CAP 6671: Final Project: Due Apr 23rd

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Your final project is meant to be a mini-version of an AI conference paper. The main difference between this project and a conference paper is that your research will be graded on completeness rather than novelty. You will get a better grade by describing and implementing a simpler, but doable idea, that you can evaluate than by sketching out an ambitious system that you cannot implement completely and also have trouble evaluating.

To evaluate your system, you are expected to come up with some type of measurement of how well your system is performing so you can quantify the improvements that you've made. It is generally a good idea to come up with an evaluation plan before you start implementing. Having some type of benchmark that you are trying to beat is a good way to start:

For instance, an example evaluation plan for a Robocup keepaway system might involve:

- measuring the amount of time that the keepers can hold onto the ball;

- evaluating your new technique vs. a very simple rule-based agent to play keepaway or against someone else's keepaway agent.

In the event that you don't manage to evaluate your project due to problems with the implementation, you will simply include a description of your evaluation plan in your writeup. Due to the size of the class, we won't be doing a final presentation this year.

You are allowed to:

1. use material from any of your previous homework assignments

2. work in teams (no more than two people per team) as long as you submit separate papers

3. utilize code/research that you are currently doing for your research group;

4. duplicate an experiment/technique from an existing conference paper;

5. utilize material from your agent competition design writeup.

All code and material you use must be appropriately cited in your paper. Note if you plan to utilize and submit material from another class that you are currently taking please check with me first.

Much like the agent competition design homework you will be graded on your:

1. writing style (10 pts)

2. related work (10 pts)

3. method description (10 pts)

4. evaluation of idea (10 pts)

The writeup should be 6-8 pages in AAAI conference style format (double-column format). This is roughly equivalent to 12-16 pages in a single column format (e.g. LNCS).

You can download the AAAI author's kit at: http://www.aaai.org/Publications/Author/author.php If there is another conference template that you prefer to use, you can submit using that template.

For those of you interested in passing your Ph.D. candidacy there are a number of conferences that you could consider submitting to at the end of the semester. A good way to search for conferences is: WikiCFP: http://www.wikicfp.com