```
#using misplaced tiles h(n)
import heapq
# Function to count misplaced tiles
def misplaced tiles(state, goal):
  count = 0
  for i in range(3):
     for j in range(3):
       if state[i][j] != goal[i][j] and state[i][j] != 0:
          count += 1
  return count
# Function to get the position of the empty tile (0)
def get_empty_tile_position(state):
  for i in range(3):
     for j in range(3):
       if state[i][j] == 0:
          return i, j
# Function to generate new states by moving the empty tile
def generate_new_states(state):
  i, j = get_empty_tile_position(state)
  possible moves = []
  directions = [(-1, 0), (1, 0), (0, -1), (0, 1)] # Up, Down, Left, Right
  for di, dj in directions:
     new_i, new_j = i + di, j + dj
     if 0 \le \text{new } i \le 3 \text{ and } 0 \le \text{new } i \le 3:
        new_state = [row[:] for row in state]
       # Swap the empty tile with the neighboring tile
       new_state[i][j], new_state[new_i][new_j] = new_state[new_i][new_j], new_state[i][j]
       possible_moves.append(new_state)
  return possible_moves
# Function to print the puzzle state in a readable format
def print puzzle(state):
  for row in state:
     print(''.join(str(x) if x != 0 else '_' for x in row))
  print()
# A* algorithm with detailed logging
def a star(start, goal):
  # Priority queue (min-heap) where each entry is (f(n), g(n), state, previous moves)
  queue = []
  heapq.heappush(queue, (misplaced_tiles(start, goal), 0, start, []))
  # Set to store visited states
  visited = set()
  visited.add(tuple(tuple(row) for row in start))
  while queue:
     # Select the node with the lowest f(n)
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f, g, current\_state, path = heapq.heappop(queue)

# Print the current step print(f"Step {g}:")

 $print(f''g(n) = \{g\}, h(n) = \{f - g\}'')$ 

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print("Current puzzle state:")
     print puzzle(current state)
     # If current state is the goal, we are done
     if current state == goal:
       print("Goal state reached!")
       print(f"Total moves: {g}")
       print("Solution path:")
       for step, state in enumerate(path + [current_state], 1):
          print(f"Move {step}:")
          print_puzzle(state)
       return
     # Generate possible next states
     print("Generated new states (possible moves):")
     trial states = []
     for new_state in generate_new_states(current_state):
       if tuple(tuple(row) for row in new_state) not in visited:
          h = misplaced_tiles(new_state, goal)
          trial_states.append((g + h + 1, g + 1, new_state, h))
          print(f''g(n) = \{g + 1\}, h(n) = \{h\}'')
          print_puzzle(new_state)
     # Add unvisited states to the queue
     print("Evaluating and choosing the best state based on f(n):")
     for f_new, g_new, state, h_new in trial_states:
       if tuple(tuple(row) for row in state) not in visited:
          heapq.heappush(queue, (f_new, g_new, state, path + [current_state]))
          visited.add(tuple(tuple(row) for row in state))
          print(f"Chosen state with f(n) = \{f_new\} (g(n) = \{g_new\}, h(n) = \{h_new\}):")
          print_puzzle(state)
  print("No solution found")
  return
# Example usage
start_state = [
  [1, 2, 3],
  [4, 0, 6],
  [7, 5, 8]
goal_state = [
  [1, 2, 3],
  [4, 5, 6],
  [7, 8, 0]
a_star(start_state, goal_state)
output:
Step 0:
g(n) = 0, h(n) = 2
Current puzzle state:
1 2 3
```

```
Generated new states (possible moves):
g(n) = 1, h(n) = 3
1 3
4 2 6
7 5 8
g(n) = 1, h(n) = 1
1 2 3
4 5 6
7 _ 8
g(n) = 1, h(n) = 3
1 2 3
 4 6
<del>7</del> 5 8
g(n) = 1, h(n) = 3
1 2 3
4 6
7 5 8
Evaluating and choosing the best state based on f(n):
Chosen state with f(n) = 4 (g(n) = 1, h(n) = 3):
4 2 6
7 5 8
Chosen state with f(n) = 2 (g(n) = 1, h(n) = 1):
1 2 3
4 5 6
7 _ 8
Chosen state with f(n) = 4 (g(n) = 1, h(n) = 3):
1 2 3
 4 6
7 5 8
Chosen state with f(n) = 4 (g(n) = 1, h(n) = 3):
1 2 3
4 6
7 5 8
Step 1:
g(n) = 1, h(n) = 1
Current puzzle state:
1 2 3
4 5 6
7 8
Generated new states (possible moves):
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```
g(n) = 2, h(n) = 2
1 2 3
4 5 6
_ 7 8
g(n) = 2, h(n) = 0
1 2 3
4 5 6
7 8 _
Evaluating and choosing the best state based on f(n):
Chosen state with f(n) = 4 (g(n) = 2, h(n) = 2):
1 2 3
4 5 6
_ 7 8
Chosen state with f(n) = 2 (g(n) = 2, h(n) = 0):
1 2 3
4 5 6
78_
Step 2:
g(n) = 2, h(n) = 0
Current puzzle state:
1 2 3
4 5 6
7 8 _
Goal state reached!
Total moves: 2
Solution path:
Move 1:
1 2 3
Move 2:
1 2 3
4 5 6
7 _ 8
Move 3:
1 2 3
4 5 6
78_
```