

# Informed Search

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## Used Materials

Disclaimer: 本课件采用了 S. Russell and P. Norvig's Artificial Intelligence –A modern approach slides, 徐林莉老师课件和其他网络课程课件, 也采用了 GitHub 中开源代码, 以及部分网络博客内容

# Table of Contents

## 课程回顾

### Best-first Search (最佳优先搜索)

Greedy search

A\* search

### Local Search Algorithms

Hill-climbing search

Simulated annealing search

Local beam search

Genetic algorithms

# 课程回顾

```
function TREE-SEARCH( problem, fringe) returns a solution, or failure
  fringe ← INSERT(MAKE-NODE(INITIAL-STATE[problem]), fringe)
  loop do
    if fringe is empty then return failure
    node ← REMOVE-FRONT (fringe)
    if GOAL-TEST[problem] applied to STATE(node) succeeds
      return node
  fringe ← INSERTALL(EXPAND(node, problem), fringe)
```

- ▶ A strategy is defined by picking the **order of node expansion**
- ▶ Variety of **uninformed** search strategies
  - ▶ Iterative deepening search uses only linear space and not much more time than other uninformed algorithms

# Uninformed search strategies

**Uninformed** search strategies use only the information available in the problem definition

- ▶ Breadth-first search (广度优先搜索)
- ▶ Uniform-cost search (代价一致搜索)
- ▶ Depth-first search (深度优先搜索)
- ▶ Depth-limited search (深度有限搜索)
- ▶ Iterative deepening search (迭代深入深度优先搜索)
- ▶ Bidirectional search (双向搜索)

# Summary of algorithms

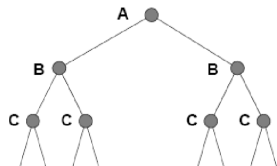
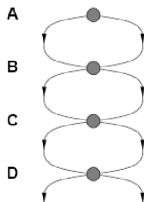
Criterion	Breadth-First	Uniform-Cost	Depth-First	Depth-Limited	Iterative Deepening	Bidirectional (if applicable)
Complete?	Yes <sup>a</sup>	Yes <sup>a,b</sup>	No	No	Yes <sup>a</sup>	Yes <sup>a,d</sup>
Time	$O(b^d)$	$O(b^{1+\lceil C^*/\epsilon \rceil})$	$O(b^m)$	$O(b^l)$	$O(b^d)$	$O(b^{d/2})$
Space	$O(b^d)$	$O(b^{1+\lceil C^*/\epsilon \rceil})$	$O(bm)$	$O(bl)$	$O(bd)$	$O(b^{d/2})$
Optimal?	Yes <sup>c</sup>	Yes	No	No	Yes <sup>c</sup>	Yes <sup>c,d</sup>

**Figure 3.21** Evaluation of tree-search strategies.  $b$  is the branching factor;  $d$  is the depth of the shallowest solution;  $m$  is the maximum depth of the search tree;  $l$  is the depth limit. Superscript caveats are as follows: <sup>a</sup> complete if  $b$  is finite; <sup>b</sup> complete if step costs  $\geq \epsilon$  for positive  $\epsilon$ ; <sup>c</sup> optimal if step costs are all identical; <sup>d</sup> if both directions use breadth-first search.

- ▶  $b$ : Branching factor
- ▶  $d$ : Solution Depth
- ▶  $m$ : maximum Depth

# Repeated states

- ▶ Failure to detect repeated states can turn a linear problem into an exponential one!



# Graph search

```
function GRAPH-SEARCH( problem, fringe) returns a solution,  
or failure  
  closed ← an empty set  
  fringe ← INSERT(MAKE-NODE(INITIAL-  
STATE[problem]),fringe)  
  loop do  
  if fringe is empty then return failure  
  node ← REMOVE-FRONT(fringe)  
  if GOAL-TEST(problem , STATE[node]) then return node  
  if STATE[node] is not in closed then  
    add STATE[node] to closed  
    fringe ← INSERTALL(EXPAND(node, problem), fringe)  
  end
```



## Informed search

- ▶ **Uninformed** search 无信息的搜索：除了问题中提供的定义之外没有任何关于状态的附加信息。
- ▶ **Informed** search 有信息的搜索：在问题本身的定义之外还可利用问题的特定知识。

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# Best-first search

- ▶ Idea: use an **evaluation function** (评价函数) for each node  
— estimate of “desirability”  
⇒ Expand most desirable unexpanded node
- ▶ A **heuristic** is:
  - ▶ A function that estimates how close a state is to a goal
  - ▶ Designed for a particular search problem
- ▶ Implementation: **fringe** is a queue sorted in decreasing order of desirability  
— priority queue (优先级队列)
- ▶ Special cases: greedy search, A\* search

