

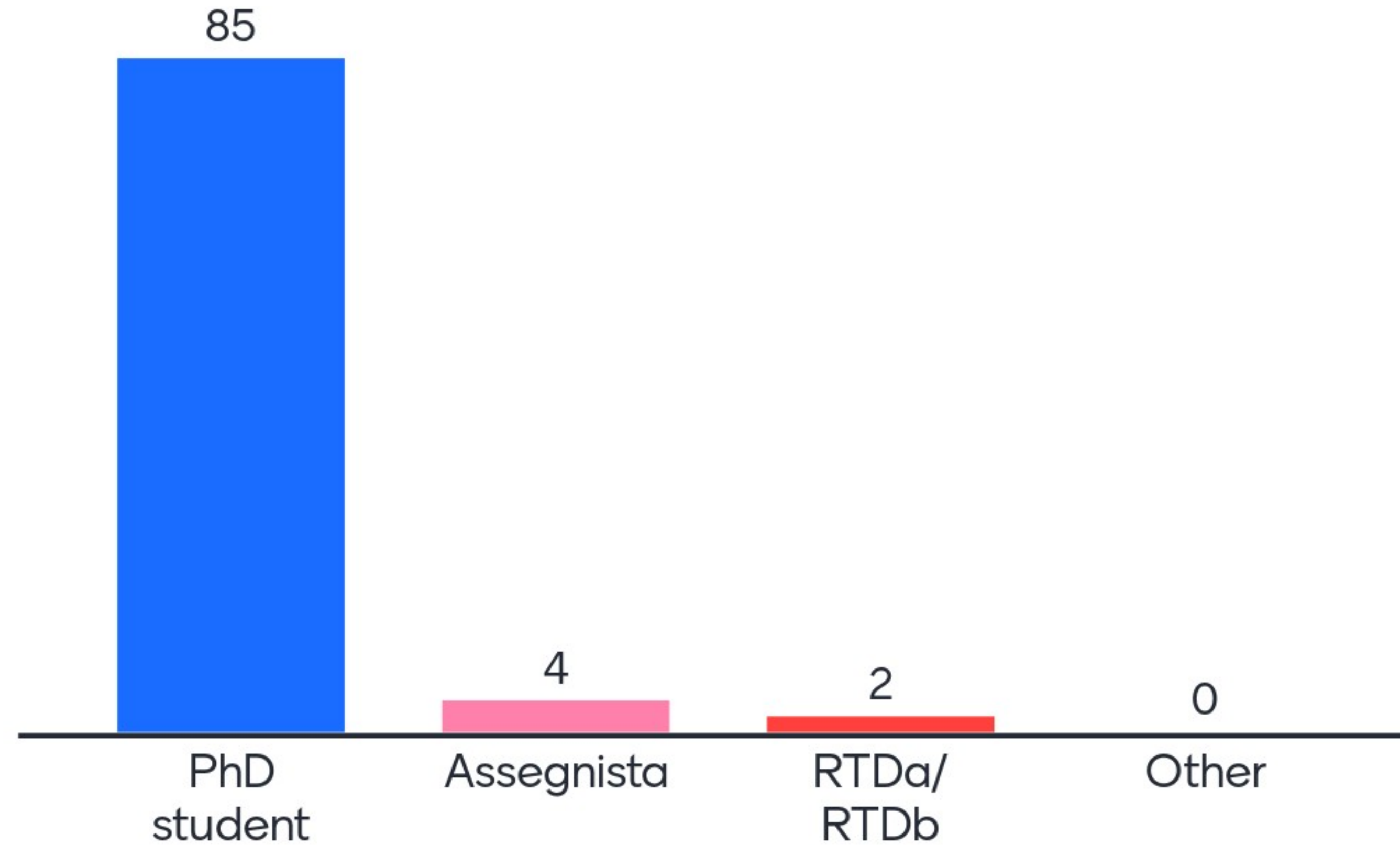


Twitting science: the viewpoint of scientists

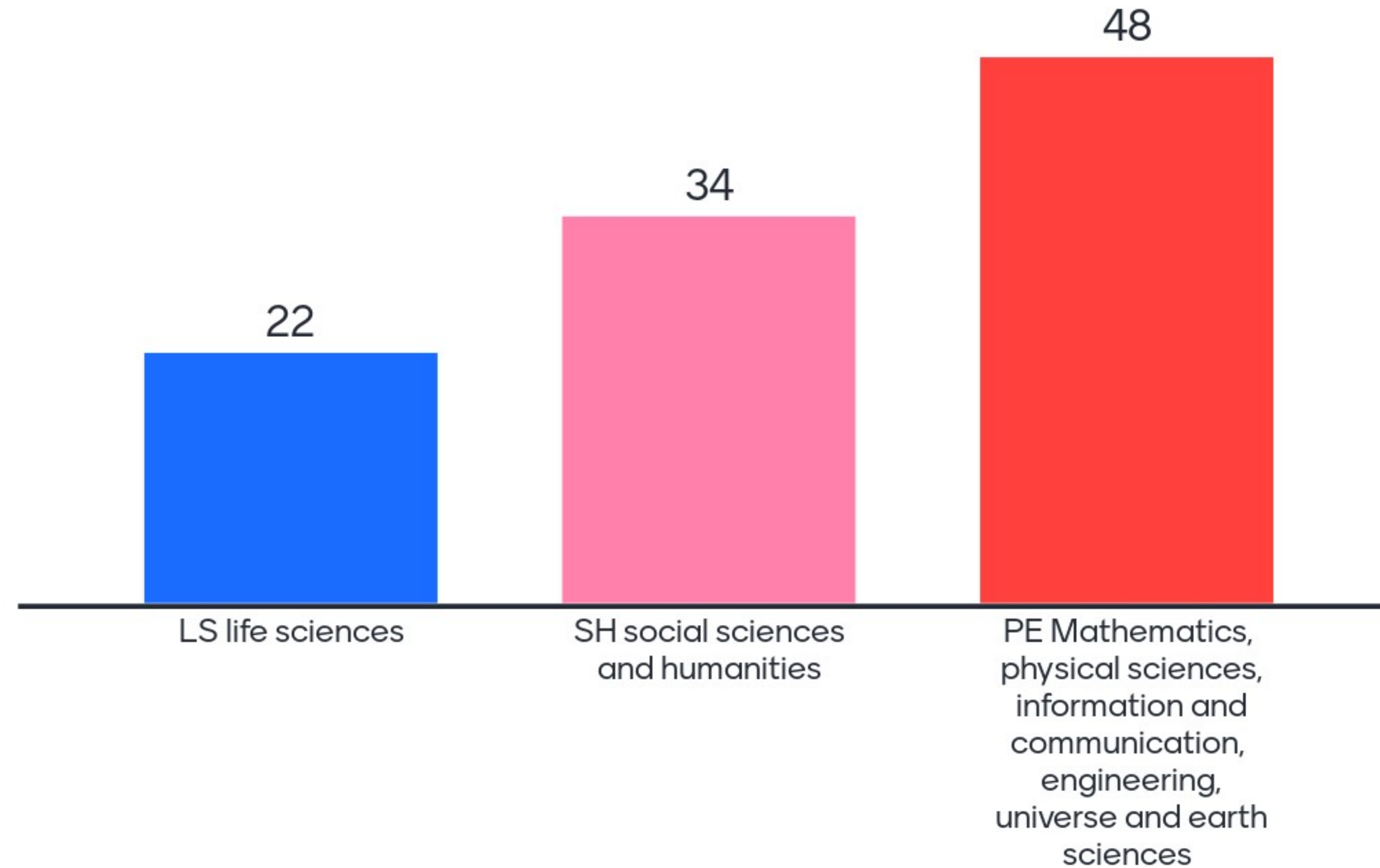
Silvia Piconese

immunologist @ Sapienza University

