

CPSC 436D

Video Game Programming



Basic Gameplay



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Gameplay



```
// start
if (!walking && wantToWalk)
{
    PlayAnim(StartAnim);
    walking = true;
}

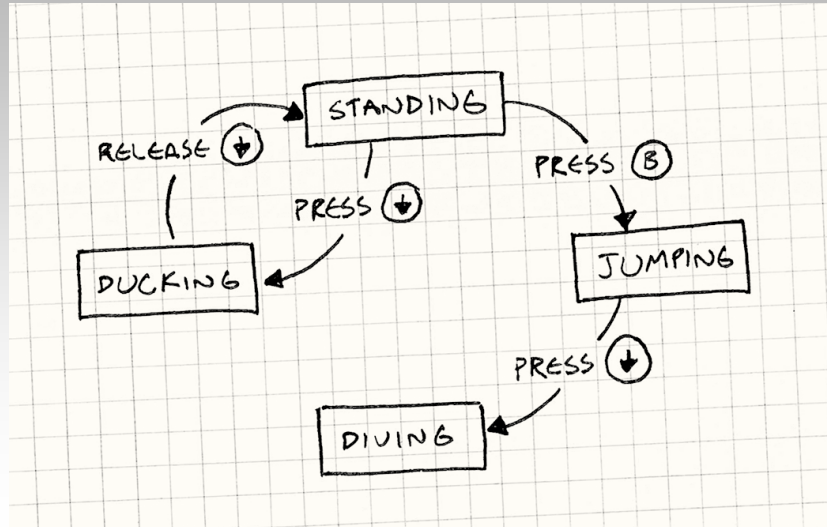
// walk loop
if (IsPlaying(StartAnim) && IsAtEndOfAnim())
{
    PlayAnim(WalkLoopAnim);
}

// stop
if (walking && !wantToWalk)
{
    PlayAnim(StopAnim);
    walking = false;
}
```

From http://twvideo01.ubm-us.net/o1/vault/gdc2016/Presentations/Clavet_Simon_MotionMatching.pdf

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Finite State Machines: States + Transitions



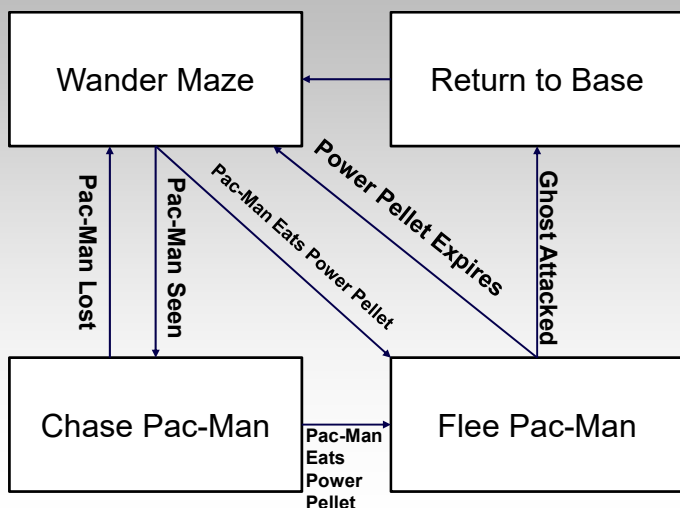
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FSM Example: Pac-Man Ghosts



