Overleaf

Collaborative Authoring Tool for Students, Faculty, Researchers & Staff
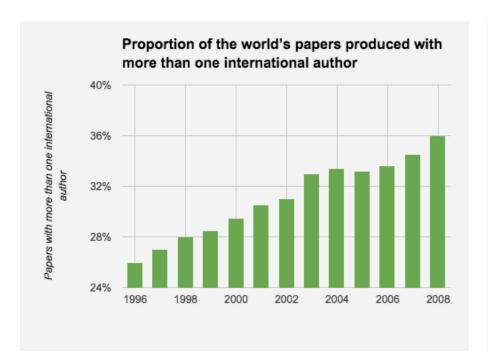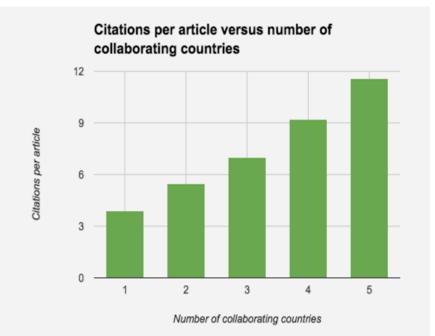
USTLG 2018

Royal Holloway

28 November, 2018

Villy Ioannou

Institutional Sales Manager

www.overleaf.com

Overleaf

Global collaboration is increasing, and collaborative projects are more widely cited

Proportion of the world's papers produced with more than one international author

Citations per article versus number of collaborating countries

THE ROYAL SOCIETY

Source: Knowledge, networks and nations.
Global scientific collaboration in the 21st century - The Royal Society - 2011

Overleaf

But collaboration can be frustrating…

- Multiple versions of the same document

- Long email chains

- Formatting & typesetting

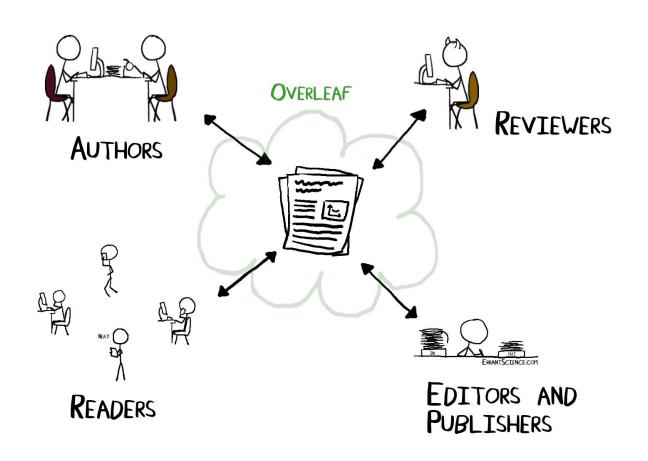- Maintaining references

- Long revision cycles
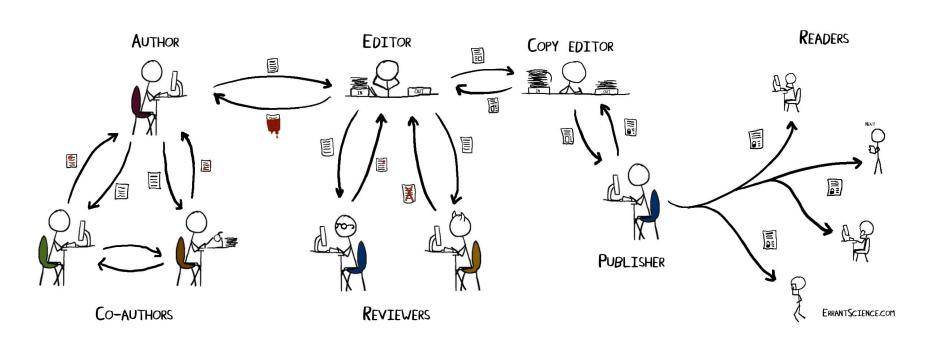
Traditional workflows create many different versions of documents which often sit in silos

