

Author's Guide to the
Morgan & Claypool ACM Class
(mcp-acm.cls)

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1

Introduction

The Morgan & Claypool ACM style is a \LaTeX class file that you use to prepare books for their Association for Computing Machinery series. The class file is named `mcp-acm.cls`. It produces a manuscript that looks roughly like finished books in the series. Please note that your manuscript will not look exactly like the finished book.

The ACM class file is a variant of the standard \LaTeX book style. It is based on `book.cls` and both replaces and adds to its features. This author's guide assumes you are familiar with \LaTeX and describes the features of the ACM class file that are new or different.

The ACM style was commissioned by Morgan & Claypool Publishers and implemented by Paul C. Anagnostopoulos, with the assistance of Tamer Ozsu. Please address questions and problems to Paul C. Anagnostopoulos, Windfall Software, paul [at] windfall.com.

1.1 What You Need

You need the following files to use the ACM class file:

- This document, `mcp-acm-guide.pdf`
- The \LaTeX class file, `mcp-acm.cls`
- The bibliography database file with standard abbreviations, `ACM-publications.bib`. See Section 7.2.1.
- The set of sample files that give examples of the class usage and act as templates for your book files.

The latest versions of these files are available at ???.

1.2 Status of the Class File and Author's Guide

Version 1.0 of the class file and the matching author's guide were released in Spring 2014. The class file contains a complete revision history at the end, beginning with its creation in February 2014.

The date on the title page of this guide can be used with the revision history to determine which version of the class file this guide corresponds to.

1.3 Sample Files

The following sample files accompany the `mcp-acm.cls` file. Please note that the text in the files does not represent an actual book in the ACM series.

2 Chapter 1 *Introduction*

`acm-book.tex` This is a template root file that acts as the main file for your book. This is the file that you process with LaTeX. It contains the `\documentclass` command along with an `\include` command for each division of your book. See Chapter 2.

It is important to use a root file with `\include` commands so that your book is processed as a coherent whole, rather than simply treating each chapter as a separate book.

`front.tex` This is a template for the front matter of your book. It shows how to code the book title, your name and affiliation, the abstract and keywords, the table of contents, list of figures, list of tables, and the preface.

`preface.tex` This is a sample preface, input as part of the front matter.

`chap01.tex` This is a sample chapter file. It contains examples of the chapter title, section heads, subsection heads, figures, a simple table, and an exercise list.

`appa.tex` This is a sample appendix file.

`acm-book.bbl` This is a sample bibliography file generated with BiBTeX.

`bio.tex` This is a sample author biography file.

`ACM-publications.bib` This BiBTeX database includes standard abbreviations for journal names. See Section 7.2.1.

2 Root File

This chapter describes the organization of your book's root file, including its prolog and text. The prolog is the portion of the L^AT_EX root file that precedes the `\begin{document}` command.

2.1 Example

```
\documentclass[times]{mcp-acm}

\usepackage{amsmath}      % Package for AMS math extensions.
\usepackage{graphicx}     % Package for importing EPS files.
\usepackage{mybook}       % .sty file with your custom macros.

\makeindex                % if you use \index{...} in your book.

\begin{document}

\frontmatter
\include{front}           % Front matter.

\mainmatter
\include{chap01}          % Chapter 1.
\include{chap02}
\include{chap03}
\include{appa}           % Appendix A.

\backmatter
\bibliography{ACM-publications,biblio} % Bibliography
\include{bio}             % Author(s) biographies.
\include{book.ind}        % If the book has an index.

\end{document}
```

2.2 The Document Class

The `\documentclass` command names the ACM class file and lists any desired options.

Table 2.1 Document class options

Option	Default?	Description
<code>cm</code> , <code>computermodern</code>	yes	Use Computer Modern fonts.
<code>mathtime</code>		Use the MathTime math fonts. This is recommended when using the Times Roman fonts.
<code>times</code>		Use Times Roman fonts.

