

In-class presentation 1

In class, we discussed the 4 different levels of introducing a problem, from highest to lowest:

1. The General/Spouse/cocktail party level
2. The random technical person
3. The advisor/colleague level
4. The specific question (hypothesis) level

Find a research paper that is well-respected (preferably related to your thesis.) Using google scholar, make sure it has been cited at least 20 times. Prepare a 5 minute presentation introducing what this paper does. Describe how the paper introduces its topic and goes through the 4 different levels. Note that many papers skip the first level, and if so, that is fine to say so.

For a grade, 6 students (plus me) will evaluate how well they understand the four different levels presented using the rubric below. A portion of your grade will also be how constructive your feedback is to your fellow students.

Notes

The audience for most research papers (the reviewers that decide if it will be published), lies somewhere between level 2 and 3. Therefore, taking an audience from level 2 down to level 4 is a good skill to practice. Thus, this assignment and the grading procedure.

Rubric

1=completely ignorant; 5= intimately familiar

Familiarity with this technical area before this presentation: 1 2 3 4 5

After the presentation:

I understand the motivation for this technical area (level 2): 1 2 3 4 5

I understand the exact problem being addressed (level 3): 1 2 3 4 5

The relation of the specific question to the general topic is clear: 1 2 3 4 5

The presenter could have helped me understand this better by: