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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Unit Convenor
Ayse Bilgin
ayse.bilgin@mq.edu.au
Contact via ayse.bilgin@mq.edu.au

Credit points
4

Prerequisites
Admission to MRes

Corequisites

Co-badged status
STAT828: 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 https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates

Learning Outcomes
On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

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
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
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

**General Assessment Information**
No extensions will be granted for any assessment task without a notification of disruption to studies. 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 has been received and approved.

**Assessment Tasks**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Hurdle</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Data Mining Project Plan</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Week 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Market Basket Analysis Report</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Week 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Mining Project Draft</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Week 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Mining Project Report</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Week 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Mining Project Poster</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Week 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation in Lab Exercises</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Examination Period</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Data Mining Project Plan
Due: **Week 4**
Weighting: 0%

A project plan template will be provided in iLearn.

On successful completion you will be able to:
- 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: **Week 7**
Weighting: 15%

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

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

Examples of earlier student reports will be provided within iLearn.

On successful completion you will be able to:
- 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

On successful completion you will be able to:

- 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 the 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 A/Prof Bilgin for approval of the suitability of the data set for the project.

The expected format for the report and the examples of earlier reports will be provided within iLearn.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- 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
- 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
• 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
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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).

On successful completion you will be able to:
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• 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
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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.

On successful completion you will be able to:
Unit guide STAT728 Data Mining

- 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 other than calculators are permitted to be used 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://students.mq.edu.au/student_admin/exams/

The only exception to not sitting an examination at the designated time is because of documented illness or 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 the University of your disruption to studies by providing required documentation through https://ask.mq.edu.au/

If you notify the University of your disruption to studies for your final examination, you must make yourself available for the week of July 24 – 28, 2017. If you are not available at that time, there is no guarantee an additional examination time will be offered. Specific examination dates and times will be determined at a later date.

Your final grade in STAT728 will be based on your work during the semester and in the final examination.

On successful completion you will be able to:
- 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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Delivery and Resources

Classes

Lectures
Lectures begin in Week 1 and are scheduled to be on Mondays between 6:00 and 8:00 pm (see timetables for the room).

Tutorials
Tutorials also begin in Week 1. The aim of tutorials is to practise 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 create an environment for discussion between 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. Note that 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 the 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 getting a zero participation mark. 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 complete their assessment tasks on time, they have to contact the lecturer 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 A/Prof 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: Market Basket Analysis
Week 6: Cluster Analysis (1)
Week 7: Classification (1)
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:

Academic Honesty Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html

In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the Learning and Teaching Category 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 Services and Support**

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/disability_service/) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

**Student Enquiries**

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at [ask.mq.edu.au](http://ask.mq.edu.au)

**IT Help**

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit [http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/](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](http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.
Graduate Capabilities

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
- 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
- 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 - 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**

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

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
- 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**

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- 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
- 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
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**Assessment tasks**

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- 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
- explain the link between descriptive and predictive data mining to support good decision making
- 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
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- Participation in Lab Exercises
- Final Exam

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

• 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
• analyse data sets by applying classification and cluster analysis methods and use their results to create an action plan for the management
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Assessment tasks

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• Data Mining Project Draft
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• Final Exam

Recommended Text Books


An Introduction to Statistical Learning with Applications in R, Gareth James, Daniela Witten, Trevor Hastie and Robert Tibshirani, Springer-Verlag, 2014. ISBN 978-1-4614-7137-0, freely downloadable from Macquarie library (Springerlink).

Data Mining: Concepts and techniques by Jiawei Han and Micheline Kamber, 2006, Morgan and Kaufmann (library call number QA76.9.D343 H36 2006 or earlier version QA76.9.D343.H36 2001) Please note that for 2006 edition limited preview is available from MQ library web site (from google books)


Exploratory Data Mining and Data Cleaning by Tamraparni Dasu, Theodore Johnson, May 2003 (library call number QA76.9.D343 D34 2003)


Knowledge discovery with support vector machines by Lutz Hamel, 2009, Wiley, limited view is available from Google Books


An Introduction to R – online manual [https://cran.r-project.org/manuals.html](https://cran.r-project.org/manuals.html)

CRoss Industry Standard Process for Data Mining (CRISP-DM)


### Software Packages

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

R is 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 the disadvantages. The benefits include and are not limited to the fact that it is free, it is very flexible, it has great support from R community through news groups.

**R Studio** We also use a user interface for R, RStudio, which can be downloaded from [https://www.rstudio.com/products/rstudio/download/](https://www.rstudio.com/products/rstudio/download/)

**IBM SPSS Modeler**: This is graphically based data mining software from IBM and widely used by business. It can be accessed through [iLab](https://www.ielab.com), Macquarie University's personal computer laboratory on the Internet.

### Learning management system (LMS)

There is an iLearn (which is modification of Moodle) site for this unit where the required course materials for the unit will be posted. Communication within the unit is possible via iLearn forums. Remember to log in and read the posts at least twice a week, as the lecturer make important announcements.

The web page for the LMS is [ilearn.mq.edu.au](http://ilearn.mq.edu.au), use your [Macquarie OneID](https://unitguides.mq.edu.au/unit_offerings/76021/unit_guide/print) to log in.