





IJCAI 2023 Tutorial Integrated Task and Motion Planning From Foundations to Research Frontiers 19th August, 2023 reinfordement referent learning planning products and the product of the product representa placement scenario

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Outline

- 1. Background: Why Task and Motion Planning?
- 2. Abstraction as a Foundation for TMP
- 3. Modern Abstraction-Based Approaches
- 4. Research Frontier: Neuro-Symbolic Abstraction Learning for TMP

Fundamental Problem: Long-Horizon Planning

- S, set of states
- A, set of actions
- $T: S \times A \rightarrow \mu S$, action transition function
- $R: S \times A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, costs and utility of states, actions (can express goals and some forms of preferences*)

Automated Planning/Sequential Decision Making:

What should the robot do to maximize R (achieve goal) over multiple time steps?

Task and Motion Planning: Longer Horizons, Uncertainty



[Srivastava, Gupta, Zilberstein, Abbeel and Russell, AAAI 2015]

Formulation as SDM problems: S = ?A = ?

i Robot Autonomously Builds sted Tower Using Keva Planks

For details our technical approach, please see the the associated paper: Anytime Task and Motion Policies for Stochastic Environments Naman Shah, Deepak Kala Vasudevan, Kislay Kumar, Pranav Kamojhalla, Siddharth Srivastava.

In Proc. ICRA 2020

[Shah, Vasudevan, Kumar, Srivastava, ICRA 2020]

Configuration Space (C-Space): State Space for a Robot in an Environment

Configuration: A complete specification of the position of every point in the system

C-Space: Space of all possible system configurations





Configuration Space (C-Space)

Workspace

Configuration Space





Configuration Space (C-Space)



Obstacles reduce free space

Computing obstacle boundaries in C-Space provably exponential

Configuration Space (C-Space)



Obstacles reduce free space

Computing obstacle boundaries in C-Space provably exponential

Examples



PR2: Two 8 DoF arms + 1 DoF height + 3 DoF base



YuMi: Two 7-DoF arms

Formulation as Motion Planning Problems: State (Config) Space *X* =?

 $x_i, x_g = ?$

What happens to the C-space when the robot picks up a plank?

Pure Motion Planning is Not Enough!

- Motion planning which path (of waypoints) should the robot take?
 - But which motion planning problem should it solve? different pickups \Rightarrow different c-spaces
 - Where would motion planning goals in each C-space come from?
 - Clearly, motion planning is not enough



Would Pure Task-Planning Do the Trick?

Can a "higher-level" planner help us compute the strategy?

Then we could refine each action in the plan into a motion plan

Higher-level planning is typically done over states described using features, or properties

E.g., #clothes on table IsHolding(robot, basket)

. . .

+

Actions describing how and when robot can change these properties



Would Pure Task-Planning Do the Trick?

Example of a high-level action:

SDM problem: which sequence of actions will lead to the goal?



STRIPS: A New Approach to the Application of Theorem Proving to

The Shakey Robot



How do These High-Level Actions Connect to the C-Space?



GoTo(l) Pickup(x) PutDown(x) Temporal Abstraction ≡ Abstract Actions, Macros, Options...

At(x, l) InGripper(x) AtDestination(x)

State Abstraction

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State Abstraction

Sometimes Intuitive Abstractions are ... Perfect



. . .

But Human Intuition has its Limits



Obstructions depend on





(:action pickup :parameters (?obj ?gripper) :precondition (and (empty ?gripper) (ontable ?obj) (clear ?obj) :effect (and (not (empty ?gripper)) (not (ontable ?obj) (in ?obj, ?gripper) (not (clear ?obj))))))

Prevailing Abstraction

Pickup(x) Abstract PutDown(x) Actions

OnTable(3) On(1,2)OnTable(2) OnTable(1)

. . .

Abstract State

[Srivastava et al., ICRA 2014; Srivastava et al., AAAI 2016]

But Human Intuition has its Limits



Abstract model *thinks* this is a trivial problem Solutions from abstract model: Mostly infeasible

Prevailing Abstraction

But Human Intuition has its Limits



Can pickup only from the side Obstructions depend on choice of movement trajectory

[Srivastava et al., ICRA 2014; Srivastava et al., AAAI 2016]

Summary: We Need to Integrate Task and Motion Planning!

- Task planning given a task planning problem, computes the high-level action the robot should perform at each step
 - But that action may have no feasible motion plan (recall: cluttered table)
- Motion planning given a motion planning problem, computes the path that the robot should take
 - But which motion planning problem should it solve?

(Trajectory planning – selects the control inputs that should go to the robot's motors)



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- (Trajectory planning selects the control inputs that should go to the robot's motors?)

Technical Problems That Characterize Integrated Task and Motion Planning

High-level (abstract) models are imprecise! They scale to long horizons at the expense of low-level constraints

 \succ Which HL action will have a feasible motion plan at a point in time?

Each HL action (e.g., pickup) defines uncountably infinite Motion Planning Problems! > Which MP should be solved?

Formalized later in the tutorial

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- Background: Why Task and Motion Planning? Task Planning is Not Enough Motion Planning is Not Enough Foundations of Motion Planning
- 2. Abstraction as a Foundation for TMP
- 3. Abstraction-based Approaches
- 4. Research Frontier: Neuro-Symbolic Abstraction Learning for TMP

Recall: Configuration Space (C-Space)



Obstacles reduce free space

Computing obstacle boundaries in C-Space provably exponential

Sampling-based Motion Planning

- Sampling-based solutions sample the C-Space instead of explicitly computing it
 - Probabilistic Roadmap (PRM)
 - Rapidly-exploring random tree (RRT)
- Simply need to know if the robot is in collision (workspace query)





Configurations are sampled by picking coordinates at random



Configurations are sampled by picking coordinates at random



Configurations are sampled by picking coordinates at random



Sampled configurations are tested for collisions



Each milestone is linked to its nearest neighbors by straight paths



PRM is searched for a path from start (s) to goal (g)



Collision-free edges are retained as local paths to form PRM



Start and goal configurations are included as milestones



Collision-free edges are retained as local paths to form PRM



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- Recap
 - Randomly sample configurations from C-Space
 - Connect them to nearest neighbors (if no collisions with obstacles)
 - Two primitive procedures (workspace collision query):
 - Check if configuration is in free space
 - Check if an edge is in free space
- PRM can be used for multiple queries



How is this different from vanilla search problems?
Probabilistic Roadmaps (PRM)

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 - Randomly sample configurations from C-Space
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 - Two primitive procedures (workspace collision query):
 - Check if configuration is in free space
 - Check if an edge is in free space
- PRM can be used for multiple queries



How is this different from vanilla search problems?

