

# Uniform Cost Search Overview

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- Paths in the State Space ordered by cost

Path	Cost
<S>	0
<S, a>	1.0
<S,b>	1.0
<S,a,c>	1.5
<S,d>	2.0
...	...

Note cost is non-decreasing

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- Uniform Cost Search expands paths in non-decreasing order of cost. So it only goes down this list.

LEMMA 1

- It does not miss any paths on this list. LEMMA 2

Path	Cost
<S>	0
<S, a>	1.0
<S,a,b>	1.0
<S,a,b,c>	3.0
<S,a,b,d,e>	4.0
...	...

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It does not miss any paths on this list. LEMMA 2

Path	Cost
<S>	0
<S, a>	1.0
<S,a,b>	1.0
<S,a,b,c>	3.0
<S,a,b,d,e>	4.0
...	...

- If <S,a,b,d,e> is expanded next, <S,a,b,c> must already been expanded. If not it or <S,a,b,c> or <S,a,b> or <S,a> or <S> must be available for expansion (on OPEN) and would be expanded next as they all have lower cost than <S,a,b,d,e>

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Thus working its way down such a list of paths in this order the first path achieving the goal that Uniform cost search finds will be the cheapest way of achieving the goal.