

CS 480

Introduction to Artificial Intelligence

September 7th, 2021

Announcements / Reminders

- **Contribute to the discussion on Blackboard, please**
- **Please follow the Week 02 To Do List instructions**

Plan for Today

- **Problem Solving: Searching**

Designing the Searching Problem

**Analyze and
define the
Problem / Task**

**Model and build
the State Space**

**Select searching
algorithm**

Search

Defining Search Problem

- Define a set of possible states: **State Space**
- Specify **Initial State**
- Specify **Goal State(s)** (there can be multiple)
- Define a FINITE set of possible **Actions** for EACH state in the State Space
- Come up with a **Transition Model** which describes what each action does
- Specify the **Action Cost Function**: a function that gives the cost of applying action a in state s

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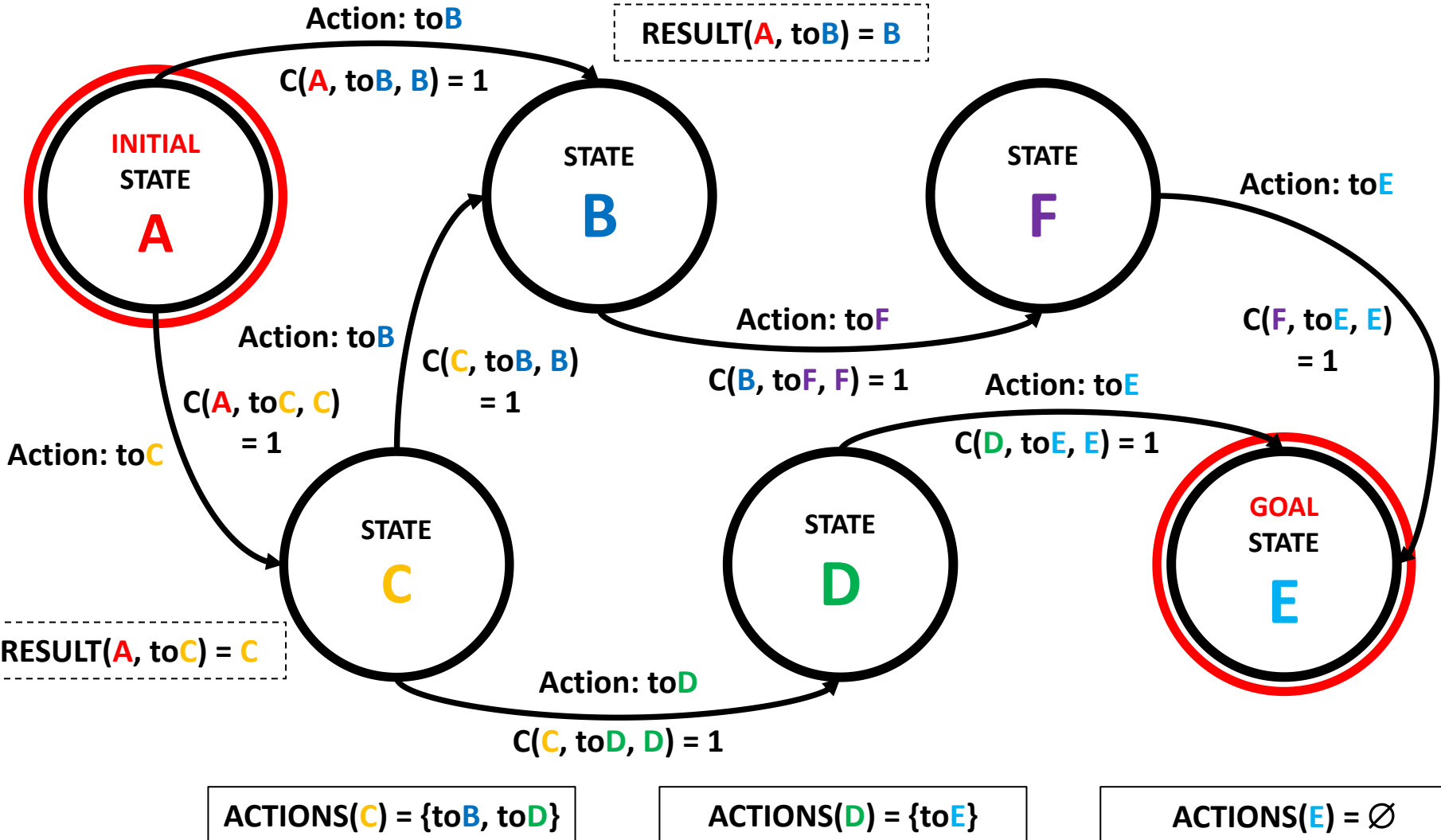
Search

