### HowTo read a scientific article

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### Journal article versus conference proceedings versus archive papers

Timing

Journal: no deadline  $\Rightarrow$  published when ready

Conf.: deadline  $\Rightarrow$  submitted when due, published

during conference

Archive: no deadline, no processing  $\Rightarrow$  instantly

Review process

Journal: thorough, iterations/revisions

Conf.: accepted or rejected

Archive: none

Consequence

Journal: later but more ripened

Conf.: quicker but sometimes more sloppy

Archive: super quick but without any quality control

⇒ Conference/archive version often followed by journal version.

### Further publication types

- review articles
- application notes
- book chapters
- short abstracts
- posters

#### Instructions to the authors

- page limits
- specifications on formating, structure, etc.
- re-formatting by journal
- $\Rightarrow$  Do not always blame the author.

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### Accessibility

- Open access (OA): pure OA journals, optional OA (subject to charge), no OA
- ▶ institutional access: universities/institutes pay for "flat rates" for some publishers ⇒ Use university WiFi (or VPN) to access papers.
- some papers are linked on authors websites etc.
- Google Scholar

### How to get aware of papers

- referenced by other paper
- referencing your own paper
- conference
- eTOC newsletter (electr. table of contents)
- article alerts
- blogs, twitter, etc.
- seminars, lectures, journal clubs
- browsing favorite journals
- literature reviewing to get into a topic

## How to read a paper

Depending on why / how deeply you read a paper. If you want to understand a paper thoroughly:

- 1. try to understand the abstract
- 2. do understand the introduction
- 3. try to understand the background
- 4. do understand the abstract
- 5. try to understand the conclusions
- 6. did you get the story / selling point?
- 7. read everything

# How to read a paper

### While reading:

- take notes
- mark important terms
- mark parts that you did not understand yet
- follow references where necessary
- look up background where necessary
- be aware of mistakes
- be critical