

# ARE TEACHERS OBSOLETE?

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Emily Jensen's Area Exam  
12 November, 2021

How can adaptive systems  
train humans to perform  
complex tasks?

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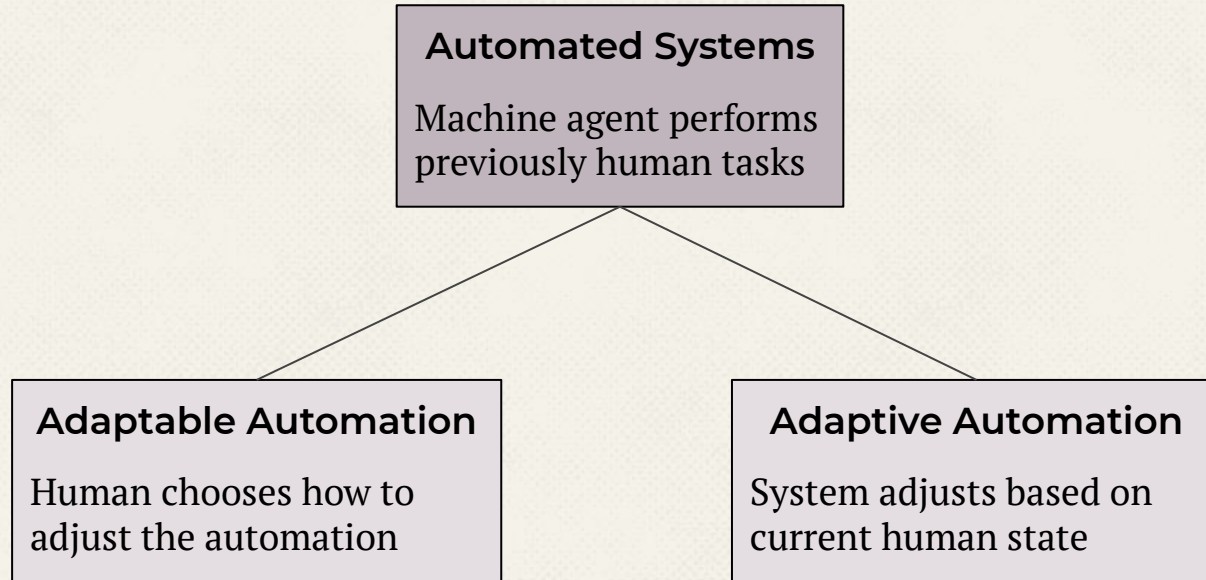
# **ADAPTIVE SYSTEMS**

*A brief overview*

## **Automated Systems**

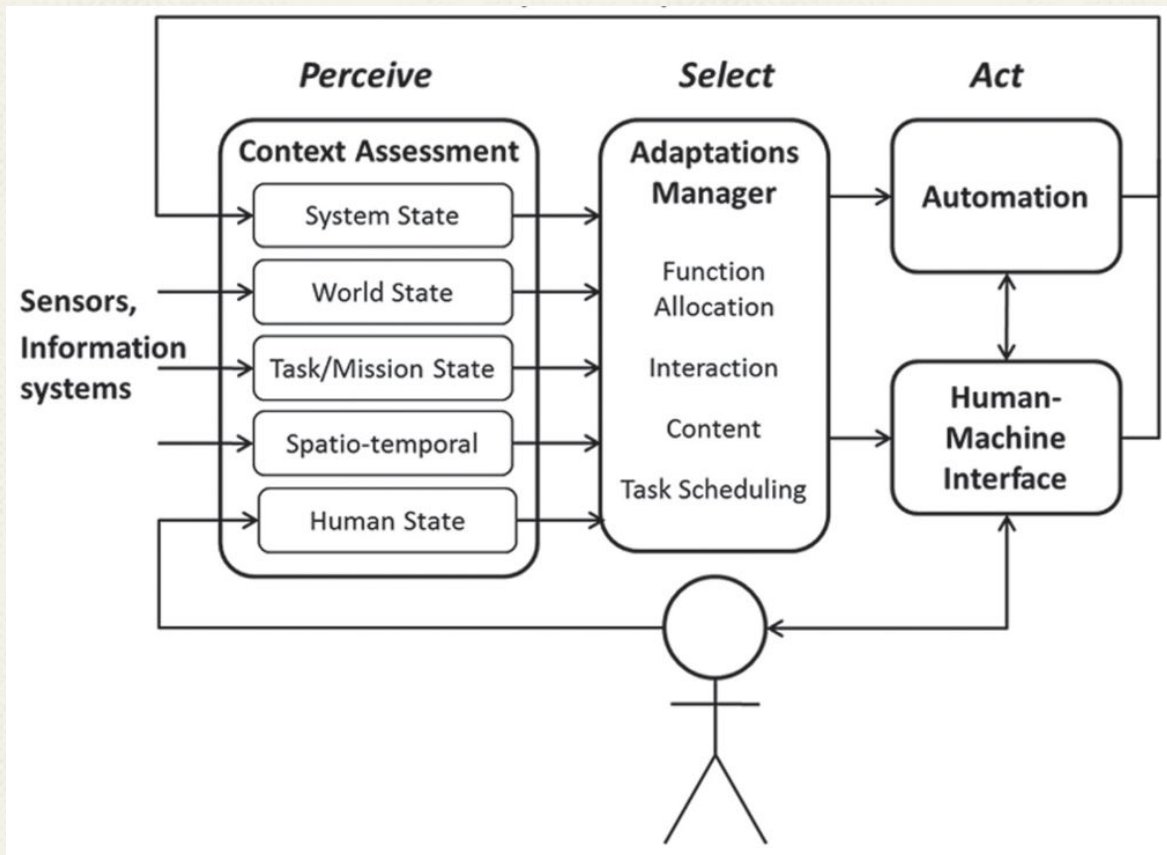
Machine agent performs  
previously human tasks



