Final Project Guidelines

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Due: Friday, March 3, 11:59 p.m.

Task. The grade of the course is determined based on a **final project**. Your task is to define and carry out a small programming project using and extending the concepts covered in class. Any topic related to Natural Language Processing in a broad sense is in principle eligible – but your project topic must be chosen in consultation with me.

You will hand in your documented code, as well as a short paper explaining your problem and solution.

Scope. In terms of work load, the project should correspond to approximately one of the assignments. Pending my approval, you can work in groups of up to two students, if the total work load increases linearly and the work is distributed equally (in this case you must document how you distributed the work).

Grading. The grade takes the following criteria into account: proposal and its presentation, difficulty/creativity, correctness/performance, code readability/documentation.

Milestones and Requirements.

Jan. 13, 2017   Project proposal due ($\sim \frac{1}{2}$ page)

Feb. 7, 2017   Project presentations

Mar. 3, 2017   Final project due

The proposal is a short abstract stating what problem you intend to work on and what approach you are going to take. You should also specify what tools you're planning on using and what data or other resources you need. You should come by my office hours or make a brief appointment with me to check that your project idea is suitable for this class. The proposal serves to show that you have thought about what you're going to do and shows me that you're on a good path towards that.

The brief presentations will likely only include preliminary results. They serve a double purpose: First, to get you started well before the final deadline and help you evaluate (while there's still time) whether your idea and approach

is going to work. Second, to foster collaboration and let you get to know the others' projects. This way, you will learn not only from your own project but also get to see (preliminary versions of) the cool things the others are doing. Each presentation should be no longer than 10 minutes, and include a clear motivation and problem statement, a description of your approach, and the intermediate results that you have at that point.

The final project should be handed in as documented, running Python code. You should submit a short paper (5-8 pages) describing and motivating your problem, the algorithm(s) you used, and your results. Please also include instructions on running the code (and thus verifying the results). Make sure that you cite any literature you refer to properly.

Topic Ideas. Any project related to the class topics is possible. If you really can't come up with any ideas, try an internet search. For example, final projects from a related Stanford class are listed here:
`http://nlp.stanford.edu/courses/cs224n/`

Submit your project via email to `tatjana.scheffler@uni-potsdam.de`