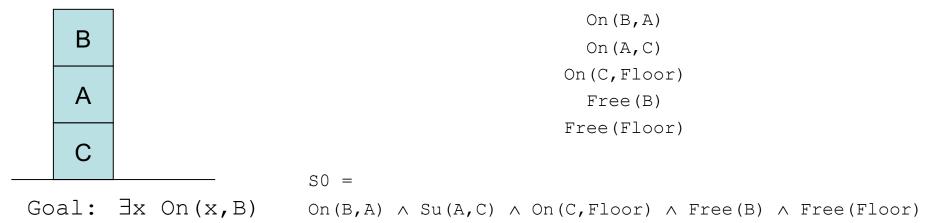
## Elements of Situation Calculus

Nils J. Nilsson Intelligenza Artificiale – Ed. Apogeo Cap. 21

## **States**



#### States reification

We consider abstract entities, in this case states, as objects of the world we are considering

```
On (B,A,S0) \land On(A,C,S0) \land On(C,Floor,S0) \land Free(B,S0) \land Free(Floor,S0)
```

On, Free: Fluents. Predicates changing from a situation to another one

```
\forall x,y,s On(x,y,s) \land \neg (y = Floor) \Rightarrow \neg Free(y,s)
\forall s Free(Floor,s)
```

# Representing Actions and Effects

- Reify actions: actions can be denoted with constants, variables, functional expressions.
  - In the blocks worls, actions are functions over blocks: move (A, B, Floor)
- Introduce the function do. This function relates states and actions with other states
  - do (a, s) respresents the state reached starting from s performig a
- Represent the effects of actions by formulas.

#### PRECONDITIONS ⇒ EFFECT

```
Postive Effect Axiom

\forall x, y, s \text{ On } (x, y, s) \land \text{ Free } (x, s) \land \text{ Free } (z, s) \land \neg (x=z) \Rightarrow \text{ On } (x, z, do (move } (x, y, z), s))

Negative Effect Axiom

\forall x, y, s \text{ On } (x, y, s) \land \text{ Free } (x, s) \land \text{ Free } (z, s) \land \neg (x=z) \Rightarrow \neg \text{ On } (x, y, do (move } (x, y, z), s))

\forall x, y, s \text{ On } (x, y, s) \land \text{ Free } (x, s) \land \text{ Free } (z, s) \land \neg (x=z) \land \neg (y=z) \Rightarrow \text{ Free } (y, do (move } (x, y, z), s))

\forall x, y, s \text{ On } (x, y, s) \land \text{ Free } (x, s) \land \text{ Free } (z, s) \land \neg (x=z) \land \neg (x=Floor) \Rightarrow \neg \text{ Free } (z, do (move } (x, y, z), s))
```

## Use Effect Axioms in the Blocks World

B A C

```
On(B,A,S0)
On(A,C,S0)
On(C,Floor,S0)
Free(B,S0)
Free(Pav,S0)
```

```
◆S0

move(B,A,Floor)

◆S1 = do(move(B,A,Floor),S0)
```

```
On (A, Floor, do (move (B, A, Floor), S0))

¬On (B, A, do (move (B, A, Floor), S0))

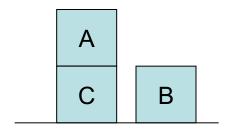
Free (A, do (move (B, A, Floor), S0))

On (A, C, do (move (B, A, Floor), S0))

On (C, Floor, do (move (B, A, Floor), S0))

Free (B, do (move (B, A, Floor), S0))

Free (Floor, S0) It is true for all the states!
```



OBS: Formulas in Situation Calculus ARE STATELESS.

Even if we are in S1, formulas resulting true in S0 continue to be true.

### The Frame Problem

- Not all the infornation related to state S1 = do(sposta(B, A, Pav))
   can be inferred from the Effect Axioms
- Some facts true before an action (C on the floor, B is free) continue to be true also in the state following the «move» action.
- Actions have local effects
- Many fluents remains unchanged
- We need a pair of «frame axioms» positive frame axiom and negative frame axiom for each pair <action,Fluent> [may we derive them automatically?]

#### <move,On>

```
On (x,y,s) \land \neg (x=u) \Rightarrow On(x,y,do(move(u,v,z),s))

\neg On(x,y,s) \land (\neg (x=u) \lor \neg (y=a)) \Rightarrow \neg On(x,y,do(move(u,v,z),s))

<move,Free>
Free (u,s) \land \neg (x=z) \Rightarrow Free(u,do(move(x,y,z),s))

\neg Free(u,s) \land \neg (u=y) \Rightarrow \neg Free(u,do(move(x,y,z),s))
```

• From the positive frame axiom for <move,Free> we may infer Free (B, do (move (B, A, Floor), S))