ECS170: Classification

TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT HOMEWORK3

Follow these steps exactly, so the Gradescope autograder can grade your homework. Failure to do so will result in a zero grade:

1. You *must* download the homework template file `homework3_ecs170.py` from Canvas. Each template file is a python file that gives you a headstart in creating your homework python script with the correct function names for autograding.
2. You *must* rename the file by replacing `ecs170` with your UCD email id. For example, if your UCS email id is abcd1234, you would rename your file as `homework3_abcd1234.py`.
3. Upload your `homework3_abcd1234.py` file to Gradescope by the due date.
4. Make sure your file can import before you submit; the autograder imports your file. If it won't import, you will get a zero.

Instructions

In this assignment, you will implement a basic spam filter using naive Bayes classification.

A skeleton file `homework3_ecs170.py` containing empty definitions for each question has been provided. A zip file called homework3_data.zip has also been provided that contains the input train and test data. Since portions of this assignment will be graded automatically, none of the names or function signatures in the skeleton template file should be modified. However, you are free to introduce additional variables or functions if needed.

You may import definitions from any standard Python library, and are encouraged to do so in case you find yourself reinventing the wheel. If you are unsure where to start, consider taking a look at the data structures and functions defined in the `collections`, `email`, `math`, and `os` modules.

You will find that in addition to a problem specification, most programming questions also include one or two examples from the Python interpreter. These are meant to illustrate typical use cases to clarify the assignment, and are not comprehensive test suites. In addition to performing your own testing, you are strongly encouraged to verify that your code gives the expected output for these examples before submitting.

It is highly recommended that you follow the Python style guidelines set forth in PEP 8, which was written in part by the creator of Python. However, your code will not be graded for style.

1. Spam Filter [100 points]

In this section, you will implement a minimal system for spam filtering. You should unzip the homework3_data.zip file in the same location as your skeleton file; this will create a `homework3_data/train` folder and a `homework3_data/dev` folder. You will begin by processing the raw training data. Next, you will proceed by estimating the conditional probability distributions of the words in the vocabulary determined by each document class. Lastly, you will use a naive Bayes model to make predictions on the publicly available test set, located in `homework3_data/dev`.

1. **[5 points]** Making use of the `email` module, write a function `load_tokens(email_path)` that reads the email at the specified path, extracts the tokens from its message, and returns them as a list.

   Specifically, you should use the `email.message_from_file(file_obj)` function to create a `message` object from the contents of the file, and the `email.iterators.body_line_iterator(message)` function to iterate over the lines in the message. Here, tokens are considered to be contiguous substrings of non-whitespace characters.

```
>>> ham_dir = "homework3_data/train/ham/"
>>> load_tokens(ham_dir+"ham1")[200:204]
['of', 'my', 'outstanding', 'mail']
>>> load_tokens(ham_dir+"ham2")[110:114]
['for', 'Preferences', '-', "didn't"]
```

```
>>> spam_dir = "homework3_data/train/spam/
>>> load_tokens(spam_dir+"spam1")[1:5]
['You', 'are', 'receiving', 'this']
>>> load_tokens(spam_dir+"spam2")[:4]
['<html>', '<body>', '<center>', '<h3>']
```

2. **[30 points]** Write a function `log_probs(email_paths, smoothing)` that returns a dictionary from the words contained in the given emails to their Laplace-smoothed log-probabilities. Specifically, if the set V denotes the vocabulary of words in the emails, then the probabilities should be computed by taking the logarithms of

$$P(w) = \frac{\text{count}(w) + \alpha}{\left(\sum_{w' \in V} \text{count}(w')\right) + \alpha(|V| + 1)}, \qquad P(\langle \text{UNK} \rangle) = \frac{\alpha}{\left(\sum_{w' \in V} \text{count}(w')\right) + \alpha(|V| + 1)}$$

   where w is a word in the vocabulary V, α is the smoothing constant (typically in the range $0 < \alpha \leq 1$), and <UNK> denotes a special word that will be substituted for unknown tokens at test time.

```
>>> paths = ["homework3_data/train/ham/ham%d" % i
...          for i in range(1, 11)]
>>> p = log_probs(paths, 1e-5)
>>> p["the"]
-3.6080194731874062
>>> p["line"]
-4.272995709320345
```

```
>>> paths = ["homework3_data/train/spam/spam%d" % i
...          for i in range(1, 11)]
>>> p = log_probs(paths, 1e-5)
>>> p["Credit"]
-5.837004641921745
```

```
>>> p["<UNK>"]
-20.34566288044584
```

3. **[10 points]** Write an initialization method `__init__(self, spam_dir, ham_dir, smoothing)` in the `SpamFilter` class that creates two log-probability dictionaries corresponding to the emails in the provided spam and ham directories, then stores them internally for future use. Also compute the class probabilities *P(spam)* and *P(¬spam)* based on the number of files in the input directories.

4. **[25 points]** Write a method `is_spam(self, email_path)` in the `SpamFilter` class that returns a Boolean value indicating whether the email at the given file path is predicted to be spam. Tokens which were not encountered during the training process should be converted into the special word `"<UNK>"` in order to avoid zero probabilities.

   Recall from the lecture slides that for a given class $c \in \{spam, \neg spam\}$,

   $$P(c \mid \text{document}) \sim P(c) \prod_{w \in V} P(w \mid c)^{\text{count}(w)},$$

   where the normalization constant *1 / P(document)* is the same for both classes and can therefore be ignored. Here, the count of a word is computed over the input document to be classified.

   These computations should be computed in log-space to avoid underflow.

```
>>> sf = SpamFilter("homework3_data/train/spam",
...     "homework3_data/train/ham", 1e-5)
>>> sf.is_spam("homework3_data/train/spam/spam1")
True
>>> sf.is_spam("homework3_data/train/spam/spam2")
True
```

```
>>> sf = SpamFilter("homework3_data/train/spam",
...     "homework3_data/train/ham", 1e-5)
>>> sf.is_spam("homework3_data/train/ham/ham1")
False
>>> sf.is_spam("homework3_data/train/ham/ham2")
False
```

5. **[30 points]** Suppose we define the spam indication value of a word w to be the quantity

   $$\log\left(\frac{P(w \mid \text{spam})}{P(w)}\right).$$

   Similarly, define the ham indication value of a word w to be

   $$\log\left(\frac{P(w \mid \neg\text{spam})}{P(w)}\right).$$

Write a pair of methods `most_indicative_spam(self, n)` and `most_indicative_ham(self, n)` in the `SpamFilter` class which return the `n` most indicative words for each category, sorted in descending order based on their indication values. You should restrict the set of words considered for each method to those which appear in at least one spam email and one ham email. *Hint: The probabilities computed within the `__init__(self, spam_dir, ham_dir, smoothing)` method are sufficient to calculate these quantities.*

```
>>> sf = SpamFilter("homewor3_data/train/spam",
...     "homework3_data/train/ham",  1e-5)
>>> sf.most_indicative_spam(5)
['<a', '<input', '<html>', '<meta',
 '</head>']
```

```
>>> sf = SpamFilter("homework3_data/train/spam",
...     "homework3_data/train/ham",  1e-5)
>>> sf.most_indicative_ham(5)
['Aug', 'ilug@linux.ie', 'install',
 'spam.', 'Group:']
```