

Data Mining Techniques - Group 116

Process Report

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1 The log book

Date	Task	Who	Contribution
Mo 30 Ma	Group Formation	All	Met via the discussion section in Canvas
We 1 Apr	Kick-off Meeting Project	All	Got to know each other via Zoom
Sa 4 Apr	Task Division	All	Decided to all focus on one part
Sa 4 Apr	Shared Work Folder	Zakaria	Created a Latex folder in Overleaf
Mo 6 Apr	Part 1 of Ass. 1	Eveline	Created a shared notebook in Kaggle
Mo 6 - Fri 10 Apr	Part 1 of Ass. 1	Eveline	Followed Youtube tutorials
Mo 6 - Fri 10 Apr	Part 2 of Ass. 1	Xingkai	Explored data in Kaggle
Mo 6 - Fri 10 Apr	Part 3 of Ass. 1	Zakaria	Did theoretic research
We 8 Apr	Weekly Meet	All	Discussed the progress of Ass. 1
Mo 13 Apr	Part 1 of Ass. 1	Eveline	Got a 3 hour class from a CS graduate
We 15 Apr	Weekly Meet	All	Discussed the progress of Ass. 1
We 15 Apr	Part 3 of Ass. 1	Zakaria	Finished part 3 of Ass. 1
Thu 16 Apr	Part 2 of Ass. 1	Xingkai	Finished part 2 of Ass. 1
Fri 17 Apr	Part 1 of Ass. 1	Eveline	Finished part 1 of Ass. 1
Sa 18 Apr	Ass. 1	All	Provided feedback on each part
Su 19 Apr	Ass. 1	All	Adjusted feedback in own part
Su 19 Apr	Ass. 1	Eveline	Performed final grammar check
Su 19 Apr	Ass. 1	Zakara	Handed in Ass. 1 via Canvas
We 29 Apr	Process Report	Eveline	Created the log book scheme
We 29 Apr	Weekly Meet	All	Discussed plan of approach Ass. 2
Thu 30 Apr	Kaggle File	Xingkai	Created a shared Kaggle notebook
We 6 May	Weekly Meet	All	Discussed the feedback of Ass. 1
Mo 11 - Fri 15 May	Ass. 2	Eveline	Worked on the business understanding
Mo 11 - Fri 15 May	Ass. 2	Xingkai	Worked on EDA and feature engineering
We 13 May	Weekly Meet	All	Discussed the progress of Ass. 2
Mo 18 - Tu 19 May	Ass. 2	Eveline	Wrote about EDA and data preparation
Tu 19 - Thu 21 May	Ass. 2	Zakaria	Worked on modeling and evaluation
We 20 May	Weekly Meet	All	Discussed final steps
Thu 21 May	Ass. 2	Eveline	Wrote reflection part in the process report
Fri 22 May	Ass. 2	All	Reviewed the scientific and process report
Fri 22 May	Ass. 2	Eveline	Performed final grammar check
Fri 22 May	Ass. 2	Zakara	Handed in Ass. 2 via Canvas

Table 1: the log book

The table above roughly shows how we went about doing the assignments for this course. Please note that we watched all the lectures in our own time and attended some of the seminars.

2 Reflection

It goes without saying that this course was different from what we had expected upfront due to Covid-19. We are happy that the lecturers came up with innovative ways to teach and engage us during the seminars, but we think that the course would have been easier to follow when given co-located. In this respect, research on virtual teams shows that three key problems arise when teams work remotely: (1) individuals are less likely to share information because it is hard to establish trust in remote work contexts, (2) it is harder to complete work as task interdependence requires frequent interaction that is constrained in remote work contexts, and (3) coordination is difficult as remote work contexts may cause incomplete messages, misunderstanding, and conflict¹. While working on this project, we ran into some of these problems as we will illustrate below.

We got together via the discussion section in Canvas to form a team, but we did not know each other upfront. Therefore, we met for the first time via Zoom to discuss the expectations of the course. We also asked some personal questions to get to know each other and build some trust. We took a practical approach to the first assignment, dividing the three parts over us three, because we believed that in this remote work context it would be most efficient to approach the project in such way. Nonetheless, we noticed that while we were working on our own parts for the first assignment, it was challenging that we could not really help each other when asked for help because we were focused on different tasks. Moreover, we noticed that while asking and answering questions in our WhatsApp group, misunderstanding could arise about what the actual question or answer was. Luckily, we were able to clarify things and get aligned again during the Weekly Update Sessions via Zoom.

Nevertheless, we got disappointed by our results of the first assignment. Thus, we decided to take a different team work approach for the second assignment, working more interdependently. We roughly divided the tasks in such way that Xingkai would carry final responsibility over the EDA, Zakaria over the modeling and evaluation, and Eveline over writing both the scientific and process report. However, we were in frequent contact and analysed each others parts frequently to give feedback. This resulted in more of a team work feeling and everyone having the overview of where we were going.

All in all, we were happy with all team members' input. All team members took responsibility over the tasks assigned and responded timely to questions asked via WhatsApp. In addition, we believe that everyone contributed a more or less equal share to the project. Nonetheless, we believe that the team work would have been even better if we would have been able to work co-located to remove the boundaries of contacting someone remotely to work together on a task and work more interdependently.

¹Bailey, D.E., P.M. Leonardi, and S.R. Barley (2012). "The lure of the virtual" *Organization Science*, 23(5), 1485-1504. doi:10.1287/orsc.1110.0703