the first round of peer review in *MnA*.

Types of Revisions

Revision Type	Description	Typical Timeline
Minor Revision	Requires small changes such as clarifications, formatting corrections, or minor additions to results or discussion.	14 days
Major Revision	Requires significant changes in analysis, methodology, or interpretation; may involve additional data or reanalysis.	30 days
Resubmission After Rejection	Manuscript rejected but may be resubmitted after substantial revision addressing key reviewer concerns.	No fixed deadline (new submission)

Revision Process Workflow

Step 1 – Decision Notification

- The **Editor-in-Chief (EIC)** or **Handling Editor** sends a detailed decision letter through the submission system.
- Reviewer comments are anonymized and included for transparency.
- The letter specifies the revision type (minor or major) and submission deadline.

Step 2 – Author Revision

Authors must:

- Prepare a point-by-point response to every reviewer comment.
- Upload a clean revised version and a tracked-changes version.
- Clearly justify any comments not addressed or suggestions declined.
- Follow journal formatting and ethical guidelines.

Step 3 – Editorial Check

The Handling Editor checks the revised submission for completeness:

- Have all comments been addressed?
- Are changes clear and adequately explained?
- Are ethical and formatting requirements met?

Step 4 – Second Review (if applicable)

- **Minor revisions** may be accepted by the Handling Editor without re-review.
- **Major revisions** are often re-sent to the **original reviewers** or a **new reviewer** if necessary.
- Reviewers are asked to focus only on **changes made** during the revision.

Step 5 – Editorial Decision

After review of the revised manuscript:

- **Accept:** All issues addressed satisfactorily.
- **Minor/Second Revision:** Further clarification required.
- **Reject After Revision:** Key issues remain unresolved.

The **Editor-in-Chief** makes the final decision.

Number of Revision Rounds

- Normally, a manuscript will go through no more than two revision cycles.
- A third revision may be permitted under exceptional circumstances, with Editor-in-Chief approval.
- Continuous revisions without substantial improvement may lead to final rejection.

Extension Policy

- Authors may request an extension before the revision deadline.
- Extensions up to two weeks (minor) or four weeks (major) may be granted at the discretion of the Editor-in-Chief.
- If no response or request is received within 7 days after the deadline, the submission may be automatically withdrawn.

Monitoring and Timeliness

The editorial office monitors:

- Average revision turnaround times.
- Delays or repeated cycles.
- Reviewer response quality.

Annual statistics are reviewed by the Governance Committee to improve efficiency and editorial performance.

Appeals and Complaints

This policy outlines the process by which authors may appeal editorial decisions or raise concerns about the peer review process for submissions to *Machines and Algorithms*. The goal is to ensure fairness, transparency, and accountability in the editorial and peer review process. Appeals may be submitted in cases where authors believe that:

- A manuscript was unfairly rejected.
- There was a misunderstanding or factual error in the editorial or reviewer assessment.
- There was evidence of bias, conflict of interest, or procedural irregularity in the review process.

Appeals must be based on substantive grounds and not merely disagreement with the editorial decision.

Appeal Submission Process:

Appeals must be submitted in writing within **10 days** of the editorial decision.

The appeal should be sent to: editor@knovell.org with the subject line: “Appeal: [Manuscript ID] – [Manuscript Title]”.

The appeal must include:

- A detailed explanation of the reason for the appeal.
- Specific responses to reviewers’ and editors’ comments (if applicable).
- Any additional evidence or documentation supporting the appeal.

Appeal Review Process:

- **Acknowledgment:** The editorial office will acknowledge receipt of the appeal within 5 business days.
- **Preliminary Review:** The Editor-in-Chief or Associate Editor not involved in the original decision will conduct an independent assessment of the appeal.
- **Further Review (if needed):** Additional expert opinions may be sought. The original reviewers may or may not be consulted again, depending on the case.
- **Decision:** The final decision will be communicated within 3–4 weeks of receiving the appeal.

Possible Outcome:

- **Appeal Upheld:** The manuscript may be re-entered into the review process, sent for additional review, or accepted with revisions.
- **Appeal Denied:** The original editorial decision is maintained, and no further appeals will be considered for the same manuscript.

Confidentiality:

All appeal communications and deliberations are treated with strict confidentiality and in accordance with the journal's ethical standards.

Contact:

For all appeal-related inquiries: editor.mna@knovell.org

Final Acceptance Policy

The Final Acceptance Policy defines the principles and procedures for granting final approval for publication after successful peer review and revision. It ensures that all accepted manuscripts meet the **scientific, ethical, formatting, and publication standards** of *MnA* before they proceed to production.

This policy applies to all manuscript types — including research articles, review papers, short communications, and case studies — that have completed peer review and revision and are recommended for acceptance by the editorial team.

