Olga Degtyareva, PhD

Productivity Mentor at the Productivity for Scientists Ltd http://olgadegtyareva.com

Experiment/simulations done
Data analysis done
Figures created
Discussed with the colleagues
Presented at the conference/seminar

For one reason or another the paper is not written

Busy-ness
New projects
Поездки на синхротрон/конференции
Личные обстоятельства
Emergencies, putting out fires
Everyday long to-do lists

Как результат: Прокрастинация с написанием статьи



Даже если наконец удалось освободить время для работы над статей:

Надо еще почитать
I don't know enough
I don't feel ready to write
I need to re-run the analysis
It will take too long, I won't have enough time
My supervisor won't like it
The referee will criticise me
The editor will reject it
Perfectionism: continuing to polish and improve

Как начать писать статью и завешить её в короткий срок



What?

WHAT are you going to work on?

Какую статью будете писать? В какой журнал?



Why?

WHY do you want to do it? Why is it important?



By when?

By WHEN do you want to have it ready?





"No deadline – no work gets done"

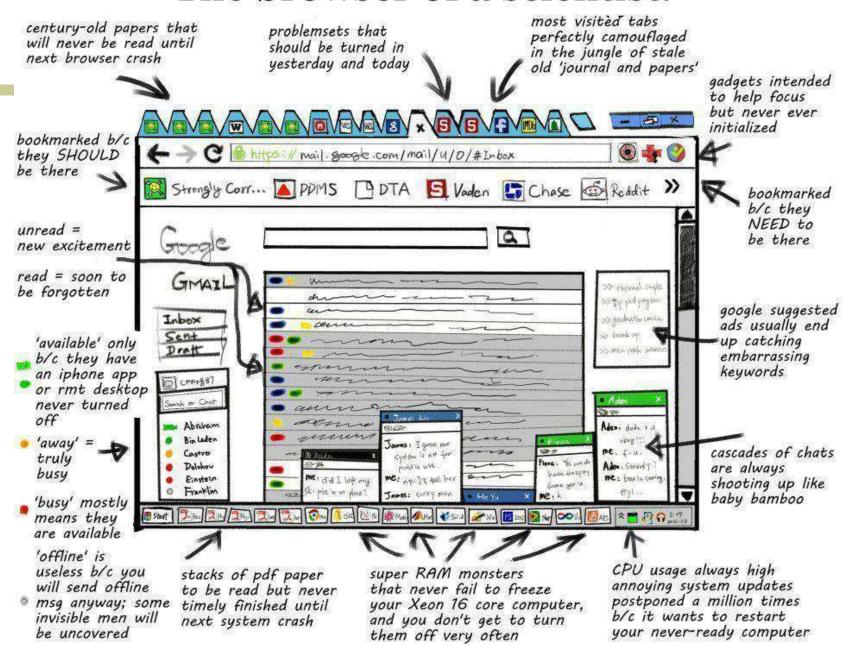
"Writing hour": Create **time for writing your paper**:

one hour per day or one hour per week

Finite time



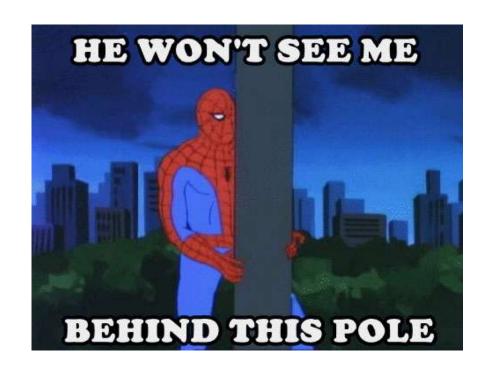
The browser of a scientist.





How to start writing

Become a master at hiding from everyday busy-ness just to work on your paper



"Writing hour"







Schedule vs Inspiration

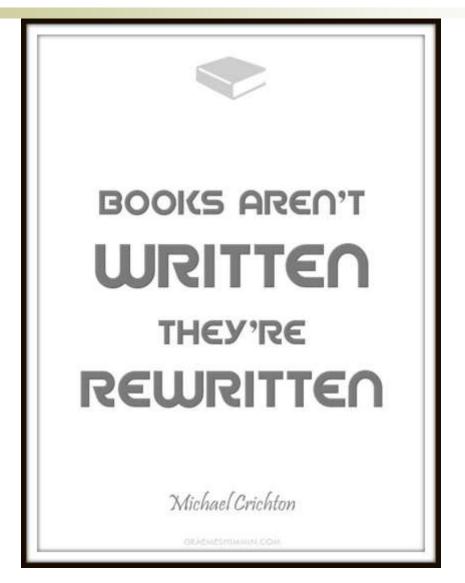
I write only when inspiration strikes. Fortunately it strikes every morning at nine o'clock sharp.

W Somerset Maugham

Perfectionism

5 stages of writing:

Pre-writing
Drafting
Revising
Editing
Proofreading



In order to write a paper you need to be willing to produce a bad *first draft*

In order to write a paper you need to be willing to produce a bad *first draft*

Not worrying about flow, style, storyline, engaging audience or critical writing









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Staying on track



CREATIVE PROCESS

- 1. This is awesome
 - 2. This is tricky
 - 3. This is shit
 - 4. I am shit
- 5. This might be ok
- 6. This is awesome

- 1) "Writing hour": one hour per day or one hour per week
- 2) Break down your project into small manageable tasks: one figure, one figure caption, draft an introduction



3) Putting the worries about rejection or it not being good enough aside for this hour

Weekly videos and blogposts with writing & productivity strategies

olgadegtyareva.com