Diploma Thesis Evaluation Form

Author: Adam Hruška

Title: Food Security and Machine Learning: Opportunities and Challenges

Programme/year: BS, 20/21

Author of Evaluation (supervisor/~~external assessor~~): Dr. Petr Špelda

Criteria	Definition	Maximum	Points
Major Criteria			
	Research question, definition of objectives	**10**	10
	Theoretical/conceptual framework	**30**	26
	Methodology, analysis, argument	**40**	36
Total		*80*	72
Minor Criteria			
	Sources	**10**	10
	Style	**5**	5
	Formal requirements	**5**	5
Total		*20*	20
TOTAL		*100*	92

Evaluation

Major criteria:

The presented dissertation investigates a highly original topic, involving the use of ML (Machine Learning) methods to improve the effectiveness of agricultural activities in the context of food security.

First, the author shows a deep understanding of particular ways in which ML methods could be used to address the adverse effects of climate change on food production. The technical as well as agricultural exposition is well-informed, accurate, and allows the dissertation to build a firm enough foundation for the subsequent analysis.

Second, this strong foundation is then utilized by a fitting methodological approach based on scenarios building. The application of the method is highly persuasive, consistent, and thus consequently leads to insightful conclusions.

On the other hand, there is one issue that should have been elaborated in a more complete way. The phenomenon of food (in)security represents a part of the Security Studies disciplinary cannon. From this point of view, the connection is underdeveloped and definitely deserved much more analytical attention.

Minor criteria:

All formal criteria are met in full. This applies to the formatting of the text and its consistency as well as to the author's handling of bibliography.

Overall evaluation:

I am happy to report that the dissertation represents an innovative attempt to investigate an unconventional area, considering Security Studies, and is thus an outstanding piece of research.

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Suggested grade: A

Signature