Abstract/Summary

Write an abstract or summary of a technical document

What is an abstract?
What should an abstract look like?
What is the difference between an abstract and a summary?

Abstract/Summary Guidelines

- **Length**: An abstract should be relatively short
  - 100-150 words is normal
  - No more than 200 words

- **Content**: Brief overview of the paper/report
  - Motivation - Provide some context for the paper/report
  - Topic - Highlight the main points that might interest a reader
  - Novel - Highlight what is new/novel in the paper/report
  - Results - If space permits

- **Self-Contained**
  - Should not assume the reader has read the paper
  - Or will read the paper

Abstract Guidelines - *Proposal*

- **Motivation**: Provide some context for the proposal
- **Problem Statement**: Describe the problem the will be addressed in the proposal
- **Proposed Solutions**: Briefly describe the proposed solution
**Abstract/Summary Tips**
- Try to avoid using too many acronyms or jargon
- Typically written in third person

**Abstract vs. Summary**
- Hard to quantify the difference between abstract and summary
  - Abstract are usually shorter in length
  - Summaries usually always provide some results

**How would you rank the pictures in terms of abstractness?**

**How would you rank the pictures in terms of summarizing?**
Effective Writing for Engineers Workshop

- Topic: Abstracts
- Date: Today, Thursday Sept. 27th
- Time: 5:00PM – 6:00PM
- Location: ECE 512