

# **Assignment 1:** Report on a Scientific paper

Marking rubric 2023-24

## **Assessment Criteria**

The report will be assessed in terms of:

- Writing (is the report clear, rigorous, and well written?): 60%
- Structure and style (is it well organised?): 20%
- Creativity (does it offer interesting insight that goes beyond simply summarising?): 20%

A summary of the rubric used for each of the above criteria in turn.

<b>Writing - 60%</b>	
<b>A1</b> 90-100%	The report demonstrates a clear and accurate understanding of the statistical concepts presented in the paper. It shows a clear overview of the work, without getting lost in details. The report includes a brief yet thorough review, clearly highlighting the main contribution and limitations of this paper. It is easy to read and has little or no grammatical or spelling errors.
<b>A2</b> 80-89%	The report demonstrates a reasonably clear and accurate understanding of the statistical concepts presented in the paper. It shows a clear overview of the work, without getting lost in details. However, the description of the methods and concepts may be slightly lacking in parts or overly detailed. The main contribution and limitations of this paper are clearly stated. The report is easy to read and has no major grammatical or spelling errors.
<b>A3</b> 70-79%	The report mostly demonstrates a clear and accurate understanding of the statistical concepts presented in the paper but some minor points may be a little unclear or there may be some minor misunderstandings. It shows a clear overview of the work, but some areas may be overly or not sufficiently detailed. The main contribution and limitations of this paper are reasonably clearly stated. The report is easy to read and has no major grammatical or spelling errors.
<b>B</b> 60-69%	The report demonstrates a relatively clear and accurate understanding of most statistical concepts presented in the paper but some points may be unclear and there may be some minor misunderstandings. It mostly shows a clear overview of the work, but it may be overly detailed or lacking in parts. The main contribution and limitations of this paper are stated but may not be exhaustive or lack some clarity. The report is relatively easy to read and has few major grammatical or spelling errors.
<b>C</b> 50-59%	The report demonstrates a relatively clear and accurate understanding of several statistical concepts presented in the paper but some points may be unclear and there may be a major misunderstanding. It shows a clear overview of some of the work, but it may be overly detailed and may be lacking in parts. The main contribution and limitations of this paper are stated but may not be exhaustive and lack some clarity. The report may be difficult to read in parts and may have some major grammatical or spelling errors.
<b>D</b> 40-49%	It is unclear from the report how much of the statistical concepts presented in the paper are understood by the student although some points are relatively clear and accurately presented. It fails to demonstrate a clear overview of the work, but a clear attempt has been made to summarise all the relevant sections. The description of the methods and concepts may be limited. The main contribution and limitations of this paper may not be clearly stated. The report may be difficult to read in parts and may have some major grammatical or spelling errors.
<b>E-H</b> <40%	It is unclear from the report how much of the statistical concepts presented in the paper are understood by the student. It fails to demonstrate a clear overview of the work. The description of the methods and concepts may be limited at best. The main contribution and limitations of this paper may not be clearly stated. The report may be difficult to read in parts and may have some major grammatical or spelling errors.

<b>Structure and style - 20%</b>	
<b>A1</b> 90-100%	The report evidences exceptional attention to detail in the presentation of figures, tables, and/or mathematical formulae as appropriate. The writing follows a clear logical order which helps to highlight the main messages of the report. Judicious use of headings and subheadings help guide the reader throughout.
<b>A2</b> 80-89%	Considerable thought has been given to the presentation of figures, tables, and mathematical formulae to communicate the key scientific points effectively as appropriate. The writing follows a clear logical order and informative headings are used to divide the text into manageable sections and subsections without interrupting the flow.
<b>A3</b> 70-79%	The report is clearly laid out throughout: figures, tables, and mathematical formulae are supported through well-chosen labels, captions, or clarifying remarks, as appropriate. The writing follows a logical order and appropriate headings are used to divide the text into manageable sections and subsections without interrupting the flow.
<b>B</b> 60-69%	The report is laid out competently: figures and tables are mostly presented legibly and correctly referenced with informative captions; mathematical formulae are unambiguous and typeset properly with few errors. The writing follows a logical order and the text is divided into adequate sections and subsections.
<b>C</b> 50-59%	The report suffers from a few deficiencies in presentation and style such as poorly positioned or overloaded figures; ambiguous mathematical formulae; or inconsistent notation. Some captions may lack sufficient information. The writing mostly follows a logical order but the flow is hindered at times by either inadequately placed or sized sections.
<b>D</b> 40-49%	The report suffers from a major deficiency in presentation and style such as missing, duplicated, unreferenced, poorly positioned or overloaded figures and/or tables; uninformative captions; confusing and/or inconsistent mathematical notation; ambiguous or incorrect mathematical formulae. Sections of writing may not follow a logical order causing some confusion.
<b>E-H</b> <40%	Severe deficiencies in presentation or style entirely confuse any meaning. Essential components of the report, such as figures, are mostly absent, or presented in a manner such that their relevance to the content cannot be determined.

<b>Creativity - 20%</b>	
<b>A1</b> 90-100%	The report goes above and beyond merely summarising the main ideas of the paper. Interpretation of findings is mature, clearly linking proposed methodology to practical problems/applications and other studies beyond those discussed by the paper; with additional discussion of the limitations of the paper. Potentially interesting areas for further research or novel applications are suggested. The report may create additional insight, for example, by applying some of the paper's methodology and contrasting results with other methodologies or reproducing a minimal experiment.
<b>A2</b> 80-89%	The report goes beyond merely summarising the main ideas of the paper. Interpretation of findings is mature, clearly linking proposed methodology to practical problems/applications and other studies beyond those discussed by the paper; with additional discussion of the limitations of the paper. Potential interesting areas for further research or novel applications are suggested intelligently.
<b>A3</b> 70-79%	The report goes beyond merely summarising the main ideas of the paper. Interpretation of findings is mature, clearly linking proposed methodology to practical problems/applications and other studies beyond those discussed by the paper; with some additional discussion of the limitations of the paper. An attempt is made to identify further research or novel applications with reasonable success.
<b>B</b> 60-69%	The main contributions and limitations of the paper are discussed showing some evidence of further reading and original thought. An attempt is made to identify further research or novel applications but with some limited success.
<b>C</b> 50-59%	The main contributions of the paper are described and an attempt is made to discuss some related issues. An attempt is made to identify further research or novel applications but with limited success.
<b>D</b> 40-49%	The report mainly summarises the paper and includes some brief discussion points, for example, relating to its importance; applicability and/or limitations beyond those presented in the paper.
<b>E-H</b> <40%	The report merely summarises the paper, at best.