

One example of plagiarism

The New York Times

Harvard Novelist Says Copying Was Unintentional

By DINITIA SMITH

Published: April 25, 2006

[Kaavya Viswanathan](#), the [Harvard](#) sophomore accused of plagiarizing parts of her recently published chick-lit novel, acknowledged yesterday that she had borrowed language from another writer's books, but called the copying "unintentional and unconscious."

SIGN IN TO E-MAIL
THIS

 PRINT

 REPRINTS

 SAVE



The book, "How Opal Mehta Got Kissed, Got Wild and Got a Life," was recently published by Little, Brown to wide publicity. On Sunday, The Harvard Crimson reported that Ms. Viswanathan, who received \$500,000 as part of a deal for "Opal" and one other book, had seemingly plagiarized language from two novels by Megan McCafferty, an author of popular young-adult books.

One example of plagiarism

Kaavya Viswanathan:

- Law student at Harvard,
- \$500,000 book contract.
- *"...any phrasing similarities between her works and mine were completely unintentional and unconscious."*
- Lost contract, credibility.

One example of plagiarism

Sloppy Firsts

Megan McCafferty

Though I used to see him sometimes at Hope's house, Marcus and I had never, ever acknowledged each other's existence before. So I froze, not knowing whether I should (a) laugh (b) say something (c) ignore him and keep on walking ... 'Uh, yeah. Ha. Ha. Ha.' ... I turned around and saw that Marcus was smiling at me.

How Opal Mehta Got Kissed, Got Wild, and Got a Life
Kaavya Viswanathan

Though I had been to school with him for the last three years, Sean Whalen and I had never acknowledged each other's existence before. I froze, unsure of (a) what he was talking about and (b) what I was supposed to do about it ... 'Ha, yeah. Uh, ha. Ha.' ... I looked up and saw that Sean was grinning.



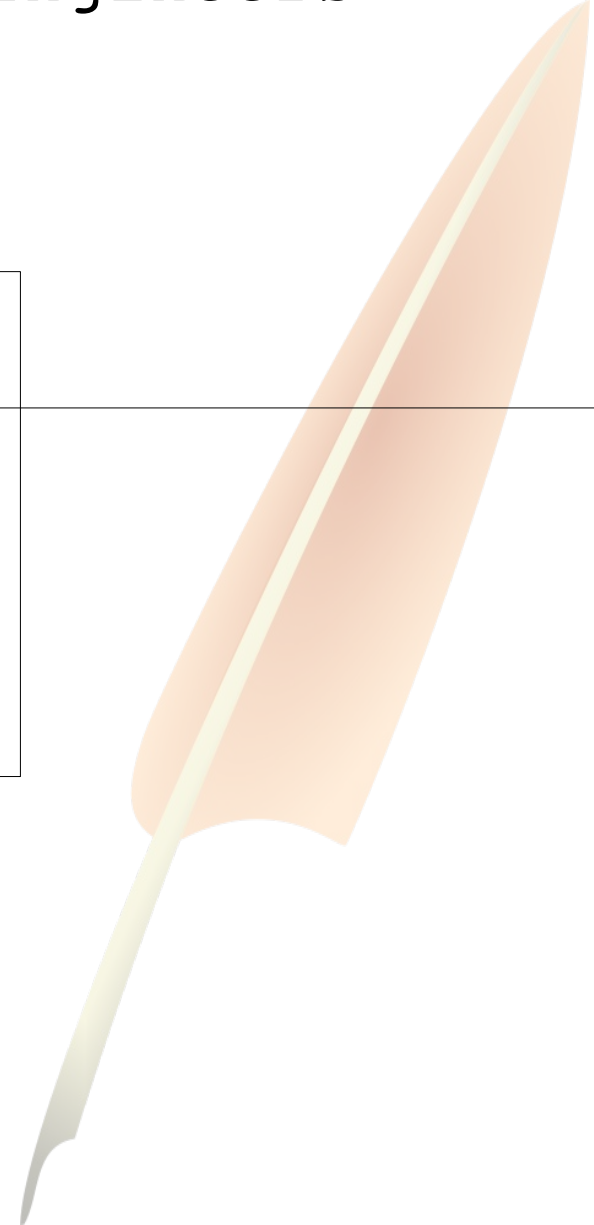
BLG374E

Technical Communications for Engineers

Plagiarism

Lecture Contents:

- Principles of plagiarism. ◀
- Idea plagiarism.
- Textual plagiarism.
- How to avoid plagiarism.
- Exercise.



Principles of Plagiarism

We do not claim as our own
others' :

- Ideas.
- Words.

