

EDITORIAL 3

Handling of References to Unavailable and Unrefereed Papers and Reports

References in a scientific paper generally serve to show relevance to prior important hypotheses or experiments, to support or refute a previous scientific claim or finding, or to offer a source for a more detailed theoretical explanation or mathematical development. Whatever the intent of the reference used, it is always provided as source material, leading the reader of the present paper to other important and previously established scientific results or data. Thus, references should be generally available in archival form for many years, and should also be classed to indicate whether peer judgment of their scientific credibility has been exercised.

The new Editors of the *Journal of Applied Meteorology*, like the editors of all scientific journals, have had to deal with this double-headed problem relating to references (availability and credibility). After twelve months of experience and thoughtful consideration of all aspects of this issue, the editors of JAM have developed a policy relating to the presentation of references in articles published in this JOURNAL.

If the paper, report or book referenced is not generally available in archival sources, it is to be so noted by the authors in the *reference list*. The notation to be used is an *asterisk* (*) preceding the author's name in the list of references at the end of the article. This notation is *not* to be used with the references within the text.

Availability of scientific publications is not always easy to define. As guidelines, we class papers that appear in preprints and proceedings of conferences and

symposia as "unavailable." Other reports classed as unavailable are typically those printed in limited numbers by universities or private firms as grant or contract reports, or those printed by commercial firms or government agencies. However, such reports will be considered "available" if they show identification with some publication listing organization such as the National Technical Information Service (NTIS) or the Library of Congress. This source and identification number must be shown. The asterisk type of notation should also be used on references to unavailable correspondence, open file reports, or data transmitted from one person to another.

Referenced papers (not reports or books) in a potential JAM article, that have appeared in refereed journals, preprints and proceedings, also are to be so noted as unrefereed. The dagger symbol (†) is to be used in the list of references and appear before the senior author's name. This unrefereed notation will *not* be used in the text.

Authors of papers submitted to the *Journal of Applied Meteorology* are held responsible for inserting these two classifications for all unavailable and/or unrefereed publications in their reference list. Authors should recognize that this will sometimes be a judgment decision since it is sometimes difficult to know specifically when a publication is or is not available, or has been refereed. If uncertainty exists, the author should tend towards listing the material as unavailable (*) and/or unrefereed (†).

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