Sentiment analysis has recently been used to determine the mood of students, teacher strengths and weaknesses, student perception of internship experience, or to predict student attrition. While these are helpful indicators of students' experience, none improve the information gathered from or the reliability of peer review. Peer review is particularly important in large courses with complex assignments (e.g., essays, software projects, and presentations) where scalable grading is requisite. In this dissertation, we apply sentiment analysis not on an assignment itself, but on the review text generated from a peer-reviewing crowd to produce a quantitative sentiment score. To obtain a reliable score, we first mined peer review comments to compile our lexicon, HeLPS, which exhibits high precision on peer review text compared to others publicly-available. From the lexicon, we built an aspect extractor to aggregate and understand student feedback. Our sentiment analysis algorithm, SentiSoft, leverages both the lexicon and aspect extractor to provide a fine-grained sentiment score with metrics and supporting documentation from text alone for the improvement of scalable assessment.

**Publications**


**Disability Accommodations:**

If you require a reasonable accommodation to participate, please contact the Office of Diversity & Equal Opportunity at 813-974-4373 at least five (5) working days prior to the event.