### **ICAPS 2014 Tutorial**

# Introduction to Planning Domain Modeling in RDDL

#### Scott Sanner



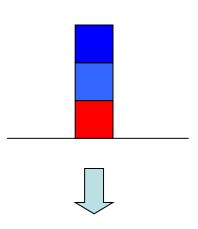


#### Observation

- Planning languages direct 5+ years of research
  - PDDL and variants
  - PPDDL
- Why?
  - Domain design is time-consuming
    - So everyone uses the existing benchmarks
  - Need for comparison
    - Planner code not always released
    - Only means of comparison is on competition benchmarks
- Implication:
  - We should choose our languages & problems well...

### Current Stochastic Domain Language

- PPDDL
  - more expressive than PSTRIPS
  - for example, probabilistic universal and conditional effects:



- But wait, not just BlocksWorld…
  - Colored BlocksWorld
  - Exploding BlocksWorld
  - Moving-stacks BlocksWorld





## More Realistic: Logistics

Compact relational PPDDL Description:

```
Logistics: London Paris Moscow Rome Rome
```

```
(:action load-box-on-truck-in-city

:parameters (?b - box ?t - truck ?c - city)

:precondition (and (BIn ?b ?c) (TIn ?t ?c))

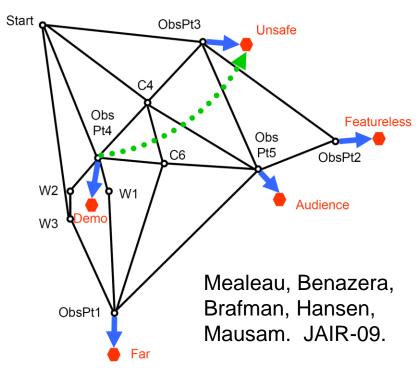
:effect (and (On ?b ?t) (not (BIn ?b ?c))))
```

- Can instantiate problems for any domain objects
  - 3 trucks: 📭 📭 📭 2 planes: 🔀 🔀 3 boxes: 🖱 🖱 🖱
- But wait... only one truck can move at a time???
  - No concurrency, no time: will FedEx care?

# What stochastic problems should we care about?

#### Mars Rovers





- Continuous
  - Time, robot position / pose, sun angle, ...
- Partially observable
  - Even worse: high-dimensional partially observable

### **Elevator Control**

#### Concurrent Actions

Elevator: up/down/stay

6 elevators: 3^6 actions

#### Exogenous / Non-boolean:

Random integer arrivals (e.g., Poisson)

#### Complex Objective:

- Minimize sum of wait times
- Could even be nonlinear function (squared wait times)

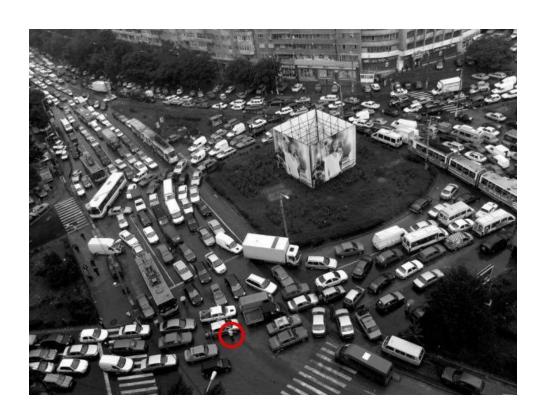
#### Policy Constraints:

 People might get annoyed if elevator reverses direction





### Traffic Control





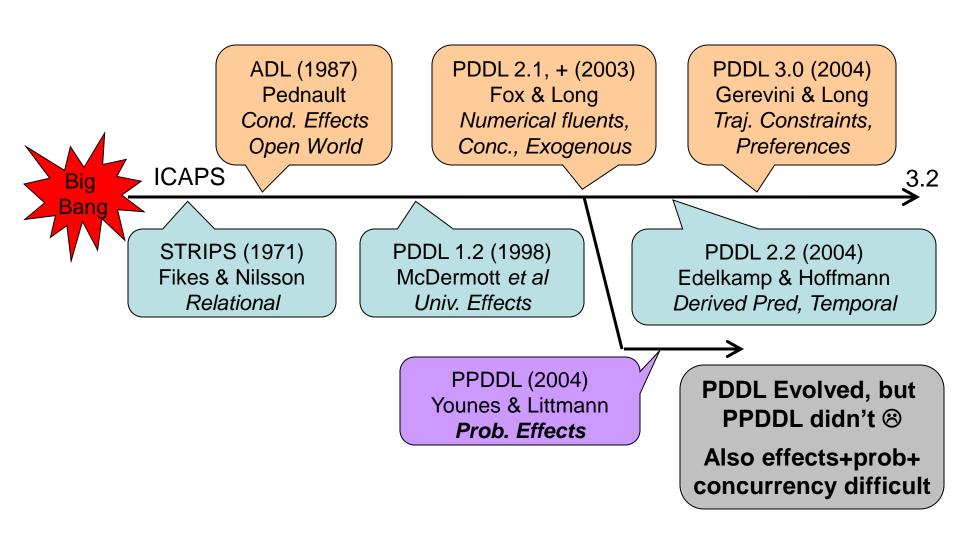
- Concurrent
  - Multiple lights
- Indep. Exogenous Events Partially observable
  - Multiple vehicles

- **Continuous Variables** 
  - Nonlinear dynamics
- - Only observe stoplines

# Can PPDDL model these problems?

No? What happened?

