



Fast Turnaround Dual Anonymous Review Process (DARP)

Fast Turnaround Support Team
February 2021



Introduction

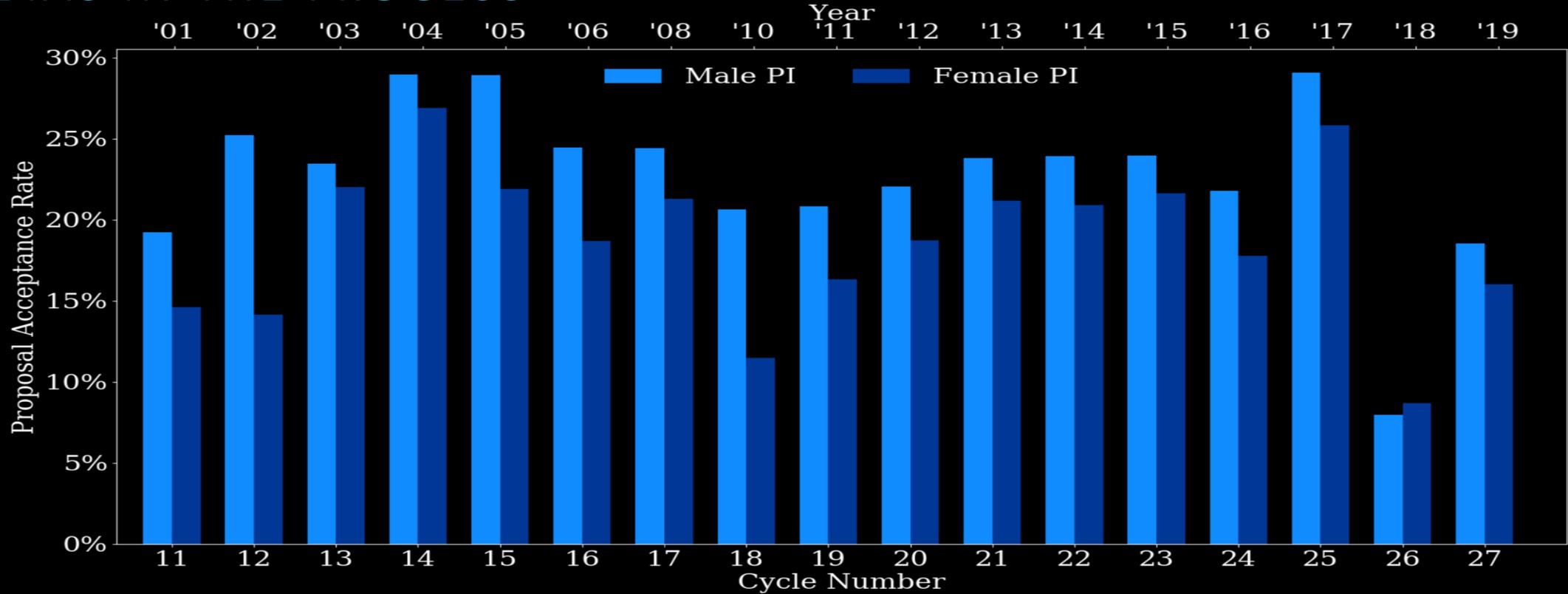
- The Fast Turnaround Program allows our users to convert an idea to data within a month up to 4 months after their proposal submission.
- The distributed peer review process has been a key component of FT. However, we sometimes find inappropriate comments or unfair reviews from the participants. Some of these issues can be mitigated by anonymizing the review process.
- Motivated by a successful study from the Hubble Space Telescope TAC, we decide to implement Dual-Anonymous Review Process (DARP).



Success rate of HST proposals



BIAS IN THE PROCESS



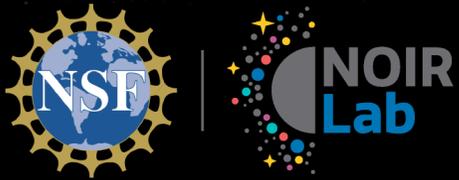
- ▶ C22: No PI name on cover page
- ▶ C23: Alphabetical list of investigators
- ▶ C24 & C25: Johnson & Kirk process review, note deficiencies in focus of panel discussions
- ▶ C26: 1st dual-anonymous proposal review, requiring anonymized proposals



What is Dual-Anonymous Review Process (DARP)?



