

# CS 295A/395D: Artificial Intelligence

**Intro to Planning and Search**

Prof. Emma Tosch

7 February 2022



The University of Vermont

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# Lecture agenda

- Announcements
  - This week: change of student hours for the exam
    - No Wed student hours
    - Student hours today (2:30-4pm, Innovation E456)
- Exam format
- Introduction to planning, search via topics and vocabulary for the rest of the semester

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# Exam format

- 5 questions + 1 extra credit
  - 1 True/False question
  - Finding and explaining an inference errors
  - Finding and explaining a resolution errors
  - Scenario-based design question: searching for satisfying assignments
  - More open-ended ontology question
  - Extra credit: surprise!
- Will give you a cheatsheet of rewrite rules and inference *schemata*
  - *No examples!*

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# Planning

**Logic** and **ontologies** gave us the foundations for the rest of the semester.

**Planning** is the selection of **actions** to achieve a **goal** without interacting with an **environment**.

An **action** is an **intervention** in an environment that may change its **state**.

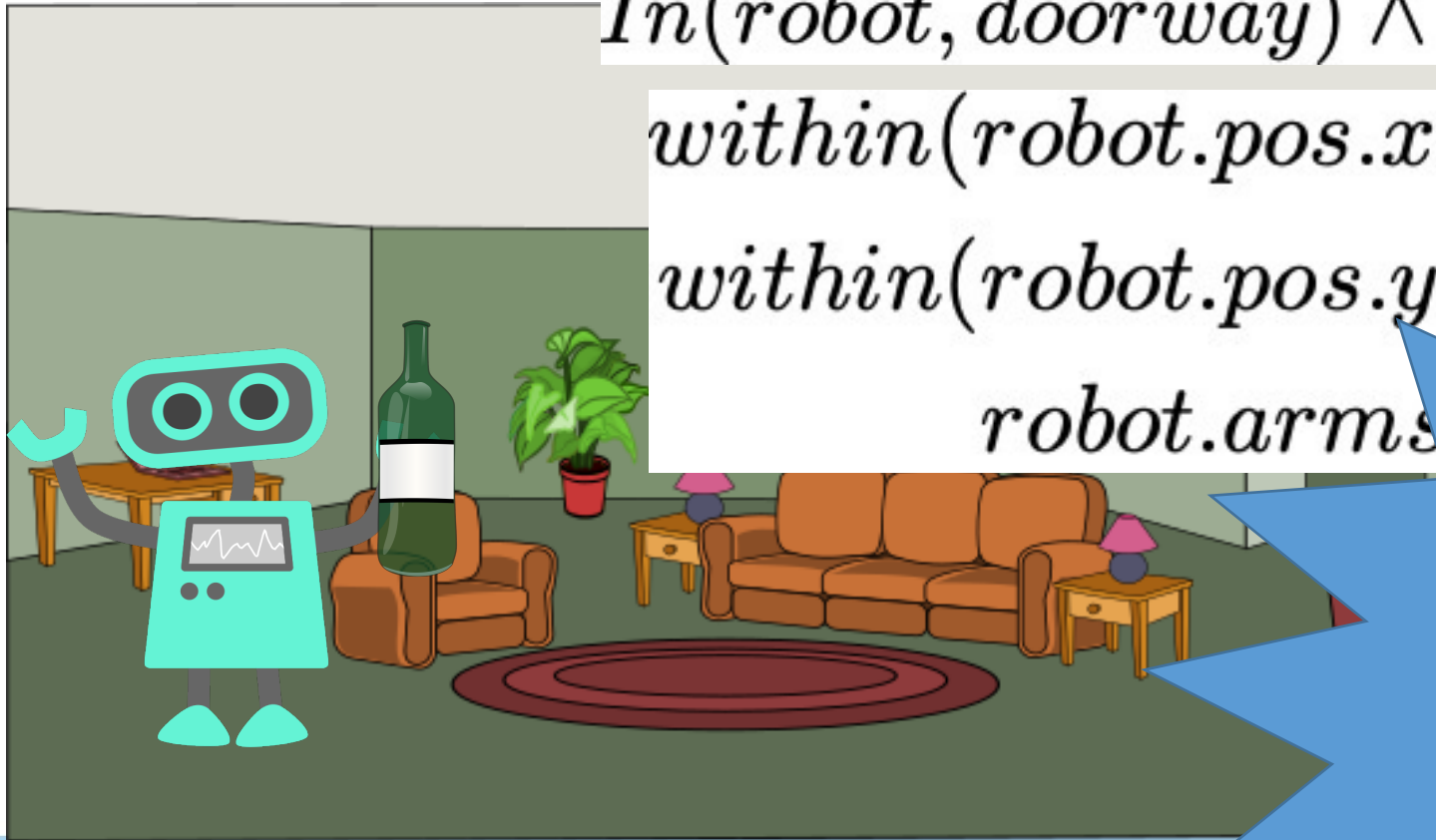
An **intervention** is a procedure for manipulating state.

