Search methods analysis by Yevgen Nerush

This analysis contains brief overview of the different search methods including non-heuristic and heuristic ones, their performance metrics along with benefits and limitations. Each search method is researched on the Air Cargo Problem of small (1), medium (2) and large sizes (3).

There are five performance metrics in each search method evaluation:

- Expansions: the number of times the frontier is expanded by calling PlanningProblem's actions function
- Goal Tests: the number of nodes verified for the goal match by calling PlanningProblem's goal test function
- New Nodes: the number of nodes added to the graph during the search by calling PlanningProblem's result function
- Plan length: size of a list of the actions consecutive execution of which leads to an optimal solution (a solution with all sub-goals being satisfied)
- Execution time: the number of seconds a search algorithm takes to search for an optimal solution

After analysing all 10 search methods listed in this paper, the following optimal plans have been found for Problems 1, 2 and 3.

Air Cargo Problem 1

TODO:

	Expansions	Goal Tests	New Nodes	Plan length	Execution time in seconds
Breadth first search	43	56	180	6	0.035
Breadth first tree search					
Depth first graph search					
Depth limited search					
Uniform cost search					
Recursive best first search with h1					
Greedy best first graph search with h1					
A* search with h1 heuristic					
A* search with h_ignore_preconditions heuristic					
A* search with levelsum heuristic					

The optimal solution for the problem.

```
Load(C1, P1, SF0)
Load(C2, P2, JFK)
Fly(P1, SF0, JFK)
Fly(P2, JFK, SF0)
Unload(C1, P1, JFK)
Unload(C2, P2, SF0)
```

Air Cargo Problem 2

TODO:

	Expansions	Goal Tests	New Nodes	Plan length	Execution time in seconds
Breadth first search	3346	4612	30534	9	81.659
Breadth first tree search					
Depth first graph search					
Depth limited search					
Uniform cost search					
Recursive best first search with h1					
Greedy best first graph search with h1					
A* search with h1 heuristic					
A* search with h_ignore_preconditions heuristic					
A* search with levelsum heuristic					

The optimal solution for the problem.

```
Load(C1, P1, SFO)

Fly(P1, SFO, JFK)

Load(C2, P2, JFK)

Fly(P2, JFK, SFO)

Load(C3, P3, ATL)

Fly(P3, ATL, SFO)
```

```
Unload(C3, P3, SF0)
Unload(C2, P2, SF0)
Unload(C1, P1, JFK)
```

TODO:

	Expansions	Goal Tests	New Nodes	Plan length	Execution time in seconds
Breadth first search	14663	18098	129631	12	457.617
Breadth first tree search					
Depth first graph search					
Depth limited search					
Uniform cost search					
Recursive best first search with h1					
Greedy best first graph search with h1					
A* search with h1 heuristic					
A* search with h_ignore_preconditions heuristic					
A* search with levelsum heuristic					

The optimal solution for the problem.

```
Load(C2, P2, JFK)
Fly(P2, JFK, ORD)
Load(C4, P2, ORD)
Fly(P2, ORD, SFO)
Unload(C4, P2, SFO)
Load(C1, P1, SFO)
Fly(P1, SFO, ATL)
Load(C3, P1, ATL)
Fly(P1, ATL, JFK)
Unload(C3, P1, JFK)
Unload(C1, P1, JFK)
```

1. Breadth first search

Air Cargo Problem 1

Expansions: 43Goal Tests: 56New Nodes: 180Plan length: 6

• Execution time: 0.03547631500987336 seconds

```
Load(C1, P1, SFO)
Load(C2, P2, JFK)
Fly(P2, JFK, SFO)
Unload(C2, P2, SFO)
Fly(P1, SFO, JFK)
Unload(C1, P1, JFK)
```

