Planning and Optimization E3. Landmarks: LM-Cut Heuristic

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The LM-Cut Heuristic

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Cut Landmarks

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Content of this Course: Constraints



Roadmap for this Chapter

- We first introduce a new normal form for delete-free STRIPS tasks that simplifies later definitions.
- We then present a method that computes disjunctive action landmarks for such tasks.
- We conclude with the LM-cut heuristic that builds on this method.

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i-g Form

Delete-Free STRIPS Planning Task in i-g Form (1)

In this chapter, we only consider delete-free STRIPS tasks in a special form:

Definition (i-g Form for Delete-free STRIPS)

A delete-free STRIPS planning task $\langle V, I, O, \gamma \rangle$ is in i-g form if

- V contains atoms i and g
- Initially exactly *i* is true: I(v) = T iff v = i
- g is the only goal atom: $\gamma = \{g\}$
- Every action has at least one precondition.

Transformation to i-g Form

Every delete-free STRIPS task $\Pi = \langle V, I, O, \gamma \rangle$ can easily be transformed into an analogous task in i-g form.

- If i or g are in V already, rename them everywhere.
- Add *i* and *g* to *V*.
- Add an operator $\langle \{i\}, \{v \in V \mid I(v) = \mathbf{T}\}, \{\}, 0 \rangle$.
- Add an operator $\langle \gamma, \{g\}, \{\}, 0 \rangle$.
- Replace all operator preconditions \top with *i*.
- Replace initial state and goal.

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- Replace initial state and goal.

For the remainder of this chapter, we assume tasks in i-g form.

Example: Delete-Free Planning Task in i-g Form

Example

Consider a delete-free STRIPS planning task $\langle V, I, O, \gamma \rangle$ with $V = \{i, a, b, c, d, g\}, I = \{i \mapsto T\} \cup \{v \mapsto F \mid v \in V \setminus \{i\}\},$ $\gamma = \{g\}$ and operators **a** $o_{blue} = \langle \{i\}, \{a, b\}, \{\}, 4\rangle,$ **b** $o_{green} = \langle \{i\}, \{a, c\}, \{\}, 5\rangle,$ **b** $o_{black} = \langle \{i\}, \{b, c\}, \{\}, 3\rangle,$ **c** $o_{red} = \langle \{b, c\}, \{d\}, \{\}, 2\rangle, and$ **c** $o_{orange} = \langle \{a, d\}, \{g\}, \{\}, 0\rangle.$

optimal solution?

Example: Delete-Free Planning Task in i-g Form

Example

Consider a delete-free STRIPS planning task $\langle V, I, O, \gamma \rangle$ with $V = \{i, a, b, c, d, g\}, I = \{i \mapsto \mathbf{T}\} \cup \{v \mapsto \mathbf{F} \mid v \in V \setminus \{i\}\},$ $\gamma = \{g\}$ and operators **o**_{blue} = $\langle \{i\}, \{a, b\}, \{\}, 4\rangle,$ **o**_{green} = $\langle \{i\}, \{a, c\}, \{\}, 5\rangle,$ **o**_{black} = $\langle \{i\}, \{b, c\}, \{\}, 3\rangle,$ **o**_{red} = $\langle \{b, c\}, \{d\}, \{\}, 2\rangle,$ and **o**_{orange} = $\langle \{a, d\}, \{g\}, \{\}, 0\rangle.$

optimal solution to reach g from i:

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Justification Graphs

Definition (Precondition Choice Function)

A precondition choice function (pcf) $P: O \to V$ for a delete-free STRIPS task $\Pi = \langle V, I, O, \gamma \rangle$ in i-g form maps each operator to one of its preconditions (i.e. $P(o) \in pre(o)$ for all $o \in O$).

Definition (Justification Graphs)

Let *P* be a pcf for $\langle V, I, O, \gamma \rangle$ in i-g form. The justification graph for *P* is the directed, edge-labeled graph $J = \langle V, E \rangle$, where

- the vertices are the variables from V, and
- *E* contains an edge $P(o) \xrightarrow{o} a$ for each $o \in O$, $a \in add(o)$.

