Heuristics

Tutorial: An Introduction to Hierarchical Task Network (HTN) Planning

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ulm university universität **UUU**



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Overview Part II

Solving HTN Planning Problems

Search-based Approaches

- Plan Space Search
- Progression Search
- Compilation-based Approaches
 - Compilations to STRIPS/ADL
 - Compilations to SAT
- Heuristics for Heuristic Search
 - TDG-based Heuristics
 - Relaxed Composition Heuristics

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Further Hierarchical Planning Formalisms

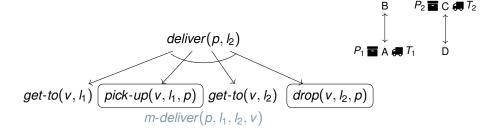


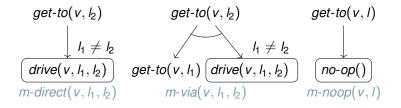
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Example Domain







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HTN Plan Space Search

Overview Part II

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Further Hierarchical Planning Formalisms



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HTN Plan Space Search

- Search bases upon Partial-Order Causal-Link (POCL) planning
 - extended to deal with task decomposition



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 - open precondition flaw (t, oc): the precondition oc of the task t is still open or unprotected, i.e., no causal link protects it yet



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 - compound task flaw t: the task t is compound, i.e., not decomposed yet
 - open precondition flaw (t, oc): the precondition oc of the task t is still open or unprotected, i.e., no causal link protects it yet
 - causal treat flaw $t_{t}'(t', c, t'')$: there is a causal link between t' and t'' protecting the condition c and the ordering constraints allow t to be ordered between t' and t'', i.e., t' < t < t'' and c is a delete effect of t.



HTN Plan Space Search

Flaws in Partial Plans

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 $get-to(T_1,B)$

Modifications for compound task flaws:

Decompose the compound task (one modification for each method)

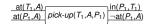


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Flaws in Partial Plans



Modifications for open precondition flaws:

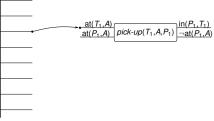


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Flaws in Partial Plans



Modifications for open precondition flaws:

 Insert a causal link from existing plan step (one modification for each possible producer)

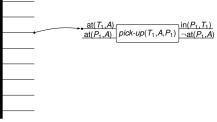


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Flaws in Partial Plans



Modifications for open precondition flaws:

- Insert a causal link from existing plan step (one modification for each possible producer)
- Decompose a compound task if it has a sub task with a compatible effect (one modification for each method that has a compatible sub task)

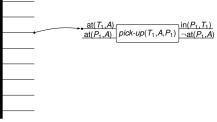


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Flaws in Partial Plans



Modifications for open precondition flaws:

- Insert a causal link from existing plan step (one modification for each possible producer)
- Decompose a compound task if it has a sub task with a compatible effect (one modification for each method that has a compatible sub task)
- Insert a causal link from a newly inserted task (one modification for each possible producer) – only if task insertion is allowed!

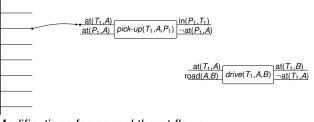


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Flaws in Partial Plans



Modifications for causal threat flaws:



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Flaws in Partial Plans



Modifications for *causal threat flaws*:

 Move the threatening task before the producer of the threatened link, called *demotion* (not possible here)

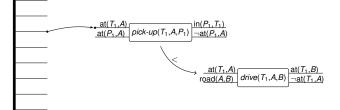


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Flaws in Partial Plans



Modifications for *causal threat flaws*:

- Move the threatening task before the producer of the threatened link, called *demotion* (not possible here)
- Move the threatening task behind the consumer of the threatened link, called *promotion*



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HTN Plan Space Search

Plan Space-based Search – Basic Characteristics (Cont'd)

 Partial plans (as well as solutions) are only partially ordered, thus compactly representing many linearizations



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- Search works both top-down (decomposition of compound tasks) as well as backwards (goal-directed causal link establishment)



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- Search works in a two-step way:
 - Select a most-promising plan (via standard search strategies)



- Partial plans (as well as solutions) are only partially ordered, thus compactly representing many linearizations
- Search works both top-down (decomposition of compound tasks) as well as backwards (goal-directed causal link establishment)
- Search works in a two-step way:
 - Select a most-promising plan (via standard search strategies)
 - Then, select a flaw (this is not(!) a backtrack point) and branch over all possibilities to resolve it
- Follows the principle of least commitment



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HTN Plan Space Search

Standard Plan Space-based Algorithm

Input : $fringe = \{P_{init}\}$ Output : A solution plan or fail. 1 while $fringe \neq \emptyset$ do 2 P := PlanSel(fringe)3 F := FlawDet(P)4 if $F = \emptyset$ then return P 5 f := FlawSel(F)6 $fringe := (fringe \setminus \{P\})$ 7 $\cup Successors(P, f)$



HTN Plan Space Search

Standard Plan Space-based Algorithm

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 $\label{eq:input} \begin{array}{ll} \mbox{Input} & : \textit{fringe} = \{\textit{P}_{\rm init}\} \\ \mbox{Output} : A \mbox{ solution plan or fail.} \end{array}$

- 8 return fail

Initial partial plan *P*_{init} equals the initial task network preceded by an artificial task encoding the initial state



HTN Plan Space Search

Standard Plan Space-based Algorithm

Input : $fringe = \{P_{init}\}$ **Output** : A solution plan or fail.

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- Initial partial plan P_{init} equals the initial task network preceded by an artificial task encoding the initial state
- Search nodes contain partial plans of the form (*T*, ≺, *α*, *CL*)

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Standard Plan Space-based Algorithm

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- Fringe is sorted according to some heuristic
- **F** is a the set of all flaws of the current partial plan
- FlawSel selects (not a backtrack point!) a flaw according to a flaw selection strategy

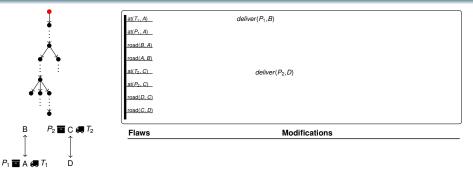


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Standard Plan Space-based Algorithm



Input : $fringe = \{P_{init}\}$ Output : A solution plan or fail.

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- F := FlawDet(P)
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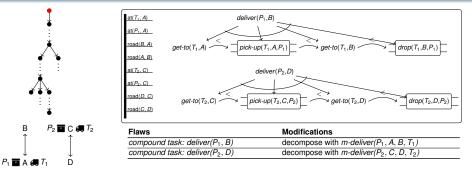
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$$fringe := (fringe \setminus \{P\})$$

$$\cup$$
 Successors(P, f)

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HTN Plan Space Search

Standard Plan Space-based Algorithm



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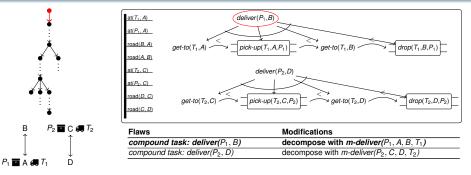
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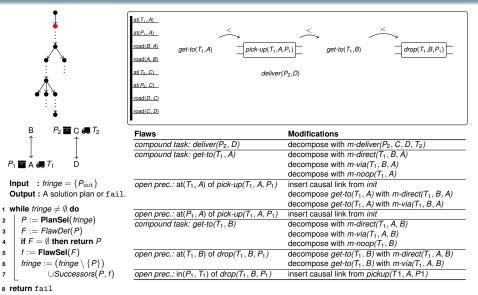
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Standard Plan Space-based Algorithm



HTN Plan Space Search

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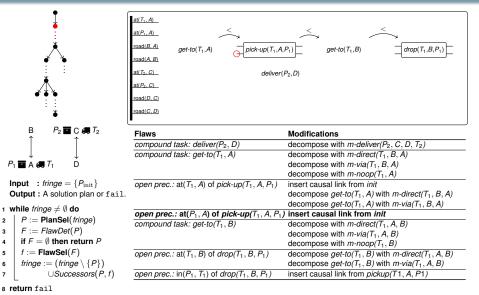
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Standard Plan Space-based Algorithm



HTN Plan Space Search

Standard Plan Space-based Algorithm

_		
	at(T,.A) at(P,.A) road(B,A) get-to(T_1,A) it(T_2,C) at(P_2,C) road(C,D)	
B P2 🖬 C 🚚 T2	Flaws	Modifications
Î Î	compound task: deliver(P_2 , D)	decompose with <i>m</i> -deliver(P_2, C, D, T_2)
	compound task: get-to(T_1 , A)	decompose with <i>m</i> -direct(T_1, B, A)
$P_1 \blacksquare A = T_1 \qquad D$		decompose with m -via (T_1, B, A)
		decompose with m -noop(T_1, A)
Input : $fringe = \{P_{init}\}$	open prec.: at(T_1 , A) of pick-up(T_1 , A , P_1)	insert causal link from <i>init</i>
Output : A solution plan or fail.		decompose $get-to(T_1, A)$ with m -direct(T_1, B, A)
•		decompose $get-to(T_1, A)$ with $m-via(T_1, B, A)$
1 while fringe $\neq \emptyset$ do	compound task: get-to(T_1 , B)	decompose with m -direct(T_1, A, B)
2 P := PlanSel(fringe)		decompose with m -via (T_1, A, B)
F := FlawDet(P)		decompose with m -noop (T_1, B)
4 if $F = \emptyset$ then return P	open prec.: at(T_1 , B) of drop(T_1 , B , P_1)	decompose get-to(T_1 , B) with m-direct(T_1 , A, B)
5 f := FlawSel(F)		decompose get-to(T_1 , B) with m-via(T_1 , A, B)
6 $fringe := (fringe \setminus \{P\})$	open prec.: in(P_1 , T_1) of drop(T_1 , B , P_1)	insert causal link from pickup(T1, A, P1)
\cup Successors(P, f)		

8 return fail

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HTN Plan Space Search

Standard Plan Space-based Algorithm

	attT.,A) attF,A) toactB,A) get-to(T1,A) pick-up(T1,A) pick-up(T1,A) attTs_C) deliver(attR_C,C) road(D,C) road(C,D)	
B P2 🖬 C 🚚 T2	Flaws	Modifications
\uparrow \uparrow	compound task: deliver(P ₂ , D)	decompose with <i>m</i> -deliver(P_2, C, D, T_2)
	compound task: get-to(T_1 , A)	decompose with <i>m</i> -direct(T_1, B, A)
$P_1 \equiv A = T_1 \qquad D$		decompose with m -via (T_1, B, A)
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Output : A solution plan or fail.		decompose get-to(T_1 , A) with m-direct(T_1 , B, A)
		decompose $get-to(T_1, A)$ with $m-via(T_1, B, A)$
while fringe $\neq \emptyset$ do	compound task: get-to(T_1 , B)	decompose with m -direct(T_1, A, B)
P := PlanSel (<i>fringe</i>)	3 (1)	decompose with m -via (T_1, A, B)
F := FlawDet(P)		decompose with m -noop (T_1, B)
if $F = \emptyset$ then return P	open prec.: at(T_1 , B) of drop(T_1 , B , P_1)	decompose get-to(T_1 , B) with m-direct(T_1 , A, B)
f := FlawSel(F)		decompose $get-to(T_1, B)$ with $m-via(T_1, A, B)$
fringe := (fringe $\setminus \{P\}$)	open prec.: in (P_1, T_1) of drop (T_1, B, P_1)	insert causal link from pickup(T1, A, P1)
\cup Successors(P, f)		

8 return fail

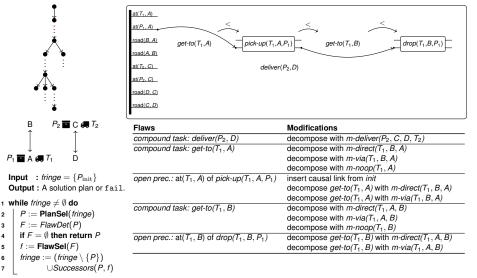
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HTN Plan Space Search

Standard Plan Space-based Algorithm



a return fail

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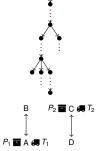
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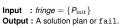
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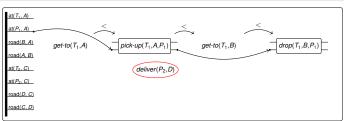
1 while fringe $\neq \emptyset$ do

4 if
$$F = \emptyset$$
 then return P

5
$$f := FlawSel(F)$$

$$\begin{array}{c|c} \mathbf{6} & fringe := (fringe \setminus \{P\}) \\ \mathbf{7} & \cup Successors(P, P) \end{array}$$

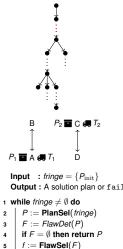
$$\cup$$
 Successors(P, f)



