

AIE111 :

Artificial Intelligence

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Lecture 3:

Solving Problems by Searching Algorithm

Searching Algorithm in AI: **Types**

Traversal vs Search

- Traversal: Visit each node once
- Search: Find a path between two nodes

Uninformed Search

- breadth-first
- uniform-cost search
- depth-first
- depth-limited search
- iterative deepening
- bi-directional search

Informed Search

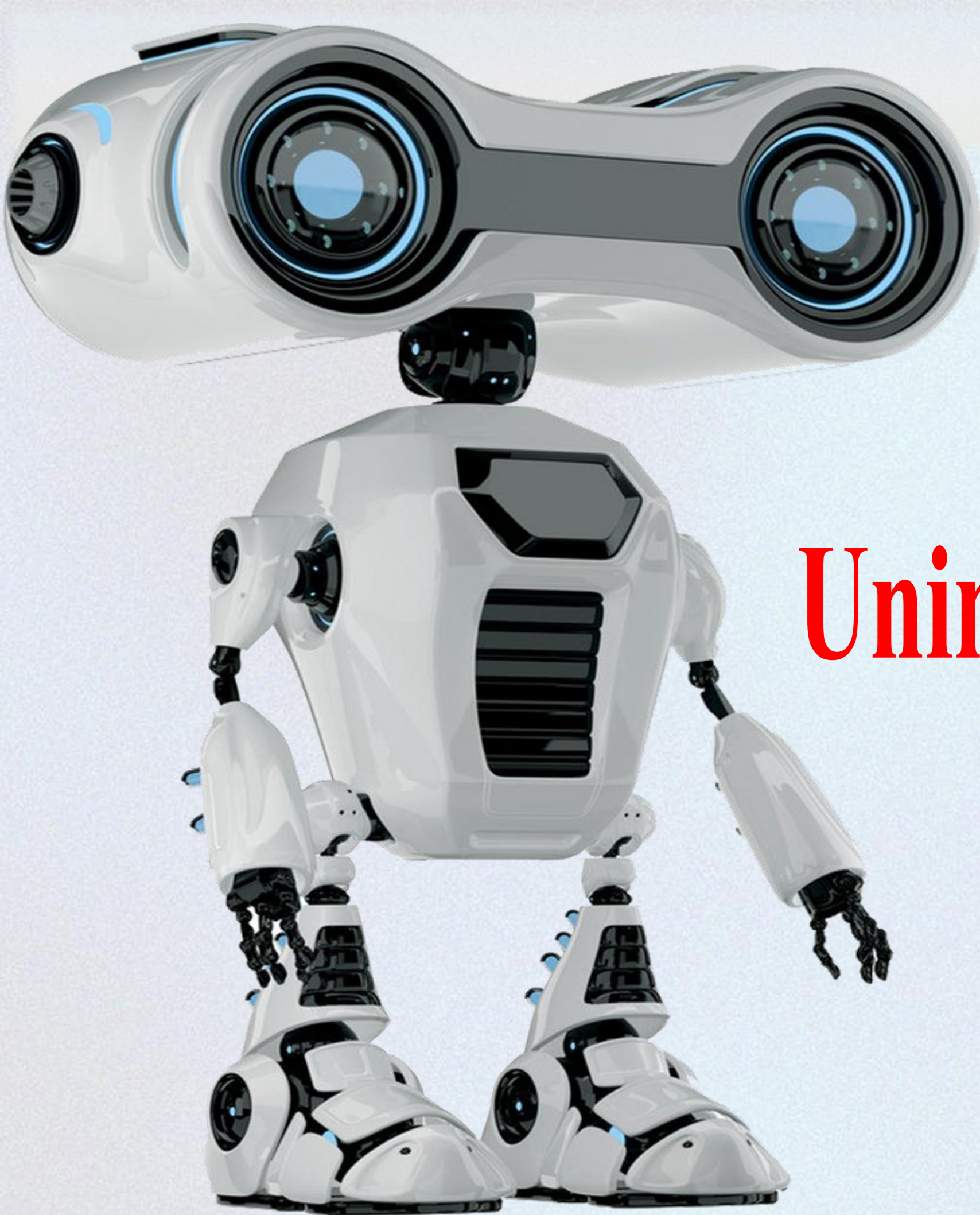
- best-first search
- search with heuristics
- memory-bounded search
- iterative improvement search

Blind Algorithm

- ✓ Number of steps, path cost **unknown**
- ✓ Agent knows when it reaches a goal

