

Technical Writing & Presenting 2.0

CSCI 373

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Labels and Citations

- Labels:
 - `\label{label_name}` and `\ref{label_name}`
- Use `~`:
 - In Smith and Jones`~\cite{2014SmithJones}`, we see that ...
 - In Section`~\ref{intro}`, ...
 - In Figure`~\ref{fig1}`, ...

Figures

- Figures:
 - Clearly labeled: Units, legend, title.
 - Captions: Should explain the figure in summary.
- Use minipage for complicated figure arrangements.

```
\begin{wrapfigure}{r}{0.5\textwidth}
\begin{center}
\fbbox{
\begin{minipage}[b]{0.45\textwidth}
\raggedright

\end{minipage}
}%fbbox
\end{center}
\end{wrapfigure}
```

minipage environment

```
\begin{figure}[h!] \includegraphics[width=20pc]{figures/  
scaling2008_4strong.pdf}\hspace{1pc}
```

```
\begin{minipage}[b]{17pc}\caption{ \label{fig:scaling1}\small{Strong  
scaling of Tramoto for 3D calculations on Thunderbird and Blue Gene.  
In order to compare all the results against a single standard, we assumed  
perfect scaling on the smallest number of processors where the problem  
could be solved ( $N_{\text{proc\_min}}$ ). Thus the 16 processor result for the  
 $D=5$  (Thunderbird) case, the 128 processor result for the  
 $D=20$  (Thunderbird) case, and the 512 processor result for the  
 $D=5$  (Blue Gene) case are all shown on the ideal line. When  
using a large memory per node system (such as thunderbird) there is a  
window of processor counts where near linear (in some cases superlinear)  
speedups can be expected. The width of this window is approximately an  
order of magnitude in the processor count. }}
```

```
\end{minipage}
```

```
\end{figure}
```

Writing Rules

- **Rule #6:** Use pictures, charts and graphs, but keep in mind #4. **Rule #7:** Use examples to explain complex ideas.
- **Rule #8:** Use:
 - Headings (Chapter, Section, etc.).
 - Bulleted Lists.
 - Numbered lists.to provide structure, clarity and conciseness to your document.
- **Rule #9:** Provide guidance:
 - Table of Contents.
 - List of Figures.
 - List of Tables.
 - Index and Glossary.

Presentations

- Let data speak for itself.
- Use diagrams, charts, figures.
- Intersection of what you say, what's on slides: minimal.
- Prepare for disaster.