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Professor Skalak

COMP 364

11 November 2020

Written Report

* Code (45 points): The project must involve a substantial programming component. Any programming language may be used. The programming may build on an existing code base from a previous assignment or downloaded from any suitable source. Code written for the final project should be clearly marked using comments that contain the string "final project". Although the amount of code written will vary considerably between projects, this part of the project should represent 10-15 hours' work, which would typically translate into a few hundred lines of code. Code will be graded on the same criteria as the programming assignments in this course, as listed on the course web pages.
* Written report (45 points): The objectives, methods, and results of the project should be described in a formal written report. The overall style of the report should be that of a scientific publication, such as the ones we have studied in this course. The audience of the report should be the instructor and other students in the course. Thus, notions covered in the course may be assumed without definition, but other concepts should be carefully described in the report. As with any college-level writing, suitable citations should be used wherever appropriate, and a complete bibliography must be included. Any suitable structure for the document may be used. One possible structure is to use the following section headings:
  + Introduction: describe the goals your project and any context or background required.
  + Methods: describe the design of your code and your experiments.
  + Results: describes the results of your experiments, including tables and charts if appropriate.
  + Conclusions: summarize what you learned from the experiments; optionally, discuss alternative approaches and further work that could be done.
  + Bibliography: list the sources used.

Any reasonable spacing and formatting conventions may be used. The suggested length of the report is 5-10 pages, but longer reports will not be penalized.

At the end of your report, please add a short appendix (2-3 sentences should be sufficient) describing the contributions of each team member to the project. The purpose of this appendix is to provide evidence that each team member has made a reasonable level of contribution to the project. Usually, each team member will receive the same grade for the project.

The report will be graded on the usual characteristics for writing (clarity, correctness of spelling and grammar, completeness in addressing the above requirements, logical structure), together with the overall intellectual merit of the project.

* Presentation (10 points): In the final exam slot, the project and its results must be described in a presentation of approximately 10 minutes' duration (presentations shorter than 7 minutes or longer than 15 minutes will be penalized).