Flaws	Modifications
compound task: deliver(P2, D)	decompose with <i>m</i> -deliver(P ₂ , C, D, T ₂)
compound task: get-to(T_1, A)	decompose with <i>m</i> -direct(T ₁ , B, A)
	decompose with m -via (T_1, B, A)
	decompose with m -noop(T_1, A)
open prec.: $at(T_1, A)$ of pick-up (T_1, A, P_1)	insert causal link from init
	decompose get-to(T_1 , A) with m-direct(T_1 , B, A)
	decompose get-to(T_1 , A) with m-via(T_1 , B, A)
compound task: get-to(T ₁ , B)	decompose with <i>m</i> -direct(T ₁ , A, B)
	decompose with <i>m-via</i> (<i>T</i> ₁ , <i>A</i> , <i>B</i>)
	decompose with m -noop(T_1, B)
open prec.: at(T_1 , B) of drop(T_1 , B , P_1)	decompose get-to(T_1 , B) with m-direct(T_1 , A, B)
	decompose get-to(T_1 , B) with m-via(T_1 , A, B)

HTN Plan Space Search

Standard Plan Space-based Algorithm



fringe := (fringe $\setminus \{P\}$)

 \cup Successors(P, f)

ſ	at(T ₁ , A)	
	at(P ₁ , A)	\leq
	$\frac{road(B,A)}{get-to(T_1,A)} = pick-up(T_1,A)$	(P_1) get-to(T_1, B) $drop(T_1, B, P_1)$
	road(A, B)	
	$\operatorname{at}(T_2, C)$	
	at(P ₂ , C) <	\sim
	road(D, C) get-to(T ₂ ,C) pick-up(T	$[z,C,P_2]$ get-to(T_2,D) $[drop(T_2,D,P_2)]$
	road(C, D)	
C	Flaws	Modifications
	compound task: get-to(T_1 , A)	decompose with m -direct(T_1, B, A)
		decompose with m -via (T_1, B, A)
		decompose with m -noop(T_1, A)
	open prec.: at(T_1 , A) of pick-up(T_1 , A , P_1)	insert causal link from init
		decompose get-to(T_1 , A) with m-direct(T_1 , B, A)
L.		decompose get-to(T_1 , A) with m-via(T_1 , B, A)
	compound task: get-to(T1, B)	decompose with <i>m</i> -direct(T ₁ , A, B)
		decompose with <i>m</i> -via(T ₁ , A, B)
		decompose with m -noop(T_1, B)
	open prec.: at(T_1 , B) of drop(T_1 , B , P_1)	decompose get-to(T_1 , B) with m-direct(T_1 , A, B)
		decompose get-to(T ₁ , B) with m-via(T ₁ , A, B)

8 return fail

5

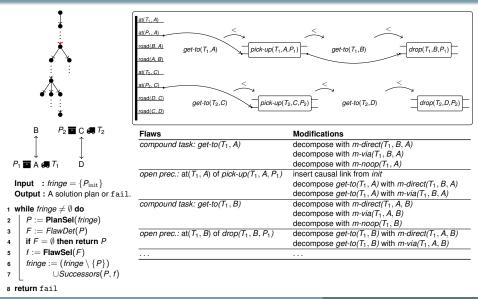
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Standard Plan Space-based Algorithm



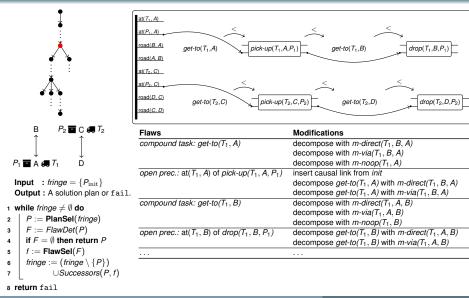
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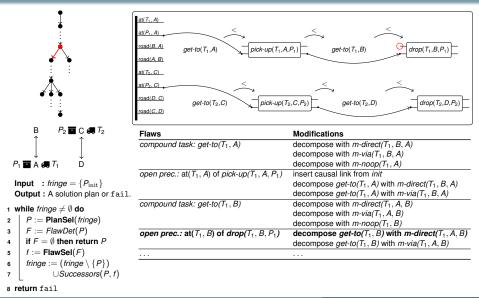


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Standard Plan Space-based Algorithm

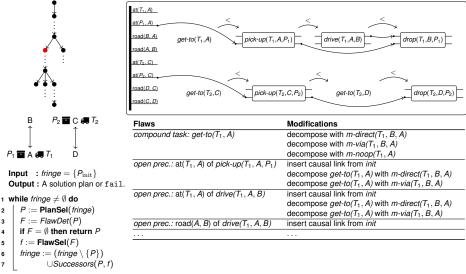


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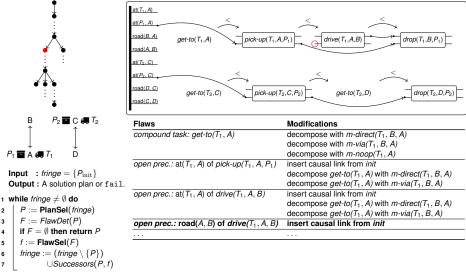


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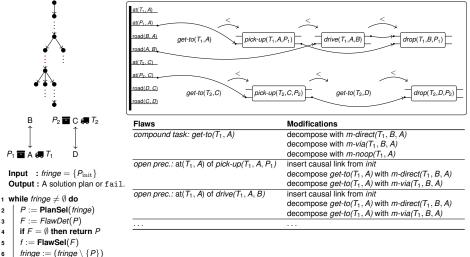
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- 6 \cup Successors(P, f)
- a return fail

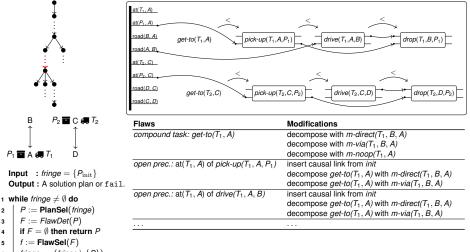
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Standard Plan Space-based Algorithm



fringe := (fringe $\setminus \{P\}$)

a return fail

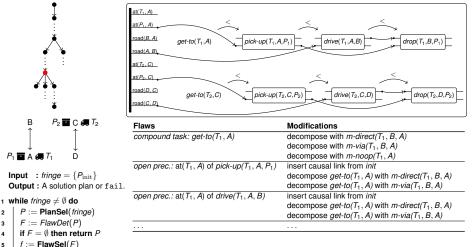
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Standard Plan Space-based Algorithm



5 $fringe := (fringe \setminus \{P\})$

a return fail

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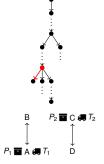
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HTN Plan Space Search

Standard Plan Space-based Algorithm



Input :
$$fringe = \{P_{init}\}$$

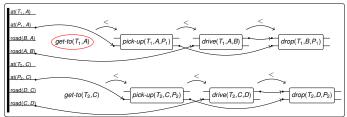
Output : A solution plan or fail.

1 while fringe
$$\neq \emptyset$$
 do

4 if
$$F = \emptyset$$
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 Successors(P, f)



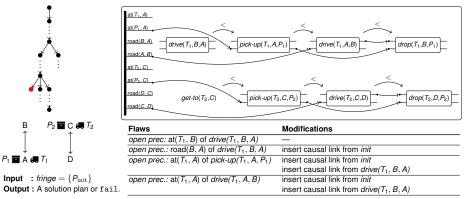
Flaws	Modifications
compound task: get-to(T1, A)	decompose with <i>m</i> -direct(T_1, B, A)
	decompose with <i>m-via</i> (<i>T</i> ₁ , <i>B</i> , <i>A</i>)
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open prec.: at(T_1 , A) of pick-up(T_1 , A , P_1)	insert causal link from init
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open prec.: at(T_1 , A) of drive(T_1 , A , B)	insert causal link from init
	decompose get-to(T_1 , A) with m-direct(T_1 , B, A)
	decompose get-to(T_1 , A) with m -via(T_1 , B , A)

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Standard Plan Space-based Algorithm



1 while fringe $\neq \emptyset$ do

$$F := FlawDet(P)$$

4 if
$$F = \emptyset$$
 then return P

5
$$f := FlawSel(F)$$

6
$$fringe := (fringe \setminus \{P\})$$

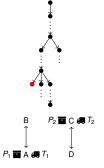
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 Successors(P, f)

Heuristics

Excursion 0000000000000

HTN Plan Space Search

Standard Plan Space-based Algorithm



Input : $fringe = \{P_{init}\}$ Output : A solution plan or fail.

1 while fringe $\neq \emptyset$ do

$$F := FlawDet(P)$$

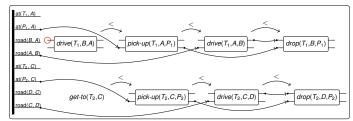
4 if
$$F = \emptyset$$
 then return P

5
$$f := FlawSel(F)$$

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$$fringe := (fringe \setminus \{P\})$$

$$\forall \cup Successors(P, f)$$

8 return fail



Flaws	Modifications
open prec: at(T ₁ , B) of drive(T ₁ , B, A)	_
open prec.: road(B, A) of drive(T_1, B, A)	insert causal link from init
open prec.: at(T_1 , A) of pick-up(T_1 , A , P_1)	insert causal link from init
	insert causal link from drive(T1, B, A)
open prec.: at(T_1 , A) of drive(T_1 , A, B)	insert causal link from init
	insert causal link from $drive(T_1, B, A)$

This partial plan can be discarded, because it has a flaw without modifications

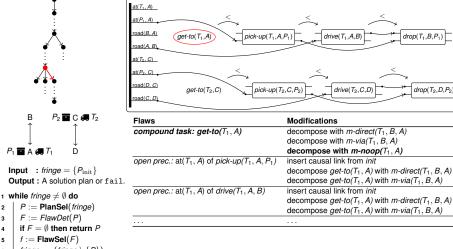
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 $drop(T_1,B,P_1)$

 $drop(T_2, D, P_2)$

HTN Plan Space Search

Standard Plan Space-based Algorithm



fringe := (fringe $\setminus \{P\}$)

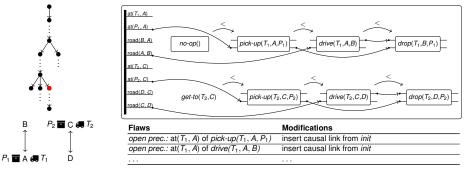
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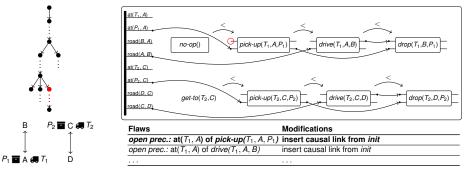
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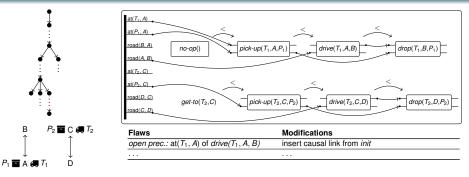
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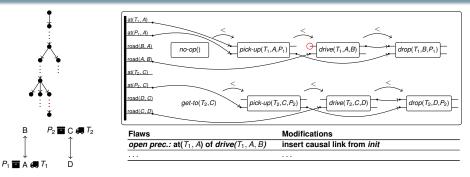
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Heuristics

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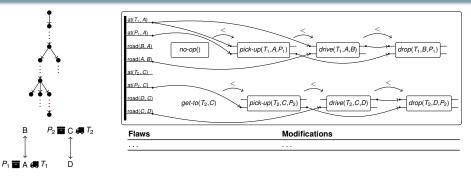
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Heuristics

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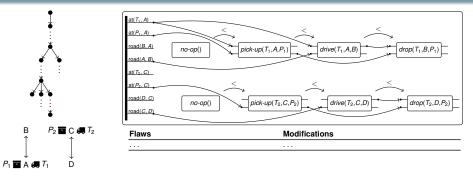
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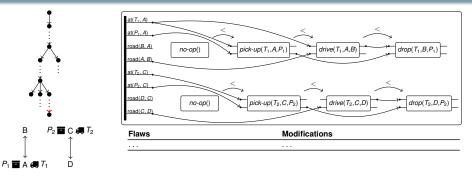
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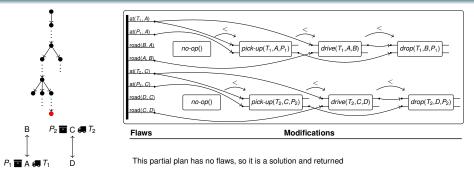
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Heuristics

Excursion 0000000000000

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Input : fringe = \{P_{init}\}
Output : A solution plan or fail.
```

```
1 while fringe \neq \emptyset do
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$$\forall \cup Successors(P, f)$$

HTN Plan Space Search

Plan Space-based Search – Properties

Heuristics

Excursion

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Plan Space-based search is sound

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HTN Plan Space Search

Plan Space-based Search – Properties

- Plan Space-based search is sound
- ... and complete (completeness only depends on the plan selection function (fringe sorting), but not on the flaw selection function)



HTN Plan Space Search

Plan Space-based Search – Properties

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- ... and complete (completeness only depends on the plan selection function (fringe sorting), but not on the flaw selection function)
- There is no current state during search (the initial state is never changed)



HTN Plan Space Search

Plan Space-based Search - Properties

- Plan Space-based search is sound
- ... and complete (completeness only depends on the plan selection function (fringe sorting), but not on the flaw selection function)
- There is no current state during search (the initial state is never changed)
- Tasks are partially ordered and can be inserted anywhere in a partial plan



