Personal Review Overview

Katharina Boudgoust

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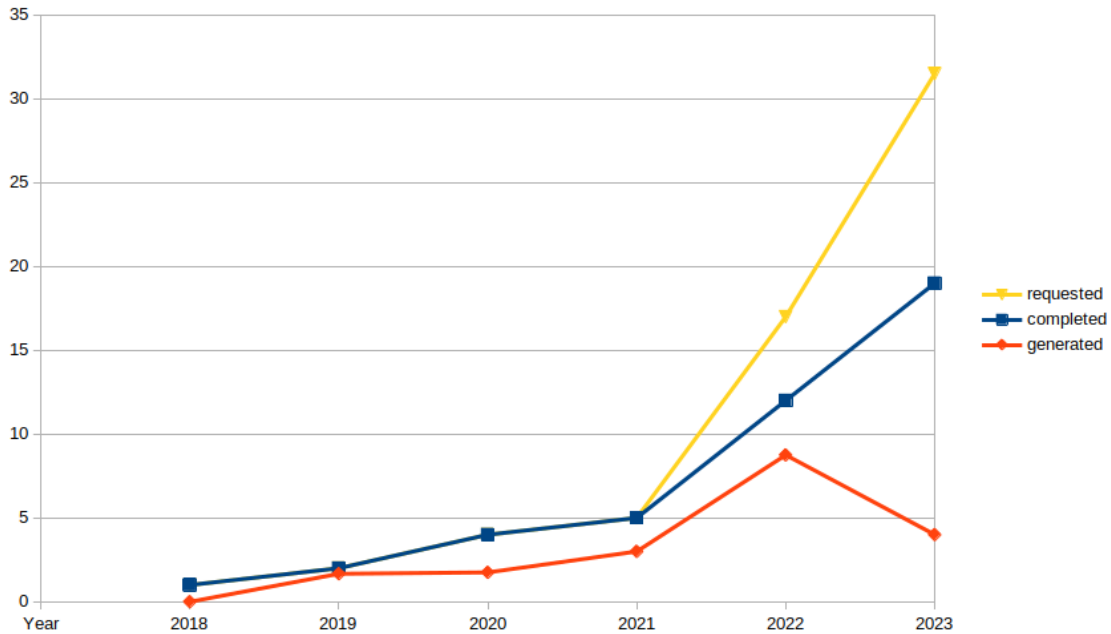

Figure 1: My history on requested, completed and generated reviews.

Context. Inspired by the review documentation by my colleague Alice Pellet–Mary, I decided to follow her and also document my personal review history. By making it publicly available on my website, I share it in the hope that it might be insightful or inspiring for others.

This personal review history has multiple roles. First, it simply documents my personal review load. Given the numerous tasks a researcher is occupied with during the year, I find it very valuable to keep track of some of my tasks. Second, it helps me to take a step aback and decide, whenever I receive a new review request or program committee invitation, whether I want to accept or decline it. For instance, one can fix an a-priori ratio between *completed* and *generated* reviews one wants to achieve throughout a year, for instance 3:1 or 4:1, and start declining once the ratio is reached.

My review history in Figure 1 shows that during my PhD (2018-2021) completing and generating reviews was pretty much in balance. Starting from my Postdoc (2022-2023), I was invited to program committees for conferences, but also more and more requested as subreviewer for other PC members and as reviewer for journals. On the other hand, my own productivity went down, as I couldn't spend as much time as during my PhD on "simply" doing research. I quickly learnt to sometimes decline reviews or distribute them to subreviewers.

Requested review. An article I was asked/assigned to review. It covers the following three cases:

  Case 1) I was requested by an editor of a journal,

  Case 2) A program committee member of a conference asked me to do a subreview or

  Case 3) I was myself member of a conference program committee.

The review counts for the year in which I actually wrote it.

Completed review. An article I personally read and reviewed. Journal reviews are counted once, even when there are multiple iterations. Articles that I reviewed multiple times for different venues are counted multiple times. The difference between *requested* and *completed* reviews thus contains articles I declined to review (Case 1 and Case 2) or I found myself subreviewers to review it (Case 3).

Generated review. For each submission, this is the number of reviews obtained for the submission divided by the number of co-authors on the article.