Tutorial No. 2

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Subject :- AI

Tutorial 2 : To understand state space problem formulation

Aim :- To understand state space based problem formulation of AI problems so that problem solving Agent can be applied.

Theory :- First we understand the problem solving agent. Algorithm shown in fig 1 shows agent program for problem solving agent. Agent first formulates goal & problem, then determines or rather searches an action sequence, after which it turns the next action to be executed in a sequential manner.

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function SIMPLE-PROBLEM-SOLVING-AGENT (percept) returns an action
  static: seq, an action sequence, initially empty
          state, some description of the current world state
          goal, a goal, initially null
          problem, a problem formulation
state ← UPDATE-STATE (state, percept)
if seq is empty then do
      goal ← FORMULATE-GOAL (state)
      problem ← FORMULATE-PROBLEM ( state, goal)
      seq ← SEARCH (seq)
action ← FIRST (seq)
seq ← REST (seq)
return action
```

Fig 3: Problem Solving Agent Architechture

Defining the problem is reffered to as problem formulation. It involves defining following five things:

- Initial state : It is the starting state that the problem is in.

- Actions : It defines all possible actions available to the agent, given it is in some states ~~clearly~~ currently. It is a function Action(s) that returns list of all possible actions.

- Transition Model : also known as successor function which define state/s the system tend to move to when a particular action is executed by the agent. Successive application of transition model gives rise to what is known as state space.

- Goal Test : This act as a stopping condition when the state passed to this function is goal state it will return true & searching would stop.

- Path Cost : It is accumulated cost of performing certain sequence of actions. This can help in determining whether the action ~~is the lowest path~~ sequence under consideration is optimal.

Thus a problem can formally specified by identifying initial state, actions (operators), transition model (successor function), goal test & path cost. In term of problem solving agent solution is the path from initial state to a goal state, optimal solution is the lowest path cost of all solutions. Process of finding a solution is called search.

Working :- Based on understanding of problem formulation students need to formulate following problems. They will Clearly slow state space up to depth levels or till goal node which ever shallowest.

① Navigate to KGCE Workshop from HOD IT Cabin with minimum number of moves, moves can be climbing or alighting staircase, turning left, right, walking through

a corridor.

② 8 puzzel problem.

③ The missionarise & cannibals problem. There are three missionaries & three cannibals who must cross a river using a boat which can carry at most two people, under the contraint that, for both banks, if there are missionaries present on the bank, they cannot be outnumbered by cannibals if they were, the cannibals would eat the missionaries. The boat cannot cross the river by itself with no people on board.

④ N Queen's problem, Arrange N queens on a N cross N chess board where no ~~board~~ two queens attack each other.

⑤ Two rooms vaccum cleaner world.

⑥ Water Jug problem

Resources :- Refer to second chapter from Artificial Intelligence : A Modern Approach.