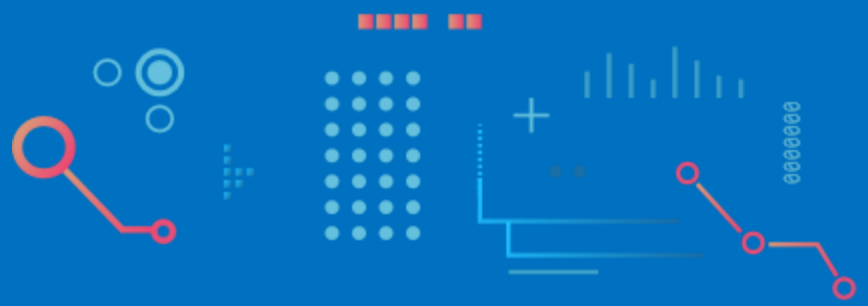

Argonne
Intro to
HPC
Bootcamp

Giving a Good Presentation

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Argonne National Laboratory

August 14, 2025

Final Presentation Overview

- Each group will given **10 minutes**
  - —5 minutes to present
  - —2-3 minutes to answer questions from audience
  - —2-3 minutes to transition to the next group
- Presentations should be **~5 slides**
  - —~1 minute/slide
  - —~1 slide/group member

Goal of presentations is to hear about your experiences working on the projects and any discoveries you made.

General Structure of Talk

1. Introduce the group members
2. Introduce the project background/goal
3. What tools did you use?
4. What did you discover?
5. What were any challenges/surprises?
6. What are the conclusions or next steps?

Collecting Presentations

- Drop final presentation slides in Google Drive Folder (to be posted on Slack) **by 9 pm on Thursday August 14**:
  —Presentation Naming: Project#_FinalPresentation

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1j-q9FDT-_DpeHGmHVDTu1n0q7QXG6I6c?usp=sharing

Organizers will combine all presentations into one that will be presented from a single computer on Friday morning

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Constructing a good presentation

USE OF COLOR, ANIMATION, SOUND

- Use good contrasting colors, and colors that are pleasing
- Graded and picture backgrounds are a problem
- Animations can be distracting

USE OF COLOR, ANIMATION, SOUND

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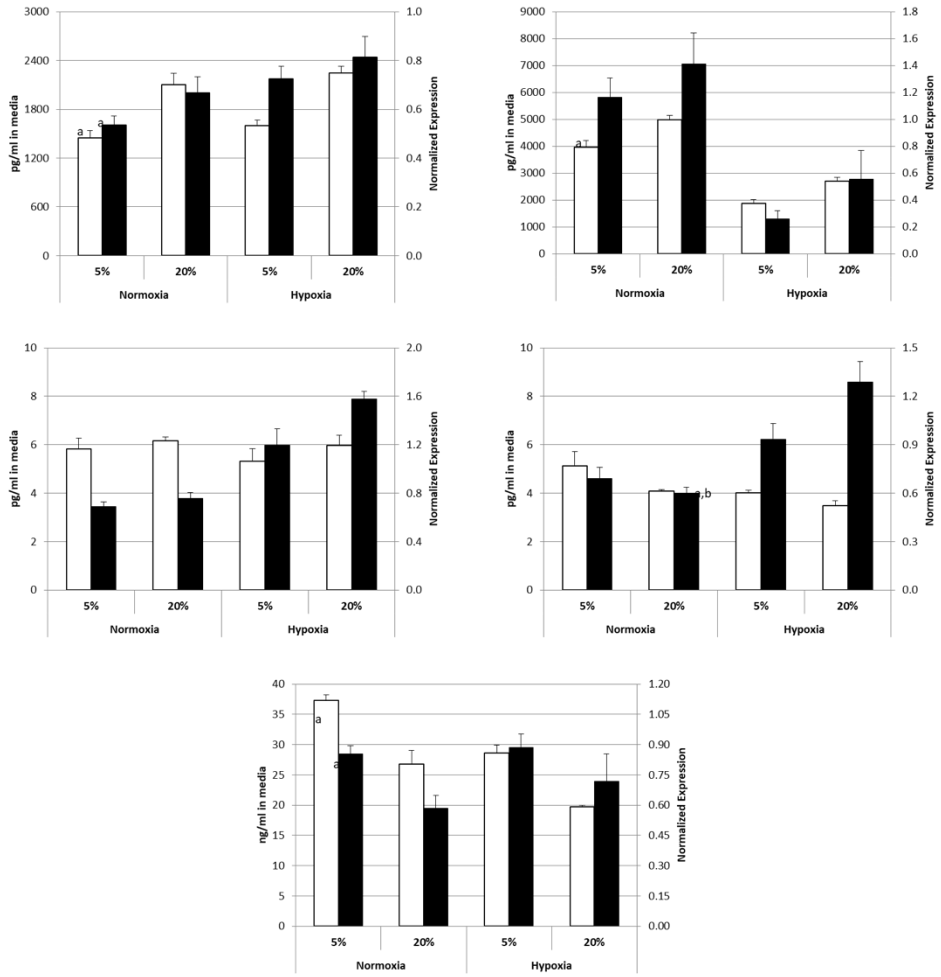
Not this…

