

# Instructions for \*ACL Proceedings

Alexander Koller  
Saarland University  
[koller@coli.uni-saarland.de](mailto:koller@coli.uni-saarland.de)

## Abstract

This document is a supplement to the general instructions for \*ACL authors. It contains instructions for using the `trac1` Typst template for ACL conferences. The document itself conforms to its own specifications, and is therefore an example of what your manuscript should look like. These instructions should be used both for papers submitted for review and for final versions of accepted papers.

## 1 Introduction

These instructions are for authors submitting papers to \*ACL conferences using Typst using the `trac1` style. They are not self-contained. All authors must follow the general instructions for \*ACL proceedings,<sup>1</sup> and this document contains additional instructions for the Typst style files.

Because this document is itself written with `trac1`, it is instructive to look at [its source code](#) along with this PDF.

## 2 Engines

Trac1 requires Typst 0.12. The most recent compatibility update is for Typst 0.14.

## 3 Preamble

You can load trac1 into your Typst file as follows:

```
#import "@preview/trac1:0.7.1": *  
  
#show: acl.with(  
    anonymous: false,  
    title: [(your title)],  
    authors: make-authors(  
        name: "Alexander Koller",  
        affiliation: [  
            Saarland University\
```

```
    #email("koller@coli.uni-  
    saarland.de")  
    ],  
    ),  
)
```

You can then write the rest of your document as usual. Use the `#abstract` command to typeset your abstract.

Use `anonymous: true` to generate an anonymous version of your paper that is suitable for submission to the conference.

You can split your Typst document over multiple source files and combine them with `#include`, but the show rule with the call to `acl` should only appear once, in the main Typst source file that imports `trac1`.

## 4 Fonts

You may need to install a number of free fonts to make `trac1` documents conform to the ACL style. See the [README](#) for details.

The serif, sans-serif, and monospace fonts that `trac1` uses to typeset the document can be accessed in the variables `trac1-serif`, `trac1-sans`, and `trac1-mono`. Use these in your own styling if you find it useful.

## 5 Title and Authors

The ACL style instructions expect the title and authors to be listed at the top of the document, in a “titlebox” that is at least 5 cm high. If you have a long title or many authors, you can make the titlebox higher by passing an argument `titlebox-height: <new height>` to the `acl` show rule. The “new height” must be a [Typst length](#), and must be at least 5 cm.

You have two main options to format the author list. The simplest is to use the `make-authors` function, which will allow you to place authors and

---

<sup>1</sup><http://acl-org.github.io/ACLPUB/formatting.html>

affiliations side by side and on top of each other, as with the `\and`, `\And`, and `\AND` macros in the LaTeX style. The author list consists of one or more *rows*, each of which contains side-by-side *blocks*. Each block can contain one or more author *names*, all of which share a single affiliation. A block is specified as a dictionary with keys `name` and `affiliation`; these are grouped into arrays to generate rows and the whole authors table. The easiest way to understand the options is to look at the example title pages at the end of this document, along with their source code.

You can control the vertical spacing between rows using the `row-spacing` parameter of `make-authors` (default: 1em) and the horizontal spacing between blocks and between authors using the `block-spacing` (default: 3em) and `name-spacing` (default: 2em) parameters.

Alternatively, you can simply pass content to the `authors` parameter of the `acl` function. This will allow you to typeset arbitrarily complex author lists. Note that `tracI` does nothing to ensure that your document is consistent with the ACL style guidelines in this case – it is up to you to ensure you respect them.

## 6 Document Body

### 6.1 Footnotes

Footnotes are inserted with the `#footnote` command.<sup>2</sup>

### 6.2 Tables and figures

See [Table 1](#) for an example of a table and its caption. **Do not override the default caption sizes.**

As much as possible, fonts in figures should conform to the document fonts. See [Figure 1](#) for an example of a figure and its caption.

You can use the standard Typst `image` function to include images into your document. Typst supports PNG, JPEG, and SVG. Use SVG if you want to include a vector graphic; you can use e.g. `pdf2svg` to convert PDF files. Be aware that Typst has pretty good built-in support for generating plots (e.g. through [CeTZ-Plot](#)), so you may be able to simply generate and style your graphics within your Typst source code.

A floating element will be automatically labeled as a “Table” if the top-level element is a Typst table; otherwise Typst will call it a “Figure”. If you want a table labeled as a “Figure”, you can

First column	Second column
some stuff	more stuff
second row	more second row

Table 1: An example table. Typst can simply use Unicode characters, so Table 1 from the LaTeX instructions is not needed any more.

pass the argument `kind: image` to the `figure` call (see the [Typst documentation](#)).

By default, Typst places a `figure` within a single column. If you want a figure to stretch across both columns, you can pass the argument `scope: "parent"`. See the source code of [Table 2](#) for an example.

