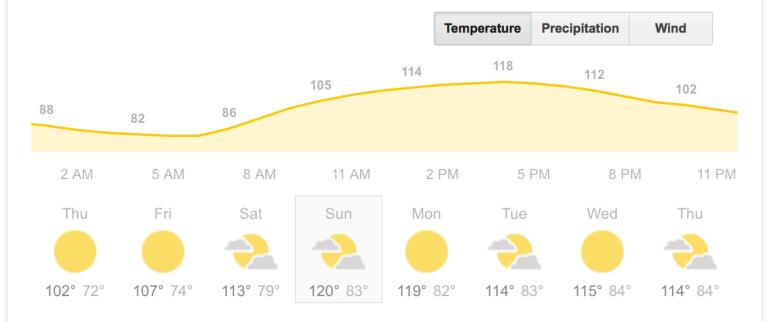
#### MINIMALITY IN MULTI-ROBOT SYSTEMS

Yu ("Tony") Zhang Arizona State University

## Tempe, AZ 85283 Sunday Partly Cloudy



Precipitation: 0% Humidity: 5% Wind: 10 mph



#### **Excessive Heat Warning**

**Central Arizona** 

9 hours ago - National Weather Service

remains in effect from 10 AM MST /10 AM pdt/ Sunday to 9 PM MST /9 PM pdt/ Wednesday ... Temperature: highs Sunday and Monday of 115 to 120 degrees ... illness will be likely ...

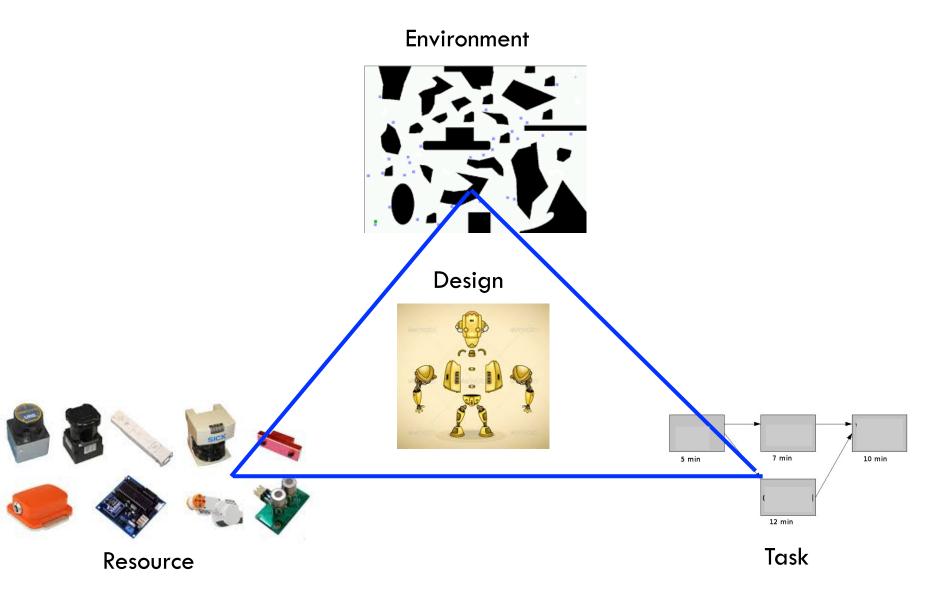


Very Good

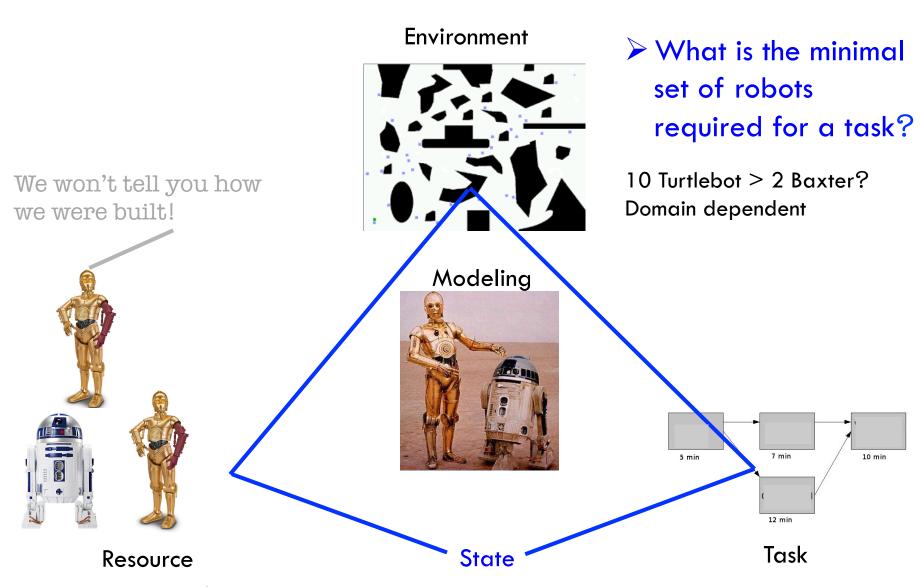
#### During AAAI 2016 in winter!

