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# 1. Setting up AI Behavior

## 1.1 Components

First thing to do is to create an empty GameObject and add your character/avatar to it.

On this GameObject add the "AIBehaviors" script and put the "NavMeshAgent" (you will see some extra GameObjects and Components be added automatically).

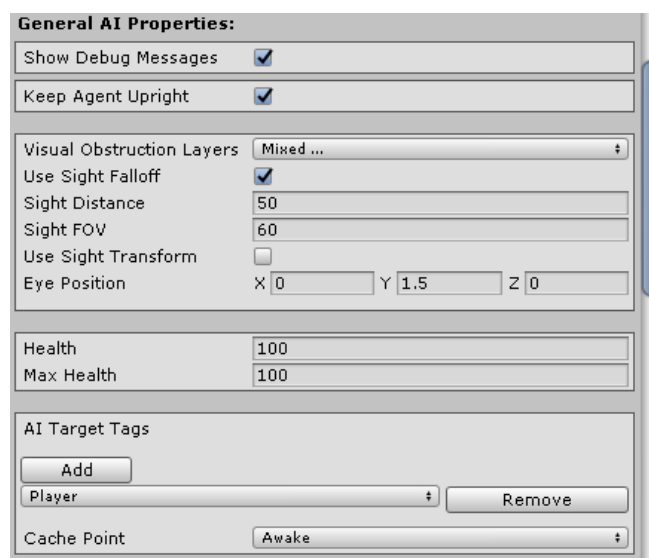


You should also add to this GameObject the "CharacterAnimator" or "MecanimAnimation" script, depending if you use Legacy or Mecanim animations.

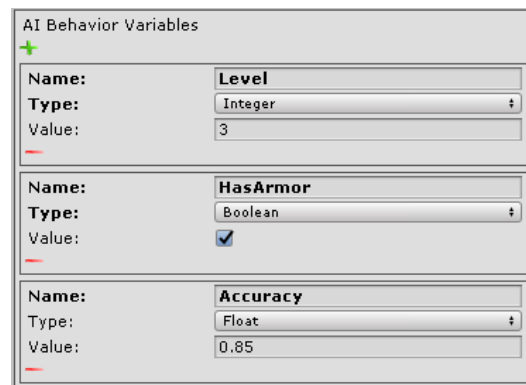
In the inspector you can set up all the different states that your character will use, and the conditions and triggers for each of them.

## 1.2 General AI Properties

This are settings applied to all the AI. Here you can set the sight properties of the AI, the health, and the target tag/s (this will be the most common target tag, but you can also set specific tags for each state and each trigger).



You can also add custom variables that you can use in game with the **CheckVariableTrigger**, and that you can change when entering a specific state. Allowed types are: Floats, Integers and Booleans.



AI Behavior Variables

Name:	Level
Type:	Integer
Value:	3

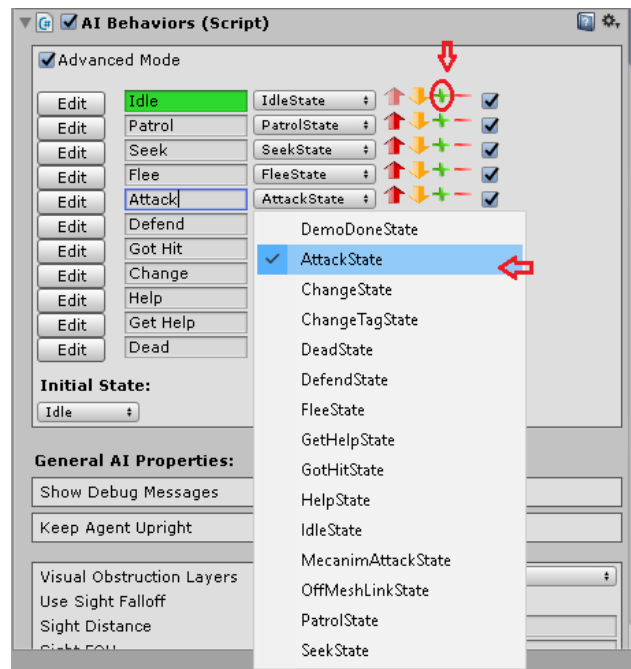
Name:	HasArmor
Type:	Boolean
Value:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Name:	Accuracy
Type:	Float
Value:	0.85

### 1.3 Adding and Setting up States

To add a state just **click the green "+" button** near one of the states and **choose** from the list what **kind of state** it is. Then for each state set the properties and the triggers to change between states.

**Note:** These states are scripts, if you want a custom one, you can write your own (extending the BaseState) and it will appear on this list.



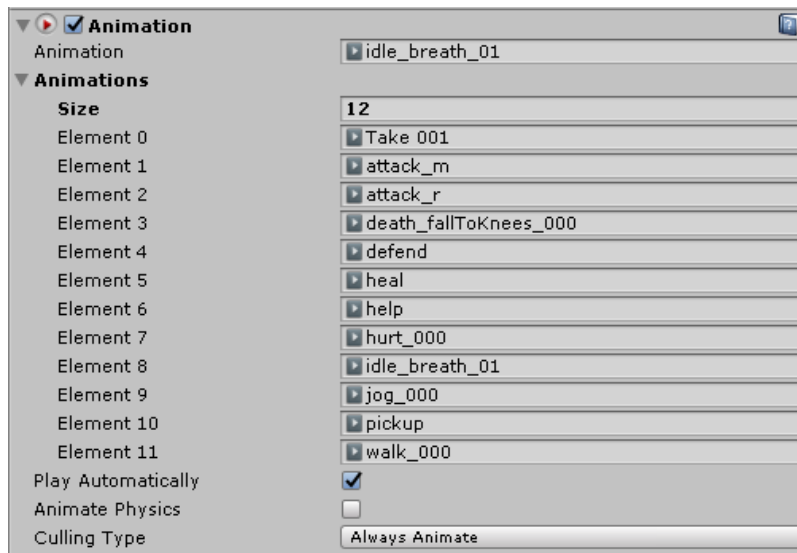
## 1.4 Animations

To set up the animations you have to add them to the "AIAnimationStates" script (This script is automatically added with the AIBehaviors).

