

Praktikum Autonome Systeme

An Introduction to Autonomous Systems

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SoSe 2019



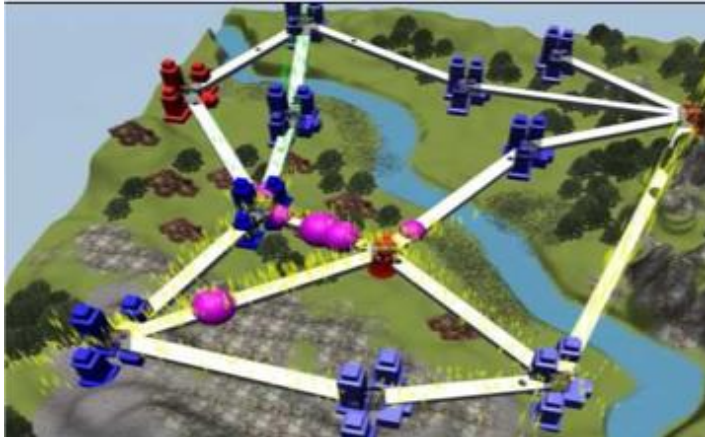
→ Autonomous Systems

What is an Autonomous System?

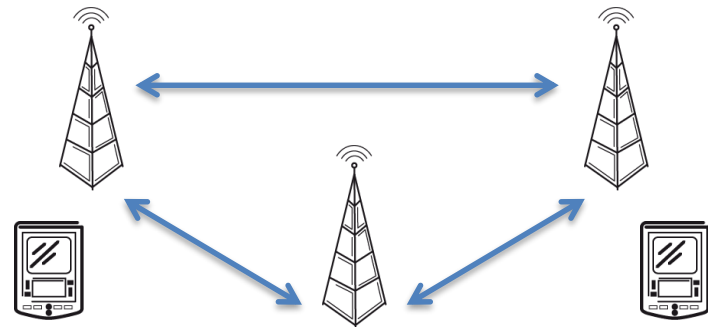
Definition: A system, which can operate without human intervention.

(Possible) Real-World Applications

Smart Grids / Cities



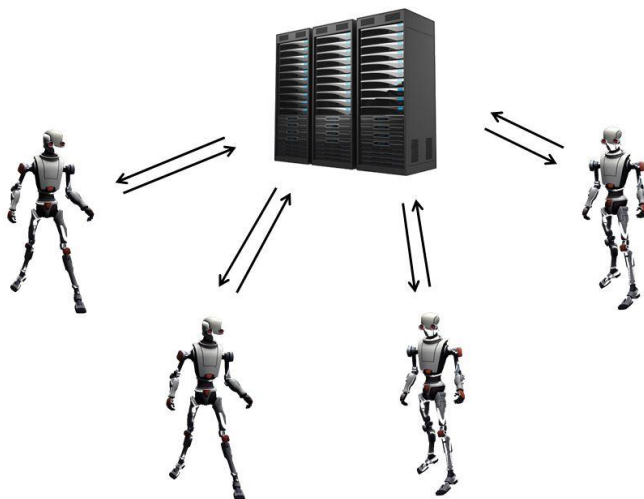
Intelligent / Mobile Networks



Industry 4.0

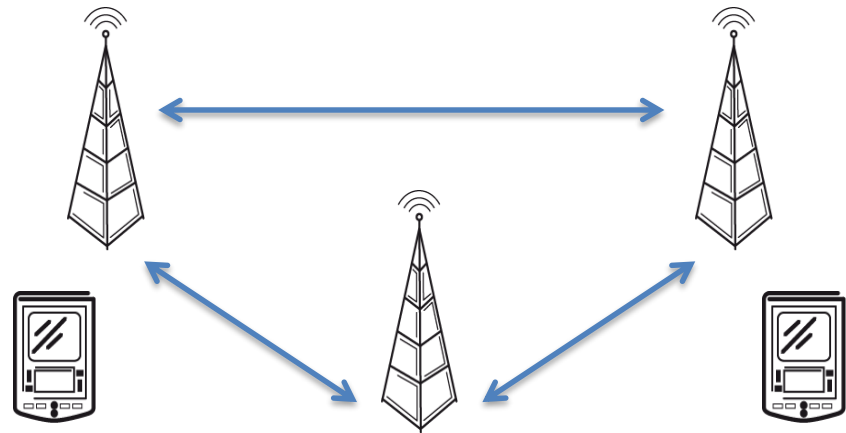


Robotics



Properties of Autonomous Systems

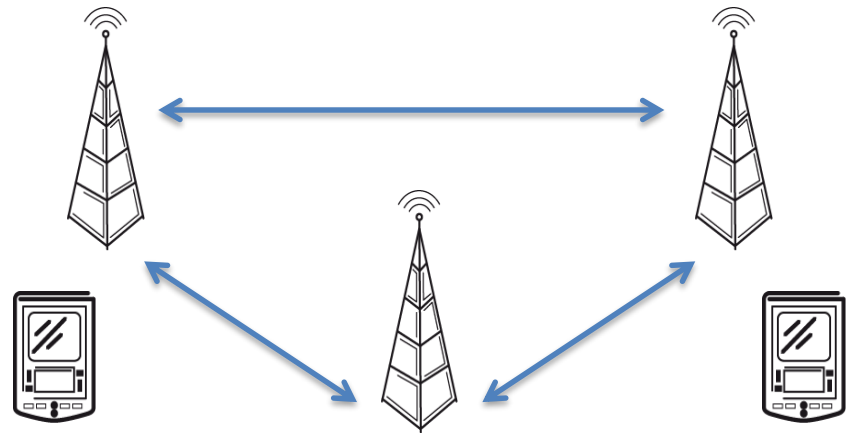
- Self-CHOP
 - Self-Configuration
 - Self-Healing
 - Self-Optimization
 - Self-Protection
- More Self-Properties
 - Self-Learning
 - Self-Organization
 - Self-Regulation
 - ...