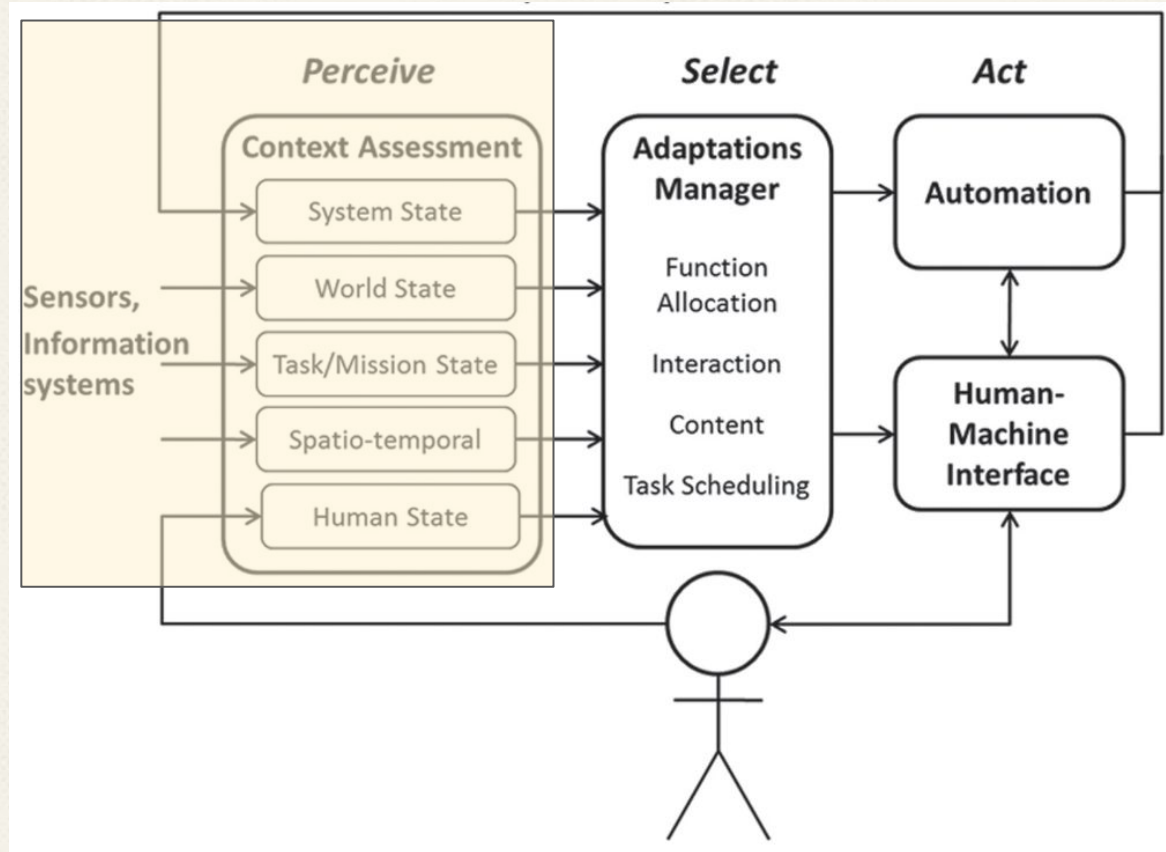




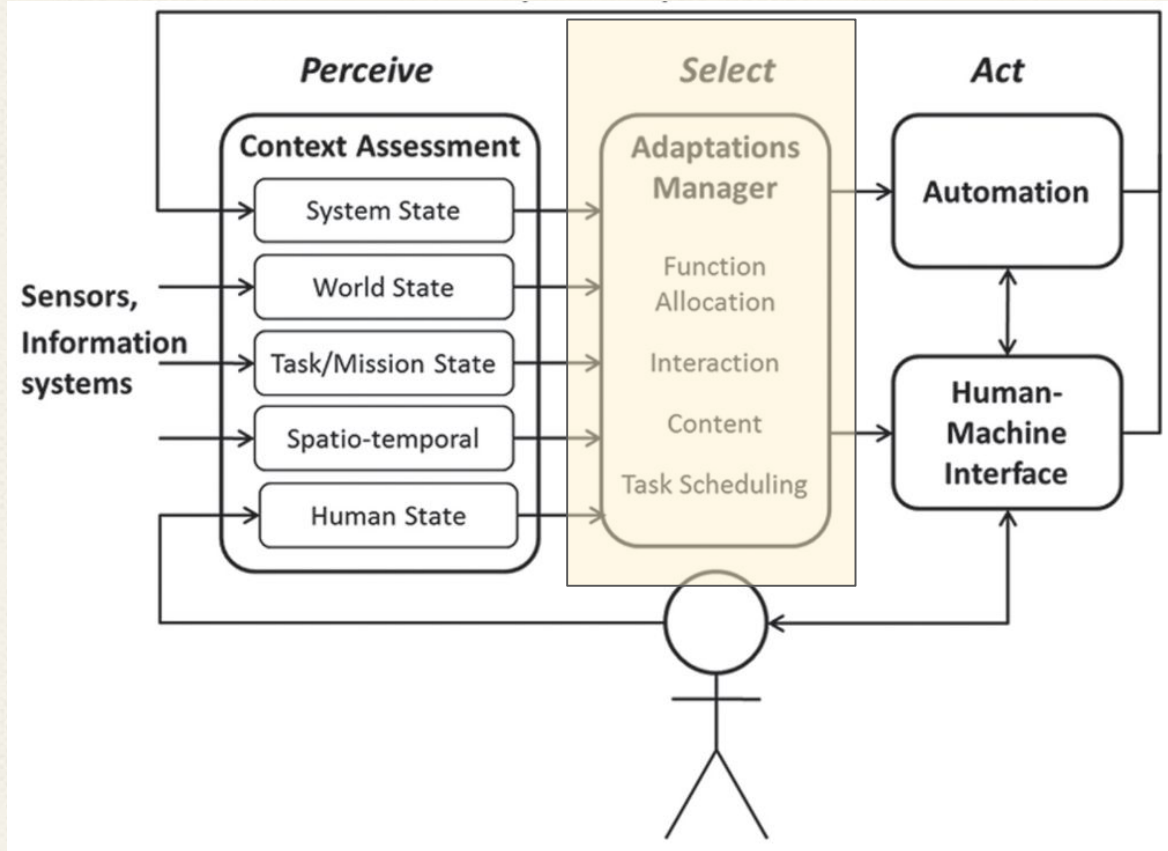
# Adaptive Systems



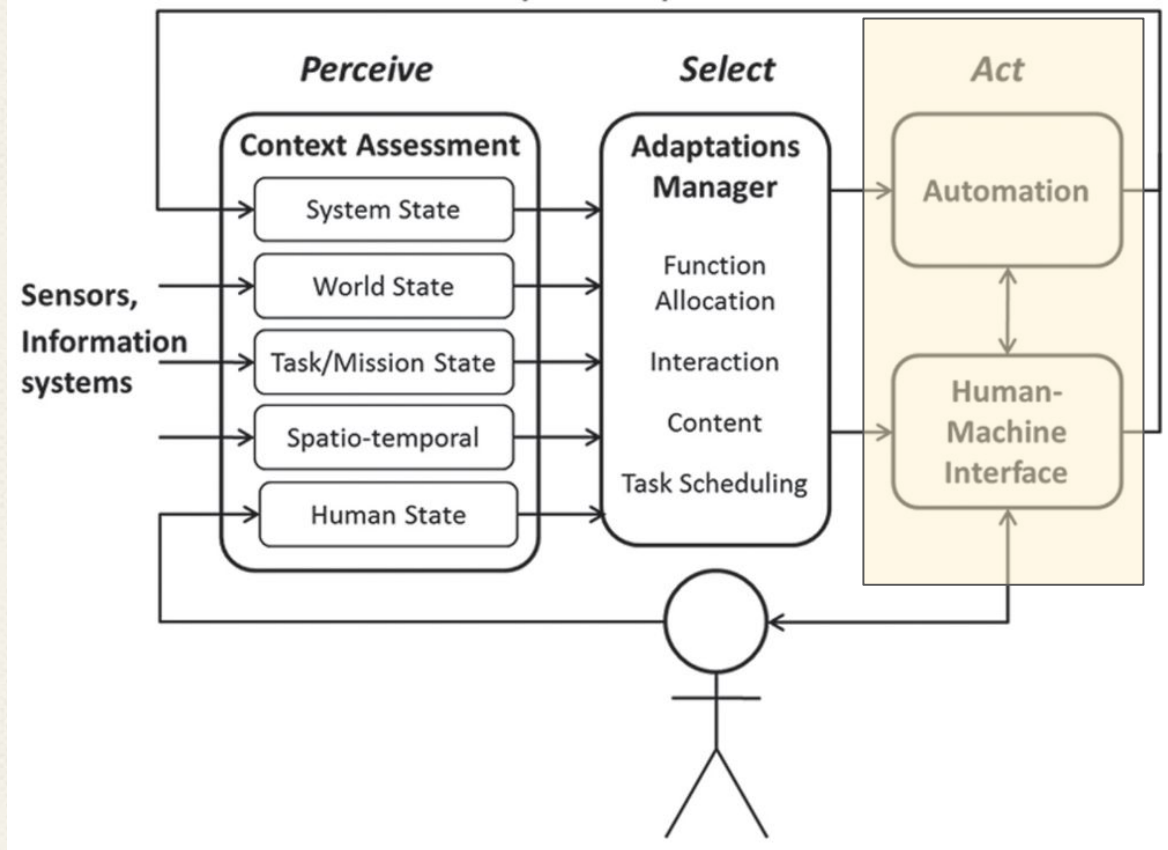
# Adaptive Systems



