



A Review of Software Tools for Data Analytics

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What is data analytics?

“Data analytics is the science of *examining* and *drawing conclusions* from data”

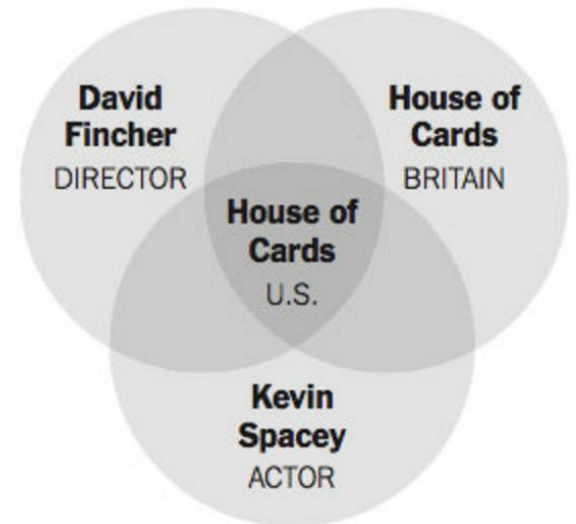
Where is data analytics used?

- Netflix is a data driven company [2]
 - E.g. when you pause, fast forward, rewind; what series do you watch from start to finish
 - Customer retention
 - Content creation

NETFLIX

Circles of Proven Success

Netflix determined that the overlap of these three areas would make “House of Cards” a successful entry into original programming.



Where is data analytics used?

Walmart 

- *“We want to know what every product in the world is. We want to know who every person in the world is. And, we want to have the ability to connect them together in a transaction.” Neil Ashe, Walmart e-commerce CEO (2013)*



[3] <https://www.dezyre.com/article/how-big-data-analysis-helped-increase-walmarts-sales-turnover/109>

Common tasks in data analytics

- Data exploration
 - Missing values
 - Outlier detection and treatment
 - Visualization
- Feature selection / engineering
- Classification / prediction

Common tasks in data analytics

Data exploration

- The quality of your input will determine the quality of your output and may take up to 70% of the project time [4]
- Data exploration tasks:
 - Variable identification
 - Uni/Bi-variate analysis
 - Treatment of missing values
 - Detection of outliers
 - Variable transformation / creation

Data exploration

Variable identification

Student_ID	Gender	Prev_Exam_Marks	Height (cm)	Weight Category (kgs)	Play Cricket
S001	M	65	178	61	1
S002	F	75	174	56	0
S003	M	45	163	62	1
S004	M	57	175	70	0
S005	F	59	162	67	0

Type of Variable

Data Type

Variable Category

Predictor Variable

- Gender
- Prev_Exam_Marks
- Height
- Weight

Target Variable

- Play Cricket

Character

- Student ID
- Gender

Numeric

- Play Cricket
- Prev_Exam_Marks
- Height
- Weight

Categorical

- Gender
- Play Cricket

Continuous

- Prev_Exam_Marks
- Height
- Weight

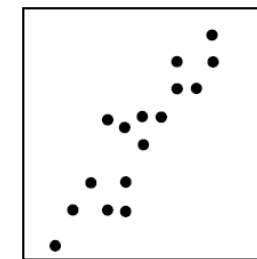
Data exploration

Variable analysis

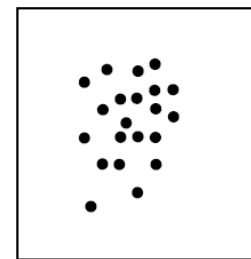
- Univariate analysis
 - Continuous variables
 - Categorical variables
- Bivariate analysis
 - Continuous & Continuous
 - Categorical & Categorical
 - Categorical & Continuous



