

ASTR121 Lab Report Rubric – 38 Points Total

Aspect	Excellent (100%)	Good (75%)	Adequate (50%)	Poor (25%)	Absent (0%)
Cover Page (2 pts)	Clearly presents name and number of lab, student names and contact information, date and section	Missing an aspect	Missing aspects	Missing all aspects	Absent
Abstract (4 pts)	Concisely summarizes the purpose, procedures used, and results of project.	Missing an aspect	Missing aspects; too lengthy or inaccurate	Missing all aspects	Absent
Introduction (4 pts)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes the question to be answered by the project • Develops the reason why the question is relevant/interesting • Discusses general method (without specifics) that will be used to answer the question and develops theoretical background 	One aspect is missing	Two aspects are missing	Three aspects are missing	Absent
Methodology (8 pts)	Description of the data used and what was done with the data, complete enough that another scientist could repeat the process.	Some steps are vague or unclear	Only includes generalities, but enough to get the idea	Would be difficult to repeat; reader must guess at some parts	Absent
Analysis (8 pts)	Results and data are clearly displayed, organized in a way that makes it easy to see trends. Figures and charts are appropriately labeled and captioned. Excessive data and Matlab code are included in appendix. Uncertainties in all determined quantities are calculated and explained.	Errors in results, but otherwise well done; flaws in organization	Unclear results; missing labels or captions; disorganized; missing data/plots/tables	Results do not make sense, or not enough to justify conclusions	Absent
Discussion (8pts)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summarizes the data used to draw conclusions • Conclusions follow logically from data • Discusses sources of error (random and systematic) • Discusses if conclusions fit expectations and/or seem plausible • Discusses any unusual results or disagreement with theory and speculates on cause • Discusses additional questions/issues asked in hand-out • Discusses real world implication of results 	Missing 1-2 aspects	Missing 3-5 aspects	Missing 5-6 aspects	Absent
Format (4 pts)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report follows typical scientific format and organization • Any references are cited appropriately in a bibliography • Writing flows well and is easy to read • Grammar, vocabulary, and similar errors are minimized 	Some grammar, writing, or formatting issues.	Significant errors in one aspect, minor errors otherwise	Significant errors in many aspects	Paper is nearly unreadable