

# PLANNING CHALLENGES IN HUMAN-ROBOT TEAMING

#### KARTIK TALAMADUPULA

#### **Committee Members**

- Dr. Subbarao Kambhampati, Chair
- Dr. Chitta Baral
- Dr. Huan Liu
- Dr. Matthias Scheutz
- Dr. David E. Smith





# Planning for Human-Robot Teaming

- Human-Robot Teaming (HRT) is becoming an important problem
- > Requires a lot of different technologies
  - > Perception (Vision), Actuation, Dialogue, Planning ...
- Most current robots are glorified remote-operated sensors
- > Autonomous Planning is an important capability
  - > Supporting *flexible* HRT with constant changes
- > The broad aims of this **thesis** are to
  - 1. Engineer an effective integration of planning techniques into a Human-Robot Teaming system
  - 2. Analyze the design tradeoffs involved in doing so



# Contributions

- 1. Engineering Approach
  - > Planners have not been used extensively in HRT scenarios
  - > Introduce planner into an architecture for HRT
  - > Use/extend automated planning methods
    - 1. QUANTIFIED GOALS in an open world
    - 2. **REPLANNING** for a changing, open world
    - 3. Handling MODEL CHANGE during planning
    - **4. PLAN RECOGNITION** to enhance planning

### 2. Analysis of Solution Methods



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#### **USAR Human Factors Case Study**



Joint work with C. Bartlett, N. Cooke, Y. Zhang, S. Kambhampati

Kartik Talamadupula - Ph.D. Dissertation Defense



#### Planning Challenges in Human-Robot Teaming

#### **1. OPEN WORLD GOALS**

- > Provide a way to specify quantified goals on unknown objects
- > Consider a more principled way of handling uncertainty in facts

#### **2.** REPLANNING

- Handle state and goal updates from a changing world while executing
- > Present a unified theory of replanning, to analyze tradeoffs

#### **3. MODEL UPDATES**

 Accept changes to planner's domain model via natural language

#### **4. PLAN RECOGNITION**

> Use belief models of other agents to enhance planning

# ASS

### Urban Search and Report (USAR)



Joint work with C. Bartlett, N. Cooke, Y. Zhang, S. Kambhampati

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# An Integrated System for USAR







### Planner's Role



#### **GOAL MANAGER**







# Fielded Prototype

- > Planning Artifact: Sapa Replan
  - > Extension of Sapa metric temporal planner

# > Partial Satisfaction Planning

> Builds on Sapa<sup>PS</sup> planner

# > Replanning

 Uses an execution monitor to support scenarios with real-time execution

[Benton et al., AIJ07] [Talamadupula, Benton, et al., TIST10]



#### Planning Challenges in Human-Robot Teaming

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# **Open World Goals**

- When to start sensing?
  - Indicator to start sensing
- > What to look for?
  - > Object type
  - Object properties



- > When to stop sensing?
  - When does the planner know the world is closed?
- > Why should the robot sense?
  - > Does the object fulfill a goal?
  - > What is the reward? Is it a bonus?

[Talamadupula, Benton et al., ACM TIST 2010]



# Open World Quantified Goals (OWQGs)

- 1. When to sense
- 2. What to sense
- 3. When to stop
- 4. Why sense

"Wounded persons may be in rooms. Report the locations of as many wounded people as possible."



[Talamadupula, Benton et al., ACM TIST 2010]



# Solution Approach

Tricking the Robot for Profit

- 1. OWQG is provided to the planner
- 2. Planner uses an optimistic determinization
  - > Given an OWQG, assume the presence of object
    - > Create a runtime object (may exist only in planner)
    - > E.g.: For every room, assume wounded person
- 3. Replan
  - > Make a new plan that uses runtime object to achieve the open world goal; (assumed) profit from reward

### 4. Execute

- > Up to the sensing action (closure condition)
- > Delete runtime object
- > Real object either exists, or doesn't



# Replanning for Changing Worlds

- New Information
  - Sensors
  - > Human teammate
- New Goals
  - > Orders: Humans
  - > Requests



