

# Point-process based representation learning for Electronic Health Records

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**Abstract**—It is very well accepted that missingness in electronic health records (EHRs) are not at random which is regarded as informative missingness. The clinician's decision on when to observe lab tests over time can be modeled using point processes. We propose a novel framework based on neural point process to analyze laboratory tests of ICU patients. This framework can take into account additional information for better characterization of conditional intensity function (CIF) as well as better accuracy in prediction of future timestamp and labels.

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## I. INTRODUCTION

Writing an effective abstract is an indispensable part of any form of research, since it that can motivate the audience to read follow the rest of the text. In this task, I have analyzed five abstracts from the field of artificial intelligence (AI). The table in section 2 shows a summary of the most important aspects of the analyzed abstracts.

## II. BACKGROUND

**Temporal point process**

**Neural temporal point process**

**Handling irregular sampling**

## III. RELATED WORKS

## IV. PROPOSED MODEL

The entire data consists of  $N$  samples  $\mathcal{D} = \{\mathcal{O}_i = (\mathcal{E}_i, \mathcal{S}_i)\}_{i=1}^N$  where  $\mathcal{E}_i$  and  $\mathcal{S}_i$  represents event and state sequences, respectively.

Each event sequence consist of  $L$  tuples  $\mathcal{E}_i = \{(t_j, e_j)\}_{j=1}^{L_i}$  where  $t_j \in \mathbb{R}$  is the event timestamp and  $e_j$  is the event mark.

This paragraph of the first footnote will contain the date on which you submitted your paper for review. It will also contain support information, including sponsor and financial support acknowledgment. For example, "This work was supported in part by the U.S. Department of Commerce under Grant BS123456."

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Event sequence data consists of  $N$  sequences  $\{\mathcal{S}_i\}_{i=1}^N$ , where each sequence  $\mathcal{S}_i$  is a series of  $L_i$  events  $\{(t_j, e_j)\}_{j=1}^{L_i}$ . Here,  $e_j$  represents events that could be independent or mutually exclusive occurring at  $t_i$ .

In addition to the event data, we might have additional information  $\{\mathcal{D}_i\}_{i=1}^N$ . Suppose that each state is represented as  $\{(t_k, v_k, m_k)\}_{k=1}^{L_i}$ , consisting of a time value  $t_k \in \mathbb{R}^+$ , an observed value  $z_k \in \mathbb{R}$  and a modality indicator  $m_k \in \{1, \dots, M\}$ .

General schematic of TEDAM is depicted in FIG which consists of two separate module: Transformer Event Encoder (TEE) and Deep Attention Module (DAM). TEE encodes timestamp and mark of events using a transformer architecture, while DAM encodes all available information using one-dimensional attention mechanism. Finally, the learned representations are concatenated to be optimized for different loss functions.

### A. Event Encoder

We use a similar transformer architecture [thp] for encoding events with minor modifications. A transformer architecture is capable of .

let . that can be embedded using a trainable embedding matrix.

In the first step, we embed all event marks  $E_{emb} = E \times U$  where  $E_i \in [L, K]$  is the binary encoding matrix of all event marks (multi-label or multi-class), and  $W_{emb} \in \mathbb{R}^{K \times d_{emb}}$  is the trainable embedding matrix. In the second step, timestamps should be encoded and added to the event embedding, however, we propose to concatenate time encodings that can lead to better characterization of conditional intensity functions. Finally, the input of the transformer encoder will be  $x_{emb} = [y(k_j), z(t_j)]$ .

Here, we use the standard transformer encoder similar to [vaswani] with masking matrix to prevent the model from looking into the future. we obtain the encoded matrix  $H = (h_1, \dots, h_j, \dots, h_L)$  where  $h_j$  contains the all available information before occurrence of  $j - th$  event.

