10703: Project Midterm Report Instructions

Due April 15
25% of Project Grade

Instructions

Please submit a pdf of your midterm report using provided NIPS style via gradescope. Only one person from each group should submit. The person submitting should add their project partners to the submission via gradescope.

The TA or instructor that provided feedback on your project proposal will be grading your midterm report and providing feedback.

Take this report as an opportunity to write a large chunk of the final report and get feedback from the instructors/TAs. Unless you're drastically changing your project before the final report you should be able to reuse a lot of your introduction and methods section in the final report.

Your midway report should be 4 pages long (excluding references) and include the following:

- Project title and list of group members (please follow the given template).
- **Introduction (1 – 1½ pages):** Problem and literature overview; how your idea fits into the existing work. If you already had an elaborate proposal, you may borrow this part from there, but try to make it as focused and concise as possible. If your proposal did not include enough background information, please make sure this section fills that gap (this will also save you time on preparing the final report).
- **Methods (1½ – 2 pages):** If you are developing a new method / model / architecture, this section should contain all the math, derivations, formal details, illustrations (if necessary). If you are proving theorems, assumptions and theorem formulations should be here. If your project is application driven, this section should highlight important aspects of the application and details on how your methodology addresses those. You can update this section for the final report.
- **Preliminary Results (½ – 1 page):** Please include experimental results you have obtained by the deadline. Your results don't need to be ground-breaking but you should have data from at least one well-designed experiment related to your project. Describe how your current results align with the expectations you had in your proposal. You may include the details on how you mined / prepared the data, if it is an important aspect of the project. If you wrote a simulator include details on the implementations and performance here.
- **Final plan (½ page):** The adjusted plan for the next steps (in terms of methodology, experiments, data collection, etc.)

Additional notes

If you have changed or adjusted your project plan significantly (compared to what you have proposed), please provide a brief note on this in a subsection of the introduction. You will not be penalized for adjusting your project based on your current project results. However, we are expecting you to explain why you're changing the project direction in the report.

Grading rubric

Total weight: 25% of the project grade.

- Introduction & literature survey (10%)
- Methods (40%)
- Preliminary results (20%)
- Plan of the next steps (20%)
- Quality of writing (10%)