



JB INSTITUTE OF ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY

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Department of Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND ITS APPLICATIONS

STUDY MATERIAL

UNIT 1

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PREPARED & COMPILED BY

Mrs. Beulah J Karthikeyan

Assistant Professor, Department of AI&ML

JB IET

Bhaskar Nagar, Yenkapally (V), Moinabad (M), Ranga Reddy,

District Hyderabad., Moinabad,

Hyderabad 500075

Telangana, India.

MODULE 1

Introduction: AI problems, Agents and Environments, Structure of Agents, Problem Solving Agents

Basic Search Strategies: Problem Spaces, Uninformed Search (Breadth-First, Depth-First Search, Depth-first with Iterative Deepening), Heuristic Search (Hill Climbing, Generic Best-First, A*), Constraint Satisfaction (Backtracking, Local Search)

What is Artificial Intelligence (AI)?

In today's world, technology is growing very fast, and we are getting in touch with different new technologies day by day.

Here, one of the booming technologies of computer science is Artificial Intelligence which is ready to create a new revolution in the world by making intelligent machines. The Artificial Intelligence is now all around us. It is currently working with a variety of subfields, ranging from general to specific, such as self-driving cars, playing chess, proving theorems, playing music, Painting, etc.

Artificial Intelligence is composed of two words **Artificial** and **Intelligence**, where Artificial defines "*man-made*," and intelligence defines "*thinking power*", hence AI means "*a man-made thinking power*."

So, we can define AI as:

"It is a branch of computer science by which we can create intelligent machines which can behave like a human, think like humans, and able to make decisions."

Why Artificial Intelligence?

Before Learning about Artificial Intelligence, we should know that what is the importance of AI and why should we learn it. Following are some main reasons to learn about AI:

- With the help of AI, you can create such software or devices which can solve real-world problems very easily and with accuracy such as health issues, marketing, traffic issues, etc.
- With the help of AI, you can create your personal virtual Assistant, such as Cortana, Google Assistant, Siri, etc.
- With the help of AI, you can build such Robots which can work in an environment where survival of humans can be at risk.
- AI opens a path for other new technologies, new devices, and new Opportunities.

Goals of Artificial Intelligence

Following are the main goals of Artificial Intelligence:

1. Replicate human intelligence
2. Solve Knowledge-intensive tasks
3. An intelligent connection of perception and action
4. Building a machine which can perform tasks that requires human intelligence such as:
 - Proving a theorem
 - Playing chess
 - Plan some surgical operation
 - Driving a car in traffic
5. Creating some system which can exhibit intelligent behavior, learn new things by itself, demonstrate, explain, and can advise to its user.

Advantages of Artificial Intelligence

Following are some main advantages of Artificial Intelligence:

- **High Accuracy with less errors:** AI machines or systems are prone to less errors and high accuracy as it takes decisions as per pre-experience or information.
- **High-Speed:** AI systems can be of very high-speed and fast-decision making, because of that AI systems can beat a chess champion in the Chess game.
- **High reliability:** AI machines are highly reliable and can perform the same action multiple times with high accuracy.
- **Useful for risky areas:** AI machines can be helpful in situations such as defusing a bomb, exploring the ocean floor, where to employ a human can be risky.
- **Digital Assistant:** AI can be very useful to provide digital assistant to the users such as AI technology is currently used by various E-commerce websites to show the products as per customer requirement.
- **Useful as a public utility:** AI can be very useful for public utilities such as a self-driving car which can make our journey safer and hassle-free, facial recognition for security purpose, Natural language processing to communicate with the human in human-language, etc.

Disadvantages of Artificial Intelligence

Every technology has some disadvantages, and the same goes for Artificial intelligence. Being so advantageous technology still, it has some disadvantages which we need to keep in our mind while creating an AI system. Following are the disadvantages of AI:

- **High Cost:** The hardware and software requirement of AI is very costly as it requires lots of maintenance to meet current world requirements.
- **Can't think out of the box:** Even we are making smarter machines with AI, but still they cannot work out of the box, as the robot will only do that work for which they are trained, or programmed.
- **No feelings and emotions:** AI machines can be an outstanding performer, but still it does not have the feeling so it cannot make any kind of emotional attachment with human, and may sometime be harmful for users if the proper care is not taken.
- **Increase dependency on machines:** With the increment of technology, people are getting more dependent on devices and hence they are losing their mental capabilities.
- **No Original Creativity:** As humans are so creative and can imagine some new ideas but still AI machines cannot beat this power of human intelligence and cannot be creative and imaginative.

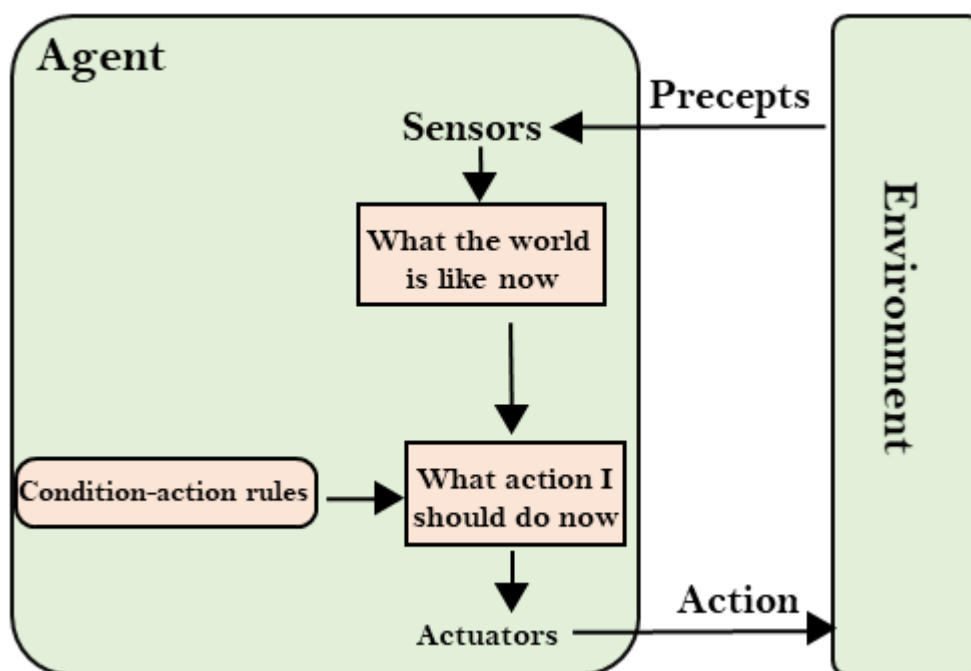
Types of AI Agents

Agents can be grouped into five classes based on their degree of perceived intelligence and capability. All these agents can improve their performance and generate better action over the time. These are given below:

- Simple Reflex Agent
- Model-based reflex agent
- Goal-based agents
- Utility-based agent
- Learning agent

1. Simple Reflex agent:

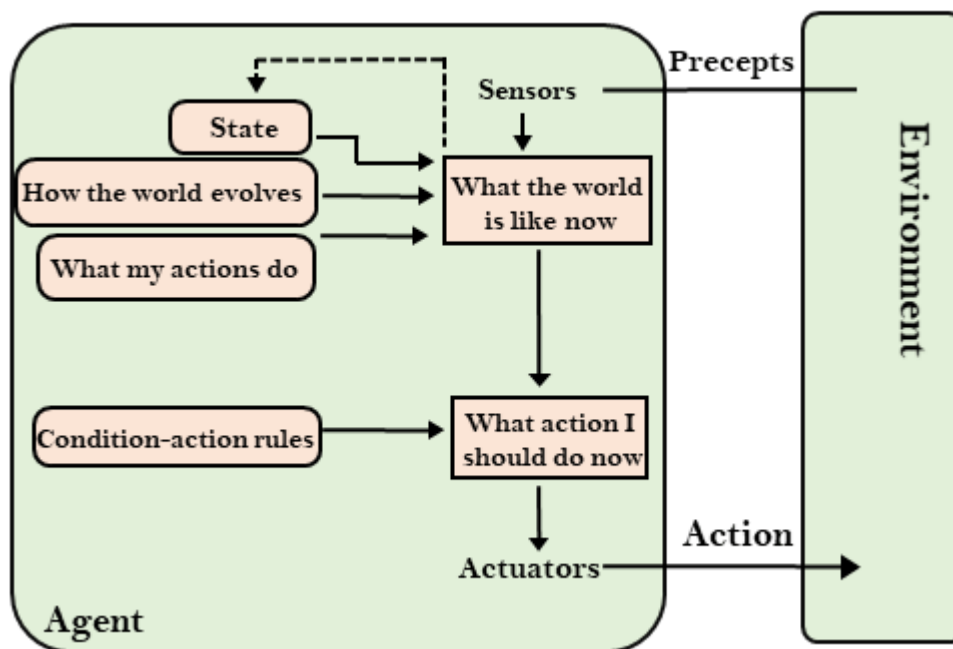
- The Simple reflex agents are the simplest agents. These agents take decisions on the basis of the current percepts and ignore the rest of the percept history.
- These agents only succeed in the fully observable environment.
- The Simple reflex agent does not consider any part of percepts history during their decision and action process.
- The Simple reflex agent works on Condition-action rule, which means it maps the current state to action. Such as a Room Cleaner agent, it works only if there is dirt in the room.
- Problems for the simple reflex agent design approach:
 - They have very limited intelligence
 - They do not have knowledge of non-perceptual parts of the current state
 - Mostly too big to generate and to store.
 - Not adaptive to changes in the environment.



2. Model-based reflex agent

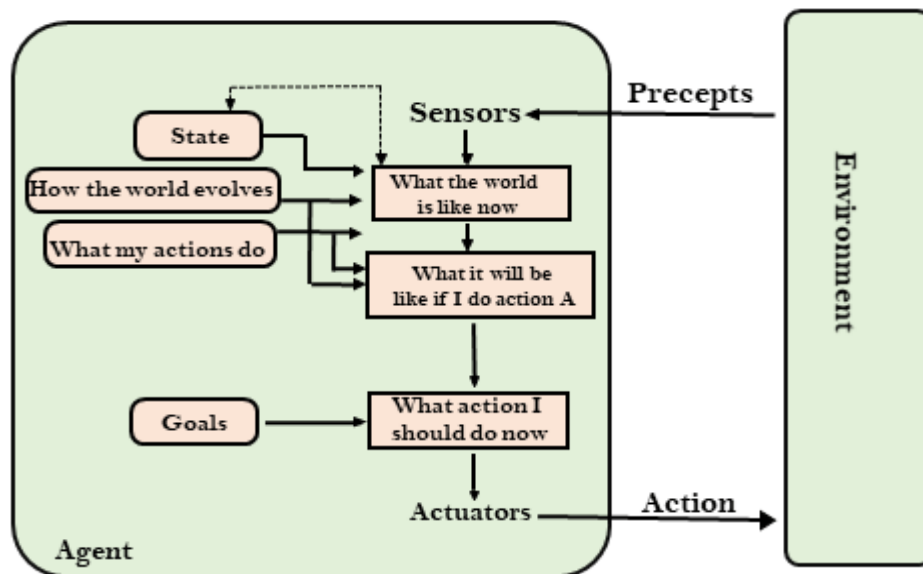
- The Model-based agent can work in a partially observable environment, and track the situation.

- A model-based agent has two important factors:
 - **Model:** It is knowledge about "how things happen in the world," so it is called a Model-based agent.
 - **Internal State:** It is a representation of the current state based on percept history.
- These agents have the model, "which is knowledge of the world" and based on the model they perform actions.
- Updating the agent state requires information about:
 - a. How the world evolves
 - b. How the agent's action affects the world.



