SIfA EMCR Workshop 2015 – Session 2, CV Surgery with Panel 2
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General Comments

- Find something to discuss in your CV. The interview is for people who have something of interest, so make your CV interesting.
- Focus on highlights of your work, what you've achieved. For example, focus on the final achievement of a project, or how you contributed.
- Make the information you present readily accessible and easy to read. For example use bullet points, format your CV appropriately.
- Focus on things that are relevant to the job you are applying for.
- Communication skills are important.
- Format of your CV needs to be engaging.
- Need to give examples where you have shown initiative, where you go beyond the status quo. This shows intelligence, and gives you stuff to talk about. What did you introduce that was new?
- Leadership is good to demonstrate, e.g. leading a project.
- Normally submit a cover letter with your CV, and the cover letter should get to the point, and say why you want to be there.
- Education details normally go last.
- Need to give specific details of things that you have done, for example, talks you have given to show your communication skills, meetings you have organised.
- Demonstrate how you fit into the company, by giving examples of things you have done.
- Important to show your contributions and that you are self-motivated. Pragmatic examples are huge, for example your Github repository, as this shows motivation and passion.
- Good to show your 'skills matrix'. (I think this refers to how your skills complement each other, and suit the job you are applying for). Have a bit of a story in your CV. Mention projects you were involved in, summarised in 2-3 pages.
- Having an astronomy background is different and is something that will catch the eye. Explaining proposals you have made can be interesting to the interviewer.
- When demonstrating work experience, highlight what you did, e.g. writing a pipeline, to demonstrate your skills.
- Need to be confident about what you put in your CV. For every project you list, think about what you added to the project. Interviews go better if you have something to talk about, so try to get the interviewers to ask questions.