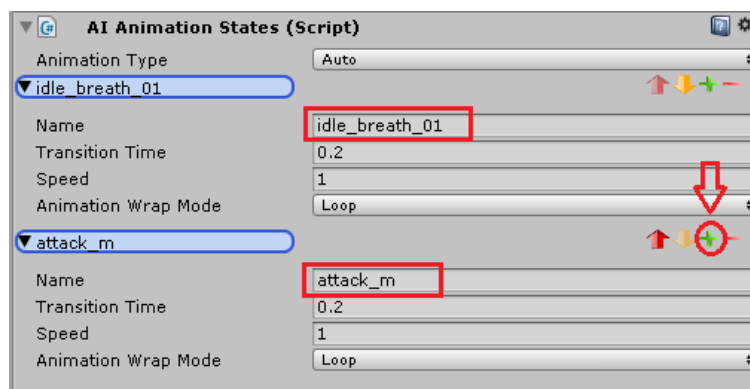
Depending if you use Mecanim or Legacy animations it will be different.

### 1.4.1 Legacy animations

With **Legacy**, you will need to add the "**Animation**" component to your **character/avatar** and add to it all your animations.

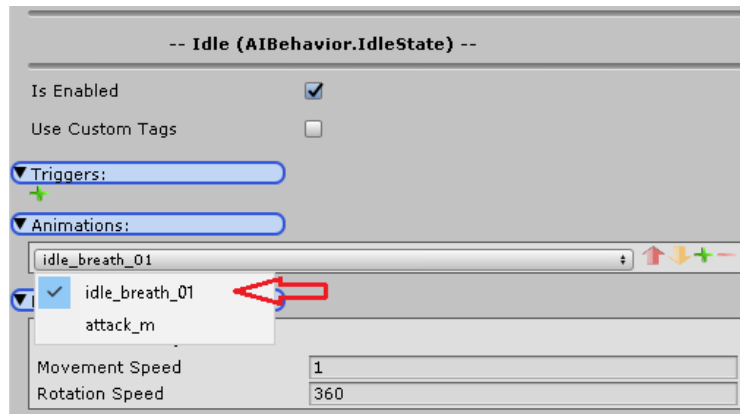


Then go back to the main GameObject and add the animations to the "AIAnimationStates" script, "+" button, and using the same names as the animations.



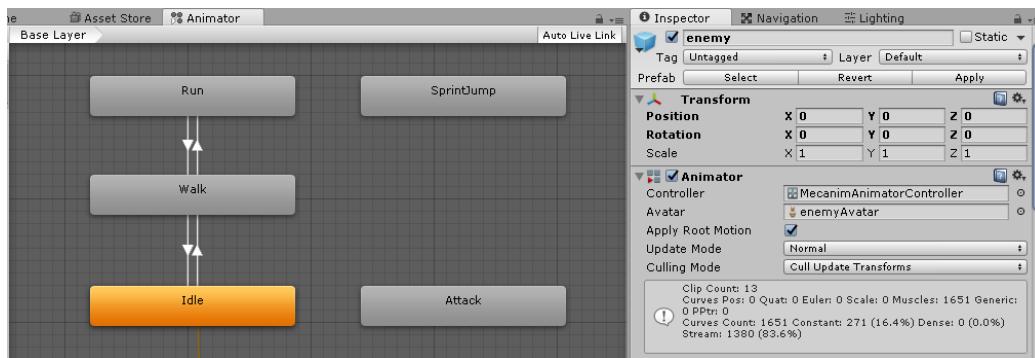
Finally in each state pick which animation it has to use, you can have more than one animation, in that case it will choose a random one each time it enters the state.





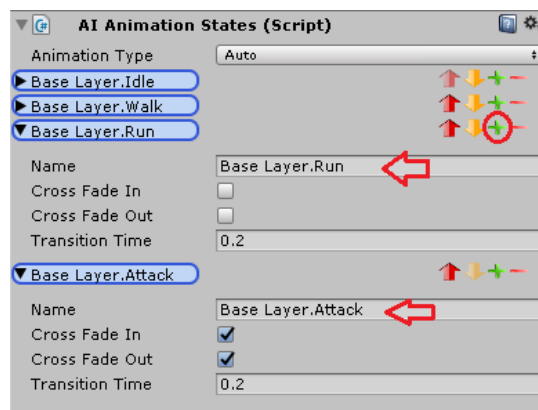
### 1.4.2 Mecanim animations

With **Mecanim**, you will need to add the "**Animator**" component to your **character/avatar** with the avatar of your character and a controller.



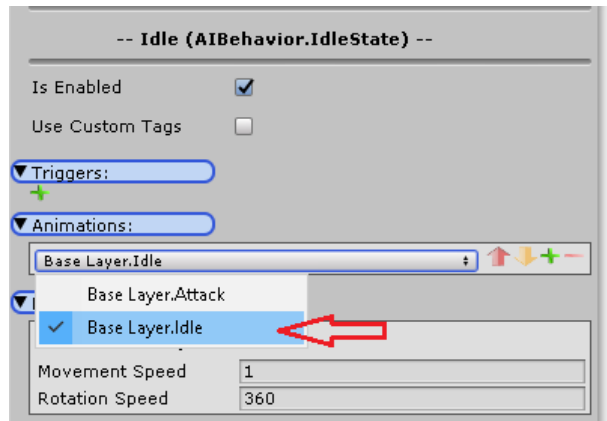
In this controller you have "layers" and "states" in each layer. To use a state from the AIBehavior script you have to add the animations to the "AIAnimationStates" script, "+" button, and specifying the layer and the name of the state: "layer.state".

The "cross fade in" and "cross fade out" options should be checked if you want the AI to have full control over the animations without any additional code.



