

# Adventures in Adaptation: a software engineering playground!



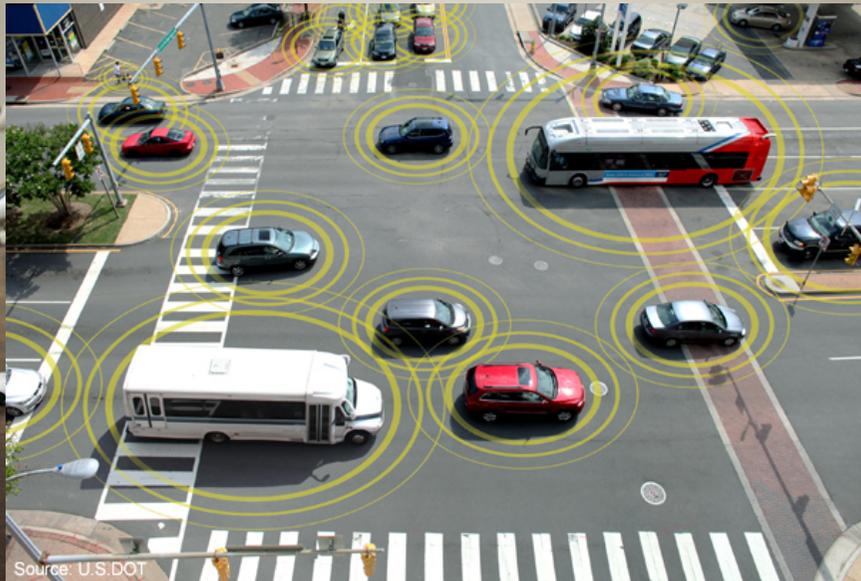
Jeff Kramer  
Imperial College London

## Adaptive and Self-Managed Systems

.... the challenge of *change* ...

to automate and run on-line what is  
currently off-line!

## Adaptive and Self-Managed Systems



## Adaptive and Self-Managed Systems



**Adaptive light :**  
adjustment of runtime  
parameters in response to  
degraded performance or  
failure

**Adaptive full fat :**  
changes in functionality and  
performance in response to  
changes in the environment  
and/or goals



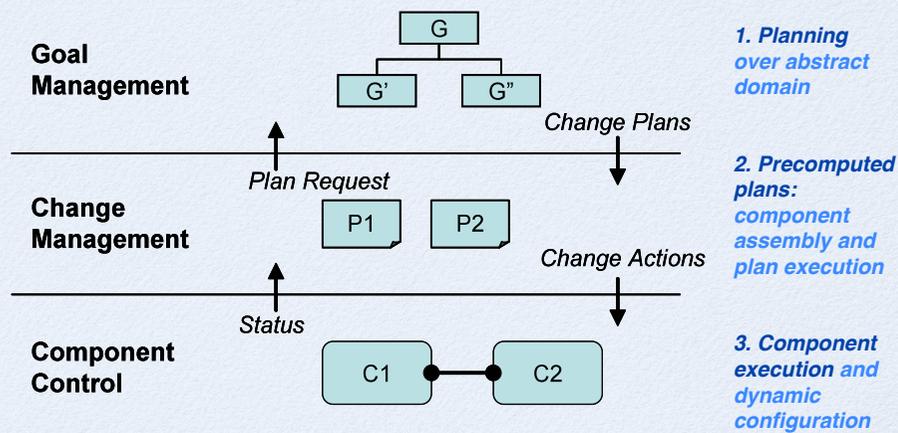
# Adaptive and Self-Managed Systems



# a software engineers' playground

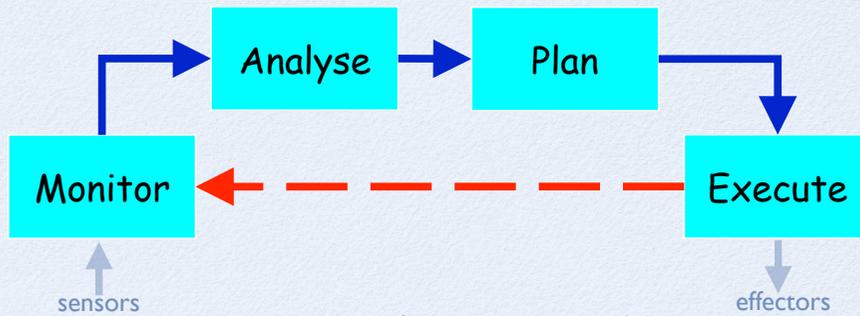


## three layer architecture



- why this architecture?
- how did we get here?
- where are we going?

## MAPE cycle



- a single feedback loop?
- response times?
- complexity?

## inspiration from robotics



- 1970's



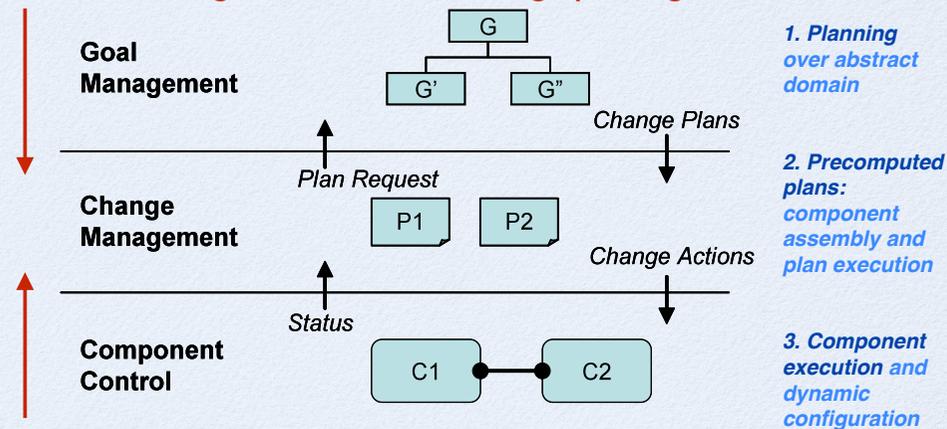
- 1998 (Gat)

1. *Planning*
2. *plan execution*
3. *component feedback control*

- layering according to response times

## three layer architecture

**TD** : decreasing statefulness and strategic planning



1. *Planning over abstract domain*

2. *Precomputed plans: component assembly and plan execution*

3. *Component execution and dynamic configuration*

**BU** : increasing response time

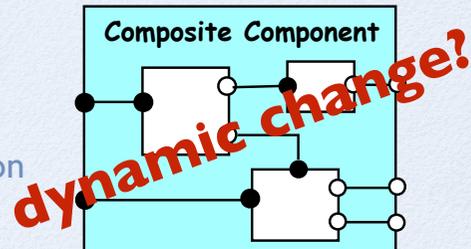
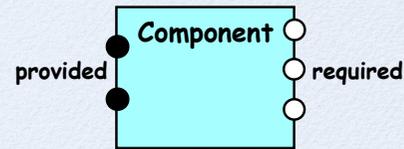
- a separation of concerns

