Writing a Bibliography

Jason Graham

March 4, 2011
Outline

- Some references
- Good Practices
- Format
- MathSciNet etc.
- \texttt{BIB\TeX}
Some References

- Writing a bibliography
  - [1, pages 97-102], [2, pages 73-78]
- BIBTEX
  - [1, pages 196-202], [3, pages 70-71]
Importance

- Due credit
- Establishes context
- Clarity and accuracy
Good Practices 😊 I

- Use only original sources, this avoids inaccuracies
  - See [1, page 98] for examples of bibliographic inaccuracies that have been propagated due to citation via secondary sources
- Give names including initials as they appear
- Cite titles as is even if there is a mistake (or note correction)
- Cite from the article not from the cover of the journal
- Check to see if citation has appeared
- Note accented letters
- Sometimes journals change names
  - Bulletin of Mathematical Biology used to be Bulletin of Mathematical Biophysics
  - SIAM Journal on Scientific Computing used to be SIAM Journal on Scientific and Statistical Computing
Good Practices 😊 II

- Maintain all reference info in reference database even if not used in bibliography
- Use standard journal abbreviations
  - Standard abbreviations for math journals can be found on MathSciNet
  - Standard abbreviations for many bio journals on Pub Med
The format or style of the bibliography depends on where it appears. Some common styles from math journals are (from [1, page 98]):


Citing Styles

There are different ways to cite in the text and different ways to list references:

▶ Author-date-page
  ▶ In this case references will typically be listed alphabetically
▶ By a number and page
  ▶ In this case references will typically be listed in order of citation
▶ Harvard style

Note: UI thesis excepts either of the first two styles.
BİBTEX is a program by Oren Patashnik and Leslie Lamport that produces a source list containing bibliographic information. To use:

- Create `.bib` file with bibliographic info
- In \LaTeX file include
  \begin{verbatim}
  \bibliography{filename}
  \bibliographystyle{style}
  \end{verbatim}

- Run \LaTeX, run BİBTEX, run \LaTeX again, run \LaTeX one more time

BibTeX format from MathSciNet

@book {higham,
  AUTHOR = {Higham, Nicholas J.},
  TITLE = {Handbook of writing for the mathematical sciences},
  EDITION = {Second},
  PUBLISHER = {Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (SIAM)},
  ADDRESS = {Philadelphia, PA},
  YEAR = {1998},
  PAGES = {xvi+302},
  ISBN = {0-89871-420-6},
  MRCLASS = {00A20},
  MRNUMBER = {1640787 (99g:00017)},
}

Be sure to cross check with original article.
Some other sources for bibliographic information:

- Pub Med
- MathSciNet
- Journal websites
- UI E journals
*Handbook of writing for the mathematical sciences.*  

*A primer of mathematical writing.*  

*\LaTeX\textsuperscript{a} document preparation system user’s guide and reference manual.*  