University of Glasgow | School of Computing Science

Example Paper for MSci Submission

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ABSTRACT

According to Simon Peyton Jones, an abstract should address four key questions. First, what is the problem that this paper tackles? Second, why is this an interesting problem? Third, what is the solution this paper proposes? Finally, why is the proposed solution a good one?

1. INTRODUCTION

This paper outlines the standard template for a final MSci project report submission at the School of Computing Science in the University of Glasgow. In earlier years, MSci students at the School of Computing Science[1], University of Glasgow, were expected to produce a full-length dissertation. Now, the requirement is for MSci students to write a paper of up to 14 pages in length, using the supplied `mpaper` LaTeXstyle file.

The precise structure of an MSci paper is not mandated, but it should probably cover in detail the following aspects of the project.

1. General description of the problem, motivation, relevance
2. Background information, possibly including a literature survey
3. Description of approach taken to solve the problem, including high-level design and lower-level implementation details as appropriate
4. Evaluation, qualitative or quantitative as appropriate
5. Conclusion, including scope for future work

2. BACKGROUND

This LaTeXtemplate is based on the (now legacy)ACM `sig-alternate` class. The layout is two-column text. Generally figures and tables only extend to one column width, e.g. Table 1, but it is possible to make them stretch over both columns using the `figure*` and `table*` environments. For an example, see Figure 1.

3. THE WIZWOZ SYSTEM

Again, Simon Peyton Jones has a lovely description of how to write a paper on his website[2]. Personally, I put URLs in footnotes and *bona fide* references in the bibliography. For instance, Turing [2] and Knuth [1] would not be out of place in list of references. How many references? Hard to say. Five is not enough, 50 is pushing it.

[1] `https://www.gla.ac.uk/computing`

[2] `http://research.microsoft.com/en-us/um/people/simonpj/papers/giving-a-talk/giving-a-talk.htm`

Operating System	*Version*	*Verdict*
Ubuntu	12.04	Everyone's favourite Linux, unless you grew up with RedHat
Slackware	xxx	Pseudo-hacker's Linux, how often do you recompile your kernel?
Mac OS	10.7	For people with more money than sense

Table 1: Single column table of figures

3.1 User Interface

Blah blah blah Blah blah blah Blah blah blah Blah blah blah

3.2 Foo

Blah blah blah Blah blah blah Blah blah blah

3.2.1 Bar

Blah *blah* **blah**

4. EVALUATION

Graphs are always good. I recommend getting to grips with Matlab, R or gnuplot rather than exporting horribly Excel bitmapped graphs.

> The Assyrian came down like the wolf on the fold, And his cohorts were gleaming in purple and gold; And the sheen of their spears was like stars on the sea, When the blue wave rolls nightly on deep Galilee.
>
> Like the leaves of the forest when Summer is green, That host with their banners at sunset were seen: Like the leaves of the forest when Autumn hath blown, That host on the morrow lay withered and strown.

5. CONCLUSIONS

Figure 1: An example figure stretching over two columns

The standard Lorem Ipsum passage, used since the 1500s

"Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipisicing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Ut enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation ullamco laboris nisi ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat. Duis aute irure dolor in reprehenderit in voluptate velit esse cillum dolore eu fugiat nulla pariatur. Excepteur sint occaecat cupidatat non proident, sunt in culpa qui officia deserunt mollit anim id est laborum."

Acknowledgments. This is optional; it is a location for you to thank people, most probably your family and your supervisor.

6. REFERENCES

[1] D. E. Knuth. *The Art of Computer Programming, Volume 1: Fundamental Algorithms*. Addison Wesley, 1st edition, 1968.

[2] A. M. Turing. On computable numbers, with an application to the entscheidungsproblem. *Proc. London Mathematical Society Series 2*, 42:230–265, 1937.