



SPANISH

ALMA Days

18-20 February 2025, La Laguna, Tenerife, Spain

ALMA proposal review process

Double anonymous, distributed peer review

Evanthia Hatziminaoglou ESO/IAC
Spanish ALMA days, 18-20 February 2025



Glossary

- **Peer review:** process of reviewing by experts in the same field (i.e. *peers*)
- **Single-anonymous peer review:** reviewers' identities are not known to the authors
- **Dual-anonymous review:** reviewers' and authors' identities are NOT known to each other
- **Distributed peer review:** the pool of applicants is also the reviewer pool

ALMA proposal review process

- For proposals requesting <50 h on the 12-m Array or <150 h on the 7-m Array in standalone mode are reviewed using the **distributed peer review** system
- The proposal team **designates** one member of the proposal team to participate in the review process.
- Large Programs, i.e. >50 h on the 12-m Array or >150 h on the 7-m Array in standalone mode, are reviewed by the **APRC**, a panel of experts selected from the international astronomical community.
- External Science Assessors provide reviews on Large Programs, that are considered by the APRC.
- All proposals are reviewed in a dual anonymous fashion
- All proposals need to be prepared in accordance with the **dual-anonymous** guidelines
- ALMA hosts informative webinars

ALMA proposal review process

Document	Description
Dual-anonymous Guidelines	Provides guidelines for PIs on how to write their proposals in a dual-anonymous fashion
Distributed Peer Review	Detailed description of the distributed peer review process
Guidelines for Reviewers	Guidelines for reviewing proposals and writing comments to the PIs
How to use the Reviewer Tool	Reviewer Tool manual for the distributed peer review process
Frequently asked questions	Contains answers to numerous questions about the dual-anonymous format and distributed peer review

ALMA Reviewer

Proposal 2022.T.10145.S

Reviewer Tool 2024.02

103 d 22 h 23 m 08 s

- You have been assigned as a Reviewer.
- Click on the Proposal to view details and declare conflicts of interest by

- Accept or reject each of your assignments.
- Guidance regarding conflict declarations must be read.

[Back](#) [Submit conflict decisions](#)

Ranked list of assignments, including details of the proposal and the reviewer's comments.

Assignment list for Submitted

Code
Details 2024.1.1
Details 2024.1.1
Details 2024.1.1
Details 2024.1.1
Details 2024.1.1
Details 2024.1.1
Details 2024.1.1
Details 2024.1.11298.S
Details 2024.1.11454.S
Details 2024.1.11503.S

Declare conflict of interest

"An ALMA/JCMT Study of (Warped?) Protostellar Disks"

Select one... ▾

Comment

Please describe the nature of your conflict of interest with the proposal.

Assessment Proposal Information

Title: Unveiling Counter Rotation between the Disk and Envelope around the Class I Protostar IRAS 04169+2702

Abstract: We propose ALMA observations of the disk and envelope around the Class I protostar IRAS 04169+2702 at a high spatial dynamic range (0.3"-5"; 40-700 au) in the C18O (3-2) and the other Band 7 lines. Previous SMA observations of IRAS 04169 have found that the 13CO (3-2) and SO (6_5-5_4) emission show a compact (r~200 au) disklike feature with the northwest (blue) to southeast (red) velocity gradient. On the other hand, the C18O (2-1) emission traces a more extended (r~500 au) protostellar envelope with the northwest (red) to southeast (blue) velocity gradient, opposite to that in the inner 13CO and SO emission. The high spatial dynamic range and spectral resolution (= 0.22 km s-1; close to the thermal line width) of ALMA enable us to unveil the origin of this apparent flip of the velocity gradient; i.e., counter rotation between the disk and envelope or gas motions related to turbulences. If there is indeed such a counter rotation, this should be a unique observational evidence for the effect of the magnetic field. From the comparison between the ALMA results and the theoretical model, we will investigate the effect of the magnetic fields / turbulences on disk formation.

Scientific category: 3: ISM, star formation and astrochemistry

Keyword 1: 3d: Low-mass star formation

Keyword 2:

	12m array	7m array	TP array
time in hours	11.8	0	0

Close

Details	Pending	Proposal title 8	Accept Conflict
Details	Pending	Proposal title 9	Accept Conflict
Details	Pending	Proposal title 10	Accept Conflict

Dual-anonymous review

- Aim: a **less biased** review process (conscious and unconscious biases)
 - Gender, prestige/seniority, competing teams/projects, regional, personal, ...

