Some notes on seminar presentation

LENS group research seminar

Conference talk vs. seminar presentation

- Conference talk
  - Constrained by time
  - Get people interested
    - Formulating the problem
    - Get some taste of the solution
- Seminar presentation
  - Time is not a (big) concern
  - We want to learn the details
    - But it does not mean you can just throw everything in

Preparing earlier

- Reading paper(s) several times
- Digesting papers
  - What is the problem
  - Why is it important
  - What is the contribution
  - What we can learn from the paper(s)
- If background knowledge lacking
  - Read related papers

Before writing slides

- Putting together a presentation is not easy
- Thinking about what you want to include
  - Important points
  - (Normally) do not copy author’s slides
- Organizing your thought, your slides
  - Outline your presentation on paper
  - (Normally) do not just start out with Powerpoint
Writing your slides

• Normally don’t write long sentence on slide
  – *It is a talk*
  – Don’t simply repeat what you will say on slides

• Making sure each slide serves a purpose
  – Messages to convey

• Other things
  – Using examples, figures, etc.

Writing your slides

• Making clear the following things
  – What is the problem
  – Why is it important
  – What is solution/contribution
    • What are the assumptions and model

Before giving presentation

• Discussing with your advisor about your slides (?)

Giving presentation

• *Nerve is common*

• Don’t be afraid of questions
  – People want to learn

• Explaining your slides