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Name	- Rohan. K. Mudaliyar
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Roll no.	- 38
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Class	-	B.E. / I.T.
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Batch	- I-2.
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Remark

Aim - To understand State Space based problem formulation of AI problems so that Problem Solving Agent can be applied.

Theory - First we understand the problem solving Agent. Algo. shown in Figure below shows agent program for problem solving agent. Agent first formulates goal & problem, then determines or rather searches on action sequence after which it returns the next action to be executed in a sequential manner.

Function: SIMPLE-PROBLEM-SOLVING-AGENT (percept) returns an action

static: seq, an action sequence, initially empty

state, some description of the current world state

goal, a goal, initially null

problem, a problem formulation.

state \leftarrow UPDATE-STATE (state, percept)

if seq is empty then do

goal \leftarrow FORMULATE-GOAL (state)

problem \leftarrow FORMULATE-PROBLEM (state, goal).

seq \leftarrow SEARCH (problem)

action \leftarrow FIRST (seq)

seq \leftarrow REST (seq)

return action.

Defining the Problem is referred to as problem formulation. It involves defining following five things:

Initial State - It is the starting state that the problem is in.

Actions - It defines all possible actions available to the agent given it is in some state S currently.

Transition Model - also known as Successor function which

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which define which state is the system tend to move to when a particular action is executed by the agent.

Goal Test - This act as a stopping condition when the state passed to this function is goal state it will return true & searching would stop.

Path cost - It is accumulated cost of performing certain sequence of actions.

Thus a problem can formally specified by identifying initial state, actions, transition model, goal test & path cost. In term of problem solving agent solution is the path from initial state to a goal state, optimal solution is the lowest path cost of all solutions.

Working - Based on understanding of problem formulation students need to formulate following problems. They will clearly show state space up to depth level 3 or till goal node which even is shallowest.

- a) Navigate to KGCE Workshop from HOD IT Cabin with minimum number of moves.
- b) 8 Puzzle problem.
- c) The missionaries and cannibals problem.
- d) N Queen's problem, Arrange N queens on a Ncross N chess board where no two queens attack each other.
- e) Two room vacuum cleaner world.
- f) Water Jug Problem.