

II. Model documentation and write-up

You can respond to these questions in an e-mail or as an attached file (any common document format is acceptable such as plain text, DOCX, etc.).

1. Who are you (mini-bio) and what do you do professionally?

I'm eight months into my year-long study for an MSc in Data Science and Machine Learning at UCL, London. Before that, I spent 10 years working for Accenture, implementing complex and business-critical technology.

2. What motivated you to compete in this challenge?

This was my first data science competition. The ethics of machine learning is an interest of mine, and the responsible AI track was a great opportunity to explore applications in disaster risk management.

3. If you could continue working on this topic in the future, how would you add to your approach? What would you recommend for others that will continue to work in this domain?

The concept of de-biasing algorithms is a really interesting one. Even if we could all agree on a single definition of a 'fair' algorithm, to truly remove all trace of unfairness towards groups or individuals, without reducing the predictive power of the model is extremely difficult.

There is a lot of research ongoing on de-biasing, but it isn't solely an engineering problem. It would be interesting to explore a decision-making framework that designs-in an awareness of, and mitigation for, the risk of unfair outcomes.

4. This is the first time one of our competitions featured a Responsible AI track. What did you think worked well? What could have been better? Any feedback and ideas for future iterations are very welcome!

I enjoyed taking part and I appreciated the opportunity to explore the theme of Responsible AI, I also really liked the open format because it meant there was no excuse not to just start getting ideas down.

I think many people are drawn to data science competitions in part because of the fast-feedback of the leaderboard. I wonder whether there could be a Responsible AI task that takes the form of a data science competition that has a fairness element. I imagine this would be really difficult to do so perhaps not feasible!