

# How to Find Novelty and Research Gap?



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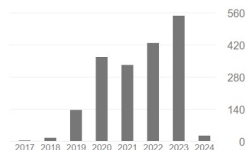
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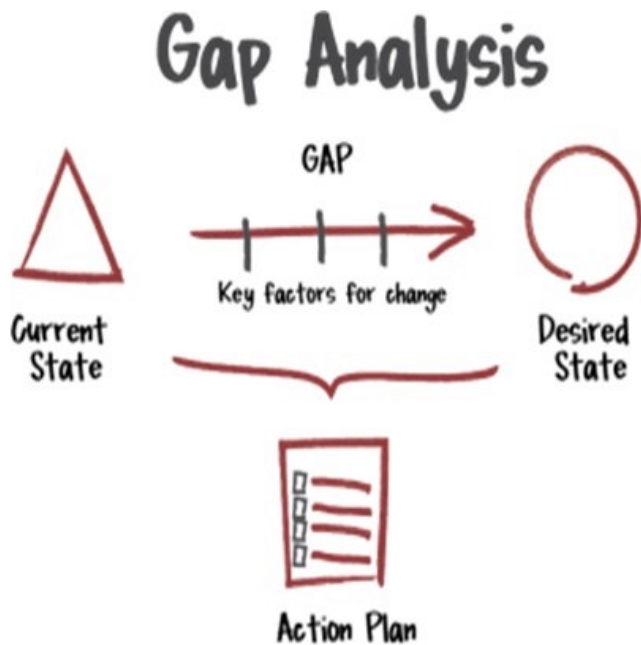
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# What is Problem?

- A **problem** is an obstacle which makes it difficult to achieve a desired goal, objective or purpose.
- It refers to a situation, condition, or issue that is yet unresolved.
- In a broad sense, a problem exists when an individual becomes aware of a significant difference between what actually is and what is desired.



# **We have to know...**

## **Starting out...**

- 1. Do you have a research question?**
- 2. What do we know about this topic?**

# Methods to Identifying Gaps

- 1. Environmental Scan**
- 2. Rapid Review**
- 3. Systematic Review**
- 4. Scoping Review**

# Environmental Scan

...is the art of systematically exploring and taking note of what is the external environment of your organization in part to better understand the **nature of trends and deep drivers of change**...ES are used to provide decision-makers with knowledge about current social, economic, technological and political contexts, and to identify any potential short- and long-term shifts...

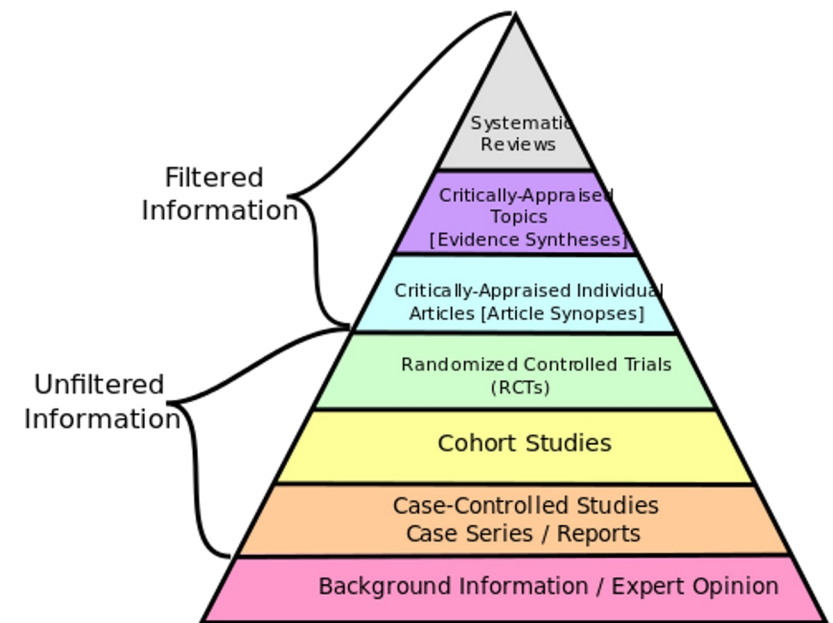
# Rapid Review

...is a research methodology that uses shorter timeframes than for other evidence-based summaries. It provides a **timely and valid view of evidence but sacrifices rigour**. As such, RRs are both review and assessment, and respond to urgent clinical and public health-related questions. They aim to provide robust analyses of easily-retrievable evidence in less than six weeks...typically requiring fewer resources and funding...