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FSM Example: Pac-Man Ghosts



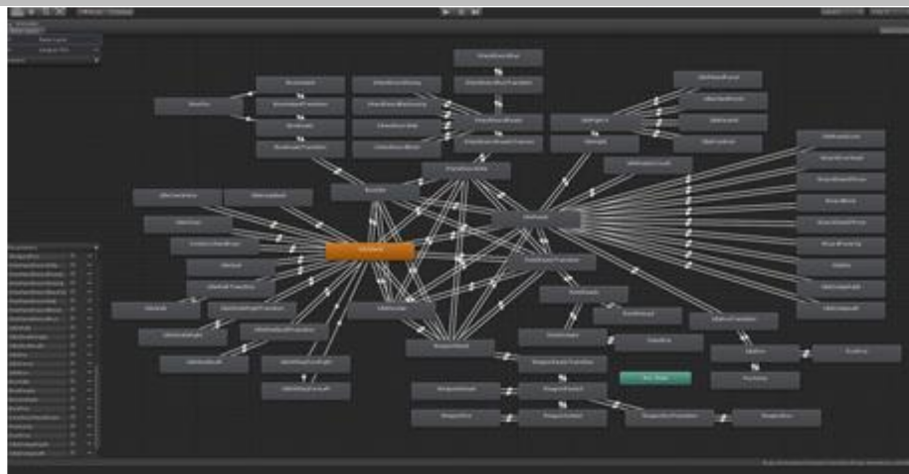
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FSMs:

- **Each frame:**
 - Something (the player, an enemy) does something in its state
 - It checks if it needs to transition to a new state
 - *If so, it does so for the next iteration*
 - *If not, it stays in the same state*
- **Applications**
 - Managing input
 - Managing player state
 - Simple AI for entities/objects/monsters etc.

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FSMs: States + Transitions



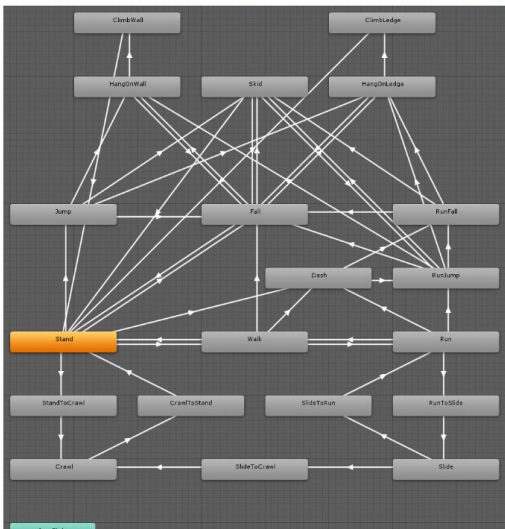
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FSMs: States + Transitions

```
if (speed > 3.0f)
{
    PlayAnim(RunAnim);
}
else if (speed > 0.0f)
{
    PlayAnim(WalkAnim);
}
else
{
    PlayAnim(IdleAnim);
}
```

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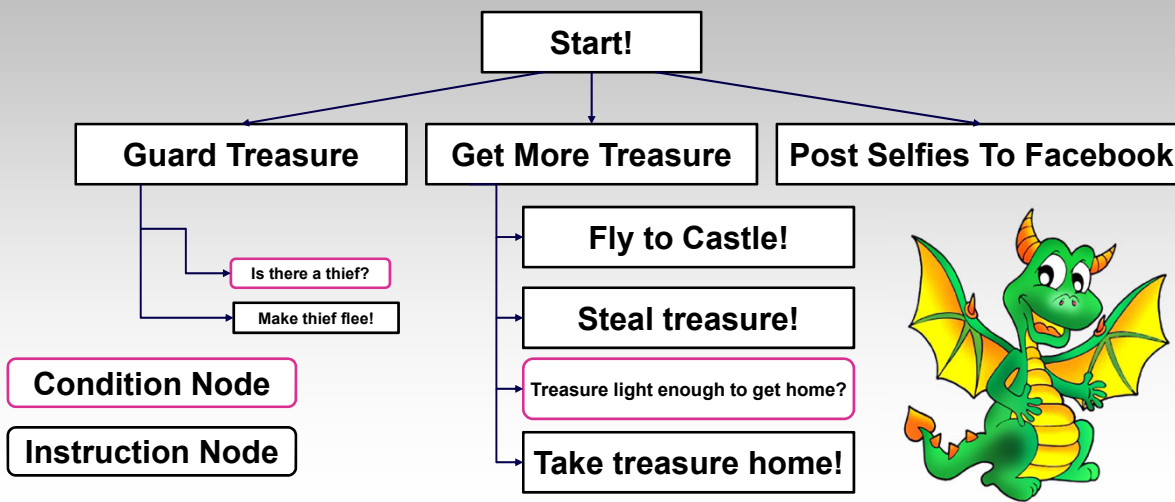
FSMs: Failure to Scale



