

Faculty of Mathematics and Physics
Charles University in Prague
29th March 2016



Human-like Artificial Agents

Reactive Planning – Part II

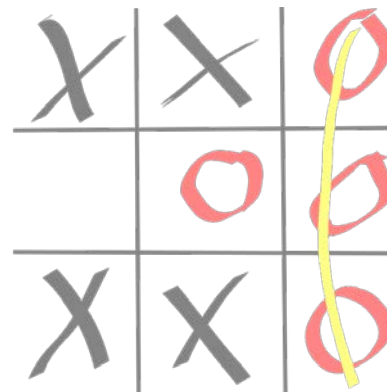
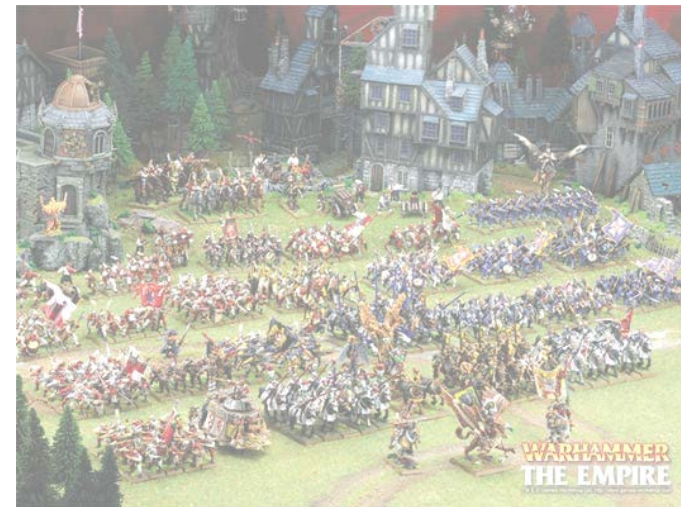
Scripting Virtual Brain



3D V-Environments

What can be said?

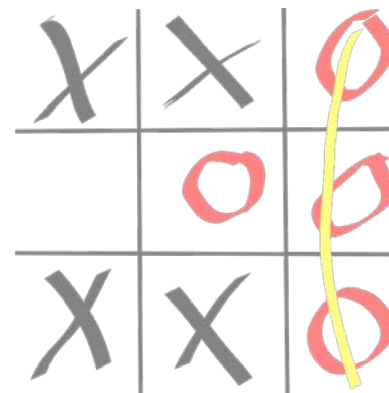
- Fully vs. Partially observable
- Episodic vs. Sequential
- Static vs. Dynamic
- Single vs. Multi agent
- Deterministic vs. Stochastic
- Discrete vs. Continuous
- Known vs. Unknown
- Turn-based vs. Real-time
- Noiseless vs. Noisy



3D V-Environments

Hard to “search or plan”

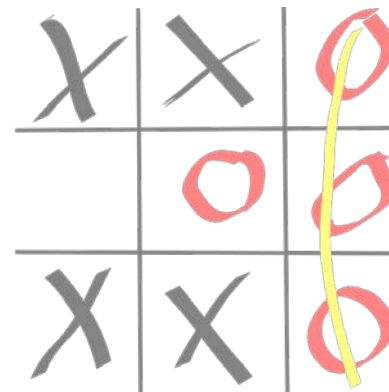
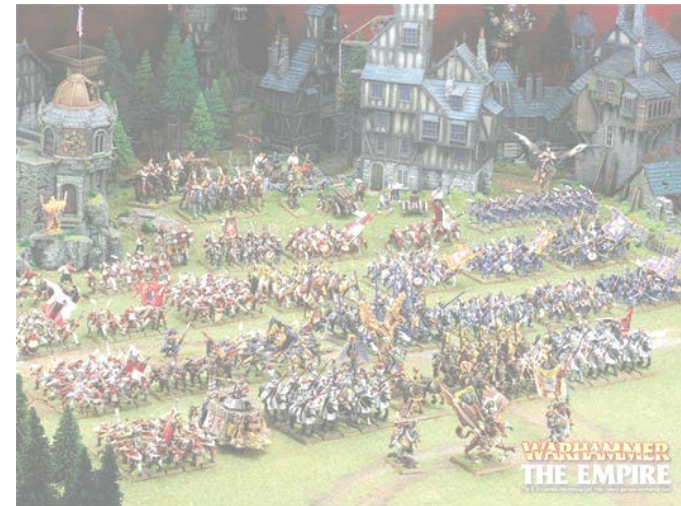
- Fully vs. **Partially observable**
- Episodic vs. **Sequential**
- Static vs. **Dynamic**
- Single vs. **Multi agent**
- Deterministic vs. **Stochastic** (weakly)
- Discrete vs. **Continuous**
- Known vs. **Unknown** (weakly)
- Turn-based vs. **Real-time**
- **Noiseless** vs. Noisy



3D V-Environments

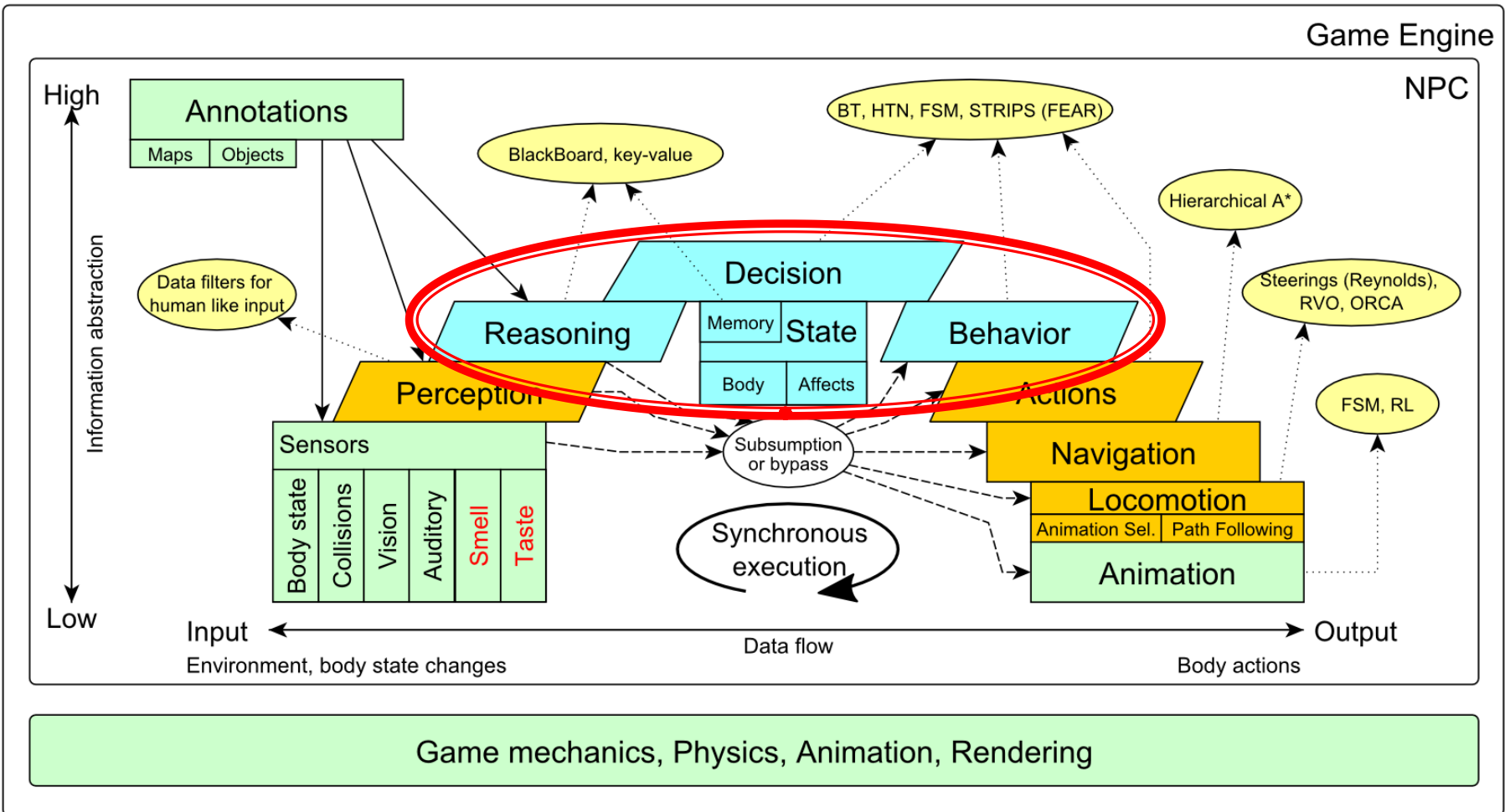
=> (Semi) Reactive Action-Selection

- Fully vs. Partially observable
- Episodic vs. Sequential
- Static vs. Dynamic
- Single vs. Multi agent
- Deterministic vs. Stochastic (weakly)
- Discrete vs. Continuous
- Known vs. Unknown (weakly)
- Turn-based vs. Real-time
- Noiseless vs. Noisy



IVA in Video Games

"Action-selection"



Reactive Planning

Can't we just script everything?

