

Game Description Logics and Game Playing

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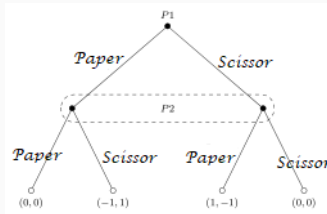
Western Sydney University (AU)



Motivation

Motivation(1/2)

- Game: describe and justify actions in a multi-agent context



- Autonomy for agent means
 - Decision making: justify actions (agent rationality)

P1 plays scissor because...
 - handling or playing in different environments (facing a new game)

P2 now plays Tic-tac-toe

Motivation (2/2)

Computer Science vs Game Theory?

- Game Theory

Main goal: assessing the graph (i.e. the game) and find equilibrium or existence of winning strategies

- Computer Science

Main goal: compact representation, computation of the possible next actions and choice

General Game Playing

Computer scientists challenge: build programs sufficiently general for playing different games.

Organization

Motivation

General Game Playing

Game Description Language

Implementing a Player

Game Description Logic: GDL with a (logic-flavored) semantics

Imperfect Information

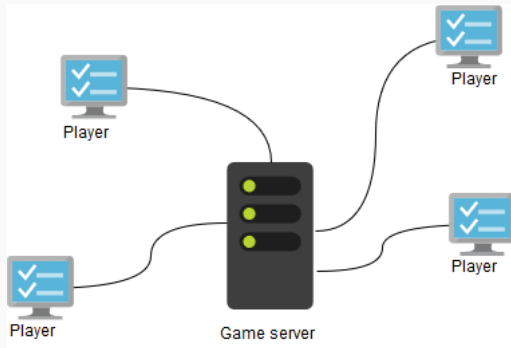
Reasoning for winning?

Still a lot to do! - Example: Equivalent games

Perspectives

General Game Playing

General Game Playing - Overall organization



More details at <http://ggp.org> and in [GT14]

Interaction between server and players:

- ⇒ Game rules & current state of the game
- ⇐ Moves

General Game Playing - Prerequisites

Limited to the shared aspect of the game

- **Type of game** No randomness - perfect information (board game)
- **Language** Processable by the server and players (game rules)
- **Timeclock** sync player moves and game run

No prerequisite on players implementation (reasoning is not compulsory!)

General Game Playing - Key challenge

Overall goal: designing intelligent agent

Building players sufficiently general for playing different games

GGP competition: players compete by playing at different games.

*Challenge is **not** to build the best player for one game*

GGP player will never beat AlphaGo (at least in a Go game!)

General Game Playing - Specialized player

- Usually rules of the game hard-coded in the player
- Possibly exhaustive search
- Predefined library of best moves (tactics, ie. library of plans) combined with heuristics
- Library can be learned



Game Description Language (GDL)

- General
 - General enough for describing different games: no primitives related to some specific game*
- Game rules and remarkable states
 - Initial and final states, legal actions...*
- Compact
 - Logic-based language, namely **first-order logic***

General Game Playing - Processing GDL

Server

- Not relevant - Zero intelligence

Players

- No specific implementation

Several implementation are available (Java, Prolog...)

- No specific way to play

Reasoning, Heuristics, Monte-Carlo, CSP...

Tic-Tac-Toe

Tic Tac Toe (or Noughts and Crosses, Xs and Os) is a game for two players who take turns placing their marks in a 3x3 grid. The first player to place three of his marks in a horizontal, vertical, or diagonal row wins the game.

General Game Playing - GDL Example

Tic-Tac-Toe GDL representation (1/3)

```
;;; Components
```

```
;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;
```

```
  (role white)
```

```
  (role black)
```

```
  ...
```

```
;;; init
```

```
;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;
```

```
  (init (cell 1 1 b))
```

```
  ...
```

```
  (init (cell 3 3 b))
```

```
  (init (control white))
```

General Game Playing - GDL Example

Tic-Tac-Toe GDL representation (2/3)

```
;;; legal moves
  (<= (legal ?w (mark ?x ?y))
      (true (cell ?x ?y b))
      (true (control ?w)))

  (<= (legal white noop)
      (true (control black)))
  ...

;;; next (effects)
  (<= (next (cell ?m ?n x))
      (does white (mark ?m ?n))
      (true (cell ?m ?n b)))
  ...
```

General Game Playing - GDL Example

Tic-Tac-Toe GDL representation (3/3)

```
;;; goal
  (<= (goal white 100)
      (line x)
      (not (line o)))
```

```
  (<= (goal white 0)
      (not (line x))
      (line o))
```

...

```
;;; terminal
```

```
  (<= terminal
      (line x))
```

...

Game Description Language

Prolog/Datalog like rules with predefined keywords (prefix notation)

Static perspective

- role players of the game
(role white)
- init initial state
(init (cell 1 1 b))
- terminal terminal state
(<= terminal (line x))
- true current state
(true (cell 2 2 b))

GDL - Primitives (2/2)

Dynamic perspective

- legal rules of the game - possible moves

```
(<= (legal x noop) (true (control o)))
```

- does performing action (in the current state)

```
(<= (next (cell ?x ?y ?player)) (does ?player  
  (mark ?x ?y)))
```

- next update function

```
(<= (next (control o)) (true (control x)))
```

- goal objectives of the players

```
(<= (goal ?player 100) (line ?player))
```

"Enforcing" game flavor

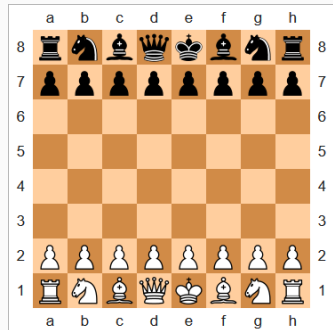
- sequence of keywords is *prohibited*
- `role` only atomic (fixed players)
- `next` predicate only in heads
- `init` and `true` predicates only in bodies
- `does` predicate only in bodies
- recursion restriction

A logic programming perspective

- Minimal data set D which are models of a game G : set of grounded atoms
 - ground literal $(\text{not } p)$ is satisfied iff p is not in D
- GDL game description: logic program with predefined predicate and shape
 - Complete definition of `role`, `init`
 - `legal` and `goal` only defined wrt `true`
 - `next` only defined wrt `true` and `does`
- Unique minimal model satisfying the state of the game (ie `true` predicate)
- Several minimal models when considering the dynamics (ie `does` predicate)

GDL - Chess example (1/6)

- Around 1000 lines!
- initial state already complex
- legal moves differ for each piece type
- basic rules + specific rules (pawn promotion...)
- no number in GDL: rules for encoding them!



GDL - Chess example (2/6)

Initial state

- Two players
 - Chess board and pieces
 - blank cells
 - black and white rooks
(wr, br)
 - black and white pawn
(wp)
 - First player
- ```
(role white)
(role black)
(init (cell a 1 wr))
(init (cell a 2 wp))
(init (cell a 3 b))
...
(init (cell h 8 br))
(init (control white))
```

## Goal states

- Check mate the opponent  
⇒ should be defined for the  
white and black players
- Draw is a good compromise
- Not being checkmate is also  
a goal!

```
...
(<= (goal white 100)
 (checkmate black))
(<= (goal white 50)
 stalemate)
(<= (goal white 0)
 (checkmate white))
...
```



# GDL - Chess example (4/6)

## End of the game

- One player is stuck
  - ⇒ regardless king is in check or not
- After 200 rounds, game is stopped
  - ⇒ Numbers and counting should be defined

```
(<= (stuck ?pl)
 (role ?pl)
 (not (has_legal_move ?pl))))
...
(<= terminal
 (true (control ?player))
 (stuck ?player))
(<= terminal
 (true (step 201)))
...
(succ 1 2)
(succ 2 3)
...
```

# GDL - Chess example (5/6)

## Legal moves

- Define the moves for each piece
  - what means adjacent?
  - what means diagonal?
  - ...
- Define legality
  - context is OK (players, piece is on the cell, move is meaningful...)

```
(<= (knight_move ?piece ?u ?v
 ?x ?y ?owner)
 (piece_owner_type ?piece
 ?owner knight)
 (adjacent_two ?v ?y)
 (adjacent ?u ?x))
...
(<= (legal ?player (move ?piece
 ?u ?v ?x ?y))
 (true (control ?player))
 (true (cell ?u ?v ?piece))
 (occupied_by_opp ?x ?y ?player)
 (legal2 ?player (move ?piece
 ?u ?v
 ?x ?y)))
...
```

