A Back-to-basics empirical study of Datalog

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Fig. 1. Seattle Mariners at Spring Training, 2010.

A clear and well-documented LaTeX document is presented as an article formatted for publication by ACM in a conference proceedings or journal publication. Based on the "acmart" document class, this article presents and explains many of the common variations, as well as many of the formatting elements an author may use in the preparation of the documentation of their work.

CCS Concepts: • **Computer systems organization** → **Embedded systems**; *Redundancy*; Robotics; • **Networks** → Network reliability.

Additional Key Words and Phrases: datasets, neural networks, gaze detection, text tagging

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1 INTRODUCTION

Motivation. SQL has been the *de facto* universal relational database interface for querying and management since its inception, with all other alternatives having had experienced disproportionately little interest. The reasons for this are many, out of which only one is relevant to this narrative; performance. Curiously, there doesn't seem to exist a seminal article that investigates this event either from the technological or antropological viewpoint.

The runner-ups of popularity were languages used for machine reasoning, a subset of the Artificial Intelligence field that attempts to attain intelligence through the usage of rules over knowledge. The canonical language for reasoning over relational databases is datalog[?]. Similarly to SQL, it also is declarative, however, its main semantics' difference is in the support for recursion while still ensuring termination irrespective of the program being run.

A notable issue with respect to real-world adoption of datalog is in tractability. The combined complexity of evaluating a program is EXPTIME[?], while SQL queries are AC^0. It was not until recently[? ?] that scalable implementations were developed.

Digital analytics has been one of the main drivers of the recent datalog renaissance, with virtually all big-data oriented datalog implementations having had either been built on top of the most mainstream industry oriented frameworks[? ? ?] or with the aid of the most high-profile technology companies[? ? ?].

Another strong source of research interest has been from the knowledge graph community. A knowledge graph *KG* is a regular relational database *I* that contains *ground truths*, and rules. The most important operation is called *materialization*, the derivation of all truths that follow from the application of rules over the relational database, with the most straightforward goal being to ensure queries to have the lowest latency.

Problem. Seeking ways to introduce tuple-generating dependencies to datalog programs, with evaluation remaining tractable, has been one of the most active research directions, with highly-influential papers establishing new families of datalog languages[?] and thoroughly exploring their complexity classes alongside further expansions[? ? ?].

These advancements have been somewhat tested in practice, albeit with no full reference implementation having been specified. The most comprehensive, and recent, is closed-source[?]. The leading datalog engine in general, is also closed-source[?], with no open-source implementation having had attained any level of popularity, despite the relative simplicity of the language itself.

The two most popular datalog-related projects are DataScript[?] and Open Policy Agent[?], with the former being a top-down engine whose novelty lies in covering much functionality from a proprietary project, Datomic[?], while being implemented on top of a simple in-memory B-Tree. The latter is also a top-down evaluator, with severely limited usage of recursion. Neither of these projects have an intrinsic didactic nor scientific value.

The lack of a canonical open-source implementation of datalog makes attempts at making empirical statements about performance-impacting theoretical developments brittle and difficult, since there is no point of reference to compare and validate, and comparisons against commercial implementations are not reliable, since optimizations might be trade secrets.

A notorious exploration that highlights this issue is the COST, Configuration That Outperforms a Single Thread, article[?], in which the author posits that multiple published graph-processing engines are likely never able to outperform simple single-threaded implementations. Some high-profile datalog implementations were built upon systems mentioned on that article. Later on, the author made multiple pieces of informal writing in which the most performant datalog engines were investigated for COST[? ?], with results that showed a very different picture than the ones depicted by the original article's.

Methodology. To address the aforementioned problem, we conduct a back-to-basics empirical study of datalog evaluation, revisiting and measuring the core assumptions that go into the implementation of an evaluator. Straightforward single-threaded, parallel and distributed implementations of both substitution-based and relational-algebra interpretations are realized alongside common well-known optimizations. Due to the popularity of the relational approach, we give special focus to the problem of choosing an indexing data structure, and investigate several alternatives, including a novel one, to the ubiquitous BTree.