## ... some earlier research adventures ...



## CONIC and Darwin

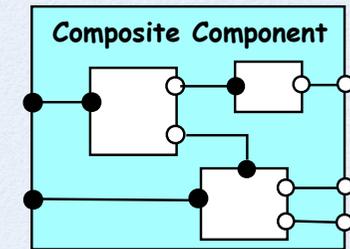
- distributable, context-independent components
- interaction via a well-defined interface
- an explicit configuration description (ADL)
- third party instantiation and binding



TSE 1985, TSE 1989, ESEC/FSE 1995, FSE 1996

## CONIC and Darwin

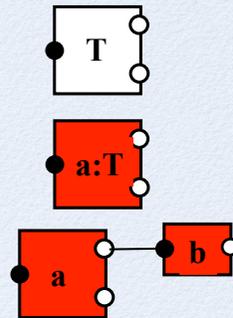
- on-line dynamic change
- once installed, the software could be dynamically modified without stopping the entire system



TSE 1985, TSE 1989, ESEC/FSE 1995, FSE 1996

## on-line dynamic change

- load component type
- create/delete component instances
- bind/unbind component services

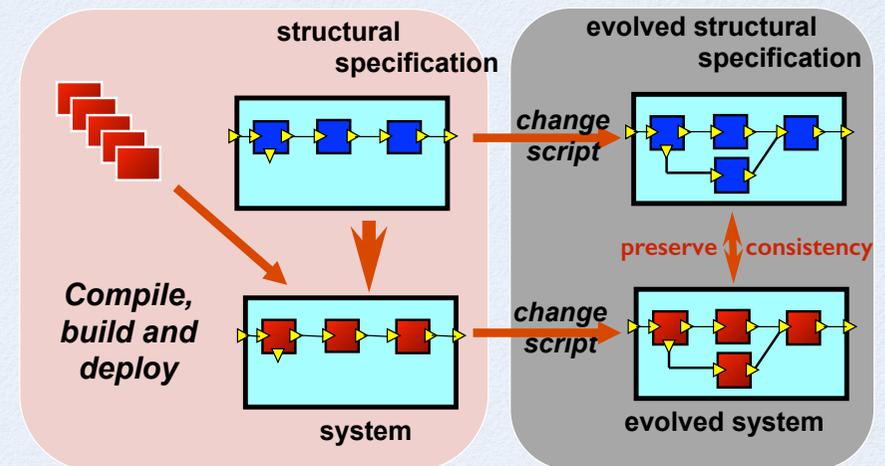


How can we do this **safely**?

How can we maintain **configuration consistency** and **behaviour consistency** during the change?

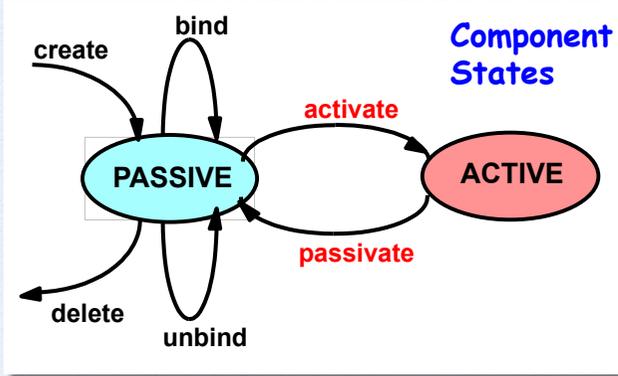
TSE 1985

## configuration consistency



TSE 1985

## behaviour consistency



### Component States

**General change model:**  
Separate the specification of structural change from the component application behaviour.

**Passive** component services interactions, but does not initiate new ones i.e. acts to preserve consistency.

**Quiescent** : passive and no transactions will be initiated on it (ie. environment is passive)

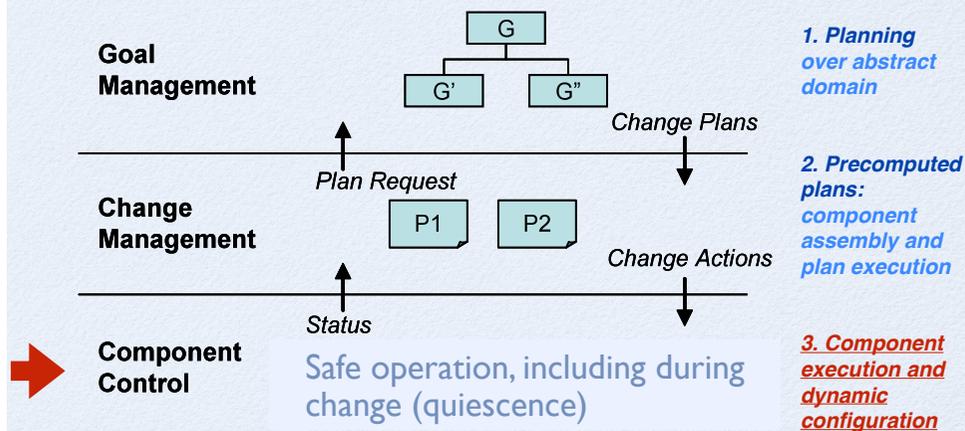
TSE 1990

## safe configuration and reconfiguration of components



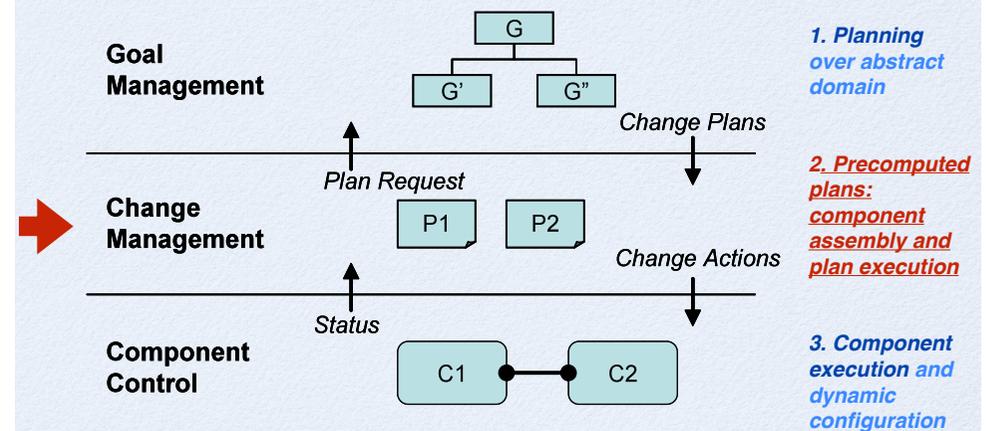
**No components? use objects and dependency injection**  
(inversion of control) for 3rd party instantiation and binding!