- Uncountably infinite state space (hence the need for sampling)
- Connectivity needs to be computed on the fly
- + Known metric as a starting point

Data structure: T = (nodes V, edges E)



[Source: CS287, Pieter Abbeel, UC Berkeley]

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- 1. $x \leftarrow \texttt{Sample}()$
- 2. $v \leftarrow \texttt{Nearest}(T, x)$
- 3. $v' \leftarrow \texttt{Extend}(v, x)$
- 4. If (ObstacleFree(v, v')) then
- 5. $V \leftarrow V \cup \{v'\}; E \leftarrow E \cup \{(v, v')\}$

// Sample configuration from C-space
// Find nearest node in the tree to sample
// Try extension nearest node towards sample
// If extension does not collide with obstacles
// Add new node and edge to the tree



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Early Approaches

Early Characterization of Key Challenges: aSyMov

- Approach built upon PRMs
- Articulated key technical problem: picking and placing objects are discrete events, change the "robot", c-space
 - Picking an object leads to a new, composed robot
- Different composed versions of the robot have different C-spaces
- Solution Idea:
 - Maintain separate (projected) PRMs for different versions of the robot
 - Link them up based on actions such as pick and place
- Motion planning after a pick-up would use the PRM for the composed robot
- Where does task planning come in?
 - Goal specified in PDDL-like language
 - Task plan is used as a heuristic in PRM expansion

aSyMov: Example Problem

- PRM for robot + box is disconnected
 - Components correspond to different grasps
- PRM for robot alone is also disconnected.
 - Components correspond to different box positions
- Need a path through linked points
- Grow a PRM per action; bias expansion by using high-level plan cost as a heuristic for c-states
- High-level model may be abstract (inaccurate) but used in a limited manner not updated



High-Level Summary

	Search Space	High Level Reasoning	Low Level Reasoning	High-level	High Level Language
aSyMov	Single	Any TP	PRM/RRT	Symbolic	PDDL

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Recall Problem Hierarchies

- Task planning given a task planning problem, computes the high-level action the robot should perform at each step
 - Long horizon: each action takes usually a few minutes to complete.
- Motion planning given a motion planning problem, computes the path that the robot should take
 - short horizon: each waypoint usually takes a few seconds to be achieved
- (Trajectory planning selects the control inputs that should go to the robot's motors)
 - extremely short horizon: runs ~50 Hz



Can we better utilize this hierarchy?

Can we somehow exploit this hierarchy? Ans: **Yes – and the key concept is "abstractions"**

Domain for Robot Planning



Domain for Robot Planning



Key challenges: infinitely many facts, infinite branching factor

Abstraction: State Abstraction



E.g., At(*O*,Init) is True iff $\exists l \in BlueArea$ s.t. pose(o,I) = True.

Abstraction: State Abstraction



E.g., At(0,Init) is True iff $\exists l \in BlueArea$ s.t. pose(0,I) = True.

Here, $\rho(Init) = BlueArea = \{p_1, ..., p_n\}$

Abstraction: Symbolic Actions

First-order logic queries from concrete vocabulary V_l to abstract vocabulary V_h where $V_h \subset V_l$. Ob The query $[r]_{s_h}(\overline{o_1}, ..., \overline{o_n}) = True$ iff Init $\exists o_1, ..., o_n$ such that $o_i \in \rho(\overline{o_i})$ and

$$\left[\varphi_r^{\alpha_{\rho}}(o_1,\ldots,o_n)\right]_{S_l}=True.$$

(:action Move

:parameter ?robot ?location ?trajectory

:precondition

```
not At(?robot ?location)
Collision-free(?trajectory)
```

:effect

```
At(?robot ?location)
```



Abstraction: State Abstraction



(Move R Init Traj1)

Abstraction: State Abstraction



Abstraction: Refining Symbolic Action



Abstraction: Refining Symbolic Action



Challenge 1 – Which MP to Solve?



Challenge 1 – Which MP to Solve?



Challenge 2 – Which MP Will be Solvable?

Can pickup only from the side Obstructions depend on choice of movement trajectory



No way to verify which trajectories are collision-free

(:action Move

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```

```
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Collision-free(?trajectory)

:effect

```
At(?robot ?location)
```

Challenge 2 – Which MP Will be Solvable?

Can pickup only from the side Obstructions depend on choice of movement trajectory



No way to verify which trajectories are collision-free

not At(?robot ?location)

Collision-free(?trajectory)

:effect

```
At(?robot ?location)
```

C2: Loss of information in abstraction

→ Actions in plan that can not refinable

Task and Motion Planning Problem

O, universe of objects and object poses (implicitly defined)

 $P = P_{sym} \cup \overline{P}_h$, set of symbolic predicates and interpretations (definitions in geometric constraints) Generates S, set of abstract states

- $A = A_{sym} \cup \overline{A}_h$, set of abstract actions
- $T: S \times A \rightarrow \mu S$, action transition function

 $R: S \times A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, costs and utility of states, actions (can express goals and some forms of preferences*) γ , a concretization function (often in the form of samplers or generators)

Task and motion planning:

Compute a sequence of actions from A that maximizes the utility R and that can be executed in the given model.

Optimization and SMT Based Approaches

IDTMP

- Core idea: Use advances in SAT/SMT solvers to perform hybrid search for TMP
- State variables for different objects and use poses as values
- Convert each high-level action to low-level motion planning problem.



Nedunuri, Srinivas, et al. "SMT-based synthesis of integrated task and motion plans from plan outlines." 2014 IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA). IEEE, 2014.

Dantam, N. T., Kingston, Z. K., Chaudhuri, S., & Kavraki, L. E. (2018). An incremental constraint-based framework for task and motion planning. *The International Journal of Robotics Research*,

- SMT = satisfiability module theories
- Model the problem as Boolean satisfiability problem

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State variables:	Actions:
Pose of the object $P_0 \in \mathbb{R}^2$	Pick
Configuration of the robot $C_R \in \mathcal{X}$	Place
	Move

 $P = \{p_0, \dots, p_n\}$ (a set of state variables) $A = \{a_0, \dots, a_k\}$ (a set of actions)





1. $a_i^k \Rightarrow Pre(a_i)^k \wedge Eff(a_i)^{k+1}$ // If an action is taken at the step k, the its precondition and effect must hold


Three constraints:

- 1. $a_i^k \Rightarrow Pre(a_i)^k \wedge Eff(a_i)^{k+1}$
- 2. $(p_i^k = p_i^{k+1}) \vee (a_j^k \vee \dots \vee a_l^k)$

// If an action is taken at the step k, the its precondition and effect must hold// Variables that are not changed by the actions remains unchanged



Three constraints:

1. $a_i^k \Rightarrow Pre(a_i)^k \wedge Eff(a_i)^{k+1}$ // If an action is taken at the step k, the its precondition and effect must hold 2. $(p_i^k = p_i^{k+1}) \vee (a_j^k \vee ... \vee a_l^k)$ // Variables that are not changed by the actions remains unchanged 3. $a_i^k \Rightarrow \neg (a_0^k \vee ... a_{i-1}^k \vee ... a_{i+1}^k \vee ... a_l^k)$ // Only one action can be taken at the given step



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SMT formula using p_i and $a_i // p_i \in P$ (a set of state variables) and $a_i \in A$ (a set of actions)



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SMT formula using p_i and $a_i // p_i \in P$ (a set of state variables) and $a_i \in A$ (a set of actions)

SMT used

1) solve SMT formula consisting of discrete action and Boolean variables

2) maintain dynamic constraints such as action a_i is not applicable at step t

 $Plan_length = 1$

•

G Goal Area **Object O** Init Area Constraints = initial constraints Compute task plan for the current plan length and constraints Robot R Scene Graph candidate task plan TASK MOTION T./M. Task Domain Plan PLANNING PLANNING no new additional constraints task plan TASK MOTION deepened T./M. search PLANNING PLANNING Plan no new task plan deepened search











IDTMP: Experiments

Incremental Task and Motion Planning: A Constraint-Based Approach

Neil T. Dantam, Zachary K. Kingston, Swarat Chaudhuri, and Lydia E. Kavraki

January 2016



IDTMP: Summary

- Inputs
 - SMT domain with hybrid (continuous and symbolic) variable and actions
- Properties
 - Probabilistically complete if the low-level motion planner is probabilistically complete.
- How does it handle C1: SMTs reasoning for instantiating continuous variables
- How does it handle C2: SMTs reasoning for instantiations of discrete variables and adding new constraints

Nedunuri, Srinivas, et al. "SMT-based synthesis of integrated task and motion plans from plan outlines." 2014 IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA). IEEE, 2014.

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High-Level Summary

	Search Space	High Level Planner	Low Level Reasoning	High-level	High Level Language	P1: Infinite Motion Plans	P2: Downward Refinability
aSyMov	Single	Any TP	PRM/RRT	Symbolic	PDDL	N/A	N/A
IDTMP	Dual	SMT	Any MP	Variables with continuous domains	SAS	SMT	SMT

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Hierarchical Planning in the Now: HPN

Central Idea:

- Don't abstract the state; plan over fluents & actions with continuous arguments
- For high-level reasoning: Use regression of geometric fluents
- For efficiency: Use an operator-abstraction hierarchy
- For refinement: Interleave refinement with execution

HPN: States and Actions

- State represented by a set of fluents with possibly continuous arguments
 - Subroutines used to dynamically evaluate fluents
 - No need to represent complete state descriptions
- Examples of fluents with continuous arguments (1-d):
 - In(o, r): object o is completely inside region r
 - ObjLoc(o, I): left edge of object o is at location I
 - ClearX(r, x): only objects \in x possibly overlap with region r
- Actions:
 - Place(o, I_{target}) causes ObjLoc(o, I_{target});
 - requires ClearX(sweptVol(o, I_{init}, I_{target}))
 - In(o, r): ramification action for the fluent In(o, r)
 - Clear(r, x): ramification action for the fluent Clear(r, x)



HPN: Action Specifications

- Action specification without hierarchy:
 - Arguments include current subgoal (maintained during regression)
 - Effects, preconditions including argument-choice constraints

