

Collaborative document writing & submission: Updates from Overleaf and Springer Nature

FCC Week 2022

Dr John Hammersley Co-founder and CEO

www.overleaf.com

Already using Overleaf?

We're conducting user interviews today and tomorrow morning!

We're in the Salle Club room, and you can book a slot with Paulo here:

https://calendly.com/paulo-reis/fcc-week-2022-a-chat-with-overleaf

If you can't make it today/tomorrow but still want to have a chat with us, book a slot using: https://calendly.com/overleaf/user-research

Global scientific collaboration is growing...



Collaboration networks between researchers in different cities (built using Scopus data on papers published between 2008 and 2012)

Source: http://olihb.com/2014/08/11/map-of-scientific-collaboration-redux/

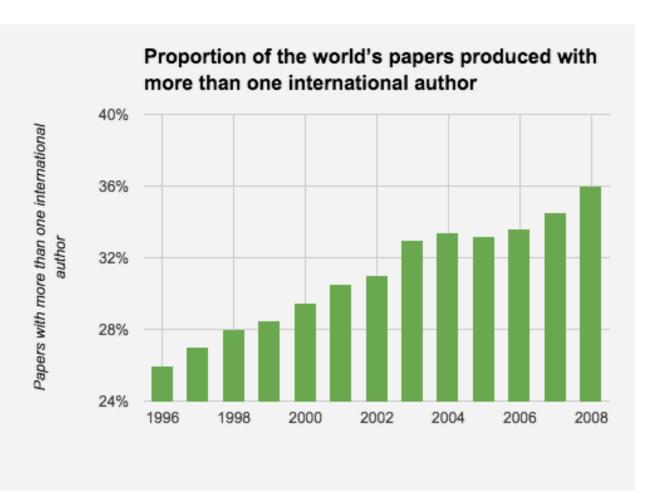


The Worldwide LHC Computing Grid activity captured live by the EGL application in August 2017.

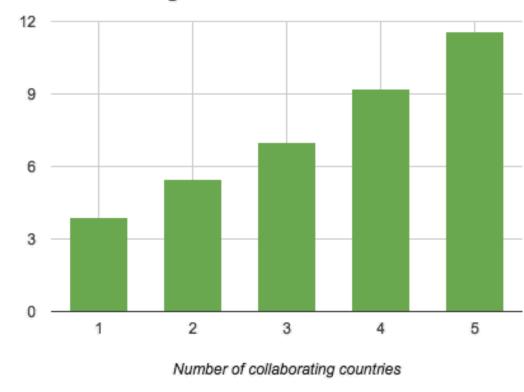


Running jobs: 365644 Active CPU cores: 807139 Transfer rate: 21.54 GiB/sec Source: CERN CDS Videos https://videos.cern.ch/record/2640380

This is reflected in research papers being more collaborative...



Citations per article versus number of collaborating countries





Source: Knowledge, networks and nations.

Citations per article

Global scientific collaboration in the 21st century - The Royal Society - 2011

But collaboration can be frustrating...

- Multiple versions of the same document
- Long email chains
- Formatting & typesetting
- Maintaining references
- Long revision cycles

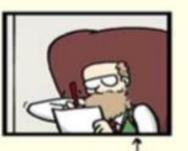
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FINAL_rev. 2. doc







FINAL_rev.6.COMMENTS.doc

FINAL_rev.8.comments5. CORRECTIONS.doc









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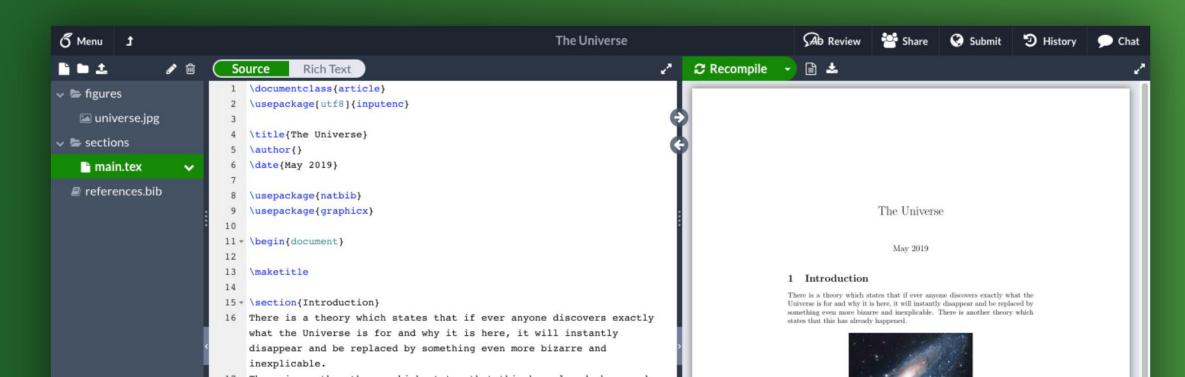
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Overleaf helps with collaboration, and also lowers the barrier to those getting started with LaTeX for the first time.

LaTeX, Evolved

The easy to use, online, collaborative LaTeX editor



Over 10 million people have signed up to use Overleaf since 2012.

This includes 2.1M new users in 2021 alone!

Celebrating over five million users, a quarter million daily actives, and over five years of dedicated user support

Posted by John on November 28, 2019

Earlier this month we hit a number of significant milestones at Overleaf that we'd

like to share with you all 😊

Five million users!

There are now over five million user accounts on Ove were announcing hitting the four million user mark, a new sign ups has been amazing to see.

This was announced in a typically understated fashio



> db.users.count()

Nine years...nine million users!

Posted by John on December 21, 2021

In just 10 days time Overleaf will be nine years old! Nine! It's hard to believe that it's been almost a decade since John and I had our first conversations about WriteLaTeX that set us on the path that has led us to this point.

And in the run up to that particular milestone, another one has crept up on us...

At the start of this month, the **nine millionth** user signed up for an Overleaf account. Nine million!

Rack when we first started out reaching eight thousand users as we joined the

Reaching six million users in an unprecedented six months

Posted by John on July 1, 2020

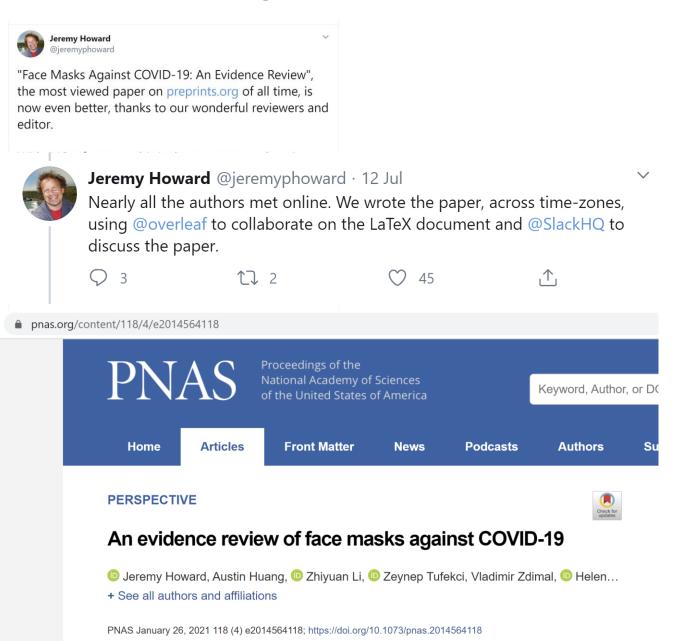
It has certainly been an unexpected six months since the start of 2020. Back on January 1st, when we all celebrated the start of the new year, none of us expected the lockdown and global pandemic that would follow, nor the events in

vanise Black Lives Matter around the world.

n early June we reached the milestone of six million users five million last November. We also saw our best-ever in May, driven both by the natural growth of Overleaf nce we started back in 2012, and also the accelerated rative tools in the wake of the Coronavirus pandemic; the globe in a few short months.

mazing milestone to reach, although I think we would all it in simpler times. But even in these times—or perhaps s—it's worth taking a brief moment to recognise this

And during the pandemic, COVID research was written up on Overleaf



Dear Overleaf.com,

I just wanted to thank you for making your premium version available to us during the March-June 2020 Covid-19 lockdown period. During that period, we used overleaf to write a scientific paper on

"Flexibility and mobility of SARS-CoV-2-related protein structures"

R. A. Römer, N. S. Römer, A. K. Wallis

Sci. Rep. 11, 4257 (2021)

https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-021-82849-2

https://warwick.ac.uk/newsandevents/pressreleases/covid-19_future_targets

I hope you will find our thanks, expressed also in the acknowledgements of the paper, a small token of my personal appreciation.