M. Salehie and L. Tahvildari, Autonomic Computing: Emergent Trends and Open Problems, ACM SIGSOFT Software Engineering Notes, 2005

Challenges of Autonomous Systems

- Dynamic Environments
- High Complexity
- Many Constraints:
 - Perception
 - Computational and Memory Resources
 - Energy Consumption
 - Communication
- Safety and Risk
- Security
- Quality Management

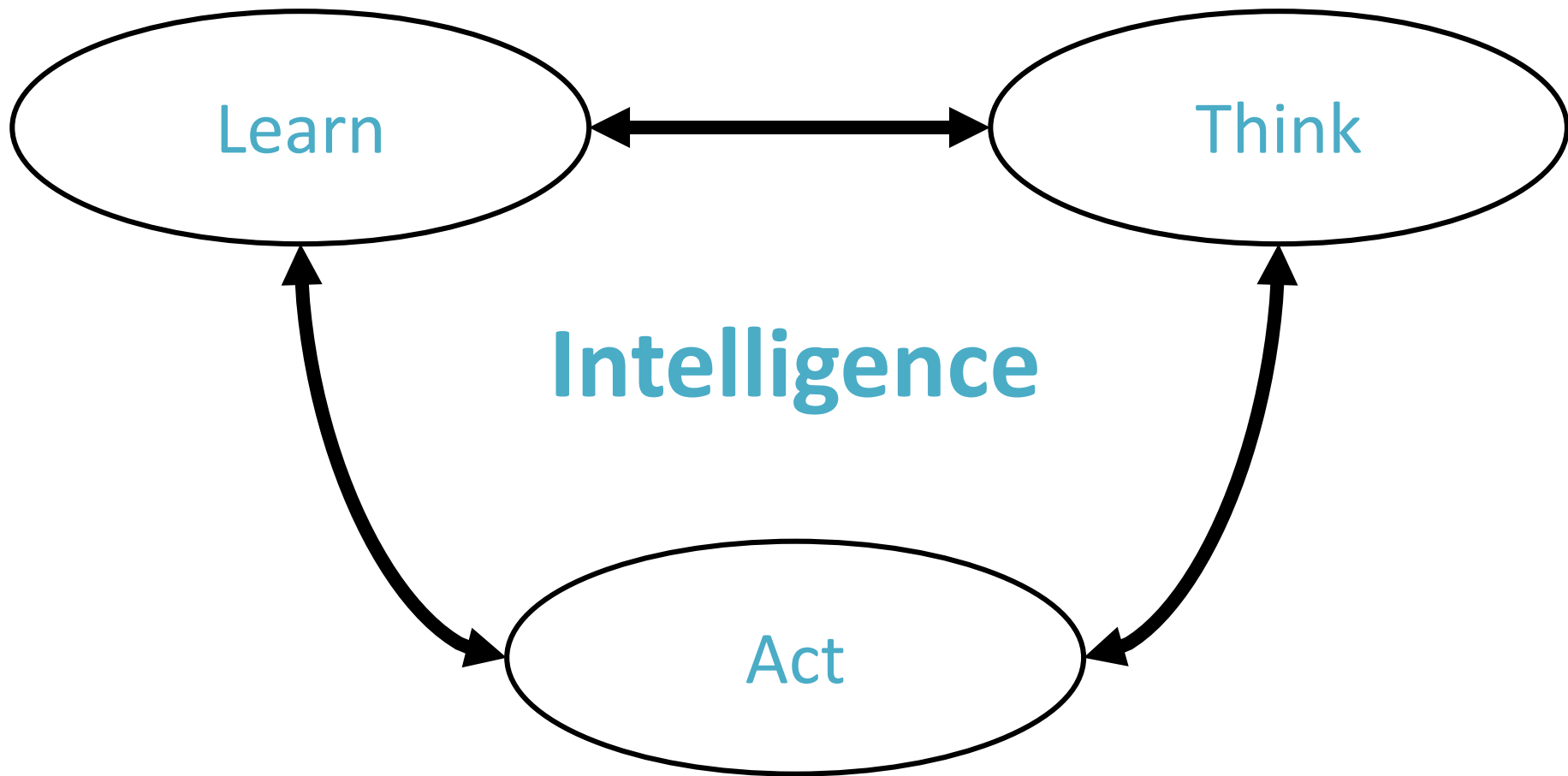


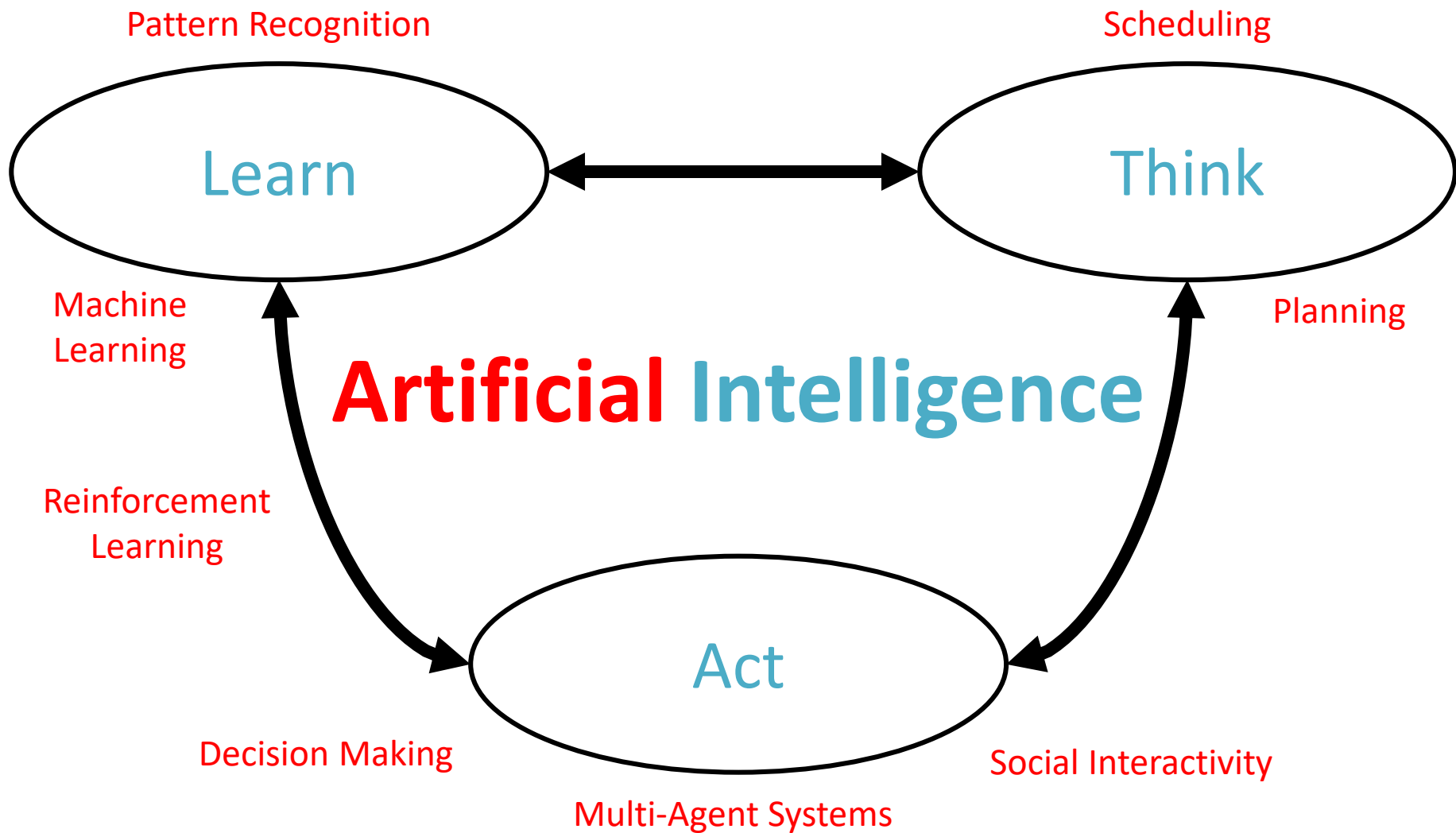
