

Seminar: Computer Networking and Internet

Prof. Dr.-Ing. Stephan Günther

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Chair of Network Architectures and Services
School of Computation, Information, and Technology
Technical University of Munich

Goal



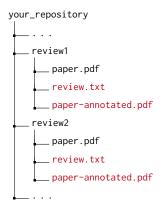
Each paper completes a peer review process

- 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

Submission





- 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)

Expectations



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)



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
- Correctness
- 8. Overall Feedback
- 9. Reviewer's confidence
- 10. Evaluation



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) accept
 - (2) weak accept
 - (3) weak reject
 - (4) reject
- You may suggest the paper for the "Best Paper Award"

Quality Check



- 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?

Quality Check



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
- Only you have access to the recording
- However, you can share the talk with the course / TUM / everyone.







In general, write emails only to scni@hndss.cit.tum.de