Video Comprehension Score (VCS): A Metric for Long-Form Video Description Evaluation

Anonymous submission

Abstract

Existing video description evaluation metrics fail to capture the long-range chronology and semantic alignment essential for long-form descriptions. An effective evaluation metric for long-form descriptions must (i) assess global thematic alignment, (ii) measure local semantic alignment, and (iii) evaluate chronological alignment while detecting corrupted content. We introduce Video Comprehension Score (VCS), a reference-based metric, which directly addresses these evaluation requirements through three components: Global Alignment Score for thematic alignment, Local Alignment Score for local semantic alignment, and Narrative Alignment Score for chronological alignment with adjustable tolerance. We evaluate VCS on two large-scale synthetic datasets designed to test corruption detection and cross-author consistency. VCS consistently outperforms traditional metrics on corruption detection tasks, being the only metric capable of distinguishing valid variations from invalid corruptions. On crossauthor consistency tasks, VCS is the only metric that consistently produces scores >80% regardless of which authorial reference is used for evaluation. VCS_{short}, our implementation for short-form descriptions, attains state-of-theart human correlation on VATEX-EVAL in the 9-ref setting (Kendall's $\tau=41.5$, Spearman's $\rho=52.8$) and competitive results in the 1-ref setting (Kendall's $\tau = 30.0$, Spearman's $\rho = 38.1$). These results demonstrate VCS effectiveness for evaluating both long-form and short-form video descriptions.

Introduction

Recent advancements in Large Video Language Models (LVLMs) (Yuan et al. 2025; Shen et al. 2025; Ataallah et al. 2024; Chen et al. 2025) have enhanced automated video comprehension, enabling long-form description generation from long videos. However, exploratory analysis on long videos reveals that LVLMs frequently (i) miss global narrative structure, (ii) fail to capture local events, and (iii) fail to establish temporal connections while hallucinating content. These gaps indicate LVLMs lack true video comprehension, raising the question: how can we evaluate models' video comprehension? Current benchmarks utilize questionanswering formats (Wu et al. 2024; Ataallah et al. 2025; Nagrani et al. 2025) or short-form description comparisons for short videos (Wang et al. 2024; Chen and Dolan 2011; Zhou, Xu, and Corso 2018), both inadequate to evaluate models' true video comprehension ability. Evaluating genuine

comprehension demands shifting to a methodology that processes long or complex videos and requires models to generate long-form descriptions. This approach renders superficial frame-level analysis insufficient, compelling models to instead generate outputs that capture global narrative structure, detail specific local events, and establish their temporal relationships. The quality of these generated descriptions can then be evaluated against the source video or human-written descriptions.

Description-based evaluation methods fall into four categories, each struggling with fundamental aspects of longform evaluation. N-gram metrics such as BLEU (Papineni et al. 2002), METEOR (Banerjee and Lavie 2005), CIDEr (Vedantam, Zitnick, and Parikh 2015), and ROUGE (Lin 2004) rely on lexical overlap, which not only unfairly penalizes legitimate paraphrases but also rewards superficial word-level matches between descriptions with entirely different global narratives. Embedding-based metrics like BERTScore (Zhang et al. 2020) and SBERT (Reimers and Gurevych 2019) address lexical limitations through semantic similarity but overlook chronological alignment and local fine-grained details, allowing misordered events and subtle errors to remain undetected. Multimodal metrics such as EMScore (Shi et al. 2022) enable direct comparison against source video content but struggle with long videos and long-form descriptions. LLM-based metrics such as CLAIR (Chan et al. 2023) and AutoDQ (Wang et al. 2024) provide deeper insights but often do not evaluate the chronology of events while suffering from consistency issues.

To address these limitations, we introduce VCS with three components:

- Global Alignment Score (GAS): Measures global thematic alignment.
- Local Alignment Score (LAS): Assesses local semantic alignment.
- Narrative Alignment Score (NAS): Evaluates chronological alignment using configurable Local Chronology Tolerance (LCT).

VCS combines these three components to provide comprehensive evaluation: GAS and LAS form the Semantic Alignment Score (SAS), which integrates with NAS to produce the final VCS score. We also present VCS $_{\rm short}$, which applies the same framework to short-form descriptions.

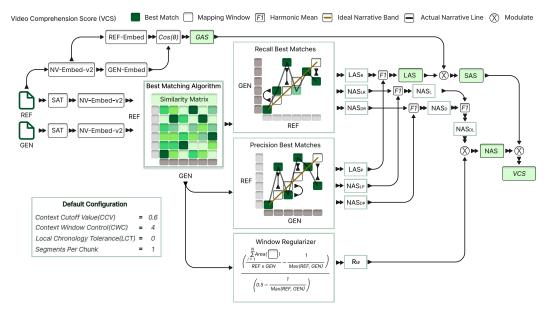


Figure 1: VCS Pipeline. The VCS assesses video descriptions by comparing a reference text (T_{ref}) with a model-generated text (T_{gen}) . Both texts are initially segmented by SaT and embedded via NV-Embed-v2. The Global Alignment Score (GAS) is computed from the full text embeddings. For localized analysis, texts are chunked and embedded, forming a similarity matrix. From this, precision and recall-oriented best matches yield the Local Alignment Score (LAS)—the harmonic mean of LAS_P (precision) and LAS_R (recall). The Narrative Alignment Score (NAS) incorporates distance-based (NAS_D) and line-based (NAS_L) assessments. NAS_D and NAS_L are harmonic means of their respective precision and recall components. A Window Regularizer (R_W) refines the NAS. The Semantic Alignment Score (SAS) is derived by modulating GAS with LAS. The final VCS results from modulating the smaller of SAS and the regularized NAS with the larger.

To evaluate VCS, we need datasets of long-form video descriptions paired with quality assessments—but no such datasets exist. Although creating a human-annotated dataset with quality ratings would be ideal, it is impractical: producing and reviewing long-form descriptions is costly and time-consuming, and annotator agreement declines sharply as description length increases. We therefore constructed a large-scale synthetic dataset from the MPII Movie Description Dataset (Rohrbach et al. 2015) via ChatGPT-4o. From this dataset, we derived two test sets: a Corruption Detection Test Set to evaluate VCS ability to distinguish valid variations from invalid corruptions, and a Cross-Author Consistency Test Set to assess robustness across different authorial styles. VCS consistently outperforms traditional metrics on corruption detection tasks. To assess human correlation, we evaluate VCS_{short} on VATEX-EVAL (Shi et al. 2022), where it achieves state-of-the-art results. These results demonstrate VCS effectiveness for robust evaluation of both long-form and short-form video descriptions.

Our primary contributions include:

- A robust metric (VCS) for both long-form and short-form video descriptions.
- Configurable LCT and chunk size parameters to govern chronological strictness and comparison granularity.

