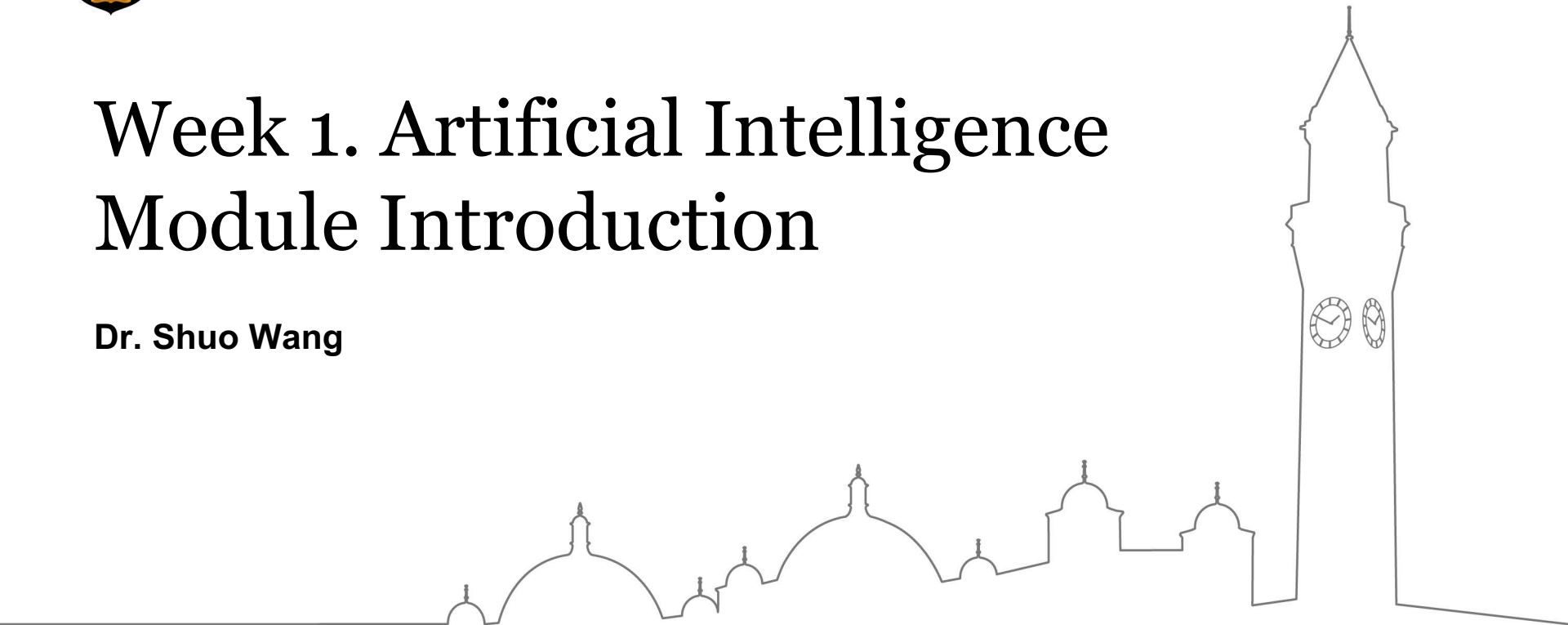




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Week 1. Artificial Intelligence Module Introduction

Dr. Shuo Wang



Module Objectives

- Demonstrate an understanding of traditional AI approaches
- Demonstrate an understanding of the core principles of Optimisation and Machine Learning
- Demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between basic concepts of differentiation and techniques of AI
- Apply core principles of artificial intelligence to solve problems



Lecture Overview

- Why AI?
- What exactly is AI?
- Module overview



Super Recognizers



- Recognise faces and link to memories of who they are and how they met them.
- To track criminals
- Hard to recruit a team of these people.
- Very labour intensive, considering the size of the database.



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Underground pipe leak detection



- Need very specialised people
- Very costly if the wrong place is found.
- Hard for human to reach inside the pipes.



So, why AI?

- Many real-world problems are:
 - time consuming and/or
 - challengingfor humans to solve.
- Takes too much time and thus a lot of money.
- Solutions found manually may still not good enough.



Benefits of AI

- Reduce labor and human error
e.g. automated production line in manufacturing that may cause injury.
- Always available, perform faster, don't mind tedious/repetitive jobs
e.g. chatbot to provide instant assistance.
- Make our life easier
e.g. keyboard word prediction, product recommendation
- and more...