Overleaf - one version, in the cloud, accessible to all

Overleaf – developed by researchers for researchers

Overleaf was created by John Hammersley and John Lees-Miller as a response to their own collaborative research requirements and associated frustrations as PhD students.
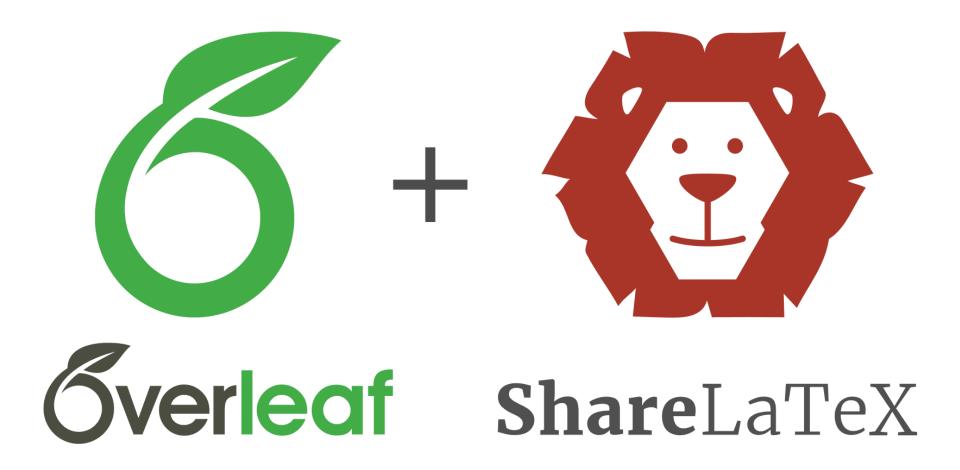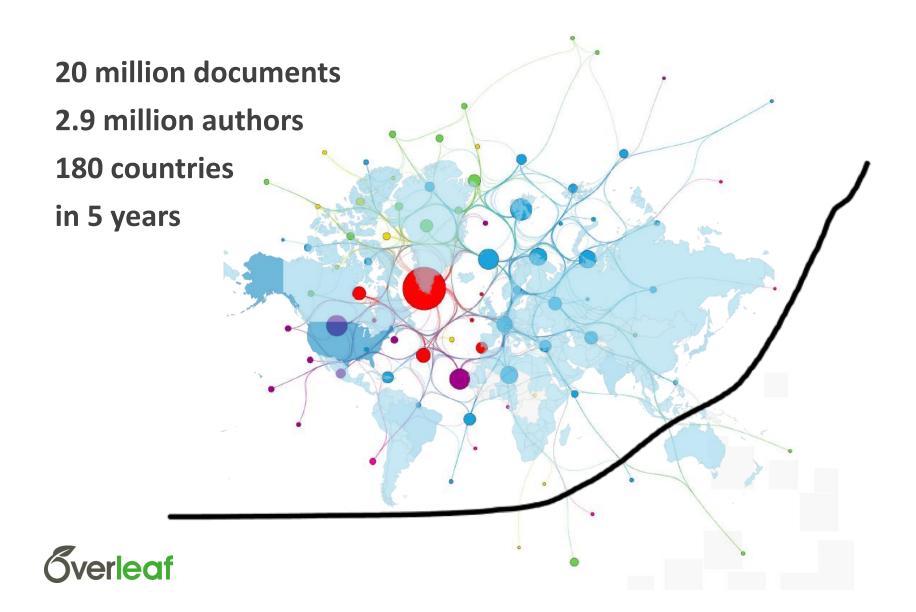

Overleaf founder story video

Exciting news!
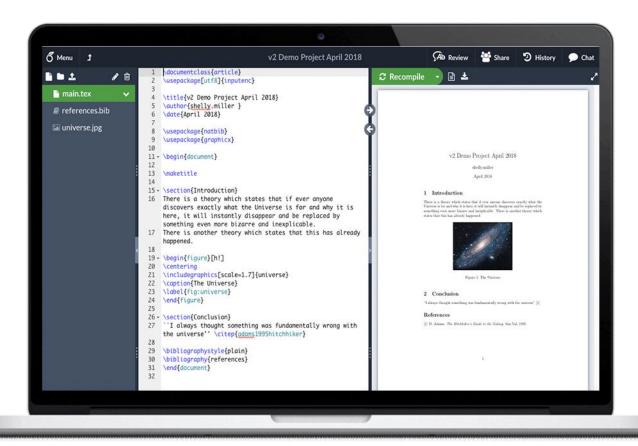
Overleaf v2 launched September 4th! – best of both combined!

