



Designing intelligent agents

 An agent is defined by its agent function f() that maps a sequence of perceptions to an action





Rational agent

- It would be useful to design agent functions that make agents rational, namely that make them do the "right thing"
- How can rationality of an agent be defined?

Rational agent For every possible sequence of perceptions, a rational agent chooses the action that maximizes the expected value of its performance measure, given its knowledge up to that moment





Perception sequence and available knowledge

- The perception sequence represents the available knowledge of an agent about its environment
- From the standpoint of an agent, its environment can be:
 - Completely/partially observable
 - Static/dynamic
 - Discrete/continuous
 - Single agent/multiagent





Actions

- Through actions an agent can change the state of its environment
- From the standpoint of an agent, its environment can be:
 - Deterministic/stochastic







Performance measure

- The performance measure is the criterion for evaluating the success of the behavior of an agent
- The performance measure is defined by the designer





What a rational agent does?

Rational agent

For every possible sequence of perceptions, a rational agent chooses the action that maximizes the expected value of its performance measure, given its knowledge up to that moment

- A rational agent is not omniscent
- A rational agent is not clairvoyant
- A rational agent can explore to acquire new information, can learn, ...



From agent functions to agent programs

- A designer develops an agent program that implements an agent function
- An agent program has the current perception p(t) as input
 - An agent program can store the previous perceptions p(0), p(1), ..., p(t-1)
- An agent program has an action *a(t)* as output





Structure of agent programs

- Agent programs can be classified in four basic types:
 - Simple reflex agents
 - Reflex agents with state
 - Goal-based agents
 - Utility-based agents
- All these types of agent can also learn





Simple reflex agents





Examples of simple reflex agents





Neural networks

First versions of Roomba



Reflex agents with state





Examples of reflex agents with state





Goal-based agents





Examples of goal-based agents



Action (movement) planning



Utility-based agents





Examples of utility-based agents



Decision on the best action (movement)



Learning agents

- All the agents presented before can improve their performance with learning
- Every component of the decisional process of an agent can be modified in order to perform better



Examples of learning agents