```
PickPlace((o, l<sub>target</sub>), s<sub>now</sub>, γ):
effect: ObjLoc(o, l<sub>target</sub>)
choose: l<sub>start</sub> € {s<sub>now</sub>[o].loc} U
    generateLocsInRegions((o, {warehouse, stove, sink}), s<sub>now</sub>, γ)
    //operator instantiations have to be considered for each generated value of l<sub>start</sub>
    //Allows l<sub>start</sub> to be generated using γ for efficient regression
    pre: ObjLoc(o, l<sub>start</sub>), ClearX(sweptVol(o, l<sub>start</sub>, l<sub>target</sub>), {o})
```

- Precondition + choose essentially generates the next subgoal during regression
- Use operator-specific regression subroutines for geometric fluents (provided as input)

HPN: Regression Algorithm

- Carry out goal regression using goal state, preimage computation methods for each operator, geometric fluent
- Search using A*; heuristic = number of goal fluents that are not true in the preimage



HPN: Hierarchical Action Representation

- Use a hierarchy defined using precondition postponement to reduce the horizon during regression
- Suppose operator o has preconditions p_1, \ldots, p_n , effect r
- Operator with p_n postponed
 - o_postponed:
 - precon = $p_1, ..., p_{n-1}$
 - expansion:
 - Achieve p_n while maintaining $p_1, ..., p_{n-1}$;
 - Then execute o
- Additional side-effects of achieving $p_n\ may\ have\ to\ be\ declared$
- Define hierarchy by associating abstraction-level with each precondition

Pick((<i>o</i>), <i>s</i> ,γ):
effect: Holding(<i>o</i>)
pre: AtGraspPose(<i>o</i>) [1]
prim: prim_pick
$Place((o), s, \gamma):$
effect: Holding(<i>o</i>) [1]
pre: ¬Holding(<i>o</i>)
prim: prim_place
Move((<i>o</i> , <i>l_{end}</i>), <i>s</i> , <i>γ</i>):
choose: l _{start}
effect: ObjectLoc(l_{end})
pre: ObjectLoc(<i>l_{start}</i>) [1]
Holding(o) [2]
ClearX(sweptVol(o, l _{start} , l _{end}), {o}) [3]
prim: prim_move

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	effect: ObjectLoc(<i>l_{end}</i>)					
	pre: ObjectLoc(<i>l_{start}</i>) [1]					
	Holding(o) [2]					
	ClearX(sweptVol(o , l_{start} , l_{end}), { o }) [3]					
	prim: prim_move					

HPN: Main Algorithm

•Repeat depth-first refinement + execution

• Primitives are executed as they are generated ("planning in the now")