| 7                                      | 8                                      | 9                               | 10                              | 11                              | 12                              | 13                              |
|--|--|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
|  |  |                                 |                                 |                                 |                                 |                                 |
| Actual Temp                            | Actual Temp                            | Actual Temp                     | Actual Temp                     | Actual Temp                     | Actual Temp                     | Actual Temp                     |
| <b>79°</b> Lo 47°                      | 85° <sub>Lo</sub> 50°                  | 86° <sub>Lo</sub> 59°           | 86° <sub>Lo</sub> 54°           | 85° <sub>Lo 55°</sub>           | 87° <sub>Lo 55°</sub>           | 87° <sub>Lo 53°</sub>           |
| Hist. Avg. <b>70°</b> Lo <b>48°</b>    | Hist. Avg. <b>70°</b> Lo <b>48°</b>    | Hist. Avg. 70° Lo 48°           | Hist. Avg. 70° Lo 48°           | Hist. Avg.<br><b>70° Lo 48°</b> | Hist. Avg. 70° Lo 48°           | Hist. Avg.<br><b>70° Lo 48°</b> |
| 14                                     | 15                                     | 16                              | 17                              | 18                              | 19                              | 20                              |
|  |  |                                 |                                 |                                 |                                 |                                 |
| Actual Temp                            | Actual Temp                            | Actual Temp                     | Actual Temp                     | Actual Temp                     | Actual Temp                     | Actual Temp                     |
| 82° Lo 52°                             | 85° Lo 52°                             | 87° <sub>Lo</sub> 55°           | 90° <sub>Lo</sub> 57°           | 82° Lo 57°                      | 81° Lo 59°                      | 86° <sub>Lo</sub> 54°           |
| Hist. Avg.<br><b>70°</b> Lo <b>48°</b> | Hist. Avg.<br><b>71°</b> Lo <b>49°</b> | Hist. Avg.<br><b>71° Lo 49°</b> | Hist. Avg.<br><b>72° Lo 50°</b> |

## Minimality in single-robot systems



## What is minimality in multi-robot systems?

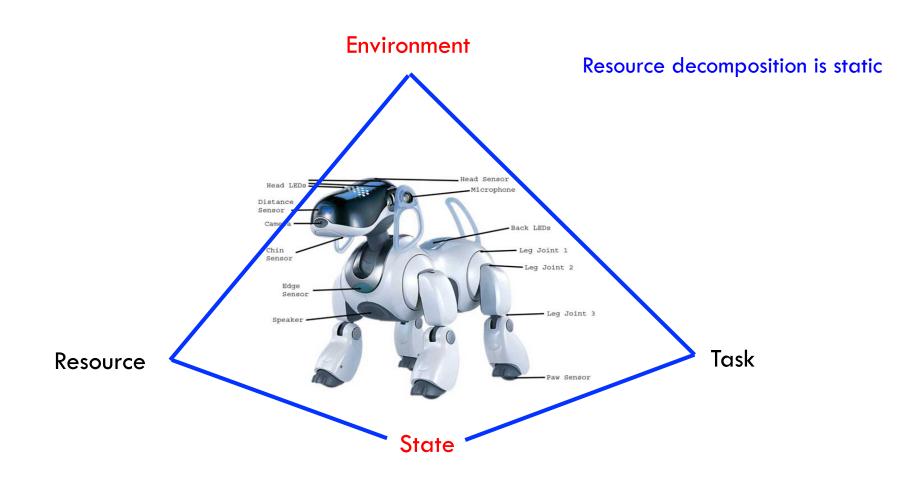


Important for task allocation and scheduling etc.

