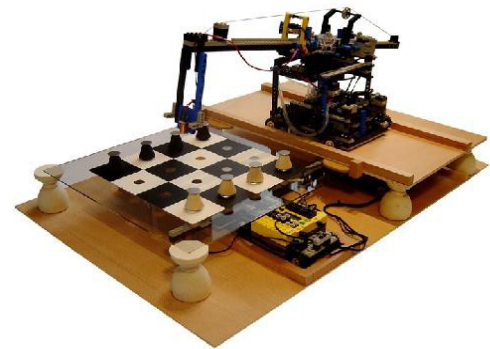


# Outline

- General Game Playing
- Propositional Logic
- First-Order Logic
- The Game Description Language GDL

## Computer Game Playing



Kasparov vs. Deep Blue (1997)



# Introduction: *General* Game Playing

## General Game Playing

General Game Players are systems

- able to understand formal descriptions of arbitrary games
- able to learn to play these games effectively.

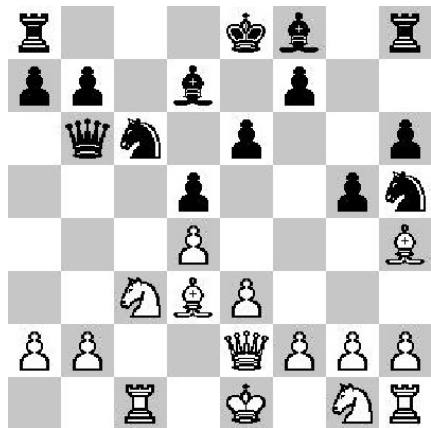
Translation: They don't know the rules until the game starts.

Unlike specialized game players (e.g. Deep Blue), they do not use algorithms designed in advance for specific games.

