



SNS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Kurumbapalayam (Po), Coimbatore – 641 107

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**Approved by AICTE, Recognized by UGC & Affiliated to Anna
University, Chennai**

Department of Artificial Intelligence and Data Science

**Course Name – Introduction to Artificial
Intelligence**

II Year / III Semester

Unit 4 Introduction to Planning

Planning

- **Planning** is fundamental to “intelligent” behavior. E.g.
 - assembling tasks
 - route finding
 - planning chemical processes
 - planning a report
- **Representation**

The planner has to represent states of the world it is operating within, and to predict consequences of carrying actions in its world. E.g.

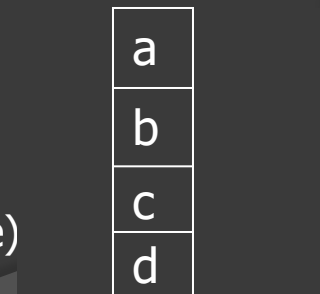
initial state:

on(a,b)
 on(b,table)
 on(d,c)
 on(c,table)
 clear(a)
 clear(d)



final state:

on(a,b)
 on(b,c)
 on(c,d)
 on(d,table)
 clear(a)





Planning

- Representing an action

One standard method is by specifying **sets of preconditions** and **effects**, e.g.

pickup(X) :

preconditions: **clear(X), handempty.**

deletelist: **on(X,_), clear(X), handempty.**

addlist: **holding(X).**



Planning

□ The Frame Problem in Planning

- This is the problem of how to keep track in a representation of the world of all the effects that an action may have.
- The action representation given is the one introduced by STRIPS (Nilsson) and is an **attempt to** a solution to the **frame problem**
 - but it is only adequate for simple actions in simple worlds.

□ The Frame Axiom

- The frame axiom states that a fact is true if it is **not in the last delete list** and was true in the previous state.
- The frame axiom states that a fact is false if it is **not in the last add list** and was **false in the previous state**.



Planning



- Control Strategies
 - Forward Chaining
 - Backward Chaining

The choice on which of these strategies to use depends on the problem, **normally backward chaining is more effective.**



Planning



Example:

Initial State

~~clear(b), clear(c), on(c,a), ontable(a), ontable(b), handempty~~

Goal

~~on(b,c) & on(a,b)~~

Rules

R1: pickup(x)

P & D: ontable(x), clear(x),
handempty

A: holding(x)

R2: putdown(x)

P & D: holding(x)

A: ontable(x), clear(x), handempty

R3: stack(x,y)

P & D: holding(x), clear(y)

A: handempty, on(x,y), clear(x)

R4: unstack(x,y)

P & D: on(x,y), clear(x), handempty

A: holding(x), clear(y)

Planning

{unstack(c,a), putdown(c), pickup(b), stack(b,c), pickup(a), stack(a,b)}



Initial situation

next situation

TRIANGLE TABLE

0						
on(c,a) clear(c) handempty	1 unstack(c,a)					
	holding(c)	2 putdown(c)				
ontable(b) clear(b)		handempty	3 pickup(b)			
		clear(c)	holding(b)	4 stack(b,c)		
ontable(a)	clear(a)			handempty	5 pickup(a)	
				clear(b)	holding(a)	6 stack(a,b)
				on(b,c)		on(a,b) ← goal

← Conditions for action ↑



Planning

Homework and exam exercises

1. Describe how the **two SCRIPS rules** `pickup(x)` and `stack(x,y)` could be combined into a **macro-rule** `put(x,y)`.

What are the **preconditions**, delete list and add list of the new rule.

Can you specify a general procedure for creating macro-rules components?

1. Consider the problem of devising a plan for a **kitchen-cleaning robot**.
 - (i) Write a set of STRIPS-style operators that might be used.
 - When you describe the operators, take into account the following considerations:
 - (a) Cleaning the stove or the refrigerator will get the floor dirty.
 - (b) The stove must be clean before covering the drip pans with tin foil.
 - (c) Cleaning the refrigerator generates garbage and messes up the counters.
 - (d) Washing the counters or the floor gets the sink dirty.

(ii) Write a description of an initial state of a kitchen that has a dirty stove, refrigerator, counters, and floor.

(The sink is clean, and the garbage has been taken out).

Also write a description of the goal state where everything is clean, there is no trash, and the stove drip pans have been covered with tin foil.