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# Adaptive Systems



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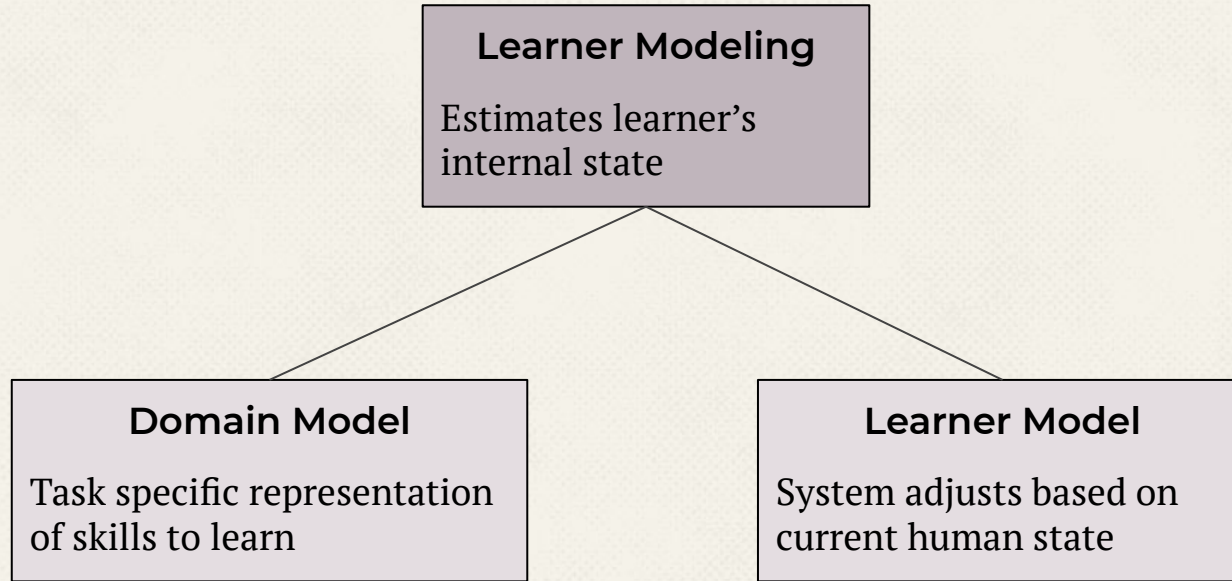
# **TRAINING HUMANS**