-Rudo Roemer

nature.com/articles/s41598-021-82849-2#Ack1

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Article | Open Access | Published: 19 February 2021

Flexibility and mobility of SARS-CoV-2-related protein structures

Rudolf A. Römer [™], Navodya S. Römer & A. Katrine Wallis

Scientific Reports 11, Article number: 4257 (2021) | Cite this article

1275 Accesses | **96** Altmetric | Metrics



Today I started coding using LaTeX with the help of an @overleaf template and I now have a beautiful publication quality manuscript to deposit as a pre-print. I am very impressed and feel super clever!

2:43 PM · Jun 2, 2020 · Twitter Web App



Nivi

@Nivi Sid

Petri Aukia

Replying to @teemu roos @UusitaloLaura and @overleaf

Just used #latex for the first time in ages last night and was tried @overleaf for the first time. It's an amazing tool and rejuvenates LaTeX.

10:16 AM · Apr 24, 2020 · Twitter Web App

Replying to @KepplingerB and @overleaf

Extensively used overleaf during grad days. I still use it to make my resume. It's a life saver.

12:20 PM · Jun 3, 2020 · Twitter for iPhone



12:23 PM · Apr 26, 2020 · Tweetbot for iOS

Erik Schön

yokosopress.se

@erik schon



Replying to @KepplingerB and @overleaf

Wrote my PhD thesis using LaTeX and am prepping it for publication at the moment. I cannot image getting to the same results in e.g. Word. Worked with InDesign for type-setting before and would not go back to that either. #overleaf is a good starting point

12:50 PM · Jun 3, 2020 · Twitter Web App



Elizabeth Smith

@eeeeelizzzzz

Replying to @AndrewDzambo and @jeremy_gibbs

Seriously trying @overleaf was such an easy transition to latex. I could NEVER go back now.

Thank you so much @EdwardTufte and @overleaf - I would

never have made it without you! #ArtOfStrategy

9:28 PM · Jun 12, 2020 from Norman, OK · Twitter for iPhone

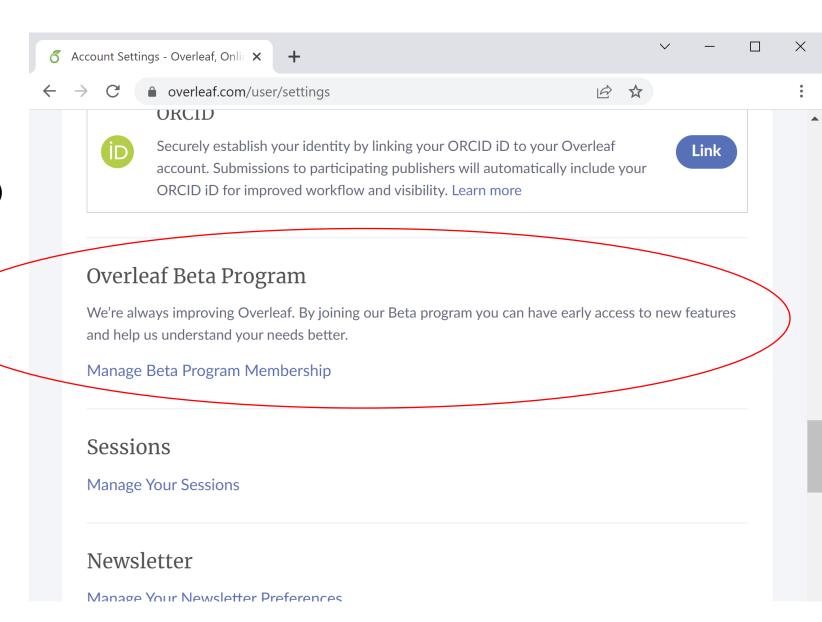
What's new?

