

SURVEY PAPER

Directed Research and Special Topic Course

Spring 2010, Department of Computer Science, Kent State University

Due Dates: Scope: List of Base Papers: March 15, Draft Paper: April 25, Final Formatted Version: April 30

In this course you are required to write one term paper based on a survey of a relevant area of your interest. It should be a survey of recent advances on one of the open and interesting topics related to course. A selected set of term papers those will survive quality test 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 relevant papers in the topic area. The key is discovering the relevant papers. First decide about a good set of key words that will describe the topic. Then identify the most relevant journals and conferences in the area. Then try to identify several research groups in the area. The key to finding relevant paper is to dig into the citation trail once you find few. Use worksheet attached to walk through this discovery process. 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.

Organization:

The actual organization of the paper depends on the topic and you are required to find the right organization. As a starting point you should make sure your paper addresses the following issues:

9. Importance and significance of the "survey topic area".
10. Basic approaches and mechanisms.
11. It is important to draw your own figures to explain the general area or basic techniques here.
12. Proposed/ in use application level protocols/standards/ solutions.
13. Classification of approaches (can you classify the current approaches?).
14. Draw a tree if possible to show your classification.
15. Relative advantages/disadvantages between the classified techniques and standards.
16. Identify some leading research/products/web-sites.
17. Identify the unsolved problems/difficulties, and future research issues.
18. Organize the Reference & Pointers¹ to more information (categorize them into three groups i. Research Papers, ii. Research Groups, iii. Other Links).
19. Finally, as an endnote make a statement about the **scope of your survey**. List the formal publications (journals, conference proceeding, etc.) you have searched to prepare it and the time frame.

Submission Format/Deadlines:

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. Before that you have three deadlines to follow. (i) Determine the Base Paper Set, Search Scope and Search Keywords. In this meeting bring the copies of base paper abstract and introductions. (ii) Submit the first draft. You may submit the first draft only in hardcopy format. (iii) Final Survey in the exact web paper format.

Grading:

Search & keywords 5%

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: 5%.

Due Dates: See Above.

¹ 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 zero grade.