Explainable AI Planning: Overview and the Case of Contrastive Explanation Part 2: Explaining the Space of Plans

Jörg Hoffmann and Daniele Magazzeni



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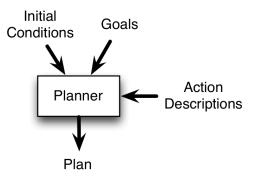
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Introduction	OSP	Framework	Computing	Compilations	NoGoods	References
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Agenda						

- 1 Introduction
- Oversubscription Planning
- 3 Explanation Framework
- 4 Computing Explanations
- 5 Compilations
- 6 NoGood Learning in State Space





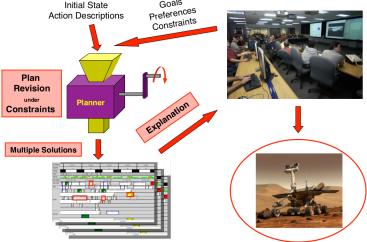
(Figure from [Smith (2012)])

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(Figure from [Smith (2012)])

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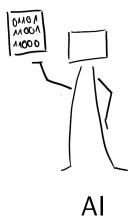
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Why this plan and not another plan?





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Our Approach: Plan-Property Dependencies

Why does this plan not have property A? Human

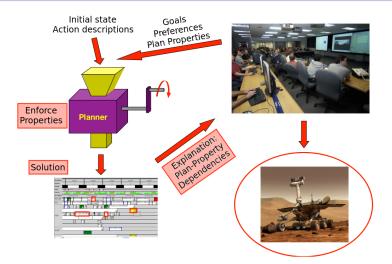
Because all plans with property A have property B!

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(Figure adapted from [Smith (2012)])

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Classical	Plan	ning				

FDR Planning: Syntax

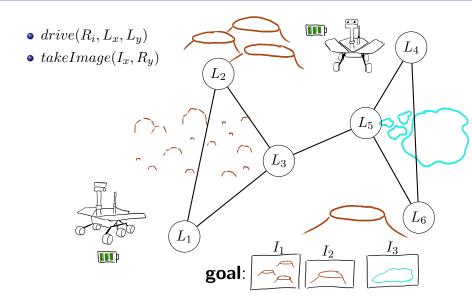
A finite-domain representation (FDR) task is a tuple $\tau = (V, A, c, I, G)$:

- V variables, each v ∈ V with a finite domain D_v; a state is a complete assignment to V;
- A actions, each $a \in A$ has precondition pre_a and effect eff_a , both partial assignments to V;
- $c: A \to \mathbb{R}^+_0$ action-cost function;
- I initial state; G goal partial assignment to V;

FDR Planning: Semantics

Action a applicable in state s if $pre_a \subseteq s$. Outcome state s[[a]] like s except that $s[[a]](v) = eff_a(v)$ for those v on which eff_a is defined. Outcome state of iteratively applicable action sequence π denoted $s[[\pi]]$. Sequence π applicable in I is plan if $G \subseteq I[[\pi]]$.



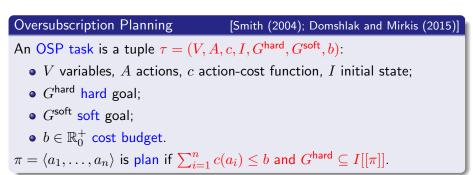


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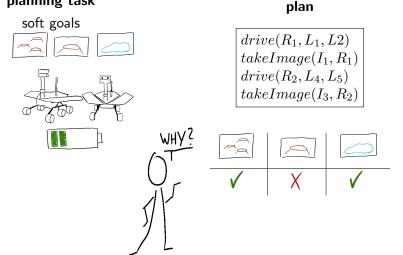
Plan quality: Usually additive soft-goal rewards. Here:

- User preferences hard to specify/elicitate. Iterative planning instead.
- Goal-exclusion dependencies to support that process.

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planning task



Plan Pro	onerti	es				
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 \rightarrow Plan properties over soft goals in OSP:

Plan Properties

OSP task $\tau = (V, A, c, I, G^{hard}, G^{soft}, b)$, Π its set of plans.

- Plan property: propositional formula ϕ over atoms $g \in G^{\text{soft}}$
- Conjunctive plan property: ϕ has form $\bigwedge_{q \in A} g$ or $\neg \bigwedge_{q \in B} g$

Simple special case: In general, any function $\Pi \rightarrow \{true, false\}$

- e.g. temporal plan trajectory constraints.
- e.g. deadlines, resource bounds.

Compilation: Into (additional variables/actions and) goal facts!

- e.g. LTL formulas
- Here: action-set properties, easy special case of LTL

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∏-Entai	ilment					

$\rightarrow \Pi$ in the role of a knowledge base:

Π -Entailment

 $\mathsf{OSP} \text{ task } \tau = (V, A, c, I, G^{\mathsf{hard}}, G^{\mathsf{soft}}, b), \ \Pi \text{ its set of plans } \pi.$

• π satisfies ϕ , $\pi \models \phi$: if ϕ true given truth value assignment to $g \in G^{\text{soft}}$ defined by $g \in I[[\pi]]$? $g \mapsto true : g \mapsto false$

•
$$\mathcal{M}_{\Pi}(\phi) := \{\pi \mid \pi \in \Pi, \pi \models \phi\}$$

• $\phi \text{ Π-entails ψ}$, written $\Pi \models \phi \Rightarrow \psi$: if $\mathcal{M}_{\Pi}(\phi) \subseteq \mathcal{M}_{\Pi}(\psi)$

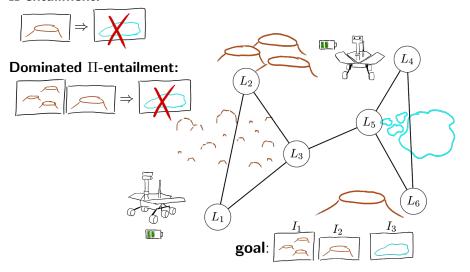
\rightarrow Special case focus here:

Goal Exclusions

- Goal exclusion: entailment of form $\Pi \models \bigwedge_{q \in A} g \Rightarrow \neg \bigwedge_{q \in B} g$
- Non-dominated: $\not\exists (A', B') \neq (A, B)$: $A' \subseteq A$, $B' \subseteq B$, $\Pi \models \bigwedge_{a \in A'} g \Rightarrow \neg \bigwedge_{a \in B'} g$

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Π -entailment:



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 \rightarrow All entailment relations over plan properties in the task:

Global Explanation (GE)

OSP task $\tau = (V, A, c, I, G^{\mathsf{hard}}, G^{\mathsf{soft}}, b),$ Π its set of plans.

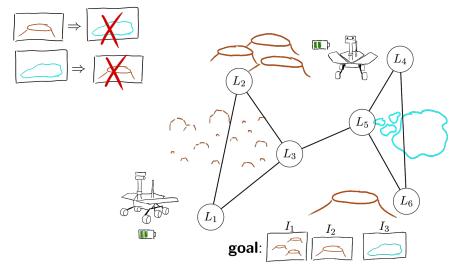
- $[\phi]_{\Pi}$: equivalence class, i.e. set of ψ with $\mathcal{M}_{\Pi}(\phi) = \mathcal{M}_{\Pi}(\psi)$
- Global explanation (GE) for τ : strict partial order over equivalence classes, $[\phi]_{\Pi} < [\psi]_{\Pi}$ iff $[\phi]_{\Pi} \neq [\psi]_{\Pi}$ and $\Pi \models \phi \Rightarrow \psi$
- \rightarrow More practical variant for goal exclusions:

Goal-Exclusion GE

OSP task $\tau = (V, A, c, I, G^{\mathsf{hard}}, G^{\mathsf{soft}}, b), \, \Pi$ its set of plans.

• Goal-exclusion GE for τ : strict partial order over conjunctive plan properties induced by the non-dominated goal exclusions $\Pi \models \bigwedge_{g \in A} g \Rightarrow \neg \bigwedge_{g \in B} g$ Introduction OSP over the computing Compilations NoGoods References Compared to the composition of the compilation of the compi

All non-dominated goal exclusions:



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Local Explanations

 \rightarrow In response to user question "Why not property $\phi?$:

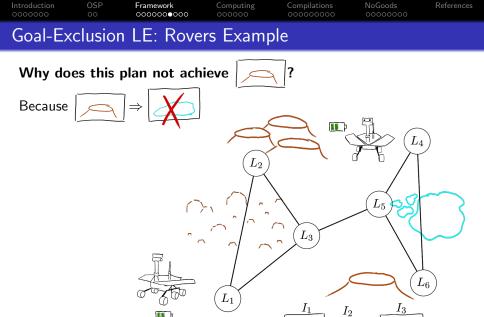
Local Explanation (LE)

 $\mathsf{OSP} \text{ task } \tau = (V, A, c, I, G^{\mathsf{hard}}, G^{\mathsf{soft}}, b) \text{, } \Pi \text{ its set of plans}.$

- Local explanation (LE) for ϕ : $\{\psi \mid \Pi \models \phi \Rightarrow \psi\}$
- Goal-exclusion LE for $\phi = \bigwedge_{g \in A} g$: $\{\psi \mid \psi = \neg \bigwedge_{g \in B} g, \Pi \models \phi \Rightarrow \psi \text{ is non-rhs-dominated}\}$
- Non-rhs-dominated: $\not\exists B': B' \subsetneq B$, $\Pi \models \bigwedge_{g \in A} g \Rightarrow \neg \bigwedge_{g \in B'} g$

Remarks:

- Smaller and easier to compute than GE (see next section).
- Relative to current plan π in iterative planning: only those ψ where $\pi \not\models \psi$ (i. e. new properties entailed by ϕ).



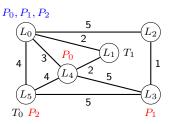
goal:

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- Variables $V: T_0, f_0, T_1, f_1, P_0, P_1, P_2$
- Actions A: drive(T_i, L_x, L_y), load(T_i, P_j, L_x), unload(T_i, P_j, L_x)
 Driving consumes fuel as indicated
- Initial state I: as shown; $I(f_0) = 13, I(f_1) = 0$
- Goal G^{soft} : $at(P_0, L_4), at(P_1, L_3), at(P_2, L_5)$

Non-dominated goal exclusions:

- $\Pi \models P_0 \Rightarrow \neg (P_1 \land P_2)$
- $\Pi \models P_1 \Rightarrow \neg (P_0 \land P_2)$
- $\Pi \models P_2 \Rightarrow \neg (P_0 \land P_1)$

 \rightarrow In other words: " $G^{\rm soft}$ is not solvable as a whole, but each of its subsets is".

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Framework intention:

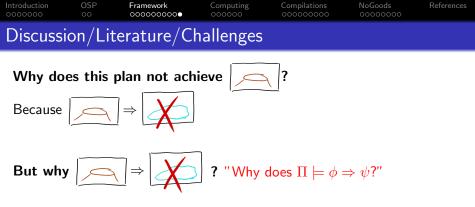
- Plan properties = language for (or finite set of) properties relevant to user preferences.
- Elucidate plan-property dependencies for interactive planning (instead of just fixing an optimization objective).
- Goal exclusions merely a simple starting point, yet powerful through compilation (see later).

Positioning in literature:

- "Does $\Pi \models \phi \Rightarrow \psi$?" = model checking of planning task.
 - \Rightarrow Framework = exhaustive model checking of entailments within a set P of plan properties.
- Working hypothesis: Meaningful concept/special case. Computation: Exploit relatedness across individual checks.
- Very little prior work on model checking for planning models [Vaquero *et al.* (2013)].

