K.G.C.E.
Karjat - Raigad

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Aim:- To understand the concept of Agent Abstraction by studying definition of Rational Agent, Agent environment, Task Environment Descriptors, environment types.

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Tutorial 1

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Aim:- To understand the concept of Agent Abstraction by studying definition of Rational Agent, Agent environment, Task Environment Descriptors, 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 ~~that~~ through sensors and acts upon that environment through effectors. This can be clearly seen in Fig 1. An agent in particular can be:

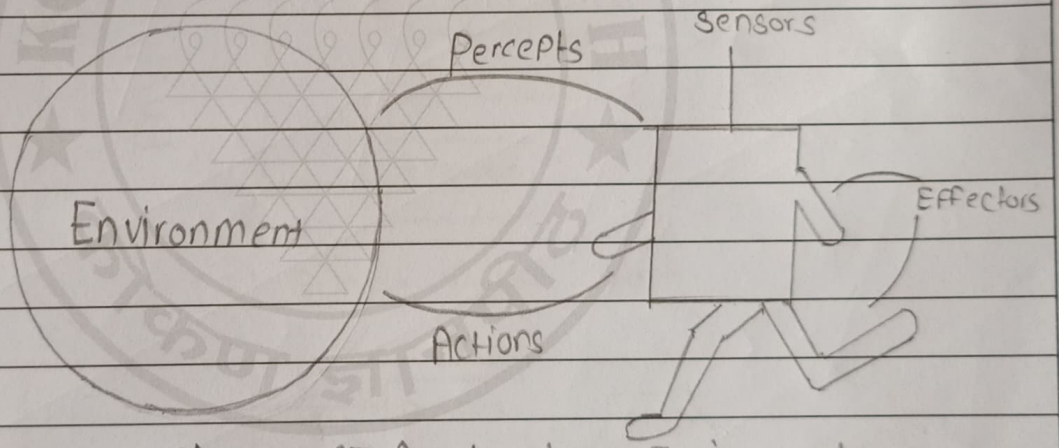
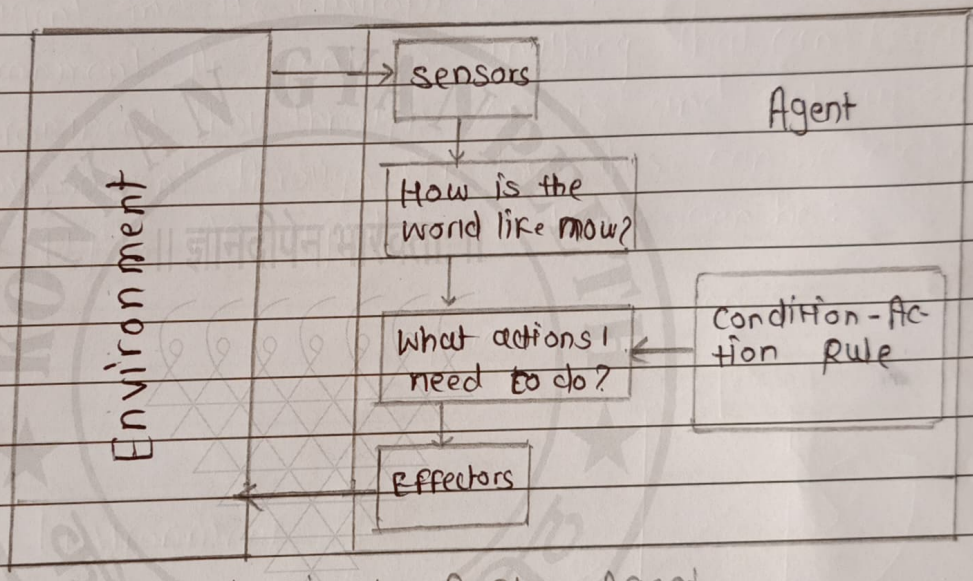