```
\begin{aligned} & \text{HPN}(s_{now}, \gamma, \alpha, world): \\ & p = \text{PLAN}(s_{now}, \gamma, \alpha) \\ & \text{for } (\omega_i, g_i) \text{ in } p \\ & \text{ if } \text{ISPRIM}(\omega_i) \\ & world.\text{EXECUTE}(\omega_i, s_{now}) \\ & \text{ else} \\ & \text{HPN}(s_{now}, g_i, \text{NEXTLEVEL}(\alpha, \omega_i), world) \end{aligned}
```

HPN $(s_{now}, \gamma, \alpha, world)$: $p = PLAN(s_{now}, \gamma, \alpha)$ for (ω_i, g_i) in pif ISPRIM (ω_i) $world.EXECUTE(\omega_i, s_{now})$ else HPN $(s_{now}, g_i, NEXTLEVEL(\alpha, \omega_i), world)$



effect: Holding(*o*) pre: AtGraspPose(*o*) [1] prim: prim_pick



effect: ¬ Holding(o) [1] pre: Holding(o) prim: prim_place

Move($(o, l_{end}), s, \gamma$): choose: l_{start} effect: ObjectLoc(l_{end}) pre: ObjectLoc(l_{start}) [1] Holding(o) [2] ClearX(sweptVol(o, l_{start}, l_{end}), {o}) [3] prim: prim_move

In((o,R),s, γ): choose: leffect: In(o, R) pre: ObjectLoc(l) [1] \neg Holding(o) [2]





effect: Holding(*o*) pre: AtGraspPose(*o*) [1] prim: prim_pick

$Place((o), s, \gamma):$

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prim: prim_pick

$Place((o), s, \gamma):$

effect: ¬ Holding(o) [1] pre: Holding(o) prim: prim_place

Move((o, l_{end}),s, γ):

choose: l_{start} effect: ObjectLoc(l_{end}) pre: ObjectLoc(l_{start}) [1] Holding(o) [2] ClearX(sweptVol(o, l_{start}, l_{end}), {o}) [3] prim: prim_move

In((o, R), s, γ): choose: leffect: In(o, R) pre: ObjectLoc(l) [1] \neg Holding(o) [2]



HPN: Algorithmic Details & Optimizations

- Use generators to make choice of arguments more efficient
- Algorithm commits to subgoals generated at higher level of abstraction when refining
 - Need to ensure subgoal feasibility
 - Approximate the generation of feasible results of "choose" operations using limited logical reasoning
 - Ensures logical consistency of fluents based on domain-specific integrity constraints
- Achieving postponed preconditions can lead to additional effects in abstract operators
 - Can declare approximations/conservative versions of side-effects with actions

HPN: Experiments



(a) A plate (intended for the first food item) has been placed on the table, and the robot is getting food from refrigerator.



(d) Starting to tidy up; both pans are in the sink.



(f) In order to enable picking up the pink cup in the right warehouse, the objects in the warehouse are rearranged.



(h) All the objects in the right warehouse have been placed in refrigerator; two dirty cups left out on various tables are in the sink.



HPN: Summary

- Input:
 - Correct and complete primitive action definitions using geometric predicates
 - Operator-specific regression functions for geometric properties
 - Pose generators
 - For efficiency, can use additional input:
 - Pose generators that make use of current subgoal
 - Precondition levels to obtain a hierarchy, declaration of operator side-effects
 - Limited logical reasoning in pose generators
- Properties:
 - Complete if the problem has no dead-ends, action preconditions are accurate
 - Motion planners terminate and return solutions when preconditions hold
- Approach for C1: through generators and regression (backward-search)
- Approach for C2: Regression over geometric fluents

Kaelbling, Leslie Pack, and Tomás Lozano-Pérez. "Hierarchical task and motion planning in the now." 2011 IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation. IEEE, 2011.

High-Level Summary

	Search Space	High Level Planner	Low Level Reasoning	High-level	High Level Language	P1: Infinite Motion Plans	P2: Downward Refinability
aSyMov	Single	Any TP	PRM/RRT	Symbolic	PDDL	N/A	N/A
IDTMP	Dual	SMT	Any MP	Variables with continuous domains	SAS	SMT	SMT
HPN	Dual	HPN-specific regression planner	Any MP	Hybrid	HPN-specific	generators	Regression over geometric fluents

TMP through an Interface Layer

- Geometric planning is hard \rightarrow Symbolic high-level
- Off-the-shelf task planner
- Off-the-shelf motion planner
- Interface layer that communicates between task planner and motion planner
 - Converts each task level action to a motion planning problem
 - Converts motion planning failures as facts over symbols & refines abstract information

Srivastava, S., Fang, E., Riano, L., Chitnis, R., Russell, S., & Abbeel, P. (2014, May). Combined task and motion planning through an extensible planner-independent interface layer. In 2014 IEEE international conference on robotics and automation (ICRA)

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PickUp(obj o1, pose p1, pose p2, pose p3, path p): precondition: Empty(gripper) ∧ GripperAt(p1) ∧ At(o1, p3) ∧ IsGraspingPose(p2, o1, p3) ∧ path(p, p1, p2) ∧ ∀o2 ¬ Obstructs(o2, p) effect: Holding(o1) ∧ ¬ At(o1, p3) ∧ ¬ Empty(gripper) ∧ GripperAt(p2)



Generator

PickUp(obj o1, pose p1, pose p2, pose p3, path p): precondition: Empty(gripper) ∧ GripperAt(p1) ∧ At(o1, p3) ∧ IsGraspingPose(p2, o1, p3) ∧ path(p, p1, p2) ∧ ∀o2 ¬ Obstructs(o2, p) effect: Holding(o1) ∧ ¬ At(o1, p3) ∧ ¬ Empty(gripper) ∧ GripperAt(p2)



PickUp(obj o1, pose p1, pose p2, pose p3, path p): precondition: Empty(gripper) ∧ GripperAt(p1) ∧ At(o1, p3) ∧ IsGraspingPose(p2, o1, p3) ∧ path(p, p1, p2) ∧ ∀o2 ¬ Obstructs(o2, p) effect: Holding(o1) ∧ ¬ At(o1, p3) ∧ ¬ Empty(gripper) ∧ GripperAt(p2)

Symbolic references



• pick block1 after going to block1's grasping pose along a trajectory



Interface level: Searches for an instantiation of block1's grasping pose that is reachable via a feasible (collision-free) trajectory

...finds no feasible trajectory

Symbolic references

- High level intuitive plan:
 - pick block1 after going to *block1's grasping pose* along *a trajectory*



Interface level: Searches for an instantiation of block1's grasping pose that is reachable via a feasible (collision-free) trajectory

...finds no feasible trajectory

Symbolic references

• High level intuitive plan:

• pick block1 after going to block1's grasping pose along a trajectory



Fix values for references, report reason for failure: "block2 obstructs *block1's grasping pose* along *a trajectory*"

PickUp(obj o1, pose p1, pose p2, pose p3, path p): precondition: Empty(gripper) ∧ GripperAt(p1) ∧ At(o1, p3) ∧ IsGraspingPose(p2, o1, p3) ∧ path(p, p1, p2) ∧ ∀o2 ¬ Obstructs(o2, p) effect: Holding(o1) ∧ ¬ At(o1, p3) ∧ ¬ Empty(gripper) ∧ GripperAt(p2)

Symbolic references



• pick block1 after going to block1's grasping pose along a trajectory



Fix values for references, report reason for failure: "block2 obstructs *block1's grasping pose* along *a trajectory*"

PickUp(obj o1, pose p1, pose p2, pose p3, path p): precondition: Empty(gripper) ∧ GripperAt(p1) ∧ At(o1, p3) ∧ IsGraspingPose(p2, o1, p3) ∧ path(p, p1, p2) ∧ ∀o2 ¬ Obstructs(o2, p) effect: Holding(o1) ∧ ¬ At(o1, p3) ∧ ¬ Empty(gripper) ∧ GripperAt(p2)

Free Area 1 2

Discrete state += Obstructs(block2, path(initLoc, gp(block1))
TMP through an Interface Layer: Example

PickUp(obj o1, pose p1, pose p2, pose p3, path p): precondition: Empty(gripper) ∧ GripperAt(p1) ∧ At(o1, p3) ∧ IsGraspingPose(p2, o1, p3) ∧ path(p, p1, p2) ∧ ∀o2 ¬ Obstructs(o2, p) effect: Holding(o1) ∧ ¬ At(o1, p3) ∧ ¬ Empty(gripper) ∧ GripperAt(p2)

Free Area 1 2

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PickUp(obj o1, pose p1, pose p2, pose p3, path p): precondition: Empty(gripper) ∧ GripperAt(p1) ∧ At(o1, p3) ∧ IsGraspingPose(p2, o1, p3) ∧ path(p, p1, p2) ∧ ∀o2 ¬ Obstructs(o2, p) effect: Holding(o1) ∧ ¬ At(o1, p3) ∧ ¬ Empty(gripper) ∧ GripperAt(p2)

- High level intuitive plan:
 - pick block1 after going to block1's grasping pose...
- REPLAN
 - pick block2 after going to block2's grasping pose...
 - release block2 after going to release pose for free area...
 - pick block1 after going to block1's grasping pose...



TMP through an Interface Layer: Example

PickUp(obj o1, pose p1, pose p2, pose p3, path p): precondition: Empty(gripper) ∧ GripperAt(p1) ∧ At(o1, p3) ∧ IsGraspingPose(p2, o1, p3) ∧ path(p, p1, p2) ∧ ∀o2 ¬ Obstructs(o2, p) effect: Holding(o1) ∧ ¬ At(o1, p3) ∧ ¬ Empty(gripper) ∧ GripperAt(p2)

- High level intuitive plan:
 - pick block1 after going to block1's grasping pose...
- REPLAN
 - pick block2 after going to block2's grasping pose...
 - release block2 after going to release pose for free area...
 - pick block1 after going to block1's grasping pose...



Goal Reached!!













TMP through an Interface Layer: Experiments

- Several objects obstruct the target object
- Most of these objects are themselves obstructed by other objects
- No designated free space
- Geometric predicates constructed by the interface layer: **obstructs**(pose, obj1, obj2)



TMP through an Interface Layer: Experiments

- 3 pairs of noodle & soup bowls, predefined destinations
- Tray available, but utilization not
- Task planner has to decide whether to use the tray based on plan costs
- Geometric predicates constructed by interface layer:
 - smaller(obj1, obj2);
 - wrong_side(gripper, pose) used for determining which hand to use



TMP through an Interface Layer: Summary

- Inputs
 - PDDL domain with references instead of continuous values
 - Generators for instantiating references
 - Subroutines for infeasibility detection and expression, given a motion plan
- Properties
 - Probabilistically complete
 - Each task planner invocation gets
 - Small branching factor
 - States have only a relevant subset of facts for current instantiation
- How does it handle P1: through symbolic references, forward-search, and lazily invoking the motion planner
- How does it handle P2: by communicating errors to the high-level planner and computing new plans

Srivastava, S., Fang, E., Riano, L., Chitnis, R., Russell, S., & Abbeel, P. (2014, May). Combined task and motion planning through an extensible planner-independent interface layer. In *2014 IEEE international conference on robotics and automation (ICRA)*

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IDTMP	IDTMP	Dual	SMT	Any MP	Variables with continuous domains	SAS	SMT
HPN	Dual	HPN-specific regression planner	Any MP	Hybrid	HPN-specific	generators	Regression over geometric fluents
Symbolic Interface	Dual	Any TP	Any MP	Symbolic	PDDL	Pose generators	Identifying errors

PDDLStream

- Forward-search over hybrid representation
- Modifies the PDDL representation

Garrett, C. R., Lozano-Pérez, T., & Kaelbling, L. P. (2020, June). Pddlstream: Integrating symbolic planners and blackbox samplers via optimistic adaptive planning. In *Proceedings of the International Conference on Automated Planning and Scheduling.*

PDDLStream

- Forward-search over hybrid representation
- Modifies the PDDL representation



- Forward-search over hybrid representation
- Modifies the PDDL representation



(:action move :param (?q1 ?t ?q2) :pre (and (Motion ?q1 ?t ?q2) (AtConf ?q1) (forall(?b)(imply (Block ?b) (Safe ?t ?b)))) :eff (and (AtConf ?q2) (not (AtConf ?q1)) (incr (total-cost) (Dist ?t)))

- Forward-search over hybrid representation
- Modifies the PDDL representation



- Forward-search over hybrid representation
- Modifies the PDDL representation





- Forward-search over hybrid representation
- Modifies the PDDL representation
- Main two concepts:
 - Streams