# Variety of Games



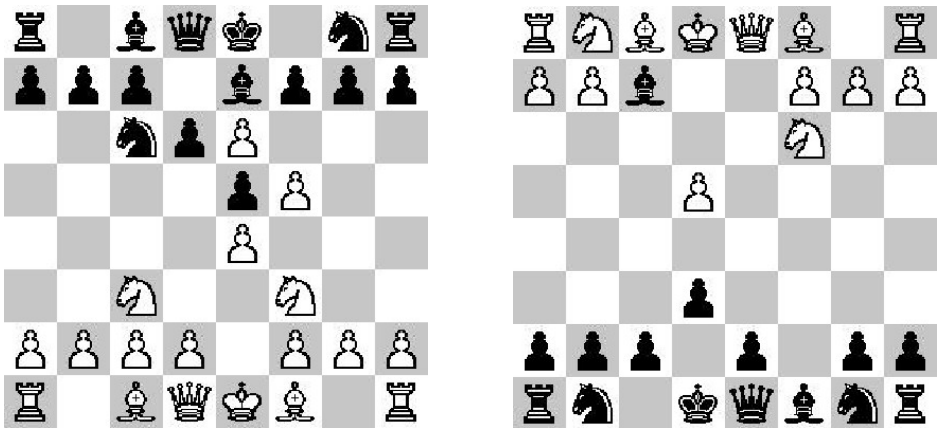
# Chess



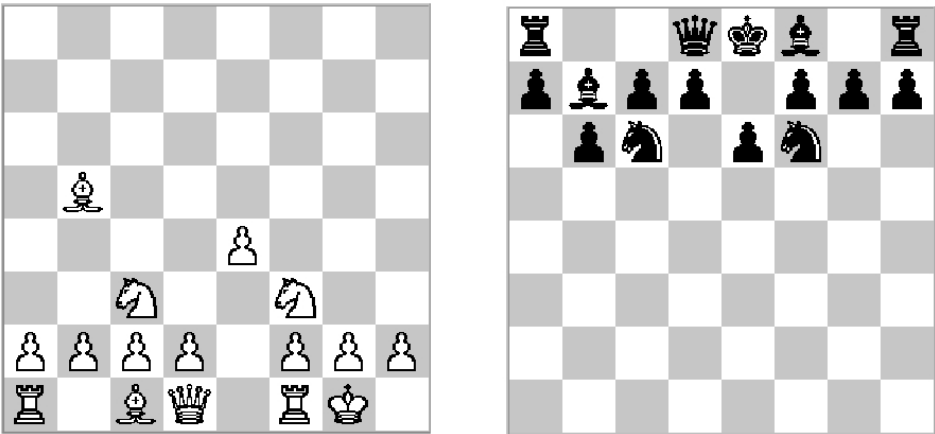
# Noughts And Crosses



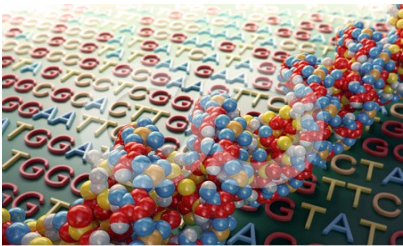
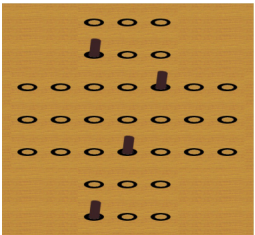
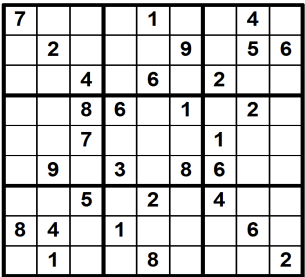
# Bughouse Chess



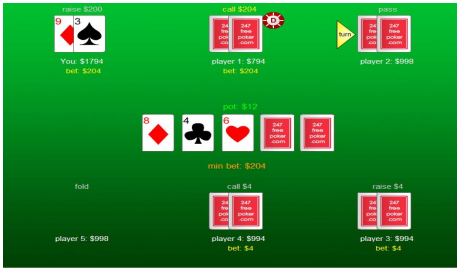
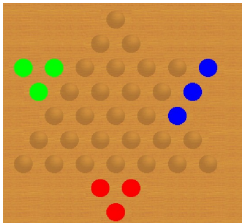
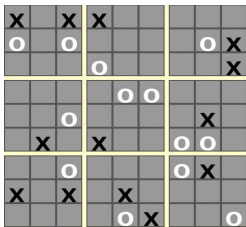
Kriegspiel



Single-Player Games (aka. Planning)



Other Games



International Activities

Websites – [www.general-game-playing.de](http://www.general-game-playing.de)  
[games.stanford.edu](http://games.stanford.edu)

- Games
- Game Manager
- Reference Players
- Development Tools
- Literature

World Cup, administered by Stanford

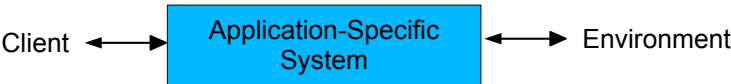
- 2005 – Cluneplayer (USA)
- 2006 – Fluxplayer (Germany)
- 2007, 2008 – Cadiplayer (Iceland)
- 2009, 2010 – Ary (France)
- 2011 – TurboTurtle (USA)
- 2012 – Cadiplayer (Iceland)

# General Game Playing and AI

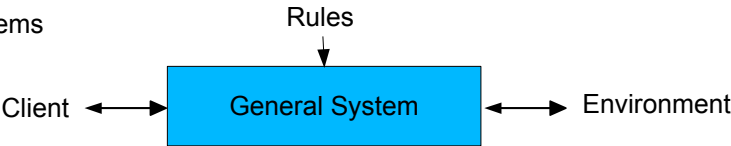
## Why games?

- Many social, biological, political, and economic processes can be formalised as (multi-agent) games.
- General game-players are examples of systems that can adapt to radically different environments without human intervention.

