

# Plan Explanations as Model Reconciliation: Moving Beyond Explanation as Soliloquy



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# Outline



- Introduction
- Related work
- Properties of explanations
- Algorithm presentation
- Evaluation of performance of algorithms
- Conclusion & Future work
- Citations

# Motivation & Goal



- Different model used by AI and different from human
- AI systems are mostly called to explain their plans and behaviors
- The authors believe that explanations are best explained in light of model differences
- Goal: Explanation as Model Reconciliation problem

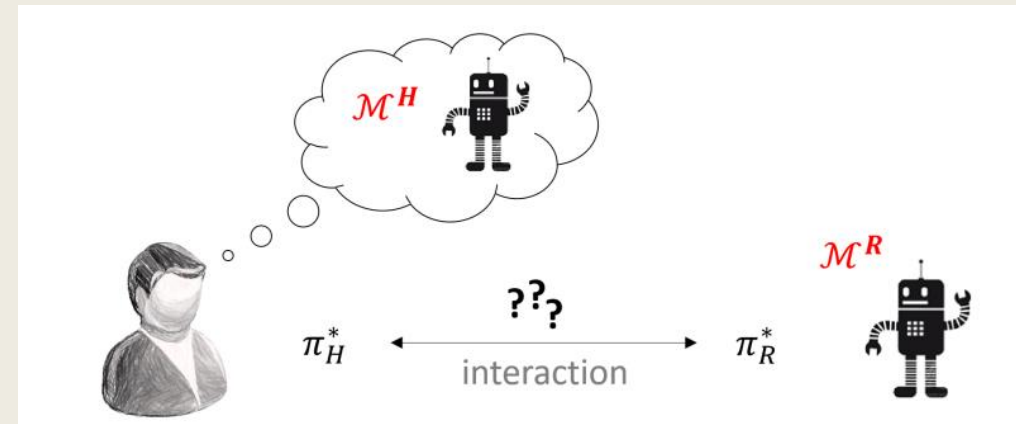


# HUMAN IN THE LOOP

Why and How?

# Introduction

- Explanation to humans-in-the-loop
- Earlier work
  - Planner explaining decision on respect of its own model
  - What issues can encounter?
- Explanations should be robot's attempt to change human's model to correspond to its plan



# Contribution



- Model explanation as Model Reconciliation Problem
- Robot's optimal plan
- New model-search algorithms
- Explanation generation system

# Multi-model Setting Scenario

Fetch Robot

```
(:action move
:parameters(?from ?to – location)
:precondition (and (robot-at ?from)
                  (hand-tucked) (crouched) )
:effect (and (robot-at ?to)
             (not (robot-at ?from) ) ) )
```

```
(:action tuck
:parameters()
:precondition ()
:effect (and (hand-tucked)
            (crouched) ) )
```

```
(:action crouch
:parameters()
:precondition ()
:effect (and (crouched) ) )
```



# Related Work



- The work is supported by psychology studies
  - Lombrozo, 2006,2012.
- Optimal plan – valid and better than other alternatives
- Different from other model change algorithms
- Most of the work done involved humans entering the land of planners



# Classical Planning Problem



- Planner's plan comprehensible to humans
- $M = \langle D, I, G \rangle$ 
  - $D = \langle F, A \rangle$  – domain
- Solution –  $\pi = \langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \rangle$
- $\pi^*$  known as the cheapest plan
- Optimal plan not always is optimal in  $M_H$

# Multi Model Planning Setting



- Tuple of  $\langle M_H, M_R \rangle$
- Two approaches
  1. Change its own behavior in order to be explicable to the human
  2. Bring the human's model closer to its own

# Model Reconciliation Problem



- Tuple  $\langle \pi^* , \langle M_H, M_R \rangle \rangle$
- Mapping function  $\Gamma: M \rightarrow s$
- Model change actions can make only one change at a time
- Solution - edit functions  $\{\lambda_i\}$  that can transform  $M_1 \rightarrow M_2$

# Multi Model Explanations



- Plan is more optimal in the updated model than in original one
- The update of the model can be negotiated by humans
- Each solution for this problem requires these :
  - Completeness
  - Conciseness
  - Monotonicity
  - Computability

# Plan Patch Explanation



- Incomplete
- Limitation: ignores model differences, contains information that does not need to be revealed
- Solution : provide the entire model difference to the human

# Model Patch Explanation



- Easy to compute
- Limitation: far from being concise due to large size
- Goal: minimize the size

# Minimally Complete Explanation



- Shortest complete explanation
- Fetch Robot the smallest example of MCE
- Human can compute the optimal plan given a planning problem.