Related Work

Traditional n-gram-based metrics such as BLEU (Papineni et al. 2002), ROUGE (Lin 2004), and METEOR (Baner-

jee and Lavie 2005) evaluate text generation through lexical overlap and local word order. BLEU measures n-gram precision with brevity penalties, capturing local ordering but missing event-level chronology and struggling with expressive variability. ROUGE variants compute precision, recall, and F1-scores: ROUGE-N evaluates n-gram overlap, ROUGE-L computes Longest Common Subsequence at summary-level, and ROUGE-Lsum calculates sentencelevel LCS by splitting at newlines. While preserving sequential information, they miss event-level chronology and remain sensitive to expressive variability. METEOR addresses expressive variability via synonyms and stems, computing recall-weighted F-scores with fragmentation penalties, but similarly misses event-level chronology. CIDEr (Vedantam, Zitnick, and Parikh 2015) uses consensus-based TF-IDF weighting across multiple references but proves impractical for long-form descriptions due to labor-intensive annotation. SPICE (Anderson et al. 2016) evaluates semantic propositions using graph overlaps, effectively handling paraphrasing; however, being designed for static images, it cannot be directly applied to videos and neglects narrative chronology critical for video descriptions.

Embedding-based metrics compare texts in semantic vector spaces, leveraging pretrained models to capture semantic similarity beyond lexical matches. BERTScore computes token-level similarity using contextualized BERT embeddings, aggregating optimal alignments into precision, recall, and F1-scores, while SBERT employs siamese net-

works with mean-pooling for sentence-level embeddings, but both address expressive variability by recognizing paraphrases yet are constrained by limited context windows, complicating their direct application to long-form descriptions. Recent decoder-based models such as NV-Embed-v2 (Lee et al. 2024), Linq-Embed-Mistral (Choi et al. 2024), SFR-Embedding-Mistral (Meng et al. 2024), and Jasper and Stella (Zhang et al. 2024) leverage autoregressive LLM architectures with bidirectional attention, offering significantly larger context windows and robust global embeddings, excelling at paragraph-level semantic assessments. However, reliance on global embeddings and cosine similarity overlooks local content alignment, detailed information accuracy, and chronological alignment.

Multimodal embedding metrics like EMScore (Shi et al. 2022) and PAC-S (Sarto et al. 2023) employ vision-language models such as CLIP (Radford et al. 2021) to evaluate semantic alignment between visuals and generated captions, addressing expressive variability through direct imagecaption comparison, thus bypassing reference captions. EM-Score computes video-caption similarity through dual-level matching: coarse-grained alignment between video and caption embeddings, and fine-grained matching between frames and words, calculating precision, recall, and F1-scores via cosine similarity. PAC-S fine-tunes CLIP through positiveaugmented contrastive learning with synthetic image-text pairs, then computes cosine similarity scores from the enhanced model. Despite their effectiveness in short-form descriptions, these metrics face computational challenges and methodological limitations when scaling to long-form descriptions.

Recent evaluation approaches increasingly leverage Large Language Models (LLMs), categorized into componentbased and holistic judge methods. Component-based methods such as AutoDQ (Wang et al. 2024) extract events from descriptions using ChatGPT, then compute precision and recall through entailment analysis comparing extracted events between texts, while VAD-Score (Dubey and Pack 2025) employs LLMs for semantic extraction and scoring of events, subjects, and objects, effectively addressing expressive variability but missing chronological evaluation. Holistic methods such as CapScore (Li et al. 2024) prompt GPT-4 to score caption similarity and quality, CapArena-Auto Score (Cheng et al. 2025) uses GPT-40 for pairwise evaluation battles, and CLAIR (Chan et al. 2023) employs zeroshot prompting for similarity scores with interpretable reasoning. However, these methods suffer from ambiguity in score calibration, sensitivity to prompting nuances, consistency issues across model versions, limited interpretability, and practical constraints including reproducibility and cost.

Methodology

Figure 1 shows the VCS pipeline, which computes semantic and narrative alignment between reference and generated descriptions to achieve comprehensive long-form video description evaluation.

Global Alignment Score (GAS) VCS computes GAS to capture global thematic alignment between reference and

generated descriptions. Given input texts T_{ref} and T_{gen} , we encode each description using NV-Embed-v2. The GAS is computed as:

$$GAS = \frac{\mathbf{E}_{ref} \cdot \mathbf{E}_{gen}}{\|\mathbf{E}_{ref}\| \|\mathbf{E}_{gen}\|}$$
(1)

Text Preprocessing for Chunk-Level Analysis GAS only captures global thematic alignment and lacks sensitivity to fine-grained details and chronological consistency. To enable fine-grained semantic comparison, VCS preprocesses input texts into structured chunk representations. Given texts T_{ref} and T_{gen} , the preprocessing pipeline applies punctuation removal followed by Segment Any Text (SaT) (Frohmann et al. 2024) segmentation to produce semantic segments S_{ref} and S_{gen} . To control the granularity of analysis, we group k consecutive segments into chunks $C_{ref} = \{c_1^{ref}, ..., c_{N_{ref}}^{ref}\}$ and $C_{gen} = \{c_1^{gen}, ..., c_{N_{gen}}^{gen}\}$, which are embedded using NV-Embed-v2 to yield embedding matrices $\mathbf{E}_{C_{ref}} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_{ref} \times D}$ and $\mathbf{E}_{C_{gen}} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_{gen} \times D}$.

Defining Mapping Windows Before establishing chunk correspondences for fine-grained assessment, VCS defines Mapping Windows (MW) that constrain the search space for optimal alignments. This concept stems from empirical observations in text similarity matrices: when computing pairwise chunk embeddings between identical long-form descriptions, the resulting similarity matrix exhibits a clear diagonal structure. The first chunk from C_{ref} has highest cosine similarity with the first chunk from C_{gen} , and this diagonal pattern stretches or compresses proportionally in brevity or verbosity cases.

Mapping Windows formalize this observation through asymmetric sequence handling. Given chunk counts N_{ref} and N_{gen} , we compute the slope $s=\max(N_{ref},N_{gen})/\min(N_{ref},N_{gen})$ and base window height $h_{mw}=\lceil s \rceil$. The algorithm creates direct windows by mapping each position in the shorter sequence to a window of height h_{mw} in the longer sequence, with window centers determined by proportional scaling. For each shorter sequence position i, the corresponding window in the longer sequence spans the range $[[i \cdot s], \min([i \cdot s] + \bar{h}_{mw}, \bar{N}_{longer}))$. Reverse windows are generated by inverting this mapping: for each longer sequence position, we determine which shorter sequence positions have windows that include it. The system assigns Precision Windows (MW_{prec}) and Recall Windows (MW_{rec}) based on sequence direction: when $N_{ref} \geq N_{gen}$, precision uses direct windows and recall uses reverse windows; otherwise, the assignment is reversed.

Best Matching Algorithm Having defined Mapping Windows, VCS now establishes chunk correspondences required for LAS and NAS computation. Given the chunk embedding matrices $\mathbf{E}_{C_{ref}} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_{ref} \times D}$ and $\mathbf{E}_{C_{gen}} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_{gen} \times D}$ from preprocessing, we first compute a similarity matrix $\mathbf{S} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_{ref} \times N_{gen}}$ where $S_{i,j}$ represents the cosine similarity between the i-th reference chunk and j-th generated chunk. For each generated chunk, we need to find its best matching reference chunk, and vice versa for each reference chunk.

The naive approach would select the highest similarity value for each chunk. However, this creates semantic ambiguity and collisions. Collisions occur when two or more generated chunks yield exact same similarity values (e.g., 0.8) with the same reference chunk. Ambiguity arises when chunks have very similar similarity values (e.g., 0.88 vs 0.92), typically due to repeating events where identical descriptions appear at different temporal positions. For instance, if the same event occurs at the beginning and end of a video, naive matching might incorrectly pair the first occurrence with the last occurrence rather than maintaining temporal order.

