**Exploration of the use and application of a learning Artificial Intelligence agent in video games.**

Is it possible to use Learning AI to create a dynamically increasing gameplay challenge within a video game?

The idea behind my Final Year Project is to explore the potential uses and applications for an Artificial Intelligence system in gaming which progressively learns and adapts to overcome certain situations that it encounters. I would go about implementing this by initially creating a system such as snake where the snake itself would go through many generations adapting and improving the way in which it searches out the food to grow whilst avoiding the fail states of the game such as hitting the body of the snake with the head. I could then potentially expand the game to be either a side scroller or 3D game where the AI will learn how to do certain actions by watching them played out but will not be able to succeed at the action initially, through iterations of trying and learning will the AI be able to overcome certain situations.

My rationale for choosing this project was…

The areas that I will be investigating are…

Background research done…

Literature review of sources

Potential Methodology…

Research ethics

Project plan…

Deliverables of the project…

References

1. Working Title: Title of your project.

2. Simple Outline Description/Research Question: Give a short overview (1-2 paragraphs) of the area your project will focus on and the problem that your project will attempt to solve.

3. Rationale for project choice: Explain why you have chosen this particular project. This could be based on a number of factors including: appropriateness to employment aspirations, modules studied, area of interest/development etc.

4. Areas for investigation: Discuss the topics you will need to find out about in order to do your project – there should be several. They will need to be carefully selected to make sure they are appropriate and sufficient for your project. If you have too few topics this may constrain your project, but at the same time if there are too many you may end up being unable to meet any of them satisfactorily. The actual number will depend on the type of project you are doing.

5. Background research: Describe the background research that you have undertaken so far in order to find and define your project idea. This could include a review of similar products or areas of investigation, available resources (it is not a good idea to attempt a project for which you are unable to identify any resources to help you), potential future market/demand etc.

6. Literature review: At this stage we are not expecting a full literature review but you should give details of 2 books, 2 academic journal articles or conference papers and 3 websites that will be useful to your project. You should cite them correctly in your text (Harvard style) and give the full reference details in a reference section at the end of your project specification (see section 11 for further details). All of them should be up-to-date (i.e. less than 6 years old, unless you can clearly explain why it is important to include an older reference) and there should be clear justification for including each reference.

7. Methodology: Discuss the main tasks that you expect to do in your project. For instance, you might decide that you need to collect some data in order to understand users’ views. In this case think of the type of data you will collect i.e. quantitative or qualitative and how you will be collecting them e.g. questionnaire, interviews. Also, you might want to briefly discuss your initial thoughts in respect of what development methodology you might use, e.g. re waterfall versus iterative development. Your methodology need not be fully formed at this stage but you should provide evidence that you have clearly thought about this area and have proposed some appropriate and sensible approaches and considered the benefits and potential drawbacks.

8. Research ethics: Discuss what ethical aspects you will need to address in your project and how you will address them. You should also identify the level of ethical release/clearance that you think you will need to apply for.

9. Project Plan: Provide a project plan which highlights the main phases of your project process and define deadline / completion dates for each phase. It should be detailed enough to be of some help to you, but not so detailed that it becomes difficult to follow. Your plan should also include details of time you will be spending on other modules, including any hand-ins, you can get this information about the modules running from the intranet (https://unity3.tees.ac.uk/schools/015/Pages/Students/Assessment.aspx#icasubmissions –> Assessment Calendars –> Final Year). You may also be able to see details of the assessments for some modules and if this is available you should incorporate this into your plan as well. Don’t forget to factor in your “me” time and any work, family or sports commitments you might have.

10. Project Deliverable(s): Provide a brief description of what you will create for your project’s ‘product’. It could be an IT product such as a web site or application, a design document or report for a business client (or potential interested group), or a poster to present a new model or research outcomes.

11. References: Give full reference details for all works cited, using Pears, R. and Shields, G. (2016). Cite them right: the essential referencing guide. 10th edn. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan. Copies of this text are available in the Library and online via: <https://www.citethemrightonline.com/>