

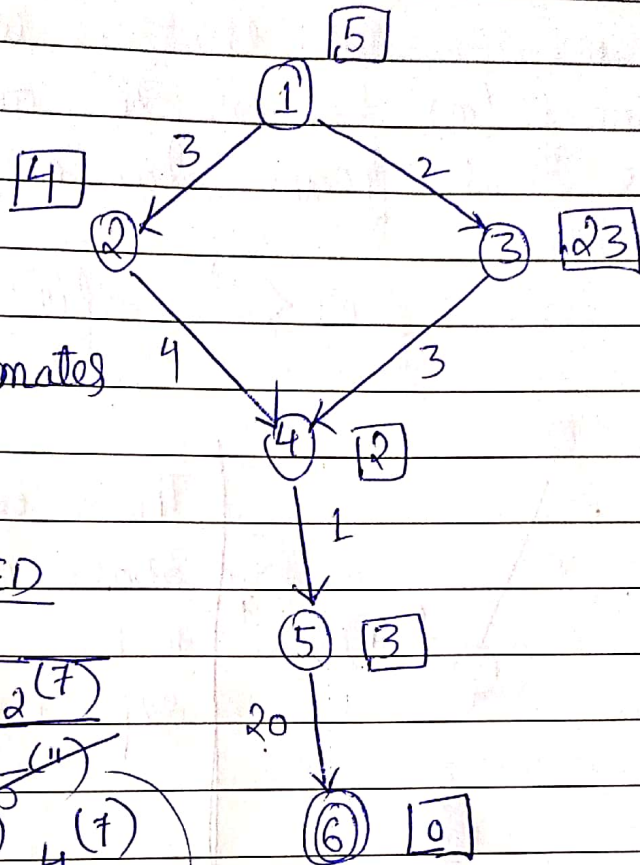
# Notes

## Algorithm A\*

Date | | | |

$$S = \{n \mid f(n) < C^*\}$$

|S|



h(): Always under-estimates

OPEN

CLOSED

1(5)	
2(7)	3(25)
3(25)	4(9)
3(25)	5(11)
3(25)	6(28)
4(7)	6(28)
6(28)	5(9)
6(28)	

1(5)	2(7)
<del>4(9)</del>	<del>5(11)</del>
3(25)	4(7)
5(9)	

- \* Along the optimal path well informed
- \* Along the sub-optimal path - not well-informed.