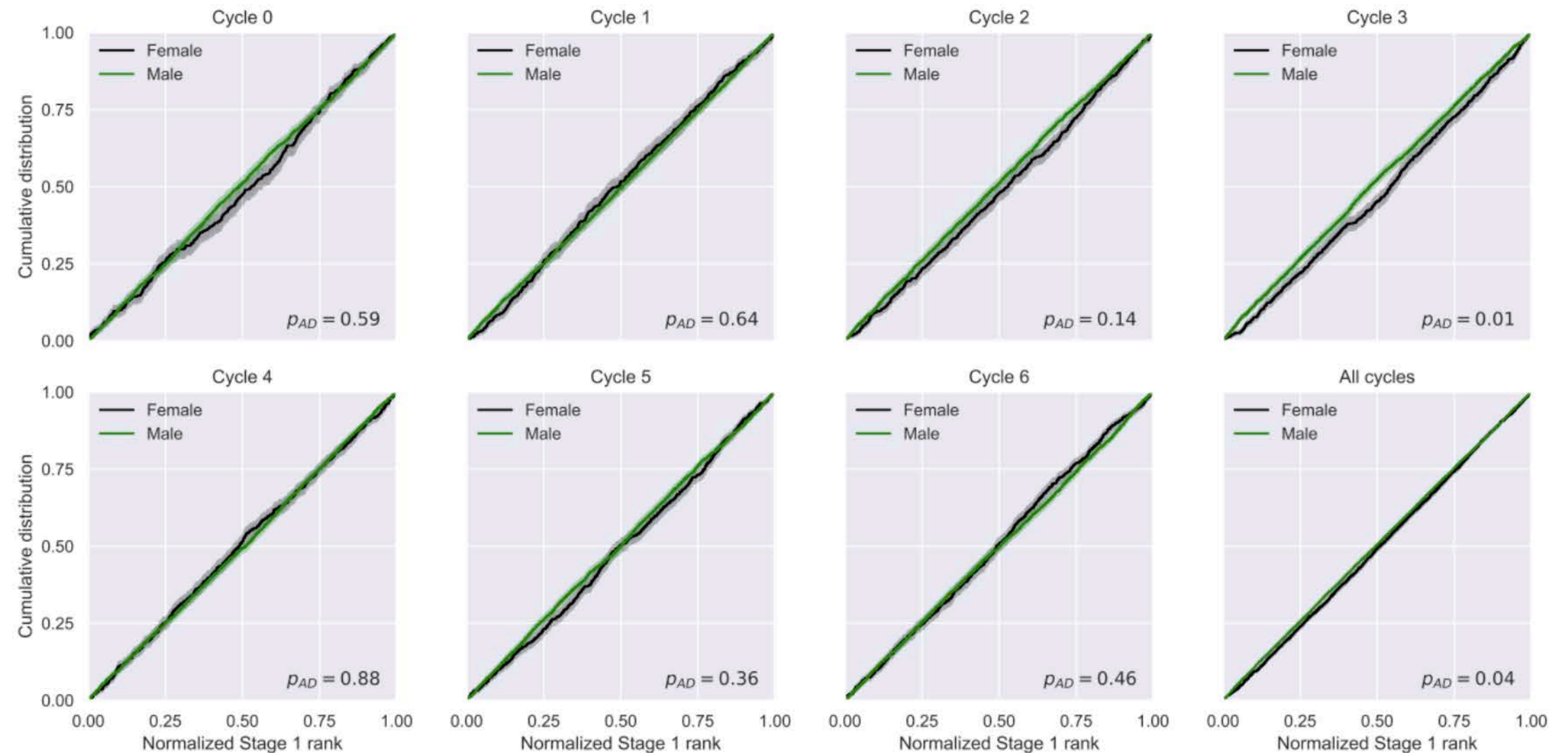
Dual-anonymous review

➤ Aim: a less biased

➤ Gender, presence of personal information, ...

➤ Biases at ALMA

■ Carpenter (2020): review of ALMA (2011-2018).