Challenges of Autonomous Systems

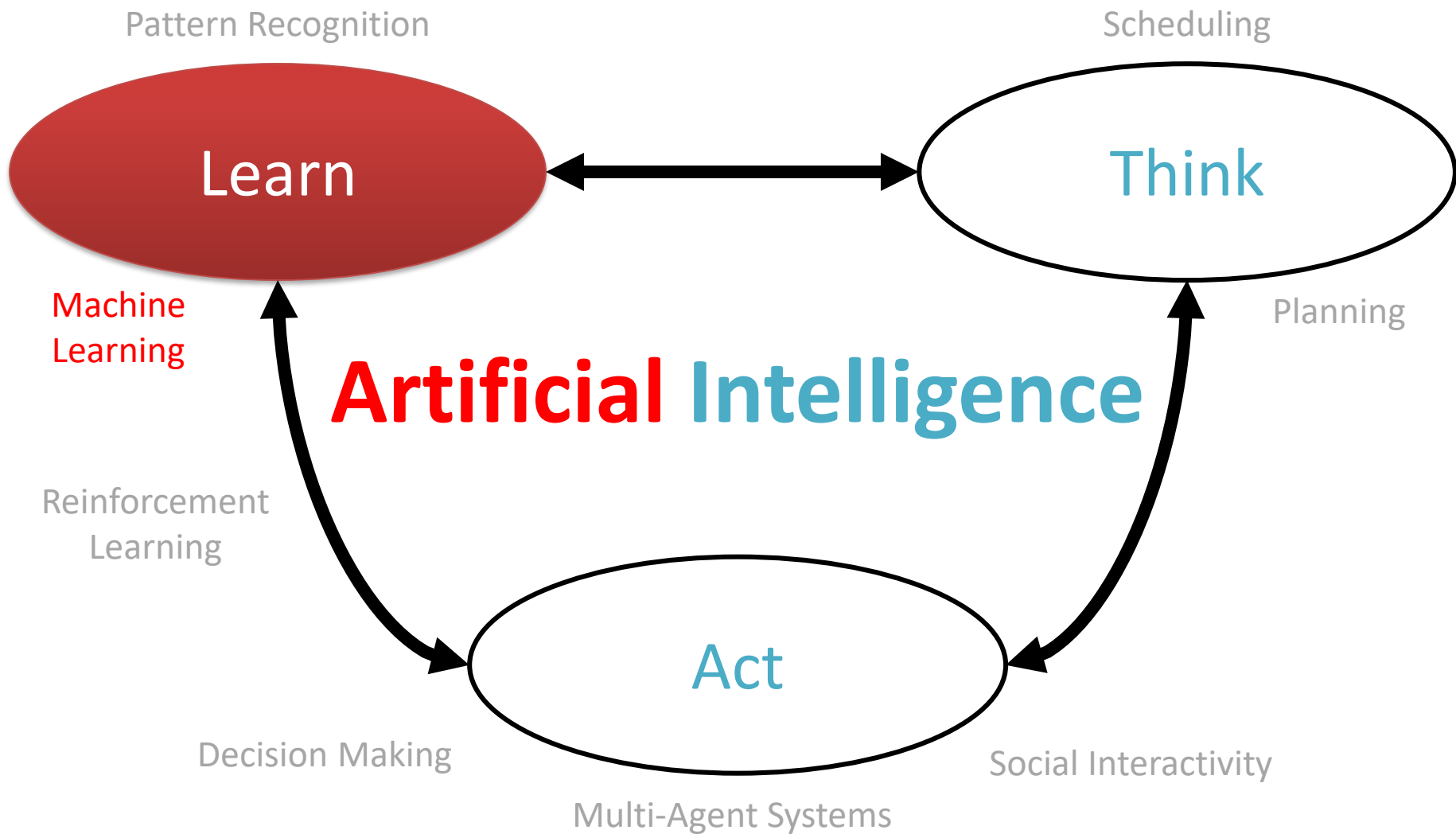
- Dynamic Environments
- High Complexity
- Many Constraints:
 - Perception
 - Computational and Memory Resources
 - Energy Consumption
 - Communication
- Safety and Risk
- Security
- Quality Management



→ Artificial Intelligence







Machine Learning

- **Goal:** Create programs that learn how to solve complex problems
- Learn statistical models from **experience / data**