Air Cargo Problem 2

Expansions: 3346Goal Tests: 4612New Nodes: 30534Plan length: 9

• Execution time: 81.65928123100002 seconds

```
Load(C1, P1, SFO)
Load(C2, P2, JFK)
Load(C3, P3, ATL)
Fly(P1, SFO, JFK)
Unload(C1, P1, JFK)
Fly(P2, JFK, SFO)
Unload(C2, P2, SFO)
Fly(P3, ATL, SFO)
Unload(C3, P3, SFO)
```

Air Cargo Problem 3

Expansions: 14663Goal Tests: 18098New Nodes: 129631Plan length: 12

• Execution time: 457.6173511959996 seconds

```
Load(C1, P1, SFO)
Load(C2, P2, JFK)
Fly(P2, JFK, ORD)
```

```
Load(C4, P2, ORD)

Fly(P1, SFO, ATL)

Load(C3, P1, ATL)

Fly(P1, ATL, JFK)

Unload(C1, P1, JFK)

Unload(C3, P1, JFK)

Fly(P2, ORD, SFO)

Unload(C2, P2, SFO)

Unload(C4, P2, SFO)
```

2. Breadth first tree search

Air Cargo Problem 1

Expansions: 1458Goal Tests: 1459New Nodes: 5960Plan length: 6

• Execution time: 6.019270433000202 seconds

```
Load(C1, P1, SFO)
Load(C2, P2, JFK)
Fly(P2, JFK, SFO)
Unload(C2, P2, SFO)
Fly(P1, SFO, JFK)
Unload(C1, P1, JFK)
```

Air Cargo Problem 2

Does not terminate in 10 minutes.

Air Cargo Problem 3

Does not terminate in 10 minutes.

3. Depth first graph search

Air Cargo Problem 1

Expansions: 21Goal Tests: 22New Nodes: 84Plan length: 20

Execution time: 0.09816352300003928 seconds

```
Fly(P1, SFO, JFK)
Fly(P2, JFK, SFO)
Load(C2, P1, JFK)
Fly(P1, JFK, SFO)
Fly(P2, SFO, JFK)
Unload(C2, P1, SFO)
Fly(P1, SFO, JFK)
Fly(P2, JFK, SFO)
Load(C2, P2, SFO)
Fly(P1, JFK, SFO)
Load(C1, P2, SFO)
Fly(P2, SFO, JFK)
Fly(P1, SFO, JFK)
Unload(C2, P2, JFK)
Unload(C1, P2, JFK)
Fly(P2, JFK, SFO)
Load(C2, P1, JFK)
Fly(P1, JFK, SFO)
Fly(P2, SFO, JFK)
Unload(C2, P1, SFO)
```

Expansions: 107Goal Tests: 108New Nodes: 959Plan length: 105

Execution time: 2.255084823999823 seconds

```
Fly(P3, ATL, JFK)
Fly(P2, JFK, ATL)
Fly(P3, JFK, SFO)
Fly(P2, ATL, SFO)
Fly(P1, SFO, ATL)
Fly(P3, SFO, ATL)
Fly(P1, ATL, JFK)
Fly(P3, ATL, JFK)
...
Unload(C2, P3, SFO)
```

Air Cargo Problem 3

Expansions: 408Goal Tests: 409New Nodes: 3364Plan length: 392

Execution time: 11.076630202999695 seconds

```
Fly(P1, SF0, ORD)
Fly(P2, JFK, ORD)
Fly(P1, ORD, ATL)
Fly(P2, ORD, ATL)
Fly(P1, ATL, JFK)
Fly(P2, ATL, SF0)
...
Unload(C3, P1, JFK)
```

4. Depth limited search

Air Cargo Problem 1

Expansions: 101Goal Tests: 271New Nodes: 414Plan length: 50

• Execution time: 0.48083225499794935 seconds

```
Load(C1, P1, SFO)
Load(C2, P2, JFK)
Unload(C1, P1, SFO)
Load(C1, P1, SFO)
Unload(C1, P1, SFO)
Load(C1, P1, SFO)
Unload(C1, P1, SFO)
Unload(C1, P1, SFO)
...
Unload(C1, P1, JFK)
```

Air Cargo Problem 2

Does not terminate in 10 minutes.

