



# TUTORIAL 1: Design of Intelligent Agent

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**Aim:** To understand the concept of Agent by studying definition of Rational Agent, Agent environment, Task Environment Descriptions, environment types.

**THEORY:** An Artificial Intelligent (AI) system is composed of an agent and its environment. The agents act in their environment. An agent is anything that can perceive its environment through sensors & acts upon that environment through effectors. This can be seen in figure.

1. An agent in particular can be:

Human agent has sensory organs such as eyes, ears, nose, tongue and skin parallel to the sensors, and other organs such as hands, legs, mouth for effectors.

**ROBOTIC AGENT:** replaces cameras and infrared range finders for the sensors, and various motors and actuators for effectors.

**SOFTWARE AGENT:** has encoded bit strings as its programs and actions.

Agent structure can be viewed as a combination of Agent architecture and Agent Program. Agent Architecture refers to the machinery that an agent executes on.

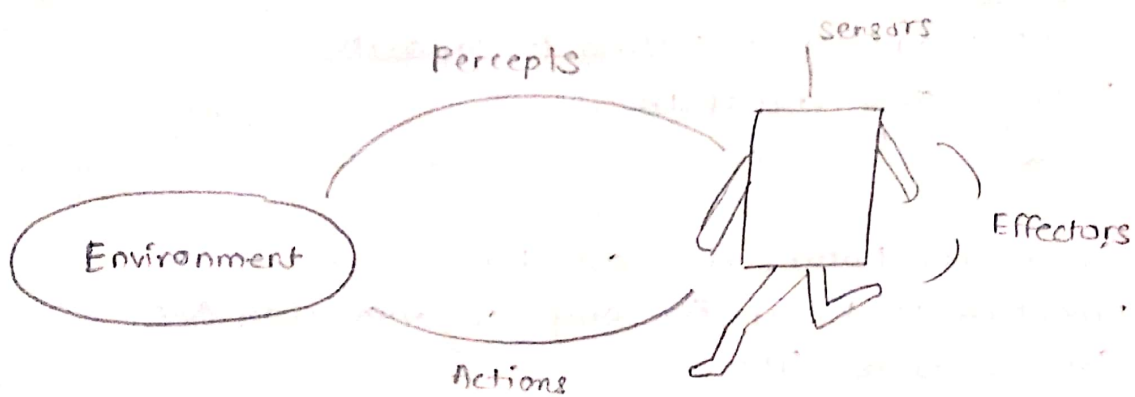


Figure 1: AI Agent with Environment

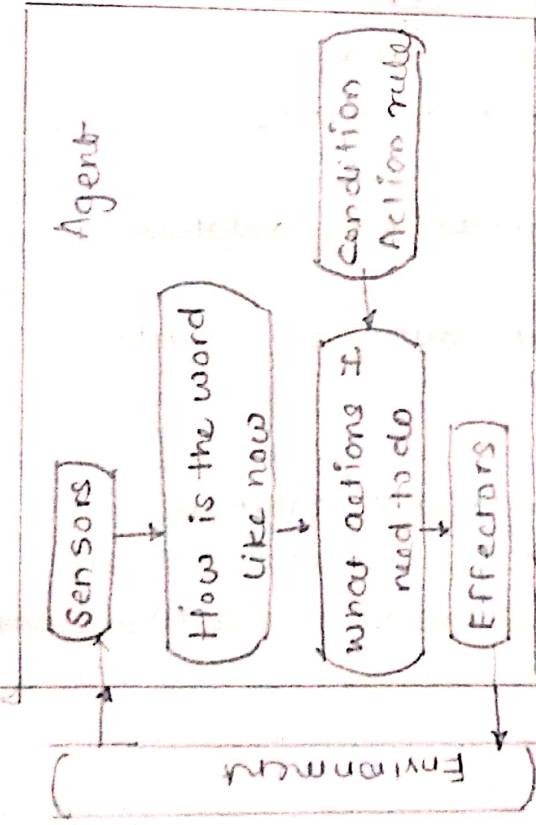


whereas Agent Program is an implementation of an agent function. Figure 2 shows four important types of agent architectures.

