

How to not write a paper

A testfile for L^AT_EXBuddy

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Preface

This is a corrected version of a mock up paper, I wrote to test serval modules for Buddy. The original text has intentional and unintentional errors, like spelling errors, grammar errors and bad latex-code. The text of this file should show much less errors, but won't be completely errorfree.

Nevertheless, this mockup paper offers also some serious suggestion for scientific writing. Most ideas were taken from the online-course "Wissenschaftliches Arbeiten" of the TU BS, specifically the chapters "Wissenschaftliches Schreiben I" and "Wissenschaftliches Schreiben II".

1 Typical problems

At the beginning we present you a list of typical problems:

- missing motivation (Why is it important?)
- unclear goal, unclear contribution
- missing reasoning ("that's the way I did it")
- dead-end discussions, unused background
- unjustified claims
- missing cohesion
- bigger picture missing (just details)
- missing conclusions or results

- jargon, background missing
- related work missing

The introduction starts usually with a motivation. This paper has purposely no right motivation besides to be tested in L^AT_EXBuddy. The motivation of a scientific paper should explain the major problem and give a summary about what others already contribute. Then the authors should make clear what will be their new contribution and why it's so important, that it's worth to make a paper about that. It is not good, when important papers are missing. Regarding the Rarely, a paper can start with a complete new topic without references.

2 general rules

2.1 Provide information

2.2 Write self-contained

2.3 State the contribution

2.4 Avoid overclaims

3 Style of writing

3.1 Line of argumentation

3.2 Repetition