

## *CSCE 580: Introduction to AI*

### Week 7 - Lectures 13 and 14: Symbolic - Representation and Logic; Search

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PROF. BIPLAV SRIVASTAVA, AI INSTITUTE

30<sup>TH</sup> SEP AND 2<sup>ND</sup> OCT 2025

**Carolinian Creed: “I will practice personal and academic integrity.”**

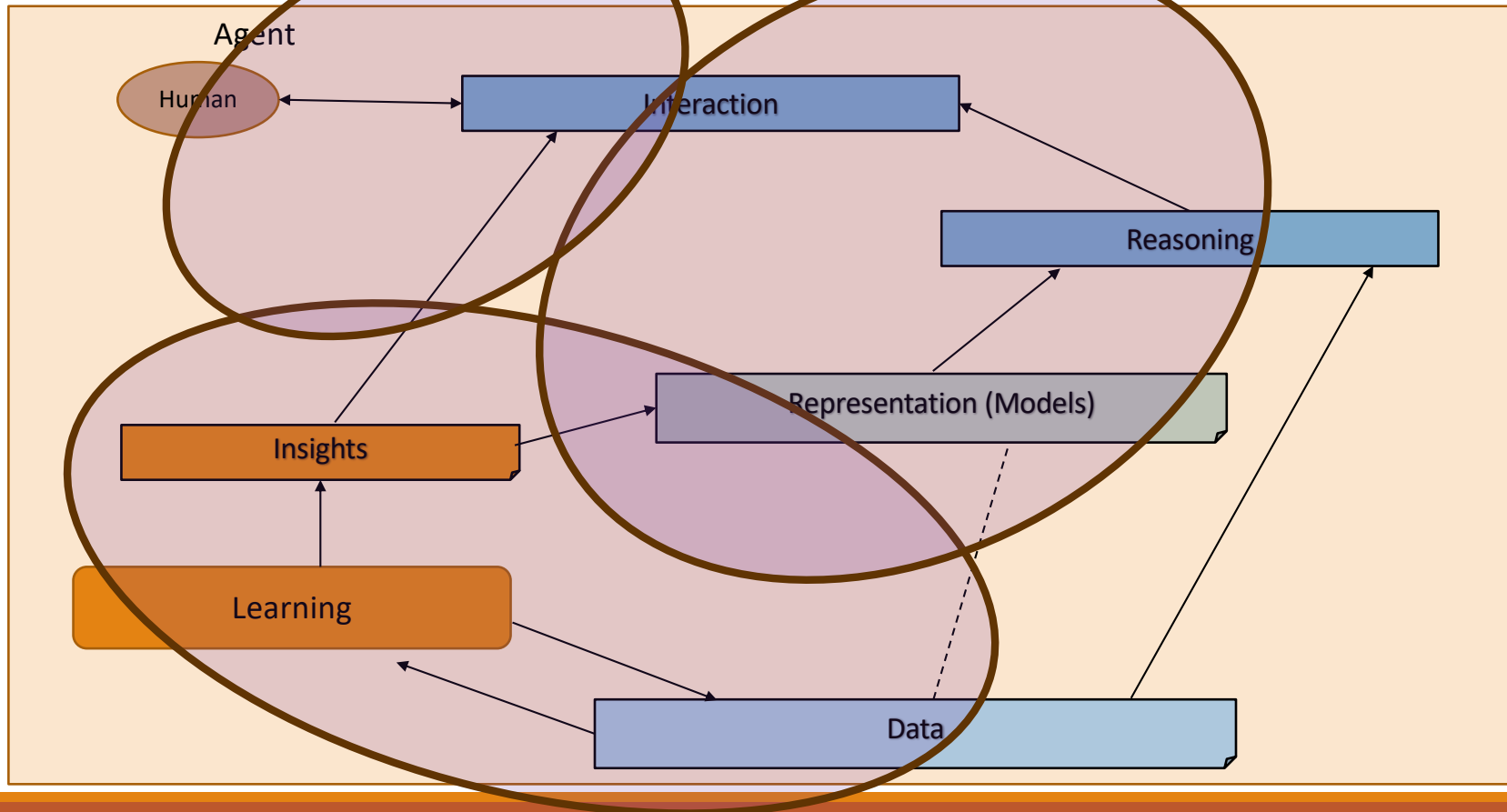
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# Organization of Week 7 - Lectures 13, 14

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- Introduction Section
  - Recap from Week 5 (Lectures 9 and 10)
  - AI news
- Main Section
  - L13: Logic and Inference - First Order
  - L14: Search, Search - Uninformed
- Concluding Section
  - About next week – W8: Lectures 15, 16
  - Ask me anything

## Relationship Between Main AI Topics (Covered in Course)



# Recap of Week 6

## We talked about

- AI/ ML Trust
  - Explainability
  - Trust ratings
- Representation and Logic
  - Propositional

- Week 1: Introduction, Aim: Chatbot / Intelligence Agent
- Weeks 2-3: Data: Formats, Representation and the Trust Problem
- Week 3: Machine Learning – Supervised (Classification)
- Week 4: Machine Learning - Unsupervised (Clustering) –
- Topic 5: Learning neural network, deep learning, Adversarial attacks
- Week 6: Large Language Models – Representation and Usage issues
- Weeks 7-8: Search, Heuristics - Decision Making
- Week 9: Constraints, Optimization – Decision Making
- Topic 10: Markov Decision Processes, Hidden Markov models -  
Decision making
- Topic 11-12: Planning, Reinforcement Learning – Sequential decision making
- Week 13: Trustworthy Decision Making: Explanation, AI testing
- Week 14: AI for Real World: Tools, Emerging Standards and Laws; Safe AI/ Chatbots

# Upcoming Evaluation Milestones

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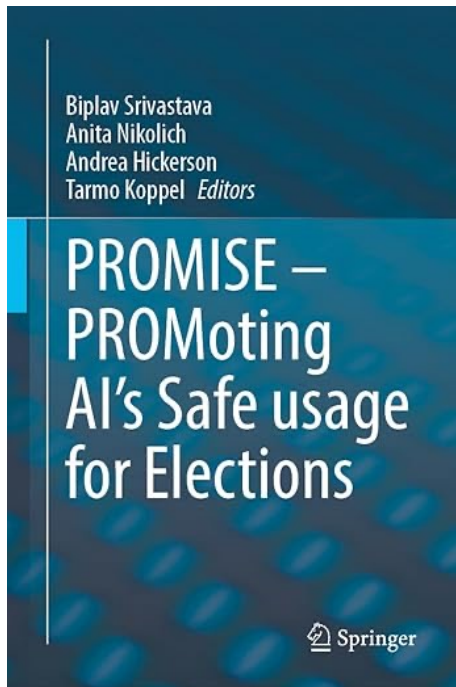
- Projects B: Sep 30 – Nov 20
- Quiz 2: Oct 7
- Quiz 3: Nov 11
- Paper presentation (grad students only) : Nov 18
- Finals: Dec 11

# AI News

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# #1 NEWS – PROMISE Book - PROMoting AI's Safe usage for Elections

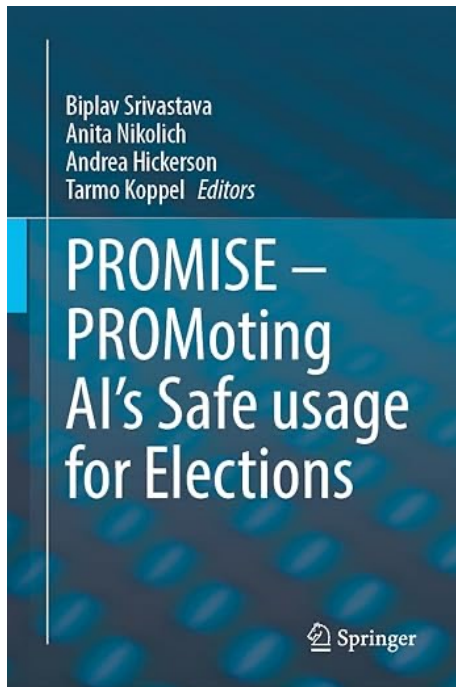
- Link: [https://www.linkedin.com/posts/biplav-srivastava\\_promise-promoting-ais-safe-usage-for-elections-activity-7377405499815911424-nlgU](https://www.linkedin.com/posts/biplav-srivastava_promise-promoting-ais-safe-usage-for-elections-activity-7377405499815911424-nlgU)
- Press: <https://www.nbcnews.com/tech/security/hacker-used-ai-automate-unprecedented-cybercrime-spree-anthropic-says-rcna227309>



- It is an edited book based on four years of work that explores AI's role in enhancing credible, data-driven electoral processes.
- This all started with a few of us brainstorming on how AI could make elections better that lead to academic workshops at Neurips 2021, AAAI 2023, AAAI 2024, a special issue of the AI Magazine on the topic, and a blue-sky paper at AAAI 2025.
- The book has contributions from over 30 authors that are drawn from academia, industry, non-profits, and government, from around the world. They bring and combine technical perspectives from the lens of computer science and AI, security, journalism, law, and political science, and consider elections in all continents - Asia (India), Africa (Ghana, Nigeria, Kenya), Europe (Estonia, UK), North America (Canada, US) and Latin America (Brazil).
- The book consists of a mix of article types - research papers, interviews and essays, touching on impact potentials of AI technologies like chatbots, large language models, game theory and machine learning, for voters, candidates, and election commissions, and **ends with a code of ethics for those working in AI and election space using relevant guidance from computing and journalism fields.**
- It offers practical guidelines for researchers, teachers, practitioners, students and government officials.