- Programming languages are Turing-complete
=> There is "nothing" you could not do!
- Yeah, but would you use Assembler to write an event-driven GUI application?

*Now I want to create button of different shape, but it should retain all existing features of the button I already have ...
hmm ... with no OOP features though!*

- Would you use Java or C# to mimic SQL queries?

Now I want to left-join table A and B using this condition and group results by column C!

But nevermind - let's try it!

Procedural Scripting

UT2004 FPS Bot Example

```
public void logic() throws PogamutException {  
    if ( weaponry.hasLoadedWeapon(UT2004ItemType.LIGHTNING_GUN)  
        || weaponry.hasLoadedWeapon(UT2004ItemType.MINIGUN)) {  
        if (weaponry.hasLoadedWeapon(UT2004ItemType.LIGHTNING_GUN)) weaponry.changeWeapon(UT2004ItemType.LIGHTNING_GUN);  
        else if (weaponry.hasLoadedWeapon(UT2004ItemType.MINIGUN)) weaponry.changeWeapon(UT2004ItemType.MINIGUN);  
    }  
    Player player = players.getNearestVisiblePlayer();  
    if (player != null) {  
        shoot.shoot(player);  
        if (weaponry.hasLoadedWeapon(UT2004ItemType.LIGHTNING_GUN) || weaponry.hasLoadedWeapon(UT2004ItemType.MINIGUN)) {  
            navigation.navigate(player);  
            return;  
        }  
    }  
    if (info.getHealth() < 50) {  
        Item health = fwMap.getNearestItem(items.getSpawnedItems(UT2004ItemType.HEALTH_PACK).values(),  
                                           info.getNearestNavPoint());  
        if (health != null) {  
            navigation.navigate(health);  
            return;  
        }  
    }  
    if (navigation.isNavigating()) return;  
    Item weapon = null;  
    for (ItemType weaponType : ItemType.Category.WEAPON.getTypes()) {  
        if (weaponry.hasWeapon(weaponType)) continue;  
        weapon = fwMap.getNearestItem(items.getAllItems(weaponType).values(), info.getNearestNavPoint());  
        if (weapon != null) break;  
    }  
    if (weapon != null) {  
        navigation.navigate(weapon.getNavPoint());  
        return;  
    }  
    navigation.navigate(navPoints.getRandomNavPoint());  
}
```

Behavior Oriented Design *(by J.J.Bryson)*

Agent Behavior Development Methodology

“ BOD is a methodology for developing control of complex intelligent agents, such as virtual reality characters, ... ”

-- *J.J.Bryson, University of Bath, UK*

<http://www.cs.bath.ac.uk/~jjb/web/bod.html>

Core idea:

1. Decompose behavior in a top-down fashion
2. Implement it bottom-up
3. Test, Revise, Reiterate

Procedural Scripting

UT2004 FPS Bot Example

```
public void logic() throws PogamutException {
    if ( weaponry.hasLoadedWeapon(UT2004ItemType.LIGHTNING_GUN)
        || weaponry.hasLoadedWeapon(UT2004ItemType.MINIGUN)) {
        if (weaponry.hasLoadedWeapon(UT2004ItemType.LIGHTNING_GUN)) weaponry.changeWeapon(UT2004ItemType.LIGHTNING_GUN);
        else if (weaponry.hasLoadedWeapon(UT2004ItemType.MINIGUN)) weaponry.changeWeapon(UT2004ItemType.MINIGUN);
    }
    Player player = players.getNearestVisiblePlayer();
    if (player != null) {
        shoot.shoot(player);
        if (weaponry.hasLoadedWeapon(UT2004ItemType.LIGHTNING_GUN) || weaponry.hasLoadedWeapon(UT2004ItemType.MINIGUN)) {
            navigation.navigate(player);
            return;
        }
    }
    if (info.getHealth() < 50) {
        Item health = fwMap.getNearestItem(items.getSpawnedItems(UT2004ItemType.HEALTH_PACK).values(),
            info.getNearestNavPoint());

        if (health != null) {
            navigation.navigate(health);
            return;
        }
    }
    if (navigation.isNavigating()) return;
    Item weapon = null;
    for (ItemType weaponType : ItemType.Category.WEAPON.getTypes()) {
        if (weaponry.hasWeapon(weaponType)) continue;
        weapon = fwMap.getNearestItem(items.getAllItems(weaponType).values(), info.getNearestNavPoint());
        if (weapon != null) break;
    }
    if (weapon != null) {
        navigation.navigate(weapon.getNavPoint());
        return;
    }
    navigation.navigate(navPoints.getRandomNavPoint());
}
```

Procedural Scripting

UT2004 FPS Bot Example – BOD Applied

```
public void logicBOD() throws PogamutException {  
    if (hasGoodLoadedWeapon()) {  
        ensureGoodWeaponSelected();  
    }  
    if (hasAdversary()) {  
        shootAdversary();  
        if (hasGoodLoadedWeapon()) {  
            pursueAdversary();  
            return;  
        }  
    }  
    if (hasLowHealth() && knowHealthLocation()) {  
        runForHealth();  
        return;  
    }  
    if (canGetNewWeapon()) {  
        runForNewWeapon();  
        return;  
    }  
    runRandomly();  
}
```

Procedural Scripting

More Actions in Less Reactive Example



Procedural Scripting

The Effect of Durative Actions



```
private static enum ActionResult { RUNNING, FAIL, DONE };

private int actionIndex = 0;

public ActionResult logicSequence() throws PogamutException {
    switch(actionIndex) {
        case 0:
            switch (goToDog()) {
                case RUNNING: return ActionResult.RUNNING;
                case FAIL:    actionIndex = 0; return ActionResult.FAIL;
                case DONE:    actionIndex = 1; break;
            }
        case 1:
            switch (crouch()) {
                case RUNNING: return ActionResult.RUNNING;
                case FAIL:    actionIndex = 0; return ActionResult.FAIL;
                case DONE:    actionIndex = 2; break;
            }
        case 2:
            switch (petTheDog()) {
                case RUNNING: return ActionResult.RUNNING;
                case FAIL:    actionIndex = 0; return ActionResult.FAIL;
                case DONE:    actionIndex = 0; return ActionResult.DONE;
            }
    }
    return ActionResult.FAIL;
}
```

Procedural Scripting

OOP Style



```
private Sequence petTheDogSequence = new Sequence( goToDog, crouch, petTheDog );  
  
public ActionResult logicSequence2() throws PogamutException {  
    return petTheDogSequence.execute();  
}
```

Procedural Scripting

OOP Style



```
private Action eatFoodFromFridge = new Eat(foodFromFridge);
private Action eatFoodFromRestaurant = new Eat(foodFromRestaurant);
private Sequence petTheDogSequence = new Sequence(goToDog, crouch, petTheDog);
private Sequence eatingOutSequence = new Sequence(goToRestaurant, orderFood, eatFoodFromRestaurant);

private
    Root root = new Root(
        new PrioritySwitch(
            new SwitchItem(seeFriend, new Sequence(goToFriend, hailFriend, talkToFriend) ),
            new SwitchItem(seeDog, petTheDogSequence),
            new SwitchItem(isHungry,
                new Decision(
                    new DecisionItem(
                        atHome,
                        new Sequence(goToFridge, takeFoodFromFridge, eatFoodFromFridge)
                    ),
                    new DecisionItem(out, eatingOutSequence)
                )
            )
        )
    );

public void logic3() throws PogamutException {
    root.execute();
}
```

Procedural Scripting

What is her problem?



How do we perceive the code?

What does this do?

$A := 1;$

$B := A + 1;$

`write(B);`

No magic.

```
A := 1;  
B := A + 1;  
write(B);
```

Outputs "2".

What does this do?

```
socket = acceptConnection();  
socket.sendLine("HELLO");  
line = socket.readLine();
```

Bit of magic

```
socket = acceptConnection();  
socket.sendLine("HELLO");  
line = socket.readLine();
```

acceptConnection() hangs the thread and waits for client connection, than it continues by greeting the client and again hangs the thread when waiting for reply.

What does this do?

```
goToDog();  
crouch();  
hugTheDog();
```

Well... sequence of actions?

```
goToDog();  
crouch();  
hugTheDog();
```

Well there is no reason to start petting the dog if we did not get to it first, this must be a sequence => respective methods then must act the same way as the `acceptConnection()`; hanging the thread.

What does this do?

```
If (inDanger()) getAway()
```

```
else
```

```
If (seeCuteDog()) petTheDog()
```

```
else
```

```
If (seeAPerson() && inTheMood()) hangOut()
```

```
else wanderAround()
```

Priorities!
That's her problem!