Significant worldwide user growth

20 million documents

2.9 million authors

180 countries

in 5 years

A collaborative cloud-based writing platform
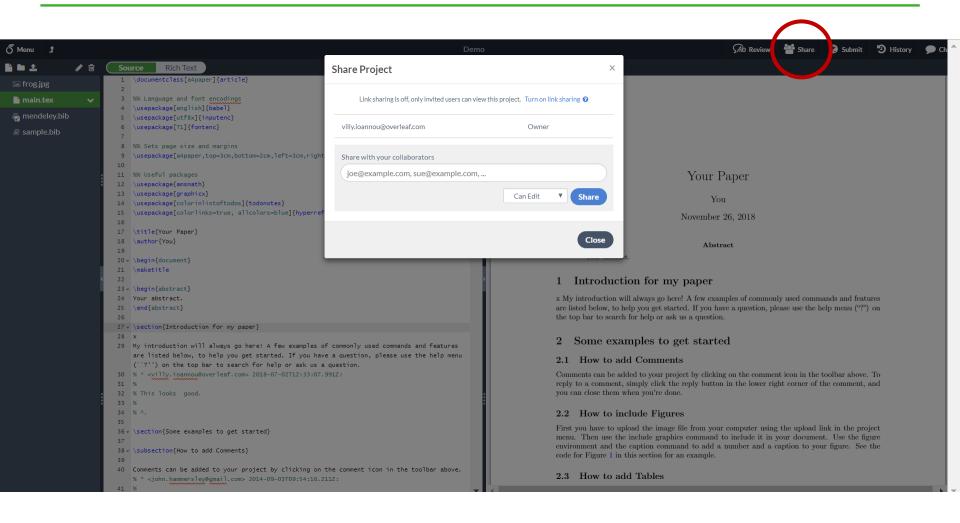
Edit on the left, see compiled PDF on the right

