**Assessment- Senior Design**

*Part A - Two Paragraphs: What was your individual contribution to this project? Did you apply and build upon the skills identified in your initial assessment from last Fall? What did you do and how did you do it? What did you learn and what competencies did you build? What were your successes, what were you obstacles?*

Throughout my time working on the senior design project, during Fall and Spring, I got to learn a lot of things on an individual level. Our project was under Dr. Nan Niu and our topic was NLP or Natural Language Processing. My individual contribution to this project ranged from an initial presentation identifying the topics for the project and went on to working on algorithms through machine learning to identify sentences and their compositions. The skills I wished to build on through this project was better programming and analysis skills and I was successfully able to do that. I also wanted to adapt to working in a team through a virtual setting, and I was able to do that through coordination with my team members. Some other skills I wanted to work upon, was to implement machine learning and also read more about natural language processing. This project allowed me to do both of that and I was able to learn and grow, since the initial assessment in Fall.

Some of my successes through this project included being able to work in a group setting with both my team members Garrett and Kevin, as well as coordinate with Dr. Niu. I was able to put together some information regarding the classification of the sentences we were dealing with for our project. I got to learn how to classify sentences as temporal or non temporal and how to build a confusion matrix around my algorithm. Some of the obstacles during this project for me, was my health condition first of all. Due to covid, I had been sick for a lot of time and had to take time away from the project, to recover from the sickness. That put me little behind with my work and also a little out of touch with the project for couple weeks. Another obstacle faced by me, was the understanding of certain aspects of the project, which I believe would have been much easier if the class was conducted in person and we actually got an opportunity to meet and work on the project.

*Part B – Two Paragraphs: What did your group accomplish? What did you learn about group work? What aspects of teamwork were successful and what aspects of teamwork were not successful? How did your efforts on the project compare to that of your teammates?  Do any team members deserve special recognition?*

My group consisting of two other classmates, Garrett and Kevin were a delight to work with. Despite our challenges and time constraints, we were able to coordinate and put together whatever result possible and work on our problems. As it was through a virtual setting, even though we didn’t get a lot of time to bond with each other, we were still able to always stay up to date with each other’s works, challenges and successes. I learnt a lot about team work through this project and through working with these two individuals. Firstly in this pandemic world, with everything being conducted virtually, it gave us an experience to work virtually and conduct our team meetings through apps like Zoom. That helped us navigate our game plan accordingly. We were able too delegate work pertaining to individual people’s strengths and also set timelines and deadlines accordingly.

Some successful aspect of our team was the intelligence and diligence of our team. When combined together, each one of us had something different to bring to the table. That aspect made sure we were putting together a diversified project front. Some aspects that were not as successful was the ability to coordinate and produce a code that could give us a tangible result. The lack of understanding of some topics and the time constraints didn’t allow us to be as efficient as we could be. As a team, we were still able to put our best together and produce results for this project. My effort was this project was on a good level but it could have definitely been much more, if I hadn’t faced my health situation. I wasn’t able to be on top of my work or be as active, which put me at a little disadvantage as compared to the other members. Both my team members, deserve special recognition for understanding my condition, and being supportive of the times when I needed them the most. Overall, I had a fantastic experience working in a team with both of them as well as our advisor, and was able to gage a lot of value and skills through this senior design project.