Can we make these snippets of code reusable by putting them into procedures/methods?

Let's see...

$A := 1;$

$B := A + 1;$

$\text{write}(B);$

No problem here.

```
procedure StrangeProc();  
begin  
  var A: integer;  
  var B: integer;  
  A := 1;  
  B := A + 1;  
  write(B);  
end;
```

Let's see

```
socket = acceptConnection();  
socket.sendLine("HELLO");  
line = socket.readLine();
```

This works too.

```
void waitForConnection() {  
    Socket socket;  
    String line;  
    socket = acceptConnection();  
    socket.sendLine("HELLO");  
    line = socket.readLine();  
}
```

This works too.

```
void waitForConnection() {  
    Socket socket;  
    String line;  
    socket = acceptConnection();  
    socket.sendLine("HELLO");  
    line = socket.readLine();  
}
```

We need thread-pooling right, but still okey (don't mind NIOs for a while).

How about this sequence of actions?

```
goToDog();  
crouch();  
hugTheDog();
```

Yeah, still working....

```
void petTheDog () {  
    goToDog();  
    crouch();  
    hugTheDog();  
}
```

Yeah, still working...

```
void petTheDog () {  
    goToDog();  
    crouch();  
    hugTheDog();  
}
```

We have to treat it the same way as the server thread from previous example.

What about this?

```
If (inDanger()) getAway()  
else If (seeCuteDog()) petTheDog()  
else If (seeAPerson() && inTheMood())  
    hangOut()  
else wanderAround()
```

Is this working?

```
void freeTime() {  
    If (inDanger()) getAway()  
    else If (seeCuteDog()) petTheDog()  
    else If (seeAPerson() && inTheMood())  
        hangOut()  
    else wanderAround()  
}
```

Let me see...

```
void freeTime() {  
    If (inDanger()) getAway()  
    else If (seeCuteDog()) petTheDog()  
    else If (seeAPerson() && inTheMood())  
        hangOut()  
    else wanderAround()  
}
```



*During the first call, it happened, that she was not in danger but she saw a cute dog ...
... so she stuck somewhere within petTheDog().*

THIS DOES NOT WORK!

```
void freeTime() {  
  If (inDanger()) getAway()  
  else If (seeCuteDog()) petTheDog()  
  else If (seeAPerson() && inTheMood())  
    hangOut()  
  else wanderAround()  
}
```



*Then the dog turned into a freakish monster!
... but she hugged it nevertheless.*

Procedural Scripting

The Switching does not play well with Durative Actions

```
void freeTime() {  
    If (inDanger()) getAway()  
    else If (seeCuteDog()) petTheDog()  
    else If (seeAPerson() && inTheMood())  
        hangOut()  
    else wanderAround()  
}
```

1.



petTheDog()



2.



petTheDog()

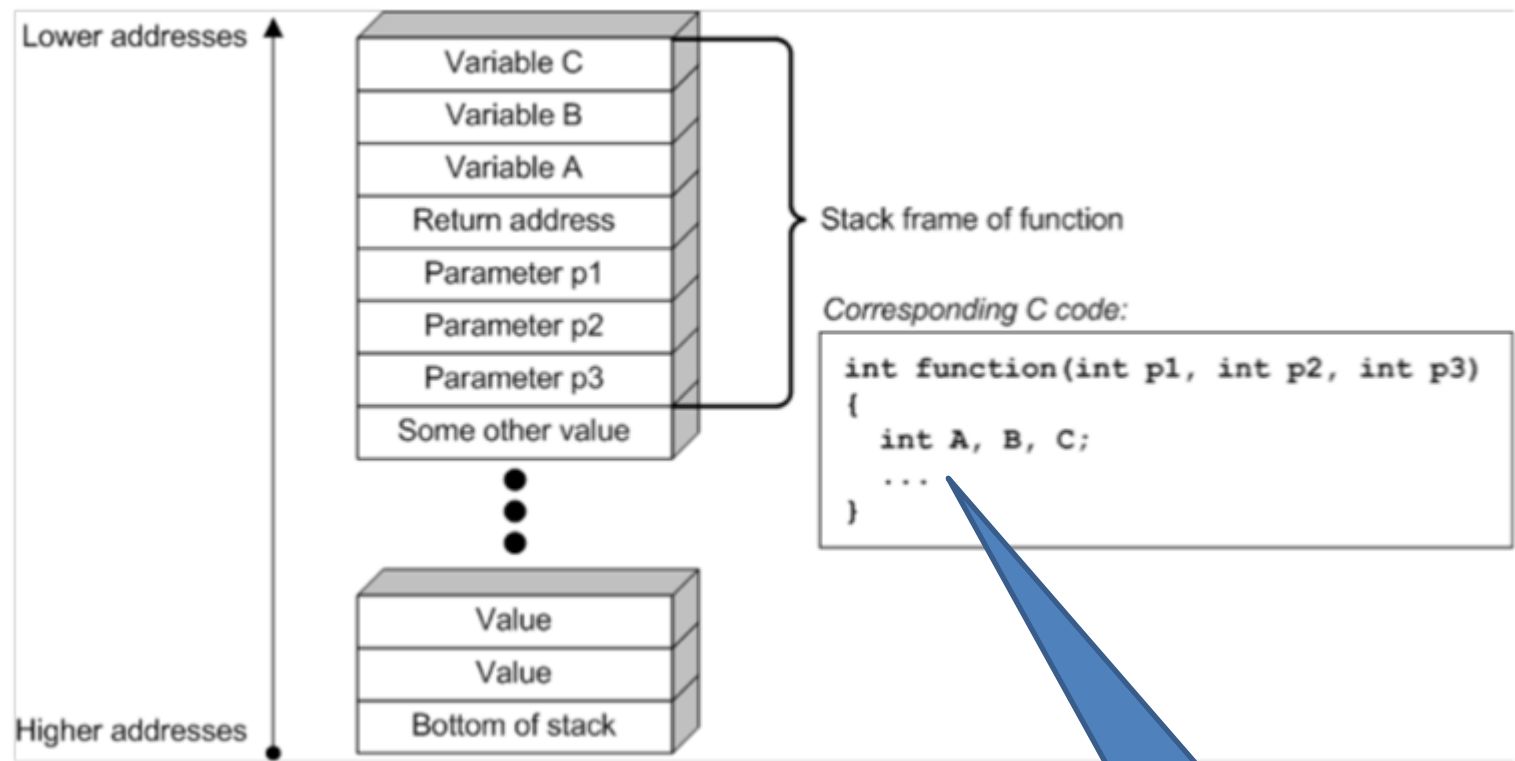
3.



getAway()

Procedural Scripting

Stack-based code representation



Single stack per thread.

Single instruction pointer per thread.

Reactive Planning

Procedural Scripting... No Good?



vs.



- Highly reactive
- Only a few (parameterized) easily interruptible actions

=> PS is OK

- Also Reactive
- Lot of actions
- Lot action sequences that must be managed

=> PS is not a good choice

Reactive Planning

Procedural Scripting... What else?

1. FSM-based techniques
 - “No” stack
 - Shifting locality of decision making process
2. Tree-based techniques
 - + “Stack-traversing”
3. BDI-like
 - Multiple-stacks, Blackboard-based

Reactive Planning

Procedural Scripting... What else?

