

# Assignments

## Problems Sets:

- Problem Set 2 (Scheduling) due
- Problem Set 3 (PDDL Modeling) out soon

## Readings:

- Hoffman, Porteous, Sebastia, “Ordered Landmarks in Planning,” *Journal of Artificial Intelligence Research*, 22, pp. 215-278, 2004. (Voted most influential paper during ICAPS 2013).
- Karpas, *et al.*, “Temporal Landmarks: What Must Happen, and When,” 25<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Automated Planning and Scheduling, 138-146, 2015.
- Fox and Long, “PDDL2.1 : An Extension to PDDL for Expressing Temporal Planning Domains”, *Journal of Artificial Intelligence Research*, 20, 61-124, 2003.

# Planning with Temporal Landmarks



Image from the movie  
*The Martian* (2015)  
Director: Ridley Scott  
Book Author: Andy Weir

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## Tiago Vaquero and Christian Muisse

Drawn from material by:  
Karpas' lecture (16.412K2015)  
Karpas and Richter (ICAPS Tutorial  
2010)

February 24, 2016

# Motivation

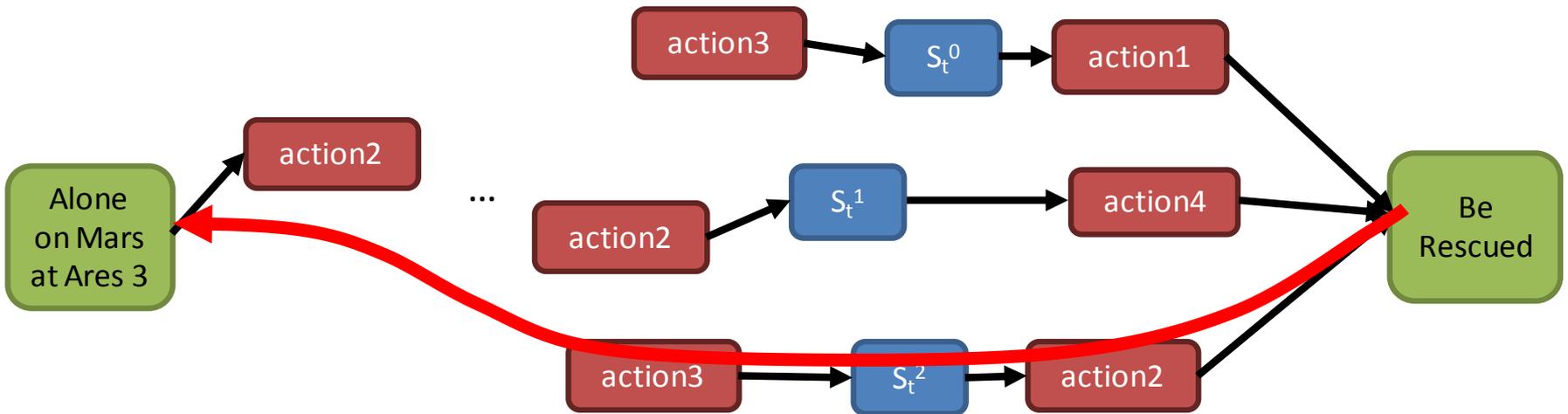
Alone  
on Mars  
at Ares 3



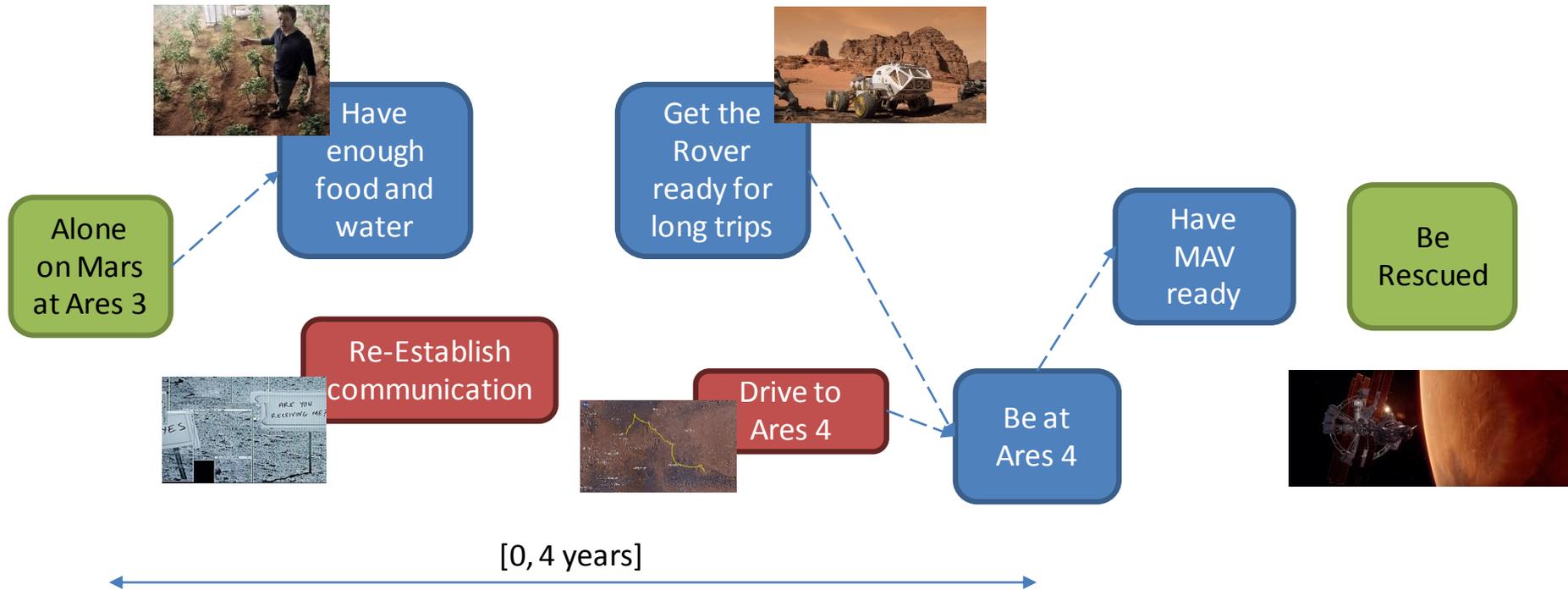
Be  
Rescued

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# Motivation



# Motivation



# Outline

- **What Landmarks Are**
- How Landmarks Are Discovered
- Using Landmarks
  - Subgoals
  - Heuristic Estimates
  - Admissible Heuristic Estimates
  - Enriching the Problem
  - Beyond Classical Planning
- Summary

# What Landmarks Are

- A **landmark** is a *logical formula* that *must* be true at some point in every plan

# Types of Landmarks

- Fact Landmarks
- Action Landmark
- Temporal Landmark

# Fact Landmarks

- A **fact landmark** is a fact that *must* be true at some point in every plan (Hoffmann, Porteous & Sebastia 2004)
  - *To get to Ares 4, I need to have the rover ready for the trip*



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# Action Landmarks

- An **action landmark** is an action which occurs in every valid plan
  - *To tell I am alive, I need to re-establish communication*
  - *To get to the rover, I need to exit this the Hab*



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# Fact and Action Landmarks

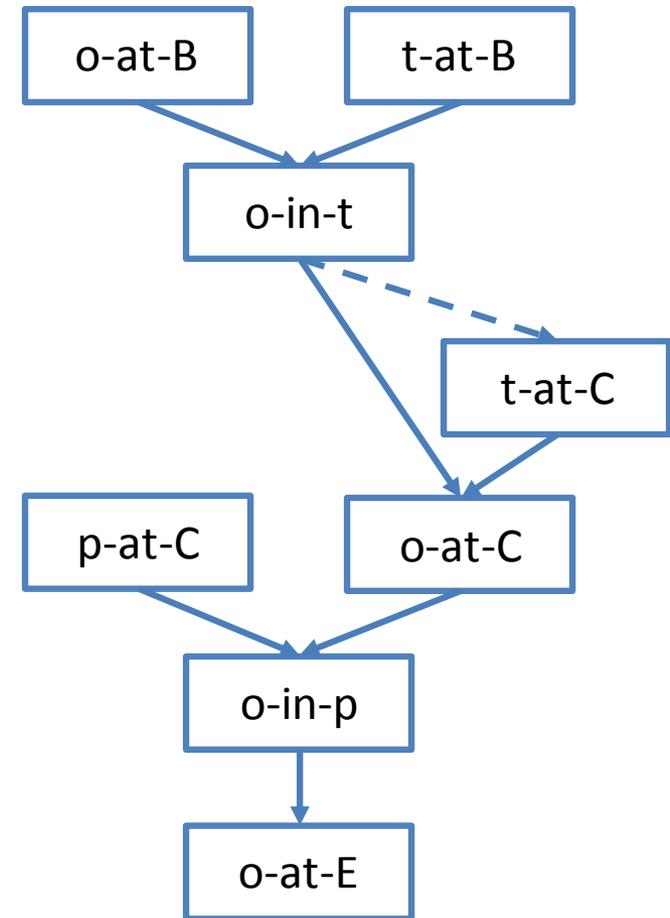
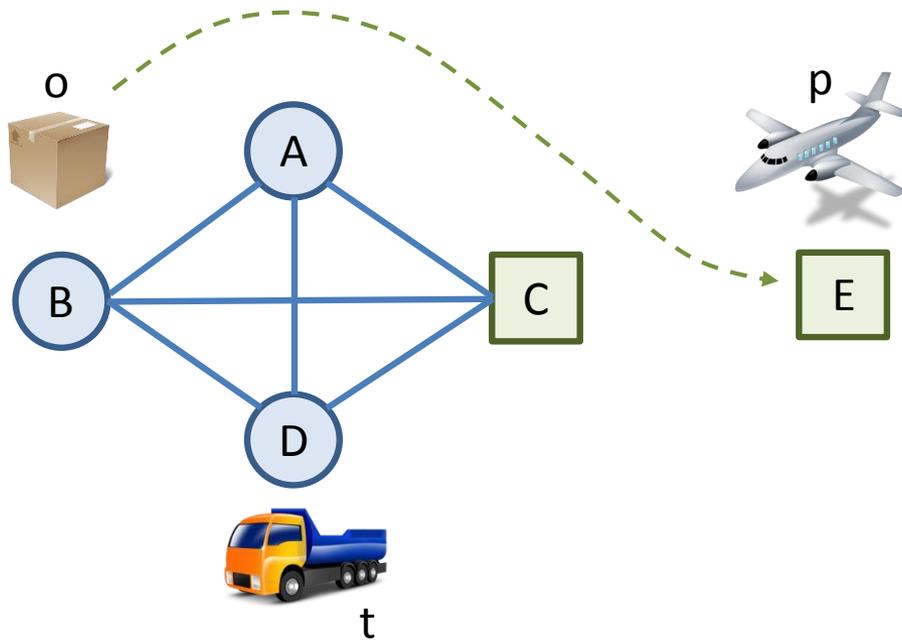
- We can also consider disjunctions over facts and/or actions
  - *To get back to Ares 4, I need to take route A or route B*



# Temporal Landmarks

- A **temporal fact landmark** is a formula over facts that becomes true from time point  $t_s$  to  $t_e$  in every valid plan.
  - I need to be at Ares 4 within 4 years
- A **temporal action landmark** is an action which occurs at time point  $t$  in every valid plan
  - I have to launch the MAV from Ares 4 at 549 sols

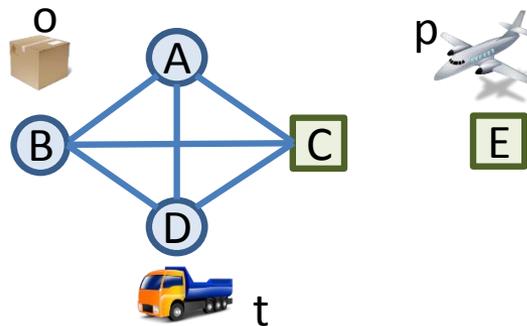
# Example



Partial Landmarks Graph

# Landmark Ordering

- Landmarks can be (partially) ordered according to the order in which they must be achieved
  - *Truck needs to load package before driving to the airport*
  - *Airplane must be at the airport before loading the package*



- Some landmarks and orderings can be discovered *automatically*

# Landmark Ordering

- **Natural** ordering  $A \rightarrow B$ , iff  $A$  true **some time** before  $B$
- **Necessary** ordering  $A \rightarrow_n B$ , iff  $A$  always true **one step** before  $B$  becomes true
- **Greedy-necessary** ordering  $A \rightarrow_{gn} B$ , iff  $A$  true one step before  $B$  becomes true for the **first time**
- Other ordering types exist, which we do not discuss
  
- Note that:

$$A \rightarrow_n B \implies A \rightarrow_{gn} B \implies A \rightarrow B$$

# Outline

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- **How Landmarks Are Discovered**
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  - Admissible Heuristic Estimates
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# Landmarks Complexity

Remember: Planning is **PSPACE-complete**

Landmarks:

- Everything is **PSPACE-complete**
- Deciding if a given fact is a landmark is **PSPACE-complete**
- Deciding if there is a natural / necessary / greedy-necessary / reasonable ordering between two landmarks is **PSPACE-complete**

# Landmark Discovery

- Theory

*$A$  is a **landmark**  $\Leftrightarrow \pi'_A$  is unsolvable*

*where  $\pi'_A$  is  $\pi$  without the operators that achieve  $A$*

- Delete relaxation of is  $\pi'_A$  unsolvable  $\Rightarrow \pi'_A$  unsolvable  
delete relaxation landmarks – **but better methods exists**

# Landmark Discovery

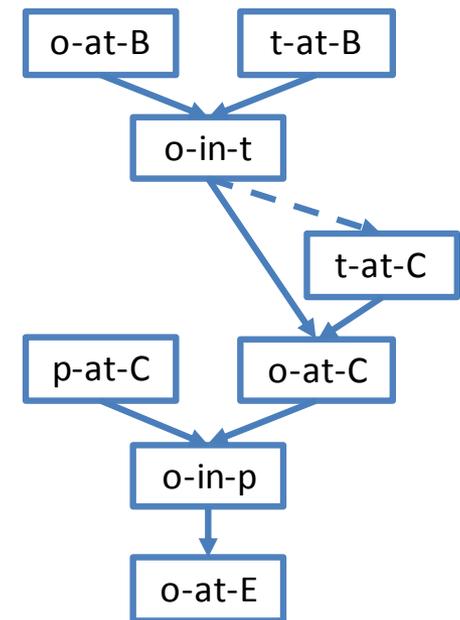
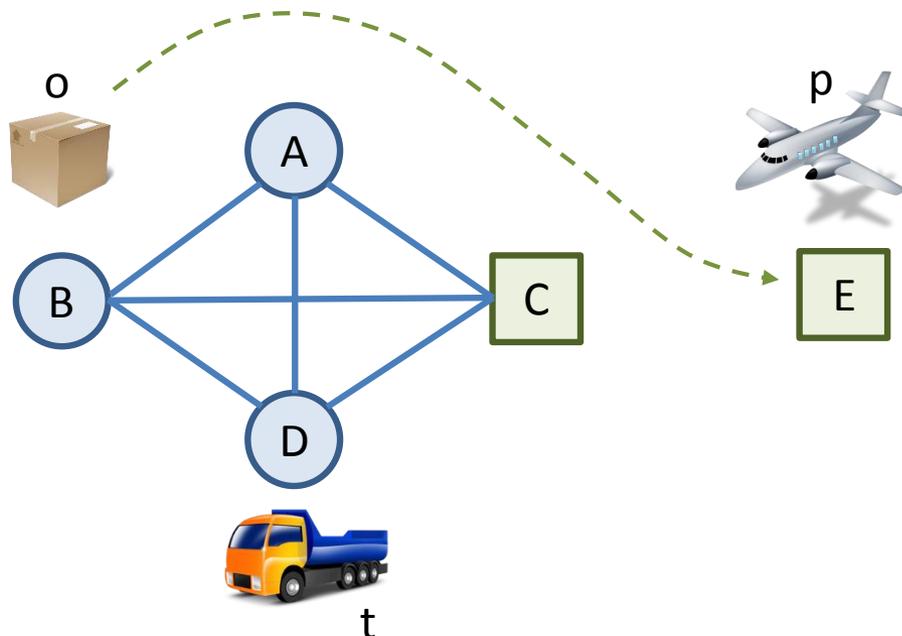
- Methods that are used in practice:
  1. Backchaining
  2. Domain Transition Graphs
  3. Forward Propagation

# Landmark Discovery (1)

Find landmarks and orderings by **backchaining**  
(Hoffmann et al. 2004)

*Step 1: Find Landmark Candidates and Orderings*

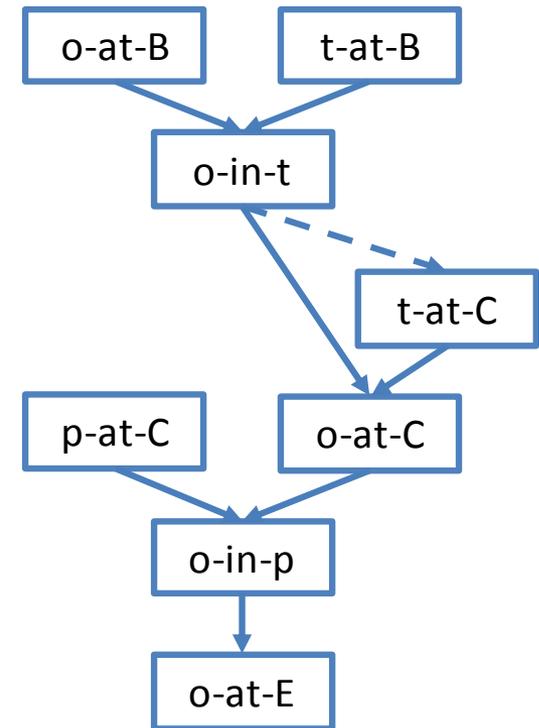
*Step 2: Verify Landmark Candidates*



# Landmark Discovery (1)

## Step 1: Find landmarks candidates and orderings

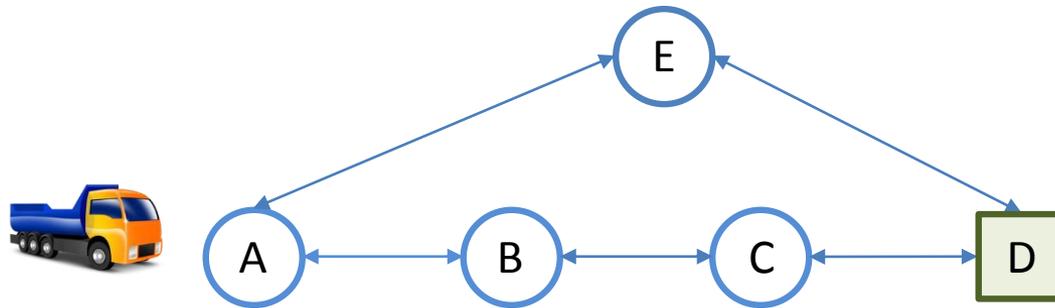
- Start with the goals: every goal is a landmark
- If  $B$  is landmark **and all actions that achieve  $B$  share  $A$  as precondition**, then
  - $A$  is a landmark
  - $A \rightarrow_n B$
- *Useful restriction*: consider only the case where  $B$  is achieved for the **first time**
  - Relaxed Planning Graph to find first achievers
  - find more landmarks (and  $A \rightarrow_{gn} B$ )



