# Neural Network State-Space Estimators

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#### Abstract

Classical state estimation algorithms rely on predefined state-space models, complicating mathematical modeling and limiting applicability when those models change. Artificial neural network—based estimators offer an alternative, but they seldom incorporate classical estimation techniques intrinsically and depend heavily on pre-collected training data. To address these challenges, we introduce a state-space model in which the input-layer nodes and all weight parameters are treated as estimated states, effectively simulating a neural network. We implement this nonlinear model using the canonical representatives of three estimator classes—the Extended Kalman Filter, the Unscented Kalman Filter, and the Particle Filter—to validate its generality. The model's accuracy is then compared against seven neural network—based methods across three test scenarios. Results show that our neural network state-space estimators combine robust learning capability with higher accuracy than traditional model-based methods, while matching the performance of pre-trained neural network approaches.

Keywords: Kalman estimator, Neural network, Learning capability, Adaptability

#### 1 Introduction

State estimation algorithms are extensively utilized across various engineering disciplines. For example, in electro-optical tracking systems, they are essential for mitigating optical path disturbances caused by atmospheric turbulence, compensating for delays in hardware and image processing pipelines, and filtering out signal noise generated by sensors and target detection mechanisms. The fundamental principle of these algorithms comprises three stages: predicting the next state using the current estimate and the state-space model, predicting the corresponding observation via the observation equation, and correcting the state estimate based on the deviations between the actual observation and its prediction.

Estimators can be categorized based on how they establish the relationship between observation deviations and state deviations. One category comprises methods such as the Extended Kalman Filter (EKF), which computes partial derivatives from the state-space model. The primary limitation of EKF is the complexity involved in deriving analytical solutions for these partial derivatives, particularly in highly nonlinear models. Another category includes the Unscented Kalman Filter (UKF), which approximates the state distribution by assigning predefined deviations to each estimated state and evaluating the resulting variations in observations. However, UKF faces challenges in accurately capturing the relationships between coupled estimated states and observations. The third category is represented by Particle Filtering (PF), which introduces random perturbations to the estimated states and assesses the resulting observation variations. While PF is better suited for handling nonlinearities, its main drawback is the high computational cost associated with the large number of particles required, which can impede real-time performance.

All three estimation methods rely on predefined state-space models, and even the robust estimators designed to mitigate model inaccuracies can only compensate for a limited range of errors. In practical applications, defining an accurate state-space model for the target system is often inherently challenging, particularly when tracking non-cooperative targets.

The rapid advancement and widespread adoption of artificial neural network (ANN) methodologies have profoundly impacted time-domain signal processing, enabling significant breakthroughs in estimation and prediction tasks. Recurrent Neural Networks (RNNs), introduced by Hopfield (1982), were enhanced by Rumelhart, Hinton, and Williams (1986) with the backpropagation algorithm, facilitating more efficient training. Subsequent improvements by Jordan (1986) and Elman (1990) incorporated feedback loops, enhancing the ability to model temporal dependencies. However, RNNs struggled with vanishing and exploding gradients, challenges addressed by Hochreiter (1997) with Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) networks, and further refined by Schmidhuber (1999) through the addition of forget gates. Gated Recurrent Units (GRUs), proposed by Kyunghyun (2014) and validated by Junyoung (2014), offered a simplified yet effective alternative to LSTMs. Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs), initially developed by LeCun (1989) for handwritten digit recognition, have been extended to Recurrent Convolutional Neural Networks (Ming, 2015) to capture spatial and temporal dependencies, significantly improving prediction accuracy in applications such as vehicle and human trajectory forecasting (Xiaoyu, 2020; Dapeng, 2020, 2021). Temporal Convolutional Networks (TCNs), introduced by Colin (2018), utilize pooling and upsampling to capture long-term motion patterns, enhancing capabilities in action segmentation and detection (Chen, 2020; Kaiyu, 2022). Neural Ordinary Differential Equations (NeuralODEs), proposed by Ricky (2018), represent neural network layers through differential equations, facilitating deeper and more efficient networks for tasks like robotic path planning and travel time estimation (Suhan, 2022; Yijun, 2023). Transformer architectures, introduced by Ashish (2017), leverage self-attention mechanisms to model long-term dependencies while reducing computational complexity. Their applications span maneuvering target tracking, autonomous vehicle trajectory prediction, and 3D human pose estimation (Yushu, 2017; Divya, 2022; Jihua, 2024).

