



We can set intermediate goals based on the heuristic

If the heuristic cost  $H(\text{position})$  is higher, it's less optimal as an intermediate goal

But that's not the whole story ...

... the heuristic ignores the effort to get to that intermediate goal

We can think of another component to the cost, what we'll call the "guaranteed cost":

$G(\text{subpath}, \text{position}) = \text{true minimum cost of subpath to position}$