State Space Model: A Graph

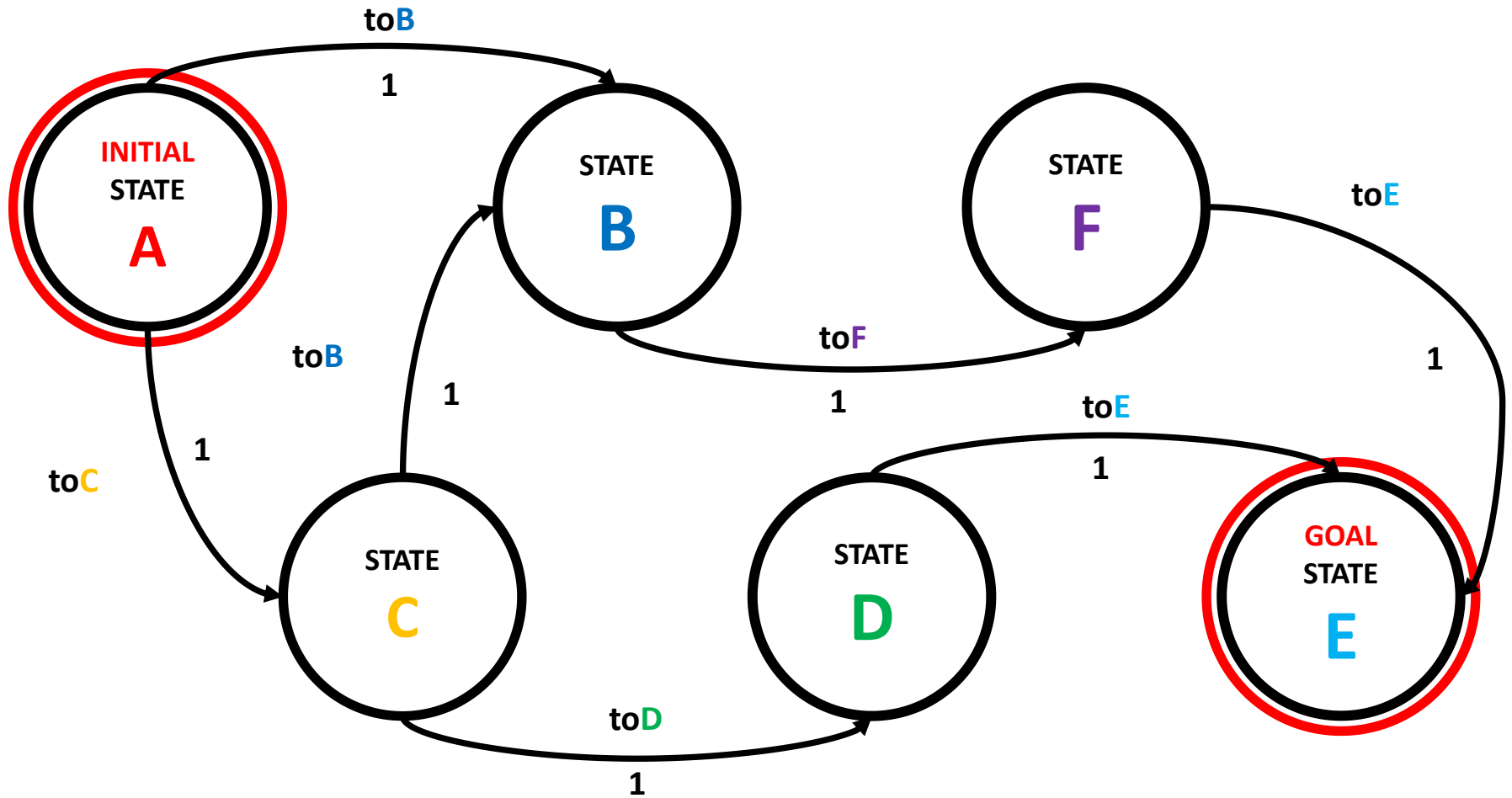
$ACTIONS(A) = \{toB, toC\}$

$ACTIONS(B) = \{toF\}$

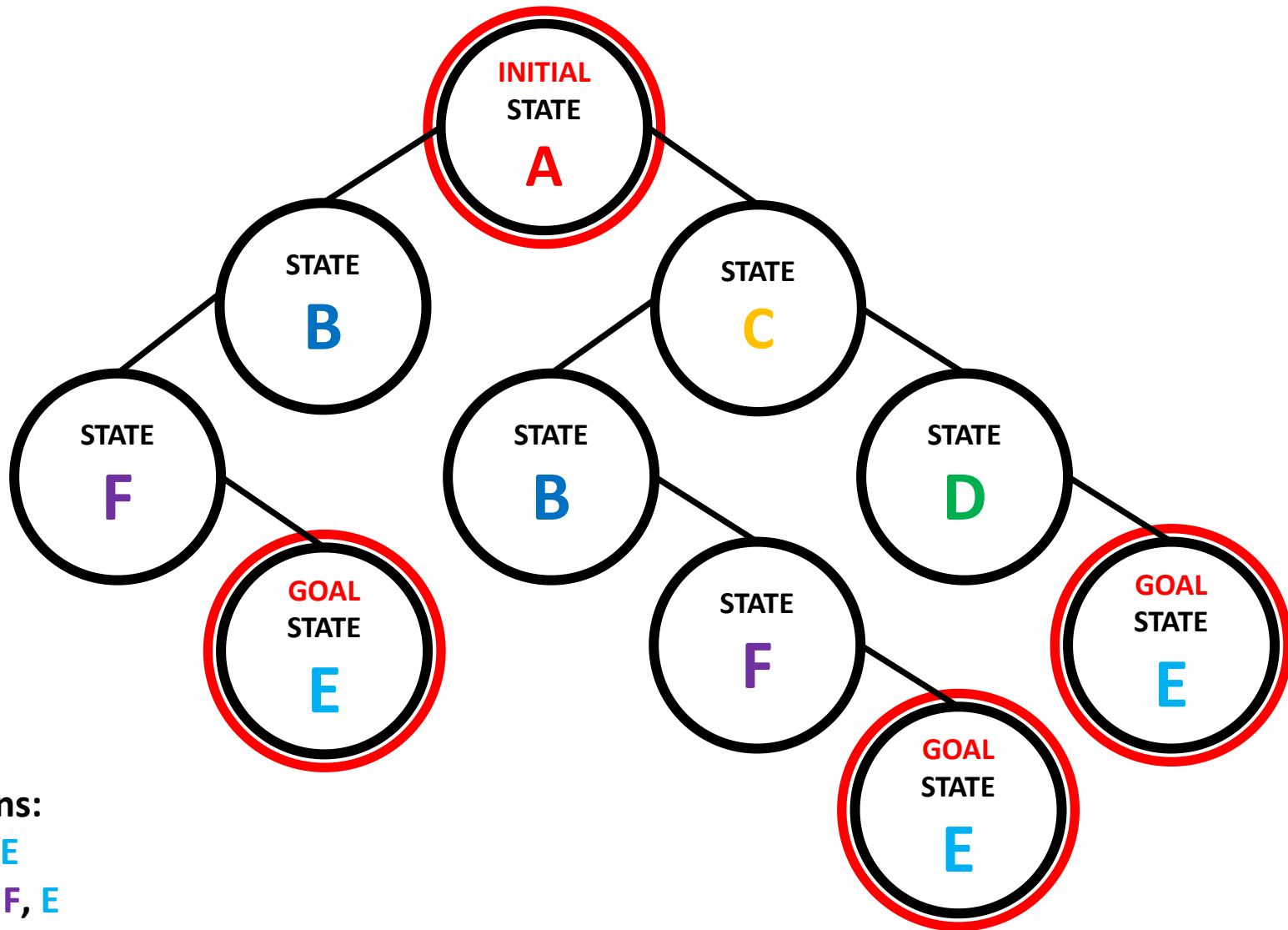
$ACTIONS(F) = \{toE\}$



State Space Model: A Graph



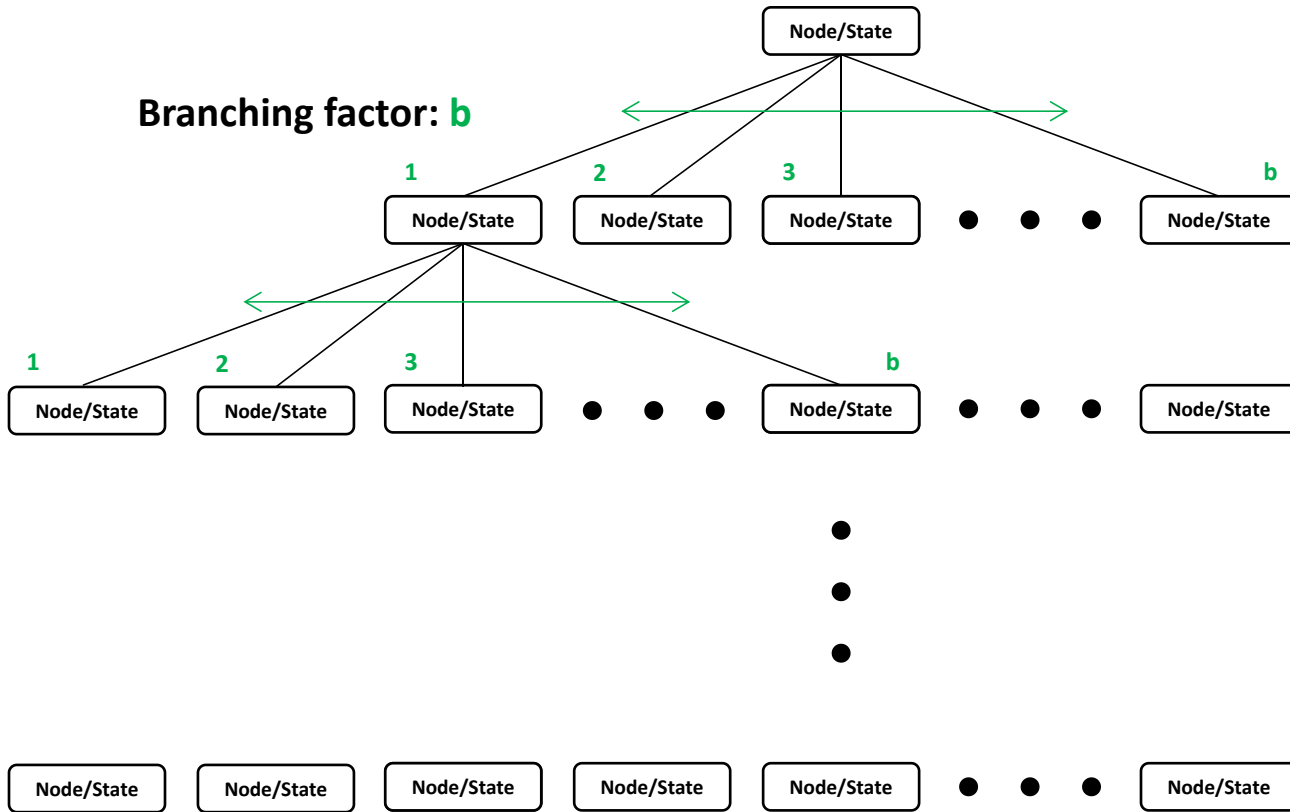
Searching State Space: Search Tree



Solutions:

A, B, F, E
A, C, B, F, E
A, C, D, E

Search Tree Challenges: Size



Depth: 0 | $N_0 = 1$

Depth: 1 | $N_1 = b$

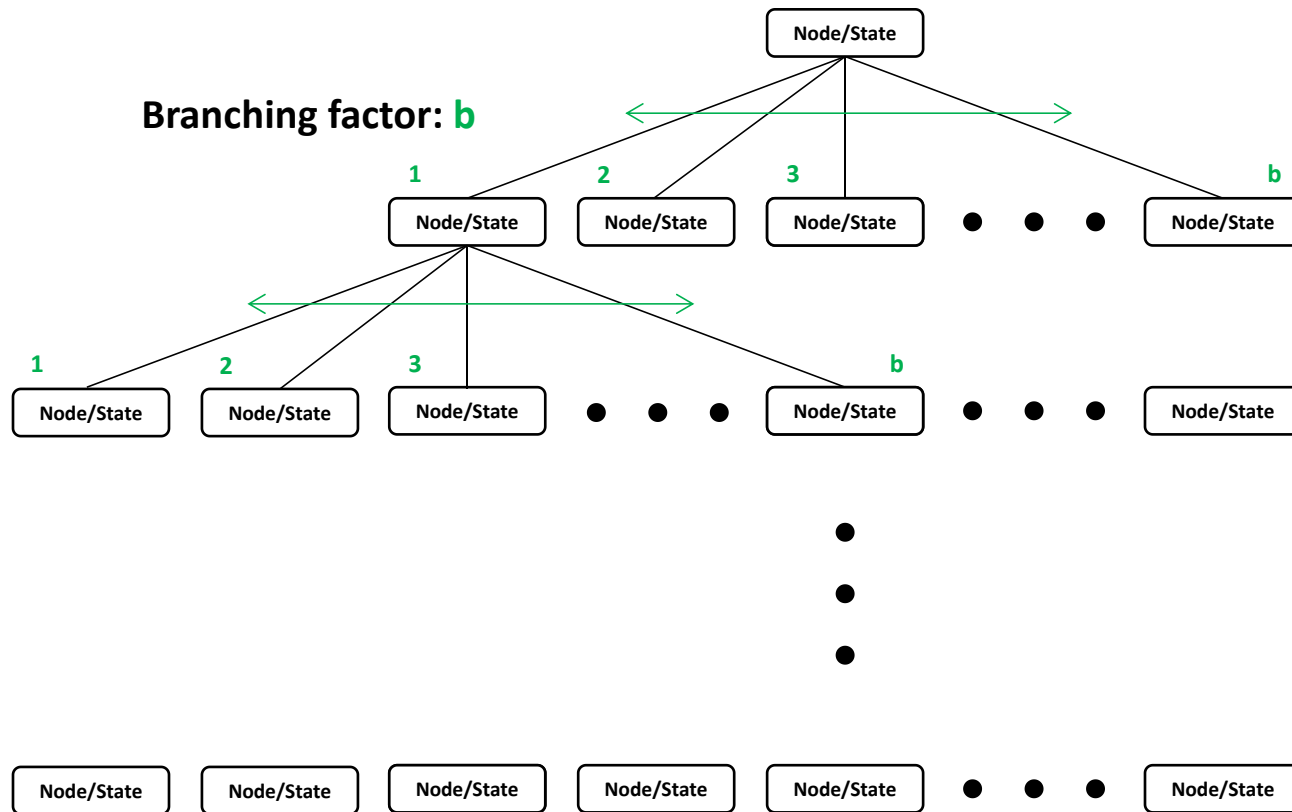
Depth: 2 | $N_2 = b^2$

Depth: d | $N_d = b^d$

Total number of nodes / states: $1 + b + b^2 + b^3 + \dots + b^d \rightarrow O(b^d)$

Quickly becomes unmanageable and impossible to search with brute force!

Search Tree Challenges: Infiniteness



Depth: 0

Depth: 1

Depth: 2

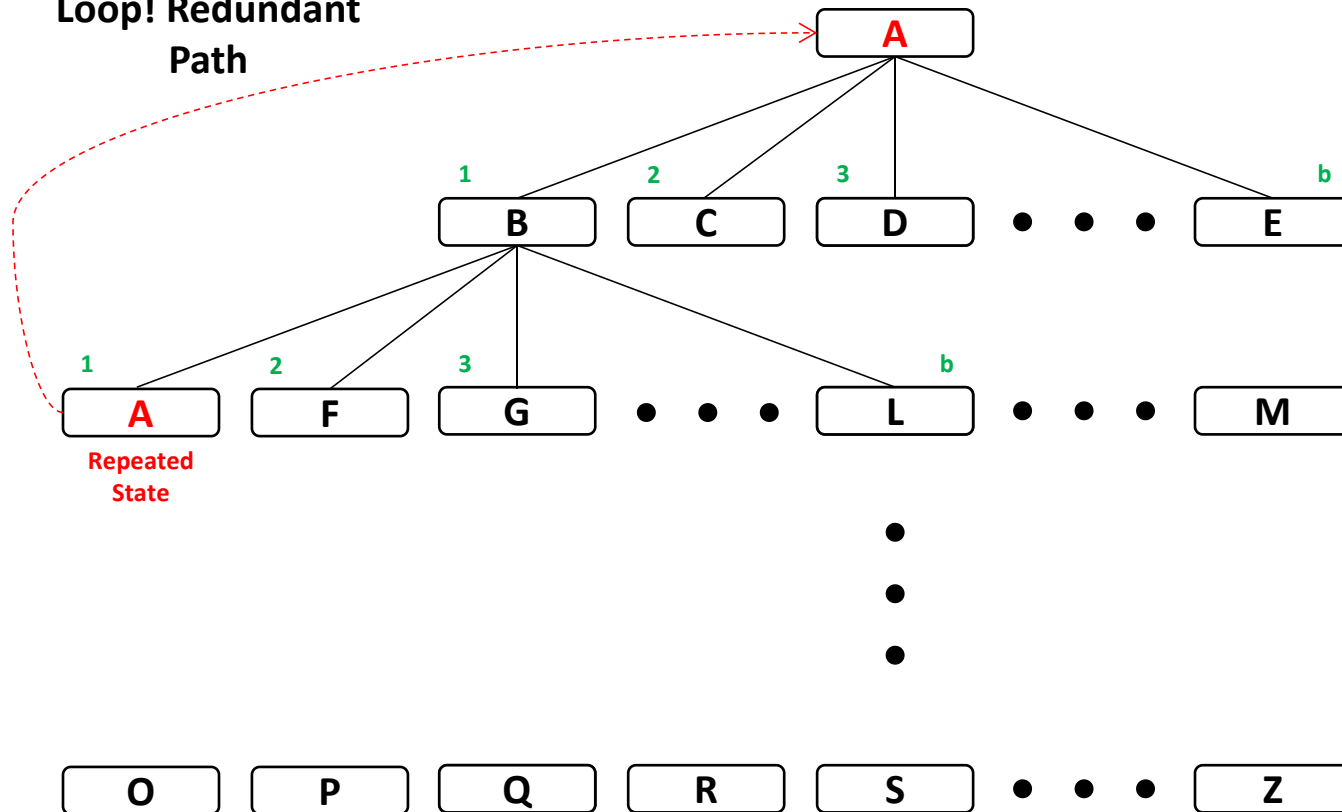
Depth: **d** $\rightarrow \infty$

Unmanageable and impossible to search with brute force!

Memory and time use grows quickly!