*Efficiently and at scale*

## **Learner Modeling**

Estimates learner's  
internal state





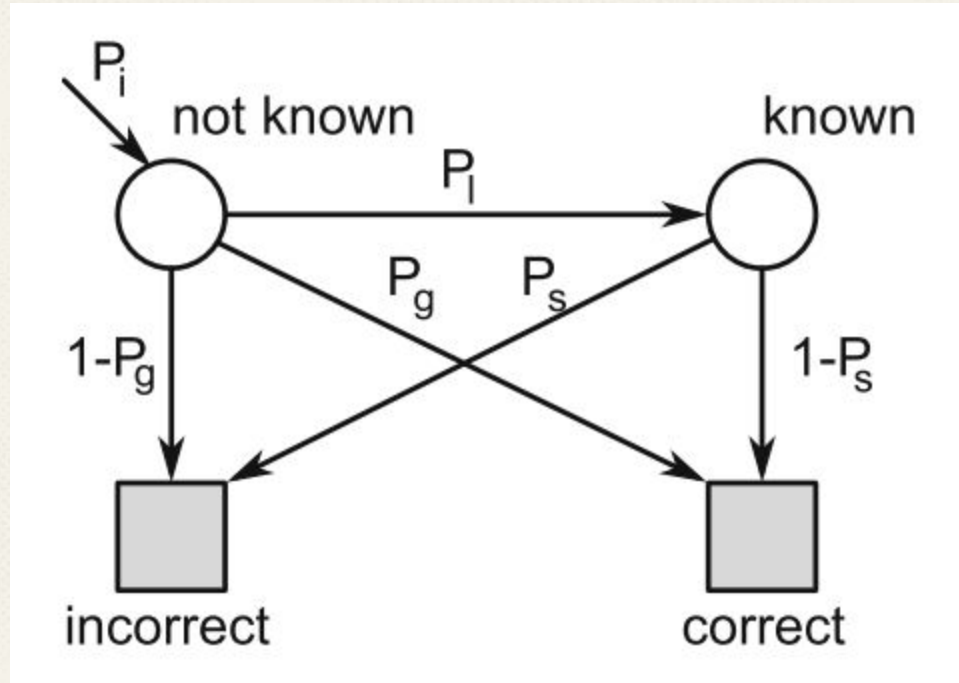


# Learner Modeling

## Bayesian Knowledge Tracing

# Learner Modeling

## Bayesian Knowledge Tracing

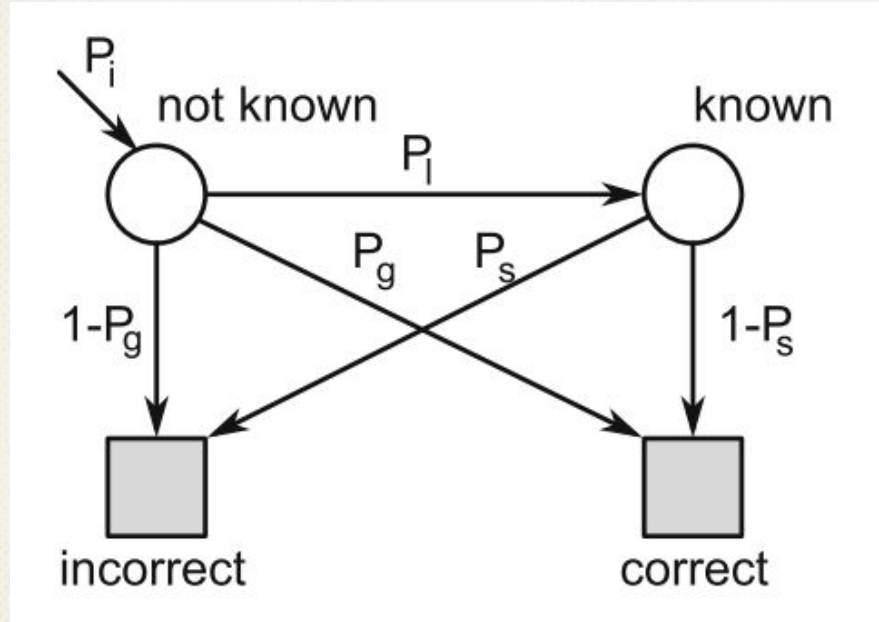


$P_i$  = initial  
 $P_l$  = learn  
 $P_g$  = guess  
 $P_s$  = slip

(Fig. from Pelánek, 2017; orig.  
Corbett & Anderson 1995)

# Learner Modeling

## Bayesian Knowledge Tracing



- Learning individual  $P_i$  (Pardos, 2010)
- Relationship between carelessness + affect (San Pedro, 2011)
