

Computational Linguistics Lab: How to write a paper critique

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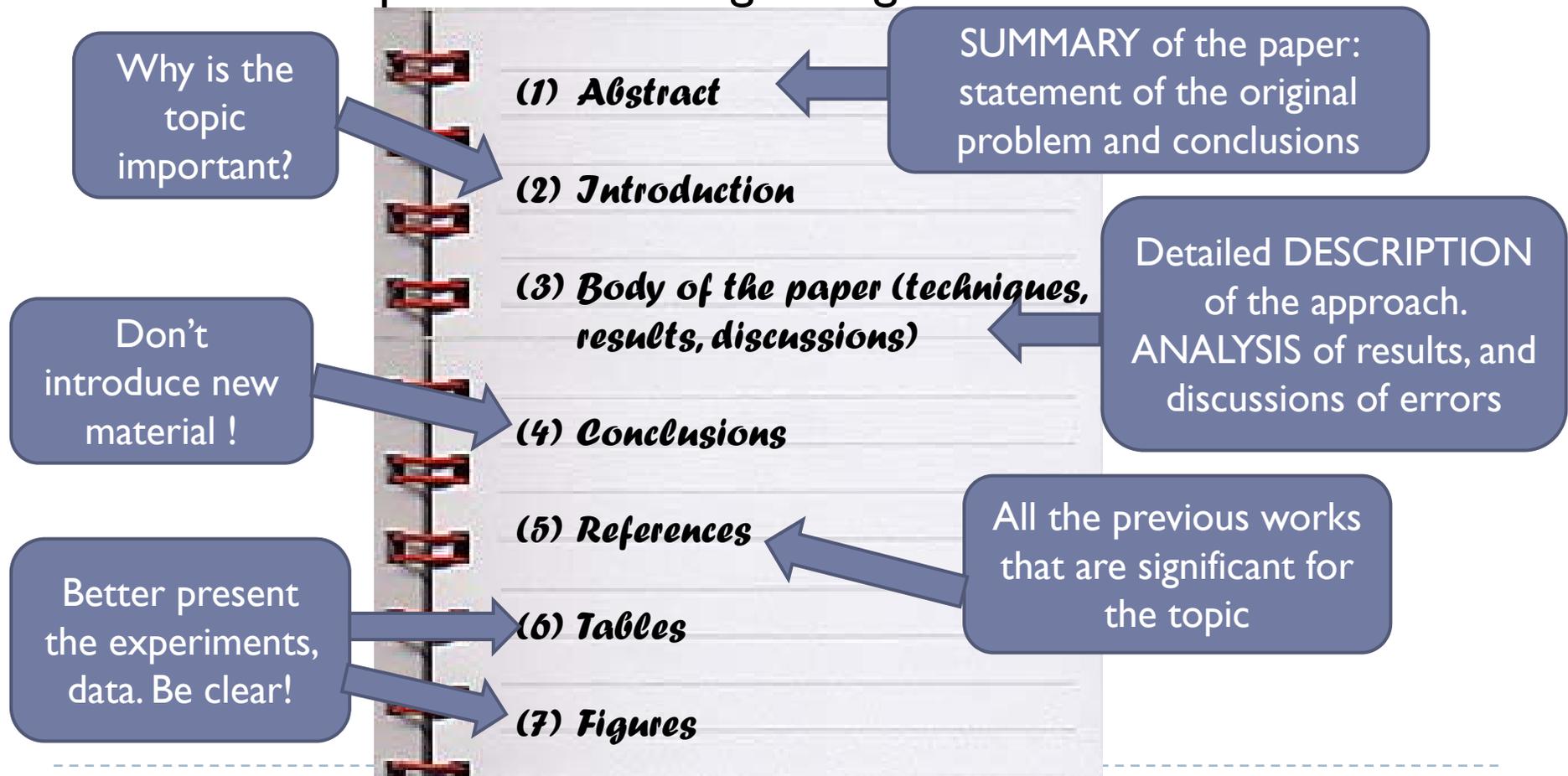
Outline:

- ▶ What makes a good paper?
- ▶ Why are paper critiques important?
- ▶ Stepwise instruction to write a paper critique.

