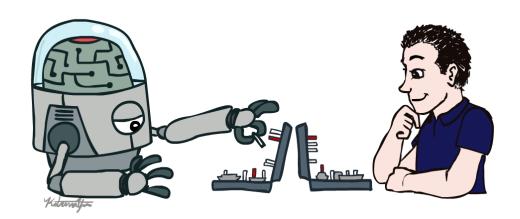
CS 4300/6300: Artificial Intelligence Introduction



Instructor: Daniel Brown

University of Utah

Course Staff

Professor

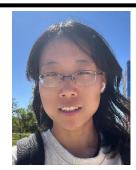


Daniel Brown

TAs



Athary Belsare



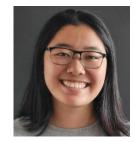
Yile Li



Soumil Datta



Gabriella Goodman



Hannah Marumoto

Course Information

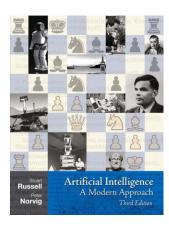
- Communication:
 - Announcements on Canvas
 - Questions? Discussion on piazza
- Course format:
 - Syllabus (see Canvas)
 - Homeworks and programming assignments turned in via Gradescope.
 - Homeworks must be completed individually.
 - Programming assignments can be done in pairs.
 - In class midterm and final.
- Class Website:
 - https://dsbrown1331.github.io/intro-ai-class/

Course Information

- There will be a lot of math (and programming)!
- Work and Grading:
 - 5 programming projects: Python,
 - 10% penalty for each day late (weekend counts as one day)
 - ~10 homework assignments.
 - Hands on experience working through math and algorithms.
 - Midterm (right before fall break) and Final (during finals week)
 - Class participation can help if your grade is on the margins.
 - We will occasionally have in class exercises/quizzes.
 - Pass/Fail based on whether you are in class or not.

Textbooks

■ Russell & Norvig, AI: A Modern Approach, 3rd Ed.



Textbook

 Sutton and Barto "Reinforcement Learning: An Introduction"

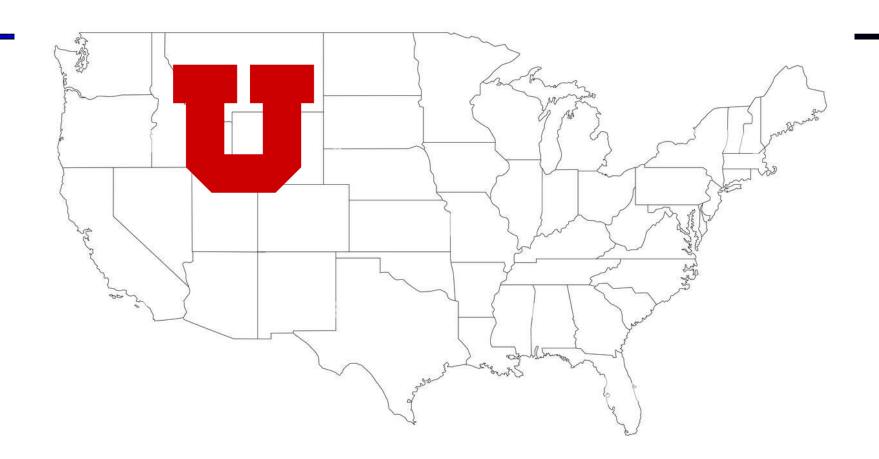
http://incompleteideas.net/book/ebook/the-book.html

- Some notation in our class will be closer to Sutton and Barto than Russell and Norvig
- We will also sometimes have readings from
 - Deep Learning by Ian Goodfellow, Yoshua Bengio, and Aaroun Courville. MIT Press, 2016.
 - Decision Making Under Uncertainty by Mykel J. Kochenderfer. MIT Press, 2015.

