

Intro to Machine Learning

Tufts CS 135 | Fall 2023

- [Syllabus](#)
- [Schedule](#)
- [Assignments](#)
- [Office Hours](#)
- [Resources](#)

Schedule

Jump to:

[\[Unit 1: Regression\]](#) - [\[Unit 2: Classification\]](#) - [\[Unit 3: Neural Nets\]](#)
[\[Unit 4: Trees and Ensembles\]](#) - [\[Unit 5: Kernels\]](#) - [\[Unit 6: PCA & Rec. Sys.\]](#)

Please complete assigned readings *before* the start of class.

Course Introduction

Concepts: supervised learning, unsupervised learning, difference between ML and AI

Date	Assigned	Do Before Class	Class Content	Optional
Tue 09/05 day01	out: - HW0	Readings: - Course syllabus	Course Overview Slides: - Why take this course? - How will semester go? Lab Notebook: - Intro to Arrays in NumPy [colab] - Intro to Pandas and Plotting [colab]	

Unit 1: Regression

Concepts: over-fitting, under-fitting, cross-validation

Methods: Linear regression, k-NN regression

Evaluation: mean squared error, mean absolute error

Work: HW1

Date	Assigned	Do Before Class	Class Content	Optional
Thu 09/07 day02	due on Mon - HW0	Readings: - Install your Python environment - - Read ISLP Ch. 1 : - Focus: 'Notation and Simple Matrix Algebra' - - Read ISLP Ch. 2 : Sec. 2.1 & Sec. 2.2 - Focus: 'Parametric Methods' - Focus: 'Assessing Model Accuracy'	Regression basics Slides: - Regression basics - HW0 tips / doctest guide Lab Notebook: - Regr Demo on Abalone [colab]	- Alt. intro to supervised ML: SML Sec. 2.1 - More on k-NN: SML Sec. 2.2: k-NN

		- Focus: 'K-Nearest Neighbors'		
Tue 09/12 day03	out - HW1	Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SML Sec. 3.1 - Notes on estimating coefs [PDF] 	Linear regression Slides: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Linear regression - HW0 recap Lab Notebook: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Linear Regr. from 1D to any-D [colab] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Derivation: SML Sec. 3.A - Read MML Textbook Ch. 9 : Sec. 9.1-9.2 - Derivation with probabilistic perspective
Thu 09/14 day04		Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Skim ISLP Ch. 3 : - Focus: 3.3.2 Extensions of the Linear Model - Esp. pages 98-99 on 'Non-linear Relationships' - Read ISLP Ch. 5 : - Focus: 5.1.1 Validation Set Approach - Focus: 5.1.3 k-fold Cross-Validation 	Model selection & Cross validation Slides: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hyperparam. Selection Lab Notebook: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hyperparam Selection [colab] 	
Tue 09/19 day05		Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Read SML Sec. 3.3 - Read SML Sec. 5.3 	Regularization Slides: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regularization - HW1 tips Lab Notebook: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regularization: L2 (ridge) vs L1 (lasso) [colab] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Read: ISLP Ch. 6 : Sec. 6.2.1, 6.2.2, and 6.2.3 - - Video by Prof. A. Ihler (UC-Irvine): Regularization for Linear Regression
Thu 09/21 day06	due: - HW1	Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Read SML Sec. 5.4 --- Focus: 'Gradient Descent' in Alg. 5.1 	Gradient Descent Slides: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gradient Descent Lab Notebook: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gradient Descent in 1D [colab] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Read DL Textbook Sec. 4.3 : Gradient Descent

Unit 2: Classification

Concepts: feature engineering, hyperparameter selection, gradient descent

Methods: Logistic regression, k-NN classification

Evaluation: ROC curves, confusion matrices, cross entropy

Work: HW2, ProjectA

Date	Assigned	Do Before Class	Class Content	Optional
Tue 09/26 day07	out: - HW2	Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Read SML Sec. 3.2 - --- Focus: 'A Statistical View of the Classification Problem' - --- Focus: 'The Logistic Regression Model for Binary Classification' 	Classification basics Slides: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Classifier basics Lab Notebook: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Binary Classification [colab] 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Read SML Sec. 2.2: k-NN - --- Focus: Example 2.3 on k-NN classification 		
Thu 09/28 day08	out: - ProjA	Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Read SML Sec. 4.6 - --- Focus: 'The Confusion Matrix and the ROC Curve' - --- Focus: 'The F1 Score and the Precision-Recall Curve' 	Evaluating Classifiers Slides: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Evaluating classifiers Lab Notebook: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Evaluating Binary Classifiers [colab] 	
Tue 10/03 day09		Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Read SML Sec. 3.2 - --- Review: 'The Logistic Regression Model for Binary Classification' - --- Focus: Training the Logistic Regression Model by Maximum Likelihood - --- Focus: Predictions and Decision Boundaries 	Logistic Regression Slides: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Log loss & Logistic Regression Math/Concept Exercises: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Work on Problem 2 of HW2 	
Thu 10/05 day10	due: - HW2	Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Read SML Sec. 3.2 - --- Focus: 'Logistic Regression for More Than Two Classes' - Read SML Sec. 5.6 	Multi-class Logistic Regr. Slides: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Multi-class Classifiers - Bag-of-Words Lab Notebook: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bag of Words [colab] 	