- Cf. Deep Knowledge Tracing (Khajah, 2016)

$P_i$  = initial  
 $P_l$  = learn  
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# **Learner Modeling**

## **Inverse Reinforcement Learning**

## Learner Modeling

### Inverse Reinforcement Learning

Infer knowledge based on a sequence of actions

- Ex: solving algebraic equations
- Learner is modeled as an MDP

$$\mathbb{P}(a|s) \propto \exp(\beta \cdot Q_h(s, a))$$

Gold standard: human tutors

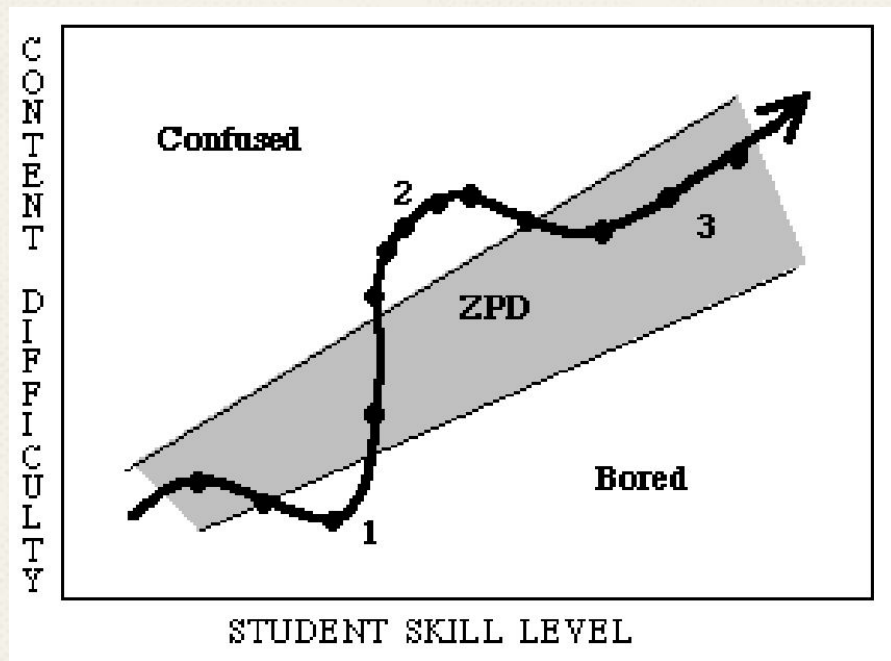
- Curriculum development
- Personalization
- But, it's not scalable. Can we automate problem generation? (Gulwani, 2014)



