## Robby the Robot



Complexity: A Guided Tour, by Melanie Mitchell, Oxford U. Press, 2009

## Robby the Robot



## Robby the Robot


$\begin{array}{lllll}\text { North } & \text { South } & \text { East } & \text { West } & \text { Here } \\ \text { Empty } & \text { Can } & \text { Can } & \text { Empty } & \text { Empty }\end{array}$

## Robby the Robot



| North | South | East | West | Here |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Empty | Wall | Can | Can | Empty |

## Robby the Robot



| North | South | East | West | Here |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Wall | Can | Can | Wall | Can |

## Question:

How many possible situations are there?
$3 \times 3 \times 3 \times 3 \times 3=3^{5}=243$

## All Possible Situations

|  | North South East West Here | Code |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| \#1 | Empty |  |  |
| Empty | Empty Empty Empty | = EEEEE |  |
| \#2 | Empty Empty Empty Empty Can | = EEEEC |  |
| \#3 | Empty Empty Empty Empty Wall | = EEEEW |  |
| \#4 | Empty Empty Empty Can | Empty | $=$ EEECE |
| \#5 | Empty Empty Empty Can | Can | = EEECC |
| \#6 | Empty Empty Empty Can | Wall | = EEECW |
| \#7 | Empty Empty Empty Wall | Empty | $=$ EEEWE |
| \#8 | Empty Empty Empty Wall Can | EEEWC |  |

. . . etc. . . .
\#243 Wall Wall Wall Wall Wall = WWWWW

## Robot Actions

- Action Codes

0 = Move North
1 = Move South
2 = Move East
3 = Move West
4 = Stay Put
5 = Pick Up Can
6 = Move at Random

- Rewards / Punishments
+10 Successfully picked up a can
-1 Tried to pick up a can that wasn't there
-5 Crashed into a wall



## One Possible Control Strategy

Situation Code

| $\# 1$ | EEEEE |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\# 2$ | EEEEC |  |
| $\# 3$ | EEEEW |  |
| $\# 4$ | EEECE | response |
| $\# 5$ | EEECC |  |
| $\# 6$ | EEECW |  |
| $\# 7$ | EEEWE |  |
| $\# 8$ | EEEWC |  |

\#243 WWWWW

Action Code
3 (Move West)
4 (Stay Put)
6 (Move at Random)
6 (Move at Random)
0 (Move North)
5 (Pick Up Can)
2 (Move East)
1 (Move South)
5 (Pick Up Can)

Genome: $\underbrace{34660521 \ldots 5}_{243 \text { digits long }}$

## Question:

How many possible strategies are there?

$$
\begin{aligned}
& 7 \times 7 \times 7 \times \ldots \times 7 \quad(243 \text { times }) \\
& =7^{243}
\end{aligned}
$$

## That's a lot of strategies!

$7^{243}=$
22,846,712,859,873,746,480,447,821,666,592, 346,426,694,132,333,435,558,998,983,412,854, 961,114,186,622,574,870,902,442,510,049,863, 025,667,206,258,127,311,451,949,520,409,822, 391,138,243,055,993,672,121,915,936,570,990, 365,106,665,813,437,806,284,123,385,754,752, 042,992,343

## How to Evaluate a Strategy's Fitness?

- Just try it out!
- Cleaning Session:
- Scatter cans around at random (50\% can density)
- Have Robby follow strategy for 200 time steps
- Score = total reward received
- Strategy Fitness:
- Average score over 100 cleaning sessions

