

IEEE Citation Quick Reference

In-Text Citations

Basic Format

Numbered citations in square brackets: [1], [2], [3]

Examples

Single citation:

Recent research [1] has shown promising results.

Multiple citations (sequential):

Several studies [1], [2], [5] support this approach.

Range of citations:

Previous work [3]-[7] has explored this topic.

Multiple citations (range and individual):

Various methods [1]-[3], [7], [10] have been proposed.

Author mention (optional in IEEE):

Smith et al. [8] proposed a novel approach.

Same source cited again:

Use the same number as first citation: [1]

Citation Numbering Rules

Order: - ☐ Number citations in **order of first appearance** in text - ☐ First citation = [1], second = [2], etc. - ☐ Same source cited again = use original number

Placement: - ☐ **After punctuation** (periods, commas) - ☐ **Before colon** if referencing upcoming material - ☐ **No space** between brackets and preceding word

Examples:

Correct: Recent studies show improvement [1], [2].

Wrong: Recent studies show improvement[1], [2] .

Reference List Format

General Rules

- ☐ **Title:** “REFERENCES” (centered, uppercase)
 - ☐ **Numbering:** [1], [2], [3] in order of citation
 - ☐ **Font:** 8-point (for journal/conference papers)
 - ☐ **Hanging indent:** 0.25 inch
 - ☐ **Single-space** within entries
 - ☐ **Author names:** First Initial(s). Last name
 - ☐ **Max 6 authors:** List all; 7+ use “et al.”
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Common Source Formats

Journal Article

Standard format:

[1] A. Smith, B. Jones, and C. Lee, "Article title in sentence case," *IEEE Trans. Pattern Anal. Mach. Intell.*, vol. 42, no. 5, pp. 1234-1245, May 2020.

With DOI:

[2] M. Johnson, "Article title," *J. Comput. Sci.*, vol. 15, no. 3, pp. 456-470, Mar. 2023, doi: 10.1109/JCS.2023.1234567.

Early access:

[3] P. Davis, "Article title," *IEEE Trans. Neural Netw.*, early access, Jan. 15, 2024, doi: 10.1109/TNN.2024.7654321.

Conference Paper

Standard format:

[4] R. Brown and S. Garcia, "Paper title," in *Proc. IEEE Int. Conf. Comput. Vis. (ICCV)*, Oct. 2023, pp. 2345-2354.

With location:

[5] K. Williams, "Paper title," in *Proc. IEEE Conf. Comput. Vis. Pattern Recognit. (CVPR)*, Seattle, WA, USA, Jun. 2023, pp. 1000-1008.

With DOI:

[6] L. Martinez, "Paper title," in *Proc. Int. Conf. Mach. Learn. (ICML)*, 2023, pp. 5678-5687, doi: 10.1109/ICML.2023.123456.

Book

Complete book:

[7] J. Taylor, *Book Title in Sentence Case*, 3rd ed. New York, NY, USA: Wiley, 2022.

Book with editors:

[8] D. Wilson, Ed., *Book Title*, 2nd ed. Cambridge, MA, USA: MIT Press, 2021.

E-book:

[9] A. Thompson, *Digital Book Title*. Boston, MA, USA: Pearson, 2023. [Online]. Available: <https://www.publisher.com/ebook>

Book Chapter

Standard format:

[10] E. Chen, "Chapter title," in *Book Title*, F. Davis, Ed. London, U.K.: Springer, 2023, ch. 5, pp. 89-112.

Multiple editors:

[11] G. Lee, "Chapter title," in *Book Title*, H. Kim and I. Park, Eds. Berlin, Germany: Springer, 2022, pp. 200-225.

Website/Online Source

With author and date:

[12] National Institute of Standards and Technology, "Page title," NIST, Gaithersburg, MD, USA, 2023. [Online]. Available: <https://www.nist.gov/page>

No author:

[13] “Page title,” Website Name, 2024. [Online]. Available: <https://www.example.com/page>. Accessed: Jan. 15, 2024.

No date:

[14] J. Robinson, “Article title,” Website Name. [Online]. Available: <https://www.site.com/article>. Accessed: Feb. 20, 2024.

Preprint (arXiv, etc.)

arXiv:

[15] K. Anderson and L. White, “Paper title,” arXiv:2301.12345, 2023.

With version:

[16] M. Clark, “Paper title,” arXiv:2302.67890v2, 2024.

