Applications of Al

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UBC CS 322 - Intro 3 January 7, 2013

Textbook §1.5 - 1.6

Today's Lecture

- Recap from last lecture
- Further Representational Dimensions
- Applications of Al

Representation and Reasoning (R&R) System

problem \Rightarrow representation \Rightarrow computation \Rightarrow representation \Rightarrow solution

- A representation language that allows description of
 - The environment and
 - Problems (questions/tasks) to be solved
- Computational reasoning procedures to
 - Compute a solution to a problem
 - E.g., an answer/sequence of actions
- How should an agent act given the current state of its environment and its goals?
- •How should the environment be represented in order to help an agent to reason effectively?

Main Representational Dimensions Considered

Domains can be classified by the following dimensions:

- 1 Uncertainty
 - Deterministic vs. stochastic domains
- 2. How many actions does the agent need to perform?
 - Static vs. sequential domains

An important design choice is:

- 3. Representation scheme
 - Explicit states vs. propositions vs. relations

Features vs. States, another example

T₁₁: student 1 takes course 1

 T_{12} : student 1 takes course 2

T₂₁: student 2 takes course 1

T₂₂: student 2 takes course 2

Does student 2 take course 2?

- Feature-based: Is T₂₂ true?
- State-based: are we in one of the red states?

	T ₁₁	T ₁₂	T ₂₁	T ₂₂
S_0	0	0	0	0
S ₁	0	0	0	1
S_2	0	0	1	0
S_3	0	0	1	1
S ₄	0	1	0	0
S_5	0	1	0	1
S_6	0	1	1	0
S ₇	0	1	1	1
S ₈	1	0	0	0
S_9	1	0	0	1
S ₁₀	1	0	1	0
S ₁₁	1	0	1	1
S ₁₂	1	1	0	0
S ₁₃	1	1	0	1
S ₁₄	1	1	1	0
S ₁₅	1	1	1	1

Course overview

Dimen- sions Course Modules	Deterministic vs. Stochastic	Static vs. Sequential	States vs. Features vs. Relations
1. Search	Deterministic	Static	States
2. CSPs	Deterministic	Static	Features
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Example problems:

"find path in known map"

"are deliveries feasible?"

"what order to do things in to finish jobs fastest?"

"HasCoffee(Person) if InRoom(Person, Room) ^ DeliveredCoffee(Room)"

"probability of slipping"

"given that I may slip and the utilities of being late and of crashing, should I take a detour?"

Today's Lecture

Recap from last lecture



Further Representational Dimensions

Applications of Al

Further Dimensions of Representational Complexity

We've already discussed:

- 1. Deterministic versus stochastic domains
- 2. Static vs. Sequential domains
- 3. Explicit state or features or relations

Some other important dimensions of complexity:

- 4. Flat vs. hierarchical representation
- 5. Knowledge given vs. knowledge learned from experience
- 6. Goals vs. complex preferences
- 7. Single-agent vs. multi-agent
- 8. Perfect rationality vs. bounded rationality

4. Flat vs. hierarchical

- Should we model the whole world on the same level of abstraction?
 - Single level of abstraction: flat
 - Multiple levels of abstraction: hierarchical
- Example: Planning a trip from here to a resort in Cancun
 Going to the airport

Take a cab

Call a cab

Lookup number Dial number

Ride in the cab Pay for the cab

Check in

...

- Delivery robot: Plan on level of cities, districts, buildings, ...
- This course: mainly flat representations
 - Hierarchical representations required for scaling up

5. Knowledge given vs. knowledge learned from experience

- The agent is provided with a model of the world once and for all OR
- The agent can learn how the world works based on experience
 - in this case, the agent often still does start out with some prior knowledge (no tabula rasa!)
- Delivery robot: Known/learned map, prob. of slipping, ...
- This course: mostly knowledge given
 - Learning: CPSC 340 and CPSC 422

6. Goals vs. (complex) preferences

- An agent may have a goal that it wants to achieve
 - E.g., there is some state or set of states of the world that the agent wants to be in
 - E.g., there is some proposition or set of propositions that the agent wants to make true
- An agent may have preferences
 - E.g., a preference/utility function describes how happy the agent is in each state of the world
 - Agent's task is to reach a state which makes it as happy as possible
- Preferences can be complex
 - E.g., Diagnostic assistant faces multi-objective problem
 - Life expectancy, suffering, risk of side effects, costs, ...
 - Delivery robot: "deliver coffee!" vs "mail trumps coffee, but Chris needs coffee quickly, and don't stand in the way"
- This course: goals and simple preferences
 - Some scalar, e.g. linear combination of competing objectives

