Search Lecture 4

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Where Was Prof. Rehg last Wed?

NSF I-Corps Kick-Off Meeting (Houston, TX)



Program to explore commercialization opportunities for research technology

Participating with Agata Rozga (Res. Scientist), Yin Li (PhD student), and Ernesto Escobar (Mentor)

\$50K to conduct interviews and purse customer discovery

Where Was Prof. Rehg on Mon and Wed?

Dagstuhl Seminar 16042

Eyewear Computing – Augmenting the Human with Head-Mounted Wearable Assistants



Well-known international forum for exchange of research ideas

I was co-organizer with researchers from Germany, Japan, and Google (CA)

Focus on "wearable cameras meet HCI"

A* Search – Additional Details

What is the relationship between

A* Search

Greedy Best-First Search

Uniform Cost Search?

Work Through Examples of Corner Cases

A* Algorithm

- Priority queue PQ begins empty.
- V (= set of previously visited (state,f,backpointer)-triples) begins empty.
- Put S into PQ and V with priority f(s) = g(s) + h(s)
- Is PQ empty?
 - Yes? Sadly admit there's no solution

= h(s) because g(start) = 0

- No? Remove node with lowest f(n) from queue. Call it n.
- If n is a goal, stop and report success.
- "expand" n : For each n' in successors(n)....

use sneaky trick to compute g(n)

- Let f' = g(n') + h(n') = g(n) + cost(n,n') + h(n')
- If n' not seen before, or n' previously expanded with f(n')>f', or n' currently in PQ with f(n')>f'
- Then Place/promote n' on priority queue with priority f' and update V to include (state=n', f', BackPtr=n).
- Else Ignore n'

8-Puzzle Example

Example	1		5
State	2	6	3
	7	4	8

Goal State	1	2	3
	4	5	6
	7	8	

Which of the following are admissible heuristics?

- h(n) = Number of tiles in wrong position in state n
- h(n) = 0
- h(n) = Sum of Manhattan distances between each tile and its goal location
- h(n) = 1

- $h(n) = \min(2, h^*[n])$
- $h(n) = h^*(n)$
- $h(n) = \max(2, h^*[n])$

Dominance

Reminder: Heuristic h(n) is admissible if $h(n) \le h^*(n)$

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If h1 and h2 admissible heuristics, and
h2(n) >= h1(n) for all n,
Then h2 dominates h1, and
    h2 is better for search
Why?
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Note: h'(n) = max{ h1(n), h2(n) } is admissible and dominates h1 and h2

Dominant Heuristic is Better

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In A* every node n with

f(n) < C* will be expanded

h(n) < C* – g(n) will be expanded
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h2(n) > h1(n) for all n, then

Set of n for which $h1(n) < C^* - g(n)$ Will be *larger* than set of n for which $h2(n) < C^* - g(n)$

Thus h1 will expand more nodes

Questions?