Traditional estimation algorithms have also been integrated into neural networks to optimize training processes. Early efforts by Singhal (1988), Puskorius (1994), and Pérez-Ortiz (2003) applied Extended Kalman Filters (EKF) to train multilayer perceptrons and recurrent neural networks (RNNs), enhancing training efficiency. More recent integrations of Unscented Kalman Filters (UKF) and Particle Filters (PF) have improved the training of feedforward and recurrent networks in applications such as voice classification and evapotranspiration estimation (Zaqiatud, 2017; Nazari, 2020). However, in these studies, estimation algorithms primarily treated the backpropagation algorithm as state-space equations, serving an auxiliary role rather than being the primary mechanism for state estimation. Consequently, the effectiveness of estimation algorithms remains limited and warrants further enhancement.

To address these limitations, our proposed algorithm introduces a novel state-space model that treats input layer nodes and all weight parameters as estimated states, effectively simulating a neural network within a state estimation framework. The main contributions of this work are as follows:

- Neural Network State-Space Equation: We propose a state-space equation that simulates a neural network, enabling real-time learning and pretraining. The estimation algorithms can be tailored by adjusting the input layer length and prediction steps to meet engineering requirements.
- Model Generality: The versatility of the proposed state-space equation is validated through the implementation of three representative estimation algorithms—EKF, UKF, and PF—demonstrating its broad applicability.
- Simulation of Diverse Architectures: The state-space equation is applied to neural networks with varying numbers of hidden layers and different configurations regarding the use of activation functions.
- Comparative Performance Evaluation: We compare the estimation performance of our state-space-based algorithms with various neural network architectures, including RNN, LSTM, GRU, TCN, Neural Ordinary Differential Equation(NeuralODE), and Transformer.
- Comprehensive Testing: Extensive tests were conducted on generated sine trajectories, a laboratory dual-reflection mirror platform, and actual unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) trajectory data, demonstrating the robustness and effectiveness of our proposed method.

# 2 Problem Statement

In many real—world tracking problems, the target is non-cooperative, so an accurate motion model cannot be specified a priori. A common expedient is the constant-acceleration state—space model in (1), where only position can be observed while velocity and acceleration remain hidden:

$$x_{i+1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & T & \frac{T^2}{2} \\ 0 & 1 & T \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} x_i + \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} u_i,$$

$$z_i = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} x_i + v_i.$$
(1)

The state vector  $x_i = [p_i, v_i, a_i]^\mathsf{T}$  stacks position, velocity and acceleration at instant i. T is the time interval between successive estimates. The process noise  $u_i$  absorbs modelling errors and environmental perturbations, and the measurement noise  $v_i$  reflects sensor inaccuracies; both are assumed zero-mean Gaussian. Their second-order statistics together with the initial error covariance  $\Pi_{0|0}$  are summarised in (2), in which  $\delta_{ij}$  denotes the Kronecker delta:

$$E\left(\begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ u_i \\ v_i \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ u_j \\ v_j \end{bmatrix}^\mathsf{T}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} \Pi_{0|0} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & Q \,\delta_{ij} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & R \,\delta_{ij} \end{bmatrix}. \tag{2}$$