Search Tree Challenges: Loops

Loop! Redundant
Path



Depth: 0

Depth: 1

Depth: 2

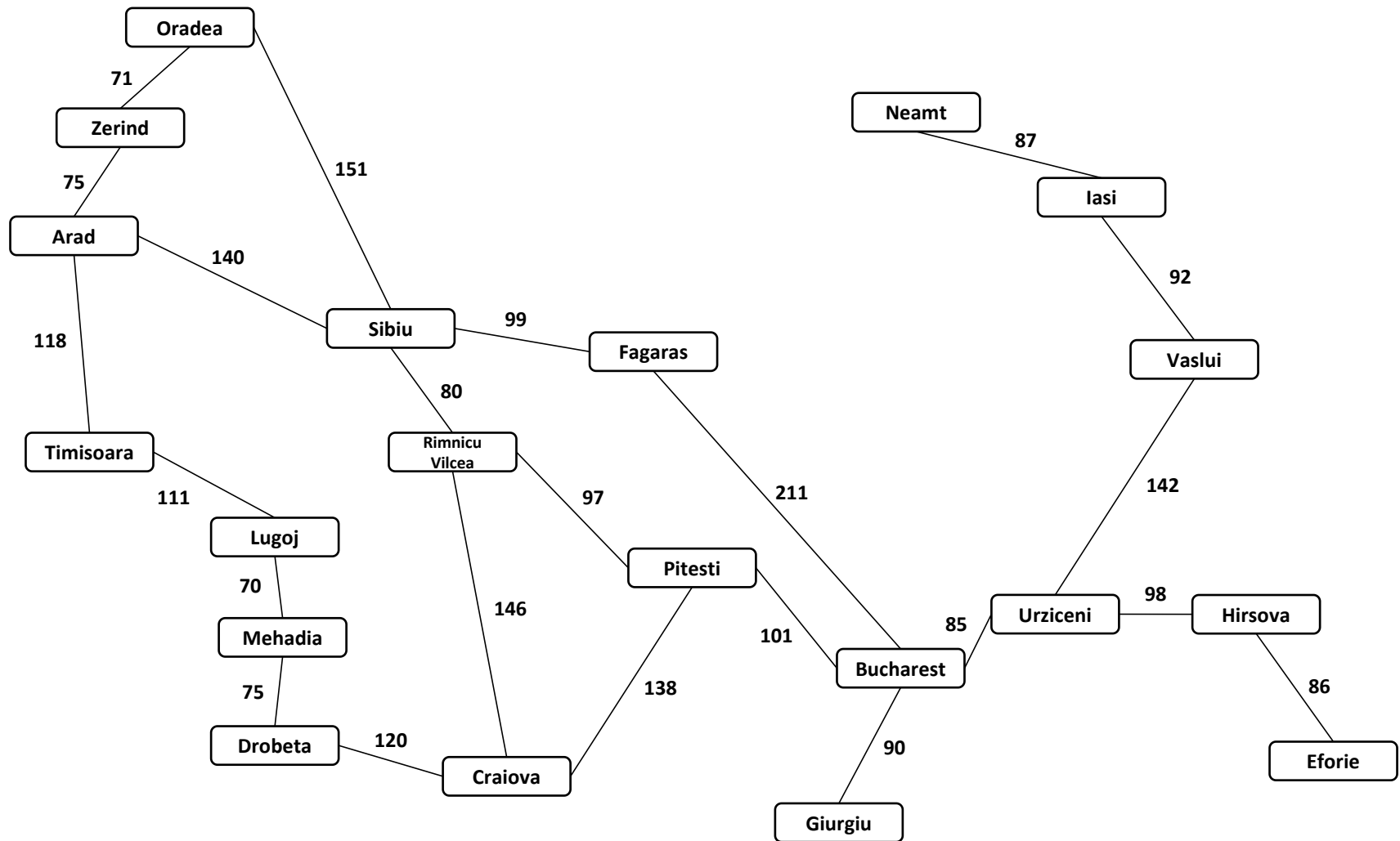
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Depth: d

This would lead to an infinite state sequence repetition if not handled!

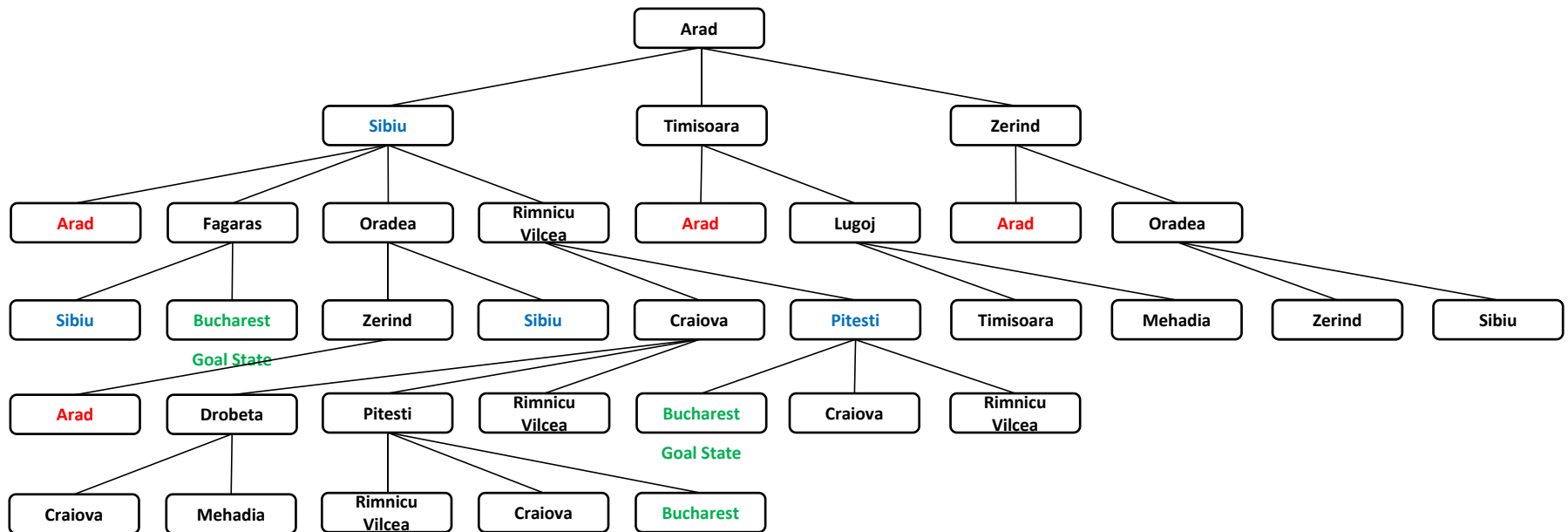
Memory and time use grows quickly!

Sample Problem: Dracula's Roadtrip



Problem: Get from Arad to Bucharest efficiently (for example: quickly or cheaply).

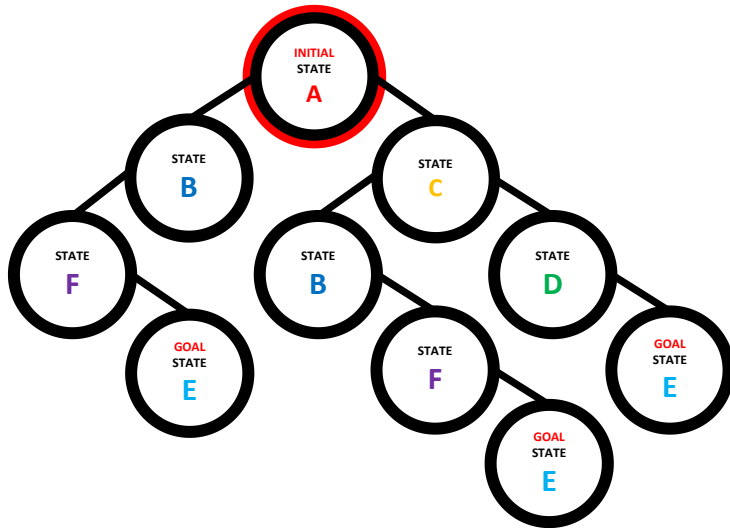
Dracula's Roadtrip as a Tree



INCOMPLETE! I need to redraw it in smarter way

Search Tree: Implementations

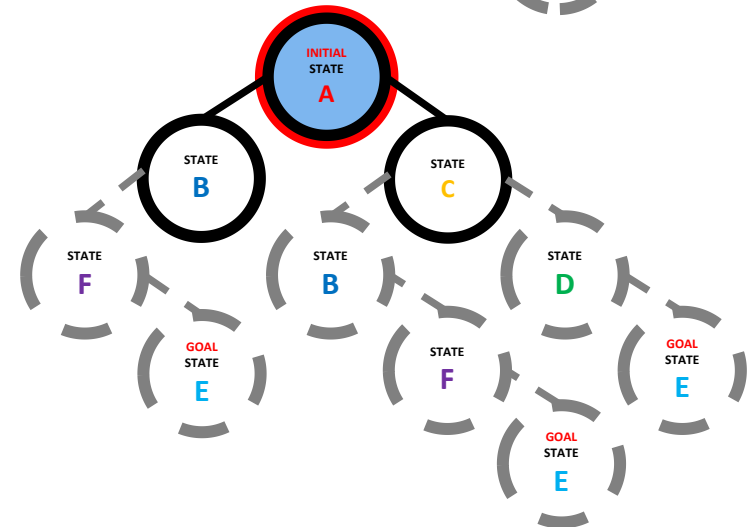
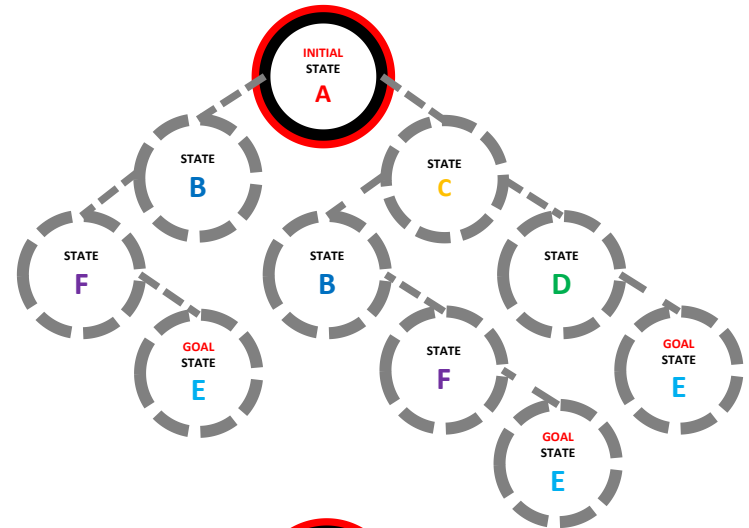
Build entire search tree