## three layer architecture



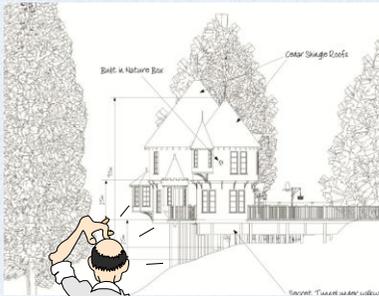
ICSE FOSE '07, SAVCBS 2007, SEAMS 2008

## three layer architecture



ICSE FOSE '07, SAVCBS 2007, SEAMS 2008

## component assembly? plan execution?



## plan execution



## plan execution

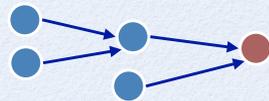
```

...
AT.loc1 && !LOADED
  -> pickup
AT.loc1 && LOADED
  -> moveto.loc2
AT.loc2 && LOADED
  -> putdown
AT.loc2 && !LOADED
  -> moveto.loc1
...
  
```

### Reactive plans

- condition-**action** rules over an alphabet of plan actions

Includes alternative paths to the goals if there are unpredicted environment changes



## component assembly

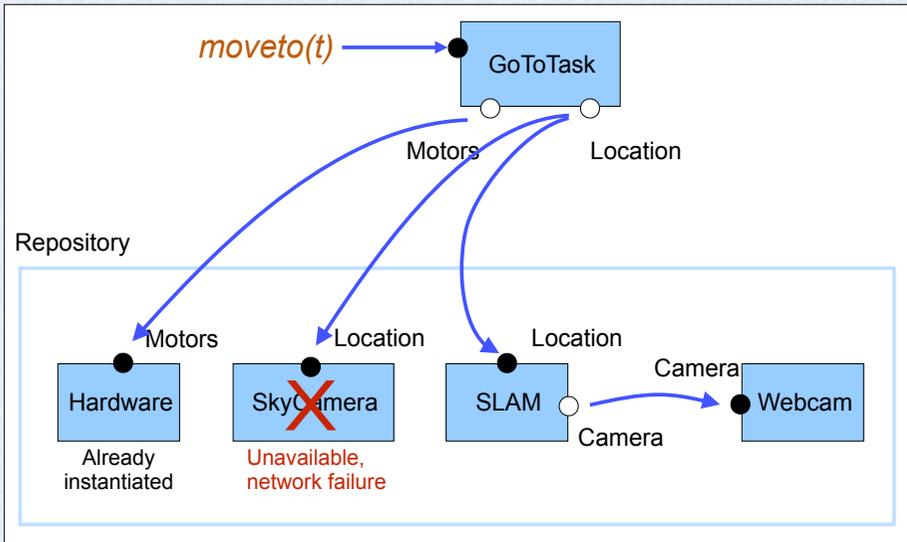
### Derive configurations by mapping plan actions to components :

- primitive **plan actions** (*pickup, moveto,...*) are associated with the *provided services* of components which the plan interpreter can call
- elaborate and assemble components using *dependencies (required services)*

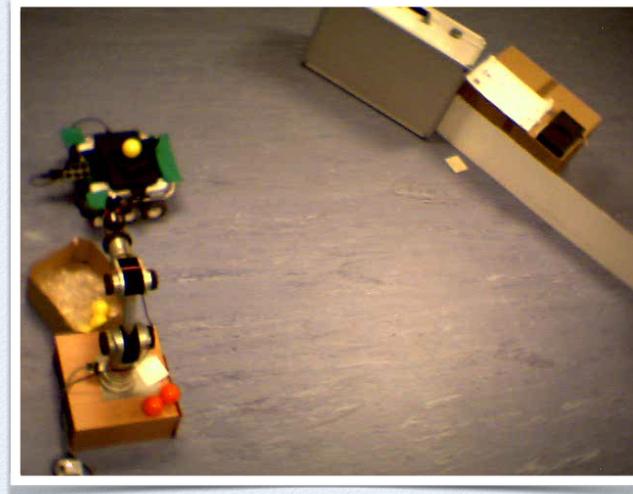


Mapping is a many to many relationship, providing alternatives

## component assembly



## adaptation demonstration

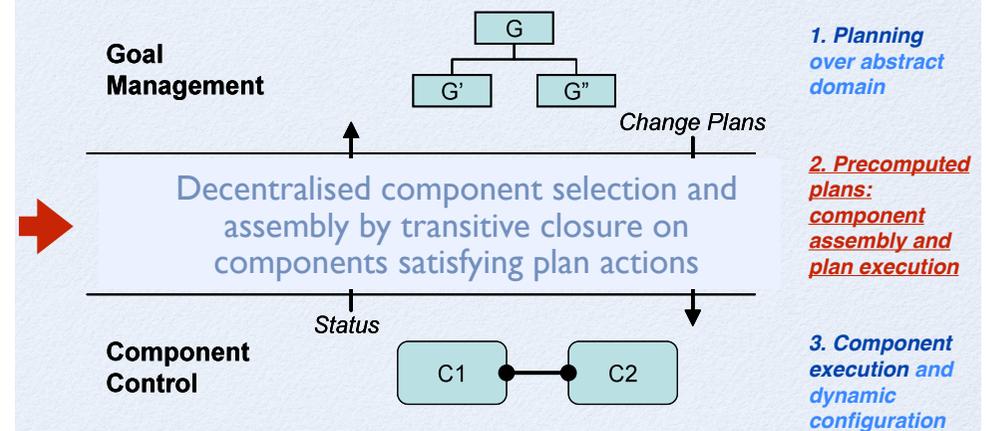


Adaptation may require component reselection or alternative plan selection or replanning

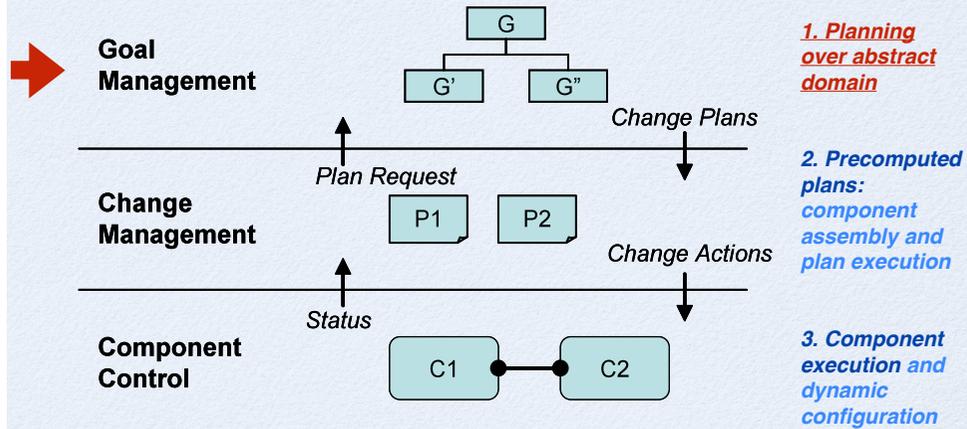
## ... other assembly adventures ...