# #1 NEWS – PROMISE Book - PROMoting AI's Safe usage for Elections

- Link: [https://www.linkedin.com/posts/biplav-srivastava\\_promise-promoting-ais-safe-usage-for-elections-activity-7377405499815911424-nlgU](https://www.linkedin.com/posts/biplav-srivastava_promise-promoting-ais-safe-usage-for-elections-activity-7377405499815911424-nlgU)
- Press: <https://www.nbcnews.com/tech/security/hacker-used-ai-automate-unprecedented-cybercrime-spree-anthropic-says-rcna227309>



## Technology in Elections: Code of Ethics – The 7 Easy Reckoner

### Promoting Computing: (ACM – <https://www.acm.org/code-of-ethics>)

- Contribute to society and to human well-being, acknowledging that all people are stakeholders in computing
- Maintain high standards of professional competence, conduct, and ethical practice

### Promoting Communication: (<https://www.spj.org/ethicscode.asp>)

- Seek truth and report it
- Be accountable and transparent

### Promoting Model Citizenship Responsibility

- Minimize harm
- Respect everyone's view and give them space to express them
- Honor people and their free will to vote



## #2 NEWS – Insights for Irmo Fire

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- Based on results from their data and Quiz1 analysis

# Introduction Section

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# Main Section

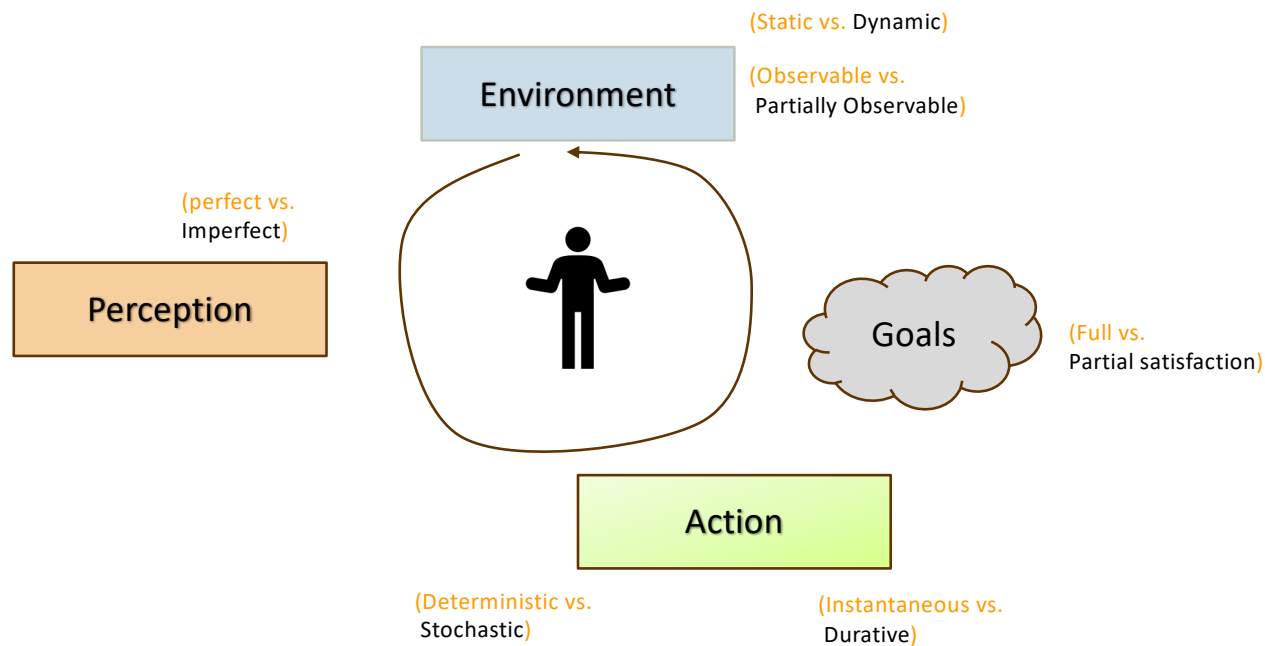
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# Lecture 13:

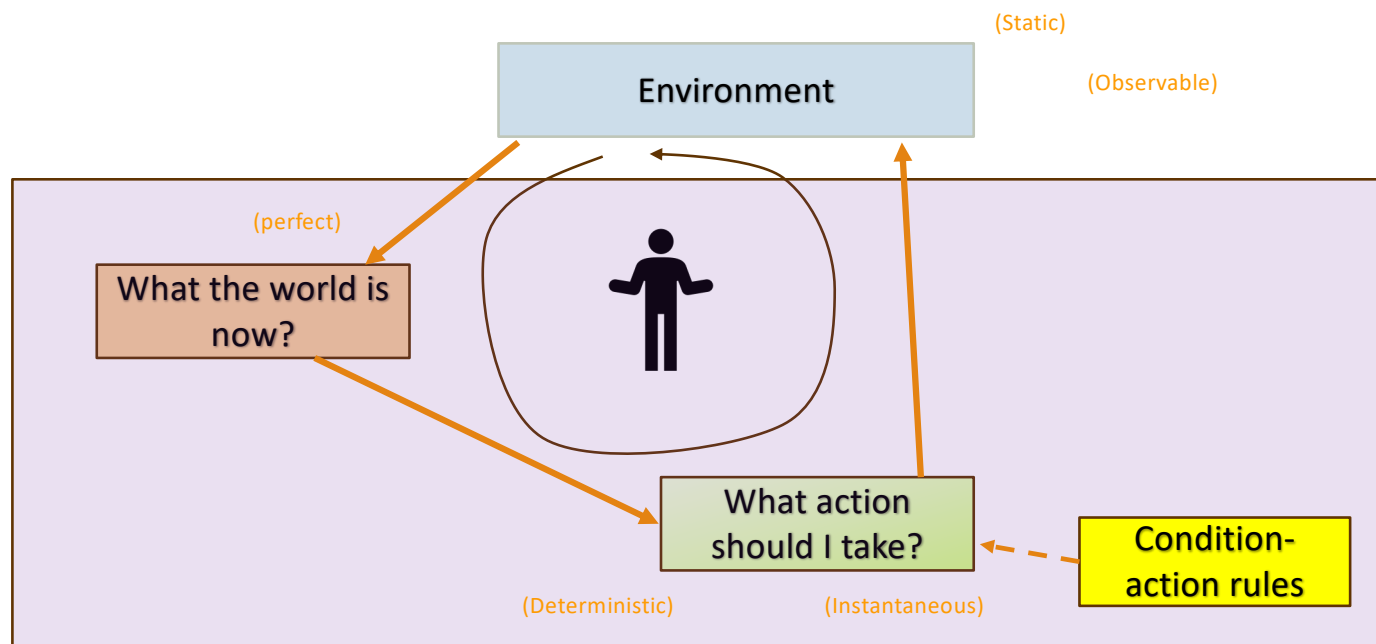
## Logic and Inference - First Order

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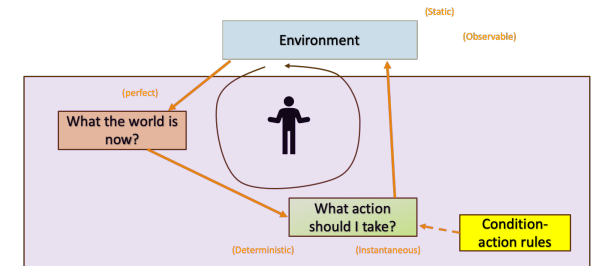
# Intelligent Agent Model



# Intelligent Agent – Simple Knowledge Based



# KB Agent Procedure



**function** KB-AGENT(*percept*) **returns** an *action*  
static: *KB*, a knowledge base  
*t*, a counter, initially 0, indicating time

TELL(*KB*, MAKE-PERCEPT-SENTENCE(*percept*, *t*))

// Report (check)

*action* ← ASK(*KB*, MAKE-ACTION-QUERY(*t*))

// Generate (ask)

TELL(*KB*, MAKE-ACTION-SENTENCE(*action*, *t*))

// Report (check)

$t \leftarrow t + 1$

**return** *action*

Source: Russell & Norvig, AI: A Modern Approach

# First Order Predicate Logic (FOPL)

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# Concepts

**Constants:** a, b, student123, teacher94

- Name of a specific object.

**Variables:** X, Y.

- Refer to an object without naming it.

**Predicates:** Father, Before

- Relationships between objects. May be many and may not be unique. Objects are specified as arguments (arity of a predicate).

**Functions:** father-of

- Mapping from objects to objects. Mapping must be present and be unique. Objects are specified as arguments (arity of a predicate).