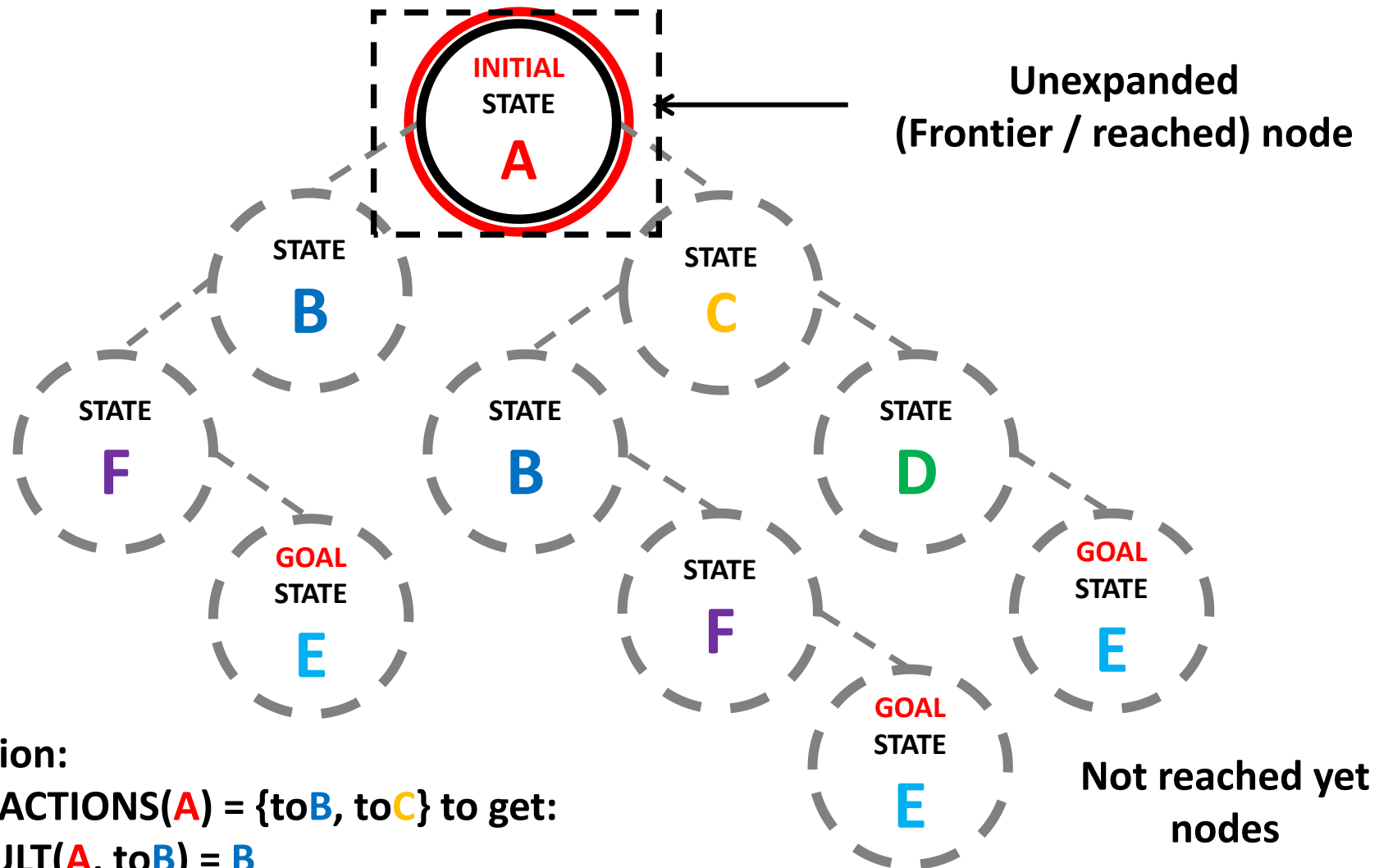
Challenges:

- memory requirements
- impossible for infinite number of states

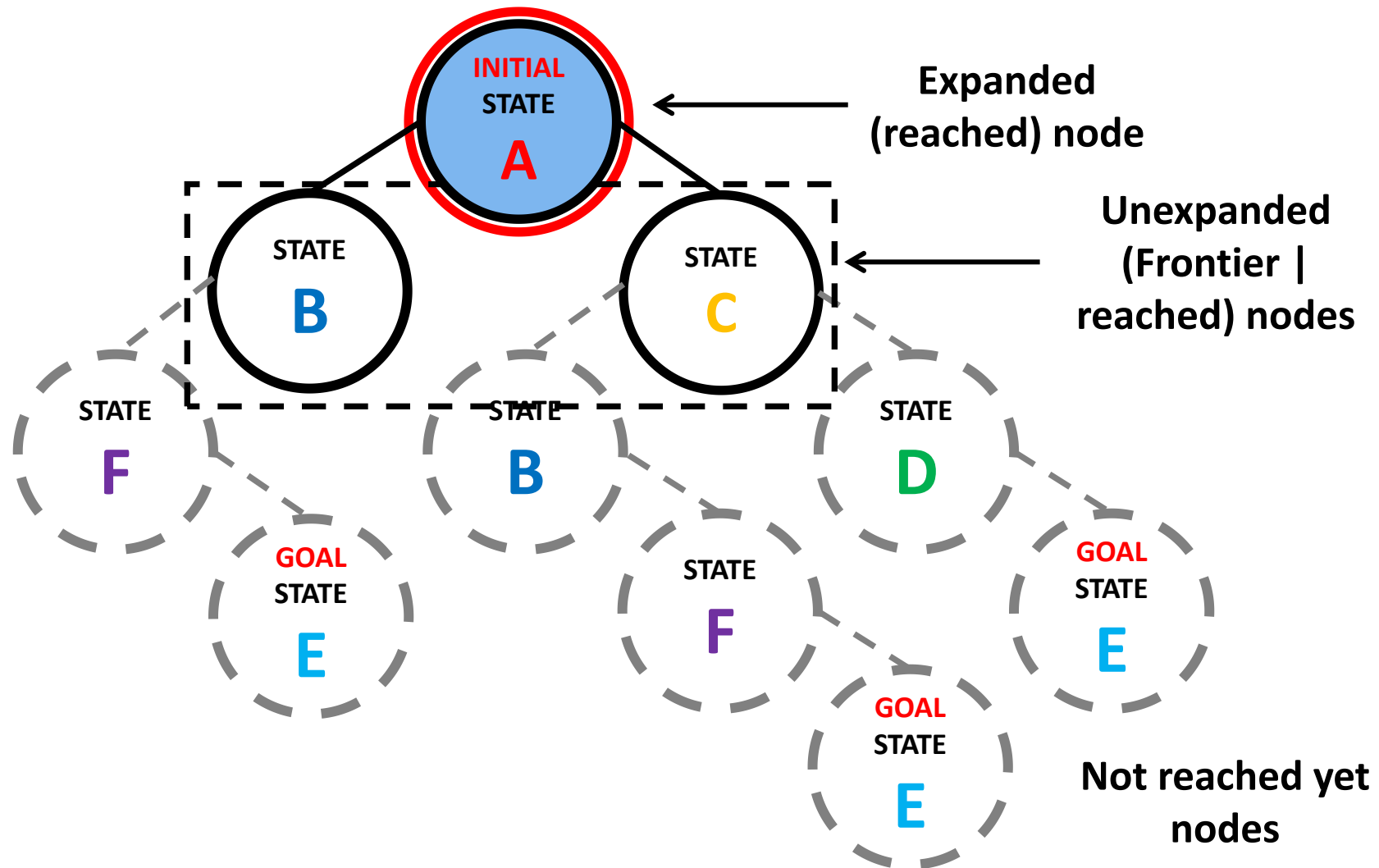
Expand/generate nodes as you go



Search Tree: Node Expansion

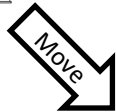


Search Tree: Node Expansion

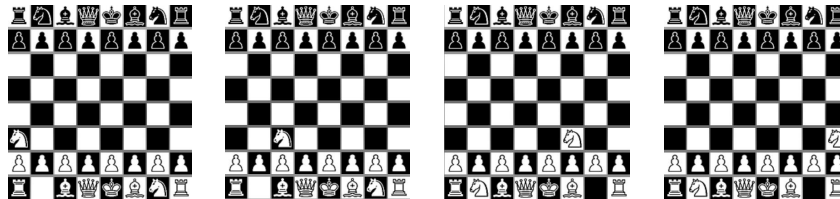


Chess: State Node Expansion

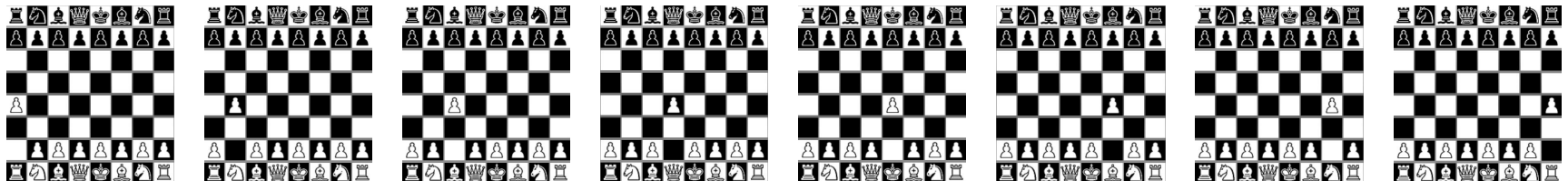
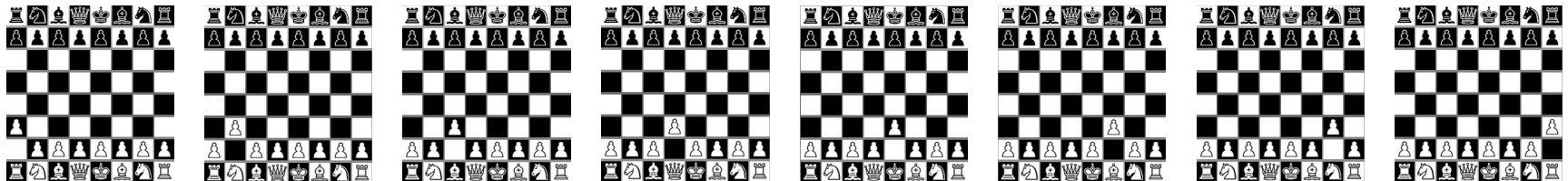
Initial
State



Use game rules to generate subsequent possible game
tree states / nodes!



20 Possible **legal** first moves:
16 pawn moves
4 knight moves



Designing the Searching Problem

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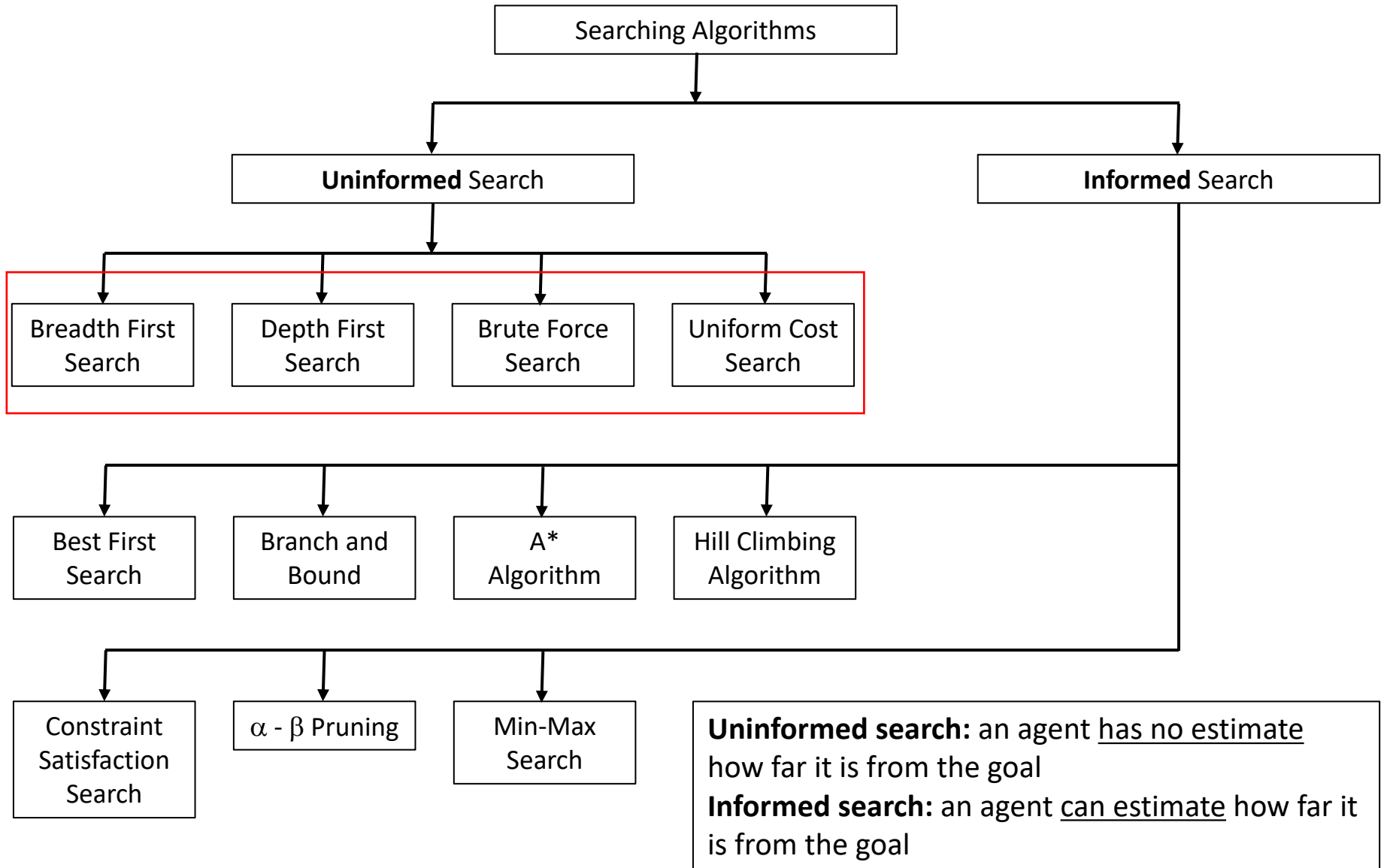
Search