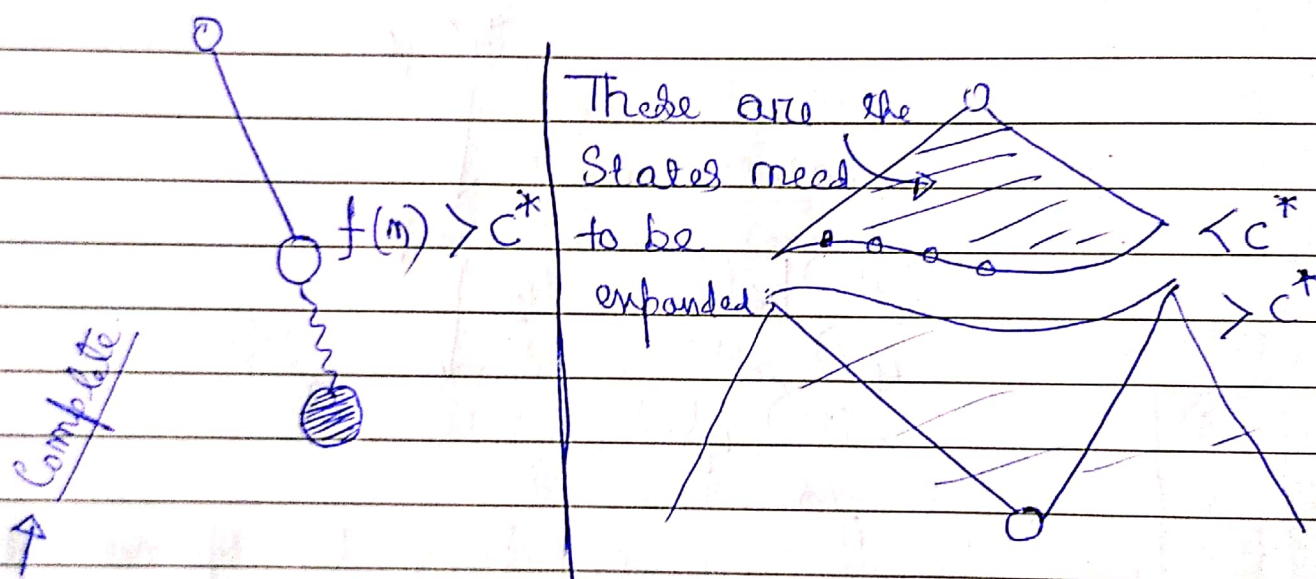
→ Optimal cost

# Notes Properties of $A^*$

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\* A heuristic is called admissible if it always under-estimates, that is we always have  $h(n) \leq f^*(n)$ , where  $f^*(n)$  denotes the 'min<sup>m</sup> distance to a goal state from state 'n'.

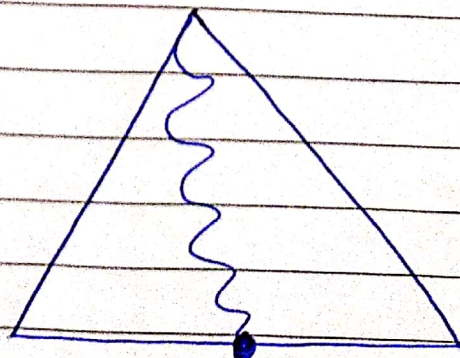
$f(n) < C^*$ ,  $f(n) > C^*$  — nodes Expanded.



\* For finite state space,  $A^*$  always terminates.

\* At any time before  $A^*$  terminates, there exists in OPEN a state 'n', that is an optimal path from 'S' to a goal state with —

$$f(n) \leq f^*(S)$$





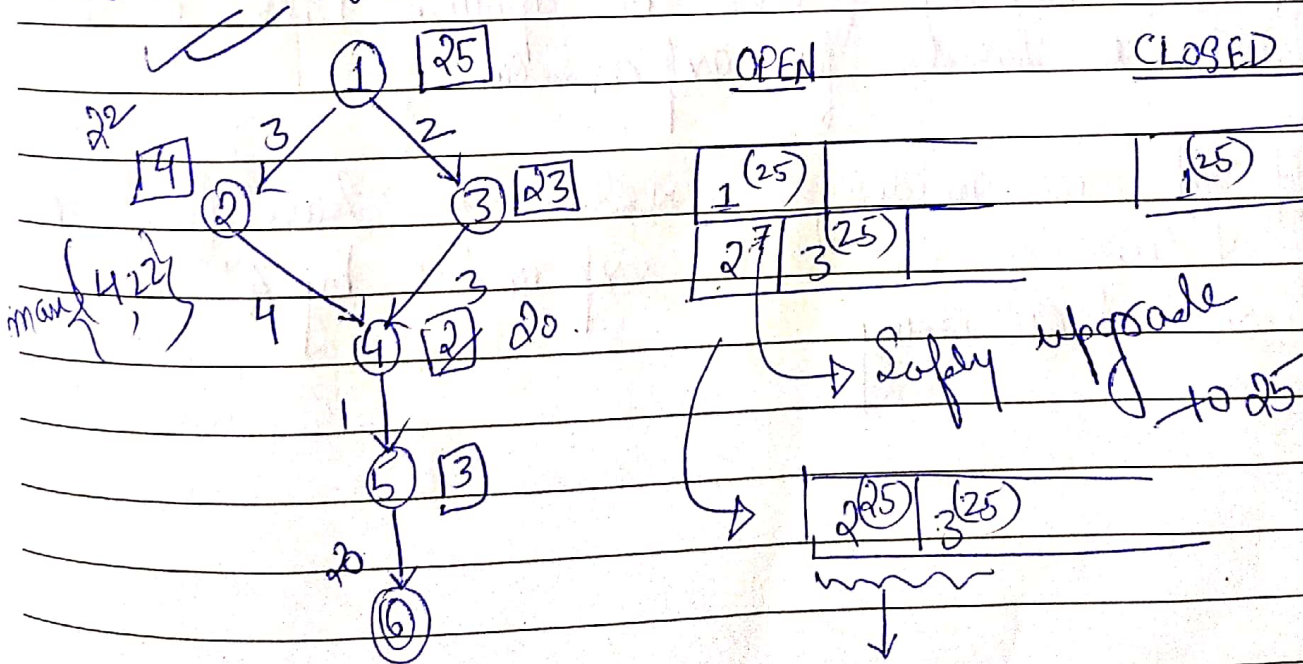
- 1) Algorithm  $A^*$  is admissible, that is, if there is a path from 'S' to a goal state,  $A^*$  terminates by finding an optimal path.
- 2) If  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  are two versions of  $A^*$  such that  $A_2$  is more informed than  $A_1$ , then  $A_1$  expands at least as many states as does  $A_2$ .