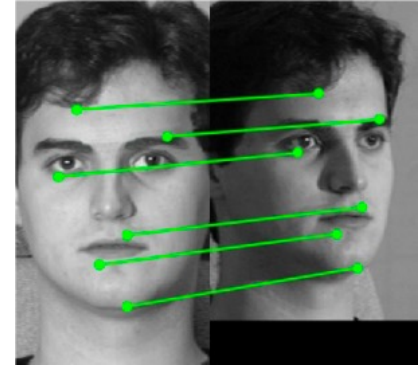


What Problems Can AI Solve?

- Face Recognition

AI could automatically learn a **model** able to recognize whether faces match faces that are in a database.

To learn this model, AI uses **examples** of faces that are known to match/not match faces that are in the database.

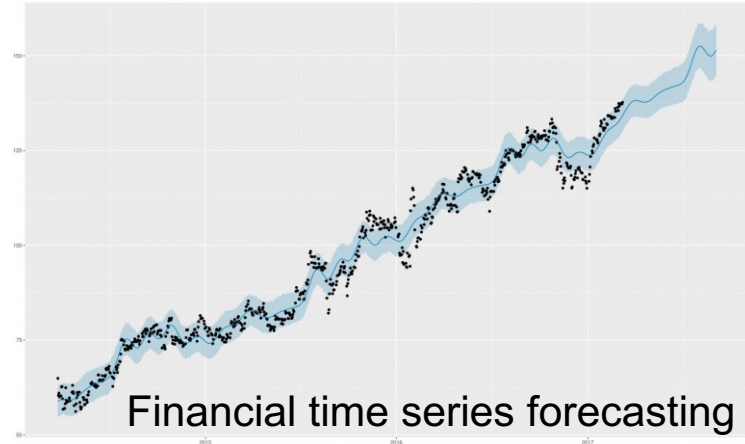


Machine Learning Problems

Machine learning problems are those that require a model to be built automatically from data, e.g. to make classifications, estimations or predictions.



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AI for Solving Machine Learning Problems

- AI can be used to **automatically create models** from data to perform certain tasks through machine learning.
- Typically **not guaranteed to find perfect models**, but may be able to find good models, depending on the difficulty of the problem and on the data available.
- Good for problems where models are necessary and it is difficult to create good models manually.
- Good for problems where there is no need for a perfect answer.



What Problems Can AI Solve?

Traveling Salesman Problem (TSP):

- Given N cities and the distances between each pair of cities, a salesman must travel passing through all the cities once and only once.
- Depending on the route the salesman takes, the travel distance can be longer or shorter.
- Problem: find a route that minimizes the travelling distance.

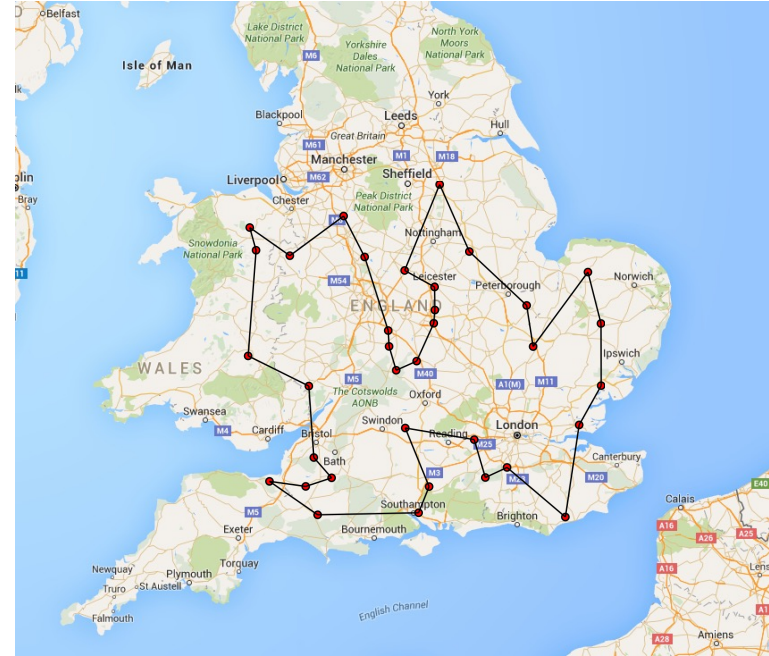


What Problems Can AI Solve?