# > Requirement

- > New plan that works in new world (state)
- > Achieves the changed goals



How to Replan

The Engineering Solution

- > Problem changes from [I, G] to [I`, G`]
- Solution:
  - 1. Stop execution of old plan  $\pi$
  - 2. Assimilate state changes  $I \rightarrow I$
  - **3**. Assimilate goal changes  $G \rightarrow G^{}$
  - 4. Give the new instance [I`, G`] to planner
  - 5. Execute the new plan  $\pi$ `
- > (Re)Planning System: Sapa Replan



# Sapa Replan: Execution Monitor

- Implement rational choice over possible courses of action
  - > Two possible choices
    - > Continue currently executing plan
    - > Deliberate (replan)

## > Objective Selection

- > Two possibilities
  - > Update goal description: **Replan**
  - > Update goal description: Replan + Restart search
- > Net Benefit
  - > Partial Satisfaction Planning



# **Specifying Changes**

### > Use an update syntax

 $U = \langle O, E, G_n, T \rangle$ 

- O: Set of objects (constants)
- E: Set of new events (predicates)
- G<sub>n</sub>: Set of new goals
- T: Current time point

### > Example

```
(:update
2
   :objects
3
            room3 - room
4
   :events
5
            (at 125.0 (not (at room2)))
6
            (at room3)
7
            (visited room3)
            (visited room4) [500] - hard
8
   :goal
9
            207.0)
   :now
```



### Replanning + Open World Goals USAR Example

#### Original Plan

```
(move-hallway hall_start hall1)
(move-hallway hall1 hall2)
(move-hallway hall2 hall3)
(move-hallway hall3 hall_end)
(deliver medkit1)
```

#### New Plan

```
(move-hallway hall2 hall3)
(enter room1 hall3)
(sense-for !person1 room1)
(report !person1 room1)
(exit room1 hall3)
(move-hallway hall3 hall_end)
(deliver medkit1)
```

```
(:update
:objects
            room1 - room
:events
                (at 90.0 (not (at hall1)))
                     (at hall2)
                          (connected hall3 room1)
:goal
:now 103.0)
```



### Model Updates (via natural language)

- \* "To go into a room when you are at a closed door, push it one meter."
  - Precondition: "you are at a closed door"
  - Action definition: "push it one meter"
  - Effect: "go into a room"

### > NLP Module

- i. Reference resolution
- ii. Parsing
- iii. Background knowledge
- iv. Action submission (to planner)





[In collaboration with hrilab, Tufts University]

[Cantrell, Talamadupula et al., HRI 2012]



# **Example: Action Addition**

New Action: "push"

"To go into a room when you are at a closed door, push it one meter."





# Why Support Model Updates?

### > One ground truth model of the world

- > Neither human nor robot have this
- > Human may know more though ...

# > Impossible to specify everything up-front

> But during execution ...

#### **1.** Addition

> Human sees a closed door, but knows robot can push it

#### 2. Deletion

Taking a picture might ignite vapors

#### **3.** Modification

> No power, so robot must needs light for taking a picture



# Model Revision

- Model represented in PDDL
- > PDDL domain model

$$\mathsf{I\!M}=\langle\mathbb{C},\mathbb{P},\mathbb{F},\mathbb{A}\rangle$$

- >  $\mathbb{C}$  : set of constants (objects)
- >  $\mathbb{P}$  : set of predicates
- >  $\mathbb{F}$  : set of functions
- > A : set of actions (operators)
- Revision should support modification of any of these on the fly



# How to Update a Model

(The Engineering Solution)

#### 1. Pause execution of the current plan

#### 2. Provide a way of **updating an existing model**

- (Currently restricted to only actions)
- > Planner API for architecture can access and edit various action constituents
  - i. Cost
  - ii. Duration
  - iii. Variables (Parameters)
  - iv. Preconditions
  - v. Effects

#### 3. Replan with new model, generate new plan

Discard old plan

### 4. Execute new plan





# Plan & Intent Recognition



[In collaboration with hrilab, Tufts University]

[Talamadupula, Briggs et al., IROS14]



