

CS1 3rd Assessment

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Critical Review of Soil Crushing via DEM

Mr. Marcos Arroyo took the presentation 'Soil Crushing via DEM' on Wednesday November 14th, 2018. This presentation is rich and colorful, and contains a large amount of experimental data in numerical methods. The Professor concentrated the information in one hour's presentation. Generally, this presentation is successful and interesting.

The structure of this presentation is brief and to the point. Audience could easily follow the structure from the outline. The 1st part, introduction, contains previous related work and geotechnical relevance of the problem. The 2nd part is model description which contains two questions: 'when to break? Breakage criterion' and 'How to break? Spawning procedure'. The next part is some applications, and this part the professor skipped fast. The final part is summary. All the presentation going ahead follows the outline structure, and each step is clearly.

The layout of the slides is readable, although some figures are not very easy to read. Some figures contain too much information; thus, it is hard to get the information directly. As the supplement, the professor orally explained some important point on the figures. If the figure is not complicated, we can enlarge the font of characters, otherwise, the layout will become difficult and in this case the data objectivity should be more important. The professor's oral explanation has been useful for making up this shortage of readability.

This presentation, with more than slides, last about 70 minutes. The time for this topic is just right, each slide costing 1~2 minutes. The rhythm is the best control for the presentation in research.

The content has been shown mainly by vivid images, figures but not dull text. This has been useful for catching the audience's attention. The professor successfully avoided the audience struggling in abstract concepts. You can rarely see sentences in the slides, just some keywords instead.

On the other hand, nothing is perfect. The presentation could be better if the professor improves this speaking skills. First, the tone was gentle and some flat, so the audience could lose attention in the one-hour speech considering that a scientific talk contains many abstract details. He could avoid this by presenting with more enthusiasm like waves up-and-down instead of horizontal line. Second, a good use of nonverbal language, including gestures and body language can also improve the mood of the audience and make the presentation more interesting.