

518 and 572 Project Instructions and Grading

1 The Write-Up

The main sections of the project should be ≤ 20 pages (without appendices). Appendices may contain longer proofs and R code. You should send an electronic version of the latter.

The write-ups will be assessed on the following five categories:

1. *Motivation and Background Literature:* (2 points) What is the problem being considered, why is it important? What are
2. *Methods:* (8 points) Are the methods clearly explained? What are the details of the proposed method? Including relation to previous methods.
3. *Implementation:* (12 points) Simulations and data analysis. Correctly implemented?
4. *Conclusions and critique:* (4 points) Did the paper stimulate other work? What are the main problems/assumptions of the method?
5. *Presentation:* (4 points) Is the writing style effective? Do tables, graphs and proofs effectively convey information?

Maximum score is 30.

2 The Talks

The talks should be 25 minutes long, and you should expect 5 minutes of questions. Assume the audience has not seen the material previously, but is familiar with statistical methodology.

The talks will be assessed on the following three categories:

1. *Presentation:* (5 points) Was the talk clear and audible? Was the overall style effective? Were math equations, graphs and tables clear and effective? Was the pace good? Did the speaker use the time well? Did was the speaker enthusiastic? Any distracting behavior or mannerisms?
2. *Organization:* (5 points) Was the talk well organized? Good balance of introductory and more advanced material?
3. *Content:* (20 points) Was the problem addressed by the paper well motivated? Were the methods clearly explained? Was the information accurate? Did the speaker convey a deep understanding of the method?

Maximum score is 30.