### A Brief History of (ICAPS) Time



PDDL history from: <a href="http://ipc.informatik.uni-freiburg.de/PddlResources">http://ipc.informatik.uni-freiburg.de/PddlResources</a>

# What would it take to model more realistic problems?

Let's take a deeper look at traffic control...

## Birth of RDDL: Solving Traffic Control



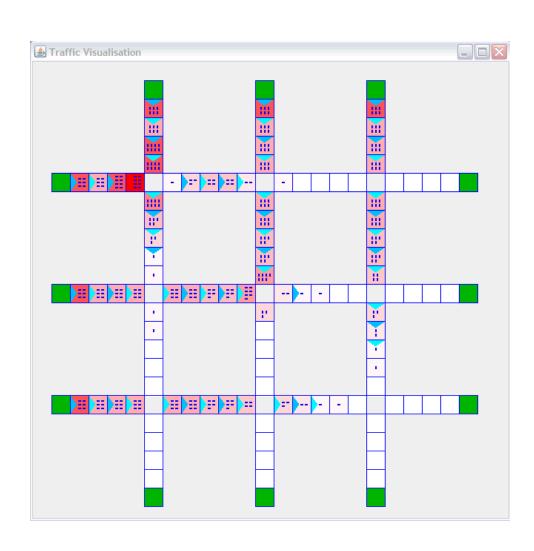
## What's missing in PPDDL, Part I

- Need Unrestricted Concurrency:
  - In PPDDL, would have to enumerate joint actions
  - In PDDL 2.1: restricted concurrency
    - conflicting actions not executable
    - when effects probabilistic, some chance most effects conflict
      - really need unrestricted concurrency in probabilistic setting
- Multiple Independent Exogenous Events:
  - PPDDL only allows 1 independent event to affect fluent
    - E.g, what if cars in a queue change lanes, brake randomly?

Looking ahead... will need something more like Relational DBN

## What's missing in PPDDL, Part II

- Expressive transition distributions:
  - (Nonlinear) stochastic difference equations
  - E.g., cell velocity as a function of traffic density
- Partial observability:
  - In practice, only observe stopline



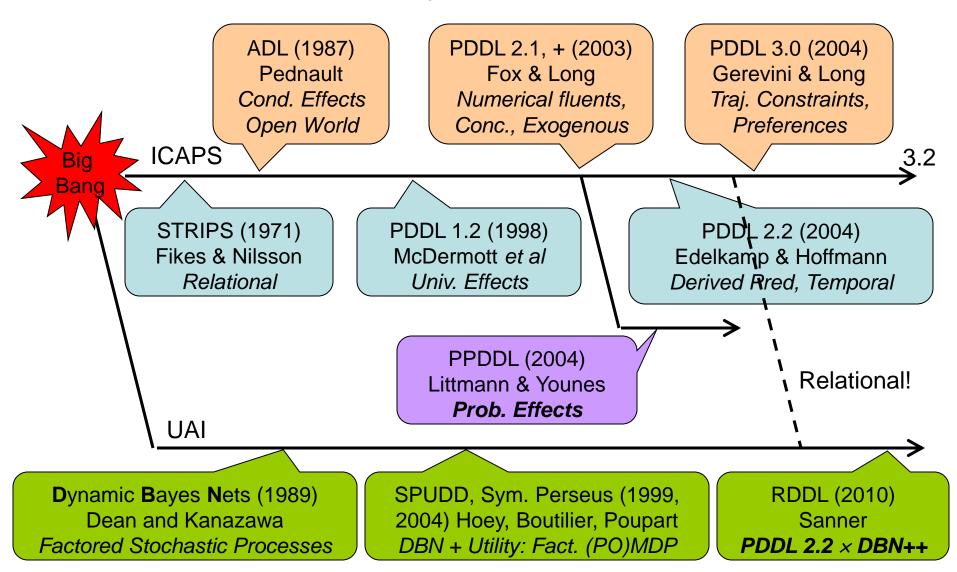
## What's missing in PPDDL, Part III

- Distinguish fluents from nonfluents:
  - E.g., topology of traffic network
  - Lifted planners must know this to be efficient!
- Expressive rewards & probabilities:
  - E.g., sums, products, nonlinear functions, ratios, conditionals
- Global state-action constraints:
  - Concurrent domains need global action preconditions
    - E.g., two traffic lights cannot go into a given state
  - In logistics, vehicles cannot be in two different locations
    - Regression planners need state constraints!

