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Learning Analytics

EUNIS ELTF Workshop 28-29th April 2014 Marianne Sheppard, Jisc infoNet



Overview

- Context
- »Drivers
- »Definitions
- >>> Trends
- >> Impact and benefits
- »Risks
- »Discussion





Analytics: the bigger picture

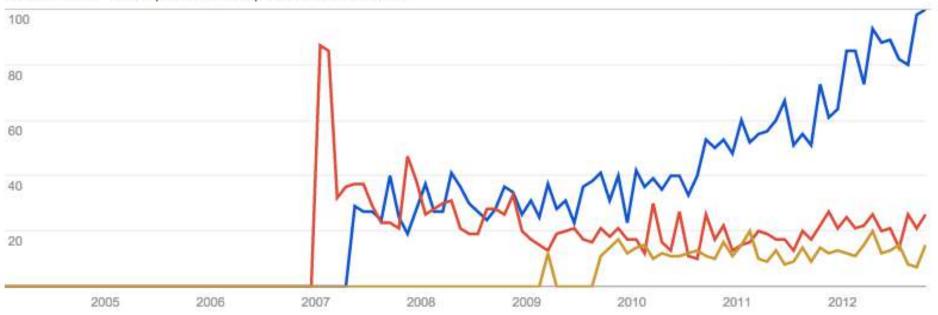
- >> Growing trend
- »New opportunities
- »Big Data
- » Business Intelligence (BI)
- >>> Learning analytics where does it fit?





Learning analytics - a growing trend





- learning analytics
- academic analytics
- educational data mining

Source: Google 2012



What is learning analytics?

- » Focus on student learning
- » Provides actionable insights into the learning process
- Support and development ethos
- » Combining static, dynamic and real-time data
- » Types of data: demographic, online activity, log-ins, discussions, assessment data, geo-location etc
- Stakeholders: governments, institutions, teachers and learners

"Learning analytics is the measurement, collection, analysis and reporting of data about learners and their contexts, for purposes of understanding and optimising learning and the environments in which it occurs." (LAK, 2011)

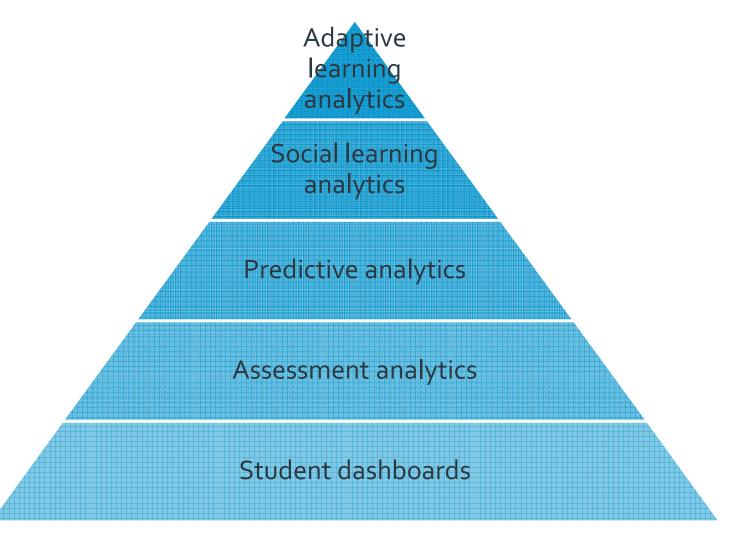


Educational analytics

TYPE OF ANALYTICS	LEVEL OR OBJECT OF ANALYSIS	WHO BENEFITS?
Learning Analytics	Course-level: social networks, conceptual development, discourse analysis, "intelligent curriculum"	Learners, faculty
	Departmental: predictive modeling, patterns of success/ failure	Learners, faculty
Academic Analytics	Institutional: learner profiles, performance of academics, knowledge flow	Administrators, funders, marketing
	Regional (state/provincial): comparisons between systems	Funders, administrators
	National and International	National governments, education authorities



