Electronic Multi-Authoring
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How can a co-author edit a multi-authored paper electronically and still provide the explicit visual context of a marked up manuscript for each change or addition? LTER Data Managers have begun using marked up electronic text to pass suggested modifications to a primary posting author for integration into the final document. Text modification can be made locally to a downloaded document using readily available software.

A manuscript may be posted at a web location (URL) as an HTML, RTF, or Word document. The document may be downloaded (using FTP, Netscape or Internet Explorer) and stored locally. The downloaded file can be viewed with an editor such as Microsoft Word. The 'track changes' in this editor means that the deleted text can appear as colored (ie blue) with strike outs while inserted text can appear as an alternate color (ie red). These edits can be saved as an HTML, RTF or Word file and posted to a local URL or attached to an email. The original author is able to download or receive the marked up manuscript with edits visible in the Microsoft Word editor. Note that to be visible directly with a browser, highlighting requires html commands font color=#FF0000,#FF3333 substituted for editor commands #7B0516,#7D031E,#7D0322.