

Machine Learning & Identity Workshop

Bradford Literature Festival 2019

_ Description

In this workshop, we will engage in hands-on activities that challenge many prevalent narratives around machine learning— for instance, that it is impersonal, objective, inexpressive, and usable only by experts. We will explore different sources of data that reflect algorithmic visions of participants (for instance, data scraped from social media profiles), as well as participants' own visions of the world, including queer and feminist possibilities (through data participants create on the spot with text, images, or sound). We will experiment with novice-friendly tools for applying machine learning to this data, creating new works of art, designing new interactions with data, and constructing new perspectives on what machine learning is “good for” and how to use (and misuse) it.

_ Message to Participants

Hello Machine Learning & Identity Workshop Attendees!

This will be a hands-on workshop. In order to make our time together most productive, there are a few things we'd like you to do in advance, if possible:

1) Please download the most recent version of the Wekinator (2.1.0.4) from <http://www.wekinator.org/downloads/>

Please also launch the program to make sure it runs on your machine. (This may require you to install Java on your computer, so it's best to get this figured out before the workshop.) If you run into any problems, please send Rebecca an email at r.fiebrink@gold.ac.uk

2) Please also download the “quick start pack” from http://www.wekinator.org/examples/#Quick_Start_Pack

* If you are a Processing programmer, I recommend grabbing the examples as Processing source code.

** If you are not a Processing programmer, please download the “quick start” bundle for your operating system. Please try running some of the examples (e.g. the mouse dragged box input) to make sure they run. If you have any problems making them run, please download the following files instead:

** For windows:

http://www.doc.gold.ac.uk/~mas01rf/WekinatorDownloads/wekinator_examples/executables/windows/inputs/VideoInput_FaceDetection_Processing_3Inputs_Win32_WithJava.zip and

http://www.doc.gold.ac.uk/~mas01rf/WekinatorDownloads/wekinator_examples/executables/windows/outputs/Processing_FMSynth_3ContinuousOutputs_Win32_WithJava.zip and
http://www.doc.gold.ac.uk/~mas01rf/WekinatorDownloads/wekinator_examples/executables/windows/outputs/Processing_ColorAndSound_1Classifier_Win32_WithJava.zip

** For Mac:

http://www.doc.gold.ac.uk/~mas01rf/WekinatorDownloads/wekinator_examples/executables/mac/outputs/Processing_FMSynth_3ContinuousOutputs_Mac_WithJava.zip and
http://www.doc.gold.ac.uk/~mas01rf/WekinatorDownloads/wekinator_examples/executables/mac/outputs/Processing_ColorAndSound_1Classifier_Mac_WithJava.zip and
http://www.doc.gold.ac.uk/~mas01rf/WekinatorDownloads/wekinator_examples/executables/mac/inputs/VideoInput_FaceDetection_3Inputs_Mac_WithJava.zip

3) Additionally, please download OutWithHub: <https://www.outwit.com/products/hub/>

4) Finally, on the day of the workshop, please bring the following:

- * Your laptop (if you have one) and a charger
- * Your favourite pens / markers
- * Optionally, bring a lunch (there are places near by to grab food, but bringing your own lunch will mean more time together doing workshop-y things)
- * Optionally, if you happen to have any zines, please bring a few for inspiration. (We're going to finish the day by making a zine!)

If you don't have a laptop or can't get things installed, fear not! We will be teaming up and you'll still be able to do all the activities.

Best,

Rebecca, Joanne, and Helen