Introduction to Machine Learning and Text Mining for Trade Policy
Discussion Questions: Lecture 3.

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1. Have you ever encountered an application of artificial neural networks in your work?
2. Let's take the UNCTAD trade agreements database from Lecture 2 as an example. What applications can you think of by treating this database as a text input for a predictive model such as a neural network? What kinds of variables could this kind of data usefully predict? What is the policy relevance of such work?
3. Thinking more broadly of applied work in international trade, what other kinds of texts could be used as inputs into prediction or classification models? What interesting policy questions would this kind of work enable you to answer?
4. How comfortable do you feel in using the tools we have looked at during this course? What can you do to become more comfortable with them?
5. What applications do you see for these kinds of tools in your own work over the medium-term?