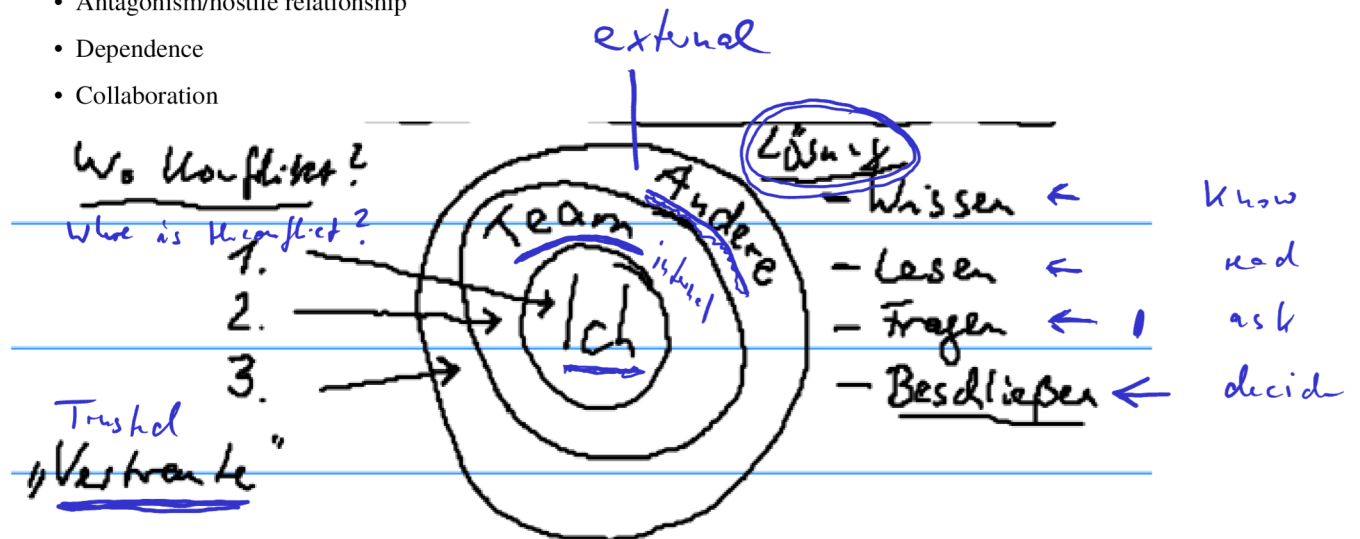


GOOD SCIENTIFIC PRACTICE

9.1 Conflict of Interest

Conflicts of interest through:

- Friendship
- Antagonism/hostile relationship
- Dependence
- Collaboration



Examples for conflicts of interest:

- Reviewing:

1st. interest: Professional assessment *as objective as possible*

2nd. interest: Helping a friend

- Student representatives:

1. Representing the students' interests
2. Own interests at University (grades, career, etc.)

- Women's representative

- Lobbies

- Politicians in board of directors:

1. Party

2. Company

- Additional occupation or spare-time work:
  1. First employer
  2. Second employer/own company

Differentiation in primary interests and secondary interests.

Example cases where conflicts of interest are important:

- Research in company
- BSc thesis in company
- Peer-reviewing papers
- Hiring decisions
- Exam attestation

Solutions:

- form a committee, don't decide alone
- Categorization of 'conflict of interests' by others, not yourself
- Prevention of ill influence through anonymous reviews
- Transparency (communicate potential conflicts)

Decisions should be correct, transparent and invulnerable.

Sources:

- • DFG about conflicts of interest (German)
- • ACM guidelines about conflicts of interest (English)
- • IEEE Publication Services and Products Board Operations Manual

## 9.2 "Council"

- Group of consultants
- Give council

Process:

- Know
- Read
- Ask
- Decide

## 9.3 Plagiarism

(is about text, artwork, ...)

Definition: Theft of intellectual property.

- Using others' work
- Completely or modified
- Pretending to be the creator

Plagiarism in law:

- Copyright
- Compensation possible
- Cease-and-desist letter
- Sources must always be attributed, also for self-plagiarism!
- Violation of good scientific practice

} self-plagiarism

### 9.3.1 Plagiarism in Academia

Examples for plagiarism:

- Tutor attests exam or thesis, recognizes plagiarism: Copy from webpage without citation (academic misconduct)
- Text from book translated word-to-word

Examples for no plagiarism:

- Group work

Characterization:

- Basic principle: Independent work.
- "Reuse without Reference": Academic misconduct originates from the use of work that is not cited.
- Plagiarism vs. Self-Plagiarism
- Rules and consequences must be defined and followed

IEEE rules (IEEE Ops manual, Section 8.2.4):

1. Level 1: Uncredited verbatim copy of more than 50% within single article
  - Notice of Violation published
  - Publication of work prohibited
  - Rejection of all of the authors' articles currently under review (resubmission possible after plagiarism issue resolved)
  - Up to 5 years of prohibition of publication in all IEEE-copyrighted publications by the authors
  - Recommendation: Require Letter of Apology and publish it (if no letter written: 1-2 years additional prohibition of publication)
2. Level 2: 20%-50%
  - Same as above, but only ...
  - Up to 3 years of prohibition of publication
3. Level 3: <= 20%

- Letter of Apology to plagiarized authors and publication editors (private)
  - Notice of Violation published
  - Possible action: Publication of Letter of Apology
4. Level 4: “Inappropriate paraphrasing” of significant portion
- Same as above, but only ...
  - Prohibition of publication in single venue if no Letter of Apology written.
5. Level 5: Verbatim copy without quotation mark
- Correction required
  - Letter of Apology to plagiarized authors and publication editors (private)

Repeated violations: Up to a lifetime of prohibition of publication.

Process for misconduct handling by IEEE (Figure 8.2.4. in [IEEE Ops manual](#)):

