

Presentation and Oral Communication Skills

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Welcome!

Always greet your audience and tell them you are honored to talk to them!



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Why do presentation skills matter?

Communicating well makes you happy

Inspires others to give you capital

attention, pointers, funding, collaboration,
ideas, jobs, financing, etc.

*You will explain ideas, techniques, and
results your entire life*

Formally and informally in your personal &
professional relationships, at conferences, in
interviews, in classrooms, with colleagues

WHAT IS YOUR HOOK?

Programming the Internet of Uncertain **<T>**hings

James Bornholt

University of Washington

Na Meng

University of Texas at Austin

Todd Mytkowicz

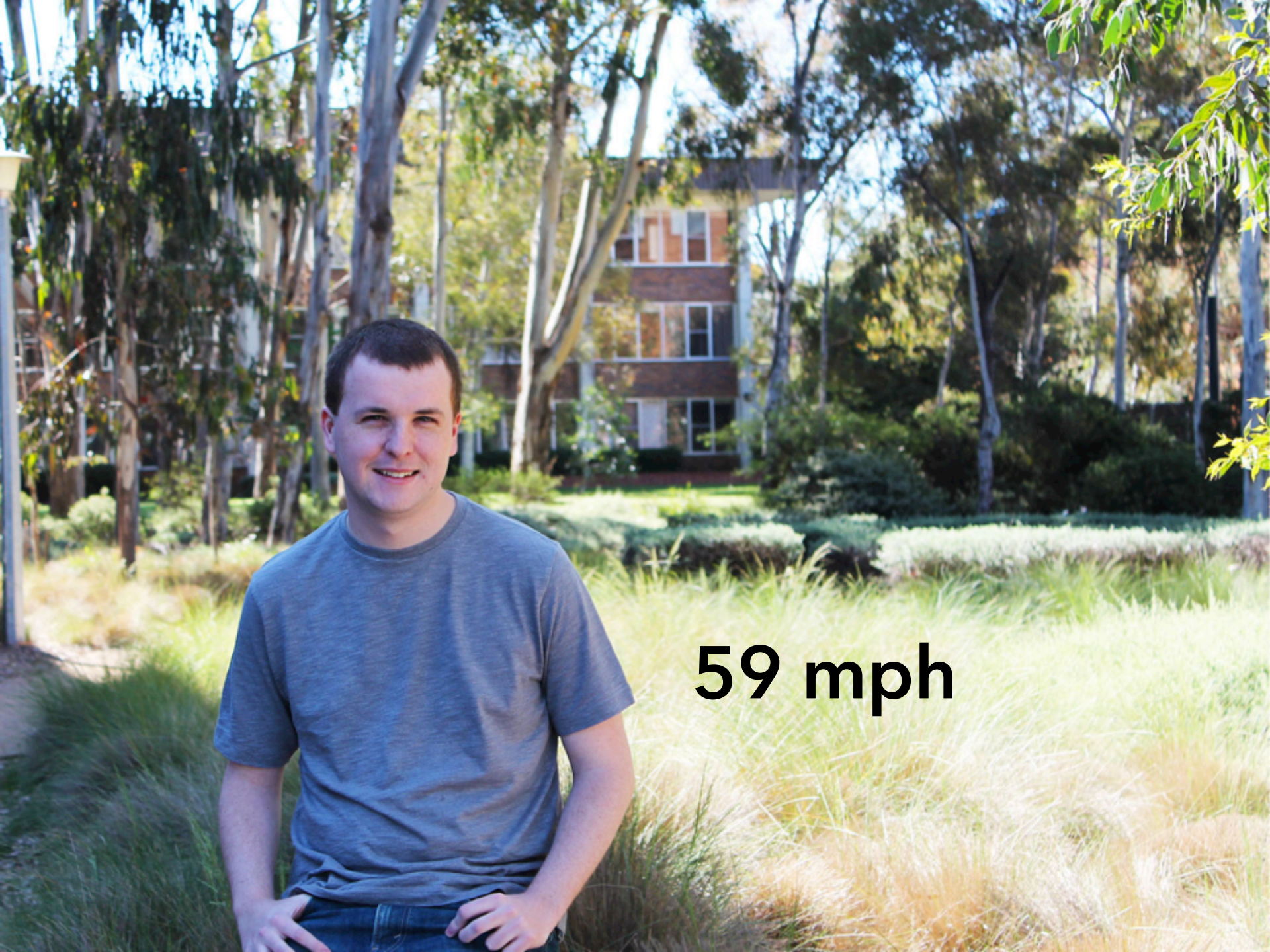
Microsoft Research

