

Reviews: focus on Writing and Reviewing a Conference Proposal/Abstract

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How to Write a Review paper

again numerous (changing) **www sources, e.g.** (19-11-24)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kEXlSYtv0ck>

<https://cwcaacr.com/2023/04/19/writing-a-conference-proposal-a-step-by-step-guide/>

Who is your reader?

As with all writing, taking into account the readers is key for a successful proposal. There are three readers of your proposals:

- Conference organizers and/or members of a proposal committee,
- Proposal reviewers, and
- Conference attendees.

The members of the proposal committee look to see if proposals meet the requirements of the conference: is the proposal complete, is it about the conference theme, will it be of interest to the conference attendees — is it suitable to send out for review.

The proposal committee will send out the proposals to reviewers with expertise and experience in the topic of the proposal. The reviewers will read the proposal according to a set rubric, which is the same for each proposal. The reviewer usually recommends either rejection, revise-and-resubmit, or accept. While attendees will not read proposals, the appeal of the proposal to attendees is considered by both the proposal committee and the reviewers.
Keep all three readers in mind when you're writing.

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Proposal parts

Here is a step-by-step guide leading you through each part of a conference proposal:

- Title
- Detailed abstract
- Proposal description
- Type of session
- References

Title

Conference attendees often scan the title of the sessions in the conference program to look for keywords that are of interest professionally, to their fields of study, projects they're working on, or of a general interest. They're also looking for things that they've not heard of, new things, often a reason to go to conferences. With this in mind, when creating the title for your session, it should be clear and state what the session will be about. For example, Group tutoring in synchronous sessions: A study of engaging student discussion using Zoom polls. The first part, Group tutoring in synchronous sessions, says specifically the topic of the session. The session will focus on group tutoring and its functioning in synchronous sessions.

The second part, A study of engaging student discussion using Zoom polls.

is a descriptor of the first part. This descriptor shows the appeal and significance of the session by providing detail. In this case, the session is a result of a study, which shows academic rigour and that the session can offer usable information for attendees. The descriptor is also specific in the area in which the study was completed, Zoom polls.

1. Introduction

1.1. Digitalisation everywhere

growing digitalisation in universities since 1990s,
e.g. digitalisation of texts, of learning, of (academic) interaction,
digital humanities, etc.

increased digitalisation through the Corona pandemic in (remote online) teaching
new practices = transfer into digital space +++
not enough empirical research in developing practices → genre conventions

new technological affordances → new opportunities in data collection, transparency, documentation, etc.

discourse as productive, effective interaction becomes more measurable?

1.2. Genre development: why academic "reviews"?

genres are discourse-community specific text conventions

academic "reviews" = ambiguous: book reviews, journal article reviews, conference reviews

young scholars are affected passively → understand "reading reviews" (without anger)
 as peer2peer community practice → understand "writing reviews" (without revenge?)
 → advancement of science through critical constructive, cooperative discourse
 oral features make the communication more cooperative, personal, direct, friendly?

short forms: *I've, would've*
 personal pronoun address: *you*
 colloquialisms: *o.k.*

but oral features are often not explicit -> a risk in non-face-to-face communication,
 esp. out of (situational) context!

1.2. Genre development: expanding the meaning of "review"

"review" = Word-Of-Mouth: "Do you know a good restaurant around here?"
 new digital "affordances" → "electronic Word-Of-Mouth" (e.g. on platforms)
 the grand name "review" sounds more objective, better than "critique" or "appraisal"
 because digital is not face-to-face, features of orality are "maintained", rather included
 simulate "proximity", "adressivity", in the end "credibility"/"trust"
 still personal, but "person" may be a "persona", even an agent, a bot!

