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In [1]: # Cannibals and Missionaries Problem
# In this case, the first element of state is the number of missionaries,
# the second element of state is the number of cannibals,
# and the third element of state is the location of the boat (1 = wrong side, 0 = correct side)
start_state = (3, 3, 1)
goal_state = (0, 0, 0)

# There's probably a more pythonic way to do this, but it works for the problem
def get_neighbors(curr_state):
    neighbors = []
    if curr_state[2] == 1:
        neighbors.append((curr_state[0], curr_state[1] - 1, curr_state[2] - 1))
        neighbors.append((curr_state[0], curr_state[1] - 2, curr_state[2] - 1))
        neighbors.append((curr_state[0] - 1, curr_state[1], curr_state[2] - 1))
        neighbors.append((curr_state[0] - 2, curr_state[1], curr_state[2] - 1))
        neighbors.append((curr_state[0] - 1, curr_state[1] - 1, curr_state[2] - 1))
    elif curr_state[2] == 0:
        neighbors.append((curr_state[0], curr_state[1] + 1, curr_state[2] + 1))
        neighbors.append((curr_state[0], curr_state[1] + 2, curr_state[2] + 1))
        neighbors.append((curr_state[0] + 1, curr_state[1], curr_state[2] + 1))
        neighbors.append((curr_state[0] + 2, curr_state[1], curr_state[2] + 1))
        neighbors.append((curr_state[0] + 1, curr_state[1] + 1, curr_state[2] + 1))
    return neighbors

# Remove invalid states
def is_valid(state):
    # Define game-limited invalid states (such as more than 3 missionaries or cannibals, or less than 0)
    if state[0] > 3 or state[0] < 0 or state[1] > 3 or state[1] < 0:
        return False
    # Next define states where the cannibals eat the missionaries
    if (state[1] > state[0] > 0) or (state[1] < state[0] < 3):
        return False
    return True

# Search all possible paths using BFS
# BFS was used because the amount of turn options in the first 3 turns or so is large
# Since diving down the wrong set of first 3 turns would make the algorithm take much longer,
# finding a first solution happens faster consistently with BFS (although DFS can get lucky sometimes)
def bfs_paths(start, goal):
    queue = [(start, [start])]

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while queue:
    curr_state, path = queue.pop(0)
    for next_state in set(get_neighbors(curr_state)) - set(path):
        if is_valid(next_state):
            if next_state == goal_state:
                yield path + [next_state]
            else:
                queue.append((next_state, path + [next_state]))

print("All possible paths:")
for i in list(bfs_paths(start_state, goal_state)):
    print(i)

print("Shortest:", min(list(bfs_paths(start_state, goal_state))))

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All possible paths:

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[(3, 3, 1), (3, 1, 0), (3, 2, 1), (3, 0, 0), (3, 1, 1), (1, 1, 0), (2, 2, 1),
(0, 2, 0), (0, 3, 1), (0, 1, 0), (0, 2, 1), (0, 0, 0)]
[(3, 3, 1), (3, 1, 0), (3, 2, 1), (3, 0, 0), (3, 1, 1), (1, 1, 0), (2, 2, 1),
(0, 2, 0), (0, 3, 1), (0, 1, 0), (1, 1, 1), (0, 0, 0)]
[(3, 3, 1), (2, 2, 0), (3, 2, 1), (3, 0, 0), (3, 1, 1), (1, 1, 0), (2, 2, 1),
(0, 2, 0), (0, 3, 1), (0, 1, 0), (0, 2, 1), (0, 0, 0)]
[(3, 3, 1), (2, 2, 0), (3, 2, 1), (3, 0, 0), (3, 1, 1), (1, 1, 0), (2, 2, 1),
(0, 2, 0), (0, 3, 1), (0, 1, 0), (1, 1, 1), (0, 0, 0)]
Shortest: [(3, 3, 1), (2, 2, 0), (3, 2, 1), (3, 0, 0), (3, 1, 1), (1, 1, 0),
(2, 2, 1), (0, 2, 0), (0, 3, 1), (0, 1, 0), (0, 2, 1), (0, 0, 0)]

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In []: