## **HW1 Report**

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Best Public Score: 0.83

There were two major steps to completing this assignment:

- 1. Experimenting locally to find the best value of k
- 2. Predicting sentiments for the testing dataset using the selected value of k

## Step 1: Experimenting locally to find the best value of k

First I imported all the essential libraries I would be needing for the program. Then I read the train dataset and test dataset into train\_data and test\_data.

However, on reading the test set, I noticed that the size of the test dataset is 14992 which was supposed to be 15000. This is due to some bad spaces in the dataset, so I wrote a small script in order to combat this issue.

Then I did some checking for null values which turned out to be zero. Post this, I performed <u>dataset cleaning</u> which included converting the dataset to lower case, keeping only alphabetic characters, removing stop words and lemmatization of words.

Next, I split the training set into 80-20 ratios (80% for training, 20% for testing) using the <u>holdout</u> method to assess the accuracy of our model.

Next, <u>feature selection</u> was done using TFIDF vectorization. The vectorizer had many hyperparameters such as min\_df, ngram\_range and max\_features. On playing around and experimenting with these values, I chose the following values:

- min df = 2 (to choose words that have occurred at least twice)
- ngram\_range = (1,3) (to consider 1 to 3 strings in a row)
- max\_features = 75000 (to consider the top 75000 features ordered by term frequency across the corpus)

On finding the train and test TFIDF vectors, the next step was to start <u>implementing the KNN algorithm</u>. The first step in the implementation was to find the <u>cosine similarity</u> vector between X\_train and X\_test. I had many options to measure similarity - cosine similarity, Euclidean distance, etc. but cosine similarity works best for text documents, so I went ahead with it.

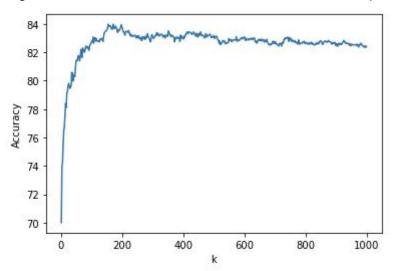
```
In [14]: 1 cos_sim = cosine_similarity(X_train, X_test)
2 cos_sim = cos_sim.transpose() #transpose operation to have the test set elements as rows for easier iteration
3 print(type(cos_sim))
4 print(cos_sim.shape)
5 print(cos_sim)
```

Next, I conducted an experiment to find the best value of k. So I ran a loop from k = 1 to 1000 (selecting odd numbers only) and calculated accuracy for each value of k. After iterating through all values of k and finding their accuracies, the following graph was obtained.

The steps performed in the loop are as follows:

- Find k nearest neighbours
- Predict class for test set based on <u>majority voting</u> algorithm

This generated a list of 'k's and accuracies which I used to plot the graph below.



Looking at the graph, it is clear that a peak in accuracy was seen somewhere between 150-250. So I chose this range, and randomly experimented with values and chose k = 241 which worked best for my accuracy on Miner (gave me an accuracy of 83%). According to my local experiment, the max value of k was 155 but it doesn't necessarily mean it'll be the best value for the actual testing dataset.

## Step 2: Predicting sentiments for the testing dataset using the selected value of k

After selecting the value of k, the next step was to repeat the algorithm but on the testing dataset. All the steps were the same until cleaning of the datasets. Post the cleaning process, I performed TFIDF vectorization of the training and testing datasets. Then the cleaned and vectorized training and testing datasets were assigned to X\_train, X\_test and y\_train appropriately. After the assignments, I repeated the same old KNN algorithm - calculated cosine similarity, found k nearest neighbours and predicted sentiments using majority voting algorithm. The predicted values were then written to a text file which was then uploaded to Miner.