

Artificial Intelligence COMPSCI 4004 (H) 2020-2021 Syllabus

Examinable Material:

- Artificial Intelligence – a modern approach, 3ed, Stuart J. Russell and Peter Norvig, ISBN: 978-0-13-604259-4 (“AIMA”)
- Lecture notes
- Lab worksheets and solutions.
- ~~Deep Q-learning (DQN) (<https://arxiv.org/abs/1312.5602>) and Rainbow (<https://arxiv.org/abs/1710.02298>) papers (corresponding to the lectures)~~ (corrected 22/4 2021; only recommended to read/study the papers)

Note: We assume students have a working knowledge of probability corresponding to AIMA Ch 13

| | | Lectures and labs (examinable unless indicated in the notes/lecture) | Textbooks/papers Refers to chapters in <i>AIMA 3ed Chapter</i> (material from AIMA presented in the lectures are examinable) unless otherwise specified). | Important concepts/techniques/topics |
|------------------------|---|--|---|--|
| Introduction | | Week 2 | 1 | |
| Intelligent agents | | Week 2 | 2 | Agent types (reflex, model-based, goal, utility, learning), rationality, PEAS, task environment. |
| Deterministic problems | Search | Week 3 | 3 | Discrete vs continuous search space, depth first search, breadth first search, A-star, graph/tree search, informed, uninformed search, heuristic, optimality, completeness, complexity, discrete search space |
| | Goal, search and optimization | Week 3 | 4-4.2 | Hill climbing/gradient decent, optimality, consistency, complexity, cost/fitness functions. |
| Stochastic problems | Bayesian Networks | Week 4 | 14-14.4,14.7-14.8 | Knowledge representation, Bayesian networks, exact enumeration, joint distributions, conditional independence, causality, explaining away. Reasoning based on Bayesian networks. Benefits of applying Bayesian networks in knowledge representation and reasoning. |
| | Utility and decisions | Week 5 | 16 | Decision-making under uncertainty, utility, value of (perfect) information, expected utility, maximum expected utility, rationality. |
| | Markov Decision Processes | Week 6 Note: Compared to AIMA the lectures/labs contain additional examinable material on Markov processes and Markov reward processes. | 17-17.4 | Sequential decision-making under uncertainty, Markov processes, Markov reward processes, Markov decision processes, Bellman (optimality) equations, value iteration, policy iteration. |
| Learning agents | Function approximations / supervised machine learning | Week 8-10 Note: Compared to AIMA lectures/labs contain additional examinable material on RBF models. | 18-18.2,18.4,18.6-18.7 (It is recommended to read chapter 18 in full to appreciate the general context of supervised learning) | Linear models (incl. RBF) and neural networks for regression/function approximation, softmax for classification in the policy search/gradient setting (backpropagation for neural networks is not examinable); fully connected neural networks with linear, sigmoid/tanh and ReLU activation functions, Misc. loss functions (MSE, Huber and specialised policy search/gradient losses). |

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| | Reinforcement learning | Week 7-10 Note: Compared to AIMA the lectures/labs include additional examinable material on DQN (replay and double Q-learning), policy search/gradient methods and (basic) actor critic methods. | 21, Note: It is only recommended to read the DQN paper, RAINBOW paper (corrected 22/4 2021) | Bellman equations (revisited), model-free vs model-based reinforcement learning, adaptive dynamic programming, temporal difference learning, Q-learning, policy search/gradient methods (including REINFORCE algorithm, function approximation (linear models and neural networks), online learning/stochastic gradient descent and generalization. Deep Q-learning (including replay memory and double Q-learning). |
| Ethical & Philosophical issues | Ethical & Philosophical issues | Week 11 | 26,27 | Ethical & Philosophical issues |