# **Proposed Approach**



- 1. Map the robot's beliefs and knowledge about CommX into a new planning instance
- Generate a plan for this instance prediction of CommX's plan
- 3. Extract relevant information from the predicted plan
  - > Which medkit will CommX pick up?
- 4. Use the extracted information to deconflict robot's plan



### PREDICTED PLAN FOR COMMX

move commx room3 hall5 move\_reverse commx hall5 hall4 move\_reverse commx hall4 hall3 move\_reverse commx hall3 hall2 move\_reverse commx hall2 hall1 move\_reverse commx hall1 room1 pick\_up\_medkit commx mkeast room1 conduct\_triage commx room1



# Contributions

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### **Relevant Publications**

1. 2. 3.	Coordination in Human-Robot Teams Using Mental Modeling and Plan Recognition. Talamadupula, K.; Briggs, G.; Chakraborti, T.; Scheutz, M.; and Kambhampati, S. Proceedings of the IFFF/PSU tector Ro Th of Tal arX Arc Opt	ICAPS 2011 Sy Placed 3rd for Planning for Edit Follow	rstems Best D Humor	Demos and Exhibits emo Google Scholar Citation indices All Since 20 Citations 170 h-index 7 i10-index 6	enton, J.; hop 164 7 horn, P.; 6 TIST),
	Tala Change photo	Cited by	Year		l Robot:
4.	Cogi On t Tala Planning for human-robot teaming in open worlds Planning for human-robot teaming in Open worlds	34	2010	2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 Co-authors Edit	bati, S.;
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6.	ICAPS       ICAPS Workshop on Bridging the Gap Period         (DMA	30	2012	Yuheng Hu Daniel Weld Mausam	nti, S.; d
	Updat       R Cantrell, K Talamadupula, Y on all ACM/IEEE international contention of the seventh annual ACM/IEEE international contentinternation of the seve	udy 30	2010 P : Be	Gordon Briggs Hankz Hankui Zhuo	ring
-	Confere Proceedings of the Twenty-Fourth Advar Contestant Proceedings of the Twenty-Fourth Advar Contestant	Kambhampati	, S. f tha II	EEE / PSI International Conference	on Intelligent

7. Planning for Agents with Changing Goals. Talamadupula, K.; Schermerhorn, P.; Benton, J.; Kambhampati, S.; and Scheutz, M.

Proceedings of the IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent

Robots and Systems (IROS), 3912--3917, 2009.



## **Related Work**

#### Human-Robot Teaming

Symbiotic Autonomy [Rosenthal et al. 2010]

Seeking Human Help [Rosenthal & Veloso 2012]

Replanning with Dynamic Information [Coltin & Veloso 2013]

Generalized Architectures for Distributed Human-Robot Teams [Scerri et al. 2003] [Schurr et al. 2005]

Mixed-Initiative Planning [Bagchi et al. 1996]

Advisable Planning [Myers 1996]

Continuous Planning & Execution [Myers 1998]

TRAINS-95 [Ferguson et al. 1996]

#### (Open World) Goals

Local Closed Worlds [Etzioni et al. 1997]

Sensing Goals [Scherl & Levesque 1993] [Golden & Weld 1996]

Temporal Goals [Baral et al. 2001] [Bacchus & Kabanza 1996]

Trajectory Constraints (Preferences) [Gerevini et al. 2009]

#### Replanning & Execution Monitoring

Contingent Planning [Albore et al. 2009] [Meauleau & Smith 2003]

CASPER [Knight et al. 2001]

IxTeT-eXeC [Lemai & Ingrand 2003]

STRIPS [Fikes et al. 1972]

Plan Stability & Repair [Fox et al. 2006] [Van Der Krogt & De Weerdt 2006]

Minimal Perturbation Planning [Kambhampati 1990]

Plan Re-Use [Nebel & Koehler 1995]

Plan Validity [Fritz & McIlraith 2007]

#### **Multi-Agent Systems**

Inter and Intra Agent Commiments [Wagner et al. 1999]

Inter-Agent Commitments [Meneguzzi et al. 2013] [Komenda et al. 2012] [Komenda et al. 2008] [Bartold & Durfee 2003] [Wooldridge 2000]