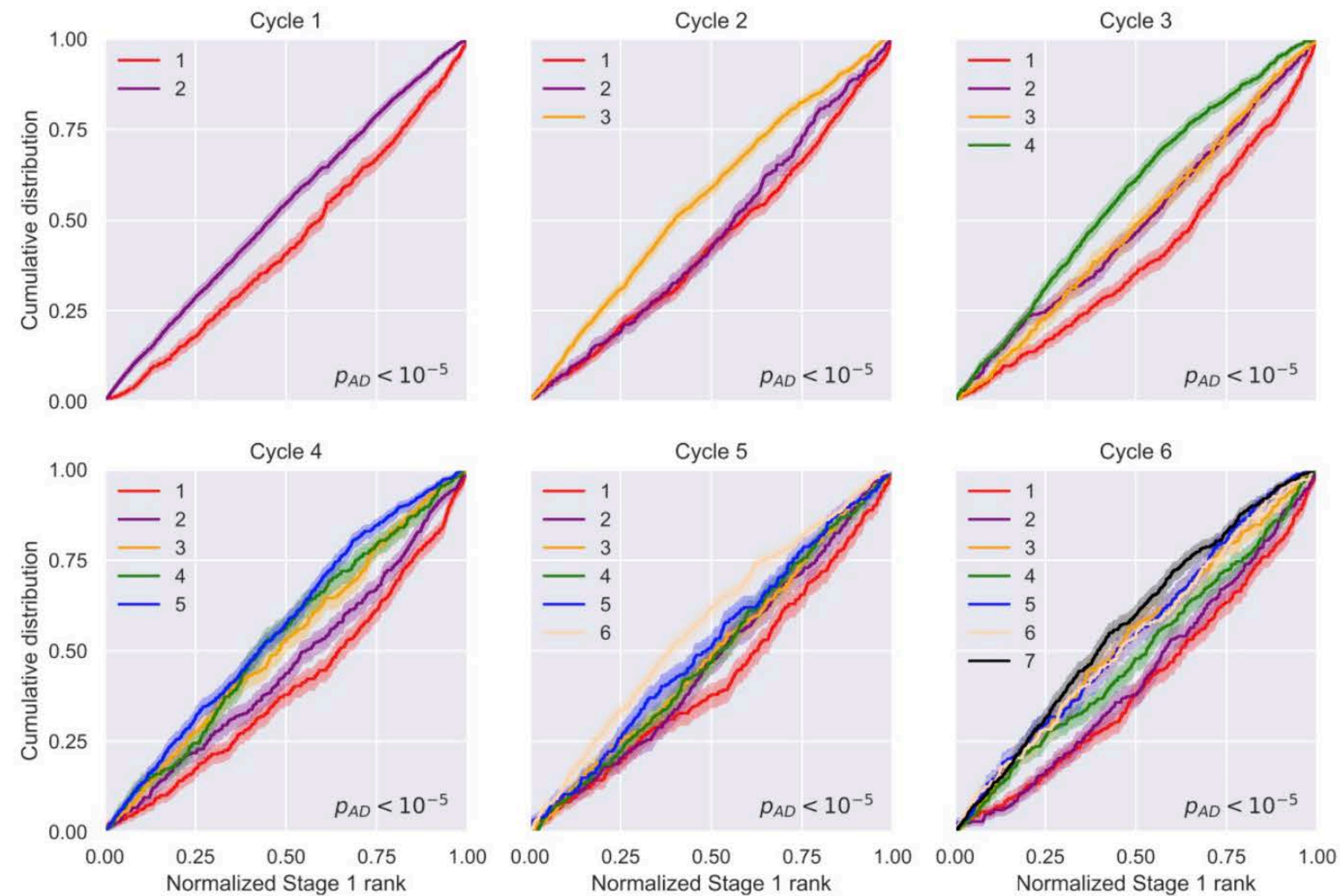
■ Significant gender bias in Cycle 3.

■ Cycle 3's bias was informed to reviewers before Cycle 4.

Dual-anonymous review

- Aim: a **less biased** review process
- Gender, prestige, personal, ...
- Biases at ALM

■ Clear bias with PI's experience: real quality difference or prestige bias?