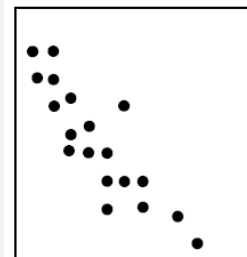
Strong positive correlation



Moderate positive correlation



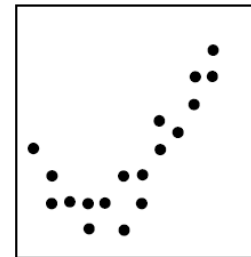
No correlation



Moderate negative correlation



Strong negative correlation



Curvilinear relationship

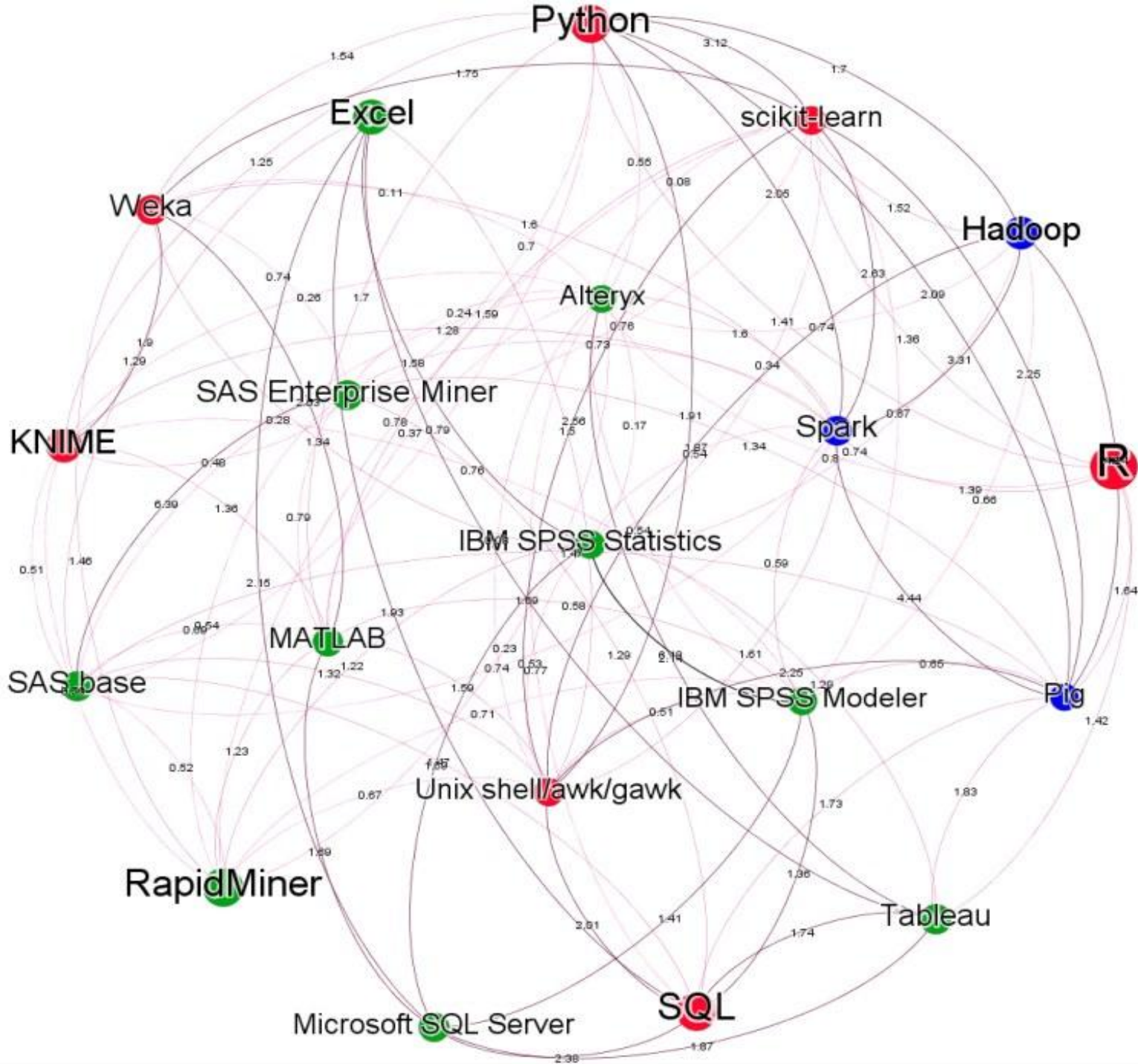
Data exploration

Treatment of missing values

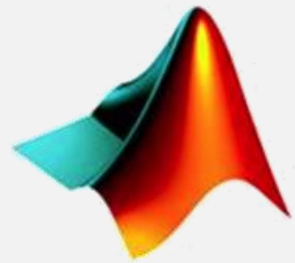
- Reasons for missing data
 - Data extraction
 - Data collection
