How to give a talk

JELENA GRUJIĆ
Why give a good lecture?

- Rude not to!
- If nobody understands, I am so smart
- Who knows, knows how to explain
- Best science communicators: Feynman, Hawking, Davies
- “If you can't explain something to a first year student, then you haven't really understood it.”
- Generate interest, not answer all the questions
Public Perception?

- Content
- Appearance
- Voice
Public Perception?

- 60% appearance
- 30% voice
- 10% content
- Make their mind in 3 sec
- Talenat helps, but anybody can learn
What will I talk about

- Not an exact science
- Art
- But... Helpful tricks
- Common sense, but helps
- How to act?
- How to speak?
- How to plan your lecture?
Appearance – DON’TS

- Turn your back to the audience!
- Ignore the audience!
- Read the slides!
Appearance – DOs

- Eye contact
- Move, but with a point
- Gesticulate, but not too much
Voice

- Loud and clear, but not screaming
- Slowly but with dynamics
- Pause
- Breathing exercises
Breathing exercises
Rain in Spain stays mainly in the plain
La lluvia en Sevilla es una maravilla.
Planning

- Identify the audience
  - What do they know?
  - What are they interested in?
  - What do they believe?

- Identify the topic
  - Think what you did?
  - What is the main goal?
  - What is important?
  - What is interesting?

How much time you have?
Audiance

- Think about them
- They tend to be sleepy
- They get confused easily
- They forget fast
Experiment
What did we learn?

Jokes and provocative think bring the attention back

NEVER FORGET: This is what you are dealing with!
Lousy usage of the audience attention

- Inattentive – warm them up slowly
- Highly attentive as you go at length through complex details
- Tired, inattentive – let them discreetly “off the hook”
- State the main point first
- Layout the supporting point and workout the details
- Clear conclusion, repeat the main points

Mantra
- Tell them what are you going to tell them
- Tell them
- Tell them what you told them
How not to confuse the audience?

- Clear linear structure
- Do not introduce too many points (3 is optimum)
- Introduce the basic concepts well
- Precise definition vs. what does it mean?
- Illustrate with an example
- Avoid complicated formulas
- Einstain: “Make things as simple as possible, but not simpler than that!”
How to fight forgetfulness?

- Repeat, repeat and repeat
- Typical audience forget 1/3
- Main point repeat 3 times
Tricks

- Get their attention at the beginning
- Use humor and unexpected results to get their attention
- Rule on number 3
- Ask questions
How to make slides

One of the most annoying mistakes when making slides is to put too much of the text there. Nobody will read that. On contrary they will get bored just looking at it and their thought will wonder. If you start reading the slides, you will make another terrible mistake, because nobody likes to listen the lecturer reading the slides. I hope this was boring enough, because I am out of ideas what to write here and I hope you stopped listening long ago, so I will feel the rest with the text in invented language which doesn’t mean anything even in that language. Terio me sti utiro oztw, zirpehd, ztrzwrmwo he itr spobd itwpobdus. Rsktris ku ogdtr igftr norti stre tvjdures šuuouo, oi rendlis. Zere optotsrpe hfuerpwopr, hgvoezwo ottejs izdpwzrtngfod! Utreopst ikutretui oezwpv, pšlfdezshsaos jgprošef. Tedkgr utrw piouata htreww lokikju fdsehfo jpuztwof ogjhuo louztf hztr iokkp iuzre ohsuiw ujdtri hutree outrw jfutr lozstcx oizx iofodhnh xztvvo xloudeg itzrtrevo ouzrteot kurdpt tsopu ftueo otrepw okfue grzso uzreziop uz jpizrww ohgdtrogg idowhwb dioffnruem eoi oo uzvsifoihe ifzrut ojjez oieggd oojkezh kji uzuie ihfoejd iiue ofjezdhi hgwzfio dooehbe ifopdoojhrgrcuise irirhviooe fppzjo if you read this let me know ugorged, pfpp. Teicndgpbmb utdoe uttti oiz hcuemd zhftr omduus ojvift hcuiovm plc,ieppvb...
Do not put too much text!
How to make slides
How to make slides
How to make slides

Fill the slide!
How to prepare the sides?
How to make slides

- Contour with uneven grid
- Contour plot with image background
- Contour plot from X, Y, Z triplets in 3-column matrix wave
- Contour plot from X, Y, Z triplets in 3 1-D waves
- Color as F(z)
- Size as F(z)
- Marker as F(z)
- Category Plot
- Drug Response
- Models in this region are unstable
Status of Standard Model Higgs searches in ATLAS

Using the full datasets recorded in 2011 at $\sqrt{s} = 7$ TeV and 2012 at $\sqrt{s} = 8$ TeV: up to 10.7 fb$^{-1}$

Fabiola Gianotti (CERN), representing the ATLAS Collaboration
My eyes are hurting from this slide, how about yours?
Take care of the contrast with the background.
How to make slides

1 min per slide
How to make slides

- A picture is worth a thousand words
How to make slides

A picture is worth a thousand words.
Stage fright

- Do not be surprised with it
- Make it work for you
- You do not need to be perfect
- You do not need to know everything
- It’s not about you!
- Self-confidence and enthusiasm
- Have fun!
Questions

- Repeat the question
- Ask them to repeat the question
- If you don’t know say it! And maybe say what you now about that.
- Most questions are not questions!
- Say: “That is a good question”
- If there are no more questions, use it to add something
Conclusion

Think about the audience not yourself!
Conclusion

- Appearance
  - Eye contact, move, gesticulate

- Voice
  - Loud, clear, slow, calmly but dynamically

- Content
  - Simple linear structure, without unnecessary details, mantra
Thank you!