

PROGRAMMING IN PYTHON II

Project Design and Outline



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MOTIVATION



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- Spoiler alert: The choice of the ML method itself is only one aspect of many

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- We will cover the details during the semester
- We will use our ML project as example



OVERVIEW



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- **There is no one-fits-all solution!** Specific tasks require specific considerations!

PROJECT GOAL



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- **Do not** make simplifications here! Make sure you are aware of the real (end) goal and communicate this!
- Rinse and repeat to overcome language barriers

DATA



Data (1)

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 - Best case but rather rare (our hunger for data is only limited by computational restrictions!)
- Sometimes the goals will follow from existing but insufficiently large data
 - Common case
 - Has influence on choice of ML method
 - Allows for educated guesses at sufficiently large data size
 - Can be a starting point for collecting more data

Data (2)

- Sometimes the goals are not backed up by any data
 - Very tricky and potentially dangerous!
 - You would have to make guesses about how much and which data would be needed
 - You would have to make guesses about the ML method performance in advance
 - You will need to interface with the data collection process (first get small dataset, then collect more)
 - You might waste a lot of time and money

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- A dataset might be unsuitable for your purposes
 - Biases, artifacts, labeling errors, . . .

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 - Pre-training on similar data, unused sorted-out data, data that is not suitable for training but for evaluation, . . .

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- ☐ Check if there is auxiliary data available
 - Pre-training on similar data, unused sorted-out data, data that is not suitable for training but for evaluation, ...
- ☐ Perform data preprocessing and augmentation
 - Normalization, oversampling, cross-validation splits, data augmentation, ...

HARDWARE/SOFTWARE



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- CPU, GPU or TPU based?
- Size of RAM and disk storage?
- Hardware compatible with ML software? Software restrictions from company/collaborations?
- Short-term or long-term project?
 - ☐ Rent or own? Little compute over long time or lots of compute over short term?
 - ☐ Possible start: First design/implement/experiment on owned hardware, then perform final tuning on rented hardware if needed

ML METHODS



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 - ☐ Literature research
 - ☐ Later semesters of AI study
- Start with baselines/less complex methods and models
 - ☐ Statistics, logistic regression, SVM, Random Forest, ...
 - ☐ Check Supervised Learning before Reinforcement Learning and Unsupervised Learning

EVALUATION



Evaluation

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- Which score/performance measure?
- Do you need to correct for biases?
- Which aspects of the goal are more important?
- What do you want to generalize to?

PYTHON II PROJECT



Python II Project: Goal (1)



Python II Project: Goal (2)

- Image Depixelation (recreation of pixelated area within an image)
- End goal: Best score on challenge server leaderboard
 - Pixelated image is fed into model, and model predicts plausible values for the pixelated area
 - Size of the pixelated area and pixelation block size should be freely selectable
 - Images should be grayscale images

Python II Project: Goal (2)

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 - Pixelated image is fed into model, and model predicts plausible values for the pixelated area
 - Size of the pixelated area and pixelation block size should be freely selectable
 - Images should be grayscale images
- What is “plausible”?
 - Luckily, the challenge server decides for us: “Plausibility” is measured by the root-mean-squared error (RMSE) of the predicted pixels

Python II Project: Data (1)

- We will create our own dataset

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- We will have the following data:
 - JPEG images up to 250kB
 - 100 images per student
 - Assumption: We collect roughly 30k valid images

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- We will crop out parts of the original images, so we know the ground truth (no need to collect labels)

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- This is probably a case with sufficient data for training our methods, but
 - We can use data augmentation to increase the dataset size
 - We could use additional data from the Internet (but it will not be necessary)
- We will have to
 - Clean up the raw data (exclude invalid files)
 - Perform analysis and preprocessing
 - (Possibly) perform data augmentation

Python II Project: Hardware, Software and Methods

■ Hardware:

- ☐ Notebook with CPU and 4GB of RAM should suffice
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■ Methods:

- ☐ Simple **Convolutional Neural Network (CNN)**
- ☐ You may also use other NN types/more complex settings
- ☐ Design and fine-tuning is up to you

Python II Project: Evaluation

- Challenge server score determines the evaluation method
- Will use the root-mean-squared error (RMSE) of the predicted pixels