Due: Tuesday, March 18th (in class)

By now, the groups have suitable problems to study, and are trying to develop their and gather data. The progress report will be a short document describing your progress, and will again be supplemented by a brief presentation. Along with this, you may submit a preliminary draft of your report as an appendix. In that case, I will provide feedback on the draft, but will not consider the draft as subject to grading.

The progress report document should be at most two pages (excluding appendices), and will describe how closely you are following the plan outlined in your proposal and how the project is progressing. In particular, mention the following issues:

1. If your plans have changed, please detail the changes, and explain why they were made.

2. Whether you have all the data that that the model requires. In particular, you should indicate roughly the scope of the data you hope to use, e.g. how large an area you believe you can cover, and at what level of the detail.

3. Outline the elements of the model in plain language.

4. Explain how you plan to solve the model.

Recall that the model should be such that you can apply non-trivial mathematical (operations research) techniques to it to give a detailed, quantitative and verifiable answer.

The progress report will count for 10% of the final grade. The draft marking rubric is on the back of this page.

Presentations

Besides the written proposals, each group will give a five to ten minute update on their progress to the class, with overheads optional. This will be followed by a question and answer session with the class. Students are encouraged to pose questions, and asking and answering questions will be taken into account as part of the participation grade for this report.

Deadlines

The deadline for the CORS undergraduate student paper competition is **Monday, March 31st**, with the final project presentations on **Tuesday, April 8th**. So, it would be ideal to have the paper close to completion by CORS deadline, leaving some time to put the presentation together.

Progress is described and measured against the plan outlined at the proposal stage. (10%)	
There is a concise overview of the state of data collection. (10%)	
The scope of the data to be used is evident. (10%)	
The proposed model is sufficiently developed and clearly described. (10%)	
The proposed model requires appropriate data (i.e. the data that you are collecting), and is an operations research model that is not trivial to solve. (10%)	
The methods proposed for solving the model are suitable and likely to succeed. (10%)	
The writing style is appropriate for a scientific report. (5%)	
Ideas are presented clearly and logically. (5%)	
Few grammatical, spelling and punctuation errors. (5%)	
The live presentation is well prepared, accurate and on topic. Questions are answered appropriately. (15%)	
Individual participation and contribution. (10%)	