We have recently shown that intravenously injected mesenchymal stem cells (MSC) are able to prevent the loss of function that occurs in mouse hearts following permanent coronary artery occlusion [1]. This beneficial effect is seen without any reduction in scar tissue and ventricular dilatation or significant levels of stem cell differentiation into cardiomyocytes. It may be that stem cells are able to contribute to functional improvements by mechanisms such as increased blood vessel formation or a reduction in cell death [2]. In order to test this hypothesis we monitored the production of cytokines by MSC. We then determined the effect of MSC paracrine factors on cellular migration of MSC, angiogenesis by canine vascular endothelial cells and apoptosis in H9c2 myoblasts.

Not this…

Data



Data Slides: Use descriptive titles

In general, **each slide should tell a mini-story** all by itself:

Title: (what I'm trying to learn)

Data: (what I did and what I observed)

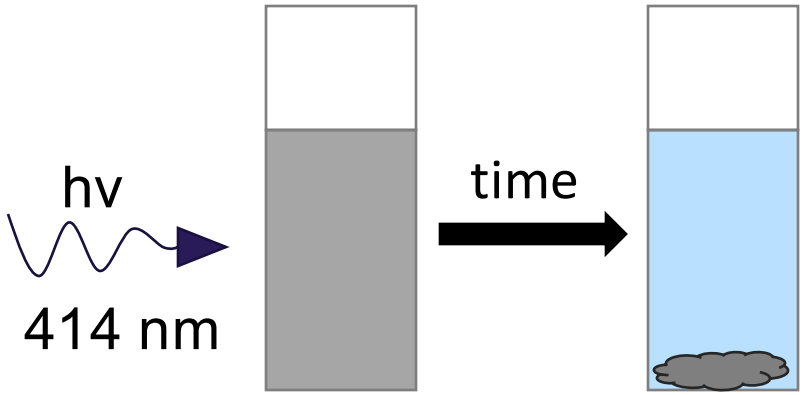
- Include details essential for non-experts to understand what you did
- Summarize key points for the data you're presenting
- Leave extraneous details out
- You can always have backup slides ready for experts in your area