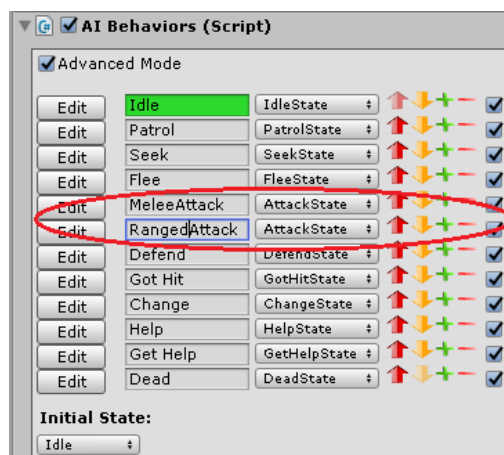
Finally in each state pick which animation it has to use





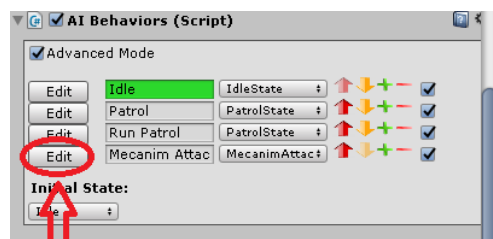
## 2. States

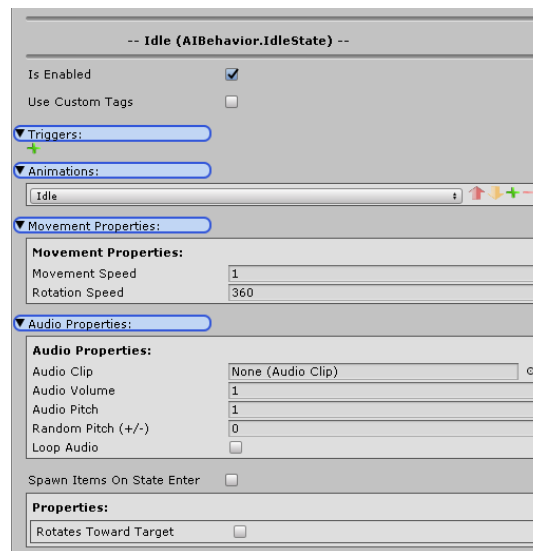
The states handle the different behaviors of your AI. You can have so many states as you want, and you can also have several states of the same kind (for example: 2 AttackStates)



### 2.1 State Properties

To set the properties for each state just click the "Edit" button on the left of the state you want to edit, and scroll down in the inspector to change the settings. (Depending on the state it will have more or less properties to modify)

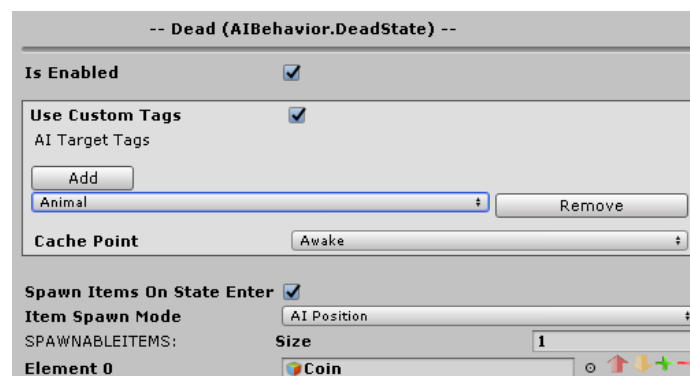




## 2.2 General State Properties

There are some settings that are common to all the states.

- **Is Enabled:** Enables or disables the state (if a state is disabled the AI can't use it)
- **Use Custom Tags:** Tags that will be used for the state and all the triggers of the state except the ones that have their own custom tag. (if you don't check it, the AI will use the general AI target tag/s).



- **Triggers** (specified on [Point 3](#)).
- **Animations** (specified on [Point 1.4](#)).
- **Movement Properties:** Specify how fast the AI will move and rotate in that specific state (remember setting the "movement speed" to 0 in states where the AI shouldn't move).
- **Audio Properties:** You can add a sound to be played when entering the state, if you add more than one it will pick one randomly.
- **Item Spawning Properties:** Allows you to spawn one or more items at the specified place when entering the state. The "Item Spawn Mode" options are: At AI position, at specific coordinates or passing a transform (like a spawn point).
- **Changing Variable Properties:** Allows you to change the value of the custom variables (specified on [Point 1.2](#)), you have the option "Change To" to set a specific value to the





variable and "Increase by" and "Decrease by" (only for ints and floats). The changes will apply when entering the state.

The image displays three panels of state properties from a game engine interface:

- Movement Properties:** Contains fields for Movement Speed (1) and Rotation Speed (90).
- Audio:** Contains fields for Audio Clip (FootstepGrass01), Audio Volume (1), Audio Pitch (1), Random Pitch (+/-) (0), and Loop Audio (unchecked). A Play button is at the bottom.
- Item Spawning Properties:** Contains a checked box for Spawn Items On State Enter, Item Spawn Mode (AI Position), Exact Position (unchecked), SPAWNABLEITEMS: Size (1), Element 0 (Coin), and Total Amount (5).
- Changing Variable Properties:** Contains two variable change sections. The first section has HasArmor and Change To (both with up/down arrows). The second section has Level and Increase By (1).

Finally some states are CooldownableStates and have **Cooldown Properties**. This states can have a "**Cooldown Time**" that sets how long the state will be unavaible. The time will start to count when the state ends if you check "**Start Cooldown On State End**" if not, it will start at entering the state. A trigger won't enter a state if it's cooling down even if the condition is matched.

The image displays the Cooldown Properties panel:

- Cooldown Time:** 15
- Start Cooldown On State End:** ☒
- Remaining cooldown time:** 11.02 seconds



## 2.3 Types of states

### 2.3.1 Idle

The idle state don't needs much explanation, the AI just stays in his position. The only option to check is "Rotate Towards Target" that makes the AI be facing the player/target all the time.

### 2.3.2 Patrol State

The patrol state is for making your AI to walk following a specific path. "**Patrol mode**" allows you to choose between 4 different types of patrolling:

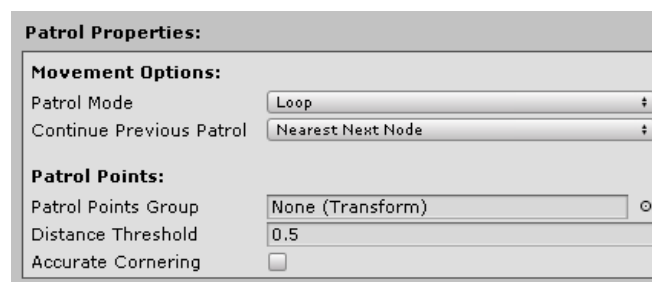
- **Once:** Does the patrol just once and then changes to another state "End Patrol Transition".
- **Loop:** Keeps patrolling all the time until a trigger makes him change to another state.
- **Ping Pong:** Will do the patrol in one way and when it finishes it will do it the other way.
- **Random:** Patrols randomly through the points

The "**Continue Previous Patrol**" is to pick how the AI should start/continue patrolling.