- Methods for treating missing values
 - Deletion
 - Mean/median/mode imputation
 - Predictive model
 - kNN imputation

Data exploration

- Feature selection
- Classification



Software tools



MATLAB®



Software Tools

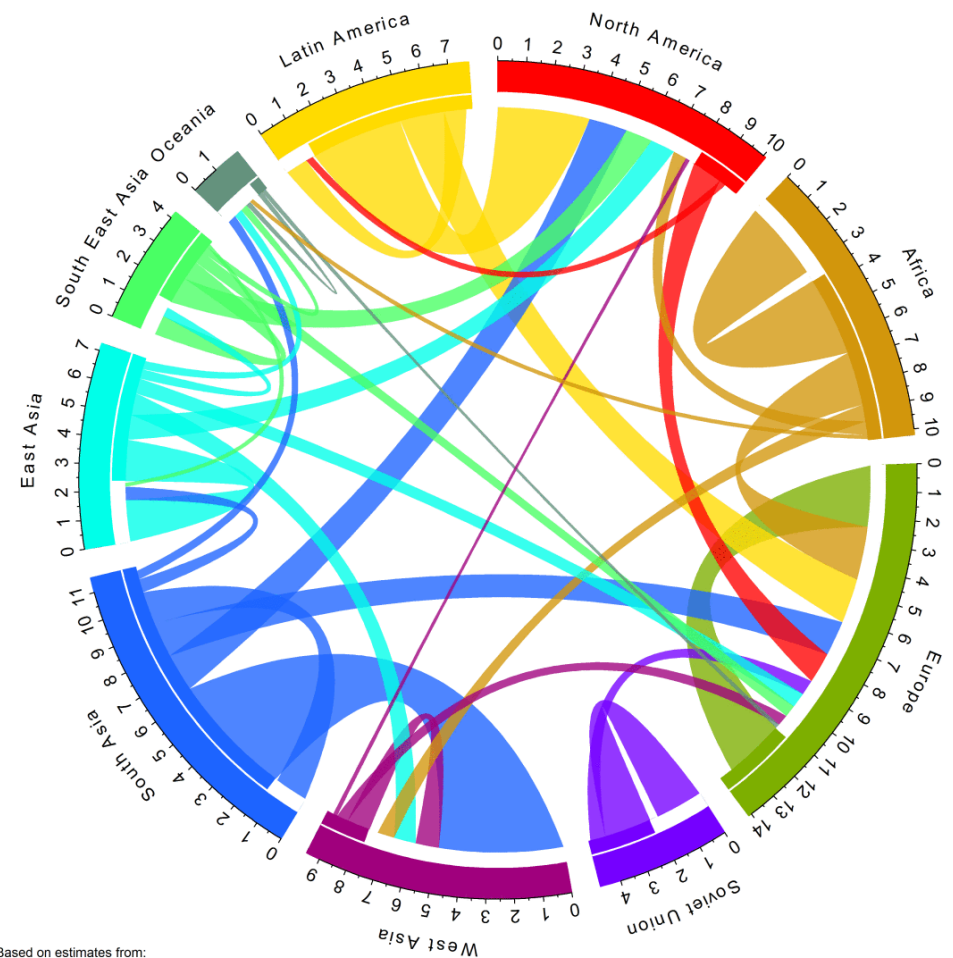
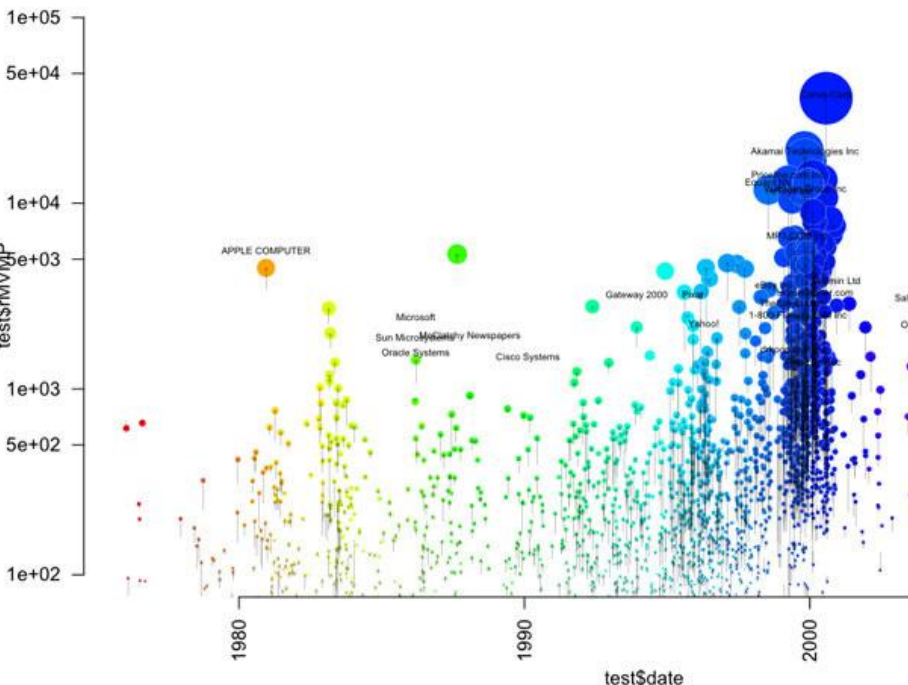
- Overview
- Learning curve
- Trouble shooting / Debugging
- User community
- Cost
- Available libraries
- Data analytics process

