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# **Artifact Evaluation**

**ICSE 2020** 

About Call for Submissions

# Call for Submissions

# ICSE'20 Artifact Track: Call for Submissions

Authors of papers accepted to the 2020 Technical/SEIP/NIER/SEET/SEIS Track are invited to submit artifacts associated with those papers to the ICSE Artifact Track for evaluation as candidate reusable, available, replicated or reproduced artifacts. If those artifact(s) are accepted, they will each receive one (and only one) of the badges below on the front page of the authors' paper and in the proceedings.

Authors of any prior SE work (published at ICSE or elsewhere) are invited to submit an artifact to the ICSE Artifact Track for evaluation as a candidate **replicated or reproduced** artifact. If the artifact is accepted:

- · Authors will be invited to give lightning talks on this work at ICSE'20
- We will do our best to work with the IEEE Xplore and ACM Portal administrator to add badges to the electronic versions of the authors' paper(s).

Functional	Reusable	Available	Replicated	Reproduced
No Badge	acm	acm	acm	acm
Artifacts documented,	Functional + very carefully documented and well-structured to	Functional + placed on a publicly accessible	Available + main results of the paper have been obtained	Available + the main results of the paper have been
complete	the extent that reuse and repurposing is facilitated.	l archival repository.		independently obtained in a subsequent study
	In particular, norms and	this repository along with a	team other than the authors, using, in	by a person or team other than the authors,
verification and	research community for artifacts of this type are	•	part, artifacts provided by the	without the use of author-supplied

Papers with such badges contain reusable products that other researchers can use to bootstrap their own research. Experience shows that such papers earn increased citations and greater prestige in the research community. Artifacts of interest include (but are not limited to) the following.

provided.

author.

• Software, which are implementations of systems or algorithms potentially useful in other studies.

strictly adhered to.

validation

artifacts.

- Data repositories, which are data (e.g., logging data, system traces, survey raw data) that can be used for multiple software engineering approaches.
- Frameworks, which are tools and services illustrating new approaches to software engineering that could be used by other researchers in different contexts.

This list is not exhaustive, so the authors are asked to email the chairs before submitting if their proposed artifact is not on this list.

# **Evaluation Criteria**

The ICSE artifact evaluation track uses a single-blind review process. Artifacts will be evaluated using the criteria in the last row of the above table.

Review will be via Github. All submitting authors must supply a valid Github id that identifies themselves.

The goal of this track is to encourage reusable research products. Hence, no **functional** badges will be awarded.

# **Best Artifact Awards**

There will be two ICSE 2020 Best Artifact Awards to recognize the effort of authors creating and sharing outstanding research artifacts.

# **Submission and Review**

**IMPORTANT NOTE**: different badges have different submission procedures. See below.

Note that all submissions, reviewing, and notifications for this track will be via the Github repository http://github.com/researchart/rose6icse (http://github.com/researchart/rose6icse).

- There will be no emails notifying authors, acknowledging a submission, or informing authors of the results of the review process.
  - Instead, submitters can track the progress of their work by tracking its activity in the repo
- · Submitting anything to this track will mean
  - Creating a GitHub account with your public name
  - Forking the master branch of our repo http://github.com/researchart/rose6icse (http://github.com/researchart/rose6icse) into your own local branch
  - · Creating a subdirectory one per submission, underneath one of the directories
    - http://github.com/researchart/rose6icse/submissions/reusable (http://github.com/researchart/rose6icse/submissions/reusable),
    - http://github.com/researchart/rose6icse/submissions/available (http://github.com/researchart/rose6icse/submissions/available),
    - http://github.com/researchart/rose6icse/submissions/replicated (http://github.com/researchart/rose6icse/submissions/replicated),
    - http://github.com/researchart/rose6icse/submissions/reproduced (http://github.com/researchart/rose6icse/submissions/reproduced)
  - Then adding file(s) to that directory,
  - Then committing that branch,
  - Then submitting a pull request back to master.
- All reviewing will be done in Github.
  - Each submission will be processed in its own issue.
- Authors will be notified of final decisions when the track chairs add labels to the submission's issue.

### For Replicated and Reproduced Badges

For "replicated" and "reproduced" badges, authors will need to offer appropriate documentation that their artifacts have reached that stage.

By January 27, 2020, create a subdirectory under the directories

http://github.com/researchart/rose6icse/submissions/replicated

(http://github.com/researchart/rose6icse/submissions/replicated),

http://github.com/researchart/rose6icse/submissions/reproduced

(http://github.com/researchart/rose6icse/submissions/reproduced) (perhaps followed by a unique number if the same author is submitting multiple artifacts; e,g, menzies1, menzies2) and add a one page (max) abstract in PDF format:

- TITLE: A (Partial)? (Replication|Reproduction) of XYZ. Please add the term partial to your title if only some of the original work could be replicated/reproduced.
- WHO: name the original authors (and paper) and the authors that performed the replication/reproduction. Include contact information (emails) and github ids. Mark one author as the corresponding author.