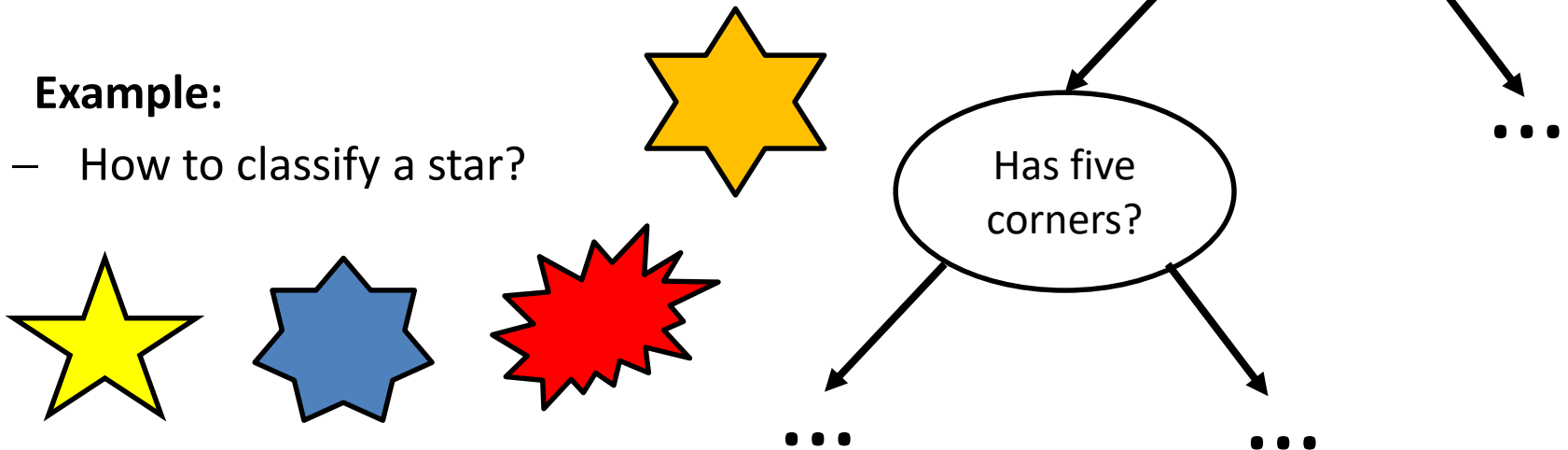


Why Machine Learning?

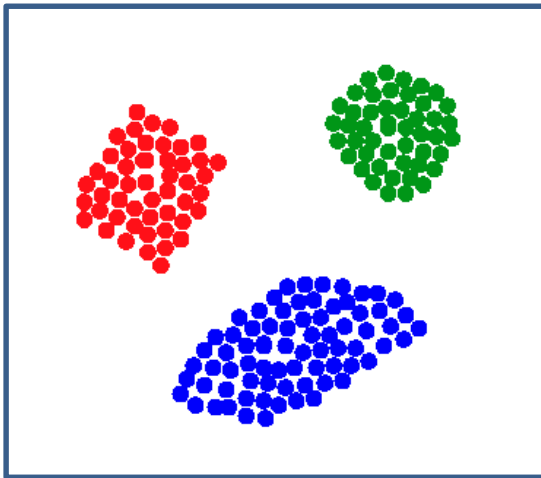
- **Goal:** Create programs that learn how to solve complex problems
- Many problems cannot be solved by engineering handcrafted solutions
 - Too many aspects to consider
 - Too many rules
 - Hard adaption to changes
 - Hard generalization

- **Example:**

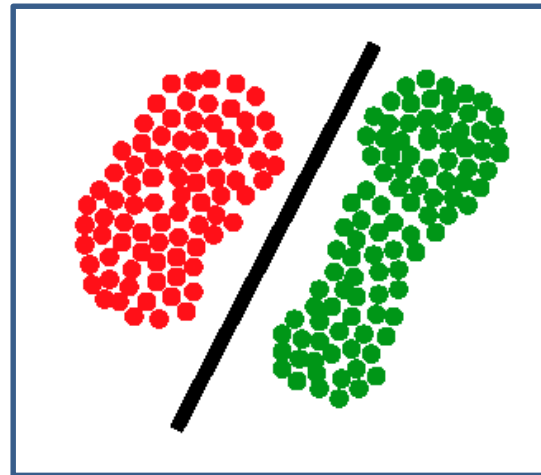
- How to classify a star?