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• Idea 1: Extend set P of plan properties to elucidate "the causal chain between" ϕ and $\psi.$

 \rightarrow One instance of problem how to identify the relevant set P.

- Idea 2: Find minimal relaxation (superset) of Π in which $\Pi \models \phi \Rightarrow \psi$ no longer holds.
 - \rightarrow Drop hard goals, increase cost budget, \ldots

Minimal Unsolvable Goal Subset (MUGS)

OSP task $\tau = (V, A, c, I, G^{hard}, G^{soft}, b)$, Π its set of plans.

 Minimal unsolvable goal subset (MUGS): unsolvable G ⊆ G^{soft}, every G' ⊊ G solvable

Proposition (Non-dominated Goal Exclusions from MUGS)

Non-dominated $\Pi \models \bigwedge_{g \in A} g \Rightarrow \neg \bigwedge_{g \in B} g \Leftrightarrow A \cup B$ MUGS

Proof.

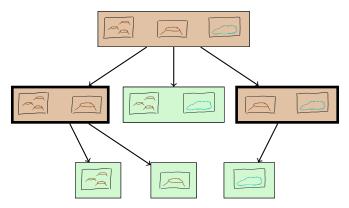
A Π -entailment $\Pi \models \bigwedge_{g \in A} g \Rightarrow \neg \bigwedge_{g \in B} g$ clearly holds iff $A \cup B$ is unsolvable. Non-dominated entailments result from set-inclusion minimal A and B, corresponding to the set-inclusion minimality of MUGS. \Box

 \rightarrow Compute and represent goal-exclusion GE via MUGs.

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Systema	atic W	eakening				

- Start with G^{soft}
- Select open node G, call planner to test solvability, cache result, expand G if unsolvable
- $\textcircled{O} \ \ {\rm children} \ \ {\rm of} \ \ G' \subset G \ {\rm where} \ |G'| = |G|-1$



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Experim	ents:	Global Exp	lanations			

