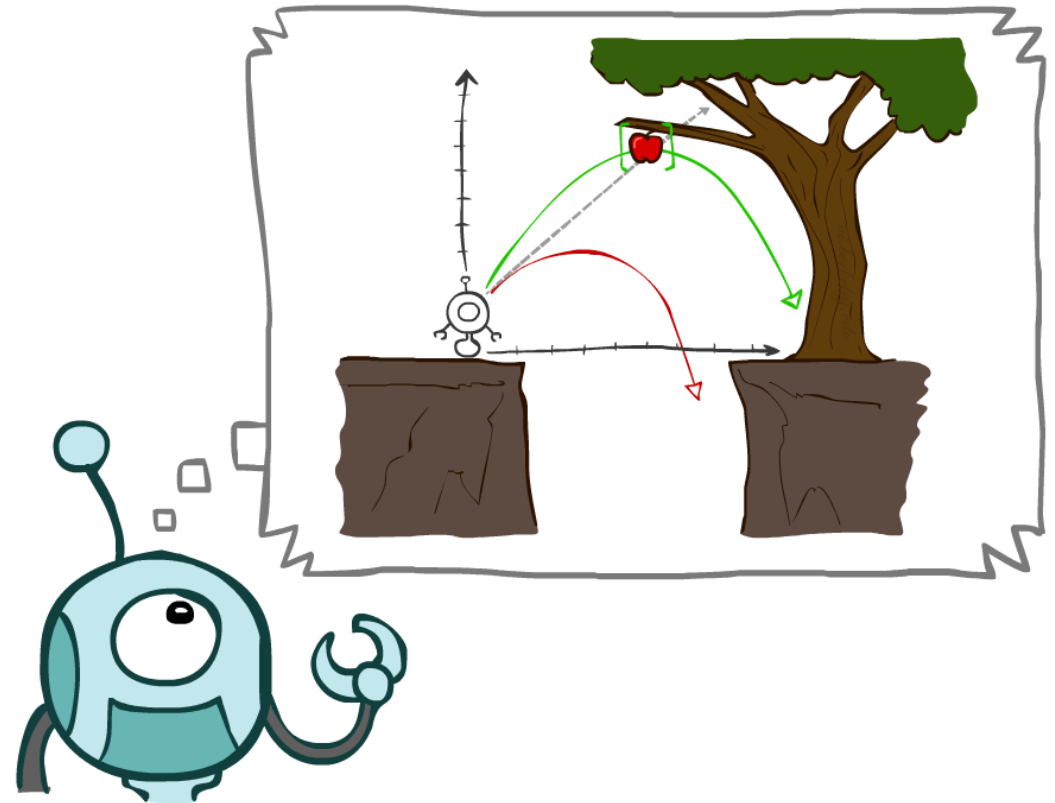


**Dr. Seemab latif**  
**Lecture 2**  
**17th Sept 2024**

# Today

- Agents and Environment (Recap)
- Search Problems
- Uninformed Search Methods
  - Depth-First Search
  - Breadth-First Search
  - Uniform-Cost Search



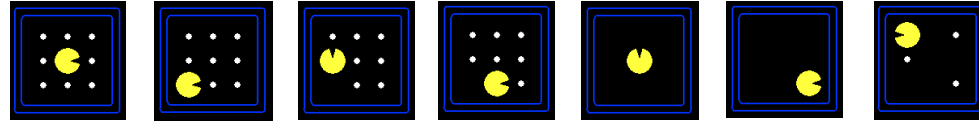
# Search Problems



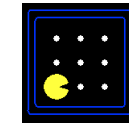
# Search Problems

- A **search problem** consists of:

- A state space



- For each state, a set  $\text{Actions}(s)$  of allowable actions

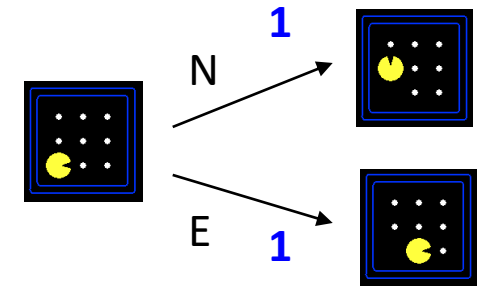


$\{N, E\}$

- A transition model  $\text{Result}(s, a)$

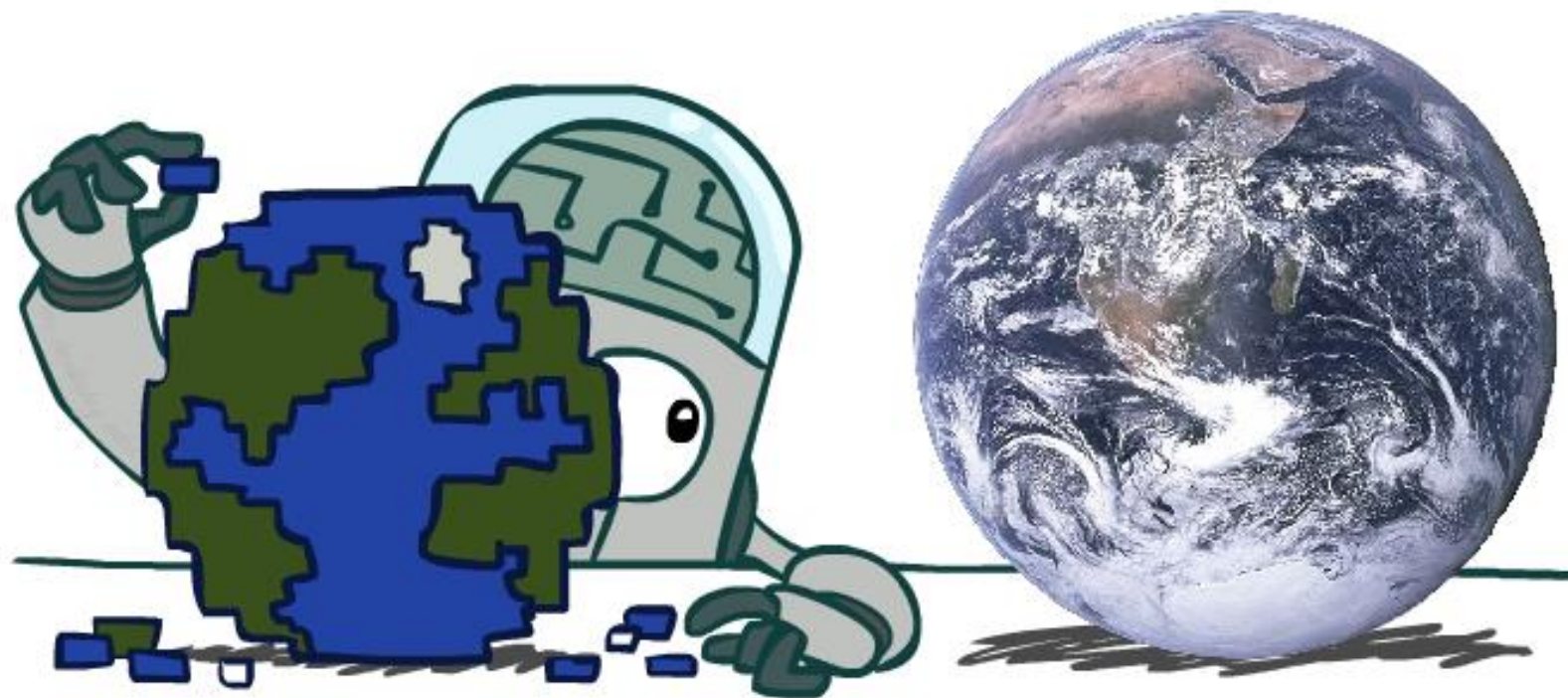
- A step cost function  $c(s, a, s')$

- A start state and a goal test

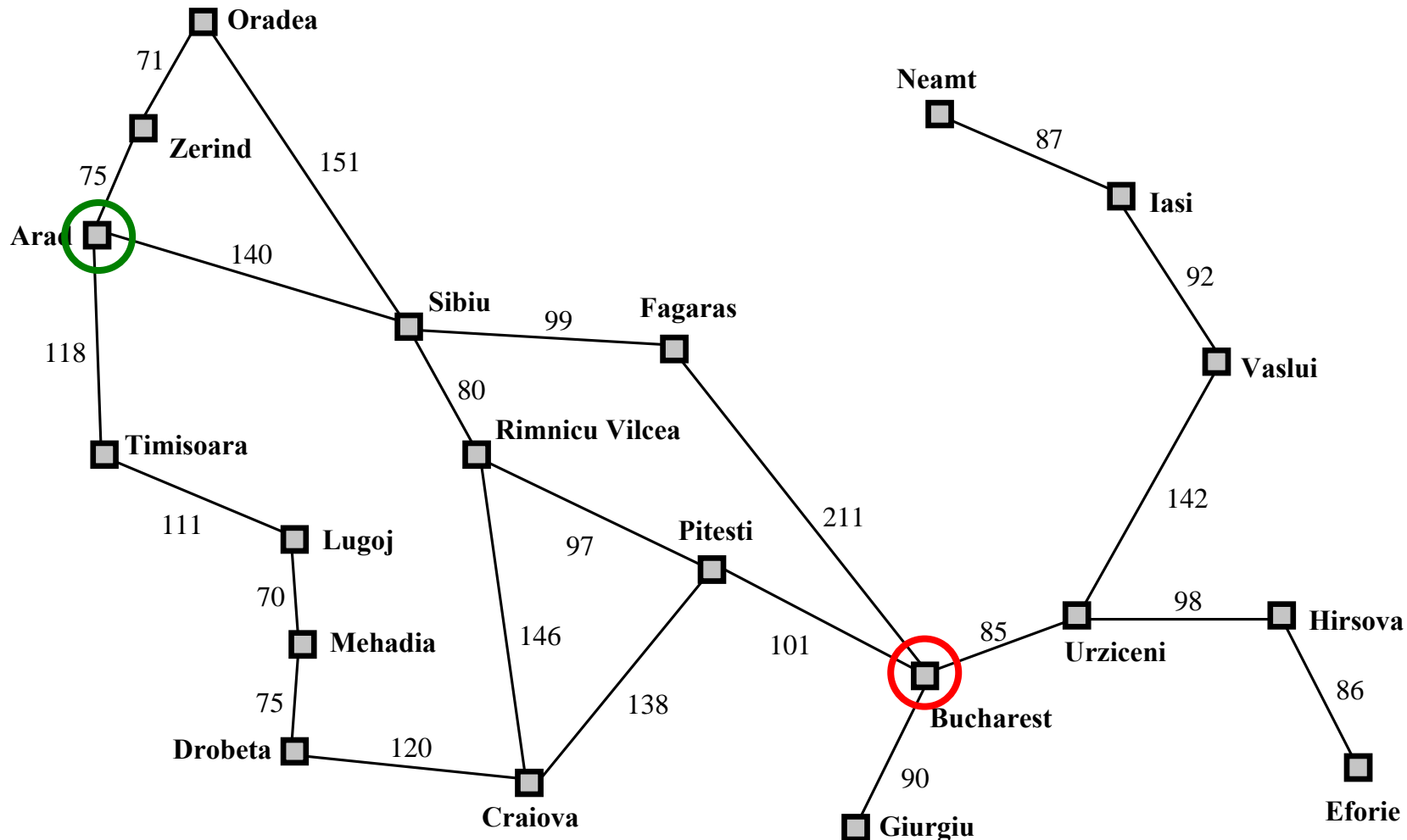


- A **solution** is a sequence of actions (a plan) which transforms the start state to a goal state

# Search Problems Are Models



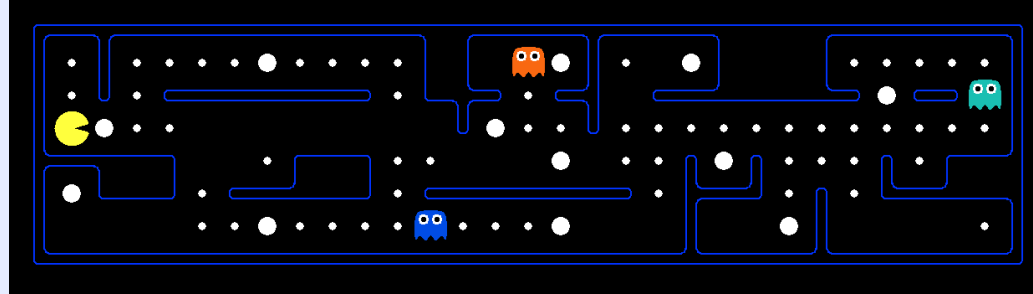
# Example: Travelling in Romania



- State space:
  - Cities
- Actions:
  - Go to adjacent city
- Transition model
  - $\text{Result}(A, \text{Go}(B)) = B$
- Step cost
  - Distance along road link
- Start state:
  - Arad
- Goal test:
  - Is state == Bucharest?
- Solution?

