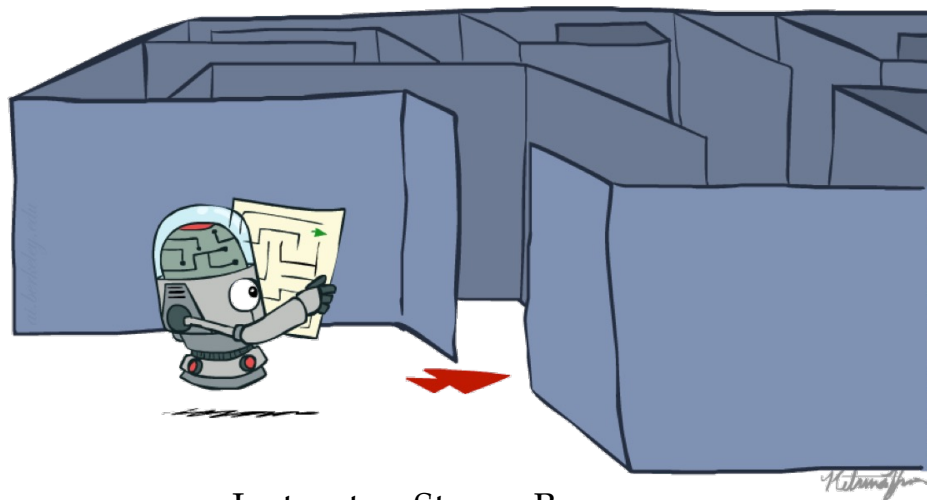


# CMPT 310: Artificial Intelligence

## Search



Instructor: Steven Bergner

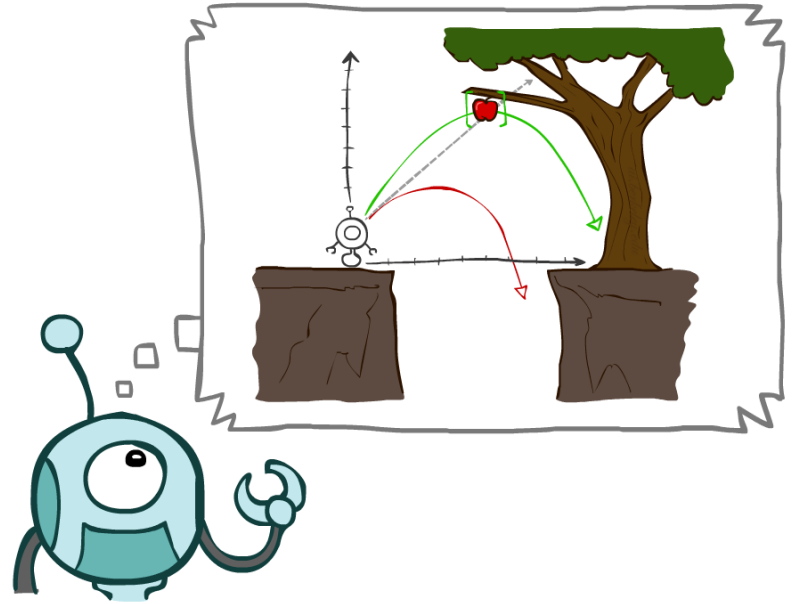
Simon Fraser University

(slides adapted from UC Berkeley CS188 slides)

