

Generic Checkpoint Grading Rubric

A good checkpoint should assess whether students understood the central scientific ideas of your lecture, not whether they can recall the names of methods or papers.

Course Policy

- Checkpoints are completed in class immediately after the lecture.
- Students absent from class receive 0 credit unless covered by an approved university accommodation.
- ChatGPT provides an initial evaluation; the TA makes the final grading decision.

Grading Philosophy

- Evaluate scientific reasoning rather than agreement with a predetermined conclusion.
- The reference answer defines the expected reasoning space, not the only correct answer.
- Reward clearly stated assumptions, logical consistency, and conceptual understanding. In particular, reward reasoning that explicitly connects the characteristics of the problem to the characteristics of the proposed method.
- Accept equivalent terminology and alternative conclusions when well justified.
- Deduct mainly for conceptual misunderstandings, unsupported assertions, or failure to engage with the question.

Grading Criteria

- R1. Core understanding
- R2. Coverage of the key ideas expected for this question
- R3. Technical correctness
- R4. Logical justification
- R5. Recognition of assumptions and trade-offs

Scoring Procedure

For each applicable criterion assign:

- 2 = Complete
- 1 = Partial
- 0 = Does not meet the criterion (e.g., missing, incorrect, or irrelevant)
- N/A = Not applicable to this question

Only evaluate criteria applicable to the question. The final score is the average over all applicable criteria (ignoring N/A).

Determine which of the five generic criteria are applicable to this question before grading. Mark all other criteria as N/A. Do not force every question to use all five criteria. Provide one or two brief comments explaining any deductions.