# What's in a State Space?

The **real-world state** includes every detail of the environment

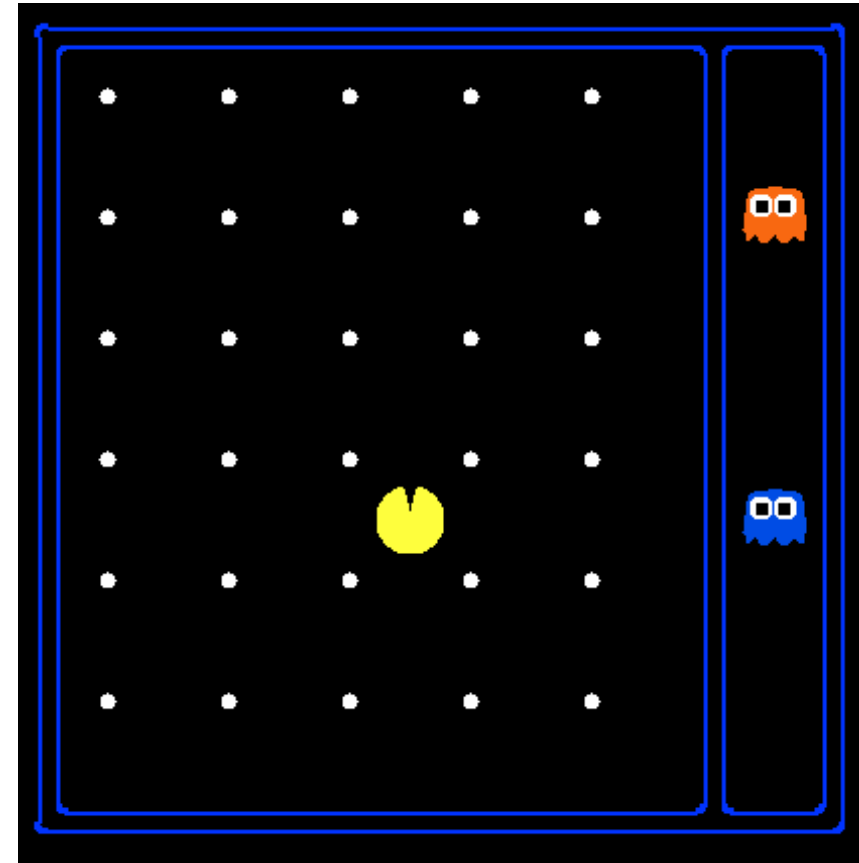


A **search state** abstracts away details not needed to solve the problem

- Problem: Pathing
  - State representation:  $(x,y)$  location
  - Actions: NSEW
  - Transition model: update location
  - Goal test: is  $(x,y)=END$
- Problem: Eat-All-Dots
  - State representation:  $\{(x,y), \text{dot booleans}\}$
  - Actions: NSEW
  - Transition model: update location and possibly a dot boolean
  - Goal test: dots all false

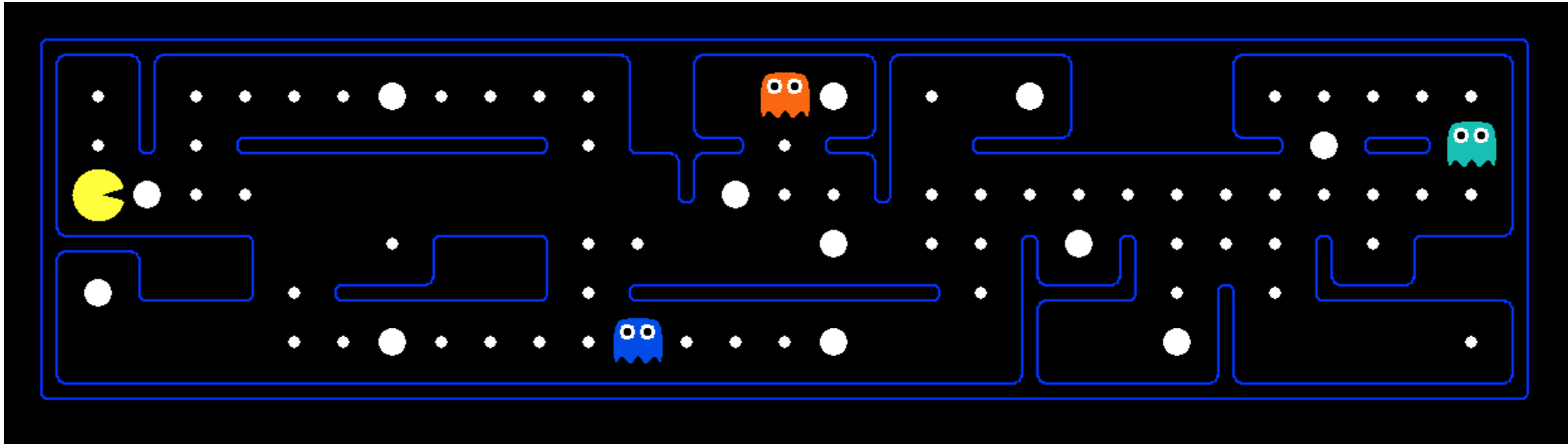
# State Space Sizes?

- World state:
  - Agent positions: 120
  - Food count: 30
  - Ghost positions: 12
  - Agent facing: NSEW
- How many
  - World states?  
 $120 \times (2^{30}) \times (12^2) \times 4$
  - States for pathing?  
120
  - States for eat-all-dots?  
 $120 \times (2^{30})$



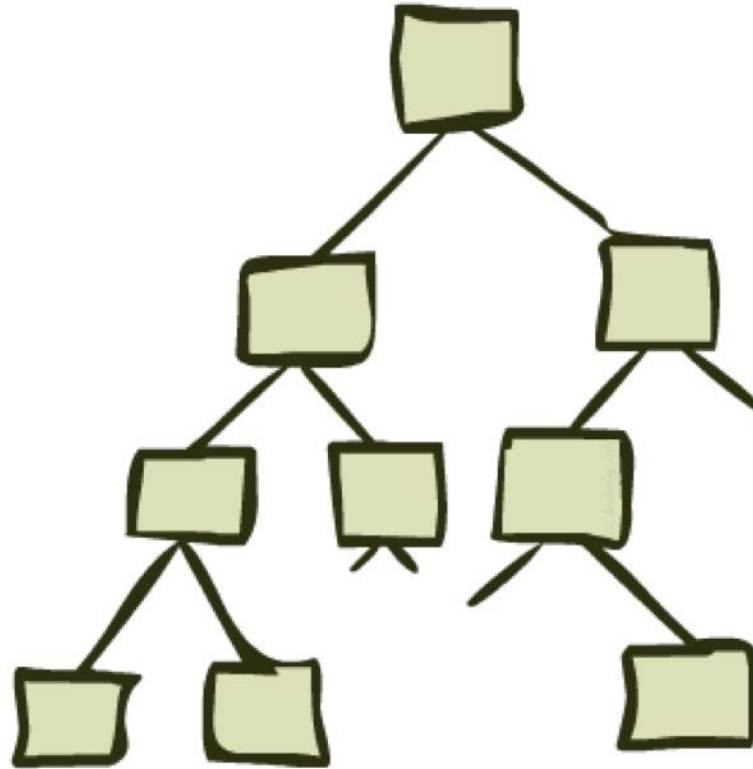


# Safe Passage



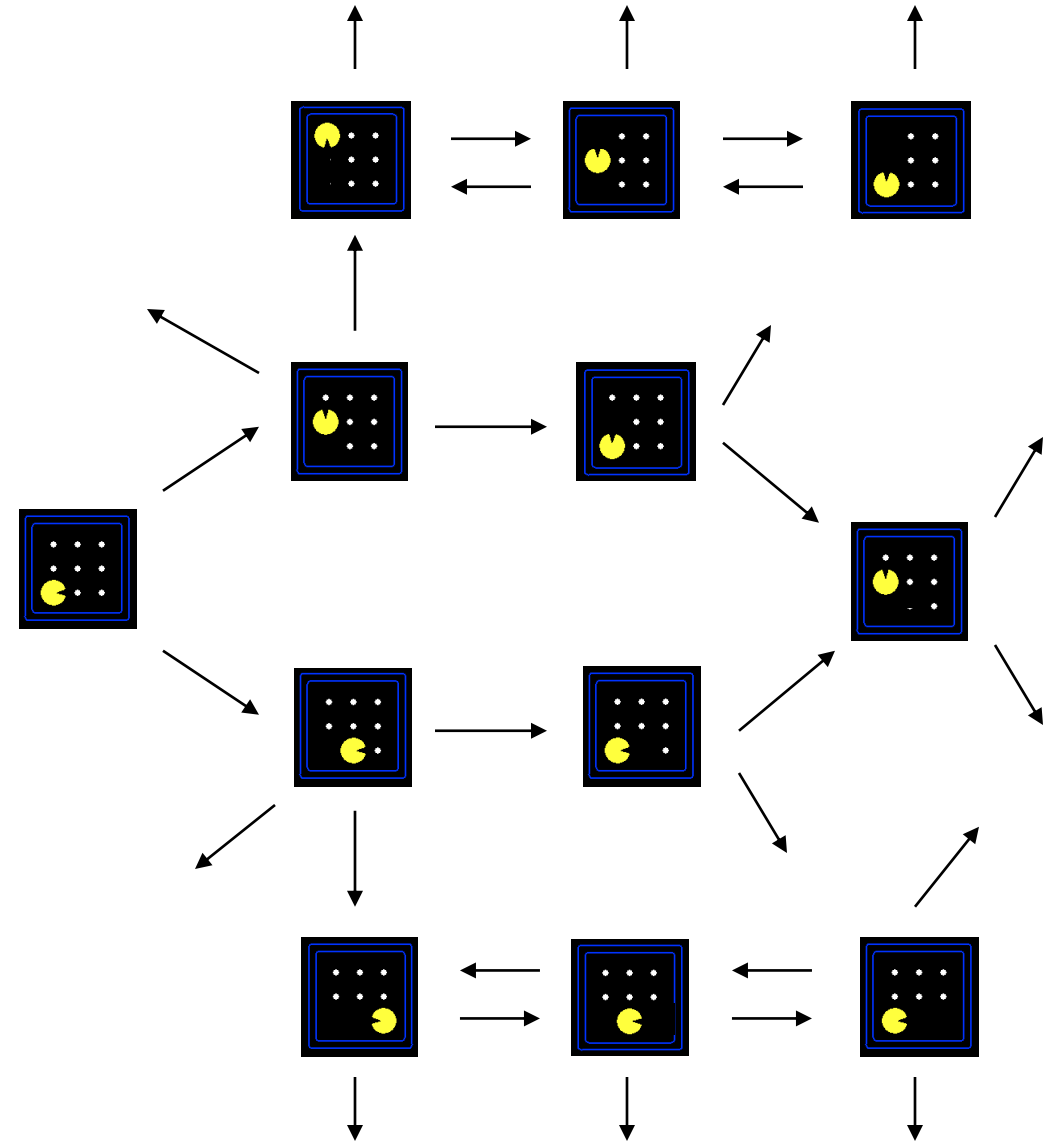
- Problem: eat all dots while keeping the ghosts scared
- What does the state representation have to specify?
  - (agent position, dot booleans, power pellet booleans, remaining scared time)