# Best-first search

```
Best-first search {
```

```
closed list = [ ]
```

```
open list = [start node]
```

```
do {
```

```
  if open list is empty then{  
    return no solution  
  }
```

```
}
```

```
n = heuristic best node
```

```
if n == final node then {  
  return path from start to goal node  
}
```

```
}
```

```
foreach direct available node do{
```

```
  if node not in open and not in closed list do {
```

```
    add node to open list
```

```
    set n as his parent node
```

```
}
```

```
delete n from open list
```

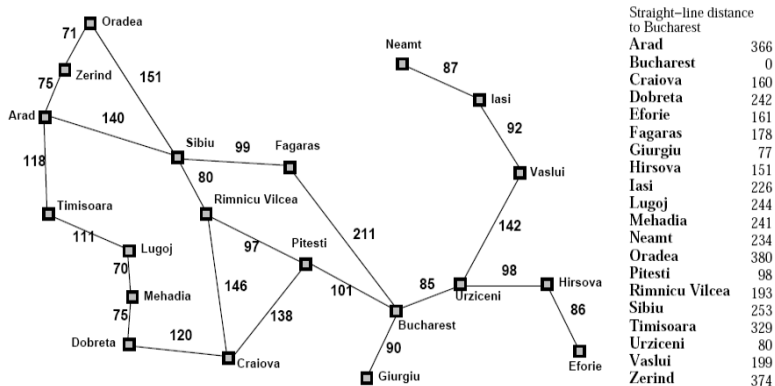
```
add n to closed list
```

```
} while (open list is not empty)
```

```
}
```

- ▶ Best-first search is an instance of the general TREE-SEARCH or GRAPH-SEARCH algorithm in which a node is selected for expansion based on an evaluation function.

# Romania with step costs in km



# Greedy search

Evaluation function  $h(n)$  (heuristic function 启发函数)  
= estimate of cost from  $n$  to the closest goal  
(节点  $n$  到目标节点的最低耗散路径的耗散估计值)

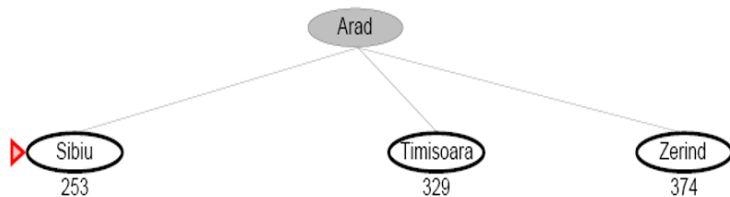
E.g.,  $h_{SLD}(n)$  = straight-line distance from  $n$  to Bucharest

Greedy search expands the node that appears to be closest to goal (试图扩展离目标节点最近的点)

## Greedy search example

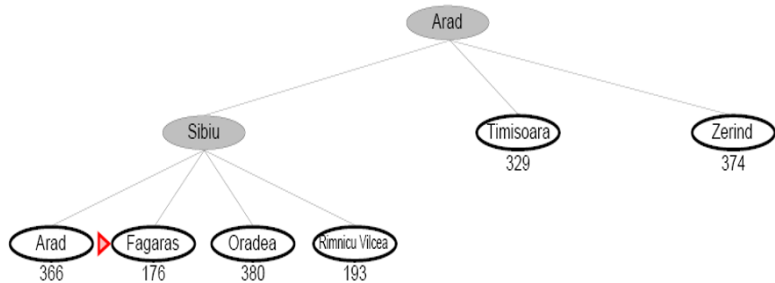


## Greedy search example

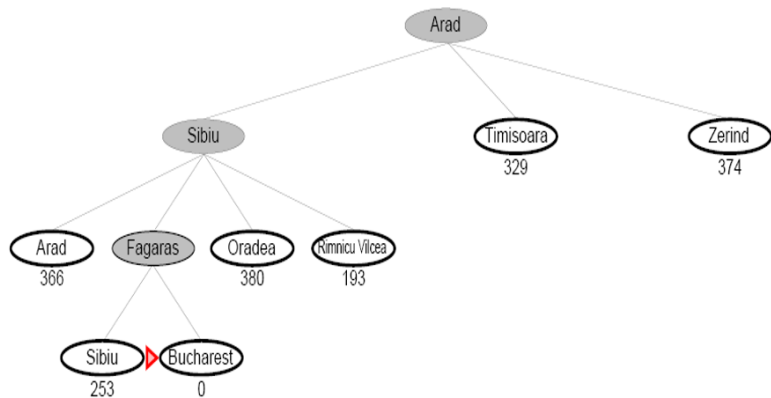




## Greedy search example



## Greedy search example



# Properties of greedy search

complete? No — can get stuck in loops, e.g. from Iasi to Fagaras,  
Iasi → Neamt → Iasi → Neamt →

