Addendum: FCE comments

- *I loved the course, loved the instructor!*

- *One of the better courses I've taken at CMU, mainly because of Aaditya and his enthusiasm. Also really appreciated the bits of historical context thrown in.*

- *Aadi is a suberb lecturer and asset to the CMU StatDS faculty. I aspire to be like him in is deep research knowledge and statistical communication skills.*

- *Overall, I think this was a great course, and would recommend it to other students.*

- *The course is very clearly structured and covers interesting and recent material. Aaditya is a fantastic teacher who makes the material easy to understand and creat es a lively and engaging classroom environment.*

- *Easily one of the best lecturers I've had.*

- *It's aways a pleasure to take/audit Aaditya's classes! I love the way lectures are structured and the entire class atmosphere.*

- *Very knowledgeable and engaging professor.*

- *Thanks for great lectures!*

- *Very enlightening and practical course thanks to Aaditya's distillation of nuanced statistical topics into clear and intuitive methods without whitewashing the complicated math behind them.*

- *Multiple testing isn't my research area. But I attend this course to broaden my views and learn something interesting. Prof. Ramdas is excellant in teaching. He explains the fundamental concepts clearly and easy to follow, which also helps us to understand the more diffcult part better. I definteily learn and benefit a lot from this course. The workload is just right and manageble.*

- *Great course and Aaditya did a great job of contextualizing somewhat theoretical statistical concepts/procedures to be relevant for a class coming from diverse backgrounds*

- *Aaditya cares a lot about the students and really motivates everyone to learn. The lectures were awesome. It felt like a story unfold to me every time.*

- *Among other things, I really loved: L1. content – quite relevant to the current stat-ml research in this area and novel offering (at least on the CMU campus as far as I know) L2. structure – very well organized and broken down into coherent sections leading to nice modularity for better understanding and building knowledge tree L3: style – very clear and friendly, and incredibly patient and encouraging towards questions and discussions resulting in enjoyable interactive learning environment. Overall, a fantastic experience!*

- *Your teaching style is remarkably effective, keeping us focused and engaged in the discussion. Two things that I appreciate the most: (1) the deep motivations that you provide for every topic (2) pushing the students to ask questions and become critical of the material.*

- *Aadi is a superb lecturer with a deep understanding of the subject matter. He is engaging, open to suggestions, and always takes on questions students may have and tries to provide a useful answer. Overall, it is a pleasure to learn from Aadi, I hope to learn a lot more from him at CMU.*

- *Very important and thought-provoking class. Instructor is excellent — he manages to nicely combine theory and high level ideas.*

- *Amazing course! I hope that it's offered again so that my colleagues can take it too.*

- *Aaditya is clearly an excellent lecturer. Rarely have I seen an instructor captivate and engage the whole classroom to the extent that he does. I have appreciated the course content, and the project-based grading scheme.*

- *Aadi is great. Very clear instructor, and teaches well for different levels.*

- *Professor Ramdas clearly demonstrates how much he cares about his students' learning and development as PhD students/future experts and researchers. This course was unique in comparison to the ones I've taken at CMU for several reasons: (1) the lectures flew by (it was easy to stay engaged and the lectures were packed with core material); (2) The material was advanced but also well-explained in ways that connect to other topics in Stat/ML; (3) The course combined both 'older' and 'more modern' methods in a way that felt the subject matter would stay relevant (not all 'old' stuff that no one uses or 'too modern' stuff that's likely to be transient); (4) I genuinely felt like we as students had some control over how the course would develop – if things hadn't been working or didn't feel relevant, I believe the course content or style would have been changed accordingly. I highly recommend keeping the course taught this way, with the ABCDE aspect.*

- *Every lecture was filled with great demonstrations of how one can think critically and statistically about machine learning. Furthermore, the balance of time spent in relevant areas was well conceived.*

- *The whole class was terrific, thanks to the engaging and interactive environment that was created from the first day of class. The in class review of quizzes directly after taking quizzes was extremely beneficial to the learning process. It helped reinforce concepts, correct misconceptions, and made the quizzes feel like a true learning experience rather than simply an evaluation.*

- *This course really changed my approach to thinking about problems in machine learning. I especially loved the focus on the backstory behind every new concept discussed since knowing when a concept was first introduced and the various changes it has undergone since then was extremely enriching. The breadth and depth of Aaditya's knowledge of the field enabled him to answer nearly every single question that was raised and I am truly sad that the semester has ended because that means we won't be having these classes anymore.*

- *Great Course! Courses in ML department should be more like this.*

- *Very positive experience with this course! The material covered was extensive, connected to the state-of-the-art in the field and clearly explained by the instructor. The homeworks were very interesting, especially in the application parts. Thank you very much!*

- *I only audited, but really enjoyed this class; thought it was taught at the appropriate level, we covered a lot of interesting highlights of the literature that I'd seen before, but also several areas I hadn't previously been aware of. A lot of other classes move very quickly (too quickly) and I enjoyed the pace of this class.*

- *Aaditya is a great and very passionate teacher. I want to take any course that he is offering. He explains things intuitively and encourages interesting discussions.*

- *Enjoy the course very much! Absolutely great course.*

- *Excellent class. Very interactive in-person and still reasonably interactive remotely. Mobile device ban worked well.*

- *Professor Ramdas was always well-prepared. One unique feature of his teaching style is preference for interactive style of teaching (which worked greatly for this class due to smaller number of students being enrolled). He's always ready to participate in a discussion with students and willing to provide any type of clarification when needed.*