Table 2.2 Packages used by the ACM class

Package	Used
<code>mathtime</code>	when the ‘ <code>mathtime</code> ’ option is specified
<code>natbib</code>	the <code>natbib</code> package is the standard for bibliographies
<code>url</code>	provides <code>\url</code> command for specifying URLs

▷ `\documentclass[option-list]{mcp-acm}`

The *option-list* argument is optional, and so is enclosed in square brackets if specified. Table 2.1 lists the available options and notes which ones are present by default.

2.3 Packages

If you need to use any L^AT_EX packages, these are specified immediately following the `\documentclass` command. Table 2.2 lists the packages that are used by the ACM class.

▷ `\usepackage{amsmath}`

2.4 Definitions

If you need to define any macros or other L^AT_EX entities for use in writing the book, it is best to collect them in a separate file whose name is the same as the root file and whose extension is `.sty`. This file is treated as a package and loaded with a `\usepackage` command after the other L^AT_EX packages you are using.

▷ `\usepackage{mybook}`

2.5 Index

If you have `\index` commands in the text to produce index entries, you must specify the following command in the preamble:

▷ `\makeindex`

2.6 Text

The text of your book appears between the `\begin{document}` and `\end{document}` commands. Instead of placing the actual text in the root file, it is much better to distribute it to multiple files that are then named in the root file with `\include` commands. We recommend that you create a separate file for each of these divisions:

- Root file
- Front matter
 - Abstract
 - Preface
- Each chapter
- Each appendix
- Bibliography (.bb1 file)
- Author biographies
- Index

3

Front Matter

This chapter describes the information you need to provide in the front matter of your book. This is the portion of the book that precedes the first chapter. We recommend that you put all this information in a file named `front.tex`.

Do not spend a lot of time formatting your front matter. This is a job for the compositor, the person who formats the text and lays out the pages.

3.1 Example

```
\title{Title of Your Book}

\author{Your Name}
\thanks{Department of Computer Science\\
Brown University\\
Providence, RI}

\maketitle

\chapter*{Abstract}

In quantum computing, ...

\section*{Keywords}

computational complexity, decoherence,
error-correction, fault-tolerance

\tableofcontents

\listoffigures

\listoftables

\input{preface}
```

3.2 Title and Author

The portion of the front matter preceding the `\maketitle` command specifies the title of your book, your name, and your affiliation. The `\thanks` command is co-opted to specify the affiliation.

3.3 Abstract and Keywords

The next portion of the front matter is the abstract and keywords. A quasi-chapter command (`\chapter*`) starts this section. A quasi-section command (`\section*`) is used to produce the “Keywords” heading.

3.4 Contents

The following three commands produce the table of contents, list of figures, and list of tables, respectively: `\tableofcontents`, `\listoffigures`, `\listoftables`.

3.5 Preface

The final command in the front matter file includes the separate preface file, `preface.tex`, in the front matter. The preface should begin with a quasi-chapter command to start it on a new page:

▷ `\chapter*{Preface}`

Many authors like to include acknowledgments in their prefaces. This can be the final section of the preface, or, if it is particularly large, a separate quasi-chapter in a separate file named `acks.tex`.

4

Hierarchy

This chapter describes the commands that are used to produce hierarchical headings in your paper.

4.1 Chapters and Appendixes

- ▷ `\chapter{title}`

This command produces a numbered chapter heading, beginning on a new page.

- ▷ `\chapter*{title}`

This variant produces an unnumbered “quasi-chapter” heading, beginning on a new page. Quasi-chapters include the abstract, preface, bibliography, author biographies, and index.

- ▷ `\appendix`

This command precedes a `\chapter` command and flags it as the *first* appendix in the book. It should appear on a line by itself immediately preceding the `\chapter` command.

4.2 Sections

- ▷ `\section{title}`

This command produces a numbered section heading. The heading is set off from the next paragraph, which is not indented.

- ▷ `\section*{title}`

This variant produces an unnumbered section heading.

