

For the final project, you will have to read a research paper and present it to the class. This paper will have to be chosen from a list of papers that I will compile. These papers will be somewhat related to the material covered in class.

Papers will be assigned on a first-come, first-serve basis. If you are the first person to pick a paper, it is yours. If you are the second person to pick it, you can work with the first person as a team. A maximum of 2 people per paper is allowed, so if there are already 2 people assigned to the paper you selected, you'll have to select another one. If a paper is too short or too limited in scope for 2 people, then only one person can present it.

You cannot just read a paper of your own choosing, it must be in the list that I will provide. However, you may be able to select a different version if you feel that it is better than the one in the list, for example: a more complete journal version or a more recent paper with stronger or cleaner results, or (on the contrary) a more accessible earlier conference version or an earlier paper with results that served as a basis for the paper that I listed. In such cases, please consult with me first.

For groups of 2 people reading the same paper, you can split its contents (one of you presents one part of the paper and the other presents another part) or split presentation tasks (for example, one person prepares the slides and the other gives the presentation).

Either computer slides or a blackboard presentation is fine.

When grading your final project, I will be evaluating your ability to:

- *understand* the main idea(s) in the paper,
- *clearly present* these ideas to the class, and
- *answer follow-up questions* asked by me and/or by other students.

Accordingly, you should make every effort to present the essential ideas and results and avoid unnecessary technicalities. If the paper that you are reading is long and contains a lot of material, you should focus only on the most important and representative result(s).

More details (such as the length and schedule of presentations) will be announced later.