Article Subject (see Index Terms below and write one here)

Preparation of Papers for *IEEE Sensors Letters* (Revised November 2016)

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**Abstract—**These instructions give you guidelines for preparing papers for *IEEE Sensors Letters*. Use this document as a template if you are using Microsoft Word. Otherwise, use this document just for helpful information, and prepare your paper using any word processor or LaTeX (the general IEEE LaTeX template is available at [www.ieee.org/publications\_standards/publications/authors/author\_templates.html](http://www.ieee.org/publications_standards/publications/authors/author_templates.html)). The Word template is useful for estimating the length of an article (up to 3½ pages of text plus an additional ½ page for acknowledgment and references only will be allowed – total paper length not to exceed 4 pages). If you do not use the template, 4 journal pages have a total of about 3600 words; each figure is equivalent to about 140 words. The electronic file of your paper will be formatted further at IEEE. Paper titles should be written in uppercase and lowercase letters. Avoid writing long formulas with subscripts in the title; short formulas that identify the elements are fine (e.g., “Nd-Fe-B”). Do not begin a title with the word “On.” Avoid starting a title with articles like “The.” Full names of authors are much preferred over initials. Chinese, Japanese, and Korean authors are encouraged to include their names in native characters in parentheses after their Romanized names. More information may be found at [www.ieee.org/publications\_standards/publications/authors/auth\_names\_native\_lang.pdf](http://www.ieee.org/publications_standards/publications/authors/auth_names_native_lang.pdf). Department names are optional in the affiliations. Do not give street addresses in the affiliations (except for authors with no institutional affiliation). Define all symbols used in the abstract, and again in the text. Do not cite references in the abstract.

**Index Terms—**Approximately four key words or phrases in alphabetical order, separated by commas. The first one must be the article’s main subject, which also appears at the top of this page in red. Main subjects include Sensor Phenomena and Modeling, Physical Sensors, Optical Sensors, Radiation Sensors, Chemical and Biological Sensors, Sensor Applications, Sensor Networks, Sensor Interfaces, and Sensor Power and Energy Harvesting. *IEEE Sensors Letters* accepts papers on sensors at all length scales including macro, micro and nanoscales. More details are available at [mc.manuscriptcentral.com/sensors-letters](http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/maglet-ieee).

# [[1]](#footnote-2) INTRODUCTION

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When you open Sensors Letters Template v-1, select “Print Layout” from the “View” menu in the menu bar (View > Print Layout). Then type over sections of the document or cut and paste from another document and then use markup styles (Home > Styles). For example, the style at this point in the document is “Text L-SENS”). Highlight a section that you want to designate with a certain style; then select the appropriate name on the style menu. The style will adjust your fonts and line spacing. Use italics for emphasis; do not underline. The font used for the text *Sensors Letters* is Times Roman.

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To insert images in Word, position the cursor at the insertion point and either use Insert > Picture or copy the image to the Windows clipboard and then Home > Paste. IEEE will do the final formatting of your paper, so do not worry about precisely positioning figures and tables. In fact, they are best placed at the end of the paper, with the proper insertion points indicated in the text.

If you have a question about formatting your paper, or a suggestion on improving these instructions, please contact [s.tadigadapa@ieee.org](mailto:s.tadigadapa@ieee.org).

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Contributions to *Sensors Letters* must be submitted electronically on IEEE’s on-line manuscript submission and peer-review system, ScholarOne® Manuscripts, at mc.manuscriptcentral.com/sensors-letters. First check if you have an existing account. If there is none, please create a new account. (Please note that *IEEE Sensors Journal* and *IEEE Sensors Letters* use separate login credentials. Please set-up an account for *IEEE Sensors Letters* even if you have one for *IEEE Sensors Journal*) After logging in, go to your Author Center and click “Start a New Submission”.

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## Publication

When the files for your accepted manuscript are all uploaded and checked by the *Sensors Letters* editorial office, your paper will be sent to IEEE, where it will be posted as a preprint on IEEE’s Xplore® platform, which will represent official publication. Thus, your final submitted manuscript should be a version you would like people to read. PDF page proofs will be sent by e-mail to the corresponding author in 4 to 5 weeks. The typeset article, with its article number, should appear on Xplore® a few days after the author approves the proofs.