## Actions and update

- General rules for the game  
e.g. blank cell
- specific rules for specific moves  
e.g. “en passant”
- update the step number

```
(<= (next (cell ?u ?v b))
 (does ?player (move ?p ?u
 ?v ?x ?y)))
```

```
(<= (next (cell ?x1 ?y1 b))
 (does ?player (move ?piece
 ?x1 ?y1 ?x2 ?y2))
 (pawn_capture_en_passant
 ?player ?x1 ?y1 ?x2 ?y2)))
```

```
(<= (next (step ?y))
 (true (step ?x))
 (succ ?x ?y)))
```

# Implementing a Player

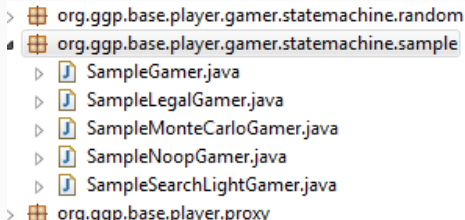
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# Implementing a Player

- Free implementation
- Reasoning is not compulsory
- Main technique:
  - Search-Space and Heuristics
  - Compute the value of the next state

eg. (1) Minimax

eg. (2) Monte-Carlo Tree Search



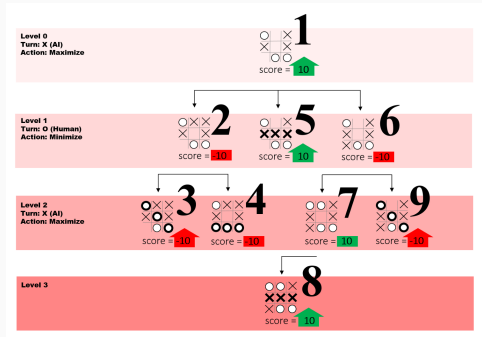
```
> org.ggp.base.player.gamer.statemachine.random
+ org.ggp.base.player.gamer.statemachine.sample
 ▶ SampleGamer.java
 ▶ SampleLegalGamer.java
 ▶ SampleMonteCarloGamer.java
 ▶ SampleNoopGamer.java
 ▶ SampleSearchLightGamer.java
> org.qqp.base.player.proxy
```

The screenshot shows a file explorer or package browser in a Java IDE. It displays a hierarchy of packages and files. The package `org.ggp.base.player.gamer.statemachine.sample` is expanded, showing five Java files: `SampleGamer.java`, `SampleLegalGamer.java`, `SampleMonteCarloGamer.java`, `SampleNoopGamer.java`, and `SampleSearchLightGamer.java`. The package `org.ggp.base.player.gamer.statemachine.random` is also visible above it, and `org.qqp.base.player.proxy` is visible below it.

# Minimax

## Extensive search

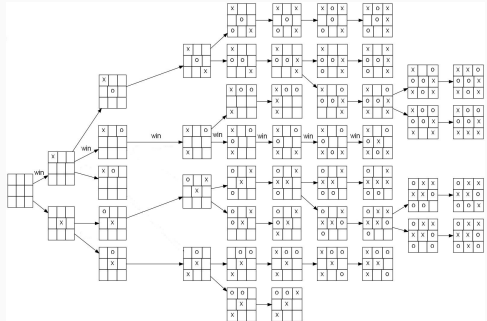
- depth first
- min value for the opponents (worst case)
- max value for myself (best case)
- depth of search may be limited (heuristics)



# Minimax

## Monte Carlo Tree Search

- Run random simulation
- Sampling the game tree
- Estimation of actions
- MCTS converge to Minimax



# Game Description Logic: GDL with a (logic-flavored) semantics

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# Signature and Language

## Towards reasoning about Perfect Information Games

*First step is to build a logic based on GDL [Jia16]*

**Signature** Agents, actions, propositions:

$$(N, \mathcal{A}, \Phi)$$

**Language** predefined symbols and temporal operators

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi ::= & p \mid \textit{initial} \mid \textit{terminal} \mid \textit{legal}(r, a) \mid \textit{wins}(r) \mid \\ & \textit{does}(r, a) \mid \neg\varphi \mid \varphi \wedge \psi \mid \bigcirc\varphi \end{aligned}$$

GDL description of Tic-tac-Toe:

1.  $initial \leftrightarrow turn(x) \wedge \neg turn(o) \wedge \bigwedge_{i,j=1}^3 \neg(p_{i,j}^x \vee p_{i,j}^o)$
2.  $wins(r) \leftrightarrow \bigvee_{i=1}^3 \bigwedge_{l=0}^2 p_{i,1+l}^r \vee \bigvee_{j=1}^3 \bigwedge_{l=0}^2 p_{1+l,j}^r \vee \bigwedge_{l=0}^2 p_{1+l,1+l}^r \vee \bigwedge_{l=0}^2 p_{1+l,3-l}^r$
3.  $terminal \leftrightarrow wins(x) \vee wins(o) \vee \bigwedge_{i,j=1}^3 (p_{i,j}^x \vee p_{i,j}^o)$
4.  $legal(r, a_{i,j}) \leftrightarrow \neg(p_{i,j}^x \vee p_{i,j}^o) \wedge turn(r) \wedge \neg terminal$
5.  $legal(r, noop) \leftrightarrow turn(-r)$
6.  $\bigcirc p_{i,j}^r \leftrightarrow p_{i,j}^r \vee (does(r, a_{i,j}) \wedge \neg(p_{i,j}^x \vee p_{i,j}^o))$
7.  $turn(r) \rightarrow \bigcirc \neg turn(r) \wedge \bigcirc turn(-r)$

# State-Transition Model (Perfect-Information Game)

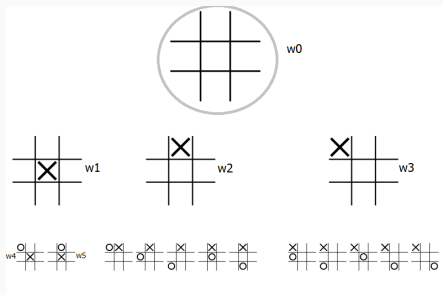
$$M = (W, I, T, L, U, g, \pi)$$

- $W$  is a non-empty finite set of *possible states*.
- $I \subseteq W$ , representing a set of *initial* states.
- $T \subseteq W \setminus I$ , representing a set of *terminal* states.
- $L \subseteq W \setminus T \times N \times 2^{\mathcal{A}}$  is a *legality* relation, specifying legal actions for each agent at non-terminal states. Let  $L_r(w) = \{a \in \mathcal{A} : (w, r, a) \in L\}$  be the set of all legal actions for agent  $r$  at state  $w$ . To make the game playable, we require  $L_r(w) \neq \emptyset$  for every  $r \in N$  and  $w \in W \setminus T$ .
- $U : W \times \mathcal{A}^{|N|} \rightarrow W \setminus I$  is an *update* function, specifying the state transition for each state and *joint action* (synchronous moves).
- $g : N \rightarrow 2^W$  is a *goal* function, specifying the winning states of each agent.
- $\pi : W \rightarrow 2^{\Phi}$  is a standard valuation function.

# ST Model - Details (1/3)

$$M = (W, I, T, L, U, g, \pi)$$

- Set of states  $W$  can be very large  
*5 478 states for Tic-Tac-Toe*
- Set  $I = \{w_0\}$  usually a singleton



## ST Model - Details (2/3)

$$M = (W, I, T, L, U, g, \pi)$$

- Set  $T$  of terminal states consider all cases

*958 terminal states*

- winning or draw states
- winning states  $g$  specific to each agent and subset of  $T$

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| O | X |  |
| O | X |  |
|   | X |  |

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
|  | X | O |
|  | X | O |
|  | X |   |

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| O | X | X |
| X | O | X |
| O | X | X |

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| X | X | X |
| O |   |   |
|   |   | O |

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| X | X | X |
| O |   |   |
| O |   |   |

...