Traveling Salesman Problem (TSP):

- Why is it difficult to solve manually?
- Is it time-consuming for computer to solve using **brute-force strategy**?

Brute-force: try all possible solutions and select the best one.



Brute-Force for TSP

A solution is a sequence of cities, where each city appears only once.

- Number of cities $N = 2$

A	B
B	A

- Number of cities $N = 3$

A	B	C
A	C	B
B	A	C
B	C	A
C	A	B
C	B	A

Number of all possible sequences of N cities is factorial: $N!$
(time complexity)



Brute-Force for TSP

Computing N!

- $2! = 2 \times 1 = 2$
- $3! = 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 6$
- ...
- $10! = 10 \times 9 \times 8 \times \dots \times 1 = 3,628,800$
- $20! = 20 \times 19 \times 18 \times \dots \times 1 =$
 $2,432,902,008,176,640,000 \approx 2.43 \times 10^{18}$
- ...
- $50! \approx 50 \times 49 \times 48 \times \dots \times 1 \approx 3.04 \times 10^{64}$

Assume that 10^9 possible sequences (1 billion) take one second:

$$2!/10^9 = 0.000000002\text{s}$$

$$3!/10^9 = 0.000000006\text{s}$$

...

$$10!/10^9 = 0.0036288\text{s}$$

$$20!/10^9 \approx 2,432,902,008\text{s} \approx 77\text{years}$$

...

$$50!/10^9 \approx 3.04 \times 10^{55}\text{s} \approx 9.64 \times 10^{47}\text{years}$$





Way Longer Than the Estimated Age of the Universe...



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Brute-force works only for very small problems, or problems for which the number of possible solutions is small.

Real-world problems are often quite large.

AI can be used to find a route that minimizes travelling distance in a reasonable amount of time. (optimization problem)



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Optimization Problems

Optimization: find a solution that **minimizes/maximizes** one or more **objective functions**, possibly subject to certain **constraints**.



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Bin Packing Problems

AI for Solving Optimisation Problems

- AI can help us to solve optimisation problems in a **reasonable amount of time** through optimisation techniques
- Typically **not guaranteed to find optimal solutions in a reasonable amount of time**, but able to find good (near-optimal) solutions in a reasonable amount of time.
- Good for optimisation problems where it is not a requirement to guarantee that the optimal solutions are found.
- Good for optimisation problems where we cannot afford enumerating all possible solutions to guarantee that a perfect solution is found.
- Good for optimisation problems where no specific technique exists that guarantees that an optimal solution can be found quickly.



Search Problems

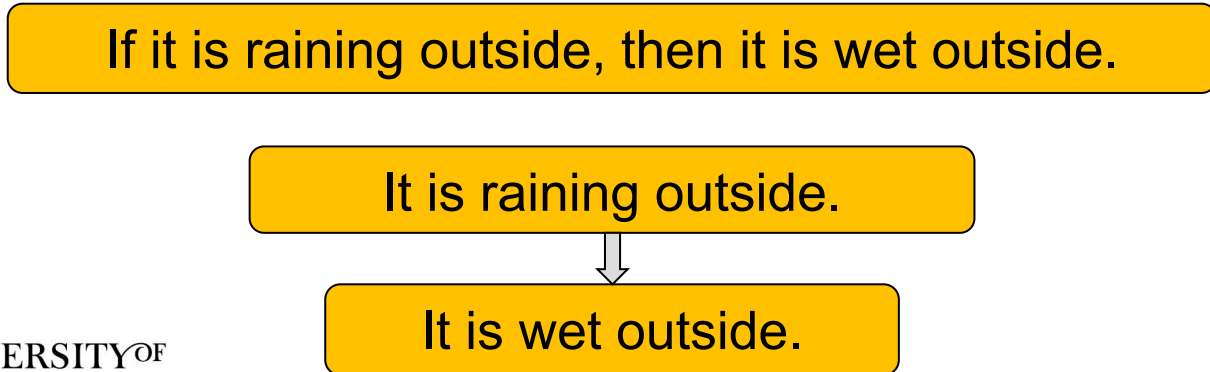
Search: find a solution that **satisfies** certain constraints.



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Logics

- Knowledge is represented in the form of logical statements.
- New knowledge can be inferred from existing statements.
- Problems can be solved based on such knowledge.



What is AI?

- Many different definitions

- Think humanly
- Act humanly
- Think rationally
- Act rationally

Can machine think humanly? Can

What can human do?

What if human's action is

Think logically?

