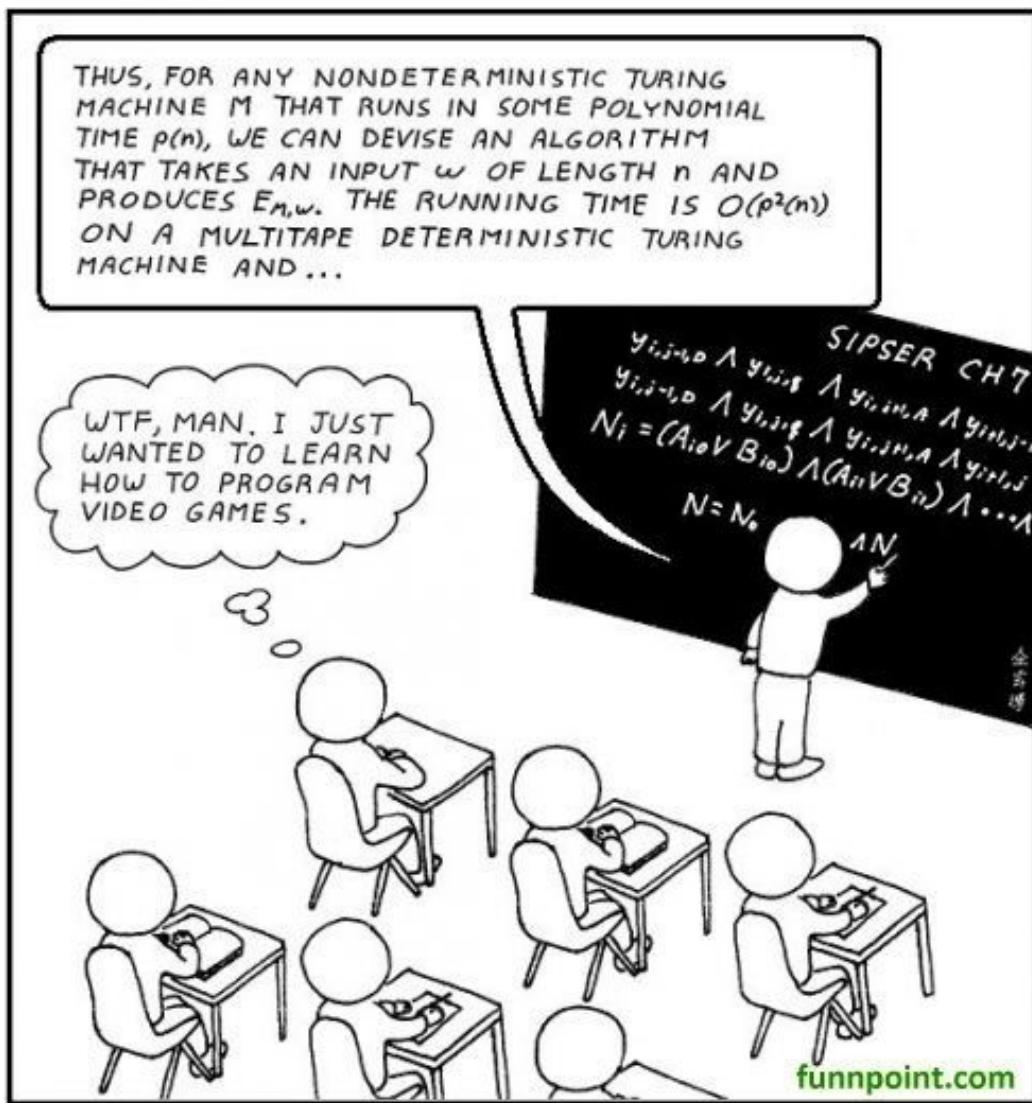


CSCI 3202

Lecture 7

September 8, 2025



Announcements

- Office Hours are posted on Canvas. Please ask for help if you need it

CSCI 3202 Fall 2025
Office Hours

Name	Day	Hours	Location	Zoom Links
Jim Dykes james.dykes@colorado.edu	M W F	10:00 am-11:30 am 2:30 pm-4:00 pm 10:00 am-12:00 pm	ECOT 637 ECOT 637 ECOT 637	Marissa https://cuboulder.zoom.us/j/3250067930 Jay https://cuboulder.zoom.us/j/99845303159 Kevin https://cuboulder.zoom.us/j/95306328022 Sansh https://cuboulder.zoom.us/j/7220745774
Jay Vakil Jay.Vakil@colorado.edu	T Th F	1:00 PM - 2:00 PM 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM	ECOT 832 Zoom Zoom	
Marissa Chitwood Marissa.Chitwood@colorado.edu	M T Th	10:00 am - 11:00 am 11:30 pm - 12:30 pm 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Zoom Zoom Zoom	
Tarun Nagelli tana5131@colorado.edu				
Kevin Wang Kevin.Wang-2@colorado.edu	T W Th F	3:00 pm - 5:00 pm 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm 11:00 am - 12:00 pm 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm	Zoom CSEL Zoom CSEL	
Sansh Goel Sansh.Goel@colorado.edu	M T Sun	4:00 pm - 6:00pm 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm	CSEL CSEL Zoom	

- Homework 2 due on Wednesday, Sept 10 by 11:59 pm
 - In addition to `util4e.py`, you will need to copy `util.py` to make your code work

Homework 2

- Create a data structure to hold the graph. I would use a dictionary
- Define a `graph_problem` subclass of class `Problem` and fill in the needed functions.
- `graph_problem` should use a data structure that holds your graph
- In addition to `utils4e.py`, you will need to copy `utils.py` into your local directory
- Visit the nodes in ascending order only when you have to choose between several nodes, such as when visiting the children of a node
 - You may need to sort parts of your data structure to make this work with the AIMA code
- Return the optimal path for BFS. The path found by DFS may or may not be optimal. Return the path found by DFS

Quiz #2

- Average was 73%
- Missed questions about BFS and DFS characteristics
- Review

Readings

- AIMA sections 3.4-3.6 for today
- Subjects: UCS, Greedy, A*

Lecture

- UCS Search
 - Uninformed
 - Weighted BFS Search
 - Uses Priority Queue with path cost so far as the metric
 - Path Cost is the sum of the individual step costs for a path
- A* Search
 - Informed search
 - A* search adds a heuristic that provides an estimated distance to the goal
 - We add the path cost to node n to the heuristic for node n to the goal to get the estimated distance
 - Use this estimated distance in UCS
 - This can greatly reduce the number of nodes visited to construct an optimal path
- Greedy Search
 - Informed search
 - Defines a heuristic function
 - Heuristic is distance from a node to the goal (straight line)
- [Ucs greedy astar compare.pdf](#)
- Properties of AStar
[UCS Greedy and AStar Slides.pdf](#)

Path

- For a GPS system, the path is the important item most people want. How do you construct the path?
- Start at the end and work backwards
 - Start at destination
 - Find the most recent node that explored the destination
 - Mark this node as being on path
 - Repeat with this node as destination
 - Done when you reach the starting node
- Often implemented as a Python dictionary
 - Each node is a key
 - Value is node that visited or explored it
 - If there are multiple explorations, dictionary only keeps most recent one

Next Class

- Heuristics
- HW 3 Released on Wednesday