**IMPORTANT**: include also a web link to a publically avaiable URL directory containing (a)the original paper (that is being reproduced) and (b)any subsequent paper(s)/documents/reports that do the reproduction.

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- WHAT: describe the "thing" being replicated/reproduced;
- WHY: clearly state why that "thing" is interesting/important;
- HOW: say how it was done first;
- WHERE: describe the replication/reproduction. If the replication/reproduction was only partial, then explain what parts could be achieved or had to be missed.
- DISCUSSION: What aspects of this "thing" made it easier/harder to replicate/reproduce. What are the lessons learned from this work that would enable more replication/reproduction in the future for other kinds of tasks or other kinds of research.

Two PC members will review each abstract, possibly reaching out to the authors of the abstract or original paper. Abstracts will be ranked as follows.

- If PC members do not find sufficient substantive evidence for replication/reproduction, the abstract will be rejected.
- Any abstract that is judged to be unnessarily critical of prior work will be rejected (\*).
- The remaining abstracts will be sorted according to (a) interestingness and (b) correctness.
- The top ranked abstracts will be invited to give lightning talks.

(\*) Our goal is to foster a positive environment that supports and rewards researchers for conducting replications and reproductions. To that end, we require that all abstracts and presentations pay due respect to the work they are reproducing/replicating. Criticism of prior work is acceptable only as part of a balanced and substantive discussion of prior accomplishments.

## For Reusable and Available Badges

Only authors of papers accepted to the 2020 Technical/SEIP/NIER/SEET/SEIS Track can submit candidate reusable or available artifacts.

Create a subdirectory under the directories http://github.com/researchart/rose6icse/submissions/available (http://github.com/researchart/rose6icse/submissions/available),

http://github.com/researchart/rose6icse/submissions/reusable

(http://github.com/researchart/rose6icse/submissions/reusable) (perhaps followed by a unique number if the same author is submitting multiple artifacts; e.g., menzies1, menzies2).

For the **reusable** and **available** badges, authors must offer "download information" showing how reviewers can access and execute (if appropriate) their artifact.

Authors must perform the following steps to submit an artifact:

- Prepare the artifact
- · Make the artifact available
- Document the artifact
- · Submit the artifact

Authors need to write and submit documentation explaining how to obtain the artifact package, how to unpack the artifact, how to get started, and how to use the artifacts in sufficient detail. The artifact submission must describe only the technicalities of the artifacts and uses of the artifact that are not already described in the paper. The submission should contain the following documents (in **markdown** plain text format):

- A CONTACT.md file listing emails and **github ids** (important) for the authors. Please mark one author as the *corresponding author*.
- A README.md main file describing what the artifact does and where it can be obtained (with hidden links and access password if necessary). Also, there should be a clear description of how to reproduce the results presented in the paper.
- A STATUS.md file stating what kind of badge(s) the authors are applying for as well as the reasons why the authors believe that the artifact deserves that badge(s).
- A *LICENSE.md* file describing the distribution rights. Note that to score "available" or higher, then that license needs to be some form of open source license.
- An *INSTALL.md* file with installation instructions. These instructions should include notes illustrating a very basic usage example or a method to test the installation. This could be, for instance, information on what output to expect that confirms that the code is installed and working; and that the code is doing something interesting and useful.
- A copy of the accepted paper in pdf format.

For reusable and available badges, the review process will be interactive as follows:

- Prior to reviewing, there may be some interactions to handle set up and install. Before the actual
  evaluation reviewers will check the integrity of the artifact and look for any possible setup problems that
  may prevent it from being properly evaluated (e.g., corrupted or missing files, VM won't start, immediate
  crashes on the simplest example, etc.). The Evaluation Committee may contact the authors to request
  clarifications on the basic installation and start-up procedures or to resolve simple installation
  problems.
- Reviewing will be on Github with reviewers commenting via anonymous Github ids. Authors should not comment until at least two reviewers have added comments. Earlier author comments will be deleted.
- Authors are informed of the outcome and, in case of technical problems, they can help solve them
  during a brief 48-hour author response period. Authors may update their research artifacts after
  submission only for changes requested by reviewers in the rebuttal phase.

# **IMPORTANT DATES**

Jan27: Submission deadline Feb01: Review period (\*) Feb20: Rebuttal period ends.

Feb24: Notifications

Feb25: Send list of artifacts badges to web chairs and proceeding chairs

(\*): For the available and reusable badges, reviewing will be on Github with reviewers commenting via anonymous Github ids. Authors should not comment until at least two reviewers have added comments. Earlier author comments will be deleted.

