# Robust probabilistic inference engines for autonomous agents 

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## Problem Solving in AI

What to compute?
How to compute?


Domain-specific instances
General modeling language and algorithms

## Problem solving in AI:

## Separate modeling from algorithms

## Problem Solving in AI



Safety and reliability require:

1. precise models
2. accurate reasoning techniques

## Challenges in reasoning about complex systems

Preferences and Utilities


## Challenges in reasoning about complex systems



## Proposal and recent results

Proposal: use combinatorial reasoning/optimization techniques (logic, verification, synthesis) for probabilistic reasoning tasks (machine learning)

- Algorithms that can provide certificates/proofs of accuracy
- Handle extreme (unsafe) events
- Can support deterministic + probabilistic dependencies
- Some recent results:
- Satisfiability Modulo Theory solvers for statistical hypothesis testing (Zhao et al., AAAI-2016)
- Integer Linear Programming for sampling (Kim et al., AAAI-2016)
- Integer Linear Programming and SAT for decision making under uncertainty (Xue et al., NIPS-2016)
- Variational methods with guarantees (Achim et al., AISTATS-2016)


## Thanks!