The **state** of an environment is the current set of categories in our knowledge base...

*(think: snapshot of the database that holds this information and the elements of the relations)*

A **goal** is a function of a state.

# Expressing Goals



$In(robot, doorway) \wedge Holding(robot, bottle)$   
 $within(robot.pos.x, aperture.pos.x, 5) \wedge$   
 $within(robot.pos.y, aperture.pos.y, 5) \wedge$   
 $robot.arm.s \leq 2$

What are some problems/challenges with this representation?

**Goal:** get to the door without dropping the bottle.

## Expressing invariants

$$S_0 A_0 S_1 A_1 \dots S_{T-1} A_{T-1} S_T A_T$$
$$\forall S_i (\text{Holding}(S_i.\text{robot}, S_i.\text{bottle}))$$
$$\forall S_i (S_i.\text{robot}.\text{arms}.\text{left}.\text{resistance} > 2)$$


Can use predicate logic to encode *goals* and *invariants*.

**Goal:** get to the door **without** dropping the bottle

# Actions as interventions on state



An ***action*** is an ***intervention*** in an environment that may change its ***state***.

# Actions as interventions on state

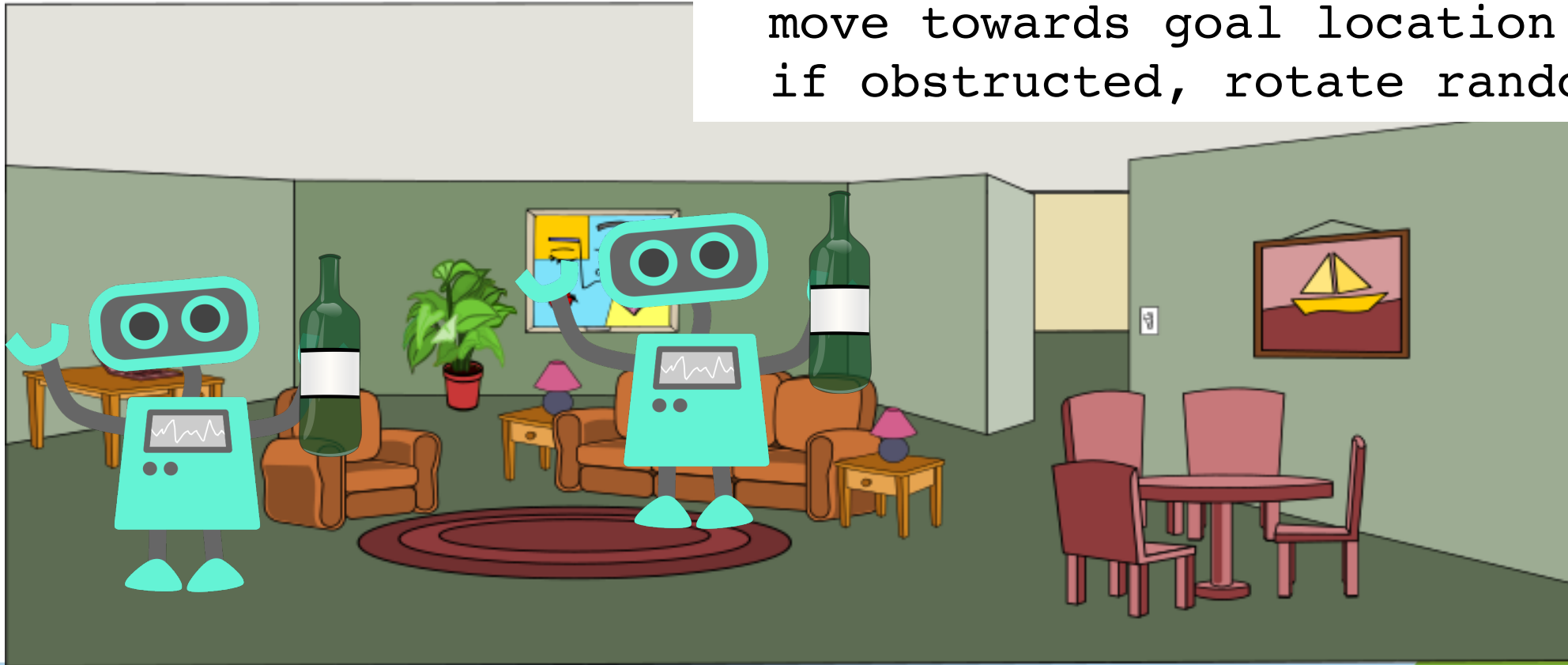


**Actions** are (named) functions from state to state.



# Planning vs. *ad hoc* action selection

While goal not met:  
move towards goal location  
if obstructed, rotate random angle

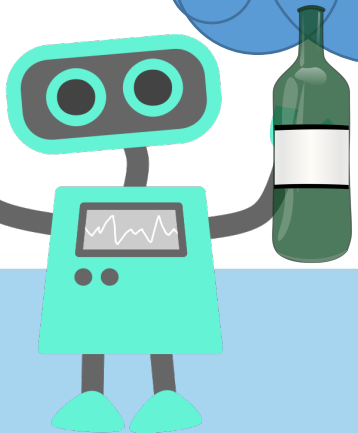


# Planning v



$$A(S) = S'$$

Notice: no indices!