HTN Progression Search

Overview Part II

Solving HTN Planning Problems

- Search-based Approaches
 - Plan Space Search
 - **Progression Search**
- **Compilation-based Approaches**
 - Compilations to STRIPS/ADL
 - Compilations to SAT
- Heuristics for Heuristic Search
 - TDG-based Heuristics
 - **Relaxed Composition Heuristics**

Excursion

Further Hierarchical Planning Formalisms



- Only those (primitive or compound) tasks in a task network that have **no predecessor** in the ordering relations are processed
- Actions that are processed are removed from the network and cause state transition



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- ightarrow Search nodes contain the current task network and state



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- ightarrow **Commitment** to the prefix of the solution during search



- Only those (primitive or compound) tasks in a task network that have **no predecessor** in the ordering relations are processed
- Actions that are processed are removed from the network and cause state transition
- ightarrow Search nodes contain the current task network and state
- ightarrow **Commitment** to the prefix of the solution during search
- ightarrow We are searching for an **empty** task network



Heuristics

Excursion

HTN Progression Search

Standard Progression Algorithm

- 1 fringe $\leftarrow \{(s_l, tn_l, ())\}$
- ² while *fringe* $\neq \emptyset$ do
- 3 $n \leftarrow fringe.poll()$
- 4 if *n.isgoal* then return *n*
- 5 $U \leftarrow n.unconstrainedNodes$
- $for t \in U do$

7

8

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10

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12

13

if isPrimitive(t) then

```
n' \leftarrow n.apply(t)
fringe.add(n')
```

else

```
for m \in t.methods do
```

 $n' \leftarrow n.decompose(t, m)$

_fringe.add(n')



HTN Progression Search

6

7

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Standard Progression Algorithm

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Search nodes contain task network, state, and solution prefix



HTN Progression Search

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Standard Progression Algorithm

- 1 fringe $\leftarrow \{(s_l, tn_l, ())\}$ 2 while fringe $\neq \emptyset$ do $n \leftarrow fringe.poll()$ 3 4 if n.isgoal then return n 5
- - $U \leftarrow n unconstrainedNodes$

fringe.add(n')

for $m \in t$.methods do

fringe.add(n')

```
for t \in U do
   if isPrimitive(t) then
       n' \leftarrow n.apply(t)
```

else

- Search nodes contain task network, state, and solution prefix
- Fringe is sorted according to some heuristic



 $n' \leftarrow n.decompose(t, m)$

HTN Progression Search

1 fringe $\leftarrow \{(s_l, tn_l, ())\}$ 2 while fringe $\neq \emptyset$ do $n \leftarrow fringe.poll()$ 3 if n.isgoal then return n 4 $U \leftarrow n unconstrainedNodes$ 5 for $t \in U$ do 6 if isPrimitive(t) then 7 $n' \leftarrow n.apply(t)$ 8 fringe.add(n') 9 10 else for $m \in t$.methods do 11 $n' \leftarrow n.decompose(t, m)$ 12 fringe.add(n') 13

- Search nodes contain task network, state, and solution prefix
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- Goal test checks for empty task network (maybe for a goal state)



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- Search nodes contain task network, state, and solution prefix
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- Goal test checks for empty task network (maybe for a goal state)
- Unconstrained tasks have no predecessor



HTN Progression Search

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- Unconstrained tasks have no predecessor
- Action application removes node and causes state transition



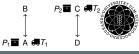
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HT	N Progression Search				
St	andard Progression Algorith				
	\bigwedge		deliver(P1, B)		
			deliver(i	P ₂ , D)	
	$ringe \leftarrow \{(s_l, tn_l, ())\}$ while $fringe eq \emptyset$ do				
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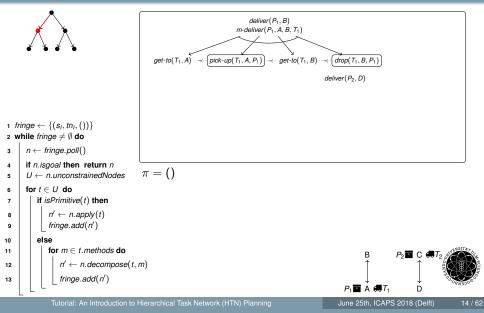


Heuristics

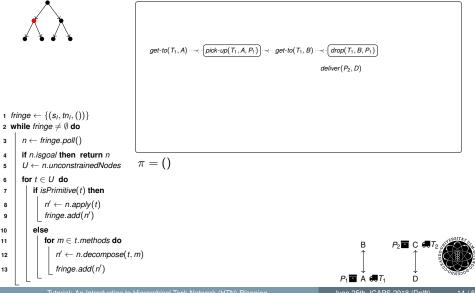
Excursion

HTN Progression Search

Standard Progression Algorithm



HTN Progression Search



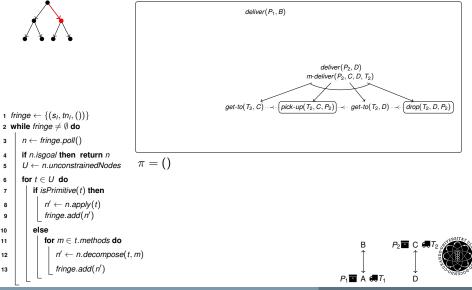
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Heuristics

Excursion

HTN Progression Search

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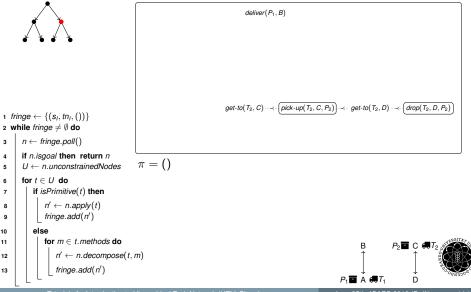
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Heuristics

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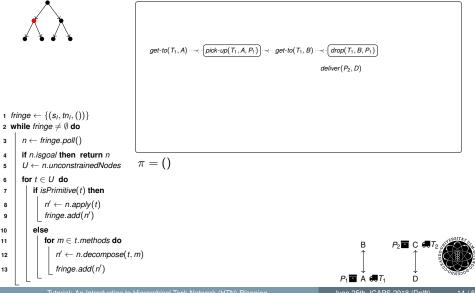
HTN Progression Search

Standard Progression Algorithm



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HTN Progression Search



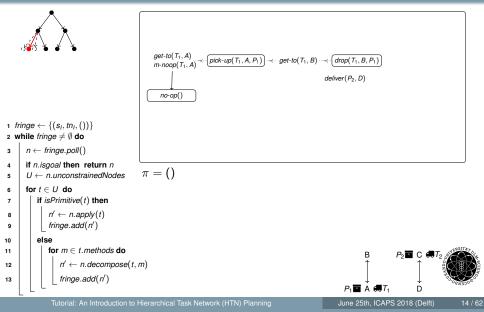
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Heuristics

Excursion

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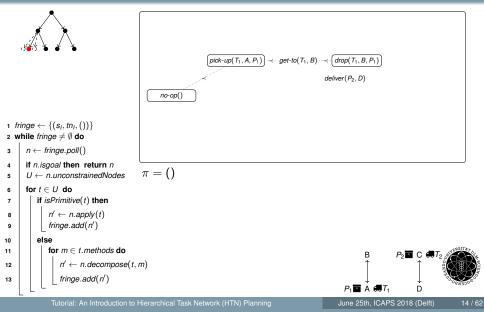


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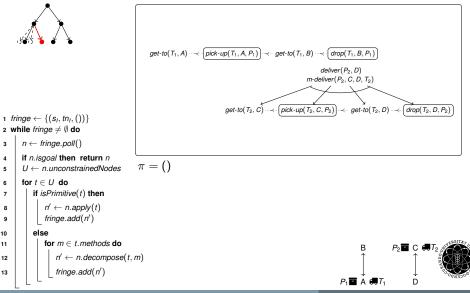
HTN Progression Search

Standard Progression Algorithm



HTN Progression Search

Standard Progression Algorithm



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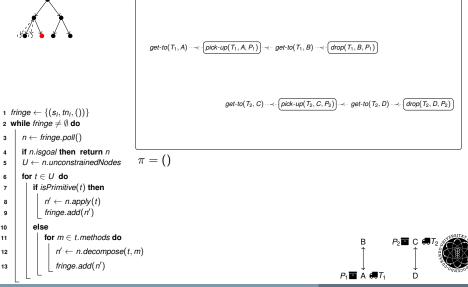
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Excursion

HTN Progression Search

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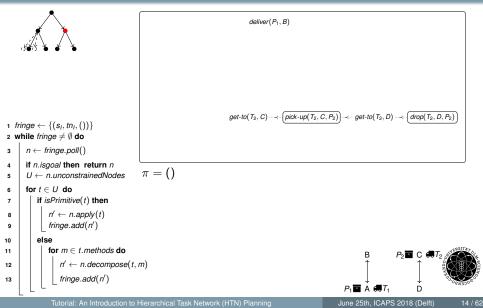
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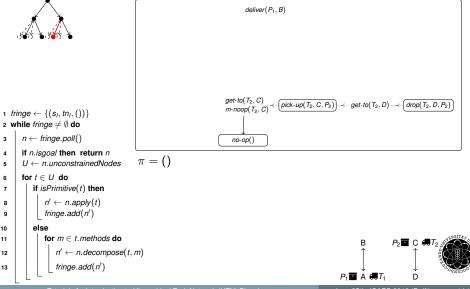


HTN Progression Search

Standard Progression Algorithm



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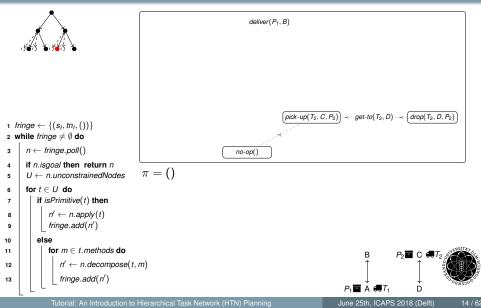
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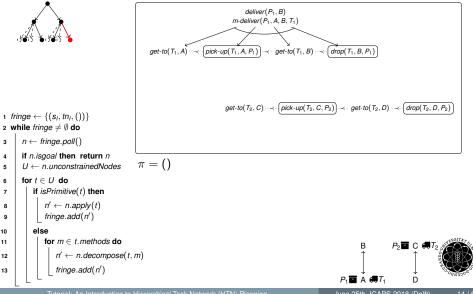
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HTN Progression Search

Standard Progression Algorithm

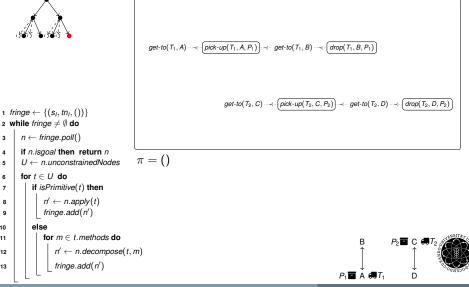


HTN Progression Search



HTN Progression Search





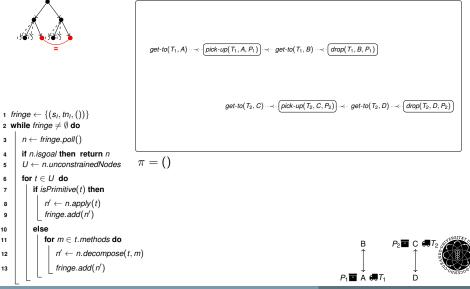
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HTN Progression Search

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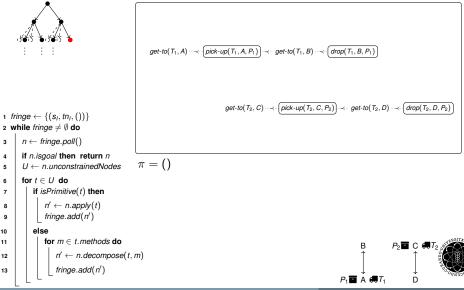
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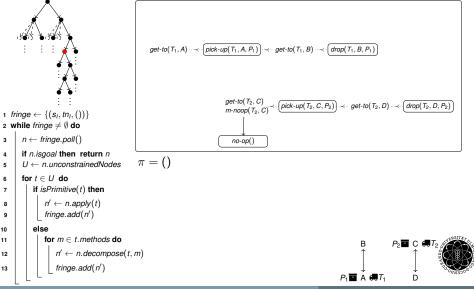
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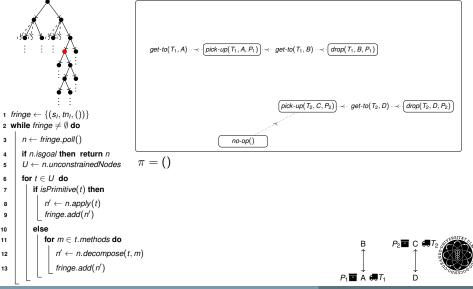
June 25th, ICAPS 2018 (Delft)