1	Refere	ence Co	overa	ge	1	SysS	/w c	lovera	age		Se	earch	Fracti	on	#MU	JGS, a	r =
	h ^{LM-cut}		OSP		0.3	25	0	.5	0.	75	0.	25	0.	75	a	verage	
domain		0.25	0.5	0.75	S	W	S	W	Ś	W	Ś	W	Ś	W	0.25	0.5	0.75
agricola (20)	0	0	0	0	20	20	13	13	1	1	1	0.5	1	0.5	1	1	1
airport (50)	28	28	24	22	35	34	21	21	16	16	0.6	0.81	1	0.61	3.8	2	1.4
barman (34)	4	18	11	4	18	18	4	4	3	4	0.57	0.94	1	0.5	6.9	4.2	2.5
blocks (35)	28	35	28	21	35	35	29	29	26	26	0.15	0.97	0.8	0.64	11	12.4	13.7
childsnack (20)	0	2	0	0	4	4	0	0	0	0	0.34	0.98	-	-	16.8	-	-
data-network (20)	12	13	13	13	20	20	18	18	17	15	0.72	0.73	0.91	0.66	2.1	1.8	1.5
depot (22)	7	16	11	7	16	16	9	10	3	3	0.24	0.96	0.89	0.68	8.3	7	6.5
driverlog (20)	13	15	13	10	15	15	12	12	10	10	0.17	0.98	0.87	0.5	8.1	16.1	11.1
elevators (50)	40	22	22	22	47	48	38	37	27	27	0.35	0.94	0.9	0.67	4.6	5.1	5.9
floortile (36)	13	18	6	2	8	8	2	2	2	2	0.1	0.99	0.96	0.3	316.2	137	45.5
freecell (80)	15	77	30	21	76	76	30	30	18	18	0.31	0.94	0.88	0.76	4	4.3	3.3
ged (20)	15	20	20	20	16	20	10	12	7	7	0.25	0.9	0.58	0.7	13.3	38.7	12.5
grid (5)	2	5	3	2	5	5	3	4	3	3	0.54	0.84	1	0.54	4	2.5	1
gripper (20)	7	11	8	8	5	5	4	4	3	3	0.21	0.98	0.96		783.5	228	156
hiking (20)	9	19	14	13	20	20	16	17	11	10	0.81	0.69	1	0.63	1.8	1.7	1
logistics (60)	26	27	20	16	15	15	6	6	3	4	0.35	0.95		0.73	7.2	7.3	2.8
miconic (150)	141	97	66	55	66	64	42	43	35	36	0.3	0.92	0.95	0.61	81.3	38.2	18.8
mprime (35)	22	35	27	24	35	35	35	35	35	35	0.9	0.59	0.94	0.59	1.3	1.2	1.1
mystery (30)	12	29	27	21	30	30	30	30	30	30	0.89	0.61	0.93	0.61	1.3	1.2	1.1
nomystery (20)	14	20	14	10	20	20	12	12	8	8	0.15	0.98	0.87	0.61	20.2	18.5	5.8
openstacks (77)	47	63	56	52	49	43	45	39	42	35	0.03	0.99	0.12		15.3	14.9	10.3
organic-syn-s (13)	10	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	6	6	0.19	0.96	0.28	0.91	5.3	7.3	8.3
parcprinter (26)	24	26	22	18	10	14	10	14	10	12	0.44	0.98	0.73	0.85	5.6	7.5	4.1
parking (40)	5	25	5	0	17	12	1	1	0	0	0.02	1	-	-	63.9	31	
pathways (30)	5	5	4	4	7	7	5	5	4	4	0.41	0.86	0.91	0.7	11.3	3.8	1.8
pegsol (2)	2	2	2	2	0	2	0	2	0	2	-	-	-	-	7	23.5	64
pipesworld-nt (50)	17	45	30	23	46	46	25	26	15	15	0.31		0.88	0.66	5	5.6	4.3
pipesworld-t (50)	12	33	20	16	39	40	18	17	13	11	0.35	0.95	0.88	0.65	4	4.2	3.2
Sum (1517)	828	1088	828	705	1026	1005	690	694	522	528							

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ightarrow In response to user question "Why not property $\bigwedge_{g\in A}g?$ ":

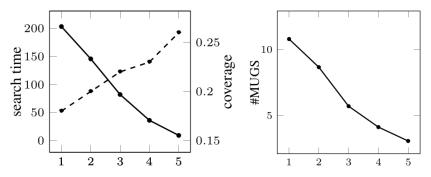
Proposition (Non-rhs-dominated Goal Exclusions from MUGS)

 $\begin{array}{l} \text{OSP task } \tau = (V, A, c, I, G^{\mathsf{hard}}, G^{\mathsf{soft}}, b), \ \Pi \ \text{its set of plans.} \\ \text{Modified task } \tau' := (V, A, c, I, G^{\mathsf{hard}} \cup A, G^{\mathsf{soft}} \setminus A, b). \\ \text{Then: Non-rhs-dominated } \Pi \models \bigwedge_{g \in A} g \Rightarrow \neg \bigwedge_{g \in B} g \Leftrightarrow B \ \text{MUGS in } \tau'. \end{array}$

This is easier & smaller because: Less soft goals!

- Search tree size worst-case exponential in $|G^{soft}|$
- #MUGS worst-case exponential in $|G^{\text{soft}}|$

 \rightarrow Performance and #MUGS as function of question size |A| in "Why not property $\bigwedge_{g \in A} g$?":



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Discussion/Literature/Challenges

Framework

Many related computations: (for different purposes)

• Minimal unsatisfiable cores [e.g. Chinneck (2007); Laborie (2014)].

