

New Experimental Environment

Jonathan Voigt

voigtjr@gmail.com

University of Michigan

May 2007

SOAR
2007



Goals

- Provide a simple environment suitable to illustrate:
 - Subgoals
 - Chunking
 - Reinforcement Learning
 - Episodic Memory
 - Semantic Memory
 - Emotion

Environment Properties

- Indoor, 2 ½ D
- Built on Soar2D framework
- Dynamic entities move in continuous x,y
- Objects and walls occupy full grid squares



Blocks and Ramps

- Blocks are stackable, each is height 1
- Walls are height 2
- Ramps are used to get on top of blocks
- Blocks and ramps can be moved by the Soar bot

Other Objects

- “Chocolate”
 - Intense pleasure
- “Shock”
 - Intense pain
- Defined in map file, easily extensible

Dynamic Entities

- Simple behavior
- Mouse
 - Runs away from Soar bot when it notices it
 - Soar bot receives pleasure if it collides with mouse
 - Eliminated when it falls off a block
- Dog
 - Pursues Soar bot when it sees it
 - Soar bot receives pain if it collides with dog
 - Can be trapped

Soar Bot

- More than one can exist
- Perception
 - Vision
 - Limited vision (cone)
 - Can be oriented different than direction of travel
 - Sound
 - Pleasure/Pain

Soar Bot

- Action
 - Move forward/backward
 - Rotate
 - Pick up/Drop objects (Mice, Ramps, Blocks)
 - Transmit and receive messages to other bots