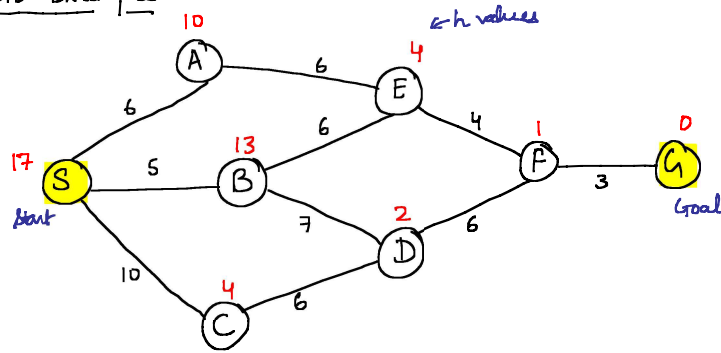
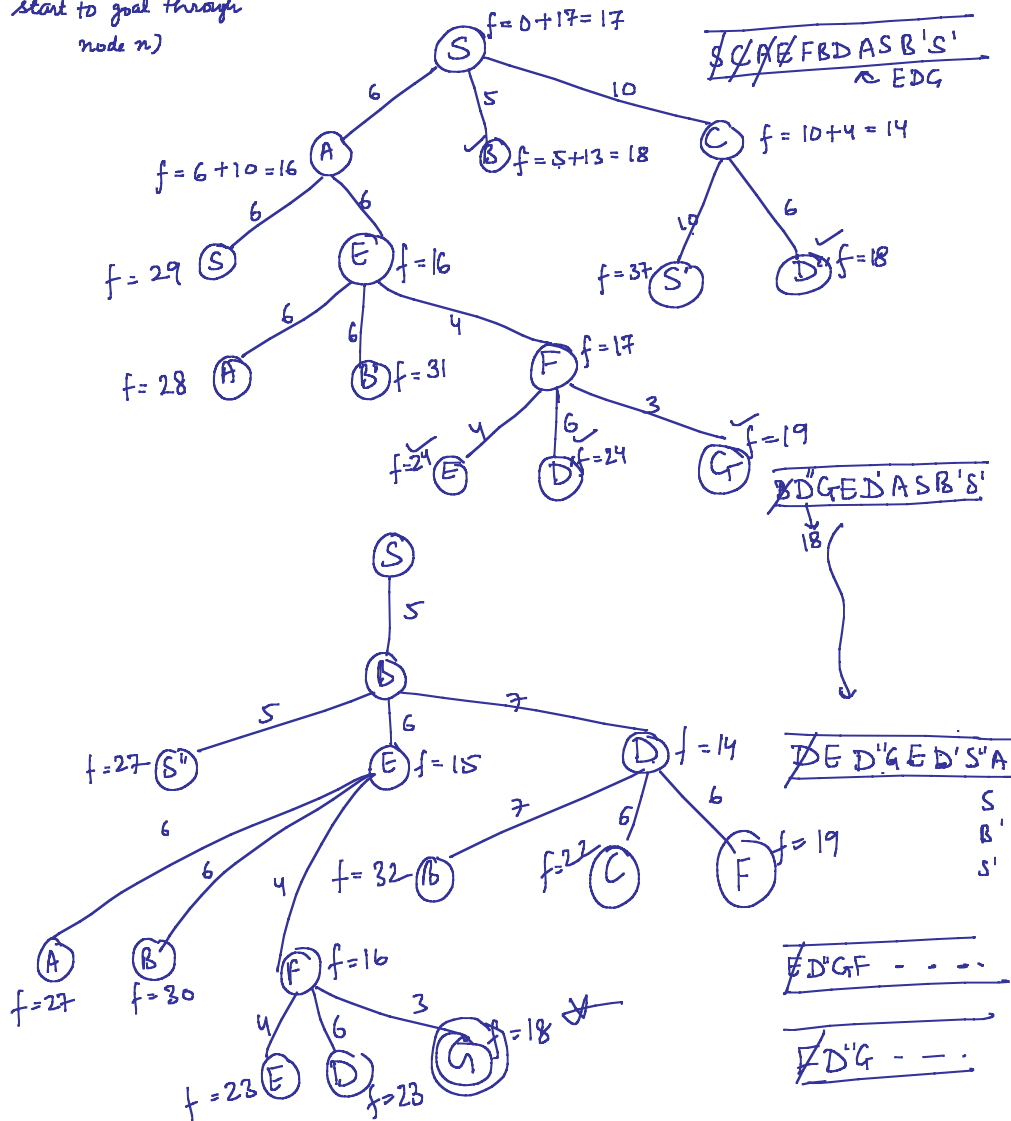
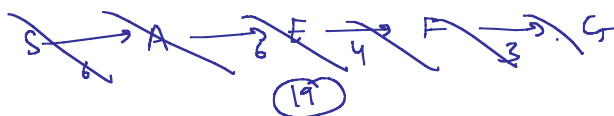