# Landmark Discovery (1)

*Step 1: Find landmarks candidates and orderings*

*Example*

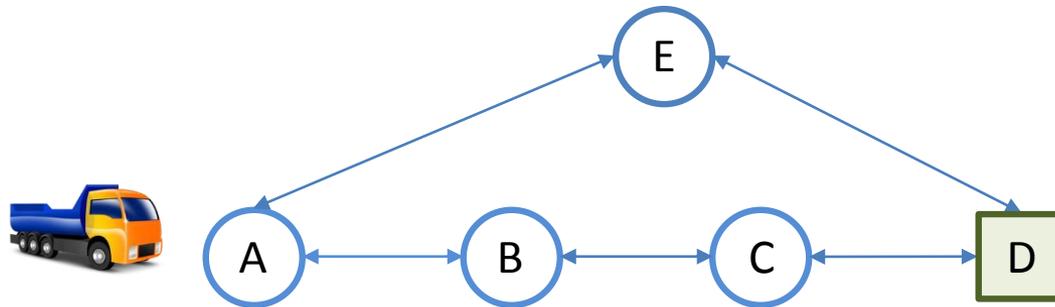


t-at-A

# Landmark Discovery (1)

*Step 1: Find landmarks candidates and orderings*

*Example*



*Landmark: t-at-D*

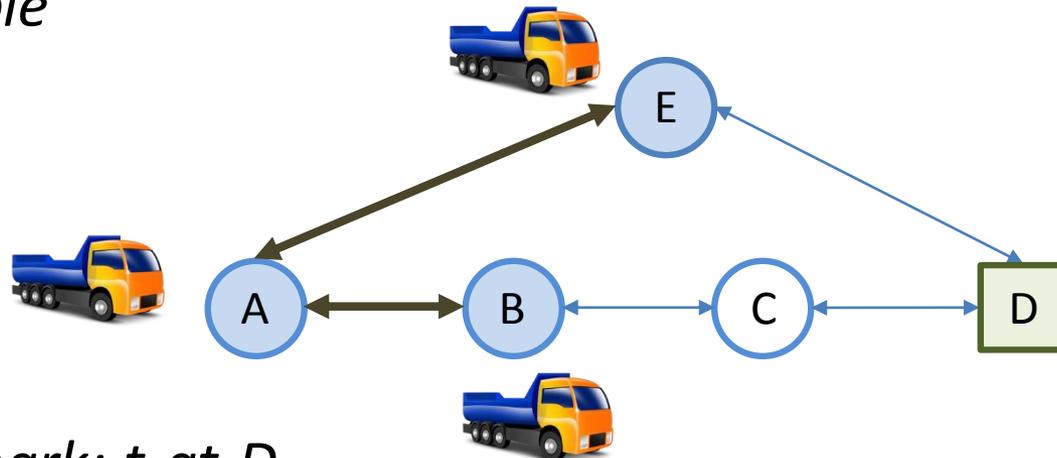
t-at-A

t-at-D

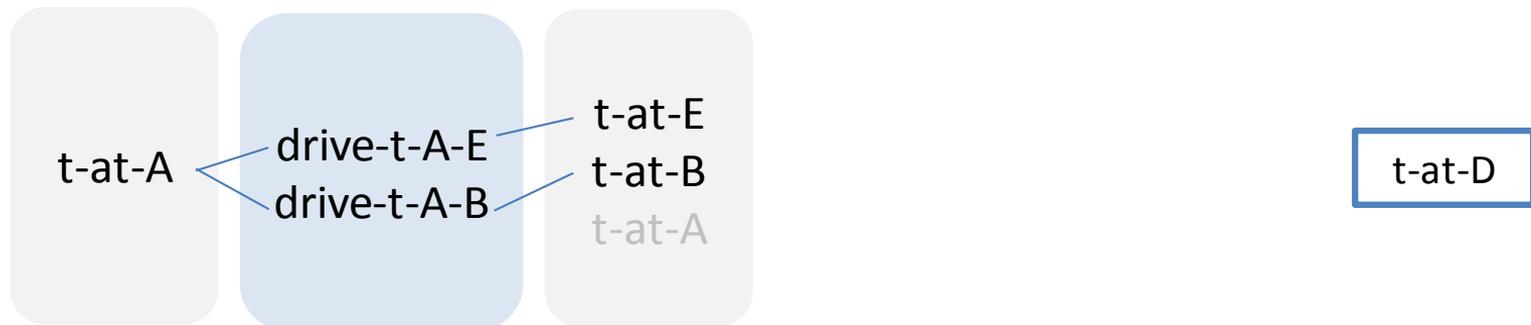
# Landmark Discovery (1)

*Step 1: Find landmarks candidates and orderings*

*Example*



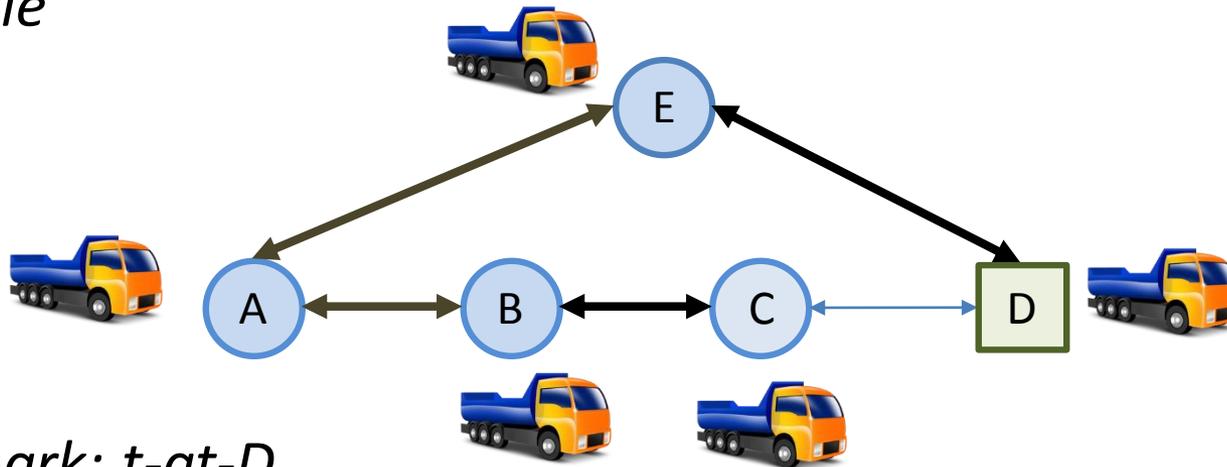
*Landmark: t-at-D*



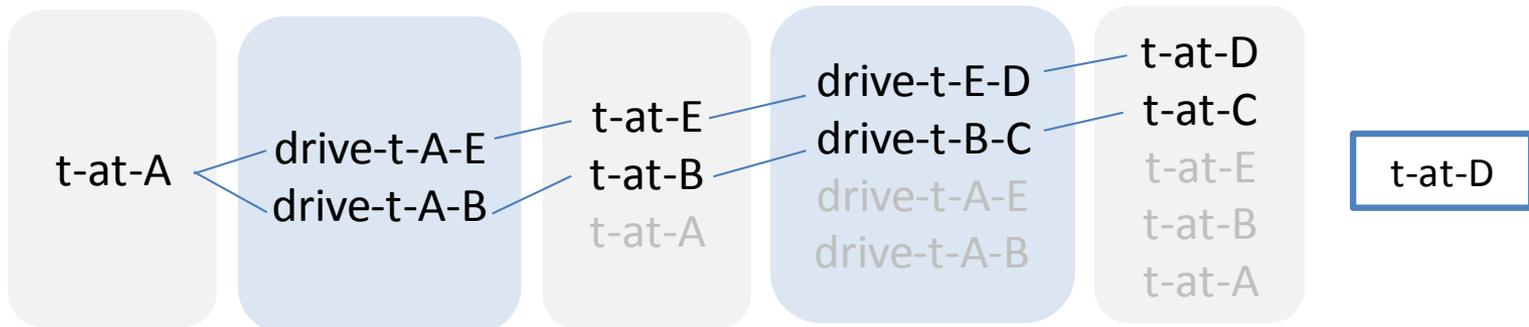
# Landmark Discovery (1)

*Step 1: Find landmarks candidates and orderings*

*Example*



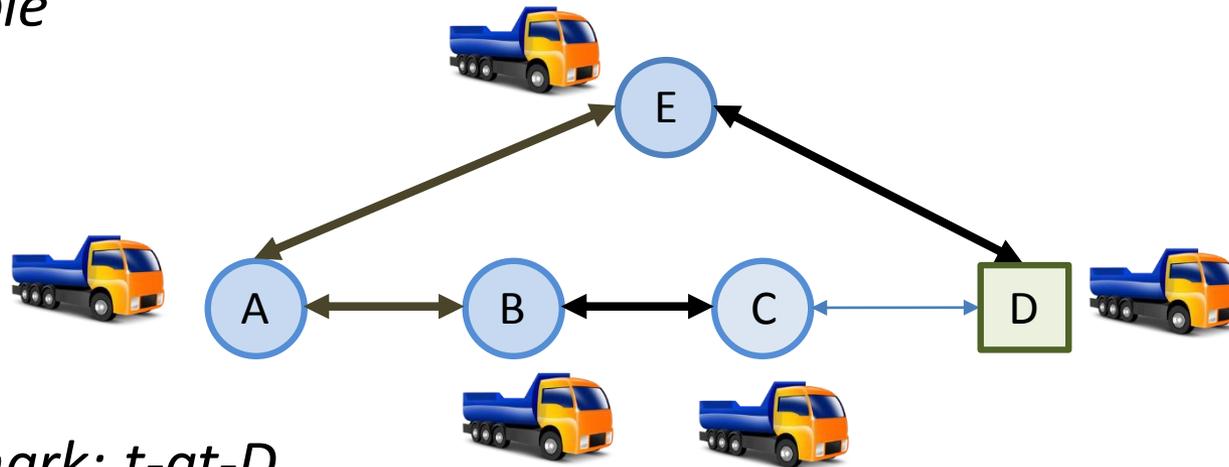
*Landmark: t-at-D*



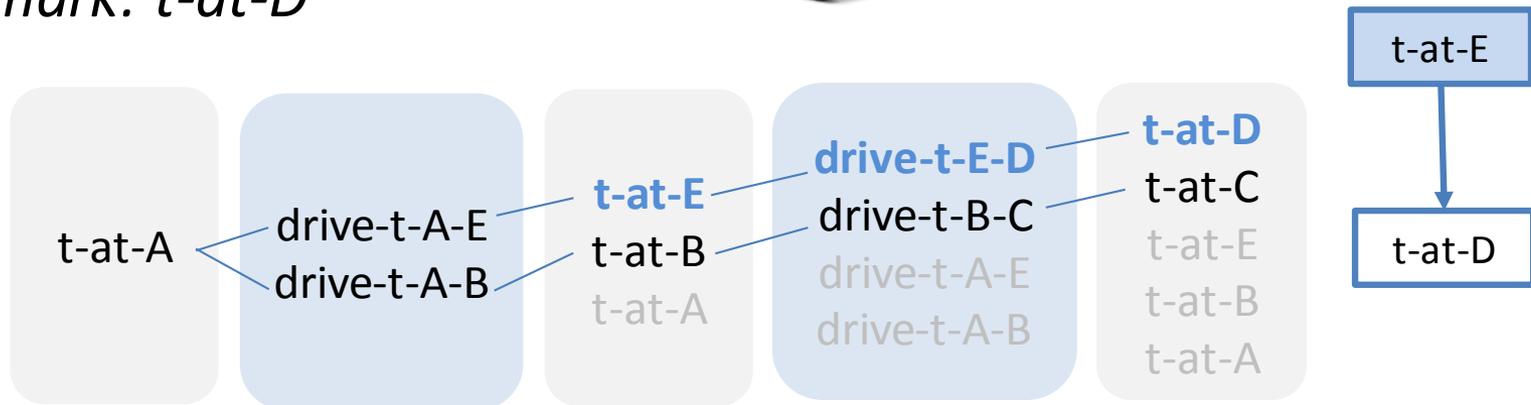
# Landmark Discovery (1)

*Step 1: Find landmarks candidates and orderings*

*Example*



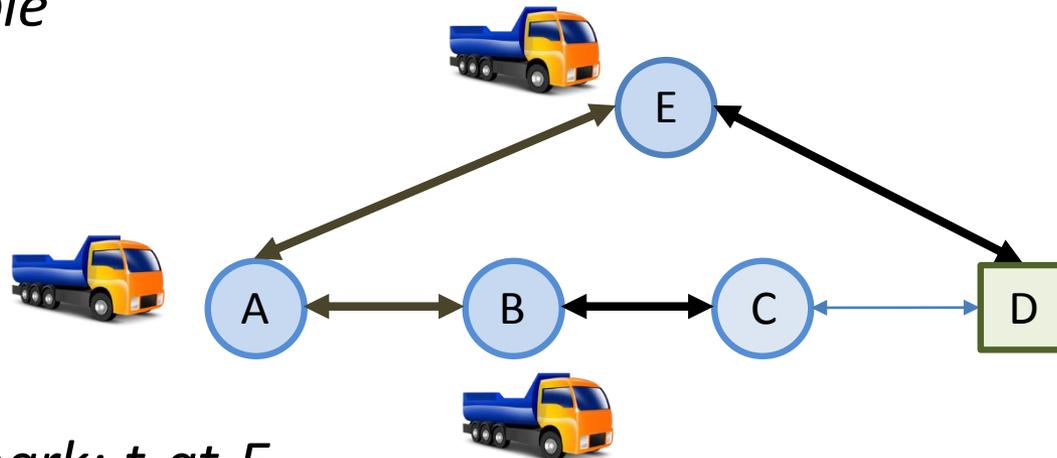
*Landmark: t-at-D*



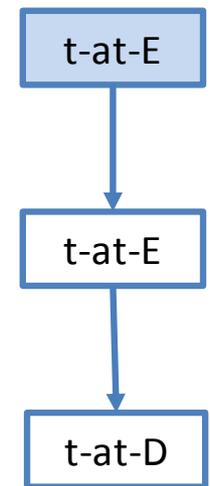
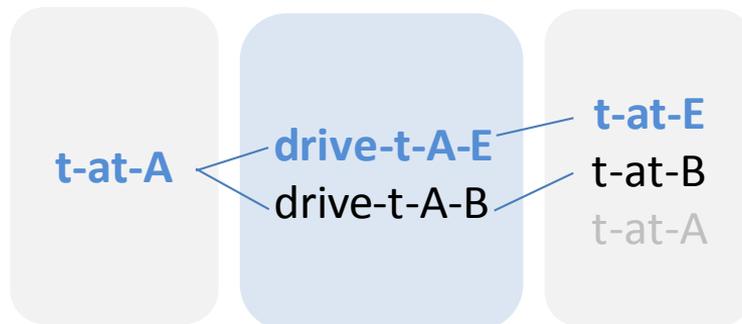
# Landmark Discovery (1)

*Step 1: Find landmarks candidates and orderings*

*Example*



*Landmark: t-at-E*



{A, E, D}

# Landmark Discovery (1)

## *Step 1*: Find landmarks candidates and orderings

initialize the LGG to  $(G, \emptyset)$ , and set  $C := G$

**while**  $C \neq \emptyset$  **do**

  set  $C' := \emptyset$

**for all**  $L' \in C$ ,  $level(L') \neq 0$  **do**

    let  $A$  be the set of all actions  $a$  such that  $L' \in add(a)$ , and  $level(a) = level(L') - 1$

**for all** facts  $L$  such that  $\forall a \in A : L \in pre(a)$  **do**

      if  $L$  is not yet a node in the LGG, set  $C' := C' \cup \{L\}$

      if  $L$  is not yet a node in the LGG, then insert that node

      if  $L \rightarrow_{gn} L'$  is not yet an edge in the LGG, then insert that edge

**endfor**

**endfor**

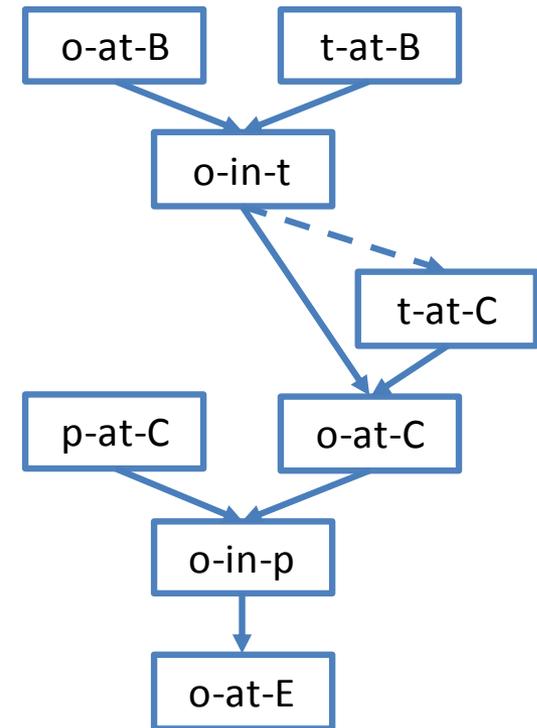
  set  $C := C'$

**endwhile**

# Landmark Discovery (1)

## Step 2: Verify Landmark Candidates

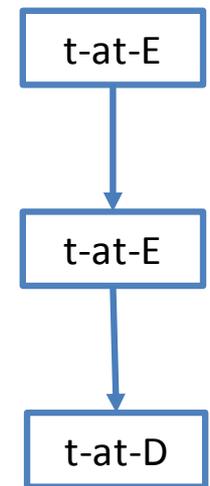
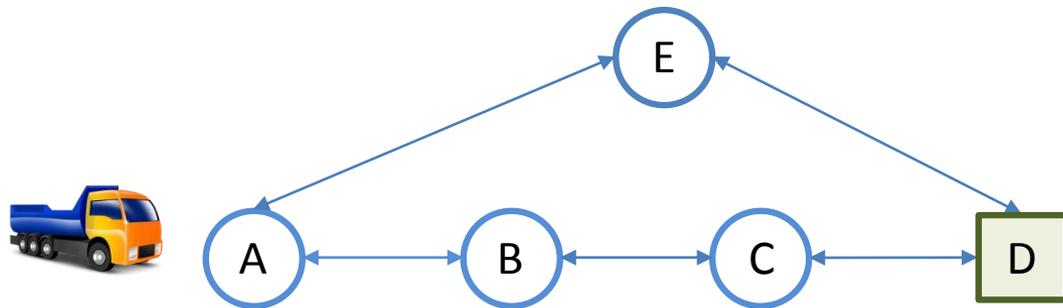
- For each landmark discovered:
  - Remove all the action that can achieve it
  - **Build relaxed planning graph** for  $\pi'_A$  and check if we can find the goals
  - If so, remove landmark and ordering from the landmark graph



# Landmark Discovery (1)

Step 2: Verify Landmark Candidates

Example

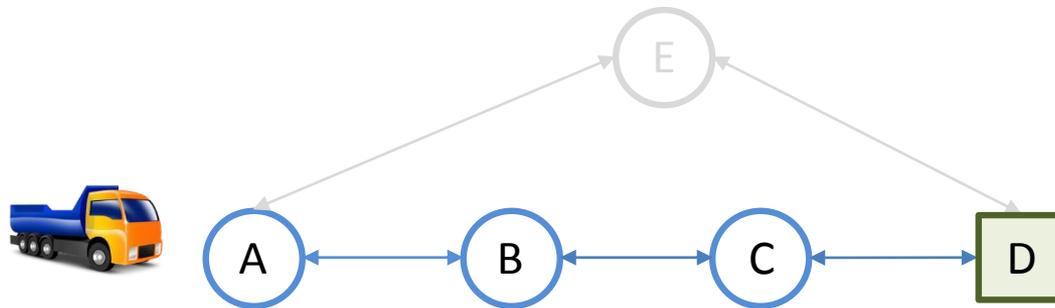


{A, E, D}

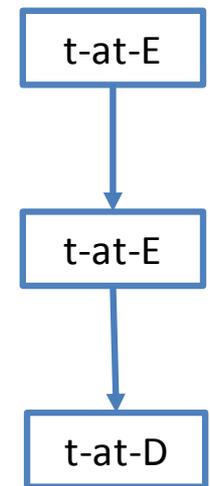
# Landmark Discovery (1)

*Step 2: Verify Landmark Candidates*

*Example*



*Check Landmark: t-at-E*

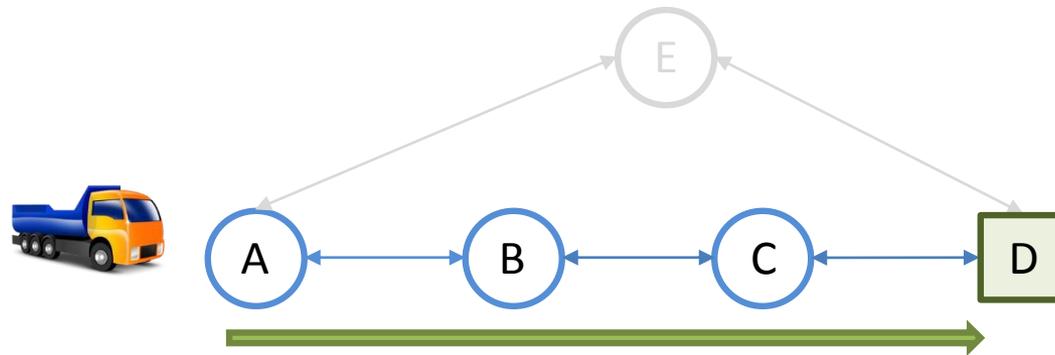


{A, E, D}

# Landmark Discovery (1)

## Step 2: Verify Landmark Candidates

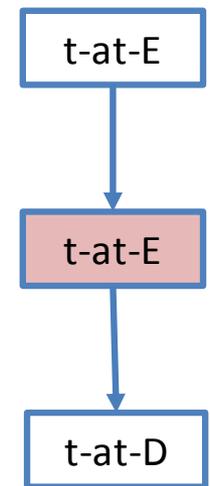
### Example



Check Landmark:  $t\text{-at-}E$

Remove  $t\text{-at-}E$  and its orderings

Landmarks:  $\{A, D\}$



$\{A, \cancel{E}, D\}$

# Landmark Discovery (1)

Disjunctive landmarks also possible, e.g.,  
(o-in- $p_1 \vee$  o-in- $p_2$ ):

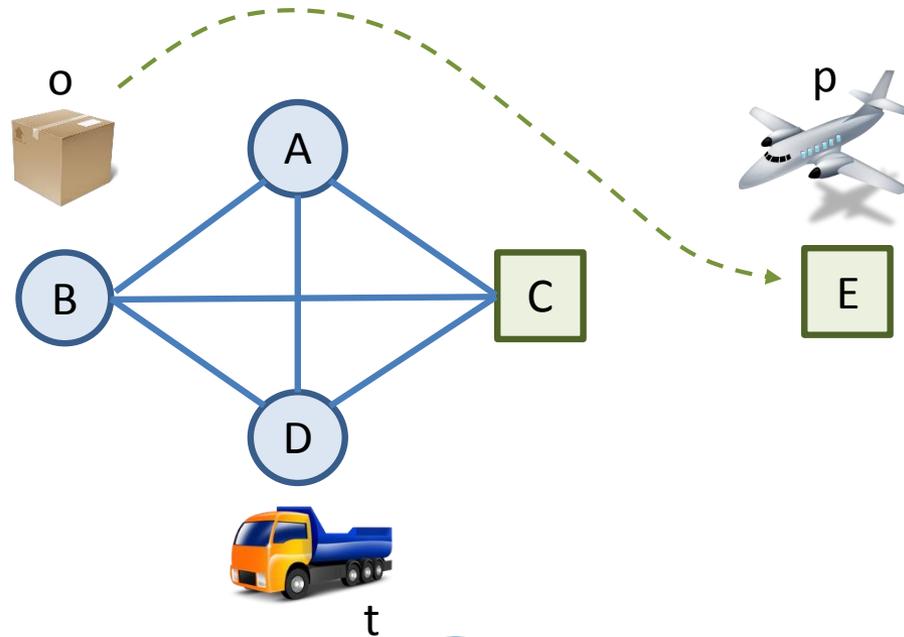
- If  $B$  is landmark and all actions that (first) achieve  $B$  have  $A$  or  $C$  as precondition, then  $A \vee C$  is a landmark.