Learning analytics trends





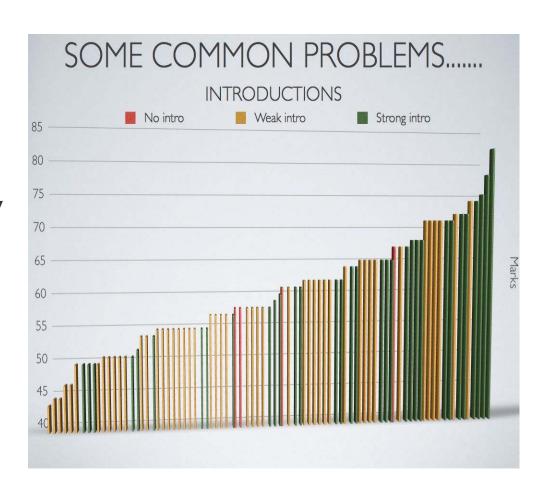
Student Dashboards





Assessment analytics: Engaging students

- >> Using e-submission software
- »Module cohort: English
- »Power of showing data to students – feedback on essay assignment
- Student-facing workshops
- »Engaging with data emotional experience
- »Dashboards emotionally deficient?

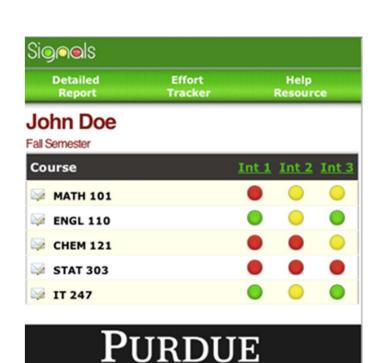


Source: University of Huddersfield



Predictive analytics: CourseSignals

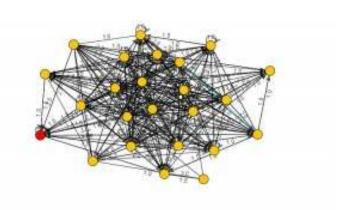
- »Analyses individual student performance
- »Aims to reduce risk of poor performance and increase academic success
- >>> Traffic light colour coding
- >> 10% increase in As & Bs, 6.41% decrease in Ds, Fs and withdrawals
- >> Improved retention
- » Positive student feedback





Social learning analytics

- Social learning theory
- Social network analysis (SNA)
- »Discourse analytics
- »Focus on social interactions and impact on/indicators of performance
- »Learning dialogue and dispositions analytics
- »Open University:SocialLearn



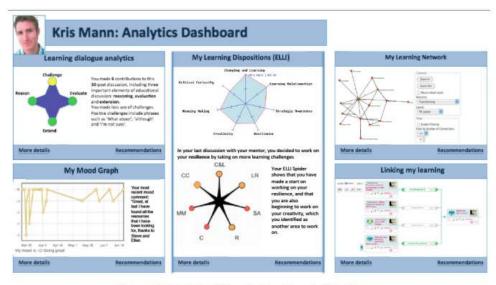


Figure 5: Mock-up of SocialLearn dashboard for an individual learner



Adaptive learning analytics

- Cognitive modelling
- »Interactive, real-time
- >>> Personalised curricula
- »Adaptive presentation of content
- Intelligent tutoring systems
- » Resource intensive to build
- »Carnegie Mellon Open Learning Initiative



Carnegie Mellon OLN



Impact of learning analytics



Finer-grained data enriches meso and macro level data

Breadth and depth from macro + meso level data adds power to micro analytics



Benefits

Individual

- Identify at-risk learners and provide interventions
- Provide learners with insight into their own learning habits and give recommendations for improvement

Institutional

- Improve decision-making and organisational resource allocation
- Tailor course offerings and methods of delivery
- Evaluate teaching performance and support academic development

Sector

• Transform the college/university system, as well as academic models and pedagogical approaches



Risks

- » Leadership v managerialism
- » Capacity/skills and data literacy of users
- » Data quality, technology
- » Data v expertise
- » Ineffectual/inappropriate interventions
- » Big brother approach ethics
- » Delayed adoption leads to missed opportunities





Factors for successful adoption

"Any wise institution will examine where it wishes to move to pedagogically, and consider if any proposed learning analytics solution will hinder or enhance its pedagogic development."

(Harmelen & Workman 2012)



Discussion

- >> What are the potential benefits of learning analytics for your learners and your university?
- >>> What are the key challenges and issues?
- >>> What will enable you to develop learning analytics?



Resources

- » CETIS Analytics Series
 http://publications.cetis.ac.uk/c/analytics
- »Jisc infoNet Business Intelligence infoKit www.jiscinfonet.ac.uk/infokits/business-intelligence
- »EDUCAUSE resources
 www.educause.edu/library/learning-analytics
- Solar Society for Learning Analytics and Research www.solaresearch.org



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