Informatics 2D: Reasoning and Agents

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Lecture 19a: Planning and acting in the real world: Execution monitoring and replanning

Where are we?

Last time ...

- Fully and partially observable environments
- Actions with non-deterministic outcomes
- Sensorless planning and contingent planning

Today ...

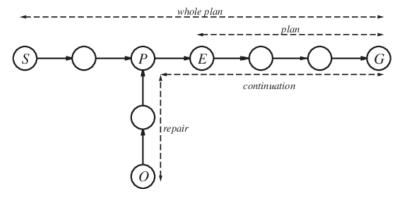
Monitoring and replanning

Execution monitoring and replanning

- Execution monitoring = checking whether things are going according to plan (necessitated by unbounded indeterminacy in realistic environments)
 - Action monitoring = checking whether next action is feasible
 - Plan monitoring = checking whether remainder of plan is feasible
- Replanning = ability to find new plan when things go wrong (usually repairing the old plan)
- Taken together these methods yield powerful planning abilities

Action monitoring and replanning

 While attempting to get from S to G, a problem is encountered in E, agent discovers actual state is O and plans to get to P and execute the rest of the original plan



Plan monitoring

- Action monitoring often results in suboptimal behaviour, executes everything until actual failure
- Plan monitoring checks preconditions for entire remaining plan
- Can also take advantage of serendipity (unexpected circumstances might make remaining plan easier)
- In partially observable environments things are more complex (sensing actions have to be planned for, they can fail in turn, etc.)

Summary

- Unbounded non-determinacy requires:
 - Execution monitoring: checking sucess of execution
 - Replanning: repairing plans in case of failure
- Next time: Hierarchical Planning