- Proposers do not know who their reviewers are.
- **NEW!!** → Reviewers do not know the identity of proposing teams.
- Reviewers will evaluate the “anonymized” proposals only based on the scientific merit, not based on knowledge of the proposing team’s identity.
 - We are eliminating the PI “TEAM” component from the review process.



Guidelines for Proposing Teams





Anonymizing Proposals



1. Enter information of the proposing team with the Phase I Tool (PIT) as usual.
2. Use the FT specific template.
 - Will be updated to be compliant with DARP starting on Feb 1, 2021
 - Download from <http://software.gemini.edu/phase1/templates/2021A/>
3. Avoid mentioning names and affiliations of the team in the PDF attachment that could be used to identify the proposing team.
4. Avoid claiming ownership of past work.
 - E.g., “my successful Gemini program in the previous semester (GS-18A-xxx)”, or “our analysis shown in Doe et al. 2020...”



Anonymizing Proposals



5. Cite references in passive third person, e.g., “Analysis shown in Doe et al. 2020”, including references to data and software.
6. **Do** describe the proposed work, e.g., “We propose to do the following...”, or “We will measure the effects of ...”
7. Unpublished work can be referred to as “obtained in private communication” or “from private consultation”.



Example of Anonymization



In Rogers et al. (2014), we concluded that the best explanation for the dynamics of the shockwave and the spectra from both the forward-shocked ISM and the reverse-shocked ejecta is that a Type Ia supernova exploded into a preexisting wind-blown cavity. This object is the only known example of such a phenomenon, and it thus provides a unique opportunity to illuminate the nature of Type Ia supernovae and the progenitors. If our model from Rogers et al. (2014) is correct, then the single-degenerate channel for SNe Ia production must exist. We propose here for a second epoch of observations which we will compare with our first epoch obtained in 2007 to measure the proper motion of the shock wave.

Here is the same text, again re-worked following the anonymizing guidelines:

Prior work [12] concluded that the best explanation for the dynamics of the shockwave and the spectra from both the forward-shocked ISM and the reverse-shocked ejecta is that a Type Ia supernova exploded into a preexisting wind-blown cavity. This object is the only known example of such a phenomenon, and it thus provides a unique opportunity to illuminate the nature of Type Ia supernovae and the progenitors. If the model from [12] is correct, then the single-degenerate channel for SNe Ia production must exist. We propose here for a second epoch of observations which we will compare with a first epoch obtained in 2007 to measure the proper motion of the shock wave.

This slide is taken from NASA Town Hall presentation.

<https://science.nasa.gov/researchers/dual-anonymous-peer-review>



Guidelines for Proposal Reviewers





Proposal Reviewers



1. Accept the assigned proposals based on abstracts whether you can provide an unbiased review or not.
2. Review proposals solely based on the scientific merit of what is proposed.
3. Do not spend any time attempting to identify the PI or the team. Even if you think you know, you can be wrong.
4. Utilize neutral pronouns (they/the PI/the team) when you write comments.
5. Flag the proposals that have not been sufficiently anonymized but **DO NOT** penalize them by lowering grades.
 - The FT support team will check the flagged proposals and adjust grades only if necessary.



References



1. Johnson et al. (2020), PASP 132, 1009
 - Dual-anonymization Yields Promising Results for Reducing Gender Bias: A Naturalistic Field Experiment of Applications for Hubble Space Telescope Time
 - <https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1538-3873/ab6ce0>
2. STScI's Working Group on Anonymizing Proposal Reviews
 - <https://outerspace.stsci.edu/display/APRWG>
3. Dual-Anonymous Peer Review page by NASA Astrophysics Division
 - <https://science.nasa.gov/researchers/dual-anonymous-peer-review>



Please send your
 Questions and Comments to
[Fast.Turnaround at gemini.edu](mailto:Fast.Turnaround@gemini.edu)

