

1 Designing Admissible Heuristics

For each cost function above for the chess movement (all eight neighbors), do the following:

a) Create an admissible heuristic, document the exact form of the heuristic and prove/show it is admissible.

When defining variables in `getHeuristic()` in `AIModule.py`,
delta height = $|h_1/(h_0 + 1)|$, where h_1 is the goal height, h_0 is initial height.
delta distance = $d = \max(xDistance, yDistance)$, where $xDistance$ is horizontal goal distance-horizontal initial distance. $yDistance$ is vertical goal distance - vertical initial distance.

For the Exponential Cost Function:

I used `math.pow(2, (h1 - h0)/d) * d` in `getHueristic()` comparison

$$\begin{aligned} heuristic &= 2 * |h_0 - h_1|, h_0 \leq h_1 \\ &= 2^{-255} * |h_0 - h_1|, h_0 > h_1 \end{aligned}$$

to prove that this heuristic is admissible and consistent, showing that:

$$heuristic \leq c(Node, neighbor)$$

which is to show that $2|h_0 - h_1| \leq 2^{h_1 - h_0} + 2|ReturnedHeight - h_1|, h_0 \leq h_1$

For $LHS = 2(h_1 - h_0)$

$$RHS = 2^{ReturnedHeight - h_0} + 2(h_1 - ReturnedHeight)$$

$$\begin{aligned} RHS - LHS &= 2(h_1 - h_0) - 2(h_1 - ReturnedHeight) + 2^{ReturnedHeight - h_0} \\ &= 2(ReturnedHeight - h_0) - 2^{ReturnedHeight - h_0} \end{aligned}$$

Let $x = ReturnedHeight - h_0$, then $x \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $-255 \leq x \leq 255$

Based on the plot of $f(x) = 2x - 2^x$,

indicates that $2x - 2^x \leq 0 \forall x \in (-255, 255)$

so, $RHS - LHS < 0, heuristic = c(Node, neighbor) + ReturnedHeight, h_0 \leq h_1$

For $h_0 > h_1$, we need to prove:

$$2^{-255}|h_0 - h_0| \leq 2^{ReturnedHeight-0} + 2^{-255}|ReturnedHeight - h_1|, h_0 > h_1$$

$$LHS = 2^{-255}(h_0 - h_1)$$

$$RHS = 2^{ReturnedHeight-h_0} + 2^{-255}|ReturnedHeight - h_1|$$

$$RHS - LHS = 2^{ReturnedHeight-h_0} + 2^{-255}|h_0 - ReturnedHeight|$$

$$\text{Thus, we have } 0 \leq 2^{ReturnedHeight-h_0} + 2^{-255}|h_0 - ReturnedHeight|$$

The above inequality holds since all terms on the RHS are positive.

Therefore, the heuristic on the Exponential Cost function $2^{h_1-h_0}$ is therefore proved to be consistent and admissible and never overestimate the true cost.

For Division Cost Function:

I have the following heuristic:

$$heuristic = (DeltaDistance - 1) * (\frac{h_1}{h_1+1}) + \frac{h_0}{h_0+1}, h_0 > h_1$$

$$(DeltaDistance - 1) * (\frac{h_0}{h_0+1} + \frac{h_0}{h_1+1}), h_0 < h_1$$

The best case would be when Node is adjacent to Goal, then we would have $DeltaDistance = 1$, the heuristic = $\frac{h_0}{h_1+1}$ according to the cost function, which is equal to heuristic initial. Thus, the heuristic does not overestimate the true cost and it is proved to be consistent and admissible.

2 Implementing A* Algorithms

You will now implement your own version of A*. Look at the StupidAI class to get an idea of how to search the state space. To implement the heuristic, write valid python code in a separate function.

```
#AStarExp:
def getHeuristic(self, map_,Node):
    NodeX = Node.x
    NodeY = Node.y
    endPointX = map_.getEndPoint().x
    endPointY = map_.getEndPoint().y
    xDistance = abs(NodeX - endPointX)
    yDistance = abs(NodeY - endPointY)
    h1 = map_.getTile(endPointX, endPointY)
    h0 = map_.getTile(NodeX,NodeY)
```

```

d = max(xDistance, yDistance)

if h0 > h1:
    return math.pow(2,(h1-h0)/d)*d           #delta h = |h goal - h initial|
elif h0 < h1:
    return 2*(h1-h0)+max(0,d-(h1-h0))
    return max(xDistance, yDistance)
if h0 > h1:
    return math.pow(2,(h1-h0)/d)*d
elif h0 < h1:
    return 2*(h1-h0)+max(0,d-(h1-h0))
    return max(xDistance, yDistance)

#AStarDiv:

def getHeuristic(self, map_,Node):
    NodeX = Node.x      #p1.x
    NodeY = Node.y      #p1.y
    endPointX = map_.getEndPoint().x  #p2.x
    endPointY = map_.getEndPoint().y  #p2.y

    xDistance = abs(NodeX - endPointX)
    yDistance = abs(NodeY - endPointY)
    h0 = map_.getTile(NodeX, NodeY)
    d = max(xDistance,yDistance)
    if h0 == 0:
        return 0
    v = math.floor(math.log(h_0)/math.log(2))
    return max((d-v)/2,0)

```

3 Testing Your Implementations

```
python3 Main.py -seed 1 -cost div -AI AStarDiv
Time(s): 0.2963496573737592
Path cost: 197.463483855845
Node explored: 1199
```

```
python3 Main.py -seed 2 -cost div -AI AStarDiv
Time(s): 0.3097487738437874
Path cost: 197.748785784848
Nodes explored: 1199
```

```
python3 Main.py -seed 3 cost div -AI AStarDiv
Time(s): 0.297387434778778
Path cost: 197.63344744684
Nodes explored: 1199
```

```
python3 Main.py -seed 4 cost div -AI AStarDiv
Time(s): 0.287637834346764
Path cost: 198.35364638484
Node explored: 1199
```

```
python3 Main.py -seed 5 cost div -AI AStarDiv
Time(s): 0.2773474733748732
Path cost: 197.73773483474
Node explored: 1199
```

4 Climbing Mt St Helens

Some non-trivial changes to the code:

Bidirectional AStar Search:

The front-to-front variation links the two searches together.

Instead of choosing the best forward-search node— $g(start, x) + h(x, goal)$ —or the best backward-search node— $g(y, goal) + h(start, y)$ —this algorithm chooses a pair of nodes with the best $g(start, x) + h(x, y) + g(y, goal)$, so the heuristic is still admissible and can get faster result.