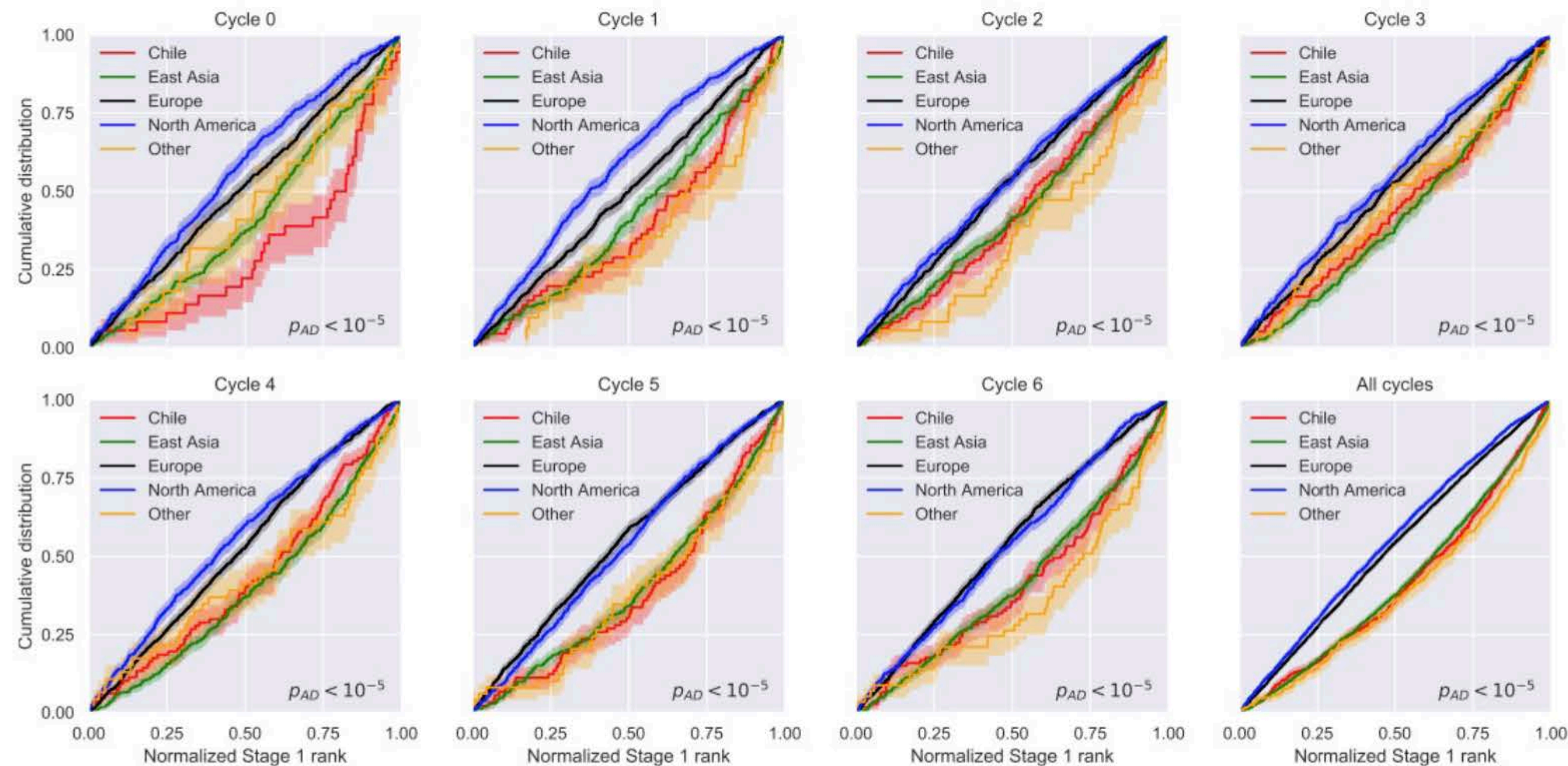
Dual-anonymous review

➤ Aim: a **less biased** review process (conscious and unconscious biases)

➤ Gender
person

■ Clear regional bias: True regional bias? Language/communication style bias?

➤ Biases



Carpenter (2020)

