

# Publishing A Scientific Paper

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# PUBLISH<sup>or</sup>PERISH



# The Publication Process

- Submission to an appropriate outlet.
  - **Peer-reviewed**: Journal or conference.
  - **Non-reviewed**: posting as a technical report on appropriate internet sites.
- Review report and editorial decision.
- Preparation of revised version.
- Resubmission of the report.

# Evaluation Criteria

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## Significance

- Is the problem of **current interest**?
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## Novelty

- Does your work use **new tools**?
- Does your work **combine** known methods in a new way?

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## Completeness

- Have you considered all **consequences** of your results?
- Have you worked out the **necessary** details?
- Have you done any implementation (if appropriate)?



# Submission (Where and When?)

# Where to Submit? Deciding Parameters

## Circulation among the relevant community

- People want to **get noticed**.
- These days dissemination is easy to achieve.
- But, it is still hard to **make experts notice** your work.

# Where to Submit? Deciding Parameters

## Stamp of Quality

- Papers in a **top** journal or conferences are more likely to be taken more seriously.
- Enhances the **bureaucratic** value of your CV.

# Where to Submit? Deciding Parameters

## Time to Publication

- Claims of priority.
- Follow-up work.

# Where to Submit? Strategies

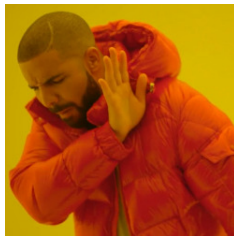
Begin at the top and work down

- Pros: maximizes bureaucratic value.

# Where to Submit? Strategies

Begin at the top and work down

- Pros: maximizes bureaucratic value.
- Cons:
  - Subjectivity of rankings.
  - Delays in publication.
  - Holding up of further work.
  - Using up reviewer time.



Top  
Venue



Appropriate  
Venue

# Where to Submit? Strategies

Submit to the appropriate journal/conference

- Form a **proper evaluation** of the work.
- Understand the **aim and scope** of your work.
- Form a proper evaluation of how prospective reviewers will evaluate the work.

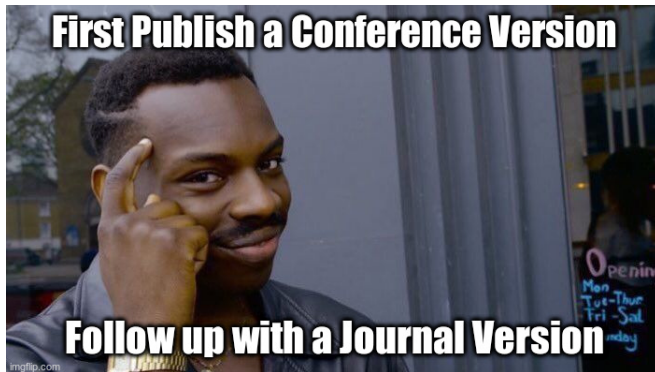


# Where to Submit? Strategies

Near simultaneous submission of more than one paper to the same journal

- Related papers: may get a common reviewer.
- Unrelated papers.
- No clear answer: depends on your options.

# Where to Submit? Strategies



## Early Version Versus 'Definitive' Version

First publish a conference version and then follow it up with a journal version.

### Pros

- Increases paper count.
- Gives you more time to prepare the final version.

### Cons

- Journals have started to ask for 'significantly' more material.
- Failure to publish the final version leaves only the conference version available to the readers.

# Salami Slicing



# Salami Slicing






Unethically fragmenting the results of a single study and reporting them in different papers.




# Where to Submit? Selecting A Journal/ Conference

- Aims and scope.
- Instructions to authors.
- Instructions to reviewers (if available).
- Editorial board.
- Special issues.
- Paper build on papers published earlier in the same journal/ conference.
- Circulation of the journal/ conference.

# When to Submit?

Editorial Issues	 Panik
Corrected	 Kalm
Additional editorial Issues	 Panik

# When to Submit?

Editorial Issues	
Corrected	
Additional editorial Issues	

Terence Tao: “Submit a final draft, not a first draft.”



