

Phys134 -- Final Project Expectations

For the final project in Phys134, you should analyze our photometric data for a single open cluster of your choice, estimate the age and the distance to the cluster, write a paper describing your methods and conclusions, **including a discussion of relevant sources of error**, and give an oral report summarizing the results.

You may work in teams of up to 3 people (teams of 1 are acceptable), but **each person must write his or her own paper, and each person must give an oral presentation**. You may choose to have different members of your team emphasize different things, but each written report and oral presentation should be able to stand on its own.

Papers should be 8-12 pages in length. They are due at **2:00 PM, Thurs, June 3.**

Your aim should be to write a paper in a form similar to that used in the professional astronomical literature. For a couple of examples of what this means, look on the course web site for **Eggen (1968)** and for **Wilcox & McNulty (2009)**.

Your paper should contain an abstract, a section on motivation and previous related work (with citations to published papers), a section on observations and analysis, a section on conclusions, and a list of at least 4 references to published papers (no more than 2 of these should be to web pages).

The paper should contain **one image** of your cluster, and one **or more figures** drawn with xmgrace or its equivalent, illustrating your analysis.

Since we were not very successful in getting class members to obtain their own observations, and since much of the early data analysis has been hidden from you, you should interview the person who did these things. This person will be available for interviews during my office hours, 1-3 PM on Wednesdays.

Oral presentations should aim for **10 minutes** in length. You may use any visual aids you like (eg, the projector); please let me know your plans ahead of time. **Everyone is expected to attend class on June 1, June 3 when the presentations will be given.**