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HTN Progression Search

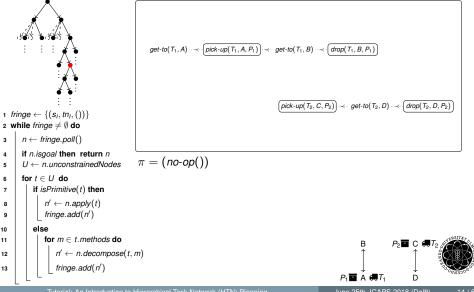
Standard Progression Algorithm



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Excursion

HTN Progression Search

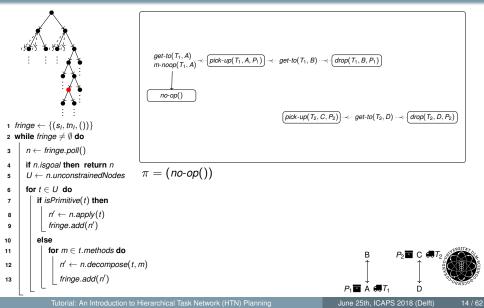


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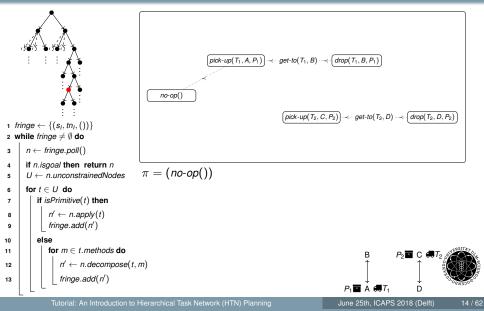


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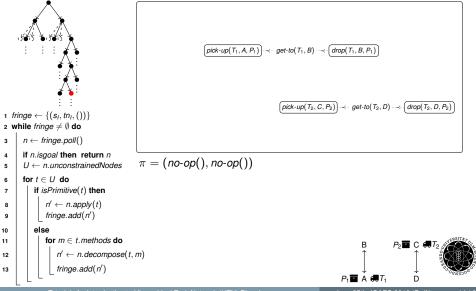


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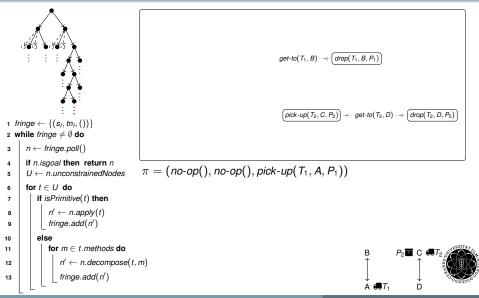
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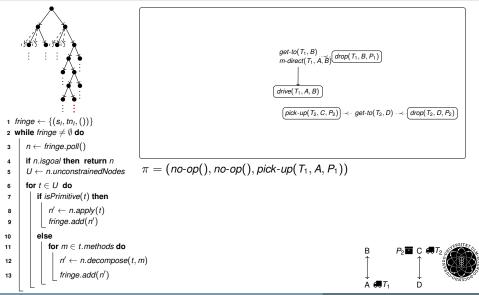
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HTN Progression Search

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Tutorial: An Introduction to Hierarchical Task Network (HTN) Planning

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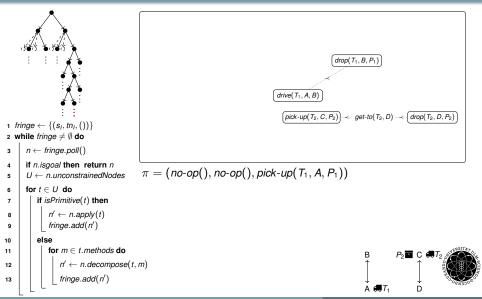
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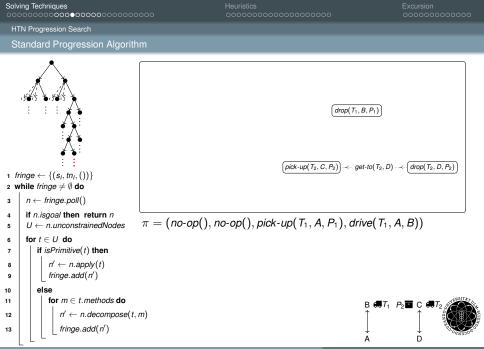
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HTN Progression Search

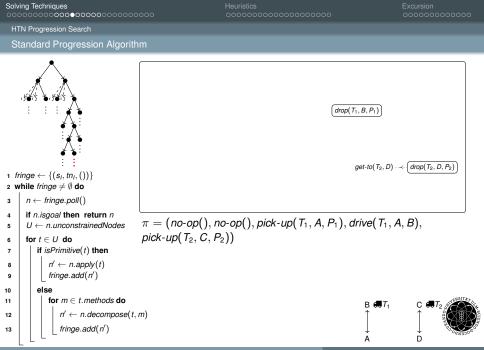
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Tutorial: An Introduction to Hierarchical Task Network (HTN) Planning

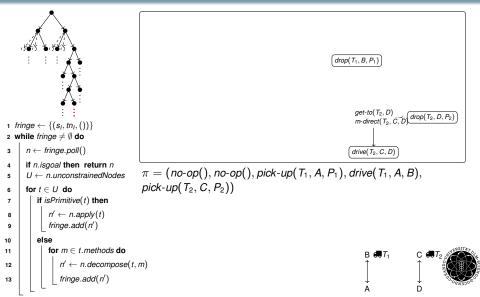


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Excursion

HTN Progression Search

Standard Progression Algorithm

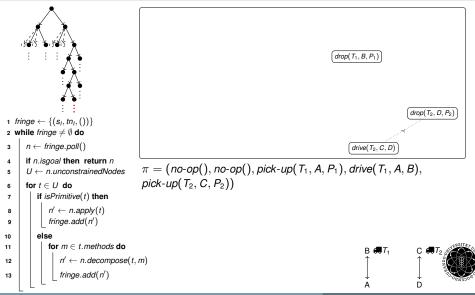


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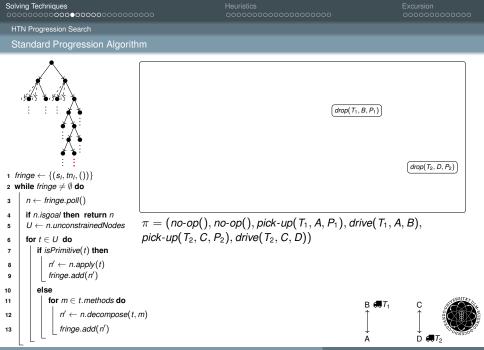
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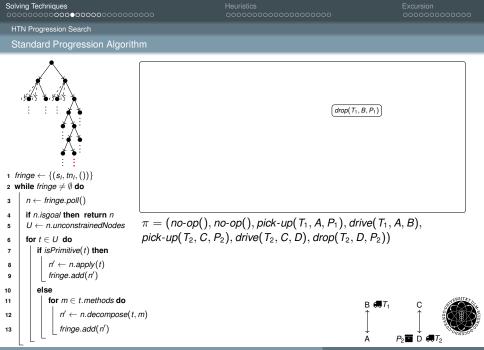
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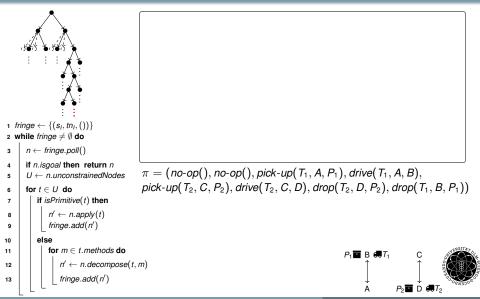
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Tutorial: An Introduction to Hierarchical Task Network (HTN) Planning

HTN Progression Search

Standard Progression Algorithm



Tutorial: An Introduction to Hierarchical Task Network (HTN) Planning

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Excursion 0000000000000

Excursion 0000000000000

HTN Progression Search

Progression Search – Properties

- Progression Search is **sound**
- ... and complete



HTN Progression Search

Progression Search – Properties

- Progression Search is **sound**
- and complete
- It maintains the current state during search
- This has been used to control search via state-based preconditions for methods



Progression Search – Properties

- Progression Search is **sound** ...
- and complete
- It maintains the current state during search
- This has been used to control search via state-based preconditions for methods
- It is also useful for calculating heuristics



Solving Techniques	
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Improving Progression Search

Observation: In partially ordered models, standard progression search searches parts of the search space more than once



Improving Progression Search

HTN Progression Search

- Observation: In partially ordered models, standard progression search searches parts of the search space more than once
 - This is due to branching (i.e. a non-deterministic choice) over unconstrained compound tasks
 - When processing actions, the algorithm commits to an ordering in the solution
 - The decision which task is decomposed implies no commitment to the solution
 - The decision which method is used implies commitment to the solution



- Observation: In partially ordered models, standard progression search searches parts of the search space more than once
- This is due to branching (i.e. a non-deterministic choice) over unconstrained compound tasks
- When processing actions, the algorithm commits to an ordering in the solution
- The decision which task is decomposed implies no commitment to the solution
- The decision which method is used implies commitment to the solution
- $\rightarrow\,$ For selection of the compound task, no branching is needed, we can simply "pick" one and decompose it
- ightarrow The decision which method is used must be made via branching 2



- 1 fringe $\leftarrow \{(s_0, tn_l, ())\}$
- ² while *fringe* $\neq \emptyset$ do
- $n \leftarrow fringe.poll()$
- 4 if *n.isgoal* then return *n*
- 5 $(U_C, U_P) \leftarrow n.unconstrainedNodes$

$$\begin{array}{c|c} \mathbf{6} & \mathbf{for} \ t \in U_P \ \mathbf{do} \\ \hline \mathbf{7} & n' \leftarrow n.apply \end{array}$$

8

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12

$$n' \leftarrow n.apply(t)$$

fringe.add(n')

- 9 $t \leftarrow selectAbstractTask(U_C)$
- 10 for $m \in t$.methods do
 - $n' \leftarrow n.decompose(t, m)$ fringe.add(n')

• Unconstrained tasks are split into compound and primitive tasks



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12

- 1 fringe $\leftarrow \{(s_0, tn_l, ())\}$
- $\mathbf{2}~\mbox{while}~\mbox{fringe}\neq \emptyset~\mbox{do}$
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- Only one compound task is processed
- Method application is done via branching



	ving Techniques ○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○	000	Heuristics 000000000000000000000000000000000000		Excursion 0000000000000
H	TN Progression Search				
In	nproved Progression Algorith				
			deliver(P ₁ , B) deliv	ver(P ₂ , D)	
	ringe ← {($s_0, tn_l, ()$)} vhile fringe ≠ \emptyset do $n \leftarrow$ fringe.poll() if n.isgoal then return n	π = ()			
5	$(U_C, U_P) \leftarrow n.unconstrainedNoc$	des			
6 7 8	for $t \in U_P$ do $n' \leftarrow n.apply(t)$ fringe.add(n')				
9	$t \leftarrow selectAbstractTask(U_C)$			в	
10	for $m \in t$.methods do			Ť	
11 12	$\left[\begin{array}{c} n' \leftarrow n.decompose(t,m) \\ fringe.add(n') \end{array} \right]$			↓ P1 Ⅲ A 興 T ₁	

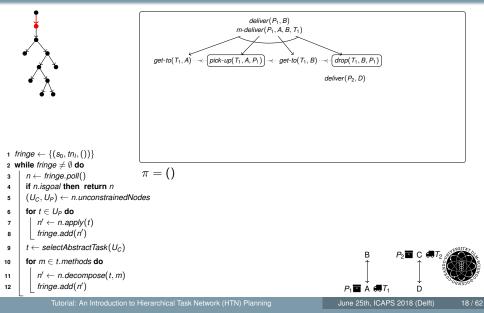
Tutorial: An Introduction to Hierarchical Task Network (HTN) Planning

June 25th, ICAPS 2018 (Delft)

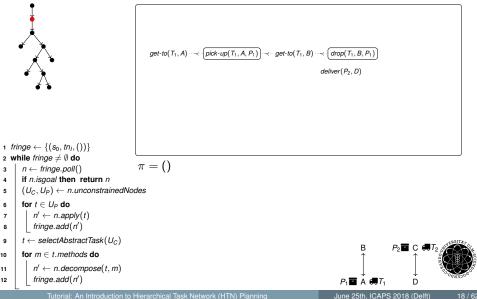
Heuristics

Excursion

HTN Progression Search



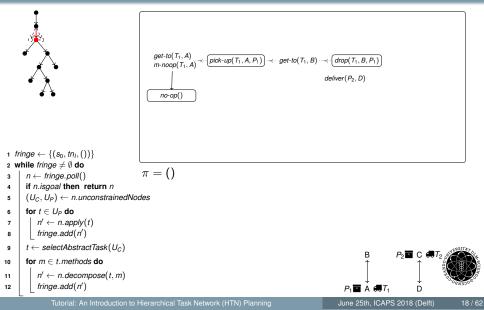
HTN Progression Search



Heuristics

Excursion

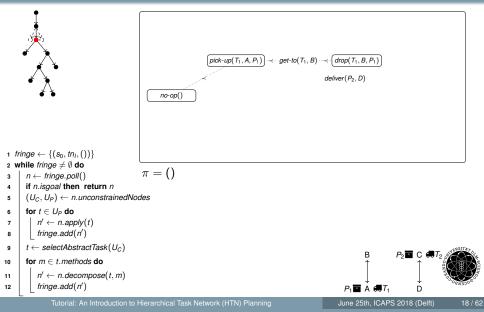
HTN Progression Search



Heuristics

Excursion

HTN Progression Search

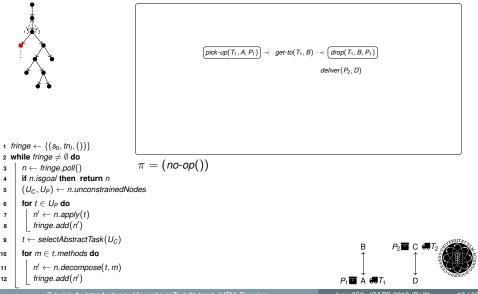


Heuristics

Excursion

HTN Progression Search

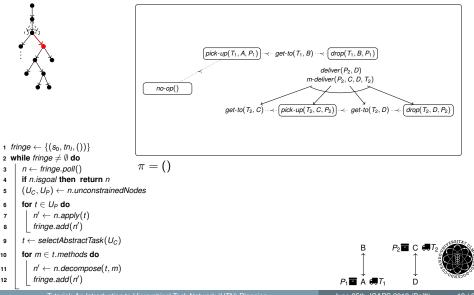
Improved Progression Algorithm



Heuristics

Excursion

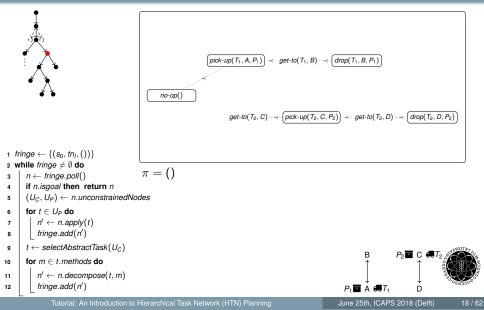
HTN Progression Search



Heuristics

Excursion

HTN Progression Search



. . .

