

Double blind reviewing in IACR conferences, revisited

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

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.

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
 - ...

The reality

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

To read more

<http://doubleblindreview.wordpress.com>

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