**CHE1031 F’17, Notes on lab reports:**

Hypothesis:

* Be sure you understand the difference between a hypothesis and a summary.

Summary:

* Give me numbers here. For the separation report: mean and standard deviation of percentages of sand and salt for both mixtures.

Procedure:

* I don’t require a materials list.
* Be sure your sentences are complete: include articles (the, a, an), demonstratives (this, that) and punctuation.
* Provide enough detail for a student to recreate your experiment with no other instructions.

Results:

* For the separation lab your report had to show all results: all groups and both mixtures A and B.
* Tables need numbers and titles. ‘Table I: Results for mixture A’
* Include units in tables.
* Don’t forget the written summary.
* If using Excel tables, be sure to clearly label the data section and results sections.

Discussion:

* Can’t think of what to say? Were your results what you expected to see? What would you do differently? What surprised you?

Data:

* Report all data: all groups and both mixtures.
* Include uncertainties.
* If using Excel tables, be sure to clearly label the data section and results sections.

Sample calculations:

* Use numbers form your data so that I can see how you did the math.
* If your Excel tables are ‘live’ I’ll be able to click on a cell and see your formula. Be sure your table shows this and not just values.

Writing:

* Be concise. If a word doesn’t contribute to the meaning or clarity of a sentence, remove it.
* Be specific. When using demonstratives like it, that and this, be sure that the reader knows what object they refer to.
* Please proof read your report before submitting it. Word has spelling and grammar checkers.