

Exp 7

Q) What are advantages & disadvantages of state space search.

→ Advantages

1. Systematic Exploration
2. Problem Exploration
3. Problem Representation
4. Versatility
5. Adaptability
6. Informed Decision making

Disadvantages

1. Exponential growth
2. Memory intensive
3. Time consuming

Q2) What are advantages & disadvantages of hill climbing approach?

→ Advantages

- Simple & intuitive algorithm, that is easy to understand & implement
- Used in optimization on problems including large search space & complex constraints
- Very efficient in finding local optima
- Can be easily modified & extended to include heuristic/ constraints

Disadvantages

- Can get stuck in local optima, not find global optimum of problem

- Does not explore search space thoroughly
- Maybe less than other optimization algorithms

Q3. Describe Variation of Hill climbing approach

- a) Simple Hill climbing  
Examining the neighbor nodes one by one select the first node which optimize current cost as next node.
- b) Steepest - Ascent Hill climbing  
First examine all neighbor nodes to select node closest to the solution state of next node.
- c) Stochastic Hill climbing  
Does not examine all neighboring nodes before deciding which to select. It just select a neighboring node at random & decides whether to move that neighbor.

Q4. Solve the Block World problem by using STRIPS method

- The Block World problem is a classic planning problem where the task is to move blocks from one configuration to another using robot arm. It is in context of STRIPS (Stanford Research Institute Problem Solver).

- 3 Heuristic Dependency: The quality of heuristic heavily influences  $A^*$  efficiency & optimality
4. Optimality Assurance: While optimal under certain conditions it may not always find optimal solution
- 5 Pathological case:  $A^*$  may encounter scenarios where it explores large portion of search spaces immediately

Q3. Discuss  $A^*$ , BFS, DFS and Dijkstra's algorithm in detail with example.

→  $A^*$  algorithm:

BFS algorithm that combines strength of Dijkstra's algorithm and greedy search

Eg: When moving each cell in order to find the shortest path. The cost of moving is  $h(n)$  could be manhattan distance from current to goal.

Bread First Search (BFS)

BFS is an uninformed search algorithm that systematically explores all neighbor nodes at present depth before moving on the next depth level. It guarantees finding shortest path in an unweighted graph.

Eg: Exploring all possible paths in maze to find shortest path

Depth-First Search (DFS)

DFS is uninformed search algorithm that explores as far as possible along each branch before backtracking

Example: Searching for a specific on directory structure by each subdirectory recursively