Discrepancies with word count when copying/pasting from Microsoft Word

When text contains a lot of numerical data and symbols, there can be discrepancies with word count when copying and pasting from Microsoft Word or other text editors into the Oxford Abstract forms. Different systems have many varying calculations, with no standard set of algorithms, and this can result in a word count over the permitted maximum.

If your abstract exceeds 350 words as counted by Oxford Abstracts, it will be marked as an ‘incomplete submission’. Please keep your abstract within the 350-word limit as exceptions will now not be made. If your abstract exceeds this, you will be asked to reduce it or have it withdrawn.

Below is some guidance as to the difference between the way in which Oxford Abstracts and Microsoft Word count words.

For example. Microsoft Word counts the following text as 1 word.

```
This, is, the, title
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![Microsoft Word Word Count](image)

However, when copying to a submission form, this is shown as 4 words.
For guidance: the following count as one word on Oxford Abstract's system

1+1=2
n=23
P<0.001

whereas the following items count as two words on the abstract submission system but only as one on Microsoft Word.

and/or
up(down)
all,around