

MAY 20-22, 2019 AT THE HYATT REGENCY, SAN FRANCISCO, CA

40th IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy

Sponsored by the [IEEE Computer Society Technical Committee on Security and Privacy](#)
in cooperation with the [International Association for Cryptologic Research](#)

Program Chair Report

Christopher Kruegel

UC Santa Barbara

Hovav Shacham

UT Austin

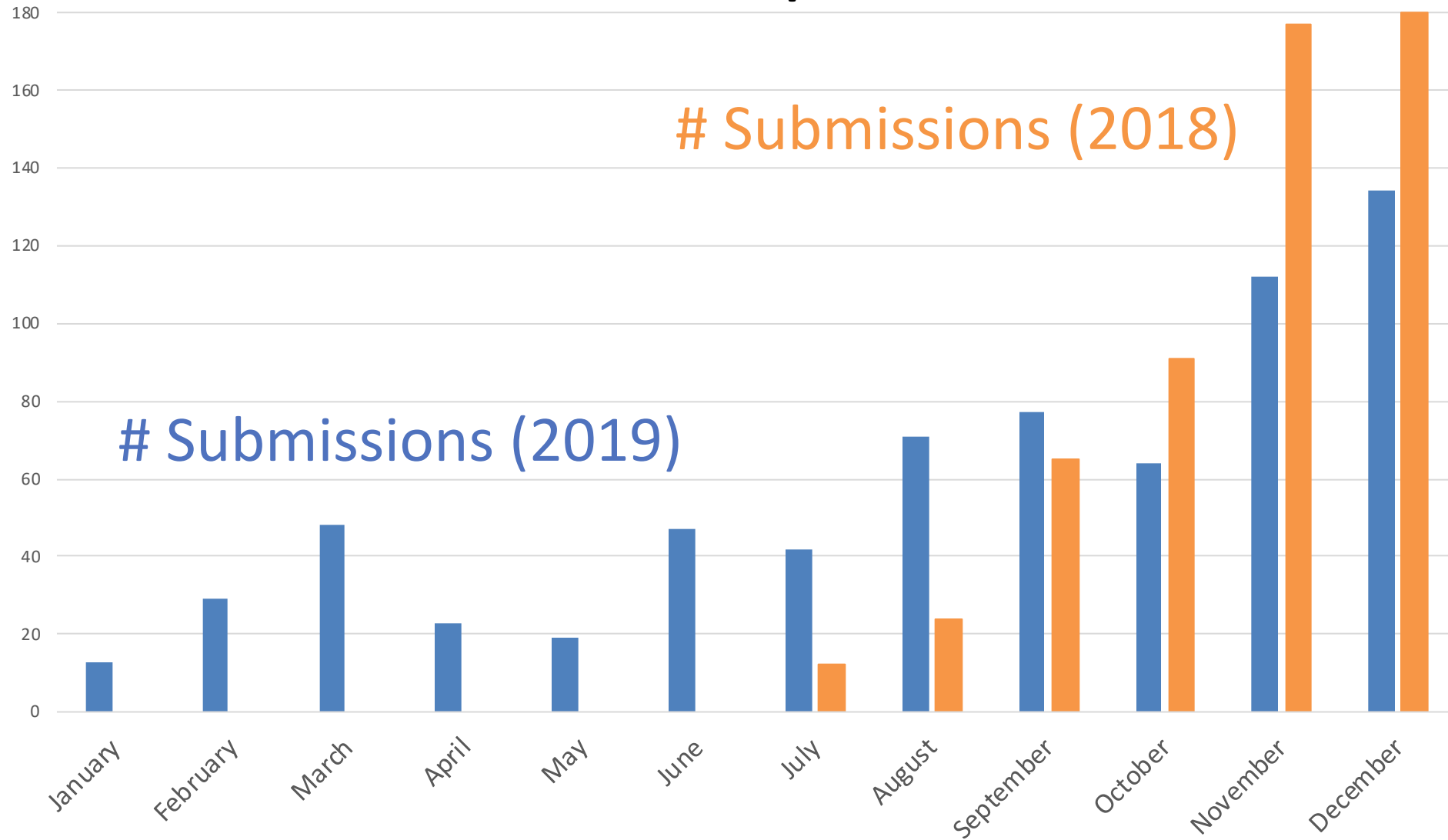
Reviewing Process

- First full year with
 1. Monthly submission deadlines
 - 12 deadlines, from January 1, 2018 until December 1, 2018
 2. Revise option
- Motivation
 - Permit submission and acceptance of results any time when ready
 - Improve quality of papers and review process