# Model-space search for MCE

- Equal importance to all model corrections
- Proposition 1: selection strategy of successor nodes to speed up search
- Proposition 2: feasibility of the plan in the modified planning problem is a necessary but not a sufficient condition for a valid explanation

## Algorithm 1 Search for Minimally Complete Explanations

```

1: procedure MCE-SEARCH
2: Input: MRP  $\langle \pi^*, \langle \mathcal{M}^R, \mathcal{M}^H \rangle \rangle$ 
3: Output: Explanation  $\mathcal{E}^{MCE}$ 
4: Procedure:
5:   fringe  $\leftarrow$  Priority_Queue()
6:   c_list  $\leftarrow$  {} ▷ Closed list
7:    $\pi_R^*$   $\leftarrow$   $\pi^*$  ▷ Optimal plan being explained
8:    $\pi_H$   $\leftarrow$   $\pi$  such that  $C(\pi, \mathcal{M}^H) = C_{\mathcal{M}^H}^*$  ▷ Plan expected by human
9:   fringe.push( $\langle \mathcal{M}^H, \{\} \rangle$ , priority = 0)
10:  while True do
11:     $\langle \widehat{\mathcal{M}}, \mathcal{E} \rangle, c \leftarrow$  fringe.pop( $\widehat{\mathcal{M}}$ )
12:    if  $C(\pi_R^*, \widehat{\mathcal{M}}) = C_{\widehat{\mathcal{M}}}^*$  then return  $\mathcal{E}$  ▷ Return  $\mathcal{E}$  if  $\pi_R^*$  optimal in  $\widehat{\mathcal{M}}$ 
13:    else
14:      c_list  $\leftarrow$  c_list  $\cup$   $\widehat{\mathcal{M}}$ 
15:      for  $f \in \Gamma(\widehat{\mathcal{M}}) \setminus \Gamma(\mathcal{M}^R)$  do ▷ Models that satisfy condition 1
16:         $\lambda \leftarrow$   $\langle 1, \{\widehat{\mathcal{M}}\}, \{\}, \{f\} \rangle$  ▷ Removes  $f$  from  $\widehat{\mathcal{M}}$ 
17:        if  $\delta_{\mathcal{M}^H, \mathcal{M}^R}(\Gamma(\widehat{\mathcal{M}}), \lambda) \notin$  c_list then
18:          fringe.push( $\langle \delta_{\mathcal{M}^H, \mathcal{M}^R}(\Gamma(\widehat{\mathcal{M}}), \lambda), \mathcal{E} \cup \lambda \rangle$ ,  $c + 1$ )
19:        for  $f \in \Gamma(\mathcal{M}^R) \setminus \Gamma(\widehat{\mathcal{M}})$  do ▷ Models that satisfy condition 2
20:           $\lambda \leftarrow$   $\langle 1, \{\widehat{\mathcal{M}}\}, \{f\}, \{\} \rangle$  ▷ Adds  $f$  to  $\widehat{\mathcal{M}}$ 
21:          if  $\delta_{\mathcal{M}^H, \mathcal{M}^R}(\Gamma(\widehat{\mathcal{M}}), \lambda) \notin$  c_list then
22:            fringe.push( $\langle \delta_{\mathcal{M}^H, \mathcal{M}^R}(\Gamma(\widehat{\mathcal{M}}), \lambda), \mathcal{E} \cup \lambda \rangle$ ,  $c + 1$ )
23:  procedure PRIORITY_QUEUE.POP( $\widehat{\mathcal{M}}$ )
24:    candidates  $\leftarrow$   $\{ \langle \langle \widehat{\mathcal{M}}, \mathcal{E} \rangle, c^* \rangle \mid c^* = \arg \min_c \langle \langle \widehat{\mathcal{M}}, \mathcal{E} \rangle, c \rangle \}$ 
25:    pruned_list  $\leftarrow$  {}
26:     $\pi_H$   $\leftarrow$   $\pi$  such that  $C(\pi, \widehat{\mathcal{M}}) = C_{\widehat{\mathcal{M}}}^*$ 
27:    for  $\langle \langle \widehat{\mathcal{M}}, \mathcal{E} \rangle, c \rangle \in$  candidates do
28:      if  $\exists a \in \pi_R^* \cup \pi_H$  such that  $\tau^{-1}(\Gamma(\widehat{\mathcal{M}}) \Delta \Gamma(\widehat{\mathcal{M}})) \in \{c_a\} \cup pre(a) \cup$   

 $eff^+(a) \cup eff^-(a)$  then ▷ Candidates relevant to  $\pi_R^*$  or  $\pi_H$ 
29:        pruned_list  $\leftarrow$  pruned_list  $\cup$   $\langle \langle \widehat{\mathcal{M}}, \mathcal{E} \rangle, c \rangle$ 
30:    if pruned_list =  $\phi$  then  $\langle \widehat{\mathcal{M}}, \mathcal{E} \rangle, c \sim Unif$ (candidate_list)
31:    else  $\langle \widehat{\mathcal{M}}, \mathcal{E} \rangle, c \sim Unif$ (pruned_list)