**Terms:** dad-of(organism33), leftLeg(John)

- A logical expression that refers to an object

**Atomic Sentences:** in(dad-of(dog33), food6)

- Can be true or false
- Correspond to propositional symbols P, Q

Objects

Relations

Functions

Adapted from:

a) Dan Weld's AI course (CSE 573, Univ. of Washington)

b) Russell & Norvig, AI: A Modern Approach

# FOPL - Syntax

BNF (Backus-Naur Form) grammar  
of sentences in FOPL

Source: Russell & Norvig, AI: A Modern Approach

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Sentence} \rightarrow & \text{AtomicSentence} \\ & | \text{Sentence Connective Sentence} \\ & | \text{Quantifier Variable,} \dots \text{Sentence} \\ & | \neg \text{Sentence} \\ & | (\text{Sentence}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{AtomicSentence} \rightarrow \text{Predicate}(\text{Term}, \dots) \quad \text{Term} = \text{Term}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Term} \rightarrow & \text{Function}(\text{Term}, \dots) \\ & | \text{Constant} \\ & \backslash \text{Variable} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Connective} \rightarrow \Rightarrow \mid \wedge \mid \vee \mid \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\text{Quantifier} \rightarrow \forall \mid \exists$$

$$\text{Constant} \rightarrow A \mid X \mid \text{John} \mid \dots$$

$$\text{Variable} \rightarrow a \mid x \mid s \mid \dots$$

$$\text{Predicate} \rightarrow \text{Before} \mid \text{HasColor} \mid \text{Raining} \mid \dots$$

$$\text{Function} \rightarrow \text{Mother} \mid \text{LeftLegOf} \mid \dots$$

# Connectives and Quantifiers

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**Logical connectives:** and, or, not,  $\Rightarrow$

## **Quantifiers:**

- $\forall$  : For all
- $\exists$  : There exists

Examples:

1. All students:  $\forall$  **students**
2. All students are university members:  
 $\forall x$  **Student(x)  $\Rightarrow$  UniversityMember(x)**  
*(For all x, if x is a student, then x is a UniversityMember)*
3. A phone:  $\exists x$  **Phone(x)**
4. John has a phone:  
 $\exists x$  **Phone(x)  $\wedge$  Owns(John,x)**  
*(There exists a phone such that John owns it.)*

# Connections / Equivalences

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$$\forall x \neg P = \neg \exists x P$$

$$\neg \forall x P = \exists x \neg P$$

$$\forall x P = \neg \exists x \neg P$$

$$\exists x P = \neg \forall x \neg P$$

$$\neg P \wedge \neg Q = \neg(P \vee Q)$$

$$\neg(P \wedge Q) = \neg P \vee \neg Q$$

$$P \wedge Q = \neg(\neg P \vee \neg Q)$$

$$P \vee Q = \neg(\neg P \wedge \neg Q)$$

Derivable from De Morgan's law about sets:

$(A \cup B)' = A' \cap B'$  and  $(A \cap B)' = A' \cup B'$

Source: Russell & Norvig, AI: A Modern Approach

# Comparing Syntax - FOPL and Propositional Logic

*Sentence* — *AtomicSentence* | *ComplexSentence*

*AtomicSentence* — ***True*** | ***False***  
 | *P* | *Q* | *R* | ...

*ComplexSentence* — ( *Sentence* )  
 | *Sentence* *Connective* *Sentence*  
 |  $\neg$ *Sentence*

*Connective* — *A* | *V* |  $\Leftrightarrow$  |  $\Rightarrow$

*Sentence* — *AtomicSentence*  
 | *Sentence* *Connective* *Sentence*  
 | *Quantifier* *Variable*, ... *Sentence*  
 |  $\neg$  *Sentence*  
 | ( *Sentence* )

*AtomicSentence* — *Predicate*(*Term*, ... ) | *Term* = *Term*

*Term* — *Function*(*Term*, ... )  
 | *Constant*  
 \ *Variable*

*Connective* →  $\Rightarrow$  | *A* *V* |  $\Leftrightarrow$

*Quantifier* →  $\forall$  |  $\exists$

*Constant* → *A* \ *X* \ *John* | ...

*Variable* → *a* | *x* | *s* | ...

*Predicate* → *Before* \ *HasColor* \ *Raining* \ ...

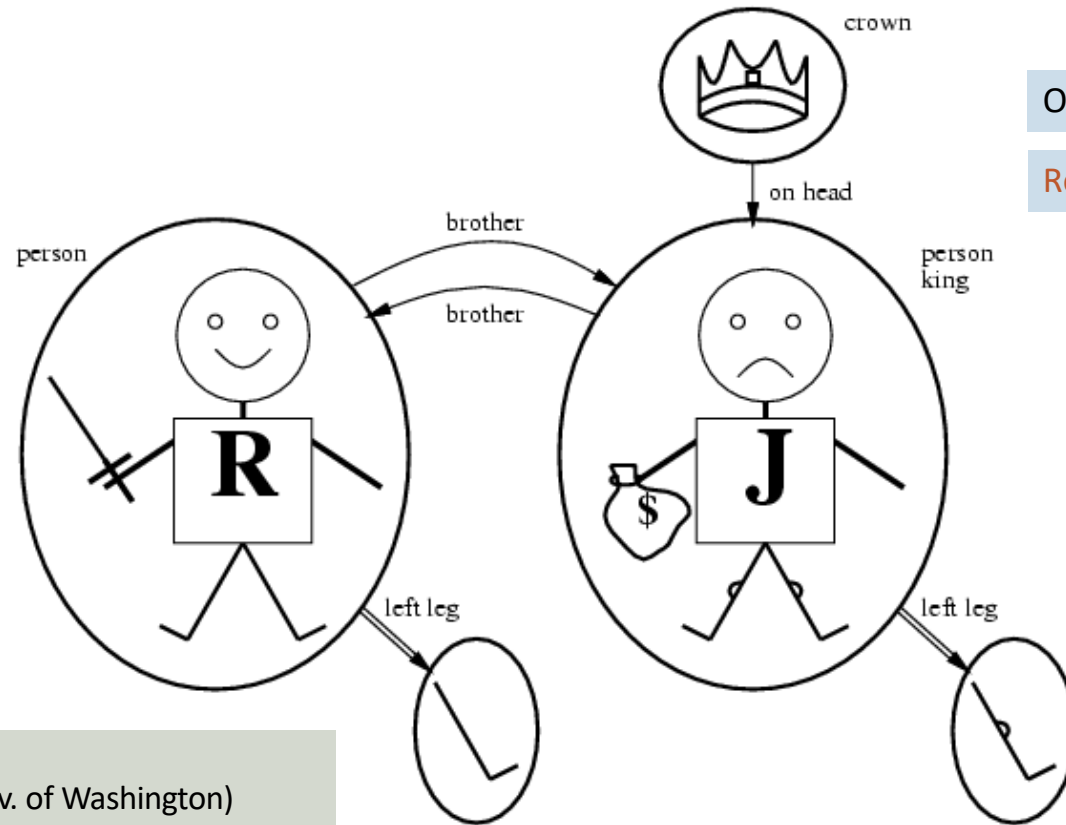
*Function* → *Mother* \ *LeftLegOf* \ ...

Source: Russell & Norvig, AI: A Modern Approach

# FOPL Semantics – Models and Interpretations

Richard, John  
Constants

Leg(p,l)  
Functions

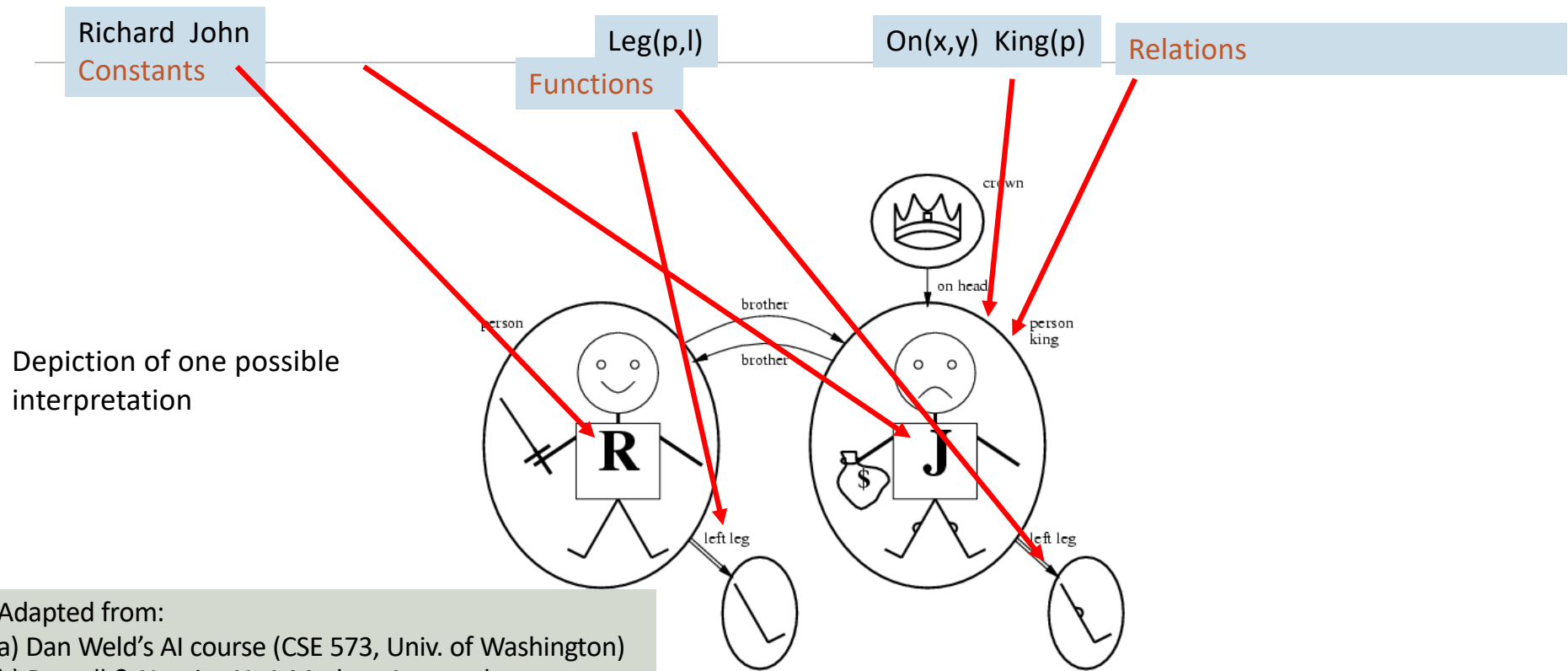


On(x,y) King(p)

