

000 FORMATTING INSTRUCTIONS FOR ICLR 2026 001 CONFERENCE SUBMISSIONS

004 **Anonymous authors**

005 Paper under double-blind review

008 ABSTRACT

009 The abstract paragraph should be indented 1/2 inch (3 picas) on both left and right-
010 hand margins. Use 10 point type, with a vertical spacing of 11 points. The word
011 ABSTRACT must be centered, in small caps, and in point size 12. Two line spaces
012 precede the abstract. The abstract must be limited to one paragraph.

015 1 SUBMISSION OF CONFERENCE PAPERS TO ICLR 2026

016 ICLR requires electronic submissions, processed by <https://openreview.net/>. See ICLR’s
017 website for more instructions.

018 If your paper is ultimately accepted, the statement `\iclrfinalcopy` should be inserted to adjust
019 the format to the camera ready requirements.

020 The format for the submissions is a variant of the NeurIPS format. Please read carefully the instruc-
021 tions below, and follow them faithfully.

022 1.1 STYLE

023 Papers to be submitted to ICLR 2026 must be prepared according to the instructions presented here.

024 Authors are required to use the ICLR L^AT_EX style files obtainable at the ICLR website. Please make
025 sure you use the current files and not previous versions. Tweaking the style files may be grounds for
026 rejection.

027 1.2 RETRIEVAL OF STYLE FILES

028 The style files for ICLR and other conference information are available online at:

029 <http://www.iclr.cc/>

030 The file `iclr2026_conference.pdf` contains these instructions and illustrates the various
031 formatting requirements your ICLR paper must satisfy. Submissions must be made using L^AT_EX and
032 the style files `iclr2026_conference.sty` and `iclr2026_conference.bst` (to be used
033 with L^AT_EX2e). The file `iclr2026_conference.tex` may be used as a “shell” for writing your
034 paper. All you have to do is replace the author, title, abstract, and text of the paper with your own.

035 The formatting instructions contained in these style files are summarized in sections 2, 3, and 4
036 below.

037 2 GENERAL FORMATTING INSTRUCTIONS

038 The text must be confined within a rectangle 5.5 inches (33 picas) wide and 9 inches (54 picas) long.
039 The left margin is 1.5 inch (9 picas). Use 10 point type with a vertical spacing of 11 points. Times
040 New Roman is the preferred typeface throughout. Paragraphs are separated by 1/2 line space, with
041 no indentation.

042 Paper title is 17 point, in small caps and left-aligned. All pages should start at 1 inch (6 picas) from
043 the top of the page.

054 Authors' names are set in boldface, and each name is placed above its corresponding address. The
055 lead author's name is to be listed first, and the co-authors' names are set to follow. Authors sharing
056 the same address can be on the same line.

057 Please pay special attention to the instructions in section 4 regarding figures, tables, acknowledg-
058 ments, and references.

060 There will be a strict upper limit of **9 pages** for the main text of the initial submission, with unlimited
061 additional pages for citations. This limit will be expanded to **10 pages** for rebuttal/camera ready.

063 3 HEADINGS: FIRST LEVEL

065 First level headings are in small caps, flush left and in point size 12. One line space before the first
066 level heading and 1/2 line space after the first level heading.

068 3.1 HEADINGS: SECOND LEVEL

070 Second level headings are in small caps, flush left and in point size 10. One line space before the
071 second level heading and 1/2 line space after the second level heading.

073 3.1.1 HEADINGS: THIRD LEVEL

074 Third level headings are in small caps, flush left and in point size 10. One line space before the third
075 level heading and 1/2 line space after the third level heading.

078 4 CITATIONS, FIGURES, TABLES, REFERENCES

080 These instructions apply to everyone, regardless of the formatter being used.

082 4.1 CITATIONS WITHIN THE TEXT

084 Citations within the text should be based on the `natbib` package and include the authors' last names
085 and year (with the "et al." construct for more than two authors). When the authors or the publication
086 are included in the sentence, the citation should not be in parenthesis using `\citet{}` (as in "See
087 Hinton et al. (2006) for more information."). Otherwise, the citation should be in parenthesis using
088 `\citep{}` (as in "Deep learning shows promise to make progress towards AI (Bengio & LeCun,
089 2007).").

090 The corresponding references are to be listed in alphabetical order of authors, in the REFERENCES
091 section. As to the format of the references themselves, any style is acceptable as long as it is used
092 consistently.

093 4.2 FOOTNOTES

095 Indicate footnotes with a number¹ in the text. Place the footnotes at the bottom of the page on which
096 they appear. Precede the footnote with a horizontal rule of 2 inches (12 picas).²

098 4.3 FIGURES

100 All artwork must be neat, clean, and legible. Lines should be dark enough for purposes of repro-
101 duction; art work should not be hand-drawn. The figure number and caption always appear after the
102 figure. Place one line space before the figure caption, and one line space after the figure. The figure
103 caption is lower case (except for first word and proper nouns); figures are numbered consecutively.

