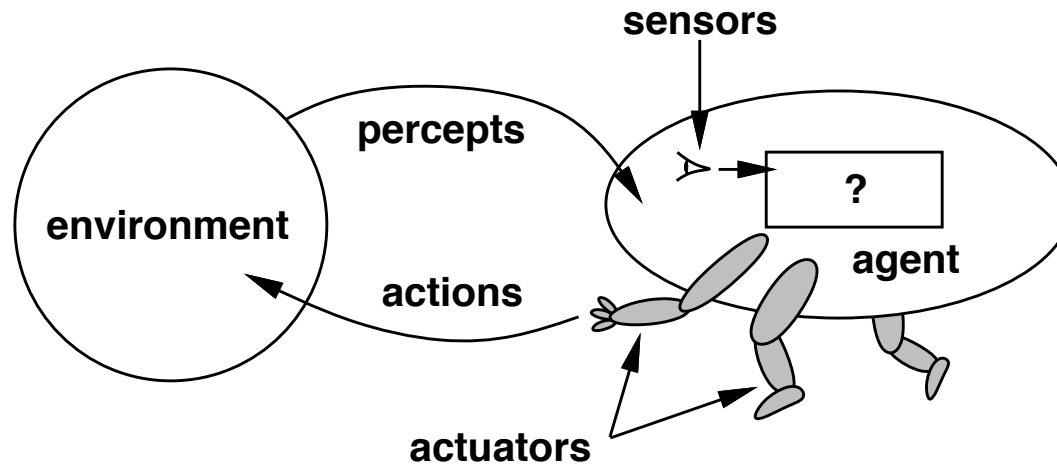


INTELLIGENT AGENTS

CHAPTER 2

Agents and environments



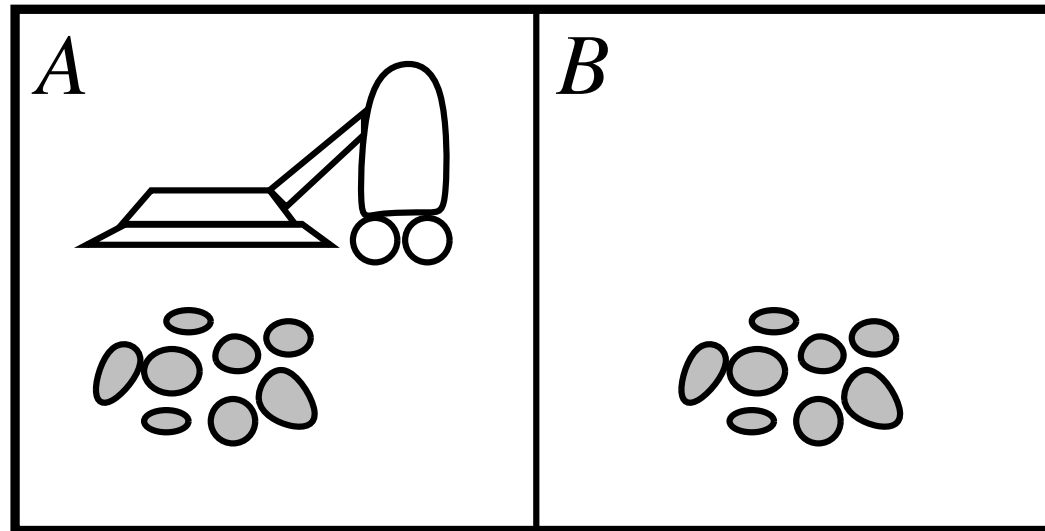
Agents include humans, robots, softbots, thermostats, etc.

The agent function maps from percept histories to actions:

$$f : \mathcal{P}^* \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$$

The agent program runs on the physical architecture to produce f

Vacuum-cleaner world



Percepts: location and contents, e.g., $[A, \textit{Dirty}]$

Actions: *Left*, *Right*, *Suck*, *NoOp*

A vacuum-cleaner agent

Percept sequence	Action
$[A, \textit{Clean}]$	<i>Right</i>
$[A, \textit{Dirty}]$	<i>Suck</i>
$[B, \textit{Clean}]$	<i>Left</i>
$[B, \textit{Dirty}]$	<i>Suck</i>
$[A, \textit{Clean}], [A, \textit{Clean}]$	<i>Right</i>
$[A, \textit{Clean}], [A, \textit{Dirty}]$	<i>Suck</i>
\vdots	\vdots

function REFLEX-VACUUM-AGENT($[location, status]$) **returns** an action

if $status = \textit{Dirty}$ **then return** *Suck*
else if $location = A$ **then return** *Right*
else if $location = B$ **then return** *Left*

What is the **right** function?