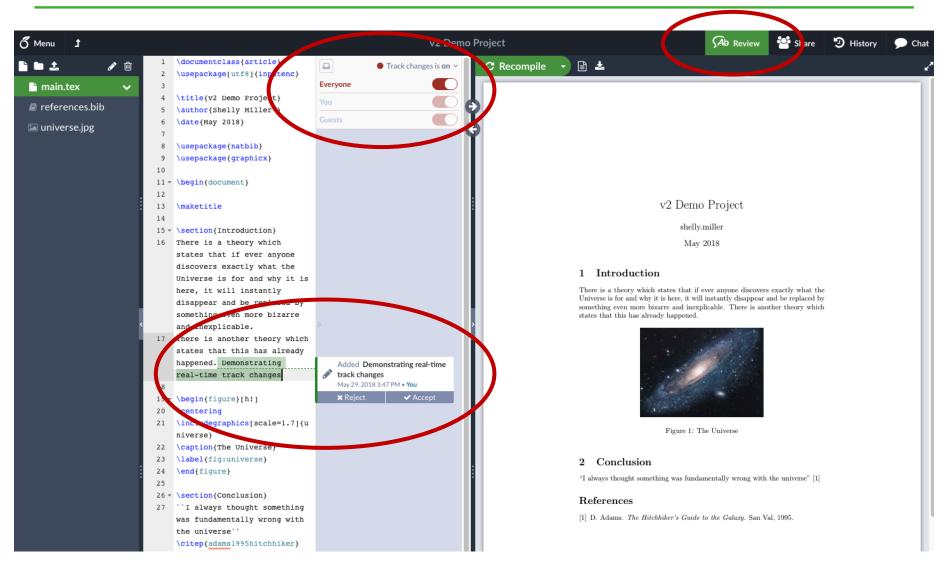**Intro Tutorial Video**
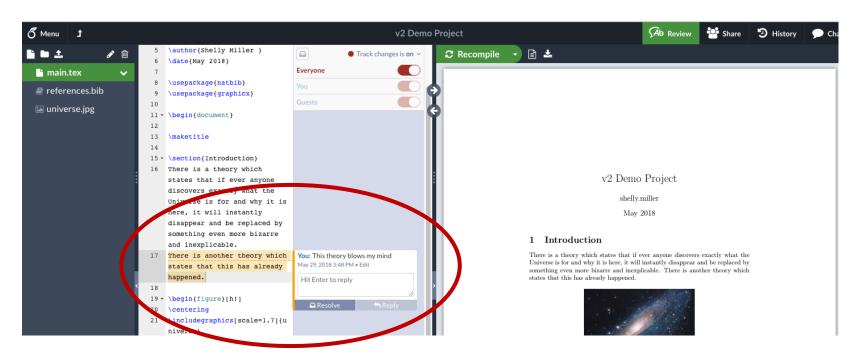
Overleaf
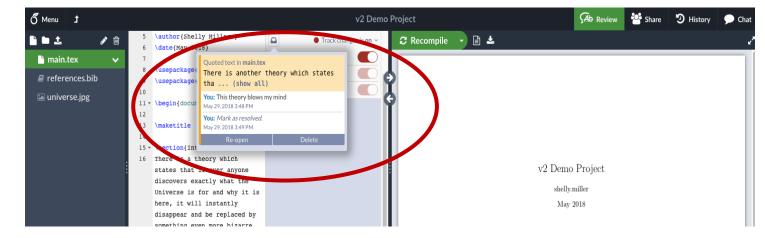
Share with your collaborators
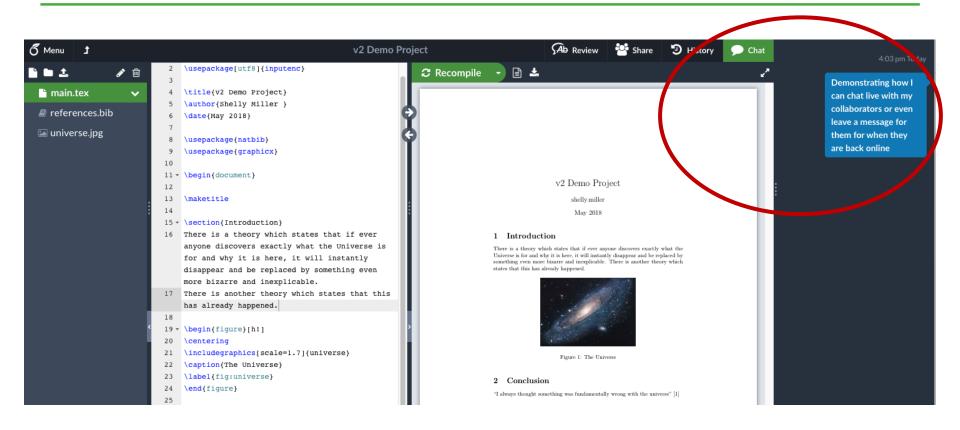
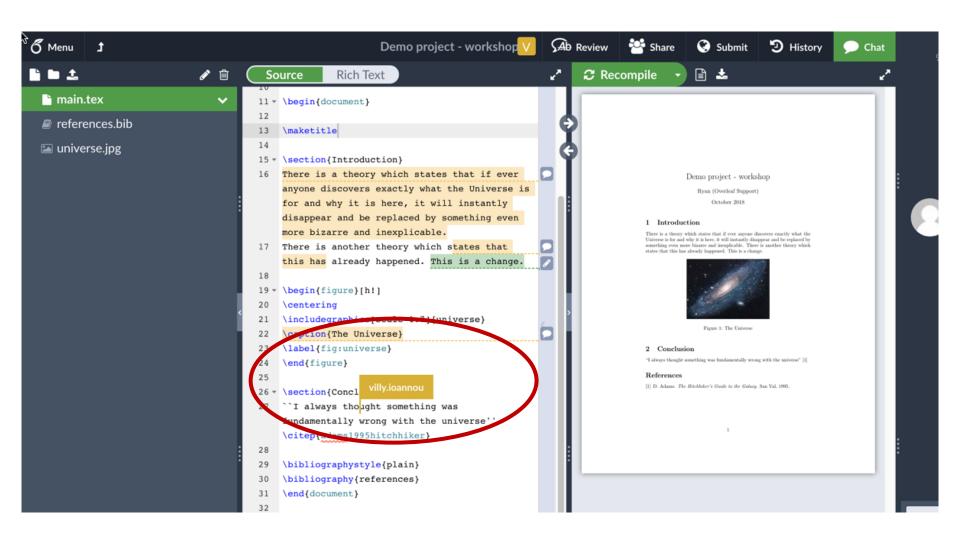# Real-time track changes

