

Temporal Planning in Space



based on:

“Application of Mapgen to MER,”
by Kanna Rajan

**“Handling Time:
Constraint-based Interval Planning,”**
by David E. Smith

Brian C. Williams and
Robert Morris (guest lect.)

16.412J/6.834J

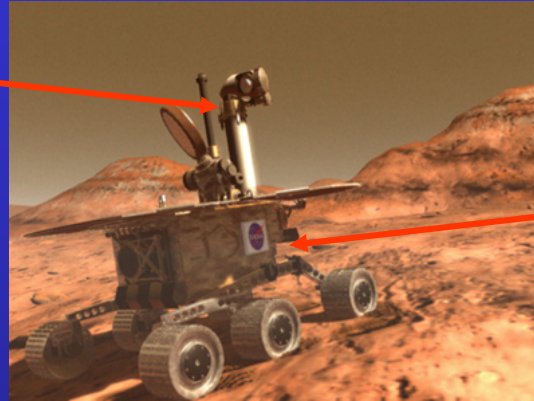
March 2nd, 2005

Outline

- Operational Planning for the Mars Exploration Rovers
- Review of Least Commitment Planning
- Constraint-based Interval Planning
- Temporal Constraint Networks
- Temporal Constraints with Preference

Mars Exploration Rovers – Jan. 2004 - ?

Mini-TES
Pancam
Navcam

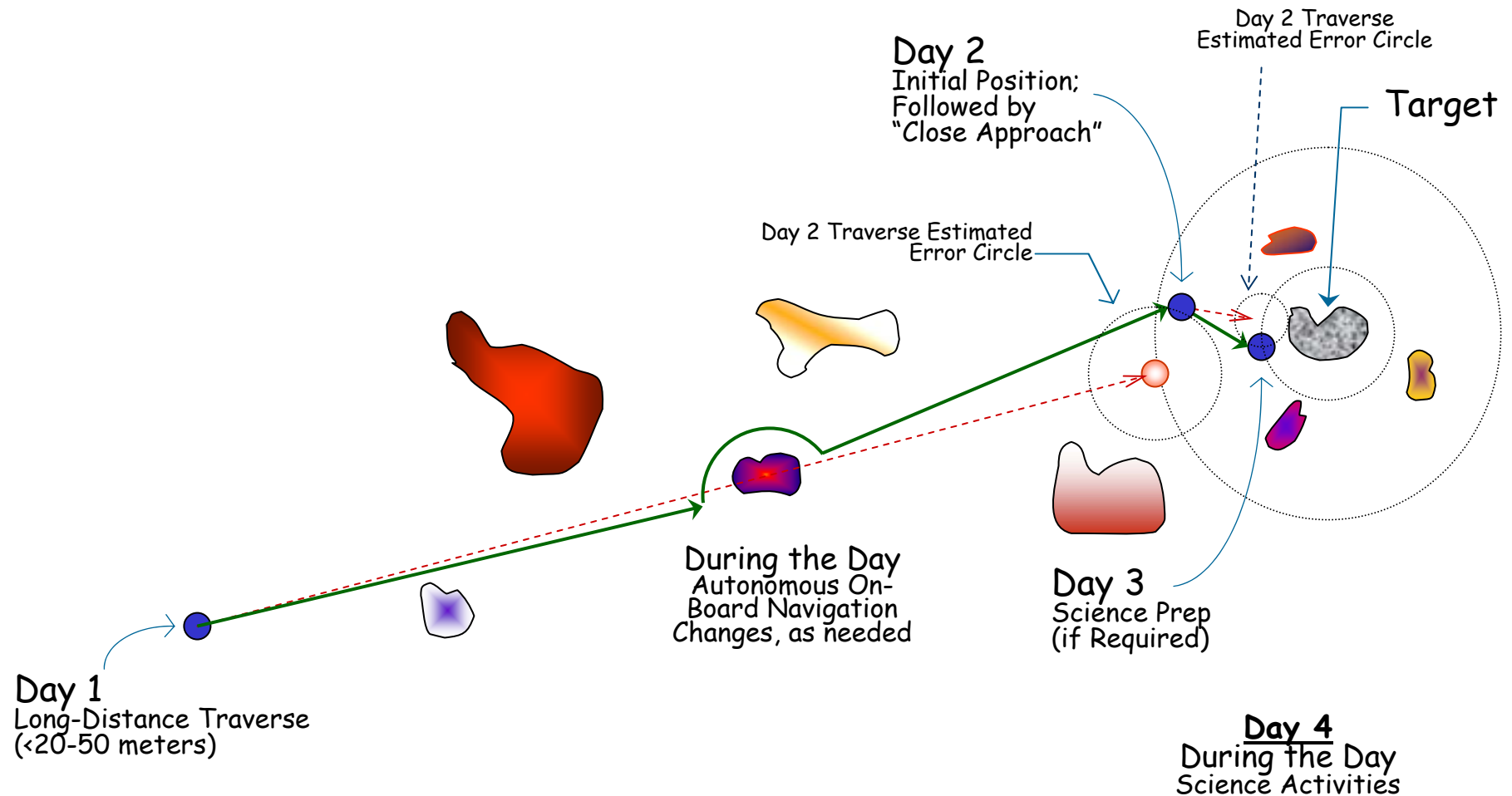


Mossbauer spectrometer
APXS
Rock Abrasion Tool
Microscopic Imager

Mission Objectives:

- Learn about ancient water and climate on Mars.
- For each rover, analyze a total of 6-12 targets
 - Targets = natural rocks, abraded rocks, and soil
- Drive 200-1000 meters per rover

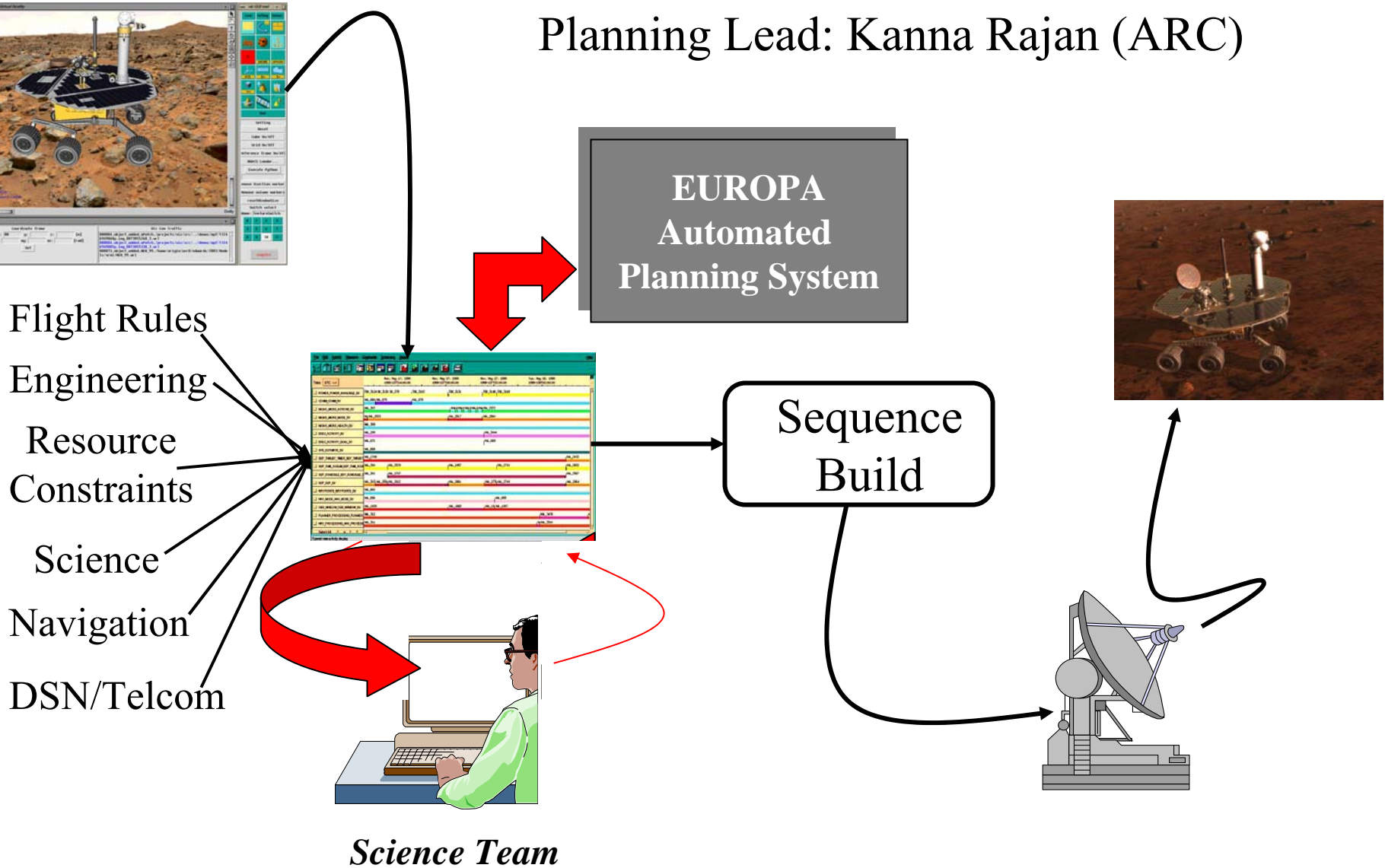
Mars Exploration Rover Surface Operations Scenario



