SAI1 evaluation

Individual students' competency will both evaluated by their team and individual performance, judged by the business and technical quality of the Minimum Viable Product (MVP).

Group assessment will be based on:

- Quality of the group project output in terms of:
    - Business value proposition and proposed business model.
    - Appropriateness of data acquisition and management.
    - MVP code and deployed prototype.
        - Appropriate documentation (comments or markdown text allows understanding).
        - Deployed prototype runs without bugs and is clear / user friendly.
- Quality of the written report:
    - Clarity and completeness.
    - Reasoning, critical thinking.
    - Motivation of business value and model.

Individual assessment will be based on:

- Contribution to the group project (self-declared and peer-reviewed, table of contributions indicating the percentage contribution of each group member to each element of the project, for example: conceptualization, data collection, data preprocessing, modeling, deployment, business value analysis, business model analysis).
- Ability to answer questions (technical and business) during the final pitch.

How is the final grade obtained?

Group Grade

- Basic (1.0 – 4.0): business plan, MVP (code repository, explanatory report, deployed MVP) + pitch
- Advanced (up to 6):
    - Investment budget is 100.000 CHF per group, grade is allocated as per average investment across judges (deliberated at pitch time).

Individual grade

- Group redistributes points with table of individual contributions (unanimous & agreed)

In detail, see table in next page:

Default grade if sufficient is 4, if a criterion is insufficient, score is subtracted from the 4, if a criterion is excellent, score is added beyond the 4 (and expressed by judges in the form of investment at the moment of the pitch).

Criterion	Evaluated In	Insufficient (-)	Sufficient (✓)	Excellent (+)
Business Value Proposition & Business Model	Report, Pitch	Unclear or generic value proposition; value is offered by other companies in the market; weak or unrealistic business model; no clear link between AI and value creation.	Clear problem definition and value proposition; product addresses a need not yet covered in the market; logical, feasible business model; AI's role in creating value is clear.	Innovative, data-driven concept with strong evidence of value creation; potential for breakthrough product and business – unicorn; realistic, scalable business model; the use of AI is fundamental for the product to exist.
Data Acquisition & Management	MVP Repository, Report	Data is inadequate, source unclear or poorly justified; low-quality or unethical data handling.	Relevant and documented data sources; ethically sound and good data management; adequate preprocessing.	Creative, multi-source data strategy; clear documentation, versioning, and governance; demonstrable data quality improvement.
MVP Code & Deployed Prototype (completeness, stability & usability)	MVP Repository, Deployment, Pitch (deployment)	Code incomplete or non-functional; MVP not deployed or lacks core functionality needed for minimum value to be delivered. Prototype unstable, buggy, or not user-friendly; unclear interface.	Fully functional MVP containing main components; organized repository; functional deployment. Stable and functional prototype; core features work without bugs; basic usability.	Robust, modular, and efficient MVP; deployed online with scalability, automation, or innovation beyond requirements. Smooth, intuitive, and visually clear prototype; efficient performance; interactive elements or dashboards.
Documentation (Code & Markdown)	MVP Repository, Report	Missing, confusing, or minimal documentation; workflow hard to follow.	Adequate comments, readme, notebook or any other type of textual explanation accompanying the code; workflow understandable and reproducible.	Clear, professional documentation with diagrams or architecture overview; links technical work with business interpretation.
Written Report: Clarity & Completeness	Report	Incomplete or poorly structured report; missing b. value, b.model, methodology, results, or contributions table.	Complete and logically organized report; includes b. value, b. model, methods, results, and conclusions.	Exceptionally clear, well-structured, and formatted report with visuals, critical analysis, and strong link to business strategy. All components.
Reasoning & Critical Thinking	Report, Pitch	Weak justification of decisions; no reflection or evaluation.	Logical explanation of technical and business choices; coherence between data, model, and outcomes.	Deep, reflective analysis; considers alternatives and trade-offs; connects results to broader implications.
Motivation of Business Value & Model	Report, Pitch	Business motivation, unclear or unsupported; No added value provided in the market; unclear model, AI's role vague.	Reasonable justification of business motivation and value; aligned with MVP, clear role of AI in the value, appropriate model.	Strong, data-supported motivation and value; innovative; demonstrates scalability, market fit, and competitive advantage through AI; potential to transform market.
Contribution to Group Project (individual weighting of the group grade)	Contribution Table in report	Limited or unclear contribution of the student in the project; missing self-report.	Clear, proportional contribution of the student to project tasks (it can be a subset of tasks but is proportional across all tasks of the project).	Outstanding contribution or leadership; key insights driving group success.
Ability to Answer Questions During Final Pitch (individual weighting of the group grade)	Pitch	Cannot explain own or group work; incorrect or vague answers.	Clear, correct responses on personal and team contributions; sound technical and business understanding.	Confident, insightful responses showing deep understanding; connects to broader context and implications.

Written report guidelines:

The report should be concise but complete: long enough to cover all relevant aspects clearly, but without unnecessary repetition or filler text.

General Expectations

- The report should tell the story of your project: what business problem you aimed to address, how AI was used to solve it, how data, modeling, deployment, and business considerations were handled, what your main value is in the final MVP and which business model you envision to bring your MVP to market.
- Report should be self-contained: a reader unfamiliar with your code should still be able to understand your approach, logic, and results.

Sections to Include:

- StartUp name.
- Executive summary.
- Problem definition, context, and Business Value Proposition.
- Data acquisition, processing and management.
- Methodology and MVP description.
- Overview of deployment.
- Critical reflection on how MVP generates value considering the problem it tries to solve.
- Envisioned Business Model.
- Table of individual contributions.
- References.