Contributions. In this article we make several contributions to clarifying, benchmarking and easing pushing the boundaries of datalog evaluation engineering research further by providing performant and open-source implementations of single-threaded, parallel and distributed evaluators.

- **Techniques and Guidelines.** We study the challenge of building a reasoner from scratch, with no underlying framework, and ponder over all decisions necessary in order to materialize that, alongside with relevant recent literature. We also investigate the actual performance cost of supporting common extensions such as non-recursive aggregation, stratified negation, and existential variables.
- **New Data Structure.** We introduce the Spine, a simple and clever alternative to the B-Tree that exhibits competitive performance in all benchmarked datalog workloads.
- **Implementation.** All code outputs of this article are coalesced in a rust library named shapiro, consisted of a datalog to relational algebra rewriter, a relational algebra evaluator, and two datalog engines, one that is parallel-capable and supports both substitution-based and relational algebra methods, and other that relies on the state-of-the-art differential dataflow[?] distribution computation framework. The main expected outcome of this library is to provide well-understood-and-reasoned-about baseline implementations from where future research can take advantage of, and reliable COST configurations can be attained.
- **Benchmarking.** We perform two thorough benchmark suites. One evaluates the performance of the developed relational reasoner with multiple different index data structures, and another that compares the performance of the distributed reasoner against four state-of-the-art distributed reasoners. The selected datasets are either from the program analysis community, heavy users of not-distributed datalog, or from the semantic web community , which has multiple popular infinitely-scalable benchmarks, and are the main proponents of existential datalog.

2 RELATED WORK

Datalog engines. There are two kinds of recent relevant datalog engines. The first encompasses those that push the performance boundary, with the biggest proponents being RDFox[?], that proposes the to-date, according to their benchmarks, most scalable parallelisation routine, RecStep[?], that builds on top of a highly efficient relational engine, and DCDatalog[?], that builds upon an influential query optimizer, DeALS[?] and extends a work that establishes how some linear datalog programs could be evaluated in a lock-free manner, to general positive programs.

One of the most high-profile datalog papers of interest has been BigDatalog[?], that originally used the query optimizer DeALs, and was built on top of the very popular Spark[?] distribution framework. Soon after, a prototypical implementation[?] over Flink[?], a distribution framework that supports streaming, Cog, followed. Flink, unlike Spark, supports iteration, so implementing reasoning did not need to extend the core of the underlying framework. The most successful attempt at creating a distributed implemention has been Nexus[?], that is also built on Flink, and makes use of its most advanced feature, incremental stream processing. To date, it is the fastest distributed implementation.

Data structures used in datalog engines. The core of each datalog engine is consisted of possibly two main data structures: one to hold the data itself, and another for indexes. Surprisingly little regard is given to this, compared to algorithms themselves, despite potentially being one of the most detrimental factors for performance . Binary-decision diagrams[?], hash sets[?] and B-Trees[?] are often used as either one or both main structures. An important highlight of the importance of data structure implementation is how in [?] Subotic et al, managed to attain an almost 50 times higher performance in certain benchmarks than other implementations of the same data structure.

3 DATALOG EVALUATION

In this section we review the basics of all concepts related to datalog evaluation, as it is done in the current time.

3.1 Datalog

Datalog[?] is a declarative programming language. A program P is a set of rules r, with each r being a restricted first-order formula of the following form:

$$\bigwedge_{i=1}^{k} B_i(x_1, ..., x_j) \rightarrow \exists(y_1, ..., y_j)H(x_1, ..., x_j, y_1, ..., y_j)$$

with k, j as finite integers, x and y as terms, and each B_i and H as predicates. A term can belong either to the set of variables, or constants, however, it is to be noted that all y are existentially quantified. The set of all B_i is called the *body*, and H the *head*.

A rule r is said to be datalog, if the set of all y is empty, and no predicate is negated, conversely, a datalog program is one in which all rules are datalog.

