RSS

The Project Architecture Report
Why CI?
Why CI?

So that you present your ideas with the same *professionalism* and *excellence* with which you develop them.
Why CI?
First, some context.
First, some context.
First, some context.

- information
- communication
First, some context.

- information
- communication
- relationship
First, some context.
First, some context.
First, some context.

Respect
Credibility
Professionalism
Enthusiasm
Work ethic

communication

relationship
Next, the content.
Next, the content.
information
Who?

information
Who?

- Profs
- CI team
- Teammates
- Classmates
- Yourself

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Who?

- Profs
- CI team
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Why?

- To get you thinking critically
- To scope out the problem
- To discover assumptions
- To tease out unknowns
Who?
- Profs
- CI team
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- Yourself

What? information

Why?
- To get you thinking
- To scope out the problem
- To discover assumptions
- To discover unknowns
And now...
And now…

…the part you’ve all been waiting for!
What the heck goes into this Report??
**Brief introduction:** What’s the point? What’s the value?

**Brief conclusion:** What do you want to leave us with?
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Statement of the problem: requirements specification

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Graphics: useful, explained, captioned, and labeled

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**Fig. 2. How a ladar works.**

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Fig. 2. How a ladar works.
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System Block Diagram: What pieces do you expect?

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**Components:**
- Inputs
- Outputs
- Internal Operation

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Brief conclusion: What do you want to leave us with?
That’s the what.
Here’s the how.
That’s the what.
Here’s the how.

What do you hate the most about reading?
That’s the what. Here’s the how.

What do you hate the most about reading?

OK, then don’t do that.
Help Your Reader

• Make them happy.
• Make your document easy to read:

  Efficiently!

  Accurately!
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  Efficiently!

  Accurately!
Efficient and accurate?

- The Robotics Library offers you free professional advice from professional roboticists about all types of robotic engineering, as well as help with reports and presentations. Hours are Monday-Thursday 9:00 am - 9:00 pm Friday 9:00 am - 6:00 pm, Sunday 5:00 pm-9:00 pm. Check online for updates. To make an appointment go to http://web.mit.edu/roboticists and click on the yellow sunburst.
Appointment times fill up quickly. Don’t wait till the day before your assignment is due. If you can’t find a convenient appointment time, there is an on-line Wait List, and 95% of clients who use the Wait List end up getting an appointment. To be placed on the Wait List, just click on the blue link that says, “Is the time that you want already reserved?” When a cancellation occurs, you will be notified by email. Claim an opening as soon as you can, because all Wait Listed clients are notified. If you can’t find an appointment, try the Online Roboticist at http://web.mit.edu/onlineroboticists.html.
Efficient and accurate!!

- The **Robotics Library** offers you **free professional advice** from professional roboticists about all types of robotic engineering.

- **Hours** (updates posted online)
  - Monday-Thursday  9:00 am - 9:00 pm
  - Friday 9:00 am - 6:00 pm
  - Sunday 5:00 pm-9:00 pm.

- **To make an appointment,** go to mit.edu/roboticists and click on the sunburst.

- **Plan ahead:** appointments fill up quickly. Don’t wait.

- **Can’t find a time?** 96% of clients who use the online Wait List get appointments.
  - To use the Wait List, click the link that says “**Is the time you want already reserved?**”
  - When a cancellation occurs, you will be notified by email.
  - Claim an opening as soon as you can, because eall Wait Listed clients are notified.

- **Online help:** If you can’t find an appointment, try the Online Tutor at mit.edu/robocisttutorial.
Rubric for a Happy Reader

• Reader Expectations
  – Clear introduction, context
  – Transitions throughout
  – Simple, precise language
Rubric for a Happy Reader

• Paragraphs
  – One idea per
  – Begin with main point
  – Include sufficient detail
  – Use explicit transitions
  – Arrange in a meaningful order
Rubric for a Happy Reader

• Citation
  – When in doubt, cite
  – Not to cite when needed is to plagiarize
Rubric for a Happy Reader

- **Intentional Redundancy** *(a/k/a useful repetition)*
  - Tie all parts to the main point
  - Reinforce main points with informative headings
  - Write explanatory captions
  - Make links explicit
Rubric for a Happy Reader

• Figures and Tables
  – Readable
  – Self-contained, with captions
  – Explained in detail in the text
  – Clearly and thoroughly labeled
  – Necessary and sufficient
Rubric for a Happy Reader

• Document Format
  – Make title and headings informative
  – Call out lists where helpful
  – Shorter rather than longer paragraphs
  – Plenty of white space
  – Center equations, label at right margin, white space above and below
Rubric for a Happy Reader

– These slides will be available online
– After you finish your draft, go back through and use these bullet points to revise it
– If you ask yourself, “Have I done this?” for each of these points, and can then answer “Yes,” your chances of having a happy reader skyrocket
– And one more thing…..
and don’t forget…

Valentine’s Day