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CS 4341: Assignment 1 - Analysis

Number of nodes expanded for each heuristic:

	Board 1	Board 2	Board 3	Board 4	Board 5	Board 6	Board 7	Board 8	Board 9	Board 10
Heuristic 1	180667	180668	180677	180672	180661	180671	180674	180672	180675	180677
Heuristic 2	181002	180981	180999	181004	181034	181027	180984	180988	180988	180984
Heuristic 3	181013	180987	181001	180952	180989	180990	180973	180964	180939	180975
Heuristic 4	181054	181121	181119	181135	181114	181099	181122	181104	181167	181120
Heuristic 5	196440	195879	196188	196174	196422	196848	196987	197555	195792	196146
Heuristic 6	275935	268166	271029	271721	271092	272664	272479	278105	267223	272734

Average number of nodes expanded for each heuristic:

Heuristic 1	Heuristic 2	Heuristic 3	Heuristic 4	Heuristic 5	Heuristic 6
180671.4	180999.1	180978.3	181115.5	196443.1	272114.8

Effective branching factor for each heuristic:

	Board 1	Board 2	Board 3	Board 4	Board 5	Board 6	Board 7	Board 8	Board 9	Board 10
Heuristic 1	1.0109	1.0108	1.0108	1.0107	1.0110	1.0106	1.0105	1.0107	1.0108	1.0107
Heuristic 2	1.0110	1.0108	1.0109	1.0107	1.0110	1.0105	1.0105	1.0108	1.0108	1.0107
Heuristic 3	1.0109	1.0108	1.0108	1.0107	1.0110	1.0105	1.0104	1.0107	1.0108	1.0107
Heuristic 4	1.0107	1.0109	1.0108	1.0107	1.0108	1.0106	1.0104	1.0108	1.0108	1.0108
Heuristic 5	1.0110	1.0109	1.0109	1.0107	1.0110	1.0105	1.0110	1.0108	1.0109	1.0107
Heuristic 6	1.0111	1.0111	1.0111	1.0110	1.0113	1.0108	1.0109	1.0110	1.0111	1.0110

Mean effective branching factors:

Heuristic 1	Heuristic 2	Heuristic 3	Heuristic 4	Heuristic 5	Heuristic 6
1.01075	1.01077	1.01073	1.01073	1.01084	1.01104

Time for each heuristic (seconds):

	Board 1	Board 2	Board 3	Board 4	Board 5	Board 6	Board 7	Board 8	Board 9	Board 10
Heuristic 1	38.298	26.700	47.978	27.540	34.287	29.527	27.791	48.306	26.922	29.623
Heuristic 2	36.050	42.226	29.165	34.771	25.167	28.671	30.977	30.648	32.824	34.360
Heuristic 3	25.537	49.167	29.748	34.138	30.892	48.622	25.339	46.740	49.141	42.969
Heuristic 4	27.074	48.539	32.703	29.337	49.148	24.110	48.945	47.990	28.442	29.920
Heuristic 5	31.811	30.833	53.099	32.161	27.169	52.719	32.433	53.454	52.752	31.786
Heuristic 6	48.311	74.961	76.334	74.795	57.862	48.040	48.293	76.255	44.894	48.895

Mean time for each heuristic (seconds):

Heuristic 1	Heuristic 2	Heuristic 3	Heuristic 4	Heuristic 5	Heuristic 6
33.6972	32.4859	38.2293	36.6208	39.8217	59.864

Each of the heuristics varied in effectiveness, with heuristic 6 having the greatest average number of nodes expanded and heuristic 1 having the smallest average number of nodes expanded. In comparing heuristics 1 and 2, heuristic 1 takes longer on average to determine a path, but has a smaller branching factor. Heuristic 5 is not noticeably more effective than the other heuristics. In fact, heuristic 5 performed slightly worse on average, with it taking longer and having a larger mean effective branching factor than heuristics 1, 2, 3 and 4. Comparing heuristics 5 and 6, heuristic 6 doesn't necessarily find the shortest path and produces noticeably worse A* scores than those of the other heuristics, and it takes longer on average to complete.

Heuristic	# Nodes Expanded	Branching Factor	Time (seconds)	Memory Used (GB)	k-constant
1	180671.4	1.01075	33.6972	0.25	0.0000019490
2	180999.1	1.01077	32.4859	0.26	0.0000019833
3	180978.3	1.01073	38.2293	0.25	0.0000019919
4	181115.5	1.01073	36.6208	0.27	0.0000021513
5	196443.1	1.01084	39.8217	0.32	0.0000022620
6	272114.8	1.01104	59.864	0.46	0.0000026157

$$k = \text{memory used} / b^d$$

Using heuristic 5, we can solve a board that is about size 286 x 286 in 30 seconds. The memory required to solve this board is about 0.215 GB.

$$16GB / k = b^d$$

$$\log_b(16GB / k) = d$$

$$\text{Heuristic 1: } \log_{1.01075}(16 / 0.0000019490) = 1488.949$$

$$\text{Heuristic 2: } \log_{1.01077}(16 / 0.0000019833) = 1484.570$$

$$\text{Heuristic 3: } \log_{1.01073}(16 / 0.0000019919) = 1489.670$$

$$\text{Heuristic 4: } \log_{1.01073}(16 / 0.0000021513) = 1482.457$$

$$\text{Heuristic 5: } \log_{1.01084}(16 / 0.0000022620) = 1462.839$$

$$\text{Heuristic 6: } \log_{1.01104}(16 / 0.0000026157) = 1423.249$$

The largest board that could be solved by each heuristic using 16GB of memory is:

Heuristic 1	Heuristic 2	Heuristic 3	Heuristic 4	Heuristic 5	Heuristic 6
1488.949	1484.570	1489.670	1482.457	1462.839	1423.249

$$\text{Board Size} / \text{Solution Depth} = 425/1100 = 0.3864$$

$$\text{Heuristic 1} = 0.3864 * 1488.949 = 575 \times 575 \text{ Board}$$

$$\text{Heuristic 2} = 0.3864 * 1484.570 = 574 \times 574 \text{ Board}$$

$$\text{Heuristic 3} = 0.3864 * 1489.670 = 575 \times 575 \text{ Board}$$

$$\text{Heuristic 4} = 0.3864 * 1482.457 = 574 \times 574 \text{ Board}$$

$$\text{Heuristic 5} = 0.3864 * 1462.839 = 565 \times 565 \text{ Board}$$

$$\text{Heuristic 6} = 0.3864 * 1423.249 = 550 \times 550 \text{ Board}$$

$$\text{time} = k * b^d$$

$$59.864 \text{ seconds} = k * 1.01104^{1100} \rightarrow k = 0.00034040$$

$$\text{time} = 0.00034040 * 1.01104^{1423.249} = 2082$$

With a k-value of 0.0003404 and a branching factor of 1.01104, It would take Heuristic 6 about 2,082 seconds to solve this board.

$$39.8217 \text{ seconds} = k * 1.01084^{1100} \rightarrow k = 0.00028149$$

$$86400 \text{ seconds} = 0.00028149 * 1.01084^d \rightarrow d = 1812$$

$$\text{Memory Used} = 0.0000022620 * 1.01084^{1812} = 690$$

For heuristic 5 to solve a problem that takes 24 hours, it would need about 690 GB of memory.

$$86400 \text{ seconds} = 0.0003404 * 1.01104^d \rightarrow d = 1762$$

$$\text{Memory Used} = 0.0000026157 * 1.01104^{1762} = 660$$

For heuristic 6 to solve a problem that takes 24 hours, it would need about 660 GB of memory.