

# **Avoiding Trouble with Plagiarism: Proper Citation in Scientific Writing**

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# Avoiding trouble with plagiarism: Proper citation in scientific writing

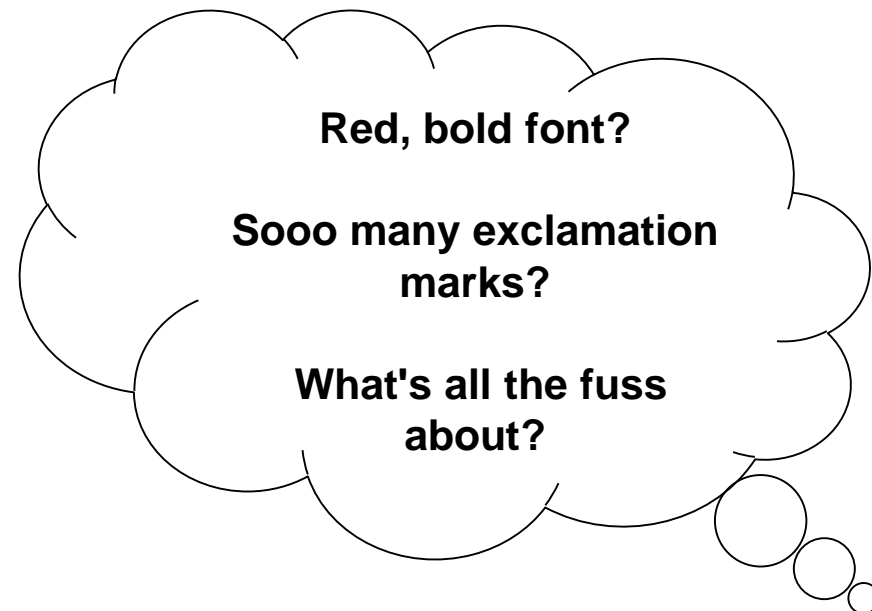
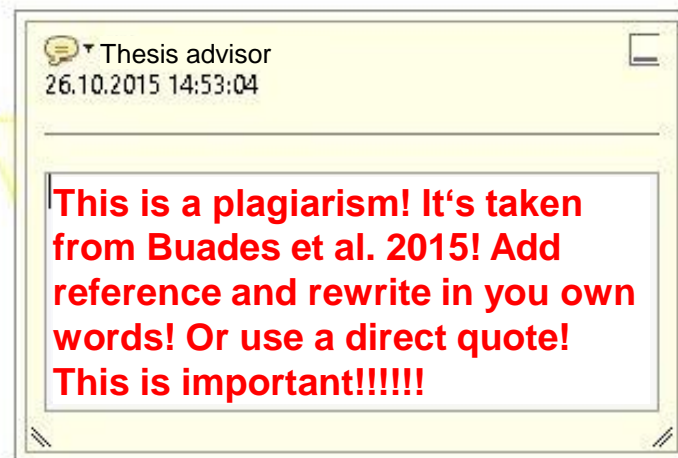
## A not so untypical situation ...

This thesis focuses on the development of a novel image enhancement algorithm. The need for efficient image restoration methods has grown with the massive production of digital images and movies of all kinds, often taken in poor conditions. Furthermore, ...

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[Buades, A., Coll, B., & Morel, J. M. (2005). A review of image denoising algorithms, with a new one. Multiscale Modeling & Simulation, 4(2), 490-530.]

Avoiding trouble with plagiarism:  
Proper citation in scientific writing

## Why is correct citation important in academic writing?

### *Ethical reasons:*

- In science, the product of hard work often is original thought and writing.
- This intellectual property is owned by it's original creator, except it has been formally transferred.
- Hence, displaying such text as if it was one's own creation must be considered theft of intellectual property.

## Why is correct citation important in academic writing?

### *Legal reasons:*

- If an article is distributed by a publisher, the copyright was usually transferred to them.
- If you now publish parts of such a work, often this must be considered copyright infringement.
- (Note: Even if you authored the first mentioned article yourself, you may not be allowed to use parts without permission from the publisher).

## Why is correct citation important in academic writing?

### *Examination-related reasons:*

- If you work on a report, presentation (or similar) for a seminar or thesis, this product is usually part of an examination.
- If you include plagiarism, this must be considered cheating, because you are not the creator of the plagiarized parts.
- Furthermore, it shows that you do not work according to academic standards.

## Avoiding trouble with plagiarism: Proper citation in scientific writing

### How to cite properly?

- Not okay:

This thesis focuses on the development of a novel image enhancement algorithm. The need for efficient image restoration methods has grown with the massive production of digital images and movies of all kinds, often taken in poor conditions. Furthermore, ...

- Still not okay:

This thesis focuses on the development of a novel image enhancement algorithm. The need for efficient image restoration methods has grown with the massive production of digital images and movies of all kinds, often taken in poor conditions [BCM05].  
Furthermore, ...

## How to cite properly?

- Also this is not okay:

This thesis focuses on the development of a novel image enhancement algorithm. **The requirement for efficient image restoration approaches has scaled with arrival of digital images and videos of all kinds, frequently taken in suboptimal conditions.** Furthermore, ...

- Similarly, taking the original source and deleting or adding parts, changing the tense or language, or other modifications results in plagiarism. For further details, see links at the end of these slides.



## Avoiding trouble with plagiarism: Proper citation in scientific writing

### How to cite properly?

- This would be okay;  
This thesis focuses on the development of a novel image enhancement algorithm. According to Buades and colleagues, “The need for efficient image restoration methods has grown with the massive production of digital images and movies of all kinds, often taken in poor conditions” [BCM05]. Furthermore, ...
- It was stated and **marked as direct quote**.
- **But:** This puts emphasis on who said it. And what they said exactly. Is this important here?

## How to cite properly?

- This may be good solution for our example:

This thesis focuses on the development of a novel image enhancement algorithm. Especially in the recent years, a variety of different image enhancement algorithms have been proposed. The demand for such techniques originates from the fact that there is a large number of digital images and videos being constantly created. Typically, such material is recorded in poor conditions and requires enhancement [BCM05]. None of the available algorithms, however, solves the problem of ...
- The text was written in **our own words** and the **original is source cited**.

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**It's not solely about text! The same rules apply for ...**

- Images
- Videos
- Charts
- Statistics
- Program code
- etc.

## Some more reasons why you don't want to plagiarize:

- For larger parts, the original text will usually not fit your purpose well, because it was written in a different context.
- For smaller parts, creating a patchwork of text fragments, possibly from different sources, is difficult if you want that it reads good!
- Hence, the easiest way will usually be to use your own words and explain the cited facts in your context.
- Stating the source usually gives a claim some authority.

**If you are unsure for a specific part of text you created ...**

- Ask your supervisor! They will help you.

**If you want to learn more about plagiarism in general, consider these links:**

- <http://ori.hhs.gov/images/ddblock/plagiarism.pdf>
- <http://www.concordia.ca/students/academic-integrity/plagiarism.html>
- [cis.kprdsb.ca/Teachers/JTracogna/Plagiarism.pdf](http://cis.kprdsb.ca/Teachers/JTracogna/Plagiarism.pdf)

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**Thanks for your attention!**