

Lab Format: For Astronomy 25 Labs

In this course we will perform several labs. The student is responsible for accurately recording all observations and summarizing the findings in a formal write-up. This must be typed and presented in the following format: each paragraph should start with a number and title as my explanation will show.

1.0 Purpose:

This section includes a brief description of the lab purpose. What are we trying to measure or prove? List partners with whom you shared data collection.

2.0 Theory:

Give a brief description of the theory involved in this particular lab.

3.0 Procedure:

In your own words, describe the procedure of this lab with sufficient detail to allow duplication by a colleague. The student should take notes on the lab procedure while executing the lab.

4.0 Data:

List all measured values. Do not perform any calculations here. Include, and attribute, any data shared with your partners.

5.0 Results and Analysis:

This section is where calculations are done. The math involved should all be presented, not just the resulting answers, so that any errors might be easily observed. Make your presentation clear enough so that any intelligent person can follow your train of thought. Do error analysis here also.

6.0 Conclusion:

This is the most important section. Give a brief overview of the lab. Explain how your data prove or disprove the theory and state whether you were able to accomplish what you started out to do.

7.0 Errors:

Summarize any procedural errors that might have resulted in inaccuracies.

8.0 Improvements:

Recommend any procedural improvements which would improve the accuracy of your measurements.