Because the true motion can be highly nonlinear, model (1) rarely yields the desired predictive accuracy. Although the Kalman filter provides on-line estimates of  $v_i$  and  $a_i$ , they are ultimately reconstructed from past position measurements. With scalar gains  $w_{v1}, w_{v2}, w_{a1}, w_{a2}$  from calculated Kalman gain, the recursive updates read

$$v_{i} = w_{v1} \frac{p_{i} - p_{i-1}}{T} + w_{v2}v_{i-1}$$

$$= w_{v1} \frac{p_{i} - p_{i-1}}{T} + w_{v1}w_{v2} \frac{p_{i-1} - p_{i-2}}{T} + w_{v1}w_{v2}^{2} \frac{p_{i-2} - p_{i-3}}{T} + \dots$$

$$= w_{v1} \sum_{k=0}^{i-1} w_{v2}^{k} \frac{p_{i-k} - p_{i-k-1}}{T},$$

$$a_{i} = w_{a1} \frac{p_{i} - 2p_{i-1} + p_{i-2}}{T^{2}} + w_{a2}a_{i-1}$$

$$= w_{a1} \frac{p_{i} - 2p_{i-1} + p_{i-2}}{T^{2}} + w_{a1}w_{a2} \frac{p_{i-1} - 2p_{i-2} + p_{i-3}}{T^{2}}$$

$$+ w_{a1}w_{a2}^{2} \frac{p_{i-2} - 2p_{i-3} + p_{i-4}}{T^{2}} + \dots$$

$$= w_{a1} \sum_{k=0}^{i-1} w_{a2}^{k} \frac{p_{i-k} - 2p_{i-k-1} + p_{i-k-2}}{T^{2}}.$$

$$(3)$$

Given  $p_i, v_i, a_i$ , an n-step-ahead position prediction follows from kinematics:

$$p_{i+n} = p_i + v_i \, nT + \frac{1}{2} a_i \, n^2 T^2. \tag{4}$$

Substituting (3) into (4) yields a weighted finite-difference expansion

$$p_{i+n} = p_i + nTw_{v1} \sum_{k=0}^{i-1} w_{v2}^k \frac{p_{i-k} - p_{i-k-1}}{T}$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2}n^2T^2w_{a1} \sum_{k=0}^{i-1} w_{a2}^k \frac{p_{i-k} - 2p_{i-k-1} + p_{i-k-2}}{T^2} = \sum_{k=0}^{i} w_k p_k,$$
(5)

Under model (1), long-term prediction ultimately reduces to a weighted sum of past positions, an intrinsic limitation when the target executes nonlinear manoeuvres. To validate the potential of position-only estimated states, we construct the corresponding state—space models.

We begin with the two-position estimator (E2P), based on

$$p_{i+1} = p_i + (p_i - p_{i-1}),$$

which yields

$$x_{i+1} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} x_i + \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} u_i, \quad z_i = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} x_i + v_i, \tag{6}$$

with  $x_i = [p_i, p_{i-1}]^{\mathsf{T}}$ .

By extending the position history, we obtain higher-order variants. Defining  $x_i = [p_i, p_{i-1}, p_{i-2}]^\mathsf{T}$  gives the three-position estimator (E3P), and  $x_i = [p_i, p_{i-1}, p_{i-2}, p_{i-3}]^\mathsf{T}$  yields the four-position estimator (E4P):

$$p_{i+1} = p_i + \frac{1}{2}(p_i - p_{i-1}) + \frac{1}{2}(p_{i-1} - p_{i-2}),$$
  

$$p_{i+1} = p_i + \frac{1}{3}(p_i - p_{i-1}) + \frac{1}{3}(p_{i-1} - p_{i-2}) + \frac{1}{3}(p_{i-2} - p_{i-3}).$$
(7)

A variable-weight four-position estimator (E4PVW) further refines the weights:

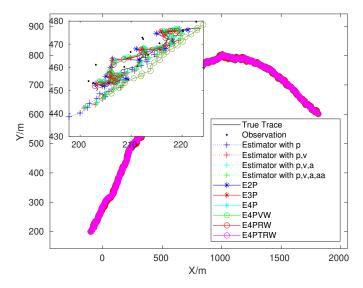
$$p_{i+1} = p_i + \frac{3(p_i - p_{i-1})}{6} + \frac{2(p_{i-1} - p_{i-2})}{6} + \frac{(p_{i-2} - p_{i-3})}{6}.$$
 (8)

For even greater flexibility, the weights may be *learned* from data. The offline four-position estimator with regressed weights (E4PRW) uses

$$p_{i+1} = 1.2668 \, p_i - 0.0152 \, p_{i-1} + 0.0103 \, p_{i-2} - 0.2618 \, p_{i-3}, \tag{9}$$

while its online counterpart (E4PTRW) updates these coefficients at each step using the most recent 50 samples.