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| X | X | O |
| O | X | X |
| X | O | O |

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| X |   | O |
| X |   |   |
| X | O |   |

|   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| X |  | O |
| X |  |   |
| X |  | O |

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| O | X | O |
| X | X | O |
| X | O | X |

# ST Model - Details (3/3)

$$M = (W, I, T, L, U, g, \pi)$$

- Legal transitions ( $L$ )

9 legal actions from

$\langle (1, 1), \text{noop} \rangle$  to

$\langle (3, 3), \text{noop} \rangle$  in

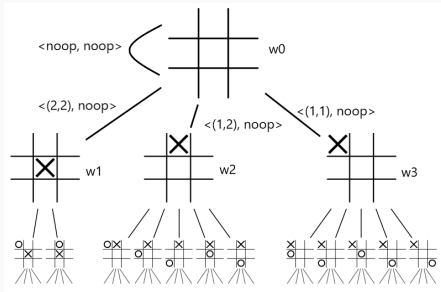
$w_0$

- Update is deterministic.

Update can be defined while

illegal (eg.

$\langle \text{noop}, \text{noop} \rangle$ )



# Path

Path  $\delta$  is an infinite sequence of states and actions

$$w_0 \xrightarrow{d_1} w_1 \xrightarrow{d_2} w_2 \cdots \xrightarrow{d_j} \cdots$$

such that for all  $j \geq 1$  and for any  $r \in N$ ,

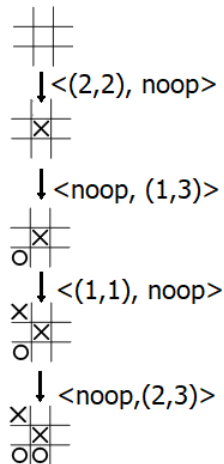
1.  $w_j = U(w_{j-1}, d_j)$  (state update);
2.  $(w_{j-1}, d_j(r)) \in L_r$  (that is, any action that is taken must be legal);
3. if  $w_{j-1} \in T$ , then  $w_{j-1} = w_j$  (that is, a loop after reaching a terminal state).

$\theta_r(\delta, j)$ : action of agent  $r$  at stage  $j$  of  $\delta$

## Sequence of actions

- Run over an ST-model
- No requirement about first and last states
- formulas will be interpreted over a path at some step
- $\delta[j]$ :  $j$ th state of path  $\delta$
- $\theta_r(\delta, j)$  action performed by agent  $r$  at state  $j$  of path  $\delta$

eg:  $\theta_x(\delta, 3) = a_{1,1}$



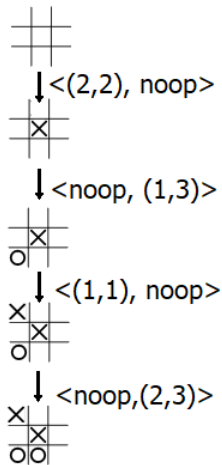


W.r.t.  $M$ , some path  $\delta$  and index  $j$

|                                                   |     |                                                                       |
|---------------------------------------------------|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| $M, \delta, j \models p$                          | iff | $p \in \pi(\delta[j])$                                                |
| $M, \delta, j \models \neg\varphi$                | iff | $M, \delta, j \not\models \varphi$                                    |
| $M, \delta, j \models \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2$ | iff | $M, \delta, j \models \varphi_1$ and $M, \delta, j \models \varphi_2$ |
| $M, \delta, j \models \text{initial}$             | iff | $\delta[j] \in I$                                                     |
| $M, \delta, j \models \text{terminal}$            | iff | $\delta[j] \in T$                                                     |
| $M, \delta, j \models \text{wins}(r)$             | iff | $\delta[j] \in g(r)$                                                  |
| $M, \delta, j \models \text{legal}(r, a)$         | iff | $a \in L_r(\delta[j])$                                                |
| $M, \delta, j \models \text{does}(r, a)$          | iff | $\theta_r(\delta, j) = a$                                             |
| $M, \delta, j \models \bigcirc\varphi$            | iff | $M, \delta, j + 1 \models \varphi$                                    |

## Tic-Tac-Toe formulas

- $M, \delta, 0 \models \neg p_{1,1}^x$
- $M, \delta, 1 \models p_{2,2}^x$
- $M, \delta, 1 \models \neg \text{wins}(x)$
- $M, \delta, 1 \models \text{does}(o, a_{1,3})$
- $M, \delta, 2 \models \bigcirc \text{does}(o, a_{2,3})$
- $M, \delta, 4 \models \neg \bigcirc \text{wins}(x)$



# What about proof theory?

Mainly consists of axiom schemas for  $\bigcirc$ , modus ponens inference rule and general game properties:

## Axioms

1. All tautologies of classical propositional logic.
2.  $\bigcirc(\varphi \rightarrow \psi) \rightarrow (\bigcirc\varphi \rightarrow \bigcirc\psi)$
3.  $\neg \bigcirc \varphi \rightarrow \bigcirc \neg \varphi$

## Axioms for general game properties

4.  $\neg \bigcirc \textit{initial}$
5.  $\textit{terminal} \rightarrow \bigwedge_{a^r \in A^r \setminus \{\textit{noop}^r\}} \neg \textit{legal}(a^r) \wedge \textit{legal}(\textit{noop}^r)$
6.  $\bigvee_{a^r \in A^r} \textit{does}(r, a)$
7.  $\neg(\textit{does}(r, a) \wedge \textit{does}(r, b))$  for  $a^r \neq b^r$ .
8.  $\textit{does}(a^r) \rightarrow \textit{legal}(a^r)$
9.  $\varphi \wedge \textit{terminal} \rightarrow \bigcirc \varphi$

## General game properties

- $\models \bigvee_{r \in N} \text{wins}(r) \rightarrow \text{terminal}$  iff  $g(r) \subseteq T$

## Bounded time

- $\not\models \bigwedge_{i \in 1..n} \bigcirc^i \neg \text{wins}(r) \rightarrow \bigcirc^{n+1} \neg \text{wins}(r)$

---

<sup>0</sup> $\bigcirc^n$ : sequence of  $n$   $\bigcirc$

# GDL for reasoning about games

## General game playing w.r.t. some ongoing game

- assessing a “strategy” vs  $\langle \text{game state, move} \rangle (M, \delta)$
- Look ahead via model checking (**P**TIME)
- Winning move (encoded in  $\delta$ )?

$$M, \delta, 0 \models \bigcirc \text{wins}(x)$$

- Prevent opponent  $x$  to win?
  - Choose an action  $a$  for  $x$  and an action  $b$  for  $-x$  next move  
 $\Rightarrow$  Check  $M, \delta, 0 \models \bigcirc \text{does}(-x, b) \wedge \bigcirc^2 \text{wins}(-x)$
  - Choose alternative action  $a'$  for  $x$   
 $\Rightarrow$  Check  $M, \delta', 0 \models \bigcirc \text{does}(-x, b) \wedge \bigcirc^2 \neg \text{wins}(-x)$
  - Choose other  $b'$  and recheck
- No meta-reasoning in GDL (assessment over paths)

*“Try to win, if not prevent to loose” cannot be represented*

# GDL for reasoning about games

## Specific game properties

- Set of rules specific to a game
- Identify pattern for general game playing
- Example: Tic-Tac-Toe
  - $diagonal(x) \leftrightarrow \bigwedge_{i \in 1..3} p_{i,i}^x \vee \bigwedge_{i \in 0..2} p_{1+i,3-i}^x$
  - $line(x) \leftrightarrow diagonal(x) \vee column(x) \vee row(x)$
  - Double threat consequence of move  $a$  by  $x$ : two potential lines
  - Meta-reasoning as two paths are considered (eg: row or column):

*For any next move  $b$  by  $-x$ , pick up  $x$  move  $c$  and  $c'$ , build path  $\delta, \delta'$  and check*

$$M, \delta, 0 \models \bigcirc row(x) \text{ or } M, \delta', 0 \models \bigcirc column(x)$$

## (Simplified) Nim Game

- 2 players sequential game
- 12 sticks
- at each round, each player picks 1, 2 or 3 sticks
- winner of game: the player picking the last stick

*Provide the GDL representation*

## GDL and Linear Time Logic (LTL)

- GDL close to temporal logic
- Temporal logic: modal logic.
- Temporal operators: *next*, *sometimes*, *always*
- No existential and universal modality in GDL

