

# **Reasoning about Actions for Planning in Robotics**

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# The SUNY System



The State University  
of New York

- 64 campuses
- Four PhD-granting  
“University Centers”
  - Albany
  - **Binghamton –**  
**most selective SUNY**
  - Buffalo
  - Stony Brook

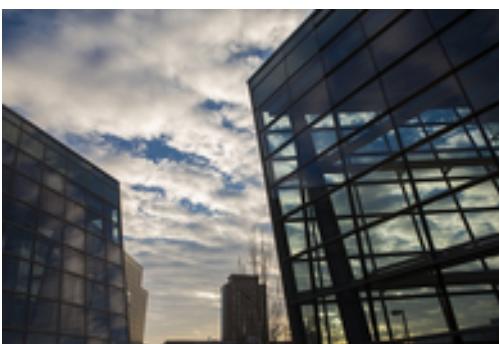


# Community — Greater Binghamton

- Located in New York state
- Birthplace of IBM (Endicott, NY)
- Home to several hi-tech companies.
- One of the safest U.S. midsized cities
- Low cost of living (12% below U.S. average)
- Close to major cities



# Rankings



## Binghamton University--SUNY

Binghamton, NY



#38 in Top Public Schools

#87 in National Universities (tie)

\$24,403 (out-of-state), \$9,523 (in-state) Tuition and Fees

13,632 Undergraduate Enrollment

2018 Rank	School
#25 Tie	<a href="#">Virginia Tech</a> Blacksburg, VA
#29 Tie	<a href="#">University of Massachusetts—Amherst</a> Amherst, MA
#33 Tie	<a href="#">Florida State University</a> Tallahassee, FL
#33 Tie	<a href="#">Michigan State University</a> East Lansing, MI
	<a href="#">Binghamton University—SUNY</a> Binghamton, NY
#38 Tie	
#39 Tie	<a href="#">University of Colorado—Boulder</a> Boulder, CO
#41	<a href="#">Stony Brook University—SUNY</a> Stony Brook, NY
#41	<a href="#">University at Buffalo—SUNY</a> Buffalo, NY



## Computer Science Faculty

- 33 full-time faculty
  - 8 full professors
  - 8 associate professors
  - 11 assistant professors
  - 6 lecturers
- 4 adjunct lecturers
- 3 new faculty members in Robotics/AI, Computer Vision/Machine Learning, and Computer Architecture will join in Fall 2018.

**Department also has close to 40 teaching Assistants**

# **Reasoning about Actions for Planning in Robotics**

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# Why planning in robotics?

- Complex tasks in the real world require more than one action
- Robot actions (perception and actuation) are unreliable, and sometimes costly

**Robots need to plan actions**  
***to accomplish goals under uncertainty***

# Why reasoning in robotics?

- Robot faces many objects (locations, people, tools, etc) and their properties
- World state estimation with incomplete (qualitative and quantitative) knowledge

*Robots need to reason  
to understand the current world state*

# Reasoning (declarative) and planning (probabilistic)

**Declarative knowledge representation & reasoning**

Correct and natural  
Incomplete knowledge  
Explanation (good for HRI)  
Goal-independent  
Transferability

***Strengths***

Non-deterministic action outcomes  
Imperfect perception  
Unspecified, long horizon  
Learning from experience (RL)

Robotics  
decision-making

**Probabilistic Planning &  
Reinforcement learning (RL)**

***Logical-probabilistic reasoning for  
probabilistic planning,  
as illustrated in human-robot dialog***

## Robot needs to identify <Coffee, Office 1, Bob>, through spoken dialog

Time: 9:00am  
Rooms: Office 1, Office 2, ...  
Persons: Alice, Bob, Carol, ...  
Items: Coffee, Sandwich, ...

<Coffee, Office 1, Bob>



“I am a shopping robot, what item do you want?”

“Coffee, please”



“Toffee, please”

“Coffee, please”



“Do you want me to buy toffee?”

