**Article focus: A brainstorming exercise**

In one or two sentences, answer each of the following questions. Please be sure that your answers are appropriate for a general audience.

1) Why is your field important?

Mapping spatio-visual characteristics is important for understanding landscape spaces and crucial for landscape design. Therefore, developing design vocabulary and mapping methods, exploiting the capabilities of modern technology, to describe and interpret spatial and visual properties help spatial designers to achieve a better understanding of landscape compositions and enhance effective communication.

2) What has already been studied in your field?

As conventional mapping methods, hand drawing and graphic visualization are commonly used to describe the landscape spaces ambiguously. Nowadays, more and more data-based and quantitative methods are gradually applied into mapping spatial quality more accurate, such as ArcGIS, isovists and eye-tracking analysis etc.

3) What has not been studied? Why is this gap significant?

These new techniques are generally developed by geo-engineers and environmental psychologist etc. Considering the indicators they map are not always the characteristics used in the design context, it is very hard for spatial designers to use them to describe design issues.

4) How does your research relate to this gap, and what is the goal of the current article? *Be sure to write a sentence that begins “The goal of this article is to […],” followed by a strong and specific verb (“propose,” “theorize,” “develop,” “investigate,” “discover”).*

*In my research, I will translate the existing quantitative indicators into the spatial and visual characteristics for mapping landscape spaces. The goal of this article is to review the existing mapping methods and summarize the indicators, in order to find potential spatial and visual characteristics and corresponding mapping methods.*

5) What have you done, or what are you doing, to achieve this goal?

I review the existing mapping methods and tools applied into the description of landscape spaces and conclude what and how they map the spatial and visual characteristics.

6) What is the working title of your article?

Mapping landscape spaces: a review of quantitative mapping methods and tools