Software Tools

R - Overview



- Open source
- Focus towards statistics
- Strong visualization tools



Based on estimates from:
Abel and Sander (2014) *Science* Vol. 343 no. 6178 pp. 1520 – 1522

Software Tools

R - Overview

- Rstudio
- Packages
 - zoo – work with time-series data
 - lattice – to visualize data
 - caret – machine learning package

Software Tools

Weka – Overview

<http://www.cs.waikato.ac.nz/ml/weka/downloading.html>

- Open source
- GUI / Java Library
- Strong visualization tools for data exploration



WEKA
The University
of Waikato

The screenshot shows the Weka Explorer interface with the 'Preprocess' tab selected. The 'Selected attribute' section displays a table for the 'output' attribute:

No.	Label	Count	Weight
1	go-to-bed	24	24.0
2	use-toilet	114	114.0
3	prepare-Breakfast	20	20.0
4	take-shower	23	23.0
5	leave-house	34	34.0
6	get-drink	20	20.0
7	prepare-Dinner	10	10.0

Below the table is a bar chart visualizing the counts for each label. The 'output' attribute is set to 'Class: output (Nom)' and 'Visualize All' is clicked. The status bar at the bottom shows 'Log' and a kiwi icon with 'x 0'.

The screenshot shows the Weka GUI Chooser window with the following options:

- Program
- Visualization
- Tools
- Help

Under the 'Applications' section, the following options are available:

- Explorer
- Experimenter
- KnowledgeFlow
- Simple CLI

The window also displays the Weka logo and the text: 'Waikato Environment for Knowledge Analysis Version 3.7.10 (c) 1999 - 2013 The University of Waikato Hamilton, New Zealand'.

