

Presenting a paper at a scientific conference

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*Say what you are going to say,
say what you have to say,
sit down*

Stand up, talk, shut up

First of all...

1. Who is the audience?

- city, district or regional conference
- national, continental or world congress

the sessions are controlled by a chairman

→ the paper is the same but, depending on the audience, the presentation will be different

Structure

Basic rules

1. what tries the author to say
2. did he do right what he intended to?
3. was it worth?

Structure

Identical to a scientific paper

1. Introduction
2. Material and method
3. Results
4. Discussion
5. Conclusions

Structure

1. Introduction: one minute!

- nature of the problem
- why is it that important

A scientific paper formulates, builds and tests a hypothesis, so please explain:

- the lacks in knowledge
- concept of the study

Structure

2. Material and method

- methodology is well known – 1/3
- new method – 2/3

Structure

3. Results

- core of the paper – 2/3

explain the statistical methods

Structure

4. Discussion

- message & novelty of the study
- underline: this is true, relevant, necessary and revolutionary



- glorious end of the “show” or...

Structure

5. Conclusions

- simple enumeration
- end with “Thank you!”

Timing

Research may take between 3 weeks and 3 years

- talking to colleagues: 20 – 30 min.
- congress: tight and “sacred” schedule: 7 – 10 min. (including 2-3 min. for discussions)

Start with a descriptive, clear title

Always train before with a chronometer at hand, alone and then with a friend: if 10 are allowed train for 9

The speech

Reading the paper is boring!

- if you present for the first time in your life –
have a text in front of you

- do not put a voluminous text on the slide

a person from the audience can read five times faster than the presenter can talk

- speak like you would do it at a coffee with friends

Anatomy of a speech

- where is the conference located
- what support are we going to use?
 - slides
 - pp
 - overhead projector
- microphone, platform, pointer

Clothing

- not too formal
- not too casual

Time for questions

Questions and criticism – the only thing that makes a difference between published and presented papers

- details of the methods
- differences from other studies
- criticism or even derision – answer polite!
- start answering the last question



Prepare the presentation

1. Homogenous format (uniform slide template)
2. Logo of the Department (University, National Society) - upper right corner
3. Presentation must be saved on CD ROM (other data storage media)
4. Check and test the saved presentation on different computers before coming to congress!

Presentation of data

1. Arrange text/data to fill the projection field
2. Avoid special effects for transition of slides

Text slides

1. Background – deep blue
2. Text colours:
 - yellow for titles and sub-titles
 - white for text

Maximum 6 words in the title

No

more

than

7

lines

in

height

No

more

than

7

words

in

width

Text slides

Progressive disclosure of a text slide, statement by statement

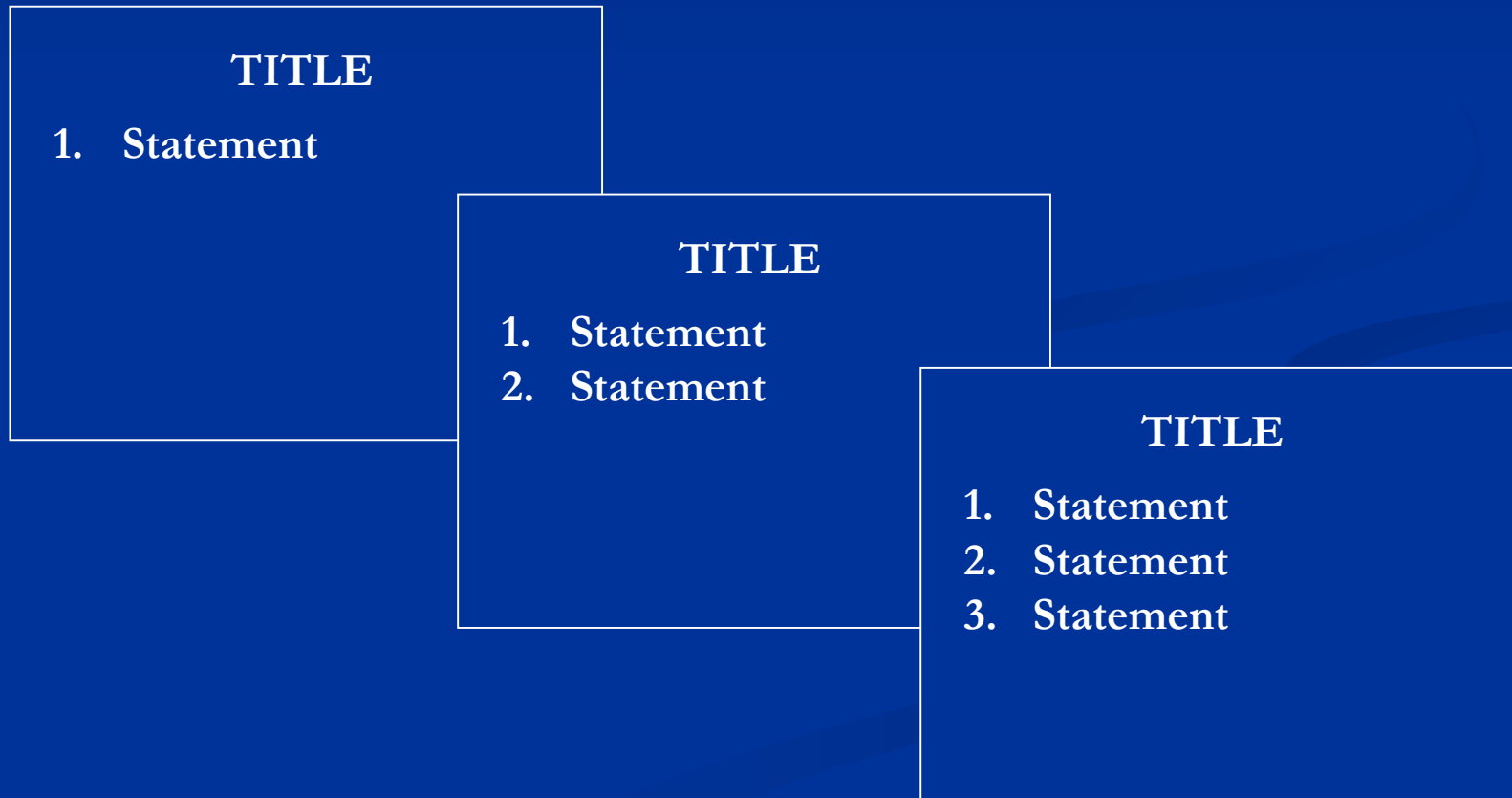


Image slides

1. Background – black/deep blue
2. Text colour for captions – yellow or white
3. Select X-ray, CT, NMR films with adequate contrast
4. Select and expand the most significant images than project the whole film

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Thank you!