The Best Matching Algorithm resolves these issues using adaptive context windows and Mapping Windows (MW_{prec}, MW_{rec}) to constrain the search space along the diagonal, where first chunks ideally match with first chunks and last chunks with last chunks. For each chunk, the algorithm first identifies the maximum similarity value and determines whether to apply context filtering based on context cutoff threshold 0.6. When applied, the context window size becomes $w_{ctx} = \frac{(1-0.6)-(1-s_{max})}{s_{max}\cdot 5.0}$, establishing a similarity threshold that creates the candidate set of viable matches. When collisions occur within this candidate set, the algorithm computes the distance from each candidate to the mapping window boundaries and selects the candidate with minimum distance, thereby preserving chronological alignment. For candidates inside the mapping window, distance is zero; for candidates outside, distance equals the minimum separation from window boundaries. When multiple candidates share minimum distance, ties break by selecting the candidate with highest similarity value. This bidirectional process—finding best matches from generatedto-reference and reference-to-generated-yields precisionoriented (M_P) and recall-oriented (M_R) matches essential for subsequent LAS and NAS computation.

Local Alignment Score (LAS) LAS assesses fine-grained semantic quality by averaging cosine similarities of matched chunk pairs. It computes precision-oriented scores (LAS_P) by averaging similarities of generated chunks matched to reference chunks, and recall-oriented scores (LAS_R) by averaging similarities of reference chunks matched to generated chunks. The final LAS is a combination of LAS_P and LAS_R through harmonic mean.

High LAS indicates strong local semantic agreement, though it remains insensitive to chronological order, necessitating narrative assessment.

Narrative Alignment Score (NAS) NAS evaluates chronological alignment and narrative integrity using the matched pairs M_P and M_R established by the Best Matching Algorithm. It addresses LAS's order insensitivity through two complementary approaches: distance-based penalties for positional deviations and line-based path analysis for narrative flow assessment.

Local Chronology Tolerance (LCT) Before computing NAS components, VCS defines Local Chronology Tolerance through multiplier $\tau_{LCT} \geq 0$ that provides configurable flexibility for benign local reorderings and minor content

variations. When $\tau_{LCT} = 0$, strict chronological order is enforced. Higher values allow increasingly relaxed chronological constraints, enabling the metric to accommodate natural variations in storytelling while maintaining chronological alignment assessment.

Distance-based NAS (NAS_D) This component penalizes when matched elements deviate from expected narrative positions within Mapping Windows. For each matched pair, the algorithm computes positional distance from mapping window boundaries, applies LCT tolerance, and accumulates penalties. The score normalizes total penalties by maximum possible penalties:

$$NAS_{D,x} = 1 - \frac{P_{total,x}}{P_{max,x}} \tag{2}$$

where $P_{total,x}$ represents accumulated positional penalties and $P_{max,x}$ denotes maximum possible penalties for precision (x = P) or recall (x = R) orientations. When no violations occur, $NAS_{D,x} = 1.0$. The final NAS_D is a combination of $NAS_{D,P}$ and $NAS_{D,R}$ through harmonic

Line-based NAS (NAS_L) This component analyzes the geometric path formed by consecutive matched elements, treating alignment as a trajectory through the similarity matrix. VCS computes ideal narrative bands bounded by shortest and longest possible paths through Mapping Windows. The actual path length incorporates LCT-based filtering. The score evaluates path deviation:

$$NAS_{L,x} = 1.0$$
 if path within ideal band (3)

$$NAS_{L,x} = \frac{L_{actual}}{L_{ideal,min}}$$
 if path too short (4)

$$NAS_{L,x} = \frac{L_{actual}}{L_{ideal,min}}$$
 if path too short (4)
 $NAS_{L,x} = \frac{L_{ideal,max}}{L_{actual}}$ if path too long (5)

where L_{actual} represents actual path length, $L_{ideal,min}$ and $L_{ideal,max}$ define ideal narrative band boundaries for precision (x = P) or recall (x = R) orientations. The final NAS_L is a combination of $NAS_{L,P}$ and $NAS_{L,R}$ through harmonic mean.

The final NAS is a combination of NAS_D and NAS_L through harmonic mean.

Window Regularization To mitigate influence from extreme text length disparities, a Window Regularizer (R_W) adjusts NAS. Let $\rho = A_{mw}/A_{timeline}$ represent the mapping window coverage ratio, and $\rho_{min} = 1/N_{max}$ represent minimum allowable coverage:

$$R_W = \max\left(0, \min\left(1, \frac{\rho - \rho_{min}}{0.5 - \rho_{min}}\right)\right) \tag{6}$$

The regularized score becomes

$$NAS_{reg} = \frac{NAS - R_W}{1 - R_W} \tag{7}$$

when $NAS > R_W$ and $R_W < 1$, ensuring meaningful chronological assessment despite length variations.

Final VCS Aggregation The complete VCS integrates semantic and narrative alignment through careful score combination. GAS is modulated by LAS to yield Semantic Alignment Score (SAS):

$$SAS = \frac{GAS - (1 - LAS)}{LAS} \tag{8}$$

when LAS > 0 and the numerator is positive, otherwise SAS = 0. This ensures high global similarity requires supporting local semantic agreement. The final score synthesizes SAS with NAS_{reg} through adaptive weighting:

The final VCS uses adaptive weighting with intermediate variables:

$$S_{min} = \min(SAS, NAS_{reg}) \tag{9}$$

$$S_{max} = \max(SAS, NAS_{reg}) \tag{10}$$

$$VCS = \frac{S_{min} - (1 - S_{max})}{S_{max}} \tag{11}$$

when both components are positive and the numerator exceeds zero, otherwise VCS=0.

Extension for Short-Form Descriptions (VCS $_{short}$) For short-form description evaluation, VCS $_{short}$ adapts the complete VCS methodology to operate at word-level granularity. Input texts undergo cleaning to remove punctuation and stop words, then tokenization into individual words that serve as fundamental elements. These words replace multi-word chunks in all alignment and scoring processes while maintaining identical metric computation and aggregation logic, enabling consistent evaluation across different description lengths.

Dataset Construction

We construct two synthetic datasets from MPII-MD (Rohrbach et al. 2015) containing 94 movies with 68,000 annotated segments. We extract 1,390 consecutive scene groups (500 words each) and use ChatGPT-40 to synthesize coherent narrative descriptions, yielding our base dataset.

Corruption Detection Test Set

We generate 10 valid variations and 10 invalid corruptions per base description to evaluate VCS ability to distinguish legitimate stylistic changes from content errors. Valid variations include lexical variation, voice transformation, paraphrasing, abstraction (50%/70% reduction), elaboration (130%/150% expansion), action decomposition/aggregation, and attribute injection while preserving narrative integrity. Invalid corruptions introduce content errors through SAO distortion, ID summarization, hallucination (50%/80% unrelated segments), omission (50%/80% deletion), sequence inversion, local/global permutation, and sequence rotation. All transformations employ SAT segmentation while preserving segment content integrity, producing 27,800 test instances.