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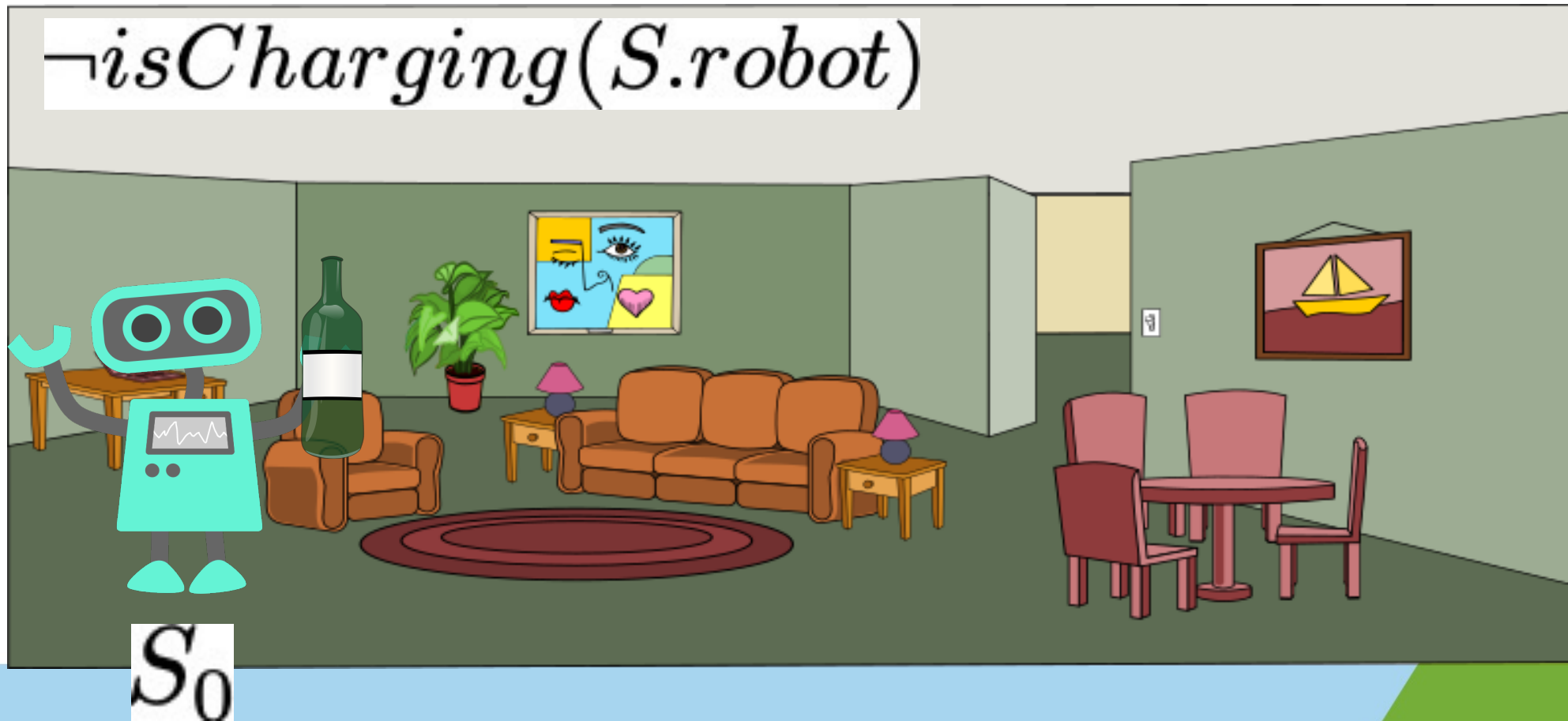
## How?