Example 3.1. Datalog Program

$$P = \left\{ \text{ SubClassOf}(?x, ?y) \wedge \text{SubClassOf}(?y, ?z) \rightarrow \text{SubClassOf}(?x, ?z) \right\}$$

Example 3.1 shows a simple valid recursive program. The only rule denotes that *for all x, y, z, if x is in a SubClassOf relation with y, and y is in a SubClassOf relation with z, then it follows that x is in a subClassOf relation with z.*

The meaning of a datalog program is often[?] defined through a *Herbrand Interpretation*. The first step to attain it is the *Herbrand Universe* $\mathfrak{U}$, the set of all constant, commonly referred to as *ground*, terms.

Example 3.2. Herbrand Universe

$$S = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{SubClassOf(professor, employee)} \\ \text{SubClassOf(employee, taxPayer)} \\ \text{SubClassOf(employee, employed)} \\ \text{SubClassOf(employed, employee)} \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\mathfrak{U} = \left\{ \text{ professor, employee, employed, taxPayer} \right\}$$

From the shown universe on example 3.2, it is possible to build The *Herbrand Base*, the set of all possible truths, from *facts*, assertions that are true, as represented by the actual constituents of the SubClassOf set.

Example 3.3. Herbrand Base

$$\mathfrak{B} = S \cup \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{SubClassOf}(\text{professor}, professor) \\ \text{SubClassOf}(\text{employee}, employee) \\ \text{SubClassOf}(\text{employed}, employed) \\ \text{SubClassOf}(\text{taxPayer}, taxPayer) \\ \text{SubClassOf}(\text{professor}, taxPayer) \\ \text{SubClassOf}(\text{taxPayer}, professor) \\ \text{SubClassOf}(\text{employee}, professor) \\ \text{SubClassOf}(\text{taxPayer}, employee) \end{array} \right\}$$

On example 3.3, all facts are indeed *possible*, but not necessarily *derivable* from the actual data and program. An interpretation I is a subset of $\mathfrak{B}$, and a *model* is an interpretation such that all rules are satisfied. A rule is satisfied if either the head is true, or if the body is not true.

Example 3.4. Models

$$I_1 = S \cup \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{SubClassOf}(\text{professor}, taxPayer) \\ \text{SubClassOf}(\text{employee}, employee) \end{array} \right\}$$

$$I_2 = S \cup \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{SubClassOf}(\text{professor}, taxPayer) \\ \text{SubClassOf}(\text{employee}, employee) \\ \text{SubClassOf}(\text{employed}, employed) \end{array} \right\}$$

$$I_3 = S \cup \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{SubClassOf}(\text{professor}, taxPayer) \\ \text{SubClassOf}(\text{employee}, employee) \\ \text{SubClassOf}(\text{employed}, employed) \\ \text{SubClassOf}(\text{professor}, \text{professor}) \end{array} \right\}$$

The first interpretation, I_1, from example 3.4, is not a model, since SubClassOf(employed, employed) is satisfied and present. Despite both I_2 and I_3 being models, I_2 is the *minimal* model, which is the definition of the meaning of the program over the data. The input data, the database, is named as the *Extensional Database EDB*, and the output of the program is the *Intensional Database IDB*.

Let an $DB = EDB \cup IDB$, and for there to be a program P. We define the *immediate consequence* of P over DB as all facts that are either in DB, or stem from the result of applying the rules in P to DB. The *immediate consequence operator* $\mathbf{I}_C(DB)$ is the union of DB and its immediate consequence, and the IDB, at the moment of the application of $\mathbf{I}_C(DB)$ is the difference of the union of all previous DB with the EDB.

It is trivial to see that $I_C(DB)$ is monotone, and given that both the EDB and P are finite sets, and that $IDB = \emptyset$ at the start, at some point $I_C(DB) = DB$, since there won't be new facts to be inferred. This point is the *least fixed point* of $I_c(DB)[?]$, and happens to be the *minimal* model.

