**How to write survey/review paper**

**How to find papers:**

Use the pointers to various digital libraries to search for relevant papers. You will be safe, if your survey is based on about 30 relevant papers (or more) in the topic area. Also, try to identify several research groups in the area. If you are successful then dig into their work and the pointers in them. Once you have identified the core works then take some time to discover their relations with respect to each other and with respect to your topic area. Then you should be ready to write.

**Organization:**

The actual organization of the paper depends on the topic and you are required to find the right organization. As a starting point you should make sure your paper addresses the following issues:

1. Importance and significance of the “survey topic area”.

2. Basic approaches and mechanisms.

3. It is important to draw your own figures to explain the general area or basic techniques here.

4. Proposed/ in use application level protocols/standards/ solutions.

5. Classification of approaches (can you classify the current approaches?).

6. Draw a tree if possible to show your classification.

7. Relative advantages/disadvantages between the classified techniques and standards.

8. Identify some leading research/products/web-sites.

9. Identify the unsolved problems/difficulties, and future research issues.

10. Organize the Reference & Pointers1 to more information (categorize them into three groups i. Research Papers, ii. Research Groups, iii. Other Links).

11. Finally, as an endnote make a statement about the scope of your survey. List the formal publications (journals, conference proceeding, etc.) you have searched to prepare it and the time frame.

Articles should be of sufficient scientific interest and help to advance the fundamental understanding of ongoing research, applied or theoretical, for a general computer science audience. The treatment of each topic should be more than a catalogue of known results. Emphasis should be on clarity and originality of presentation and each survey should add insight to the topic under review.

A survey may typically contain the following elements:

* Introduction (including motivation and historical remarks)
* Outline of the Survey
* Basic concepts, examples and results (with sketches of the proofs)
* Comments on the relevance of the results, relations to other results and applications
* Open problems
* Critical review of the relevant literature
* Comprehensive bibliography