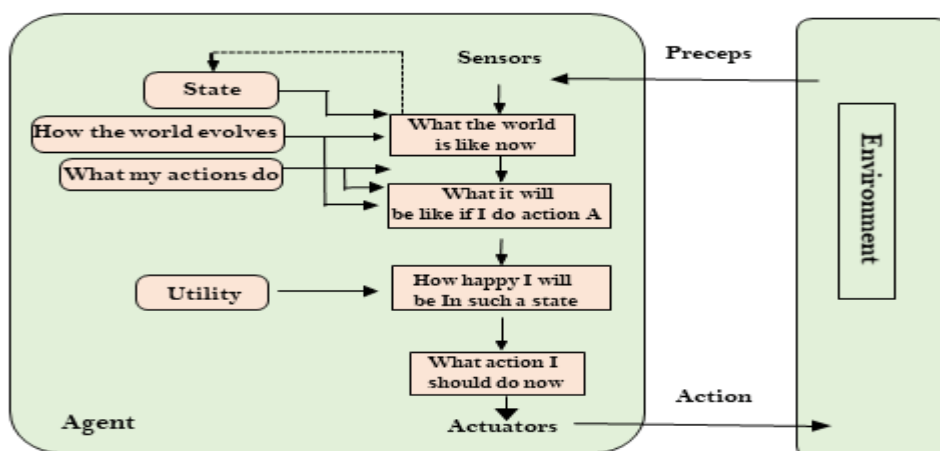
3. Goal-based agents

- The knowledge of the current state environment is not always sufficient to decide for an agent to what to do.
- The agent needs to know its goal which describes desirable situations.
- Goal-based agents expand the capabilities of the model-based agent by having the "goal" information.
- They choose an action, so that they can achieve the goal.
- These agents may have to consider a long sequence of possible actions before deciding whether the goal is achieved or not. Such considerations of different scenario are called searching and planning, which makes an agent proactive.



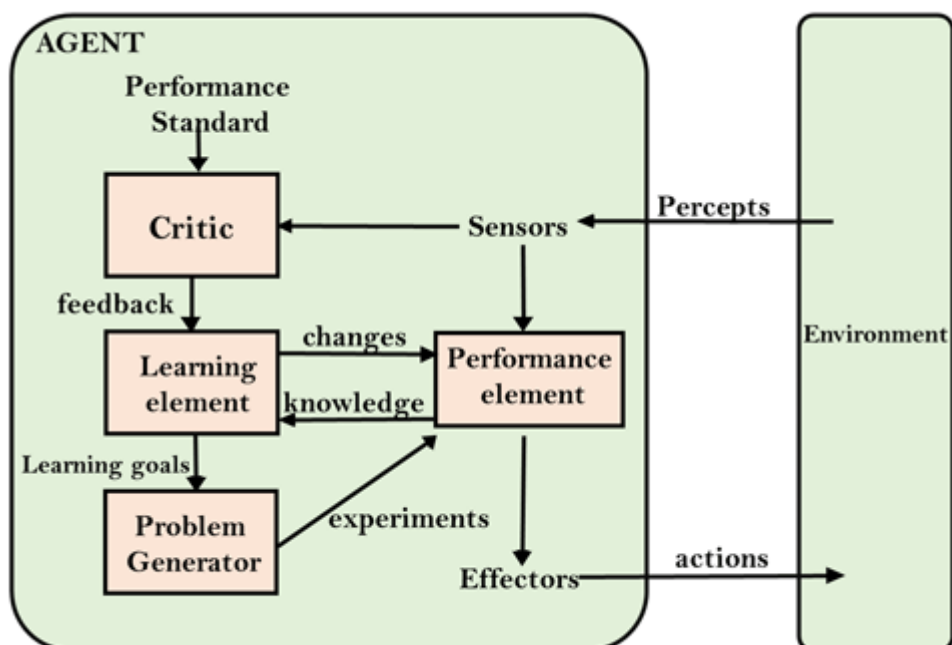
4. Utility-based agents

- These agents are similar to the goal-based agent but provide an extra component of utility measurement which makes them different by providing a measure of success at a given state.
- Utility-based agent act based not only goals but also the best way to achieve the goal.
- The Utility-based agent is useful when there are multiple possible alternatives, and an agent has to choose in order to perform the best action.
- The utility function maps each state to a real number to check how efficiently each action achieves the goals.



5. Learning Agents

- A learning agent in AI is the type of agent which can learn from its past experiences, or it has learning capabilities.
- It starts to act with basic knowledge and then able to act and adapt automatically through learning.
- A learning agent has mainly four conceptual components, which are:
 - a. **Learning element:** It is responsible for making improvements by learning from environment
 - b. **Critic:** Learning element takes feedback from critic which describes that how well the agent is doing with respect to a fixed performance standard.
 - c. **Performance element:** It is responsible for selecting external action
 - d. **Problem generator:** This component is responsible for suggesting actions that will lead to new and informative experiences.
- Hence, learning agents are able to learn, analyze performance, and look for new ways to improve the performance.



Agents in Artificial Intelligence

An AI system can be defined as the study of the rational agent and its environment. The agents sense the environment through sensors and act on their environment through actuators. An AI agent can have mental properties such as knowledge, belief, intention, etc.

What is an Agent?

An agent can be anything that perceives its environment through sensors and act upon that environment through actuators. An Agent runs in the cycle of **perceiving**, **thinking**, and **acting**. An agent can be:

- **Human-Agent:** A human agent has eyes, ears, and other organs which work for sensors and hand, legs, vocal tract work for actuators.
- **Robotic Agent:** A robotic agent can have cameras, infrared range finder, NLP for sensors and various motors for actuators.
- **Software Agent:** Software agent can have keystrokes, file contents as sensory input and act on those inputs and display output on the screen.

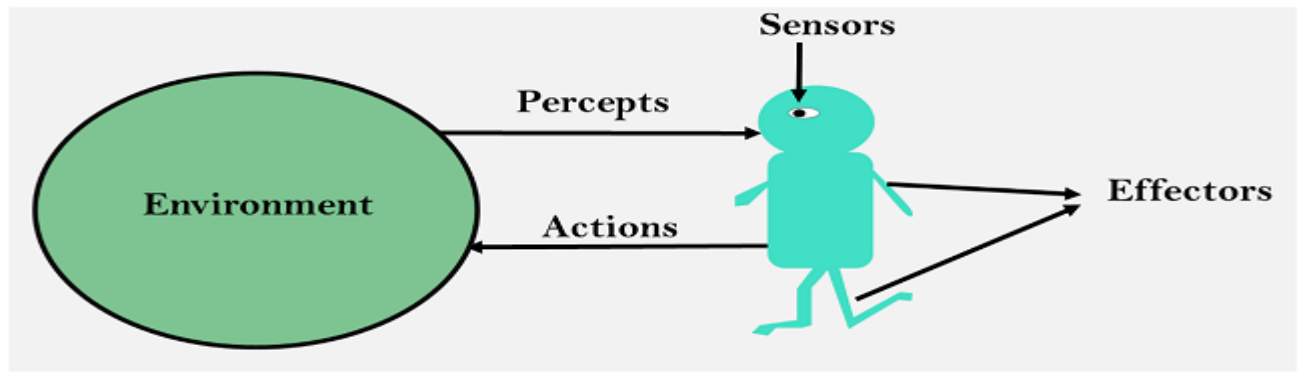
Hence the world around us is full of agents such as thermostat, cellphone, camera, and even we are also agents.

Before moving forward, we should first know about sensors, effectors, and actuators.

Sensor: Sensor is a device which detects the change in the environment and sends the information to other electronic devices. An agent observes its environment through sensors.

Actuators: Actuators are the component of machines that converts energy into motion. The actuators are only responsible for moving and controlling a system. An actuator can be an electric motor, gears, rails, etc.

Effectors: Effectors are the devices which affect the environment. Effectors can be legs, wheels, arms, fingers, wings, fins, and display screen.



Intelligent Agents:

An intelligent agent is an autonomous entity which act upon an environment using sensors and actuators for achieving goals. An intelligent agent may learn from the environment to achieve their goals. A thermostat is an example of an intelligent agent.

Following are the main four rules for an AI agent:

- **Rule 1:** An AI agent must have the ability to perceive the environment.
- **Rule 2:** The observation must be used to make decisions.
- **Rule 3:** Decision should result in an action.
- **Rule 4:** The action taken by an AI agent must be a rational action.

Rational Agent:

A rational agent is an agent which has clear preference, models uncertainty, and acts in a way to maximize its performance measure with all possible actions.

A rational agent is said to perform the right things. AI is about creating rational agents to use for game theory and decision theory for various real-world scenarios.

For an AI agent, the rational action is most important because in AI reinforcement learning algorithm, for each best possible action, agent gets the positive reward and for each wrong action, an agent gets a negative reward.

Note: Rational agents in AI are very similar to intelligent agents.

Rationality:

The rationality of an agent is measured by its performance measure. Rationality can be judged on the basis of following points:

- Performance measure which defines the success criterion.

- Agent prior knowledge of its environment.
- Best possible actions that an agent can perform.
- The sequence of percepts.

Note: Rationality differs from Omniscience because an Omniscient agent knows the actual outcome of its action and act accordingly, which is not possible in reality.

Structure of an AI Agent

The task of AI is to design an agent program which implements the agent function. The structure of an intelligent agent is a combination of architecture and agent program. It can be viewed as:

1. Agent = Architecture + Agent program

Following are the main three terms involved in the structure of an AI agent:

Architecture: Architecture is machinery that an AI agent executes on.

Agent Function: Agent function is used to map a percept to an action.

Agent program: Agent program is an implementation of agent function. An agent program executes on the physical architecture to produce function f .

PEAS Representation

PEAS is a type of model on which an AI agent works upon. When we define an AI agent or rational agent, then we can group its properties under PEAS representation model. It is made up of four words:

- **P:** Performance measure
- **E:** Environment
- **A:** Actuators
- **S:** Sensors

Here performance measure is the objective for the success of an agent's behavior.

PEAS for self-driving cars:

Let's suppose a self-driving car then PEAS representation will be:

Performance: Safety, time, legal drive, comfort

Environment: Roads, other vehicles, road signs, pedestrian

Actuators: Steering, accelerator, brake, signal, horn

Sensors: Camera, GPS, speedometer, odometer, accelerometer, sonar.

Example of Agents with their PEAS representation

Agent	Performance measure	Environment	Actuators	Sensors
1. Medical Diagnose	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Healthy patient○ Minimized cost	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Patient○ Hospital○ Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Tests○ Treatments	Keyboard (Entry of symptoms)
2. Vacuum Cleaner	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Cleanness○ Efficiency○ Battery life○ Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Room○ Table○ Wood floor○ Carpet○ Various obstacles	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Wheels○ Brushes○ Vacuum Extractor	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Camera○ Dirt detection sensor○ Cliff sensor○ Bump Sensor○ Infrared Wall Sensor
3. Part - picking Robot	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Percentage of parts in correct bins.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Conveyor belt with parts,○ Bins	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Jointed Arms○ Hand	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Camera○ Joint angle sensors.

Agent Environment in AI

An environment is everything in the world which surrounds the agent, but it is not a part of an agent itself. An environment can be described as a situation in which an agent is present.

The environment is where agent lives, operate and provide the agent with something to sense and act upon it. An environment is mostly said to be non-feministic.

Features of Environment

As per Russell and Norvig, an environment can have various features from the point of view of an agent:

1. Fully observable vs Partially Observable
2. Static vs Dynamic
3. Discrete vs Continuous
4. Deterministic vs Stochastic
5. Single-agent vs Multi-agent
6. Episodic vs sequential
7. Known vs Unknown
8. Accessible vs Inaccessible

1. Fully observable vs Partially Observable:

- If an agent sensor can sense or access the complete state of an environment at each point of time then it is a **fully observable** environment, else it is **partially observable**.
- A fully observable environment is easy as there is no need to maintain the internal state to keep track history of the world.
- An agent with no sensors in all environments then such an environment is called as **unobservable**.

2. Deterministic vs Stochastic:

- If an agent's current state and selected action can completely determine the next state of the environment, then such environment is called a deterministic environment.
- A stochastic environment is random in nature and cannot be determined completely by an agent.

- In a deterministic, fully observable environment, agent does not need to worry about uncertainty.

3. Episodic vs Sequential:

- In an episodic environment, there is a series of one-shot actions, and only the current percept is required for the action.
- However, in Sequential environment, an agent requires memory of past actions to determine the next best actions.

4. Single-agent vs Multi-agent

- If only one agent is involved in an environment, and operating by itself then such an environment is called single agent environment.
- However, if multiple agents are operating in an environment, then such an environment is called a multi-agent environment.
- The agent design problems in the multi-agent environment are different from single agent environment.

5. Static vs Dynamic:

- If the environment can change itself while an agent is deliberating then such environment is called a dynamic environment else it is called a static environment.
- Static environments are easy to deal because an agent does not need to continue looking at the world while deciding for an action.
- However for dynamic environment, agents need to keep looking at the world at each action.
- Taxi driving is an example of a dynamic environment whereas Crossword puzzles are an example of a static environment.