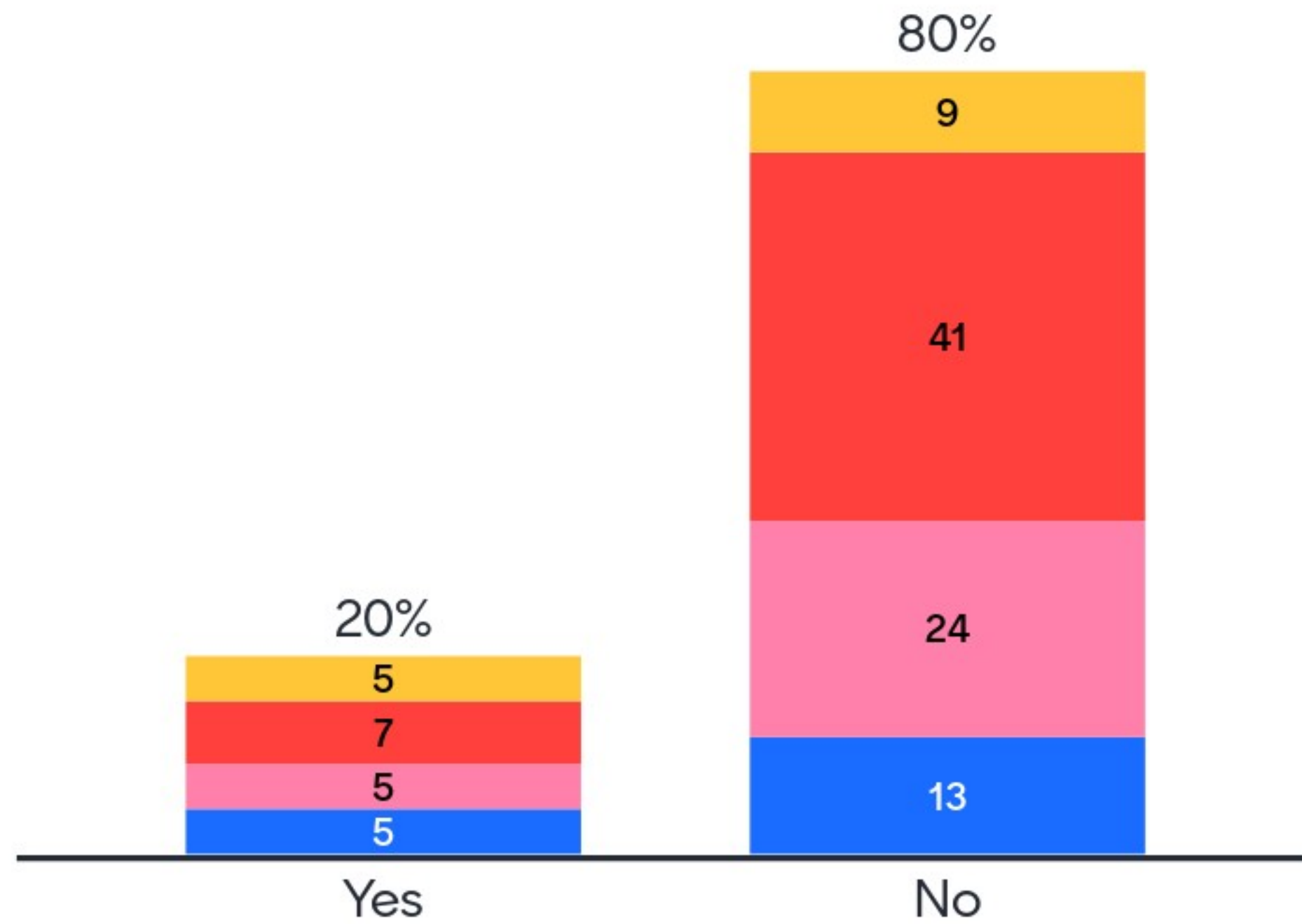
Which is your current position?



Which is your area?



Have you have ever attended a communication course?



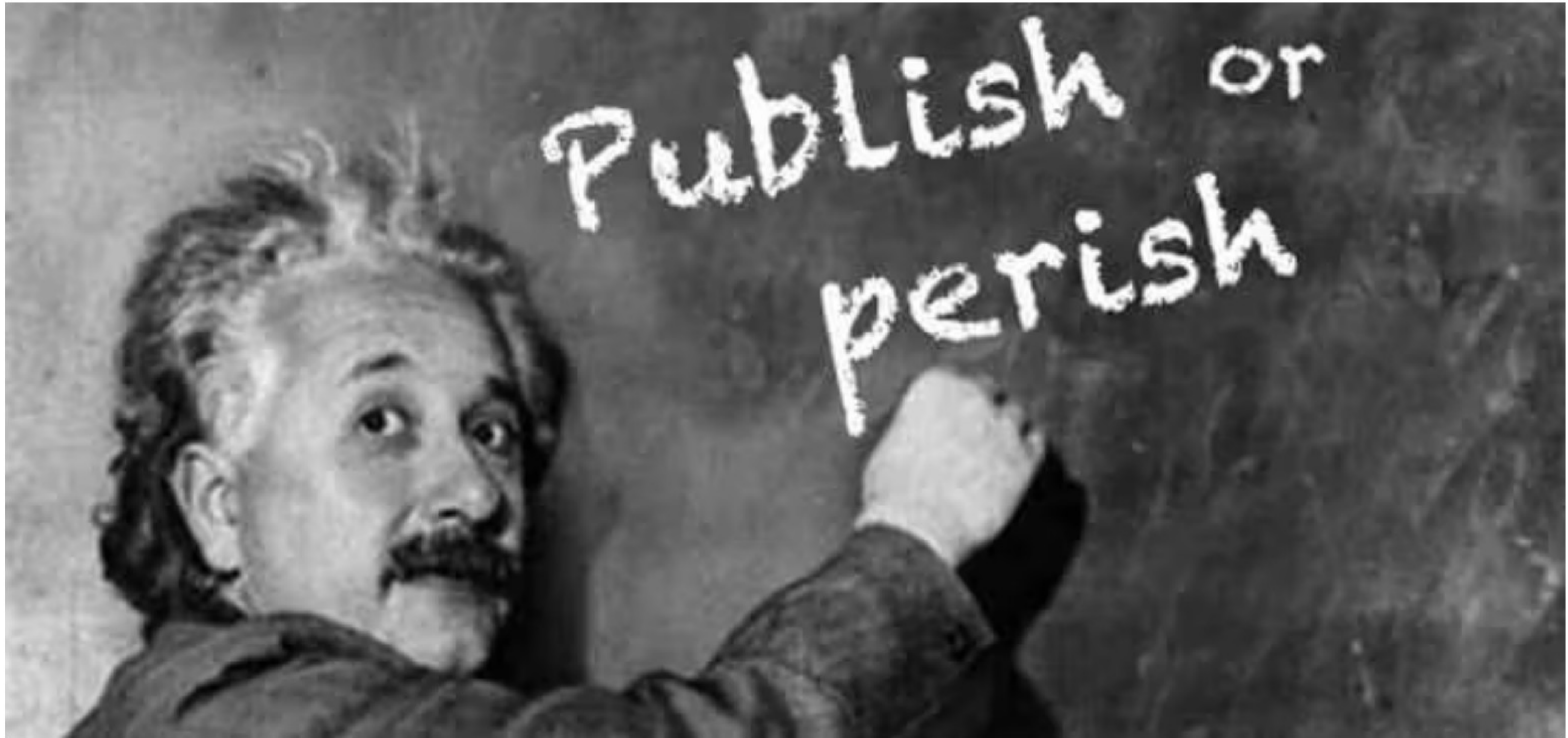
Which is your area?