# State Space Graphs and Search Trees

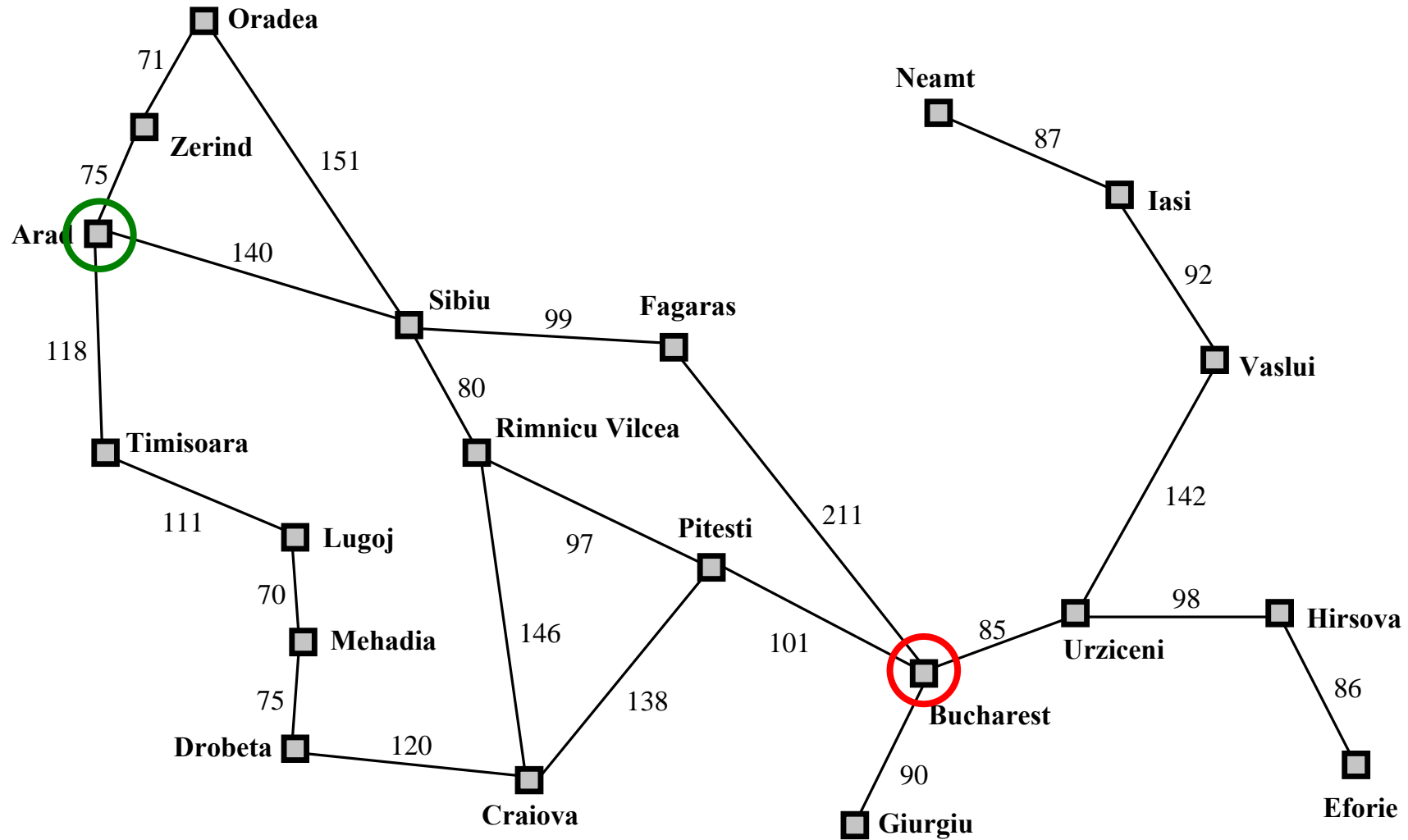


# State Space Graphs

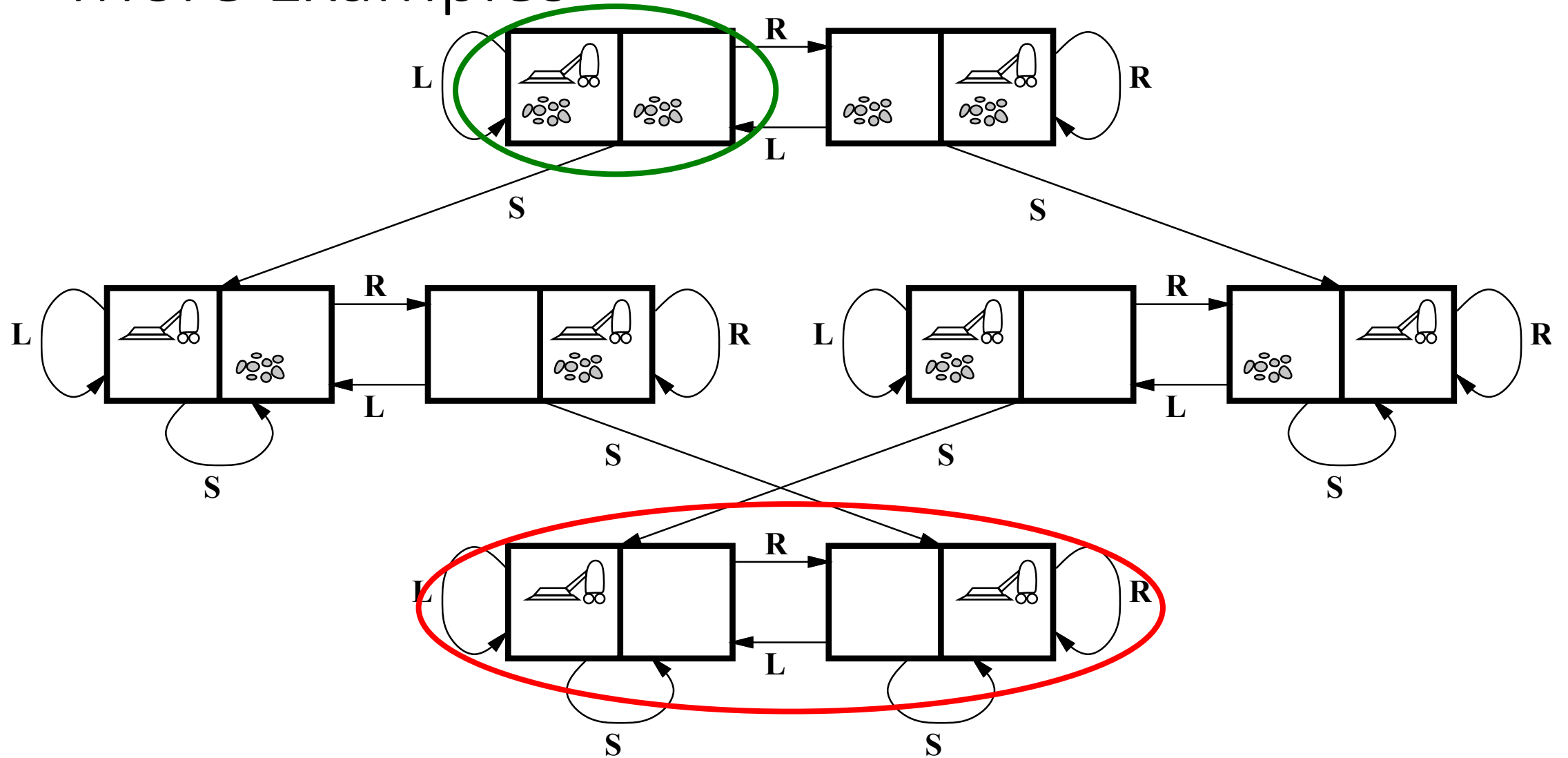
- State space graph: A mathematical representation of a search problem
  - Nodes are (abstracted) world configurations
  - Arcs represent transitions resulting from actions
  - The goal test is a set of goal nodes (maybe only one)
- In a state space graph, each state occurs only once!
- We can rarely build this full graph in memory (it's too big), but it's a useful idea



# More Examples

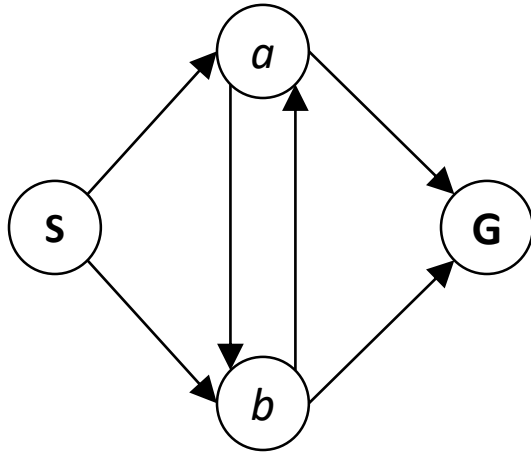


# More Examples

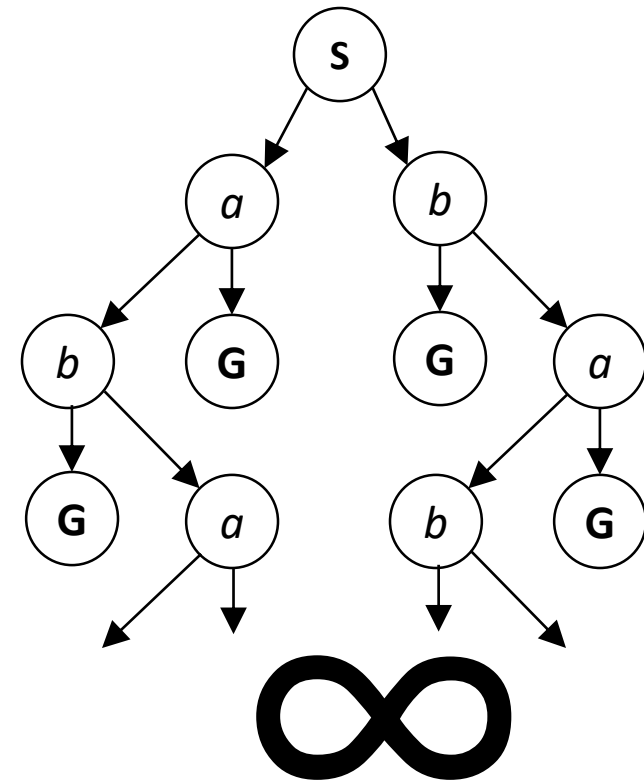


# State Space Graphs vs. Search Trees

Consider this 4-state graph:

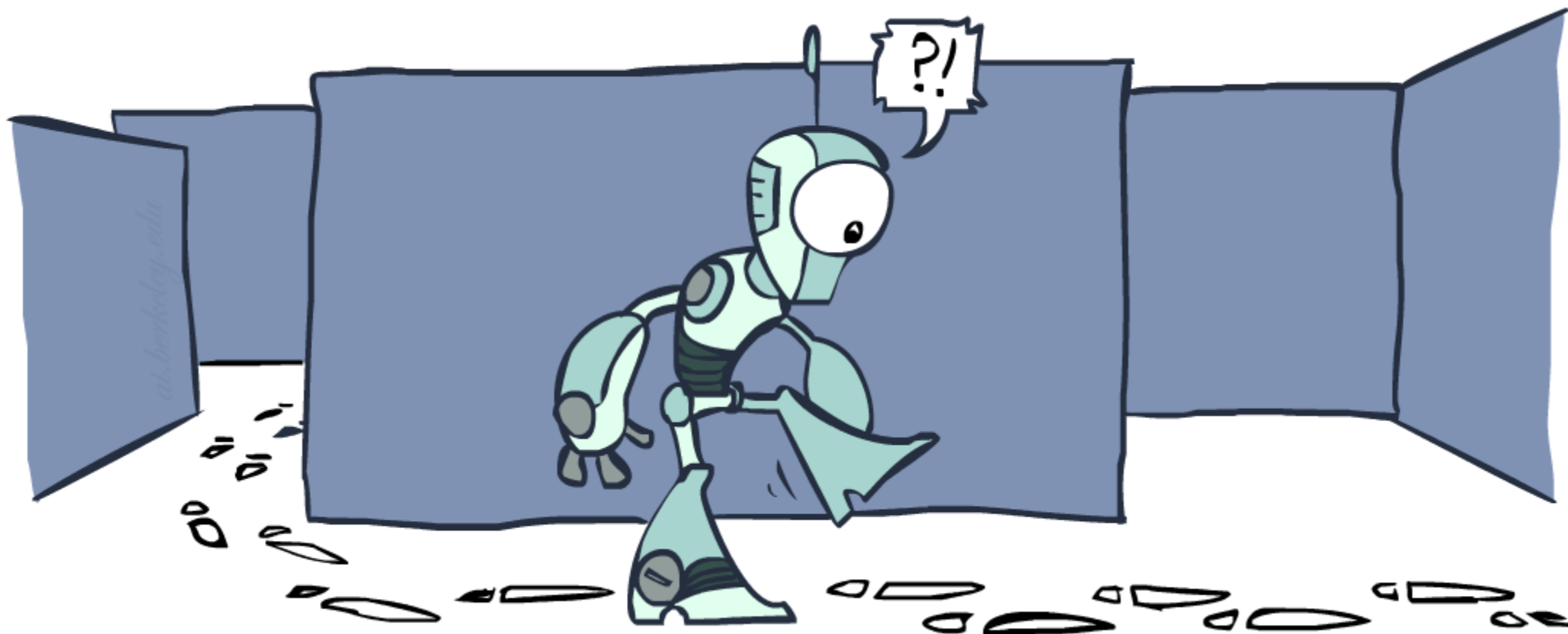


How big is its search tree (from S)?



Important: Lots of repeated structure in the search tree!

# Tree Search vs Graph Search



function TREE\_SEARCH(problem) returns a solution, or failure

initialize the frontier as a specific work list (stack, queue, priority queue)

add initial state of problem to frontier

loop do

if the frontier is empty then

return failure

choose a node and remove it from the frontier

if the node contains a goal state then

return the corresponding solution

for each resulting child from node

add child to the frontier



**function** GRAPH\_SEARCH(**problem**) **returns** a solution, or failure

**initialize** the **explored set** to be empty

**initialize** the **frontier** as a specific work list (stack, queue, priority queue)

**add** initial state of **problem** to **frontier**

**loop do**

**if** the **frontier** is empty **then**

**return** failure

**choose** a **node** and remove it from the **frontier**

**if** the **node** contains a goal state **then**

**return** the corresponding solution

**add** the **node** state to the **explored set**

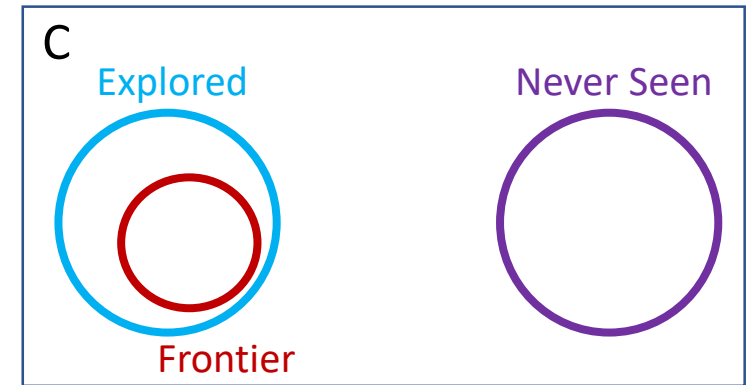
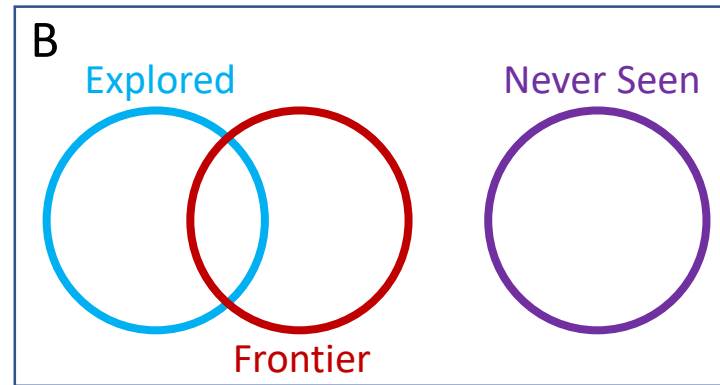
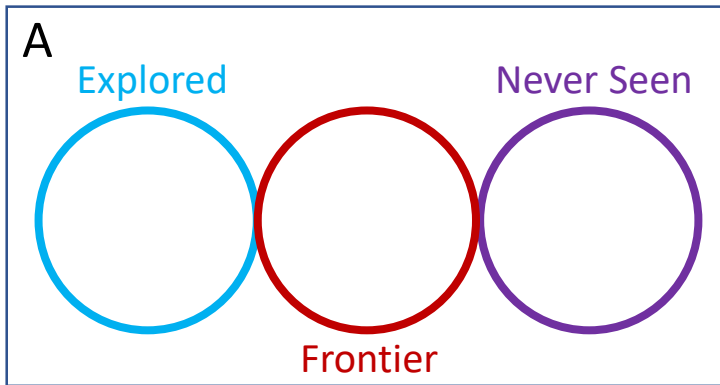
**for** each resulting **child** from node

**if** the **child** state is not already in the **frontier** or **explored set** **then**

**add** **child** to the **frontier**



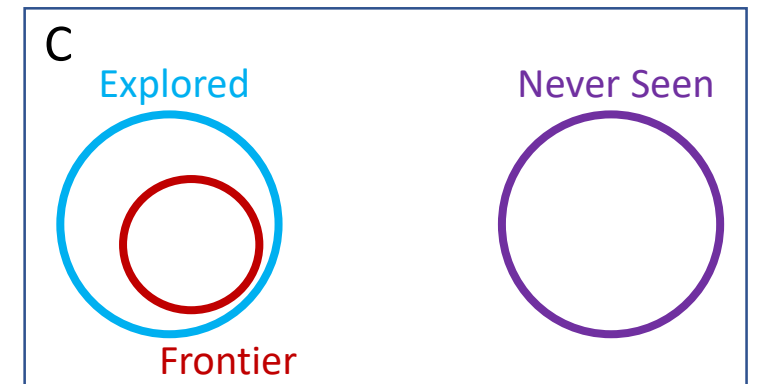
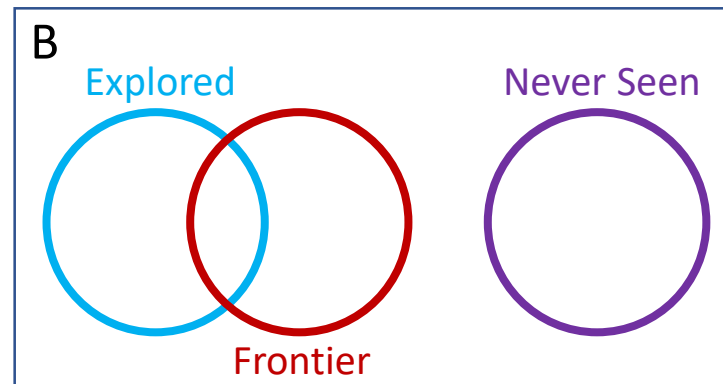
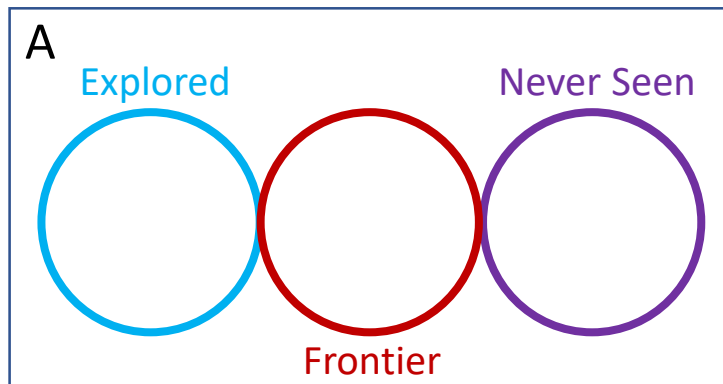
- What is the relationship between these sets of states after each loop iteration in **GRAPH\_SEARCH**?
- (Loop invariants!!!)





