Write a 1–2 page review of the progress report that you have been assigned.

Your assessment is particularly important with regard to scientific soundness and clarity. You should strive to do a careful job, pointing out areas that you felt were strong or weak, both scientifically as well as stylistically. Your mark as referee will depend on how well your points are made: You should always justify your point of view.

Plagiarism is not acceptable. Referees should make sure that papers do not contain verbatim passages from published material. Relevant sources should be correctly cited.

Here is a recommended format for your referee’s report:

• A one-paragraph summary of the report. Describe the problem and give your opinion on its relevance to the course. Say whether on the whole you found the report was scientifically correct, interesting, and understandable.

• Give a detailed account as to whether you think the work is scientifically correct. If you think it is not, suggest revisions that would make it correct or more rigorous.

• Give specific constructive criticism. Is the problem clearly defined? Does the author do a good job at communicating a sufficient understanding of the important concepts? Is the discussion clear? Are the references adequately discussed?

• Please hand in a marked-up copy of the report, correcting spelling, grammar, etc., along with comments identifying strong and weak points of the report.