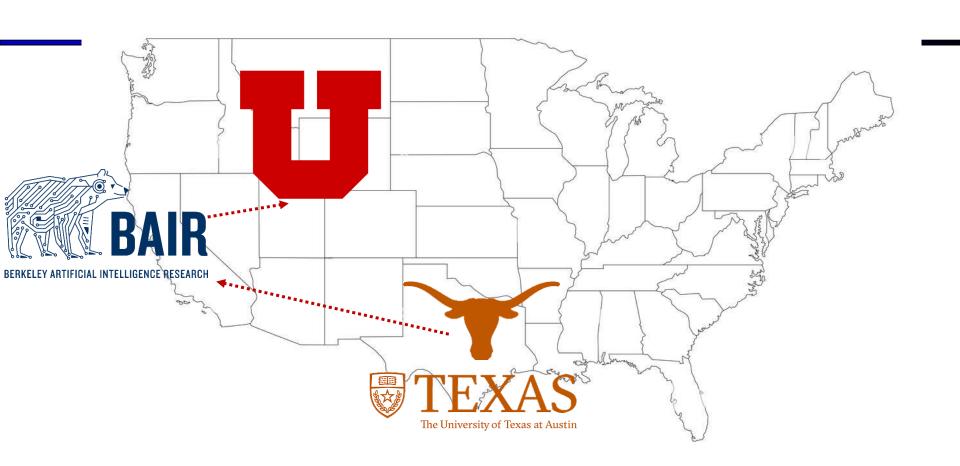
Important This Week

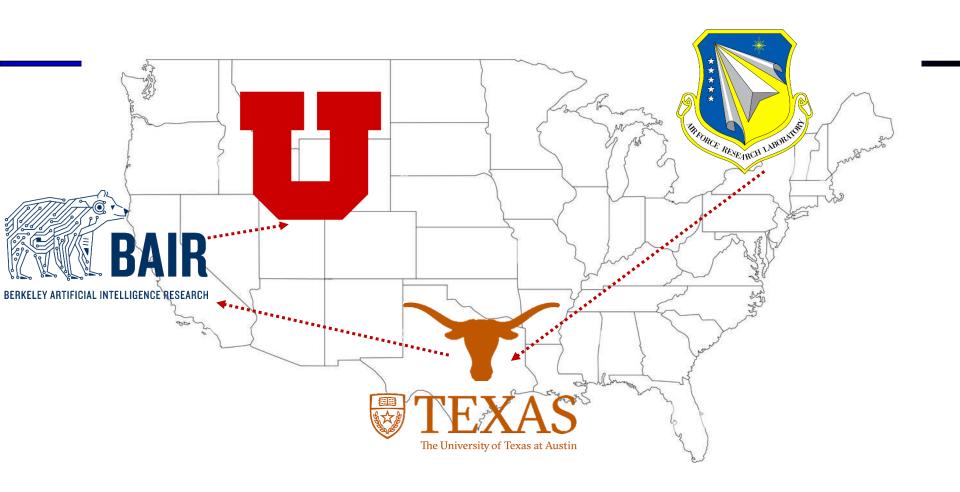
- Important this week:
 - Register for the class on piazza --- our main resource for discussion and communication
 - **P0: Python crash course/tutorial** is out (due on Friday 8/29 by 11:59pm)
- Also important:
 - Office Hours TBD
 - We will try and provide good coverage across days and times.