Logical AI? Too narrow?

Rationality: doing the right thing.

Can be mathematically defined and
general enough, linked to human
behavior.



What is AI?

- **Russell and Norvig's definition**, based on “act rationally”:
 - AI is the area of Computer Science which studies “rational agents”.
 - **Rational agents** are computer programs that perceive their environment and take actions that maximise their chances of achieving the best [expected] outcome.

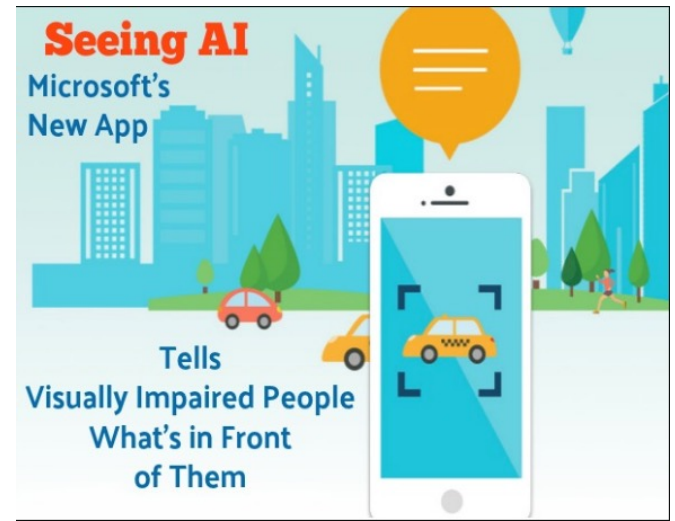


AI in Real Life

- **Facebook** uses neural nets for their automatic tagging algorithms, **Google** for their photo search, **Amazon** for their product recommendations, **Pinterest** for their home feed personalization, and **Instagram** for their search infrastructure.



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In this Module:

- You will get an [introduction](#) to different areas of Artificial Intelligence, including search / optimisation, and machine learning.
 - Artificial intelligence [algorithms / approaches](#) that can be used to create rational agents.
 - Examples of [real world problems](#) that can be solved using such algorithms.
 - Learn to solve real-world problems using [Java-based AI tool – Weka](#).
- This will give you a general idea of the area.
- It will help you to decide whether you wish to investigate any topic further.



Module Organisation

[Teaching plan](#) (subject to changes) available in the “modules” tab on Canvas.

Teaching on campus:

- 2h lecture on Friday (attendance strictly taken) + 1 tutorial (attendance not taken)
- Recording of on campus lecture and slides available after the lectures on Friday.
- Reading materials and quizzes on the fundamentals covered during the lectures to try after the lecture on Canvas.
- Tutorials for smaller groups are exercise classes with the TAs.
Content of Week x will be covered in Tutorial of Week $x+1$. So, we recommend you to study Week x 's materials before the Week $x+1$'s tutorials.



Office Hours (Drop-ins)

- At least one office hour per day of the week by TA (from week2).
- You can attend any of the TAs drop-in hour.
- For lecturer office hours, please attend the office hours of the lecturer who led the content that you have questions about.
- Office and drop-in hours listed in Canvas, please use them.



Module Lecturers - Edgbaston



Shuo Wang
Weeks 1 – 3
Topics: Introduction,
ML (classification)



Sharu Jose
Weeks 4, 5, 7
Topics: ML(clustering),
Weka



Leonardo Stella
Weeks 8 – 10
Topics: search and
optimisation



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Microsoft Teams

- For [online Q&A](#) throughout the week.
- MS Teams enables the module team to help with answering questions, so that questions can be answered more quickly.
- MS Teams enables peer support — students are also welcome to answer each other's questions!
- There is an individual channel for each week.
- Please [do not send questions by email](#) unless you wish them to be confidential.



Assessment

- Continuous Assessment (20% of marks)
 - 1 summative Canvas quizz, worth 10%
It will be timed, but can be taken at any time between the release and due dates.
Release week 4, due week 5.
Deadline is strict.
 - One open problem solving task (using Weka), worth 10%.
Given 2 weeks and submit your solution.
Week 7-9
- Exam (80% of marks).



Module Teaching Assistants

10 TAs for tutorials, drop-in sessions and Teams channels

They are:

- Efstratios Palias, Huanbo Lyu, Xi He, Qianrong Liu, Yi Miao, Xinxing Cheng, Naya Desai, Weijian Zhang, Shanshan Mao, Imane Basset



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