

**Annual General Meeting  
Lent Term 2019**

# Aims

1. Increase the LSE community's general understanding of ML concepts and methods, its potential areas of application to the Social Sciences and its implications for society
2. Equip members with the conceptual framework and technical knowledge for implementing ML



# Membership: Fast Growing & Diverse

1. Established in October 2017
2. For the current 2018/19 Academic Year, we have 180 Members with a healthy mix of students from different disciplines (e.g. Law, Economics, Data Science)
3. One of the fastest growing societies on campus



# Activities: In Review

## Speaker Events

- Invite industry practitioners, academics and officials to share about their use-cases of ML and wider ML related issues

## Bootcamps

- Conducted in-house by the ML@LSE committee to build foundational conceptual understanding and technical skills - open to everyone!

## Industry Mentorship Programme

- Mentorship from industry practitioners of ML for more technically-advanced members of the society to gain industry experience

# Activities: Speaker Events



Nov 2017



Oct 2018

**Maximilian Eber from QuantCo** sharing about how they are using machine learning and econometrics to solve hard problems in industries ranging from e-commerce to insurance

# Activities: Speaker Events



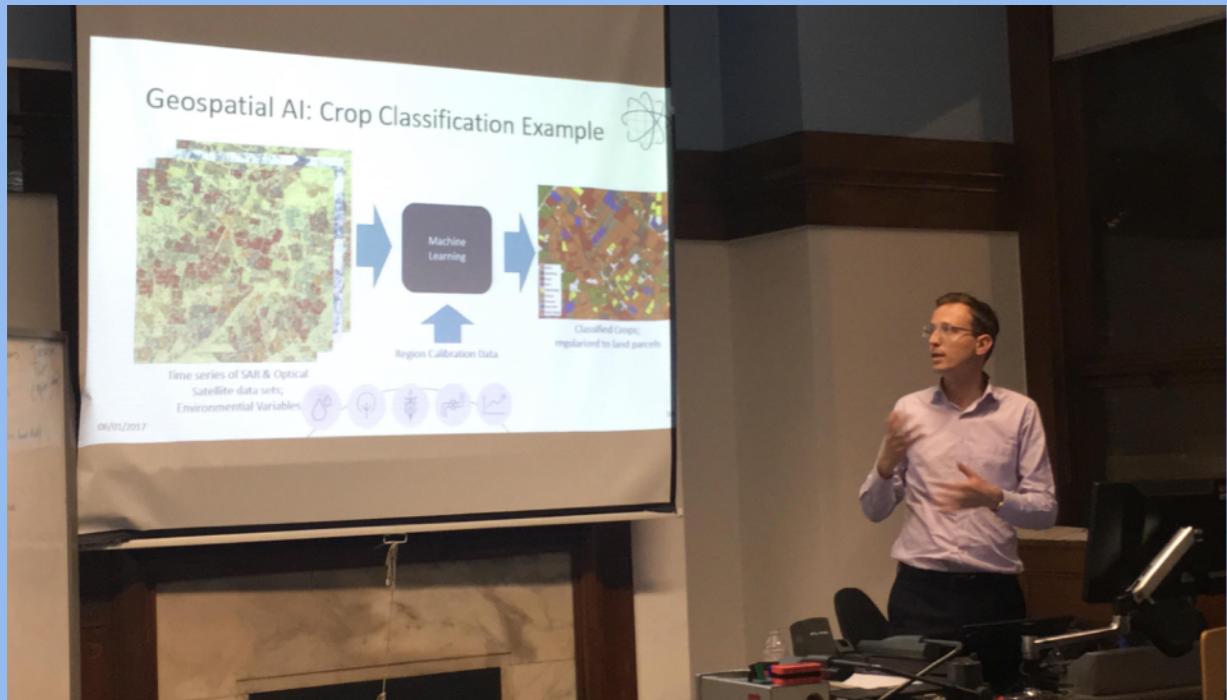
**Lord Clement Jones, Chair of the House of Lords AI Committee, sharing about his real world experience about AI regulation and trust**

# Activities: Speaker Events



**Bloomberg Data Scientists and Campus Ambassadors** sharing about career opportunities in data science and analytics at Bloomberg Data

# Activities: Speaker Events



**Andrew Carrel, Rezatec CTO**, sharing about how machine learning is being applied to the agriculture industry



**Jitz Desai, Directory of KPMG Advisory Rezatec CTO**, sharing about how machine learning is being used to drive intelligent automation in financial services

# Activities: Speaker Events



**Alexander Romorov from BlackRock Scientific Active Equities** sharing about machine learning techniques are being used in the investment management industry to generate alpha

# Activities: Bootcamps

- Ran 7 bootcamps in MT & LT 2019
- Once every two weeks on Wednesdays
- Covered many topics including:
  - Random Forests
  - Support Vector Machines
  - Local-Interpretable Model Agnostic Explanations (LIME)
- Posting teaching material in advance on GitHub **extremely helpful** this year

The screenshot shows a GitHub repository page for 'mlatise / bootcamps-201819'. The repository description is 'Teaching materials for bi-weekly machine learning bootcamps at the London School of Economics by the 2018/19 ML@LSE Committee'. It has 32 commits, 1 branch, 0 releases, and 2 contributors. The commits list includes updates for bootcamp slides, NLP materials, and a README file. The repository is public and has 12 forks. At the bottom, there is a section titled 'ML@LSE Bootcamps - Michaelmas + Lent Term 2018' with a note about the materials being written by Adrien Couturier, Ivan Sayapin, Jiong Wei Lua, and Adrien Couturier.