- **Reset:** Starts at the first point
- **Continue Previous:** Continues with the last point it was going to.
- **Nearest Node:** Picks the closest point to the AI.
- **Nearest Next Node:** Picks the point after the closest one.
- **Random:** Just picks a random point.

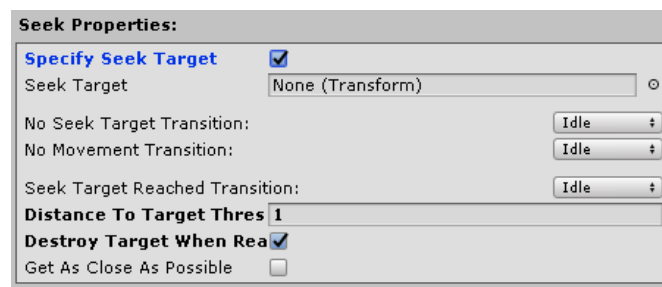
You will have to group all the points where you want your AI to patrol under one GameObject and drag it to "**Patrol Points Group**". Set also a "**Distance Threshold**" according how close you want the AI to get to the points.

Finally there is the "**Accurate Cornering**" option, only use it if you don't like how your AI is passing through the points or if it's missing them (for example if your AI moves very fast). Then you have to set the "**Cornering Error**" value (usually 1 is fine).



### 2.3.3 Seek State

The seek state can be used for different purposes, as chasing the player to attack him or just follow him, seek objects, go to a specific point, etc. You can set a specific point where it has to go checking "**Specify Seek Target**" and dragging the point to "**Seek Target**". If you don't pick that option the AI will look for objects with the target tag/s. "**No Seek Target Transition**" is the state it will change in if there is no target. "**No Movement Transition**" is the state it will go into when the AI stops for whatever reason (for example, it can't get to the target). "**Seek Target Reached Transition**" is the state it will change in when it reaches the target (for example the AI is chasing the Player and when it reaches him it changes to an AttackState). The "**Distance To Target Threshold**" is how close the AI gets to the target. You can also enable "**Destroy Target When Reached**" that will destroy the target GameObject. Finally the "**Get As Close As Possible**" option is in case that the AI can't get to the target it will at least approach as much he can.

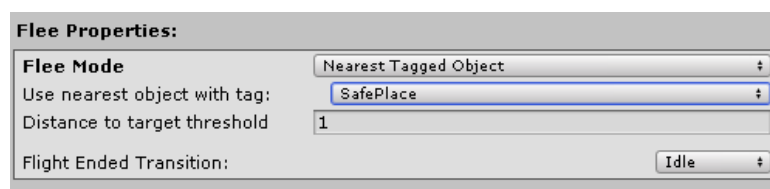


### 2.3.4 Flee State

The flee state is use to run away from the player or something else. The "**Flee Mode**" is the way it will flee:

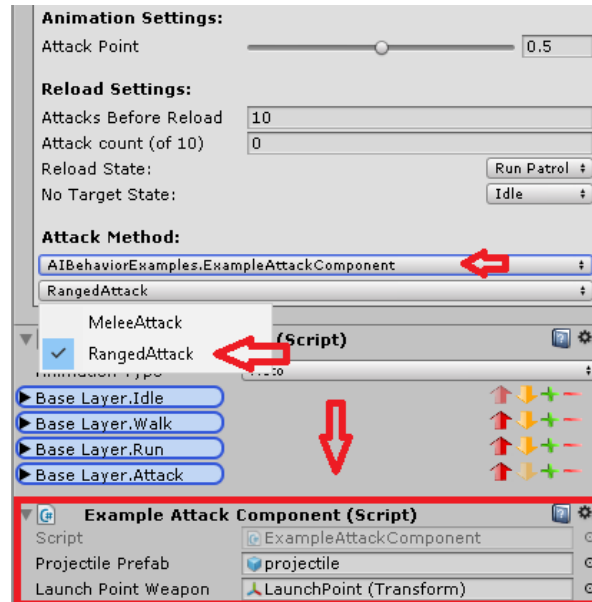
- **Nearest Tagged Object:** This will use the "nearest object with tag" objects as refuges.
- **Fixed Target:** Is to pass a Transform of the place it has to go
- **Direction:** Is to run in a specific direction, no matter where the player/object is.
- **Away from Nearest Tagged Object:** This will make the AI run in the opposite direction.

The "**Distance to target threshold**" is how close it will get to the "safe place", or in case of specific direction and running away you will have to set the "**Stop Flee Distance**". Finally the "**Flight Ended Transition**" is the state it will go into when the flight is finished.



### 2.3.5 Attack State & Mecanim Attack State

The attack state needs an attack script to know what to do when the AI attacks. You can use the "ExampleAttackComponent" or you can write your own. Add it to the root GameObject and then in the AttackState properties select the method to use when attacking.



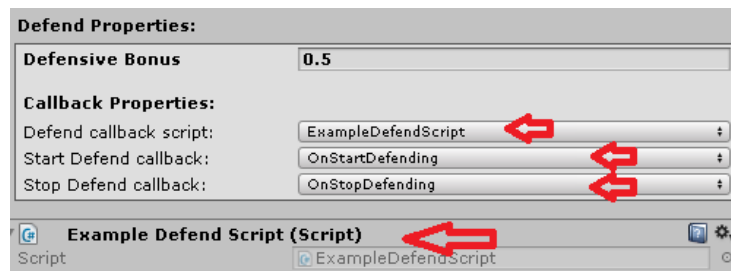
In the attack properties you can set how much the base "**Attack Damage**" is, and add some randomness to the damage with "**Plus Or Minus Damage**", set if it will only "**Find Visible Targets Only**" (sometimes it's better to disable it, as in melee attacks). "**Inherit Previous State Movement**" means that the AI will keep moving as the previous state tells him to do while attacking (for example keep patrolling or seeking), "**Attack Based On**" defines at what moment the "**Attack Method**" will be called, it can be based on a specific point of the animation or with a time interval. The "**Attacks Before Reload**" is the amount of times the attack method will be called before changing to the reload state. "**Attack count**" is just the current count of attacks. The "**Reload State**" is the state it goes in when the attack limit is reached. And the "**No Target State**" is the state it changes into when it couldn't find a target.