```
(:action move
:param (?q1 ?t ?q2)
:pre (and (Motion ?q1 ?t ?q2) (AtConf ?q1)
:eff (and (AtConf ?q2) (not (AtConf ?q1))
      (incr (total-cost) (Dist ?t)))
```

```
(:stream motion
:inp (?q1 ?q2)
:dom (and (Conf ?q1)
(Conf ?q2))
:out (?t)
:cert (and (Traj ?t)
(Motion ?q1 ?t ?q2)))
(:function (Dist ?t)
:dom (Traj ?t))
```



- Forward-search over hybrid representation
- Modifies the PDDL representation
- Main two concepts:
 - Streams ~ Samplers or Generators

```
(:action move
:param (?q1 ?t ?q2)
:pre (and (Motion ?q1 ?t ?q2) (AtConf ?q1))
:eff (and (AtConf ?q2) (not (AtConf ?q1))
      (incr (total-cost) (Dist ?t)))
```

```
(:stream motion
:inp (?q1 ?q2)
:dom (and (Conf ?q1)
(Conf ?q2))
:out (?t)
:cert (and (Traj ?t)
(Motion ?q1 ?t ?q2)))
(:function (Dist ?t)
:dom (Traj ?t))
```



- Forward-search over hybrid representation
- Modifies the PDDL representation
- Main two concepts:
 - Streams ~ Samplers or Generators
 - Procedural component: A conditional generator

```
(:action move
:param (?q1 ?t ?q2)
:pre (and (Motion ?q1 ?t ?q2) (AtConf ?q1)
:eff (and (AtConf ?q2) (not (AtConf ?q1))
    (incr (total-cost) (Dist ?t)))
```

(:stream motion







- Forward-search over hybrid representation
- Modifies the PDDL representation
- Main two concepts:
 - Streams ~ Samplers or Generators
 - Procedural component: a conditional generator
 - Declarative component: add facts that can be guaranteed

```
(:action move
:param (?q1 ?t ?q2)
:pre (and (Motion ?q1 ?t ?q2) (AtConf ?q1)
:eff (and (AtConf ?q2) (not (AtConf ?q1))
      (incr (total-cost) (Dist ?t)))
```

```
(:stream motion
  :inp (?q1 ?q2)
  :dom (and (Conf ?q1)
  (Conf ?q2))
  :out (?t)
  :cert (and (Traj ?t)
  (Motion ?q1 ?t ?q2)))
(:function (Dist ?t)
  :dom (Traj ?t))
```



- Forward-search over hybrid representation
- Modifies the PDDL representation
- Main two concepts:
 - Streams ~ Samplers or Generators
 - Procedural component: a conditional generator
 - Declarative component: add facts that can be guaranteed