1. FSM-based techniques

- “No” stack
- Shifting locality of decision making process

2. Tree-based techniques

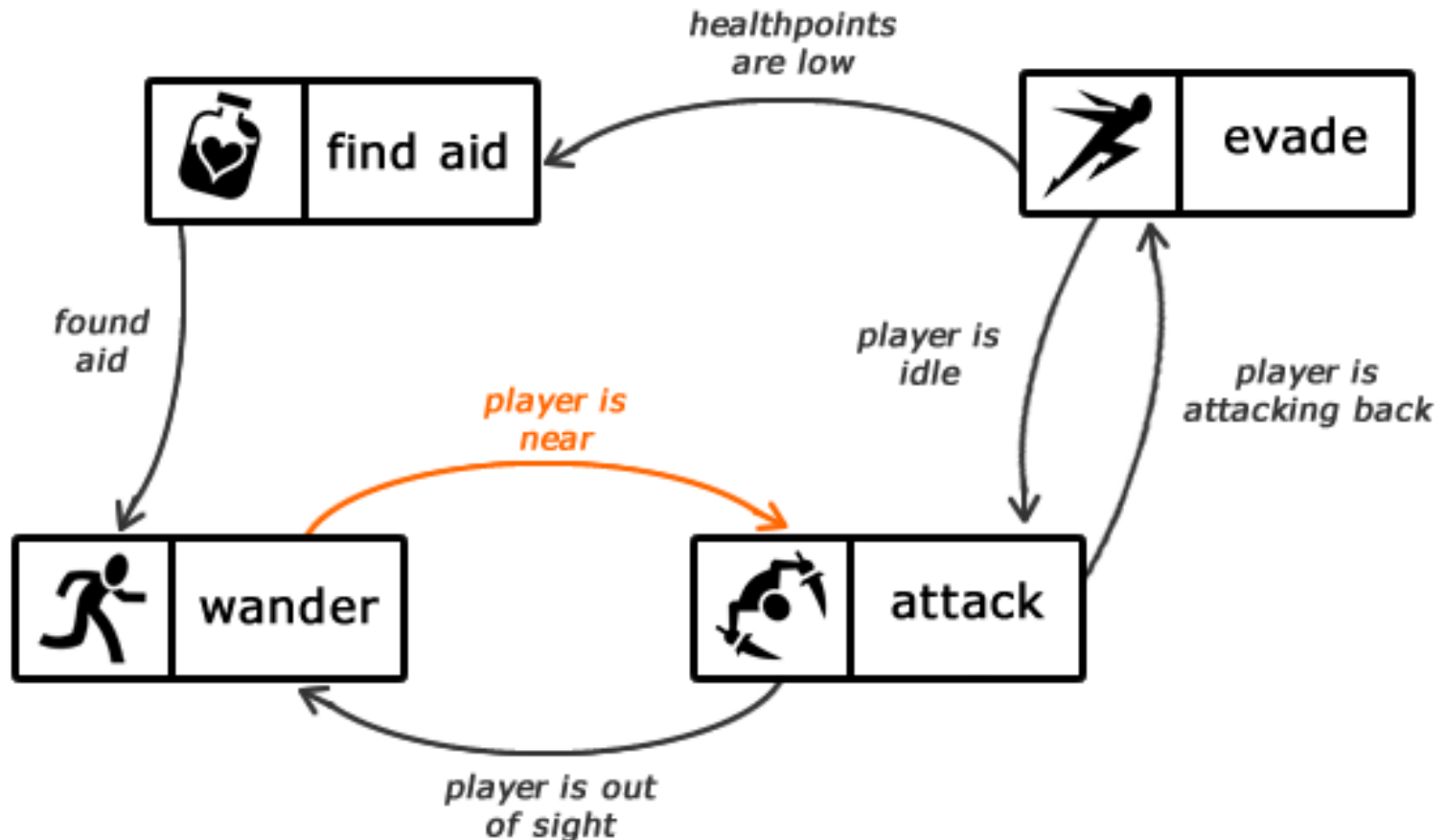
- + “Stack-traversing”

3. BDI-like

- Multiple-stacks, Blackboard-based

Reactive Planning

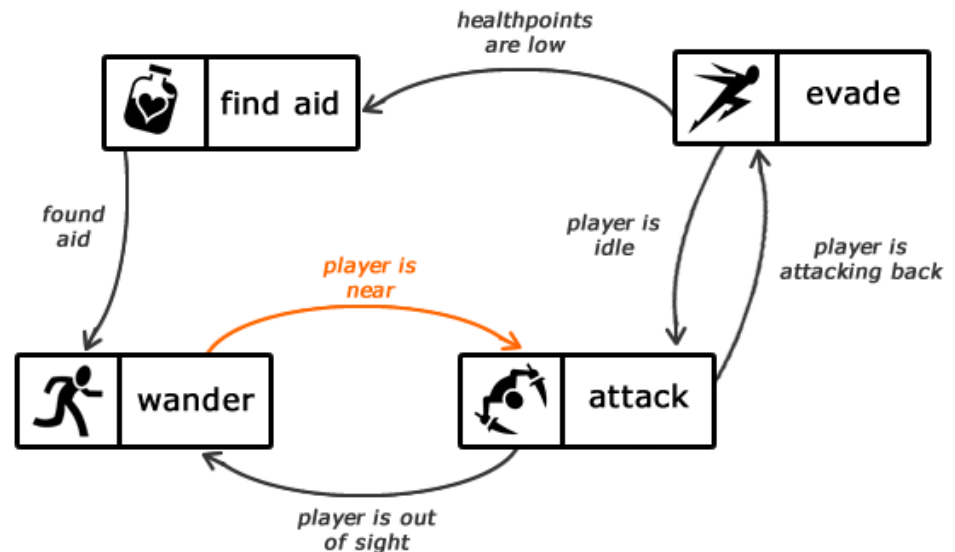
Finite State Machine



Finite State Machines

Example

- “No” stack ... just “a single state”
- Decision making is made “within state”
 - That’s why is this Turing complete as well!
- Very fast execution, easy to implement, can be visualized



Finite State Machines

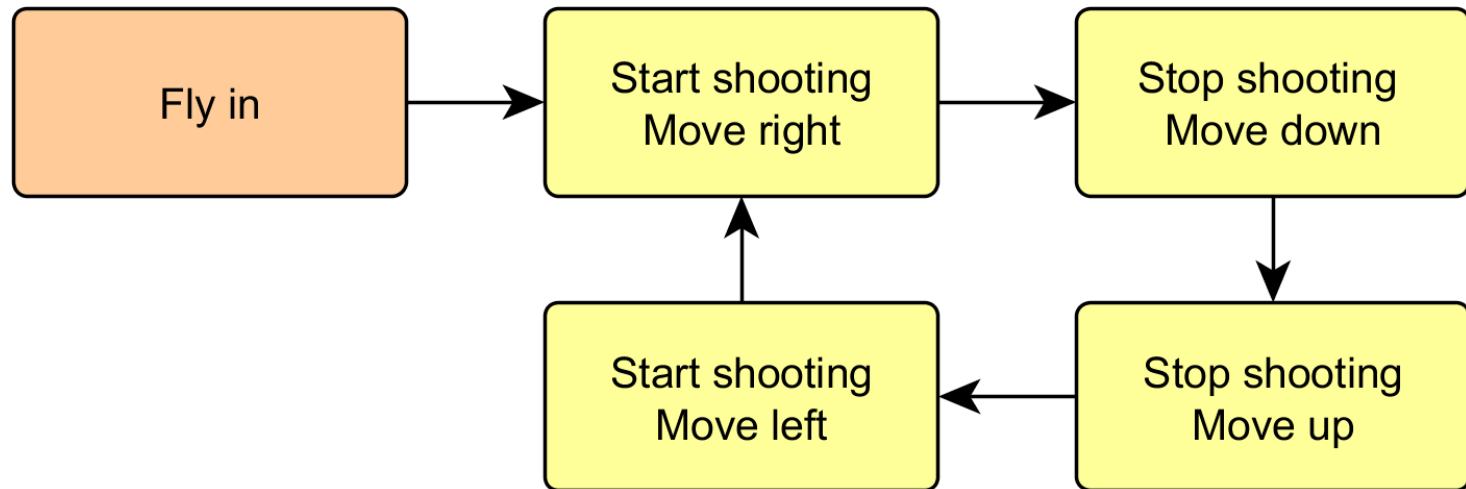
Classic tool of Game AI!



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HRDc3dSKFeA> (4:40)

Finite State Machines

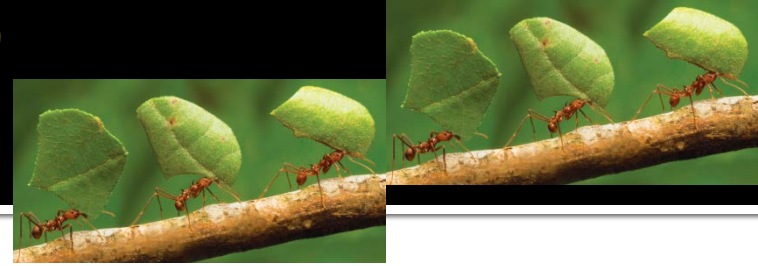
Classic tool of Game AI!