Computing

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Compilations

NoGoods

- Solvability borderline within a lattice of problem variants [de Kleer (1986); Reiter (1987)]
- MUGS = special case of preferred diagnoses [Grastien *et al.* (2011, 2012)], transfer pruning methods?
- Suggesting goals to drop in oversubscribed situations [Yu *et al.* (2017); Lauffer and Topcu (2019)].

Alternative algorithms to try:

- Run a single search in state space finding all maximal solvable goal subsets. Adapt pruning methods from oversubscription planning [Domshlak and Mirkis (2015)]?
- Represent the plan set Π symbolically (e.g. BDD), use that representation to identify all entailment relations?

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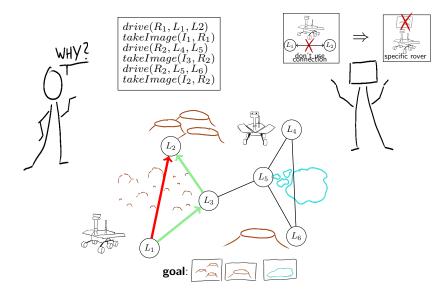
Introduction

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Compila	tion!					

 \rightarrow Compile more general plan properties into (additional variables/actions and) goal facts! For example:

- Precondition and goal formulas, conditional effects [Gazen and Knoblock (1997); Nebel (2000)]
- LTL formulas over plan trajectory [Edelkamp (2006); Baier et al. (2009)]
- Initial state uncertainty [Palacios and Geffner (2009)]

\rightarrow Here: effective-to-compile special case of LTL

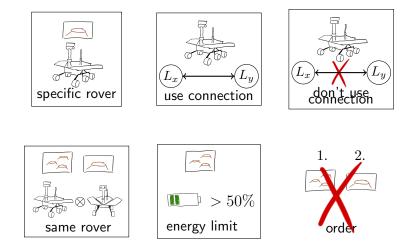
Action-Set Properties

OSP task $\tau = (V, A, c, I, G^{hard}, G^{soft}, b)$, Π its set of plans, $A_1, \ldots, A_n \subseteq A$.

- Action-set property: propositional formula ϕ over atoms A_1, \ldots, A_n
- $\pi \models \phi$: if ϕ true given truth value assignment $A_i \cap \{a_1, \dots, a_k\} \neq \emptyset$? $A_i \mapsto true : A_i \mapsto false$ where $\pi = \langle a_1, \dots, a_k \rangle$

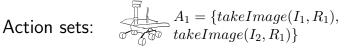
Compilations NoGoods References 00000000

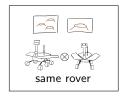
Rovers Action-Set Properties



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 $A_2 = \{takeImage(I_1, R_2), takeImage(I_2, R_2)\}$

Test formula:

 $A_1 \otimes A_2$

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Given: τ , Π , and A_1, \ldots, A_n

Construct: τ'

- Booleans $isUsed_i$, initially false, set to true by any action from A_i ;
- formula-evaluation state variables and actions evaluating each p_φ based on these, setting Boolean flags isTrue_φ;
- separate 1. planning phase vs. 2. formula-evaluation phase, switch action from 1. to 2. enabled when G^{hard} is satisfied.

 \Rightarrow planning-phase prefixes in τ' one-to-one II; given such prefix π , evaluation phase in τ' can achieve $isTrue_{\phi}$ iff $\pi \models \phi$.

