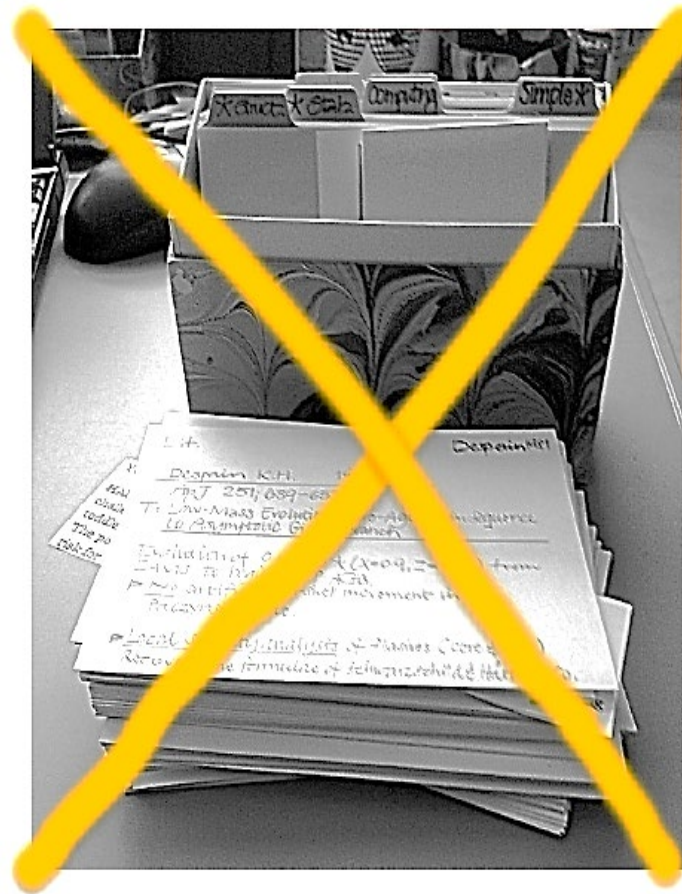
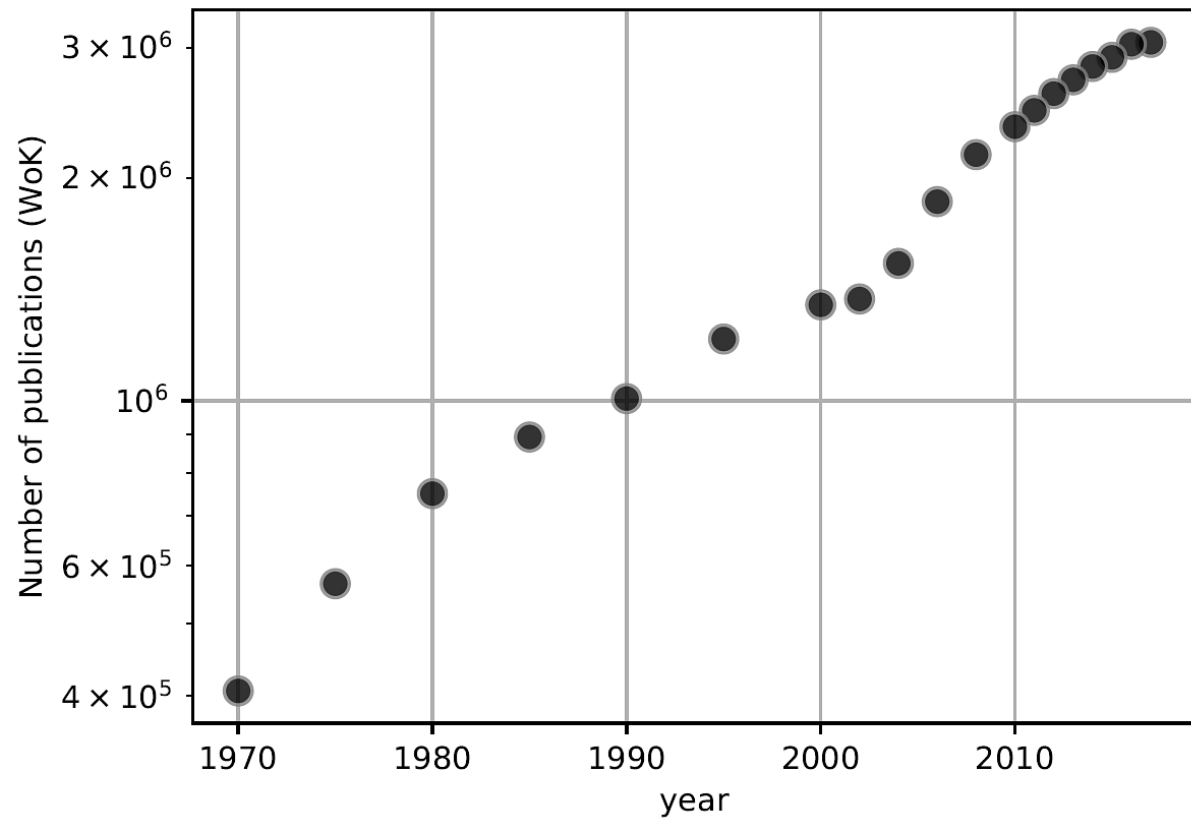




Reference Management

A Product Comparison

Exponential growth of scientific publications continues



Choices from the Bazar

zotero

citavi[®]

 MENDELEY

EndNote^{x9} 

 BibDesk

 JabRef

Core Task: Collecting Literature

- Add entries manually.
- Single or collections of entries are imported from webpages. Bibliographic metadata, full texts and/or screenshot can be stored.
- Entries or whole literature collections are to be imported from external sources such as other reference managers.

