



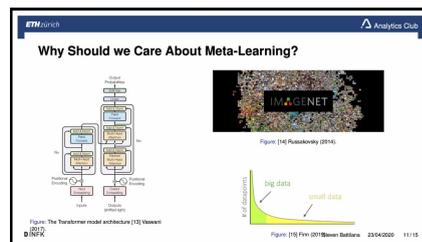
Spring Semester 2020 Highlights

As the semester is coming to an end and student life reverts to exam preparation, it is time for us to step back and recapitulate the past months. Extraordinary times lie behind us. The outbreak of the coronavirus has struck our daily life with full force, and we hope all of you are safe and healthy. With the aftermath of the virus still being unclear, we want to thank all of our partners for their continuous support, despite challenging times.

Even though campus life was brought to a standstill early in the semester, we developed alternative ways to provide students with some distraction through digital data science meetups and online events. Let's have a look at the highlights grouped into our three pillars: **Learn. Connect. Execute.**

LEARN.

We foster the exchange of analytics-related knowledge among students by organising community events and talks with leading experts from academia and industry.



Data Science Meetups

During this semester our **members and alumni** contributed the most to our Data Science Meetups. We kicked off with a talk from co-founders and previous board members Burak, Martin and Julian, who gave us **insights into their daily life** as data scientists in industry and academia. The event was followed by our usual visit to bQm, which we unfortunately could not repeat this semester.

With the coronavirus situation scaling up, Matthias Gey presented the **lottery ticket phenomena** during our last physical event. His presentation was the first of our new DS Meetup format, in which someone from the club presents a **paper** with a subsequent informal discussion.



We continued with another paper review on **Reinforcement Learning: Meta-Learning**. Steven Battilana prepared a thorough explanation of the topic, with around 30 students following via Zoom. This new digital format inspired us to create the **Analytics Club YouTube channel**, where we now post recordings of our DS Meetups for anyone that wasn't able to follow them live.

Then, we had two fantastic talks showcasing how **Data Science can help in the COVID-19 crisis**. PhD student Nicolas Banholzer presented his new paper, which analyses the effect that **public policies** had on the spread of the virus, primarily in Switzerland. Nina Wiedemann, Data Science MSc student, explained her work for "Automatic detection of COVID-19 from a new lung **ultrasound imaging** dataset". An involved audience raised several questions about their data collection methods, model choices and other technical aspects that enriched the exchange of Data Science knowledge pursued in these DS Meetups!

For our latest edition ACE reached out to friends outside of Zurich and hosted Alexis, a PhD student at **Imperial College London**, to talk about his research. In his [recent paper](#) he discussed a dynamical systems perspective on deep learning to **solve stochastic differential equations** and compare several architectures in terms of stability, generalisation, and robustness. With this DS Meetup we not only broadened our geographic reach but wanted to showcase machine learning being applied to diverse and theoretical domains.

Visit our [new official YouTube page](#), in case you missed any of our DS meetups and want to rewatch them.

CONNECT.

At our networking events we link our corporate partners with the greatest talents in the field of analytics.

McKinsey Hackathon

With this **online hackathon** we brought together the analytics world of McKinsey and the Analytics Club. In a fun framework, the participants got to curate a fictional team of comic characters battling each other, and had to make the strongest team given a budget constraint. Many innovative ideas were presented, and the final event included a tournament-style conclusion with creative presentations. The final prize was awarded to the team with the **most balanced solution** between model performance and a clear pitch, the same skills that are important for a data scientist McKinsey. The hackathon showed that fun can be





had digitally while also connecting Analytics Club members with a partner company.

Zühlke Livestream

For our first **CareerFairy stream** we teamed up with Zühlke! Robin Vaaler shared his insights about the Data Science skills relevant in industry. Having started his career not too long ago, Robin could pass on his first-hand experience when starting out as a data scientist in industry. After a general presentation of his work at Zühlke, he answered the numerous questions of the audience. The participants were able to learn about the intricacies of data science in production and the **personal perspective of an engineer**. The engaging discussion showed how well such innovative concepts for remote company events can work. Big thanks to CareerFairy and Zühlke for this experience!

EXECUTE.

We leverage our domain knowledge by organizing competitions and events to put our members' data science skills into practice.

Hack4Good

Due to the outbreak of Covid-19, we had to postpone the spring edition of Hack4Good. Nevertheless, we are planning to be **back in autumn** with more partner NGOs than ever before! We are excited to see the solutions that the participants develop for projects ranging from supply chain forecasting for Doctors Without Borders to a network analysis focused on identifying bad actors on Twitter with ONE. **Stay tuned!**