Simulation results in Figs. 1 and 2 show that all position-stack estimators outperform classical Kalman filters built on  $[p_i]$ ,  $[p_i, v_i]$ ,  $[p_i, v_i, a_i]$ , and  $[p_i, v_i, a_i, \dot{a}_i]$  (the latter



 ${\bf Fig.~1}~~{\rm Position~prediction~obtained~with~different~estimators}.$ 

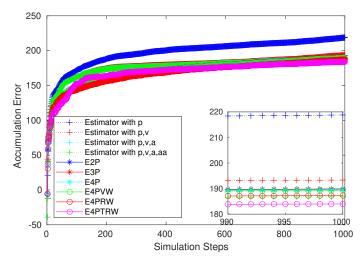


Fig. 2 Accumulated prediction error for the same estimators.

including jerk  $\dot{a}_i$ ). Accuracy increases with longer stacks (E3P, E4P) and peaks for variants with adaptive or regressed weights (E4PVW, E4PRW, E4PTRW), with E4PRW notably narrowing the error band and E4PTRW further enhancing adaptability.

Despite these gains, embedding a dedicated linear-regression step in each prediction is conceptually inelegant and risks overfitting when the target's motion pattern changes abruptly. A more principled solution is to regard the regression coefficients

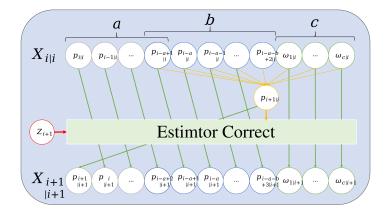


Fig. 3 Neural network state-space model.

themselves as *latent states*, updating them in real time alongside the kinematic variables. Accordingly, we extend the state vector to include not only these coefficients but, when appropriate, the full set of weights of a neural network approximation of the target dynamics. These augmented states are then estimated online using a neural network state—space model.

# 3 Neural Network State-Space Model

Based on the concept of treating weights as estimated states, a new state-space model to achieve state estimation for maneuverable targets is introduced as (10) and Figs. 3.

$$x_{i+1} = f_i(x_i, u_i) = f_i([p_i, ..., p_{i-a+1}, ..., p_{i-a-b+2}, w_1, ..., w_c]^T, u_i)$$

$$= [p_{i+1}, p_i, ..., p_{i-a-b+3}, w_1, ..., w_c]^T + u_i$$

$$z_i = h_i(x_i, v_i) = p_i + v_i$$
(10)

# 4 This is an example for first level head—section head

## 4.1 This is an example for second level head—subsection head

#### 4.1.1 This is an example for third level head—subsubsection head

Sample body text. Sample body text.

# 5 Equations

Equations in LATEX can either be inline or on-a-line by itself ("display equations"). For inline equations use the \$...\$ commands. E.g.: The equation  $H\psi=E\psi$  is written via the command \$H \psi = E \psi\$.

For display equations (with auto generated equation numbers) one can use the equation or align environments:

$$\|\tilde{X}(k)\|^{2} \leq \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{p} \|\tilde{Y}_{i}(k)\|^{2} + \sum_{j=1}^{q} \|\tilde{Z}_{j}(k)\|^{2}}{p+q}.$$
 (11)

where,

$$D_{\mu} = \partial_{\mu} - ig \frac{\lambda^{a}}{2} A^{a}_{\mu}$$

$$F^{a}_{\mu\nu} = \partial_{\mu} A^{a}_{\nu} - \partial_{\nu} A^{a}_{\mu} + g f^{abc} A^{b}_{\mu} A^{a}_{\nu}$$

$$(12)$$

Notice the use of \nonumber in the align environment at the end of each line, except the last, so as not to produce equation numbers on lines where no equation numbers are required. The \label{} command should only be used at the last line of an align environment where \nonumber is not used.

