Research Methods in computer science
Fall 2014

Lecture 3

Omprakash Gnawali
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Agenda

Critique
Types of papers
Assignment
Conference Organization

Different roles

General Chair
Finance Chair
Arrangement Chair
Technology Chair
Program Chair
Publication Chair
Technical Program Committee

Schedule for activities
Critique

Critique is a method of disciplined, systematic analysis of a written or oral discourse. Critique is commonly understood as fault finding and negative judgment, but it can also involve merit recognition, and in the philosophical tradition it also means a methodical practice of doubt. – (Wikipedia)
Coping with Criticism

Keep it professional
Don’t take it personally
Understand it
Respond at the right time
Challenge as appropriate

Do unto others as you would have them do to you. – (lots of places)
“While the exercise is useful, the paper does not have any new concepts or implementation caveats that I think are worth publishing. All of the design description seems straightforward integration of existing systems. The evaluation is also very weak.”
Communicating Research Outcome

Why is it important?
What is your proposal?
How is it better?
  Prior work
  Experiments
Anatomy of a Research Paper

Abstract
Introduction
Related Work
Design and Implementation
Evaluation
Conclusion
Research Formulation Recap

What are you trying to do? Articulate your objectives using absolutely no jargon.

How is it done today, and what are the limits of current practice?

What's new in your approach and why do you think it will be successful?

Who cares?

Heilmeier
Research Formulation Recap

If you're successful, what difference will it make?

What are the risks and the payoffs?

How much will it cost?

How long will it take?

What are the midterm and final "exams" to check for success?

Heilmeier
How do the answers to these questions map to the different parts of a paper?
Types of Papers

Technical Reports
  Project description
  Research paper
Conference
Journal
Magazine

Find out what type your group and community writes.
Which papers are more important?

Conference
Journal
Magazine

What makes a paper more important than others?
Assignment 2

Research advance visualization in your field.

• Find at least 10 projects in your area of research.
• Find out how and what they advance.
• Come up with visualization to capture that information in a single graph