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Course unit

MACHINE LEARNING

SCP8082660, A.A. 2018/19

Information concerning the students who enrolled in A.Y. 2018/19

Information on the course unit

Degree course	Second cycle degree in PHYSICS OF DATA
Number of ECTS credits allocated	6.0
Type of assessment	Mark
Course unit English denomination	MACHINE LEARNING
Website of the academic structure	http://physicsofdata.scienze.unipd.it/2018/laurea_magistrale
Department of reference	Department of Physics and Astronomy
Mandatory attendance	No
Language of instruction	English
Branch	PADOVA
Single Course unit	The Course unit can be attended under the option Single Course unit attendance
Optional Course unit	The Course unit can be chosen as Optional Course unit



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Lecturers

Teacher in charge	PIETRO ZANUTTIGH	pietro.zanuttigh@unipd.it	ING-INF/03
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Mutuating

Course unit code	Course unit name	Teacher in charge	Degree course code
INP6075419	MACHINE LEARNING	PIETRO ZANUTTIGH	IN2371

ECTS: details

Type	Scientific-Disciplinary Sector	Credits allocated
Educational activities in elective or integrative disciplines	ING-INF/05 Data Processing Systems	6.0

Course unit organization

	Period				First semester
	Year				1st Year
	Teaching method				frontal
Type of hours	Credits	Teaching hours	Hours of Individual study	Shifts	
Lecture	6.0	48	102.0	No turn	

Calendar

Start of activities	01/10/2018
End of activities	18/01/2019

Examination board

Board	From	To	Members of the board
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Syllabus

Prerequisites:

Basic Knowledge of Mathematics, Probability Theory, Statistics, Linear Algebra, Algorithms and basic Programming skills.

The aim of this course is to provide the fundamentals and basic principles of the learning problem as well as to introduce the most common algorithms for regression and classification. The course will be complemented by hands-on experience through computer simulations.

Target skills and knowledge:

At the end of the course the student will have the following skills and knowledge:

1. The student will know the basic principles and the main methodologies of machine learning,
2. He will be able to deal with both supervised and unsupervised learning problems.
3. He will be able to apply these methodologies to different scenarios and problems.
4. He will be able to select the best technique for the solution of a specific learning problem on the basis of the characteristics of the problem and of the available data.
5. He will have the skills allowing him to use and to adapt software applications to solve the considered problems.
6. If possible, the skills relative to more advanced and modern topics such as boosting, sparsity and deep learning will be provided.

The evaluation of the acquired skills and knowledge will be performed using two contributions:

1. A written exam without the book, where the student must solve few problems, with the aim of verifying the acquisition of the main ingredients of a learning problem and of the main machine learning tools, the analytical ability to use these tools and the ability to interpret the typical results of a practical machine learning problem.

Examination methods:

2. Computer simulations (optional) with the aim of acquiring the practical competences for using machine learning tools. These simulations, to be performed at home, allow to verify the ability of practically exploiting the acquired theoretical concepts. The student will have to provide a brief document explaining the employed methodologies used to solve the assigned problem together with the obtained results.

The final grade will be based on the written test with a bonus up to 3 point for the students who will hand in also the lab assignments.

The evaluation of the acquired skills and knowledge will consider the following aspects:

Assessment criteria:

1. The completeness of the acquired knowledge for what concerns the basic tools for prediction (regression and classification).
2. The analytical and practical ability in the use of these tools for the solution of basic problems.
3. The capability of using a proper technical terminology, both oral and written
4. The originality and independence in identifying the most suited methodologies for the solution of a specific machine learning problem
5. The ability to interpret the results in a practical machine learning problem.
6. The skills in the use of the machine learning software tools
7. The practical and analytic skills in the use of these tools for the solution of simple problems.

Motivation; components of the learning problem and applications of Machine Learning. Supervised and unsupervised learning.

PART I: Supervised Learning

1. Introduction: Data, Classes of models, Losses.
2. Probabilistic models and assumptions on the data. The regression function. Regression and Classification.
3. When is a model good? Model complexity, bias variance tradeoff/generalization (VC dimension, generalization error).
4. Models for Regression: Linear Regression (scalar and multivariate), subset selection, linear-in-the-parameters models, regularization.
5. Classes of nonlinear models: Sigmoids, Neural Networks.
6. Kernel Methods: SVM.
7. Models for Classification: Logistic Regression, Neural Networks, Perceptron, Naïve Bayes Classifier, SVM, Deep Learning.
8. Validation and Model Selection: Generalization Error, Bias-Variance Tradeoff, Cross Validation. Model complexity determination.

Course unit contents:

PART II: Unsupervised learning

1. Cluster analysis: K-means Clustering, Mixtures of Gaussians and the EM estimation.
2. Dimensionality reduction: Principal Component Analysis (PCA).

Planned learning activities and teaching methods:

Theoretical classes using both slides and blackboard. Problem solving sessions, involving students in the





solution. Computer simulations (in the lab), also employing case studies.

The course will be based on the four textbooks: "Understanding Machine Learning: from Theory to Algorithms", "Machine Learning a probabilistic perspective", "Pattern Recognition and Machine Learning", and "The Elements of Statistical Learning" (see Section "Testi di Riferimento").

Additional notes about suggested reading:

All the material presented during the lectures, additional material and detailed information regarding the exam will be made available on the course website, accessible from <http://elearning.dei.unipd.it>)

Textbooks (and optional supplementary readings)

- Shalev-Shwartz, Shai; Ben-David, Shai, Understanding machine learning: From theory to algorithms. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2014. 
- C. M. Bishop, Pattern Recognition and Machine Learning. --: Springer, 2006. 
- Murphy, Kevin P., Machine Learning a probabilistic perspective. Cambridge: Mit press, 2012. 
- Hastie, Trevor J.; Tibshirani, Robert, The elements of statistical learning, data mining, inference, and prediction. New York: Springer, 2009. 

Innovative teaching methods: Teaching and learning strategies

Innovative teaching methods: Software or applications used

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

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