Write a short proposal (1-2 pages) for your class project. When you hand in your proposal, we will schedule a short meeting (~ 30 minutes) to discuss it.

Your proposal should include:

-- Any background you need to state the problem you plan to solve.
-- A statement of the problem you plan to solve.
-- The approach you intend to take to solve the problem.
-- Your hypothesis (guess?) about what the results will be.

In the background section, assume the reader (me) knows everything in the course notes and RWC’s book, including the notation, so you don’t have to spend time defining that stuff.

If you need to introduce a technique or model we have not studied, describe it briefly, emphasizing qualitative features that are relevant to the problem you plan to solve, and give a reference or two where the technique or model is described.

In describing the approach you plan to take, give enough technical detail so that the reader (me) can tell what you plan to do. You don’t need to give a lot of details; it is more important to convey the qualitative ideas.

Your guess about the results does not need to be detailed; emphasize one or two qualitative aspects of the results that you expect. For example, for a new method, how will its results differ from a comparable existing method (smoother, easier to compute, places knots differently, etc.)?

Write this proposal in standard English paragraphs and sentences. I will not grade grammar and spelling but I expect you to write this as well as you can. The purpose is for you to practice describing your ideas to another person in writing, because you will need to do this. You can hand-write this if you prefer but don’t write really small to squeeze this into the available space.

VERY IMPORTANT: I am trying to make it easier for you to start working on your class project. Your proposal does not commit you to working on this specific problem, but I don’t want you to change to a new problem unless you have a good reason. Examples of good reasons include, but are not limited to:

-- Someone else already solved this problem.
-- The problem is technically too difficult for the time available.
-- The problem turned out to be trivial.

If you want to change your problem, talk to me as soon as possible. Chances are we can specify a related problem and save you some work.

Due Mon 10 March