Exercise Sheet 11
complete until Tuesday, January 18th, 2005

Exercise 1 Write a 1-page project proposal based on the idea you posted on the Wiki. Your proposal should be *concrete* as well as sufficiently *focused*. For example, “a survey on algorithms for document clustering” is concrete but too broad (even for a Ph.D. thesis), while “the difference between LSI and NMF” has good focus but lacks concreteness (difference in which respect?).

The structure of your proposal should be as follows. Details of the submission will be posted on the Wiki page for this exercise sheet.

0. At the top, give the title of your project + an acronym. The title should sound interesting and cover at least one important aspect specific to your project. The acronym should not be too long and pronounceable. A counterexample would be “My project for this seminar (MPFTS)”.  
1. Then give a concise and concrete description of your project, again one or two paragraphs. In particular, there should be a concrete *goal*. Note that such a description will require some amount of research already.  
2. After having thought about a reasonable division of your project into phases, give a short description (one or two sentences) of each phase and an estimate in working days (*your* working days, that is, a task to which you assigned 2 working days should be something which *you* can accomplish in two days).  
3. For each phase give a reasonable division into relatively simple, concrete steps. A step should be something which can be done in one “session”, e.g., to sit down and read through a particular paper, but not to understand special relativity theory, that should comprise several steps and moreover is not sufficiently concrete (which book? to which extent? etc.).  
4. Finally give a list of the specific *deliverables* of your project, that is, concrete, tangible outcomes. For every project this should include a presentation, as well as a 1-page summary of what you have done. Further items could be a program, a website, a bibliography, whatever … that really depends on your project.

Concerning the size of your project: we have four more classes after coming Tuesday, so a reasonable size would be the equivalent of four average exercise sheets.

Exercise 2 Sign up for one of the four slots: Jan 25th, Feb 1st, Feb 8th, Feb 15th on the Wiki. If you have a pretty clear and concrete project idea already at this point, please consider the Jan 25th slot. If *you* sign up for this slot, *you* will be freed from writing a proposal; instead please come and briefly discuss your project idea with us as soon as possible then.