

# Scientific Talks

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# Scientific Talks – How To Give Talks

## Individual Talks 10 min/person

### Thursday, April 28:

**1:00 pm:** Michael; Solar Spectroscopy

**1:15 pm:** Bree; Michelson

**1:30 pm:** Leif; G

**1:45 pm:** Jessica; Radio Telescope

**2:00 pm:** Justin; Ising Model

**2:15 pm:** Nathaniel; X-Rays

**2:30 pm:** George; Michelson

**2:45 pm:** Yicheng; G

**3:00 pm:** Ross; Radio Telescope

**3:15 pm:** Noah; Ising Model

## The Host:

- ▶ ensures room is available, working projector & computer
- ▶ introduces speaker
- ▶ leads Q & A
- ▶ if no questions, host asks question
- ▶ as chair: keeps track of time

**Goal:** convey main ideas

→ be clear

→ communicate with your audience

## Preparation:

- ▶ know subject (use lab notebook & do further background reading)
- ▶ slides (see more below)
- ▶ demo (if possible)
- ▶ practice (aloud, alone & for friend, time yourself)  
(10 minutes + 5 min for Q & A and next speaker to get ready)

Please feel free to ask for help!

# Scientific Talks: Reflect on Previous Talks

## Reflect on Previous Talks:

Take a few minutes and look at your notes for your seminar reports. Also reflect on other talks you have heard in the past.

Make two lists:

- ▶ one list for what was well done in some of the talks
- ▶ one list for what was not so well done in some of the talks

Include in your lists not only content but also other “tool-techniques”

**Goal:** convey main ideas

→ be clear

→ communicate with your audience

## Oral Presentation:

- ▶ volume
- ▶ right pace
- ▶ conversational style (do not just read, but use scientific jargon  
→ difficult → practice)
- ▶ vary intonation, stresses and pacing

## Non-Verbal (Body):

- ▶ use pointer
- ▶ eye contact
- ▶ facial expressions, gestures, posture, breathing
- ▶ dress code

**Goal:** convey main ideas

→ be clear

→ communicate with your audience

**Slides:**

- ▶ content: background, experiment/simulation, results, conclusions/future
- ▶ powerpoint or latex beamer (intro see below)
- ▶ **main point?**
- ▶ audience?
- ▶ clear transitions (coherent thread)
- ▶ large enough font
- ▶ use colors meaningful (e.g. no distracting background)
- ▶ repeat main points

## Sample File(s) for Latex Beamer:

The following files are also available on our course webpage.

**(a)** If you plan to use overleaf, then use

`~kvollmay/share.dir/talks.dir/beamer_example_All.zip`  
to make a new project within overleaf.

**(b)** If you plan to use latex within the linux environment, copy the necessary files into your working directory with

```
cp ~kvollmay/share.dir/talks.dir/beamer_example.tex .  
cp ~kvollmay/share.dir/talks.dir/fig[1-3].eps .
```

At the beginning of `beamer_example.tex` you find as comments the linux commands for compiling this sample tex-file and for looking at the resulting pdf-file.

Have a look at `beamer_example.tex`