Overleaf updates

- Zotero groups (released)
- Layout mode detach pdf (released)
- New source mode (beta)
- Edit dictionary (beta)
- Halt on first error (alpha)

Springer Nature updates

- New LaTeX template
- LaTeX hub for Springer resources
- Snapp integration of Overleaf
- Pilot of XML first workflow



Zotero – support for group libraries

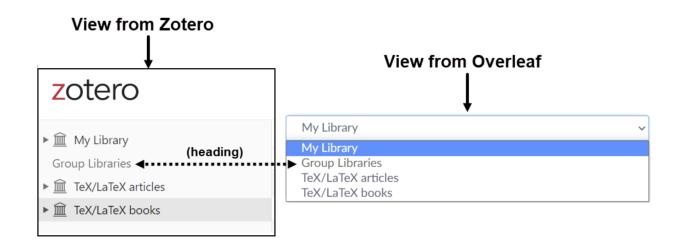
Zotero can store your references in a single collection called **My Library** and, if you wish, its **groups facility** can be used to organize and share additional collections of references with your colleagues and team members.

These features let you create separate libraries within one Zotero profile. Zotero refers to the set of references in a particular group as a **Group Library** and groups can be made public or private and references within a group can be further organised into folders.

Zotero Integration.

With Zotero integration you can import your references from Zotero into your Overleaf projects.

Link to Zotero



Also a shoutout to bibtex-tidy

Not directly integrated into Overleaf, but if you have a references file created manually by combining yours and your co-authors', you might have some duplicate reference.

Bibtex-tidy helps you deduplicate and tidy up your references file.

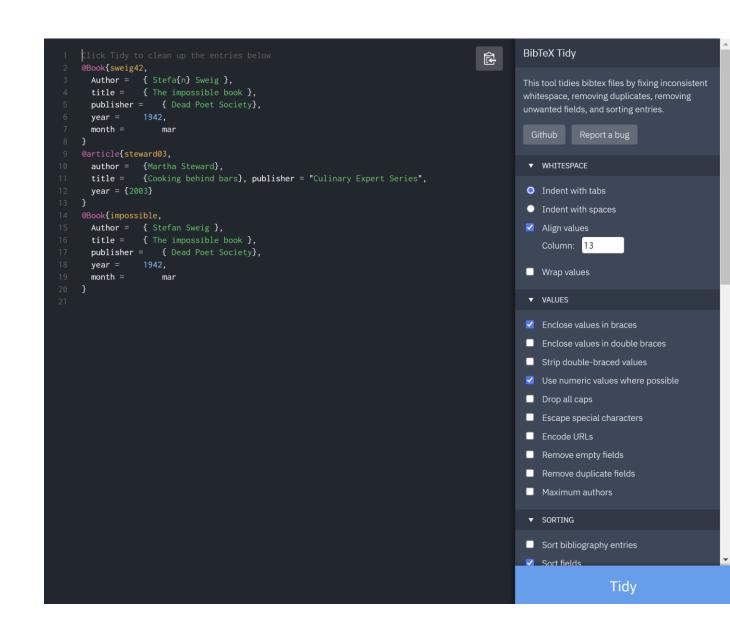
Online version:

https://flamingtempura.github.io/bibtex-tidy/

Source:

https://github.com/FlamingTempura/bibtex-tidy

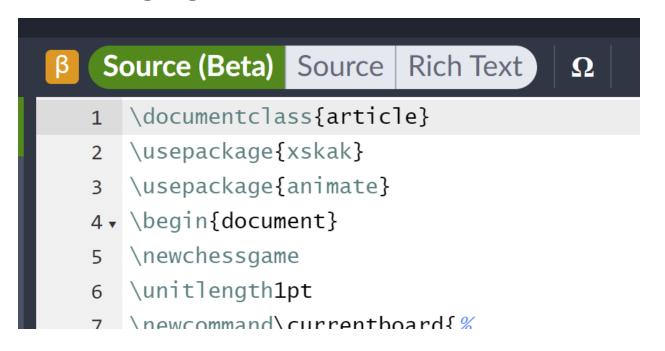
(note: not affiliated with Overleaf, just pretty cool ☺)



