Welcome

Lib4RI Webinar Miniseries

Webinar 1
Scientific Publishing

Webinar 2
Open Access

Webinar 3
Copyright & CC Licenses
Webinar 1 - Scientific Publishing

Content:
- Steps prior to writing a paper
  - questions
- Tips on the publication process
  - questions
- Feedback

Webinar rules:
- You can ask a question (by chat) at any time, the questions will be gathered and answered in the end
- Recording is not allowed
- Please keep your video & audio turned off

You can find the slides of this presentation on our Lib4RI website.
Steps prior to writing a paper

Have a story to tell…
Where to start?

1. Results
   • Do not publish just to publish
   • Negative results can be published, wrong results not!

2. Figures

3. Structure of the paper: titles & subtitles

4. Discuss with supervisors & co-authors – make a plan

5. Read journal’s guide for authors
   (e.g., https://www.elsevier.com/journals/learning-and-instruction/0959-4752/guide-for-authors)
Article’s structure and content

- Title
  - Short & attractive

Which title is concise but also includes sufficient information to make the paper stand out?

1. Characterization of a landfill using geophysical data
2. Characterization of a heterogeneous landfill using geophysical data
3. Characterization of a heterogeneous landfill using seismic and electrical resistivity data
4. Characterization of a heterogeneous landfill using seismic and electrical geophysical data.

Vote now!
Article’s structure and content

• Authors – Affiliation
  • Who should be your co-author? Who should be the first author? (e.g., https://www.psi.ch/integrity/dokumente)
  • Use correct affiliation (incl. present address)

• Keywords
  • General words (e.g., landfills)
  • Specific to your research (e.g., MASW)

• Highlights
  • Short sentences which describe the main findings and motivation of your research
Article’s structure and content

• Abstract
  • Attract the interest of the reader, do not simply summarize your study
  • Three main components:
    a) What is the problem and what is the focus of your paper?
    b) What are the main methods you used?
    c) What are the results? - Simply mention them with no explanation

• Graphical abstract
  • An innovative figure to get the interest of the reader
Article’s structure and content

• Introduction. You can fill in several paragraphs by answering the following questions:
  • What is the problem? Explain in detail and use specific phrases to make your point clear.
    – «There is an increasing need to...»
    – «It is critical to understand the...»
  • What has been done till now and why is this not enough (gap)?
  • Provide clear objectives of your article. Explain why your paper is innovative.
    – «The objectives were to investigate the following:....»
    – «The first goal of our paper is...»
  • In the end, shortly summarize the content of your paper.
Article’s structure and content

• Main body
  • Laboratory/field measurements, theory, models, results
  • Explain your measurement (theory/model), procedure (parameters) chronologically
  • Add information such as time & place

• Describe the figures – be specific in both the main text and the figure caption

• Provide a detailed description – do not assume things are self-explanatory
Article’s structure and content

• Discussion
  • Yes or no? Vote now!
  • Criticism of your own work can help in the reviewing process
  • Opportunity to point out other applications of your work
  • Do not refer to future work you will do
  • Do talk about the difficulties you had, but only if you are already planning a way to solve them.
    – «There were difficulties in...»
    – «The results will be much better if...»
  • Helps to connect with your next article:
    – «In Konstantaki, et al., 2014 we found that...The goal of this paper is to further investigate....»
Article’s structure and content

• Conclusions
  • Short & precise
    – «We studied the...»
    – «We investigated the potential...»

• Acknowledgements

• References
  • Use a reference management software
    • which one do you use? Vote now!
  • Do not cite just to cite
  • Avoid too many self-citations
  • Read the papers you cite

Copyright protected material. Please see original material at: https://repository.tudelft.nl/islandora/object/uuid%3Aacf1a97b-5bc1-40f6-8318-3658744659a8
Article’s structure and content

- Figures
  - Follow the instructions in the authors’ guide
  - When using figures from other authors, check the copyright (Webinar 3)
  - Compare same things
  - Be careful with the color scale

Figure from: Kontantaki, 2016. Doctoral Thesis
On writing: general tips

• Use correct tenses in your paragraphs e.g.:
  • Present simple for describing figures or results
  • Past simple for measurements in the past
  • Past perfect for previous research
• Use punctuation correctly & use a variety of connecting words, but keep your text simple
• American VS British English
• Latin abbreviations (e.g., i.e., etc.)
• Tips on sentence structure/content
  • Active VS passive voice
  • Don’t be wordy
• Corrections from your peers
• DO NOT plagiarize!
Exercise 1 – at home

• Describe your research in one or two sentences (elevator pitch)

Some good examples:

https://academicpositions.be/career-advice/how-to-write-an-elevator-pitch
Questions?
Tips on the publication process

Submission, review & publication
The publication process in a peer-reviewed journal

You

Journal (Editor) -> Reviewers -> Editor

Acceptance
Minor Revision
Major Revision
Rejection

Co-authors

Accepted Version

Online first (In press)

Proof Editing

Published version

Open Access or not (Webinar 2)

Send your accepted versions to us! (dora@lib4ri.ch)
Which journal should you submit to?

- Which are the main factors for your decision? Vote now!

- Papers read
- Papers cited
- Impact Factor
- "Top journals" in your field
- Journal Topics
- Speed & Open Access
- Be realistic
- Have a plan B
- Supervisor advice

On deciding…:
- [http://thinkchecksubmit.org/](http://thinkchecksubmit.org/)
Instructions in the authors’ guide

If you know to which journal you want to submit, start with reading the guidelines before even starting writing your article.

- Word & figure limits
- English style
- Article structure
- References style
- Figure preparation
- Word or LaTeX
- Copyright – open access information
The reviewers’ comments

Comments by Reviewer 1.

We thank reviewer 1 for his/her revision. We have addressed his/her comments below.

Page 12, line 20: remove the comma before “velocity”.
Has been corrected.

Page 15, line 30: The measurement has not been described thoroughly.
We added a sentence on page 15, line 31 to explain in detail: “The seismic shots were recorded at...”

Page 30, line 10: The result here is wrong in my opinion, because...
The sentence may be confusing; if you see on page 5, we explain that...

Page 40, line 5: Why did you not use the method of ...? This is a good suggestion. Unfortunately, we do not have the means...

Page 42, Figure 2: You mention a red line in the caption, but all lines in the figure are green.
We thank reviewer 1 for this observation. Indeed, it is a mistake...

Comments by Reviewer 2.

...

Comments by Reviewer 3.

...

Be prepared for criticism and accept it as a way to improve your paper.

Thank the reviewers, do not forget they do this in their free time.

Reply to every reviewer comment even if it is self-explanatory.

Mention the exact pages and lines where you make your corrections.

Answer clever to suggestions for further experiments/studies.

Admit your own mistakes.

Try to agree with the reviewer, but remember it is your paper. If you do not agree state this and explain why.

Remember: the reviewer can be wrong as well, so if you are not sure, don’t forget to consult your coauthors.
What about reviewing the papers of others?

- Yes or no? Vote now!
  - Helps you think as a reviewer
  - You expand your knowledge
  - But make sure you do a correct review

Copyright protected material. Please see original material at: https://jasonya.com/wp/what-peer-review-feels-like
Exercise 2

- Search online for the “Environmental Science & Technology” journal and answer the following questions:
  - Can you use both Word and LaTeX?
  - What is the publication speed?
  - Is there a limitation to the number of figures?
Questions?

Dr. Laura Konstantaki

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Feedback