

Vorlesung

Grundlagen der Künstlichen Intelligenz

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Recap + Q&A session

Intro / Agents

- An **agent** is an entity that perceives and acts
- It consists of an architecture and a program
- A **ideal rational agent** is expected to maximize its performance measure, given the evidence provided by the percept sequence and the built-in knowledge
- There are different types of **environments**, some are more challenging than others
 - E.g. partially observable, stochastic, sequential, dynamic, continuous
- There are different types of agents
 - Reflex agents, only reacting to the percepts
 - Goal-based agents, trying to achieve given goal(s)
 - Utility-based agents, maximizing their performance



Search algorithms

- In order to search for a solution, an agent has to define its goal and based on this the agent has to define its problem
- A problem consists of 5 parts: state space, initial state, operators, goal test and path costs. A path from the initial state to a goal state is a solution.
- There exists a general search algorithm that can be used to find solutions. Special variants of the algorithm make use of different search strategies.
- There are optimal and complete search algorithms which are “much better” than blind search
- However, the state spaces and the complexity is still exponential



Search algorithms

- Blind search:
 - Depth-first, breadth-first, iterative deepening, ...
- Heuristic search:
 - A* always leads to optimal solutions, but space ...
 - Different heuristics, admissible, consistent ones
 - Criteria for choosing “good“ heuristics
- All these search algorithms differ in the order in which the expanded nodes are inserted into the „open“ list



Search algorithms

- Local search and optimization
 - Useful if only the final state is of interest
 - Problem: local minima, plateaus, etc.
 - Several algorithms: hill-climbing, simulated annealing, local beam search, genetic algorithms, etc.
- Search with non-deterministic action results
 - Contingency plan instead of action sequence
 - AND-OR-trees



Constraint satisfaction problems (CSPs)

- CSPs: state represented by variable-value pairs
- Set of constraints on variables (unary, binary, and higher-order)
- Backtracking = depth first search + test
- Min-conflicts heuristics are very successful and easy
- Reduction of complexity by reduction to trees instead of graphs



Adversarial search

- Adversarial search needs to take all possible moves of the opponent into account
- Maximise your strategy based on the assumption that the opponent acts optimally
- Alpha-beta pruning can reduce the search space
- Incomplete real-time decisions need evaluation functions



Logical agents

- Knowledge-based agents with internal representation of knowledge
- Reasoning process to gain new knowledge and to draw conclusions
- Representation schemes (languages)
- A knowledge base is a collection of (formal) sentences
- Syntax and semantics
- Models (possible worlds)

- Two operators on the knowledge base:
 - $TELL(KB, sentence)$
 - $ASK(KB, sentence)$



Logic

- Logical agents apply **inference** to a **knowledge base** to derive new information and make decisions

Basic concepts of logic:

- **syntax**: formal structure of **sentences**
- **semantics**: **truth** of sentences wrt **models**
- **entailment**: necessary truth of one sentence given another
- **inference**: deriving sentences from other sentences
- **soundness**: derivations produce only entailed sentences
- **completeness**: derivations can produce all entailed sentences

- Wumpus world requires the ability to represent partial and negated information, reason by cases, etc.
- Resolution is complete for propositional logic
- Forward, backward chaining are linear-time, complete for Horn clauses
- DPLL and WalkSAT algorithms



Logic

- First-order logic:
 - objects and relations are semantic primitives
 - syntax: constants, functions, predicates, equality, quantifiers
 - Increased expressive power: sufficient to define wumpus world including “hidden properties” such as “hasArrow”
 - Knowledge engineering scheme
- Most every-day sentences can be expressed in FOL



What is Planning

- Generate sequences of actions to perform tasks and achieve objectives.
 - States, actions and goals
- Search for solution over abstract space of plans.
- Assists humans in practical applications
 - design and manufacturing
 - games
 - space exploration
 - Rescue operation (see also RoboCup rescue league)



Planning

- Planning is an area of great interest within AI
- Biggest problem is the combinatorial explosion in states.
- Planning described as set of preconditions, actions, and postconditions
- Use of search strategies to create plans
- Use of theorem proving
- Consideration of limited resources and time
- Hierarchical planning approaches



Knowledge engineering

- Knowledge representation is crucial for efficient reasoning
- Ontologies are a widely used way for representing knowledge
- Upper ontology to describe main concepts and object classes of the world
- Individual ontologies for specific domains needed
- Different ways of reasoning
 - Navigation in semantic networks
 - Formal reasoning using logical representations
- Problem: Handling of default values



Reasoning under uncertainty

- Probability is a rigorous formalism for uncertain knowledge
- **Joint probability distribution** specifies probability of every **atomic event**
- Queries can be answered by summing over atomic events
- For nontrivial domains, we must find a way to reduce the joint size
- **Independence** and **conditional independence** provide the tools



Bayesian networks

- Bayes nets provide a natural representation for (causally induced) conditional independence
- Topology + CPTs = compact representation of joint distribution
- Generally easy for (non)experts to construct
- Canonical distributions (e.g., noisy-OR) = compact representation of CPTs



Approximate inference

- In general, inference in Bayesian networks is NP-hard
- For polytrees, exact inference has linear time and space complexity.
- For all other network topologies, approximate algorithms are needed

- One promising approach: Sampling (stochastic simulation)
 - Direct sampling
 - Rejection sampling
 - Likelihood weighting



Learning – decision trees

- Learning needed for unknown environments, lazy designers
- Learning agent = performance element + learning element
- Learning method depends on type of performance element, available feedback, type of component to be improved, and its representation
- For supervised learning, the aim is to find a simple hypothesis that is approximately consistent with training examples
- Decision tree learning using an information theoretic approach: entropy and information gain
- Learning performance = prediction accuracy measured on test set

