How to Write Research Papers

For CSSP Lab Members Only

Bing-Fei Wu

July 27, 2011



What Reviewers Want?

- Enough Paper Survey
 - Especially important papers can't be missed
- Innovation
 - What are the major differences from the others?
 - What are your advantage of your work?
- Technical Sound
 - No errors in your approaches
- Fair Comparisons
- Good English Writing



The Structure of a Research Paper

- Abstract
- Introduction ← ☆
- Motivation/Problem Formulation
- Proposed Approaches
- Experimental Results ← ☆
- Conclusions
- Acknowledgement
- Reference ← ☆



Abstract

- Point out the value/contribution of your work
- Summary of your work
- Summary of the issues you solved by your approaches
- Summary of the experimental results



Introduction

- Motivation of the research
- Paper survey
 - Point out the research trend
 - Summarize their work and softly point out their "weakness" for the research issue
- Approaches of your work
 - Indicate what the innovation of your approaches is



Introduction

- Advantages and/or contribution of your work
 - For simulation only, figure out the advantages compared with the others
 - For real work with platform, say TAIWAN iTS-1, emphasize your data is for real-time and/or on-line purpose.
 - For real design with our algorithms, enhance your test results which are better than others and the work has been realized or implemented. The others' work has to be implemented by you!
- Paper Organization



Problem Formulation

- Write down the main addressed issues of this motivation by mathematical equations, flowcharts, or algorithms, ...
- List the work by mathematical equations, flowcharts, or algorithms, ... done by others
- What's your new point? ← innovation?



Proposed Approaches

- Be patient to write your algorithms or equations and Write them clear.
 - Do NOT think the reviewers should recognize what you have done if you don't tell them the values of your work!
- It MUST be technically sounded. No technical errors can be allowed here.
- Use figures, tables, and/or flowcharts to point out your idea.



Experimental Results

- When you finally run out the simulation data or real results, you MUST figure them out CLEARLY for reviewers and readers.
 - You can't think reviewers will well know what you have done.
 - You have to tell reviewers clearly what your values are.
- Comparison is definitely necessary for evaluation of your work.
 - It MUST be fairly compared.
 - Rewrite the algorithms of the work you want to compare for well comparison.

Experimental Results

- Because of the language sick, we, nonnative English writers, often omit the important idea or can't point our values out clearly.
 - Write down everything you want to say first.
 - Cross out the overlapping.
 - Enhance the contribution or value. Rewrite it or write more clear.
 - Ask for my help when you have difficulties.



Conclusions

- Summarize what issues have been solved by your approach.
- Summarize your contribution and experimental results.
- Future work if possible



Acknowledgement

- No publication compensation can gain without this part.
- This work was supported by National Science Council under Grand no. NSC XX-XXXX-E-XXX-XXX, e.g. NSC 95-2752-E-009 -012 -PAE.
- The authors would like to give deep thanks to Prof. XXX for his/her/their valuable suggestion for this research work.



Reference

- Check the information for Authors for Writing Style
- Do not cite a too old reference unless it is a Bible paper!
- Order it by last name or by the appearance in the paper
- Cite your own published work



Reference

- Write it as the standard IEEE format
 - Journal Papers
 - Authors, "Title", Journal, Vol. 1, No.5, pp.xx~yy, year.
 - Conference Papers
 - Authors, "Title", Proc. of Conference, Place, Country, pp.xx~yy, year.
 - Books
 - Authors, Title, Book Chapter or page range, Book name, Book dealer, year.
 - Technical reports



- The Fig. 1 \ the Table 1 \ the Eq. 1 \ the A denotes a matrix....
 - □ Fig.1 \ Table 1 \ Eq. 1 \ A denotes a matrix...
- In the section 1 \ the Page 1
 - In Section 1 \ Page 1
- Forget to use Article or plural number
 - Method can be applied to...
 - Revise to <u>The</u> method can be applied to …



- Passive voice can be used to enhance the statement
 - We found that the approach is less... ← 区
 - □ It is observed that the approach is less... ← Better
- Avoid using the first person.
 - □ I used the approach to solve... ← 区
 - We used the approach to solve... ← 区
 - □ The approach can be used to solve... ← Better



- Use a synonym for the same meaning in the near sentences
 - □ The system uses...We use... ← 区
 - □ The system uses...We apply... ← Better
 - Propose, present, provide; work, approach, method...
- Use "address", "observe", "yield/obtain" to replace "discuss", "see/find", "generate", respectively.
- Using vowel pronunciation not vowel character to determine an or a
 - an FGPA, an mxn matrix.
 - <u>a</u> useful approach, <u>an</u> updated equation.



- Too many verbs in a sentence or too complicate statements within one sentence.
 - Simple sentences are encouraged.
 - Split your statements into two or more sentences.
- Chinese English MUST be avoided.
 - Use passive voice.
 - Note writing style instead of contents when you read a paper.



Before you submit your work to me for review, You MUST

- Check if there are red marks in your Word file. If yes, it is supposed you have typos in your work. Clean these out.
- Check if there are green marks in your Word file. If yes, it is supposed you have apparent grammar errors. Clear these out as possible as you can.
- Read your paper AGAIN to see whether any common errors mentioned in this hint exist.

CheckList

- Is Abstract enough to address your work?
- Has Introduction enough survey? Does Introduction contain your advantage or contribution?
- Do you address the problems to be solved clear?
- Does computer variables, not Math. Variables, show up in your paper?
- Do you point out your values or contribution clear?
- Do you make well comparisons?
- Is Reference enough or too old?