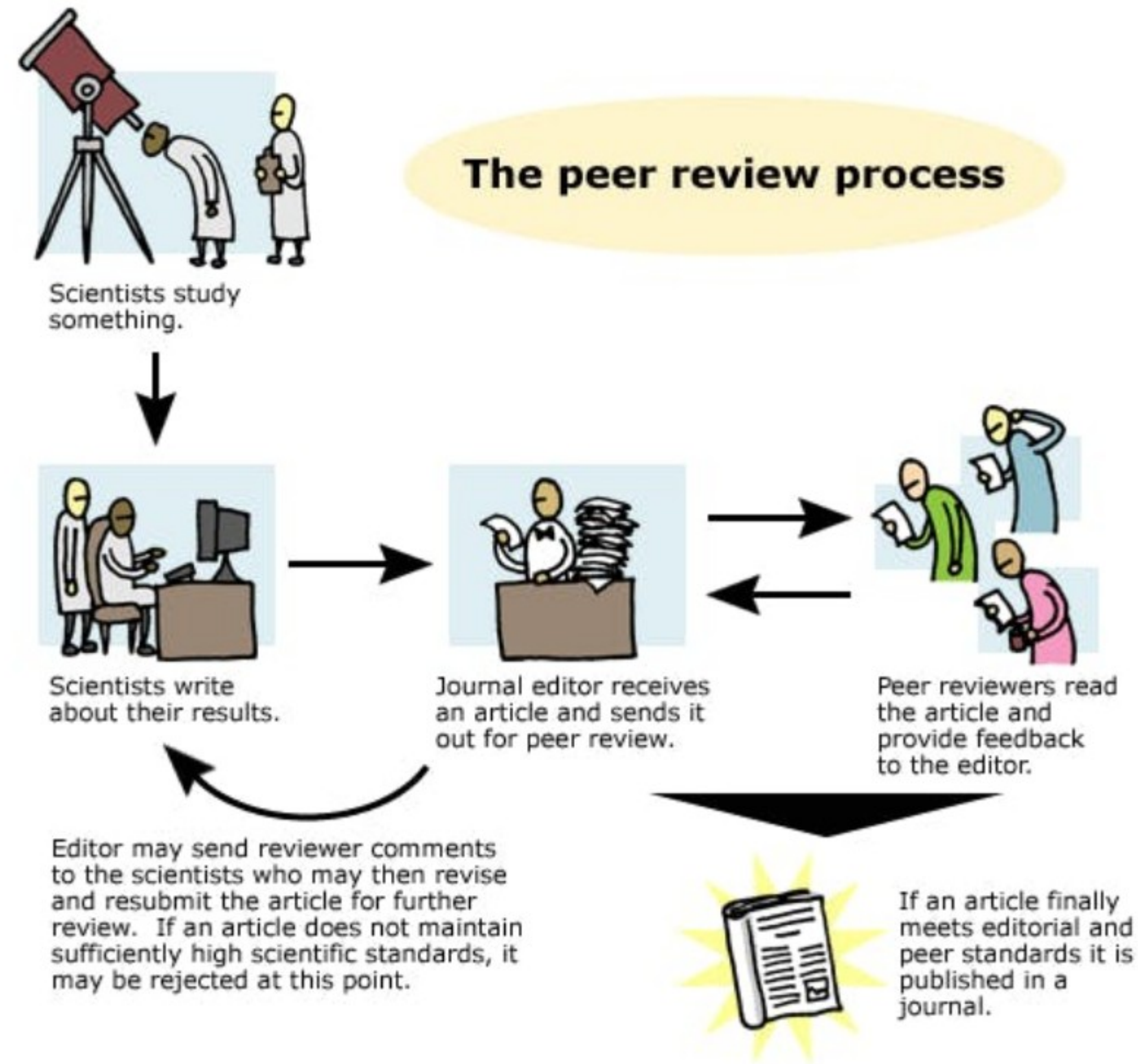
- LS life sciences
- SH social sciences and humanities
- PE Mathematics, physical sciences, information and communication, engineering, universe and earth sciences
- Unknown

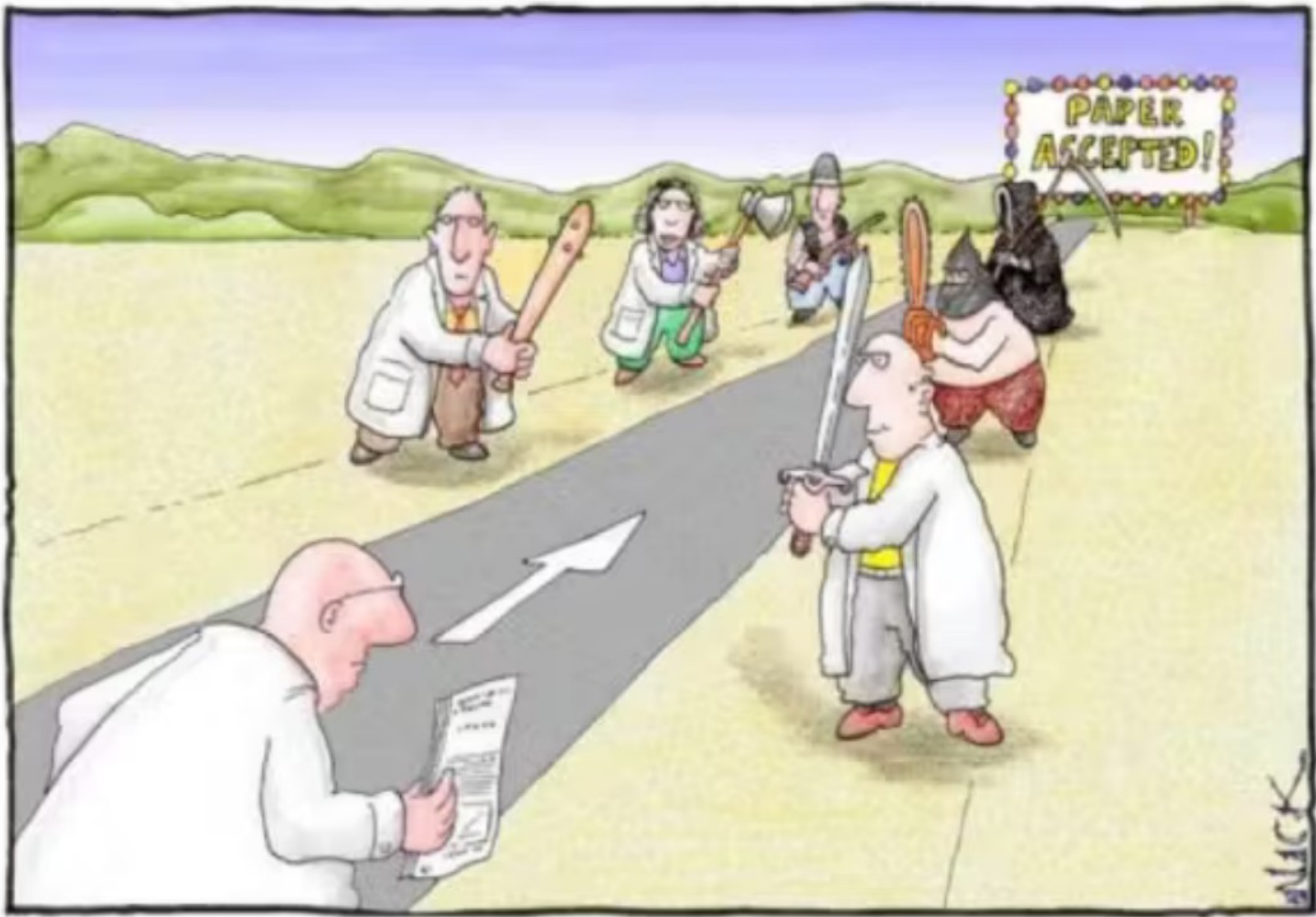
Outline:

- the process of scientific publication
- tips to use twitter
- twitter & dissemination
- twitter & communication (pros and cons)
- the X factor