Number of Submissions



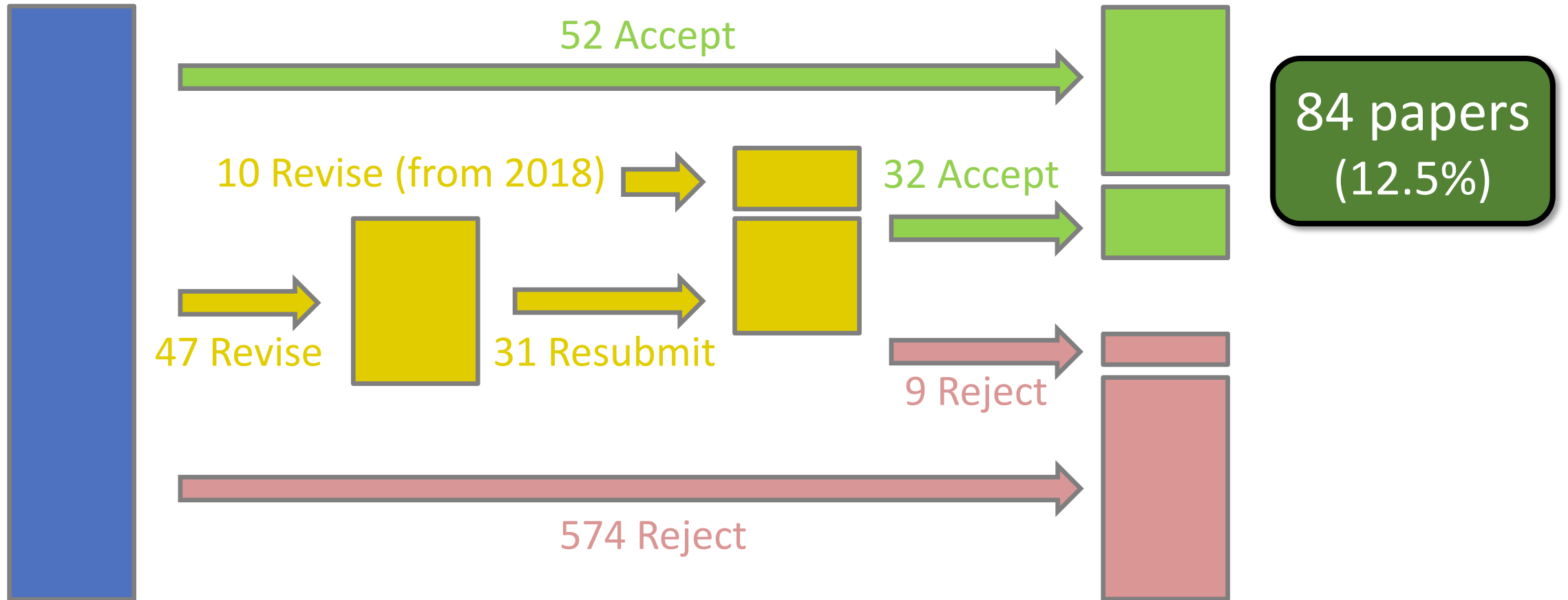
Submissions Started to Spread Out



From Submissions to the Program

673 Submissions