Example 3.5. Repeated application of I_c

$$P = \{Edge(?x, ?y) \rightarrow TC(?x, ?y), TC(?x, ?y), TC(?y, ?z) \rightarrow TC(?x, ?z)\}$$

$$EDB = \{Edge(1, 2), Edge(2, 3), Edge(3, 4)\}$$

$$DB = EDB$$

$$DB = I_C(DB)$$

$$DB == EDB \cup \{TC(1, 2), TC(2, 3), TC(3, 4)\}$$

$$DB = I_C(DB)$$

$$DB == EDB \cup \{TC(1, 2), TC(2, 3), TC(3, 4), TC(1, 3), TC(2, 4)\}$$

$$DB = I_C(DB)$$

$$DB == EDB \cup \{TC(1, 2), TC(2, 3), TC(3, 4), TC(1, 3), TC(2, 4), TC(1, 4)\}$$

$$DB = I_C(DB)$$

$$DB == EDB \cup \{TC(1, 2), TC(2, 3), TC(3, 4), TC(1, 3), TC(2, 4), TC(1, 4)\}$$

$$IDB = DB \setminus EDB$$

The introduced form of evaluation, with a walkthrough given on example 3.5, is called *naive*, meanwhile, the ubiquitous evaluation mechanism, as of the date of writing this paper, is the *semi-naive* one. The only difference is that *semi-naive* does not repeatedly union the *EDB* with the entire *IDB*, but does so only with the difference of the previous immediate consequence with the *IDB*. This can be hinted from the example, where each next application of I_c only renders new facts from the previous newly derived ones.

3.2 Infer

The most relevant performance-oriented aspect of both of the introduced evaluation mechanisms is the implementation of I_c itself. The two most high-profile methods to do so are either purely evaluating the rules, or rewriting them in some other imperative formalism, and executing it.

The Infer[?] algorithm is the quintessential *pure evaluation* method.

3.3 Relational Algebra

4 SHAPIRO

4.1 Single-Threaded and Parallel

4.1.1 The Spine.

4.2 Distributed

most of the distributed datalog engines are built on top of either graph-processing or map-reduce frameworks their semantics do not fit datalog like a glove

4.2.1 Differential Dataflow. Differential dataflow however, does. It substantially improves semi-naive evaluation by automatically parallelizing it.

Make a graphic example showing how

Algorithm 1: Infer

Input: $\mathcal{ALC}$ Abox $\mathfrak{A}$

Result: 1 if $\mathfrak{A}$ is consistent, 0 otherwise

1　**Function** *expand(*$\mathfrak{A}$ *: Abox)* **is**
2　　**if** $\mathfrak{A}$ *is not complete* **then**
3　　　apply some expansion rule on $\mathfrak{A}$
4　　　**return** expand($\mathfrak{A}$)
5　　**else**
6　　　**if** $\mathfrak{A}$ *is clash-free* **then**
7　　　　**return** $\mathfrak{A}$
8　　　**else**
9　　　　**return** $\emptyset$

10　**if** *expand(*$\mathfrak{A}$*)* $\neq \emptyset$ **then**
11　　**return** 1
12　**else**
13　　**return** 0

4.3 Extensions

4.3.1 Non-recursive aggregation. Trivial to implement

4.3.2 Negation. a lot of reasoners implement negation, yet curiously do not benchmark queries that even use it. the cost of stratified negation is that it prevents the very efficient and obvious parallelization scheme.

4.3.3 Existential Variables. Description logics bla bla bla are too expressive for datalog however adding skolemized existential variables allows for some of them to be sort of implemented

5 EXPERIMENTS

// No libraries for relational algebra

ACM's consolidated article template, introduced in 2017, provides a consistent LaTeX style for use across ACM publications, and incorporates accessibility and metadata-extraction functionality necessary for future Digital Library endeavors. Numerous ACM and SIG-specific LaTeX templates have been examined, and their unique features incorporated into this single new template.