- No way to do long-term planning*
- No way to ask "How do I get here from there?"*
- No way to reason about long-term goals*
- FSMs can get large and hard to follow*
- Can't generalize for larger games*

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Behaviour Trees: How To Simulate Your Dragon



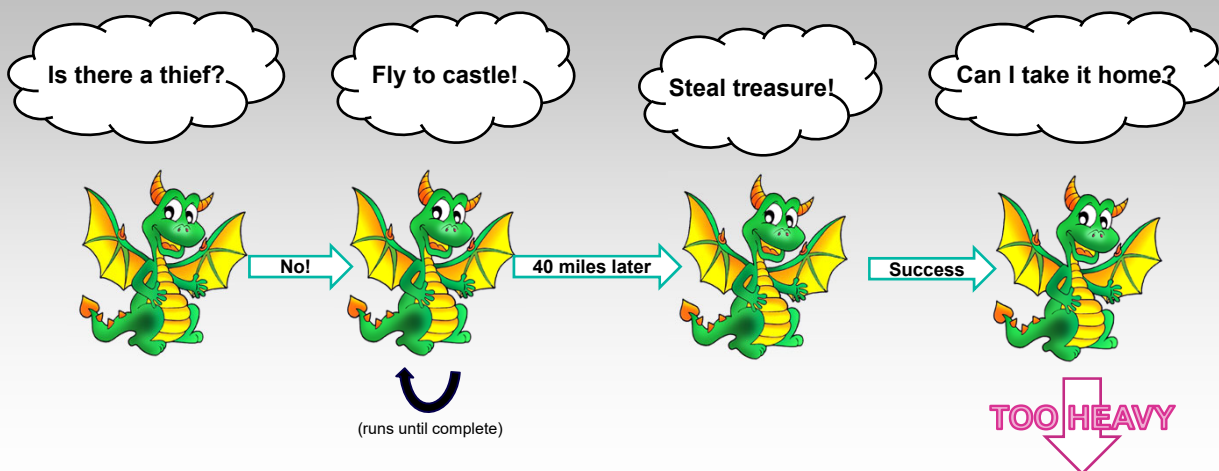
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Behaviour Trees

- **Each frame:**
 - Visit a node
 - See if any **higher priority** nodes now run
 - *If so, execute them instead*
 - See if my currently running node fails
 - *If so, return to the root of the behaviour tree! Start again!*
 - See if the currently running node is done
 - *If so, run the **lower priority** node in the current branch of the tree*

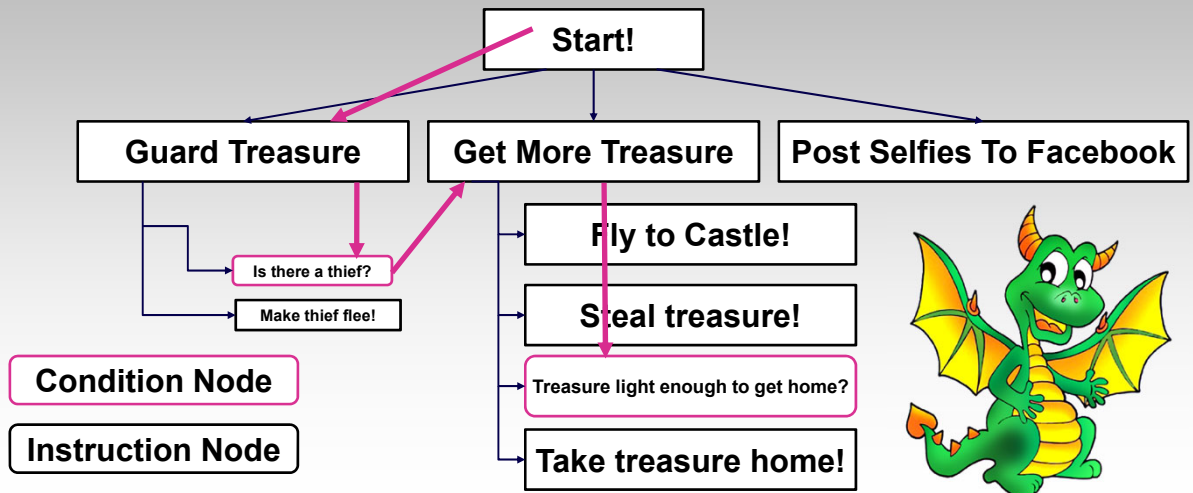
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Start!



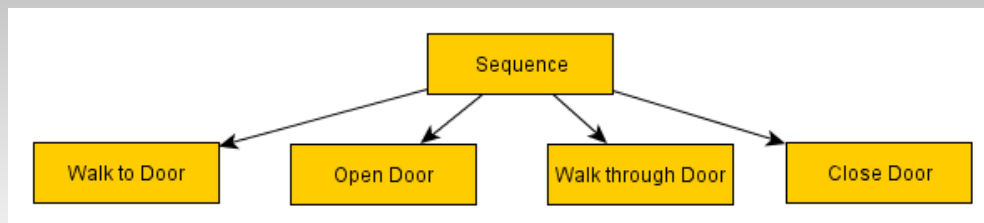
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Behaviour Trees: How To Simulate Your Dragon



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Schematic examples

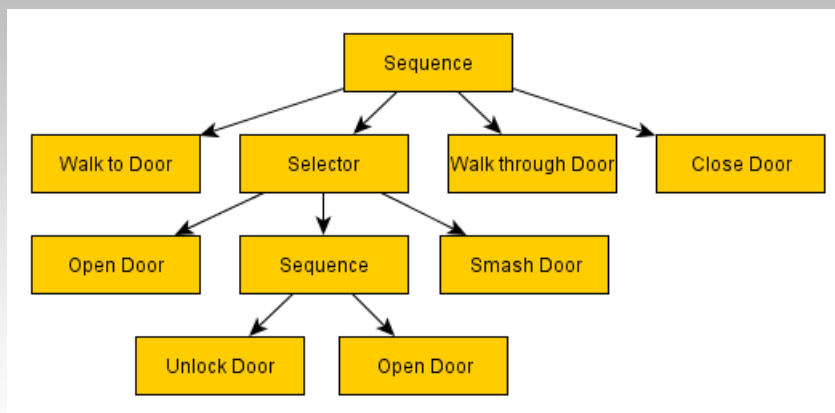


https://www.gamasutra.com/blogs/ChrisSimpson/20140717/221339/Behavior_trees_for_AI_How_they_work.php