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 Rovers
 "Same Rover"
 Compilation: Illustration
 Illustration
 Illustration
 Illustration

 $A_1 = \{takeImage(I_1, R_1), takeImage(I_2, R_1)\}$

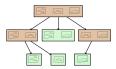
 $A_2 = \{takeImage(I_1, R_2), takeImage(I_2, R_2)\}$

 $A_1 \otimes A_2$

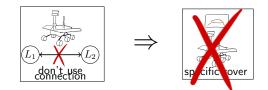


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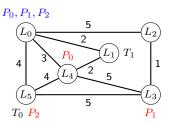
MUGS







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- Variables $V: T_1, f_1, T_2, f_2, P_0, P_1, P_2$
- Actions A: drive(T_i, L_x, L_y), load(T_i, P_j, L_x), unload(T_i, P_j, L_x)
 Driving consumes fuel as indicated
- Initial state *I*: as shown; $I(f_1) = 16, I(f_2) = 7$
- Goal G^{soft} : $at(P_0, L_4), at(P_1, L_3), at(P_2, L_5)$

Example action-set property analysis:

- 1. uses T_0 (L_2, L_3) ; 2. same truck P_1 P_2 ; 3. uses T_0 (L_4, L_3) ; 4. same truck P_2 P_0 ; 5. doesn't use T_0 (L_0, L_5) ; 6. uses T_1 (L_5, L_4) .
- MUGS: 7, each of size 3, including $\{5, 2, 4\}$.

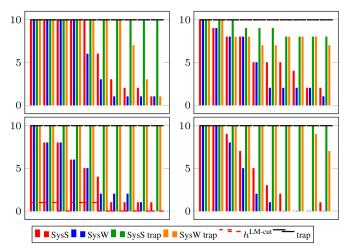
 \rightarrow User question "Why do you not avoid the road $L_0 - L_5$ (which has a lot of traffic at the moment)?" "Because if you don't use that road, then you cannot deliver all packages with the same truck."

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 \rightarrow Blocksworld, NoMystery, Rovers, TPP (top left to bottom right):



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State-Space Conflict Based Learning

Conflict Based Learning: Is all over the place!

Google	conflict based learning ~
Scholar	About 2,990,000 rejuits (0.10 sec)
Articles	Efficient conflict driven learning in a boolean satisfiability solver <u>L Zhang</u> , CF Madigan, <u>MH Moskewicz</u> - Proceedings of the 2001, 2001 - di.acm.org
Case law	Sharad Malik Dept. of Electrical Engineering Princeton University malik@princeton.edu ABSTRACT One of the most important features of current state-of-the-art SAT solvers
My library	is the use of conflict based backtracking and learning techniques Cited by 845 Related articles All 31 versions Cite Save

But: "State-space"

- Conflict-based learning is ubiquitous in constraint reasoning.
- Planning/reachability checking: Limited to bounded-length reachability (which is a form of constraint reasoning, easily encoded into e.g. SAT).
- Can we learn from conflicts in unbounded-length state space search?

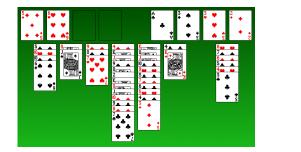
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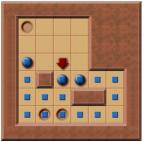
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Introduction OSP Framework Computing Compilations NoGoods References Conflicts in State Space Search

What is a "conflict" in state space search?





- \rightarrow Conflict = dead-end state from which the goal is unreachable.
- Planning: took bad decisions (ran out of resources, etc).
- Model checking safety properties: error can't be reached from here.

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Learning from Dead-End States

Framework

Constraint reasoning: For unsolvable partial assignment α that does not violate the constraints, add a new constraint discarding α .

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References

Basic idea: Constraints \approx sound but incomplete dead-end detector Δ . \rightarrow For unsolvable state *s* not detected by Δ , refine Δ to detect *s*.

What are suitable Δ ? E.g. Δ^C , set C of atomic conjunctions :

$$\Delta^{C}(s,g) = \begin{cases} 0 & g \subseteq s \\ \min_{a:Regress(g,a) \neq \bot} \Delta^{C}(s, Regress(g,a)) & g \in C \\ \max_{g' \subseteq g, g' \in C} \Delta^{C}(s,g') & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

 $\rightarrow \Delta^C(s, G) = \infty$: "Goal unreachable even when breaking up conjunctive subgoals into elements of C." For suitable C, Δ^C detects all dead-ends.

