

Robert Feldt's Individual Publication Strategy 2008

Journals

Depending on type and quality of a paper I would consider the following journals my main targets:

- ASE - Automated SE Journal (anything on automation and SE, Not ISI-listed)
- SEKE - Journal of SE & Knowledge Eng (AI/ML applied in SE)
- TSE - IEEE Transactions on SE (general SE, highest quality)
- SW – IEEE Software (general SE, popularized, summarized, methodology, tech transfer)
- ESE – Empirical SE journal
- Innovations in Systems and Software Eng

But I want to actively be broad in the areas I target so I will also consider: IST, SQJ, REJ and other sub-area-specific journals in SE as well as management. In general, I will not be picky, if there is an ISI-listed journal to which a paper can be aimed I will choose that.

I also intend to produce papers on softer, human aspects and I am not sure what are suitable targets for them. This strategy should be updated when I find these suitable targets.

Not prioritized for now because of long latencies: JSS, STVR

Conferences / Workshops

In general, I feel that many research conferences are not as good or energizing as they should be. Thus I will prefer sending good-quality material to journals. This means that I do not list top-quality, general SE conferences as targets here; if I have a paper suitable for such a conference I will prefer sending it to a journal. If the conf has a best-paper track for a journal would such a conference be interesting but since the competition will likely be fierce it feels smarter to send such a paper directly to the journal. The longer-term important effect of being visible in the top, general conferences can be adressed later when the associate professorship is done.

I would consider sending to a conference for one or more of the following reasons:

- Conference is important for being part of community (Comm)
- Conference is known to be stimulating/energizing (Stim)
- Conference accepts wild/innovative/crazy/future papers (Wild)
- Result is initial result in a series where later will be more refined (Prelim)
- Result is not top notch but still publishable (papers based on thesis projects typically fall in here) (LowQ)

Community – Automated SE & V&V, Search-based SE, Empirical SE:

1. ICST – Int Conf SW Testing, October deadline
2. Automated SE, April deadline
3. ISSTA – Testing and Analysis, late January deadline
4. SBST Workshop, January deadline (part of ICST)
5. ESEM – Empirical SE and Management
6. SBSE WS as part of Gecco, Late January deadline

7. ISSRE - SW Reliability Eng, April deadline
8. EASE – Empirical Assessment in SE

Stimulating: OOPSLA & REFSQ

Wild: OOPSLA Onward

Prelim & LowQ: Depending on paper and result

These targets above are for my own research, I will ensure the PhD students I'm involved in have publication strategies adapted to their respective sub-areas.

Publication tactics

- Continue being main driver for at least 3 good/important papers per year based on own ideas/projects
- Collaborate with other faculty members to bridge sub-area gaps and increase total number of publications on everyones CV, thus strengthening the group
- Give lots of support and constructive help to PhD students for them to publish early and often
- Turn general "literature search" of PhD students into publishable systematic maps/reviews
- Try to make master theses more publishable and turn them into papers
- Get Master and PhD students to be visible and publish in SERPS yearly
- Add to PhD students projects and try to get bonus papers out of them (example: collect additional data during study to test methodological hypotheses which is not directly related to study in question; only ok if extra work is by me)
- Consider going to conferences in "new" areas to get a feel for what is done before contributing

Publication goals

My goal for a "sustainable pace" is to publish:

- 1 journal article per year as main driver
- 1 journal articles per year as co-author
- 2 conference/ws papers per year as main driver
- 2 conference/ws papers per year as co-author

"Sustainable pace" means that the actual number of publications in each category can vary over the years but the figures above should be the averages over the coming years.

I consider the measurable goals above the most important part of the strategy; the actual targets above are secondary since I strive for a broad SE knowledge and reach and thus do not want to focus on a particular sub-community.