



II2202: Writing the Results section

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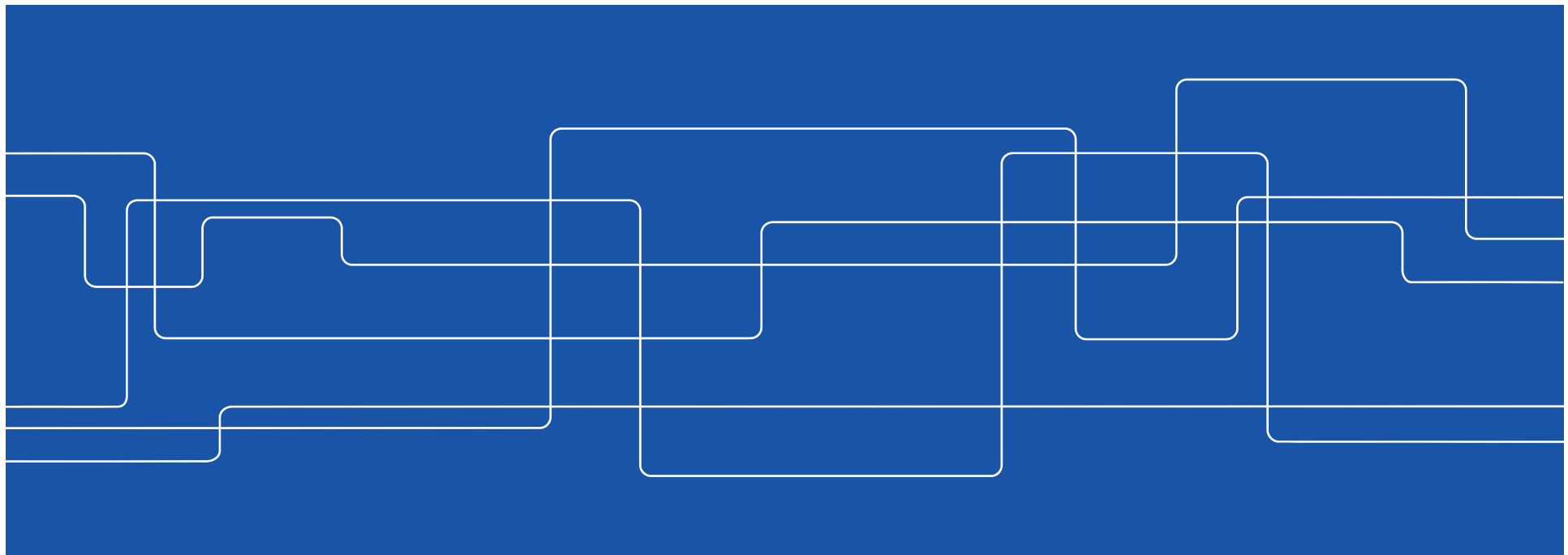
<http://people.kth.se/~maguire/>

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What is the purpose of the results section?

Briefly describe every experiment, survey, set of interviews, ...

Present your **key** results – **without** interpretation, but with selected data – generally these data are:

- **Representative** (the most common),
- The **best examples**, or
- **Unexpected** results



Components of the results section [write in past tense]

Present you key results – **without** interpretation

⇒ Additional results can be included in an appendix

Present them in the most effect way for **your** reader:

- Most important first
- Simplest first
- chronological order
- match the order of the methods in your Methods section
- Systemically, for example for a system: from inputs to outputs
 - ⇒ **Summarize results** and **cross references your tables, figures, source code snippets, etc. for details** as needed
 - ⇒ Identify importance of the different results
 - ⇒ Statistical analysis should include P values



Add appropriate tables, graphics, pictures, ...

These elements are to **show** your results

The captions should be sufficient that someone reading the caption knows what the table/graph/figure/... shows, hence the caption should be able to stand alone *independently* of the rest of your document.



Avoiding common mistakes

Do **not** interpret the data

⇒ that is what your discussion section is for.

Reporting **inaccurate** and **inconsistent** data

⇒ Be very accurate and consistent – otherwise your reader should be suspect of everything that you report!

Including figures, tables, ... that you do **not** reference

⇒ If you do not have a cross reference to it, then delete it!

Including figures, tables, ... **without** appropriate captions

⇒ If you do not have a suitable caption, then delete it!



References

- [sfedit] San Francisco Edit, 'Twelve Steps to Writing an Effective Results Section', San Francisco Edit, Mill Valley, California, Sep. 2013 [Online]. Available: <http://www.sfedit.net/results.pdf> . [Accessed: 17-Aug-2015]
- [UW] The Writing Center@The University of Wisconsin-Madison, 'Academic and Professional Writing: Scientific Reports: Writer's Handbook: Results Section', 29-Aug-2014. [Online]. Available: https://writing.wisc.edu/Handbook/SciRep_Results.html . [Accessed: 17-Aug-2015]



¿Questions?