Cross-Author Consistency Test Set

We use the same 1,390 scene groups with ChatGPT-40 as Author 1 baseline and prompt Grok 3, Claude Sonnet 3.5,

and Mistral-Large to generate authorial variations. Each model applies systematic transformations including paraphrasing, voice switching, brevity/verbosity adjustments, action scaling, attribute modification, detail variation, and scene expansion while preserving chronological order and factual content. This produces 5,560 descriptions $(1,390 \times 4)$ authors for evaluating metric robustness across writing styles.

Experiments

We conduct comprehensive experiments to evaluate VCS performance on corruption detection tasks. Our evaluation compares VCS against established video description metrics to assess its ability to distinguish valid narrative variations from invalid corruptions.

Experimental Setup

We evaluate VCS alongside four rule-based metrics: BLEU (Papineni et al. 2002), ROUGE-L (Lin 2004), METEOR (Banerjee and Lavie 2005), and CIDEr (Vedantam, Zitnick, and Parikh 2015), and two embedding-based metrics: BERTScore (Zhang et al. 2020) and SBERT (Reimers and Gurevych 2019). For BERTScore, we use the RoBERTa-base backbone with F1-measure configuration. For SBERT, we employ the all-MiniLM-L6-v2 model for sentence embeddings. VCS uses NV-Embed-v2 for text embeddings with chunk size k=3 and Local Chronology Tolerance $\tau_{LCT}=0.1$ across all experiments.

The Corruption Detection Test Set provides ground-truth labels where valid variations receive score 1 and invalid corruptions receive score 0. For each metric, we compute scores between base descriptions and their corresponding variations/corruptions, then evaluate classification performance using accuracy, precision, recall, and F1-score with threshold 0.5.

Corruption Detection Results

Table 1 presents the performance of VCS compared to traditional metrics across various text transformations. The transformations are grouped into Valid Test Cases (legitimate variations that should receive high scores) and Invalid Test Cases (corruptions that should receive low scores). For each metric, the top value represents the mean and the bottom value represents the standard deviation.

Human Judgment Correlation Results

Table 2 presents human judgment correlation scores on the VATEX-EVAL dataset, comparing VCS against traditional metrics in both single-reference (1Ref) and multi-reference (9Refs) settings using Kendall's τ_b and Spearman's ρ correlation coefficients.

Cross-Author Consistency Results

Table 3 presents performance comparison of different metrics across various authorial combinations. For each metric, the top value represents the mean and the bottom value represents the standard deviation.

Metric	Valid Test Cases				Invalid Test Cases															
	Lexical Variation	Voice Transformation	Paraphrasing	Low-Abstraction	High-Abstraction	Low-Elaboration	High-Elaboration	Action Decomposition	Action Aggregation	Attribute Injection	Minor Hallucination	Major Hallucination	Minor Omission	Major Omission	SAO Distortion	Summarization	Local Permutation	Global Permutation	Sequence Inversion	Sequence Rotation
BLEU-1	83.1	79.8 ±5.7	69.3 ±5.6	38.3	23.4	66.5 ±8.9	55.7 ±7.2	57.2 ±8.9	34.0 ±12	69.5 ±6.5	53.9 ±6.9	43.7 +7.0	38.9 ±7.1	3.7 ±2.8	49.4 ±4.6	8.1 ±5.4	99.6	99.7 ±0.5	99.7	99.7 ±0.5
BLEU-4		52.8 ±10		18.6 ±11				25.1 ±10	13.1 ±8.3	62.5 ±8.3		_,	38.4 ±7.1							99.2
METEOR	88.1 ±7.1	87.0 ±5.3	65.5 ±8.1	39.2 ±11	29.5 ±8.2	69.7 ±11	63.2	58.7 ±8.8	33.4 ±9.0		82.6 ±2.4	79.4 +2.9	47.1 ±4.6	21.0 ±3.7	50.2 ±6.3	17.7 ±4.5	83.7 ±2.0	64.4 ±3.4	58.9 ±3.2	
ROUGE-1	84.0 ±8.1		74.9 ±4.3	64.0 ±9.6	54.1 ±9.2	77.3 ±6.8	69.9 ±6.0	69.5 ±7.1	58.1			,	67.0	36.0 ±5.3				99.0 ±0.9		99.0
ROUGE-4	50.3 ±18	41.0 ±12	20.4 ±7.5	15.7 ±10	8.90 ±6.2	25.6 ±15	16.4 ±8.9	15.3 ±10	9.50 ±6.7	66.3 ±9.3	67.3 ±6.1	58.4 ±7.0	64.2 ±4.8	33.4 ±5.5	2.50 ±2.0	2.90 ±2.3	78.9 ±6.6	79.6 ±6.6	79.2 ±6.6	96.2 ±2.7
ROUGE-L	83.5 ±8.4	75.4 ±6.5	67.0 ±6.0	55.6 ±11	45.6 ±9.8	69.7 ±10	60.6 ±8.4	57.6 ±9.6		81.6 ±4.7		60.3 ±7.0	66.9 ±4.3	36.0 ±5.3	47.2 ±5.4	27.4 ±6.4	65.1 ±2.7	36.5 ±4.6	23.1 ±2.3	53.5 ±3.2
ROUGE-Lsum	83.8 ±8.2	84.7 ±4.1	73.4 ±4.5	62.1 ±10	52.1 ±9.4	76.0 ±7.3	68.4 ±6.3	67.5 ±7.4	55.4 ±9.3	81.8 ±4.6	69.7 ±5.9	60.4 ±7.0	67.0 ±4.3	36.0 ±5.3	50.7 ±4.5	35.2 ±6.8	97.7 ±1.7	97.7 ±1.9	96.7 ±2.4	98.8 ±1.1
$\overline{ ext{VCS}_{C_1 LCT_0}}$	93.7 ±7.1	95.1 ±3.7	95.8 ±2.8	86.0 ±8.8	80.0 ±10	92.2 ±4.6	87.5 ±5.4	88.5 ±5.9	81.0 ±10	86.4 ±4.7	69.1 ±6.8	53.4 ±14	62.2 ±4.9	1.90 ±4.9	5.00 ±10	62.4 ±18	0.70 ±2.3	3.40 ±4.4	0.10 ±0.8	42.9 ±2.8
$\operatorname{VCS}_{C_1 LCT_1}$	94.1 ±7.1	96.7 ±2.6	96.7 ±1.8	90.5 ±5.8	86.3 ±6.5	93.5 ±3.9		90.4 ±5.2			70.5 ±7.0		68.3 ±4.6	6.70 ±10	5.40 ±10	73.5 ±12	76.1 ±6.5	15.2 ±7.6	43.6 ±2.4	

Table 1: Corruption detection performance across various text transformations. Valid Test Cases represent legitimate variations that should receive high scores, while Invalid Test Cases represent corruptions that should receive low scores. For each metric, the top value represents the mean and the bottom value represents the standard deviation. VCS consistently outperforms traditional metrics by maintaining high scores for valid variations while effectively detecting corruptions.

	1	Ref	9Refs		
	Kendall τ_b	Spearman ρ	Kendall τ_b	Spearman ρ	
BLEU-1	12.2	15.9	28.9	37.0	
BLEU-4	12.6	16.4	22.4	29.5	
ROUGE	12.5	16.3	23.8	30.9	
METEOR	16.4	21.5	27.6	35.7	
CIDEr	17.3	22.6	27.8	36.1	
BERT-S	18.2	23.7	29.3	37.8	
BERT-S++	15.2	19.8	24.4	31.7	
EMScore	28.6	37.1	36.8	47.2	
PAC-S	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
RefPAC-S	31.4	40.5	38.1	48.8	
$\overline{\mathrm{VCS}_{C_1 LCT_0}}$	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
$VCS_{C_1 LCT_1}$	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	

Table 2: Human judgment correlation scores on VATEX-EVAL dataset.