“Coffee, please”





[\*Demo video: integrated P-log and POMDP\*](#)

# CORPP: commonsense reasoning and probabilistic planning, a complete example

defaults

$\neg \text{registered}(P) \leftarrow \text{not registered}(P), \text{ student}(P).$



Logical reasoner (LR)



possible  
worlds

$W_0 = \{I = \text{coffee}, P = \text{alice}\}$

$W_1 = \{I = \text{toffee}, P = \text{alice}\}$



Probabilistic reasoner (PR)



possible worlds  
with probabilities

$\{W_0 : 0.8, W_1 : 0.2\}$

facts

$\text{student}(\text{alice}). \text{ student}(\text{bob}).$   
 $\text{registered}(\text{alice}).$

$\text{item}(\text{coffee}).$   
 $\text{item}(\text{toffee}).$   
 $\text{curr\_time} = \text{morning}.$

$I = \text{coffee}.$

world



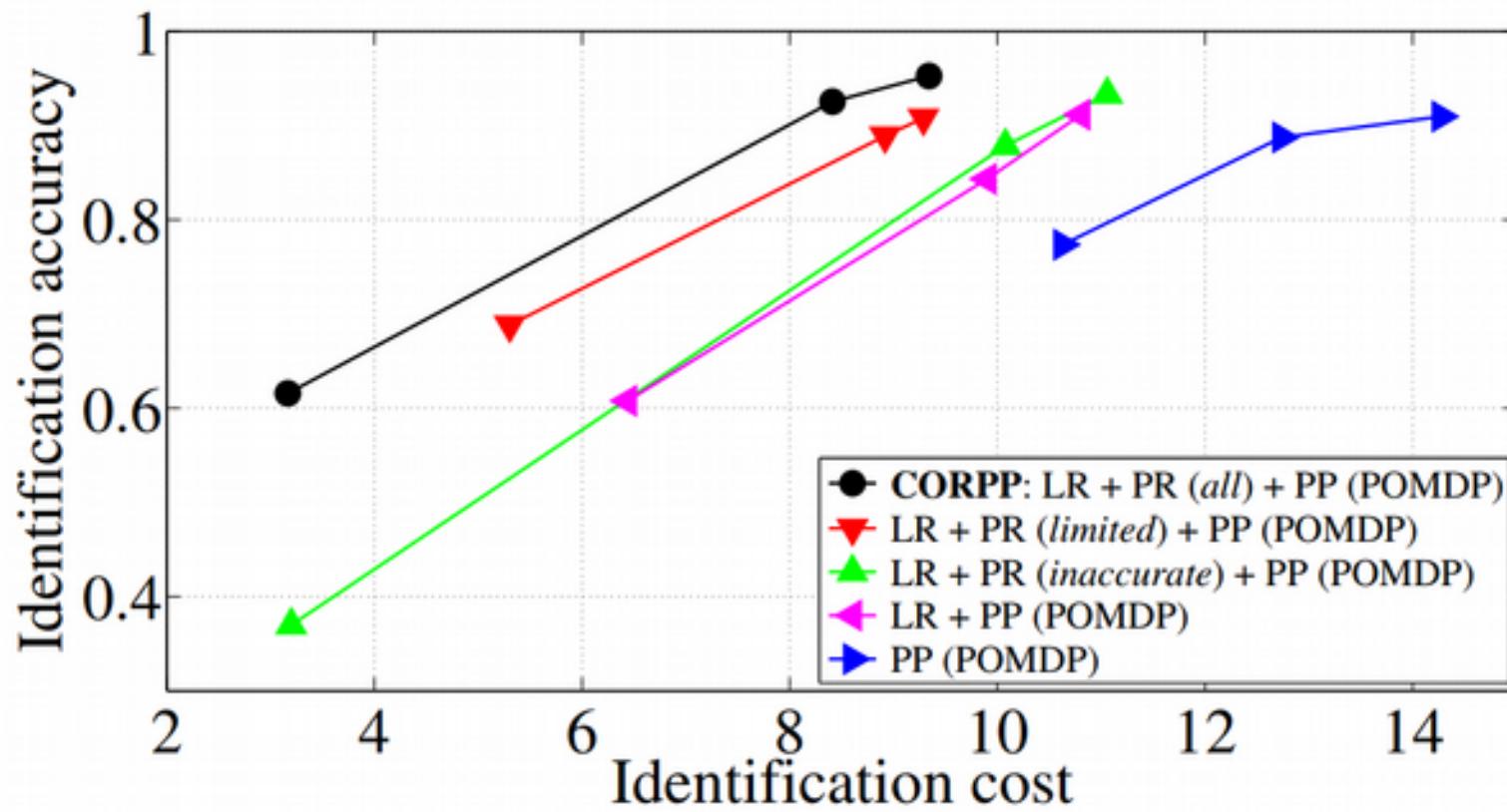
ask\_item

$b_{t=0} = [0.8, 0.2]$

e.g., coffee > toffee!

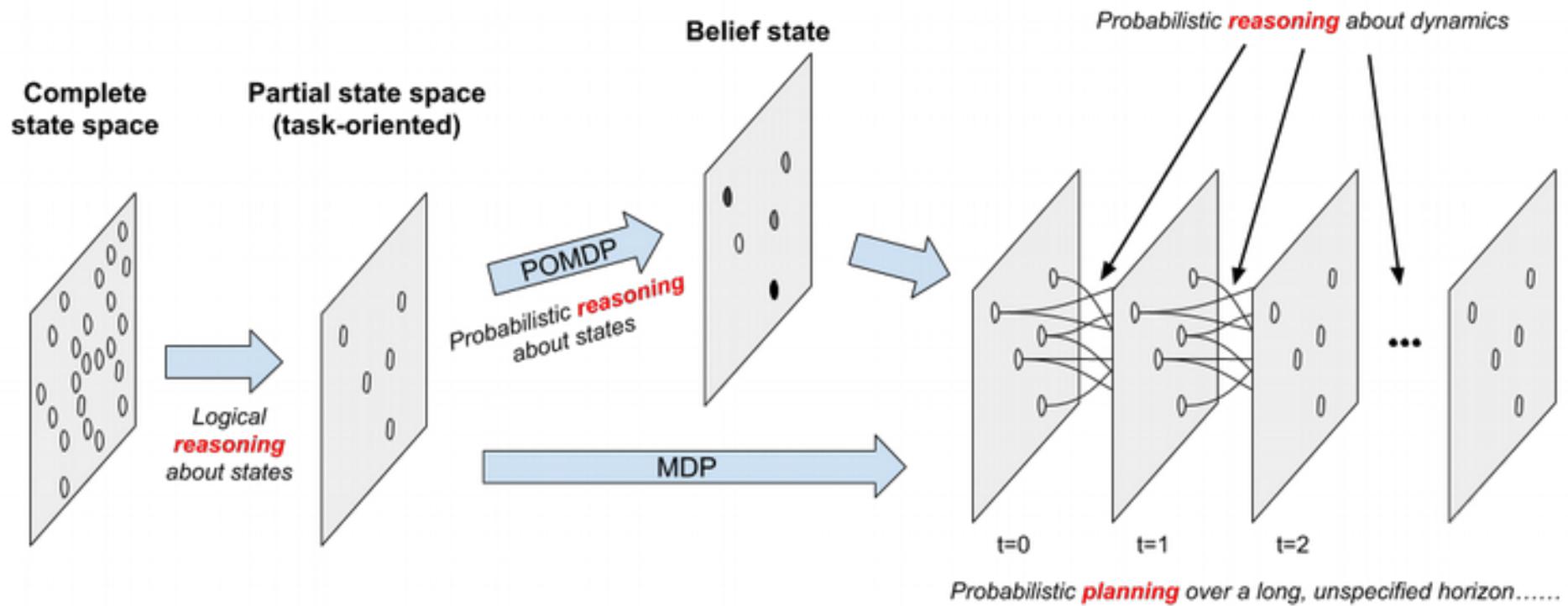
Probabilistic planner (PP)

delivery



*CORPP reasons with logical and probabilistic knowledge, improving robot behaviors*

