

Algorithm: Uniform_Cost_Search (Applied to Route Finding)

Input: Graph $G=(V, E)$, *start*, *goal*.

Every *edge* in E in G has a non-negative integer weight > 0 .

Output: A List containing the shortest distance path and route
in format [distance, [path]]

Procedure:

If *start* = *goal*

 return [0, []]

Initialize *frontier* as empty list

Initialize *explored* as empty list

Append [0, [*start*]] to *frontier*

Loop

 If *frontier* empty

 Return [0, []]

 Find lowest Cost node in *frontier* and Pop out of *frontier* into *path*

 // Path should have structure [distance, [List of Path]]

 Get *city* from *path* # The last city in the path

 Get *pathWeight* from *path*

 Append *city* to *explored*

 If *city* = *goal*

 Return *path*

 Initialize *cities* as connected cities from *city* // *cities* is a list of tuples [city, distance]

 For *v* in *cities*

 Get Node *c* from *cities*

 Get weight *w* from *cities*

 Initialize *newPathRoute* = *path* + [*c*]

 Initialize *newPathWeight* = *pathWeight* + *w*

 Initialize *newPath* = [*newPathWeight*, *newPathRoute*]

 If *c* not in *frontier* and *c* not in *explored*

 Append *newPath* to *frontier*

Note: Usually this Algorithm is implemented with the *frontier* as a Priority Queue. Then *frontier* is automatically sorted least to greatest by path weight and access is $O(1)$. For above implementation, do a linear search on *frontier* to find the lowest distance path in each Loop. Once you have working, you can experiment with making *frontier* a Priority Queue or by doing a sorting step every time you append a new path to *frontier*.