

# A Spatial Reasoning HDR System

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**Abstract.** In this article is presented how *HDR* systems can be used for spatial reasonings. Because the reasoning entities of the *HDR* systems are defined based on the inferences they have to perform it is very easy to implement in these systems distributed reasoning processes. For this reason we reconsider our approach presented in [1] for image synthesis reasoning mechanism because this is a distributed reasoning mechanism differentiated along the main axes of a spatial image.

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## 1 Prerequisites

A  $\theta$ -semantic schema (shortly,  $\theta$ -schema) is a system  $\mathcal{S} = (X, A_0, A, R)$ , where:

- $X$  is a finite non-empty set of symbols named **object symbols**
- $A_0$  is a finite non-empty set of elements named **label symbols** and  $A_0 \subseteq A \subseteq \overline{A_0}$ , where  $\overline{A_0}$  is the Peano  $\theta$ -algebra generated by  $A_0$
- $R \subseteq X \times A \times X$  is a non-empty set of **relations**.

Let us consider a  $\theta$ -schema  $\mathcal{S} = (X, A_0, A, R)$ . We denote by  $Ded(\mathcal{S})$  the least set satisfying the following properties:([2])

- If  $(x, a, y) \in R_0$  then  $([x, y], a) \in Ded(\mathcal{S})$
- If  $([x_i, \dots, x_k], u) \in Ded(\mathcal{S})$  and  $([x_k, \dots, x_r], v) \in Ded(\mathcal{S})$ ,  $i < k < r$  and  $\theta(u, v) \in A$  then  $([x_i, \dots, x_r], \theta(u, v)) \in Ded(\mathcal{S})$ . An element of  $Ded(\mathcal{S})$  is an **deductive path** of  $\mathcal{S}$ .

Consider  $d_1 = ([x_1, \dots, x_k], u) \in Ded(\mathcal{S})$  and  $d_2 = ([y_1, \dots, y_m], v) \in Ded(\mathcal{S})$ . We write  $d_1 \prec d_2$  if  $k < m$  and either one of the following condition is satisfied:([2])

- $x_1 = y_1, \dots, x_k = y_k, v = \theta(u, u_1)$
- $x_1 = y_{m-k+1}, \dots, x_k = y_m, v = \theta(v_1, u)$

**Definition 1.** ([2]) An element  $d \in Ded(\mathcal{S})$  is a **maximal element** if there is not  $\beta \in Ded(\mathcal{S})$  such that:  $d \prec \beta$ . We denote by  $Ded(\mathcal{S})^{max}$  the set of all maximal elements of  $Ded(\mathcal{S})$ .

The maximal elements of  $Ded(\mathcal{S})$  are named also the maximal paths of the schema  $\mathcal{S}$  or the **conclusions** obtained in this reasoning environment.

Let us consider the schemas  $\mathcal{S}_1 = (X_1, A_{01}, A_1, R_1)$  and  $\mathcal{S}_2 = (X_2, A_{02}, A_2, R_2)$  and  $i \in \{1, 2\}$ .

If  $d_1 = ([x, \dots, y], u) \in Ded(\mathcal{S}_i)$  and  $d_2 = ([y, \dots, z], v) \in Ded(\mathcal{S}_{3-i})$  then we say that  $d_1$  is **connected to right** by  $d_2$  or  $d_2$  is **connected to left** by  $d_1$ . We say that  $d_1$  is **connected** by  $d_2$  if  $d_1$  is connected to right or to left by  $d_2$ .

We consider the following sets of deductive paths  $L_1 \subseteq Ded(\mathcal{S}_1)$  and  $L_2 \subseteq Ded(\mathcal{S}_2)$ . We say that  $L_1 \cup L_2$  is a **pairwise connected set of deductive paths** if every deductive path of  $L_i$  is connected by some deductive path of  $L_{3-i}$ .

Using  $L_1 \cup L_2$  we can build a new structure over  $\mathcal{S}_1$  and  $\mathcal{S}_2$ , named hyper-schema of first order.

In the resulted hyper-schema each element of  $L_i$ ,  $i \in \{1, 2\}$ , is transformed into a **regular arc** by means of a bijective mapping  $g_{\mathcal{S}_i}$ . More exactly, for  $g_{\mathcal{S}_i}(e) = \theta(u, v)$ , if  $d = ([x, \dots, y], \theta(u, v)) \in L_i$  then the regular arc  $(x, e, y)$  is considered in the hyper-schema.

**Definition 2.** ([3]) A **hyper-schema** of order one over  $\mathcal{S}_1$  and  $\mathcal{S}_2$  obtained by means of  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  is a  $\theta$ -schema  $\mathcal{S}$  that includes the regular arcs obtained from  $L_1$  and  $L_2$ . We denote by  $Hyp_1(\{\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2\})$  the set of all hyper-schemas of first order over  $\mathcal{S}_1$  and  $\mathcal{S}_2$ .

In general we write  $S \in Hyp_k(\{\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2\})$  if  $\mathcal{S}_1$  and  $\mathcal{S}_2$  are hyper-schemas of order  $j \leq k - 1$  and at least one of them has the order  $k - 1$ .

**Definition 3.** ([3]) An HDR system is the tuple  $H = (Q_1, Q_2, \dots, Q_k)$  where  $k \geq 2$  and

- $Q_1 = \{Ag_1, \dots, Ag_{n_1}\}_{n_1 > 1}$ , constitutes the first level of the system. The entities  $\{Ag_1, \dots, Ag_{n_1}\}$  are named the **agents** of the system and as structures they are  $\theta$ -schemas.

We note the schemas generated by the agents of the system with  $\mathcal{S}_1, \dots, \mathcal{S}_{n_1}$ .

- $Q_2 = \{KM_{n_1+1}, \dots, KM_{n_2}\}_{n_2 \geq n_1+1}$ , constitutes the set of the knowledge managers of the second level of the system and as structures they are hyper-schemas of order 1.