*“Statement  $\varphi$  will hold at some stage” cannot be represented*



## GDL and Propositional Dynamic Logic (PDL)

- PDL formulas:  $[\alpha]\varphi$  s.t.  $[\alpha]\varphi =_{\text{def}} \neg\langle\alpha\rangle\neg\varphi$
- $\alpha$  limited to atomic program and sequence
- Interpretation over Kripke structure  $M = (W, R_\alpha, v)$
- PDL semantics
  - $M, w \models p \iff p \in v(w)$
  - $M, w \models [\alpha]\varphi$  iff for all  $w' \in R_\alpha$ ,  $M, w' \models \varphi$

## GDL and Propositional Dynamic Logic (PDL)

- Mapping between GDL and PDL
- First step: map the signature and formulas
- Second step: map the model (interpretations and paths)
- Third step: mapping result

$$M_{GDL}, \delta_{GDL}, j \models_{GDL} \varphi \iff M_{PDL}, w_j \models_{PDL} tr(\varphi)$$

## GDL and Propositional Dynamic Logic (PDL)

- Map GDL signature  $(N, \mathcal{A}, \Phi)$  and PDL propositional symbols  $P$

$$P = \Phi \cup \{initial, terminal\} \cup \{done(r, a) \mid r \in N \text{ and } a \in \mathcal{A}\} \\ \cup \{wins(r) \mid r \in N\}$$

- Map between GDL and PDL formulas: Function  $tr$ 
  - $tr(\bigcirc \varphi) = \bigvee_a [a] \varphi$  s.t.  $a$  is a joint action
  - $tr(does(r, a)) = [a^r] done(r, a)$
  - $tr(legal(r, a)) = legal(r, a)$
- No more agents and temporal representation

## GDL and Propositional Dynamic Logic (PDL)

- Construct a  $N_{M,\delta} = (W', R_a, \nu)$  with respect to (i) joint actions  $a$ , (ii) an ST-model  $M = (W, I, T, L, U, g, \pi)$  and (iii) path  $\delta$ :
  1.  $W' = W$
  2. For any  $w$ :
    - For all  $p \in \Phi$ ,  $p \in \pi(w)$  iff  $p \in \nu(w)$
    - $w \in I$  iff *initial*  $\in \nu(w)$
    - $w \in T$ , iff *terminal*  $\in \nu(w)$
    - $w \in g(r)$  iff *wins*( $r$ )  $\in \nu(w)$
    - $b \in L_r(w)$  iff *legal*( $r, b$ )  $\in \nu(w)$
    - $U(w, a) = w'$  iff  $wR_a w'$
    - $\theta_r(\delta, w) = a^r$  iff *done*( $r, a^r$ )  $\in \nu(U(w, a))$
- Interplay

$$M, \delta, j \models_{GDL} \varphi \iff N_{M,\delta}, w_j \models_{PDL} tr(\varphi)$$

## GDL and Linear Time Logic (LTL)

- LTL formulas:  $\mathbf{X}\varphi, \mathbf{G}\varphi, \mathbf{F}\varphi$  s.t.  $\mathbf{G}\varphi =_{\text{def}} \neg\mathbf{F}\neg\varphi$
- binary operator:  $\varphi\mathbf{U}\psi$  (*Until*)
- Interpretation over paths: infinite sequence  $\delta$  of propositional interpretations  $\omega$
- LTL semantics
  - $\delta \models p \iff p \in \delta[0]$
  - $\delta \models \mathbf{X}\varphi \iff \delta[1..\infty] \models \varphi$
  - $\delta \models \mathbf{F}\varphi \iff \text{there exists } i \in 0..\infty, \text{ s.t. } \delta[i..\infty] \models \varphi$

## GDL and Linear Time Logic (LTL)

- Mapping between GDL and LTL
- First step: map the signature
- Second step: map the model (interpretations and paths)
- Third step: equivalence result

$$M, \delta_{GDL}, 0 \models_{GDL} \varphi \iff \delta_{LTL} \models_{LTL} \varphi$$

# GDL and other logical systems

## GDL and Linear Time Logic (LTL)

- Map GDL signature  $(N, \mathcal{A}, \Phi)$  and LTL symbols  $P$

$$\begin{aligned} P = \Phi \cup \{ & \textit{initial}, \textit{terminal} \} \\ & \cup \{ \textit{legal}(r, a) \mid r \in N \text{ and } a \in \mathcal{A} \} \\ & \cup \{ \textit{done}(r, a) \mid r \in N \text{ and } a \in \mathcal{A} \} \\ & \cup \{ \textit{wins}(r) \mid r \in N \} \end{aligned}$$

- Map between GDL and LTL formulas: Function  $tr$   
*All symbols are unchanged except  $\bigcirc$  and does operators replaced by  $\mathbf{X}$  and done operators*

$$tr(\textit{does}(r, a)) = \mathbf{X} \textit{done}(r, a)$$

- No more agents and actions!

## GDL and Linear Time Logic (LTL)

- Construct an LTL path  $\delta'$  wrt. an ST model  $M = (W, I, T, L, U, g, \pi)$  and path  $\delta$  st. for any  $w'_j$  of  $\delta'$ 
  - $p \in w'_j \iff p \in \pi(\delta[j])$  for any  $p \in \Phi$
  - $initial \in w'_j \iff \delta[j] \in I$
  - $terminal \in w'_j \iff \delta[j] \in T$
  - $wins(r) \in w'_j \iff \delta[j] \in g(r)$
  - $legal(r, a) \in w'_j \iff a \in L_r(\delta[j])$
  - $done(r, a) \in w'_j \iff \theta_r(\delta, j-1) = a$  and  $j \geq 1$
- Interplay

$$M, \delta, j \models_{GDL} \varphi \iff \delta'[j..\infty] \models_{LTL} tr(\varphi)$$

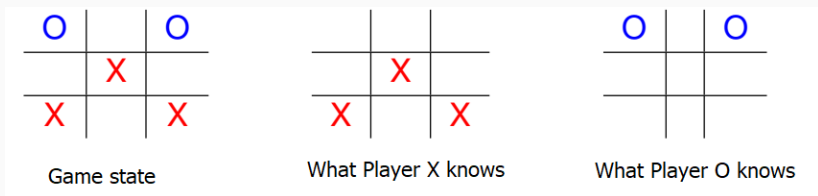


# Imperfect Information

---

# Imperfect Information

## Example



**Figure 1:** Krieg Tic-Tac-Toe

Each player

- see her own marks only
- know turn-taking and available actions

Main issue

*How to describe and reason about games with imperfect information?*

GDL-II: extension of GDL - Server side [Thi10]

- sees specify what a player perceives at the next state

*(sees ?player (holds ?player ?card))*

sees behaviour similar to next: only in head of clauses.

- *random* random player

*(role random)*

Perform action with parameters randomly set

*(does random (deal ?player ?card))*

# Krieg Tic-Tac-Toe GDL representation (1/3)

## Simultaneous move: possible tie-break

```
;;; additional random player for tie break
 (role black)
 (role white)
 (role random)
```

```
;;; random player can only solve tie break
 (legal random (tiebreak white))
 (legal random (tiebreak black))
```

```
;;; "tried" predicate: "try to mark"
 (<= next (tried ?r ?m ?n)
 (does ?r (mark ?m ?n)))
```

```
(<= next (tried ?r ?m ?n)
 (true (tried ?r ?m ?n)))
```

### Solving tie-break

```
;;; possible tie-break
 (<= next (cell ?r ?m ?n)
 (true (cell ?m ?n b))
 (does white (mark ?m ?n)))
 (does black (mark ?m ?n)))
 (does random (tiebreak ?r)))
```

## Krieg Tic-Tac-Toe GDL representation (3/3)

### Only seeing own moves

```
;;; success when moves differ
 (<= sees ?r1 (cell ?m1 ?n1 ?r1)
 (true (cell ?m1 ?n1 b))
 (does ?r1 (mark ?m1 ?n1))
 (does ?r2 (mark ?m2 ?n2))
 (distinct ?m1 ?m2))

...

;;; successful tie break
 (<= sees black (cell ?m ?n black)
 (true (cell ?m ?n b))
 (does black (mark ?m ?n)))
 (does random (tiebreak black)))

...
```