Unit 3: Neural Nets

Concepts: backpropagation, stochastic gradient descent

Methods: multi-layer perceptrons for regression and classification

Work: HW3

Date	Assigned	Do Before Class	Class Content	Optional
Tue 10/10 day11		Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Read SML Sec. 6.1 - --- Focus: 'Two-Layer Neural Network' - --- Focus: 'Deep Neural Network' - --- Focus: 'Neural Networks for Classification' 	Neural Net basics Slides: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Neural Net Basics Math/Concept Exercises: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Universal Approx. Demo Lab Notebook: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Neural Nets: MLP for XOR [colab] 	
Thu 10/12 day12		Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Read SML Sec. 6.2 - --- Focus: 'Backpropagation' - --- Focus: 'Algorithm 6.1 and Example 6.2' 	Training Neural Nets Slides: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Forward prop & Back prop Math/Concept Exercises: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Backprop Visualized, from Google's ML Crash Course Lab Notebook: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Forward and Backward for MLPs [colab] 	
Tue 10/17 day13		Readings:	Midterm Review / Proj. A Work	

		- n/a	Day	
Thu 10/19 day14	due: - ProjA	Readings: - Read SML Sec. 5.5 - --- Focus: 'Stochastic Gradient Descent' - --- Skim: 'Learning Rate and Convergence for Stochastic Gradient Descent' - --- Skim: 'Adaptive Methods'	Stochastic Gradient Descent Slides: - L-BFGS and SGD Lab Notebook: - SGD for Linear Regr. & MLPs [colab]	- Read SML Sec. 5.4 - --- Focus: 'Second order Gradient Methods'
Tue 10/24 day15		Readings: - SML Sec. 6.3 - --- Focus: 'Convolutional Layer' - --- Focus: 'Pooling Layer'	Neural Nets 2 Slides: - From MLP to CNN and ResNet Math/Concept Exercises: - start problem 4 of HW3	
Thu 10/26 day16			MIDTERM EXAM	

Unit 4: Trees and Ensembles

Concepts: greedy training, bagging, boosting

Methods: decision trees, random forests, XGBoost

Work: HW4

Date	Assigned	Do Before Class	Class Content	Optional
Tue 10/31 day17		Readings: - SML Sec. 2.3 - --- Focus: Example 2.5 - --- Focus: Example 2.6	Decision Trees Slides: - Decision tree basics Lab Notebook: - Decision Trees [colab]	
Thu 11/02 day18	due: - HW3	Readings: - Read SML Sec. 7.1 on Bagging - Read SML Sec. 7.2 on Random Forest - Skim SML Sec. 7.4 on Boosting	Ensembles Slides: - Ensembles of trees Lab Notebook: - Random Forest [colab]	
Tue 11/07			<--- No Class ---> : Tufts Fri on Tue	
Thu 11/09 day19		Readings: - Sec. 1 of Foundation Models paper - --- Sec. 1.1: Emergence and homogenization - --- Sec. 1.2: Social impact and the foundation models ecosystem - --- Sec. 1.3: The future of foundation models`	Foundation models Slides: - Foundation models	- Stochastic Parrots paper by Bender, Gebru et al.

Unit 5: Kernel Methods

Concepts: kernel functions

Methods: kernelized linear regression, support vector machines

Work: HW5

Date	Assigned	Do Before Class	Class Content	Optional
Tue 11/14 day20		Readings: - Read SML Sec. 8.1 - Read SML Sec. 8.2	Kernel Methods Slides: - Kernels for Regression and Classification Lab Notebook: - Kernels for Regr. and Clf. [colab]	
Thu 11/16 day21	due: - HW4	Readings: - Read SML Sec. 8.5	Support Vector Machines Slides: - SVMs Lab Notebook: - SVM demo [colab]	

Unit 6: PCA and Recommender Systems

Concepts: dimensionality reduction, matrix factorization, recommendation systems

Methods: principal components analysis, collaborative filtering models

Work: HW5

Date	Assigned	Do Before Class	Class Content	Optional
Tue 11/21 day22		Readings: - Read SML Sec. 10.4 - --- Skim: 'Auto-encoders' - --- Focus: 'Principal Component Analysis' in SML 10.4.2 PCA	Principal Component Analysis (PCA) Slides: - PCA Lab Notebook: - PCA demo [colab]	
Thu 11/23			<--- No Class --->: Thanksgiving	
Tue 11/28 day23	out: - HW5	Readings: - Read Koren et al. '09	Recomender Systems Slides: - Recommender Systems Math/Concept Exercises: - start HW5	- Read recent survey on Deep Learning Based Recommender System
Thu 11/30 day24	due: - ProjB	Readings: - Read SML Ch. 11.2	Project B work-day Slides: - Proj B tips	
Tue 12/05 day25		Readings: - Read SML Ch. 12 : Ethics in ML - --> Focus on Sec.	Fairness Slides: - Fairness	

		12.1 'Fairness and Error Functions' - --> Focus on Sec. 12.2 'Misleading Claims about Performance'	Math/Concept Exercises: - Credit Score Fairness Demo	
Thu 12/07 day26	due: - HW5		Final Exam Review Slides: - Final Review Math/Concept Exercises: - practice exam on Piazza	
Fri 12/15			FINAL EXAM	