

**CS-361L Artificial Intelligence Lab 05**

**Type of Lab: Open Ended**

**Weightage: 5%**

**CLO 1:** Apply Informed and **Informed** Search Techniques and build the ability to theoretical and practical understanding of Blind and Informed machine search and machine learning techniques.

Student implements Informed ( <b>A* and Heuristic</b> ) techniques to search goals for Pacman	<b>Cognitive/Understanding</b>	CLO1	Rubric A
Demonstrate ethical and professional responsibilities involved in completion of Tasks	<b>Affective/Valuing</b>	(CLO6)	Rubric B

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**Reference:** The Lab contents are extracted from the BerkeleyX/CS188

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## Lab 05: Implementation of A\* and Heuristic Search

**Note for Instructor: Student should start with solution of UCS**

### Challenge 01: A\* and Heuristic Search

Implement A\* graph search in the empty function `aStarSearch` in `search.py`. A\* takes a heuristic function as an argument. Heuristics take two arguments: a state in the search problem (the main argument), and the problem itself (for reference information). The `nullHeuristic` heuristic function in `search.py` is a trivial example.

#### Step1:

Open the `search.py` file and copy your UCS code into the `aStarSearch` function.

#### Step2:

You can test your A\* implementation on the original problem of finding a path through a maze to a fixed position using the Manhattan distance heuristic. Write to Manhattan Heuristic function and update the cost calculation formula. If there are two points A (x1,y1) and B(x2,y2) in xy-coordinate space, the Manhattan distance can be calculated as.

```
Distance= abs(x2-x1) + abs(y2-y1)
```

Hint (you can get goal state information using `problem.goal` )

Define the function in `search.py` and write the code of `manHattanHeuristic` in it.

```
def manHattanHeuristic(state, problem=None):
```

#### Step 3:

Modify `aStarSearch` function such that it shall consider the cost of heuristic as well as cost from the parent node. For heuristic, call the method that you have created in step 1.

Before running the code, you should confirm following abbreviation at the end of the `search.py` is added. If not, then add it

```
astar = aStarSearch
```

Run the aStar algorithm using following command

```
python pacman.py -l bigMaze -z .5 -p SearchAgent -a fn=astar
```

You should see that A\* finds the optimal solution slightly faster than uniform cost search (about less search nodes expanded in our implementation, but ties in priority may make your numbers differ slightly).

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**Challenge 02:**

1. Fill following table with the information.

	<b>A* Heuristic</b>	<b>UCS</b>
<b>Total Cost</b>		
<b>Nodes Expanded</b>		
<b>Score</b>		

2. Why Node Expanded is Greater in UCS and Less in A\* Heuristic?

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3. Compare other parameters and give reason why they greater/less/equal.

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**Challenge 03: Write a function that calculates heuristic based on the Euclidean distance.**

Now run the code on mediumClass maze for UCS, Manhattan and Euclidean distance one by one and report your results. Also discuss the results why these results are coming.

```
Python pacman.py -l mediumClassicMaze -p SearchAgent -a fn=astar
```

Artificial Intelligence Lab Handout

	<b>Euclidean</b>	<b>Manhattan</b>	<b>UCS</b>
<b>Total Cost</b>			
<b>Nodes Expanded</b>			
<b>Score</b>			