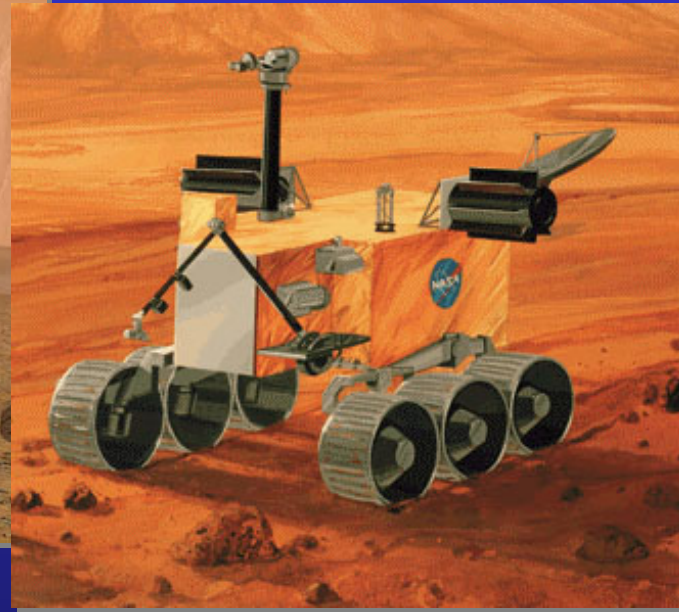
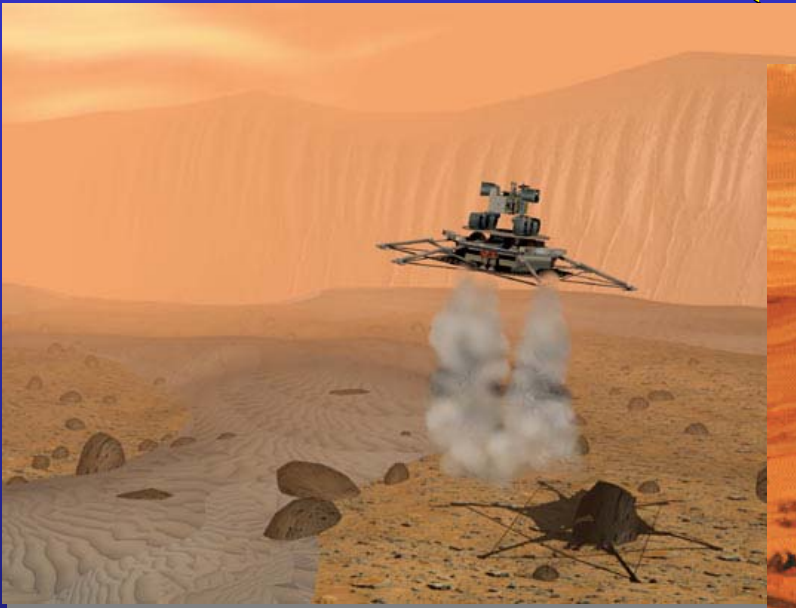


MAPGEN: Automated Science Planning for MER

Planning Lead: Kanna Rajan (ARC)



Next Challenge: Mars Smart Lander (2009)



Mission Duration: 1000 days
Total Traverse: 3000-69000 meters
Meters/Day: 230-450
Science Mission: 7 instruments, sub-surface science package (drill, radar), in-situ sample "lab"

Technology Demonstration:
(2005).

Course Challenge: 16.413 Fall 03

- What would it be like to operate MER if it was fully autonomous?

Potential inspiration for course projects:

- Demonstrate an autonomous MER mission in simulation, and in the MIT rover testbed.

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Planning

Find:

program of actions that achieves the objective

Planning

Find:

program of actions that achieves the **objective**



partially-ordered set

typically unconditional



goals

Paradigms

Classical planning

(STRIPS, operator-based, first-principles)

“generative”

Hierarchical Task Network planning

“practical” planning

MDP & POMDP planning

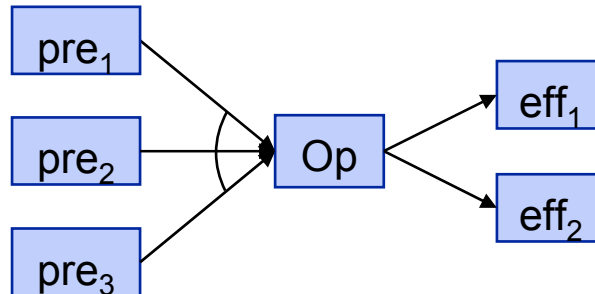
planning under uncertainty

The Classical Representation

Initial Conditions:



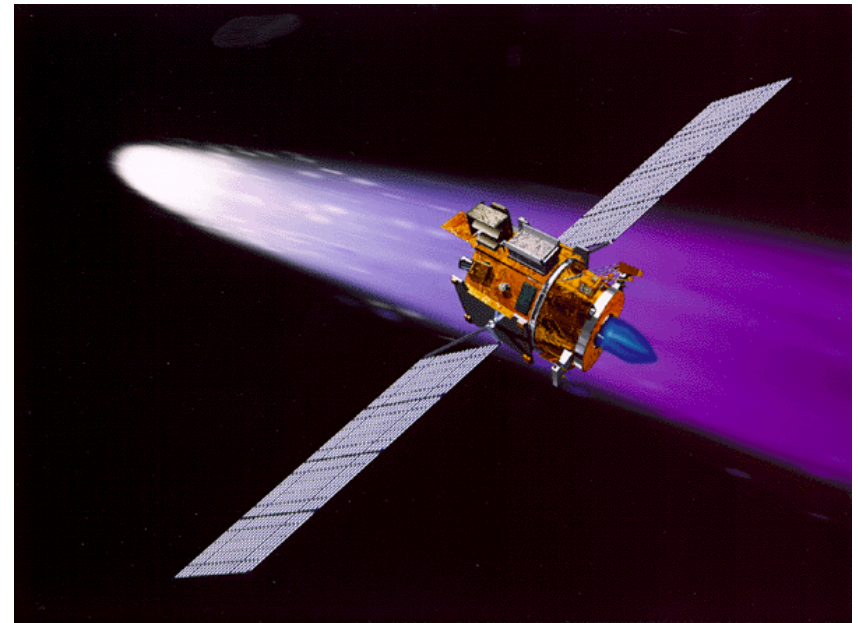
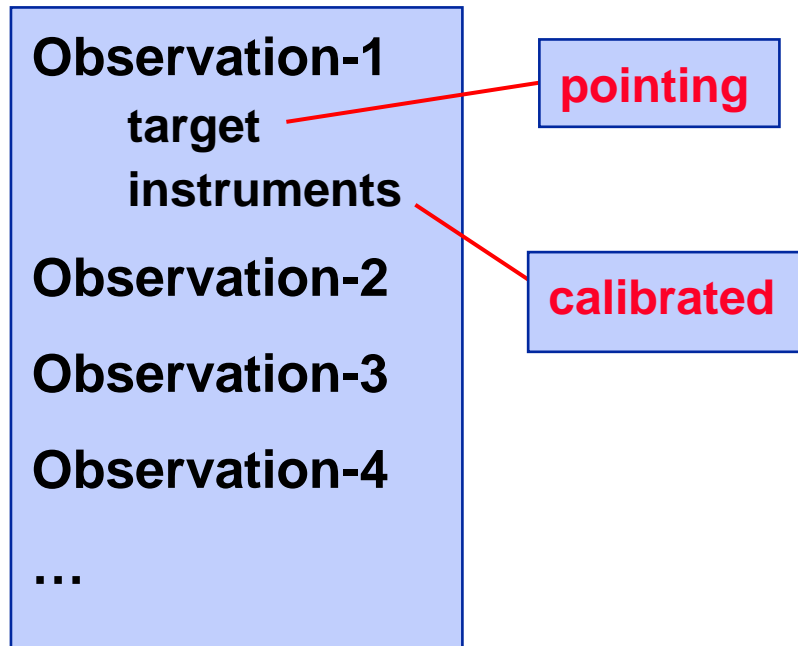
Operators:



Goals:



Simple Spacecraft Problem



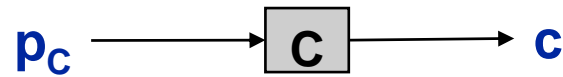
Example

Init

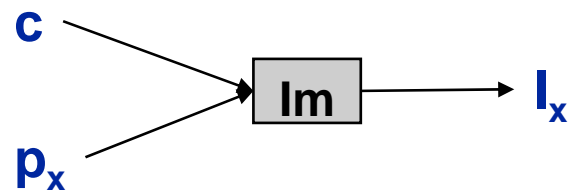
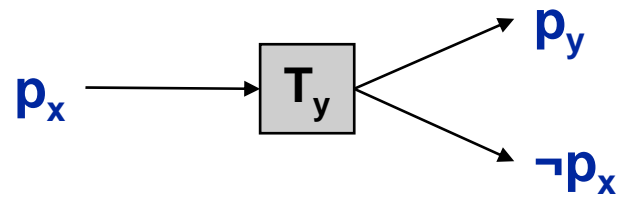
Actions

Goal

p_c



I_A



Some STRIPS Operators

TakeImage (?target, ?instr):

Pre: Status(?instr, Calibrated), Pointing(?target)

Eff: Image(?target)

Calibrate (?instrument):

Pre: Status(?instr, On), Calibration-Target(?target), Pointing(?target)

Eff: \neg Status(?instr, On), Status(?instr, Calibrated)

