

**Using a dedicated corpus to identify features of professional English usage:
What do “we” do in science journal articles?**

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Abstract

This paper addresses the problem of inadequate educational materials for the effective training of non-native speakers in the professional English of the scientific community. The paper claims that one cause of this inadequacy is lack of proper linguistic research based on suitable linguistic research tools. The development of a major international corpus of professional English in the sciences and other fields is described as a significant resource for solving this problem, illustrated with a specific research project examining the use of *we* in general English from the Corpus of Professional English. Results reveal the value of well-designed dedicated corpora for addressing the specific English instructional needs of non-native speakers of English in the professions.