

Chapter 2

Explaining our work - to the right audience

How you present your work is important now, and in the future. The best way of doing it (especially the level of explanations) depends on the intended audience the work is for; more examples of this are given in the video lecture.

There are some common themes in how to present work, which are good rules-of-thumb whether you are writing for tutors, employers, or for yourself.

- Explain what you are doing (differing levels of explanation depending on the type of work and audience);
- Start the explanation on the left hand margin of the page;
- When we need symbolic work, we normally give it a line of its own;
- Centre the symbolic stuff on the line;
- Write in sentences (equations are part of them);
- Use equations, not expressions (ie $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$ not just $\frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$);
- Go from top to bottom in a single strand of work. No columns, arrows, or other weird stuff;
- Give the final answer clearly at the end.