

CS888: Introduction to Profession and Communication Skills -- Theoretical CS

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[*WITH HELP FROM INTERNET SOURCES]

2024; AUG 21, 23, 28, 30; SEP 4, 6



Present to non-experts

- ❖ Presentation \neq Reading a paper !
- ❖ Pick the simplest, most impactful, result to **highlight**.
 - ❖ not the most general
 - ❖ not the most complicated
 - ❖ use minimal notation
- ❖ Focus on **ideas**, rather than equations or data.
 - ❖ discuss very easy, but **failed**, ideas
- ❖ Tentative breakup of time (resp. **#slides out of 20**):
 - ❖ survey: 30% (**6**)
 - ❖ new result statements/ motivation/ interpretation: 40% (**8**)
 - ❖ proof ideas: 25% (**5**)
 - ❖ open questions & conclusion: 5% (**1**)

William of Ockham

(Franciscan friar, 1287-1347)

Ockham's Razor

No more things should be presumed to exist than are absolutely necessary, i.e., the fewer assumptions an explanation of a phenomenon depends on, the better the explanation

Everything should be made as simple as possible, but not simpler
Albert Einstein



Someone has remarked that 'An ideal math talk should have one proof and one joke and they should not be the same'.

— Ronald Graham —

Incorporate talk feedback

- ❖ Practice **timing** your talk.
 - ❖ Minutes: 5 (pitch), 15, 20, 30, 50, or 75 (keynote).
- ❖ Give a **mock-talk** to your colleagues.
 - ❖ ask someone to **note** the feedback down
- ❖ Gather from the audience's body-language: Did they
 - ❖ value the **problem**?
 - ❖ place the **result** in a larger context?
 - ❖ appreciate the **idea**?
- ❖ Make **amends** to generally weaken the criticism.
 - ❖ people's feedback may be contradictory; do your **best edit**!



How's your paper reviewed?

- ❖ Conference specifies a standard **format**.
 - ❖ non-compliance leads to **quick rejection** by reviewers
- ❖ Three reviewers read your submission independently
 - ❖ double-**blind** review
 - ❖ brief **report** is written
- ❖ Review report has
 - ❖ reviewer **confidence** score
 - ❖ paper evaluation **score**
 - ❖ **importance** of the problem, **clarity** of presentation
 - ❖ interesting proof ideas; paper **strength** and **weakness**
- ❖ Unless the scores are very high, the program committee (PC) **votes** on your paper quality!
 - ❖ area politics?!

Guidelines For Writing A High-Quality Manuscript In Computer Science

- 
- ✓ Title
 - ✓ Abstract
 - ✓ Introduction
 - ✓ Related Work
 - ✓ Methodology
 - ✓ Results
 - ✓ Discussion
 - ✓ Conclusion
 - ✓ References
 - ✓ Clarity and Style
 - ✓ Figures and Tables
 - ✓ Peer Review
 - ✓ Formatting

What makes a venue prestigious?

- ❖ Quality of the **members** of Program Committee (PC).
- ❖ Quality of the **earlier papers**: are they
 - ❖ cited/used widely?
 - ❖ mentioned in popular talks?
 - ❖ inspiring books/surveys/products?
- ❖ Quality of the **peer review** process: Is
 - ❖ a **Revision** demanded?
 - ❖ the **Acceptance rate** realistic?
- ❖ Quality of the publishing **company**:
 - ❖ does it have conferences of high-quality?
 - ❖ is it *open-source*?
 - ❖ shouldn't be *predatory*!

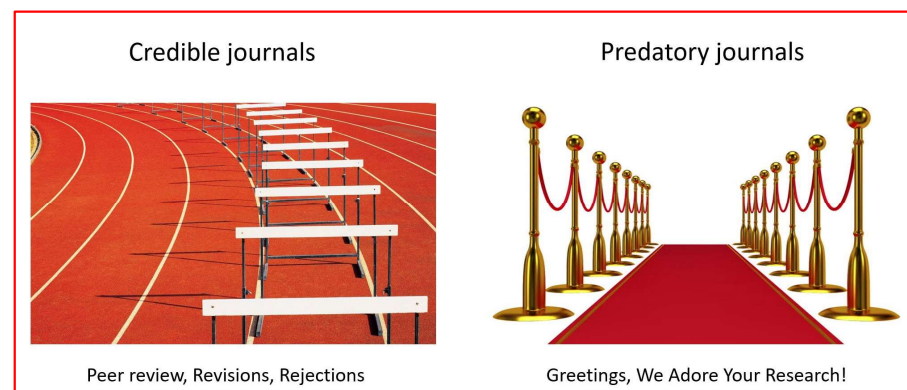
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Publishing your research results is key to **advancing your discipline** – and your **career** – but with so many journals in your field, how can you be sure that you're choosing a **reputable, trustworthy** journal?



Tips to **confirm** a journal's credentials and decide if it will help you **reach** the right audience with your research, and make an **impact** on your career.

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Assignment 11

<https://hello.iitk.ac.in/>

deadline <12pm (end of class)