# Landmark Discovery (2)

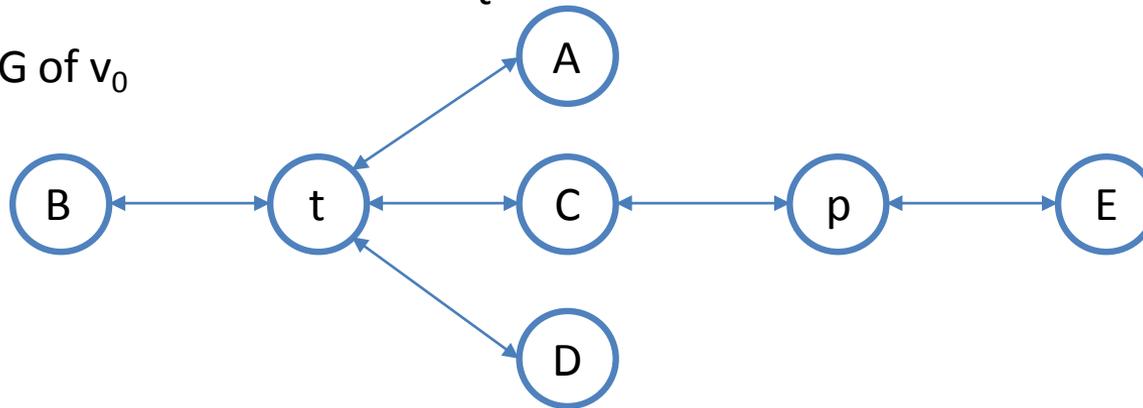
Find landmarks through **Domain Transition Graphs** (DTGs) (Richter et al. 2008)

- Given: a SAS+ task  $\langle V, A, s_0, G \rangle$
- The DTG of variable  $v \in V$  ( $\text{DTG}_v$ ) represents how the value of  $v$  can change.
- $\text{DTG}_v$  is a directed graph with *nodes*  $D_v$  that has *arc*  $\langle d, d' \rangle$  iff:
  - $d \neq d'$ , and
  - $\exists$  action with  $v \mapsto d'$  as effect, and either
  - $v \mapsto d$  as precondition, or no precondition on  $v$

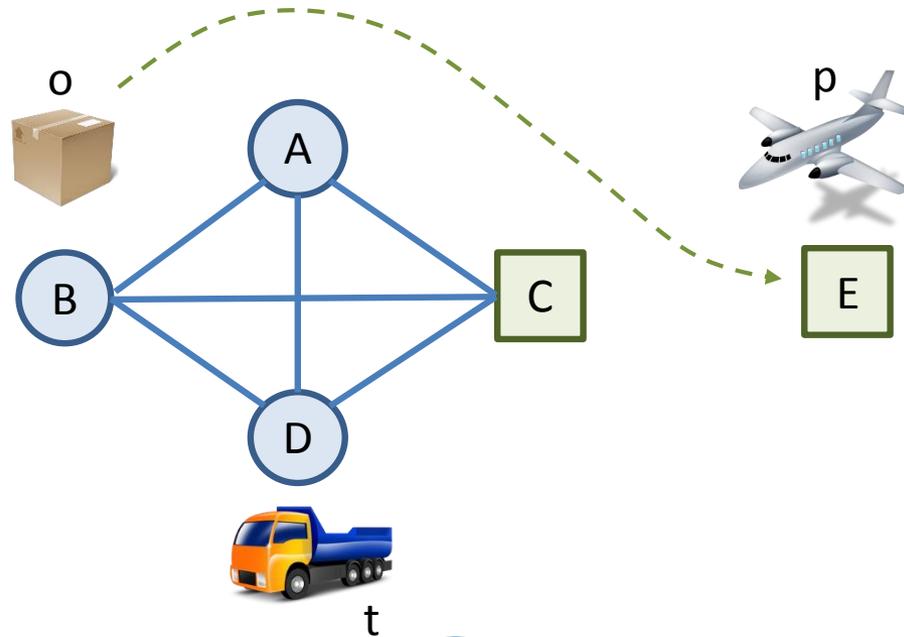
# Landmark Discovery (2)



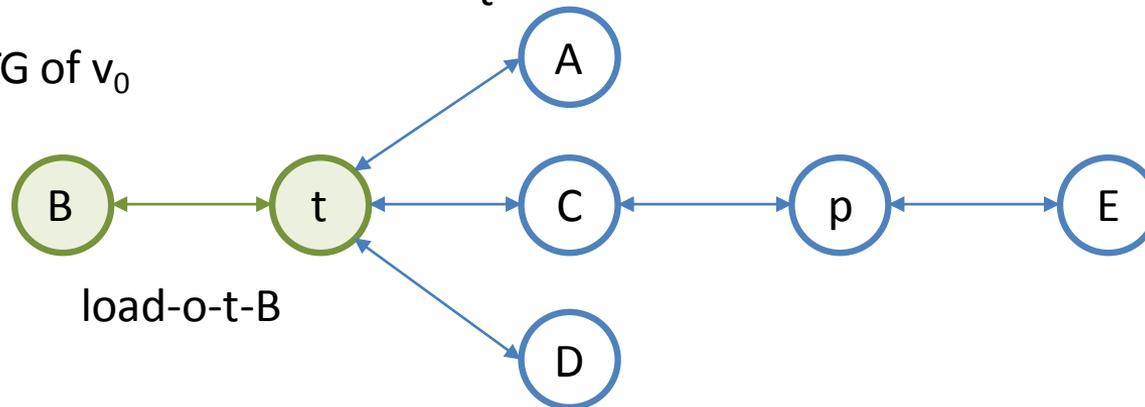
Package: DTG of  $v_0$



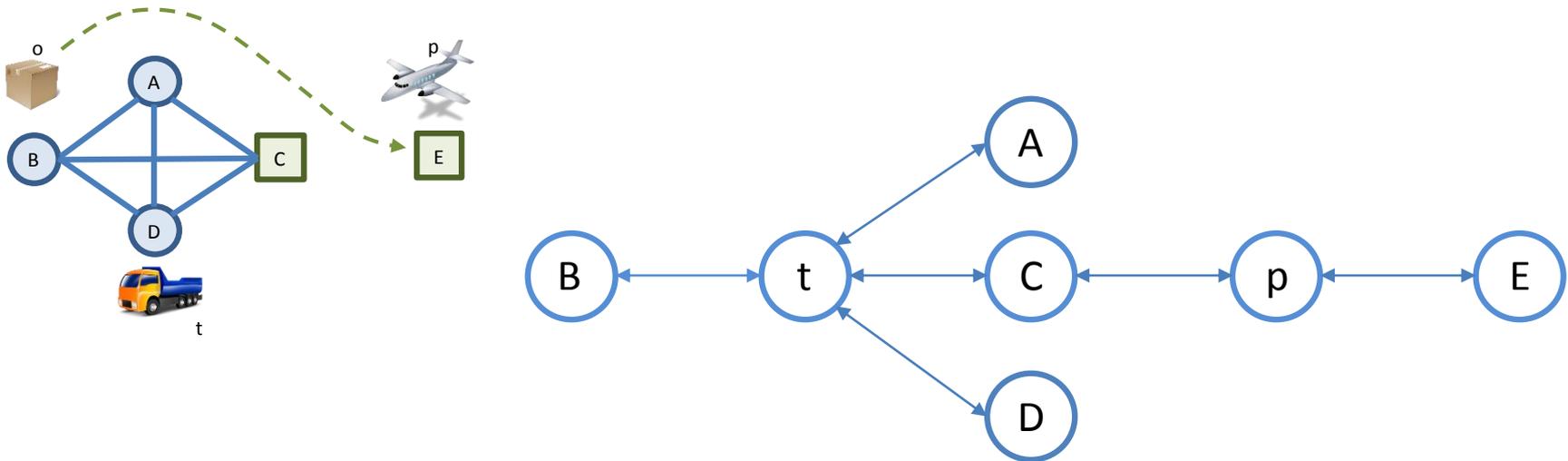
# Landmark Discovery (2)



Package: DTG of  $v_0$



# Landmark Discovery (2)

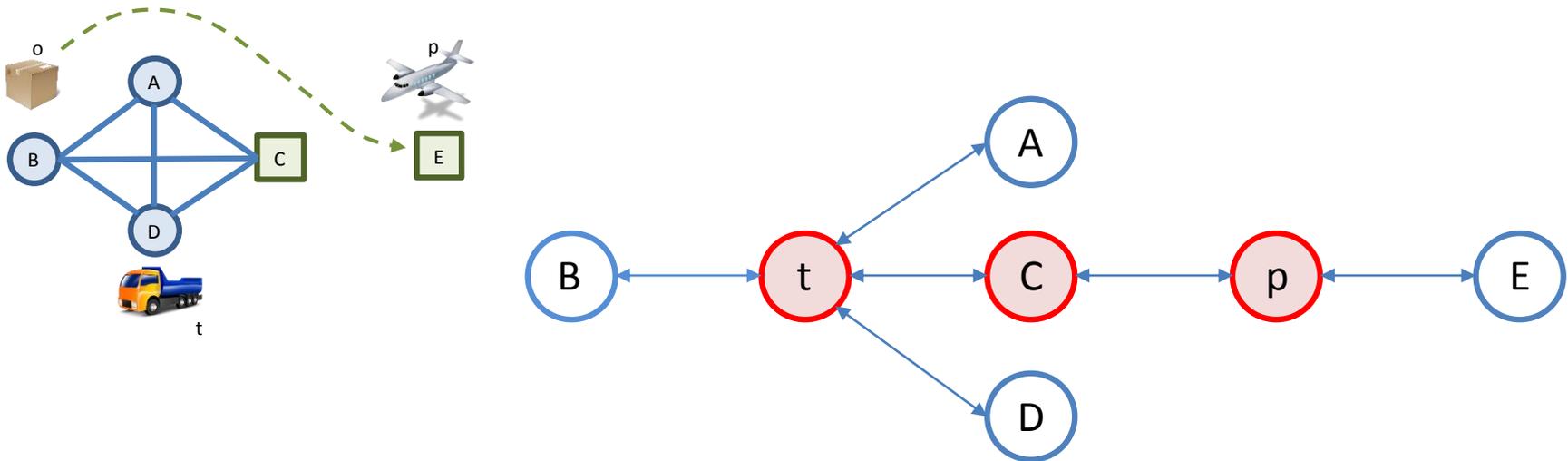


Find landmarks through DTGs, if

- $s_0(v) = d_0$ ,
- $v \mapsto d$  landmark (goal), and
- *every path* from  $d_0$  to  $d$  passes through  $d'$ ,

then  $v \mapsto d'$  landmark, and  $(v \mapsto d') \rightarrow (v \mapsto d)$

# Landmark Discovery (2)



Find landmarks through DTGs, if

- $s_0(v) = d_0$ ,
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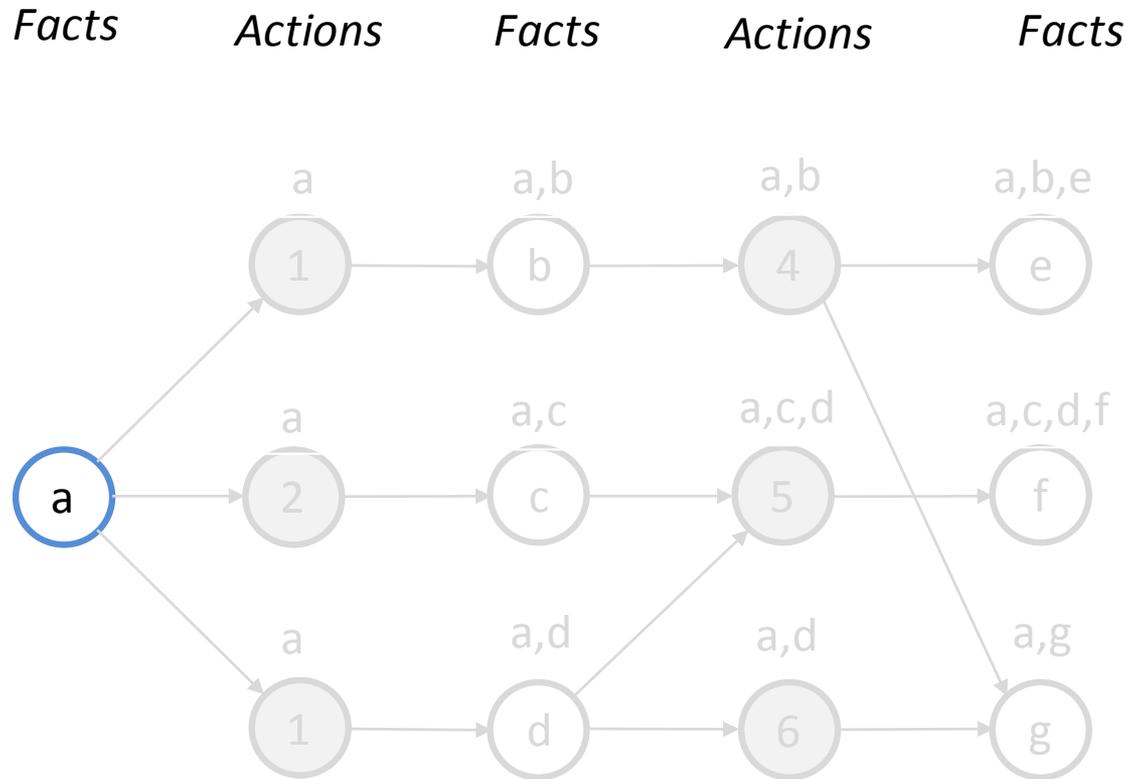
then  $v \mapsto d'$  landmark, and  $(v \mapsto d') \rightarrow (v \mapsto d)$

# Landmark Discovery (3)

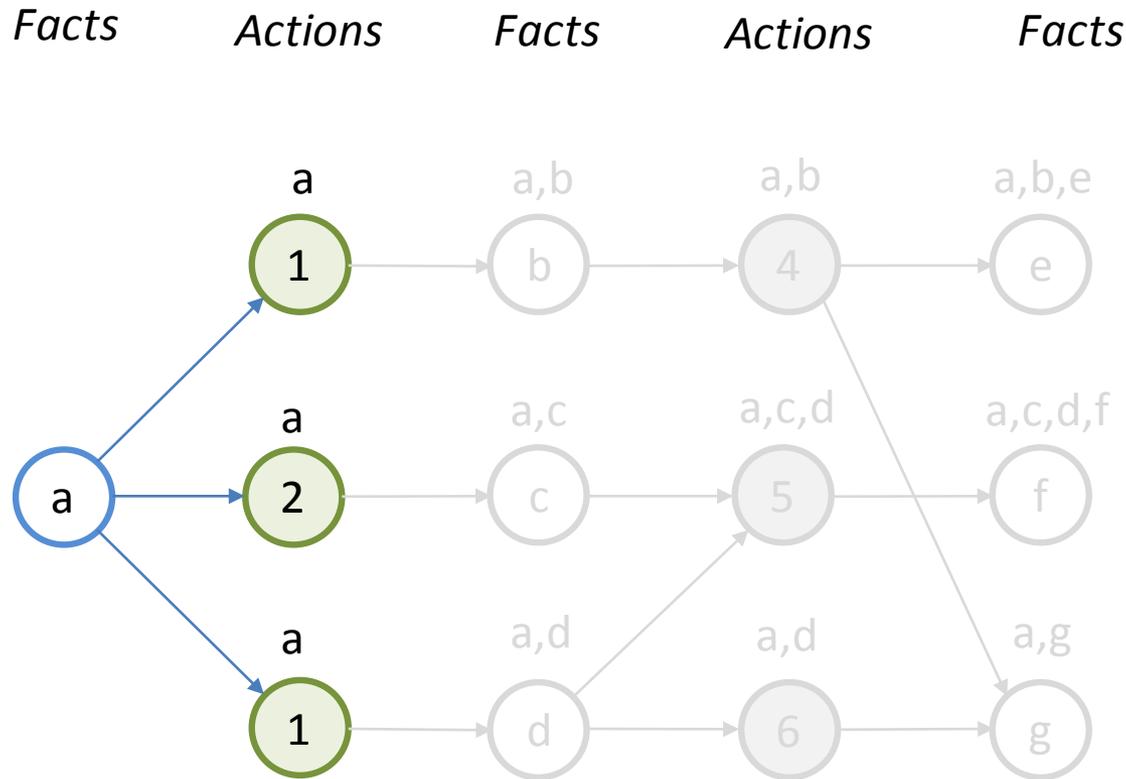
Find landmarks through **forward propagation** in relaxed planning graph

- Propagate information on **necessary predecessors**
  - Label each fact node with itself
  - Propagate labels along arcs
- Finds **causal landmarks** only (preconditions for actions)
- Finds **all** causal delete-relaxation landmarks in **polynomial time**

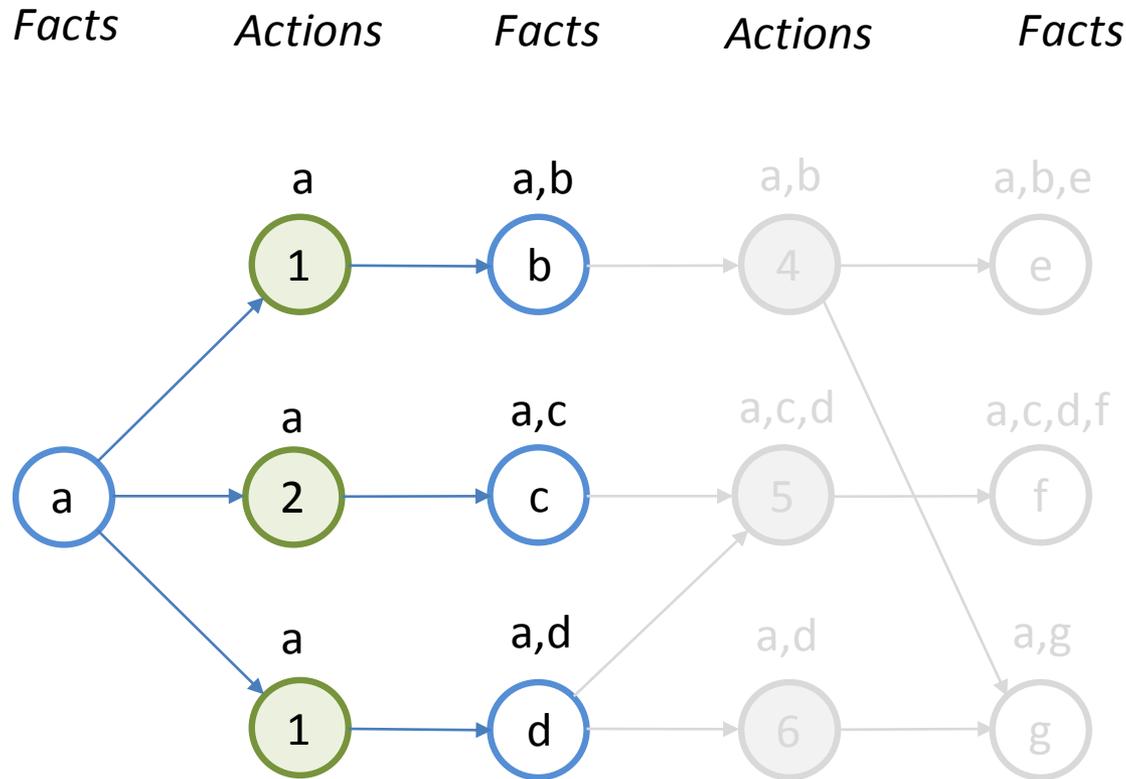
# Landmark Discovery (3)



