

Final Peer Review

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SDS 385

December 12, 2016

For the duration of the semester, I most often worked on exercises with Jennifer and Giorgio outside of class, and I always found it helpful for learning both the concepts covered and how to code everything in R by working with them. I was always able to rely on them if I needed some support, and I like to think that I was able to reciprocate in turn when they looked to me. Furthermore, there were a number of presentations which other students made to the class which still stick out in my mind because of how helpful they were to me in learning important concepts. For instance, Jennifer's presentation on lazy updating for SGD in Exercises 4 helped me finalize my C++ code for that assignment. Carlos's presentation on the derivation of the soft-thresholding function in Exercises 5, Su's presentation of the proximal gradient function, and Matteo's presentation on PCA and sparse matrix factorization were all very well prepared and key to my understanding of each of those topics.

Spencer