

DAIIA Assignment Report

Course: [Distributed Artificial Intelligence and AI Agents]

Assignment: [Homework 1]

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1. Running Instructions

Import the ZIP file given on GAMA and go to the folder assignment1/models. You will find a file called Festival.gaml where our model for the homework is implemented. Then, from the interface of GAMA, click on the play button and you will see a simulation. Use the tools provided by the GAMA simulation interface to adjust the speed, read the outputs and verify on screen that everything is working correctly. Note that changing the parameters *numCenter*, *numShops* and *numGuests* will change the number of agents that will apply on the screen and be part of the simulation.

2. General Overview

2.1 Agents

We have defined 4 main species:

- InformationCenter
- Shop
- SecurityGuard
- Guest

We also have two subspecies of Guest that are called SmartGuest and BadApple and they have been implemented to obtain the objectives requested by challenge 1 and 2.

The agent of type **InformationCenter** is responsible to give informations to all the agents that are asking him where the shops are. He knows the locations of them and is also connected to a SecurityGuard that will be helpful for the purpose of the second challenge. regarding the aspect of this agent, it is depicted as a black square of length 5 and its locations is right in the center of the field where the simulation is happening. All the other agents know by default the position of the InformationCenter.

A **Shop** is an agent responsible of replenishing food or water to all the guests that are coming to them. They are divided into food shops and water shops and their position changes in each simulation. Water shops are depicted as grey triangles while food shops are red triangles.

The **Guest**, instead, takes part in the festival and basically wonders randomly unless it is either hungry or thirsty. In this case it goes to the InformationCenter and asks it where is it possible to find food or water to fulfill its need. Then he starts moving to the location given by the InformationCenter and "charges its batteries". Then, it continues moving aimlessly unless it feels hungry or thirsty again(or both). A guest is a pink dot.

As we said before, there is also the **SmartGuest** that has a memory and so it is able to remember the locations of the shops visited. In this way he could move less with respect to normal guests and it will satisfy its need faster. The SmartGuest appears on screen as a yellow dot.

The other subtype of Guest, called **BadApple** is requested for challenge 2 and it has the ability to follow a guest and attack it, either by changing the direction towards it is moving or by reducing/adding thirstiness and hungryness. The other guests can report him to the InformationCenter which will use the SecurityGuard to kill the BadApple.

Last but not the least, there is the **SecurityGuard** that is responsible to catch and kill all the badApples that doesn't follow the rules of the festival and must be eliminated. The security guard is a blue dot and its starting position is northwest with respect to the InformationCenter.

2.2 Assumptions

Our model has 1 InformationCenter, 1 SecurityGuard, 4 Shops (two of which of type *food* and two of type *water*). Regarding the Guests, we have defined three Smart guests and seven guests without memory.

2.3 Goals

The goals of this homework are:

- Introduction to the Gama platform
- Working with agents
- Learning the GAMA syntax
- Creating different types of agents
- Starting basic simulations
- Little bit of movement and behaviour

3. Basic implementation

3.1 Explanation. The basic implementation required us to create a simulation of a festival where Guests get hungry or thirsty. If they do, they should go to an Information Center to ask for the nearest Store that gives them what they need. Afterward, the Guests should simply keep doing something until they get hungry/thirsty again (they wander randomly).

3.2 Code. For this challenge we implemented all the requested agents and we setup a system through which there is a communication between the agents. In particular this is the portion of code where we designed the interaction between the information center and the guest.

```

reflex reached_info_center when:
  infoCenter != nil
  and onTheWayToShop = false
  and targetShop = nil
  and (location distance_to infoCenter.location) < 1.0 {

    // Check BOTH needs
    bool needFood <- (hunger >= hungerThreshold);
    bool needWater <- (thirsty >= thirstThreshold);

    // If no needs, exit early
    if (!needFood and !needWater) {
      return;
    }

    // Determine which need to address
    string primaryNeed;

    if (hunger = thirsty) {
      // If equal, choose randomly
      primaryNeed <- one_of(["food", "water"]);
    } else if (hunger > thirsty) {
      primaryNeed <- "food";
    } else {
      primaryNeed <- "water";
    }

    targetShop <- infoCenter.getShopFor(need: primaryNeed);

    if (targetShop = nil) {
      write "No target shop found for " + primaryNeed;
      return;
    }

    onTheWayToShop <- true;
    currentAction <- "-> " + primaryNeed + " shop";
    write "Going to " + targetShop + " to get " + primaryNeed + " - hunger: " + h
  }

