

# Advanced Artificial Intelligence

Week #4

### Dr. Qurat Ul Ain

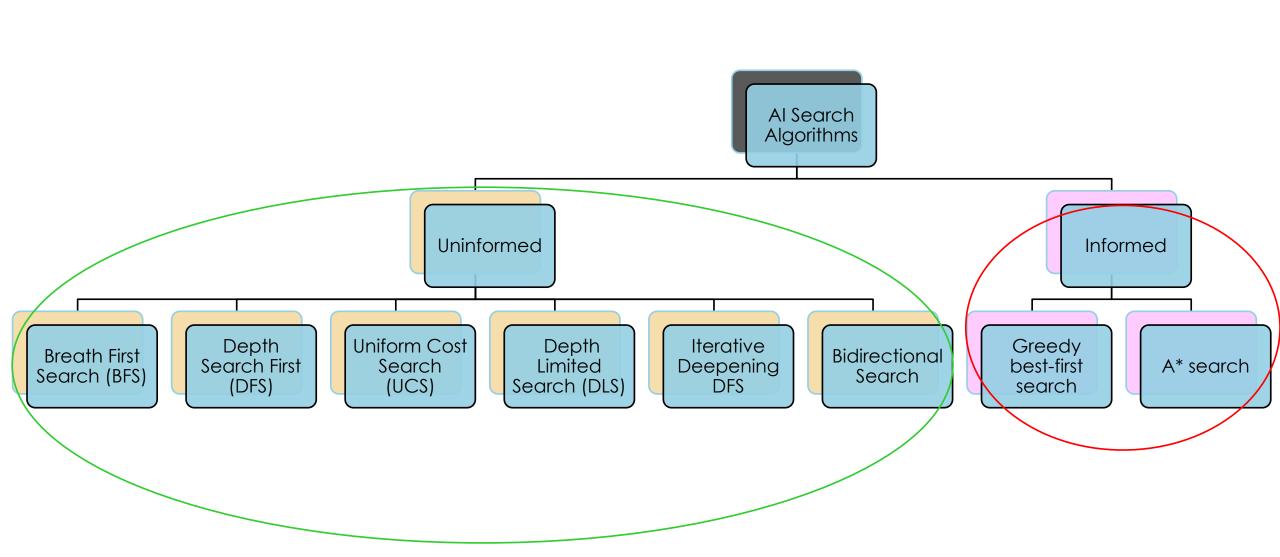
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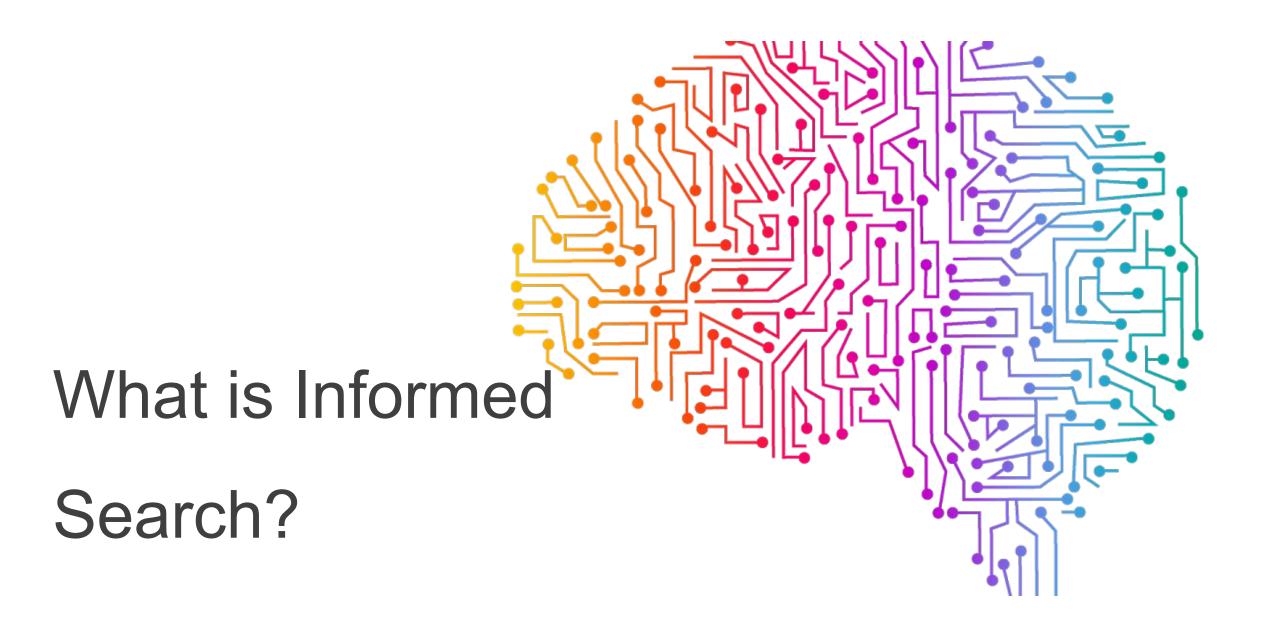
# **INFORMED SEARCH ALGORITHM**



# Learning Objective of this Topic

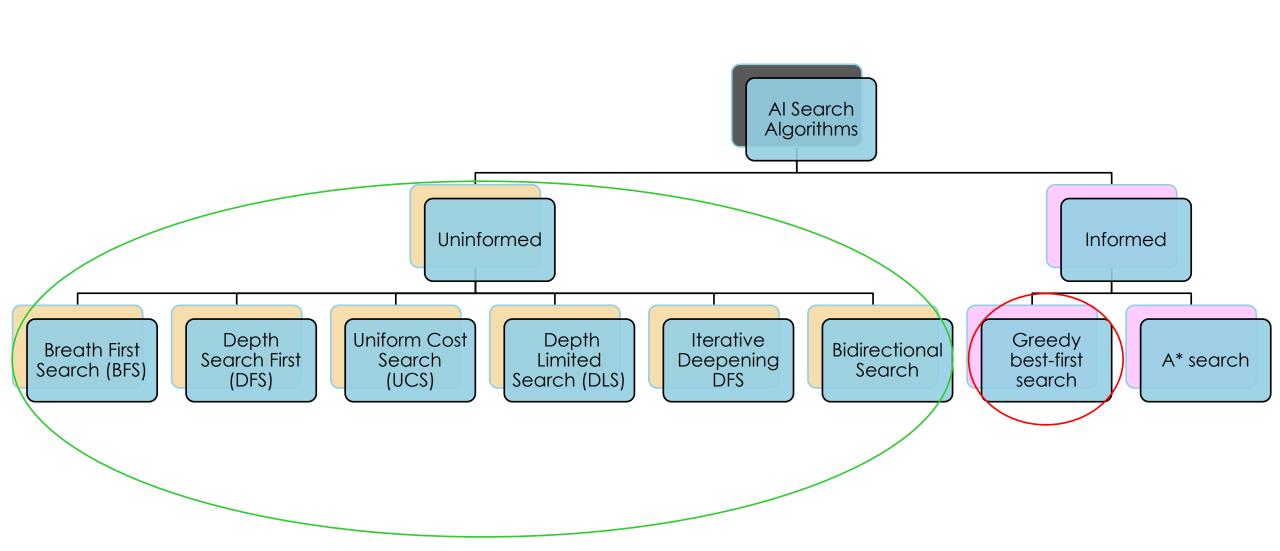
- What is Informed Search
- Informed Searching Algorithms
  - Best-first Search Algorithm (Greedy Search)
  - A\* Search
- Advantages and Disadvantages of Informed Search
- Puzzle Problem by A\* Search