Improved Progression Algorithm

$$pick \cdot up(T_{1}, A, P_{1}) \rightarrow e^{-get \cdot to(T_{1}, B)} \rightarrow e^{-get \cdot to(T_{1}, B)}$$

$$get \cdot to(T_{2}, C) \rightarrow e^{-get \cdot to(T_{2}, D)} \rightarrow e^{-get \cdot to(T_{2}, D)} \rightarrow e^{-get \cdot to(T_{2}, D)}$$

$$r = (no \cdot op())$$

$$\pi = (no \cdot op())$$

futorial: An Introduction to Hierarchical Task Network (HTN) Planning

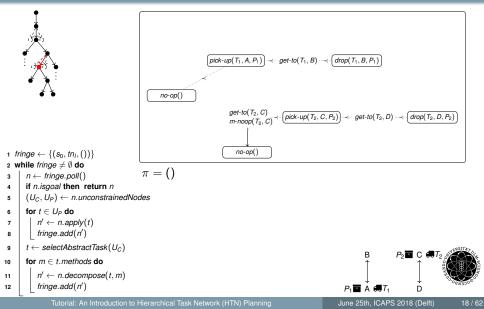
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Heuristics

Heuristics

Excursion

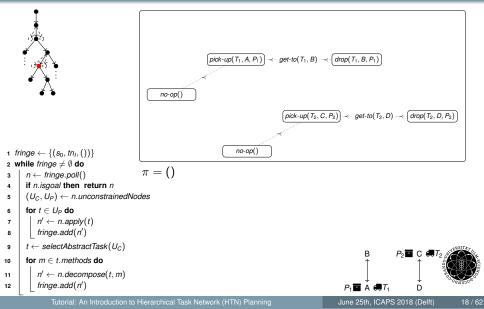
HTN Progression Search



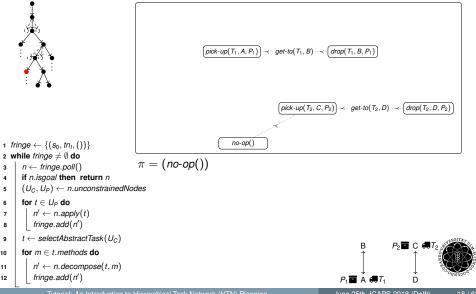
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HTN Progression Search



HTN Progression Search

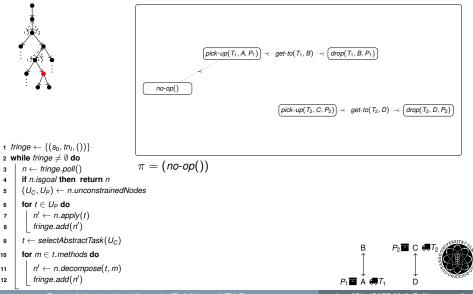


Heuristics

Excursion

HTN Progression Search

Improved Progression Algorithm



Heuristics

Excursion

HTN Progression Search

Improved Progression Algorithm

$$pick \cdot up(T_1, A, P_1) \rightarrow get \cdot to(T_1, B) \rightarrow (drop(T_1, B, P_1))$$

$$pick \cdot up(T_2, C, P_2) \rightarrow get \cdot to(T_2, D) \rightarrow (drop(T_2, D, P_2))$$

$$\pi = (no \cdot op(), no \cdot op())$$

$$for t \in U_P \text{ do}$$

$$f' \leftarrow n. apply(t)$$

$$t \leftarrow select AbstractTask(U_C)$$

$$for m \in t. methods \text{ do}$$

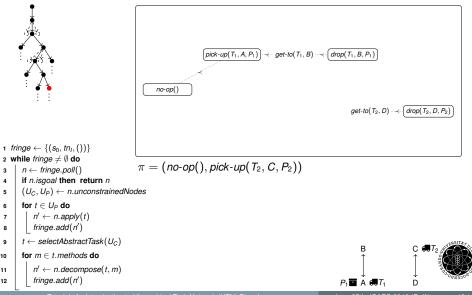
$$f' \leftarrow n. decompose(t, m)$$

$$f' \leftarrow n.$$

Heuristics

Excursion

HTN Progression Search

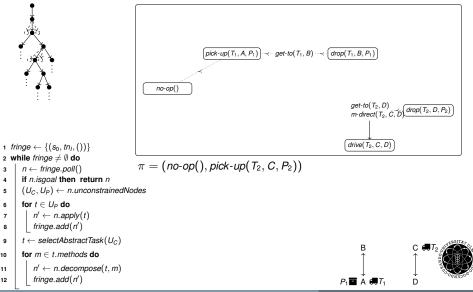


Heuristics

Excursion

HTN Progression Search

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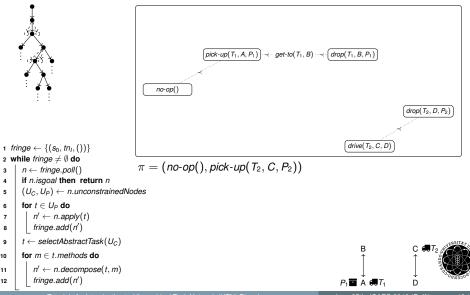


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Heuristics

Excursion

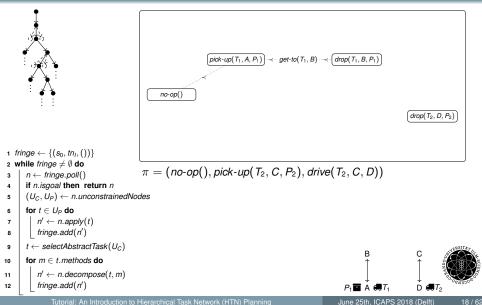
HTN Progression Search



Heuristics

Excursion 0000000000000

HTN Progression Search

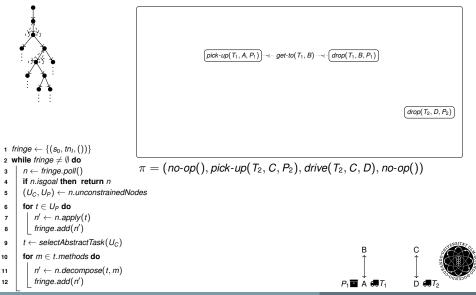


Heuristics

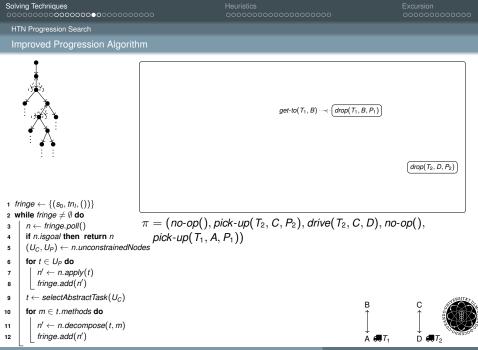
Excursion

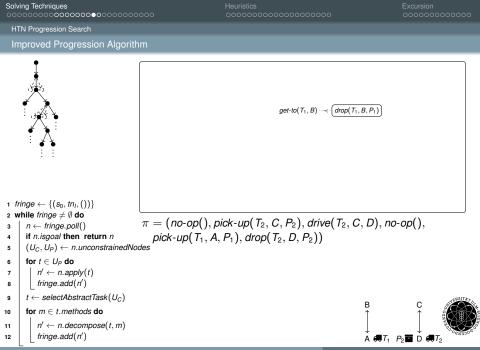
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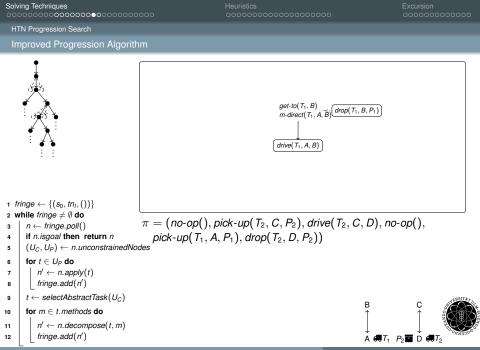


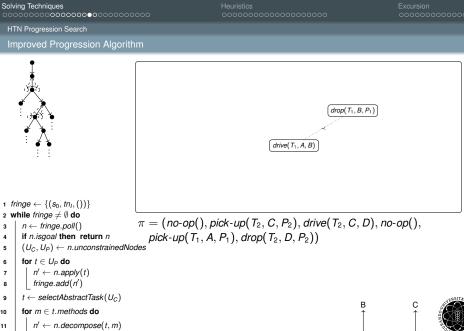
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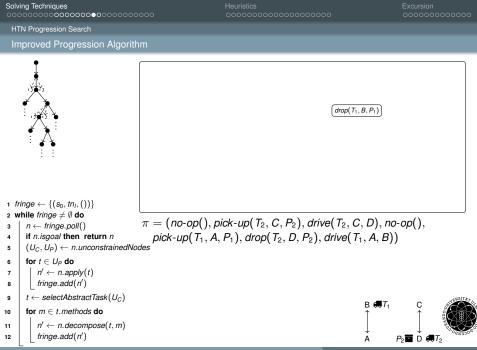
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12 fringe.add(n')

€T₁ P₂ D €T₂



Tutorial: An Introduction to Hierarchical Task Network (HTN) Planning

Heuristics

Excursion

HTN Progression Search

Improved Progression Algorithm

$$\begin{array}{c} 1 \ fringe \leftarrow \{(s_0, tn_i, ())\} \\ 2 \ while \ fringe \neq \emptyset \ do \\ 3 \ n \leftarrow fringe, pol() \\ 4 \ if \ n.isgoal \ then \ return \ n \\ (U_C, U_P) \leftarrow n.unconstrained Nodes \\ 6 \ for \ t \in U_P \ do \\ 7 \ l \ ringe.add(n') \\ 9 \ t \leftarrow select Abstract Task(U_C) \\ 10 \ for \ m \in t.methods \ do \\ 11 \ l \ fringe.add(n') \\ 12 \ l \ fringe.add(n') \\ \end{array}$$

Tutorial: An Introduction to Hierarchical Task Network (HTN) Planning

HTN Progression Search

Improved Progression Search – Properties

Improved version of progression search is still sound and complete



Improved Progression Search – Properties

- Improved version of progression search is still sound and complete
- Searching the search space more than once is avoided (to a certain extend) but still possible



Improved Progression Search – Properties

- Improved version of progression search is still sound and complete
- Searching the search space more than once is **avoided** (to a certain extend) but still **possible**
- It may increase the progression bound necessary to solve the problem (problematic for some planning systems)



Overview Part II

Solving HTN Planning Problems

- Search-based Approaches
 - Plan Space Search
 - Progression Search

Compilation-based Approaches

- Compilations to STRIPS/ADL
- Compilations to SAT
- Heuristics for Heuristic Search
 - TDG-based Heuristics
 - Relaxed Composition Heuristics

Excursion

Further Hierarchical Planning Formalisms

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Excursion 0000000000000

Translating HTN Problems to STRIPS/ADL

The basic idea is quite simple:

- Translate the input (HTN) problem in to a classical planning problem
- Use a classical planning system to solve it
- Compile classical solution back to one for the HTN problem



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Approach:

Add a new part to the state that represents the current task network



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The basic idea is quite simple:

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- Use a classical planning system to solve it
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Approach:

- Add a new part to the state that represents the current task network
- Simulate a progression search on this part of the state
 - Adapt original actions with respect to applicability and to maintain the new state features
 - Add actions that simulate decomposition methods



Heuristics

Excursion

Compilation to STRIPS/ADL

HTN to STRIPS/ADL – Example

$$\underbrace{\left(\textit{pick-up}(T_1, A, P_1)\right)}_{\textit{deliver}} \forall ettic(T_1, B) \forall \forall ettic(T_1, B, P_1)$$