If you are new to publishing with ACM, this document is a valuable guide to the process of preparing your work for publication. If you have published with ACM before, this document provides insight and instruction into more recent changes to the article template.

The "acmart" document class can be used to prepare articles for any ACM publication — conference or journal, and for any stage of publication, from review to final "camera-ready" copy, to the author's own version, with *very* few changes to the source.

6 TEMPLATE OVERVIEW

As noted in the introduction, the "acmart" document class can be used to prepare many different kinds of documentation — a double-blind initial submission of a full-length technical paper, a two-page SIGGRAPH Emerging Technologies

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abstract, a "camera-ready" journal article, a SIGCHI Extended Abstract, and more — all by selecting the appropriate *template style* and *template parameters*.

This document will explain the major features of the document class. For further information, the *LATEX User's Guide* is available from https://www.acm.org/publications/proceedings-template.

6.1 Template Styles

The primary parameter given to the "acmart" document class is the *template style* which corresponds to the kind of publication or SIG publishing the work. This parameter is enclosed in square brackets and is a part of the documentclass command:

\documentclass[STYLE]{acmart}

Journals use one of three template styles. All but three ACM journals use the acmsmall template style:

- acmsmall: The default journal template style.
- acmlarge: Used by JOCCH and TAP.
- acmtog: Used by TOG.

The majority of conference proceedings documentation will use the acmconf template style.

- acmconf: The default proceedings template style.
- sigchi: Used for SIGCHI conference articles.
- sigchi-a: Used for SIGCHI "Extended Abstract" articles.
- sigplan: Used for SIGPLAN conference articles.

6.2 Template Parameters

In addition to specifying the *template style* to be used in formatting your work, there are a number of *template parameters* which modify some part of the applied template style. A complete list of these parameters can be found in the *LATEX User's Guide.*

Frequently-used parameters, or combinations of parameters, include:

- anonymous,review: Suitable for a "double-blind" conference submission. Anonymizes the work and includes line numbers. Use with the \acmSubmissionID command to print the submission's unique ID on each page of the work.
- authorversion: Produces a version of the work suitable for posting by the author.
- screen: Produces colored hyperlinks.

This document uses the following string as the first command in the source file:

\documentclass[sigconf,authordraft]{acmart}

7 MODIFICATIONS

Modifying the template — including but not limited to: adjusting margins, typeface sizes, line spacing, paragraph and list definitions, and the use of the \vspace command to manually adjust the vertical spacing between elements of your work — is not allowed.

Your document will be returned to you for revision if modifications are discovered.

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8 TYPEFACES

The "acmart" document class requires the use of the "Libertine" typeface family. Your TEX installation should include this set of packages. Please do not substitute other typefaces. The "lmodern" and "ltimes" packages should not be used, as they will override the built-in typeface families.

9 TITLE INFORMATION

The title of your work should use capital letters appropriately - https://capitalizemytitle.com/ has useful rules for capitalization. Use the title command to define the title of your work. If your work has a subtitle, define it with the subtitle command. Do not insert line breaks in your title.

If your title is lengthy, you must define a short version to be used in the page headers, to prevent overlapping text. The title command has a "short title" parameter:

```
\title[short title]{full title}
```

10 AUTHORS AND AFFILIATIONS

Each author must be defined separately for accurate metadata identification. Multiple authors may share one affiliation. Authors' names should not be abbreviated; use full first names wherever possible. Include authors' e-mail addresses whenever possible.

Grouping authors' names or e-mail addresses, or providing an "e-mail alias," as shown below, is not acceptable:

```
\author{Brooke Aster, David Mehldau}
\email{dave,judy,steve@university.edu}
\email{firstname.lastname@phillips.org}
```

The authornote and authornotemark commands allow a note to apply to multiple authors — for example, if the first two authors of an article contributed equally to the work.

If your author list is lengthy, you must define a shortened version of the list of authors to be used in the page headers, to prevent overlapping text. The following command should be placed just after the last \author{} definition:

```
\renewcommand{\shortauthors}{McCartney, et al.}
```

Omitting this command will force the use of a concatenated list of all of the authors' names, which may result in overlapping text in the page headers.

