Pokerbots 2019

What is Pokerbots?

Pokerbots is an annual student-run programming competition where participants create an autonomous poker player, a "pokerbot." Participants utilize their computer science, poker, and data analytic skills to create, tweak, and test their strategies against other poketbots or their own test bots.

The compeition is divided into two parts: the class and final competition. During the month-long class, students learn bot-building techniques and strategies and can test their bots against their peers' on a scrimmage server. During the final competition it's all put to the test in a tournament for prizes.

Why Poker?

Poker is a complex yet highly accessible challenge - it's easy to learn, but difficult to be competitive. Building a pokerbot is similar - anyone can make a preliminary bot, but building a competitive bot requires a deep understanding of machine learning, signal processing, and computational efficiency. At the heart of Pokerbots is the challenge of translating the algorithmic thinking taught in theortical courses into practical software development techniques and combining decision making, strategy, and technology in an intelligent and efficient way.

When is Pokerbots?

The Pokerbots class runs during MIT's Independent Activities Period (IAP) throughout the month of January. The final competition will be held aroudn February 1st, 2019.

Who Participates?

We expect between 70 and 100 students to participate. Everyone in the class is an MIT student, but the final tournament is open to anyone. Typically, half of the competitors consist of computer science majors, while the rest come from mathematics, economics, and physics backgrounds.

About Us

The MIT Pokerbots competition was founded in 2011, and has been running ever since. This year Pokerbots is co-chaired by Jack Serrino, Nilai Sarda, and David Amirault. Between us, we've run 1000+ person events like HackMIT, worked at companies like Two Sigma and Jane Street, and participated in many competitions like Pokerbots.

Contact

Contact us any time with questions at pokerbots@mit.edu.

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Sponsorship

There are two different tiers of regular sponsorship: Silver and Gold. We usually have 10-12 sponsors each year.

Every year, we also have one flagship sponsor. Flagship sponsors have direct access to the participants, and are displayed most prominently on promotional material. All flagship sponsor perks are negotiable. Flagship sponsorship starts at $25,000.

TIER	SILVER	GOLD	FLAGSHIP
PRICE	$3,000	$6,000	$25,000+
Participant resumes	●	●	●
Logo on t-shirts	●	●	●
Blurb on pamphlets	●	●	●
Access to scrimmage server		●	●
Booth at final competition		●	●
Custom award at final competition		●	●
Student strategy reports			●
Private event			●
Top team networking dinner			●
Other negotiable perks			●