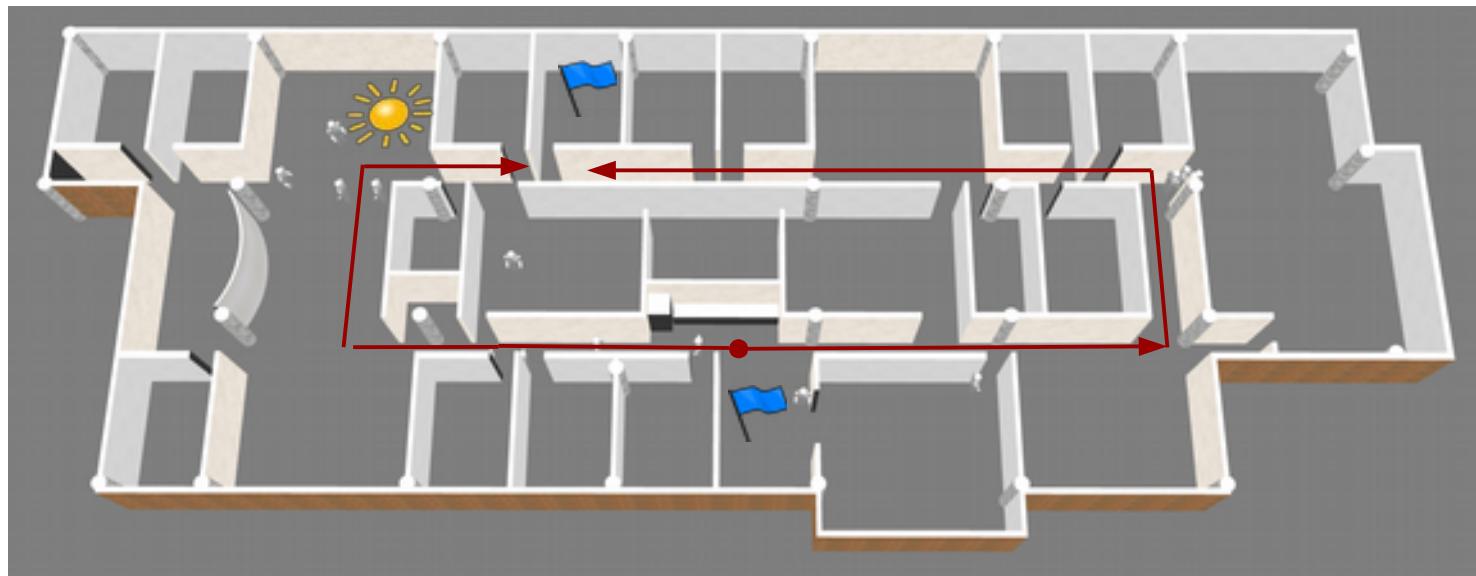
# Interleaved CORPP (iCORPP)



[Zhang, Khandelwal, Stone, AAAI 2017]