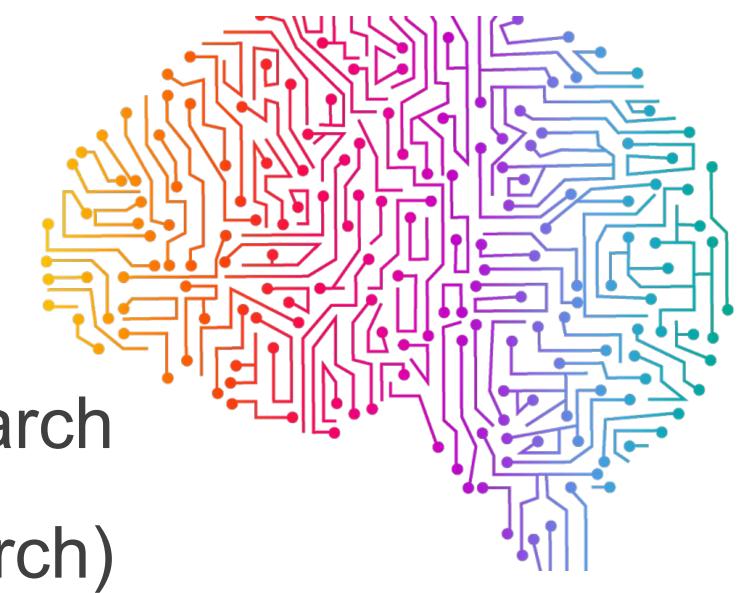




# Informed Search

- The informed search contains knowledge such as how far we are from the goal, path cost, how to reach to the goal node, etc.
- This knowledge helps agents explore less in the search space and find the goal node.
- An informed search algorithm uses the idea of **heuristic**, so it is also called Heuristic search.
- Heuristic function: It is a technique designed to solve a problem quickly.
  - ☐ In searching, it produces the estimation of how close the agent is to the goal.
- The heuristic approach, however, might not always give the best solution, but it is guaranteed to find a good solution in a reasonable time.
- $\square$  It is represented by h(n), and the value of the heuristic function is always positive.





Best-first Search

(Greedy Search)

# Best-first Search Algorithm (Greedy Search)

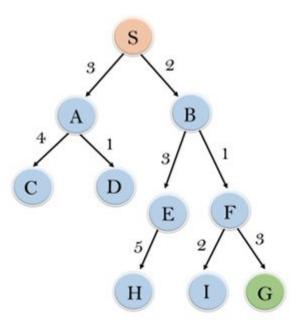
- Greedy best-first search algorithm always selects the path which appears best at that moment.
- It uses the heuristic function and search. Best-first search allows us to take the advantages of depth-first search and breadth-first search.
- In the best first search algorithm, we expand the node and the closest cost is estimated by heuristic function, i.e.

$$f(n) = g(n)$$
.

- $\square$  Where h(n)= estimated cost from node n to the goal.
- ☐ The greedy best-first algorithm is implemented by the priority queue.

# Example

Consider the below search problem, and we will traverse it using greedy best-first search. At each iteration, each node is expanded using the heuristic function f(n)=h(n), which is given in the below table.



node	H (n)
A	12
В	4
C	7
D	3
Е	8
F	2
Н	4
I	9
S	13
G	0

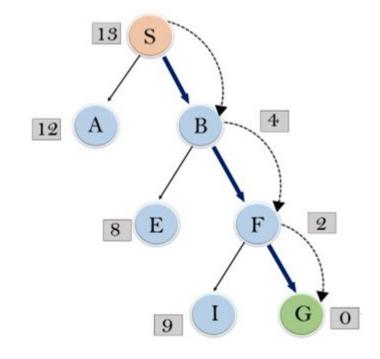
We are using two lists which are OPEN and CLOSED Lists. Following are the iteration for traversing.

Expand the nodes of S and put in the CLOSED list

Initialization: Open [A, B], Closed [S]

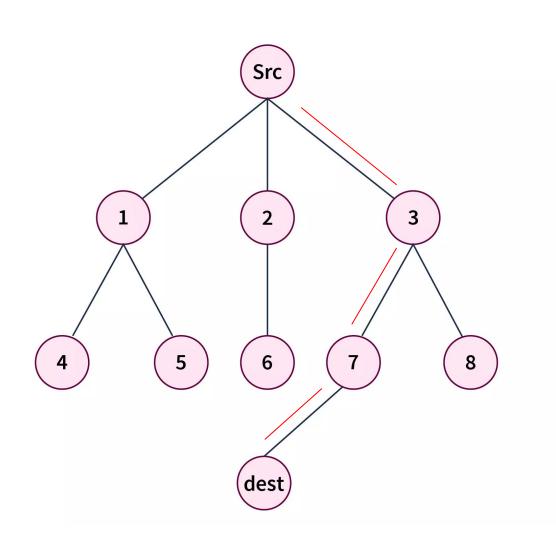
Iteration 1 : Open [A], Closed [S, B]

Iteration 3 : Open [I, G, E, A], Closed [S, B, F]
: Open [I, E, A], Closed [S, B, F, G]

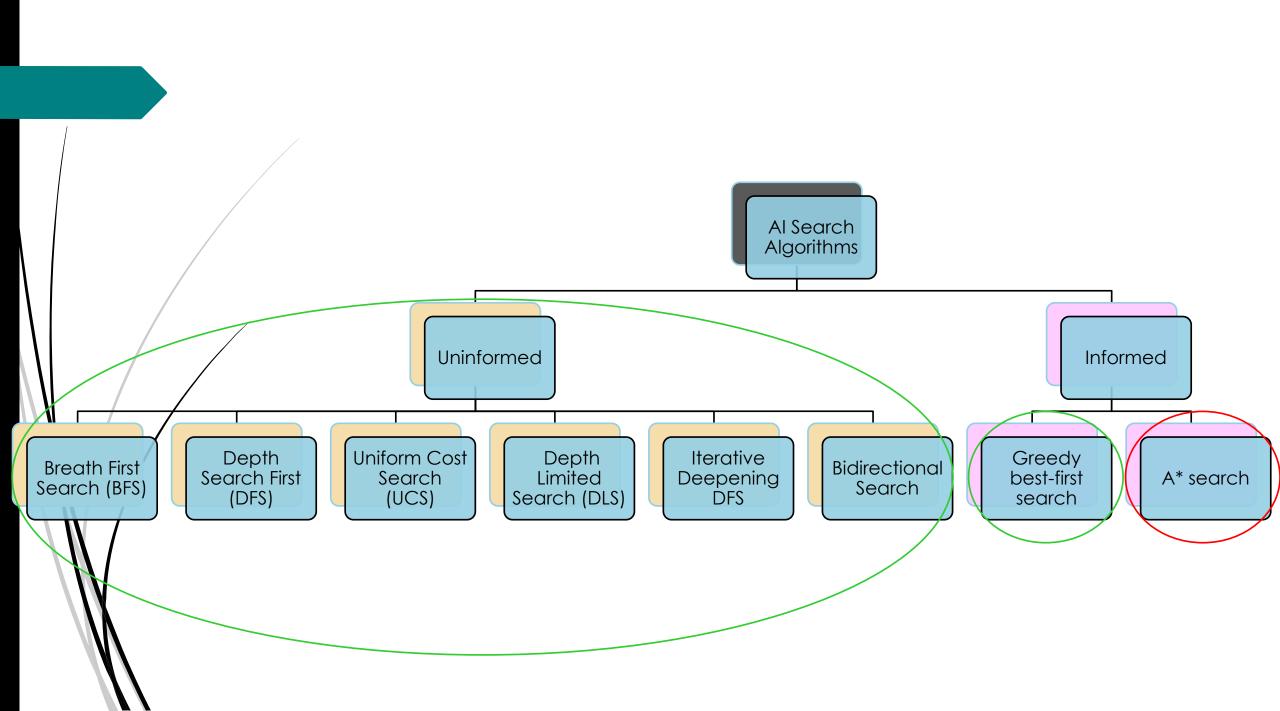


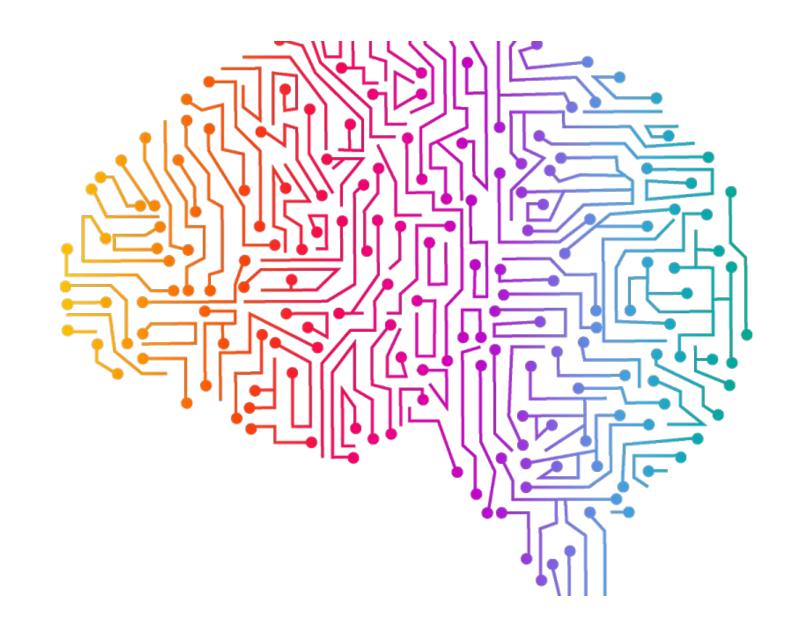
Hence the final solution path will be: S----> B----> G