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Metric		Autho	r 1		Autho	r 2		Autho	r 3		Author	4
	A1-A2	A1-A3		A2-A1	A2-A3	A2-A4	A3-A1	A3-A2	_	A4-A1	A4-A2	A4-A3
BLEU-1	45.1	46.3	52.4	46.4	39.4	50.8	43.8	33.7	40.2	53.3	50.2	44.7
	±6.7	±4.3	±9.2	±5.9	±5.0	±5.7	±5.8	±6.8	±9.3	±8.2	±6.3	±6.8
BLEU-4	9.30	9.70	15.2	9.60	8.10	12.0	9.20	7.00	9.70	15.4	11.9	10.7
DLEU-4	±3.5	±2.6	±7.0	±3.5	±2.6	±3.9	±2.6	± 2.6	±3.7	±6.9	±3.9	±3.5
METEOR	35.2	42.9	41.6	41.1	43.5	42.8	33.5	29.0	33.9	43.1	38.1	44.8
	±5.0	±3.5	±7.6	±3.8	±3.0	±4.4	±3.3	±3.9	±5.4	±7.5	±6.4	±5.5
ROUGE-1	56.0	57.8	62.1	56.0	55.2	60.2	57.8	55.2	59.4	62.1	60.2	59.4
	± 4.8	±3.4	±6.6	±4.8	±4.2	±4.3	±3.4	±4.2	±5.0	±6.6	±4.3	±5.0
ROUGE-4	3.00	3.20	6.60	3.00	3.20	4.50	3.20	3.20	4.40	6.60	4.50	4.40
KOUGE-4	±1.8	±1.5	±4.9	±1.8	±1.5	±2.3	±1.5	±1.5	± 2.1	±4.9	±2.3	±2.1
ROUGE-L	36.6	40.4	43.8	36.6	34.9	38.3	40.4	34.9	38.8	43.8	38.3	38.8
ROUGE-L	±4.9	±3.9	±7.9	±4.9	±4.1	±5.0	±3.9	± 4.1	±5.2	±7.9	±5.0	±5.2
ROUGE-Lsum	52.6	55.1	59.2	52.6	51.3	56.4	55.3	51.4	56.2	59.3	56.5	56.0
ROUGE-LSuili	±4.7	±3.5	±6.7	±4.8	±4.2	±4.3	±3.5	±4.1	±5.0	±6.7	±4.3	±5.1
VCS	76.3	77.9	74.9	76.3	75.2	76.7	77.9	75.2	76.5	74.9	76.7	76.5
$\mathrm{VCS}_{C_1 LCT_0}$	±10	±7.5	±13	±10	±9.6	±11	±7.5	±9.6	±10	±13	±11	±10
VCS	82.5	80.5	81.6	82.5	79.1	83.8	80.5	79.1	81.6	81.6	83.8	81.6
$\mathrm{VCS}_{C_1 LCT_1}$	±7.7	±6.5	±10	±7.7	±7.7	±8.8	±6.5	±7.7	±8.2	±10	±8.8	±8.2

Table 3: Performance comparison of different metrics across various authorial combinations. For each metric, the top value represents the mean and the bottom value represents the standard deviation.

Camera-Ready Guidelines

Congratulations on having a paper selected for inclusion in an AAAI Press proceedings or technical report! This document details the requirements necessary to get your accepted paper published using PDFLATEX. If you are using Microsoft Word, instructions are provided in a different document. AAAI Press does not support any other formatting software.

The instructions herein are provided as a general guide for experienced LATEX users. If you do not know how to use LATEX, please obtain assistance locally. AAAI cannot provide you with support and the accompanying style files are **not** guaranteed to work. If the results you obtain are not in accordance with the specifications you received, you must correct your source file to achieve the correct result.

These instructions are generic. Consequently, they do not include specific dates, page charges, and so forth. Please consult your specific written conference instructions for details regarding your submission. Please review the entire document for specific instructions that might apply to your particular situation. All authors must comply with the following:

- You must use the 2026 AAAI Press LATEX style file and the aaai2026.bst bibliography style files, which are located in the 2026 AAAI Author Kit (aaai2026.sty, aaai2026.bst).
- You must complete, sign, and return by the deadline the AAAI copyright form (unless directed by AAAI Press to use the AAAI Distribution License instead).
- You must read and format your paper source and PDF according to the formatting instructions for authors.
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Formatting Requirements in Brief

We need source and PDF files that can be used in a variety of ways and can be output on a variety of devices. The design and appearance of the paper is strictly governed by the aaai style file (aaai2026.sty). You must not make any changes to the aaai style file, nor use any commands, packages, style files, or macros within your own paper that alter that design, including, but not limited to spacing, floats, margins, fonts, font size, and appearance. AAAI imposes requirements on your source and PDF files that must be followed. Most of these requirements are based on our efforts to standardize conference manuscript properties and layout. All papers submitted to AAAI for publication will be recompiled for standardization purposes. Consequently, every

paper submission must comply with the following requirements:

- Your .tex file must compile in PDFLATEX (you may not include .ps or .eps figure files.)
- All fonts must be embedded in the PDF file including your figures.
- Modifications to the style file, whether directly or via commands in your document may not ever be made, most especially when made in an effort to avoid extra page charges or make your paper fit in a specific number of pages.
- No type 3 fonts may be used (even in illustrations).
- You may not alter the spacing above and below captions, figures, headings, and subheadings.
- You may not alter the font sizes of text elements, footnotes, heading elements, captions, or title information (for references and mathematics, please see the limited exceptions provided herein).
- You may not alter the line spacing of text.
- Your title must follow Title Case capitalization rules (not sentence case).
- LaTeX documents must use the Times or Nimbus font package (you may not use Computer Modern for the text of your paper).
- No LATEX 209 documents may be used or submitted.
- Your source must not require use of fonts for non-Roman alphabets within the text itself. If your paper includes symbols in other languages (such as, but not limited to, Arabic, Chinese, Hebrew, Japanese, Thai, Russian and other Cyrillic languages), you must restrict their use to bit-mapped figures. Fonts that require non-English language support (CID and Identity-H) must be converted to outlines or 300 dpi bitmap or removed from the document (even if they are in a graphics file embedded in the document).
- Two-column format in AAAI style is required for all papers.
- The paper size for final submission must be US letter without exception.
- The source file must exactly match the PDF.
- The document margins may not be exceeded (no overfull boxes).
- The number of pages and the file size must be as specified for your event.
- No document may be password protected.
- Neither the PDFs nor the source may contain any embedded links or bookmarks (no hyperref or navigator packages).
- Your source and PDF must not have any page numbers, footers, or headers (no pagestyle commands).
- Your PDF must be compatible with Acrobat 5 or higher.
- Your LaTeX source file (excluding references) must consist of a single file (use of the "input" command is not allowed.

• Your graphics must be sized appropriately outside of LaTeX (do not use the "clip" or "trim" command).

If you do not follow these requirements, your paper will be returned to you to correct the deficiencies.

