

STYLE SHEET

MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE DEPARTMENT LONGWOOD UNIVERSITY

Citations of written sources

There are three commonly used styles.

I. Style One

The first is codified in A Manual for Authors of Mathematical Papers, American Mathematical Society, Fourth Edition, 1971. Number the references in the bibliography. A reference in the text to the bibliography is given by placing the item number and page number in brackets. The same style is used for quotations and paraphrasing.

Quotation

According to Jensen, “While motivation is essential to begin the path to success, only persistence will keep you on the path” [10, p. 31].

Paraphrase

A popular study guide notes that both motivation and persistence are necessary for student success [10, p. 31].

Reference

[10] E. Jensen, Student Success Secrets. New York: Barron’s Educational Series, Inc., 1982.

A variation on the above does not use the page number in the citation. This style is generally only used with journal articles.

Example using an article

It has been proven in [8] that the mean waiting time of a packet is the sum of the mean queuing delay and the time spent waiting for the token.

Reference

[8] Y. Levy and U. Yechiali, “Utilization of the Idle Time in an M/G/1 Queuing System,” Management Science 22:2(October 1975), 202-211.

II. Style Two

A more recent style is to assign each entry in the bibliography an alphanumeric code, typically the first letter or letters of the author's name. Use as few letters as possible to distinguish the entry. Use integers to distinguish different works by the same author (J1, J2, etc.). A citation in the text is done by putting the code in brackets. The page reference may be omitted for journal articles. It may be omitted for books only if it is a general reference to all or most of the book. The same style is used for quotations and paraphrasing.

Quotation

According to Jensen, "While motivation is essential to begin the path to success, only persistence will keep you on the path" [J, p. 31].

Paraphrase

A popular study guide notes that both motivation and persistence are necessary for student success [J, p. 31].

Reference

[J] E. Jensen, Student Success Secrets. New York: Barron's Educational Series, Inc., 1982.

III. Style Three

An improvement on the second style is to form the citation from the first four letters of the name of the first author, the last two digits of the year in which it is published, and a lower case letter if necessary to distinguish between two or more citations from the same author and year. The same style is used for quotation and paraphrase. The references are given in alphabetical order by citation in the bibliography.

Example using an article

It has been proven in [Levy75] that the mean waiting time of a packet is the sum of the mean queuing delay and the time spent waiting for the token.

Reference

[Levy75] Y. Levy and U. Yechiali, "Utilization of the Idle Time in an M/G/1 Queuing System," Management Science 22:2(October 1975), 202-211.

Example using a book

In [Stal84] we find an excellent survey of general network operation.

Reference

[Stal84] W. Stallings, Local Networks, An Introduction. Macmillan Publishing Company, New York, 1984.

Example differentiating between otherwise identical citations

In his article [Taka86a] and book [Taka86b], Takagi (along with Murata) presents various facets of the analysis of local area network operation.

References

[Taka86a] H. Takagi and M. Murata, "Queuing Analysis of Nonpreemptive Reservation Priority Discipline," Proceedings of Performance '86 and ACM Sigmetrics (Joint Conference), Raleigh, NC, May 27-30, 1986, 237-241.

[Taka86b] H. Takagi, Analysis of Polling Systems. The MIT Press, Cambridge, MA, 1986.

Citations of electronic sources

Use any of the written material citation styles for the citation. The bibliographic entry should be of the form

Author, title (use the name of the text file if nothing else is available), print publication (if known), name of the site or repository of the HTML or text file (this is usually the full Internet address), name of the computer network ("Internet" is acceptable), and the date of access.

You may wish to save a copy of the file on your disk in case there is any question about the reference later, because files on computer networks are changed often.

Example

One study showed that a majority of World Wide Web users were under the age of 40 [Zorn].

Reference

[Zorn] K. Zorn, "World Wide Web Users Statistics," <http://www.cs.genesco.edu/users/faculty/kzorn/wwwstat.html>. Internet, May 1, 1996.