Can it be implemented in a small agent program?

Rationality

Fixed **performance measure** evaluates the **environment sequence**

- one point per square cleaned up in time T ?
- one point per clean square per time step, minus one per move?
- penalize for $> k$ dirty squares?

A **rational agent** chooses whichever action maximizes the **expected** value of the performance measure **given the percept sequence to date**

Rational \neq omniscient

- percepts may not supply all relevant information

Rational \neq clairvoyant

- action outcomes may not be as expected

Hence, rational \neq successful

Rational \Rightarrow exploration, learning, autonomy

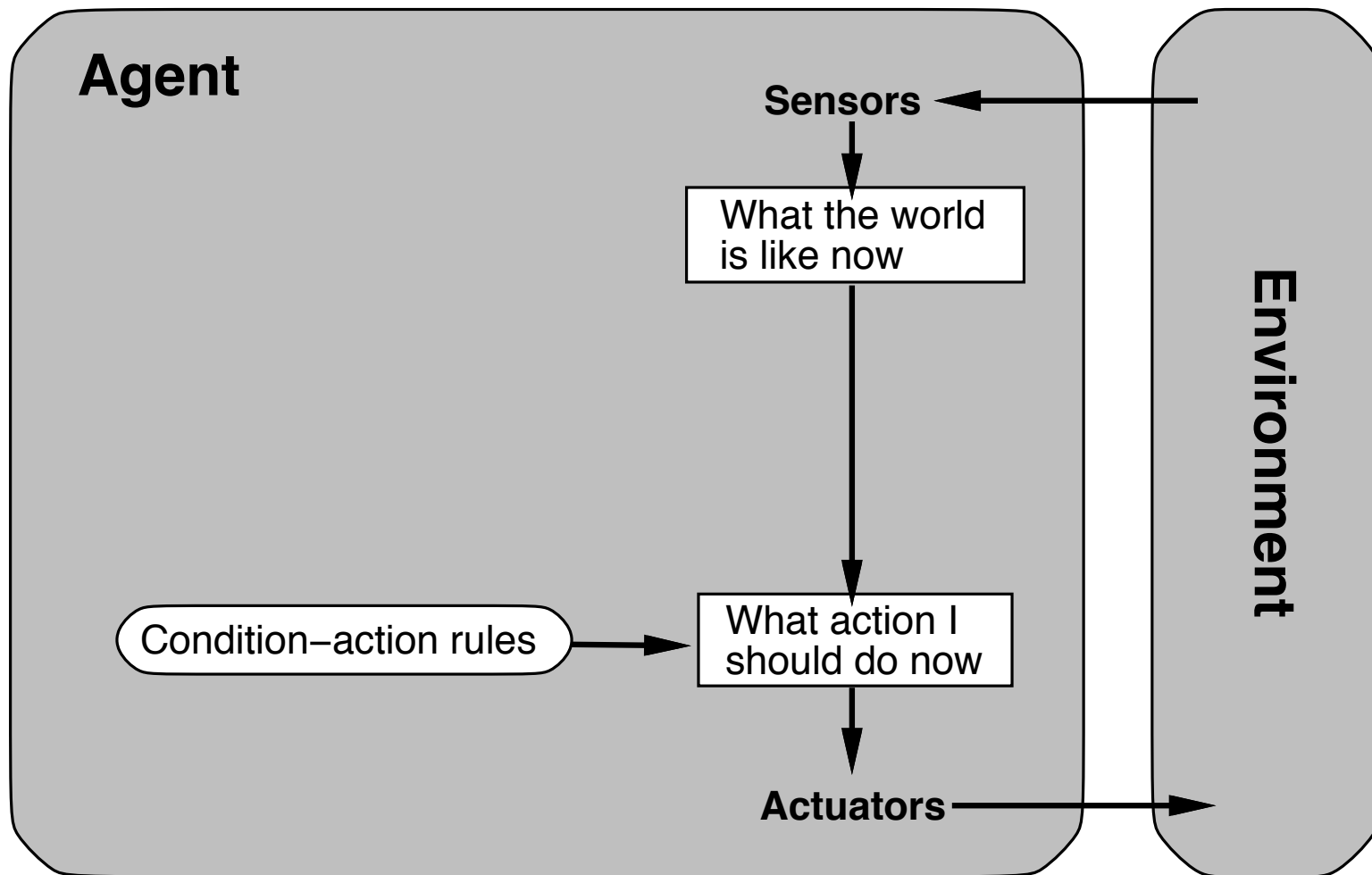
Agent types

Four basic types in order of increasing generality:

- simple reflex agents
- reflex agents with state
- goal-based agents
- utility-based agents

All these can be turned into learning agents

Simple reflex agents



Example

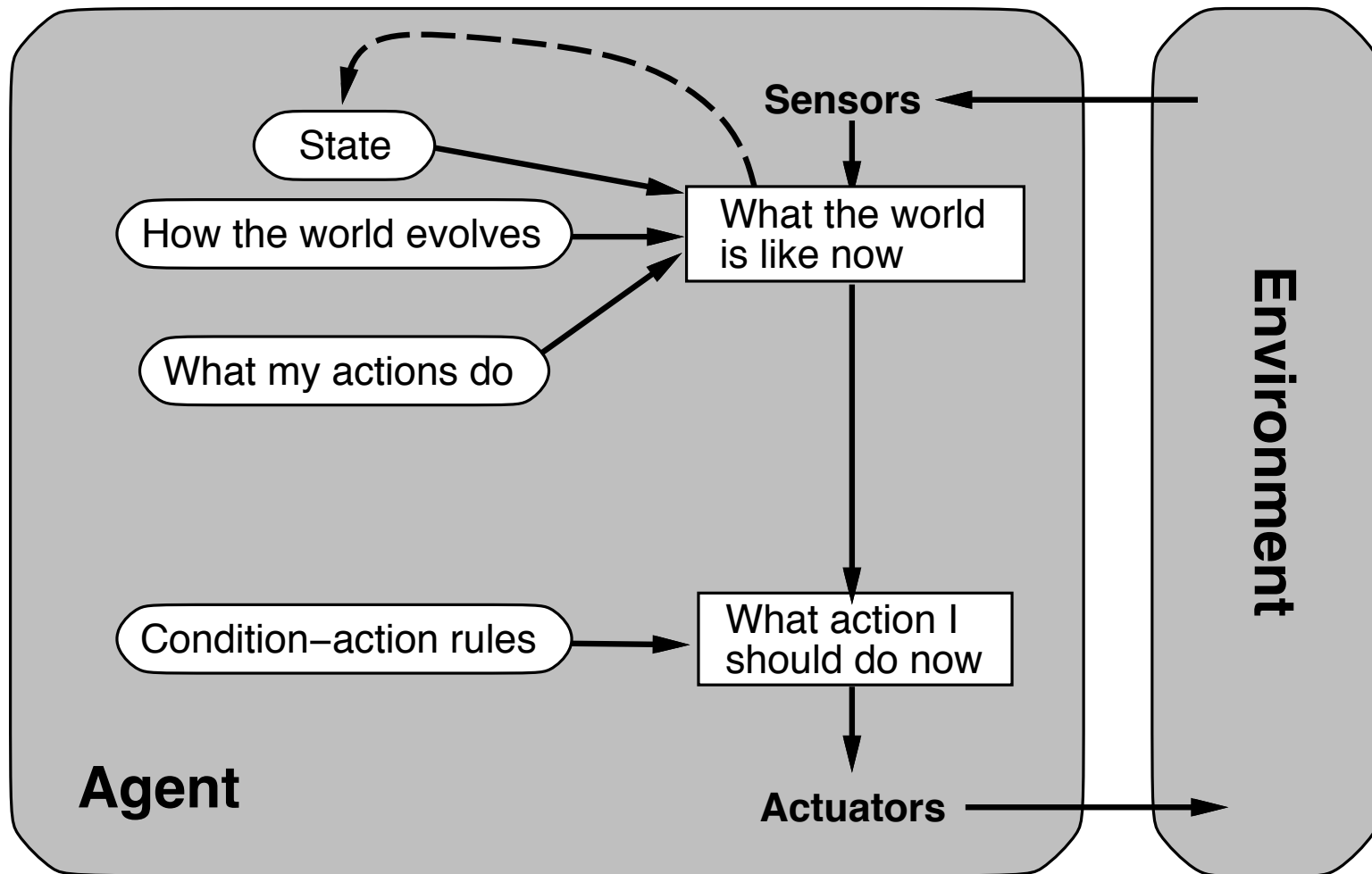
function REFLEX-VACUUM-AGENT(*[location,status]*) **returns** an action

if *status = Dirty* **then return** *Suck*
else if *location = A* **then return** *Right*
else if *location = B* **then return** *Left*

```
(setq joe (make-agent :name 'joe :body (make-agent-body)
                      :program (make-reflex-vacuum-agent-program)))
```

```
(defun make-reflex-vacuum-agent-program ()
  #'(lambda (percept)
      (let ((location (first percept)) (status (second percept)))
        (cond ((eq status 'dirty) 'Suck)
              ((eq location 'A) 'Right)
              ((eq location 'B) 'Left))))))
```