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Example: Justification Graph

Example (Precondition Choice Function)

$$P(o_{\text{blue}}) = P(o_{\text{green}}) = P(o_{\text{black}}) = i, P(o_{\text{red}}) = b, P(o_{\text{orange}}) = a$$



$\mathcal{O}_{blue} = \langle \{i\}, \{a, b\}, \{\}, 4 angle$
$o_{green} = \langle \{i\}, \{a, c\}, \{\}, 5 angle$
$o_{black} = \langle \{i\}, \{b, c\}, \{\}, 3 angle$
$\textit{o}_{red} = \langle \{b,c\}, \{d\}, \{\}, 2 angle$
$\mathcal{O}_{orange} = \langle \{a,d\},\{g\},\{\},0 angle$

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Example: Justification Graph

Example (Precondition Choice Function)

$$\begin{split} P(o_{\text{blue}}) &= P(o_{\text{green}}) = P(o_{\text{black}}) = i, \ P(o_{\text{red}}) = b, \ P(o_{\text{orange}}) = a \\ P'(o_{\text{blue}}) &= P'(o_{\text{green}}) = P'(o_{\text{black}}) = i, \ P'(o_{\text{red}}) = c, \ P'(o_{\text{orange}}) = d \end{split}$$



$o_{blue} = \langle \{i\}, \{a, b\}, \{\}, 4 angle$
$o_{green} = \langle \{i\}, \{a, c\}, \{\}, 5 \rangle$
$o_{black} = \langle \{i\}, \{b, c\}, \{\}, 3 angle$
$o_{red} = \langle \{b, c\}, \{d\}, \{\}, 2 angle$
$\mathcal{D}_{orange} = \langle \{a, d\}, \{g\}, \{\}, 0 angle$

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Cuts			

Definition (Cut)

A cut in a justification graph is a subset C of its edges such that all paths from i to g contain an edge from C.



$o_{blue} = \langle \{i\}, \{a, b\}, \{\}, 4 \rangle$
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$\mathcal{P}_{\text{orange}} = \langle \{a, d\}, \{g\}, \{\}, 0 angle$

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 $\begin{array}{l} o_{\mathsf{blue}} = \langle \{i\}, \{a, b\}, \{\}, 4\rangle \\ o_{\mathsf{green}} = \langle \{i\}, \{a, c\}, \{\}, 5\rangle \\ o_{\mathsf{black}} = \langle \{i\}, \{b, c\}, \{\}, 3\rangle \\ o_{\mathsf{red}} = \langle \{b, c\}, \{d\}, \{\}, 2\rangle \\ o_{\mathsf{orange}} = \langle \{a, d\}, \{g\}, \{\}, 0\rangle \end{array}$

Cuts are Disjunctive Action Landmarks

Theorem (Cuts are Disjunctive Action Landmarks)

Let P be a pcf for $\langle V, I, O, \gamma \rangle$ (in i-g form) and C be a cut in the justification graph for P.

The set of edge labels from C (formally $\{o \mid \langle v, o, v' \rangle \in C\}$) is a disjunctive action landmark for I.

Proof idea:

- The justification graph corresponds to a simpler problem where some preconditions (those not picked by the pcf) are ignored.
- Cuts are landmarks for this simplified problem.
- Hence they are also landmarks for the original problem.

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•
$$L_1 = \{o_{\text{orange}}\} (\text{cost} = 0)$$



$o_{blue} = \langle \{i\}, \{a, b\}, \{\}, 4 \rangle$
$o_{green} = \langle \{i\}, \{a, c\}, \{\}, 5 angle$
$o_{black} = \langle \{i\}, \{b, c\}, \{\}, 3 angle$
$o_{red} = \langle \{b, c\}, \{d\}, \{\}, 2 angle$
$\mathcal{O}_{\text{orange}} = \langle \{a, d\}, \{g\}, \{\}, 0 \rangle$

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$$L_1 = \{o_{\text{orange}}\} \text{ (cost} = 0)$$
 • $L_2 = \{o_{\text{green}}, o_{\text{black}}\} \text{ (cost} = 3)$



$o_{blue} = \langle \{i\}, \{a, b\}, \{\}, 4 \rangle$
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$o_{black} = \langle \{i\}, \{b, c\}, \{\}, 3 angle$
$\textit{o}_{red} = \langle \{b,c\}, \{d\}, \{\}, 2 angle$
$\mathcal{O}_{\text{orange}} = \langle \{a, d\}, \{g\}, \{\}, 0 \rangle$

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$$L_1 = \{o_{\text{orange}}\} \text{ (cost = 0)}$$
 • $L_2 = \{o_{\text{green}}, o_{\text{black}}\} \text{ (cost = 3)}$
• $L_3 = \{o_{\text{red}}\} \text{ (cost = 2)}$



$o_{blue} = \langle \{i\}, \{a, b\}, \{\}, 4 angle$
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$$L_1 = \{o_{\text{orange}}\} (\text{cost} = 0)$$

$$L_2 = \{o_{\text{green}}, o_{\text{black}}\} (\text{cost} = 3)$$

$$L_3 = \{o_{\text{red}}\} (\text{cost} = 2)$$

$$L_4 = \{o_{\text{green}}, o_{\text{blue}}\} (\text{cost} = 4)$$



$o_{blue} = \langle \{i\}, \{a, b\}, \{\}, 4 angle$
$o_{green} = \langle \{i\}, \{a, c\}, \{\}, 5 angle$
$o_{black} = \langle \{i\}, \{b, c\}, \{\}, 3 angle$
$\mathcal{O}_{red} = \langle \{b,c\}, \{d\}, \{\}, 2 angle$
$\mathcal{O}_{\text{orange}} = \langle \{a, d\}, \{g\}, \{\}, 0 \rangle$

Power of Cuts in Justification Graphs

• Which landmarks can be computed with the cut method?