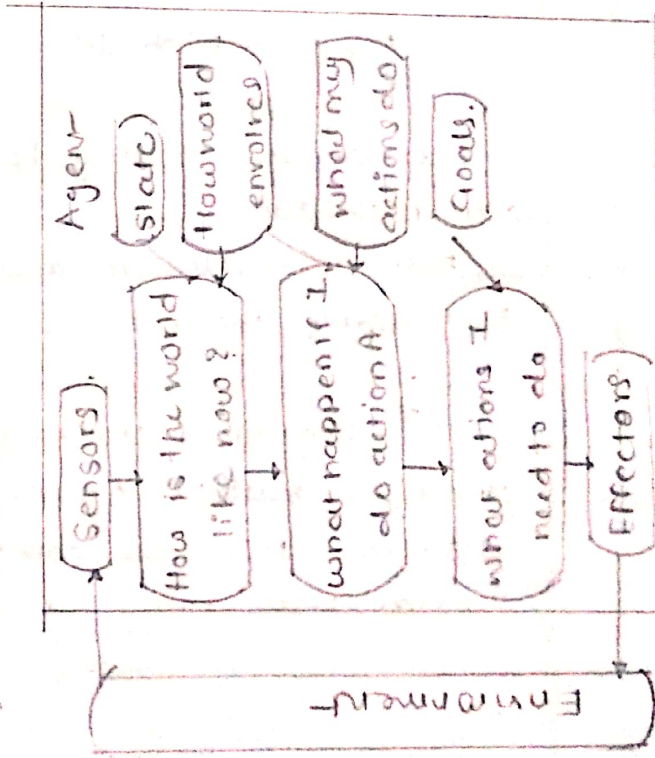
As seen in Figure 2a, simple Reflex agents actions only if a correct decision is made on the basis of current percept. Agent take into account how its actions in order to achieve goals. Reflex agents are shown in Figure 2b use a model of the world to choose their action. Goal based agent shown in Figure 2c choose their actions in order to achieve goals. Goal-based approach is more flexible than reflex agent since the knowledge supporting a decision is explicitly modeled thereby allowing for modifications. Goals are inadequate when there are conflicting goals or at which only few can be achieved, goals have some uncertainty of being achieved & you need to weigh likelihood of success against the importance of a goal. on the other hand utility function objectively map how much being in a particular state is desirable.

An AI agent is referred to as Rational Agent. The problem the agent solves is characterized by Performance Measure, Environment Actuators, and Sensors (PEAS). These are collectively referred to as PEAS descriptors for the agent task environment. PEAS descriptors provide important