# Activity



Src	20
1	22
2	21
3	10
4	25
5	24
6	30
7	5
8	12
dest	0



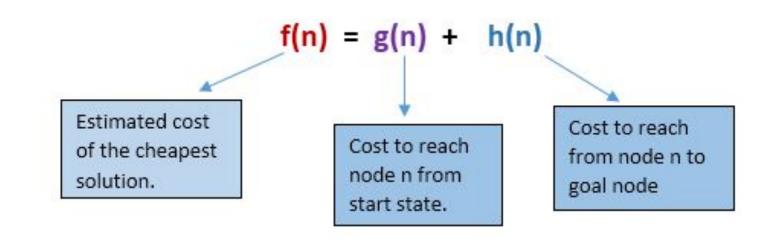


A\* Search

# A\* Search

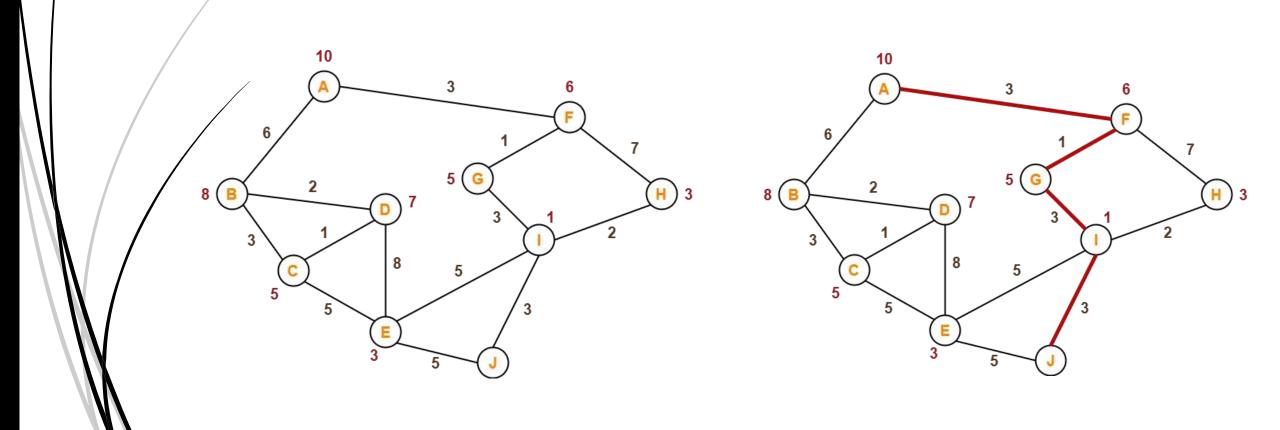
- ☐ A\* search is the most commonly known form of best-first search.
- It uses heuristic function h(n), and cost to reach the node n from the start state g(n).
- It has combined features of UCS and greedy best-first search, by which it solve the problem efficiently.
- A\* search algorithm finds the shortest path through the search space using the heuristic function.
- This search algorithm expands less search tree and provides optimal result faster.

In A\* search algorithm, we use search heuristic as well as the cost to reach the node. Hence we can combine both costs as following, and this sum is called as a fitness number.



# Activity

(The value on the nodes is h(n) and value on the edges is g(n))



### Step-01:

- · We start with node A.
- Node B and Node F can be reached from node A.
- A\* Algorithm calculates

$$f(n) = g(n) + h(n)$$

- f(B) = g(B) + h(B) = 6 + 8 = 14
- f(F) = g(F) + h(F) = 3 + 6 = 9
- Since f(F) < f(B), so it decides to go to node F.
- Path- A → F

### Step-02:

- Node G and Node H can be reached from node F.
- A\* Algorithm calculates

$$f(n) = g(n) + h(n)$$

- f(G) = g(G) + h(G) = (3+1) + 5 = 9
- f(H) = g(H) + h(H) = (3+7) + 3 = 13
- Since f(G) < f(H), so it decides to go to node G.
- Path A → F → G

### Step-03:

- · Node I can be reached from node G.
- A\* Algorithm calculates

$$f(n) = g(n) + h(n)$$

- f(I) = g(I) + h(I)= (3+1+3) + 1 = 8
- · So it decides to go to node I.
- Path A → F → G → I

### Step-04:

- Node E, Node H and Node J can be reached from node I.
- A\* Algorithm calculates

$$f(n) = g(n) + h(n)$$

- f(E) = (3+1+3+5) + 3 = 15
- f(H) = (3+1+3+2) + 3 = 12
- f(J) = (3+1+3+3) + 0 = 10
- Since f(J) is least, so it decides to go to node J.
- Path A  $\rightarrow$  F  $\rightarrow$  G  $\rightarrow$  I  $\rightarrow$  J

