# STAT828
Data Mining
S1 Evening 2016
Dept of Statistics

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## Disclaimer

Macquarie University has taken all reasonable measures to ensure the information in this publication is accurate and up-to-date. However, the information may change or become out-dated as a result of change in University policies, procedures or rules. The University reserves the right to make changes to any information in this publication without notice. Users of this publication are advised to check the website version of this publication [or the relevant faculty or department] before acting on any information in this publication.
**General Information**

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Unit Convenor  
Ayse Bilgin  
[ayse.bilgin@mq.edu.au](mailto:ayse.bilgin@mq.edu.au)  
Contact via ayse.bilgin@mq.edu.au  
Australian Hearing Hub, Level 2, Room 2-367  
Mondays 3-5pm

Credit points  
4

Prerequisites  
Admission to MAppStat or PGDipAppStat or PGCertAppStat or GradDipAppStat

Corequisites

Co-badged status  
STAT728: Data Mining

Unit description  
Data mining is an important analytical tool as organisations deal with increasingly large data sets. It is about discovering patterns in the big data sets, and converting data into information or learning from data. Data mining uses techniques from different disciplines such as statistics, computing and machine learning. This unit introduces relevant data mining techniques using a white box approach to illuminate the underlying algorithms and statistical principles. This unit is designed to inform students about the data mining techniques by arming them with a deeper understanding of the algorithms and statistical principles underlying the techniques. At least two different software packages will be used to apply the different methods to discover information from different data sources. The first part of the unit will cover descriptive data mining, which will concentrate on exploratory tools such as graphical displays and descriptive statistics by using R and IBM SPSS Modeler. The second part will introduce the model building and predictive data mining such as classification, market basket analysis and clustering.

**Important Academic Dates**

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at [http://students.mq.edu.au/student_admin/enrolmentguide/academicdates/](http://students.mq.edu.au/student_admin/enrolmentguide/academicdates/)
Learning Outcomes

1. have an extensive understanding of the principles and the concepts of data mining methods and their applications
2. ability to apply creative thinking to resolve complex problems or issues as well as summarising complex multivariate data and creating visual summaries of such data
3. explain the link between descriptive and predictive data mining to support good decision making
4. examine and compare the differences between different decision trees and interpret sophisticated decision tree models for decision makers by writing a professional data mining report
5. analyse data sets by applying classification and cluster analysis methods and use their results to create an action plan for the management
6. apply market basket analysis to the sales data of a company, synthesise the results for a professional data mining report
7. demonstrated level of knowledge and technical expertise in data mining activities, including cleaning and transformation of data; presentation of results of mining and modelling to possible users
8. high-level research, analytical and conceptual skills and ability to apply these skills in development of models and client profiling

General Assessment Information

No extensions will be granted for any assessment task. Students who submit their assessment tasks after the deadline for the task will be awarded a mark of 0 for the assessment, except for cases in which a notification of disruption to studies is received and approved.

Assessment Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Due</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Data Mining Project Plan</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>Week 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Market Basket Analysis Report</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>During Session break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Mining Project Draft</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>Week 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Mining Project Report</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Week 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Mining Project Poster</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>Week 13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Data Mining Project Plan

**Due:** **Week 4**  
**Weighting:** 0%

A project plan template will be provided in iLearn.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

- ability to apply creative thinking to resolve complex problems or issues as well as summarising complex multivariate data and creating visual summaries of such data

### Market Basket Analysis Report

**Due:** **During Session break**  
**Weighting:** 15%

**Undirected knowledge discovery (Cluster Analysis and Market Basket Analysis) Project** is an individual assessment task.

If you work with another student, you need to acknowledge it in your report.

Students are allowed to bring in a data set from their work place to work on, however, they need to consult Dr Bilgin for approval of the suitability of the data set for the project.

The examples of earlier student reports will be provided within iLearn.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

- have an extensive understanding of the principles and the concepts of data mining methods and their applications
- ability to apply creative thinking to resolve complex problems or issues as well as summarising complex multivariate data and creating visual summaries of such data
- explain the link between descriptive and predictive data mining to support good decision making
- apply market basket analysis to the sales data of a company, synthesise the results for a professional data mining report
• demonstrated level of knowledge and technical expertise in data mining activities, including cleaning and transformation of data; presentation of results of mining and modelling to possible users
• high-level research, analytical and conceptual skills and ability to apply these skills in development of models and client profiling

Data Mining Project Draft
Due: Week 10
Weighting: 5%

Draft of the Data mining project report

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:
• have an extensive understanding of the principles and the concepts of data mining methods and their applications
• ability to apply creative thinking to resolve complex problems or issues as well as summarising complex multivariate data and creating visual summaries of such data
• explain the link between descriptive and predictive data mining to support good decision making
• analyse data sets by applying classification and cluster analysis methods and use their results to create an action plan for the management
• demonstrated level of knowledge and technical expertise in data mining activities, including cleaning and transformation of data; presentation of results of mining and modelling to possible users

Data Mining Project Report
Due: Week 12
Weighting: 20%

Directed Knowledge Discovery (Data Mining) Project is a group work project.