- **Flashmob** - distributed adaptive self-assembly
  - gossip algorithm
- Exploiting NF preferences in architectural adaptation for self-managed systems
  - component annotations and utility function optimisation

## three layer architecture



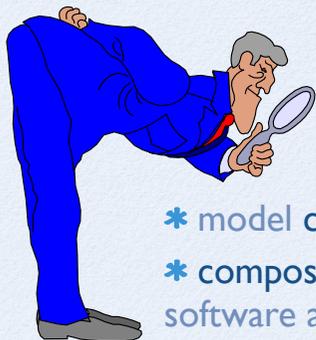
# three layer architecture



ICSE FOSE '07, SEAMS 2008, SEAMS 2011

The illustration shows a man in a white shirt and dark trousers thinking. A thought bubble above him contains a photo of a treehouse and the word "goal". To the right, a speech bubble contains a technical drawing of a treehouse with labels like "Belt & Nature Box" and "Climb Slings Coils", with the text "synthesise a plan". Below the man, another photo of a treehouse is shown with the text "build a model". A blue button in the bottom right corner says "model-based planning".

# ...earlier modelling adventures...



- \* model component behaviour as **LTS** in **FSP**
- \* compose behaviours according to the software architecture configuration

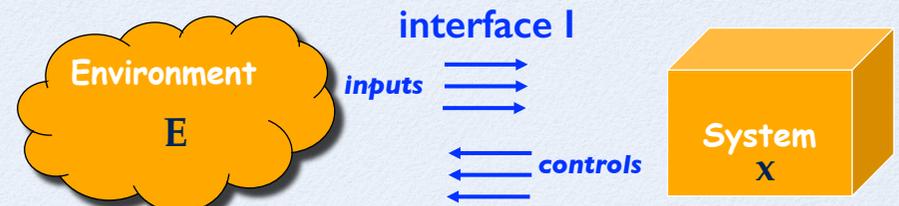
... model check properties using **LTSA**



ICSE '96, TOSEM '96, FSE '97, ESEC/FSE '99, book '99/2006

# plan (controller) synthesis

Consider a plan as a winning strategy in an infinite two player game between the **environment E** and the **system x** with **interface I** such that **goal G** is always satisfied no matter what the order of inputs from environment.



$E || x_I$  composition of LTS

$$E || x_I \models G$$

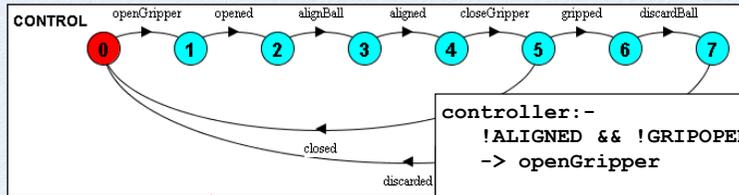
synthesise x

Goal G: Linear Temporal Logic property

Symbolic Controller Synthesis for Discrete and Timed Systems, Asarin, Maler & Pnueli, LNCS 999, 1995.

# plan (controller) synthesis

Environment model (as || LTS)



```

controller:-
  !ALIGNED && !GRIPOPEN && !PICKEDUP
  -> openGripper

  !ALIGNED && GRIPOPEN && !PICKEDUP
  -> alignBall

  !ALIGNED && !GRIPOPEN && PICKEDUP
  -> discardBall

  ALIGNED && GRIPOPEN && !PICKEDUP
  -> closeGripper
    
```

```

ltl_property SAFE4 =
  [] (closeGripper -> ALIGNED)
ltl_property GETBALL =
  [] (alignBall -> X closeGripper)
ltl_property PROGRESS =
  [] (openGripper -> X alignBall)
    
```

Plan (as a controller)

Goal specification (as LTL properties)

# computing “winning” states

- By backward propagation of error state for **inputs**:



- ... for controls:



# plan extraction

**Reactive Plan** computed from set of control states **S**  
(has outgoing transition labelled with control)

- Label states with fluent values
- Fluents form the preconditions for the control actions.

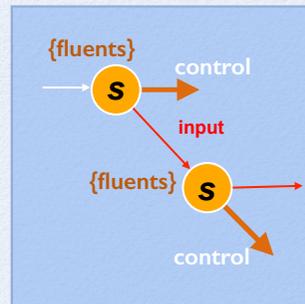
```

controller:-
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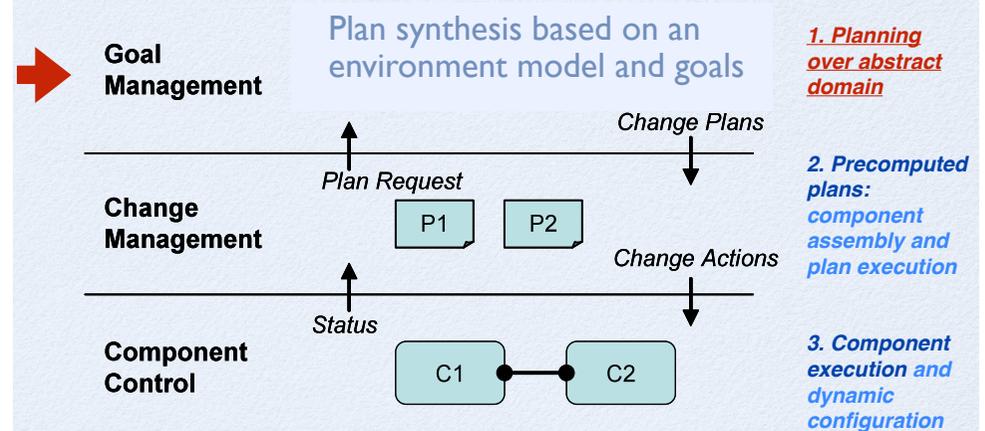
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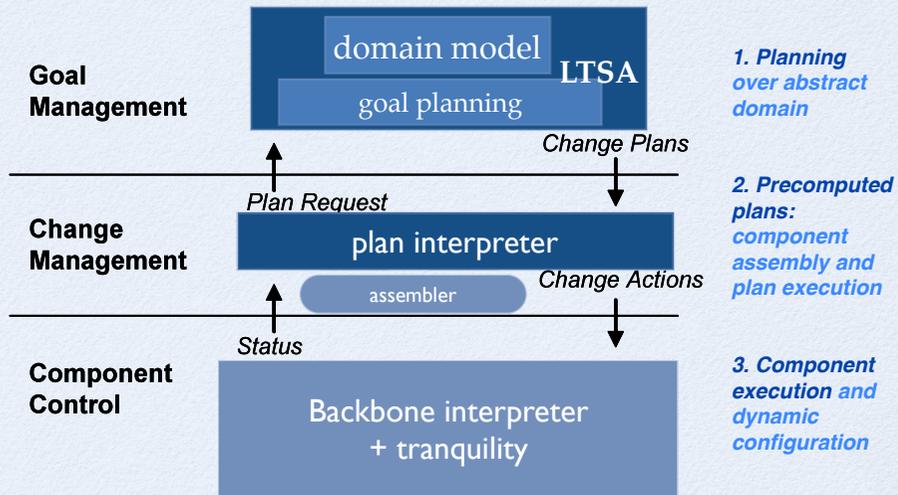
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  -> closeGripper
    
```