A little about me





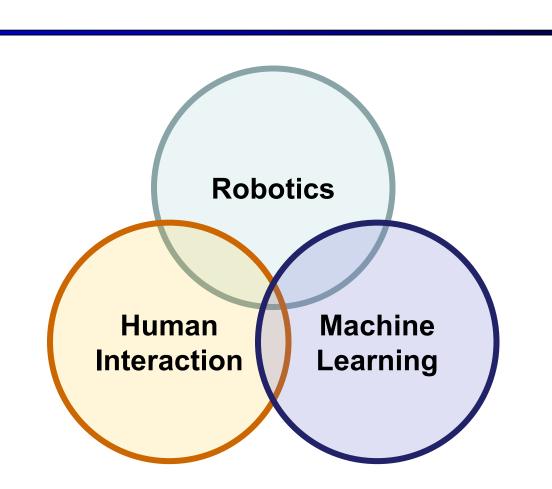




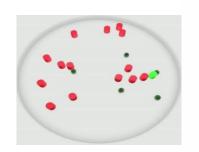






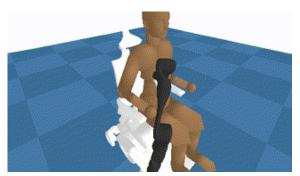


Human-Robot Interaction



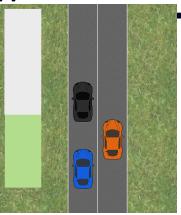


Human Swarm Interactions

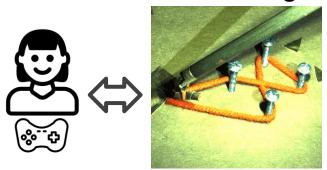




Shared Autonomy and Assistive

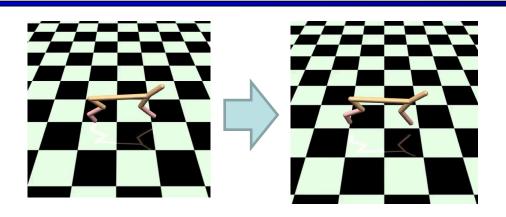


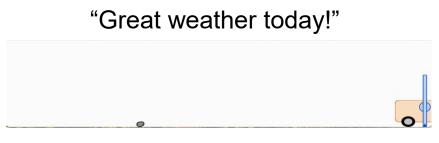
Autonomous Driving

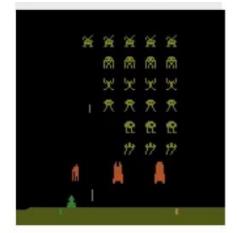


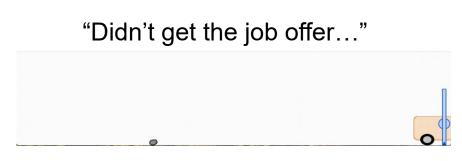
Human-in-the-Loop

Learning models of human preferences





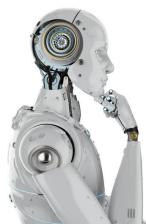


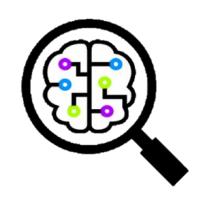


Al Safety and Robustness







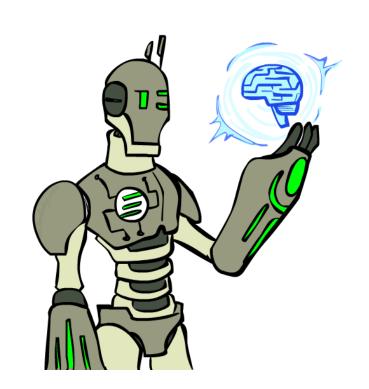


Today

What is artificial intelligence?

What can AI do?

What is this course?



Sci-Fi Al?







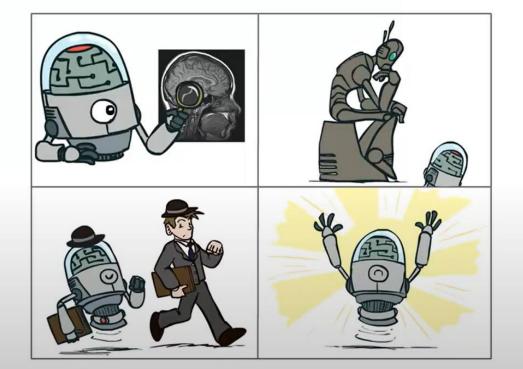




What is AI?

The science of making machines that:

Think like people



Think rationally

Act like people

Act rationally

Rational Decisions

We'll use the term **rational** in a very specific, technical way:

- Rational: maximally achieving pre-defined goals
- Rationality only concerns what decisions are made (not the thought process behind them)
- Goals are expressed in terms of the utility of outcomes
- Being rational means maximizing your expected utility

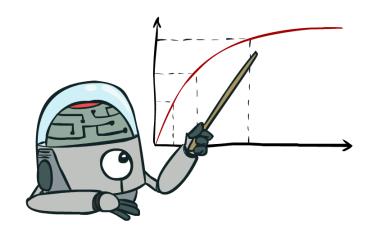
One possible title for this course would be:

Computational Rationality

Another Possible Course Title

 Foundational Mathematics and Algorithms for Sequential Decision Making Under Uncertainty!

Maximize Your Expected Utility

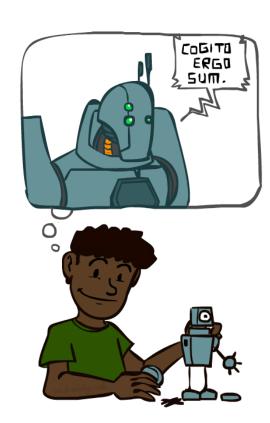


What About the Brain?

