A check list for the thesis bibliography

W. Hämäläinen

Bibtex makes your life easier, but you still have to check that the bibtex entries are correct and output what you want (and nothing else). The bibtex entries are usually generated automatically, so they may contain errors, miss some fields, or have extraneous fields you don't want to output.

1. Page numbers. These should be always given. Exceptional cases are e-publications which do not have page numbers, but only the url address. **Warning**: Authors often share their own versions of papers and then the page numbering may look to begin from 1. Doubt always these! It is highly unlikely that the paper you refer would be begin from p. 1 in the proceedings, journal or book. Search the journal or collection and check the real page numbers.

2. Publisher. This is required for proceedings and books. Examples are IEEE, ACM, and Springer[1]

3. Publisher's address: city and country. **Warning:** Be careful with bibtex and conference papers! If you use type @inproceedings, field 'address' is interpreted as the conference location and is printed in a wrong place. Use type @incollection, where address means the publisher's address as desired [2].

4. Editors. These are required for a paper that has appeared in a collection, like conference proceedings. Often you need to search the proceedings to find the editors. In exceptional cases the editors may not be told in the conference proceedings.

5. Series. Some books and conference proceedings appear in a series (the book is a certain volume of the series). In cs, the best-known series are

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[1]Before merging with Kluwer, the company was Springer-Verlag. Note that Springer is different than Springer Publishing.

[2]Alternatively, if you want to use @inproceedings, you have to include the publisher's address to the publisher field.

LNCS (Lecture Notes in Computer Science) and LNAI (Lecture Notes in Artificial Intelligence) by Springer. Use fields 'series' and 'volume'.

6. Section in a collection book (chapters written by different authors). Use type @incollection (@inbook is for a book written by one author). Give author, section title, either page numbers or the chapter number (or both), book title, editors, publisher, publisher's address, year, and if there are many editions, then also the edition number.

7. Upper-case letters. If the text field is in quotation marks, only the first letter of the first world is capitalized and rest are written by lower-case letters. This is what is wanted for the paper titles, as long as they don't contain proper nouns. However, for journal and book titles, the first letters of all (non-stop-word) words should be capitalized. You can get desired capitalization by including the title into curly brackets { } instead of quotation marks. Alternatively, you can only show which letter should be capitalized, like "Significance testing with frequentist versus {B}ayesian approaches". Suggestion: for paper titles, use quotation marks and include letters to capitalize in curly brackets (otherwise you may end up with a mixture of different capitalization styles). For book and journal titles, use curly brackets.

If you cannot make bibtex to output what you want, you can correct the bibliography list by editing the .bbl file after running bibtex (then run latex again). However, it will be easier on a long run to correct the bibtex entries (no need for manual correction).