

MEAM 520

Lecture 11: Trajectory Planning in Configuration Space

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Last Time: Trajectory Planning

First-Order Polynomial (Line)

$$q(t) = a_0 + a_1 t$$

Third-Order Polynomial (Cubic)

$$q(t) = a_0 + a_1 t + a_2 t^2 + a_3 t^3$$

Fifth-Order Polynomial (Quintic)

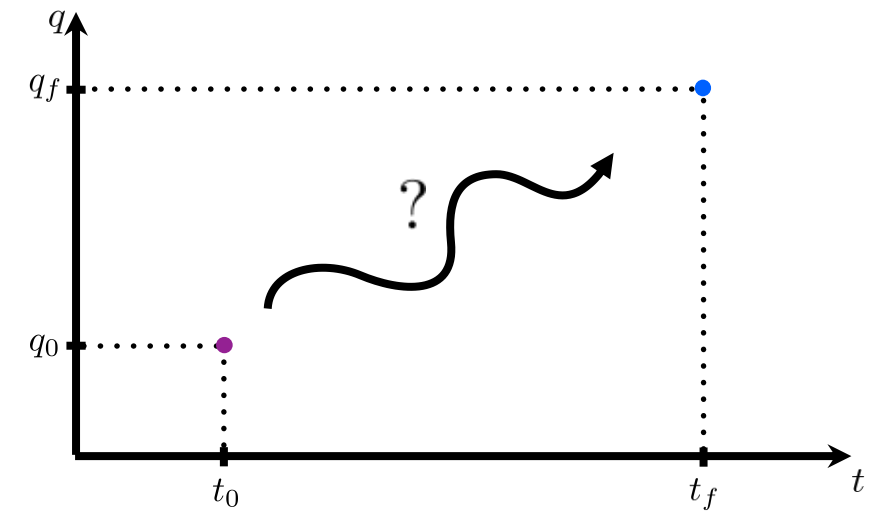
$$q(t) = a_0 + a_1 t + a_2 t^2 + a_3 t^3 + a_4 t^4 + a_5 t^5$$

Linear Segment with Parabolic Blends (LSPB, 1 Line + 2 Quadratics)

$$q(t) = b_0 + b_1 t + b_2 t^2 \quad q(t) = a_0 + a_1 t \quad q(t) = c_0 + c_1 t + c_2 t^2$$

Minimum Time Trajectory (Bang-Bang, 2 Quadratics)

$$q(t) = b_0 + b_1 t + b_2 t^2 \quad q(t) = c_0 + c_1 t + c_2 t^2$$



	Initial Conditions	Final Conditions
Position	$q(t_0) = q_0$	$q(t_f) = q_f$
Velocity	$\dot{q}(t_0) = v_0$	$\dot{q}(t_f) = v_f$
Acceleration	$\ddot{q}(t_0) = \alpha_0$	$\ddot{q}(t_f) = \alpha_f$
Jerk	$\dddot{q}(t_0) \neq \infty$	$\dddot{q}(t_f) \neq \infty$

Solving for Coefficients

$$\begin{bmatrix} q_0 \\ v_0 \\ q_f \\ v_f \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & t_0 & t_0^2 & t_0^3 \\ 0 & 1 & 2t_0 & 3t_0^2 \\ 1 & t_f & t_f^2 & t_f^3 \\ 0 & 1 & 2t_f & 3t_f^2 \end{bmatrix}_2 \begin{bmatrix} a_0 \\ a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Outline of the next 2 weeks

- Last Time: Trajectory planning between two points in the absence of obstacles
- Today: Configuration space planning using grid-based methods (1960s)
- 10/8: Configuration space planning using sampling (1980s)
- 10/21: Lab 3 due (implement a planner)



This Time: How do we find waypoints?

Path planning sounds simple, but it's among the most difficult problems in CS.

We want a complete algorithm: one that finds a solution whenever one exists and signals failure in finite time when no solution exists.

This is a **search** problem.

q

Configuration

complete specification of the location of every point on the robot (via joint variables)

 Q

Configuration Space

set of all possible configurations considering only joint limits

 W

Workspace

Cartesian space in which robot moves

\mathcal{O}_i **Obstacles**

areas of the workspace that the robot should not occupy (physical objects or hazards)

Collision

when any part of the robot contacts an obstacle in the workspace

 $\mathcal{A}(q)$ **Robot**

subset of the workspace occupied by the robot at configuration q

$$\mathcal{O} = \bigcup \mathcal{O}_i$$

Configuration Space Obstacle

set of configurations for which the robot collides with an obstacle

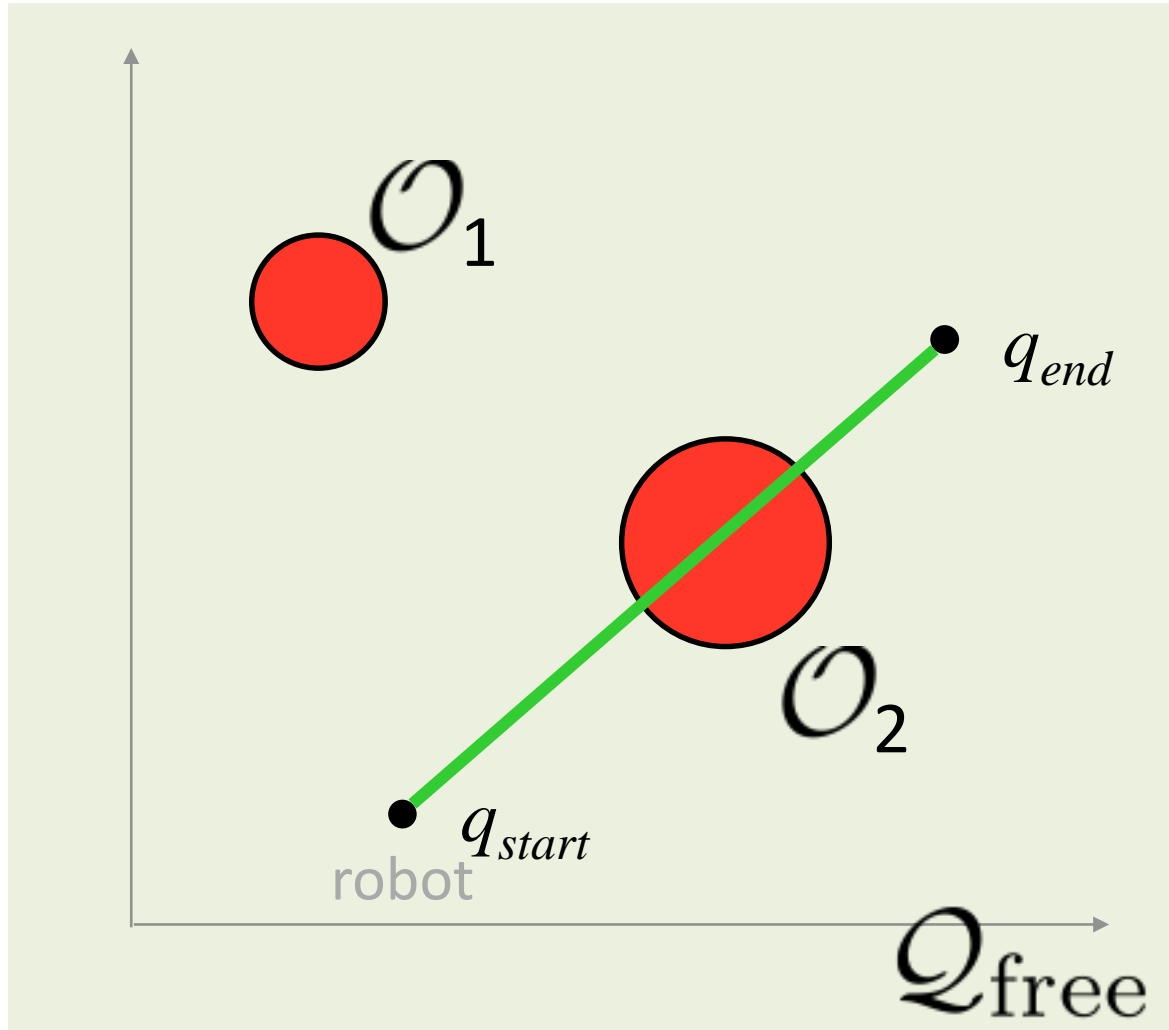
$$\mathcal{QO} = \{q \in \mathcal{Q} \mid \mathcal{A}(q) \cap \mathcal{O} \neq \emptyset\}$$

Free Configuration Space

set of all collision-free configurations

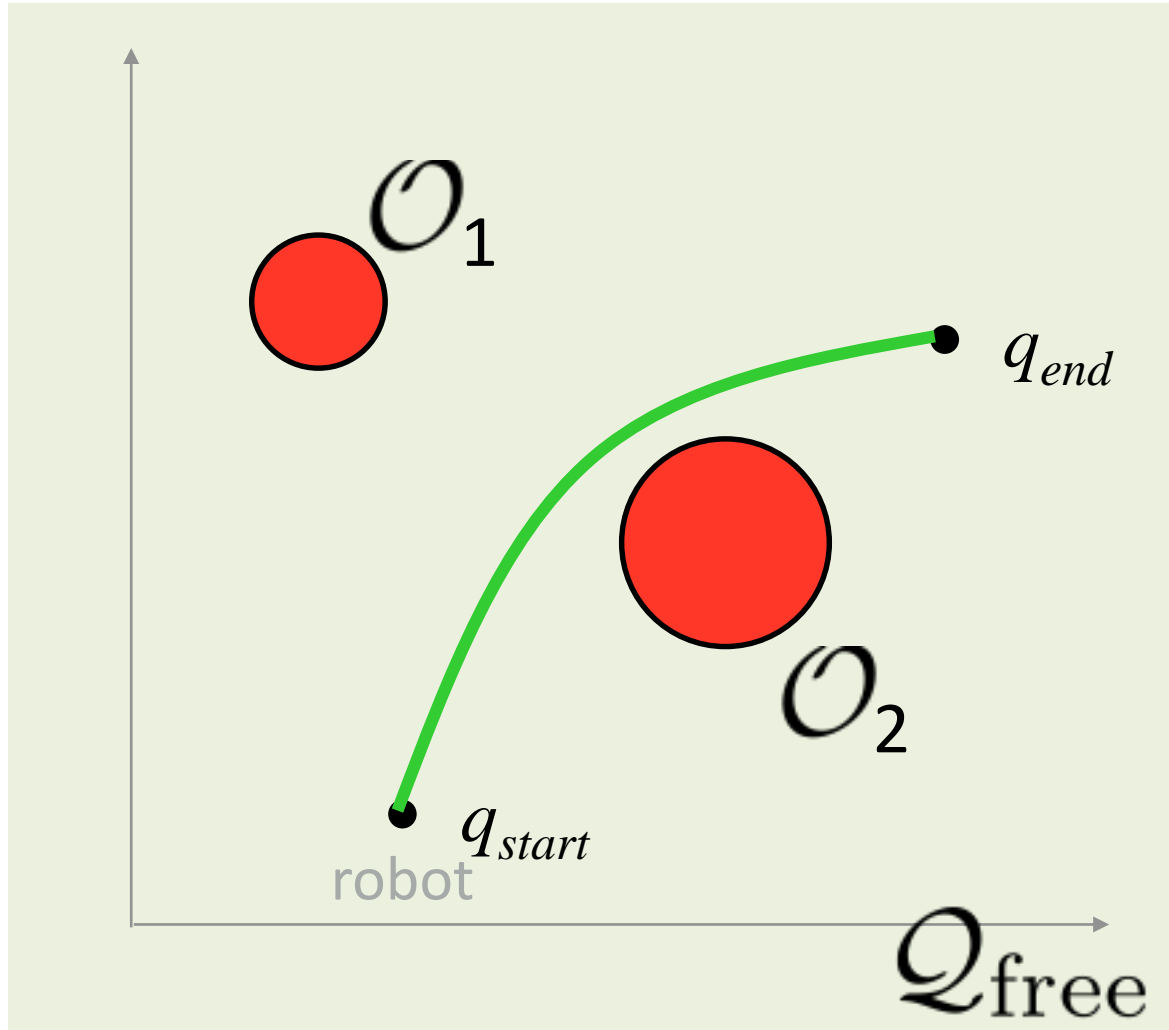
$$\mathcal{Q}_{\text{free}} = \mathcal{Q} \setminus \mathcal{QO}$$

Point Robot in 2D



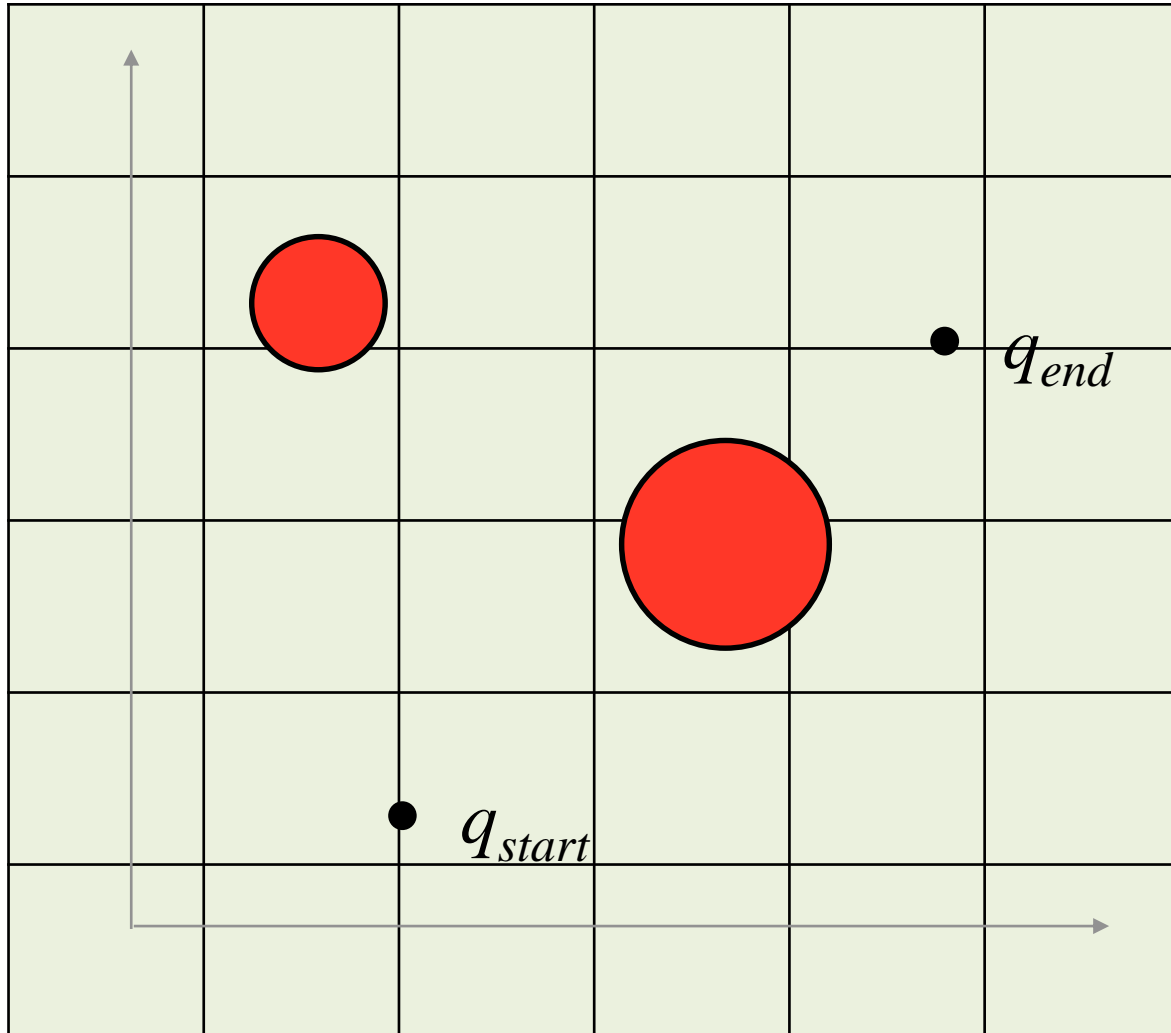
$$\mathcal{Q} = \mathcal{W} = \mathbb{R}^2$$

Point Robot in 2D



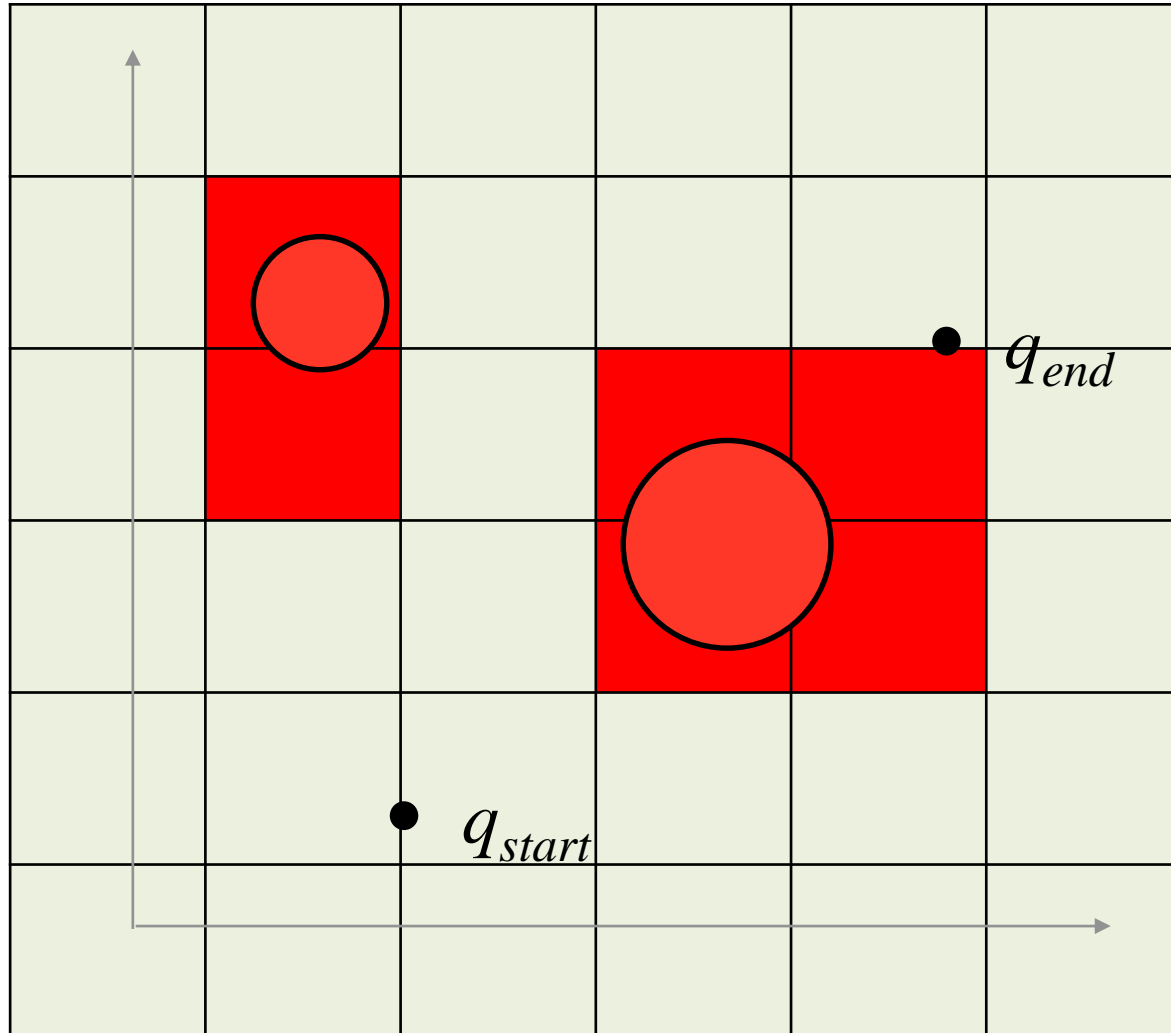
$$\mathcal{Q} = \mathcal{W} = \mathbb{R}^2$$

Discretize Space



$n \times n$ grid

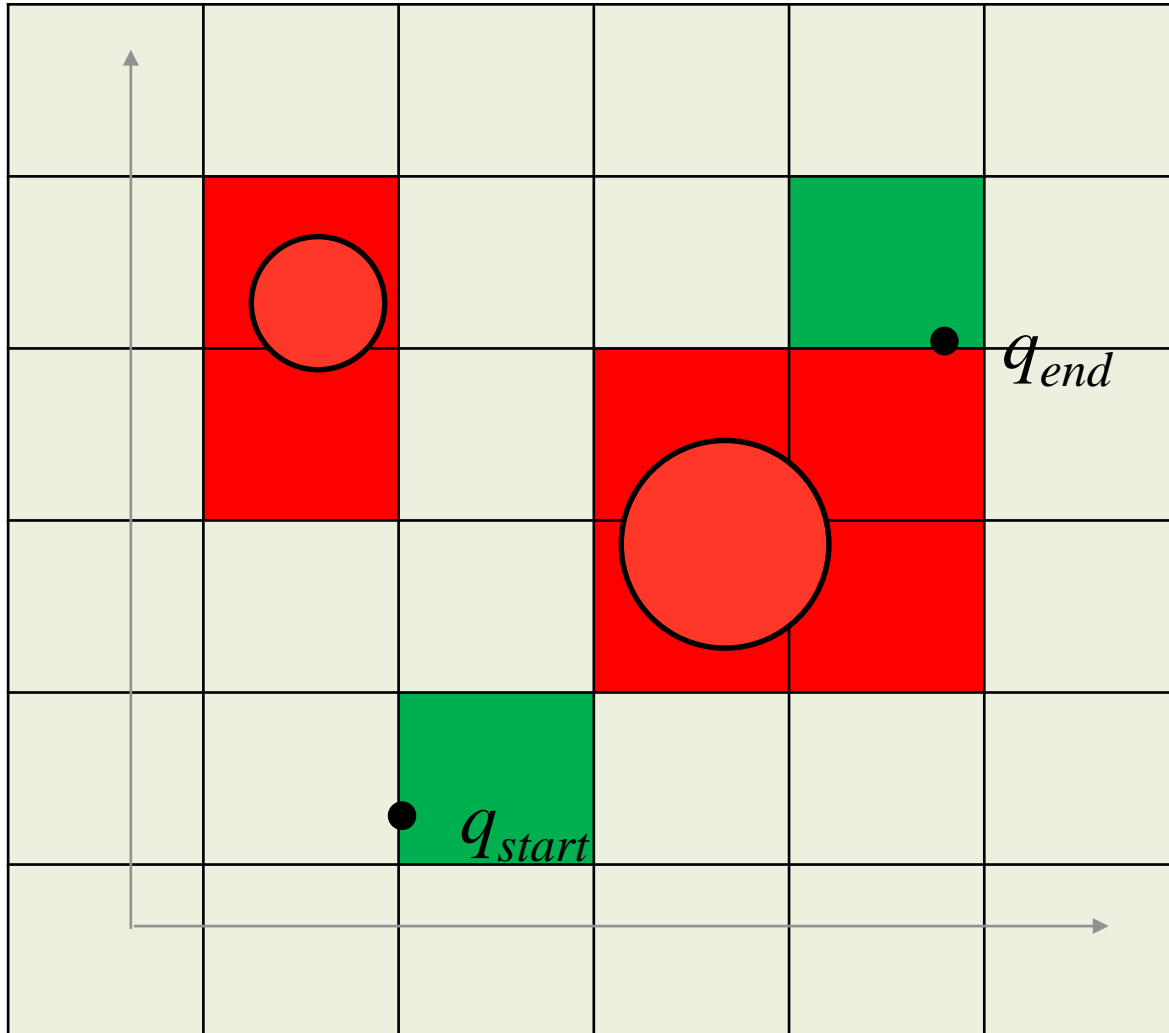
Discretize Space



$n \times n$ grid

Remove obstacles

Discretize Space

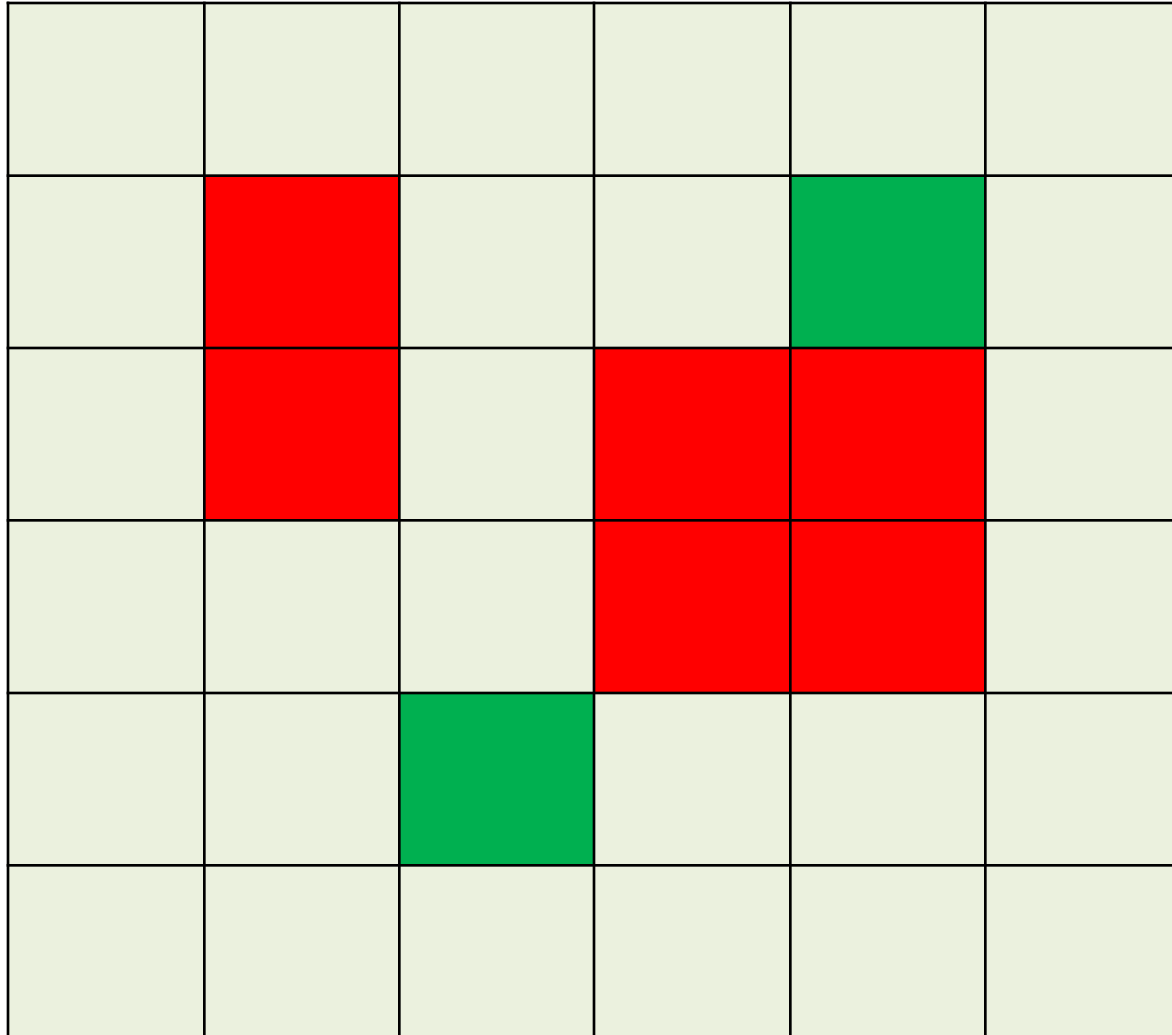


$n \times n$ grid

Remove obstacles

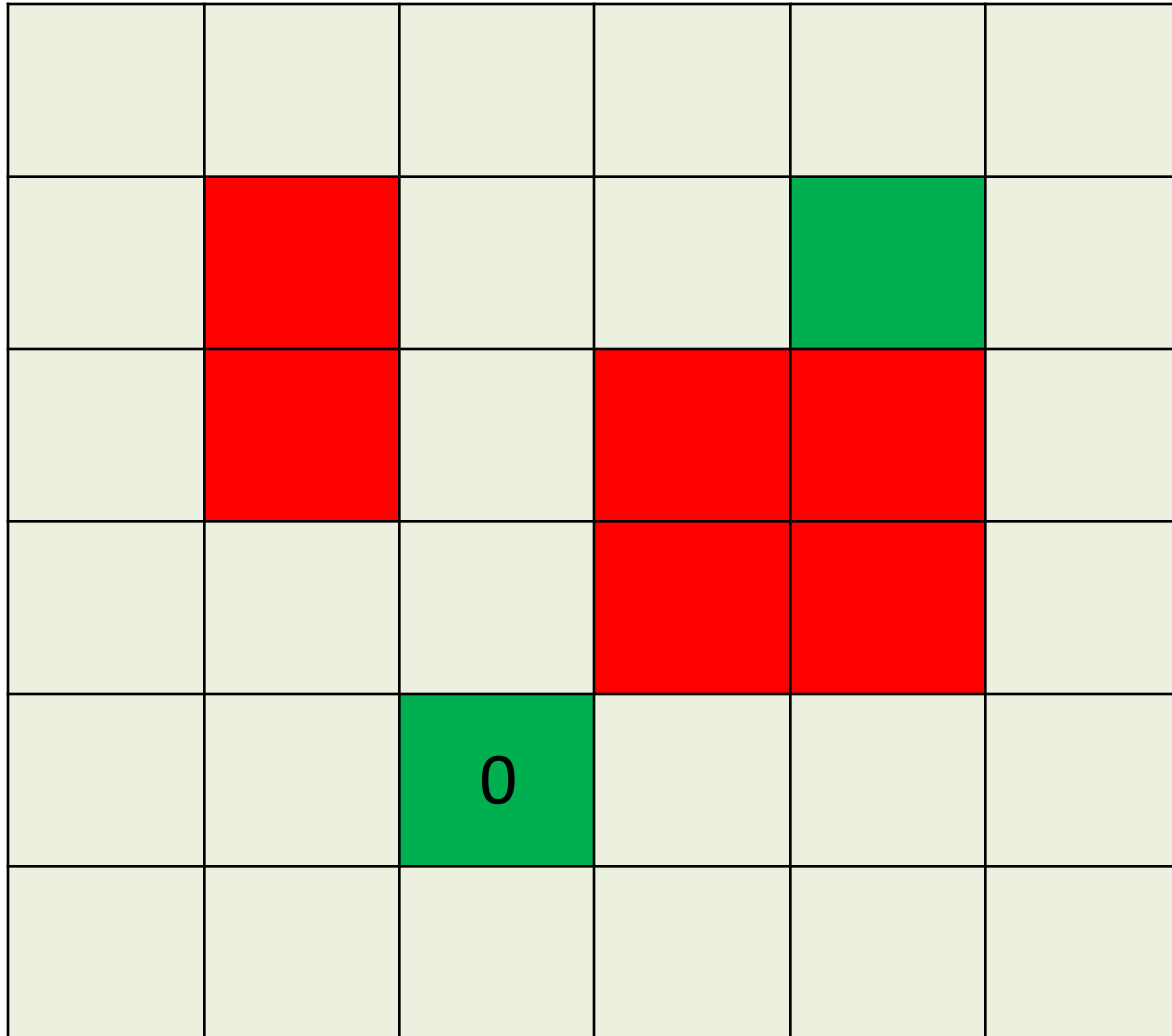
Find start and end cells

Wildfire



Pseudocode:

Wildfire

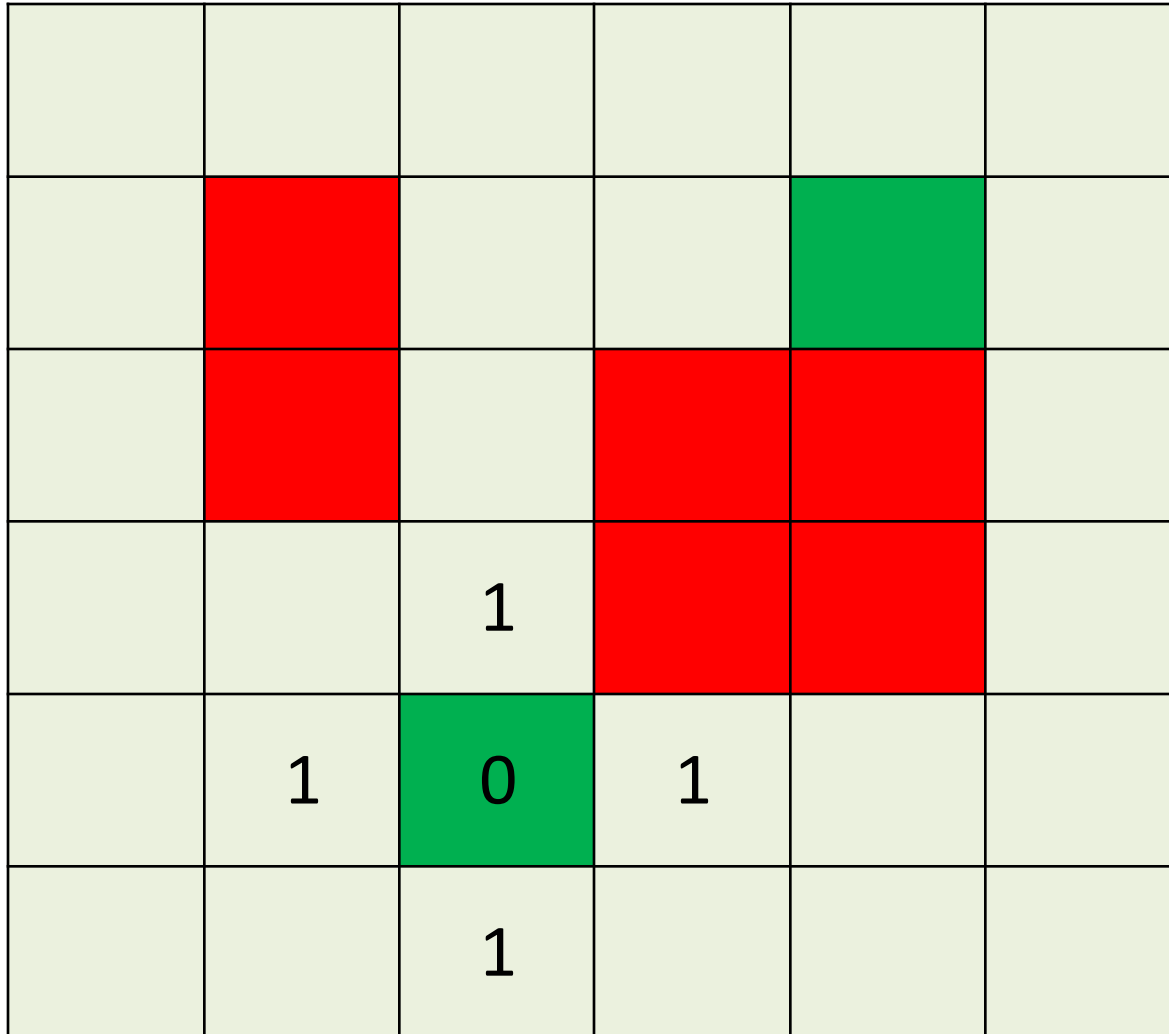


Pseudocode:

Start with $i = 0$ steps at q_{start}

While exist(empty cells)

Wildfire



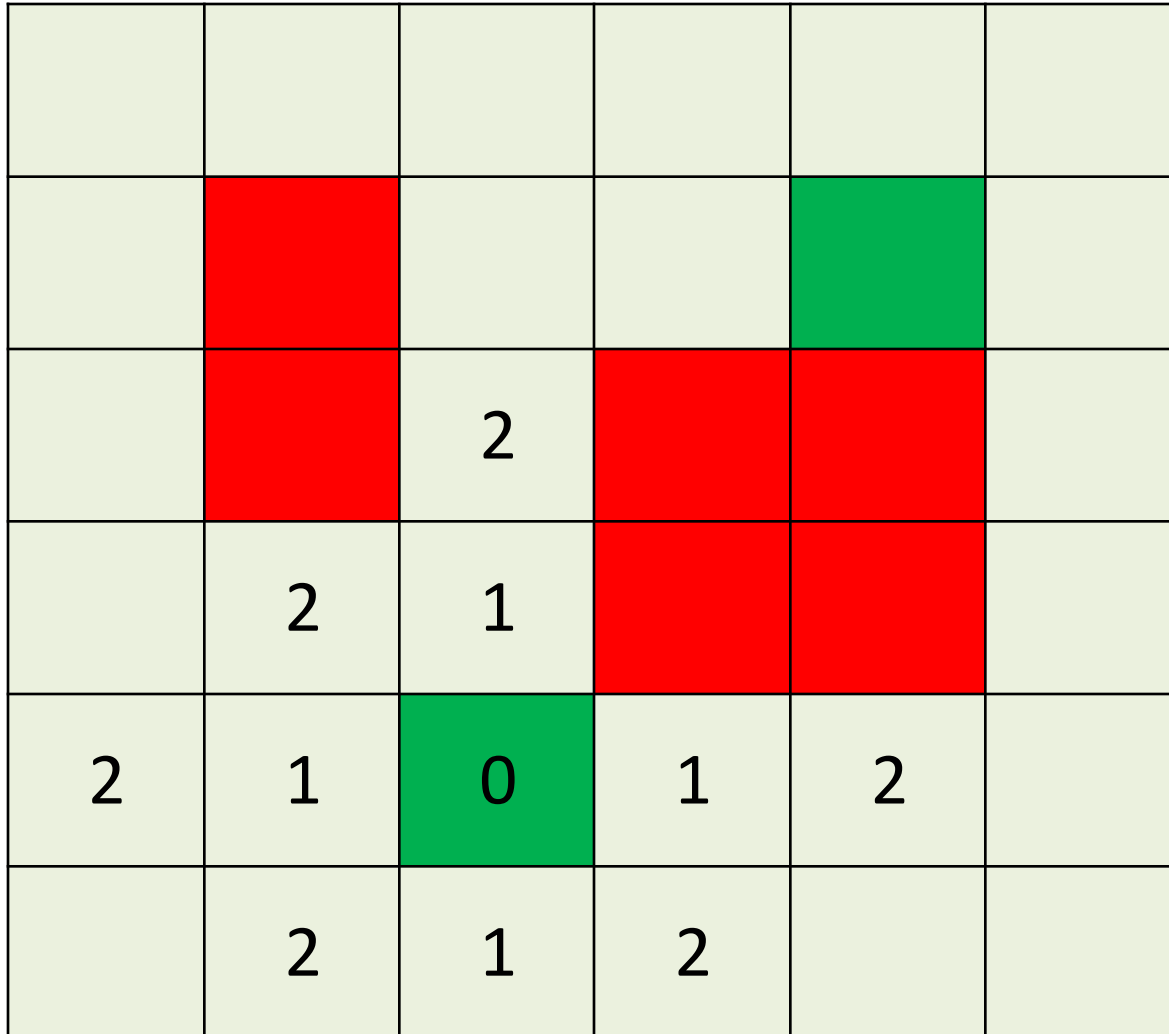
Pseudocode:

Start with $i = 0$ steps at q_{start}

While exist(empty cells)

 All neighbors have $i+1$ steps

Wildfire



Pseudocode:

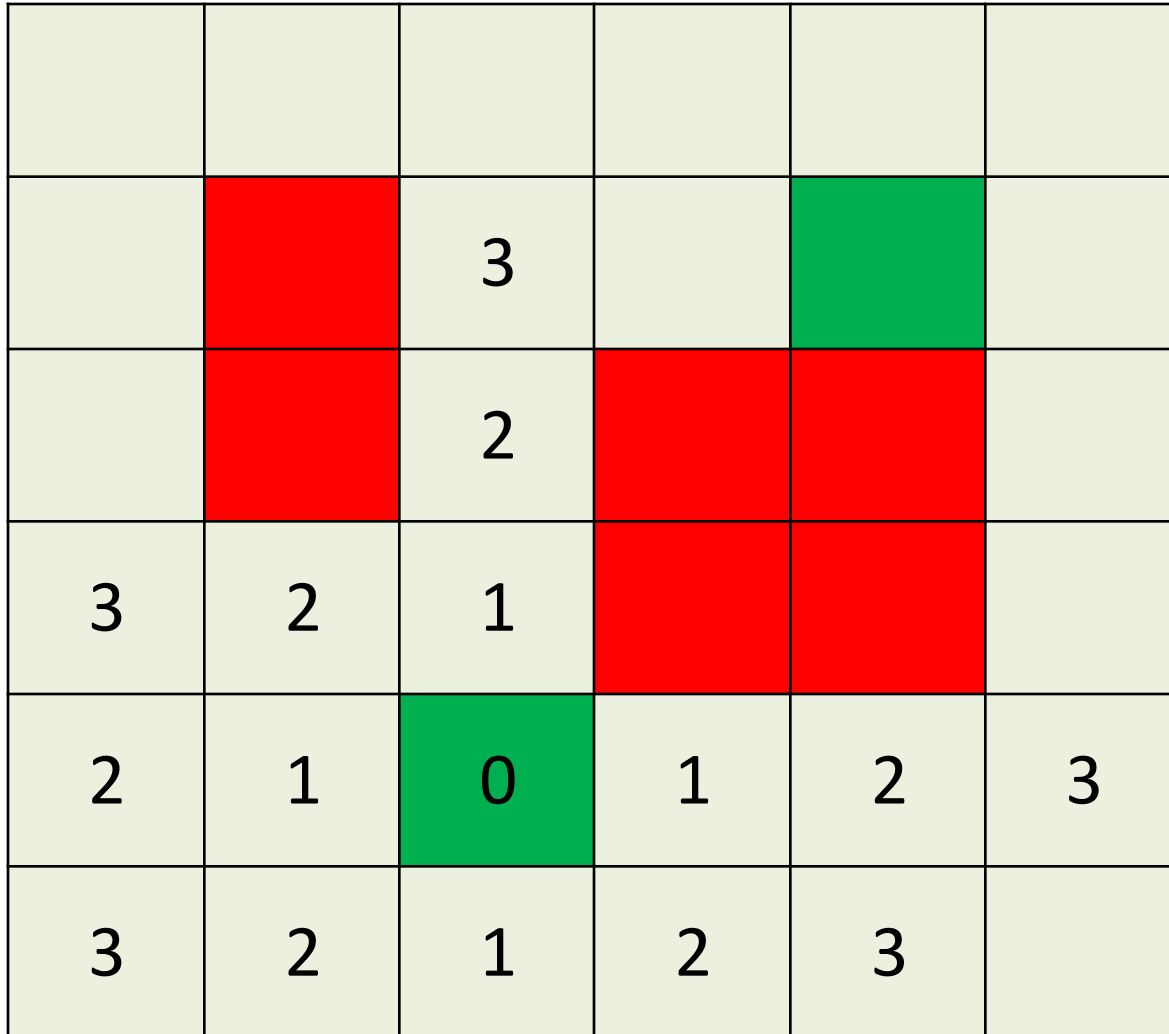
Start with $i = 0$ steps at q_{start}

While exist(empty cells)

 All neighbors have $i+1$ steps

 Ignore obstacle cells

Wildfire



Pseudocode:

Start with $i = 0$ steps at q_{start}

While exist(empty cells)

 All neighbors have $i+1$ steps

 Ignore obstacle cells

Wildfire

		4			
		3	4		
4		2			
3	2	1			4
2	1	0	1	2	3
3	2	1	2	3	4

Pseudocode:

Start with $i = 0$ steps at q_{start}

While exist(empty cells)

 All neighbors have $i+1$ steps

 Ignore obstacle cells

Wildfire

	5	4	5		
5		3	4	5	
4		2			5
3	2	1			4
2	1	0	1	2	3
3	2	1	2	3	4

Pseudocode:

Start with $i = 0$ steps at q_{start}

While exist(empty cells)

 All neighbors have $i+1$ steps

 Ignore obstacle cells

Wildfire

6	5	4	5	6	
5		3	4	5	6
4		2			5
3	2	1			4
2	1	0	1	2	3
3	2	1	2	3	4

Pseudocode:

Start with $i = 0$ steps at q_{start}

While exist(empty cells)

 All neighbors have $i+1$ steps

 Ignore obstacle cells

Wildfire

6	5	4	5	6	7
5		3	4	5	6
4		2			5
3	2	1			4
2	1	0	1	2	3
3	2	1	2	3	4

Pseudocode:

Start with $i = 0$ steps at q_{start}

While exist(empty cells)

 All neighbors have $i+1$ steps

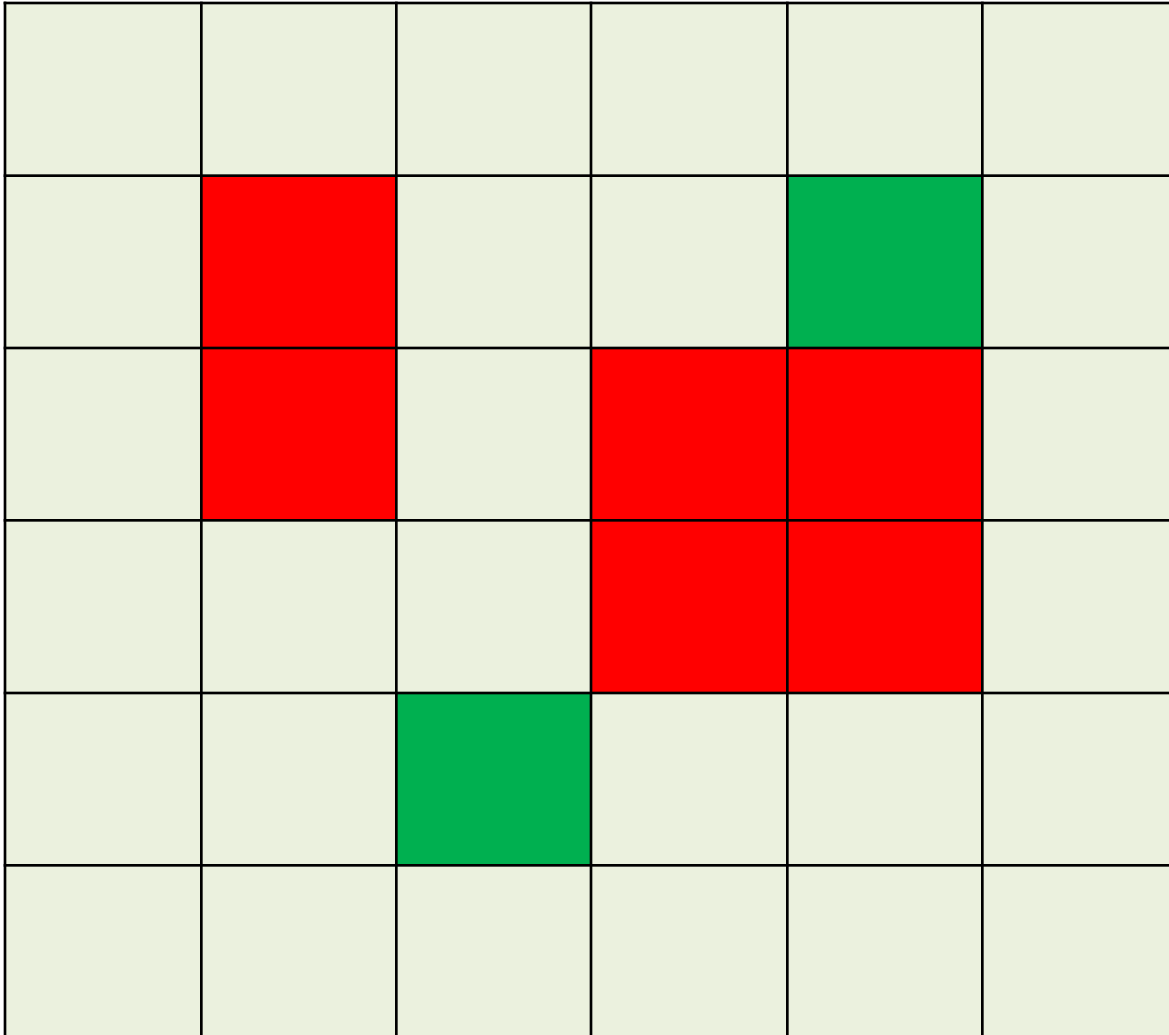
 Ignore obstacle cells

Search all cells:

Computation is N_{cell}

Breadth First Search

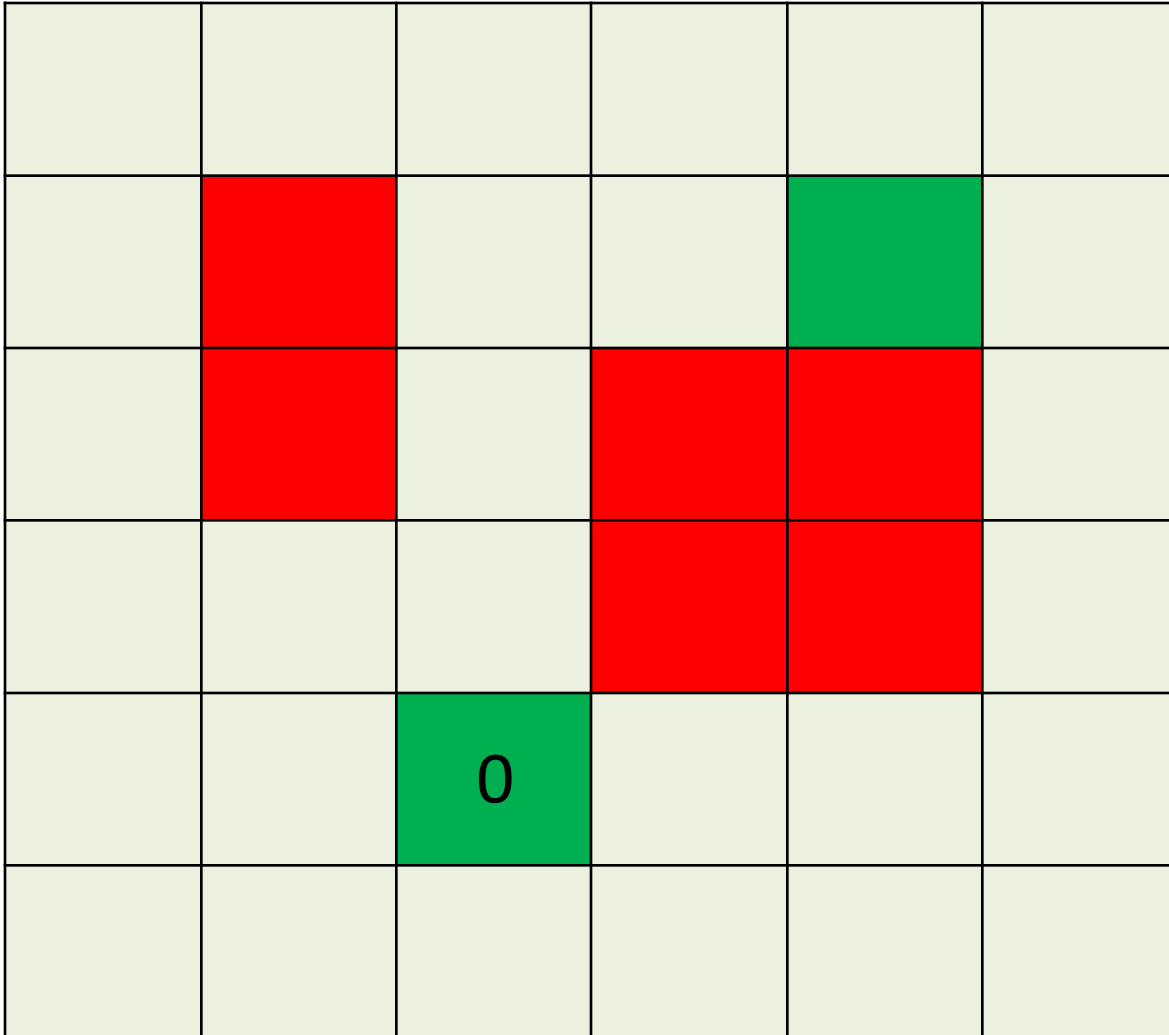
Pseudocode:



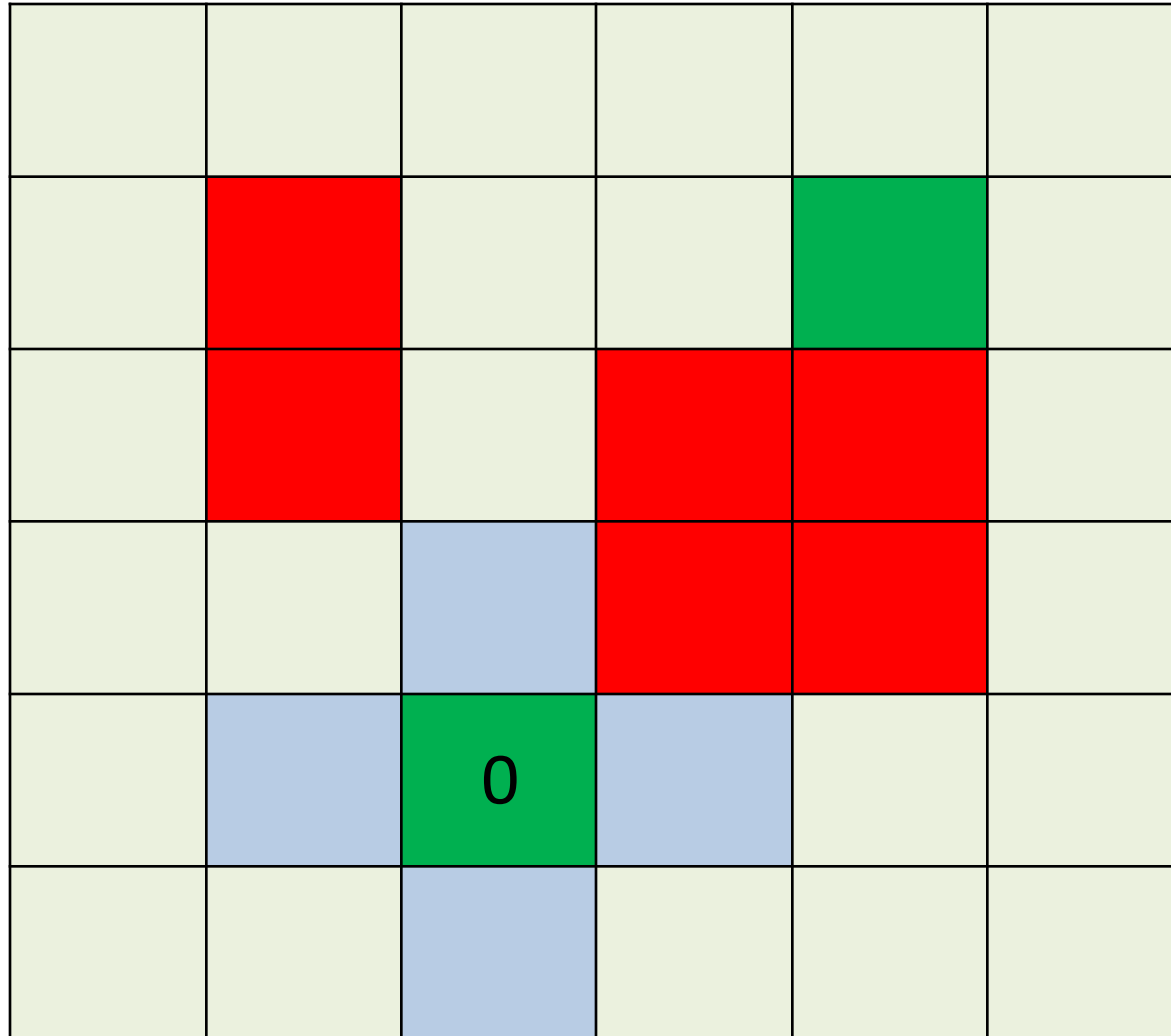
Breadth First Search

Pseudocode:

Start with $i = 0$ steps at q_{start}



Breadth First Search

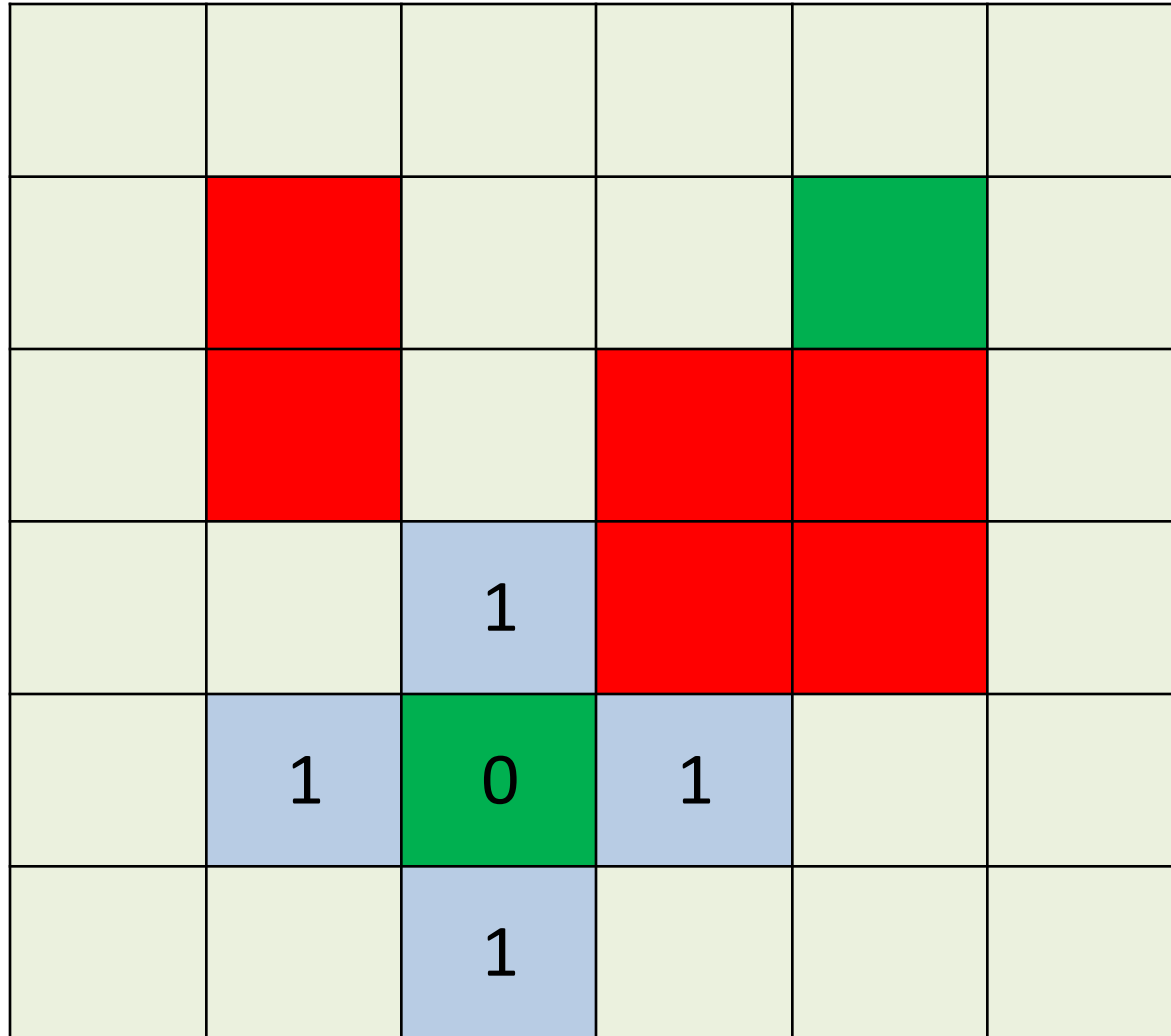


Pseudocode:

Start with $i = 0$ steps at q_{start}

Queue = neighbors of q_{start}

Breadth First Search



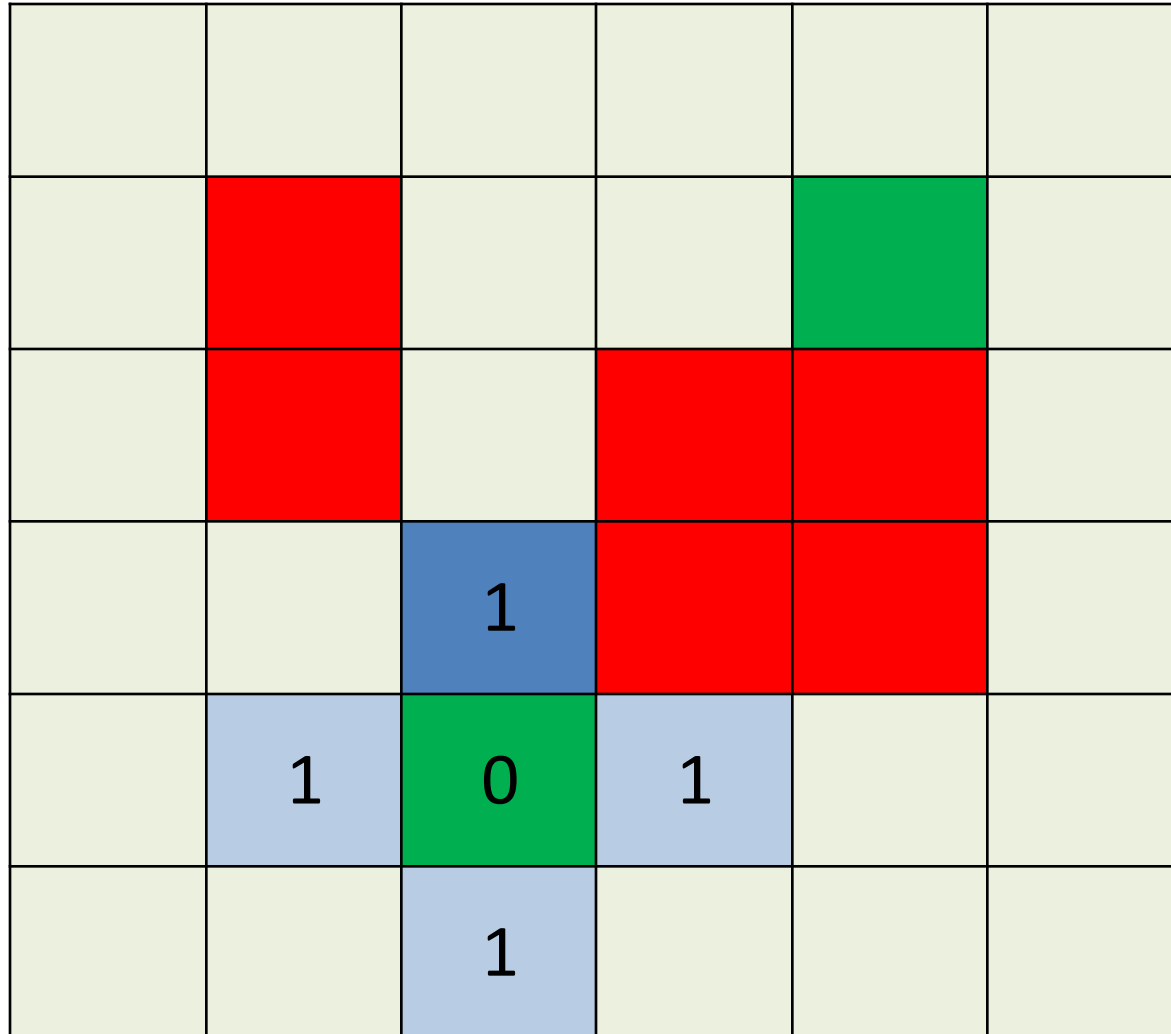
Pseudocode:

Start with $i = 0$ steps at q_{start}

Queue = neighbors of q_{start}

All neighbors have 1 step

Breadth First Search



Pseudocode:

Start with $i = 0$ steps at q_{start}

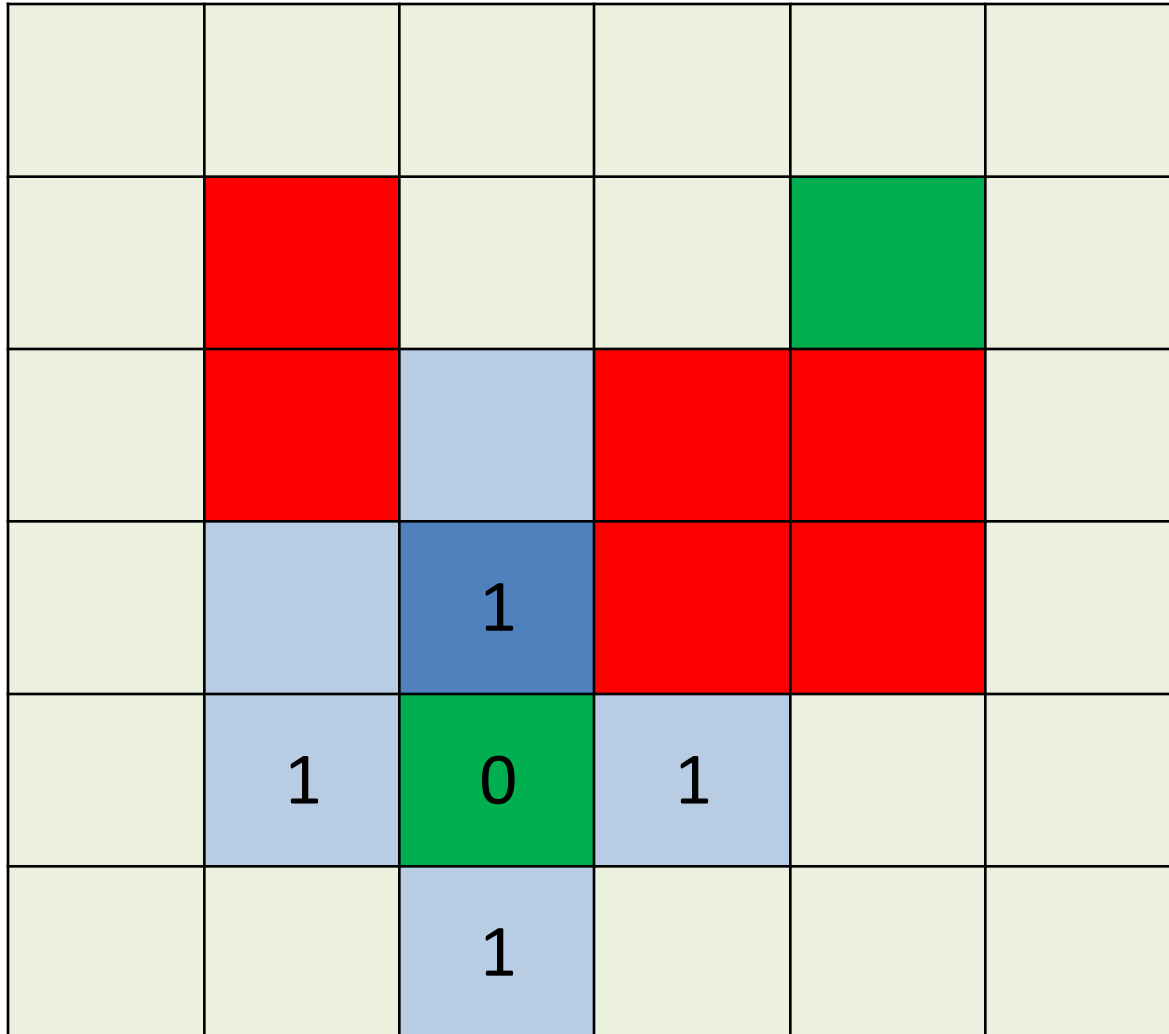
Queue = neighbors of q_{start}

All neighbors have 1 step

While $\sim \text{empty}(\textit{Queue})$

q = next cell in *Queue*

Breadth First Search



Pseudocode:

Start with $i = 0$ steps at q_{start}

Queue = neighbors of q_{start}

All neighbors have 1 step

While $\sim \text{empty}(\textit{Queue})$

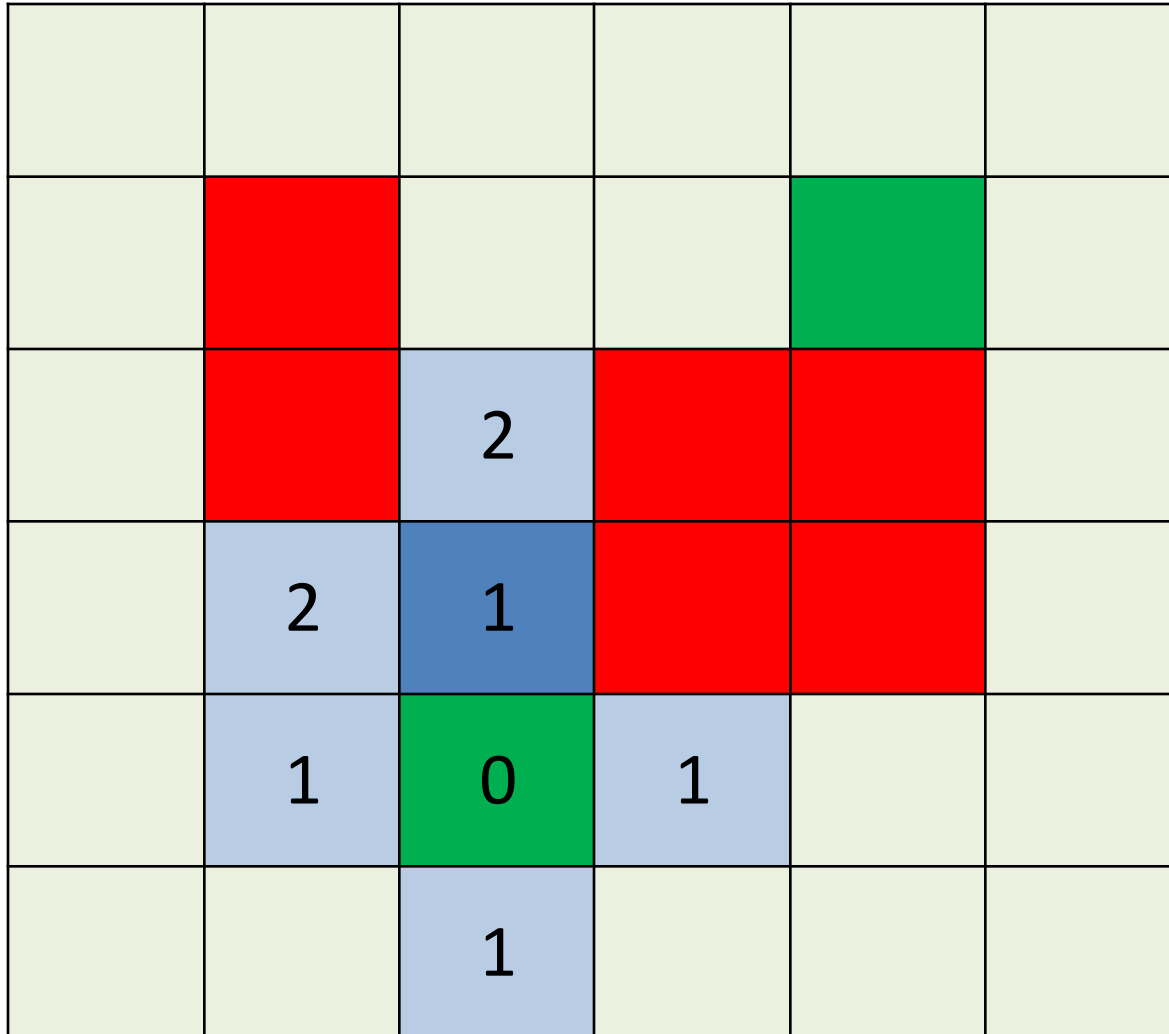
q = next cell in *Queue*

i = steps to q

if a neighbor is q_{end} , STOP

Add all new neighbors to *Queue*

Breadth First Search



Pseudocode:

Start with $i = 0$ steps at q_{start}

Queue = neighbors of q_{start}

All neighbors have 1 step

While $\sim \text{empty}(\textit{Queue})$

q = next cell in *Queue*

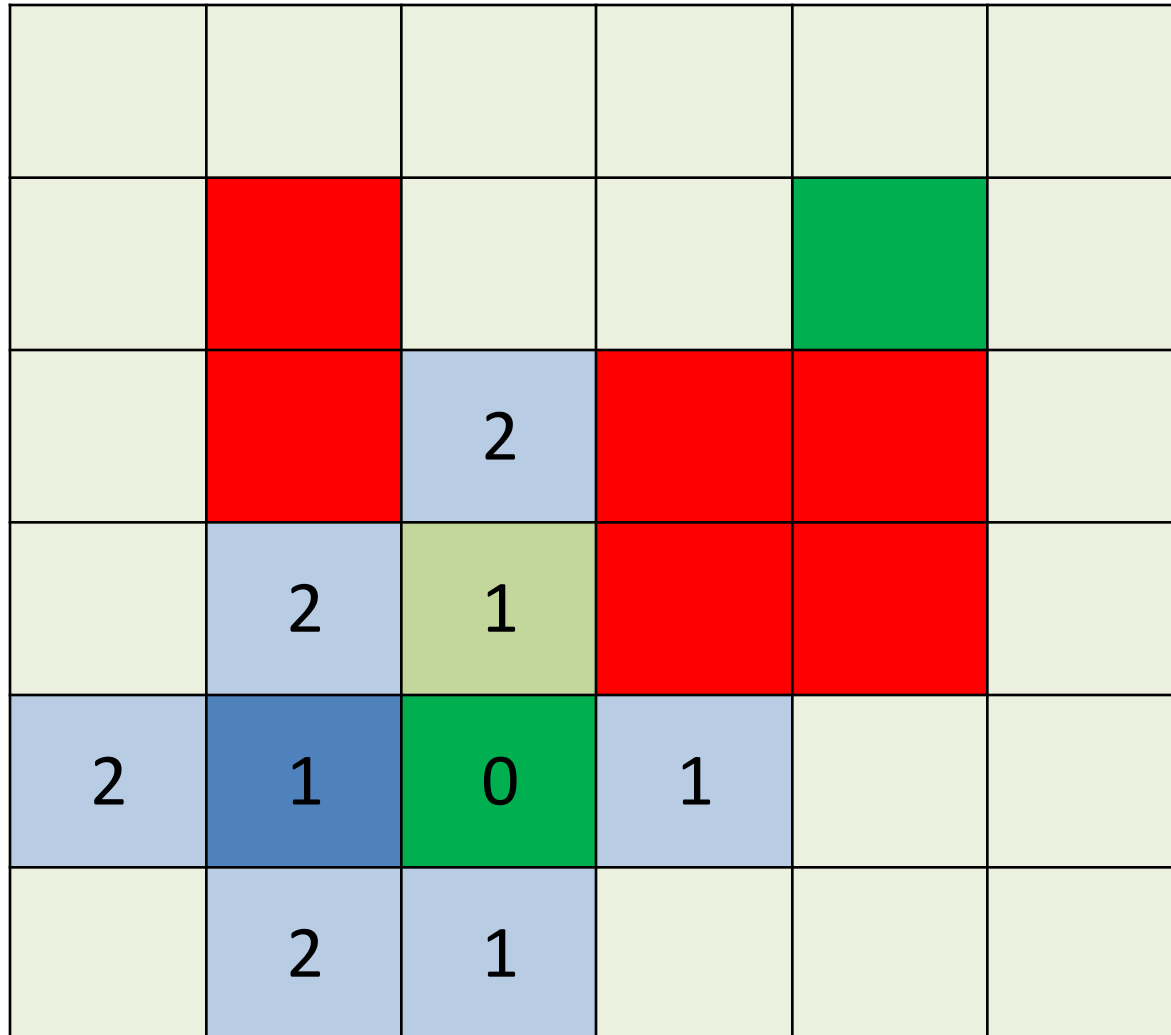
i = steps to q

if a neighbor is q_{end} , STOP

Add all new neighbors to *Queue*

All neighbors have $i+1$ steps

Breadth First Search



Pseudocode:

Start with $i = 0$ steps at q_{start}

Queue = neighbors of q_{start}

All neighbors have 1 step

While $\sim \text{empty}(\textit{Queue})$

q = next cell in *Queue*

i = steps to q

if a neighbor is q_{end} , STOP

Add all new neighbors to *Queue*

All neighbors have $i+1$ steps

Breadth First Search

	Red			Green	
	Red	Blue 2	Red	Red	
	Blue 2	Light Green 1	Red	Red	
Blue 2	Light Green 1	Green 0	Blue 1		
	Blue 2	Dark Blue 1	Blue 2		

Pseudocode:

Start with $i = 0$ steps at q_{start}

Queue = neighbors of q_{start}

All neighbors have 1 step

While ~empty(*Queue*)

q = next cell in *Queue*

$$i = \text{steps to } q$$

if a neighbor is q_{end} , STOP

Add all new neighbors to *Queue*

All neighbors have $i+1$ steps

		2			
	2	1			
2	1	0	1	2	
	2	1	2		

Start with $i = 0$ steps at q_{start}

All neighbors have 1 step

q = next cell in *Queue*

if a neighbor is q_{end} , STOP

Add all new neighbors to *Queue*

All neighbors have $i+1$ steps

Breadth First Search

		3			
		2			
	2	1			
2	1	0	1	2	
	2	1	2		

Pseudocode:

Start with $i = 0$ steps at q_{start}

Queue = neighbors of q_{start}

All neighbors have 1 step

While ~empty(*Queue*)

q = next cell in *Queue*

$$i = \text{steps to } q$$

if a neighbor is q_{end} , STOP

Add all new neighbors to *Queue*

All neighbors have $i+1$ steps

Breadth First Search

		4			
		3	4		
4		2			
3	2	1			4
2	1	0	1	2	3
3	2	1	2	3	4

Pseudocode:

Start with $i = 0$ steps at q_{start}

Queue = neighbors of q_{start}

All neighbors have 1 step

While $\sim \text{empty}(\textit{Queue})$

q = next cell in *Queue*

i = steps to q

if a neighbor is q_{end} , STOP

Add all new neighbors to *Queue*

All neighbors have $i+1$ steps

Breadth First Search

		4			
		3	4		
4		2			
3	2	1			4
2	1	0	1	2	3
3	2	1	2	3	4

Pseudocode:

Start with $i = 0$ steps at q_{start}

Queue = neighbors of q_{start}

All neighbors have 1 step

While $\sim \text{empty}(\textit{Queue})$

q = next cell in *Queue*

i = steps to q

if a neighbor is q_{end} , STOP

Add all new neighbors to *Queue*

All neighbors have $i+1$ steps

Breadth First Search

		4			
		3	4	5	
4		2			
3	2	1			4
2	1	0	1	2	3
3	2	1	2	3	4

Pseudocode:

Start with $i = 0$ steps at q_{start}

Queue = neighbors of q_{start}

All neighbors have 1 step

While $\sim \text{empty}(\textit{Queue})$

q = next cell in *Queue*

i = steps to q

if a neighbor is q_{end} , STOP

Add all new neighbors to *Queue*

All neighbors have $i+1$ steps

Breadth First Search

		4			
		3	4	5	
4		2			
3	2	1			4
2	1	0	1	2	3
3	2	1	2	3	4

Pseudocode:

Start with $i = 0$ steps at q_{start}

Queue = neighbors of q_{start}

All neighbors have 1 step

While $\sim \text{empty}(\textit{Queue})$

q = next cell in *Queue*

i = steps to q

if a neighbor is q_{end} , **STOP**

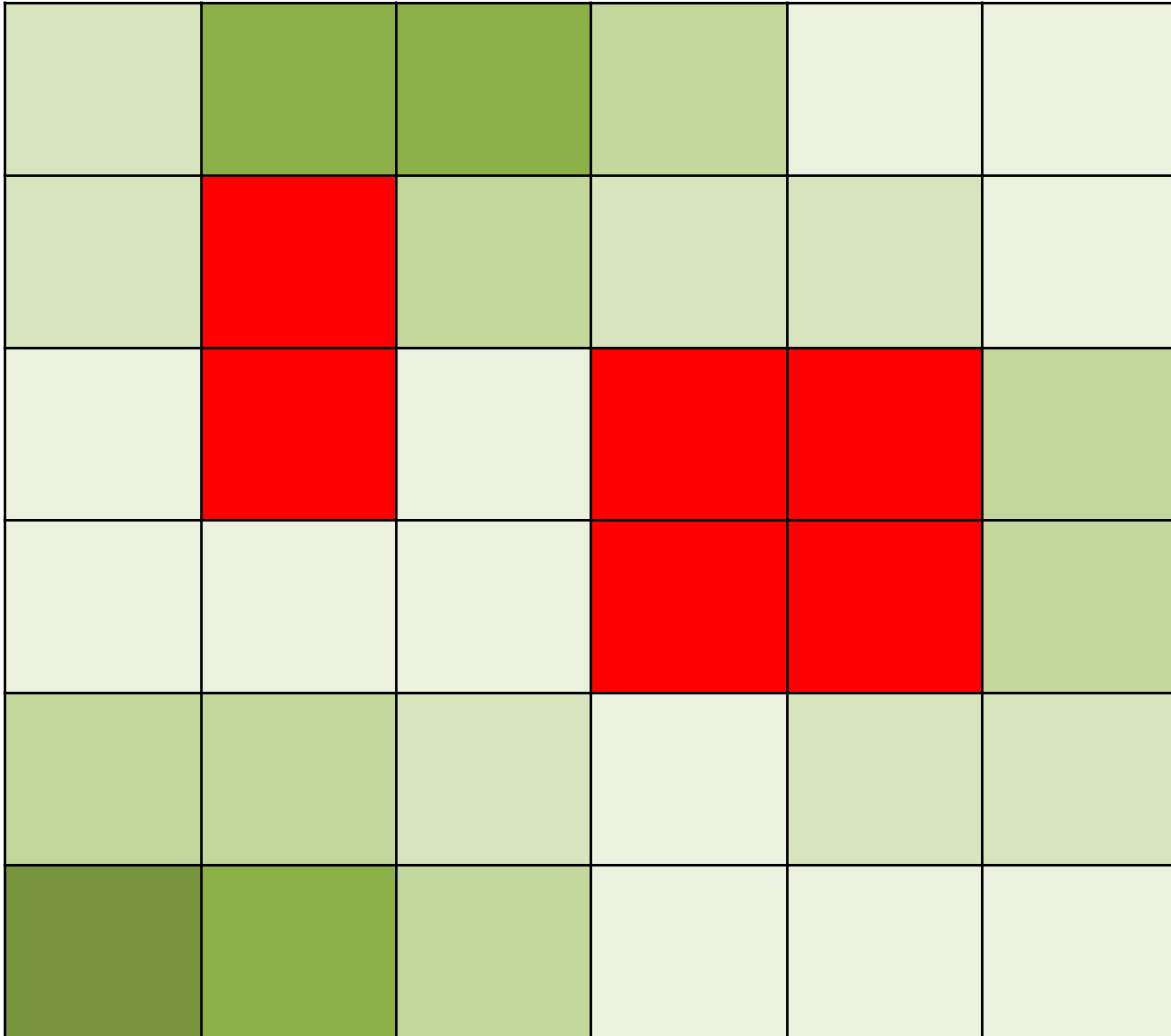
Add all new neighbors to *Queue*

All neighbors have $i+1$ steps

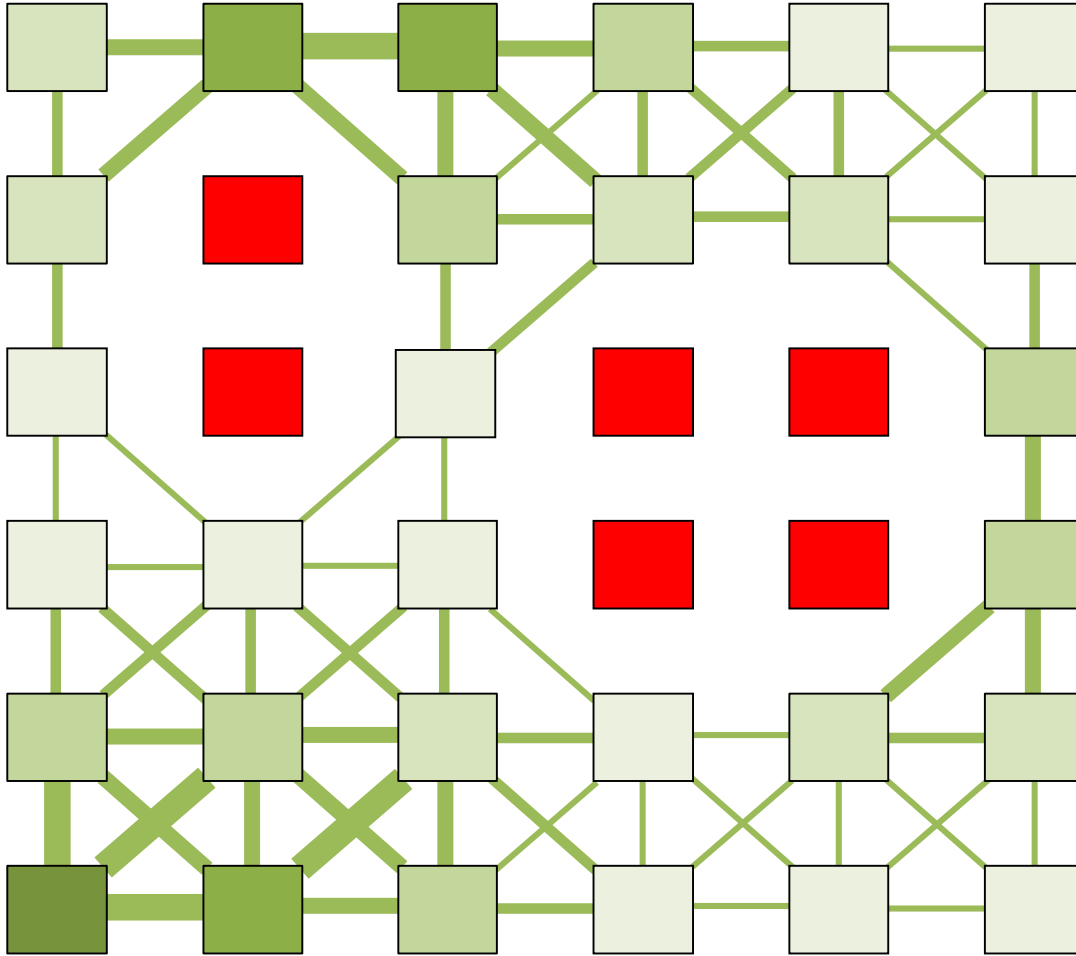
Potentially search all cells:

Computation is $O(N_{cell})$

Nonuniform costs



Graph Representation of the Configuration Space



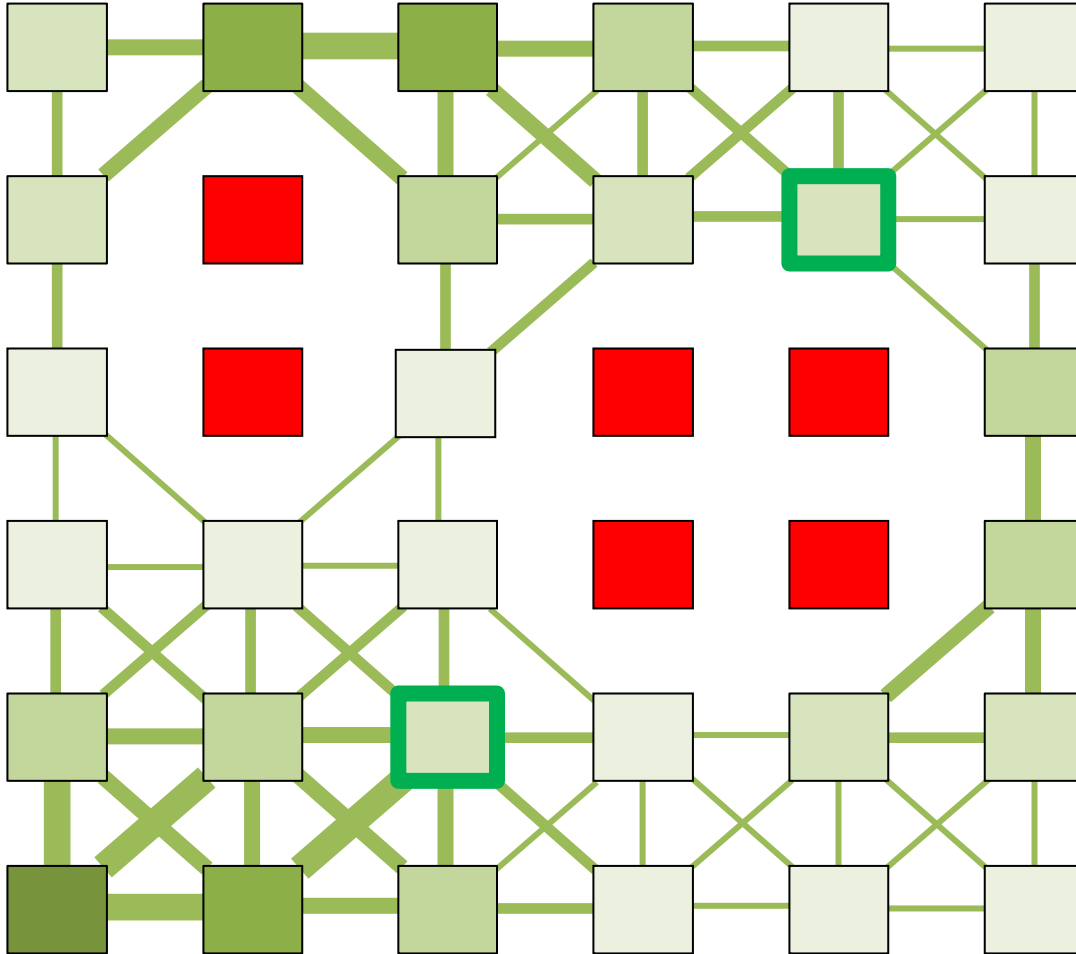
Graph: vertices connected by edges

Assign costs

Remove edges to obstacles

Dijkstra's Algorithm

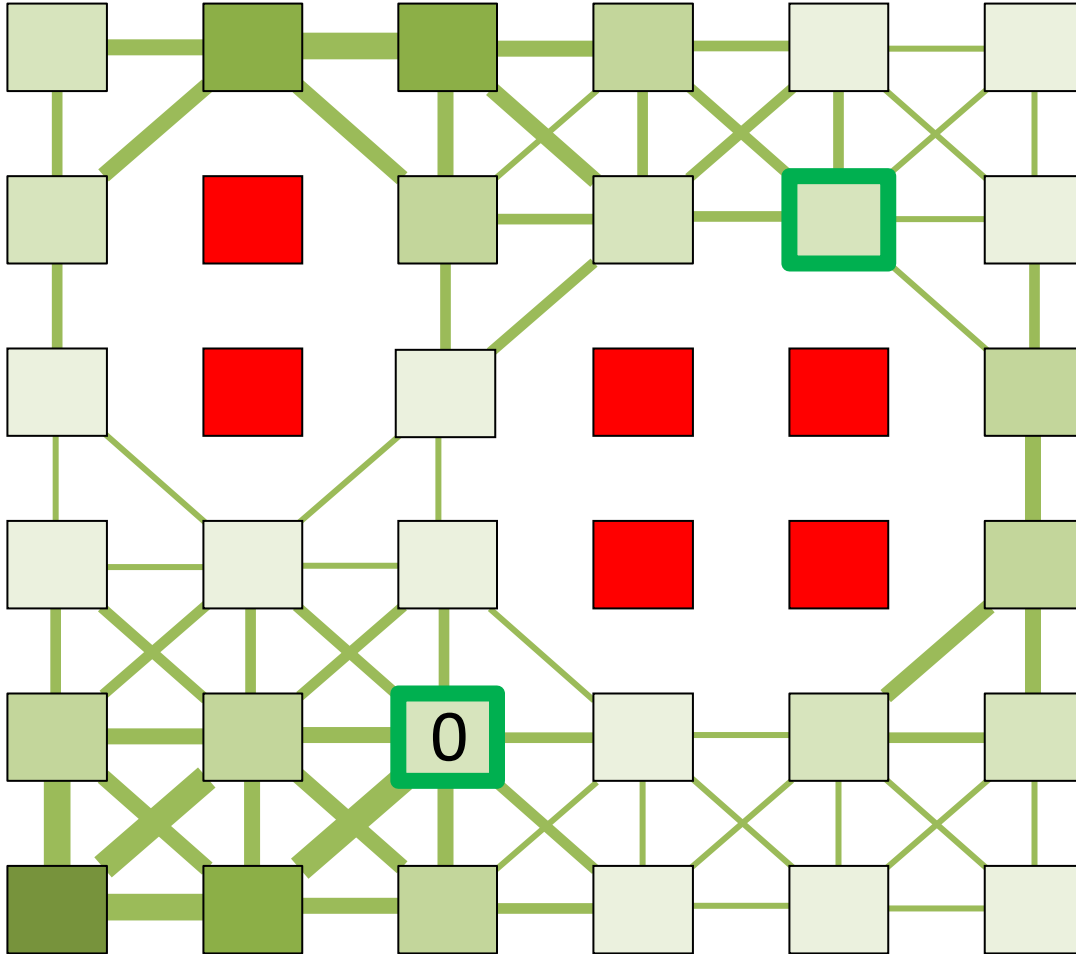
Pseudocode:



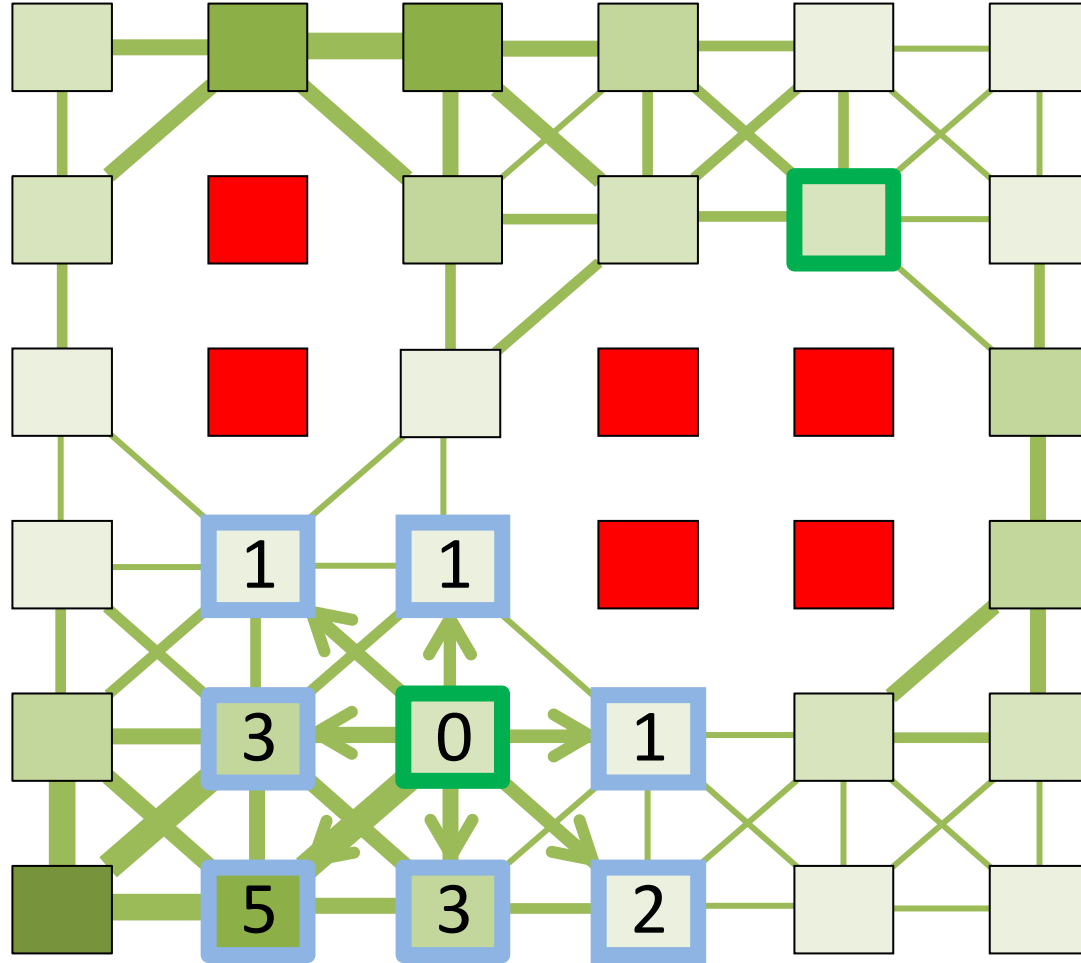
Dijkstra's Algorithm

Pseudocode:

Start with $i = 0$ steps at q_{start}



Dijkstra's Algorithm



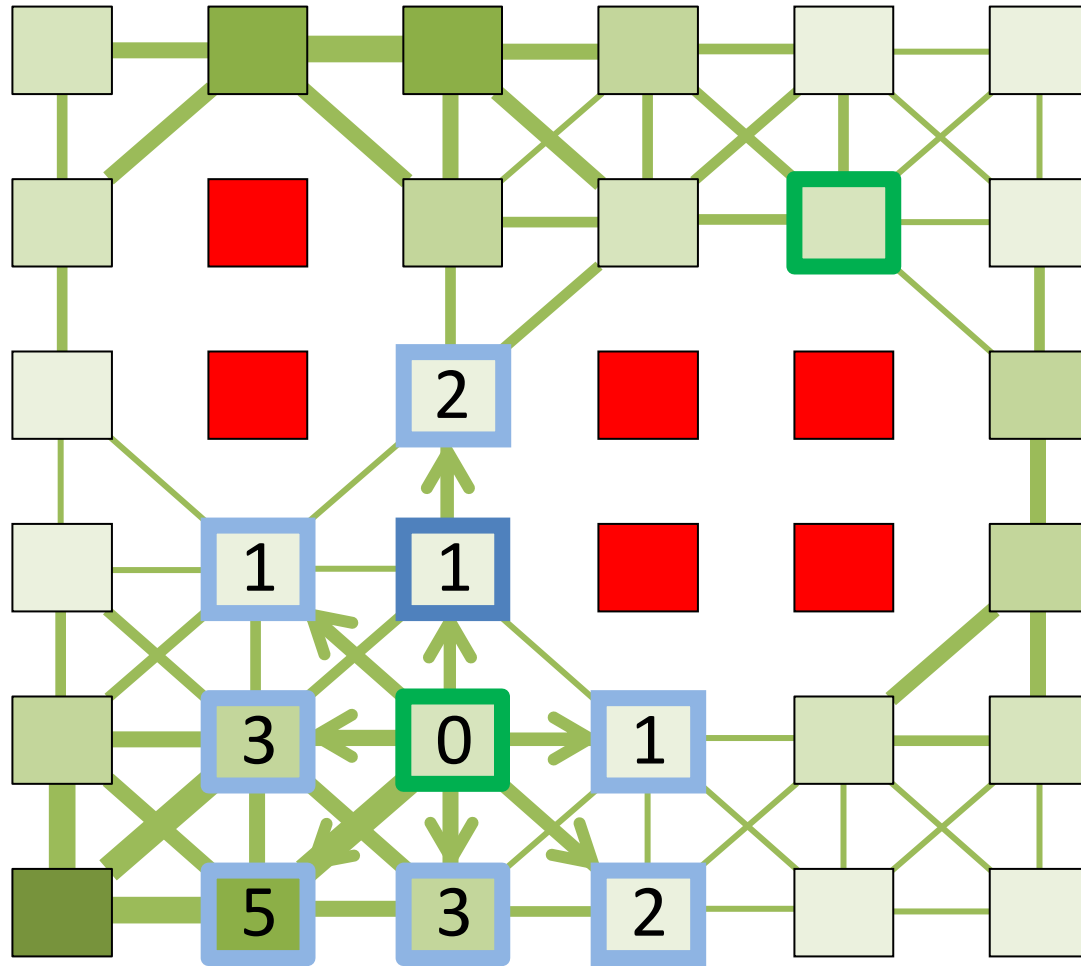
Pseudocode:

Start with $i = 0$ steps at q_{start}

Add neighbors of q_{start} to *boundary*

Update costs of neighbors

Dijkstra's Algorithm



Pseudocode:

Start with $i = 0$ steps at q_{start}

Add neighbors of q_{start} to *boundary*

Update costs of neighbors

While $\sim \text{empty}(\textit{boundary})$

$q = \textit{boundary}$ cell with min cost

Add all new neighbors to *boundary*

Update costs of new neighbors

The grid world is a 5x5 grid. The start cell is at (3,0) and is green with a black border. The goal cells are at (1,1), (1,2), (2,1), and (4,0), all with blue borders. Red squares represent obstacles at (1,3), (2,3), (3,3), (3,4), (4,3), and (4,4). Green arrows indicate a path from the start cell to the goal cell at (1,1): (3,0) → (2,0) → (2,1) → (1,1).

Start with $i = 0$ steps at q_{start}

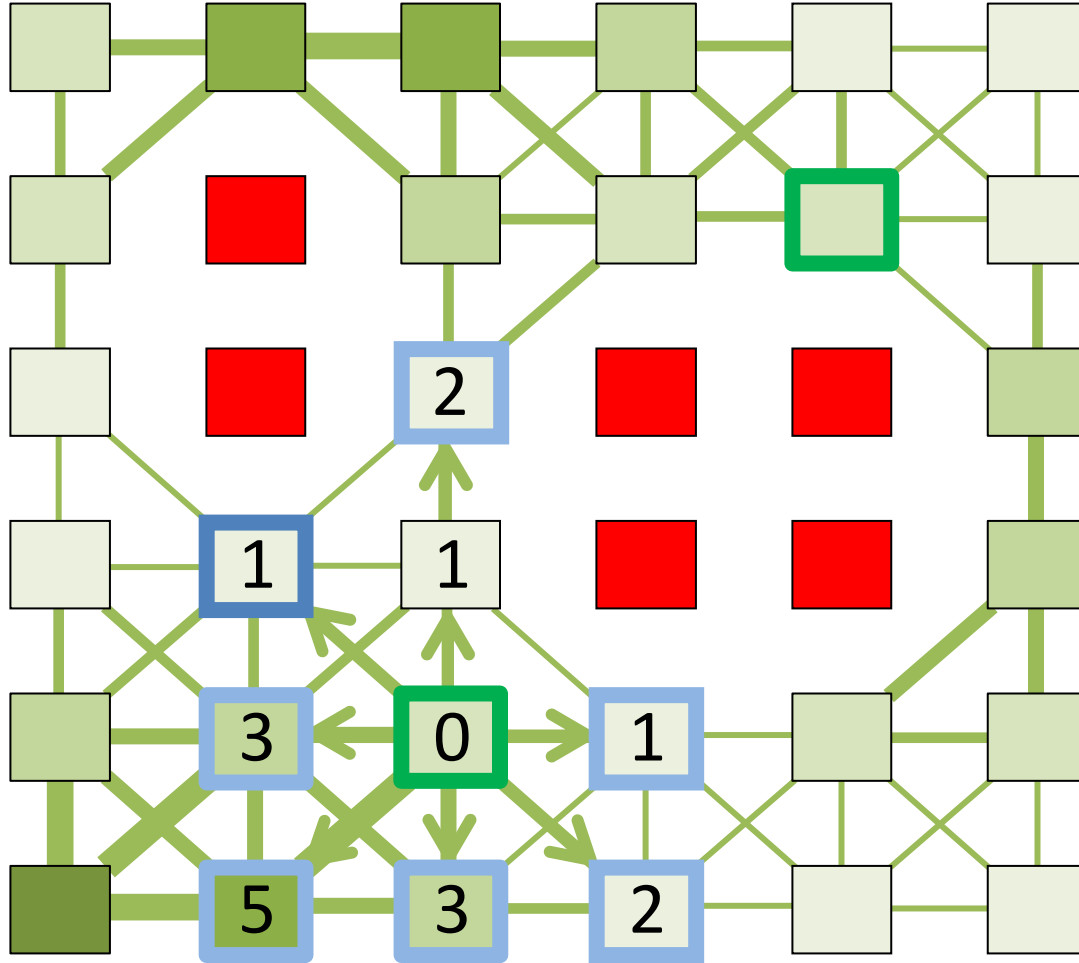
Update costs of neighbors

$q = \textit{boundary}$ cell with min cost

Update costs of new neighbors

Remove q from *boundary*

Dijkstra's Algorithm



Pseudocode:

Start with $i = 0$ steps at q_{start}

Add neighbors of q_{start} to *boundary*

Update costs of neighbors

While $\sim \text{empty}(\textit{boundary})$

$q = \textit{boundary}$ cell with min cost

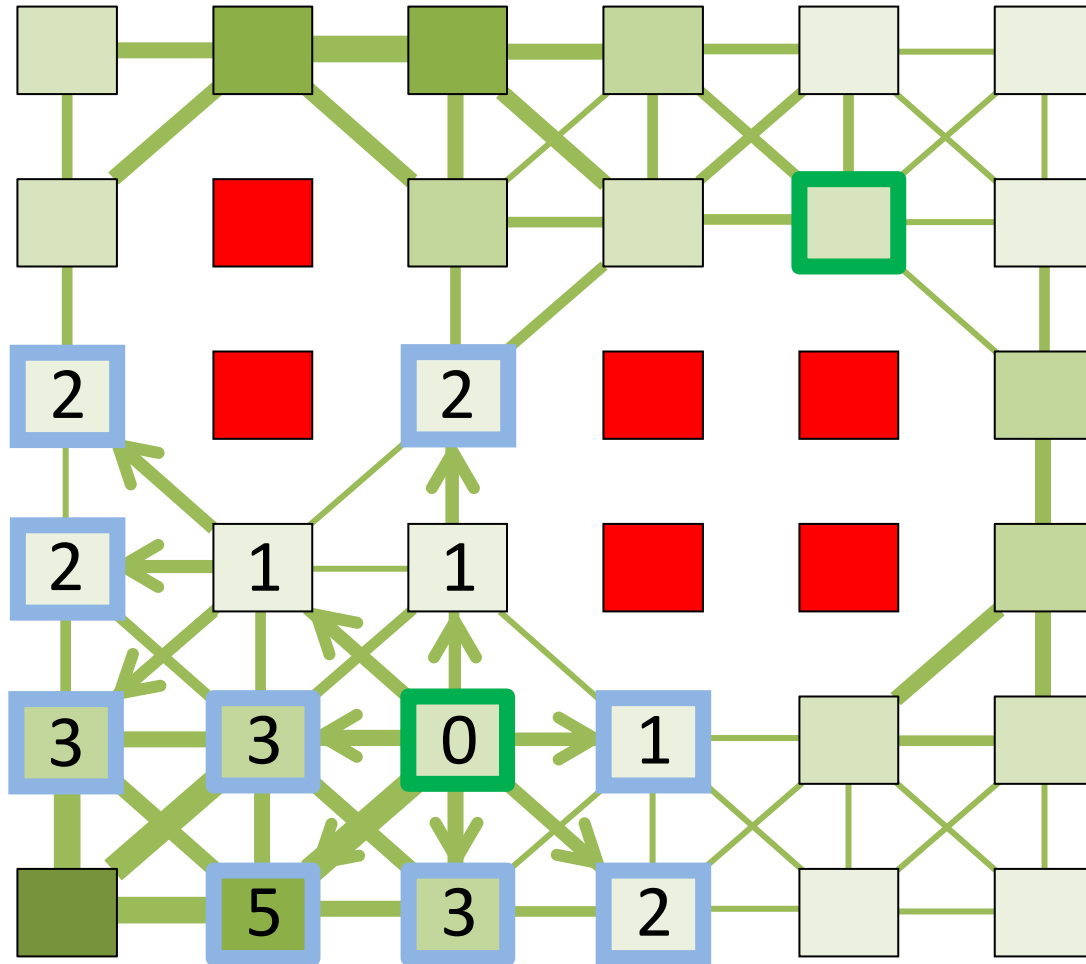
Add all new neighbors to *boundary*

Update costs of new neighbors

Remove q from *boundary*

If a neighbor is q_{end} , STORE

Dijkstra's Algorithm



Pseudocode:

Start with $i = 0$ steps at q_{start}

Add neighbors of q_{start} to *boundary*

Update costs of neighbors

While $\sim \text{empty}(\textit{boundary})$

$q = \textit{boundary}$ cell with min cost

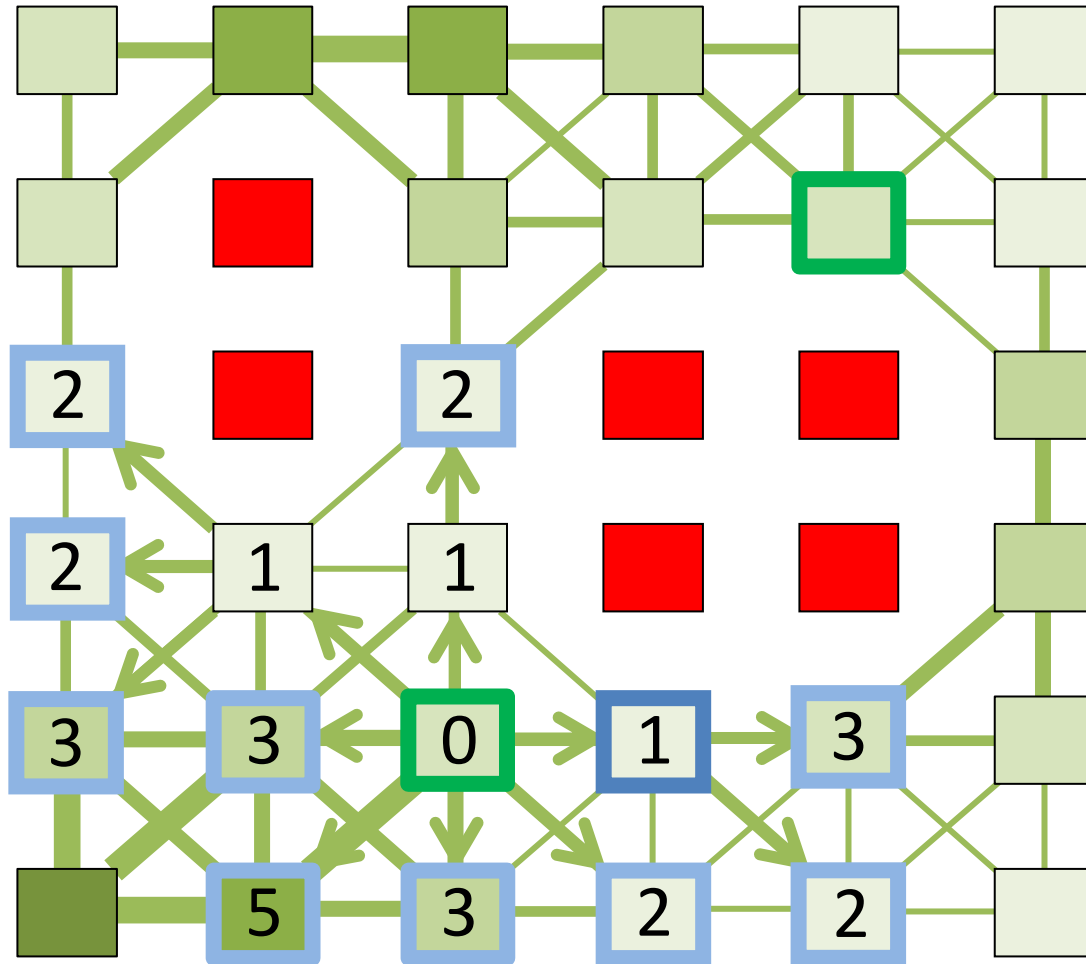
Add all new neighbors to *boundary*

Update costs of new neighbors

Remove q from *boundary*

If a neighbor is q_{end} , STORE

Dijkstra's Algorithm



Pseudocode:

Start with $i = 0$ steps at q_{start}

Add neighbors of q_{start} to *boundary*

Update costs of neighbors

While $\sim \text{empty}(\textit{boundary})$

$q = \textit{boundary}$ cell with min cost

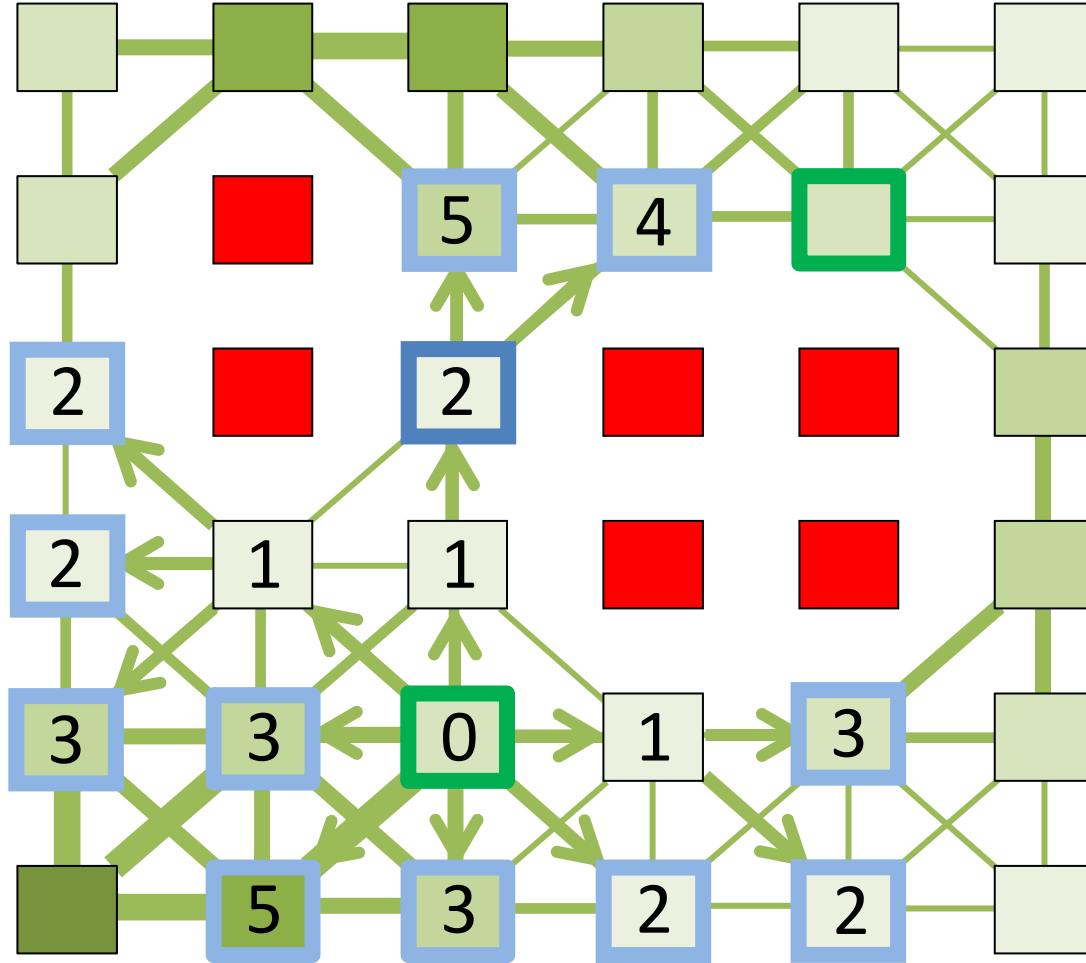
Add all new neighbors to *boundary*

Update costs of new neighbors

Remove q from *boundary*

If a neighbor is q_{end} , STORE

Dijkstra's Algorithm



Pseudocode:

Start with $i = 0$ steps at q_{start}

Add neighbors of q_{start} to *boundary*

Update costs of neighbors

While $\sim \text{empty}(\textit{boundary})$

$q = \textit{boundary}$ cell with min cost

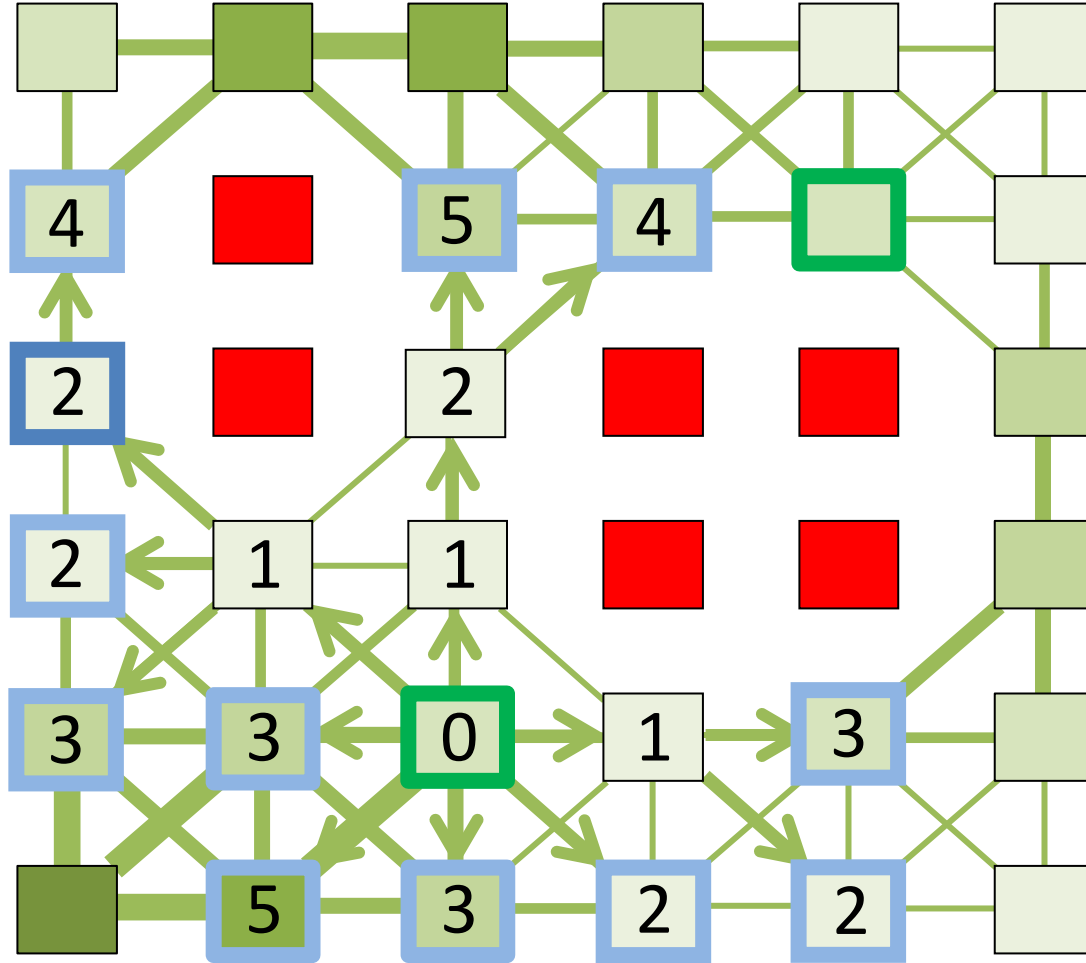
Add all new neighbors to *boundary*

Update costs of new neighbors

Remove q from *boundary*

If a neighbor is q_{end} , STORE

Dijkstra's Algorithm



Pseudocode:

