Local Plan Execution and Repair in a Hierarchical Structure of Sub-Teams of Heterogeneous Autonomous Vehicles

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Onera - DCSD Toulouse, 1st year of PhD, 2009-2012

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THE FRENCH AEROSPACE LAB

retour sur innovation

> Plan

1- Context

- A Multi-Agent Context
- Issue
- HTN (Hierarchical Task Network)

2 – HSST (Hierarchical Structure of Sub-Teams)

- Construction of the HSST
- Algorithm & example

3 – Plan execution preparation

- Plan distribution and adaptation
- Architecture examples

- Local repair in a hierarchical plan structure
- Consistency issues



> Context

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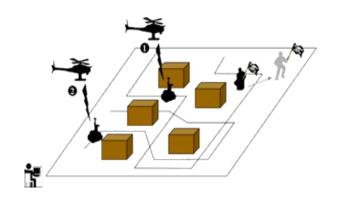
Context ➤ A Multi-Agent Context

- Multi-robot
- Heterogeneous
- Individual autonomy
- Communication restrictions
- Dynamic environment => disruptive events
- Distributed system



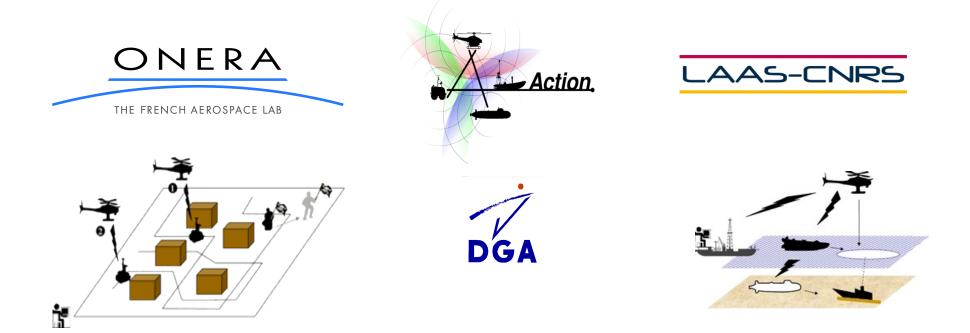








Context ➤ Issue



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Context > HTN (Hierarchical Task Network)

HTN Formalism [EHN94]

A sequential method

Abstract Task GoByCar (x,y)

Sub-tasks to execute in

ShortDistance (x,y) not (x = y)

Preconditions

execute in sequence

GetIn
TheCar

DriveTo y

GetOutOf
TheCar

in x

> Possible recursivity and parallelism

Go(x,y)Method1: Method 2: Go by car Go by plane - Method in x in x ShortDistance (x,y)LongDistance(x,y)not (x = y)not (x = y)GoByCar (x,y) ListentToMusic BookTicket GoByPlane (x,y)

Many methods

[EHN94]: Erol, K.; Hendler, J.; and Nau, D. 1994. HTN planning: complexity and expressivity. In AAAI

> HSST (Hierarchical Structure of Sub-Teams)

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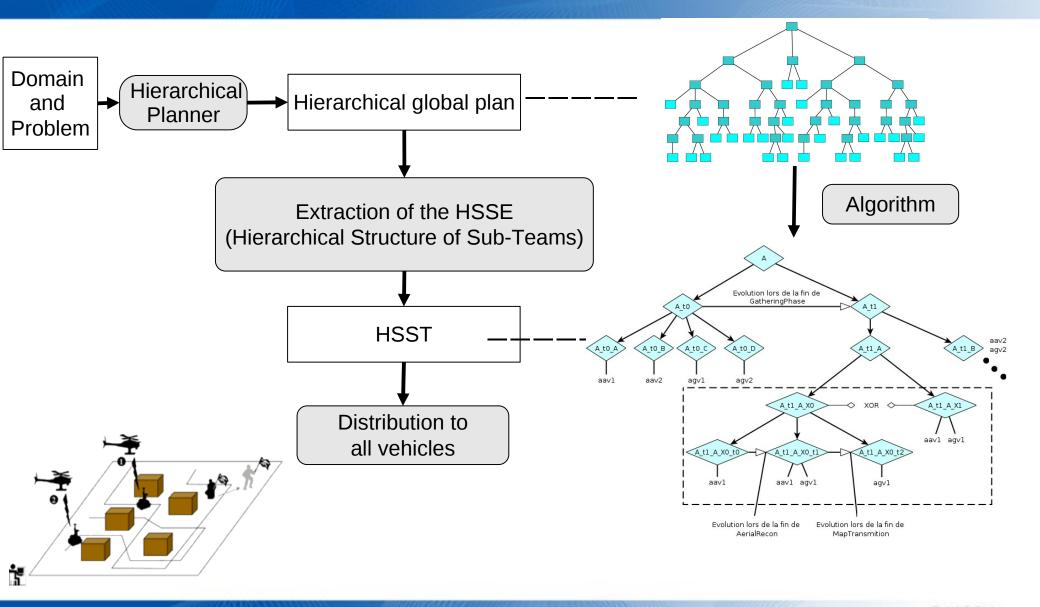
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HSST ➤ Construction of the Hierarchical Structure of Sub-Teams