6. Discrete vs Continuous:

- If in an environment there are a finite number of percepts and actions that can be performed within it, then such an environment is called a discrete environment else it is called continuous environment.
- A chess game comes under discrete environment as there is a finite number of moves that can be performed.
- A self-driving car is an example of a continuous environment.

7. Known vs Unknown

- Known and unknown are not actually a feature of an environment, but it is an agent's state of knowledge to perform an action.
- In a known environment, the results for all actions are known to the agent. While in unknown environment, agent needs to learn how it works in order to perform an action.
- It is quite possible that a known environment to be partially observable and an Unknown environment to be fully observable.

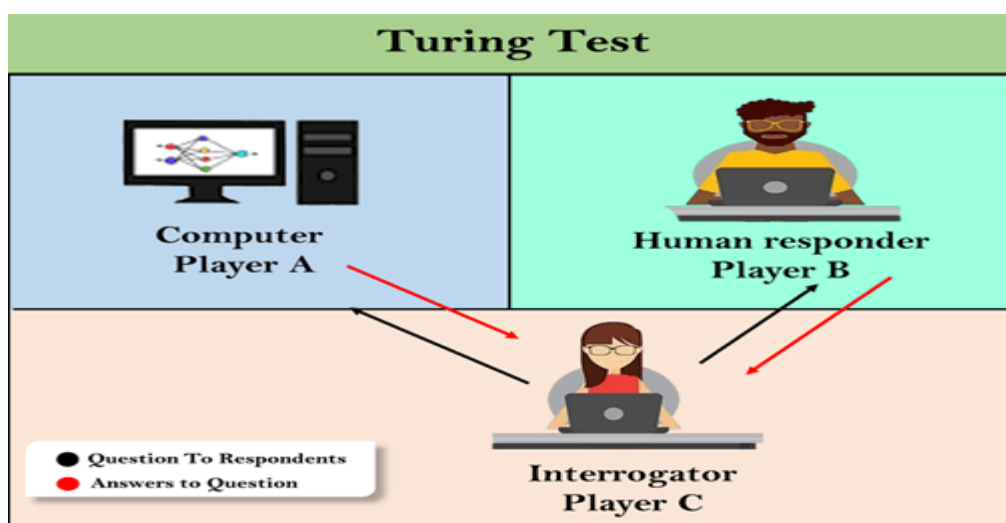
8. Accessible vs Inaccessible

- If an agent can obtain complete and accurate information about the state's environment, then such an environment is called an Accessible environment else it is called inaccessible.
- An empty room whose state can be defined by its temperature is an example of an accessible environment.
- Information about an event on earth is an example of Inaccessible environment.

Turing Test in AI

In 1950, Alan Turing introduced a test to check whether a machine can think like a human or not, this test is known as the Turing Test. In this test, Turing proposed that the computer can be said to be an intelligent if it can mimic human response under specific conditions.

Turing Test was introduced by Turing in his 1950 paper, "Computing Machinery and Intelligence," which considered the question, "Can Machine think?"



The Turing test is based on a party game "Imitation game," with some modifications. This game involves three players in which one player is Computer, another player is human

responder, and the third player is a human Interrogator, who is isolated from other two players and his job is to find that which player is machine among two of them.

Consider, Player A is a computer, Player B is human, and Player C is an interrogator. Interrogator is aware that one of them is machine, but he needs to identify this on the basis of questions and their responses.

The conversation between all players is via keyboard and screen so the result would not depend on the machine's ability to convert words as speech.

The test result does not depend on each correct answer, but only how closely its responses like a human answer. The computer is permitted to do everything possible to force a wrong identification by the interrogator.

The questions and answers can be like:

Interrogator: Are you a computer?

PlayerA (Computer): No

Interrogator: Multiply two large numbers such as $(256896489 \times 456725896)$

Player A: Long pause and give the wrong answer.

In this game, if an interrogator would not be able to identify which is a machine and which is human, then the computer passes the test successfully, and the machine is said to be intelligent and can think like a human.

Chatbots to attempt the Turing test:

ELIZA: ELIZA was a Natural language processing computer program created by Joseph Weizenbaum. It was created to demonstrate the ability of communication between machine and humans. It was one of the first chatterbots, which has attempted the Turing Test.

Parry: Parry was a chatterbot created by Kenneth Colby in 1972. Parry was designed to simulate a person with **Paranoid schizophrenia**(most common chronic mental disorder). Parry was described as "ELIZA with attitude." Parry was tested using a variation of the Turing Test in the early 1970s.

Eugene Goostman: Eugene Goostman was a chatbot developed in Saint Petersburg in 2001. This bot has competed in the various number of Turing Test. In June 2012, at an event, Goostman won the competition promoted as largest-ever Turing test content, in which it has convinced 29% of judges that it was a human. Goostman resembled as a 13-year old virtual boy.

The Chinese Room Argument:

There were many philosophers who really disagreed with the complete concept of Artificial Intelligence. The most famous argument in this list was "**Chinese Room**."

In the year **1980**, **John Searle** presented "**Chinese Room**" thought experiment, in his paper "**Mind, Brains, and Program**," which was against the validity of Turing's Test. According to his argument, "**Programming a computer may make it to understand a language, but it will not produce a real understanding of language or consciousness in a computer.**"

He argued that Machine such as ELIZA and Parry could easily pass the Turing test by manipulating keywords and symbol, but they had no real understanding of language. So it cannot be described as "thinking" capability of a machine such as a human.

Features required for a machine to pass the Turing test:

- **Natural language processing:** NLP is required to communicate with Interrogator in general human language like English.
- **Knowledge representation:** To store and retrieve information during the test.
- **Automated reasoning:** To use the previously stored information for answering the questions.
- **Machine learning:** To adapt new changes and can detect generalized patterns.
- **Vision (For total Turing test):** To recognize the interrogator actions and other objects during a test.
- **Motor Control (For total Turing test):** To act upon objects if requested.

Search Algorithms in Artificial Intelligence

Search algorithms are one of the most important areas of Artificial Intelligence. This topic will explain all about the search algorithms in AI.

Problem-solving agents:

In Artificial Intelligence, Search techniques are universal problem-solving methods. **Rational agents** or **Problem-solving agents** in AI mostly used these search strategies or algorithms to solve a specific problem and provide the best result. Problem-solving agents are the goal-based agents and use atomic representation. In this topic, we will learn various problem-solving search algorithms.

Search Algorithm Terminologies:

- **Search:** Searching is a step by step procedure to solve a search-problem in a given search space. A search problem can have three main factors:

- a. **Search Space:** Search space represents a set of possible solutions, which a system may have.
 - b. **Start State:** It is a state from where agent begins **the search**.
 - c. **Goal test:** It is a function which observe the current state and returns whether the goal state is achieved or not.
- **Search tree:** A tree representation of search problem is called Search tree. The root of the search tree is the root node which is corresponding to the initial state.
 - **Actions:** It gives the description of all the available actions to the agent.
 - **Transition model:** A description of what each action do, can be represented as a transition model.
 - **Path Cost:** It is a function which assigns a numeric cost to each path.
 - **Solution:** It is an action sequence which leads from the start node to the goal node.
 - **Optimal Solution:** If a solution has the lowest cost among all solutions.

Properties of Search Algorithms:

Following are the four essential properties of search algorithms to compare the efficiency of these algorithms:

Completeness: A search algorithm is said to be complete if it guarantees to return a solution if at least any solution exists for any random input.

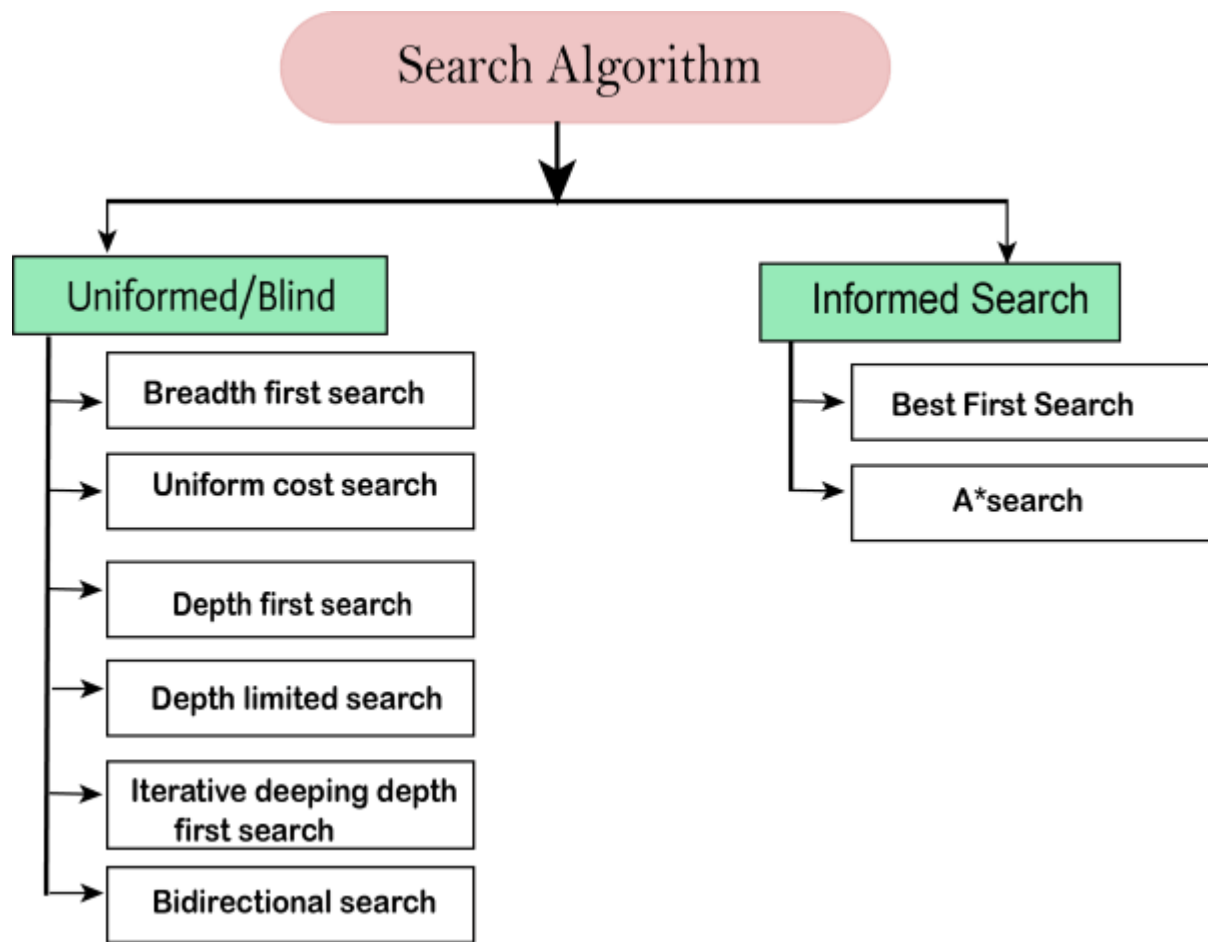
Optimality: If a solution found for an algorithm is guaranteed to be the best solution (lowest path cost) among all other solutions, then such a solution for is said to be an optimal solution.

Time Complexity: Time complexity is a measure of time for an algorithm to complete its task.

Space Complexity: It is the maximum storage space required at any point during the search, as the complexity of the problem.

Types of search algorithms

Based on the search problems we can classify the search algorithms into uninformed (Blind search) search and informed search (Heuristic search) algorithms.



Uninformed/Blind Search:

The uninformed search does not contain any domain knowledge such as closeness, the location of the goal. It operates in a brute-force way as it only includes information about how to traverse the tree and how to identify leaf and goal nodes. Uninformed search applies a way in which search tree is searched without any information about the search space like initial state operators and test for the goal, so it is also called blind search. It examines each node of the tree until it achieves the goal node.

It can be divided into five main types:

- Breadth-first search
- Uniform cost search
- Depth-first search
- Iterative deepening depth-first search
- Bidirectional Search

Informed Search

Informed search algorithms use domain knowledge. In an informed search, problem information is available which can guide the search. Informed search strategies can find a

solution more efficiently than an uninformed search strategy. Informed search is also called a Heuristic search.

A heuristic is a way which might not always be guaranteed for best solutions but guaranteed to find a good solution in reasonable time.

Informed search can solve much complex problem which could not be solved in another way.

An example of informed search algorithms is a traveling salesman problem.