Start with $i = 0$ steps at q_{start}

Add neighbors of q_{start} to *boundary*

Update costs of neighbors

While $\sim \text{empty}(\textit{boundary})$

$q = \textit{boundary}$ cell with min cost

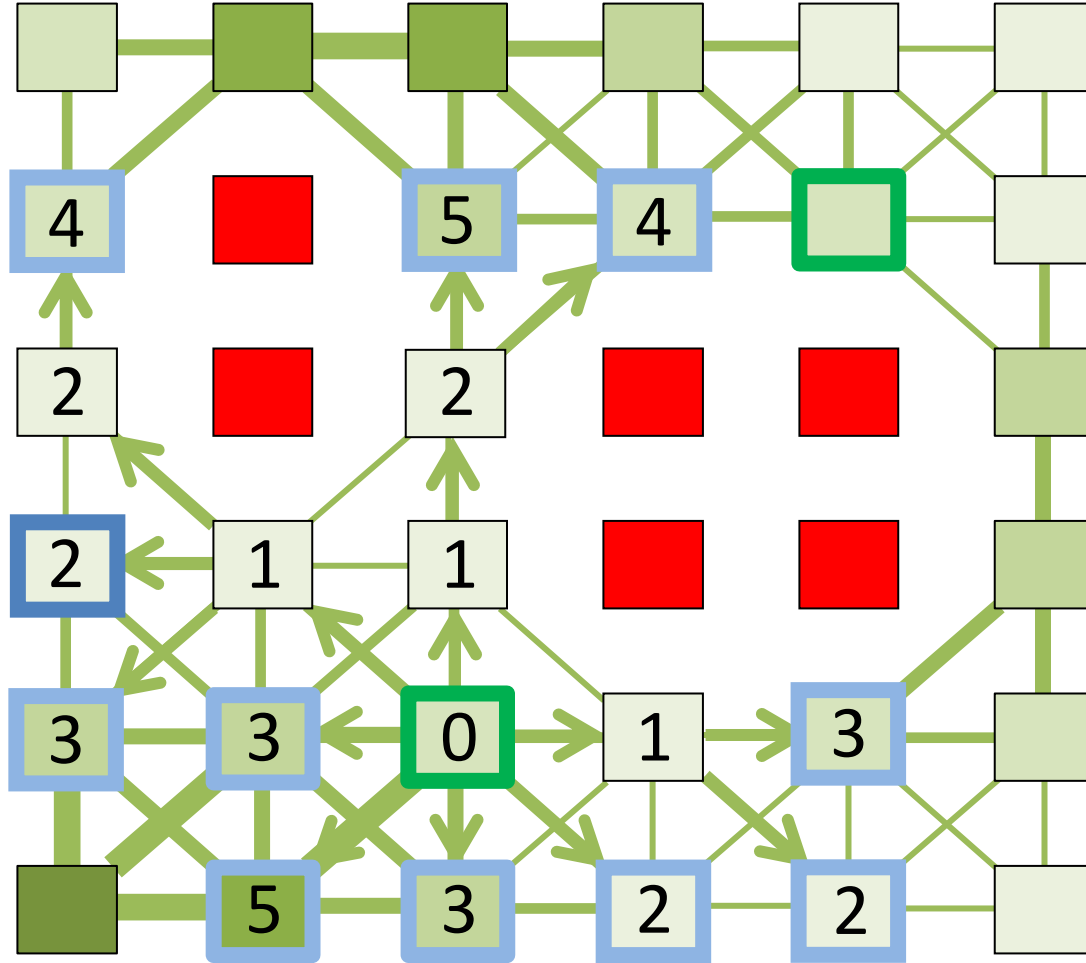
Add all new neighbors to *boundary*

Update costs of new neighbors

Remove q from *boundary*

If a neighbor is q_{end} , STORE

Dijkstra's Algorithm



Pseudocode:

Start with $i = 0$ steps at q_{start}

Add neighbors of q_{start} to *boundary*

Update costs of neighbors

While $\sim \text{empty}(\textit{boundary})$

$q = \textit{boundary}$ cell with min cost

Add all new neighbors to *boundary*

Update costs of new neighbors

Remove q from *boundary*

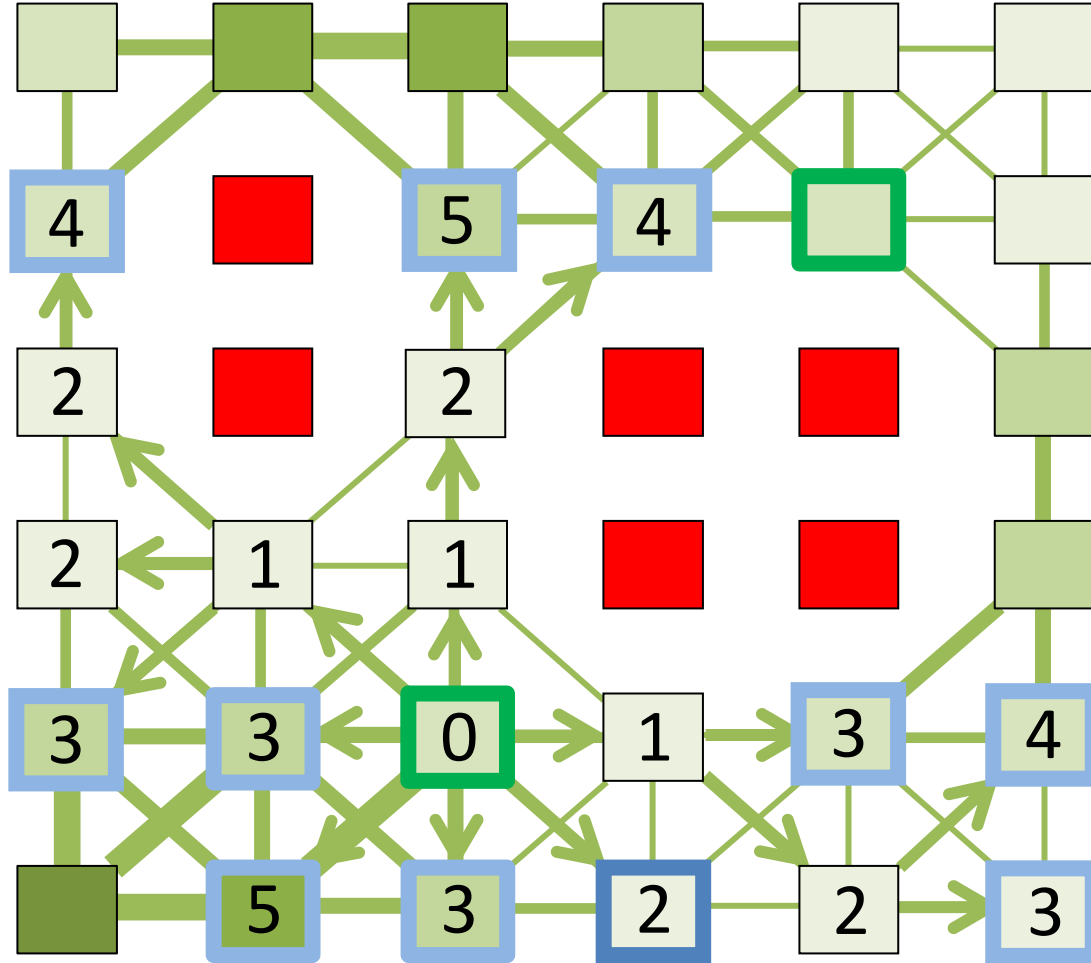
If a neighbor is q_{end} , STORE

The grid world environment is a 6x6 grid. The start state is marked with a green border and the number 0. The goal state is marked with a blue border and the number 5. The grid contains various numbers representing rewards or costs, and some cells are highlighted with blue or green borders. Arrows indicate possible transitions between adjacent cells.

4		5	4		
2		2			
2	1	1			
3	3	0	1	3	4
	5	3	2	2	3

- Start with $i = 0$ steps at q_{start}
- Add neighbors of q_{start} to *boundary*
- Update costs of neighbors
- While $\sim \text{empty}(\textit{boundary})$
 - $q = \textit{boundary}$ cell with min cost
 - Add all new neighbors to *boundary*
 - Update costs of new neighbors
 - Remove q from *boundary*
 - If a neighbor is q_{end} , STORE

Dijkstra's Algorithm



Pseudocode:

Start with $i = 0$ steps at q_{start}

Add neighbors of q_{start} to *boundary*

Update costs of neighbors

While $\sim \text{empty}(\textit{boundary})$

$q = \textit{boundary}$ cell with min cost

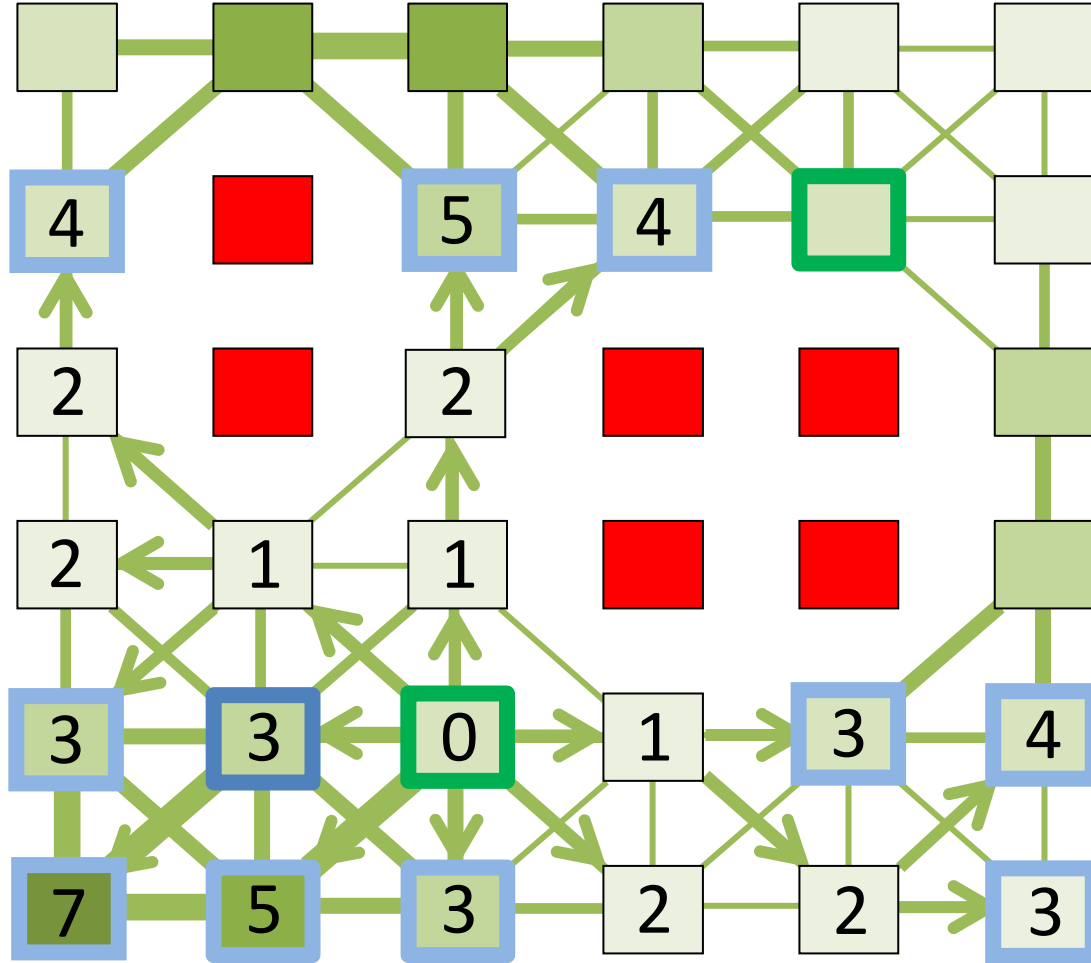
Add all new neighbors to *boundary*

Update costs of new neighbors

Remove q from *boundary*

If a neighbor is q_{end} , STORE

Dijkstra's Algorithm



Pseudocode:

Start with $i = 0$ steps at q_{start}

Add neighbors of q_{start} to *boundary*

Update costs of neighbors

While $\sim \text{empty}(\textit{boundary})$

$q = \textit{boundary}$ cell with min cost

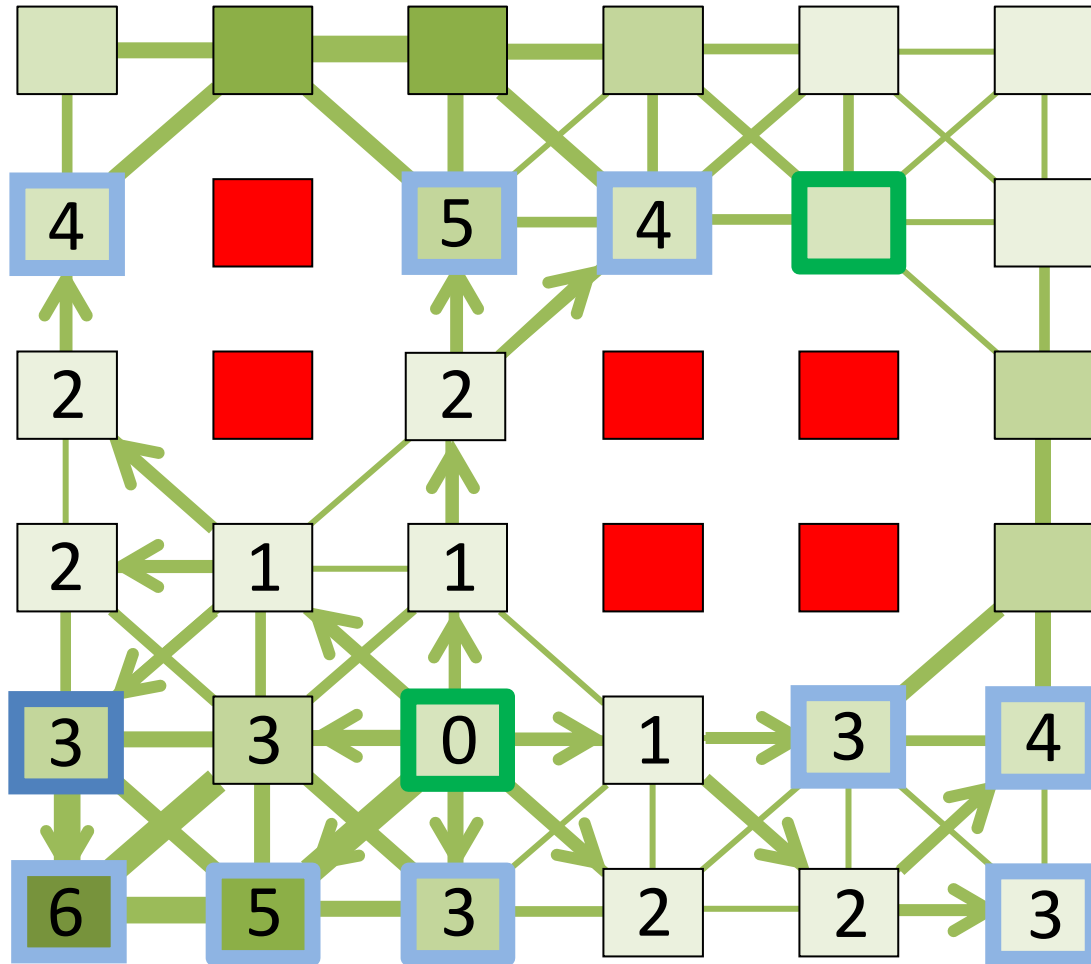
Add all new neighbors to *boundary*

Update costs of new neighbors

Remove q from *boundary*

If a neighbor is q_{end} , STORE

Dijkstra's Algorithm



Pseudocode:

Start with $i = 0$ steps at q_{start}

Add neighbors of q_{start} to *boundary*

Update costs of neighbors

While $\sim \text{empty}(\textit{boundary})$

$q = \textit{boundary}$ cell with min cost

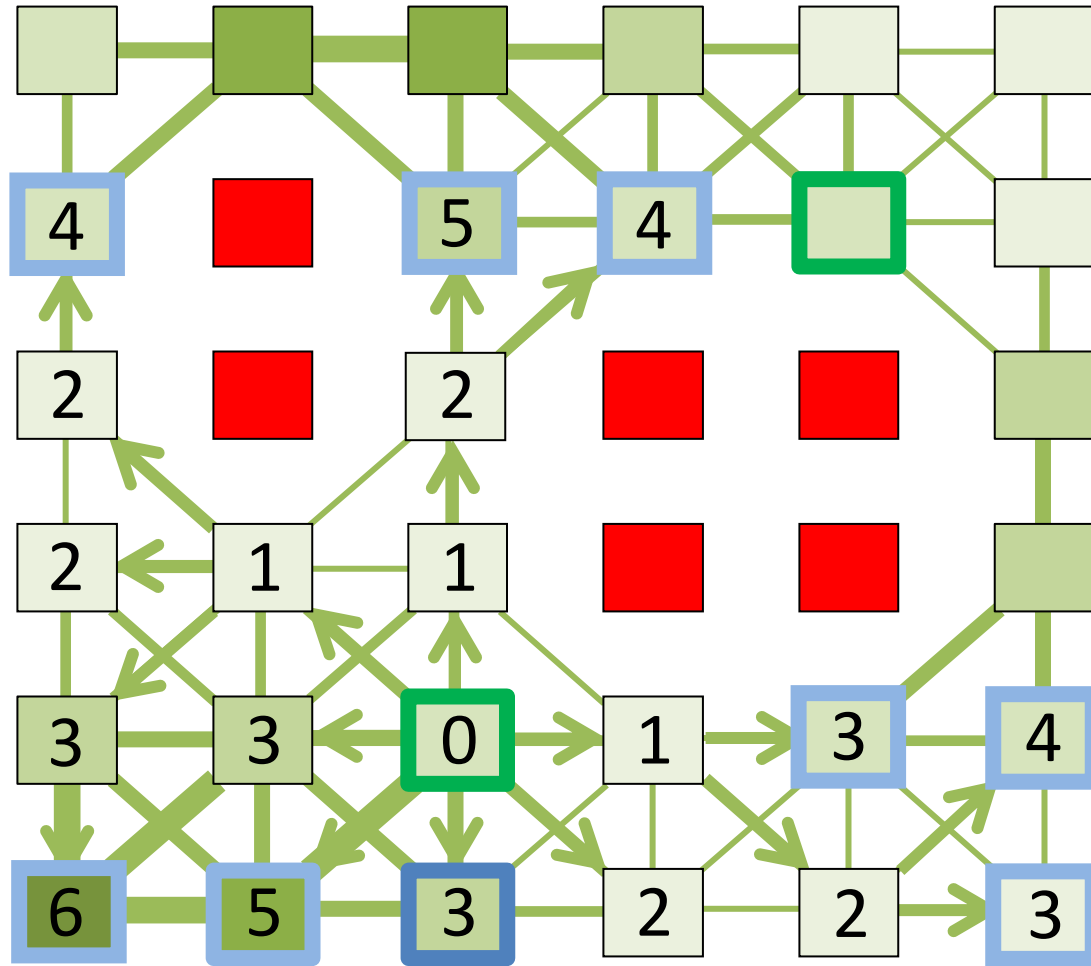
Add all new neighbors to *boundary*

Update costs of new neighbors

Remove q from *boundary*

If a neighbor is q_{end} , STORE

Dijkstra's Algorithm



Pseudocode:

Start with $i = 0$ steps at q_{start}

Add neighbors of q_{start} to *boundary*

Update costs of neighbors

While $\sim \text{empty}(\textit{boundary})$

$q = \textit{boundary}$ cell with min cost

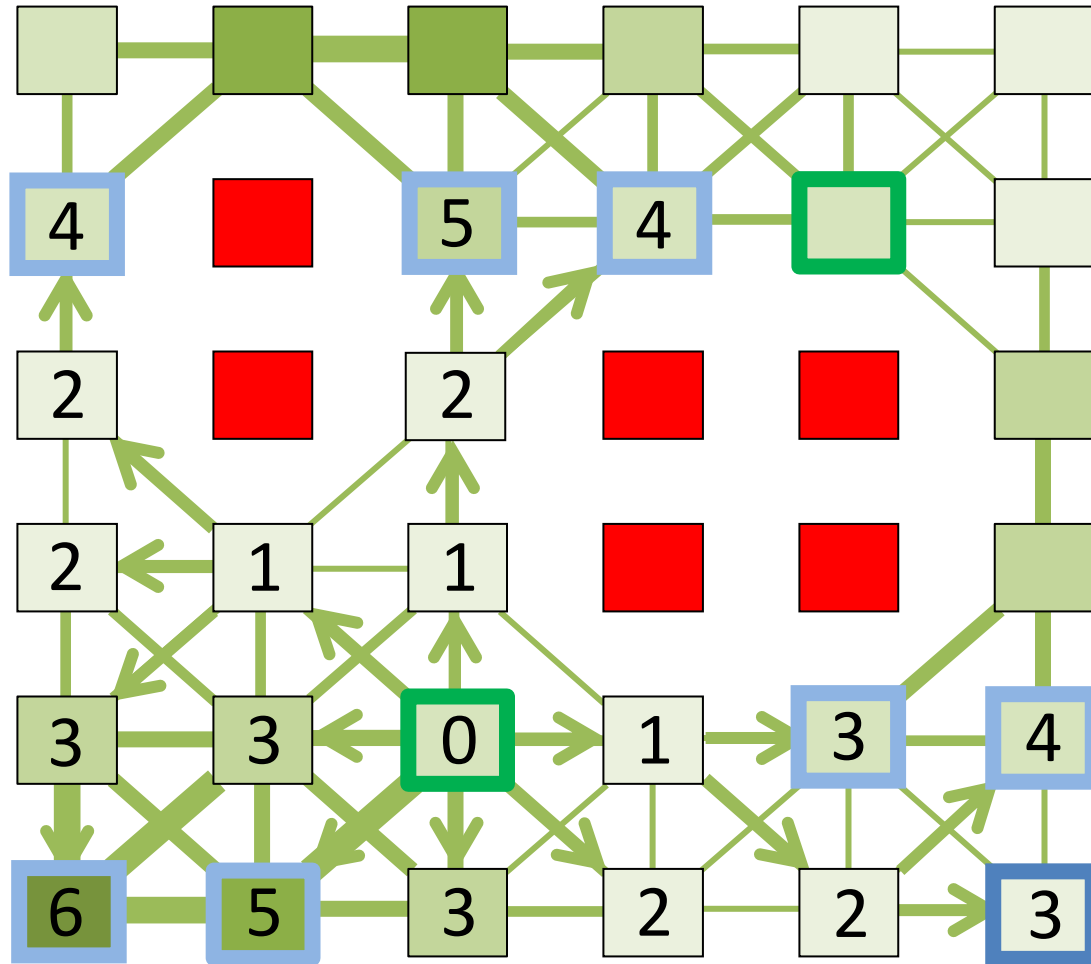
Add all new neighbors to *boundary*

Update costs of new neighbors

Remove q from *boundary*

If a neighbor is q_{end} , STORE

Dijkstra's Algorithm



Pseudocode:

Start with $i = 0$ steps at q_{start}

Add neighbors of q_{start} to *boundary*

Update costs of neighbors

While $\sim \text{empty}(\textit{boundary})$

$q = \textit{boundary}$ cell with min cost

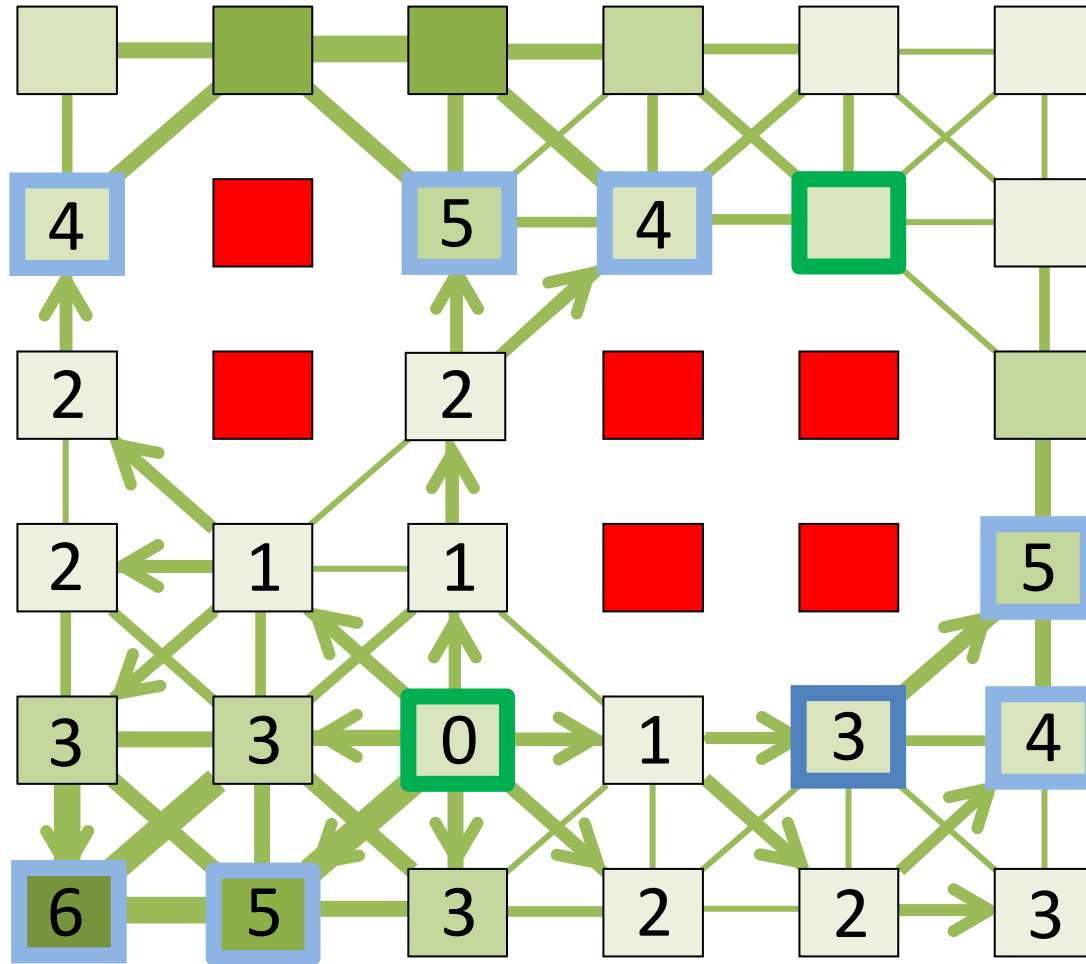
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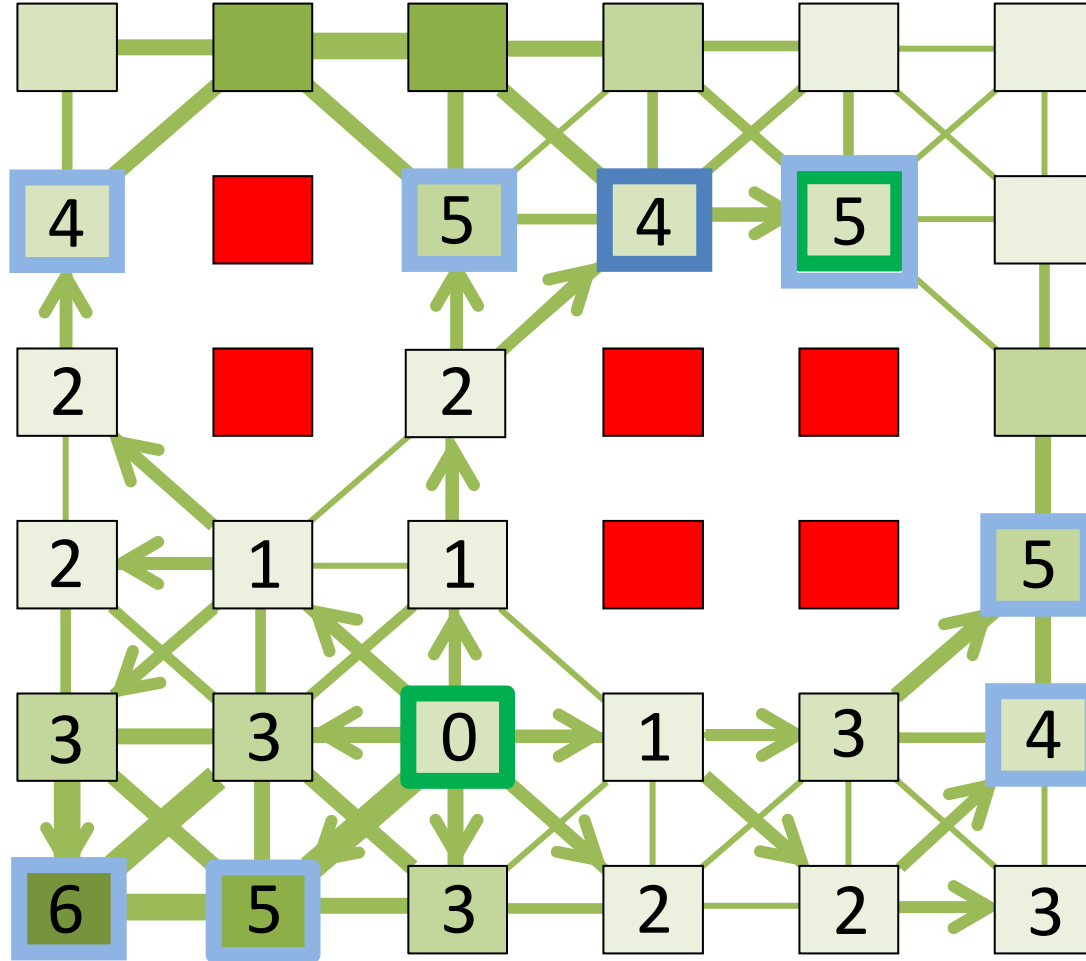
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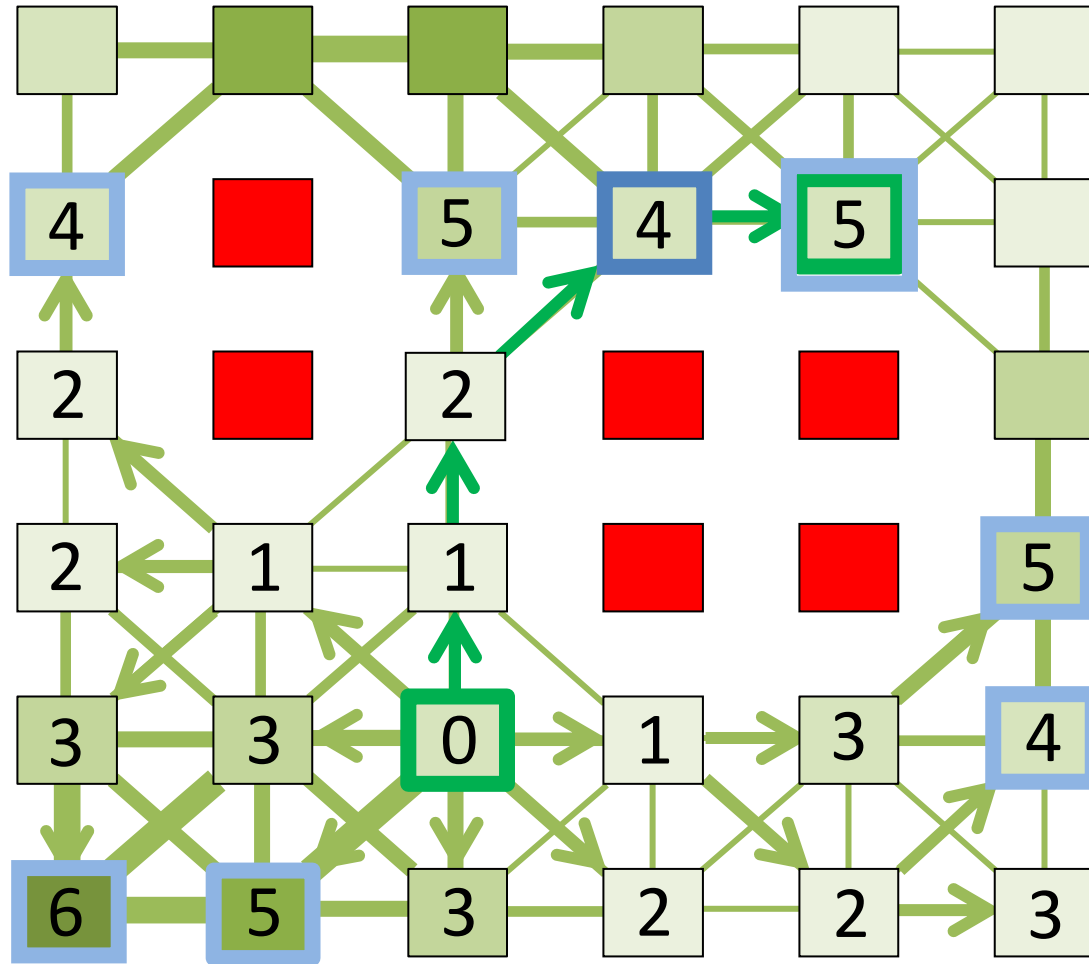
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Dijkstra's Algorithm