- 1. Agent functional (capability) representation
  - a. Resource, action, behavior based decompositions
- 2. Minimal set of robots for action based agent decomposition
- 3. Minimal set of robots for mixed agent decompositions

- Agent functional (capability) representation
   Resource, action, behavior based decompositions
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# Resource based agent functional decomposition



#### Action and behavior based agent functional

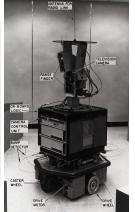
decomposition

Proactive agent

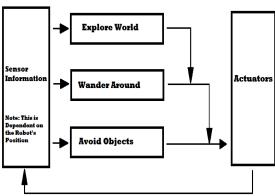
Sensors
What the world is like now
What my actions do
What it will be like if I do action A

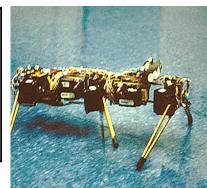
What action I

should do now



Reactive agent





- ➤ Atomic: MDP/POMDP
- Factored: STRIPS, RDDL,

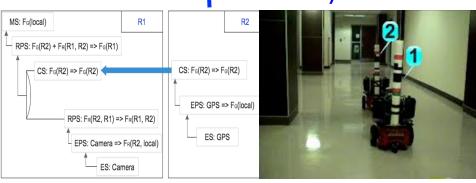
#### HTN

Goals

Agent

- World model
- Non-local
- Goal-oriented
- Interpretable





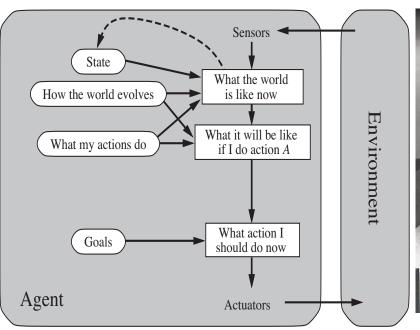
- Subsumption
- Motor Schema based
  - Simplicity
  - Computationally tractable
    - Robust against failures

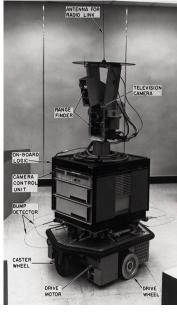
- > Layered architecture
  - Automatic composition and flexible coordination
  - Information sharing

Agent with mixed decompositions

- 1. Agent functional (capability) representation
  - a. Resource, action, behavior based decompositions
- 2. Minimal set of robots for action based agent decomposition
- 3. Minimal set of robots for mixed agent decompositions

### Action based agent decomposition





- ➤ Atomic: MDP/POMDP
- Factored: STRIPS, RDDL, HTN
  - World model
  - Non-local
  - Goal-oriented
  - Interpretable

Expensive representation PSPACE-complete

What is the minimal set of robots required for a task?

#### Simplifications:

Sequential action









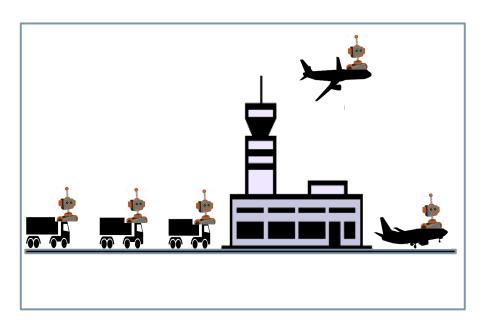


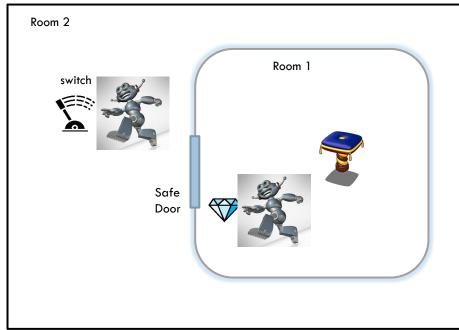
• Instantaneous execution (<del>deadline</del>)

## What causes required cooperation

What is the minimal set of robots required for a task? Simplifications:

- Sequential action
- Instantaneous execution





The analysis of the causes of required cooperation allows us to provide upper bounds

- 1. Agent functional (capability) representation
  - a. Resource, action, behavior based decompositions
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## Agent with mixed decompositions



- Layered architecture,
  - Automatic composition and flexible coordination
  - Information sharing

E.g., IQ-ASyMTRe

Built upon motor schema based architecture

> What is the minimal set of robots required for a task?

No world model – environment and state must be considered based only on local information, which together forms a team quality measure



Combine local information to form team quality measure





E.g., coverage, uncertainty etc.

Team quality measure provides answers in dynamic environment using only local information

## Summary

- 1. Agent functional (capability) representation
  - a. Resource, action, behavior based decompositions
- 2. Minimal set of robots for action based decomposition
- The analysis of the causes of required cooperation allows us to provide upper bounds
- 3. Minimal set of robots for mixed agent decomposition
- Team quality measure provides answers in dynamic environment using only local information