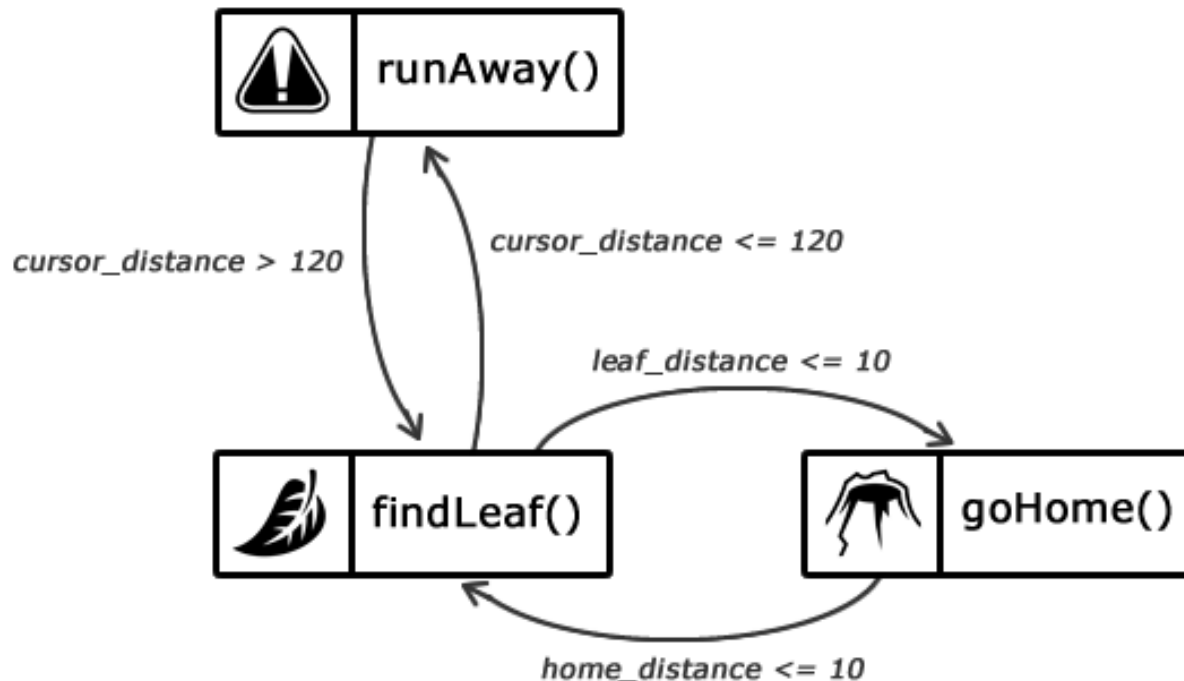
- What is missing?
 - “Almost dead” animation
- How to integrate it in there?
 - Ad-hoc code that lies “somewhere”

Finite State Machines

Another example

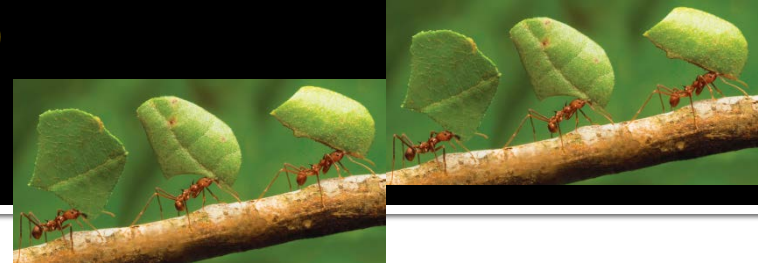


Ants are foraging in 2D cage trying to find leaves while avoiding your cursor.

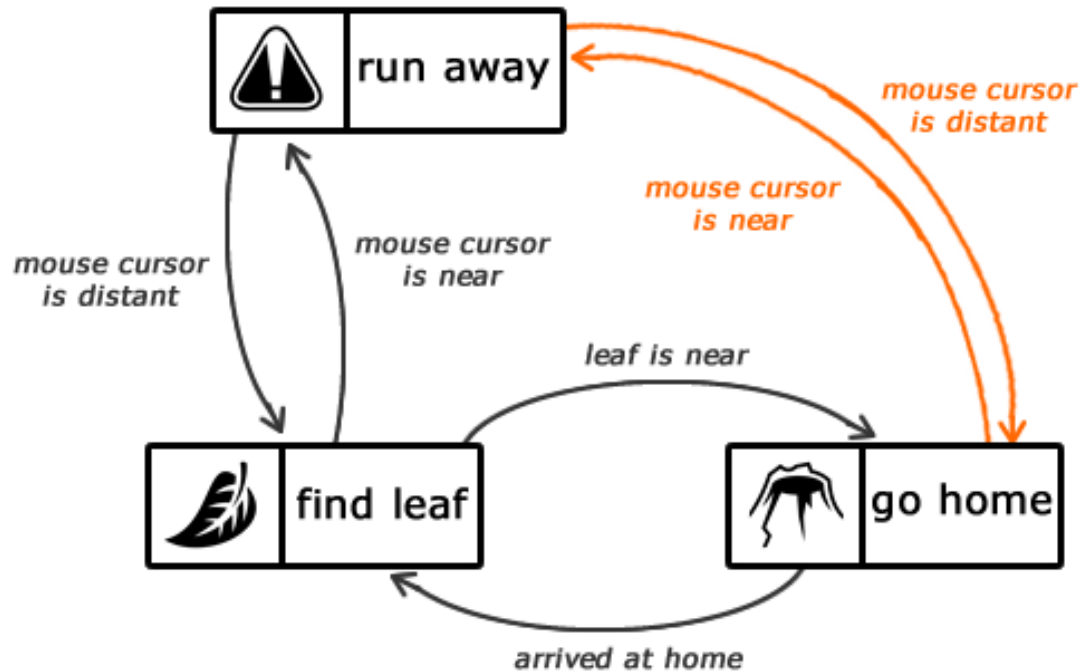


Finite State Machines

Another example

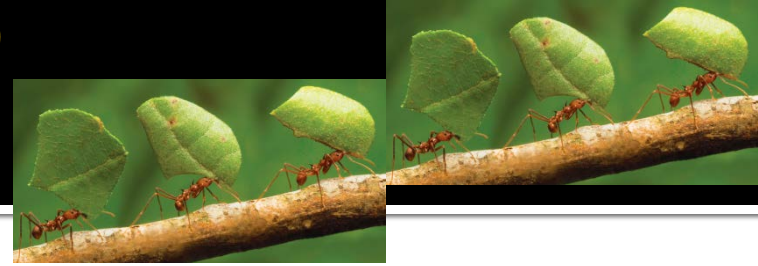


However, we have “switching-problem” here!
Priorities!



