

# CREATIVE SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEMS

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Almost all of my papers are on the web page.

## APPROACHES TO ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

**biological**—Humans are intelligent; imitate humans  
observe and imitate at either the psychological or neuro-  
physiological level

**engineering**—Achieve goals in the world—so study  
world

1. Write programs using non-logical representations.
2. represent facts about the world in logic and decide  
what to do by logical inference

We aim at human level AI, and the key phenomenon is  
the common sense informatic situation.

## THE COMMON SENSE INFORMATIC SITUATION

- Contrasts with the situation in a formal scientific theory and most AI theories. Science is embedded in common sense.
- No limitation on what information may be relevant. Theories must be **elaboration tolerant**.
- Needs non-monotonic reasoning.
- Needs approximate entities.

## A LOGICAL ROAD TO HUMAN LEVEL AI

- Use *Drosophilas* that illustrate aspects of representation and reasoning problems.
- Concepts, context, circumscription, counterfactuals, consciousness, creativity, approximation
- narrative, projection, planning
- mental situation calculus
- domain dependent control of reasoning

# IDENTIFYING CREATIVE SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEMS

- Making creative programs will be hard.
- Making a program that will recognize creativity is easier but still too hard for me now.
- Distinguish the idea of a solution from the solution itself.

# IDENTIFYING CREATIVE SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEMS

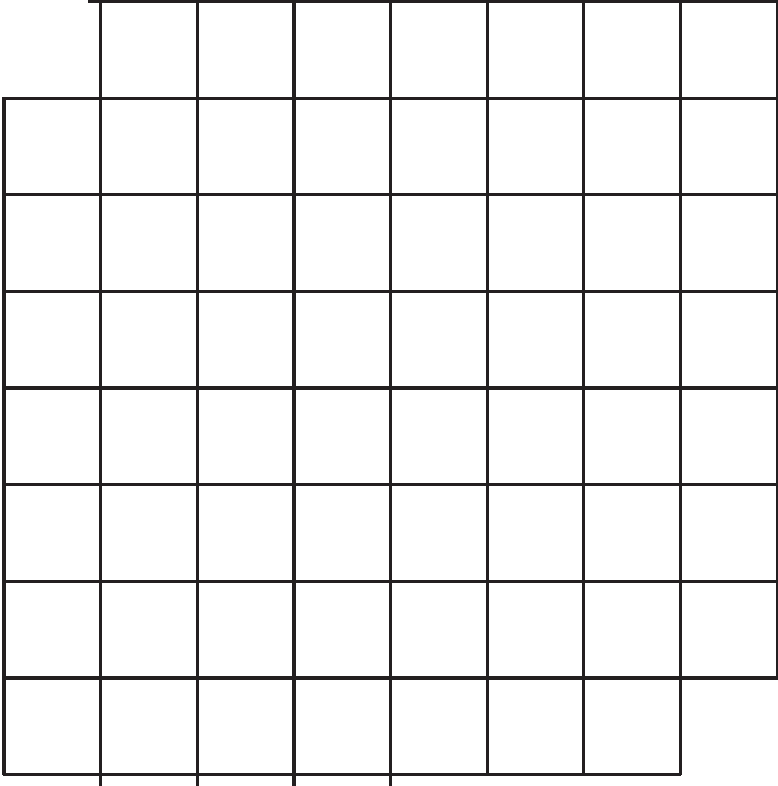
- I can identify, thinking by hand, creative solutions
- I can sometimes express the creative idea by a logical formula.
- The *Drosophila* for this research is the mutilated chess board problem.
- As much as possible, an idea should be one thing, it should be promising in itself.

- I know four creative solutions to the mutilated chessboard problem, the standard solution, Marvin Minsky's solution, Shmuel Winograd's solution and Dmitri Stefanuk's 17 similar solutions.
- I tried to express each idea as concisely as was compatible with leading a person to the solution.

# THE MUTILATED CHECKERBOARD



MUTILATED CHECKERBOARD



DOMINO

## THE STANDARD SOLUTION

What's the idea of the solution that a creative person in a computer program may come up with? This is distinct from giving the detailed argument. English first—then a formula.