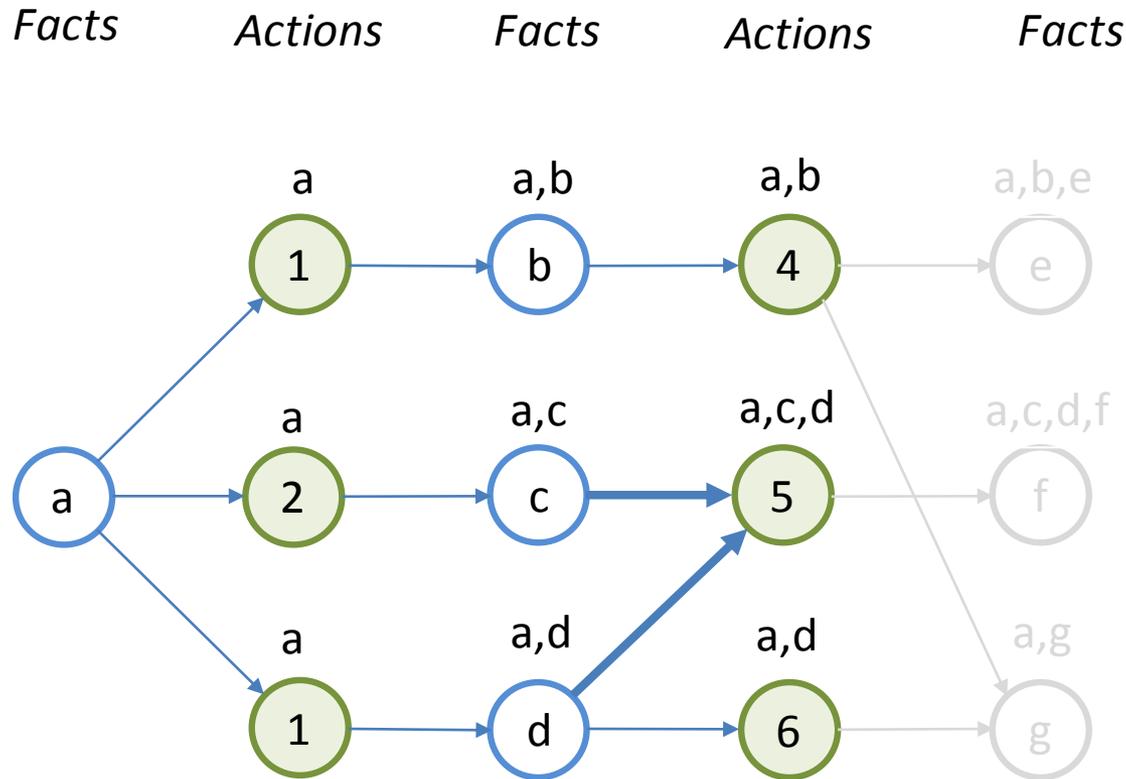
# Landmark Discovery (3)



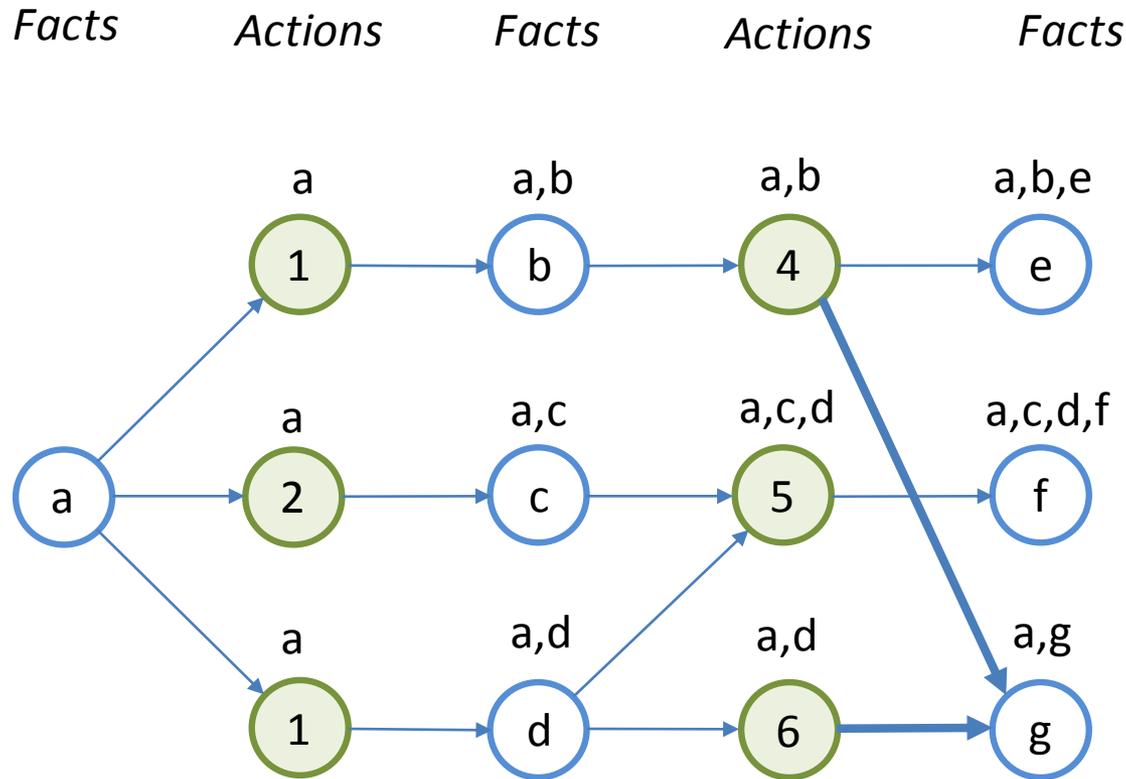
# Landmark Discovery (3)



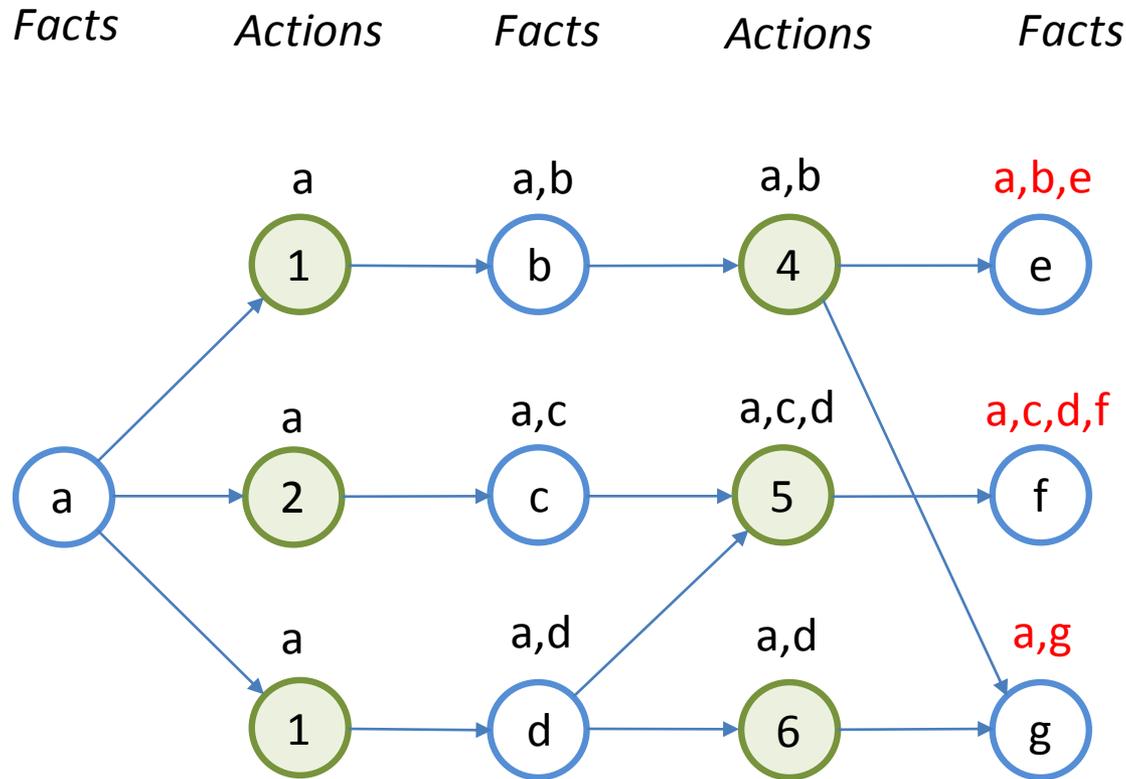
# Landmark Discovery (3)



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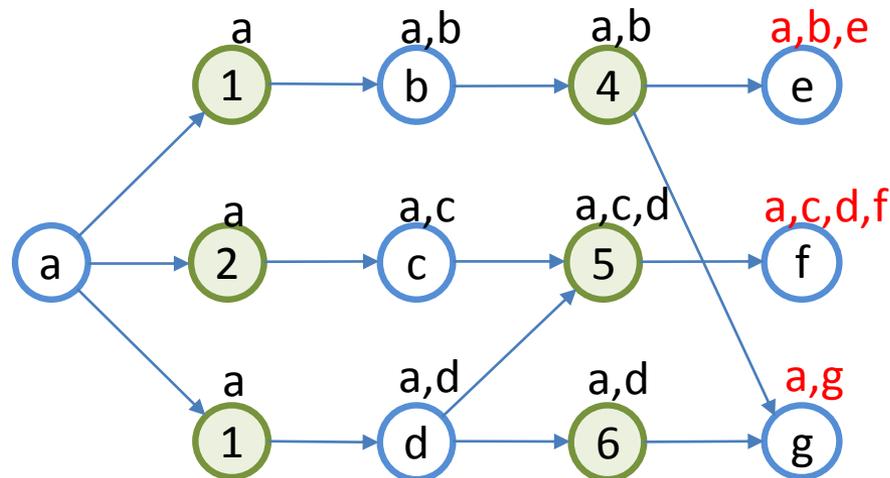


# Landmark Discovery (3)



# Landmark Discovery (3)

- Goal nodes in final layer: labels are landmarks
- $A \rightarrow B$  if  $A$  forms part of the label for  $B$  in the final layer
- $A \rightarrow_{gn} B$  if  $A$  is precondition for all possible first achievers of  $B$
- Possible first achievers of  $B$  are achievers that do not have  $B$  in their label (Keyder, Richter & Helmert 2010)

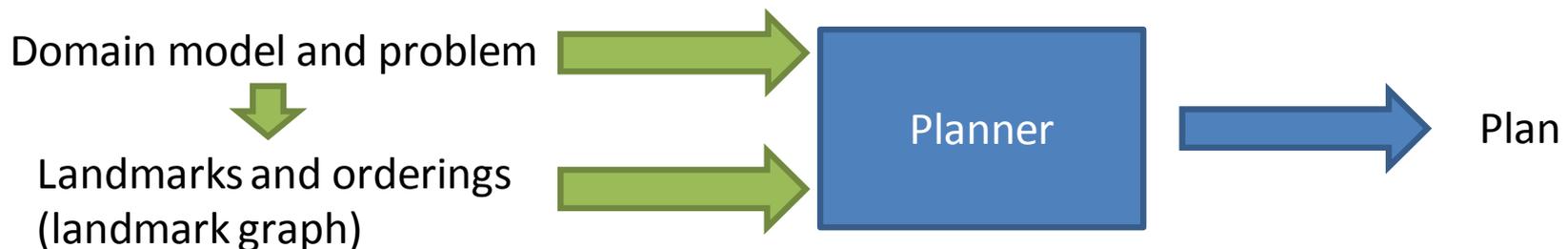


# Outline

- What Landmarks Are
- How Landmarks Are Discovered
- **Using Landmarks**
  - Subgoals
  - Heuristic Estimates
  - Admissible Heuristic Estimates
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# Using Landmarks

- So what can we do once we have these landmarks?
- We assume that landmarks and orderings are discovered in a **pre-processing phase**, and the same landmark graph is used throughout the **planning phase**



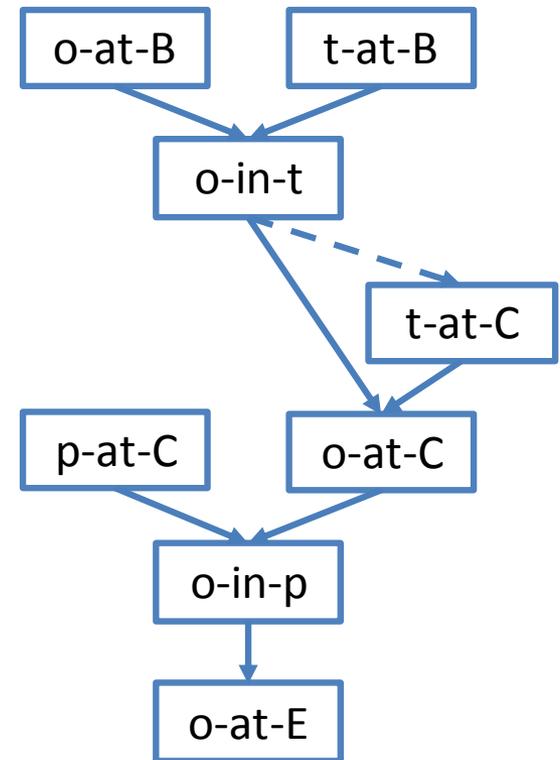
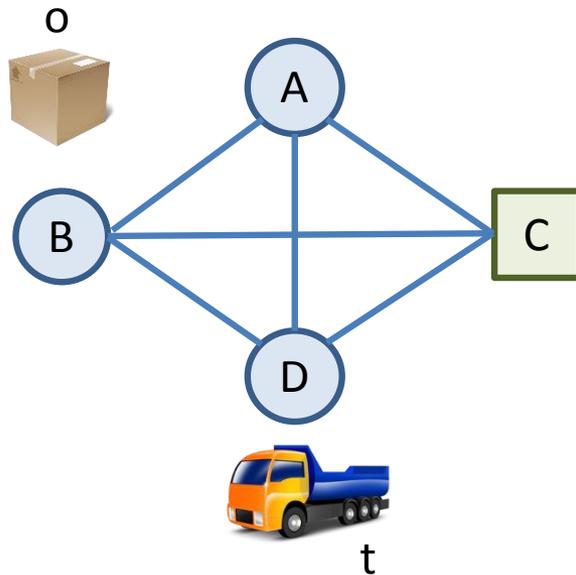
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# Using Landmarks: Subgoals

- Landmarks can be used as **subgoals** for a base planner
- The first layer of landmarks that have not yet been achieved is passed as a **disjunctive goal** to a base planner

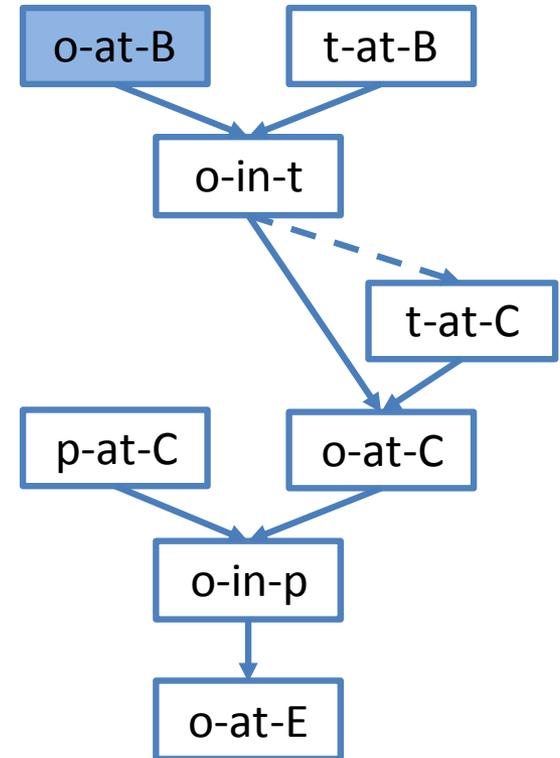
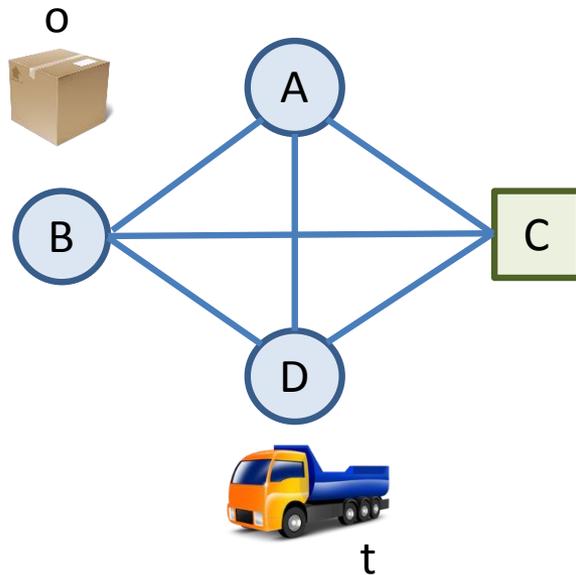
# Using Landmarks: Subgoals



Partial Plan:

Goal:

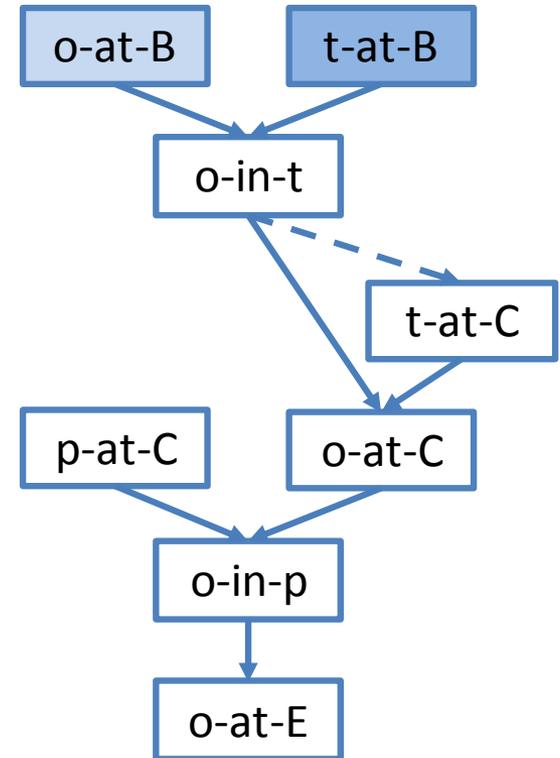
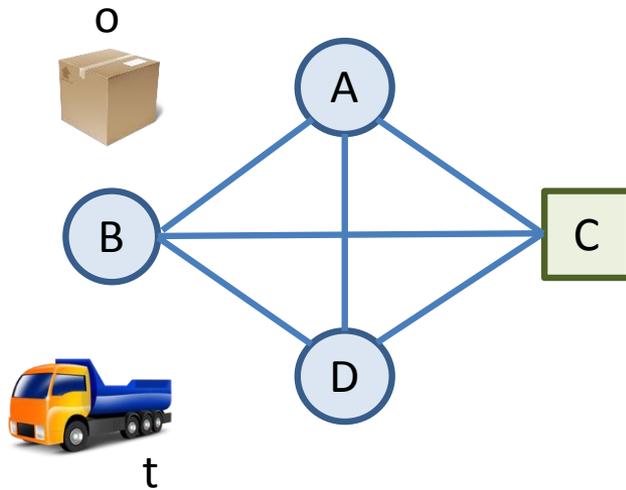
# Using Landmarks: Subgoals



Partial Plan:  $\emptyset$

Goal:  $p\text{-at-C} \vee t\text{-at-B}$

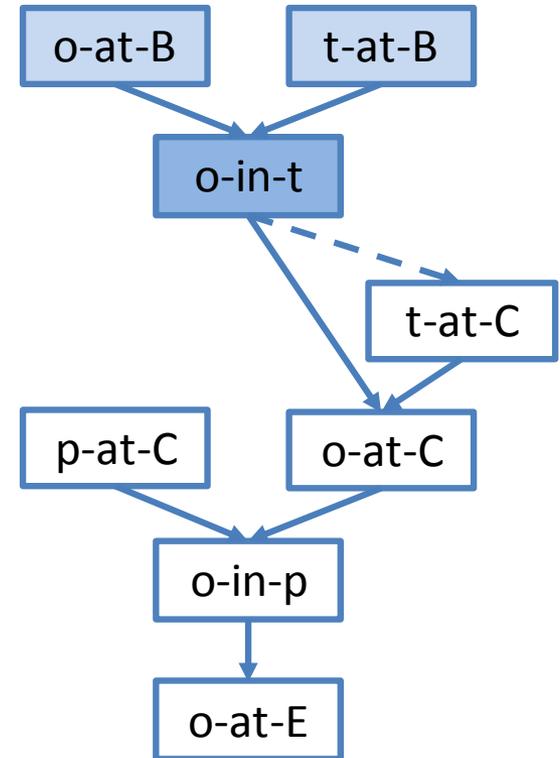
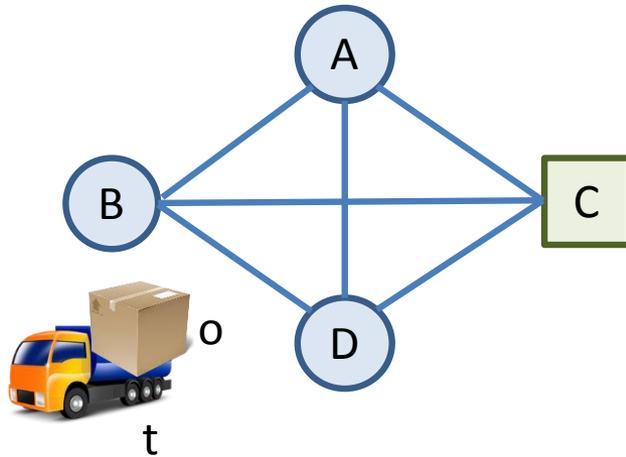
# Using Landmarks: Subgoals



Partial Plan: drive-t-B

Goal: o-in-t  $\vee$  p-at-C

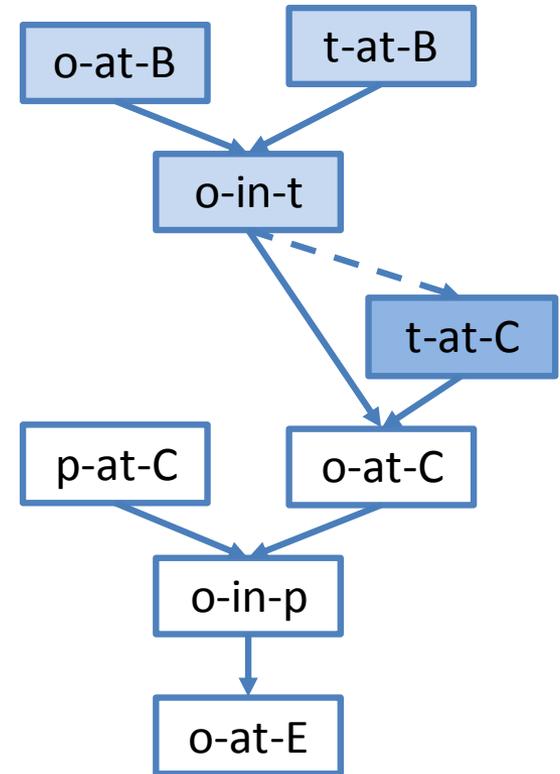
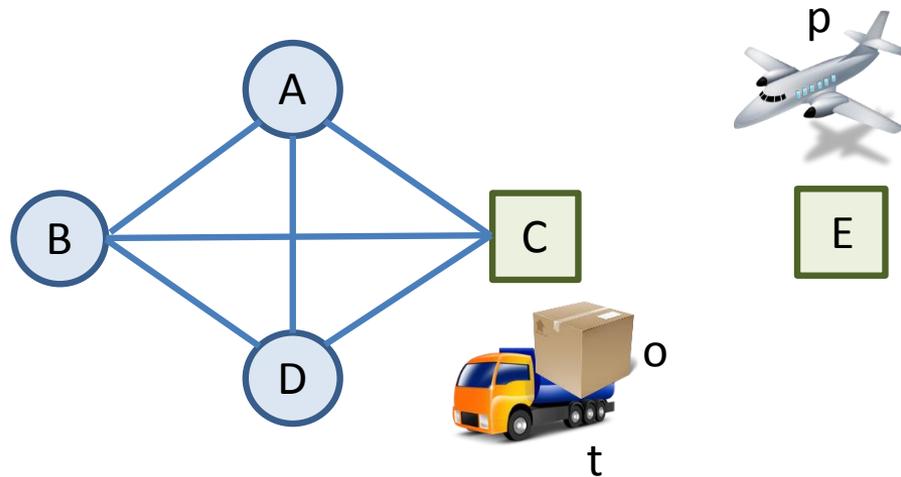
# Using Landmarks: Subgoals



Partial Plan: drive-t-B, load-o-t

Goal: t-at-C  $\vee$  p-at-C

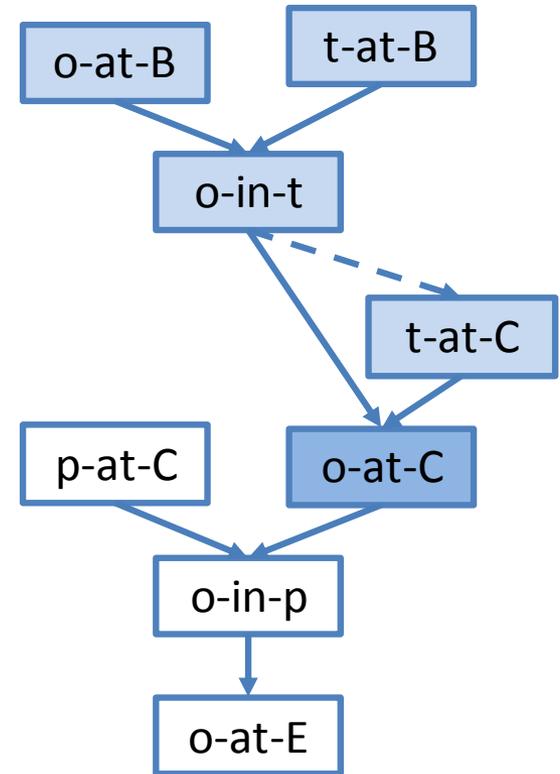
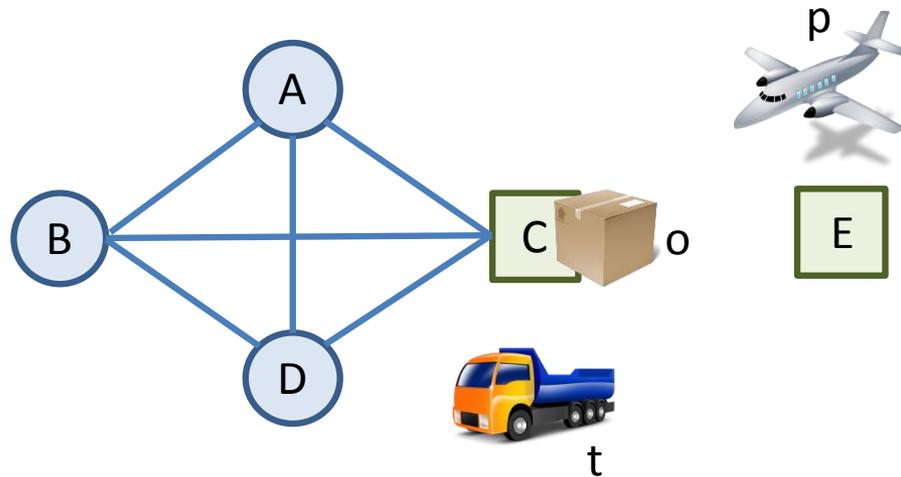
# Using Landmarks: Subgoals



Partial Plan: drive-t-B, load-o-t, drive-t-C

Goal: o-at-C  $\vee$  p-at-C

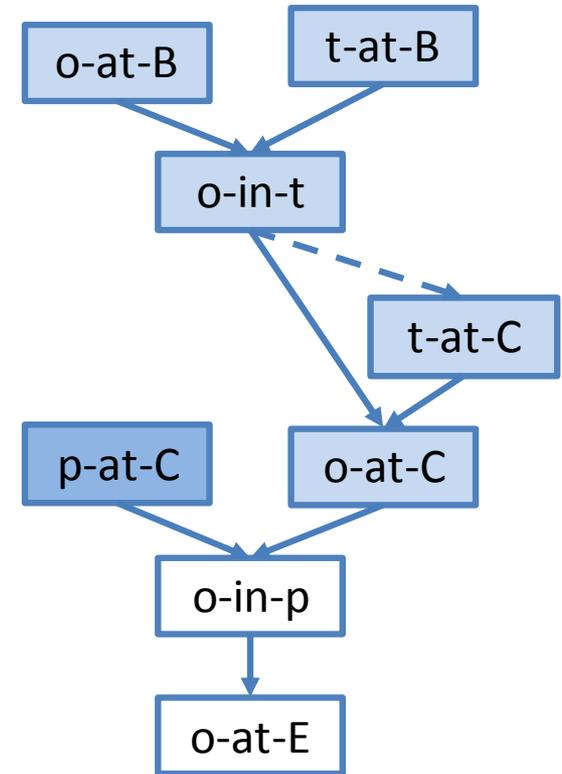
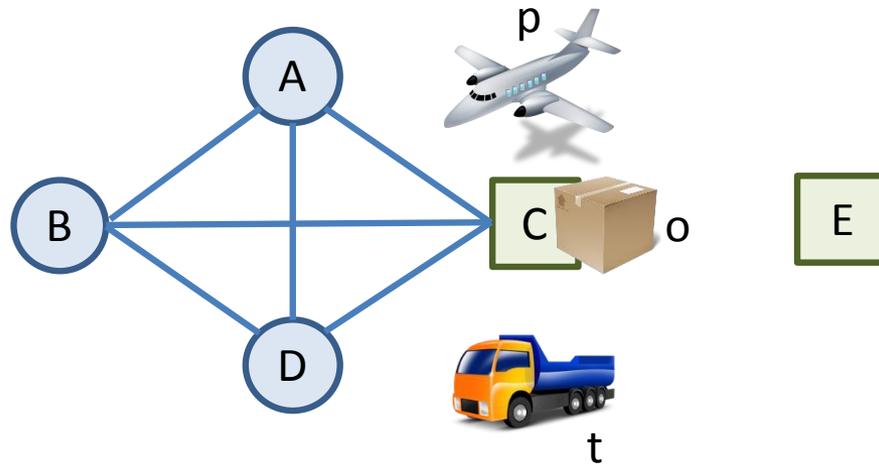
# Using Landmarks: Subgoals



Partial Plan: drive-t-B, load-o-t, drive-t-C, unload-o-C

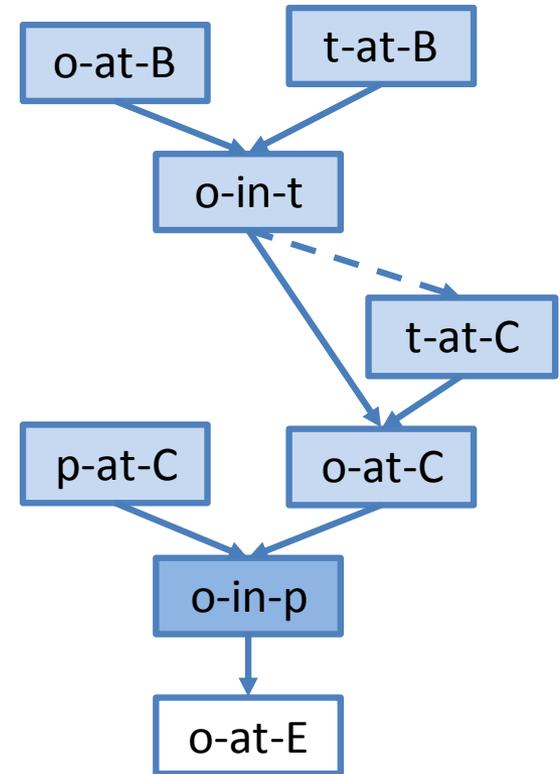
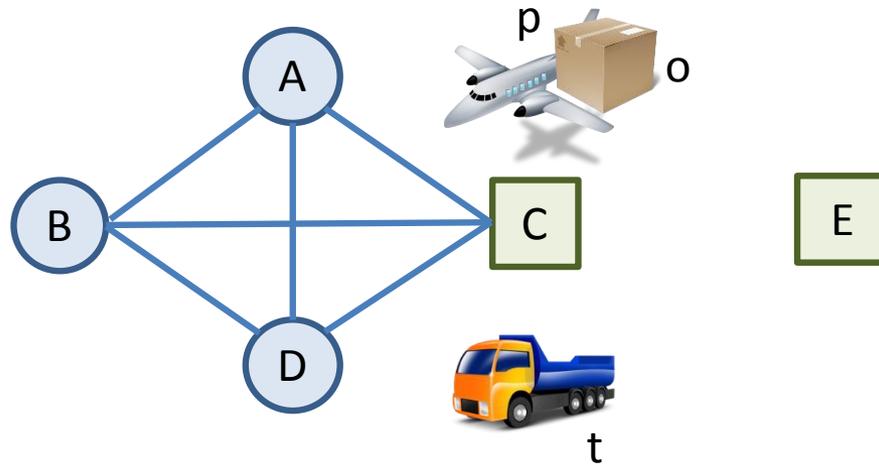
Goal: p-at-C

# Using Landmarks: Subgoals



Partial Plan: drive-t-B, load-o-t, drive-t-C, unload-o-C, fly-p-C  
 Goal: o-in-p

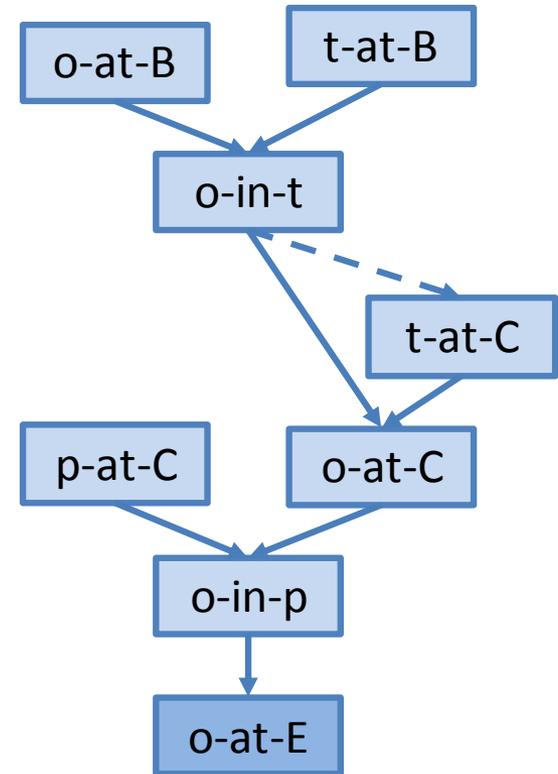
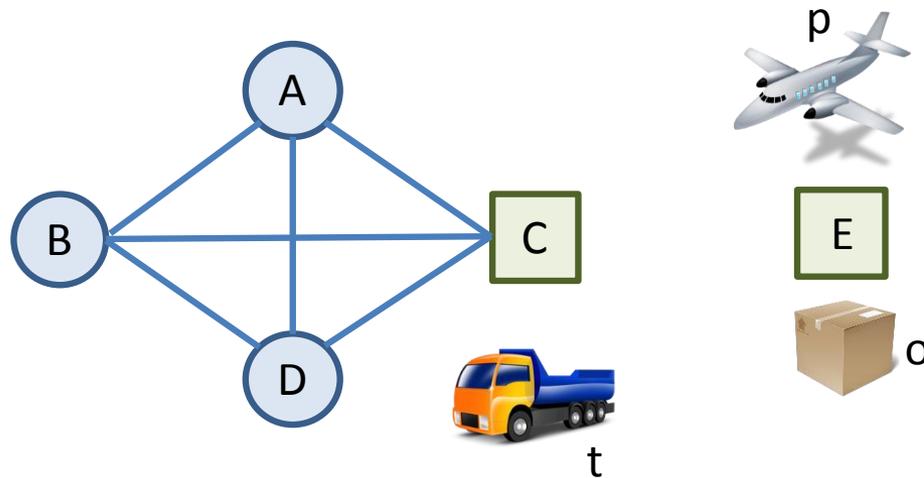
# Using Landmarks: Subgoals



Partial Plan: drive-t-B, load-o-t, drive-t-C, unload-o-C, fly-p-C, load-o-p

Goal: o-at-E

# Using Landmarks: Subgoals



Partial Plan: drive-t-B, load-o-t, drive-t-C, unload-o-C, fly-p-C, load-o-p, fly-p-E, unload-o-E

Goal:  $\emptyset$

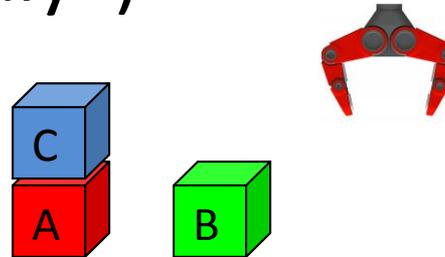
# Using Landmarks: Subgoals

- That was a **good** example, but
- Let's see an **bad** example

# Using Landmarks: Subgoals

Consider the following Blocks World problem (“The Sussman Anomaly”)

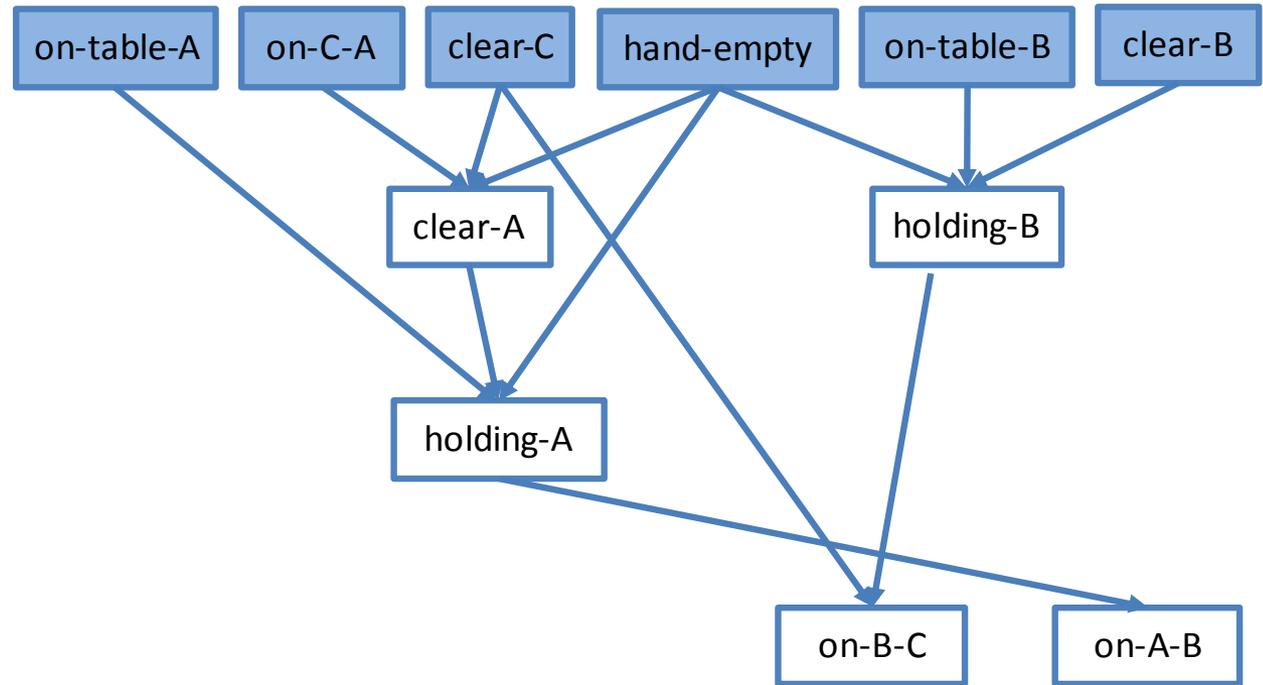
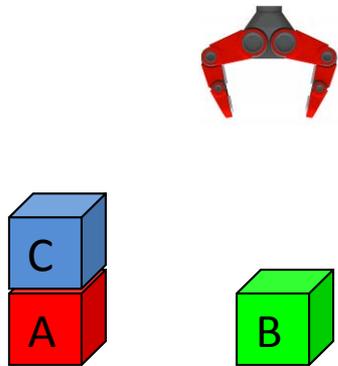
- Initial State:



- Goal: on-A-B, on-B-C



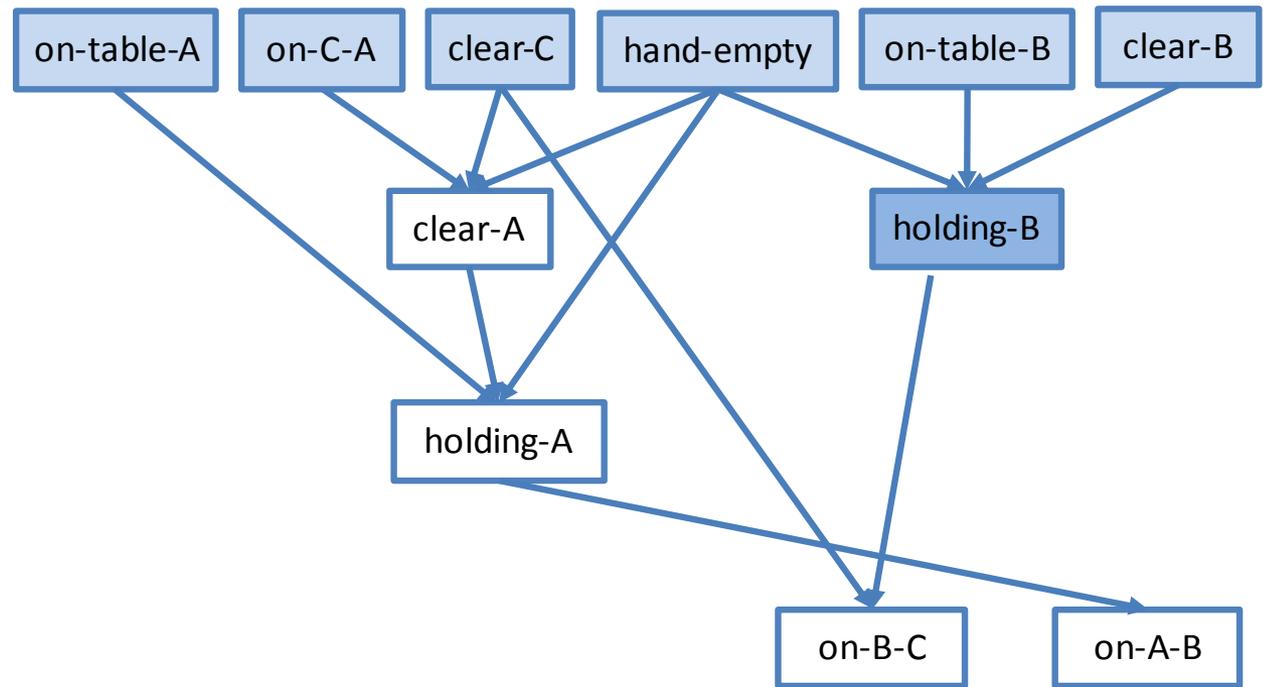
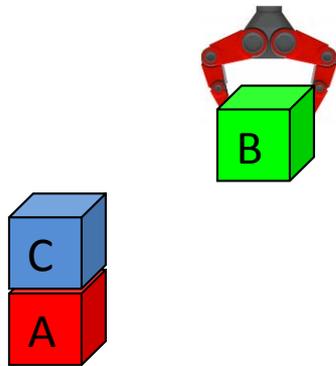
# Using Landmarks: Subgoals



Partial Plan:  $\emptyset$

Goal: clear-A  $\vee$  holding-B

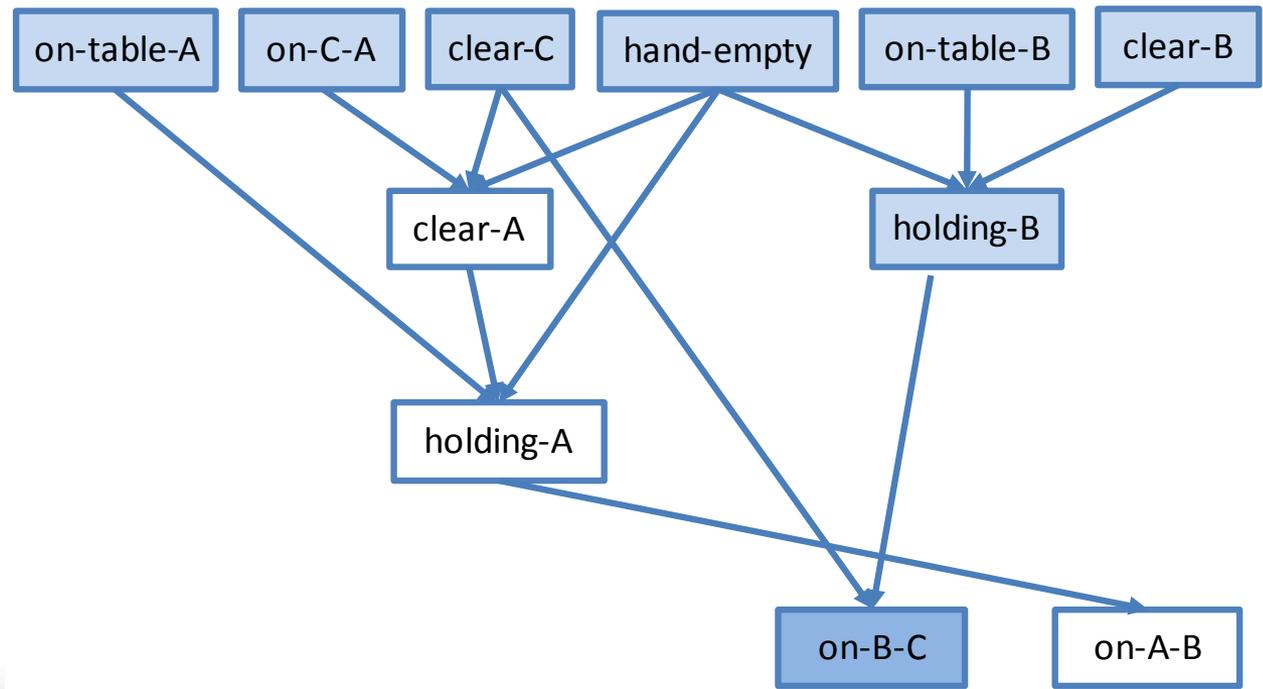
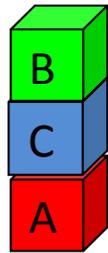
# Using Landmarks: Subgoals



Partial Plan: pickup-B

Goal: clear-A  $\vee$  on-B-C

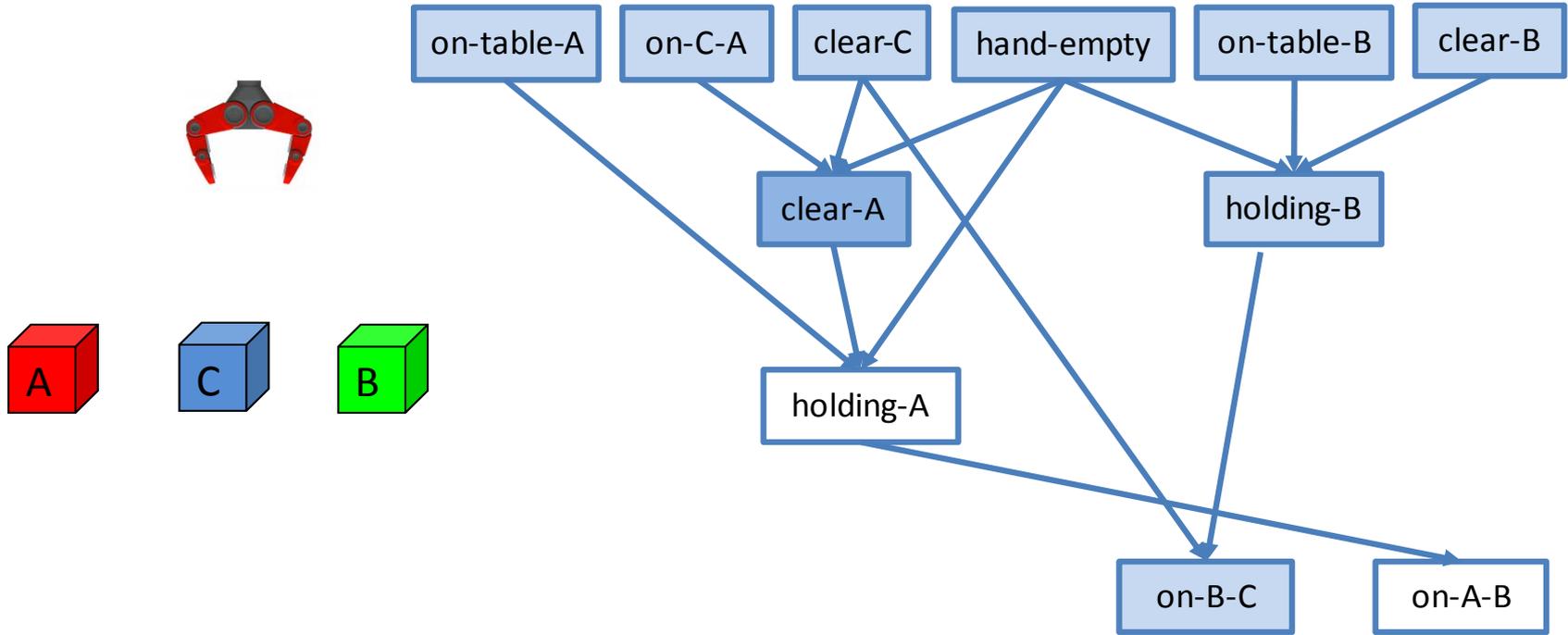
# Using Landmarks: Subgoals



Partial Plan: pickup-B, stack-B-C

Goal: clear-A

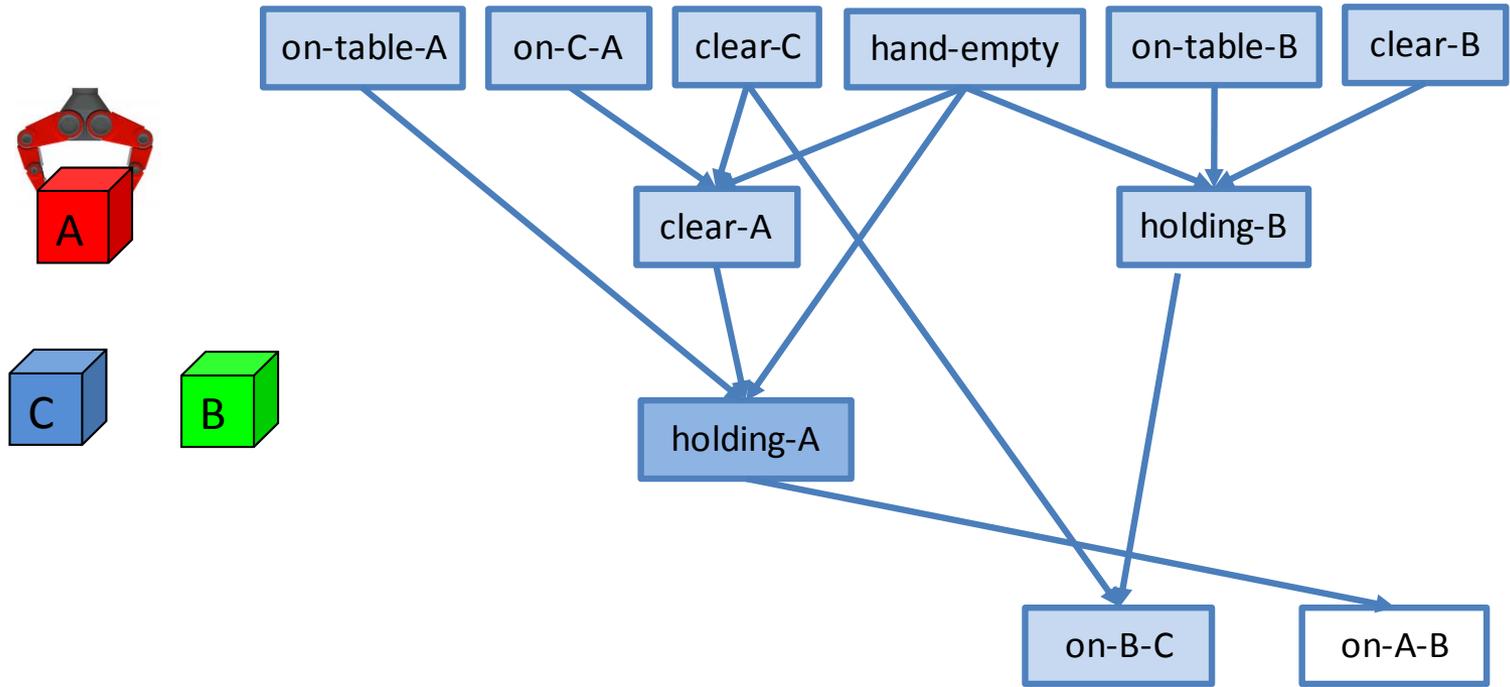
# Using Landmarks: Subgoals



Partial Plan: pickup-B, stack-B-C, unstack-B-C, putdown-B,  
unstack-C-A, putdown-C

Goal: holding-A

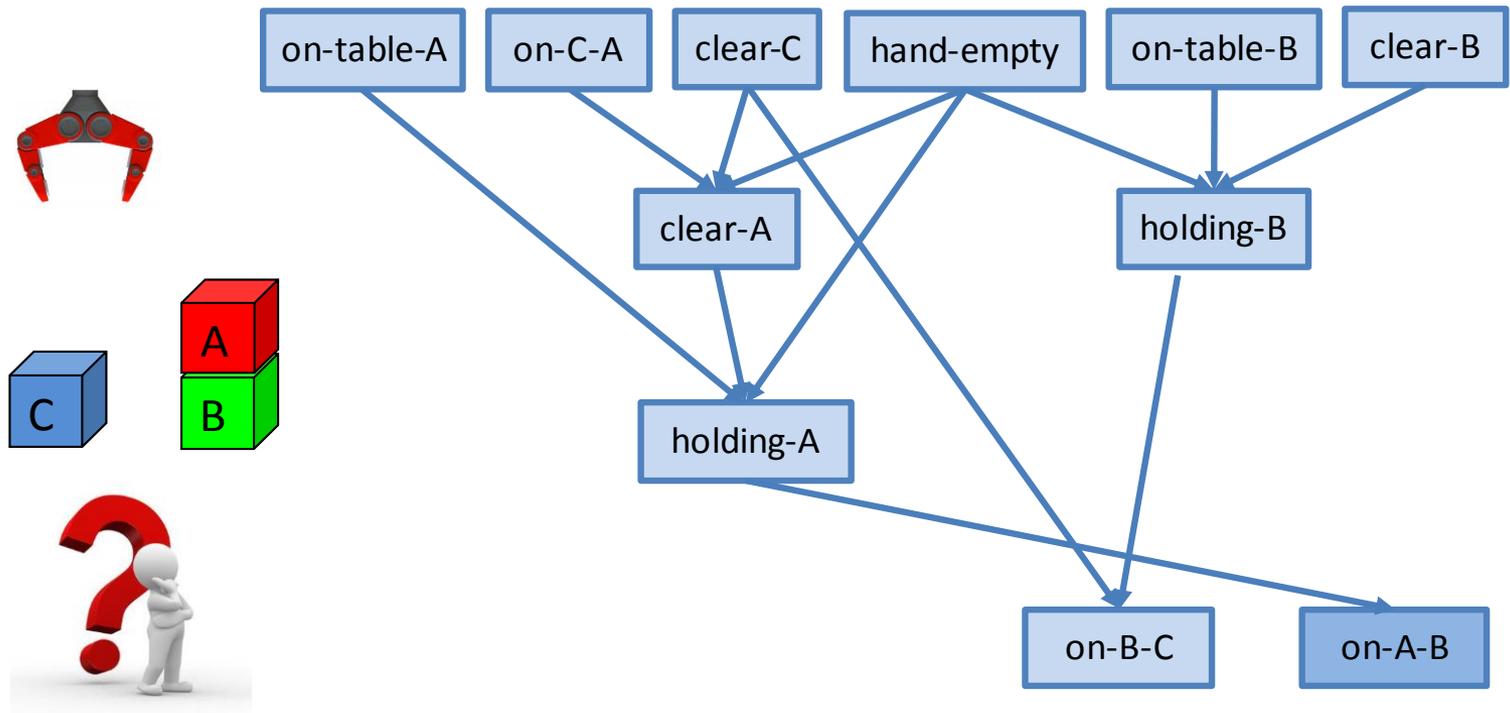
# Using Landmarks: Subgoals



Partial Plan: pickup-B, stack-B-C, unstack-B-C, putdown-B,  
unstack-C-A, putdown-C, pickup-A

Goal: on-A-B

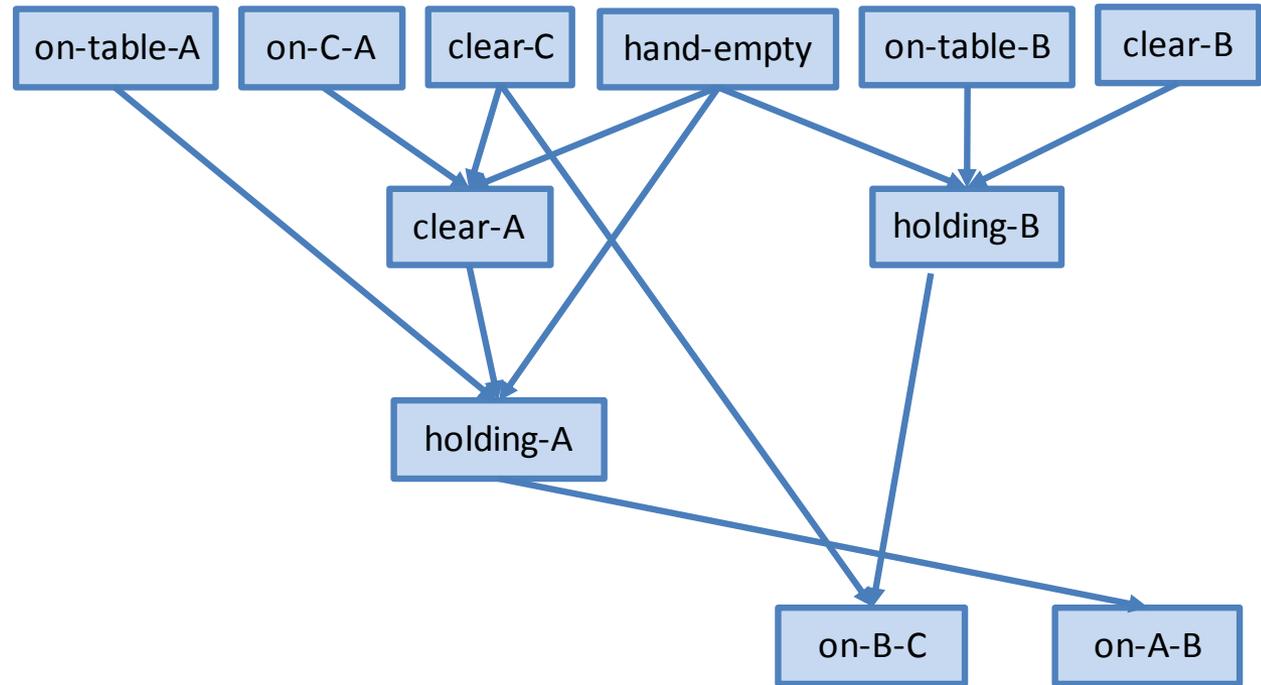
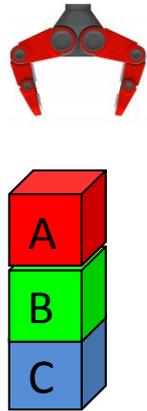
# Using Landmarks: Subgoals



Partial Plan: pickup-B, stack-B-C, unstack-B-C, putdown-B, unstack-C-A, putdown-C, pickup-A, stack-A-B

Goal: **Still need to achieve on-B-C**

# Using Landmarks: Subgoals



Partial Plan: pickup-B, stack-B-C, unstack-B-C, putdown-B,  
 unstack-C-A, putdown-C, pickup-A, stack-A-B, unstack-A-B,  
 putdown-A, pickup-B, stack-B-C, pickup-A, stack-A-B

Goal:  $\emptyset$

# Using Landmarks: Subgoals

- **Pro:**
  - Planning is very fast - the base planner needs to plan to a lesser depth
- **Cons:**
  - Can lead to much longer plans
  - Not complete in the presence of dead-ends

# Outline

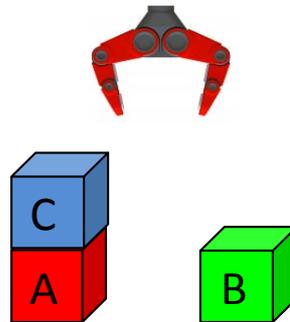
- What Landmarks Are
- How Landmarks Are Discovered
- Using Landmarks
  - Subgoals
  - **Heuristic Estimates**
  - Admissible Heuristic Estimates
  - Enriching the Problem
  - Beyond Classical Planning
- Summary

# Using Landmarks: Heuristic Estimates

- The **number of landmarks that still need to be achieved** is a heuristic estimate (Richter, Helmert and Westphal 2008)
- Used by LAMA - winner of the IPC-2008 sequential satisficing track
  - Forward Search
  - heuristic derived from landmarks

# Using Landmarks: Heuristic Estimates

- Suppose we are in state  $s$ . Did we achieve landmark  $A$  yet?
- Example: did we achieve holding( $B$ ) ?