$$Y_{\infty} = \left(\frac{m}{\text{GeV}}\right)^{-3} \left[ 1 + \frac{3\ln(m/\text{GeV})}{15} + \frac{\ln(c_2/5)}{15} \right]$$
 (13)

The class file also supports the use of  $\mathbf{R}$ ,  $\mathbf{R}$  and  $\mathbf{R}$  and  $\mathbf{R}$  produces  $\mathbf{R}$ , and  $\mathbf{R}$  respectively (refer Subsubsection 4.1.1).

#### 6 Tables

Tables can be inserted via the normal table and tabular environment. To put footnotes inside tables you should use \footnotetext[]{...} tag. The footnote appears just below the table itself (refer Tables 1 and 2). For the corresponding footnotemark use \footnotemark[...]

Table 1 Caption text

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
row 1	data 1	data 2	data 3
row 2	data 4	data 5 <sup>1</sup>	data 6
row 3	data 7	data 8	data 9 <sup>2</sup>

Source: This is an example of table footnote. This is an example of table footnote.

The input format for the above table is as follows:

 $<sup>^1\</sup>mathrm{Example}$  for a first table footnote. This is an example of table footnote.

 $<sup>^2</sup>$ Example for a second table footnote. This is an example of table footnote.

```
\begin{table}[<placement-specifier>]
\caption{<table-caption>}\label{<table-label>}%
\begin{tabular}{0{}11110{}}
\toprule
Column 1 & Column 2 & Column 3 & Column 4\\
\midrule
row 1 & data 1 & data 2 & data 3 \\
row 2 & data 4 & data 5\footnotemark[1] & data 6 \\
row 3 & data 7 & data 8 & data 9\footnotemark[2]\\
\botrule
\end{tabular}
\footnotetext{Source: This is an example of table footnote.
This is an example of table footnote.}
\footnotetext[1]{Example for a first table footnote.
This is an example of table footnote.}
\footnotetext[2]{Example for a second table footnote.
This is an example of table footnote.}
\end{table}
```

Table 2 Example of a lengthy table which is set to full textwidth

	Element 1 <sup>1</sup>		Element 2 <sup>2</sup>			
Project	Energy	$\sigma_{calc}$	$\sigma_{expt}$	Energy	$\sigma_{calc}$	$\sigma_{expt}$
Element 3 Element 4	990 A 500 A	1168 961	$1547 \pm 12$ $922 \pm 10$	780 A 900 A	1166 1268	$1239 \pm 100$ $1092 \pm 40$

Note: This is an example of table footnote. This is an example of table footnote this is an example of table footnote this is an example of table footnote.

In case of double column layout, tables which do not fit in single column width should be set to full text width. For this, you need to use \begin{table\*} ... \end{table\*} environment. Lengthy tables which do not fit in textwidth should be set as rotated table. For this, you need to use \begin{sidewaystable} ... \end{sidewaystable} instead of \begin{table\*} ... \end{table\*} environment. This environment puts tables rotated to single column width. For tables rotated to double column width, use \begin{sidewaystable\*} ... \end{sidewaystable\*}... \end{sidewaystable\*}.

# 7 Figures

As per the LATEX standards you need to use eps images for LATEX compilation and pdf/jpg/png images for PDFLaTeX compilation. This is one of the major difference between LATEX and PDFLaTeX. Each image should be from a single input .eps/vector

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Example for a first table footnote.

 $<sup>^2{\</sup>rm Example}$  for a second table footnote.

Table 3 Tables which are too long to fit, should be written using the "sidewaystable" environment as shown here

Note: This is an example of table footnote this is an example of table footnote this is an example of table footnote this is an example of table footnote.