## Mapping Game $G$ to State-Transition model

- $\Sigma$  set of all states  $S$  of ground atoms  $f$
- $S^{\text{true}} = \{\text{true}(f_1), \dots, \text{true}(f_n)\}$ 
  - $S$ : set of ground atoms  $f_1 \dots f_n$
  - $S^{\text{true}}$ : extension of  $S$  with true predicate
- $M^{\text{does}} = \{\text{does}(a_1, a_1), \dots, \text{does}(r, a_r)\}$ 
  - $M^{\text{does}}$ : joint move derivable from  $G \cup S^{\text{true}}$
- Model  $M = (\Sigma, N, w_0, t, l, u, \mathcal{I}, g)$ 
  - $N = \{r \mid G \text{ satisfies } \text{role}(r)\}$
  - $w_0 = \{f \mid G \text{ satisfies } \text{init}(f)\}$
  - $u(M, S) = \{f \mid G \cup S^{\text{true}} \cup M^{\text{does}} \text{ satisfies } \text{next}(f)\}$  for all  $M$  and  $S$
  - $\mathcal{I} = \{(r, M, S, p) \mid G \cup S^{\text{true}} \cup M^{\text{does}} \text{ satisfies } \text{sees}(r, p)\}$  for all  $r \neq \text{random}$ ,  $M$  and  $S$

# Krieg Tic-Tac-Toe State-Transition model (1/3)

Building up model  $M = (N, w_0, t, l, u, \mathcal{I}, g)$

$\{black, white\} \subseteq N$

(role black)

(role white)

(role random)

$\{cell(1, 1, b), \dots, cell(3, 3, b)\} \in w_0$  as

(init (cell 1 1 b))

...

(init (cell 3 3 b))



## Krieg Tic-Tac-Toe State-Transition model (2/3)

Building up model  $M = (N, w_0, t, l, u, \mathcal{I}, g)$

$u(\langle (1,1)^x, (3,3)^o \rangle, w_0) = \{cell(1,1,x), \dots, cell(3,3,o)\}$  as

$G \cup w_0^{\text{true}} \cup \langle (1,1)^x, (3,3)^o \rangle^{\text{does}}$  satisfies `(next (cell 1 1 x))`

and

$G \cup w_0^{\text{true}} \cup \langle (1,1)^x, (3,3)^o \rangle^{\text{does}}$  satisfies `(next (cell 3 3 o))`

Remind that

```
(<= next (cell ?r ?m ?n)
 (true (cell ?m ?n b))
 (does white (mark ?m ?n)))
 (does black (mark ?m ?n)))
 (does random (tiebreak ?r)))
```

## Krieg Tic-Tac-Toe State-Transition model (3/3)

Building up model  $M = (N, w_0, t, l, u, \mathcal{I}, g)$

$(x, \langle (1,1)^x, (3,3)^o \rangle, w_1, cell(1,1,x)) \in \mathcal{I}$  as

$G \cup w_0^{\text{true}} \cup \langle (1,1)^x, (3,3)^o \rangle^{\text{does}}$  satisfies (sees x (cell 1 1 x))

Remind that

```
(<= sees ?r1 (cell ?m1 ?n1 ?r1)
 (true (cell ?m1 ?n1 b))
 (does ?r1 (mark ?m1 ?n1))
 (does ?r2 (mark ?m2 ?n2))
 (distinct ?m1 ?m2))
```

Notice that  $(o, \langle (1,1)^x, (3,3)^o \rangle, w_1, cell(1,1,x)) \notin \mathcal{I}$  as

$G \cup w_0^{\text{true}} \cup \langle (1,1)^x, (3,3)^o \rangle^{\text{does}}$  does not satisfies (sees o (cell 1 1 x))

## Server side vs Player side

- GDL-II: how to represent incomplete or uncertain information
- GDL-II: server perspective (what is the information flow?)
- Player perspective
  - How to handle certain and uncertain information?
  - How to handle other players' "knowledge"?

## Epistemic extension: Syntax (1/2)

Extending GDL with epistemic operators [JZPZ16]

- $K_r\varphi$ : “agent  $r$  knows  $\varphi$ ”
- $C\varphi$ : as “ $\varphi$  is common knowledge among all the agents in  $N$ ”

### Definition (Syntax)

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi ::= & p \mid \textit{initial} \mid \textit{terminal} \mid \textit{legal}(r, a) \mid \textit{wins}(r) \mid \textit{does}(r, a) \mid \\ & \neg\varphi \mid \varphi \wedge \psi \mid \bigcirc\varphi \mid K_r\varphi \mid C\varphi\end{aligned}$$

$$E\varphi =_{\text{def}} \bigwedge_{r \in N} K_r\varphi$$

## Epistemic extension: Syntax (2/2)

Sequential Krieg-Tic-Tac-Toe - Epistemic rules

Additional symbol:

*tried*( $r, a_{i,j}$ ) represents the fact that player  $r$  has tried to mark cell  $(i, j)$  but failed

1.  $\text{tried}(r, a_{i,j}) \rightarrow p_{i,j}^{-r}$
2.  $\text{does}(r, a_{i,j}) \rightarrow K_r(\text{does}(r, a_{i,j}))$
3.  $\text{initial} \rightarrow E\text{initial}$
4.  $(\text{turn}(r) \rightarrow E\text{turn}(r)) \wedge (\neg\text{turn}(r) \rightarrow E\neg\text{turn}(r))$
5.  $(p_{i,j}^r \rightarrow K_r p_{i,j}^r) \wedge (\neg p_{i,j}^r \rightarrow K_r \neg p_{i,j}^r)$
6.  $(\text{tried}(r, a_{i,j}) \rightarrow K_r \text{tried}(r, a_{i,j})) \wedge (\neg\text{tried}(r, a_{i,j}) \rightarrow K_r \neg\text{tried}(r, a_{i,j}))$

## Epistemic extension: Semantics (1/2)

*Epistemic state transition (EST) model*  $M$  is a tuple

$$(W, I, T, \{R_r\}_{r \in N}, \{L_r\}_{r \in N}, U, g, \pi)$$

- $W$  is a non-empty set of *possible states*.
- $I \subseteq W$ , representing a set of *initial* states.
- $T \subseteq W \setminus I$ , representing a set of *terminal* states.
- $R_r \subseteq W \times W$  is an equivalence relation for agent  $r$ , indicating the states that are indistinguishable for  $r$ .
- $L_r \subseteq W \times A^r$  is a *legality* relation for agent  $r$ ,
- $U : W \times \prod_{r \in N} A^r \hookrightarrow W \setminus I$  is a partial *update* function
- $g : N \rightarrow 2^W$  is a *goal* function, specifying the winning states for each agent.
- $\pi : W \rightarrow 2^\Phi$  is a standard valuation function.

## Epistemic extension: Semantics (2/2)

Imperfect Recall

$$\delta \approx_r \delta' \quad \text{iff} \quad \delta[0] R_r \delta'[0]$$

Satisfaction with respect to some EST  $M$  and path  $\delta$

$$\begin{array}{ll} M, \delta \models K_r \varphi & \text{iff} \quad \text{for any } \delta' \in \mathcal{P}, \text{ if } \delta \approx_r \delta', \text{ then } M, \delta' \models \varphi \\ M, \delta \models C\varphi & \text{iff} \quad \text{for any } \delta' \in \mathcal{P}, \text{ if } \delta \approx_N \delta', \text{ then } M, \delta' \models \varphi \end{array}$$

where  $\approx_N$  is the transitive closure of  $\bigcup_{r \in N} \approx_r$  and  $\mathcal{P}$  is the set of all paths in  $M$ .