# Today

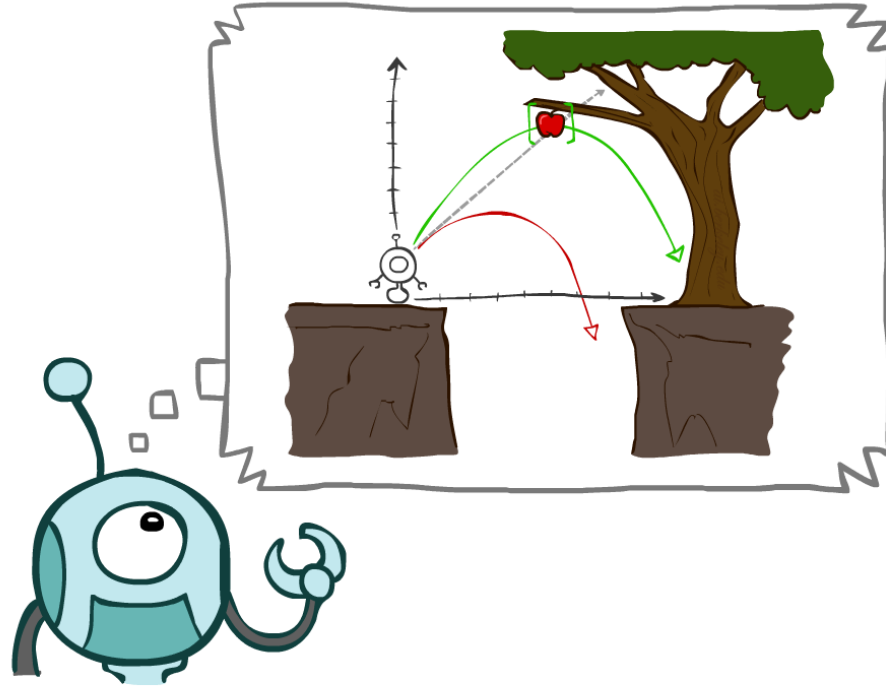
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- Agents that Plan Ahead
- Search Problems
- Uninformed Search Methods
  - Depth-First Search
  - Breadth-First Search
