

Instructions for ACL Rolling Review Submissions

Anonymous ACL Rolling Review submission

Abstract

This document contains the instructions for preparing a submission to ACL Rolling Review. The document itself conforms to its own specifications, and is therefore an example of what your manuscript should look like. Authors are asked to conform to all the directions reported in this document.

1 Credits

This document has been adapted by Amanda Stent from the instructions for earlier ACL, NAACL and EMNLP proceedings, including those for ACL-IJCNLP 2021 by Roberto Navigli, EMNLP 2020 by Yulan He, ACL 2020 by Steven Bethard, Ryan Cotterrell and Rui Yan, ACL 2019 by Douwe Kiela and Ivan Vulić, NAACL 2019 by Stephanie Lukin and Alla Roskovskaya, ACL 2018 by Shay Cohen, Kevin Gimpel, and Wei Lu, NAACL 2018 by Margaret Mitchell and Stephanie Lukin, 2017/2018 (NA)ACL bibtex suggestions from Jason Eisner, ACL 2017 by Dan Gildea and Min-Yen Kan, NAACL 2017 by Margaret Mitchell, ACL 2012 by Maggie Li and Michael White, ACL 2010 by Jing-Shing Chang and Philipp Koehn, ACL 2008 by Johanna D. Moore, Simone Teufel, James Allan, and Sadaoki Furui, ACL 2005 by Hwee Tou Ng and Kemal Oflazer, ACL 2002 by Eugene Charniak and Dekang Lin, and earlier ACL and EACL formats written by several people, including John Chen, Henry S. Thompson and Donald Walker. Additional elements were taken from the formatting instructions of the *International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence* and the *Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition*.

2 Introduction

The following instructions are directed to authors of papers submitted to ACL Rolling Review. All

authors are required to adhere to these specifications. Authors are required to provide a Portable Document Format (PDF) version of their papers.

3 Electronically-available resources

ACL provides this description and accompanying style files at

<https://aclrollingreview.org/files/arr-templates.zip>

We strongly recommend the use of these style files, which have been appropriately tailored for ACL Rolling Review. You can also start from the Overleaf template linked from the ACL Rolling Review website.

L^AT_EX-specific details: The templates include the L^AT_EX2e source (`arr.tex`), the L^AT_EX2e style file used to format it (`arr.sty`), an ACL bibliography style (`acl_natbib.bst`), an example bibliography (`arr.bib`), and the bibliography for the ACL Anthology (`anthology.bib`).

4 Length of Submission

ACL Rolling Review accepts submissions of long papers and short papers. Long papers may consist of up to eight (8) pages of content plus unlimited pages for references and ethics/broader impact statement. Short papers may consist of up to four (4) pages of content, plus unlimited pages for references and ethics/broader impact statement. Upon acceptance, final versions of both long and short papers will be given one additional content page to address the reviewers' comments.

For both long and short papers, all illustrations and tables that are part of the main text must be accommodated within these page limits, observing the formatting instructions given in the present document. **Papers that do not conform to the**

100 **specified length and formatting requirements**
 101 **are subject to be rejected without review.**

102 ACL Rolling Review encourages the submission
 103 of additional material that is relevant to the review-
 104 ers but not an integral part of the paper. There are
 105 two such types of material: appendices, which can
 106 be read, and non-readable supplementary materi-
 107 als, often data or code. Additional material must
 108 be submitted as separate files, and must adhere to
 109 the same anonymity guidelines as the main paper.
 110 Appendices should be no longer than 4 pages. The
 111 paper must be self-contained: it is optional for re-
 112 viewers to look at the supplementary material. The
 113 paper should not refer, for further detail, to docu-
 114 ments, code or data resources that are not available
 115 to the reviewers. Refer to Section 8 for further
 116 information.

117 Workshop chairs may have different rules for al-
 118 lowed length and whether supplemental material is
 119 welcome. As always, the respective call for papers
 120 is the authoritative source.

121 **5 Anonymity**

122 As reviewing will be two-way anonymized, papers
 123 submitted for review should not include any author
 124 information (such as names or affiliations). Fur-
 125 thermore, self-references that reveal the author’s
 126 identity, *e.g.*,

127 We previously showed (Gusfield, 1997)
 128 ...

129 should be avoided. Instead, use citations such as

130 Gusfield (1997) previously showed...

131 Please do not use anonymous citations and do not
 132 include acknowledgements. **Papers that do not
 133 conform to these requirements may be rejected
 134 without review.**

135 Any preliminary non-archival versions of sub-
 136 mitted papers should be listed in the submission
 137 form but not in the review version of the paper.
 138 Reviewers are generally aware that authors may
 139 present preliminary versions of their work in other
 140 venues, but will not be provided the list of previous
 141 presentations from the submission form.

