

Tips for a good SyG interview

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Math AdG Panel Chair (2008-2010-2012)

SyG Panel (2028)

ERC AdG DyCon (2016-2021)

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SyG Interviews preparation



You have to be
within the top
30%, 20%, 10%...

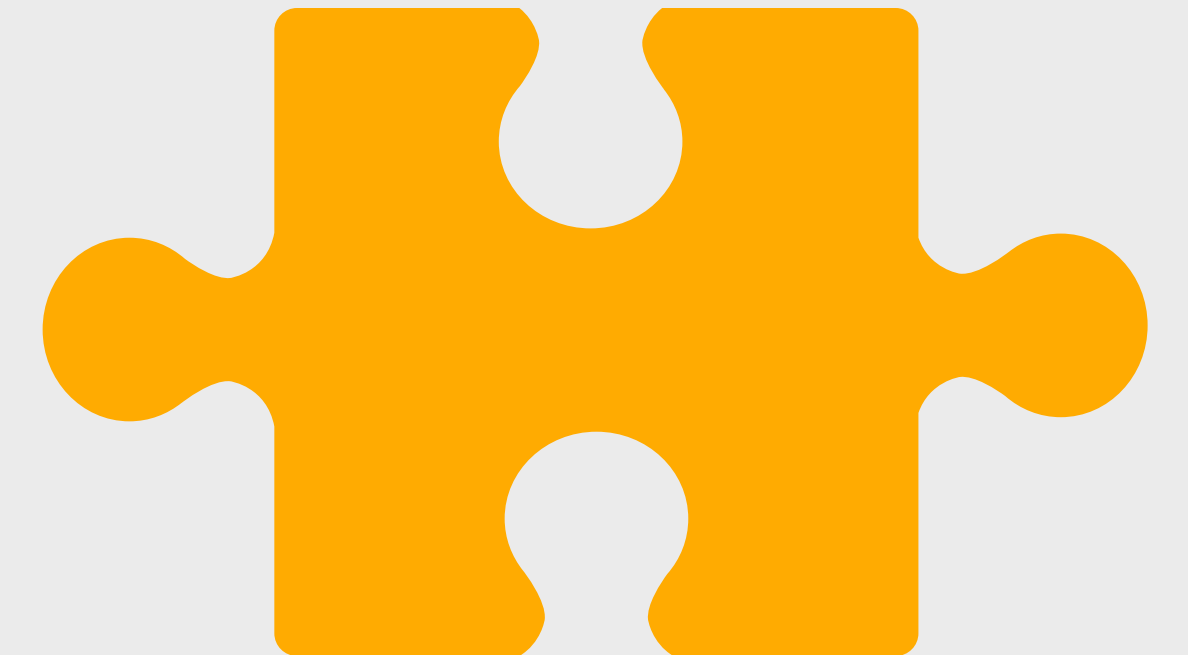
Take into account that



All SyG proposals
**prepare the
interview**



Some have
outstanding
**communication
skills**



The interview
is decisive

Place yourself and address the panel in a way that:

You feel
comfortable
(seating?
standing?)

Talk **clear**. Make
sure they can
hear you

Show
enthusiasm

Why it is not
just a big AdG?

Panel members
see you

Try to do it as
the **best** speaker
in TedTalks/TV

This is the
most
important
project!

Why **Synergy**?
(different from
multidisciplinarity)

Make sure they know who you are:

One slide per person?