- Introduce id variables: t_0, t_1, \ldots, t_b
- Introduce new predicate for every task



Compilation to STRIPS/ADL

HTN to STRIPS/ADL – Example

$$\underbrace{(pick-up(T_1, A, P_1))}_{deliver} \forall deliver(P_2, D)$$

Excursion

tasks: $ppick-up(T_1, A, P_1, t_2)$, $pget-to(T_1, B, t_3)$, $pdrop(T_1, B, P_1, t_5)$, $pdeliver(P_2, D, t_4)$, orderings: $before(t_2, t_3)$, $before(t_3, t_5)$

- Introduce id variables: t_0, t_1, \ldots, t_b
- Introduce new predicate for every task, represent current *tn* in the state



Compilation to STRIPS/ADL

HTN to STRIPS/ADL – Example

$$\underbrace{(pick-up(T_1, A, P_1))}_{deliver} est-to(T_1, B) \cdots \prec \underbrace{(drop(T_1, B, P_1))}_{deliver}$$

 $\begin{aligned} \mathsf{pick-up}(T_1, A, P_1, t_2) \\ \mathsf{pre} : \mathsf{precs} \text{ from domain}, \\ \mathsf{ppick-up}(T_1, A, P_1, t_2), \\ \forall t_i \in \{t_0 \dots t_b\} : \neg \mathsf{before}(t_i, t_2) \\ \mathsf{eff} : \mathsf{effects} \text{ from domain}, \\ \neg \mathsf{ppick-up}(T_1, A, P_1, t_2), \mathsf{free}(t_2) \\ \forall t_i \in \{t_0 \dots t_b\} : \neg \mathsf{before}(t_2, t_i) \end{aligned}$

- Introduce id variables: t_0, t_1, \ldots, t_b
- Introduce new predicate for every task, represent current *tn* in the state
- Modify existing actions

Heuristics

Excursion

 $ppick-up(T_1, A, P_1, t_2),\\pget-to(T_1, B, t_3),\\pdrop(T_1, B, P_1, t_5),\\pdeliver(P_2, D, t_4),\\before(t_2, t_3), before(t_3, t_5)$



Compilation to STRIPS/ADL

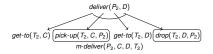
HTN to STRIPS/ADL – Example

$$(pick-up(T_1, A, P_1))$$
 $\prec \cdots$ get-to $(T_1, B) \cdots \prec \cdots (drop(T_1, B, P_1))$
deliver (P_2, D)

 $\begin{array}{l} \textit{pick-up}(T_1, A, P_1, t_2) \\ \textit{pre: precs from domain,} \\ \textit{ppick-up}(T_1, A, P_1, t_2), \\ \forall t_i \in \{t_0 \dots t_b\} : \neg \textit{before}(t_i, t_2) \\ \textit{eff: effects from domain,} \\ \neg \textit{ppick-up}(T_1, A, P_1, t_2), \textit{free}(t_2) \\ \forall t_i \in \{t_0 \dots t_b\} : \neg \textit{before}(t_2, t_i) \end{array}$

- Introduce id variables: t_0, t_1, \ldots, t_b
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- Modify existing actions
- Add new actions simulating methods

 $ppick-up(T_1, A, P_1, t_2),$ $pget-to(T_1, B, t_3),$ $pdrop(T_1, B, P_1, t_5),$ $pdeliver(P_2, D, t_4),$ $before(t_2, t_3), before(t_3, t_5)$



$$\begin{array}{l} m \text{-deliver}(P_2, C, D, T_2, t_4, t_1, t_6, t_7) \\ pre: pdeliver(P_2, D, t_4) \\ \forall t_i \in \{t_0 \dots t_b\}: \neg before(t_i, t_4) \\ free(t_1), free(t_6), free(t_7) \\ eff: \neg pdeliver(P_2, D, t_4) \\ pget-to(T_2, C, t_1) \\ ppick-up(T_2, C, P_2, t_6) \\ pget-to(T_2, D, t_7) \\ pdrop(T_2, D, P_2, t_4) \\ before(t_1, t_6) \\ \neg free(t_1) \end{array}$$



Excursion

Translating HTN Problems to STRIPS/ADL

Benefits:

- Sophisticated planning system(s) available
- Large portfolio of heuristics available



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Challenges:

- How to represent the task network? (example was simplified)
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 - To break symmetry
 - To preserve information when using available classical heuristics (e.g. delete-relaxation)



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 - Only computable for subclasses of HTN planning problems



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- How many ids are sufficient?
 - Only computable for subclasses of HTN planning problems
 - Approach for general HTN planning problems:
 - Incrementally increase it like in SAT-based classical planning
 - But there is no upper bound, so only stop when a plan was found



Heuristics

Excursion

Compilation to SAT

Overview Part II

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Excursion

Further Hierarchical Planning Formalisms



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HTN to SAT Compilations

Basic idea:

- Translate HTN planning problem to a propositional formula
- Solve it with a standard SAT solver
- Formula represents solution to the HTN



Compilation to SAT HTN to SAT Compilations

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Similar to approach in classical planning:

- Encodings of state transition can be re-used
- Translation to a series of increasing problems (instead of a single one)



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Challenges:

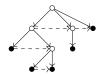
- How to represent decomposition?
- What is the best way to **bound** the problem?



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Representing Decomposition

We have already seen a structure to represent decomposition:
 Decomposition Trees (in the proof for TIHTN problems)



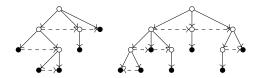


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Representing Decomposition

Compilation to SAT

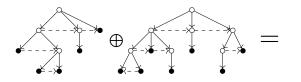
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Representing Decomposition

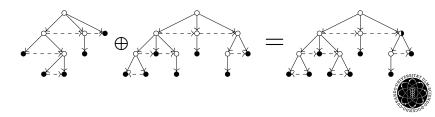
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- → Compact representation of all possible decompositions of the initial task network: Path Decomposition Trees (PDTs)





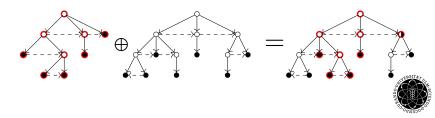
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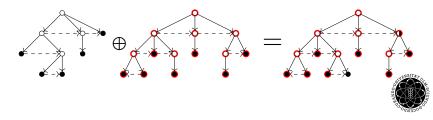
26 / 62

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Path Decomposition Trees

Heuristics

Excursion 0000000000000

All Decomposition Trees can not be represented



Path Decomposition Trees

Heuristics

Excursion

All Decomposition Trees can not be represented \Rightarrow bound the height of represented trees



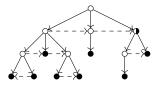
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Path Decomposition Trees

Heuristics

Excursion

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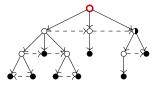


Path Decomposition Trees

Heuristics

Excursion

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 $c_{l}
ightarrow ABC$ and $c_{l}
ightarrow ACp$ and $c_{l}
ightarrow Ar$

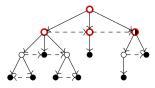


Path Decomposition Trees

Heuristics

Excursion

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 $c_l
ightarrow ABC ext{ and } c_l
ightarrow ACp ext{ and } c_l
ightarrow Ar \ \{A\} \quad \{B,C\} \quad \{C,p,r\}$

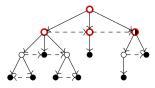


Path Decomposition Trees

Heuristics

Excursion

All Decomposition Trees can not be represented \Rightarrow bound the height of represented trees



 $c_{l} \rightarrow ABC \text{ and } c_{l} \rightarrow ACp \text{ and } c_{l} \rightarrow Ar$ $\{A\} \quad \{B, C\} \quad \{C, p, r\}$

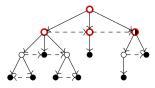


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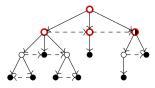


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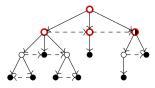


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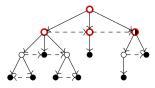


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Generating PDTs

PDTs can be generated by locally deciding on how to assign sub-tasks to children



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Generating PDTs

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- Difficult question: How does an optimal PDT look like?



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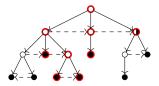
Generating PDTs

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 - Current work tries greedily to put as few tasks as possible to each child



What are PDTs good for?

 A PDT contains every Decomposition Tree of height ≤ K as a sub-graph





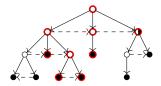
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What are PDTs good for?

Heuristics

Excursion

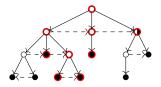
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- Let the valuation of a SAT formula describe such a tree





What are PDTs good for?

- A PDT contains every Decomposition Tree of height ≤ K as a sub-graph
- Let the valuation of a SAT formula describe such a tree
- The formula then asserts that it is a valid Decomposition Tree





Heuristics

Excursion

Overview Part II

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- Search-based Approaches
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 - Progression Search
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Heuristics for Heuristic Search

- TDG-based Heuristics
- Relaxed Composition Heuristics

Excursion

Further Hierarchical Planning Formalisms



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Heuristics

Possible Heuristic Estimates

What do we want to estimate?

Number of missing actions (or their costs, resp.) or



Possible Heuristic Estimates

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- Number of missing actions (or their costs, resp.) or
- Number of missing modifications, i.e.,
 - decompositions,
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 - action applications (in progression-based search)



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 - decompositions,
 - task insertions (if allowed),
 - causal link and ordering insertions (in plan space-based search), and
 - action applications (in progression-based search)
- $\rightarrow\,$ To be used for the selection of a search node (task network/partial plan) out of the fringe



Heuristics

Excursion

Decomposition Graph-based Heuristics

Overview Part II

Solving HTN Planning Problems

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Excursion

Further Hierarchical Planning Formalisms



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Problem Relaxations for Heuristic Calculation

How to calculate such an estimate, given that the HTN plan existence problem is in general undecidable?



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- Perform task insertion
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We introduce the Task Decomposition Graph (TDG) – which bases upon task insertion and delete relaxation – as a means to represent the task hierarchy.



Decomposition Graph-based Heuristics

TDG-based Heuristics

Heuristics

Excursion

A TDG represents the decomposition structure:

t₀ m_1 m_2 t۱ t> Ī٦ Īл m₄ m_5 m_3 m_6 t7 t5 t₆ t₈ A TDG is a (possibly cyclic) bipartite graph $\mathcal{G} = \langle N_T, N_M, E_{(T,M)}, E_{(M,T)} \rangle$ with



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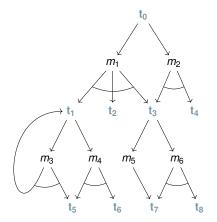
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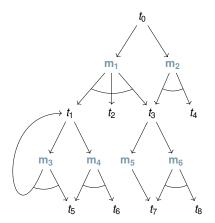
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Excursion

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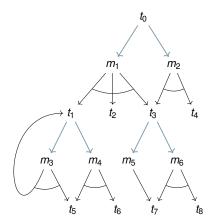
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Heuristics

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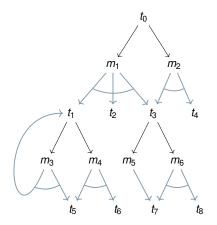
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Heuristics

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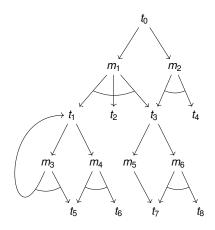


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Step 1:

Calculate the TDG in a preprocessing step.

Step 2:

Calculate heuristic h(t) for each task *t* in TDG (still via preprocessing).

Step 3:

For a search node (partial plan) P and its task identifiers T, calculate

$$h(P) := \sum_{t \in T} h(t).$$



Cost-aware heuristic TDG-c

Let
$$\langle N_T, N_M, E_{T \to M}, E_{M \to T} \rangle$$
 be a TDG.