# three layer architecture



# three layer architecture **realisation**

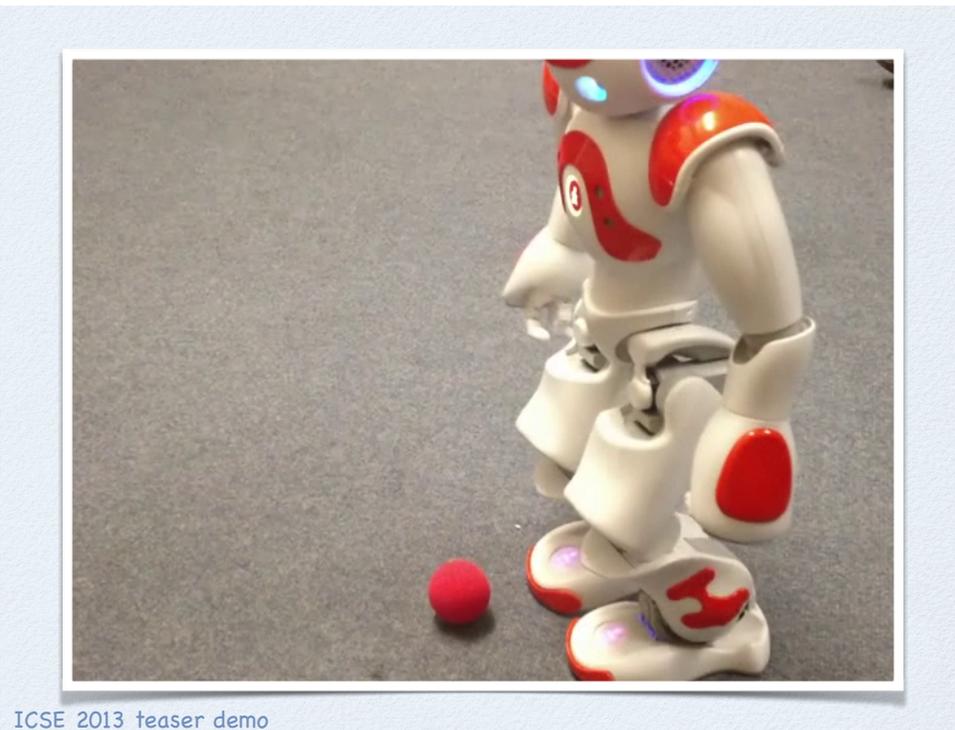


ICSE FOSE '07, SEAMS 2008, SEAMS 2011

# three layer architecture **realisation**



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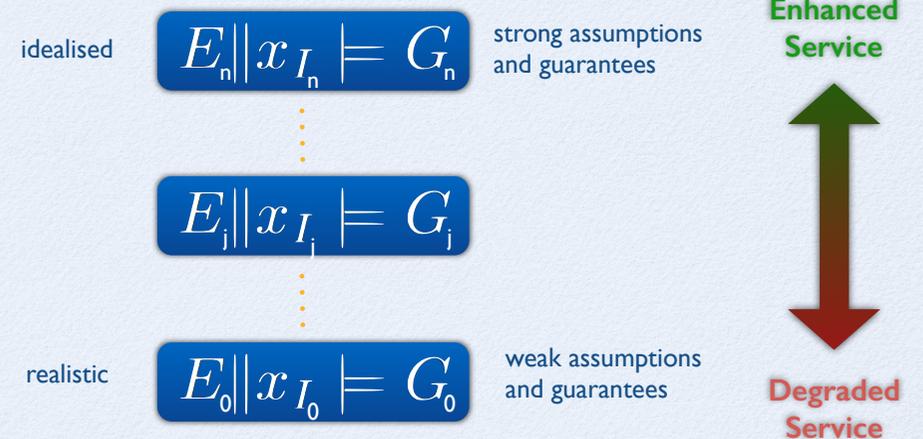


ICSE 2013 teaser demo

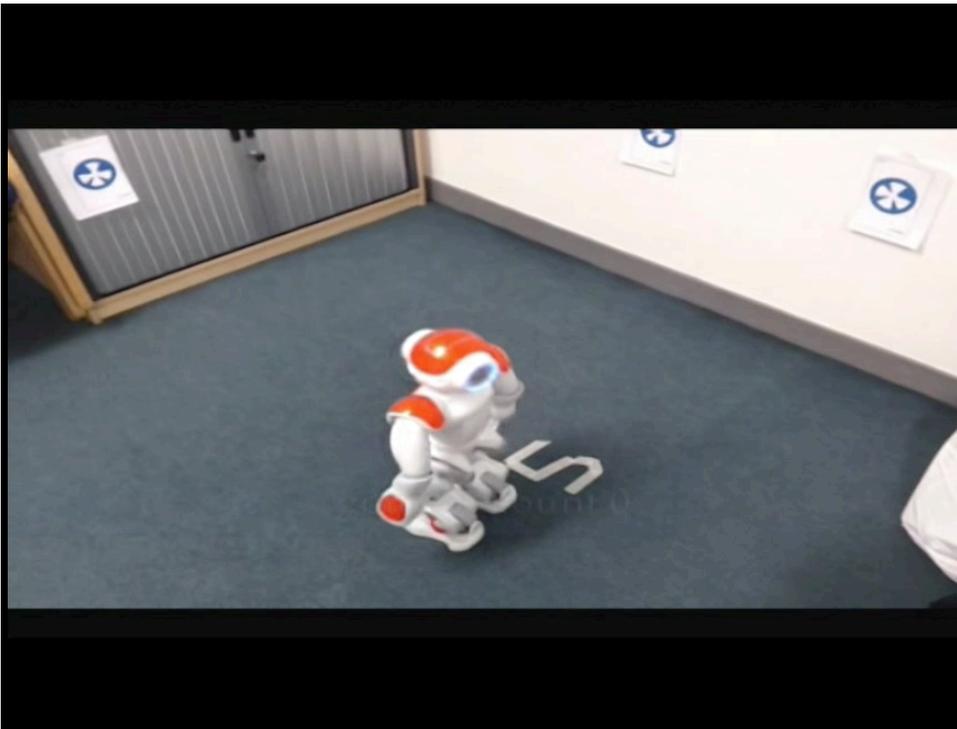


- provided basis for further research ...