Students will be put into groups as soon as possible (i.e. by week three) and they will be given opportunity to work on their project during tutorials.

Students are allowed to bring in a data set from their work place to work on, however, they need to consult Dr Bilgin for approval of the suitability of the data set for the project.

An expect format for the report and the examples of earlier reports will be provided within iLearn.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:
• have an extensive understanding of the principles and the concepts of data mining methods and their applications
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Data Mining Project Poster
Due: **Week 13**
Weighting: 5%

One poster per group on iLearn by due date (power point document or pdf) clearly stating the group members. Also include a summary handout (see iLearn) to your submission (possibly pdf document).

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:
• have an extensive understanding of the principles and the concepts of data mining methods and their applications
• ability to apply creative thinking to resolve complex problems or issues as well as summarising complex multivariate data and creating visual summaries of such data
• examine and compare the differences between different decision trees and interpret sophisticated decision tree models for decision makers by writing a professional data mining report
• demonstrated level of knowledge and technical expertise in data mining activities, including cleaning and transformation of data; presentation of results of mining and modelling to possible users

http://unitguides.mq.edu.au/unit_offerings/59137/unit_guide/print
• high-level research, analytical and conceptual skills and ability to apply these skills in development of models and client profiling

Participation in Lab Exercises
Due: Weekly
Weighting: 5%

Lab exercise submission and contribution to tutorial discussions will be taken into account when allocating the marks. For individual due dates of lab exercises see iLearn.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:
• have an extensive understanding of the principles and the concepts of data mining methods and their applications
• analyse data sets by applying classification and cluster analysis methods and use their results to create an action plan for the management
• apply market basket analysis to the sales data of a company, synthesise the results for a professional data mining report
• demonstrated level of knowledge and technical expertise in data mining activities, including cleaning and transformation of data; presentation of results of mining and modelling to possible users

Final Exam
Due: Examination Period
Weighting: 50%

Final examination is 3 hours long with 10 minutes reading time and will be held during the exam period. You will be permitted to bring an A4 sheet of notes, handwritten or typed, on both sides, into the final examination. This summary must be submitted with your exam paper.

Calculators are permitted, but may be used only as calculators, and not as storage devices. No electronic devices (e.g. mobile phones, mp3 players) other than calculators are allowed during the exam. The final examination will be timetabled in the official University examination timetable. The University Examination timetable will be available in draft form approximately eight weeks before the commencement of the examinations and in final form approximately four weeks before the commencement of the examinations at: http://www.exams.mq.edu.au/exam/

Attendance at the examination is compulsory. The only exception to not sitting an examination at the designated time is because of unavoidable disruption. Please see Disruption to Studies Policy which is available at http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption_studies/policy.html for further information.

You can notify university of your disruption to studies by providing required documentation through https://ask.mq.edu.au/index.php
Your final grade in STAT828 will be based on your work during the semester and in the final examination. You need to achieve the same standards both during the semester assessments and the final exam to be awarded a particular grade as set out in the Grading Policy (http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grading/policy.html).

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

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Delivery and Resources

Changes to Content

The initial course notes for this unit have been developed by Associate Prof Julian Leslie and Dr Ayse Bilgin in 2007. Since then lecture and tutorial materials are revised based on the current developments in the data mining discipline and students’ feedbacks to the unit each year.

Classes

Lectures

Lectures begin in Week 1. Students should attend ONE 2-hour lecture session per week: Mondays between 6:00 and 8:00pm (see timetables for the room).

Tutorials
Tutorials also begin in Week 1. The aim of tutorials is to practice techniques learned in lectures. They are designed so that students work through the exercises asking as many questions as they need to improve their understanding. Tutors are the facilitators in the tutorial groups. They will assist students and they will create an environment for thinking process and discussion between the students. Tutorials will be held on Mondays between 8:00pm and 10:00pm (see timetables for the room).

