

MOOCS Panel

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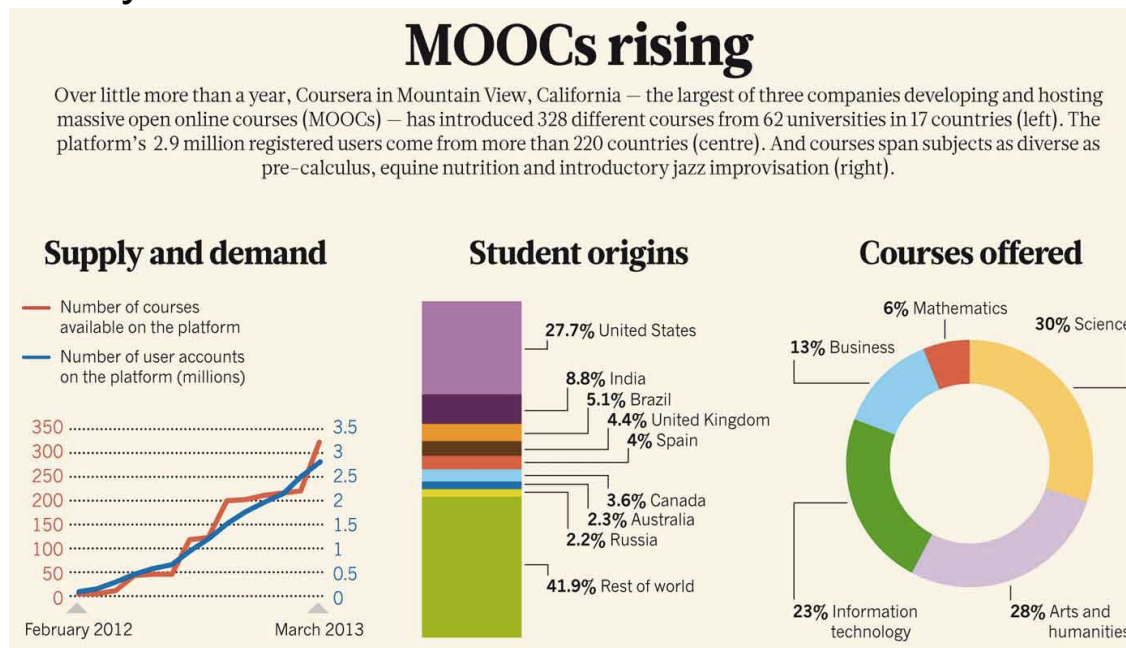




(Old part of campus – not our building)



- › Higher proportion of online students do not complete
 - Coursera: students that pay \$30-\$90 substantially more likely to finish
- › edX working with San Jose State University
 - Circuit-theory MOOC 40% failure rate to 9%



- › I completed Andrew Ng's Machine Learning MOOCS course in 2011
- › Did most of the homework
- › Didn't use forums
- › My impression: for computer-based subjects, a suitably motivated student can gain a similar learning experience to a course at a university
- › Universities don't need to go 100% MOOCS, supplement existing material

Statement of Accomplishment

December 31, 2011

Dear Philip Leong (philip.leong@sydney.edu.au),

Congratulations! You have successfully completed the online Machine Learning course (ml-class.org), offered October through December, 2011. To successfully complete this online course, students were required to watch lectures, complete review questions, and work through programming exercises. Your scores on these components were as follows:

Review Questions: 78 out of a maximum of 80

Programming Exercises: 800 out of a maximum of 800

Sincerely,



Andrew Ng

› Pros

- Preparation time is amortised over all users
- More data analytics than a traditional course
- Wide audience
- Get lectures from top experts

› Cons

- Not as interactive
- Not easy to organise laboratories
- Low completion rates
- Less motivation from peer pressure
- Bad teaching is suffered by many

MOOCS

- Are in their infancy
- Offer some advantages (and some disadvantages) over current techniques
- Are just another tool to be used in the right situation