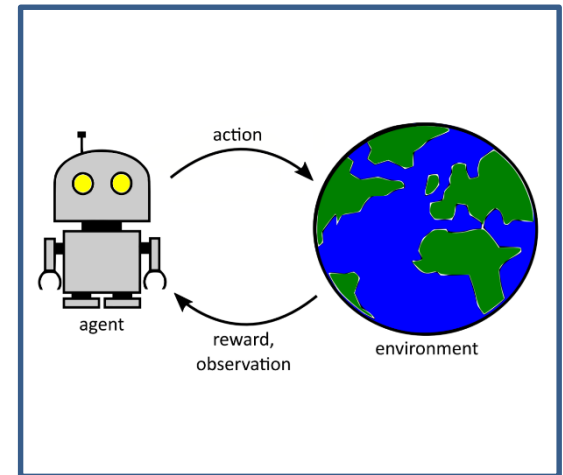
Types of Machine Learning



Unsupervised Learning



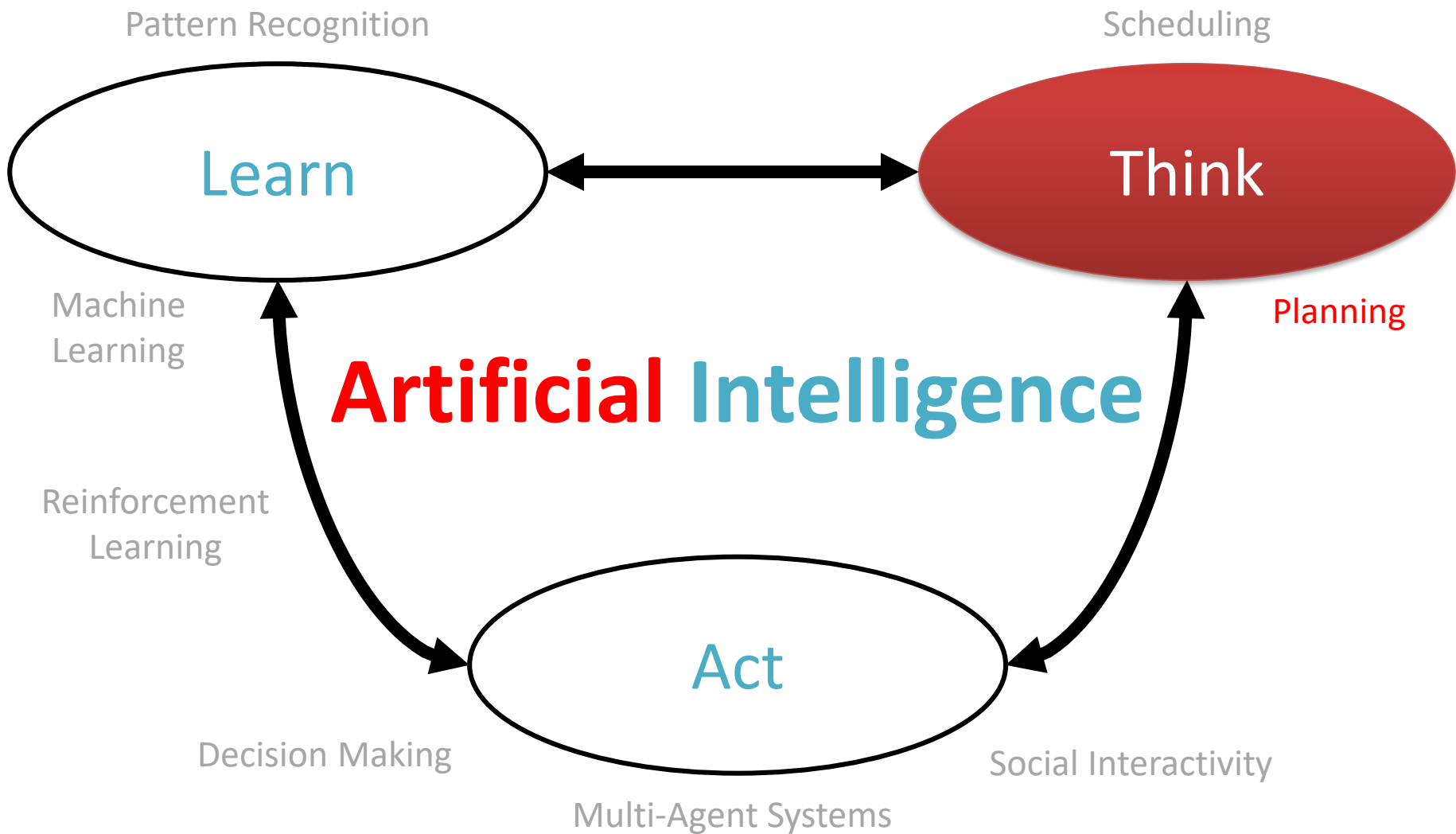
Supervised Learning



Reinforcement Learning

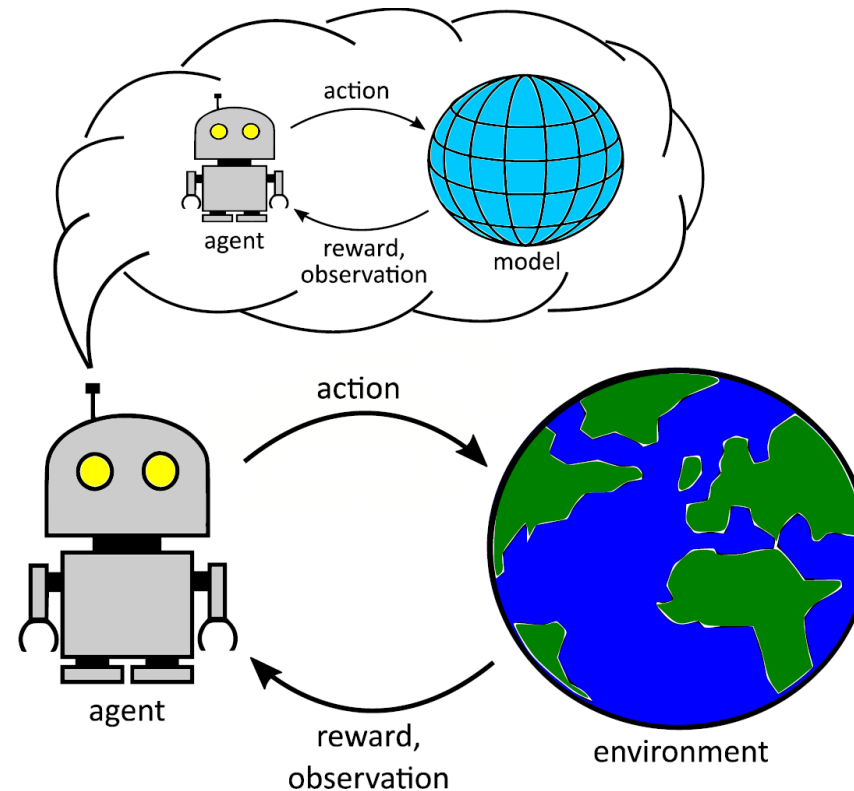
Challenges of Machine Learning

- Data Availability
- Data Complexity
- Efficiency
- Compactness
- Interpretability
- Robustness
- Adaptivity



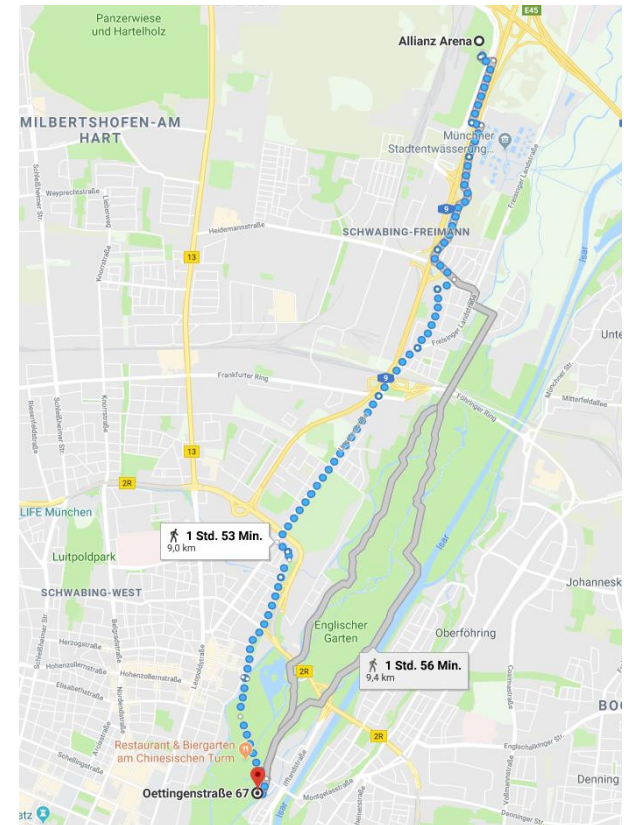
Automated Planning

- **Goal:** Find (near-)optimal strategies to solve complex problems
- Use (heuristic) lookahead search on a **given model** of the problem

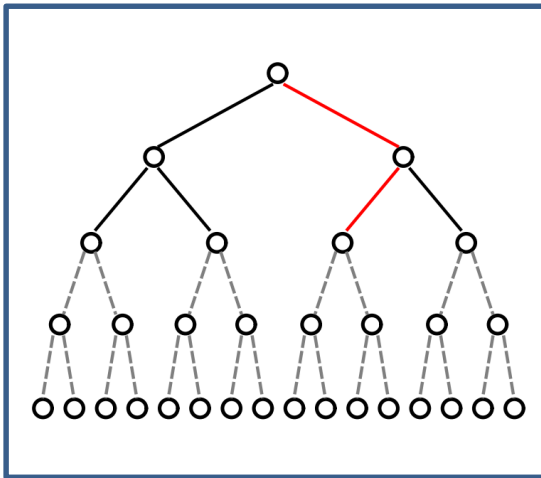


Why Automated Planning?