- Brains (human minds) are very good at making rational decisions, but not perfect
- Brains aren't as modular as software, so hard to reverse engineer!
- "Brains are to intelligence as wings are to flight"
- Lessons learned from the brain: memory and simulation are key to decision making



A (Short) History of Al

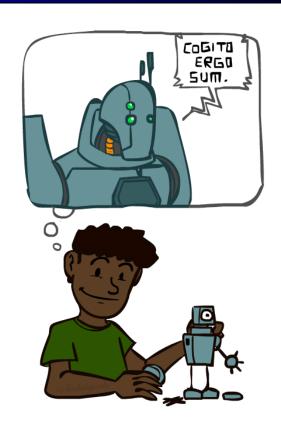


Demo: HISTORY - MT1950.wmv



A (Short) History of Al

- 1940-1950: Early days
 - 1943: McCulloch & Pitts: Boolean circuit model of brain
 - 1950: Turing's "Computing Machinery and Intelligence"
- 1950—70: Excitement: Look, Ma, no hands!
 - 1950s: Early AI programs, including Samuel's checkers program, Newell & Simon's Logic Theorist, Gelernter's Geometry Engine
 - 1956: Dartmouth meeting: "Artificial Intelligence" adopted
 - 1965: Robinson's complete algorithm for logical reasoning
- 1970—90: Knowledge-based approaches
 - 1969—79: Early development of knowledge-based systems
 - 1980—88: Expert systems industry booms
 - 1988—93: Expert systems industry busts: "Al Winter"
- 1990—: Statistical approaches
 - Resurgence of probability and statistics, focus on uncertainty
 - General increase in technical depth
 - Agents and learning systems... "AI Spring"?
- 2014—: Deep Learning and Scaling Things Up
 - Big data
 - Powerful compute (e.g. GPUs)
 - ChatGPT and other Large Language Models (LLMs)



What Can Al Do?

Quiz: Which of the following can be done at present?

- ✓ Play a decent game of table tennis?
- ✓ Play a decent game of Jeopardy?
- ✓ Drive safely along a curving mountain road?
- ✓ Buy a week's worth of groceries on the web?
- Buy a week's worth of groceries at Walmart?
- Discover and prove a new mathematical theorem?
- Converse successfully with another person for an hour?
- Perform a surgical operation?
- Come into your apartment and unload your dishwasher
- Translate spoken Chinese into spoken English in real time?
- ✓ Write decent poetry?
- Create aesthetically pleasing artwork
- Fold your laundry?



Natural Language

- Speech technologies (e.g. Siri)
 - Automatic speech recognition (ASR)
 - Text-to-speech synthesis (TTS)
 - Dialog systems



- Language processing technologies
 - Question answering
 - Machine translation

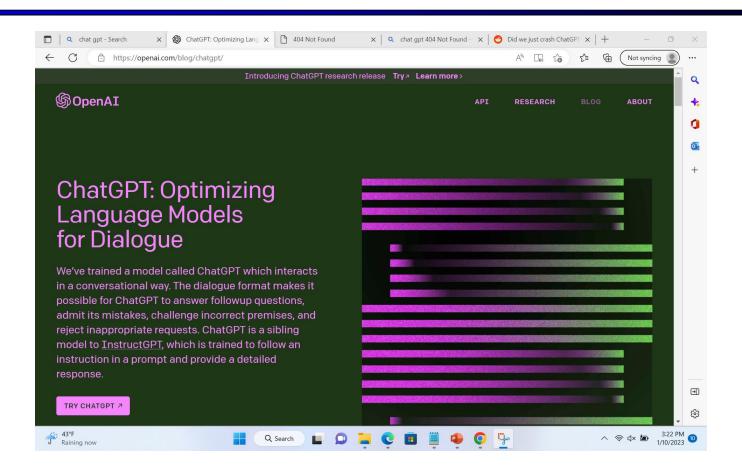






- Web search
- Text classification, spam filtering, etc...

Chat GPT







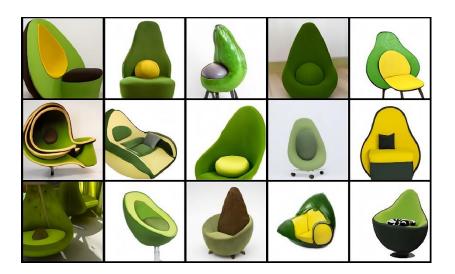






Text to Images (DALL-E)

 "An astronaut riding a horse in a photorealistic way"

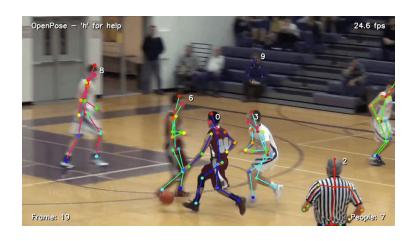




"An armchair in the shape of an avocado."