review, n.
 View as: Outline | Full entry

Pronunciation: [rɪˈvjuː](#), U.S. [ˈrɪvjuː](#), [rɪˈvjuː](#) (also in British English) [rɪˈvjuː](#)
 Forms: [IME-16 reviews](#), [DIE-16 reviews](#), [13 reviews](#), [15 review](#), [15-16 review](#) ... (show more)
 Frequency (in current use): [★★★★★](#)
 Origin: A borrowing from French, modelled on a French lexical item. Etymons: French *revue*, *revue*.
 Etymology: < Middle French, French *revue*, 'review' ... (show more)

- The action or an act of looking over or inspecting.
 - An inspection of military or naval forces, esp. a ceremonial display and formal inspection of troops or the fleet by a monarch, commander-in-chief, or high-ranking visitor.
- The action of looking (again) over something, as a book, text, etc., with a view to its correction or improvement; revision; an instance of this.
 - A general survey or reconsideration of some subject or thing; (now esp.) a report on, or summary and evaluation of, events or developments over a given period, or in a specific field.
- An inspection, examination. Also as a mass noun, in **in (also under) review**: under inspection or examination.
 - An account or critical appraisal of a book or (now also) a play, film, concert, etc.
 - A periodical publication consisting mainly of critical articles on current and cultural events, new books, the arts, etc. Frequently in the titles of such publications.
 - A critical appraisal of a product, service, etc., intended for the guidance of consumers.

1.3. Genre development: standardizing practices

"community-specific practices" are developing into conventions, expectations, finally guidelines in handbooks etc.
 → make choices easier for readers/customers,
 → make reading faster,
 → novices need to know, and
 → "evaluation of review": "Did you find this useful?"

BUT standardisation makes (semi?)automatic analysing possible - and bot-use!

examples from the market leader: Amazon

amazon
 Deliver to Germany
 EN
 Search
 Cyber Monday Deals | Best Sellers | Find a Gift | Customer Service | New Releases | Registry | Gift Cards

Help & Customer Service

Search Help Go

< All Help Topics

Your Amazon Community

Customer Communities

What is the Early Reviewer Program?

Edit Your Profile

Edit Your Public Name

About Public Names

About Badges

Opt Out of Badges

About Customer Communities

Profile & Community Guidelines

Participate in Customer Communities

Site Features | Your Amazon Community |

Community Guidelines

Guidelines for Amazon.com Community participation.

Amazon.com wants your voice to be heard! The Amazon Community provides various features for engaging other users and sharing authentic feedback about products and services - positive or negative. These Community Guidelines help you use Community features, including Customer Reviews, Customer Questions & Answers, Amazon Follow, Profile pages, Outfit Compare, Style Check, Digital and Device Forums, Registries and Lists.

Note: These Guidelines do not apply to content included within products or services sold on Amazon, which are subject to separate policies.

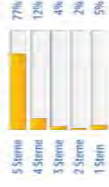
We take the integrity of the Community seriously. Any attempt to manipulate Community content or features, including by contributing false, misleading, or inauthentic content, is strictly prohibited. If you violate our Guidelines, we may restrict your ability to use Community features, remove content, delist related products, or suspend or terminate your account. If we determine that an Amazon account has been used to engage in any form of misconduct, remittances and payments may be withheld or permanently forfeited. Misconduct may also violate state and federal laws, including the Federal Trade Commission Act, and can lead to legal action and civil and criminal penalties.

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 DE Hello Amazon
 Konto und Liefer
 12
 AstroAI ATG150 Digitaler Reifendruckprüfer 150 PSI 4 Einstellungen für Auto LKW Fahrrad mit Hilfe...

Customer reviews

4,5 von 5

374 Sternebewertungen



Top positive review

See all 854 positive reviews

Bary Trotter

★★★★★ Easy to use, would highly recommend.

April 7, 2017

It's easy to use and gives accurate readings that are easy to read. The light that comes off it is nice as well. Definitely worth the money. I bought the two pack and gave one to my dad. We found it easy to use as well. I checked the readings against my TPMS as well as my inflator kit and the numbers always match up. Would highly recommend this. You don't have to guess what the number is like the old fashioned tick readers, plus if you need different units, it gives you the option to display that. Also if you intentionally set it off centers, you can remove air if you have too much air in your tires.

