

4511W, Fall-2021

WRITING ASSIGNMENT 2:

Assigned: 10/13/21 Due: 10/19/21 at 11:55 PM (submit on gradescope) Submit only a pdf

Written

For this assignment you are asked to read the following paper describing a modification of the A* search algorithm we discussed in class:

<https://www-users.cselabs.umn.edu/classes/Fall-2021/csci4511-001/misc/HernandezAB15.pdf>

Write an approximate 2 page summary and analysis of the paper. You **must** answer the first set of three questions as part of your analysis. I then provide some ideas on other ways to analyze the paper (if you think your analysis was not deep enough with just the required questions, which is normally the case). These later questions are just suggestions and you may analyze the paper in whatever manner you find interesting, but you must demonstrate significant critical thinking.

Answer the following questions and provide justification:

- The authors claim this algorithm is useful in “dynamic terrain”. What is a specific real-world example of a “dynamic terrain” where this algorithm would be useful?
- What is a real-world example of a “dynamic terrain” where the proposed algorithm might not be useful?
- Does the proposed algorithm always outperform the “state-of-the-art”?

Some suggestions on what to summarize/analyze:

- What is the problem setting that they are solving for?
- What assumptions do they make about the environment or agent?
- What novel contribution does this paper provide?
- How does this paper relate to other people's work
- Are there any drawbacks to the approach?
- How do they justify that this is a good approach?
- Is the justification sufficient?
- What other areas could use justification?
- Is their procedure clear? Could you implement their algorithm?
- Is the paper clear and concise?

When answering the above questions, you should avoid quoting the author's of the paper (i.e. use your own words). If you are going to quote anything specific, make sure you cite the source (i.e. the authors). You should refrain from simply rephrasing what the authors said.

Grading:

- 20% Succinct summary
- 20% Depth of analysis for required questions answered
- 20% Depth of other analysis
- 20% Writing clarity
- 20% For using latex