Advantages and
Disadvantages of
Informed Search

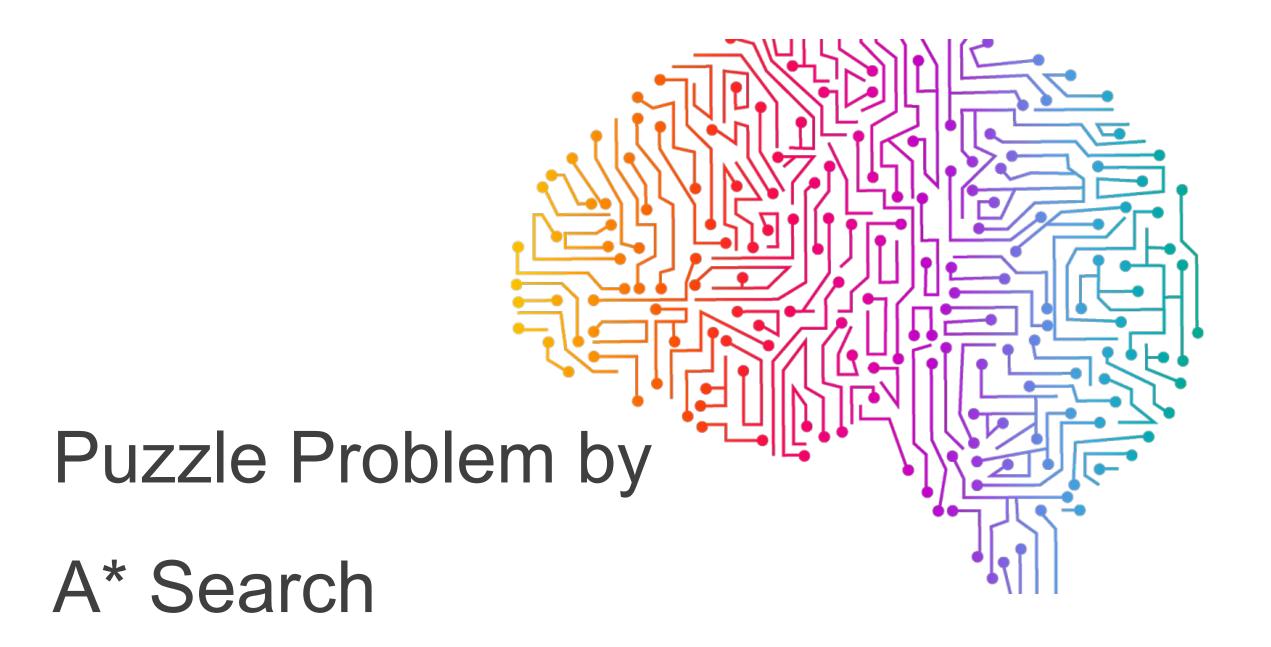
# Advantages and Disadvantages

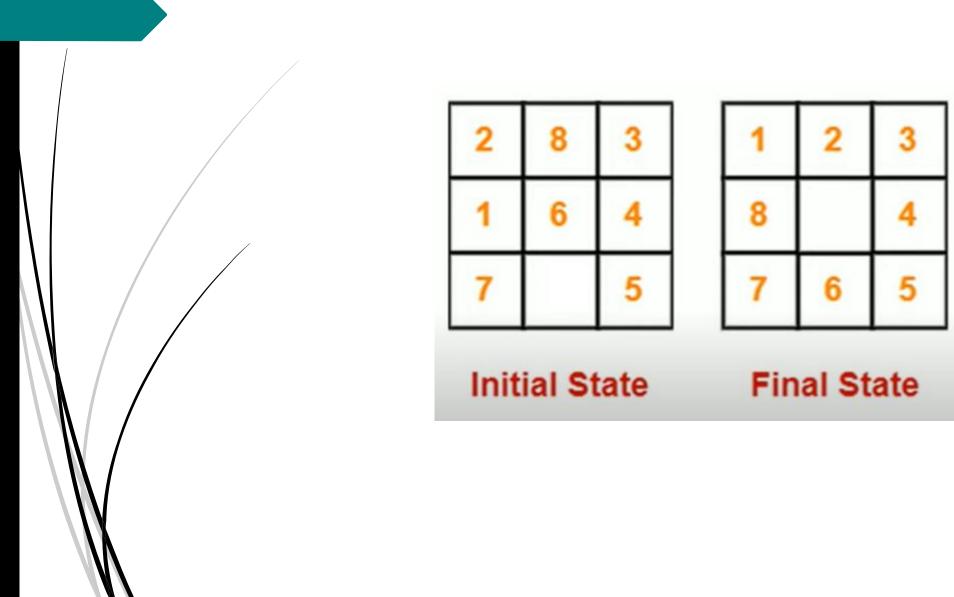
### **Advantages:**

- Informed search can switch between BFS and DFS by gaining the advantages of both algorithms.
- Informed Search is more efficient than Uninformed Search.
- A\* search algorithm is the best algorithm than other search algorithms.
- A\* search algorithm is optimal and complete.
- □ A\* search algorithm can solve very complex problems.

### **Disadvantages:**

- Greedy Best First is not optimal.
- A\* search does not always produce the shortest path as it mostly based on heuristics and approximation.
- The main drawback of A\* is memory requirement as it keeps all generated nodes in the memory, so it is not practical for various large-scale problems.





Given an initial state of a 8-puzzle problem and final state to be reached-

2	8	3
1	6	4
7		5

1	2	3
8		4
7	6	5

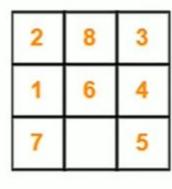
**Initial State** 

**Final State** 

· Find the most cost-effective path to reach the final state from initial state using A\* Algorithm.

$$f(n) = g(n) + h(n)$$

Consider g(n) = Depth of node and h(n) = Number of misplaced tiles.



