Bibliographies in Articles

In this document we will illustrate how to make a bibliography and how to cite various items in that bibliography. A good source to learn about making and citing references is the book [1] by G. Grätzer that is on the bookshelf in the Principal Pigeonhole. I will simply summarize a few of the key ideas here and will show you how to do some simple citations.

Suppose we were writing a paper about Goldbach's Conjecture, which states that every even integer larger than 2 can be written as the sum of two primes. For example, $4 = 2 + 2$, $28 = 11 + 17$ and $84 = 5 + 79$. We could use MathSciNet to find sources on the conjecture. I did a search putting "Goldbach's Conjecture" into the "Anywhere" search field and then selected four of the items as examples to put in the reference section below. (See [2, 3, 4, 5].) All four of them are journal articles, and you can see that the information given includes the names of the author(s), the title of the article, the name of the journal, the volume number (in bold print), sometimes an issue number, the year of publication and the range of pages for the article. You will notice that there is a standard, accepted way to abbreviate the name of each journal. This abbreviation is included in the MathSciNet citation, and you should use it as it appears.

Sometimes when we cite a reference it is helpful to be able to refer to specific pages of that source as in [2, pages 467–468]. Perhaps we really want to refer to a particular result in one of our sources. This can be done as in [5, Theorem 1.3]. The list of references is put into your document between the commands \begin{thebibliography} and \end{thebibliography}. Each source in your bibliography has its own entry and begins with the command \bibitem{somelabel}, where "somelabel" is a name of your choice. I usually make labels that help me remember which item is being referenced when I am typing the .tex file. So, I tend to use the first letter of the last names followed by the publication year of that particular source. However, you are free to make these labels however you want. Please look at the .tex file. The standard order of listing the references is alphabetical by the last name of the lead author.

References

[1] George Grätzer, *More Math Into LaTeX*, 4th Edition, Springer Science+Business Media, LLC, New York, NY, 2007.

[2] Imre Kátai and Bui Minh Phong, *A consequence of the ternary Goldbach theorem*, Publ. Math. Debrecen **86** (2015), no. 3-4, 465–471.

[3] Florian Luca and Carl Pomerance, *The range of the sum-of-proper-divisors function*, Acta Arith. **168** (2015), no. 2, 187–199.

[4] C. J. Mozzochi, *Unconditional sufficient conditions for the Goldbach and the twin primes conjectures*, Indian J. Math. **56** (2014), no. 3, 359–375.

[5] D. J. Platt and T. S. Trudgian, *Linnik's approximation to Goldbach's conjecture and other problems*, J. Number Theory, **153** (2015), 54–62.