 $^{1}\mathrm{This}$  is an example of table footnote.

image file. Avoid using subfigures. The command for inserting images for IATEX and PDFLaTeX can be generalized. The package used to insert images in LaTeX/PDFLaTeX is the graphicx package. Figures can be inserted via the normal figure environment as shown in the below example:

```
\begin{figure}[<placement-specifier>]
\centering
\includegraphics{<eps-file>}
\caption{<figure-caption>}\label{<figure-label>}
\end{figure}
```

Fig. 4 This is a widefig. This is an example of long caption this is an example of long caption this is an example of long caption

In case of double column layout, the above format puts figure captions/images to single column width. To get spanned images, we need to provide \begin{figure\*} . . . \end{figure\*}.

For sample purpose, we have included the width of images in the optional argument of \includegraphics tag. Please ignore this.

### 8 Algorithms, Program codes and Listings

Packages algorithm, algorithmicx and algoreudocode are used for setting algorithms in  $\LaTeX$  using the format:

```
\begin{algorithm}
\caption{<alg-caption>}\label{<alg-label>}
\begin{algorithmic}[1]
. . .
\end{algorithmic}
\end{algorithm}
```

You may refer above listed package documentations for more details before setting algorithm environment. For program codes, the "verbatim" package is required and the command to be used is \begin{verbatim} . . . \end{verbatim}.

Similarly, for listings, use the listings package. \begin{lstlisting} ... \end{lstlisting} is used to set environments similar to verbatim environment. Refer to the lstlisting package documentation for more details.

A fast exponentiation procedure:

```
begin
   \quad \text{for } i := 1 \ \text{to} \ 10 \ \text{step} \ 1 \ \text{do} \\
         expt(2,i);
          newline() od
                                                         Comments will be set flush to the right margin
where
\mathrm{proc}\ \mathrm{expt}\,(x,n)\ \equiv
  z:=1 ;
  do if n=0 then exit fi;
       do if odd(n) then exit fi; comment: This is a comment statement;
            n := n/2; \quad x := x * x \text{ od};
        \{ n > 0 \};
       n:=n-1; z:=z*x od;
   print(z).
\mathsf{end} \\
```

#### **Algorithm 1** Calculate $y = x^n$

```
Require: n \ge 0 \lor x \ne 0
Ensure: y = x^n
 1: y ← 1
 2: if n < 0 then
         X \Leftarrow 1/x
         N \Leftarrow -n
 4:
 5: else
         X \Leftarrow x
 6:
         N \Leftarrow n
 8: end if
 9: while N \neq 0 do
         if N is even then
10:
             X \Leftarrow X \times X
11:
             N \Leftarrow N/2
12:
         else[N \text{ is odd}]
13:
             y \Leftarrow y \times X
14:
             N \Leftarrow N - 1
15:
         end if
16:
17: end while
```

```
for i:=maxint to 0 do
begin
{ do nothing }
end;
Write('Case_insensitive_');
Write('Pascal_keywords.');
```

# 9 Cross referencing

Environments such as figure, table, equation and align can have a label declared via the \label{#label} command. For figures and table environments use the \label{} command inside or just below the \caption{} command. You can then use the \ref{#label} command to cross-reference them. As an example, consider the label declared for Figure 4 which is \label{fig1}. To cross-reference it, use the command Figure \ref{fig1}, for which it comes up as "Figure 4".

To reference line numbers in an algorithm, consider the label declared for the line number 2 of Algorithm 1 is \label{algln2}. To cross-reference it, use the command \ref{algln2} for which it comes up as line 2 of Algorithm 1.

#### 9.1 Details on reference citations

Standard IATEX permits only numerical citations. To support both numerical and author-year citations this template uses natbib IATEX package. For style guidance please refer to the template user manual.

Here is an example for \cite{...}: [1]. Another example for \citep{...}: [2]. For author-year citation mode, \cite{...} prints Jones et al. (1990) and \citep{...} prints (Jones et al., 1990).

All cited bib entries are printed at the end of this article: [3], [4], [5], [6], [7], [8], [9], [10], [11], [12] and [13].

