Program Chairs’ Welcome

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New Reviewing Process

• Motivation:
  – Permit submission and acceptance of results any time they’re ready
    • Frequent submission opportunities
    • Rapid turnaround to published paper
    • Reduce incentives to “cram” before deadlines and submit half-baked work
  – Improve quality of papers and review process
    • Start with papers written under less time pressure
    • Facilitate a more collaborative process between reviewers and authors
    • Smooth the reviewing workload to a low-volume, ongoing effort

• Monthly submission deadlines

• New decision option: Revise
**New Reviewing Process: Rough Schedule**

- **Month X, Day 1**: Submission deadline
- **Month X, Day 1-5**: Reviewer bidding (semi-auto via ML)
- **Month X + 1, Day 7**: Reviews due
- **Month X + 1, Day 7-20**: Online discussion and more reviews
- **Month X + 1, Day 20**: Virtual PC meeting via Zoom
- **Month X + 2, Day ~7**: Accepted papers online (open access)

**Appearing at this Symposium**
All new papers accepted by Feb. 1 or revisions accepted by Mar. 1
Total # submissions: 549
Decisions on New Submissions

- **Accept Rate**
- **Revise Rate**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Accepts</th>
<th>Revisions</th>
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<td>July</td>
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<td>December</td>
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Decisions on Revisions

Accept (17)
Reject (5)
Pending (2)
Withdraw (2)

2018 (14)
2019 (3)
Submission Statistics Summary

• Total submissions: 549
• Well-formed submissions: 533
• Eventually accepted: 66-68 (14% acceptance rate)
• Accepted in time for 2018: 63 (12% acceptance rate)
Comparison With Previous Years

Submissions +27%

Acceptance rate

Acceptance rate

# submissions


0 100 200 300 400 500 600

0% 2% 4% 6% 8% 10% 12% 14% 16%
Reviewing Statistics

• Timeliness
  – All 549 decisions returned within 2 months of new submission
  – All but one revise decisions within 1 month of submission

• Volume
  – PC workload
    • 1565 reviews total
    • Median of 18 / PC member (vs 24 avg last year)
  – Output
    • Total words in reviews: 827,635
    • Number of online comments: 2,979
Program Notes

- Poster reception  Monday 6:00 PM
- Distinguished Paper & Reviewer Awards  Tuesday 8:20 AM
- Short talks  Tuesday 5:40 PM
- Business meeting  Tuesday 6:40 PM
  - Open to everyone!
  - More statistics on new review process
  - Results from PC & author surveys
  - Scale ➔ Conference format changes
- Speed mentoring  Wednesday 7:00 PM
Thanks!

- Authors and speakers
- Conference attendees
- Organizing committee
- Associate Chairs
- Program committee and external reviewers

*Enjoy the Conference!*