Why?

- Tell truth.
- Respect original authorship.

Principles of Plagiarism

Reader **will assume** that it is:

- Author's words.
- Author's ideas.

Author must make source clear.



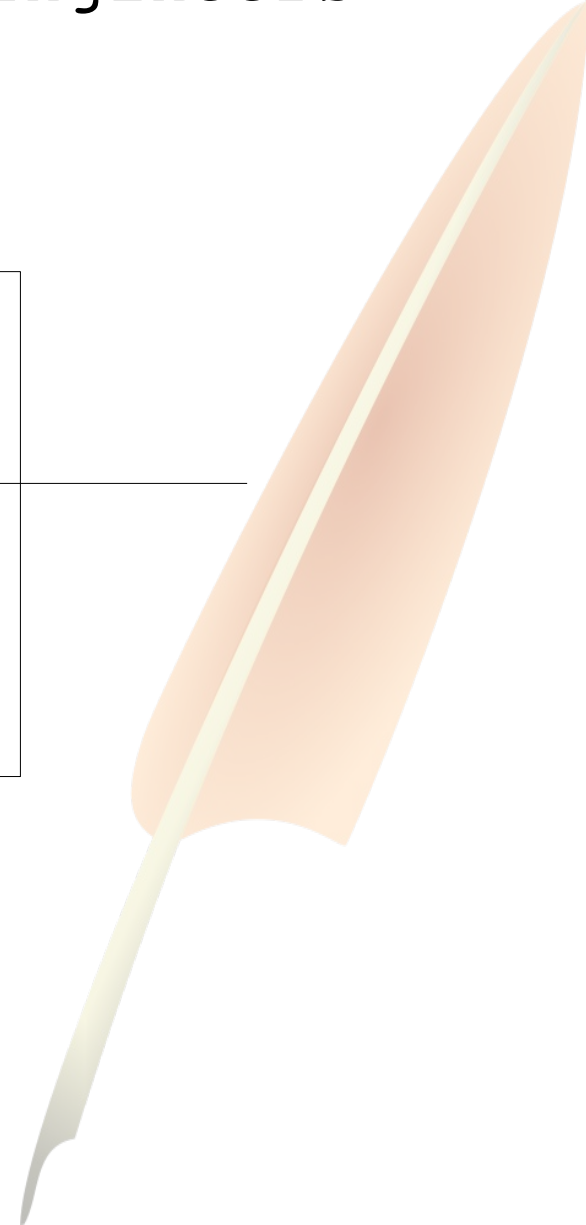
BLG374E

Technical Communications for Engineers

Plagiarism

Lecture Contents:

- Principles of plagiarism.
- Idea plagiarism. ←
- Textual plagiarism.
- How to avoid plagiarism.
- Exercise.



Idea plagiarism

Claiming another's ideas as
own.

- Through **lack of attribution.**

Remember: ideas assumed yours.

Idea plagiarism Examples

Integration of planning and perception has already been done.

Obvious plagiarism:

*I was the first to integrate
planning and perception via
replanning with generated
constraints.*

Idea plagiarism Examples

Integration of planning and perception has already been done.

Likely plagiarism:

We integrate planning and perception via replanning with generated constraints.

Idea plagiarism Examples

Integration of planning and perception has already been done.

No plagiarism:

*According to Philipp (2011),
planning and perception can be
integrated via replanning with
generated constraints.*

Idea plagiarism Examples

Integration of planning and perception has already been done.

No plagiarism:

Planning and perception can be integrated via replanning with generated constraints [1].

[1] G. Philipp, Planning and perception, together. Robotica, 5(2), p.12-24. 2011.

Other reasons for attribution

- Clarify chain of ideas.
 - Philosophy, science, literature, engineering have *history*...
 - e.g. Aristotle is everywhere.
 - Many computing ideas already thought of by the 60s!
- Guide reader for more information.