```

The info center checks the need of the guest and assign him a shop to go. The guest then starts going to the target shop. Whenever the guests are not thirsty nor hungry they remain on idle and they wander as it can be seen from the piece of code below.

```

reflex wander when: hunger < hungerThreshold and thirsty < thirstThreshold and onThe
  do wander speed: movingSpeed;
}

```

One important aspect is that guests know the position on the InformationCenter by default.

```
ask guests {
    infoCenter <- center[0];
}
```

This ask is called inside the init and will be applied also for the other type of guests defined for the two challenges.

Finally, when the user reaches a shop wither the hungriness or the thirstiness are solved thanks to this reflex and the action it is subsequently calling.

```
reflex reached_shop when: targetShop != nil and (location distance_to targetShop.location < 10) {

    // Satisfy the need for this shop type
    do satisfy_needs;

}

action satisfy_needs {
string shopType <- targetShop.getShopType("");
if (shopType = "food") {
    hunger <- 0;
    write "Ate food! Hunger reset.";
} else if (shopType = "water") {
    thirsty <- 0;
    write "Drank water! Thirst reset.";
}
}
```

3.3 Demonstration. I will be providing a couple of use case for this initial part of the homework.

1. An agent is assigned a food shop when it is hungry
2. An agent gets food and so hungry is set back to 0

For the following two subsections we did the screenshots considering only a normal guest without memory, 4 shops and an InformationCenter at the centre of the map.

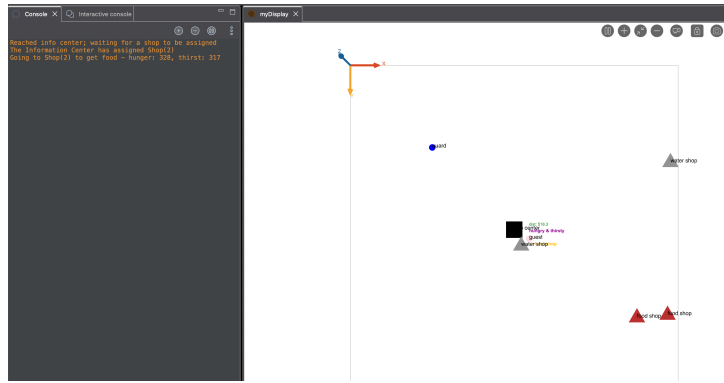


Figure 1: A food shop is assigned to the guest

3.3.1 Shop assignment. As it can be seen, the agent ask the info center where to go and the info center tell him to go to a food shop. Then the guest start moving toward the assigned shop.

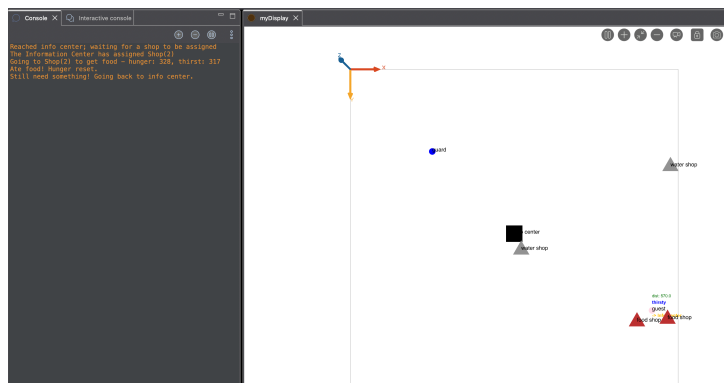


Figure 2: Hungriness is set to 0

3.3.2 Replenish hungriness. As it can be seen, the agent buys and eats food. Then it goes back to the info center sine the thirstiness is above the threshold.