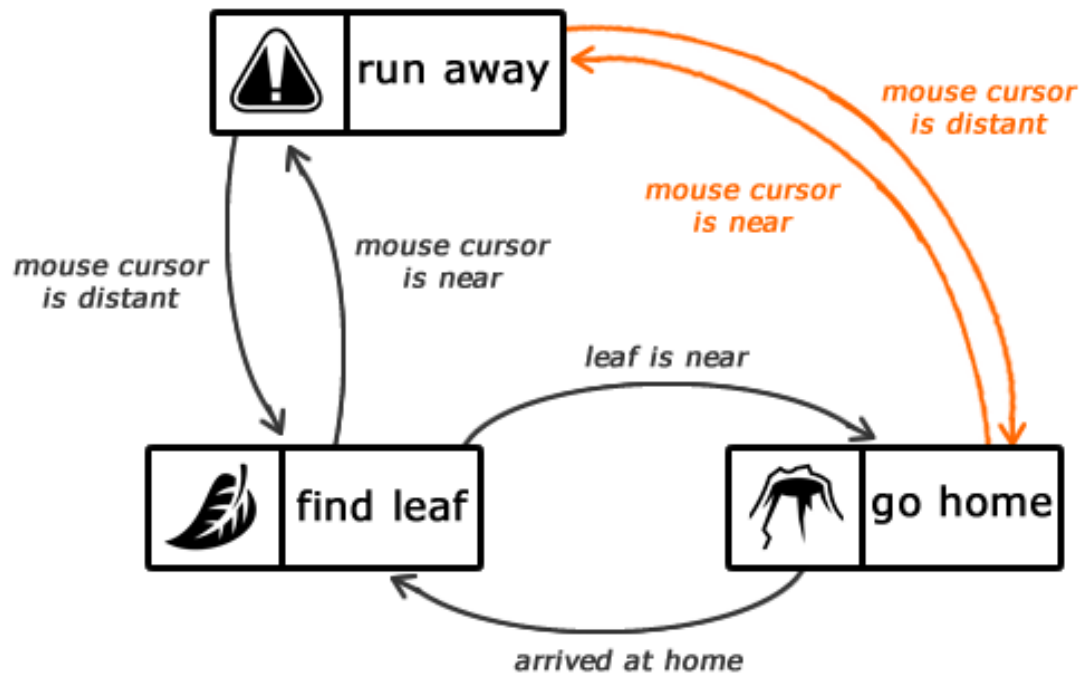
Finite State Machines

Another example



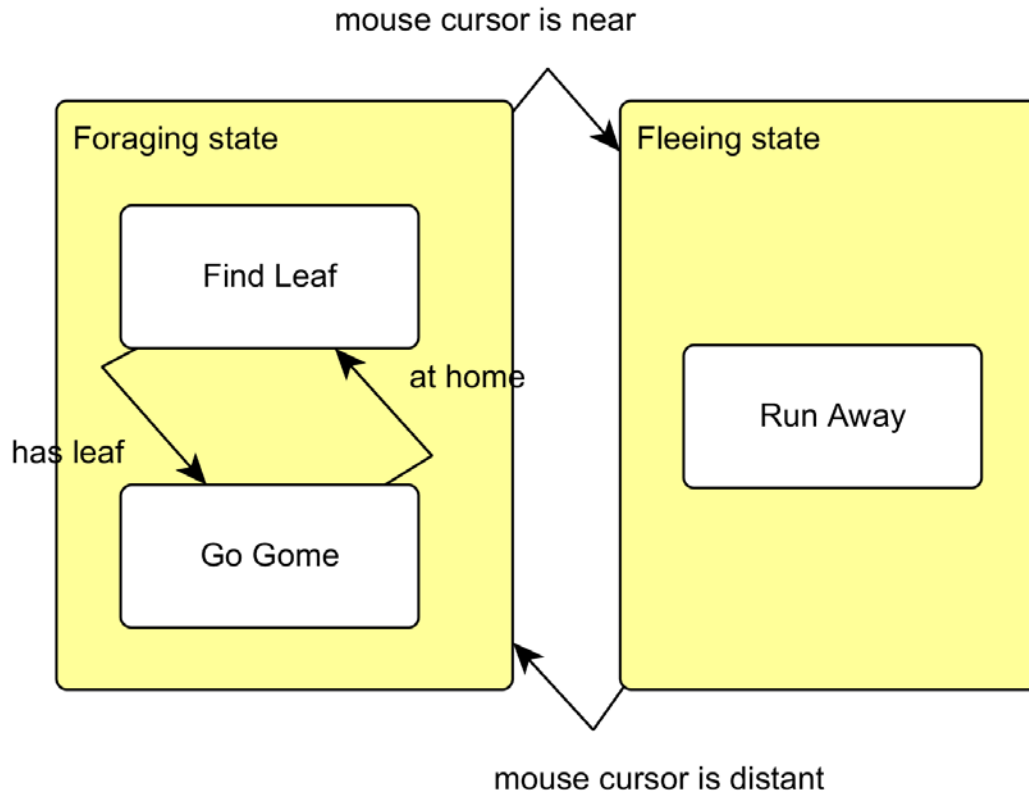
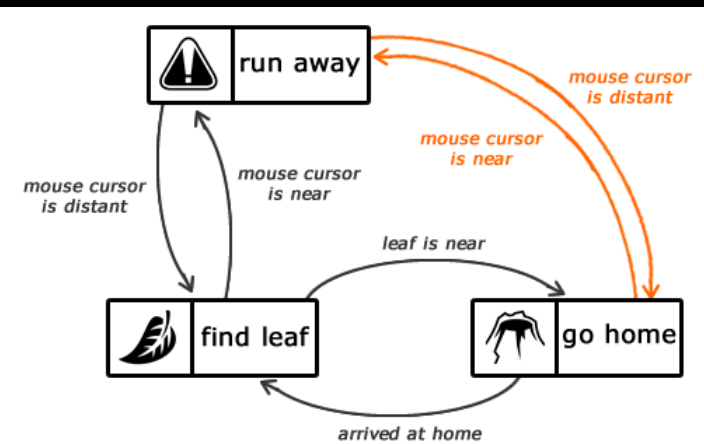
Any “FSM-like” solution to this?

=> Hierarchical FSMs



Finite State Machines

Hierarchical

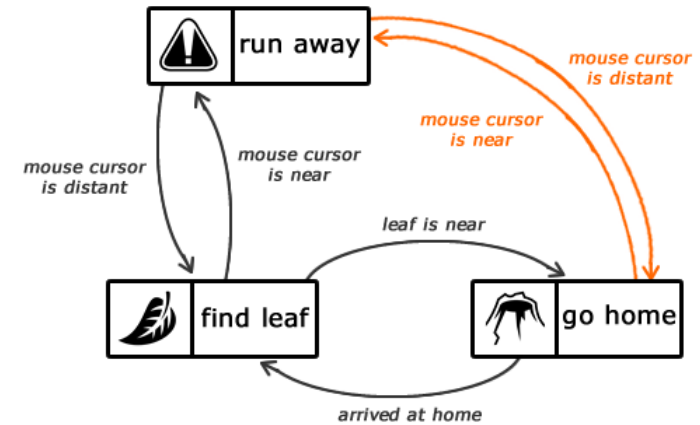


Looking good?

Why we do not just...

Finite State Machines

Stack-based

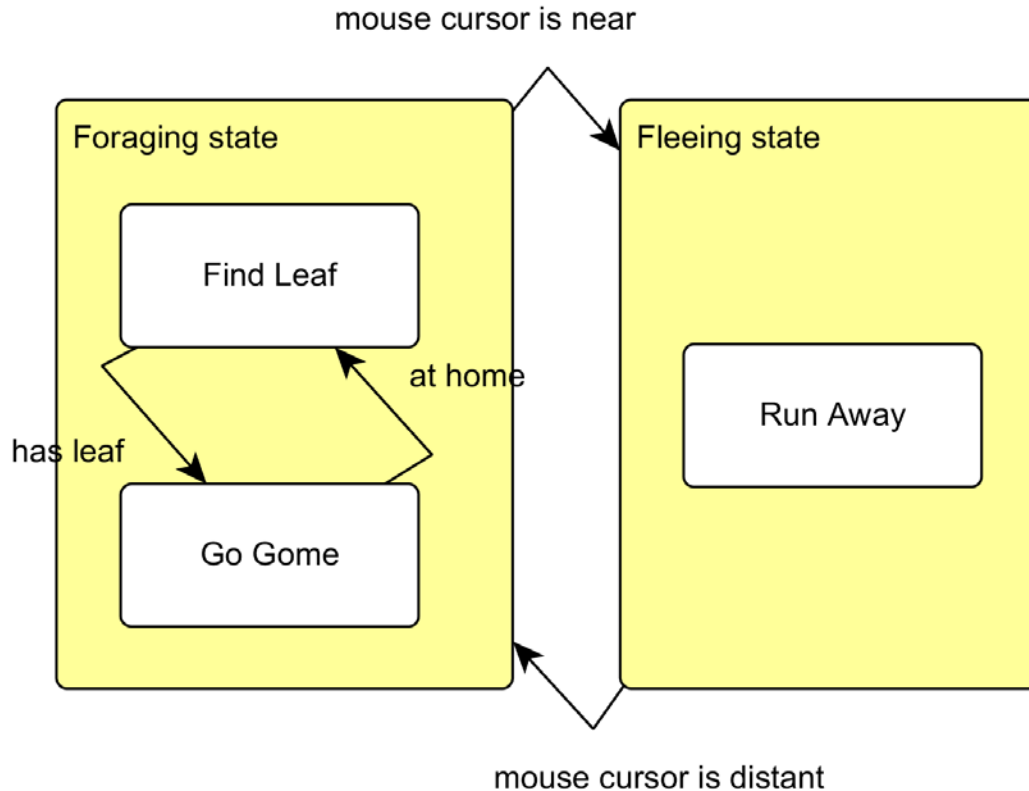
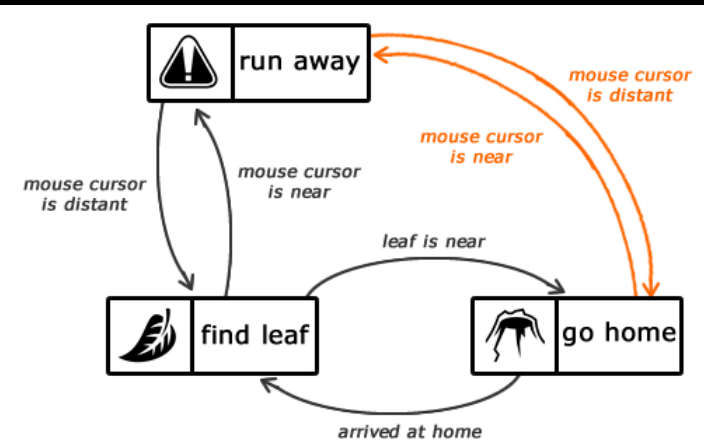


```
public void antLogic() {  
  
    if (mouseCursorNear()) {  
        runAway();  
        return;  
    }  
    if (hasLeaf()) {  
        goHome();  
        return;  
    }  
    if (atHome()) {  
        dropTheLeaf();  
        return;  
    }  
}
```

Gotcha!

Finite State Machines

Hierarchical



Still okayish...

But What about our FPS bot...

Finite State Machines

Hierarchical



Can we model this with hFSM?

```
public void logicBOD() throws PogamutException {
    if (hasGoodLoadedWeapon()) {
        ensureGoodWeaponSelected();
    }
    if (hasAdversary()) {
        shootAdversary();
        if (hasGoodLoadedWeapon()) {
            pursueAdversary();
            return;
        }
    }
    if (hasLowHealth() && knowHealthLocation()) {
        runForHealth();
        return;
    }
    if (canGetNewWeapon()) {
        runForNewWeapon();
        return;
    }
    runRandomly();
}
```

Parallel action

Parallel action

Priority list with
4 elements

Finite State Machines

Sequential Hierarchical



Def. 13. Sequential Finite-state Machine (sFSM) Behavior

Definition: (States, init, script)

No "accepting"
state(s) ...
not needed

States A non-empty finite set of sFSM states.

init $\in \mathbf{S}$, an initial state.

script Associated sFSM script used by sFSM activities.

