

# Research Seminar

session 3

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<https://www.lri.fr/~anab/teaching/CareerSeminar/>

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# Homework Assignments

#3 Review a paper

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## Label your assignments

Labeling your emails correctly ...

To: TAs: [shu-yuan.hsueh@lri.fr](mailto:shu-yuan.hsueh@lri.fr), [eugenie.brasier@u-psud.fr](mailto:eugenie.brasier@u-psud.fr)

Subject: [M2 Career] Assignment #3 Review

But please, also include this information at the **top** of the assignment page/document with your name!

Example for Ann Smith (top of assignment):

M2 Career Seminar Assignment #3 Review      Ann Smith

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## Staying organized

If you continue a career in research—or anything else—you will write **many** reviews, papers, etc.

Give files useful names!

Include dates, titles, authors

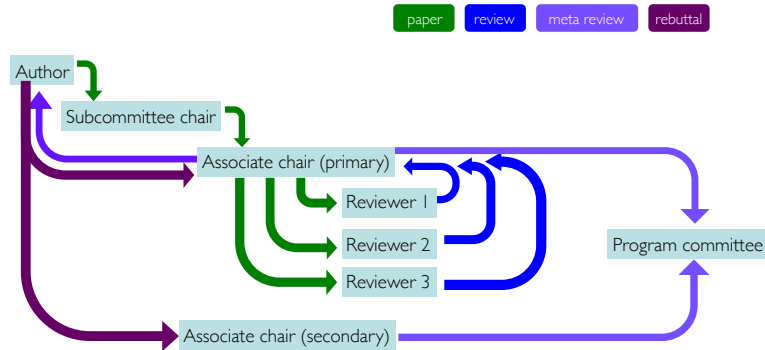
Organize files according to project:

Not: *projectdescription.pdf*

But: *2018.Octopocus.Experiment.1.doc*

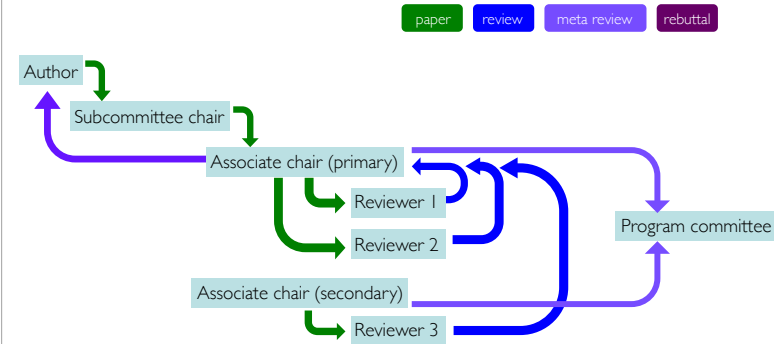
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## What happens to a review?



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## What happens to a CHI review?



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## Who does what?

Paper author		Communicates research contribution
Program committee chair		Finds qualified subcommittee chairs Ensures process follows ACM rules
Subcommittee chair	SC	Finds qualified associate chairs Runs program committee meeting
Primary Associate chair	AC	Finds 3 qualified reviewers Explains critiques, actions to author Communicates with author Shepards the paper, if needed
Reviewer		Evaluates paper's contribution
Rebuttal author		Answers associate chair's critiques
Secondary associate chair		Checks fairness, acts as 2° advocate
Program committee	PC	Discussion, additional reviews Makes final decision

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## Assignment #3: Write a paper review

Due: 15th October

1. Reread the paper from Assignment #1  
or better: choose a new article
2. Read the paper and take notes in your notebook
3. Fill out the review form  
<https://www.lri.fr/~anab/teaching/CareerSeminar/>
4. Send the review to:  
to: [shu-yuan.hsueh@lri.fr](mailto:shu-yuan.hsueh@lri.fr) , [eugenie.brasier@u-psud.fr](mailto:eugenie.brasier@u-psud.fr)

subject: [M2 Career] Assignment #3 Review

5. Bring 5 copies to class!!!

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## Assignment #3: Review a paper

