Math 5710. Class Project Guidelines

All students are required to complete a class project, which accounts for 30% of the total course grade. Completing a class project requires four things:

1. **Submit a project proposal.** *(10 points.)* A project proposal is a single page briefly describing the project you would like to work on, and what you hope to accomplish. You may use any of the projects described by me, any modification of those projects, or a project completely of your own design. However, projects must be approved by me. I will review the proposals and may suggest changes or alternative projects. The project proposal is due **Friday November 2**, but can be submitted earlier. Project selection is first-come, first-served, and everyone must do a different project.

2. **Work on the project.** *(20 points.)* You should put at least as much effort into the project as five weeks of homework. I’ll meet with you each Wednesday in the computer lab to check on your progress. Make each meeting and convince me you’ve done something, and you get all 20 points.

3. **Present an oral report.** *(10 points.)* Oral reports will be about 15 minutes long, and will take place during the last week of classes. You are encouraged to prepare your presentation on the computer; however transparencies or a well-delivered blackboard presentation are acceptable.

4. **Submit a final written report.** *(60 points.)* Written reports should be between five and ten pages, including figures. A clear, concise, five page report will receive more points than a sloppy ten page report. The report should explain your project (the first part may look a lot like your proposal), describe the work you did, any conclusions or solutions you came up with, results of any computational experiments, and possible ideas for further work. The final report is due **Wednesday, December 12**.

Let me know if you need project suggestions, or if you have any questions. Choose something fun and interesting, because you’ll be working on it for the rest of the semester!