## Is there any hope?

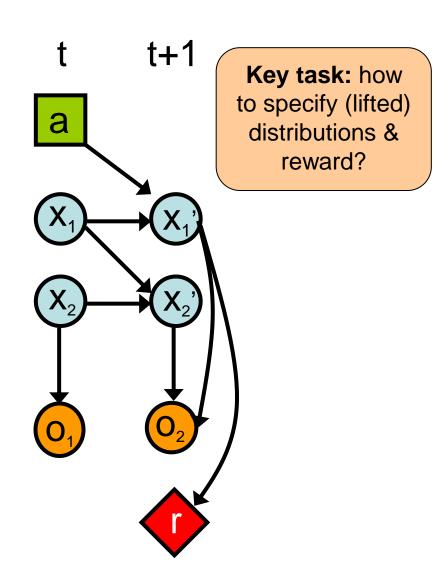
Yes, but we need to borrow from factored MDP / POMDP community...

## A Brief History of (ICAPS) Time



#### What is RDDL?

- Relational Dynamic Influence Diagram Language
  - Relational[DBN + Influence Diagram]
- Think of it as Relational SPUDD / Symbolic Perseus
  - on speed



## RDDL Principles I

- Everything is a fluent (parameterized variable)
  - State fluents
  - Observation fluents
    - for partially observed domains
  - Action fluents
    - supports factored concurrency
  - Intermediate fluents
    - derived predicates, correlated effects, ...
  - Constant nonfluents (general constants, topology relations, ...)
- Flexible fluent types
  - Binary (predicate) fluents
  - Multi-valued (enumerated) fluents
  - Integer and continuous fluents (from PDDL 2.1)

## RDDL Principles II

- Semantics is ground DBN / Influence Diagram
  - Unambiguous specification of transition semantics
    - Supports unrestricted concurrency
  - Naturally supports independent exogenous events

General expressions in transition / reward

- Logical expressions  $(\land, \lor, \Rightarrow, \Leftrightarrow, \forall, \exists)$
- Arithmetic expressions (+,-,\*, /,  $\Sigma_x$ ,  $\Pi_x$ )

Logical expr. {0,1} so can use in arithmetic expr.

- In/dis/equality comparison expressions  $(=, \neq, <, >, \leq, \geq)$
- Conditional expressions (if-then-else, switch)
- Basic probability distributions
  - Bernoulli, Discrete, Normal, Poisson

 $\Sigma_{\rm x}$ ,  $\Pi_{\rm x}$  aggregators over domain objects extremely powerful

## RDDL Principles III

- Goal + General (PO)MDP objectives
  - Arbitrary reward
    - goals, numerical preferences (c.f., PDDL 3.0)
  - Finite horizon
  - Discounted or undiscounted
- State/action constraints
  - Encode legal actions
    - (concurrent) action preconditions
  - Assert state invariants
    - e.g., a package cannot be in two locations

#### RDDL Grammar

Let's examine BNF grammar in infinite tedium!

OK, maybe not. (Grammar <u>online</u> if you want it.)

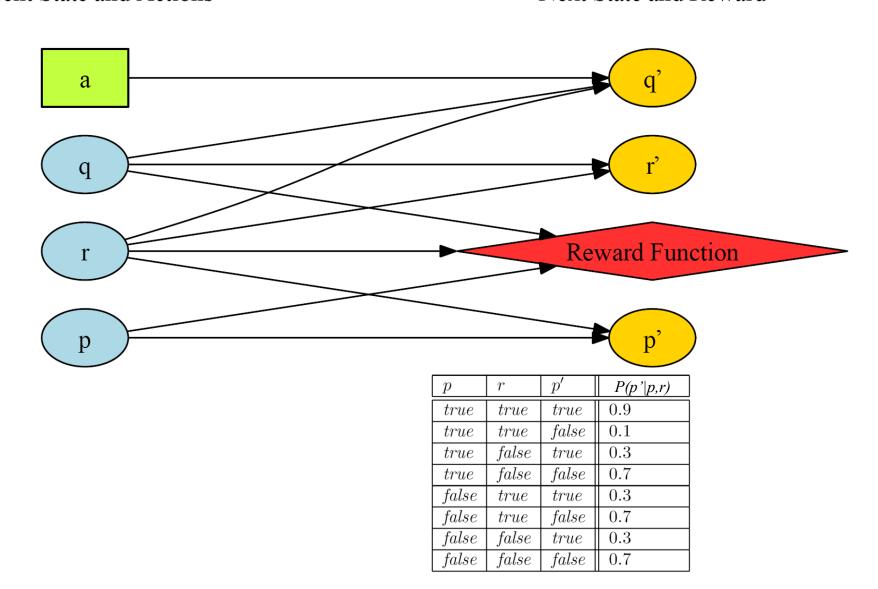
## RDDL Examples

Easiest to understand RDDL in use...