Each action function can only be applied when certain things are true

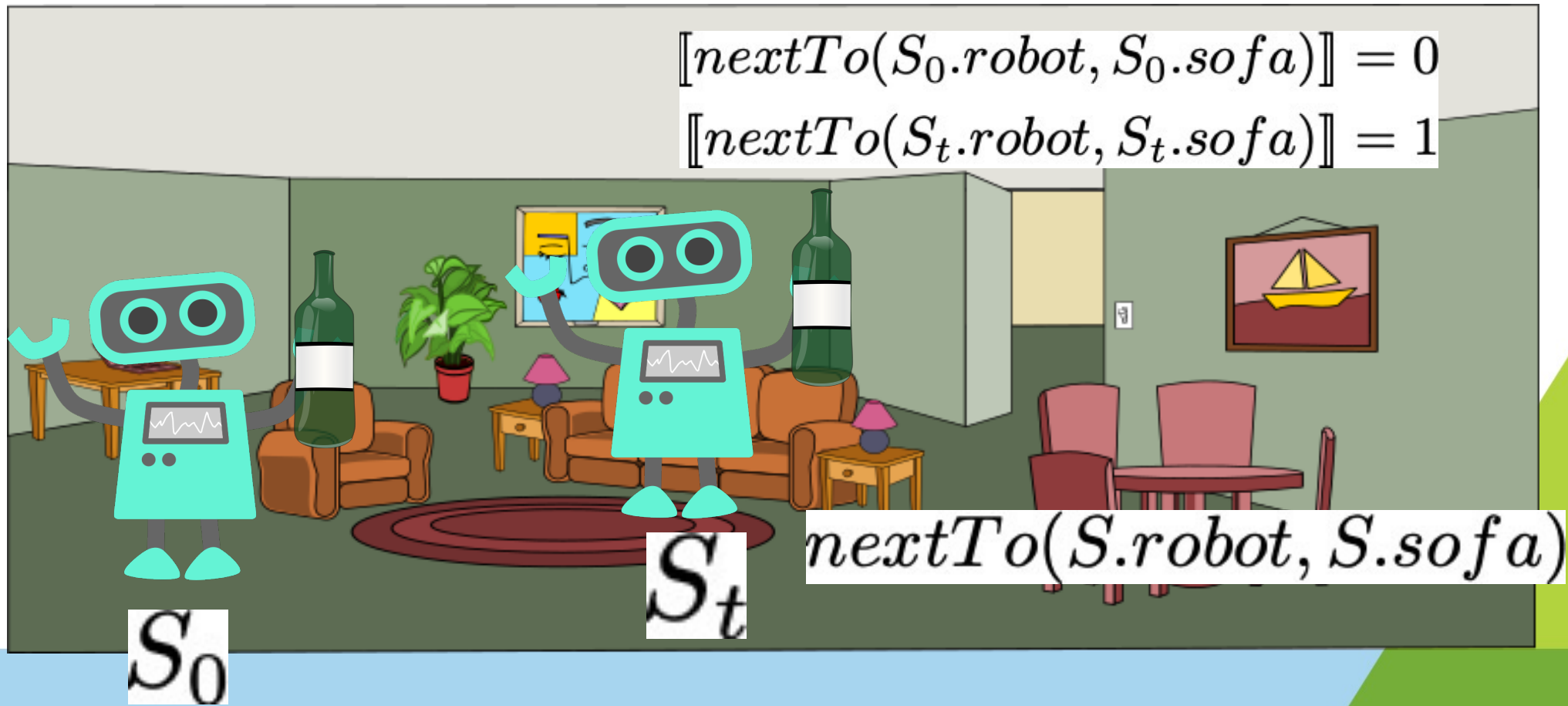
- We can represent these **preconditions** with propositional formulas

Each action function has a possible **effect** that may cause the outputs of some predicates to change

# Actions have preconditions



# Actions have effects



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# Logical inference as planning?

What are the goals?

What are the actions?

What is the environment?

What is the current state?

What are the invariants?

Switch to board or OH projector here

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# Resolution as planning?

What are the goals?

What are the actions?

What is the environment?

What is the current state?

What are the invariants?

Switch to board or OH projector here

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# Planning via graphs

- Basic idea: single start state, single goal state
- Edges are permissible actions, directed to next state
- Next states are updated with the effects of actions

**Next slide: back to slides**



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## Are these really planning problems?

**Planning** is the selection of **actions** to achieve a **goal** without interacting with an **environment**.

- Should planning require a model of the environment?
- Does planning need to be relational?

## Formal Mathematics Statement Curriculum Learning

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### Abstract

We explore the use of expert iteration in the context of language modeling applied to formal mathematics. We show that at same compute budget, expert iteration, by which we mean proof search interleaved with learning, performs proof search only. We show that when applied to a collection of formal statements of sufficiently varied difficulty, a model is capable of finding and solving a curriculum of increasingly difficult problems, with associated ground-truth proofs. Finding this expert iteration to a number of problem statements, we achieve state-of-the-art on the *miniF2F* benchmark, a set of multiple challenging problems from school olympiads.

### 1. Introduction

Deep learning has enjoyed spectacular success in many domains, including language (Brown et al., 2018; Wu et al., 2016), vision (Radford & Le, 2019), and image generation (Karras et al., 2019). One domain where deep learning has not yet enjoyed a comparable success is formal mathematics, which requires extensive *planning* and *symbolic reasoning*, in the exception of two-player games (Silver et al., 2019; Vinyals et al., 2019). Deep learning systems exhibit a consistent performance gap in symbolic reasoning, especially when trained with with a search procedure such as Monte Carlo Tree Search (MCTS) (Browne et al., 2012). But the abilities achieved are limited due to the narrow scope of games.