## Giving Feedback

Make it challenging, but not too hard

- Scaffolding! (Shute, 2008)
  - Deliberate Practice (Ericsson, 1993)
  - Zone of Proximal Development (Vygotsky, 1978)

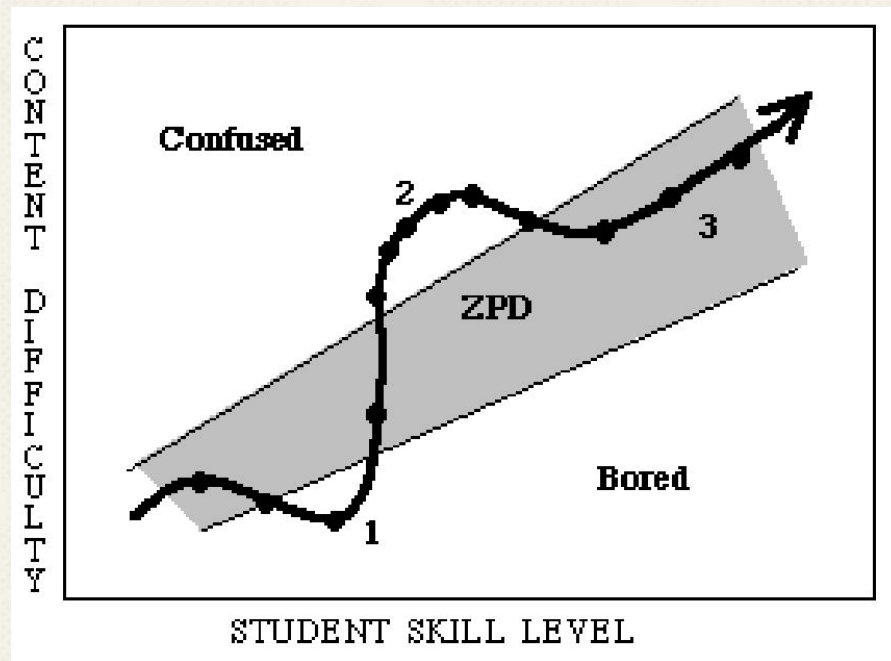




## Giving Feedback

Make it challenging, but not too hard

- Scaffolding! (Shute, 2008)
  - Deliberate Practice (Ericsson, 1993)
  - Zone of Proximal Development (Vygotsky, 1978)
- Some concrete examples
  - Bayesian Knowledge Tracing based “ready to learn” (Baker, 2020)
  - Address a misunderstood skill (Rafferty, 2016)
  - ZPD based on hint use (Murray, 2002)



(Fig. from Murray, 2002)

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# **COMPLEX TASKS**

*Current work and opportunities*

How do we measure the internal state of the user?









- Driving - Actively force user to display behavior (Sadigh, 2016)
- Gaming - Assume actions are rational wrt internal dynamics (Reddy, 2018)
- Measure physiological responses (Heard, 2020)

## Case Study: Rafferty 2015

The screenshot shows the 'Flight plan' interface from the game 'Angry Birds'. The top section is a 10x10 grid with a blue background and white dashed lines. A central icon of the Earth is located at the intersection of the 5th column and 4th row. Several green pig icons are positioned at various grid intersections: (1, 8), (5, 9), (6, 8), (7, 4), (8, 4), (9, 2), (10, 2), (10, 8), and (10, 9). A yellow bird icon is at (1, 7). Below the grid is a grey bar containing a 'Flight plan:' label, a row of five colored buttons (purple, light blue, teal, light blue, red), and two buttons labeled 'Remove last button' and 'Flight Plan Complete'. Below this bar is a 2x4 grid of buttons. Each button consists of a colored circular icon above a text label and a dropdown arrow. The buttons are: (1,1) blue icon, 'don't know'; (1,2) grey icon, 'don't know'; (2,1) orange icon, 'don't know'; (2,2) purple icon, 'usually move up'; (3,1) red icon, 'usually move down'; (3,2) green icon, 'don't know'; (4,1) light blue icon, 'usually move right'; (4,2) yellow icon, 'usually move left'. At the bottom left, it says 'Points: 0'. At the bottom right, it says 'Flight plan phase 1 / 6'.