51 people found this helpful

Read more

89 people found this helpful

Top critical review

See all 107 critical reviews

Yvondaddy

★★★★ DO NOT PURCHASE FROM THIS SELLER... EVER!!

May 16, 2018

(8/6/2018 Update) Months after adding my initial "1-star" review of the two tire pressure gauges, the seller agreed to send me two replacement gauges at no cost to try. Unfortunately, these two were the same as the previous two, inaccurate! Within days of receipt, I started getting emails from the seller, AstroAI Corp. trying to get me to change my honest review. I have reported each of these emails to Amazon throughout their "reporting" process, but AMAZON HAS DONE NOTHING to stop this harassment. I am reporting both AstroAI and Amazon to the BBB now. Maybe that will help stop this harassment for a better review!

amazon
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 Introduction Concepts Academic R. Conference R. Exercise Outlook

2. Concepts of Reviews

2.1. Reviews: popular definitions

A **review** is an evaluation of a publication, service, or company such as a movie (a [movie review](#)), [video game](#) (video game review), [musical composition](#) (music review of a composition or recording), [book](#) ([book review](#)); a piece of hardware like a [car](#), [home appliance](#), or [computer](#); or an event or performance, such as a [live music concert](#), [play](#), [musical theater show](#), [dance show](#), or [art exhibition](#). In addition to a critical evaluation, the reviewer's author may assign the work a [rating](#) to indicate its relative merit. More loosely, an author may review current events, trends, or items in the news. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Review> (16/10/21)

Scholarly peer review (also known as **refereeing**) is the process of subjecting an author's scholarly work, research, or ideas to the scrutiny of others who are experts in the same field, before a paper describing this work is published in a [journal](#), [conference proceedings](#) or as a book. The peer review helps the publisher (that is, the [editor-in-chief](#), the [editorial board](#) or the program committee) decide whether the work should be accepted, considered acceptable with revisions, or rejected. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scholarly_peer_review (16/10/21)

A **user review** is a review conducted by any person who has access to the internet and publishes their experience to a review site or social media platform followed by [product testing](#) or the evaluation of a service. User reviews are commonly provided by [consumers](#) who volunteer to write the review, rather than professionals who are paid to evaluate the product or service. User reviews might be compared to professional nonprofit reviews from a [consumer organization](#), or to promotional reviews from an advertiser or company marketing a product. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/User_review (16/10/21) cf. Fake reviews!

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 Introduction Concepts Academic R. Conference R. Exercise Outlook

2.2. Reviews: Academic definitions

"In this paper, the term 'OCR' [online customer review] is used to refer to any positive, neutral, or negative online review about a product or service created and published on a CRW by a potential, former, or actual customer." (Filiari 2015: 1262)

"Online customer reviews can be defined as *peer-generated product evaluations posted on company or third party websites.*" (Mudambi and Schuff 2010: 186)

3. Academic Reviews

3.1. Double Blind Peer Reviews

fashioned in social science journals since the 1950s also for conference abstracts

the identity of the authors is concealed from the reviewers, and vice versa, to avoid bias

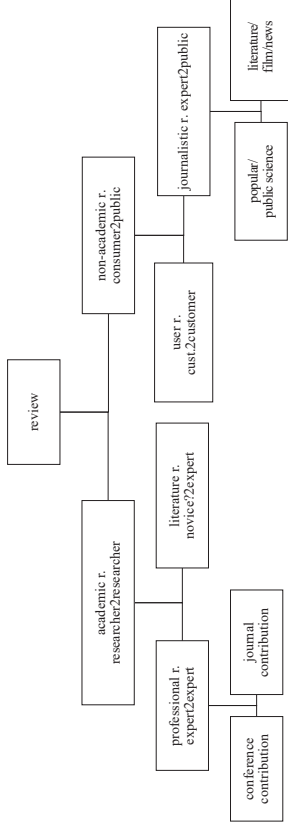
but despite any editorial effort to ensure anonymity, the process often fails to do so, since certain approaches, methods, writing styles, notations, etc., point to a certain group of people in a research stream, and even to a particular person.

