Presenting your research

16.04.2012
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• Why this talk?
  ➡ Research is communication!

• Why me?
  ➡ I did research!

The greatest ideas are worthless if you keep them to yourself.
Do them all!

Give as many talks as you can!

- Invest time
- Learn skills
- Practice

your paper = the beef
your talk = the advertisement
Outline:

1. Outline...
2. What your talk is for
3. What to put in (and what not to)
4. How to present it

If you must: After the motivation!
What your talk is not for

- to impress with brainpower
- to tell everything you know
- to present all technical details

The purpose of your talk is not:

- to impress with brainpower
- to tell everything you know
- to present all technical details

your paper = the beef
your talk = the advertisement
What your talk is for

• give an intuitive feel for your idea
• make them eager to know more
• engage, excite, provoke them
The audience

...you would like
• read all earlier papers
• thoroughly understand relevant theory
• eager to hear you
• fresh, alert and ready for action

...in reality
• never heard of you
• heard about theory, wish they hadn’t
• just had lunch and are ready for a doze

Wake them up!
...and make them glad they did
What to put in

1. Motivation (20%)
2. Your key idea (80%)
3. There is no 3.
You have 2 minutes!

- Why should I tune in?
- What is the problem?
- Why is this problem interesting?
Your key idea

One thing to remember?

- You must identify a key idea.
- Be specific.
- Be absolutely specific: „If you remember nothing else from this talk, remember this.“
- Organise your talk around this goal, get rid of everything irrelevant
Examples are your main weapon!

- to motivate
- to convey intuition
- to illustrate the idea in action
- to show extreme cases
- to highlight shortcomings

When the time is short, omit the general case, not the example
What to leave out

• Outline
• Related work
  • be able to answer
  • acknowledge (on the title slide)
• Technical detail
  \[ v(t + \frac{\delta t}{2}) = v(t) + \frac{\delta t}{2} F(t + \frac{\partial t}{2}) \]
• backup slides
  \[ \alpha(t + \delta t) = \alpha(t) + v(t + \frac{\delta t}{2}) \]
• refer to the paper
  \[ v(t + \delta t) = v(t + \frac{\delta t}{2}) + \frac{\delta t}{2} F(t + \delta t) \]
• Do not apologise
Presenting your talk

- the night before
- Be enthusiastic!
  - if you are not, why should they be?
  - wakes them up
  - gets you loosened up
- script your first sentences (in mind)
- speak up, connect
- repeat, repeat, repeat
• Don‘t put whole sentences on your slides for your audience to read again and again.

• neutral typeset

• avoid animations

• guide your audience

• graphs, videos, hardly text

• show what you can not describe
• conclude (repeat)
• make the first 2 minutes count
• show only what you can’t say
• show examples
• make the audience want to read your paper
• structure around your key idea
• motivate said idea
• be more enthusiastic
• Absolutely finish on time!
• Questions are a good thing
• There is hope: The general standard is so low that you don’t have to be outstanding to stand out.
• Thank you.