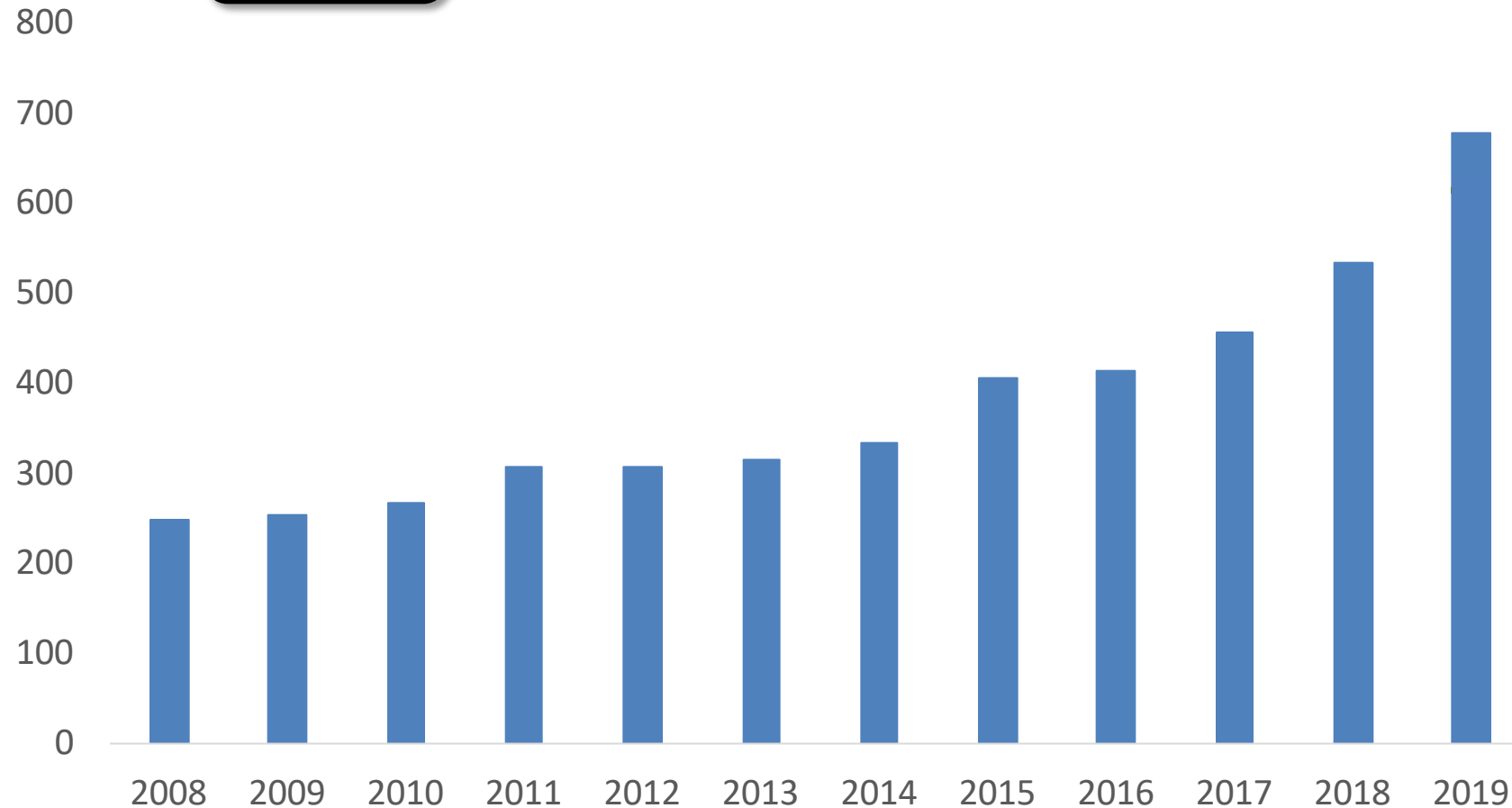
2019 Program



Comparison With Previous Years

Submissions

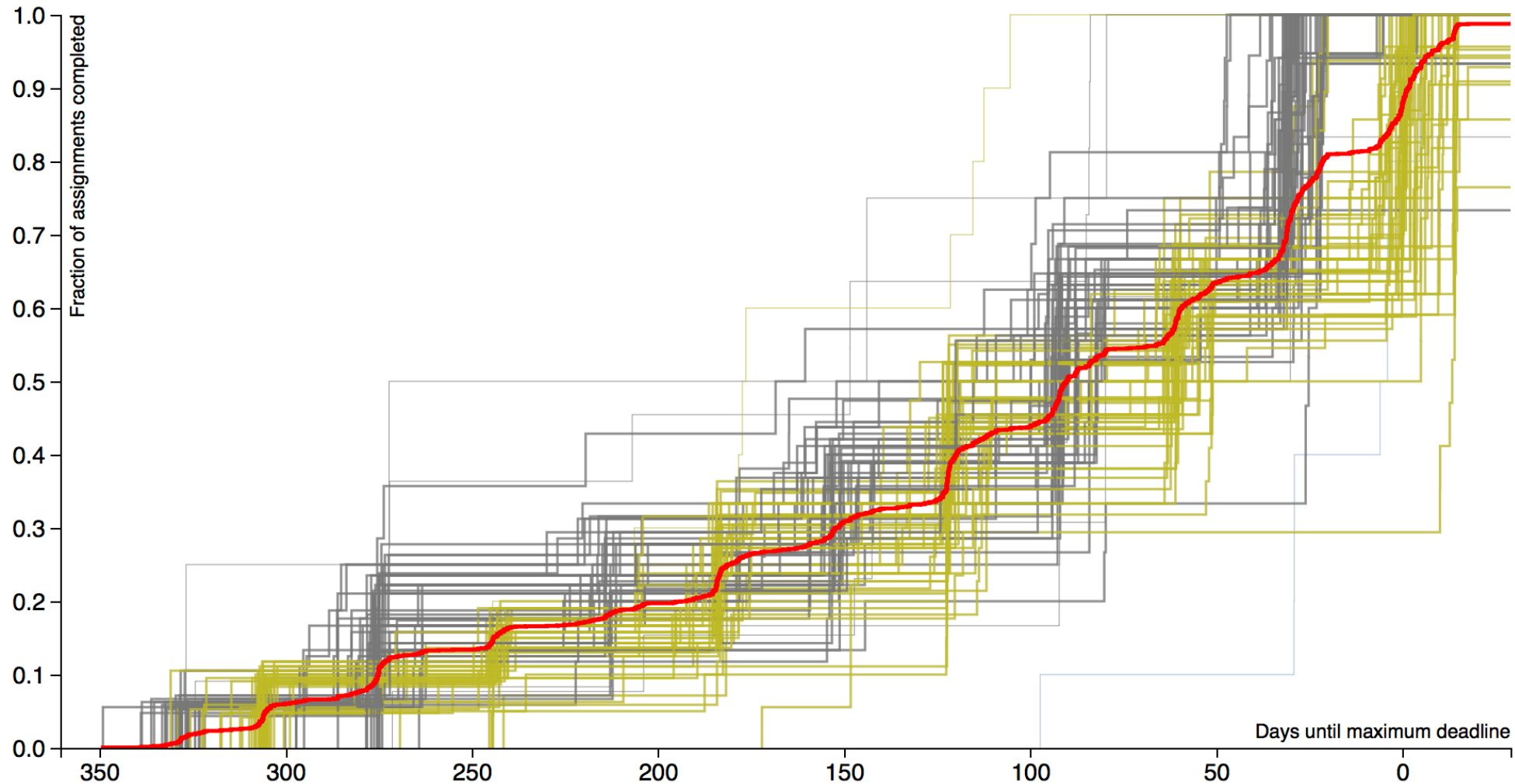
+27%



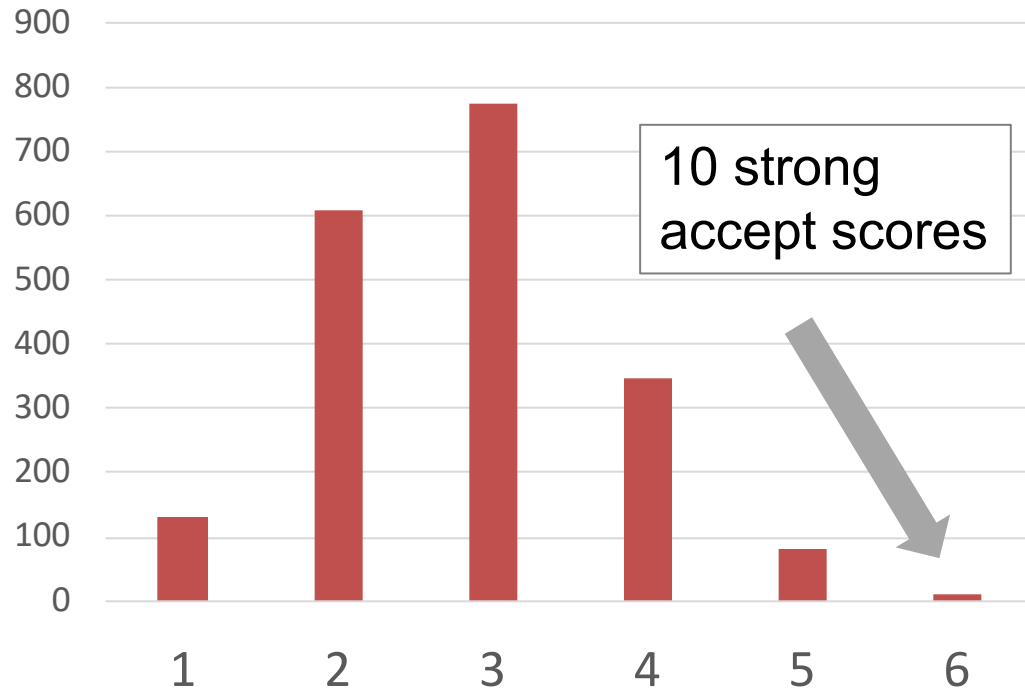
Reviewing Statistics

- PC workload
 - 106 PC members
 - Most papers received 3+ reviews
 - 1,951 reviews (1,565 reviews in 2018)
 - Median of 18 reviews per PC member (like last year)
- Output
 - Total words in reviews: 1,074,750 (up from 830k)
 - Number of online comments: 4,165 (up from 2,979 last year)