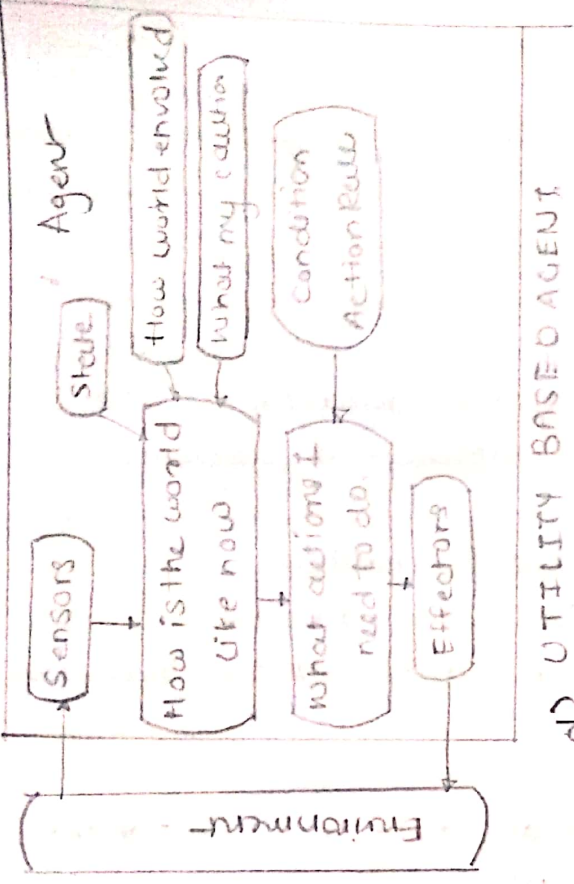
(a) SIMPLE REFLEX AGENT



(c) GOAL BASED AGENT



(b) MODEL BASED REFLEX AGENT



(d) UTILITY BASED AGENT

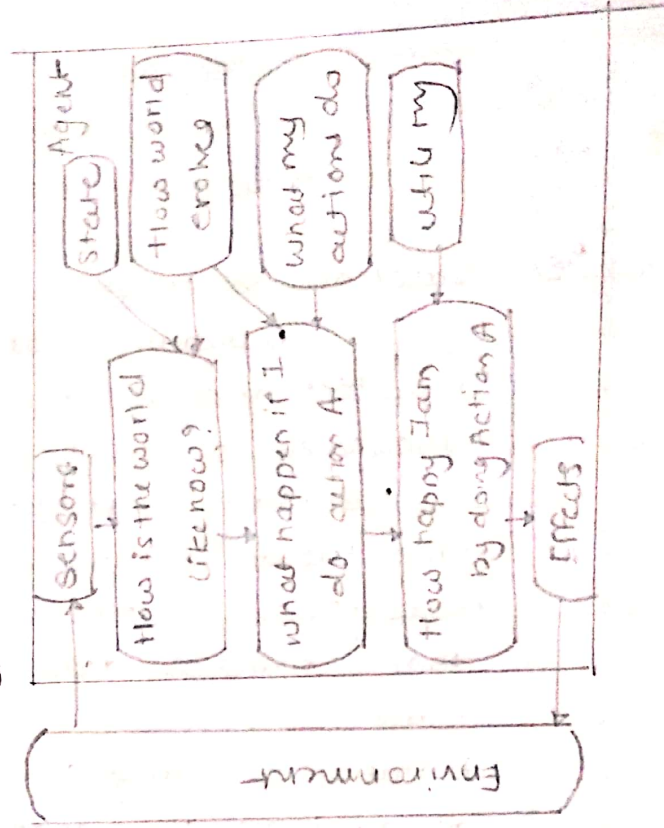


Figure 2: Agent Architecture type



Another important piece of information is task environment properties while analyzing task environment the agent architect needs to consider following properties

1) Discrete or Continuous If there are a limited number of distinct, clearly defined, states of the environment, the environment is discrete (for example, chess); otherwise it is continuous (e.g. automated driving)

2) Observable or Partially Observable Possible to determine the complete state of the environment at each time point from the precepts. It is observable. otherwise it is partial.

3) Static or Dynamic If environment does not change while an agent is acting, then the environment is deterministic; otherwise it is not deterministic.

4) Episodic or Sequential In an episodic environment, each episode of events consists of the agent perceiving & then acting. Episodic environments are much simpler because the agent does not need to think ahead, e.g. part packing robots. Complementary to this is sequential environment where current action dictates the future action.

5) Single agent or Multiple agents The environment may contain single agent or other agents which may be of the same or different kind as that of the agent.

7) Accessible or Inaccessible If the agent's sensory apparatus can have access to the complete state of the environment, then the environment is accessible to the agent.

WORKING: Search Internet for AI based applications in following scenarios & identify who is agent for that application. Finally try to classify task environment properties like a list of attributes from above list of 7 task environment properties.

- Autonomous Lunar Rover
- Deep Blue chess playing computer program
- Eliza the natural language processing computer program created from 1964 to 1966 at the MIT AI Laboratory by Joseph Weizenbaum
- Automatic Portfolio management
- Sophia is a social humanoid robot developed by Hong Kong based company Hanson Robotics
- Apple virtual Assistant Siri
- Casper: Helping Insomniacs
- Marvel: Guarding the galaxy with comic Book
- Automated Cross Word Solver



\*> 1> Deep: Blue chess playing computer program

Performance measure: win / lose / draw, safety of chess pieces safety of king piece, no of moves, time for each move

Environment: chess board, chess pieces

Actuators: Desktop source, CPU

Sensors: chess swanet

Task environment properties: Discrete, Fully observable, static, Deterministic

sequential, single agent, Accessible

\*> Apple's with virtual assistant Siri

Performance measure: Understanding user text & speech producing best results, summing (trigger), response speed.

Environment: User, speech, text

Actuators: Mobile screen, speaker

Sensors: mobile screen, mic, cameras

Task Environment properties.

continuous, fully observable, state, Deterministic, Episode single agent, Accessible

\*> Automate Crossword Solver

Performance measure: Understanding hints, analyzing, hold on visible letters, time to solve



Environment : Hints, visible letters, or crossword board

Sensors : Desktop screen, program

sensors : crossword board

Task Environment properties

discrete, fully observable, state-deterministic, Episodic  
single agent, Accessible

\* Sophia is a social humanoid robot developed by Hong Kong based company Hanson Robotics.

Performance measure : understanding user, maintaining  
conversation, social expressions,

response time

Environment : humans, objects

Actuators : Arms, mouth, legs, speaker

Sensors : Eyes (cameras) ears, mic, audio sensors

Task environment properties : Continuous, Fully  
observable, Dynamic,  
Deterministic, Sequential, single Agent, Accessible

\* ELIZA, the NLP computer program created from 1964 to 1966

Environment → User, program, keyboard, user text inputs,  
ELIZA texts, a/p window

Actuators → Texts

Sensors = User text inputs

Task environment properties → continuous, Fully observable  
static, Deterministic, Sequential, single agent.

Performance measure : understanding user, maintaining  
conversation.