## 2-answer

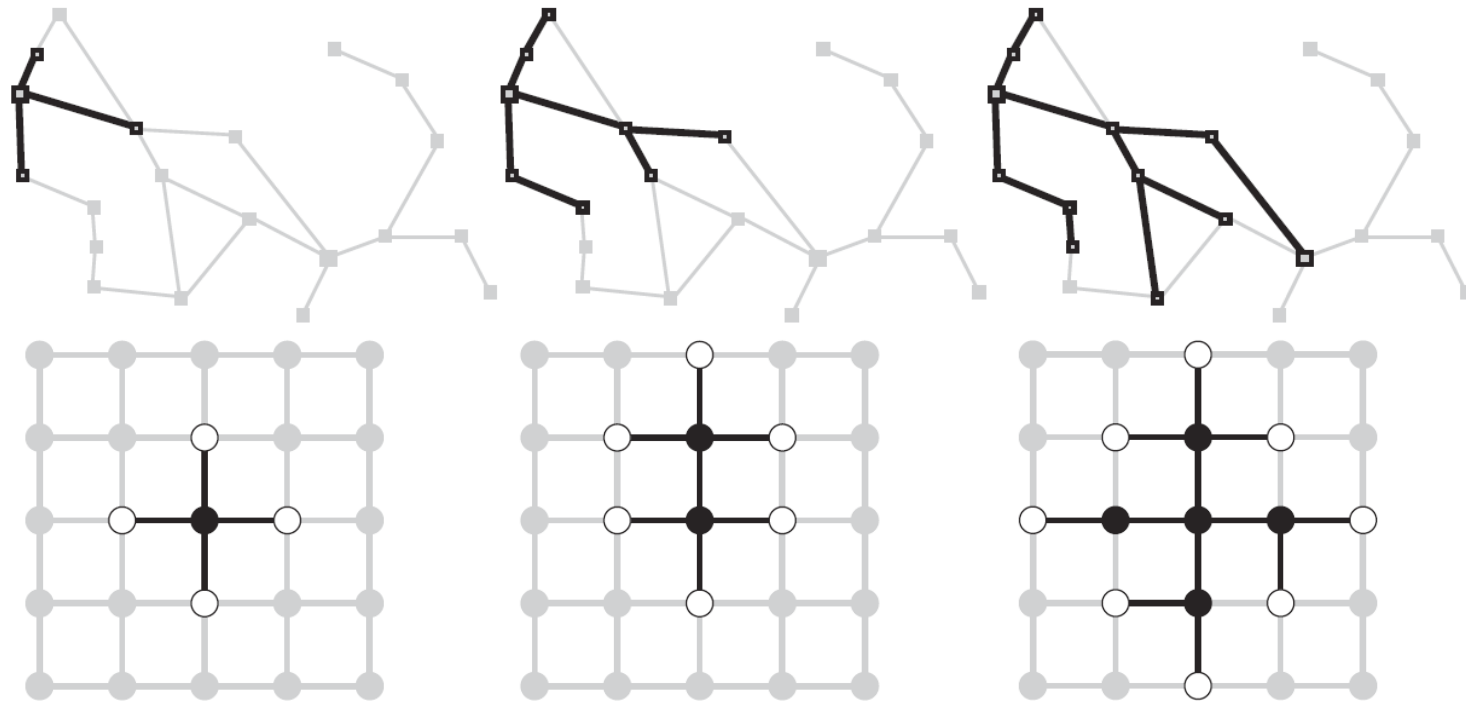
- What is the relationship between these sets of states after each loop iteration in `GRAPH_SEARCH`?
- (Loop invariants!!!)



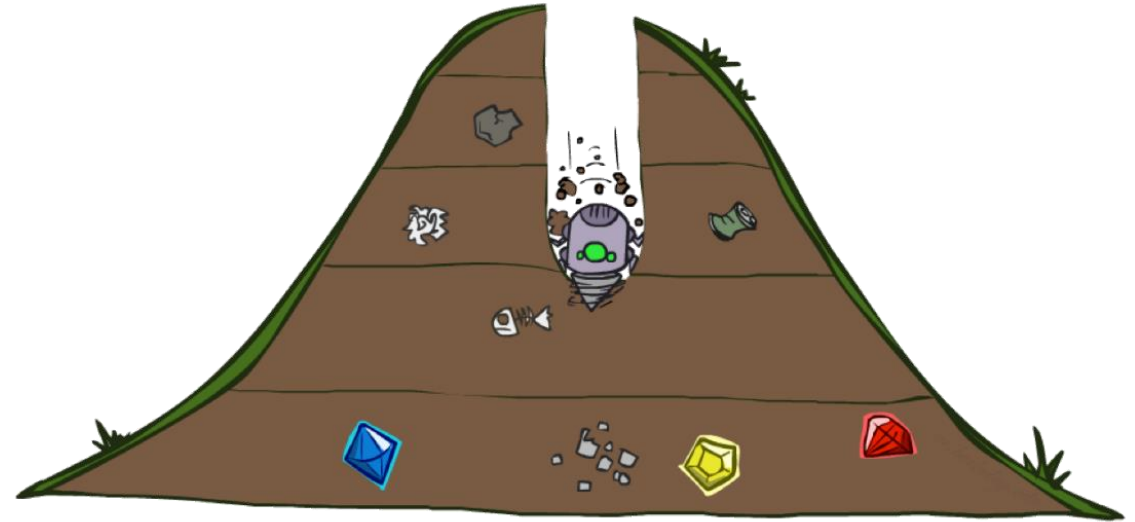
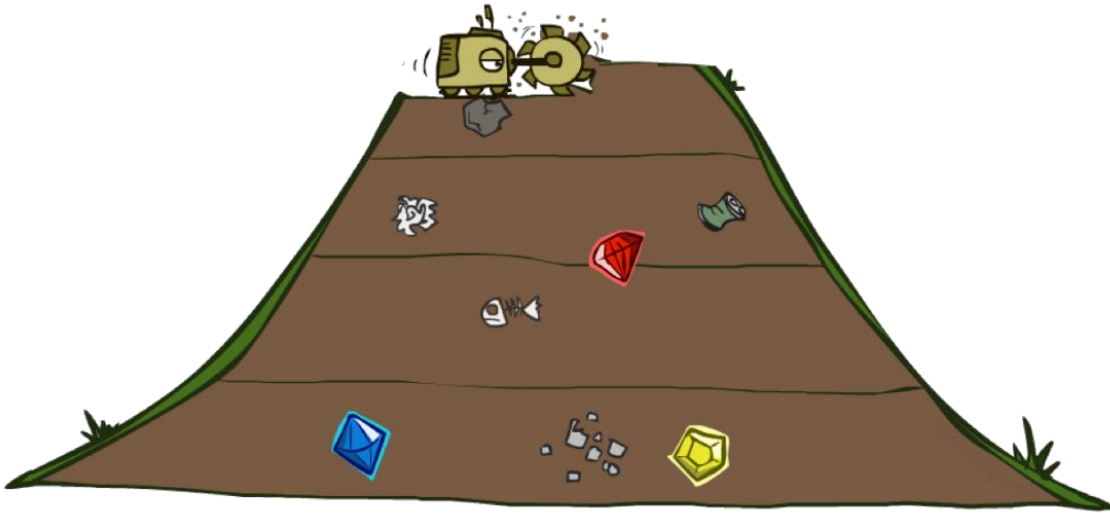
- The **frontier** states separate the **explored** states from **never seen** states
- Frontier is sub-set of Explored, as loop progresses, number of explored states will be more than the number of states in frontier
- Nodes that are not explored (Never Seen) are distinct from the other two

# Graph Search

- This graph search algorithm overlays a tree on a graph
- The **frontier** states separate the **explored** states from **never seen** states

