Welcome Week for PhD Students

How to get published

Ladislav Krištoufek

https://cuni.cz/UKEN-1664.html

E-mail:
LK@ruk.cuni.cz

Prague, Czechia, EU
23 Sep 2024

FACULTY
OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
Charles University

Why should you even listen to me? (a.k.a. the show-off slide)

- 19 IF articles during (4-year) PhD studies, currently >100 WoS/IF/AIS publications.
- Currently >10k citations on Scholar, ∼6k in Scopus, and >5k in WoS.
- The most cited economist in Czechia and Widening countries, Clarivate Highly Cited Researcher 2022 & 2023.
- Stanford/Elsevier's Top %2 Scientist 2019-2024 (each year).
- But that does not necessarily mean that what had worked for me will for you.

FACULTY
OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
Charles University

Quick version

- Read
- Talk to your supervisor
- Spend undisturbed time
- Be cheeky
- Learn by doing
- Travel, network, be part of the community

FACULTY
OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
Charles University

Read

- This is similar to writing a bachelor's or master's thesis. You get an idea, you need to read a bunch of literature on it. Why?
  - To see if someone's already done it.
  - To see what more can be done.
  - To see how papers on this topic are written.
  - To see where the topic gets published.
  - To see the methodology.
  - To get your brain running.

FACULTY
OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
Charles University

Read

- Charles Uni has access to most e-sources. For social sciences, the most important ones are:
  - ScienceDirect
  - JSTOR
  - SpringerLink
  - Taylor & Francis
  - Routledge
- You can get to them through `ezdroje.cuni.cz`. Just use your SIS login details.
- Keywords search is a very useful skill. You might think everyone can Google but it's not true.
- GPT is your friend. Try Consensus GPT (one of the gpts in ChatGPT).

FACULTY
OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
Charles University

Read

- Once you're finished reading, you should know:
  - what's the current state-of-the-art
  - what methodologies have already been and are being used
  - what data have already been and are being used; and ideally where to find them
  - what journals publish the topic
  - what the standard text structure is
  - what vocabulary is being used

FACULTY
OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
Charles University

Talk to your supervisor

- Students have different levels of independence and there is no ideal level. But still, all supervisors could and should help you with:
  - basic direction of your research (is it worth pursuing?)
  - direct you towards relevant literature (what are the basic papers on the topic?)
  - help with the text structure and comment on it
  - share experience with publication process
  - give ideas and preferences on publication outlets
- Talk to other Ph.D. students. Consider getting a junior consultant.

FACULTY
OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
Charles University

Spend undisturbed time

- Doing reasonable research is a difficult intellectual exercise.
- You need full focus, it's inefficient otherwise.
- If you work full-time elsewhere, either use weekends or take few days off.
- Doing your PhD "after work" is very challenging, ideally split your time between the two.

FACULTY
OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
Charles University

Be cheeky

- As JAV says, "research is craft."
- I say "research is art."
- The truth is somewhere in between. But to do the art, you must learn the craft.
- These days, with e-sources, e-submissions, and mostly everyone having sufficient computational power, and AI on top of it, getting published is much more competitive that it used to be. "Everyone/Anyone" can do your regressions/statistics/ML but not everyone can tell a good story.
- Once you have it, be cheeky, do not undersell.

FACULTY
OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
Charles University

Learning by doing

How are rescaled range analyses affected by different memory and distributional properties? A Monte Carlo study

Ladislav Kristoufek *

Institute of Economic Studies, Charles University, Opletalova 26, 110 00, Prague, Czech Republic
Institute of Information Theory and Automation, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, Pod Vodarenskou Vezi 4, Prague 8, 182 08, Czech Republic

ARTICLE INFO

Article history:
Received 1 July 2009
Received in revised form 6 October 2011
Available online 24 April 2012

Keywords:
Rescaled range analysis
Modified rescaled range analysis
Hurst exponent
Long-term memory
Short-term memory

ABSTRACT

In this paper, we present the results of Monte Carlo simulations for two popular techniques of long-range correlation detection — classical and modified rescaled range analyses. A focus is put on an effect of different distributional properties on an ability of the methods to efficiently distinguish between short-term memory and long-term memory. To do so, we analyze the behavior of the estimators for independent, short-range dependent, and long-range dependent processes with innovations from eight different distributions. We find that apart from a combination of very high levels of kurtosis and skewness, both estimators are quite robust to distributional properties. Importantly, we show that R/S is biased upwards (yet not strongly) for short-range dependent processes, while M-R/S is strongly biased downwards for long-range dependent processes regardless of the distribution of innovations.

