System and Networking Seminar (CS 591 SN)

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Tianyin Xu
Klara Nahrstedt
$ Whoami

• I’m working on software and system reliability.
• I graduated from UC San Diego in 2017.
  ▪ My PhD thesis is on hardening cloud and datacenter systems against misconfigurations.
• I worked at Facebook on dealing with datacenter-level failures before joining UIUC.
  ▪ I gained 20 lbs eating free food there.
• I applied twice for grad school.
  ▪ “System research does not require genius.”
Prof. Klara Nahrstedt

• Probably no need to introduce her.
  • Ralph and Catherine Fisher Professor
  • Fellow of ACM and IEEE
  • IEEE Technical Achievement Award

• "for pioneering contributions to end-to-end quality of service and resource management in wired and wireless networks”
  • I read (and cited) Klara’s work on VCR video streaming over Internet when I was a student in China.

• Current projects:
  • Trustworthy Cyber Infrastructure for the Power Grid, Oil & Gas, UAVs
  • Video 360/VR/AR Systems
  • Advanced Data-Driven Cyber-Infrastructures
This is a seminar designed for YOU

• Benefit your own research
  • Identify new research opportunities
  • Collect feedback of your early ideas
• Broaden your understanding of the field
• Improve you presentation skills
• Make friends and find partners
• Have fun 😊

• Don’t waste your time, if it’s not useful.
  • You are already a grad student
You are required to do the following

• Presenting something **you care**
  • Your own work
  • A published paper relevant to your work
  • A wild, unpolished idea (short talk)

• **Active** participation and discussion
  • Be an attacker
  • We’re going to be attacked by reviewers anyway
    • often in a more hash, nasty fashion
Policy

- Read the paper before coming.
  - Don’t embarrass yourself.

- Don’t play with your devices.
  - This is a “seminar.”
    - I advocate for not using a smart phone

- If you want to take the credit, you are required to attend most of the seminars.
  - You’re welcome to sit in.
Presentation

• PhD students are expected to present.
  • This is an opportunity for yourself.

• Master students are welcome to present.
  • If you don’t have your own project, it’s fine but please participate in discussion.

• Presentations are announced at
  • https://systems-seminar-uiuc.github.io/
Presentation (cont.)

• **We need good presentations.**
  - Explain the problems (motivation & background) well
    - For systems research, the problem is often more important.
  - Make sure you deeply understand the content.
  - **Please do not treat a paper as a fact or truth, even it is published at top-tier conferences.**
    - It’s basically an opinion or a proposal.
    - Please don’t worship authors.
  - Don’t spend time on making pretty slides.

• There are lots of resources online for giving good talks. I’m happy to look at your slides and help you practice.
Presentation (cont.)

• We hope to organize presentations into **topics**.
  • Each topic of interest will have a series of deep discussion.

• <<< Let’s know each other and organizing the presentations on the white board. >>>