heuristic search

- ✓ Agent has **background information** about the problem

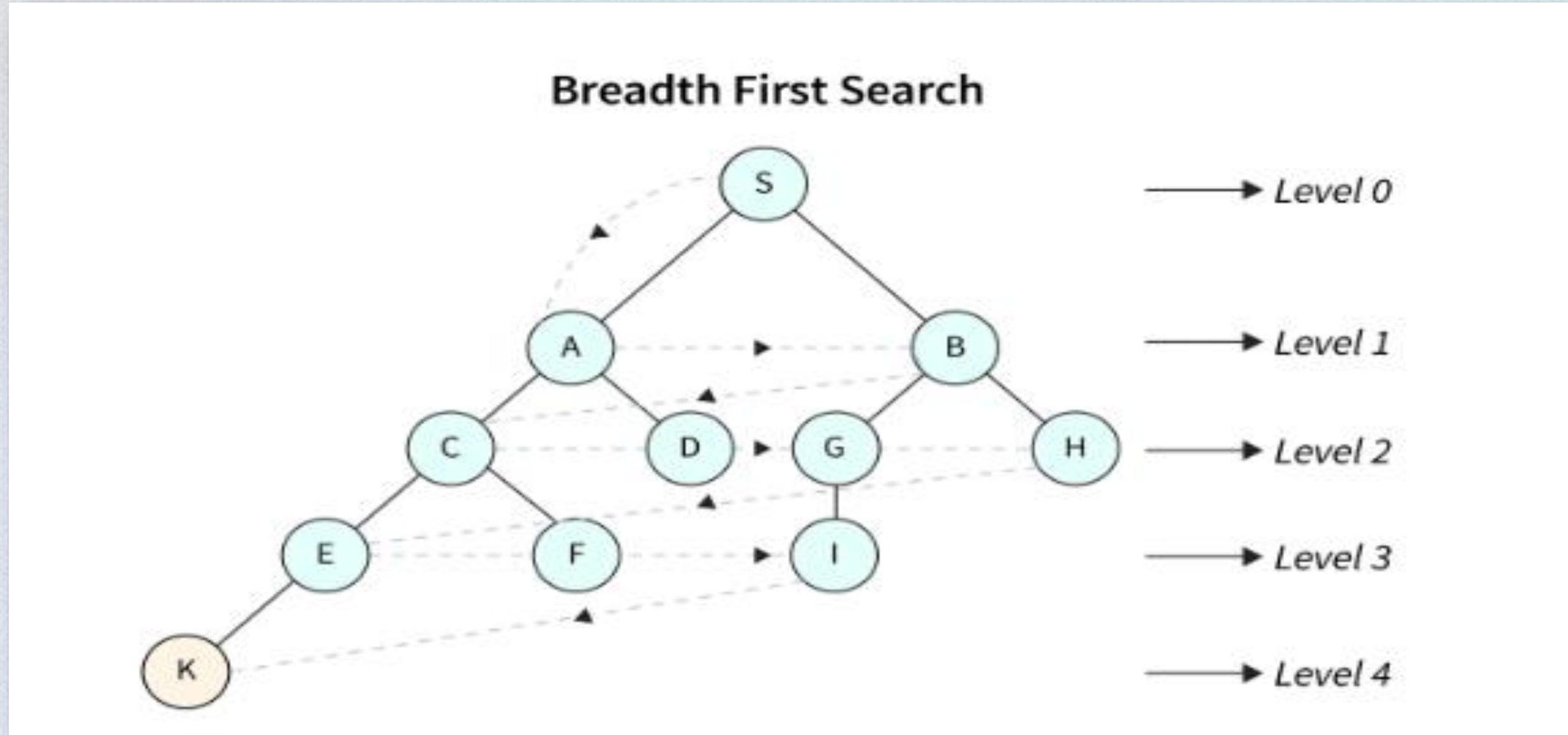


Uninformed Search Strategies

1. Breadth-first search (BFS)

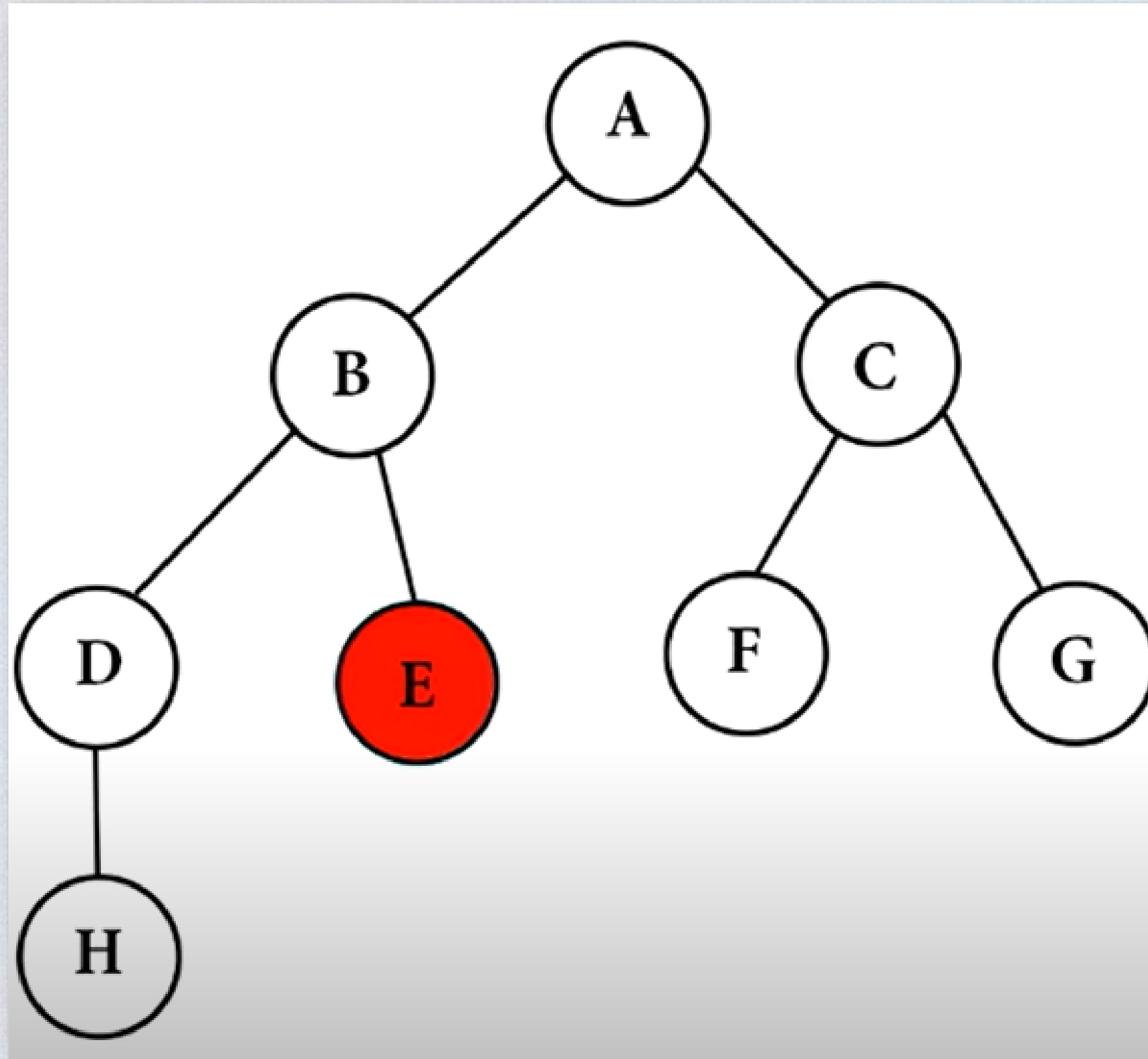
Breadth-First Search (BFS): A graph or tree search method that starts at the **root** and **explores all nodes** at the current depth before moving to the next level.

It uses a **FIFO queue** and is a **complete algorithm**, guaranteeing a solution if one exists.



Example:

Breadth-First Search (BFS), Goal = E



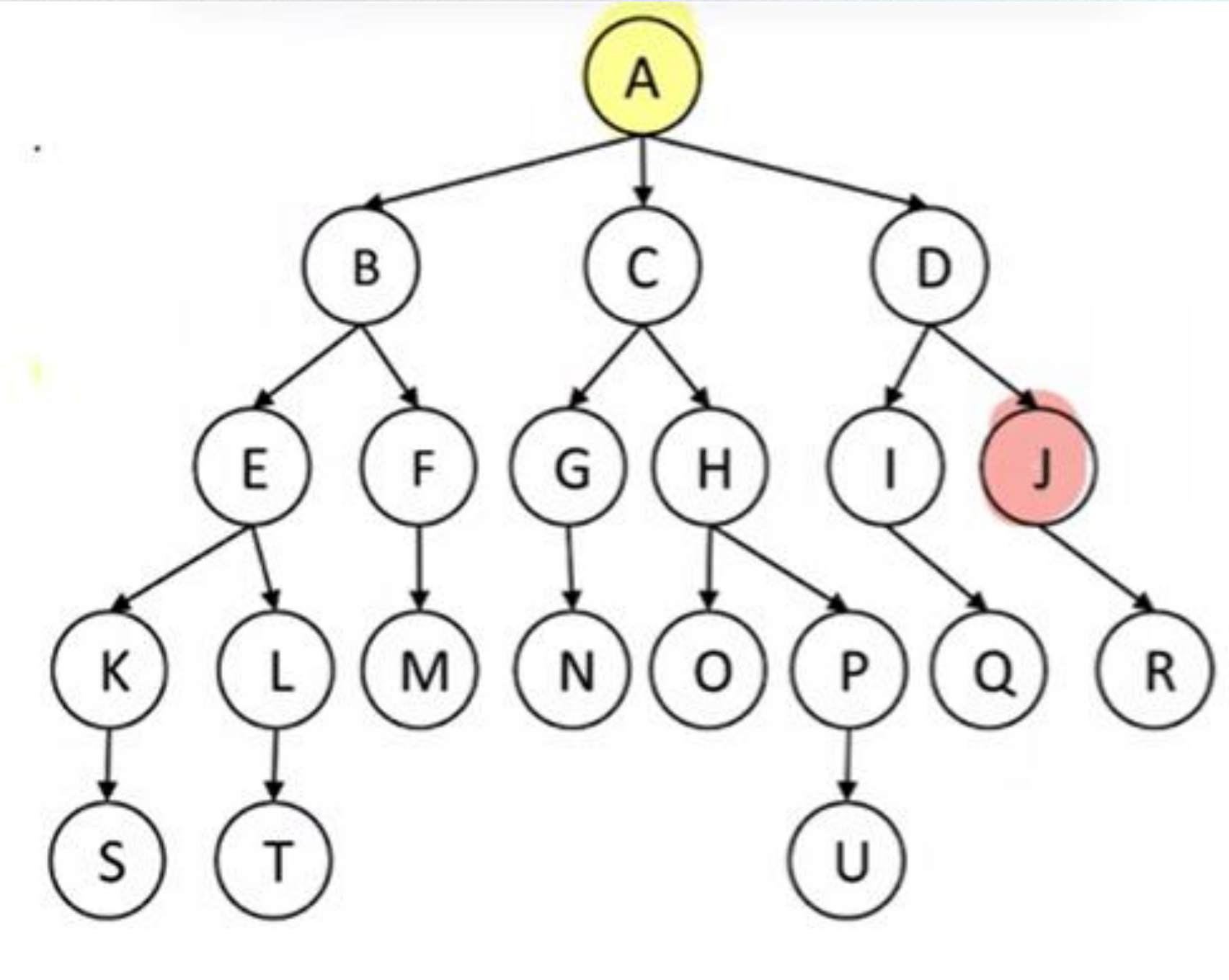
Solution →

<u>Visited</u>	<u>Queue</u>
—	A
A	B C
B	C D E
C	D E F G
D	E F G H
E	Goal

Complete : no
Optimal: no
Time Complexity: $O(b^m)$
Space Complexity: $O(bm)$
Implementation: Stack {LIFO}

Example:

Breadth-First Search (BFS), Goal = j

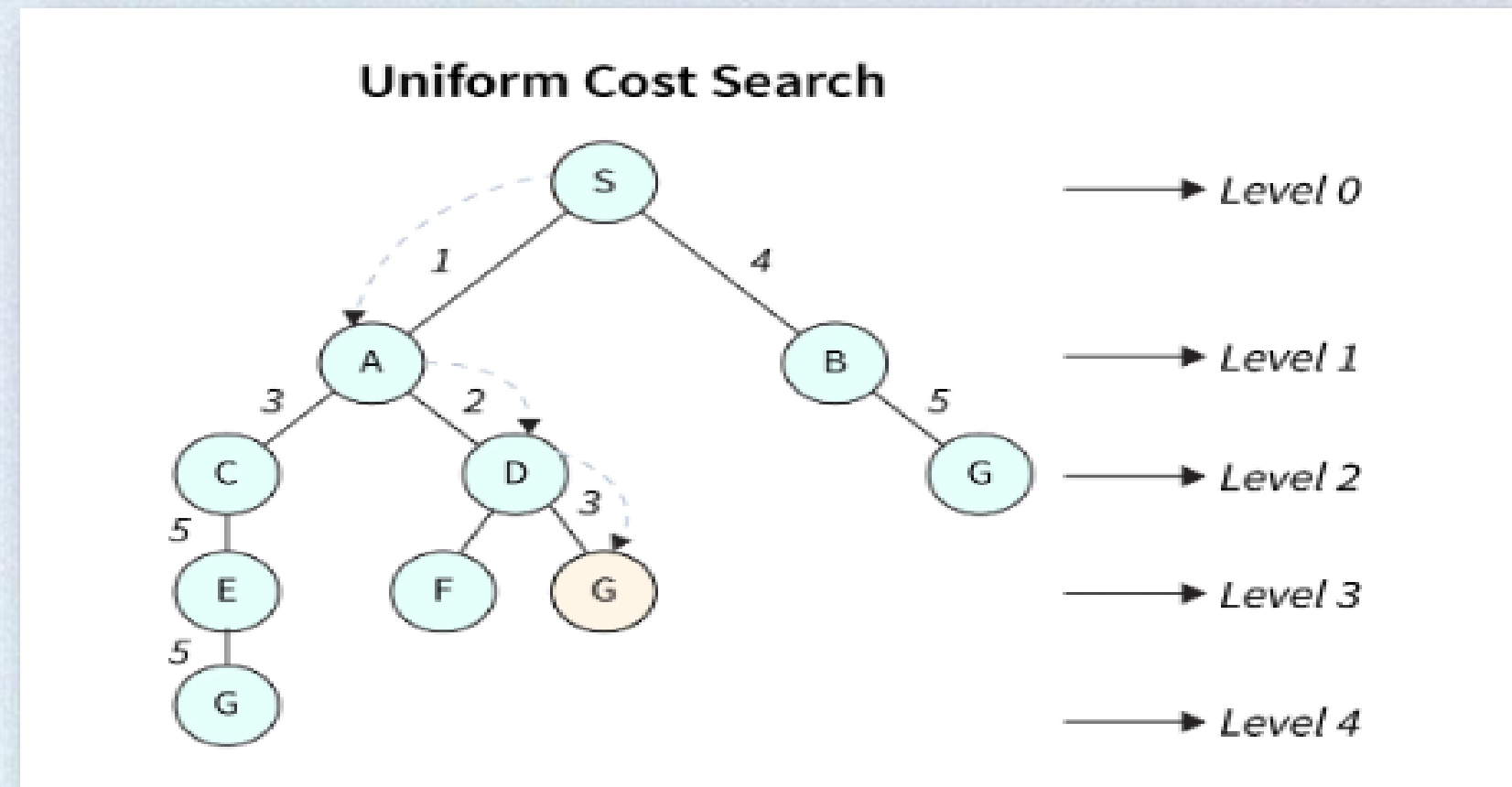


Solution

<u>Visited</u>	<u>Queue</u>
-	A
A	B C D
B	C D E F
C	D E F G H
D	E F G H I J
E	F G H I J K L
F	G H I J K L M
G	H I J K L M N
H	I J K L M N O P
I	J K L M N O P Q
J	Goal