```



# Minimally Monotonic Explanation



- Preserves completeness and monotonicity
- Proposition 3: MME solution is equal to the differences between  $M$  and  $M_R$
- Proposition 4: MMEs are not unique to an MRP problem.
- Proposition 5: MCE may not be a subset of an MME

# Model Search for MME

- Search over the entire model space
- Goal: find the largest set of model changes for which the explicability criterion becomes invalid for the first time

## Algorithm 2 Search for Minimally Monotonic Explanations

```


1: procedure MME-SEARCH
2: Input: MRP  $\langle \pi^*, \langle \mathcal{M}^R, \mathcal{M}^H \rangle \rangle$ 
3: Output: Explanation  $\mathcal{E}^{MME}$ 
4: Procedure:
5:    $\mathcal{E}^{MME} \leftarrow \{\}$ 
6:   fringe  $\leftarrow$  Priority_Queue()
7:   c_list  $\leftarrow \{\}$  ▷ Closed list
8:   h_list  $\leftarrow \{\}$  ▷ List of incorrect model changes
9:   fringe.push( $\langle \mathcal{M}^R, \{\} \rangle$ , priority = 0)
10:  while fringe is not empty do
11:     $\langle \widehat{\mathcal{M}}, \mathcal{E} \rangle, c \leftarrow$  fringe.pop( $\widehat{\mathcal{M}}$ )
12:    if  $C(\pi^*, \widehat{\mathcal{M}}) > C_{\widehat{\mathcal{M}}}^*$  then
13:      h_list  $\leftarrow$  h_list  $\cup$   $(\Gamma(\widehat{\mathcal{M}}) \Delta \Gamma(\mathcal{M}^R))$  ▷ Updating h_list
14:    else
15:      c_list  $\leftarrow$  c_list  $\cup$   $\widehat{\mathcal{M}}$ 
16:      for  $f \in \Gamma(\widehat{\mathcal{M}}) \setminus \Gamma(\mathcal{M}^H)$  do ▷ Models that satisfy condition 1
17:         $\lambda \leftarrow \langle 1, \{\widehat{\mathcal{M}}\}, \{\}, \{f\} \rangle$  ▷ Removes f from  $\widehat{\mathcal{M}}$ 
18:        if  $\delta_{\mathcal{M}^R, \mathcal{M}^H}(\Gamma(\widehat{\mathcal{M}}), \lambda) \notin$  c_list
19:          and  $\nexists S$  s.t.  $(\Gamma(\widehat{\mathcal{M}}) \Delta \Gamma(\mathcal{M}^R)) \supseteq S \in$  h_list then ▷ Prop 3
20:            fringe.push( $\langle \delta_{\mathcal{M}^R, \mathcal{M}^H}(\Gamma(\widehat{\mathcal{M}}), \lambda), \mathcal{E} \cup \lambda \rangle$ ,  $c + 1$ )
21:             $\mathcal{E}^{MME} \leftarrow \max_{|\cdot|} \{\mathcal{E}^{MME}, \mathcal{E}\}$ 
22:          for  $f \in \Gamma(\mathcal{M}^H) \setminus \Gamma(\widehat{\mathcal{M}})$  do ▷ Models that satisfy condition 2
23:             $\lambda \leftarrow \langle 1, \{\widehat{\mathcal{M}}\}, \{f\}, \{\} \rangle$  ▷ Adds f from  $\widehat{\mathcal{M}}$ 
24:            if  $\delta_{\mathcal{M}^R, \mathcal{M}^H}(\Gamma(\widehat{\mathcal{M}}), \lambda) \notin$  c_list
25:              and  $\nexists S$  s.t.  $(\Gamma(\widehat{\mathcal{M}}) \Delta \Gamma(\mathcal{M}^R)) \supseteq S \in$  h_list then ▷ Prop 3
26:                fringe.push( $\langle \delta_{\mathcal{M}^R, \mathcal{M}^H}(\Gamma(\widehat{\mathcal{M}}), \lambda), \mathcal{E} \cup \lambda \rangle$ ,  $c + 1$ )
27:                 $\mathcal{E}^{MME} \leftarrow \max_{|\cdot|} \{\mathcal{E}^{MME}, \mathcal{E}\}$ 
28:       $\mathcal{E}^{MME} \leftarrow (\Gamma(\widehat{\mathcal{M}}) \Delta \Gamma(\mathcal{M}^R)) \setminus \mathcal{E}^{MME}$ 
29:    return  $\mathcal{E}^{MME}$ 