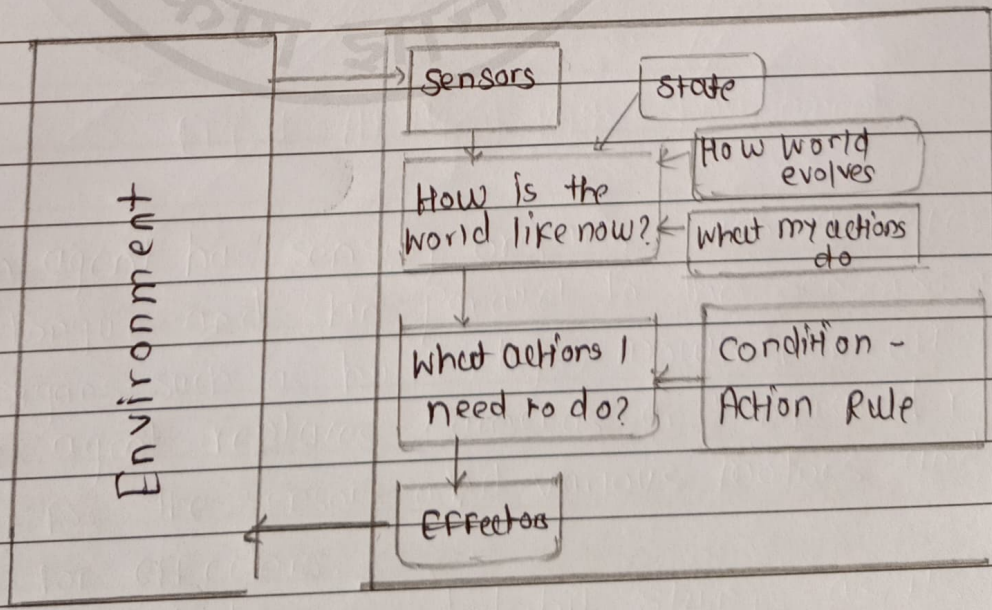
Fig. 1 AI Agent With Environment

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 actutors for effectors.
Software agent has encoded bit strings as its programs and actions.

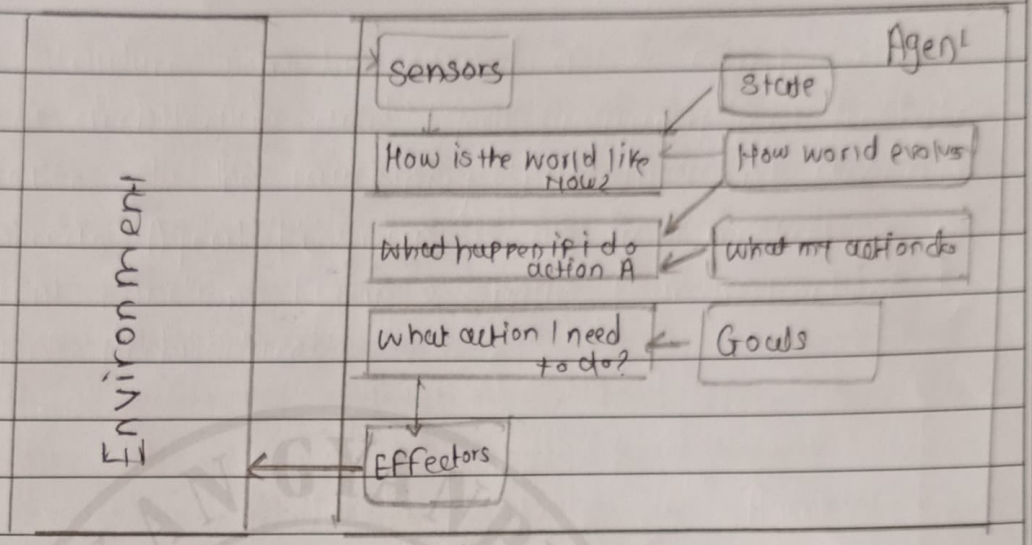
Agent structure can be viewed as a combination of Agent architecture and Agent Program. Agent Architecture refers to the machinery that an agent executes on whereas Agent Program is an implementation of an agent function. Figure 2 shows four important types of agent Architectures.