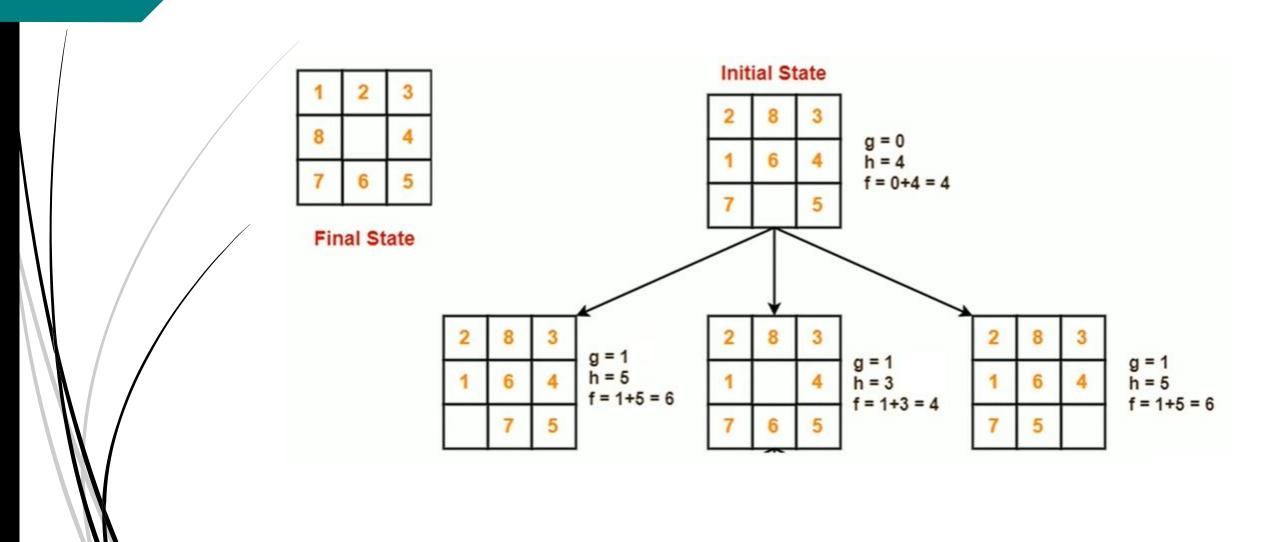
1	2	3
8		4
7	6	5

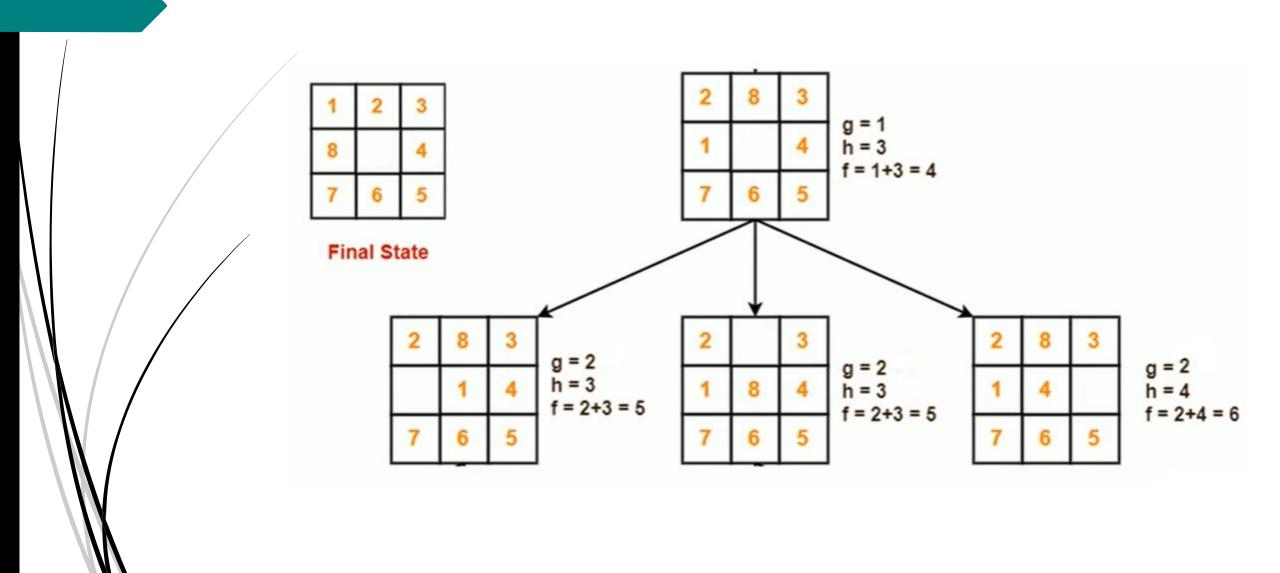
**Initial State** 

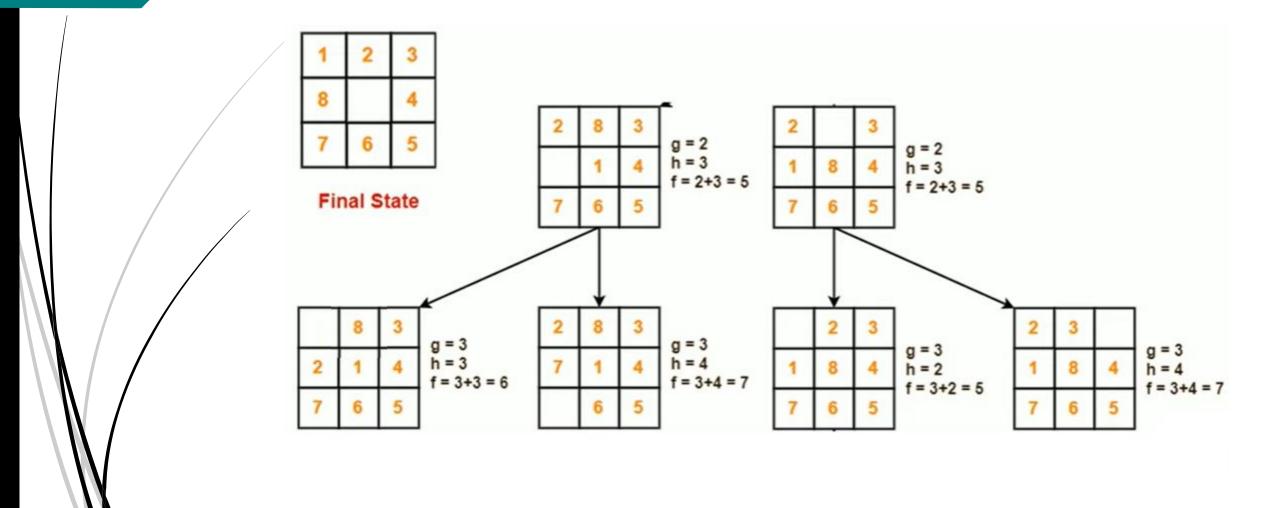
**Final State** 

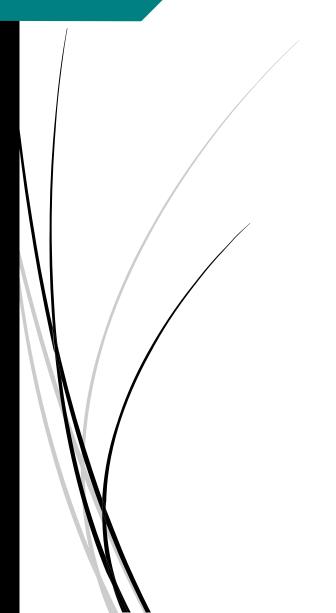
### **Initial State**

2	8	3
1	6	4
7		5



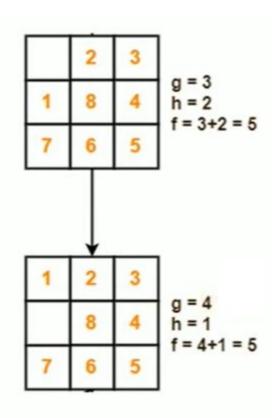


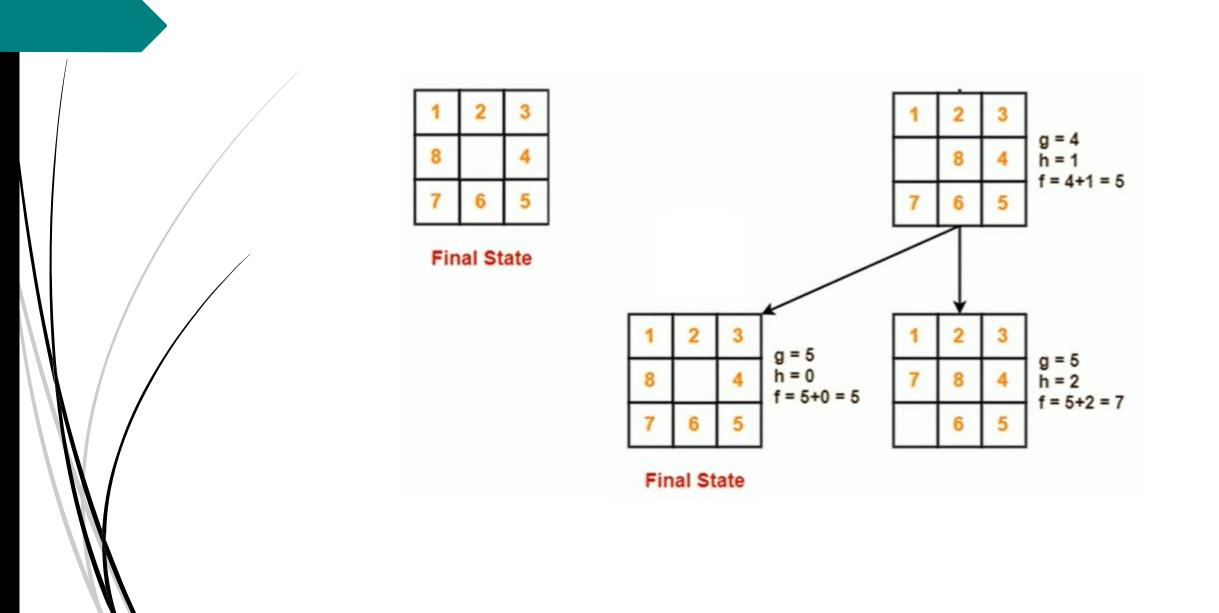


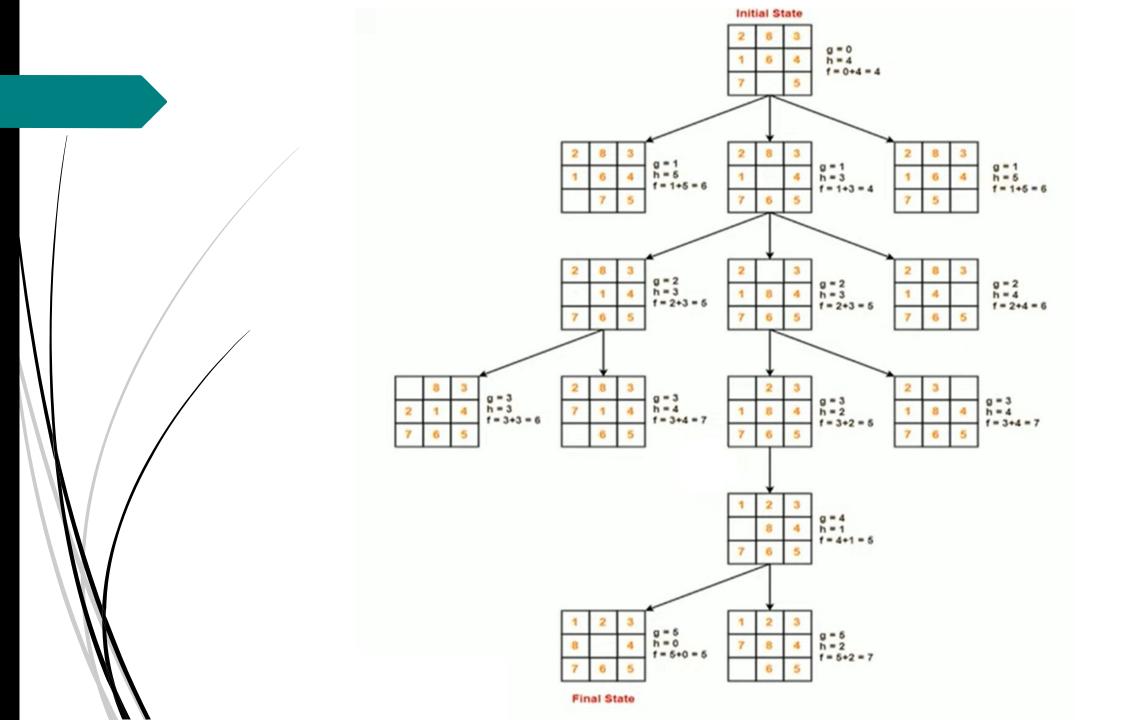


1	2	3
8		4
7	6	5

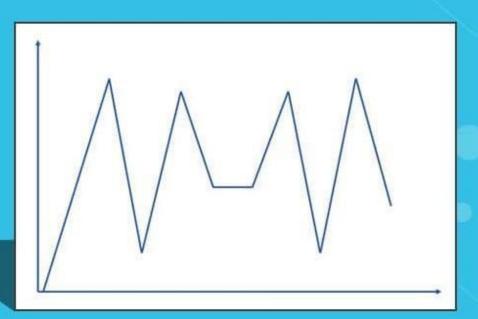
**Final State** 







# LOCAL SEARCH (HILL CLIMBING ALGORITHM)



# Learning Objective of this Topic

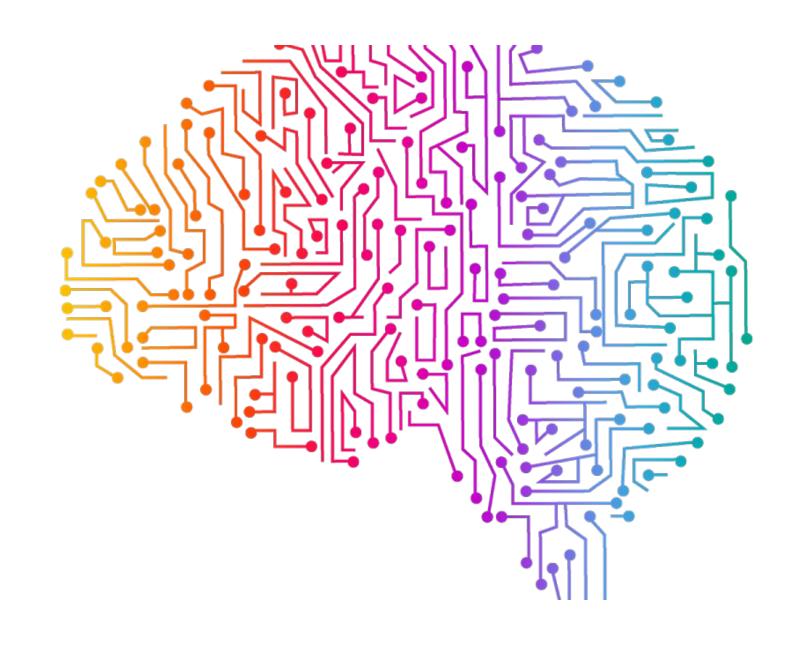
- What is Local Search?
- Hill Climbing Algorithm
- Hill Climbing Search Example using Local and Global Heuristic Function
- Advantages and Disadvantages of Hill Climbing (with Real-Life Applications)



## Local Search

- Local search algorithm focus on finding solutions:
  - within a limited part of the solution space,
  - making incremental improvements to a current solution
  - until reaching a satisfactory outcome.
  - They don't explore the entire solution space.