142 Please do not include github links that reveal the
 143 authors’ identities in your submission. If you feel
 144 it is important to include your source code, you can
 145 zip the code and submit it to softconf.

146 Once a paper has been accepted to a publica-
 147 tion venue, the camera-ready version of the paper

150 should include the author’s names and affiliations,
 151 and is allowed to use self-references and provide
 152 the related github link.

153 **L^AT_EX-specific details:** For an anonymized sub-
 154 mission, ensure that `\aclfinalcopy` at the top of
 155 this document is commented out, and that you have
 156 filled in the paper ID number (assigned during the
 157 submission process on softconf) where `***` appears
 158 in the `\def\aclpaperid{***}` definition at the top
 159 of this document. For a camera-ready submission,
 160 ensure that `\aclfinalcopy` at the top of this docu-
 161 ment is not commented out.

162 **6 Multiple Submission Policy**

163 ACL Rolling Review not review any paper that is
 164 under review in a journal or another conference
 165 at the time of submission, and submitted papers
 166 must not be submitted elsewhere during the ACL
 167 Rolling Review review period. This policy covers
 168 all refereed and archival conferences and work-
 169 shops without exception. In addition, we will not
 170 consider any paper that overlaps significantly in
 171 content or results with papers that will be (or have
 172 been) published elsewhere, without exception.

173 **7 Formatting Instructions**

174 Paper size must be A4.

175 Manuscripts must be in two-column format.

176 Exceptions to the two-column format include
 177 the title, authors’ names and complete addresses,
 178 which must be centered at the top of the first
 179 page, and any full-width figures or tables (see the
 180 guidelines in Section 7.5). **Type single-spaced.**
 181 Start all pages directly under the top margin. The
 182 manuscript should be printed single-sided and its
 183 length should not exceed the maximum page limit
 184 described in Section 4. Pages should be numbered
 185 in the version submitted for review, but **pages
 186 should not be numbered in the camera-ready
 187 version.**

188 **L^AT_EX-specific details:** The style files will gen-
 189 erate page numbers when `\aclfinalcopy` is com-
 190 mented out, and remove them otherwise.

191 **7.1 File Format**

192 For the production of the electronic manuscript
 193 you must use Adobe’s Portable Document Format
 194 (PDF). Please make sure that your PDF file in-
 195 cludes all the necessary fonts (especially tree dia-
 196 grams, symbols, and fonts with Asian characters).

Type of Text	Font Size	Style
paper title	15 pt	bold
author names	12 pt	bold
author affiliation	12 pt	
the word “Abstract”	12 pt	bold
section titles	12 pt	bold
subsection titles	11 pt	bold
document text	11 pt	
captions	10 pt	
abstract text	10 pt	
bibliography	10 pt	
footnotes	9 pt	

Table 1: Font guide.

When you print or create the PDF file, there is usually an option in your printer setup to include none, all or just non-standard fonts. Please make sure that you select the option of including ALL the fonts. **Before sending it, test your PDF by printing it from a computer different from the one where it was created.** Moreover, some word processors may generate very large PDF files, where each page is rendered as an image. Such images may reproduce poorly. In this case, try alternative ways to obtain the PDF. One way on some systems is to install a driver for a postscript printer, send your document to the printer specifying “Output to a file”, then convert the file to PDF.

If you cannot meet the above requirements about the production of your electronic submission, please contact the publication chairs as soon as possible.

L^AT_EX-specific details: PDF files are usually produced from L^AT_EX using the `pdflatex` command. If your version of L^AT_EX produces Postscript files, `ps2pdf` or `dvipdf` can convert these to PDF.

7.2 Layout

Paper size must be A4.

Format manuscripts two columns to a page, in the manner these instructions are formatted.

7.3 Fonts

For reasons of uniformity, Adobe’s **Times Roman** font should be used. If Times Roman is unavailable, you may use Times New Roman or **Computer Modern Roman**.

Table 1 specifies what font sizes and styles must be used for each type of text in the manuscript.

