

Notes on Grading in EECS 42 Fall 2001

Grades in Class: The average is now above B and more commensurate with grades in other lower division EECS classes. This is due, in part, to the clear mastery of the material demonstrated on the final exam. It is also due, unfortunately, in part, to several students in the lower part of the distribution electing to drop the class.

Exam Score Processing: The grade sheet shows both the simple sum (SUM) of the exam scores as well as SUM+. The latter is the former modified for your variation among exams to unweight your worst exam. This modification was computed by first generating three numbers. The first two are the differences between your exam scores and the averages for the midterm. The third is $\frac{1}{2}$ of this difference for the final. The SUM+ is then SUM minus $\frac{1}{3}$ of the minimum of these scores and plus $\frac{1}{3}$ of the maximum of these scores. When your best and worst exams are midterms this works out to taking $\frac{2}{3}$ the weight of the best midterm and $\frac{1}{3}$ the weight of the worst midterm.

Grade Assignment Numerically: For each examination the points for each letter grade were first determined based on the level of material. These were then added to establish a reference and compared to the SUM score distribution. No compensation for SUM+ was introduced and the homework scores basically shifted these scores by 12 points.

Homework Score Collection: The final spread sheets from the readers showed that they had each helped out by doing regrades and they already had many of the corrections that you gave to the TA's or to me. All of the above information now exists in one composite which will be posted shortly.

Homework Score Processing: For each student the two worst grades were boosted to perfect scores. This added as little as 1 pt and at most 20 points as show in the compensation column (CMP) on the HW score page. This score was then entered into the grade spread sheet. This score divided by 13 was added to the SUM+ score to get the total (TOT) score on which grades were assigned.