BUT

most double-blind peer reviews are anonymous and unpublished

→ case study: "open"

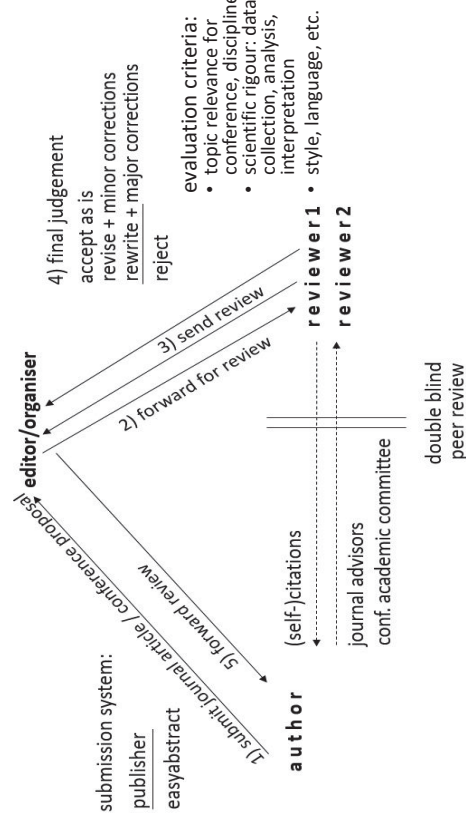
2.3. Reviews: survey of subgenres



3.3. Balancing criticism & praise, mitigation & reinforcement: examples

- **Criticism mitigation** → "I very much like the idea of the paper, *but* I am simply not convinced by its claims." (ICLR17_R3_R279)
- **Criticism reinforcement** → "The paper has a laundry list of related results (page 2) *but* no clear message." (ICLR17_R2_R363)
- **Praise mitigation** → "*Even though* no conclusive section is provided, the paper is not missing any information." (ICLR_R3_O785)
- **Praise reinforcement** → "I found the paper very well written *despite* its level of mathematical depth (the authors provide many helpful pictures) and strongly recommend accepting this paper." (ICLR_R1_O76)

3.2. Processes: Double blind peer review



4. Conference Reviews

4.1. Digital/on-line reviews

give me www pages of open conference reviews



5 Websites durchsucht

OpenReview is a prominent platform for open conference reviews, designed to enhance transparency and collaboration in the peer-review process. It allows researchers to submit, review, and discuss academic work openly. The platform supports configurable review workflows for conferences, enabling different levels of openness, such as anonymous or attributed reviews, and post-publication discussions. OpenReview is widely used in fields like machine learning for conferences such as NeurIPS, ICLR, and others, offering features like open access to reviews, rebuttals, and public commenting on papers [10] [12].

For details, you can explore OpenReview's functionalities and ongoing discussions at [OpenReview.net](https://openreview.net).

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4.2. Digitalised new genre: open review

only possible in digital form

About OpenReview

OpenReview aims to promote openness in scientific communication, particularly the peer review process, by providing a flexible cloud-based web interface and underlying database API enabling the following:

Open Peer Review: We provide a configurable platform for peer review that generalizes over many subtle gradations of openness, allowing conference organizers, journals, and other "reviewing entities" to configure the specific policy of their choice. We intend to act as a testbed for different policies, to help scientific communities experiment with open scholarship while addressing legitimate concerns regarding confidentiality, attribution, and bias.

Open Publishing: Track submissions, coordinate the efforts of editors, reviewers and authors, and host... Sharded and distributed for speed and reliability.