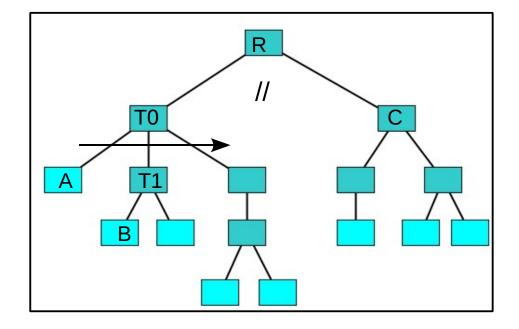
HSST ➤ Algorithm & Example

Algorithm 1 Extract(T)

```
Require: T: a HTN task

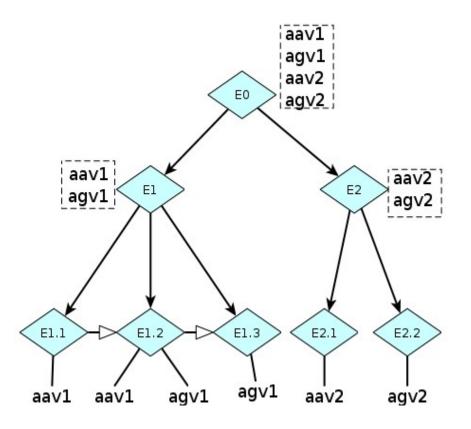
 A = ∅

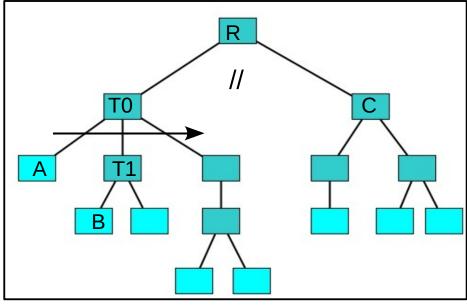
 2: if T elementary then
      return Agents(T)
 4: end if
 5: for all T_i \in \text{children}(T) do
      A_i = Extract(T_i)
 6:
     if T sequential then
         link(A, A_i, sequence)
 8:
      else if T parallel then
 9:
         link(A, A_i, parallel)
10:
      else if T multi-method then
11:
         link(A, A_i, xor)
12:
      end if
13:
14: end for
15: return A
```





HSST ➤ Algorithm & Example







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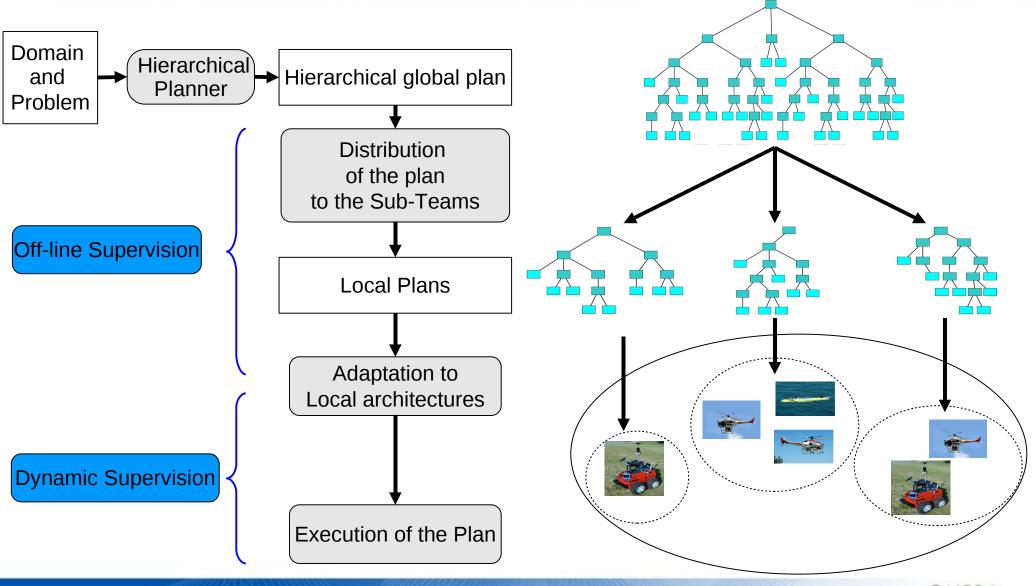
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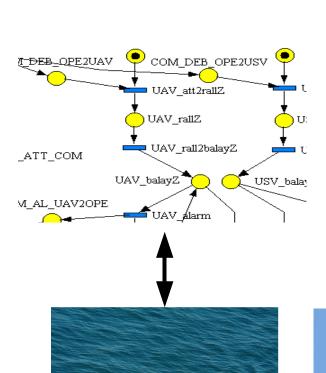
Plan Execution Preparation > Plan Distribution and Adaptation