## Epistemic extension: Axiomatics (1/3)

Mainly consists of axiom schemas and inference rules for  $\bigcirc$ ,  $K_r$ ,  $C$  and general game properties [JPZ17]

Axioms

1. All tautologies of classical propositional logic.

Axioms for general game properties

2.  $\neg \bigcirc \textit{initial}$
3.  $\textit{terminal} \rightarrow \bigwedge_{a^r \in A^r \setminus \{\textit{noop}^r\}} \neg \textit{legal}(a^r) \wedge \textit{legal}(\textit{noop}^r)$
4.  $\bigvee_{a^r \in A^r} \textit{does}(a^r)$
5.  $\neg(\textit{does}(a^r) \wedge \textit{does}(b^r))$  for  $a^r \neq b^r$ .
6.  $\textit{does}(a^r) \rightarrow \textit{legal}(a^r)$
7.  $\varphi \wedge \textit{terminal} \rightarrow \bigcirc \varphi$



## Epistemic extension: Axiomatics (2/3)

Axioms for  $\bigcirc, K_r, C$

- 8.  $\bigcirc(\varphi \rightarrow \psi) \rightarrow (\bigcirc\varphi \rightarrow \bigcirc\psi)$
- 9.  $\neg \bigcirc \varphi \leftrightarrow \bigcirc \neg \varphi$
- 10.  $K_r(\varphi \rightarrow \psi) \rightarrow (K_r\varphi \rightarrow K_r\psi)$
- 11.  $K_r\varphi \rightarrow \varphi$
- 12.  $K_r\varphi \rightarrow K_r K_r\varphi$
- 13.  $\neg K_r\varphi \rightarrow K_r \neg K_r\varphi$
- 14.  $E\varphi \leftrightarrow \bigwedge_{r=1}^m K_r\varphi$
- 15.  $C\varphi \rightarrow E(\varphi \wedge C\varphi)$

Inference Rules

- (R1) From  $\varphi, \varphi \rightarrow \psi$  infer  $\psi$ .
- (R2) From  $\varphi$  infer  $\bigcirc\varphi$ .
- (R3) From  $\varphi$  infer  $K_r\varphi$ .
- (R4) From  $\varphi \rightarrow E(\varphi \wedge \psi)$  infer  $\varphi \rightarrow C\psi$ .

Derivation about Krieg-Tic-Tac-Toe (full description:  $\Sigma_{KT}$ ).

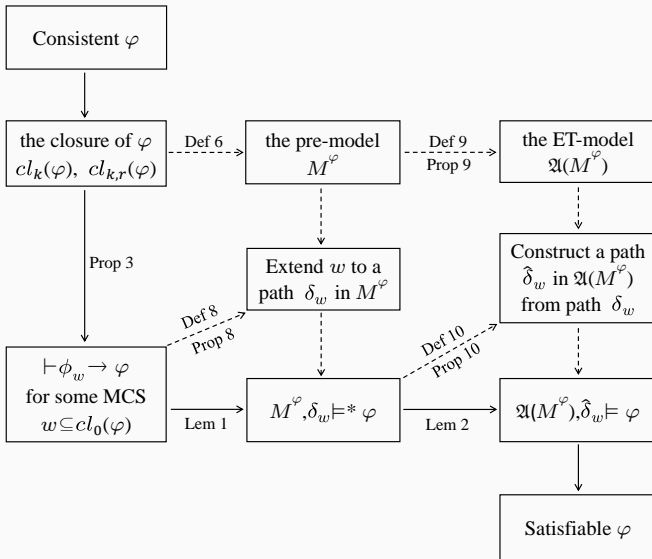
### Proposition

For any  $r \in N_{KT}$  and  $a_{i,j}^r \in A_{KT}^r$ ,

1.  $\vdash_{\Sigma_{KT}} \text{initial} \rightarrow C_{\text{initial}}$
2.  $\vdash_{\Sigma_{KT}} \text{legal}(a_{i,j}^r) \rightarrow K_r(\text{legal}(a_{i,j}^r))$
3.  $\vdash_{\Sigma_{KT}} \text{does}(a_{i,j}^r) \rightarrow \bigcirc K_r(p_{i,j}^r \vee \text{tried}(a_{i,j}^r))$
4.  $\vdash_{\Sigma_{KT}} K_r \text{tried}(a_{i,j}^r) \rightarrow K_r p_{i,j}^{-r}$

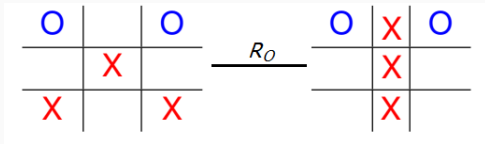
# Completeness... in one slide

## Overall picture



# EGDL for reasoning about games

General game playing w.r.t. some ongoing game



**Figure 2:** Player o Knowledge

*Player o cannot distinguish between the two states*

*terminal*  $\rightarrow$  *Cterminal* is not valid

# EGDL for reasoning about games

## General game playing w.r.t. some ongoing game

- assessing a “strategy” vs  $\langle \text{game state, move} \rangle (M, \delta)$
- Look ahead via model checking ( $\Delta_2^P$ )
- Winning situation (encoded in  $\delta$ )?

$$M, \delta \models K_r \bigcirc \text{wins}(x)$$

- Prevent opponent of  $r$  to win?

$$\text{Check } M, \delta \models \text{does}(r, a) \wedge K_r \bigcirc \neg \text{wins}(-r)$$

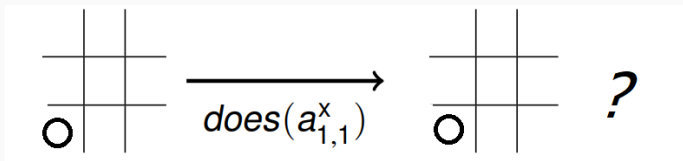
- Opponent of  $r$  may win (wrt. to some  $r$  move)?

$$\text{Check } M, \delta \models \neg K_r \neg \bigcirc (\text{does}(-r, a) \rightarrow \bigcirc \text{wins}(-r))$$

- Still no reasoning over paths in EGDL

# GDL for reasoning about games

## Specific game properties



**Figure 3:** Player  $x$  move

*Player  $x$  knows that*

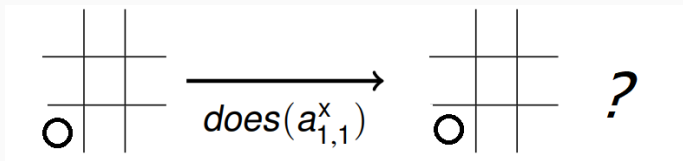
$$does(x, a_{i,j}) \rightarrow \bigcirc K_x(p_{i,j}^x \vee tried(x, a_{i,j}))$$

*Hence*

$$K_x tried(x, a_{1,1})$$

# GDL for reasoning about games

## Specific game properties



**Figure 4:** Player  $x$  move

*Player  $x$  knows that*

$$K_x \text{tried}(x, a_{i,j}) \rightarrow K_x p_{i,j}^o$$

*Hence*

$$K_x p_{1,1}^o$$

## Guessing a number

- 2 players game
- Player 1 choose a number  $n \in [1, 10]$  (initial state)
- Player 2 has to guess  $n$
- After each round, Player 1 informs Player 2 whether its proposal is too low or too high.
- Player 2 wins if it guesses  $n$  in 3 rounds.

*Provide the EGD L representation*



GDL-III: extension of GDL-II - Server side [Thi17]

- `(knows ?r ?p)` specify that player `?r` knows information `p?`  
*(knows ?player (holds ?player2 ?card))*
- `(knows ?p)` specify that `?p` is common knowledge
- `knows`: introspection operator  
*Goals can be epistemic: russian card, muddy children...*
- Complex reification mechanism for handling nested knowledge operator

## Knowledge State-Transition System

*fluent state **and** epistemic state*

- Knowledge state:  $(S, K)$ 
  - $S$  state: defined with respect to true predicate (just like for GDL-II)
  - $K$  state: defined with respect to knows predicate

$$K = \{(\text{knows } r \ f) \dots\}$$

- Satisfaction is defined with respect to  $G, S^{\text{true}}, K$
- Resulting state  $S'$  obtained by doing move  $M$   
*given by next predicate satisfied by  $G, S^{\text{true}}, K$  and  $M^{\text{does}}$*

$$u(M, S, K) = \{f \mid G \cup S^{\text{true}} \cup M^{\text{does}} \cup K \text{ satisfies next}(f) \}$$

## Knowledge State-Transition System

- Knowledge state:  $(S, K)$
- Resulting state  $K'$  obtained by doing move  $M$ 
  - Need to consider a sequence of moves
  - No move (empty sequence  $\epsilon$ ). Smallest set s.t.

$$K_\epsilon = \{(\text{knows } r f) \mid G \cup w_0^{\text{true}} \cup K_\epsilon \text{ satisfies } f\}$$

- Sequence of moves  $\delta$  and knowledge

$$K_{\delta M} = \{(\text{knows } r f) \mid G \cup s_{\delta' M'}^{\text{true}} \cup K_{\delta M} \text{ satisfies } f \\ \text{for all } \delta M \sim_r \delta' M'\}$$

