

# La inseguridad del hardware actual

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**Abstract**—Este artículo realiza un estudio de la seguridad en la arquitectura del hardware, profundizando en temas como las vulnerabilidades de los actuales procesadores, sus respectivas mitigaciones y por último se detallarán los campos de investigación en proceso que ayudan a prevenir o prepararnos ante estos ataques maliciosos.

**Index Terms**—Predicciones de saltos, ejecución especulativa, Meltdown, Spectre y sus variantes, Ataques de canales laterales, Mitigaciones y prevenciones.

## 1 INTRODUCCION

La seguridad de la información es un tema cada vez más revelante en la era digital. Los procesadores son el corazón de cualquier sistema informático, y su seguridad es crucial para garantizar la integridad y la confidencialidad de los datos. Sin embargo, la complejidad de la microarquitectura de los procesadores modernos y la constante evolución de las amenazas informáticas hacen que la seguridad de estos dispositivos sea un desafío cada vez más complejo.

## 2 OPTIMIZACIONES

El rendimiento de los procesadores modernos ha mejorado gracias a varias técnicas. Como ya no es tan fácil seguir reduciendo el tamaño de los transistores o aumentar la frecuencia del reloj, se han buscado otras soluciones a nivel de arquitectura. La clave está en el paralelismo: optimizar y extender las rutas de instrucciones para ejecutar más operaciones al mismo tiempo dentro de un hilo, además de aumentar la cantidad de núcleos físicos y lógicos en un procesador.

Las optimizaciones claves de los procesadores modernos son: la **ejecución especulativa**, **ejecución fuera de orden** y la **predicción de bifurcaciones** (Branch Prediction).

- **Ejecución Especulativa:** Permite al procesador ejecutar instrucciones "por adelantado" (**aprovechando el paralelismo y la predicción de bifurcaciones**) [?] para evitar tiempos de espera. Si la predicción es incorrecta, los resultados especulativos se descartan, aunque pueden dejar rastros en la caché, lo que ha dado lugar a vulnerabilidades.
- **Ejecución Fuera de Orden:** Aprovecha al máximo los recursos del procesador ejecutando instrucciones en paralelo en distintas unidades de ejecución. Mientras una unidad está ocupada, las demás pueden procesar otras instrucciones de forma simultánea, siempre que no rompa las reglas arquitectónicas dadas por el hardware.

- **Predicción de Bifurcaciones:** Es una técnica utilizada para decidir qué rama de un condicional es más probable que se ejecute. Esto optimiza el flujo de instrucciones al anticiparse al resultado de la condición, evitando interrupciones en el pipeline del procesador y mejorando el rendimiento general.

Los procesadores modernos implementan estas técnicas de optimización para mejorar el rendimiento. Sin embargo, estas mismas técnicas pueden ser explotadas para crear **canales laterales** de los cuales hablaremos más adelante en la sección de **Vulnerabilidades**.

## 3 NIVELES DE PRIVILEGIOS

## 4 VULNERABILIDADES

La seguridad de los sistemas puede verse comprometida por distintos tipos de vulnerabilidades. En este artículo, haremos hincapié en los **ataques de canales laterales** (del inglés Side Channel Attacks), que explotan información derivada de las condiciones físicas o lógicas durante la ejecución de un sistema para extraer datos sensibles.

¿A qué nos referimos con "condiciones físicas y lógicas"? A que estos ataques no se basan en vulnerabilidades directas en algoritmos o software, sino en la medición de:

**Condiciones físicas:** Fenómenos observables en el hardware, como el consumo de energía, el tiempo de ejecución de operaciones o las emisiones electromagnéticas/acústicas.

**Condiciones lógicas:** Los comportamientos de la implementación del sistema, como el estado de la memoria caché, el mapeo de memoria o los patrones de acceso a recursos compartidos.

Estas fugas de información indirecta son los llamados **canales laterales**, que permiten al atacante obtener datos secretos sin acceder directamente a ellos.