Color the board as in a checkerboard.

A domino covers two squares of the opposite color.

Some people also need that the removed squares are the same color.

# THE COMMON FACTS IN SET THEORY

$$\text{Board} = \mathbb{Z}_8 \times \mathbb{Z}_8,$$

$$\text{mutilated-board} = \text{Board} - \{(0, 0), (7, 7)\},$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{domino-on-board}(x) &\equiv (x \subset \text{Board}) \wedge \text{card}(x) = 2 \\ &\wedge (\forall x_1 \ x_2)(x_1 \neq x_2 \wedge x_1 \in x \wedge x_2 \in x \\ &\rightarrow \text{adjacent}(x_1, x_2)) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{adjacent}(x1, x2) &\equiv \\ |c(x1, 1) - c(x2, 1)| = 1 \wedge c(x1, 2) = c(x2, 2) \\ \vee \\ |c(x1, 2) - c(x2, 2)| = 1 \wedge c(x1, 1) = c(x2, 1). \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{adjacent}(x1, x2) &\equiv \\ |c(x1, 1) - c(x2, 1)| + |c(x1, 2) - c(x2, 2)| &= 1, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{partial-covering}(z) & \\ \equiv (\forall x)(x \in z \rightarrow \text{domino-on-board}(x)) & \\ \wedge (\forall x \ y)(x \in z \wedge y \in z \rightarrow x = y \vee x \cap y = \{\}) & \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem:**

$$\neg(\exists z)(\text{partial-covering}(z) \wedge \bigcup z = \text{mutilated-board})$$

Makers of automatic or interactive theorem provers  
often don't like set theory because of the comprehens  
principle. They had better get used to it.

## THE UNMATHEMATICAL REQUIRE MANY HINTS

- Take into account the colors.
- What are the colors of the diagonally opposite corner squares?
- How many of each color does a domino cover?
- How many of each do  $n$  dominoes cover? *huh?*
- What about 7 dominoes?
- How many of each do  $n$  dominoes cover? *Equal.*
- *Two blacks left over, but maybe a more clever permutation*
- *.....*

## MARVIN MINSKY'S IDEA

Starting with the two square diagonal next to an excluded square, successively compute how many dominoes must project from each diagonal to the next diagonal.

- Good enough hint for a horse doctor.
- Not a sentence, but a program fragment—without termination condition.



## SHMUEL WINOGRAD'S IDEA

- Note that an odd number of dominoes project from top row to the second and continue.
- A movie showed a math teacher rejecting this idea Socratically leading the student to the standard solution.
- Winograd showed the student was on the right track but most people need something like
- Starting with the top row, compute the parity of number of dominoes projecting down out of each row. Consider the parity of the sum. Repeat going horizontally. Compute the parity of the total number of dominoes compared to the sum of the two parities.

## DIMITRI STEFANUK'S IDEA

The idea seems to involve two program fragments.

Label an arbitrary square 1, label its rectilinear neighbors 2, their neighbors 3, etc.

Starting with  $n = 1$ , successively compute how many dominoes must project from the set of squares labelled  $n$  to the squares labelled  $n + 1$ .

## FORMULAS FOR MINSKY SOLUTION

$$\text{diag}(n) = \{x \in \text{Board} \mid c(x, 1) + c(x, 2) = n\}$$

$$\text{covering}(u) \equiv \text{partial-covering}(u) \wedge \bigcup u = \text{Board}$$

$$\text{covering}(u) \wedge 2 \leq n \leq 13$$

→

$$\text{dominoes-into}(n, u) = \{x \in u \mid x \cap \text{diag}(n-1) \neq \{\} \wedge x \cap \text{diag}(n) \neq \{\}\}$$

$$\text{card}(\text{dominoes-into}(n, u)) + \text{card}(\text{dominoes-into}(n+1, u)) = \text{card}(\text{diag}(n))$$

$$\textit{covering}(u) \rightarrow \textit{card}(\textit{dominoes-into}(2, u)) = 2$$

# REALITY BEHIND APPEARANCE