FACULTY
OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
Charles University

Learning by doing (one-pointers)

- Publication process can be tedious.
- Reviewers will always find some issues. They can be nasty (sometimes it's a language thing, sometimes they just are).
- Rejection is not the end of the world. "It happens even to the best of us."
- Even when rejected, read the reports and revise your manuscript before submitting elsewhere (the easy points, leave the difficult ones unless essential).
- It's usually not worth it revising everything before submitting to another journal because reviewers will likely find something else anyway.
- Always write a response to reviewers letter where you answer all their points, even if it's not necessary.
- Answer what you're asked for. I prefer to be short and on the point. Avoid thanking too much, it gets annoying and it can be perceived as if you want to hide something.
- If you've done a lot of work in between (re)submissions, attach also the differences document (both Word and LaTeX can do it within a click or a line of code in Terminal). I do it always, even when there are just few changes (I want to show the revision was minor and the editor does not need to send it for another review).

FACULTY
OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
Charles University

Learning by doing (one-pointers)

- If you (or your supervisor) have funding for it, have your manuscript proofread. Use services that give you a certificate so that you can submit it with your manuscript. Personally, I use AJE.com. However, this has changed a bit with the AI tools.
- When submitting, check whether you have some references to the given journal. Because if there are no relevant papers in the given journal, why do you even submit there?
- Or from the other side, pick a journal to submit to based on your reference list.
- Check the journals' publication times.
- Even if you do not agree with the editor, it is usually not worth it arguing with them. Reject is a reject.
- Reject&resubmit is a new tricky thing. Practically a new submission with a very major revision without any promise. Unless a very good journal, I would reject and go somewhere else.
- It is ok to work on more projects/papers at once but it takes some training.
- Do not answer to scams.

FACULTY
OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
Charles University

Learning by doing (one-pointers)

- The message of your manuscript should be clear and straightforward. You should be able to summarize the whole text in two to three sentences.
- Graphics matters. Spend your time on figures and tables.
- Many publishers now want you to submit and then publish your data and code. So make sure that these are presentable and keep this in mind from the very beginning. It will save you some time. Again, relevant AI tools can help a lot.
- If it's passable in your community, go with LaTeX over MS Word. MS Word simply sucks for academic work. If a journal does not accept LaTeX submissions, I practically never submit there.
- MS Excel figures are usually fine, you just need to play with them a bit. Never submit baseline or almost baseline MS Excel figures.
- Remember that the figures are the first thing a reviewer sees when they scroll through your manuscript.
- Once your paper is published, it remains there forever. So make sure that your submission is worth it. Try not to get to the point where you're being pushed by deadlines to publish.

FACULTY
OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
Charles University

Travel, network, be part of the community

- From the academics, PhD students are the ones most hit by the Covid restrictions.
- Travel, go to conferences, network, be part of the community!
- Small, topical conferences are better for networking and getting your name known in the field.
- I personally try to avoid large conferences. Depends on funding.
- Travel for short- and medium-term stays (e.g. GEMCLIME/ECOCEP). You will have less time for it later.
- Accept and write reviews. It is being part of the community. And it pays off.

FACULTY
OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
Charles University

Quick version – once more

- Read
- Talk to your supervisor
- Spend undisturbed time
- Be cheeky
- Learning by doing
- Travel, network, be part of the community

FACULTY
OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
Charles University

Time for your questions

What would you like to know?

FACULTY
OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
Charles University