The final acceptance stage ensures:

- Compliance with the journal's scope and mission
- Verification of **scientific soundness and originality**
- Adherence to **ethical and formatting standards**
- Confirmation of **publication requirements**

Prerequisites for Final Acceptance

Before final acceptance, the following criteria must be verified by the **Handling Editor** and **Editor-in-Chief (EIC)**:

<i>Category</i>	<i>Requirement</i>
Peer Review Completion	At least two independent reviews completed; all major and minor comments addressed satisfactorily
Revision Quality	Reviewer and editorial recommendations incorporated with clear responses and track changes
Ethical Compliance	Plagiarism <15% (checked via Turnitin/iThenticate); all ethical approvals, consent forms, and data-sharing statements provided
Formatting	Manuscript follows journal formatting guidelines (structure, citations, figures, tables, etc.)
Language and Clarity	English grammar, coherence, and readability meet publication standards.
Conflict of Interest	All authors and editors have declared any potential conflicts.
Authorship Confirmation	All listed authors have contributed substantially and approved the final version.
Data Availability	Data sharing and repository information provided, if applicable.

Final Evaluation Procedure

Step 1 – Verification by Handling Editor

- Confirms that all reviewer comments are adequately addressed.
- Ensures ethical compliance, proper referencing, and formatting.
- Submits recommendation for final acceptance to the **Editor-in-Chief**.

Step 2 – Editor-in-Chief Review

- Reviews all materials (final manuscript, responses, and reports).
- May request minor technical corrections or editorial polishing.

- Makes the final acceptance decision and documents it in the editorial management system.

Step 3 – Author Notification

Authors receive a **formal acceptance letter** including:

- Acceptance confirmation and manuscript ID
- Next steps for production (proofing, copyright, metadata verification)
- Statement of gratitude for contribution

Step 4 – Transfer to Production

The accepted manuscript is forwarded to the **Publisher Representative** for:

- Copyediting and typesetting
- DOI assignment and metadata tagging
- Proof preparation and author approval

Editorial Independence

The final acceptance decision rests solely with the Editor-in-Chief and cannot be influenced by:

- Authors or reviewers
- Institutional, political, or financial interests
- Advertising or sponsorship considerations

All decisions must be made based on scientific merit and editorial integrity.

Reconsideration or Delay of Final Acceptance

Final acceptance may be delayed or reconsidered if:

- Post-acceptance ethical concerns arise
- Plagiarism or data integrity issues are discovered
- Authorship or funding disputes occur
- Required declarations or files are missing

In such cases, the manuscript will be placed “On Hold” until issues are resolved.

If unresolved, the paper may be **withdrawn** or **retracted** following COPE guidelines.

Post-Acceptance Author Obligations

After acceptance, authors must:

- Review and approve **page proofs** within 3–5 working days.
- Ensure accuracy of names, affiliations, and acknowledgments.
- Submit any final data or supplementary files.
- Complete **CC BY 4.0 license** forms.

Failure to complete these steps may delay or suspend publication.

Documentation and Record Keeping

All records related to the final acceptance process are stored in the editorial management system, including:

- Editor recommendations and decision logs
- Reviewer reports and correspondence
- Author acceptance confirmation and proof approval

This ensures transparency, audit readiness, and compliance with indexing requirements.

Quality and Compliance Monitoring

The **Governance Committee** conducts quarterly reviews of accepted manuscripts to ensure:
Adherence to journal standards

- Compliance with ethical and indexing policies
- Timeliness and balance across subject areas

Annual summaries are reported to the **Publisher Representative** for quality assurance and performance evaluation.

Production Policy

The purpose of the Production Policy is to outline the standards, procedures, and responsibilities involved in transforming an accepted manuscript into its final, publishable form. This policy ensures that the production process maintains accuracy, quality, timeliness, and ethical integrity in preparing materials for online publication and indexing. This policy applies to all manuscripts accepted for publication in *MnA*, including:

- Research articles
- Review papers
- Technical notes
- Case studies
- Editorials and special issue content

It governs all activities from post-acceptance processing to final online publication.

Objectives

The production process aims to:

- Ensure **editorial and formatting consistency** across all publications
- Maintain **accuracy and completeness** of content and metadata
- Guarantee **ethical publishing standards**
- Deliver **high-quality, readable, and discoverable** articles to readers and indexing databases

Production Workflow

Step 1 – Manuscript Handover

- The **Editor-in-Chief (EIC)** transfers accepted manuscripts to the Production Editor or Publisher Representative.
- All accompanying materials (figures, tables, supplementary files, and metadata) are verified.
- The Acceptance Certificate and Final Decision Letter are attached for record keeping.

Step 2 – Copyediting and Language Review

- The **Copyediting Team** reviews grammar, clarity, style, and structure while preserving author meaning.
- The journal's style guide (APA or house style) is applied consistently.
- Authors may be contacted for clarifications during this phase.
- A **proofed version** is prepared and sent for typesetting.

