

# Introductions and Conclusions

## Computational Pangenomics – Summer 2020

Tizian Schulz

May 13 2020

# Introductions and Conclusions

“Tell them what you’re going to tell them,  
tell them, then tell them what you’ve told them”

# Introduction/Motivation

“The opening paragraphs can set the reader’s attitude to the whole manuscript, so begin well.” [Zobel]

## Extent:

- ▶ not much more than 10% of the complete manuscript
- ▶ elaboration of 10 pages → 0.5 – 1 page

## Composition

1. Topic
2. Actual content
3. Structure

# Introduction/Motivation

## 1. Topic

- ▶ Starting like “In this manuscript, . . .” indicates missing context.
- ▶ Funnel:
  - ▶ start broadly  
“In sequence analysis, . . .”
  - ▶ get more and more specific very quickly  
e.g.: sequence analysis

# Introduction/Motivation

## 2. Actual content

- ▶ now, you can go ahead  
“In this manuscript . . .”
- ▶ as cursorily as possible (to not lose the reader due to too many details)
- ▶ as detailed as necessary (to be informative and comprehensible)

# Introduction/Motivation

## 3. Structure

- ▶ Structuring a manuscript well can be difficult.
  - Communicate the structure/logic to the reader!
- ▶ short paragraph (separated from above by `\medskip`)
- ▶ one sentence per chapter
- ▶ not too monotonic, connect sentences

# Introduction/Motivation

## Exercise:

- ▶ Do you find the above structure (1, 2, 3) in "your" paper?
- ▶ Look for introductory, summarizing and linking sentences!

# Introduction/Motivation

## Composition

1. Topic: (funnel)
  - ▶ start broadly
  - ▶ get more and more specific very quickly
2. Actual content
  - ▶ now, you can go ahead  
“In this manuscript . . .”
  - ▶ as cursorily as possible  
(to not lose the reader due to too many details)
  - ▶ as detailed as necessary (to be informative and comprehensible)
3. Structure
  - ▶ Structuring a manuscript well can be difficult.  
→ Communicate the structure/logic to the reader!
  - ▶ short paragraph (separated from above by `\medskip`)
  - ▶ one sentence per chapter
  - ▶ not too monotonic, connect sentences

# General hints

## In general

- ▶ use brief summaries at the start and end of each section
- ▶ write sentences linking one section to the next

## Example:

“Together, these results show that the hypothesis holds for linear coefficients. The difficulties presented by non-linear coefficients are considered in the next section.”

# Conclusions

“... tell them what you've told them” ... and more

## Composition

- ▶ summary
- ▶ impact
- ▶ open questions/future work