Software Tools

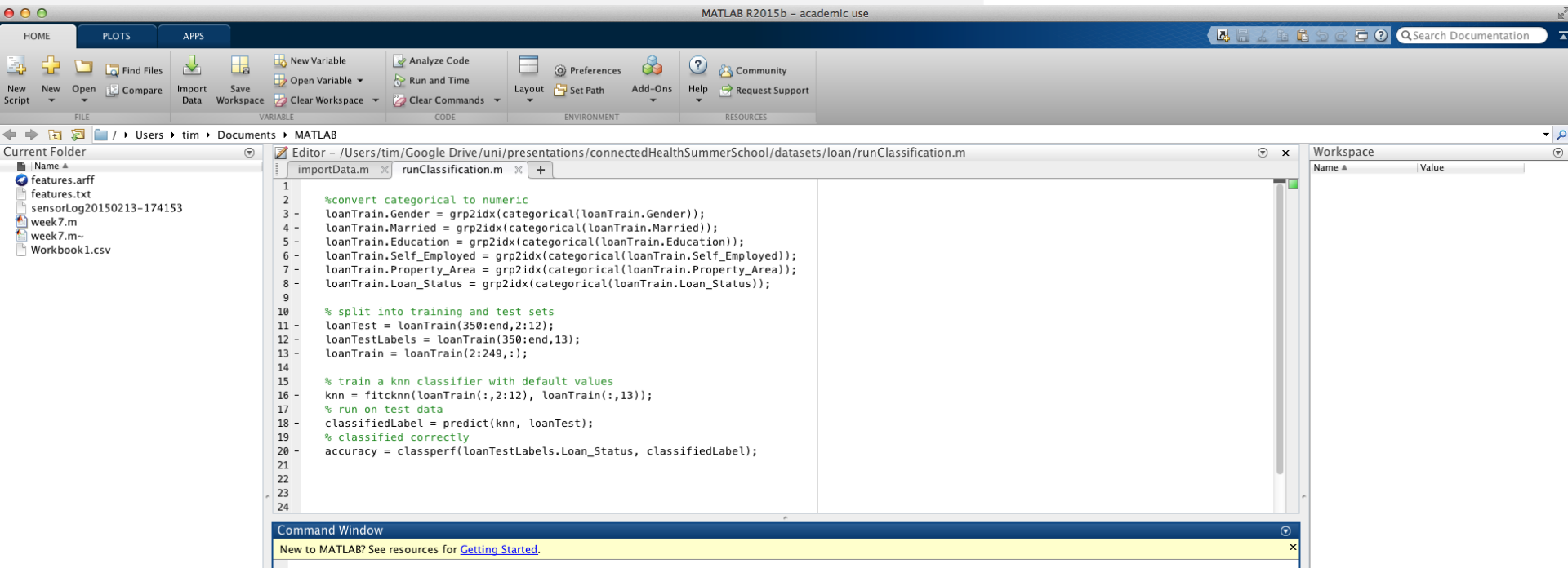
Matlab - Overview

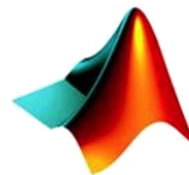
- Owned/maintained/developed by Mathworks
- Costs (base product, add-on-products)
 - Individual £1600, add-on-products e.g. Statistics and Machine Learning £800
 - Home £85, add-on-products £25
 - Student £29, add-on-products £16
- Good for rapid prototyping

Software Tools

Matlab - Overview

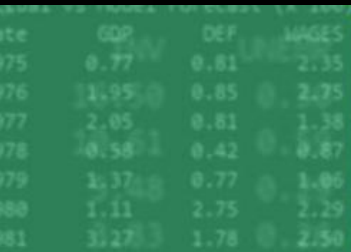
- Intuitive GUI
- Debugging capabilities
- User Community
- Learning curve