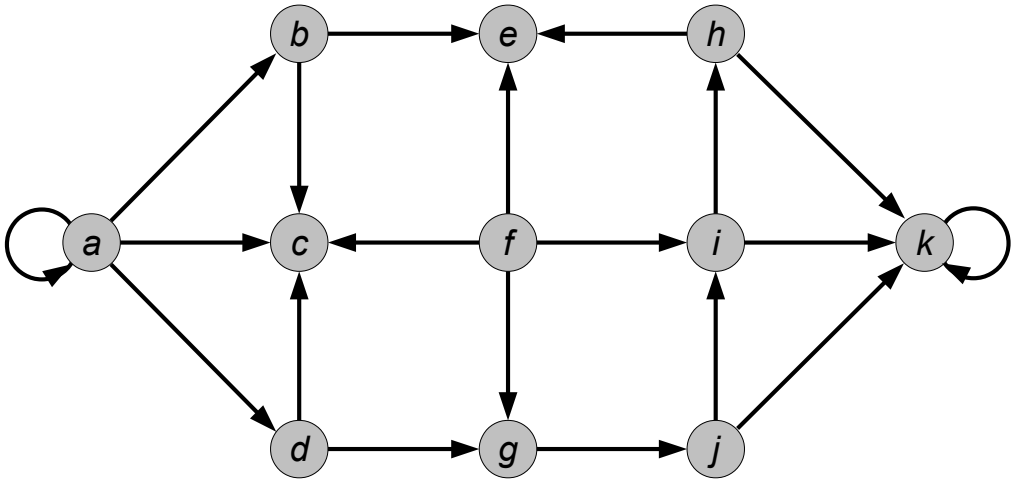
## Ordinary Systems



## General Systems



# Games as State Machines



# Finite Synchronous Games

## Finite environment

- Environment with finitely many positions (= states)
- One initial state and one or more terminal states

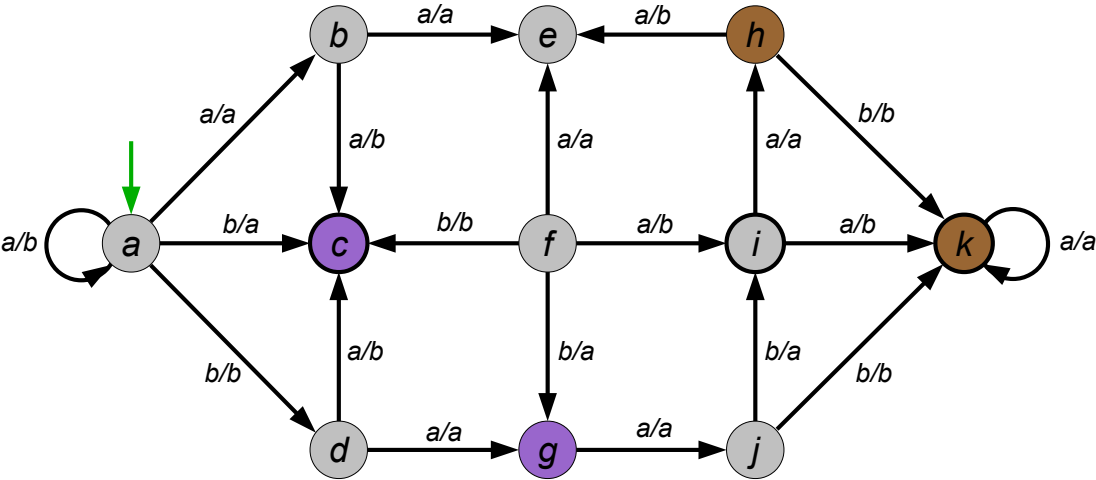
## Finite Players

- Fixed finite number of players
- Each with finitely many “actions”
- Each with one or more goal states

## Synchronous Update

- All players move on all steps (possibly some “no-ops”)
- Environment changes only in response to moves

# Initial State, Terminal States, & Simultaneous Moves



# Direct Description

Since all of the games that we are considering are finite, it is possible in principle to communicate game information in the form of tables (for legal moves, update, etc.)

Problem: Size of description. Even though everything is finite, the necessary tables can be large (e.g.  $\sim 10^{44}$  states in Chess)

Solutions:

- Reformulate in modular fashion
- Use compact encoding

# Example: Noughts And Crosses

	1	2	3
1	X		
2		O	
3			X

```
cell(1,1,x)
cell(1,2,b)
cell(1,3,b)
cell(2,1,b)
cell(2,2,o)
cell(2,3,b)
cell(3,1,b)
cell(3,2,b)
cell(3,3,x)
control(oplayer)
```

# States versus Features

In many cases, worlds are best thought of in terms of **atomic features** that may change; e.g. “position-of-white-queen”, “black-can-castle”. Moves (a.k.a. actions) affect subsets of these features.

States represent all possible ways the world can be. As such, the number of states is exponential in the number of features of the world, and the transition tables are correspondingly large.