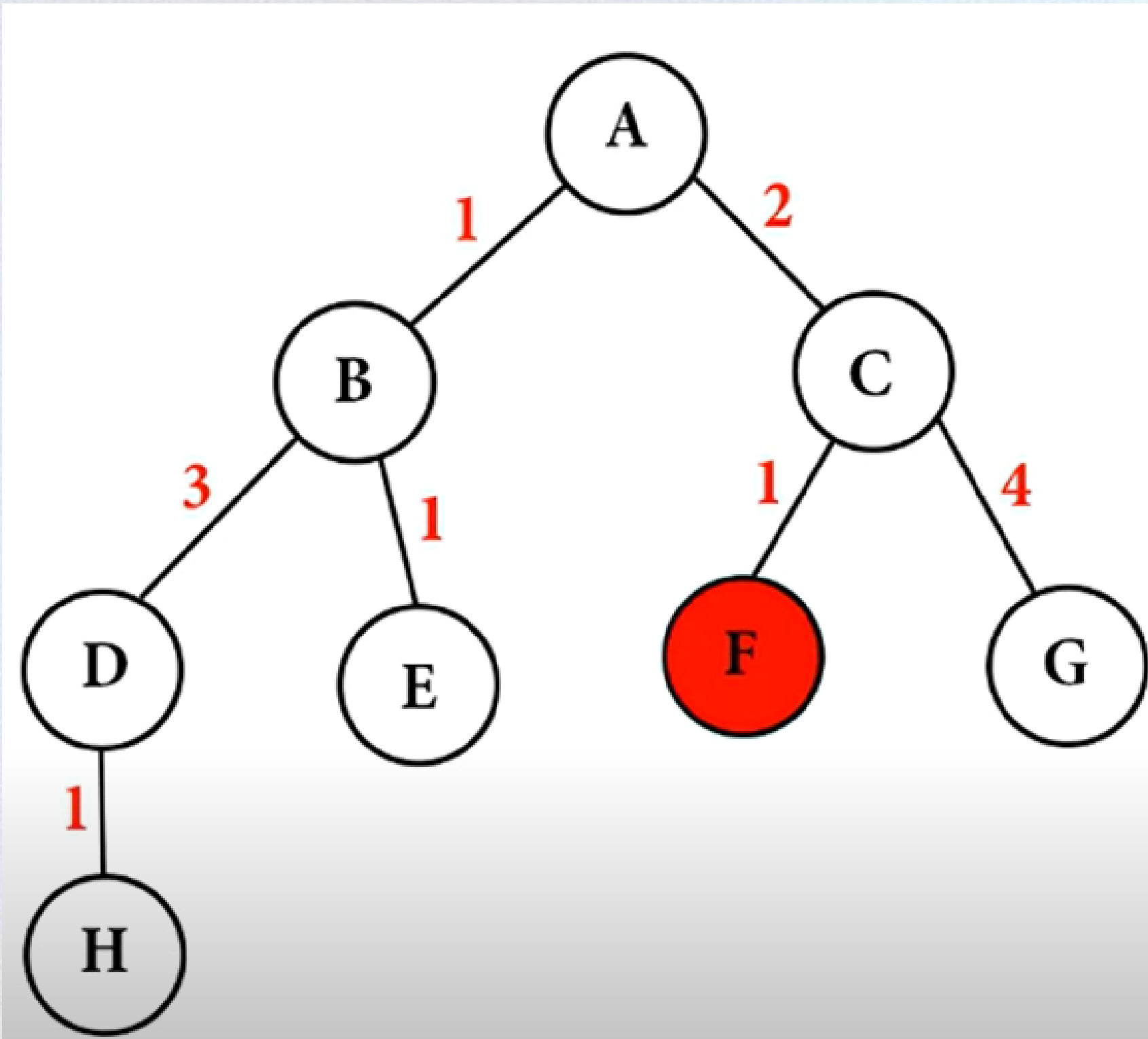
2. Uniform-Cost-First (UCS)

- ✓ A search algorithm that **prioritizes the lowest-cost path** when multiple paths exist.
- ✓ Visits the **next** node which has the **least** total cost from the root, until **agoal** state is reached.
It ensures **optimality** if **no negative costs** are present
and **completeness** if states are **finite** with **no zero-weight loops**.
- ✓ **UCS behaves like BFS when all transitions have equal costs.**
- ✓ $g(n) = \text{path cost}(n) = \text{sum of individual edge costs to reach the current node.}$

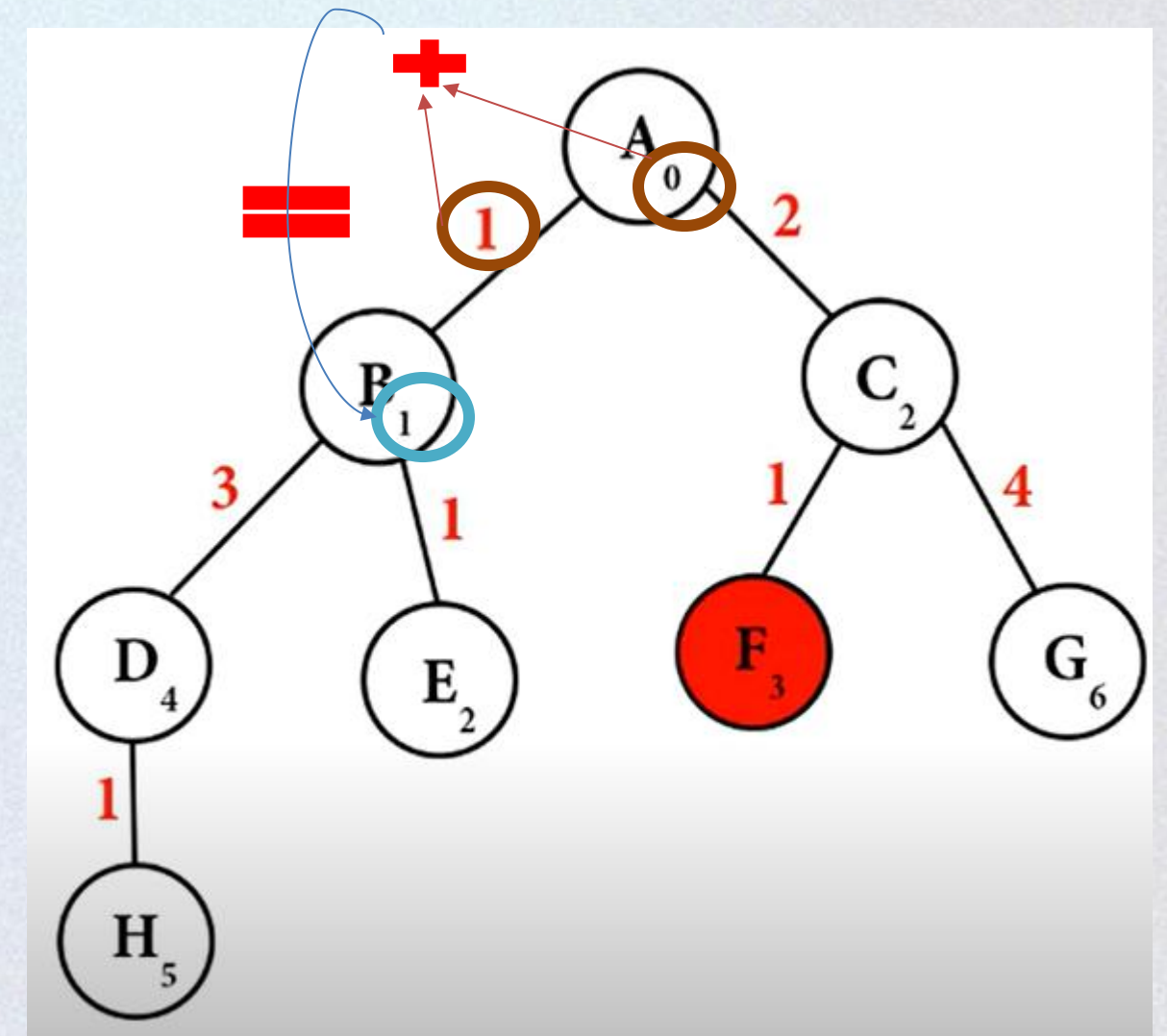


Example:

Uniform-Cost-First (UCS), Goal = F



Solution

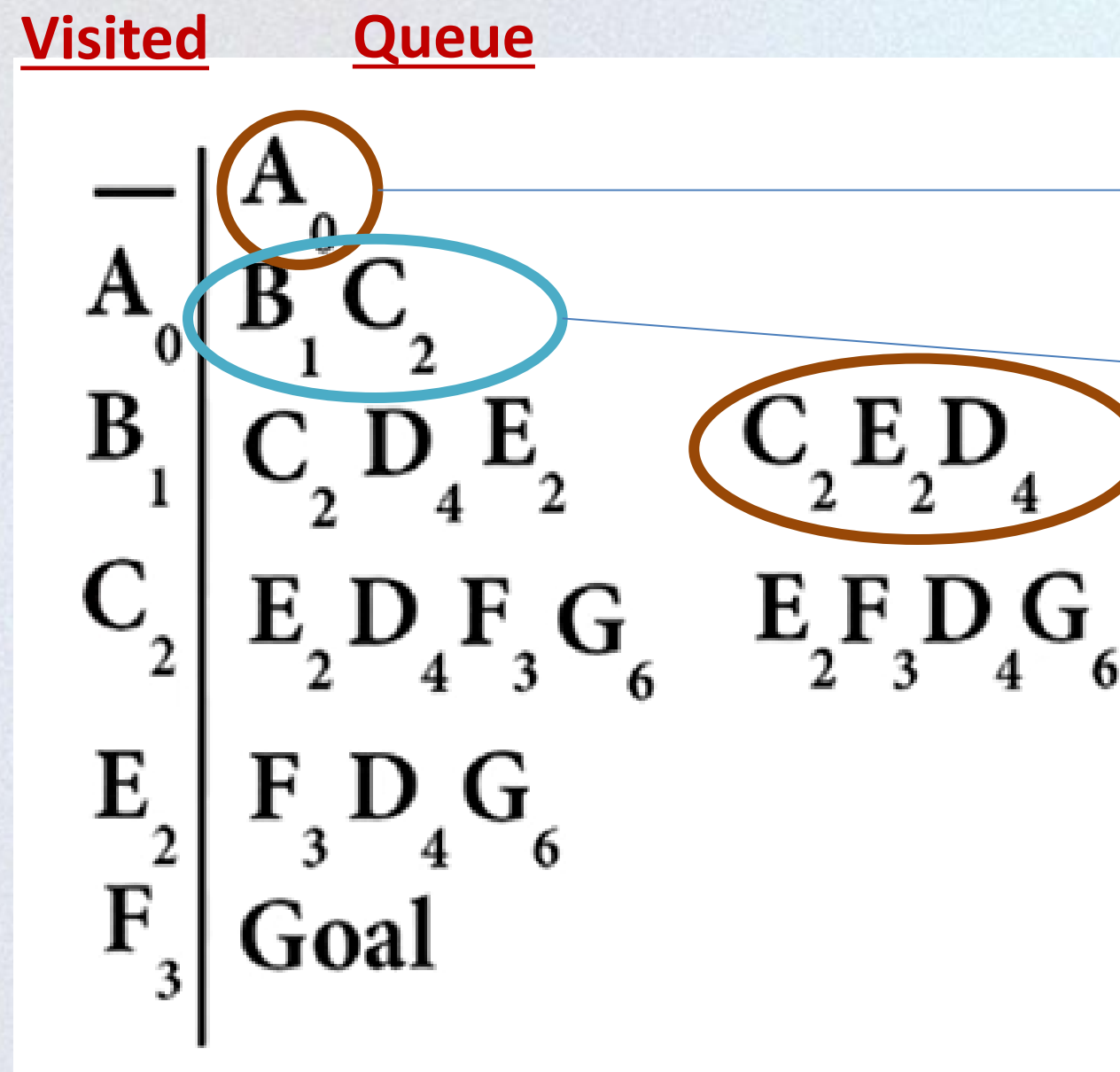


1st, calculate cost for each node, start with Root then level by level, where root cost = 0

Example:

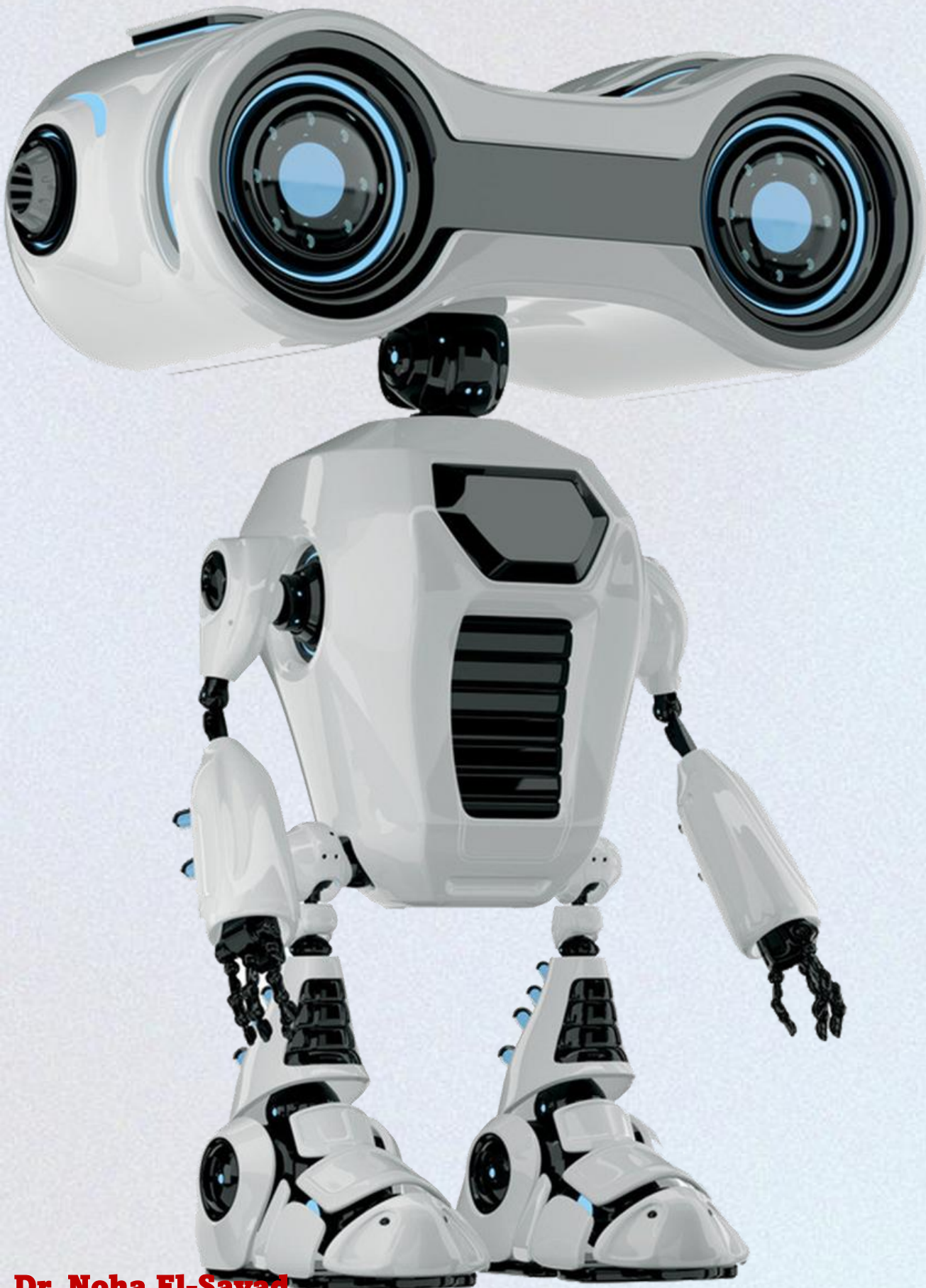
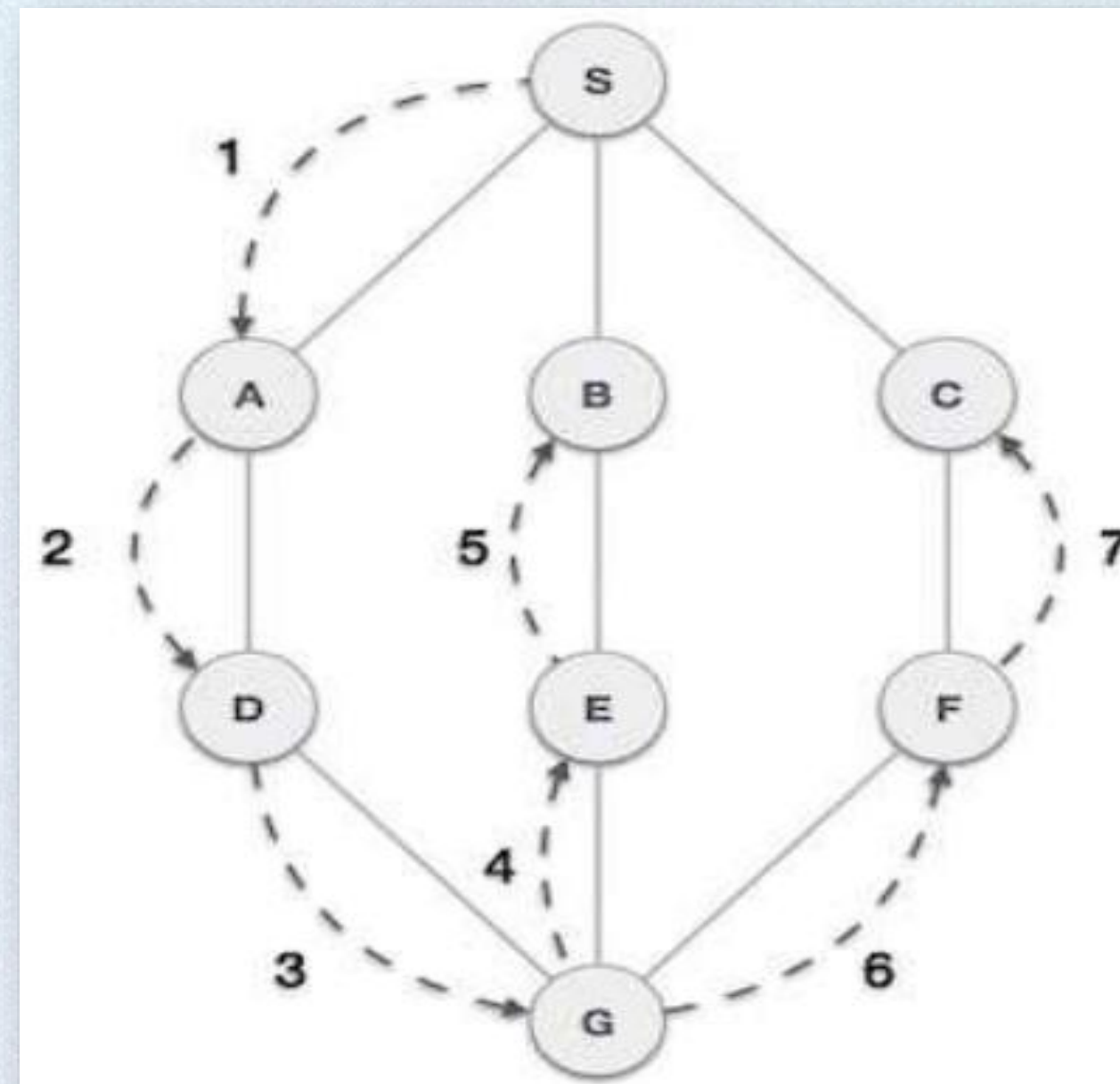
Uniform-Cost-First (UCS), Goal = F