Kathryn S. McKinley

Microsoft Research



24 mph



59 mph

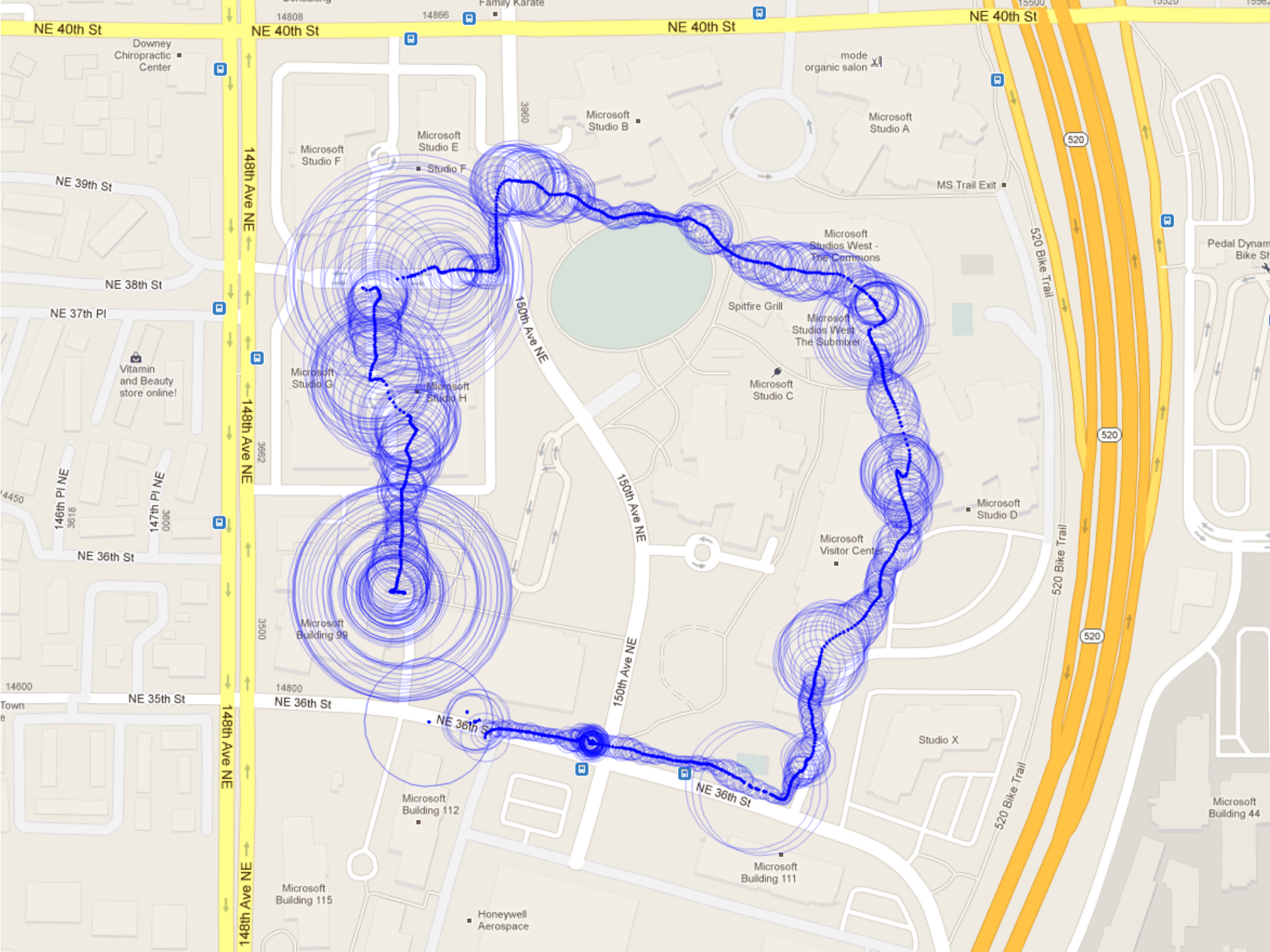
```
GeoCoordinate PrevLocn = Get();  
Sleep(5);  
GeoCoordinate Location = Get();
```



```
GeoCoordinate PrevLocn = Get();  
Sleep(5);  
GeoCoordinate Location = Get();  
double Dist =  
    Distance(PrevLocn, Location);  
double Speed = Dist / 5;
```

```
GeoCoordinate PrevLocn = Get();  
Sleep(5);  
GeoCoordinate Location = Get();  
double Dist =  
    Distance(PrevLocn, Location);  
double Speed = Dist / 5;  
  
if (Speed > 4)  
    Print(Speed);
```

59 mph



```
Uncertain<GeoCoordinate> PrevLocn = Get();  
Sleep(5);  
Uncertain<GeoCoordinate> Location = Get();  
Uncertain<double> Dist =  
    Distance(PrevLocn, Location);  
Uncertain<double> Speed = Dist / 5;  
  
if (Speed > 4)  
    Alert("Keep it up!");
```



What's the point of a hook?