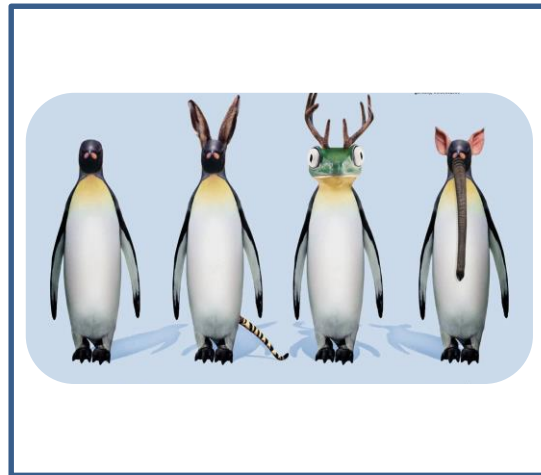
- **Goal:** Find (near-)optimal strategies to solve complex problems
- Planning is necessary, if **explicit reasoning** is required:
 - Consideration of risks and uncertainties
 - Consideration of hard constraints
- Planning is **flexible**:
 - Use the same method for different problems by replacing the model
 - Search for multiple alternative strategies



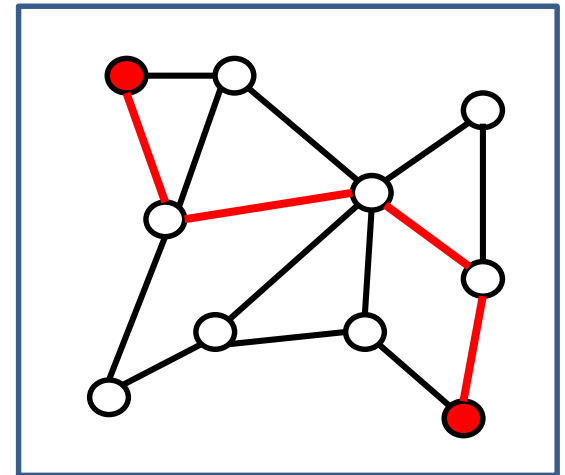
Planning Approaches (Examples)