Conflict-Learning State Space Search: [Steinmetz and Hoffmann (2016, 2017c)]

- Start with C containing the singleton conjunctions.
- On dead-end s where $\Delta^C(s,G) \neq \infty$, refine Δ^C by adding new atomic conjunctions, i. e., by extending C such that $\Delta^C(s,G) = \infty$.
- Further, learn a clause ϕ where $s' \not\models \phi$ implies $\Delta^C(s', G) = \infty$.

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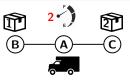
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A Simple Transportation Example

Framework

Classical Planning Task:

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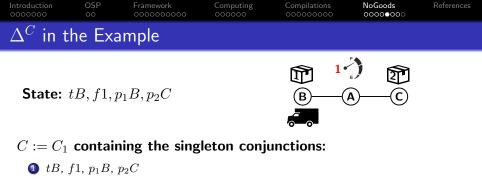
References

Compilations

- $V = \{t, f, p_1, p_2\}$ with $D_t = \{A, B, C\}$, $D_f = \{0, 1, 2\}$, $D_{p_i} = \{A, B, C, T\}$.
- $A = \{load(p_i, x), unload(p_i, x), drive(x, x', n)\}$, where e.g.: $pre_{drive(x,x',y)} = \{(t, x), (f, n)\}$ and $eff_{drive(x,x',y)} = \{(t, x'), (f, n-1)\}$.
- $I = \{(t, A), (f, 2), (p_1, B), (p_2, C)\}.$ $G = \{(p_1, C), (p_2, B)\}.$

Conflict-Learning State Space Search

- Forward state space search.
- Identify dead-end states s.
- So Refine C so that $\Delta^C(s, G) = \infty$.
- **(**) Learn a clause ϕ s.t. $s' \not\models \phi$ implies $\Delta^C(s', G) = \infty$.



2
$$drive(B, A, 1) \to tA, load(p_1, B) \to p_1 t$$

•
$$unload(p_1, C) \rightarrow p_1C$$
, $load(p_2, C) \rightarrow p_2t$

 $(\textbf{o} unload(p_2, \textbf{B}) \to p_2 B)$

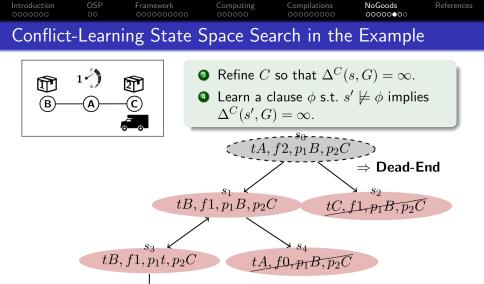
$C := C_1 \cup \{tA \land f1\}:$

- **1** tB, f1, p_1B , p_2C
- 2 $drive(B, A, 1) \rightarrow tA \ [but \not\rightarrow tA \land f1], \ load(p_1, B) \rightarrow p_1t$

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$$\phi_2 = p_2 B \lor f2 \lor tA$$

$$\phi_1 = p_2 B \lor t B \lor f 1 \lor f 2$$

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 s_5

 $tA, f0, p_1t, p_2C$

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Discussion/Literature/Challenges

Framework

Mature exploration of variants:

- Trap learning [Steinmetz and Hoffmann (2017b)]
- Refining more powerful LP-based dead-end detectors [Steinmetz and Hoffmann (2018)]

Computing

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References

• Offline nogood computation [Steinmetz and Hoffmann (2017a)]

Open questions:

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- Can we reason over the learned clauses, deducing new knowledge from the already derived one?
- Combine with property-directed reachability (PDR) [Bradley (2011); Suda (2014)]: Combine PDR clauses with clauses from different Δ; use lower-bound heuristic functions for additional pruning in PDR; use heuristic functions for node selection in PDR.
- Apply these methods to model checking and game playing ...

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Thanks for your attention. Questions?

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