The process of scientific publication



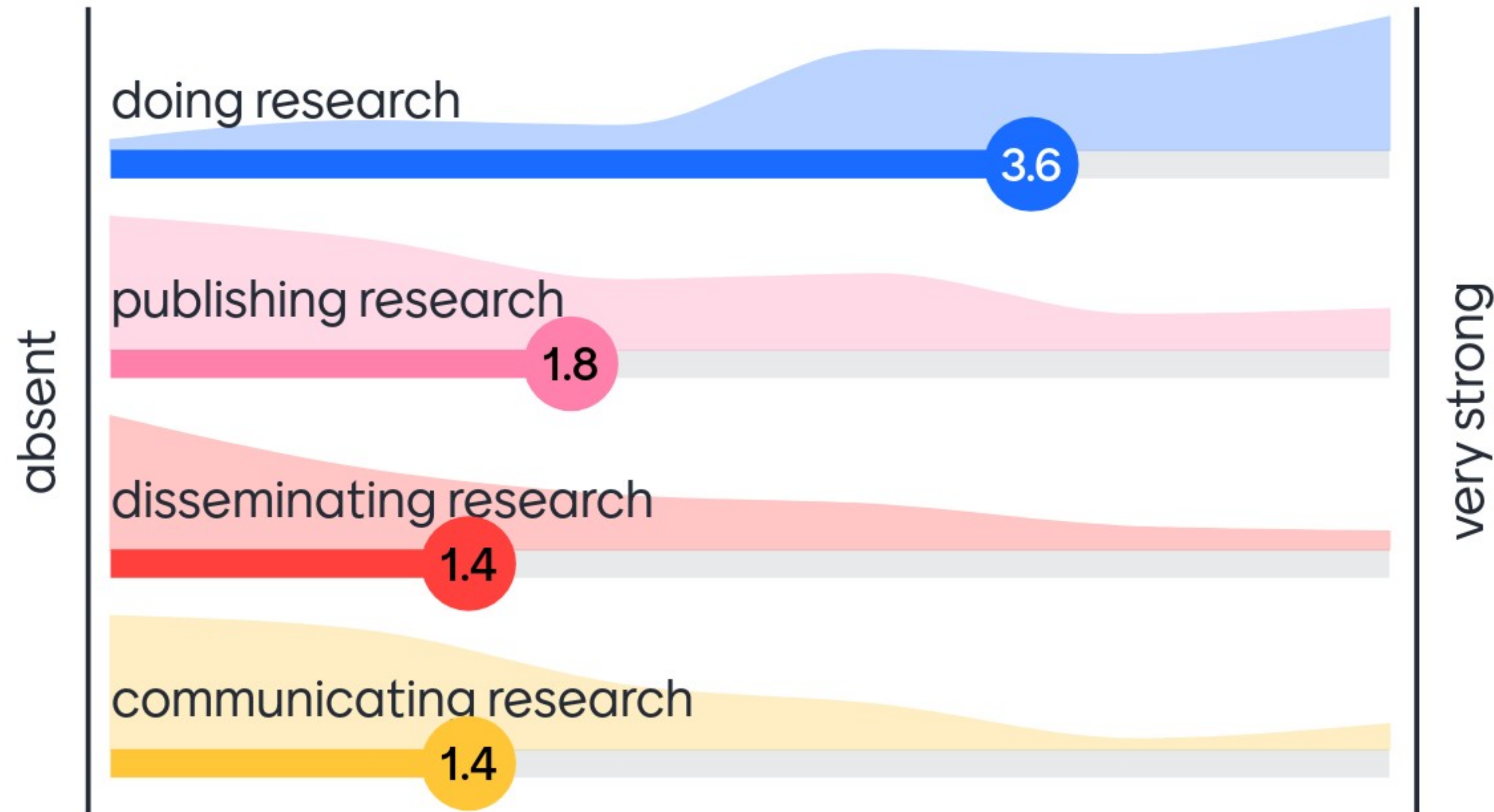






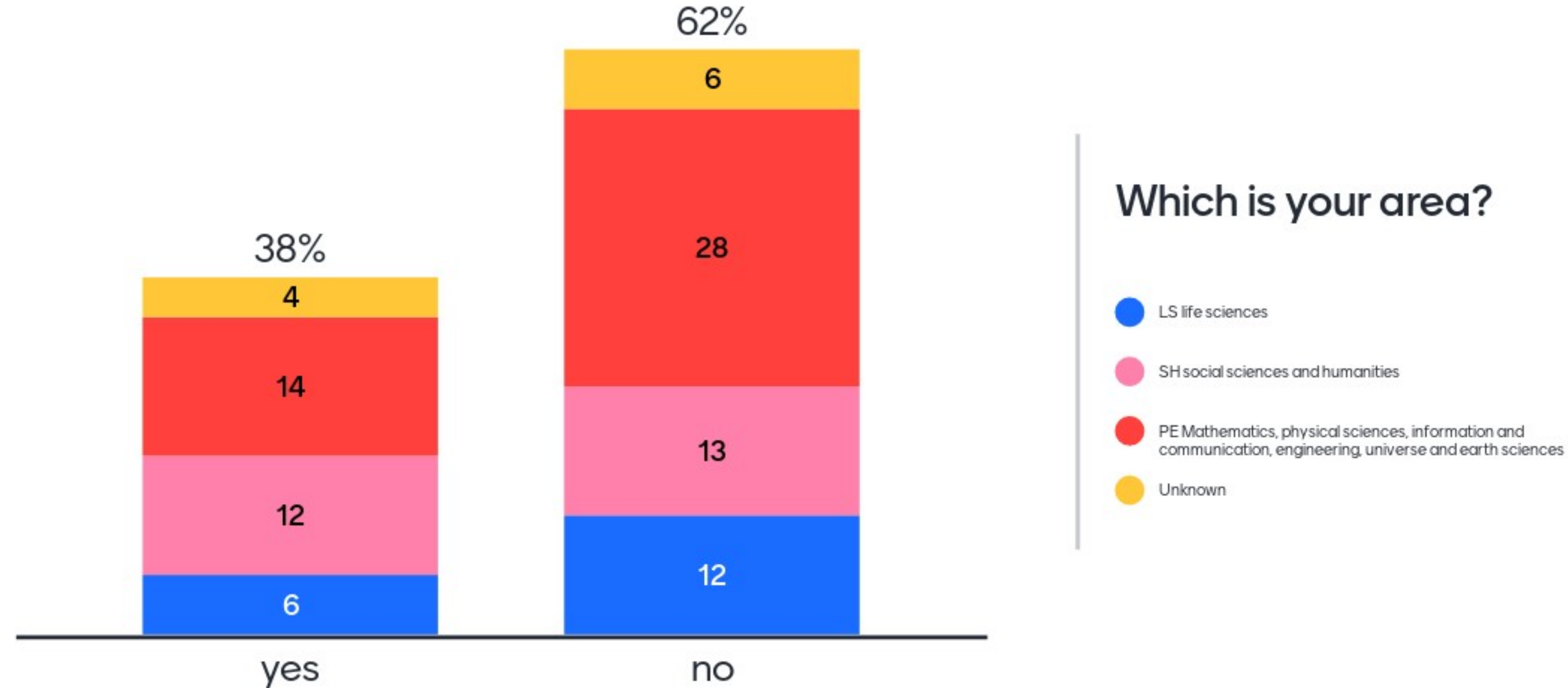
Communication	Dissemination
About the project and results	About results only
<p>Multiple audiences</p> <p><i>Beyond the project's own community (include the media and the public)</i></p>	<p>Audiences that may use the results in their own work</p> <p><i>e.g. peers (scientific or the project's own community), industry and other commercial actors, professional organisations, policymakers</i></p>
<p>Inform and reach out to society, show the benefits of research</p>	<p>Enable use and uptake of results</p>

Rate your past and current experience in



Tips to use twitter (X)

Do you currently have a twitter (X) account?



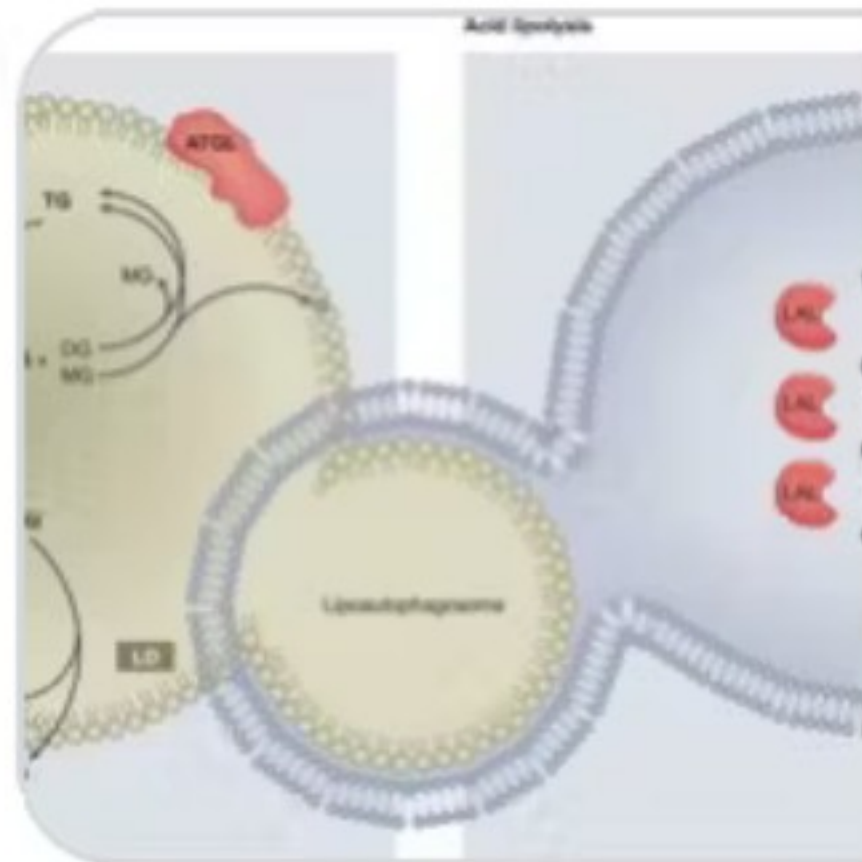
↻ Nature Metabolism Retweeted



James Olzmann @OlzmannLab · 10h



Excellent review on [#LipidDroplet](#) lipolysis out from [@MartinaS_lab](#) and Zechner and colleagues. 🙌 "Lipolysis: cellular mechanisms for lipid mobilization from fat stores"



nature.com

Lipolysis: cellular mechanisms for lipid...

Nature Metabolism - Zechner and colleagues discuss mechanisms facilitating the mobilization o...