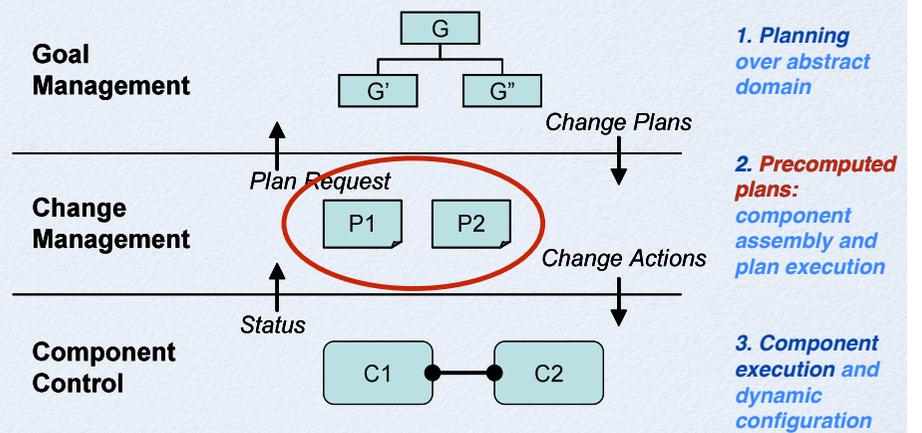
## Multi-tier adaptation



ICSE, 2014 : Hope for the best, plan for the worst...



## three layer architecture



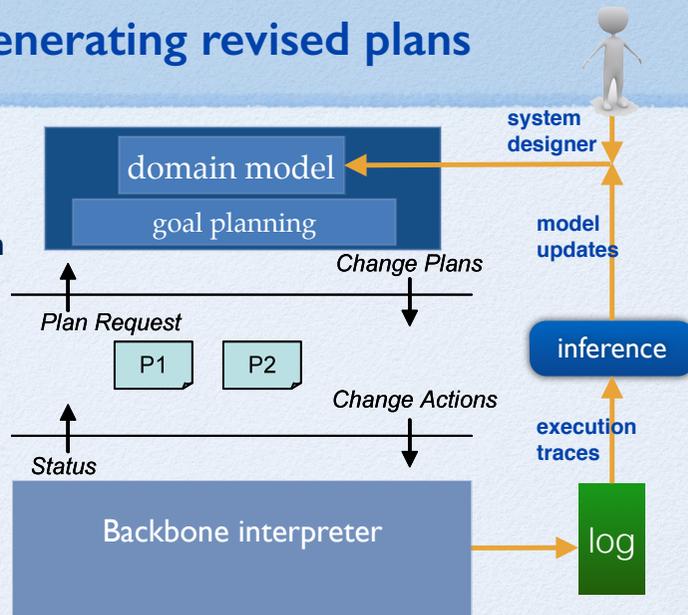
ICSE FOSE '07, SEAMS 2008, SEAMS 2011

## generating revised plans

Plan revision through **domain model revision**

using observations and probabilistic rule learning

Learning through experience!