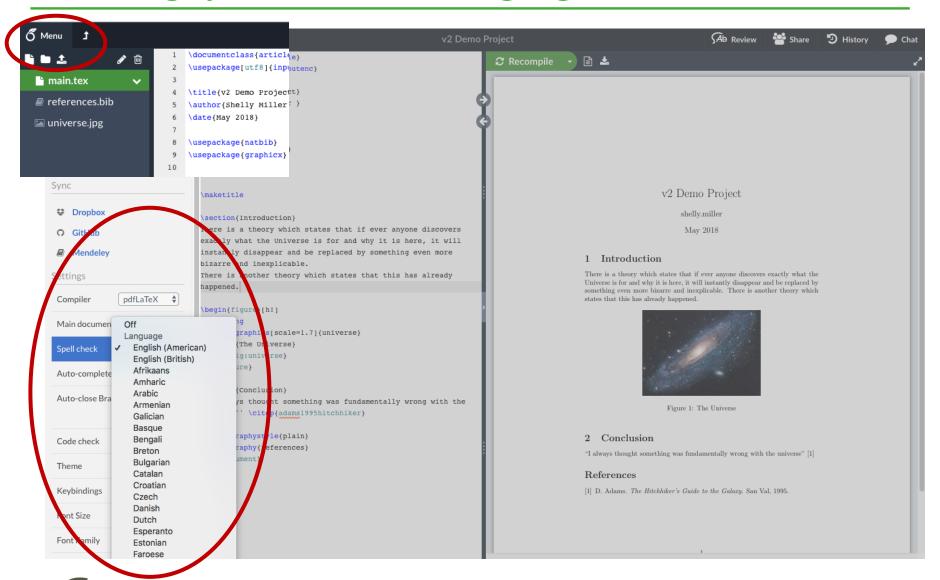# Commenting & history

Live chat box
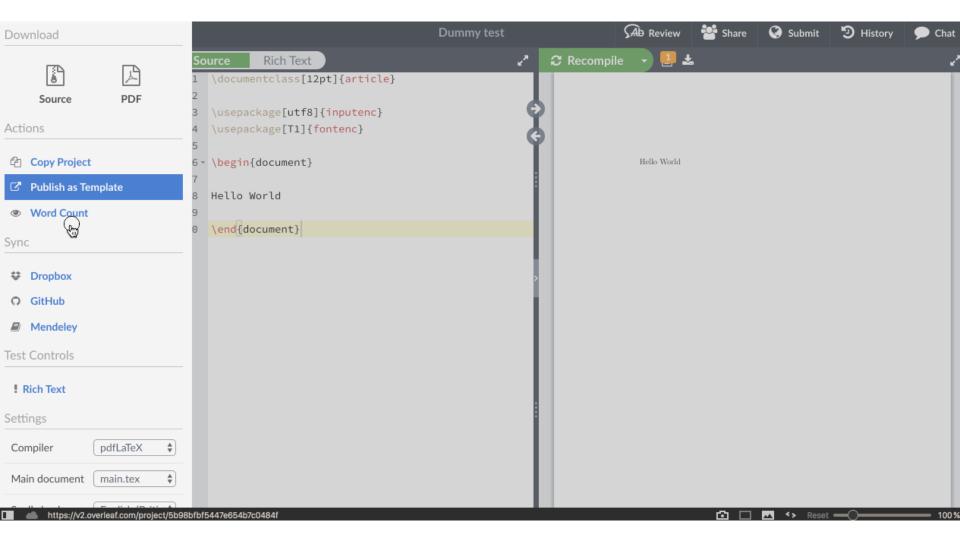
Visible collaborator cursor
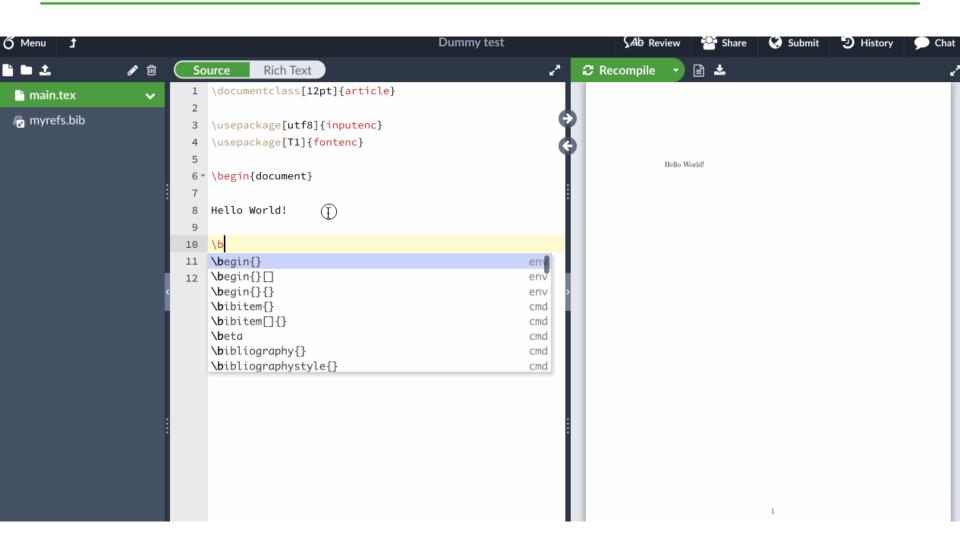
Including spell check in 40 languages!
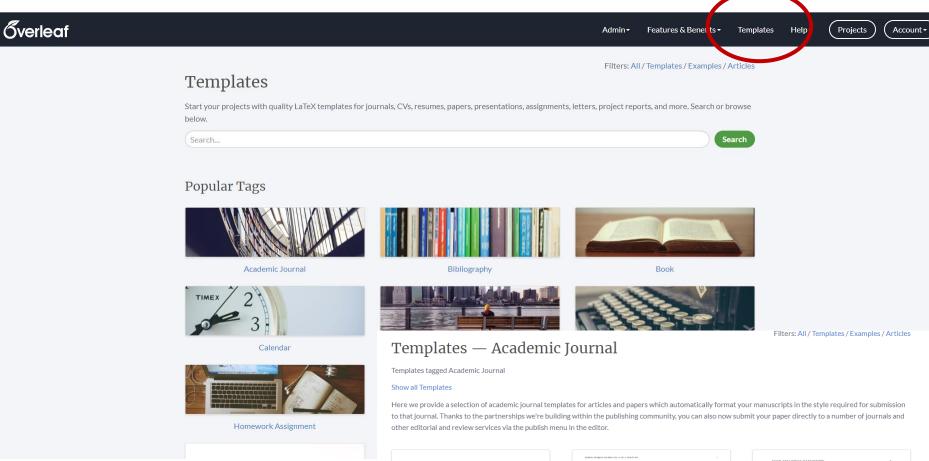
Integration with reference managers