The MecanimAttackState is almost the same as the AttackState it just extends it to use mecanim animation.

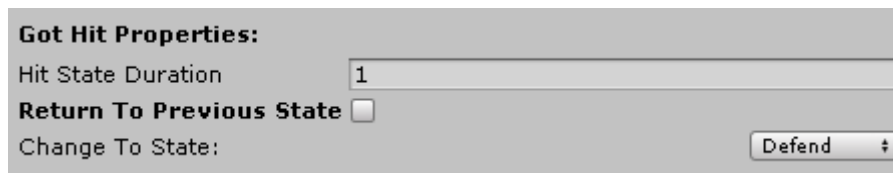
### 2.3.6 Defend State

The defend state is to have the AI in a defend position and have a "**Defensive Bonus**" for the damage calculation. It needs a defend script with the methods to call when it starts and ends defending, you can use the "ExampleDefendScript" or write your own (This script just replaces the damage multiplier by the defensive bonus value while its defending).



### 2.3.7 Got Hit State

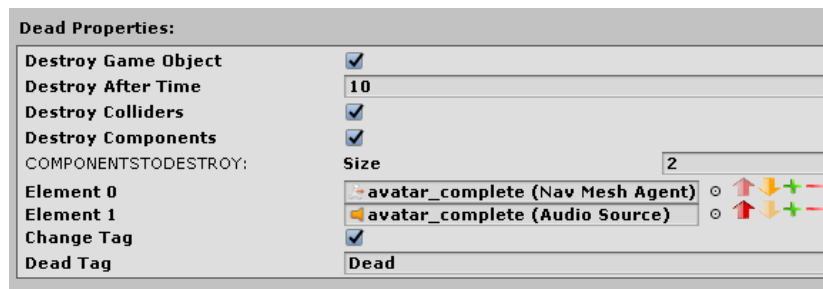
The got hit state is just a state to go in when the AI was hit and play the animation for it. You can set how long the AI will stay in this state in "**Hit State Duration**" (usually more or less what the animation lasts). If you check "**Return To Previous State**" it will go back to the state it was before being hit, or you can choose another state in "**Change To State**".



### 2.3.8 Dead State

The dead state is obviously the state the AI goes into when he dies. You can check the "**Destroy Game Object**" option to destroy the GameObject after the time specified in "**Destroy After Time**", you can also check "**Destroy Colliders**" to avoid to keep hitting the AI while its dead. "**Destroy Components**" allows you to destroy other components of the AI, just drag them into the list. And finally you can change the tag of the AI when he dies checking "**Change Tag**" and setting it on "**Dead Tag**".





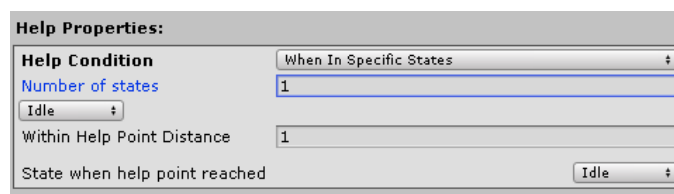
### 2.3.9 Get Help State

The get help state is a way that an AI can call other AIs (for example when he sees the player). There is the **"Get Help From Objects With Tag"** value that specifies the tag of the "helpers", the **"Help Radius"** value that is from how far they will come, you can specify in **"State Duration"** how long it will stay in this state and in **"Change To State"** the state it will change into after it ended.

Note: The other AIs need to have a HelpState to be able to respond to the calling.

### 2.3.10 Help State

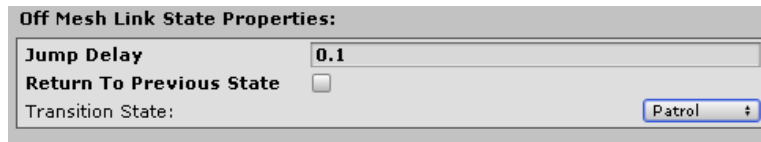
The help state is the one used for going to the position of an AI asking for help through a GetHelpState. You can pick the **"Help Condition"** that specifies if the AI will go help another always or only when he is in specific states. If you pick this second option you have to set the **"Number Of States"** and picking which ones (if the AI is in a state that is not in the list he will not go help the one who is asking for help). The **"Within Help Point Distance"** specifies how close the AI will approach to the "help point" (the position where the other AI called) and finally in **"State When Help Point Reached"** is the state it will change into when he got there.



### 2.3.11 Off Mesh Link State

This state is a way to make the AI jump from an OffMeshLink, the settings for it are **"Jump Delay"** that specifies how long the AI will wait since he gets to the link until he jumps, then you can choose between checking **"Return To Previous State"** or a **"Transition State"** that sets the state the AI will change into after jumping.





### 2.3.12 Change State

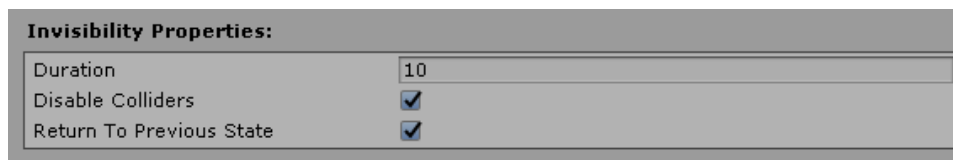
The change state is to replace the whole AI with another GameObject set in the "**Change into**" field. It will put the new GameObject in the exact same position and rotation.

### 2.3.13 Change Tag State

The change tag state is just a state to change the tag of the AI. The only option is "**Change To Tag**" where you can set the new tag for the AI.

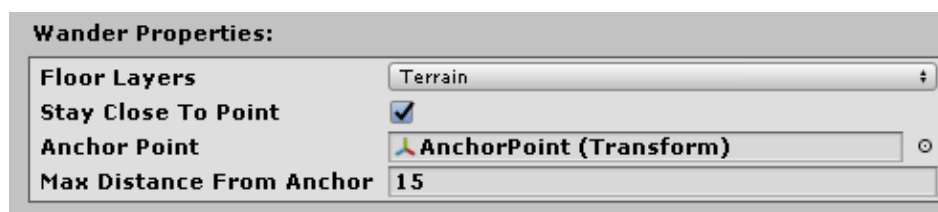
### 2.3.14 Get Invisible State

The get invisible state is a simple way to make an AI invisible for a period of time specified in "**Duration**", you can check "**Disable Colliders**" if you don't want that anyone will be able to hit him while he is invisible. The AI will not stay on this state while he is invisible, it will go back to the previous if "**Return To Previous State**" is checked or change to the specified state.



