AI Final Project

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May 4, 2011

Introduction

A Wikipedia race is a competition between two or more people where given a start page and a goal page you try to get to get to the end page as quickly as possible by clicking on internal wikipedia links. For an example and to try it out see http://www.wikipediarace.com/

This project is my attempt at an application that tries to find the shortest path between two wikipedia pages via links, as length of path is probably the greatest determinate of how quickly one can move from the start page to the goal.

AI Algorithm: Breadth first search.

Input: A starting page and a goal page.

Output: A List of the links in order to get from the start to the end.

Programming Language: Python

Environment: It will run on both Windows and Unix

Description

Takes a start page and a goal page as input. It them does a Breadth first search to determine the shortest distance in links that it takes to get to the next page. It filters out non real pages (like categories and wikipedia internal pages) but does not stop untill it finds the goal. If there isn't a path it wont tell you so untill it has exhaused whatever strongly connected component it started on (which can take a very long time). For best results pick two common pages with lots of links.

Sample Usage

Enter start page: Monk
Enter goal page: FIFA
link1
link2
link3

'Monk', 'England', 'FIFA'