$h_1$

$h_2$  more informed than  $h_1$   
if  $\forall m \quad \underline{h_2(m) > h_1(m)}$

$\max\{h_1(m), h_2(m)\}$  at Every state 'm'.

Monotone Heuristic :  $\rightarrow$

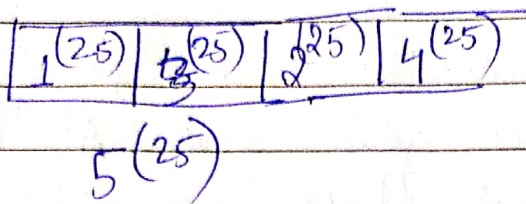


Same cost choose the one with lesser 'g' value.

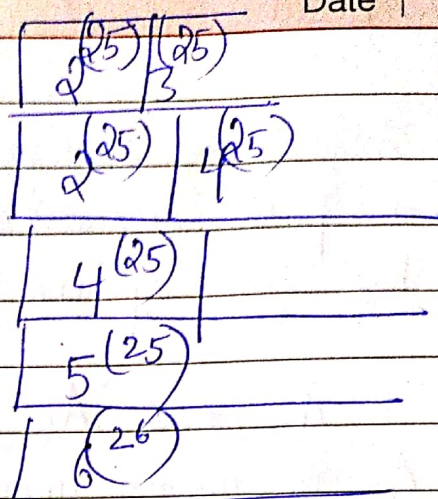


# Notes

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Date | | | | |

Monotone Heuristic: →

\* An admissible heuristic function  $h()$  is monotonic, if for every successor  $m'$  of  $m$ :

$$h(m) - h(m') \leq c(m, m')$$

\* If the monotone restriction is satisfied then  $A^*$  has already found an optimal path to the state it selects for expansion.

\* If the monotone restriction is satisfied the  $f$ -values of the states expanded by  $A^*$  is non-decreasing.



mon - monotonic  $\rightarrow$  Monotonic

During the generation of Successor 'm' on n - we  
set -

$$h'(m) = \max\{h(m), h(m) - c(n, m)\}$$

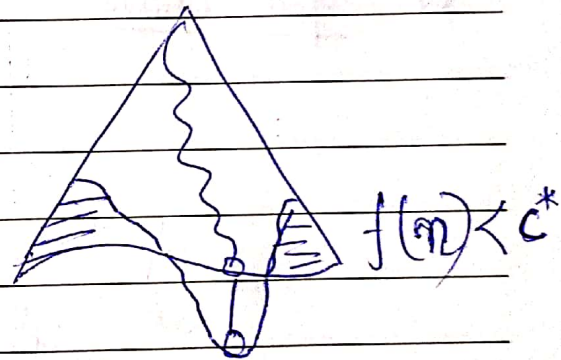
$\rightarrow$  use this heuristic at 'm'.