  - Uniform-Cost Search



# Agents that Plan

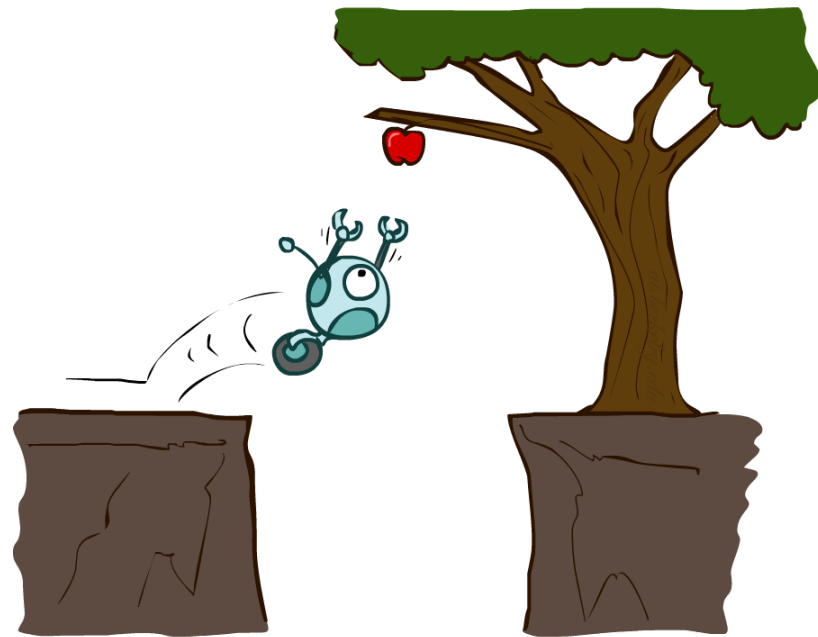
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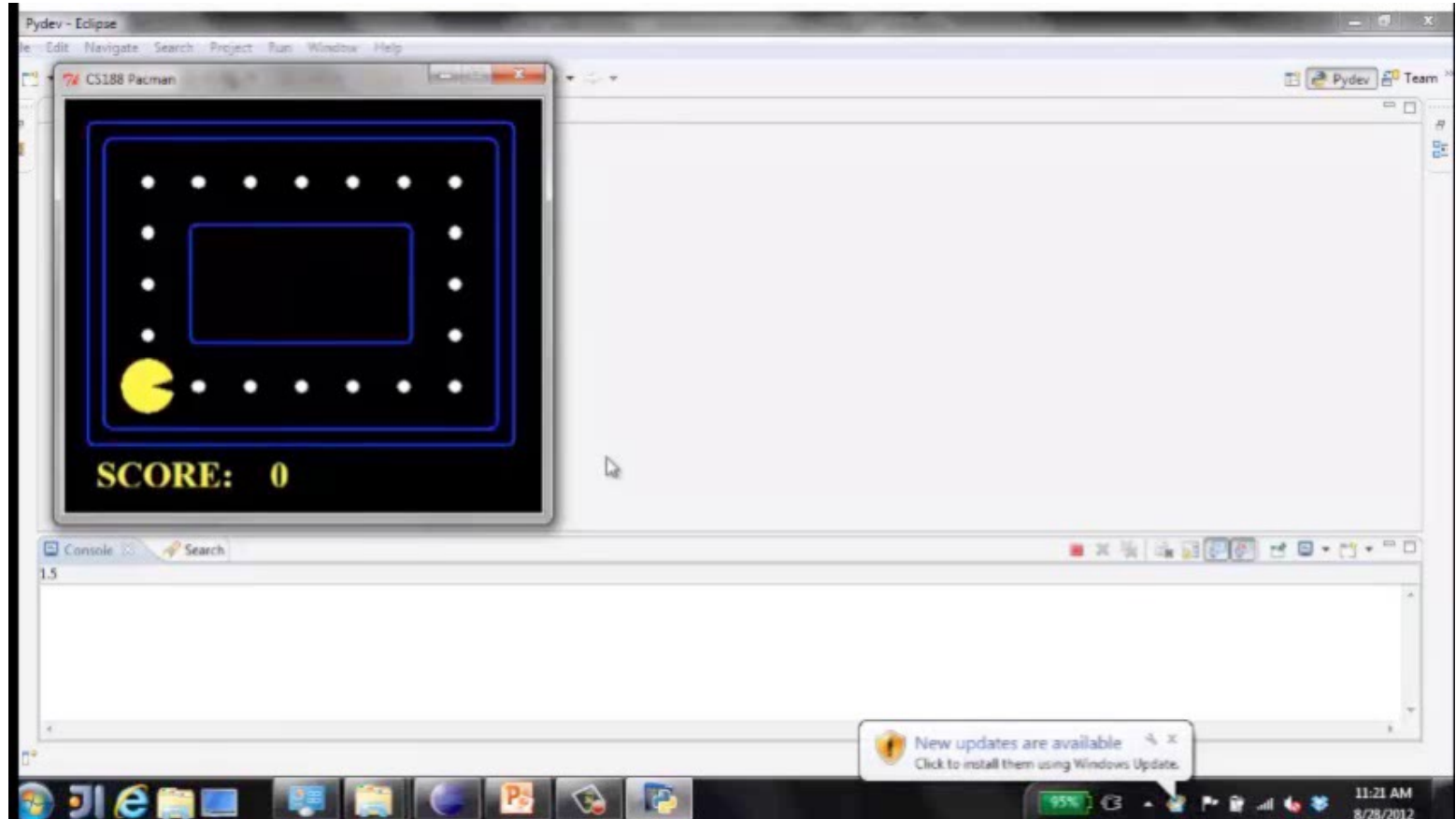
# Reflex Agents