2nd, Start the queue with the **root** node based on its **cost**. Then, mark the root as visited and enqueue its **children**, arranging each child's cost in **ascending** order.



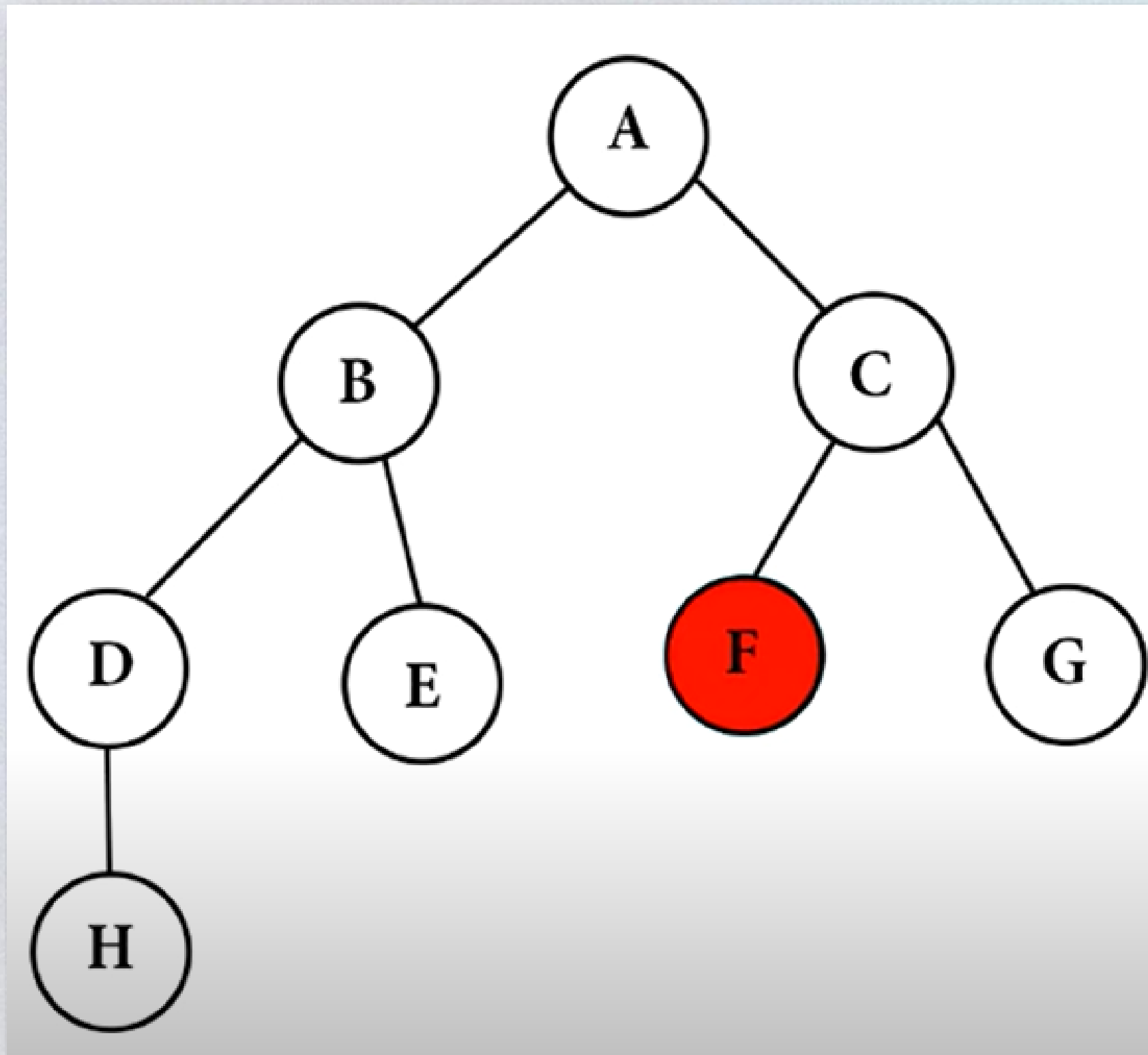
3. Depth-first search (DFS)

- ✓ A graph or tree traversal algorithm that **starts at the root** node and explores branch nodes **deeply** before backtracking.
- ✓ For example, in the figure shown: DFS traverses S, A, D, G, E, B before **backtracking** to E to G and then **visiting** F then C.
- ✓ Backtracking is implemented using a **(LIFO)** stack for implementation.



Example:

Depth-first search (DFS), Goal = F

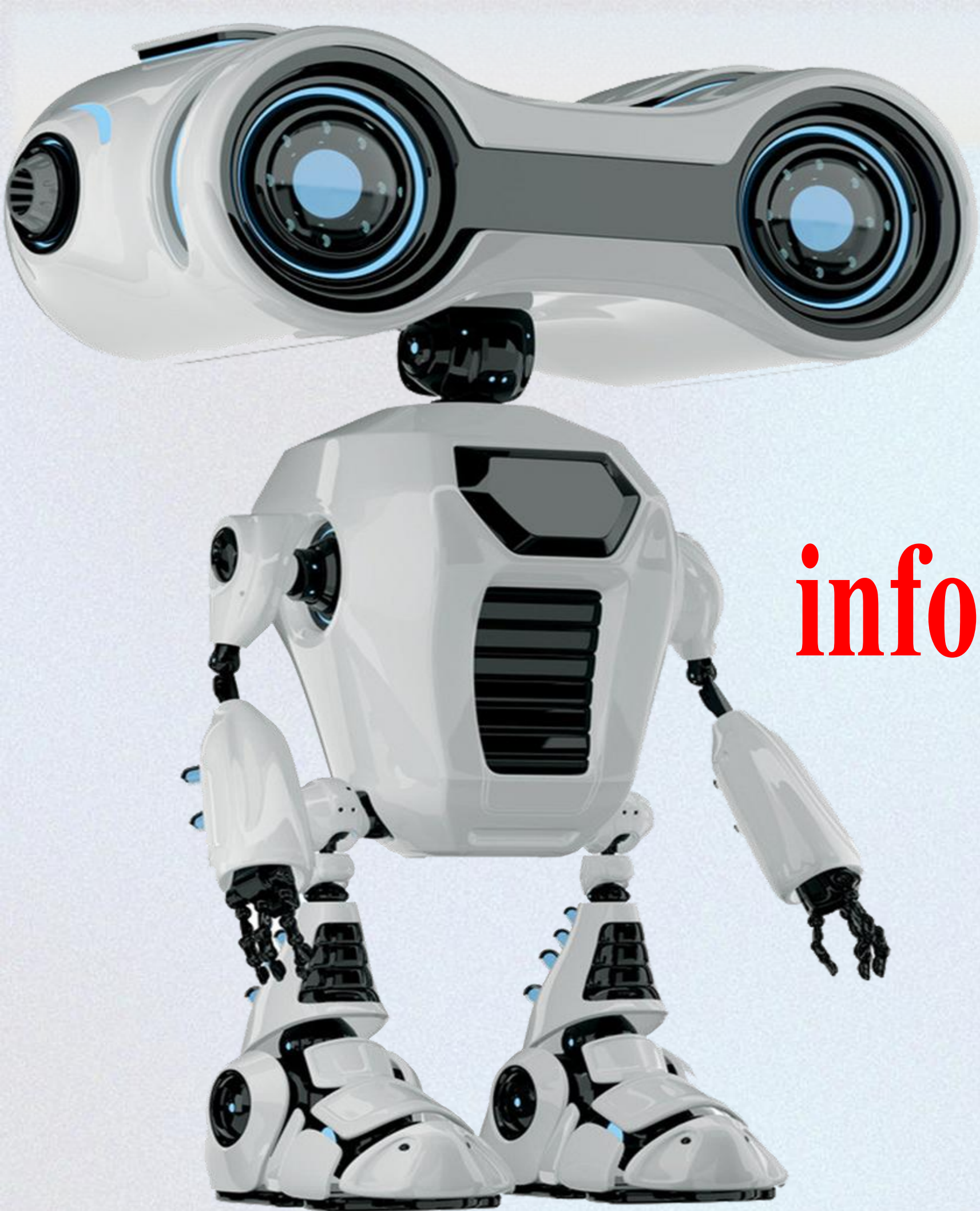


Solution

Visited

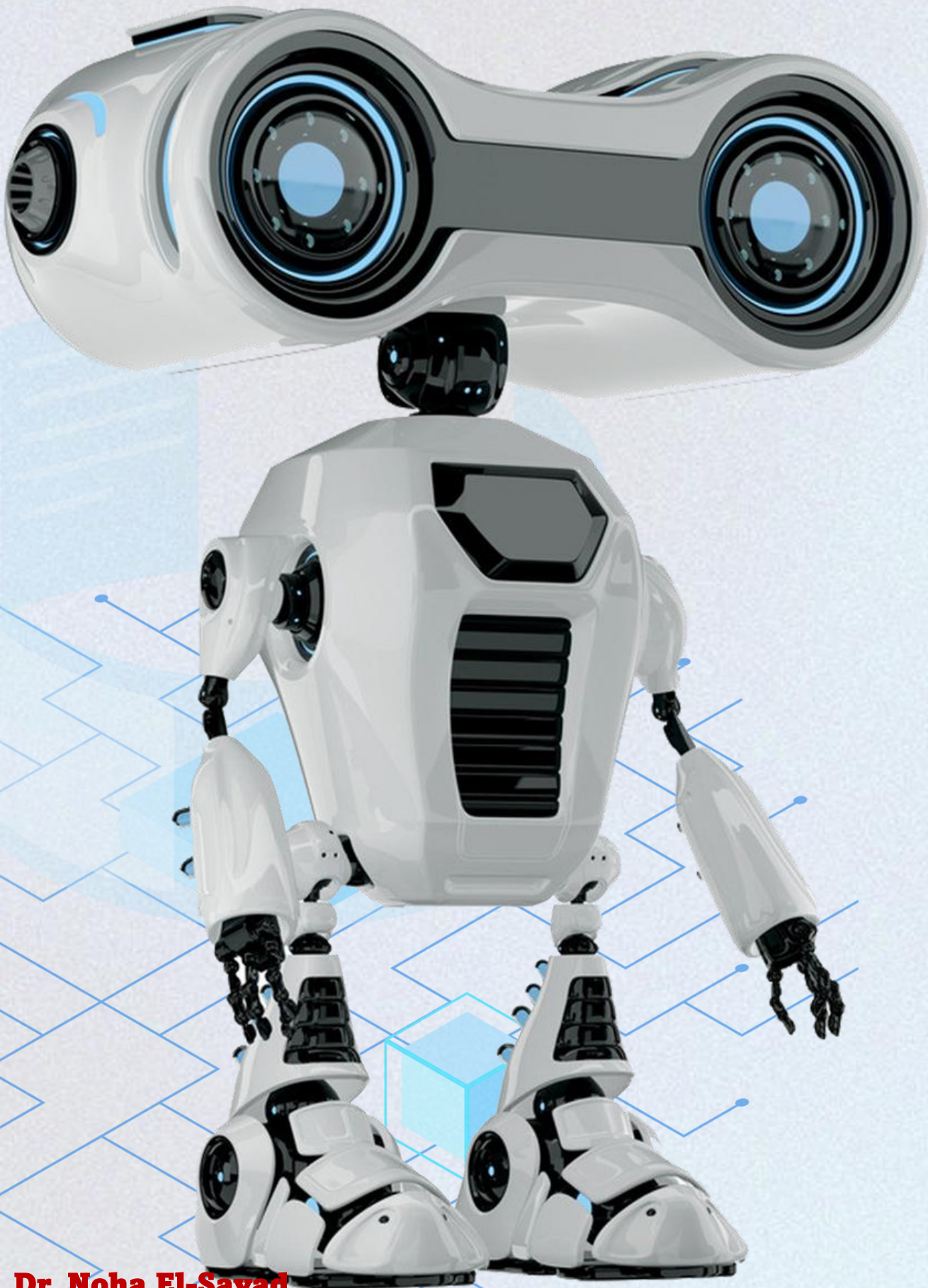
Queue

—	A	→	Root
A	B C	→	Children of A
B	D E C	→	Place Children of B at first
D	H E C		
H	E C		
E	C		
C	F G		
F	Goal		



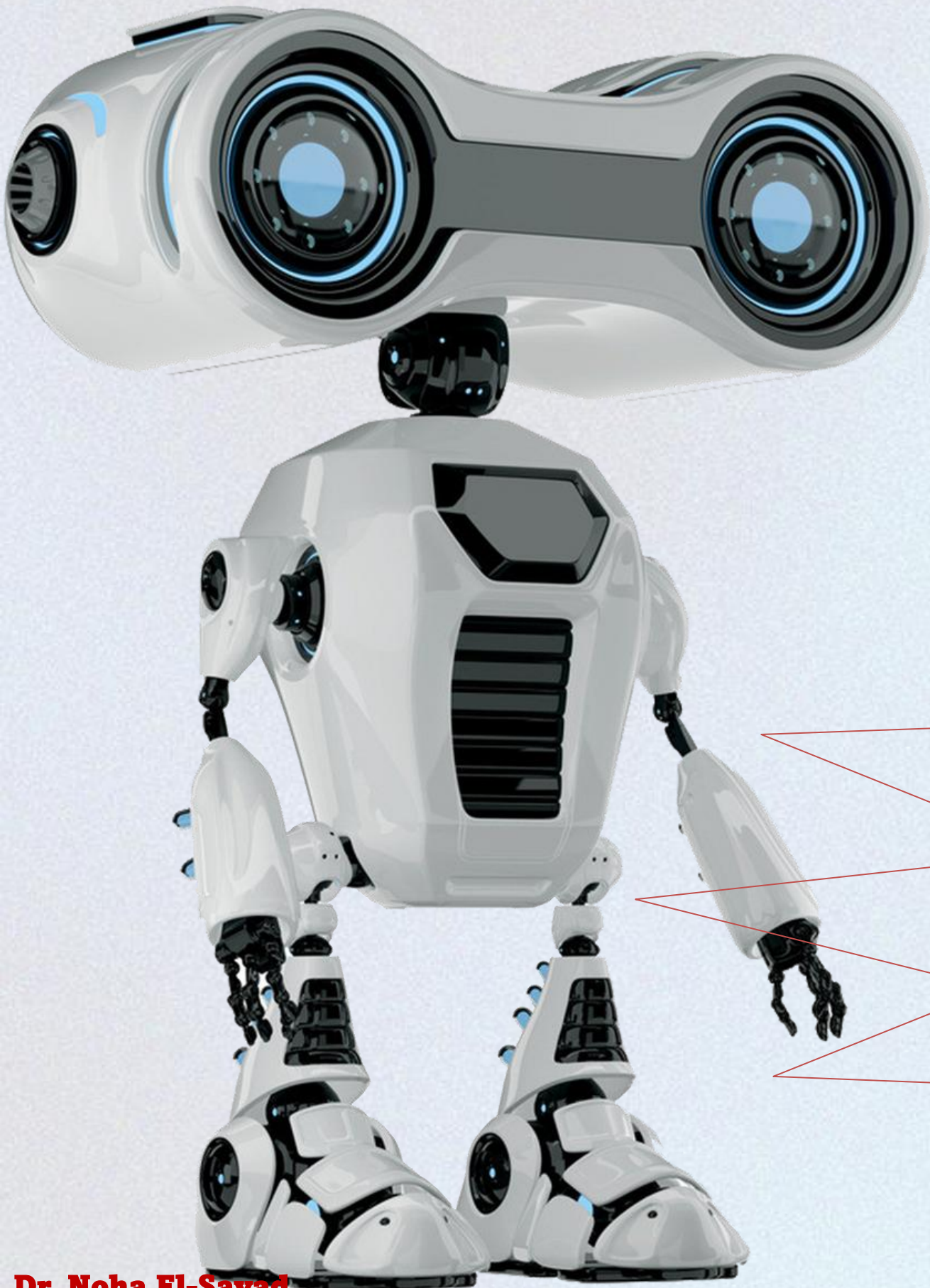
informed Search Strategies

Summary of Informed Search in AI



- **Informed Search (Heuristic Search):**
 - Uses domain knowledge to guide the search, making it more efficient than uninformed search.
 - heuristic function provides an estimate of the best path to the goal, though it doesn't always guarantee the optimal solution.

1. Greedy best-first search



- ✓ A heuristic function $h(n)$ = estimated cost of the cheapest path from
- ✓ the state at node n to a goal state.
- ✓ At each step, best-first search sorts the queue according to a heuristic function.
- ✓ evaluation function $f(n) = h(n)$.

✓ Expands the closest node to the goal based on a heuristic function $h(x)$ (estimated distance to goal).

