

# Lab Report Rhetoric

## Grading Scheme:

- 20% Organization and Neatness
- 35% Experimental Results including Figures, Plots, Code, and/or numerical Results
- 45% Description of the experiments done in the lab, and commented codes

Technically speaking, you could have all the right results but a less than 100% lab. Here's some pointers in regards to the grading scheme categories.

## *Organization and Neatness:*

1. The lab should have a clear format – an introduction, a body, and a conclusion.
2. The introduction should be an overview of what the lab did, the concepts it explored, and what the lab is intended for.
3. The body contains the actual work in lab. It should be in chronological order. The figures/code/tables should be placed in the area of the report that they commenced, not slabbed on at the end.
4. The conclusion is an overview of what happened in the lab, the concepts you learned, and what the lab did for you.
5. General tidiness – section headers, clearly delineated problems that are solved, decent English when explaining, etc. Most of us are engineer mathy people here - we're supposed to be meticulous and detail oriented... so... just do your thing. These are silly points to get marked off for.

## *Experimental Results:*

1. This section purely concerns results.
2. If the result is a number found on a graph generated by a code –in the body of the report you have the code, the graph, and the numerical value. All steps need be shown, not just the final answer.
3. If you know the result is wrong, just make sure you clearly say that and give your best shot and saying what you did, what it should be, and what could be causing the error.

## *Descriptions:*

1. This is by far the most important part of the lab grade
2. Say what you did to get the result, and most importantly why.
3. In theory, you could almost get full points for a wrong experimental result by giving a top notch reasoning why it's wrong. Sometimes you learn more when you get things wrong anyhow.
4. A picture is worth 1e3 words, or so they say. So when you paste figures – make sure they make sense. For example, zoom in properly, make annotations that are necessary, etc etc. A correct figure that fails to show the correct answer is a wrong figure. It explains nothing.

If you have any questions, always feel free to ask Mohsen