# 10 Examples for theorem like environments

For theorem like environments, we require amsthm package. There are three types of predefined theorem styles exists—thmstyleone, thmstyletwo and thmstylethree

thmstyleone	Numbered, theorem head in bold font and theorem
	text in italic style
thmstyletwo	Numbered, theorem head in roman font and theorem
	text in italic style
thmstylethree	Numbered, theorem head in bold font and theorem
	text in roman style

For mathematics journals, theorem styles can be included as shown in the following examples:

**Theorem 1** (Theorem subhead). Example theorem text. Example theorem text.

Sample body text. Sample body text. Sample body text. Sample body text. Sample body text. Sample body text.

**Proposition 2.** Example proposition text. Example proposition text.

Sample body text. Sample body text. Sample body text. Sample body text. Sample body text. Sample body text.

**Example 1.** Phasellus adipiscing semper elit. Proin fermentum massa ac quam. Sed diam turpis, molestie vitae, placerat a, molestie nec, leo. Maecenas lacinia. Nam ipsum ligula, eleifend at, accumsan nec, suscipit a, ipsum. Morbi blandit ligula feugiat magna. Nunc eleifend consequat lorem.

Sample body text. Sample body text.

Remark 1. Phasellus adipiscing semper elit. Proin fermentum massa ac quam. Sed diam turpis, molestie vitae, placerat a, molestie nec, leo. Maecenas lacinia. Nam ipsum ligula, eleifend at, accumsan nec, suscipit a, ipsum. Morbi blandit ligula feugiat magna. Nunc eleifend consequat lorem.

Sample body text. Sample body text.

**Definition 1** (Definition sub head). Example definition text. Example definition text.

Additionally a predefined "proof" environment is available: \begin{proof} ... \end{proof}. This prints a "Proof" head in italic font style and the "body text" in roman font style with an open square at the end of each proof environment.

*Proof.* Example for proof text.  $\Box$ 

Sample body text. Sample body text.

Proof of Theorem 1. Example for proof text.  $\Box$ 

For a quote environment, use \begin{quote}...\end{quote}

Quoted text example. Aliquam porttitor quam a lacus. Praesent vel arcu ut tortor cursus volutpat. In vitae pede quis diam bibendum placerat. Fusce elementum convallis neque.

Sed dolor orci, scelerisque ac, dapibus nec, ultricies ut, mi. Duis nec dui quis leo sagittis commodo.

Sample body text. Sample body text. Sample body text. Sample body text. Sample body text (refer Figure 4). Sample body text. Sample body text. Sample body text (refer Table 3).

#### 11 Methods

Topical subheadings are allowed. Authors must ensure that their Methods section includes adequate experimental and characterization data necessary for others in the field to reproduce their work. Authors are encouraged to include RIIDs where appropriate.

Ethical approval declarations (only required where applicable) Any article reporting experiment/s carried out on (i) live vertebrate (or higher invertebrates), (ii) humans or (iii) human samples must include an unambiguous statement within the methods section that meets the following requirements:

- 1. Approval: a statement which confirms that all experimental protocols were approved by a named institutional and/or licensing committee. Please identify the approving body in the methods section
- 2. Accordance: a statement explicitly saying that the methods were carried out in accordance with the relevant guidelines and regulations
- 3. Informed consent (for experiments involving humans or human tissue samples): include a statement confirming that informed consent was obtained from all participants and/or their legal guardian/s

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#### 12 Discussion

Discussions should be brief and focused. In some disciplines use of Discussion or 'Conclusion' is interchangeable. It is not mandatory to use both. Some journals prefer a section 'Results and Discussion' followed by a section 'Conclusion'. Please refer to Journal-level guidance for any specific requirements.

#### 13 Conclusion

Conclusions may be used to restate your hypothesis or research question, restate your major findings, explain the relevance and the added value of your work, highlight any limitations of your study, describe future directions for research and recommendations.

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**Acknowledgements.** Acknowledgements are not compulsory. Where included they should be brief. Grant or contribution numbers may be acknowledged.

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# Appendix A Section title of first appendix

An appendix contains supplementary information that is not an essential part of the text itself but which may be helpful in providing a more comprehensive understanding of the research problem or it is information that is too cumbersome to be included in the body of the paper.

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