A\* Search Example

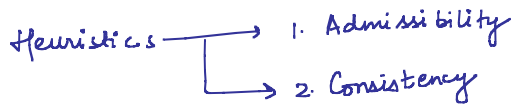
$f(n) = g(n) + h(n)$   
 Evaluation func.  
 (Optimal cost from start to goal through node n)  
 Sum of edge costs from start to current node n  
 heuristic function value on current node n.



S  $\xrightarrow{5}$  B  $\xrightarrow{6}$  E  $\xrightarrow{4}$  F  $\xrightarrow{3}$  G  
 optimal Total cost = 18.



## Optimality of A\*



### Admissible Heuristics

- A heuristic function  $h(n)$  is said to be admissible if for every node  $n$ ,

$$h(n) \leq h(n)^*$$

$h(n)^*$ : True cost/min. cost to reach goal from node  $n$ .

- An admissible heuristic can never overestimate the cost to reach goal from the current node  $n$ .

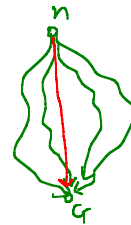
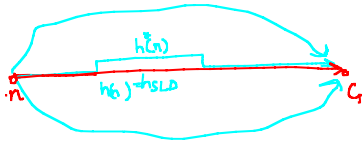
If  $h(n) = 0$  then it is obviously admissible.

$$0 \leq h(n)^*$$

$h_{SLD}$ : Straight-line distance.

↓  
Admissible

$$h_{SLD} \leq h(n)^*$$



Theorem:- If  $h(n)$  is admissible, then A\* search is optimal for Tree search paradigm.

### 2. Consistent heuristics

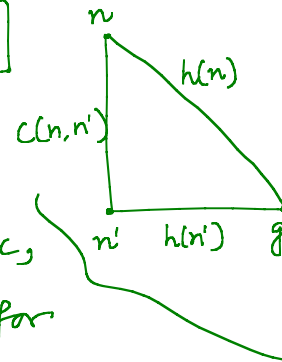
- A heuristic function is said to be consistent if for every node  $n$ , and for every successor node  $n'$

$$h(n) \leq c(n, n') + h(n')$$

- Every consistent heuristic is also admissible.

Theorem:- If  $h(n)$  is a consistent heuristic,

A\* search would be optimal for Graph-Search paradigm also.



$$\text{Consistent heuristic: } h(n) \leq c(n, n') + h(n')$$

$$\frac{h(B)}{5} > c(B,A) + h(A)$$

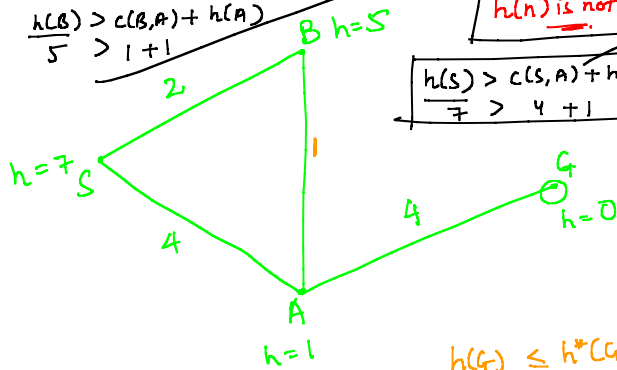
$$5 > 1 + 1$$

$h(n)$  is not consistent

check whether  $h$  is admissible?

$$\frac{h(s)}{7} > c(s,A) + h(A)$$

$$7 > 4 + 1$$



$$h(s) \leq h^*(s)$$

$$7 \leq 7 \checkmark$$

$$h(A) \leq h^*(A)$$

$$1 \leq 4 \checkmark$$

$$h(B) \leq h^*(B)$$

$$5 \leq 5 \checkmark$$

$$h(G) \leq h^*(G)$$

$$0 \leq 0 \checkmark$$

$h$  is admissible

Graph Search Paradigm

~~S A B G~~

