RSI 2006 Bibliography Format

All scholarly articles must include a bibliography properly citing the works of which they have made use. As each scholarly journal does for itself, RSI has prescribed a standard format for bibliography entries to ensure that (1) papers’ bibliographies have a uniform appearance, and more importantly (2) bibliography entries always contain all the information they should. This document describes RSI’s bibliography format.

General rules. This section describes RSI’s bibliography format in general terms. Completely detailed examples for the types of works usually cited in RSI papers appear afterward.

Each bibliography entry shall specify in order:

1. The names of the authors of the work. Use initials for the forenames (many papers do not give the full forenames anyway) and write the names in their natural order: thus “A. B. Cummings” rather than “Cummings, A. B.” Write all the authors’ names in the order in which they are listed on the title page of the work, even if there are many authors; the common practice of abbreviating author lists with “et al.” deprives some authors of due credit for their work.

2. The title of the work. A book title shall be set in italic type (\textit{...} in \LaTeX) with all words capitalized, except that articles (a, an, the) and very short prepositions (such as “in”) shall not be capitalized unless the first word of the title. An article title shall be set in upright type (that is, in the ordinary typeface) with only the first word capitalized (in addition to proper names found in the title).

3. The source from which the work may be obtained. This may be a journal issue, a publisher, a collection in which the article appears, or certain other things; the details are treated for each type of work below.

4. The date of publication for printed works or of access for Internet resources. For printed works, give the four-digit year of publication; for Internet resources, give the full date on which you used the resource, in the format YYYY/MM/DD. In either case the date shall be enclosed in parentheses.

5. For articles within larger sources (collections or journal volumes), additional information such as journal issue numbers or page numbers as needed to precisely specify the location of the article.

6. For journal articles downloaded from a website (e.g. the American Mathematical Society archive), you need only cite the original source of the article, not the particular website used to access the article.

The bibliography entries must appear in \texttt{biblio.tex} between the \texttt{\begin{thebibliography}} and \texttt{\end{thebibliography}} lines. Each entry must be preceded by \texttt{\bibitem{key}}, where \texttt{key} is an (alphanumeric) name by which you will refer to that work in your \LaTeX code. To cite a work in the main body of your paper, say \texttt{\cite{key}}, where \texttt{key} is what you used in the \texttt{\bibcite} command for the work you are citing. For instance, the code

\begin{verbatim}
Pioneering experiments \cite{sketch} in the dynamics of college students have shown ...
\end{verbatim}

produces

Pioneering experiments [1] in the dynamics of college students have shown ...

The key \texttt{sketch} corresponds to the first illustrative example in the bibliography below. \LaTeX handles the numbering automatically: you can add, delete, or change the order of bibliography entries and the numbering will adapt automatically.

Finally, your bibliography should be \textit{alphabetized} by the last names of the first authors of the works cited therein (although the examples below are not arranged in alphabetical order).
References


For most articles the source is a journal. As shown here, the journal’s name should be written out capitalized and in its full form (not abbreviated), followed by the volume number, the year in parentheses, the issue number, and the page range. In the \LaTeX\ code shown here, note the tilde (~), which produces a space at which a line break cannot occur, and the double hyphen (--), which produces an en-dash (–), the preferred punctuation mark for a numerical range. If there is no issue number, omit that part: Journal of Sketchy Physics 13 (2003), 46–129.


For a book, the source is the publisher and the publisher’s city. Remember to italicize (\textit{...}) and capitalize the title. If no edition number is given, leave that part out.


For a book published in a series, put the series name and volume number before the publisher.


Aside from the notation “Ph.D. thesis,” “M.A. thesis,” or the like, theses are treated like books. The department from which the degree was earned is used as the publisher.

Technical reports are treated much like books in series, as shown.


\bibitem{greek}

For articles contained in conference proceedings or other collections, begin as for a normal journal article with the authors and title, then say “In:” and continue with a book-style bibliography entry for the collection, as shown. Remember to put the page numbers on the end of the entry.


\bibitem{partyschool}

For works (most often theses) later reprinted in another place, give a full entry for the original manner of publication, then say “Reprinted in:” and give an entry for the source containing the reprint, as shown. Again, remember to put the page range on the end of the bibliographic entry if the reprinted work is only part of the source in which it was reprinted.


\bibitem{sodiumdrop}

Remember that you must give the full date, not just the year, when you looked at the web page. Be sure to put the URL inside \url{...}, or an interesting variety of problems may ensue. Finally, don’t overuse Internet resources—they are not a substitute for traditional library sources, even if they are open later.


\bibitem{accepted}
J. Mentor, Behavior of small animals on fire. Nature (in press)

If an article has been accepted for publication, but not yet published, you may still cite it. Simply indicate where it is to be published.

\bibitem{submitted}
J. Mentor, Behavior of small animals on fire. Manuscript submitted for publication (2005)

If the manuscript has been submitted, but not accepted, say so.


\bibitem{itsstillasecret}

If the manuscript has not been submitted for publication, it may still be cited.


\bibitem{chitchat}

Occasionally, an important item that does not exist in the literature will be discussed with your mentor. When this happens, you may cite the conversation with your mentor.