Turnitin Originality Report
Turnitin as a teaching tool

V

Turnitin as a detection tool
The Originality Report

• The Similarity Index (%)
  – Percentage of your text that matches sources in the TII databases
  – There is no safe percentage to avoid plagiarism so always have at least a quick scan of the report
  – The spread of percentages of text matching is more significant

• Matching text
  – Is highlighted and numbered (each source colour coded)
  – Colours and numbers link corresponding text matches and possible source(s)
Interpreting the Originality Report

• The following slides come from the Originality Report for a test report
• They are designed to highlight common situations within an Originality Report
• A Turnitin Originality Report can only tell you so much
• If we take a look at this example of a student dissertation in the next few slides
**About this page**

This is your assignment inbox. To view a paper, click the paper’s title. To view an Originality Report, click the paper’s Originality Report icon in the similarity column. A ghosted icon indicates that the Originality Report has not yet been generated.

**Originality Demo**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AUTHOR</th>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>SIMILARITY</th>
<th>GRADE</th>
<th>RESPONSE</th>
<th>FILE</th>
<th>PAPER ID</th>
<th>DATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sample Submissions</td>
<td>Test 1</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>60749017</td>
<td>18-Oct-2016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Here is an example Originality Report

Here is the Similarity Index - 32% of this assignment matches TII sources

Click here (Match Overview button) to also view a list of most likely sources.
It is possible to filter out the references from the text matching. Click on the filter icon and tick to Exclude Bibliography. You should expect to see highlighted text in the reference list as it contains the titles of actual documents. This sort of text match is acceptable...

In this case, the Similarity Index went from 32% to 29%.)
2 BACKGROUND

2.1 GENERATION OF PRESSURE WAVES IN TUNNELS

The flow generated by trains travelling inside railway tunnels is unsteady, compressible, three- dimensional and turbulent in nature. The flow variables, density, pressure and velocity around and ahead of the train in a tunnel are affected differently from that in open air, due to the confining effects of the tunnel. When the train passes through tunnel portals, or two trains pass each other simultaneously, and even when the tunnel section encounters a change of area or a connection with a different tunnel or the atmosphere, pressure waves are generated. These waves propagate at the local speed of sound, interfere with each other and reflect within the tunnel in a complex way as illustrated below.

This is a ranked list of sources where there is a match, coloured and numbered. The % indicates the % of your document that appears to have come from that source.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Match %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Baron, A. &quot;The alleviation of pressure reflections in tunnels&quot;</td>
<td>Publication</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Baron, A. &quot;High-speed railway tunnels&quot;</td>
<td>Publication</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td><a href="http://www.nlm.nih.gov">www.nlm.nih.gov</a></td>
<td>Internet Source</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td><a href="http://www.esveld.com">www.esveld.com</a></td>
<td>Internet Source</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Submitted to Imperial College London</td>
<td>Student Paper</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td><a href="http://www.whome.math.utwente.nl">www.whome.math.utwente.nl</a></td>
<td>Internet Source</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>ompldr.org</td>
<td>Internet Source</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Ogawa, T. &quot;Numerical investigation of pressure waves in tunnels&quot;</td>
<td>Publication</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td><a href="http://www.afaur.org">www.afaur.org</a></td>
<td>Internet Source</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Fujii, K. &quot;Unified Zonal Model of Pressure Waves in Tunnels&quot;</td>
<td>Publication</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>D A Henson. &quot;An investigation of pressure waves in tunnels&quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
If these percentages are all low (1-2%) then there are unlikely to be major issues. We recommend just scrolling through the document looking at highlighted text to confirm this.

Here there is a 4% match – in this case it might be a good idea to investigate this source first. It is possible to do this...

Expect to see small blocks of coloured text – e.g. common phrases, technical terms, cited direct quotes, items in reference lists, diagram captions.
Use the arrow keys to navigate backwards and forwards between the occurrences of source 1 (25 matches).

Click on the source in order to check through all text matches for just this source.

To go back to Match Overview – click on the All Sources button and then back on the Match Overview button.
Text matching: looking at the Originality Report

- A text match does **NOT** mean there has been plagiarism
  - May be valid reason for text matching
  - Check the citation and references in the reference list/bibliography to see if they are referring to the source clearly
  - Remember that TII does not search for matches with images, diagrams and figures etc.
  - TII is not a fail safe plagiarism detection tool and will not always pick up on all types of plagiarism e.g. contract cheating