

P01 Pacman

Suixin Ou

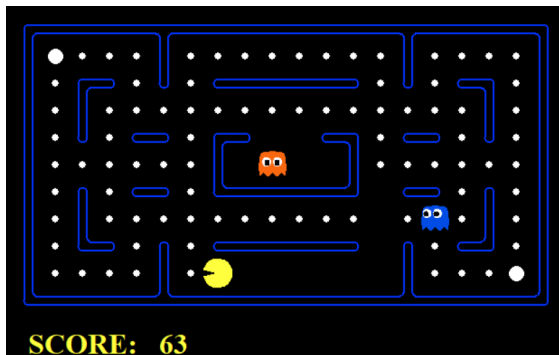
School of Computer Science
Sun Yat-sen University

September 14, 2021



Pacman

Pacman is a maze action game developed and released by Namco for arcades in 1980. The player controls the pacman through an enclosed maze. The objective of the game is to eat all of the dots placed in the maze while avoiding four colored ghosts (You can run "python pacman.py" to play the game). You need to design a Pacman agent to play the game automatically in this project.



Part 1

Problem

In this part, your Pacman agent will find paths through its maze world, both to reach a particular location and to collect food efficiently. You will build general search algorithms and apply them to Pacman scenarios.

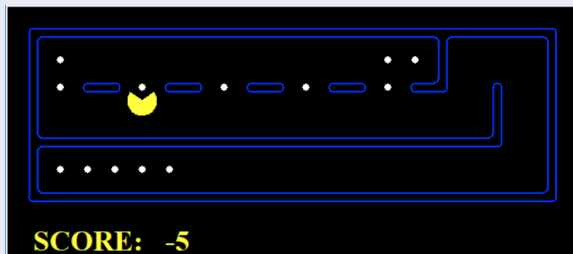


Figure 1: Searching by A*



Part 1

Question 1 (3 points)

Find a path through a maze to a fixed position using the Manhattan distance heuristic. Run `python pacman.py -l bigMaze -z .5 -p SearchAgent -a fn=astar,heuristic=manhattanHeuristic` for a test.

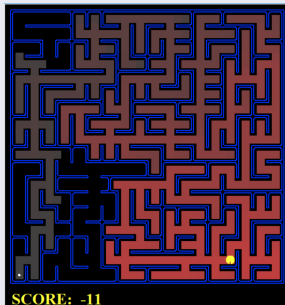


Figure 2: Finding a path by A*



Part 1

Given the class Position Problem

```
< > searchAgents.py × search.py
135
136 class PositionSearchProblem(search.SearchProblem):
```

Get initial state by `problem.getStartState()`

```
167 def getStartState(self):
168     return self.startState
```

Get successors by `problem.getSuccessors()`, each successor is a tuple (nextState, action, cost)

```
183 def getSuccessors(self, state):
184     """
```

Judge that the terminate state has been reached by

```
170 def isGoalState(self, state):
171     isGoal = state == self.goal
172
173     # For display purposes only
174     if isGoal and self.visualize:
175         self._visitedlist.append(state)
176         import __main__
177         if '_display' in dir(__main__):
178             if 'drawExpandedCell' in dir(__main__._display):
179                 __main__._display.drawExpandedCell(state)
180
181     return isGoal
```

`problem.isGoalState()`



Given Manhattan Heuristic

```
< > searchAgents.py x search.py
253 def manhattanHeuristic(position, problem, info={}):
254     "The Manhattan distance heuristic for a PositionSearchProblem"
255     xy1 = position
256     xy2 = problem.goal
257     return abs(xy1[0] - xy2[0]) + abs(xy1[1] - xy2[1])
```

You should finish the function "aStarSearch" in search.py

```
< > searchAgents.py search.py x
109 def aStarSearch(problem, heuristic=nullHeuristic):
110     """Search the node that has the lowest combined cost and heuristic first."""
111     *** YOUR CODE HERE ***
```



Part 1

Question 2 (3 points)

Implement a non-trivial, consistent heuristic for the CornersProblem in `cornersHeuristic`. Run `python pacman.py -l mediumCorners -p AStarCornersAgent -z 0.5` for a test.

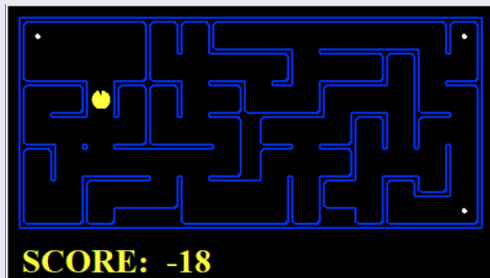


Figure 3: Testing Corners Heuristic



You should finish the class "CornersProblem" and the function "cornersHeuristic" in searchAgent.py

```
269 class CornersProblem(search.SearchProblem):  
270     """  
271     This search problem finds paths through all four corners of a layout.  
272     You must select a suitable state space and successor function  
273     """  
274
```

Compared with the Position Problem, the status of CornersProblem should also include the four corners.

```
346 def cornersHeuristic(state, problem):  
347     """  
348     A heuristic for the CornersProblem that you defined.  
349
```

The heuristic value can be the farthest distance from the current position to the four corners.



Grading for Question 2

Depending on how few nodes your heuristic expands, you'll be graded:

Number of nodes expanded	Grade
more than 2000	0/3
at most 2000	1/3
at most 1600	2/3
at most 1200	3/3



Question 3 (4 points)

Now we'll solve a hard search problem: eating all the Pacman food in as few steps as possible. Run `python pacman.py -l trickySearch -p AStarFoodSearchAgent` for a test.

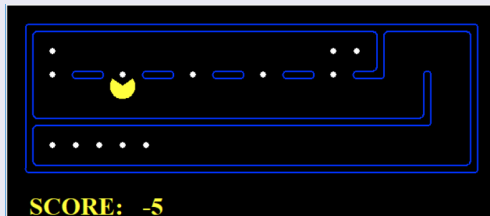


Figure 4: Testing Food Heuristic



Part 1

You should finish the function "foodHeuristic" in searchAgent.py

```
...  
447 def foodHeuristic(state, problem):  
448     """  
449     Your heuristic for the FoodSearchProblem goes here.  
450
```

Grading for Question 3

Depending on how few nodes your heuristic expands, you'll get additional points:

Number of nodes expanded	Grade
more than 15000	1/4
at most 15000	2/4
at most 12000	3/4
at most 9000	4/4 (full credit; medium)
at most 7000	5/4 (optional extra credit; hard)



Problem

In this section, you will design agents for the classic version of Pacman, including ghosts. Along the way, you will implement both minimax and $\alpha - \beta$ pruning.

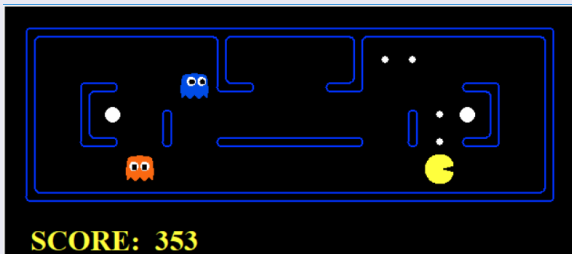


Figure 5: Searching by $\alpha - \beta$ pruning



Submission

Pack your report `report.pdf` and source code into zip file `E02_YourNumber.zip`, then send it to ai_course2021@163.com.



The End

