Notas do Curso

Patrick Oliveira

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Different definitions and approaches to AI.

- 1. **Thinking Humanly**: "[The automation of] activities that we associate with human thinking, activities such as decision-making, problem solving, learning..." (Bellman, 1978)
- 2. Thinking Rationally: "The study of the computations that make it possible to perceive, reason, and act." (Winston, 1992)
- 3. **Acting Humanly**: "The art of creating machines that perform functions that require intelligence when performed by people." (Kurzweil, 1990)
- 4. **Acting Rationally**: "Computational Intelligence is the study of the design of intelligent agents." (Poole et al., 1998)

1 Intelligent Agents

An agent is anything that can be viewed as perceiveing its environment through sensors and acting upon that environment through actuators. We use the term percept to refer to the agent's perceptual inputs at any given instant. An agent's percept sequence is the complete history of everything the agent has ever perceived. Mathematically speaking, we say that an agent's behavior is described by the agent function that maps any given percept sequence to an action.

The correct action is decided based on its consequences. When an agent is plunked down in an environment, it generates a sequence of actions according to the percepts it receives. This sequence causes the environment to go through a sequence of states. If the sequence is desirable, then the agent has performed well. This notion of desirability is captured by a *performance measure* that evaluates any given sequence of environment variables.

What is rational at any given time depends on four things:

- The performance measure that defines the criterion of success.
- The agent's prior knowledge of the environment.
- The actions that the agent can perform.
- The agent's percept sequence to date.

This leads to a definition of rational agent: For each possible percept sequence, a rational agent should select an action that is expected to maximize its performance measure, given the evidence provided by the percept sequence and whatever built-in knowledge the agent has.

2 Solving Problems By Searching