
McMaster AI Society

2018-2019 Year-End Review

New Club of the Year Award 2019, MSU Spirit Award 2019

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Student-Led Tutorials

Python Tutorials:

- We have led Python tutorials for those seeking to learn the basics of this coding language as well as some ML-specific libraries like NumPy. Each session was facilitated by a student leader and many student TA's to offer one on one support to students. These have been running throughout the school year.
- Some of the material covered (mostly the more advanced Python topics) can be found here: github.com/BlagaVic

Machine Learning Tutorials:

- These more advanced sessions had a similar structure to the Python tutorials with one student leader and multiple TA's to help learning. These have been running throughout the school year.
- The topics covered include gradient descent, the math behind machine learning, neural network architecture, and interactive coding to build machine learning models in Keras and TensorFlow.
- The lessons, additional resources, and practice problems with solutions can be found here: github.com/akiljames83/MacAI-2018

Educational Initiatives

South Korean Global Policy Institute:

- We were approached in September by a delegate from the Office of the Prime Minister from South Korea to host two dozen delegates through the Global Policy Institute to have a discussion on governance of AI and policy making in this context. We hosted them in the Faculty Club and presented to them about what we do as a club and organized two professors to speak about what else is being done at McMaster. The Office of International Affairs at McMaster assisted us with hosting these delegates on short notice.

Realtor's Association of Hamilton and Burlington (RAHB):

- We held two educational sessions at their annual Prodev+ event in October educating realtors and brokerages about the reality of AI and what it can do for them. This event was attended by over 250 people and our sessions were among the most attended sessions of the event.

5minofscience.com:

- We helped develop two different videos showcasing the work done by professors at McMaster (Dr. Ali Reza Montazemi and Dr. Gary Hasey), helping make AI accessible.
- The links are: https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=3&v=dwnF7mY7Y8A and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-vRz3DoWxGY>

Sponsor Events

Microsoft:

- We held a “Discover AI with Microsoft” event in January which showcases different implementations of AI with Microsoft’s tools with over 220 attendees and almost 100 watching online through the livestream.
- We held a “Discover AI with Microsoft: Technical Deep Dive” event in March showing tips and tricks in Azure with almost 100 attendees.

Maplesoft:

- We held an interactive tutorial with Maplesoft late first semester to show how to use their software, Maple, for machine learning.

FDM Group:

- We held an office tour of the Toronto office of FDM Group near the end of the year.

Projects Teams

Mars Rover Team:

- We are collaborating with the Mars Rover Team, a team on campus that makes a mock rover for international competition, to implement AI into their rover.

AI for Good Team:

- We have assembled a team to submit a project to Microsoft’s AI for Good competition.

Self-driven projects and Kaggle competitions:

- We support student projects of all kinds, many of which are currently in the embryonic stages but will develop to be real experiences. As well, students can meet one another to form teams for Kaggle. Over 100 members are currently in the Projects Team Slack to discuss these projects.

Course Development

INNOVATE 1Z03:

- We are working with the Faculty of Engineering and the Innovation Minor program to develop a first year elective in AI that will be debuting in the 2019-2020 academic year.