

wit

“The perfect way for me
to demonstrate what
I’ve learned in school is
a standardized test” --
said no child ever.

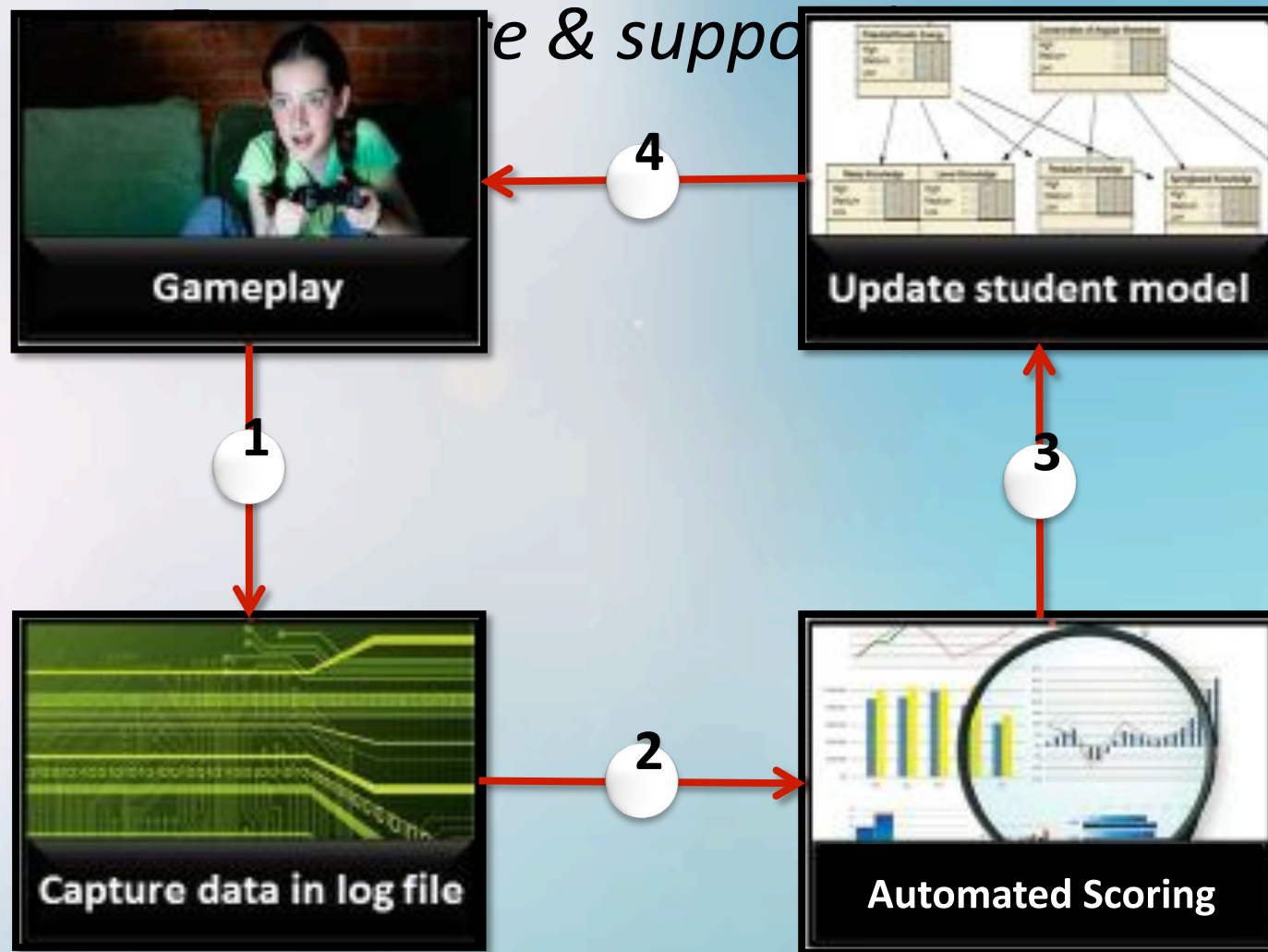


Val Snute, FSU (NSF/CRA Big Data Workshop, 6/2/15)

What Standardized Tests **Don't** Measure



Stealth Assessment in Games:



Stealth Assessment Features



***Seamless &
Ubiquitous***

*When the cook tastes the
soup, that's formative;
when the guests taste the
soup, that's summative.*

