

Seminar: Innovative Internet Technologies and Mobile Communications (IITM)

How to Write a Review

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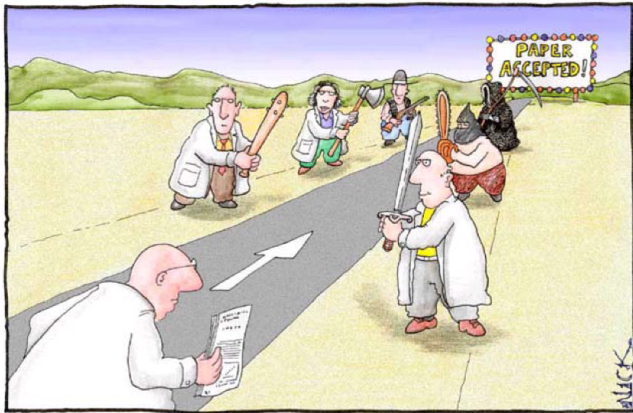
Chair of Network Architectures and Services
Department of Informatics
Technical University of Munich



	Dates
Topic presentation	Oct 21, 14:00
Update topic preferences	Until Oct 27, 23:59
Pick up literature from advisor (by mail if needed)	Until Nov 12
Two advisor meetings suggested	Nov 15 – Dec 10
1.) Discuss literature	
2.) Discuss structure and draft	
Final slides discussion with advisor (slides must be presentable)	Until 1 week before your talk
Upload paper, 1 st version	Dec 19, 23:59
Talks	Jan 27, Feb 3 / 10, 14:00 – 16:00
Upload reviews	Feb 12, 23:59
Upload paper, 2 nd version	Mar 5, 23:59

In red: hard deadlines or mandatory events

Peer review is a procedure for the evaluation of scientific work. Independent experts working in the same subject (peers) express their professional opinion on the submitted material.

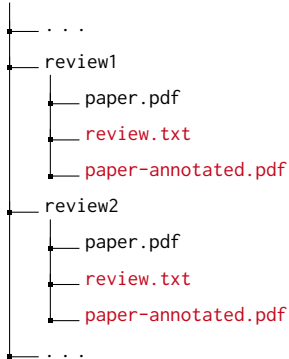


Each paper completes a peer review process

- Each paper gets reviewed by 2 students
- The advisor provides feedback
- Reviews should be critical and objective
- Reviews are anonymous

Goal: Improve the quality of the (seminar) papers

your_repository



- [paper.pdf](#)
The reviewed paper (we added this)
- [review.txt](#)
Your review (template in the material Git)
- [paper-annotated.pdf](#)
Annotated version of the paper (e.g. scan)

We expect from you:

- Read the paper
- Look up (most of) the references
- Understand the topic (if required do own research)
- Provide profound feedback
- Encourage improvement of the paper

The quality of the review will be judged

- This means the reviews are part of the reviewer's grade

Extent:

- ~ 1000 words per review
(May vary extremely, depending on the quality of the reviewed paper!)
- 25 % of the final grade (1.25 of 5 ECTS)
- ~ 35 hours for both reviews

Your review should cover the following points.

1. Title
2. Author of the paper
3. Summary
4. Strengths of the paper
5. Weaknesses of the paper
6. Questions to the author
7. Correctness
8. Overall Feedback
9. Reviewer's confidence
10. Evaluation

Content

Summary

- 5 – 10 sentences
- Gives impression how you understood the paper

summary != copy + paste of the abstract

Strengths of the paper

- Is the paper worth being published? Why?
- Does it provide additional value compared to the (cited) sources?
- Are explanations and facts presented in an understandable way?
- Structure, golden thread?
- Methods, results, claims, conclusions?
- ...

Weaknesses of the paper

- Is the paper not worth being published? Why not?
- Is it off topic?
- Are the pages filled with useless content to reach the required number of pages?
- Are the statements well argued, with cites and good examples that fit the story of the paper?
- ...

Questions to the author

This is the only section where your statements may be less factual and more subjective.

- Did you understand everything? Were the statements precise?
- Was everything important well explained?
- Were some of the explanations hard to understand?
- ...

Correctness

- Comment if formal requirements are violated
 - Number of pages, formatting, spelling, grammar, esthetical issues
- Are there any (technical) mistakes?
- Is the author precise? Some terms may be hints:
 - Many, very, often, most, long, uncountable, a growing number of, ...
- Does the author clearly distinguish his opinion from facts?
- Can you really find the information in the cited literature?
- ...

Reviewer's confidence

- How familiar are you with the topic of the paper?

Overall Feedback and Evaluation

- Which grade do you give for this paper considering conference grades:
 - (1) strong accept
 - (2) accept
 - (3) weak accept
 - (4) borderline paper
 - (5) weak reject
 - (6) reject
 - (7) strong reject
- You may suggest the paper for the "Best Paper Award"

- Are your comments ...
 - confined to the criterion concerned
 - describing your final view of the document
 - clear and unambiguous. Try to avoid obscure acronyms and technical terms.
 - of adequate length and cover all sub-criteria under each criterion?
 - fully justifying for the given rating.
- Is your review factual?
 - Comments are substantial. Do not write generic criticisms. Be specific, explain!
 - Poor comments include words like:
 - Perhaps, think seems, assume, probably, ...
 - Good comments include words like:
 - Because, percent, specifically, for example, ...
- Have you fully explained the seminar paper's strengths and weaknesses on each of the criteria?
- Do your scores match your comments?
- Have you double-checked any matters-of-fact which you have quoted?

Here you can find a paper about [how not to review a paper](#).

- Quite funny to read. For example, see *Adverarial Reviewing Techniques*:
 - [If you can't say something nasty...](#):
ensure that their review appears so consistently negative
 - [Silent but deadly](#):
reject with minimal or no comments
 - [The Natives are Restless](#):
"The English in some passages is a little odd and this obscures the meaning"
 - [The Goldilocks Method](#):
complaining that it is either "too hot" or "too cold" but never just right
 - [The Referee Moves the Goalposts](#):
"The authors consider problem X, however, a more fundamental aspect is Y."

For good quality reviews have a look a IMC before 2014 [here](#).

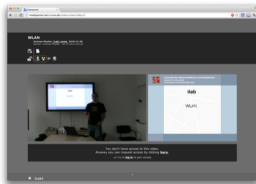
What's next? Talks

Session Chair:

- Introduce the speaker to the audience
- Politely cut off the speaker when running out of time
- After the talk: thank the speaker and organize subsequent questions

Recording:

- We record your talks
- If you want access to the recordings drop us a mail: seminar@net.in.tum.de



 A tilted 'Presentation Feedback Form' with the following structure:

	Very poor / Dislike	Poor	Average / OK	Good / Like a lot	Excellent
Presentation skills					
Style of presentation					
Time keeping					
Topic and relevance					
Clarity of presentation					
Interaction with audience					
Organization and structure					
Structure					
Clarity of research question					
Clarity of conclusion					
Illustrations and examples					
Content					
Relevance					
Depth of analysis					
Clarity of message					
Comments					

In general, write emails only to
seminar@net.in.tum.de