5.1 Women in ML

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Today's topics

1. How to build your own profile, raise awareness about your work, build your network.
2. How to find collaborators, build a team, work with researchers from other fields.
3. Different routes into AI/ML, not traditional approaches into the field.
4. Tips on applying for PhD positions, choosing research topics.
5. Working in academia vs industry.

How to build your own profile, raise awareness about your work, build your network.
- Emma Slade:
  - Accepting and attending talks and seminars at universities
  - Ignoring the "imposter syndrome" feeling as junior or minorities
    - Approach others
- Ioana Bica:
  - Build your own website, showcasing your:
    - Talks
    - Projects
    - Research interests
  - Reach up to other ML groups
    - Collaborators
    - Raise work awareness
  - Submit work to workshops
    - Usually focused on a specific topic
- Alicia Curth:
  - Twitter
    - Less academic
    - Summarizing idea in a more approachable way

How to find collaborators, build a team, work with researchers from other fields.
- Emma Slade:
  - Will be uncomfortable, but need to step out of the comfort zone
  - Build LinkedIn profile, Twitter, or website
- Ioana Bica:
  - Working with clinicians:
    - Communicate the ML algorithm
    - Properly define the problem to be solved
    - Access to data with clinicians

- ○ Identify your unique strength
- ● Alicia Curth:
  - ○ Working with researchers from other fields:
    - ■ Communicating your work in a concise manner
    - ■ Explaining to non-experts
      - ● Skills that need to be learnt
      - ● Valuable task
      - ● Identify common language

Different routes into AI/ML, not traditional approaches into the field.
- ● Alicia Curth:
  - ○ Econometrics -> statistics -> ML
  - ○ Many people with non-traditional backgrounds
- ● Emma Slade:
  - ○ There is not a best time to move away

Tips on applying for PhD positions, choosing research topics.
- ● Ioana Bica:
  - ○ Find research interests
  - ○ Identifying matching labs
  - ○ Approach lab members (PI may be too busy)
  - ○ Be flexible
  - ○ Taking into account the research influence from the group
- ● Alicia Curth:
  - ○ Research topics: not necessary to trying to fix a topic within the entire PhD
  - ○ University allowing pivoting if things don't work out

Working in academia vs industry.
- ● Emma Slade:
  - ○ Differing mindset
    - ■ Bureaucracy and politics is less in academia than industry as junior
  - ○ Ability to perform research is driven by the company
    - ■ Personal balance: freedom
  - ○ Ideas flow between academia and industry
    - ■ Academia: cutting-edge on technologies
    - ■ Industry: data provision