***Formative, not
Summative***



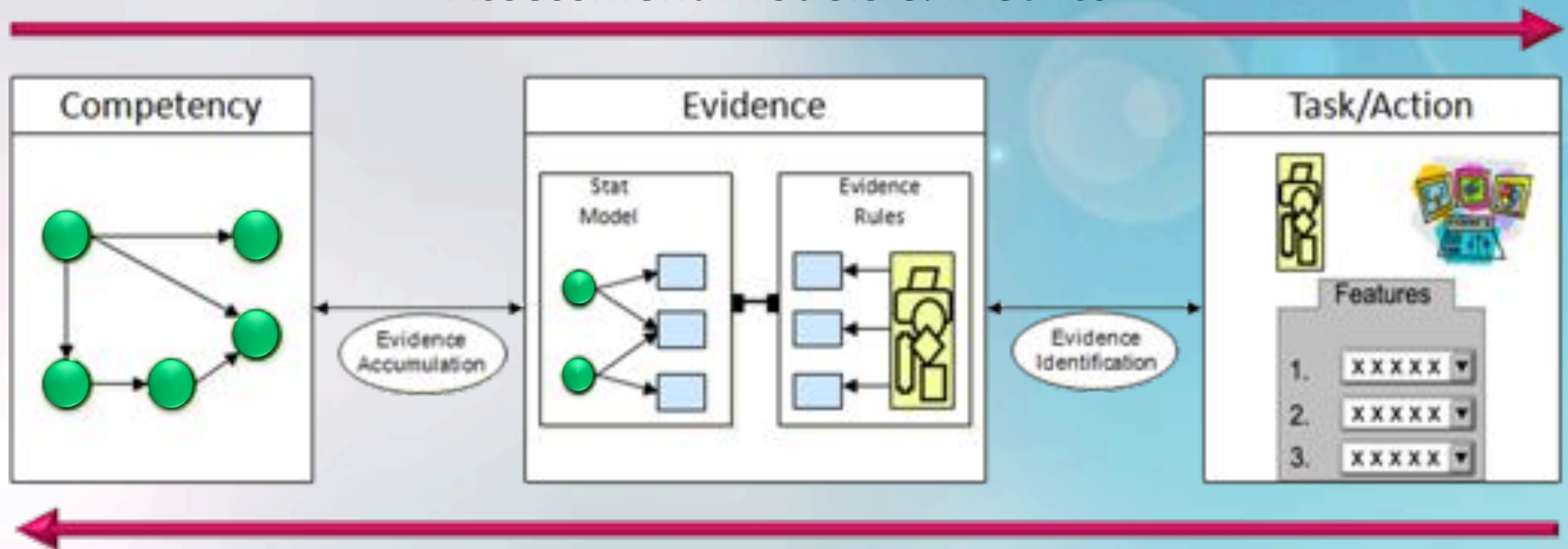
***Accurate & Rich
Learner Models***

Invisible assessment, transparent support!

ECD

(e.g., Mislevy, Steinberg, & Almond, 2003)