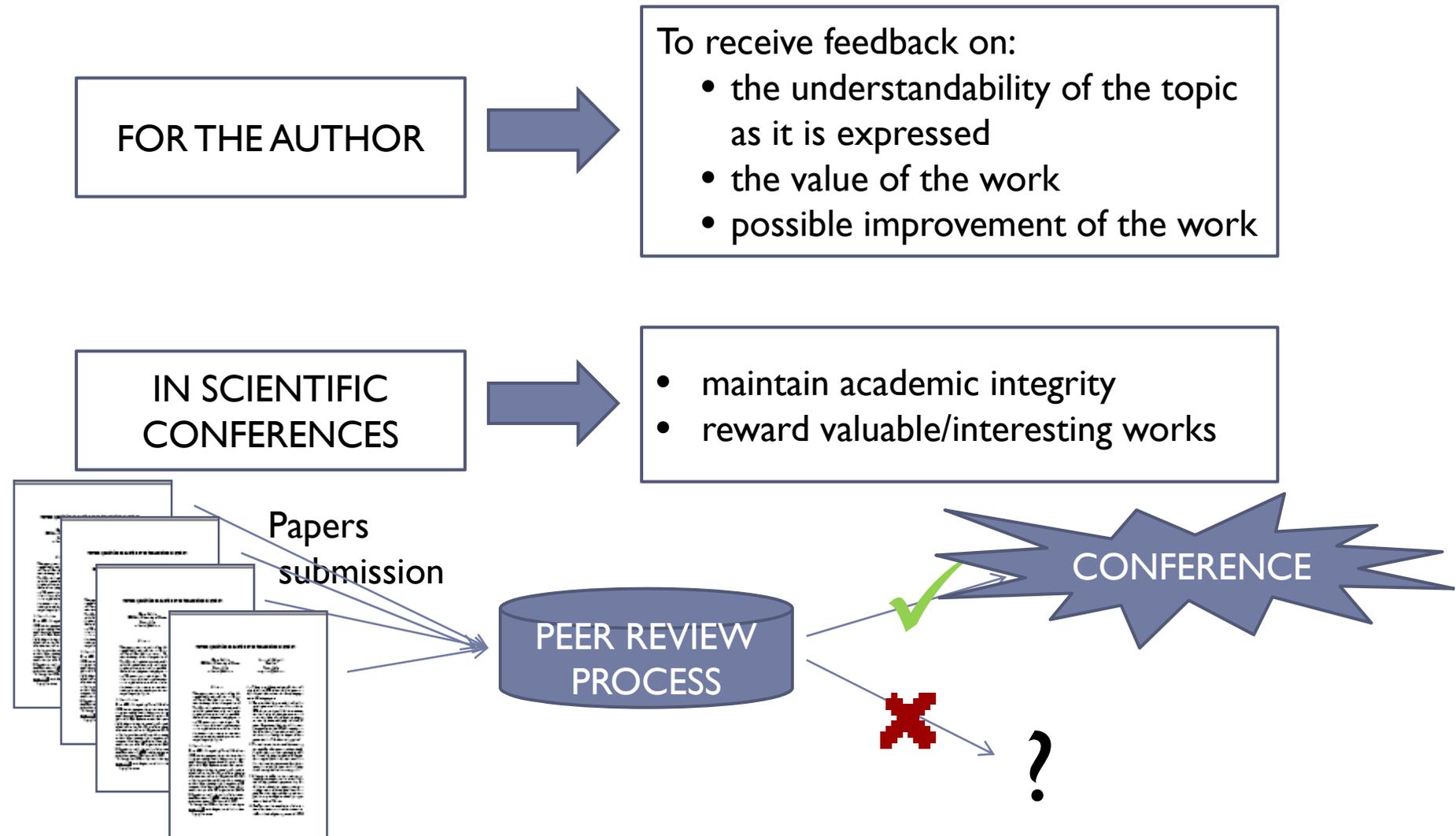
- ▶ Let's do a critique together!
 - ▶ Guidelines for paper review

What makes a good paper? (project report, thesis)

- ✓ Good papers contain something of merit...
- ✓ ... and well presented through a logical structure



Why are paper critiques important?