L^AT_EX-specific details: To use Times Roman in L^AT_EX2e, put the following in the preamble:

```
\usepackage{times}
\usepackage{latexsym}
```

7.4 Ruler

A printed ruler (line numbers in the left and right margins of the article) should be presented in the version submitted for review, so that reviewers may comment on particular lines in the paper without circumlocution. The presence or absence of the ruler should not change the appearance of any other content on the page. The camera ready copy should not contain a ruler.

Reviewers: note that the ruler measurements may not align well with lines in the paper – this turns out to be very difficult to do well when the paper contains many figures and equations, and, when done, looks ugly. In most cases one would expect that the approximate location will be adequate, although you can also use fractional references (*e.g.*, this line ends at mark 295.5).

L^AT_EX-specific details: The style files will generate the ruler when `\aclfinalcopy` is commented out, and remove it otherwise.

7.5 Title and Authors

Center the title, author’s name(s) and affiliation(s) across both columns. Do not use footnotes for affiliations. Place the title centered at the top of the first page, in a 15-point bold font. Long titles should be typed on two lines without a blank line intervening. Put the title 2.5 cm from the top of the page, followed by a blank line, then the author’s names(s), and the affiliation on the following line. Do not use only initials for given names (middle initials are allowed). Do not format surnames in all capitals (*e.g.*, use “Mitchell” not “MITCHELL”). Do not format title and section headings in all capitals except for proper names (such as “BLEU”) that are conventionally in all capitals. The affiliation should contain the author’s complete address, and if possible, an electronic mail address.

The title, author names and addresses should be completely identical to those entered to the electronic paper submission website.

Start the body of the first page 7.5 cm from the top of the page. **Even in the anonymous version of the paper, you should maintain space for names and addresses so that they will fit in the final (accepted) version.**

7.6 Abstract

Use two-column format when you begin the abstract. Type the abstract at the beginning of the first column. The width of the abstract text should be smaller than the width of the columns for the text in the body of the paper by 0.6 cm on each side. Center the word **Abstract** in a 12 point bold font above the body of the abstract. The abstract should be a concise summary of the general thesis and conclusions of the paper. It should be no longer than 200 words. The abstract text should be in 10 point font.

7.7 Text

Begin typing the main body of the text immediately after the abstract, observing the two-column format as shown in the present document.

Indent 0.4 cm when starting a new paragraph.

7.8 Sections

Format section and subsection headings in the style shown on the present document. Use numbered sections (Arabic numerals) to facilitate cross references. Number subsections with the section number and the subsection number separated by a dot, in Arabic numerals.

7.9 Footnotes

Put footnotes at the bottom of the page and use 9 point font. They may be numbered or referred to by asterisks or other symbols.¹ Footnotes should be separated from the text by a line.²

7.10 Graphics

Place figures, tables, and photographs in the paper near where they are first discussed, rather than at the end, if possible. Wide illustrations may run across both columns. Color is allowed, but adhere to Section 9’s guidelines on accessibility.

Captions: Provide a caption for every illustration; number each one sequentially in the form: “Figure 1. Caption of the Figure.” “Table 1. Caption of the Table.” Type the captions of the figures and tables below the body, using 10 point text. Captions should be placed below illustrations. Captions that are one line are centered (see Table 1). Captions longer than one line are left-aligned (see Table 2).

¹This is how a footnote should appear.

²Note the line separating the footnotes from the text.

Command	Output	Command	Output
<code>{\ "a}</code>	ä	<code>{\c c}</code>	ç
<code>{\ ^e}</code>	ê	<code>{\u g}</code>	ğ
<code>{\ `i}</code>	ì	<code>{\l l}</code>	ł
<code>{\ .I}</code>	İ	<code>{\~n}</code>	ñ
<code>{\o}</code>	ø	<code>{\H o}</code>	ő
<code>{\ 'u}</code>	ú	<code>{\v r}</code>	ř
<code>{\aa}</code>	å	<code>{\ss}</code>	ß

Table 2: Example commands for accented characters, to be used in, e.g., BIBTEX names.

L^AT_EX-specific details: The style files are compatible with the caption and subcaption packages; do not add optional arguments. **Do not override the default caption sizes.**

7.11 Hyperlinks

Within-document and external hyperlinks are indicated with Dark Blue text, Color Hex #000099.

7.12 Citations

Citations within the text appear in parentheses as (Gusfield, 1997) or, if the author’s name appears in the text itself, as Gusfield (1997). Append lowercase letters to the year in cases of ambiguities. Treat double authors as in (Aho and Ullman, 1972), but write as in (Chandra et al., 1981) when more than two authors are involved. Collapse multiple citations as in (Gusfield, 1997; Aho and Ullman, 1972).