Assessment Models & Metrics



Monitor & Diagnose Success

Current Work

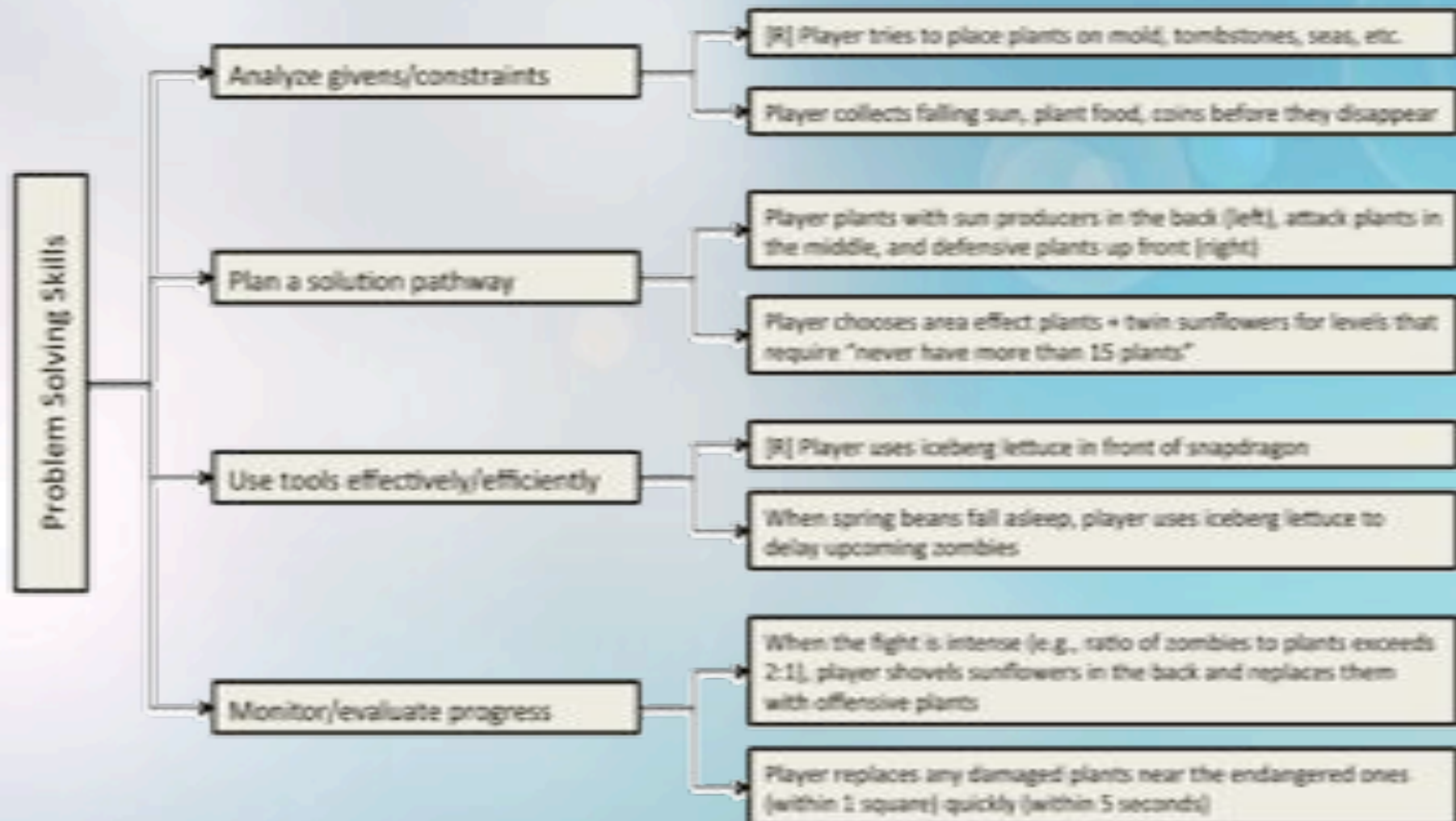
Plants vs. Zombies 2 (measuring & supporting problem solving skills)



