

Study Guide 1 – Natural Language Processing

September 16, 2020

General Criteria

- Each session should be *synchronous* (i.e., you must all be online at the same time).
- Each session should last at least 30 minutes.
- Each session should have between **3 – 6** students.
- Each session should be on a different week from another session; you shouldn't do all the summaries on the same week!
- It is recommended to hold a video chat. However, in case that this is not possible, you can agree as a group to hold a voice chat only for some or all participants. In case that this is also not possible, you can agree to instead have a synchronous written discussion.

Suggested Discussions

1. **Moderator** – it'd be a good idea to appoint a moderator for your discussions, especially if your group is larger. If nobody volunteers, whoever has a first name closest to the beginning of the alphabet can be nominated as moderator. The moderator's job is to make sure that everybody gets a turn in speaking, and to manage the conversation if multiple people want to say something at the same time or nobody does.
2. **Introduction** – this may be the first time that you are meeting each other! Please go around and introduce yourselves. What is your educational background, and why are you taking NLP? What previous experience with NLP do you have, and what future goals do you have related to the area?
3. **Ambiguity** – ambiguity is pervasive throughout language. Discuss the following sentences and see if you figure out the ambiguity in each. For each case, identify as a group: a) the possible interpretations, b) what specifically in the sentence causes the ambiguity, c) what sort of knowledge you might need to build into a NLP system to resolve the ambiguity.
 - Every student read a book.
 - The lion is a majestic animal.
 - Use of this sidewalk is prohibited by police officers.
 - She is my ex-mother-in-law-to-be.
4. **Questions about course so far** – are there any questions from the course (lectures, quizzes) so far that you'd like to discuss?
5. **Plan** – make a plan for your next study group! Should you get together to watch a lecture at the same time? When should it happen? Does anything need to change in terms of how you conduct the session?

Format of a Summary

Use the following format for each summary:

Name:

Student number:

Time and date of meeting (include start and end times):

Week #:

Other students at the meeting:

Brief one- to two-paragraph summary of your activities and discussions.

The entire summary is expected to be between half a page to one page.

- These summaries should be handed in **individually**.