Solution: Represent features directly and describe how actions change individual features rather than entire states

# Game Description Language (GDL): Facts and Rules

## Some Facts

```
role(xplayer)
role(oplayer)

init(cell(1,1,b))
init(cell(1,2,b))
...
init(cell(3,3,b))
init(control(xplayer))
```

## Some Rules

```
legal(P,mark(M,N)) <=
  true(cell(M,N,b)) ^
  true(control(P))

next(cell(M,N,x)) <=
  does(xplayer,mark(M,N))

next(cell(M,N,o)) <=
  does(oplayer,mark(M,N))
```

All highlighted expressions are pre-defined keywords in GDL.

# Pure Logic: No Built-In Assumptions

What we see

```
legal(P,mark(M,N)) <=
  true(cell(M,N,b)) ^
  true(control(P))

next(cell(M,N,x)) <=
  does(xplayer,mark(M,N))

next(cell(M,N,o)) <=
  does(oplayer,mark(M,N))
```

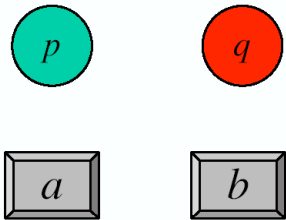
What they see

```
legal(P,dukepse(M,N)) <=
  true(welcoul(M,N,kwq)) ^
  true(himenoing(P))

next(welcoul(M,N,ygg)) <=
  does(lorchi,dukepse(M,N))

next(welcoul(M,N,pyr)) <=
  does(gniste,dukepse(M,N))
```

# A Simpler Example First: the Buttons-And-Light Game



Pressing button *a* toggles *p*.  
Pressing button *b* interchanges *p* and *q*.  
Initially, *p* and *q* are off. Goal: *p* and *q* are on.

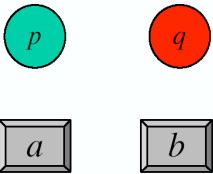
# Propositional Logic

# Propositional Logic: Vocabulary

- Proposition Symbols:  $p, q, r$
- Logical Connectives:
- $\neg p$  (negation, read: "not *p*")
  - $p \wedge q$  (conjunction, read: "*p* and *q*")
  - $p \vee q$  (disjunction, read: "*p* or *q*")
  - $p \Rightarrow q$  (implication, read: "*p* if *q*")
  - $p \Leftrightarrow q$  (equivalence, read: "*p* if and only if *q*")
- Sentences:
- built from proposition symbols and connectives  
e.g.  $p \Leftrightarrow (q \wedge \neg r) \vee \neg q$



# Example: Buttons and Lights



Proposition Symbols:    *initp*, *initq*,  
                                  *truep*, *trueq*,  
                                  *nextp*, *nextq*,  
                                  *doesa*, *doesb*,  
                                  *goal*

The logic of this game:

$nextp \iff (\neg truep \wedge doesa) \vee (trueq \wedge doesb)$

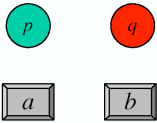
$nextq \iff (trueq \wedge doesa) \vee (truep \wedge doesb)$

$\neg initp$   
 $\neg initq$   
 $goal \iff (truep \wedge trueq)$

## Knowing What Happens in Buttons-and-Lights

$nextp \iff (\neg truep \wedge doesa) \vee (trueq \wedge doesb)$

$nextq \iff (trueq \wedge doesa) \vee (truep \wedge doesb)$



truep	trueq	doesa	doesb	nextp	nextq
false	false	true	false	true	false
false	false	false	true	false	false
true	false	true	false	false	false
true	false	false	true	false	true
false	true	true	false	true	true
false	true	false	true	true	false
true	true	true	false	false	true
true	true	false	true	true	true

# Propositional Logic: Semantics

## Truth table

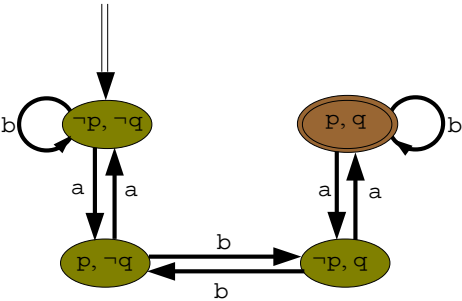
p	q	$\neg p$	$p \wedge q$	$p \vee q$	$p \iff q$	$p \implies q$
false	false	true	false	false	true	true
false	true	true	false	true	false	false
true	false	false	false	true	true	false
true	true	false	true	true	true	true

## Example

				$\phi$		$\psi$	
truep	trueq	doesa	doesb	$\neg truep$	$\neg truep \wedge doesa$	$trueq \wedge doesb$	$\phi \vee \psi$
false	false	true	false	true	true	false	true
true	false	false	true	false	false	false	false

*nextp* points to the  $\phi \vee \psi$  column.

