Speech Critique Essay

"Fully coupled fluid-electro-mechanical cardiovascular simulations", by Dr. Mariano Vazquez (CIMNE, November 2017)

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Dr. Vazquez delivered a very methodic and systematic seminar. The seminar started with a brief introduction of the Barcelona supercomputing center and delved into the variety of research lines that are pursued at BSC. This was vital exposure for the students who were in attendance in my opinion. The occasional hilarity that was interknit into the seminar was much appreciated and invoked a strong amusement in the audience. The seminar was framed in the chronological order of the research that was performed which helped the audience ease into the topic without having to face an intimidating brick wall.

The speaker exhibited tremendous strength in credibility of the subject and logical argument through his words. The speaker refrained from using hyperbole and stuck to hard facts, data and results. The speech was composed of thought provoking ideas. Some humorous interjections built a good connection with the audience. The talk was supplemented with extremely interesting and aesthetically pleasing rendered numerical results. Relating his research to real world applications was commendable. From stents for blood vessels to the comparison of a normal adult heart and an ailing heart with a pacemaker with different electro potential provided further insight into the research. Incidences like putting up a MRI scan of the speaker on the slides and relating medical imaging to his research kept the audience engaged and lively throughout the seminar.

The body language and gestures use throughout the speech of the speaker were excellent. One cannot not realize his enthusiasm and energy for the research, which comes out strongly. Personally I felt the content of the seminar provided only a heuristic understanding of the research and failed to engage me technically, maybe it was not intended to. Equally, the vocal variety he exhibits is worthy of emulation. He uses varied pace, pauses, emphasis and volume excellently. Not only does this aid in conveying his ideas and enthusiasm, but it also helps in adding drama throughout the speech and brings about understanding.