#### Coordination Using Mental Models

Joint Human Behavior [Klein et al. 2005]

Common Ground [Clark & Brennan 1991]

Coordinated Assembly Tasks [Kwon & Suh 2012]

Object Hand-overs [Strabala 2013]

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### **PLAN & INTENT RECOGNITION**

#### > Modeling human agent key to teaming

- Can augment robot's planning capabilities
- > Information can be used for inter-plan coordination

#### > Required information

- Action/capability model of the human agent
- Goal(s) of the human agent
- > Current state of the human agent

#### Planner simulates human's mental process

 Produces a predicted plan that can be used by robot for coordination purposes



#### > Communication Bandwidth

- Even with good NLP, there are still bandwidth issues between humans and robots
- Humans are not always fully explicit about what they are going to do, or what they want

#### Natural Teaming

- > Agents have good models of each other
- Enables them to
  - > Anticipate: Actions of other teammates
  - > **Recognize**: The intentions of other teammates

### > Can affect the robot's planning in turn



# Beliefs, Intentions & Teaming

- Agents have beliefs and intentions
  - An agent can model its *team* members' beliefs and intentions

 $\{ \phi \mid bel(\alpha, \phi) \in Bel_{self} \} \\ \{ goal(\alpha, \phi, P) \mid goal(\alpha, \phi, P) \in Bel_{self} \} \end{cases}$ 

 This information can be used to predict the plans of team members



# **Proposed Approach**



- 1. Map the robot's beliefs and knowledge about CommX into a new planning instance
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# Mapping to Planning

- > Used for high-level plan synthesis
- > Can be used to **simulate** the agent's plan
  - > Based on known beliefs and intentions
  - Some information about agent's capabilities
- > Automated Planning Instance:
  - > Initial State: All known beliefs of that agent
  - > Goal Formula: All known goals of that agent
  - > Action Model: Precondition/Effect description



# Mapping to Planning

Beliefs of another agent α

 $bel_{\alpha} = \{ \varphi \mid bel(\alpha, \varphi) \in bel_{self} \}$ 

> Intentions of another agent  $\alpha$ 

 $goals_{\alpha} = \{ goal(\alpha, \phi, P) \mid goal(\alpha, \phi, P) \in bel_{self} \}$ where P is a goal priority

Mapping to a planning problem

$$I = \{ \varphi \mid bel(\alpha, \varphi) \in bel_{robot} \}$$

$$G = \{ \phi \mid goal(\alpha, \phi, P) \in bel_{robot} \}$$

$$O = \{ o \mid o \in (\phi \mid \phi \in (I \cup G)) \}$$

[Briggs & Scheutz, SIGDIAL11] [Talamadupula, Briggs et al., IROS14]





# **Use Case Scenario**



[In collaboration with hrilab, Tufts University]

[Talamadupula, Briggs et al., IROS14]



CommY: Robot: CommY: Robot: "CommX is going to perform triage at Room 1." "Okay."

"I need you to take a medkit to Room 5." "Okay..."

"I am picking up the medkit at Room 4."



### PREDICTED PLAN FOR COMMX

move commx room3 hall5 move\_reverse commx hall5 hall4 move\_reverse commx hall4 hall3 move\_reverse commx hall3 hall2 move\_reverse commx hall2 hall1 move\_reverse commx hall1 room1 pick\_up\_medkit commx mkeast room1 conduct\_triage commx room1

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### **Preliminary Evaluation**



[In collaboration with hrilab, Tufts University]

[Talamadupula, Briggs et al., IROS14]

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# But what if we don't have full knowledge regarding the team member's goal(s)?

