

# **How to Write a Review for a Research Paper**

Christoph Doell  
Alexander Dockhorn

# Problem

- You
  - are asked to write a review
  - have never done that before
  - have no idea what should be in it
  - do not know how long it should be
  - get a grade on it!

# Agenda

- Problem
- What is a Review?
- Scientific Process
- Goals
- Structure



# Scientific Process

- Perform Research
- Publish Results by Writing a Research Paper
- (Peer) Review of the Paper
  - Performed by researchers of the same area
  - Recommend whether its worth publishing
    - accept, reject or revise?
- Hold a Presentation of your work
  - Allow peers to ask questions

# Review Goals

- Give feedback to the authors
  - Which parts are good?
  - How can bad parts be improved?
- Judge:
  - Significance (Theory of Relativity in Computer Science)
  - Technical Quality (Methodical correctness? Reproducible?)
  - Presentation / Language (Every sentence a verb?)
  - Originality (Roads: Get from A to B more quickly)
  - References (Are there better or missing sources?)
  - Overall evaluation (Accept / Reject / Revise)

# Review Structure

1. Explain content and structure in own words
2. Iterate through the text and give feedback on
  - Structure (First conclusion, then results?!) )
  - Clarity (Are figures well explained?)
  - Correctness of facts (Diabetes kills 10% of people)
  - Whatever is extraordinary
3. Give a final judgement
  - May be referring to earlier points
4. List improvements for style, words, figures...