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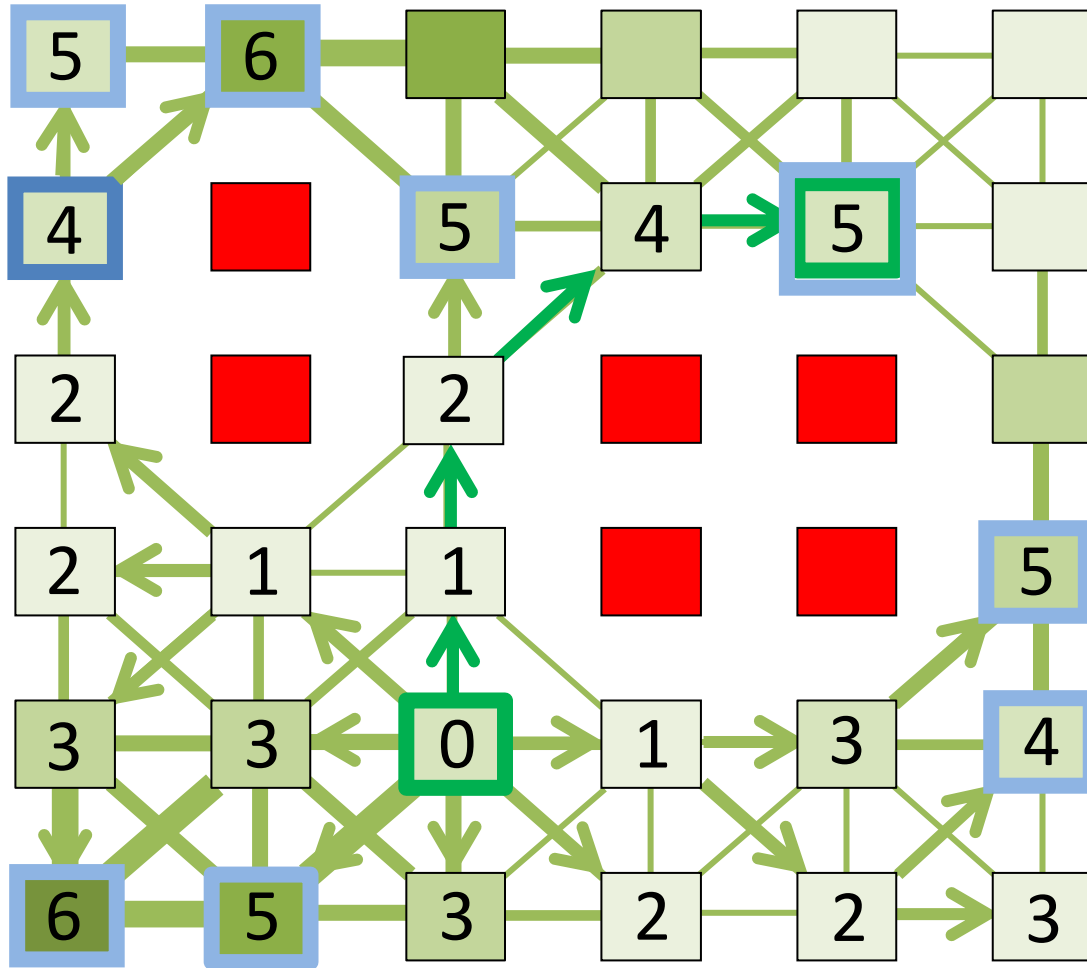
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Dijkstra's Algorithm



Pseudocode:

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While $\sim \text{empty}(\textit{boundary})$

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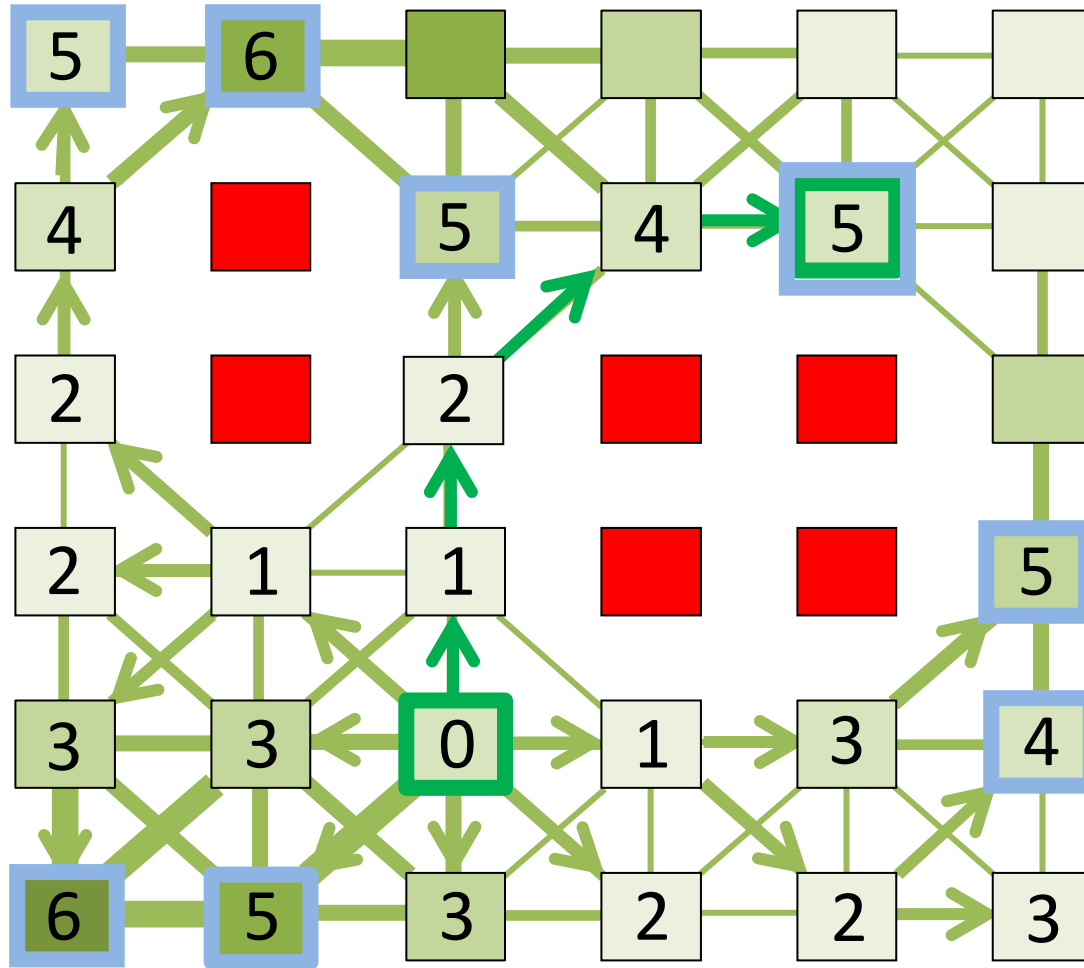
Add all new neighbors to *boundary*

Update costs of new neighbors

Remove q from *boundary*

If a neighbor is q_{end} , **STORE**

Dijkstra's Algorithm



Pseudocode:

Start with $i = 0$ steps at q_{start}

Add neighbors of q_{start} to *boundary*

Update costs of neighbors

While $\sim \text{empty}(\textit{boundary})$

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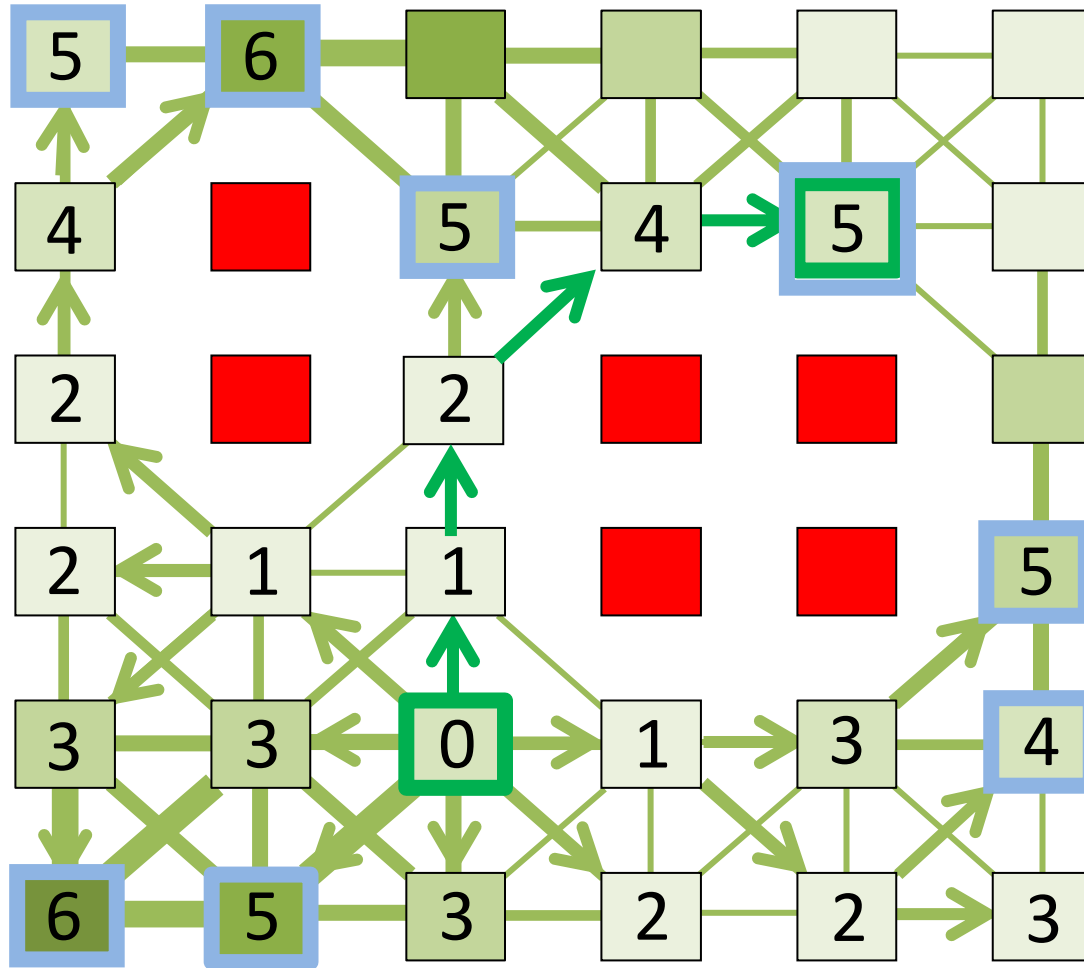
If a neighbor is q_{end} , STORE

If $\text{mincost}(\textit{boundary}) \geq \text{cost}(q_{end})$, STOP

Potentially search all cells:

Computation is $O(N_{cell})$

Dijkstra's Algorithm



Can we make this more efficient?

Pseudocode:

Start with $i = 0$ steps at q_{start}

Add neighbors of q_{start} to *boundary*

Update costs of neighbors

While $\sim \text{empty}(\textit{boundary})$

$q = \textit{boundary}$ cell with min cost

Add all new neighbors to *boundary*

Update costs of new neighbors

Remove q from *boundary*

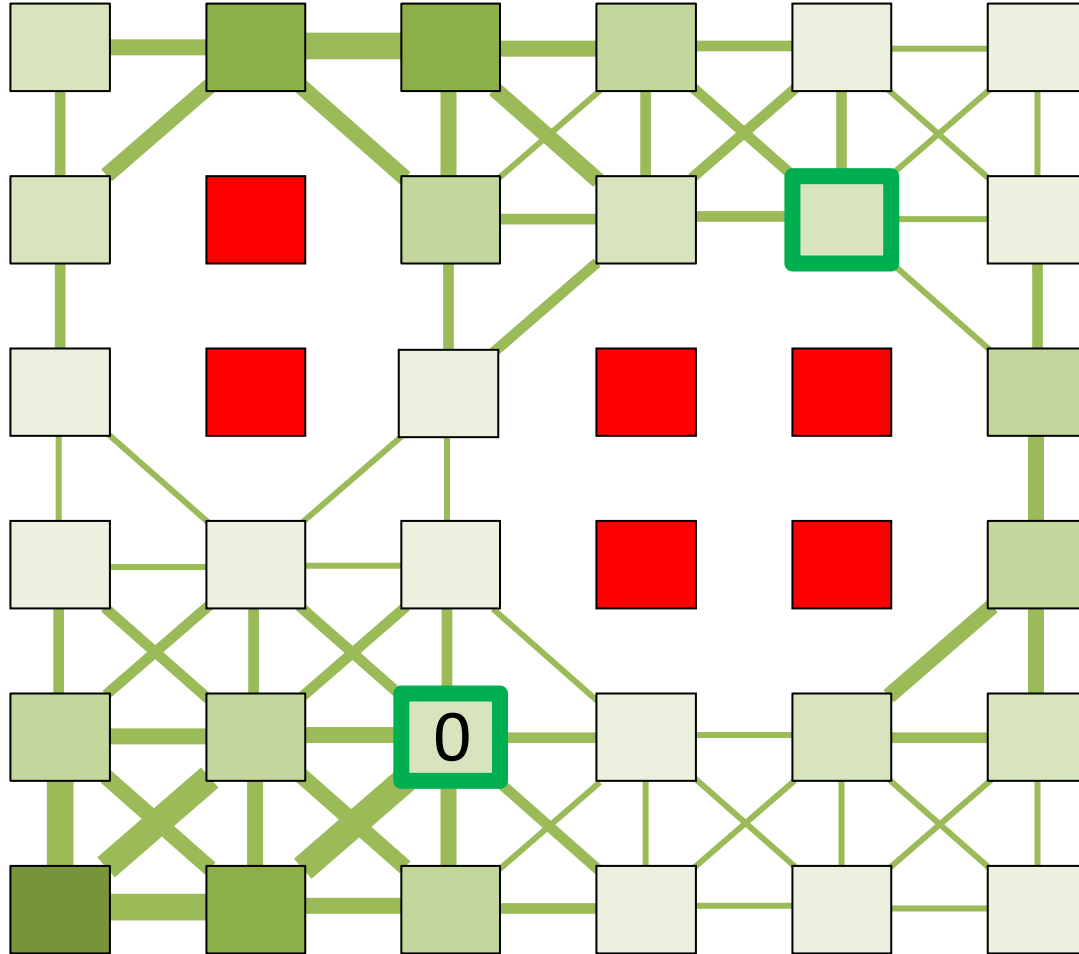
If a neighbor is q_{end} , STORE

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Potentially search all cells:

Computation is $O(N_{cell})$

A* Search



Idea: estimate remaining distance to the goal

Order vertices based on estimated distance

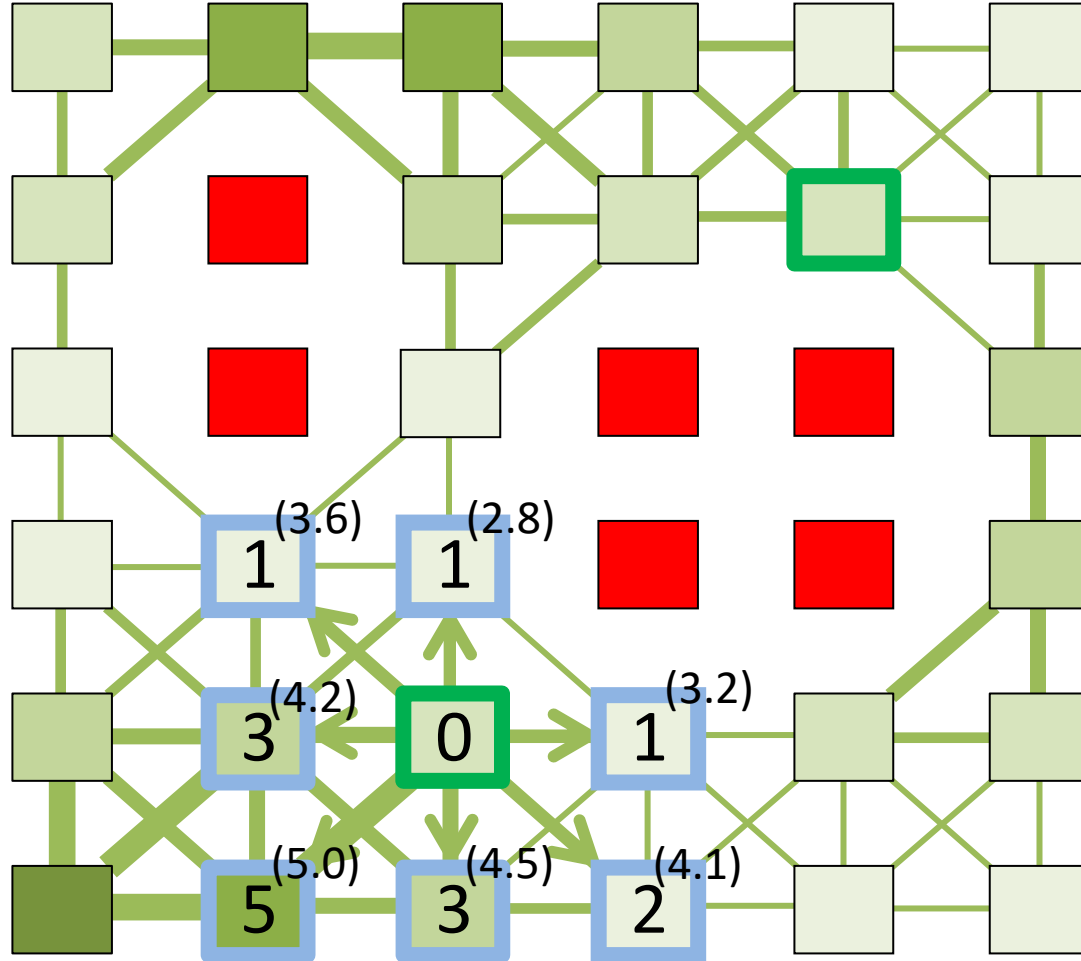
$$f(i) = \underbrace{g(i)}_{\text{cost from start}} + \underbrace{h(i)}_{\text{heuristic: estimated cost to goal}}$$

cost from start

heuristic:
estimated cost to goal

Let's try $h(i) = \text{Euclidean distance to goal}$

A* Search



Idea: estimate remaining distance to the goal

Order vertices based on estimated distance

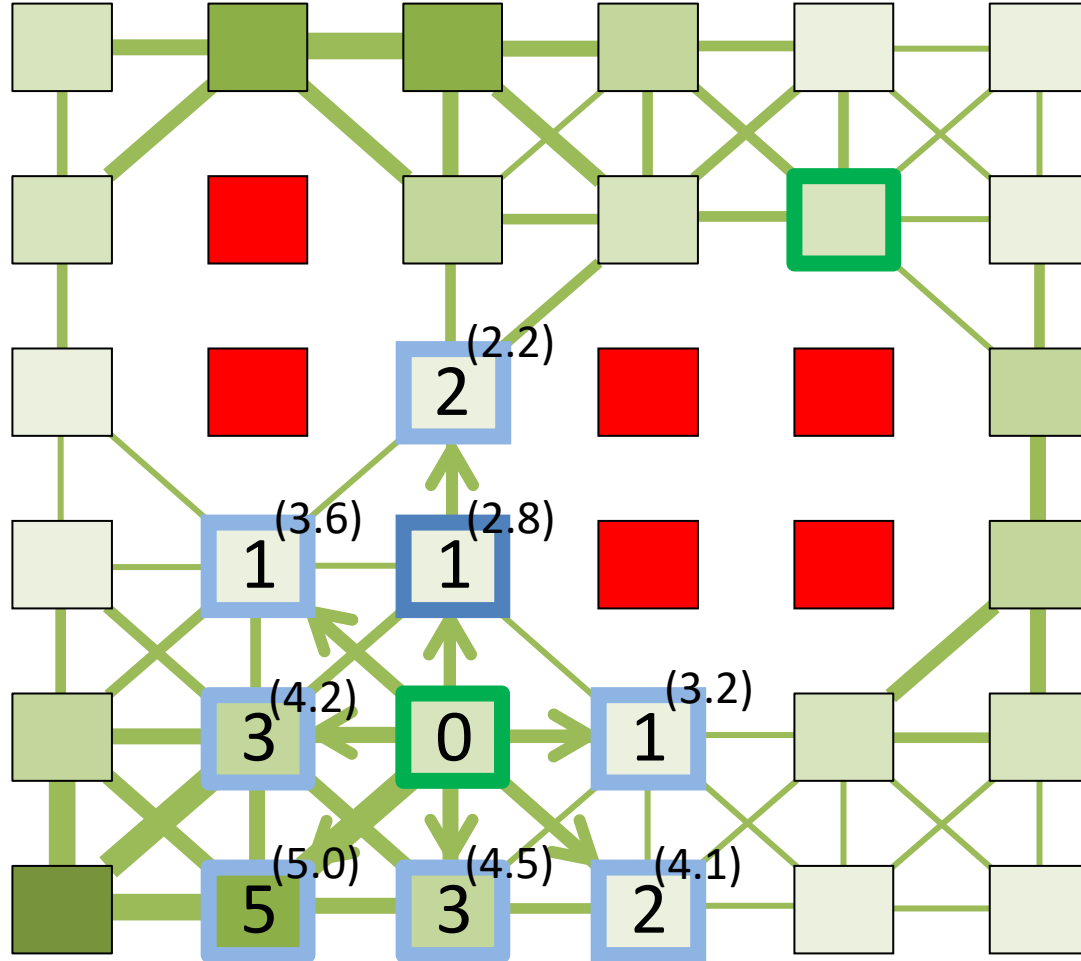
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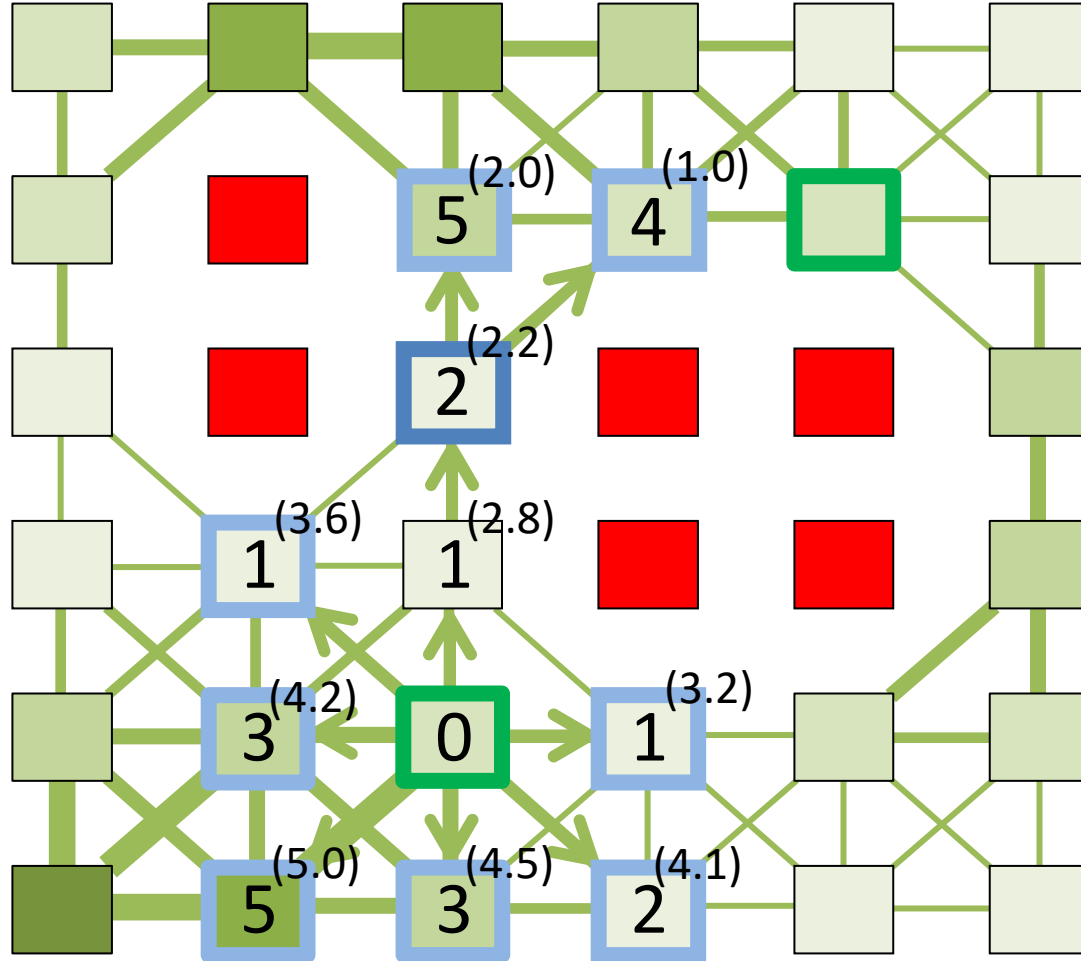
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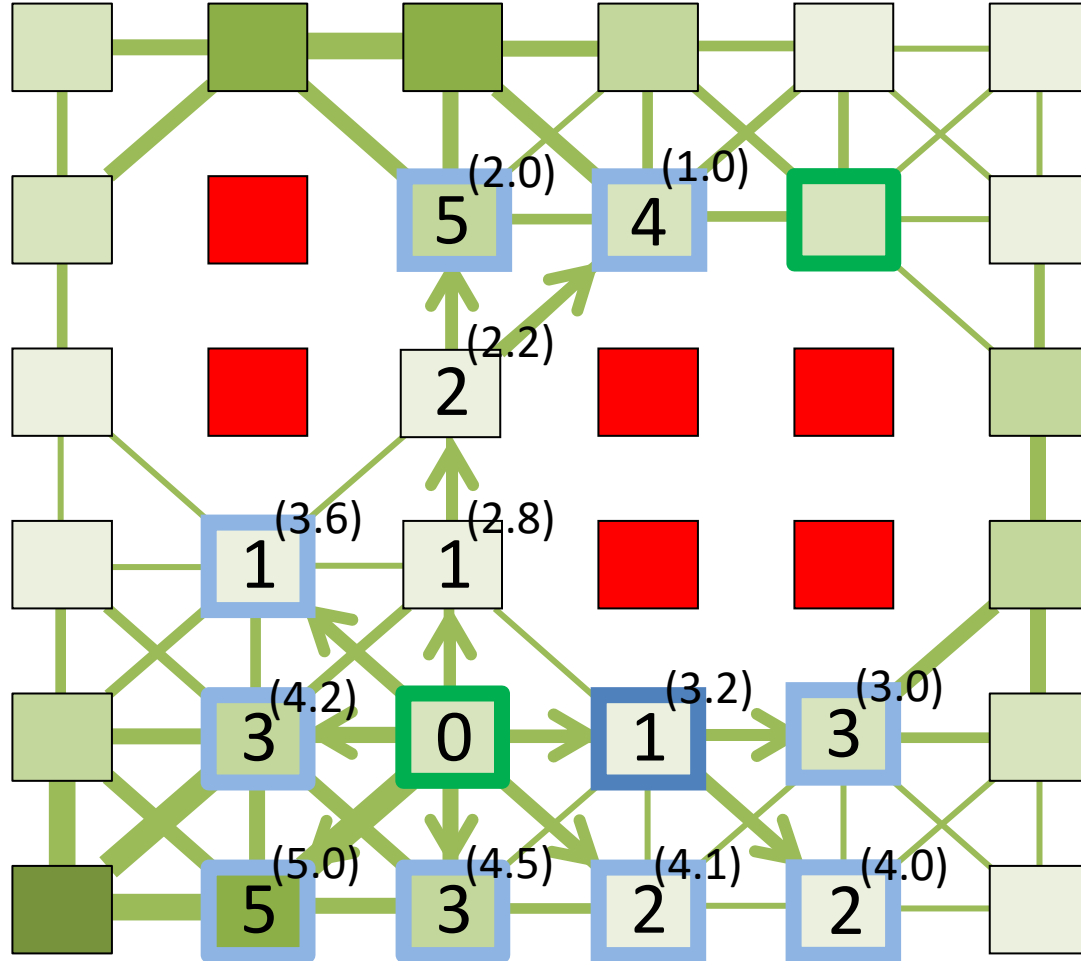
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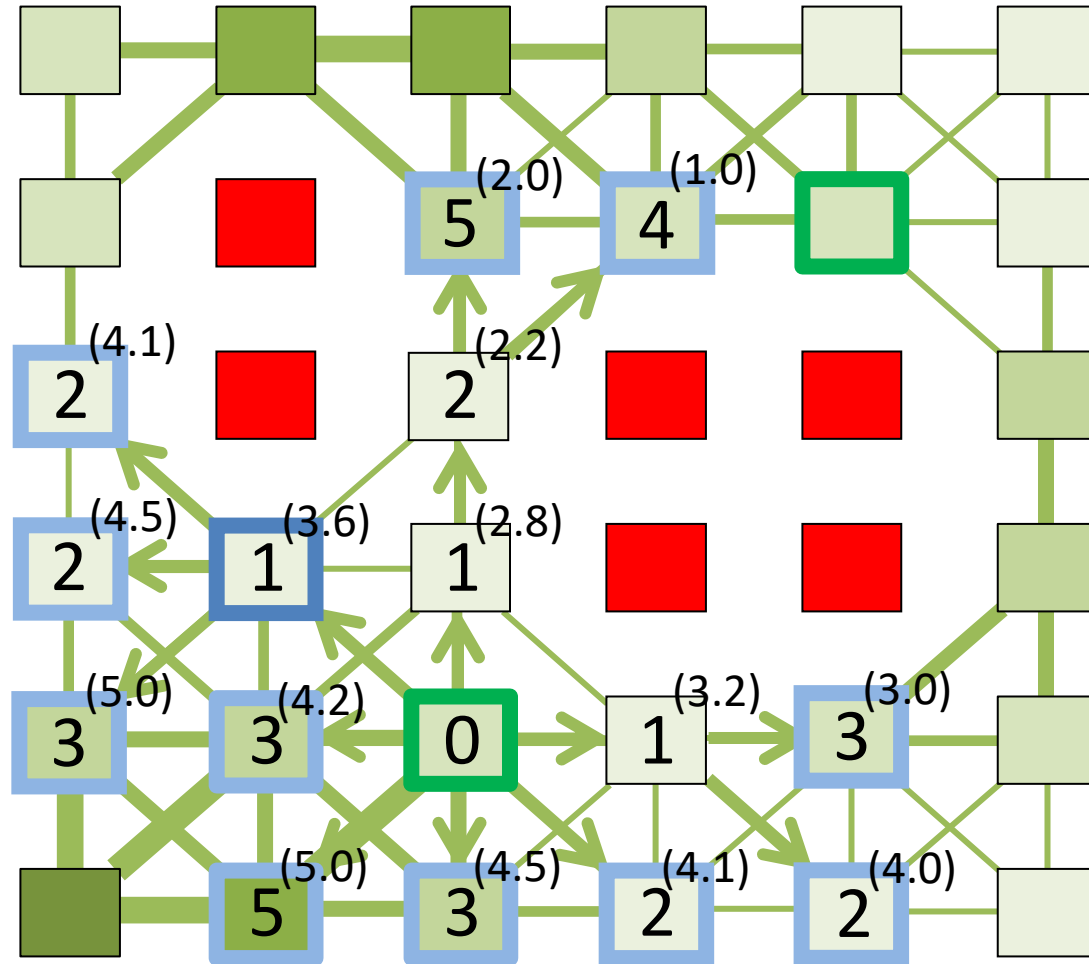
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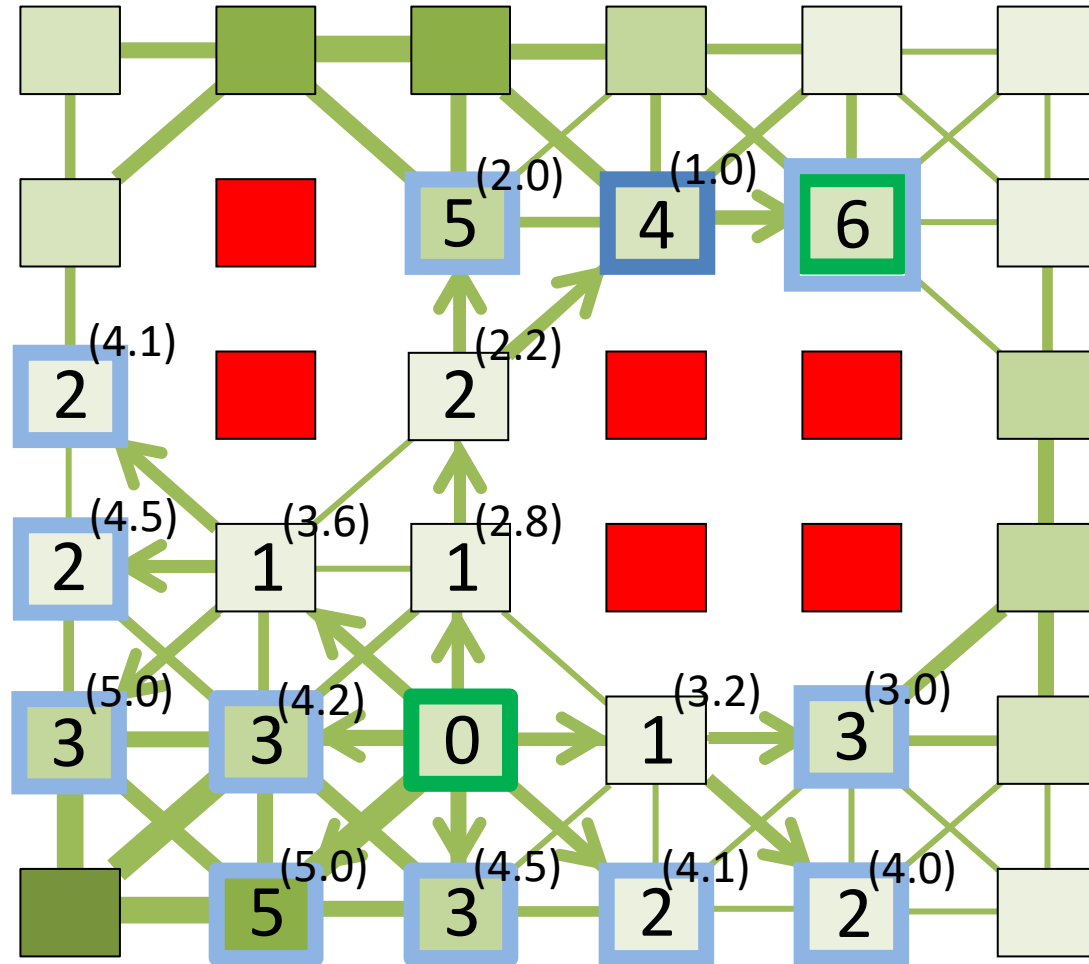
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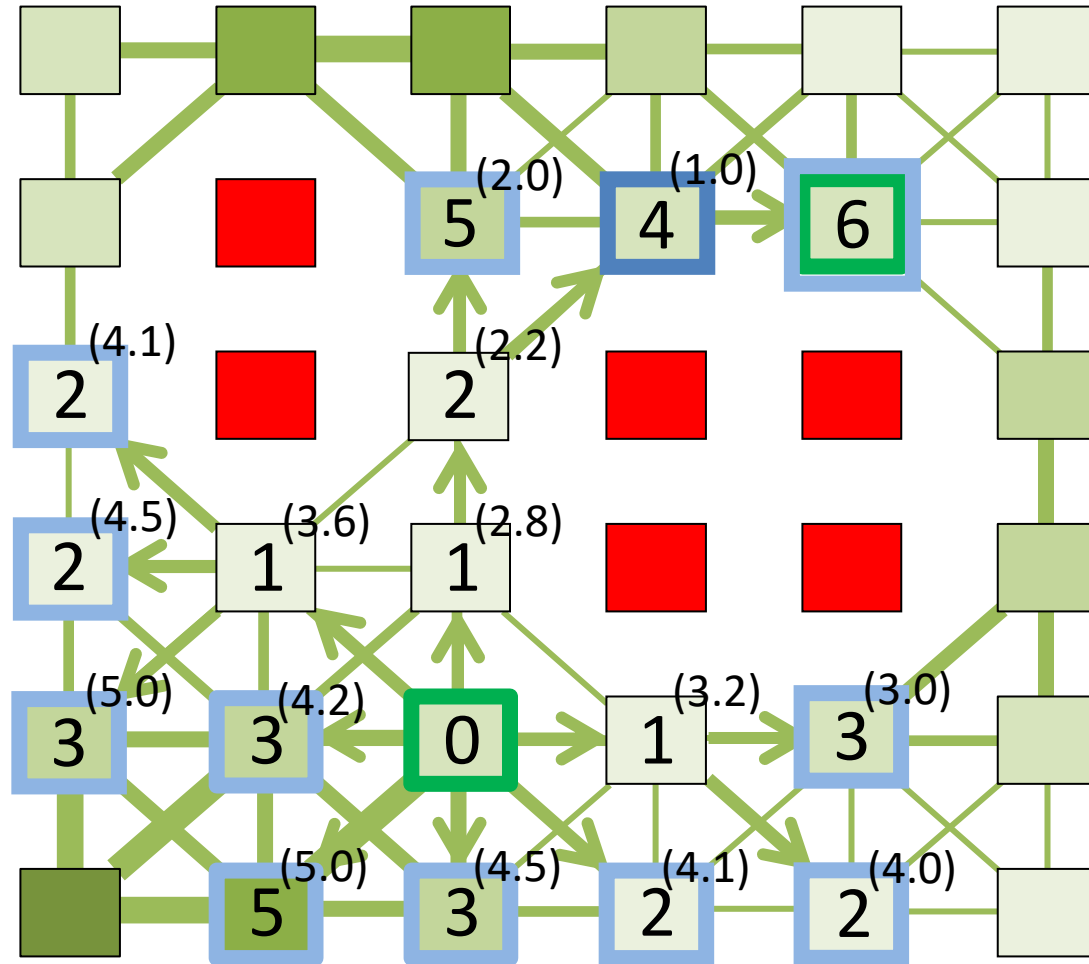
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A* Search