The article template's documentation, available at https://www.acm.org/publications/proceedings-template, has a complete explanation of these commands and tips for their effective use.

Note that authors' addresses are mandatory for journal articles.

11 RIGHTS INFORMATION

Authors of any work published by ACM will need to complete a rights form. Depending on the kind of work, and the rights management choice made by the author, this may be copyright transfer, permission, license, or an OA (open access) agreement.

Regardless of the rights management choice, the author will receive a copy of the completed rights form once it has been submitted. This form contains LATEX commands that must be copied into the source document. When the

document source is compiled, these commands and their parameters add formatted text to several areas of the final document:

- the "ACM Reference Format" text on the first page.
- the "rights management" text on the first page.
- the conference information in the page header(s).

Rights information is unique to the work; if you are preparing several works for an event, make sure to use the correct set of commands with each of the works.

The ACM Reference Format text is required for all articles over one page in length, and is optional for one-page articles (abstracts).

12 CCS CONCEPTS AND USER-DEFINED KEYWORDS

Two elements of the "acmart" document class provide powerful taxonomic tools for you to help readers find your work in an online search.

The ACM Computing Classification System — https://www.acm.org/publications/class-2012 — is a set of classifiers and concepts that describe the computing discipline. Authors can select entries from this classification system, via https://dl.acm.org/ccs/ccs.cfm, and generate the commands to be included in the LaTeX source.

User-defined keywords are a comma-separated list of words and phrases of the authors' choosing, providing a more flexible way of describing the research being presented.

CCS concepts and user-defined keywords are required for for all articles over two pages in length, and are optional for one- and two-page articles (or abstracts).

13 SECTIONING COMMANDS

Your work should use standard LaTeX sectioning commands: `section`, `subsection`, `subsubsection`, and `paragraph`. They should be numbered; do not remove the numbering from the commands.

Simulating a sectioning command by setting the first word or words of a paragraph in boldface or italicized text is **not allowed.**

14 TABLES

The "acmart" document class includes the "booktabs" package — https://ctan.org/pkg/booktabs — for preparing high-quality tables.

Table captions are placed *above* the table.

Because tables cannot be split across pages, the best placement for them is typically the top of the page nearest their initial cite. To ensure this proper "floating" placement of tables, use the environment **table** to enclose the table's contents and the table caption. The contents of the table itself must go in the **tabular** environment, to be aligned properly in rows and columns, with the desired horizontal and vertical rules. Again, detailed instructions on **tabular** material are found in the *LaTeX User's Guide*.

Immediately following this sentence is the point at which Table 1 is included in the input file; compare the placement of the table here with the table in the printed output of this document.

To set a wider table, which takes up the whole width of the page's live area, use the environment **table*** to enclose the table's contents and the table caption. As with a single-column table, this wide table will "float" to a location deemed

Table 1. Frequency of Special Characters

Non-English or Math	Frequency	Comments
Ø	1 in 1,000	For Swedish names
π	1 in 5	Common in math
$	4 in 5	Used in business
Ψ_1^2	1 in 40,000	Unexplained usage

Table 2. Some Typical Commands

Command	A Number	Comments
\author	100	Author
\table	300	For tables
\table*	400	For wider tables

more desirable. Immediately following this sentence is the point at which Table 2 is included in the input file; again, it is instructive to compare the placement of the table here with the table in the printed output of this document.

Always use midrule to separate table header rows from data rows, and use it only for this purpose. This enables assistive technologies to recognise table headers and support their users in navigating tables more easily.

15 MATH EQUATIONS

You may want to display math equations in three distinct styles: inline, numbered or non-numbered display. Each of the three are discussed in the next sections.

