

Capstone Research Proposal

As part of the capstone class you are expected to write a research proposal. There are many important parts of this document and you should expect to build on the work you did for your journal talk. This paper needs to include the following sections

- A discussion of the scientific literature that gives a background for the question you wish to address. The work you did to create your journal talk will largely inform this part of the paper.
- A clear statement of the question you wish to address. This needs to be a question that can be answered in a hard and fast way, the kind of question that you know when you have answered it.
- A discussion of what motivates your work. This section should answer why someone other than you would find this question interesting.
- A rough plan on how you will carry out answering this question. This need not be what actually happens, but you need to demonstrate that you have thought out what you are likely to do in a rather detailed manner. This should include a list of the key pieces of equipment the physics department has that you expect to use as well as any major equipment or supplies that will need to be purchased.

You should discuss a draft of this document at least one week before the October 1st deadline. Submit a copy of the final document to both your advisor and myself.