# ADVANCED INFORMATION ON CREATION OF ELECTRONIC IMAGE FILES

Most authors will be able to prepare images in one of the allowed formats listed above. This section provides optional, additional information on preparing PS, EPS, and TIFF files. No matter how you convert your images, it is a good idea to print the files to make sure nothing was lost in the process.

For more information on graphics files, please go to [www.ieee.org/publications\_standards/publications/authors/authors\_journals.html](http://www.ieee.org/publications_standards/publications/authors/authors_journals.html) and click on the link “Using Microsoft Products or PDFs to Submit Graphics.”

## IEEE Graphics Checker

Graphics Checker is part of the IEEE’s “Author Digital Toolbox,” a collection of tools for authors at [www.ieee.org/publications\_standards/publications/authors/authors\_journals.html](http://www.ieee.org/publications_standards/publications/authors/authors_journals.html). The direct link for Graphics Checker is [graphicsqc.ieee.org](http://graphicsqc.ieee.org/). You can upload image files in batches of up to 10 to be analyzed and compared to IEEE’s requirements for metadata, file size, file type, file naming, resolution parameters, and color format. You will receive a detailed report on the usability of each image analyzed. The report will include an explanation of any error found, along with, when possible, application-specific tips on how to fix the image. (You may ignore warnings that the author’s name is not part of the file name.) For more Information, contact the IEEE Graphics Help Desk at graphics@ieee.org. You will receive an e-mail response and sometimes a request for a sample graphic for IEEE to check.

## Scanning Images to PS and EPS

If you have a scanner, a quick way to prepare figure files is to print your figures on paper exactly as you want them to appear, scan them, and then save them to a file in PostScript (PS) or Encapsulated PostScript (EPS) formats. Use a separate file for each image. File names should be of the form FIG1.PS or FIG2.EPS.

## Scanning Images to TIFF

Using a scanner as above, you may save the images in TIFF format. The following specifications are the minimum requirements for TIFF images; you may use higher resolution. As a rule, if your image file size is below 500 kB, your TIFF image probably does not have enough resolution.

High-contrast line figures and tables should be prepared with at least 600 dpi resolution and saved with no compression, 1 bit per pixel (monochrome), with file names of the form FIG3.TIF. To obtain a 3.45 inch figure (one column width) at 600 dpi, the figure requires a horizontal size of 2070 pixels.

Photographs and grayscale figures should be prepared with at least 220 dpi resolution and saved with no compression, 8 bits per pixel (grayscale). To obtain a 3.45 inch figure (one column width) at 220 dpi, the figure should have a horizontal size of 759 pixels.

Color figures should be prepared with at least 400 dpi resolution and saved with no compression, 8 bits per pixel (palette or 256 color). To obtain a 3.45 inch figure (one column width) at 400 dpi, the figure should have a horizontal size of 1380 pixels.

## Printing Images to PS Files

You may create PostScript figures by “printing” them to files. First, download a PostScript printer driver from [www.adobe.com/support/downloads/product.jsp?product=pdrv&platform=win](http://www.adobe.com/support/downloads/product.jsp?product=pdrv&platform=win) (for Windows) or [www.adobe.com/support/downloads/product.jsp?product=44&platform=Macintosh](http://www.adobe.com/support/downloads/product.jsp?product=44&platform=Macintosh) (for Macintosh) and also install the “PPD Files: Adobe” printer definition. In Word, paste your figure into a new document. Print to a file using the PostScript printer driver. File names should be of the form FIG5.PS. Use “Open Type” fonts when creating your figures, if possible: Times Roman, Helvetica, Helvetica Narrow, Courier, Symbol, Palatino, Avant Garde, Bookman, Zapf Chancery, Zapf Dingbats, and New Century Schoolbook.

## Converting PDF to TIFF

Experienced computer users can convert figures and tables from their original format to TIFF. Some useful image converters are Adobe Photoshop, Corel Draw, Microsoft Photo Editor (part of Office 97 through Office XP), Picture Manager (Office 2003, 2007, 2010), and Photo Gallery (Office 2013, 2016). A free, versatile program for image manipulation and format conversion is GIMP, available from [www.gimp.org](http://www.gimp.org).