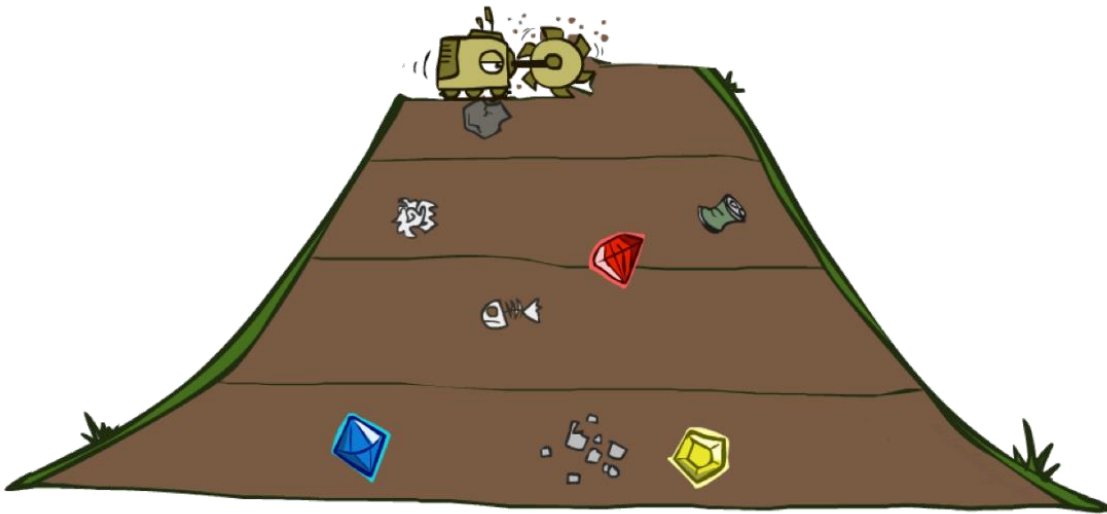


# BFS vs DFS

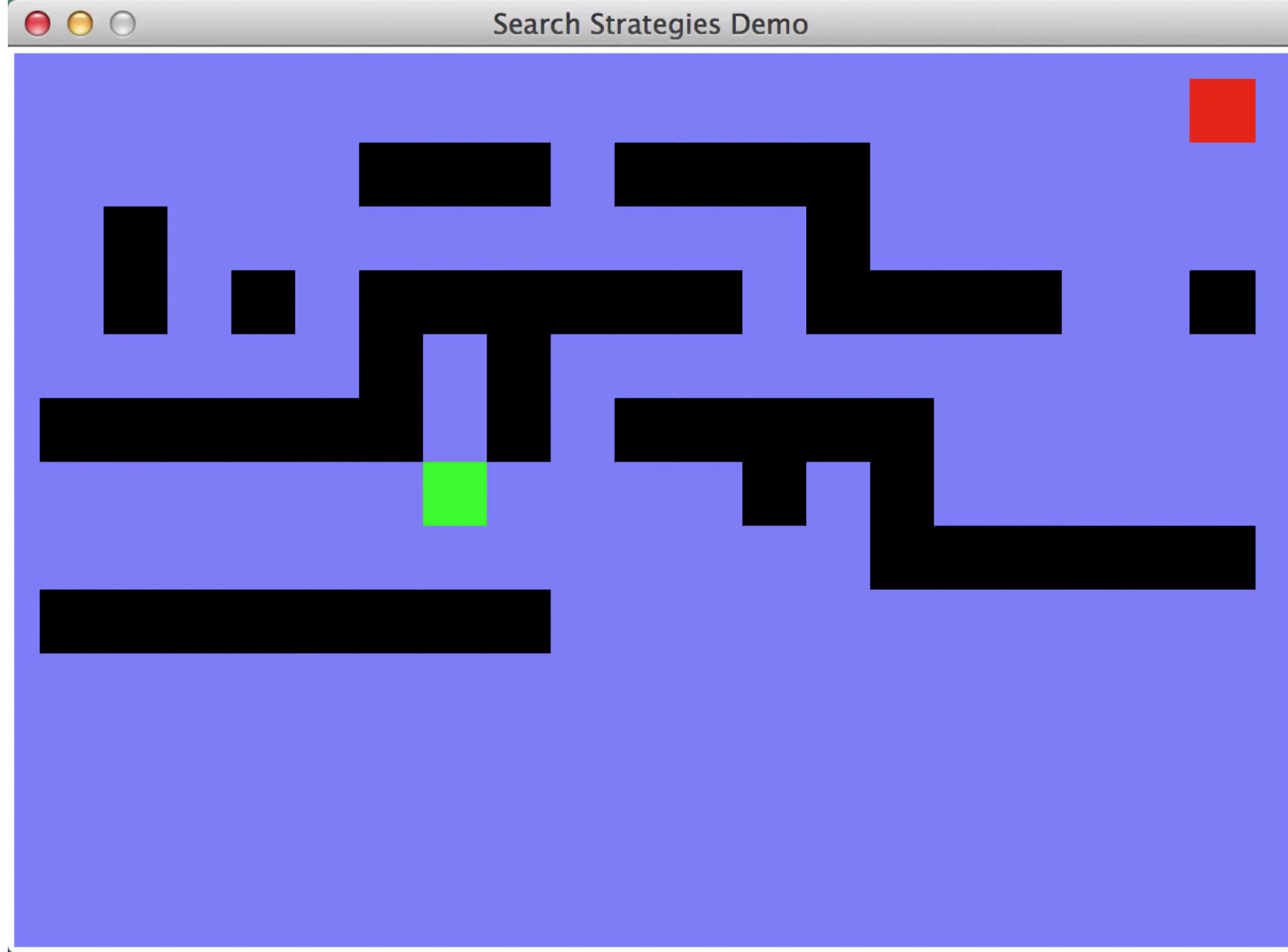




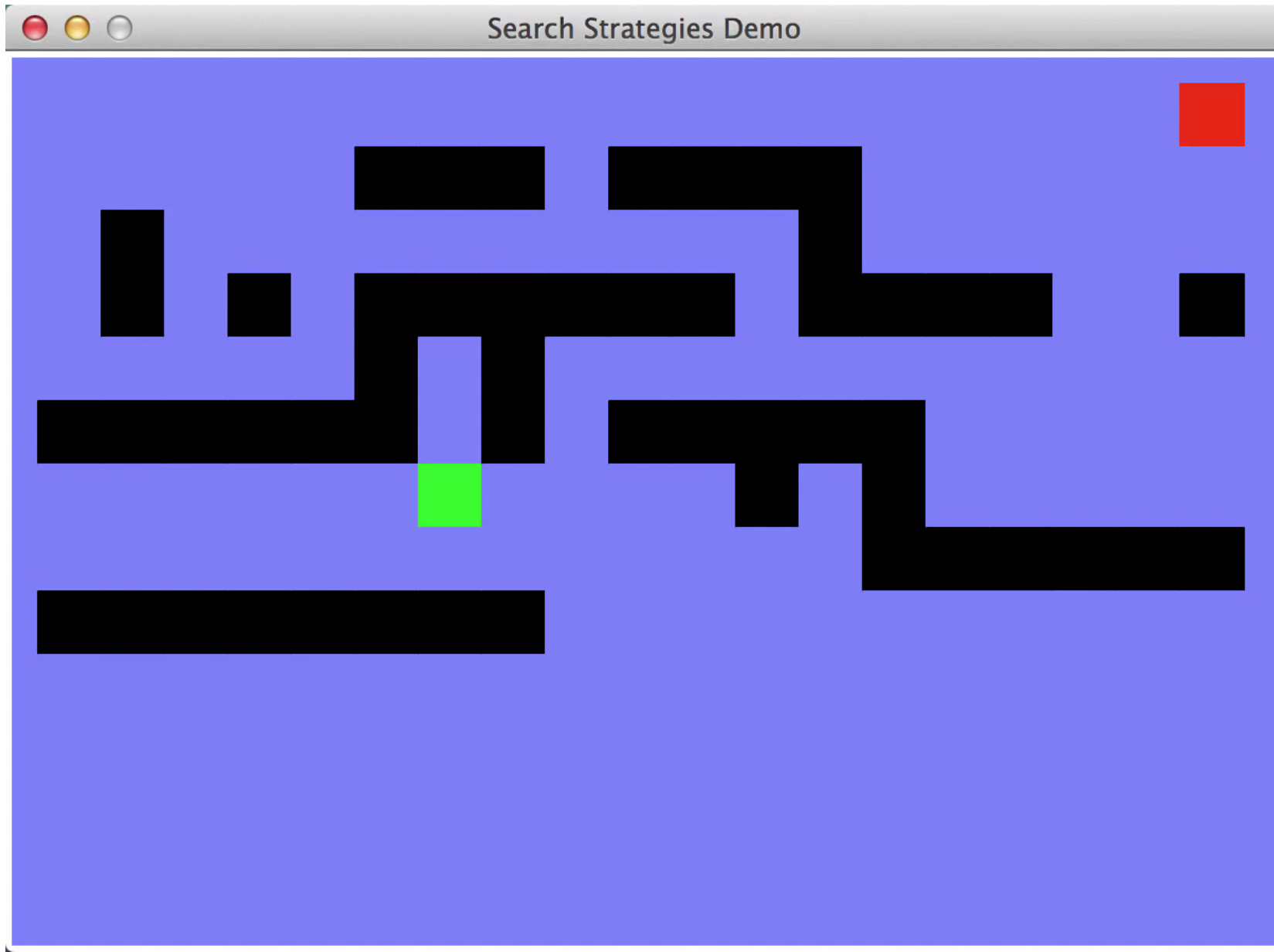
- Is the following demo Part 1 using BFS or DFS



# Video of Demo Maze Water DFS/BFS (part 1)



# Video of Demo Maze Water DFS/BFS (part 2)





# A Note on Implementation

Nodes have

state, parent, action, path-cost

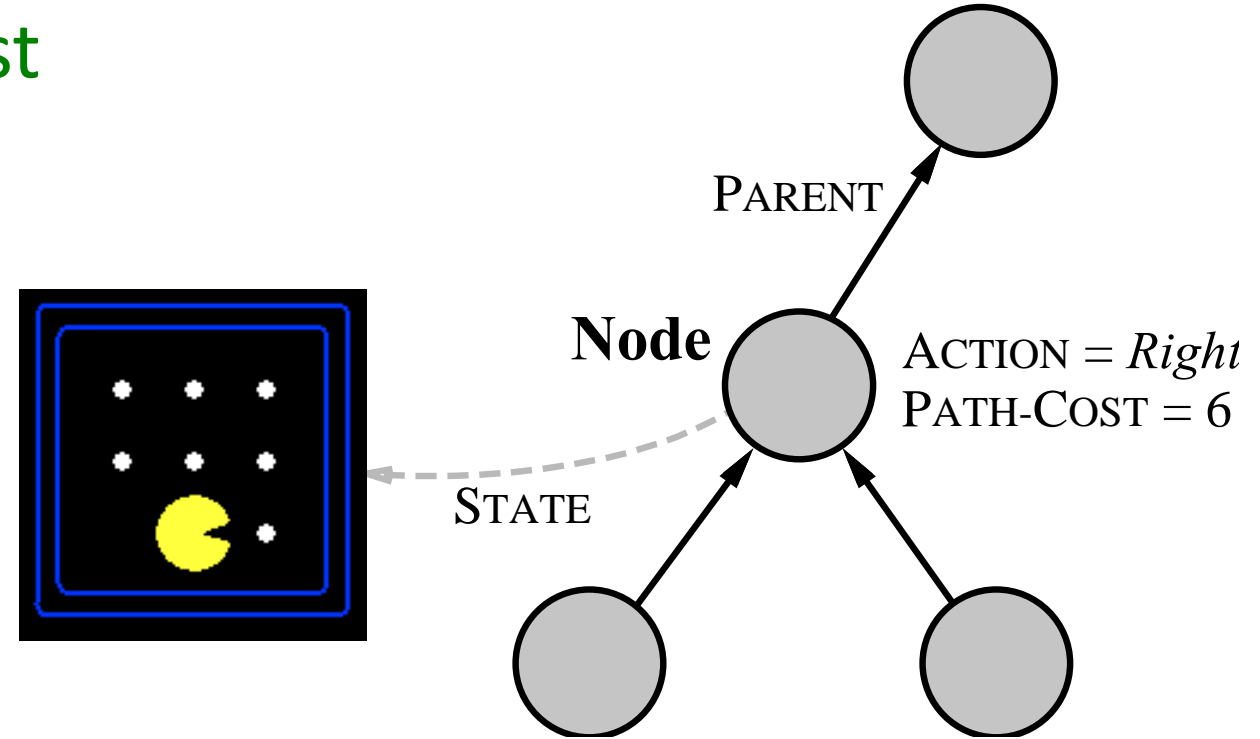
A child of node by action  $a$  has

state = `result(node.state,  $a$ )`

parent = `node`

action =  $a$

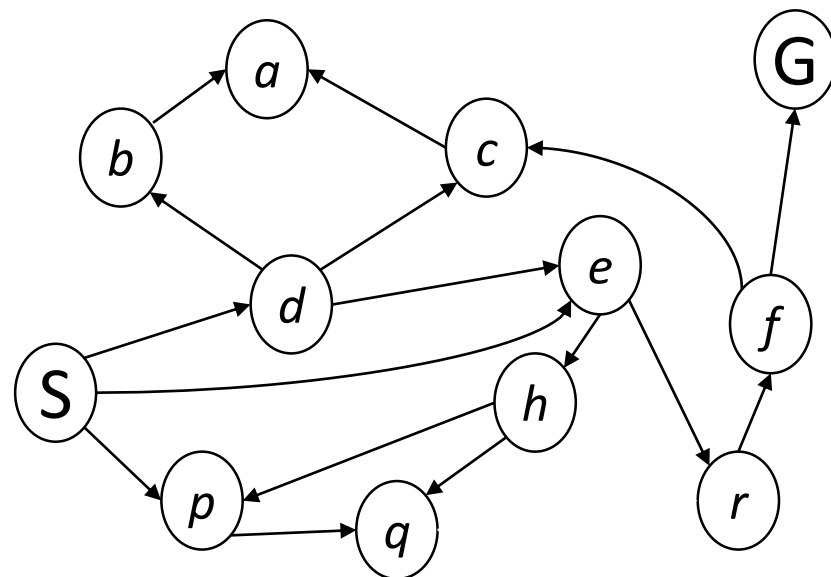
path-cost = `node.path_cost +`  
`step_cost(node.state,  $a$ , self.state)`



Extract solution by tracing back parent pointers, collecting actions

Q,Q,R,E,P	P	S,D,B,A,C,E,H	S-D-B-A-C-E-H-P
Q,R,E,P	Q	S,D,B,A,C,E,H,P,	Q
R,E,P	R	S,D,B,A,C,E,H,P,Q	S,D,B,A,C,E,H,P,Q,
F,E,P	F	S,D,B,A,C,E,H,P,Q,	R
G,E,P		F	S,D,B,A,C,E,H,P,Q,
	G=Goal		R,F

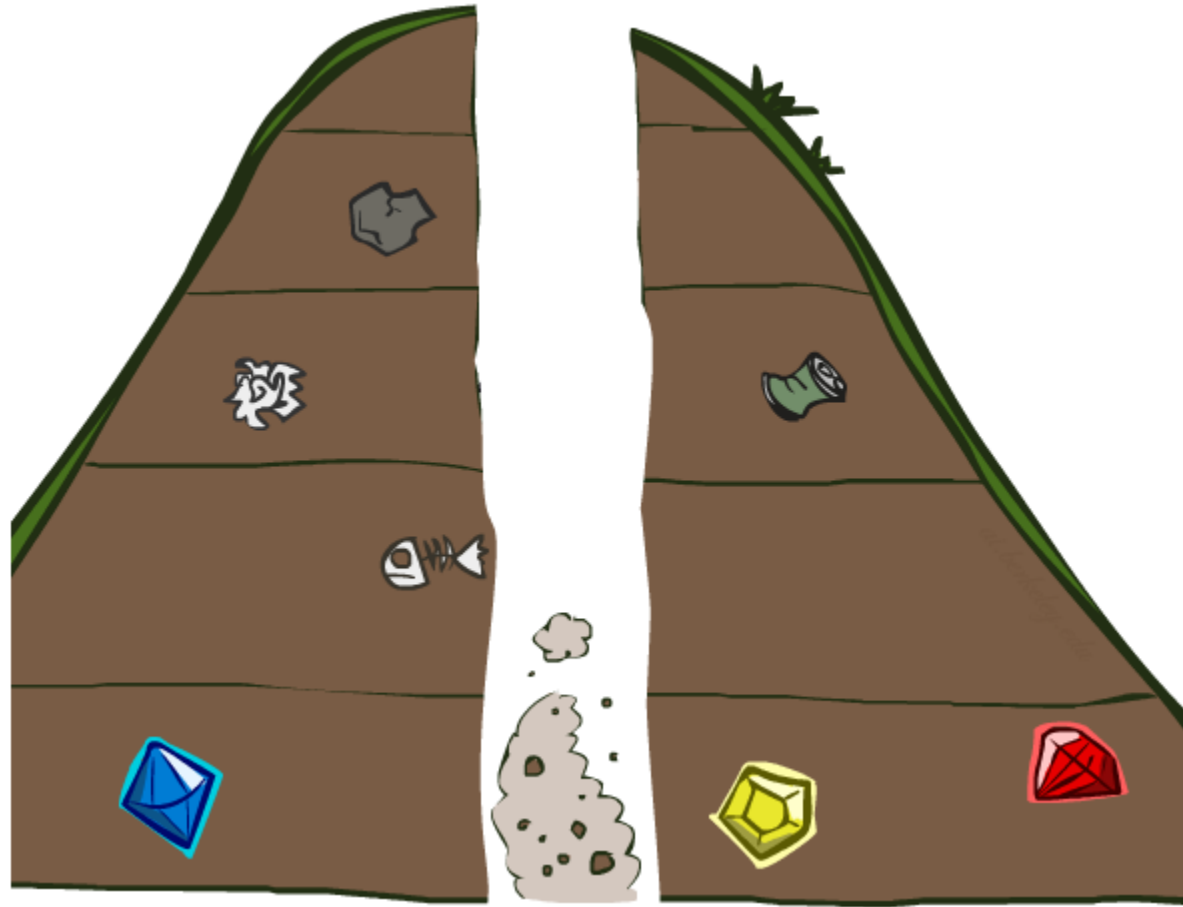
h



# BFS vs DFS

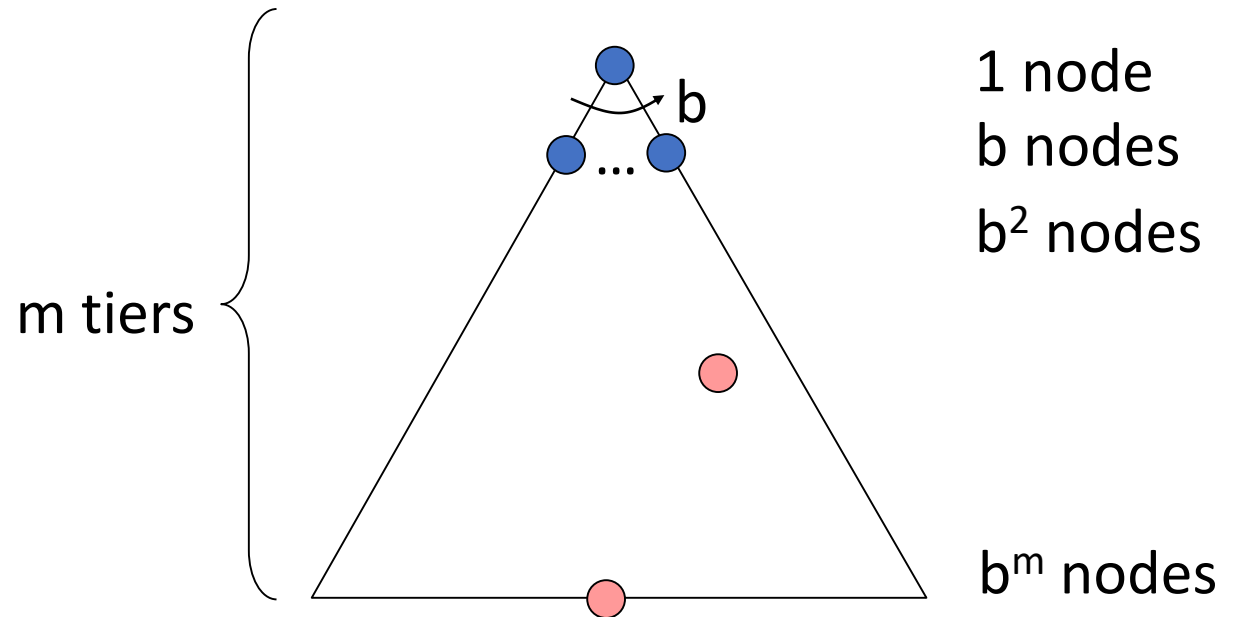
- When will BFS outperform DFS?
- When will DFS outperform BFS?

