

4612 2021 Ranking Committee

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OOPSLA is currently ranked at A* and the committee checked if the A* rank is still justified.

The number of submitted papers is good at 223, 216 and 201 in the past three years, but the acceptance rates are questionable for A* venues, at 30%, 28% and 36%, respectively.

The Program Chairs are well-regarded in the field, with h-indices varying from 33 to 49 in the last three years - lower than typical for an A* venue. The average SPC h-index is very low for a flagship event, at 11, with 3/19 having an h index that indicates they are established researchers. Some top people in the field do publish there, eight of the top ten have published there more than once in the last five years. On the other hand SPC repeat publishing is very uncommon, particularly if compared to PLDI. This conference was published in 32 times by 22 of 23 SPC members in the last 5 years, but this was largely due to the 2015 instance, which accounted for 19 of these 32 outputs. Numbers since then are less encouraging, at 5, 2, 2 and 4 papers, respectively. Just 6 out of 23 SPC members published at this conference in 2 or more years. A similar pattern is evident for PL experts - this conference was published in 28 times by 10 of 20 experts in the last 5 years, largely due to the 2015 and 2016 instances that accounted for 15 and 11 of those outputs. In 2017-2019 0, 1 and 1 papers were published by experts but this is likely due to move to journal published proceedings. Seven of those 20 experts published at 00PSLA in two or more years. All of these indicators are low for A* venues.

OOPSLA is 20th in the list of software systems venues according to Google Scholar, with an h5-index of 29. This is much lower than the same measure for POPL and PLDI, at 48 and 46, respectively. OOPSLA is not listed on AMiner or in the centile lists, and it ranks below POPL, PLDI and ASPLOS on both CSMetrics and Guide2Research.

While OOPSLA remains a reputable venue in Programming Languages there are other conferences with stronger reputations - PLDI and POPL in particular. It is evident that OOPSLA is not at the same level as these other venues in Programming Languages.

The committee members discussed this conference and agreed that, given that an A* ranking should be assigned to exceptional, flagship events in a field, this conference should be considered excellent rather than exceptional and so should be ranked A.

A reconsideration request was received with additional data.

The committee discussed this additional information and overall again felt the conference is not as clearly A* as PLDI and POPL. Some data indicates potentially A*, some more an A. The committee discussed whether the conference should be tagged "Journal Published" given the move to Proc ACM PL publication venue which makes gathering various data difficult or impossible.

In the end the committee again decided to recommend a rank of A.