1. Greedy Search
2. A* Search

Uninformed Search Algorithms

Uninformed search is a class of general-purpose search algorithms which operates in brute force-way. Uninformed search algorithms do not have additional information about state or search space other than how to traverse the tree, so it is also called blind search.

Following are the various types of uninformed search algorithms:

1. **Breadth-first Search**
2. **Depth-first Search**
3. **Depth-limited Search**
4. **Iterative deepening depth-first search**
5. **Uniform cost search**
6. **Bidirectional Search**

1. Breadth-first Search:

- Breadth-first search is the most common search strategy for traversing a tree or graph. This algorithm searches breadthwise in a tree or graph, so it is called breadth-first search.
- BFS algorithm starts searching from the root node of the tree and expands all successor node at the current level before moving to nodes of next level.
- The breadth-first search algorithm is an example of a general-graph search algorithm.
- Breadth-first search implemented using FIFO queue data structure.

Advantages:

- BFS will provide a solution if any solution exists.

- If there are more than one solutions for a given problem, then BFS will provide the minimal solution which requires the least number of steps.

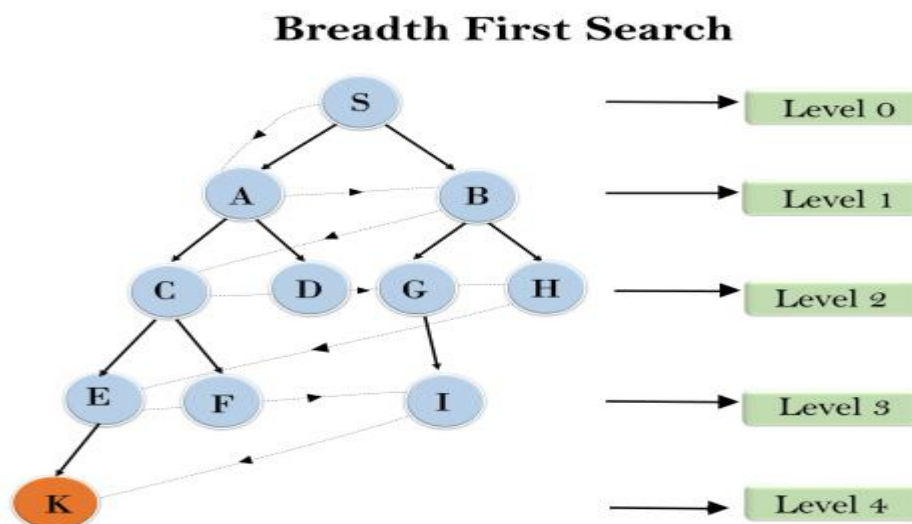
Disadvantages:

- It requires lots of memory since each level of the tree must be saved into memory to expand the next level.
- BFS needs lots of time if the solution is far away from the root node.

Example:

In the below tree structure, we have shown the traversing of the tree using BFS algorithm from the root node S to goal node K. BFS search algorithm traverse in layers, so it will follow the path which is shown by the dotted arrow, and the traversed path will be:

1. S---> A--->B--->C--->D--->G--->H--->E--->F--->I--->K



Time Complexity: Time Complexity of BFS algorithm can be obtained by the number of nodes traversed in BFS until the shallowest Node. Where the d= depth of shallowest solution and b is a node at every state.

$$T(b) = 1 + b^1 + b^2 + \dots + b^d = O(b^d)$$

Space Complexity: Space complexity of BFS algorithm is given by the Memory size of frontier which is $O(b^d)$.

Completeness: BFS is complete, which means if the shallowest goal node is at some finite depth, then BFS will find a solution.

Optimality: BFS is optimal if path cost is a non-decreasing function of the depth of the node.

2. Depth-first Search

- Depth-first search is a recursive algorithm for traversing a tree or graph data structure.
- It is called the depth-first search because it starts from the root node and follows each path to its greatest depth node before moving to the next path.
- DFS uses a stack data structure for its implementation.
- The process of the DFS algorithm is similar to the BFS algorithm.

Note: Backtracking is an algorithm technique for finding all possible solutions using recursion.

Advantage:

- DFS requires very less memory as it only needs to store a stack of the nodes on the path from root node to the current node.
- It takes less time to reach to the goal node than BFS algorithm (if it traverses in the right path).

Disadvantage:

- There is the possibility that many states keep re-occurring, and there is no guarantee of finding the solution.
- DFS algorithm goes for deep down searching and sometime it may go to the infinite loop.

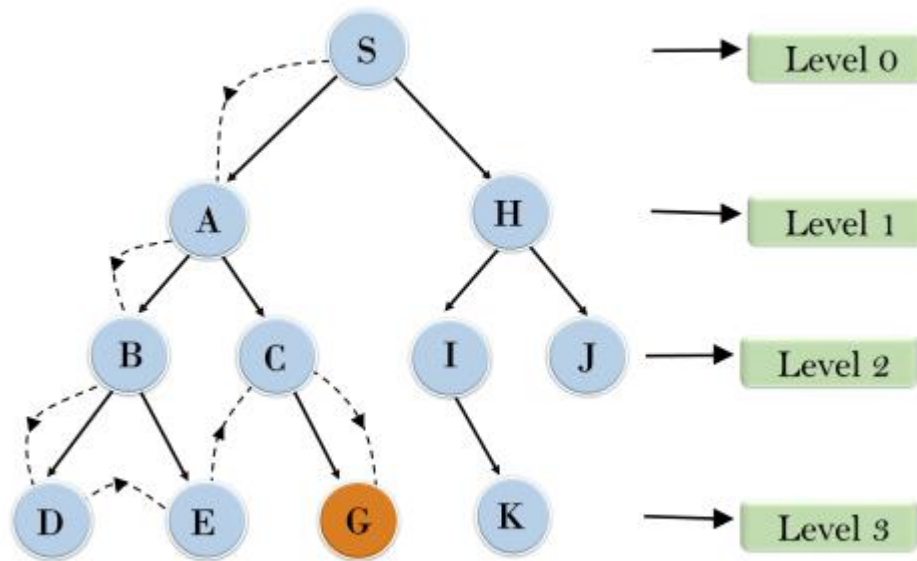
Example:

In the below search tree, we have shown the flow of depth-first search, and it will follow the order as:

Root node--->Left node ----> right node.

It will start searching from root node S, and traverse A, then B, then D and E, after traversing E, it will backtrack the tree as E has no other successor and still goal node is not found. After backtracking it will traverse node C and then G, and here it will terminate as it found goal node.

Depth First Search



Completeness: DFS search algorithm is complete within finite state space as it will expand every node within a limited search tree.

Time Complexity: Time complexity of DFS will be equivalent to the node traversed by the algorithm. It is given by:

$$T(n) = 1 + n^2 + n^3 + \dots + n^m = O(n^m)$$

Where, m = maximum depth of any node and this can be much larger than d (Shallowest solution depth)

Space Complexity: DFS algorithm needs to store only single path from the root node, hence space complexity of DFS is equivalent to the size of the fringe set, which is $O(bm)$.

Optimal: DFS search algorithm is non-optimal, as it may generate a large number of steps or high cost to reach to the goal node.

3. Depth-Limited Search Algorithm:

A depth-limited search algorithm is similar to depth-first search with a predetermined limit. Depth-limited search can solve the drawback of the infinite path in the Depth-first search. In this algorithm, the node at the depth limit will treat as it has no successor nodes further.

Depth-limited search can be terminated with two Conditions of failure:

- Standard failure value: It indicates that problem does not have any solution.

- Cutoff failure value: It defines no solution for the problem within a given depth limit.

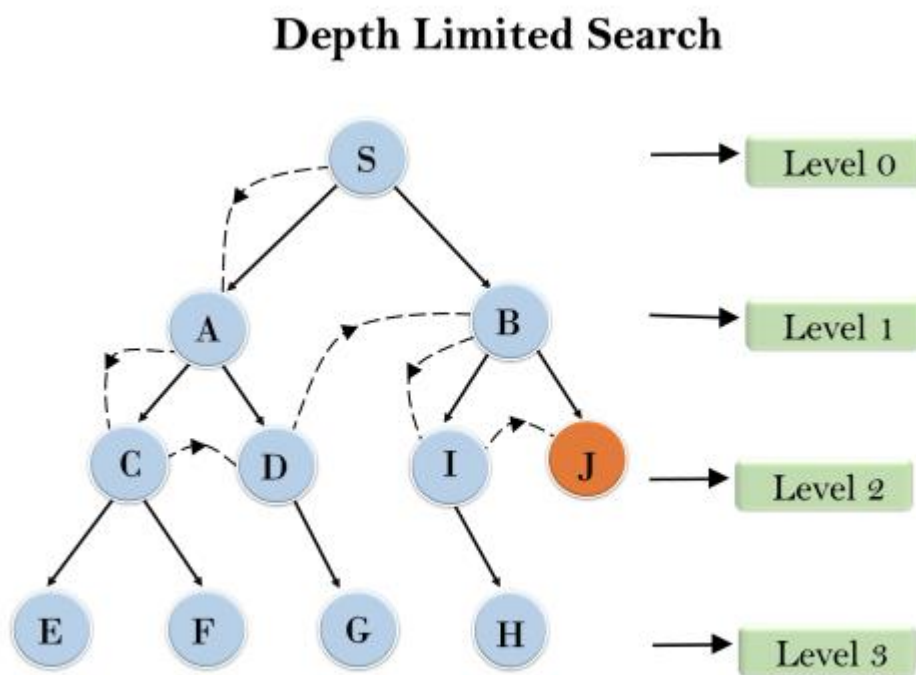
Advantages:

Depth-limited search is Memory efficient.

Disadvantages:

- Depth-limited search also has a disadvantage of incompleteness.
- It may not be optimal if the problem has more than one solution.

Example:



Completeness: DLS search algorithm is complete if the solution is above the depth-limit.

Time Complexity: Time complexity of DLS algorithm is $O(b^l)$.

Space Complexity: Space complexity of DLS algorithm is $O(b \times l)$.

Optimal: Depth-limited search can be viewed as a special case of DFS, and it is also not optimal even if $l > d$.

4. Uniform-cost Search Algorithm:

Uniform-cost search is a searching algorithm used for traversing a weighted tree or graph. This algorithm comes into play when a different cost is available for each edge. The primary

goal of the uniform-cost search is to find a path to the goal node which has the lowest cumulative cost. Uniform-cost search expands nodes according to their path costs from the root node. It can be used to solve any graph/tree where the optimal cost is in demand. A uniform-cost search algorithm is implemented by the priority queue. It gives maximum priority to the lowest cumulative cost. Uniform cost search is equivalent to BFS algorithm if the path cost of all edges is the same.

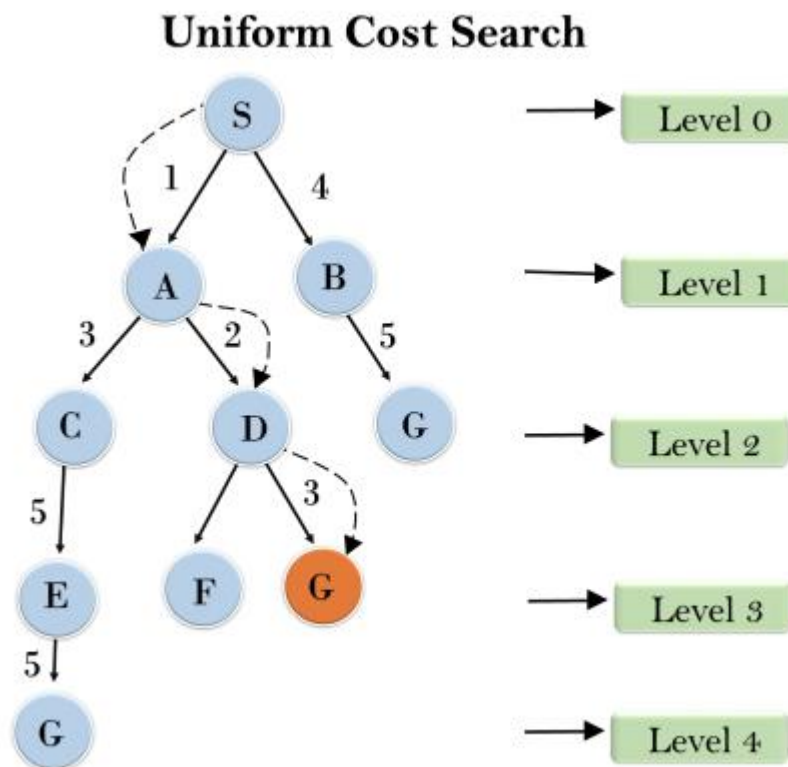
Advantages:

- Uniform cost search is optimal because at every state the path with the least cost is chosen.

