

Light Peer Review at IPAC'23

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- Most of the material presented here is taken from material from or exchanges with Peter McIntosh and Alex Bogacz
- Motivation for Light Peer Review (LPR) at IPAC: Increase the impact of Accelerator Science
 - White paper by Ralph Assmann (DESY), Giovanni Bisoffi (INFN Legnaro) Marie-Emmanuelle Couprie (Soleil) and Mike Seidel (PSI).
- First implementations of LPR at IPACs:
 - IPAC'17: Ralph Assmann (DESY)
 - IPAC'18: Alex Bogacz (JLAB)
 - IPAC'19: M. Boland (ALS/CLS)
 - IPAC'20: Preparation for LPR (Peter McIntosh) halted due to virtualisation
 - No LPR at IPAC'21 due to the virtualisation of the conference
 - *IPAC'22: Nawin Juntong (SLRI)*
- *As there was no LPR since IPAC'19, issues identified for IPAC'20 are still to be discussed...*



- Motivation for introducing peer review to IPAC is to boost the impact factor of “Physical Review Accelerators and Beams” (PRAB), the primary journal of the particle accelerator community, and possible also of other journals used by the accelerator community.
- Further motivations are to improve the academic standing of accelerator universities at universities, to train accelerator students and postdocs in the processes of peer-reviewed publication, and to strengthen the position of accelerator scientists in funding discussions and project applications.

*Slide from Peter McIntosh
at IPAC'20 SPC1*

ovation

The IPAC Light Peer Review (LPR) Process (1/2)

- IPAC'17 pioneered the trial of peer review of a subset of the submitted papers, driven by EPS-AG Task Force White Paper.
- Target of roughly 10% of IPAC papers to migrate to a peer reviewed conference proceedings. This fraction of 10%, also being consistent with the perceived available resources to perform the reviews.
- IPAC'17 conducted its trial, and the outcome was
 - authors responded well to the call,
 - reviews were performed effectively and well supervised,
 - and papers were forwarded to the Institute of Physics (IoP) formatting for IoP compliance.

*Slide from Peter McIntosh
at IPAC'20 EPS-AG meeting*



The poster for the 8th International Particle Accelerator Conference (IPAC'17) is displayed. It features the IPAC'17 logo at the top left, followed by the conference title. The dates '14-19 May 2017' and the location 'Bella Center, Copenhagen, Denmark' are prominently displayed. A circular badge on the right indicates that 'Registration and abstract submission opens September 2016'. Below this, the 'Local Organising Committee' is listed with three members: Gianluigi Arduini (CERN), Mike Seidel (PSI), and Mats Lindroos (ESS). The website 'ipac17.org' is provided at the bottom right. At the very bottom, logos for the host institutions are shown: ESRF (European Synchrotron Radiation Facility), MAX IV LABORATORY, and AARHUS UNIVERSITY.

IPAC'17 8th International Particle Accelerator Conference

14-19 May 2017
Bella Center, Copenhagen, Denmark

Registration and abstract submission opens September 2016

Local Organising Committee

- Organising Committee Chair: Gianluigi Arduini, CERN
- Scientific Programme Committee Chair: Mike Seidel, PSI
- Local Organising Committee Chair: Mats Lindroos, ESS

ipac17.org

HOSTED BY

ESRF EUROPEAN SYNCHROTRON RADIATION FACILITY MAX IV LABORATORY AARHUS UNIVERSITY

The IPAC Light Peer Review (LPR) Process (2/2)

- The procedure worked quite well, albeit “smooth running” was slightly compromised by haste and novelty.
- The LPR procedure is however under-documented: Guidelines are available, but does not describe details of the SPMS peer review module.
- IPAC’18 was mandated by the “Americas” region’s “Particle Accelerator Conference” OC, to similarly introduce a partial light peer review on a trial basis – while incorporating experience from IPAC’17.
- IPAC’19 followed this process incorporating improvements as necessary from previous conferences.
- Process halted due to virtualization of IPAC’20 and IPAC’21

Adapted from Peter McIntosh at IPAC’20 EPS-AG meeting





LPR organization

- LPR is managed by the Scientific Publication Board (SPB)
- The SPB acts much like the editorial board of a journal.
- SPB membership has changed over years:
 - At IPAC'17 only the 8 SPC leads from the host region
 - Later the 16 SPC members + three regional chairs (present, past and future) [19 members]
 - IPAC'22: 17 members (5 from Europe, 4 US, 8 from Asia), chair is Frank Zimmerman (CERN), LPR coordinator is Nawin Juntong (SLRI)
- The present chair, or chief, is from the host region (*apparently not at IPAC'22*).
- The SPB chairs from the other two regions ensure continuity.
- Ideally, SPB chairs are not SPC chairs – the proceedings are not the scientific program.
- SPB has administrative support from a person expert in the SPMS peer review module – typically the scientific secretary.
- In the case of disputes, the present/active SPB chairman's decision shall be final.



It is the responsibility of the SPB to:

- a) find enough reviewers to process about 10-15% of the papers submitted to IPAC;
- b) supervise the overall review process, so that its schedule/time-line is maintained and target dates are achieved;
- c) resolve disagreements/contentions between reviewers.

Editor-in-chief (SPB chair) to:

- a) supervise the review process toward consistency of review outcomes (i.e. QA);
- b) serve as the final authority to resolve conflicts between reviewers and authors;
- c) deal with any reviewed papers that may be suitable for promotion to PRAB;
- d) is responsible for sending accepted papers to the Institute of Physics (IOP) for publishing.



Peer Review General Policies (from IPAC'20)

- Papers will be rejected if a submission or correction deadline is missed.
- Papers are rejected if the review process is not completed by the end of the conference week.
- Each paper shall have two (2) reviewers.
- Single-blind review (where the reviewers are unknown to the authors).
- A reviewer shall not know the identity of the other reviewer assigned to the paper.
- A reviewer shall not contact an author directly concerning their paper.
- Reviewers shall not make any personal remarks, or comments that may betray their identity, when entering the instructions for requested correction/revision of the paper.
- Reviewers must not referee papers of which they are authors or co-authors.
- ~~• If there are insufficient resources, and if the paper emanates from a different department, then a reviewer may referee papers from their home institution. Avoid this practice if possible.~~
- Only a single cycle of correction(s) by the author(s) is permitted; such cycle shall include the opportunity to respond to correction requests from both reviewers.
- Decisions of the SPB chief shall be final.

Do any of these rules need to be updated for IPAC'23?



Peer Review Acceptance Criteria (from IPAC'20)

- The published work **must not contain clear errors or important factual mistakes**.
- The paper **must include own work**, performed by the authors and not published elsewhere.
- Some aspect or part of the work must be **original** or demonstrate clear progress over other reports of the work.
- The presentation of the results **must be understandable**.
- The paper must be in **good English**.
- Work and related **results by others must be referenced and properly acknowledged**.
- The paper must include **references to literature** that are appropriate.
- Papers are considered **not-correctable** and therefore rejected in following cases:
 - The whole Ansatz is wrong.
 - The work is from somebody else or claiming authorship from somebody else.
 - Requested changes are not implemented in time.

Do any of these rules need to be updated for IPAC'23?

IPAC'17, 18 and 19 Lessons Learned (1/2)

- At IPAC'17 and IPAC'18 all communications were either between the **SPB and reviewer**, or between the **SPB and author** (or between the PRAB Editor and author). In order to guarantee confidentiality of the reviewer, there was **no communication permitted between reviewer and author**:
 - Selected LPR papers agreed on 'first-come, first-served' basis – already in guidelines!
- At IPAC'18 the **SPB was extensively loaded with review interventions and email correspondence** - such as requests for clarification or complaints that reviewer was mistaken.
- At IPAC'18 the **number of volunteer referees could have handled twice the actual load** of submitted papers – almost the same for IPAC'19!
- At IPAC'19 timescales were **highly compressed** - a real impact if **referees or authors are not prompt** – single referee reviewed almost 40 papers!

