CS 236r Final Project Guidelines

Spring 2018

In this handout, we give you all the requirements for your course project, that will constitute 35% of your final grade. Your course project may be done individually or in pairs, but we strongly encourage working in pairs.

Your project can be computational, theoretical, experimental or empirical on a topic related to the course materials. You may write an exposition paper on at least three related technical papers of your choice that are related to the course material. However, such a paper MUST include an exposition of formal results in these papers, provide a critical discussion of assumptions made by the authors and suggestions about future work, and provide a new perspective. Moreover, an exposition paper can only be an individual project and not a team project.

Your course project will consist of the following components:

1. A 2-page Project Proposal due Monday March 19, 2018

   In your project proposal, you should provide a high-level description of your project. What problem are you trying to solve? What results do you hope to get? Why is your problem important? How does your project relate to the papers we have been reading or will read in class? Your goal should be to convince us that your ideas are well enough focused, and that you know what the first few steps will be. In addition to this, please make it clear to the teaching staff, what help you need from us (pointers to papers etc.) if any. After we receive your project proposal, we?ll set up a time to discuss your project with you.

2. A 2-page Project Update due Monday April 9, 2018

   In your project update, you are to detail any and all progress you have made on your project since you turned in the project proposal. In addition to this, you should clearly state what additional results you hope to get. Have the goals of your project changed at all after obtaining some preliminary results? We are requiring you turn in an update so that you do not save all the work to the last minute.

3. A Short Project Presentation on Wednesday April 25, 2018

   You are to prepare a short presentation of your course project. The project presentation will be in class on April 25, 2018. The hope is that you can get a sense of the spectrum of projects that your peers work on and receive feedback on your own project. 4. A Final Report due Wednesday May 2, 2018

Your project report is the most important part of your project. Your project report should read like a self contained research paper. What problem are you solving? Motivate your problem. What is the related work? What results did you obtain? What is your experimental methodology? (Of course, this question only pertains if you do an experimental project). What questions would you like to address in future work? Your project report, excluding Appendix, should not exceed 10

pages. The project is something that you will spend a great deal of time on. We hope that you pick something that you like and something that you think you have intuition for.