

Presenting your work and yourself

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Presenting yourself at conferences

Conferences are necessary because:

- ❶ It keeps you up to date with emerging trends in your field.
- ❷ Enables you to connect with other peers who are facing the same challenges.
- ❸ Helps you meet your future advisors/mentors or even department colleagues.

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However, it can be intimidating to be such an environment and we all have experienced this feeling at some stage.

Some Strategies

- Develop a one-minute synopsis, of your interests and career goals. This will help you communicate your goals and allow you to draw others in.
- Practice, practice, practice: Start small and build up to conversations that may be more intimidating. Begin by introducing yourself to the people sitting next to you during presentations and practice your elevator pitch with your neighbor.
- Remember that almost everyone is delighted to talk with students and early career professionals, so you will likely get a warm reception.

Strategies for writing papers, thesis, software

- Key to success: Consistency!
Block time every day to write but be **realistic**.
- Remember, other things being equal,
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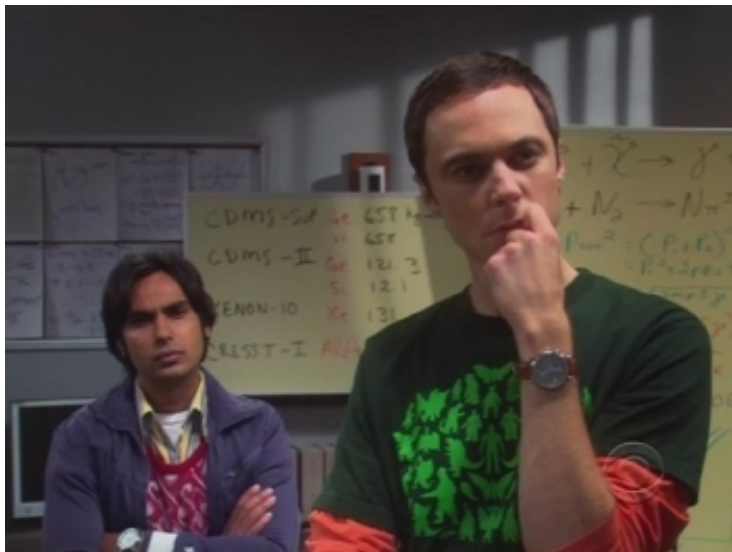
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Advise from the seasoned researchers in the audience?

Seeking help: Letting others critique your writing and coping with rejection sensitivity



Change of perspective

- Focus on the bigger picture by seeing criticism as an opportunity to grow and thinking of your profession as a “craft”.



Figure 1: “Get better at practice itself”, Yo-Yo Ma on his craft.

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- Understanding review as a technical process, not a personal one.
- If all else fails, speak it out!

- University Counseling Services: These are free of cost and there is complete patient confidentiality.
- WINASc: Women in Numerical Analysis and Scientific Computing, Association of Women in Mathematics. This is also a great resource for connecting with a potential mentor.
- Follow the Chronicle of Higher Education (e.g. “How to talk to big professors at a conference”), “The Professor Is In” blog for some great advice.
The latter hosts a FaceBook live every week to address challenges one faces in academia as a minority.

Imposter syndrome





Different expectations for male and female students.