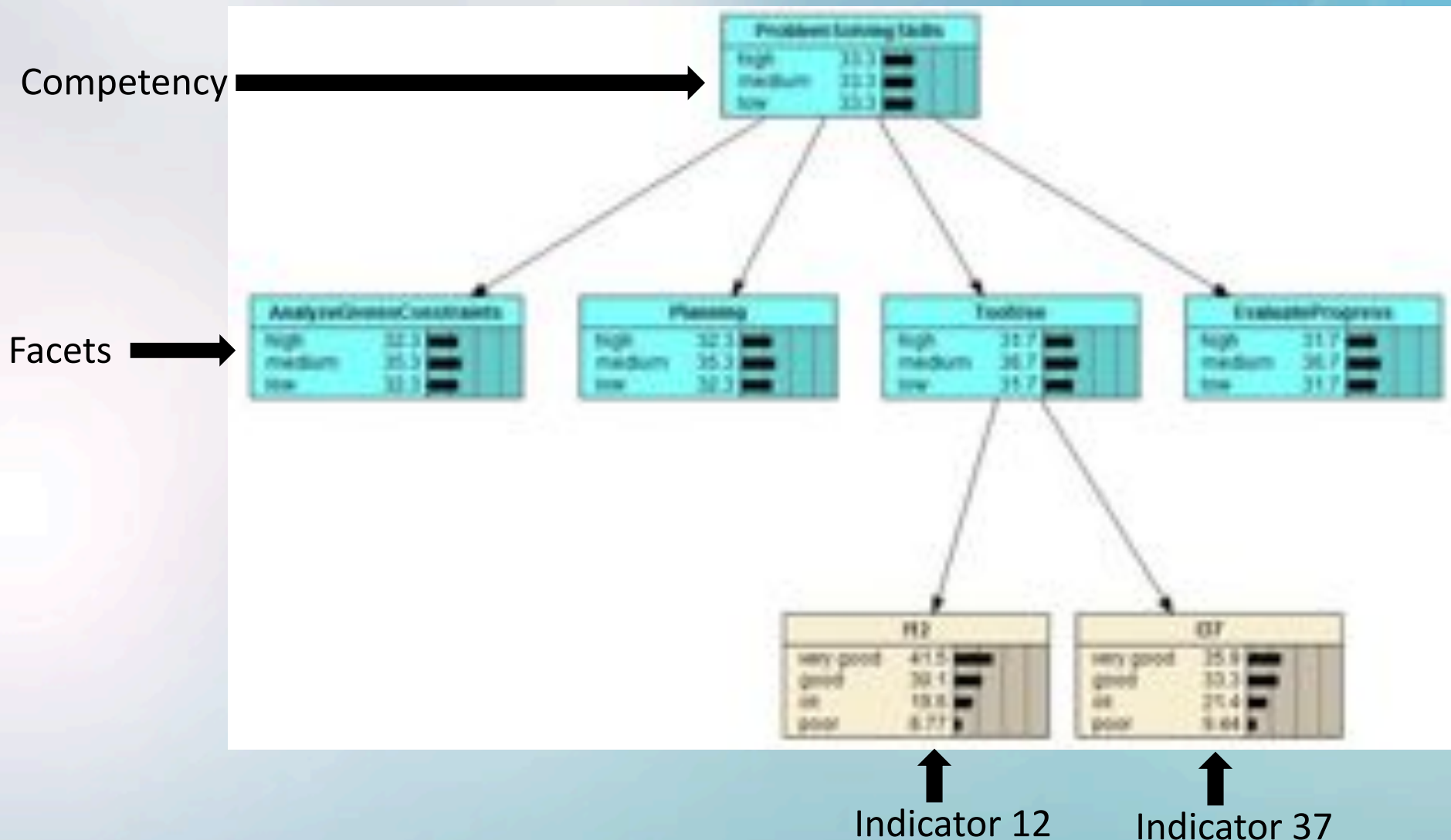
CM Problem Solving Skills

Facets

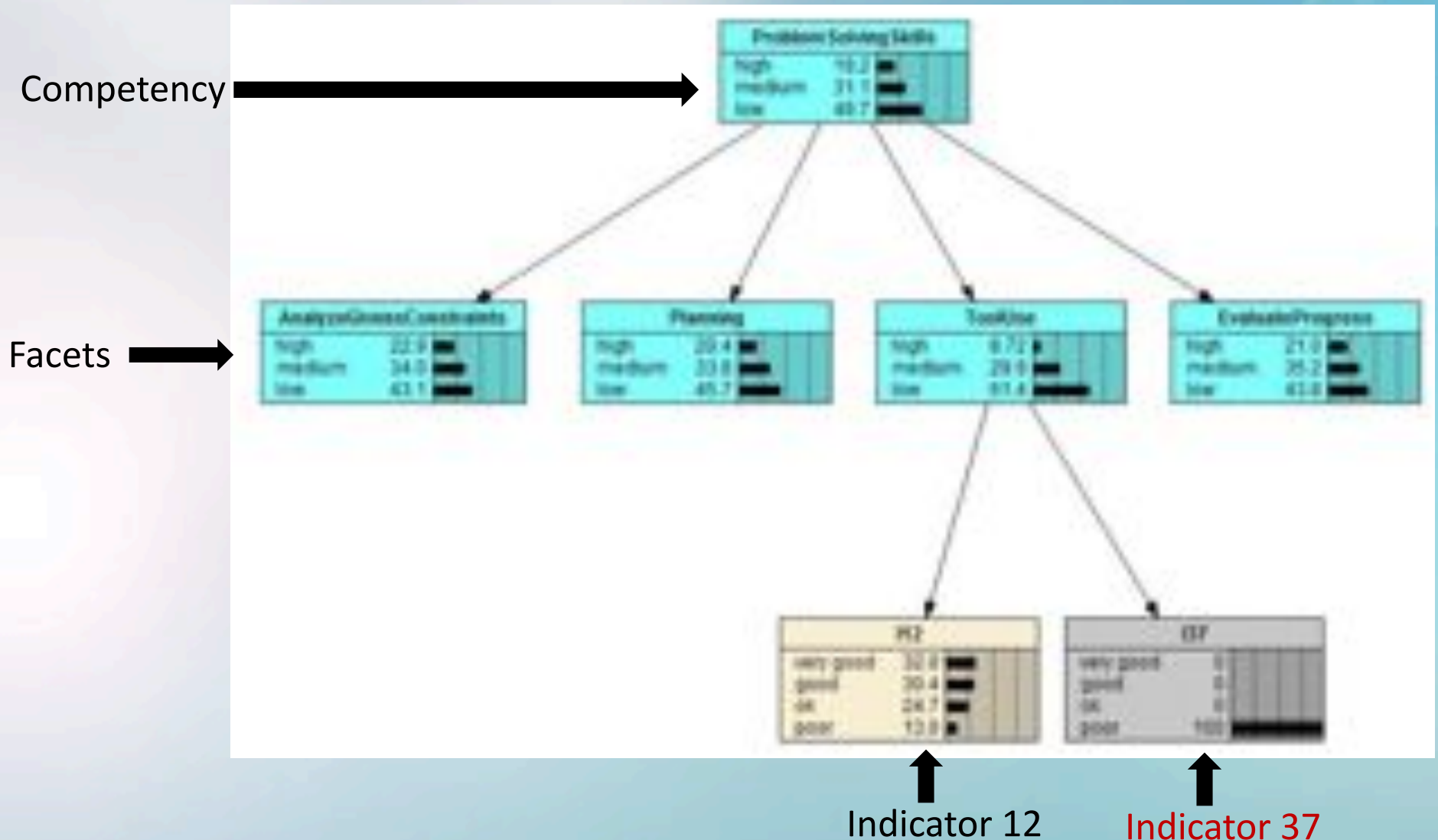
Example Observables



Problem Solving BN (priors)



Problem Solving BN (data)



Preliminary Validity Results

Despite the small sample size, age, and SES of participants (47 students, 7th grade, low SES):

- 1) Problem solving in PvZ significantly correlates with **Raven's** ($r = .40, p < .01$).
- 2) Problem solving in PvZ significantly correlates with **MicroDYN** ($r = .48, p < .01$)
- 3) These preliminary findings suggest that our stealth assessment estimates are valid, and we are currently using machine learning in *netica* to improve the BNs.

Thank you!

Questions?