Thus, if we note with  $\mathcal{S}_{n_1+1}, \dots, \mathcal{S}_{n_2}$  the schemas generated by the managers of  $Q_2$  we have that  $\forall m \in \{n_1+1, \dots, n_2\}, \exists m_1, m_2 \in \{1, \dots, n_1\}, m_1 \neq m_2$  such that:

$$\mathcal{S}_m \in Hyp_1(\{\mathcal{S}_{m_1}, \mathcal{S}_{m_2}\})$$

- $Q_j = \{KM_{n_{j-1}+1}, \dots, KM_{n_j}\}_{j \geq 3}$  represents the set of the knowledge managers for the  $j$ -th level of the system. Thus, if we note by  $\mathcal{S}_{n_{j-1}+1}, \dots, \mathcal{S}_{n_j}$  the hyper-schemas generated by the managers of  $Q_j$  we have that  $\forall m \in \{n_{j-1}+1, \dots, n_j\}, \exists m_1 \in \{n_{j-2}, \dots, n_{j-1}\}$  and  $\exists m_2 \in \{1, \dots, n_{j-1}\}, m_1 \neq m_2$  such that:

$$\mathcal{S}_m \in Hyp_{j-1}(\{\mathcal{S}_{m_1}, \mathcal{S}_{m_2}\})$$

## 2 A spatial reasoning *HDR* system

In order to implement the reasoning mechanism of [1] in a *HDR* system, the architecture of the system is defined as follows. At the first level there are the agents which start the inputs' processing, each agent being specialized on a single axis' relations. At the upper levels the knowledge managers' tasks consist of enriching the deductions already obtained in the system by combining deductions from different entities, that is, deductions corresponding to different axes of the image. In this manner, *the reasonings entities of this system determine an inference mechanism based entirely on deductions.*

In what follows we consider spatial images with two dimensions. We define an *HDR* system consisting of two agents at the first level and a single manager at the second level whose task is to combine the agents' deductions in order to illustrate them in a 2D picture.

In order to describe arrangements of 2D objects in a 2D spatial area, each knowledge piece received by the system will contain instances of the following four directional relations: *at left side of, behind, perfectly at left side of, perfectly behind* where the relations *at left side of, perfectly behind* correspond to the *Ox* axis and *behind, perfectly at left side of* correspond to the *Oy* axis of the described 2D image.

**Definition 4.** *We define the knowledge domain of HDR system as the set of the spatial relations existing along the two axes of a 2-dimensional image. It consists of:*

- *the initial relations: (perfectly) at left side, (perfectly) behind*
- *relations that can be derived using composition from the system's initial relations.*

*These relations are externally represented by the graphical illustrations of their corresponding spatial semantics.*

**Definition 5.** *We define the architecture of HDR system as follows:*

$$H = (\{Ag_1, Ag_2\}, \{KM_3\})$$

*such that  $S_i = (X_i, A_{0i}, A_i, R_i)$ ,  $i = \overline{1,3}$ ,  $A_{01} = \{L, PB\}$ ,  $A_{02} = \{B, PL\}$ . The labels of  $A_{01}$  and  $A_{02}$  correspond to the system's initial relations at **L**eft side of, **B**ehind, **P**erfectly at **L**eft side of, **P**erfectly **B**ehind.*

As we have said, the relations of the system's domain are externally represented by graphical images. More precisely, they are represented by means of some grids that illustrate the spatial relations of some objects.

**Definition 6.** *Let us consider the HDR system  $H = (\{Ag_1, Ag_2\}, \{KM_3\})$  with  $S_i = (X_i, A_{0i}, A_i, R_i)$ ,  $i = \overline{1,3}$ .*

*We will note by  $Y_u(O_1, O_2)$  the graphical illustration of the spatial relation internally labeled by  $u$  that exists between the objects  $O_1$  and  $O_2$ , that is:*

	<i>Algorithms</i>	<i>Outputs</i>
1.	$Alg_{\mathcal{L}}(O_1, O_2)$	 $Y_{\mathcal{L}}(O_1, O_2)$
2.	$Alg_{\mathcal{PB}}(O_1, O_2)$	 $Y_{\mathcal{PB}}(O_1, O_2)$
3.	$Alg_{\mathcal{L}, \mathcal{L}}(Y_{\mathcal{L}}(O_1, O_2), Y_{\mathcal{L}}(O, O_2))$ $\mu \in \mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{L}} = (\mathcal{L}, \theta(\mathcal{L}, \mathcal{PB}), \theta(\mathcal{PB}, \mathcal{L}), \theta(\theta(\mathcal{L}, \mathcal{PB}), \mathcal{PB}), \theta(\theta(\mathcal{PB}, \mathcal{L}), \mathcal{PB}), \theta(\theta(\mathcal{PB}, \mathcal{PB}), \mathcal{L}))$	 $Y_{\mathcal{L}, \mathcal{L}}(O_1, O_2)$
4.	$Alg_{\mathcal{L}, \mathcal{PB}}(Y_{\mathcal{L}}(O_1, O_2), Y_{\mathcal{PB}}(O, O_2))$ $\mu \in \mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{L}} = (\mathcal{L}, \theta(\mathcal{L}, \mathcal{PB}), \theta(\mathcal{PB}, \mathcal{L}), \theta(\theta(\mathcal{L}, \mathcal{PB}), \mathcal{PB}), \theta(\theta(\mathcal{PB}, \mathcal{L}), \mathcal{PB}), \theta(\theta(\mathcal{PB}, \mathcal{PB}), \mathcal{L}))$	 $Y_{\mathcal{L}, \mathcal{PB}}(O_1, O_2)$
5.	$Alg_{\mathcal{PB}, \mathcal{L}}(Y_{\mathcal{PB}}(O_1, O_2), Y_{\mathcal{L}}(O, O_2))$	 $Y_{\mathcal{PB}, \mathcal{L}}(O_1, O_2)$
6.	$Alg_{\mathcal{PB}, \mathcal{PB}}(Y_{\mathcal{PB}}(O_1, O_2), Y_{\mathcal{PB}}(O, O_2))$	 $Y_{\mathcal{PB}, \mathcal{PB}}(O_1, O_2)$

Fig. 1. The external representations corresponding to  $A_{q_1}$  labels (I).