Just photo, affiliation and one key milestone

If you have the Nobel, the photo of your medal suffices



Be ready for unexpected scenarios/events

Micro on your hands

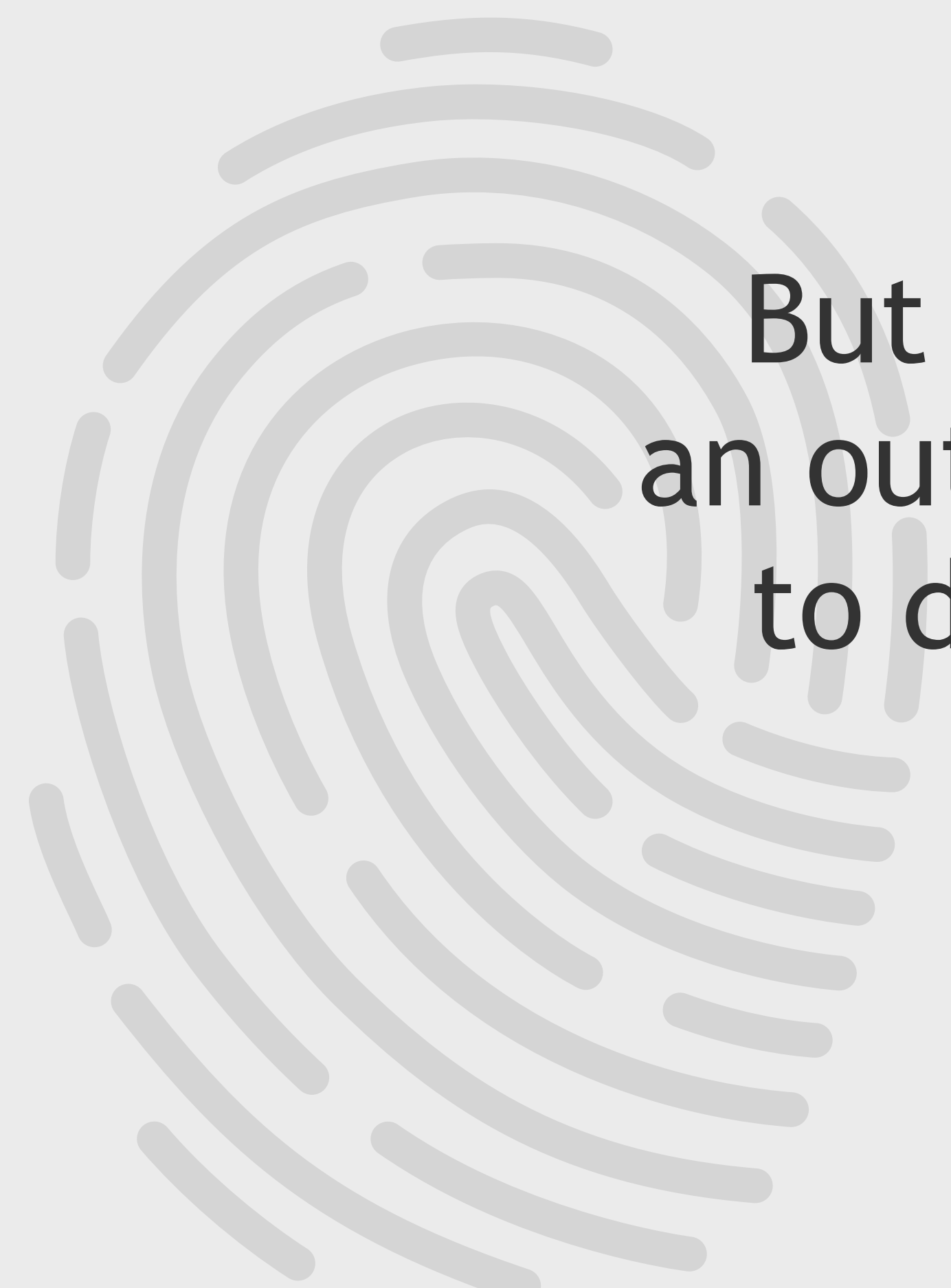
Too hot

Some ERC officials enter the room during your talk

....

You apply

But you also generously **offer**
an outstanding team of scientists
to develop an unique project



Smile!

You are not going
to fail now!