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# Intent Recognition



- Extend the goal set to a *hypothesized goal set* 
  - Contains all possible goals of CommX
- Given a sequence of observations of CommX's actions, recompute the probability distribution over the hypothesized goal set
  - Plan recognition as planning [Ramirez & Geffner 2010]
  - Compiles plan recognition problem into a classical planning problem
- Given more observations, the distribution converges towards the most likely goal
  - (assuming correct observations and rational agency)
- Incremental Plan Recognition
  - Can accept a *stream* of observations
  - Incremental re-recognition: Replanning when compiled to classical planning



# Evaluation: Intent Recognition I



[Talamadupula, Briggs, Chakrabarti et al., IROS14]

#### **BELIEF IN GOAL**

(conducted\_triage commX room1) (conducted\_triage commX room5)





observations -

move commx room3 hall5 move\_reverse commx hall5 hall4 move\_reverse commx hall4 hall3 move\_reverse commx hall3 hall2 move\_reverse commx hall2 hall1 move\_reverse commx hall1 room1 pick\_up\_medkit commx mkeast room1 conduct\_triage commx room1



# **Evaluation: Intent Recognition II**



[Talamadupula, Briggs, Chakrabarti et al., IROS14]

#### **BELIEF IN GOAL**

(conducted\_triage commX room1) (conducted\_triage commX room5)





observations -

move commx room3 hall4 move\_reverse commx hall4 hall3 move\_reverse commx hall3 hall2 move\_reverse commx hall2 hall1 move\_reverse commx hall1 room1 pick\_up\_medkit commx mkeast room1 conduct\_triage commx room1



# Limitations & Extensions

- Intentions (and goals) of human fully known
  - Use observations to determine most likely goals being pursued
- > Model of human is fully known (and correct)
  - > Incomplete models: [Nguyen et al. ICAPS14]
- > High level observations are given up-front
  - Currently given by human (CommY)
  - Going from sensors to observations non-trivial

# **REPLANNING FOR HUMAN-ROBOT TEAMING**

# Motivating Scenario: Automated Warehouses

• Used by Amazon (Kiva Systems) for warehouse management

#### Human: Packager

- Only human on the entire floor; remotely located
- Issues goals to the robotic agents

#### Robot(s): Kiva Robots

Can transport items from shelves to the packager

#### Goals: Order requests; come in dynamically

- Goals keep changing as orders pile up
- World changes as shelves are exhausted; break downs

[IROS09, AAAI10, TIST10, DMAP13, arXiv14]





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#### A Generalized Model of Replanning





# **Replanning Constraints**

M1 REPLANNING AS RESTART (From scratch)	> No Constraints	
M2 REPLANNING AS REUSE (Similarity)	<ul> <li>Depends on the similarity metric between plans</li> <li>ACTION SIMILARITY min   π Δ π`  </li> <li>CAUSAL SIMILARITY min   CL(π) Δ CL(π`)  </li> </ul>	
M3 REPLANNING TO KEEP COMMITMENTS	<b>Dependencies</b> between $\pi$ and other plans Project down into <b>commitments</b> that $\pi$ ` must fulfill Exact nature of commitments depends on $\pi$ E.g.: <b>Multi-agent</b> commitments (between rovers)	



# **Replanning: Solution Techniques**

M1 REPLANNING AS RESTART (From scratch)	CLASSICAL PLANNING	<ul> <li>Solve new instance [I`,G`] for</li> <li>π` using classical planner</li> </ul>
M2 REPLANNING AS REUSE (Similarity)	<b>ITERATIVE PLAN REPAIR</b> (Local Search)	<ul> <li>&gt; Start from π</li> <li>&gt; Minimize differences while finding a candidate π`</li> <li>&gt; Stop when [I`,G`] satisfied</li> </ul>
M3 REPLANNING TO KEEP COMMITMENTS	<b>COMPILATION</b> (Partial Satisfaction Planning)	<ul> <li>Commitments are <i>constraints</i> on plan generation process</li> <li>Commitments = Soft Goals G<sub>s</sub></li> <li>Add G<sub>s</sub> to G` → G``</li> <li>Run PSP planner with [I`,G``]</li> </ul>



### **Research Question**

There exist multiple replanning solution techniques, founded in addressing different constraints during the replanning process.

 To what extent do the constraints imposed by one type of replanning formulation act as a surrogate in tracking the constraints of another?

2. Are the different replanning metrics good surrogates of each other?

[Talamadupula, Smith et al., Submitted 2014]



# **Experimental Setup**

1. Generate randomized problem instances of increasing complexity

2. Set up replanning constraints for each replanning metric
a. Speed: No constraints
b. Similarity: Number of differences with previous plan
c. Commitment Satisfaction: Enumerate commitment violations

- 3. Perturb the initial problem instance; create a perturbed instance for each case (2a, 2b, 2c)
- 4. Run problem instances with a PSP or preference based planner

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### **Experimental Results**





Time to Replan (ms.)

