Appendix 2

MSci Project Report Assessment Guidelines

A*: Outstanding First Class: 80 - 100%
A : First Class: 70 - 80%
B : Upper Second: 60 - 70%
C : Lower Second: 50 - 60%
D : Third: 40 - 50%
E : Fail: 0 - 40%

The marking scheme uses the criteria below. It might very well be that different aspects of the MSci report fall into different marking bands. For example, the student may give a very good account of the background material and relevant literature, but the MSci report shows little understanding of the project, or vice versa. In such cases, please use your discretion to assign the mark.

90 - 100% Exceptional high quality work that clearly demonstrates a substantial independent contribution and originality at research level in addition to a thorough understanding of the topic. Comprehensive and authoritative discussion of background material and relevant literature is included. The work is of a quality that with little effort is publishable on its own or as part of an article in a peer-reviewed journal.

80 - 90% Very high quality work that clearly demonstrates independent contributions and originality at research level in addition to an authoritative account of the work undertaken with almost no gaps in the understanding of the topic. A comprehensive discussion of background material and discussion of relevant literature is included. The work is of a quality that, with some effort, is publishable as part of an article in a peer-reviewed journal.

70 - 80% Very good work demonstrating an authoritative account with relevant material throughout and with independent contributions by the student. There are only minor gaps in the understanding of the project work. A very good discussion of background material and relevant literature is included. Some of the work is of a quality that it could contribute to aspects of a publishable article in a peer-reviewed journal.

60 - 70% Good work with relevant material and authoritative in most places, including some independent contributions by the student. Only few gaps and few deficiencies in the discussion and understanding in minor parts of the project. A good discussion of background material and relevant literature is included.

50 - 60% Satisfactory with relevant material in most places and possibly authoritative in some places. Some gaps and some deficiencies in the discussion and understanding in some parts of the project. Some background material and discussion of relevant literature is included.

40 - 50% Adequate with relevant material in some places. Uncertain large gaps and large deficiencies in the discussion and understanding in various parts of the project. Adequate discussion of background material and relevant literature is included.

30 - 40% Unsatisfactory but with some relevant material in some places. Of some merit but considerable gaps and considerable deficiencies in the discussion and understanding in major parts of the project. Little discussion of background material and/or relevant literature is included.

15 - 30% Very unsatisfactory with only small amount of relevant material. Of little merit with substantial gaps and substantial deficiencies in the discussion and understanding in major parts of the project. Almost no discussion of background material or relevant literature is included.

0 - 15% Highly unsatisfactory with almost no relevant material anywhere. Of no or very little merit. No discussion of background material or relevant literature is included.