### B. bin of Event Encoder

it is necessary to include temporal information. Similar to the original positional encoding [vaswani], we use a temporal encoding procedure:

$$[z(t_j)]_k = \begin{cases} \sin\left(\frac{t_j}{\tau^{(k-1)/d_t}}\right) & \text{if } k \text{ is odd} \\ \sin\left(\frac{t_j}{\tau^{k/d_t}}\right) & \text{if } k \text{ is even} \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

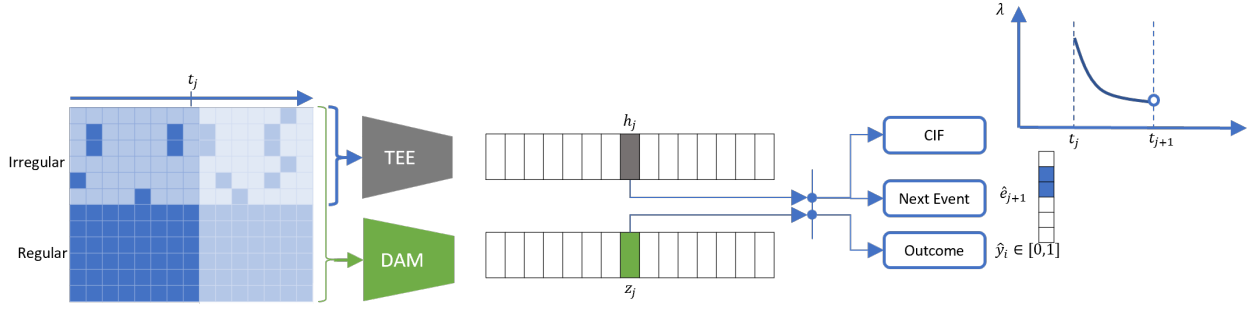


Fig. 1. Magnetization as a function of applied field. It is good practice to explain the significance of the figure in the caption.

Here,  $d_t \in \mathbb{N}$  is the dimensionality of encoded timestamp and  $z \in \mathbb{R}^{d_t}$  is the embedding vector of timestamp.

Each event mark  $e_j$  is projected to a sparse binary vector representation. We add an embedding layer to achieve a more compact and efficient representation  $emb$ . Here,  $w$  and  $b$  are weights and biases of the embedding layer which can be learned during network training.

While previous works suggested adding temporal encoding to the embedded events, we propose to concatenate these two vectors. The effectiveness of this concatenation is further investigated in the results.

$$x_{emb} = [y(k_j), z(t_j)] \quad (2)$$

Now that the  $x_{emb}$  is ready for encoding, it is encoded through a standard transformer encoder with multiple layers and attention heads.

$$x_{enc} = TE(x_{emb}) \quad (3)$$

### C. State Encoder

Here, we propose a method to incorporate additional information for a better representation. In healthcare, much data is available from different modalities such as vital signs and laboratory values.

Similar to [setF], we use an attention-based aggregation approach for encoding all additional information. Each side information  $(t_k, v_k, m_k)$  can be represented by  $s_k = (z(t_k), v_k, m_k)$ . we define attention  $a(s_k, s_k)$

We define  $\mathcal{S}_p$  to be the set of the first  $p$  available information. The goal is to calculate  $a(\mathcal{S}_p, s_k), k \leq p$  that is the relevance of  $k$ -th observation  $s_k$  to the first  $p$  observed values  $\mathcal{S}_p$ . This is achieved by computing an embedding of the set elements using a smaller set functions  $f'$ , and projecting the concatenation of the set representation and the individual set element into d-dimensional space:

$$f'(\mathcal{S}_p) = g' \left( \frac{1}{p} \sum_{s_k \in \mathcal{S}_p} h'_\theta(s_k) \right)$$

$$K_p = [f'(\mathcal{S}_p), s_p]^T W^K$$

Furthermore, we define a query vector  $w^q \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , which allows the model to summarize different aspects of the dataset via

$$e_p = \frac{K_p \cdot w^q}{\sqrt{d}}$$

Now, the desired attention can be computed as follows:

$$a(\mathcal{S}_p, s_k) = \frac{\exp(e_p)}{\sum_{k \leq p} \exp(e_k)}$$

Finally, we compute a weighted aggregation of set elements:

$$f(\mathcal{S}_p) = g_\psi \left( \sum_{s_k \in \mathcal{S}_p} a(\mathcal{S}_p, s_k) h_\theta(s_k) \right)$$

Without loss of generality, we can consider multiple heads by adding an additional dimension to keys and queries.