- There is no way to tell just by looking at state  $s$
- Achieved landmarks are a function of path, not state
- The number of landmarks that still need to be achieved is a **path-dependent** heuristic

# LAMA Approach

- The landmarks that still need to be achieved after reaching state  $s$  via path  $\pi$  are:

$$L(s, \pi) = (L \setminus \text{Accepted}(s, \pi)) \cup \text{ReqAgain}(s, \pi)$$

- $L$  is the set of *all* (discovered) landmarks
- $\text{Accepted}(s, \pi) \subset L$  is the set of accepted landmarks
- $\text{ReqAgain}(s, \pi) \subseteq \text{Accepted}(s, \pi)$  is the set of *required again* landmarks - landmarks that must be achieved again

# LAMA: Accepted Landmarks

- A landmark  $A$  is first accepted by path  $\pi$  in state  $s$  if:
  - all predecessors of  $A$  in the landmark graph have been accepted, and
  - $A$  becomes true in  $s$
- Once a landmark has been accepted, it remains accepted

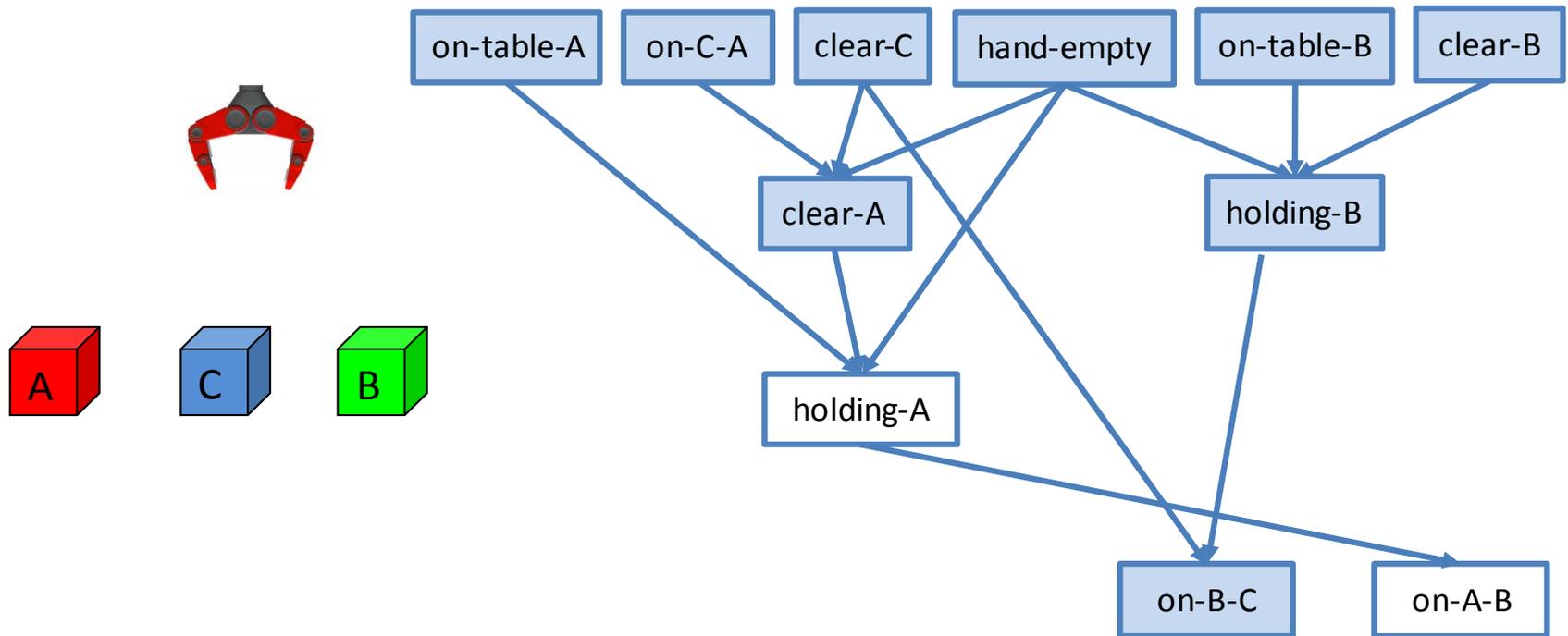
# LAMA: Required Again Landmarks

- A landmark  $A$  is required again by path  $\pi$  in state  $s$  if:
  - **false-goal**:  $A$  is false in  $s$  and is a goal, or
  - **open-prerequisite**:  $A$  is false in  $s$  and is a greedy-necessary predecessor of some landmark that is not accepted
- It's also possible to use (Buffet and Hoffmann, 2010):
  - **doomed-goal**:  $A$  is true in  $s$  and is a goal, but one of its greedy-necessary successors was not accepted, and is inconsistent with  $A$
- Unsound rule:
  - **required-ancestor** is the transitive closure of *open-prerequisite*

# LAMA: Accepted and Required Again

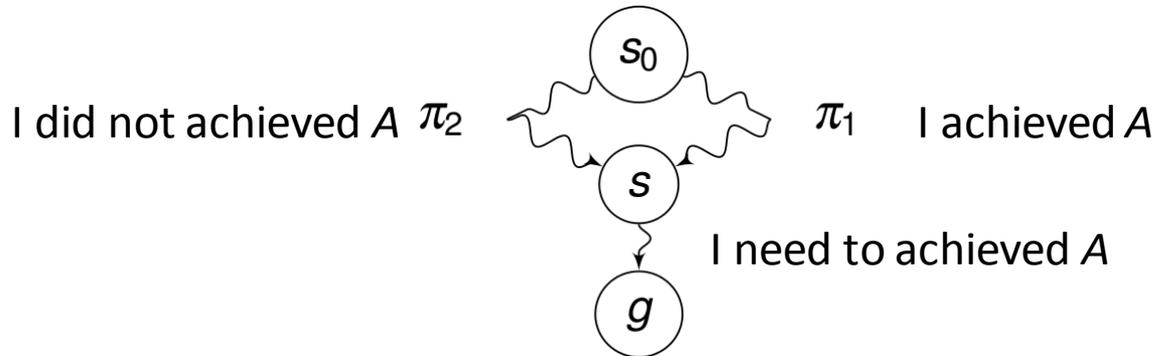
## Landmarks - Example

- In the Sussman anomaly, after performing: pickup-B, stack-B-C, unstack-B-C, putdown-B, unstack-C-A, putdown-C



- on-B-C is a **false-goal**, and so it is *required again*

# Multi-path Dependency



- Suppose state  $s$  was reached by paths  $\pi_1, \pi_2$
- Suppose  $\pi_1$  achieved landmark  $A$  and  $\pi_2$  did not
- Then  $A$  needs to be achieved after state  $s$
- Proof:  $A$  is a landmark, therefore it needs to be true in all valid plans, including valid plans that start with  $\pi_2$

# Fusing Data from Different Paths

- Suppose  $P$  is a set of paths from  $s_0$  to a state  $s$ . Define:

$$L(s, P) = (L \setminus \text{Accepted}(s, P)) \cup \text{ReqAgain}(s, P)$$

- *Where:*
  - $\text{Accepted}(s, P) = \bigcap_{\pi \in P} \text{Accepted}(s, \pi)$
  - $\text{ReqAgain}(s, P) \subseteq \text{Accepted}(s, P)$  is specified as before by  $s$  and the various rules
- $L(s, P)$  is the set of landmarks that we know still needs to be achieved after reaching state  $s$  via the paths in  $P$   
(Karpas and Domshlak, 2009)

# Outline

- What Landmarks Are
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# Using Landmarks:

## Admissible Heuristic Estimates

- LAMA's heuristic: the number of landmarks that still need to be achieved (Richter, Helmert and Westphal 2008)
- LAMA's heuristic is **inadmissible** - a single action can achieve multiple landmarks
  - Example: hand-empty and on-A-B can both be achieved by stack-A-B
- Admissible heuristic: **assign the *right* cost to each landmark, sum over the costs of landmarks** (Karpas and Domshlak, 2009)

# Admissible Heuristic Estimates: Conditions for Admissibility

- Each action shares its cost between all the landmarks it achieves

$$\forall a \in \mathcal{A}: \sum_{A \in L(a | s, P)} \text{cost}(a, A) \leq C(a)$$

$\text{cost}(a, A)$ : cost “assigned” by action  $a$  to  $A$

$L(a | s, P)$ : the set of landmarks achieved by  $a$

- Each landmark is assigned at most the cheapest cost any action assigned it

$$\forall A \in L(s, P): \text{cost}(A) \leq \min_{a \in \text{ach}(A | s, P)} \text{cost}(a, A)$$

$\text{cost}(A)$ : cost assigned to landmark  $A$

$\text{ach}(A | s, P)$ : the set of actions that can achieve  $A$

# Admissible Heuristic Estimates:

## Admissible Cost Sharing

- **Idea:** the cost of a set of landmarks is no greater than the cost of any single action that achieves them
- Given that, the sum of costs of landmarks that still need to be achieved is an admissible heuristic,  $h_L$

$$h_L(s, \pi) := \text{cost}(L(s, \pi)) = \sum_{A \in L(s, \pi)} \text{cost}(A)$$

# Admissible Heuristic Estimates: Admissible Cost Sharing

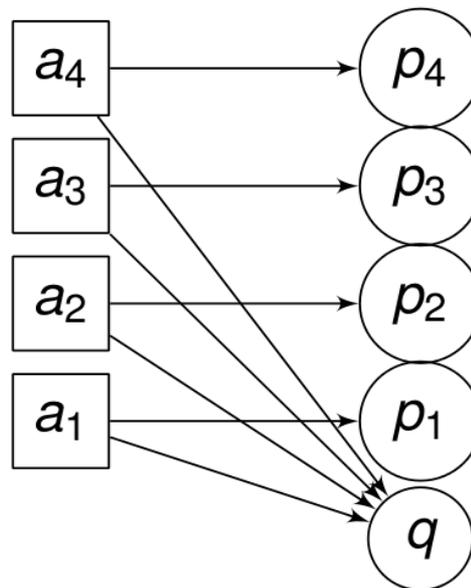
- How can we find such a partitioning?
- Easy answer - uniform cost sharing - each action shares its cost equally between the landmarks it achieves

$$\text{cost}(a, A) = \frac{C(a)}{|L(a | s, \pi)|}$$

$$\text{cost}(A) = \min_{a \in \text{ach}(A | s, \pi)} \text{cost}(a, A)$$

# Admissible Heuristic Estimates: Uniform Cost Sharing

- Advantage: Easy and fast to compute
- Disadvantage: can be much worse than the optimal cost partitioning

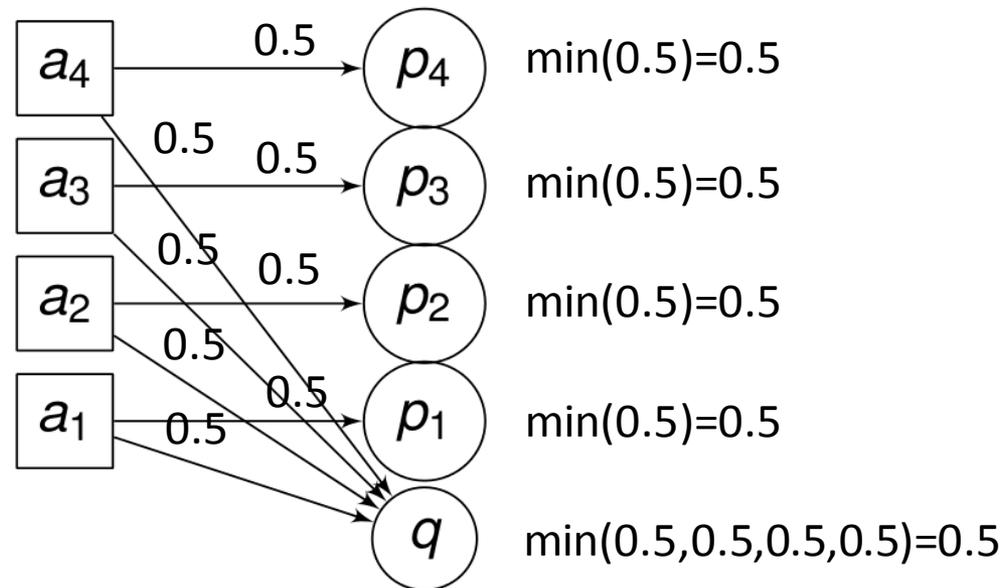


# Admissible Heuristic Estimates: Uniform Cost Sharing

- Advantage: Easy and fast to compute
- Disadvantage: can be much worse than the optimal cost partitioning

Uniform cost sharing

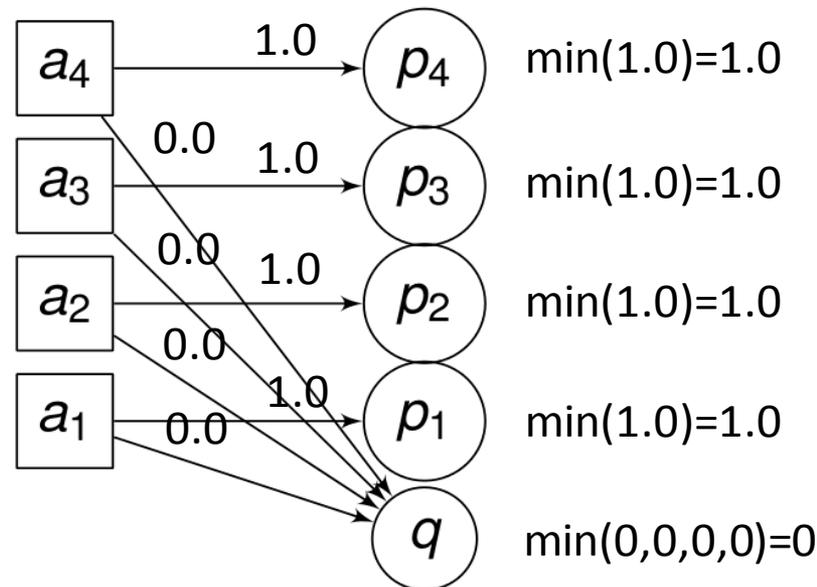
$$h_L = 2.5$$



# Admissible Heuristic Estimates: Uniform Cost Sharing

- Advantage: Easy and fast to compute
- Disadvantage: can be much worse than the optimal cost partitioning

Uniform cost sharing  $h_L = 4.0$   $h_L = 2.5$



# Admissible Heuristic Estimates: Optimal Cost Sharing

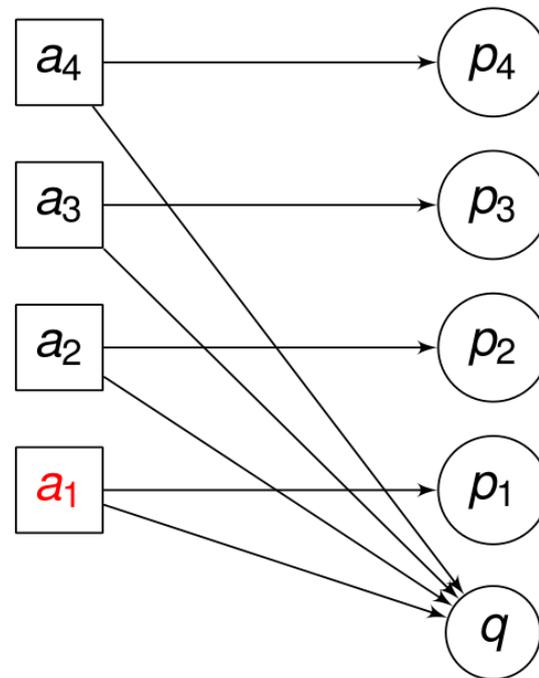
- The **good news**: the optimal cost partitioning is poly-time to compute
  - The constraints for admissibility are linear, and can be used in a Linear Program (LP)
  - Objective: maximize the sum of landmark costs
  - The solution to the LP gives us the optimal cost partitioning
- The **bad news**: poly-time can still take a long time

# Admissible Heuristic Estimates: How we can get better?

- So far:
  - Uniform cost sharing is easy to compute, but suboptimal
  - Optimal cost sharing takes a long time to compute
- Q: How can we get better heuristic estimates that don't take a long time to compute?  
A: Exploit additional information - action landmarks

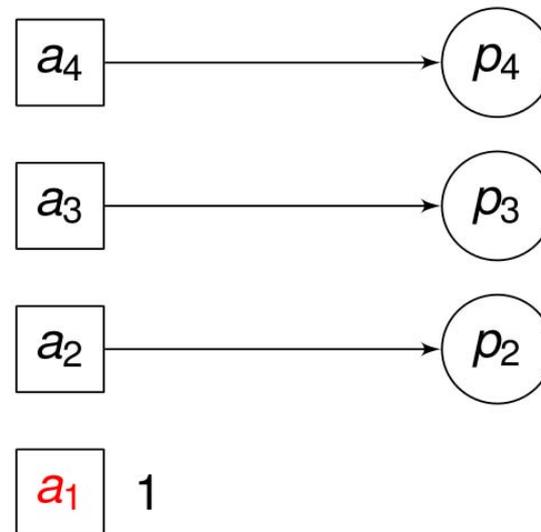
# Admissible Heuristic Estimates: How we can get better?

Using action landmarks ... for example:



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Using action landmarks ... for example:

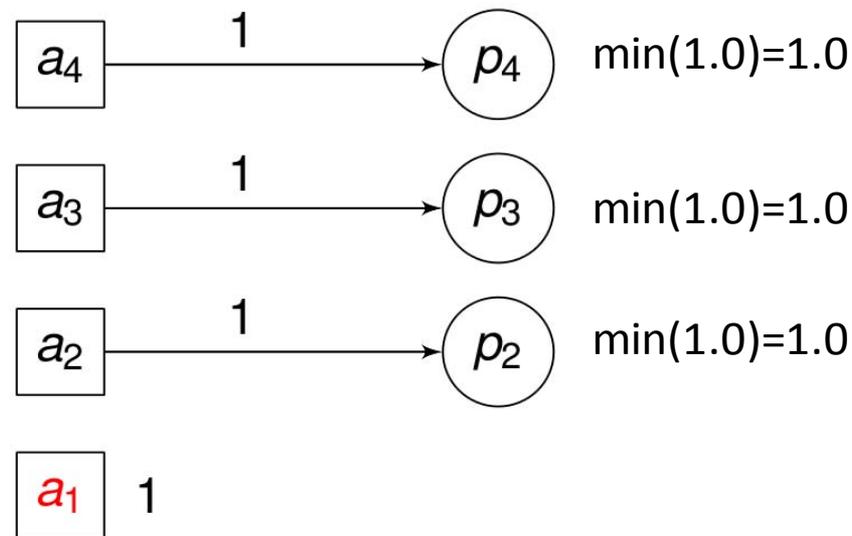


# Admissible Heuristic Estimates: How we can get better?

Using action landmarks ... for example:

- Uniform Cost Sharing

$$h_{LA} = 4.0$$



# Outline

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# Using Landmarks: Enriching the Problem

- Landmarks are, in essence, **implicit goals**
- We can make these explicit by reformulating the planning problem
- Two different methods for doing this have been proposed (Wang, Baier and McIlraith, 2009 and Domshlak, Katz and Lefler, 2010)

# Using Landmarks: Enriching the Problem

## Viewing Landmarks as Temporally Extended Goals:

- Landmarks and their orderings can be viewed as temporally extended goals (Wang, Baier and McIlraith, 2009)
- These temporally extended goals can be expressed in **Linear Temporal Logic (LTL)**
- Each LTL formula can be compiled into a finite-state automaton (FSA)
- Each FSA can be encoded as a single variable in an **enriched planning problem**

# Using Landmarks: Enriching the Problem

## A Simpler Approach:

A simpler approach of encoding landmarks into a planning problem is to encode the landmarks directly (Domshlak, Katz and Lefler, 2010)

- Each landmark is represented by a single binary state variable
- The two values represent landmark **accepted / not accepted**
- Each operator that achieves the landmark has an **additional effect** added to it, changing the landmark variable value to accepted
- The accepting value of each landmark variable **is added to the goal state**

# Using Landmarks: Enriching the Problem

## Why Enrich Problems?

- Landmarks and orderings are implicit, encoding them into the problem makes them explicit
- Allows other heuristics to use landmark information
- Example: structural pattern heuristic on the enriched problem accounts not only for explicit goals (Domshlak, Katz and Lefler, 2010)
- In fact, the landmark count heuristic can be seen as the goal count heuristic on the landmark enriched problem
- Caveat - since current landmark discovery procedures are based on delete-relaxation, this adds no information to delete-relaxation based heuristics

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# Using Landmarks: Beyond Classical Planning

- Probabilistic landmarks
  - a landmark is a fact which must be true in every successful trajectory (possible execution)
- Temporal Landmarks

# Temporal Landmarks

# Landmarks for Temporal Planning

- We can treat a durative action as two “snap” actions: the *start* and the *end* (Fox & Long, 2003)
- This way, we can create a classical planning problem which is a **relaxation** of the temporal planning problem (Haslum 2009)
- The landmarks of this relaxation are called **causal landmarks**

# Example Temporal Planning Problem: Flashlight Match Cellar

- Goal: to fix the fuse in the cellar

- Possible actions:



- **Fix-fuse** – takes 10 seconds, requires light throughout
- **Light-match** – requires a match, provides light for 15 seconds, consumes the match

There is a flashlight in the dark cellar:



- **find-flashlight** – needs light throughout, takes 2 seconds
- **turn-on-flashlight** – takes 1 second (after it's found), and produces light



- Initial state: have a match

# Durative Action: Fix fuse

Duration: 10 seconds

Start:

Condition:

Effect:

Invariant condition: *light*

End:

Condition:

Effect: *fuse-fixed*



# Durative Action: Light match

Duration: 15 seconds

Start:

**Condition:** *have-match*

**Effect:** *not(have-match), light*

Invariant condition:

End:

**Condition:**

**Effect:** *not(light)*



# Durative Action: Find Flashlight

Duration: 2 seconds

Start:

Condition:

Effect:

Invariant condition: *light*

End:

Condition:

Effect: *have-flashlight*



# Durative Action: Turn On Flashlight

Duration: 1 seconds

**Start:**

**Condition:** have-flashlight

**Effect:**

**Invariant condition:**

**End:**

**Condition:**

**Effect:** *light*



# Causal Landmarks for Flashlight Match Cellar

If we run a casual landmark discovery, we would get:

- fuse-fixed
- light
- have-match

# Possible Solution: Flashlight Match Cellar



What if we change the duration of light-match to 5?

