**Project Presentation Instructions**

**Time: Last class of the semester, 5/12**

**Submit slides by 5pm, 5/12 on Moodle**

**30 points**

An effective oral presentation is an integral part of this project. One of the objectives of this class is to give you experience conveying the results of a technical investigation to a non-technical audience in a way that they can understand.

You will make a 10-12 minutes oral presentation to the class. Each of you must present. Your goal is to convey to your audience a clear understanding of your research question, along with a basic understanding of your model, and how well it addresses the research question you posed. You should not tell us everything that you did, or show a bunch of models that didn’t work well. After hearing your talk, each student in the class should be able to answer:

* What was your project about?
* What kind of model did you build?
* How well did it work?

**Slides:**

PowerPoint is fine, but you might also want to consider Google Presentation, Beamer (LaTeX), or alternative, non-linear presentation software like Prezi. Use your creativity! One thing you should not do is walk us through your calculations in Python. You will need to submit your slides onto Moodle before your presentation.

**Advice:**

* Budget your time. You only have 10-12 minutes. If your talk runs too short or too long, it makes you seem unprepared. Rehearse your talk ahead of time (with your group) several times in order to get a better feel for your timing.
* Don’t write too much on each slide. People won’t have time to read the slides during your presentation. You want your slides to provide visual cues to the points that you are making – not substitute for your spoken words. Concentrate on graphical displays and bullet-pointed lists of ideas.
* Put your problem in context. Remember that most of your audience will have little or no knowledge of your subject matter. The easiest way to lose people is to dive right into technical details that require prior `domain knowledge." Spend a few minutes at the beginning of your talk introducing your audience to the most basic aspects of your topic and present some motivation for what you are studying.
* Speak loudly and clearly. Remember that you know more about your topic that anyone else in the class, so speak and act with confidence!
* Tell a story. You should strive to convey the big ideas in a clear fashion, but not dwell on the details. Your talk will be successful if your audience is able to walk away with an understanding of what your research question was, how you addressed it, and what the implications of your findings are.