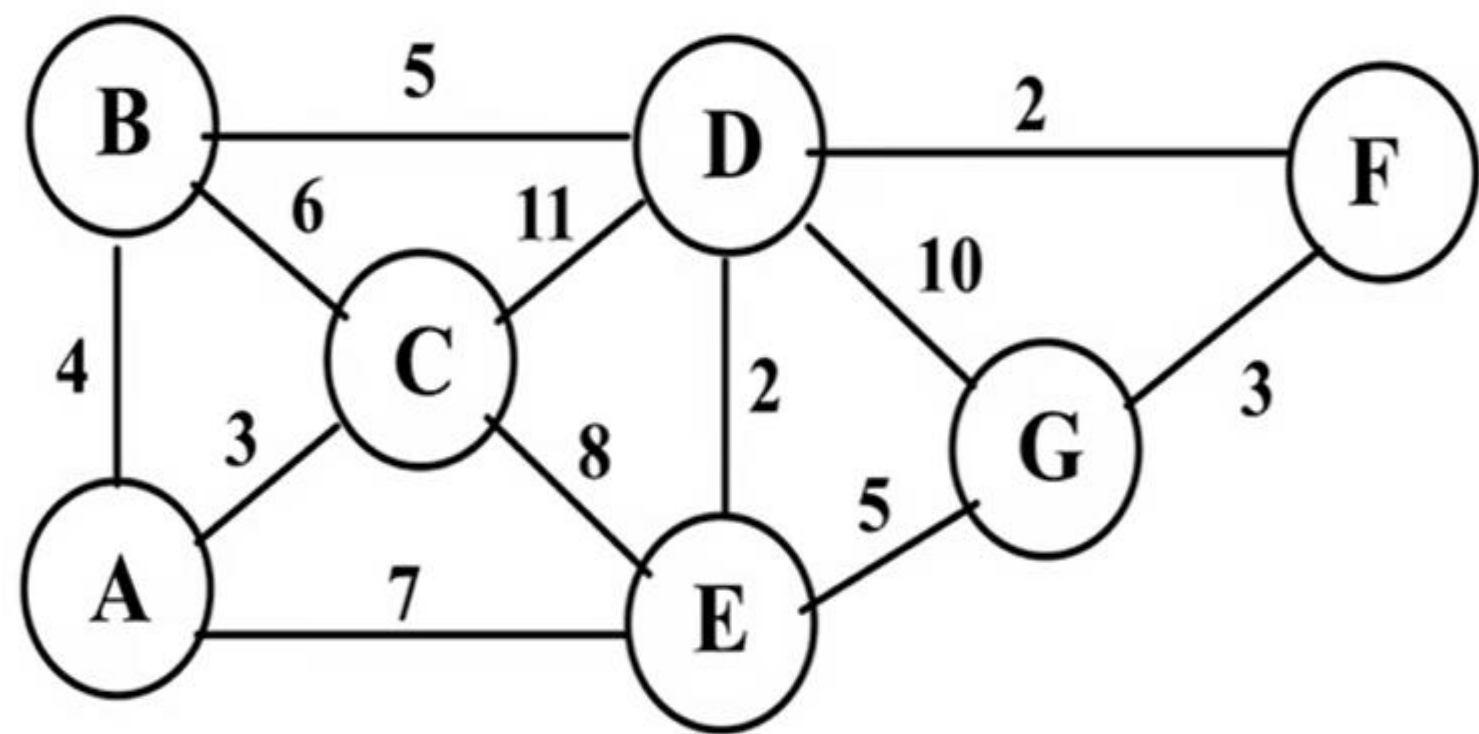
✓ Uses a priority queue for implementation.

✗ Not optimal; can get stuck in loops or dead ends.

Example:

Greedy best-first search , Start = A, Goal = F

Find shortest path from A node to F node. Note that the heurestic value $h(n)$ equal to $(\text{node level}) \times 2$.



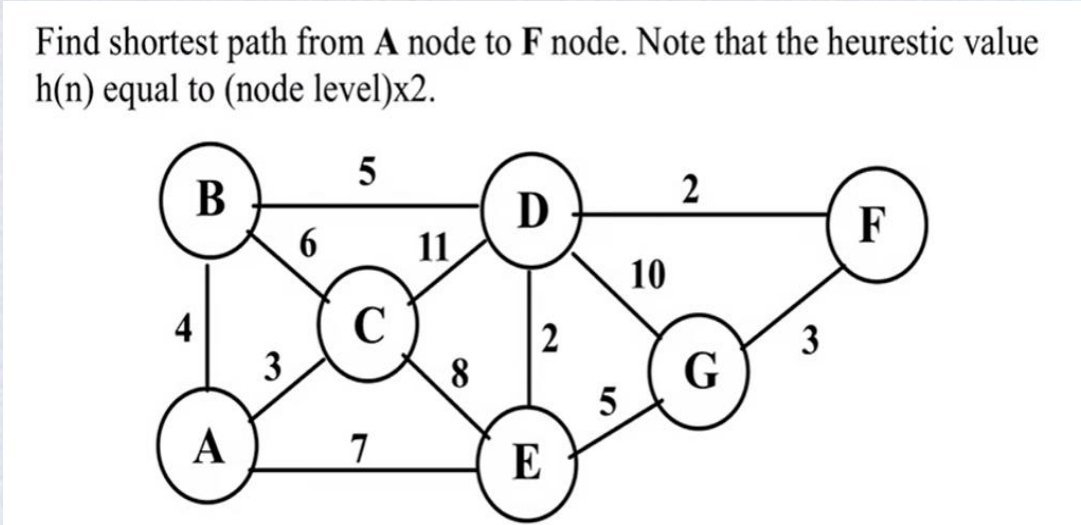
Solution

1st Step

node(n)	h(n)
$n(A) = 7+3+4=14$	$h(A) = 28$
$n(B) = 15$	$h(B) = 30$
$n(C) = 28$	$h(c) = 56$
$n(D) = 30$	$h(D) = 60$
$n(E) = 22$	$h(E) = 44$
$n(F) = 5$	$h(F) = 10$
$n(G) = 18$	$h(E) = 36$

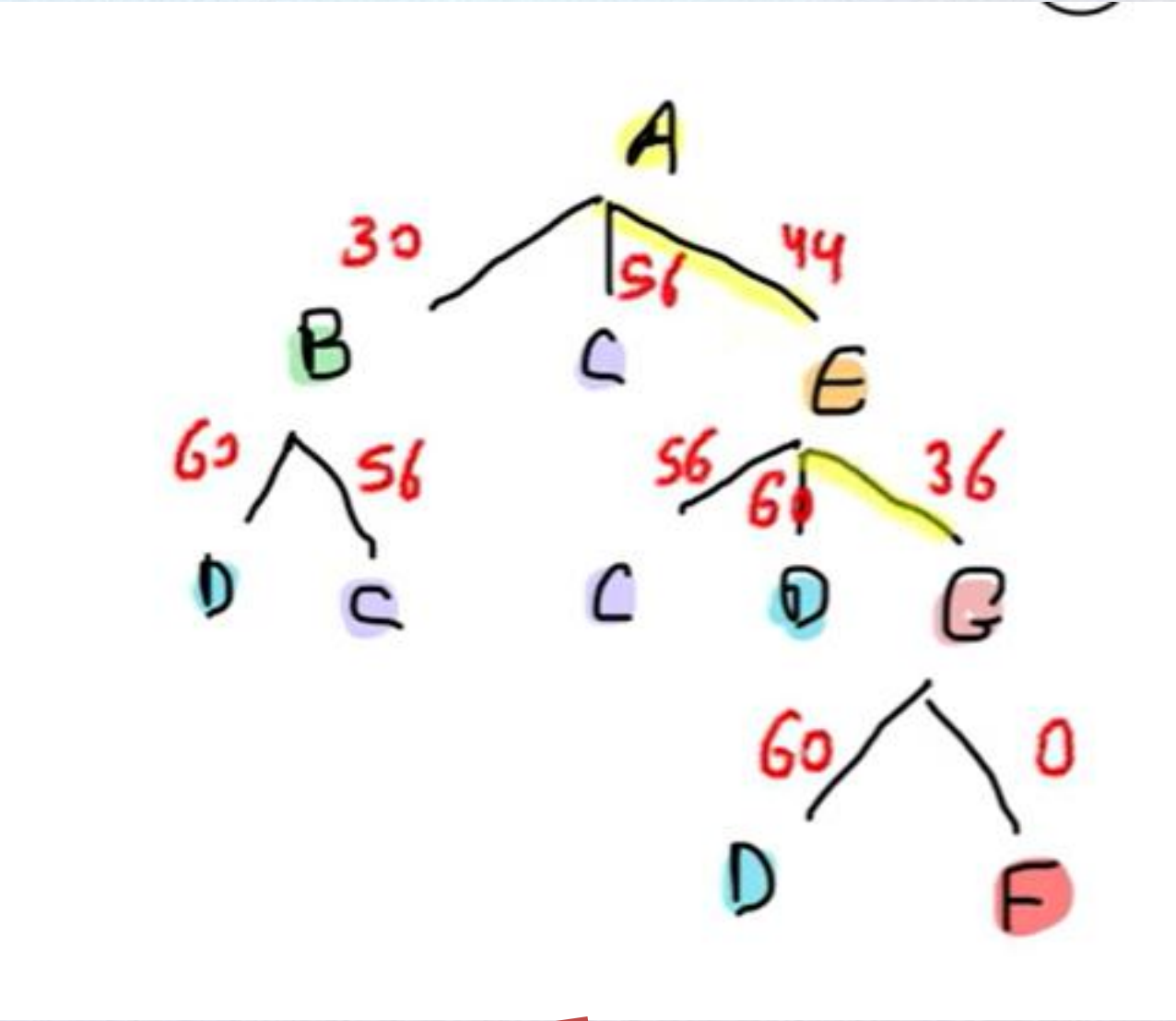
Example:

