Seminar Advanced Computer Architecture

WS 2012/13
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Agenda

- Discussion of seminar organization and admission process
- Admission and topic selection
- Topics for future meetings
Goals of the Seminar

• familiarize yourself with a new, non-trivial scientific topics or area
  – starting point: your assigned topic
  – find and evaluate background material from different sources (e.g. text books and at least 2 research papers)
  – work independently

• present your topic in a talk
  – presentation skills and rhetoric
  – explain complex issues in an accessible way to the audience
  – concentrate on the essential points
  – preparation for defense of Master’s thesis

• present your topic in a paper
  – structure and summarize knowledge
  – learn writing structured scientific texts
  – preparation for writing Master’s thesis
Goals of the Seminar (2)

• additional goal of the seminar: introduction to the academic peer review and publishing process

• academic publishing process
  – author submits draft paper about scientific findings to journal
  – editor distributes submission to several other experts in the field (peers)
  – each peer writes a detailed review on the submission (numeric ratings, free form text recommending changes)
  – based on the reviews, the editor decides about the next steps (accept as is, accept with major/minor revision, reject)
  – several revision/review rounds until editor accepts paper for publication
  – final version published in print and electronically

• we will use the same process in this seminar
Tasks of the Participants

• write paper on the selected topic
  – length: ~15 pages
  – information based on at least 2 research articles
  – written in English
  – use of LaTeX and BibTeX text processing system (templates will be provided)

• review papers from other participants
  – each participant will review two papers by other students

• present a talk on the selected topic
  – presentation time: 30 minutes
  – discussion and feedback: 10 minutes
  – PowerPoint template will be provided
Schedule

1. assignment of topics
2. lecture: reading, writing, presenting
3. first meeting with supervisor (discuss bibliography + outline)
4. submission of draft paper for review by two fellow students and supervisor
5. submission of reviews
6. submission of revised final version of paper
7. second meeting with supervisor (discuss draft presentation)
8. block seminar
Rules and Grading

• conditions for obtaining the “Seminarschein”
  – attendance of lectures and individual meetings
  – submission of the seminar paper
  – presentation of a talk
  – active participation in the discussions and reviews
  – adhering to all deadlines

• grading
  – the grade for the seminar is determined by evaluating the quality of the paper and the presentation, the participation in discussions, and the quality and extent of the feedback given to other participants

• plagiarism
  – copying larger sections of text from other work without proper citation is considered plagiarism and will be result in failing the seminar
Sources for scientific literature

• today digital libraries from major publishers provide access to almost all scientific publications
  – this is the best way to start your search for related work
  – UPB has a site subscription to almost all contents in these libraries
  – access is free from within the UPB network (or from outside via VPN)

• particularly relevant for the area of computer science and computer architecture are
  – SpringerLink [http://www.springerlink.com](http://www.springerlink.com)
  – Google Scholar [http://scholar.google.com](http://scholar.google.com)

• my favorite is ACM Portal, since it aggregates information from many publishers
Next Steps

• topics discussed in future meetings
  – introduction to the scientific publication process
  – reviewing papers
  – writing research papers
  – giving a scientific talk
  – introduction to LaTeX and BibTeX (self-study)

• select date for next meetings
  – find a suitable time slot for all participants

• please subscribe to mailing list
  – used for future communication
  – https://lists.uni-paderborn.de/mailman/listinfo/seminar-comparch-2012
  – I will use PAUL messages for future communication

• start reading your paper and background literature