Teaching and Learning Strategy

- Students are expected to attend all the lectures and the tutorials. This is an internal unit.
- Additional readings will be provided through iLearn to provide opportunities for students to increase their knowledge.
- Weekly tutorial exercises are set for individual development and considered formative assessment, although participation (see assessments) will be based on the submitted lab exercises. These lab exercises are designed to be completed by each individual to achieve the best learning. Therefore, it is suggested that if students decide to work together, the final product should be written individually and group work should be acknowledged to draw attention of the lecturer. Students need to bring a hard or soft copy of their completed (or in progress) lab exercises to the class for discussion, as well as submitting a soft copy electronically through iLearn.
- Projects are extensions to the lab exercises. They require applying the learned techniques to unseen data sets and writing professional reports.

Relationship between Assessment and Learning Outcomes

While attendance at classes is important, it is only a small proportion of the total workload for the unit: reading, research in the library (or internet), working with other students in groups, completing assignments, using the computer packages to develop models and private study are all parts of the work involved.

Weekly lab (tutorial) exercises are due at the BEGINNING of your lecture session on week following date of issue (e.g. Week 2 lab exercise solution is due in Week 3 before the lecture or by 6pm). You need to submit them through iLearn and bring a copy (soft or printed) to the class. You will be given opportunity during the tutorial to discuss your solution with your peers. These discussions will form part of the feedback to your submitted (prepared) lab exercises.

In addition to group discussions, suggested solutions to lab exercises will be provided through iLearn in a timely manner. You are expected to submit at least 8 of the lab exercises. Failure to comply with this may result in exclusion from the unit. Instead of content marking for the weekly lab exercises, a participation mark will be given to each student at the end of the semester based on the quality of their submissions (which will be shared by all students – details will be provided in the first lecture and within each lab exercise).
See Assessment Section for other assessment tasks.

If for any reason, students cannot hand in their assessment tasks on time, they have to contact the teaching staff in advance. No extensions for the lab exercises will be granted unless satisfactory documentation outlining illness or misadventure is submitted.

The marked assessments (projects) will be distributed during the tutorials by the Lecturer. Only word or pdf format files will be accepted; each page should have the student ID and student name as footer to eliminate any problems. When naming files please adopt the following convention: StudentID-(Your Surname)(Initial of Your First Name) – Assessment Task (Lab 1 or Assignment 1) e.g., 40000000-BilginA-Project 1. No other format of naming the assessment tasks will be accepted. If you are unable to submit you assessment through iLearn (due to technical problems); an electronic (word or pdf) file (one file only) can be e-mailed to Dr Ayse Bilgin (ayse.bilgin@mq.edu.au).

**Unit Schedule**

Week 1: Introduction to Data Mining & Introduction to R

Week 2: Data Preprocessing, missing data, outliers & Further R

Week 3: Descriptive and exploratory data mining, concept hierarchies & graphical displays with R

Week 4: Graphics and data explorations & Introduction to IBM SPSS Modeler

Week 5 (Public Holiday): Market Basket Analysis (content may be covered in an earlier week or online)

Week 6: Cluster Analysis (1)

Week 7 (Public Holiday): Classification (1) (content may be covered in an earlier week or online)

Week 8: Classification (2)

Week 9: Classification (3)

Week 10: Classification (4)

Week 11: Classification (5)

Week 12: Cluster Analysis (2)

Week 13: Revision and Data Mining Project Poster Presentations

*Note that the order of the lectures might change and all lab exercises are due by 5:30pm a week after they are issued*

**Policies and Procedures**

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central. Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:


In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the [Learning and Teaching Category](http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs) of Policy Central.

### Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: [https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/)

### Results

Results shown in *iLearn*, or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in *eStudent*. For more information visit [ask.mq.edu.au](http://ask.mq.edu.au).

### Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit [http://students.mq.edu.au/support/](http://students.mq.edu.au/support/)

### Learning Skills

Learning Skills ([mq.edu.au/learningskills](http://mq.edu.au/learningskills)) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- **Workshops**
- **StudyWise**
- **Academic Integrity Module for Students**
- **Ask a Learning Adviser**

The Macquarie University offers various workshops for the postgraduate students which you might find useful. The overviews and timetables can be accessed at [http://www.students.mq.edu.au/support/learning_skills/workshops/postgraduate_workshops/](http://www.students.mq.edu.au/support/learning_skills/workshops/postgraduate_workshops/)

There are specific workshops for international students that help them to integrate into Australian Education System [http://www.international.mq.edu.au/](http://www.international.mq.edu.au/).
Student Enquiry Service
For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

Equity Support
Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the Disability Service who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