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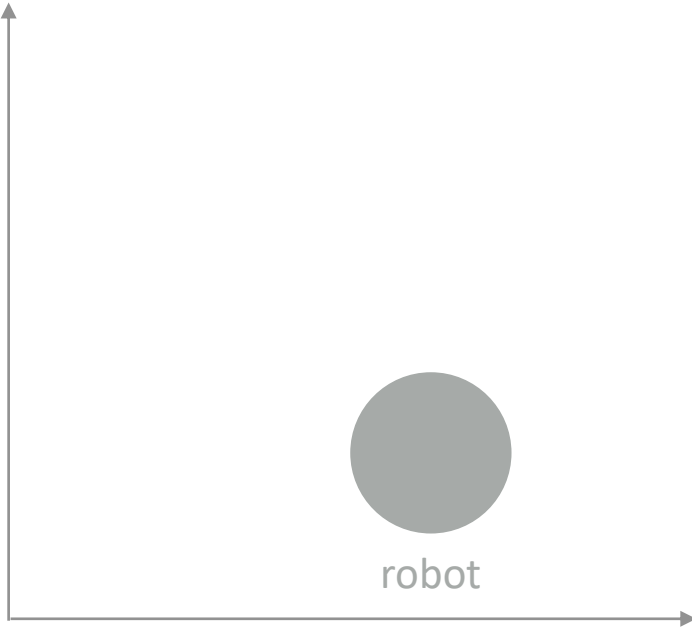
Let's try $h(i) = \text{Euclidean distance to goal}$

$h(i)$ must be **admissible**

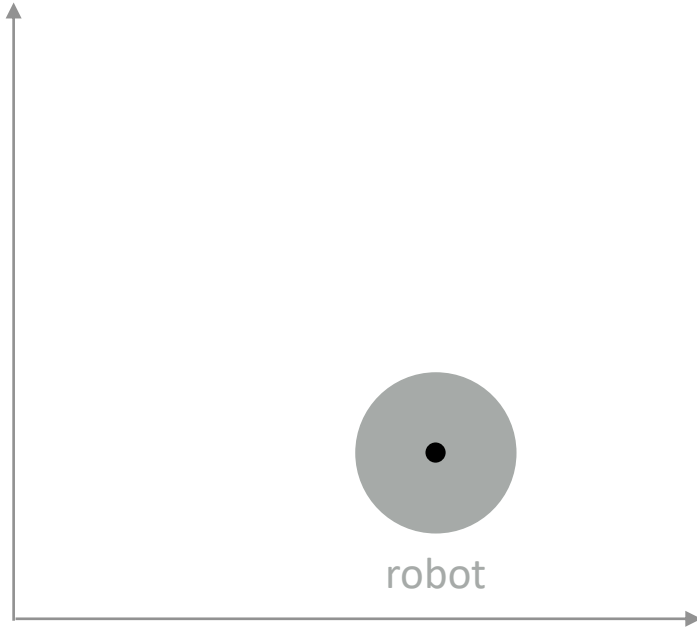
Worst case computational cost?

Non-Point/Non-Line Robots

What does the configuration space look like for this round mobile robot (planar PP)?

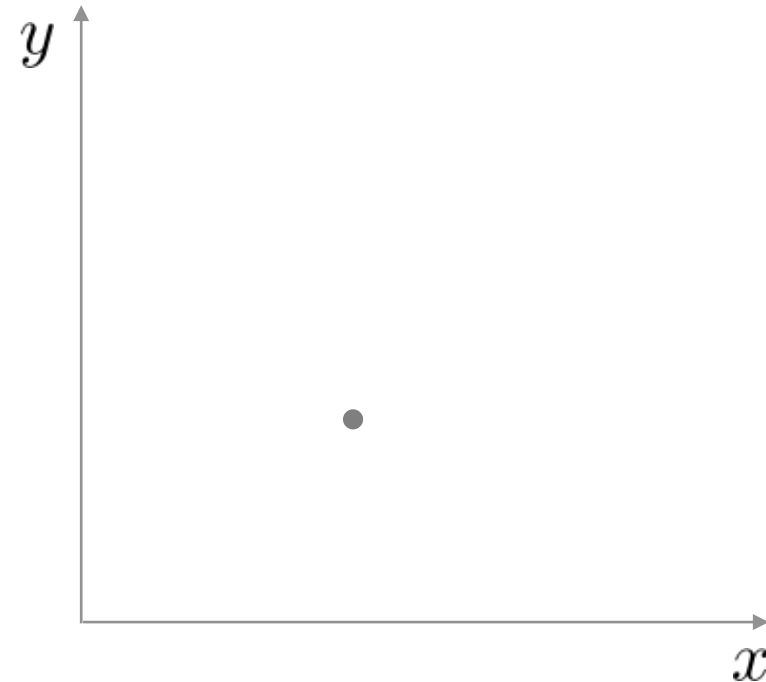


Non-Point/Non-Line Robots

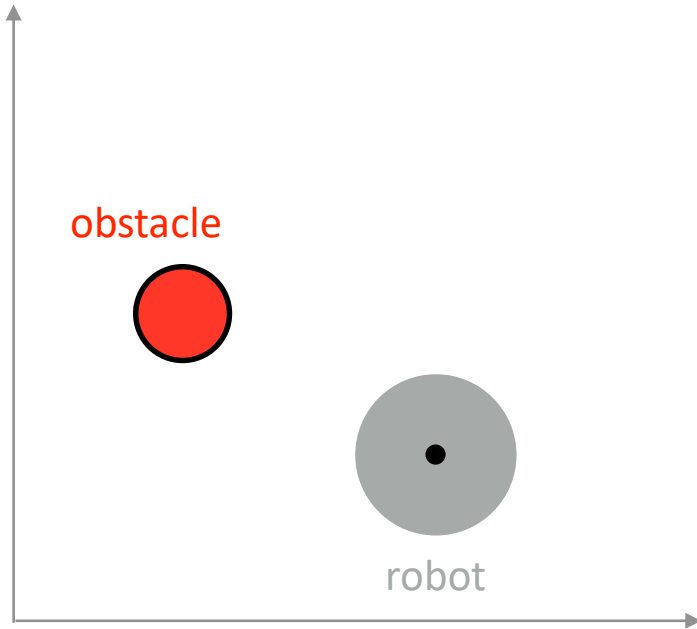


What does the robot look like in this configuration space?

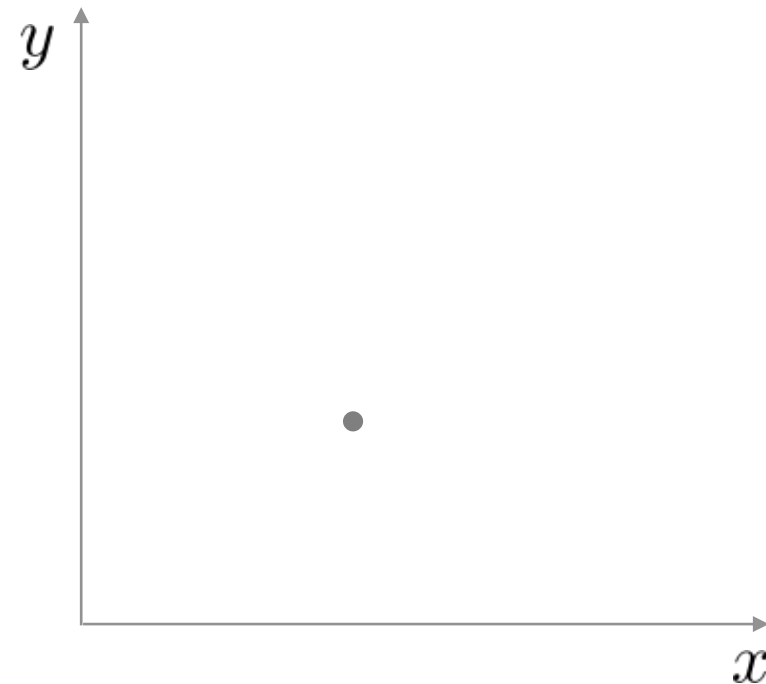
All robots are points in their configuration space!



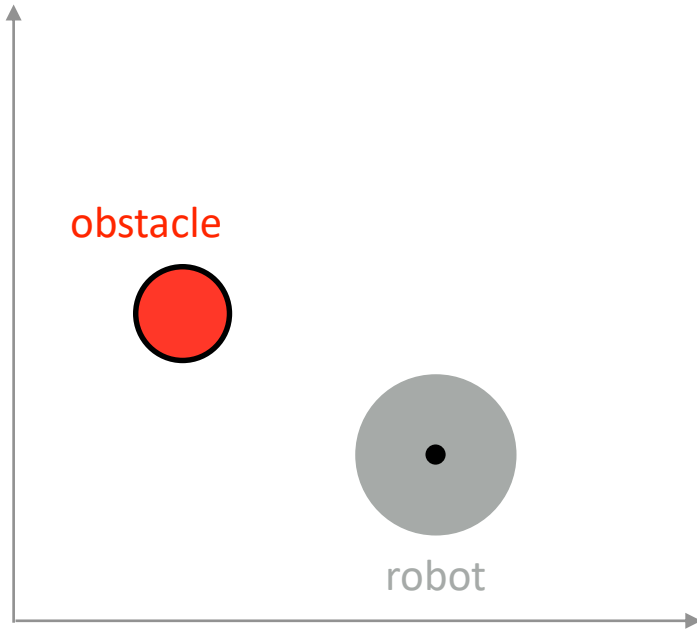
Non-Point/Non-Line Robots



What does the free configuration space look like for this round mobile robot (planar PP) with one small round obstacle in the workspace?

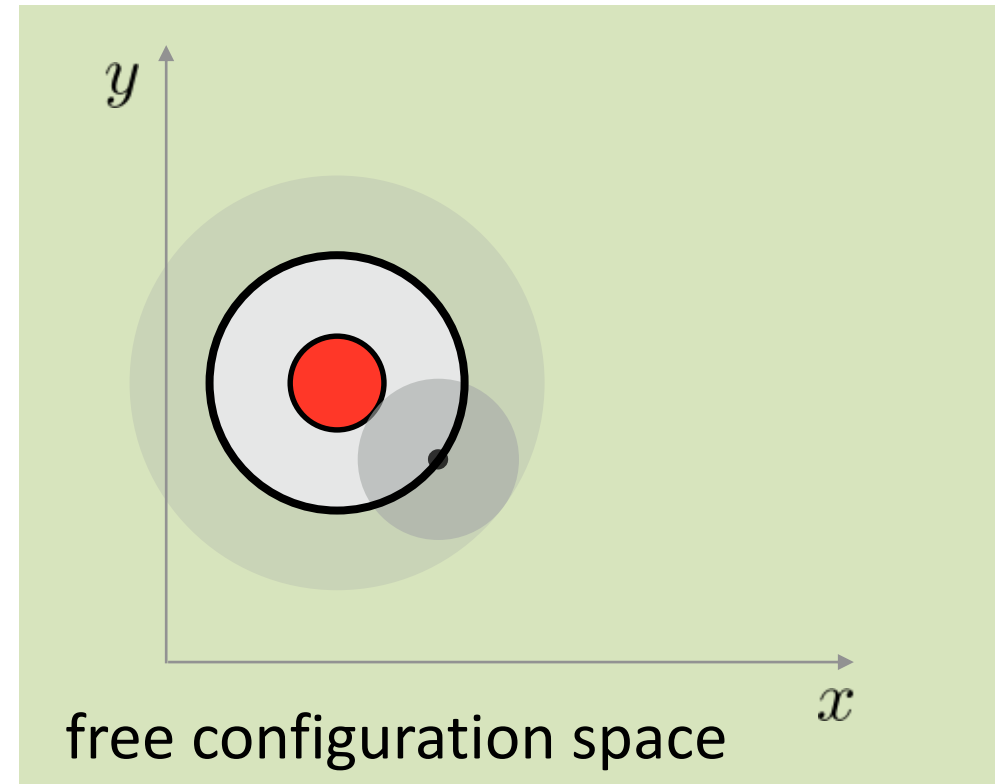


Non-Point/Non-Line Robots

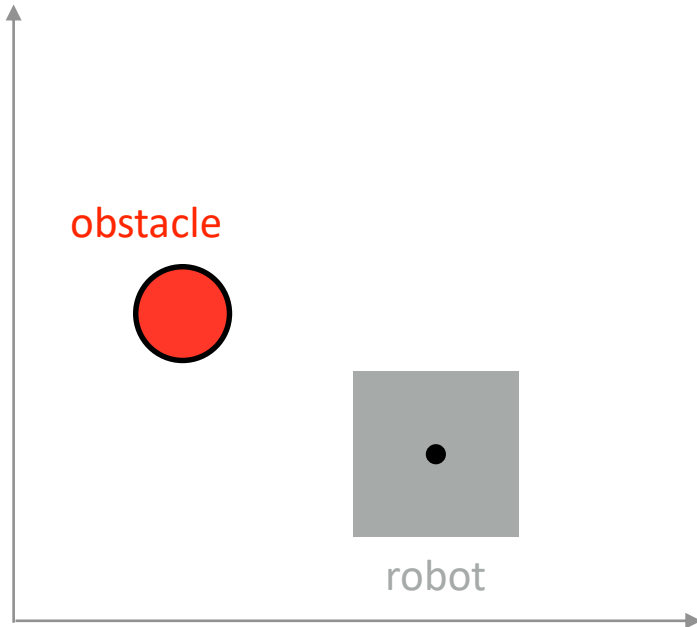


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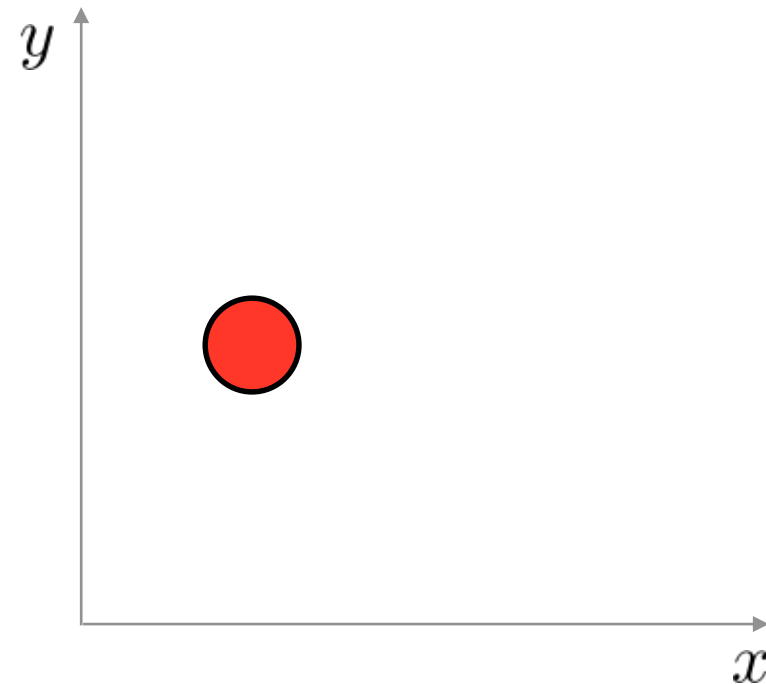
For a round robot, the obstacles simply grow by the robot's radius.



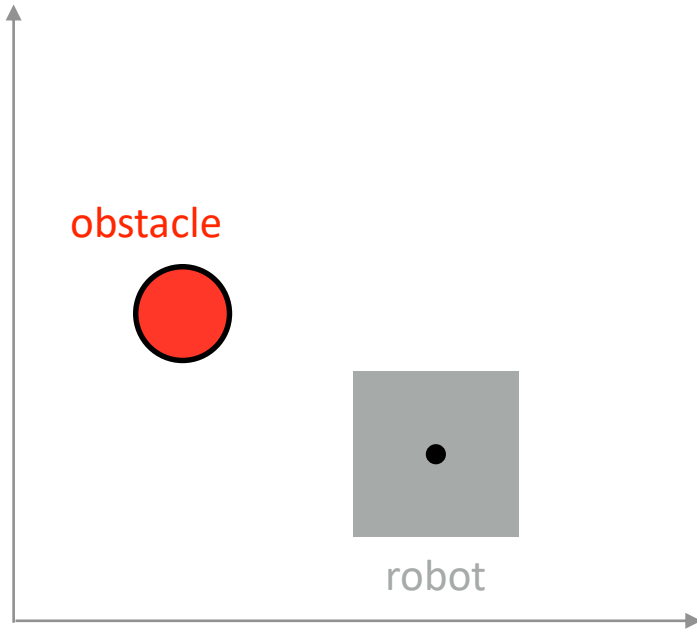
Non-Point/Non-Line Robots



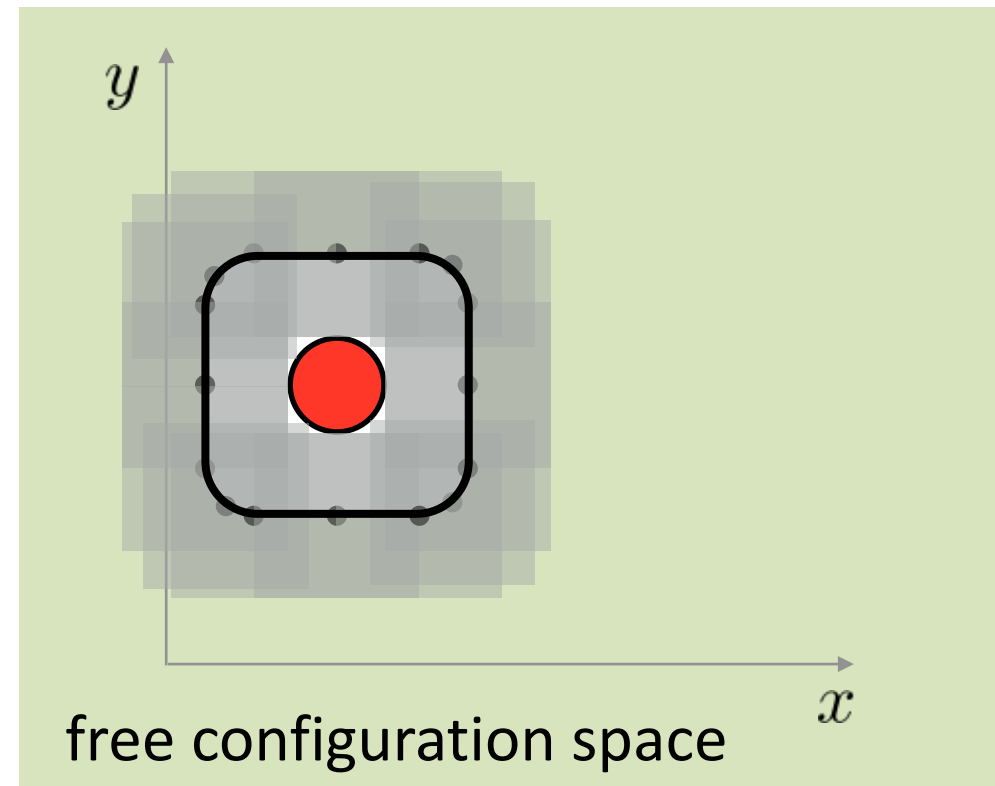
What does the free configuration space look like for this square non-rotating mobile robot with one small round obstacle in the workspace?



Non-Point/Non-Line Robots

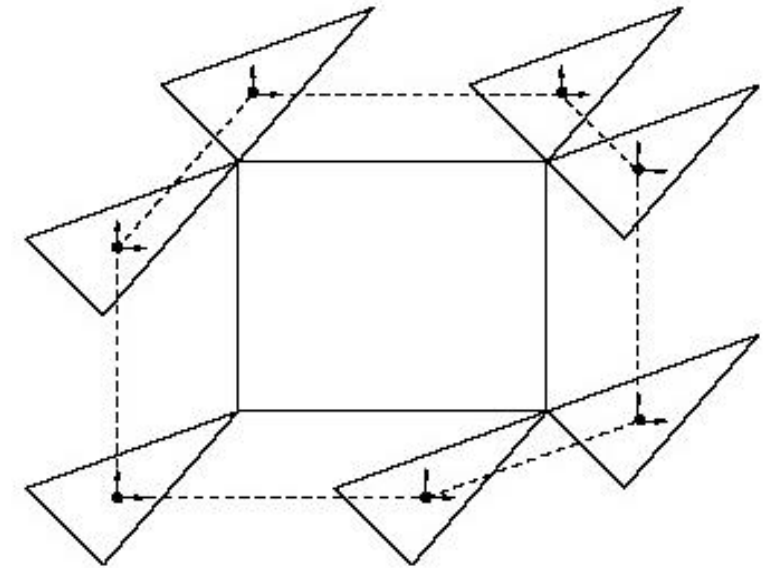
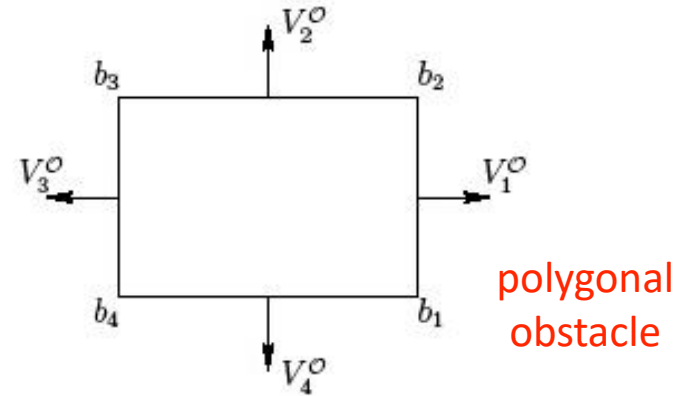
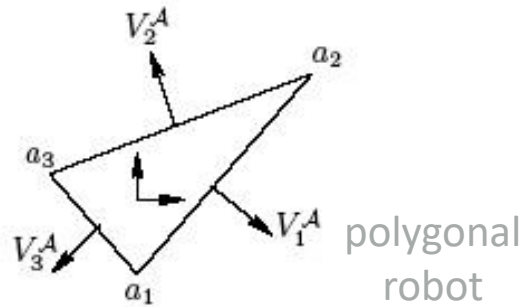


What does the free configuration space look like for this square non-rotating mobile robot with one small round obstacle in the workspace?