From Microsoft Office applications, such as PowerPoint, you may print or save as PDF. You may then convert a figure in the PDF file to TIFF with Adobe Acrobat or Reader: View > Zoom to a large magnification (e.g., 1600%). Use the Snapshot Tool to select the figure and copy it to the Windows clipboard. Open Microsoft Photo Editor (for example), Edit > Paste as New Image, crop, and adjust resolution as above. (If using Picture Manager, use Picture > Crop, Picture > Resize, File > Export.)

Note that the obvious way to convert PowerPoint PPT to TIFF (File > Save As > Save as type TIFF) gives poor results.

Alternatively, you may open the PDF in Photoshop or GIMP. Set the resolution to open at 1200 dpi. In GIMP, use “Export As” and save in TIFF format with no compression.

## Saving Files in TIFF

Most graphing programs allow you to save graphs in TIFF; however, you often have no control over compression or number of bits per pixel. You should open these image files in a program such as Microsoft Photo Editor and re-save them using no compression, either 1 or 8 bits, and either 600 or 220 dpi resolution (File > Properties; Image > Resize). See Section III.C for an explanation of number of bits and resolution.

## Using Print Screen

If your graphing program cannot export to TIFF, you can use the Print Screen function. Set your monitor to its highest resolution. Adjust the magnification so that you can view the entire image on the screen. (In PowerPoint, you may use Slide Show to get a full-screen image.) Move the cursor so it is out of the way. Press “Print Screen” on your keyboard; this copies the screen image to the Windows clipboard. Open Microsoft Photo Editor (for example) and click Edit > Paste as New Image. Crop the image (click Select button; select the part you want, then Image > Crop). Adjust the properties of the image (File > Properties) to get a width of 3.45 inches. Save the file (File > Save As) in TIFF with no compression (click “More” button). Similar functionality is available in GIMP and Photoshop.

# UNITS

Use either SI (MKS) or CGS as primary units. (SI units are strongly encouraged.) English units may be used as secondary units (in parentheses). This applies to papers in data storage. For example, write “15 Gbit/cm2 (100 Gbit/in2).” An exception is when English units are used as identifiers in trade, such as “3½ in disk drive.” Avoid combining SI and CGS units, such as current in amperes and magnetic field in oersteds. This often leads to confusion because equations do not balance dimensionally. If you must use mixed units, clearly state the units for each quantity in an equation.

The SI unit for magnetic field strength *H* is A/m. However, if you wish to use units of T, either refer to magnetic flux density *B* or magnetic field strength symbolized as *µ*0*H*. Use the center dot to separate compound units, e.g., “A·m2.”

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## Figures and Tables

Because IEEE will do the final formatting of your paper, you do not need to position figures and tables at the tops and bottoms of columns. In fact, all figures, figure captions, and tables can be at the end of the paper. Please mark in the text where the figures and tables are supposed to appear. Large figures and tables may span both columns. Place figure captions below the figures; place table captions above the tables. If your figure has two parts, for example, include the labels “(a)” and “(b)” as part of the artwork. Please verify that figures and tables that you mention in the text actually exist. Please do not include captions as part of the figures. Do not put captions in “text boxes” linked to the figures. Do not put borders around the outside of your figures. Use the abbreviation “Fig.” even at the beginning of a sentence. Do not abbreviate “Table.” Tables are numbered with Arabic numerals.

TABLE 1 HERE

## Color Figures

There is no charge for color figures. Since *Sensors Letters* is electronic journal, color figures are automatically produced as part of the journal publishing. Please ensure proper choice of colors for unambiguous exposition of what is being shown.

Figure axis labels are often a source of confusion. Use words rather than symbols. As an example, write the quantity “Pressure,” or “Pressure, P,” not just “P.” However, if there is not enough room on the axis to specify the quantity, write just the symbol “P,” but define it in the figure caption.