### 2.3.15 Wander State

The wander state makes the AI walk around without a concrete destination. It works through raycasts and the sight properties of the AI to look for places where he can go to. You will have to put your walkable surfaces in one or more layers and specify them in the "**Floor Layers**" property. There is also the "**Stay Close To Point**" option that allows you to set an "**Anchor Point**" that will not allow the AI go further from it than the "**Max Distance From Anchor**".



### 2.3.16 Step Back State

The step back state is for AIs (usually NPCs) that have to keep a distance from the player or other AIs. It will just step back facing the target. You can specify the "**distance**" you want the AI to go away from the player/target and the "**stopThreshold**" that specifies how close it will get to the point generated by the state. If you are in a terrain that is not flat you'll probably need to increase this value. When it reaches the distance it will change to the "**Next State**".



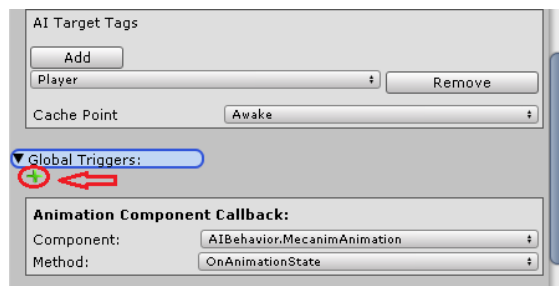


## 3. Triggers

### 3.1 Global triggers

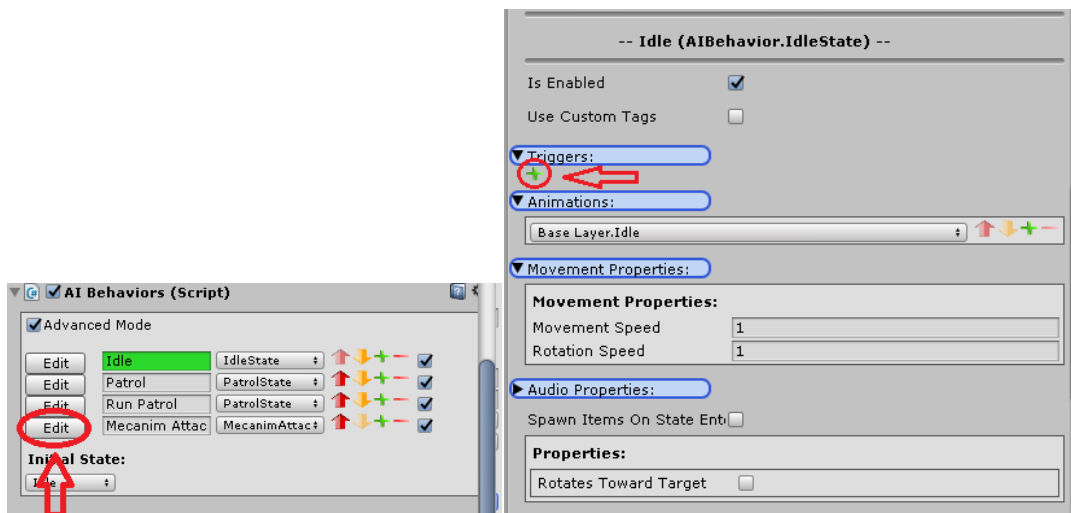
These triggers are checked all the time, if the condition matches it will interrupt whatever state the AI is to go to the specified state. This is not as common to use as the state triggers, only use it for conditions that apply to any state.

To add a global trigger just click the "+" button, choose the kind of trigger you want and set his properties.



### 3.2 State triggers

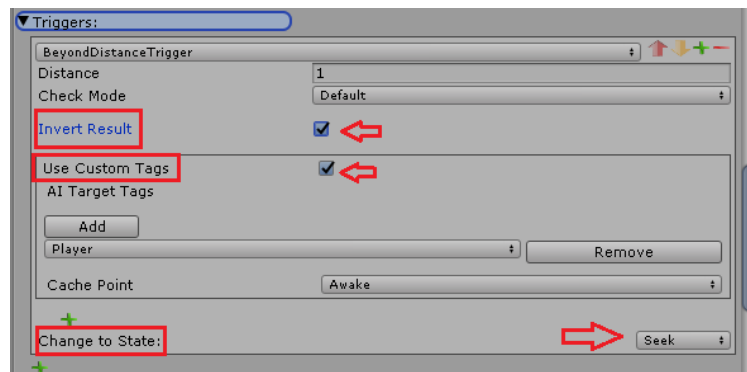
The state triggers are conditions that are checked inside a specific state. To add a trigger to a state click on the edit button left of the state in the "AI Behaviors" script in the inspector, and scroll down to the triggers section. Then click the "+" button to add a trigger.



### 3.3 General Trigger Settings

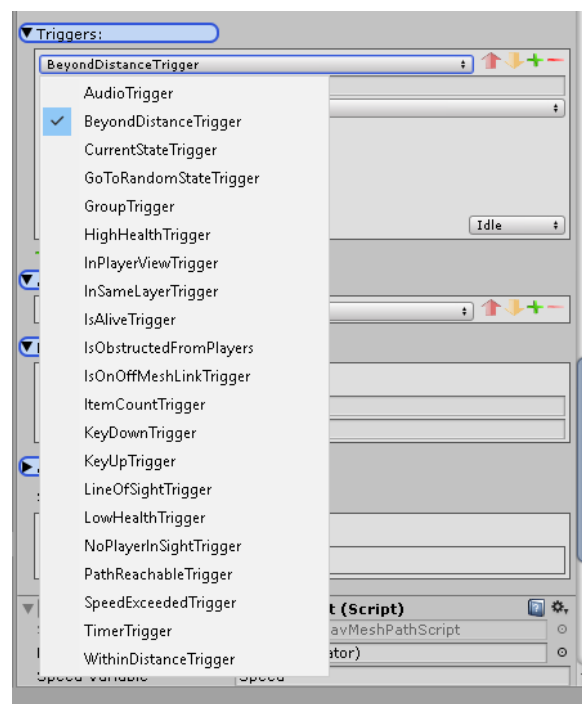
There are some settings that are common to all the triggers, but apply to each trigger individually.

