
中国作者撰写英语论文中的一些常见问题

作者：writer 来源：本站

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CAUSE, PROVE: The words “ cause ” and “ prove ” are problem words and need extra caution in scientific writing. Demonstrating causality requires much more than a single statistical test (authors should do some background reading on this issue). Using a null hypothesis testing procedure means that we can never “ prove ” any hypothesis, because all we get is a probability that the null hypothesis can be rejected. Therefore, there is always a possibility, perhaps small, that we might be rejecting the null hypothesis in error (it might, in fact, be correct – this is known as a Type I error).

“ cause ” 和 “ prove ” 是问题单词，在科技论文写作中需要引起格外注意，除非非常确定，否则一定要慎用。证明因果关系(causality)比单一的统计检验的要求要多的多(在这个问题上作者应该阅读一些相关背景的材料)。使用空的假设检验意味着我们永远不能“证明(prove)”任何假设，因为我们所得到的只是一个可能被拒绝的零假设。概率上说我们总可能会错误地拒绝零假设。(这种可能性或许很小，但可能其实是正确的 - 这就是所谓的I型错误)。

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