Email: vshute@fsu.edu

Website: <http://www.myweb.fsu.edu/vshute>

Telemetry Hooks

Hook Name	Additional Data	Description	Rationale
Action_plant	type : string xCoordinate : int yCoordinate : int	Recorded when the player places a plant on the battlefield included in the telemetry is the type of plant (e.g. Sunflower, Pea Shooter, Wall Nut, etc.) and the coordinates it was placed. Attempts to plant plants and to add-down a plant will be recorded. Attempts to plant on roads, terrain, make a hole will be recorded.	This is a core mechanics of the game and will provide insight into the player's strategy and decision making.
Event_plant_placed	type : string xCoordinate : int yCoordinate : int	Recorded when a plant was added to the battlefield included in the telemetry is the type of plant (e.g. Sunflower, Pea Shooter, Wall Nut, etc.) and the coordinates it was placed.	This is a core mechanics of the game and is automatically triggered in the game, although it can be prevented by the player.
Action_remove	type : string xCoordinate : int yCoordinate : int	Recorded when the player removes a plant from the battlefield included in the telemetry is the type of plant (e.g. Sunflower, Pea Shooter, Wall Nut, etc.) and the coordinates it was removed.	This is a core mechanics of the game and will provide insight into the player's strategy and decision making.
Event_remove_plant	type : string xCoordinate : int yCoordinate : int	Recorded when a complete's action on the battlefield included in the telemetry is the type of action (e.g., hole attack, destroy, etc.) and the coordinates it occurred.	This is a core mechanics of the game and is automatically triggered in the game.
Event_plant_damaged	type : string xCoordinate : int yCoordinate : int	Recorded when a plant is damaged. Included in the telemetry is the type of damage (e.g., hole attack, destroy, etc.) and the coordinates it was damaged.	This is a core mechanics of the game and is automatically triggered in the game.
Action_plant_mover	yCoordinate : int	Recorded when the player manually activated a plant mover included in the telemetry is the row number where the mover was placed.	This is a support mechanics of the game and will provide insight into the player's strategy and decision making.
Event_plant_mover	yCoordinate : int	Recorded when the plant mover is automatically activated by context of a plant. Included in the telemetry is the row number where the mover was placed.	This is a core mechanics of the game and is automatically triggered when a complete's action, a plant mover in the game.
Action_upgrade	type : string	Recorded when the player activates a power-up with name included in the telemetry is the type of power-up (e.g., power, heal, etc.) activated.	This is a support mechanics of the game and will provide insight into the player's strategy and decision making.
Event_fallen_sun		Recorded when a sun is fallen down from the top of a screen.	This is a core mechanics of the game and is automatically triggered in the game.
Event_sun_spawn		Recorded when a sun is generated from sunflower.	This is a core mechanics of the game and is automatically triggered in the game.
Action_fall_sun		Recorded when the player taps on the falling sun.	This is a core mechanics of the game and will provide insight into the player's strategy and decision making.
Action_fall_sun_spawn		Recorded when the player taps on the sun generated from a sunflower.	This is a core mechanics of the game and will provide insight into the player's strategy and decision making.
Action_sun_spawn	type : string	Recorded when the player uses boost effect on certain plant from sun garden. Included in the telemetry is the type of plant that was chosen to be boosted.	This is a support mechanics of the game and will provide insight into the player's strategy and decision making.
Action_plant_sun_spawn	type : string	Recorded when the player uses a power-up to generate a boost effect on certain plant. Included in the telemetry is the type of plant that was selected.	This is a support mechanics of the game and will provide insight into the player's strategy and decision making.
Action_sun_spawn_plant_spawn	type : string xCoordinate : int yCoordinate : int	Recorded when the player purchases a plant from sun garden. Included in the telemetry is the type of plant receiving the boost and the coordinates the plant was selected.	This is a support mechanics of the game and will provide insight into the player's strategy and decision making.
Action_sun_spawn_plant_spawn	type : string xCoordinate : int yCoordinate : int	Recorded when the plant boost effect is transferred through the power-up. Included in the telemetry is the type of plant receiving the boost and the coordinates of the power-up.	This is a support mechanics of the game and will provide insight into the player's strategy and decision making.
Event_sun_spawn_plant_spawn	xCoordinate : int yCoordinate : int	Recorded when the sun on the battlefield is spawned down by	This is a support mechanics of the game and will provide insight

Augmented Q-Matrix

Indicator		Parents					Level of r relationships
#	Description	Analyze plants, evaluate them (F1)	Analyze plants (F1), Plot a solution pathway (F1)	Effective, efficient tools, resources use (F1)	Monitor, evaluate progress (F1)		
N, 18	(R) Player attempted to place plants on top of seed	0	0	0	0	4 NA	
	Plant seedlings close to home base (last two columns)	0	0	0	0	4 NA	
N, 18, 11	Player chooses midrange path, grows bushes, and/or	0	0	0	0	4 conjunctive	
N, 18, 11	Player chooses area of effect plants/ tree seedlings for	0	0	0	0	4 conjunctive	
N, 25, 22, 40	Player chooses correct cannon and/or cherry bomb for	0	0	0	0	2 conjunctive	
	Collect falling ore before it disappears (ratio: 8	0	0	0	0	4 NA	
	Plant ≥ 1 seedlings at the beginning before the seed	0	0	0	0	2 conjunctive	
	Collect plant food before it disappears (ratio: 8	0	0	0	0	4 NA	
	Use plants before the conveyor belt is full	0	0	0	0	4 NA	
11, 26	(R) Use plant food when there is ≥ 3 seedlings on the	0	0	0	0	4 conjunctive	
15, 25	Use plant food to take down ≥ 5 seedlings in the yard or	0	0	0	0	4 conjunctive	
14, 28	(R) Use power when there is ≥ 1 seedlings on the screen	0	0	0	0	4 conjunctive	
15, 27	Use power to take down ≥ 1 seedlings in the yard or all	0	0	0	0	4 conjunctive	
	Player plant high damage plants in rows with many	0	0	0	0	4 NA	
	Player plant high plants in rows with ≥ 1 seedlings, fail	0	0	0	0	4 NA	
	Player plant with sun producers (i.e., seedlings, note	0	0	0	0	4 NA	
N, 42	Player chooses tree seedlings/sun plant food to	0	0	0	0	2 conjunctive	
	Use the shovel to remove a weaker plant (e.g.,	0	0	0	0	2 conjunctive	
	Plant seedling left/right within 2 squares in front of	0	0	0	0	2 NA	
	Use correct cannon to kill ≥ 1 seedlings at a time	0	0	0	0	4 NA	
	Plant food, they are square to the right of a seedling to kill	0	0	0	0	2 NA	
	Calculate ratio of successfully "armed" plants minus all	0	0	0	0	4 NA	
	Player chooses seedling left/right for their plant inventory if	0	0	0	0	2 conjunctive	
	Player chooses spherohead or spherohead for their plant	0	0	0	0	2 conjunctive	
17, 36	Player plant seedling left/right within range of a	0	0	0	0	4 NA	
	Player plant spring bean in a square immediately	0	0	0	0	4 NA	
	In levels where the sun resource is limited (e.g., not	0	0	0	0	4 NA	
	Use of replaced plants within 3 seconds of the same	0	0	0	0	4 NA	
44	When the light is intense (e.g., ratio of seedlings to plants	0	0	0	0	2 NA	
	Improvement on plant layout (F1) after a fail	0	0	0	0	4 NA	
46	Improvement on measure of plants planted (F1) after fail	0	0	0	0	4 NA	

