Artificial intelligence planning has had many applications over the years. The techniques in this realm have been used in classical planning, control theory, and theorem proving.[2] There have obviously been numerous advancements, both big and small, that have gotten us to this point. In this research review, we focus on three such advancements: the STRIPS algorithm, the GRAPHPLAN algorithm, and optimizations to GRAPHPLAN.

The first big advancement in this area was the STRIPS algorithm. STRIPS was developed as planning algorithm for a mobile robot that could navigate and push objects around in a multi-room environment[1]. Although this was just one part of the "Skakey the robot" project, it established the foundation of classical planning terminology. For example, all the propositional logic we used in the project was originally used in the STRIPS algorithm[3]. However, this algorithm had limitations: it assumed that actions could be applied one at any time, that nothing changed except as a result of the actions, and that actions were instantaneous[1]. Of course these assumptions are not a realistic model of the world we occupy and it was shown that STRIPS could not solve some relatively simple problems[2]. This led to some other advancement that eventually lead us to GRAPHPLAN.

References

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