IEEE allows two ways to designate units in graphs and tables: (1) Put units in parentheses. As in Fig. 1, for example, write “Intensity (W/m2)” or “Intensity, I (W⋅m−2)” (but not just “W/m2”). (2) Label axes with a ratio of symbols and units. For example, write “Intensity, I/(W⋅m−2)” or “Temperature, T/K” (but not “Temperature/K”).

Multipliers can be especially confusing. Write “Frequency (MHz)” or “Frequency (106 Hz).” Do not write “Frequency (Hz) × 106” because the reader would not know whether the top axis label in Fig. 1 meant 83,125,000 Hz or 0.000083125 Hz. Figure labels should be legible, approximately 8 to 10 point type when reduced to journal column width.

FIG. 1 HERE

## References

*Sensors Letters* uses a numbered reference style, as in most other IEEE journals. Cite articles by number in square brackets [1]. The sentence punctuation follows the brackets. Multiple references are combined within brackets [1, 2] or [1-4]. When citing a section in a book, please give the relevant page numbers [7]. If the reference is part of the sentence, refer to the authors with the year in brackets, as shown by Eason et al. [3] and Jacobs and Bean [5]. Unfortunately, the IEEE document translator cannot handle automatic endnotes in Word; therefore, type the reference list at the end of the paper using the “References” style. An optional EndNote® style file for sensors letters is available [here](http://endnote.com/styles/IEEE%20Trans%20Biomed%20Engineer.ens) ([http://endnote.com/styles/IEEE Trans Biomed Engineer.ens](http://endnote.com/styles/IEEE%20Trans%20Biomed%20Engineer.ens)).For journal articles, please include the Digital Object Identifier if you can find it at [www.crossref.org/guestquery](http://www.crossref.org/guestquery).

In the reference list, give all authors’ names; do not use “et al.” Use a space after authors’ initials. Papers that have not been published should be cited as “unpublished” [4]. Papers that have been submitted for publication should be cited as “submitted for publication” [1]. (Since the paper may not be accepted, it is best to not specify the journal.) Papers that have been accepted for publication but not yet assigned to an issue should be cited as “to be published” [2]. Please give affiliations and addresses for private communications [6].

Capitalize only the first word in a paper title, except for proper nouns and element symbols. For papers published in translation journals, please give the English citation first, followed by the original foreign-language citation [8].

Adequacy of references is one of the many factors considered by the reviewers. Do not include gratuitous or irrelevant references to articles published in *Sensors Letters;* the editors of *Sensors Letters* are opposed to bibliographic manipulation. Do not excessively cite your own prior publications.

Number footnotes separately in superscripts (References > Insert Footnote). Place the actual footnote at the bottom of the column in which it is cited; do not put footnotes in the reference list (endnotes). Use letters for table footnotes (see Table 1).[[2]](#footnote-3)

## Abbreviations and Acronyms

Define abbreviations and acronyms the first time they are used in the text, even after they have already been defined in the abstract. Abbreviations such as “IEEE,” “SI,” “ac,” and “dc” do not have to be defined. Abbreviations that incorporate periods should not have spaces: write “C.N.R.S.,” not “C. N. R. S.” Do not use abbreviations in the title unless they are unavoidable (for example, “IEEE” in the title of this article).

## Equations

If you are using Word, use either the Microsoft Equation Editor or the MathType add-on ([www.dessci.com/en/products/mathtype](http://www.dessci.com/en/products/mathtype)) for equations in your paper (Insert > Equation). Fit the equation into one column by breaking it as you wish it to appear when typeset. You may find it convenient to create a new “equation” for each section of the equation.

Number equations consecutively with equation numbers in parentheses in the vicinity of the equation, as in (1). To make your equations more compact, you may use the solidus ( / ), the exp function, or appropriate exponents. Use parentheses to avoid ambiguities in denominators. Punctuate equations when they are part of a sentence, as in

(1)

The font for symbols should be similar to Times Roman. Use the “Symbol” style. Be sure that the symbols in your equation have been defined either before the equation appears or immediately following. Italicize symbols (T might refer to temperature, but T is the unit Tesla). Refer to “(1),” not “Eq. (1)” or “equation (1),” except at the beginning of a sentence: “Equation (1) is ... .”