# Search Algorithm Properties



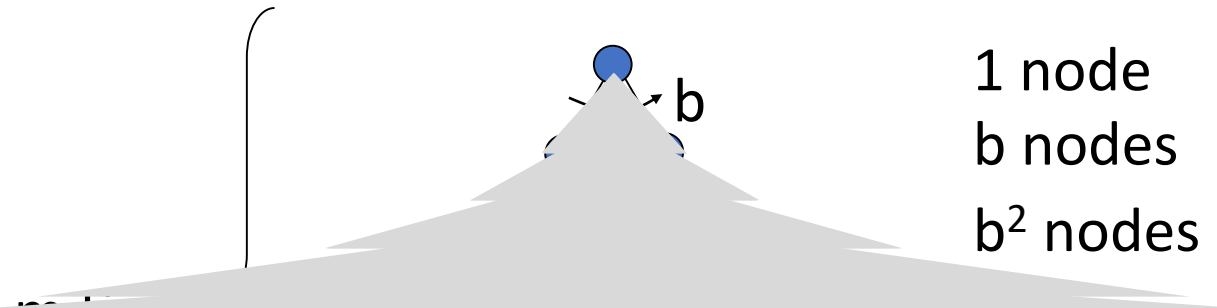
# Search Algorithm Properties

- Complete: Guaranteed to find a solution if one exists?
- Optimal: Guaranteed to find the least cost path?
- Time complexity?
- Space complexity?
- Cartoon of search tree:
  - $b$  is the branching factor
  - $m$  is the maximum depth
  - ● solutions at various depths
- Number of nodes in entire tree?
  - $1 + b + b^2 + \dots + b^m = O(b^{m+1})$



# Search Algorithm Properties

- Complete: Guaranteed to find a solution if one exists?
- Optimal: Guaranteed to find the least cost path?
- Time complexity?
- Space complexity?
- Cartoon of search tree:
  - $b$  is the branching factor



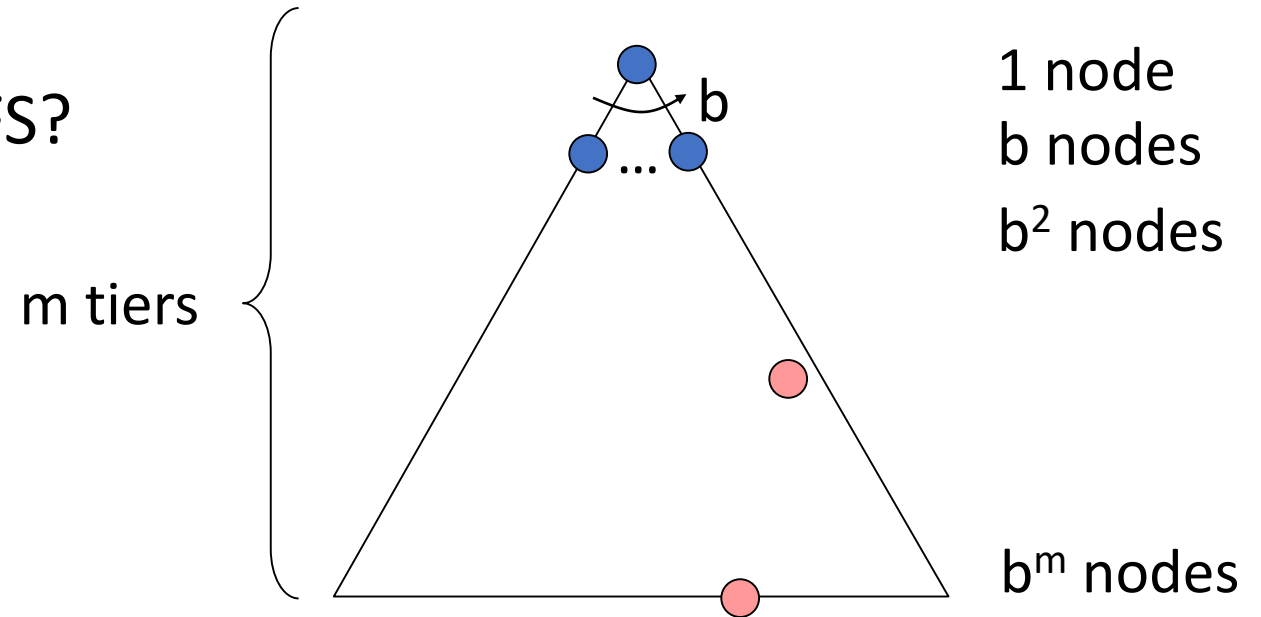
- Are these the properties for BFS or DFS?

- Takes  $O(b^m)$  time

- Uses  $O(bm)$  space on frontier

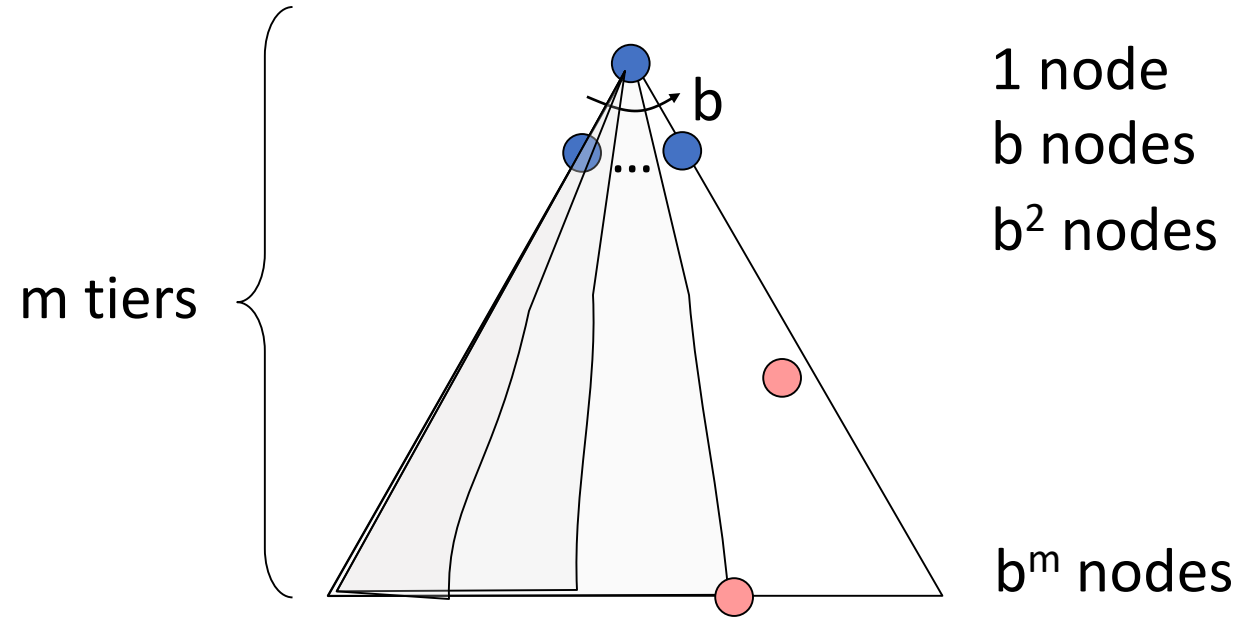
- Complete with graph search

- Not optimal unless all goals are in the same level  
(and the same step cost everywhere)



# Depth-First Search (DFS) Properties

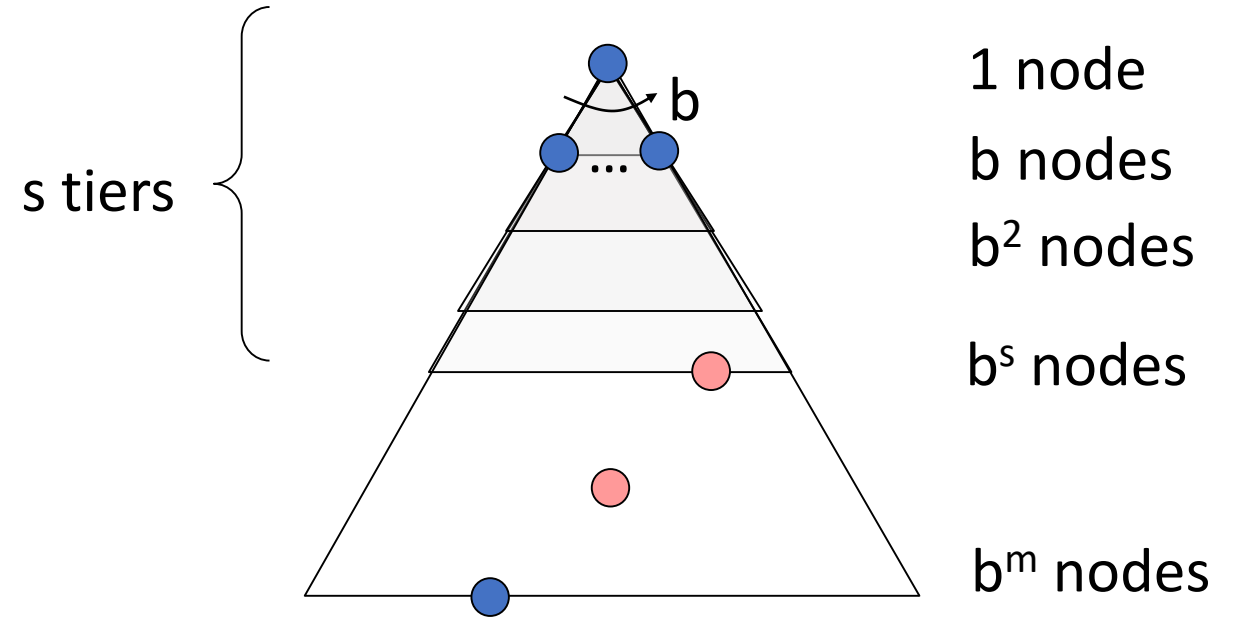
- What nodes does DFS expand?
  - Some left prefix of the tree.
  - Could process the whole tree!
  - If  $m$  is finite, takes time  $O(b^m)$
- How much space does the frontier take?
  - Only has siblings on path to root, so  $O(bm)$
- Is it complete?
  - $m$  could be infinite, so only if we prevent cycles (graph search)
- Is it optimal?
  - No, it finds the “leftmost” solution, regardless of depth or cost





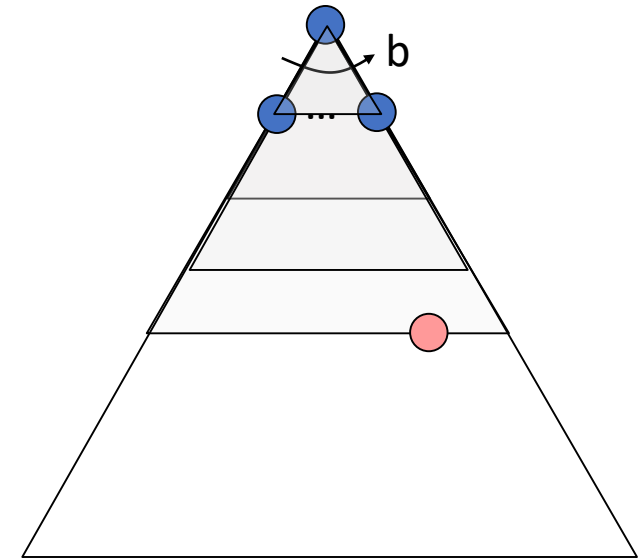
# Breadth-First Search (BFS) Properties

- What nodes does BFS expand?
  - Processes all nodes above shallowest solution
  - Let depth of shallowest solution be  $s$
  - Search takes time  $O(b^s)$
- How much space does the frontier take?
  - Has roughly the last tier, so  $O(b^s)$
- Is it complete?
  - $s$  must be finite if a solution exists, so yes!
- Is it optimal?
  - Only if costs are all the same (more on costs later)

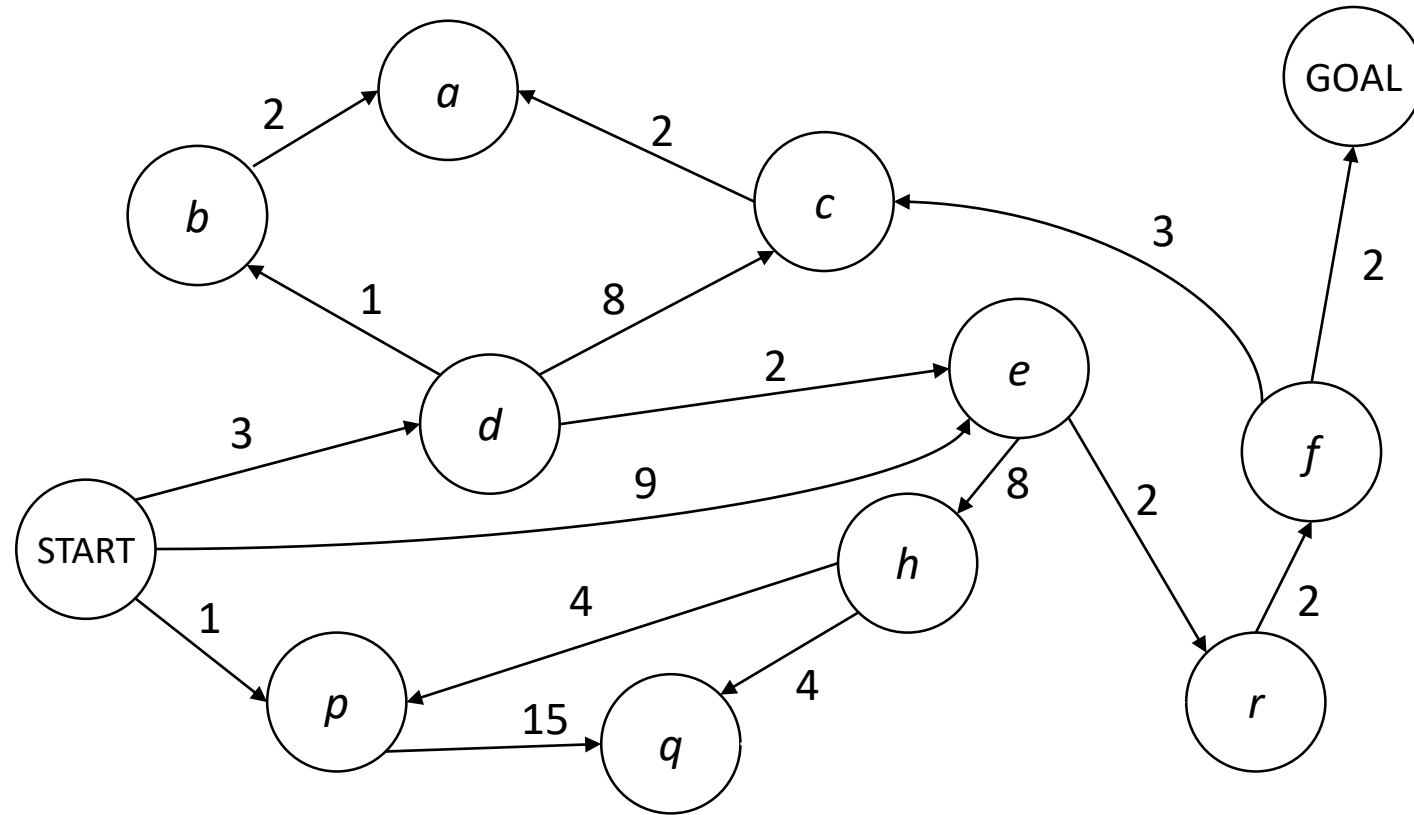


# Iterative Deepening

- Idea: get DFS's space advantage with BFS's time / shallow-solution advantages
  - Run a DFS with depth limit 1. If no solution...
  - Run a DFS with depth limit 2. If no solution...
  - Run a DFS with depth limit 3. ....
- Isn't that wastefully redundant?
  - Generally most work happens in the lowest level searched, so not so bad!