What Files to Submit

You must submit the following items to ensure that your paper is published:

- A fully-compliant PDF file.
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- The bibliography (.bib) file(s).
- Your source must compile on our system, which includes only standard L^AT_FX 2020 TeXLive support files.
- Only the graphics files used in compiling paper.
- The LATEX-generated files (e.g. .aux, .bbl file, PDF, etc.).

Your LATEX source will be reviewed and recompiled on our system (if it does not compile, your paper will be returned to you. **Do not submit your source in multiple text files.** Your single LATEX source file must include all your text, your bibliography (formatted using aaai2026.bst), and any custom macros.

Your files should work without any supporting files (other than the program itself) on any computer with a standard LATEX distribution.

Do not send files that are not actually used in the paper. Avoid including any files not needed for compiling your paper, including, for example, this instructions file, unused graphics files, style files, additional material sent for the purpose of the paper review, intermediate build files and so forth.

Obsolete style files. The commands for some common packages (such as some used for algorithms), may have changed. Please be certain that you are not compiling your paper using old or obsolete style files.

Final Archive. Place your source files in a single archive which should be compressed using .zip. The final file size may not exceed 10 MB. Name your source file with the last (family) name of the first author, even if that is not you.

Using LaTeX to Format Your Paper

The latest version of the AAAI style file is available on AAAI's website. Download this file and place it in the TEX search path. Placing it in the same directory as the paper should also work. You must download the latest version of the complete AAAI Author Kit so that you will have the latest instruction set and style file.

Document Preamble

In the LATEX source for your paper, you **must** place the following lines as shown in the example in this subsection. This command set-up is for three authors. Add or subtract author and address lines as necessary, and uncomment the portions

that apply to you. In most instances, this is all you need to do to format your paper in the Times font. The helvet package will cause Helvetica to be used for sans serif. These files are part of the PSNFSS2e package, which is freely available from many Internet sites (and is often part of a standard installation).

Leave the setcounter for section number depth commented out and set at 0 unless you want to add section numbers to your paper. If you do add section numbers, you must uncomment this line and change the number to 1 (for section numbers), or 2 (for section and subsection numbers). The style file will not work properly with numbering of subsubsections, so do not use a number higher than 2.

The Following Must Appear in Your Preamble

```
\documentclass[letterpaper]{article}
% DO NOT CHANGE THIS
\usepackage[submission]{aaai2026} % DO NOT CHANGE THIS
\usepackage{times} % DO NOT CHANGE THIS
\usepackage{helvet} % DO NOT CHANGE THIS
\usepackage{courier} % DO NOT CHANGE THIS
\usepackage[hyphens]{url} % DO NOT CHANGE THIS
\usepackage{graphicx} % DO NOT CHANGE THIS
\urlstyle{rm} % DO NOT CHANGE THIS
\def\UrlFont{\rm} % DO NOT CHANGE THIS
\usepackage{graphicx} % DO NOT CHANGE THIS
\usepackage{natbib} % DO NOT CHANGE THIS
\usepackage{caption} % DO NOT CHANGE THIS
\frenchspacing % DO NOT CHANGE THIS
\setlength{\pdfpagewidth}{8.5in} % DO NOT CHANGE THIS
\setlength{\pdfpageheight}{11in} % DO NOT CHANGE THIS
% Keep the \pdfinfo as shown here. There's no need
% for you to add the /Title and /Author tags.
/TemplateVersion (2026.1)
```

Preparing Your Paper

After the preamble above, you should prepare your paper as follows:

```
\begin{document}
\maketitle
\begin{abstract}
%...
\end{abstract}
```

If you want to add links to the paper's code, dataset(s), and extended version or similar this is the place to add them, within a *links* environment:

```
\begin{links}
  \link{Code}{https://aaai.org/example/guidelines}
  \link{Datasets}{https://aaai.org/example/datasets}
  \link{Extended version}{https://aaai.org/example}
  \end{links}
```

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```
% References and End of Paper
```

```
% These lines must be placed at the end of your paper
\bibliography{Bibliography-File}
\end{document}
\begin{document}\\
\maketitle\\
...\\
bibliography{Bibliography-File}\\
\end{document}\\
```

Commands and Packages That May Not Be Used

There are a number of packages, commands, scripts, and macros that are incompatable with aaai2026.sty. The common ones are listed in tables 4 and 5. Generally, if a command, package, script, or macro alters floats, margins, fonts, sizing, linespacing, or the presentation of the references and citations, it is unacceptable. Note that negative vskip and vspace may not be used except in certain rare occurances, and may never be used around tables, figures, captions, sections, subsections, subsubsections, or references.

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For your final camera ready copy, you must not use any page break commands. References must flow directly after the text without breaks. Note that some conferences require references to be on a separate page during the review process. AAAI Press, however, does not require this condition for the final paper.

Paper Size, Margins, and Column Width

Papers must be formatted to print in two-column format on 8.5 x 11 inch US letter-sized paper. The margins must be exactly as follows:

• Top margin: 1.25 inches (first page), .75 inches (others)

Left margin: .75 inches Right margin: .75 inches Bottom margin: 1.25 inches

The default paper size in most installations of LATEX is A4. However, because we require that your electronic paper be formatted in US letter size, the preamble we have provided includes commands that alter the default to US letter size. Please note that using any other package to alter page size (such as, but not limited to the Geometry package) will result in your final paper being returned to you for correction.

Column Width and Margins. To ensure maximum readability, your paper must include two columns. Each column should be 3.3 inches wide (slightly more than 3.25 inches), with a .375 inch (.952 cm) gutter of white space between the two columns. The aaai2026.sty file will automatically create these columns for you.

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If your paper is too long and you resort to formatting tricks to make it fit, it is quite likely that it will be returned to you. The best way to retain readability if the paper is overlength is to cut text, figures, or tables. There are a few acceptable ways to reduce paper size that don't affect readability. First, turn on \frenchspacing, which will reduce the space after

\abovecaption	\abovedisplay	\addevensidemargin	\addsidemargin
\addtolength	\baselinestretch	belowcaption	\belowdisplay
break	\clearpage	\clip	\columnsep
\float	\input	\input	\linespread
\newpage	\pagebreak	renewcommand	setlength
\text height	\tiny	\top margin	\trim
-	-		

Table 4: Commands that must not be used

authblk	babel	cjk	dvips
epsf	epsfig	euler	float
fullpage	geometry	graphics	hyperref
layout	linespread	lmodern	maltepaper
navigator	pdfcomment	pgfplots	psfig
pstricks	t1enc	titlesec	tocbind
ulem		•	

Table 5: LaTeX style packages that must not be used.

periods. Next, move all your figures and tables to the top of the page. Consider removing less important portions of a figure. If you use \centering instead of \begin{center} in your figure environment, you can also buy some space. For mathematical environments, you may reduce fontsize **but not below 6.5 point**.

Commands that alter page layout are forbidden. These include \columnsep, \float, \topmargin, \topskip, \textheight, \textwidth, \oddsidemargin, and \evensizemargin (this list is not exhaustive). If you alter page layout, you will be required to pay the page fee. Other commands that are questionable and may cause your paper to be rejected include \parindent, and \parskip. Commands that alter the space between sections are forbidden. The title sec package is not allowed. Regardless of the above, if your paper is obviously "squeezed" it is not going to to be accepted. Options for reducing the length of a paper include reducing the size of your graphics, cutting text, or paying the extra page charge (if it is offered).

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Fortunately, there are effective workarounds that will prevent your file from embedding type 3 bitmapped fonts. The

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If you are unsure if your paper contains type 3 fonts, view the PDF in Acrobat Reader. The Properties/Fonts window will display the font name, font type, and encoding properties of all the fonts in the document. If you are unsure if your graphics contain type 3 fonts (and they are PostScript or encapsulated PostScript documents), create PDF versions of them, and consult the properties window in Acrobat Reader.

The default size for your type must be ten-point with twelve-point leading (line spacing). Start all pages (except the first) directly under the top margin. (See the next section for instructions on formatting the title page.) Indent ten points when beginning a new paragraph, unless the paragraph begins directly below a heading or subheading.

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Author's names should appear below the title of the paper, centered in twelve-point type (with fifteen point leading), along with affiliation(s) and complete address(es) (including

electronic mail address if available) in nine-point roman type (the twelve point leading). You should begin the two-column format when you come to the abstract.

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```
\author{
   Author 1, ..., Author n\\
}
\affiliations {
   Address line\\
   ... \\
   Address line\\
}
```

