

Homework Assignment #8, Journal Club Presentation—rev. 03.18.2014

This assignment is a *team* project; each person on the team will receive the same number of points for the assignment. Teams are responsible for fairly allocating the work among team members. If you believe a member of your team has not contributed proportionate effort, consult Professor Beck.

This assignment comprises the following elements:

1. Choose a *Physical Review Letter* from one of the papers featured on physics.aps.org. Designate one member of the team to email the name of your team members and the title of the paper you have selected to Celia by **Monday, March 24**. Teams may not present the same paper; in the event that two teams select the same paper, the first team to “register” will get the paper, and the second team will have to select another paper, so don’t dawdle.
2. Prepare an oral presentation, which will be delivered jointly by all members of the team, that describes and critiques your article. Use the template that will be presented in class to model your presentation. Plan on 15 min to present and 5 min for questions.
3. Schedule a 30-min meeting during the week of April 4 to meet as a team with Professor Beck make sure you understand the physics.
4. Email a nearly final draft of your presentation to Celia no later than Tuesday morning, April 8 for editorial suggestions. You will be given feedback on ways to improve your presentation.
5. **The final version of your talk must be emailed to both instructors by 9:00 AM on April 11.**
6. Present your talk on April 11 during class and answer audience questions about the paper.

Your presentation must include the following elements:

- (i) A summary of the work reported in the article.
- (ii) A recap of the paper’s principal conclusions.
- (iii) A critical evaluation of the work reported. Did the authors answer the question they set out to resolve? Did they extend previous work? Did they justify their conclusions? Do you believe that the work is important, the results significant, and the conclusions valid?

To give everyone equal time to present, the 20-minute time limit will be strictly enforced. You should have no more than 8 to 10 slides in your presentation to meet this time constraint.

Some form of standard presentation software should be used to prepare your slides; we recommend PowerPoint. If you use some other program, provide a PDF file of your presentation to ensure compatibility with the hardware in Room 322. Be sure to remember to embed your fonts!

Due: **Friday, April 11, 9:00 AM**. Email the final version of your presentation to both instructors. Assignments submitted after the deadline will be downgraded. This assignment is not eligible for rewrite points.

Total—100 points