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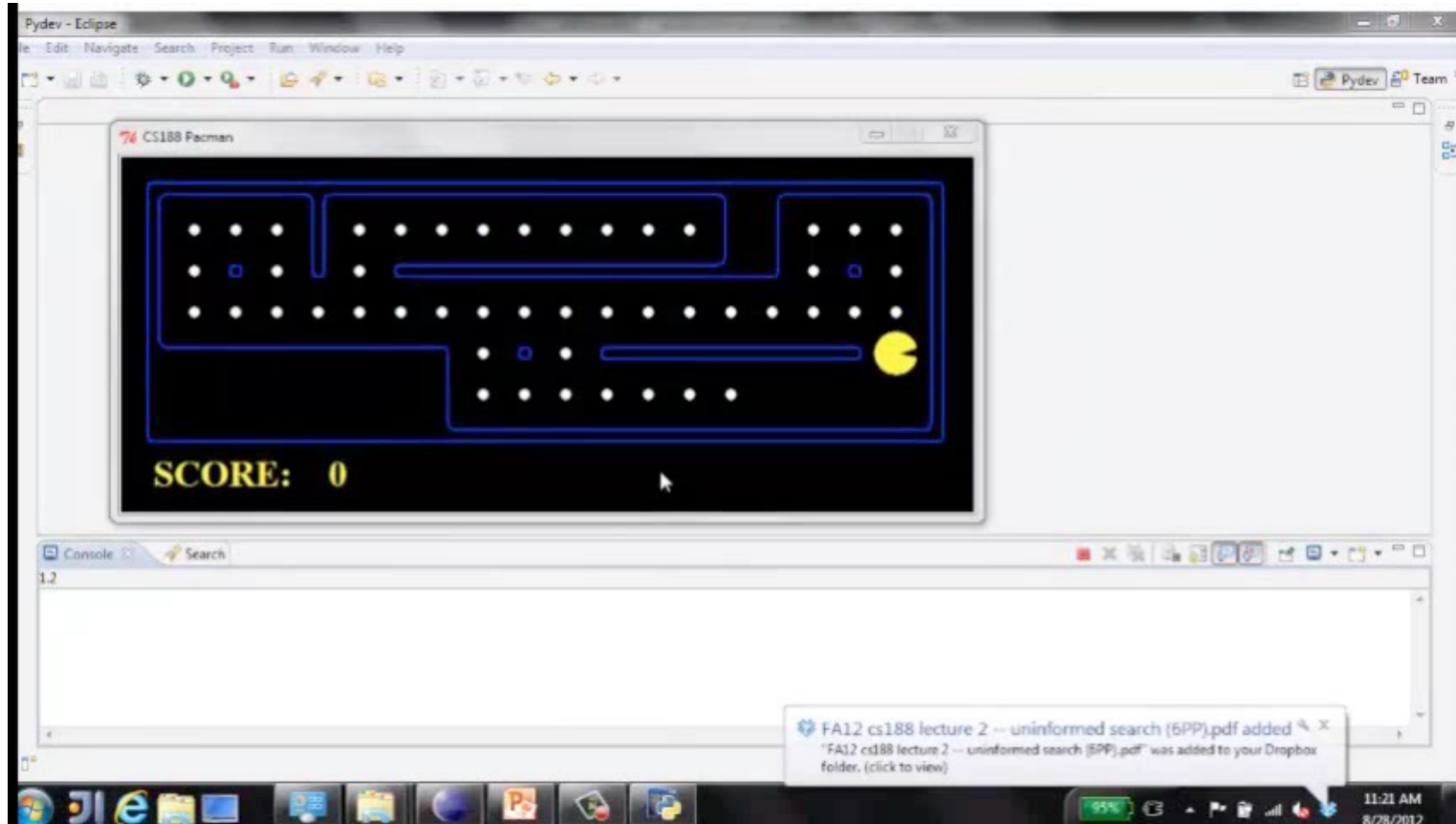
- Reflex agents:
  - Choose action based on current percept (and maybe memory)
  - May have memory or a model of the world's current state
  - Do not consider the future consequences of their actions
  - **Consider how the world IS**
- Can a reflex agent be rational?



# Video of Demo Reflex Optimal



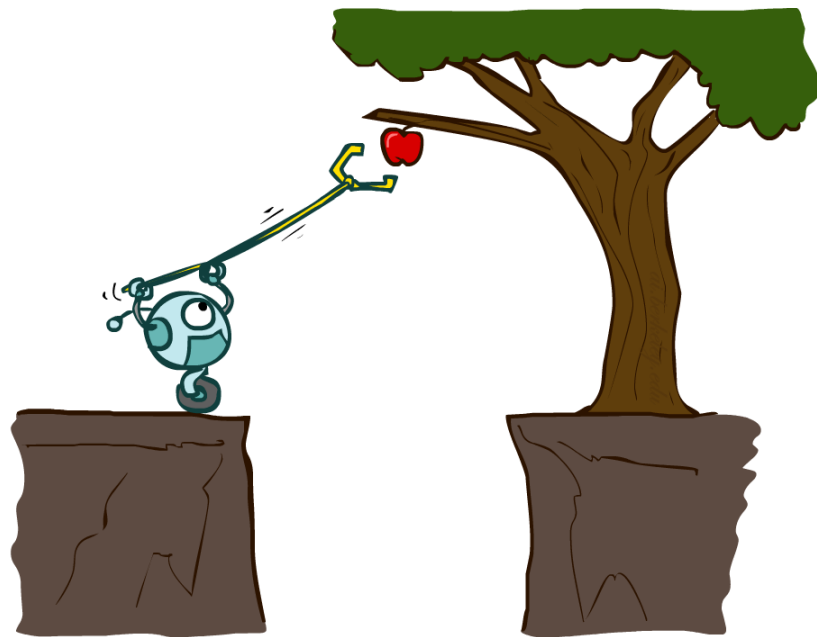
# Video of Demo Reflex Odd



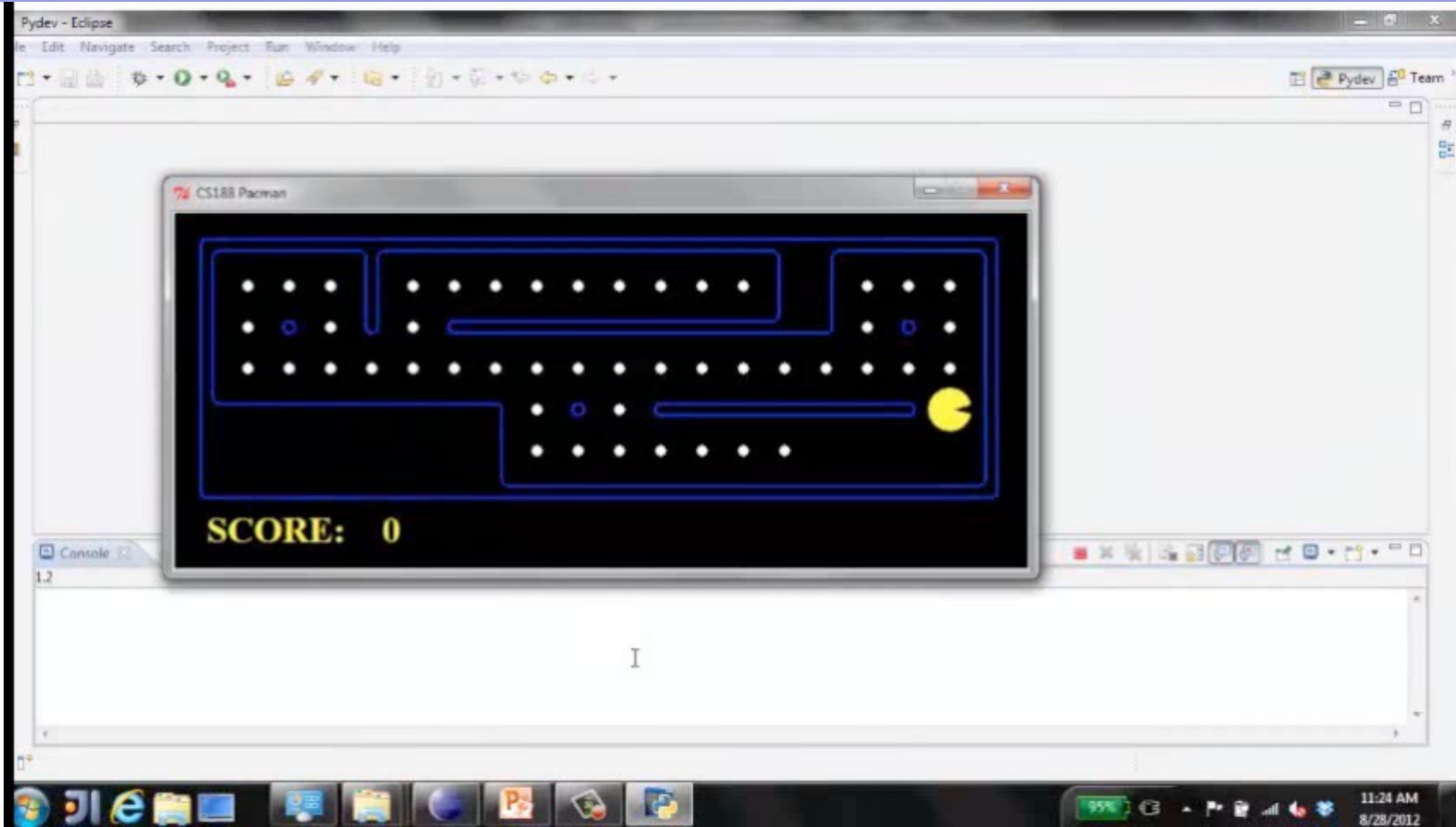
# Planning Agents

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- Planning agents:
  - Ask “what if”
  - Decisions based on (hypothesized) consequences of actions
  - Must have a model of how the world evolves in response to actions
  - Must formulate a goal (test)
  - **Consider how the world WOULD BE**
- Optimal vs. complete planning
- Planning vs. replanning