For authors from different institutions, use \textsuperscript $\{\rdot x \}$ to match authors and affiliations. Notice that there should not be any spaces between the author name (or comma following it) and the superscript.

```
\author{
   AuthorOne\equalcontrib\textsuperscript{\rm 1,\rm 2},
   AuthorTwo\equalcontrib\textsuperscript{\rm 2},
   AuthorThree\textsuperscript{\rm 3},\\
   AuthorFour\textsuperscript{\rm 4},
   AuthorFive \textsuperscript{\rm 5}}
\affiliations {
   \textsuperscript{\rm 1}AffiliationOne,\\
   \textsuperscript{\rm 2}AffiliationTwo,\\
   \textsuperscript{\rm 3}AffiliationThree,\\
   \textsuperscript{\rm 4}AffiliationFour,\\
   \textsuperscript{\rm 5}AffiliationFive\\
   \{email, email\}@affiliation.com,
   email@affiliation.com,
   email@affiliation.com.
   email@affiliation.com
```

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\title{Very Important Results in AI\thanks{This work is supported by everybody.}}

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Long quotations and extracts should be indented ten points from the left and right margins.

This is an example of an extract or quotation. Note the indent on both sides. Quotation marks are not necessary if you offset the text in a block like this, and properly identify and cite the quotation in the text.

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Use footnotes judiciously, taking into account that they interrupt the reading of the text. When required, they should be consecutively numbered throughout with superscript Arabic numbers. Footnotes should appear at the bottom of the page, separated from the text by a blank line space and a thin, halfpoint rule.

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When necessary, headings should be used to separate major sections of your paper. Remember, you are writing a short paper, not a lengthy book! An overabundance of headings will tend to make your paper look more like an outline than a paper. The aaai2026.sty package will create headings for you. Do not alter their size nor their spacing above or below.

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Section Headings. Sections should be arranged and headed as follows:

- 1. Main content sections
- 2. Appendices (optional)
- 3. Ethical Statement (optional, unnumbered)
- 4. Acknowledgements (optional, unnumbered)
- 5. References (unnumbered)

Appendices. Any appendices must appear after the main content. If your main sections are numbered, appendix sections must use letters instead of arabic numerals. In LATEX you can use the \appendix command to achieve this effect and then use \section{Heading} normally for your appendix sections.

Ethical Statement. You can write a statement about the potential ethical impact of your work, including its broad societal implications, both positive and negative. If included, such statement must be written in an unnumbered section titled *Ethical Statement*.

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References. The references section should be labeled "References" and must appear at the very end of the paper (don't end the paper with references, and then put a figure by itself on the last page). A sample list of references is given later on in these instructions. Please use a consistent format for references. Poorly prepared or sloppy references reflect badly on the quality of your paper and your research. Please prepare complete and accurate citations.

if there are no India Male and the sum to their turn total. At each decision point, a player may continue to roll or stop. If they decide to stop, they add their turn total to their total score and then it becomes the opponent's turn. Otherwise, they roll dice again continue adding to their turn total. If a single India turn total turn ended (no points gained); if a India turn total turn ended (no points gained); if a India turn total turn ended (no points gained);

Figure 2: Using the trim and clip commands produces fragile layers that can result in disasters (like this one from an actual paper) when the color space is corrected or the PDF combined with others for the final proceedings. Crop your figures properly in a graphics program – not in LaTeX.

Illustrations and Figures

Your paper must compile in PDFLTEX. Consequently, all your figures must be .jpg, .png, or .pdf. You may not use the .gif (the resolution is too low), .ps, or .eps file format for your figures.

Figures, drawings, tables, and photographs should be placed throughout the paper on the page (or the subsequent page) where they are first discussed. Do not group them together at the end of the paper. If placed at the top of the paper, illustrations may run across both columns. Figures must not invade the top, bottom, or side margin areas. Figures must be inserted using the \usepackage{graphicx}. Number figures sequentially, for example, figure 1, and so on. Do not use minipage to group figures.

If you normally create your figures using pgfplots, please create the figures first, and then import them as pdfs with proper bounding boxes, as the bounding and trim boxes created by pfgplots are fragile and not valid.

When you include your figures, you must crop them **outside** of LATEX. The command \includegraphics*[clip=true, viewport 0 0 10 10]... might result in a PDF that looks great, but the image is **not really cropped.** The full image can reappear (and obscure whatever it is overlapping) when page numbers are applied or color space is standardized. Figures 2, and 3 display some unwanted results that often occur.

If your paper includes illustrations that are not compatible with PDFTEX (such as .eps or .ps documents), you will need to convert them. The epstopdf package will usually work for eps files. You will need to convert your ps files to PDF in either case.

Figure Captions. The illustration number and caption must appear *under* the illustration. Labels and other text with the actual illustration must be at least nine-point type. However, the font and size of figure captions must be 10 point roman. Do not make them smaller, bold, or italic. (Individual words may be italicized if the context requires differentiation.)

Tables

Tables

Tables should be presented in 10 point roman type. If necessary, they may be altered to 9 point type. You must not

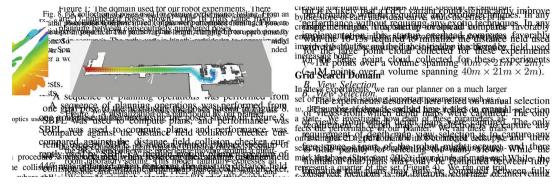


Figure 3: Adjusting the bounding box instead of actually removing the unwanted data resulted multiple layers in this paper. It also needlessly increased the PDF size. In this case, the size of the unwanted layer doubled the paper's size, and produced the following surprising results in final production. Crop your figures properly in a graphics program. Don't just alter the bounding box.

use \resizebox or other commands that resize the entire table to make it smaller, because you can't control the final font size this way. If your table is too large you can use \setlength{\tabcolsep}{1mm} to compress the columns a bit or you can adapt the content (e.g.: reduce the decimal precision when presenting numbers, use shortened column titles, make some column duble-line to get it narrower).

Tables that do not fit in a single column must be placed across double columns. If your table won't fit within the margins even when spanning both columns and using the above techniques, you must split it in two separate tables.

