GEORG-AUGUST-UNIVERSITÄT
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# Scientific Writing and Citing

How to do science right ("Good Scientific Practice")

# Table of contents

# Citation — placement & style

- Present sources for your claims
- Use `cite` command and manage sources as biblatex file
- Sources should directly follow respective claim
  - ▶ The performance of the system under study was found to be close to native performance leading to the conclusion that it is suitable for HPC usage. **[REF]**
  - ▶ The performance of the system under study was found to be close to native performance **[REF]** leading to the conclusion that it is suitable for HPC usage.
- Sources and authors can also be directly referenced
  - ▶ Author et al. **[REF1]** found a new method for compressing textual data, which complements the protocol presented in **[REF2]** allowing for more stable and efficient data transfer.

# Types of citation

- Paraphrased / indirect (default in technical writing)
    - ▶ Rephrase in your own words and cite the source. **[REF]**
    - ▶ Example (narrative): Author shows that the proposed scheduler reduces average latency by 23%. **[REF]**
    - ▶ Example (parenthetical): The scheduler reduces average latency by 23%. **[REF]**
- Direct / literal (use sparingly)
    - ▶ Quote only when wording carries special meaning (definitions, exact claims).
    - ▶ Example (short): "Direct citations are placed in quotation marks." **[REF, p. 17]**
    - ▶ Example (long): For 2+ lines, set as a block quote in your text editor or thesis template. **[REF, pp. 17–18]**

# In-text patterns & secondary sources

- Author patterns
  - ▶ One author: Author **[REF]**
  - ▶ Two authors: Author and Coauthor **[REF]**
  - ▶ Three–five authors: list all on first mention; then use "et al." **[REF]**
  - ▶ Six or more authors: use "et al." from the first mention **[REF]**
  - ▶ Same author and year: disambiguate with a/b/c (e.g., 2015a, 2015b). **[REF]**
- Secondary source (last resort)
  - ▶ If the original is unavailable: "Author (original) as cited in Other Author (year)." **[REF]**
- Figures and tables
  - ▶ Direct reproduction: exact copy, cite the source. **[REF]**
  - ▶ Indirect reproduction: adapted/modified version, cite as adapted. **[REF]**

# Internet sources & reference list

- Internet sources
  - ▶ Treat like other sources in-text. **[REF]**
  - ▶ In the reference list, provide the exact URL; include DOI when available. **[REF]**
  - ▶ Avoid "Retrieved from" unless the page content changes frequently. **[REF]**
- Reference list
  - ▶ Alphabetical by author, then chronologically. **[REF]**
  - ▶ Use one consistent style across all entries. **[REF]**
  - ▶ Include page numbers for direct quotations. **[REF]**
- Common pitfalls to avoid
  - ▶ Late or ambiguous citation placement
  - ▶ Overuse of long quotations
  - ▶ Missing attribution in figure/table captions