

# 15 Puzzle Challenge

## CURRENT RESULT

TIME: 01:24:02  
MOVES: 116

## PERSONAL BEST

TIME: 01:07:04  
MOVES: 110

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

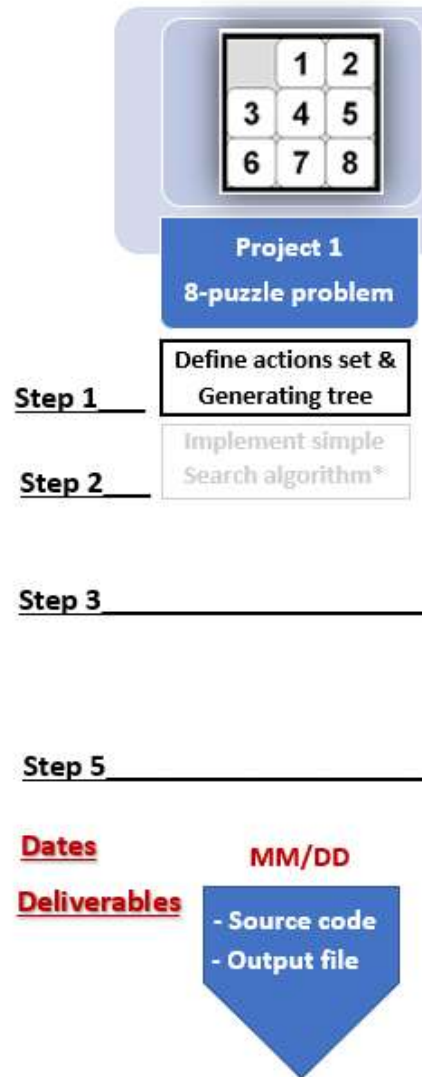
15

1

Implementation  
and software

Project#1 (5  
points)

# Project 1



\*Optional

# Project -1 Description

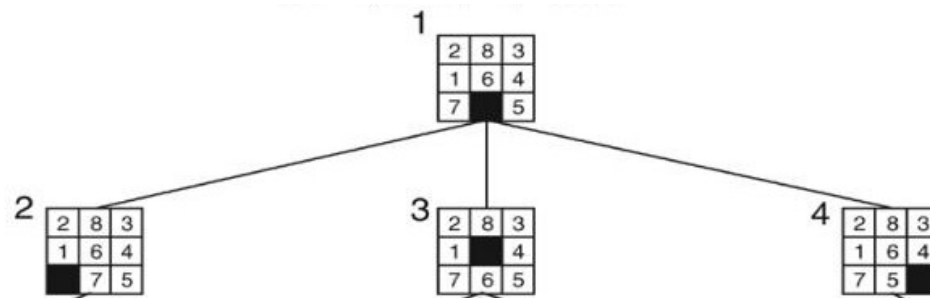
- Find all the possible states of the 15-Puzzle starting from the given initial state. Note that, the states should be unique (no repetitions).
- From the initial state of the puzzle, use different moves in all the directions to generate new states, check the validity of the newly generated node.
- Traverse the path as a tree and reach the final state
- Programming in python is preferred.
- Follow flow-chart for better intuition

