Example: Water Jug Problem

Problem statement:

 Given two jugs, a 4-gallon and 3-gallon having no measuring markers on them. There is a pump that can be used to fill the jugs with water. How can you get exactly 2 gallons of water into 4-gallon jug.

Solution:

- State for this problem can be described as the set of ordered pairs of integers (X, Y) such that
 - X represents the number of gallons of water in 4-gallon jug and
 - Y for 3-gallon jug.
- Start state is (0,0)
- Goal state is (2, N) for any value of N.

Production Rules

Following are the production rules for this problem.

$$- R1: (X, Y | X < 4) \qquad \Box (4, Y)$$

$$(Fill 4-gallon jug)$$

$$(Fill 2-gallon jug)$$

- R2:
$$(X, Y | Y < 3)$$
 \square $(X, 3)$ {Fill 3-gallon jug}

- R3:
$$(X, Y | X > 0)$$
 \square $(0, Y)$ {Empty 4-gallon jug}

- R4:
$$(X, Y | Y > 0)$$
 \Box $(X, 0)$

- R5:
$$(X, Y | X+Y \ge 4 \land Y \ge 0) \square (4, Y-(4-X))$$

{Pour water from 3- gallon jug into 4-gallon jug until 4-gallon jug is full}

- R6:
$$(X, Y | X+Y \ge 3 \land X \ge 0) \square (X-(3-Y), 3)$$

{Pour water from 4-gallon jug into 3-gallon jug until 3-gallon jug is full}

{Empty 3-gallon jug}

- R7: $(X, Y | X+Y \le 4 \land Y > 0) \Box (X+Y, 0)$ {Pour all water from 3-gallon jug into 4-gallon jug } - R8: $(X, Y | X+Y \le 3 \land X > 0) \Box (0, X+Y)$ {Pour all water from 4-gallon jug into 3-gallon jug }

Superficial Rules: {May not be used in this problem}

- R9: (X, Y | X > 0) \Box (X - D, Y){Pour some water D out from 4-gallon jug} - R10: (X, Y | Y > 0) \Box (X, Y - D){Pour some water D out from 3- gallon jug}

Trace of steps involved in solving the water jug problem - First solution

```
• No. of step
                Rules applied
                                             4-g 3-g
                           jug jug
          Initial State
                                         0
          R2 {Fill 3-g jug}
• 3
          R7{Pour all water from 3 to 4-g jug} 3 0
          R2 {Fill 3-g jug}
          R5 {Pour from 3 to 4-g jug until it is full} 4 2
          R3 {Empty 4-gallon jug}
• 6
          R7 {Pour all water from 3 to 4-g jug} 2
                                                      Goal State
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Trace of steps involved in solving the water jug problem - Second solution

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• No. of step
              Rules applied
                                       4-g 3-g
                          jug jug
          Initial State
                                        0
         R1 {Fill 4-gallon jug}
         R6 {Pour from 4 to 3-g jug until it is full } 1 3
• 3
         R4 {Empty 3-gallon jug}
• 5
         R8 {Pour all water from 4 to 3-gallon jug} 0 1
         R1 {Fill 4-gallon jug}
• 6
         R6 {Pour from 4 to 3-g jug until it is full} 2 3
         R4 {Empty 3-gallon jug} 2 0 Goal State
• 8
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