All formulas are:

$$\begin{cases} f'(\mathcal{S}_p) = g' \left( \frac{1}{p} \sum_{s_k \in \mathcal{S}_p} h'_\theta(s_k) \right) \\ K_p = [f'(\mathcal{S}_p), s_p]^T W^K \\ e_p = \frac{K_p \cdot w^q}{\sqrt{d}} \\ a(\mathcal{S}_p, s_k) = \frac{\exp(e_p)}{\sum_{k \leq p} \exp(e_k)} \\ f(\mathcal{S}_p) = \sum_{s_k \in \mathcal{S}_p} a(\mathcal{S}_p, s_k) h_\theta(s_k) \\ z_p = g_\psi(f(\mathcal{S}_p)) \end{cases}$$

### D. Mark and Time Decoder

by concatenating encoded events  $x_{enc}$  and additional information  $f'(\mathcal{S}_p)$ , we can predict next marks and times as follows:

$$\hat{e}_{j+1} = MLP([x_j, f'(\mathcal{S}_j)]) \quad (4)$$

$$\hat{t}_{j+1} = MLP([x_j, f'(\mathcal{S}_j)]) \quad (5)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{mark} = \quad (6)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{time} = \sum_{j=1}^{L-1} ((\hat{t}_{j+1} - t_j) - (t_{j+1} - t_j))^2 \quad (7)$$

### E. Event Decoder

Once we obtain a representation of a patient using embedded events and states, we can try to parameterize conditional intensity functions (CIFs) of the events.

In neural point process literature, many approaches have been propose to decode either conditional or cumulative intensity function.

$$\lambda_k(t|\mathcal{H}_t) = f_k \left( \alpha_k \frac{t - t_j}{t_j} + \mathbf{w}_k^T \mathbf{x}_{enc}(t_j) + \mathbf{y}_k^T \mathbf{s}_{enc}(t_j) + b_k \right) \quad (8)$$

$$\lambda_k(t|\mathcal{H}_t) = f_k \left( \alpha_k \frac{t - t_j}{t_j} + \mathbf{w}_k^T \mathbf{x}_{enc}(t_j) + b_k \right) \quad (9)$$

## V. EXPERIMENTS

### Datasets

**Physionet 2019 Sepsis Early Prediction Challenge (P19).** This dataset contains clinical data of about 40k patients in ICU. Clinical data consist of demographics, vital signs and laboratory values as well as sepsis label in a one-hour time grid. Our objective is to predict the timestamp of next lab sampling events as well as measured variables (event marks) given the patient history.

**MIMIC-IV (M4).** We selected Medical Information Mart for Intensive Care (MIMIC) IV [1], which is a real-world clinical database comprising health data relating to over 40,000 patients admitted to ICU at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center.

**Synthea(Syn).** We used the Synthea simulator (Walonoski et al., 2018) which generates patient-level EHRs using human expert curated Markov processes. Here, we reused the already processed version of this data by Edgaurd.

**Stackoverflow (SO).** StackOverflow is a question-answering website. The website rewards users with badges to promote engagement in the community, and the same badge can be rewarded multiple times to the same user. We collect data in a two-year period, and we treat each user's reward history as a sequence. Each event in the sequence signifies receipt of a particular medal.

### Scenarios

To investigate the effectiveness of the proposed method, we consider three input scenarios (TE, DA, TE+DA) as well as three loss functions (next event, CIF, next event+CIF) which would result in nine scenarios.

The first series of experiments are conducted to investigate the advantage of encoding additional information for parameterization of intensity functions. We consider seven scenarios: Here, the baseline models

To show the effectiveness of time concatenation we report.

### Baselines

we use NEURALTPP that is already developed pipeline by as they already considered a lot of combinations.

### Metrics

We report the weighted AUPRC, AUROC of next predicted event as well as root mean square error (RMSE) of next measurement interval. For evaluating the goodness of fit for the parameterized point process, we report normalized negative likelihood normalized by number of occurred event (NLL/events). Furthermore, we can also evaluate the learned representation of each patient to predict the sepsis label in a binary classification task.