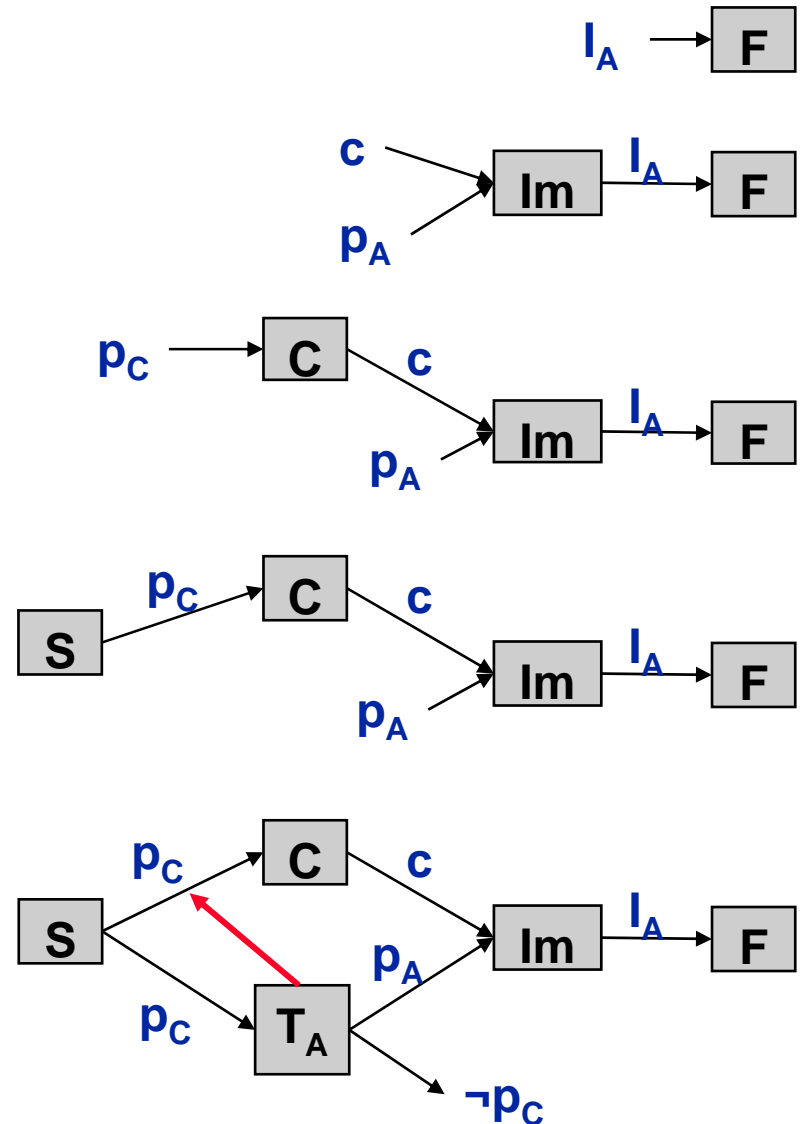
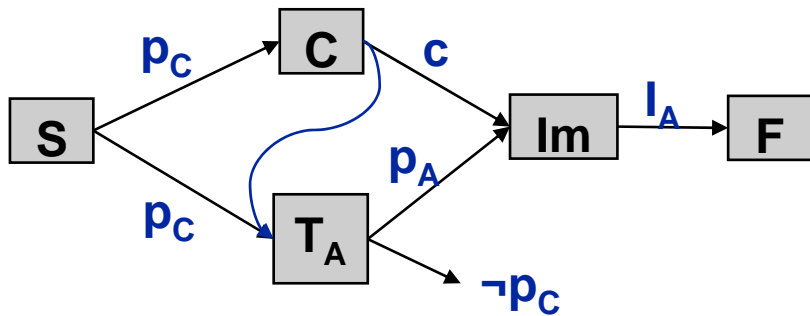
Turn (?target):

Pre: Pointing(?direction), ?direction \neq ?target

Eff: \neg Pointing(?direction), Pointing(?target)

Partial Order Causal Link Planning (SNLP, UCPOP)

1. Select an open condition
2. Choose an op that can achieve it
 - Link to an existing instance
 - Add a new instance
3. Resolve threats



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An Autonomous Science Explorer

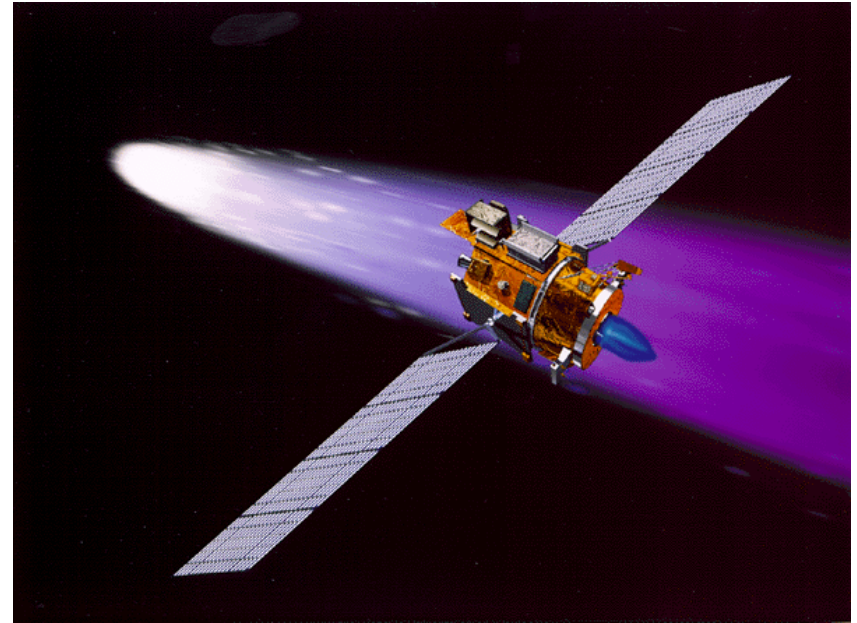
Observation-1
priority
time window
target
instruments
duration

Observation-2

Observation-3

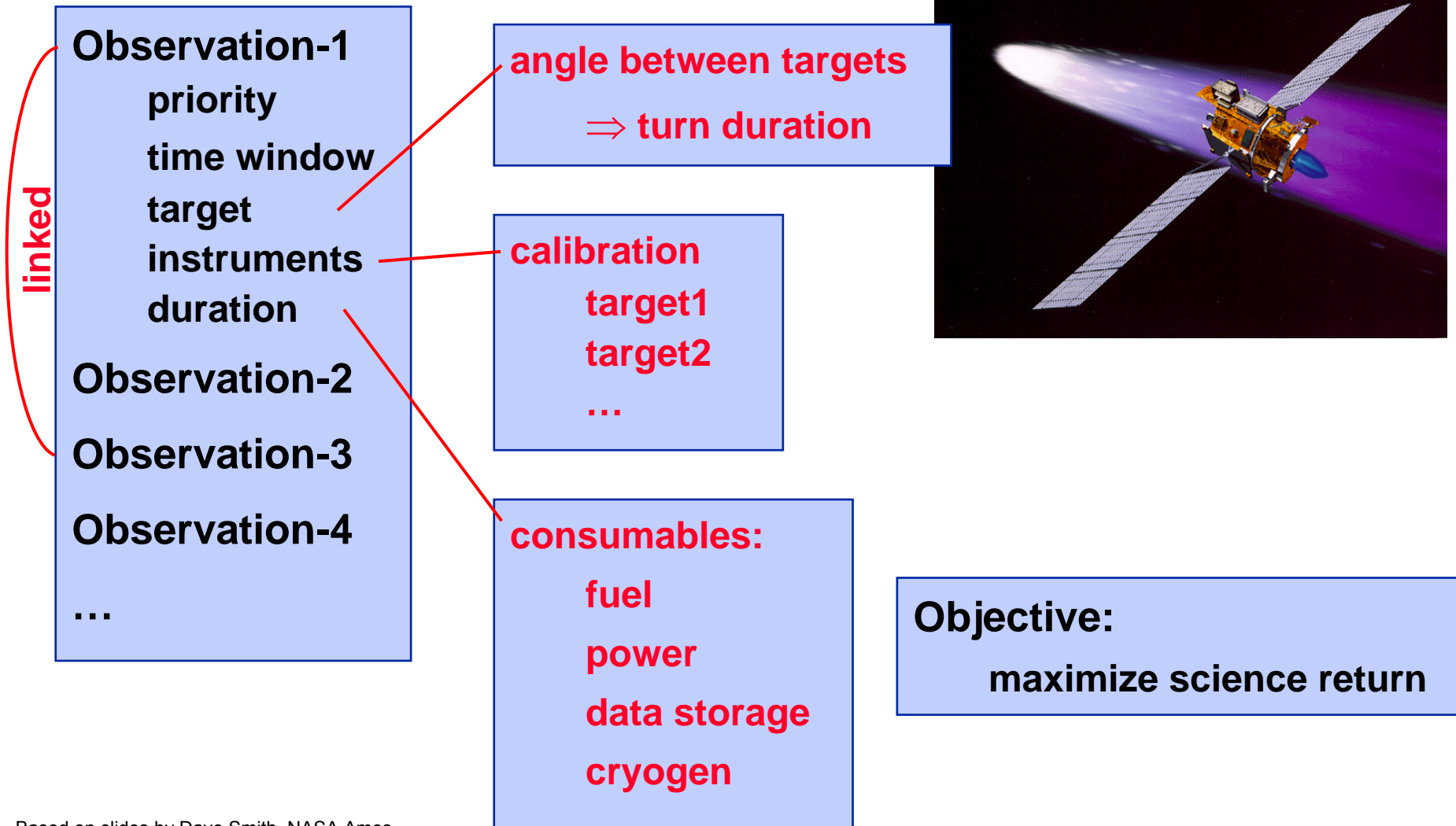
Observation-4

...