Important Dates

Mon 24 Feb 2020
Notifications

Thu 20 Feb 2020
Rebuttal period ends

Sat 1 Feb 2020
Review period

Mon 27 Jan 2020

#### Submission Link

Submission deadline

thttps://conf.researchr.org/track/icse-2020/icse-2020-Artifact-Evaluation#submission-and-review (https://conf.researchr.org/track/icse-2020/icse-2020-Artifact-Evaluation#submission-and-review)

Program Committees (https://2020.icse-conferences.org/committee/icse-2020-artifact-evaluation-program-committees)



Tim Menzies North Carolina State University

Co-chair

**United States** 

(https://2020.icse-conferences.org/profile/timmenzies)



Leandro Minku University of Birmingham, UK

Co-chair

(https://2020.icse-conferences.org/profile/leandrominku1)



Silvia Abrahão Universitat Politècnica de València

Programme Committee

(https://2020.icse-conferences.org/profile/silviaabrahao)



Hamid Bagheri University of Nebraska-Lincoln, USA

Committee Member

(https://2020.icse-conferences.org/profile/hamidbagheri)



Maria Teresa Baldassarre Department of Computer Science, University of Bari

Committee Member

Italy

(https://2020.icse-conferences.org/profile/mariateresabaldassarre)



Marcio Barros UNIRIO

Programme Committee

Brazil

(https://2020.icse-conferences.org/profile/marciobarros)



Tanmay Bhowmik
Mississippi State University

Committee Member

(https://2020.icse-conferences.org/profile/tanmaybhowmik)



Kelly Blincoe University of Auckland New Zealand

Programme Committee

(https://2020.icse-conferences.org/profile/kellyblincoe)



George Cabral
Universidade Federal Rural de Pernambuco

Committee Member

(https://2020.icse-conferences.org/profile/georgecabral)



Tao Chen Loughborough University

Committee Member

United Kingdom

(https://2020.icse-conferences.org/profile/taochen)



Xuan Bach D. Le The University of Melbourne Australia

Programme Committee

(https://2020.icse-conferences.org/profile/xuanbachdle)



Daniel Alencar Da Costa Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario

Programme Committee

Canada

(https://2020.icse-conferences.org/profile/danielalencardacosta)



Giuseppe Destefanis

Committee Member

(https://2020.icse-conferences.org/profile/giuseppedestefanis)



Neil Ernst University of Victoria

Committee Member

Canada

(https://2020.icse-conferences.org/profile/neilernst)



Antonio Filieri Imperial College London

United Kingdom

Committee Member

(https://2020.icse-conferences.org/profile/antoniofilieri)



Regina Hebig
Chalmers University of Technology & University of Gothenburg

Programme Committee

(https://2020.icse-conferences.org/profile/reginahebig)



Jennifer Horkoff
Chalmers and the University of Gothenburg
Sweden

Committee Member

(https://2020.icse-conferences.org/profile/jenniferhorkoff)



Yasutaka Kamei Kyushu University

Programme Committee

(https://2020.icse-conferences.org/profile/yasutakakamei)



Eric Knauss
Chalmers University of Technology and University of Gothenbrug
Sweden

Committee Member

(https://2020.icse-conferences.org/profile/ericknauss)



Anne Koziolek Karlsruhe Institute of Technology Germany

Programme Committee

(https://2020.icse-conferences.org/profile/annekoziolek)



Rahul Krishna Columbia University, New York

Programme Committee

(https://2020.icse-conferences.org/profile/rahulkrishna)



Yepang Liu Southern University of Science and Technology

Programme Committee

(https://2020.icse-conferences.org/profile/yepangliu)



Daniel Mendez
Blekinge Institute of Technology
Sweden

Committee Member

(https://2020.icse-conferences.org/profile/danielmendez)



Martin Monperrus KTH Royal Institute of Technology

Committee Member

(https://2020.icse-conferences.org/profile/martinmonperrus)



Lloyd Montgomery Universität Hamburg Germany

Committee Member

(https://2020.icse-conferences.org/profile/lloydmontgomery)



Sira Vegas Universidad Politecnica de Madrid

Committee Member

(https://2020.icse-conferences.org/profile/siravegas)



Andreas Vogelsang TU Berlin Germany

Committee Member

(https://2020.icse-conferences.org/profile/andreasvogelsang)



Shuai Wang Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

Committee Member

(https://2020.icse-conferences.org/profile/shuaiwang1)



Hironori Washizaki Waseda University Japan

Committee Member

(https://2020.icse-conferences.org/profile/hironoriwashizaki)



Hongyu Zhang University of Newcastle, Australia

Programme Committee

Australia

(https://2020.icse-conferences.org/profile/hongyuzhang)



Tianyi Zhang Harvard University

Programme Committee

United States

(https://2020.icse-conferences.org/profile/tianyizhang)