4. Challenges

Challenge 1: Smart Guests

4.1 Explanation. For this challenge we implemented a new type of Guest, called SmartGuest, that has a memory of the shops he has visited. This way if he gets hungry or thirsty again, he can decide to either go to the InformationCenter to ask for a new shop or go directly to a known shop.

```

1 species SmartGuest parent: Guest{
2   list <Shop> visitedPlaces;
3
4   reflex manage_needs{
5     if ((hunger >= hungerThreshold or thirsty >= thirstThreshold) and onTheWayToShop = false and targetShop = nil) {
6       // No visited places go to info center
7       if (length(visitedPlaces)) <= 0 {
8         currentAction <- "-> Info Center";
9         do_go_infocenter;
10        return;
11      }
12
13      bool visitNewPlace <- rnd(0, 1);
14      if (!visitNewPlace) {
15        currentAction <- "-> Info Center";
16        do_go_infocenter;
17        return;
18      }
19
20      list shuffledPlaces <- shuffle(visitedPlaces);
21      loop i from: 0 to: length(shuffledPlaces) - 1{
22        Shop candidateShop <- shuffledPlaces[i];
23        if (hunger >= hungerThreshold) {
24          if (candidateShop.trait = "food") {
25            targetShop <- candidateShop;
26            onTheWayToShop <- true;
27            currentAction <- "-> Known " + candidateShop.trait + " shop";
28            return;
29          }
30        }
31
32        if (thirsty >= thirstThreshold) {
33          if (candidateShop.trait = "water") {
34            targetShop <- candidateShop;
35            onTheWayToShop <- true;
36            currentAction <- "-> Known " + candidateShop.trait + " shop";
37            return;
38          }
39        }
40      }
41    }
42  }
43 }
44

```

Figure 3: Code snippet for SmartGuest behavior

4.2 Code. The code snippet in Figure ?? shows how the SmartGuest decides whether to go to a known shop or ask the InformationCenter for a new one. With a probability of 50%, the SmartGuest chooses to visit a previously known shop from its memory of visited places. It randomly selects one shop that satisfies its current need (food or water) and heads there directly; otherwise it behaves like a normal Guest and goes to the InformationCenter.

Whenever a SmartGuest visits a shop, it adds that shop to its list of visited places so it can remember it for future needs, reducing travel time on repeated needs.

SmartGuests are represented as yellow dots on the simulation screen.

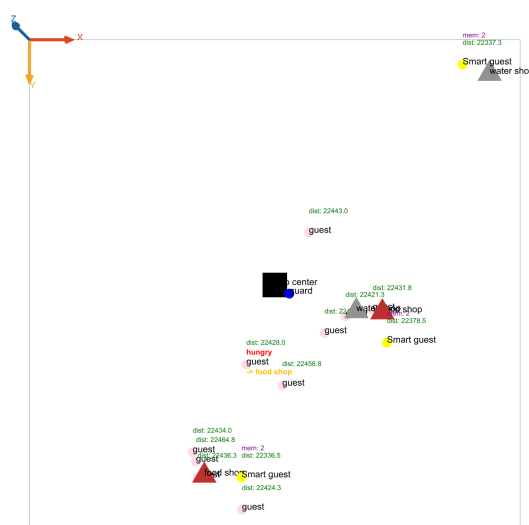


Figure 4: SmartGuests walking less due to memory

As shown in Figure 4, SmartGuests walk less compared to normal Guests because they can go directly to known shops instead of asking the InformationCenter every time they get hungry or thirsty.

4.3 Demonstration. Provided use cases for this challenge:

1. A guest with no memory goes to the info center.
2. A smart guest with memory still goes to the info center to discover a new shop.
3. A smart guest decides to go to a known food shop from its memory.
4. A smart guest decides to go to a known water shop from its memory.

4.3.1 Guest with no memory

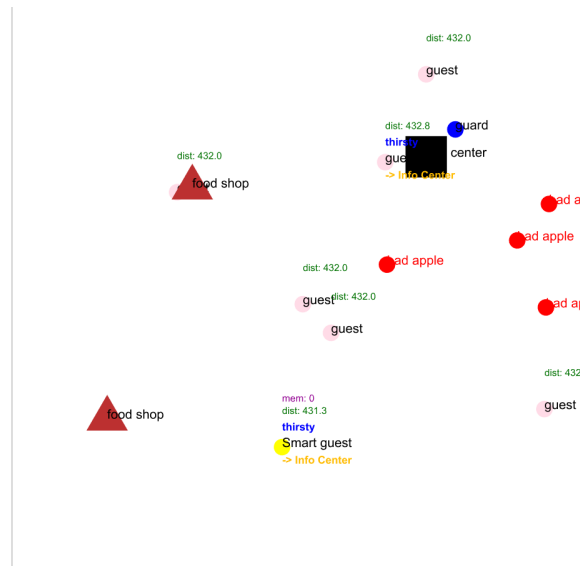


Figure 5: Guest with no memory going to Information Center

In Figure 5, we see a Smart Guest (yellow dot) that has no memory of shops. When it gets hungry, it goes to the Information Center (black square) to ask for the nearest food shop.

