

## How to Write a Regular Paper\*

The publication of fundamental results obtained from a systematic investigation related to a selected technical field of study is made in the form of a regular paper. The editorial decision about the classification of a given manuscript as a regular paper is made on a case-by-case basis. Both form and content of regular papers are discussed below.

### Form of a Regular Paper

Regular papers typically contain 10 two-column pages but the paper length may vary depending on the type of the scholarly contribution and the importance of the research findings. The main text is written in font Times New Roman of 12 points in size using single line spacing and each line is full justified.

A regular paper is structured in a standard way, thus containing:

- title, not exceeding 75 characters;
- full name(s) of the author(s), with no title(s);
- affiliation and e-mail of the first author, and e-mail(s) of other author(s) with the same affiliation as the first author, if any (for other author(s) with other affiliation(s), if any, affiliation and e-mail should appear in a footnote);
- abstract (not exceeding 200 words but no fewer than 100 words);
- keywords;
- introduction, not exceeding one page;
- background, including a literature review;
- methodology, or a detailed description of fundamental concepts;
- theoretical, computational and/or experimental results, followed by analysis, discussion, and comparison of said results with other references;
- conclusion;
- acknowledgements (optional);
- references; and
- appendix (optional).

An indentation (instead of a blank line) indicates the beginning of a new paragraph. The paragraph length depends on the number of sentences included and the length of each sentence. An introductory sentence introduces the subject of discussion which is to be followed throughout the paragraph. A paragraph is usually connected to the previous one(s) in providing a logical exposition of the presented ideas. Although an entire paragraph can sometimes be written as a single very long sentence, the construction of several shorter sentences is often considered as a better choice.

Mathematical symbols, analytical expressions, formulae and equations being introduced sequentially within the text are a part of a corresponding sentence and punctuation marks such as comma, colon, semi-colon and full stop are used where necessary. Each equation is assigned an equation number which is right-aligned after the said equation. The one-column format can be used to include very long equations. An important part of a paragraph which has an analytical content is to explain the meaning of all mathematical terms involved.

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The formatting of a paper should be made in such a way that most tables and figures fit within the two-column format. The one-column format can be used in selected parts of a paper to include large tables and figures. Landscape page orientation is sometimes allowed to accommodate exceptionally large tables and figures.

Whenever the amount of raw data and supplementary information exceeds a single page, the use of an appendix is recommended. The content of the appendix should be limited not to exceed the main body of the paper.

### **Content of a Regular Paper**

The prospective authors must make a distinction between primary and secondary statements. The emphasis should be on the major findings but other supportive parts also require a systematic description. The effort to balance distinct parts of the content is an essential component of paper writing and each section of a paper may split into subsections of appropriate lengths.

The process of content selection during paper preparation is focused on several basic criteria, as follows:

- quality of the research work. The quality is concerned with an overall estimation of the level of involvement of the author(s) in a chosen technical direction of study. A study could be narrow-focused or wide-oriented depending on the intended tradeoff between pure theory and mere practice.
- originality of the proposed concepts. A regular paper may either propose radical new ideas or provide a substantial improvement of known approaches. In both cases, the introduction to alternative ways of interpretation of the problem statement is a key to the discovery of new knowledge.
- comparison with other related works. The discussion of previous studies is always needed to show the place of the current research among the existing alternative investigations of same or similar problem statements.
- significance of the obtained results. The importance of the research findings can be evaluated in terms of theory, computation, and experiments. The applicability of the study for the practice, the opportunity for its extension in future works, and its potential synergy with other technical branches would determine the overall significance of the conducted research.
- verification of the proposed concepts. The consecutive steps in obtaining the final results should be explained in detail so that one would be able to trace the logical constructs without any uncertainty or contradictions.
- readability of the content. The readers of this journal consist of students, lecturers, and researchers of all technical fields. Therefore, the writing style is crucial for the optimal delivery of information to an arbitrary reader.

The completeness of a regular paper depends on the skills of the author(s) to address the aforesaid criteria.

Relying on individually developed combinations of abstract concepts and real configurations, the prospective authors are often constrained within their own limitations to describe the problem statement of their intended study. To avoid the tunnel vision and have a wider perception of the possible scenarios for creating the technical content, they should act in accordance with the popular philosophical saying “Empty your cup!” and be open for improvisations throughout the writing process.