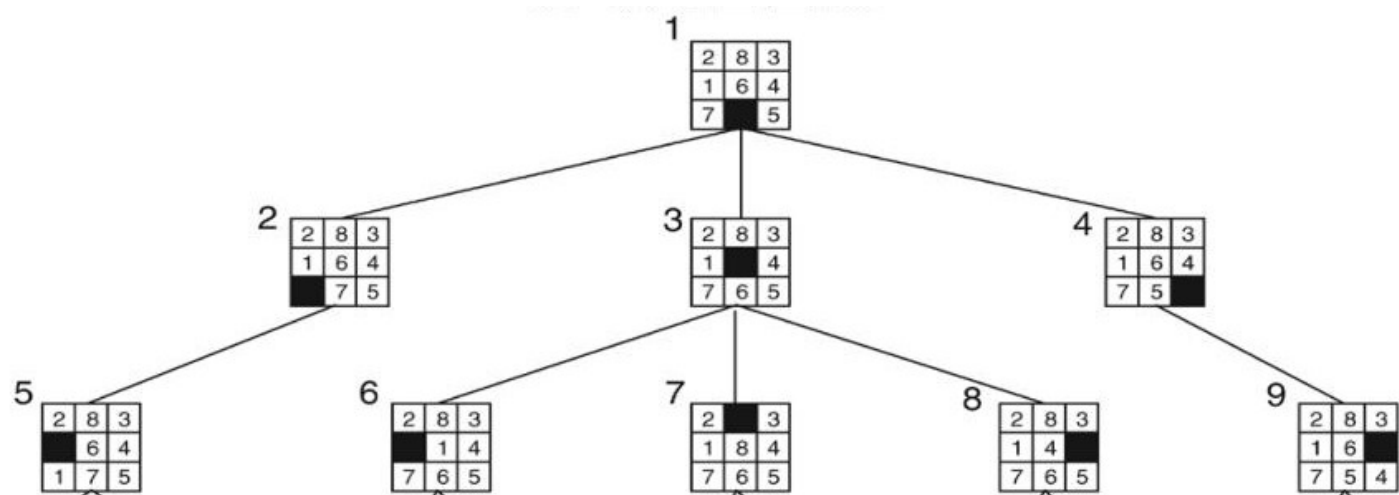
# Example

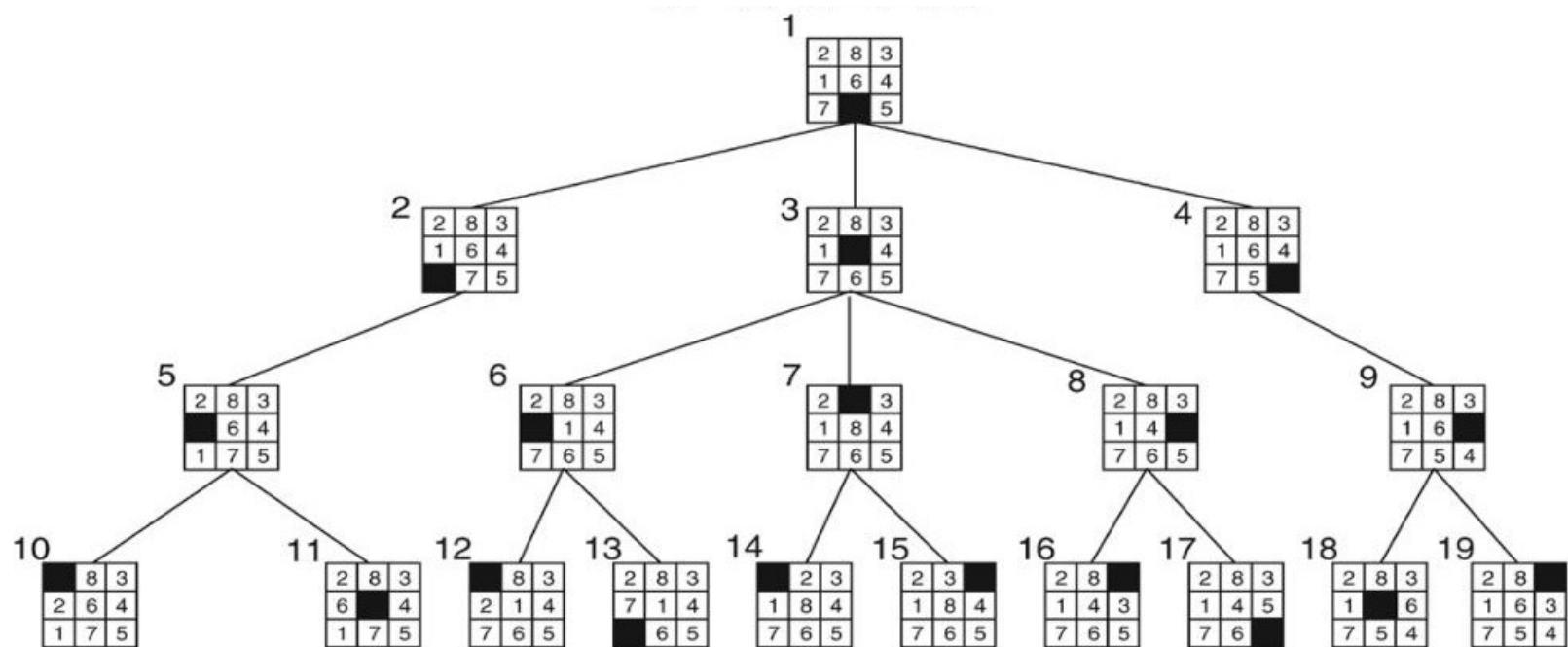
00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000