# Interleaved CORPP (iCORPP): Dynamically Constructed (PO)MDPs for Adaptive Robot Planning

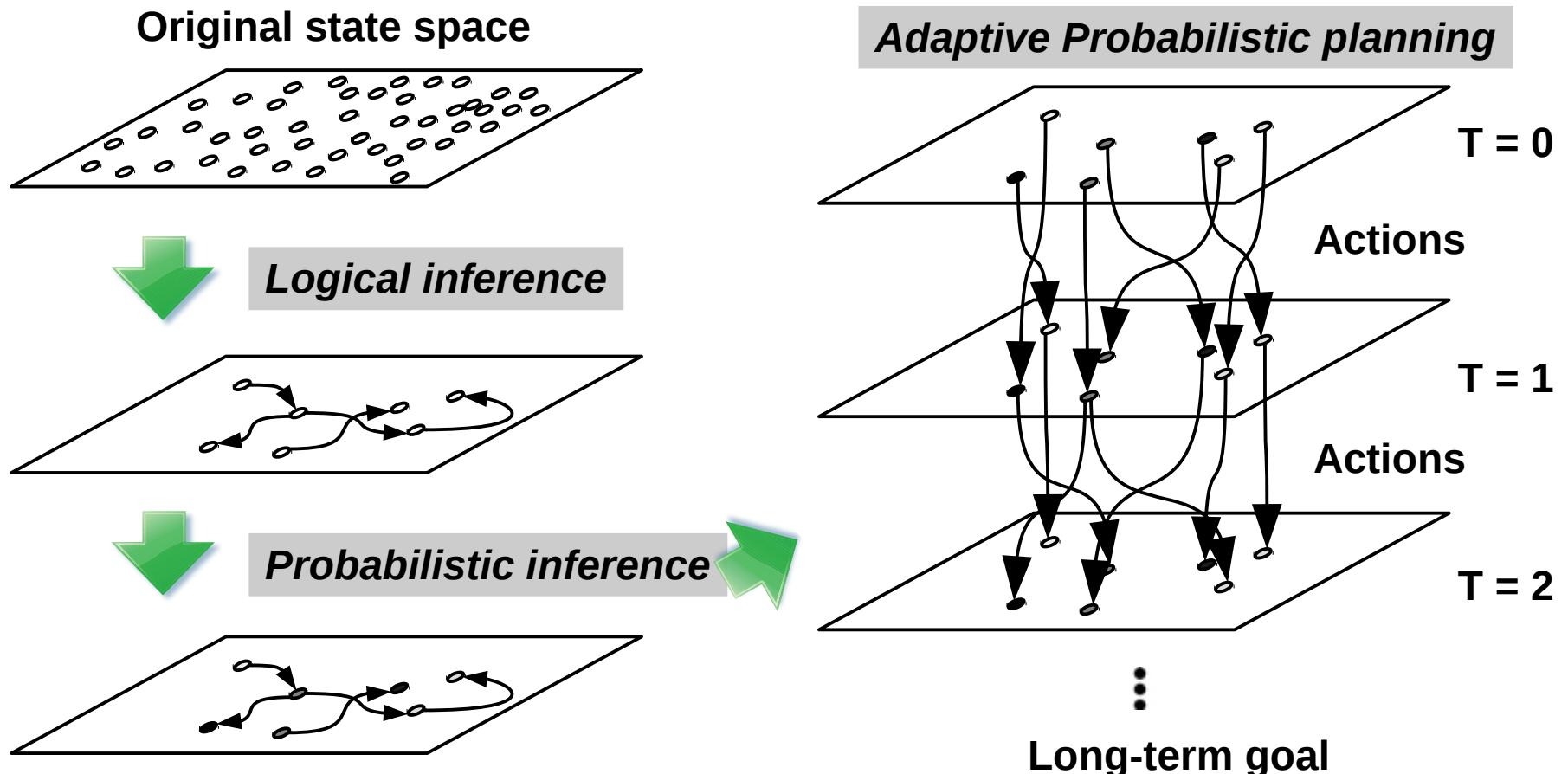
Example domain: *robot navigation*



Robot locations	Areas under sunlight	Areas blocked	Weather	Time
10	$2^{10}$	$2^{10}$	5	3

More than  $2^{27}$  states!