```
(:action move
:param (?q1 ?t ?q2)
:pre (and (Motion ?q1 ?t ?q2) (AtConf ?q1)) ←
:eff (and (AtConf ?q2) (not (AtConf ?q1))
    (incr (total-cost) (Dist ?t)))
(:stream motion
:inp (?q1 ?q2)
:dom (and (Conf ?q1)
(Conf ?q2))
:out (?t)
:cert (and (Traj ?t)
(Motion ?q1 ?t ?q2)))
(:function (Dist ?t)
:dom (Traj ?t))
```



PDDLStream: C1

- Forward-search over hybrid representation
- Modifies the PDDL representation
- Main two concepts:
 - Streams ~ Samplers or Generators
 - Procedural component: a conditional generator
 - Declarative component: add facts that can be guaranteed





PDDLStream: Optimistic Samples

- Forward-search over hybrid representation
- Modifies the PDDL representation
- Main two concepts:
 - Streams ~ Samplers or Generators
 - Procedural component: a conditional generator
 - Declarative component: add facts that can be guaranteed
 - Optimistic samples ~ Symbolic References
 - Evaluating streams to generate samples is expensive
 - High-level planning would need a thousands of these calls for even simple problems
 - So solution? → Generate "optimistic" placeholder samples.. Assumed to be valid



- Depth = 0
- For the current dept:
 - Generate achievable optimistic samples (Tackling C1)



(:stream poses	(:stream ik
:inp (?b ?r)	:inp (?b ?p ?g)
:dom (and (Block ?b)	:dom (and
(Region ?r))	(Pose ?b ?p)
:out (?p)	(Grasp ?b ?g))
:cert (and (Pose ?b ?p)	:out (?q)
(Contain ?b ?p ?r)))	:cert (and (Conf ?q)
(:stream grasps	(Kin ?b ?p ?g ?q)))
:inp (?b)	(:stream motion
:dom (Block ?b)	:inp (?q1 ?q2)
: out (?g)	:dom (and (Conf ?q1)
: cert (Grasp ?b ?g))	(Conf ?q2))
(:stream cfree	:out (?t)
:inp (?t ?b ?p)	:cert (and (Traj ?t)
: dom (and (Traj ?t)	(Motion ?q1 ?t ?q2)))
(Pose ?b ?p))	(:function (Dist ?t)
: cert (CFree ?t ?b ?p))	:dom (Tra49?t))

- Depth = 0
- For the current dept:
 - Generate achievable optimistic samples



Only depends on objects that does not require any stream $\ensuremath{\rightarrow}$

Required depth = 0

Achievable optimistic samples at level 0: #p1_0 [(O, Init)] #p2_0[(O, Goal)] #g1_0[(G, Goal)]

(:stream poses	(:stream ik
:inp (?b ?r)	: inp (?b ?p ?g)
:dom (and (Block ?b)	:dom (and
(Region ?r))	(Pose ?b ?p)
:out (?p)	(Grasp ?b ?g))
:cert (and (Pose ?b	?p): out (?q)
(Contain ?b ?p ?r)))	:cert (and (Conf ?q)
(:stream grasps	(Kin ?b ?p ?g ?q)))
:inp (?b)	(:stream motion
:dom (Block ?b)	:inp (?q1 ?q2)
:out (?g)	:dom (and (Conf ?q1)
:cert (Grasp ?b ?g))	(Conf ?q2))
(:stream cfree	:out (?t)
:inp (?t ?b ?p)	:cert (and (Traj ?t)
: dom (and (Traj ?t)	(Motion ?q1 ?t ?q2)))
(Pose ?b ?p))	(:function (Dist ?t)
:cert (CFree ?t ?b ?	p)): dom (Tra 50 ?t))

- Depth = 0
- For the current dept:
 - Generate achievable optimistic samples



Requires input that is generated using streams of depth = 0

 \rightarrow Required depth = 1

At level 1: #q1_1 [(O,#p1_0, #g_0)] #q2_1 [(O,#p2_0, #g_0)]

. . . .

(:stream poses	(:stream ik
:inp (?b ?r)	:inp (?b ?p ?g)
:dom (and (Block ?b)	:dom (and
(Region ?r))	(Pose ?b ?p)
:out (?p)	(Grasp ?b ?g))
:cert (and (Pose ?b ?p): out (?q)
(Contain ?b ?p ?r)))	:cert (and (Conf ?q)
(: stream grasps	(Kin ?b ?p ?g ?q)))
:inp (?b)	(:stream motion
:dom (Block ?b)	:inp (?q1 ?q2)
: out (?g)	:dom (and (Conf ?q1)
: cert (Grasp ?b ?g))	(Conf ?q2))
(:stream cfree	:out (?t)
:inp (?t ?b ?p)	:cert (and (Traj ?t)
: dom (and (Traj ?t)	(Motion ?q1 ?t ?q2)))
(Pose ?b ?p))	(:function (Dist ?t)
:cert (CFree ?t ?b ?p)): dom (Traj ?t))

- Depth = 0
- For the current dept:
 - Generate achievable optimistic samples



Requires input that is generated using streams of depth = 0

 \rightarrow Required depth = 1

At level 1: #q1_1 [(O,#p1_0, #g_0)] #q2_1 [(O,#p2_0, #g_0)]

. . . .

(:stream poses	(:stream ik
:inp (?b ?r)	:inp (?b ?p ?g)
:dom (and (Block ?b)	:dom (and
(Region ?r))	(Pose ?b ?p)
:out (?p)	(Grasp ?b ?g))
:cert (and (Pose ?b ?p): out (?q)
(Contain ?b ?p ?r)))	:cert (and (Conf ?q)
(: stream grasps	(Kin ?b ?p ?g ?q)))
:inp (?b)	(:stream motion
:dom (Block ?b)	:inp (?q1 ?q2)
: out (?g)	:dom (and (Conf ?q1)
: cert (Grasp ?b ?g))	(Conf ?q2))
(:stream cfree	:out (?t)
:inp (?t ?b ?p)	:cert (and (Traj ?t)
: dom (and (Traj ?t)	(Motion ?q1 ?t ?q2)))
(Pose ?b ?p))	(:function (Dist ?t)
: cert (CFree ?t ?b ?p)): dom (Tra 57 ?t))

- Depth = 0
- For the current dept:
 - Generate achievable optimistic samples
 - Compute an abstract plan using the optimistic samples



We need: (Motion ...) and (Kin ...)

Min depth = 2

(:stream poses (:stream ik	
:inp (?b ?r) :inp (?b ?p	?g)
:dom (and (Block ?b) :dom (and	
(Region ?r)) (Pose ?b ?p)
: out (?p) (Grasp ?b ?	g))
:cert (and (Pose ?b ?p):out (?q)	
(Contain ?b ?p ?r))) :cert (and	(Conf ?q)
(: stream grasps (Kin ?b ?p	?g ?q)))
:inp (?b) (:stream mot	ion
:dom (Block ?b) :inp (?q1 ?	q2)
:out (?g) :dom (and (Conf ?q1)
:cert (Grasp ?b ?g)) (Conf ?q2))	
(:stream cfree :out (?t)	
:inp (?t ?b ?p) :cert (and	(Traj ?t)
: dom (and (Traj ?t) (Motion ?q1	?t ?q2)))
(Pose ?b ?p)) (:function (Dist ?t)
:cert (CFree ?t ?b ?p)):dom (Traj3	?t))

- Depth = 0
- For the current dept:
 - Generate achievable optimistic samples
 - Compute an abstract plan using the optimistic samples
 - If no plan found
 - Increase depth and repeat.

We need: (Motion ...) and (Kin ...)

Min depth = 2



(:stream poses (:stream ik
:inp (?b ?r) :inp (?b ?p ?g)
:dom (and (Block ?b) :dom (and
(Region ?r)) (Pose ?b ?p)
: out (?p) (Grasp ?b ?g))
:cert (and (Pose ?b ?p):out (?q)
(Contain ?b ?p ?r))) :cert (and (Conf ?q)
(: stream grasps (Kin ?b ?p ?g ?q)))
:inp (?b) (:stream motion
:dom (Block ?b) :inp (?q1 ?q2)
:out (?g) :dom (and (Conf ?q1)
: cert (Grasp ?b ?g)) (Conf ?q2))
(:stream cfree :out (?t)
:inp (?t ?b ?p) :cert (and (Traj ?t)
:dom (and (Traj ?t) (Motion ?q1 ?t ?q2)))
(Pose ?b ?p)) (:function (Dist ?t)
: cert (CFree ?t ?b ?p)): dom (Tr aj4 ?t))

- Depth = 0
- For the current dept:
 - Generate achievable optimistic samples
 - Compute an abstract plan using the optimistic samples
 - If no plan found
 - Increase dept and repeat.
 - If a plan is found
 - Use streams to instantiate optimistic samples with real values



(Pose ?b ?p))

:cert (CFree ?t ?b ?p)):dom (Traj5 ?t))

(:function (Dist ?t)

- Depth = 0
- For the current dept:
 - Generate achievable optimistic samples
 - Compute an abstract plan using the optimistic samples
 - If no plan found
 - Increase dept and repeat.
 - If a plan is found
 - Use streams to instantiate optimistic samples with real values
 - If no instantiation found
 - Disable stream at the current depth and replan with the same depth



(Pose ?b ?p))

:cert (CFree ?t ?b ?p)):dom (Traik ?t))

(:function (Dist ?t)



Depth = 0G Goal Area **Object** O → For the current dept: Init Area Generate achievable optimistic samples ٠ Compute an abstract plan using the optimistic samples def motion(): If no plan found • Robot R #code to compute IK Increase dept and repeat. ٠ If a plan is found • Use streams to instantiate optimistic ٠ samples with real values (Move #q0 #t0 #q1) (:stream poses (:stream ik (Pick b1 #p0 g #q1) :inp (?b ?r) :inp (?b ?p ?q) If no instantiation found • :dom (and (Block ?b) :dom (and (Region ?r)) (Pose ?b ?p) (Move #q1 #t2 #q2) (Grasp ?b ?g)) Disable stream at the current depth :out (?p) :cert (and (Pose ?b ?p):out (?q) (Place b #p2 g #q2) (Contain ?b ?p ?r))) :cert (and (Conf ?q) depth+=1 and replan with the same depth (:stream grasps (Kin ?b ?p ?g ?q))) :inp (?b) (:stream motion :dom (Block ?b) :inp (?q1 ?q2) :out (?q) :dom (and (Conf ?q1)

:cert (Grasp ?b ?q))

:dom (and (Traj ?t)

:cert (CFree ?t ?b ?p)):dom (Traig ?t))

(:stream cfree