Flight plan:

Remove last button Flight Plan Complete

 don't know	 don't know	 usually move down	 usually move right
 don't know	 usually move up	 don't know	 usually move left

Points: 0

Flight plan phase 1 / 6

- Modeled complex user actions as a Markov Decision Process
- Users may have misconceptions about how their actions change the current state
- Used inverse planning to reason about knowledge



## Review of Markov Decision Processes

- Agent is currently in state  $s$  and chooses to take action  $a$
- Next state  $s'$  is determined by transition model  $T = Pr(s' | s, a)$
- The result of the action is given a cost/reward  $r(s, a, s')$

## Review of Markov Decision Processes

- Expected long-term value is given by  $Q(s, a)$
- Chosen action is determined by policy  $Pr(a | s)$   
(optimal policy will maximize  $Q$ )

$$Q(s, a) = \sum_{s' \in S} \mathbb{P}(s' | a, s) \left( r(s, a, s') + \gamma \sum_{a' \in A} \mathbb{P}(a' | s') Q(s', a') \right)$$

Sum over all possible next states      Prob. of getting to the state      Reward at the state      Discounted result of future actions



## Inferring User Beliefs

- Assume reward function is given
- Goal: infer user's transition model given action sequence

$$\mathbb{P}(T | \mathbf{a}, s_1, R, \gamma) \propto \mathbb{P}(\mathbf{a} | s_1, T, R, \gamma) \mathbb{P}(T)$$

Posterior: prob of a given transition model

Likelihood: prob of action sequence given model

Prior: distribution over transition models. Can encode misconceptions, set as uniform here

## Inferring User Beliefs

- Need approximation of policy to calculate likelihood
- Use Boltzmann noisily optimal policy
- Higher  $Q$  represents better choices
- Marginalize over various values of  $\beta$

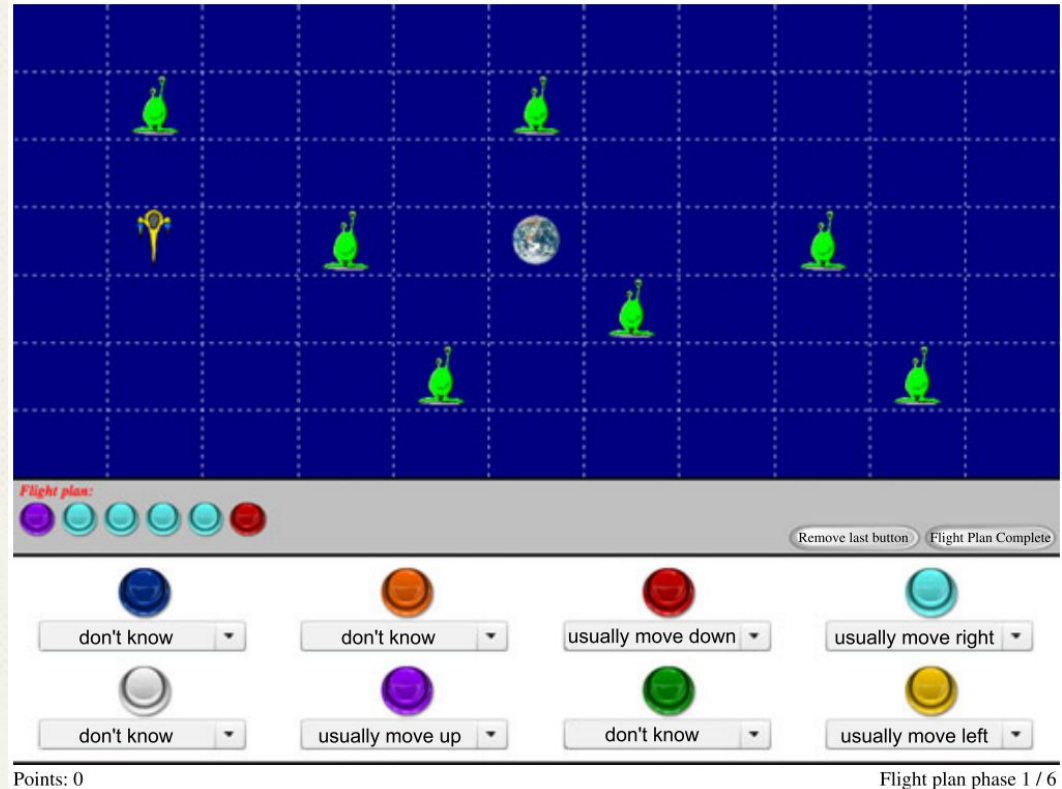
$$\mathbb{P}(a|s, T, R, \gamma) \propto \exp(\beta \cdot Q(s, a|T, R, \gamma))$$

Determines how close to optimal

Q-value of choosing action in state

## Key Results

- 73% match of Maximum A Posteriori with beliefs
- Distinguishes plans with misconceptions
- Similar performance to human raters



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## Adaptive Automation







## Perceive

- Great strides in sensing technology (Feigh, 2012)
- Theoretical frameworks for assessing knowledge (Pelánek, 2017)
- Are humans really rational? (Reddy, 2018; Rafferty, 2015/2016)
- How do we represent complex domain models?
- Need to address the social-emotional and cultural side of learning

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### Select

- Triggers and adaptations based on heuristics (Heard, 2020; Murray, 2002; Shute, 2008)
- Need to go beyond metrics like performance (Khasawneh, 2019; Heard, 2020)
- How do we plan for how humans change over time? (Kress-Gazit, 2021)



