CptS 575: Data Science
Fall 2020

Survey Paper Writing Guidelines

Due date: December 7, 11:59pm. File format: PDF.

General comments: the length of your survey paper will depend on the nature of the topic you chose, but I expect a typical paper to be around 12 pages (in 12-point font size and single space). If you have many figures or graphics to include in your paper, you are welcome to use more than 12 pages. The format and organization will be similar to a typical journal/conference survey paper. I encourage you to write the paper in Latex, but if you are not used to writing in Latex, you may write it in Word (or any other software of your choice). The file to be submitted will be in PDF.

Also, you are strongly encouraged to use an IEEE or ACM file format for your paper. If there other formats that are more commonly used in your domain, feel free to use those instead.

Things to think about: In writing and organizing your survey paper think about the following points:

- As much as possible, write in plain terms and in your own words. Do not copy a chunk of text from another source verbatim. Paraphrase instead.

- Use examples (and figures) to illustrate concepts.

- Seriously think about including an overview diagram that puts your survey in context and shows its different parts.

- Synthesize the material you read (rather than give a list of "researcher X did thing Y").

- Aim at systematically categorizing the approaches/methods in the area you are surveying.

- To the extent possible/applicable, state pros and cons of the approaches you discuss.

- In your conclusion, try to articulate a couple points in which the area you surveyed could be extended in your opinion.

- **Bibliography**: Aim for a generous list of references and make sure to include a standard, well-formatted, complete bibliography of the body of work you have surveyed.