7. Single-agent vs. Multiagent domains

- Does the environment include other agents?
- If there are other agents whose actions affect us
 - It can be useful to explicitly model their goals and beliefs, and how they react to our actions
- Other agents can be: cooperative, neutral, competitive, or a bit of each
- Delivery robot: Are there other agents?
 - Should I coordinate with other robots?
 - Are kids out to trick me?
- This course: only single agent scenario
 - Multiagent problems tend to be complex
 - Exception: deterministic 2-player games can be formalized easily

8. Perfect rationality vs. bounded rationality

We've defined rationality as an abstract ideal

- •Is the agent able to live up to this ideal?
 - Perfect rationality:
 the agent can derive what the best course of action is
 - Bounded rationality:
 the agent must make good decisions
 based on its perceptual, computational and memory limitations

•Delivery robot:

- "Find perfect plan" vs.
- "Can't spend an hour thinking (thereby delaying action) to then deliver packages a minute faster than by some standard route"
- This course: mostly perfect rationality
 - But also consider anytime algorithms for optimization problems

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Search: Checkers

- Early learning work in 1950s by Arthur Samuel at IBM
- Chinook program by Jonathan Schaeffer (UofA)
 - Search to explore the space of possible moves and their consequences
 - 1994: world champion
 - 2007: declared unbeatable



Search: Chess

 In 1997, Gary Kasparov, the chess grandmaster and reigning world champion played against Deep Blue, a program written by researchers at IBM





Source: IBM Research

Search: Chess

Deep Blue won 3 games, lost 2, tied 1



- 30 CPUs + 480 chess processors
- Searched 126,000,000 nodes per sec
- Generated 30 billion positions per move reaching depth 14 routinely

Course Map

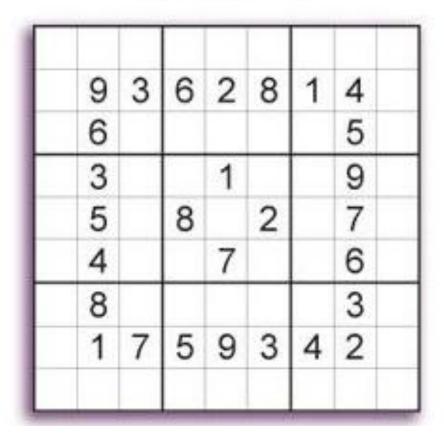
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CSP: Sudoku

Sudoku rules are extremely easy: Fill all empty squares so that the numbers 1 to 9 appear once in each row, column and 3x3 box.

Sudoku Puzzle



Sudoku Solution

2	7							3
5	9	3	6	2	8	1	4	7
4	6	8	1	3	7	2	5	9
	3							
1	5	9	8	6	2	3	7	4
8	4	2	3	7	9	5	6	1
9	8							
6	1							8
3	2	4	7	8	6	9	1	5

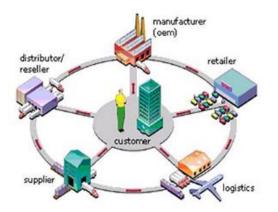
Constraint optimization problems

- Optimization under side constraints (similar to CSP)
- E.g. mixed integer programming (software: IBM CPLEX)
 - Linear program: max c^Tx such that $Ax \le b$
 - Mixed integer program: additional constraints, $x_i \in Z$ (integers)
 - NP-hard, widely used in operations research and in industry



Transportation/Logistics:

SNCF, United Airlines **UPS**, United States Postal Service, ...



Supply chain management software:

Oracle, SAP,...



Production planning and optimization: Airbus, Dell, Thyssen, Toyota, Nissan, ...

Course Map

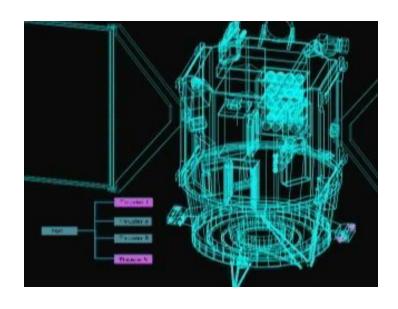
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Planning: Spacecraft Control

NASA: Deep Space One spacecraft

- operated autonomously for two days in May, 1999:
 - determined its precise position using stars and asteroids despite a malfunctioning ultraviolet detector
 - planned the necessary course adjustment
 - fired the ion propulsion system to make this adjustment