# Systematic Review

...is an investigation of a **clearly-formulated question that uses methodical and explicit steps to identify, select, and critically appraise relevant research**, and to collect and analyze data from any appropriate studies that may be found.



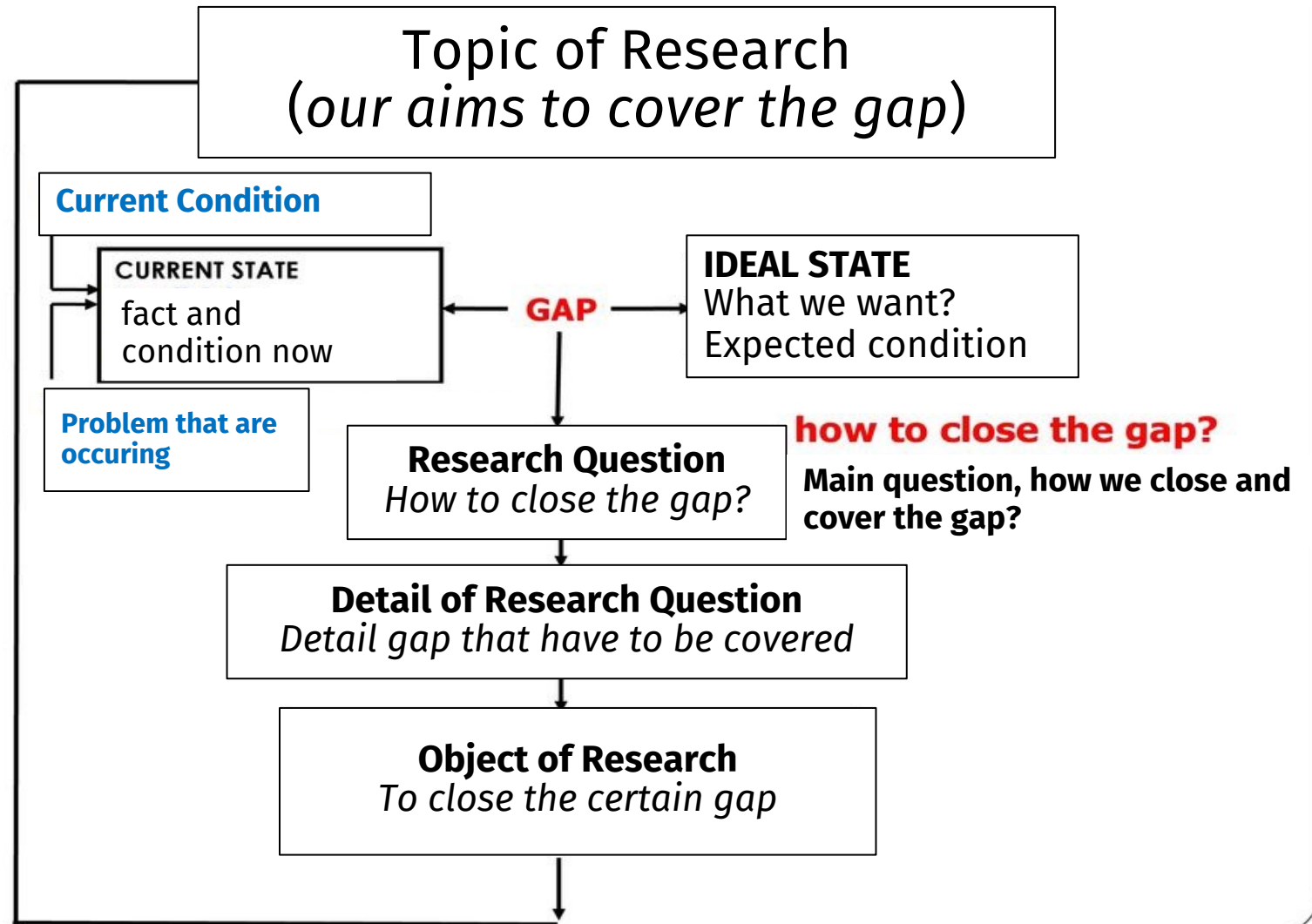
# How the systematic review process?