Disadvantages:

- It does not care about the number of steps involve in searching and only concerned about path cost. Due to which this algorithm may be stuck in an infinite loop.

Example:



Completeness:

Uniform-cost search is complete, such as if there is a solution, UCS will find it.

Time Complexity:

Let C^* is Cost of the optimal solution, and ϵ is each step to get closer to the goal node. Then the number of steps is $= C^*/\epsilon + 1$. Here we have taken +1, as we start from state 0 and end to C^*/ϵ .

Hence, the worst-case time complexity of Uniform-cost search is $O(b^{1 + \lceil C^*/\epsilon \rceil})$.

Space Complexity:

The same logic is for space complexity so, the worst-case space complexity of Uniform-cost search is $O(b^{1 + \lceil C^*/\epsilon \rceil})$.

Optimal:

Uniform-cost search is always optimal as it only selects a path with the lowest path cost.

5. Iterative deepening depth-first Search:

The iterative deepening algorithm is a combination of DFS and BFS algorithms. This search algorithm finds out the best depth limit and does it by gradually increasing the limit until a goal is found.

This algorithm performs depth-first search up to a certain "depth limit", and it keeps increasing the depth limit after each iteration until the goal node is found.

This Search algorithm combines the benefits of Breadth-first search's fast search and depth-first search's memory efficiency.

The iterative search algorithm is useful uninformed search when search space is large, and depth of goal node is unknown.

Advantages:

- It combines the benefits of BFS and DFS search algorithm in terms of fast search and memory efficiency.

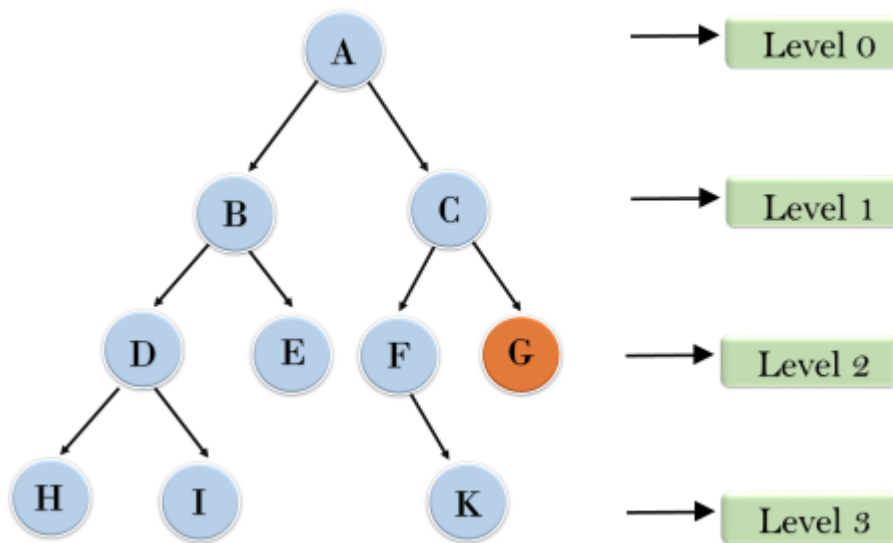
Disadvantages:

- The main drawback of IDDFS is that it repeats all the work of the previous phase.

Example:

Following tree structure is showing the iterative deepening depth-first search. IDDFS algorithm performs various iterations until it does not find the goal node. The iteration performed by the algorithm is given as:

Iterative deepening depth first search



1'st												A
2'nd		Iteration----	>									C
3'rd				Iteration----->	A,	B,	D,	E,	C,	F,		G
4'th					Iteration----->	A,	B,	D,	H,	I,	E,	G
									C,	F,	K,	

In the fourth iteration, the algorithm will find the goal node.

Completeness:

This algorithm is complete if the branching factor is finite.

Time Complexity:

Let's suppose b is the branching factor and depth is d then the worst-case time complexity is $O(b^d)$.

Space Complexity:

The space complexity of IDDFS will be $\mathbf{O}(\mathbf{bd})$.

Optimal:

IDDFS algorithm is optimal if path cost is a non- decreasing function of the depth of the node.

6. Bidirectional Search Algorithm:

Bidirectional search algorithm runs two simultaneous searches, one from initial state called as forward-search and other from goal node called as backward-search, to find the goal node. Bidirectional search replaces one single search graph with two small subgraphs in which one starts the search from an initial vertex and other starts from goal vertex. The search stops when these two graphs intersect each other.

Bidirectional search can use search techniques such as BFS, DFS, DLS, etc.

Advantages:

- Bidirectional search is fast.
- Bidirectional search requires less memory

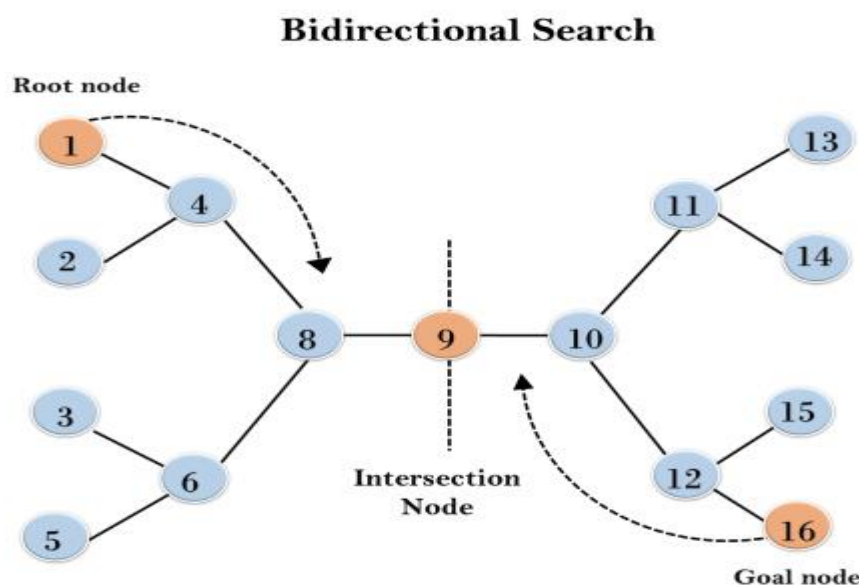
Disadvantages:

- Implementation of the bidirectional search tree is difficult.
- **In bidirectional search, one should know the goal state in advance.**

Example:

In the below search tree, bidirectional search algorithm is applied. This algorithm divides one graph/tree into two sub-graphs. It starts traversing from node 1 in the forward direction and starts from goal node 16 in the backward direction.

The algorithm terminates at node 9 where two searches meet.



Completeness: Bidirectional Search is complete if we use BFS in both searches.

Time Complexity: Time complexity of bidirectional search using BFS is $O(b^d)$.

Space Complexity: Space complexity of bidirectional search is $O(b^d)$.

Optimal: Bidirectional search is Optimal.

Informed Search Algorithms

So far we have talked about the uninformed search algorithms which looked through search space for all possible solutions of the problem without having any additional knowledge about search space. But informed search algorithm contains an array of knowledge such as how far we are from the goal, path cost, how to reach to goal node, etc. This knowledge help agents to explore less to the search space and find more efficiently the goal node.

The informed search algorithm is more useful for large search space. Informed search algorithm uses the idea of heuristic, so it is also called Heuristic search.

Heuristics function: Heuristic is a function which is used in Informed Search, and it finds the most promising path. It takes the current state of the agent as its input and produces the estimation of how close agent is from the goal. The heuristic method, however, might not always give the best solution, but it guaranteed to find a good solution in reasonable time. Heuristic function estimates how close a state is to the goal. It is represented by $h(n)$, and it calculates the cost of an optimal path between the pair of states. The value of the heuristic function is always positive.

Admissibility of the heuristic function is given as:

1. $h(n) \leq h^*(n)$

Here $h(n)$ is heuristic cost, and $h^*(n)$ is the estimated cost. Hence heuristic cost should be less than or equal to the estimated cost.

Pure Heuristic Search:

Pure heuristic search is the simplest form of heuristic search algorithms. It expands nodes based on their heuristic value $h(n)$. It maintains two lists, OPEN and CLOSED list. In the CLOSED list, it places those nodes which have already expanded and in the OPEN list, it places nodes which have yet not been expanded.

On each iteration, each node n with the lowest heuristic value is expanded and generates all its successors and n is placed to the closed list. The algorithm continues until a goal state is found.

In the informed search we will discuss two main algorithms which are given below:

- **Best First Search Algorithm(Greedy search)**
- **A* Search Algorithm**

1.) Best-first Search Algorithm (Greedy Search):

Greedy best-first search algorithm always selects the path which appears best at that moment. It is the combination of depth-first search and breadth-first search algorithms. It uses the heuristic function and search. Best-first search allows us to take the advantages of both algorithms. With the help of best-first search, at each step, we can choose the most promising node. In the best first search algorithm, we expand the node which is closest to the goal node and the closest cost is estimated by heuristic function, i.e.

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

Where, $h(n)$ = estimated cost from node n to the goal.

The greedy best first algorithm is implemented by the priority queue.

Best first search algorithm:

- **Step 1:** Place the starting node into the OPEN list.
- **Step 2:** If the OPEN list is empty, Stop and return failure.
- **Step 3:** Remove the node n , from the OPEN list which has the lowest value of $h(n)$, and places it in the CLOSED list.
- **Step 4:** Expand the node n , and generate the successors of node n .
- **Step 5:** Check each successor of node n , and find whether any node is a goal node or not. If any successor node is goal node, then return success and terminate the search, else proceed to Step 6.
- **Step 6:** For each successor node, algorithm checks for evaluation function $f(n)$, and then check if the node has been in either OPEN or CLOSED list. If the node has not been in both list, then add it to the OPEN list.
- **Step 7:** Return to Step 2.

Advantages:

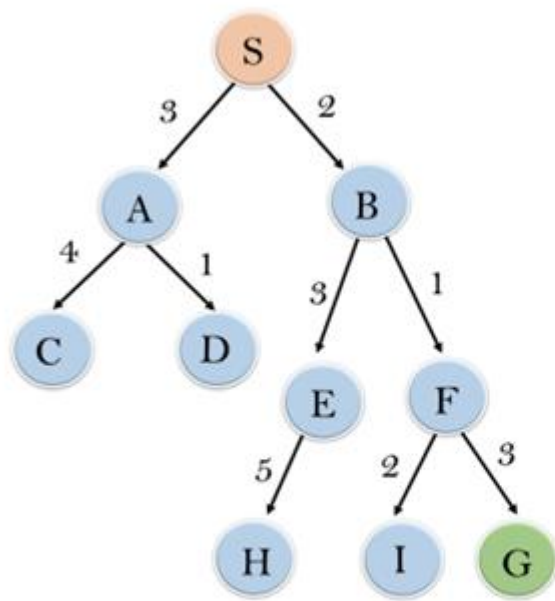
- Best first search can switch between BFS and DFS by gaining the advantages of both the algorithms.
- This algorithm is more efficient than BFS and DFS algorithms.

Disadvantages:

- It can behave as an unguided depth-first search in the worst case scenario.
- It can get stuck in a loop as DFS.
- This algorithm is not optimal.

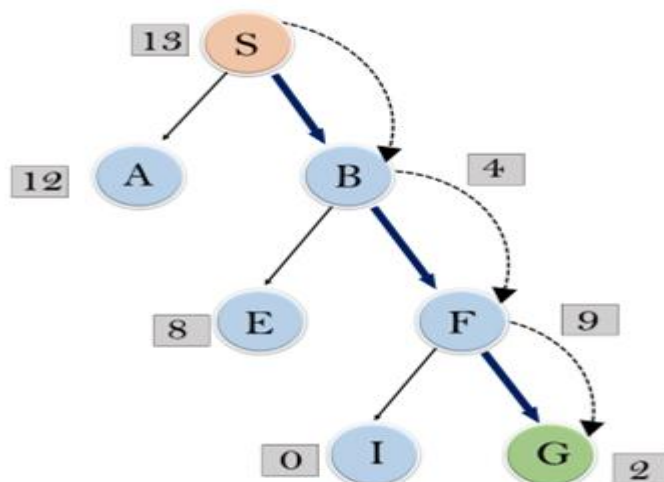
Example:

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



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

In this search example, we are using two lists which are **OPEN** and **CLOSED** Lists. Following are the iteration for traversing the above example.