- ▷ `\subsection{title}`

This command produces a numbered subsection heading that is numbered within the preceding section. The heading is set off from the next paragraph, which is not indented.

- ▷ `\subsection*{title}`

This variant produces an unnumbered subsection heading.

- ▷ `\subsubsection{title}`

This command produces a numbered sub-subsection heading that is numbered within the preceding subsection. The heading is set off from the next paragraph, which is not indented.

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▷ `\subsubsection*{title}`

This variant produces an unnumbered sub-subsection heading.

5

Basic Elements: Lists, Quotations, Etc.

This chapter lists the basic L^AT_EX elements that are available in the class file.

5.1 Lists

The class file provides four levels of lists for each of the standard list types: bulleted, numbered, and labeled. The bullet items at each level are preceded by a large round bullet, small square, dash, and small bullet. The numbered items at each level are preceded by an arabic number, lowercase letter, roman numeral, and uppercase letter.

5.2 Quotations

The class file provides the `quote` environment for short quotations and the `quotation` environment for multiparagraph quotations.

5.3 Program Code

The `verbatim` environment can't be used for displaying program code in a monospaced font. The text in the environment is taken verbatim, with no interpretation of the usual L^AT_EX commands or special characters.

```
if directives? then
  node.nlexeme := format("rcs_replacef(\"~S\"", fcs);
  foreach i in reverse vector fcs_arg do
    node.nlexeme &:= "," & fcs_arg[i];
  end
  node.nlexeme &:= ")";
else
  node.nlexeme := format("replace(\"~S\")", fcs);
fi
```

If you need a program code environment where L^AT_EX commands can still be used, consider the `alltt` package, which is available at <http://www.ctan.org/pkg/alltt>. A typical use of L^AT_EX commands in program code is to indicate metasyntactic variables in *italic*.

6

Preparing Art

Preparing art files for your book can be one of the most complex and time-consuming aspects of writing. In this chapter we will present some guidelines to help you produce better art files. Note, however, that in many cases your art will have to be redrafted by a professional artist in order to be of the required format and quality. In particular, the font families used in the published ACM books are not the same as those used by the ACM class.

6.1 Required Format

The standard art file format for published books is Encapsulated PostScript (EPS). Some compositors (typesetters) preview book pages with an application that does not include a PostScript interpreter, so a bitmapped preview is required in each EPS file. The preview should be an 8-bit color tiff bitmap.

If you cannot produce EPS files with 8-bit tiff previews, the next best thing are EPS files without previews. It is relatively easy for the compositor to add the previews.

If you cannot produce EPS files at all, then the next choice is PDF files. Some compositors can place PDF files directly on the book pages, others will need to export EPS files using Adobe Acrobat.

6.2 Images

A bitmapped image must be at least 240 DPI to look reasonable on a printed page. If you simply grab an image from the Web, for example, it will rarely be more than 100 DPI. Also note that there are permission issues with copyrighted material on the Web.

If you are generating images with standard or home-grown applications, try to adjust the resolution to 240 DPI or greater. If an application generates 72-DPI images and nothing else, then be sure to make the image at least three times as large as required, and preferably four times as large.

6.3 Applications

The industry-standard applications for creating professional art are Adobe Illustrator and PhotoShop, and Corel CorelDraw. Unfortunately, these applications are expensive and difficult to learn. If you use another standard or home-grown application, please try to follow the guidelines in the previous section.

7 Bibliography

This chapter describe the bibliography facilities provided by the ACM package.

The ACM class automatically loads the `natbib` package and enables author/year mode using its ‘authoryear’ option. Table 7.1 shows the various citation commands that are available and what they produce. The class also establishes the `plainnat` bibliography style.

Try to construct sentences with citations so that if the bracketed citation is removed, the sentence still makes sense. For example,

As described in [Smith et al. 1991], the database contains...

is better written as

As Smith et al. [1991] describe, the database contains...

and even better as

The database contains...[Smith et al. 1991].

