

TOP 4 SECURITY CONFERENCE WRITING SUGGESTIONS BY XIALI HEI

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WRITING SUGGESTIONS TO MY GRADUATE STUDENTS

Novelty: The reviewers usually check the novelty of the paper first. If the authors use new methodologies and have interesting findings in the paper, at the same time, the interesting findings could advance the understanding of one problem and lead the research direction, the paper will be accepted even though the writing skills are weak.

Security insights: To be accepted by a top-4 security conference, your work should have clear security insights. Your abstract, introduction, and conclusion should clearly explain the security insights and point out the importance of it. If the security insights could lead the research direction or open a new sub-area, it is desired.

Unexpected/Good results: If the novelty is weak, the reviewers expect the results unexpected or different from the researcher's common sense. If the results are good enough, the reviewers might like the paper.

Pictures and tables: The presentation of the paper is crucial. Clear and concise logic and sentences are the key for the reviewers to understand the paper. The number of pictures and tables give the reviewers an impression of how much work you have done. When a lot of reviewers only review the figures and tables, their qualities are essential for bottom-line papers. The bottom-line paper with high-quality pictures and tables are likely accepted.

Strong claims: The authors should avoid strong claims and clearly state the limitations of the work. They should present the results according to the real results and could not play with the results by hiding bad results and only reporting the good results. The top 4 conferences start to verify the codes and other work using student teams. Please avoid that.

Related work: The authors should avoid missing important related works to make the paper better. The reviewers would find that out. Please avoid that. Thoroughly check the related work and compare them will make the paper look better.