

Using the anonymize package

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Abstract

One of the things I found particularly frustrating with blind reviewed papers was finding substitute text that did not detract from the flow of thought. This, is both in the writing and the reviewing. What is also very difficult, is then making changes once the paper has been reviewed to ensure that all changes to anonymize the paper have been changed back. Also, having to modify references that could identify me or my co-authors when swapping from review to publish mode was also inconvenient; This document details a new package that facilitates generating publications that require you to mask parts of the document that could identify you as the author.

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Introduction


One of the things I found particularly frustrating with blind reviewed papers was finding substitute text that did not detract from the flow of thought. This, is both in the writing and the reviewing. What is also very difficult, is then making changes once the paper has been reviewed to ensure that all changes to anonymize the paper have been changed back. Also, having to modify references that could identify me or my co-authors when swapping from review to publish mode was also inconvenient; This example showing how to use the *anonymize* package.

Questions may be directed to a.fraietta@unsw.edu.au; please put [Blind Latex] in the subject line.

Use of the package

A convenient flag has been provided that will allow you to easily mask any text or reference that could be used to identify you as the author. To enable the feature, comment the line `\usepackageanonymize` and uncomment the `\usepackage[blind]anonymize` lines near the top of the file. When `\usepackage[blind]anonymize` is enabled, anonymized text will be blackened out and masked bibliography names and titles will be anonymised.

Masking text

To mask text that will identify you, place the text you want to hide inside the `\anonymize` function. If you have enabled the blind review feature, 

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References

LaTeX automatically generates a bibliography in the APA style from your .bib file. The citep command generates a formatted citation in parentheses (Lamport, 1986).

The `cite` command generates one without parentheses. LaTeX was first discovered by Lamport (1986).

Masking publications. In order to mask your publications, you will need to make a copy of your personal references, using the second version with a key name adding `-hidden`. For example, if your reference key is `myotherpublication`, make a copy called `myotherpublication-hidden` that has text displayed how you would like it displayed in blind review mode. Wrap your reference name with the *anoncite* function. For example, to make `\cite{mypublication}` anonymous in the blind version, use the following instead. `\cite{\anoncite{mypublication}}`. You will note that Anonymous (1993) and Anonymous (2010) were written by me, so in blind mode, the identifying parts will be suppressed.

Some examples for the use of references in the text:

Lamport (1986), Anonymous (1993)

(Lamport, 1986), (Anonymous, 2010)

Original Source

This template was based on the APA6 package obtained through Overleaf and was covered under the Creative Commons CC BY 4.0 Commons CC BY 4.0 *APA6-Style Manuscript* (n.d.). The code for creating the black boxes was originally found at *Efficient ways to anonymize a document* (2012) I hope you find this package useful. Also, please excuse the non-Australian spelling of *anonymize*.

References

Anonymous. (1993). Reference suppressed for anonymity during peer review.

Anonymous. (2010). Reference suppressed for anonymity during peer review.

(Reference suppressed for anonymity during peer review)

Apa6-style manuscript. (n.d.). Retrieved 23 November 2018, from

<https://www.overleaf.com/latex/templates/your-apa6-style-manuscript/kngbbqpypjcq>

Efficient ways to anonymize a document. (2012). Retrieved 23 November 2018, from

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Lamport, L. A. (1986, July). The gnats and gnus document preparation system.

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