Instructions for Submission to PLDI'15

Abstract

This document is intended to serve as a sample for submissions to PLDI'15, the 36th Annual ACM SIGPLAN Conference on Programming Language Design and Implementation. We provide some guidelines that authors should follow when submitting papers to the conference.

1. Introduction

This document provides instructions for submitting papers to PLDI'15. In an effort to respect the efforts of reviewers and in the interest of fairness to all prospective authors, we request that all submissions to PLDI'15 follow the formatting and submission rules detailed below. **Submissions that violate these instructions may not be reviewed**, at the discretion of the program chair, in order to maintain a review process that is fair to all potential authors.

An example submission (formatted using the PLDI'15 submission format) that contains the submission and formatting guidelines can be downloaded here. The content of this document mirrors that of the submission instructions that appear on this website, where the paper submission site will be linked online about four weeks prior to the paper submission deadline.

Paper evaluation objectives   The committee will make every effort to judge each submitted paper on its own merits. There will be no target acceptance rate. We expect to accept a wide range of papers with appropriate expectations for evaluation — while papers that build on significant past work with strong evaluations are valuable, papers that open new areas with less rigorous evaluation are equally welcome and especially encouraged. **In either case, what is important is that the paper's claims are no stronger than what is supported by the evaluation.** Given the wide range of topics covered by PLDI, every effort will be made to find expert reviewers.

All questions regarding paper formatting and submission should be directed to the program chair.

Highlights From This Document

- Paper must be submitted in printable PDF format.
- Text must be in a minimum **10 pt font** (*not* 9 pt).
- Papers at most **11 pages**, not including references.
- References in **author-year** style (as used by TOPLAS).
- There is no page limit for references.
- Each reference must specify **all authors** (no *et al.*).
- The reviewing process will include two phases.
    - All papers will receive three reviews in the first phase.
    - Those papers identified as most worthy of further consideration will proceed to the second phase and receive an additional two reviews.
    - Authors of papers eliminated in the first phase will be notified promptly.
    - Each phase will have an author response period.
    - Authors *will not* be required, nor given the opportunity, to revise their submissions after phase one.
- Authors of *all* accepted papers will be required to give a lightning presentation (about 90 s) in addition to the regular conference talk.
- Proceedings may appear in the ACM digital library as early as as early as May 30, 2015.

2. Paper Preparation Instructions

2.1 Paper Formatting

Papers must be submitted in printable PDF format and should contain a **maximum of 11 pages** of single-spaced two-column text, **not including references**. In-text citations must follow the **ACM / TOPLAS author-year style ('[Smith 1990]')**, as in this document, **not the numerical style ('[1]') formerly used by PLDI**. The rationale for this change is that it improves readability, and space is less of a concern for published proceedings today than it once was. You may include any number of pages for references. If you are using LaTeX [Lamport 1994] to typeset your paper, then we suggest that you use this temporary version of the SIGPLAN LaTeX class file and template. (This document

Field	Value
File format	PDF
Page limit	11 pages, **excluding references**
Paper size	US Letter 8.5in × 11in
Top margin	1in
Bottom margin	1in
Left margin	0.75in
Right margin	0.75in
Body	2-column, single-spaced
Column separation	0.25in
Body font	10pt
Tabular font	10pt Times (or 9pt Helvetica)
Abstract font	10pt
Section heading	12pt, bold
Subsection heading	10pt, bold
Caption font	10pt
In-text citation	Author-year ('[Smith 1990]' *not* '[3]')
References	10pt, no page limit, list all authors' names

Table 1. Formatting guidelines for submission.

was prepared with that template.) If you are using Microsoft Word, you may wish to use this template. **Whichever tool you use, please ensure you adhere to the guidelines given in Table 1.** The conference submission website will use the banal format checker to *advise* on formatting compliance.

For the *convenience of reviewers*, all submissions will be automatically watermarked by the paper submission site (example here), so please **avoid adding any text in the margins or headers** such as footers, headers, or banners, other than the centered page number provided by the template (which is only for the author's convenience, since the watermarking adds page numbers). The watermarking process strips the submitted pdf of all metadata (thereby removing information which might otherwise identify authors).

2.2 Content

Double Blind. Reviewing will be double blind; therefore, please do not include any author names on any submitted documents except in the space provided on the online submission form. Please take time to read the PLDI FAQ on Double Blind Reviewing, which gives a more comprehensive and authoritative account than this short paragraph. If you are improving upon your prior work, refer to your prior work in the third person and include a full citation for the work in the bibliography. For example, if you happened to be Collins and McCarthy, building on *your own* prior work, you might say something like: "While prior work [Backus et al. 1960; Collins 1960; McCarthy 1960] did X, Y, and Z, this paper additionally does W, and is therefore much better." **Do NOT omit or anonymize references for blind review**.

Figures and Tables. Ensure that the figures and tables are legible. Please also ensure that you refer to your figures in the main text. Many reviewers print the papers in gray-scale. Therefore, if you use colors for your figures, ensure that the different colors are highly distinguishable in gray-scale.

References. There is no length limit for references. **Each reference must explicitly list all authors of the paper.** Papers not meeting this requirement will be rejected. Authors of NSF proposals should be familiar with this requirement. Knowing all authors of related work will help find the best reviewers. Since there is no length limit for the number of pages used for references, there is no need to save space here.

3. Paper Submission Instructions

3.1 Declaring Authors

Enter all authors of the paper into the online paper submission tool upfront. Addition/removal of authors once the paper is accepted will have to be approved by the program chair, since it potentially undermines the goal of eliminating conflicts for reviewer assignment.

3.2 Supplementary Material

The paper submission website will allow authors to upload an additional document containing material that supplements the paper (such as an extended proof or extensive results). However, it is essential that authors understand that: a) reviewers are **not obliged** to read the supplement, and b) the supplement must be **fully anonymized.**

3.3 Areas and Topics

PLDI is a broad conference. It is not limited to the design and implementation of programming languages, but reflects the diversity of SIGPLAN. If you are unsure whether your work falls within scope for PLDI, please check the call for papers and if still in doubt, check with the program chair.

3.4 Concurrent Submissions and Workshops

By submitting a manuscript to PLDI'15, authors guarantee that they are adhering to the SIGPLAN Republication Policy. Please ensure that you are familiar with it. Violation of any of these conditions will lead to rejection. As always, if you are in doubt, it is best to contact the program chair.

Finally, we also note that the ACM Plagiarism Policy covers a range of ethical issues concerning the misrepresentation of other works or one's own work.

4. Early Access in the Digital Library

The PLDI'15 proceedings may be available on the ACM Digital Library as early as May 30, 2015. **Authors must consider any implications of this early disclosure of their work *before* submitting their papers.**

5. Acknowledgements

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