Technical Report

Corporate/institutional:

[17] J. Miller et al., “Report title,” Google Research, Mountain View, CA, USA, Tech. Rep. TR-2023-15, May 2023.

Government:

[18] “Report title,” Nat. Inst. Standards Technol., Gaithersburg, MD, USA, NIST Tech. Rep. 8400, 2023.

Thesis/Dissertation

Ph.D. dissertation:

[19] S. Rodriguez, “Dissertation title here,” Ph.D. dissertation, Dept. Comput. Sci., Stanford Univ., Stanford, CA, USA, 2022.

Master’s thesis:

[20] T. Nguyen, “Thesis title,” M.S. thesis, Dept. Elect. Eng., MIT, Cambridge, MA, USA, 2023.

Standard

IEEE standard:

[21] *IEEE Standard for Software Testing*, IEEE Std 829-2008, 2008, doi: 10.1109/IEEESTD.2008.4578383.

Other standards:

[22] *Information Technology—Security Techniques*, ISO/IEC 27001:2022, 2022.

Patent

U.S. patent:

[23] J. Smith, “Patent title,” U.S. Patent 10 123 456, Nov. 5, 2023.

International patent:

[24] M. Brown, “Patent title,” Patent WO 2023/123456 A1, Jun. 15, 2023.

Software/Code

GitHub repository:

[25] A. Developer, “Repository name,” GitHub, 2023. [Online]. Available: <https://github.com/user/repo>

Software version:

[26] “MATLAB,” ver. R2023a, MathWorks, Natick, MA, USA, 2023.

Dataset**With DOI:**

[27] K. Researcher, “Dataset name,” IEEE DataPort, 2023, doi: 10.21227/dataset.123.

Repository:

[28] L. Author, “Dataset title,” Zenodo, 2023. [Online]. Available: <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.1234567>

Common Abbreviations

Months

Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., May, June, July, Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec.

Common Terms

- **vol.** = volume
- **no.** = number (issue)
- **pp.** = pages
- **ed.** = edition
- **Ed./Eds.** = Editor/Editors
- **ch.** = chapter
- **Proc.** = Proceedings
- **Conf.** = Conference
- **Trans.** = Transactions
- **J.** = Journal
- **Mag.** = Magazine
- **Lett.** = Letters
- **Symp.** = Symposium
- **Dept.** = Department
- **Univ.** = University
- **Tech. Rep.** = Technical Report
- **Std.** = Standard

Locations

- **USA** = United States (use for clarity)
 - **U.K.** = United Kingdom
 - **State abbreviations:** CA, NY, MA, TX, etc.
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IEEE Journal Title Abbreviations

Common Abbreviations

IEEE Transactions: - *IEEE Trans. Pattern Anal. Mach. Intell.* (TPAMI) - *IEEE Trans. Neural Netw. Learn. Syst.* (TNNLS) - *IEEE Trans. Comput.* (TC) - *IEEE Trans. Signal Process.* (TSP) - *IEEE Trans. Wireless Commun.* (TWC) - *IEEE Trans. Power Electron.* (TPEL)

Other IEEE Publications: - *IEEE Commun. Mag.* - *IEEE Comput. Graphics Appl.* - *IEEE J. Sel. Areas Commun.* - *IEEE Access* (no abbreviation, full title)

Conference Proceedings: - *Proc. IEEE Conf. Comput. Vis. Pattern Recognit.* (CVPR) - *Proc. IEEE Int. Conf. Comput. Vis.* (ICCV) - *Proc. Adv. Neural Inf. Process. Syst.* (NeurIPS)

Check IEEE Reference Guide for complete list

Author Format

One Author

[1] A. Smith, "Title," ...

Two Authors

[2] A. Smith and B. Jones, "Title," ...

Three Authors

[3] A. Smith, B. Jones, and C. Lee, "Title," ...

Four to Six Authors

[4] A. Smith, B. Jones, C. Lee, and D. Brown, "Title," ...

Seven or More Authors

[5] A. Smith et al., "Title," ...

Note: List first 6 authors, then "et al."

Special Cases

No Author

Start with title, then organization or publication

[1] "Article title," *Website Name*, Year. [Online]. Available: URL

No Date

Use "n.d." or omit if not available

[2] J. Smith, "Article title," n.d. [Online]. Available: URL

Multiple Works by Same Author

Number in order of citation (not alphabetical)

[3] J. Smith, "First cited paper," ...

[8] J. Smith, "Second cited paper," ...