Inadmissible heuristic  $\rightarrow$

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"Heuristic"

$\rightarrow$  Overestimate



Bio-informatics  
(Over-estimation)

Trade-off

Advantage: In many cases  
inadmissible heuristics can cause better pruning  
and significantly reduce the search time.

Disadvantage:  $A^*$  may terminate with a sub-  
optimal solution

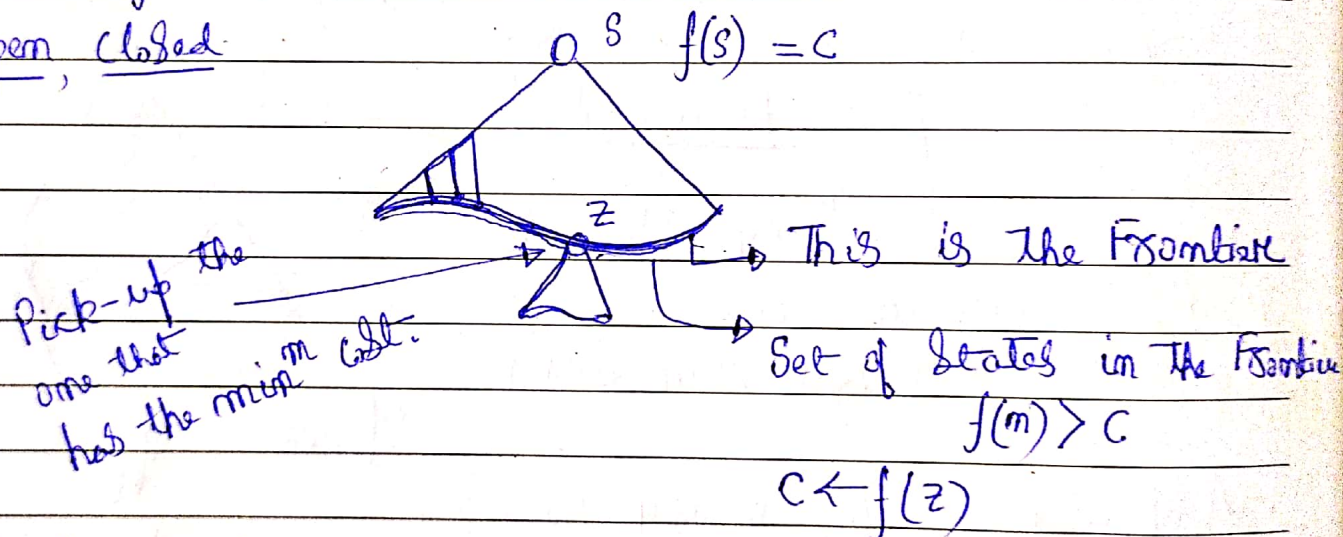


# Notes Iterative-Deepening $A^*$ ( $IDA^*$ )

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- 1) Set  $C = f(s)$
- 2) Perform DFS with cut-off  $C$   
Expand a state 'm' only if its  $f$ -value is less than or equal to  $C$   
If a goal is selected for expansion then return  $C$  and terminate.
- 3) Update  $C$  to the min  $f$ -value which exceeded  $C$  among states which were examined and go to state 1 Step-2.

- No open, closed



- 4) In the worst case, only one new state is expanded in each iteration  
\* If  $A^*$  expands 'N' states, then  $IDA^*$  can expand

$$1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + N = O(N^2)$$

↳ Linear space

↳ time