# When to Submit?

- If you are still finding typos or adding results, improving the writing, etcetera, then the paper is not yet ready for submission.
- A poorly prepared paper is almost certain to be rejected.
- **Similar comments** hold when you are sending the paper to a colleague for comments.
- **Proofread** a paper carefully before submission.
- If the reviewer detects a casual attitude, then this creates a negative bias.

# Things to Remember

Found an error in the submission

Hope reviewers to overlook



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Hope reviewers to overlook



Confucius: “A man who has committed a mistake and doesn’t correct it, is committing another mistake.”

# The Review Process

## Editorial phase (Journal)

- The Editor-in-Chief (E-in-C) assigns to an appropriate associate editor.
- Some journals allow direct submission to an associate editor.
- In some cases, the E-in-C and/or the associate editor may reject a paper without further review.

## Editorial phase (Conference)

- The Program Chairs assigns the paper to 3 to 5 Program Committee members (PC Member) for review.
- The PC members may seek the help of expert sub-reviewers.
- In some cases, the program chairs and/or the PC Members may reject a paper without further review.

# Referring by Anonymous Reviewers

- Allows free (unrestrained) expression of opinion.
- (Double) Blind Review

# Referring by Anonymous Reviewers

- Allows free (unrestrained) expression of opinion.
- (Double) Blind Review:
  - The **identity** of the author(s) is also **hidden** from the reviewer.
  - A policy allowed by some journals/conferences.
  - No obvious references and/or acknowledgements.
  - Motivation: **level playing ground** for all authors.



# Conflict of Interest (COI)

- The authors of each submission are asked to identify all the PC members with **automatic COI**.
- A reviewer and an author have an automatic COI if:
  - one was the **thesis advisor/supervisor** of the other
  - or if they have shared an **institutional affiliation** within the last xxx years
  - or if they have published yyy **joint authored works** within the last zzz years
  - or if they are in the **same family**

# From CRYPTO-2022 COI

## Conflicts of Interest

Authors, program committee members, and reviewers must follow the IACR Policy on Conflicts of Interest, available from <https://www.iacr.org/docs/>.

In particular, the authors of each submission are asked during the submission process to identify all members of the Program Committee who have an automatic conflict of interest (COI) with the submission. A reviewer and an author have an automatic COI if:

- one was the thesis advisor/supervisor of the other
- or if they have shared an institutional affiliation within the last two years<sup>1</sup>
- or if they have published two or more joint authored works within the last three years<sup>2</sup>
- or if they are in the same family

Any further COIs of importance should be separately disclosed<sup>3</sup>. It is the responsibility of all authors to ensure correct reporting of COI information. Submissions with incorrect or incomplete COI information may be rejected without consideration of their merits.

# Editorial Decision

- Based on reports from one or more reviewers.
- **Journal Publication:**
  - Associate editor collects reports/recommendations from the reviewers and forwards to the E-in-C.
  - Final decision by the E-in-C.

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  - Final decision by the E-in-C.
- **Conference Publication:**
  - Program Chairs collect reports from the reviewers and share among reviewers.
  - The chairs initiate a constructive discussion with the reviewers; reviewers may revise their reports/ recommendations, if needed.
  - Final decision taken by the program chairs.

# Recommendation (Journal)

- Accept
- Accept after minor revision
- Submit after major revision
- Reject, but, encouraged to submit after substantially more work
- Reject

# Recommendation (Conference)

- Accept.
- Reject.
- Conditional Accept ([Shepherding](#))

# Recommendation (Conference)

- Accept.
- Reject.
- Conditional Accept ([Shepherding](#))
  - Minor revisions needed to be performed and should be approved by a shepherd.
  - The shepherd is typically chosen from the set of reviewers.

# Recommendation (Conference)

What happens in case of a good work with some technical glitch?

- Should not be accepted as is.
- Should not be rejected as the glitch may be easily resolvable.

A revision is preferred..!!



