

KCL Internship

ROSPlan Esterel Plan Parsing

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Content

- This slides explain KCL ROSPlan¹ Esterel plan compilation.
- ROSPlan is a bridge between AI planning and robotics.
- Esterel Plan Parse/Dispatch is the default ROSPlan execution layer.
- In a nutshell: Converts planner output into STN².
- The author of ROSPlan Esterel Dispatch is Michael Cashmore³, my contribution to this work is limited and is covered at the end of this talk (interference edges optimization)

¹<https://github.com/KCL-Planning/ROSPlan>

²Simple Temporal Network

³<https://nms.kcl.ac.uk/michael.cashmore/index.html>

Examples, use cases

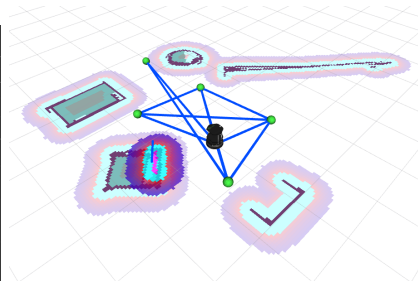
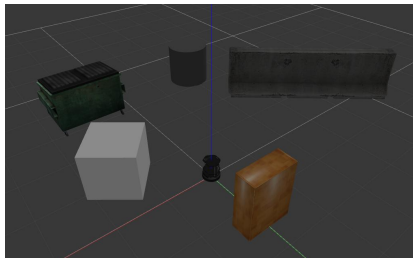
The following PDDL domains are used as examples in this talk:

- turtlebot domain
- mapanalyzer domain
- rush to school

domains available under: https://github.com/oscar-lima/rosplan_debug/tree/kinetic/rpd_pddl_examples/common/pddl

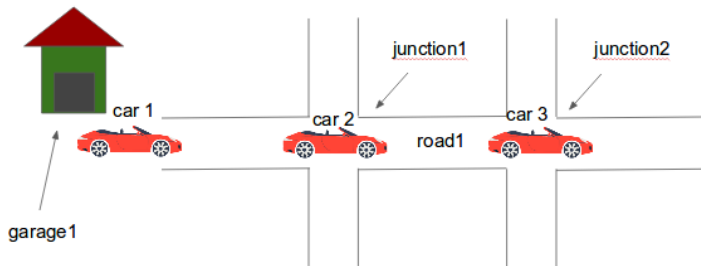
turtlebot domain

- objective: visit waypoints
- only 1 action: goto_waypoint (source, destination)
- click to open domain , problem



mapanalyzer domain

- objective: build roads efficiently to minimize travel time
- relevant actions: move_vehicle_road, build_road
- cars move between junctions
- duration gets computed as distance / speed
- NOTE: this problem is related with issue #140 which provides with a nice benchmark for large plans

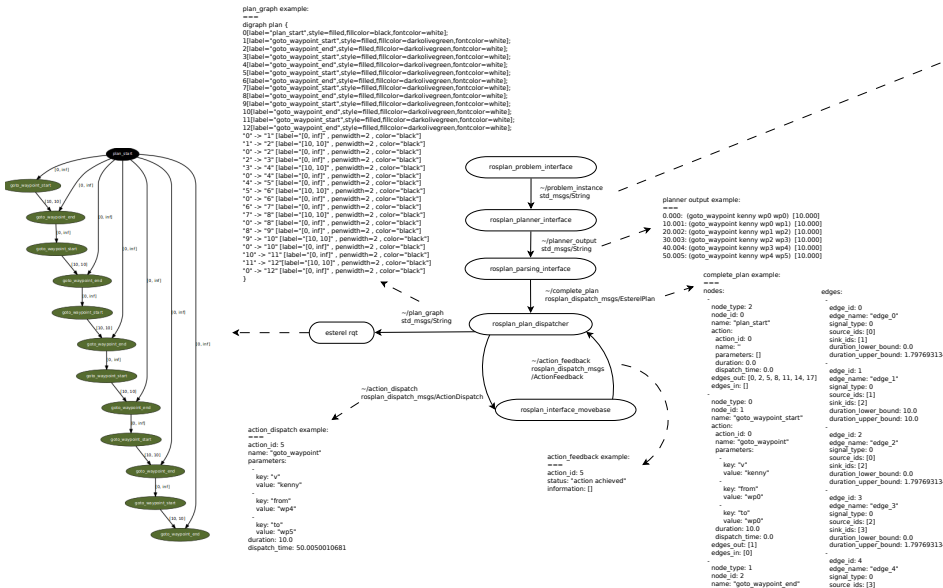


rush_to_school domain

- objective: Batdad takes Ben and Siena to school
- relevant actions: move_vehicle, get_in_car, get_down_from_car
- click to open domain , problem



