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## Admissible Heuristics

The Eight Puzzle consists of eight tiles, numbered 1 through 8, placed into a 3-by-3 board. Pieces are initially out of order, and they must be moved into standard 1-8 order by sliding one tile at a time into the empty square on the board. Let's assume the goal state is as shown here in G:

2 1 3 5 G: 4 7 6 8

4 2 1 6 3 8 5 7

J:

Consider the following heuristics. For each one (except perhaps the Sum of Euclidean distances), compute its value h<sub>i</sub>(J) for the state J given above. (When computing sums over the tiles, do not include the blank space as if it were a tile.)

Determine whether the heuristic is admissible. Explain why or why not. Finally, if it is admissible, determine what other heuristics it dominates.

Heuristic	h <sub>i</sub> (J)	Admissible?	Why or why not ?	Dominates
h <sub>0</sub> (n) = Zero	0	Y	Can never overestimate true distance to G.	none
$h_1(n)$ = Hamming (number of tiles out of place)				
$h_2(n)$ = Manhattan distance of tile 1 alone.				
h <sub>3</sub> (n) = Sum of Manhattan distances for all 8 tiles.				
$h_4(n)$ = Sum of only the horizontal components of the Manhattan distance for all 8 tiles.				
$h_5(n)$ = Sum of only the vertical components of the Manhattan distance for all 8 tiles.				
$h_6(n)$ = Sum of Euclidean distances for all 8 tiles.				