Source: *NASA*

Course Map

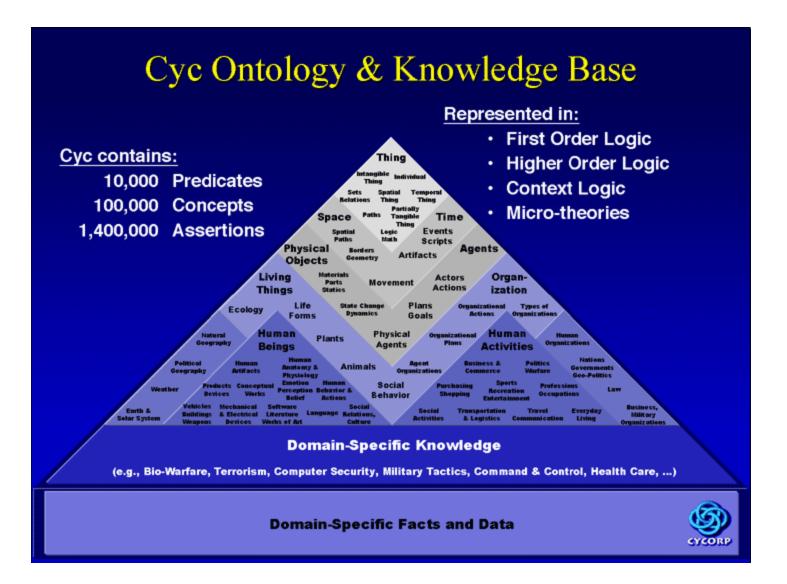
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Logic: Cyc

- All project that started 1984 with the objective
 - to codify, in machine-usable form, millions of pieces of knowledge that comprise human common sense
- Logic reasoning procedures, e.g.
 - Every tree is a plant
 - Plants die eventually
 - Therefore, every tree dies eventually
- Criticisms include
 - Difficulty of adding knowledge manually
 - Non-scalability
 - Empirical evaluation no benchmarks

Logic: Cyc



CSP/logic: formal verification





Hardware verification (e.g. IBM, Intel)

Software verification (small to medium programs)

Most progress in the last 10 years based on encodings into propositional satisfiability (SAT)

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Reasoning under Uncertainty

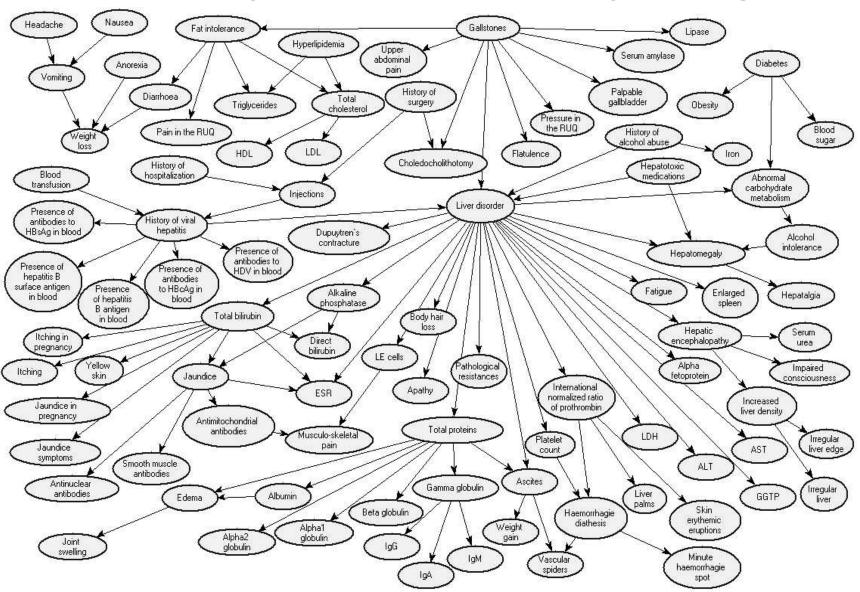
Sample application: Microsoft Kinect

- Sensor: IR camera for depth perception sensing projected pattern
- Noise: no fixed reference points; movements in the background



Source: Microsoft & YouTube

Uncertainty/Decision Theory: Diagnosis



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Decision Theory: Decision Support Systems

E.g., Computational Sustainability

- New interdisciplinary field, Al is a key component
 - Models and methods for decision making concerning the management and allocation of resources
 - to solve most challenging problems related to sustainability
- Often constraint optimization problems. E.g.
 - Energy: when and where to produce green energy most economically?
 - Which parcels of land to purchase to protect endangered species?
 - Urban planning: how to use budget for best development in 30 years?