30 25 20 15 10 A-X.O.A 0 P16 718 P26 2 4 P6 **P**8 710 P12 24 P20 P22 P30 P32 P36 P38 P40 P46 2 P24 228 P34 P42 44 --- Restart ····× Similarity Commitments

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# Limitations & Extensions

- > Coverage: IPC Benchmark Domains
  - Additional experimental conditions
- Modeling Execution Failures
  - Currently initial state is perturbed
    - > Approximation of execution failure
    - Solution: Perturb state where execution stopped

### Compilation to Classical Planning

#### > Replanning Metrics

Realistic cost and penalty estimates



### **Other Work**

### Planning for Network Security

 Apply automated planners to the Strategic Planning problem
 [arXiv:1305.2561]
 (Work done as part of an IBM internship)

### Foundations of Automated Planning

- Required Concurrency (in Temporal Planning domains) [ICAPS07]
- Search Space Plateaus [ICAPS10]
- Compilation of Replanning Techniques [DMAP13, arXiv14]

### i cant rite Analyzing Tweet Content Iol

- Analyzing language content to detect formalness [ICWSM13]
- Predicting user engagement with real-world events [Submitted]

#### Information Retrieval on Twitter

- Improving Twitter Search using source & content trustworthiness [CIKM13, AAAI-LBP13, Submitted]
- Hashtag rectification problem



# Collaborators

#### > Arizona State University

- > Subbarao Kambhampati
- > J. Benton (SIFT)
- > William Cushing (UC Berkeley)
- > Yuheng Hu (IBM Almaden)
- > Srijith Ravikumar (Amazon)
- > Raju Balakrishnan (Groupon)
- > Lydia Manikonda
- > Tathagata Chakraborti
- > Sumbhav Sethia
- > Sushovan De (Google)
- > Paul Reesman
- Hankz Hankui Zhuo (Sun-Yat Sen U.)
- > Yu Zhang
- Nancy Cooke (ASU Poly)
- > Cade Bartlett (ASU Poly)

#### > Tufts University

Citation Matthias Scheutz

> Gordon Briggs

#### NASA Ames Research Center

- Citation& h-index i10-index
- > 6 David E 8 Smith

#### > Indiana University

- > Paul Schermerhorn (SOARTech)
- Rehj Cantrell (Nuance Communications)

#### > IBM Research (TJ Watson)

- > Anton V. Riabov
- Octavian Udrea
- > Anand Ranganathan

#### IBM Research (India)

- > Shalini Kapoor (IBM Global Services)
- > Shachi Sharma (IRL Delhi)
- > Biplav Srivastava (IRL Delhi)

#### **University of Washington**

- > Daniel S. Weld
- > Mausam (IIT Delhi)

#### University of Freiburg

- Patrick Eyerich
- > Robert Mattmueller





# **Challenges Addressed**

#### **1. OPEN WORLD GOALS**

- > Provide a way to specify quantified goals on unknown objects
- > Consider a more principled way of handling uncertainty in facts

#### **2.** REPLANNING

- Handle state and goal updates from a changing world while executing
- > Present a unified theory of replanning, to analyze tradeoffs

#### **3. MODEL UPDATES**

 Accept changes to planner's domain model via natural language

#### **4. PLAN RECOGNITION**

> Use belief models of other agents to enhance planning

# Summary



 Planning for Human-Robot Teaming (HRT) is an important problem

"THEY ALL SAY THEY'RE AGNOSTIC, UNTIL IT'S TIME FOR DIAGNOSTICS."

- Demonstrated the successful integration of a planner with an architecture for HRT
- Detailed techniques used in that integration, and novel extensions and analysis of some of them
  - 1. Replanning
  - 2. Plan & Intent Recognition
  - 3. Open World Quantified Goals
  - 4. Model Updates
- > Broader Implications: Human-in-the-Loop Planning