## Summary: State Transitions for Buttons-and-Lights



# More on Semantics: Models

A **model** (in propositional logic) is an arbitrary subset of the proposition symbols.

$\mathcal{M}$  is a **model for a sentence**  $\phi$  under the following conditions:

- $\mathcal{M}$  model for a proposition  $\phi$  iff  $\phi \in \mathcal{M}$
- $\mathcal{M}$  model for  $\neg\phi$  iff  $\mathcal{M}$  not a model for  $\phi$
- $\mathcal{M}$  model for  $\phi \wedge \psi$  iff  $\mathcal{M}$  model for  $\phi$  and model for  $\psi$
- $\mathcal{M}$  model for  $\phi \vee \psi$  iff  $\mathcal{M}$  model for  $\phi$  or model for  $\psi$  (or both)
- $\mathcal{M}$  model for  $\phi \leq \psi$  iff  $\mathcal{M}$  model for  $\phi$  whenever  $\mathcal{M}$  model for  $\psi$
- $\mathcal{M}$  model for  $\phi \Leftrightarrow \psi$  iff  $\mathcal{M}$  model for  $\phi$  just in case  $\mathcal{M}$  model for  $\psi$

If all models of sentences  $\Phi$  also satisfy  $\phi$ , then  $\phi$  is a **logical consequence** of  $\Phi$ .

# First-Order Logic: Vocabulary

Object Variables:	$x, y, z$
Object Constants:	$a, b, c$
Functions:	$f, g, h$
Predicates:	$p, q, r$
Connectives:	$\neg, \wedge, \vee, \leq, \Leftrightarrow$
Quantifiers:	$\forall, \exists$

The **arity** of a function or predicate is the number of arguments that can be supplied.

# First-Order Logic

# First-Order Logic: Syntax

## Terms

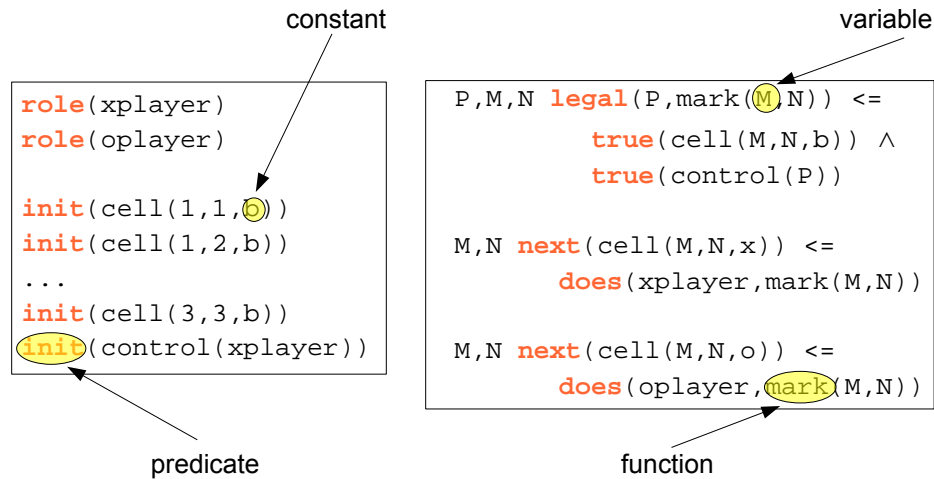
- Variables:  $x, y, z$
- Constants:  $a, b, c$
- Functional terms:  $f(a), g(a, x), h(a, b, f(y))$

## Sentences

- Atoms:  $p(x), q(a, g(a, b))$
- Literals:  $p(x), \neg p(x)$  (i.e. atoms and negated atoms)
- Sentences:  $p(a) \vee \neg p(a)$   
 $\forall x \exists y p(x, y) \leq \exists y \forall x p(x, y)$   
 $\forall x p(f(x)) \leq \exists y q(x, f(y)) \wedge \neg r(a)$



## Example



## Semantics (Cont'd)

The **Herbrand base** is the set of all variable-free atoms.