	Algorithms	Outputs
7.	$Alg_{\theta(L,L)}(Y_L(O_1, O), Y_L(O, O_2))$ $\pi \in 2L\pi = \{\theta(L,L), \theta(\theta(L,L), PE), \theta(\theta(L, PE), L), \theta(\theta(PE, L), L)\}$	
8.	$Alg_{\theta(L, PE)}(Y_L(O_1, O), Y_{PE}(O, O_2))$ $\pi \in 2L\pi = \{\theta(L,L), \theta(\theta(L,L), PE), \theta(\theta(L, PE), L), \theta(\theta(PE, L), L)\}$	
9.	$Alg_{\theta(PE, PE, L)}(Y_{\theta(PE, PE)}(O_1, O), Y_L(O, O_2))$	
10.	$Alg_{\theta(PE, PE, PE)}(Y_{\theta(PE, PE)}(O_1, O), Y_{PE}(O, O_2))$	

Fig. 2. The external representations corresponding to  $Ag_1$  labels (II).

$$Y_u(O_1, O_2) = Alg_u^{S_i}(O_1, O_2), u \in A_{0i}$$

$$Y_{\theta(u_1, u_2)}(O_1, O_2) = Alg_{\theta(u_1, u_2)}^{S_i}(Y_{u_1}(O_1, O), Y_{u_2}(O, O_2)), u = \theta(u_1, u_2) \in A_i$$

with  $i \in \{1, \dots, 3\}$ .

**Definition 7.** Let us consider the HDR system  $H = (\{Ag_1, Ag_2\}, \{KM_3\})$  with  $S_i = (X_i, A_{0i}, A_i, R_i)$ ,  $i = \overline{1, 3}$ .

We say that two labels  $u, v \in A_1 \cup A_2 \cup A_3$  are semantically equivalent if and only if their external representations  $Y_u(O_1, O_2)$  and  $Y_v(O_1, O_2)$  are identically,  $\forall O_1, O_2 \in Ob$ .

**Proposition 1.** Let us consider the HDR system  $H = (\{Ag_1, Ag_2\}, \{KM_3\})$ , with  $S_i = (X_i, A_{0i}, A_i, R_i)$ ,  $i = \overline{1, 3}$ .

If  $\exists u, v \in A_k, u \neq v$  such that  $trace(u) = trace(v)$ ,  $k \in \{1, \dots, 3\}$  then the labels  $u$  and  $v$  are considered semantically equivalent.

**Proof.** Let us suppose that  $trace(u) = \langle u_1, \dots, u_n \rangle_{n \geq 1}$ ,  $trace(v) = \langle v_1, \dots, v_m \rangle_{m \geq 1}$ . From  $trace(u) = trace(v)$  we obtain  $n = m$  and  $\forall i = \overline{1, n}$ :  $u_i = v_i$ .

If  $n \leq 2$  results that  $u = v$ . For  $n = 3$  we will consider  $trace(u) = trace(v) = \langle w_1, w_2, w_3 \rangle$ ,  $w_1, w_2, w_3 \in A_0$ . Because  $u \neq v$  we can have the following cases:


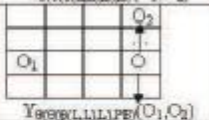

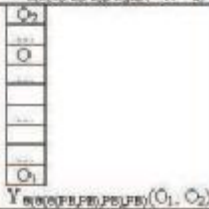
	<i>Algorithms</i>	<i>Outputs</i>
11.	$Alg_{(000(L,L,L,L))}(Y_{000(L,L,L)}(O_1, O_2), Y_L(O_1, O_2))$	
12.	$Alg_{(000(L,L,L),PB)}(Y_{000(L,L,L)}(O_1, O_2), Y_{PB}(O_1, O_2))$	
13.	$Alg_{(000(PB,PB,PB),L)}(Y_{000(PB,PB,PB)}(O_1, O_2), Y_L(O_1, O_2))$	
14.	$Alg_{(000(PB,PB,PB),PB)}(Y_{000(PB,PB,PB)}(O_1, O_2), Y_{PB}(O_1, O_2))$	

Fig. 3. The external representations corresponding to  $A_{g1}$  labels (III).

- $u = \theta(\theta(w_1, w_2), w_3)$  and  $v = \theta(w_1, \theta(w_2, w_3))$  or
- $u = \theta(w_1, \theta(w_2, w_3))$  and  $v = \theta(\theta(w_1, w_2), w_3)$

Without losing generality, let us suppose that  $u = \theta(\theta(w_1, w_2), w_3)$ ,  $v = \theta(w_1, \theta(w_2, w_3))$ . Results that both images  $Y_u$  and  $Y_v$  are made based on the same kind of images  $Y_{w_1}$ ,  $Y_{w_2}$  and  $Y_{w_3}$ . Only the order in which these images are combined is different.

Indeed,  $\forall O_1, O_2, O_3, O_4 \in Ob$  let us consider  $Y_{w_1}(O_1, O_2)$ ,  $Y_{w_2}(O_2, O_3)$ ,  $Y_{w_3}(O_3, O_4)$ . Results that  $\exists i, j \in \{1, \dots, 3\}$  such that:

- $Y_{\theta(w_1, w_2)}(O_1, O_3) = Alg_{\theta(w_1, w_2)}^{S_i}(Y_{w_1}(O_1, O_2), Y_{w_2}(O_2, O_3))$  for  $\theta(w_1, w_2) \in A_i$  and thus  $Y_{\theta(w_1, w_2)}(O_1, O_3)$  is the graphical illustration of the relations labeled by  $w_1$  and  $w_2$  between  $O_1$  and  $O_2$  and, respectively, between  $O_2$  and  $O_3$
- $Y_{\theta(w_2, w_3)}(O_2, O_4) = Alg_{\theta(w_2, w_3)}^{S_j}(Y_{w_2}(O_2, O_3), Y_{w_3}(O_3, O_4))$  for  $\theta(w_1, w_2) \in A_j$  and thus  $Y_{\theta(w_2, w_3)}(O_2, O_4)$  is the graphical illustration of the relations labeled by  $w_2$  and  $w_3$  between  $O_2$  and  $O_3$  and, respectively, between  $O_3$  and  $O_4$

Results that both images  $Y_u(O_1, O_4)$  and  $Y_v(O_1, O_4)$  illustrates the same relations between the same pairs of objects, which implies their equivalence:

- $Y_{\theta(\theta(w_1, w_2), w_3)}(O_1, O_4) = Alg_{\theta(\theta(w_1, w_2), w_3)}^{S_k}(Y_{\theta(w_1, w_2)}(O_1, O_3), Y_{w_3}(O_3, O_4))$
- $Y_{\theta(w_1, \theta(w_2, w_3))}(O_1, O_4) = Alg_{\theta(w_1, \theta(w_2, w_3))}^{S_k}(Y_{w_1}(O_1, O_2), Y_{\theta(w_2, w_3)}(O_2, O_4))$

■

In what follows we consider that the knowledge pieces received by the system are descriptions of 2D images consisting of maximum 5 objects. This implies that the labels' lengths of the agents' relations are smaller than 5.

