

CSCI 72400 Paper

Paper due April 9 by the beginning of class.

All graduate students (in 72400) must write a paper worth 10% of your grade. This should be a minimum 5000 word paper (8-12 pages of nicely spaced 12 point Computer Modern text on an $8\frac{1}{2} \times 11$ inch sheet of paper with 1 inch margins). You *must* use L^AT_EX to prepare this paper.

The topic can be almost anything related to decidability or tractability, ideally some other computer science topic that you have a passion for. For example, successful papers in the past have included showing that Super Mario Brothers is NP-Complete, how the “P=NP?” question affects encryption schemes, how theory influences programming languages, and an overview of computation via category theory.

I am your target audience for the paper. If you need to know whether I am familiar with a topic, just ask.

Half of the paper’s grade will be based on readability and documentation. Grammar, spelling, sentence and paragraph structure count. All your work should be documented. All opinions and suppositions must be backed up by facts that are documented. All sources should be cited. Be sure your sources are authoritative. Google is not a source. Wikipedia is not authoritative. You should document your work using the *Chicago Manual of Style*’s “Notes-Bibliography (NB) System”. You use footnotes to indicate location of information within a source, and a bibliography to list all your sources. The bibliography does not count to the size of the paper. The citations are not a bibliography.

The other half of the grade will be based on the technical content of your paper. Did you connect the topic you are interested in to the class topics? Did you find material that supports your premisses? Did you present clear, cogent arguments? I will be asking myself these questions as I read your paper. We all hope the answer is “yes”.

Be aware that I will be checking the usual sources for plagiarism. The best way to avoid getting caught is to not do it.

Email both a .pdf of the paper and the L^AT_EX.tex file to me before the deadline. Be sure your name is in the file name. For example, I might send ericSchweitzerTMCatagory.tex and ericSchweitzerTMCatagory.pdf.