```

# Evaluation



- Explanation generation system
  - For planning: Fast-Downward
  - Plan validation: VAL
  - Parsing: Pyperplan
- The experiment was run on a 12 core system
- Planning domains: BlocksWorld, Logistics and Rover

- No completeness guarantee but better computability of an explanation.
  - Replace the equality test:
    1.  $\pi_R^*$  is valid in the new hypothesis model
    2. The new plan has become better or at least  $\pi_H$  is disproved.
    3. Each action contributes at least one causal link to  $\pi^*$  in M.
  - Proposition 6: Criterion 3 is necessary for optimality of  $\pi^*$  in M
- 

Domain Name	Problem	MPE (ground truth)		PPE		MME (exact)		MCE (exact w/o heuristic)		MCE (exact with heuristic)		MCE (approximate)	
		size	time	size	time	size	time	size	time	size	time	size	time
BlocksWorld	1			5		3	1100.8	2	34.7	2	18.9	2	19.8
	2	10	n/a	8	n/a	4	585.9	3	178.4	3	126.6	3	118.8
	3			4		305.3	2	34.7	2	11.7	2	11.7	
	4			7		308.6	3	168.3	3	73.3	3	73.0	
Rover	1					10		2	2093.2	2	111.3	2	100.9
Rover	2	10	n/a	10	n/a	2	2018.4	2	108.6	2	101.7	2	102.7
	3			10		2102.4	2	104.4	2	104.9	2	102.5	
	4			9		3801.3	1	13.5	1	12.8	1	12.5	
	Logistics			1			5		4	13.7	4	73.2	4
Logistics	2	5	n/a	5	n/a	4	13.5	4	73.5	4	71.4	4	63.3
	3			5		8.6	5	97.9	5	100.4	3	36.4	
	4			5		8.7	5	99.2	5	95.4	3	36.4	

$ \mathcal{M}^R \Delta \mathcal{M}^H $	problem-1	problem-2	problem-3	problem-4
3	2.2	18.2	4.7	18.5
5	6.0	109.4	15.4	110.2
7	7.3	600.1	23.3	606.8
10	48.4	6849.9	264.2	6803.6

BlocksWorld	problem-1	problem-2	problem-3	problem-4
Number of nodes expanded for MME (out of 1024)	128	64	32	32

## RESULTS

# Conclusion & Future work



- Explanations in this multi-model setting become a process of identifying and reconciling the relevant differences between the models
- Future work
  - human's models that are of different form than the robot's, to allow effective learning of the human's models
- Limitations
  - Explanations must be compatible with the planner's model
  - The Robots acknowledge human model to come up with optimal plan
  - The level of abstraction in the Human model.

# Citations



- 127 citations
- From which 37 in 2020
- The latest work
  - The Emerging Landscape of Explainable Automated Planning & Decision Making

Thank you for your attention!

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