15.1 Inline (In-text) Equations

A formula that appears in the running text is called an inline or in-text formula. It is produced by the **math** environment, which can be invoked with the usual \begin . . . \end construction or with the short form $ . . . $. You can use any of the symbols and structures, from α to ω, available in LaTeX [?]; this section will simply show a few examples of in-text equations in context. Notice how this equation: $\lim_{n\to\infty} x = 0$, set here in in-line math style, looks slightly different when set in display style. (See next section).

15.2 Display Equations

A numbered display equation—one set off by vertical space from the text and centered horizontally—is produced by the **equation** environment. An unnumbered display equation is produced by the **displaymath** environment.

Again, in either environment, you can use any of the symbols and structures available in LaTeX; this section will just give a couple of examples of display equations in context. First, consider the equation, shown as an inline equation above:

$$\lim_{n\to\infty} x = 0 \tag{1}$$

Notice how it is formatted somewhat differently in the **displaymath** environment. Now, we'll enter an unnumbered equation:

$$\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} x + 1$$

and follow it with another numbered equation:

$$\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} x_i = \int_0^{\pi+2} f \tag{2}$$

just to demonstrate LaTeX's able handling of numbering.

16 FIGURES

The "`figure`" environment should be used for figures. One or more images can be placed within a figure. If your figure contains third-party material, you must clearly identify it as such, as shown in the example below.

Fig. 2. 1907 Franklin Model D roadster. Photograph by Harris & Ewing, Inc. [Public domain], via Wikimedia Commons. (https://goo.gl/VLCRBB).

Your figures should contain a caption which describes the figure to the reader.

Figure captions are placed *below* the figure.

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Every figure should also have a figure description unless it is purely decorative. These descriptions convey what's in the image to someone who cannot see it. They are also used by search engine crawlers for indexing images, and when images cannot be loaded.

A figure description must be unformatted plain text less than 2000 characters long (including spaces). **Figure descriptions should not repeat the figure caption – their purpose is to capture important information that is not already provided in the caption or the main text of the paper.** For figures that convey important and complex new information, a short text description may not be adequate. More complex alternative descriptions can be placed in an appendix and referenced in a short figure description. For example, provide a data table capturing the information in a bar chart, or a structured list representing a graph. For additional information regarding how best to write figure descriptions and why doing this is so important, please see https://www.acm.org/publications/taps/describing-figures/.

16.1 The "Teaser Figure"

A "teaser figure" is an image, or set of images in one figure, that are placed after all author and affiliation information, and before the body of the article, spanning the page. If you wish to have such a figure in your article, place the command immediately before the \maketitle command:

```
\begin{teaserfigure}
  \includegraphics[width=\textwidth]{sampleteaser}
  \caption{figure caption}
  \Description{figure description}
\end{teaserfigure}
```

17 CITATIONS AND BIBLIOGRAPHIES

The use of BibTeX for the preparation and formatting of one's references is strongly recommended. Authors' names should be complete — use full first names ("Donald E. Knuth") not initials ("D. E. Knuth") — and the salient identifying features of a reference should be included: title, year, volume, number, pages, article DOI, etc.

The bibliography is included in your source document with these two commands, placed just before the \end{document} command:

```
\bibliographystyle{ACM-Reference-Format}
\bibliography{bibfile}
```

where "bibfile" is the name, without the ".bib" suffix, of the BibTeX file.

Citations and references are numbered by default. A small number of ACM publications have citations and references formatted in the "author year" style; for these exceptions, please include this command in the **preamble** (before the command "\begin{document}") of your LaTeX source:

```
\citestyle{acmauthoryear}
```