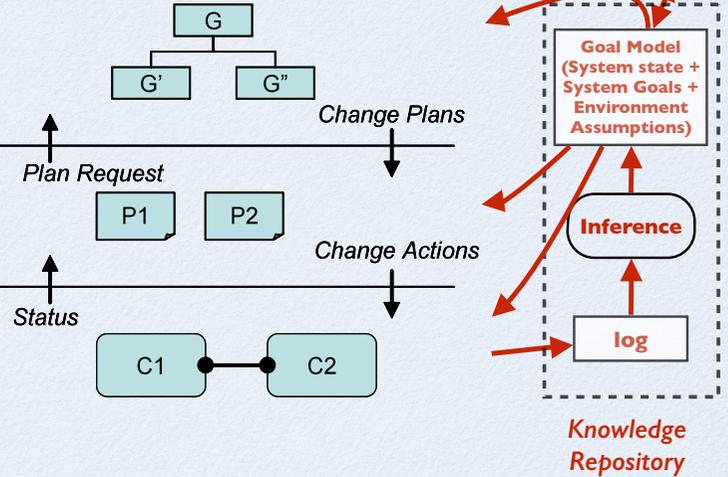
ICSE 2013

## elaborate the three layer architecture

**Goal Management**

**Change Management**

**Component Control**

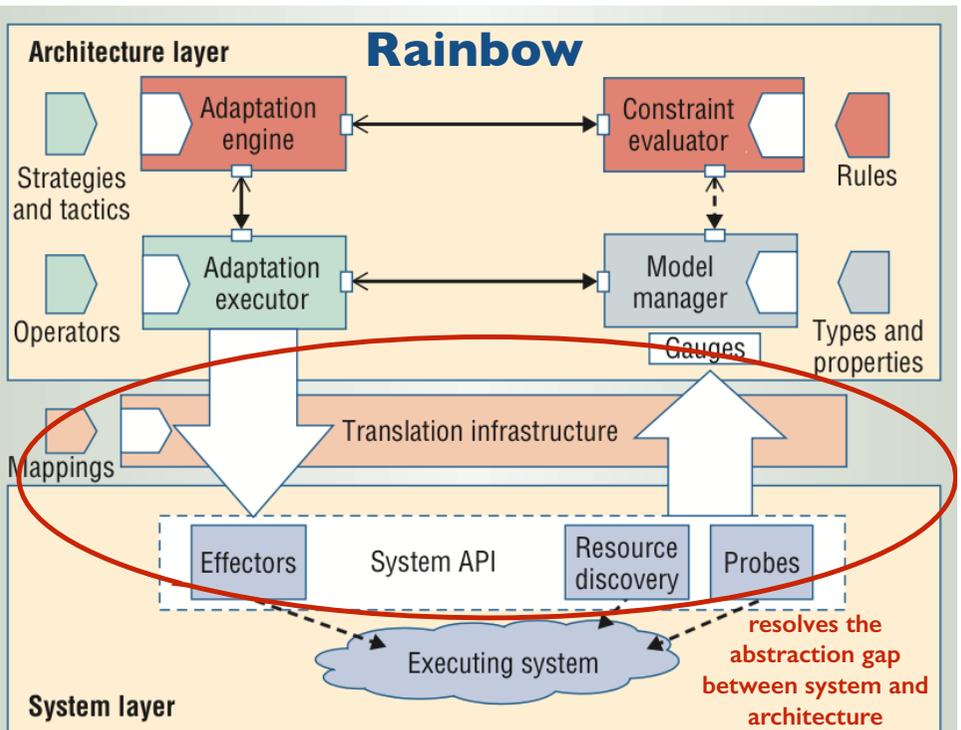


## our current vision

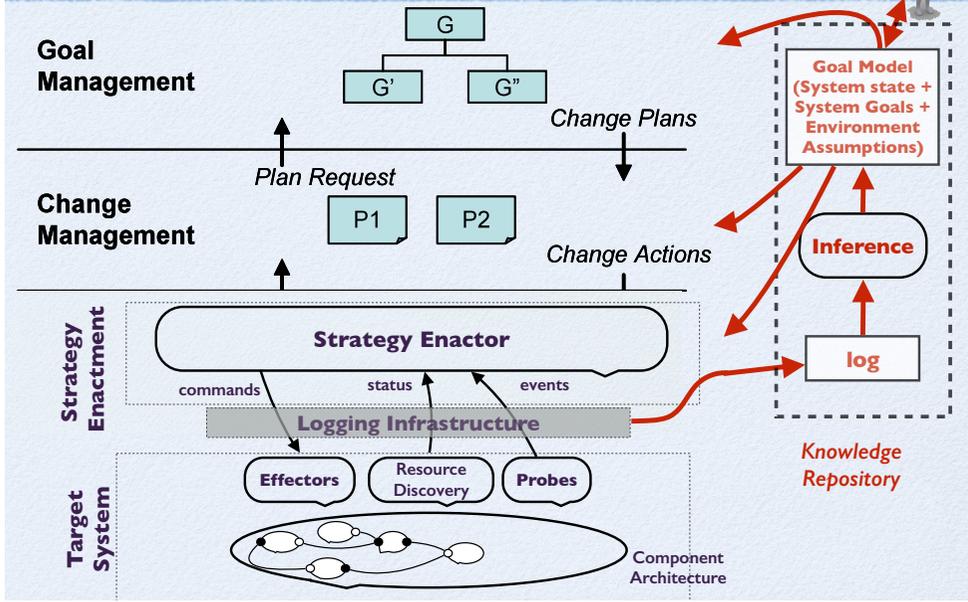
Provide a reference architecture which ...

- accommodates specific research aspects more clearly
- facilitates comparison of specific approaches
- provides a pick-and-mix (plug-and-play) architecture

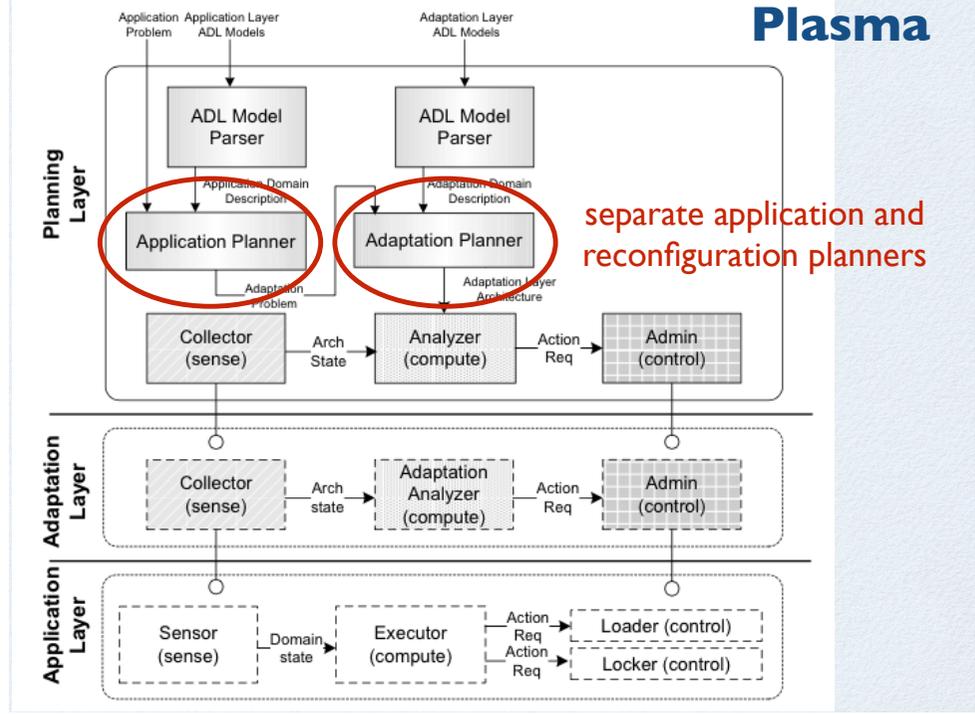
... an adventure playground for software engineers!



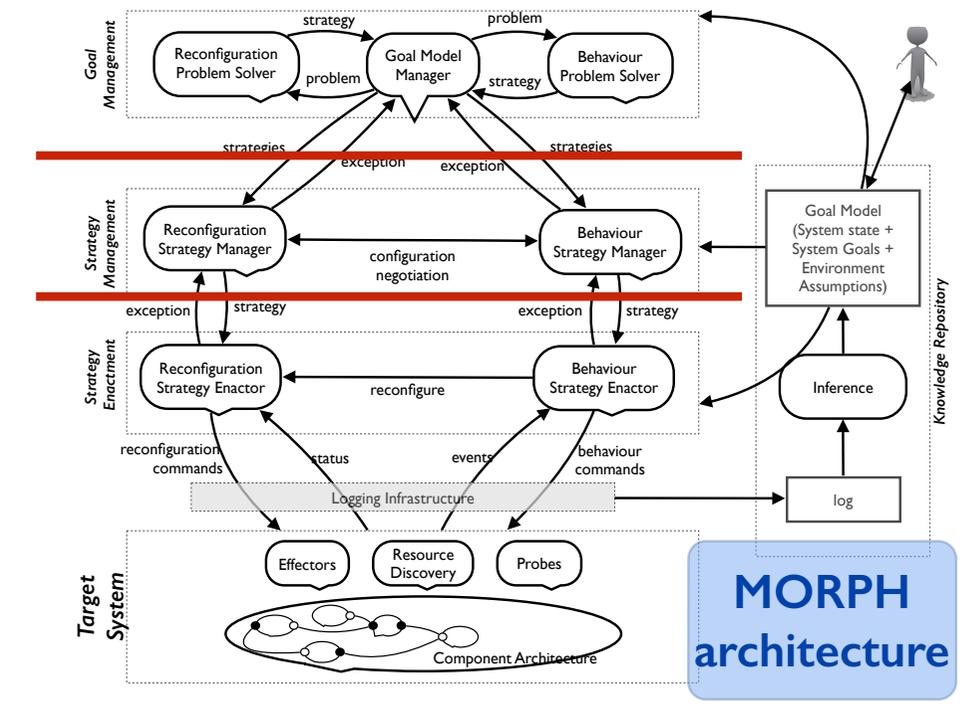
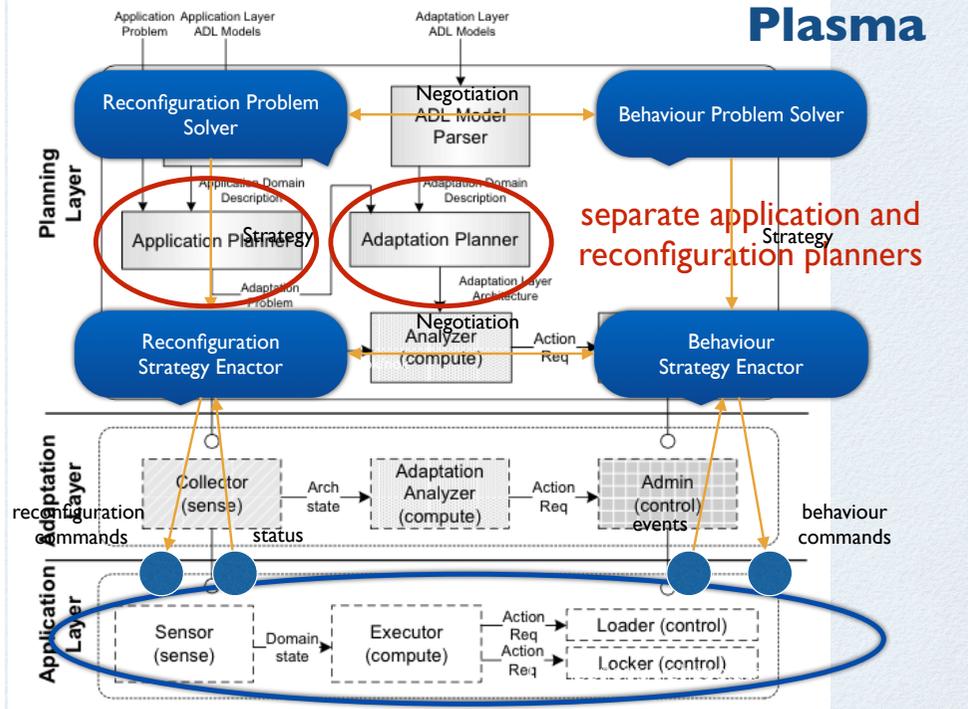
# elaborating the three layer architecture



