

Introductory Applied Machine Learning (IAML)

Response to student feedback in 2017/18 course survey

I have taken note of the feedback from students in this course survey, and have the following comments in response:

- It seems that many student like the challenge that this course presents and have understood that it is a practical course that gives good experience in using standard ML libraries to do real data science tasks, and that gives a conceptual overview of what is going on in the various methods covered, but that it does not go over the mathematical basis for these methods much: for that MLPR is the course.

It also seems that the flipped format and the variety of learning opportunities suits many students, though by no means all.

- With regard to specific comments:

Some students would like there to be a course textbook. I am not aware of one that is suitable, but new ones are coming out all the time and we do look for one. Until then, we expect in future years to develop a set of links to appropriate web resources (with commentaries).

It's clear that the flipped format does not suit some students. I think part of the solution here is a combination of making it clear that the videos/slides are the essential material, and the class meetings are entirely optional (although recommended). Another part is to make the videos more engaging, as is suggested by several comments - the videos are currently mostly slides with a soundtrack and this clearly could be improved.

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