Power of Cuts in Justification Graphs

Which landmarks can be computed with the cut method?

all interesting ones!

Proposition (perfect hitting set heuristics)

Let \mathcal{L} be the set of all "cut landmarks" of a given planning task with initial state I. Then $h^{MHS}(\mathcal{L}) = h^+(I)$.

 \rightsquigarrow Hitting set heuristic for $\mathcal L$ is perfect.

Power of Cuts in Justification Graphs

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Proof idea:

Show 1:1 correspondence of hitting sets H for L and plans, i.e., each hitting set for L corresponds to a plan, and vice versa.

The LM-Cut Heuristic

LM-Cut Heuristic: Motivation

- In general, there are exponentially many pcfs, hence computing all relevant landmarks is not tractable.
- The LM-cut heuristic is a method that chooses pcfs and computes cuts in a goal-oriented way.
- As a side effect, it computes
 - a cost partitioning over multiple instances of h^{\max} that is also
 - a saturated cost partitioning over disjunctive action landmarks.
- \rightsquigarrow currently one of the best admissible planning heuristic

LM-Cut Heuristic

h^{LM-cut}: Helmert & Domshlak (2009)

Initialize $h^{\text{LM-cut}}(I) := 0$. Then iterate:

- Compute h^{\max} values of the variables. Stop if $h^{\max}(g) = 0$.
- Compute justification graph G for the P that chooses preconditions with maximal h^{max} value
- Determine the goal zone V_g of G that consists of all nodes that have a zero-cost path to g.

 Compute the cut L that contains the labels of all edges ⟨v, o, v'⟩ such that v ∉ V_g, v' ∈ V_g and v can be reached from i without traversing a node in V_g. It is guaranteed that cost(L) > 0.

• Increase $h^{\text{LM-cut}}(I)$ by cost(L).

• Decrease cost(o) by cost(L) for all $o \in L$.

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Example: Computation of LM-Cut



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Example	: Computatio	n of Ll	M-Cut			
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		<i>d</i> ₅	<i>B</i> ₅	Oblue = Ogreen = Oblack = Ored = Oorange =	$= \langle \{i\}, \{a, b\}, \{\}, \\ = \langle \{i\}, \{a, c\}, \{\}, \\ = \langle \{i\}, \{b, c\}, \{\}, \\ \{b, c\}, \{d\}, \{b, c\}, \{d\}, \\ \langle \{a, d\}, \{g\}, \{\}, \\ \langle \{a, d\}, \{g\}, \{\}, \\ \rangle$	$\begin{array}{c} 4 \\ 5 \\ 3 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{array}$
	3	round	$P(o_{\text{orange}})$	$P(o_{red})$	landmark	cost
		-			1	1

round	P(Oorange)	$P(O_{red})$	landmark	cost
1				
			$h^{\text{LM-cut}}(I)$	0

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Example: Computation of LM-Cut





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Example:	Computation	of LM-Cut	

Oetermine goal zone

	d 5	g ₅	Oblue = Ogreen = Oblack = Ored = Oorange =	$= \langle \{i\}, \{a, b\}, \{\}, \\ = \langle \{i\}, \{a, c\}, \{\}, \\ = \langle \{i\}, \{b, c\}, \{\}, \\ \langle \{b, c\}, \{d\}, \{\}, \\ \langle \{a, d\}, \{g\}, \{\}, \\ \rangle$	4⟩ 5⟩ 3⟩ 2⟩ 0⟩
3	round	$P(o_{\text{orange}})$	$P(o_{red})$	landmark	cost
-	1	d	b		
		-		$h^{\text{LM-cut}}(I)$	0

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Example:	Computation of	LM-Cut	

4 Compute cut

	d 5	g ₅	Oblue = Ogreen = Oblack = Ored = Oorange =	$ = \langle \{i\}, \{a, b\}, \{\}, \\ = \langle \{i\}, \{a, c\}, \{\}, \\ = \langle \{i\}, \{b, c\}, \{\}, \\ \langle \{b, c\}, \{d\}, \{\}, \\ \langle \{a, d\}, \{g\}, \{\}, \\ \rangle $	4⟩ 5⟩ 3⟩ 2⟩ 0⟩
3	round	$P(o_{\text{orange}})$	$P(o_{red})$	landmark	cost
0	1	d	b	$\{o_{red}\}$	2
				$h^{\text{LM-cut}}(I)$	0

