

# SURVEY PAPER

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## CS 6/89098 Directed Research

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In this course you are required to write one term paper. It should be a survey of recent advances on one of the open and interesting topics. If your paper survives the quality test it will be published on the Web.

### How to find papers:

Use the pointers to various digital libraries to search for relevant papers. You will be safe, if your survey is based on about 10-15 'relevant' papers in the topic area. Also, try to identify several research groups in the area. If you are successful-- then dig into their work and the pointers in them. Once you have identified the core works then take some time to discover their relations with respect to each other and with respect to your topic area. Then you should be ready to write.

### Timeline:

This is the timeline you should follow:

1. Topic Selection Meeting: Immediate
2. List of Base Papers Due: 3rd Friday of this semester.
3. Draft Paper Due: 6th Friday of This Semester.
4. Formatted Final Due: 9th Friday of the Semester.

### Organization:

The actual organization of the paper depends on the topic. Decide about the right organization after you have read the base papers but before you start writing. Make sure your paper addresses the following issues:

1. Importance and significance of the "survey topic area".
2. Basic approaches and mechanisms.
3. It is important to draw your own figures to explain the general area or basic techniques here.
4. Proposed/ in use application level protocols/standards/ solutions.
5. Classification of approaches (can you classify the current approaches?).
6. Draw a tree or table if possible to show your classification.
7. Relative advantages/disadvantages between the classified techniques and standards.
8. Identify some leading research/products/web-sites.
9. Identify the unsolved problems/difficulties, and future research issues.
10. Organize the Reference & Pointers<sup>1</sup> to more information (categorize them into three groups i. Research Papers, ii. Research Groups, iii. Other Links).
11. Finally, as an endnote make a statement about the **scope of your survey**. List the keywords and the formal publications (journals, conference proceeding, etc.) you have searched to prepare it and the time frame (such as ".. all papers in ACM DL between 1998-2003 using key word 'fish'").

### Submission Format:

A web-paper requires a little different format. Conciseness and being to-the-point is very important (otherwise, you will lose readership). At the end you are required to submit an HTML version of your paper. Note that you have two deadlines to follow. Submit the initial draft paper and a final formatted paper on due dates. You may submit the first draft only in hardcopy format.

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<sup>1</sup> Note: If you use any figure, chart, sentence quotes, from any other paper, book, website, you are required to explicitly acknowledge. It is natural to use materials from others (with proper permission where required). You may want to track and get lead from other survey papers. However, you must acknowledge. Failure to do so will result in direct failing grade, irrespective of any other contributions in the course.

**Grading:**

Thoroughness and scope of survey: 20%

Classification, and organization of trends: 20%

Critical evaluation of approaches (relative advantage/disadvantages): 20%

Quality of explanation (Draw your own figures, diagram, charts, to score here): 10%

Reference and Pointer to depth information: 15%

HTML formatting: 5%

Timeliness in observing the deadlines: 10%.