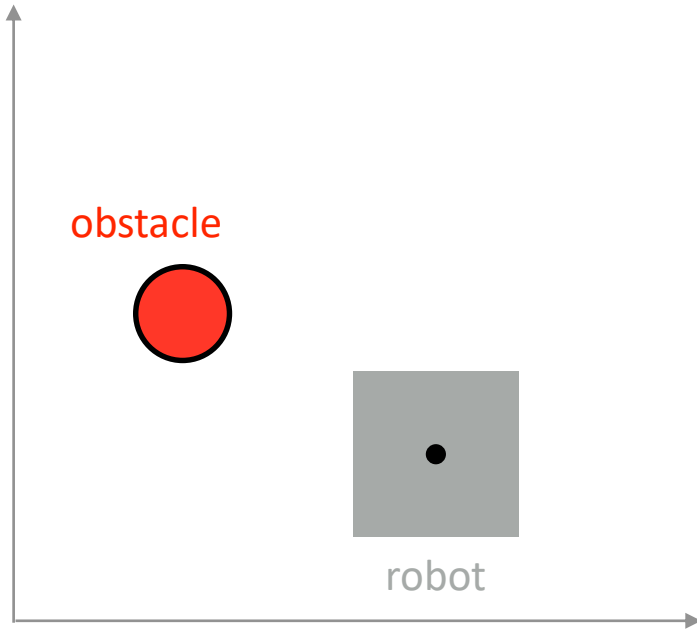
Minkowski Sum

Places the end-effector at all positions around the obstacle that involve vertex-to-vertex contact.

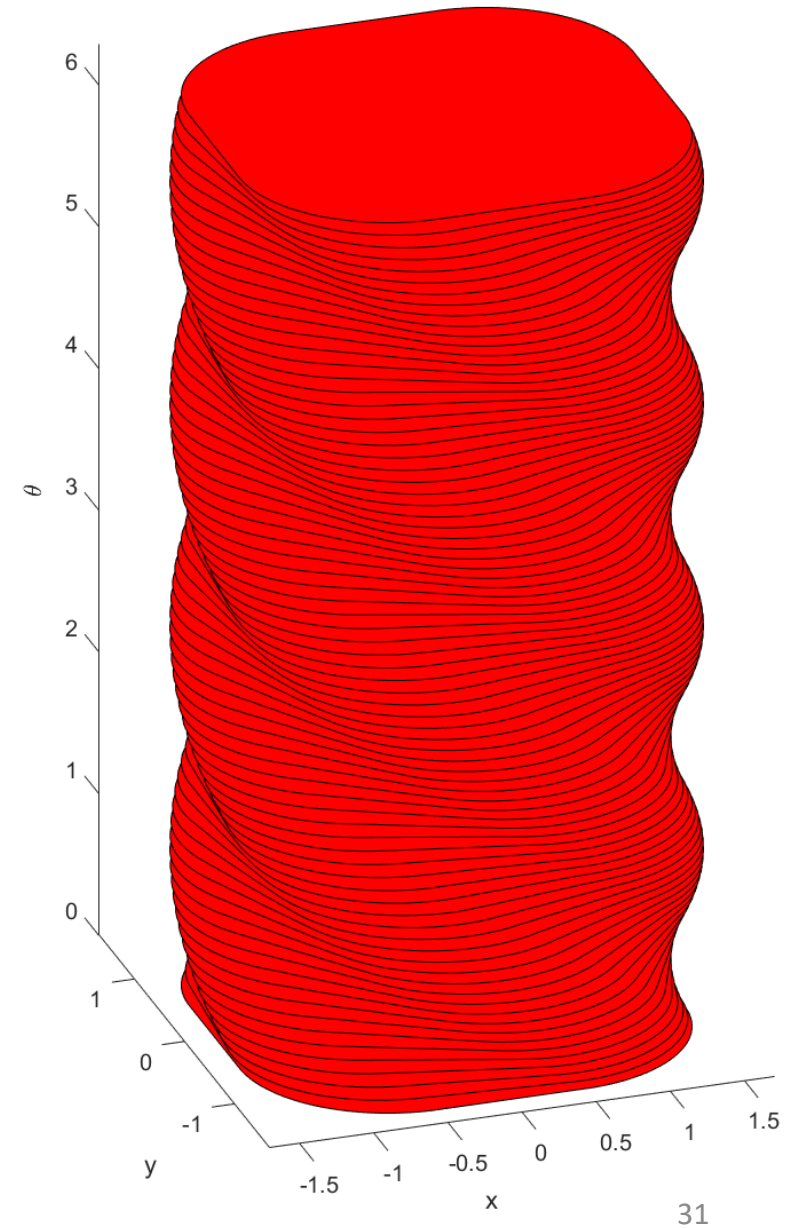
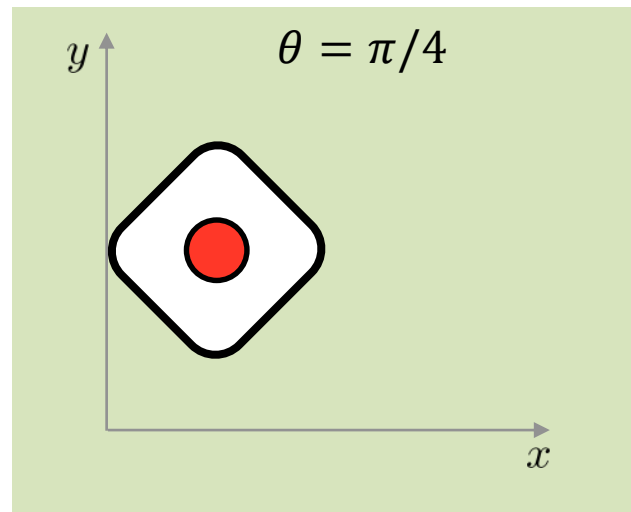
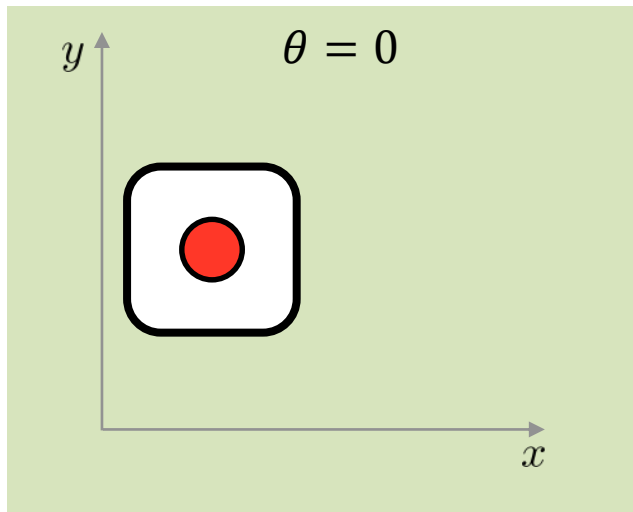
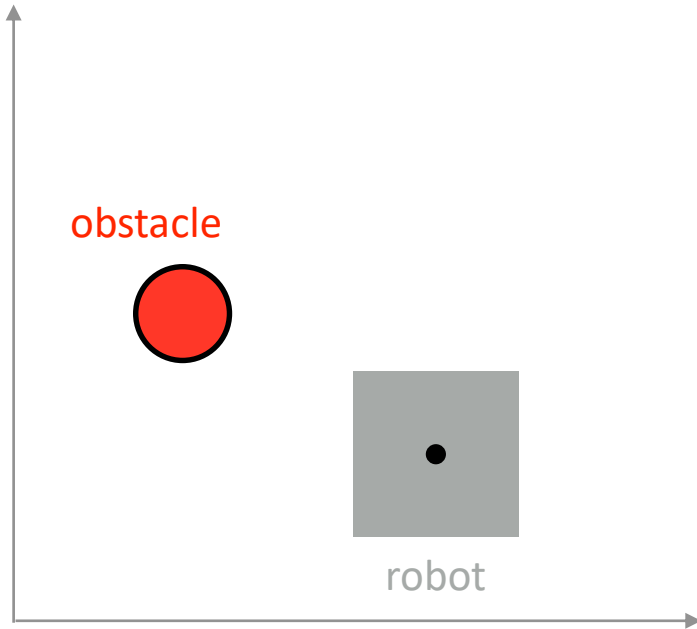


- For each pair V_j^O and V_{j-1}^O , if V_i^A points between $-V_j^O$ and $-V_{j-1}^O$ then add to QO the vertices $b_j - a_i$ and $b_j - a_{i+1}$
- For each pair V_i^A and V_{i-1}^A , if V_j^O points between $-V_i^A$ and $-V_{i-1}^A$ then add to QO the vertices $b_j - a_i$ and $b_{j+1} - a_i$

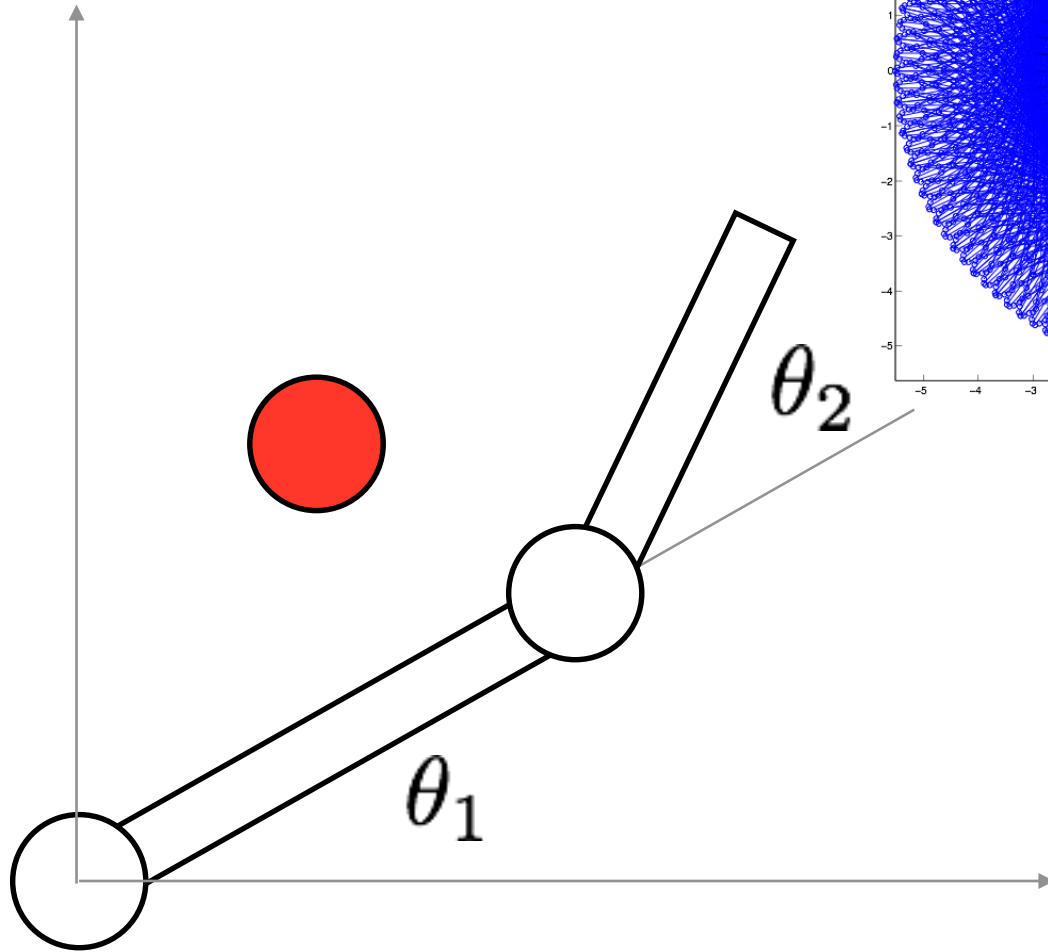
Rotating Non-Point Robots in the Plane



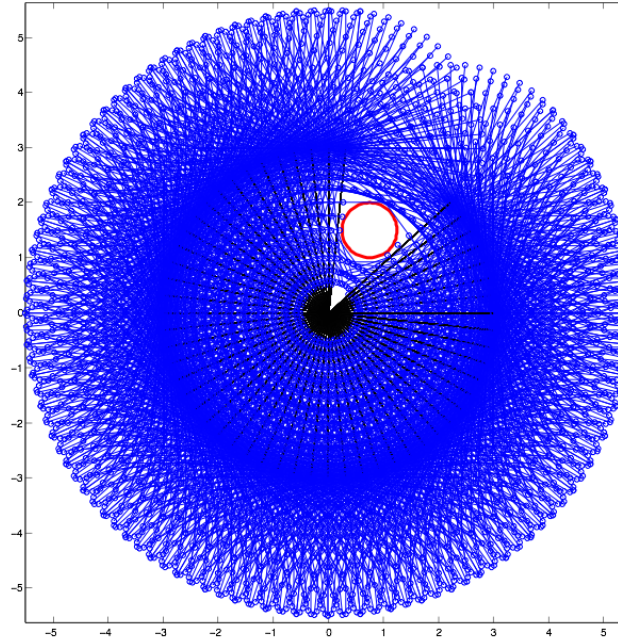
Rotating Non-Point Robots in the Plane



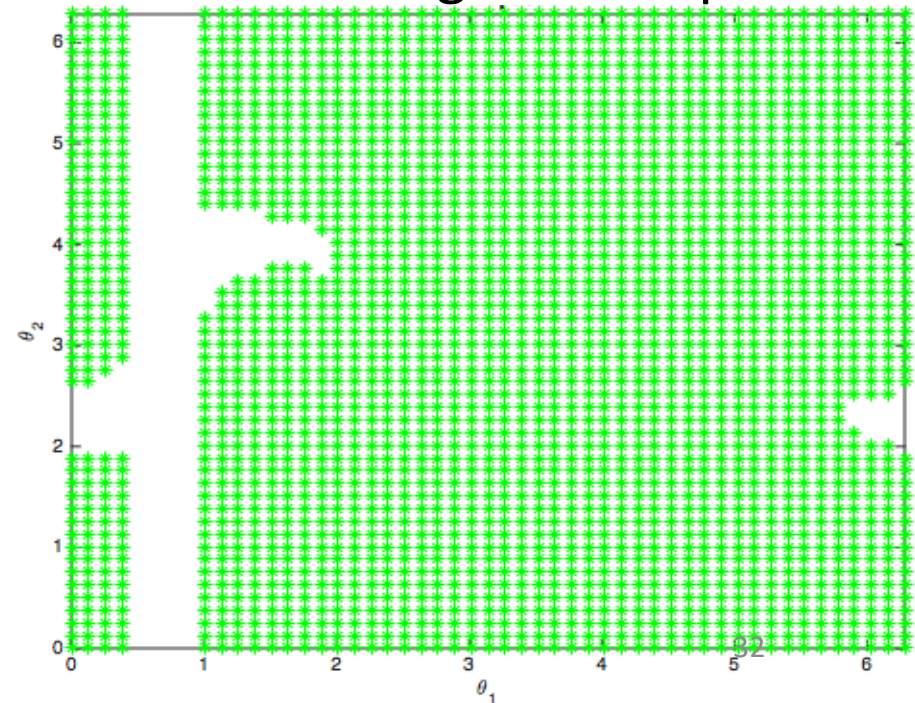
2-Link Manipulator



Workspace



Free Configuration Space

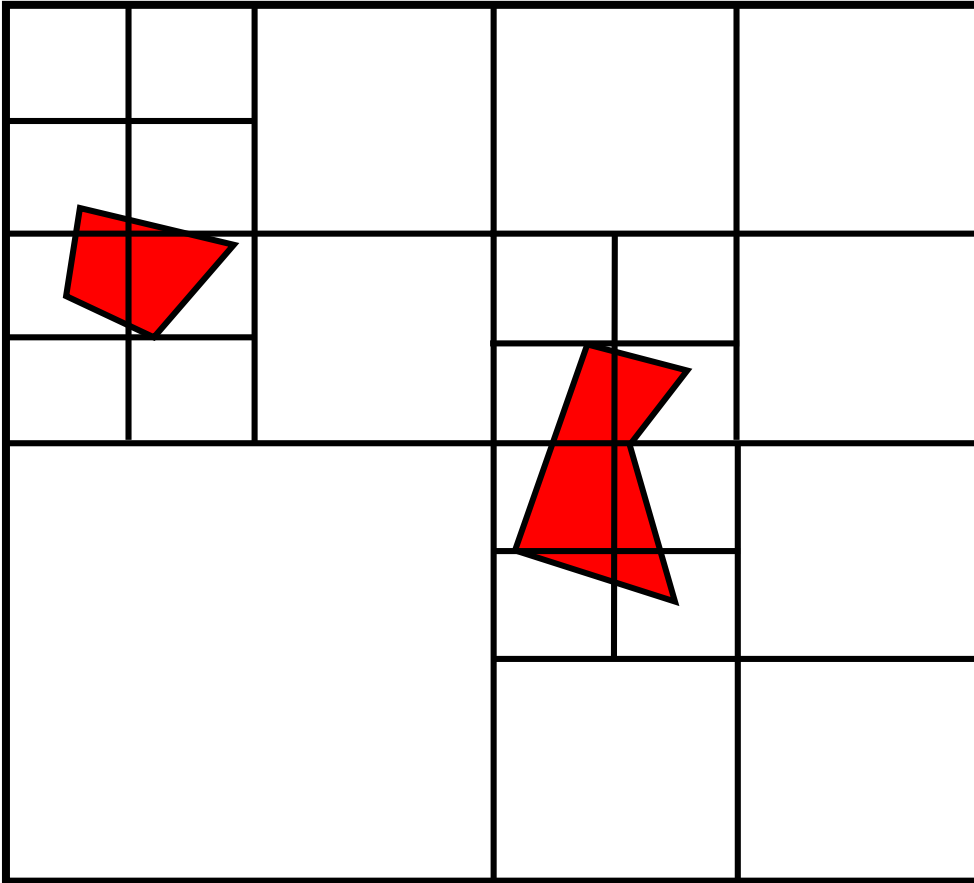


Computational complexity of a trajectory planner grows with the size of the configuration space.

Complete planners have to search every cell of the discretized space in the worst case.

Worst case complexity is **exponential** in the robot dof (number of joints for a manipulator): $O(c^J)$

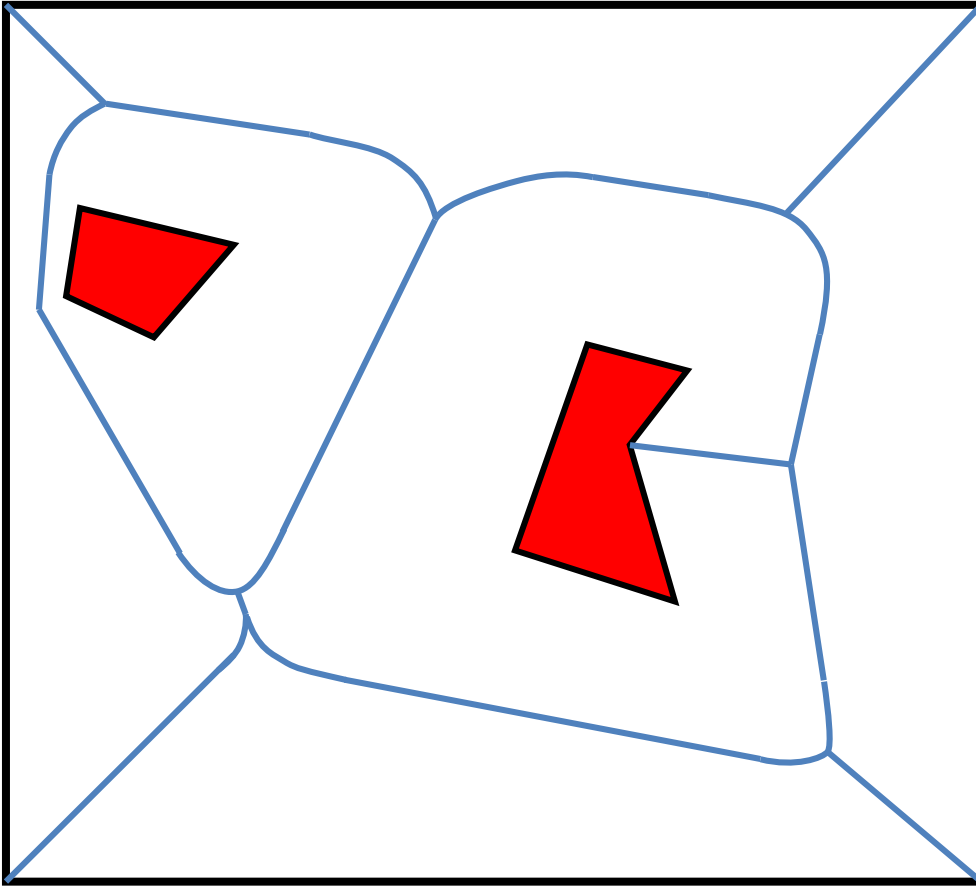
Can we do better?



Idea: Discretize only as much as necessary

This will depend on the number and geometric complexity of your obstacles

Can we do better?



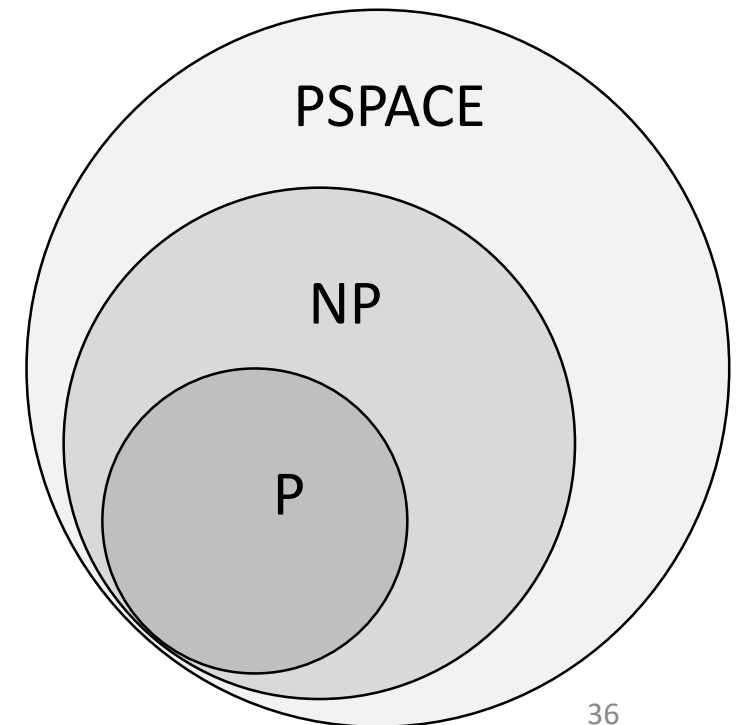
Idea: Map out the free space

This is called the Voronoi Diagram

Can we do better?

Theoretically, no.

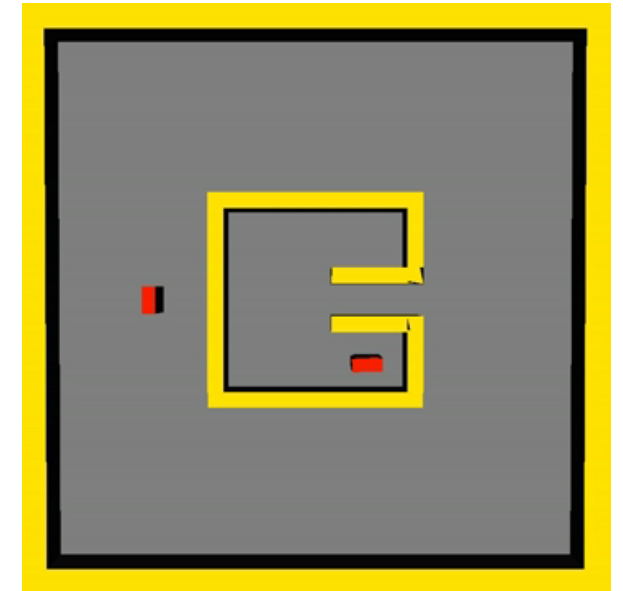
General motion planning is in a class of problems we call PSPACE-complete. These are some of the hardest problems in computer science.



What makes planning hard?



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UTbiAu8IXas>

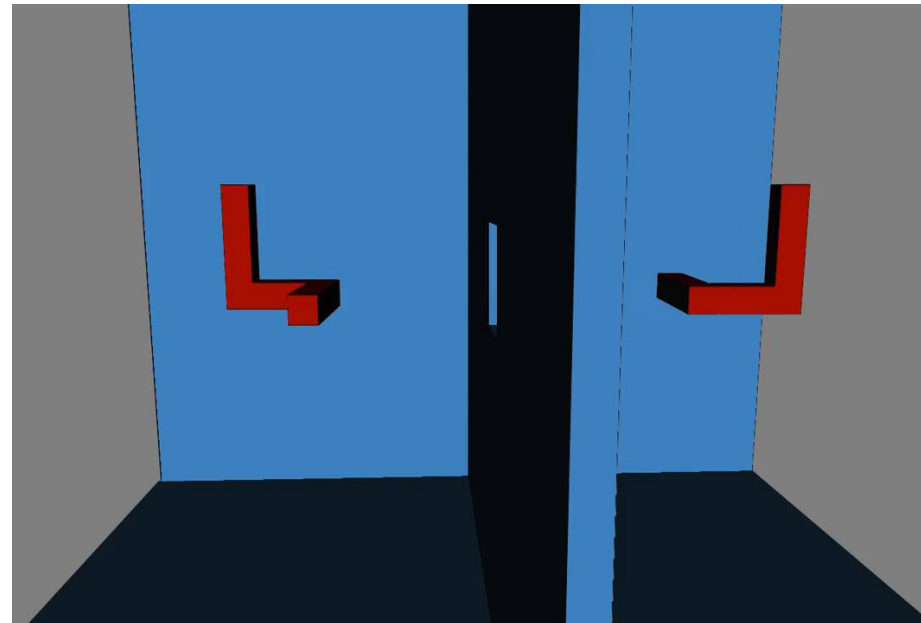


<https://vimeo.com/58686591>

Complex obstacles

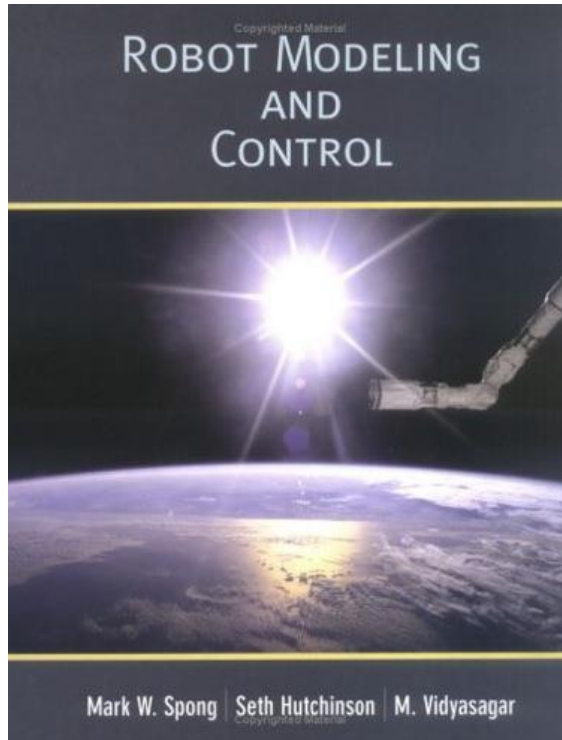
Narrow corridors in the free C-space

CHALLENGE: Map out the free C-Space



<https://vimeo.com/58709589>

Next time: Probabilistic Trajectory Planning



Chapter 5: Path and Trajectory Planning

- Read 5.4

Lab 2: Inverse Kinematics for the Lynx

MEAM 520, University of Pennsylvania
September 23, 2020

This lab consists of two portions, with a pre-lab due on **Wednesday, September 30, by midnight (11:59 p.m.)** and a lab (code + report) due on **Wednesday, October 7, by midnight (11:59 p.m.)**. Late submissions will be accepted until midnight on Saturday following the deadline, but they will be penalized by 25% for each partial or full day late. After the late deadline, no further assignments may be submitted; post a private message on Piazza to request an extension if you need one due to a special situation. This assignment is worth 50 points.

You may talk with other students about this assignment, ask the teaching team questions, use a calculator and other tools, and consult outside sources such as the Internet. To help you actually learn the material, what you submit must be your own work, not copied from any other individual or team. Any submissions suspected of violating Penn's Code of Academic Integrity will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct. When you get stuck, post a question on Piazza or go to office hours!

Individual vs. Pair Programming

Work closely with your partner throughout the lab, following these guidelines, which were adapted from "All I really needed to know about pair programming I learned in kindergarten," by Williams and Kessler, *Communications of the ACM*, May 2000. This article is available on Canvas under Files / Resources.

- Start with a good attitude, setting aside any skepticism, and expect to jell with your partner.
- Don't start alone. Arrange a meeting with your partner as soon as you can.
- Use just one setup, and sit side by side. For a programming component, a desktop computer with a large monitor is better than a laptop. Make sure both partners can see the screen.
- At each instant, one partner should be driving (writing, using the mouse/keyboard, moving the robot) while the other is continuously reviewing the work (thinking and making suggestions).
- Change driving/reviewing roles at least every 30 minutes, even if one partner is much more experienced than the other. You may want to set a timer to help you remember to switch.
- If you notice an error in the equation or code that your partner is writing, wait until they finish the line to correct them.
- Stay focused and on-task the whole time you are working together.
- Take a break periodically to refresh your perspective.
- Share responsibility for your project; avoid blaming either partner for challenges you run into.
- Recognize that working in pairs usually takes more time than working alone, but it produces better work, deeper learning, and a more positive experience for the participants.

1

Lab 2: Inverse Kinematics due 10/7