Relations

Adapted from:  
a) Dan Weld's AI course (CSE 573, Univ. of Washington)  
b) Russell & Norvig, AI: A Modern Approach

# Interpretations - Mappings from Syntactic tokens → Model elements



Adapted from:

a) Dan Weld's AI course (CSE 573, Univ. of Washington)

b) Russell & Norvig, AI: A Modern Approach

# Satisfiability, Validity, & Entailment

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- S is **valid** if it is true in all interpretations
- S is **satisfiable** if it is true in some interpretations
- S is **unsatisfiable** if it is false for all interpretations
- S1 **entails** S2 if for all interpretations where S1 is true, S2 is also true

Source: Dan Weld's AI course (CSE 573, Univ. of Washington)



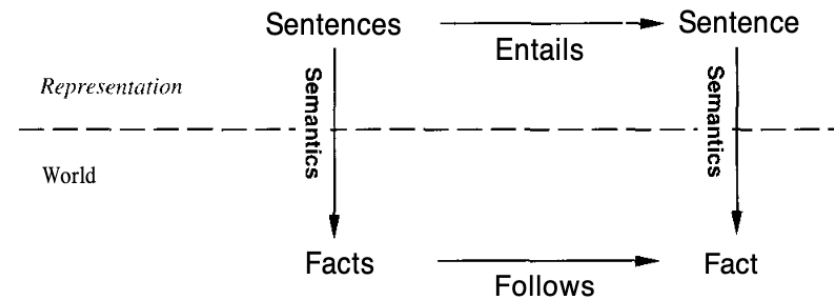
# Comparing - Propositional Logic and FOPL

<i>Ontology</i>	Facts (P, Q)	Objects, Properties, Relations
<i>Syntax</i>	Atomic sentences Connectives	Variables & quantification Sentences have structure: terms father-of(mother-of(X))
<i>Semantics</i>	Truth Tables	Interpretations (Much more complicated)
<i>Inference Algorithm</i>	DPLL, GSAT Fast in practice	Unification Forward, Backward chaining Prolog, theorem proving
<i>Complexity</i>	NP-Complete	Semi-decidable

Source: Dan Weld's AI course (CSE 573, Univ. of Washington)

# Formal Logic

- Properties of Logic System
  - **Soundness:** if it produces only true statements
  - **Completeness:** if it produces all true statements
  - **Consistency:** if it does not produce a sentence and its negation



Language	Ontological Commitment (What exists in the world)	Epistemological Commitment (What an agent believes about facts)
Propositional logic	facts	true/false/unknown
First-order logic	facts, objects, relations	true/false/unknown
Temporal logic	facts, objects, relations, times	true/false/unknown
Probability theory	facts	degree of belief 0...1
Fuzzy logic	degree of truth	degree of belief 0...1

## Credits:

- Russell & Norvig, AI - A Modern Approach
- Deepak Khemani - A First Course in AI

# Example: Course Selection

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# Example Situation – Course Selection

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- A person wants to pass an academic program in two majors: A and B
- There are three subjects available: A, B and C, each with three levels (\*1, \*2, \*3). There are thus 9 courses: A1, A2, A3, B1, B2, B3, C1, C2, C3
- To graduate, at least one course at beginner (\*1) level is needed in major(s) of choice(s), and two courses at intermediate levels (\*2) are needed
- **Answer questions**
  - Q1: How many minimum courses does the person have to take ?
  - Q2: Can a person graduate in 2 majors studying 3 courses only?
  - ...

# Representation – Propositional Example

- Domain Description: “There are three subjects: A, B and C, each with three levels (\*1, \*2, \*3).”

- Representation

- has\_studied\_courseA1: yes – student has taken course; no – student has not taken
- has\_studied\_courseA2
- has\_studied\_courseA3
- has\_studied\_courseB1
- has\_studied\_courseB2
- has\_studied\_courseB3
- has\_studied\_courseC1
- has\_studied\_courseC2
- has\_studied\_courseC3

LowerThan\_Course\_A1\_CourseA2  
LowerThan\_Course\_A2\_CourseA3  
LowerThan\_Course\_B1\_CourseB2  
LowerThan\_Course\_B2\_CourseB3  
LowerThan\_Course\_C1\_CourseC2  
LowerThan\_Course\_AC\_CourseC3

- Previous statements set did not capture hierarchy between levels; new sentences would not have followed the reality in the world. Need more statements – LowerThan as shown.

# Representation – FOPL Example

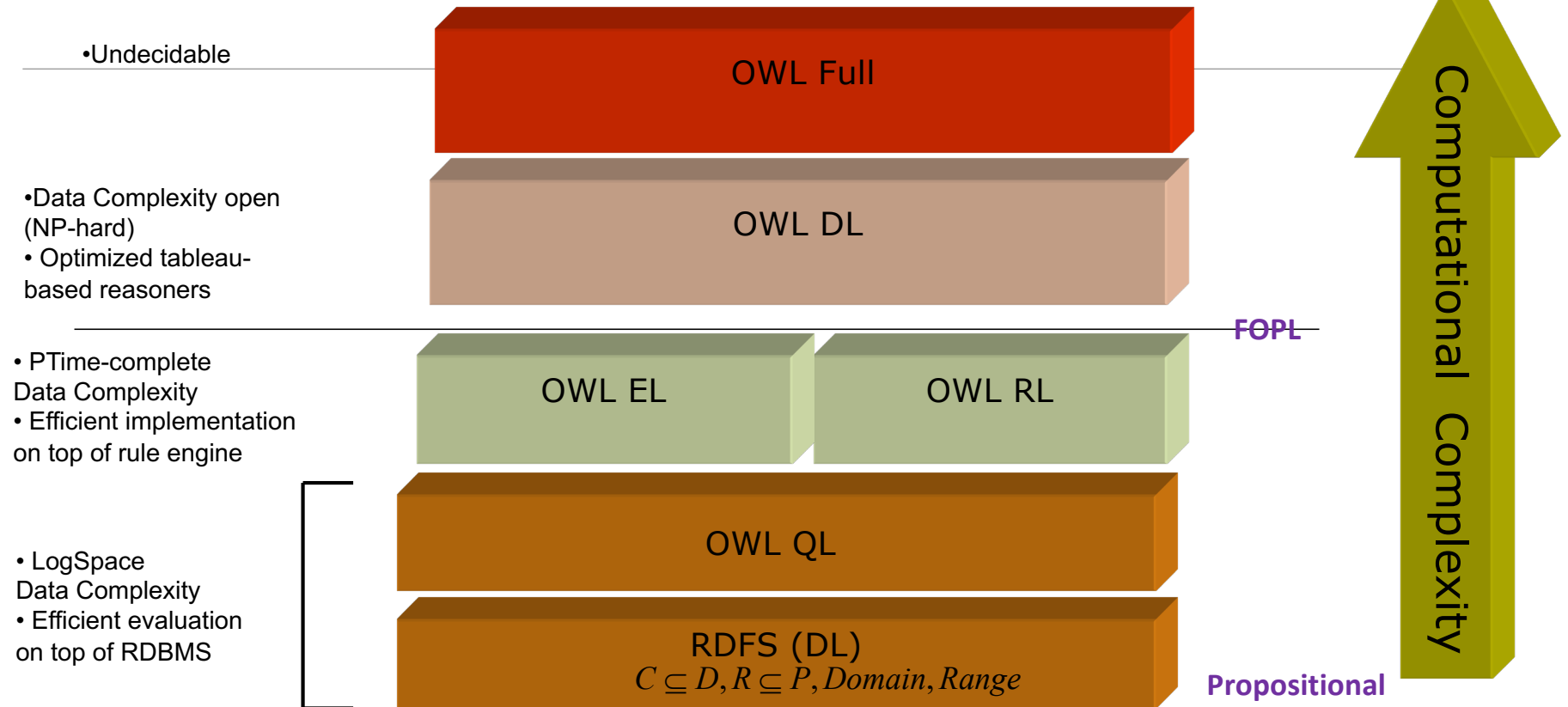
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- Domain Description: “There are three subjects: A, B and C, each with three levels (\*1, \*2, \*3).”
- Representation
  - has\_studied (?x , ?y)
    - ?x: course name // A, B, C
    - ?y: course level // 1, 2, 3
  - lower\_than\_level(?x, ?y)
    - ? x: 1, 2
    - ?y: 2, 3

# Revisiting Formal Representations: Ontologies

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# Challenge of Reasoning on Ontologies





# Lecture 13: Summary

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- We talked about
  - Knowledge-based agents
  - Logic (Propositional)
  - Inferencing (Propositional)
  - Project B

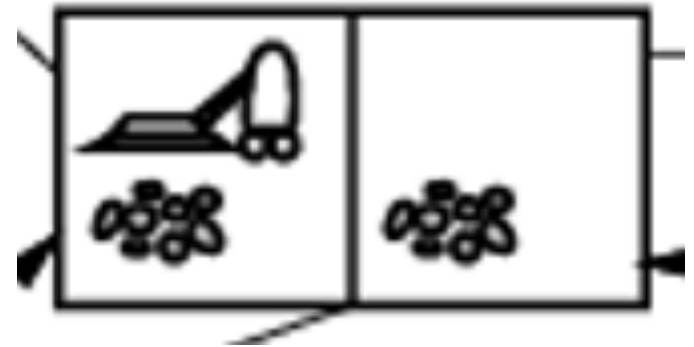
# Lecture 14:

## Search, Search - Uninformed

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# Example: Vacuum World

- Situation
  - Two rooms
  - One robot
  - Dirt can be in any room
- Goal
  - Clean the rooms
- Actions
  - Move left, move right, clean

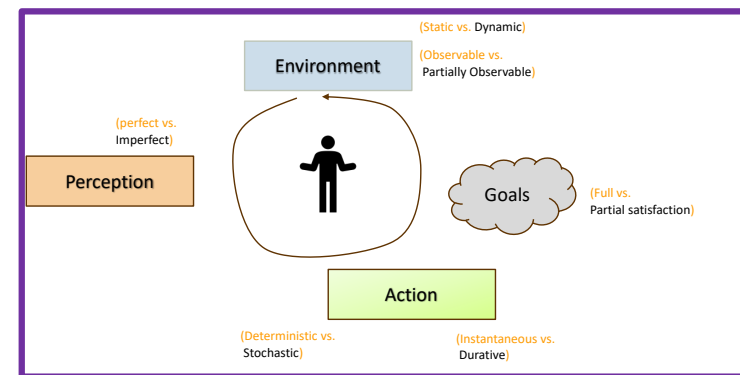


Adapted from:

1. Russell & Norvig, AI: A Modern Approach
2. Bart Selman's CS 4700 Course

# Goal-directed Problem Solving Agents

1. Goal Formulation: Have one or more (desirable) world states
2. Problem formulation: What actions and states to consider given goals and an initial state
3. Search for solution: Given the problem, search for a solution - a sequence of actions to achieve the goal starting from the initial state
4. Execution: agent can execute actions in the solution

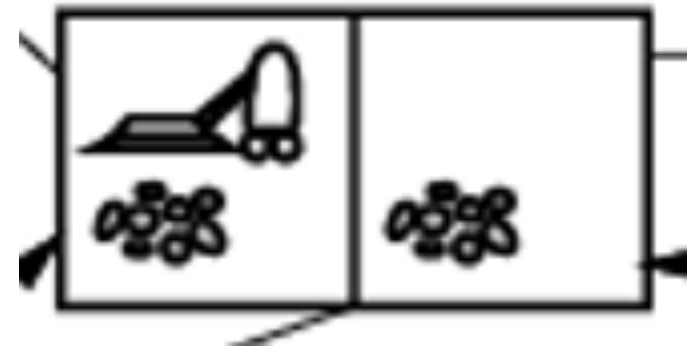


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# Modeling and Abstraction Consideration

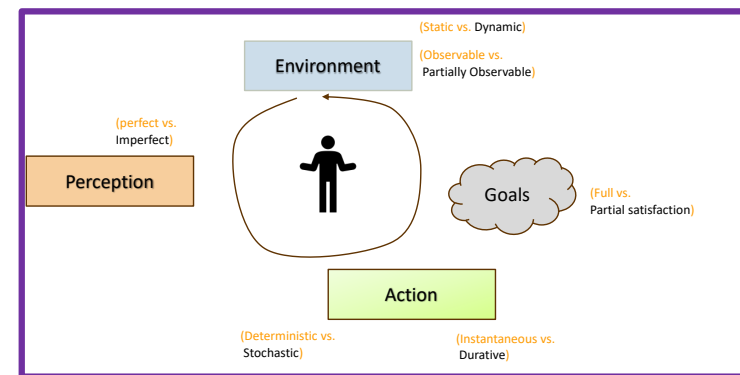
- Model: an abstract representation of the problem
  - “All models are wrong, but some are useful”
- What to capture, what to avoid
  - Only the necessary details needed to solve the problem
- In the example, we can avoid
  - For concepts
    - Size of rooms or robot
    - Quantity of dirt
  - For actions
    - Time taken to clean
    - Charging/ recharging time
    - Doing nothing – staying at the same place?



- Concepts
  - Two rooms
  - One robot
  - Dirt can be in any room
- Goal
  - Clean the rooms
- Actions
  - Move left, move right, clean

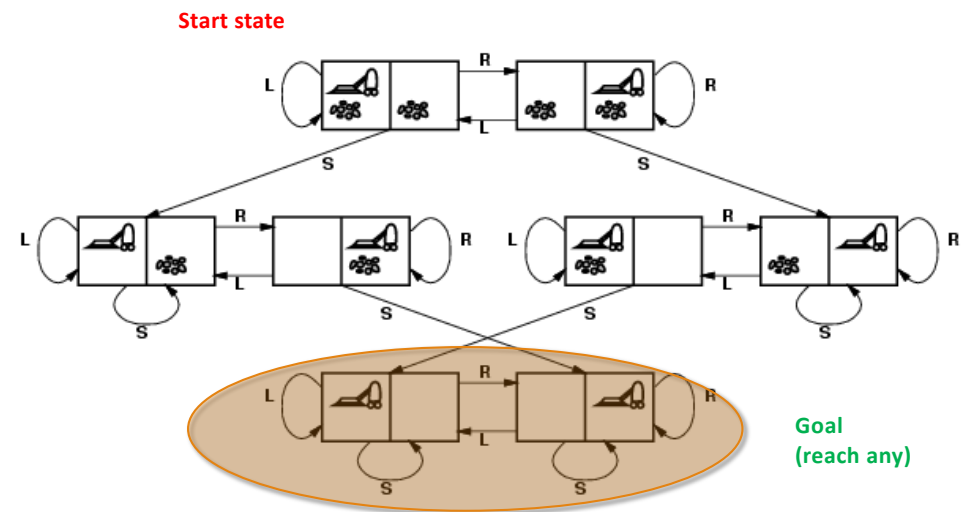
# Open Loop v/s Closed Loop Systems

- Open loop
  - Assuming the world will not change, after a solution is found, one can simply execute it one action at a time
- Closed loop
  - If the world keeps changing, after a solution is found, one cannot ignore perception when executing actions
  - The solution has to be relooked whenever an action is being executed. New solutions may have to be found at each step again.



# Formulating a Problem

States	8 possible world states <i>(2room x 2dirt location x 2clean?)</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Initial state</li> <li>Goal state</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any</li> <li>No dirt at all locations</li> </ul>
Actions	Left, Right, Suck
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transition model</li> <li>Action cost</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Action transition (edges)</li> <li>1</li> </ul>



Adapted from:

1. Russell & Norvig, AI: A Modern Approach
2. Bart Selman's CS 4700 Course

# Type of Problems

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## Standardized Problems

- Grid world
- Sliding tile
- Sokoban
- Chess
- ...

## Real-World Problems

- Route finding
- Robotic / space craft navigation
- Protein design: find a sequence of amino acids that will fold into a 3D protein structure
- Dialog generation: how to give an effective answer that a person can understand
- ...



# Exercise: Sliding 8-tile Puzzle

States	
• Initial state	
• Goal state	
Actions	
• Transition model	
• Action cost	

7	2	4
5		6
8	3	1

Start State

	1	2
3	4	5
6	7	8

Goal State

Adapted from:  
Russell & Norvig, AI: A Modern Approach

# Exercise: Sliding 8-tile Puzzle

States	Location of tiles
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Initial state</li><li>Goal state</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Any (given)</li><li>All numbers sorted, Empty tile in corner (given)</li></ul>
Actions	move blank left, right, up, down
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Transition model</li><li>Action cost</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Blank transition (edges)</li><li>1</li></ul>

7	2	4
5		6
8	3	1

Start State

	1	2
3	4	5
6	7	8

Goal State

Adapted from:

1. Russell & Norvig, AI: A Modern Approach
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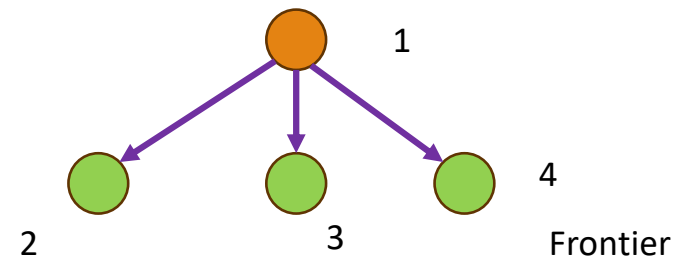
# Search