Input - Output, all ROSPlan pipeline (turtlebot example)



Input - Output (esterel parsing only)

planner output example:

```
=====
0.000: (goto_waypoint kenny wp0 wp0) [10.000]
10.001: (goto_waypoint kenny wp0 wp1) [10.000]
20.002: (goto_waypoint kenny wp1 wp2) [10.000]
30.003: (goto_waypoint kenny wp2 wp3) [10.000]
40.004: (goto_waypoint kenny wp3 wp4) [10.000]
50.005: (goto_waypoint kenny wp4 wp5) [10.000]
```

/rosplan_planner_interface/planner_output
std_msgs/String

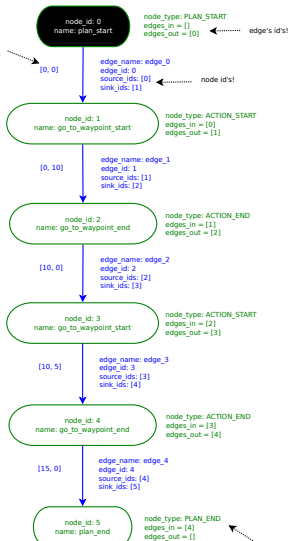
rosplan_parsing_interface

~/complete_plan
rosplan_dispatch_msgs/EsterelPlan

complete_plan example:

```
nodes:
-
  node_type: 2
  node_id: 0
  name: "plan_start"
  action:
    action_id: 0
    name: "-"
    parameters: []
    duration: 0.0
  dispatch_time: 0.0
  edges_out: [0, 2, 5, 8, 11, 14, 17]
  edges_in: []
-
  node_type: 0
  node_id: 1
  name: "goto_waypoint_start"
  action:
    action_id: 0
    name: "goto_waypoint"
    parameters:
      -
        key: "v"
        value: "kenny"
      -
        key: "from"
        value: "wp0"
      -
        key: "to"
        value: "wp0"
    duration: 10.0
    dispatch_time: 0.0
  edges_out: [1]
  edges_in: [0]
-
  node_type: 1
  node_id: 2
  name: "goto_waypoint_end"
  action:
    edges:
    edge_id: 0
    edge_name: "edge_0"
    signal_type: 0
    source_ids: [0]
    sink_ids: [1]
    duration_lower_bound: 0.0
    duration_upper_bound: 1.79769313486e+308
    edge_id: 1
    edge_name: "edge_1"
    signal_type: 0
    source_ids: [1]
    sink_ids: [2]
    duration_lower_bound: 10.0
    duration_upper_bound: 10.0
    edge_id: 2
    edge_name: "edge_2"
    signal_type: 0
    source_ids: [0]
    sink_ids: [2]
    duration_lower_bound: 0.0
    duration_upper_bound: 1.79769313486e+308
    edge_id: 3
    edge_name: "edge_3"
    signal_type: 0
    source_ids: [2]
    sink_ids: [3]
    duration_lower_bound: 0.0
    duration_upper_bound: 1.79769313486e+308
    edge_id: 4
    edge_name: "edge_4"
    signal_type: 0
    source_ids: [3]
    sink_ids: [4]
```

duration_lower_bound
duration_upper_bound



Does not exist yet in ROSPlan!