Some examples. A paginated journal article [?], an enumerated journal article [?], a reference to an entire issue [?], a monograph (whole book) [?], a monograph/whole book in a series (see 2a in spec. document) [?], a divisible-book such as an anthology or compilation [?] followed by the same example, however we only output the series if the volume number is given [?] (so Editor00a's series should NOT be present since it has no vol. no.), a chapter in a divisible book [?], a chapter in a divisible book in a series [?], a multi-volume work as book [?], a couple of articles in a proceedings (of a conference, symposium, workshop for example) (paginated proceedings article) [? ?], a proceedings article with

all possible elements [?], an example of an enumerated proceedings article [?], an informally published work [?], a couple of preprints [? ?], a doctoral dissertation [?], a master's thesis: [?], an online document / world wide web resource [? ? ?], a video game (Case 1) [?] and (Case 2) [?] and [?] and (Case 3) a patent [?], work accepted for publication [?], 'YYYYb'-test for prolific author [?] and [?]. Other cites might contain 'duplicate' DOI and URLs (some SIAM articles) [?]. Boris / Barbara Beeton: multi-volume works as books [?] and [?]. A couple of citations with DOIs: [? ?]. Online citations: [? ? ?]. Artifacts: [?] and [?].

18 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Identification of funding sources and other support, and thanks to individuals and groups that assisted in the research and the preparation of the work should be included in an acknowledgment section, which is placed just before the reference section in your document.

This section has a special environment:

```
\begin{acks}
...
\end{acks}
```

so that the information contained therein can be more easily collected during the article metadata extraction phase, and to ensure consistency in the spelling of the section heading.

Authors should not prepare this section as a numbered or unnumbered \section; please use the "acks" environment.

19 APPENDICES

If your work needs an appendix, add it before the "\end{document}" command at the conclusion of your source document.

Start the appendix with the "appendix" command:

```
\appendix
```

and note that in the appendix, sections are lettered, not numbered. This document has two appendices, demonstrating the section and subsection identification method.

20 MULTI-LANGUAGE PAPERS

Papers may be written in languages other than English or include titles, subtitles, keywords and abstracts in different languages (as a rule, a paper in a language other than English should include an English title and an English abstract). Use language=... for every language used in the paper. The last language indicated is the main language of the paper. For example, a French paper with additional titles and abstracts in English and German may start with the following command

```
\documentclass[sigconf, language=english, language=german,
                language=french]{acmart}
```

The title, subtitle, keywords and abstract will be typeset in the main language of the paper. The commands \translatedXXX, XXX begin title, subtitle and keywords, can be used to set these elements in the other languages. The environment translatedabstract is used to set the translation of the abstract. These commands and environment have

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a mandatory first argument: the language of the second argument. See `sample-sigconf-i13n.tex` file for examples of their usage.

21   SIGCHI EXTENDED ABSTRACTS

The "`sigchi-a`" template style (available only in LATEX and not in Word) produces a landscape-orientation formatted article, with a wide left margin. Three environments are available for use with the "`sigchi-a`" template style, and produce formatted output in the margin:

- `sidebar`: Place formatted text in the margin.
- `marginfigure`: Place a figure in the margin.
- `margintable`: Place a table in the margin.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

A   RESEARCH METHODS

A.1   Part One

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Morbi malesuada, quam in pulvinar varius, metus nunc fermentum urna, id sollicitudin purus odio sit amet enim. Aliquam ullamcorper eu ipsum vel mollis. Curabitur quis dictum nisl. Phasellus vel semper risus, et lacinia dolor. Integer ultricies commodo sem nec semper.

A.2   Part Two

Etiam commodo feugiat nisl pulvinar pellentesque. Etiam auctor sodales ligula, non varius nibh pulvinar semper. Suspendisse nec lectus non ipsum convallis congue hendrerit vitae sapien. Donec at laoreet eros. Vivamus non purus placerat, scelerisque diam eu, cursus ante. Etiam aliquam tortor auctor efficitur mattis.

B   ONLINE RESOURCES

Nam id fermentum dui. Suspendisse sagittis tortor a nulla mollis, in pulvinar ex pretium. Sed interdum orci quis metus euismod, et sagittis enim maximus. Vestibulum gravida massa ut felis suscipit congue. Quisque mattis elit a risus ultrices commodo venenatis eget dui. Etiam sagittis eleifend elementum.

Nam interdum magna at lectus dignissim, ac dignissim lorem rhoncus. Maecenas eu arcu ac neque placerat aliquam. Nunc pulvinar massa et mattis lacinia.