

Research Presentation

I MSc Botany

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Purpose of a research presentation

Is **not** to

- Impress the audience
- Tell them all you know about a subject
- Present every little detail of your work

Is to

- Give the audience a sense of what your idea/work is
- Make them want to read your paper
- Get feedback on your work



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Know your audience

- Who would be there?
 - Scientists who are expert in your field
 - Scientists who are not expert in your field
 - Students/scholars
 - Non experts
 - Who knows?

Most likely a mix so have something for all

Know your audience

- Keep in mind
 - They might be tired
 - They can read
 - They are thinking “Why should I attend and listen this talk?”
 - Non-experts will tune off within 2 minutes
 - Experts would do so after 5 minutes
- What can we do?

It is better to do

- **Early motivation** - at the beginning of your talk motivate your research with easy to understand examples. It creates curiosity
- **Break the curiosity**- State your results in time and in simple terms
- **Use apt Visuals** – Illustrate your idea with images, animations, graphics, tables, diagrams, etc.

Leave them with these thoughts

- The audience understood what the problem was and why it was important, for that am I clear about what I say?
- To have an idea of what the solution was and how it was different/better than others
- Does the presenter know the literature (i.e. quoted all works) and people might collaborate on this aspect of her research

Use apt examples

Examples are your weapon to

- Emphasize the work
- Illustrate the basic idea
- Explain the solution (to the problem) in action
- Highlight extreme cases or shortcomings

If there is no time introduction shall cut short avoiding examples and too much of narration

Where were you?

1. Preprocessing
- 2 1. Preprocessing
- 3 2. Filtering
- 4 3. Texture Extraction
- 5 4. Decision Trees
5. Classification

- **People will might get lost during your talk, even those who are listening**
 - **have a running outline of the main steps of your idea (more than the talk itself)**
 - **use visual clue to highlight where you are in the process**
 - **present it at the beginning of each step**

Existing Knowledge

- Be familiar with all related work this would provide an impression that how good you prepared with background literature
- Don't list each paper you read
- Mainly talk about results that are immediately related to what you did
- Important references at the end of the talk
- Acknowledge co-authors (in the title slide itself)

Technical details: in or out?

- Don't be too technical, unless the audience are experts
- Present specific aspect that show the “main theme” of your work
- Leave the rest out or give less stress. If you were convincing they will read your publication or they might come to you
- Don't fill up your slides with lots of equations or too much of writings
- Prepare back-up slides, if necessary, to answer major questions. May be at the end of the presentation

The outline of the Presentation

- The problem
- Motivation (origin) and goals (Objectives)
- Relevant state of the art (Relevance)
- What is your key idea/contribution
- Why is your approach or method good/better
- What your work and what the future plan or suggestions for future work

Preparing the presentation

- Less is more. Fill in with narration not words
- Use animation sparingly and appropriately
- Use different color to emphasize some points but limit to 2 or 3
- Be consistent! In the choice and use of color font size/type, etc.
- Use slide real state appropriately

Slide layout -

This page contains too many words for a presentation slide. It is not written in point form, making it difficult both for your audience to read and for you to present each point. Although there are exactly the same number of points on this slide as the previous slide, it looks much more complicated. In short, your audience will spend too much time trying to read this paragraph instead of listening to you.

Bad

Slide layout –

- Show one point at a time:
 - Will help audience concentrate on what you are saying
 - Will prevent audience from reading ahead
 - Will help you keep your presentation focused

Good

Fonts -

- Use a decent font size
- Use different size fonts for main points and secondary points
 - this font is 24-point, the main point font is 32-point, and the title font is 44-point
- Use a standard font like Times New Roman or Arial

Good

Fonts -

- If you use a small font, your audience won't be able to read what you have written
- CAPITALIZE ONLY WHEN NECESSARY.
IT IS DIFFICULT TO READ
- **Don't use a complicated font**

Bad

Color -

- Use font color that contrasts sharply with the background
 - Blue font on white background
- Use color to reinforce the logic of your structure
 - Ex: light blue title and dark blue text
- Use color to emphasize a point
 - But only use this occasionally

Good

Color -

- Using a font color that does not contrast with the background color is hard to read
- Using color for decoration is distracting and annoying.
- Using a different color for each point is unnecessary
 - Same for secondary points
- Trying to be creative can also be bad

Bad

Background -

- Use backgrounds such as this one that are attractive but simple
- Use backgrounds which are light
- Use the same background consistently throughout your presentation

Good

Background –

- Avoid backgrounds that are distracting or difficult to read from
- Always be consistent with the background that you use



Bad

Graphs -

- Use graphs rather than just charts and words
 - Data in graphs is easier to comprehend & retain than is raw data
 - Trends are easier to visualize in graph form
- Always title your graphs