Please confine equations to one column width and break equations at appropriate algebraic symbols.

## Other Recommendations

Use one space after periods and colons. Hyphenate complex modifiers: “room-temperature accelerometer.” However, do not hyphenate numbers and units: “10 nm thick film,” not “10-nm-thick film.” Avoid dangling participles, such as, “Using (1), the potential was calculated.” [It is not clear who or what used (1).] Write instead, “The potential was calculated by using (1),” or “Using (1), we calculated the potential.”

Use a zero before decimal points: “0.25,” not “.25.” Use “cm3,” not “cc.” Indicate sample dimensions as “0.1 cm × 0.2 cm,” not “0.1 × 0.2 cm2.” The abbreviation for “seconds” is “s,” not “sec.” Do not mix complete spellings and abbreviations of units: use “g/m2” or “grams per square meter,” not “grams/m2.” When expressing a range of values, write “7 to 9” or “7–9,” not “7~9.”

A parenthetical statement at the end of a sentence is punctuated outside of the closing parenthesis (like this). (A parenthetical sentence is punctuated within the parentheses.) In American English, periods and commas are within quotation marks, like “this period.” Other punctuation is “outside”! Avoid contractions; for example, write “do not” instead of “don’t.” The serial comma is preferred: “A, B, and C” instead of “A, B and C.”

If you wish, you may write in the first person singular or plural (use the singular if you are the only author) and use the active voice (“I observed that ...” or “We observed that ...” instead of “It was observed that ...”). Better still, omit statements of observation and just report what you measured: “The voltage decreased with temperature” instead of “We observed that the voltage decreased with temperature.” Similarly, avoid “We found that … .”

Remember to check spelling. If you are not fluent in English, please get a colleague to proofread your paper.

## Supplementary Information

Authors *may* *not* include supplementary text information. If your paper length is expected to be longer than 4 pages and requires extensive supplementary information, please submit your paper to IEEE Sensors Journal. **The journal’s rapid-publication model requires short articles that can be reviewed relatively quickly and no supplementary material is allowed.**

# SOME COMMON MISTAKES

The word “data” is plural, not singular. The subscript for the permeability of vacuum μ0 is zero, not a lowercase letter “o.” The term for residual magnetization is “remanence”; the adjective is “remanent”; do not write “remnance” or “remnant.” Use the word “micrometer” instead of “micron.” A graph within a graph is an “inset,” not an “insert.” The word “alternatively” is preferred to the word “alternately” (unless you really mean something that alternates). Use the word “whereas” instead of “while” (unless you are referring to simultaneous events). Do not use the word “essentially” to mean “approximately” or “effectively.” Do not use the word “issue” as a euphemism for “problem.”

Because “times” refers to multiplication, do not use the form “*n* times smaller”; instead, write “1/*n* times as large” or similar. For example, instead of “10 times smaller,” write “one tenth the size” or “0.1 times as large.” Do not use “times more”; instead, write “times as much.” For example, “2 times more” could be interpreted as “3 times as much.”

When compositions are not specified, separate chemical symbols by hyphens; for example, “NiMn” indicates the intermetallic compound Ni0.5Mn0.5 whereas “Ni-Mn” indicates an alloy of some composition NixMn1-x.

Be aware of the different meanings of the homophones “affect” (usually a verb) and “effect” (usually a noun), “complement” and “compliment,” “discreet” and “discrete,” “principal” (e.g., “principal investigator”) and “principle” (e.g., “principle of measurement”). Do not confuse “imply” and “infer.”

Prefixes such as “non,” “sub,” “micro,” and “ultra” are not independent words; they should be joined to the words they modify, usually without a hyphen. There is no period after the “et” in the Latin abbreviation “et al.” The abbreviation “i.e.” means “that is,” and the abbreviation “e.g.” means “for example.”

An excellent style manual and source of information for science writers is [9]. A general IEEE style manual is available at [www.ieee.org/publications\_standards/publications/authors/authors\_journals.html](http://www.ieee.org/publications_standards/publications/authors/authors_journals.html). (The style for *Sensors Letters* differs in many respects.)