1

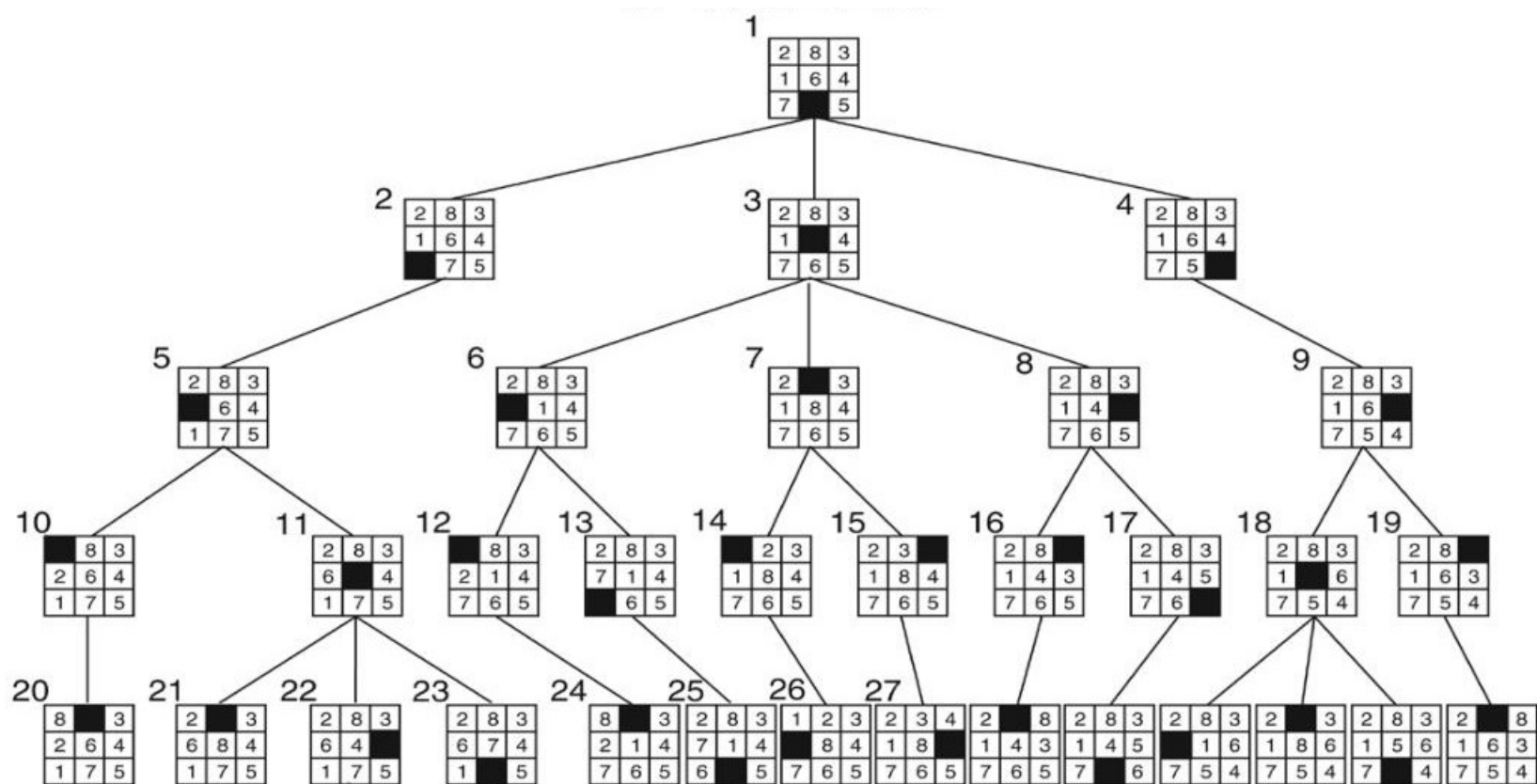
2	8	3
1	6	4
7		5



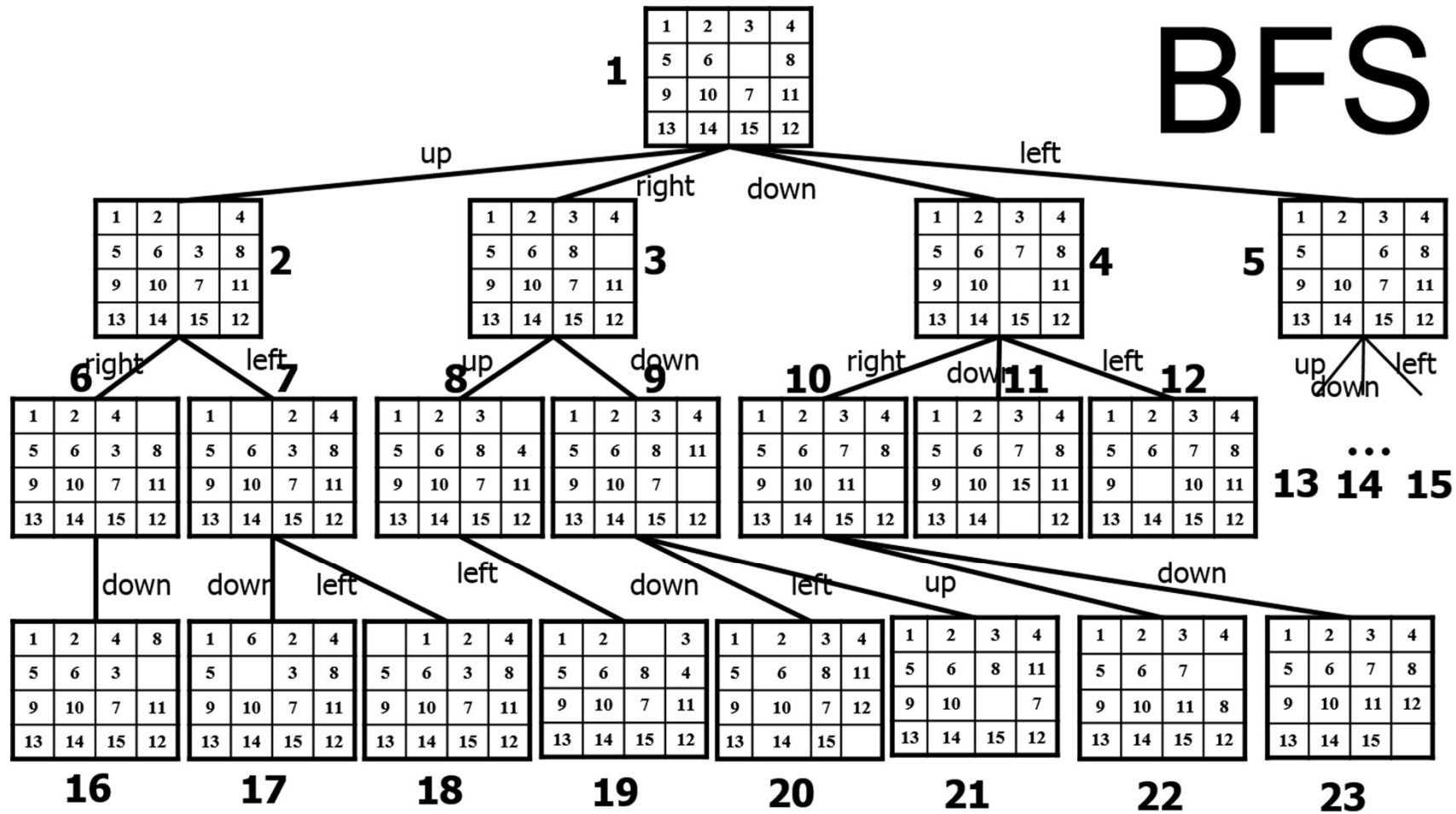




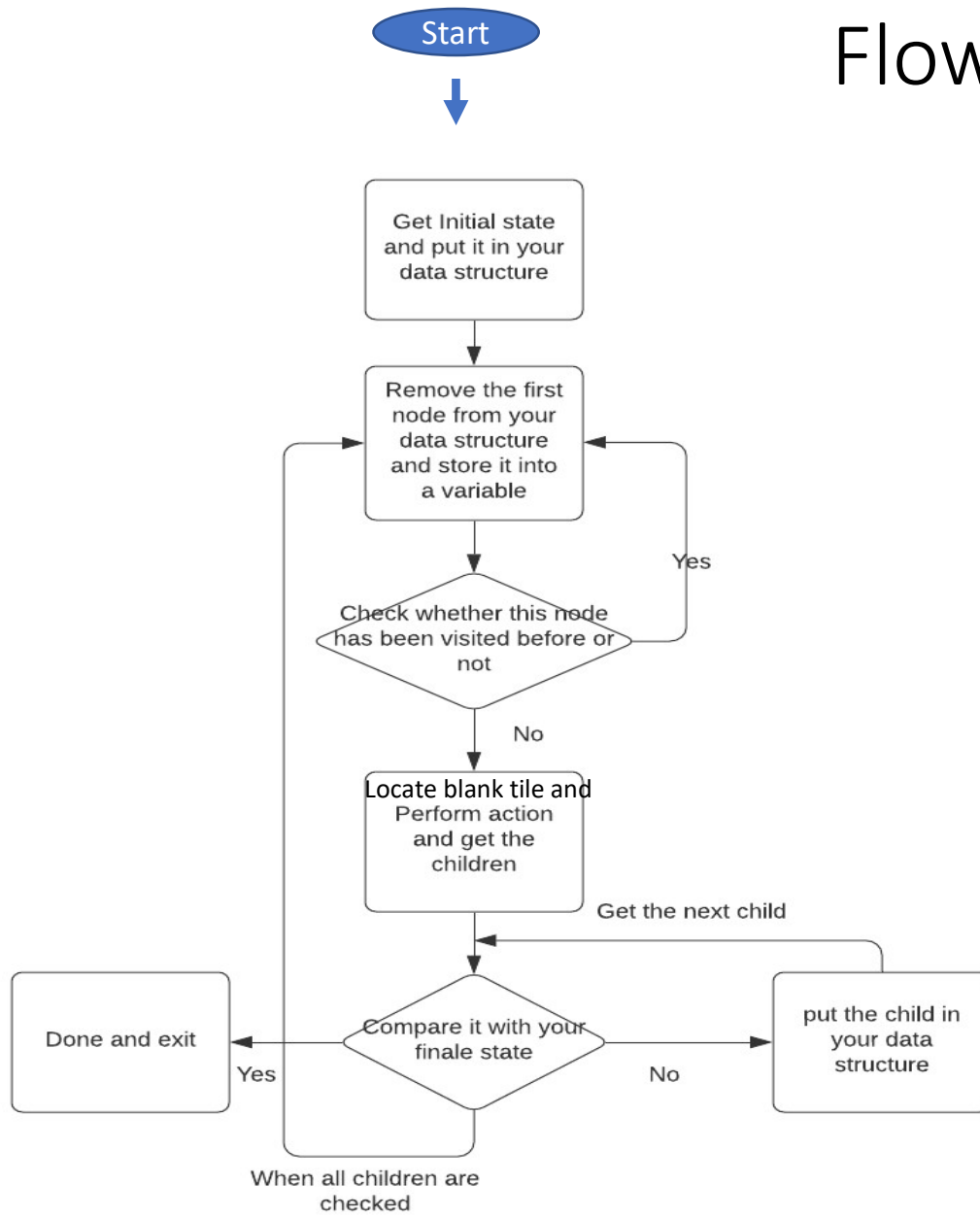




# BFS



# Flow chart



# Suggested Parameter Names

HINT:

Information to be stored in the data structure for each node:

- **Node\_State\_i**: The state of node i is represented by a 4 by 4 matrix, for example [ 1 2 3 4; 5 6 7 8; 9 10 11 12; 13 14 15 0].