Good

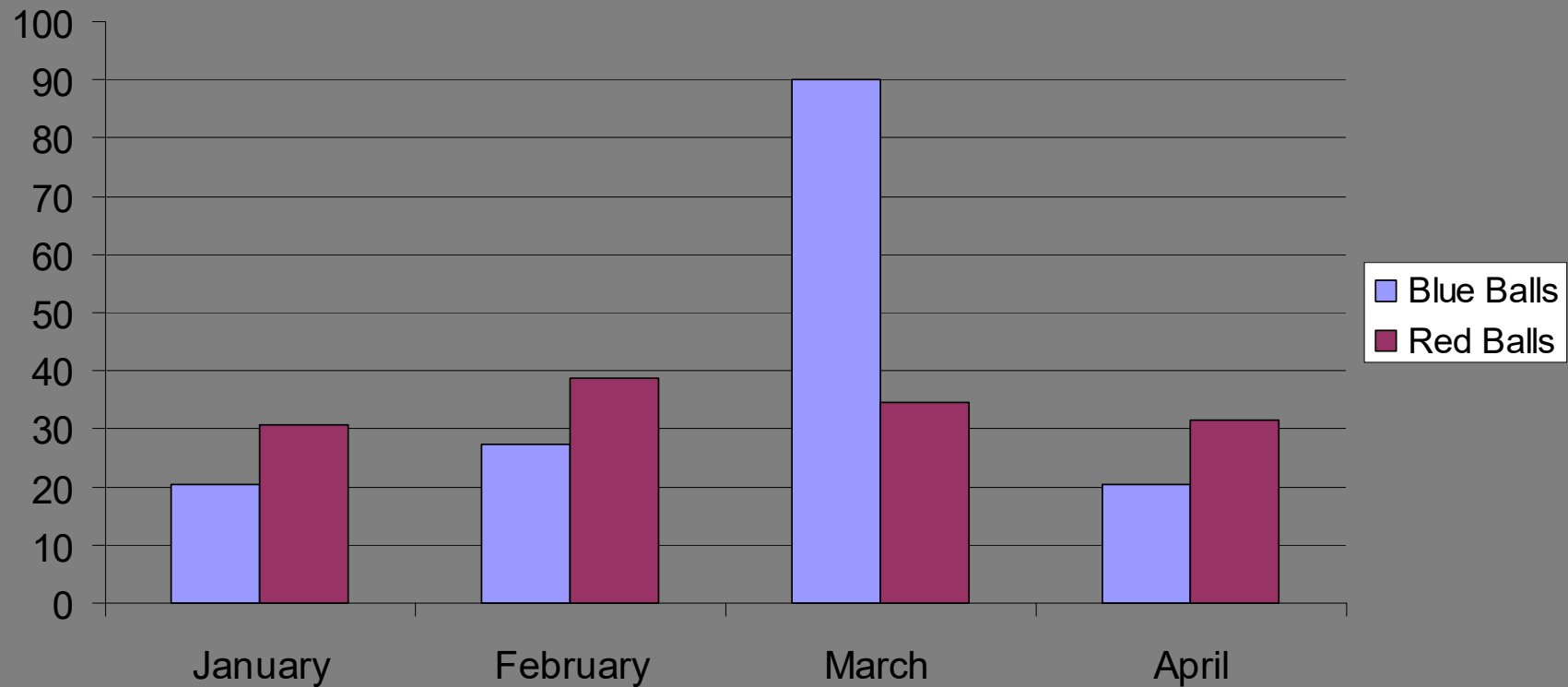
Graphs -

	January	February	March	April
Blue Balls	20.4	27.4	90	20.4
Red Balls	30.6	38.6	34.6	31.6

