

# Paper

Yip, K., Sussman, G. J. "Sparse Representations for Fast, One-Shot Learning", MIT Artificial Intelligence Laboratory Paper, November 1997.

# Assignment

On a total of one side of one sheet of paper, using 10 pt type or larger, with standard interline spacing and margins, respond to all the following:

You are to write an MIT press release for the Yip/Sussman work.

Your press release should have the elements suggested in the sample below, including the usual journalistic requirement for who, what, where, when, and how, all of which are illustrated in the first paragraph.

Include in your press release, and mark for my easy identification, the following:

- Your choices for the vision, contribution, and what was actually done.
- Your choices for salient, surprise, and slogan.
- Your sense of the potential impact of the work.
- Your sense of whether the paper is about learning or phonology.

**Note:** This assignment seems to invite humor, and if you feel like writing something funny, do so. But also be sure to take the paper seriously, and interdigitate a serious assesment with your jokes.

# Sample

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**For Immediate Release**

## **STUDENTS DEMONSTRATE COLD FUSION TO SATISFY SUBJECT REQUIREMENT**

CAMBRIDGE, MA, April 1, 2001. Charles Vest, president of MIT, announced that a group of computer-science students has just found a way to produce abundant energy through cold fusion at essentially zero cost. Dr. Vest indicated that the student group

serendipitously stumbled across the essential ideas during the past month while working on a term project.

Blah, blah, blah, ... vision, contribution, what was actually done, salient, surprise, slogan, potential impact, ... blah, blah, blah

A spokesperson for the student group explained that some of the members were upset that they would not benefit financially from the discovery, inasmuch as one of the group's members had once visited the MIT Media Laboratory, which requires that all visitors sign a complex intellectual property agreement. Professor Nicholas Negroponte, founder of the Media laboratory, explains that innovation is not limited to science and technology. "Law is the next frontier for creative minds," he said, "The transitivity clause in our intellectual property agreement soon will apply to 95% of the earth's population."

According to reliable sources, other members of the group worried about whether their project would be viewed as A-level work by their instructor Professor Patrick H. Winston. As the project was presented to him, he was heard to say, "I don't care how important it is, it's not AI." Then he added, "Anyway, the slides had too many words."

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology educates men and women of high potential through degree programs in engineering, science, business, architecture, and the humanities. The Institute is located in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

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