Objective:
maximize science return

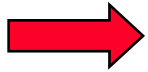
Complications



Limitations of Classical Planning with Atomic Actions (aka STRIPS)

Instantaneous actions
No temporal constraints
No concurrent actions
No continuous quantities

Needed Extensions



Time

Resources

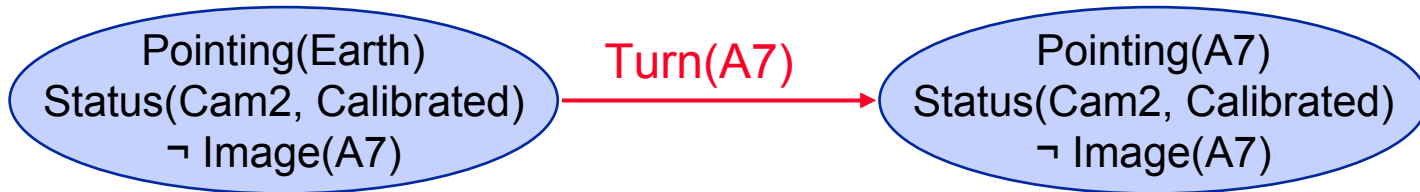
Utility

Uncertainty

World Description

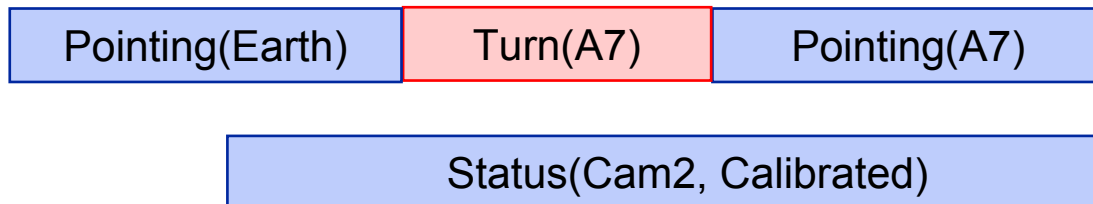
State-centric (McCarthy):

for each time describe propositions that are true



History-based (Hayes):

for each proposition describe times it is true



Representing Timing: Qualitative Temporal Relations [Allen AAAI83]

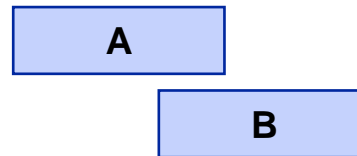
A before B



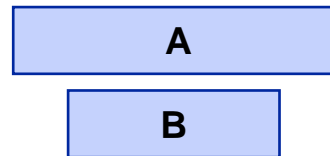
A meets B



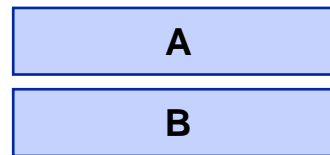
A overlaps B



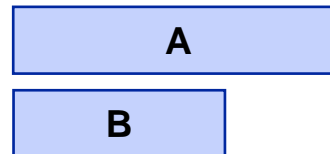
A contains B



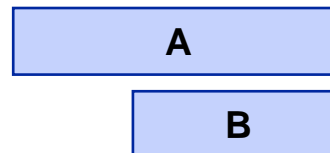
A = B



A starts B



A ends B



Representing Temporal Operators: TakeImage Schema

TakeImage (?target, ?instr):

Pre: Status(?instr, Calibrated), Pointing(?target)

Eff: Image(?target)



TakeImage (?target, ?instr)

contained-by

contained-by

meets

Status(?instr, Calibrated)

Pointing(?target)

Image(?target)

Pictorially

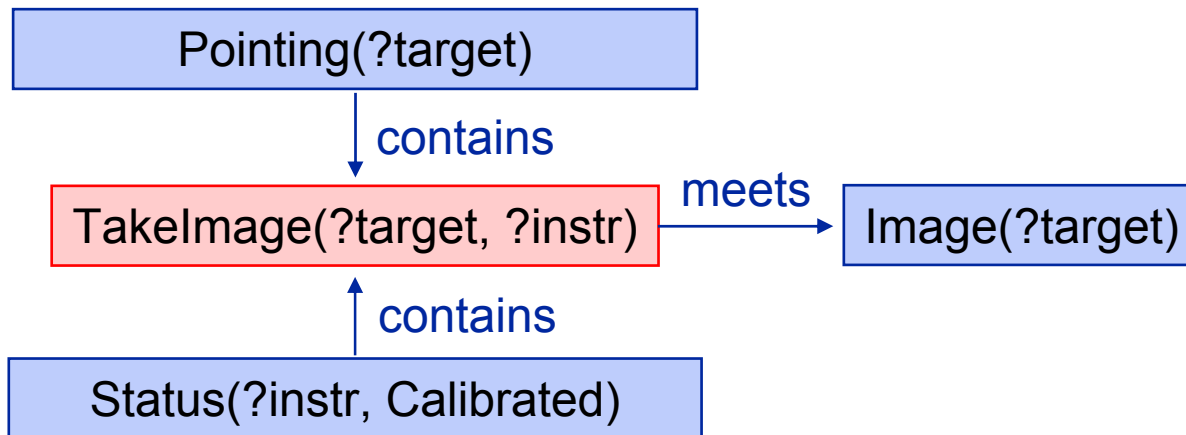
TakeImage (?target, ?instr)

contained-by
contained-by
meets

Status(?instr, Calibrated)

Pointing(?target)

Image(?target)



TakelImage Schema Semantics

TakelImage (?target, ?instr)

contained-by

Status(?instr, Calibrated)

contained-by

Pointing(?target)

meets

Image(?target)



$\text{TakelImage}(\text{?target}, \text{?instr})_A$

$\Rightarrow \exists P \{ \text{Status}(\text{?instr}, \text{Calibrated})_P \wedge \text{Contains}(P, A) \}$

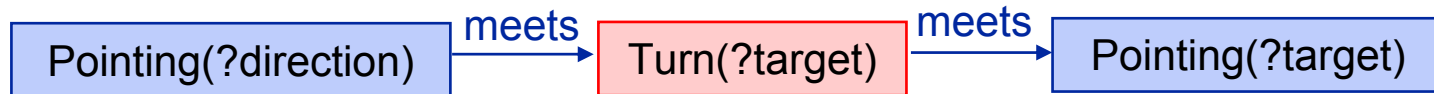
$\wedge \exists Q \{ \text{Pointing}(\text{?target})_Q \wedge \text{Contains}(Q, A) \}$

$\wedge \exists R \{ \text{Image}(\text{?target})_R \wedge \text{Meets}(A, R) \}$

Turn

Turn (?target)
met-by
meets

Pointing(?direction)
Pointing(?target)



Calibrate

Calibrate (?instr)

met-by

contained-by

contained-by

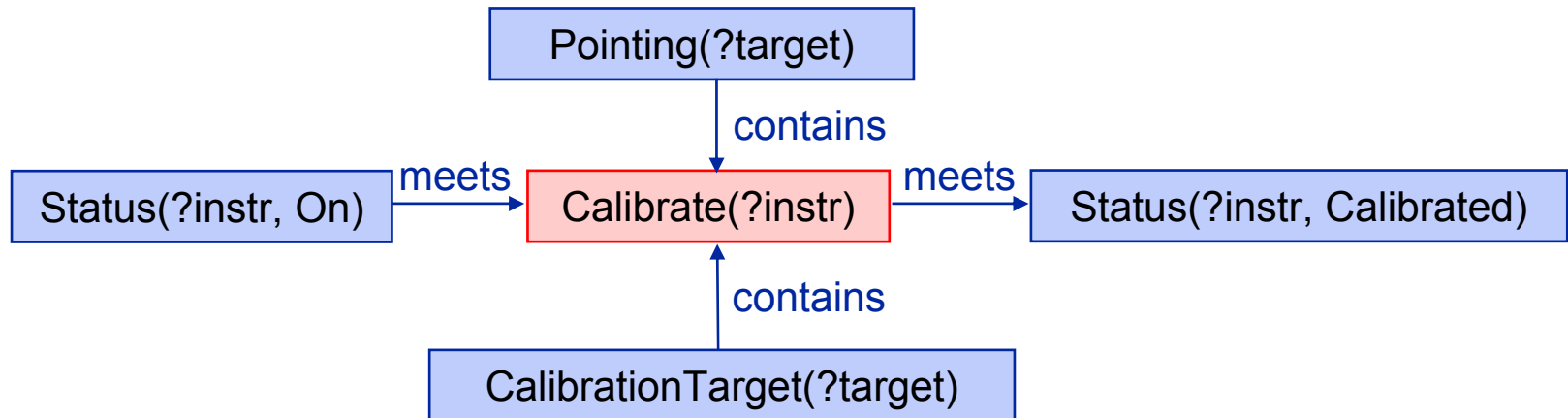
meets

Status(?instr, On)

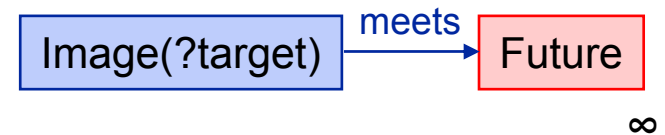
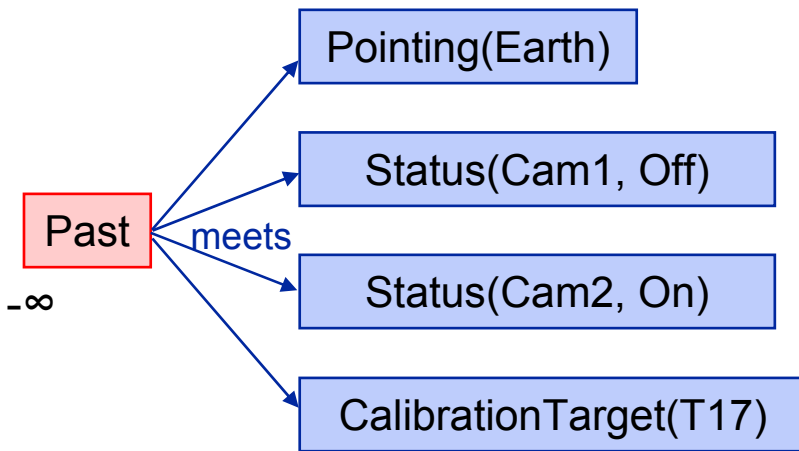
CalibrationTarget(?target)

Pointing(?target)

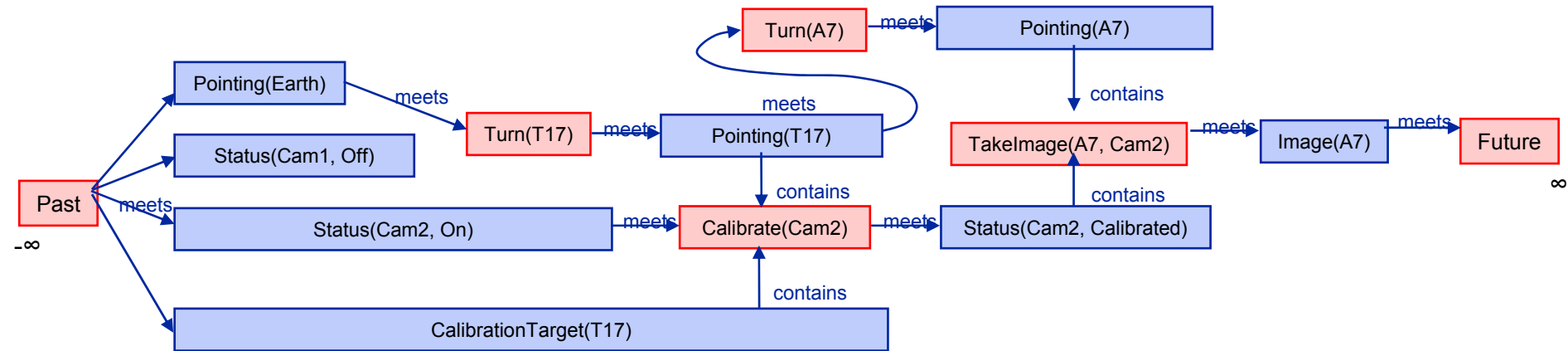
Status(?instr, Calibrated)



A Temporal Planning Problem



A Consistent Complete Temporal Plan



CBI Planning Algorithm

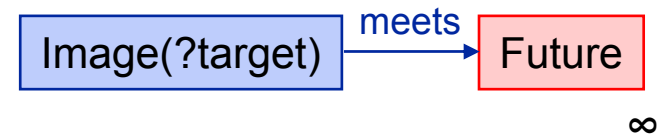
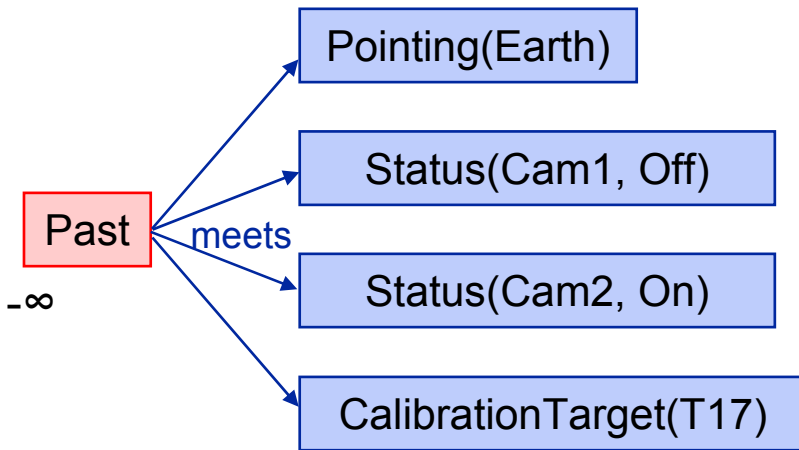
Choose:

introduce an action & instantiate constraints

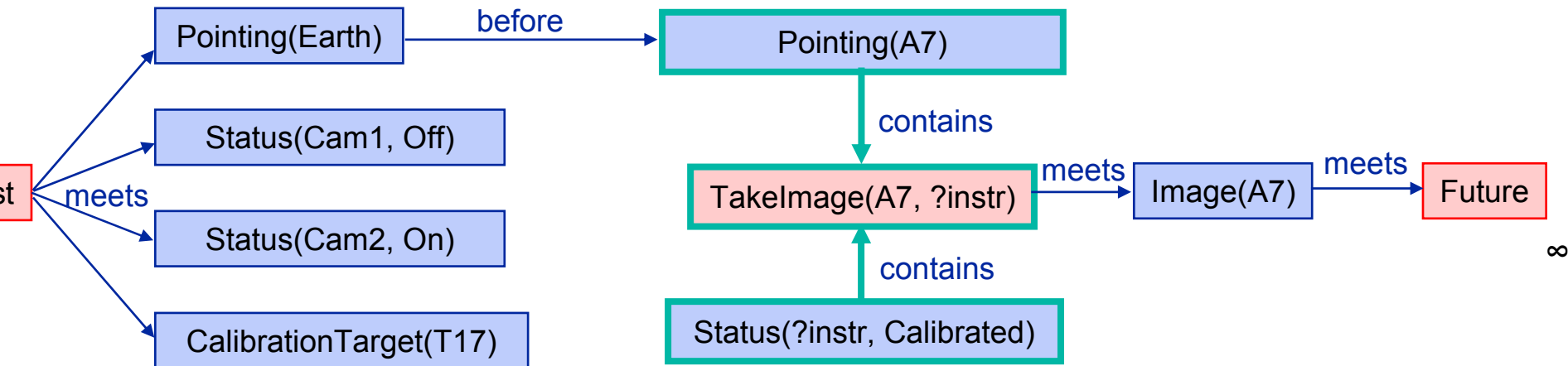
coalesce propositions

Propagate constraints

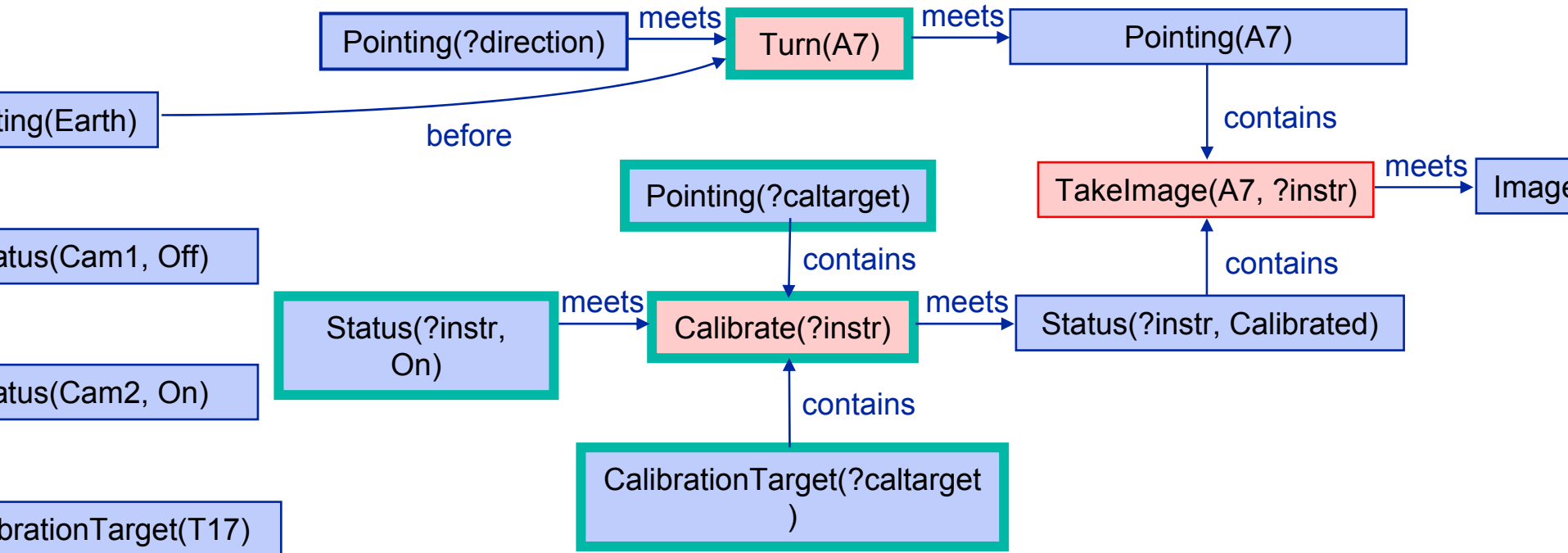
Initial Plan



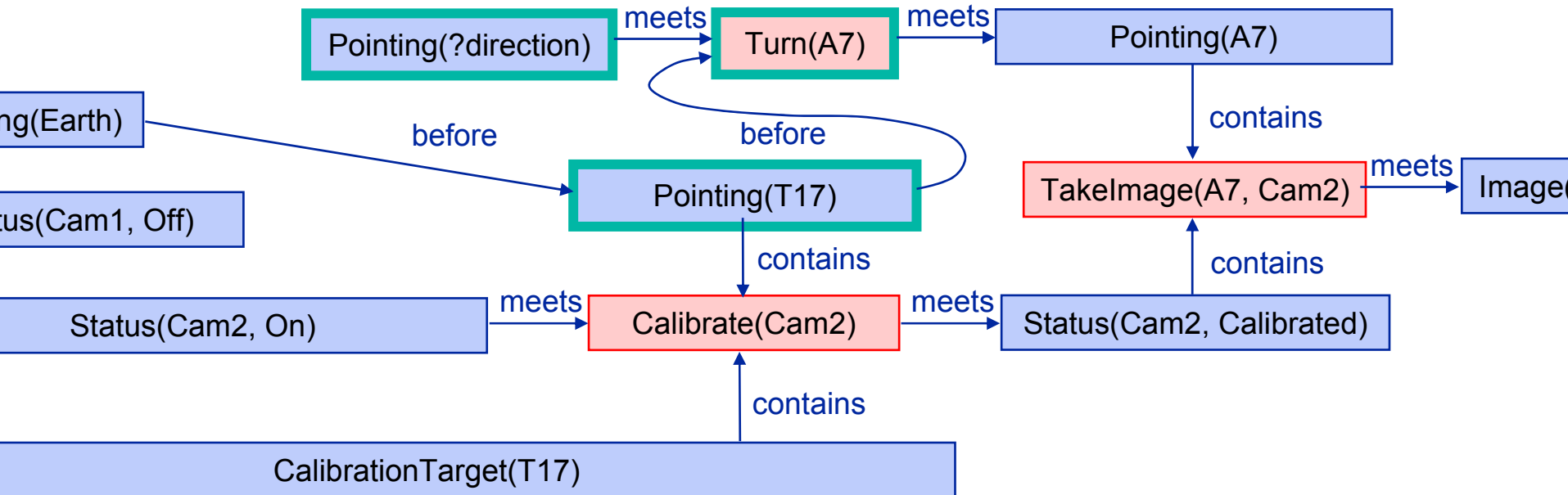
Expansion 1



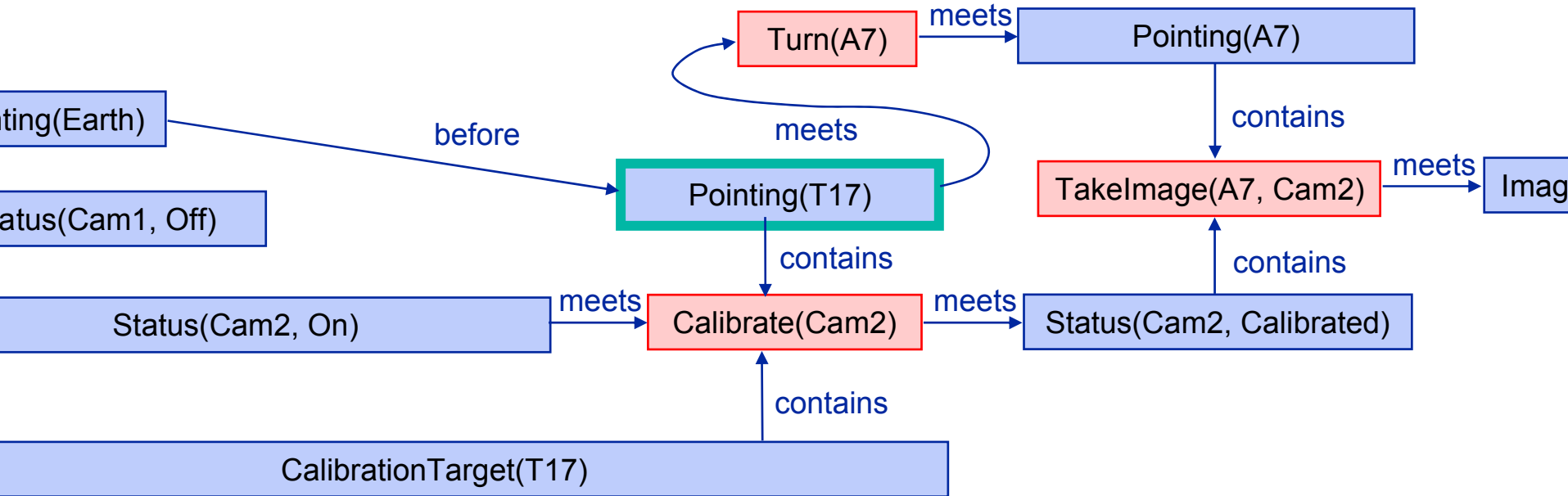
Expansion 2



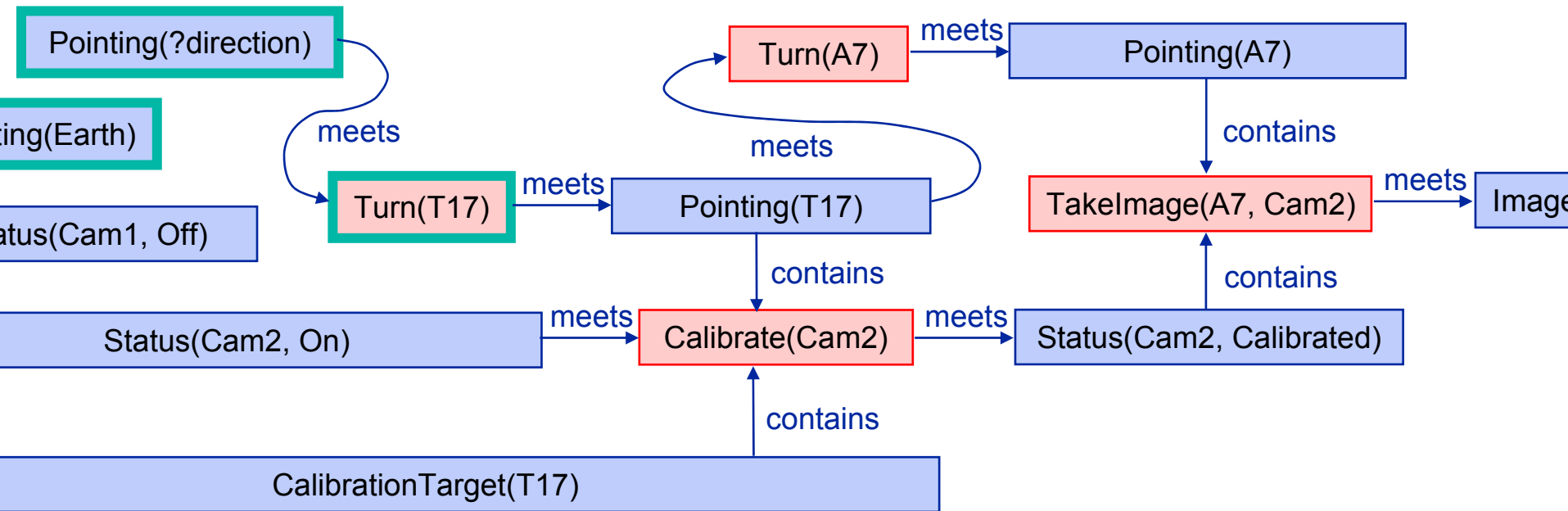
Coalescing



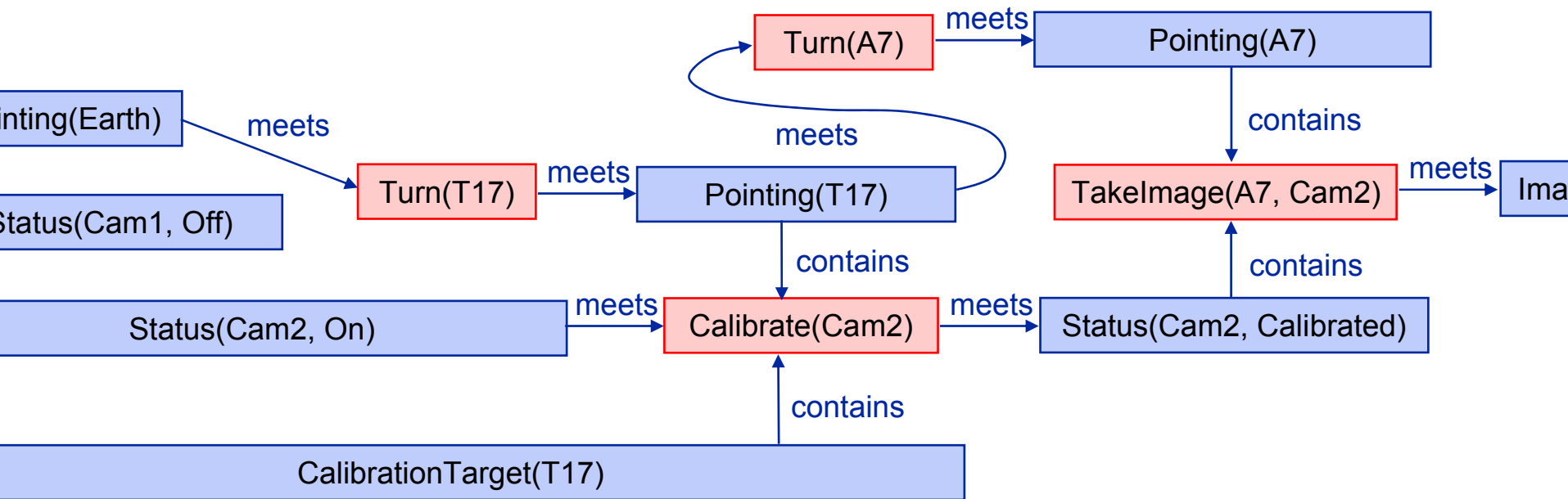
Coalescing



Expansion 3



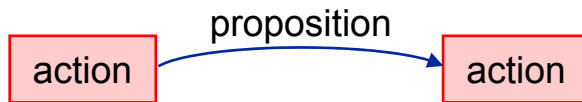
Coalescing



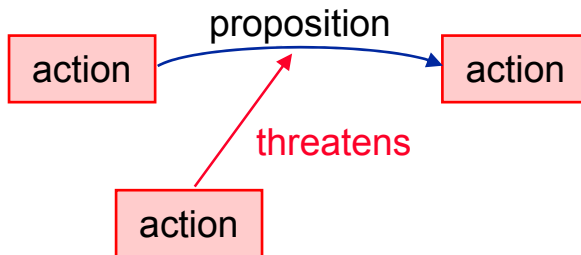
Relation to Causal Links & Threats

POCL

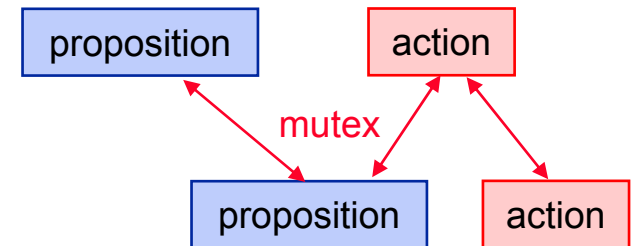
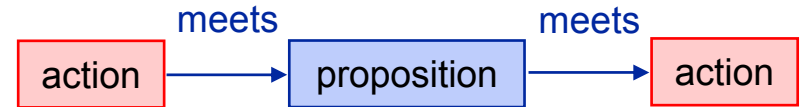
Causal links:



Threats:



CBI



Examples of CBI Planners

Zeno (Penberthy)

intervals, no CSP

Trains (Allen)

Descartes (Joslin)

extreme least commitment

IxTeT (Ghallab)

functional rep.

HSTS (Muscettola)

functional rep., activities

EUROPA (Jonsson)

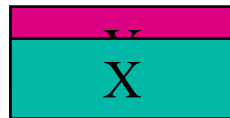
functional rep., activities

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- Constraint-based Interval Planning
- Temporal Constraint Networks
- Model-based Program Execution
as Graph-based Temporal Planning

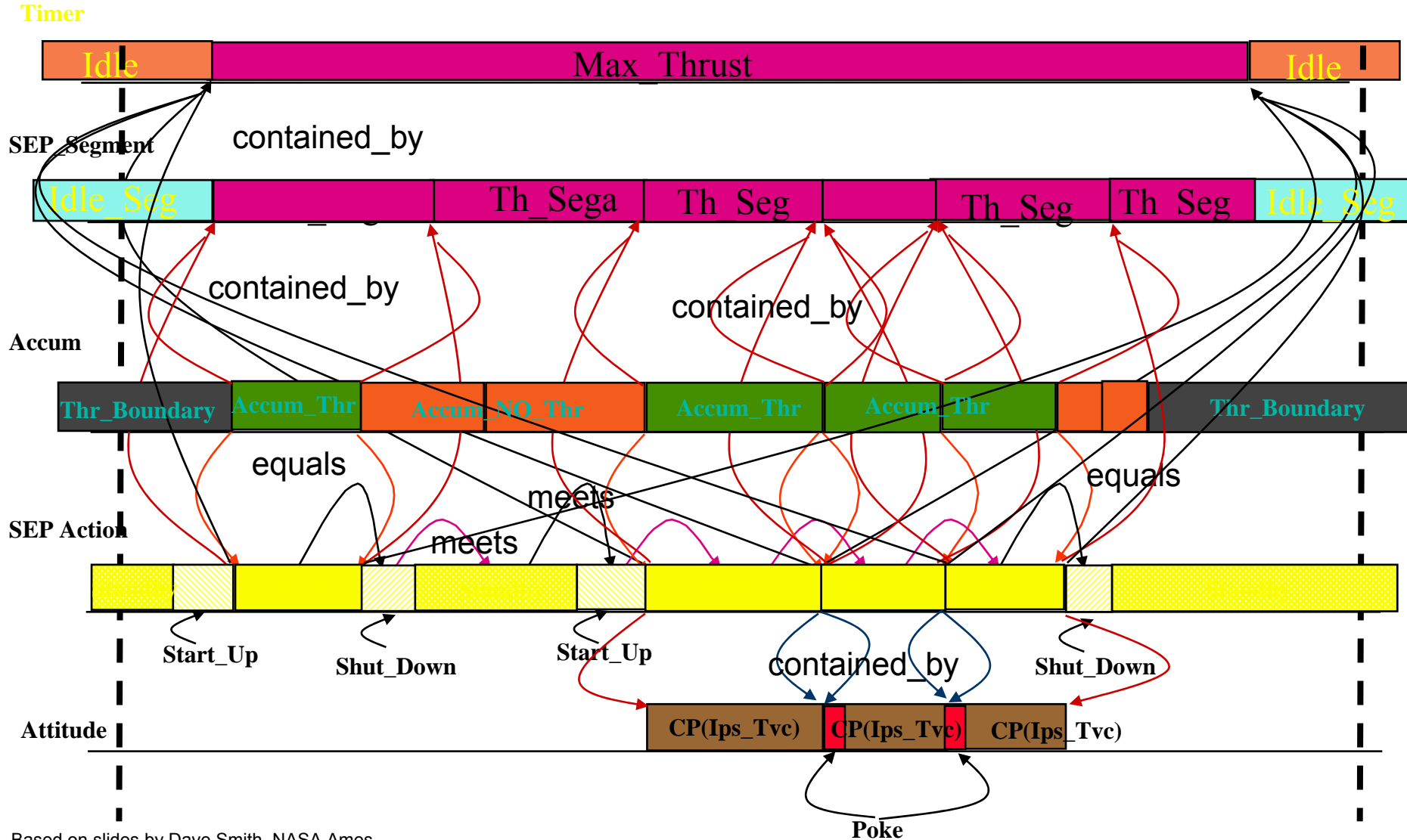
Qualitative Temporal Constraints (Allen 83)

- x before y
- x meets y
- x overlaps y
- x during y
- x starts y
- x finishes y
- x equals y