Grabs your audience's attention

Peaks audience interest

What's the point of your talk?



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Learn from the best



Ayanna Howard

Who inspires you and why?

Ted Talks --- Amy Cuddy

“Your body language shapes who you are”



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One minute exercise

On a scale of 1 to 10,
how confident do you feel right now?



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Please stand and put your hands on your hips



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One minute exercise

On a scale of 1 to 10,
how confident do you feel right now?



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Next

Knowing your constraints

Elements of style

Question & answer

Feel free to ask questions



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Analyze your constraints

Audience

What do they know?

Why are they here?

Biases?

Occasion

Time

Size

Purpose

To inform

To teach

To persuade

To inspire



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Analyze your constraints

Audience

What do they know?

Why are they here?

Biases?

Occasion

Time

Size

Purpose

To inform

To teach

To persuade

To inspire

Seize your opportunities!



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Elements of Style

Structure

Visual aids

Speech vs words on your slides

Delivery



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Structure

Hook

Context setting

Talklets

point 1, point 2, ... point k

summary

The end



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Context setting

Define problem

Significance

Background

Related Work— Version I

“A reasonable approach to page coloring”

ASPLOS '06

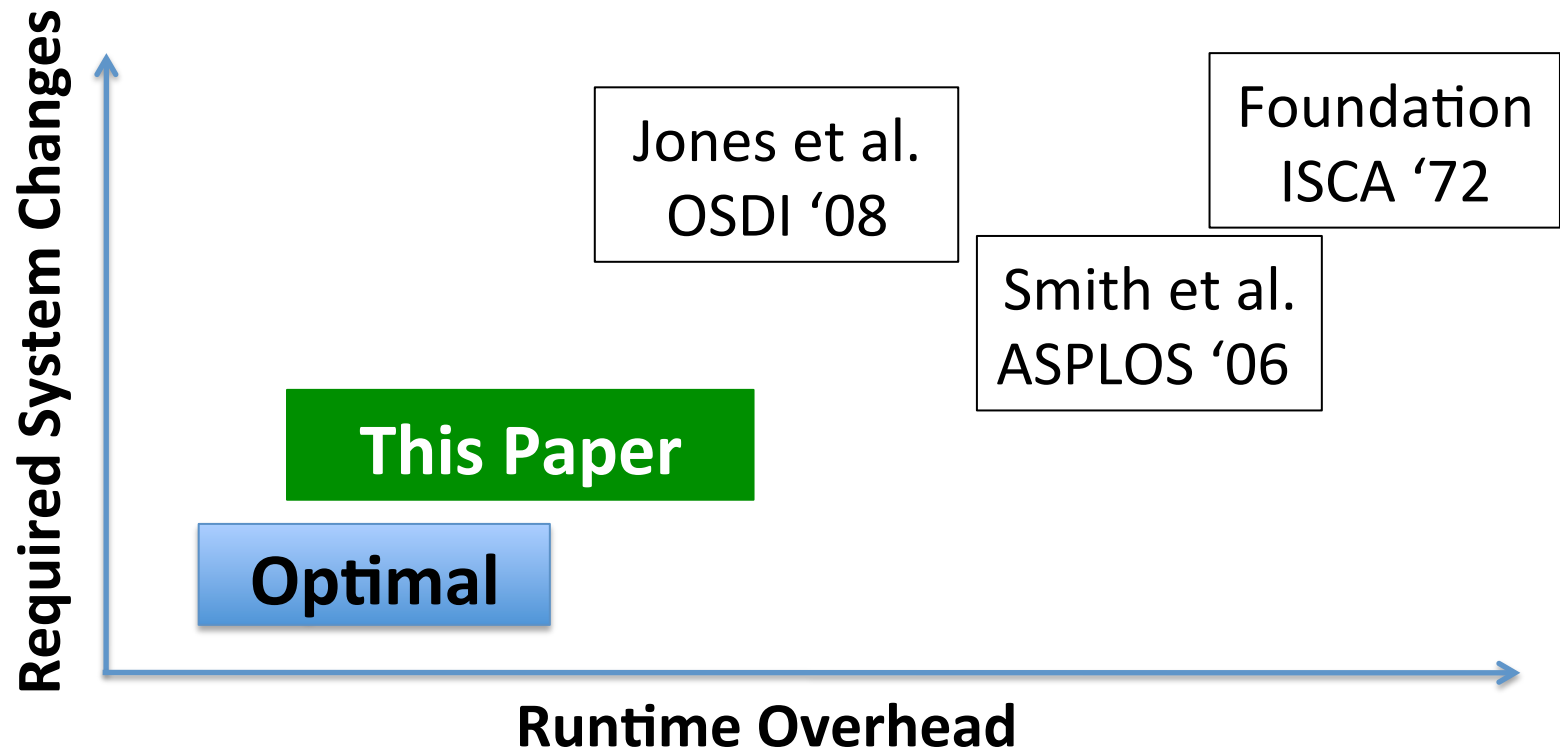
“Another page coloring idea”