Runtime: (state)

state Current state of sFSM, initial value: **init**.

Finite State Machines

Sequential Hierarchical



Def. 14. Sequential Finite-state Machine State

(T, A)

T An ordered list of transitions.

A transition is a triple **(c, s, a)**:

c a transition condition (boolean expression),

s \in **States** is target sFSM,

a is an **OnTransition** activity.

A A triple of activities (**OnEnter**, **OnInternal**, **OnExit**).

May use
reasoning!

Activities are
Turing-complete

Finite State Machines

Sequential Hierarchical



Alg. 2. Sequential Finite-state Machine Action-Selection

```
procedure sFSM-ASM (sFSM)  
01:   for each (Transition t in sFSM.state.T)  
02:     if (t.c)  
03:       sFSM.state.OnExit.run()  
04:       t.OnTransition.run()  
05:       t.s.OnEnter.run()  
06:       sFSM.state = t.s  
07:       return  
08:   sFSM.state.OnInternal.run()
```

Here we can
reset nested
sFSM state

Hierarchical
variant via
nesting sFSM

Finite State Machines

Sequential Hierarchical



Can we model this with shFSM?

```
public void logicBOD() throws PogamutException {
    if (hasGoodLoadedWeapon()) {
        ensureGoodWeaponSelected();
    }
    if (hasAdversary()) {
        shootAdversary();
        if (hasGoodLoadedWeapon()) {
            pursueAdversary();
            return;
        }
    }
    if (hasLowHealth() && knowHealthLocation()) {
        runForHealth();
        return;
    }
    if (canGetNewWeapon()) {
        runForNewWeapon();
        return;
    }
    runRandomly();
}
```

Parallel action

Parallel action

Priority list with
4 elements

Finite State Machines

Sequential Hierarchical



logicBOD

```
OnInternal:
  if (hasGoodLoadedWeapon())
    ensureGoodWeaponSelected()
  ... run nested sFSM ...
```

hasGoodLoadedWeapon()



Finite State Machines

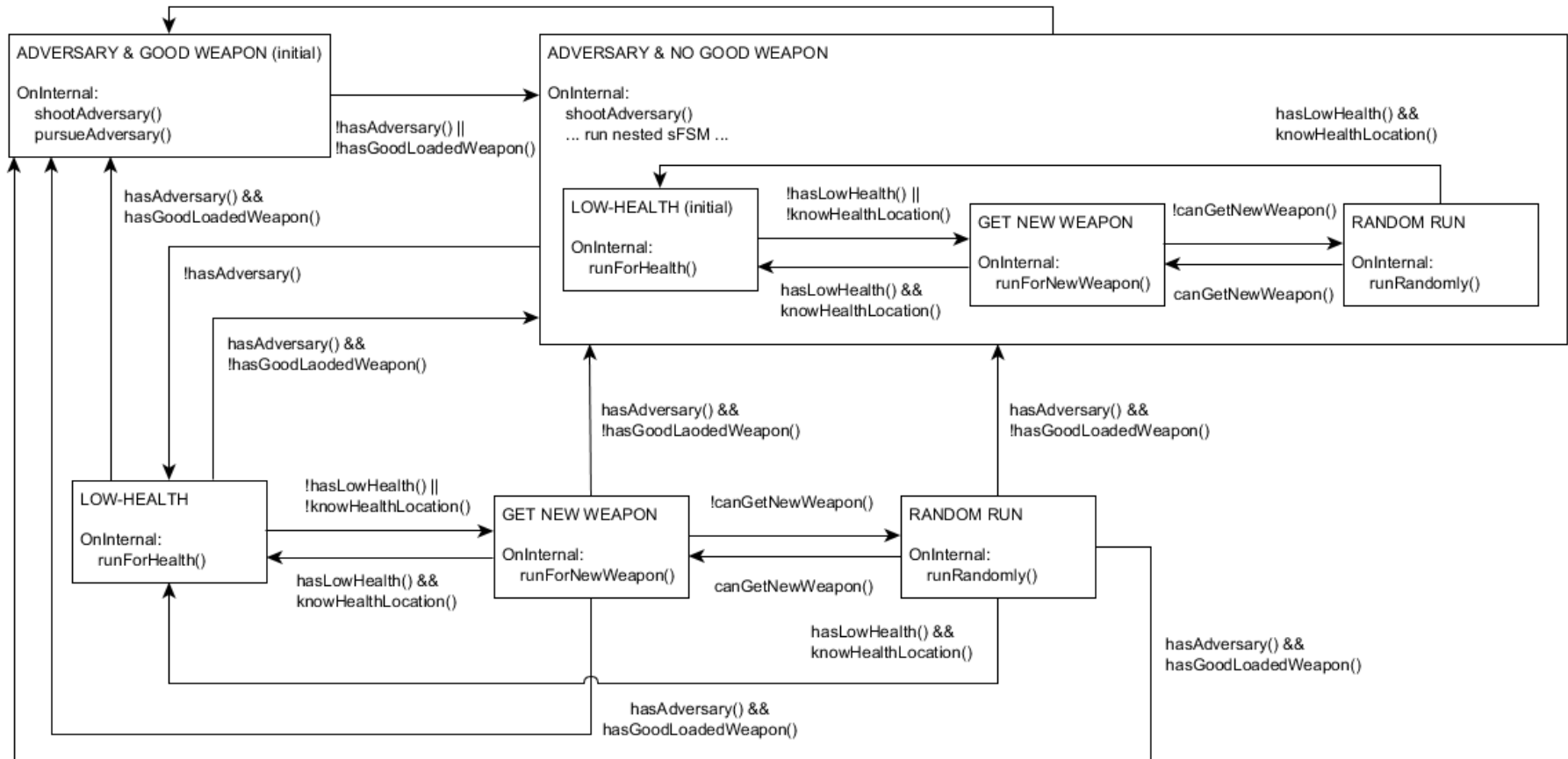
Sequential Hierarchical



logicBOD

```
OnInternal:
if (hasGoodLoadedWeapon())
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hasGoodLoadedWeapon()



Finite State Machines

Sequential Hierarchical



Can we model this with shFSM?

