CS 291 – AI Agents

Prithviraj Ammanabrolu

Logistics

- First day of Class: Today
- Last day of Class: March 12
- 3:30 to 4:50 pm PT at CENTR 214
- TA: Bosung Kim, Chris Cui
- Website: https://pearls-lab.github.io/ai-agents-course-WI26
  - Office Hours etc are on website
- Class discussions via Piazza (link on Canvas)

What will we cover?

- What are agents? Starting in the 1900s to today
- Simulation environments, how they are built
- Search / Planning in simulations
- Monte Carlo Methods
- Basics of Deep RL
- LLM Basics
- Deep RL for language agents
- Other LLM Agents methods – tool use, prompting

What should I know already?

- Intro to AI
  - BFS/DFS/A*
- Basic Intro to ML
  - Perceptron / Classification

HW 0

- We have a HW that we released
- Most of it is autograded, submit code + things mentioned in the readmes.
- If you don't get >=70% within a couple of weeks (4/14) by *yourself* (be honest!), the class will be difficult for you
- Use how much time you spend as estimate of what you'll spend in this class per week

Grading

- 40% - 4 Homeworks (including HW 0) - to be done individually
- 40% - Final Project – to be in groups of ~5
- 20% - Class participation

Class Participation

- Mix of in class activities and "clicker" questions
- Will go in dept about the format will be covered later but you will need a device, laptop/phone for the last ~20 min of most classes starting next week

Final Project

- Timeline
  - Form teams of 5 by Jan 23
  - Project Proposals in Class in Early Feb
  - Final Presentations (Week before finals)
- Final Project scores will be scaled by intra-group peer review (you score all the other members of your group)

LLM Use

- Except for HW 0 – LLM use is fine, just mention the model + prompt in a CREDITS.txt file in the submission

HW 0 Time!