

Discrete Optimization

TA Program

Goals of the Lecture

- ▶ The goals of the TA program
- ▶ Give you a glimpse of what could be possible

A Standard Cousera TA

- ▶ Title: “Community TA”
 - help manage the course community while the course is in session
- ▶ Great but...
 - we want to go WAY BEYOND this
- ▶ We want you to become one of us
 - Help develop and test course content

Discrete Optimization TA Program

- ▶ Range of commitments
 - least commitment
 - Community TA for future sessions (moderate the forums)
 - most commitment
 - help develop new and interesting course material
- ▶ You do not need to be an optimization super-star to be a TA
 - passion and dedication is the key qualification

Discrete Optimization TA Program

► Benefits

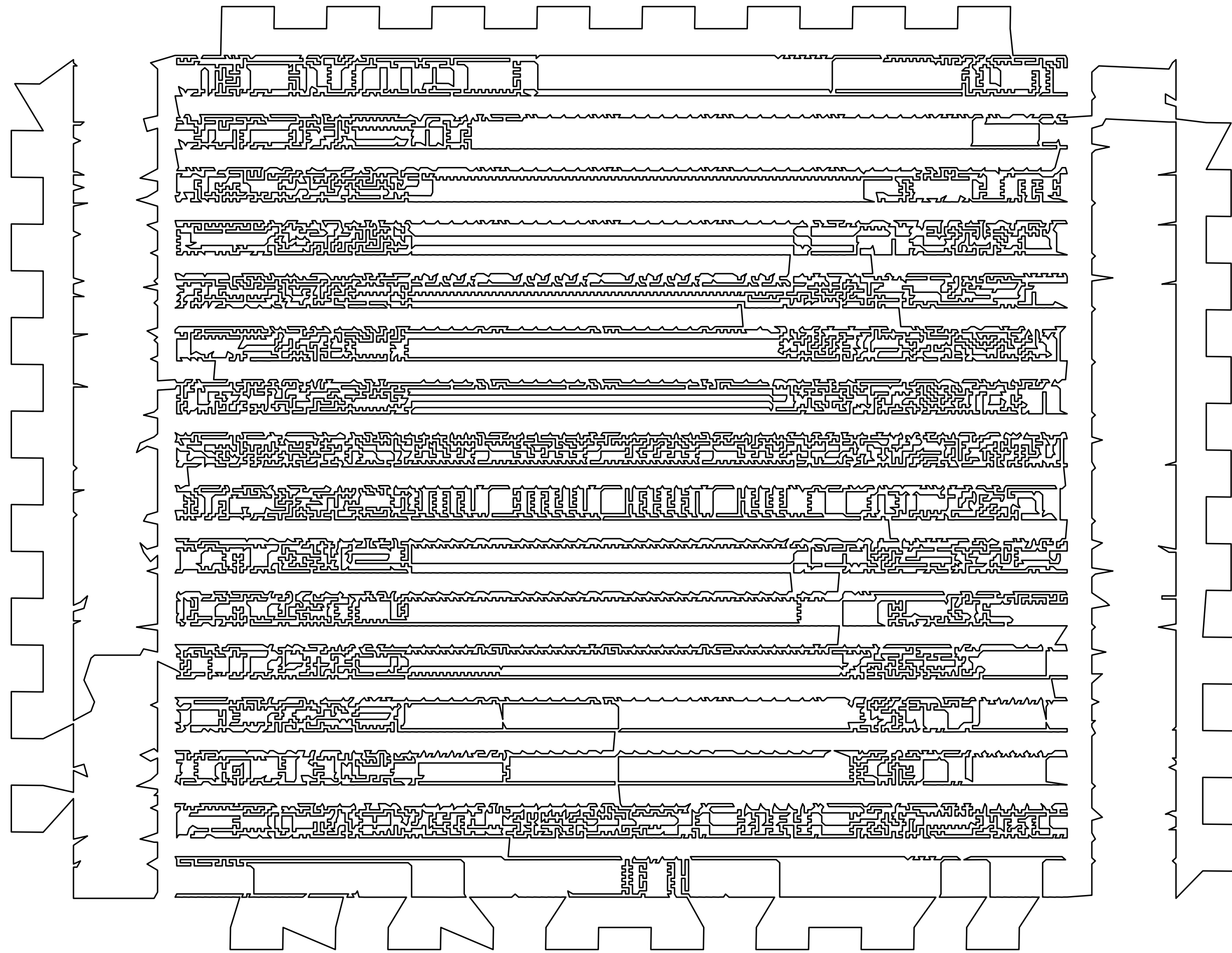
- **Shape the future sessions** of this course
- Access to the “dev” version of the second session
- See how the backend works
 - AWS, Graders, Leader Board
- Permission to break stuff (or at least try)
- Direct line to Pascal and Carleton
- Recognition on the course site

Why have a TA Program?

