

Physics 596 – Fall 2011

Assignment #3: Collaborative Scientific Paper

Your team should identify a research topic on which to write a collaborative scientific paper. This research topic can be based upon a specific scientific paper, a closely related set of papers, an on-line research highlight, etc. Your scientific paper *may* be based on the same paper you're using for your Journal Club assignment, or it can be based upon a completely different paper. Your paper should be written so that everyone in the class can understand the first few pages, and it should have the following sections:

TITLE
ABSTRACT
INTRODUCTION / MOTIVATION / LITERATURE REVIEW
PROCEDURE SECTION
RESULTS and DISCUSSION SECTIONS
CONCLUSIONS
REFERENCES
FIGURES with CAPTIONS and TABLES embedded as necessary.

Each team member should contribute at least one section of the paper, i.e., one team member will write the Introduction/Motivation section, another will write the Procedure section, a third will write the Results/Discussion section, and a final team member should write the Abstract + Conclusion sections. The first three of these sections must include references and at least one figure + figure caption. Your group should identify a "leader" for this project (someone who did not lead for Assignments #1 and #2) who will organize the group, help decide which members will be responsible for each section, and put the sections together. Once drafts of each section are completed, you should allow the members of the group to evaluate and constructively critique each section before putting the final drafts of the sections together to form the complete paper.

Aim for *at least* 8 pages (i.e., roughly 2 pages for each section) of pure text, double-spaced, plus the additional pages you need for figures, references, and any other material.

You may write this paper using Microsoft Word or other word processing software...just make sure the final paper looks professional.

Deadlines:

Friday, Oct. 28: Title/citation of the paper you'll write about to Prof. Cooper

Friday, Dec. 2: Draft of the paper is due

Friday, Dec. 16: The final version is due