Elsevier’s Profile Refinement Service (PRS) produces disambiguated Scopus™ author profiles based on more than 62 million records in Scopus, which is the world’s largest publisher-agnostic abstract and citation database of peer-reviewed literature. Using a combination of algorithms and manual curation, PRS delivers Scopus author profiles.

The value of using PRS in combination with Pure

Using PRS with Pure, Elsevier’s research information management system, speeds up the implementation process of Pure because the burden of gathering publication information for researcher profiles is significantly reduced. Using PRS provides two immediate benefits for new Pure customers:

- **Easy showcasing** – customers can use PRS to quickly create and maintain profiles with weekly updates. When the customer uses the Pure Portal in combination with PRS, showcasing research output becomes a plug-and-play solution. In this scenario, PRS can be purchased on a subscription basis, so that profiles are updated on a weekly basis.
- **Accelerate Pure implementation as a new system of record for research information management** – customers start using Pure faster for advanced reporting and analytics based on publication data from Scopus. For these situations, PRS can be purchased either for a one-off use or as a subscription, depending on the intended use of Pure.

How does the PRS process work?

To use PRS profiles in Pure, an institution is required to submit its author list via Pure. This includes current affiliations and other data that can help identify the authors, such as former affiliations and email addresses. The profile refinement process uses a mix of algorithms and manual curation. The result is uniquely identified authors with a correct list of publications. Elsevier uses the author affiliation data to determine whether or not a publication should be attributed to the organization ordering the PRS.

Note: While PRS does not change the publication data in Scopus, the PRS results are fed back to Scopus and may enhance existing Scopus author profiles. Improved Scopus author profiles mean any reports run on Scopus data will be more accurate. Major ranking agencies as well as Elsevier’s SciVal use Scopus data.

How would a customer purchase PRS?

Elsevier’s PRS is usually purchased as a subscription to ensure that research profiles are kept up-to-date. The algorithms will look for new publication candidates on a weekly basis and the manual curation will be performed three times a year. It is also possible to purchase PRS as a one-off for institutions where author profiles will be maintained in house.

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