Measuring Searching Performance

Search algorithms can be evaluated in four ways:

- **Completeness**: Is the algorithm guaranteed to find a solution when there is one, and to correctly report failure when there is not?
- **Cost optimality**: Does it find a solution with the lowest path cost of all solutions?
- **Time complexity**: How long does it take to find a solution? (in seconds, actions, states, etc.)
- **Space complexity**: How much memory is needed to perform the search?

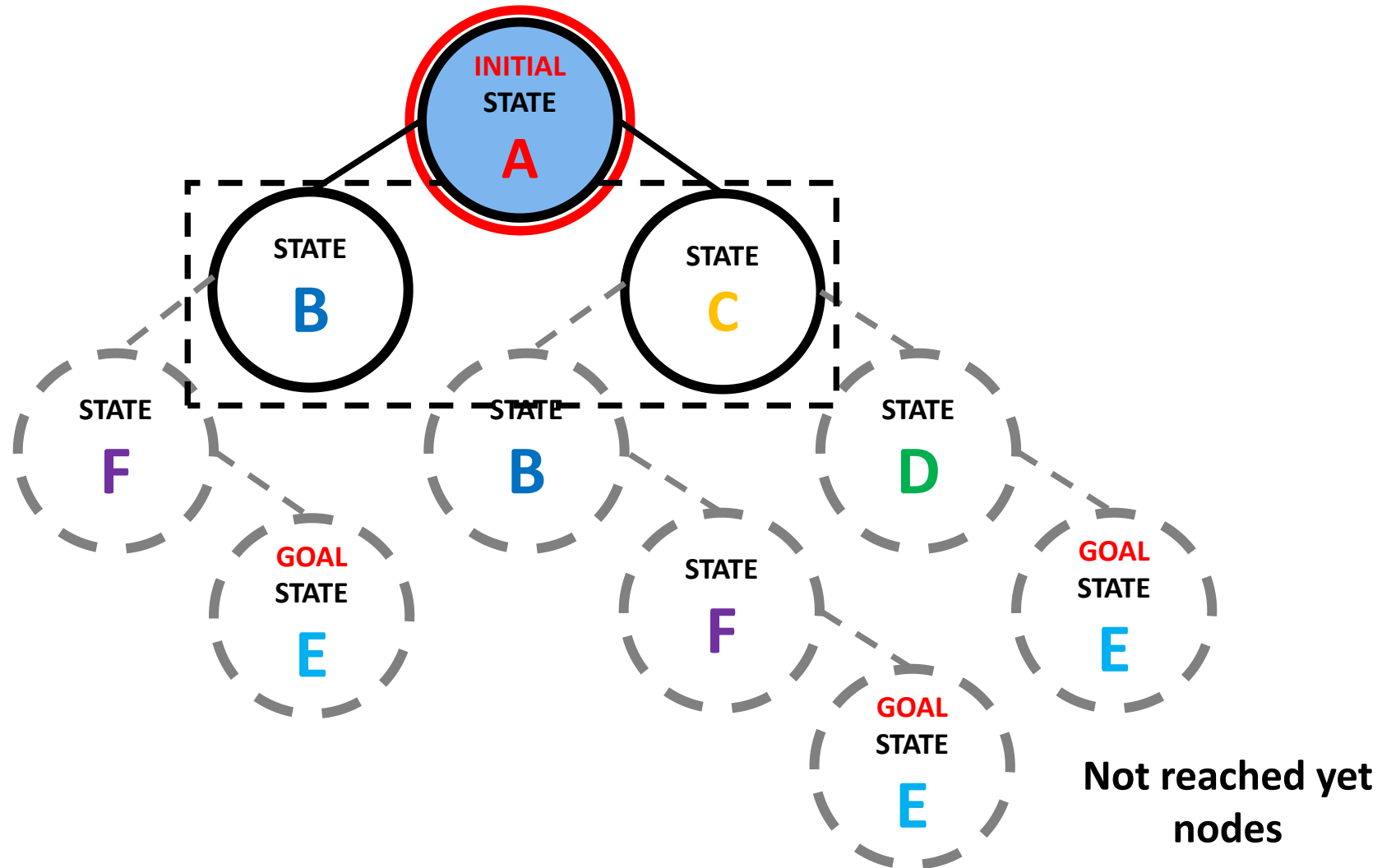
Selected Searching Algorithms



Uninformed Searching

- **Breadth First Search (BFS):**
 - Will find a solution with a minimal number of actions
 - Large memory requirement
 - Only relatively small problem instances are tractable
- **Depth First Search:**
 - May NOT find a solution with a minimal number of actions
 - Requires less memory than BFS (for tree search)
 - Backtracking (one child / successor generated at a time)
- **Brute Force Search:** depends on the approach -> bad
- **Uniform Cost Search:** minimize solution / path cost

Expansion: Which Node to Expand?



Evaluation function

Calculate / obtain:

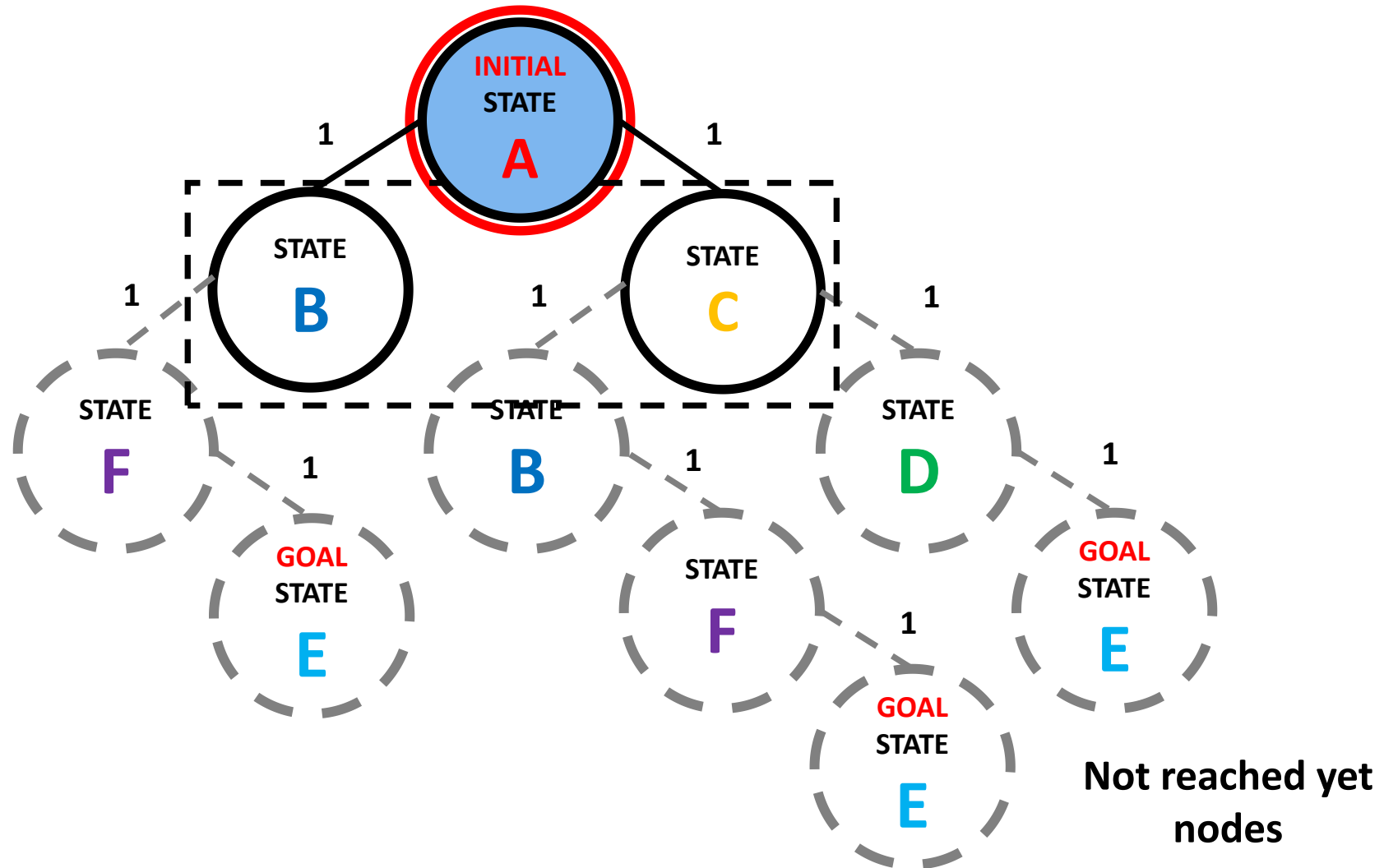
$$f(n) = f(\text{State } n)$$

$$f(n) = f(\text{relevant information about State } n)$$

**A state n with minimum $f(n)$ should be
chosen for expansion**

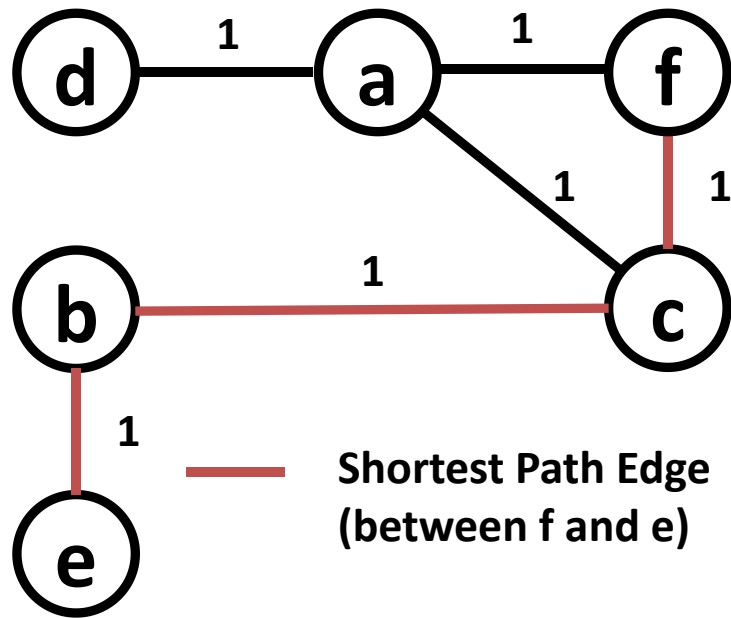
What about ties?

