IEEE INFOCOM 2020
TPC Informational Meeting

Paris, France
May 1, 2019

Technical Program Committee Co-Chairs
Yunhao Liu (Michigan State University)
Mehmet Can Vuran (University of Nebraska-Lincoln)
Hongyi Wu (Old Dominion University)

TPC Vice Chair for Information Systems
Dejun Yang (Colorado School of Mines)
Goals for INFOCOM 2020

• Continue the success of previous INFOCOMs

• Our responsibility:
  • Attract high-quality submissions
  • Ensure high-quality, constructive reviews
    • Avoid debugging mode
    • Identify both positive contributions and areas for improvement
  • Implement a fair selection process
    • Following the triple-blind review policy

A strong, inclusive, and forward-looking technical program!
Outline

• Review process overview
• Specific duties
  • Area TPC chairs
  • Regular TPC members
  • Advisory TPC members
• Reviews and ranking
Review Process in a Nutshell

Phase 1: Assignments to ATPCs

Phase 2: Early rejects

Phase 3: Assign 3 reviews to each paper

Phase 4: Online discussion/meta reviews

Phase 5: ATPC recommendations

Phase 6: TPC meeting
## Technical Program Committee

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## TPC Diversity Statistics – Area Chairs

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TPC Area Chair Tasks

• Upload your signature papers (May 15)
• Paper submission deadline: Tuesday, July 31, 2019
• Oversee the review of about 30 papers (Aug.-Sept.)
• “Early reject”
  • Clearly out of scope
  • Violating the double-blind policy
• Identify low-quality reviews
  • Lacking on substance
  • Request the reviewers to revise and substantiate their reviews
TPC Area Chair Tasks

• Supervise the discussions (Oct. 1 - 21, 2019)
  • Intervene if the TPC-Lead is not effective

• Ensure meta review quality
  • Consistent with the reviews and discussions

• Assign additional reviews from advisory TPC
  • If existing reviews do not reach consensus
  • To make up missing reviews
    • Three or more reviews for each paper

• Communicate problems to the TPC co-chairs as early as possible
TPC Area Chair Tasks

• Recommendations to the TPC Co-Chairs
  • Accept, reject, discuss at the TPC meeting

• Participate in the TPC meeting
  • Lead group discussions
  • November 23 (Saturday), 2019, Orlando, USA

• Rate the reviews

• Serve as session chair
Regular TPC Member Tasks

• Upload your signature papers (May 15)
• Review about 11 papers (Due: Tuesday, October 1)
  • Cannot decline the review assignments ...
  • ... unless COI not recorded in EDAS (let us know ASAP)
• Can delegate up to 4 papers to experts
  • Not your students, please
• Serve as TPC-lead (meta reviewer)
  • About 4 papers
• Start and participate in discussion (October 1 - 21)
  • TPC-lead responsible for driving discussion
  • Fine to change your review/scores, if appropriate
Regular TPC Member Tasks

• Rate the peer reviews
• Rank your papers
• Attend the TPC meeting if not impossible
  • November 23 (Saturday), 2019, Orlando, USA
Advisory TPC Member Tasks

• Upload your signature papers (May 15)
• Will be assigned reviews during discussion phase
• Review about ≤ 5 papers
  • Cannot decline the review assignments
• Your review is critical:
  • Papers with controversial existing reviews, missing reviews
  • IEEE ComSoc requires 3 reviews for each submission
• Join the discussion after completing review
• Rate the peer reviews
• Rank your papers
• Attend the TPC meeting if possible
Important Dates

• Upload your papers: May 15
• Paper registration/submission: July 24/31
• Paper review assignments
  • To ATPC: August 7
  • Early rejects: August 14
  • Assignment to regular TPC members: August 21
• Reviews
  • Reviews due: October 1
  • Online discussion: October 1 – October 21
  • Meta-reviews due: October 22
  • ATPC recommendation due: October 29
• TPC meeting in Orlando, FL, November 23 (Saturday)
• Notification: December 14
Conflict of Interest and Triple-Blind Review Policy

- COI is taken into account in review assignments
- Author names are blind to ATPCs and TPC members
- Reviewer names are blind to authors
- Reviewer names are blind to ATPCs and peer reviewers
Review Assignments

• Upload your signature papers (Deadline: May 15)
  • Select ~ 30 papers that best represent your expertise and interest
    • Can be published at any time, but must be your own papers
  • Upload the PDF files to a server
  • Existing TPC members: time to update your files
  • Key step for high quality reviews

• Make sure your email (as in EDAS) works
  • Full mailbox? Email alias? Spam filter ...
  • Emergency contact information is strongly encouraged

• Update your COI information in EDAS
Review Assignments

• **Erie** review assignment system

  • Use **Latent Semantic Indexing** to compute the suitability score between a submitted paper and a reviewer's representative papers

  • Solve an optimization problem that maximizes the total suitability score across all submitted papers to the conference

• Fully tested at INFOCOM 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019

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Ranking Papers

Each TPC member rank his/her own batch of papers to be reviewed

Use an algorithm to convert local to global ranking

Paper #1: (3, 3, 2), ranked 136
Paper #2: (3, 2, 2), ranked 457
Paper #3: (3, 3, 3), ranked 980
EDAS: ranking papers

In the paper review form, you may enter an initial rank for each paper —
EDAS: hidden treasure
Can you find a double arrow in this figure?
EDAS: ranking papers

Hidden treasure in EDAS: an easy-to-use drag-and-drop interface to adjust your own rankings of papers.
High-Quality and Timely Reviews

• Critical for the success of the conference
• Please do your reviews and meet the deadline
• Review with the quality that you would like to receive for your own papers
• Be fair and open-minded
  • Papers that reflect forward thinking on emerging topics, more likely to attract audiences and citations
  • Papers that involve rigorous real-world system implementations
  • Papers that propose sound theoretical contributions with practical implication
High-Quality and Timely Reviews

• Keep your assignments/reviews confidential
• Delegate to qualified (non-student) reviewers under the following conditions
  • Done within two weeks of the review assignment
  • Personally ensure the delegated review quality
    • Timely and high-quality review
  • Present opinion of delegate reviewer if the paper is discussed at TPC meeting
Rate Reviews

• Reviews will be rated
  • Ratings by Regular/Advisory TPC members and ATPCs
• Distinguished TPC members will be recognized
  • Based on own reviews as well as delegated reviews
  • Identified on conference website
Questions?

• Contact us anytime
  • Yunhao Liu: yunhaoliu@gmail.com
  • Mehmet Can Vuran: mcvuran@cse.unl.edu
  • Hongyi Wu: h1wu@odu.edu