

Some tips on managing an academic bibliography

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1 How to manage citations efficiently?

2 Some useful links

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Some tools to make the task simpler

1 \LaTeX embedded bibliography management system

- The **bibliography environment** → [Example](#)
- **Advantages:** It avoids numbering all the citations (or re-doing it) by hand.
- **Disadvantages 1:** References are part of the \TeX file
- **Disadvantages 2:** Reference entry (i.e. a **bibitem**) must be typed as you want it to be presented.

2 Some important commands

- $\text{\cite{cite_key}}$ → to cite a particular work in the bibliography
- $\text{\nocite{cite_key}}$, whenever you want a reference to appear in the bibliography, despite not being referenced in the main text
- $\text{\nocite{*}}$ to cite all papers in the bibliography not referenced in the main text

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3 What about citation styles?

- The package **Natbib** → add to your **preamble** the line `\usepackage{natbib}` + the bibliography style file: `\bibliographystyle{plainnat}`.
- **Advantage** Alter the existing basic `\cite` command to display the type of citation you want.
- Main commands: simply add a t for **'textual'** (`\citet`) or p for **'parenthesized'** (`\citep`).
- By adding an asterisk (*), you override **1st surname et al** version default setting, e.g. `\citet*{cite_key}`

4 How to make this process even more efficient?

- **Using BibTeX** → save all references in an external, flat-file database. `\bibliography{}`
- **Why a .bib file?** write once, read many **Main Advantage**

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5 Citation Management made easier

- **By Google Scholar** Set your **Google scholar** preferences & then copy the BibTeX entry to your bib file and save!
- **Advantage** Start storing bib entries while searching the literature!

6 Citation Management made friendly

- **By citation management softwares** such as, **Jab Ref**.
- **Jab Ref** is a free and small Java program which lets you edit your BibTeX and other bibliographic databases.
- **Advantages** It is done easily, letting you (mostly) forget about the details.

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Ex.1 Just before the `\end{document}` command.

```
\begin{thebibliography}{9}
\bibitem{gi79}
J.~C. Gittins,
``Bandit processes and dynamic allocation indices,``
\emph{J. Roy. Statist. Soc. Ser. B},
vol.~41, no.~2, pp. 148--177, 1979, with discussion.
\end{thebibliography}
```

Ex.2 An example of a BibTeX entry:

```
@article{gi79,  
  title={{Bandit processes and  
dynamic allocation indices}},  
  author={Gittins, J.C.},  
  journal={Journal of the Royal Statistical Society.  
Series B (Methodological)},  
  pages={148--177},  
  issn={0035-9246},  
  year={1979},  
  publisher={JSTOR}  
}
```

Ex.2 Just before the `\end{document}` command.

```
\bibliographystyle{plain}  
\bibliography{mybib}
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More details

Link 1 Visit [this](#) Wiki entry for a detailed view of bibliography management with \LaTeX

Link 2 For more info on `Natbib`, read [this](#) file or visit this [site](#).

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