

MIT9904-09 Learning Rich Tractable Models

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- Household robots will have to be able to operate in complex environments, full of many different kinds of objects
- Current learning and efficient planning algorithms cannot represent objects and their properties and relations
- We are developing new learning and planning algorithms that will allow real robots to learn and use important common-sense facts like "If *a* is on *b* and I pick up *b*, then *a* will move too."



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**Progress Through June 2000** 

- Developed probabilistic rule-based representation of next-state probability distributions
- Developed algorithm for learning probabilistic rules from experience in the world, inspired by Drescher's schema mechanism
- Provided formal semantic foundation for rule sets
- Acquired a physical simulation software system for implementing simulated robotic domain
- Conducted reading group on the use of object-based representations in robotic systems



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**Research Plan for the Next Six Months** 

- Compare learning algorithm with Bayesian network learning methods on simple domain
- Develop of simple visual segmentation and objectrecognition methods to use in the simulator
- Develop of simulated hand-eye robot domain using physical simulation software
- Apply learning algorithm in simulated robot domain
- Extend probabilistic rule formalism to the restricted first-order case
- Invent learning algorithm for first-order rules