Course Analysis for "Deep Learning, Advanced" (6 HP) HT23
DD2412/FDD3412

Hossein Azizpour azizpour@kth.se (Course Responsible, Teacher, Examiner)

Forms of Assessment

The course contains two examination components
- **LAB1:** which consists of implementation practicals as well as quizzes on the different topics of the course, the assignments are individual and are graded in P/F/Fx
- **TEN1:** which corresponds to a final implementation project, in a group of 3 for master students (DD2412) and 1-3 for doctoral students (FDD3412). The projects are graded in A-F/Fx.

Summary of course evaluation

Course evaluation was sent late this year partly due to parental leave and was only filled in by 4 students which makes the results not so reliable.

Course Analysis

Course load for students: Despite the course evaluation not being filled in by many students, still students had shown their enthusiasm in doing more for the course and getting more credits for it. That is, they want to see more topics covered and more assignments done, and in return get more credits.

Notable positive points: During the course and in other forms of communications I observed trends similar to the previous years that the students were happy about the format, the topic, the discussions, and the assignments.

Notable points of improvements:
- let students do all assignments on all topics and correspondingly increase the number of credits.
- quiz questions were at times confusing and not providing the formative assessment to the full extent.
- discussions being sometimes too deep and beyond the level of the students.
- Implementation assignments could have been published earlier and with better instructions.
- more in-person help sessions

Teacher's view

I agree with the students in the breadth of the course with many exciting topics that they want to get their hands dirty with and subsequently the number of credits that should be increased. The teacher has applied for an increase of credits to 7.5 from HT25 and is creating another course on one of the important topics of the course, generative modeling, so that students can explore more and better and be compensated with more credits if they want. These changes, if approved, will take effect from HT25.

I also agree that the quiz questions can be improved to give more interactive feedback on wrong as well as correct answers to better serve the purpose of a formative assignment.

The implementation practicals are a bit difficult, but the level of difficulty is aligned with the course level, and easier assignments have the risk of being too easy for an LLM to solve.

The goal for changes
- Turn all video lectures into videos that are recorded without an audience.
- Create online lecture notes to accompany the video lectures to enable a richer at-home learning experience for the students.
- Make a tutorial on the prerequisites for completing the implementation practicals, e.g., the deep learning framework JAX
- Make the video lectures interactive such that
  - Formative short quizzes can be taken in the middle of videos.
  - Comments or questions can be entered spontaneously by the students while watching to be covered at in-person discussion meetings with students.
- Blend the implementation practicals inside the online lecture notes.

Planned Measures for the next round

- See above