# Plasma



# Plasma



# MORPH architecture

in conclusion ...



## Adaptive and Self-Managed Systems

.... the challenge of *change* ...

to automate and run on-line what is currently off-line!

### *the challenge of change*

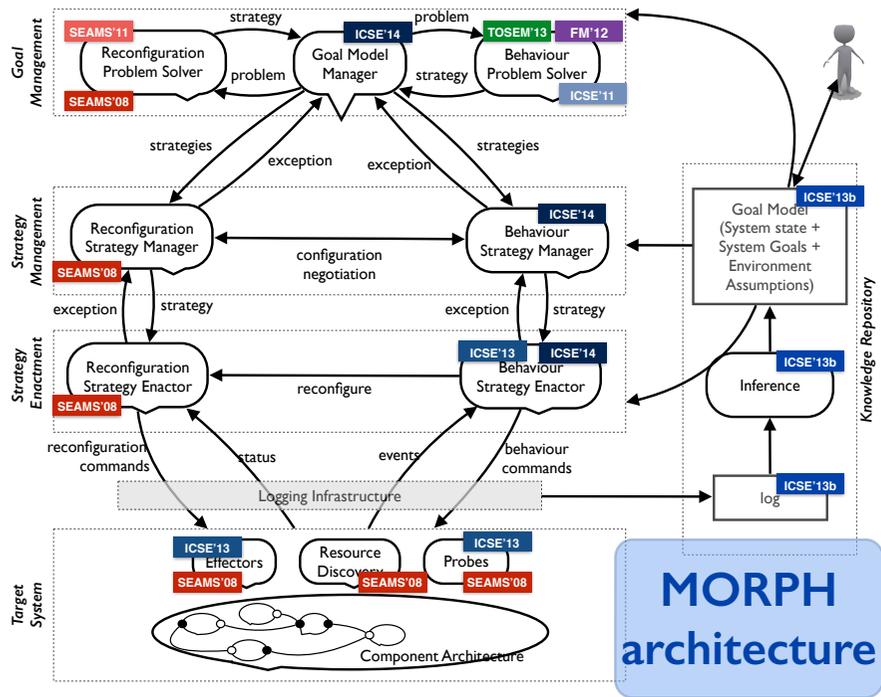
- **model revision** in response to updates and change in the environment
- **online Requirements Engineering** in response to updates and changes in goals (RE@runtime)
  - automated support for diagnosis and repair using a combination of model checking and machine learning
  - automated support for requirements elaboration and obstacle analysis

### *Vision: architectural reference model*

- identify and accommodate specific research concerns,
- facilitate comparisons between approaches, and
- provide a framework for potential implementations (plug-and-play)

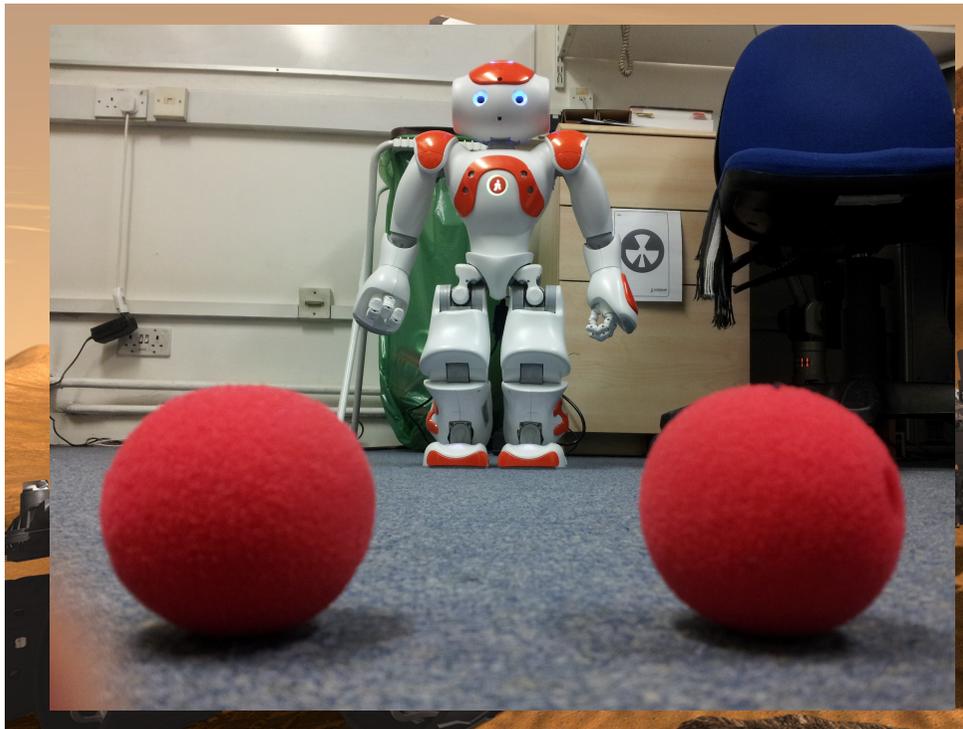


... an adventure playground for software engineers!



## challenging case studies

- evaluation
- validation
- comparison



international cooperation and ...



acknowledgement



SEAMS

a software  
engineering  
adventure  
playground!



Bliss