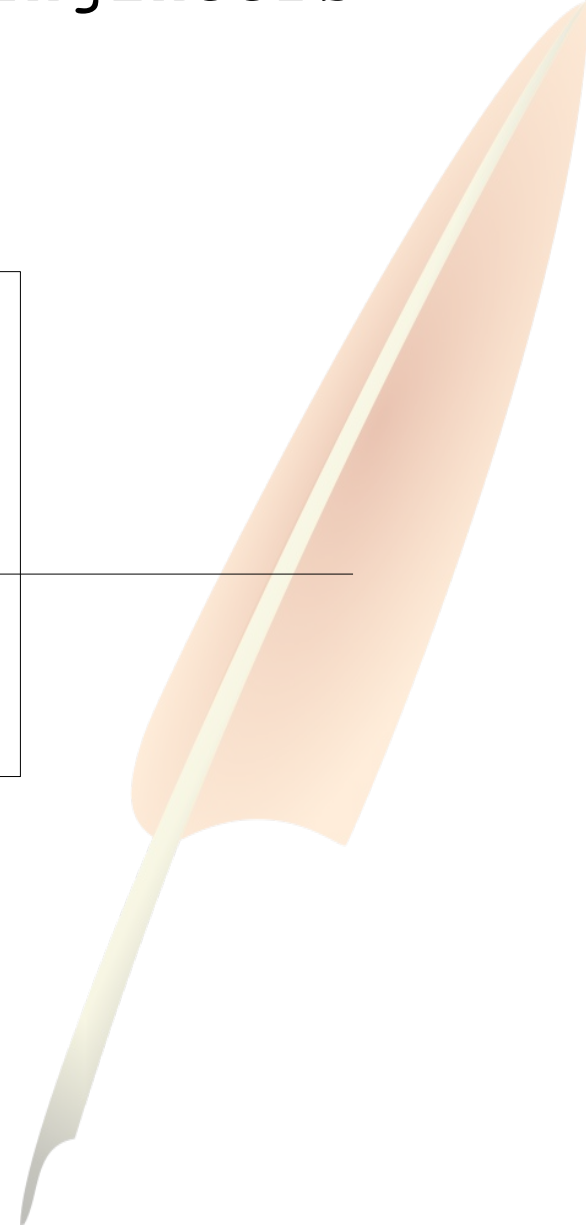
BLG374E

Technical Communications for Engineers

Plagiarism

Lecture Contents:

- Principles of plagiarism.
- Idea plagiarism.
- Textual plagiarism. ←
- How to avoid plagiarism.
- Exercise.



Textual plagiarism

Claiming another's phrasing as
own.

- Through lack of attribution.

Remember: words assumed yours.

Textual plagiarism Examples

Original Text:

D. Multiple dynamics models I: Likelihood-rank selection

As mentioned previously, although the motivation for particle filters is probabilistic, in practice they employ imperfect representations (samples) of uncertainty in the true pose. One consequence of this is that good hypotheses, once

Plagiarism:

Although the motivation for particle filters is probabilistic, in practice they employ imperfect representations of uncertainty in the true pose.

Textual plagiarism Examples

Original Text:

D. Multiple dynamics models I: Likelihood-rank selection

As mentioned previously, although the motivation for particle filters is probabilistic, in practice they employ imperfect representations (samples) of uncertainty in the true pose. One consequence of this is that good hypotheses, once

Plagiarism:

The motivation for particle filters is probabilistic, but practically they use imperfect representations of uncertainty in the true pose [2].

Textual plagiarism Examples

Original Text:

D. Multiple dynamics models I: Likelihood-rank selection

As mentioned previously, although the motivation for particle filters is probabilistic, in practice they employ imperfect representations (samples) of uncertainty in the true pose. One consequence of this is that good hypotheses, once

No Plagiarism:

It is known that "although the motivation for particle filters is probabilistic, in practice they employ imperfect representations of uncertainty in the true pose" [2].

quoted

Textual plagiarism Examples

Original Text:

D. Multiple dynamics models I: Likelihood-rank selection

As mentioned previously, although the motivation for particle filters is probabilistic, in practice they employ imperfect representations (samples) of uncertainty in the true pose. One consequence of this is that good hypotheses, once

No Plagiarism:

Particle filters don't need accurate models of uncertainty to work well [2]. paraphrased

Citation vs. Reference

- What is the difference?
- When is each required?