The causal landmarks do not change

# Temporal Landmarks

- We define **temporal landmarks** which incorporate statements about *what* must happen with temporal constraints about *when*
- Temporal landmarks allow us to **discover more about the task** than causal landmarks

# Temporal Landmark Definitions

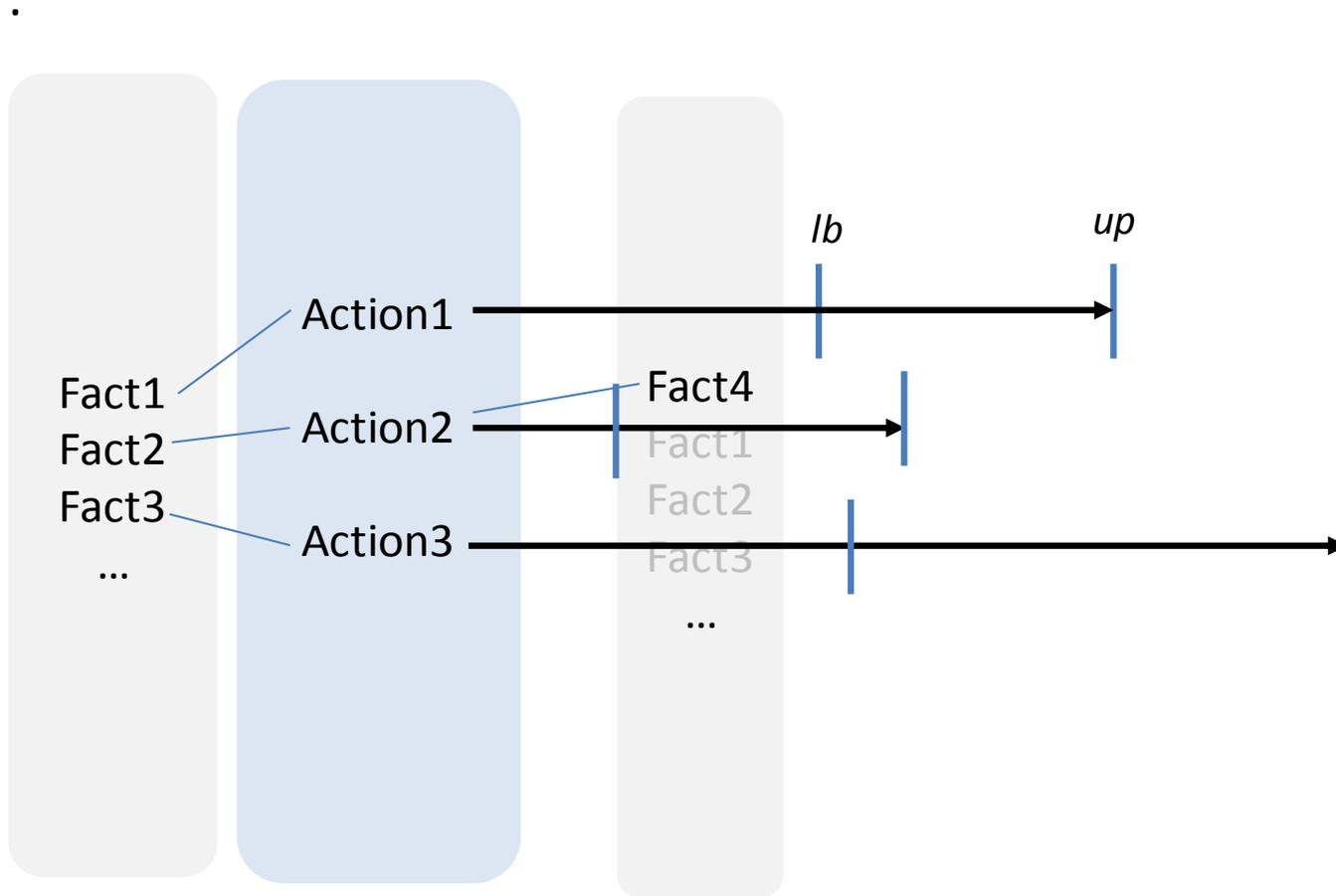
- Two types of temporal landmarks:
  - Fact landmark  $holds_{s:e}(F)$ 
    - fact  $F$  must hold from **exactly** time point  $s$  until **at least** time point  $e$
  - Action landmark  $occurs_o(e)$ 
    - event (start/end of action)  $e$  must occur at time point  $o$
- Maintain a set of simple temporal constraints between time points

$$lb \leq t_2 - t_1 \leq ub$$

# Discovering Temporal Landmarks

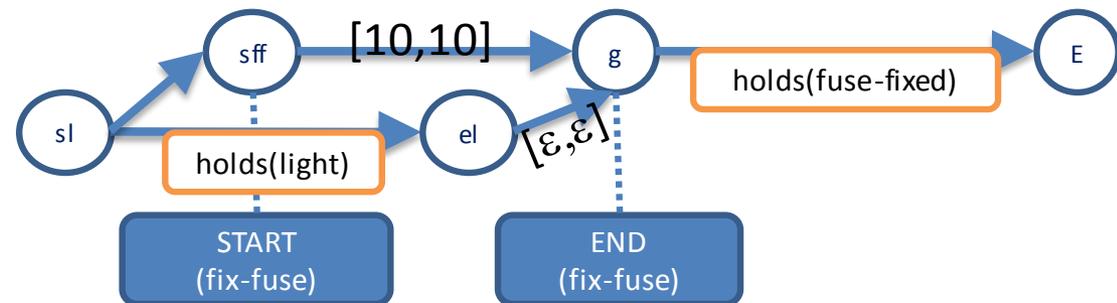
- Similar to **backchaining** for classical landmarks
- Start with what must happen
  - The goal must be achieved
- Draw the logical conclusions from what we know must happen
  - We use a set of derivation rules for this

# Temporal Relaxed Planning Graph



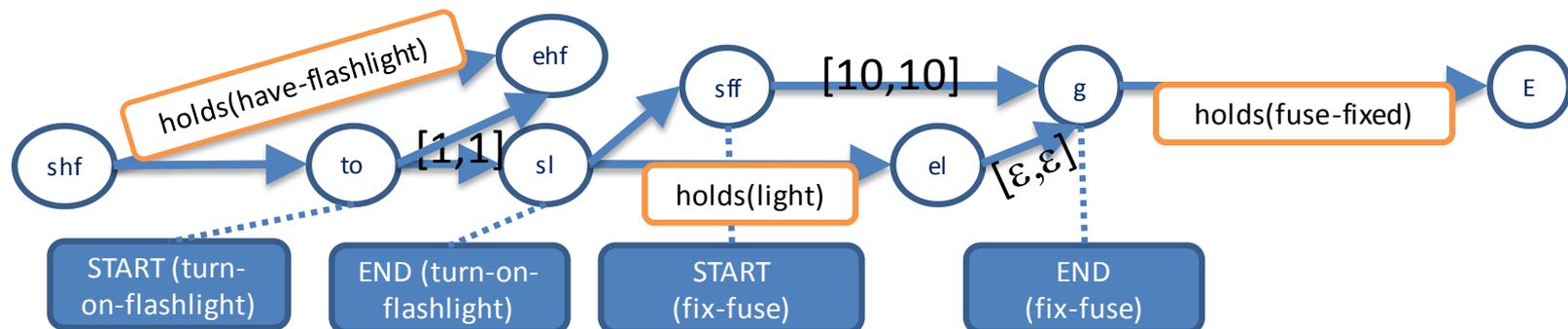
## Temporal Landmarks for Flashlight Match Cellar

- The goal must hold from some time point  $g$  until the end  $E$ 
  - $\text{holds}_{g:E}(\text{fuse-fixed})$
- The only event which can achieve fuse-fixed is  $\text{END}(\text{fix-fuse})$ , which must occur exactly at  $g$ 
  - $\text{occurs}_g(\text{END}(\text{fix-fuse}))$
- Every action that ends must start
  - $\text{occurs}_{sff}(\text{START}(\text{fix-fuse}))$ , with  $g - sff = 10$
- The invariant condition of fix-fuse must hold from  $sl$  to  $el$ 
  - $\text{holds}_{sl:g}(\text{light})$ , with  $sl \leq sff$  and  $el = g - \varepsilon$



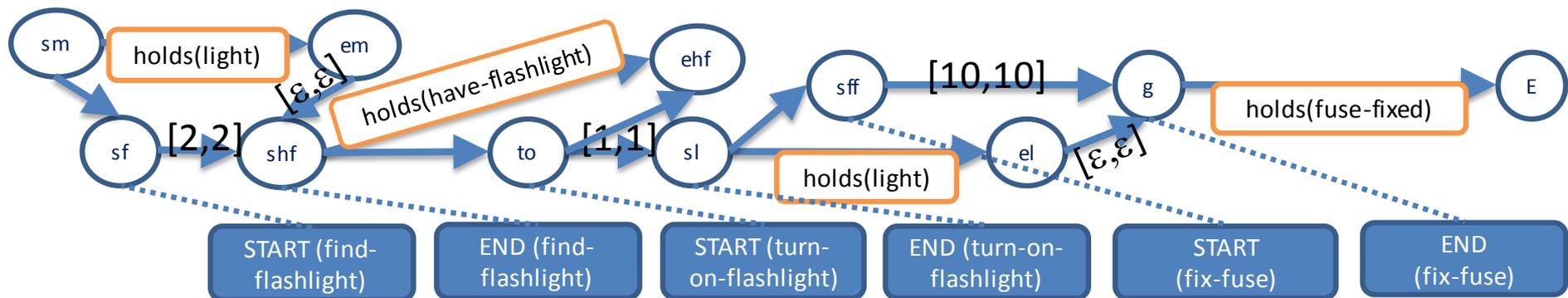
## Temporal Landmarks for Flashlight Match Cellar

- Light must be achieved. This can be done by either END(turn-on-flashlight) or START(light-match). But we need light for  $10-\epsilon$  and light-match will only give us light for 5, so:
  - $\text{occurs}_{s_l}(\text{END}(\text{turn-on-flashlight}))$
- As before, the start must precede the end
  - $\text{occurs}_{t_o}(\text{START}(\text{turn-on-flashlight}))$ , with  $s_l - t_o = 1$
- To turn on the flashlight, we must have it, so
  - $\text{holds}_{shf:ehf}(\text{have-flashlight})$ , with  $shf \leq t_o$  and  $t_o \leq ehf$



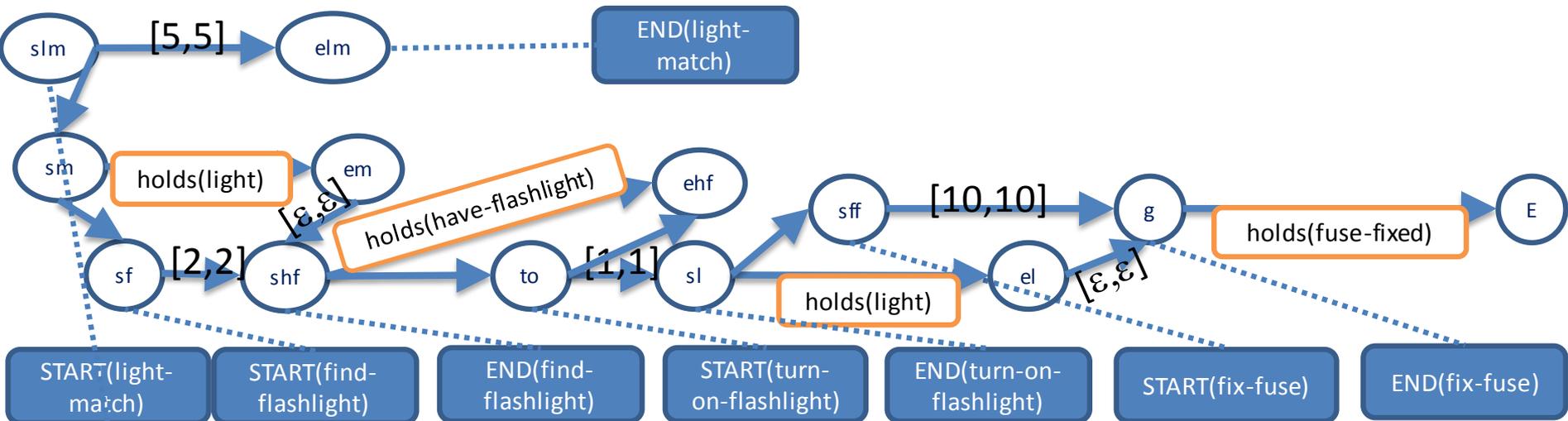
# Temporal Landmarks for Flashlight Match Cellar

- The only possible achiever of have-flashlight is END(find-flashlight), so
  - $\text{occurs}_{shf}(\text{END}(\text{find-flashlight}))$
- The find-flashlight action must start
  - $\text{occurs}_{sf}(\text{START}(\text{find-flashlight}))$ , with  $shf - sf = 2$
- Its invariant must hold, so
  - $\text{holds}_{sm:em}(\text{light})$ , with  $sm \leq sf$  and  $em = shf - \epsilon$



## Temporal Landmarks for Flashlight Match Cellar

- We can now check what are the possible **first time** achievers of light, which is only  $START(light-match)$ , so
  - $occurs_{slm}(START(light-match))$ , with  $slm \leq sm$
- Finally, the action must end, so
  - $occurs_{elm}(END(light-match))$ , with  $elm - slm = 5$



# Temporal Landmarks Derivation Rules

- If fact  $F$  must hold for a duration of  $d$ , then:
  - $F$  must be achieved. Furthermore, this must be by an action which does not delete  $F$  at the end, if its duration is shorter than  $d$ .
  - $F$  must be achieved for the first time
- Every action must have a start and an end. Its invariant condition must hold between them.
- Every event must have its conditions hold when it happens
- Every event causes its effects to hold when it happens

# Using Temporal Landmarks

- We have some temporal landmarks, now what?
  - Plan “skeleton”
  - Use underlying STN as heuristic to estimate makespan
  - Enriching the Problem: “Compile” landmarks into the problem

# Some Results

- Compilation approach
  - In the compilation, we limit the size of a disjunction to 1, 4, or  $\infty$
- Comparing performance of planners with and without temporal landmarks on benchmarks from IPC 2011 and 2014
- The planners
  - POPF (IPC-2011)
  - Temporal Fast Downward (IPC-2014)
  - YAHSP3-MT (IPC-2014)

# Results on Temporally Expressive Domains

| POPF               | orig      | e1        | e4        | e $\infty$ | TFD                | orig      | e1        | e4        | e $\infty$ |
|--------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|--------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| matchcellar (2011) | 20        | 20        | 20        | 20         | matchcellar (2011) | <b>20</b> | <b>20</b> | 18        | 0          |
| matchcellar (2014) | 20        | 20        | 20        | 20         | matchcellar (2014) | <b>20</b> | <b>20</b> | <b>20</b> | 0          |
| tms (2011)         | 5         | <b>11</b> | 4         | 4          | tms (2011)         | 0         | <b>2</b>  | 0         | 0          |
| tms (2014)         | 0         | <b>6</b>  | 0         | 0          | tms (2014)         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0          |
| turnandopen (2011) | <b>9</b>  | 8         | 9         | 8          | turnandopen (2011) | <b>19</b> | <b>19</b> | 0         | 0          |
| turnandopen (2014) | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0          | turnandopen (2014) | <b>7</b>  | 1         | 0         | 0          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>       | <b>54</b> | <b>65</b> | <b>53</b> | <b>52</b>  | <b>TOTAL</b>       | <b>66</b> | <b>62</b> | <b>38</b> | <b>0</b>   |

Number of solved problems

# (Interesting) Results on Non-Temporally Expressive Domains

| POPF               | orig       | e1        | e4        | e $\infty$ |
|--------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| crew (2011)        | <b>20</b>  | <b>20</b> | 16        | 16         |
| elevators (2011)   | <b>3</b>   | 0         | 1         | 0          |
| floortile (2011)   | 1          | 0         | <b>2</b>  | <b>2</b>   |
| parcprinter (2011) | 0          | 0         | 1         | <b>5</b>   |
| parking (2011)     | <b>20</b>  | 19        | 19        | 18         |
| parking (2014)     | 12         | 12        | 12        | <b>17</b>  |
| pegsol (2011)      | <b>19</b>  | <b>19</b> | 10        | 3          |
| satellite (2014)   | <b>4</b>   | <b>4</b>  | 2         | 2          |
| sokoban (2011)     | <b>3</b>   | <b>3</b>  | 2         | 0          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>       | <b>102</b> | <b>97</b> | <b>85</b> | <b>83</b>  |

| TFD                | orig       | e1         | e4        | e $\infty$ |
|--------------------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|
| crew (2011)        | <b>20</b>  | <b>20</b>  | 6         | 6          |
| elevators (2011)   | <b>20</b>  | 19         | 5         | 6          |
| floortile (2011)   | <b>5</b>   | <b>5</b>   | 0         | 0          |
| mapanalyser (2014) | <b>17</b>  | <b>17</b>  | 0         | 0          |
| openstacks (2011)  | <b>20</b>  | <b>20</b>  | <b>20</b> | 0          |
| parcprinter (2011) | <b>10</b>  | 0          | 0         | 0          |
| parking (2011)     | <b>20</b>  | 10         | 10        | 0          |
| parking (2014)     | <b>20</b>  | <b>20</b>  | 19        | 0          |
| pegsol (2011)      | <b>19</b>  | <b>19</b>  | 0         | 0          |
| satellite (2014)   | <b>17</b>  | 8          | 1         | 0          |
| sokoban (2011)     | <b>5</b>   | 1          | 0         | 0          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>       | <b>173</b> | <b>139</b> | <b>61</b> | <b>12</b>  |

| YAHSP3-MT          | orig       | e1         | e4         | e $\infty$ |
|--------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| driverlog (2014)   | <b>3</b>   | <b>3</b>   | 0          | 2          |
| elevators (2011)   | <b>20</b>  | 10         | 9          | 8          |
| floortile (2011)   | <b>11</b>  | 10         | 2          | 2          |
| floortile (2014)   | <b>6</b>   | 5          | 1          | 0          |
| parcprinter (2011) | 1          | 3          | <b>5</b>   | 3          |
| parking (2011)     | <b>20</b>  | <b>20</b>  | 18         | 15         |
| pegsol (2011)      | <b>20</b>  | <b>20</b>  | 17         | 13         |
| sokoban (2011)     | <b>10</b>  | 5          | 6          | 1          |
| storage (2011)     | 7          | <b>8</b>   | 7          | 0          |
| storage (2014)     | <b>9</b>   | <b>9</b>   | 4          | 0          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>       | <b>188</b> | <b>174</b> | <b>150</b> | <b>125</b> |

# Summary

- Landmarks provide a way to utilize the implicit structure of a planning problem
- Landmarks work well in
  - Classical planning
  - Partially observable planning with sensing (Maliah et al, 2014)
  - Oversubscription Planning (Mirkis & Domshlak, 2014)
  - Temporal planning
    - At least, when the problems are temporally expressive

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