# Hill Climbing Algorithm



# Hill Climbing

- A hill-climbing algorithm is a local search algorithm that moves continuously upward (increasing) until the best solution is attained. This algorithm comes to an end when the peak is reached.
- It begins with a non-optimal state (the hill's base) and upgrades this state until a certain precondition is met.
- ☐ The heuristic function is used as the basis for this precondition.
- The continuous improvement of the current state of iteration can be termed climbing.
- ☐ This explains why the algorithm is termed a hill-climbing algorithm.

• Local Maximum: Local maximum is a state which is better than its neighbor states, but there is also another state which is higher than it.

• Global Maximum: Global maximum is the best possible state of state space landscape. It has the highest value of an objective function. (Goal State)

Current state: It is a state where an agent is currently present.



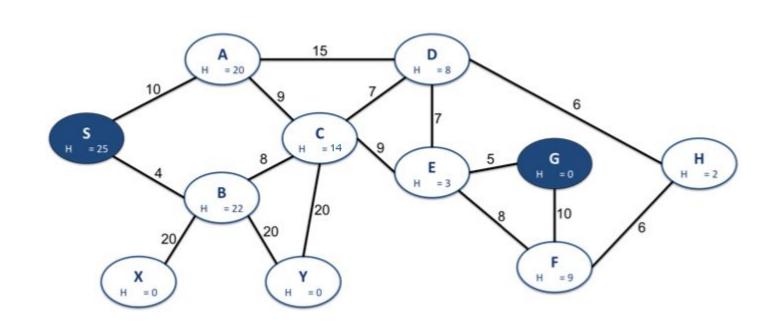
## Features of Hill Climbing

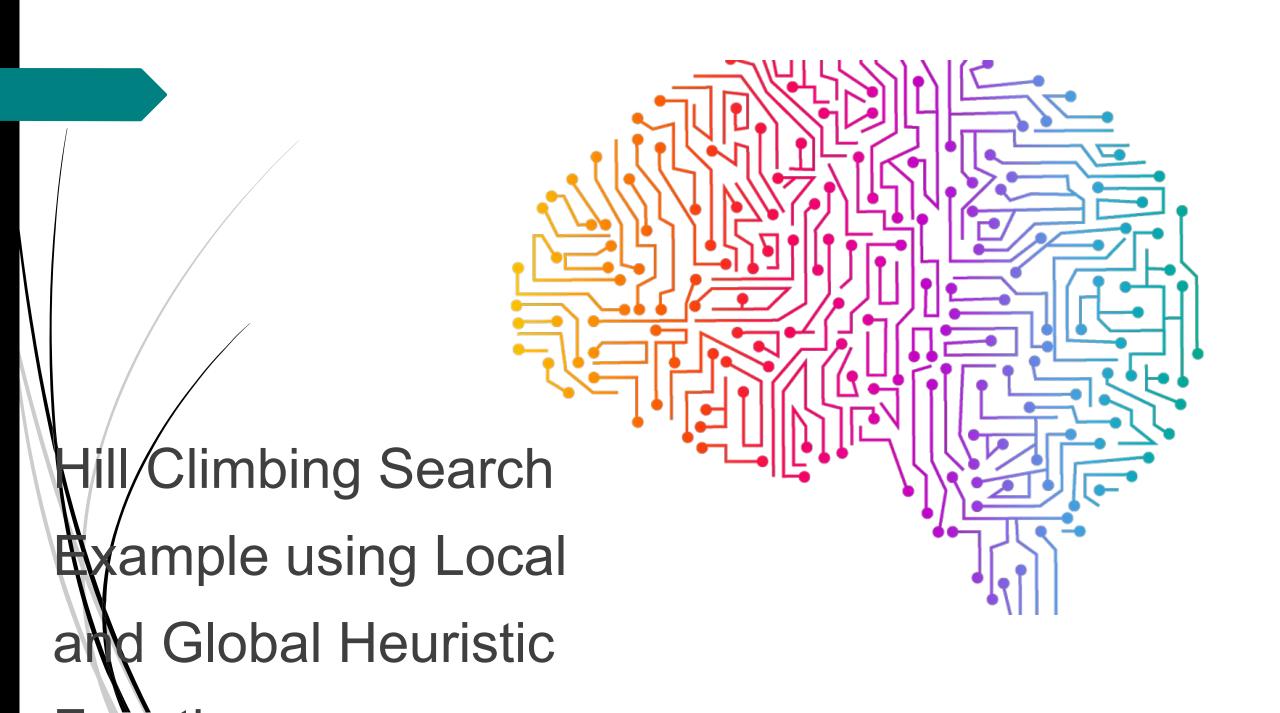
A hill-climbing algorithm has some main features:

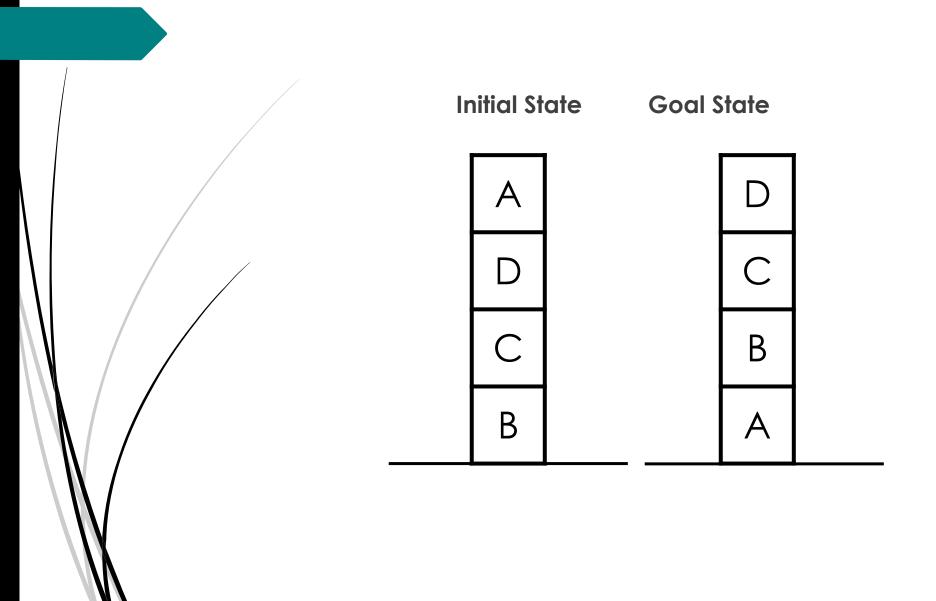
- It employs a **greedy approach**: This means that it moves in a direction in which the cost function is optimized. The greedy approach enables the algorithm to establish local maxima or minima.
- **No Backtracking:** A hill-climbing algorithm only works on the current state and succeeding states (future). It does not look at the previous states.
- **Feedback mechanism:** The algorithm has a feedback mechanism that helps it decide on the direction of movement (whether up or down the hill). The feedback mechanism is enhanced through the generate-and-test technique.
- **Blind Search:** We don't know about the whole solution space or about the goal state.

# Hill Climbing Search Example

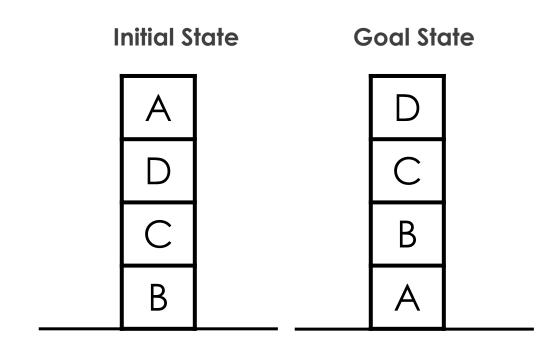
We will go for node with less heuristic value.







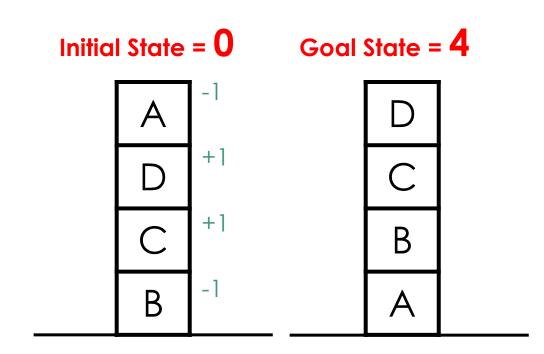
### Hill Climbing: Local Heuristic Function



#### **Local Heuristic:**

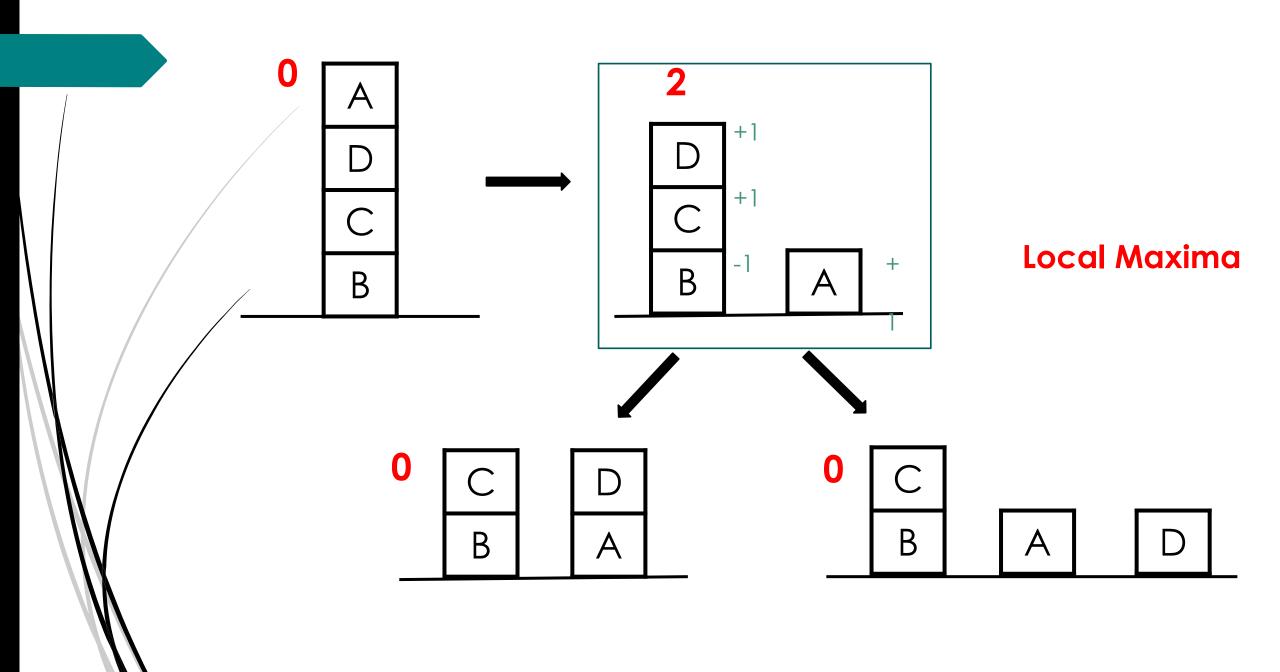
- +1 for each block that is resting on the thing it is supposed to be resting on
- -1 for each block that is resting on the wrong thing
- Operator: Bring any block to the ground or on another block

### Hill Climbing: Local Heuristic Function

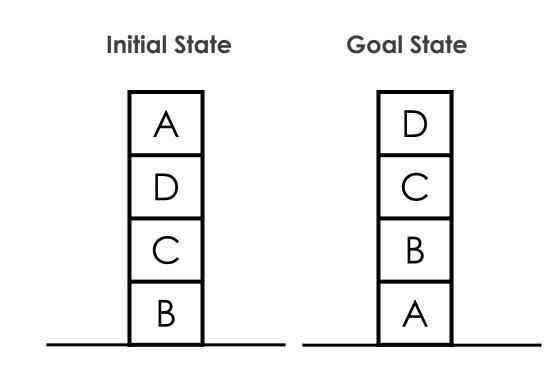


#### **Local Heuristic:**

- +1 for each block that is resting on the thing it is supposed to be resting on
- -1 for each block that is resting on the wrong thing
- Operator: Bring any block to the ground or on another block