## Adaptive Automation

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### Select

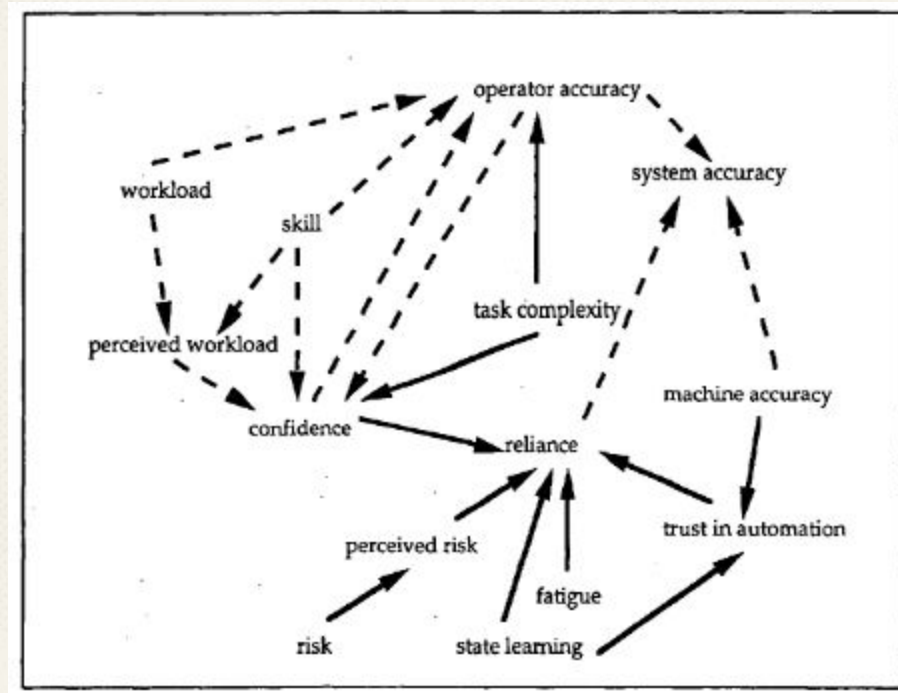
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### Act

- A whole world of UX/UI and VIZ to explore
- What is the role of explainability?
- Very little focus on user experience (Khasawneh, 2019; Heard, 2020)
- How do we treat humans as an integral part of the system? (Parasuraman, 1997)

# Human-Centered Automation

---> Theorized  
—> Tested



(Fig. from Parasuraman, 1997; Kress-Gazit, 2021; Khasawneh, 2019)

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## How do I fit into this?

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### Perceive

- Sensor-free student affect (EDM 2019; HLA)
- Teacher dialog strategies (CHI 2020; LAK 2021b)
- Cognitive engagement (LAK 2021a)

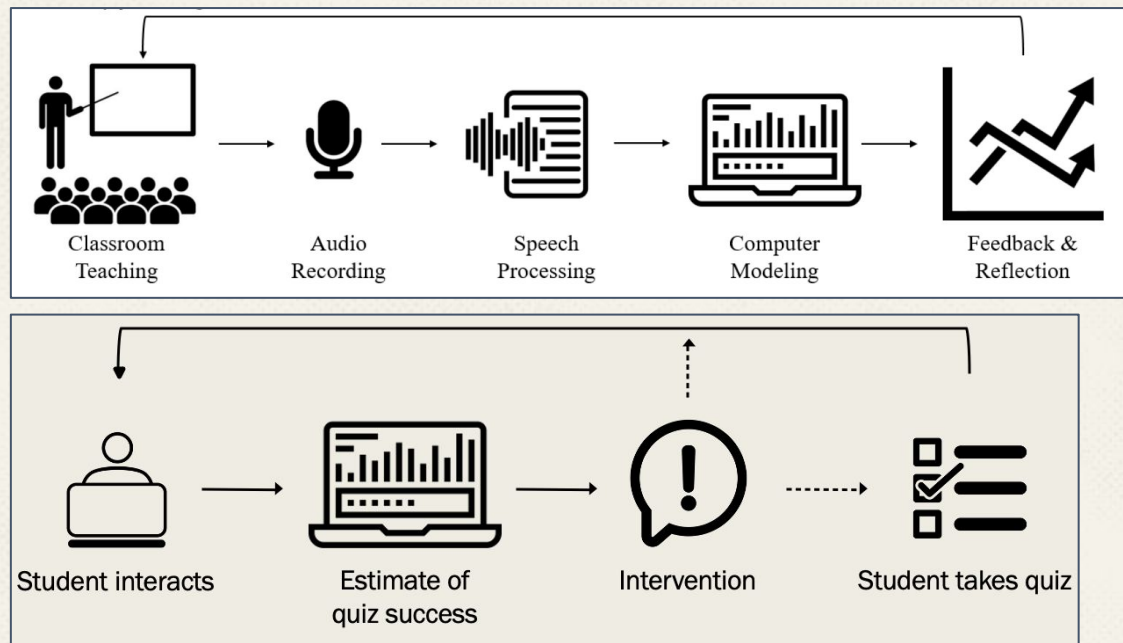
## How do I fit into this?

Perceive

Select

Act

- Sensor-free student affect (EDM 2019; HLA)
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# ARE TEACHERS OBSOLETE?





*Thank you!*  
**Questions?**



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