

CSIE 5043: Machine Learning

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Course Introduction, 09/13/2010

Only English

- English teaching
- English homework writing
- English email communications
- English forum discussions
- exception: Mandarin face-to-face discussions

If you are not comfortable with **English-teaching** classrooms, ...

Complicated Contents

- from a Taiwanese student taking MIT ML class (translated):
The professor started writing math equations as if he was using some writing accelerator. After class I always felt feeble. The worst part is: I needed to understand the contents as soon as I can. Otherwise I cannot finish the homework and cannot follow up in the next class.
- NTU ML class: designed to be **as good as** the best classes in the world
- similar things will happen to you

If you are not willing to be so **miserable**, ...

Strict Instructor

- Will you give me a second chance if I copy homework from other people? **NO**.
- Could you let me pass because I will be kicked out by the 1/2 rule? **NO**.
- Will you change my score from 59 to 60? **NO**.
- Will you tolerate me to turn in my homework 10 minutes late? **NO**.
- How many will pass? **Any**, if necessary.

If you do not like a **strict** instructor, ...

Four Reasons for NOT Taking the Course (4/4)

Huge Loads

- also from the Taiwanese student taking MIT ML class (translated):
*Every homework set is similar to three normal ones in NTU.
I devoted my whole Mid-Autumn Festival to homework 1.*
- ours last year: three to four times harder than a normal one in NTU
- ours this year: **four to six** times harder than a normal one in NTU
- around eight homework sets (and a hard final project)
- homework due within two weeks
- even have homework 0 and 1 **NOW**
 - already hard
 - **no need to submit homework 0**, but need to submit homework 1

If you do not want to spend **so much time on homework**, ...

May the Brave Ones Stay

Basic Information

- instructor: Hsuan-Tien Lin (htlin@csie.ntu.edu.tw)
- office hour: after class or by appointment
- course webpage: <https://ceiba.ntu.edu.tw/991ML>
announcements, homework, reference handouts, etc.
- mailing list: supported by CEIBA

update your secondary email address on CEIBA

- at most 100 in Room 104
- readily have 100 now
- new cases: sign up first, and wait for notifications
- auditing: welcomed (to sit) only if there is an empty chair

Drop as soon as possible!
Give your motivated classmates a chance to be miserable.

- 6: Chen-Wei Hung, Yu-Xun Ruan, Yao-Nan Chen, Chao-Kai Chiang, Chia-Hsuan Wang and Yu-Chen Chou
(m110ta@csie.ntu.edu.tw)
- regular TA hours: TBA

Go to TA hours to discuss with TAs and classmates!

Learning from Data

Y. Abu-Mostafa (Caltech), M. Ismail-Madgon (RPI), H.-T. Lin (NTU)

- idea initiated during ML2008
- about 7 chapters out of 19 finished, 3–4 more coming in this term
- teaching with the book, many homework problems within the book, reading assignments within the book

More about the Book

book forum and downloading : <http://book.caltech.edu>

Your Privileges

- learn from the **first draft** of the book
- download the draft **freely**

Your Responsibilities

- discuss with RPI students **actively** on the forum
- comment about the book on the forum **bravely**
- **do not distribute the draft**

enrolling in this class means agreeing to the items above

THE Principle

Taking any unfair advantages over other class members is not allowed. It is everyone's responsibility to maximize the level of fairness.

- eating? fine, but no smells and no noise
- sleeping? fine, but no snoring
- cellphone? fine, but silent mode, and speak outside
- ...

applies to instructor, TAs, students

NO CHEATING

NO LYING

NO PLAGIARISM

NO PIRATING of THE BOOK

very serious consequences

- no midterm, no final
- main reference: homework sets, final project
- fine-tune: participation in discussions

Collaboration and Open-Book

- homework discussions: encouraged
- but fairness?
write the final solutions alone and understand them fully
- references (books, notes, Internet):
consulted, but **not copied from**
- no need to lend/borrow solutions

to maximize fairness (everyone's responsibility),
lending/borrowing not allowed

Collaboration and Open-Book

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Deal? If your classmate wants to borrow homework from you,
what do you say?

- students: justify solutions clearly
- TAs: evaluate solutions fairly
- penalty for late “parts”:
90% of value for 12-hour late, 80% one-day late, ...

10-min late is 12-hour late

Programming Assignments

- about a third or half of the problems
- any programming language, any platforms
- upload source code, otherwise:
10% of value only!
- **no sophisticated packages**

students' responsibility:

ask TA in advance for what can/cannot be used

Important TODOs

- Update your secondary email address on CEIBA!
- Sign the agreement form, and register on the forum (wait for approval).
- Do homework 0 and 1; go to the TA hour for questions.
- If you still want to be added, sign the form first and wait for notifications.

May the Brave Ones Stay

One More Note on Discussions

- **book discussion:** <http://book.caltech.edu>
—English
 - introduce yourself
 - download the sections and discuss
- **class discussion:** simply use board learner@ptt2.cc
—English
- **email discussion:** htlin@csie.ntu.edu.tw and TAs
(m110ta@csie.ntu.edu.tw)
—English
- **face-to-face discussion:** office hour with instructor, or TA hour
—Any language that we know

Questions?