Feedback on the Unit Survey for MATH4/68132 Longitudinal Data Analysis (2014/2015; Professor Jianxin Pan):

Feedback to the Unit Surveys:
The total number of the students in this course is 64, where 55 are MSc students and 9 are MMath students. Among those, 45 students responded to the evaluation survey and the return rate is 68.18%.

The overall satisfactory rate for this course is 4.31/5.00. Majority of the students are very happy with the quality of delivery of the course. In particular, they like the way of teaching, i.e., motivation from practical problems, methodological/theoretical development and real application via R software, reflected in the comments made by the students. The majority of them also enjoy a recap of the key points of the last lecture at the beginning of each lecture. Most of the students consider the course was excellent and the materials are useful for their career.

Two students felt that the recap of the key points of the last lecture is not necessary, but I am afraid that majority of the students like that. Two students mentioned that the slides should be numbered, which I agree and actually it is due to the difficulty of beamer in Latex. I will sort out this problem for the next year. A student felt that the course covers too many topics and materials, and considered no much technical proofs were provided. I very disagree with the point, as there are so much technical details and proofs are provided, for example, the derivation of restricted maximum likelihood estimation (REML) and the EM-algorithm for Linear Mixed Models, etc. The course aims to keep a balance between theory and application, and train students how to apply the new knowledge to solve practical problems, including writing computing codes, etc. On the other hand, this is an advanced course in Statistics and the area is so rich that it must involve a good number of topics. A student felt it is difficult to find the lecturer but I am afraid this is not true. For example, I have a weekly office hour and tutorial and/or computing class to support the teaching. In the meantime, students were told to email or phone me if they want to meet with me in other time, or to make an appointment with me by email. I did not see this comment from other 63 students.

In summary, I am very pleased that majority of the students are very happy and satisfied with my teaching of this advanced course. Thanks for all of your comments.