The third form is not always appropriate; for example, you might be trying to emphasize the fact that the work was done by Smith et al. But try to use the third form whenever possible.

7.1 What You Need to Provide

You can produce your bibliography using BibTeX or any other facility that ultimately generates a `.bbl` file. When you submit your book files to Morgan & Claypool, submit the final `.bbl` file. We typeset your bibliography from this file, not from the bibliography database or any other “source” files.

Table 7.1 Bibliography citation commands

Command	Produces
<code>\cite{label}</code>	[Smith et al. 1991]
<code>\cite{label1,label2}</code>	[Smith et al. 1991; Balzer 2007]
<code>\citep</code>	same as <code>\cite</code>
<code>\citet{label}</code>	Smith et al. [1991]
<code>\citet{label1,label2}</code>	Smith et al. [1991]; Balzer [2007]
<code>\cite[p. 123]{label}</code>	[Smith et al. 1991, p. 123]

7.2 Guidelines

7.2.1 Uniformity

One of the major causes of concern is the non-uniform way in which authors use journal and conference names. Sometimes authors use *ACM Transactions on Database Systems* and other times *ACM TODS*. The variation on conference titles is even worse. In some cases we have seen non-uniform use of journal/conference names even within the same work. We would like to see common and uniform expansions. Therefore,

- We provide the `ACM-publications.bib` file that includes abbreviations and their expansions. Please put this in the directory where you keep your `.bib` files and include it in the root file `\bibliography` command as follows:

▷ `\bibliography{publications,bibfile...}`

The order of file names is important.

- The `publications` file consists of entries of the form:

▷ `@STRING{abbreviation = {Expanded title}}`

where *abbreviation* is the abbreviation in the `.bib` file (see below) that will expand to *Expanded title* when processed with \LaTeX and BiBTeX .

- In the `.bib` entries, use the abbreviation in `Booktitle` and `Journal` entries (without any quotes surrounding the abbreviation) and BibTeX will do the rest.
- If you come across a journal or conference that you wish to reference that is not in the `publications.bib` file, please add it and send an email to Tamer Oszu so he can update the master file.

7.2.2 Standard Database Fields

Please use standard database fields for references. Here is what we use for the various kinds of entries.

@book For books, use the following fields: `Author`, `Title`, `Publisher`, `Year`. An example is [Levin 2002], which is produced by the following database entry:

```
@book{Levin2002,
  Author = {Levin, F. S.},
  Publisher = {Cambridge University Press},
  Title = {An Introduction to Quantum Theory},
  Year = {2002}}
```

In the case of an edited book, please use the `Editor` field instead of `Author`.

@article For articles, use the following fields: Author, Title, Journal, Volume, Number, Pages, Year. In some journals, there is no issue number, in which case this can be omitted. Some journals (e.g., ACM journals) have recently done away with page numbers, but instead use paper number in an issue or volume. In this case, please use Paper *n* as the value of the Pages field. An example of fully formed journal entry is [Straube and Özsu 1990], which is produced by the following (note the abbreviation TOIS used in the Journal field):

```
@article{STR90a,
  Author = {D.D. Straube and M. T. {"0}zsu},
  Title = {Queries and Query Processing in Object-Oriented
    Database Systems},
  Journal = TOIS,
  Volume = {8},
  Number = {4},
  Pages = {387--430},
  Year = 1990}
```

@inproceedings For conference papers, use: Author, Title, Booktitle, Pages, Year. An example is [Zhang et al. 2008], produced by the following:

```
@inproceedings{WangD008,
  Author = {Zhang, Q. and Daudjee, K. and {"0}zsu, M. T.},
  Title = {Popularity-aware Prefetch in {P2P} Range Caching},
  Booktitle = P2P08,
  Pages = {53--62},
  Year = 2008}
```