```
public void logicBOD() throws PogamutException {
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        if (hasGoodLoadedWeapon()) {
            pursueAdversary();
            return;
        }
    }
    if (hasLowHealth() && knowHealthLocation()) {
        runForHealth();
        return;
    }
    if (canGetNewWeapon()) {
        runForNewWeapon();
        return;
    }
    runRandomly();
}
```

Parallel action

Parallel action

Priority list with
4 elements

Yes!

But certainly we DO NOT WANT TO!

Finite State Machines

Other modifications

- Fuzzy transitions
 - Using fuzzy variables for conditions
 - Probabilistic FSM
 - Choosing random transition
- ⇒ Shares the same characteristics
- ⇒ Great for “sequences with choice points”
 - ⇒ Bad for reactive stuff that has to arbitrate between multiple (>3) priorities or having parallel actions

Reactive Planning

Procedural Scripting... What else?

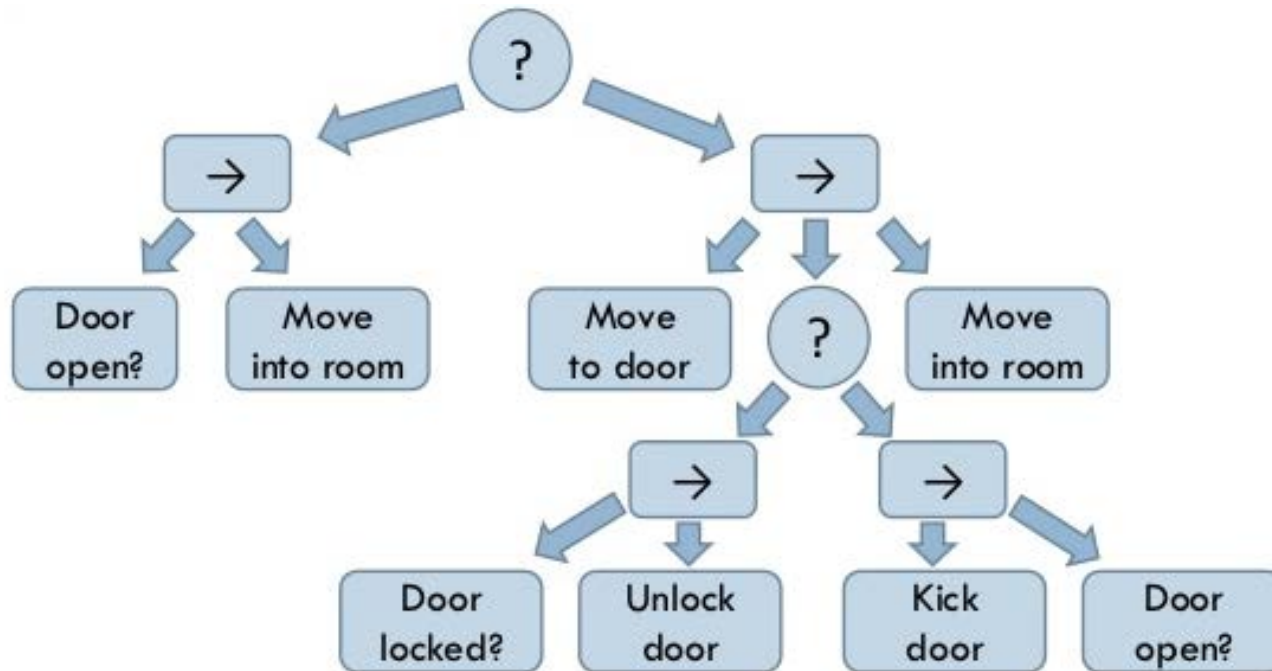
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Reactive Planning

Behavior Trees

<http://www.slideshare.net/StavrosVassos/aigames-lecture1part2>

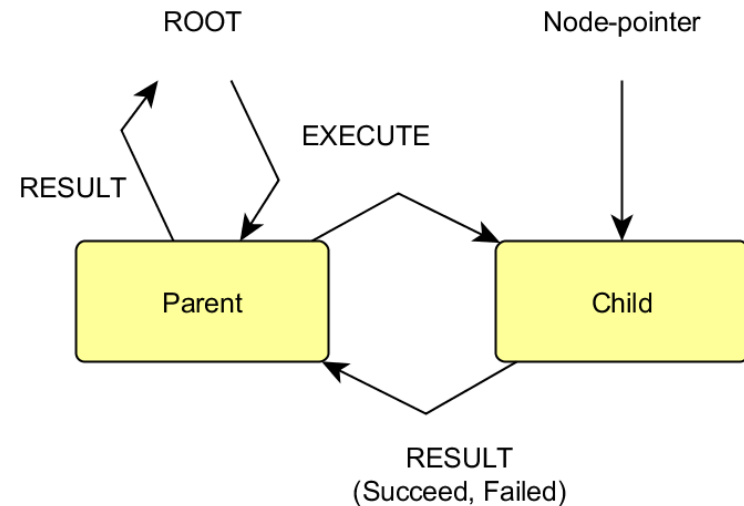
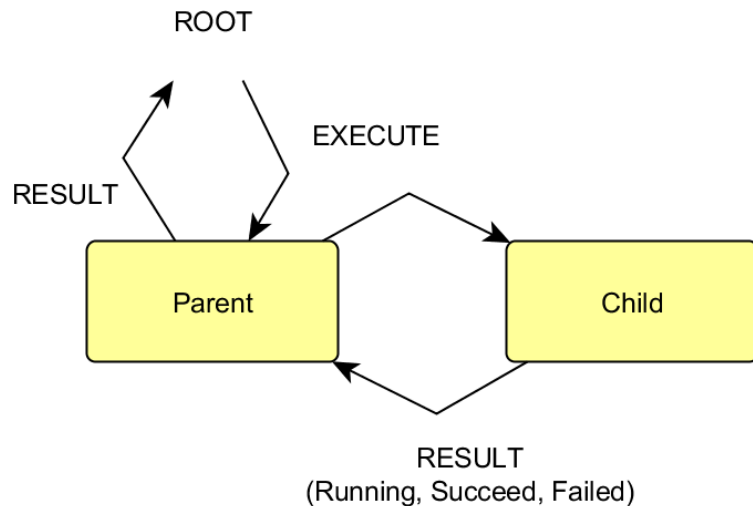
Slides 14-18



Reactive Planning

Behavior Trees

- Two types of BTs
 - With “node-pointer”
 - Root traversal



Reactive Planning

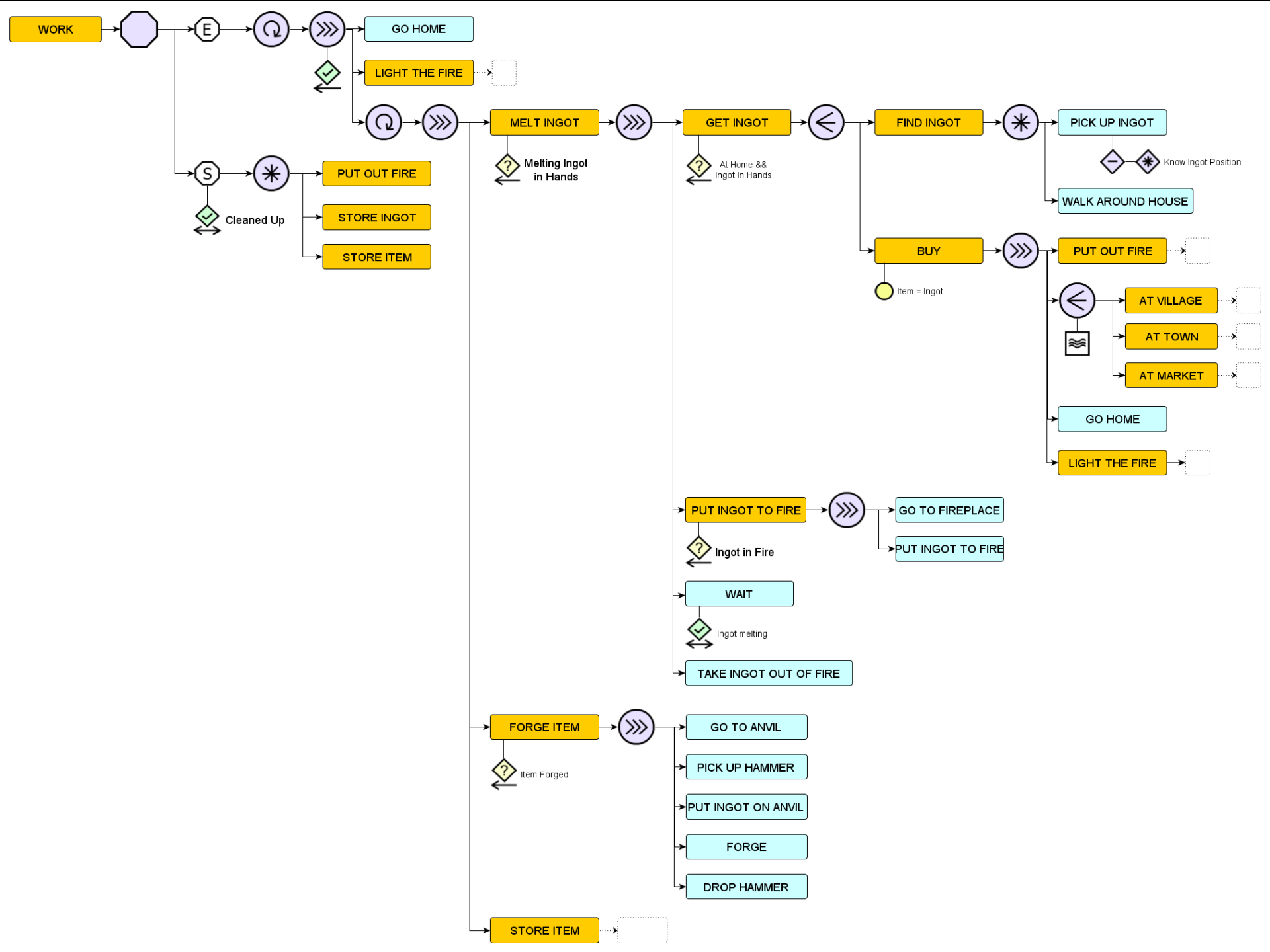
Behavior Trees

- Lot of node-types
 - Sequence, Selector, Loop, Parallel
 - Gates (condition, count-based, time-based, dis/enabler)
 - Reinterpret the result
- Possible behavior coordination
 - N agents “executes” the same tree
 - Gates limiting number of agents
 - Join-nodes (agent is waiting for coordination)

Reactive Planning

Behavior Trees

- Root traversal trees ~ “Stack-traversing”
- Blacksmith example



Reactive Planning

Behavior Trees

- Root traversal trees ~ “Stack-traversing”
 - That’s what standard **If-Then rules** are doing!
 - But the stack lacks “statefulness”
- ⇒ Are Behavior Trees to Procedural Scripting what SQL is to Cobol?

Reactive Planning

Procedural Scripting... What else?

1. FSM-based techniques
 - “No” stack
 - Shifting locality of decision making process
2. Tree-based techniques
 - + “Stack-traversing”
3. **BDI-like**
 - Multiple-stacks, Blackboard-based