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Schematic examples

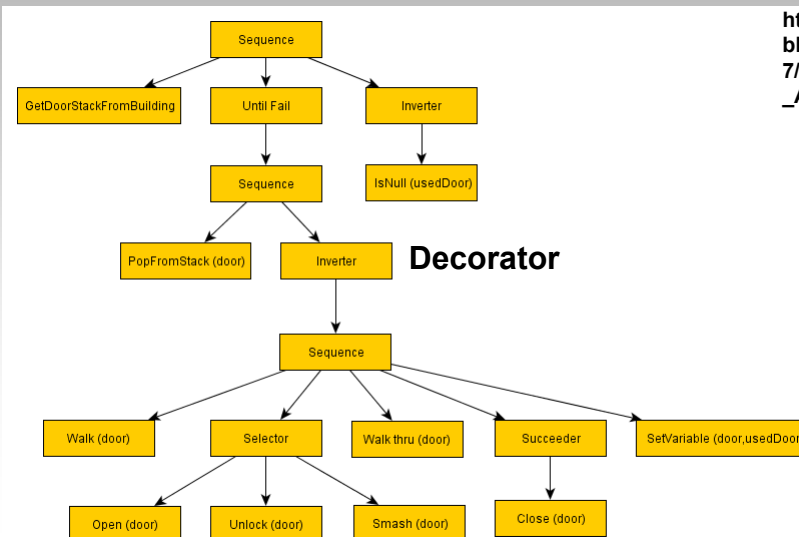


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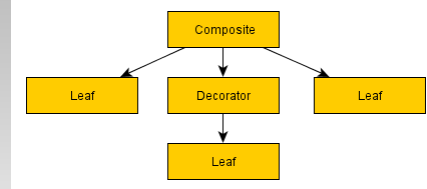
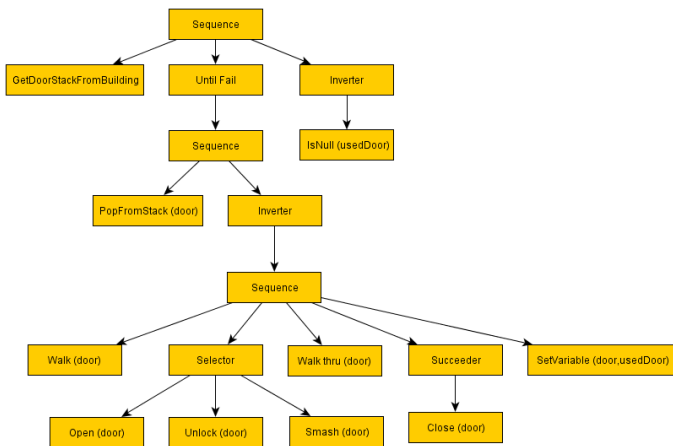
And more complex...



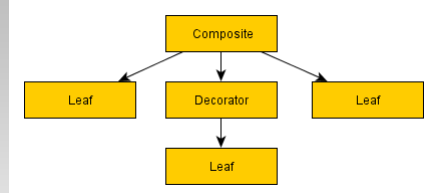
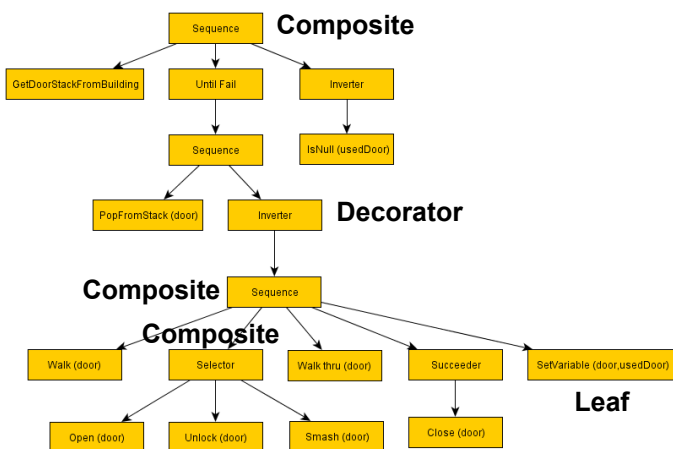
https://www.gamasutra.com/blogs/ChrisSimpson/20140717/221339/Behavior_trees_for_AI_How_they_work.php

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Types



Types





Behaviour Trees are Modular!

- Can re-use behaviours for different purposes
- Can implement a behaviour as a smaller FSM
- Can be data-driven (loaded from a file, not hard coded)
- Can easily be constructed by non-programmers
- Can be used for *goal based programming*

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