Multiagent Systems

Università di Trento
Department of Information Engineering
Internal University Report

WS 2013/2014

Hans Georg Seedig
Plan for Today

• Round of introduction
• Scheduling of Talks
• Tasks
  ▸ as a regular attendant
  ▸ as a speaker
  ▸ as a session chair
• Feedback
• Example session
Round of introduction

- Get together in groups of four (with people you do **not** yet know)
- Briefly introduce yourself to your partners (~1-2 mins each)
- One of your partners then introduces you to the whole group
- Please make sure you include:
  - Name, field of study, semester, BSc/MSc
  - A **surprising fact** about you
  - Your **expectations** towards the seminar
Rough Schedule of a meeting

- First round
  - talk (max 45 min)
  - feedback (5-10 min)
  - discussions (10-20 min)
- Break
- Second round
  - talk
  - feedback
  - discussions
# Tentative Dates
from pre kickoff

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Talks</th>
<th>Room</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 12th ✔️</td>
<td>14.00 - 15.30</td>
<td>(pre kickoff)</td>
<td>01.10.011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 16th ✔️</td>
<td>14.00 - 16.00</td>
<td>(kickoff)</td>
<td>01.10.011</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 13th</td>
<td>14.00 - 17.00</td>
<td>1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>01.10.011</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 27th</td>
<td>14.00 - 17.00</td>
<td>3 &amp; 4</td>
<td>01.10.011</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 11th</td>
<td>14.00 - 17.00</td>
<td>5 &amp; 6</td>
<td>01.10.011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January ??</td>
<td>14.00 - 17.00</td>
<td>7 &amp; 8</td>
<td>01.10.011</td>
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# Meetings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>ID</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Session chair</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 13th</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Deniz</td>
<td>Normal Form Games</td>
<td>Daniel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Stefano</td>
<td>Computing Nash Eq.</td>
<td>Richard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 27th</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Christian</td>
<td>Extensive-Form Games</td>
<td>Martin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Gulnar</td>
<td>Bayesian Games</td>
<td>Andrea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 11th</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Daniel</td>
<td>Coalitional Games</td>
<td>Deniz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Richard</td>
<td>Social Choice</td>
<td>Stefano</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January ??</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Martin</td>
<td>Auctions</td>
<td>Christian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Andrea</td>
<td>Mechanism Design</td>
<td>Gulnar</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Tasks as a speaker

• before talk
  ‣ discuss outline with supervisor (~2-3 weeks before talk; schedule time by email to avoid disappointment)
  ‣ prepare presentation and handout
  ‣ practice presentation
  ‣ email handout (goal: help participants understand the topic) to all participants (incl. Hans Georg)
    - deadline: one week before talk

• during talk
  ‣ ask at least one question and give the audience some time (~1-2 min) to think about/discuss it

• after talk
  ‣ answer questions of the audience (possibly also during talk)
  ‣ participate in discussion
Tasks as a regular attendant

• before talk
  ‣ read handout
  ‣ email questions/comments to the session chair
    - deadline: two days before talk

• after talk
  ‣ give feedback
  ‣ participate in discussion
  ‣ 1-minute exercise (take aways)
Tasks as a session chair

• before talk
  ‣ consolidate and structure/group questions
    - one (!) list; but include names of authors (for each question)
    - email list to speaker+Hans Georg at least one day before the talk
  ‣ introduce speaker (short)

• during talk
  ‣ keep track of time

• after talk
  ‣ ask audience for feedback
  ‣ actively lead discussion
    - use consolidated questions if appropriate
  ‣ facilitate 1-minute exercise
Road to a solid seminar talk

- read your material thoroughly, YOU are the expert!
- think about which material you want to present and discuss it with your supervisor (we may give you additional material)
- decide how you want to present the material
- ask with supervisor if something is unclear
- (possibly) coordinate with the student who speaks on the same day
- think of questions you can ask the audience during the talk
- practice your presentation several times
A general note on Feedback

• Do not underestimate the value of feedback!
• Everyone should want to give good talks.
• To improve, you have to find out where your strengths and weaknesses are.
• While you can try to observe yourself (recommended!), there are things that only others notice or that you would have misjudged.
  ‣ e.g. ‘speaking’: too fast/slow? clearly enough? monotonous? etc.
  ‣ did something on purpose, but the effect was not as intended?
• There are few occasions where you actually get feedback.
  • Therefore, appreciate it whenever someone makes the effort to give you feedback!
Providing/receiving feedback

- Unfortunately, neither giving nor receiving feedback is easy
- Feedback “rules” can help us (see course homepage for details)
  - stay “on the right track”
  - tell us what to look out for

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Providing</th>
<th>Step 1</th>
<th>Step 2</th>
<th>Step 3</th>
<th>Step 4</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>State observations</td>
<td>Explain impressions/feelings</td>
<td>Check for understanding</td>
<td>Make suggestions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receiving</td>
<td>Listen!</td>
<td>Listen!</td>
<td>Ask clarifying (!) questions</td>
<td>Listen!</td>
</tr>
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- Giving the difficulty: Step 0 - Think and Reflect
Questions about the seminar?
Concluding Remarks

• YOU are the expert on your topic.

• This seminar is as much about giving good talks and giving and receiving feedback as it is about Multiagent Systems.
See you on November 13th!