

# 478 Group Project Formatting Instructions\*

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## Abstract

Your abstract should concisely answer the following three questions: 1) what problem are you addressing? 2) what approach are you taking to solve the problem? 3) what are your results?

## 1 Introduction

The *478 Group Projects* will follow the format of papers submitted to the 2009 *International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence*. Your paper is due at the beginning of class the day you give the oral presentation. This document briefly describes what is expected for your group's paper.

### 1.1 Length of Papers

Your paper will likely be about six pages in the IJCAI format: 1 page for title, abstract, and introduction to your problem, 2 pages for description of your approach to solving your problem, 2 pages for presenting results, and 1 page for discussion, conclusions and future work. These are rough guidelines and individual papers may vary.

### 1.2 Word Processing Software

As indicated above, we are "borrowing" IJCAI document style templates for this assignment. IJCAI has kindly prepared and made available a set of  $\text{\LaTeX}$  macros and a Microsoft Word template for use in formatting your paper. You are *strongly* encouraged to use one of these two formats. If you are using some other word processing software, please follow the format instructions given below and ensure that your final paper looks as much like this sample as possible.

## 2 Style and Format

### 2.1 Layout

Print manuscripts two columns to a page, in the manner in which these instructions are printed. The exact dimensions for pages are:

- left and right margins: .75"
- column width: 3.375"

- gap between columns: .25"
- top margin—first page: 1.375"
- top margin—other pages: .75"
- bottom margin: 1.25"
- column height—first page: 6.625"
- column height—other pages: 9"

All measurements assume an 8-1/2"  $\times$  11" page size. For A4-size paper, use the given top and left margins, column width, height, and gap, and modify the bottom and right margins as necessary.

### 2.2 Title and Author Information

Center the title on the entire width of the page in a 14-point bold font. Below it, center the author name(s) in a 12-point bold font, and then center the address(es) in a 12-point regular font. Credit to a sponsoring agency can appear on the first page as a footnote.

### 2.3 Abstract

Place the abstract at the beginning of the first column 3" from the top of the page, unless that does not leave enough room for the title and author information. Use a slightly smaller width than in the body of the paper. Head the abstract with "Abstract" centered above the body of the abstract in a 12-point bold font. The body of the abstract should be in the same font as the body of the paper.

The abstract should be a concise, one-paragraph summary describing the general thesis and conclusion of your paper. A reader should be able to learn the purpose of the paper and the reason for its importance from the abstract. The abstract should be no more than 200 words long.

### 2.4 Text

The main body of the text immediately follows the abstract. Use 10-point type in a clear, readable font with 1-point leading (10 on 11).

Indent when starting a new paragraph, except after major headings.

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\*These match the formatting instructions of IJCAI-07. The support of IJCAI, Inc. is acknowledged.

## 2.5 Headings and Sections

When necessary, headings should be used to separate major sections of your paper. (These instructions use many headings to demonstrate their appearance; your paper should have fewer headings.)

### Section Headings

Print section headings in 12-point bold type in the style shown in these instructions. Leave a blank space of approximately 10 points above and 4 points below section headings. Number sections with arabic numerals.

### Subsection Headings

Print subsection headings in 11-point bold type. Leave a blank space of approximately 8 points above and 3 points below subsection headings. Number subsections with the section number and the subsection number (in arabic numerals) separated by a period.

### Subsubsection Headings

Print subsubsection headings in 10-point bold type. Leave a blank space of approximately 6 points above subsubsection headings. Do not number subsubsections.

### Special Sections

You may include an unnumbered acknowledgments section, including acknowledgments of help from colleagues, financial support, and permission to publish.

Any appendices directly follow the text and look like sections, except that they are numbered with capital letters instead of arabic numerals.

The references section is headed “References,” printed in the same style as a section heading but without a number. A sample list of references is given at the end of these instructions. Use a consistent format for references, such as that provided by Bib $\TeX$ . The reference list should not include unpublished work.

## 2.6 Citations

Citations within the text should include the author’s last name and the year of publication, for example [?]. Append lower-case letters to the year in cases of ambiguity. Treat multiple authors as in the following examples: [?] or [?] (for more than two authors) and [?] (for two authors). If the author portion of a citation is obvious, omit it, e.g., Nebel [?]. Collapse multiple citations as follows: [?; ?].

## 2.7 Footnotes

Place footnotes at the bottom of the page in a 9-point font. Refer to them with superscript numbers.<sup>1</sup> Separate them from the text by a short line.<sup>2</sup> Avoid footnotes as much as possible; they interrupt the flow of the text.

## 3 Illustrations

Place all illustrations (figures, drawings, tables, and photographs) throughout the paper at the places where they are first discussed, rather than at the end of the paper. If placed at

the bottom or top of a page, illustrations may run across both columns.

Illustrations must be rendered electronically or scanned and placed directly in your document. All illustrations should be in black and white, as color illustrations may cause problems. Line weights should be 1/2-point or thicker. Avoid screens and superimposing type on patterns as these effects may not reproduce well.

Number illustrations sequentially. Use references of the following form: Figure 1, Table 2, etc. Place illustration numbers and captions under illustrations. Leave a margin of 1/4-inch around the area covered by the illustration and caption. Use 9-point type for captions, labels, and other text in illustrations.

## Acknowledgments

The preparation of these instructions and the  $\LaTeX$  and Bib $\TeX$  files that implement them was supported by Schlumberger Palo Alto Research, AT&T Bell Laboratories, and Morgan Kaufmann Publishers. Preparation of the Microsoft Word file was supported by IJCAI. An early version of this document was created by Shirley Jowell and Peter F. Patel-Schneider. It was subsequently modified by Jennifer Balentine and Thomas Dean, Bernhard Nebel, and Daniel Pagenstecher. These instructions are the same as the ones for IJCAI-05, prepared by Kurt Steinkraus, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Lab.

## A $\LaTeX$ and Word Style Files

The  $\LaTeX$  files are `ijcai09.sty` and `ijcai09.tex`, and the Bib $\TeX$  files are `named.bst` and `ijcai09.bib`. The  $\LaTeX$  style file is for version 2e of  $\LaTeX$ , and the Bib $\TeX$  style file is for version 0.99c of Bib $\TeX$  (*not* version 0.98i). The `ijcai09.sty` file is the same as the `ijcai07.sty` file used for IJCAI-07.

The Microsoft Word style file consists of a single template file, `ijcai09.dot`. This template is the same as the one used for IJCAI-07.

These Microsoft Word and  $\LaTeX$  files contain the source of the present document and may serve as a formatting sample.

<sup>1</sup>This is how your footnotes should appear.

<sup>2</sup>Note the line separating these footnotes from the text.