- $\delta M \sim_r \delta' M'$ : the two sequences cannot be distinguished (same moves and percepts)

### Knowledge State-Transition System - a short example

- Muddy children with 2 kids: *alice* and *bob*
- Initialize the foreheads (one of them is muddy)  

```
(<= (legal random (muddy ?a ?b ... ?k))
 (true (round 0))
 (yesno ?a) (yesno ?b) ... (yesno ?k)
 (or (yes ?a) ... (yes ?k))))
```
- No initial knowledge (about foreheads)

$$K_{\epsilon} = K_{01} = K_{10} = K_{11} = \emptyset$$

### Knowledge State-Transition System - a short example

- $K_{01} = K_{10} = K_{11} = \emptyset$
- Only possible move for *alice* and *bob*:  $\langle \text{sayNo}, \text{sayNo} \rangle$   
 $(\leq (\text{legal } ?c (\text{say No})) (\text{not } (\text{knows } ?c (\text{isMuddy } ?c))))$   
 $(\leq (\text{sees } ?c (\text{said } ?d ?x)) (\text{does } ?d (\text{say } ?x)))$
- After the first (joint) move  
 $01.\langle \text{sayNo}, \text{sayNo} \rangle \sim_{\text{alice}} 11.\langle \text{sayNo}, \text{sayNo} \rangle \sim_{\text{bob}} 10.\langle \text{sayNo}, \text{sayNo} \rangle$

### Knowledge State-Transition System - a short example

- *alice* sees *bob*'s forehead (and vice-versa)

```
(<= (sees ?c (has ?d mud)) (true (has ?d mud)) (distinct ?c ?d))
(<= (isMuddy ?c) (true (has ?c mud)))
```

- Suppose only *bob* is muddy then according to the rules:

```
(<= (sees ?c (said ?d ?x)) (does ?d (say ?x)))
```

*bob* **knows** as *alice* says No

$$K_{01.\langle sayNo, sayNo \rangle} =$$

```
{(knowsalice (isMuddy bob)), (knows bob (isMuddy bob))}
```

Pending questions:

- Benefit of the epistemic dimension?
  - Imperfect information
  - Epistemic game
- Different types of imperfect information?
  - Perfect recall vs Memoryless
  - Nested operator?
- How to implement?

*Computational Complexity - Implementation with an epistemic reasoner?*

# Reasoning for winning?

---



## From Game Theory to Logic

- Key question in GT: can the player win?
- What is *best response*?
- What about rational behaviour and equilibrium?

### van Benthem (2012)

*Much of game theory is about the question whether strategic equilibria exist. But there are hardly any explicit languages for defining, comparing, or combining strategies.*

# GDL-based Strategic Reasoning

Focus on the representation of strategies

*Extend GDL and build a player on that extension*

- Connecting action and output: how to play?
  - Quantification over possible runs is compulsory

*Overall assessment of the game: what happened if, instead of playing  $a$ ,  $b$  is played?*
  - Priority over eligible actions

*if action  $a$  leads to win while action  $b$  leads to loose, action  $a$  should be chosen (if rational)*
- Question: how to represent predefined library of strategies?

Focus on the existence of strategies

*Combining GDL and Alternating-time Temporal Logic (ATL)*

- No previous background expertise  
*Assess on the fly, whether it is possible to win?*
- Alternative: Using pre-existing logic for reasoning about games (ATL)
- Question: how to represent agent abilities and rationality?

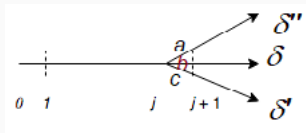
# GDL-based Strategy Representation (1/5)

“Priority” operator:  $\phi \nabla \psi$  [JZP14]

*$\phi$  should hold; if not then  $\psi$  hold*

$$M, \delta, j \models \phi \text{ or } (\text{Paths}(\phi, \delta[0, j]) = \emptyset \text{ and } M, \delta, j \models \psi)$$

where  $\text{Paths}(\phi, \delta[0, j])$  is the set of paths where  $\phi$  holds at  $j$  and sharing initial segment  $\delta[0, j]$ :

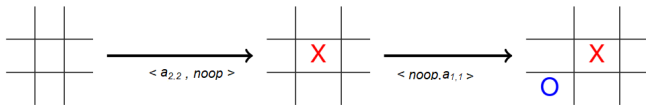


$$\text{Paths}(\text{does}(r, a), \delta[0, j]) = \{\delta''\} \text{ and } \text{Paths}(\text{does}(r, b), \delta[0, j]) = \{\delta\}$$

## GDL-based Strategy Representation (2/5)

Suppose  $M$  and  $\delta$ :

Initial State



- $M, \delta, 0 \models \text{does}(x, a_{2,2})$
- $M, \delta, 0 \not\models \text{does}(x, a_{1,1})$
- $M, \delta, 0 \models \text{does}(x, a_{2,2}) \nabla \text{does}(x, a_{1,1})$
- $M, \delta, 1 \models \text{does}(o, a_{1,1})$
- $M, \delta, 1 \not\models \text{does}(o, a_{2,2})$
- $M, \delta, 1 \models \text{does}(o, a_{2,2}) \nabla \text{does}(o, a_{1,1})$

# GDL-based Strategy Representation (4/5)

## Strategy rule

- syntax:  $\phi := \varphi_1 \nabla \varphi_2 \nabla \dots \nabla \varphi_n$
- Non-ambiguous: at any state,  $\phi$  must “elicit” only one action:
- Could be extended to perfect recall: consider history rather than state.
- Strategy for Player  $x$  (1st player)

$combined^x := fill\_centre^x \nabla check^x \nabla block^x \nabla fill\_corner^x \nabla fill\_any^x$

and

$$\phi^x := (turn(x) \rightarrow combined^x) \wedge (\neg turn(x) \rightarrow noop^x)$$

- Strategy rule  $\phi^x$  is a no losing strategy for  $x$   
*No way to express the output in the GDL with priority*

# GDL-based Strategy Representation (5/5)

Example: strategy for Tic-Tac-Toe

- Fill the center:

$$\text{fill\_center}^r = \text{does}(a_{2,2}^r)$$

- Check if I can win:

$$\text{check}^r = \bigvee_{i,j=1}^3 (\text{does}(a_{i,j}^r) \wedge \bigcirc \text{wins}(r))$$

- Prevent immediate loss:

$$\text{block}^r = \bigvee_{i,j=1}^3 (\bigcirc(\text{does}(a_{i,j}^{-r}) \wedge \bigcirc \text{wins}(-r)) \wedge \text{does}(a_{i,j}^r))$$

- Fill an available corner:

$$\text{fill\_corner}^r = \bigvee_{i,j \in \{1,3\}} \text{does}(a_{i,j}^r)$$

- Fill anywhere available:

$$\text{fill\_any}^r = \bigvee_{i,j=1}^3 \text{does}(a_{i,j}^r)$$

- Combined actions:

$$\text{combined}^r = \text{fill\_centre}^r \nabla \text{check}^r \nabla \text{block}^r \nabla \text{fill\_corner}^r \nabla \text{fill\_any}^r$$

## A modal reading of the priority operator (1/2) [ZT15]

- Basic GDL + look ahead operator:  $\downarrow a \downarrow \varphi$   
*If action  $a$  were chosen then  $\varphi$  would be true (but  $a$  is not executed)*
- *does* operator restricted to joint action:  $\text{does}(a)$
- New semantics relative to a state and a joint action:  $w, a \models \varphi$ 
  - $w, a \models p$  iff  $p \in \pi(w)$
  - $w, a \models \text{does}(b)$  iff  $a = b$
  - $w, a \models \downarrow b \downarrow \varphi$  iff  $w, b \models \varphi$



## A modal reading of the priority operator (2/2)

- Prioritised disjunction operator

$$\varphi \nabla \psi =_{\text{def}} \varphi \vee (\psi \wedge \bigwedge_c \downarrow c \downarrow \neg \varphi)$$

- In terms of semantics

*For any  $M$ ,  $w$  and  $a$ :  $w, a \models \varphi \nabla \psi$  iff either  $w, a \models \varphi$  or  $w, a \models \psi$  but  $w, c \models \neg \varphi$  for all  $c$*