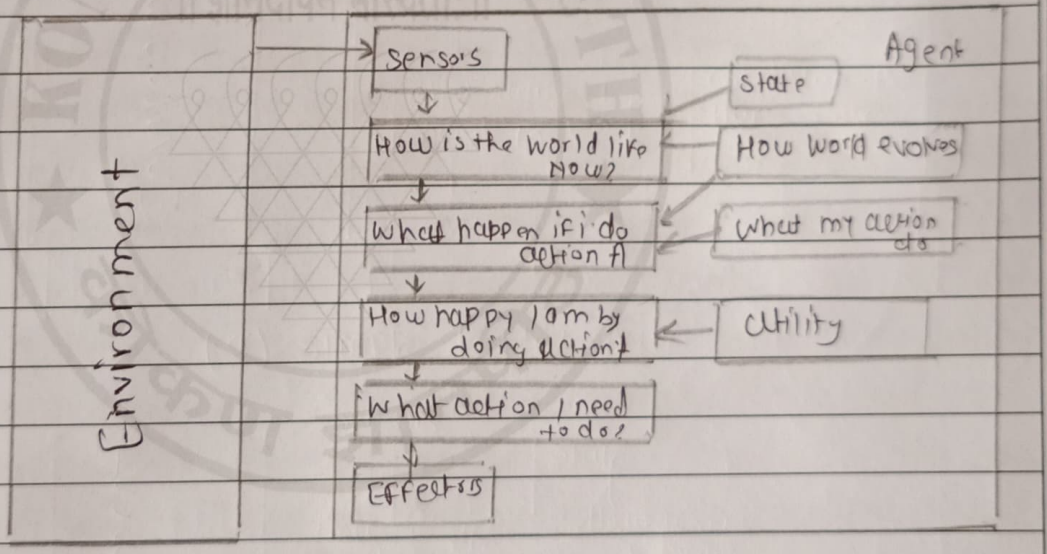
(a) Simple Reflex Agent



(b) model Based Reflex Agent



(c) Goal Based Agent



(d) utility Based Agent

figure 2: Agent Architecture Types

As seen in figure 2a, simple Reflex agents choose actions only based on the current percept only. They are rational only if a correct decision is made only on the basis of current precept. Agent environment for such

agents is fully observable. Model based Reflex Agents as shown in Figure 2b use a model of the world & to choose their actions. They maintain an internal state as a persistent information. Here the model means knowledge about how the things happen in the world that is representation of unobserved aspects of current state depending on Percept history. Agent take into account how its actions affect the world. Goal based Agents shown in fig 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. Goal is the description of desirable situations. Finally, the utility Based agents shown in fig 2d choose actions based on a preference (utility) for each state. Goals are inadequate when there are conflicting goals, out of which only few can 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. A Rational agent always performs right action, where the right action means the action that causes the agent to be most successful in the given percept sequence. 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 insight into agent and the task environment it operates in. These insights are very useful in agent design.

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

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

2. Observable or Partially observable If it is possible to determine the complete state of the environment at each time point from the precepts it is observable; otherwise it is only partially observable.

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

4. Deterministic or Non-deterministic If the next state of the environment is completely determined by the current state and the actions of the agent, then the environment is deterministic; otherwise it is non-determinstic.

5. Episodic or sequential In an episodic environment each episode of events consists of the agent, then the acting. The quality of its action depends just on the episode itself. Subsequent episodes do not

depend on the actions in the previous episodes. Episodic environments are much ~~simila~~ simpler because the agent does not need to think ahead. e.g part picking robots. Complementary to this is sequential environment where current action dectates the future action.

6. single agent or multiple agents The environment many contain single agent or other agents which may be so operating or competing with each other.

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 that agent.

Working Search internet for AI based applications in following scenarios and identify who is agent for that application. Further list out PEAS descriptors for agent environment in each of the case. Finally try to classify task environment properties like a list of attributes from above list of 7 task environment properties.

1. Autonomous Lunar Rover
2. Deep Blue chess playing computer program.
3. Eliza the natural language processing computer program created from 1964 to 1966 at the MIT Artificial Intelligence Laboratory by Jsoeph Weizenbaum.

4. Automatic portfolio management
5. Sophia is a social hymanoid robot developed by Hong Kon based company Hanson Robotics.
6. AlphaGo is a computer program that plays the boad game Go. It was developed by Alphabet Inc Deepmind lab in London.
7. Apples virtual assistance siri
8. Endurance! A Companion for Dementia patients
9. Casper: Helping Insomniacs Get through the Night
10. marvel: Guarding the Galaxy with Comic-Book Crossovers
11. Automated cross word solver

Resources: The above diagrams are taken from online tutorial available at Tutorials points on topic AI-Agents and Environments.