Citation and bibliography management made easier

Over 3,000 templates to choose from
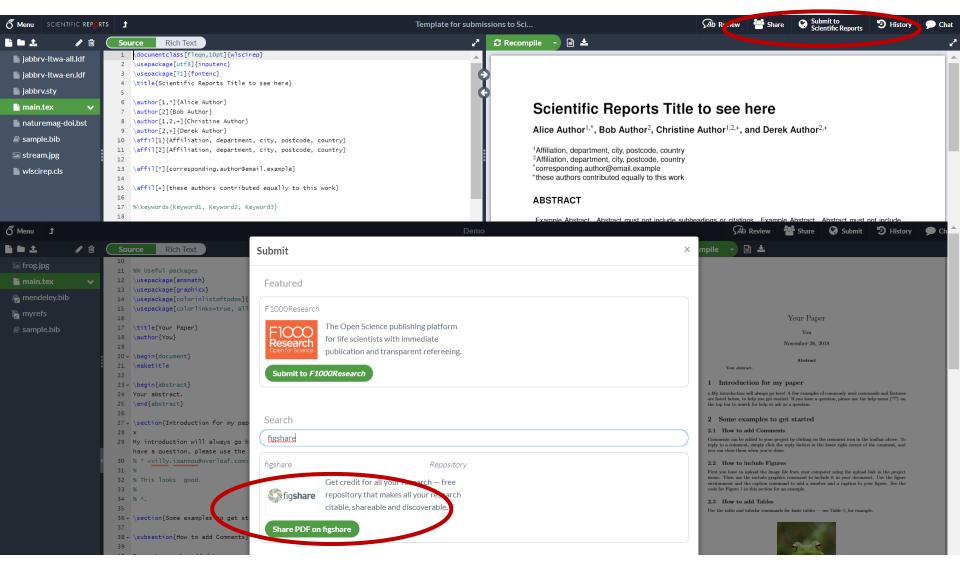
Submit directly from Overleaf to journals & repositories

Overleaf

What Overleaf is doing for end users

Making research faster, more open & more accessible:

- One version of document accessible by all

- No need to email large files, simply share a link or invite by email

- Typesetting done automatically in the background

- Automatic reference styles and citation links

- Review tools provide real-time commenting, track changes & version control

- No local software installation on multiple machines required

- End user tech support – platform, templates, LaTeX

Overleaf

Key features for students and researchers

- **Real-time track changes and commenting** – simplifying review, acceptance or rejection of text edits for faster and easier collaborative editing

- **Private invitation, link sharing and chat functionality** – facilitating new and more productive collaborations

- **Auto-compiling and real-time preview** – updating the PDF view so collaborators can focus on their writing

- **Complementary Rich Text and LaTeX modes** – flexing to a user's preference for editing projects with/without working in the code