Vision (Perception)

- Object and face recognition
- Scene segmentation
- Image classification







Multi-Modal Models



Robotics

- Robotics
 - Part mech. eng.
 - Part Al
 - Reality much harder than simulations!
- Technologies
 - Autonomous Vehicles
 - Rescue
 - Soccer!
 - Lots of automation...
 - But increasing amounts of learning...
- In this class:
 - We ignore mechanical aspects
 - Methods for planning
 - Methods for control



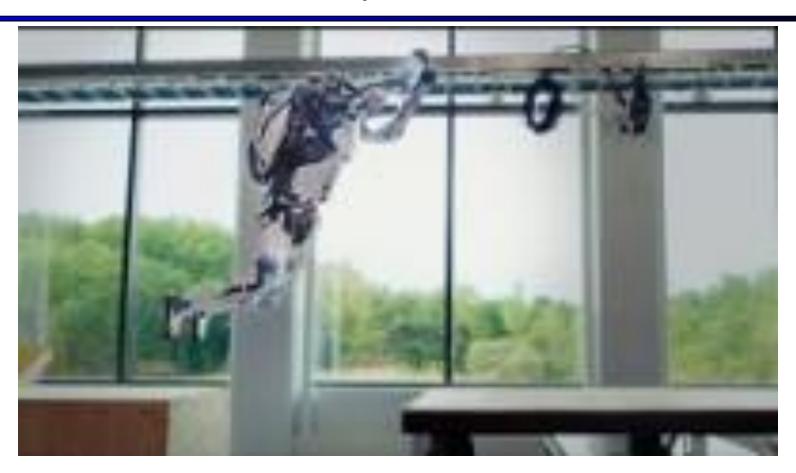






Images from UC Berkeley, Boston Dynamics, RoboCup, Google

Boston Dynamics Atlas



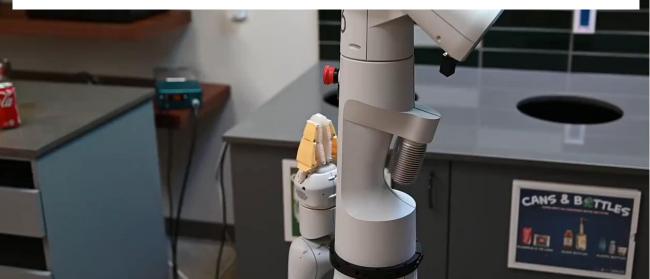
https://vision-locomotion.github.io/



Do As I Can, Not As I Say: Grounding Language in Robotic Affordances

Michael Ahn*, Anthony Brohan*, Noah Brown*, Yevgen Chebotar*, Omar Cortes*, Byron David*, Chelsea Finn*, Chuyuan Fu[†], Keerthana Gopalakrishnan*, Karol Hausman*, Alex Herzog[†], Daniel Ho[†], Jasmine Hsu*, Julian Ibarz*, Brian Ichter*, Alex Irpan*, Eric Jang*, Rosario Jauregui Ruano*, Kyle Jeffrey*, Sally Jesmonth*, Nikhil J Joshi*, Ryan Julian*, Dmitry Kalashnikov*, Yuheng Kuang*, Kuang-Huei Lee*, Sergey Levine*, Yao Lu*, Linda Luu*, Carolina Parada*, Peter Pastor[†], Jornell Quiambao*, Kanishka Rao*, Jarek Rettinghouse*, Diego Reyes*, Pierre Sermanet*, Nicolas Sievers*, Clayton Tan*, Alexander Toshev*, Vincent Vanhoucke*, Fei Xia*, Ted Xiao*, Peng Xu*, Sichun Xu*, Mengyuan Yan[†], Andy Zeng*

*Robotics at Google, †Everyday Robots





Logic

Logical systems

- Theorem provers
- NASA fault diagnosis
- Question answering

Methods:

- Deduction systems
- Constraint satisfaction
- Satisfiability solvers (huge advances!)