Tree Search



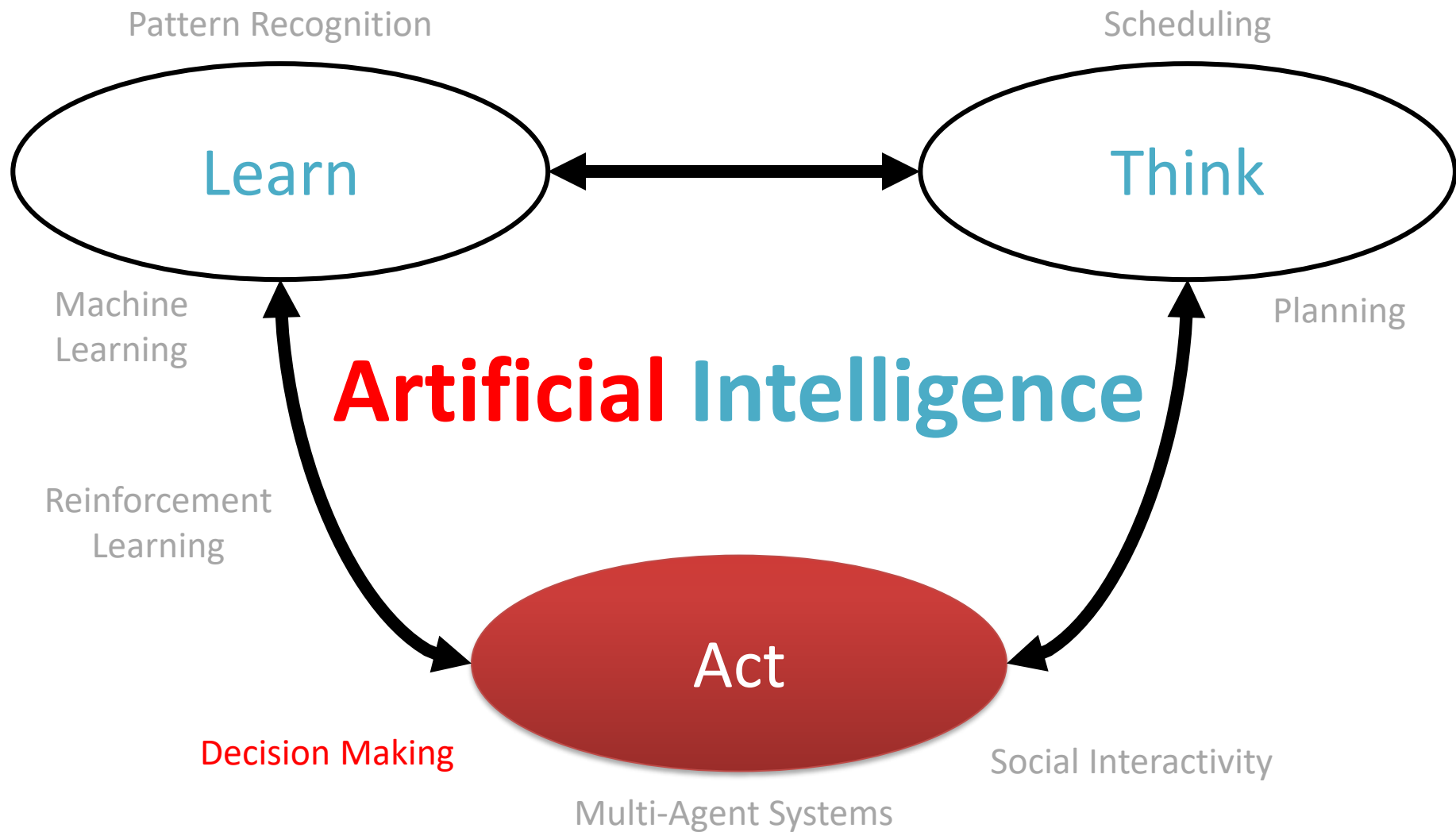
Evolutionary Computation



Dynamic Programming

Challenges of Automated Planning

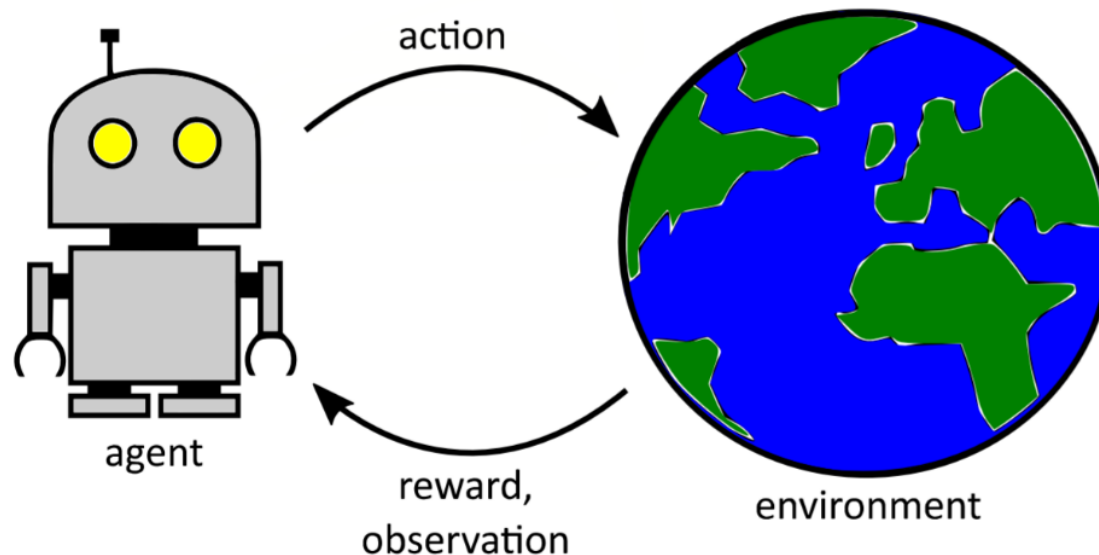
- Model Availability
- Model Uncertainty
- Computational and Memory Efficiency
- Real-time Planning



→ Decision Making

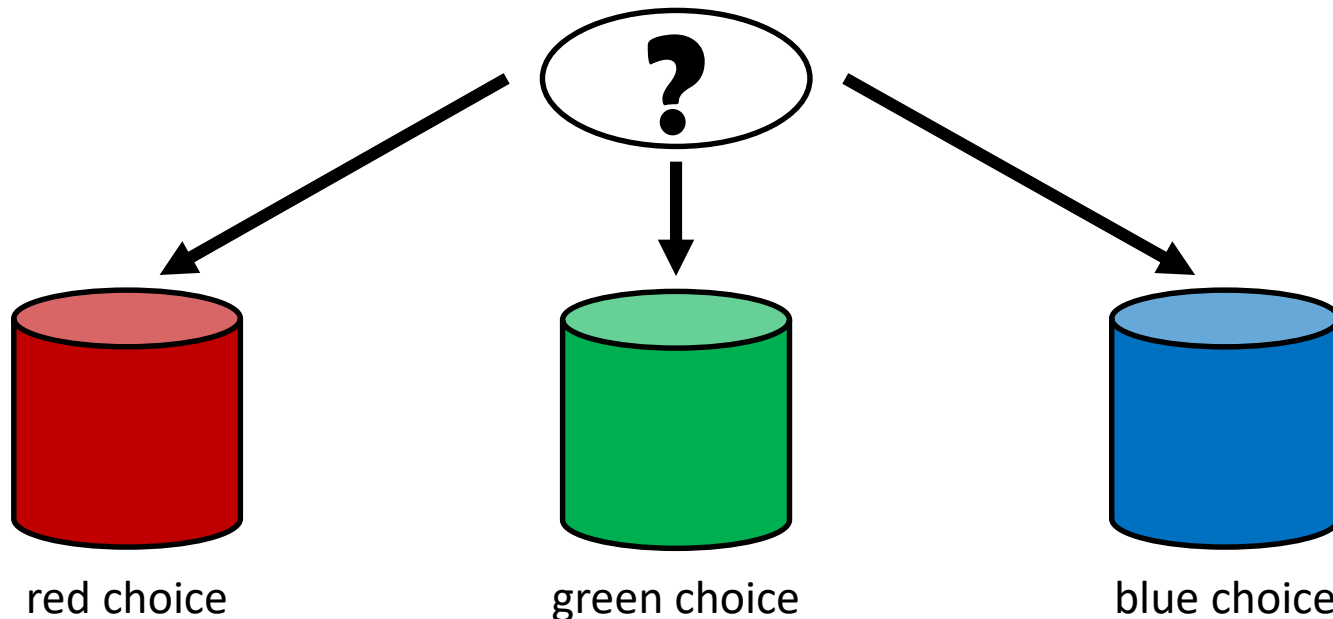
Decision Making

- **Goal:** Autonomously select actions to solve a (complex) task
 - time could be important (but not necessarily)
 - maximize the **expected reward** for each state



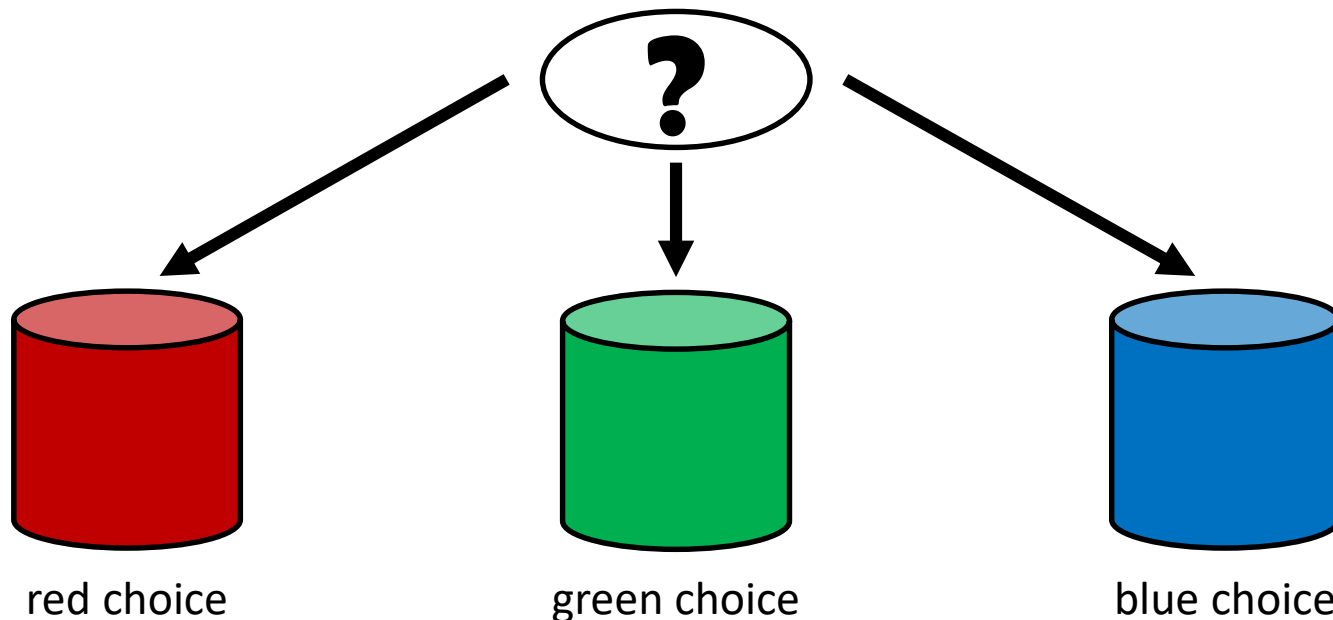
Decision Making Example

- Consider a situation, where you have to make a **choice**
- Each choice has its own **reward distribution** (which is unknown)
- Problems:
 - How to determine the **best choice**?
 - How to adapt to **changing** reward distributions?



