

Stat 518 Project Report Guidelines

The written report should not exceed 15 pages, including all supporting materials. You should submit your documented source code as an appendix, which does not count toward the 15 page limit. The actual number of pages in your report is irrelevant as long as this number does not exceed the limit. In other words, it is OK to submit a 10 page report. The report should contain a description of the statistical problem and explain scientific motivation behind this problem. **It is very important that your report does not merely summarize the paper that you have been reading this quarter**, but also includes discussion of relevant literature, competing methods, applications of the methodology developed in the paper, etc.

A substantial portion of your report should be devoted to technical details. You should go beyond equations that are already in the paper. To accomplish this, you can provide alternative model formulations, make meaningful connections to other models/methods, and fill in gaps in derivations or less formal analytical arguments of the paper. This section of your proposal should clearly demonstrate that you understand technical details of the paper.

Next, you should provide evidence that you reproduced a significant part of the paper computational results. Here, you will discuss your simulations, statistical estimation, model selection, and other relevant numerical results. This is probably the easiest section to fill in, so try to be succinct and concentrate only on key results.

You should keep in mind three main themes, around which your report should revolve:

- Stochastic modeling
- Statistical inference
- Scientific problem

The instructors will pay attention to all three themes during the evaluation of your report and presentation.