Example:  $\{p(a), p(b), q(a,a), q(a,b), q(b,a), q(b,b)\}$

A **model** is an arbitrary subset of the Herbrand base.

Examples:

- $\mathcal{M}_1 = \{p(a), q(a,b), q(b,a)\}$
- $\mathcal{M}_2 = \{p(a), p(b), q(a,a), q(a,b), q(b,a), q(b,b)\}$
- $\mathcal{M}_3 = \{\}$

## First-Order Logic: Semantics

The **Herbrand universe** for a logic language is the set of all terms without variables.

Example 1:

- Object Constants:  $a, b$
- Herbrand Universe:  $\{a, b\}$

Example 2:

- Object Constant:  $a$
- Unary function:  $f$
- Herbrand Universe:  $\{a, f(a), f(f(a)), \dots\}$

## Semantics (Finished)

$\mathcal{M}$  is a **model for a sentence**  $\phi$  (in which all variables are bound by a quantifier) under the following conditions:

- $\mathcal{M}$  model for a variable-free atom  $\phi$  iff  $\phi \in \mathcal{M}$
- $\mathcal{M}$  model for  $\neg\phi$  iff  $\mathcal{M}$  not a model for  $\phi$
- $\mathcal{M}$  model for  $\phi \wedge \psi$  iff  $\mathcal{M}$  model for  $\phi$  and model for  $\psi$
- $\mathcal{M}$  model for  $\phi \vee \psi$  iff  $\mathcal{M}$  model for  $\phi$  or model for  $\psi$  (or both)
- $\mathcal{M}$  model for  $\phi \leq \psi$  iff  $\mathcal{M}$  model for  $\phi$  whenever  $\mathcal{M}$  model for  $\psi$
- $\mathcal{M}$  model for  $\phi \leq \Rightarrow \psi$  iff  $\mathcal{M}$  model for  $\phi$  just in case  $\mathcal{M}$  model for  $\psi$
- $\mathcal{M}$  model for  $\forall x \phi$  iff  $\mathcal{M}$  model for  $\phi\{x/t\}$  for all terms  $t$  in the Herbrand universe
- $\mathcal{M}$  model for  $\exists x \phi$  iff  $\mathcal{M}$  model for  $\phi\{x/t\}$  for some  $t$  in the Herbrand universe

$\phi\{x/t\}$  means to replace each occurrence of  $x$  by  $t$  in  $\phi$ .

## Examples

Recall the models

- $\mathcal{M}_1 = \{p(a), q(a,b), q(b,a)\}$
- $\mathcal{M}_2 = \{p(a), p(b), q(a,a), q(a,b), q(b,a), q(b,b)\}$
- $\mathcal{M}_3 = \{\}$

Some examples:

- $\mathcal{M}_1$  is a model for  $p(a) \wedge \neg p(b)$ , whereas  $\mathcal{M}_2$  and  $\mathcal{M}_3$  are not.
- $\mathcal{M}_2$  is a model for  $p(b) \leq p(a)$ . So is  $\mathcal{M}_3$  (!)
- All three are models for  $\forall X \forall Y q(X,Y) \leq q(Y,X)$

If all models of sentences  $\Phi$  also satisfy  $\phi$ , then  $\phi$  is a **logical consequence** of  $\Phi$ .

## Logic Programs: A Subset of First-Order Logic

Clauses

- Facts: atoms
- Rules: **Head**  $\leq$  **Body**

**Head**: atom

**Body**: sentence built from  $\wedge, \vee$ , literal

All variables in a clause are universally quantified (over the whole clause).

A **logic program** is a finite collection of clauses.

## General Game Description Language GDL

## Back to General Game Playing

In the Game Description Language (GDL), a game is a logic program.  
GDL uses the constants 0, 1, ..., 100 and the following predicates as keywords.

