Presentation Skills 1: Delivery

Hao Tang
Why is this necessary?
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- Conference talks
- Poster talks
- Yearly review
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- Poster talks
- Yearly review
- Invited talks
- Guest lectures
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- Thesis defense, pre-viva talk
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- Conference talks
- Poster talks
- Yearly review
- Invited talks
- Guest lectures
- Thesis defense, pre-viva talk
- Job talks
- Sponsor talks
- Public engagements
Common difficulties when preparing talks

• There are not enough contents.
• Contents are disconnected.
• What is the right order?
• Making slides is tedious.
• I worry that ...
  "I'm shy."
  "My English is not good enough."
  "I am not a good speaker."
  "I am nervous."
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Outline

- **Session 1: Delivery**
  - Purpose
  - Contents
  - Performance

- **Session 2: Preparation**
  - Process
  - Structure
  - Tools
The purpose of presentation
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To impress
To present is to impress
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• To inform
To present is to impress

- To inform

- To oversell
To present is to impress

- To inform
- To oversell
- Good control of the contents
To present is to impress

- To inform
- To oversell
- Good control of the contents
- Professionalism
To present is to impress

- To inform
- To oversell
- Good control of the contents
- Professionalism $\Rightarrow$ Trust
To present is to impress

- To inform
- To oversell
- Good control of the contents
- Professionalism $\Rightarrow$ Trust
- Impressed
To present is to impress

- To inform
- To oversell
- Good control of the contents
- Professionalism $\Rightarrow$ Trust
- Impressed $\Rightarrow$ Convinced
Feedback

Presentation ← EXPERIMENTS
The content feedback loop
The content feedback loop

• **Story (narrative)**
  – Motivation
  – Main point
  – Context
  – Arguments
  – Vision
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- **Subjects and verbs**
  - Avoid nominalization
  - Avoid passive voice
The content feedback loop

• Story (narrative)
  – Motivation
  – Main point
  – Context
  – Arguments
  – Vision

• Subjects and verbs
  – Avoid nominalization
  – Avoid passive voice

• Linearization of materials
Presentation
Presentation is performance.
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- Practice, unproportionally more than the performance itself
- Get and give feedback
- Build your style and internalize
  - Good artists imitate; great artists steal.
  - Fake it till you make it.
- You are not your performance
  - Introvert vs. extrovert
  - Native vs. nonnative English
- Losing people after 1/3 of the talk is fine.
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Tips

- Promise
- Story gaps
- Anticipation: memorize the slides and scripts
- Eye contact
- Read the slides (avoid split attention)
Tips

• Promise
Tips

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Example 1

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9TiBQeZwykY
Example 2

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RjD1aLm4Thg&t=1m33s
Example 3

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MLAcBv5dLEs

• Accent

• Short sentences

• Story gap
Example 4

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dTV4mbMJ9yM

• Where the laptop is facing?

• Where the speaker is standing and facing?

• How much time the speaker spend on his slides?
Example 5

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S_p-ngKgFB4

- Characters and actions
Example 6

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s7DqRZVvRiQ&t=30s
Further reading

• How to speak https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Unzc731iCUY
  MIT 6.034 1. Introduction and Scope
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TjZBTDzGeGg
  Make It Clear: Speak and Write to Persuade and Inform
  Patrick Winston

• Style: Lessons in Clarity and Grace
  Joseph M. Williams and Joseph Bizup

• The Craft of Scientific Presentations
  Michael Alley
Conclusion

• To present is to impress.

• Let the presentation guide your experiments.

• Presentation is performance.