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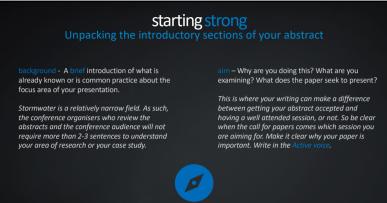
The most important professional real estate

Making the most of a great opportunity to

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#### Starting strong Unpacking the introductory sections of your abstract



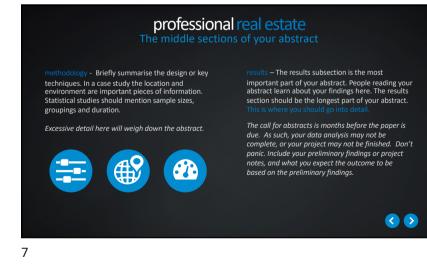
Often technical writers use the passive voice, because it seems more formal. The passive often reduces clarity and adds additional words.

Active writing allows for the important points of the research to stand out, which means our brains can easily get excited about the research without trying to digest where it is all going.



"Previous studies have established, that globally the number of frogs is on the decline. Frogs breathe through their skin and are a good indicator species showing the potential long-term effects of toxins in our environment. In our study, we investigated the effects of urban road runoff on the fertility of frogs."

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### professional real estate The middle sections of your abstract



Often technical writers use too many technical words here. Save the technical words for the paper. When writing an abstract for a conference the conference organisers want to know you have the potential to be an engaging presenter. Technical words that need to be explained can reduce clarity and eat into your word count. A conference abstract should evoke the excitement in the reader that drove you to do the work.



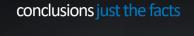
"We examined two populations of European pond frogs over a period of two years. Habitat one, is a natural pond, located in a forest, 3 km from and roadway. Habitat two, is a stormwater pond used to treat roadway runoff. The average body weight of the frogs in the natural pond was greater than that of the frogs in the urban pond (20.4±0.3 g vs. 8.4±0.6 g). In frogs, body weight has a direct correlation to fertility and juvenile mortality. Our initial findings show that the population of frogs in the urban pond is declining over time while the population within the forest pond has increased".

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conclusions - The last two sentences of your abstract is the takeaway from your study or project. It should also include the applicability of your work to the stormwater practitioner.

Abstracts should always contain conclusions. An abstract is not the introductory section of a murder mystery. Conference attendees decide whether or not to attend a talk based on what is in the abstract.

Make sure your conclusions are straight forward and to the point. Do not over elaborate on what it all means. Save elaboration for the discussion section of the paper and the presentation.

"Our study revealed that frog populations subject to the road runoff decline over time. As frogs are an indicator species the results suggest road runoff has substantial long term the detrimental effects to the environment."



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	finding the words finding the words	
To show analysis	analyse, appraise, define, diagnose, explore, identify, investigate, observe	
To summarize	assess, conclude, feature, highlight	
To indicate control (to be stable or to maintain at a level)	constrain, control, govern, influence, inhibit, limit, maintain, prohibit, regulate, secure	
To discuss findings	attest, confirm, contend, demonstrate, document, indicate, reveal	
To state	comment, convey, elaborate, establish, identify, propose	
To show increase	advance, development, enlarge, exceed, extend, facilitate, improve, increment, maximize	
To show decrease	alleviate, cease, decline, depress, descent, deteriorate, minimize, subside, reduce	
To show change	alter, accommodate, difference, evolve, fluctuate, generate, transform, transition, vary	
To indicate information in a figure	depict, display, illustrate, portray, reveal	A STREET STREET
To indicate information in a table	classify, enumerate, gives, lists, presents, summarizes	
To stress that a task has been performed in- depth	adequately, comprehensively, exhaustively, extensively, thoroughly	
To show parts	comprises, compose of, constitutes, encompasses, includes, incorporates	
To indicate negative stand	challenge, contradict, disagree, dispute, reject, question	
To indicate positive stand	confirm, compliment, corroborate, substantiate, support, uphold, validate, verify	
To show approximation	approximate, estimate, resemble, predict	

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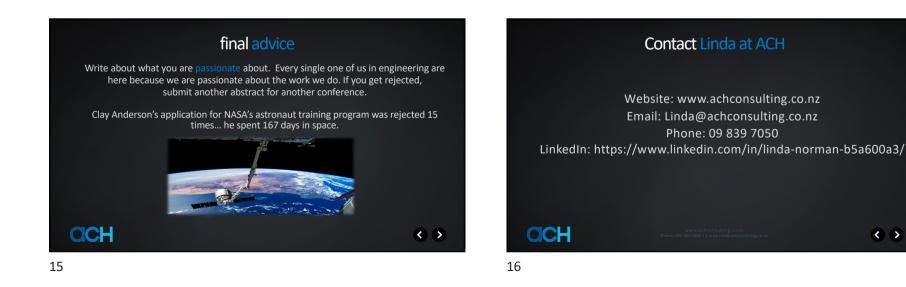


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# general advice

- Give your abstract to a strong writer outside your field. Consider the person who writes the copy for your firm's website or if you are at university walk it over to the English department. Your abstract should be able to be read by anyone.
- Give your abstract to a variety of people and peers to read. You can only review your abstract so many times until you start to not see your own errors. Everyone will pick up something different.
- Edit your abstract as if each word you include is costing you a dollar.

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