**Definition 8.** Let us consider the HDR system  $H = (\{Ag_1, Ag_2\}, \{KM_3\})$ ,  $S_i = (X_i, A_{0i}, A_i, R_i)$ ,  $i = \overline{1, 3}$ ,  $A_{01} = \{L, PB\}$ ,  $A_{02} = \{B, PL\}$ .

The specialization of the system's agents is defined as follows:

- $Ag_1$ 's specialization consists of relations that describe relative positions along the  $Ox$  axis, that is, the left side of and perfectly behind relations and all of the relations that can be derived from these ones using composition, that is:

$\bigcup_{n=0}^3 (A_1)_n$  such that:

$$(A_1)_0 = A_{01} = \{L, PB\}$$

$$(A_1)_n = \bigcup_{u \in (A_1)_{n-1}} \{\theta(u, L), \theta(u, PB)\}_{n \geq 1}$$

Results:

$$(A_1)_0 = \{L, PB\}$$

$$(A_1)_1 = \{\theta(L, PB), \theta(PB, L), \theta(PB, PB), \theta(L, L)\}$$

$$(A_1)_2 = \{\theta(\theta(L, PB), L), \theta(\theta(L, PB), PB), \theta(\theta(PB, L), L), \theta(\theta(PB, L), PB), \theta(\theta(PB, PB), PB), \theta(\theta(PB, PB), L), \theta(\theta(L, L), PB), \theta(\theta(L, L), L)\}$$

$$(A_1)_3 = \{\theta(\theta(\theta(L, PB), L), L), \theta(\theta(\theta(L, PB), L), PB), \theta(\theta(\theta(L, PB), PB), L), \theta(\theta(\theta(L, PB), PB), PB), \theta(\theta(\theta(L, PB), PB), PB), \theta(\theta(\theta(PB, L), PB), L), \theta(\theta(\theta(PB, L), PB), PB), \theta(\theta(\theta(PB, L), PB), PB), L), \theta(\theta(\theta(PB, PB), L), L), \theta(\theta(\theta(PB, PB), L), PB), \theta(\theta(\theta(L, L), PB), L), \theta(\theta(\theta(L, L), PB), PB), \theta(\theta(\theta(L, L), L), L), \theta(\theta(\theta(L, L), L), PB)\}$$

The algorithms corresponding to the labels of  $\bigcup_{n=0}^3 (A_1)_n$  are presented in Figures 1-3.

•  $Ag_2$ 's specialization consists of relations that describe relative positions along the  $Oy$  axis, that is, the behind and perfectly left relations and all of the relations that can be derived from these ones using composition:

$\bigcup_{n=0}^3 (A_2)_n$  such that:

$$(A_2)_0 = A_{02} = \{B, PL\}$$

$$(A_2)_n = \bigcup_{u \in (A_2)_{n-1}} \{\theta(u, B), \theta(u, PL)\}_{n \geq 1}$$

Results:

$$(A_2)_0 = \{B, PL\}$$

$$(A_2)_1 = \{\theta(B, PL), \theta(PL, B), \theta(PL, PL), \theta(B, B)\}$$

$$(A_2)_2 = \{\theta(\theta(B, PL), B), \theta(\theta(B, PL), PL), \theta(\theta(PL, B), B), \theta(\theta(PL, B), PL), \theta(\theta(PL, PL), PL), \theta(\theta(PL, PL), B), \theta(\theta(B, B), PL), \theta(\theta(B, B), B)\}$$

$$(A_2)_3 = \{\theta(\theta(\theta(B, PL), B), B), \theta(\theta(\theta(B, PL), B), PL), \theta(\theta(\theta(B, PL), PL), B), \theta(\theta(\theta(B, PL), PL), PL), \theta(\theta(\theta(B, PL), PL), PL), \theta(\theta(\theta(PL, B), B), B), \theta(\theta(\theta(PL, B), B), PL), \theta(\theta(\theta(PL, PL), PL), B), \theta(\theta(\theta(PL, PL), PL), PL), \theta(\theta(\theta(PL, PL), B), B), \theta(\theta(\theta(PL, PL), B), PL), \theta(\theta(\theta(B, B), PL), B), \theta(\theta(\theta(B, B), PL), PL), \theta(\theta(\theta(B, B), B), B), \theta(\theta(\theta(B, B), B), PL)\}$$

The algorithms corresponding to the labels of  $\bigcup_{n=0}^3 (A_2)_n$  are presented in Figures 4-5.

**Definition 9.** Let us consider the HDR system  $H = (\{Ag_1, Ag_2\}, \{KM_3\})$ ,  $S_2 = (X_i, A_{0i}, A_i, R_i)$ ,  $i = \overline{1, 3}$ ,  $A_{01} = \{L, PB\}$ ,  $A_{02} = \{B, PL\}$ . The specialization of  $KM_3$  is given by the following set:

$$A_3 = \{\theta(u, v) \mid \text{trace}(V(u)) = \langle u_1, \dots, u_n \rangle, \text{trace}(V(v)) = \langle v_1, \dots, v_m \rangle : \\ (u_n = L \wedge v_1 = PL) \vee (u_n = B \wedge v_1 = PB) \vee (u_n \in \{PB, PL\})\}$$

The algorithms corresponding to the relations of  $KM_3$  are defined as follows:

- $\forall \theta(u, v) \in A_3$ :  $\text{trace}(V(u)) = \langle u_1, \dots, u_n \rangle_{n \geq 1}$ ,  $\text{trace}(V(v)) = \langle v_1, \dots, v_m \rangle_{m \geq 1}$  with  $u_n = L, v_1 = PL$  we can have the following two cases for the algorithms  $Alg_{V(\theta(u, v))}^{S_3}(Y_{V(u)}(O_1, O), Y_{V(v)}(O, O_2))$ :
  - if  $V(u) = L$  then
    - $Alg_{V(\theta(u, v))}^{S_3}(Y_L(O_1, O), Y_{V(v)}(O, O_2))$   
appending a new column at the left of  $Y_{V(v)}(O, O_2)$ 's grid such that the object  $O_1$  is in  $L$  relation with the common object  $O$  of these two grids
  - if  $V(u) = \theta(u', L)$  then
    - $Alg_{V(\theta(u, v))}^{S_3}(Alg_{\theta(u', L)}(Y_{u'}(O_1, O'), Y_L(O', O)), Y_{V(v)}(O, O_2))$   
overdraw the image of  $Y_{\theta(u', L)}(O_1, O)$  on the image of  $Y_{V(v)}(O, O_2)$  such that the object  $O'$  of the first image is in  $L$  relation with the common object  $O$
- $\forall \theta(u, v) \in A_3$ :  $\text{trace}(u) = \langle u_1, \dots, u_n \rangle_{n \geq 1}$ ,  $\text{trace}(v) = \langle v_1, \dots, v_m \rangle_{m \geq 1}$  where  $u_n = B, v_1 = PB$  we can have the following two definitions for the algorithms  $Alg_{V(\theta(u, v))}^{S_3}(Y_{V(u)}(O_1, O), Y_{V(v)}(O, O_2))$ :



	<i>Algorithms</i>	<i>Outputs</i>
1.	$Alg_B(O_1, O_2)$	$Y_B(O_1, O_2)$
2.	$Alg_{PL}(O_1, O_2)$	$Y_{PL}(O_1, O_2)$
3.	$Alg_{B,B}(Y_A(O_1, O), Y_B(O, O_2))$ $u \in 1B_2 = \{B, \theta(B, PL), \theta(PL, B), \theta(\theta(B, PL), PL), \theta(\theta(PL, B), PL), \theta(\theta(PL, PL), B)\}$	$Y_{B,B}(O_1, O_2)$
4.	$Alg_{B,PL}(Y_A(O_1, O), Y_{PL}(O, O_2))$ $u \in 1B_2 = \{B, \theta(B, PL), \theta(PL, B), \theta(\theta(B, PL), PL), \theta(\theta(PL, B), PL), \theta(\theta(PL, PL), B)\}$	$Y_{B,PL}(O_1, O_2)$
5.	$Alg_{PL,B}(Y_{PL}(O_1, O), Y_B(O, O_2))$	$Y_{PL,B}(O_1, O_2)$
6.	$Alg_{PL,PL}(Y_{PL}(O_1, O), Y_{PL}(O, O_2))$	$Y_{PL,PL}(O_1, O_2)$
7.	$Alg_{B,B}(Y_A(O_1, O), Y_B(O, O_2))$ $u \in 2B_2 = \{\theta(B, B), \theta(\theta(B, B), PL), \theta(\theta(B, PL), B), \theta(\theta(PL, B), B)\}$	$Y_{B,B}(O_1, O_2)$
8.	$Alg_{B,PL}(Y_A(O_1, O), Y_B(O, O_2))$ $u \in 2B_2 = \{\theta(B, B), \theta(\theta(B, B), PL), \theta(\theta(B, PL), B), \theta(\theta(PL, B), B)\}$	$Y_{B,PL}(O_1, O_2)$
9.	$Alg_{B,PL,PL,B}(Y_{B,PL}(O_1, O), Y_B(O, O_2))$	$Y_{B,PL,PL,B}(O_1, O_2)$

Fig. 4. The external representations corresponding to  $Ag_2$  relations (I).

	<i>Algorithms</i>	<i>Outputs</i>
10.	$Alg_{\theta(B PL,PL B)}(Y_{\theta(B PL)}(O_1, O), Y_{PL}(O, O_2))$	
11.	$Alg_{\theta(B B,PL B)}(Y_{\theta(B B)}(O_1, O), Y_B(O, O_2))$	
12.	$Alg_{\theta(B B,PL B)}(Y_{\theta(B B)}(O_1, O), Y_{PL}(O, O_2))$	
13.	$Alg_{\theta(B PL,PL B)}(Y_{\theta(B PL,PL)}(O_1, O), Y_B(O, O_2))$	
14.	$Alg_{\theta(B PL,PL B)}(Y_{\theta(B PL,PL)}(O_1, O), Y_{PL}(O, O_2))$	

Fig. 5. The external representations corresponding to  $Ag_2$  relations (II).

- if  $V(u) = B$  then  
 $Alg_{V(\theta(u,v))}^{S_3}(Y_B(O_1, O), Y_{V(v)}(O, O_2))$   
 appending a new line at the bottom of  $Y_{V(v)}(O, O_2)$ 's grid such that the object  $O_1$  is in  $B$  relation with the common object  $O$  of these two grids
- if  $V(u) = \theta(u', B)$  then  
 $Alg_{V(\theta(u,v))}^{S_3}(Alg_{\theta(u',B)}(Y_{u'}(O_1, O'), Y_B(O', O)), Y_{V(v)}(O, O_2))$   
 overdraw the image of  $Y_{\theta(u',B)}(O_1, O)$  on the image of  $Y_{V(v)}(O, O_2)$  such that the object  $O'$  of the first image is in  $B$  relation with the common object  $O$
- $\forall \theta(u, v) \in A_3: trace(u) = \langle u_1, \dots, u_n \rangle_{n \geq 1}$  where  $u_n \in \{PB, PL\}$  we can define the algorithms  $Alg_{V(\theta(u,v))}^{S_3}(Y_{V(u)}(O_1, O), Y_{V(v)}(O, O_2))$  as follows:  
 for  $V(u) = \theta(u', PB/PL)$  then  
 $Alg_{V(\theta(u,v))}(Alg_{\theta(u',PB/PL)}(Y_u(O_1, O'), Y_{PB/PL}(O', O)), Y_{V(v)}(O, O_2))$   
 overdraw the image of  $Y_{\theta(u',PB/PL)}(O_1, O)$  on the image of  $Y_{V(v)}(O, O_2)$  such that the object  $O'$  of the first image is in  $PB/PL$  relation with the common object  $O$

## 2.1 A study case

Let us consider that the inputs of our system describe spatial relations existing between five landmark shapes of a city. A possible inferable knowledge piece  $KP$  for the system corresponding to the image from Figure 6 is the following one:

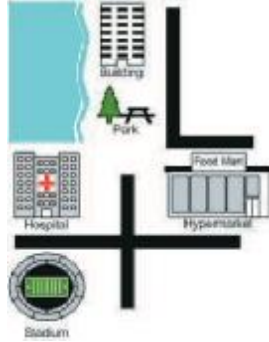


Fig. 6. A 2D image of landmark shapes

The Stadium is perfectly behind the Hospital. The Hospital is at left side of the Park. The Park is perfectly behind the Building. The Building is at left side of the Hypermarket.

The Stadium is behind the Hospital. The Hospital is perfectly at left side of the Hypermarket. The Hypermarket is behind the Park. The Park is behind the Building.

Results that the set of  $KP$ 's objects is  $\{ Hypermarket, Hospital, Stadium, Building, Park \} \subseteq Ob$ .

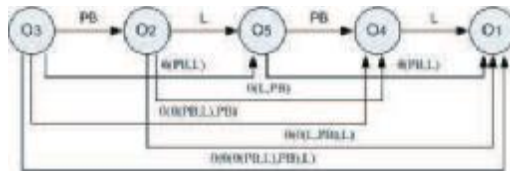
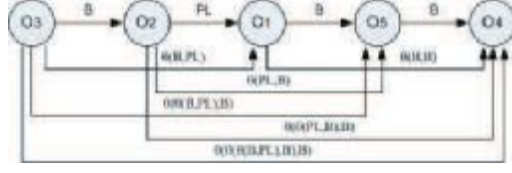


Fig. 7. The semantic schema corresponding to the relations along the  $Ox$  axis

If  $ob^{-1}(Stadium) = O_3$ ,  $ob^{-1}(Hospital) = O_2$ ,  $ob^{-1}(Park) = O_5$ ,  $ob^{-1}(Building) = O_4$ ,  $ob^{-1}(Hypermarket) = O_1$ , then the internal representations of the knowledge derived from  $KP$  are the following ones:

- the agent  $Ag_1$  constructs the semantic schema  $\mathcal{S}_1$  where  $\mathcal{S}_1 = (X, A_{01}, A_1, R_1)$  (Figure 7) such that:
  - $X = \{O_1, \dots, O_5\}$
  - $A_{01} = \{L, PB\}$
  - $R_1 = \{ (O_3, PB, O_2), (O_2, L, O_5), (O_5, PB, O_4), (O_4, L, O_1),$



**Fig. 8.** The semantic schema corresponding to the relations along the  $Oy$  axis

$$\begin{aligned} & (O_3, \theta(PB, L), O_5), (O_2, \theta(L, PB), O_4), (O_5, \theta(PB, L), O_1), \\ & (O_3, \theta(\theta(PB, L), PB), O_4), (O_2, \theta(\theta(L, PB), L), O_1), \\ & (O_3, \theta(\theta(PB, L), PB), L), O_1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\bullet A_1 = pr_2(R_1)$$

- the agent  $Ag_2$  constructs the semantic schema  $\mathcal{S}_2$  where  $\mathcal{S}_2 = (X, A_{02}, A_2, R_2)$  (Figure 8) such that:

$$\bullet X = \{O_1, \dots, O_5\}$$

$$\bullet A_{02} = \{B, PL\}$$

$$\bullet R_2 = \{ (O_3, B, O_2), (O_2, PL, O_1), (O_1, B, O_5), (O_5, B, O_4), \\ (O_3, \theta(B, PL), O_1), (O_2, \theta(PL, B), O_5), (O_1, \theta(B, B), O_4), \\ (O_3, \theta(\theta(B, PL), B), O_5), (O_2, \theta(\theta(PL, B), B), O_4), \\ (O_3, \theta(\theta(\theta(B, PL), B), B), O_4) \}$$

$$\bullet A_2 = pr_2(R_2)$$

- the knowledge manager  $KM_3$  constructs the semantic schema  $\mathcal{S}_3 \in Hyp_1(\{\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2\})$ ,  $\mathcal{S}_3 = (X, A_{03}, A_3, R_3)$  obtained by means of some deductive paths  $L_1^{max} \subseteq Ded(\mathcal{S}_1)$ ,  $L_2^{max} \subseteq Ded(\mathcal{S}_2)$  such that  $\forall i \in \{1, 2\}$ :

$L_i^{max}$  is the set of the maximal deductive paths from  $Ded(\mathcal{S}_i)$  that can be connected with the deductive paths of  $\mathcal{S}_{3-i}$ . Results:

$$\begin{aligned} \bullet L_1^{max} &= \{ ([O_3, O_2], PB), ([O_2, O_5], L), ([O_5, O_4, O_1], \theta(PB, L)), \\ & ([O_3, O_2, O_5], \theta(PB, L)), ([O_2, O_5, O_4, O_1], \theta(\theta(L, PB), L)), \\ & ([O_3, O_2, O_5, O_4, O_1], \theta(\theta(\theta(PB, L), PB), L)) \} \\ \bullet L_2^{max} &= \{ ([O_3, O_2], B), ([O_5, O_4], B), ([O_2, O_1, O_5], \theta(PL, B)), \\ & ([O_3, O_2, O_1, O_5], \theta(\theta(B, PL), B)), ([O_1, O_5, O_4], \theta(B, B)), \\ & ([O_2, O_1, O_5, O_4], \theta(\theta(PL, B), B)) \} \end{aligned}$$