Existen muchísimos casos de canales laterales que se pueden explotar pero en este informe solo vamos a entrar en el canal de temporización de caché (cache timing side-channel), el cual es utilizado por Meltdown y Spectre.

### 4.1 Spectre

Spectre induce a una víctima a realizar especulativamente operaciones que no ocurrirían durante el procesamiento en orden estrictamente serializado de las instrucciones del programa, y que filtran información confidencial de la víctima a través de un canal encubierto al adversario. Los ataques de spectre se llevan a cabo en tres pasos:

- La fase de configuracion, en la que el procesador esta mal entrenado para hacer una prediccion especulativa erronea explotable.
- El procesador ejecuta especulativamente instrucciones desde el contexto de destino en un canal encubierto de microarquitectura.
- Los datos confidenciales se recuperan. Esto se puede hacer cronometrando el acceso a direcciones de memoria en la memoria cache de la CPU.

#### 4.1.1 *Spectre-PHT(Omision de verificacion de limites)*

Explota la ejecución especulativa tras una comprobación de límites en una rama condicional. Aunque el procesador descarta las instrucciones especulativas si la rama fue mal predicha, los cambios en la caché permanecen. Un atacante puede aprovechar esto cargando datos en la caché durante la ejecución especulativa y luego usar un canal lateral de caché para filtrar información sensible, incluso si el código parece estar correctamente escrito y no permite accesos fuera de los límites en condiciones normales.

#### 4.1.2 *Spectre-BTB(Inyeccion de destino de rama)*

Aprovecha la ejecución especulativa de instrucciones tras una rama indirecta. Al influir en el destino de esa rama indirecta, un atacante puede forzar que se ejecute código malicioso de manera especulativa. Luego, el atacante utiliza un canal lateral basado en la caché para recuperar datos sensibles. Para garantizar un rendimiento elevado, los predictores de ramas utilizan el historial de ramas previas para predecir el destino de la rama. Sin embargo, este historial no está filtrado por el nivel de privilegio ni por el ID del proceso, lo que permite a un atacante desde un nivel de privilegio o proceso diferente entrenar incorrectamente el predictor de ramas y forzar la ejecución especulativa de un gadget.

## 5 L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X DISTRIBUTIONS: WHERE TO GET THEM

IEEE recommends using the distribution from the T<sub>E</sub>X User Group at <http://www.tug.org>. You can join TUG and obtain a DVD distribution or download for free from the links provided on their website: <http://www.tug.org/texlive/>. The DVD includes distributions for Windows, Mac OS X and Linux operating systems.

## 6 WHERE TO GET THE IEEE<sup>TRAN</sup> TEMPLATES

The IEEE Template Selector will always have the most up-to-date versions of the L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X and MSWord templates. Please see: <https://template-selector.ieee.org/> and follow the steps to find the correct template for your intended publication. Many publications use the IEEE<sup>TRAN</sup> LaTeX templates, however, some publications have their own special templates. Many of these are based on IEEE<sup>TRAN</sup>, but may have special instructions that vary slightly from those in this document.

## 7 WHERE TO GET L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X HELP - USER GROUPS

The following on-line groups are very helpful to beginning and experienced L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X users. A search through their archives can provide many answers to common questions.

<http://www.latex-community.org/>  
<https://tex.stackexchange.com/>

## 8 DOCUMENT CLASS OPTIONS IN IEEE<sup>TRAN</sup>

At the beginning of your L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X file you will need to establish what type of publication style you intend to use. The following list shows appropriate documentclass options for each of the types covered by IEEE<sup>TRAN</sup>.