## How to Represent Factored MDP?

**Current State and Actions** 

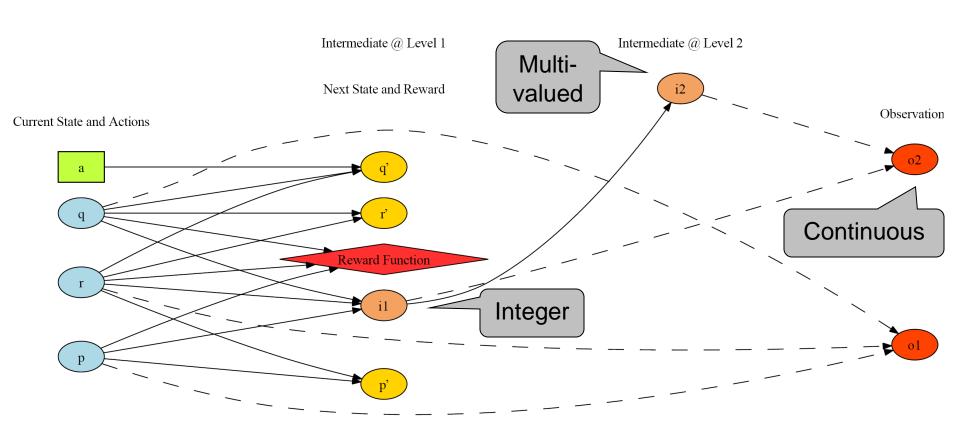
Next State and Reward



## RDDL Equivalent

```
// Define the state and action variables (not parameterized here)
pvariables {
    p : { state-fluent, bool, default = false };
    q : { state-fluent, bool, default = false };
    r : { state-fluent, bool, default = false };
                                                           Can think of
    a : { action-fluent, bool, default = false };
                                                            transition
};
                                                           distributions
                                                           as "sampling
// Define the conditional probability function for each
// state variable in terms of previous state and action
                                                           instructions"
cpfs {
    p' = if (p ^ r) then Bernoulli(.9) else Bernoulli(.3);
    q' = if (q r) then Bernoulli(.9)
                    else if (a) then Bernoulli(.3) else Bernoulli(.8);
    r' = if (~q) then KronDelta(r) else KronDelta(r <=> q);
};
// Define the reward function; note that boolean functions are
// treated as 0/1 integers in arithmetic expressions
reward = p + q - r;
```

#### A Discrete-Continuous POMDP?



#### A Discrete-Continuous POMDP, Part I

```
// User-defined types
types {
    enum_level : {@low, @medium, @high}; // An enumerated type
};
pvariables {
   p : { state-fluent, bool, default = false };
    q : { state-fluent, bool, default = false };
   r : { state-fluent, bool, default = false };
    i1 : { interm-fluent, int, level = 1 };
    i2 : { interm-fluent, enum_level, level = 2 };
    o1 : { observ-fluent, bool };
    o2 : { observ-fluent, real };
    a : { action-fluent, bool, default = false };
};
cpfs {
    // Some standard Bernoulli conditional probability tables
   p' = if (p ^ r) then Bernoulli(.9) else Bernoulli(.3);
    q' = if (q \hat{r}) then Bernoulli(.9)
                    else if (a) then Bernoulli(.3) else Bernoulli(.8);
    // KronDelta is a delta function for a discrete argument
    r' = if (~q) then KronDelta(r) else KronDelta(r <=> q);
```

#### A Discrete-Continuous POMDP, Part II

```
Integer
          Just set i1 to a count of true state variables
          = KronDelta(p + q + r);
       // Choose a level with given probabilities that sum to 1
       i2 = Discrete(enum_level,
                       @low : if (i1 >= 2) then 0.5 else 0.2,
                       Qmedium: if (i1 \ge 2) then 0.2 else 0.5,
Multi-
                       Ohigh: 0.3
valued
                   );
       // Note: Bernoulli parameter must be in [0,1]
     _{\text{M}} o1 = Bernoulli( (p + q + r)/3.0 );
Real
          Conditional linear stochastic equation
          = switch (i2) {
               case @low : i1 + 1.0 + Normal(0.0, i1*i1),
Mixture of
               case @medium : i1 + 2.0 + Normal(0.0, i1*i1/2.0),
 Normals
               case O(1) : i1 + 3.0 + Normal(0.0, i1*i1/4.0) ;
  };
```

Variance comes from other previously sampled variables

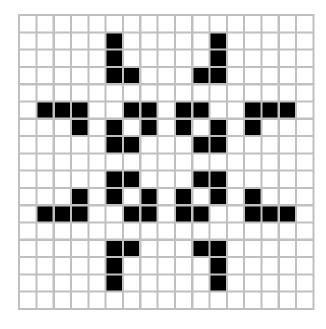
#### RDDL so far...