Dashboard Rules







- Node is **grey** (“need more evidence”) if:
 - calculate 3 absolute values: $|p(\text{high}) - p(\text{low})|$, $|p(\text{high}) - p(\text{med})|$, $|p(\text{med}) - p(\text{low})|$
 - any 2(of 3) values is $\leq .15$, then node for the competency is grey
- If the node is *not* grey, calculate EAP values, which is represented by $p(\text{high}) - p(\text{low})$ (range from -1 to 1)
 - Node color:
 - Green**, if EAP falls in $[0.34, 1]$
 - Yellow**, if EAP falls in $[-0.34, 0.33]$
 - Red**, if EAP falls in $[-1, -0.33]$

Taxonomy of Plants

Plant	Image	Description	Unlocked	Plant Food Ability	Sun Cost	Recharge
Peashooter		Peashooters are essential for you to produce extra sun. Try planting as many as you can!	After beating Level 1 - Level 2	Produces 100	50 sun	Fast
Peashooter		Peashooters are your first line of defense. They shoot peas at attacking zombies.	Available at the beginning of the game	Turns them into faster shooting Laser Peashooter 50 peas for three seconds.	100 sun	Fast
Wall-nut		Wall-nuts have hard shells which you can use to protect other plants.	After beating Player's House - Day 2	Gives it a hard armor shell for extra strength.	50 sun	Sluggish
Potato Mine		Potato Mines explode on contact, but they take time to arm. Plant them ahead of zombies.	After beating Player's House - Day 3	Arms itself and produces two armed Potato Mines in other spaces.	25 sun	Sluggish
Bonk Choy		Bonk Choy can hit up to three targets in their lane, but!	After beating Ancient Egypt - Day 1	Shouts approximately for Bonk Choy up, down, left and right.	175 sun	Fast
Cabbage-pult		Cabbage-pults hurl cabbages at the enemy.	After beating Ancient Egypt - Day 2	Launches several cabbages at once, hitting every zombie in its lane.	100 sun	Fast

...

Taxonomy of Zombies

Name	Image	Toughness	Health	Speed	Special
Basic Zombie		Average	100	Basic	
Fire Zombie		Protected	20 y/s Resistant to Bullets	Basic	
Undead Zombie		Hardened	40 y/s Resistant to Bullets	Basic	
Flag Zombie		Average	100	Basic	Holds the incoming wave of zombies.
Tank		Average	100	Hungry	Thrown by <u>Cartographer</u> deep into the defense.
Cartographer		Good	100	Hungry	Takes two instant kills, crushes plants, and <u>shoots</u> .