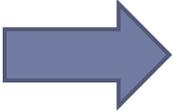


The importance of high-profile reviewers...

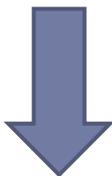


Why are paper critiques important?

FOR THE REVIEWER

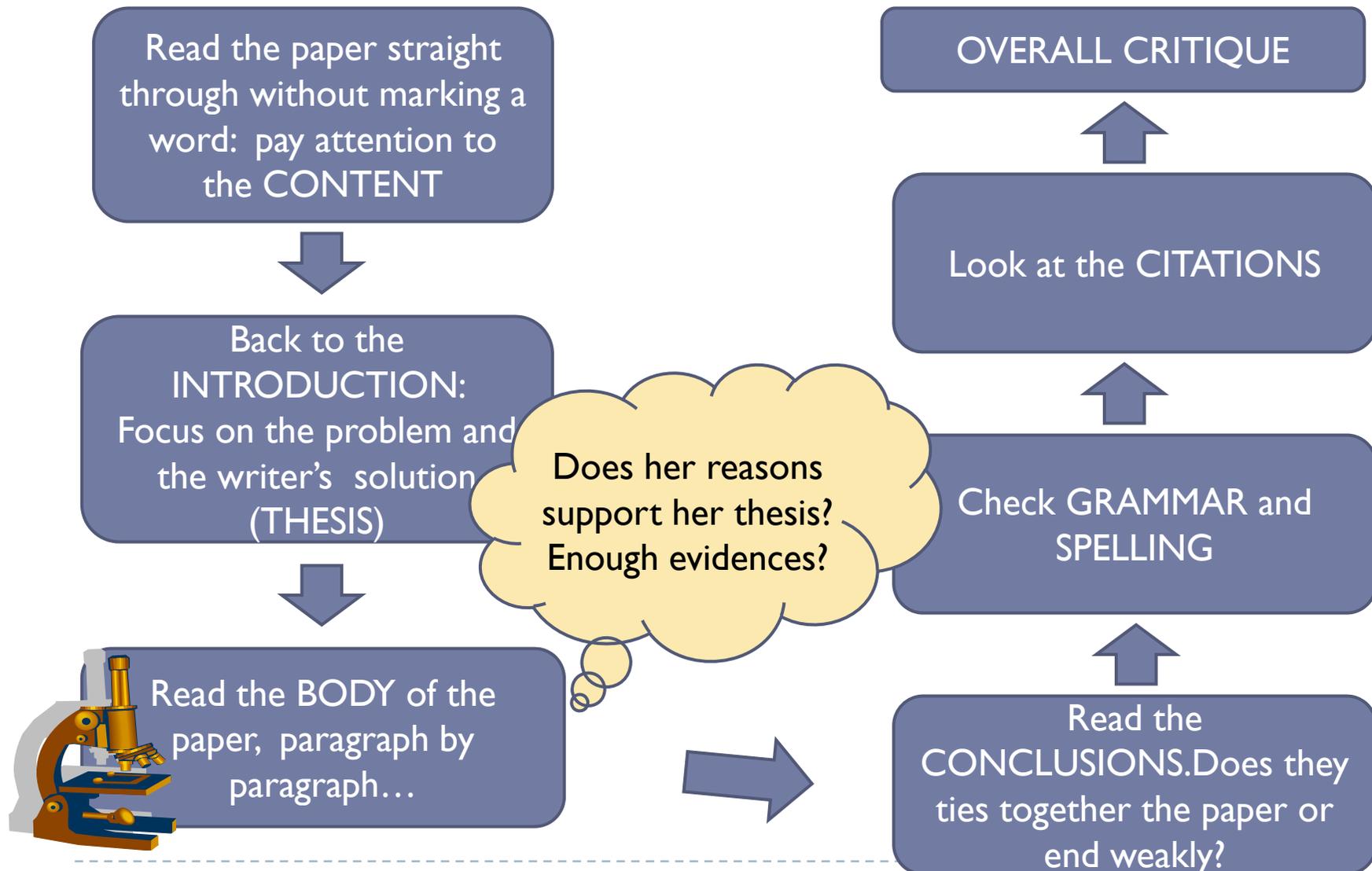


- To exercise a critical attitude towards research papers
- To help understanding a difficult topic
- To know about work done by other people on topics you are interested to
- To get new ideas for possible research directions, future work



MAKE IT A CONSTRUCTIVE TASK!

Stepwise instructions to write a paper critique:



Let's try together!

Aurlien Max, Guillaume Wisniewski, *“Mining Naturally occurring Corrections and Paraphrases from Wikipedia’s Revision History”*

http://www.lrec-conf.org/proceedings/lrec2010/pdf/827_Paper.pdf

Guidelines for paper review:

- ▶ Paper description:
 - ▶ Summary of the paper, key ideas
 - ▶ What are the main contributions?
- ▶ Why do you like this work?
- ▶ Why do you dislike this work?
 - ▶ Serious technical mistakes
 - ▶ Isn't novel (provide related work/papers)
 - ▶ Doesn't demonstrate all its point by proofs, simulations, experiments
 - ▶ Makes unreasonable assumptions
- ▶ Detailed comments on the paper
 - ▶ What did you learn reading the paper?
 - ▶ What are the technical things you appreciated?

Guidelines for paper review (cont.):

- ▶ **Comments on their references & related work:**
 - ▶ How does the paper relate with others works/projects/papers?
 - ▶ Which of them have been cited and which you know that are related but have not been references by the authors?