- **Change to State:** Is the state the AI will change into when the condition is met.
- **Use Custom Tags:** If checked you can set specific tag/s to the trigger.
- **Invert Result:** If checked will change the result of the trigger to the opposite. It will change the state when the condition is not met.



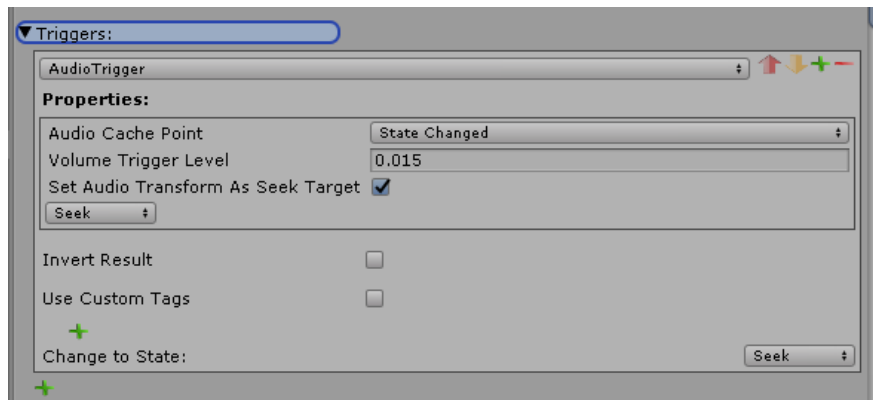
### 3.4 Types of triggers

There are many different kinds of triggers, each one has different properties and settings. You can also write your own trigger with specific conditions, just extend the "BaseTrigger" script. It will automatically appear in the list of triggers.



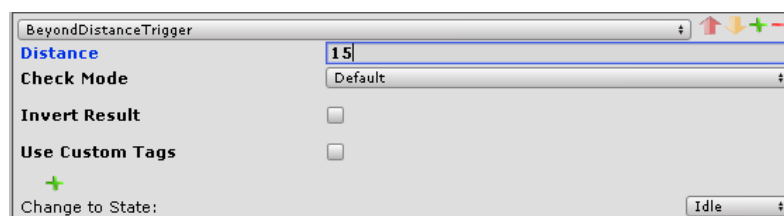
### 3.4.1 Audio trigger

Checks if the AI "heard" a sound from a GameObject with the specified tag. You'll need to figure out the "**Volume Trigger Level**" according to the distance you want him to hear (the higher this value is, the less he will hear). The "**Audio Cache Point**" specifies when the AudioSources on the scene are scanned. The "**Set Audio Transform As Seek Target**" option is to pick the AudioSource GameObject and set it as the target of a specific SeekState (in this case you should pick the same SeekState in "Change to State").



### 3.4.2 Beyond distance trigger

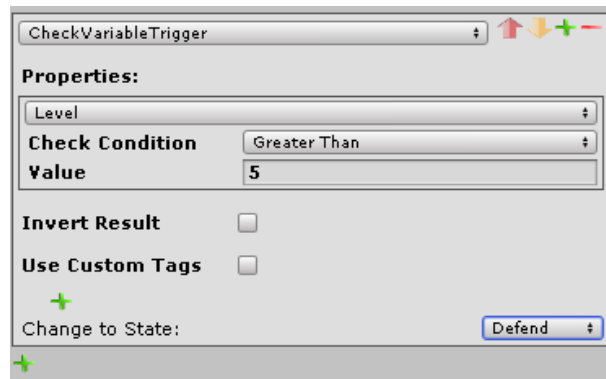
Checks if a GameObject with the AI target tag is farther than the specified "**Distance**". The "**Check Mode**" specifies if Any GameObject with the tag or All of them are beyond the distance.



### 3.4.3 Check Variable Trigger

Uses the AI custom variables (Specified on [Point 1.2](#)), depending on the type of the variable you can make different checkings: For ints and floats you can check "Greater Than", "Less Than" or "Equal To", for booleans you can only check for "Equal To" as the other make no sense.



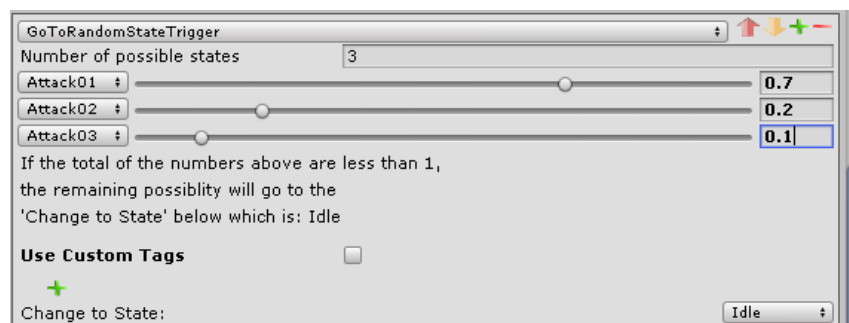


### 3.4.4 Current state trigger

Checks if the AI is in a specific state, it has only sense to use it as a global trigger.

### 3.4.5 Go to random state trigger

Goes randomly to one of the possible states, the number on the right is the probability of each state. The combined amount of this numbers should be 1 or less.



### 3.4.6 High health trigger

Checks if the health is over the specified amount.

### 3.4.7 In player view trigger

Checks if the AI is in the camera view. The "**Update View Bounds**" option sets when the bounds of the AI should be calculated (taking in account all the renderers of the children GameObjects). If the character doesn't change just leave in "Awake".



### **3.4.8 In same layer trigger**

Checks if the AI is in the same layer as the GameObject/s with the specified tag/s.

### **3.4.9 Is alive trigger**

Checks the health of the AI to see if it's alive. Generally used as global trigger.

### **3.4.10 Is obstructed from players**

Checks if there is something between the AI and the player/target, no matter where its facing. You can set the maximum distance it will check.

### **3.4.11 Is on OffMeshLink trigger**

Checks if the AI is on an OffMeshLink, (a connection point in the NavMesh where you can jump or fall down).