Review the paper **as if you are an external reviewer**

This means:

- You DO know where it was submitted
- You DO NOT know who the authors are
- You DO NOT know the impact the paper will have

You must summarize the paper  
BUT ALSO give your opinion

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## Review questions

Rank the paper:

- Overall rating (1=poor; 5=excellent)
- Reviewer expertise (1= no knowledge, 5=expert)

Please answer the following questions:

- Summarize the contribution to the field (1-2 sentences)
- Provide a detailed review (2-5 paragraphs)
- Indicate specific suggestions for improvement

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## What is a good review?

Your first audience is the program committee

- Either to support the author (accept)
- or argue against (reject)

Short, vague reviews are USELESS  
and will be ignored

Avoid middle ratings (3 out of 5)

- Program committees prefer positive or negative ratings,  
not neutral ones.

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## Reviewing the reviewer

Editors or Meta-Reviewers also review their reviewers:

- Do they re-explain the main point(s) of the paper?
- Are the criticisms specific?
- Do they contribute additional references if that is a complaint?
- Do they articulate the contribution of the paper and related it to past work?
- Do they state what the value of the contribution is to an attendee of the conference or reader of the proceedings?
- Do they have some clear ideas about how the paper can be improved or extended to increase its value?

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### Assignment #3: Review form

#### 1. Rank the paper:

- Overall rating (1=poor, 5=excellent)
- Reviewer expertise (1= no knowledge, 5=expert)

2. Summarize the contribution to the field (1-2 sentences)
3. Provide a detailed review (2-5 paragraphs)
4. Indicate specific suggestions for improvement
5. Include the ACM-style paper reference:

Eric A. Bier, Maureen C. Stone, Ken Pier, William Buxton, and Tony D. DeRose. 1993. Toolglass and magic lenses: the see-through interface. In Proceedings of the 20th annual conference on Computer graphics and interactive techniques (SIGGRAPH '93). ACM, New York, NY, USA, 73-80.

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## Class Exercise: Writing Walkthrough

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### Exercise: Writing Walkthrough

#### Structured Walkthroughs (Yourdon, 1979)

- Goal: Find bugs in code
- Technique: Systematic step-by-step analysis of a document by a small group
- Principles: Line-by-line analysis  
Constructive criticism  
Limited time

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### Writing Walkthrough: Roles

- Author** explains:
  - Document state: early draft, almost done?
  - Publication: audience? deadlines?
  - Criticism level: structure? style? grammar?
- Moderator** manages session:
  - Timing: 5 min. to read, 15 min. to analyze
  - Keep comments constructive, avoid debates
- Participants** (including author!):
  - Read through document once
  - Write comments on paper
  - Offer constructive comments out loud

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## Writing Walkthrough: Procedure

Create a group of authors:

4 people, 20 minutes each = 1 hour 20 minutes

Preparation:

Copy selected document parts (max. 1 page)

Procedure per author

05 min: Everyone reads and annotates text

15 min: Start with sentence one:  
proceed line by line: identify problems

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## Writing Walkthrough: Rules

**Constructive criticism:**

Be positive

Grammatical errors

Logic errors

"I did not understand this"

**Do not debate:** it wastes time!

Participants identify problems  
and suggest solutions

Authors can accept solutions

... or not!

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## Review questions

Rank the paper:

[ ] Overall rating (1=poor, 5=excellent)

[ ] Reviewer expertise (1= no knowledge, 5=expert)

Please answer the following questions:

Summarize the contribution to the field (1-2 sentences)

Provide a detailed review (2-5 paragraphs)

Indicate specific suggestions for improvement

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## Remember

DO NOT discuss

- make the point and move on

The author decides ... later

Your goal to go get through as many lines as possible  
not to 'win' an argument about a point

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