## VI. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In this section, we present our results regarding the advantage of state and event encoding.

### A. Effect of minor improvements

effect of time concatenation

compare single+mark with mc or ml

TABLE I  
ADD CAPTION

Dataset	Metric	shp+mark		
		concat	sum	baseline
SO	NLL	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)
	AUROC	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)
	time	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)
Synthea	NLL	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)
	AUROC	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)
	time	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)
ReTweet	NLL	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)
	AUROC	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)
	time	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)

### B. Negative Likelihood with state encoding

Table 1 shows the result for estimation of negative likelihood in different datasets and scenarios. It is obvious that state encoding has led to lower NLL.

TABLE II  
ADD CAPTION

Dataset	setting	Model		
		TE	TE+DAM	TE+noise
p12	sc	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)
	mc1	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)
	mc2	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)
p19	sc	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)
	mc1	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)
	mc2	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)

can u provide one example patient?

### C. Downstream task with event encoding

Another key element of our work is to show the effectiveness of point process modeling for a down-stream task. In Table, we have reported the performance metrics for the mortality prediction task. We have compared our results with several sota's DL models that are compatible with irregular time series.

TABLE III  
ADD CAPTION

Dataset	Setting	Center	F1		AUPRC		AUROC	
			DAM	TE+DAM	DAM	TE+DAM	DAM	TE+DAM
P12	sc	1	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)
		2	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)
		3	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)
	mc1	1	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)
		2	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)
		3	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)
	mc2	-	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)
		seft	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)
	sc	1	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)
		2	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)
		3	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)
P19	mc1	1	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)
		2	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)
		3	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)
	mc2	-	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)
		seft	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)
	seft	-	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)	0.55 (0.02)

#### D. Learned representations

Fig 1 visualizes the tsne plot for the two scenarios.

#### E. Model interpretability

one advantage of proposed method is use of attention mechanisms in both event and state encoder. Fig 1 shows the attention mechanism

#### F. Likelihood estimation

Although CIF does not improve mark prediction, it has led to better representation of patient for downstream task such as sepsis prediction.

In addition, we can interpret some of learned CIF patterns. explain the effect of time concatenation in SO dataset tsne of learned representation. 4 modes:

- (DA,TE)- $\hat{c}$ (Mark, CIF)  
attention of DA for sepsis prediction  
attention matrix of events for SO dataset

### VII. CONCLUSION

### VIII. INTRODUCTION

**T**HIS document is a template for L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X. If you are reading a paper or PDF version of this document, please download the electronic file, trans\_jour.tex, from the IEEE Web site at [http://www.ieee.org/authortools/trans\\_jour.tex](http://www.ieee.org/authortools/trans_jour.tex) so you can use it to prepare your manuscript. If you would prefer to use L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, download IEEE's L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X style and sample files from the same Web page. You can also explore using the Overleaf editor at [https://www.overleaf.com/blog/278-how-to-use-overleaf-with-ieee-collabratec-your-quick-guide-to-getting-started#](https://www.overleaf.com/blog/278-how-to-use-overleaf-with-ieee-collabratec-your-quick-guide-to-getting-started#xsVp6tpPkrKM9).

xsVp6tpPkrKM9

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A parenthetical statement at the end of a sentence is punctuated outside of the closing parenthesis (like this). (A parenthetical sentence is punctuated within the parentheses.) In American English, periods and commas are within quotation marks, like "this period." Other punctuation is "outside"! Avoid contractions; for example, write "do not" instead of "don't." The serial comma is preferred: "A, B, and C" instead of "A, B and C."

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Use either SI (MKS) or CGS as primary units. (SI units are strongly encouraged.) English units may be used as secondary units (in parentheses). This applies to papers in data storage. For example, write “15 Gb/cm<sup>2</sup> (100 Gb/in<sup>2</sup>).” An exception is when English units are used as identifiers in trade, such as “3½-in disk drive.” Avoid combining SI and CGS units, such as current in amperes and magnetic field in oersteds. This often leads to confusion because equations do not balance dimensionally. If you must use mixed units, clearly state the units for each quantity in an equation.

