

# Reviewing A Scientific Paper

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# REVIEW

The word "REVIEW" is rendered in large, bold, 3D red block letters. A magnifying glass with a silver frame and a black handle is positioned over the second letter, 'E', as if to inspect it closely. The letters cast soft shadows on the white surface below them.

# Tasks of A Reviewer

- Get a **review request** from an editor or a member of some technical program committee.
- Accept or decline the request.
- Prepare a **review report**.
- Interact with the editor regarding the review.
- Go through further rounds of review.

# Accepting A Review Request

- Reviewing papers gives you an **insider look** into the publication process.
- Make sure that you will be able to review the paper.
- Reviewing is a **voluntary** task (some journals pay reviewers).
- Agreeing to review papers make you **part of the community**.
- Declining review requests without a good reason shows your disinclination to be part of the community.

# Responsibilities of A Reviewer

- Fairness
- Meeting the Review Deadline
- General Ethics



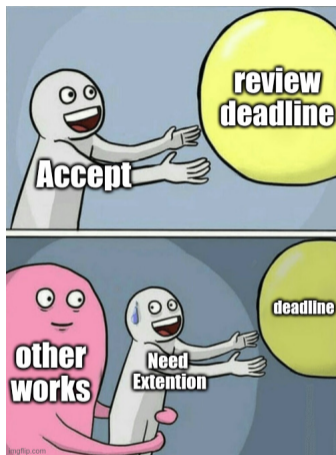


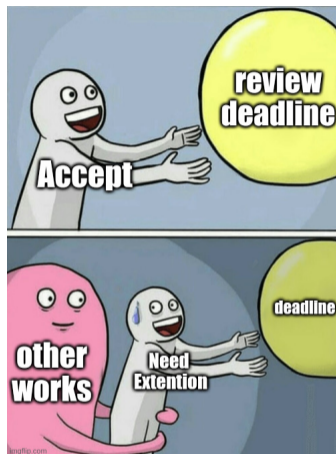
Provide a fair unbiased review.

# Fairness

- There should not be any Conflict of Interest.
- However, bias may still exist:
  - **Positive** bias: a current co-worker.
  - **Negative** bias: a competitor.
- You should remain fair.







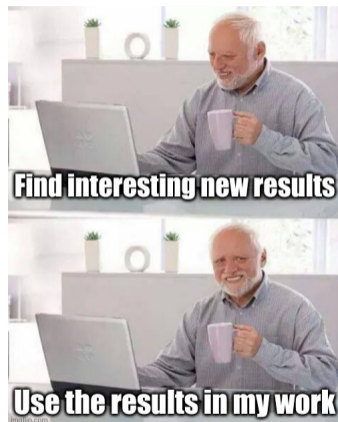
Meet the review deadline.

# Responsibility of A Reviewer

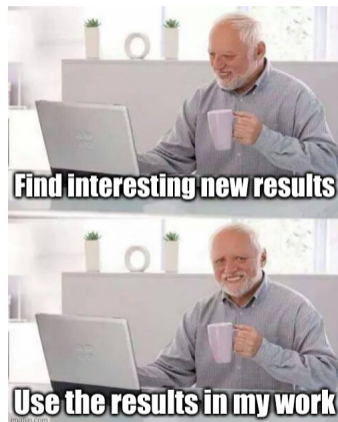
## Meeting the review deadline:

- For conferences, review deadlines are sharp.
- For journals, you should try to meet the deadline.
- Remember, your paper may also be similarly held up.

# Responsibility of A Reviewer



# Responsibility of A Reviewer



Ethics: Do not use the results of a paper under review in your own work..!!

# The Actual Task of Reviewing

- Understand the **main contribution** of the paper (may skip some details).
- Form a judgement on the **significance** and **novelty** of the main contribution.
- Verify the details (**correctness**, **completeness**):
  - Conference: time restrictions; may not be possible to verify all.
  - Journal: must be done.
- Mark typos and editorial mistakes.

# Review Report

## Summary of the paper

- This should **capture your view** of the work.
- The editor may not look beyond the summary.

## Recommendation

- Crucial but not absolute.
- Should be corroborated with later comments.
- Also, the editor will contrast with comments from other reviewers.

# Review Report

## Detailed comments to the authors

- Give concrete **justification** for your recommendation.
- In case you did not understand some part, then clearly mention this.
- Try to **suggest** how the author(s) may revise the relevant part.
- Provide **relevant technical** comments.
- Possible **references** that you think is appropriate for the work.
- List of typos and **editorial issues** that you found.



# Review Report

## Comments to the editor:

- Use sparingly, if at all.
- You may use this to provide comments that can disclose your identity to the author.

# References

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

Thank You..!!!