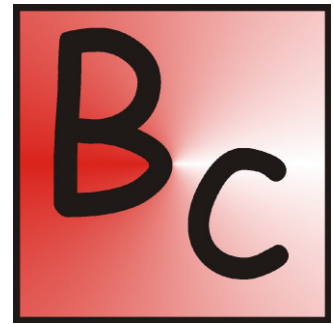


Manual



for

Bibcut

Version 2.1

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**Note that I give no guarantee for anything
connected to problems,
which might appear during using Bibcut !**

Quick manual

First step: Before using Bibcut, make sure that your BibTeX files are put into the correct BibTeX format. The best is to open your BibTeX files with JabRef, which is a BibTeX manager. You can find JabRef here:

<http://jabref.sourceforge.net/>

Opening your BibTeX files with JabRef tells you immediately if there are some problems with your BibTeX files. Save your BibTeX files for safety with JabRef.

Extracting BibTeX entries appearing in a LaTeX manuscript

1. Go to 'File' and load your LaTeX file (Open first file)
2. Go to 'File' and load your BibTeX file (Open second file)
3. Choose options (e.g., journal style) in 'Preferences for extract'
4. Go to 'Go and extract'

Result: Three files are created in the last chosen directory

1. BibTeX file <bibfilename_extract_modified.bib> includes only the items from the LaTeX file.
2. Item file <bibfilename_extract_items.txt>
3. Bibitem file <bibfilename_extract_bibitems.tex>

Comparing BibTeX entries of two BibTeX files

1. Go to 'File' and load your first BibTeX file (Open first file)
2. Go to 'File' and load your second BibTeX file (Open second file).
Note that the first file is the master file.
3. Go to 'Go and compare'

Result: Two BibTeX files are created in the last chosen directory

1. BibTeX file <bibfilename_compare_equal.bib> contains all entries, which were found in both BibTeX files.
2. BibTeX file <bibfilename_compare_missing.bib> contains all entries, which can be found in the second BibTeX file but not in the first one.

Cleaning BibTeX entries for double entries

1. Go to 'File' and load your BibTeX file (Open first file)
2. Go to 'Go and clean doubles'

Result: A new BibTeX file is created in the last chosen directory. The file is named <bibfilename_clean_of_doubles.bib> and contains no double items anymore.

Why Bibcut ?

Bibcut v2.0 is a free Windows program with an easy graphical user interface. In first place, Bibcut is interesting for scientists, who publish regularly in scientific journals and who use LaTeX and BibTeX as a text processor system. The Bibcut functions are explained by some examples:

Extracting BibTeX items - A scientist can create a large BibTeX file including almost all articles, books, etc. during his entire scientific life, which the scientist cited at least once. This library can become pretty large with more than thousand entries referring to papers, books, etc. If a paper is written, the manuscript is submitted to a Journal, which asks for a BibTeX file containing only the entries referred by the LaTeX manuscript. Exactly here helps Bibcut: It searches the bibitems from the LaTeX file and finds the corresponding entries in the large BibTeX library.

Comparing BibTeX files - If two scientists work together on a large manuscript, they probably use each their own BibTeX library. Bibcut helps to compare both BibTeX libraries and finds the entries of one BibTeX library, which are missing in the other one. With this option, one big BibTeX library can be created including all entries referred from both manuscripts.

Cleaning BibTeX files - Sometimes, one gets a BibTeX library with lots of double entries from a colleague. Bibcut helps to sort the double entries.

What is Bibcut doing in detail?

Bicut can handle BibTeX files in the following ways:

- In a large BibTeX library, finding and sorting BibTeX entries, which appear in a LaTeX file
- Comparing two BibTeX files and sorting the entries, which do not appear in one of the files
- Cleaning BibTeX entries, which are double in a BibTeX file.

Extracting BibTeX items - From a large BibTeX file, Bibcut finds and sorts the bibitems, which appear in a LaTeX file via the command '`\cite{...}`'. The selected BibTeX entries are stored in a new BibTeX file, which is called `<bibtex file name_extract_modified.bib>`.

The second, newly created file is an ASCII file (`<bibtex file name_extract_items.txt>`) including the labels of the bibitems, which are in between the brackets of the '`\bibitem{label}`' command.

Finally, a third, new file is created (`<bibtex file name_extract_bibitems.tex>`). This file includes the selected bibitems in the '`\bibitem{}`' format. This format strongly depends on the Journal style. Supported styles are the ones from the American Physical Society (PRL, PRB, etc.), the American Chemical Society (JACS, JPC., etc.) and the Institute of Physics (J. Phys.: Cond. Mater., New J. Phys., etc.). The tags ARTICLE, BOOK, INPROCEEDINGS (to some amount), PHDTHESIS and INCOLLECTION are supported so far.

Comparing BibTeX files - Bibcut can compare two BibTeX files and find the entries, which are missing. The first BibTeX is the master file. This means that missing BibTeX entries found in the second BibTeX file are reported with respect to the first BibTeX file. Two files are created: The first, new file named `<bibtex file name_compare_missing.bib>` includes the BibTeX entries from BibTeX file No. 2, which do not appear in BibTeX file No. 1. The second file (`<bibtex file name_compare_equal.bib>`) includes all BibTeX entries, which appear in both BibTeX files. A log file shows, how the entries were treated.

How can two scientists put together one large BibTeX library, which contains all relevant BibTeX entries? Do the following:

1. Save both BibTeX files with JabRef
2. Apply 'extract' for both sets of LaTeX/BibTeX files
3. Compare the two new BibTeX files (one of the files is the master)
4. Take the master BibTeX file and copy via JabRef the missing BibTeX files into the master BibTeX file

Note that when double entries appear in the two BibTeX files, the function 'clean for doubles' should be taken between step 2 and 3. However, some entries named in the 2 LaTeX files will be missing in the final large BibTeX library.

The procedure only works properly if the two initial BibTeX files have no doubles! In future, the compare routine will be improved (see below).

Cleaning BibTeX files - Bibcut can search for entries inside one BibTeX file, which are double. Not only the bibitem labels are compared but also other criteria are taken for the comparison. This depends strongly on the tag of the BibTeX entry. The following criteria are compared:

- ARTICLE
journal, year, volume, first page
- BOOK , PHDTHESIS, INCOLLECTION, INPROCEEDINGS
title, author
- MISC
note

A log file shows, how the entries were treated.

In future?

I will probably improve the function 'compare' in future. The aim is to make use also of the two LaTeX files in order to find the relevant bibitems. The two BibTeX files are then cut down in that they only contain these bibitems.

In a next step the BibTeX entries of both BibTeX files are compared and a new full BibTeX file is created. The new file includes all relevant BibTeX entries.

A major challenge is to clear for double entries and to change also the bibitems in the LaTeX files if one and the same entry has several different bibitem names.

However, this takes some time ... :-)

Support?

If problems arise or if bugs are found, I can try to fix them. An email should be then send to

Bibcut@gmail.com

with a description of the problem and with the necessary files, which help me to track the bugs. In some cases, I can also try to implement other functions. But this may take some time.