- **Ability to import and sync external files** (e.g. datasets, bibliographies) – integrating with resources from other projects or external sources

- **Direct submission to journals and repositories** – saving time and effort when submitting manuscripts

- **Advanced reference search** – facilitating simple search by author name, title, publisher, year or keyword for effortless and fast insertion of the correct citations

- **Automatic two-way Dropbox/Github sync –** supporting seamless transition between working offline to working online with other collaborators

Overleaf

Overleaf adopted by a growing number of universities

Custom portal featuring commonly used templates
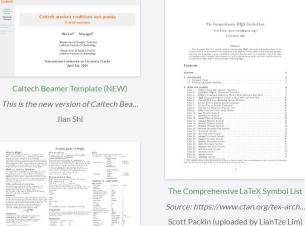
Real-time data on distribution & collaborations

Lilliput University — Administrator Hub

Usage

In the past week

18 signups

Signups include **4** Undergraduate Students, **1** Research Postgraduate, and **1** Student

They're from **5** departments, including **Bioengineering, aeronautics,** and **Faculty of Medicine, Department of Surgery & Cancer**

Recent activity

	Yesterday	Last Week	Last Month
users	**84**	**154**	**237**
worked on projects	**115**	**327**	**511**

Collaboration

External collaboration

Number of users at other institutions that have collaborated with Lilliput University the most, in the past week

- University College London, University of London
- Stanford University
- Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory
- King's College London, University of London
- Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC)
- Brown University
- University of Oxford
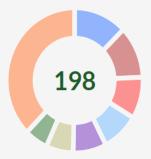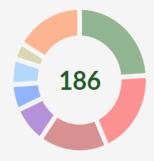- University of Cambridge
- 100 other universities

171

Distribution

Departments

Number of users in different Lilliput University Team departments

- Computer Science
- Aeronautics & Astronautics
- Mechanical Engineering
- Physics
- Electrical Engineering
- Mathematics
- Civil & Environmental Engineering
- Other

198

Roles

Number of users in different Lilliput University Team roles

- Undergraduate Student
- Doctoral Student (PhD, EngD, ...)
- Masters Student (MSc, MA, ...)
- Graduate Student
- Postdoc
- Student
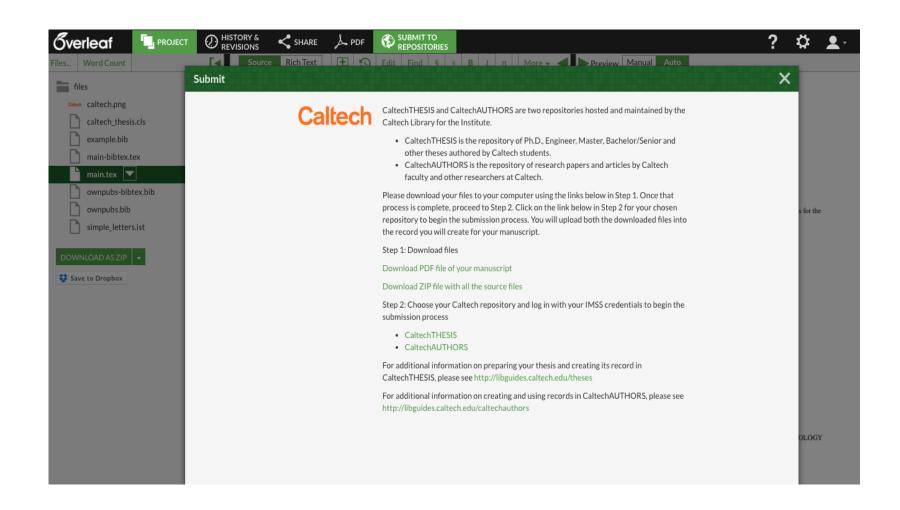- Assistant Professor
- Other

186

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Real-time metrics on uptake and usage

Custom thesis template & repository submission link - Caltech

Benefits of Premium Overleaf Commons accounts

v2 Overleaf Free Accounts

- One invited collaborator
- Unlimited number of collaborators via link sharing
- Thousands of templates

On v2 Overleaf Professional (Commons license):

- Unlimited number of invited collaborators (& link sharing)
- Thousands of templates
- Real-time track changes
- Advanced reference search
- Reference manager sync
- Full document history
- Dropbox integration (two-way sync)
- GitHub integration (two-way sync)
- Priority support