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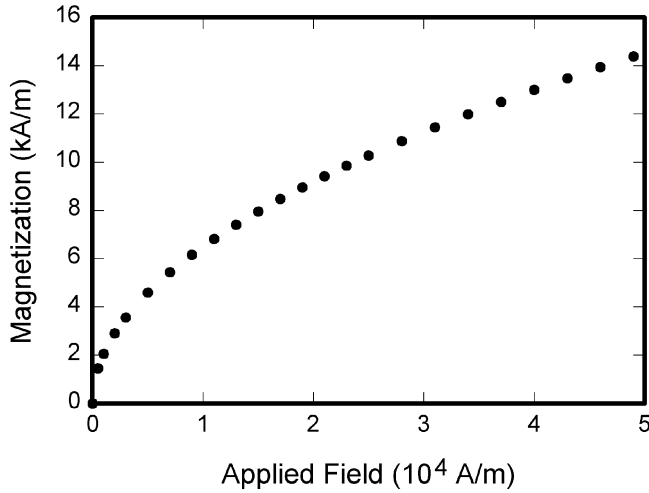


Fig. 2. Magnetization as a function of applied field. It is good practice to explain the significance of the figure in the caption.

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The following list outlines the different types of graphics published in IEEE journals. They are categorized based on their construction, and use of color/shades of gray:

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- 4) **Tables:** Data charts which are typically black and white, but sometimes include color.

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Figures compiled of more than one sub-figure presented side-by-side, or stacked. If a multipart figure is made up of multiple figure types (one part is lineart, and another is grayscale or color) the figure should meet the stricter guidelines.

### C. File Formats For Graphics

Format and save your graphics using a suitable graphics processing program that will allow you to create the images as PostScript (PS), Encapsulated PostScript (.EPS), Tagged Image File Format (.TIFF), Portable Document Format (.PDF), Portable Network Graphics (.PNG), or Metapost (.MPS), sizes them, and adjusts the resolution settings. When submitting your final paper, your graphics should all be submitted individually in one of these formats along with the manuscript.

TABLE IV  
UNITS FOR MAGNETIC PROPERTIES

Symbol	Quantity	Conversion from Gaussian and CGS EMU to SI <sup>a</sup>
$\Phi$	magnetic flux	1 Mx $\rightarrow 10^{-8}$ Wb = $10^{-8}$ V·s
$B$	magnetic flux density, magnetic induction	1 G $\rightarrow 10^{-4}$ T = $10^{-4}$ Wb/m <sup>2</sup>
$H$	magnetic field strength	1 Oe $\rightarrow 10^3/(4\pi)$ A/m
$m$	magnetic moment	1 erg/G = 1 emu $\rightarrow 10^{-3}$ A·m <sup>2</sup> = $10^{-3}$ J/T
$M$	magnetization	1 erg/(G·cm <sup>3</sup> ) = 1 emu/cm <sup>3</sup> $\rightarrow 10^3$ A/m
$4\pi M$	magnetization	1 G $\rightarrow 10^3/(4\pi)$ A/m
$\sigma$	specific magnetization	1 erg/(G·g) = 1 emu/g $\rightarrow 1$ A·m <sup>2</sup> /kg
$j$	magnetic dipole moment	1 erg/G = 1 emu $\rightarrow 4\pi \times 10^{-10}$ Wb·m
$J$	magnetic polarization	1 erg/(G·cm <sup>3</sup> ) = 1 emu/cm <sup>3</sup> $\rightarrow 4\pi \times 10^{-4}$ T
$\chi, \kappa$	susceptibility	1 $\rightarrow 4\pi$
$\chi_\rho$	mass susceptibility	1 cm <sup>3</sup> /g $\rightarrow 4\pi \times 10^{-3}$ m <sup>3</sup> /kg
$\mu$	permeability	1 $\rightarrow 4\pi \times 10^{-7}$ H/m = $4\pi \times 10^{-7}$ Wb/(A·m)
$\mu_r$	relative permeability	$\mu \rightarrow \mu_r$
$w, W$	energy density	1 erg/cm <sup>3</sup> $\rightarrow 10^{-1}$ J/m <sup>3</sup>
$N, D$	demagnetizing factor	1 $\rightarrow 1/(4\pi)$

Vertical lines are optional in tables. Statements that serve as captions for the entire table do not need footnote letters.

