AMSC/MATH 420, Project 2, SPRING 2015

Oral Presentation Due: March 24, 2015 Written Presentation Due: March 26, 2015

1) Download the dataset of handwritten digits collected by USPS and divide them into two equal sets of 550 images per digit: training set and testing set. The goals of this project are to develop and test methods for classification of the handwritten data (to be discussed further in class), which are optimized on the training set and then applied to the testing set to assess the performance of the developed methodology.

Use the nearest neighbors classification scheme (to be introduced in class), or any other suitable classifiers that you may already know, to verify the success rate of your compression scheme. Optimize its parameters and the selected metric to maximize the global success rate. Report your success percentages for each compressed digit separately, as well as globally. Analyze the performance differences between individual digits.