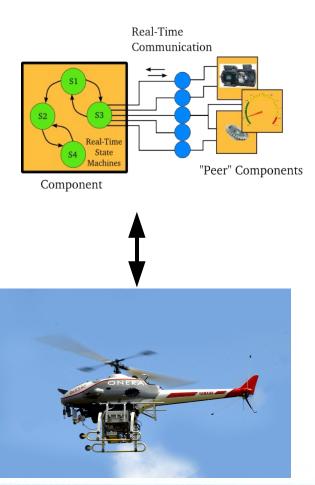


Plan Execution Preparation > Architecture Examples

ProCoSA: Petri Nets



Orocos:
State Machines



Open PRS and other architectures

• • •





> Local supervision

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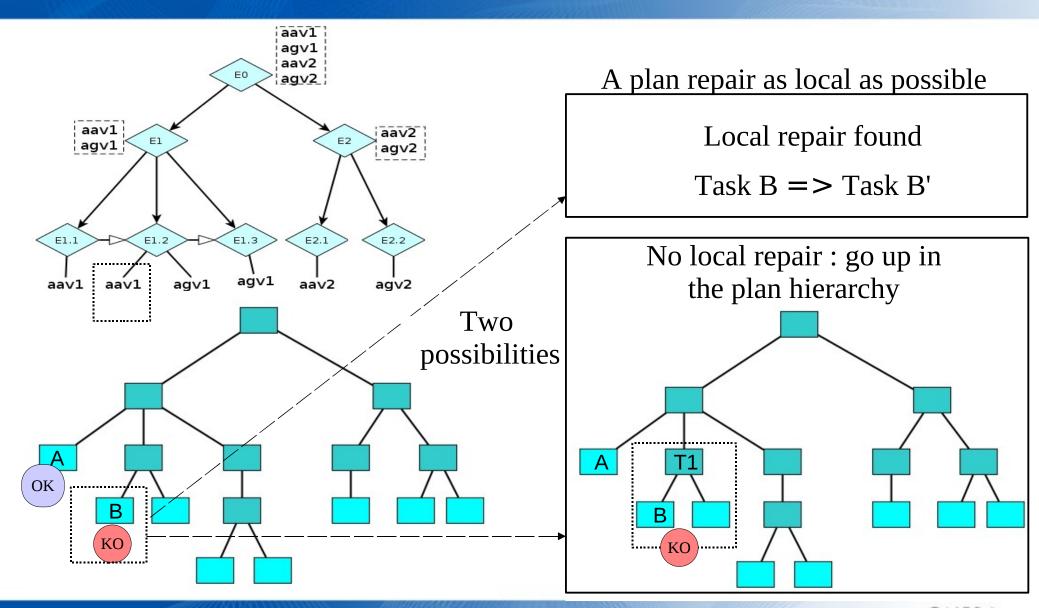
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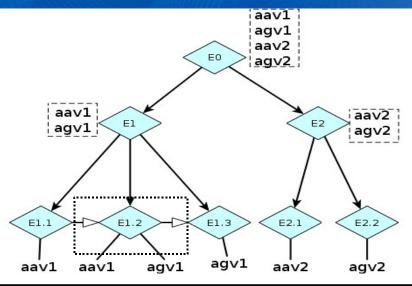
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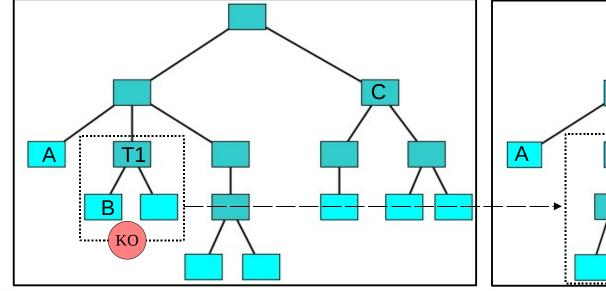
Local Supervision > Local Repair in a Hierarchical Plan Structure