- ▶ **Comment its presentation style:**
 - ▶ Does the paper describe clearly its goals?
 - ▶ Did the paper deliver what originally promised?
 - ▶ What were the motivations (what issues/problems inspired this research), assumptions (of the setting, requirements), contributions?
 - ▶ Is the bibliography format/list of keywords complete?
 - ▶ Are the figures readable? Can you see the trend? Do they explain the trend or “strange behaviour”? Do the results in the figures make sense?
 - ▶ List any writing style remarks/corrections (english grammar, syntax,...)

Guidelines for paper review (cont.):

- ▶ Make concrete suggestions for how to improve the paper
- ▶ Do you have any unanswered questions on the paper?
- ▶ What would be good follow-on projects and why?

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

- ▶ *Guidelines for paper review*
http://www.ics.forth.gr/mobile/paper_review.html
- ▶ *How to review a technical paper*
<http://eetd.lbl.gov/ea/buildings/alan/publications/how.to.review.html>
- ▶ *How to critique a Research Paper*
http://www.ehow.com/how_4885835_critique-research-paper.html
- ▶ *D.J. Benos, K.L. Kirk, J.E.Hall, How to review a paper*
<http://advan.physiology.org/cgi/content/full/27/2/47>
- ▶ *J.F. Polak, The role of the manuscript reviewer in the peer review process*
<http://www.ajronline.org/cgi/content/abstract/165/3/685>
- ▶ *W.G. Baxt, J.F.Waeckerle, J.A. Berlin, M.L. Callaham. Who reviews the reviewers? Feasibility of using fictitious manuscript to evaluate peer reviewer performances. Ann Emerg Med 32:310,317, 1998.*