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Testing Multiple Credit/Blame Assignment Methods for Learning

Rowe, Neil C.

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Countering technological surprise

- Military organizations need to anticipate technological surprises in weapons, sensors, equipment, and tactics.
- It may help to use artificial intelligence to discover possible surprises.
- Modified game theory may help. We studied the Libratus AI program for playing poker but found it did not apply well to military surprises.

An evolutionary computing approach

- A form of unsupervised machine learning.
- It uses analogies to biological evolution.
- It tries to discover new and surprising ideas.
- It randomly varies and combines previous items to get better items.
- We did experiments to find vehicle surprises.
- We also examined the Libratus poker-playing program that has beating professional poker players.
- Its success appears to depend on extensive training, something not often possible for military applications.

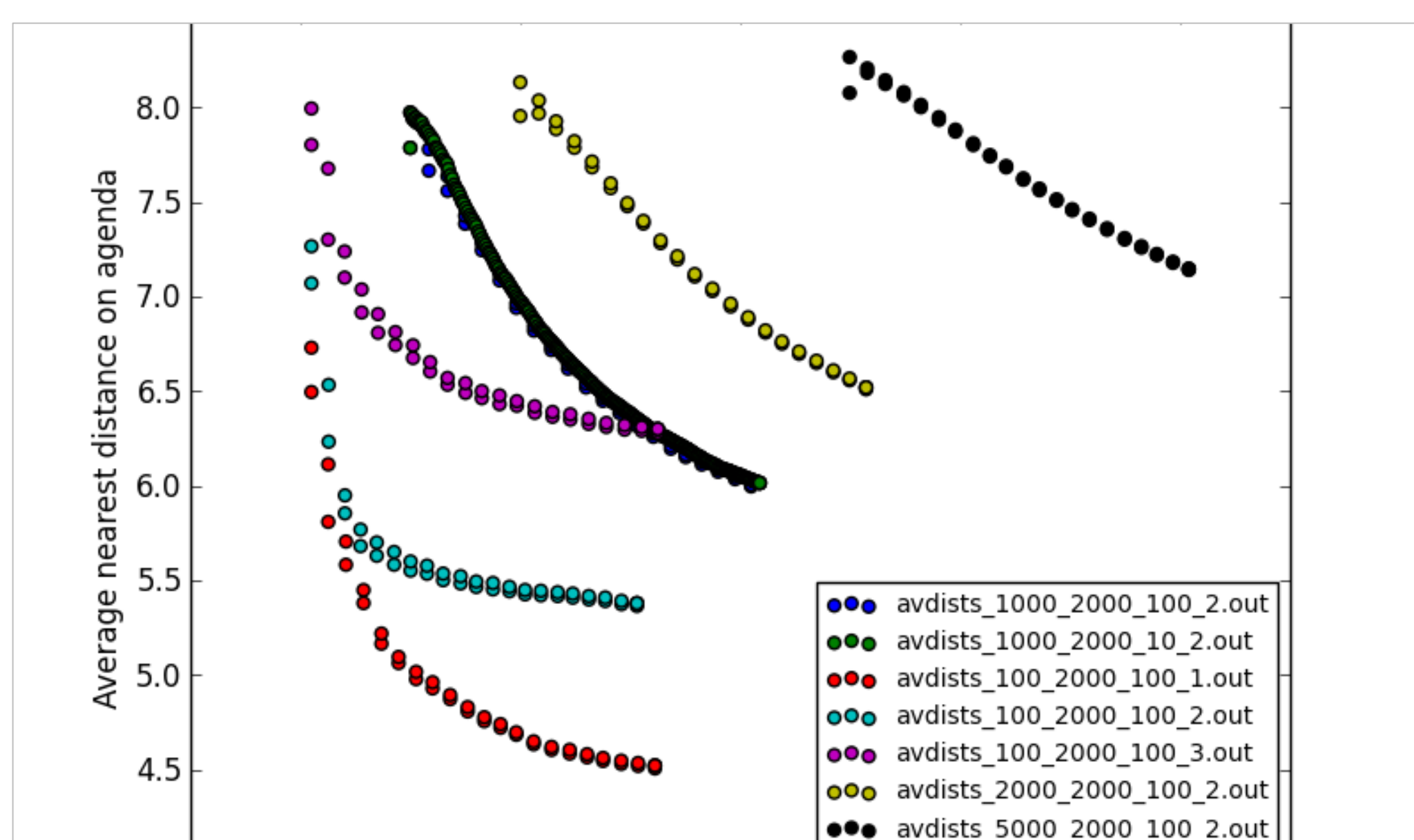
A military vehicle can be surprising in:

- Weight
- Size
- Power
- Turning radius
- Material
- Where found
- Shape
- Age
- Color
- Swarming

Example novel vehicles found

- rating 4.026: 10.0 kg, 0.2 m³, 1.0 hp, 1.0 m, 3 count, plastic, water, surface, sphere, new, red
- rating 2.949: 10.0 kg, 11.18 m³, 1.0 hp, 1.0 m, 3 count, plastic, water, surface, plate, new, red
- rating 2.927: 10.0 kg, 125.0 m³, 1.0 hp, 1.0 m, 3 count, steel, pavement, box, old, red
- rating 2.113: 10.0 kg, 25.0 m³, 1.0 hp, 1.0 m, 1 count, steel, space, plate, new, red
- rating 1.932: 10.0 kg, 1.0 m³, 1.0 hp, 1.0 m, 1 count, plastic, pavement, box, new, gray
- rating 0.436: 10.0 kg, 125.0 m³, 1.0 hp, 2.0 m, 1 count, wood, underwater, plate, new, green
- rating 0.352: 10.0 kg, 125.0 m³, 10.0 hp, 4.0 m, 1 count, composite, pavement, box, old, black

Results from semi-random experiments



Average novelty ratings with new discoveries in experiments

| Starting items | Items added | Novelty recalculation rate | Nonnumeric weight | Highest rating found |
|----------------|-------------|----------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1000 | 2000 | 100 | 2 | 3.838 |
| 1000 | 2000 | 10 | 2 | 4.263 |
| 100 | 2000 | 100 | 1 | 2.737 |
| 100 | 2000 | 100 | 2 | 3.695 |
| 100 | 2000 | 100 | 3 | 4.311 |
| 2000 | 2000 | 100 | 2 | 5.227 |
| 5000 | 2000 | 100 | 2 | 4.027 |
| 2000 | 1000 | 100 | 2 | 5.216 |
| 2000 | 1000 | 10 | 2 | 3.979 |
| 1000 | 5000 | 100 | 2 | 3.831 |

Final ratings of surprise when varying the parameters

Why this is important

- The U.S. no longer has an advantage over adversaries in many technologies.
- We need to anticipate what they could do to try to surprise us.
- This enables us to plan countermeasures for unlikely but potentially devastating surprises.
- Game theory is not enough when you don't know what moves an adversary will make.