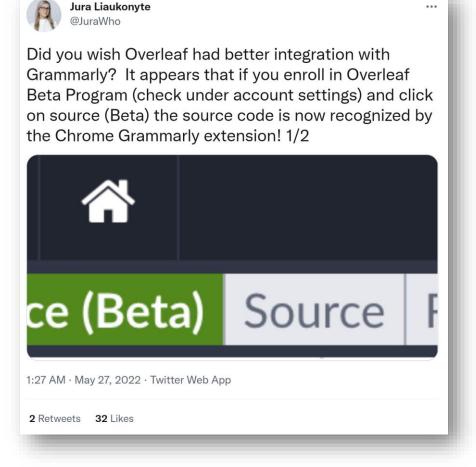
New source editor (using CodeMirror6)

CodeMirror6 brings many improvements over the existing source editor, including improved support for tablets and enabling extensions such as Grammarly to work in the Overleaf editor.

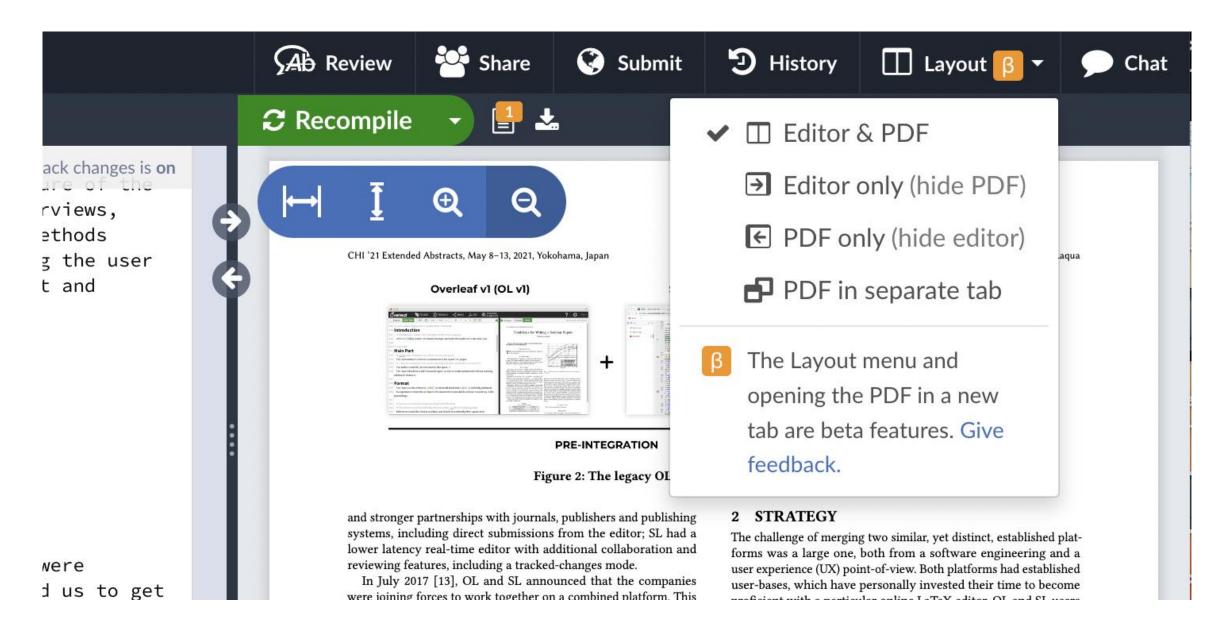
It also will enable us to add further improvements / extensions to the editor going forward.



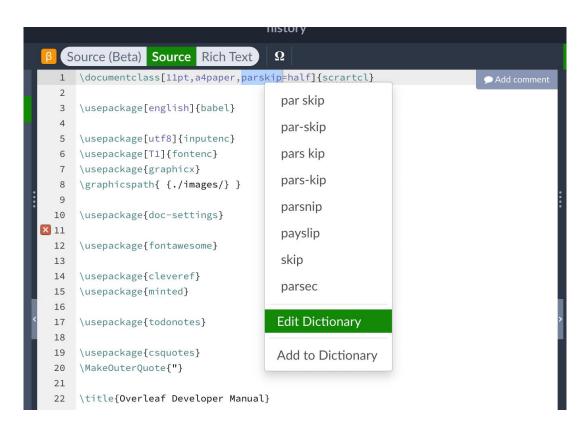




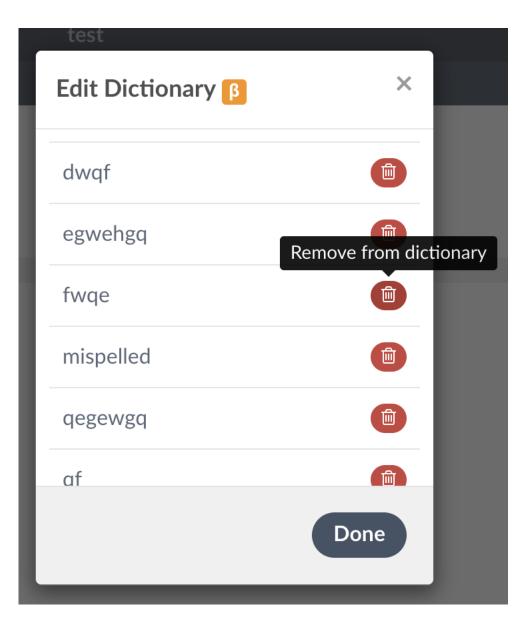
Layout selection - detach PDF into separate tab (just released!)



Edit dictionary - remove misspelld words ©







Stop on first error

LaTeX has two typical compile modes – halt on error or continue despite errors.

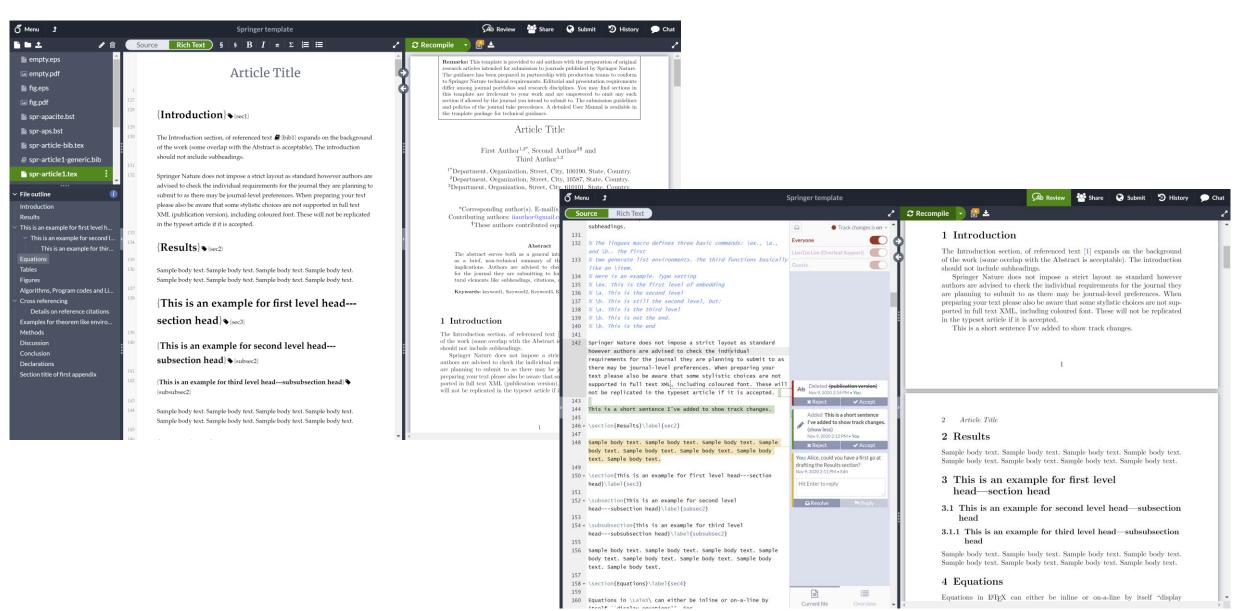
Halt on error ensures that a PDF is only generated when the source code is error free; continue despite errors attempts to generate a PDF if possible, even with errors in the source.

The default behaviour on Overleaf is to try to compile despite errors. This allows authors to get a PDF in more cases but can cause errors to build up and make them harder to debug.

