

Participant Information Sheet



THE UNIVERSITY OF
WAIKATO
Te Whare Wānanga o Waikato

Ethics Committee, Faculty of Computing and Mathematical Sciences

Project Title

WekaMOOC: Advanced Data Mining with Weka

Purpose

WekaMOOC is a sequence of online courses on data mining.

What is this research project about?

WekaMOOC is an online course based around the Weka software tool; this project is to learn about the use of the course materials and to improve future MOOC (Massive Open Online Courses) offerings. WekaMOOC consists of videos, slides, activities and discussions about the software tool Weka and concepts of data mining.

What will you have to do and how long will it take?

As a participant in this study you are invited to watch videos, read material about data mining and perform activities with the Weka application. The management of these tasks is mediated by a web site that structures these tasks into courses of about 5 Classes totalling 30 Lessons. The videos are about 7 minutes long and are accessible via the web (YouTube and Youku). There are two optional surveys (pre-course and post-course) and an associated Google Groups forum for discussions. Note that discussions in Google Groups can be viewed by those outside the course. This session includes one course: *Advanced Data Mining with Weka*.

To participate in this study you will need to have a Google Account and to respect Google's policies.

Participation in the MOOC is also subject to the University of Waikato's *Terms of Use for Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs)*: <http://weka.waikato.ac.nz/terms.pdf>

What will happen to the information collected?

Anonymised and aggregated information collected from the MOOC will be used to learn about usage of the course, to improve future courses and in research outputs (e.g. reports, papers, presentations). No participants will be named in any publications and every effort will be made to disguise their identity. Anonymised data sets of activity in the MOOC may be shared with data mining researchers and be publically available.

Usage data from the Course web site, video sites and blog will also be recorded; but this is aggregate data and is not connected to individual participants. The University of Waikato's *Terms of Use for Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs)* allow the University to record names, emails and completion status for participants; this information will not be shared outside the University. Email addresses will not be used for sending email to participants outside the scope of the MOOC.

Participants can withdraw from the MOOC at any time by simply ceasing to log in to the MOOC web site; although they will still be available to view the public videos and slides. Participants can request to have their assessment and activity data deleted from the MOOC via the project email address: wekamooc@waikato.ac.nz

Declaration to participants

If you take part in the study, you have the right to:

- Refuse to answer any particular question, and to withdraw from the study up to one week after the course finishes (You can withdraw from this study by emailing a request to wekamooc@waikato.ac.nz)
- Ask any further questions about the study that occurs to you during your participation.
- Be given access to a summary of findings from the study when it is concluded. An email of findings will be sent to participants in the course after it is finished.

Who's responsible?

If you have any questions or concerns about the project, either now or in the future, please feel free to contact:

David Nichols

G.2.08

+64 7 8585130

dmn@cs.waikato.ac.nz

Department of Computer Science

University of Waikato

Hamilton 3240

Ian Witten

G.1.11

+64 7 8384246

ihw@cs.waikato.ac.nz

Department of Computer Science

University of Waikato

Hamilton 3240

Peter Reutemann

FG.2.03

+64 7 8585174

fracpete@waikato.ac.nz

Department of Computer Science

University of Waikato

Hamilton 3240

Or using the project email address: wekamooc@waikato.ac.nz