



Peer-Review Statements

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All of the articles in this proceedings volume have been presented at the CCETC-2024 during *12th and 13th February, 2024* in *Ghulam Ishaq Khan Institute of Engineering Sciences and Technology, Pakistan, Topi, District Swabi, Pakistan*. These articles have been peer reviewed by independent expert reviewers. The peer-review process has been managed by the members of the *CCETC Technical Committee* and approved by the Editor-in-Chief, who affirms that this document is a truthful description of the conference's review process.

1. REVIEW PROCEDURE

The reviews were *single-blind*. Each submission was examined by 2 reviewers independently.

All the conference submissions were handled through the official email address of CCETC-2024.

The submissions were first screened for generic quality and suitability. After the initial screening, they were sent for peer review by matching each paper's topic with the reviewers' expertise, taking into account any competing interests. A paper could only be considered for acceptance if it had received favourable recommendations from the reviewers.

Authors of a submission were given the opportunity to revise and resubmit after addressing the reviewers' comments. The acceptance or rejection of a revised manuscript was final.

Moreover, a review template was shared with the reviewers to ensure uniformity in the review reports. This also allowed the reviewers to provide detailed feedback; eventually helping the authors in improving the overall quality of the manuscripts.

2. QUALITY CRITERIA

Reviewers were instructed to assess the quality of submissions solely based on the academic merit of their content along the following dimensions:

1. Pertinence of the article’s content to the scope and themes of the conference;
2. Clear demonstration of originality, novelty, and timeliness of the research;
3. Soundness of the methods, analyses, and results;
4. Adherence to the ethical standards and codes of conduct relevant to the research field;
5. Clarity, cohesion, and accuracy in language and other modes of expression, including figures and tables.

Following are the precise instructions and review template shared with the reviewers:

Moreover, all of the articles have been checked for textual overlap in an effort to detect possible signs of plagiarism by the publisher. In addition to manual checking, ‘Turnitin’ software was used by technical committee to ensure the similarity index is within acceptable limits.

3. KEY METRICS

<i>Total submissions</i>	49
<i>Number of articles sent for peer review</i>	49
<i>Number of accepted articles for presentation</i>	47
<i>Number of accepted articles for proceedings publication</i>	21
<i>Acceptance rate</i>	42.8%
<i>Number of reviewers</i>	26

4. COMPETING INTERESTS

The peer-review process of CCETC-2024 was transparent. Manuscripts for which Editor-in-Chief or other technical committee members were co-authors or involved in the study, were specifically handed over to colleagues with no personal interests. Eventually, the decision of acceptance was solely based on the feedback of independent expert reviewers who had no personal interest or involvement in the particular manuscripts.

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