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# Search Basics

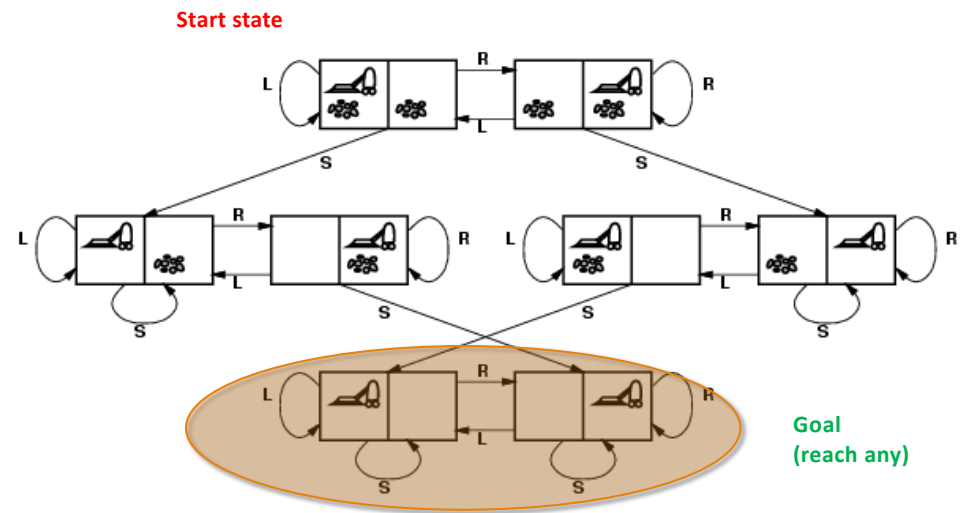
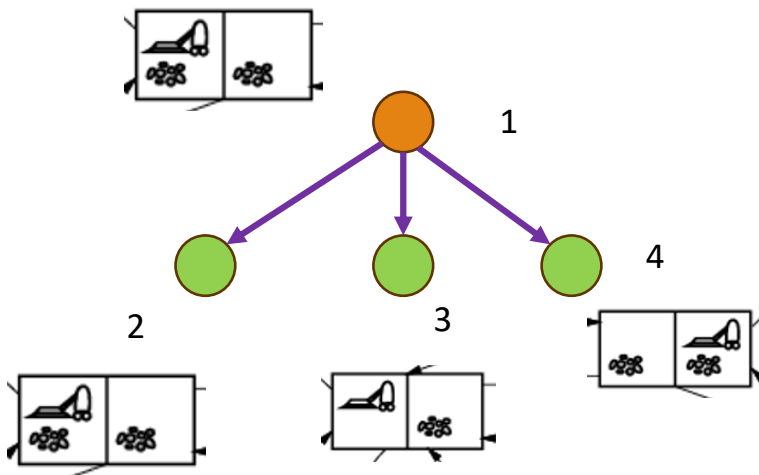
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- input: a problem with states and actions
- output: solution(s) or flag for failure
- Concepts:
  - **Node**: corresponds to a state of the problem
  - **Edges**: transition between states
  - **Expand**: consider actions in the state (ACTIONS) and transition model. Generate new nodes corresponding to resulting states (RESULT)
  - **Explore**: check when a node meets goal condition



Node 1 has been **Reached**, Nodes {2,3 4} constitute Node 1's **Frontier**

# Formulating a Problem



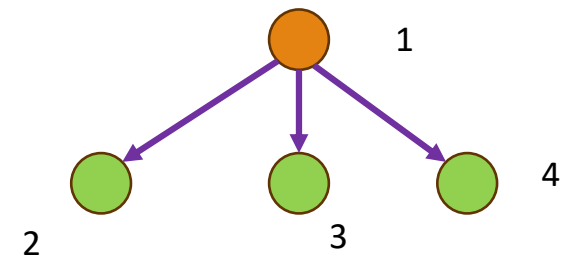
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# Tree-search Algorithms

**Basic idea:** simulated exploration of state space by generating successors of already-explored states (a.k.a. ~ **expanding** states)

```
function TREE-SEARCH(problem, strategy) returns a solution, or failure
  initialize the search tree using the initial state of problem
  loop do
    if there are no candidates for expansion then return failure
    choose a leaf node for expansion according to strategy
    if the node contains a goal state then return the corresponding solution
    else expand the node and add the resulting nodes to the search tree
```

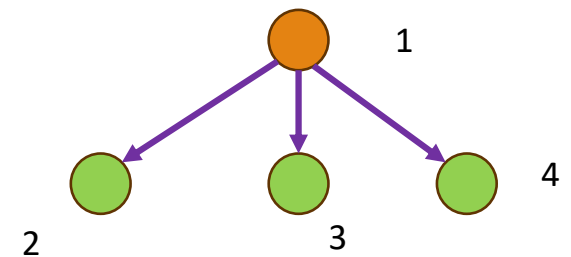


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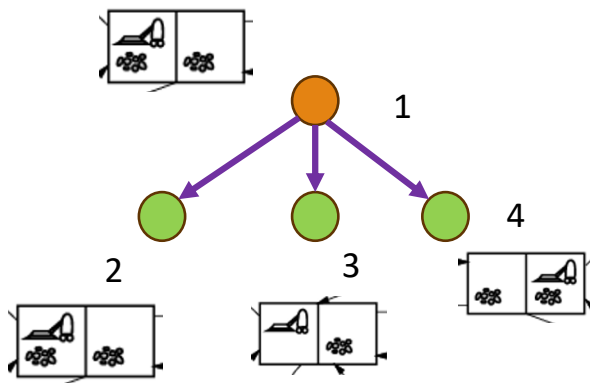
# Implementing a Tree-Search Algorithm

- Data structure
  - node.STATE: the state to which the node corresponds
  - node.PARENT: the node in the tree that generated this node
  - node.ACTION: the action that was applied to the parent to generate this node
  - node.PATH-COST: the total cost of the path from the initial state to this node
- Queue to store frontier
  - Is-EMPTY(frontier): true/ false depending on whether frontier is empty
  - POP(frontier): remove the top node from the frontier and return it
  - TOP(frontier): returns the top node from the frontier but does not remove it
  - ADD(node, frontier): insert node into its proper place in the queue
- Queue:
  - priority queue – removes the node with minimum cost according to some evaluation function
  - FIFO queue – first in, first output. Used in breadth first search
  - LIFO queue - last in, first output. Used in depth first search



# Best-First Search

**function** BEST-FIRST-SEARCH(*problem*, *f*) **returns** a solution node or *failure*  
 $node \leftarrow \text{NODE}(\text{STATE}=\text{problem.INITIAL})$   
 $frontier \leftarrow$  a priority queue ordered by *f*, with *node* as an element  
 $reached \leftarrow$  a lookup table, with one entry with key *problem.INITIAL* and value *node*  
**while not** IS-EMPTY(*frontier*) **do**  
     $node \leftarrow \text{POP}(frontier)$   
    **if** *problem.IS-GOAL*(*node.STATE*) **then return** *node*  
    **for each** *child* **in** EXPAND(*problem*, *node*) **do**  
         $s \leftarrow \text{child.STATE}$   
        **if** *s* is not in *reached* **or** *child.PATH-COST* < *reached*[*s*].*PATH-COST* **then**  
             $reached[s] \leftarrow \text{child}$   
            add *child* to *frontier*  
**return failure**



**function** EXPAND(*problem*, *node*) **yields** nodes  
 $s \leftarrow \text{node.STATE}$   
**for each** *action* **in** *problem.ACTIONS*(*s*) **do**  
     $s' \leftarrow \text{problem.RESULT}(s, \text{action})$   
     $\text{cost} \leftarrow \text{node.PATH-COST} + \text{problem.ACTION-COST}(s, \text{action}, s')$   
    **yield** NODE(*STATE*=*s'*, *PARENT*=*node*, *ACTION*=*action*, *PATH-COST*=*cost*)

Source: Russell & Norvig, AI: A Modern Approach



# Examples of Search Strategies

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- Uninformed
  - Depth first
  - Breadth first
- Informed (Heuristic)
  - Greedy best first search
  - A\* search

# More on Search Strategies

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- A search strategy is defined by picking the **order of node expansion**.
- Strategies are evaluated along the following dimensions:
  - **completeness**: does it always find a solution if one exists?
  - **time complexity**: number of nodes generated
  - **space complexity**: maximum number of nodes in memory
  - **optimality**: does it always find a least-cost solution?
- Time and space complexity are measured in terms of
  - *b*: maximum branching factor of the search tree
  - *d*: depth of the least-cost solution
  - *m*: maximum depth of the state space (may be  $\infty$ )

Adapted from:

1. Russell & Norvig, AI: A Modern Approach
2. Bart Selman's CS 4700 Course

# Exercise and Code

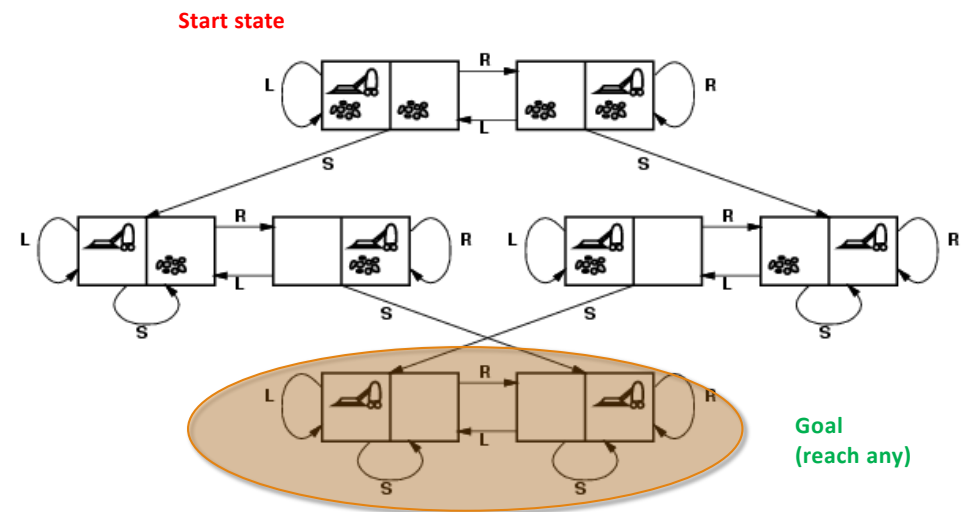
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- Search Methods
  - From Book: AI – A Modern Approach,  
<https://github.com/aimacode/aima-python/blob/master/search.ipynb>

Source: Russell & Norvig, AI: A Modern Approach

# Example: Vacuum World

States	8 possible world states <i>(2room x 2dirt location x 2clean?)</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Initial state</li> <li>Goal state</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any</li> <li>No dirt at all locations</li> </ul>
Actions	Left, Right, Suck
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transition model</li> <li>Action cost</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Action transition (edges)</li> <li>1</li> </ul>