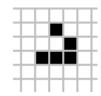
- Mainly SPUDD / Symbolic Perseus with a different syntax ©
  - A few enhancements
    - concurrency
    - constraints
    - integer / continuous variables
- Real problems (e.g., traffic) need lifting
  - An intersection model
  - A vehicle model
    - Specify each intersection / vehicle model once!

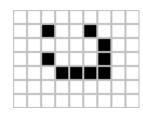
## Lifting: Conway's Game of Life

(simpler than traffic)

- Cells born, live, die based on neighbors
  - < 2 or > 3 neighbors: cell dies
  - 2 or 3 neighbors: cell lives
  - 3 neighbors→ cell birth!
  - Make into MDP
    - Probabilities
    - Actions to turn on cells
    - Maximize number of cells on







http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Conway's\_Game\_of\_Life

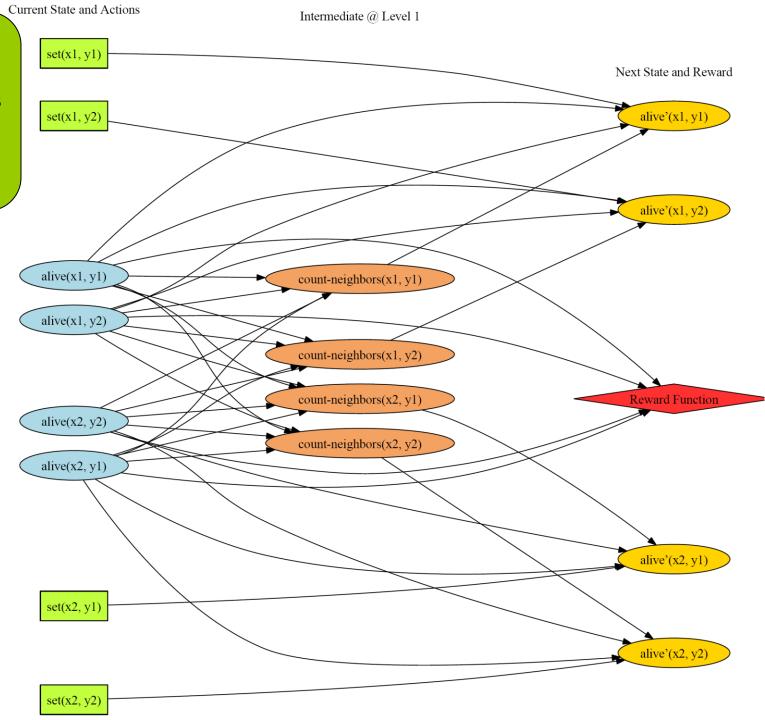
Compact RDDL specification for any grid size? Lifting.

Concurrency as factored action variables

How many possible joint actions here?

## Lifted MDP:

## Game of Life



#### A Lifted MDP

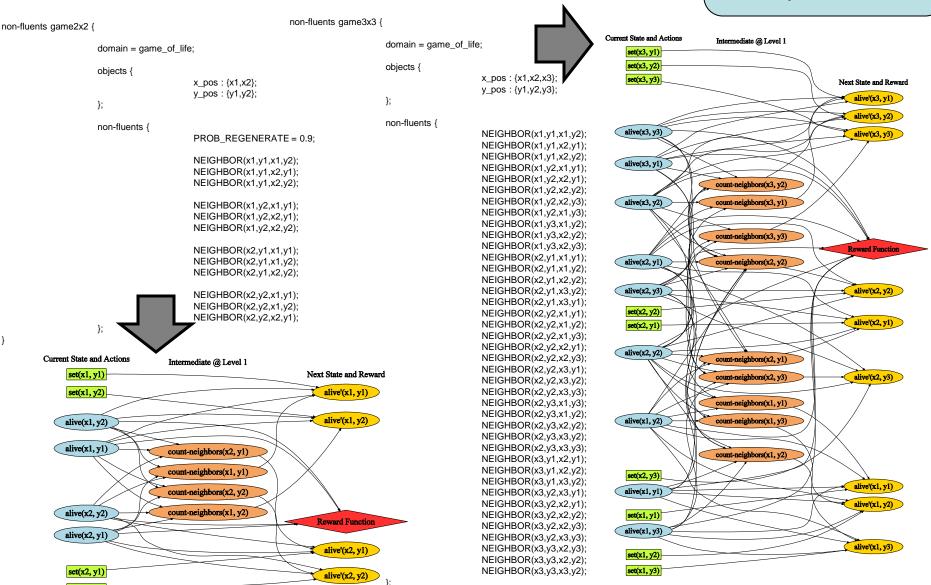
```
// Store alive-neighbor con
                                Intermediate variable: like derived predicate
count-neighbors(?x,?y) =
    KronDelta(sum_{?x2 : x_pos, ?y2 : y_pos}
               [NEIGHBOR(?x,?y,?x2,?y2) ^ alive(?x2,?y2)]);
// Determine whether cell (?x,?y) is alive in next state
alive (?x,?y) = if (forall_{?y2} : y_pos) ~alive(?x,?y2))
                     then Bernoulli(PROB REGENERATE) // Rule 6
                                 \hat{} (count-neighbors(?x,?y) >= 2)
                                 ^ (count-neighbors(?x,?y) <= 3)]</pre>
        Using counts to
                                | [~alive(?x,?y)
       decide next state
                                  \hat{} (count-neighbors(?x,?y) == 3)]
                                \mid set(?x,?y))
                      then Bernoulli (PROB_REGENERATE)
                      else Bernoulli(1.0 - PROB_REGENERATE);
 };
                                                           Additive reward!
 // Reward is number of alive cells
 reward = sum_{?x} : x_{pos}, ?y : y_{pos} alive(?x,?y);
                                                             State constraints,
 state-action-constraints {
                                                                preconditions
     // Assertion: ensure PROB_REGENERATE is a valid pro
     (PROB_REGENERATE >= 0.0) ^ (PROB_REGENERATE <= 1.0);
     // Precondition: perhaps we should not set a cell if already alive
     forall_\{?x : x_pos, ?y : y_pos\} alive(?x,?y) => \text{`set}(?x,?y);
 };
```