- **role(r)** means that **r** is a role (i.e. a player) in the game
- **init(f)** means that **f** is true in the initial position (state)
- **true(f)** means that **f** is true in the current state
- **does(r,a)** means that role **r** does action **a** in the current state
- **next(f)** means that **f** is true in the next state
- **legal(r,a)** means that it is legal for **r** to play **a** in the current state
- **goal(r,v)** means that **r** gets goal value **v** in the current state
- **terminal** means that the current state is a terminal state
- **distinct(s,t)** means that terms **s** and **t** are syntactically different

# Back to Noughts And Crosses

	1	2	3
1	X		
2		O	
3			X

```

cell(1,1,x)
cell(1,2,b)
cell(1,3,b)
cell(2,1,b)
cell(2,2,o)
cell(2,3,b)
cell(3,1,b)
cell(3,2,b)
cell(3,3,x)
control(oplayer)
    
```

# Noughts and Crosses: Elements of the Vocabulary

- Object constants
  - xplayer, oplayer
  - x, o ,b
  - noop
- Functions
  - cell(number,number,mark)
  - control(player)
  - mark(number,number)
- Predicates
  - row(number,mark)
  - column(number,mark)
  - diagonal(mark)
  - line(mark)
  - open
  - draw

Players  
Marks  
Move

Feature  
Feature  
Move

# Players and Initial State

```

role(xplayer)
role(oplayer)

init(cell(1,1,b))
init(cell(1,2,b))
init(cell(1,3,b))
init(cell(2,1,b))
init(cell(2,2,b))
init(cell(2,3,b))
init(cell(3,1,b))
init(cell(3,2,b))
init(cell(3,3,b))
init(control(xplayer))
    
```

# Move Generator

```

legal(P,mark(M,N)) <=
    true(cell(M,N,b)) ^
    true(control(P))

legal(xplayer,noop) <=
    true(control(oplayer))

legal(oplayer,noop) <=
    true(control(xplayer))
    
```

## Conclusions:

```

legal(xplayer,noop)
legal(oplayer,mark(1,2))
...
legal(oplayer,mark(3,2))
    
```

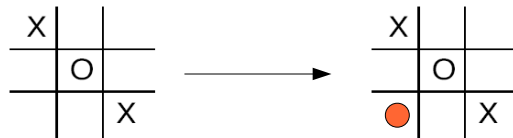
	X		
		O	
			X

```

true(cell(1,1,x))
true(cell(1,2,b))
true(cell(1,3,b))
true(cell(2,1,b))
true(cell(2,2,o))
true(cell(2,3,b))
true(cell(3,1,b))
true(cell(3,2,b))
true(cell(3,3,x))
true(control(oplayer))
    
```

## Physics: Example

cell(1,1,x)		cell(1,1,x)
cell(1,2,b)		cell(1,2,b)
cell(1,3,b)		<b>cell(1,3,o)</b>
cell(2,1,b)		cell(2,1,b)
cell(2,2,o)		cell(2,2,o)
cell(2,3,b)		cell(2,3,b)
cell(3,1,b)		cell(3,1,b)
cell(3,2,b)		cell(3,2,b)
cell(3,3,x)		cell(3,3,x)
control(oplayer)		<b>control(xplayer)</b>



## Supporting Concepts

row(M,W) <=	diagonal(W) <=
<b>true</b> (cell(M,1,W)) ∧	<b>true</b> (cell(1,1,W)) ∧
<b>true</b> (cell(M,2,W)) ∧	<b>true</b> (cell(2,2,W)) ∧
<b>true</b> (cell(M,3,W))	<b>true</b> (cell(3,3,W))
column(N,W) <=	diagonal(W) <=
<b>true</b> (cell(1,N,W)) ∧	<b>true</b> (cell(1,3,W)) ∧
<b>true</b> (cell(2,N,W)) ∧	<b>true</b> (cell(2,2,W)) ∧
<b>true</b> (cell(3,N,W))	<b>true</b> (cell(3,1,W))

## Physics

```
next(cell(M,N,x)) <= does(xplayer,mark(M,N))
next(cell(M,N,o)) <= does(oplayer,mark(M,N))
```

```
next(cell(M,N,W)) <= true(cell(M,N,W)) ∧
does(P,mark(J,K)) ∧
(distinct(M,J) ∨ distinct(N,K))
```

```
next(control(xplayer)) <= true(control(oplayer))
next(control(oplayer)) <= true(control(xplayer))
```