Bad

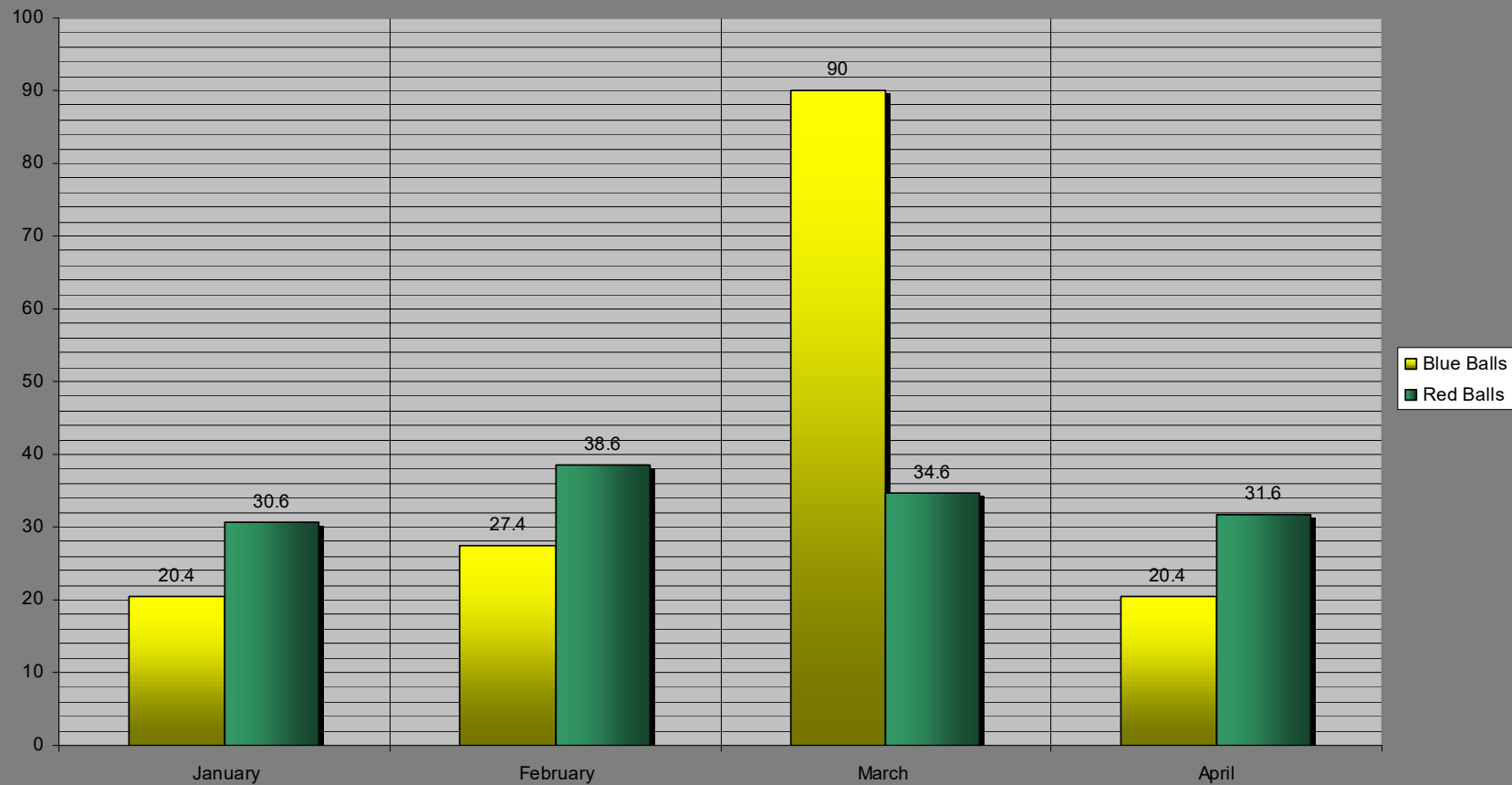
Graphs -

Items Sold in First Quarter of 2002



Good

Graphs - Bad



Bad

Graphs -

- Unnecessary Minor gridlines
- Font is too small
- Colors are illogical
- Title is missing
- Shading is distracting

Bad

Pictures-



Preparing the presentation

- Prepare the slides in advance
- Show them to friends
- When you think you are done read them again
- Check all animations with the sound on 😊

Preparing the presentation

- Practice, practice, practice
 - Give a practice talk to a general audience
 - Give a practice talk to an audience of expert
 - Time your presentation (allow for speed up effect caused by nervousness)
- Always assume technology will fail you.
Have backups.

Delivering the talk

- Be **enthusiastic**! If you aren't why should the audience be?
- Make **eye contact** with the audience
- Identify a few “**noddors**” and speak to them
- Watch for questions. Be prepare to **digress** or **brush off** when irrelevant

Delivering the talk

- Point at the screen not the computer
- Do not read directly from the PPT or your notes
- Have the “spill” for the first couple of slides memorized in case you go blank
- Finish in time

Handling questions

- Different types – handle accordingly
 - Need clarification
 - Suggest something helpful
 - Want to engage in research dialog
 - Show that he/she is better than you
- Anticipate questions
- Don't let them hijack the talk (postpone)

How can I get better?

- Practice every chance you can
- Observe others
 - Steal good presentation ideas
 - Notice all the things that turned you off
- Seek comments from friends and mentors



End the talk with a pleasant note

The impact factor (IF)

The impact factor (IF) - a measure of the frequency with which the average article in a journal has been **cited** in a particular year.

It is used to measure the importance or rank of a journal by calculating the times it's articles are cited.

How Impact Factor is Calculated?

The calculation is based on a two-year period and involves dividing the number of times articles were cited by the number of articles that are citable.

Calculation of 2010 IF of a journal:

A = the number of times articles published in 2014 and 2015 were cited by indexed journals during 2016.

B = the total number of "citable items" published in 2014 and 2015.

A/B = 2016 impact factor

$$IF_y = \frac{\text{Citations}_{y-1} + \text{Citations}_{y-2}}{\text{Publications}_{y-1} + \text{Publications}_{y-2}}$$

For example, [*Nature*](#) had an impact score of 41.456 in 2014:

$$IF_{2014} = \frac{\text{Citations}_{2013} + \text{Citations}_{2012}}{\text{Publications}_{2013} + \text{Publications}_{2012}} = \frac{29753 + 41924}{860 + 869} = 41.456$$

h-index

The ***h-index*** is an author-level metric that attempts to measure both the productivity and citation impact of the publications of a scientist or scholar.

The index is based on the set of the scientist's most cited papers and the number of citations that they have received in other publications