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E	Construction		

Example: Computation of LM-Cut

(a) Increase $h^{\text{LM-cut}}(I)$ by cost(L)



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Example	Computation	of I M-Cut	

() Decrease cost(o) by cost(L) for all $o \in L$





round	$P(o_{\text{orange}})$	$P(o_{red})$	landmark	cost
1	d	b	${O_{red}}$	2
2				
			$h^{\text{LM-cut}}(I)$	2

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Example: Computation of LM-Cut

2 Compute justification graph



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3 D	Determine goal zone					
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	3	round	$P(o_{\text{orange}})$	$P(o_{red})$	landmark	cost
		1	d	b	$\{o_{red}\}$	2
		2	а	b		
					$h^{\text{LM-cut}}(I)$	2

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Example	Computation	of LM-Cut		













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Example: Computation of LM-Cut

2 Compute justification graph



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Example	e: Computation	n of Ll	M-Cut			
3 D	etermine goal zone					
0		d ₁	g ₁	Oblue = Ogreen = Oblack = Ored = Oorange =	$ = \langle \{i\}, \{a, b\}, \{\}, \\ = \langle \{i\}, \{a, c\}, \{\}, \\ = \langle \{i\}, \{b, c\}, \{\}, \\ \{b, c\}, \{d\}, \{b, c\}, \{d\}, \\ \{a, d\}, \{g\}, \{\}, \\ \}, $	$egin{array}{c} 0 ight angle \ 1 ight angle \ 3 ight angle \ 0 ight angle \ 0 ight angle$
	1	round	$P(o_{\text{orange}})$	$P(o_{red})$	landmark	cost
	******	1	d	b	$\{o_{red}\}$	2
		2	а	b	$\{o_{green}, o_{blue}\}$	4
		3	d	С		
					$h^{\text{LM-cut}}(I)$	6

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Example	e: Computatior	n of Ll	M-Cut			
4 C	compute cut					
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	1	round	$P(o_{\text{orange}})$	$P(o_{red})$	landmark	cost
	******	1	d	b	${O_{red}}$	2
		2	а	b	$\{o_{green}, o_{blue}\}$	4
		3	d	с	$\{o_{green}, o_{black}\}$	1
					$h^{\text{LM-cut}}(I)$	6





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Example	e: Computatior	n of Ll	M-Cut			
6	Decrease <i>cost</i> (<i>o</i>) by <i>cos</i>	st(L) for a	all $o \in L$			
0			B	Oblue = Ogreen = Oblack = Ored = Oorange =	$= \langle \{i\}, \{a, b\}, \{\}, \\ = \langle \{i\}, \{a, c\}, \{\}, \\ = \langle \{i\}, \{b, c\}, \{\}, \\ \{b, c\}, \{d\}, \{b, c\}, \{d\}, \\ \langle \{a, d\}, \{g\}, \{\}, \\ \langle \{a, d\}, \{g\}, \{\}, \\ \rangle$	0> 0> 2> 0> 0>
	1	round	$P(o_{\text{orange}})$	$P(o_{red})$	landmark	cost
	******	1	d	b	${o_{red}}$	2
		2	а	b	$\{o_{green}, o_{blue}\}$	4
		3	d	с	$\{o_{green}, o_{black}\}$	1
					$h^{\text{LM-cut}}(I)$	7



D Compute h^{\max} values of the variables. Stop if $h^{\max}(g) = 0$.



The LM-Cut Heuristic

Properties of LM-Cut Heuristic

Theorem

Let $\langle V, I, O, \gamma \rangle$ be a delete-free STRIPS task in *i*-g normal form. The LM-cut heuristic is admissible: $h^{LM-cut}(I) \leq h^*(I)$.

Proof omitted.

If Π is not delete-free, we can compute $h^{\text{LM-cut}}$ on Π^+ . Then $h^{\text{LM-cut}}$ is bounded by h^+ .

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Summary

- Cuts in justification graphs are a general method to find disjunctive action landmarks.
- The minimum hitting set over all cut landmarks is a perfect heuristic for delete-free planning tasks.
- The LM-cut heuristic is an admissible heuristic based on these ideas.

References on landmark heuristics:

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Silvia Richter and Matthias Westphal.

The LAMA Planner: Guiding Cost-Based Anytime Planning with Landmarks.

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Introduces landmark-count heuristic and contains another landmark generation method.

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 Introduces admissible variant of landmark heuristic.