1



19



85





James Poniewozik 

@poniewozik

Follow



The 280-character limit is a terrible idea. The whole beauty of Twitter is that it forces you to express your ideas concisely (1/47)

2:15 PM - 26 Sep 2017

55,983 Retweets **165,160** Likes



 1.7K  56K  165K 

ARTICLE

<https://doi.org/10.1057/s41599-019-0280-3>

OPEN

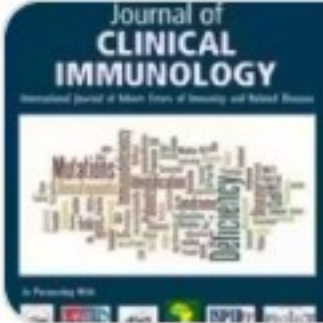
How character limit affects language usage in tweets

Arnout B. Boot¹, Erik Tjong Kim Sang², Katinka Dijkstra¹ & Rolf A. Zwaan¹

ABSTRACT In November 2017 Twitter doubled the available character space from 140 to 280 characters. This provided an opportunity for researchers to investigate the linguistic effects of length constraints in online communication. We asked whether the character limit change (CLC) affected language usage in Dutch tweets and hypothesized that there would be a reduction in the need for character-conserving writing styles. Pre-CLC tweets were compared with post-CLC tweets. Three separate analyses were performed: (I) general analysis: the number of characters, words, and sentences per tweet, as well as the average word and sentence length. (II) Token analysis: the relative frequency of tokens and bigrams; (III) part-of-speech analysis: the grammatical structure of the sentences in tweets (i.e., adjectives, adverbs, articles, conjunctives, interjections, nouns, prepositions, pronouns, and verbs); **pre-CLC tweets showed relatively more textisms, which are used to abbreviate and conserve character space. Consequently, they represent more informal language usage (e.g., internet slang); in turn, post-CLC tweets contained relatively more articles, conjunctions, and prepositions.** The results show that online language producers adapt their texts to overcome limit constraints.

Casanova Lab @casanova_lab · Nov 1

1/ Here is new evidence in [#JoCI](#) @springerpub that type I IFN is essential for protective immunity to SARS-CoV-2 infection, with a 13-year-old child hospitalized for critical COVID-19 pneumonia due to autosomal recessive IFNAR1 deficiency ([link.springer.com/article/10.100...](https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s12079-020-00900-0))

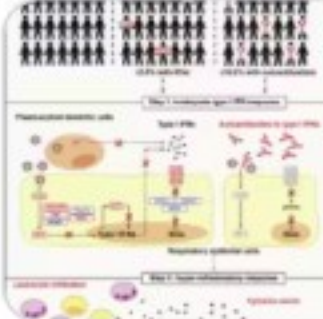
 link.springer.com
A Case of Autosomal Recessive Interferon...
Journal of Clinical Immunology - Interferons (IFNs) play a crucial role in antiviral immunity. Genetic ...

3 25 68

[Show this thread](#)

Casanova Lab @casanova_lab · Nov 1

3/ There are now three unrelated patients whose autosomal recessive IFNAR1 deficiency resulted in critical COVID-19 pneumonia ([cell.com/med/fulltext/S...](https://www.cell.com/med/fulltext/S0006-2952(20)30001-0)).

 cell.com
Life-Threatening COVID-19: Defective Interferons ...
The risk of life-threatening COVID-19 pneumonia increases sharply after 65 years of age, but other ...

1 3 16

Casanova Lab @casanova_lab · Nov 1

4/ Congratulations to the Iranian team, namely Shaghayegh Khanmohammadi, Nima Rezaei, Mehdi Khazaei, and Afshin Shirkhani, working at Tehran and Bushehr Universities of Medical Sciences in Iran.

3 2 17

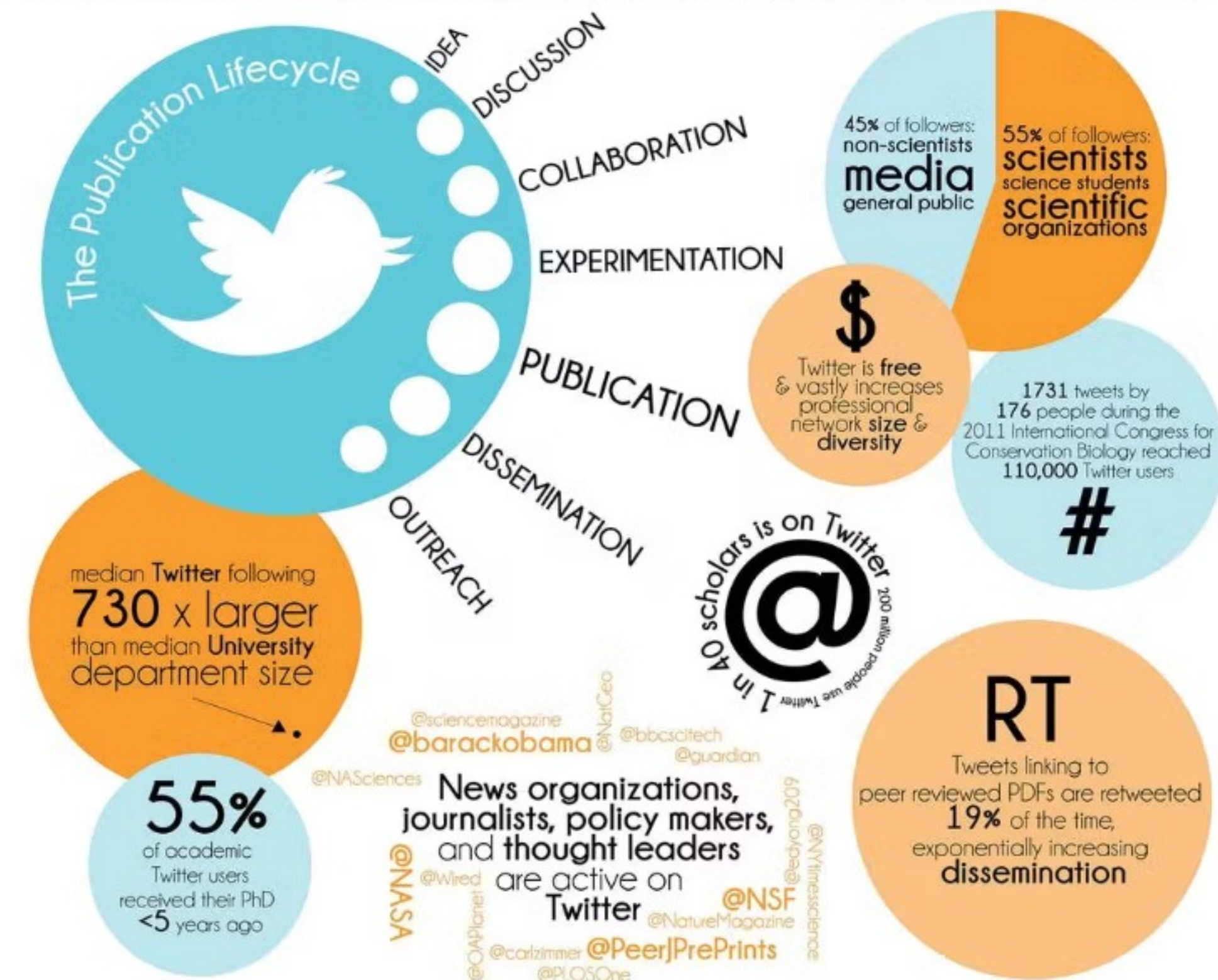
example of twitter thread

Twitter and dissemination

The role of **Twitter** in Science Publication and Communication

Based on the work of Emily S. Darling, David Shifman, Isabelle M. Côté, & Joshua A. Drew*

