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■ Artifact Evaluation Process

The ECRTS Artifact Evaluation (AE) process takes place after the paper decisions have been finalized. We seek to achieve the benefits of the AE process without disturbing the current process through which ECRTS has generate high-quality programs in the past. Therefore, the current submission, review and acceptance procedure are completely unaltered by the decision of running an AE process.

Once acceptance decisions are final, the authors of accepted papers are invited to submit an artifact evaluation (or replication) package. Hence, the repeatability evaluation process has no impact on whether a paper is accepted at ECRTS, and will be entirely optional and up to authors. Moreover, there is no disclosure of the title and authors of papers which would not pass the repeatability evaluation. This is to avoid negative bias towards submitting their artifact on the authors' part. Once authors that desire to do so have submitted their artifacts, an Artifact Evaluation Committee (AEC) composed mainly of PhD students close to graduation and postdocs evaluates the artifacts.

Artifacts should include two components:

- a document explaining how to use the artifact and which of the experiments presented in the paper are repeatable (with reference to specific digits, figures and tables in the paper), the system requirements and instructions for installing and using the artifact;
- the software and any accompanying data.

During the first week, all the evaluators check that they can run the code of artifacts assigned to them, without problems. In case of problems, these are promptly (and anonymously) reported to the authors of the artifact that can help fixing them. From that moment on, the evaluators have 3 weeks to complete their reviews. During the last week, a brief online discussion takes place if/when necessary and notifications are sent to authors.

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