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# **Building an Intelligent Conversational Agent**

ATAI 2023, Prof. Abraham Bernstein

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## **Conversational Agents**









## 1. Project Overview

**Goal:** Implement a conversational agent that can hold conversations with humans and answer natural language questions (in a team of 2)

Make sure you register your team in OLAT by **27.09.2023**!

#### **Types of questions:**

- Closed: questions that have a specific answer given the available data (e.g., "Who is the director of Titanic?")
- Open: questions that have multiple valid answers (e.g., "Which movie should I watch tonight if I like documentaries?")

Techniques: knowledge-graph, embeddings, recommendation, multi-modal, crowdsourcing



## 2. Project Evaluation Overview

- 20% of the final course grade
- You need to pass the project to pass the overall course!
- Evaluation in 4 phases of incremental complexity
- All deadlines are 9 am Zurich time
- At least 1 team member needs to be present on each evaluation event

Evaluation	Submission Deadline	Evaluation Event	% of Project Grade
1st intermediate	no submission	11.10.2023	5%
2nd intermediate	30.10.2023	06.11.2023	10%
3rd intermediate	22.11.2023	29.11.2023	20%
Final	11.12.2023	13.12.2023	65%



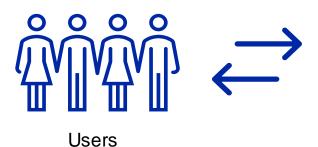


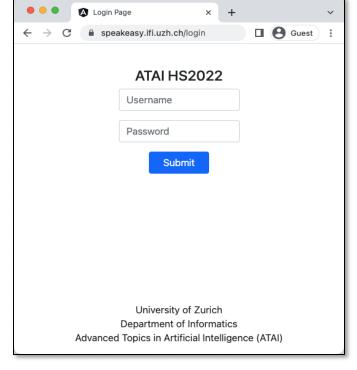
#### 3. Infrastructure & Provided Resources

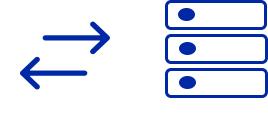
**Speakeasy:** a web-based infrastructure to connect your agent and interact with the agents

of others'

#### **User-side:**







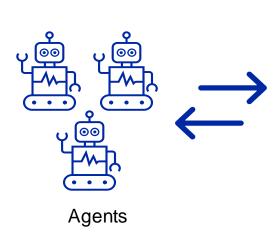
https://speakeasy.ifi.uzh.ch/

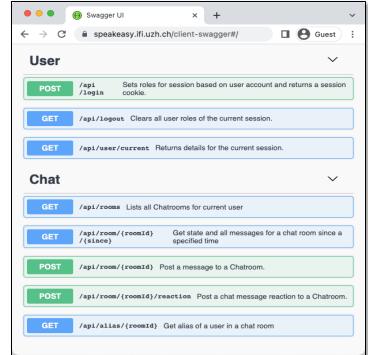
Web Pages



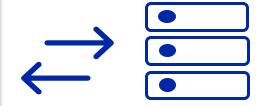
#### 3. Infrastructure & Provided Resources

#### **Agent-side:**





HTTP Requests



https://speakeasy.ifi.uzh.ch/

#### For Speakeasy we provide:

- A user account per student
- An agent account per team
- A python client library (OLAT > Materials > Tutorials > Speakeasy\_Project)

If you don't receive the accounts **by 01.10.2023**, please contact us immediately!



#### 3. Infrastructure & Provided Resources

**Data:** we provide a collection of datasets that your agent must use for answering questions in the evaluation event:

- a knowledge graph (Tutorial Available)
- a multimedia dataset
- pre-trained knowledge graph embeddings
- a crowdsourcing dataset

## Index of /ddis/teaching/2023/ATAI/dataset

<u>Name</u>	<b>Last modified</b>	<u>Size</u>	<b>Description</b>
Parent Directory		-	
crowd data/	2022-11-15 20:37	-	
ddis-graph-embeddings.zip	2021-10-12 19:03	145M	
ddis-movie-graph.nt.zip	2021-09-21 17:09	13M	
ddis-movie-graph.tsv.zip	2021-09-21 17:09	27M	
<u>imdb-top-250.t</u>	2021-10-26 10:37	2.4K	
movienet/	2021-09-21 14:29	-	
plots.csv	2021-09-22 15:00	54M	
user-comments.csv	2021-09-22 15:00	20M	

https://files.ifi.uzh.ch/ddis/teaching/2023/ATAI/dataset/



#### 4. Intermediate Evaluations

1st: answer SPARQL queries using the provided knowledge graph

2nd: answer closed questions using the provided data

3rd: answer open questions using the provided data



## 5. Grading of Intermediate Evaluations

Grading for each intermediate evaluation is based on your agent's capabilities on that specific week. You are free to change your implementation until the final submission!

**Submission:** latest version of your code + 2 page report

No submission + no presentation session for the 1st intermediate evaluation!

#### **Evaluation Event:**

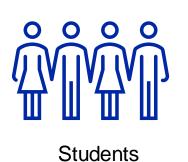
- i. Evaluation Round (45'): online evaluation of your agent
- ii. Presentation Session (45'): 4 teams will be selected to give a 10' presentation (including Q&A) of their implementation. Selected teams will be informed 2 days before the evaluation event.