We will choose the sets  $L_i$ ,  $i = \overline{1, 2}$ , as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} L_i &= \{ d = ([x, \dots, y], u) \in L_i^{max} \mid \exists d' = ([y, \dots, z], v) \in L_{3-i}^{max}, \\ & \quad trace(u) = \langle u_1, \dots, u_n \rangle_{n \geq 1}, trace(v) = \langle v_1, \dots, v_m \rangle_{m \geq 1}: \\ & \quad (u_n = L \wedge v_1 = PL) \vee (u_n = B \wedge v_1 = PB) \vee (u_n \in \{PB, PL\}) \} \end{aligned}$$

Obviously, we obtain that the set  $L_1 \cup L_2$  is a pairwise connected set of deductive paths. For the sets  $L_1^{max}$  and  $L_2^{max}$  enumerated before we have:

$$\bullet L_1 = \{ ([O_3, O_2], PB), ([O_5, O_4, O_1], \theta(PB, L)) \}$$

$$\bullet L_2 = \{ ([O_2, O_1, O_5], \theta(PL, B)), ([O_2, O_1, O_5, O_4], \theta(\theta(PL, B), B)) \}.$$

We take:

$$\bullet L_1^a = \{ ([O_3, O_2], PB), (O_3, e_1, O_2), ([O_5, O_4, O_1], \theta(PB, L)), (O_5, e_2, O_1) \}$$

$$\bullet L_2^a = \{([O_2, O_1, O_5], \theta(PL, B)), (O_2, m_1, O_5), \\ ([O_2, O_1, O_5, O_4], \theta(\theta(PL, B), B)), (O_2, m_2, O_4)\}$$

Results that the hyper-schema of  $KM_3$  generated by means of  $L_1$  and  $L_2$

is  $\mathcal{S}_3 = (X, \{e_1, e_2, m_1, m_2\}, A_3, R_3)$  where:

$$R_3 = \{(O_3, e_1, O_2), (O_5, e_2, O_1), (O_2, m_1, O_5), (O_2, m_2, O_4), (O_3, \theta(e_1, \\ m_2), O_4), (O_2, \theta(m_1, e_2), O_1), (O_3, \theta(e_1, m_1), O_5), (O_3, \theta(\theta(e_1, m_1), \\ e_2), O_1), (O_3, \theta(e_1, \theta(m_1, e_2)), O_1)\}$$

$$A_3 = pr_2(R_3)$$

In what follows we will present the way the outputs of the knowledge manager  $KM_3$  are calculated together with their graphical representations.

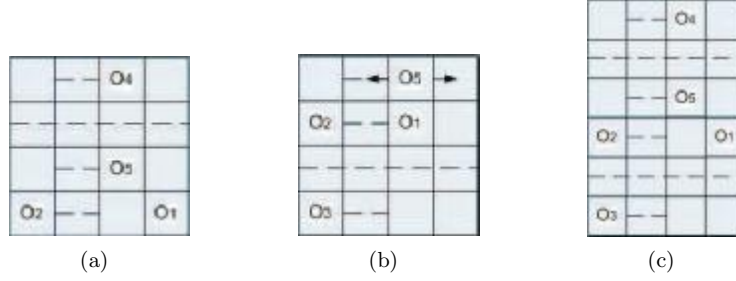
The initial relations of  $\mathcal{S}_3$ , that is the relations of  $R_{03}$  are the following four ones:

- $(O_3, e_1, O_2) \in R_{03}$ ,  $e_1 \in pr_2(Arc(L_1))$ . Results  $\exists d_1 \in Ded(\mathcal{S}_1): T(d_1) = (O_3, e_1, O_2)$ ,  $d_1 = ([O_3, O_2], PB)$ . Thus  $Val_{\mathcal{I}_3}(h([O_3, O_2], e_1)) = Val_{\mathcal{I}_1}(h([O_3, O_2], PB)) = Alg_{PB}^{S_1}(O_3, O_2) = Y_{PB}(O_3, O_2)$
- $(O_5, e_2, O_1) \in R_{03}$ ,  $e_2 \in pr_2(Arc(L_1))$ . Results  $\exists d_2 \in Ded(\mathcal{S}_1): T(d_2) = (O_5, e_2, O_1)$ ,  $d_2 = ([O_5, O_4, O_1], \theta(PB, L))$ . We have  $d_2 \Rightarrow_H^* \sigma_1(h([O_5, O_4], PB), h([O_4, O_1], L))$ . Thus  $Val_{\mathcal{I}_3}(h([O_5, O_1], e_2)) = Val_{\mathcal{I}_1}(\sigma_1(h([O_5, O_4], PB), h([O_4, O_1], L))) = Alg_{\theta(PB, L)}^{S_1}(Alg_{PB}^{S_1}(O_5, O_4), Alg_L^{S_1}(O_4, O_1)) = Y_{\theta(PB, L)}(O_5, O_1)$
- $(O_2, m_1, O_5) \in R_{03}$ ,  $m_1 \in pr_2(Arc(L_2))$ . Results  $\exists d_3 \in Ded(\mathcal{S}_2): T(d_3) = (O_2, m_1, O_5)$ ,  $d_3 = ([O_2, O_1, O_5], \theta(PL, B))$ . We have  $d_3 \Rightarrow_H^* \sigma_2(h([O_2, O_1], PL), h([O_1, O_5], B))$ . Thus  $Val_{\mathcal{I}_3}(h([O_2, O_5], m_1)) = Val_{\mathcal{I}_2}(\sigma_2(h([O_2, O_1], PL), h([O_1, O_5], B))) = Alg_{\theta(PL, B)}^{S_2}(Alg_{PL}^{S_2}(O_2, O_1), Alg_B^{S_2}(O_1, O_5)) = Y_{\theta(PL, B)}(O_2, O_5)$
- $(O_2, m_2, O_4) \in R_{03}$ ,  $m_2 \in pr_2(Arc(L_2))$ . Results  $\exists d_4 \in Ded(\mathcal{S}_2): T(d_4) = (O_2, m_2, O_4)$ ,  $d_4 = ([O_2, O_1, O_5, O_4], \theta(\theta(PL, B), B))$ . We have  $d_4 \Rightarrow_H^* \sigma_2(\sigma_2(h([O_2, O_1], PL), h([O_1, O_5], B)), h([O_5, O_4], B))$ . Thus  $Val_{\mathcal{I}_3}(h([O_2, O_4], m_2)) = Val_{\mathcal{I}_2}(\sigma_2(\sigma_2(h([O_2, O_1], PL), h([O_1, O_5], B)), h([O_5, O_4], B))) = Alg_{\theta(\theta(PL, B), B)}^{S_2}(Alg_{\theta(PL, B)}^{S_2}(Alg_{PL}^{S_2}(O_2, O_1), Alg_B^{S_2}(O_1, O_5)), Alg_B^{S_2}(O_5, O_4)) = Y_{\theta(\theta(PL, B), B)}(O_2, O_4)$