- ▶ What could be possible with your help?
 - some of our crazy ideas

Crazy Idea 1

► Visualizations for everyone



Crazy Idea 2

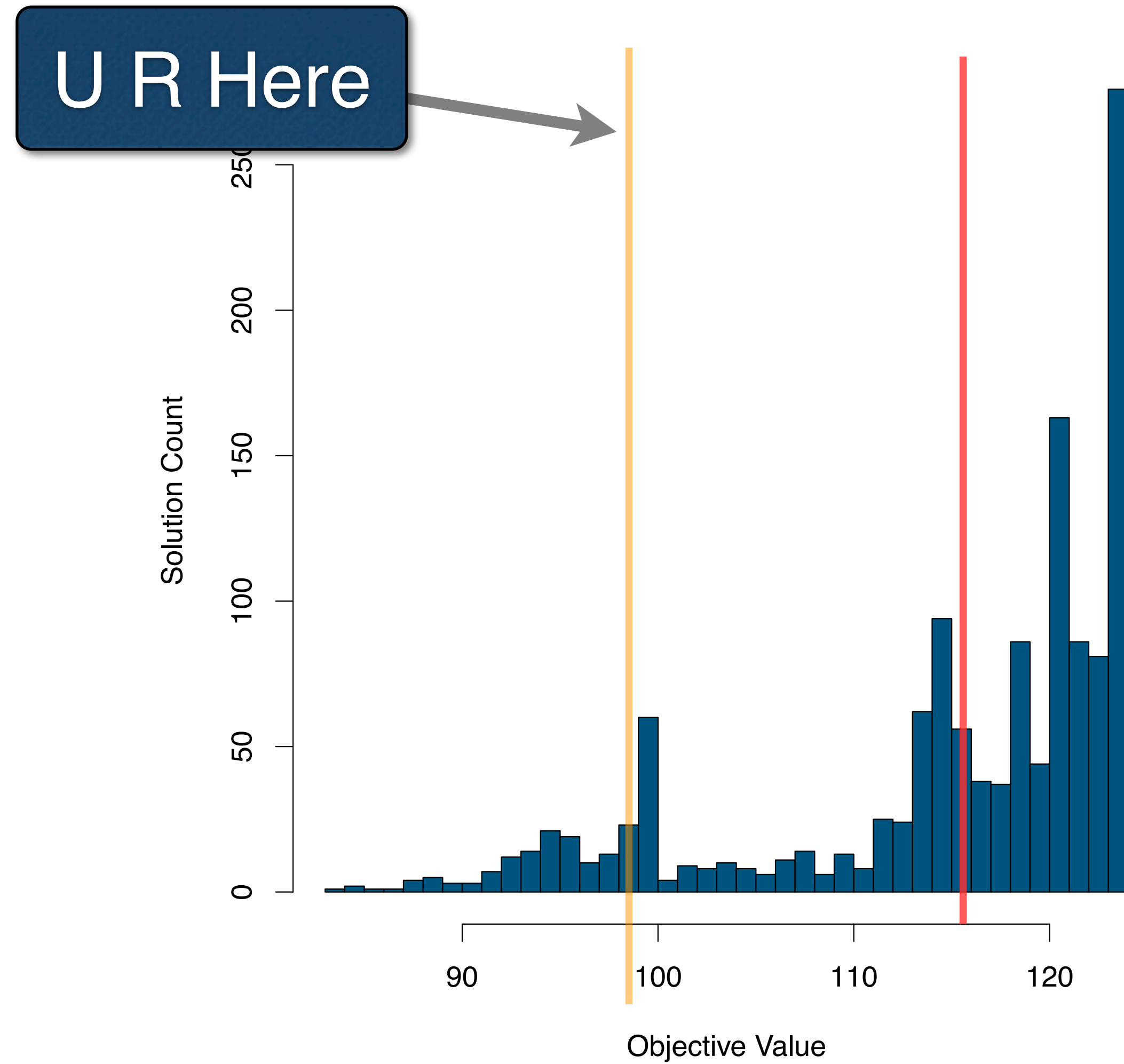
- ▶ A more and diverse assessment tasks
- ▶ Quizzes on lecture material
- ▶ Micro programming assignments
 - implement 2-opt
 - calculate the linear relaxation of knapsack

Crazy Idea 3

- ▶ Tutorials, Support, and Examples for a recommended solver
 - How to use a CP solver
 - How to use a MIP solver

Crazy Idea 4

- Leader Board tailored to the viewer



We Want to do it All and More

- ▶ But there is too much for just the two of us...

TA Program Logistics

- ▶ Think of this like an open source project
- ▶ All TA appointments are strictly voluntary
 - Con: you don't get cash for your time, just recognition
 - Pro: you choose your level of commitment, can leave at any point
- ▶ Apply by e-mailing Carleton
 - carleton.coffrin@unimelb.edu.au

Awesome Optimization

- ▶ Hope to see your application!
 - carleton.coffrin@unimelb.edu.au