Overleaf

Example of rapid institutional uptake

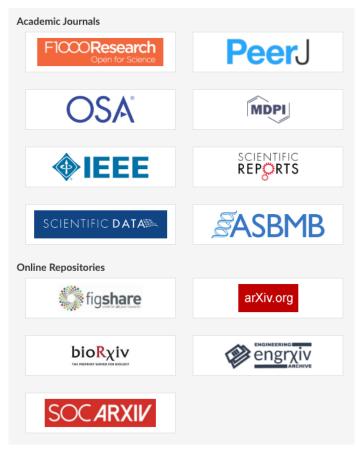| Use of Overleaf by Stanford	Before Trial (Dec 2014)	End of Trial (Jan 2016)	Increase
Confirmed users	375	2065	450%
Projects by confirmed users	1,896	13,655	620%

"Overleaf has been a huge success at Stanford...We provide Overleaf Pro accounts to all students, faculty and staff, and the uptake and feedback has been tremendous!"
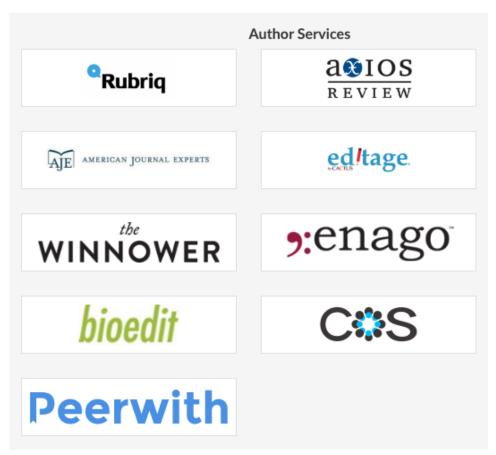
Helen Josephine, Overleaf Solution Specialist

(formerly Engineering Librarian, Stanford)

6verleaf

Multiple integrations & partnerships
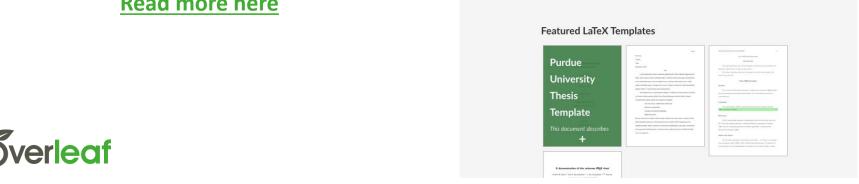
Example of improved thesis processes - Purdue

Results from 1-year Pilot:

- After a successful 1-year trial, the Purdue Graduate School chose to invest in a 5-year adoption of the Overleaf platform to benefit students, faculty and staff.
- 35% of all STEM students now use the Purdue Overleaf thesis template – with that number continuing to grow.
- In cases where students used Overleaf to write their theses, workload and review times were significantly reduced – from 5 or more graduate staff/student meetings per thesis to approximately 2-3 meetings per thesis.
- Out of 1,400 theses submitted to the Purdue Graduate School per year, ~490 will be submitted using Overleaf – providing an estimated 980 meetings removed, a huge time savings!
- The Purdue Graduate School now recommends the use of Overleaf to all students - *"The Graduate School and I recommend you use Overleaf."* - Mark Senn, Engineering Computer Network Systems Programmer.

Read more here

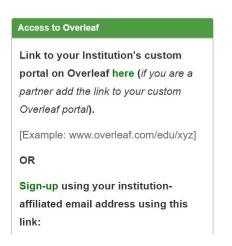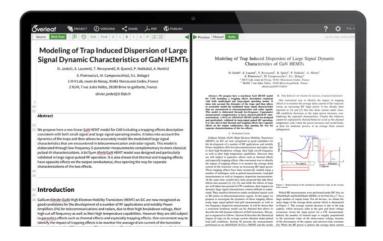FEATURES & BENEFITS   TEMPLATES   PRICING   COMPANY

PURDUE
UNIVERSITY.

Purdue University on Overleaf

Overview   Quick Start   Templates   FAQ & Help

Featured LaTeX Templates

Purdue University Thesis Template

This document describes

+

Overleaf

Overleaf LibGuides for reuse
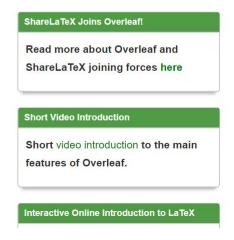
https://overleaf.libguides.com

Read the Blog Post here

Thank you!

Villy Ioannou

Institutional Sales Manager (EMEA)

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