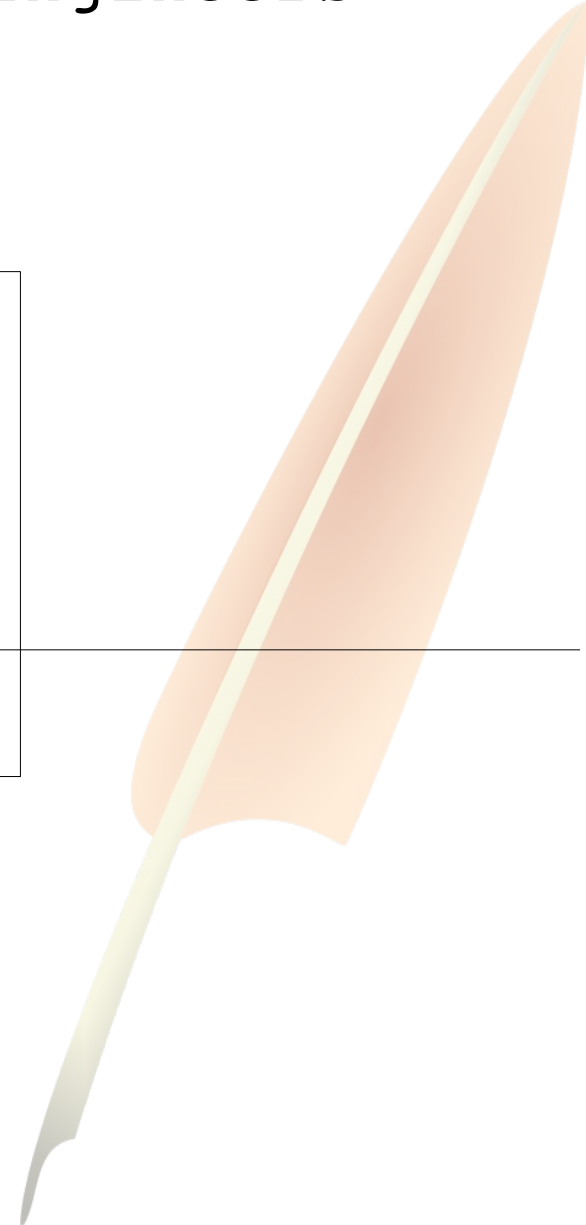
BLG374E

Technical Communications for Engineers

Plagiarism

Lecture Contents:

- Principles of plagiarism.
- Idea plagiarism.
- Textual plagiarism.
- How to avoid plagiarism. ◀
- Exercise.



Avoiding plagiarism is hard

"I can't think of anything original".

- Organisation & analysis = contribution.
- Tricks of analysis (e.g. questions).

"I can't express it like that".

- You don't have to.
- Simpler is better.



How to paraphrase

Tip 1: Don't paraphrase.

1. Close sources.
2. Wait >20 minutes.
3. Then write from understanding.

How to paraphrase

Tip 2: Put attributions,
quotation marks in your notes.

- If they are not your own words.

When attribution is not required

- Common knowledge / easy deductions.

e.g. Earth goes around the sun.

"Wow, did you think of that?"

e.g. $212335363 + 63463464 = 275798827$

"Wow, did you think of that?"

When attribution is not required

- Simple/compact phrases.
 - e.g. *"sum to infinity of a geometric series"...*

About 12,800 results (0.30 seconds)

- e.g. *"the sun rose in the morning"...*

About 6,490,000 results (0.42 seconds)



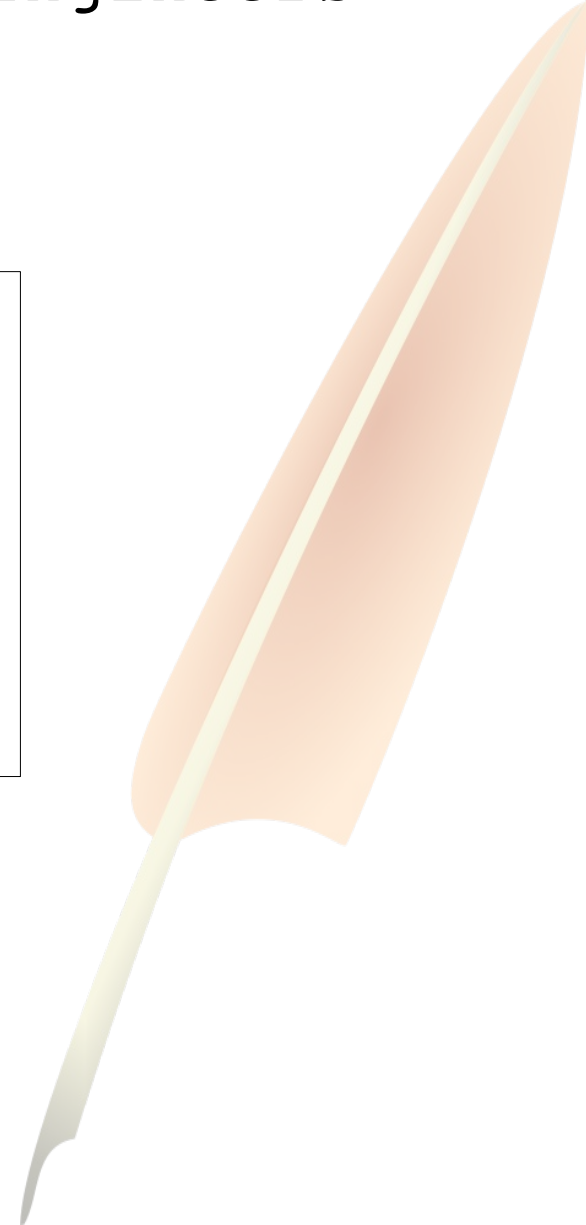
BLG374E

Technical Communications for Engineers

Plagiarism

Lecture Contents:

- Principles of plagiarism.
- Idea plagiarism.
- Textual plagiarism.
- How to avoid plagiarism.
- Exercise. ←



Exercise help

Put all names on top of worksheet.

