Annotated Bibliography Template

Goals

- What is your purpose in reading this paper? Based on the title, what might you be able to learn from it and how might that knowledge help you with your project?
  Answer:

- Do you have any specific questions you want to answer?
  For example: "I want to learn about what the mid-infrared spectral lines are useful for", or "I want to understand whether the observations in this paper are similar to what I'm doing".
  Answer:

Abstract/Summary

The abstract will usually provide complete clarification of the title, and describe the essence of this study.

- What new questions does the abstract pose to you, if any?
  Answer:
  -

Introduction

Read through the introduction, then answer the following. It should outline what work has been done prior to this paper to set the stage/answer big outstanding questions in the field.

- What is the overall importance of this research?
  Answer:

- What are the authors doing in this paper?
  Answer:

- **Questions:**

*Adapted from templates used in the Jaswal and Follette Labs, Amherst College.

Use a textbook or the internet to get more information about three unfamiliar terms/concepts from the introduction:

- Topic 1:
- Topic 2:
- Topic 3:

Figures, Graphs and Tables

Read through all of the figures/graphs/tables and their captions before reading the rest of the paper. Try to get as much information out of them as possible. Then return to them again once you start reading through the paper.

After reading abstract, intro and methods, but *before* reading results and discussion:

Identify and include the **three** most important/useful figures or tables from the paper below (i.e. your highlight reel). For each figure, answer the following:

- Figure or Table: Figure 1
    1. Describe: What is being shown in this figure?
    2. How are these measurements made?(it may be helpful to paste in the description from the methods)
    3. What conclusions can you draw from this data?
    4. How does this data contribute to the argument the authors are making?
    5. What questions does this data raise for you?

- Figure or Table: Figure 2
    1. Describe: What is being shown in this figure?
    2. How are these measurements made?(it may be helpful to paste in the description from the methods)
    3. What conclusions can you draw from this data?
    4. How does this data contribute to the argument the authors are making?
    5. What questions does this data raise for you?

- Figure or Table: Figure 4
    1. Describe: What is being shown in this figure?
    2. How are these measurements made?(it may be helpful to paste in the description from the methods)

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3. What conclusions can you draw from this data?
4. How does this data contribute to the argument the authors are making?

5. What questions does this data raise for you?

After reading results and discussion:

- Describe any additions/corrections/new insights/questions based on reading the author's interpretation of the figures.
  For example: "The color-magnitude diagram in Figure 2 actually showed two populations of stars, not just one, and was meant to show trends in evolution. I want to know why the populations look different even though they're the same age."
  Answer:

Body of the paper: Results & Discussion

Now it is time to read through the entire paper.

From your reading of the Results & Discussion sections, try to answer **at least three** of the questions that you came up with from reading the title, abstract and figures. Do not get bogged down in the details of the procedure or analysis sections. Read for broad concepts that will allow you to understand the figures.

- Question 1:
  Answer:

- Question 2:
  Answer:
- Question 3:
  Answer:

Take-home message(s) for you

- Briefly summarize what from this paper is relevant to your project.
  For example: "Good introduction that explains...", "Table 2 has the collection of data for similar galaxies to my sample", "Interesting examples of galaxy spectral energy distributions", etc.

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Summary:

- List questions to follow up that are relevant to your project.
  Answer:

- List methods/techniques that may be of use to you.
  Answer:

- List any references that you want to follow up.
  Answer:

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