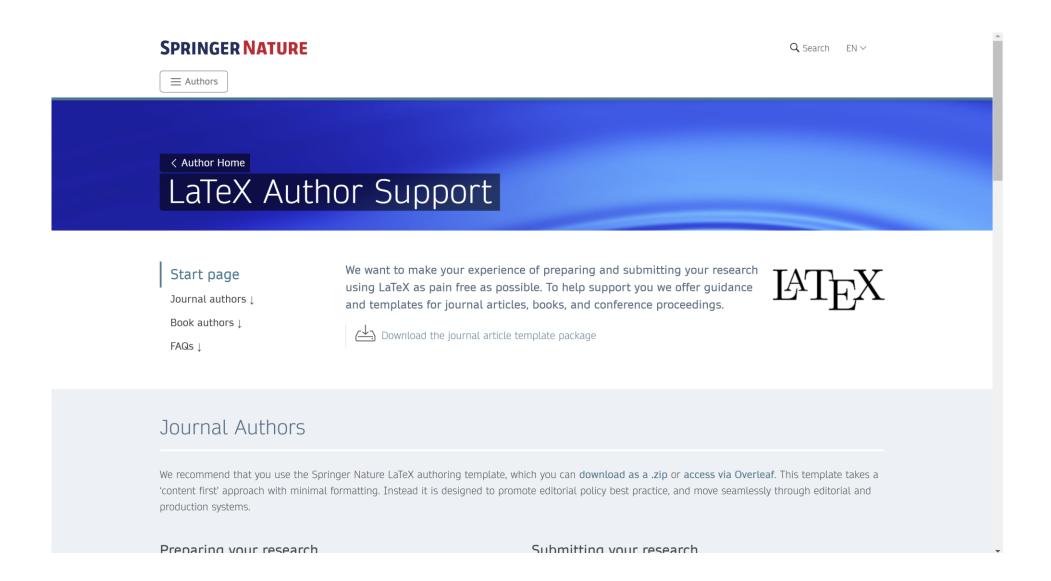
We are in the process of adding a "stop on first error" mode, to allow uses to apply the stricter setting. This is currently released in Alpha (internal testing) and will be released in Beta soon.



Springer Nature - New LaTeX template



Springer Nature - LaTeX Hub for author support



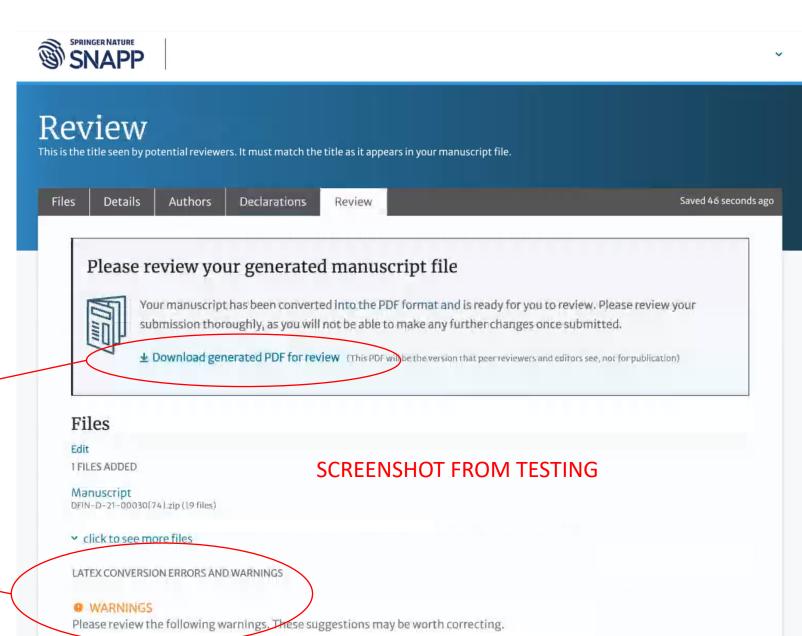
Springer Nature – integration of Overleaf into submission flow

Springer are testing a new integration of Overleaf into their submission workflow, which uses the Overleaf compile servers to generate the PDF.

Currently in testing ahead of a pilot roll out.