- y after x
- y met-by x
- y overlapped-by x
- y contains x
- y started-by x
- y finished-by x
- y equals x

Example: Deep Space One Remote Agent Experiment



Qualitative Temporal Constraints Maybe Expressed as Inequalities (Vilain, Kautz 86)

- x before y $X^+ < Y^-$
- x meets y $X^+ = Y^-$
- x overlaps y $(Y^- < X^+) \& (X^- < Y^+)$
- x during y $(Y^- < X^-) \& (X^+ < Y^+)$
- x starts y $(X^- = Y^-) \& (X^+ < Y^+)$
- x finishes y $(X^- < Y^-) \& (X^+ = Y^+)$
- x equals y $(X^- = Y^-) \& (X^+ = Y^+)$

Inequalities may be expressed as binary interval relations:

$$X^+ - Y^- < [-\text{inf}, 0]$$

Metric Constraints

- Going to the store takes at least 10 minutes and at most 30 minutes.
→ $10 \leq [T^+(\text{store}) - T^-(\text{store})] \leq 30$
- Bread should be eaten within a day of baking.
→ $0 \leq [T^+(\text{baking}) - T^-(\text{eating})] \leq 1 \text{ day}$
- Inequalities, $X^+ < Y^-$, may be expressed as binary interval relations:
→ $-\text{inf} < [X^+ - Y^-] < 0$

Metric Time: Quantitative Temporal Constraint Networks

(Dechter, Meiri, Pearl 91)

- A set of time points X_i at which events occur.
- Unary constraints

$$(a_0 \leq X_i \leq b_0) \text{ or } (a_1 \leq X_i \leq b_1) \text{ or } \dots$$

- Binary constraints

$$(a_0 \leq X_j - X_i \leq b_0) \text{ or } (a_1 \leq X_j - X_i \leq b_1) \text{ or } \dots$$