IT Help
For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy. The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Graduate Capabilities
PG - Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking
Our postgraduates will be capable of utilising and reflecting on prior knowledge and experience, of applying higher level critical thinking skills, and of integrating and synthesising learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments. A characteristic of this form of thinking is the generation of new, professionally oriented knowledge through personal or group-based critique of practice and theory.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

• have an extensive understanding of the principles and the concepts of data mining methods and their applications
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• analyse data sets by applying classification and cluster analysis methods and use their results to create an action plan for the management
• apply market basket analysis to the sales data of a company, synthesise the results for a professional data mining report
demonstrated level of knowledge and technical expertise in data mining activities, including cleaning and transformation of data; presentation of results of mining and modelling to possible users

• high-level research, analytical and conceptual skills and ability to apply these skills in development of models and client profiling

**Assessment tasks**

• Data Mining Project Plan
• Market Basket Analysis Report
• Data Mining Project Draft
• Data Mining Project Report
• Data Mining Project Poster
• Participation in Lab Exercises
• Final Exam

**PG - Effective Communication**

Our postgraduates will be able to communicate effectively and convey their views to different social, cultural, and professional audiences. They will be able to use a variety of technologically supported media to communicate with empathy using a range of written, spoken or visual formats.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

• ability to apply creative thinking to resolve complex problems or issues as well as summarising complex multivariate data and creating visual summaries of such data
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**Assessment tasks**

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• Data Mining Project Report  
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• Final Exam

**PG - Discipline Knowledge and Skills**

Our postgraduates will be able to demonstrate a significantly enhanced depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content knowledge in their chosen fields.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

• have an extensive understanding of the principles and the concepts of data mining methods and their applications  
• ability to apply creative thinking to resolve complex problems or issues as well as summarising complex multivariate data and creating visual summaries of such data  
• explain the link between descriptive and predictive data mining to support good decision making  
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Assessment tasks

- Data Mining Project Plan
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- Data Mining Project Draft
- Data Mining Project Report
- Data Mining Project Poster
- Participation in Lab Exercises
- Final Exam

PG - Research and Problem Solving Capability

Our postgraduates will be capable of systematic enquiry; able to use research skills to create new knowledge that can be applied to real world issues, or contribute to a field of study or practice to enhance society. They will be capable of creative questioning, problem finding and problem solving.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- have an extensive understanding of the principles and the concepts of data mining methods and their applications
- ability to apply creative thinking to resolve complex problems or issues as well as summarising complex multivariate data and creating visual summaries of such data
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Assessment tasks

- Data Mining Project Plan
- Market Basket Analysis Report
PG - Engaged and Responsible, Active and Ethical Citizens

Our postgraduates will be ethically aware and capable of confident transformative action in relation to their professional responsibilities and the wider community. They will have a sense of connectedness with others and country and have a sense of mutual obligation. They will be able to appreciate the impact of their professional roles for social justice and inclusion related to national and global issues.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- ability to apply creative thinking to resolve complex problems or issues as well as summarising complex multivariate data and creating visual summaries of such data
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**Assessment tasks**

- Data Mining Project Plan
- Market Basket Analysis Report
- Data Mining Project Draft
- Data Mining Project Report
- Data Mining Project Poster
- Participation in Lab Exercises
- Final Exam
PG - Capable of Professional and Personal Judgment and Initiative

Our postgraduates will demonstrate a high standard of discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgment. They will have the ability to make informed choices and decisions that reflect both the nature of their professional work and their personal perspectives.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- ability to apply creative thinking to resolve complex problems or issues as well as summarising complex multivariate data and creating visual summaries of such data
- explain the link between descriptive and predictive data mining to support good decision making
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**Recommended Text Books**

We will use open source software called R. You can download and install a copy of the program from the developers’ web page: http://cran.r-project.org/ or www.R-project.org

R is a command line software, it might be hard to learn if you are not used to this kind of environment, however the benefits of learning to use this software outweigh its disadvantages. The benefits include and not limited to: it is free; it is very flexible; great support from R community through news groups and you can use it after you complete the course.
R Studio We will also use RStudio which can be downloaded from https://www.rstudio.com/products/rstudio/download/

IBM SPSS Modeler: This is graphical based data mining software owned by IBM and widely used by business.

Learning management system (LMS)

There is a iLearn (which is modified Moodle) site for this unit where the required course materials for the unit will be posted. In addition, the forums are created for each week will enable us to communicate within the unit without having the danger of spam filters. The lecturers might make announcements via the online unit page therefore you should make sure you log in and read the posts at least twice a week.

The web page for the LMS is https://ilearn.mq.edu.au/login/MQ/, use your Macquarie OneID to log in.