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 2: Open [E, F, A], Closed [S, B]
: Open [E, A], Closed [S, B, F]

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----->F----> G**

Time Complexity: The worst case time complexity of Greedy best first search is $O(b^m)$.

Space Complexity: The worst case space complexity of Greedy best first search is $O(b^m)$. Where, m is the maximum depth of the search space.

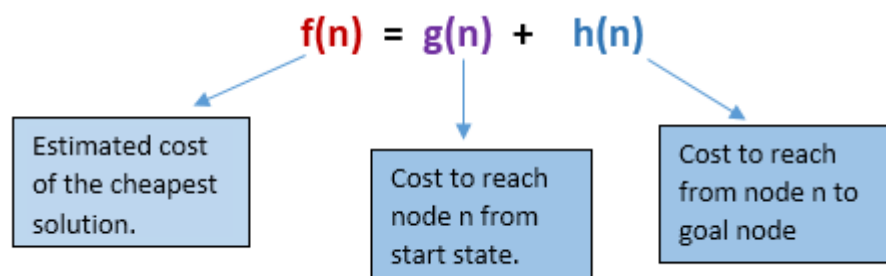
Complete: Greedy best-first search is also incomplete, even if the given state space is finite.

Optimal: Greedy best first search algorithm is not optimal.

2.) A* Search Algorithm:

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. A* algorithm is similar to UCS except that it uses $g(n)+h(n)$ instead of $g(n)$.

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**.



At each point in the search space, only those node is expanded which have the lowest value of $f(n)$, and the algorithm terminates when the goal node is found.

Algorithm of A* search:

Step 1: Place the starting node in the OPEN list.

Step 2: Check if the OPEN list is empty or not, if the list is empty then return failure and stops.

Step 3: Select the node from the OPEN list which has the smallest value of evaluation function ($g+h$), if node n is goal node then return success and stop, otherwise

Step 4: Expand node n and generate all of its successors, and put n into the closed list. For each successor n' , check whether n' is already in the OPEN or CLOSED list, if not then compute evaluation function for n' and place into Open list.

Step 5: Else if node n' is already in OPEN and CLOSED, then it should be attached to the back pointer which reflects the lowest $g(n')$ value.

Step 6: Return to **Step 2**.

Advantages:

- A* search algorithm is the best algorithm than other search algorithms.
- A* search algorithm is optimal and complete.
- This algorithm can solve very complex problems.

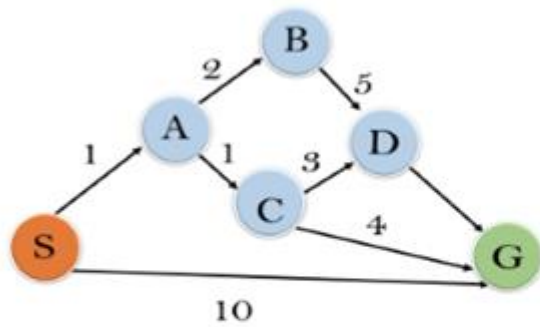
Disadvantages:

- It does not always produce the shortest path as it mostly based on heuristics and approximation.
- A* search algorithm has some complexity issues.
- 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.

Example:

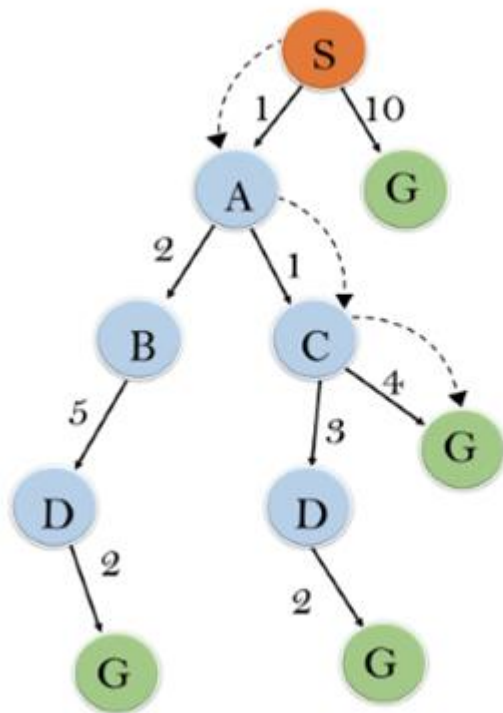
In this example, we will traverse the given graph using the A* algorithm. The heuristic value of all states is given in the below table so we will calculate the $f(n)$ of each state using the formula $f(n) = g(n) + h(n)$, where $g(n)$ is the cost to reach any node from start state.

Here we will use OPEN and CLOSED list.



State	$h(n)$
S	5
A	3
B	4
C	2
D	6
G	0

Solution:



Initialization: $\{(S, 5)\}$

Iteration1: $\{(S \rightarrow A, 4), (S \rightarrow G, 10)\}$

Iteration2: $\{(S \rightarrow A \rightarrow C, 4), (S \rightarrow A \rightarrow B, 7), (S \rightarrow G, 10)\}$

Iteration3: {(S--> A-->C--->G, 6), (S--> A-->C--->D, 11), (S--> A-->B, 7), (S-->G, 10)}

Iteration 4 will give the final result, as S--->A--->C--->G it provides the optimal path with cost 6.

Points to remember:

- A* algorithm returns the path which occurred first, and it does not search for all remaining paths.
- The efficiency of A* algorithm depends on the quality of heuristic.
- A* algorithm expands all nodes which satisfy the condition $f(n) \leq g(n) + h(n)$

Complete: A* algorithm is complete as long as:

- Branching factor is finite.
- Cost at every action is fixed.

Optimal: A* search algorithm is optimal if it follows below two conditions:

- **Admissible:** the first condition requires for optimality is that $h(n)$ should be an admissible heuristic for A* tree search. An admissible heuristic is optimistic in nature.
- **Consistency:** Second required condition is consistency for only A* graph-search.

If the heuristic function is admissible, then A* tree search will always find the least cost path.

Time Complexity: The time complexity of A* search algorithm depends on heuristic function, and the number of nodes expanded is exponential to the depth of solution d . So the time complexity is $O(b^d)$, where b is the branching factor.

Space Complexity: The space complexity of A* search algorithm is $O(b^d)$

Hill Climbing Algorithm in Artificial Intelligence

- Hill climbing algorithm is a local search algorithm which continuously moves in the direction of increasing elevation/value to find the peak of the mountain or best solution to the problem. It terminates when it reaches a peak value where no neighbor has a higher value.
- Hill climbing algorithm is a technique which is used for optimizing the mathematical problems. One of the widely discussed examples of Hill climbing algorithm is Traveling-salesman Problem in which we need to minimize the distance traveled by the salesman.
- It is also called greedy local search as it only looks to its good immediate neighbor state and not beyond that.
- A node of hill climbing algorithm has two components which are state and value.

- Hill Climbing is mostly used when a good heuristic is available.
- In this algorithm, we don't need to maintain and handle the search tree or graph as it only keeps a single current state.

Features of Hill Climbing:

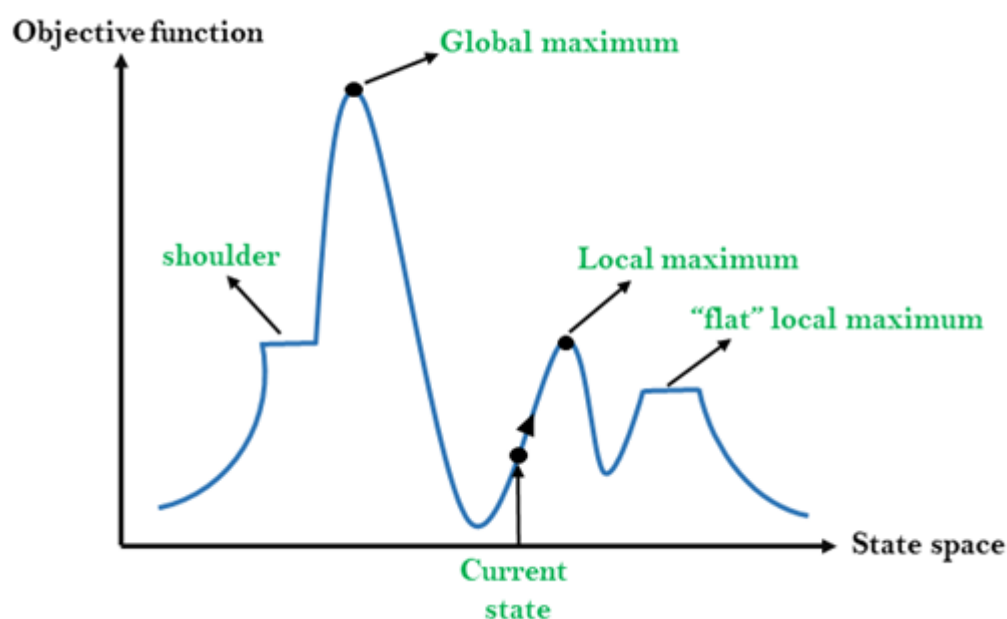
Following are some main features of Hill Climbing Algorithm:

- **Generate and Test variant:** Hill Climbing is the variant of Generate and Test method. The Generate and Test method produce feedback which helps to decide which direction to move in the search space.
- **Greedy approach:** Hill-climbing algorithm search moves in the direction which optimizes the cost.
- **No backtracking:** It does not backtrack the search space, as it does not remember the previous states.

State-space Diagram for Hill Climbing:

The state-space landscape is a graphical representation of the hill-climbing algorithm which is showing a graph between various states of algorithm and Objective function/Cost.

On Y-axis we have taken the function which can be an objective function or cost function, and state-space on the x-axis. If the function on Y-axis is cost then, the goal of search is to find the global minimum and local minimum. If the function of Y-axis is Objective function, then the goal of the search is to find the global maximum and local maximum.



Different regions in the state space landscape:

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 objective function.

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

Flat local maximum: It is a flat space in the landscape where all the neighbor states of current states have the same value.

Shoulder: It is a plateau region which has an uphill edge.

Types of Hill Climbing Algorithm:

- Simple hill Climbing:
- Steepest-Ascent hill-climbing:
- Stochastic hill Climbing:

1. Simple Hill Climbing:

Simple hill climbing is the simplest way to implement a hill climbing algorithm. **It only evaluates the neighbor node state at a time and selects the first one which optimizes current cost and set it as a current state.** It only checks its one successor state, and if it finds better than the current state, then move else be in the same state. This algorithm has the following features:

- Less time consuming
- Less optimal solution and the solution is not guaranteed

Algorithm for Simple Hill Climbing:

- **Step 1:** Evaluate the initial state, if it is goal state then return success and Stop.
- **Step 2:** Loop Until a solution is found or there is no new operator left to apply.
- **Step 3:** Select and apply an operator to the current state.
- **Step 4:** Check new state:
 - a. If it is goal state, then return success and quit.
 - b. Else if it is better than the current state then assign new state as a current state.
 - c. Else if not better than the current state, then return to step2.
- **Step 5:** Exit.

2. Steepest-Ascent hill climbing:

The steepest-Ascent algorithm is a variation of simple hill climbing algorithm. This algorithm examines all the neighboring nodes of the current state and selects one neighbor node which is closest to the goal state. This algorithm consumes more time as it searches for multiple neighbors

Algorithm for Steepest-Ascent hill climbing:

- **Step 1:** Evaluate the initial state, if it is goal state then return success and stop, else make current state as initial state.
- **Step 2:** Loop until a solution is found or the current state does not change.
 - a. Let SUCC be a state such that any successor of the current state will be better than it.
 - b. For each operator that applies to the current state:
 - a. Apply the new operator and generate a new state.
 - b. Evaluate the new state.
 - c. If it is goal state, then return it and quit, else compare it to the SUCC.
 - d. If it is better than SUCC, then set new state as SUCC.
 - e. If the SUCC is better than the current state, then set current state to SUCC.
- **Step 5:** Exit.