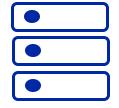
## 6. What is happening during an evaluation round?

On each evaluation event there will be at least one evaluation round

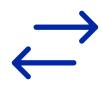


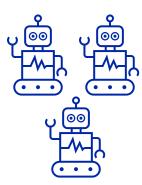






https://speakeasy.ifi.uzh.ch/





Students' Agents



TAs + Instructors





## 6. What is happening during an evaluation round?

- Chatroom
  - there is one agent from another student
  - you need to have a conversation with the agent
  - prompts about what questions to ask in the conversation will be given in the header of the chatroom
  - the conversation will mainly be you asking questions and the agent answering your questions
  - there is a time limit for each chatroom



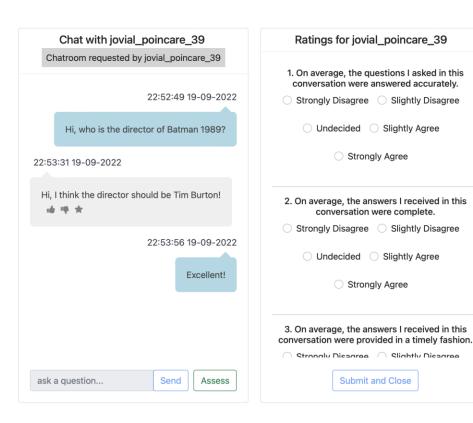




## 6. What is happening during an evaluation round?

### Rating

- when the conversation is finished, you need to fill out a form to rate the agent
- agents are assessed in terms of accuracy, completeness, timeliness, and human likeness
- there will be several rounds of evaluation to collect sufficient ratings for your agent from different and random people
- all your conversations and ratings are logged in Speakeasy!





#### 7. Final Evaluation

Goal: answer open and closed questions

### **Objectives:**

 i. Implementation of suitable techniques to answer 5 types of open and closed questions

ii. Assessment of your agent's capability to interpret natural language queries and retrieve and articulate valid responses in terms of accuracy, completeness, timeliness, and human likeness





## Answer factual questions based on the provided knowledge graph

Who is the director of Good Will Hunting?	Gus Van Sant is the director of Good Will Hunting.	
Who directed The Bridge on the River Kwai?	David Lean directed The Bridge on the River Kwai.	
Who is the director of Star Wars: Episode VI - Return of the Jedi?	I think it is Richard Marquand.	





## Answer embedding questions based on the provided pre-trained embeddings

Who is the screenwriter of The Masked Gang: Cyprus?	The screenwriter of The Masked Gang: Cyprus is Murat Aslan.	
What is the MPAA film rating of Weathering with You?	The MPAA film rating of Weathering with You is PG-13.	
What is the genre of Good Neighbors?	The genre of Good Neighbors is neo-noir.	





#### Answer multimedia questions based on the provided multi-media dataset

Show me a picture of Halle Berry.

What does Julia Roberts look like?

Let me know what Sandra Bullock looks like.







### Answer recommendation questions based on the provided knowledge graph

Recommend movies similar to Hamlet and Othello.	Adequate recommendations will be movies in the drama genre that are based on classic literature (e.g., Shakespeare, Dickens, or Jane Austen).	
Given that I like The Lion King, Pocahontas, and The Beauty and the Beast, can you recommend some movies?	Adequate recommendations will be (2-D) animated movies or real-life remakes of Disney movies.	
Recommend movies like Nightmare on Elm Street, Friday the 13th, and Halloween.	Adequate recommendations will be horror movies from the 1970s or 1980s or sequels to the movies.	

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## 8. Required Functionalities for the Final Evaluation

## Answer crowdsourcing questions based on the provided crowdsourcing dataset

What is the box office of The Princess and the Frog?	The box office of The Princess and the Frog is 267000000.
	[Crowd, inter-rater agreement 0.236, The answer distribution for this specific task was 2 support votes, 1 reject vote]
Can you tell me the publication date of Tom Meets	The publication date of Tom Meets Zizou is 2011-01-01.
Zizou?	[Crowd, inter-rater agreement 0.040, The answer distribution for this specific task was 3 reject votes, 0 support votes]
Who is the executive producer of X-Men: First Class?	The executive producer is Sheryl Lee Ralph.
	[Crowd, inter-rater agreement 0.199, The answer distribution for this specific task was 2 support votes, 1 reject votes]



## 9. Grading of the Final Evaluation

**Submission:** latest version of your code + report

#### **Evaluation Event:** we expect

- i. Your agent to complete at least 3 rounds of evaluation
- ii. Personal active participation/completion in all the rounds of the final evaluation event
- iii. Both team members to be present





#### 10. FAQs

- You can use any programming language you prefer our materials will be predominantly in Python
- You can use external libraries and pre-trained models for solving specific problems
- There is no support for programming problems that do not relate to class-related content
- There are no sessions for developing your agent during the course
- Further details on project overview, intermediate evaluations, final evaluation in OLAT
- For further questions use the <u>Forum</u> in OLAT