Step 3 – Layout and Typesetting

- The **Typesetting Team** formats the article into the journal’s official template.
- Figures and tables are checked for:
 - Resolution and labeling clarity
 - Proper citation within text
- Digital identifiers (DOI, ORCID) are assigned.
- Page layout, fonts, and section headings are standardized.

Step 4 – Author Proofs

- The **first proof (PDF)** is sent to the **corresponding author** for review.
- Authors must:
 - Verify spelling, names, and affiliations
 - Correct minor typographical or formatting errors only
 - Approve the final version within **3–5 working days**
- Substantial content changes at this stage are not allowed without Editor-in-Chief approval.

Step 5 – Final Quality Control

The Production Editor and Publisher Representative perform a comprehensive check:

- Author corrections implemented
- Metadata complete and accurate
- Figures, tables, and references validated
- Ethical and funding statements correctly displayed

A Final Production Checklist is completed and archived.

Step 6 – Online Publication

- Once approved, the article is uploaded to the journal’s website and assigned to an **issue or article-in-press** section.
- Digital identifiers (DOI, CrossRef, ORCID, ISSN metadata) are registered.
- The publication date is officially recorded.

Step 7 – Indexing and Archiving

- The final version is deposited into:
 - Indexing databases, currently Google Scholar, (future aim: CrossRef, DOAJ etc.)
 - Long-term preservation systems (LOCKSS, PKP PN, institutional repositories)

Quality Assurance

Before publication, each article undergoes a **Final Production Audit** to verify:

- 100% accuracy in metadata (title, authors, affiliations, ORCID, funding info)
- Reference formatting and link validation
- Inclusion of ethics, conflict of interest, and copyright statements
- Proper journal branding, logos, and design consistency
- DOI registration and online accessibility

Timelines for paper production

See under Table: Paper Publication Timeframes

Paper Publication Timeframes

Table: Paper Publication Timeframes

No.	Stage / Steps	Expected Duration (Days)
<i>Peer Review Acceptance Timeframe</i>		
1.	Initial evaluation by the managing editor	7
2.	Reviewer Invitation & Acceptance	7
3.	Review Completion	21
4.	First Editorial Decision	21
5.	Author Revision – Submission of the revised version of the manuscripts	14–30
6.	Final Decision	≈10
Total days from submission to acceptance		96
<i>Paper Production Timeframe</i>		
7.	Copyediting & Formatting	7–10
8.	Author Proof Review	3–5
9.	Final QC & Online Publication	5
Total days from acceptance to production		20
<i>Total days from submission to production</i>		<i>116</i>

Post-Publication Corrections

If errors are identified after publication:

- Minor factual or typographical errors: corrected online with a **Correction Notice (Erratum)**.
- Major issues (ethical, authorship, or data integrity): managed under **Retraction and Correction Policy** in accordance with **COPE guidelines**.

Ethical and Legal Compliance

- All production activities comply with **Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International (CC BY 4.0)** license.
- Authors retain copyright but grant the publisher a non-exclusive license to disseminate.
- Third-party content permissions are verified before publication.

Subscription Details

Since *Machines and Algorithms* is an open access journal, all published articles are freely available online without any subscription or access fees. Readers may view, download, and share content without restriction, provided proper citation is maintained.

The journal does not offer paid subscriptions, and no charges are required to access current or past issues.

Archiving Policy

The **Archiving Policy** ensures the long-term preservation, accessibility, and integrity of all published content in *MnA*. The goal is to protect scholarly articles from loss, corruption, or

removal and to guarantee continuous availability of published materials for readers, researchers, and indexing systems worldwide. This policy applies to:

- All articles published in *MnA* (research papers, reviews, short communications, editorials, etc.).
- Supplementary materials such as datasets, appendices, and multimedia content.
- Metadata associated with each article (DOI, author names, affiliations, keywords, and references).

Objectives

- To ensure permanent digital preservation of all published content.
- To maintain uninterrupted access even in the event of system failures or institutional changes.
- To comply with international standards for open access journal preservation.
- To support indexing and citation continuity through persistent identifiers and repository deposits.

Archiving and Preservation Systems

MnA implements multiple redundant archiving mechanisms to guarantee the survival of all published content across platforms:

<i>Preservation System</i>	<i>Function and Description</i>
LOCKSS (Lots of Copies Keep Stuff Safe)	Enables participating libraries to preserve access by storing permanent copies of journal content in multiple distributed repositories.
PKP Preservation Network (PKP PN)	Provides automated long-term preservation of all journal content using the OJS system for open-access journals.
Internet Archive & Google Scholar Indexing	Ensures content discoverability and backup through public web preservation platforms
DOI System (CrossRef)	Each article receives a permanent DOI ensuring persistent linking and accessibility across platforms

File Formats and Preservation Strategy

- All published articles are archived in **multiple formats** to ensure compatibility and future readability:
 - PDF/A (archival standard format)
 - HTML (for online display)
- Data redundancy ensures multiple geographically distributed backups.
- Metadata (author names, affiliations, abstracts, keywords) is stored in machine-readable formats for interoperability with CrossRef, DOAJ, and other databases.