1. A **series of searches** for papers or studies
2. A comparison of important features in each study against a list of **inclusion and/or exclusion criteria**
3. A **detailed critical appraisal** of each study for risk of bias and potential confounding factors
4. Detailed **methodology must be documented** for publication

# Scoping Review

...are exploratory projects that systematically map the literature on a topic, identifying key concepts, theories and sources of evidence. SR aim to address broader, more complex, and exploratory research questions...[as opposed to] systematic reviews which are designed to answer precisely defined, narrow questions...

# How we analyze the gap to identify the problems?



# How to develop research question?

To develop a strong research question, the researcher should ask him/herself the following:

- **Do I know the field and its literature well?**
- **What are the important research questions in my field?**
- **What areas need further exploration?**
- **Could my study fill a gap? Lead to greater understanding?**
- **Has a great deal of research already been done in this topic area?**
- **Has this study been done before? If so, is there room for improvement?**
- **Is the timing right for this question to be answered? Is it a hot topic, or is it becoming obsolete?**
- **What type of information do I need to answer the research question?**
- **If proposing a service program, is the target community interested?**
- **Most importantly, will my study have a significant impact on the field?**

# How we judge the novelty on our research?

**#1**

## **Conduct a literature review:**

A literature review is an essential component of any research project, and it helps to establish the context for the study by identifying what is already known about the topic. By reviewing the existing literature, researchers can identify gaps in the knowledge and formulate new questions or hypotheses to investigate, ensuring novelty in research.

# How we judge the novelty on our research?

## #2

### Compare with previous studies

Researchers can assess the novelty of their work by comparing their findings to those of previous studies in the same or related fields. If the results differ significantly from what has been previously reported, it can be an indication that the study is novel and potentially significant.

# How we judge the novelty on our research?

## #3

### Read target journal publications

Subscribe to your target journal and other reputed journals in your field of study and keep up with the articles it publishes. Since most high-impact journals typically ensure novelty in research when publishing papers, this will help you keep track of the developments and progress being made in your subject area.



# How we judge the novelty on our research?

**#4**

## **Assess contribution to the field**

One way to assess novelty in research is to evaluate how much it contributes to your specific field. Research that makes a significant contribution to advancing knowledge or addressing important questions is often considered more valuable than those that simply replicate elements from previously published research.

# How we judge the novelty on our research?

**#5**

## **Consider an alternative methodology**

Even if the topic or area of study has been studied, one can bring in novelty in research by exploring various methodologies or by tweaking the research question to provide new insights and perspectives. Researchers can highlight aspects of the study that have not been done before, introduce these in the proposed research design, and illuminate how this will ensure novelty in research.