<sup>a</sup>Gaussian units are the same as cg emu for magnetostatics; Mx = maxwell, G = gauss, Oe = oersted; Wb = weber, V = volt, s = second, T = tesla, m = meter, A = ampere, J = joule, kg = kilogram, H = henry.

### D. Sizing of Graphics

Most charts, graphs, and tables are one column wide (3.5 inches/88 millimeters/21 picas) or page wide (7.16 inches/181 millimeters/43 picas). The maximum depth a graphic can be is 8.5 inches (216 millimeters/54 picas). When choosing the depth of a graphic, please allow space for a caption. Figures can be sized between column and page widths if the author chooses, however it is recommended that figures are not sized less than column width unless when necessary.

There is currently one publication with column measurements that do not coincide with those listed above. Proceedings of the IEEE has a column measurement of 3.25 inches (82.5 millimeters/19.5 picas).

The final printed size of author photographs is exactly 1 inch wide by 1.25 inches tall (25.4 millimeters  $\times$  31.75 millimeters/6 picas  $\times$  7.5 picas). Author photos printed in editorials measure 1.59 inches wide by 2 inches tall (40 millimeters  $\times$  50 millimeters/9.5 picas  $\times$  12 picas).

### E. Resolution

The proper resolution of your figures will depend on the type of figure it is as defined in the “Types of Figures” section. Author photographs, color, and grayscale figures should be at least 300dpi. Line art, including tables should be a minimum of 600dpi.

### F. Vector Art

In order to preserve the figures’ integrity across multiple computer platforms, we accept files in the following formats: .EPS/.PDF/.PS. All fonts must be embedded or text converted to outlines in order to achieve the best-quality results.

## G. Color Space

The term color space refers to the entire sum of colors that can be represented within the said medium. For our purposes, the three main color spaces are Grayscale, RGB (red/green/blue) and CMYK (cyan/magenta/yellow/black). RGB is generally used with on-screen graphics, whereas CMYK is used for printing purposes.

All color figures should be generated in RGB or CMYK color space. Grayscale images should be submitted in Grayscale color space. Line art may be provided in grayscale OR bitmap colorspace. Note that “bitmap colorspace” and “bitmap file format” are not the same thing. When bitmap color space is selected, .TIF/.TIFF/.PNG are the recommended file formats.

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## I. Using Labels Within Figures

1) *Figure Axis labels* : Figure axis labels are often a source of confusion. Use words rather than symbols. As an example, write the quantity “Magnetization,” or “Magnetization M,” not just “M.” Put units in parentheses. Do not label axes only with units. As in Fig. 1, for example, write “Magnetization (A/m)” or “Magnetization ( $A \cdot m^{-1}$ ),” not just “A/m.” Do not label axes with a ratio of quantities and units. For example, write “Temperature (K),” not “Temperature/K.”

Multipliers can be especially confusing. Write “Magnetization (kA/m)” or “Magnetization ( $10^3$  A/m).” Do not write “Magnetization (A/m)  $\times$  1000” because the reader would not know whether the top axis label in Fig. 1 meant 16000 A/m or 0.016 A/m. Figure labels should be legible, approximately 8 to 10 point type.

2) *Subfigure Labels in Multipart Figures and Tables*: Multipart figures should be combined and labeled before final submission. Labels should appear centered below each subfigure in 8 point Times New Roman font in the format of (a) (b) (c).

## J. File Naming

Figures (line artwork or photographs) should be named starting with the first 5 letters of the author’s last name. The next characters in the filename should be the number that represents the sequential location of this image in your article. For example, in author “Anderson’s” paper, the first three figures would be named ander1.tif, ander2.tif, and ander3.ps.