Adapted from:

1. Russell & Norvig, AI: A Modern Approach
2. Bart Selman's CS 4700 Course

# Example: Sliding 8-tile Puzzle

States	Location of tiles
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Initial state</li><li>Goal state</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Any (given)</li><li>All numbers sorted, Empty tile in corner (given)</li></ul>
Actions	move blank left, right, up, down
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Transition model</li><li>Action cost</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Blank transition (edges)</li><li>1</li></ul>

7	2	4
5		6
8	3	1

Start State

	1	2
3	4	5
6	7	8

Goal State

Adapted from:

1. Russell & Norvig, AI: A Modern Approach
2. Bart Selman's CS 4700 Course

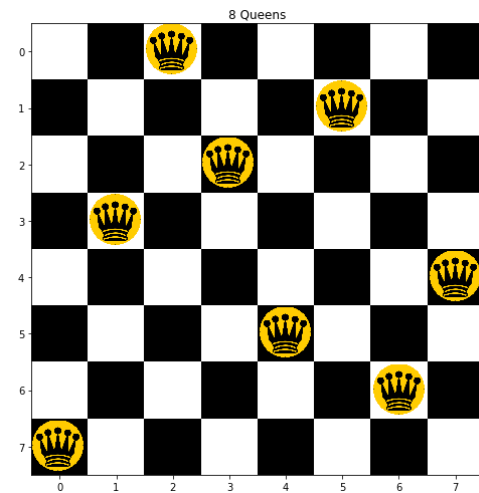
# Exercise: N-Queen Puzzle

## States

- Initial state
- Goal state

## Actions

- Transition model
- Action cost

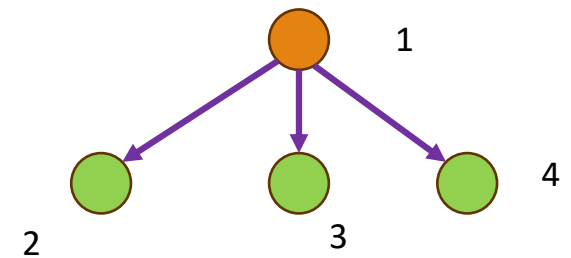


Adapted from:  
Russell & Norvig, AI: A Modern Approach

# Tree-search Algorithms

**Basic idea:** simulated exploration of state space by generating successors of already-explored states (a.k.a. ~ **expanding** states)

```
function TREE-SEARCH(problem, strategy) returns a solution, or failure
  initialize the search tree using the initial state of problem
  loop do
    if there are no candidates for expansion then return failure
    choose a leaf node for expansion according to strategy
    if the node contains a goal state then return the corresponding solution
    else expand the node and add the resulting nodes to the search tree
```



Adapted from:

1. Russell & Norvig, AI: A Modern Approach
2. Bart Selman's CS 4700 Course

# Uninformed Search Strategies

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Search strategies use only the information available in the problem definition. They do not use a measure of distance to goal (uninformed).

- Breadth-first search
- Uniform-cost search
- Depth-first search
- Depth-limited search
- Iterative deepening search
- Bidirectional search

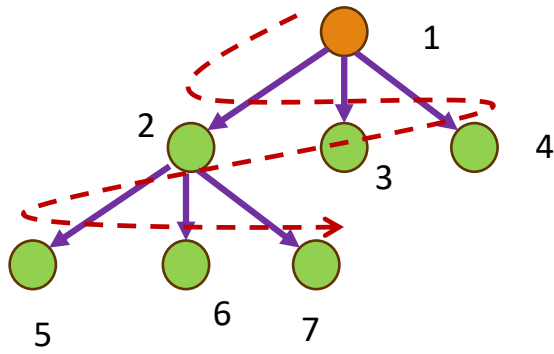
**Consideration:** type of queue used for the **fringe of the search tree**  
(collection of tree nodes that have been generated but not yet expanded)

Adapted from:

1. Russell & Norvig, AI: A Modern Approach
2. Bart Selman's CS 4700 Course



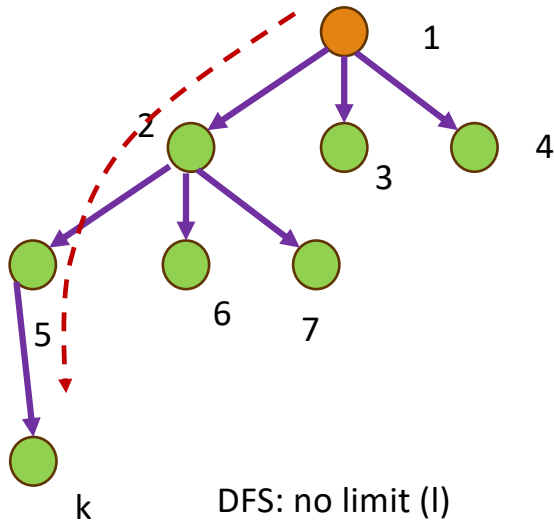
# Breadth First Search (BFS)



```
function BREADTH-FIRST-SEARCH(problem) returns a solution node or failure
  node ← NODE(problem.INITIAL)
  if problem.IS-GOAL(node.STATE) then return node
  frontier ← a FIFO queue, with node as an element
  reached ← {problem.INITIAL}
  while not IS-EMPTY(frontier) do
    node ← POP(frontier)
    for each child in EXPAND(problem, node) do
      s ← child.STATE
      if problem.IS-GOAL(s) then return child
      if s is not in reached then
        add s to reached
        add child to frontier
  return failure
```

Adapted from: Russell & Norvig, AI: A Modern Approach

# Depth First Search (DFS) and Depth Limited Search (DLS)



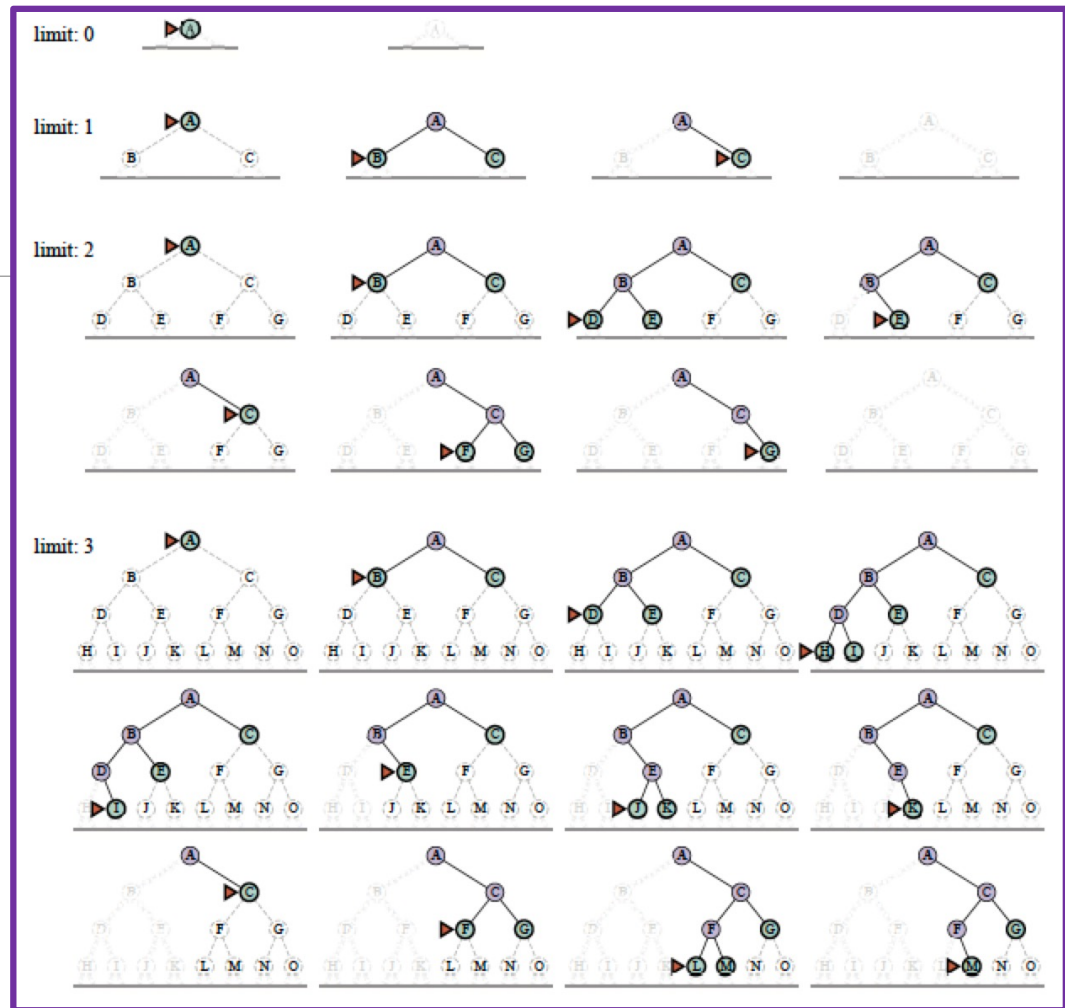
DFS: no limit ( $l$ )

Cutoff: when result is cutoff due to  $l$   
(result may be there if  $l$  increased)

```
function DEPTH-LIMITED-SEARCH(problem,  $\ell$ ) returns a node or failure or cutoff
  frontier  $\leftarrow$  a LIFO queue (stack) with NODE(problem.INITIAL) as an element
  result  $\leftarrow$  failure
  while not IS-EMPTY(frontier) do
    node  $\leftarrow$  POP(frontier)
    if problem.IS-GOAL(node.STATE) then return node
    if DEPTH(node) >  $\ell$  then
      result  $\leftarrow$  cutoff
    else if not IS-CYCLE(node) do
      for each child in EXPAND(problem, node) do
        add child to frontier
  return result
```