## Termination and Goal Values

```
terminal <=
  line(x) ∨ line(o)
terminal <=
  ←open
line(W) <=
  row(M,W) ∨
  column(N,W) ∨
  diagonal(W)
open <=
  true(cell(M,N,b))
```

```
goal(xplayer,100) <= line(x)
goal(xplayer, 50) <= draw
goal(xplayer, 0) <= line(o)

goal(oplayer,100) <= line(o)
goal(oplayer, 50) <= draw
goal(oplayer, 0) <= line(x)

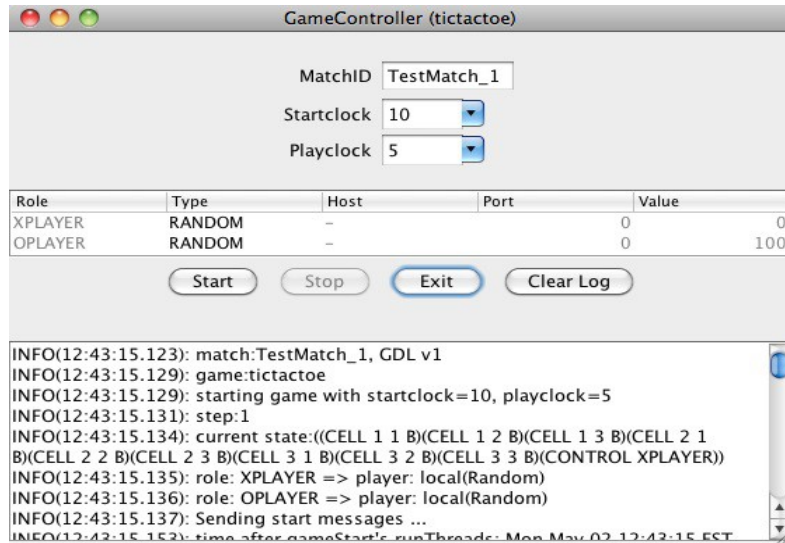
draw <=
  ¬line(x) ∧ ¬line(o) ∧ ¬open
```



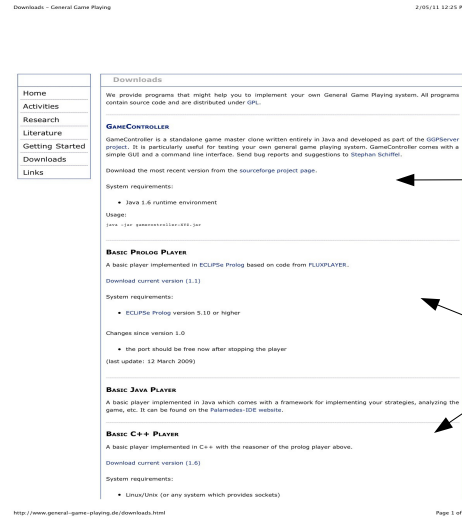
# Communication Protocol

- Manager sends **START** message to players  
(**START** <MATCH ID> <ROLE> <GAME DESCRIPTION>  
<STARTCLOCK> <PLAYCLOCK>)
  - Match ID: the name of the game
  - Role: the name of the role you are playing (e.g. **xplayer** or **oplayer**)
  - Game description: the axioms describing the game
  - Start/play clock: how much time you have before the game begins/per turn
- Manager sends **PLAY** message to players  
(**PLAY** <MATCH ID> <PRIOR MOVES>)  
Prior moves is a list of moves, one per player
  - The order is the same as the order of roles in the game description
  - e.g. ((**mark** 1 1) **noop**)
  - Special case: for the first turn, prior moves is **nil**
- Players send back a message of the form **MOVE**, e.g. (**mark** 3 2)
- When the previous turn ended the game, Manager sends a **STOP** message  
(**STOP** <MATCH ID> <PRIOR MOVES>)

# GameControllerApp



# <http://www.general-game-playing.de/downloads.html>



Download Manager

Download Basic Players

# Background Reading

## Logic

- Russell & Norvig AIMA: Chapter 7 – Section 7.4  
Chapter 8 – Sections 8.1 and 8.2

## General Game Playing

- [games.stanford.edu/competition/misc/aaai.pdf](http://games.stanford.edu/competition/misc/aaai.pdf)

## New Online Course on General Game Playing

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- [www.coursera.org/courses/ggp](http://www.coursera.org/courses/ggp)

starts 1 Apr 2013