Open Access: Free access to papers for all, free paper submissions. No fees.

Open Discussion: Hosting of accepted papers, with their reviews, comments. Continued discussion forum associated with the paper post acceptance. Publication venue chairs/editors can control structure of review/comment forms, read/write access, and its timing.

Open Directory: Collection of people, with conflict-of-interest information, including institutions and relations, such as co-authors, co-PIs, co-workers, advisors/advisees, and family connections.

Open Recommendations: Models of scientific topics and expertise. Directory of people includes scientific expertise. Reviewer-paper matching for conferences with thousands of submissions, incorporating expertise, bidding, constraints, and reviewer balancing of various sorts. Paper recommendation to users.

<https://openreview.net/about> (24/10/04)

4.2. Digitalised new genre: open review

ICLR 2025 Reviewer Guide

good data for metadiscourse studies!

Thank you for agreeing to serve as an ICLR 2025 reviewer. Your contribution as a reviewer is paramount to creating an exciting and high-quality program. We ask that:

1. Your reviews are timely and substantive.
2. You follow the reviewing guidelines below.
3. You adhere to our Code of Ethics in your role as a reviewer. You must also adhere to our Code of Conduct.

This guide is intended to help you understand the ICLR 2025 decision process and your role within it. It contains:

1. An outline of the main reviewer tasks
2. Step-by-step reviewing instructions (especially relevant for reviewers that are new to ICLR)
3. Review examples
4. An FAQ.

<https://iclr.cc/Conferences/2025/ReviewerGuide#Reviewing%20instructions> (24/10/04)

For great in-depth resources on reviewing, see these resources :

- Daniel Dennet, Criticising with Kindness.
- Views from multiple reviewers: Last minute reviewing advice
- Perspective from instructions to Area Chairs: Dear ACs.
- tension between politeness & authority?

4.2. Digitalised new genre: reviewer discourse

We're counting on you

As a reviewer you are central to the program creation process for ICLR 2025. Your Area Chairs (ACs), Senior Area Chairs (SACs) and the Program Chairs (PCs) will rely greatly on your expertise and your diligent and thorough reviews to make decisions on each paper. Therefore, your role as a reviewer is critical to ensuring a strong program for ICLR 2025.

High-quality reviews are also very valuable for helping authors improve their work, whether it is eventually accepted by ICLR 2025, or not. Therefore it is important to treat each valid ICLR 2025 submission with equal care.

As a token of our appreciation for your essential work, top reviewers will be acknowledged permanently on the ICLR 2025 website. Furthermore, top and high quality reviewers will receive special acknowledgement during the opening ceremony and free registration to ICLR 2025.

<https://iclr.cc/Conferences/2025/ReviewerGuide#Reviewing%20instructions> (24/10/04)

4.2. Digitalised new genre: ethics

Code of Ethics

All ICLR participants, including reviewers, are required to adhere to the ICLR Code of Ethics (<https://iclr.cc/public/CodeOfEthics>). All reviewers are required to read the Code of Ethics and adhere to it. The Code of Ethics applies to all conference participation, including paper submission, reviewing, and paper discussion.

As part of the review process, reviewers are asked to raise potential violations of the ICLR Code of Ethics. Note that authors are encouraged to discuss questions and potential issues regarding the Code of Ethics as part of their submission. This discussion is not counted against the maximum page limit of the paper and should be included as a separate section.

The Use of Large Language Models (LLMs)

The use of LLMs is allowed as a general-purpose assist tool. Authors and reviewers should understand that they take full responsibility for the contents written under their name, including content generated by LLMs that could be construed as plagiarism or scientific misconduct (e.g. fabrication of facts). LLMs are not eligible for authorship.