#### Nonfluent and Instance Defintion

```
// Define numerical and topological constants
non-fluents game2x2 {
                                    Objects that don't
    domain = game_of_life;
    objects {
                                  change b/w instances
        x_{pos} : \{x1, x2\};
        y_pos : {y1,y2};
                                                             Topologies over
                                  Numerical constant
    };
                                                              these objects
                                       nonfluent
    non-fluents {
                                                          are ast non-fluents
        PROB_REGENERATE = 0.9;
                                    Numerical constants
        NEIGHBOR (x1, y1, x1, y2);
                                 NEIGHBOR(x1,y1,x2,y1);
                                                          NEIGHBOR(x1,y1,x2,y2);
        NEIGHBOR (x1, y2, x1, y1);
                                 NEIGHBOR(x1,y2,x2,y1);
                                                          NEIGHBOR(x1,y2,x2,y2);
        NEIGHBOR (x2, y1, x1, y1);
                                 NEIGHBOR(x2,y1,x1,y2);
                                                          NEIGHBOR(x2,y1,x2,y2);
                                                          NEIGHBOR(x2,y2,x2,y1);
        NEIGHBOR(x2,y2,x1,y1);
                                 NEIGHBOR (x2, y2, x1, y2);
    };
}
instance is1 {
    domain = game_of_life;
                                  Import a topology
    non-fluents = game2x2;
    init-state {
        alive(x1,y1);
                            Initial state as usual
        alive(x2,y2);
    };
    max-nondef-actions = 3; // Allow up to 3 cells to be set concurrently
    horizon
             = 20:
                              Concurrency
    discount = 0.9;
```

## Power of Lifting

Simple domains can generate complex DBNs!

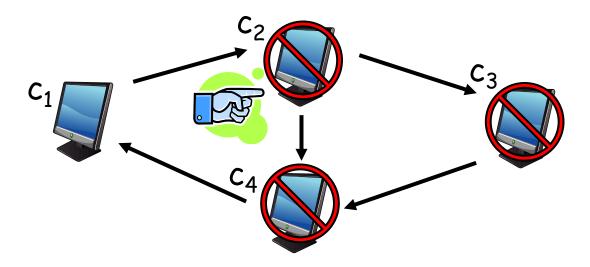


set(x2, y2)

#### **Complex Lifted Transitions: SysAdmin**

SysAdmin (Guestrin et al, 2001)

- Have n computers  $C = \{c_1, ..., c_n\}$  in a network
- State: each computer c<sub>i</sub> is either "up" or "down"



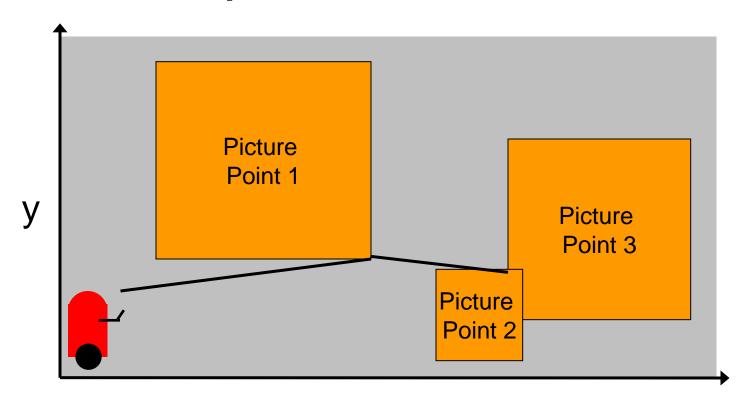
- Transition: computer is "up" proportional to its state and # upstream connections that are "up"
- Action: manually reboot one computer
- Reward: +1 for every "up" computer

