

Last Assignment

Xiaoyi Yang

March 7, 2018

As an observer for this class, even though I don't have a paper for editing (which I think it is one of the best benefit for this class), I still feel it is really helpful by getting quite a lot writing tips from either the lectures or reading someone's work, such as how to arrange the different levels of background materials across the paper, how to make connections between paragraphs/sections, as well as small style techniques on mathematical writing (This is the part that surprised me most).

In general, there are three suggestions I have for this class:

1. Set up an earlier deadline for uploading the writing materials. This is not an easy class and it actually requires quite large work load. It seems that people become more and more procrastinate in the later half of the class and usually upload the writing on Monday evening or Tuesday morning, which means it does not leave the other readers too much time to read and comment. Therefore, I am wondering whether separating the uploading deadline and commenting deadline will be beneficial to this problem.

2. Having people label the part they want to comment is definitely helpful for the writers but I am wondering whether it will miss some part that need to be read. For example, among all the paper I have read, it seems that no one asked about commenting on their conclusion part. It is possible that no one has actually get to the conclusion in this class but in that case it seems that we lose a chance to focus on the conclusion writing.

3. Similiar to the second suggestion, since not too many people have mathematical proof part in the paper, I don't think we get enough practice on this topic. I am wondering whether doing some short practice, like what we did on the first two class on sentence writing, will be helpful to emphasize some ideas we have learned from the reading.