PDF generated via Overleaf

Errors and warnings are displayed (if any)



Springer Nature – XML-first workflow pilot

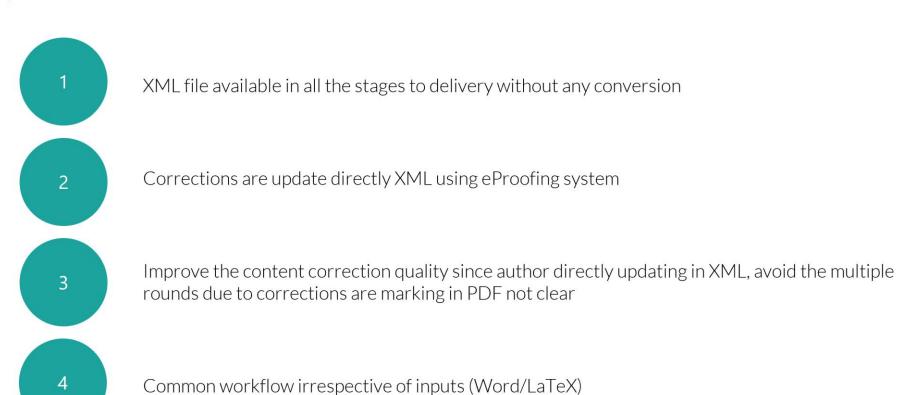
Workflow comparison ♦ Straive[®] 0 LaTeX Workflow Normalization Pre-editing in Copy-editing LaTeX2XML QC of LaTeX file LaTeX in LaTeX conversion Corrections **Author** XML, PDF to LaTeX2XML PDF, XML to update in Corrections in package conversion package LaTeX **PDF** Normalization Pre-editing in Copy-editing LaTeX2XML XML First Workflow Composition QC of LaTeX file in LaTeX LaTeX XML, PDF to eProofing PDF, XML to Corrections in Composition package **XML** System package

Springer Nature – XML-first workflow pilot

XML First Workflow



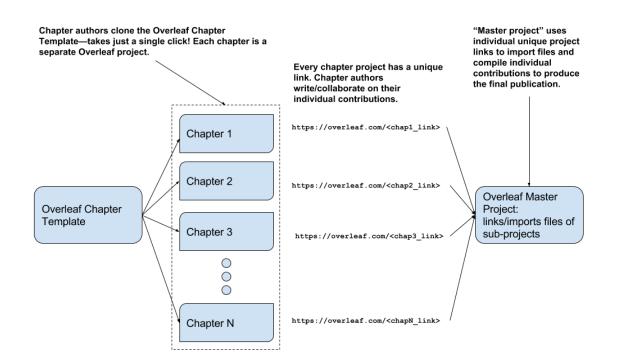
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What's in progress

We're working with Springer on some documentations / guides for how to work on chapter-based projects in Overleaf.

There are advantages – for example, each group of authors can work on their chapter independently /separately from the others – but also then some challenges with coordinating the final submission.



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Hey everybody! We have an upcoming free webinar! Save the date: Tuesday, June 14, 2022, 4PM ET / 9PM BST / 1PM PT. Join the fun and learn how you can make the most of your Overleaf account! See you there! ...see more

Intro to Overleaf, Part III: Advanced Features

3 4:00PM ET / 9:00PM BST / 1:00PM PT

Free webinar



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Blog

How to create a bibliography using Overleaf and Paperpile — a step-by-step guide

Posted by Suzanne and Stefan on May 31, 2022

Guest blog post by Suzanne O'Regan and Stefan Washietl from Paperpile, a cloud-based reference manager.

Wondering how to quickly create a bibliography for an Overleaf project? Try Paperpile.

Paperpile is a cloud-based reference manager that allows you to find, collect, and organize your papers right in your browser. Paperpile can generate, import, and export BibTeX (.bib) files.

Paperpile's new Overleaf integration simplifies the writing workflow for Overleaf and Paperpile users. This highly requested feature, from users of both platforms, allows you to link reference libraries, folders, and labels in Paperpile with Overleaf projects.

Read More

Tags:

guest feature

references

bibliography

.bib files

hibtox

How We Introduced Product Discovery Methods at Overleaf in 3 Steps

Posted by Roberta on May 27, 2022

Most product teams see the value of product discovery but find it difficult to

And don't forget to give us your thoughts!

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If you can't make it today/tomorrow but still want to have a chat with us, book a slot using: https://calendly.com/overleaf/user-research

Thanks for listening!

Dr. John Hammersley Co-founder and CEO, Overleaf

Contact email: john@overleaf.com

www.overleaf.com