As such, theorem proving in interactive formal mathematics, appears as an interesting game-like domain to tackle due to its increased scope. Like games, formal mathematics has an automated way of determining

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whether a trajectory (*i.e.* a proof) is successful (*i.e.* formally correct). But the vast scope of formal mathematics means that any strong reasoning result obtained in it will be more meaningful than comparable results in games (*e.g.* finding proofs to mathematical conjectures), and could even be applicable to important practical problems (*e.g.* software

- (i) **Infinite action space:** not only does formal mathematics have an extremely large search space (like Go for example), it also has an infinite action space. At each step of a proof search, the model must choose not from a well-behaved finite set of actions, but a complex and infinite set of tactics, involving exogenous mathematical terms that have to be generated (*e.g.*, generating a mathematical statement to be used as a witness, an object used in step  $n$  of a proof “there exists an  $x$  s.t. ...”, or a cut, the introduction of a lemma in the middle of a proof).

propose instead to supply auxiliary sets of problem statements (without requiring proofs) of varying difficulty. We empirically show that, when the difficulty of these auxiliary problems is varied enough, a simple expert iteration procedure is able to solve a curriculum of increasingly difficult problems, eventually generalizing to our target distribution. We show that this works with both automatically-generated and manually-curated auxiliary distributions of

# (very!) Recent results using AI + DL for proof search

Aside: predicates vs. propositions and the generality of our vocabulary

## Expressing invariants

$$S_0 A_0 S_1 A_1 \dots S_{T-1} A_{T-1} S_T A_T$$
$$\forall S_i (\text{Holding}(S_i.\text{robot}, S_i.\text{bottle}))$$
$$\forall S_i (S_i.\text{robot}.\text{arms}.\text{left}.\text{resistance} > 2)$$


**Goal:** get to the door **without** dropping the bottle.

## Problem complexity & choice of abstraction

$$S_0 A_0 S_1 A_1 \dots S_{T-1} A_{T-1} S_T A_T$$

$p_i \triangleq$  robot is holding the bottle at state  $i$

$\forall S_i (\text{Holding}(S_i.\text{robot}, S_i.\text{bottle}))$

$\forall S_i (S_i.\text{robot}.\text{arms}.\text{left}.\text{resistance} > 2)$



Encoding choices  
as bias

**Goal:** get to the door **without** dropping the

# What Can AI Do?

At this point in its development, AI is good at finding items that meet human-defined criteria. In other words, it can figure out what makes a particular document distinguishable from a koala—which lets it find relevant items in a collection of documents. These tasks are sometimes called "search-and-find type" tasks.

Once it's identified something, the AI can then perform actions. In the case of legal work, an AI can carry out tasks like:

- IF this document is a non-disclosure agreement, flag it for review
- IF this NDA mentions a competitor, alert the legal team
- FIND all my contracts that expire in the next 90 days so they can be renewed
- TELL ME which patents are cited in this document

According to [Stefanie Yuen Thio](#), a professor at the National University of Singapore, legal work that's repetitive and follows a template will become automated.

judicial decisions will become the primary source of processing power.

AI can help consumers by providing legal advice that's more affordable than hiring a lawyer. The first chatbot that lets users consult with a lawyer took on 250,000 cases in 2017. The same program cost \$25,000—though it's now

# : AI vs ML

discussing bias in "AI"

discussing bias in ML

- Inference rules don't change over time
- Language, classifiers, legal judgements do
- Interaction between invariants and variables causes problems

legal reasoning

are the bias issues?

nationality act, French

re-checked formal

(COTUS)

ements about applicability, novelty

- of application of rules, precedence, atomicity