

# Tips for ToC authors: recommendations, policies

## 1 Tiny spaces

We prefer to put tiny spaces between the letters in abbreviations like Ph. D., M. S., e. g., i. e., etc. This is accomplished by the following LaTeX codes:

```
Ph.\,D.   M.\,S.   B.\,S.   e.\,g.   E.\,g.   i.\,e.
```

You are encouraged to use the macros

```
\phd, \msc, \bsc, \eg, \Eg, \ie,
```

provided in *toc.cls*. Note: “e. g.” and “i. e.” are *always* followed by a comma, and “i. e.” is also always preceded by comma:

We prove  $P \neq NP$ , i. e., SAT cannot be ...

```
We prove  $\{\mathrm{P}\} \neq \{\mathrm{NP}\}$ , \ie,  
 $\{\mathrm{SAT}\}$  cannot be \dots
```

## 2 Asymptotic inequalities, math operators

LaTeX has symbols to express “greater/less than or asymptotically equal:”

```
\gtrsim, \lesssim
```

Example:

```
 $a_n \gtrsim b_n$  but  $a_n \lesssim b_n \log n$ .
```

prints as “ $a_n \gtrsim b_n$  but  $a_n \lesssim b_n \log n$ .”

Make sure you use the math operators provided by LaTeX, e. g.,

```
\log, \ln, \exp, \dim, \min, \max
```

which result in appropriate type and spacing. If you need to define your own operator, use the

```
\DeclareMathOperator
```

command in the preamble (before `\begin{document}`).

For instance,

```
\usepackage{amsmath}
\DeclareMathOperator{\soup}{Hot}
\begin{document}
...
We set  $\mathop{\text{\soup}}(\mathcal{H}) = \dim(\mathcal{X}_m(W_{\mathcal{H}}))$ .
```

will print “We set  $\text{Hot}(\mathcal{H}) = \dim(\mathcal{X}_m(W_{\mathcal{H}}))$ .”

### 3 Appendix

Authors in our community have developed the bad habit of putting an Appendix, containing some of the proofs, after the bibliography. This is a result of conference submission rules combined with inertia.

It is firm ToC policy that *each article end with the bibliography* (followed only by the biographical sketches). If an Appendix is needed, it can be placed as the last section before the bibliography; it is okay to call it “Appendix.”

In most cases, however, the sole reason for deferring proofs to the Appendix was the page-limit in a conference submission. We ask the authors to *merge their proofs back into the main body of the article* unless there is some overriding reason to the contrary.

### 4 Abstract

The Abstract should be self-contained. Thus citing bibliography items in the Abstract by number is to be avoided.

**Example:** Suppose you wanted to write this in the Abstract.

This paper continues the work of [8] and builds upon the techniques of [17] and [18].

We recommend that you modify this; here is a possible version:

This paper continues the authors' work (ICALP'05) and builds upon the techniques of Taylor et al. (2005) and Taylor and Zhang (STOC'04).

Here "Taylor et al." refers to a journal article with three or more authors.

## 5 Bibliography

Please remember to supply a *.bib* file with your article. Even though our publication is electronic, use of appropriate abbreviations is still helpful.

Please include the name of the publisher with conference volumes. (Note that COLT switched from ACM Press to Springer in 2000.) On the other hand, there is no need to include the location of the conference.

Here is our recommendation regarding conference volume citations.

STOC and FOCS are assumed to be universally recognized acronyms; for all other conferences, the abbreviated full name of the conference should be given, followed by the acronym. Words like Annual, Conference, Symposium should be abbreviated while the main part of the name of the conference spelled out in full.

**Examples:** (Don't worry about the *"eprint"* lines for now. If you want to make our job easier, however, please learn how to produce them (go to the "SUBMIT" page).)

```
@InProceedings{BBL:98,
author = {A. Blum and C. Burch and J. Langford},
title = {On Learning Monotone Boolean Functions},
booktitle = {Proc. 39th FOCS},
publisher = {IEEE Computer Society Press},
pages = {408--415},
year = {1998},
eprint="focs:10.1109/SFCS.1998.743491"
}
```

```
@inproceedings{BFJ+:94,
author={A. Blum and M. Furst and J. Jackson and M. Kearns and Y.
Mansour and S. Rudich},
```

```
title={Weakly learning {DNF} and characterizing statistical query
learning using {F}ourier analysis},
booktitle={Proc. 26th STOC},
publisher={ACM Press},
pages={253--262},
year={1994},
eprint="stoc:195058.195147"
}
```

```
@inproceedings{Hancock:93,
author={T. Hancock},
title={{Learning  $k\mu$  decision trees on the uniform distribution}},
booktitle={Proc. 6th Ann. Conf. on Computational Learning Theory (COLT'93)},
publisher={ACM Press},
pages={352--360},
year={1993},
eprint="colt:168304.168374"
}
```

```
@inproceedings{Blum:03problem,
author={A. Blum},
title={Learning a function of  $r$  relevant variables (open problem)},
booktitle={Proc. 16th Ann. Conf. on Computational Learning Theory (COLT'03)},
series={Lecture Notes in Computer Science},
volume={2777},
publisher={Springer},
year={2003},
pages={731--733},
eprint="colt:fxdg79cvndr6n05r"
}
```

```
@incollection{bfnr,
author = "H. Buhrman and L. Fortnow and I. Newman and H. Rohrig",
title = "Quantum property testing",
booktitle = "Proc. 14th Ann. ACM-SIAM Symp. on Discrete Algorithms
(SODA'03)",
year = "2003",
publisher = "SIAM",
```

```
pages = "480-488"  
eprint="soda:644108.644188"  
}
```

## 6 Photos

ToC posts authors' photos on the "About the authors" web page associated with the article. If you agree to have your picture posted, please email it to Laci Babai in jpeg format. Ideally the picture should be 150 pixels wide; if it is different, the software will adjust its width to 150 px. The height to width ratio of the picture should be between  $2^{1/\pi}$  and the golden ratio.