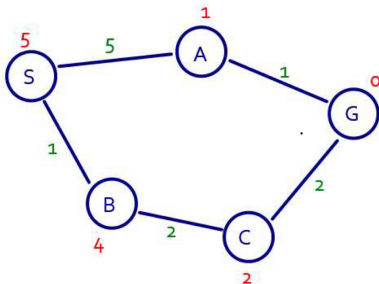
Complete in finite space with repeated-state checking

Time?  $O(b^m)$ , but a good heuristic can give dramatic improvement

Space?  $O(b^m)$  — keeps all nodes in memory

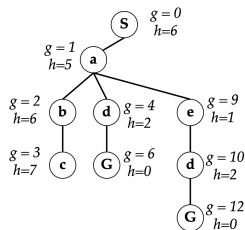
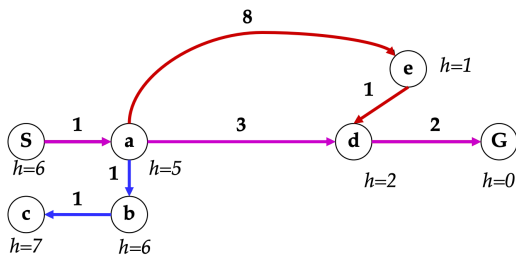
$b$ : Branch factor,  $d$ : Solution depth,  $m$ : Maximum depth

Optimal? No



# Combining UCS and Greedy

- ▶ **Uniform-cost** orders by path cost, or backward cost  $g(n)$
- ▶ **Greedy** orders by goal proximity, or forward cost  $h(n)$
- ▶ **A\* Search** orders by the sum:  $f(n) = g(n) + h(n)$



# A\* search

- ▶ Evaluation function:  $f(n) = g(n) + h(n)$ 
  - ▶  $g(n)$  = cost so far to reach  $n$   
到达节点  $n$  的耗散
  - ▶  $h(n)$  = estimated cost to goal from  $n$   
启发函数: 从节点  $n$  到目标节点的最低耗散路径的耗散估计值
  - ▶  $f(n)$  = estimated total cost of path through  $n$  to goal  
经过节点  $n$  的最低耗散的估计函数
- ▶ A\* search uses an admissible heuristic 可采纳启发式  
*i.e.*,  $h(n) \leq h^*(n)$  where  $h^*(n)$  is true cost from  $n$   
(also require  $h(n) \geq 0$ , so  $h(G) = 0$  for any goal  $G$ )
- ▶ *e.g.*,  $h_{SLD}(n)$  never overestimates the actual road distance  
(SLD: Straight-Line Distance)

## 定理

*A\* is optimal if  $h(n)$  satisfies certain conditions.*

# A\* search

## A\* 算法的三个版本:

- ▶ The tree-search version
- ▶ The graph-search version
- ▶ The practical version

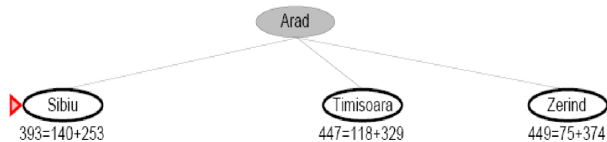
当有一条新路径访问旧节点  $n$  时,  $g(n)$  是否有可能更小, 从而使  $n$  重新成为待扩展节点

```
A* search {  
  closed list = []  
  open list = [start node]  
  
  do {  
    if open list is empty then {  
      return no solution  
    }  
    n = heuristic best node  
    if n == final node then {  
      return path from start to goal node  
    }  
    foreach direct available node do {  
      if current node not in open and not in closed list do {  
        add current node to open list and calculate heuristic  
        set n as his parent node  
      }  
      else {  
        check if path from star node to current node is  
        better;  
        if it is better calculate heuristics and transfer  
        current node from closed list to open list  
        set n as his parent node  
      }  
      delete n from open list  
      add n to closed list  
    } while (open list is not empty)  
  }  
}
```