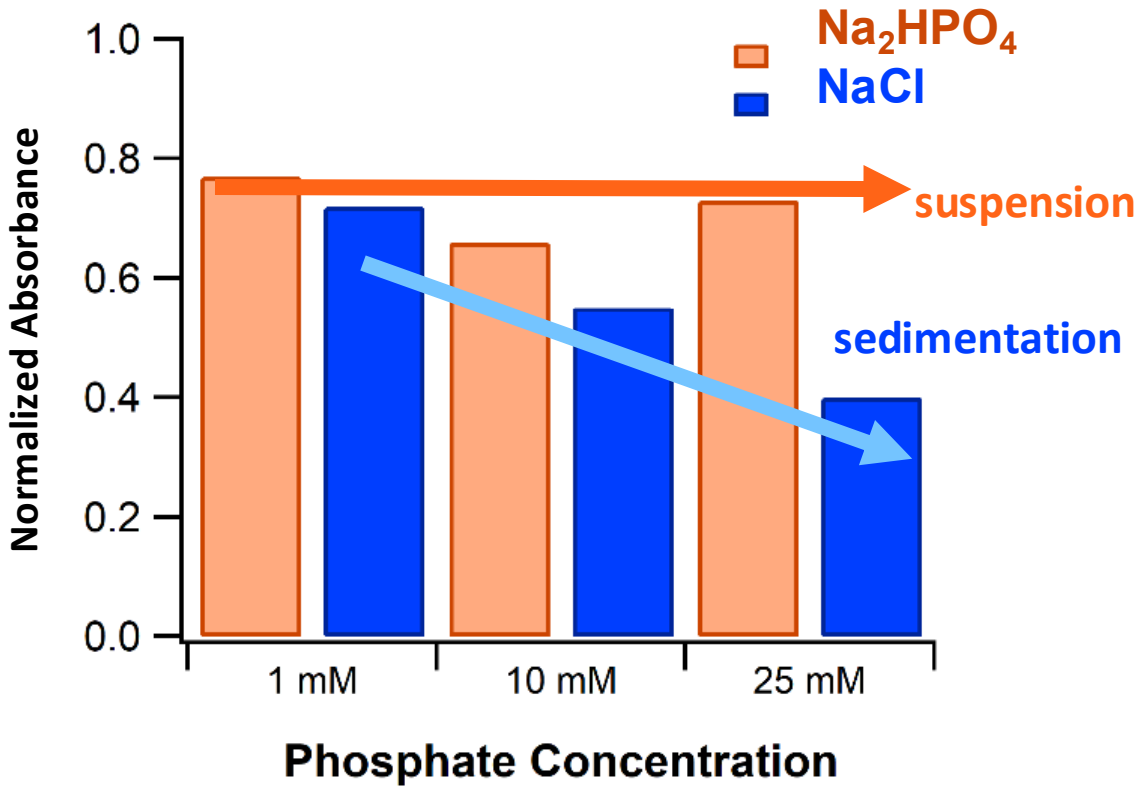
Conclusion: (what I interpret from the observations)

Include a conclusion (what you *learned*) at the bottom of each slide to *finish the mini-story*.

What is the impact of phosphate adsorption on lithium cobalt oxide dispersibility?

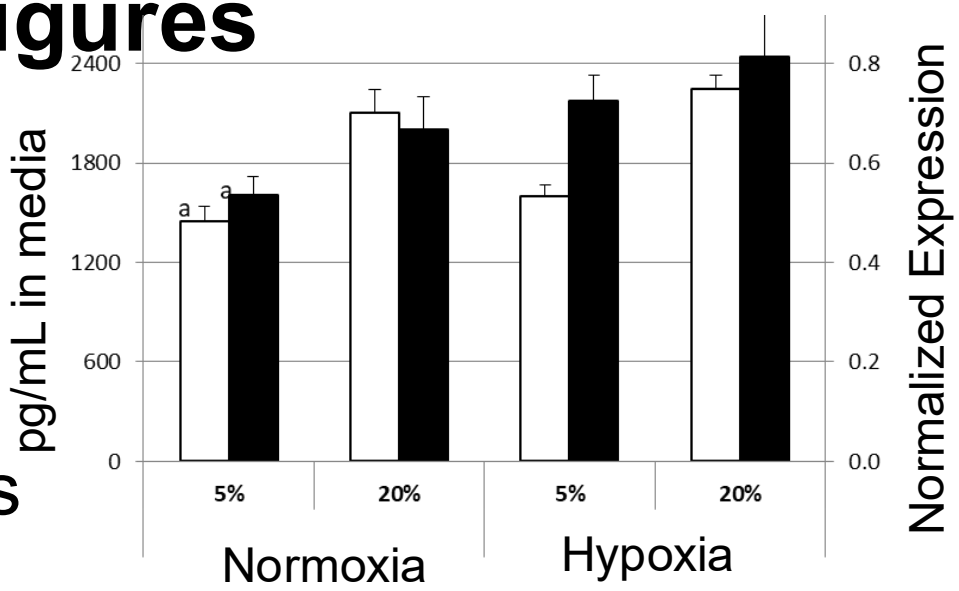
UV-Visible Spectroscopy to track particle **sedimentation** over time





Phosphate stabilizes LCO in suspension - more bioavailable in the environment?