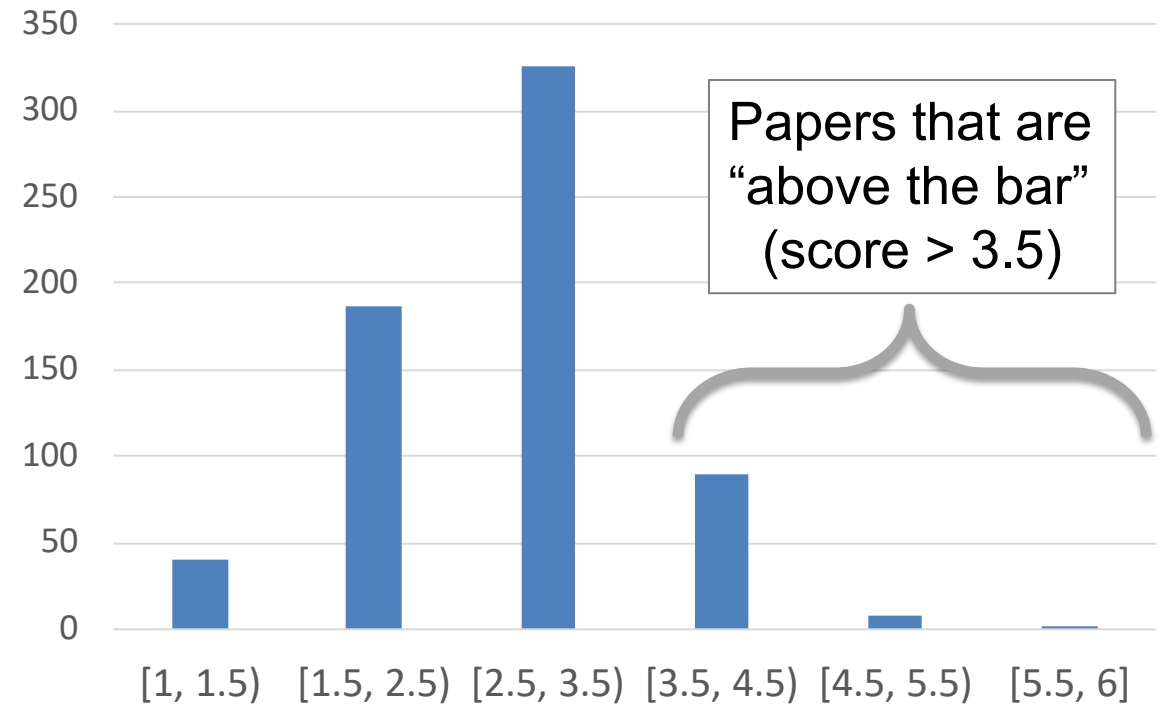
Reviewing Statistics



Reviewing Statistics



Overall Merit Scores in Reviews



Average Overall Merit for Submissions

Feedback on Revision Process

More than a third of the accepted revisions received strongly positive comments about the improvements in the paper. Some examples include:

- *I am really impressed by the revision. [...] I am really happy that the authors worked through the reviews instead of just resubmitting the original paper to another conference.*
- *The changes really sell the paper for me — very nice result. I am happy to be considered a strong accept.*
- *This paper is much improved (it is like night and day).*
- *[The authors] made quite some changes - good to see our criticisms taken seriously and addressed.*
- *This looks much better, they addressed the revision comments and improved the evaluation substantially.*
- *I think the new version is significantly better.*
- *The revision is quite impressive in how thoroughly it addresses our requirements.*
- *I think the authors really did a lot of work to improve their paper.*

STUDENT PC REPORT

Tom Moyer

Student PC Process Overview

- Students applied to be on the Student PC
- Selected ~40 students
 - Range of experience, topics, universities, etc.
- Students met with me virtually to go over the PC process
- Students were given access to a HotCRP instance with the November 2019 papers and asked to bid on papers
- Due to shortened timeline (issues with getting HotCRP working) each student was given 3-4 papers to review
- Reviews submitted by January 18th
- Discussion phase ran until January 24th
- In-person PC meeting held at Google NYC on January 25th

In-person meeting

- 34 students on the Student PC attended the in-person meeting
 - 2-3 called in via Google Meet
- During online discussion phase, papers were marked as #accept, #reject, #discuss
- Ran like other in-person PC meetings
 - Because we couldn't fund international students some decided to call in to the meeting
- I provided overview of the process, and helped shepherd things along

Feedback

“This is my first time attending this event. From the intense and somewhat positively pressured process, I've learnt so much. I'm very grateful to our sponsors and the effort the committee made to earn the sponsorship!”

“Thanks for doing this Tom. This was invaluable experience, and very enjoyable.”

Things to remember/improve for next year

- Verify version of HotCRP before setting up
- Explore opportunities for international students to travel to the in-person meeting