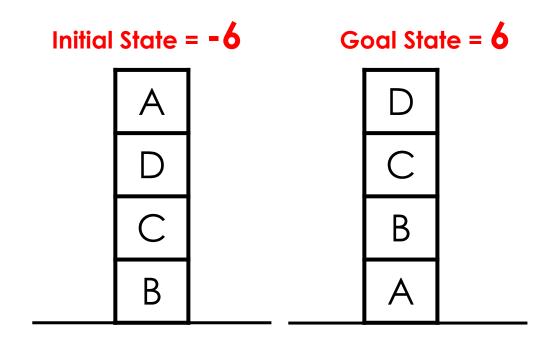


## Hill Climbing: Global Heuristic Function



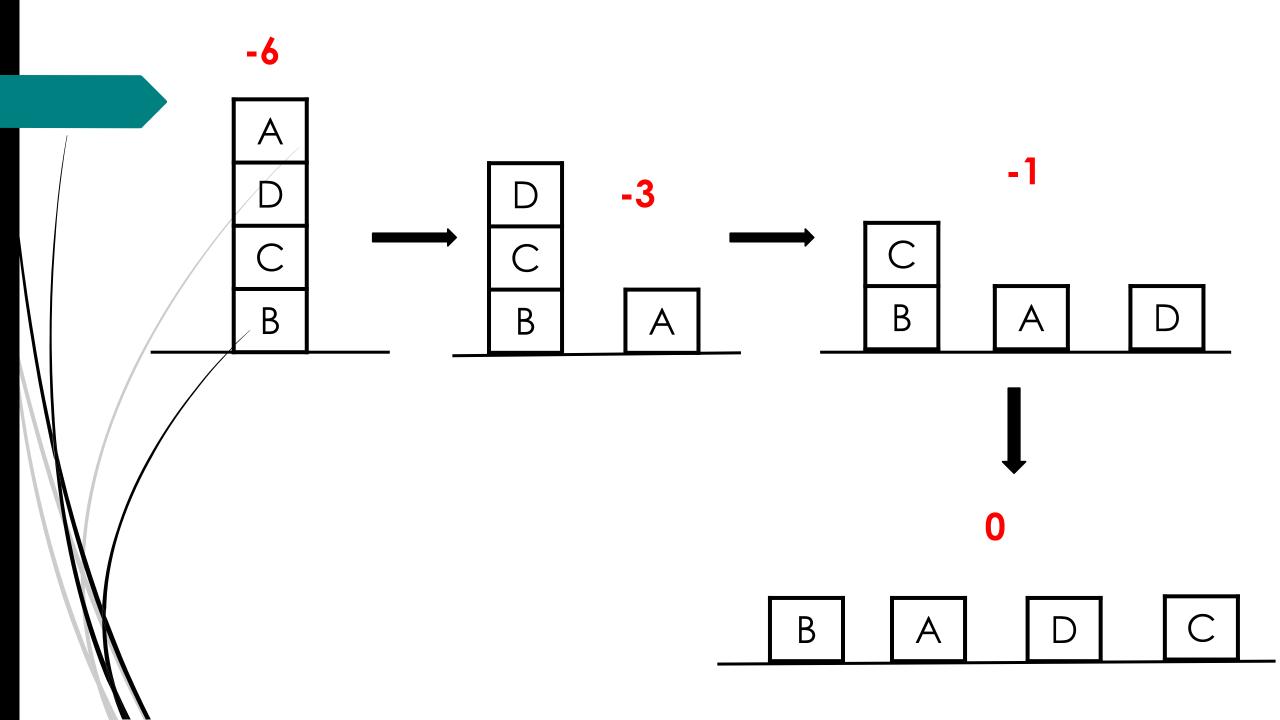
#### **Global Heuristic:**

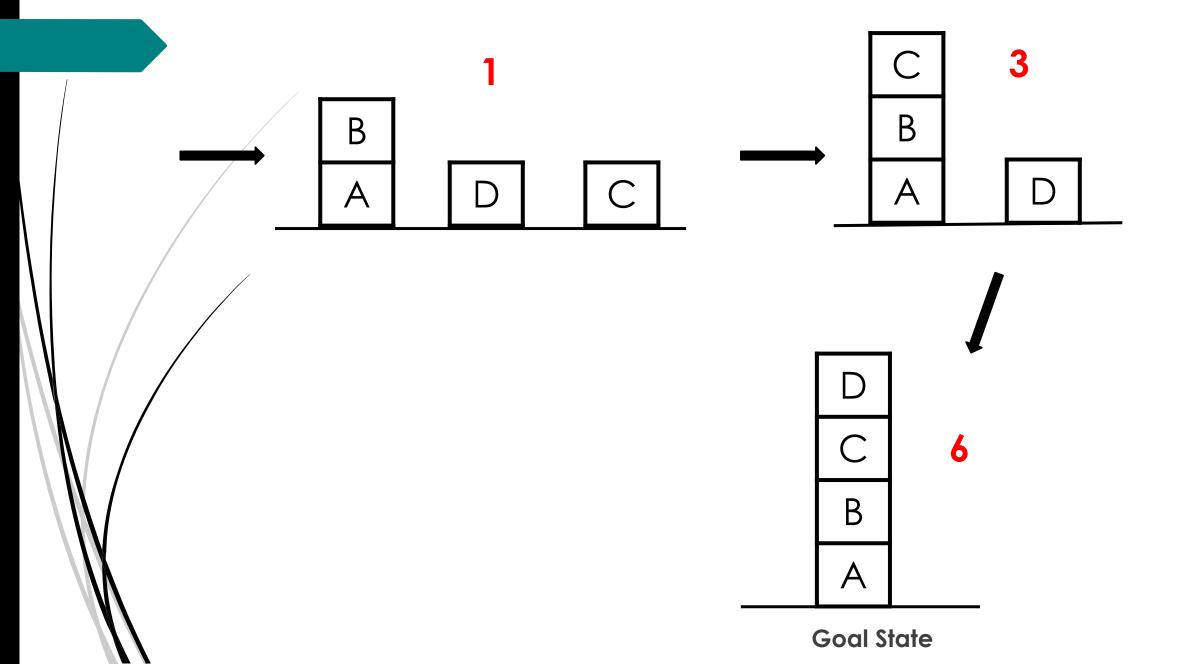
- for each block that has the correct support structure: +1 to every block in the support structure
- for each block that has the wrong support structure: -1 to every block in the support structure
- Operator: Bring any block to the ground or on another block



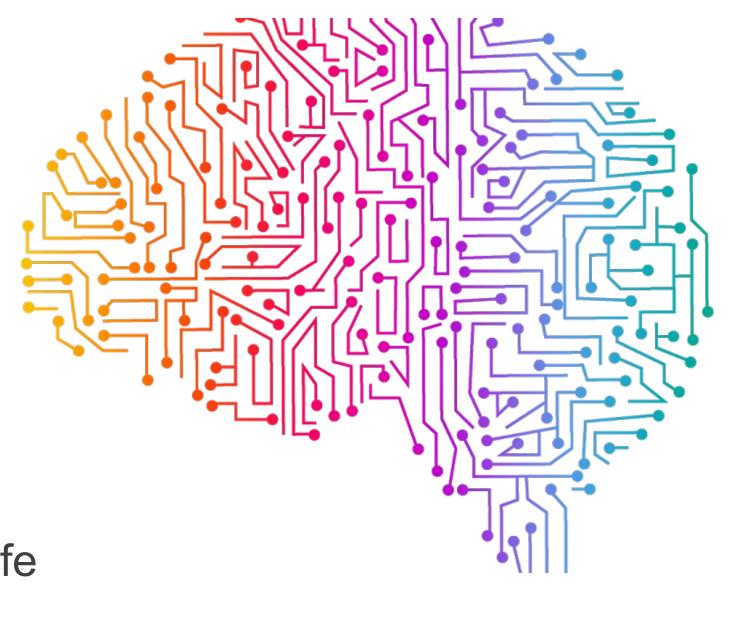
#### Local Heuristic:

- for each block that has the correct support structure: +1 to every block in the support structure
- for each block that has the wrong support structure: -1 to every block in the support structure
- Operator: Bring any block to the ground or on another block





Advantages and
Disadvantages of Hill
Climbing (with Real-Life
Applications)



### Advantages and Disadvantages

#### **Advantages:**

- It is a very useful technique while solving problems like job searching, shopping, web exploring for a certain query, and management related tasks etc.
- It requires very less computational power.
- The agent moves in the direction of the goal which optimizes our cost.

### Disadvantages:

- The efficiency and effectiveness get compromised while using this technique.
- If the value of the heuristic is uncertain then this technique is not recommended.
- It is an immediate solution, not an effective solution.
- The results obtained from this technique are uncertain and are not reliable.