Table Captions. The number and caption for your table must appear *under* (not above) the table. Additionally, the font and size of table captions must be 10 point roman and must be placed beneath the figure. Do not make them smaller, bold, or italic. (Individual words may be italicized if the context requires differentiation.)

Low-Resolution Bitmaps. You may not use low-resolution (such as 72 dpi) screen-dumps and GIF files—these files contain so few pixels that they are always blurry, and illegible when printed. If they are color, they will become an indecipherable mess when converted to black and white. This is always the case with gif files, which should never be used. The resolution of screen dumps can be increased by reducing the print size of the original file while retaining the same number of pixels. You can also enlarge files by manipulating them in software such as PhotoShop. Your figures should be 300 dpi when incorporated into your document.

LATEX Overflow. LATEX users please beware: LATEX will sometimes put portions of the figure or table or an equation in the margin. If this happens, you need to make the figure or table span both columns. If absolutely necessary, you may reduce the figure, or reformat the equation, or reconfigure the table. Check your log file! You must fix any overflow into the margin (that means no overfull boxes in LATEX). Nothing is permitted to intrude into the margin or gutter.

Using Color. Use of color is restricted to figures only. It must be WACG 2.0 compliant. (That is, the contrast ratio must be greater than 4.5:1 no matter the font size.) It must be CMYK, NOT RGB. It may never be used for any portion of the text of your paper. The archival version of your paper will be printed in black and white and grayscale. The web version must be readable by persons with disabilities. Consequently, because conversion to grayscale can cause undesirable effects (red changes to black, yellow can disappear, and so forth), we strongly suggest you avoid placing color figures in your document. If you do include color figures, you must (1) use the CMYK (not RGB) colorspace and (2) be mindful of readers who may happen to have trouble distinguishing colors. Your paper must be decipherable without using color for distinction.

Drawings. We suggest you use computer drawing software (such as Adobe Illustrator or, (if unavoidable), the drawing tools in Microsoft Word) to create your illustrations. Do not use Microsoft Publisher. These illustrations will look best if all line widths are uniform (half- to two-point in size), and you do not create labels over shaded areas. Shading should be 133 lines per inch if possible. Use Times Roman or Helvetica for all figure call-outs. **Do not use hairline width lines** — be sure that the stroke width of all lines is at least .5 pt. Zero point lines will print on a laser printer, but will completely disappear on the high-resolution devices used by our printers.

Photographs and Images. Photographs and other images should be in grayscale (color photographs will not reproduce well; for example, red tones will reproduce as black, yellow may turn to white, and so forth) and set to a minimum of 300 dpi. Do not prescreen images.

Resizing Graphics. Resize your graphics **before** you include them with LaTeX. You may **not** use trim or clip options as part of your \includegraphics command. Resize the media box of your PDF using a graphics program instead.

Fonts in Your Illustrations. You must embed all fonts in your graphics before including them in your LaTeX document.

```
Algorithm 1: Example algorithm
Input: Your algorithm's input
Parameter: Optional list of parameters
Output: Your algorithm's output
 1: Let t = 0.
 2: while condition do
 3:
      Do some action.
 4:
      if conditional then
 5:
         Perform task A.
      else
 6:
 7:
         Perform task B.
 8:
      end if
 9: end while
```

Listing 1: Example listing quicksort.hs

10: **return** solution

Algorithms. Algorithms and/or programs are a special kind of figures. Like all illustrations, they should appear floated to the top (preferably) or bottom of the page. However, their caption should appear in the header, left-justified and enclosed between horizontal lines, as shown in Algorithm 1. The algorithm body should be terminated with another horizontal line. It is up to the authors to decide whether to show line numbers or not, how to format comments, etc.

In LATEX algorithms may be typeset using the algorithm and algorithmic packages, but you can also use one of the many other packages for the task.

Listings. Listings are much like algorithms and programs. They should also appear floated to the top (preferably) or bottom of the page. Listing captions should appear in the header, left-justified and enclosed between horizontal lines as shown in Listing 1. Terminate the body with another horizontal line and avoid any background color. Line numbers, if included, must appear within the text column.

References

The AAAI style includes a set of definitions for use in formatting references with BibTeX. These definitions make the bibliography style fairly close to the ones specified in the Reference Examples appendix below. To use these definitions, you also need the BibTeX style file "aaai2026.bst," available in the AAAI Author Kit on the AAAI web site. Then, at the end of your paper but before \enddocument, you need to put the following lines:

```
\bibliography{bibfile1,bibfile2,...}
```

Please note that the aaai2026.sty class already sets the bibliographystyle for you, so you do not have to place any \bibliographystyle command in the document yourselves.

The aaai2026.sty file is incompatible with the hyperref and navigator packages. If you use either, your references will be garbled and your paper will be returned to you.

References may be the same size as surrounding text. However, in this section (only), you may reduce the size to \small (9pt) if your paper exceeds the allowable number of pages. Making it any smaller than 9 point with 10 point linespacing, however, is not allowed.

The list of files in the \bibliography command should be the names of your BibTeX source files (that is, the .bib files referenced in your paper).

The following commands are available for your use in citing references:

\cite: Cites the given reference(s) with a full citation. This appears as "(Author Year)" for one reference, or "(Author Year; Author Year)" for multiple references.

\shortcite: Cites the given reference(s) with just the year. This appears as "(Year)" for one reference, or "(Year; Year)" for multiple references.

\citeauthor: Cites the given reference(s) with just the author name(s) and no parentheses.

\citeyear: Cites the given reference(s) with just the date(s) and no parentheses.

You may also use any of the *natbib* citation commands.

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ticular conference or event.

Additional Resources

LATEX is a difficult program to master. If you've used that software, and this document didn't help or some items were not explained clearly, we recommend you read Michael Shell's excellent document (testflow doc.txt V1.0a 2002/08/13) about obtaining correct PS/PDF output on LATEX systems. (It was written for another purpose, but it has general application as well). It is available at www.ctan.org in the tex-archive.

Reference Examples

Formatted bibliographies should look like the following examples. You should use BibTeX to generate the references. Missing fields are unacceptable when compiling references, and usually indicate that you are using the wrong type of entry (BibTeX class).

Book with multiple authors Use the @book class.

.

.

Proceedings paper published by a society, press or publisher Use the @inproceedings class. You may abbreviate the *booktitle* field, but make sure that the conference edition is clear.

.

University technical report Use the @techreport class.

.

Dissertation or thesis Use the <code>@phdthesis</code> class.

.

Forthcoming publication Use the @misc class with a note="Forthcoming" annotation.

```
@misc(key,
   [...]
   note="Forthcoming",
)
```

ArXiv paper Fetch the BibTeX entry from the "Export Bibtex Citation" link in the arXiv website. Notice it uses the @misc class instead of the @article one, and that it includes the eprint and archivePrefix keys.

```
@misc(key,
  [...]
  eprint="xxxx.yyyy",
  archivePrefix="arXiv",
)
```

Website or online resource Use the @misc class. Add the url in the howpublished field and the date of access in the note field:

```
@misc(key,
    [...]
    howpublished="\url{http://...}",
    note="Accessed: YYYY-mm-dd",
)
```

For the most up to date version of the AAAI reference style, please consult the *AI Magazine* Author Guidelines at https://aaai.org/ojs/index.php/aimagazine/about/submissions#authorGuidelines

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Thank you for reading these instructions carefully. We look forward to receiving your electronic files!

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