### 6.3 Equations

An example equation is shown below:

$$A = \pi r^2 \tag{1}$$

Labels for equation numbers, sections, subsections, figures and tables are all defined as [Typst labels](#), and cross references to them are made with `ref`.

This is an example cross-reference to [Equation 1](#).

### 6.4 Lists

Typst distinguishes between lists and enums with tight and non-tight spacing. Lists and enums with tight spacing are set with no extra space between the items:

1. This is the first item of the list.
2. Here's a second item.

Lists and enums with non-tight spacing are set with a blank line of space in between, as in the `itemize` and `enumerate` environments of the LaTeX style:

- First element
- Second element

Here's some text to illustrate the distance of the list from the subsequent paragraph: Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do.

### 6.5 Appendices

Supply the content of your appendix after the `#show: appendix` command to switch the section numbering over to letters. See [Appendix A](#) for an example.

---

<sup>2</sup>This is a footnote.

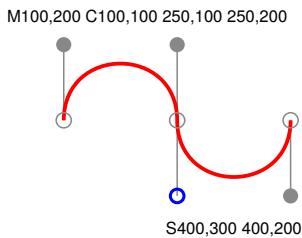


Figure 1: A figure with a caption that runs for more than one line. The example picture comes from the [openscad svg-tests](#) repository.

## 7 References

### 7.1 BibTeX Files

You can use regular BibTeX bibliography files with Typst. You can obtain the complete ACL Anthology as a BibTeX file from <https://aclweb.org/anthology/anthology.bib.gz>.

Please ensure that BibTeX records contain DOIs or URLs when possible, and for all the ACL materials that you reference. Use the `doi` field for DOIs and the `url` field for URLs. If a BibTeX entry has a URL or DOI field, the paper title in the references section will appear as a hyperlink to the paper.

### 7.2 Bibliographies

Tracl uses [Pergamon](#) to typeset the bibliography, with ACL-specific customization. The structure of a typical tracl document therefore looks like this:

```
#import "@preview/tracl:0.7.1": *
#import "@preview/pergammon:0.6.0": *

... your document ...

#add-bib-resource(read("custom.bib"))
#print-acl-bibliography()
```

You can call `add-bib-resource` as many times as you like to make multiple Bibtex files available to your paper. Note that you have to read the Bibtex file yourself before calling `add-bib-resource` because of architectural limitations of Typst.

The bibliography will be printed at the location where you call `print-acl-bibliography`. This is typically after the Limitations sections, but before the appendices.

You can tweak the formatting of the bibliography by passing named arguments to the `print-acl-bibliography` function. These arguments will be passed on to Pergamon's `format-reference`

function. See the [Pergamon documentation](#) for details.

### 7.3 Citations

[Table 2](#) shows how to cite papers in your text. Note that we use Pergamon's `cite` function, rather than Typst's builtin `cite`. This means that you must write `#cite("paperkey")` rather than `#cite(<paperkey>)`, and you cannot just write `@paperkey`.

The functions `cite` and `citep` will generate citations in the form “(author, year)”. You can write `#citet("Gusfield:97")` to get citations of the form “author (year)”, as in [Gusfield \(1997\)](#). You can use the command `#citen("Gusfield:97")` (“cite none”) to get “author, year” citations, which is useful for using citations within parentheses. A possessive citation can be made with the `#citeg` command; this will yield e.g. “[Gusfield's \(1997\)](#)”.

For comparison with the ACL LaTeX style, `citen` corresponds to their `citealp`, and `citeg` corresponds to their `citeposs`.

The citation commands are defined by Pergamon. If you split your paper across multiple source files, you must therefore `#import` Pergamon in each of them.

### Limitations

Since December 2023, a “Limitations” section has been required for all papers submitted to ACL Rolling Review (ARR). This section should be placed at the end of the paper, before the references. The “Limitations” section (along with, optionally, a section for ethical considerations) may be up to one page and will not count toward the final page limit. Note that these files may be used by venues that do not rely on ARR so it is recommended to verify the requirement of a “Limitations” section and other criteria with the venue in question.

Tracl currently has a number of limitations compared to the more mature LaTeX ACL style. Here are some workarounds.

- The two columns of a page will not automatically be aligned at the bottom. This is a [known limitation in Typst](#) that should be fixed at some point. For the time being, you can manually insert whitespace above each paragraph in the shorter column with `#v`.

Output	Citation command	LaTeX equivalent
(Gusfield, 1997)	#cite("Gusfield:97") or #citep("Gusfield:97")	citep
Gusfield (1997)	#citet("Gusfield:97")	citet
Gusfield, 1997	#citen("Gusfield:97")	citealp
Gusfield's (1997)	#citeg("Gusfield:97")	citeposs

Table 2: Citation commands supported by the style file.