Regular Journal Article

`\documentclass[journal]IEEEtran`

Conference Paper

`\documentclass[conference]IEEEtran`

Computer Society Journal Article

`\documentclass[10pt,journal,compsoc]IEEEtran`

Computer Society Conference Paper

`\documentclass[conference,compsoc]IEEEtran`

Communications Society Journal Article

`\documentclass[journal,comsoc]IEEEtran`

Brief, Correspondence or Technote

`\documentclass[9pt,technote]IEEEtran`

There are other options available for each of these when submitting for peer review or other special requirements. IEEE recommends to compose your article in the base 2-column format to make sure all your equations, tables and graphics will fit the final 2-column format. Please refer to the document "IEEE<sup>TRAN</sup>\_HOWTO.pdf" for more information on settings for peer review submission if required by your EIC.

## 9 HOW TO CREATE COMMON FRONT MATTER

The following sections describe general coding for these common elements. Computer Society publications and Conferences may have their own special variations and will be noted below.

### 9.1 Paper Title

The title of your paper is coded as:

`\title{The Title of Your Paper}`

Please try to avoid the use of math or chemical formulas in your title if possible.

### 9.2 Author Names and Affiliations

The author section should be coded as follows:

```
\author{Masahito Hayashi
\IEEEmembership{Fellow, IEEE}, Masaki Owari
\thanks{M. Hayashi is with Graduate School
of Mathematics, Nagoya University, Nagoya,
Japan}
\thanks{M. Owari is with the Faculty of
Informatics, Shizuoka University,
Hamamatsu, Shizuoka, Japan.}
}
```

Be sure to use the `\IEEEmembership` command to identify IEEE membership status. Please see the “IEEE-tran\_HOWTO.pdf” for specific information on coding authors for Conferences and Computer Society publications. Note that the closing curly brace for the author group comes at the end of the thanks group. This will prevent you from creating a blank first page.

### 9.3 Running Heads

The running heads are declared by using the `\markboth` command. There are two arguments to this command: the first contains the journal name information and the second contains the author names and paper title.

```
\markboth{Journal of Quantum Electronics,
Vol. 1, No. 1, January 2021}
{Author1, Author2,
\MakeLowercase{\textit{(et al.)}}:
Paper Title}
```

### 9.4 Copyright Line

For Transactions and Journals papers, this is not necessary to use at the submission stage of your paper. The IEEE production process will add the appropriate copyright line. If you are writing a conference paper, please see the “IEEE-tran\_HOWTO.pdf” for specific information on how to code “Publication ID Marks”.

### 9.5 Abstracts

The abstract is the first element of a paper after the `\maketitle` macro is invoked. The coding is simply:

```
\begin{abstract}
Text of your abstract.
\end{abstract}
```

Please try to avoid mathematical and chemical formulas in the abstract.

### 9.6 Index Terms

The index terms are used to help other researchers discover your paper. Each society may have its own keyword set. Contact the EIC of your intended publication for this list.

```
\begin{IEEEkeywords}
Broad band networks, quality of service
\end{IEEEkeywords}
```

## 10 HOW TO CREATE COMMON BODY ELEMENTS

The following sections describe common body text elements and how to code them.

### 10.1 Initial Drop Cap Letter

The first text paragraph uses a “drop cap” followed by the first word in ALL CAPS. This is accomplished by using the `\IEEEPARstart` command as follows:

```
\IEEEPARstart{T}{his} is the first paragraph
of your paper. . .
```

### 10.2 Sections and Subsections

Section headings use standard  $\LaTeX$  commands: `\section`, `\subsection` and `\subsubsection`. Numbering is handled automatically for you and varies according to type of publication. It is common to not indent the first paragraph following a section head by using `\noindent` as follows:

```
\section{Section Head}
\noindent The text of your paragraph . . .
```

### 10.3 Citations to the Bibliography

The coding for the citations are made with the  $\LaTeX$  `\cite` command. This will produce individual bracketed reference numbers in the IEEE style. At the top of your  $\LaTeX$  file you should include:

```
\usepackage{cite}
```

For a single citation code as follows:

```
see \cite{ams}
```

This will display as: see [1]

For multiple citations code as follows:

```
\cite{ams,oxford,lacomp}
```

This will display as [1], [2], [3]

### 10.4 Figures

Figures are coded with the standard  $\LaTeX$  commands as follows:

```
\begin{figure}[!t]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=2.5in]{fig1}
\caption{This is the caption for one fig.}
\label{fig1}
\end{figure}
```

The `[!t]` argument enables floats to the top of the page to follow IEEE style. Make sure you include:

```
\usepackage{graphicx}
```

at the top of your  $\LaTeX$  file with the other package declarations.

