

**One Page Review – CIMNE Seminar 10/10/2018 – By: Aly Youssef**  
***“Reactive transport: numerical issues and challenges”, by Jesús Carrera***

Giving presentations is an important part of sharing one's work and achieving recognition in the larger scientific communities. The ability to do so effectively can contribute to career success. The ability to present a topic that is considered very specific to a certain area of interest or research may pose some obstacles when trying to communicate the findings that were achieved. This is due to the uncertainty regarding the background of the audience. Thus, the style of presentation must cater to an audience of varying levels of knowledge in the presented topic without sacrificing the strength of the findings.

The seminar presented by Jesús Carrera on the topic of “Reactive transport: numerical issues and challenges” employs much of the techniques necessary for a successful scientific presentation.

The first step was the overall structure of the presentation. A consistent template was used throughout the presentation. This helps keep the audience focused and oriented as they follow the flow of an expected pattern. The selected font and font size were suitable for an audience to read from afar. When an equation was presented it was framed inside a rectangle to place emphasis on it. Appropriate scientific notations and citations were also used throughout the presentation. The backbone of the presentation was the outline shown at the beginning. This helps to clarify from the start what will be covered. It also allows the audience to have a greater grasp of the flow of the presentation hence increase the amount of information they receive and understand.

The presenter maintained the structure of the presentation as presented in the outline. The approach used in this presentation was to narrate to the audience the evolution of the conducted research: to go through the initial phases and how the problem was initiated; and through a process of research and findings, how the proposed solution came into fruition. This style of presentation helps the audience to remain engaged with the presentation and to have interest in the topic. This technique was accompanied by numerous visual resources such as pictures, charts and different types of graphics. Using text solely could get boring for the audience thus making them easily distracted. The employment of visual resources helps the audience to remain interested in the topic. This is due to the fact that visual resources help convey complex theoretical ideas in a more intuitive manner. The presenter uses these tools to present the results of the research through its different phases of evolution. It is worth noting that all provided pictures were explained thoroughly. In addition to visual resources, equations were also used. The equations provided by the presenter were relevant to the flow of information in the presentation. The main variables of each equation and their relevance to the problem were explained. This made it easier for the audience of all backgrounds to get a better understanding of the proposed findings.

The main aspect of any presentation is the presenter and not the slides. The presenter commands the flow of information and engages the audience. The modulated tone employed by the presenter made it easier to follow through the presentation and focus on its main aspects. The enthusiasm of the presenter was conveyed through his body language. His motion from one side to the other and the motion of his hands made the audience more engaged, without being distracting. The presenter also spoke in a calm and confident manner thus making the audience see him as a credible source. In addition to current findings, the presenter also presented future work and improvements that could be done.

Finally, it could be said that the presenter provided a successful presentation of his findings. The main points proposed in the initial outline were all covered. By employing adequate presentation techniques, both in the slides and physically, the presenter was able to clearly communicate his findings and results.