The estimates of the TDG are defined as follows:

$$h_T(n_t) := egin{cases} cost(n_t) & ext{if } n_t ext{ primitive} \ \min_{(n_t, n_m) \in E_{T o M}} h_M(n_m) & ext{else} \end{cases}$$



Heuristics

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Decomposition Graph-based Heuristics

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Heuristics

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Decomposition Graph-based Heuristics

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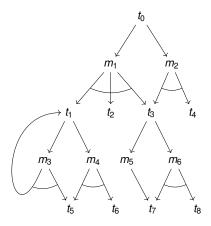
Decomposition Graph-based Heuristics

Cost-aware heuristic TDG-c (Example)

Heuristics

Excursion

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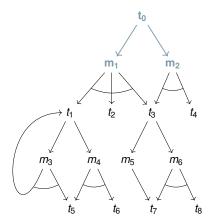
Heuristics

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Decomposition Graph-based Heuristics

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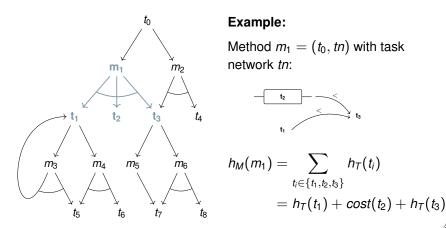
Example:

$$h_T(t_0) = min \{h_M(m_1), h_M(m_2)\}$$



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Heuristics



t₃

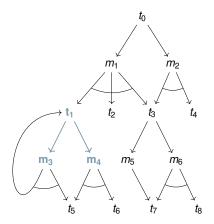
Heuristics

Excursion

Decomposition Graph-based Heuristics

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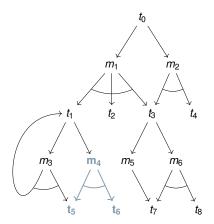
$$h_T(t_1) = min \{h_M(m_3), h_M(m_4)\}$$



Decomposition Graph-based Heuristics

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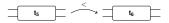
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Example:

Heuristics

Method $m_4 = (t_1, t_n)$ with task network *tn*:



$$egin{aligned} h_M(m_4) &= \sum_{t_i \in \{t_5, t_6\}} h_T(t_i) \ &= h_T(t_5) + h_T(t_6) \ &= cost(t_5) + cost(t_6) \end{aligned}$$



Heuristics ○○○○○○○●○○○○○○○○○○○ Excursion

Decomposition Graph-based Heuristics

Modification-aware heuristic TDG-m

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The estimates of the TDG are defined as follows:

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Heuristics

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Excursion

Heuristics

Excursion

Decomposition Graph-based Heuristics

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Summary

TDG-c and TDG-m are admissible estimates of:

- The costs of still missing actions or
- The number of still missing decompositions and causal link insertions (the latter is specific for plan space-based planners)



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Further properties:

- Both can be calculated in polynomial time (also for the general, undecidable case)
- Both rely on task insertion and delete relaxation (for the construction process of the TDG)
- Only tasks within the the TDG account for the heuristic estimate, so task insertion is not reflected within the estimates (→ room for improvement; but this guarantees admissibility)



Heuristics

Excursion

Using Classical Heuristics to Guide HTN Search

Overview Part II

Solving HTN Planning Problems

- Search-based Approaches
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Excursion

Further Hierarchical Planning Formalisms



Classical Heuristics in HTN Planning

- We have seen two search-based approaches that can be instantiated as heuristic search
- We need to sort the fringe (according to what?)
- In a first step, estimate goal distance (→ Satisficing Planning)



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- More expressive formalism → techniques not applicable directly
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Using Techniques from Classical Planning – Challenges:

- More expressive formalism → techniques not applicable directly
- Hierarchy has huge impact on valid solutions
 - Which actions are reachable?
 - What is the objective, the "goal"?
 - \rightarrow usually no state-based goal given



Heuristics

Excursion

Using Classical Heuristics to Guide HTN Search

Classical Heuristics in HTN Planning

Approach:

- 1. Relax HTN to a classical planning problem
 - Search is done in an HTN planning system on the original model
 - This model is only used for heuristic calculation



Classical Heuristics in HTN Planning

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- 1. Relax HTN to a classical planning problem
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- 2. Apply classical heuristics to that problem
 - For some search node, the "heuristic model" is adapted
 - Goal distance is estimated



Classical Heuristics in HTN Planning

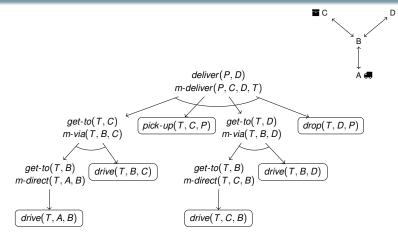
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- 3. Use heuristic value in HTN planning
 - The fringe of the HTN planning system is sorted according to the heuristic value



Using Classical Heuristics to Guide HTN Search

Simulating Composition

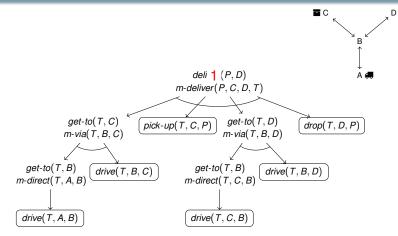


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Using Classical Heuristics to Guide HTN Search

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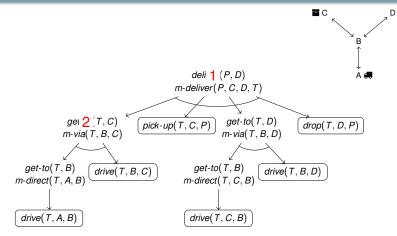
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Tutorial: An Introduction to Hierarchical Task Network (HTN) Planning

Using Classical Heuristics to Guide HTN Search

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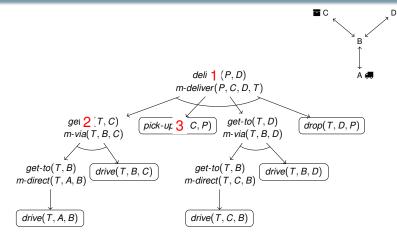
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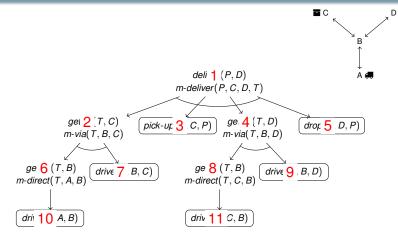


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Using Classical Heuristics to Guide HTN Search

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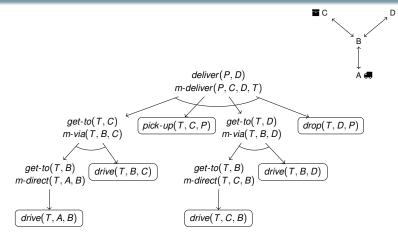
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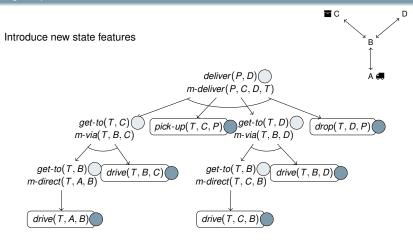
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Using Classical Heuristics to Guide HTN Search

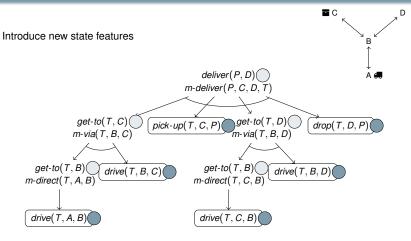
Simulating Composition



Heuristics

Using Classical Heuristics to Guide HTN Search

Simulating Composition



$$\begin{array}{c} at(v,h) \\ road(h,k_2) \end{array} - \begin{array}{c} at(v,h_2) \\ -at(v,h) \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} at(v,l) \\ -at(v,h) \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} at(v,l) \\ at(p,l) \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} at(v,l) \\ -pick \cdot up(v,l,p) \\ -in(p,v) \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} \neg at(p,l) \\ in(p,v) \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} at(v,l) \\ in(p,v) \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} at(v,l) \\ in(p,v) \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} at(v,l) \\ in(p,v) \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} at(v,l) \\ in(p,v) \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} at(v,l) \\ in(p,v) \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} at(v,l) \\ in(p,v) \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} at(v,l) \\ in(p,v) \\ in(p,v) \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} at(v,l) \\ in(p,v) \\ in(p,v) \\ in(p,v) \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array}$$

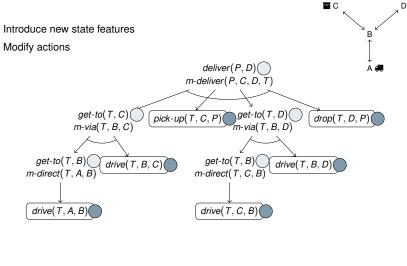
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Heuristics

Excursion

Using Classical Heuristics to Guide HTN Search

Simulating Composition





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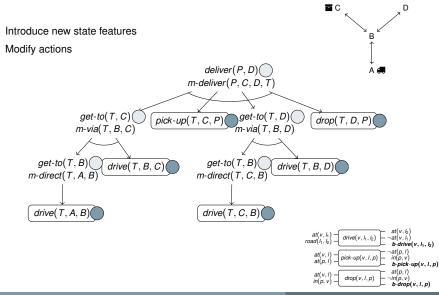
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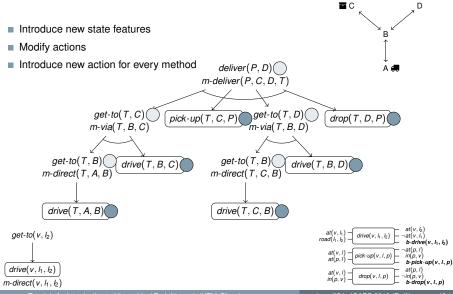


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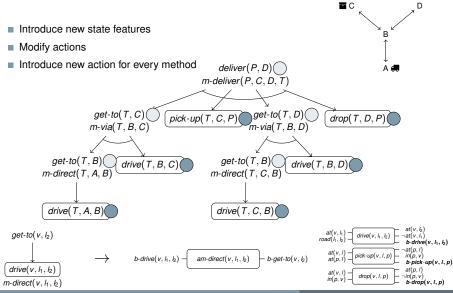
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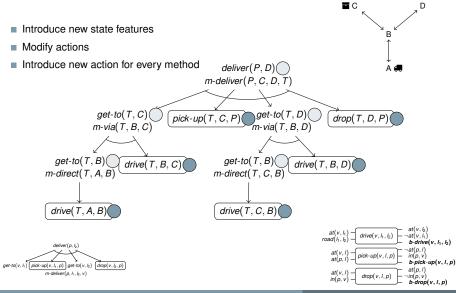
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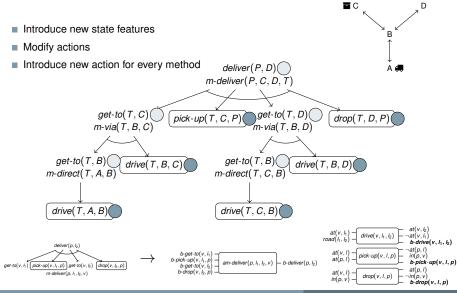
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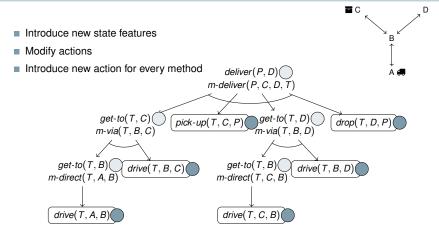
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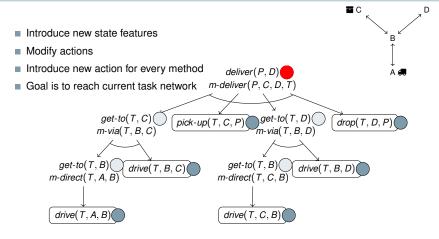


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Simulating Composition



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Simulating Composition - Resulting Model

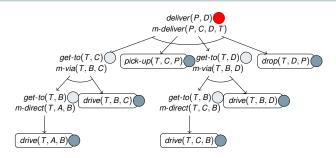


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Using Classical Heuristics to Guide HTN Search

Planning in the Transformed Model





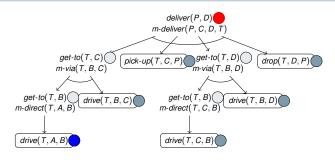
 ${at(T, A), at(P, C)}$

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Planning in the Transformed Model





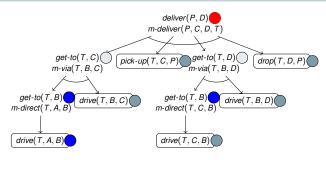
 $\begin{array}{c} \{at(T,A), \\ at(P,C)\} \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} \{at(T,B), \\ drive(T,A,B) \\ b \cdot drive(T,A,B)\} \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} \{at(T,B), \\ at(P,C), \\ b \cdot drive(T,A,B)\} \end{array}$

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Using Classical Heuristics to Guide HTN Search

Planning in the Transformed Model





 $\begin{array}{c} (at(T,A), \\ at(P,C)\} \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} (at(T,B), \\ at(P,C), \\ b \ drive(T,A,B) \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} (at(T,B), \\ at(P,C), \\ b \ drive(T,A,B) \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} (at(T,B), \\ at(P,C), \\ b \ drive(T,A,B) \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} (at(T,B), \\ at(P,C), \\ b \ drive(T,A,B) \end{array}$

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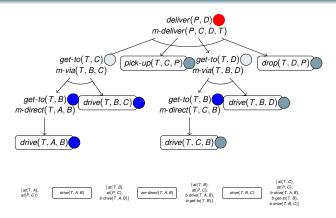
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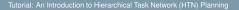
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Planning in the Transformed Model





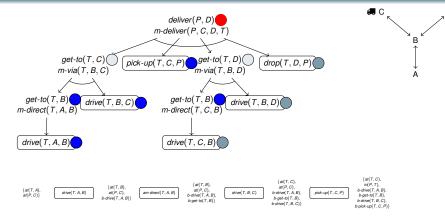
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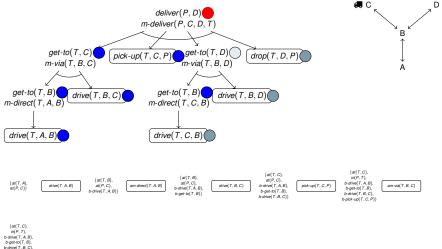
Planning in the Transformed Model



