

MGT-448

**Statistical inference and machine learning**

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Cursus	Sem.	Type
Electrical and Electronical Engineering	MA1, MA3	Opt.
Financial engineering	MA1, MA3	Opt.
Management of technology		Opt.
Management, Technology and Entrepreneurship minor	H	Opt.
Managmt, tech et entr.	MA1, MA3	Opt.
Systems Engineering minor	H	Opt.

Language of teaching	English
Credits	4
Session	Winter
Semester	Fall
Exam	Written
Workload	120h
Weeks	14
<b>Hours</b>	<b>4 weekly</b>
Lecture	2 weekly
Exercises	2 weekly
<b>Number of positions</b>	

**Summary**

This course aims to provide graduate students a thorough grounding in the methods, theory, mathematics and algorithms needed to do research and applications in machine learning. The course covers topics from machine learning, classical statistics, and data mining.

**Content**

List of topics:

- General Introduction
- Supervised Learning, Discriminative Algorithms:  
Supervised Learning Concept, Linear Regression, Maximum Likelihood, Normal Equation Gradient Descent, Stochastic Gradient, SVRG.  
Linear Classification, Logistic Regression, Newton Method,
- Generative Algorithms:  
Multivariate Normal, Linear Discriminant Analysis  
Naive Bayes, Laplacian Smoothing  
Multiclass Classification, K-NN  
Multi-class Fisher Discriminant Analysis, Multinomial Regression  
Support Vector Machines and Kernel Methods:  
Intuition, Geometric Margins, Optimal Margin Classifier  
Lagrangian Duality, Soft-margin, Loss function, Stochastic Subgradient Method. Kernel, SMO algorithm, Coordinate Gradient Descent.  
Kernel PCA, Kernel Logistic Regression, Kernel Ridge Regression, Multiclass SVM
- Unsupervised Learning:  
PCA, Mixture Models, Bayesian Graphical Models  
Power Method, Oja's algorithm, EM Algorithm, Variational Inference Matrix Factorization/Completion
- Regularization and Model Selection:  
Cross Validation, Hill Climbing, Bayesian Optimization Bayesian Regression, Bayesian Logistic Regression  
Forward and Backward Regression, Lasso, elastic-net. Proximal Gradient, Prox-SVRG.  
Coordinate Proximal Gradient, Pathwise Coordinate Descent
- Decision Tree and Random Forest:  
Entropy, Building Tree  
Bagging features, Bagging Samples, Random Forest Adaboost, Gradient Tree Boosting
- Neural Network:  
Concept; Deep Neural Network; Backpropagation Convolutional Neural Network;

**Keywords**

Supervised and unsupervised learning, Model selection, Generative models.

**Learning Prerequisites****Required courses**

A course in basic probability theory.

**Recommended courses**

linear algebra and statistics.

**Important concepts to start the course**

Students should be familiar with basic concepts of probability theory, calculus and linear algebra.

**Learning Outcomes**

By the end of the course, the student must be able to:

- Formalize Formulate supervised and unsupervised learning problems and apply it to data.
- Understand and apply generative models.
- Understand and train basic neural networks and apply them to data.

**Transversal skills**

- Assess one's own level of skill acquisition, and plan their on-going learning goals.

**Teaching methods**

Classical formal teaching interlaced with practical exercises.

**Expected student activities**

Active participation in exercise sessions is essential.

**Assessment methods**

30% Homework  
20% Midterm project  
50% Final project

**Supervision**

Office hours	Yes
Assistants	Yes
Forum	No

**Resources****Moodle Link**

- <https://go.epfl.ch/MGT-448>