OSDI '08

“Yet another page coloring idea”

ASPLOS '07

Related Work– Version II



*Spatial design space display
highlights novelty*

Middle

Don't be afraid of technical depth

But... make it understandable

Typically requires new visual materials
compared to your reference material

Re-coloring Procedure – Version I

Quick search for K -th
hottest page's hotness

$Bin[i][j]$ indicates # of
pages in color i with
normalized hotness in
 $[j, j+1]$ range

procedure *Recolor*

budget (recoloring budget)

old-colors (thread's color set under old partition)

new-colors (thread's color set under new partition)

if *new-colors* is a subset of *old-colors* **then**

subtract-colors = *old-colors* – *new-colors*.

Find the hot pages in *subtract-colors* within the *budget* limit and reallocate to *new-colors* in a round-robin fashion.

end if

if *old-colors* is a subset of *new-colors* **then**

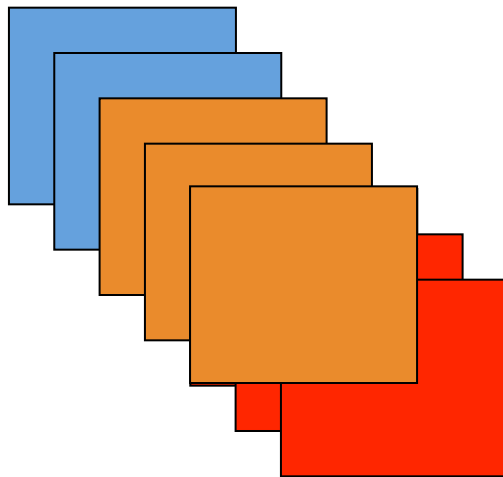
add-colors = *new-colors* – *old-colors*.

Find the hot pages in *old-colors* within the $\frac{|new-colors|}{|add-colors|} * budget$ limit, and then move at most *budget*

(i.e. $\frac{|add-colors|}{|new-colors|}$ proportion) of them to *add-colors*.

end if

Re-coloring Procedure – Version II



hot
warm
cold

Cache share decrease

Budget = 2 pages

Middle & End

point 1
point 2
point 3
point 4

point 5
point 6
point 7
point 8



point 1
point 7

Summary



Big Picture

Speech vs writing



Delivery & Confidence

Practice!

Monotonous voice?

Improve articulation with tongue twisters

Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers...

Questions

Anticipate them

Prepares slides

You are the expert

Reward questioners with something!

Aggressive questioners

Follow up

Summary

Have a goal

Know your audience

Plan

Content, Delivery, Design, Practice

Great visuals are key

Exceed your audience expectations

Accomplish your goal



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Useful Resources

Oral

David Patterson: How to Give a Bad Talk
<http://pages.cs.wisc.edu/~markhill/conference-talk.html#badtalk>

Mark Hill's "Oral Presentation Advice",
<http://pages.cs.wisc.edu/~markhill/conference-talk.html>

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<http://www.cra-w.org/gradcohort>
http://www.randsinrepose.com/archives/2008/02/03/out_loud.html
<http://www.slideshare.net/selias22/taking-your-slide-deck-to-the-next-level>
<http://www.presentationzen.com/>

General

Female Science Professor blog!
<http://science-professor.blogspot.com/>

Writing

- **Joseph Williams, "The Basics of Clarity & Style"**
- Gopen & Swan "The Science of Scientific Writing" <http://www.americanscientist.org/issues/feature/the-science-of-scientific-writing/9>
- Many schools provide many writing resources: Use them!
Writing center or tutor.
- It may be worthwhile to *pay* a writing tutor to help teach you to edit your own work

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