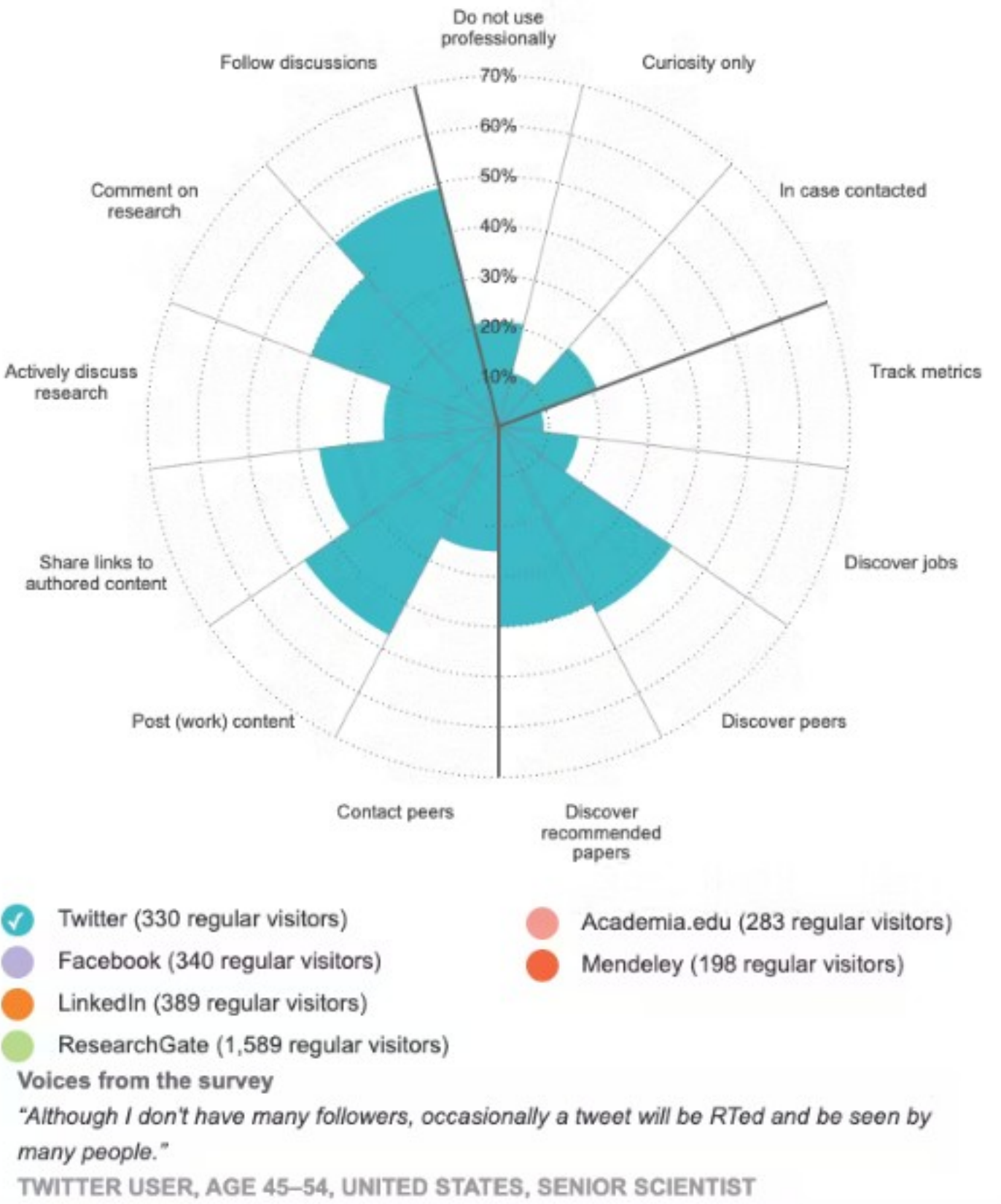
A survey of 116 marine scientists actively using Twitter highlighted the value of this social networking and microblogging site to science and scientists.

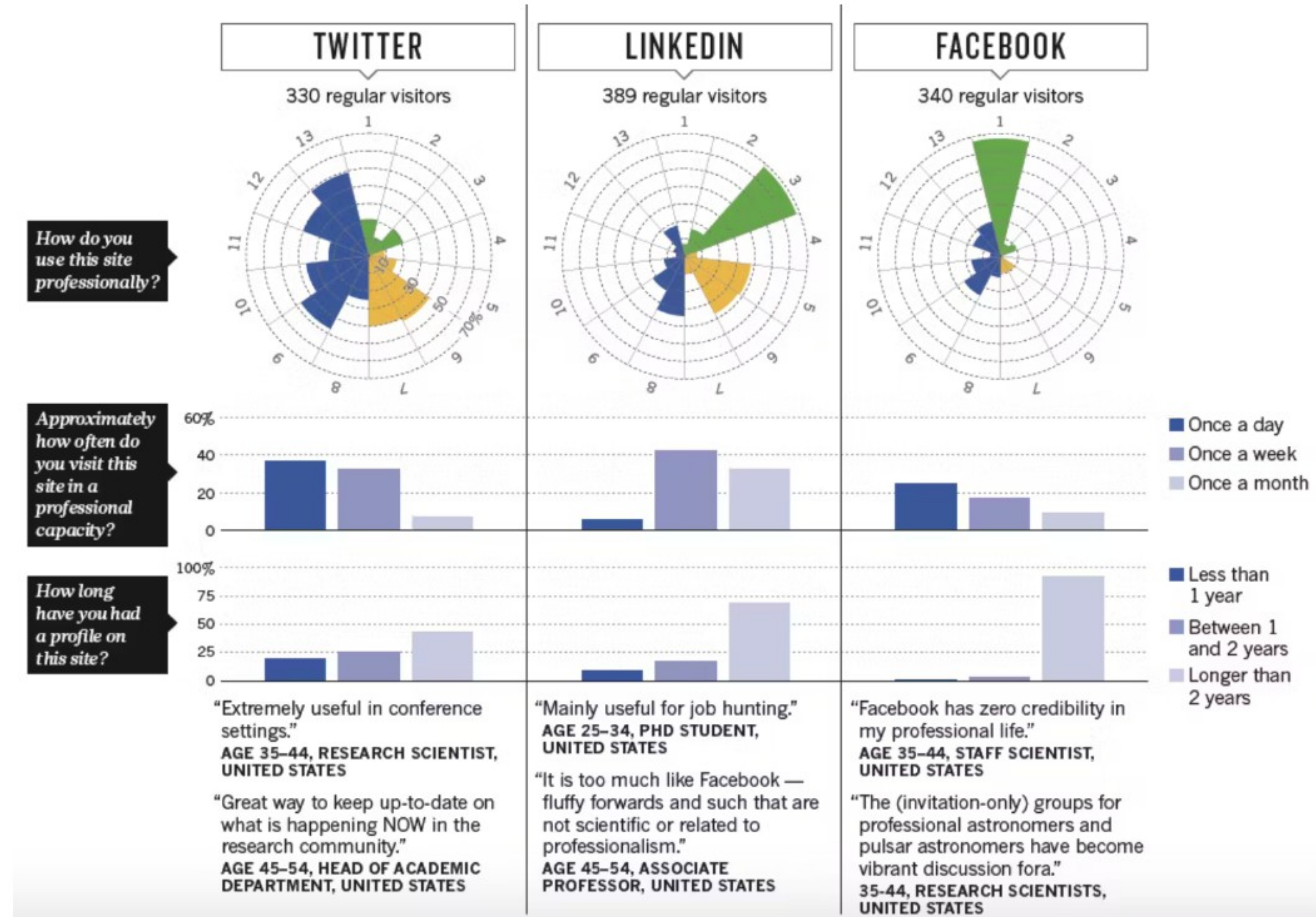


*Infographic compiled using data from Darling et al. 2013, PeerJ PrePrints before publication in Ideas in Ecology and Evolution, and references therein, by KatiePhDcom.