Refrain from using full citations as sentence constituents. Instead of

“(Gusfield, 1997) showed that ...”

write

“Gusfield (1997) showed that ...”

L^AT_EX-specific details: We encourage you to use the natbib styles. You can use the command `\citet` (cite in text) to get “author (year)” citations as in Gusfield (1997). You can use the command `\citep` (cite in parentheses) to get “(author, year)” citations as in (Gusfield, 1997). You can use the command `\citealp` (alternative cite without parentheses) to get “author year” citations (which is useful for using citations within parentheses, as in Gusfield, 1997).

7.13 References

Gather the full set of references together under the heading **References**; place the section before any

400 Appendices. Arrange the references alphabetically
401 by first author, rather than by order of occurrence
402 in the text.

403 Provide as complete a citation as possible, using
404 a consistent format, such as the one for *Compu-*
405 *tational Linguistics* or the one in the *Publication*
406 *Manual of the American Psychological Association*
407 (American Psychological Association, 1983).
408 Use full names for authors, not just initials.

409 Submissions should accurately reference prior
410 and related work, including code and data. If a
411 piece of prior work appeared in multiple venues,
412 the version that appeared in a refereed, archival
413 venue should be referenced. If multiple versions
414 of a piece of prior work exist, the one used by
415 the authors should be referenced. Authors should
416 not rely on automated citation indices to provide
417 accurate references for prior and related work.

418 The following text cites various types of arti-
419 cles so that the references section of the present
420 document will include them.

- 421 • Example article in journal: (Ando and Zhang,
422 2005).
- 423 • Example article in proceedings, with location:
424 (Börschinger and Johnson, 2011).
- 425 • Example article in proceedings, without loca-
426 tion: (Andrew and Gao, 2007).
- 427 • Example article in proceedings, without loca-
428 tion: (Andrew and Gao, 2007).
- 429 • Example arxiv paper: (Rasooli and Tetreault,
430 2015).
- 431 • Example arxiv paper: (Rasooli and Tetreault,
432 2015).

433 **L^AT_EX-specific details:** The L^AT_EX and Bib_TE_X
434 style files provided roughly follow the American
435 Psychological Association format. If your own bib
436 file is named `arr.bib`, then placing the following
437 before any appendices in your L^AT_EX file will gener-
438 ate the references section for you:

```
439 \bibliographystyle{acl_natbib}
440 \bibliography{arr}
```

441 You can obtain the complete ACL Anthol-
442 ogy as a Bib_TE_X file from [https://aclweb.org/](https://aclweb.org/anthology/anthology.bib.gz)
443 [anthology/anthology.bib.gz](https://aclweb.org/anthology/anthology.bib.gz). To include both
444 the anthology and your own bib file, use the follow-
445 ing instead of the above.

```
446 \bibliographystyle{acl_natbib}
447 \bibliography{anthology,arr}
```

450 7.14 Digital Object Identifiers 451

452 As part of our work to make ACL materials more
453 widely used and cited outside of our discipline,
454 ACL has registered as a CrossRef member, as a
455 registrant of Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs), the
456 standard for registering permanent URNs for refer-
457 encing scholarly materials.

458 All camera-ready references are required to con-
459 tain the appropriate DOIs (or, as a second resort,
460 the hyperlinked ACL Anthology Identifier) to all
461 cited works. Appropriate records should be found
462 for most materials in the current ACL Anthology at
463 <http://aclanthology.info/>. As examples, we
464 cite (Goodman et al., 2016) to show you how pa-
465 pers with a DOI will appear in the bibliography.
466 We cite (Harper, 2014) to show how papers with-
467 out a DOI but with an ACL Anthology Identifier
468 will appear in the bibliography.

469 **L^AT_EX-specific details:** Please ensure that you
470 use Bib_TE_X records that contain DOI or URLs for
471 any of the ACL materials that you reference. If the
472 Bib_TE_X file contains DOI fields, the paper title in
473 the references section will appear as a hyperlink to
474 the DOI, using the `hyperref` L^AT_EX package.

475 8 Supplementary Materials 476

477 Supplementary material may report preprocessing
478 decisions, model parameters, and other details nec-
479 essary for the replication of the experiments re-
480 ported in the paper. Seemingly small preprocessing
481 decisions can sometimes make a large difference
482 in performance, so it is crucial to record such deci-
483 sions to precisely characterize state-of-the-art meth-
484 ods.