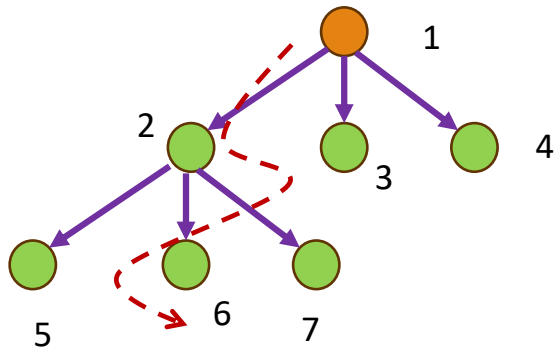
Adapted from: Russell & Norvig, AI: A Modern Approach

# Illustration: DLS



Adapted from: Russell & Norvig, AI: A Modern Approach

# Best-First Search

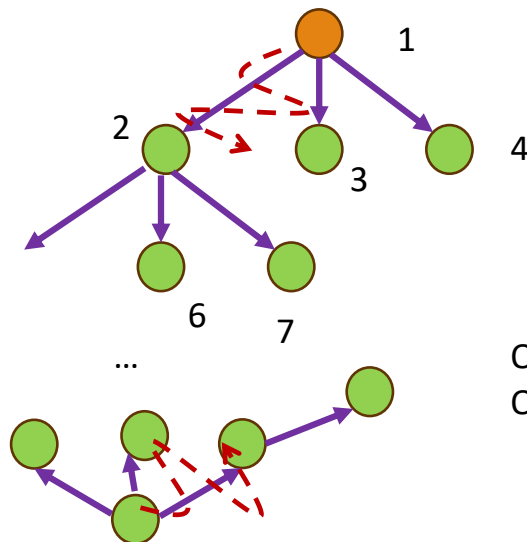


```
function BEST-FIRST-SEARCH(problem, f) returns a solution node or failure
  node  $\leftarrow$  NODE(STATE=problem.INITIAL)
  frontier  $\leftarrow$  a priority queue ordered by f, with node as an element
  reached  $\leftarrow$  a lookup table, with one entry with key problem.INITIAL and value node
  while not IS-EMPTY(frontier) do
    node  $\leftarrow$  POP(frontier)
    if problem.IS-GOAL(node.STATE) then return node
    for each child in EXPAND(problem, node) do
      s  $\leftarrow$  child.STATE
      if s is not in reached or child.PATH-COST < reached[s].PATH-COST then
        reached[s]  $\leftarrow$  child
        add child to frontier
  return failure
```

```
function EXPAND(problem, node) yields nodes
  s  $\leftarrow$  node.STATE
  for each action in problem.ACTIONS(s) do
    s'  $\leftarrow$  problem.RESULT(s, action)
    cost  $\leftarrow$  node.PATH-COST + problem.ACTION-COST(s, action, s')
    yield NODE(STATE=s', PARENT=node, ACTION=action, PATH-COST=cost)
```

Source: Russell & Norvig, AI: A Modern Approach

# Bi-Directional Search



Q: Why do this?  
Q: When do this?

Adapted from: Russell & Norvig, AI: A Modern Approach

```

function BiBF-SEARCH(problemF, fF, problemB, fB) returns a solution node, or failure
  nodeF ← NODE(problemF.INITIAL)           // Node for a start state
  nodeB ← NODE(problemB.INITIAL)           // Node for a goal state
  frontierF ← a priority queue ordered by fF, with nodeF as an element
  frontierB ← a priority queue ordered by fB, with nodeB as an element
  reachedF ← a lookup table, with one key nodeF.STATE and value nodeF
  reachedB ← a lookup table, with one key nodeB.STATE and value nodeB
  solution ← failure
  while not TERMINATED(solution, frontierF, frontierB) do
    if fF(TOP(frontierF)) < fB(TOP(frontierB)) then
      solution ← PROCEED(F, problemF, frontierF, reachedF, reachedB, solution)
    else solution ← PROCEED(B, problemB, frontierB, reachedB, reachedF, solution)
  return solution

function PROCEED(dir, problem, frontier, reached, reached2, solution) returns a solution
  // Expand node on frontier; check against the other frontier in reached2.
  // The variable "dir" is the direction: either F for forward or B for backward.
  node ← POP(frontier)
  for each child in EXPAND(problem, node) do
    s ← child.STATE
    if s not in reached or PATH-COST(child) < PATH-COST(reached[s]) then
      reached[s] ← child
      add child to frontier
    if s is in reached2 then
      solution2 ← JOIN-NODES(dir, child, reached2[s])
      if PATH-COST(solution2) < PATH-COST(solution) then
        solution ← solution2
  return solution
  
```

**Figure 3.14** Bidirectional best-first search keeps two frontiers and two tables of reached states. When a path in one frontier reaches a state that was also reached in the other half of the search, the two paths are joined (by the function JOIN-NODES) to form a solution. The first solution we get is not guaranteed to be the best; the function TERMINATED determines when to stop looking for new solutions.

# Analyzing Search Performance

Criterion	Breadth-First	Uniform-Cost	Depth-First	Depth-Limited	Iterative Deepening	Bidirectional (if applicable)
Complete?	Yes <sup>1</sup>	Yes <sup>1,2</sup>	No	No	Yes <sup>1</sup>	Yes <sup>1,4</sup>
Optimal cost?	Yes <sup>3</sup>	Yes	No	No	Yes <sup>3</sup>	Yes <sup>3,4</sup>
Time	$O(b^d)$	$O(b^{1+\lceil C^*/\epsilon \rceil})$	$O(b^m)$	$O(b^\ell)$	$O(b^d)$	$O(b^{d/2})$
Space	$O(b^d)$	$O(b^{1+\lceil C^*/\epsilon \rceil})$	$O(bm)$	$O(b\ell)$	$O(bd)$	$O(b^{d/2})$

**Figure 3.15** Evaluation of search algorithms.  $b$  is the branching factor;  $m$  is the maximum depth of the search tree;  $d$  is the depth of the shallowest solution, or is  $m$  when there is no solution;  $\ell$  is the depth limit. Superscript caveats are as follows: <sup>1</sup> complete if  $b$  is finite, and the state space either has a solution or is finite. <sup>2</sup> complete if all action costs are  $\geq \epsilon > 0$ ; <sup>3</sup> cost-optimal if action costs are all identical; <sup>4</sup> if both directions are breadth-first or uniform-cost.

# Coding Example

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- N-Queens – code notebook
  - <https://github.com/biplav-s/course-ai-tai-f23/blob/main/sample-code/Class6-To-Class10-search.md>



# Lecture 14: Concluding Comments

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We discussed

- Problems: vacuum, sliding tile, N-queens
- Search – uninformed
- Analyzing search performance



# Week 7: Concluding Comments

## We talked about

- First-order logic
- Search based solving
- Examples
- Uninformed search

- Week 1: Introduction, Aim: Chatbot / Intelligence Agent
- Weeks 2-3: Data: Formats, Representation and the Trust Problem
- Week 3: Machine Learning – Supervised (Classification)
- Week 4: Machine Learning - Unsupervised (Clustering) –
- Topic 5: Learning neural network, deep learning, Adversarial attacks
- Week 6: Large Language Models – Representation and Usage issues
- Weeks 7-8: Search, Heuristics - Decision Making
- Week 9: Constraints, Optimization – Decision Making
- Topic 10: Markov Decision Processes, Hidden Markov models -  
Decision making
- Topic 11-12: Planning, Reinforcement Learning – Sequential decision making
- Week 13: Trustworthy Decision Making: Explanation, AI testing
- Week 14: AI for Real World: Tools, Emerging Standards and Laws; Safe AI/ Chatbots

## Projects B: Sep 30 – Nov 20 (7 weeks; 400 points)

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- End date: **Thursday, Nov 20**
  - Remember to update spreadsheet on data/ time when finished (**Column I**)
- Choices
  - Given by instructor
  - Defined by student using project-b teampate; reviewed and approved by instructor

# Upcoming Evaluation Milestones

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- Projects B: Sep 30 – Nov 20
- Quiz 2: Oct 7
- Quiz 3: Nov 11
- Paper presentation (grad students only) : Nov 18
- Finals: Dec 11

# About Week 8 – Lectures 15

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# Week 8 – Lecture 15

- Lecture 15: Quiz 2
- Fall Break

- Week 1: Introduction, Aim: Chatbot / Intelligence Agent
- Weeks 2: Data: Formats, Representation, ML Basics
- Week 3: Machine Learning – Supervised (Classification)
- Week 4: Machine Learning - Unsupervised (Clustering) –
- Topic 5: Learning neural network, deep learning, Adversarial attacks
- Week 6: Large Language Models – Representation and Usage issues
- Weeks 7-8: Search, Heuristics - Decision Making
- Week 9: Constraints, Optimization – Decision Making
- Topic 10: Markov Decision Processes, Hidden Markov models -  
Decision making
- Topic 11-12: Planning, Reinforcement Learning – Sequential decision making
- Week 13: Trustworthy Decision Making: Explanation, AI testing
- Week 14: AI for Real World: Tools, Emerging Standards and Laws; Safe AI/ Chatbots

**Note:** exact schedule changes slightly to accommodate for exams and holidays.