

Assignment 3: Interview with Senior Scientist

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Questions for Interview

- How much time do you need to write the paper?
 - Less than a week if storyline, figures and tables are ready. Otherwise, about a month if analysis still needs to be done.
- Where do you start (section, pictures,)?
 - Start with the data and see what are the take away messages to be communicated in the paper. All figures and tables are then catered to communicate these messages. Basically, the conclusion is written first and then work backwards with introduction typically the final part written.
- When and how do you choose the journal?
 - After analysing the data and deciding on which figures and tables are included, the estimated length of the paper is clearer and then the journal is chosen. The choice of journal is also influenced by the maximum paper length defined by the journals.
- Do you separate results and discussion?
 - Not usually.
- How do you structure results and discussion?
 - Results that build on each other are present sequentially. Generally the more basic results are presented first then leading up to more complex or downstream implications.

- Do you write summary in the end of introduction?
 - Not usually unless it is to specify what the paper focuses on and what is not part of the scope of the paper.
- How do you identify the authors?
 - Anyone who has contributed to the process; e.g. provided data, support for the project, develop the concept, analysis.