Article

Discovering faster matrix multiplication algorithms with reinforcement learning

https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-022-05172-4

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Open access



Alhussein Fawzi^{1,2}, Matej Balog^{1,2}, Aja Huang^{1,2}, Thomas Hubert^{1,2}, Bernardino Romera-Paredes^{1,2}, Mohammadamin Barekatain¹, Alexander Novikov¹, Francisco J. R. Ruiz¹, Julian Schrittwieser¹, Grzegorz Swirszcz¹, David Silver¹, Demis Hassabis¹ & Pushmeet Kohli¹

Improving the efficiency of algorithms for fundamental computations can have a widespread impact, as it can affect the overall speed of a large amount of computations. Matrix multiplication is one such primitive task, occurring in many systems—from neural networks to scientific computing routines. The automatic discovery of algorithms using machine learning offers the prospect of reaching beyond human intuition and outperforming the current best human-designed algorithms. However, automating the algorithm discovery procedure is intricate, as the space of possible algorithms is enormous. Here we report a deep reinforcement learning approach based on AlphaZero¹ for discovering efficient and provably correct algorithms for the multiplication of arbitrary matrices. Our agent, AlphaTensor, is trained to play a single-player game where the objective is finding tensor decompositions within a finite factor space. AlphaTensor discovered algorithms that outperform the state-

AlphaGeometry: An Olympiad-level Al system for geometry

17 JANUARY 2024

Trieu Trinh and Thang Luong

RESEARCH

Advanced version of Gemini with Deep Think officially achieves gold-medal standard at the International Mathematical Olympiad

21 JULY 2025



1/n I'm thrilled to share that our @OpenAl reasoning system scored high enough to achieve gold * in one of the world's top programming competitions - the 2025 International Olympiad in Informatics (IOI) - placing first among Al participants!



12:00 PM · Aug 11, 2025 · **2.2M** Views

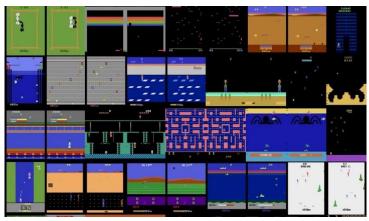
Game Playing

- Classic Moment: May, '97: Deep Blue vs. Kasparov
 - First match won against world champion
 - "Intelligent creative" play
 - 200 million board positions per second
 - Humans understood 99.9 of Deep Blue's moves
 - Can do about the same now with a PC cluster.
- Open question:
 - How does human cognition deal with the search space explosion of chess?
 - Or: how can humans compete with computers at all??
- 1996: Kasparov Beats Deep Blue
 "I could feel --- I could smell --- a new kind of intelligence across the table."
- 1997: Deep Blue Beats Kasparov
 "Deep Blue hasn't proven anything."
- Huge game-playing advances recently, e.g. in Go!





Winning at Games









Decision Making

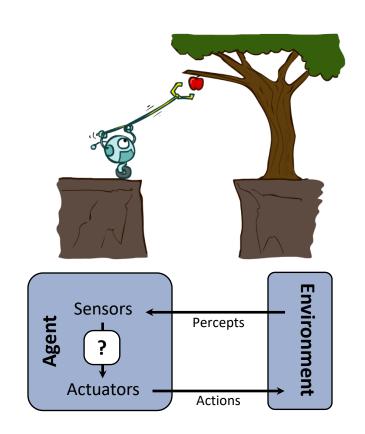


- Applied AI involves many kinds of automation
 - Scheduling, e.g. airline routing, military
 - Route planning, e.g. Google maps
 - Medical diagnosis
 - Web search engines
 - Spam classifiers
 - Automated help desks
 - Fraud detection
 - Product recommendations
 - ... Lots more!



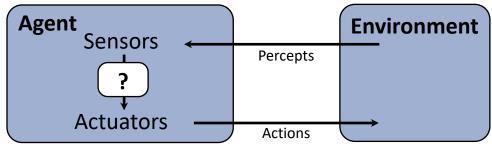
Designing Rational Agents

- An agent is an entity that perceives and acts.
- A rational agent selects actions that maximize its (expected) utility.
- Characteristics of the percepts, environment, and action space dictate techniques for selecting rational actions
- This course is about:
 - General AI techniques for a variety of problem types
 - Learning to recognize when and how a new problem can be solved with an existing technique



Pac-Man as an Agent





Pacman

Google: "play pacman doodle"

Course Topics

- Part I: Making Decisions
 - Fast search
 - Adversarial and uncertain search
- Part II: Markov Decision Process (MDP)
 - Planning
 - Supervised Learning
 - Reinforcement learning
- Part III: Reasoning Under Uncertainty
 - Bayes Nets
 - Hidden Markov Models (HMMs)
 - Imitation Learning
 - Reinforcement Learning from Human Feedback