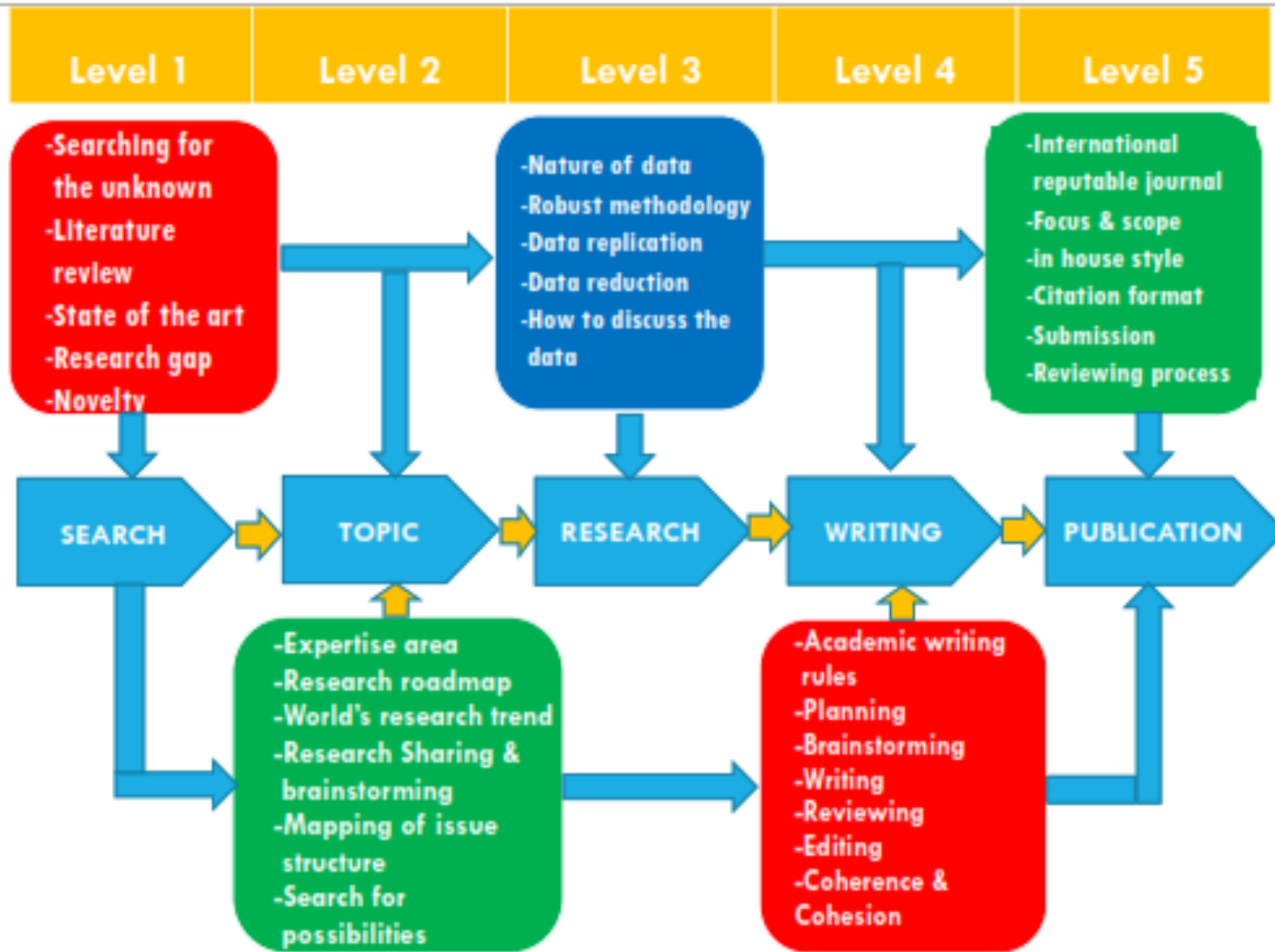
# How we judge the novelty on our research?

**#6**

## **Get support from your peers**

Engage with your mentors/supervisors, professors, peers, and other experts in the field to get their feedback on introducing novelties in their research. It's a good idea to join and actively participate in scientific research and scholarly groups or networks where users provide updates on new technological innovations and development.

# STRWP MODEL: Cognitive Model In Scholarly Paper Writing



# Planning your Review

- Test Searches/background searches to inform your question and search strategy
- Refine/alter question?

# Conducting your Search

- Search databases
- Look for grey literature
- Hand searching
- Document everything!

# Analyzing your Search Results

- Refer back to your criteria
- Discover trends
- Look for gaps
- Follow Up Searches

What did you find? What didn't you find? If you find a systematic review it's covered. There was enough to even do a review. How many articles met your criteria? Did you find anything? Use the gaps you find to justify your research, grants, etc. If there's a ton of information maybe you do a systematic review instead of new original research.

# What's Next?

1. Organize information
2. Draft paper
3. Apply for grant(s)
4. Publish!
5. Plan the next round of research



# Selecting a Journal

- Talk to your Colleagues & Peers
- Locate articles on your topic or similar topic and see what journals they are published in
- Look at previously published articles from journals you are considering
- **Avoid predatory publishers**



Question  
and  
Discussion

**Thank you!**



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