Lecture 1 - CS486 Introduction

Jesse Hoey
School of Computer Science
University of Waterloo

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Readings: Poole & Mackworth 1.1

People, books, web

- People:
  - Jesse Hoey (Instructor)
  - TAs:
    - Kai Ma
    - Zheng Ma
    - Kelechi Ogueji
    - Kyle Tilbury
    - Mojtaba Valipour
    - Blake Vanberlo
    - Ji Xin
    - Dake Zhang

- Lectures:
  - Section 002: T/Th 1:00pm-2:20pm in RCH-302
  - Section 001: T/Th 2:30pm-3:50pm in RCH-302

- Office hours: TBA (online)
- Office hours (TA): near assignment due dates

Assignments, etc

- CS486 (undergrad students)
  - 4 Assignments (40%: 10% each) (approx deadlines: May 29th, Jun 15, Jun 29, Jul 20)
  - 1 midterm exam (15%) (June 8th, 7:00pm-8:50pm in M3-1006)
  - 1 final exam (45%) (must pass to pass course)
  - optional project (5% bonus, proposal due at midterm)

- CS686 (grad students)
  - 4 Assignments (25%: 6.25% each) (approx deadlines: May 29th, Jun 15, Jun 29, Jul 20)
  - 1 midterm exam (10%) (June 8th, 7pm-8:50pm in M3-1006)
  - 1 final exam (35%)
  - 1 project report (30%, proposal due at midterm)

- Students wishing to write a project (and all CS686 students) must submit a project proposal.
- the Final is cumulative (covers all course material) with a focus on the post-midterm material.

Projects

- Optional for CS486 students (5% bonus)
- Mandatory for CS686 students (30% of grade)
- you must submit a correctly constructed and formatted proposal by the midterm - will be pass/fail with no mark
- Final project due before the final exam
- Individual project (CS686)
- Group project (up to 3 members, CS486):
  - must be substantially more involved than individual projects,
  - each team members contributions must be clearly and specifically described
  - there must be more papers referenced and discussed for team projects (3 more per team member)
- https://cs.uwaterloo.ca/~jhoey/teaching/cs486/projects.html
Textbooks, websites

- Textbook: David Poole and Alan Mackworth
  
  *Artificial Intelligence: Foundations of Computational Agents.*
  
  available online at artint.info

- Secondary textbooks:
  - Russell and Norvig
    
    *Artificial Intelligence* aima.cs.berkeley.edu/
  - Ian Goodfellow and Yoshua Bengio and Aaron Courville
    
    *Deep Learning* - deeplearningbook.org/

- Website:
  
  https://cs.uwaterloo.ca/~jhoey/teaching/cs486/index.html

- Discussion forum and email: Piazza
  
  piazza.com/uwaterloo.ca/spring2022/cs486686/home

- assignments handed in and returned, grades, on LEARN

Volunteer Note Taker Required

To accommodate a classmate who is registered with AccessAbility Services, the
AccessAbility Services staff and I are looking for a volunteer notetaker for
CS486. We appreciate your contribution to the university on behalf of fellow
students who are unable to take notes due to a disability. If you are interested
in being a volunteer notetaker, please complete the application form on the
AccessAbility Services website by signing-in with your WATIAM credentials
(https://york.accessiblelearning.com/UWaterloo/).

Overview of the Course

Lectures:

- Introduction
- Agents and AI
- Representation and Reasoning
  - States and Searching
  - Features and Constraints (CSPs)
  - Logical inference
  - Uncertainty (Bayesian probability)
- Learning
  - Supervised learning (Regression)
  - Neural Networks and Deep Learning (Stochastic gradient
descent)
  - Bayesian learning (learning Bayes Nets)
  - Unsupervised learning (Expectation-Maximization)
- Planning
  - deterministic (under certainty)
  - with uncertainty (Markov decision processes)
  - reinforcement learning
- Topics (time permitting)

Integrity, Intellectual Property

- See official course outline at https://cs.uwaterloo.ca/~jhoey/teaching/cs486/S22CS486Outline.html

- Property of UW:
  - Lecture content, spoken and written (and any audio/video
    recording thereof);
  - Lecture handouts, presentations, and other materials prepared
    for the course (e.g., PowerPoint slides);
  - Questions or solution sets from various types of assessments
    (e.g., assignments, quizzes, tests, final exams); and
  - Work protected by copyright (e.g., any work authored by the
    instructor or TA or used by the instructor or TA with
    permission of the copyright owner).

- Sharing intellectual property without the intellectual property
  owner’s permission is a violation of intellectual property rights.
What is Artificial Intelligence (AI)?

The synthesis and analysis of computational agents that act intelligently.

An agent acts intelligently when:
- what it does is appropriate for its circumstances and its goals, taking into account the short-term and long-term consequences of its actions
- it is flexible to changing environments and changing goals
- it learns from experience
- it makes appropriate choices given its perceptual and computational limitations

What is AI? (Poole & Mackworth chapter 1.2-1.10, 2.1-2.3)
Search (Poole & Mackworth chapter 3)