

Survey and Homework 1

Assigned: Tuesday, January 9, 2007

Due: Tuesday, January 16, 2007

Submission: Hardcopy at 8:00 am

Name (Printed): _____ Email: _____

The following survey was designed by Professor Jean-Yves Le Boudec, Professor, EPF, Lausanne, Switzerland. In each case, provide a sentence in support of your choice.

Quiz Question 1: About the readers for my paper,

- a) My readers will carefully read my paper from the first sentence to the last.
- b) My readers will read the abstract carefully and, if interested, will dive into selected portions of the paper.
- c) No one will read my paper anyhow.

Quiz Question 2: About the notation used in my paper,

- a) On page 2, I introduce the variable \hat{o} , and I use it again on page 13. My readers will remember what \hat{o} is, otherwise, why would they read my paper?
- b) On page 2, I introduce the variable \hat{o} , and I use it again on page 13. Since it is a long way from the definition to the next use, I put a list of variables at the end of the paper.
- c) No one checks the mathematical formulas anyhow.

Quiz Question 3: About the figures,

- a) The legend of my figures is terse. I assume my reader will look at the figure exactly when my text directs him/her to do so.
- b) My reader may look at the figures before reading all the text, just to get a feeling for the paper. Therefore I put legends that are as self-contained as possible.
- c) I never put figures. It is a pain to put them into Latex/Word and no one looks at them anyhow.

The following questions are intended to assess your interests and background in reading, writing, speaking, professional ethics, and ability to do online search for technical literature. Please mark the answer(s) that apply to you and add further detail as appropriate.

Reading:

- Outside of what is required for course work, I read:
 - a lot
 - fair amount
 - very little
 - not at all

- The range of my technical reading in the past has included:
 - textbooks
 - other library books
 - web pages
 - journals

- Have you had an occasion to read a technical journal article in the past? If so, describe briefly.

Writing:

- Outside of what is required for course work, I have written:
 - a lot
 - fair amount
 - very little
 - not at all

- Outside of the course and lab reports, indicate if you have had a chance to write a technical paper. If so, describe briefly the longest such paper you have written.

- Indicate which describes you best in your own estimation:
 - I have taken the initiative to write outside of assigned work
 - I write well but have not written any thing outside of assigned work.
 - I find writing difficult and would rather not write unless forced to.

Speaking:

- Have you had any experience in speaking to a group? If so, describe briefly how often and in what context(s).

- Indicate what describes you best in your own estimation:
 - I like to make oral presentations
 - I do not mind making oral presentations
 - I would rather not make oral presentations
 - I am too embarrassed to make oral presentations

Professional Development and Ethics

- Indicate if you are a (student) member of a professional organization. If so, which.

- Indicate if you have read (or are otherwise aware of) the Departmental policy on academic integrity.

- Indicate if you have some understanding of professional ethics and how it applies to you.

Online Search of Technical Material

- Find the article, “Thin locks: featherweight synchronization for Java,” by D.F. Bacon, R Konuru, C Murthy, M Serrano. Describe in enough details the steps that you used to find and download this paper as a PDF file so that I can repeat your search.
- Suppose you were asked to find as many citations as you can to the above process. Carry out the steps, and state below the total number of *distinct* sources you found that cited this paper. If you can show me multiple methods (e.g. by using different tools) to find citations to this paper, you may earn up to 1 bonus point.
- List five recent papers, which refer to the above paper. Whoever finds the most recent citation will earn 1 bonus point.