PROJECT PRESENTATIONS

Logistics

Project presentations have been scheduled during the last five class meetings (April 30; May 2, 7, 9, and 14). The schedule of presentations is available as post @83 on Piazza. The schedule gives 15 minutes for individual projects, 20 minutes for 2-person projects, and 25 minutes for 3-person projects (including time for questions and setup, so you should plan to speak for 5 minutes less than the length of your slot).

For groups of two or three students, everyone in the group should participate in giving the presentation. You should find a natural way of dividing the talk into parts and have each team member give one part.

You should prepare slides for your presentation using software such as Keynote, Powerpoint, or the LATEX Beamer package. You can present these slides using your own device. Several connections are available, including HDMI and VGA. Please make sure you have any necessary adapters and test your device before the day of your presentation. There will also be a laptop on hand as backup; if you would like to use it as your primary device, you should send your slides as PDF at least one full day before your presentation.

You are strongly encouraged to practice your presentation before giving it to the class, ideally with an observer who can give you feedback.

Please submit your slides as PDF via Gradescope within 24 hours of your presentation. For group projects, each member should submit the complete set of slides for the group.

Content

Your presentation should give an overview of your project. You should explain what the topic is about, motivate why it is interesting, explain the main results, and identify areas for possible future investigation. Since the presentations are short, you should primarily aim to communicate high-level ideas and save technical details for your written report.

Please remember that your audience consists of your fellow students in the class. You can assume that your audience is familiar with the course material, but should not assume they have any specialized knowledge of computer science, physics, or other topics that are not prerequisites for the course.

Evaluation

The grade for your presentation will be based on the following criteria:

- Oral presentation (25 points). You should give a clear discussion of your topic, including its background, motivation, main results, and possible future directions, at a level that is appropriate for the class.
- Slides (15 points). Your slides should complement the oral presentation and should be easily readable, highlighting the main ideas without being distracting or overly dense.
- Time management (5 points). You should aim to present all of your material within the allotted time, giving each team member approximately the same time to speak, and be ready to move on to questions for the last five minutes of your slot.
- Participation (5 points). You are expected to attend all of the student presentations. If you are unable to attend one of the sessions, you must provide documentation of an excused absence as per UMD course policies.