Double blind reviewing in IACR conferences, revisited

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Should we have double-blind reviewing ("anonymous submissions") in IACR conferences?

http://doubleblindreview.wordpress.com
In theory: Yes!

• Author identity is irrelevant to the academic merit. Including it only creates biases.
• Double blind reviewing (DBR):
  – keeps the review clean, helps reviewers stay professional.
  – prevents sectarianism/cliques, helps keep the conferences open to newcomers.

http://doubleblindreview.wordpress.com
In practice...

• DBR doesn’t work:
  – Many (most?) works appear online anyway
  – Search engines pin down most submissions
  – People often recognize your work

• DBR has negative side effects:
  – Unleashes underhanded bias under veil of anonymity
  – Prevents authors from enclosing relevant public data if it’s “identifying”
  – Makes PC work less open and collaborative
  – ...

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The reality

• IACR membership has voted for DBR in 2006
• Hardly any documented public discussion
• Today, DBR is a broken formality

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To read more

http://doubleblindreview.wordpress.com

Please read, comment, and participate in the straw poll!