Search Tree: Uniform Action Cost



Uniform Cost Search | Dijkstra's Algo

Weighted Graph G



Shortest Path Edge
(between f and e)

Popular algorithms:

- Dijkstra's algorithm

Shortest Path Problem

Shortest path problem:

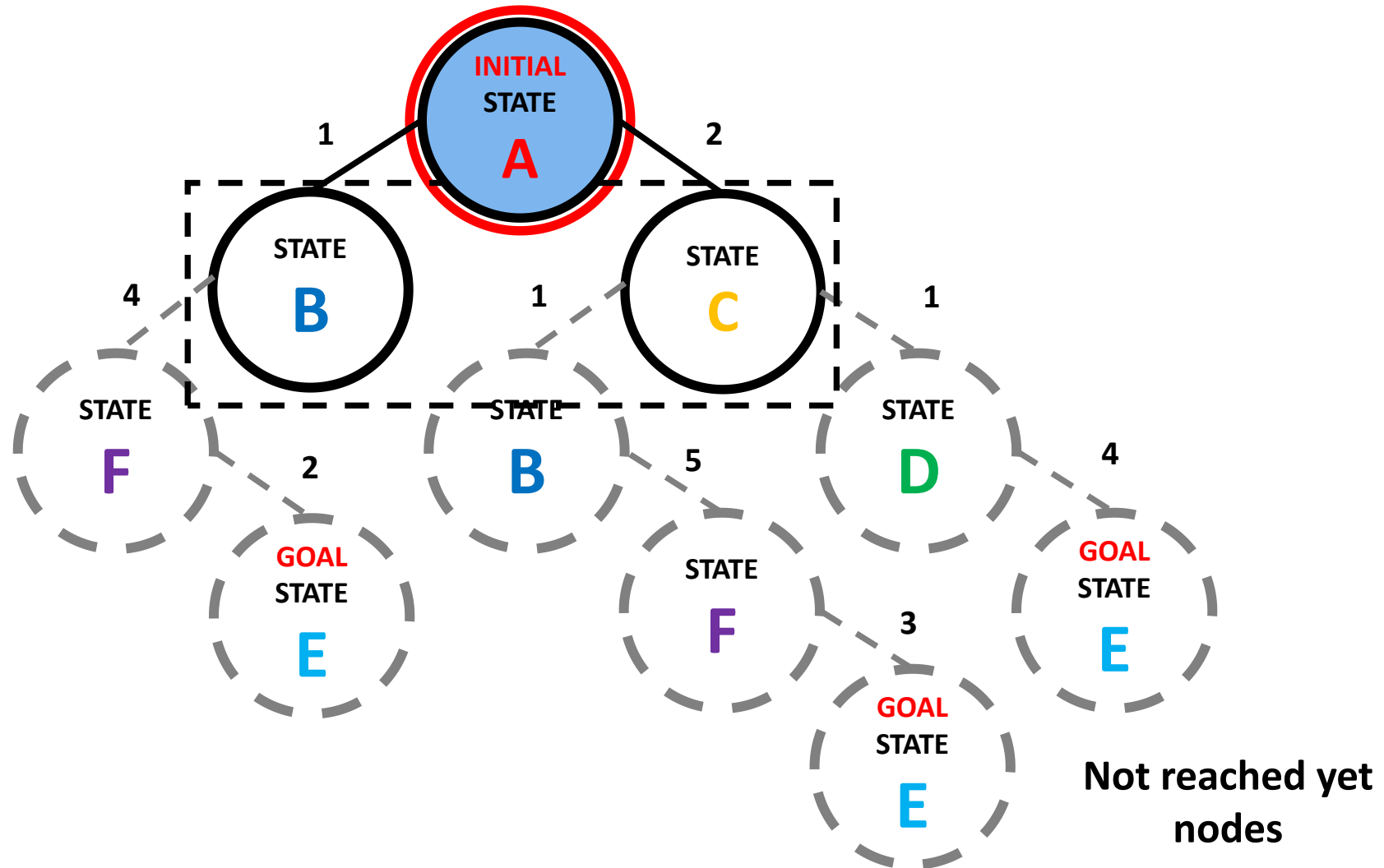
Given a weighted graph $G(V, E, w)$ and two vertices a, b in V , find the shortest path between vertices a and b (**all edge weights are equal**).

BFS and UCS: Pseudocode

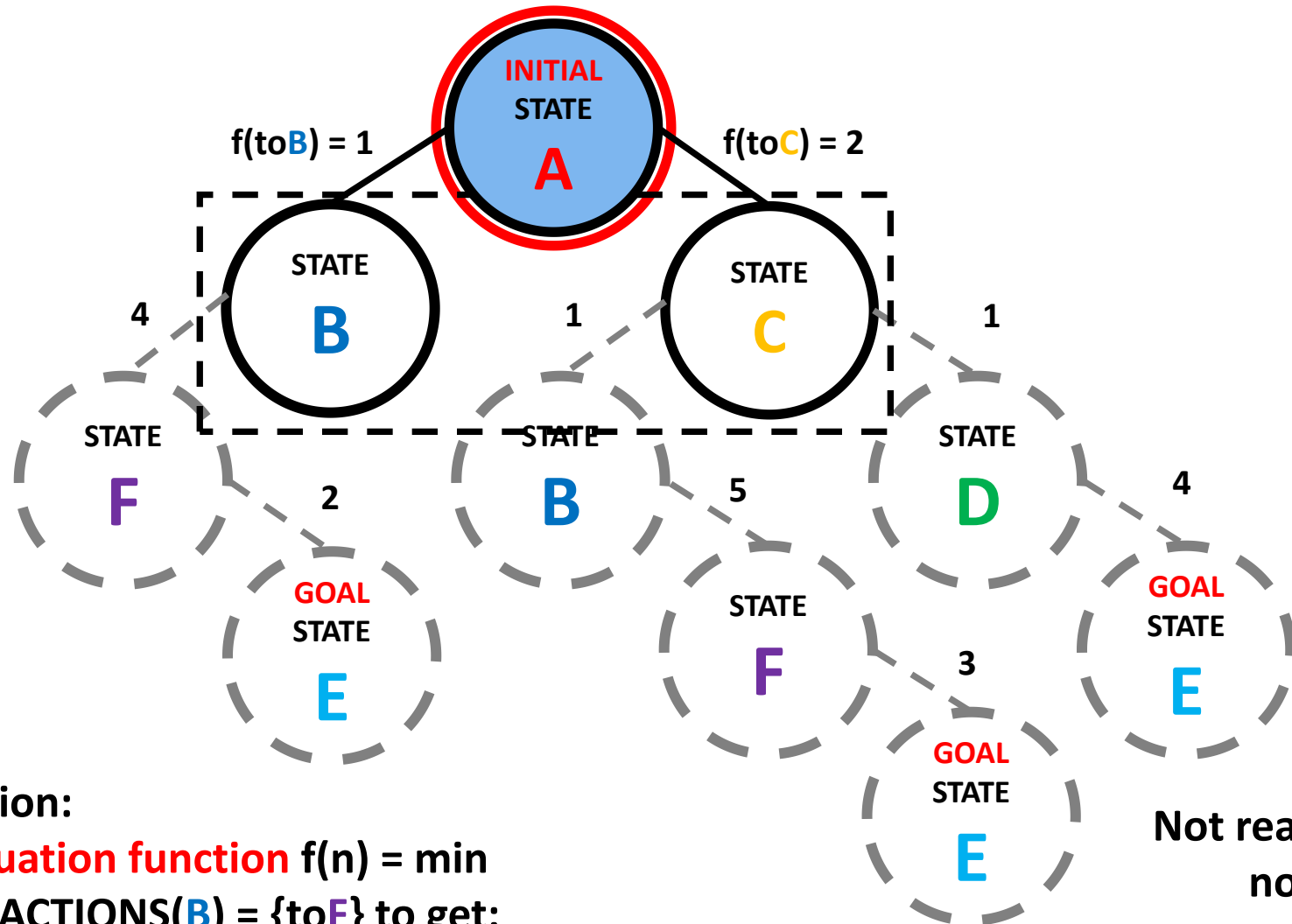
function BREADTH-FIRST-SEARCH(*problem*) **returns** a solution node or *failure*
 $node \leftarrow \text{NODE}(\text{problem.INITIAL})$
 if *problem.IS-GOAL*(*node.STATE*) **then return** *node*
 frontier \leftarrow a FIFO queue, with *node* as an element
 reached $\leftarrow \{\text{problem.INITIAL}\}$
 while not IS-EMPTY(*frontier*) **do**
 $node \leftarrow \text{POP}(\text{frontier})$
 for each *child* **in** EXPAND(*problem*, *node*) **do**
 $s \leftarrow \text{child.STATE}$
 if *problem.IS-GOAL*(*s*) **then return** *child*
 if *s* is not in *reached* **then**
 add *s* to *reached*
 add *child* to *frontier*
 return *failure*

function UNIFORM-COST-SEARCH(*problem*) **returns** a solution node, or *failure*
 return BEST-FIRST-SEARCH(*problem*, PATH-COST)

Search Tree: Variable Action Cost



Search Tree: Variable Action Cost

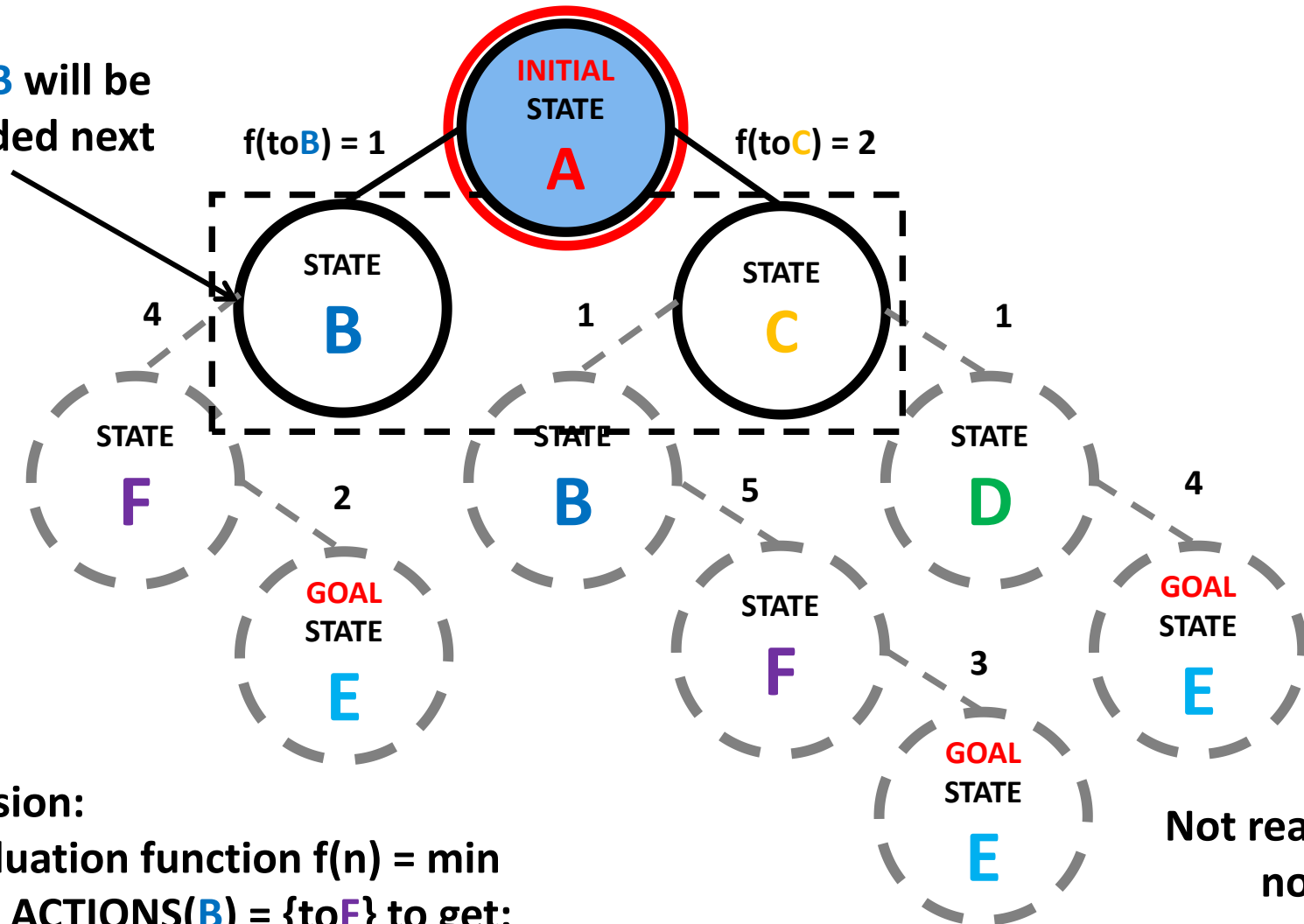


Expansion:

- **Evaluation function** $f(n) = \min$
- Use $\text{ACTIONS}(\text{B}) = \{\text{toF}\}$ to get:
- $\text{RESULT}(\text{B}, \text{toF}) = \text{F}$

Search Tree: Best-First Search

Node **B** will be expanded next



Expansion:

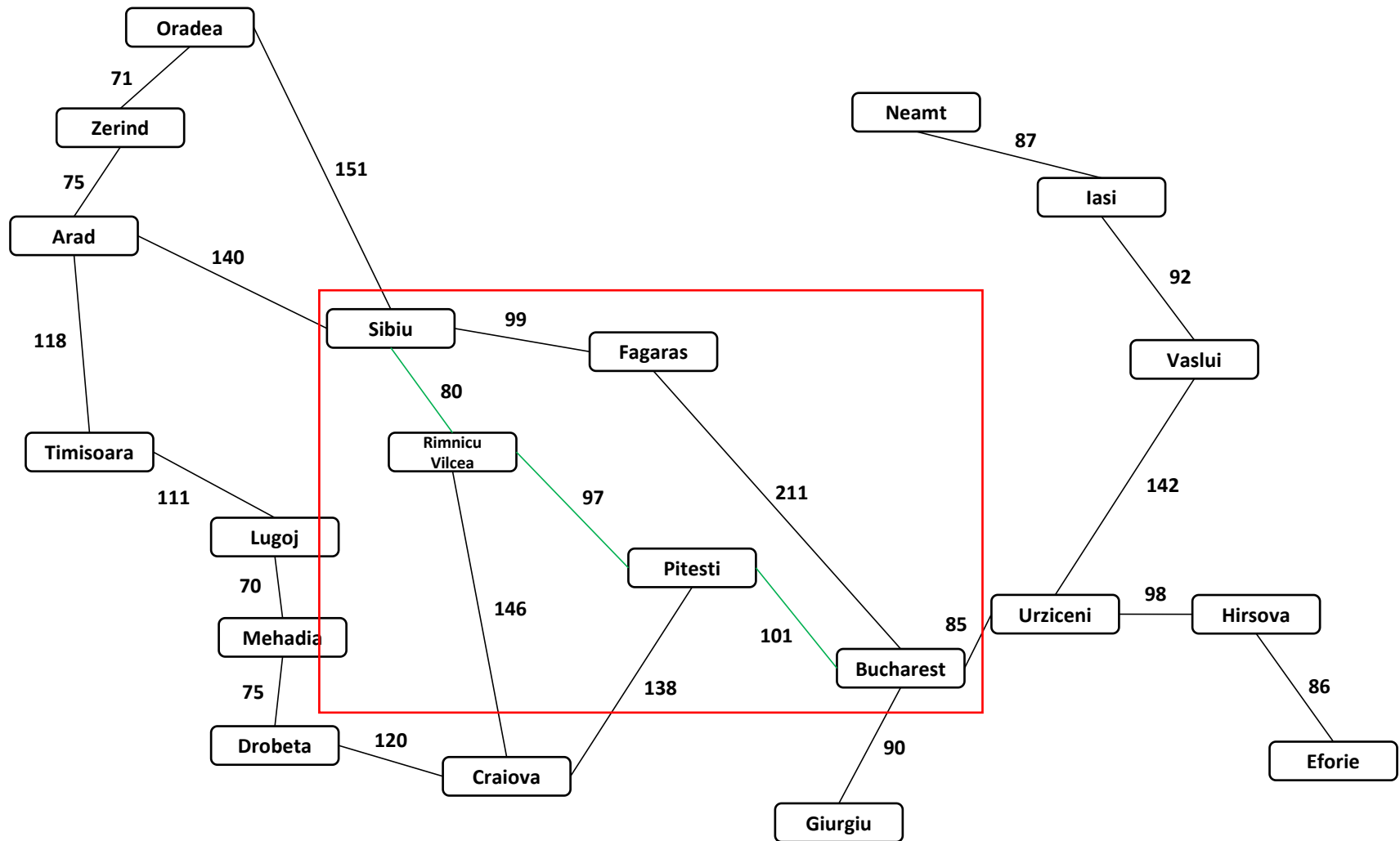
- Evaluation function $f(n) = \min$
- Use $\text{ACTIONS}(\mathbf{B}) = \{\text{toF}\}$ to get:
- $\text{RESULT}(\mathbf{B}, \text{toF}) = \mathbf{F}$

Best-First Search: Pseudocode

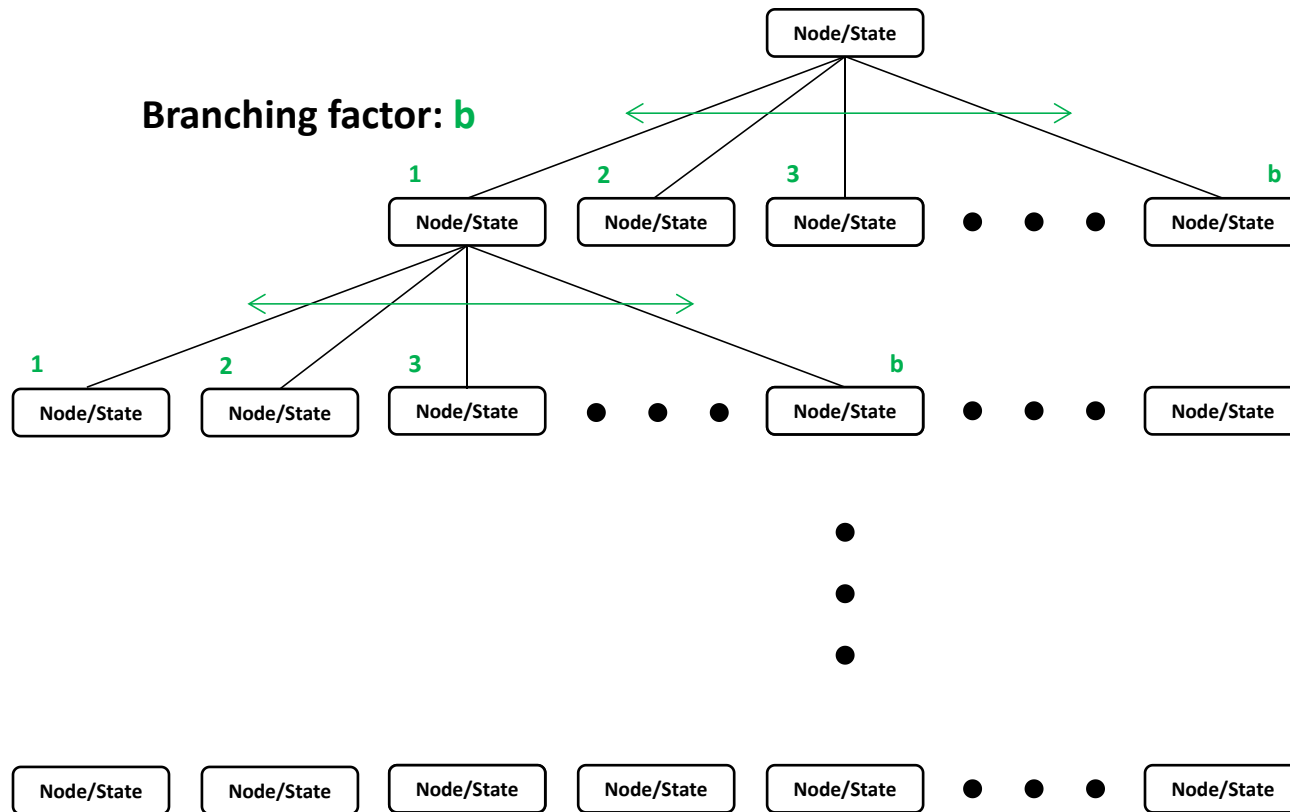
function BEST-FIRST-SEARCH(*problem*, *f*) **returns** a solution node or *failure*
 node \leftarrow NODE(STATE=*problem*.INITIAL)
 frontier \leftarrow a priority queue ordered by *f*, with *node* as an element
 reached \leftarrow a lookup table, with one entry with key *problem*.INITIAL and value *node*
 while not IS-EMPTY(*frontier*) **do**
 node \leftarrow POP(*frontier*)
 if *problem*.IS-GOAL(*node*.STATE) **then return** *node*
 for each *child* **in** EXPAND(*problem*, *node*) **do**
 s \leftarrow *child*.STATE
 if *s* is not in *reached* **or** *child*.PATH-COST < *reached*[*s*].PATH-COST **then**
 reached[*s*] \leftarrow *child*
 add *child* to *frontier*
 return *failure*

function EXPAND(*problem*, *node*) **yields** nodes
 s \leftarrow *node*.STATE
 for each *action* **in** *problem*.ACTIONS(*s*) **do**
 s' \leftarrow *problem*.RESULT(*s*, *action*)
 cost \leftarrow *node*.PATH-COST + *problem*.ACTION-COST(*s*, *action*, *s'*)
 yield NODE(STATE=*s'*, PARENT=*node*, ACTION=*action*, PATH-COST=*cost*)

Best First Search: Issue



Let's Go Back to Depth First Search



Depth: 0 | $N_0 = 1$

Depth: 1 | $N_1 = b$

Depth: 2 | $N_2 = b^2$

Depth: d | $N_d = b^d$

Tree depth is an issue!