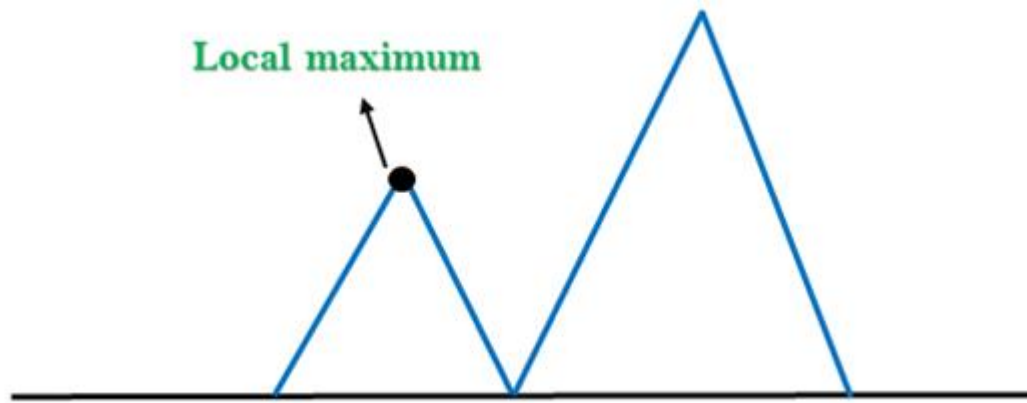
3. Stochastic hill climbing:

Stochastic hill climbing does not examine for all its neighbor before moving. Rather, this search algorithm selects one neighbor node at random and decides whether to choose it as a current state or examine another state.

Problems in Hill Climbing Algorithm:

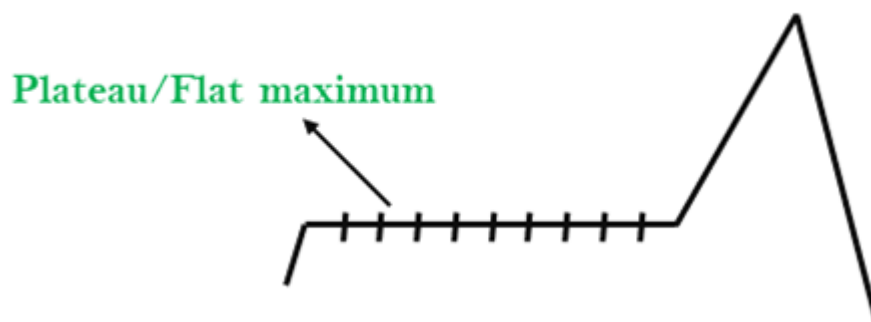
1. Local Maximum: A local maximum is a peak state in the landscape which is better than each of its neighboring states, but there is another state also present which is higher than the local maximum.

Solution: Backtracking technique can be a solution of the local maximum in state space landscape. Create a list of the promising path so that the algorithm can backtrack the search space and explore other paths as well.



2. Plateau: A plateau is the flat area of the search space in which all the neighbor states of the current state contains the same value, because of this algorithm does not find any best direction to move. A hill-climbing search might be lost in the plateau area.

Solution: The solution for the plateau is to take big steps or very little steps while searching, to solve the problem. Randomly select a state which is far away from the current state so it is possible that the algorithm could find non-plateau region.



3. Ridges: A ridge is a special form of the local maximum. It has an area which is higher than its surrounding areas, but itself has a slope, and cannot be reached in a single move.

Solution: With the use of bidirectional search, or by moving in different directions, we can improve this problem.



Simulated Annealing:

A hill-climbing algorithm which never makes a move towards a lower value guaranteed to be incomplete because it can get stuck on a local maximum. And if algorithm applies a random walk, by moving a successor, then it may complete but not efficient. **Simulated Annealing** is an algorithm which yields both efficiency and completeness.

In mechanical term **Annealing** is a process of hardening a metal or glass to a high temperature then cooling gradually, so this allows the metal to reach a low-energy crystalline state. The same process is used in simulated annealing in which the algorithm picks a random move, instead of picking the best move. If the random move improves the state, then it follows the same path. Otherwise, the algorithm follows the path which has a probability of less than 1 or it moves downhill and chooses another path.

GENERIC BFS ALGORITHM

The generic best-first search algorithm selects a node for expansion according to an evaluation function. Greedy best-first search expands nodes with minimal $h(n)$. It is not optimal, but is often efficient. A* search expands nodes with minimal $f(n)=g(n)+h(n)$.

Constraint Satisfaction Problems in Artificial Intelligence

We have encountered a wide variety of methods, including adversarial search and instant search, to address various issues. Every method for issue has a single purpose in mind: to locate a remedy that will enable that achievement of the objective. However there were no restrictions just on bots' capability to resolve issues as well as arrive at responses in adversarial search and local search, respectively.

These section examines the constraint optimization methodology, another form or real concern method. By its name, constraints fulfilment implies that such an issue must be solved while adhering to a set of restrictions or guidelines.

Whenever a problem is actually variables comply with stringent conditions of principles, it is said to have been addressed using the solving multi - objective method. Wow what a method results in a study sought to achieve of the intricacy and organization of both the issue.

Three factors affect restriction compliance, particularly regarding:

- It refers to a group of parameters, or X.
- D: The variables are contained within a collection several domain. Every variables has a distinct scope.

- C: It is a set of restrictions that the collection of parameters must abide by.

In constraint satisfaction, domains are the areas wherein parameters were located after the restrictions that are particular to the task. Those three components make up a constraint satisfaction technique in its entirety. The pair "scope, rel" makes up the number of something like the requirement. The scope is a tuple of variables that contribute to the restriction, as well as rel is indeed a relationship that contains a list of possible solutions for the parameters should assume in order to meet the restrictions of something like the issue.

Issues with Contains A certain amount Solved

For a constraint satisfaction problem (CSP), the following conditions must be met:

- States area
- fundamental idea while behind remedy.

The definition of a state in phase space involves giving values to any or all of the parameters, like as

$X_1 = v_1, X_2 = v_2$, etc.

There are 3 methods to economically beneficial to something like a parameter:

1. Consistent or Legal Assignment: A task is referred to as consistent or legal if it complies with all laws and regulations.
2. Complete Assignment: An assignment in which each variable has a number associated to it and that the CSP solution is continuous. One such task is referred to as a completed task.
3. A partial assignment is one that just gives some of the variables values. Projects of this nature are referred to as incomplete assignment.

Domain Categories within CSP

The parameters utilize one of the two types of domains listed below:

- Discrete Domain: This limitless area allows for the existence of a single state with numerous variables. For instance, every parameter may receive a endless number of beginning states.
- It is a finite domain with continuous phases that really can describe just one area for just one particular variable. Another name for it is constant area.

Types of Constraints in CSP

Basically, there are three different categories of limitations in regard towards the parameters:

- Unary restrictions are the easiest kind of restrictions because they only limit the value of one variable.
- Binary resource limits: These restrictions connect two parameters. A value between x_1 and x_3 can be found in a variable named x_2 .
- Global Resource limits: This kind of restriction includes a unrestricted amount of variables.

The main kinds of restrictions are resolved using certain kinds of resolution methodologies:

- In linear programming, when every parameter carrying an integer value only occurs in linear equation, linear constraints are frequently utilised.
- Non-linear Constraints: With non-linear programming, when each variable (an integer value) exists in a non-linear form, several types of restrictions were utilised.

Note: The preferences restriction is a unique restriction that operates in the actual world.

Think of a Sudoku puzzle where some of the squares have initial fills of certain integers.

You must complete the empty squares with numbers between 1 and 9, making sure that no rows, columns, or blocks contains a recurring integer of any kind. This solving multi - objective issue is pretty elementary. A problem must be solved while taking certain limitations into consideration.

The integer range (1-9) that really can occupy the other spaces is referred to as a domain, while the empty spaces themselves were referred as variables. The values of the variables are drawn first from realm. Constraints are the rules that determine how a variable will select the scope.

Backtracking

In this topic, we will learn about the backtracking, which is a very important skill set to solve recursive solutions. Recursive functions are those that calls itself more than once. Consider an example of Palindrome:

Initially, the function `isPalindrome(S, 0, 8)` is called once with the parameters `isPalindrome(S, 1, 7)`. The recursive call `isPalindrome(S, 1, 7)` is called once with the parameters `isPalindrome(S, 2, 6)`.

Backtracking is one of the techniques that can be used to solve the problem. We can write the algorithm using this strategy. It uses the Brute force search to solve the problem, and the brute force search says that for the given problem, we try to make all the possible solutions and pick out the best solution from all the desired solutions. This rule is also followed in dynamic programming, but dynamic programming is used for solving optimization problems. In contrast, backtracking is not used in solving optimization problems. Backtracking is used when we have multiple solutions, and we require all those solutions.

Backtracking name itself suggests that we are going back and coming forward; if it satisfies the condition, then return success, else we go back again. It is used to solve a problem in which a sequence of objects is chosen from a specified set so that the sequence satisfies some criteria.

When to use a Backtracking algorithm?

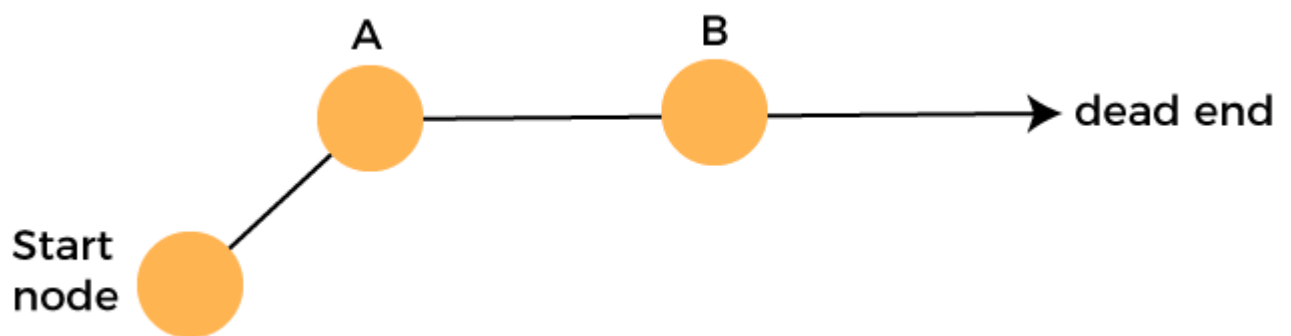
When we have multiple choices, then we make the decisions from the available choices. In the following cases, we need to use the backtracking algorithm:

- A piece of sufficient information is not available to make the best choice, so we use the backtracking strategy to try out all the possible solutions.
- Each decision leads to a new set of choices. Then again, we backtrack to make new decisions. In this case, we need to use the backtracking strategy.

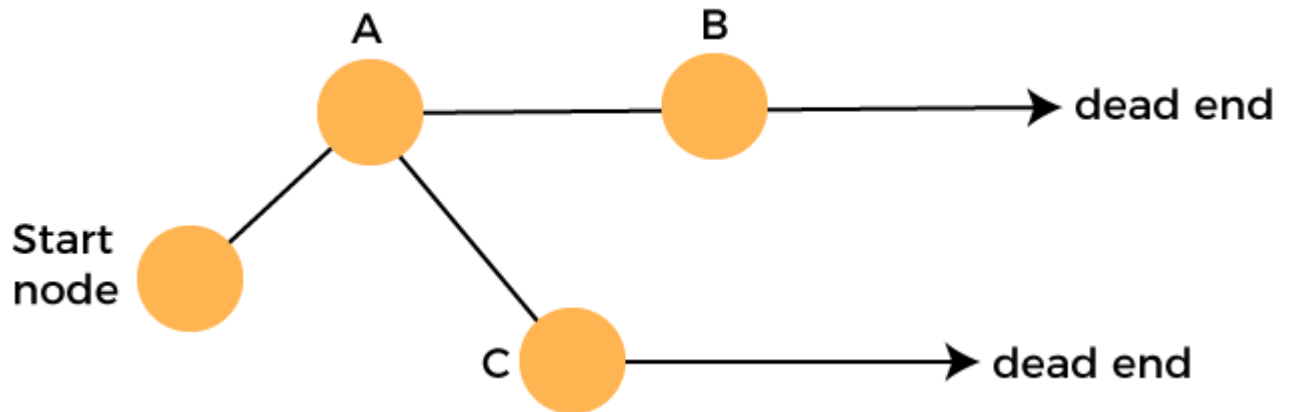
How does Backtracking work?

Backtracking is a systematic method of trying out various sequences of decisions until you find out that works. Let's understand through an example.

