

Research Seminar Series

2019/20 #6

15 January 2020
Wednesday

Venue: A503
Caritas Institute of Higher Education

Session 1

Deep-Learning Development via Super-Resolution Imaging

Professor SIU Wan-Chi, Research Professor, School of Computing and Information Sciences

Abstract

Image super-resolution is a topic of great interest. It has a lot of applications, including ultra-HDTV, image coding, image resizing, image manipulation, face recognition and surveillance. The objective is to increase the resolution of an image through up-sampling, deblurring and/or denoising. The subject area is particularly interesting since it has strong academic value requiring sophisticated mathematical derivations and extremely practical applications such as upgrading a video to HDTV quality, recognizing a person in a faint video sequence of a surveillance system, and transforming/re-activating an old movie star in a new movie. In this talk, we start with learning approaches for simple interpolation and patch based super-resolution, and then discuss deep learning super-resolution using random forest structures, neural network and convolutional neural network. We will highlight some winning factors of deep learning for image super-resolution, and make further discussion on the some new approaches such as using Generative Adversarial Network (GAN) for super-resolution and style adaptation. Results of our most recent research will also be introduced/demonstrated, and new directions and trends will also be briefly discussed.

Session 2

A longitudinal evaluation study of a saving scheme to encourage unemployed social security (CSSA) recipients to take up employment

Professor WONG Yu-chueng, Felizberta Lo Padilla Tong School of Social Sciences

Abstract

In 1998, at the time when HK was hard hit by the Asian financial crisis, the number of unemployed cases on social security (CSSA) had increased drastically. Since then, the government has started programmes to drive the unemployment CSSA recipients to be active in job-seeking and ultimately leave the system. Nevertheless, the effect has been limited especially among the long-term cases who were usually in their late 50s. One reason often cited by the CSSA recipients and social welfare advocates was that the effective marginal tax of employment is very high. In effect, until recently, once the earning exceeded \$4,200 a month, the marginal tax increased from 50% to 100%. Unless, the earning were attractive and would allow the CSSA recipients to leave the system completely, they would mostly likely remain in the system with a low employment income. In other words, they will be caught in the poverty trap. In 2014, the government launched a scheme to turn the effective taxes into personal saving managed by the government, and would return to them when it was well above the asset limited of receiving CSSA. That way, they would leave CSSA with some saving and most important, a job of reasonable income. The evaluation adopted a true experimental design to cover a period of three years. The speaker was commissioned by the Social Welfare Department to conduct the evaluation study. He will discuss the design and results of the study and ways to encourage CSSA recipients to take up employment.

A sandwich/salad will be provided.

All are welcome.

Chairperson: Professor Tsui Ming-sum

Dean, Felizberta Lo Padilla Tong School of Social Sciences

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