# Finding a Least-Cost Path

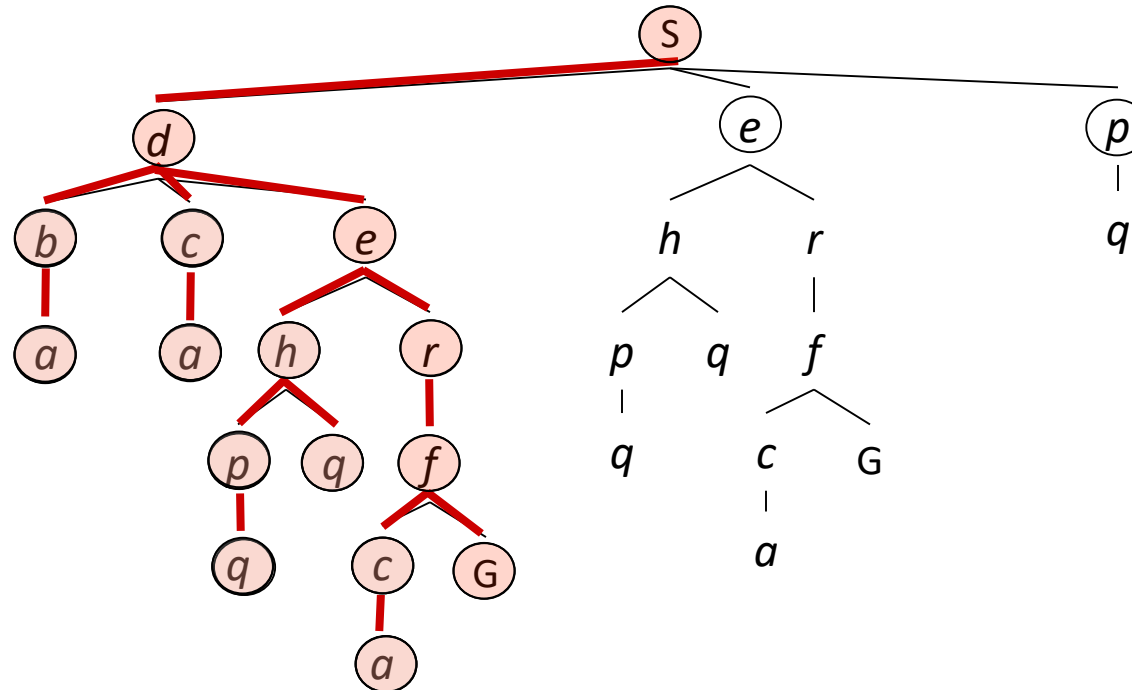
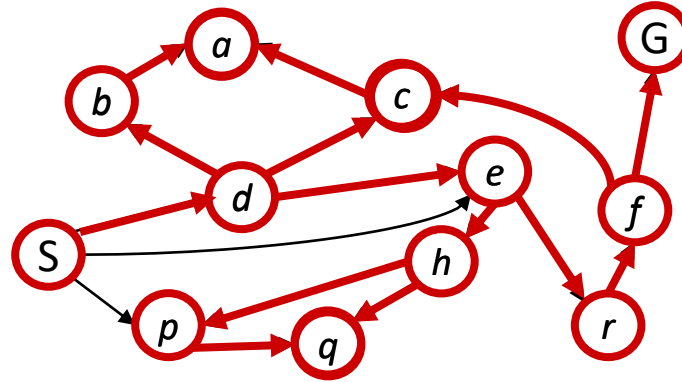


# Depth-First (Tree) Search

Strategy: expand a  
deepest node first

Implementation:

**Frontier is a LIFO stack**

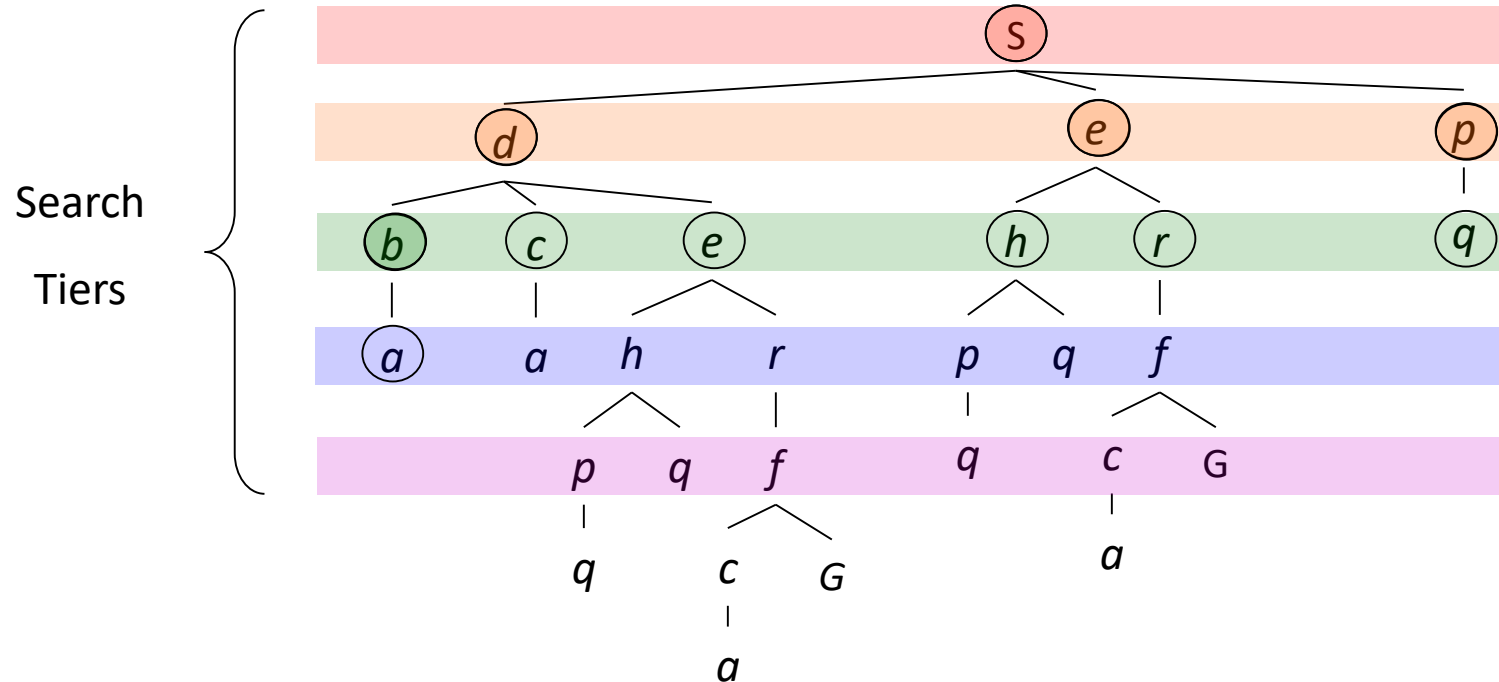
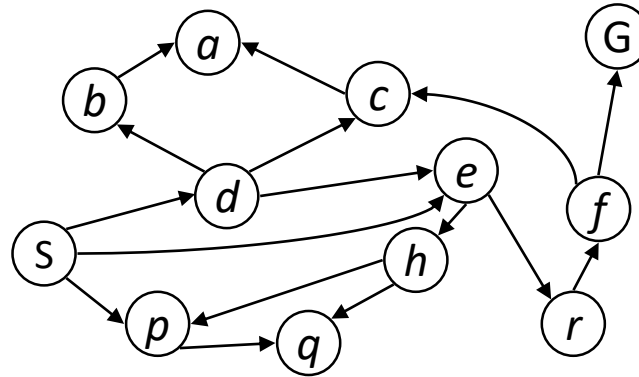


# Breadth-First (Tree) Search

Strategy: expand a  
shallowest node first

Implementation:

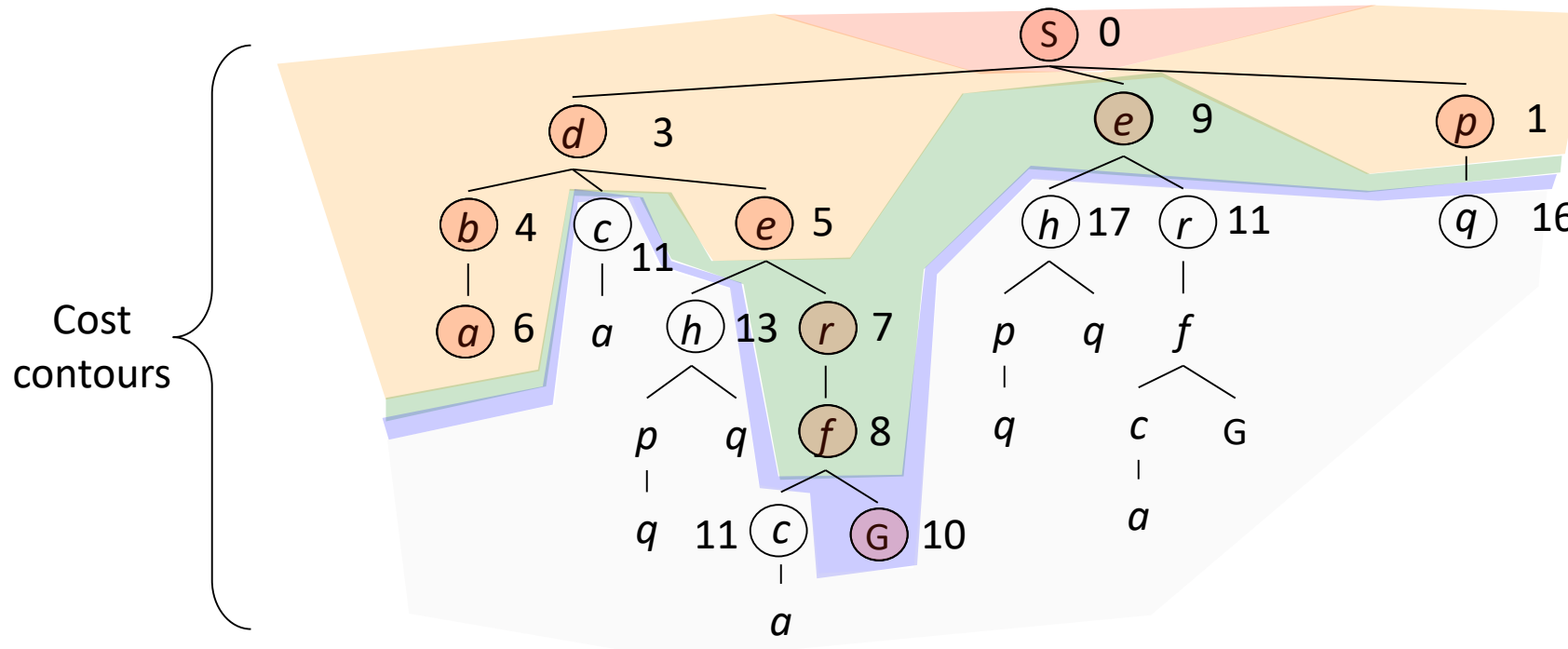
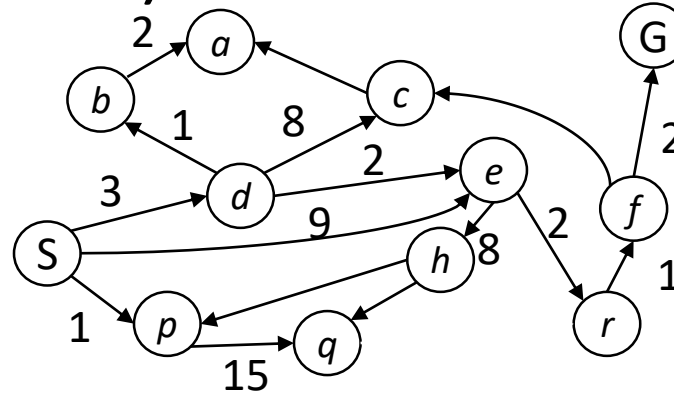
**Frontier is a FIFO queue**