# A\* search example

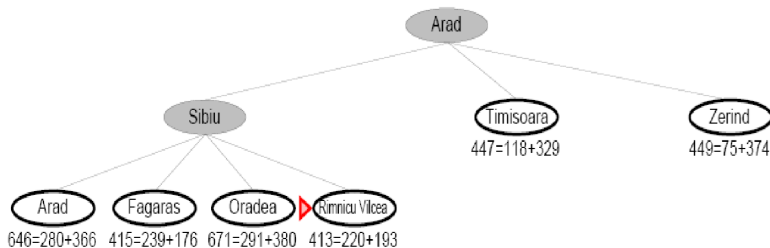
▶ Arad  
366=0+366

# A\* search example

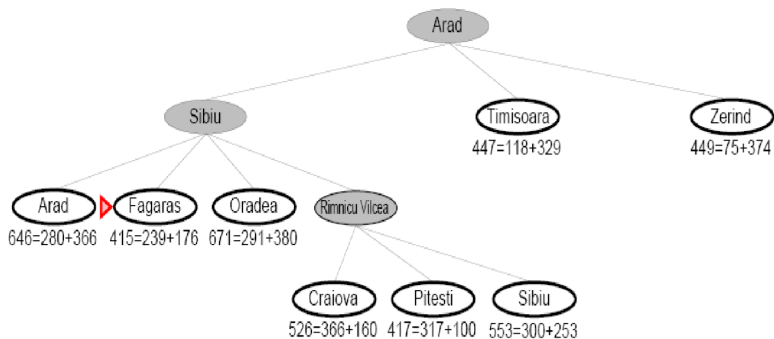




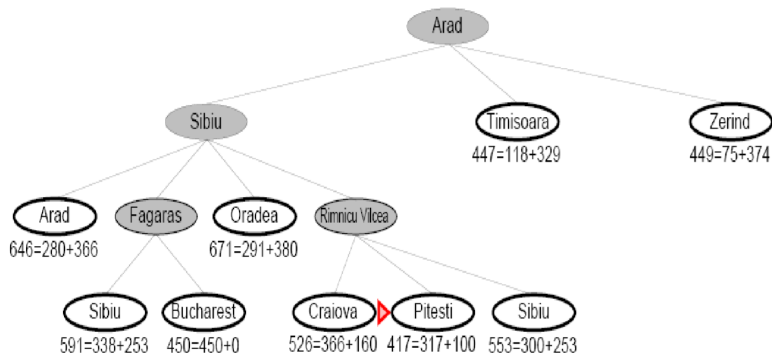
# A\* search example



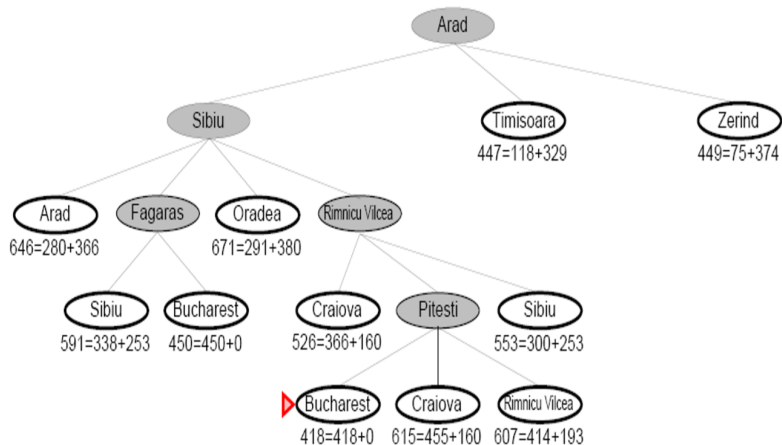
# A\* search example



# A\* search example



# A\* search example



# Admissible heuristics

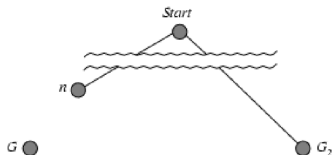
- ▶ A\* heuristic  $h(n)$  is admissible (可采纳的) if for every node  $n$ ,  $h(n) \leq h^*(n)$ , where  $h^*(n)$  is the true cost to reach the goal state from  $n$
- ▶ An admissible heuristic never overestimates the cost to reach the goal (从不会过高估计到达目标的耗散), i.e., it is optimistic (乐观的)
- ▶ Example:  $h_{SLD}(n)$  (never overestimates the actual road distance)

## 定理

If  $h(n)$  is admissible, A\* using TREE-SEARCH is optimal

## Optimality of A\* (proof)

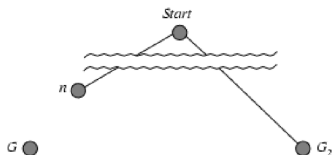
- ▶ Suppose some suboptimal (非最优) goal  $G_2$  has been generated and is in the fringe. Let  $n$  be an unexpanded node in the fringe such that  $n$  is on a shortest path to an optimal goal  $G$ .



