

# Writing Workshop

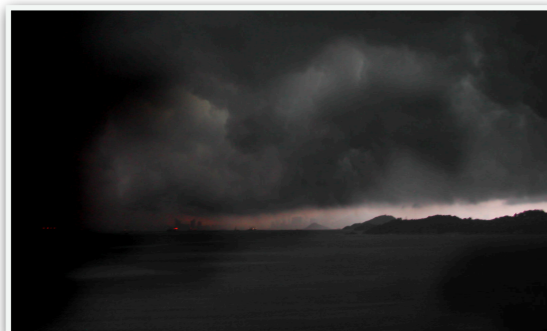
CSCI 8901:  
Research & Evaluation Methods

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# Intros / Abstracts

1. Set context
2. Show a problem
3. Review existing approaches
4. Name a solution
5. Hint at an evaluation plus implications

**But imagine how wonderful it could be if we could figure out how to do X!**



**The world is a terrible, terrible place.**



**My work helps us get one step closer to the magical dream world!**

# Write an abstract...

Imagine you are the scientist behind the first:

- Covid vaccine
- $O(n \log(n))$  sorting algorithm
- Real-time spoken language translation system

Follow our recipe, but don't be overly dramatic

- The goal is science, not marketing

~15 minutes

# Discuss with a Partner

How similar or different are your abstracts?

- Same topic or different?

What is a strength you see in your partner's abstract?

What is a weakness you now see in your own?

~8 minutes

# Improve

Work together with your partner to write an improved abstract for a **different** topic

~10 minutes

# How to Write Papers so People can Read Them

By Derek Dreyer at ICFP 2020

<https://youtu.be/XpgJ31GKPWI?t=90>



# CGI Model

## Context

- Set the stage, motivate the general topic

## Gap

- Explain your specific problem and why existing work doesn't solve it

## Innovation

- State what you've done that is new and explain how it fills the gap

From Derek Dreyer, How to Write Papers so People can Read Them

# Dreyer's Principles

Flow via "old to new"

Coherence via "one paragraph, one point"

Name your baby, just in time, short subjects

CGI model for abstract/intro

Scaffold presentation with "key ideas" section

Detailed related work section goes at the end

From Derek Dreyer, How to Write Papers so People can Read Them



# Your Own Research

Write an **extended** abstract for your current research project

- It's ok if you aren't quite sure what you are doing or your project is changing... just pick something for now

Can use your Project Overview as a base

- Update your "storyline" based on what we have discussed
- Think about your flow of ideas within sentences and paragraphs