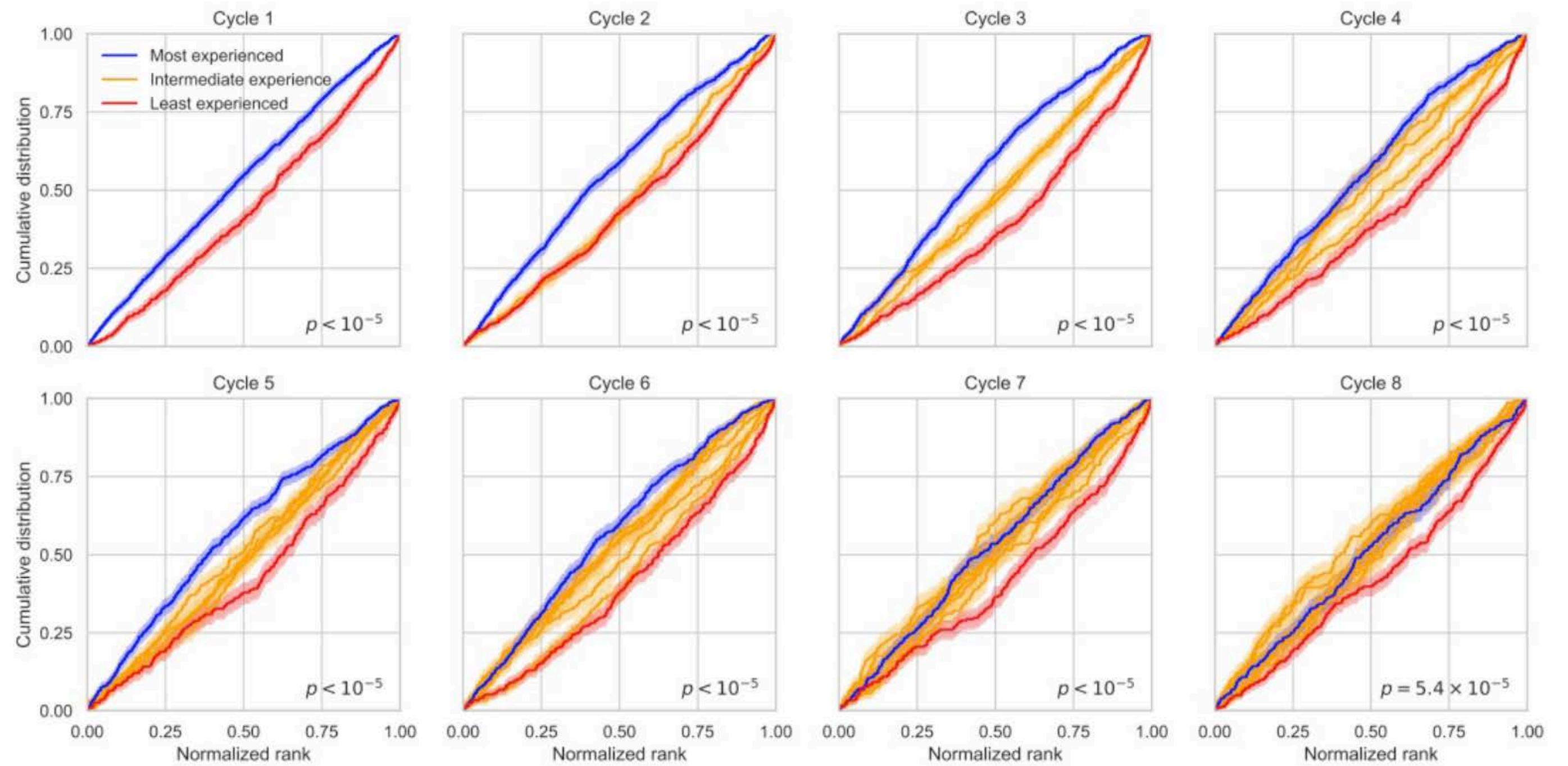
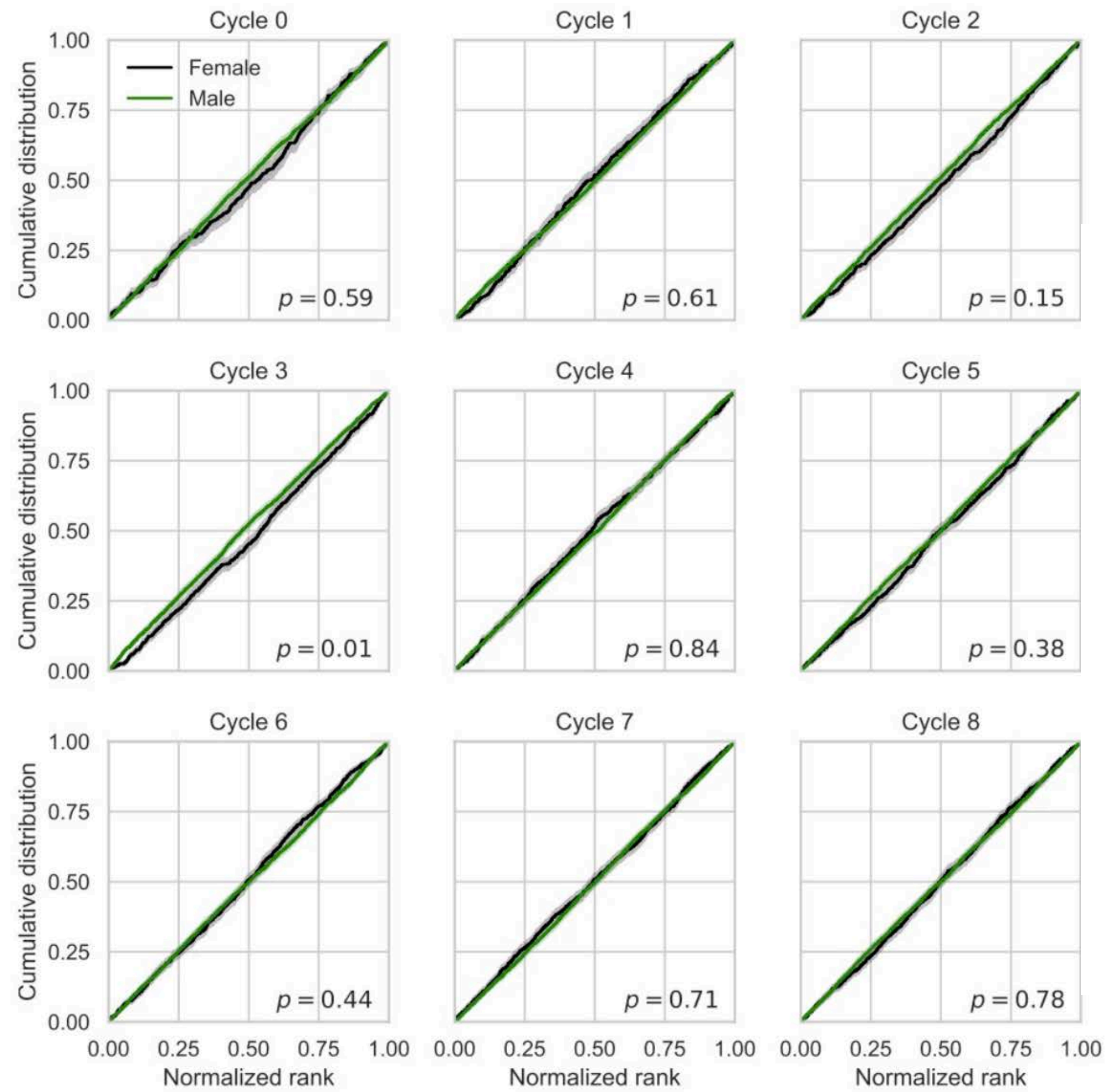
Dual-anonymous review

