Probabilistic AI 2023 – Project Information

Where?

Everything will be made available online at https://project.las.ethz.ch/. You will need to be in the ETH network or use the VPN to access the server.

When?

The server will be online starting from September 22, 2023. You may then solve an ungraded task. This allows you to get familiar with the whole process (signing into the server, forming a group, reading the task description, submitting solutions and handing in the task). While this is optional, we strongly advise you to do so. After the ungraded task, there are four graded tasks (graded 2.0-6.0) that are released throughout the semester. The following schedule provides you with tentative overview of the hard deadlines:

	Task release	**End of submissions**
Task 0 (ungraded)	Sep 22, 5:00 CET	Dec 17, 12:00 CET*
Task 1	Oct 02, 5:00 CET (early morning)	Oct 22, 12:00 CET (noon)
Task 2	Oct 23, 5:00 CET (early morning)	Nov 12, 12:00 CET (noon)
Task 3	Nov 06, 5:00 CET (early morning)	Nov 26, 12:00 CET (noon)
Task 4	Nov 27, 5:00 CET (early morning)	Dec 17, 12:00 CET (noon)

* Submission recommended until Oct 01, 12:00.

Deadline extensions?

All deadlines are strict, and we do not accept late submissions. It is your responsibility to hand in the tasks properly and on time. We neither send reminders nor grant deadline extensions.

Is it allowed to form groups?

You are allowed to work in groups of 1 - 3 students, but it is your responsibility to find a group. You can search for teammates by posting on the Moodle forum. You may use the same group for all tasks or choose different groups for the different tasks. After confirming the group for a task, you may not disband it or change its members. All details on signing up as a group will be available at https://project.las.ethz.ch/. You are only allowed to collaborate within your group. In particular, you may not share code or provide details on how to solve the task to students outside your group. You may discuss general non-task specific questions about the contents of the lecture freely with other students.

Will there be a Q&A session?

Prior to each task's deadline, questions must be asked on Moodle. In the Q&A sessions (Mondays on Zoom 17-18) following the deadlines of Tasks 2, 3, and 4, we will give a brief overview of the task and a sketch of a possible solution for students that are interested. We will

also be there to answer any questions related to the task. These three Q&A sessions will be hosted on Nov 13, Nov 27, and Dec 18, respectively.

How are the tasks graded?

Each task is graded from 2.0 to 6.0. A pass corresponds to at least a grade 4.0 for a task, while a failure corresponds to a grade 2.0 for a task. Each task will be graded using either a public and private score, or just a public score. The public score can be seen immediately when you submit to the leader board, while the private score is computed on a private test set or environment and this score is not revealed until after the project deadline. For each task, you get separate public and private scores, which is used to calculate your public and private grades respectively (between 2.0 and 6.0). Your final grade for a task is the mean of your public and private grades. If the task does not have a private grade, we only use the public grade. We will publish 2 baselines per task: easy and hard, that each have a public and private score. Beating the easy baseline's public/private score guarantees you a 4.0 public/private grade respectively, while beating the hard baseline's public/private score guarantees you a 6.0 public/private grade respectively. Failing to beat the easy baseline's public/private score grants you a 2.0 public/private grade. No grades between 2.0 and 4.0 will be assigned. For scores better than the easy baseline but worse than the hard baseline, we will grant a grade between 4.0 to 6.0 depending on how close you are to the hard vs easy baseline. We emphasise that this will likely not be a simple linear interpolation between the hard and easy baselines.

Before each project deadline, you must select one submission that will be your final submission for that task, write a short description of your approach, and hand it in on the website. Only this handed-in submission is graded. If no hand-in is made, nothing is graded, and you receive a 2.0 for that task.

The overall project grade is computed by averaging the grades of task 1 to task 4. More details on the grading of specific tasks are given in the task description on the project server.

Originality and Plagiarism

The code must be original work by the group that submits it. The use of open-source libraries is allowed and encouraged, except code that could reasonably be considered a solution to this or previous years' PAI projects. We do not allow copying the work of other groups / students outside the group (including work produced by students in previous versions of this course). Publishing project solutions online is not allowed and consulting and using solutions from previous years in any capacity is considered plagiarism. For the written report, each student must write her/his report individually. Among the code and the reports, including those of previous years, we search for similar solutions / reports to detect plagiarism. Use of GitHub Copilot or similar code/language generation tools in any capacity for writing code or reports will be considered and treated as plagiarism in the context of this course. Basic code autocompletion such as those used in the default setup of Sublime Text 3 are permitted. If we find strong evidence for plagiarism, we reserve the right to let the respective students or the entire group fail in the PAI 2023 course and take further disciplinary actions.