

How to thrive in grad school

Session 5: Communicating your work

Y. Samuel Wang

Fall 2021

Roadmap and expectations

We will cover

- Session 1: Basics
- Session 2: LaTeX
- Session 3: How to learn from previous research
- Session 4: Starting your own research
- **Session 5: Communicating your research to others**
- Session 7: Possible career paths

Communicating your research to others

- Basic Communications tips
 - Talks, papers, and collaborators
- Submitting papers for publication
- Miscellanea

Introductions

What is an interesting (non-academic) youtube tutorial you've watched recently?

Communicating research

- Papers
 - Details of the work
 - Preserved for posterity
 - Just start writing, then refine later
 - Helpful resources on writing:
 - [Patrick Heagerty, Washington Biostat](#)
 - [Brad Efron, Stanford Stat](#)
- Talks
 - Spark interest and give basic ideas
 - Advertise your work
 - Impressing the audience is not the main goal
 - Helpful resources on talks:
 - [Stephanie Weirich, Penn CIS](#)
 - [Paul Edwards, Michigan Information School](#)
 - [Jonathan Shewchuk, Berkeley EECS](#)
- Progress reports
 - Communicate work that has been done to collaborators

Progress reports

- A good progress report helps optimize the time you have with your collaborators
- Gives a record of what has been tried
- Keep some repository of progress
- Main sections
 - What are things you tried or accomplished in the last period?
 - What are things that you are currently trying?
 - What are the difficulties/roadblocks?
 - What is upcoming?
- Potential template

Submitting a paper

When selecting a venue:

- Define a target audience
- Honestly assess the the “quality” of the paper
- Are there AE's who would be interested in your work?
- How quickly do you want the review process to go?

Potential Venues

- Top 4 statistics journals: Annals of Statistics, Journal of the American Statistical Association (T&M), Journal of the Royal Statistical Society (B), Biometrika
- Theory focused journals: Bernoulli, Electronic Journal of Statistics
- Applications focused journals: JRSS C, JASA (A&C), Annals of Applied Statistics
- Machine Learning: Journal of Machine Learning Research, NeurIPS, ICML, UAI, AISTATS
- Others: Bayesian Analysis, Biometrics, Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics, Journal of Multivariate Analysis, Scandinavian Journal of Statistics, Sankhya, Statistica Sinica, Statistical Science, Technometrics, etc.

Review Process

When submitting to Journals

- Paper gets assigned to an Associate Editor (AE)
- AE selects multiple reviewers (typically post-docs or professors) to read and provide comments on paper
- Reviewers provide detailed comments, and also recommend response
 - Reject
 - Reject, but with encouragement to resubmit
 - Major Revision Requested
 - Minor Revision Requested
 - Accept
- AE reads the reviewer comments and makes determination on paper decision
- Authors take reviews and can decide to make revisions and resubmit or go to submit to another journal
- Often takes multiple rounds of back and forth, each round might be 6 months+ depending on journal

Review Process

When submitting to conferences

- Paper gets assigned to an Associate Chair (AC)
- AC selects multiple reviewers (typically senior grad students, post-docs or professors) to read and provide comments on paper
- Reviewers provide detailed comments, and also recommend response
 - Numerical score (often 1-7)
 - Level of confidence
- Authors see reviews and have a chance to respond (usually within 1 week)
- Reviewers discuss again, and give final recommendation
- AC's and Senior AC's then decide on acceptances
- Typically will know result in a few months

Miscellanea

- Build a website: [Github Academic page](#)
- CV: [Latex Template](#)

Winter is coming...

- Get a substantial winter coat and appropriate footwear
- Get outside when the sun is out (take a walk at lunchtime or during the day)
- Stay active (indoors and outdoors)
 - [Cornell Outdoor Education Gear Rentals](#)
- Light therapy: [Mayo Clinic](#)
- Make routine plans with others