How to Write a Review for a Research Paper

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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...