To cross-reference your figures in the text use the following code example:

```
See figure \ref{fig1} ...
```

This will produce:

See figure 1 . . .

### 10.5 Tables

Tables should be coded with the standard  $\LaTeX$  coding. The following example shows a simple table.

```
\begin{table}
\begin{center}
\caption{Filter design equations ...}
\label{tabl}
\begin{tabular}{| c | c | c |}
\hline
```



Fig. 1. This is the caption for one fig.

TABLE 1  
A Simple Table Example.

Order of filter	Arbitrary coefficients $e_m$	coefficients $b_{ij}$
1	$b_{ij} = \hat{e} \cdot \hat{\beta}_{ij}$ ,	$b_{00} = 0$
2	$\beta_{22} = (1, -1, -1, 1, 1, 1)$	
3	$b_{ij} = \hat{e} \cdot \hat{\beta}_{ij}$ ,	$b_{00} = 0,$

```
Order & Arbitrary coefficients &
coefficients\\
of filter & $e_m$ & $b_{ij}$ \\
\hline
1& $b_{ij}=\hat{e}.\hat{\beta}_{ij}$,
& $b_{00}=0$\\
\hline
2&$\beta_{22}=(\sim 1,-1,-1,\sim 1,\sim 1,\sim 1)$ &\\
\hline
3& $b_{ij}=\hat{e}.\hat{\beta}_{ij}$,
& $b_{00}=0$,\\
\hline
\end{tabular}
\end{center}
\end{table}
```

To reference the table in the text, code as follows:

Table~\ref{tab1} lists the closed-form...

to produce:

Table 1 lists the closed-form ...

## 10.6 Lists

In this section, we will consider three types of lists: simple unnumbered, numbered and bulleted. There have been numerous options added to IEEEtran to enhance the creation of lists. If your lists are more complex than those shown below, please refer to the "IEEEtran\_HOWTO.pdf" for additional options.

### A plain unnumbered list

```
bare_jrnl.tex
bare_conf.tex
bare_jrnl_compsoc.tex
```

```
bare_conf_compsoc.tex
bare_jrnl_comsoc.tex
```

coded as:

```
\begin{list}{}{}
\item{bare\_jrnl.tex}
\item{bare\_conf.tex}
\item{bare\_jrnl\_compsoc.tex}
\item{bare\_conf\_compsoc.tex}
\item{bare\_jrnl\_comsoc.tex}
\end{list}
```

### A simple numbered list

- 1) bare\_jrnl.tex
- 2) bare\_conf.tex
- 3) bare\_jrnl\_compsoc.tex
- 4) bare\_conf\_compsoc.tex
- 5) bare\_jrnl\_comsoc.tex

coded as:

```
\begin{enumerate}
\item{bare\_jrnl.tex}
\item{bare\_conf.tex}
\item{bare\_jrnl\_compsoc.tex}
\item{bare\_conf\_compsoc.tex}
\item{bare\_jrnl\_comsoc.tex}
\end{enumerate}
```

### A simple bulleted list

- bare\_jrnl.tex
- bare\_conf.tex
- bare\_jrnl\_compsoc.tex
- bare\_conf\_compsoc.tex
- bare\_jrnl\_comsoc.tex

coded as:

```
\begin{itemize}
\item{bare\_jrnl.tex}
\item{bare\_conf.tex}
\item{bare\_jrnl\_compsoc.tex}
\item{bare\_conf\_compsoc.tex}
\item{bare\_jrnl\_comsoc.tex}
\end{itemize}
```

## 10.7 Other Elements

For other less common elements such as Algorithms, Theorems and Proofs, and Floating Structures such as page-wide tables, figures or equations, please refer to the "IEEEtran\_HOWTO.pdf" section on "Double Column Floats."

