Presentation Expectations

CompSci 590.11
Duke University

Scheduling

• Total of 20 presentations

• Can do 5 per class at 10 minutes + 2-3 minutes for questions each

• Will use last 4 class periods for this
What you can realistically cover in 10 minutes

• Do NOT tell us what is in every section of the paper
• Regurgitating the paper is NEVER a good idea, but it especially ill advised for a short talk
• Know your audience:
  • (Always good advice)
  • Assume we all know basic RL
• Identify most important points in the paper
  • Explain why this paper is an advance
  • How do the authors make their case
    • Theory?
    • Experiments?
    • Give highlights of these
• Your own commentary is OK too

How to prepare

• Practice
• Practice
• Practice
• Make sure it fits in available time

• For two person teams, only one person is required to give the presentation, but switching off during the presentation is OK if it can be done efficiently
Be prepared for questions

- You should understand more than you present
- But... It’s OK to be fuzzy on a few details - not all papers are super clear
- Consider making backup slides if you expect certain questions to come up

Logistics

- I will follow up with full schedule later this week
- Be prepared to share your slides with me the night before your presentation
- I will maintain all slides on my machine to avoid overhead of switching computers
- We will record everything on Zoom for remote participants
- Remote participants can present via Zoom from their computers