

Writing Standards

	Excellent	Good	Satisfactory	Poor
Abstract and Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent overview of the background is given • Motivation for studying the problem is credible and convincing • Purpose of the paper is clearly explained and justified 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some overview of the background is given • Motivation is valid, but incomplete and possibly not effective • Purpose of the paper is stated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Background is incomplete • Motivation is vague and not supported • Purpose of the paper is obscure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No background given • Motivation is unclear • Purpose of the paper is vague or not explicitly stated
Overall organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Logically organized • Sections and results are clearly marked • Plenty of appropriate links and transitions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper is mostly well organized • Most transitions are present 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some sections are too long/short or are not logically placed • Incorrect or missing transitions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section and result names and/or numbers are missing • No transitions and no overall flow
Writing style	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tone is professional • Audience is addressed appropriately with uniform amount of detail 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tone is appropriate • Most details are appropriate for the intended audience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tone is mostly respectful • Some details are skipped or redundant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tone is patronizing, disrespectful • Details are lacking or redundant
Modeling terminology and content	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All necessary variables, constraints, and objectives are given and explained • All optimization problems correspond to the goals of the project • Sources of data and any synthetic generation of data are explained and realistic • Optimization algorithms and methods of analyzing the results are explained. • Explanations are correct, clear, and easy to follow 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some notation and explanations are not given • Most of the optimization problems are correctly formulated and consistent with the goals of the project • The stated results in the article are mostly justified by the optimization problems solved. • Most explanations are precise and can be followed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A number of explanations are not given • Some terminology is not correctly used • The optimization problems studied and the data correspond only weakly to the results claimed in the article • Reasoning and explanation are lacking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notation is not defined • Terminology is misused • Modeling is incorrect • Results claimed aren't justified by the data and optimization problems solved
Spelling and grammar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent grammar, perfect spelling • Strong sentences • Math is well incorporated into the text 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mostly good grammar, perfect spelling • Math is mostly well integrated into the text 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Few awkward sentences • Some spelling mistakes • Math is separated from the text 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awkward phrases • Many spelling mistakes • Math is not integrated or punctuated
Bibliography and citations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent use of citations • Bibliography is complete with uniformly formatted entries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most citations are present • Some bibliography items are incorrectly formatted 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citations are missing • Bibliography has errors, and some necessary sources are not listed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Few or no citations • Bibliography entries are not clear or missing

Adapted from a rubric by S. van Willigenburg (Dept. Math, UBC), which was adapted from a rubric by K. Garaschuk.