## 11 HOW TO CREATE COMMON BACK MATTER ELEMENTS

The following sections demonstrate common back matter elements such as Acknowledgments, Bibliographies, Appendices and Author Biographies.

### 11.1 Acknowledgments

This should be a simple paragraph before the bibliography to thank those individuals and institutions who have supported your work on this article.

```
\section{Acknowledgments}
\noindent Text describing those who
supported your paper.
```

### 11.2 Bibliographies

**References Simplified:** A simple way of composing references is to use the `\bibitem` macro to define the beginning of a reference as in the following examples:

[6] H. Sira-Ramirez. "On the sliding mode control of nonlinear systems," *Systems & Control Letters*, vol. 19, pp. 303–312, 1992.

coded as:

```
\bibitem{Sira3}
H. Sira-Ramirez. ``On the sliding mode
control of nonlinear systems,''
\textit{Systems & Control Letters},
vol. 19, pp. 303--312, 1992.
```

[7] A. Levant. "Exact differentiation of signals with unbounded higher derivatives," in *Proceedings of the 45th IEEE Conference on Decision and Control*, San Diego, California, USA, pp. 5585–5590, 2006.

coded as:

```
\bibitem{Levant}
A. Levant. ``Exact differentiation of
signals with unbounded higher
derivatives,'' in \textit{Proceedings
of the 45th IEEE Conference on
Decision and Control}, San Diego,
California, USA, pp. 5585--5590, 2006.
```

[8] M. Fliess, C. Join, and H. Sira-Ramirez. "Non-linear estimation is easy," *International Journal of Modelling, Identification and Control*, vol. 4, no. 1, pp. 12–27, 2008.

coded as:

```
\bibitem{Cedric}
M. Fliess, C. Join, and H. Sira-Ramirez.
``Non-linear estimation is easy,''
\textit{International Journal of Modelling,
Identification and Control}, vol. 4,
no. 1, pp. 12--27, 2008.
```

[9] R. Ortega, A. Astolfi, G. Bastin, and H. Rodriguez. "Stabilization of food-chain systems using a port-controlled Hamiltonian description," in *Proceedings of the American Control Conference*, Chicago, Illinois, USA, pp. 2245–2249, 2000.

coded as:

```
\bibitem{Ortega}
R. Ortega, A. Astolfi, G. Bastin, and H.
Rodriguez. ``Stabilization of food-chain
systems using a port-controlled Hamiltonian
description,'' in \textit{Proceedings of the
American Control Conference}, Chicago,
Illinois, USA, pp. 2245--2249, 2000.
```

### 11.3 Accented Characters in References

When using accented characters in references, please use the standard LaTeX coding for accents. **Do not use math coding for character accents.** For example:

```
\'e, \"o, \"a, \"e
```

will produce: é, ö, à, ë

### 11.4 Use of BibTeX

If you wish to use BibTeX, please see the documentation that accompanies the IEEEtran Bibliography package.

### 11.5 Biographies and Author Photos

Authors may have options to include their photo or not. Photos should be a bit-map graphic (.tif or .jpg) and sized to fit in the space allowed. Please see the coding samples below:

```
\begin{IEEEbiographynophoto}{Jane Doe}
Biography text here without a photo.
\end{IEEEbiographynophoto}
```

or a biography with a photo

```
\begin{IEEEbiography}[\includegraphics
[width=1in,height=1.25in,clip,
keepaspectratio]{fig1.png}]{
{IEEE Publications Technology Team}
In this paragraph you can place
your educational, professional background
and research and other interests.
\end{IEEEbiography}
```

Please see the end of this document to see the output of these coding examples.