(Pose ?b ?p))

:inp (?t ?b ?p)

(Conf ?q2))

:cert (and (Traj ?t)

(Motion ?q1 ?t ?q2)))

(:function (Dist ?t)

:out (?t)

Forces task planner to give a new plan!!

- Depth = 0
- For the current dept:
 - Generate achievable optimistic samples
 - Compute an abstract plan using the optimistic samples
 - If no plan found
 - Increase dept and repeat.
 - If a plan is found
 - Use streams to instantiate optimistic samples with real values
 - If no instantiation found
 - Disable stream at the current depth and replan with the same depth

To ensure completeness: Adaptively switch between computing new plan and refinements.


PDDLStream: Experiments



PDDLStream: Summary

- Inputs
 - PDDL domain with streams
 - Procedural function for streams -- conditional generators
- Properties
 - Forward search using hybrid representation
 - Probabilistically complete guarantees it by switching between computing refinements and finding new plans
- Key Ideas:
 - C1: through optimistic samples and lazy-querying streams
 - C2: by forcing the planner to generate new plans until it finds a plan that is refinable.

Garrett, C. R., Lozano-Pérez, T., & Kaelbling, L. P. (2020, June). Pddlstream: Integrating symbolic planners and blackbox samplers via optimistic adaptive planning. In *Proceedings of the International Conference on Automated Planning and Scheduling.*

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Symbolic Interface	Dual	Any TP	Any MP	Symbolic	PDDL	Pose generators	Identifying errors
PDDLStream	Dual	Any TP	Any MP	Hybrid	PDDL	optimistic samples	Iterating over all task plans

Limitations

TMP through an extension layer [Srivastava et al. 2014] Incremental TMP [Dantam et al. 2018] PDDLStream [Garrett et al. 2020]

Limitations

TMP through an extension layer [Srivastava et al. 2014] Incremental TMP [Dantam et al. 2018] PDDLStream [Garrett et al. 2020]

What if robot's actions are stochastic?

Task and Motion Planning Under Uncertainty



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STAMP

High-level domain: classical planning PDDL domain
 PPDDL domain for a stochastic shortest path problem

Shah, N., Vasudevan, D. K., Kumar, K., Kamojjhala, P., & Srivastava, S. (2020, May). Anytime integrated task and motion policies for stochastic environments. In 2020 IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)

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- High-level domain: classical planning PDDL domain
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- Use an SSP solver to compute a branching policy



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- High-level domain: classical planning PDDL domain
 PPDDL domain for a stochastic shortest path problem
- Use an SSP solver to compute a branching policy
- Refine the plan to compute task and motion plan Refine the entire policy to compute task and motion policy



STAMP: Dealing with #branches

• Too many branches: Waiting to refine the entire policy tree would be inefficient



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Theorem: Let t be the time since the start of the algorithm at which the refinement of any RTL path is completed. If path costs are accurate and constant then the total probability of unrefined paths at time t is at most I - opt(t) / 2, where opt(t) is the best possible refinement that could have been achieved in time t.



STAMP: HPlan Algorithm



STAMP: HPlan Algorithm

The overall algorithm works as follows:

- Select a node from PRG.
- Compute an abstract policy.
- Select one of the following:
 - Explore
 - Expand the PRG

Repeat until a policy is fully refined in one of the PRG nodes.



STAMP: Why a New Refinement Algorithm?

Time-based switching between nodes allows maintaining multiple abstract models and prevents getting stuck into a single abstract model.

Theorem: If there exists a proper policy that reaches the goal within horizon h with probability p, and has feasible low-level refinement, then the algorithm will find it with probability 1.0 in the limit of infinite samples.



STAMP: Experiments

- Problem: build a desired structure using Keva planks.
 - Target design is expressed as a goal condition
- Stochasticity:
 - User may place the plank on one of two different locations
- Robot: Yumi IRB 14000











STAMP: Summary

- Inputs
 - PPDDL domain with references instead of continuous values and possibly stochastic actions
 - Generators for instantiating references
 - Subroutines for infeasibility detection and expression, given a motion plan
- Properties
 - Handles Stochasticity
 - + all the properties of "TMP using Interface layer"
- How does it handle P1: through symbolic references, forward-search, and lazily invoking the motion planner
- How does it handle P2: by communicating errors to the high-level planner and computing new plans

Shah, N., Vasudevan, D. K., Kumar, K., Kamojjhala, P., & Srivastava, S. (2020, May). Anytime integrated task and motion policies for stochastic environments. In 2020 IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)

High-Level Summary

	Search Space	High Level Planner	Low Level Reasoning	High-level	High Level Language	P1: Infinite Motion Plans	P2: Downward Refinability	Stochastic
aSyMov	Single	Any TP	PRM/RRT	Symbolic	PDDL	N/A	N/A	No
HPN	Dual	HPN-specific regression planner	Any MP	Hybrid	HPN- specific	generators	Regression over geometric fluents	No
IDTMP	Dual	SMT	Any MP	Variables with continuous domains	SAS	SMT	SMT	No
Symbolic Interface	Dual	Any TP	Any MP	Symbolic	PDDL	Pose generators	Identifying errors	No
PDDLStream	Dual	Any TP	Any MP	Hybrid	PDDL	optimistic samples	lterating over all task plans	No
STAMP	Dual	Any TP	Any MP	Symbolic	PPDDL	Pose generators	Identifying errors	Yes

Limitations

Approach	Input
aSyMov	PDDL
IDTMP	PDDL + module to convert symbolic action to motion planning problems
HPN	Action descriptions + preimage for each action
Symbolic Interface	PDDL + generators
PDDLStream	PDDL + streams (generators)
STAMP	PDDL + generators

Limitations

Approach	Input			
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Symbolic Interface	PDDL + generators			
PDDLStream	PDDL + streams (generators)			
STAMP	PDDL + generators			
ιγ	J			
Ì	Requires			
	1) State abstractions			
	2) Action abstractions			
	3) Action descriptions			
	4) Samples or generators			

Outline

- 1. Background: Why Task and Motion Planning?
- 2. Abstraction as a Foundation for TMP
- 3. Abstraction-based Approaches
- 4. Research Frontier: Neuro-Symbolic Learning for TMP

What needs to be learned?

- 1. State abstractions
- 2. Temporal abstractions
 - 1. Identifying actions
 - 2. Learning action descriptions
- 3. Learning samplers / generators for action refinements

Learning State Abstractions Given High-level Actions

Skills-to-Symbols

- Core idea: Learned symbolic model in a PDDL representation
- Input: State variables with low-level continuous values
- Output: A symbolic PDDL model
- What is given:
 - Options masks -- set of low-level state variables relevant to an option
 - Abstract goal options -- Options that achieves termination sets with probability 1.0 expressed using only relevant state variables

Skills-to-symbols



Variables

 $s_1 = Pose_r = Robot pose$

 $s_2 = Pose_o = Object pose$

 $s_3 = Attached =$ Whether the object is picked or not



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$o_1 = \text{Move (r)}$: <i>s</i> ₁	// moves the robot
$o_2 = \text{Grab}$ (o).	: <i>s</i> ₁ , <i>s</i> ₂	// grabs the object
$o_3 = UnGrab(o).$: <i>s</i> ₁ , <i>s</i> ₂	// releases the object