- ▶  $f(G_2) = g(G_2)$  since  $h(G_2) = 0$
- ▶  $g(G_2) > g(G)$  since  $G_2$  is suboptimal
- ▶  $f(G) = g(G)$  since  $h(G) = 0$
- ▶  $f(G_2) > f(G)$  from above

## Optimality of $A^*$ (proof)

- ▶ Suppose some suboptimal goal  $G_2$  has been generated and is in the fringe. Let  $n$  be an unexpanded node in the fringe such that  $n$  is on a shortest path to an optimal goal  $G$



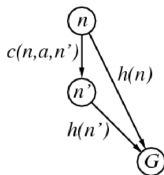
- ▶  $f(G_2) > f(G)$  from above
- ▶  $h(n) \leq h^*(n)$  since  $h$  is admissible
- ▶  $g(n) + h(n) \leq g(n) + h^*(n) \leq g(G) = f(G)$   
 $n$  is on a shortest path to an optimal goal  $G$
- ▶  $f(n) \leq f(G)$

Hence  $f(G_2) > f(n)$ , and  $A^*$  will never select  $G_2$  for expansion

# Consistent heuristics

- ▶ A\* heuristic is **consistent** (一致) if for every node  $n$ , every successor  $n'$  of  $n$  generated by any action  $a$ ,  
$$h(n) \leq c(n, a, n') + h(n')$$
- ▶ Consistency implies admissibility!

- ▶ If  $h$  is consistent, we have
$$\begin{aligned} f(n') &= g(n') + h(n') \\ &= g(n) + c(n, a, n') + h(n') \\ &\geq g(n) + h(n) \\ &= f(n) \end{aligned}$$



- ▶ i.e.,  $f(n)$  is non-decreasing along any path.

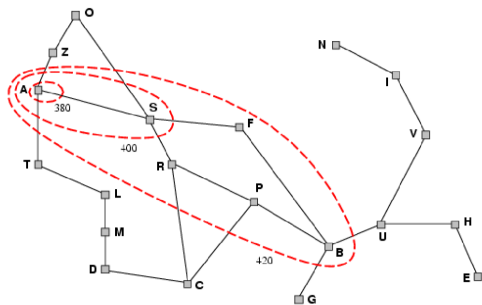
## 定理

If  $h(n)$  is consistent, A\* using GRAPH-SEARCH is optimal



# Optimality of A\* (proof)

- ▶ A\* expands nodes in order of increasing  $f$  value
- ▶ Gradually adds " $f$ -contours (等值线)" of nodes
- ▶ Contour  $i$  has all nodes with  $f = f_i$ , where  $f_i < f_{i+1}$



# Properties of A\*

Complete?	Yes (unless there are infinitely many nodes with $f \leq f(G)$ )
Time?	A* 算法对于任何给定的启发函数都是效率最优的 But still exponential
Space?	Keeps all nodes in memory
Optimal?	Yes

- ▶ A\* expands all nodes with  $f(n) < C^*$
- ▶ A\* expands some nodes with  $f(n) = C^*$
- ▶ A\* expands no nodes with  $f(n) > C^*$

## 8-puzzle revisited

- ▶ 8-puzzle—把棋子水平或者竖直地滑动到空格中，直到目标局面：

7	2	4
5		6
8	3	1

Start State

	1	2
3	4	5
6	7	8

Goal State

- ▶ 平均解步数是 22 步。分支因子约为 3
  - ▶ 到达深度为 22 的穷举搜索将考虑约  $3^{22} \approx 3.1 \times 10^{10}$
  - ▶ 状态个数  $O((n+1)!)$ , NP 完全问题

# Admissible heuristics

For the 8-puzzle:

- ▶  $h_1(n)$  = number of misplaced tiles (错位的棋子数)
- ▶  $h_2(n)$  = total Manhattan distance (所有棋子到其目标位置的  
水平竖直距离和) (*i.e.*, no. of squares from desired location of  
each tile)

7	2	4
5		6
8	3	1

Start State

	1	2
3	4	5
6	7	8

Goal State

- ▶  $h_1(S) = ?$
- ▶  $h_2(S) = ?$

## Admissible heuristics

- ▶  $h_1(n)$  = number of misplaced tiles (错位的棋子数)
- ▶  $h_2(n)$  = total Manhattan distance (所有棋子到其目标位置的  
水平竖直距离和) (*i.e.*, no. of squares from desired location of  
each tile)

7	2	4
5		6
8	3	1

Start State

	1	2
3	4	5
6	7	8

Goal State

- ▶  $h_1(S) = 8$
- ▶  $h_2(S) = 3+1+2+2+2+3+3+2 = 18$

# Dominance

For the 8-puzzle:

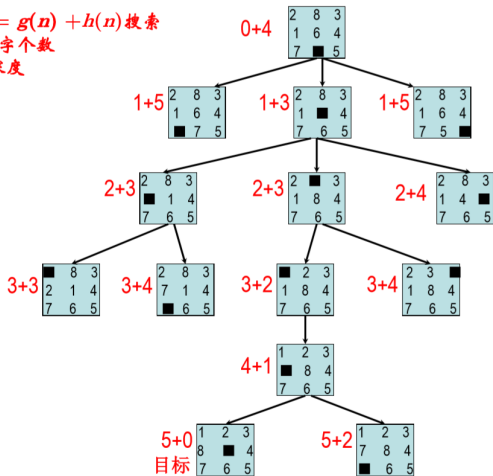
- ▶ If  $h_2(n) \geq h_1(n)$  for all  $n$  (both admissible)
- ▶ then  $h_2$  **dominates**  $h_1$  (dominate 统治、占优)
- ▶  $h_2$  is better for search
- ▶ Typical search costs (average number of nodes expanded):
- ▶  $d=12$ 
  - ▶  $IDS = 3,644,035$  nodes
  - ▶  $A^*(h_1) = 227$  nodes
  - ▶  $A^*(h_2) = 73$  nodes
- ▶  $d=24$ 
  - ▶  $IDS =$  too many nodes
  - ▶  $A^*(h_1) = 39135$  nodes
  - ▶  $A^*(h_2) = 1641$  nodes

Given any admissible heuristics  $h_a, h_b$

$h(n) = \max(h_a(n); h_b(n))$  is also admissible and dominates  $h_a, h_b$

# 8-puzzles

使用  $f(n) = g(n) + h(n)$  搜索  
 $h(n)$  = 错放数字个数  
 $g(n)$  = 节点深度



## Relaxed problems

- ▶ A problem with fewer restrictions on the actions is called a **relaxed problem** (松弛问题)
- ▶ The cost of an optimal solution to a relaxed problem is an admissible heuristic for the original problem  
一个松弛问题的最优解的耗散是原问题的一个可采纳的启发式
- ▶ If the rules of the 8-puzzle are relaxed so that a tile can move **anywhere**, then  $h_1(n)$  gives the shortest solution  
如果棋子可以任意移动, 则  $h_1$  给出最短的确切步数
- ▶ If the rules are relaxed so that a tile can move to **any adjacent** square, then  $h_2(n)$  gives the shortest solution  
如果棋子可以移动到任意相邻的位置, 则  $h_2$  给出最短的确切步数

**Key point:** the optimal solution cost of a relaxed problem is no greater than the optimal solution cost of the real problem



# Relaxed problems

## ▶ 构造松弛问题

- ▶ 原问题：一个棋子可以从方格 A 移动到方格 B，如果 A 与 B 水平或者垂直相邻而且 B 是空的
- ▶ 松弛 1：一个棋子可以从方格 A 移动到方格 B，如果 A 与 B 相邻 —  $h_2$
- ▶ 松弛 2：一个棋子可以从方格 A 移动到方格 B，如果 B 是空的
- ▶ 松弛 3：一个棋子可以从方格 A 移动到方格 B —  $h_1$

## ▶ 如果有一个可采纳启发式的集合 $\{h_1, \dots, h_m\}$

$h(n) = \max(h_1(n), \dots, h_m(n))$  可采纳并比成员启发式更有优势

# Evaluation Function $f(n)$

- ▶  $h(n)$  — heuristic, estimate of cost from  $n$  to the closest goal (节点  $n$  到目标节点的最低耗散路径的耗散估计值)
- ▶  $g(n)$  — path cost to  $n$  (初始节点到这个节点的路径损耗的总和)

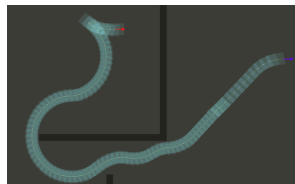
Possible evaluation functions:

- ▶  $f(n) = g(n)$  : Uniform Cost
- ▶  $f(n) = h(n)$  : Greedy
- ▶  $f(n) = g(n) + h(n)$  : A\*

estimates the total cost of a solution path which goes through node  $n$

## Hybrid A\*

- ▶ Hybrid A\*: 车辆自主泊车所用的路径规划算法，以较少的换挡数，规划出可行驶轨迹使车达到目标位置
- ▶ 搜索状态  $(x, y, \theta, r)$ ,  $r$  表示前进或者后退
- ▶ 行动离散化（固定角度转动，固定速度前进）max-left, no-turn, max-right
- ▶ 启发式函数
  - ▶ non-holonomic-without-obstacles: 忽略障碍物，但要满足可行驶约束（车头朝向连续变化），在格子地图中的最短路径距离
  - ▶ holonomic-with-obstacles: 考虑障碍物，但忽略可行驶约束，在格子地图中的最短路径距离
- ▶ 最后再做轨迹平滑和优化



