

Collaboration Policy

Ch6 is designed to introduce you to “realistic” laboratory situations while also teaching you about various techniques in experimental physical chemistry. For this reason the collaboration policy is very loose; in fact, collaboration is encouraged. Lab partners can work together on all aspects of the lab including data plotting and analysis. Groups may also work together figuring out how to do analysis, comparing answers to prelab/report questions, and discussing other issues that they may have. However, some restrictions to the above policy are necessary:

1. Each student should submit a *distinct* report.

This means that *everything* in the report should be in the student’s own words; while students in groups may have similar answers/explanations, it should be apparent that each student understands what is going on and can explain it.

2. Each group should use its own data unless they have been given explicit permission by the TA or a Professor.

The equipment and experiments in Ch6 are often very sophisticated, but there is a price to complexity. Experiments don’t always work as expected; this is the nature of science. In these cases, students may be given raw data (but not analysis) from past years, or even from another group in the same year. However, the notebook should explicitly identify such data *and* state what is wrong with their data and why their data may be bad.

3. Each group must perform their own full data analysis.

4. While members of a group may use the same plots, each student should be able to recreate all plots and explain any part of their report if asked to do so by the TA.