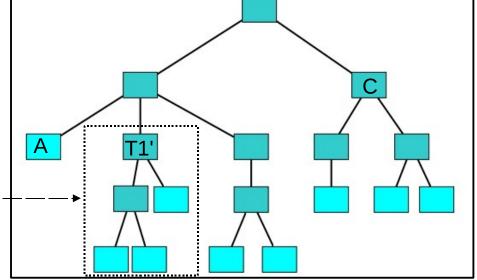


Local Supervision > Local Repair in a Hierarchical Plan Structure



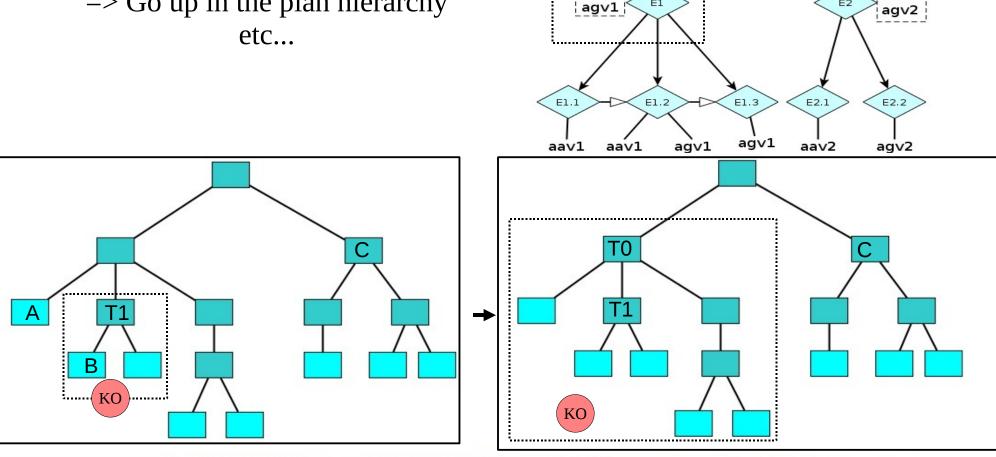
 1^{st} case - An alternative partial plan is found : $T1 \Rightarrow T1'$





Local Supervision > Local Repair in a Hierarchical Plan Structure

2nd case: No solution found => Go up in the plan hierarchy



aav1



aav1 agv1 aav2 agv2

aav2

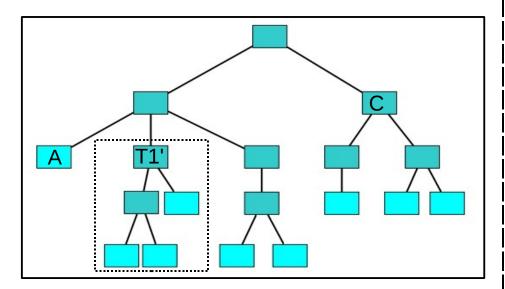
Local Supervision > Consistency issues

- Repair done at a local level : a new usable plan is available
- But what about consistency issues in the team?





After repairing, new current plan :

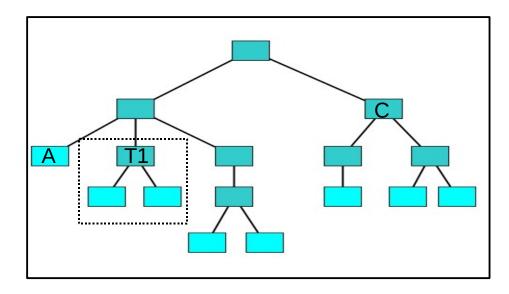








Other vehicles' current plans:

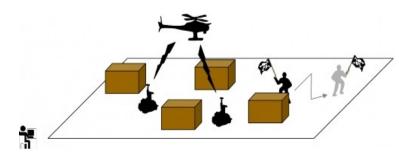


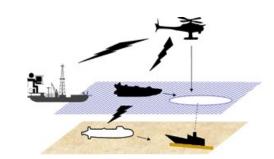


Conclusion ➤ Futher work

- On the way:
 - Implementation of the local Execution Manager
 - * Basic structure completed
 - * Adaptation for specific formalism
 - * Interface with local architectures
 - > HSST efficiency : run many simulations with different:
 - * Types of hierarchies in the team
 - * Amounts of disturbing events
 - * Numbers of vehicles
 - * Communication restrictions and comparison with existing multi-robot architectures...
- Future issues :
- Consistency issue
 - * Environment Information Sharing
 - * Plan Sharing
- > Tests: simulations and experiments on the field









Conclusion ➤ Questions

Thank you for your attention!

Any questions?

?



Annex > Central Role of the Local Supervisor