## Complex Lifted Transitions

SysAdmin (Guestrin et al, 2001)

```
pvariables {
    REBOOT-PROB : { non-fluent, real, default = 0.1 };
    REBOOT-PENALTY : { non-fluent, real, default = 0.75 };
    CONNECTED (computer, computer) : { non-fluent, bool, default = false };
    running(computer) : { state-fluent, bool, default = false };
    reboot(computer) : { action-fluent, bool, default = false };
};
                                      Probability of a
cpfs {
                                     computer running
                                     depends on ratio of
  running '(?x) = if (reboot(?x))
                                        connected
     then KronDelta(true) // if
                                                        then must be running
                                     computers running!
     else if (running(?x)) // else
                                                       network properties
        then Bernoulli(
         .5 + .5*[1 + sum_{?y} : computer} (CONNECTED(?y,?x) ^ running(?y))]
                 / [1 + sum_{?y : computer} CONNECTED(?y,?x)])
        else Bernoulli(REBOOT-PROB);
};
reward = sum_{?c : computer} [running(?c) - (REBOOT-PENALTY * reboot(?c))];
```

# Lifted Continuous MDP in RDDL: Simple Mars Rover



# Simple Mars Rover: Part I

```
types { picture-point : object; };
pvariables {
```

Constant
picture
points,
bounding box

```
PICT_XPOS(picture-point) : { non-fluent, real, default = 0.0 };

PICT_YPOS(picture-point) : { non-fluent, real, default = 0.0 };

PICT_VALUE(picture-point) : { non-fluent, real, default = 1.0 };

PICT_ERROR_ALLOW(picture-point) : { non-fluent, real, default = 0.5 };
```

```
Rover position (only one rover) and time
```

```
xPos : { state-fluent, real, default = 0.0 };
yPos : { state-fluent, real, default = 0.0 };
time : { state-fluent, real, default = 0.0 };
```

```
xMove : { action-fluent, real, default = 0.0 };
yMove : { action-fluent, real, default = 0.0 };
snapPicture : { action-fluent, bool, default = false };
```

Rover actions

Question, how to make multi-rover?

# Simple Mars Rover: Part II

```
cpfs {
        // Noisy movement update
         xPos' = xPos + xMove + Normal(0.0, MOVE_VARIANCE_MULT*xMove);
        yPos' = yPos + yMove + Normal(0.0, MOVE_VARIANCE_MULT*yMove);
                                             White noise, variance
        // Time update
                                         proportional to distance moved
        time' = if (snapPicture)
                          then DiracDelta(time + 0.25)
Fixed time for picture
                          else DiracDelta(time +
                                   [if (xMove > 0) then xMove else -xMove] +
                                   if (yMove > 0) then yMove else -yMove]);
              Time proportional to
                distance moved
};
                                                     nb., This is RDDL1, in
                                                    RDDL2, now have vectors
                                                     and functions like abs()
```

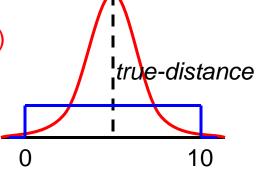
# Simple Mars Rover: Part III

```
// We get a reward for any picture taken within picture box error bounds
// and the time limit.
reward = if (snapPicture ^ (time <= MAX_TIME))
          then sum_{?p : picture-point} [
             if ((xPos >= PICT_XPOS(?p) - PICT_ERROR_ALLOW(?p))
                 ^ (xPos <= PICT_XPOS(?p) + PICT_ERROR_ALLOW(?p))
                 ^ (yPos >= PICT_YPOS(?p) - PICT_ERROR_ALLOW(?p))
                 ^ (yPos <= PICT_YPOS(?p) + PICT_ERROR_ALLOW(?p)))
             then PICT VALUE(?p)
             else 0.0]
                                Reward for all pictures taken
           else 0.0;
                                    within bounding box!
state-action-constraints {
                                                    Cannot move and take
                                                     picture at same time.
        // Cannot snap a picture and move at the same \
        snapPicture \Rightarrow ((xMove == 0.0) \land (yMove == 0.0));
};
```

#### How to Think About Distributions

- Transition distribution is stochastic program
  - Similar to BLOG (Milch, Russell, et al), IBAL (Pfeffer)
  - Leaves of programs are distributions
    - Think of SPUDD / Sym. Perseus decision diagrams as having Bernoulli leaves
- Procedural specification of sampling process
  - Use intermediate DBN variables for storage
  - E.g., drawing a distance measurement in robotics
    - boolean Noise := sample from Bernoulli (.1)
    - real Measurement := If (Noise == true)
      - Then sample from Uniform(0, 10)
      - Else sample from Normal(true-distance,  $\sigma^2$ )

Convenient way to write complex mixture models and conditional distributions that occur in practice!