Reflex agents with state

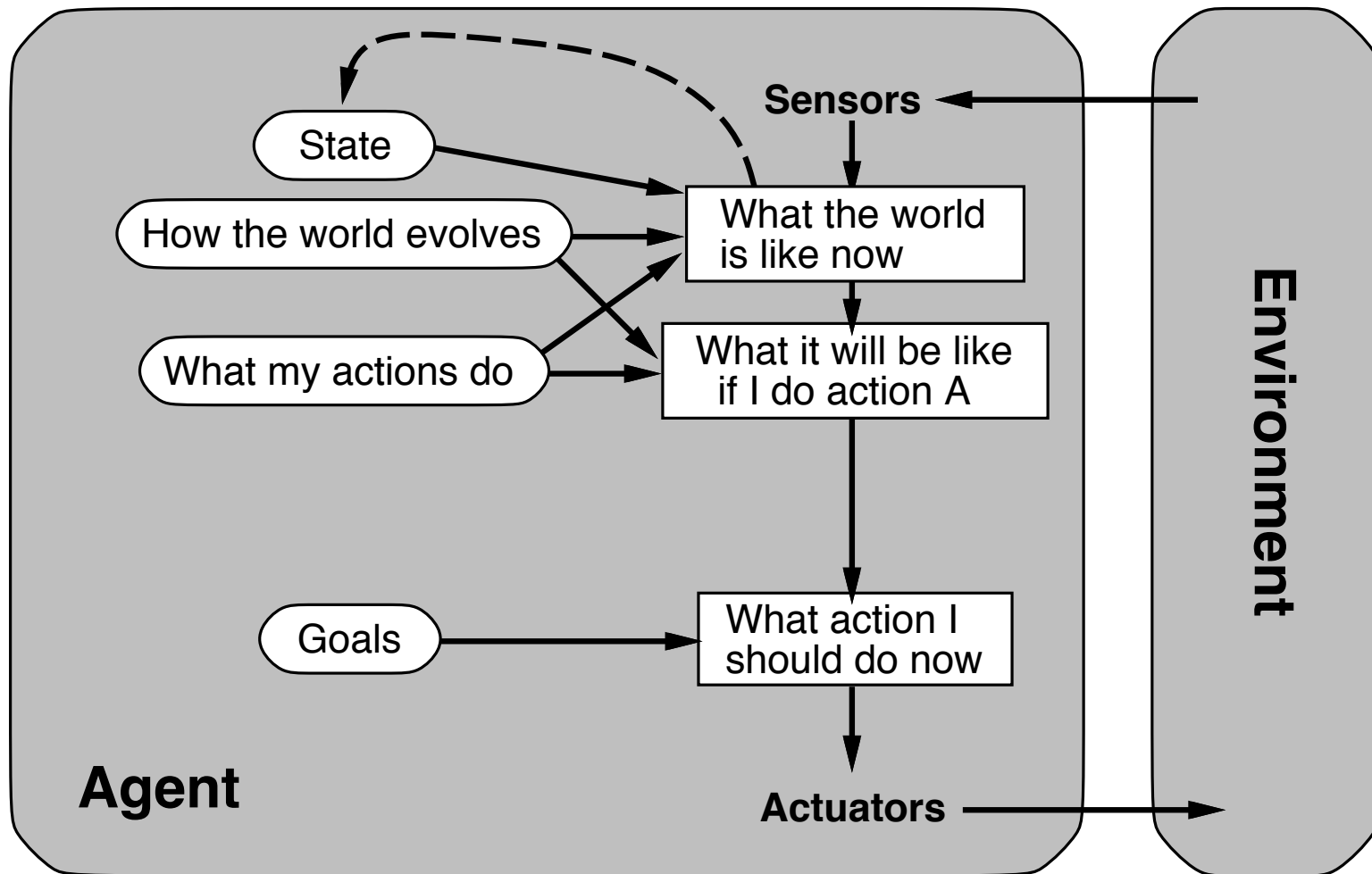


Example

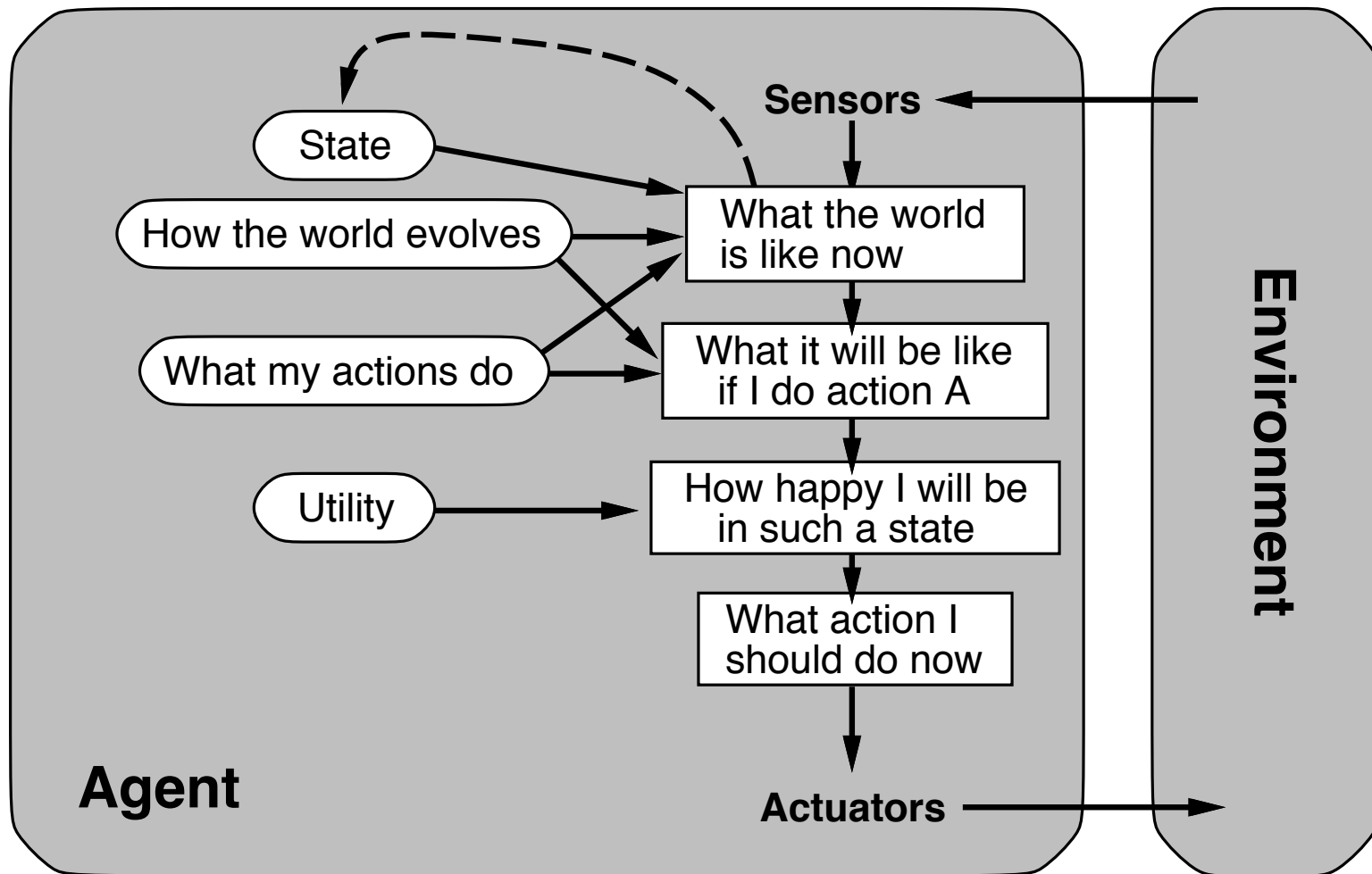
function REFLEX-VACUUM-AGENT(*[location,status]*) **returns** an action
static: *last_A, last_B*, numbers, initially ∞
if *status = Dirty* **then** ...

```
(defun make-reflex-vacuum-agent-with-state-program ()
  (let ((last-A infinity) (last-B infinity))
    #'(lambda (percept)
      (let ((location (first percept)) (status (second percept)))
        (incf last-A) (incf last-B)
        (cond
         ((eq status 'dirty)
          (if (eq location 'A) (setq last-A 0) (setq last-B 0))
          'Suck)
         ((eq location 'A) (if (> last-B 3) 'Right 'NoOp))
         ((eq location 'B) (if (> last-A 3) 'Left 'NoOp)))))))
```

Goal-based agents



Utility-based agents



Learning agents