@incollection For papers that appear in collections, use the following fields: Author, Title, Booktitle, Editor, Pages, Publisher, Year. An example is [Özsu and Yao 2001], produced by the following:

```
@incollection{OzsuYao01,
  Author = {"{"0}zsu, M. Tamer and Yao, Bin},
  Title = {Building Component Database Systems Using {CORBA}},
  Booktitle = {Component Database Systems},
  Editor = {Dittrich, Klaus and Geppert, Andreas},
  Pages = {207--236},
  Publisher = MORGAN,
  Year = {2001}}
```

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Of course, if you are citing the original book (as in [Doğaç et al. 1994]), you can use the `Crossref` field instead of entering all of the info; see [Özsu 1994]. These are produced by the following:

```
@book{natoasi93,  
  Editor = {A. Do\v{g}a\c{c} and M.T. {\"}zsu and A. Biliris  
           and T. Sellis},  
  Publisher = {Springer},  
  Title = NAT093,  
  Year = {1994}}
```

```
@incollection{ozsu94,  
  Author = {{\"}zsu, M. T.},  
  Crossref = {natoasi93},  
  Pages = {147--184},  
  Title = {Transaction Models and Transaction Management in  
           Object-Oriented Database Management Systems}}
```

This also applies to the `@inbook` type.

`@phdthesis` For PhD theses, use: Author, Title, School, Address, Year. An example is [Chou 1985], produced by the following:

```
@phdthesis{Chou85,  
  Author = {Chou, H.},  
  Title = {Buffer Management of Database Systems},  
  School = {Department of Computer Science, University of Wisconsin},  
  Address = {Madison, Wisconsin},  
  Year = {1985}}
```

The same applies to `@masterthesis` and `@techreport`.

8 Style

This chapter provides information on writing style, both requirements and suggestions.

8.1 Punctuation

- Please use the “serial comma” in lists. That is, every item except the first should be preceded by a comma (or a semicolon if the items are complex). For example:

It is necessary to provide names for symbols, classes, packages, and databases.

We begin by describing the use of the semicolon; the need for hyphens, en dashes, and dashes; and the proper use of parentheses.

- Hyphens are the short dash used in hyphenated words, coded as a single hyphen (-). A common error is to use an en dash for a hyphen; please avoid this.
- Number ranges are punctuated with the “en dash,” which is coded in L^AT_EX as two consecutive hyphens (--). One common use of a number range is for page ranges in bibliographic entries.

In the years 1964–1970, many new computer architectures...

- The long dash used for punctuation is called an “em dash” and is coded as three consecutive hyphens (---). The dash indicates an interruption or abrupt change of thought, as in:

You are the person—the only friendly person—who offered to help with this issue.

It is best to use the dash sparingly in technical writing. Also, do not use a dash where a colon better serves to introduce material.

8.2 Grammar

- The word *data* is plural. Please write “The data are...” instead of “The data is...”
- *that* versus *which*. The word *that* is used to set off a restrictive clause; that is, a clause that restricts the identity of the subject. For example:

The car that was parked in the driveway was stolen.

The word *which* is used to set off a nonrestrictive clause; that is, a clause that specifies something interesting but incidental about the subject. For example:

The car, which I bought only last week, was stolen right out of my driveway.

Restrictive clauses (*that*) are not preceded by a comma; Nonrestrictive clauses (*which*) are preceded by a comma.

8.3 URLs

When you include a URL, please specify it fully, including the protocol: `http://www.windfall.com`. Also, please add the phrase “(accessed on *date*)” to indicate that the link was operational on the date that you specify.

A URL should be typeset using the `\url{...}` command, which takes care of special characters in the URL (periods, ampersands, etc.). It also creates a clickable hyperlink to the site in the final PDF file. The `url` package is automatically used by the class file

As an example,

```
\url{http://db.uwaterloo.ca/~tozsu/}
```

produces the URL `http://db.uwaterloo.ca/~tozsu/`.

Bibliography

- H. Chou. *Buffer Management of Database Systems*. PhD thesis, Department of Computer Science, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin, 1985.
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