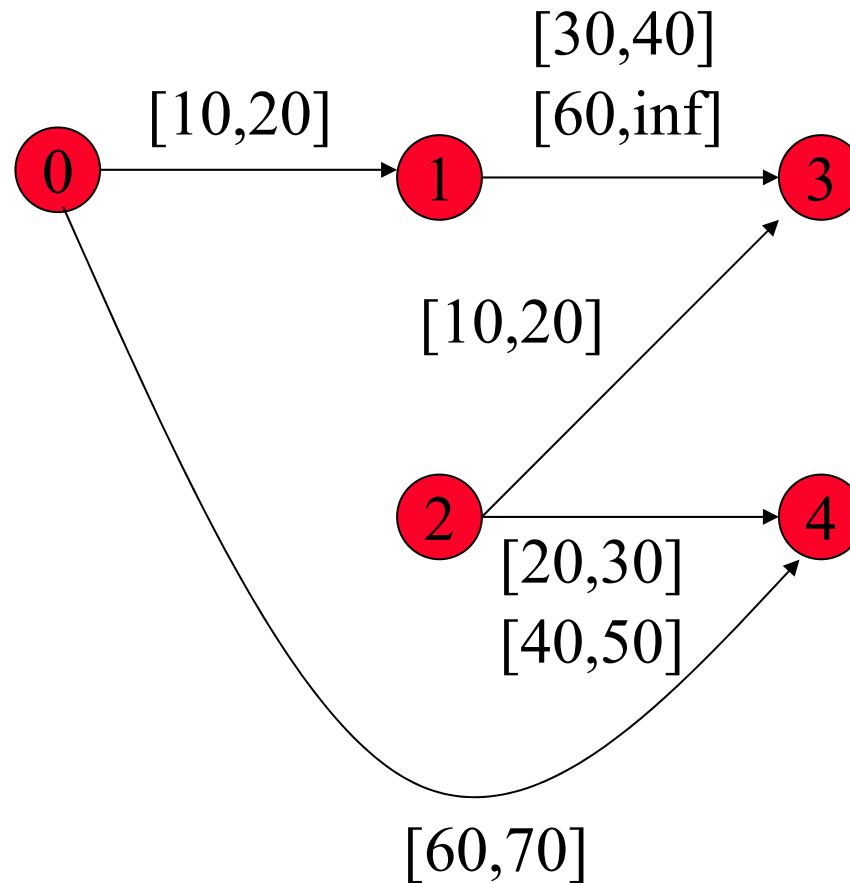
Temporal Constraint Satisfaction Problem (TCSP)

$$\langle X_i, T_i, T_{ij} \rangle$$

- X_i continuous variables
- T_i, T_{ij} interval constraints
 $\{I_1, \dots, I_n\}$ where $I_i = [a_i, b_i]$
 - $T_i = (a_i \leq X_i \leq b_i)$ or ... or $(a_i \leq X_i \leq b_i)$
 - $T_{ij} = (a_1 \leq X_i - X_j \leq b_1)$ or ... or $(a_n \leq X_i - X_j \leq b_n)$

[Dechter, Meiri, Pearl, aij89]

TCSP Are Visualized Using Directed Constraint Graphs



Simple Temporal Networks

(Dechter, Meiri, Pearl 91)

Simple Temporal Networks:

- A set of time points X_i at which events occur.
- Unary constraints

$$(a_0 \leq X_i \leq b_0) \text{ or } (a_1 \leq X_i \leq b_1) \text{ or } \dots$$

- Binary constraints

$$(a_0 \leq X_j - X_i \leq b_0) \text{ or } (a_1 \leq X_j - X_i \leq b_1) \text{ or } \dots$$

Sufficient to represent:

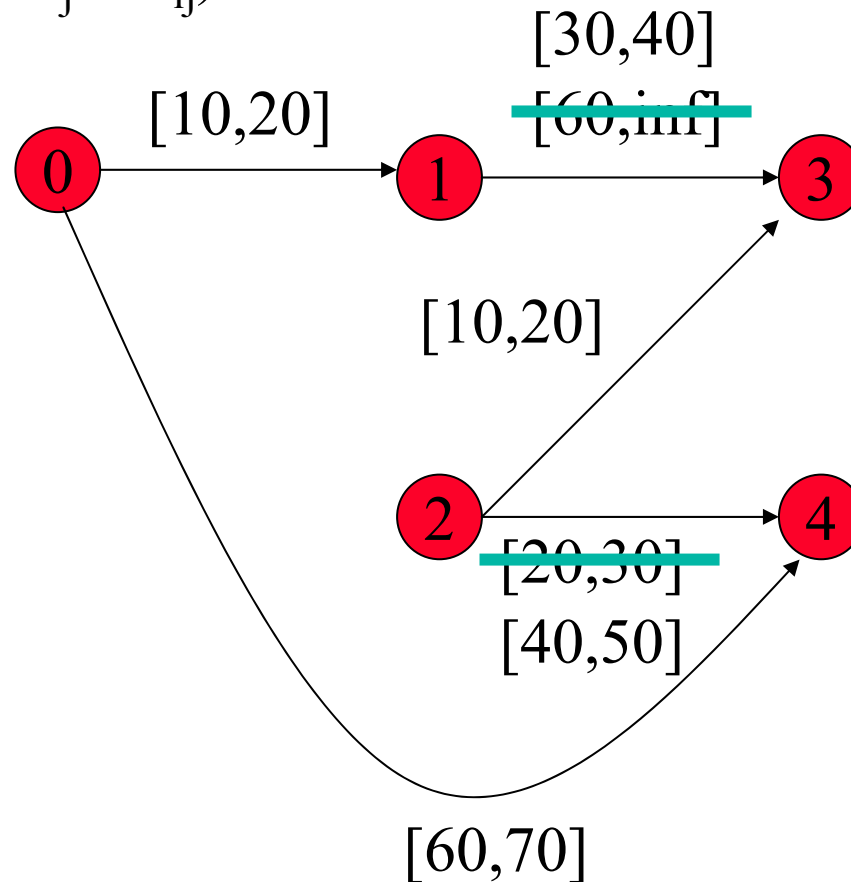
- most Allen relations
- simple metric constraints

Can't represent:

- Disjoint activities

Simple Temporal Network

- $T_{ij} = (a_{ij} \leq X_i - X_j \leq b_{ij})$



A Completed Plan Forms an STN

Thrust Goals



Power



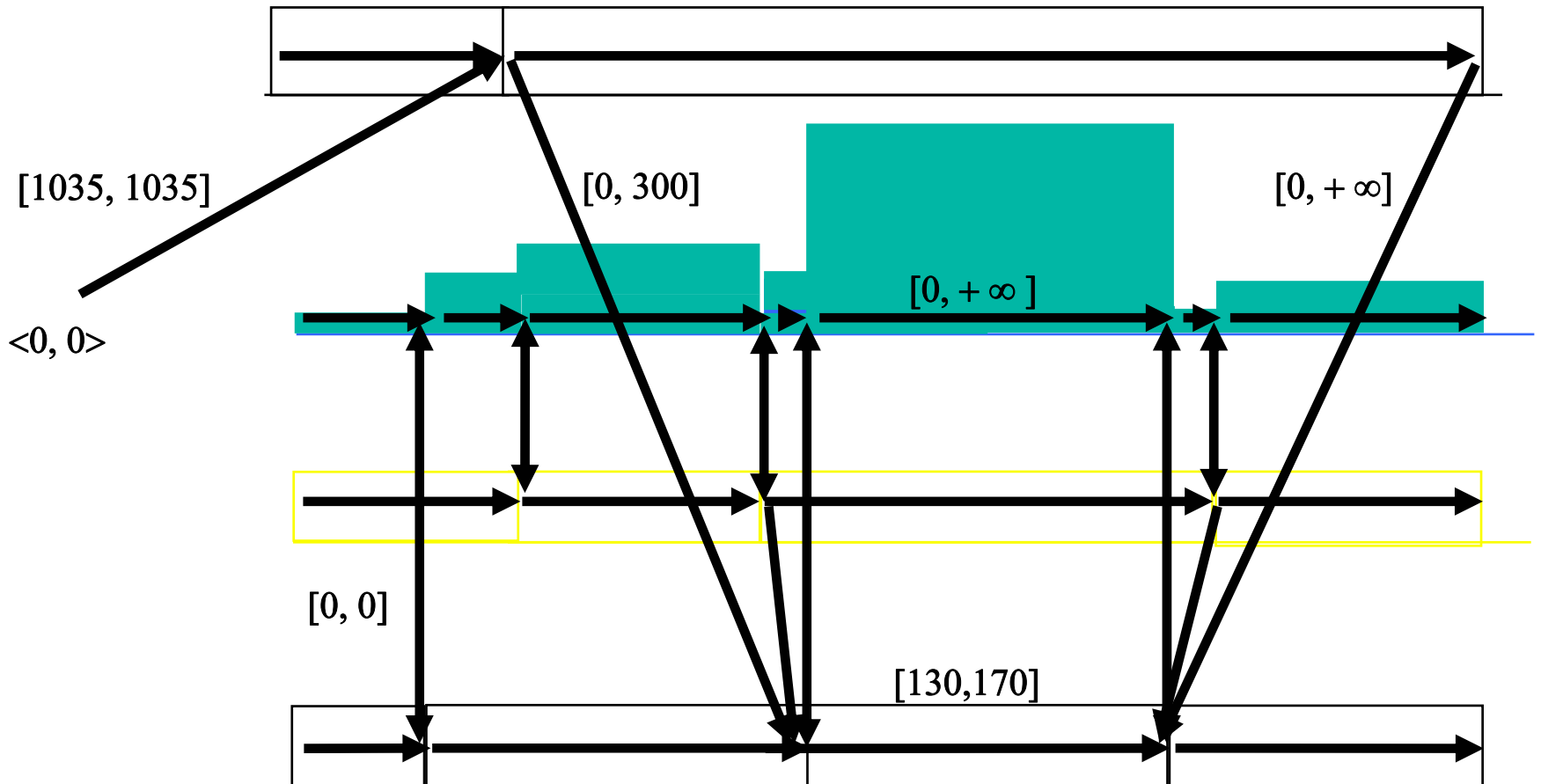
Attitude



Engine



A Completed Plan Forms an STN



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