Planning Under Uncertainty

Helicopter control: MDP, reinforcement learning



Source: *Andrew Ng*

Planning Under Uncertainty

Autonomous driving:

DARPA Urban Challenge - Stanford's Junior



Source: Sebastian Thrun

Planning Under Uncertainty

- Autonomous driving: Dickmanns (1986), Google, Audi, Toyota, Mercedes-Benz, ...
- Self-driving cars are now street legal in Florida, California and Nevada.

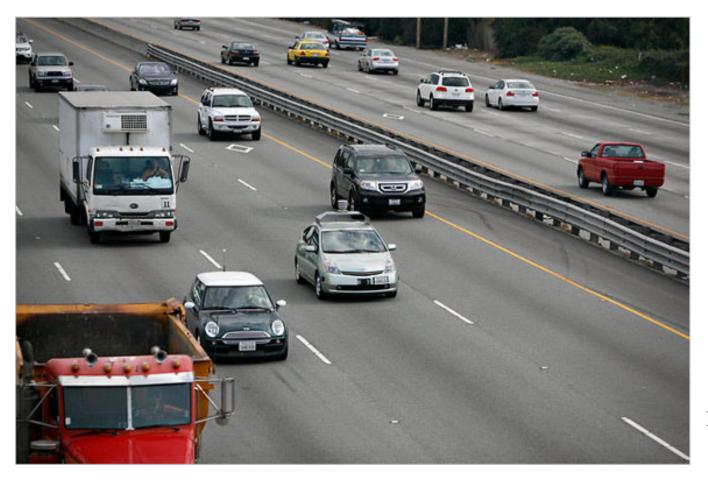


Image source: *geek.com*

Military applications: ethical issues

- Robot soldiers
 - Existing: robot dog carrying heavy materials for soldiers in the field
 - The technology is there
- Unmanned airplanes
- Missile tracking
- Surveillance
- ...



Image Source: Boston Dynamics

Multiagent Systems: Robot Soccer





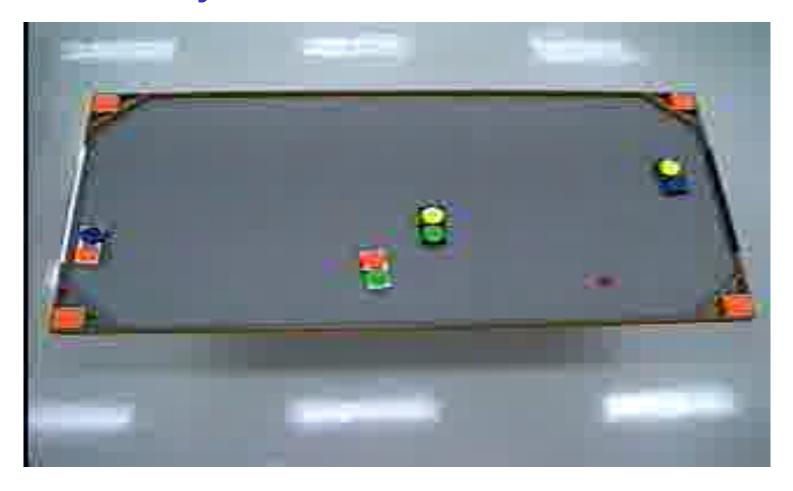
Source: RoboCup web site

RoboCup





The Dynamites: Two on Two



World's First Soccer Playing Robots (UBC, 1993)

Robot Soccer: Humanoids



Source:
Darmstadt Dribbling Dackels
40

Summary(1)

We would like most general agents possible, but to start with we need to restrict scope:

- 4. Flat representations (vs. hierarchical)
- 5. Knowledge given (vs. knowledge learned)
- 6. Goals and simple preferences (vs. complex preferences)
- 7. Single-agent scenarios (vs. multi-agent scenarios)
- 8. Perfect rationality (vs. bounded rationality)

Extensions we will cover:

- 1. Deterministic versus stochastic domains
- 2. Static vs. Sequential domains
- 3. Representation: Explicit state or features or relations

Summary(2)

- Huge diversity of applications
- More than I could possibly show here
- We shall focus on their common foundations

Coming up ...

- For Friday, 1pm: Assignment 0
 - Available on Connect
 - Section 1.5 & 1.6 in the textbook will be particularly helpful
- We'll start the search module: read Sections 3.0-3.4
- Please continue to bring coloured cards (we shall use them next class)