<https://iclr.cc/Conferences/2025/ReviewerGuide#Reviewing%20instructions> (24/10/04)

5. Exercises

qualitative self-evaluation of texts

we need many small case studies of current practices to confirm ad-hoc hypotheses of developing conventions

- 1) Recognise evaluative language features in accepted (prototypical; model) academic discourse
- 2) Identify communicative functions of linguistic features
- 3) Reading and interpreting critical reviews in order to improve conference proposals

Text 1: Prototypical positive review from the ICLR review corpus
Model accept (ICLR17_R2_05, Rating 9/10, Confidence 4/5)

A nice contribution to differentially-private deep learning

ICLR 2017 conference AnonReviewer2

16 Dec 2016 ICLR 2017 conference official review

Rating: 9: Top 15% of accepted papers, strong accept

Review: Altogether a very good paper, a nice read, and interesting. The work advances the state of the art on differentially-private deep learning, is quite well-written, and relatively thorough.

One caveat is that although the approach is intended to be general, no theoretical guarantees are provided about the learning performance. Privacy-preserving machine learning papers often analyze both the privacy (in the worst case, DP setting) and the learning performance (often under different assumptions). Since the learning performance might depend on the choice of architecture, future experimentation is encouraged, even using the same data sets, with different architectures. If this will not be added, then please justify the choice of architecture used, and/or clarify what can be generalised about the observed learning performance.

Another caveat is that the reported epsilons are not those that can be privately released; the authors note that their technique for doing so would change the resulting epsilon. However this would need to be resolved in order to have a meaningful comparison to the epsilon-delta values reported in related work.

Finally, as has been acknowledged in the paper, the present approach may not work on other natural data types. Experiments on other data sets is strongly encouraged. Also, please cite the data sets used.

Comment on linguistic features that signal Professional Discourse in two kinds of open reviews. Underline features of "emotional (intelligence)". Highlight those signalling "polite" in yellow, "oral/proximity/addressivity" in blue, "praise" in green and "criticism" in red.

Interesting work, quite domain-specific, suboptimal focus and structure

ICLR 2017 review: AnonReviewer3 | Dec. 17, 2016 | Rating: 6: Marginally above acceptance threshold

These are interesting contributions, but due to the many pieces, unfortunately, the paper does not seem to have a clear focus. [...] The paper takes a quite domain-specific approach and discusses the pieces the authors used to obtain state-of-the-art performance for one problem. That is OK, but I would've rather expected that from a paper called something like "Improved knowledge transfer and distillation for text analytics". If accepted, I encourage the authors to change the title to something along those lines.

The many pieces also made it hard for me to follow the authors' train of thought. I'm sure the authors had a good reason for their section ordering, but I didn't see the red thread in it. How about reorganizing the sections as follows to discuss one contribution at a time? 1,2,4,3,8 including 6, put 9 into an appendix and point to it from here, 7, 5, 10. [...] One clue that the current structure is suboptimal is that there are 11 sections...

I like the authors' idea for transfer learning without catastrophic forgetting, and I must admit I would've rather liked to read a paper solely about that (studying where it works, and where it fails) than about the many other topics of the paper. I weakly vote for acceptance since I like the ideas, but if the paper does not make it in, I would suggest that the authors consider splitting it into two papers, each of which could hopefully be more focused.

Confidence: 3: The reviewer is fairly confident that the evaluation is correct [Scale: 1-5]

Text 12: Prototypical negative review from the ICLR review corpus
Model reject (ICLR17_R1_R203, Rating 5/10, Confidence 4/5)
ICLR 2017 conference AnonReviewer1

Review: This paper proposes a method for transfer learning, i.e. leveraging a network trained on some original task A in learning a new task B, which not only improves performance on the new task B, but also tries to avoid degradation in performance on A. The general idea is based on encouraging a model trained on A, while training on the new task B, to match fake targets produced by the model itself but when it is trained only on the original task A.

Experiments show that this method can help in improving the result on task B, and is better than other baselines, including standard fine-tuning.