### **3.4.12 Item count trigger**

Counts the GameObjects with the specified tag and compare it with the "Item Count" parameter according with the "**Comparison Condition**"

### **3.4.13 Key down trigger**

Checks if a key was pressed. When the key is pressed it will change to the specified state.

### **3.4.14 Key up trigger**

Checks if you stopped to press a key.

### **3.4.15 Line of sight trigger**

Checks if a GameObjects with the specified tag is in the view of the AI (you have to set the view settings in the general AI properties). You can set a specific sight transform just for this trigger.



### 3.4.16 Low health trigger

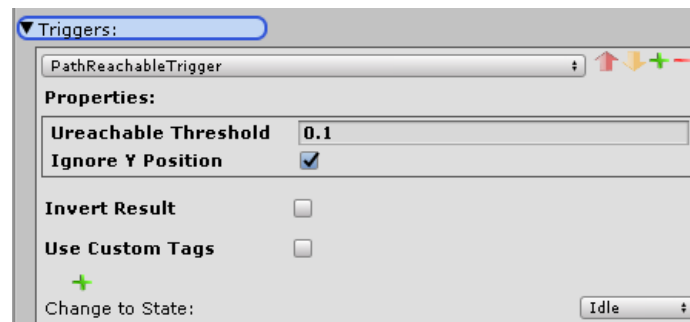
Checks the health of the AI if it is under the "**Below Health**" value.

### 3.4.17 No player in sight trigger

Is the opposite of LineOfSightTrigger, checks if there aren't any of the tagged objects in the view of the AI. The "**Trigger After Time**" value is how often the AI will do the checking.

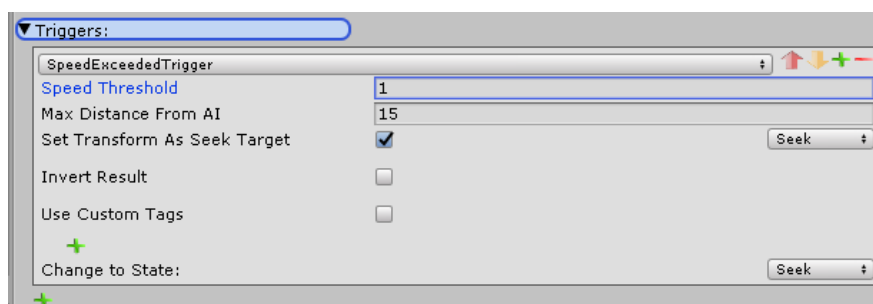
### 3.4.18 Path reachable trigger

Checks if the AI can get to the target (the GameObject with the specified tag). It needs a NavMeshAgent. The "**Unreachable Threshold**" setting is the distance between the closest point the AI can get and the target. Check the "**Ignore Y position**" option to only check X and Z.



### 3.4.19 Speed exceeded trigger

Checks if an object with the specified tag moved faster than the "**Speed Threshold**" (m/s) within the "**Max Distance From AI**" distance. The "**Set Transform As Seek Target**" option is to pick the GameObject that moved and set it as the target of a specific SeekState (in this case you should pick that SeekState to be switched to, when triggered).



### 3.4.20 Timer trigger

Goes to the specified state when the time is over. You can add some randomness to the time with the "**Plus Or Minus Duration**" value. The timer will be reseted according to the "**Timer Reset Mode**" (the most common is to use "On State Enter").



### 3.4.21 Within distance trigger

Checks if a GameObject with the specified tag/s is closest than the specified distance. The "Check Mode" specifies if Any GameObject with the tag or All of them are within the distance.

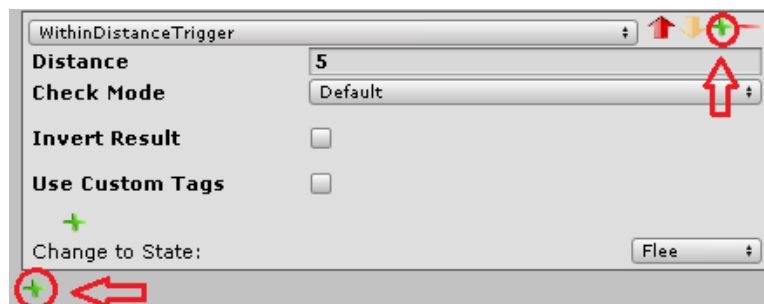


### 3.5 Nesting triggers

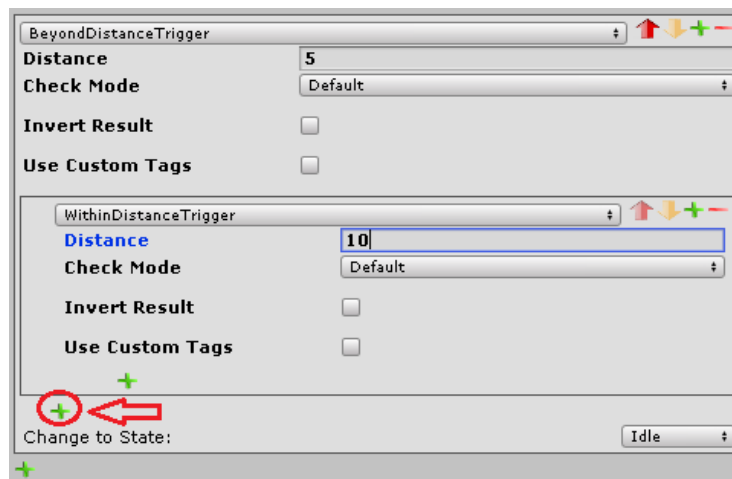
It is possible to combine triggers, this can be done in two ways:

- putting two or more triggers near each other
- putting one or more triggers inside another trigger.

Putting triggers near each other make them act separately, each one will have his own state to change to when the condition is matched and the first one that is triggered will be the one that changes the state of the AI. For doing that click the green "+" button below a trigger (outside of it) or the one on the right.



Putting triggers inside other triggers is used when you want more than one condition for changing to a specific state. For doing that just click the green "+" button at the bottom of a trigger, this will create a new trigger inside it (it's like combining conditions in a if statement with "&"). When all the conditions are matched then it will change into the specified state.



You can make different combination of this to ways of combining triggers to make the best behavior for your AI.

