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**CIS4930 Individual Coding Assignment**

**Spring 2023**

1. **Problem Statement**

*In an increasingly digital world, people comment and interact on social media very frequently. While providing an unparalleled sense of connectedness, online communication lacks important factors such as tone, facial expressions, and body language. Thus, it can be difficult to determine the true sentiment of a message.   
  
To address this problem, we can try to utilize machine learning in a way that accurately labels the sentiment of a textual message. This will be done through a combination of text preparation, text feature extraction and developing a model that can accurately classify the extracted features.*

1. **Data Preparation**

*Like many data analysis projects, I began with importing important libraries. The libraries I used in this project for data preparation and feature extraction were pandas, nltk, and itertools. I chose these libraries because of the following reasons: pandas is an popular data science library that offers a efficient and easy to use structure for handling large datasets, nltk is a popular natural language processing library which is the core of this project, and itertools helped me efficiently iterate through the extremely large dataset we were provided.*

*After loading the data from CSVs, I began by ensuring there were no discrepancies within the data I was going to use. From there, I converted characters to lowercase and used regular expressions to remove user mentions, hyperlinks, and any special characters. I then used other Text Prepocessing steps outlined in the course materials. I tokenized the messages and subsequently removed stop words and stemmed the remaining words in one pass. Dealing with the stop words and stemming the remaining words was an extremely time consuming process and iterated over several millions of words.*

1. **Model Development**
   * Model Training
   * *[Describe the training phrase, which may include what models did you select, how you split training/validation/test sets, training epochs, and any other parameters.]*
   * Model Evaluation
   * *[Present the results of your models, basic evaluation looks at metrics such as* [*accuracy*](https://deepchecks.com/glossary/machine-learning-model-accuracy/)*,* [*precision*](https://deepchecks.com/glossary/precision-in-machine-learning/)*, or F1 score to determine which model is the best fit to solve the problem. You may find the model performance not good enough, in which case you can experiment further to improve the model performance with different features or more complex deep learning models.]*
2. **Discussion**
   * *[Does your model perform well enough? Discuss the potential reasons that your model fixes the problem well or not]*
   * *The primary challenge during the data preparation phase of this project was inefficiency. I was attempting to quickly create my model through iterative development, but was being help back through the time consuming process of attempting to figure out how to properly clean the data. This was mainly removing stop words and stemming the remaining words. After creating several versions of my code and refactoring heavily, I was able to create code that was bearable. I would like to improve my code further, however I feel I need to read further on efficient data management strategies.   
       
     During the model development process, I was stumped. I solved it by doing xyz.*
   * *This was a challenging, yet rewarding, assignment. I learned many things and would not have exposed myself various data management strategies had I not taken this course. I did not anticipate the data preparation taking a majority of my time but it did.*
3. **Appendix**

*The link to my github repository is* [*https://github.com/npgilman/SentimentAnalysisHomework*](https://github.com/npgilman/SentimentAnalysisHomework)*.*