

General Suggestions

- Write a neat report. You should ensure that all sentences are grammatically correct and that there are no mistakes in spelling.
- Organize your data in a data table or graph.

Format Suggestions

The cover page of your lab report should include:

- the name and number of the lab;
- your instructor's name;
- your lab partner's name;
- the date the lab was performed;
- the lab due date.

Sections of the Lab Report

Abstract - the first section of all reports. It should be a concise statement of the results (with errors) and conclusions of the report. The procedures or any other background information are not included in this section. Abstracts are typically about a paragraph, and although they appear first in the report, are usually the last thing written, for the simple reason that you should probably only know the results until after you have written the rest of the report.

Objective - the objective is the reason you are doing the experiment. Before you write the objective you need to know why you are doing the experiment. The objective should be stated clearly and concisely in your own words.

Tools - this section contains a list of the equipment that you used to perform the experiment. When possible, draw a diagram to illustrate the apparatus. Give the details of the equipment where possible.

Method/Code Description/Problems Encountered - this section includes a description of what you did. You do not report any results in this section. Explain what you did clearly enough for other people to follow your directions to repeat the experiment. Include snippets of your code and explain your algorithm here. A very important subsection should state the problems that you encountered along the way.

Analysis/Results - report the results you collected. You need to provide details about the cases that you tested to verify operation. Include any supporting data/graphs here. Be sure to identify any possible sources of error, and provide a discussion of whether or not you feel the errors are reasonable.

Conclusion/Lessons Learned - in this section, you discuss your conclusions based on your entire project. This should not be a summary, but should include “concluding”

statements. Be sure to go back and reread your objective before writing your conclusion. State whether or not you achieved your objective. The most important item here is the lessons learned during this lab.

Data Sheets/Code - your code should be attached as an appendix.