



**2018 IEEE Radio Frequency
Integrated Circuit Symposium**
10 – 12 June 2018, Pennsylvania Convention Center, Philadelphia



RFIC 2018 Double-Blind Reviewing Policy

For the first time this year, RFIC 2018 will adopt the double-blind reviewing policy. A double-blind review process provides ‘anonymity’ for both authors and reviewers. As the reviewers will not be informed of the authors’ names or affiliations in the submitted paper, such information must be removed from the paper before submission. A double-blind review process is intended to eliminate any perception of bias for or against an author or institution based on name recognition, country, gender, or other characteristics. This helps assure authors of the following:

- All submitted papers are judged equally, based on established evaluation criteria.
- The content and quality of submitted papers are judged, and not the authors or their affiliations.

Beyond the obvious need to remove names and affiliations, there are a number of additional changes required to prepare a paper for a double-blind review. For example, citation of prior work is required to evaluate a submission. Referencing the authors’ own work should be worded in a way that avoids identifying connections to the authors. Simply note your prior work in the same way as work by others. For example, do not write “We demonstrated in [2] that ...” Rather, write “It was demonstrated in [2] that...” The author must take every possible step to make the submission anonymous and avoid identification by inference. To make the process as simple as possible we can reduce the procedure to just a few steps shown below. Papers submitted to RFIC 18 that disregard these double-blind review requirements will not be reviewed.

1. Eliminate author names, contact information, and affiliations from the title and anywhere else;
2. Eliminate acknowledgments and references to funding sources;
3. Use the third person to refer to the authors’ own work;
4. Ensure figures do not contain any affiliation-related identifier (e.g. logos on hardware or in IC layouts);
5. Depersonalize the work by using anonymous text where necessary;
6. Remove or depersonalize citations to authors’ unpublished work;
7. Remove references to patents filed by authors or their institutions.



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One of the most common misunderstandings of the double-blind review policy concerns the reference list at the end of the paper. The table below illustrates the correct and incorrect way of handling this, assuming that J. A. Doe and J. B. Doe are the names of you and your co-author:

Correct handling of cited references	Incorrect way of handling cited references
<p data-bbox="110 590 792 653">“This paper builds on the previous research of [2] by highlighting some of the recent advances...”</p> <p data-bbox="110 695 792 800">[2] J. A. Doe and J. B. Doe, “Previous research: a review,” in <i>2014 Int. Conf. on Writing Conf. Papers</i>, Luckenbach, TX, USA, Jun. 2014, pp. 1721–1734.</p> <p data-bbox="110 842 792 947">Use anonymous, third-person language when referring to your own work. Do not redact any references, including your own.</p>	<p data-bbox="831 590 1513 653">“In this paper, we build on our previous research [2] and highlight some of the recent advances...”</p> <p data-bbox="831 695 1513 831">[2] (Redacted – double blind), “Previous research: a review,” in <i>2014 Int. Conf. on Writing Conf. Papers</i>, Luckenbach, TX, USA, Jun. 2014, pp. 1721–1734.</p> <p data-bbox="831 873 1513 978">Do not use first-person language such as “we” and “our” when referring to your own work. Do not redact any references, including your own.</p>

For additional examples of how to avoid double-blind violations, refer to the [“Recent Advances in Eliminating Double-Blind Violations in Conference Papers,”](#) authored by Ryan Gough.