# Recommendation (Conference)



# From CRYPTO-2022

## Schedule

Crypto 2022 will operate a two-round review system. In the first round, the program committee selects the submissions that will proceed to the second round, and the authors receive the first round notification. The submissions that have not been selected during the first round of reviews may be submitted to other conferences after the first round notification date.

Rather than an explicit one-round rebuttal, the conference will use targeted (potentially multi-round) interaction between the PC and the authors, which can happen at any time during the review process. This interaction will be limited to PC requests for clarification, or asking authors to respond to objective criticisms (technical errors, insufficiently supported claims, etc.) that may significantly impact the reviewers' accept/reject recommendation. Authors will be provided additional details and guidance when receiving such questions from the PC.

In the second round the program committee further reviews the selected submissions by taking into account the interactive discussion above. The committee then makes the final decision of acceptance or rejection.

# Review Comments

## Comments to the author(s)

- Comments on the technical content.
- Editorial comments.
- **Justification** on recommendation.

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## Comments to the editor

- Additional comments or suggestions on recommendation.
- Not meant to be passed on to the author.

# Quantification of Recommendations

Some journals/ conferences ask for quantification of recommendations as well as for quantification of other aspects.

- Overall **Grade**.
- Technical depth and novelty.
- Editorial quality and organisation.
- **Confidence** in the recommendation.
- Additional (List of references, Quality of Introduction, etc) .

# Revising A Paper

# Reacting to Review Report

- Do not get upset; do not react personally.
- Do not complain to the editor.
- Expect that the reviewers have been **fair**.
- Believe that the reviewers' comments will help to **improve** the quality of the paper.

# Revising A Paper (General Issues)

- Read the reviewers' comments very carefully several times.
- Break down the comments into **specific tasks** to be carried out.
- If in **doubt** consult with your colleagues.
- Revise your paper very carefully to ensure that all the comments are taken care of.
- Remember reviewers do not like it when their comments are not **properly addressed**.



# Revising A Paper



# Revising A Journal Paper

- If two or more reviewers have made **conflicting comments** be careful to ascertain this fact.
- If you disagree with the reviewer over some point, then ensure that you actually **disagree**.
- Think about the point from the reviewer's point of view, and revise the draft accordingly.
- Journals usually provide a **deadline**, but, one may ask for **extensions**.
- Do not procrastinate, and no need to rush as well.

# Revising A Conference Paper

- Each submission to a new conference gets you a potentially new set of reviewers.
- But, the reviewers comments should still be carefully examined and the revision properly done.
- IACR encourages authors for **sticky reviews**:
  - Authors may include responses to reviews from previous IACR events in the Appendix.
  - The author can mention the previous submission and clearly state and address relevant referee's comments.

# Sticky Reviews: IACR Guidelines for Authors

**Sticky Reviews.** IACR acknowledges that the process of submitting a rejected paper from one venue to another can lead to disparity of reviewing opinions and to additional workload for reviewers. Thus IACR *encourages* authors to include in their Supplementary Material<sup>1</sup> responses to reviews from *previous IACR events*. We would like to extend this to non-IACR events, but this would require the permission of the PC chair of the prior non-IACR event.

Note, that the referee's of the new paper will not have access to the old version, or the referee's reports, thus your comments should be understandable without these items. Including comments to say you have addressed a referee comment helps if a referee who is seeing your paper for the second time, by enabling them to concentrate on whether you have made the changes suggested.

# Action Taken Report (ATR)

- When to Submit?
  - Journal: With the revised version (in the same journal) of the paper.
  - Conference: When the paper undergoes shepherding.
- Be polite in the ATR; do not express dismay at being asked to revise.
- Be careful in preparing the ATR. This tells the editor the extent to which you have complied with the reviewers' comments.

# Action Taken Report: Content

- **Summary** of the changes, the editor may read only this part.
- **Specific details** of the changes.
- If you disagree with some of reviewers' points, then this should be clearly discussed.
- Make your point **forcefully but politely**.

# References

- P. Sarkar, *A Course on Research Methodology*, 2011.  
<https://www.isical.ac.in/~palash/research-methodology.html>

Thank You..!!!