Commit	Description	Date
Bootcamp 1	Updated bootcamp 1 slide in pdf + keynote format	5 months ago
Bootcamp 2	Updated bootcamp 2 slides with more details on cross val pruning	5 months ago
Bootcamp 3	Upload materials for bootcamp 3	4 months ago
Bootcamp 4	Fix slides with typo	4 months ago
Bootcamp 5	Bootcamp 6 NLP Materials	a month ago
Bootcamp 6	Bootcamp 6 NLP Materials	a month ago
Bootcamp 7	Upload pdf	21 days ago
give-it-a-go	Give it a go code	6 months ago
.gitignore	Updated README.md	5 months ago
README.md	Updated README.md	23 days ago



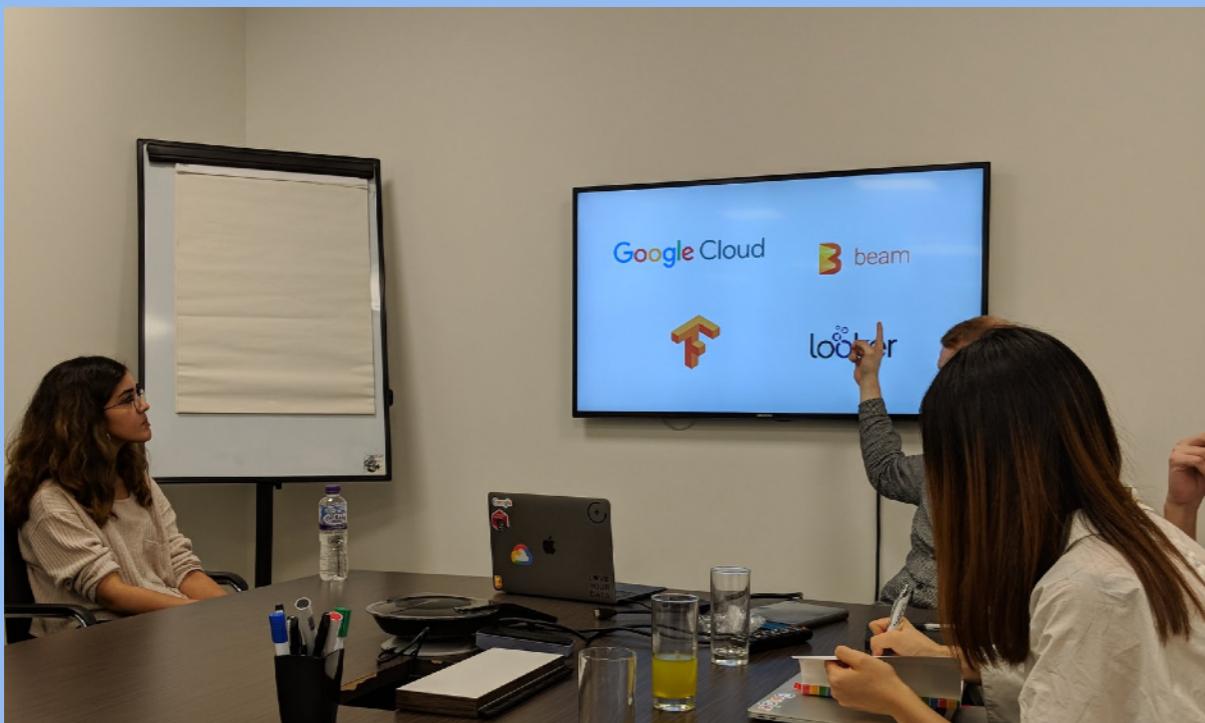
# Activities: Bootcamps

1. Accessible and intuitive **introductions** to theory and implementation of ML, run by students for students
2. We believe we cannot compete with DataCamp or Coursera MOOCs - although we can complement these online courses
3. One continued difficulty in running bootcamp is the **lack of programming experience** amongst most LSE students - although this situation is likely to improve over time
4. Immense interest at the start (80 students) declining over time to 10 students in the Lent Term



# Activities: Industry Mentorship Programme

1. Aim to provide a structured learning environment with industry exposure for more technically-experienced members
2. Difficult to sustain especially going into Lent Term when people get busier, need to iron out the exact nature of the mentorship and have dedicated project managers



# Areas for Improvement

1. Need to improve the design and running of bootcamps to ensure that we have better **participant retention**
2. Need to improve how we manage our various media platforms (**e.g. website not being maintained**)
3. Better design opportunities for technically-inclined individuals to pursue ML at an **advanced level**
4. Need more opportunities for Year 1s and 2s to get involved with the society to improve the **sustainability of the society**

# **Running the society well requires people who collectively possess:**

1. Programming skills
2. Understanding of machine learning
3. Website design (HTML, CSS)
4. Version control / code base (Git)
5. Marketing
6. Networking skills - on boarding corporate and academic partners
7. Project design
8. Time and commitment