Scientific Paper Step 1: Planning

Congratulations on getting started with paper writing!

In step 1, you will think about:

- what is the purpose of the paper, and how might you have even higher impact
- who is the audience of the paper
- what might be some potential journals to submit to
- who are your coauthors
- what are some of the key references/citations of your work
- who might be referees of your paper
- what will be the ultimate impacts of you finishing this work?

Step 1 is designed to be smooth and should normally take between one hour and a few hours. If it takes much longer than that, it's an indicator that paper writing may be premature.

When answering the questions in this form, use plain, conversational language - short, simple sentences are preferred!

More information: https://github.com/computron/scientific-paper-flow

* Indicates required question

1.

Email *

2.

What will be the main contributions of this paper?

You can list things like data sets, software, new methods, new models, new equations, a list of new predictions, trained machine learning models, new knowledge/intuition about a problem, overturning past ideas, etc. You can (and in most cases should) list more than one contribution. [max: 1500 characters]
*

3.

For each of the contributions listed previously, separate them into the categories below and describe potential figures/tables for that contribution.
1. Critical (must-have to be able to submit the paper)
2. Intermediate (would be nice to have and think it is probably achievable)
3. Stretch (would be amazing to have, would lead to a high-impact result, but unsure it it's even possible or how to get there if it is)

You can add additional contributions and ideas from the previous response if needed for things like "intermediate" and "stretch" goals.
For each contribution, try to provide a description of the core figure(s) / table(s) related to that contribution.
[max: 1500 characters]
*

4.

Who will this paper be useful to, and what kinds of future studies might cite this work?

[max: 1500 characters]
*

5.

What are some related studies to this paper?
Please list at least 5 papers and explain the relation of your paper to theirs.

Prefer listing papers outside your direct research group / direct collaborators. The relation might be directly be on the same topic, but it could also in terms of having a similar form to your paper (e.g., both your paper and the proposed are a data contribution paper even though they are in different scientific domains).
[max: 2000 characters]
*

6.

Provide a numbered list of the co-authors of this paper.
For each co-author, indicate what contribution they might make to help finish this paper.

Example contributions include preparation of a figure, processing of a data set, writing of a section, etc.
[max: 1500 characters]
*

7.

List three or more journals where you might submit this concept.
What journal is your top choice?

[max: 1500 characters]
*

8.

Use all the responses above to draft a cover letter for this article.
Note that it is understood that the cover letter may change depending on the final research results, however this should be your best guess for the moment.
* You can address the letter to the editor of one of the journals listed above
* Your letter should include the (working) title of the paper
* Your letter should contain the contributions of the work (use what you listed earlier as a guide)
* Your letter can contain some of the citations of related papers
* Your letter should address who will be the audience of the work, and ideally convince the editor that this paper will have broad readership.

The letter contents can be typed into the form below. During final paper submission, this can be used as a guide for your final cover letter.
[no maximum length]
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