

reports | what's the difference?

Technical Reports vs. Lab Notebooks

The **lab notebook** is a (legal) **record**. It contains **all exact details** about the experiment.

A **technical report** is a detailed, but curated, **narrative** about the project. It generally omits exact details to focus on the overall "story".

Note that curating information is not the same thing as omitting data! You cannot leave out data simply because they don't support the story you *want* to tell.

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Five standards were prepared by serial dilution using a 1000 mg/L acetaminophen stock in 1:3 methanol:water. ACS-grade Acetaminophen was obtained from Fisher Scientific. The methanol and water used were HPLC grade and were obtained from AlfaAesar.

vs.

Standards were prepared by serial dilution using a 1002.5 mg/L acetaminophen (Fisher Scientific Lot #123XYZ) stock solution in 1:3 methanol water. The methanol and water used were HPLC grade and were obtained from AlfaAesar (Lot # 12345678 and 12348910, respectively).

1. A high standard was prepared by pipetting 5.00 ml of the stock into a 25.0 ml volumetric flask and diluting to volume with the MeOH/H₂O solution.
2. A med-hi std was prepared by pipetting 15.00 ml of the high standard into a clean 25.0 ml vol flask and diluting
3. A med std was prepared by pipetting