

Scientific Conferences

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Motivation: why conferences are important for postgraduate students?

- They provide opportunity for students to present / discuss about their research and postgraduate studies.
- Conference papers contribute to your thesis and promote your postgraduate studies (article dissertations).
- They provide opportunities for students to make contact with leading researchers, practitioners and designers.
- They present the latest developments in the research field.
- They are usually arranged in exotic places.



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Different Types of Conferences

- Conferences: acceptance via
 - Abstract submissions
 - Full paper submissions
- Workshops
- Summer schools

Submission Categories

- **Workshop papers:** A *position paper* is generally 2-4 pages long and outlines the submitter's views on the workshop theme and the reasons for the submitter's interest in the topic.
- **Demonstrations:** Demonstrations offer an opportunity to present a technology concept, system, technique, or methodology.
- **Posters & Short papers:** Posters (& interactive posters) are visual presentations of work and are displayed throughout the conference. Short papers (1-3 pages) are presented in technical sessions. Often they describe interesting ongoing work.
- **Abstracts & Extended Abstracts:** Abstracts present contributions to research, development and/or practice. Abstracts are usually 300-600 words long and ext. abstracts 600-1200 words long.
- **Full papers:** Papers present contributions to research, development and/or practice. Full papers are usually 4-12 pages long.

Submission Procedure

- Submission of abstract, paper, etc. and mentoring request if available
- Submissions are reviewed by conference program committee and/or experts.
- Notification of review outcome: (rejected/ conditionally accepted/ accepted)
- Final modifications to the paper.
- Submission of final contributions ("camera ready copies") that will be published in conference proceedings.



Examples of Paper Submission Timetables

- HCI International 2003
 - From first submission to final submission: 4.5 months
 - From first submission to conference presentation: 8.5 months
 - <http://hcie2003.ics.forth.gr/submission/index.asp>
- CHI 2003
 - From first submission to final submission: 4.0 months
 - From first submission to conference presentation: 7.0 months
 - <http://www.chi2003.org/papers.html#call>



Preparing a Submission i.e. SO HOW DO I WRITE AN ABSTRACT?

- STEP 1: Read the Conference Guidelines carefully
- STEP 2: Decide which Subject Stream your presentation fits into
- STEP 3: Write a Title
- STEP 4: Choose which FORMAT best suits your submission
- STEP 5: Write a Description of your presentation (The Abstract)
- (STEP 6: Write a Short Biography of yourself)



Conference Presentation

- Prepare a presentation of your article. Usually the presentation is 10-20 minutes long.
- Keep in mind:
 - Be sure that your presentation is easy to understand for the entire audience, especially non-native English speaking attendees
 - Communicate the main points of your accepted submission
 - Try to make the presentation interesting and valuable to the audience
 - Be prepared for questions
- Practice your presentation in front of a friendly but critical audience



Conference Bonuses

- Best-paper awards: "fame, honor, and money"
- Journals: A selection of papers from a conference will be submitted for publishing in some international journal