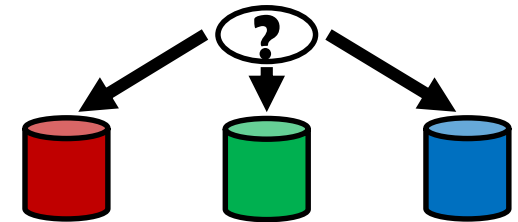
Decision Making Example

- Consider a situation, where you have to make a **choice**
- Each choice has its own **reward distribution** (which is unknown)
- Approach:
 - **Try out** each choice (= Explore)
 - Maintain **statistic** about each choice (= Learn)



Multi-Armed Bandits

- **Multi-Armed Bandit:** situation, where you have to learn to make a good (long-term) choice
- **Explore** choices to gather information (= Exploration)
 - Example: random choice
- **Prefer** promising choices (= Exploitation)
 - Example: greedy choice (e.g., using `argmax`)
- A good Multi-Armed Bandit solution should **always** balance between Exploration and Exploitation



Multi-Armed Bandits Example

- ϵ -greedy ($\epsilon > 0$):

With probability $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \epsilon, \text{ select randomly} \\ 1 - \epsilon, \text{ select choice highest average reward} \end{array} \right.$

- Many approaches use ϵ -greedy with annealing ϵ

- UCB1 (Upper Confidence Bound):

- Select by maximizing:

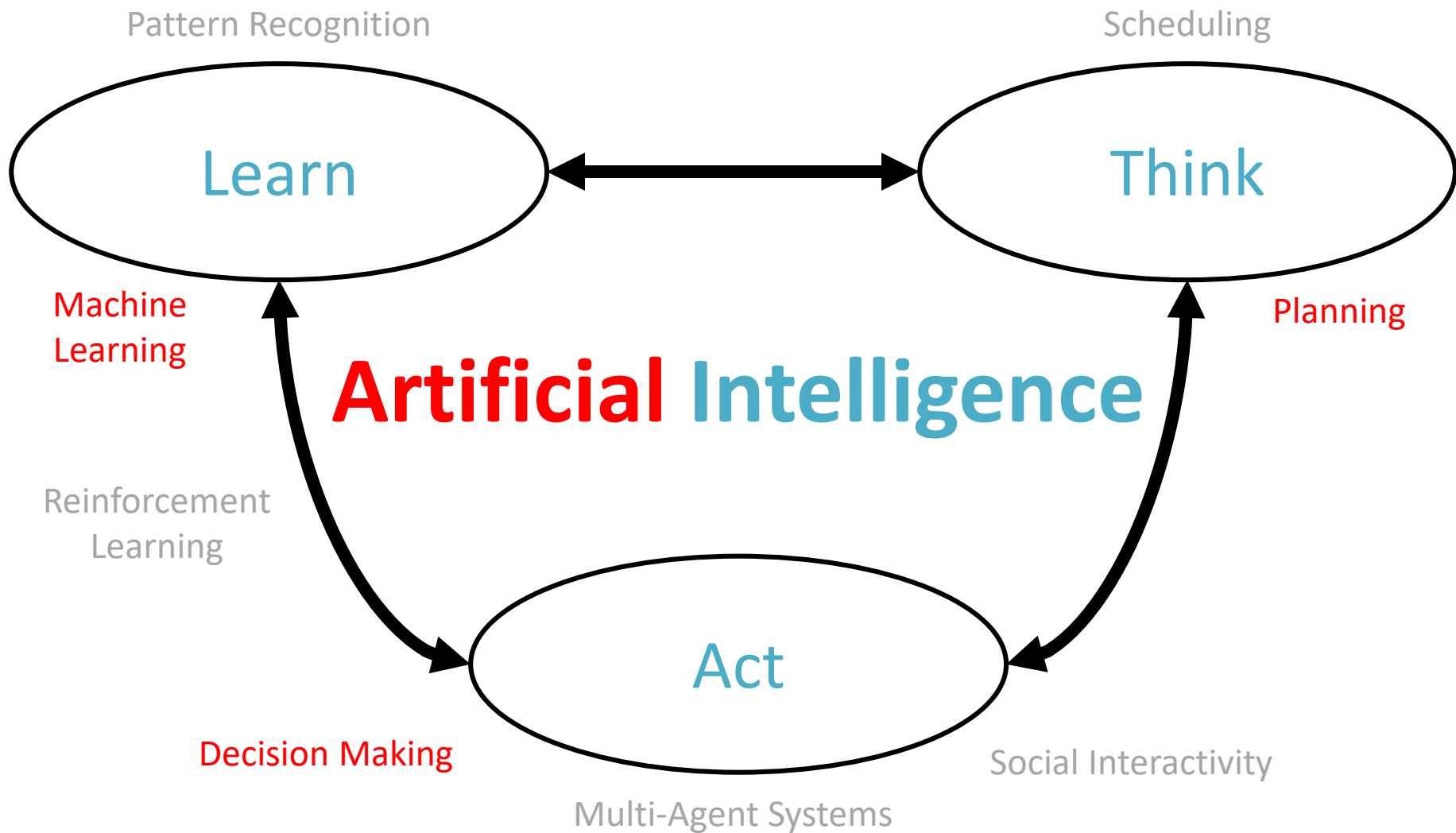
$$\overline{R}_i + c \sqrt{\frac{2 \log N}{N_i}}$$

Average reward of choice i

Exploration bonus (with total number of selections N)

Decision Making Challenges and Outlook

- Sequential Decision Making
- Problem Complexity
- Sparse/Delayed Feedback
- Sample Efficiency
- Uncertainty



Thank you!