

# Research Methods in computer science

Spring 2025

Lecture 16

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March 19, 2025

# Agenda

Paper review

Reviewing other things

HW8

# Review Typical Template

Summary

Strengths

Weaknesses

Detailed Comments

Justification for these sections?

# Some Questionable Ideas...

- A paper addresses a problem that will become important?
- A paper will become important to a community?
- A paper has lots of graphs and data
- The authors did a lot of experiments

# Some Easier Ideas...

- Technical Claims
  - What are the claims?
  - Have the claims been validated?
    - Experimental
    - Data
    - Theory
- Technical Correctness

# Conference / Journal Review process

TPC / EIC finds reviewers

Bidding / assignment process

The reviewers submit reviews

Discussions online/in-person converging to a decision

Final decisions may have other considerations (e.g., scope, balancing the program, artifact requirement)

# TPC Invitation - 1

IEEE INFOCOM is the flagship networking conference of the IEEE Communications Society. Next year, INFOCOM 2023 will be held in Tokyo, Japan, in the week of April 24-27, 2023. As a respected researcher and expert in networking, we would like to invite you to join the Technical Program Committee (TPC).

As a TPC member, you will play an important role in ensuring the high quality of the paper selection process. Should you accept this invitation, you will assume the following responsibilities:

1. Provide constructive, high-quality reviews of the assigned papers in a \*two-round paper review process\*. The load on each TPC member is expected to be around 10-13 papers in total.
2. Following the second-round review, participate in the online discussion for the papers which you reviewed, and provide inputs that would allow the area chairs to make recommendations.
3. Attend an online TPC meeting on Saturday, November 19, 2022.

Below is the current schedule of the review cycle:

- The INFOCOM 2023 TPC Informational Meeting will take place online on Friday, May 6, 2022 11:00AM-noon (EDT). The 2023 TPC members are expected to attend this meeting, if possible.

[.....]

- Update your Conflict of Interests in EDAS [.....]

- Paper submission deadline: Monday, Aug. 1, 2022

- Papers assigned to the TPC members for the first-round review: Monday, Aug. 8, 2022

- First-round paper reviews due: Monday, Sept. 12, 2022

- Papers assigned to the TPC members for the second-round review: Wednesday, Sept. 28, 2022

- Second-round paper reviews due: Wed. Oct. 19, 2022

- Online discussion phase: Oct. 19-Nov. 2

- Online TPC meeting: Saturday, Nov. 19, 2022

To accept or decline this invitation, please click on the link below and select the appropriate option:

# Review Instruction - 1

- **Guidelines on the quality of INFOCOM reviews**
- Reviews with high quality is of utmost importance to IEEE INFOCOM, and the most important contributions that a member of the TPC can make to INFOCOM. Please avoid submitting short, unsubstantiated reviews, and do not cut and paste words and sentences across different categories.
- Try not to be overly negative, as any research paper has its advantages and drawbacks. Please write a review with the quality that you would expect for your own papers. Keep a fair and open-minded approach, favoring selection of breakthrough papers that can open new areas and new research directions. Please also follow a distribution curve (based on the definition for each rating on the review form) when rating the papers assigned to you. This is particularly important as each TPC member perceives the quality of a paper differently if the paper is rated in isolation. The Area TPC Chairs and the TPC co-chairs will read the submitted reviews, and monitor their quality.

<https://infocom2020.ieee-infocom.org/guidelines-tpc-and-reviews.html>



# TPC Invitation - 2

We would like to invite you to join the Technical Program Committee of BuildSys'21 (<https://buildsys.acm.org/2021/>).

TPC members are a crucial part of the conference and ensure the high quality of the program. If you accept, you will be expected to review about 10 submissions (similar to previous years) including note, short, and full papers. The TPC meeting to discuss all the papers will be held virtually late August/early September. Other important dates of the conference are copied at the end of the email.

Please respond briefly to this email to confirm (or decline). We will create your hotcrp account afterwards for the conference submission page. Please also let us know your preferred email address for hotcrp.

Thank you  
Om Gnawali and Zoltan Nagy  
- TPC Chairs BuildSys'21

## BuildSys'21 Important Dates

Abstract Registration: July 9, 2021, AOE.  
Paper Submission: July 16, 2021, AOE.  
Paper Notification: September 10, 2021, AOE.  
Camera Ready Submission: October 1, 2021, AOE.

# Review Instruction - 2

Thank you again for serving on the TPC for BuildSys'21. The paper reviews have been assigned now. Below are some points for the review process.

Please proceed to provide your expert opinion to ensure the high quality of BuildSys. In addition This should include

- A short summary
- Highlight the strengths/contributions
- A frank account of the weaknesses
- Comments to the PC to take into consideration (hidden from the authors)
- Whether or not the paper should be considered for best paper award (hidden from authors)

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Keep in mind that good reviews are not necessarily long reviews :). As in the past, we will also solicit review ratings through hotCRPs built-in feature.

As a reminder: Notes papers are 4-page papers intended to discuss preliminary research results, advocate new research directions, describe public software or datasets, or present short projects that do not warrant a 10-page paper. While Notes papers are not expected to have extensive evaluations, they will be reviewed based on the novelty of their ideas, potential for impact, and quality of presentation.

Writing review for systems conferences  
by Roscoe

IJCAI review selected slides by Blockeel,  
Davis

Some paper review samples

# Reviewing Short Papers

Typically emphasizes novelty

Limited experiments

Increasingly: work that does not need  
tens of pages to describe fully

# Reviewing Posters

Typically 1-2 page writeup is submitted

Some conference ask for draft posters

Work-in-progress

Novelty and some results expected

# Reviewing Vision/Challenge Papers

Discussion of new challenges or opportunities in the field

Technical work may give evidence of the direction advocated but it is not about A  
> B

# Conference updates



# HW8 – Paper Review

Pick a research paper that is considered important in your area of research.

Write a review for that paper

Summary

Strengths

Weaknesses

Details

Overall recommendation