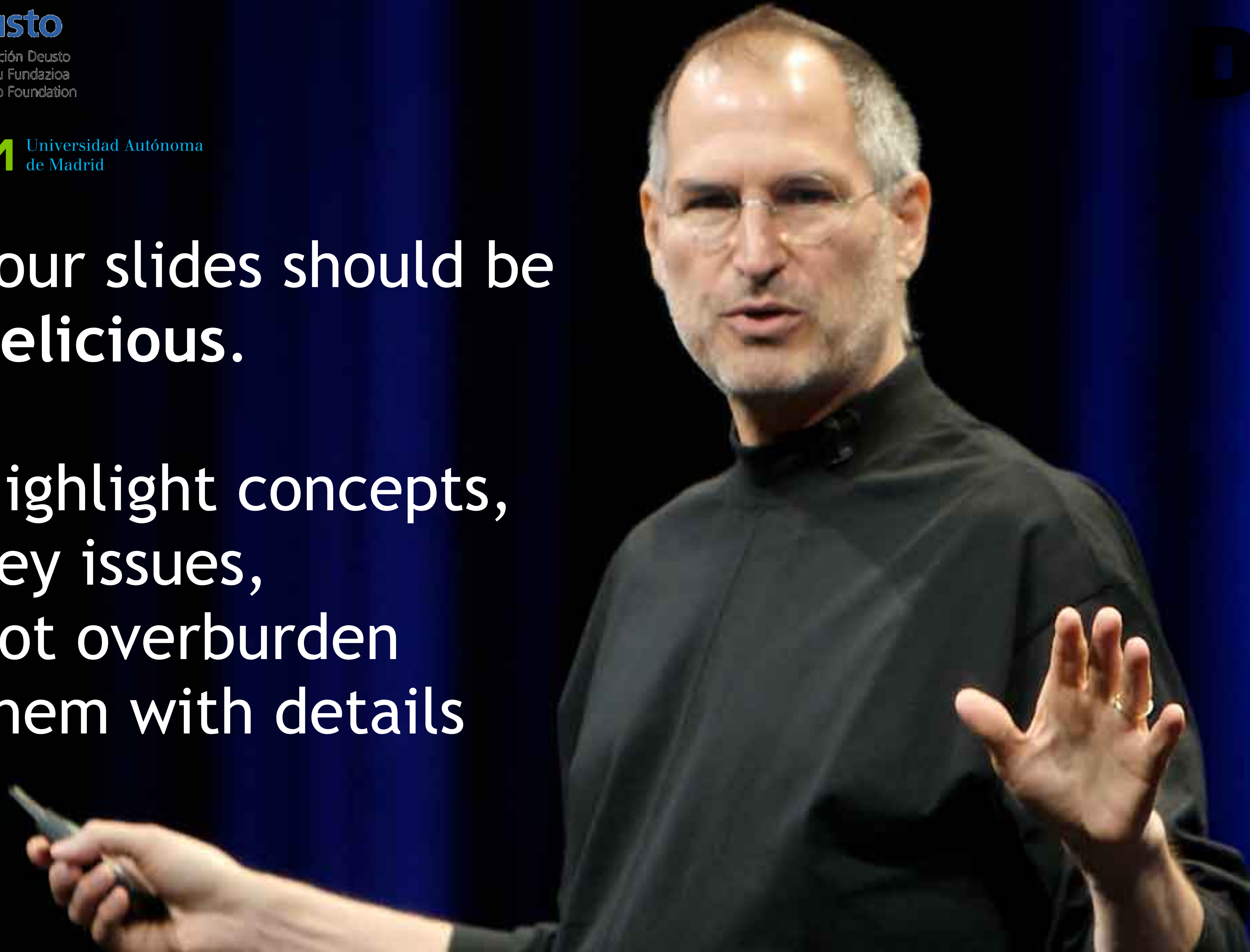




Out of the, say, 12 panel members, only one or two will belong to your broad area. You have to be very convincing for them, providing sufficient technical detail, but in a way that the others can follow you and understand that your project should be in the final list

Your slides should be
delicious.

Highlight concepts,
key issues,
not overburden
them with details



Key Messages

Frontier Science - Breakthrough!

Synergy is a must

All PIs needed, coordinated, compatible, complementary





Prepare your speech for
them. They should feel...