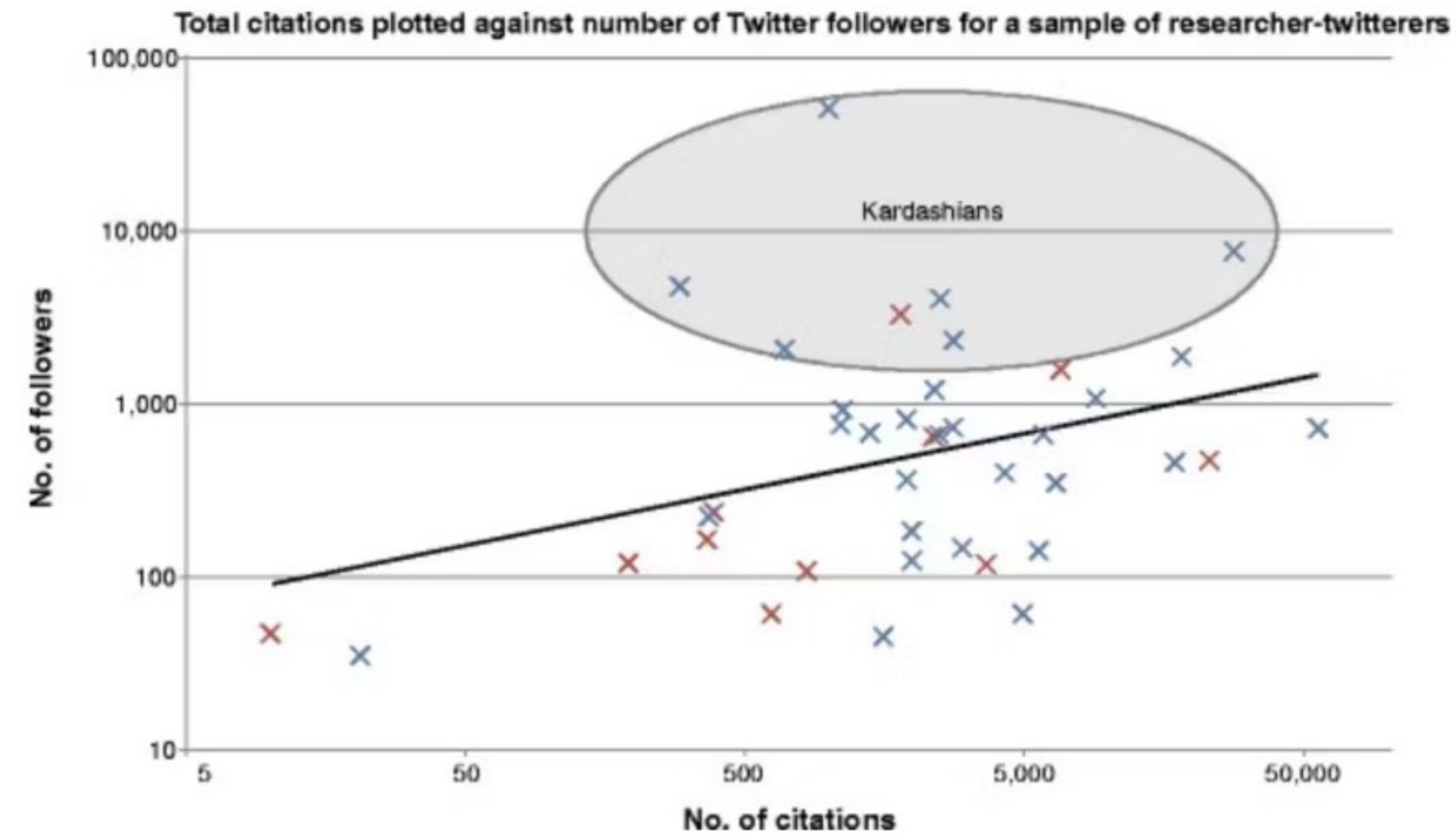
Interactive: Why scholars use social media

In *Nature's* survey, a subset of scholars who said they 'regularly visited' social media sites were quizzed in detail about their activities.





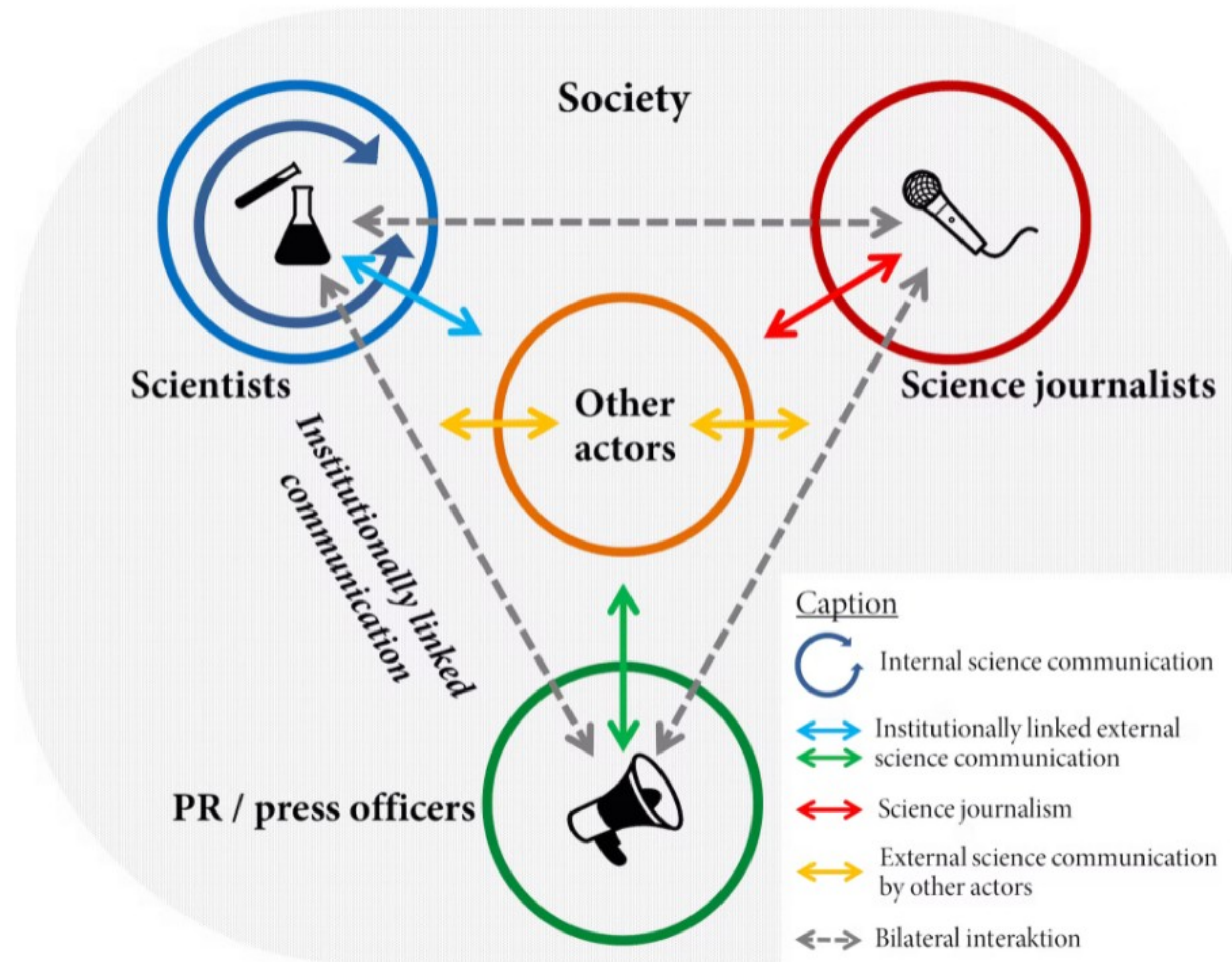
From: [The Kardashian index: a measure of discrepant social media profile for scientists](#)



Twitter followers versus number of scientific citations for a sort-of-random sample of researcher tweeters. Red crosses represent female tweeters and blue crosses represent male tweeters. The black trendline describes the best fit to the data. Those individuals with a highly overinflated number of followers (when compared with the number predicted by the trendline) are highlighted by the area labeled Kardashians.

Twitter and communication





Which of the two tweets is more appropriate for the public?

46

Eric Topol @EricTopol

Features of #LongCovid among >157,000 adults and children with Covid infections with matched controls [medrxiv.org/cgi/content/sh...](https://medrxiv.org/cgi/content/short/2021.10.23.21261111) Lower absolute incidence in children and teens but impact statistically significant across all age groups

5:00 PM · Oct 23, 2021 · Twitter Web App

254 Retweets 42 Quote Tweets 540 Likes

Option 1

33

Eric Topol @EricTopol

The compelling case for vaccination in kids [science.org/doi/10.1126/sc...](https://science.org/doi/10.1126/science.1257111) @ScienceMagazine

"Vaccinating all children against SARS-CoV-2 could be among the most impactful public health efforts the US has seen in decades."

COVID-19 vaccines for children

Earlier this month, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommended Pfizer's COVID-19 messenger RNA (mRNA) vaccine for children between 5 and 11 years of age—first for million children. The agency says that 40% of parents of these children are reluctant or opposed to seeking this protection. Without vaccination, it is likely that almost everyone—including young children—will be infected with severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) at some point in their lives. So, the question for parents and caregivers is: Which is worse, vaccination or natural infection?

Make no mistake: COVID-19 is a real disease. When SARS-CoV-2 entered the United States early in 2020, children accounted for fewer than 2% of cases, but they account for more than 10% of deaths. COVID-19 has been linked to SARS-CoV-2, including 2

even. Moreover, both in Israel and the United States, the incidence of myocarditis in children 10 to 16 years of age receiving mRNA vaccines is less than that in the 10- to 19-year-old age group. And because the dose of Pfizer's mRNA is smaller than doses in older adolescents, myocarditis in the younger age group will likely be even rarer.

