

Spatio-temporal Models – feedback on projects

Below you can find some **general feedback** on your project reports and presentations. We want to mention that overall we were very impressed – in terms of the quality of the work, this was certainly one of the best evaluations we've seen in the years we've been teaching this course. Well done!

Reports:

- Generally, the reports were well written: the structure was clear and logical, proper scientific language was used, key information was present and the analysis was done correctly
- A more extended discussion of the purpose of the original model could sometimes be useful – often this was only mentioned in one line, but **the intended use of the model is one of the most important factors guiding its design/extension**
- For some models, it would be handy to use a table or other structure (e.g. pseudo-code, diagram, subsections,..) to summarize the model and/or code in a more succinct way
- The choice of scenarios was sensible, clearly motivated, and often ambitious! This was appreciated
- Take care to proofread your work for spelling errors, typos, and other mistakes
- **A critical evaluation of the model's shortcomings** is necessary and was mostly present and well-thought, although this could sometimes have gone deeper
- Take care with mathematical notation: all parameters should be defined and explained, variables should be in italics
- In all reports, **the dimensions of the variables were well explained**, which is crucial to arrive at a full understanding of the presented models and to be able to reproduce the results
- We appreciated the criticism concerning some of the papers that were selected
- It is often useful and shorter **to name different scenarios**, so that you can easily refer to them in the text by Scenario 1B for instance

Presentations:

- Overall very well done: within the time limit, with good presentation skills and informative slides
- Answers to questions were generally clear and well-reasoned, showing good consideration of the key aspects of model design and implementation
- Clear summarization of the model (including the most important information in a structured way) could sometimes be improved
- From a didactical point of view it's often good to really point to something on the slides while you're explaining, rather than just mentioning 'you can see...' for instance