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UAS-Based Dye Tracing for Pollution Dispersion Monitoring in Rivers: Insights from the Interreg SI-HU RISKHUB 2 Project

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Abstract

As part of the Interreg SI-HU RISKHUB 2 project, this study presents a novel approach to track pollutant dispersion in rivers using combined dye tracing and remote sensing techniques. In a field exercise on the Drava River, a non-toxic fluorescent dye was released to simulate a chemical spill, and its downstream dispersion was closely monitored. An unmanned aerial system (UAS/drone) equipped with a high-resolution camera provided real-time aerial imagery of the evolving dye plume, while complementary in-situ observations (including flow measurements) were collected to support data interpretation. This integrated methodology allowed for mapping the spread and dilution of the simulated pollutant over time and distance with high spatial resolution. Results demonstrated that the dye plume's movement and concentration distribution could be effectively tracked, yielding insights into flow dynamics and dispersion patterns that would be difficult to obtain with traditional sampling alone. Such rapid monitoring capability is of great practical importance for environmental monitoring and emergency response – it enables timely detection of pollution incidents, accurate exposure assessment, and informed decision-making to contain contaminant spread. Moreover, in a transboundary river context, the approach facilitates coordinated cross-border response by providing shared real-time information. Overall, the study underlines the practical value of combining dye tracing with UAS-based remote sensing as an effective tool for enhancing river pollution surveillance and improving emergency response strategies.

Keywords: unmanned aerial systems (UAS), dye tracing, pollution monitoring, river hydrodynamics, environmental remote sensing

Strategies to motivate ESP students to effectively implement impersonalization techniques in scientific writing

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Abstract

This article explores the fundamental differences between English for Specific Purposes (ESP) and General English (GE), with a particular emphasis on the notion of impersonalization. It aims to demonstrate that in written scientific and academic settings, impersonalization can be conveyed through various linguistic strategies, including agentless passive voice, impersonal general pronouns, it-clauses, and personification. This study employs a corpus-based approach to investigate the linguistic strategies used to express impersonalization in English academic discourse. Furthermore, it aims to analyze the prevalence of impersonalization in English research articles across various disciplines, including dentistry, civil engineering, and mechanical engineering. The research is focused on exploring the following questions: What linguistic constructs are employed to convey impersonalization? Are there significant variations in how different fields articulate impersonalization? A total of 30 primary empirical research articles from the domains of dentistry, civil engineering, and mechanical engineering were analyzed utilizing both qualitative and quantitative approaches through the corpus linguistic method.

Keywords: English for Specific Purposes, impersonalization, agentless passives, personification

Volunteer Firefighting in Slovenia (5 Years Later): Recovering from COVID-19 Impacts and Strengthening Community Resilience

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Abstract

The COVID-19 pandemic significantly affected the operations of volunteer firefighting organizations in Slovenia, which form the backbone of the country's protection, rescue, and relief forces. Lockdowns and restrictive measures disrupted essential training, education, and social activities, leading to concerns about the long-term sustainability of volunteer engagement and operational preparedness. This study examines the pandemic's impact on volunteer firefighters from multiple perspectives, including reduced training opportunities, changes in operational capacity, and the challenges in recruiting and retaining new members. A nationwide survey of firefighting organizations, supported by official statistics, reveals a sharp decline in organized training activities, with consequences expected to manifest in future operational effectiveness. Despite these challenges, volunteer firefighting units demonstrated remarkable resilience, maintaining high levels of response capability throughout the crisis. The findings underscore the need for immediate policy interventions at both local and national levels, including targeted youth recruitment, intensified training programs, and structural support for volunteer organizations. These measures are crucial to ensuring the continued strength and efficiency of Slovenia's volunteer firefighting system in the post-pandemic era.

Keywords: COVID-19 pandemic, volunteer firefighting, operational readiness, disaster response, Slovenia

Study of the Stability of Resistive Circuits with Operational Amplifiers

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Abstract

The analysis of circuits with operational amplifier, due to the use that this device finds almost in every kind of technology today, has been included in the courses of analysis of electrical circuits, which are offered to electrical engineering students. The operational amplifier is a nonlinear element of electrical circuits, which finds applications in both its operating regimes: linear and nonlinear. Usually in the theoretical texts offered, the ideal operational amplifier is treated, analyzed only in the linear operating regime, creating uncertainty for an in-depth study: how to ensure in which linear/nonlinear operating regime an operational amplifier works in a given resistive circuit?

This study presents a procedure for determining the operating regime in resistive circuits with operational amplifiers, which provides an answer for the above question. The resistive circuit with one and two operational amplifiers has been theoretically and experimentally analyzed and the conditions that must be met for the circuit to operate in a stable linear regime have been evaluated. The presented results demonstrate the validity and the efficiency of the proposed procedure.

Keywords: operational amplifier, linear, resistive circuit, stability

Unlocking Opportunities in the Sports Labor Market of Albania, Kosovo, and North Macedonia: Insights from the SHAPE Project CBE

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Abstract

This paper assesses the sports labor market in Albania, Kosovo, and North Macedonia based on credible data sources and empirical research. Findings validate the needs analysis for the SHAPE project, an EU-funded Capacity Building in Higher Education initiative aimed at enhancing employment and sports education in the region.

The research employs qualitative data from focus groups conducted in May 2024 at the University of Prishtina and the State University of Tetova. Participants included academic experts and representatives from sports federations, providing insights into employment trends. Data from various reports and statistical databases, including ResearchGate, Eurostat, and Sport e Salute, supplement the findings. The study also references research by the European Observatoire of Sport and Employment (EOSE) to provide a comprehensive overview of employment trends in European sports.

This study contributes to policy discussions and capacity-building efforts, aligning sports education with labor market demands in the Western Balkans.

Keywords: Sports labor market, employment trends, SHAPE project, Western Balkans, higher education, sports policy.