Recommendations for text and figures



Make clear and easy to follow!

- Clear, simple headings
- Avoid long sentences and paragraphs
  - —Use bullet points to highlight key ideas
- Use large fonts (>18 point)
  - —Default font in figures/images too small? Use text boxes
- Use more graphics
- Don’t include too much on one slide
  - —Show only what is important
- Complicated figure or slide? Use animations to guide the audience’s eye as you introduce new information

Additional Presentation Format Tips

1. Use **words on the slide to your advantage**, while avoiding too many unnecessary words. Be succinct and descriptive.
2. **Use descriptive titles** to explain part of the information your slide wants to deliver - the title doesn't have to be wasted on a generic description.
3. Make sure there are **conclusions on every slide**, and make sure those conclusions tell us WHY we care, not just what you found out.
4. Our advice is to say something about the **WHAT in the title**, and then you can save the **WHY for the conclusion**.
5. **Label figures** to clarify what they show when necessary.
6. Consider whether you are using jargon that might confuse the audience and make sure that you **define all acronyms**.
7. PRACTICE alone and PRACTICE in front of an audience who can give feedback.

Presenting a good presentation

Use the slides well

- Look at the audience, NOT slides
- Don’t just read the words
- Leave the slide on long enough
- Point to things on the slides

https://businessadvice.co.uk/business-development/sales-marketing/powerpoint-mistakes/

How you say it

Body language

- Face the audience (always!)
- Use hand gestures
- Walking vs. standing

Voice

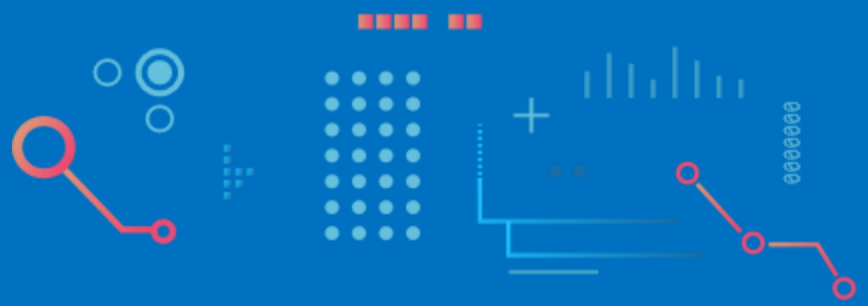
- Be heard! (volume)
- Avoid monotone delivery

Enthusiasm

- Your interest is infectious
- Use your entire body

Final Presentation Template

[with annotations]



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[Title]

[Presenter names]

[Intro to group]

- [Include your names, institutions, and pictures (could be a headshot or a picture of your cat or anything you want)]

Paige Kinsley
Education Outreach Lead
Argonne National Laboratory

[Intro to project]

- [any background info on the project]
- [what were your goals for the week?]

[methods]

- [what python tools did you use?]
- [other tools or concepts that you used to answer project questions?]

[data and figures]

- [share visualization or data that answer any research questions you asked or any discoveries you made]

[Challenges]

- [what barriers did you encounter as you worked on your project]
  - —[this could include navigating collaborative work, bugs in your code, data wrangling….]
- [how did you get around the challenges? If you didn't get around them, what do you think would be a way around them?]

[Conclusions and next steps]

- [What did you learn?]
- [If you had more time to work on the project, what would you want to do next]

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[Acknowledgments]

[Anyone you want to thank for their support while your worked on your project?]