## SEARCH IN COMPLEX ENVIRONMENTS





#### Manhattan Distance

Manhattan distance is a distance metric between two points in a N dimensional vector space





| the second second   | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
|---------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Hamming = 5         | × | V | × | × | V | V | × | × |
| Manhattan = 10      | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| (1 + 2 + 2 + 2 + 3) | 3 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 |

board

goal



![](_page_4_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### Local Search and Optimization Problems

**Local search algorithms:** operate by searching from a start state to neighboring states, without keeping track of the paths, nor the set of states that have been reached.

![](_page_5_Figure_2.jpeg)

#### Definitions

**Ridges**: a sequence of local maxima that is very difficult for greedy algorithms to navigate

**Plateaus**: A plateau is a flat area of the state-space landscape

![](_page_7_Figure_0.jpeg)

#### Pseudo code (greedy local search)

function HILL-CLIMBING(problem) returns a state that is a local maximum
current ← problem.INITIAL

while *true* do

 $neighbor \leftarrow$  a highest-valued successor state of *current* if VALUE(*neighbor*)  $\leq$  VALUE(*current*) then return *current current*  $\leftarrow$  *neighbor* 

#### Local search and optimization

Local search

- Keep track of single current state
- Move only to neighboring states
- Ignore paths
- Use little space

#### Advantages:

- Use very little memory
- Can often find reasonable solutions in large or infinite (continuous) state spaces.

#### Example

![](_page_10_Picture_1.jpeg)

#### Definitions

**gradient descent** (also often called **steepest descent**) is a first-order iterative optimization algorithm for finding a local minimum of a <u>differentiable function</u>.

![](_page_11_Figure_2.jpeg)

#### Example

![](_page_12_Picture_1.jpeg)

### Variants Of Hill Climbing

- 1. Stochastic hill climbing :chooses at Stochastic hill climbing random from among the uphill moves;
- 2. First-choice hill climbing : implements stochastic First-choice hill climbing hill climbing by generating successors randomly until one is generated that is better than the current state.
  - For each restart: run until termination vs. run for a fixed time
  - Run a fixed number of restarts or run indefinitely
- **3. Random-restart Hill Climbing**,: If at first you Random-restart hill climbing don't succeed, try, try again." It conducts a series of hill-climbing searches from randomly generated initial states, until a goal is found.

### Simulated Annealing

Combine hill climbing with a random walk in a way that yields both efficiency and completeness.

function SIMULATED-ANNEALING(problem, schedule) returns a solution statecurrent  $\leftarrow$  problem.INITIALfor t = 1 to  $\infty$  do $T \leftarrow schedule(t)$ Instead of picking the best move, however, it picks a random<br/>moveif T = 0 then return currentInstead of picking the best move, however, it picks a random<br/>movenext  $\leftarrow$  a randomly selected successor of current<br/> $\Delta E \leftarrow VALUE(current) - VALUE(next)$ <br/>if  $\Delta E > 0$  then current  $\leftarrow$  next<br/>else current  $\leftarrow$  next only with probability  $e^{\Delta E/T}$ Boltzmann distribution

![](_page_15_Figure_0.jpeg)

if  $\Delta E > 0$  then *current*  $\leftarrow$  *next* else *current*  $\leftarrow$  *next* only with probability  $e^{\Delta E/T}$ 

![](_page_15_Figure_2.jpeg)

high T: probability of "locally bad" move is higher low T: probability of "locally bad" move is lower

![](_page_15_Figure_4.jpeg)

# Simulated Annealing (Time Gradiant aware)

N queens (n = 4, startingTemperature = 2)

![](_page_16_Figure_2.jpeg)

Ref. : https://docs.optaplanner.org/6.2.0.Final/optaplanner-docs/html/ch10.html

#### Simulated Annealing (Time Gradiant aware)

N queens (n = 4, startingTemperature = 2)

![](_page_17_Figure_2.jpeg)

t

#### Simulated Annealing (Time Gradiant aware)

N queens (n = 4, startingTemperature = 2)

t

1.2

![](_page_18_Figure_2.jpeg)

#### Simulated Annealing (Time Gradiant aware)

N queens (n = 4, startingTemperature = 2)

![](_page_19_Figure_2.jpeg)

#### Local beam search

Idea: Keeping only **ONE** node in memory is an extreme reaction to memory problems.

Local beam save n nodes in stack:  $k = 1 \rightarrow Hill$  climbing ,  $k = \infty \rightarrow Best$  first search

variant called Stochastic Beam Search

#### Example

![](_page_21_Picture_1.jpeg)