- Aim: a **less biased** review process (conscious and unconscious biases)
 - Gender, prestige/seniority, competing teams/projects, regional, personal, ...
- Biases at ALMA
- Observed at other major facilities, too

Dual-anonymous review

- Aim: a **less biased** review process (conscious and unconscious biases)
 - Gender, prestige/seniority no longer there
 - Regional still there

Dual-anonymous review



and unconscious biases)

Carpenter et al. (2022)

Dual-anonymous guidelines to authors

- Proposals have to be as **anonymous** as possible
- Focus on the **science**
- If complete anonymity is not possible try **ambiguity**
- In case of doubt, **contact your ARC/ARC node**
- Proposals not compliant with dual-anonymous guidelines can be **rejected**

Dual-anonymous guidelines to reviewers

- Make your evaluation based on **scientific merit**
- **Do not try to guess** the identity of the authors
- Even if you have a clear idea of the identity, continue the review **unless the proposal violates the dual-anonymity rules**
- **Expertise** of the team should not be evaluate
- If as a reviewer you think the rules have been violated, **contact the observatory**



EUROPEAN ARC
ALMA Regional Centre

Good luck!

Even the best need some luck 😊💧



The image shows a night view of the ALMA observatory with several large radio telescope dishes illuminated with green light. In the top left corner of the image is the logo of the Instituto de Astrofísica de Canarias (IAC), which is a circular emblem with a star and the text 'INSTITUTO DE ASTROFÍSICA DE CANARIAS' and 'IAC-SYRPA'. In the top right corner, the text 'SPANISH ALMA Days' is written in a glowing green font, with 'SPANISH' in white and 'ALMA Days' in green. Below this, the dates and location '18-20 February 2025, La Laguna, Tenerife, Spain' are written in white.