Greedy best-first search , Start = A, Goal = F

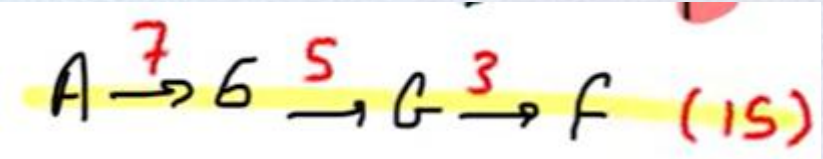


node(n)	h(n)
$n(A) = 7+3+4=14$	$h(A) = 28$
$n(B) = 15$	$h(B) = 30$
$n(C) = 28$	$h(c) = 56$
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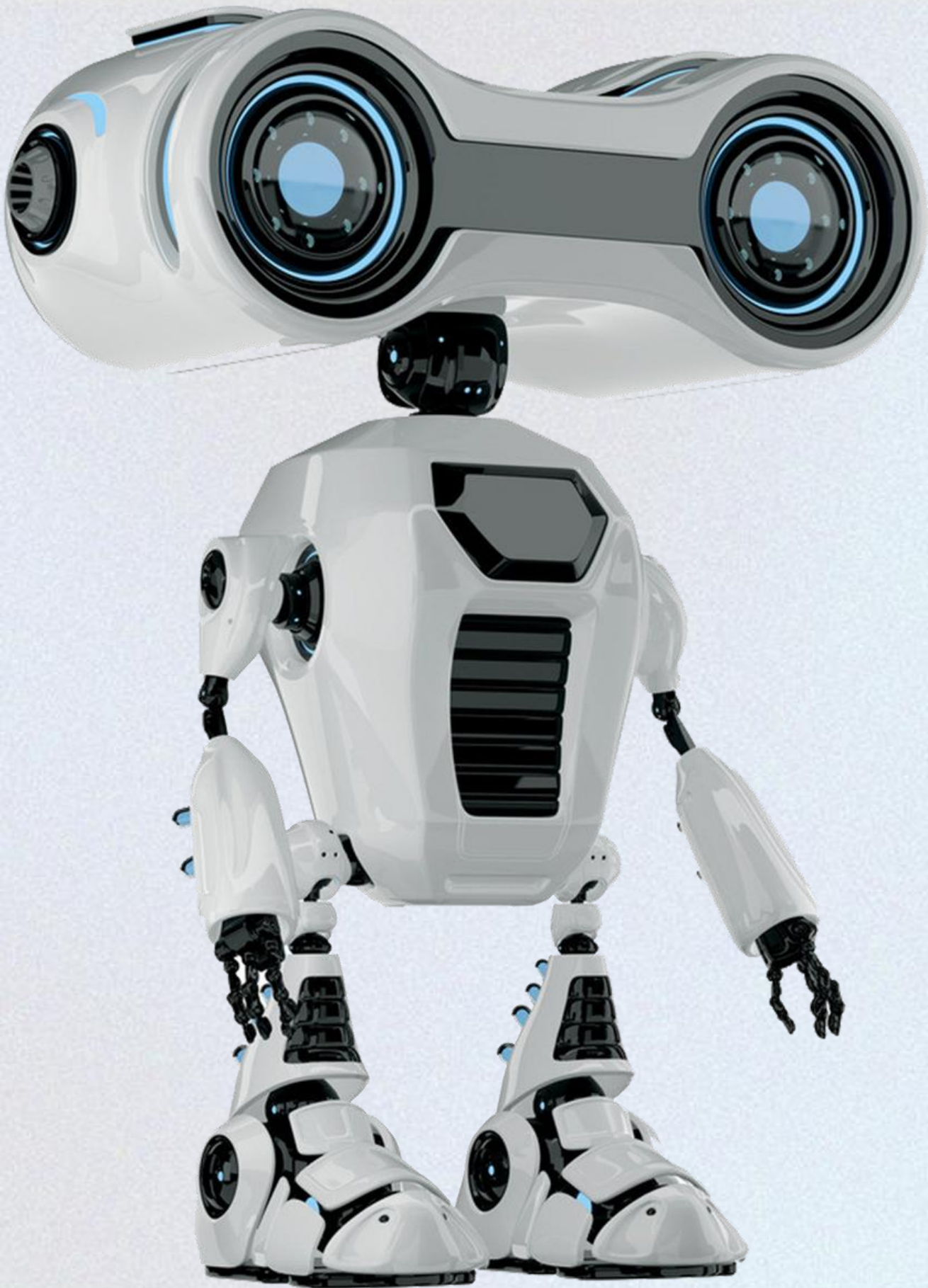
2nd Step



3rd Step



2. A* search



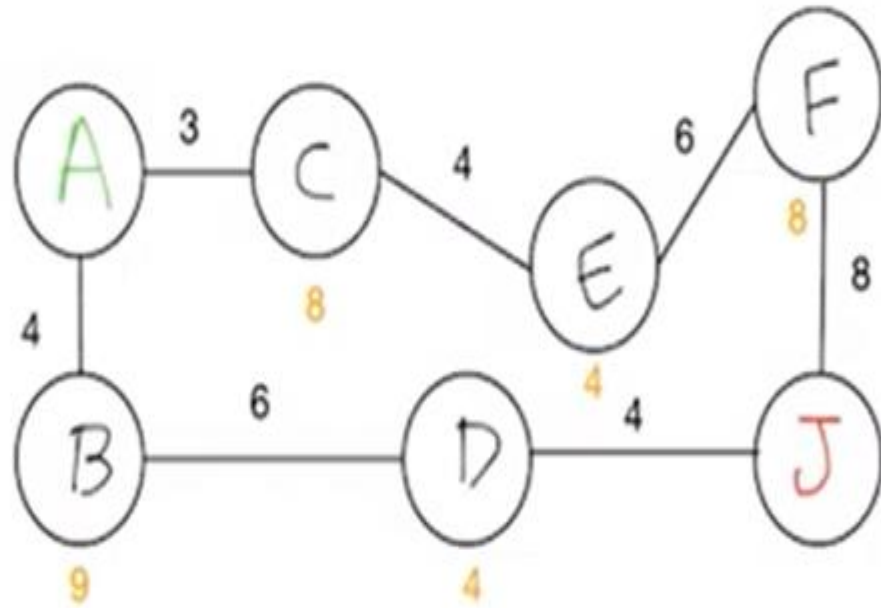
- ✓ best-first search that uses the evaluation function
$$f(n) = g(n) + h(n)$$
 - where $g(n)$ is the path cost from
 - the initial state to node n and $h(n)$ is the estimated cost of the shortest path from n to a goal state,
- ✓ so, we have
 - UCS keeps solution cost low
 - Best-first helps find solution quickly
 - A* combines these approaches

Example:

A* search , Start = A, Goal = J

1st Step

Consider the following graph,

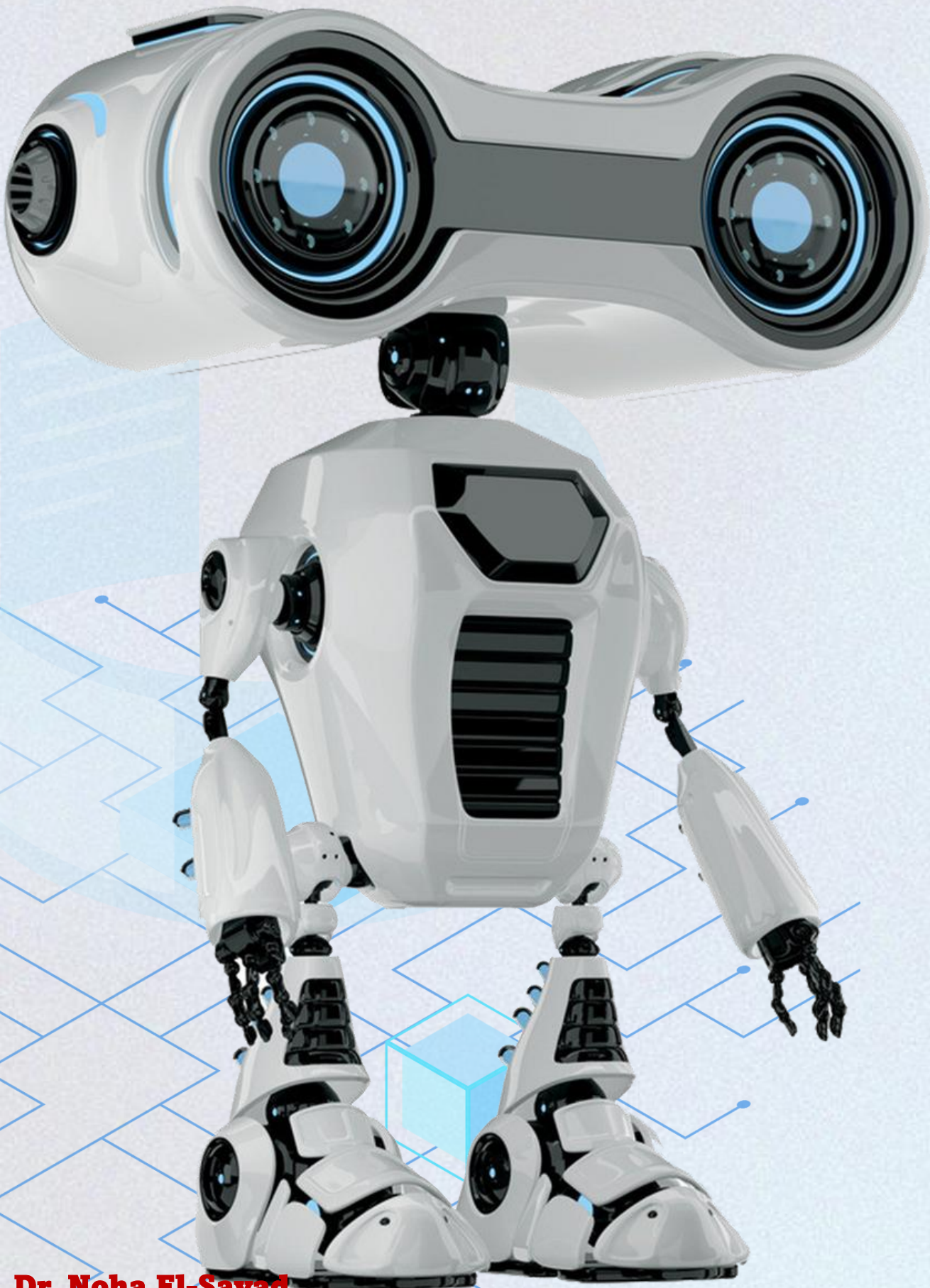


Solution

Find the most cost-effective way to reach from start state (A) to end state (F) using A* algorithm.

THANK YOU!





Bidirectional Search:

Bidirectional Search: A search algorithm that runs two searches simultaneously—one forward from the start state and one backward from the goal state—until they meet at a common node. This approach reduces the search space, covering only half the path compared to traditional methods.