4.3.2 Smart Guest discovering new shop

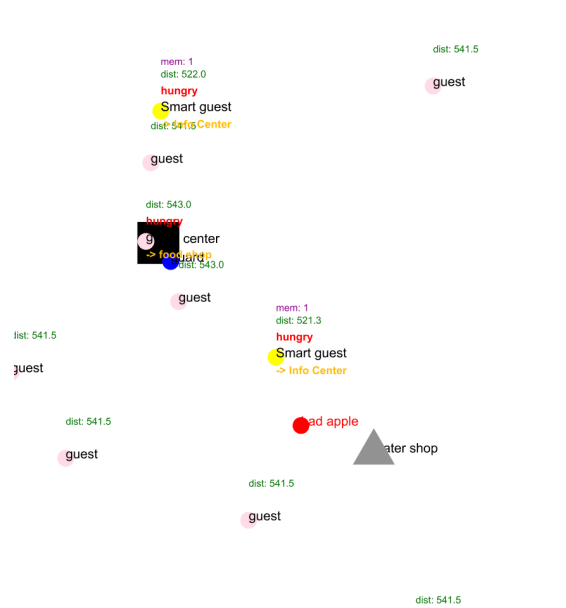


Figure 6: Smart Guest discovering a new shop

In Figure 6, we see a Smart Guest (yellow dot) that already has one shop in its memory. However, it decides to go to the Information Center (black square) to discover a new shop instead of going to the known one.

4.3.3 Smart Guest going to known food shop

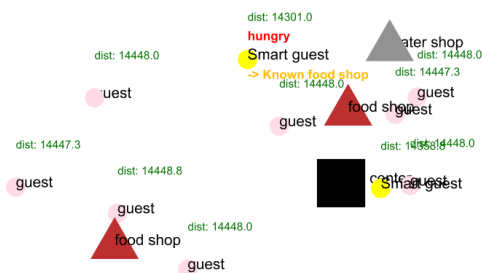


Figure 7: Smart Guest going to known food shop

In Figure 7, we see a Smart Guest (yellow dot) that has a food shop in its memory. When it gets hungry, it decides to go directly to the known food shop (red triangle) instead of

asking the Information Center.

4.3.4 Smart Guest going to known water shop

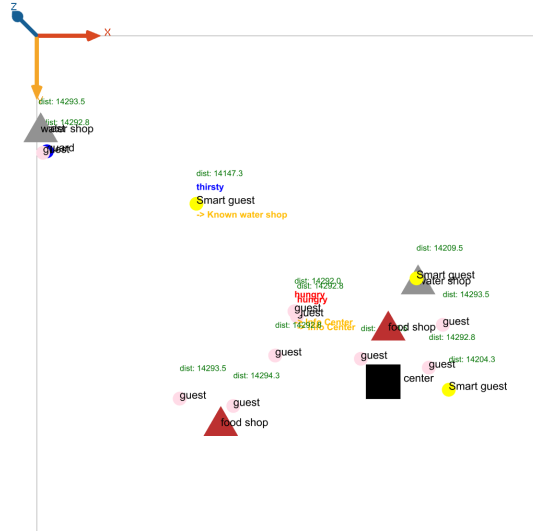


Figure 8: Smart Guest going to known water shop

In Figure 8, we see a Smart Guest (yellow dot) that has a water shop in its memory. When it gets thirsty, it decides to go directly to the known water shop (grey triangle) instead of asking the Information Center.

5. Final Remarks

Overall this assignment was great. We had the opportunity to learn the basics of the syntax of Gamma and we were challenged to implement interesting things. We realized that changing a bit the inputs or minor details might lead to big changes in each simulation.