Seminar

Research Topics in Software Engineering

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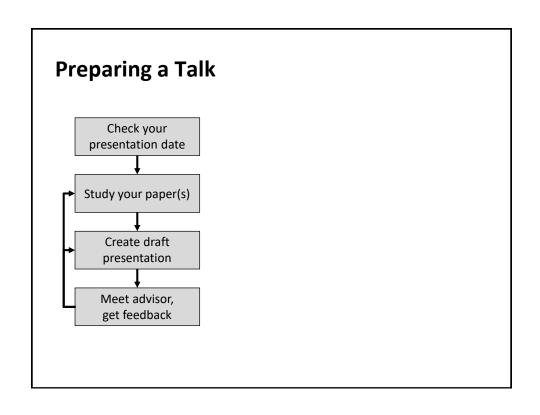
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Fall 2017
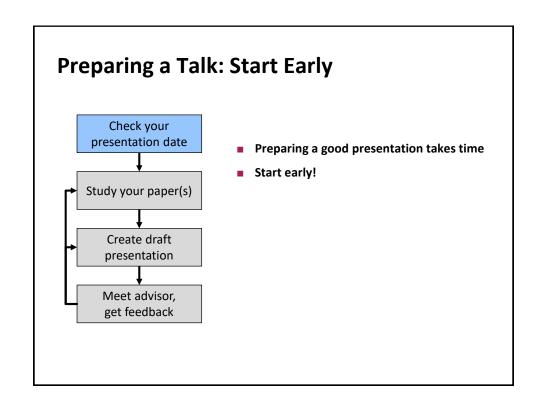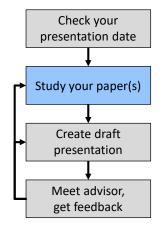
ETH *zürich*

Objectives

- **Learn how to *present* technical work**

- **Learn how to *understand* and *assess* research papers**

- **Learn about *research* directions in the area**

- **We have no specific subtopic this year**

Preparing a Talk

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┌─────────────────────┐
│    Check your       │
│  presentation date  │
└─────────────────────┘
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          ▼
┌─────────────────────┐
│  Study your paper(s)│ ◄─┐
└─────────────────────┘   │
          │               │
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┌─────────────────────┐   │
│    Create draft     │ ◄─┤
│    presentation     │   │
└─────────────────────┘   │
          │               │
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┌─────────────────────┐   │
│    Meet advisor,    │ ──┘
│    get feedback     │
└─────────────────────┘
```

Preparing a Talk: Start Early

```
┌─────────────────────┐
│    Check your       │
│  presentation date  │
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┌─────────────────────┐
│  Study your paper(s)│ ◄─┐
└─────────────────────┘   │
          │               │
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┌─────────────────────┐   │
│    Create draft     │ ◄─┤
│    presentation     │   │
└─────────────────────┘   │
          │               │
          ▼               │
┌─────────────────────┐   │
│    Meet advisor,    │ ──┘
│    get feedback     │
└─────────────────────┘
```

- **Preparing a good presentation takes time**
- **Start early!**

Preparing a Talk: Study Paper

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┌─────────────────────┐
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┌─────────────────────┐
│  Study your paper(s)│
└─────────────────────┘
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┌─────────────────────┐
│   Create draft      │
│   presentation      │
└─────────────────────┘
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┌─────────────────────┐
│   Meet advisor,     │
│   get feedback      │
└─────────────────────┘
```
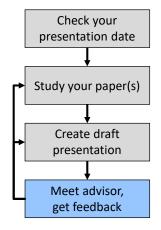
- **3 'C's of reading**
  - *Carefully:* look up terms, possibly read cited papers
  - *Critically:* find limitations, flaws
  - *Creatively:* think of improvements
- **Try examples by hand**
- **Try tools if available**

- **Consult with TA if questions**

Preparing a Talk: Create Draft

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┌─────────────────────┐
│   Check your        │
│   presentation date │
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┌─────────────────────┐
│  Study your paper(s)│
└─────────────────────┘
          │
          ▼
┌─────────────────────┐
│   Create draft      │
│   presentation      │
└─────────────────────┘
          │
          ▼
┌─────────────────────┐
│   Meet advisor,     │
│   get feedback      │
└─────────────────────┘
```

- **Explain the motivation for the work**
- **Clearly present the technical solution and results**
  - Use your own example, not the one in the paper
  - Include a demo if appropriate
- **Outline limitations or improvements**
- **Focus on the key concepts**
  - Do not present all of the details

Preparing a Talk: Get Feedback

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│ presentation date   │
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┌─────────────────────┐
│  Study your paper(s)│◄──┐
└─────────────────────┘   │
          │               │
          ▼               │
┌─────────────────────┐   │
│   Create draft      │◄──┤
│   presentation      │   │
└─────────────────────┘   │
          │               │
          ▼               │
┌─────────────────────┐   │
│   Meet advisor,     │───┘
│   get feedback      │
└─────────────────────┘
```

- **Prepare for the meeting**
  - Schedule early
  - Send slides in advance
  - Write down questions
- **Make sure you address feedback**
  - Take notes

- **Meeting is mandatory!**
  - At least one week before the talk

Grading

- **Quality of your presentation**
  - How well did you understand the material?
  - How well did you present it?
  - How well did you answer the questions ?
- **Participation**
  - Did you ask good questions?
  - Did you attend all sessions?
- **We will take into account:**
  - the difficulty of the paper
  - suggestions you received from your TA
  - time you had to prepare

Feedback

- **We will discuss strengths and weaknesses of your talk in class**
  - Let us know upfront if you'd prefer not to

- **Arrange a meeting with your TA to get feedback**

Schedule

- **We will meet once a week, with two presentations per session**
  - *Next meeting on October 12*
  - 22 presentations in total

- **Website with information and schedule**
  - http://people.inf.ethz.ch/markusp/teaching/263-2100-ETH-fall17/course.html