# Interleaved CORPP (iCORPP): Dynamically Constructed (PO)MDPs for Adaptive Robot Planning



This work enables robot behaviors to **adapt** to exogenous domain changes **without including**<sub>20</sub> these exogenous attributes in probabilistic planning models

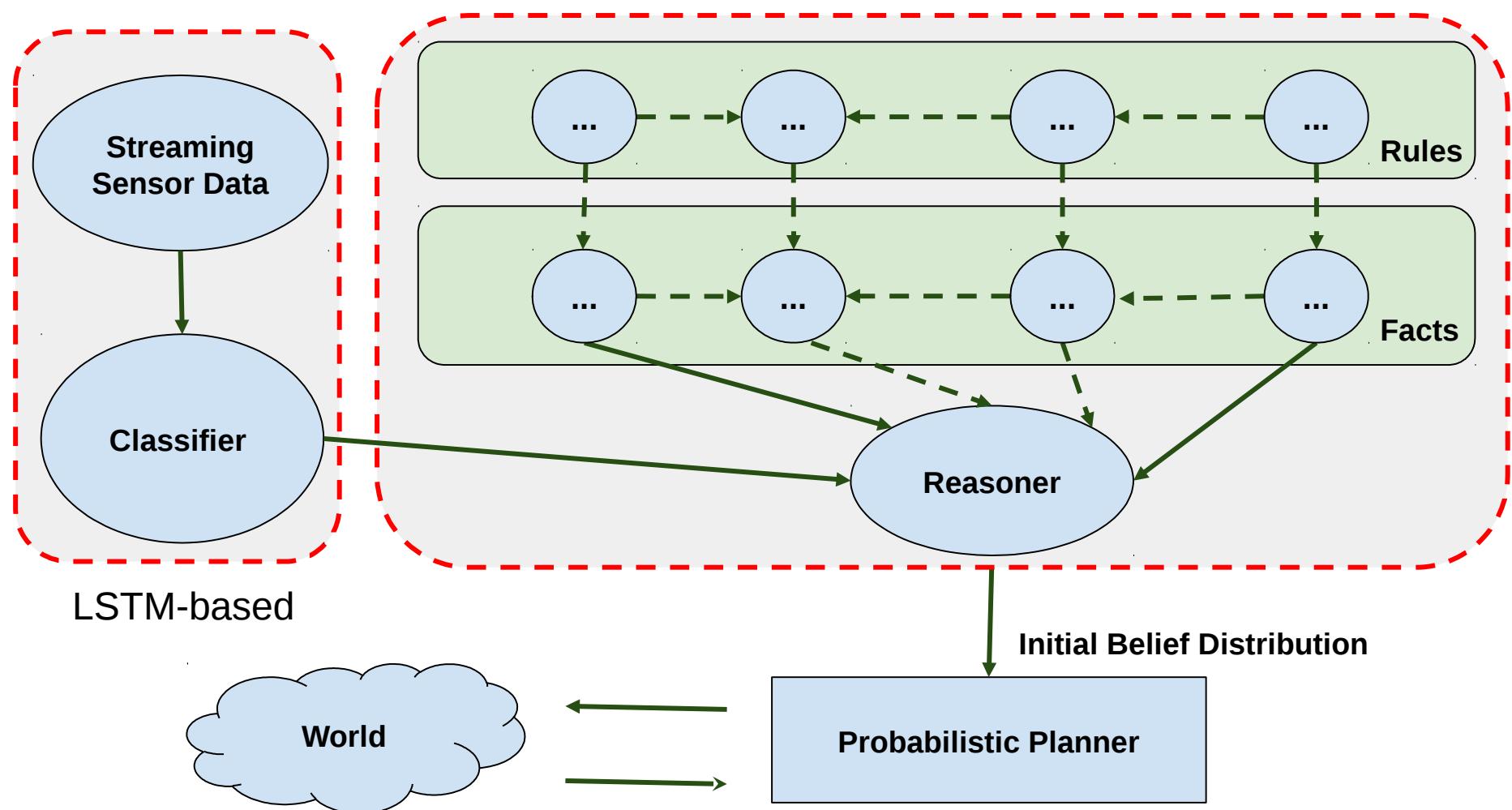
Integrated *learning*, *reasoning*, and *planning*  
for robot sequential decision-making