“Controlled” DFS: Pseudocode

function ITERATIVE-DEEPENING-SEARCH(*problem*) **returns** a solution node or *failure*
 for *depth* = 0 **to** ∞ **do**
 result \leftarrow DEPTH-LIMITED-SEARCH(*problem*, *depth*)
 if *result* \neq *cutoff* **then return** *result*

function DEPTH-LIMITED-SEARCH(*problem*, ℓ) **returns** a node or *failure* or *cutoff*
 frontier \leftarrow a LIFO queue (stack) with NODE(*problem*.INITIAL) as an element
 result \leftarrow *failure*
 while not IS-EMPTY(*frontier*) **do**
 node \leftarrow POP(*frontier*)
 if *problem*.IS-GOAL(*node*.STATE) **then return** *node*
 if DEPTH(*node*) > ℓ **then**
 result \leftarrow *cutoff*
 else if not IS-CYCLE(*node*) **do**
 for each *child* **in** EXPAND(*problem*, *node*) **do**
 add *child* to *frontier*
 return *result*

Iterative Deepening DFS: Illustration

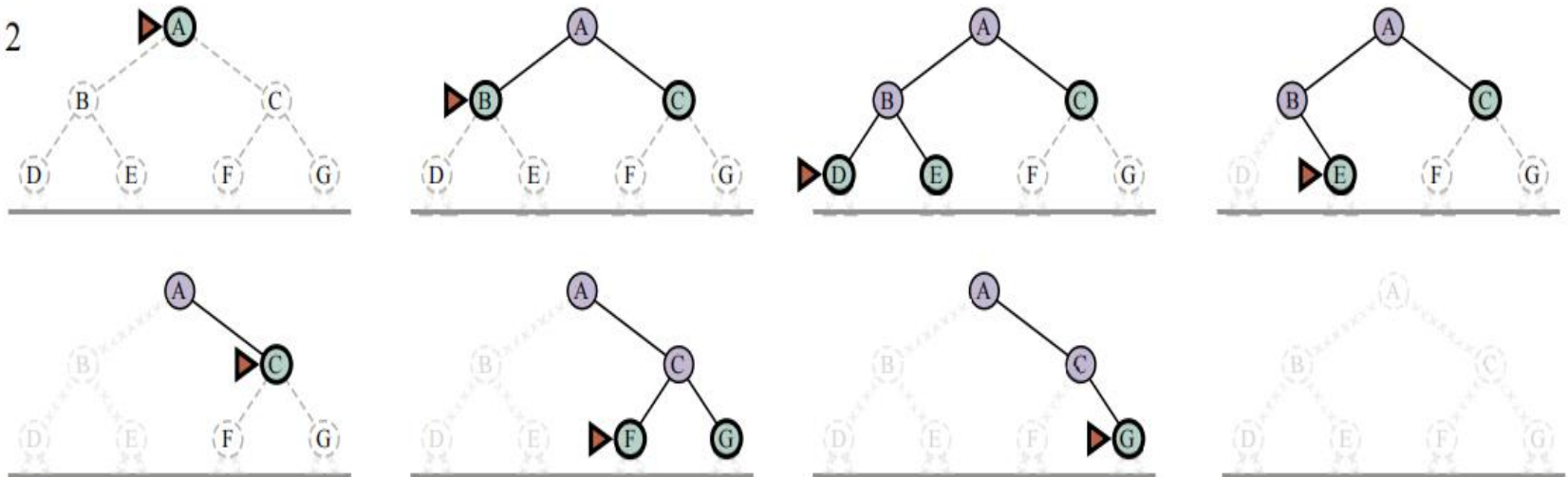
limit: 0



limit: 1

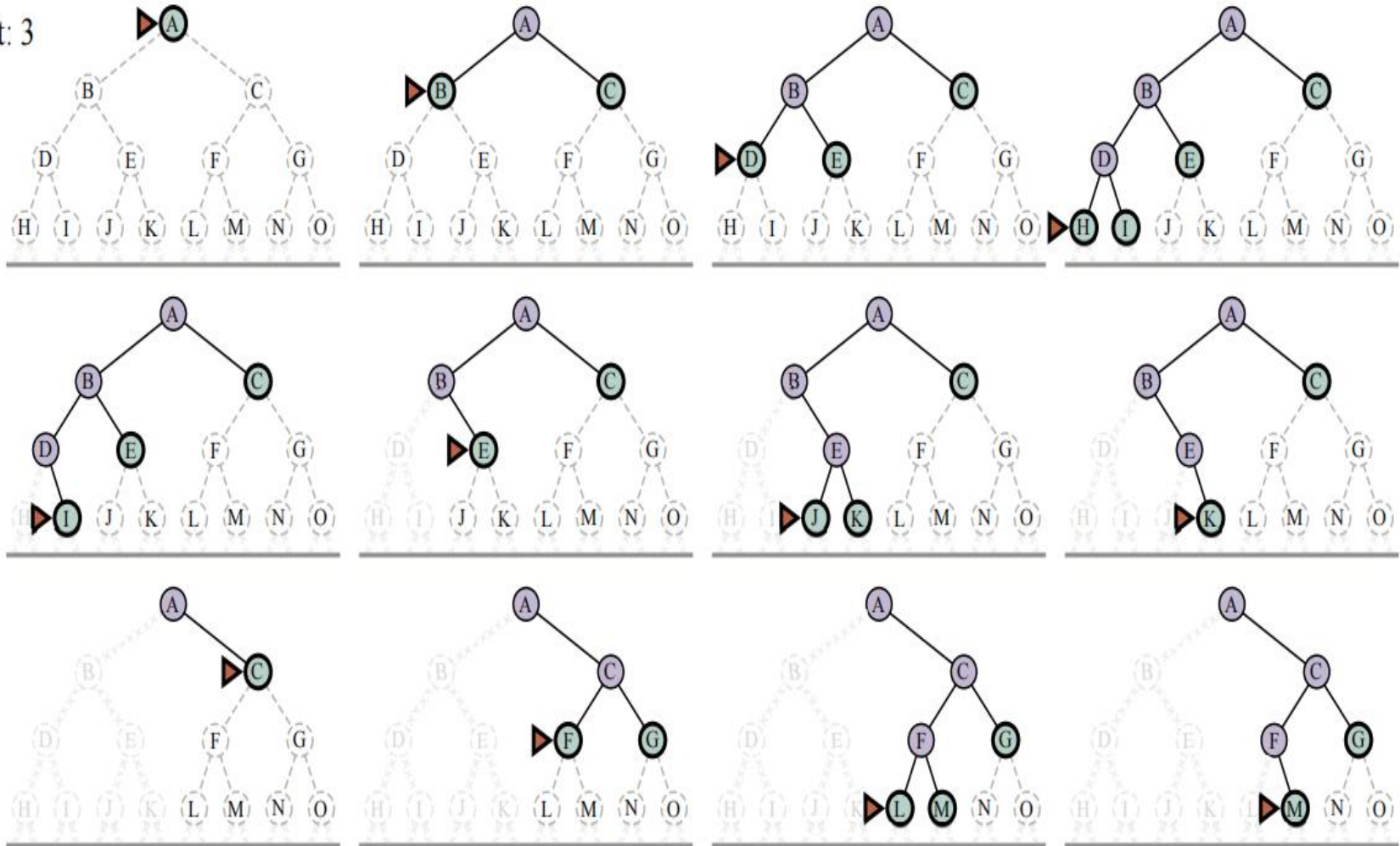


limit: 2



Iterative Deepening DFS: Illustration

limit: 3

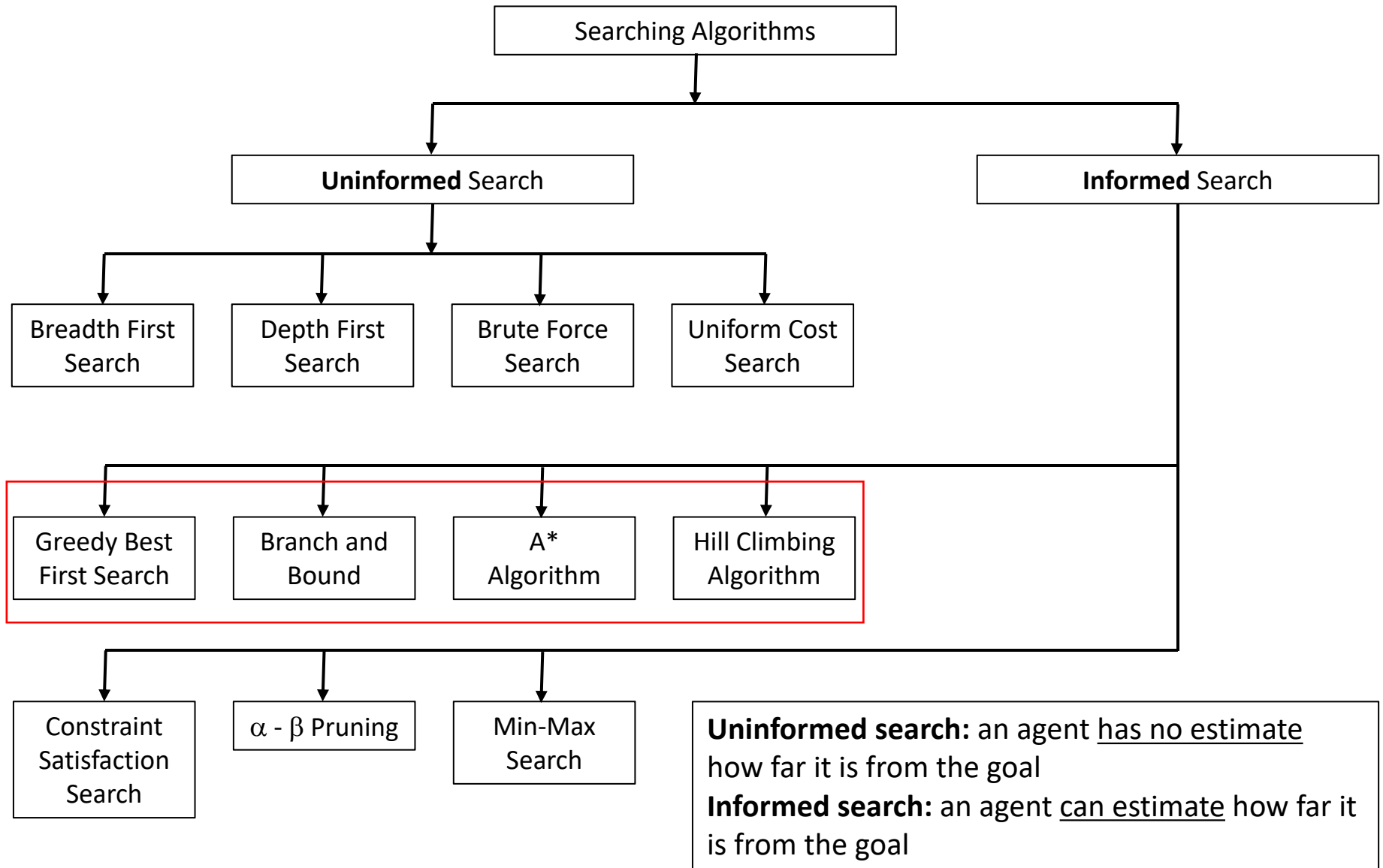


Uninformed Search Algorithms

Criterion	Breadth-First	Uniform-Cost	Depth-First	Depth-Limited	Iterative Deepening	Bidirectional (if applicable)
Complete?	Yes ¹	Yes ^{1,2}	No	No	Yes ¹	Yes ^{1,4}
Optimal cost?	Yes ³	Yes	No	No	Yes ³	Yes ^{3,4}
Time	$O(b^d)$	$O(b^{1+\lceil C^*/\epsilon \rceil})$	$O(b^m)$	$O(b^\ell)$	$O(b^d)$	$O(b^{d/2})$
Space	$O(b^d)$	$O(b^{1+\lceil C^*/\epsilon \rceil})$	$O(bm)$	$O(b\ell)$	$O(bd)$	$O(b^{d/2})$

Figure 3.15 Evaluation of search algorithms. b is the branching factor; m is the maximum depth of the search tree; d is the depth of the shallowest solution, or is m when there is no solution; ℓ is the depth limit. Superscript caveats are as follows: ¹ complete if b is finite, and the state space either has a solution or is finite. ² complete if all action costs are $\geq \epsilon > 0$; ³ cost-optimal if action costs are all identical; ⁴ if both directions are breadth-first or uniform-cost.

Selected Searching Algorithms



Informed Search and Heuristics

Informed search relies on **domain-specific knowledge / hints** that help locate the goal state.

$$h(n) = h(\text{State } n)$$

$$h(n) = n(\text{relevant information about State } n)$$

$h(n)$: heuristic function - estimated cost of the cheapest path from State n to the goal state