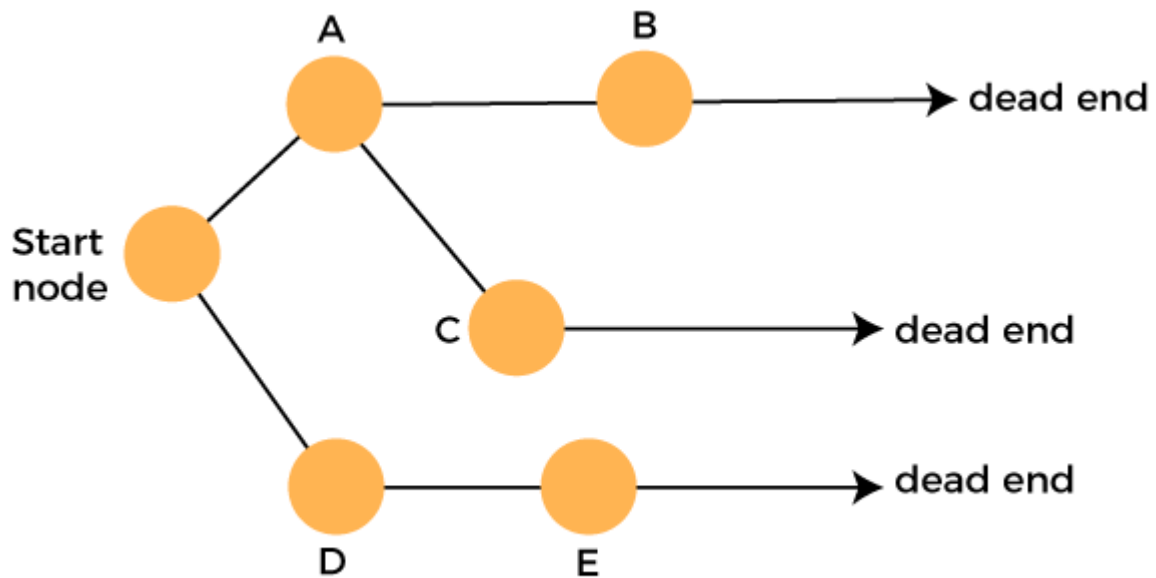
We start with a start node. First, we move to node A. Since it is not a feasible solution so we move to the next node, i.e., B. B is also not a feasible solution, and it is a dead-end so we backtrack from node B to node A.



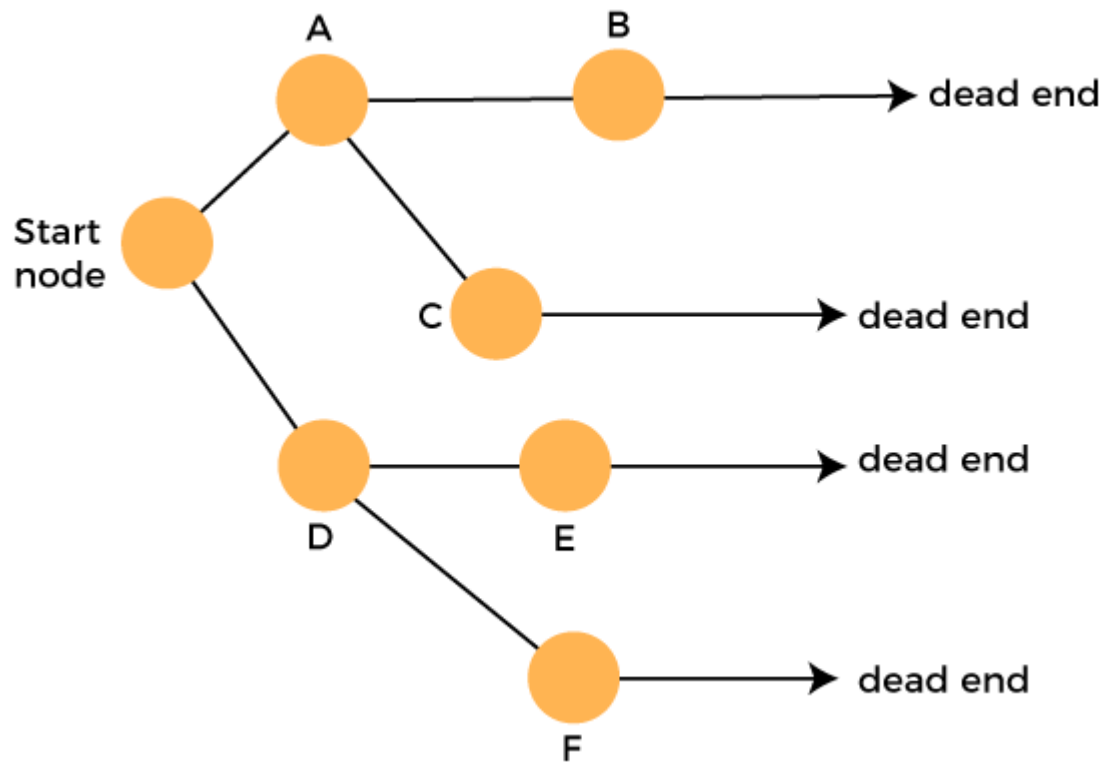
Suppose another path exists from node A to node C. So, we move from node A to node C. It is also a dead-end, so again backtrack from node C to node A. We move from node A to the starting node.



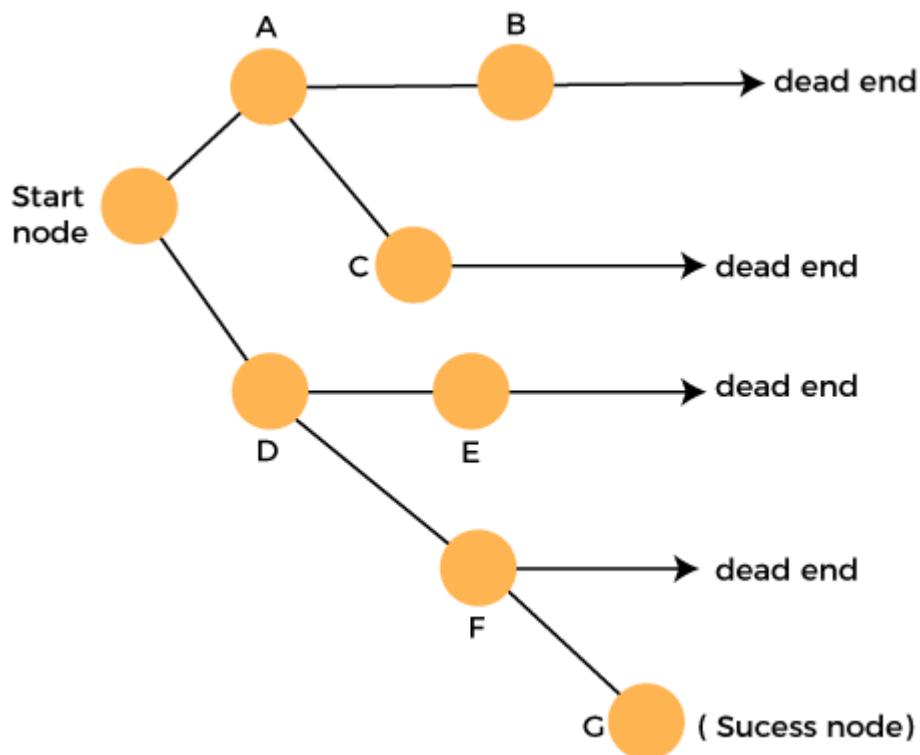
Now we will check any other path exists from the starting node. So, we move from start node to the node D. Since it is not a feasible solution so we move from node D to node E. The node E is also not a feasible solution. It is a dead end so we backtrack from node E to node D.



Suppose another path exists from node D to node F. So, we move from node D to node F. Since it is not a feasible solution and it's a dead-end, we check for another path from node F.



Suppose there is another path exists from the node F to node G so move from node F to node G. The node G is a success node.



The terms related to the backtracking are:

- **Live node:** The nodes that can be further generated are known as live nodes.
- **E node:** The nodes whose children are being generated and become a success node.
- **Success node:** The node is said to be a success node if it provides a feasible solution.
- **Dead node:** The node which cannot be further generated and also does not provide a feasible solution is known as a dead node.

Many problems can be solved by backtracking strategy, and that problems satisfy complex set of constraints, and these constraints are of two types:

- **Implicit constraint:** It is a rule in which how each element in a tuple is related.
- **Explicit constraint:** The rules that restrict each element to be chosen from the given set.

Applications of Backtracking

- N-queen problem
- Sum of subset problem
- Graph coloring
- Hamilton cycle

Difference between the Backtracking and Recursion

Recursion is a technique that calls the same function again and again until you reach the base case. Backtracking is an algorithm that finds all the possible solutions and selects the desired solution from the given set of solutions.

Local Search Algorithms and Optimization Problem

The informed and uninformed search expands the nodes systematically in two ways:

- keeping different paths in the memory and
- selecting the best suitable path,

Which leads to a solution state required to reach the goal node. But beyond these “**classical search algorithms**,” we have some “**local search algorithms**” where the path cost does not matters, and only focus on solution-state needed to reach the goal node.

A local search algorithm completes its task by traversing on a single current node rather than multiple paths and following the neighbors of that node generally.

Although local search algorithms are not systematic, still they have the following two advantages:

- Local search algorithms use a very little or constant amount of memory as they operate only on a single path.
- Most often, they find a reasonable solution in large or infinite state spaces where the classical or systematic algorithms do not work.

Does the local search algorithm work for a pure optimized problem?

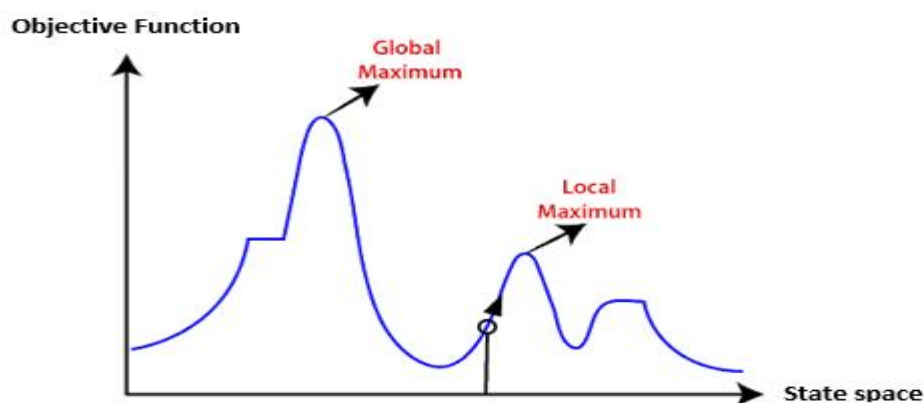
Yes, the local search algorithm works for pure optimized problems. A pure optimization problem is one where all the nodes can give a solution. But the target is to find the best state out of all according to the **objective function**. Unfortunately, the pure optimization problem fails to find high-quality solutions to reach the goal state from the current state.

Note: An objective function is a function whose value is either minimized or maximized in different contexts of the optimization problems. In the case of search algorithms, an objective function can be the path cost for reaching the goal node, etc.

Working of a Local search algorithm

Let's understand the working of a local search algorithm with the help of an example: Consider the below state-space landscape having both:

- **Location:** It is defined by the state.
- **Elevation:** It is defined by the value of the objective function or heuristic cost function.



A one-dimensional state-space landscape in which elevation corresponds to the objective function

The local search algorithm explores the above landscape by finding the following two points:

- **Global Minimum:** If the elevation corresponds to the cost, then the task is to find the lowest valley, which is known as **Global Minimum**.
- **Global Maxima:** If the elevation corresponds to an objective function, then it finds the highest peak which is called as **Global Maxima**. It is the highest point in the valley.

We will understand the working of these points better in Hill-climbing search.

Below are some different types of local searches:

- Hill-climbing Search
- Simulated Annealing
- Local Beam Search

Local Beam Search

Local beam search is quite different from random-restart search. It keeps track of **k** states instead of just one. It selects **k** randomly generated states, and expand them at each step. If any state is a goal state, the search stops with success. Else it selects the best **k** successors from the complete list and repeats the same process. In random-restart search where each search process runs independently, but in local beam search, the necessary information is shared between the parallel search processes.

Disadvantages of Local Beam search

- This search can suffer from a lack of diversity among the **k** states.
- It is an expensive version of hill climbing search.

Note: A variant of Local Beam Search is **Stochastic Beam Search** which selects **k** successors at random rather than choosing the best **k** successors.