485 Nonetheless, supplementary material should be
486 supplementary (rather than central) to the pa-
487 per. **Submissions that misuse the supplement-
488 ary material may be rejected without review.**
489 Supplementary material may include explanations
490 or details of proofs or derivations that do not fit
491 into the paper, lists of features or feature templates,
492 sample inputs and outputs for a system, hyperpa-
493 rameter values, pseudo-code or source code, and
494 data.

495 The paper should not rely on the supplementary
496 material: while the paper may refer to and cite
497 the supplementary material and the supplementary
498 material will be available to the reviewers, they will
499 not be asked to review the supplementary material.

Supplementary material can be uploaded as up

to three separate files: a single appendix file in PDF format, a single .tgz or .zip archive containing software, and/or a single .tgz or .zip archive containing data.

8.1 Appendices

Appendices are material that can be read, and include lemmas, formulas, proofs, and tables that are not critical to the reading and understanding of the paper. In the submitted version, appendices should be uploaded as a separate file. **Submissions which include appendices in the main paper will be rejected without review.** In the camera ready version, instead, appendices should directly follow the text and the references.

L^AT_EX-specific details: In your camera ready version use `\appendix` before any appendix section to switch the section numbering over to letters.

8.2 Software and Data

Submissions may include software and data used in the work and described in the paper. Any accompanying software and/or data should include licenses and documentation of research review as appropriate.

9 Accessibility

In an effort to accommodate people who are colorblind (as well as those printing to paper), grayscale readability is strongly encouraged. Color is not forbidden, but authors should ensure that tables and figures do not rely solely on color to convey critical distinctions. A simple criterion: All curves and points in your figures should be clearly distinguishable without color.

10 Translation of non-English Terms

It is also advised to supplement non-English characters and terms with appropriate transliterations and/or translations since not all readers understand all such characters and terms. Inline transliteration or translation can be represented in the order of:

```
original-form
transliteration
“translation”
```

11 L^AT_EX Compilation Issues

You may encounter the following error during compilation:

```
\pdfendlink ended up in different nesting level than \pdfstartlink.
```

This happens when `pdflatex` is used and a citation splits across a page boundary. To fix this, the style file contains a patch consisting of two lines: (1) `\RequirePackage{etoolbox}` (line 455 in `arr.sty`), and (2) A long line below (line 456 in `arr.sty`).

If you still encounter compilation issues even with the patch enabled, disable the patch by commenting the two lines, and then disable the `hyperref` package by loading the style file with the `nohyperref` option:

```
\usepackage[nohyperref]{arr}
```

Then recompile, find the problematic citation, and rewrite the sentence containing the citation. (See, e.g., <http://tug.org/errors.html>)

Acknowledgments

The acknowledgments should go immediately before the references. Do not number the acknowledgments section. **Do not include this section when submitting your paper for review.**

References

- Alfred V. Aho and Jeffrey D. Ullman. 1972. *The Theory of Parsing, Translation and Compiling*, volume 1. Prentice-Hall, Englewood Cliffs, NJ.
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- Benjamin Börschinger and Mark Johnson. 2011. [A particle filter algorithm for Bayesian wordsegmentation](#). In *Proceedings of the Australasian Language Technology Association Workshop 2011*, pages 10–18, Canberra, Australia.
- Ashok K. Chandra, Dexter C. Kozen, and Larry J. Stockmeyer. 1981. *Alternation*. *Journal of the Association for Computing Machinery*, 28(1):114–133.
- James Goodman, Andreas Vlachos, and Jason Naradowsky. 2016. [Noise reduction and targeted exploration in imitation learning for Abstract Meaning](#)

Representation parsing. In *Proceedings of the 54th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (Volume 1: Long Papers)*, pages 1–11, Berlin, Germany. Association for Computational Linguistics.

Dan Gusfield. 1997. *Algorithms on Strings, Trees and Sequences*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK.

Mary Harper. 2014. [Learning from 26 languages: Program management and science in the babel program](#). In *Proceedings of COLING 2014, the 25th International Conference on Computational Linguistics: Technical Papers*, page 1, Dublin, Ireland. Dublin City University and Association for Computational Linguistics.

Mohammad Sadegh Rasooli and Joel R. Tetreault. 2015. [Yara parser: A fast and accurate dependency parser](#). *Computing Research Repository*, arXiv:1503.06733. Version 2.

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