EsterelPlan msg (graph)

rosplan_dispatch_msgs/EsterelPlan.msg

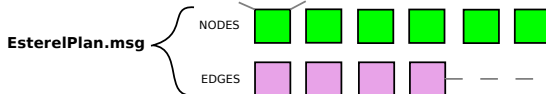
=====

EsterelPlanNode.msg

		PLAN START	ACTION START	ACTION END
node	node_type		x	
	node_id	4		
	name	goto_waypoint_start		
	action	id	2	
		name	goto_waypoint	
		key		r
		value	kenny	
		key	source	
		value	wp0	
		key	destination	
		value	wp1	
		duration	10	
		dispatch_time	10.001	
	edges_in[]			
	edges_out[]			

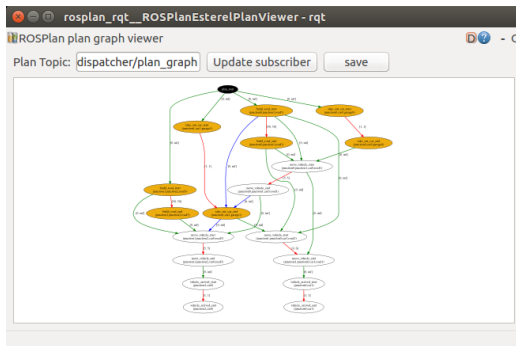
EsterelPlanEdge.msg

edge	signal_type	0
	edge_id	0
	edge_name	edge_0
	source_ids[]	0
	sink_ids[]	1
	duration_lower_bound	0
	duration_upper_bound	0



Graph visualization

- Based on graphviz
- Uses .dot format
- Can save graph, which can be visualized with xdot
- Updates execution status in real time, based on action feedback



command to show rqt_esterel:

```
rqt --standalone rosplan_rqt.esterel_plan_viewer.ROSPlanEsterelPlanViewer --force-discover
```

PreparePlan()



Esterel plan generation steps - 1 prepare plan

step 1 : PreparePlan() output

planner output example:

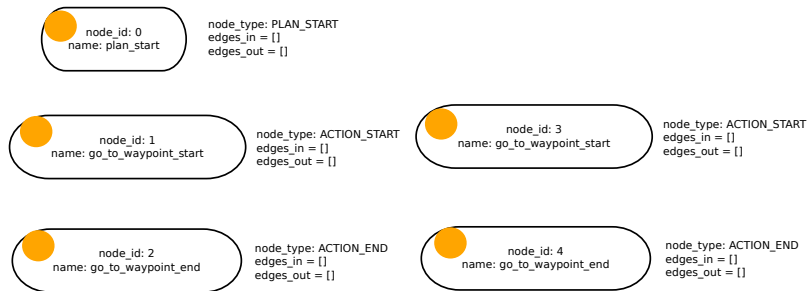
===

10.001: (goto_waypoint kenny wp0 wp1) [10.000]

20.002: (goto_waypoint kenny wp1 wp2) [10.000]



Node associated action (not displayed)



Esterel plan generation steps - 2, 3, 4

Make edges, NOTE: step 5 missing (interference edges)

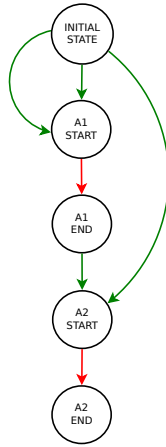
step 2 : order nodes
by dispatch time



step 3 : create start-end
action edges



step 4 : create conditional
support edges



Interference edge

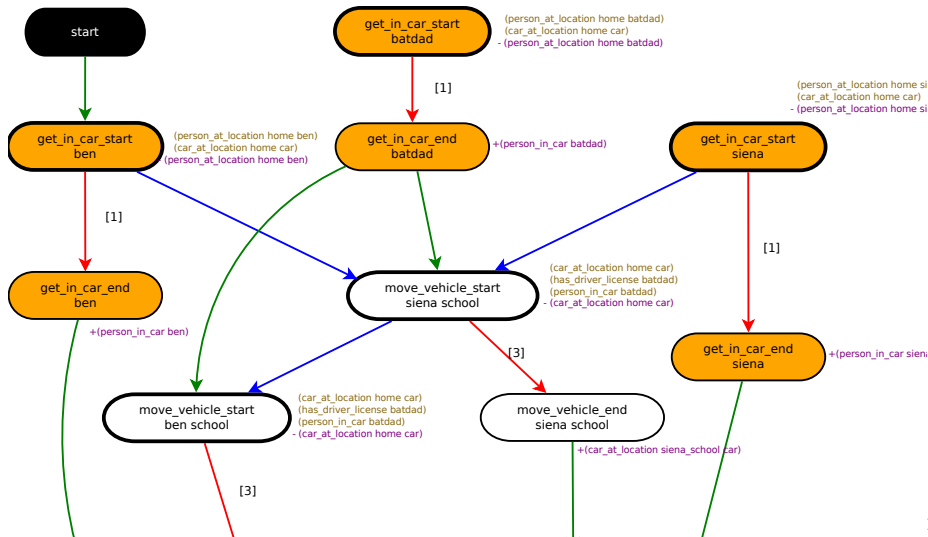
a and b interfere if:

- $eff^+a \cap eff^-b \neq \emptyset$
- $pre^+a \cap eff^-b \neq \emptyset$ *
- $pre^-a \cap eff^+b \neq \emptyset$ *
- $eff^n a \cap eff^n b \neq \emptyset$

* ROSPlan currently checks the ones marked with *

Interference edge - example

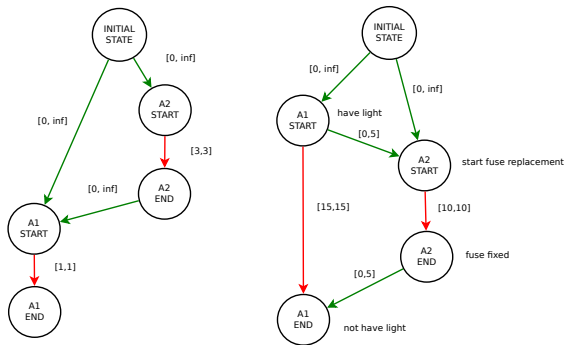
open pdf , domain , problem



Semantics behind edges

- Conditional edge encapsulates 1 or more casual links
- All edges specify ordering constraints: source_node effects need to happen before sink_node gets signal
- Node cannot fire unless it has received all incoming edges / signals

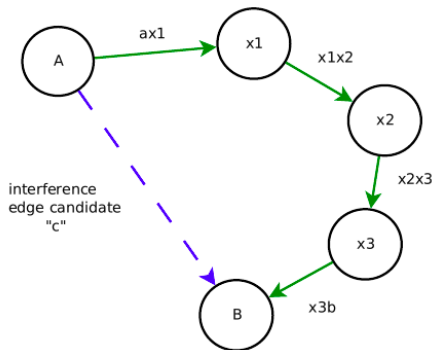
Examples:



Interference edges optimization

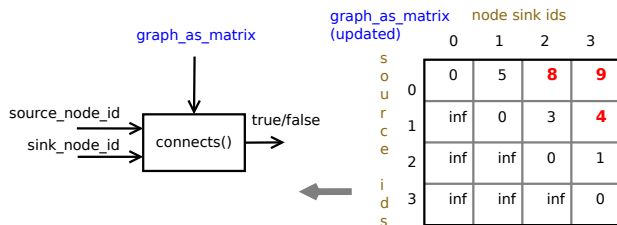
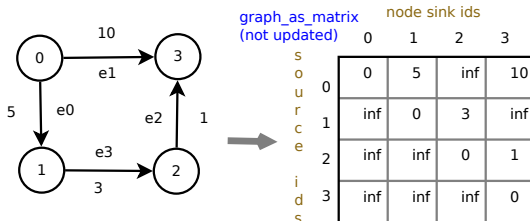
- If interference edge candidate "c" (in blue) pretends to connect nodes A and B (A being source node and B being sink node) then candidate can be discarded if it exists an alternative path connecting A and B (e.g. $ax1, x1x2, x2x3, x3b$)

Example:



Proposed solution

- Based on Floyd-Warshall algorithm



Original solution vs Proposed solution, Results

problem	time w/ complete matrix updates	time w/ single update	time without optimization	time w/ previous method (getBounds)
P15-15-3-1-1	47	35	35	58

Future work

- Esterel plans are currently computed offline.
- Idea is to extend ROSPlan Esterel PlanDispatch to work online by taking input from sensed predicates and updating the execution graph in real time.
- Steps involve scenario creation, state of the art search, formalize question, implement solution in ROSPlan, formal guarantees of safety/correctness + experiments!

Thank you!
Questions? :)