# 1-First Step

- You should first select a data structure type to save your generated nodes.
- There are different types of data structure that could be used. The type of data structure is optional.
- Hint: Read about stacks and queues

# Data structure in PYTHON

Review the “list” and “dictionary” data structures for python in the following link

- 1) [Learn Python - Full Course for Beginners \[Tutorial\] \(Links to an external site.\)](#)
- 2) [Learn Python - Full Course for Beginners \[Tutorial\] \(Links to an external site.\)](#)
- 3) [Learn Python - Full Course for Beginners \[Tutorial\]](#)
- 4) <https://www.linkedin.com/learning/learning-python-2> (Links to an external site.)
- 5) <https://www.linkedin.com/learning/programming-foundations-data-structures-2> (Links to an external site.)
- 6) <https://www.linkedin.com/learning/python-data-structures-stacks-queues-and-deques>

## 2. Step two

- Write a function that given the state of the current node in the 15 puzzle problem, calculates the location of the blank tile in the 4 by 4 matrix and returns the output as a pair, (i,j). Where  $0 < i < 4$  and  $0 < j < 4$ .
- Blanktile can be located using either two for loops or by using inbuilt functions of numpy.

% Find the location of the blank tile to take further actions

### 3. Step three

- Write 4 subfunctions to move the blank tile in 4 different directions and store them in a list

```
[NewNode] = ActionMoveLeft(CurrentNode);  
% Moves blank tile left, if possible
```

```
[NewNode] = ActionMoveRight(CurrentNode);  
% Moves blank tile right, if possible
```

```
[NewNode] = ActionMoveUp(CurrentNode);  
% Moves blank tile up, if possible
```

```
[NewNode] = ActionMoveDown(CurrentNode);  
% Moves blank tile down, if possible
```



## 4. Step four

- Append All the possible new nodes in a list
- Follow the flowchart (optional) once done
- Additional: Focus on checking the node to be explored with the visited list you maintain and if it is present do not repeat the actionset for that node.

# Additional Notes

- Parent child information is optional and not mandatory. No extra marks will be cut if the parent information is not stored with the current node.
- Each test case will be allowed to run for a maximum of two hours to be considered for evaluation, i.e. given an initial node, the fifteen puzzle should be solved within this time.
- Randomly 10 students will be selected who need to explain their code during TA office hours.

# Due Date and Deliverables

- Due date: 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb 11:59 pm .
- Submit deliverables on Canvas & GitHub.
- Deliverables:
  - Source code (Should be a python file)
  - Output textfile to be generated from the code: Nodes
  - A text file that explains how to run the program.
- Folder Name (zip) : proj1\_firstname\_lastname

# Additional Hint

- Since it's 15 puzzle for some test cases it might take a long time to reach the goal state thus it's important to consider the code efficiency.
- Increasing Efficiency:
  - Use a Good data structure (For Example: List, dictionary, Queue (Refer to the links))
  - Store Matrix as an integer or string which will help while comparing to different nodes.
  - While performing action read the integer/string and store it as a matrix for ease. (optional)

# GitHub and README

- GitHub
  - Well commented code
  - Frequent detailed commits, i.e. commits should have messages. For example - “ Added function to find the blank tile location”
  - The link (made public) should be uploaded as comments with your submission.
- ReadMe
  - Instructions to run the code, step by step.
  - Explicitly mention the libraries used in your code

# Output textfile to be generated from the code

## **Textfile 1:**

Name: nodePath.txt

The elements are being stored column-wise, i.e. for this state 1 5 9 13 2 6 10 14 3 7 11 15 4 8 12 0 , the fifteen-puzzle state is

1 2 3 4

5 6 7 8

9 10 11 12

13 14 15 0

The order of the states should be from start node to the goal node.