Myocarditis is only one piece of the risk-benefit analysis. Children need to go to school, play with friends, and participate in extracurricular activities for their social and mental development. This is their life. Since August 2021, more than 100 schools in the US have been closed or close because of COVID-19 outbreaks, affecting more than 1 million students. The disruption of school activities has harmed children more than any detectable vaccine side effect, including decreasing of school health, well-being, education, sports, and other essential activities. These harms have disproportionately affected people of color. India

...a choice not

Option 2

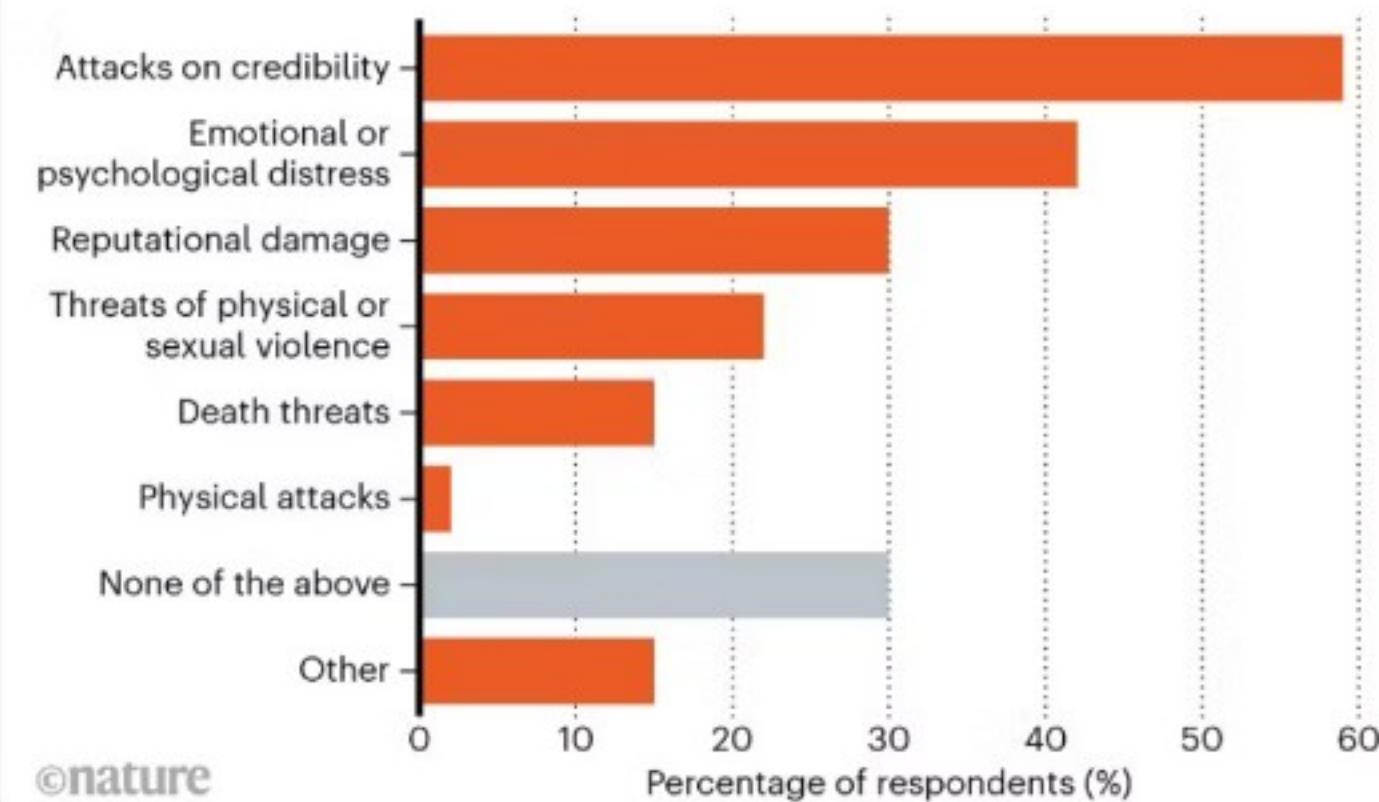


A Nature survey of more than 300 scientists who have given media interviews about COVID-19 has found wide experience of harassment or abuse – with 15% having received death threats go.nature.com/3aCNf9n

NEGATIVE IMPACTS

In a Nature survey of scientists who have commented about COVID-19, 15% of 321 respondents said they had received death threats.

Question: Have you experienced any of the following negative impacts after speaking about COVID-19 to the media, or posting on social media? (You may select multiple options.)



3:10 PM · Oct 19, 2021 · Sprout Social

521 Retweets 122 Quote Tweets 1,029 Likes

Negative impact

the X factor



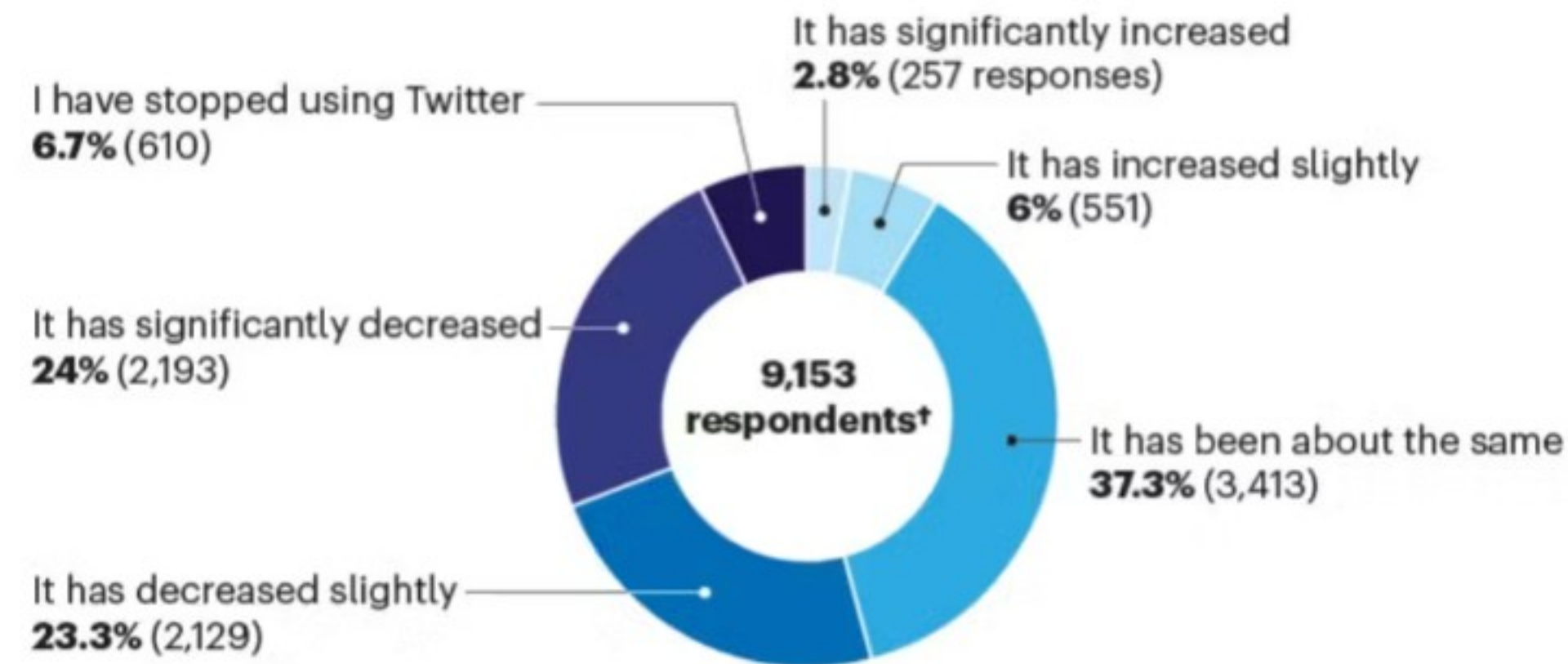
Major changes from Twitter to X

- limiting the number of tweets users can see
- cutting down on content moderation
- verification that grants paying members additional privileges
- character limit from 280 to 4,000 (with subscription)

SIGNS OF DISSATISFACTION

More than half of researchers responding to a *Nature* survey in July* said that they were reducing or entirely stopping their use of Twitter. Many also said that they have opened accounts on other social-media platforms in the past year.

Has your Twitter use changed in the past six months?



Have you opened accounts on other social-media platforms in the past year?



If so, which ones?



What is being lost

- community for scientists, particularly for those from under-represented groups
- control on misinformation
- access to open application programming interface (API)

Which is the role of scholars in society? Emoji only

200 responses