## RDDL Recap I

- Everything is a fluent (parameterized variable)
  - State fluents
  - Observation fluents
    - for partially observed domains
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- Conditional expressions (if-then-else, switch)
- Basic probability distributions
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- Goal + General (PO)MDP objectives
  - Arbitrary reward
    - goals, numerical preferences (c.f., PDDL 3.0)
  - Finite horizon
  - Discounted or undiscounted
- State/action constraints
  - Encode legal actions
    - (concurrent) action preconditions
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#### **RDDL Software**

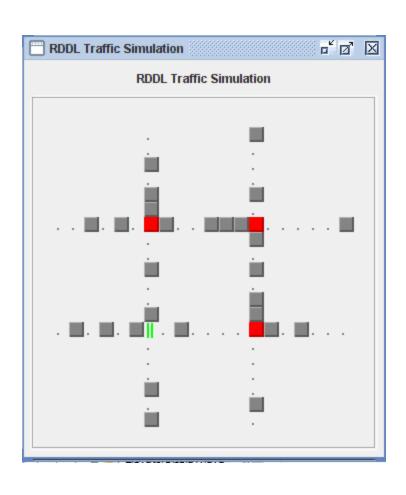
Open source & online at

http://code.google.com/p/rddlsim/

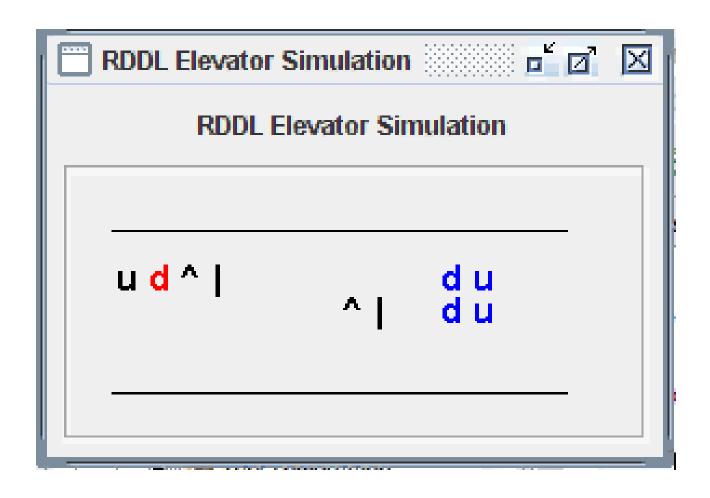
#### Java Software Overview

- BNF grammar and parser
- Simulator
- Automatic translations
  - LISP-like format (easier to parse)
  - SPUDD & Symbolic Perseus (boolean subset)
  - Ground PPDDL (boolean subset)
- Client / Server
  - Evaluation scripts for log files
- Visualization
  - DBN Visualization
  - Domain Visualization see how your planner is doing

#### Visualization of Boolean Traffic



#### Visualization of Boolean Elevators



# Submit your own Domains in RDDL!

Field only makes true progress working on realistic problems

#### RDDL2 (with Thomas Keller)

- Elementary functions
  - abs, sin, cos, log, exp, pow, sqrt, etc.
- Vectors
  - Need for some distributions (multinomial, multivariate normal)
- Object fluents and bounded integers
  - \$ to differentiate object names from parameter-free fluents
  - @ to differentiate bounded-range integers from integers
  - Auto-casting where possible
- Derived fluents
  - Like intermediate but can use in preconditions
- Indefinite horizon (goal-oriented problems)
- Recursion!
  - Fluents can self-reference as long as define a DAG

# RDDL Domain Examples

- See IPPC 2011 (Discrete)
  - http://users.cecs.anu.edu.au/~ssanner/IPPC\_2011/index.html
- See IPPC 2014 (Discrete)
  - https://cs.uwaterloo.ca/~mgrzes/IPPC\_2014/
- See IPPC 2014/5 (Continuous)
  - http://users.cecs.anu.edu.au/~ssanner/IPPC\_2014/index.html

#### Ideas for other RDDL Domains

- UAVs with partial observability
- (Hybrid) Control
  - Linear-quadratic control (Kalman filtering with control)
  - Discrete and continuous actions avoided by planning
  - Nonlinear control
- Dynamical Systems from other fields
  - Population dynamics
  - Chemical / biological systems
  - Physical systems
    - Pinball!
  - Environmental / climate systems
- Bayesian Modeling
  - Continuous Fluents can represent parameters
    - Beta / Bernoulli / Dirichlet / Multinomial / Gaussian
  - Then progression is a Bayesian update!
    - Bayesian reinforcement learning

#### RDDL3?

- Effects-based specification?
  - Easier to write than current fluent-centered approach
  - But how to resolve conflicting effects in unrestricted concurrency
- Timed processes?
  - Concurrency + time quite difficult
  - Should we simply use languages like RMPL (Williams et al)
    - Or could there be RDDL + RMPL hybrids?

## Enjoy RDDL!

(no lack of difficult problems to solve!)

Questions?