

Problem 1. This exercise traces through the first few steps of a perceptron training algorithm. The task is to classify a sentence into one of two classes, which are called +1 and -1. We will use just two features; unlike the example in class, these features are not binary, but integer-valued. The features are:

pron The number of personal pronouns in the sentence.

noun The number of proper and common nouns in the sentence.

In the data below, each instance of **pron** is marked in **red boldface**, and each instance of **noun** is marked in **green bold italics**. A hyphenated term such as *Cochin-China* or *great-aunt* is considered a single term. The data (classes and sentences) are taken from Argamon et al.: *Gender, genre, and writing style in formal written texts*, Text 23(3): 321–346, 2003.

- a. (15 points) Count the features in each sentence and update the perceptron weights, using Algorithm 5 of the perceptron reading (Daumé).

+1 *Clara* never failed to be astonished by the extraordinary *felicity* of **her** own *name*.

Feature counts: **pron** 1 **noun** 3 Weights: **pron** 1 **noun** 3 bias 1

-1 By 1925 present-day *Vietnam* was divided into three *parts* under French colonial *rule*.

Feature counts: **pron** 0 **noun** 3 Weights: **pron** 1 **noun** 0 bias 0

+1 **She** found it hard to trust **herself** to the mercy of *fate*, which had managed over the *years* to convert **her** greatest *shame* into one of **her** greatest *assets*, and even after *years* of comparative *security* **she** was still prepared for, still half expecting the old *gibes* to be revived.

Feature counts: **pron** 5 **noun** 7 Weights: **pron** 1 **noun** 0 bias 0

-1 The southern *region* embracing *Saigon* and the *Mekong delta* was the *colony* of *Cochin-China*; the central *area* with its imperial *capital* at *Hue* was the *protectorate* of *Annam*; and the northern *region*, *Tongking*, was also a separate *protectorate* with its *capital* at *Hanoi*.

Feature counts: **pron** 0 **noun** 16 Weights: **pron** 1 **noun** -16 bias -1

+1 But whenever **she** was introduced, nothing greeted the amazing, all-revealing *Clara* but *cries* of “How delightful, how charming, how unusual, how fortunate,” and **she** could foresee a *time* when *friends* would name **their babies** after **her** and refer back to **her** with *pride* as the *original* from which *inspiration* had first been drawn.

Feature counts: **pron** 5 **noun** 8 Weights: **pron** 6 **noun** -8 bias 0

-1 The Annamese *emperor*, *Khai Dinh*, in *theory* ruled the two northern *regions* from *Hue* with the *benefit* of French *protection*, while *Cochin-China* was governed directly from *Paris* but in *effect* all three *territories* were ruled as *colonies*.

Feature counts: **pron** 0 **noun** 13 Weights: **pron** 6 **noun** -8 bias 0