Backup and Data Security

- The journal's publishing system is hosted on secure cloud infrastructure with regular automated backups.
- Backups are created **weekly** and stored in **multiple physical and cloud-based locations**.

- All data transfers are protected using **SSL encryption** to ensure data security and authenticity.
- Access to the archiving system is limited to **authorized editorial and technical staff**.

Access and Retrieval

- All archived content is **freely accessible** under the journal’s **open access license (CC BY 4.0)**.
- Readers, libraries, and indexing agencies can freely download and store copies for preservation and citation purposes.
- If the journal ceases publication, all archived content will remain accessible through:
 - The institutional repository
 - LOCKSS and PKP PN network nodes
 - CrossRef’s DOI and metadata database

Policy Review

This policy is reviewed annually by the Governance Committee, Editor-in-Chief, and Publisher Representative to ensure continued alignment with best practices in scholarly publishing.

Journal Discontinuation Policy

In the event that *MnA* is discontinued:

- The publisher ensures that all content remains publicly accessible indefinitely.
- Metadata and full-text articles will continue to be available through:
- LOCKSS, PKP PN, and institutional repositories
- DOI (CrossRef) and indexing services (Scopus, DOAJ, Google Scholar)
- A notice of journal discontinuation will be published on the official website, indicating permanent access locations.

8. Preservation of Journal Website

The entire *MnA* website (including archives, editorial pages, policies, and issue lists) is periodically captured and stored by:

- **PKP PN** through automated archiving

This ensures both article-level and website-level preservation.

A. Roles and Responsibilities

<i>Role</i>	<i>Responsibilities</i>
Editor-in-Chief	Oversees implementation and periodic review of the archiving policy.
Publisher Representative	Ensures compliance with international archiving and metadata standards
Technical Administrator	Manages backups, LOCKSS/PKP PN integrations, and system maintenance

9. Privacy Statement

Machines and Algorithms is committed to protecting the privacy of authors, reviewers, editors, and all visitors who interact with our journal. This Privacy Statement explains what information we collect, how it is used, and the measures we take to safeguard it.

Information We Collect

We collect only the information necessary for the operation of the journal and the management of the editorial process. This may include:

- Contact information provided during manuscript submission or reviewer registration (such as name, affiliation, email address).
- Metadata associated with submitted manuscripts, including authorship details and ORCID identifiers.
- System-generated information such as submission history, reviewer assignments, editorial decisions, and correspondence within the journal platform.
- Basic website analytics that help us improve the journal's performance and usability. These analytics do not identify users personally.

We do **not** collect unnecessary personal data, and we do not use automated profiling.

How the Information is Used

The information you provide is used solely for purposes related to the publication process, such as:

- Managing submissions, peer review, and editorial decision-making.
- Communicating with authors, reviewers, and editors throughout the workflow.
- Maintaining accurate publication records and ensuring the integrity of the scholarly record.
- Complying with indexing requirements, archiving standards, and applicable ethical guidelines.

Personal information is **never shared** with external organizations for commercial or marketing purposes.

Access and Disclosure

Access to personal information is restricted to editorial staff who are directly involved in handling submissions. Reviewers receive only the details required to evaluate a manuscript. Because our journal follows a **double-blind peer review** process, identifying information is removed from manuscripts before they are sent to reviewers.

We do not disclose personal data unless required by law or with the explicit consent of the individual concerned.

Data Security and Retention

Machines and Algorithms implements reasonable technical, administrative, and organizational safeguards to protect all submitted materials, user information, and editorial records against unauthorized access, alteration, misuse, or disclosure. All manuscript files, reviewer reports, editorial decisions, and correspondence are stored on secure servers with restricted access limited to authorized editorial staff and system administrators.

Data is retained only for as long as required to:

- support the editorial and peer-review process,
- maintain an accurate and verifiable scholarly record, and
- comply with legal, ethical, and indexing-body requirements.

Personal data collected during submission or review is never shared with external parties except when legally required or when explicitly authorized by the data owner. Authors and reviewers may request deletion of personal information not essential to the permanent scholarly record.

Your Rights

Authors, reviewers, and contributors may request correction or removal of their personal data where appropriate. Requests should be directed to the editorial office of **Machines and Algorithms**.

Changes to This Policy

Any updates to this Privacy Statement will be posted on the journal website. Continued use of the journal platform signifies acceptance of these updates.