Pls are great

This is passionating

I like it even if I am far
from that area

This is the highest
quality ever

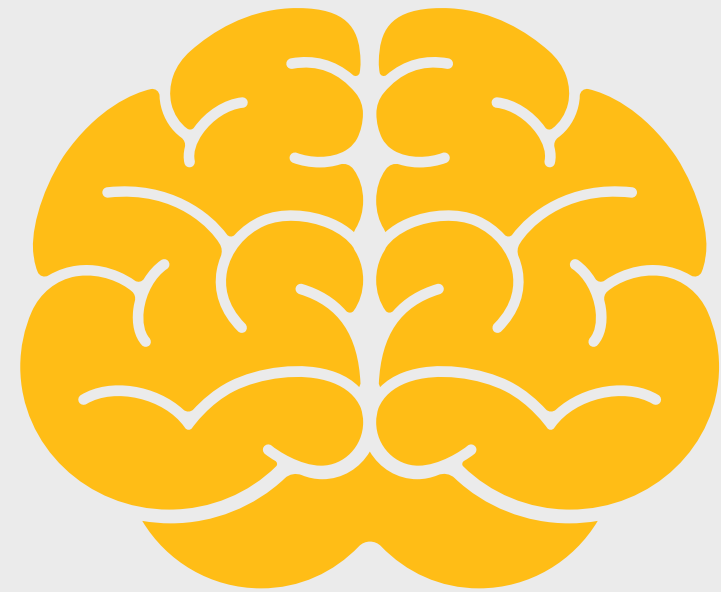
Be precise on everything you say

You could irritate experts in other areas!

Think that similar topics are being developed in other areas too and you want their support

Think on the landscape of Science, and make sure you gain the complicity of experts in yours, in the neighboring ones, and those that are far.

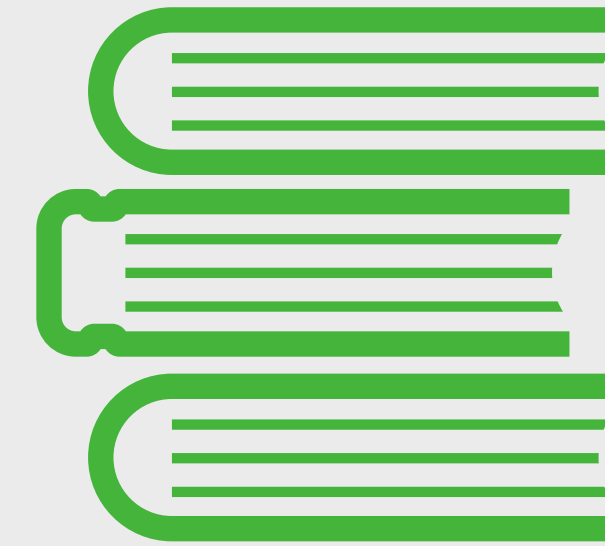




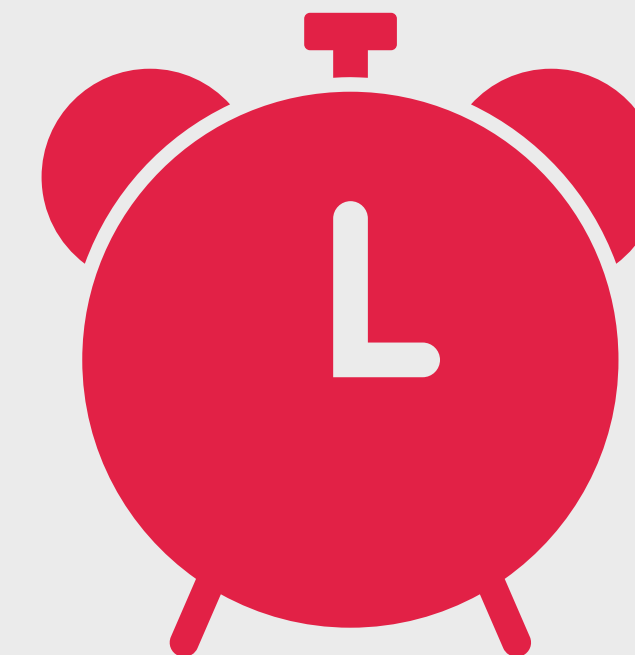
Think all sort
of possible
questions



Listen to them



Prepare answers and a
strategy to address them:
who? what?



Clear and short responses.
Time is precious

Anticipate the end of the interview

Try to fix a final message reinforcing the synergetic concept and outstanding challenge

Good luck!

Enrique Zuazua