## 12 MATHEMATICAL TYPOGRAPHY AND WHY IT MATTERS

Typographical conventions for mathematical formulas have been developed to **provide uniformity and clarity of presentation across mathematical texts**. This enables the readers of those texts to both understand the author's ideas and to grasp new concepts quickly. While software such as L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X and MathType<sup>®</sup> can produce aesthetically pleasing math when used properly, it is also very easy to misuse the software, potentially resulting in incorrect math display.

IEEE aims to provide authors with the proper guidance on mathematical typesetting style and assist them in writing the best possible article.

As such, IEEE has assembled a set of examples of good and bad mathematical typesetting. You will see how various issues are dealt with. The following publications have been referenced in preparing this material:

*Mathematics into Type*, published by the American Mathematical Society

*The Printing of Mathematics*, published by Oxford University Press

*The L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X Companion*, by F. Mittelbach and M. Goossens

*More Math into L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X*, by G. Grätzer

AMS-StyleGuide-online.pdf, published by the American Mathematical Society

Further examples can be seen at <http://journals.ieeeauthorcenter.ieee.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/7/IEEE-Math-Typesetting-Guide.pdf>

## 12.1 Display Equations

A simple display equation example shown below uses the “equation” environment. To number the equations, use the `\label` macro to create an identifier for the equation. LaTeX will automatically number the equation for you.

$$x = \sum_{i=0}^n 2iQ. \quad (1)$$

is coded as follows:

```
\begin{equation}
\label{deqn_ex1}
x = \sum_{i=0}^n 2{i} Q.
\end{equation}
```

To reference this equation in the text use the `\ref` macro. Please see (1)

is coded as follows:

```
Please see (\ref{deqn_ex1})
```

## 12.2 Equation Numbering

**Consecutive Numbering:** Equations within an article are numbered consecutively from the beginning of the article to the end, i.e., (1), (2), (3), (4), (5), etc. Do not use roman numerals or section numbers for equation numbering.

**Appendix Equations:** The continuation of consecutively numbered equations is best in the Appendix, but numbering as (A1), (A2), etc., is permissible.

**Hyphens and Periods:** Hyphens and periods should not be used in equation numbers, i.e., use (1a) rather than (1-a) and (2a) rather than (2.a) for sub-equations. This should be consistent throughout the article.

## 12.3 Multi-line equations and alignment

Here we show several examples of multi-line equations and proper alignments.

**A single equation that must break over multiple lines due to length with no specific alignment.**

The first line of this example

The second line of this example

The third line of this example (2)

is coded as:

```
\begin{multline}
\text{The first line of this example}\\
\text{The second line of this example}\\
\text{The third line of this example}
\end{multline}
```

**A single equation with multiple lines aligned at the = signs**

$$a = c + d \quad (3)$$

$$b = e + f \quad (4)$$

is coded as:

```
\begin{align}
a &= c+d \\
b &= e+f
\end{align}
```

The align environment can align on multiple points as shown in the following example:

$$x = y \qquad X = Y \qquad a = bc \quad (5)$$

$$x' = y' \qquad X' = Y' \qquad a' = bz \quad (6)$$

is coded as:

```
\begin{align}
x &= y & X &= Y & a &= bc \\
x' &= y' & X' &= Y' & a' &= bz
\end{align}
```

## 12.4 Subnumbering

The amsmath package provides a subequations environment to facilitate subnumbering. An example:

$$f = g \quad (7a)$$

$$f' = g' \quad (7b)$$

$$\mathcal{L}f = \mathcal{L}g \quad (7c)$$

is coded as:

```
\begin{subequations}\label{eq:2}
\begin{align}
f &= g \label{eq:2A} \\
f' &= g' \label{eq:2B} \\
\mathcal{L}f &= \mathcal{L}g \label{eq:2C}
\end{align}
\end{subequations}
```

## 12.5 Matrices

There are several useful matrix environments that can save you some keystrokes. See the example coding below and the output.