Relations obtained in the hyper-schema  $\mathcal{S}_3$  by combining relations of  $\mathcal{S}_1$  with relations of  $\mathcal{S}_2$ :

- $(O_3, \theta(e_1, m_2), O_4) \in R_3$ . Results  $\exists d_5 \in Ded(\mathcal{S}_3)$ ,  $d_5 = ([O_3, O_2, O_4], \theta(e_1, m_2))$ . We have  $d_5 \Rightarrow_H^* \sigma_3(h([O_3, O_2], e_1), h([O_2, O_4], m_2))$ . Thus  $Val_{\mathcal{I}_3}(\sigma_3(h([O_3, O_2], e_1), h([O_2, O_4], m_2))) = Alg_{V(\theta(e_1, m_2))}^{S_3}(Val_{\mathcal{I}_3}(h([O_3, O_2], e_1)), Val_{\mathcal{I}_3}(h([O_2, O_4], m_2))) = Alg_{\theta(PB, \theta(\theta(PL, B), B))}^{S_3}(Y_{PB}(O_3, O_2), Y_{\theta(\theta(PL, B), B)}(O_2, O_4)) = Y_{\theta(PB, \theta(\theta(PL, B), B))}(O_3, O_4)$
- $(O_2, \theta(m_1, e_2), O_1) \in R_3$ . Results  $\exists d_6 \in Ded(\mathcal{S}_3)$ ,  $d_6 = ([O_2, O_5, O_1], \theta(m_1, e_2))$ . We have  $d_6 \Rightarrow_H^* \sigma_3(h([O_2, O_5], m_1), h([O_5, O_1], e_2))$ . Thus  $Val_{\mathcal{I}_3}(\sigma_3(h([O_2, O_5], m_1), h([O_5, O_1], e_2))) = Alg_{V(\theta(m_1, e_2))}^{S_3}(Val_{\mathcal{I}_3}(h([O_2, O_5], m_1)), Val_{\mathcal{I}_3}(h([O_5, O_1], e_2))) = Alg_{\theta(\theta(PL, B), \theta(PB, L))}^{S_3}(Y_{\theta(PL, B)}(O_2, O_5), Y_{\theta(PB, L)}(O_5, O_1)) = Y_{\theta(\theta(PL, B), \theta(PB, L))}(O_2, O_1)$  (see Figure 9(a))

- $(O_3, \theta(e_1, m_1), O_5) \in R_3$ . Results  $\exists d_7 \in Ded(\mathcal{S}_3)$ ,  $d_7 = ([O_3, O_2, O_5], \theta(e_1, m_1))$ . We have  $d_7 \Rightarrow_H^* \sigma_3(h([O_3, O_2], e_1), h([O_2, O_5], m_1))$ . Thus  $Val_{\mathcal{I}_3}(\sigma_3(h([O_3, O_2], e_1), h([O_2, O_5], m_1))) = Alg_{V^{\mathcal{S}_3}(\theta(e_1, m_1))}(Val_{\mathcal{I}_3}(h([O_3, O_2], e_1)), Val_{\mathcal{I}_3}(h([O_2, O_5], m_1))) = Alg_{\theta(PB, \theta(PL, B))}^{\mathcal{S}_3}(Y_{PB}(O_3, O_2), Y_{\theta(PL, B)}(O_2, O_1)) = Y_{\theta(PB, \theta(PL, B))}(O_3, O_5)$  (see Figure 9(b))
- $(O_3, \theta(e_1, \theta(m_1, e_2)), O_1) \in R_3$ . Results  $\exists d_8 \in Ded(\mathcal{S}_3)$ ,  $d_8 = ([O_3, O_2, O_5, O_1], \theta(e_1, \theta(m_1, e_2)))$ . We have  $d_8 \Rightarrow_H^* \sigma_3(h([O_3, O_2], e_1), \sigma_3(h([O_2, O_5], m_1), h([O_5, O_1], e_1)))$ . Thus  $Val_{\mathcal{I}_3}(\sigma_3(h([O_3, O_2], e_1), \sigma_3(h([O_2, O_5], m_1), h([O_5, O_1], e_1)))) = Alg_{V^{\mathcal{S}_3}(\theta(e_1, \theta(m_1, e_2)))}^{\mathcal{S}_3}(Val_{\mathcal{I}_3}(h([O_3, O_2], e_1)), Val_{\mathcal{I}_3}(\sigma_3(h([O_2, O_5], m_1), h([O_5, O_1], e_1)))) = Alg_{\theta(PB, \theta(\theta(PL, B), \theta(PB, L)))}^{\mathcal{S}_3}(Y_{PB}(O_3, O_2), Y_{\theta(\theta(PL, B), \theta(PB, L))}(O_2, O_1)) = Y_{\theta(PB, \theta(\theta(PL, B), \theta(PB, L)))}(O_3, O_1)$  (see Figure 9(c))



**Fig. 9.** 9(a) shows  $Y_{\theta(\theta(PL, B), \theta(PB, L))}(O_2, O_1)$ , 9(b) shows  $Y_{\theta(PB, \theta(PL, B))}(O_3, O_5)$  and 9(c) shows  $Y_{\theta(PB, \theta(\theta(PL, B), \theta(PB, L)))}(O_3, O_1)$

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