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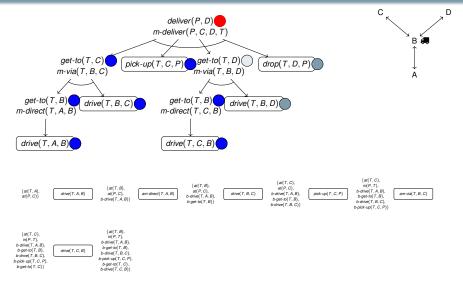


- b-pick-up(T, C, P),
- b-get-to(T,C)}

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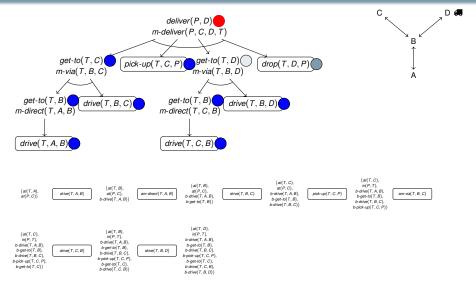
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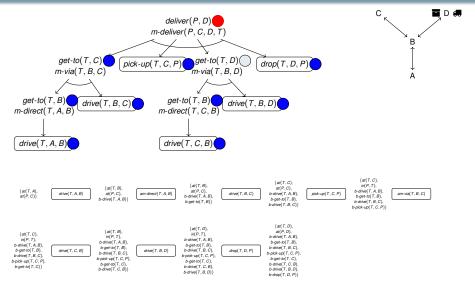
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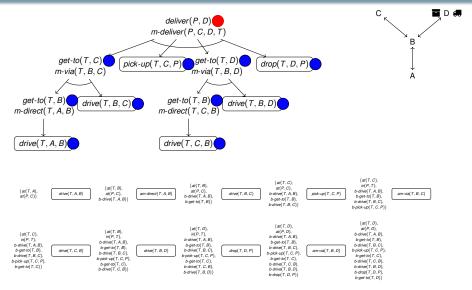
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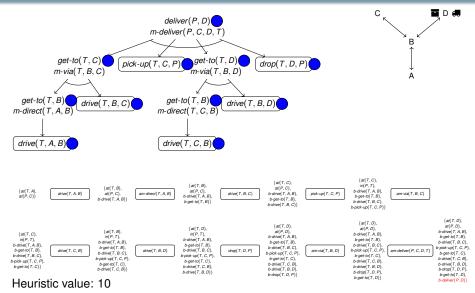


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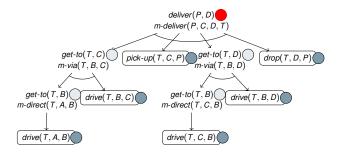
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Heuristic Calculation (Delete Relaxed)





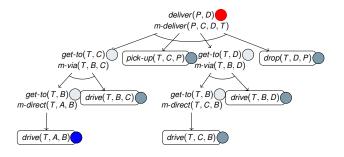
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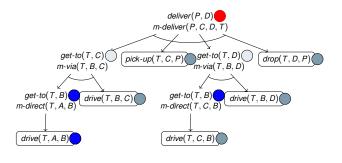




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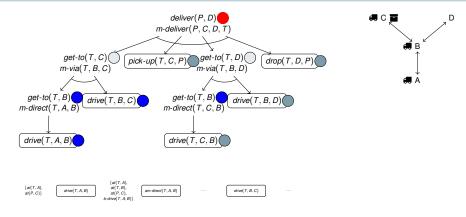




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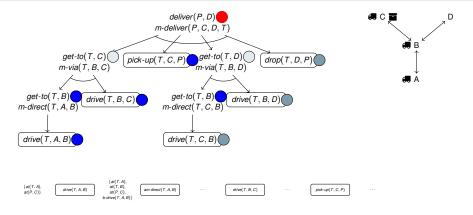




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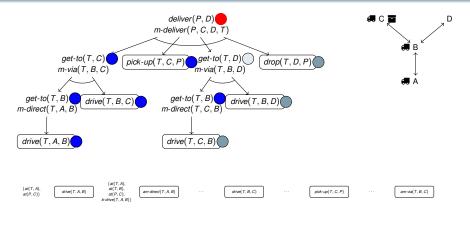




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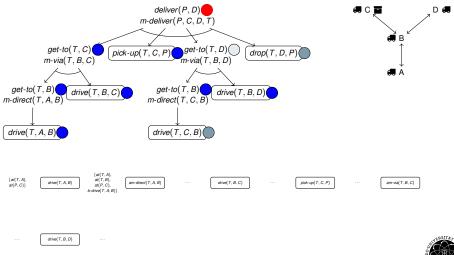


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Heuristic Calculation (Delete Relaxed)



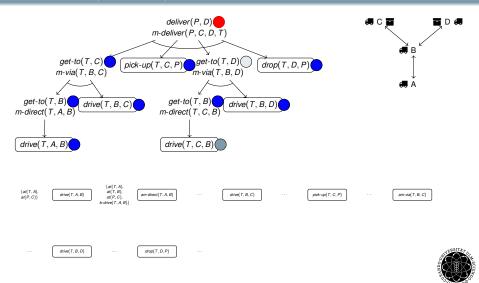


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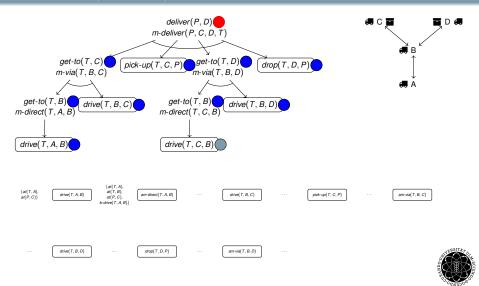


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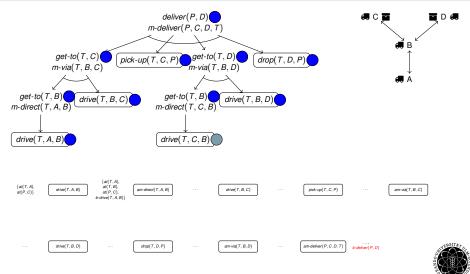


Heuristics

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Using Classical Heuristics to Guide HTN Search

Heuristic Calculation (Delete Relaxed)



Using delete-relaxed classical heuristic: 9

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Heuristics

Excursion

Using Classical Heuristics to Guide HTN Search

General Characteristics

Simulates task composition



General Characteristics

- Simulates task composition
- Incorporates hierarchical reachability information
- Combines it with information on state-based executability
- ✓ Solves the problem of a missing state-based goal



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 - Task sharing (every task must be proceeded only once)
 - Task insertion (e.g. to fulfill preconditions)
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 - Heuristic function may only insert tasks that lie within the decomposition hierarchy (not given here)



Computational Aspects

- Size is linear in the input HTN domain, but the model is large
- State and action set are extended



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- ightarrow Efficient update of the "heuristic model" possible
- $\rightarrow\,$ Classical heuristic combined with the encoding should be able to deal with changed goal efficiently



Resulting Heuristic Values

- Perfect HTN solution (in terms of modifications) corresponds to a classical plan in the transformation with equal costs
- Perfect classical heuristic on the transformation has less or equal costs



Resulting Heuristic Values

- Perfect HTN solution (in terms of modifications) corresponds to a classical plan in the transformation with equal costs
- Perfect classical heuristic on the transformation has less or equal costs
- When the used classical heuristic has one of the following properties, the resulting HTN heuristic has it too:
 - Safety
 - Goal-awareness
 - Admissibility



Using Classical Heuristics to Guide HTN Search

Discussion

Can be combined with many classical heuristics



Discussion

- Can be combined with many classical heuristics
- In principle applicable in both plan space or progression search
 - ightarrow Progression search provides more precise state information



Discussion

- Can be combined with many classical heuristics
- In principle applicable in both plan space or progression search
 - ightarrow Progression search provides more precise state information
- Comparison to "HTN to STRIPS/ADL translation"
 - This transformation is a relaxation (set of solutions changes)
 - It is smaller
 - It is easier to compute



Heuristics

Excursion

Overview Part II

Solving HTN Planning Problems

- Search-based Approaches
 - Plan Space Search
 - Progression Search
- Compilation-based Approaches
 - Compilations to STRIPS/ADL
 - Compilations to SAT
- Heuristics for Heuristic Search
 - TDG-based Heuristics
 - Relaxed Composition Heuristics

Excursion

Further Hierarchical Planning Formalisms



Overview of Hierarchical Planning Variants



Overview of Hierarchical Planning Variants

Which variants of HTN planning and further hierarchical planning problem classes exist?

HTN planning with task insertion (TIHTN planning)



Overview of Hierarchical Planning Variants

- HTN planning with task insertion (TIHTN planning)
- Task sharing



Overview of Hierarchical Planning Variants

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Overview of Hierarchical Planning Variants

- HTN planning with task insertion (TIHTN planning)
- Task sharing
- Hybrid planning (i.e., HTN + POCL Planning)
- Decompositional planning (i.e., hybrid without initial plan)
- GTN planning (decompose goals, not tasks)



TIHTN Planning

Problem Definition

In *HTN planning with task insertion*, *TIHTN planning*, tasks may be added arbitrarily to task networks (not just via decomposition):

Let $\mathcal{P}^{\star} = (V, P, \delta, C, M, s_l, c_l)$ be a TIHTN planning problem.



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Let $\mathcal{P}^{\star} = (V, P, \delta, C, M, s_l, c_l)$ be a TIHTN planning problem.

Then, a task network *tn* is a solution if and only if:

- There is a sequence of decomposition methods m and task insertions that transforms c_l into tn,
- tn contains only primitive tasks, and
- the (still partially ordered) task network *tn* admits an executable linearization \overline{t} of its tasks.



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TIHTN Planning Motivation

Benefits of allowing task insertion:

 Task insertion plus goal description fully subsumes classical planning (while allowing task hierarchies as well)



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- Task insertion makes the modeling process easier: certain parts can be left to the planner
- Task insertion makes the problem computationally easier (can be exploited for heuristics)



Heuristics

Excursion

Task Sharing

Problem Definition

Task sharing allows unconstrained tasks to be merged:

Let $\mathcal{P}^{\star} = (V, P, \delta, C, M, s_l, c_l)$ be an HTN problem with task sharing.



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Then, a task network *tn* is a solution if and only if:

- There is a sequence of decomposition methods m and task mergings that transform c_l into tn (two tasks can be merged if they are identical and not ordered with respect to another),
- tn contains only primitive tasks, and
- the (still partially ordered) task network *tn* admits an executable linearization *t* of its tasks.



Task Sharing Motivation

Benefits of allowing task sharing:

Allows to eliminate duplicates that might just be modeling artifacts

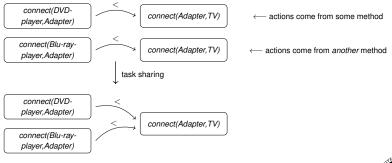




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Hybrid planning fuses HTN planning with Partial-Order Causal-Link (POCL) Planning.



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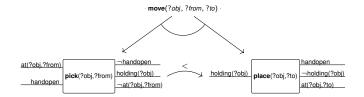
Core differences to standard HTN planning:

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- Rather than task networks, we have partial plans that may contain causal links
- In solution plans, all linearizations must be executable



Problem Definition

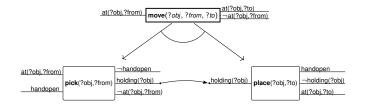
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Problem Definition

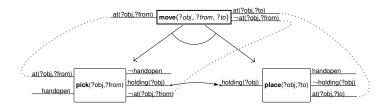
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Benefits of hybrid planning:

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Motivation

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Motivation

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- In combination with task insertion: compound tasks can be inserted easier due to their preconditions and effects
- Solution criteria (*all* linearizations are executable) is more practical than the classical one (there *exist* an executable linearization)
- Plan explanation and visualization becomes more natural



Solving Techniques

Decompositional Planning

Problem Definition

Decompositional planning is defined just as hybrid planning with task insertion – with the exception that there is no initial partial plan.



Decompositional Planning

Benefits of decompositional planning:

Everything like in hybrid planning, except:

lower expressivity (identical to non-hierarchical, classical planning), because the hierarchy does not induce constraints



Problem Definition

Heuristics

Excursion

Hierarchical Goal Network (HGN) planning is concerned with the decomposition of *goals* instead of tasks.



Problem Definition

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- Instead of task networks, HGN planning uses goal networks: partially ordered sets of goals (each being a formula over state variables)



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- Decomposition methods refine/substitute goals rather than tasks



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- Decomposition methods refine/substitute goals rather than tasks
- The hierarchy induced on goals does not partition them into primitive and non-primitive goals
- All actions can be applied to the current state, as long as they achieve a possibly first goal



Heuristics

Hierarchical Goal Network (HGN) planning

Motivation

Benefits of HGN planning?

The application of state-based heuristics is more directly applicable than in HTN planning



Motivation

Benefits of HGN planning?

- The application of state-based heuristics is more directly applicable than in HTN planning
- In some domains, defining a hierarchy on state features might be easier than defining a hierarchy on tasks



Solving Techniques

Hierarchical Goal Network (HGN) planning

Thank You for Your Attention!

Heuristics

Excursion

Thank you for your attention!

Are there questions?



Tutorial: An Introduction to Hierarchical Task Network (HTN) Planning

June 25th, ICAPS 2018 (Delft)