# Human Intention Estimation problem



Robot needs to identify human intention (e.g., interested to interact or not) as accurate and early as possible

# LSTM-CORPP



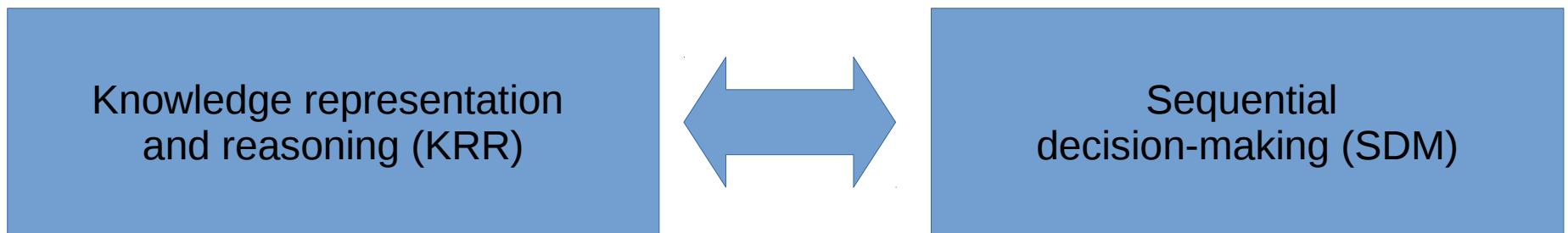
# LSTM-CORPP: preliminary results

	Accuracy	Precision	Recall	F1 Score	Cost
Learning	0.61	0.56	0.30	0.39	N/A
Reasoning	0.60	0.54	0.62	0.58	N/A
Learning + Reasoning	0.58	0.51	0.72	0.60	N/A
Reasoning + Planning (CORPP)	0.79	0.67	0.94	0.78	21.6
<b>LSTM-CORPP (Ours)</b>	<b>0.83</b>	<b>0.74</b>	<b>0.86</b>	<b>0.80</b>	<b>13.1</b>

# AAAI'19 Tutorial

## ***Knowledge-based Sequential Decision-Making under Uncertainty***

(1/4 day tutorial)



# Papers

- Shiqi Zhang and Peter Stone, **CORPP: Commonsense Reasoning and Probabilistic Planning, as Applied to Dialog with a Mobile Robot**, AAAI 2015
- Shiqi Zhang, Mohan Sridharan and Jeremy Wyatt, **Mixed Logical Inference and Probabilistic Planning for Robots in Unreliable Worlds**, IEEE Transactions on Robotics (TRO), 31 (3): 699-713, 2015
- Shiqi Zhang, Piyush Khandelwal and Peter Stone, **Dynamically Constructed (PO)MDPs for Adaptive Robot Planning**, AAAI 2017
- Saeid Amiri, Mohammad Shirazi, and Shiqi Zhang, **Leveraging Supervised Learning and Automated Reasoning for Robot Sequential Decision-Making**, KR'18 R2K Workshop, 2018
- Keting Lu, Shiqi Zhang, Peter Stone, and Xiaoping Chen, **Robot Representation and Reasoning with Knowledge from Reinforcement Learning**, arXiv preprint: 1809.11074, 2018

# *How to integrate?*

**Declarative knowledge representation & reasoning**

Correct and natural  
Incomplete knowledge  
Explanation (good for HRI)  
Goal-independent  
Transferability

Robotics decision-making

Non-deterministic action outcomes  
Imperfect perception  
Unspecified, long horizon  
Learning from experience (RL)

**Probabilistic Planning & Reinforcement learning (RL)**

Credits:

Mohan Sridharan, Peter Stone, Michael Gelfond, Jeremy Wyatt  
Saeid Amiri, Piyush Khandelwal

Thank you!