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## XII. CONCLUSION

A conclusion section is not required. Although a conclusion may review the main points of the paper, do not replicate the abstract as the conclusion. A conclusion might elaborate on the importance of the work or suggest applications and extensions.

Appendixes, if needed, appear before the acknowledgment.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The preferred spelling of the word “acknowledgment” in American English is without an “e” after the “g.” Use the singular heading even if you have many acknowledgments. Avoid expressions such as “One of us (S.B.A.) would like to thank . . . .” Instead, write “F. A. Author thanks . . . .” In most cases, sponsor and financial support acknowledgments are placed in the unnumbered footnote on the first page, not here.

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References need not be cited in text. When they are, they appear on the line, in square brackets, inside the punctuation. Multiple references are each numbered with separate brackets. When citing a section in a book, please give the relevant page numbers. In text, refer simply to the reference number. Do not use “Ref.” or “reference” except at the beginning of a sentence: “Reference [3] shows . . . .” Please do not use automatic endnotes in *Word*, rather, type the reference list at the end of the paper using the “References” style.

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Number footnotes separately in superscript numbers.<sup>1</sup> Place the actual footnote at the bottom of the column in which it is cited; do not put footnotes in the reference list (endnotes). Use letters for table footnotes (see Table IV).

## APPENDIX I

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- *Basic format for books:*  
J. K. Author, “Title of chapter in the book,” in *Title of His Published Book*, *x*th ed. City of Publisher, (only U.S. State), Country: Abbrev. of Publisher, year, ch. *x*, sec. *x*, pp. *xxx-xxx*.  
See [1], [2].
- *Basic format for periodicals:*  
J. K. Author, “Name of paper,” *Abbrev. Title of Periodical*, vol. *x*, no. *x*, pp. *xxx-xxx*, Abbrev. Month, year, DOI. 10.1109.XXX.123456.  
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- *Basic format for reports:*  
J. K. Author, “Title of report,” Abbrev. Name of Co., City of Co., Abbrev. State, Country, Rep. *xxx*, year.  
See [6], [7].
- *Basic format for handbooks:*  
*Name of Manual/Handbook*, *x* ed., Abbrev. Name of Co., City of Co., Abbrev. State, Country, year, pp. *xxx-xxx*.  
See [8], [9].
- *Basic format for books (when available online):*  
J. K. Author, “Title of chapter in the book,” in *Title of Published Book*, *x*th ed. City of Publisher, State, Country: Abbrev. of Publisher, year, ch. *x*, sec. *x*, pp. *xxx-xxx*.

[Online]. Available: <http://www.web.com>

See [10]– [13].

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J. K. Author, “Name of paper,” *Abbrev. Title of Periodical*, vol. *x*, no. *x*, pp. *xxx–xxx*, Abbrev. Month, year. Accessed on: Month, Day, year, DOI: 10.1109.XXX.123456, [Online].

See [14]– [16].

- *Basic format for papers presented at conferences (when available online):*

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- *Basic format for computer programs and electronic documents (when available online):*

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See [20].

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Name of the invention, by inventor’s name. (year, month day). Patent Number [Type of medium]. Available: site/path/file

See [21].

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J. K. Author, “Title of paper,” in *Abbreviated Name of Conf.*, City of Conf., Abbrev. State (if given), Country, year, pp. *xxxxx*.

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See [23].

- *Basic format for patents:*

J. K. Author, “Title of patent,” U.S. Patent *x xxx xxx*, Abbrev. Month, day, year.

See [24].

- *Basic format for theses (M.S.) and dissertations (Ph.D.):*

1) J. K. Author, “Title of thesis,” M.S. thesis, Abbrev. Dept., Abbrev. Univ., City of Univ., Abbrev. State, year.

2) J. K. Author, “Title of dissertation,” Ph.D. dissertation, Abbrev. Dept., Abbrev. Univ., City of Univ., Abbrev. State, year.

See [25], [26].

- *Basic format for the most common types of unpublished references:*

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Month, year.

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3) J. K. Author, “Title of paper,” to be published.

See [27]– [29].

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See [30], [31].

- *Article number in reference examples:*

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- *Example when using et al.:*

See [34].

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