

# Writing papers

[kbroman.org/BMI883](http://kbroman.org/BMI883)

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# Key ideas

- ▶ Read
- ▶ Practice writing
- ▶ Action → motivation
- ▶ Know your audience
- ▶ Break it down into smaller pieces



Calvin & Hobbes, 1992-05-21

# Tips

- ▶ Don't write it in order
  - Figures & tables
  - Results
  - Methods
  - Intro, discussion, abstract
- ▶ Use simple language
  - Use the words you know
  - If you can't think of how to say it, just skip it
- ▶ Outline discussion points over time
- ▶ Don't try to be perfect
  - Get it on paper; edit later
- ▶ Try speaking it, and writing down what you say
  - Like a talk, you're trying to tell a story and maintain the reader's interest
- ▶ Supplemental tables/figures are great