

• Faculté des sciences économiques

www.unine.ch/seco

Probabilistic Algorithms (3 ECTS) (5MI2007)

Filières concernées	Nombre d'heures		Crédits ECTS
Master en statistique	Cours: 2 ph	Voir ci-dessous	3

ph=période hebdomadaire, pg=période globale, j=jour, dj=demi-jour, h=heure, min=minute

Période d'enseignement:

• Semestre Automne

Equipe enseignante:

Paul Cotofrei, Associate Professor Information management institute A.-L.Breguet 2, 2000 Neuchâtel Tél : 032 718 1378 paul.cotofrei@unine.ch

Objectifs:

- A student attaining this course should be able:
- to identify the randomized characteristic of an algorithm and to classify it as Monte Carlo or Las Vegas type
- to identify the model parameters of an optimization problem (loss function, landscape, random noise)
- to select and to implement (using MATLAB environment) the appropriate stochastic algorithm for solving the optimization problem

Contenu:

The course starts with an introduction of the concept of randomized algorithms (examples, types) and of random number generators, but the core of the course provides a survey of many of the most important methods in stochastic search and optimization. This include the optimization heuristic approach (random search and non-linear simplex, simulated annealing, genetic algorithms and evolution strategies). Although the theoretical bases of the algorithms are presented in a rigorous manner, the proofs of these results are not included. The implementation of the enumerated algorithms, for solving the included application-oriented examples, is made in MATLAB.

Forme de l'évaluation:

- Lab assignments (individual exercises): 40% of final grade
- Written exam during the last week of semester (2 hours): 60% of final grade
- Resit: 2 hours written exam (autumn session): 100% of final grade
- Allowed documents during exams: cours slides with annotations.
- Connected devices are not permitted during the exams. In case of violation of this rule, the students are in a situation of fraud and the
- unauthorized items will be removed. The exam could be deemed as failed.

Documentation:

- Stochastic Optimization, J. Schneider and S. Kirkpatrick, 2006, Springer
- Introduction to Stochastic Search and Optimization, James C. Spall, 2003, John Wiley & Sons
- MATLAB doc, http://www.mathworks.com/access/helpdesk/help/techdoc/index.html