**A simple matrix:**

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (8)$$

is coded as:

```
\begin{equation}
\begin{matrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{matrix}
\end{equation}
```

**A matrix with parenthesis**

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (9)$$

is coded as:

```
\begin{equation}
\begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix}
\end{equation}
```

**A matrix with square brackets**

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

is coded as:

```
\begin{equation}
\begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\
1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}
\end{equation}
```

**A matrix with curly braces**

$$\begin{Bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{Bmatrix}$$

is coded as:

```
\begin{equation}
\begin{Bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\
0 & -1 \end{Bmatrix}
\end{equation}
```

**A matrix with single verticals**

$$\begin{vmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{vmatrix}$$

is coded as:

```
\begin{equation}
\begin{vmatrix} a & b \\
c & d \end{vmatrix}
\end{equation}
```

**A matrix with double verticals**

$$\begin{Vmatrix} i & 0 \\ 0 & -i \end{Vmatrix}$$

is coded as:

```
\begin{equation}
\begin{Vmatrix} i & 0 \\
0 & -i \end{Vmatrix}
\end{equation}
```

**12.6 Arrays**

The array environment allows you some options for matrix-like equations. You will have to manually key the fences, but you'll have options for alignment of the columns and for setting horizontal and vertical rules. The argument to array controls alignment and placement of vertical rules.

A simple array

$$\left( \begin{array}{cccc} a+b+c & uv & x-y & 27 \\ a+b & u+v & z & 134 \end{array} \right) \quad (14)$$

is coded as:

```
\begin{equation}
\left(
\begin{array}{cccc}
a+b+c & uv & x-y & 27 \\
a+b & u+v & z & 134
\end{array}
\right)
\end{equation}
```

A slight variation on this to better align the numbers in the last column

$$\left( \begin{array}{cccc} a+b+c & uv & x-y & 27 \\ a+b & u+v & z & 134 \end{array} \right) \quad (15)$$

is coded as:

```
\begin{equation}
\left(
\begin{array}{cccc}
a+b+c & uv & x-y & 27 \\
a+b & u+v & z & 134
\end{array}
\right)
\end{equation}
```

An array with vertical and horizontal rules

$$\left( \begin{array}{c|c|c|c} a+b+c & uv & x-y & 27 \\ a+b & u+v & z & 134 \end{array} \right) \quad (16)$$

is coded as:

```
\begin{equation}
\left(
\begin{array}{c|c|c|c}
a+b+c & uv & x-y & 27 \\
a+b & u+v & z & 134
\end{array}
\right)
\end{equation}
```

Note the argument now has the pipe "|" included to indicate the placement of the vertical rules.

**12.7 Cases Structures**

Many times we find cases coded using the wrong environment, i.e., array. Using the cases environment will save keystrokes (from not having to type the \left\lbracket and automatically provide the correct column alignment.

$$z_m(t) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } \beta_m(t) \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

is coded as follows:

```
\begin{equation*}
\{z_m(t)\} =
\begin{cases}
1, & \text{\text{if}} \{\beta_m(t)\} \\
0, & \text{\text{otherwise.}}
\end{cases}
\end{equation*}
```

Note that the "&" is used to mark the tabular alignment. This is important to get proper column alignment. Do not use \quad or other fixed spaces to try and align the columns. Also, note the use of the \text macro for text elements such as "if" and "otherwise".

**12.8 Function Formatting in Equations**

In many cases there is an easy way to properly format most common functions. Use of the \ in front of the function name will in most cases, provide the correct formatting. When this does not work, the following example provides a solution using the \text macro.

$$d_R^{KM} = \arg \min_{d_i^{KM}} \{d_1^{KM}, \dots, d_6^{KM}\}.$$

is coded as follows:

```
\begin{equation*}
d_{\text{R}}^{\text{KM}} = \underset{\{d_{\text{1}}^{\text{KM}}\}}{\{\text{arg min}\}} \{\text{d}_{\text{1}}^{\text{KM}},
\ldots, d_{\text{6}}^{\text{KM}}\}.
\end{equation*}
```