Air Cargo Problem 3

Does not terminate in 10 minutes.

5. Uniform cost search

Air Cargo Problem 1

Expansions: 55Goal Tests: 57New Nodes: 224Plan length: 6

• Execution time: 0.2418411139951786 seconds

```
Load(C1, P1, SFO)
Load(C2, P2, JFK)
Fly(P1, SFO, JFK)
Fly(P2, JFK, SFO)
Unload(C1, P1, JFK)
Unload(C2, P2, SFO)
```

Expansions: 4853Goal Tests: 4855New Nodes: 44041Plan length: 9

• Execution time: 140.8912663539959 seconds

```
Load(C1, P1, SFO)
Load(C2, P2, JFK)
Load(C3, P3, ATL)
Fly(P1, SFO, JFK)
Fly(P2, JFK, SFO)
Fly(P3, ATL, SFO)
Unload(C3, P3, SFO)
Unload(C2, P2, SFO)
Unload(C1, P1, JFK)
```

Air Cargo Problem 3

Does not terminate in 10 minutes.

6. Recursive best first search with h1 heuristic function

Air Cargo Problem 1

Expansions: 4229Goal Tests: 4230New Nodes: 17023Plan length: 6

• Execution time: 17.971775871999853 seconds

```
Load(C2, P2, JFK)
Load(C1, P1, SFO)
Fly(P2, JFK, SFO)
Unload(C2, P2, SFO)
Fly(P1, SFO, JFK)
Unload(C1, P1, JFK)
```

Does not terminate in 10 minutes.

Air Cargo Problem 3

Does not terminate in 10 minutes.

7. Greedy best first graph search with h1

Air Cargo Problem 1

Expansions: 7Goal Tests: 9New Nodes: 28Plan length: 6

• Execution time: 0.02786448599999858 seconds

```
Load(C1, P1, SFO)
Load(C2, P2, JFK)
Fly(P1, SFO, JFK)
Fly(P2, JFK, SFO)
Unload(C1, P1, JFK)
Unload(C2, P2, SFO)
```

Air Cargo Problem 2

Expansions: 998Goal Tests: 1000New Nodes: 8982Plan length: 21

Execution time: 26.12001982899983 seconds

```
Load(C1, P1, SFO)
Load(C2, P2, JFK)
Load(C3, P3, ATL)
Fly(P1, SFO, ATL)
Fly(P2, JFK, ATL)
Fly(P3, ATL, JFK)
Fly(P2, ATL, SFO)
Unload(C2, P2, SFO)
Fly(P2, SFO, ATL)
Fly(P3, JFK, SFO)
Load(C2, P3, SFO)
Fly(P3, SFO, JFK)
Fly(P1, ATL, JFK)
Unload(C1, P1, JFK)
```

```
Load(C1, P3, JFK)

Fly(P1, JFK, ATL)

Fly(P3, JFK, SFO)

Unload(C3, P3, SFO)

Unload(C2, P3, SFO)

Fly(P3, SFO, JFK)

Unload(C1, P3, JFK)
```

Expansions: 5614Goal Tests: 5616New Nodes: 49429Plan length: 22

• Execution time: 259.74592149100044 seconds

```
Load(C1, P1, SFO)
Load(C2, P2, JFK)
Fly(P1, SFO, ORD)
Load(C4, P1, ORD)
Fly(P2, JFK, ATL)
Load(C3, P2, ATL)
Fly(P2, ATL, ORD)
Fly(P1, ORD, ATL)
Unload(C4, P1, ATL)
Fly(P1, ATL, ORD)
Fly(P2, ORD, ATL)
Load(C4, P2, ATL)
Fly(P2, ATL, ORD)
Unload(C3, P2, ORD)
Load(C3, P1, ORD)
Fly(P1, ORD, JFK)
Unload(C3, P1, JFK)
Unload(C1, P1, JFK)
Fly(P1, JFK, ORD)
Fly(P2, ORD, SFO)
Unload(C4, P2, SFO)
Unload(C2, P2, SFO)
```

