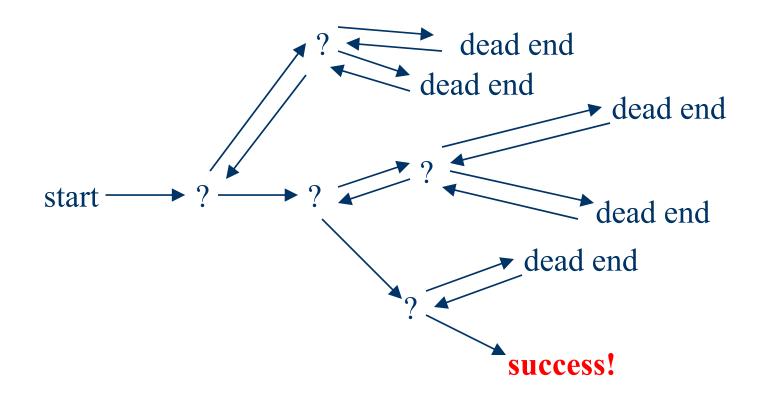
Backtracking

- Suppose you have to make a series of decisions, among various choices, where
 - You don't have enough information to know what to choose
 - Each decision leads to a new set of choices
 - Some sequence of choices (possibly more than one) may be a solution to your problem

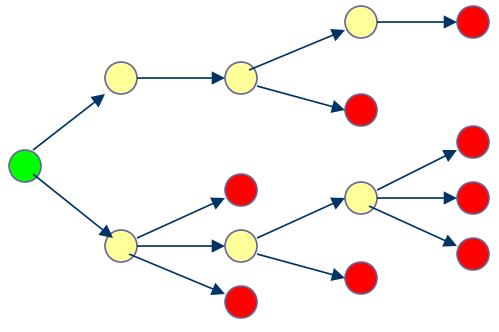
Backtracking: Animation



Backtracking: Terminology

Three kinds of nodes in a tree:

- One root node
- Internal nodes
- Leaf nodes



Backtracking can be thought of as searching a tree for a particular "goal" leaf node

Backtracking: Algorithm

- Explore each node N, as follows:
 - 1. If N is a goal node, return "success"
 - 2. If N is a leaf node, return "failure"
 - 3. For each child C of N,
 - 3.1. Explore C
 - 3.1.1. If C was successful, return "success"
 - 4. Return "failure"

Thank You

Stay Safe