## 12.9 Text Acronyms inside equations

This example shows where the acronym “MSE” is coded using `\text{}` to match how it appears in the text.

$$\text{MSE} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (Y_i - \hat{Y}_i)^2$$

```
\begin{equation*}
\text{MSE} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (Y_{\text{i}} - \hat{Y}_{\text{i}})^2
\end{equation*}
```

## 12.10 Obsolete Coding

Avoid the use of outdated environments, such as `eqnarray` and `$$` math delimiters, for display equations. The `$$` display math delimiters are left over from PlainTeX and should not be used in L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, ever. Poor vertical spacing will result.

## 12.11 Use Appropriate Delimiters for Display Equations

Some improper mathematical coding advice has been given in various YouTube™ videos on how to write scholarly articles, so please follow these good examples:

For **single-line unnumbered display equations**, please use the following delimiters:

```
\[ . . . ] or
\begin{equation*} . . . \end{equation*}
```

Note that the `*` in the environment name turns off equation numbering.

For **multiline unnumbered display equations** that have alignment requirements, please use the following delimiters:

```
\begin{align*} . . . \end{align*}
```

For **single-line numbered display equations**, please use the following delimiters:

```
\begin{equation} . . . \end{equation}
```

For **multiline numbered display equations**, please use the following delimiters:

```
\begin{align} . . . \end{align}
```

## 13 L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X PACKAGE SUGGESTIONS

Immediately after your documenttype declaration at the top of your L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X file is the place where you should declare any packages that are being used. The following packages were used in the production of this document.

```
\usepackage{amsmath,amsfonts}
\usepackage{algorithmic}
\usepackage{array}
\usepackage[caption=false,font=normalsize,
labelfont=sf,textfont=sf]{subfig}
\usepackage{textcomp}
\usepackage{stfloats}
\usepackage{url}
\usepackage{verbatim}
\usepackage{graphicx}
\usepackage{balance}
```

## 14 ADDITIONAL ADVICE

Please use “soft” (e.g., `\eqref{Eq}`) or `(\ref{Eq})` cross references instead of “hard” references (e.g., (1)). That will make it possible to combine sections, add equations, or change the order of figures or citations without having to go through the file line by line.

Please note that the `{subequations}` environment in L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X will increment the main equation counter even when there are no equation numbers displayed. If you forget that, you might write an article in which the equation numbers skip from (17) to (20), causing the copy editors to wonder if you’ve discovered a new method of counting.

BIB<sub>T</sub>E<sub>X</sub> does not work by magic. It doesn’t get the bibliographic data from thin air but from .bib files. If you use BIB<sub>T</sub>E<sub>X</sub> to produce a bibliography you must send the .bib files.

L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X can’t read your mind. If you assign the same label to a subsubsection and a table, you might find that Table I has been cross referenced as Table IV-B3.

L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X does not have precognitive abilities. If you put a `\label` command before the command that updates the counter it’s supposed to be using, the label will pick up the last counter to be cross referenced instead. In particular, a `\label` command should not go before the caption of a figure or a table.

Please do not use `\nonumber` or `\notag` inside the `{array}` environment. It will not stop equation numbers inside `{array}` (there won’t be any anyway) and it might stop a wanted equation number in the surrounding equation.

## 15 A FINAL CHECKLIST

- 1) Make sure that your equations are numbered sequentially and there are no equation numbers missing or duplicated. Avoid hyphens and periods in your equation numbering. Stay with IEEE style, i.e., (1), (2), (3) or for sub-equations (1a), (1b). For equations in the appendix (A1), (A2), etc..
- 2) Are your equations properly formatted? Text, functions, alignment points in cases and arrays, etc.
- 3) Make sure all graphics are included.



- 4) Make sure your references are included either in your main LaTeX file or a separate .bib file if calling the external file.

## REFERENCES

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**Jane Doe** Biography text here without a photo.



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