8. A* search with h1 heuristic function

Air Cargo Problem 1

Expansions: 55Goal Tests: 57New Nodes: 224Plan length: 6

• Execution time: 0.25108054200245533 seconds

```
Load(C1, P1, SFO)
Load(C2, P2, JFK)
Fly(P1, SFO, JFK)
Fly(P2, JFK, SFO)
Unload(C1, P1, JFK)
Unload(C2, P2, SFO)
```

Air Cargo Problem 2

Expansions: 4853Goal Tests: 4855New Nodes: 44041Plan length: 9

• Execution time: 162.15786768100224 seconds

```
Load(C1, P1, SFO)
Load(C2, P2, JFK)
Load(C3, P3, ATL)
Fly(P1, SFO, JFK)
Fly(P2, JFK, SFO)
Fly(P3, ATL, SFO)
Unload(C3, P3, SFO)
Unload(C2, P2, SFO)
Unload(C1, P1, JFK)
```

Air Cargo Problem 3

Does not terminate in 10 minutes.

9. A* search with h_ignore_preconditions

Air Cargo Problem 1

Expansions: 41Goal Tests: 43New Nodes: 170Plan length: 6

• Execution time: 0.042065354995429516 seconds

```
Load(C1, P1, SFO)

Fly(P1, SFO, JFK)

Unload(C1, P1, JFK)

Load(C2, P2, JFK)

Fly(P2, JFK, SFO)

Unload(C2, P2, SFO)
```

Expansions: 1506Goal Tests: 1508New Nodes: 13820Plan length: 9

• Execution time: 13.943244863010477 seconds

```
Load(C3, P3, ATL)
Fly(P3, ATL, SFO)
Unload(C3, P3, SFO)
Load(C2, P2, JFK)
Fly(P2, JFK, SFO)
Unload(C2, P2, SFO)
Load(C1, P1, SFO)
Fly(P1, SFO, JFK)
Unload(C1, P1, JFK)
```

Air Cargo Problem 3

Expansions: 5118Goal Tests: 5120New Nodes: 45650Plan length: 12

Execution time: 93.62522890602122 seconds

```
Load(C2, P2, JFK)

Fly(P2, JFK, ORD)

Load(C4, P2, ORD)

Fly(P2, ORD, SFO)

Unload(C4, P2, SFO)

Load(C1, P1, SFO)

Fly(P1, SFO, ATL)

Load(C3, P1, ATL)

Fly(P1, ATL, JFK)

Unload(C3, P1, JFK)

Unload(C1, P1, JFK)
```

10. A* search with levelsum heuristic function

Air Cargo Problem 1

Expansions: 7Goal Tests: 9New Nodes: 28

- Plan length: 6
- Execution time: 0.9002755659894319 seconds

```
Load(C1, P1, SFO)
Load(C2, P2, JFK)
Fly(P1, SFO, JFK)
Fly(P2, JFK, SFO)
Unload(C1, P1, JFK)
Unload(C2, P2, SFO)
```

Expansions: 77Goal Tests: 79New Nodes: 760Plan length: 9

• Execution time: 129.23260724698775 seconds

```
Load(C1, P1, SFO)
Fly(P1, SFO, JFK)
Load(C2, P2, JFK)
Fly(P2, JFK, SFO)
Load(C3, P3, ATL)
Fly(P3, ATL, SFO)
Unload(C3, P3, SFO)
Unload(C2, P2, SFO)
Unload(C1, P1, JFK)
```

Air Cargo Problem 3

Does not terminate in 10 minutes.