**This Is the Title of My Paper**

Joe Harding

June 1, 2007

**Abstract:**

A good abstract will contain 4-10 sentences which introduces the topic and summarizes what the paper is going to say. This is your chance to tell the reader why they should turn the page and keep reading.

# 1. Introduction

The introduction is very important. The reader is unlikely to continue reading your paper unless you give them a compelling reason to do so in the intro. You may find it easier to write the intro *after* you have written most of your paper since you will then have a better idea of where exactly your paper is headed.

A good introduction will start with a quote, a question, an interesting fact, an anecdote, or a short narrative that will frame the discussion. For example, if you are going to talk about a new programming language, you might start out with a short narrative of how the language developer was sitting under an oak tree when she was suddenly inspired to create a new language that used a tree-like syntax. Or maybe start with a quote that someone made lamenting the fact that all programming languages are hard to use. How about a statistic showing that this new tree language has surpassed Java as the number one development language?

The intro should move from the general to the specific. You should normally end your introduction with a summary of what is going to be discussed next in your paper. To see some good introductions, read through some of the papers on my website.

# 2. Background

You will likely want to provide some context into which your work fits. If you are talking about a new programming language, discuss how it fits in with other programming languages that came before it. Provide some historical background. No technology exists in a vacuum.

## 2.1 Subsection

This is a subsection. Sometimes you may find it helpful to have subsections inside of a section. Only do this if you have at least a couple of paragraphs for your subsection.

## 2.2 Another subsection

And another.

### 2.2.1 Sub-subsection

This is an example of a sub-subsection. A subsection may be a few sentences or several paragraphs.

### 2.2.2 Another Sub-subsection

And this is another sub-subsection.

### 2.2.3 And the Final Sub-subsection

This is the final sub-subsection.

# 3. Citing Other’s Work

Be sure to cite other’s work whenever you are drawing information from them or quoting them. Citations should normally be placed at the end of the sentence like this . Sometimes , you may need to put multiple citations in the same sentence to clarify where you got each piece of information. When you quote someone, place the reference outside the quotation like this: “What in the world is the Web?” . Here’s another example: Thelwall asked, “What in the world is the Web?”

The APA style should be used which is built-in to Word 2007 (go to References tab, Citations & Bibliography). You should list all cited works at the end of your paper in the References section. There should not appear any items in the References section that are not explicitly cited in your paper.

When citing academic papers, it is important to cite the published version of the paper (the journal, magazine, or conference which formally published the paper). For example, you can find my paper entitled “Agreeing to Disagree: Search Engines and Their Public Interfaces” on the Web, but you should cite where it was published (the JCDL 2007 conference) because that is how you can tell the difference between a peer-reviewed paper and a non-authoritative paper.

# 4. Creating Figures and Tables

is an example of how you can create a table. Make sure you always include a direct reference to any table and figure in your paper like I just did. Captions for tables are *above* the table, and the table’s text should be single-spaced.

Table : Three methods for comparing search engine results.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Method** | **Description** |
| Overlap | Takes into account only shared results. |
| Kendall tau distance for top *k* results (Fagin, Kumar, & Sivakumar, 2003) | Penalizes movements in the results. |
| Bar-Ilan et al.’s (2006) M measure | Penalizes movements at the bottom of the results less heavily than results at the top. |

is an example of how to incorporate a figure into your paper. The caption should give a good description of what is being shown. Some C++ code is shown in Figure 2 which converts a string into an integer (Convert a string to a int (C++), 2003).



Figure : K distance between top 100 search results when comparing day *n* to day *n* − 1.

int StringToInt(string s)

{

istringstream sin(s);

int i;

sin >> i;

// If not successful, return -1

if (sin.fail())

return -1;

return i;

}

Figure : Converting a string into an integer in C++.

# 5. Conclusions

In your conclusion, you want to summarize what you just told the reader, emphasizing the most important parts. It will usually move from the specific to the general, leaving the reader with an answer to the questions: 1) What was your main point? 2) Why is it important that I understand your main point?

# 6. References

Bar-Ilan, J., Mat-Hassan, M., & Levene, M. (2006). Methods for comparing rankings of search engine results. *Computer Networks* , 1448-1463.

Bar-Yossef, Z., & Gurevich, M. (2006). Random sampling from a search engine’s index. *Proceedings of the 15th International Conference on World Wide Web*, (pp. 367–376).

*Convert a string to a int (C++).* (2003, March 7). Retrieved April 10, 2009, from CProgramming.com: http://faq.cprogramming.com/cgi-bin/smartfaq.cgi?answer=1046996179&id=1043284385

Cutts, M. (2005, June 2). *GoogleGuy’s posts*. Retrieved from http://www.webmasterworld.com/forum30/29720.htm

Fagin, R., Kumar, R., & Sivakumar, D. (2003). Comparing top k lists. *SIAM Journal on Discrete Mathematics* *, 17* (1), 134–160.

*The Lycos 50*. (n.d.). Retrieved from http://50.lycos.com/

Thelwall, M. (2004). Can the Web give useful information about commercial uses of scientific research? *Online Information Review* (28), 120–130.