General comments/questions:

- As far as I can tell, there is no experimental result supporting the claim that your model still performs well on the original task. All experiments show that you can improve on the new task only.
 - The introduction makes a strong statements [sic] about the disilliting logical rule engine into a neural network, which I find a bit misleading. The approach in the paper is not specific to transferring from logical rules (as stated in the Sec 2) and is simply relying on the rule engine to provide labels for unlabelled data.
 - One of the obvious baselines to compare with your approach is standard multi-task learning on both tasks A and B together. That is, you train the model from scratch on both tasks simultaneously (which sharing parameters). It is not clear this is the same as what is referred to in Sec. 8 as "joint training". Can you please explain more clearly what you refer to as joint training?
 - Why can't we find the same baselines in both Table 2 and Table 3? For example Table 2 is missing "joint training", and Table 3 is missing GRU trained on the target task.
 - While the idea is presented as a general method for transfer learning, experiments are focused on one domain (sentiment analysis on SemEval task). I think that either experiments should include applying the idea on at least one other different domain, or the writing of the paper should be modified to make the focus more specific to this domain/task.
- Writing comments**
- The writing of the paper in general needs some improvement, but more specifically in the experiment section, where experiment setting and baselines should be explained more concisely.
 - Ensemble methodology paragraph does not fit the flow of the paper. I would rather explain it in the experiments section, rather than including it as part of your approach.
 - Table 1 seems like reporting cross-validation results, and I do not think is very informative to general reader.

6. Outlook

6.1. Old genres are adapted to technical, societal changes

new technical affordances/opportunities → explore new practices with old tools?

electronic data collection to analyse practices to learn passively and actively

(functional) linguistic concepts like politeness, concessives, mitigation ... correlate with non-linguistic concepts like face, interaction, ... but

even reviewers have to learn to cooperate openly and transparently, e.g. ICLR even guide their readers to "great in-depth resources on reviewing" with programmatic titles like "Criticising with Kindness" or "Mistakes Reviewers Make" (<https://iclr.cc/Conferences/2020/ReviewerGuide,01/04/20>).

The link to the "Last minute reviewing advice" even focusses on multiple-reviews ICLR style.

6.2. Open reviews – the future?

The concept of open conference reviews aligns with the growing demand for transparency and inclusivity in the scientific community, driven by the principles of open science. Here are some key points regarding the potential future of open conference reviews:

1. Increased Transparency

Open conference reviews can enhance transparency in the peer review process by making reviewer comments and decisions publicly accessible. This openness fosters trust among participants and stakeholders, as it allows for scrutiny of the review process and the criteria used for evaluations.

2. Enhanced Collaboration

By adopting open reviews, conferences can encourage collaboration among researchers, as feedback becomes a shared resource. This approach can lead to improved quality of submissions, as authors may benefit from diverse perspectives and constructive criticism from a broader audience.

3. Public Engagement

Open reviews can engage the public and non-academic stakeholders in scientific discourse, democratizing knowledge production. This inclusivity aligns with the increasing expectation that research should be accessible and relevant to society at large.

4. Accountability of Reviewers

With open reviews, reviewers may feel more accountable for their feedback since their comments are visible to others. This accountability can lead to more thoughtful and constructive critiques, ultimately benefiting authors and the quality of research presented at conferences.

5. Challenges to Consider

Despite the benefits, there are challenges associated with implementing open reviews, such as concerns about confidentiality, potential biases, and the need for a cultural shift within academic communities. Ensuring that reviewers feel secure in providing honest feedback without fear of repercussions is essential for the success of this model.

Conclusion

As public demand for open science continues to grow, open conference reviews may become a standard practice in many academic fields. By fostering transparency, collaboration, and public engagement, this approach could significantly enhance the quality and accessibility of academic discourse. In summary, while there are challenges to overcome, the future of conference reviews may very well trend towards openness as part of a broader movement towards open science practices.

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