Forthcoming/In Press

[4] M. Jones, "Article title," *IEEE Trans. Comput.*, to be published.

Unpublished/Submitted

[5] K. Lee, “Paper title,” unpublished.

Quick Comparison Table

Element	IEEE Format
In-text	[1], [2], [3]
Order	Sequence of citation
Authors	A. Smith and B. Jones
Max authors	6 (then et al.)
Title	Sentence case
Journal	<i>Italics, abbreviated</i>
Volume	vol. 42
Issue	no. 3
Pages	pp. 123-145
Date	Month Year
DOI	doi: 10.1109/XXX

Common Mistakes

- ☐ **Author-year format:** (Smith, 2023)
- ☐ **Numbered format:** [1]
- ☐ **Alphabetical order**
- ☐ **Citation order** (first mentioned = [1])
- ☐ **Full first names:** John Smith
- ☐ **Initials:** J. Smith
- ☐ **Title Case for articles:** “The Impact of Technology”
- ☐ **Sentence case:** “The impact of technology”
- ☐ **Full journal names:** *IEEE Transactions on Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence*
- ☐ **Abbreviated:** *IEEE Trans. Pattern Anal. Mach. Intell.*
- ☐ **Missing comma before year:** vol. 42 2023
- ☐ **Comma before year:** vol. 42, no. 3, pp. 123-145, Mar. 2023
- ☐ **“Page” or “pages” spelled out**
- ☐ **Use pp.** for page numbers
- ☐ **Ampersand (&) between authors**
- ☐ **“and” between authors:** Smith and Jones

Quick Reference: Building a Citation

For a journal article, include in order:

- [#] Reference number
- Author initials and last name(s)
- “Article title in sentence case,”
- Journal Name Abbreviated,*
- vol. X,
- no. Y,
- pp. XXX-YYY,
- Month Year.

9. doi: (if available)

Example:

[1] A. Smith, B. Jones, and C. Lee, "Machine learning for network security," *IEEE Trans. Netw.*, vol. 28, no. 4, pp. 1234-1250, Aug. 2020, doi: 10.1109/TN.2020.123456.

In-Text Citation Context Examples

At end of sentence:

The method achieves 98% accuracy [1].

Multiple sources supporting claim:

Several approaches have been proposed [1]-[5], [8].

Specific claim from source:

According to [6], the algorithm runs in linear time.

Author mention (less common):

Smith et al. [7] demonstrated superior performance.

Comparing sources:

While [2] suggests one approach, [5] proposes an alternative.

Reference to figures/tables in cited work:

The results in [3, Fig. 2] show significant improvement.

Sample Reference List

REFERENCES

- [1] A. Smith and B. Jones, "Deep learning for intrusion detection," *IEEE Trans. Inf. Forensics Security*, vol. 15, pp. 1234-1250, 2020.
 - [2] C. Lee, D. Brown, and E. Garcia, "Network security challenges," in *Proc. IEEE Symp. Security Privacy*, May 2021, pp. 456-470.
 - [3] F. Wilson, *Cybersecurity Fundamentals*, 2nd ed. New York, NY, USA: Wiley, 2022.
 - [4] G. Martinez, "Machine learning survey," arXiv:2301.12345, 2023.
 - [5] National Institute of Standards and Technology, "Cybersecurity framework," NIST, Gaithersburg, MD, USA, 2023. [Online]. Available: <https://www.nist.gov/framework>
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Tips for Success

Do: - ☐ Number in order of first appearance - ☐ Use square brackets [1] - ☐ Abbreviate journal titles per IEEE standards - ☐ Include DOIs when available - ☐ Use initials for first/middle names - ☐ Check IEEE Reference Guide for abbreviations

Don't: - ☐ Use (Author, Year) format - ☐ Alphabetize references - ☐ Use full journal names - ☐ Use Title Case for article titles - ☐ Forget commas between elements - ☐ Mix citation styles

Resources

Official IEEE Resources: - IEEE Reference Guide: iee-dataport.org/documents/ieee-reference-guide - IEEE Author Center: ieeauthorcenter.ieee.org - IEEE Editorial Style Manual: iee.org/publications

Citation Tools: - IEEE citation format in reference managers (Zotero, Mendeley, EndNote)
- Google Scholar: Set preferences to “IEEE” format - BibTeX: Use IEEEtran bibliography style

For complete IEEE citation guidelines, consult the IEEE Reference Guide and your target publication’s author instructions.