# Table of Contents

## 课程回顾

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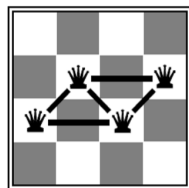
Genetic algorithms

## Local search algorithms

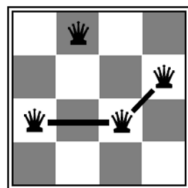
- ▶ In many optimization problems, the **path** to the goal is irrelevant; the goal state itself is the solution
- ▶ State space = set of “complete” configurations (完全状态)
  - Find configuration satisfying constraints, e.g.,  $n$ -queens
- ▶ In such cases, we can use **local search algorithms**
- ▶ keep a single “current” state, try to improve it
- ▶ Constant space, suitable for online as well as offline search

## Example: $n$ -queens

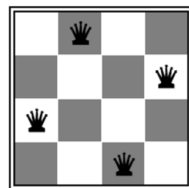
- Put  $n$  queens on an  $n \times n$  board with no two queens on the same row, column, or diagonal



$h = 5$



$h = 2$



$h = 0$

# Hill-climbing search

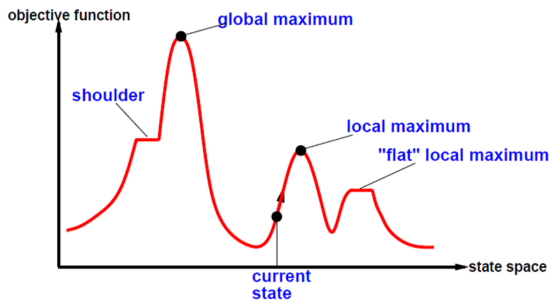
- ▶ “Like climbing Everest in thick fog with amnesia (健忘症)”

```
function HILL-CLIMBING(problem) returns a state that is a local maximum
  inputs: problem, a problem
  local variables: current, a node
                   neighbor, a node

  current ← MAKE-NODE(INITIAL-STATE[problem])
  loop do
    neighbor ← a highest-valued successor of current
    if VALUE[neighbor] ≤ VALUE[current] then return STATE[current]
    current ← neighbor
```

# Hill-climbing search

- ▶ Problem: depending on initial state, can get stuck in local maxima (局部最大值)



Random-restart hill climbing overcomes local maxima — trivially complete

Random sideways moves escape from shoulders loop on at maxima

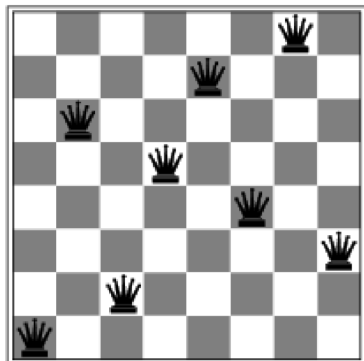


## Hill-climbing search: 8-queens problem

18	12	14	13	13	12	14	14
14	16	13	15	12	14	12	16
14	12	18	13	15	12	14	14
15	14	14	♚	13	16	13	16
♚	14	17	15	♚	14	16	16
17	♚	16	18	15	♚	15	♚
18	14	♚	15	15	14	♚	16
14	14	13	17	12	14	12	18

- ▶  $h$  = number of pairs of queens that are attacking each other, either directly or indirectly
- ▶  $h = 17$  for the above state

## Hill-climbing search: 8-queens problem



- ▶ A local minimum with  $h = 1$

# Simulated annealing search (模拟退火搜索)

- ▶ Idea: escape local maxima by allowing some “bad” moves but **gradually decrease** their frequency

```
function SIMULATED-ANNEALING(problem, schedule) returns a solution state
  inputs: problem, a problem
           schedule, a mapping from time to “temperature”
  local variables: current, a node
                    next, a node
                    T, a “temperature” controlling prob. of downward steps

  current ← MAKE-NODE(INITIAL-STATE[problem])
  for t ← 1 to ∞ do
    T ← schedule[t]
    if T = 0 then return current
    next ← a randomly selected successor of current
     $\Delta E$  ← VALUE[next] – VALUE[current]
    if  $\Delta E > 0$  then current ← next
    else current ← next only with probability  $e^{\Delta E/T}$ 
```

# Properties of Simulated Annealing Search

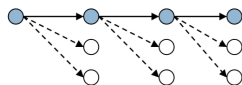
- ▶ One can prove: If  $T$  decreases slowly enough, then simulated annealing search will find a global optimum with probability approaching 1
- ▶ Widely used in VLSI layout (超大规模集成电路布局), airline scheduling, etc

## Local beam search (局部剪枝搜索)

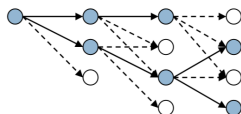
1. Keep track of  $k$  states rather than just one
2. Start with  $k$  randomly generated states
3. At each iteration, all the successors of all  $k$  states are generated
4. If any one is a goal state, stop; else select the  $k$  best successors from the complete list and repeat.