Exercise 2:

Continue on back if necessary.

Need to understand what VCSs are.



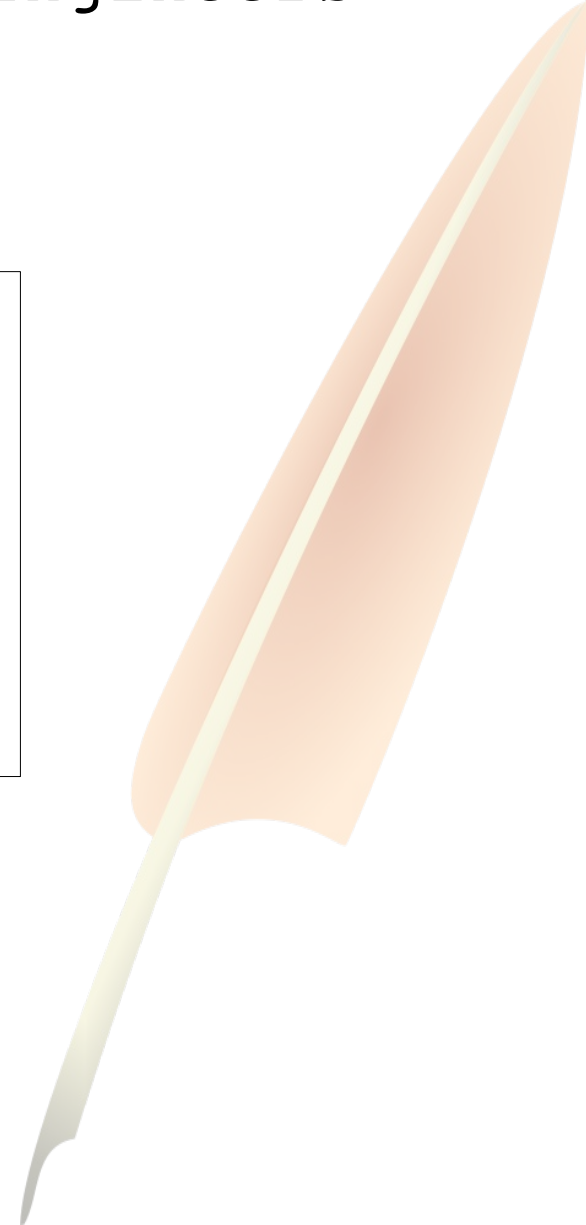
BLG374E

Technical Communications for Engineers

Plagiarism

Lecture Contents:

- Principles of plagiarism.
- Idea plagiarism.
- Textual plagiarism.
- How to avoid plagiarism.
- Exercise.



Plagiarism in Turkey:
common, bad for our reputation.

nature

International weekly journal of science

News

Nature **449**, 8 (6 September 2007) | doi:10.1038/449008b; Published online 5 September 2007

Turkish physicists face accusations of plagiarism

Geoff Brumfiel

nature

International weekly journal of science

Correspondence

Nature **449**, 658 (11 October 2007) | doi:10.1038/449658a; Published online 10 October 2007

Plagiarism? No, we're just borrowing better English

Ihsan Yilmaz¹

"Türkiye Akademisinin Arka Sokaklarından Tez Manzaraları"

- Plagiarism institutionalised.
- Culture of permissiveness.
- Powerful people not penalised.
- Who will be the change?

Readings




Reading & quizzes here:

<http://www.lib.usm.edu/legacy/plag/plagiarismtutorial.php>

<http://cw.routledge.com/textbooks/bailey/questions.asp?unit=1>

Or web search...

A screenshot of the Ask.com search interface. It features the "Ask" logo on the left, a search input field containing the text "plagiarism", and a blue "Find Answers" button on the right. Below the input field, a list of suggested search terms is displayed: "plagiarism definition", "plagiarism checker free", "plagiarism search engines", and "plagiarism detector".

	<input type="text" value="plagiarism"/>	Find Answers
<ul style="list-style-type: none">plagiarism definitionplagiarism checker freeplagiarism search enginesplagiarism detector		