$o_4 = \text{Transport}(o)$: <i>s</i> ₁ , <i>s</i> ₃	// moves the object



Variables

 $s_1 = Pose_r = Robot pose$ $s_2 = Pose_o = Object pose$ $s_3 = Attached = Whether the object is picked or not$

Options

ct
oject
ct



Variable	Option	
<i>s</i> ₁	o_1, o_4	
<i>S</i> ₂	<i>0</i> ₂ , <i>0</i> ₃	
<i>S</i> ₃	04	

Variables

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	Variable	Option
f_1	<i>s</i> ₁	<i>0</i> ₁ , <i>0</i> ₄
f_2	<i>s</i> ₂	<i>0</i> ₂ , <i>0</i> ₃
f_3	S ₃	04

Variables

 $s_1 = Pose_r = Robot pose$ $s_2 = Pose_o = Object pose$ $s_3 = Attached = Whether the object is picked or not$

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	Variable	Option
с 1	<i>s</i> ₁	<i>0</i> ₁ , <i>0</i> ₄
r 2	<i>S</i> ₂	<i>0</i> ₂ , <i>0</i> ₃
с З	S ₃	04

Simple case!!



F	actor	State Variables	Options
	f_1	s_1, s_2	<i>o</i> ₁
	f_2	s_3	o_1,o_2
	f_3	s_4	02
	f_4	s_5	o_2, o_3
	f_5	s_6, s_7	03

Skills-to-symbols: Assigning Propositions



Identify propositions:

- 1. Identify independent factors -- factors that can be used to decompose the effect create a proposition for each independent factor
- 2. For the remaining collection of factor -- create a proposition

Skills-to-symbols: Learning Symbolic Operators

- For each option:
 - Identify the added and removed propositions in the effect set (termination set)
 - Identify the propositions in the propositions in the initiation set


Skills-to-symbols: Example



Skills-to-symbols: Example



High-Level Summary

	Abstract States	Abstract Actions	Low-level behaviors	Samplers	C-Space changes
Skills to Symbols	Learned	Input	Input	Input	Yes

Learning High-Level Actions Given State Abstractions

Learning Symbolic Operators

- Core idea: Learn descriptions (precondition and effects) of high-level actions for task and motion planning
- What is provided:
 - State abstractions -- predicates and interpretation of predicates
 - Controllers -- low-level behaviors parameterized by typed objects
 - Samplers -- generators for discretizing high-level arguments
 - Data -- $\{x_i, a_i, x_{i+1}\}$ for a set of training tasks

Silver, T., Chitnis, R., Tenenbaum, J., Kaelbling, L. P., & Lozano-Pérez, T. (2021, September). Learning symbolic operators for task and motion planning. In 2021 IEEE/RSJ International 203 Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS)





2.







TMP with Learned High-level Actions

Abstract states

TMP framework requires:

Abstract actions Low-level behaviors / motion planner Samplers / generators

TMP with Learned High-level Actions

Abstract states -- Input

TMP framework requires:

Abstract actions -- Learned Low-level behaviors / motion planner -- Input Samplers / generators -- Input

High-Level Summary

	Abstract States	Abstract Actions	Low-level behaviors	Samplers	C-Space changes
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Silver et al . 2021	Input	Learned	Input	Input	Yes

Learning NSRTs

- Core idea: learn high-level abstract actions in the form of NSRTs
- NSRTs = Neuro-symbolic relational transitions
- NSRTs include:
 - High-level action components: parameters, preconditions, effects
 - Low-level reactive policy: $\pi(a|x)$
- What is provided:
 - Predicates -- state abstraction
 - $f: X \times A \rightarrow X$ a known low-level deterministic transition function

Silver, T., Athalye, A., Tenenbaum, J. B., Lozano-Pérez, T., & Kaelbling, L. P. (2023, March). Learning Neuro-Symbolic Skills for 212 Bilevel Planning. In *Conference on Robot Learning*. PMLR

Learning NSRTs: Overall Approach



Learning NSRTs: Creating Data Partitions and Effects

What is given? Data Predicates x_0, a_1, x_1 At(?o – obj ?a –area)

	· J
	RobotAt(?a – area)
x_{n-1} , a_n , x_n	Holding(?o – obj)





Learning NSRTs: Creating Data Partitions and Effects



Learning NSRTs: Learning Preconditions



Learning NSRTs: Reactive Low-Level Policy





High-Level Summary

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Silver et al . 202 I	Input	Learned	Input	Input	Yes
Silver et al . 2022	Input	Learned	Learned	Learned	Yes

Learning State and Action Abstractions

HARP: A Neuro-Symbolic Motion Planner

- Core idea: Learn to zero-shot create state and action abstractions simultaneously using *critical regions*
- What is provided?
 - A set of training environments
 - A random problem generators (random initial and goal configuration)
 - A motion planner
- What is learned?
 - A method to zero-shot create state and action abstractions for unseen environments

Critical Regions

Given a class of motion planning problem M, criticality of an open set r in the C-space:

 $\mu(r) = \lim_{s_n \to +v} \frac{f(r)}{v(s_n)}$

f(x) = fraction of solution plans that pass through x // captures hubs v(x) = measure of x under uniform sampling density //captures bottlenecks. [Molina et al., 2020, ICRA]





HARP: Learning to Zero-Shot Predict CRs



HARP: Training Data



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HARP: Learning to Zero-Shot Predict CRs

n =#degrees of freedom (DOFs)

k = #DOFs that are not determined by the end-effector's location in the workspace end-effector = base link for navigation end-effector = gripper link for manipulation





 Given a robot and new environment, Predict CRs



 Given a robot and new environment, Predict CRs

Construct Voronoi diagrams around CRs



 Given a robot and new environment, Predict CRs
Construct Voronoi diagrams around CRs

Abstract states = Voronoi cells

2D projection of RBVDs



 Given a robot and new environment, Predict CRs Construct Voronoi diagrams around CRs

Abstract states = Voronoi cells Abstract actions = transitions between abstract states

2D projection of RBVDs

HARP: Hierarchical Motion Planning



2D projection of RBVDs

Given a robot and new environment,
Predict CRs
Construct Voronoi diagrams around CRs

Abstract states = Voronoi cells Abstract actions = transitions between abstract states

Hierarchical motion planning using: a high-level multi-source bi-directional beam search

a multi-source multi-directional LLP mp

HARP: Experiments



HARP: Experiments



SHARP: What if Robot Dynamics are Stochastic?

Objective: Compute a motion plan

Compute a motion policy

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SHARP: Experiments



SHARP: Results

SHARP performs well (times include creation of state and action abstractions). Next-best: RRT-replan! Other baselines struggle to learn Hypothesis: not suited for stochasticity, long horizons, sparse rewards



SHARP: Results



Bars indicate solution length in number of steps (lower is better) Pies indicate % success (darker is better)

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Silver et al . 2022	Input	Learned	Learned	Learned	Yes
HARP/ SHARP	Learned	Learned	Learned / Computed	Learned	No

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What next?

Open Questions

• Stochasticity at the low-level





Open Questions

- Stochasticity at the low-level
- Partial observability



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Open Questions

- Stochasticity at the low-level
- Partial observability
- Learning abstractions for TMP -- What if **neither state nor actions** are not provided?



Temporal Abstraction ≡ Abstract Actions, Macros, Options...

State Abstraction

Open Questions

- Stochasticity at the low-level
- Partial observability
- Learning abstractions for TMP -- What if state **and** actions are not provided?
- Orthogonal direction: Pose estimation (understanding low-level observational data)