# Local beam search (局部剪枝搜索)

- ▶ Like greedy search, but keep  $k$  states at all times:



Greedy Search



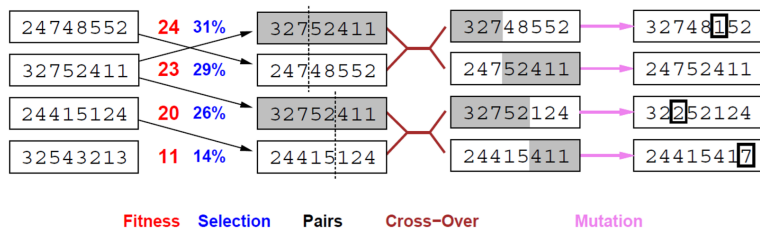
Beam Search

- ▶ Not the same as  $k$  searches run in parallel!
- ▶ Searches that find good states recruit other searches to join them
- ▶ Problem: quite often, all  $k$  states end up on same local hill
- ▶ Idea: choose  $k$  successors randomly, biased towards good ones

# Genetic algorithms (遗传算法)

- ▶ A successor state is generated by combining two parent states
- ▶ Start with  $k$  randomly generated states (population 种群)
- ▶ A state is represented as a string over a finite alphabet (often a string of 0s and 1s)
- ▶ Evaluation function (fitness function 适应度函数). Higher values for better states
- ▶ Produce the next generation of states by selection, crossover, and mutation (选择, 杂交, 变异)

# Genetic algorithms



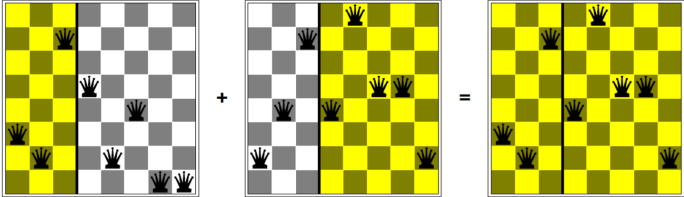
- Fitness function: number of non-attacking pairs of queens 不互相攻击的皇后数目 ( $min = 0, max = \frac{8 \times 7}{2} = 28$ )

$$24 / (24 + 23 + 20 + 11) = 31\%$$

$$23 / (24 + 23 + 20 + 11) = 29\% \text{ etc}$$



# Genetic algorithms



# Summary

- ▶ Heuristic functions estimate costs of shortest paths
- ▶ Good heuristics can dramatically reduce search cost
- ▶ Greedy best-first search expands lowest  $h$ 
  - ▶ incomplete and not always optimal
  
- ▶ A\* search expands lowest  $g + h$ 
  - ▶ complete and optimal
  - ▶ also optimally efficient (up to tie-breaks, for forward search)
  
- ▶ Admissible heuristics can be derived from exact solution of relaxed problems

# Summary

- ▶ Local search algorithms:  
the path to the goal is irrelevant; the goal state itself is the solution keep a single “current” state, try to improve it
  - ▶ Hill-climbing search:  
depending on initial state, can get stuck in local maxima
  - ▶ Simulated annealing search:  
escape local maxima by allowing some “bad” moves but gradually decrease their frequency
  - ▶ Local beam search:  
keep track of  $k$  states rather than just one
  - ▶ Genetic algorithms

# Uninformed/Informed Search

- ▶ 好的启发式搜索能大大提高搜索性能
- ▶ 但由于启发式搜索需要抽取与问题本身有关的特征信息，而这种特征信息的抽取有时会比较困难，因此盲目搜索仍不失为一种有用的搜索策略。

# Uninformed/Informed Search

- ▶ 好的搜索策略应该
  - ▶ 引起运动——避免原地踏步
  - ▶ 系统——避免兜圈
  - ▶ 运用启发函数——缓解组合爆炸
- ▶ 搜索树 vs 搜索图
  - ▶ 搜索树：结点有重复，但登记过程简单
  - ▶ 搜索图：结点无重复，但登记过程复杂（每次都要查重）

# 作业

第二版书：

- ▶ 4.1, 4.2, 4.6, 4.7