104 Make sure the figure caption does not get separated from the figure. Leave sufficient space to avoid
105 splitting the figure and figure caption.

107 ¹Sample of the first footnote

²Sample of the second footnote

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Table 1: Sample table title

PART	DESCRIPTION
Dendrite	Input terminal
Axon	Output terminal
Soma	Cell body (contains cell nucleus)

You may use color figures. However, it is best for the figure captions and the paper body to make sense if the paper is printed either in black/white or in color.

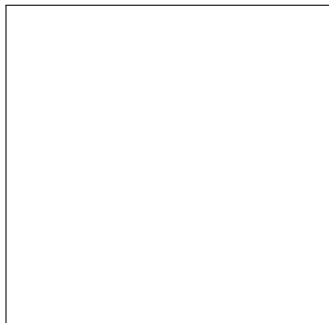


Figure 1: Sample figure caption.

4.4 TABLES

All tables must be centered, neat, clean and legible. Do not use hand-drawn tables. The table number and title always appear before the table. See Table 1.

Place one line space before the table title, one line space after the table title, and one line space after the table. The table title must be lower case (except for first word and proper nouns); tables are numbered consecutively.

5 DEFAULT NOTATION

In an attempt to encourage standardized notation, we have included the notation file from the textbook, *Deep Learning* Goodfellow et al. (2016) available at https://github.com/goodfeli/dlbook_notation/. Use of this style is not required and can be disabled by commenting out `math_commands.tex`.

Numbers and Arrays

162	a	A scalar (integer or real)
163	\mathbf{a}	A vector
164	\mathbf{A}	A matrix
165	\mathbf{A}	A matrix
166	\mathbf{A}	A tensor
167	\mathbf{A}	A tensor
168	I_n	Identity matrix with n rows and n columns
169	I	Identity matrix with dimensionality implied by context
170	$e^{(i)}$	Standard basis vector $[0, \dots, 0, 1, 0, \dots, 0]$ with a 1 at position i
171	$e^{(i)}$	Standard basis vector $[0, \dots, 0, 1, 0, \dots, 0]$ with a 1 at position i
172	$e^{(i)}$	Standard basis vector $[0, \dots, 0, 1, 0, \dots, 0]$ with a 1 at position i
173	$\text{diag}(\mathbf{a})$	A square, diagonal matrix with diagonal entries given by \mathbf{a}
174	\mathbf{a}	A scalar random variable
175	\mathbf{a}	A scalar random variable
176	\mathbf{a}	A vector-valued random variable
177	\mathbf{A}	A matrix-valued random variable
178	\mathbf{A}	A matrix-valued random variable

Sets and Graphs

180	\mathbb{A}	A set
181	\mathbb{A}	A set
182	\mathbb{R}	The set of real numbers
183	$\{0, 1\}$	The set containing 0 and 1
184	$\{0, 1, \dots, n\}$	The set of all integers between 0 and n
185	$\{0, 1, \dots, n\}$	The set of all integers between 0 and n
186	$[a, b]$	The real interval including a and b
187	$(a, b]$	The real interval excluding a but including b
188	$(a, b]$	The real interval excluding a but including b
189	$\mathbb{A} \setminus \mathbb{B}$	Set subtraction, i.e., the set containing the elements of \mathbb{A} that are not in \mathbb{B}
190	$\mathbb{A} \setminus \mathbb{B}$	Set subtraction, i.e., the set containing the elements of \mathbb{A} that are not in \mathbb{B}
191	\mathcal{G}	A graph
192	\mathcal{G}	A graph
193	$\text{Pa}_{\mathcal{G}}(x_i)$	The parents of x_i in \mathcal{G}

Indexing

195	a_i	Element i of vector \mathbf{a} , with indexing starting at 1
196	a_i	Element i of vector \mathbf{a} , with indexing starting at 1
197	a_{-i}	All elements of vector \mathbf{a} except for element i
198	$A_{i,j}$	Element i, j of matrix \mathbf{A}
199	$A_{i,j}$	Element i, j of matrix \mathbf{A}
200	$\mathbf{A}_{i,:}$	Row i of matrix \mathbf{A}
201	$\mathbf{A}_{:,i}$	Column i of matrix \mathbf{A}
202	$\mathbf{A}_{:,i}$	Column i of matrix \mathbf{A}
203	$\mathbf{A}_{i,j,k}$	Element (i, j, k) of a 3-D tensor \mathbf{A}
204	$\mathbf{A}_{:, :, i}$	2-D slice of a 3-D tensor
205	$\mathbf{A}_{:, :, i}$	2-D slice of a 3-D tensor
206	\mathbf{a}_i	Element i of the random vector \mathbf{a}

Calculus

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216	$\frac{dy}{dx}$	Derivative of y with respect to x
217	$\frac{\partial y}{\partial x}$	Partial derivative of y with respect to x
218	$\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} y$	Gradient of y with respect to \mathbf{x}
219	$\nabla_{\mathbf{X}} y$	Matrix derivatives of y with respect to \mathbf{X}
220	$\nabla_{\mathbf{x}}^2 f(x)$ or $\mathbf{H}(f)(\mathbf{x})$	Tensor containing derivatives of y with respect to \mathbf{X}
221	$\frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{x}}$	Jacobian matrix $\mathbf{J} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ of $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$
222	$\int f(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}$	The Hessian matrix of f at input point \mathbf{x}
223	$\int_{\mathbb{S}} f(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}$	Definite integral over the entire domain of \mathbf{x}
224		Definite integral with respect to \mathbf{x} over the set \mathbb{S}
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Probability and Information Theory

233	$P(a)$	A probability distribution over a discrete variable
234	$p(a)$	A probability distribution over a continuous variable, or over a variable whose type has not been specified
235	$a \sim P$	Random variable a has distribution P
236	$\mathbb{E}_{x \sim P}[f(x)]$ or $\mathbb{E}f(x)$	Expectation of $f(x)$ with respect to $P(x)$
237	$\text{Var}(f(x))$	Variance of $f(x)$ under $P(x)$
238	$\text{Cov}(f(x), g(x))$	Covariance of $f(x)$ and $g(x)$ under $P(x)$
239	$H(x)$	Shannon entropy of the random variable x
240	$D_{\text{KL}}(P Q)$	Kullback-Leibler divergence of P and Q
241	$\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$	Gaussian distribution over \mathbf{x} with mean $\boldsymbol{\mu}$ and covariance $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}$

Functions

249	$f : \mathbb{A} \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$	The function f with domain \mathbb{A} and range \mathbb{B}
250	$f \circ g$	Composition of the functions f and g
251	$f(\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\theta})$	A function of \mathbf{x} parametrized by $\boldsymbol{\theta}$. (Sometimes we write $f(\mathbf{x})$ and omit the argument $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ to lighten notation)
252	$\log x$	Natural logarithm of x
253	$\sigma(x)$	Logistic sigmoid, $\frac{1}{1 + \exp(-x)}$
254	$\zeta(x)$	Softplus, $\log(1 + \exp(x))$
255	$\ \mathbf{x}\ _p$	L^p norm of \mathbf{x}
256	$\ \mathbf{x}\ $	L^2 norm of \mathbf{x}
257	x^+	Positive part of x , i.e., $\max(0, x)$
258	$\mathbf{1}_{\text{condition}}$	is 1 if the condition is true, 0 otherwise

270 6 FINAL INSTRUCTIONS
271

272 Do not change any aspects of the formatting parameters in the style files. In particular, do not modify
273 the width or length of the rectangle the text should fit into, and do not change font sizes (except
274 perhaps in the REFERENCES section; see below). Please note that pages should be numbered.
275

276 7 PREPARING POSTSCRIPT OR PDF FILES
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278 Please prepare PostScript or PDF files with paper size “US Letter”, and not, for example, “A4”. The
279 `-t letter` option on `dvips` will produce US Letter files.
280

281 Consider directly generating PDF files using `pdflatex` (especially if you are a MiKTeX user).
282 PDF figures must be substituted for EPS figures, however.

283 Otherwise, please generate your PostScript and PDF files with the following commands:
284

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285 dvips mypaper.dvi -t letter -Ppdf -G0 -o mypaper.ps
286 ps2pdf mypaper.ps mypaper.pdf
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```

288 7.1 MARGINS IN LATEX
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290 Most of the margin problems come from figures positioned by hand using `\special` or other
291 commands. We suggest using the command `\includegraphics` from the `graphicx` package.
292 Always specify the figure width as a multiple of the line width as in the example below using `.eps`
293 `graphics`

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294 \usepackage[dvips]{graphicx} ...
295 \includegraphics[width=0.8\linewidth]{myfile.eps}
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297 or

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298 \usepackage[pdftex]{graphicx} ...
299 \includegraphics[width=0.8\linewidth]{myfile.pdf}
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301 for `.pdf` graphics. See section 4.4 in the `graphics` bundle documentation (<http://www.ctan.org/tex-archive/macros/latex/required/graphics/grfguide.ps>)
302

303 A number of width problems arise when LaTeX cannot properly hyphenate a line. Please give
304 LaTeX hyphenation hints using the `\-` command.
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306 AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS
307

308 If you’d like to, you may include a section for author contributions as is done in many journals. This
309 is optional and at the discretion of the authors.
310

311 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

312 Use unnumbered third level headings for the acknowledgments. All acknowledgments, including
313 those to funding agencies, go at the end of the paper.
314

315 REFERENCES
316

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A APPENDIX

You may include other additional sections here.