Core Task: Manage and Edit References

- Organize entries in and move them between collections
- Edit bibliographic information
- Attach keywords and tags for personalized indexing
- Compose and add exzerpts to entries
- Read and annotate full texts of entries

Core Task: Cite Literature

Extract bibliographic data from the reference data base and import it in the manuscript being typed up.

Two approaches:

Word Processing

- Import reference in a WYSIWYG environment: Citation in the text as well as the entry in the reference list according to the specifications of the publisher.

LaTeX/LyX

- BibTeX file, with all cited references in the text – formatting done during compiling process according to specific .bst style file.

Collaborative Working

Maintain a *shared reference collection* within a group of collaborators:

- Collective r+w access to the whole reference collection .
- *Share fulltext documents* to collectively work on them (Annotation and assessment of PDF files).

Beware of Copyright restrictions on licenced sources!

Collaborative Working

| Product | Collaboration Options | Group size |
|--------------|--|-----------------------------|
| Endnote x9 | Contained in base installation | < 100 |
| Citavi | Contained in base installation; Projects in the cloud | < 4; No limit |
| Zotero | Contained in base installation | No limit |
| Mendeley | Small groups contained in base package For ETH-members: <i>Institutional Edition</i> and <i>team plans</i> für larger groups | < 3 < 100 # = f(\$) * |
| cite BibDesk | nil | nil |
| JabRef | nil | nil |

(*) # = f(\$) : Group size depends on subscription model



Programs +/-

+

Database queries from within the program
Good integration in the world of Office
Extensive collection of citation styles
Free web version (with restrictions)

-

Runs under Microsoft & OS X/iOS only
DB queries enforce use of *Web of Knowledge*
(e.g. *Scopus* is not available)

General-purpose program for writers in all faculties using wordprocessors

zotero

Programs +/-

+

Excellent web-picker

Synchronizes across all big platforms
Microsoft/Mac/Linux

Desktop versions for Linux/Microsoft/Mac

Good integration into word processors
(Microsoft- & Libre-Office)

Reliable PDF download with metadata
extraction

-

Local storage of collected bibliographic
information requires the desktop version of
zotero to be running

Not much free cloud storage (300MB)
Consider subscribing to larger storage plans as
a support of the open source project

For writers in all faculties



Programs +/-

+

Cross-platform synchronisation
Microsoft/Linux/Mac/iOS

Desktop versions for Microsoft/Linux/Mac;
strongly cloud oriented

Focus on collaborative work: «Facebook» for
scientists

-

Web picker works reliable on «supported»
webpages only

Quality of web-picked imports varies

Harvesting of metadata of personal BibTeX files

For writers in all faculties with interests in «scientific networking»



Programs +/-

+

Database queries from within the program

Comfortable Word-Plugin & plugin for LaTeX editors

Management of verbatim citations

Collaborative work in the cloud

Options for project management

-

It is a Microsoft specific application (Windows 10, 8, 7)

Cloud service via Microsoft Cloud

100 references only in free version

For Microsoft-based writers in the humanities - and other faculties

**BibDesk**

Programs +/-

+

Database queries from within the program

Scripting options to extend functionalities

-

Restricted to Mac OS

Restricted to BibTeX format

For writers in STEM working on Macs using LaTeX



Programs +/-

+

System-independent Java application

Efficient LyX integration (WYSIWYM)

Import of multiple bibliographic formats

Automatic BibTeX-key generation

-

Essentially a GUI for BibTeX files

Browser-AddOn for Firefox only

For writers in all faculties using LaTeX

Recommendation compass

Mobility is important :

*** Endnote, Mendeley, Zotero**

| OS | Field | Composition tool | Reference management |
|---------|---------|------------------|----------------------|
| Windows | HU | Word | Citavi |
| Windows | HU | Word | Endnote |
| Windows | MNE | LaTeX | Zotero |
| Linux | MNE, HU | LibreOffice | Zotero |
| Linux | MNE, HU | LaTeX | Zotero |
| Mac | MNE, HU | Word | Endnote |
| Mac | MNE, HU | LaTeX | BibDesk |

HU : Humanities

MNE: Mathematics, natural sciences, engineering

(*) alphabetically sorted

Conclusions

The do-it-all tool does not exist -
also not among the reference managers.



Quelle: www.rowa.ch

The choice depends on the working environment (such as operating system), on the work situation (stationary/mobile; multiple operating systems), on the typing tool (word processing vs. LaTeX), and the field of work.

A combination of two complementary systems might be use- and helpful!

Further information

Extensive comparison of *many* reference managers, relatively up to date:
[Comparison of reference management software](#), Wikipedia

Comparison of programs popular in academia (16 pages, german)
[Literaturverwaltungsprogramme im Vergleich](#), Bibliothek der TU München

A compact version of popular programs in academia (4 pages, german)
[Literaturverwaltungsprogramme im Überblick](#), Bibliothek der TU Dresden