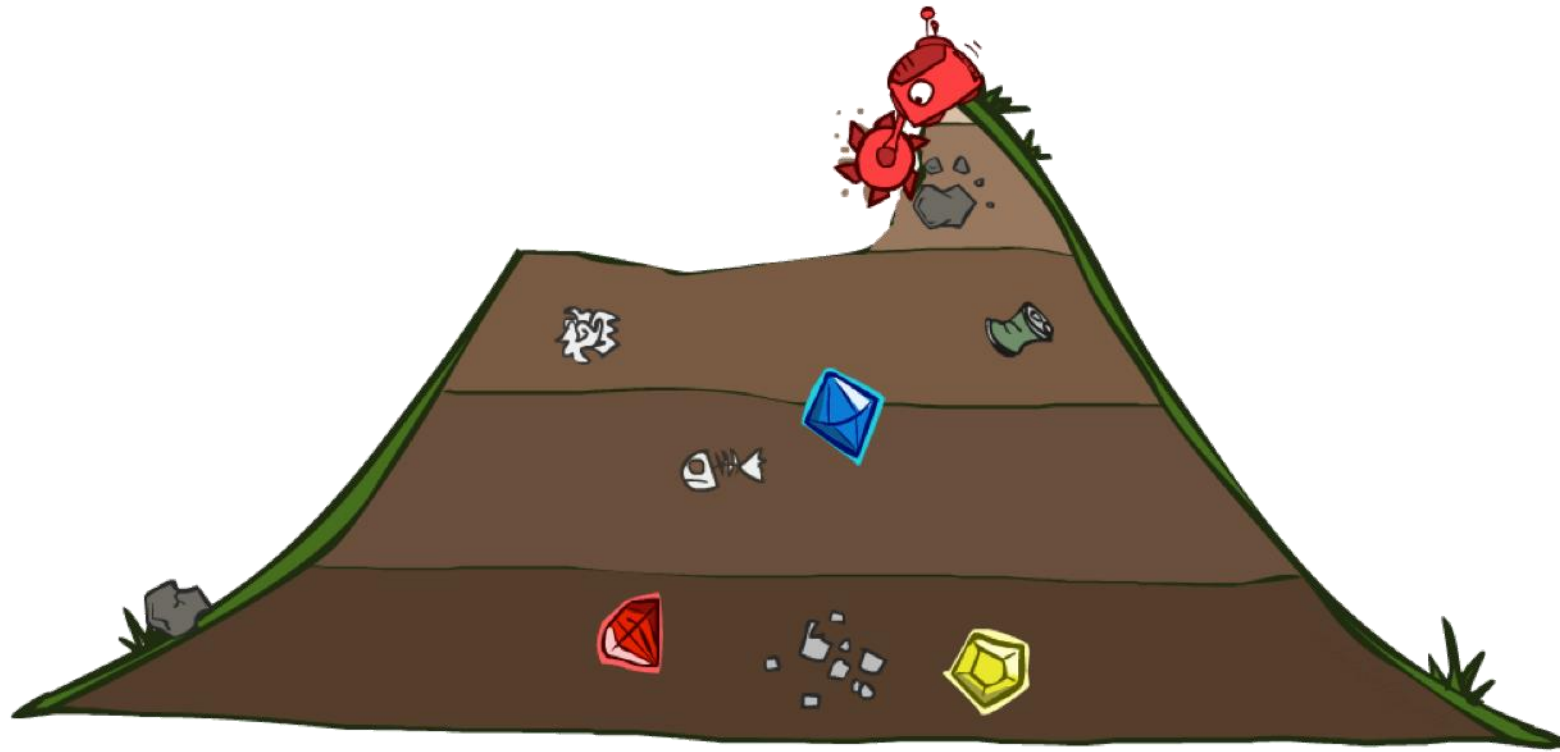
# Uniform Cost (Tree) Search

Strategy: expand a cheapest node first:

**Frontier is a priority queue**  
(priority: cumulative cost)



# Uniform Cost Search



function GRAPH\_SEARCH(problem) returns a solution, or failure

    initialize the explored set to be empty

    initialize the frontier as a specific work list (stack, queue, priority queue)

    add initial state of problem to frontier

  loop do

    if the frontier is empty then

      return failure

    choose a node and remove it from the frontier

    if the node contains a goal state then

      return the corresponding solution

    add the node state to the explored set

    for each resulting child from node

      if the child state is not already in the frontier or explored set then

        add child to the frontier



**function** UNIFORM-COST-SEARCH(**problem**) **returns** a solution, or failure

initialize the **explored set** to be empty

initialize the **frontier** as a **priority queue** using node **path\_cost** as the **priority**

add initial state of **problem** to **frontier** with **path\_cost** = 0

**loop do**

**if** the **frontier** is empty **then**

**return** failure

    choose a **node** and remove it from the **frontier**

**if** the **node** contains a goal state **then**

**return** the corresponding solution

    add the **node** state to the **explored set**

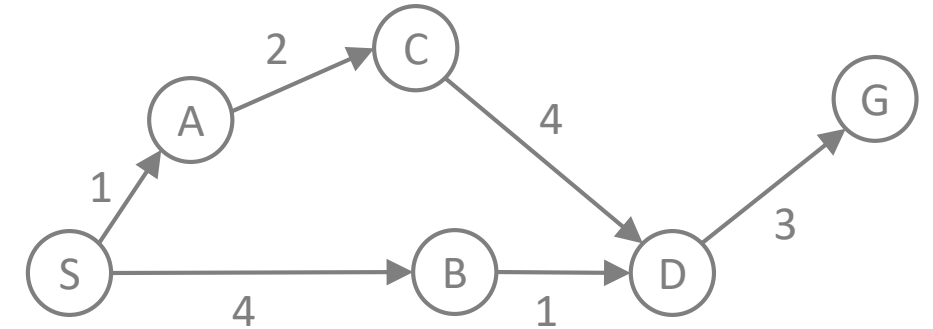
**for each** resulting **child** from node

**if** the **child** state is not already in the **frontier** or **explored set** **then**

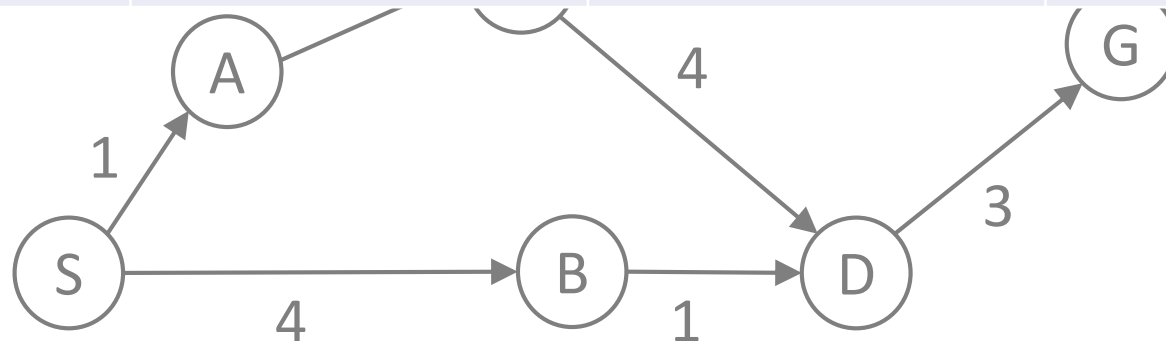
            add **child** to the **frontier**

**else if** the **child** is already in the **frontier** with higher **path\_cost** **then**

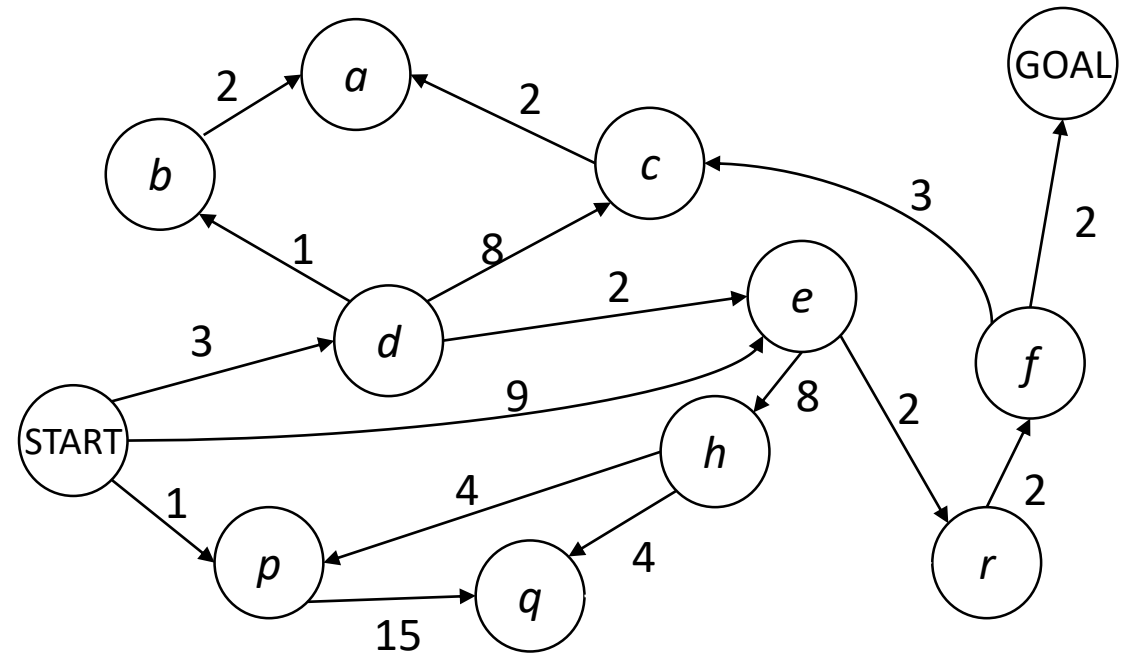
            replace that **frontier** node with **child**



Priotity Queue	Current Node	Explored\Close List	Path followed
A(1),B(4)	S		S
B(4), C(3)	A(1)	S	S-A
B(4), D(7)	C(3)	S,A	S-A-C
D(7),D(5)	B(4)	S,A,C	S-A-C-B
D(7), G(8)	D(5)	S,A,C,B	S-A-C-B-D
G(8)		S,A,C,B,D	
	G(8) = goal	S,A,C,B,D,G	S-A-C-B-D-G
Path = S-B-D-G Cost = 8			

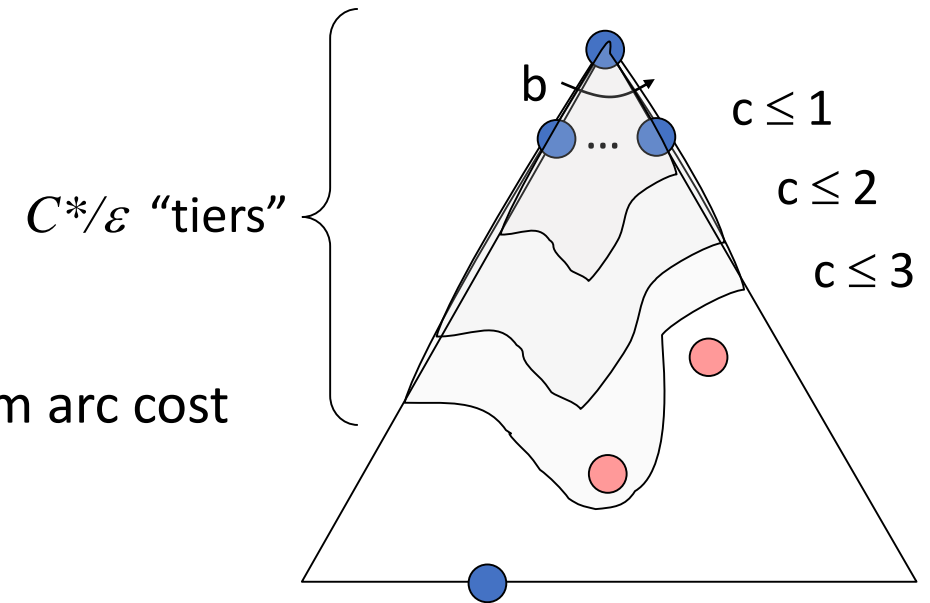


# Walk-through UCS



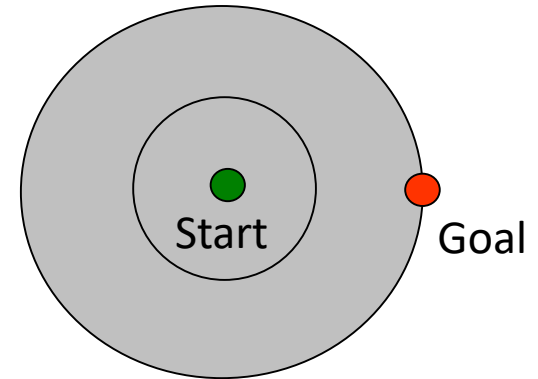
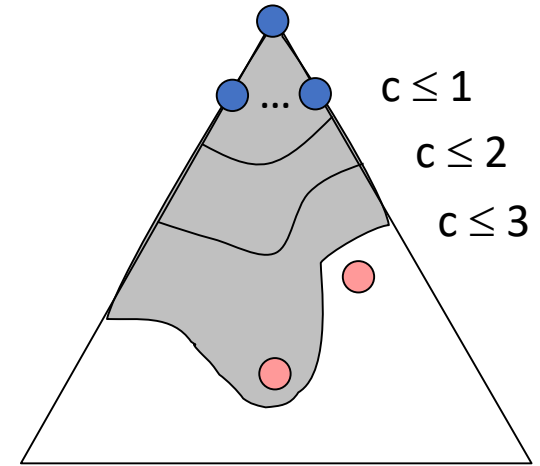
# Uniform Cost Search (UCS) Properties

- What nodes does UCS expand?
  - Processes all nodes with cost less than cheapest solution!
  - If that solution costs  $C^*$  and arcs cost at least  $\varepsilon$ , then the “effective depth” is roughly  $C^*/\varepsilon$
  - Takes time  $O(b^{C^*/\varepsilon})$  (exponential in effective depth)
- How much space does the frontier take?
  - Has roughly the last tier, so  $O(b^{C^*/\varepsilon})$
- Is it complete?
  - Assuming best solution has a finite cost and minimum arc cost is positive, yes!
- Is it optimal?
  - Yes! (Proof next lecture via  $A^*$ )



# Uniform Cost Issues

- Remember:
  - UCS explores increasing cost contours
- The good:
  - UCS is complete and optimal!
- The bad:
  - Explores options in every “direction”
  - No information about goal location
- We’ll fix that soon!





- Notes added on LMS
- <https://www.oreilly.com/library/view/graph-algorithms/9781492047674/ch04.html>







**We become what we behold.  
We shape our tools,  
and thereafter our tools shape us.  
- Marshall McLuhan**