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*Sensors Letters* is a rapid-publication, electronic only, peer-reviewed, archival journal dedicated exclusively to sensors articles of substantial current interest.

Authors should consider the following points:

1. Technical papers submitted for publication must advance the state of knowledge and must cite relevant prior work.

2. Authors must convince both peer reviewers and the editors of the scientific and technical merit of a paper; the standards of proof are higher when extraordinary or unexpected results are reported.

3. Because replication is required for scientific progress, papers submitted for publication must provide sufficient information to allow readers to perform similar experiments or calculations and use the reported results. Although not everything need be disclosed, a paper must contain new, useable, and fully described information. For example, a specimen’s chemical composition need not be reported if the main purpose of a paper is to introduce a new measurement technique. Authors should expect to be challenged by reviewers if the results are not supported by adequate data and critical details.

4. Papers that describe ongoing work or announce the latest technical achievement, which are suitable for presentation at a professional conference, may not be appropriate for publication in *Sensors Letters*. However, if a paper is accepted to Sensors Letters, the authors will have an opportunity to present their work at the following IEEE Sensors Conference, if they choose to do so. In such a case, authors agree to an oral presentation at the conference which will be recorded and made available online through IEEExplore. No further conference proceeding paper will be required.

# CONCLUSION

A conclusion section is not required. Although a conclusion may review the main points of the paper, do not replicate the abstract in the conclusion. A conclusion might elaborate on the importance of the work or suggest applications and extensions.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Only the Acknowledgment and References may extend to the last column on Page 4. The preferred spelling of the word “acknowledgment” in American English is without an “e” after the “g.” Use the singular heading even if you have many acknowledgments. Avoid expressions such as “One of us (S.B.A.) would like to thank ... .” Instead, write “S.B.A. thanks ... .” This work was supported in part by the U.S. Department of Commerce under Grant BS123456 (sponsor and financial support acknowledgment goes here; spell out the full name of the sponsor).

REFERENCES

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Fig. 1. Resonance frequency as a function of time. Note that “Fig.” is abbreviated. It is good practice to explain the significance of the figure in the caption.

Table 1. Units for magnetic properties (table caption).

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Symbol | Quantity a | Conversion from Gaussian and cgs emu to SI b |
| *Φ* | magnetic flux | 1 Mx → 10−8 Wb = 10−8 V·s |
| *B* | magnetic flux density,  magnetic induction | 1 G → 10−4 T = 10−4 Wb/m2 |
| *H* | magnetic field strength | 1 Oe → 103/(4π) A/m |
| *m* | magnetic moment | 1 erg/G = 1 emu  → 10−3 A·m2 = 10−3 J/T |
| *M* | magnetization | 1 erg/(G·cm3) = 1 emu/cm3  → 103 A/m |
| 4π*M* | magnetization | 1 G → 103/(4π) A/m |
| *σ* | specific magnetization | 1 erg/(G·g) = 1 emu/g  → 1 A·m2/kg |
| *j* | magnetic dipole moment | 1 erg/G = 1 emu  → 4π × 10−10 Wb·m |
| *J* | magnetic polarization | 1 erg/(G·cm3) = 1 emu/cm3  → 4π × 10−4 T |
| *χρ* | specific susceptibility | 1 cm3/g → 4π × 10−3 m3/kg |
| *μ* | permeability | 1 → 4π × 10−7 H/m  = 4π × 10−7 Wb/(A·m) |
| *μr* | relative permeability | *μ* → *μ*r |
| *w, W* | energy density | 1 erg/cm3 → 10−1 J/m3 |

a No vertical lines in table.

b Gaussian units are the same as cgs emu for magnetostatics; Mx = Maxwell, G = Gauss, Oe = Oersted, Wb = Weber, V = Volt, s = second, T = Tesla, m = meter, A = Ampere, J = Joule, kg = kilogram, H = Henry.

1. Corresponding author: F. A. Author (f.author@psu.edu). If some authors contributed equally, write here, “F. A. Author and S. B. Author contributed equally.” IEEE Sensors Letters discourages courtesy authorship; please use the Acknowledgment section to thank your colleagues for routine contributions.

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