BSP Structured Projects
HT 2024

Important dates

HT Week 10
Monday 18 March (12 noon)
deadline for handing in project write-up

Roughly Monday 25 March to Monday 15 April
peer review period

TT Week 1
oral presentations

Project write-up

Should be equivalent to a 7500-word project,
roughly 15 pages of plain text.

Number of pages: **no more than 35**,
including calculations and tables,
from the start of the introduction to the end of the
conclusion.

(Code can be added as an appendix.)

Getting started

– plan your structure

– plan your time

Structure

A good structure for this (or any extended piece of writing) is:

Introduction
Section 1
Section 2
Section 3
Conclusion

For example:

Introduction
1. The basic model
2. Extension A: varying the wind speed
3. Extension B: lunar disturbances
Conclusion

Allocate page/word lengths:

Introduction − 500 words, 2-3 sides
Section 1 − 2000 words
Section 2 − 2000 words
Section 3 − 2000 words
Conclusion − 1000 words, 2-3 sides

Set yourself manageable targets:

Section 1 − by end of Week 2

Section 2 − by end of Week 4

Section 3 − by end of Week 6

Introduction and Conclusion

(and general polishing) − by end of Week 8

Writing

LaTeX document class 'report' enables you to produce
a title page, table of contents, section headings, etc.

Some tips:

– **always** keep your reader in mind

– write for yourself a year ago, or another student in your year

– in each section explain what you are going to do and why

– also explain any limitations

– use formal English and short direct sentences.

AVOID PLAGIARISM

by writing in your own words

and acknowledging all your sources.

References

There are three ways to insert references into your
text.

1. Allow LaTeX to do it for you [4].

2. Insert your own (Sobey 2007a, 2008).

3. Use footnotes.

For methods 2 and 3 a brief reference within the text is sufficient.

For journal articles just give name and date: (Sobey 2011).

For books give name, date, pages: (Wilkins 2012, 345–358).

Then give a full list of references at the end.

For journal articles:
Author(s), 'Title', *Journal*, vol (year), pages.

For books:
Author(s), *Title*, Publisher, Year.

Choose a consistent system and keep to it.

Figures and tables

These may be inserted into your text or added at the end.

In either case refer to them at the relevant point in the text

' ... effects of the moon (see Figure 3) ...'

Looking ahead 1

Peer review (10%)

During a 4-week period during the Easter vacation you will be asked to review another student's project (on a topic different from your own), answering such questions as:

- does the author approach the problem in a sensible and realistic way?
- is the explanation of the problem clear?
- are the basic tasks properly performed and explained?
- are the extensions well chosen?
- is the mathematics well handled?
- are the results appropriately displayed?
- is there sufficient explanation at each stage?
- is the verbal discussion easy to follow?
- are the arguments sound?
- is the conclusion convincing?
- are sources fully and correctly referenced?

Looking ahead 2

Presentation (15%)

In Week 1 TT you will give a 20-minute presentation of your work.

You will be assessed on your ability to explain your project clearly to an audience of non-specialists.

You will be assessed on:

- Timing (4)
- Audibility and interaction with audience (6)
- Use of presentation aids (5)
- Retention of interest (5)
- Content (7)
- Responses to questions (3)