## References

- Rie Kubota Ando and Tong Zhang. 2005. A Framework for Learning Predictive Structures from Multiple Tasks and Unlabeled Data. *Journal of Machine Learning Research* 6:1817–1853.
- Galen Andrew and Jianfeng Gao. 2007. Scalable training of L1-regularized log-linear models. In *Proceedings of the 24th International Conference on Machine Learning*, pages 33–40.
- Dan Gusfield. 1997. *Algorithms on Strings, Trees and Sequences*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.
- Mohammad Sadegh Rasooli and Joel R. Tetreault. 2015. Yara Parser: A Fast and Accurate Dependency Parser. *Computing Research Repository* arXiv:1503.06733.

## **A Example Appendix**

This is an appendix.

# Three authors from the same institution

**Michael Sullivan    Mareike Hartmann    Alexander Koller**

Department of Language Science and Technology

Saarland Informatics Campus

Saarland University, Saarbrücken, Germany

{msullivan, mareikeh, koller}@coli.uni-saarland.de

## Abstract

This document demonstrates the different styles  
for specifying authors in tracl.

## 2 Introduction

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipisc-ing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliquam quaerat voluptatem. Ut enim aequo doleamus animo, cum corpore dolemus, fieri tamen permagna accessio potest, si aliquod aeternum et infinitum impendere malum nobis opinemur. Quod idem licet transferre in voluptatem, ut.

# Three authors from different institutions

**Alex Duchnowski**  
Saarland University  
[alex@lst.uni-sb.de](mailto:alex@lst.uni-sb.de)

**Ellie Pavlick**  
Brown University  
[ellie\\_pavlick@brown.edu](mailto:ellie_pavlick@brown.edu)

**Alexander Koller**  
Saarland University  
[koller@lst.uni-sb.de](mailto:koller@lst.uni-sb.de)

## Abstract

This document demonstrates the different styles for specifying authors in tracl.

## 3 Introduction

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliquam quaerat voluptatem. Ut enim aequo doleamus animo, cum corpore dolemus, fieri tamen permagna accessio potest, si aliquod aeternum et infinitum impendere malum nobis opinemur. Quod idem licet transferre in voluptatem, ut.

# Mix of same and different institutions

Alex Duchnowski

Saarland University

[{alex|koller}@lst.uni-sb.de](mailto:{alex|koller}@lst.uni-sb.de)

Alexander Koller

Ellie Pavlick

Brown University

[ellie\\_pavlick@brown.edu](mailto:ellie_pavlick@brown.edu)

## Abstract

This document demonstrates the different styles  
for specifying authors in tracl.

## 4 Introduction

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipisc-ing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliquam quaerat voluptatem. Ut enim aequo doleamus animo, cum corpore dolemus, fieri tamen permagna accessio potest, si aliquod aeternum et infinitum impendere malum nobis opinemur. Quod idem licet transferre in voluptatem, ut.

# Multiple rows of authors

**Yuekun Yao**

Saarland University

[ykyao@coli.uni-saarland.de](mailto:ykyao@coli.uni-saarland.de)

**Yupei Du**

Utrecht University

[y.du@uu.nl](mailto:y.du@uu.nl)

**Dawei Zhu**

Saarland University

[dzhu@lsv.uni-saarland.de](mailto:dzhu@lsv.uni-saarland.de)

**Michael Hahn\***

Saarland University

[mhahn@lst.uni-saarland.de](mailto:mhahn@lst.uni-saarland.de)

**Alexander Koller\***

Saarland University

[koller@coli.uni-saarland.de](mailto:koller@coli.uni-saarland.de)

## Abstract

This document demonstrates the different styles for specifying authors in tracl.

## 5 Introduction

  Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Ut enim aequo doleamus animo, cum corpore dolemus, fieri tamen permagna accessio potest, si aliquod aeternum et infinitum impendere malum nobis opinemur. Quod idem licet transferre in voluptatem, ut.

---

\*Joint senior authors.

# Free-form authors

**Alex Duchnowski**<sup>4, 5</sup>

<sup>4</sup>Saarland University

[{alex|koller}@lst.uni-saarland.de](mailto:{alex|koller}@lst.uni-saarland.de)

**Ellie Pavlick**<sup>5</sup>

<sup>5</sup>Brown University

[ellie\\_pavlick@brown.edu](mailto:ellie_pavlick@brown.edu)

## Abstract

This document demonstrates the different styles  
for specifying authors in tracl.

## 6 Introduction

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipisc-ing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliquam quaerat voluptatem. Ut enim aequre doleamus animo, cum corpore dolemus, fieri tamen permagna accessio potest, si aliquod aeternum et infinitum impendere malum nobis opinemur. Quod idem licet transferre in voluptatem, ut.