*Slide from Peter McIntosh
at IPAC'20 EPS-AG meeting*

IPAC'17, 18 and 19 Lessons Learned (2/2)

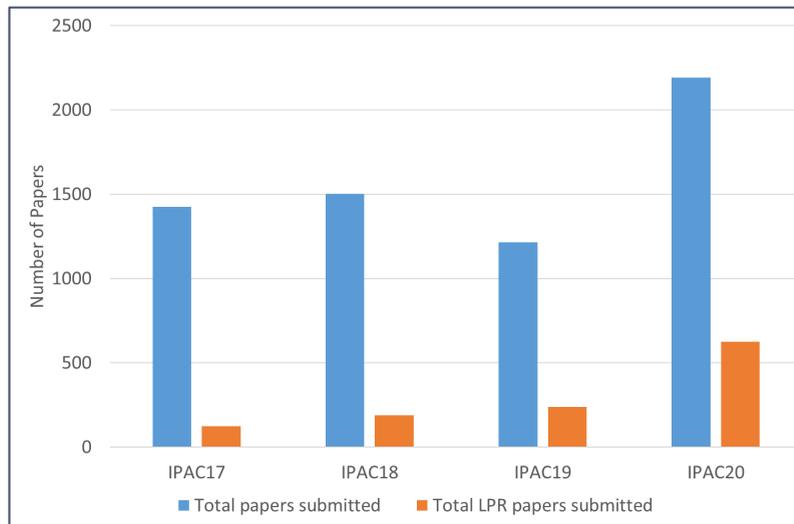
General:

- The JACOW proceedings must explicitly indicate which of the papers (in its archive) are pre-prints of the peer-reviewed IoP conference proceedings – **Note: this isn't currently happening for Jacow proceedings.**
- Main Class MC7, Accelerator Technology, is very broad in scope, making the assignments between MC7 referees difficult and papers would have been **easier to assign if the MC7 referees had been able to specify their sub-class specializations (time consuming)**

*Slide from Peter McIntosh
at IPAC'20 EPS-AG meeting*

IPAC LPR Statistics

*Slide from Peter McIntosh
at IPAC'20 EPS-AG meeting*



	IPAC17	IPAC18	IPAC19	IPAC20*
Total conference participants	1350	1276	1008	
Total papers submitted	1426	1502	1215	2193
Total LPR papers submitted	123	190	237	625
Number of referee volunteers	387	495	421	310
LPR papers accepted	110	177	219	580
LPR papers rejected	??	13	18	45
LPR papers accepted (total papers)	8%	12%	18%	26%
LPR papers accepted (total LPR papers)	87%	93%	92%	93%

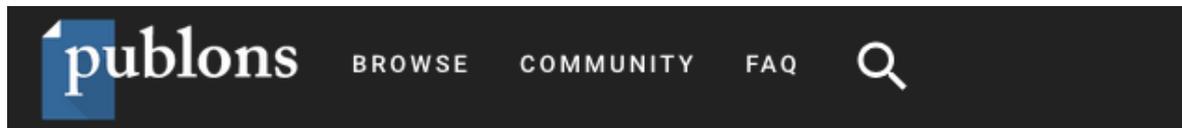
>1.8x

>2.5x

More needed

Projected

* Figures as of abstract submission deadline 5/12/19



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- Some journals acknowledge the work of reviewer through the Publons Reviewer Recognition Service.
- See <https://publons.com/benefits/publishers/reviewer-recognition>
- Could this be an encouragement for reviewers?



Students as referee?

- Do we want to ask PhD students as referees?
- Done in other communities...
- Students may have more time available to read the paper and the relevant bibliography and thus produce better quality evaluations.
- Not all students are identified as such...
- No feedback on this point from previous IPACs.
- Possibilities (to be discussed):
 - (a) Take PhD student as normal referees
 - (b) Take identified PhD students as referees but only one student referee per paper
 - (c) Identified PhD student can not act as referee
- Students before PhD can not act as referees (can we identify them in JaCow)?
- Is more quality assessment needed with identified PhD student acting as referees?



Open questions for IPAC'23

- Who decides IPAC'23 SPB composition?
 - What composition for the IPAC'23 SPB?
 - 16 SPC members + three regional chairs (present, past and future)?
 - Who appoints the the SPB “next” chair from America?
- How to attract more referees?
 - Encourage students to refer papers?
 - Invitation to LPR authors to volunteer as referee? Make it mandatory?
 - Allow referees to get Publons credits?
- Sub-classification in MC7?



Thank you