Review

Children's scientific curiosity: In search of an operational definition of an elusive concept ☆

Jamie Jirout ^{a,*}, David Klahr ^b

^a Department of Psychology, Temple University, United States

^b Department of Psychology, Carnegie Mellon University, United States

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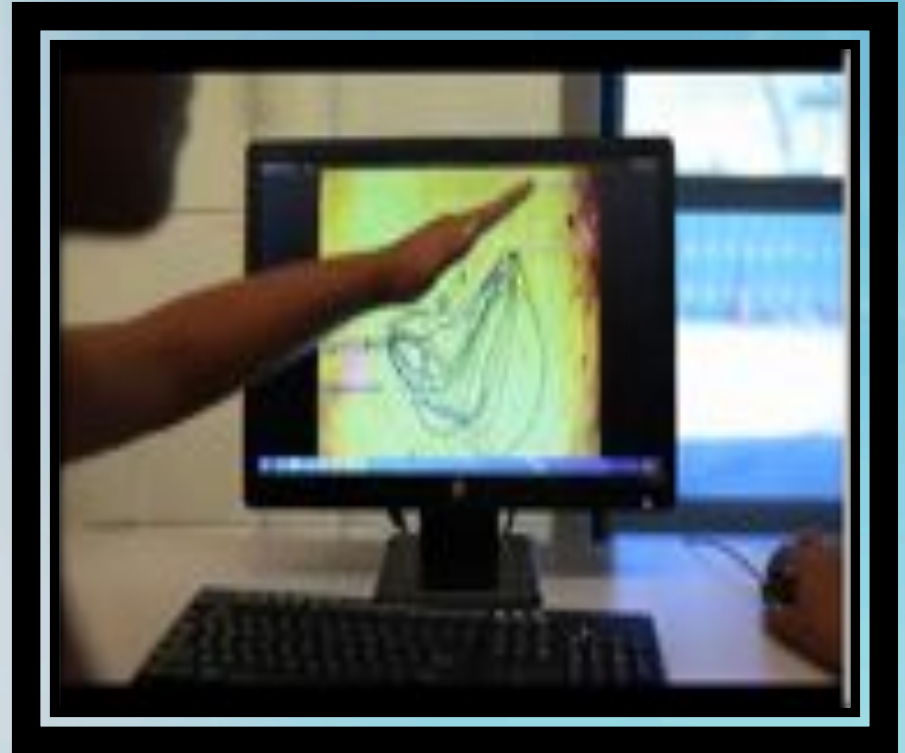
Exploratory behavior

ABSTRACT

Although curiosity is an undeniably important aspect of children's cognitive development, a universally accepted operational definition of children's curiosity does not exist. Almost all of the research on measuring curiosity has focused on adults, and has used predominantly questionnaire-type measures that are not appropriate for young children. In this review we (a) synthesize the range of definitions and measures of children's curiosity and (b) propose a new operational definition and measurement procedure for assessing and advancing scientific curiosity in young children. In the first part of the paper, we summarize Loewenstein's (1994) review of theoretical perspectives on adult curiosity, and critically evaluate a wide range of efforts to create and implement operational measures of curiosity, focusing mainly on behavioral measures of curiosity in children. In the second part, we return to Loewenstein's theory and present an argument for adopting his "information-gap" theory of curiosity as a framework for reviewing various procedures that have been suggested for measuring children's exploratory curiosity. Finally, we describe a new paradigm for measuring exploratory curiosity in preschool children, defining curiosity as the threshold of desired uncertainty in the environment that leads to exploratory behavior. We present data demonstrating the reliability and validity of this measure, discuss initial results on developmental differences in young children's curiosity, and conclude with a general summary and suggestions for future research.

Stealth Assessment

- Allows us to:
 - Extract *ongoing* info from a learner (across disparate sources)
 - Make *accurate inferences* of competencies
 - React in *immediate & helpful* ways.
- Accomplished via automated scoring and machine-based reasoning techniques.



Issues with Standardized Tests

There's growing criticism of large-scale achievement tests (e.g., Sackett et al., 2008; Zwick, 2004). For example, these tests:

- predict badly
- do not measure all the relevant determinants of important criteria related to achievement and learning
- are subject to coaching
- do not measure genuine ability and classroom achievement
- are biased against members of racial and ethnic minority groups
- are subject to motivational differences among students
- function largely as “class” or “wealth” tests because learners from affluent or high socio-economic backgrounds tend to perform better on the tests than learners from disadvantaged or low socio-economic backgrounds.

Wrapping it Up

- Preparing kids to succeed in 21st century requires supporting new competencies—thus a need to develop assessments that are valid & (e.g., *ECD and stealth assessment*).
- Use immersive games are **fun/engaging**, and enable learning within complex, realistic, and relevant environments.