## ATL for reasoning about GDL game description

- Use GDL game description as underlying semantic for ATL reasoning
- ATL: reasoning about cooperation

$\langle\langle C \rangle\rangle\varphi$  Coalition  $C$  can achieve  $\varphi$

- GDL + ATL:
  - check properties of game (playability)
  - check strategic properties

## Alternating-time Temporal Logic - Syntax [AHK02, RvdHW09]

- Coalition operator  $\langle\langle C \rangle\rangle$
- Temporal operator  $\bigcirc$  (next),  $\Box$  (always),  
 $\Diamond$  (sometimes),  $\mathcal{U}$  (until)

$$\varphi ::= p \mid \varphi \vee \varphi \mid \langle\langle C \rangle\rangle \bigcirc \varphi \mid \langle\langle C \rangle\rangle \Box \varphi \mid \langle\langle C \rangle\rangle \Diamond \varphi \mid \langle\langle C \rangle\rangle \varphi \mathcal{U} \varphi$$

- coalition and temporal operators always together

$$\langle\langle x \rangle\rangle \Diamond \text{wins}(x) \vee \langle\langle x \rangle\rangle \Diamond \neg \text{wins}(-x)$$

# ATL Reasoning about strategies

## Alternating-time Temporal Logic - Semantics

- based on Concurrent Game Structure (or Transition systems)

$$\mathcal{A} = (\mathcal{Q}, q_0, N, \Pi, \pi, \textit{legal}, \textit{update})$$

where

- $\mathcal{Q}$ : set of states
  - $q_0$ : initial state
  - $N$ : set of agents
  - $\Pi$ : propositions
  - $\pi$ : valuation function
  - $\textit{legal}$ : possible move function for each agent
  - $\textit{update}$ : deterministic joint move transition function
- Truth condition relative to a state  $q$

$$\mathcal{A}, q \models_{ATL} \varphi$$

## Alternating-time Temporal Logic - Semantics

- $\lambda$ : sequence of states
- Additional component: strategy function  $f_a(\lambda) \in legal(a, q)$  where  $q$  is the last state of  $\lambda$

$$F_A = \{f_a | a \in A\}$$

- Output of a strategy: set of possible sequences  $\lambda = q q' q'' \dots$

$$out(q, F_A) = \{\lambda | \lambda[0] = q \text{ and} \\ \exists m \text{ s.t. } \forall a \in A, m_a \in f_a(\lambda[0..i]) \text{ and } (\lambda[i+1] = update(\lambda[i], m))\}$$

## Alternating-time Temporal Logic - Semantics

- $\mathcal{A} = (\mathcal{Q}, q_0, N, \Pi, \pi, \text{legal}, \text{update})$
- Truth conditions
  - $\mathcal{A}, q \models_{ATL} p$  iff  $p \in \pi(q)$
  - $\mathcal{A}, q \models_{ATL} \langle\langle C \rangle\rangle \bigcirc \varphi$  iff there exists  $F_C$  such that:

$$\mathcal{A}, \lambda[1] \models_{ATL} \varphi \text{ for all } \lambda \in \text{out}(q, F_C)$$

- $\mathcal{A}, q \models_{ATL} \langle\langle C \rangle\rangle \Box \varphi$  iff there exists  $F_C$  such that:

$$\mathcal{A}, \lambda[i] \models_{ATL} \varphi \text{ for all } \lambda \in \text{out}(q, F_C) \text{ and } i \geq 0$$

# ATL Reasoning about strategies

$$\mathcal{A} = (\mathcal{Q}, q_0, N, \Pi, \pi, \text{legal}, \text{update})$$

- Assume

$$f_x([q_0 q_1]) = \text{noop}$$

- $\mathcal{A}, q_1 \models_{ATL}$

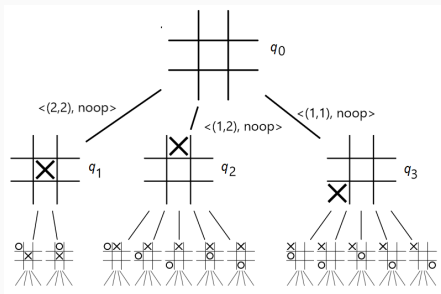
$$\langle\langle x \rangle\rangle \Box (p_{1,1}^x \vee p_{3,3}^x)$$

- Assume

$$f_o([q_0 q_2]) = \{(2, 2)\}$$

- $\mathcal{A}, q_2 \models_{ATL}$

$$\langle\langle o \rangle\rangle \bigcirc p_{2,2}^o$$



# ATL Reasoning about strategies

## ATL for checking GDL specification

- Translation/embedding of GDL theory to ATL
- Model checking is EXPTIME
- Checking soundness

$$\langle\langle\rangle\rangle\Box((\textit{terminal} \wedge \varphi) \rightarrow \langle\langle\rangle\rangle\Box(\textit{terminal} \wedge \varphi))$$

- Winnable

$$\bigvee_i \langle\langle i \rangle\rangle \Diamond \textit{wins}(i)$$

- Sequential

$$\langle\langle\rangle\rangle\Box(\langle\langle N \rangle\rangle \bigcirc \varphi \rightarrow \bigvee_i \langle\langle i \rangle\rangle \bigcirc \varphi)$$



## ATL for checking GDL specification

- Tic-Tac-Toe properties (CGS encoding)
- no-losing strategies for  $x$

$$\langle\langle x \rangle\rangle \Box (terminal \rightarrow \neg wins(o))$$

- No explicit representation of actions (hidden in the semantics)

Pending questions:

- How to design strategies?

*Connection with Machine Learning and Planning*

- Generalize strategies?

*Are there any common points (General Strategic Reasoning)*

- How to implement?

*Complexity of strategic reasoning and complexity of the game*

**Still a lot to do! - Example:  
Equivalent games**

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# Equivalent games (1/3)

## Number Scrabble:

1.  $initial \leftrightarrow turn(b) \wedge \neg turn(w) \wedge \bigwedge_{i=1}^9 \neg(s(b, i) \vee s(w, i))$
2.  $wins(r) \leftrightarrow (\bigvee_{i=2}^3 (s(r, i) \wedge s(r, 4) \wedge s(r, 11 - i)) \vee \bigvee_{i=1}^2 (s(r, i) \wedge s(r, 6) \wedge s(r, 9 - i)) \vee \bigvee_{i=1}^4 (s(r, 5 - i) \wedge s(r, 5) \wedge s(r, 5 + i)))$
3.  $terminal \leftrightarrow wins(b) \vee wins(w) \vee \bigwedge_{i=1}^9 (s(b, i) \vee s(w, i))$
4.  $legal(r, pick(n)) \leftrightarrow \neg(s(b, n) \vee s(w, n)) \wedge turn(r) \wedge \neg terminal$
5.  $legal(r, noop) \leftrightarrow turn(-r) \vee terminal$
6.  $\bigcirc s(r, n) \leftrightarrow s(r, n) \vee (\neg(s(b, n) \vee s(w, n)) \wedge does(r, pick(n)))$
7.  $turn(r) \wedge \neg terminal \rightarrow \bigcirc \neg turn(r) \wedge \bigcirc turn(-r)$

## Equivalent games (2/3)

Equivalence

**Semantics** 2 models (State-Transition) with a bisimulation between them

**Syntax** Set of rules are equivalent

*Number Scrabble and Tic-Tac-Toe are equivalent*

## Equivalent Games (3/3)

Pending questions:

- Loose equivalence

*A game is “close ” to a second one? Restricted equivalence to a sub-part of the game?*

- Connecting equivalence and strategic reasoning

*“ready-to-go” strategies*

- How to implement

*Complexity for deciding whether two games are equivalent.  
Available heuristics?*

# Perspectives

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# A lot of questions!

On GDL:

- Connecting action and strategy
- Imperfect Information
- Games comparison

Still on GDL

- Connection to planning
- Construction of a General Player?

*Is it realistic to reason with GDL formulas?*





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# Want to work on it

## PhD position: General Auction Player

*Starting date: Feb 19 (negotiable) - 3 years.*

*Keywords: reasoning about auctions, GDL, strategic reasoning, Auction mechanism.*

## Post-Graduate - Master thesis: Strategic player

*Starting date: Feb 19 - 6 months - pre-PhD.*

*Keywords: strategic reasoning, GDL, ATL, Model-checking based player.*

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