MATLAB

Acquire, analyze, and explore data and automate tests



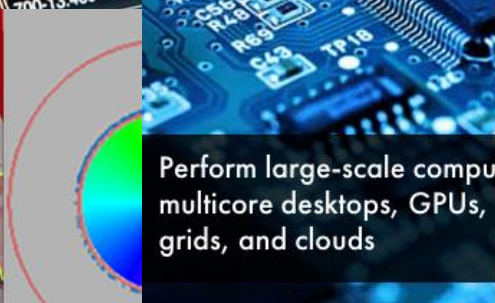
Develop and deploy efficient and robust financial applications



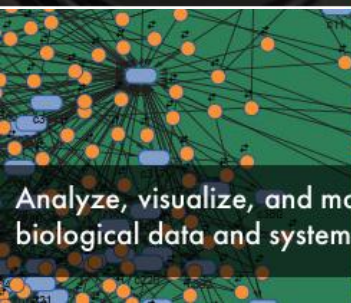
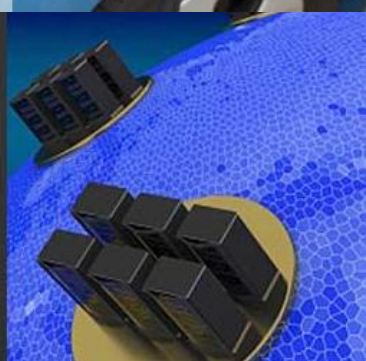
Design, test, and implement control systems



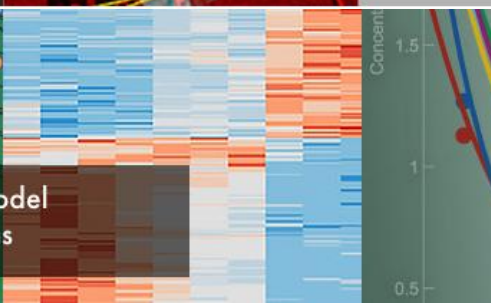
Acquire, process, and analyze images and video for algorithm development and system design



Perform large-scale computations using multicore desktops, GPUs, clusters, grids, and clouds



Analyze, visualize, and model biological data and systems



Spectral Analysis with MATLAB

[View webinar](#)



Software Tools

Data analytics processes

- Importing data
 - Drag and drop, UI for importing and dealing with missing values
- Data exploration
 - `>>histogram(categorical(loanTrain.Property_Area));`
 - `>>scatter(loanTrain.ApplicantIncome,loanTrain.LoanAmount)`
 - Max, min, standard deviation, mean etc.
 - `>>a=categorical(loanTrain.Education)`
 - `>>summary(a)`

Software Tools

Data analytics processes

- Feature selection
 - Cannot be performed in UI [5]
- Classification
 - Can use UI
 - Or code
 - `>>knn=ClassificationKNN.fit(Xtrain, Ytrain)`



[5] <http://uk.mathworks.com/help/stats/select-subset-of-features-with-comparative-predictive-power.html>

Software Tools

Python



- General purpose programming language
- Open source
- Large user community
- 2 versions, 2.x and 3.x available from <https://www.python.org/downloads/>
 - Currently more library support for 2.x



[5] <http://uk.mathworks.com/help/stats/select-subset-of-features-with-comparative-predictive-power.html>

Software Tools

Python



- Popular Libraries
 - NumPy – Numerical Python
 - Matplotlib – Plotting graphs
 - Pandas – Structured data operations
 - Scikit learn – For machine learning
 - OS – Operating system and file operations
 - BeautifulSoup – Scrape webpages

Software Tools

Python



<https://try.jupyter.org/>

Software Tools

Python



Pandas

- `df['columnName'].hist(bins=n)`
- `df.boxplot(column='columnName')`
- `df['columnName'].plot(kind='bar')`
`df['Property_Area'].value_counts().plot(kind='bar')`

Matplotlib

- `plt.pyplot.scatter(df['ApplicantIncome'], df['LoanAmount'])`
- `plt.pyplot.boxplot(x=df['ApplicantIncome'])`

where `df` is a `DataFrame`