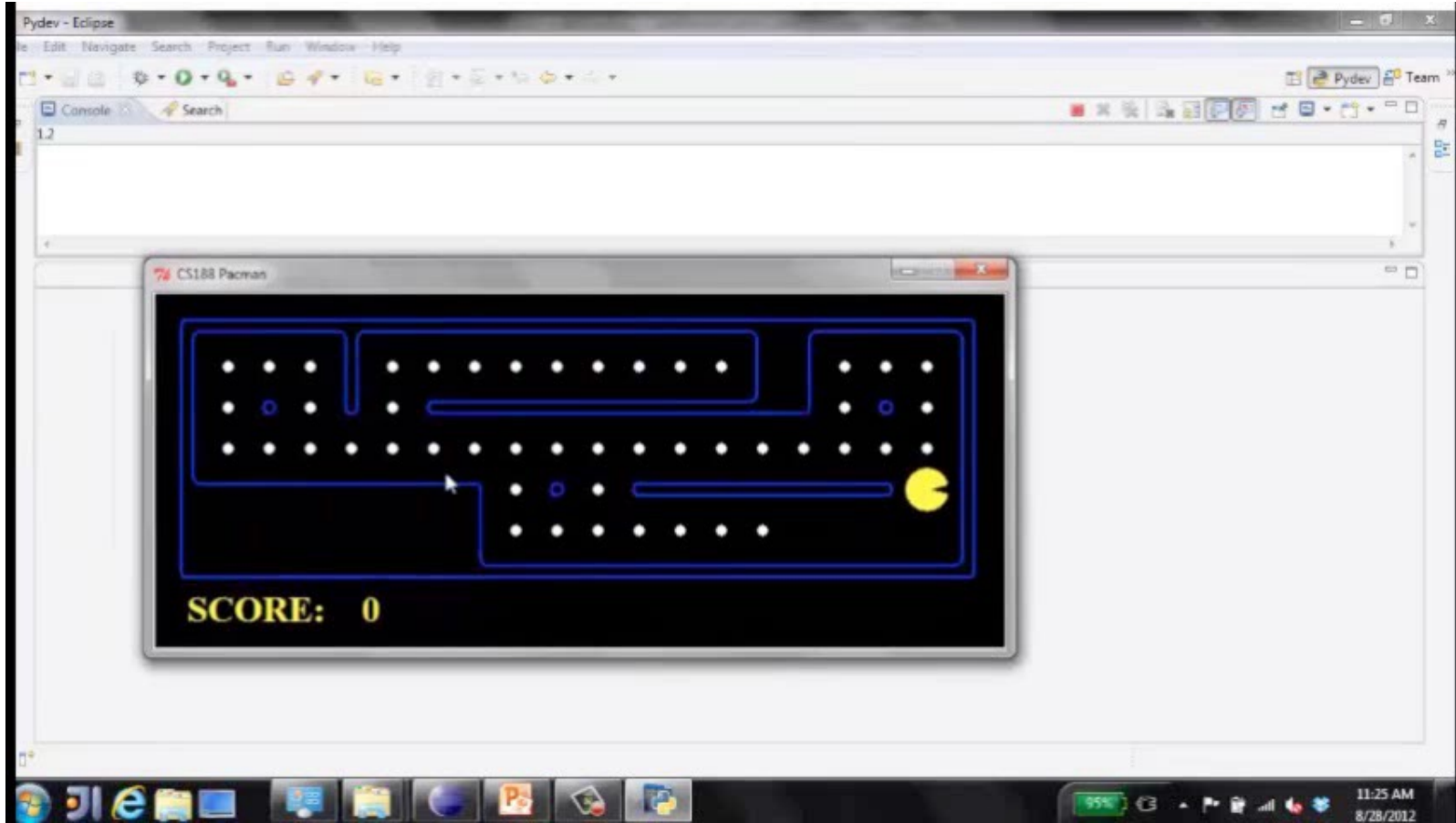


# Video of Demo Replanning





# Video of Demo Mastermind



# Search Problems

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# Search Problems

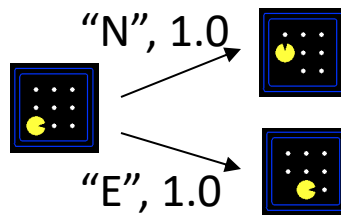
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- A **search problem** consists of:

- A state space



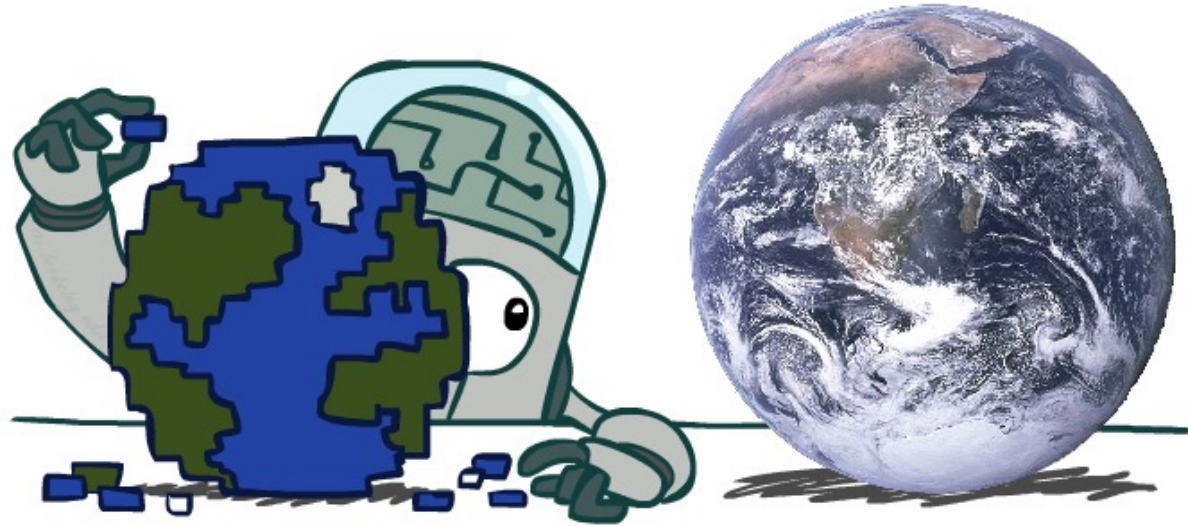
- A successor function  
(with actions, costs)



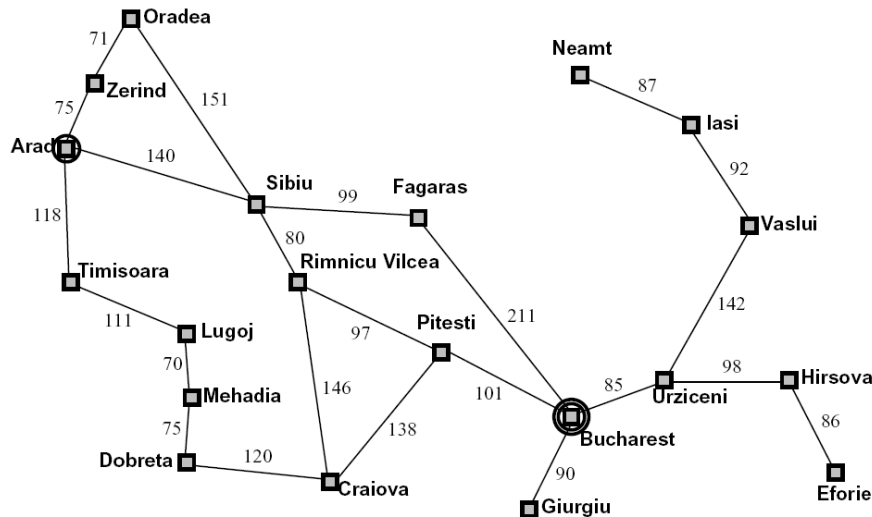
- A start state and a goal test
- A **solution** is a sequence of actions (a plan)  
which transforms the start state to a goal state

# Search Problems Are Models

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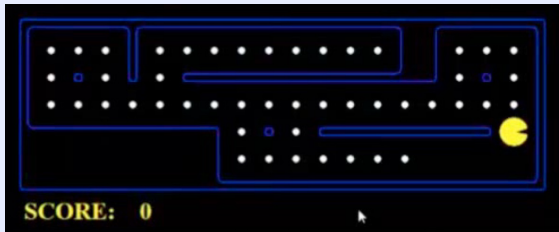
# Example: Traveling in Romania



- State space:
  - Cities
- Successor function:
  - Roads: Go to adjacent city with cost = distance
- Start state:
  - Arad
- Goal test:
  - Is state == Bucharest?
- Solution?

# What's in a State Space?

The **world state** includes every last detail of the environment

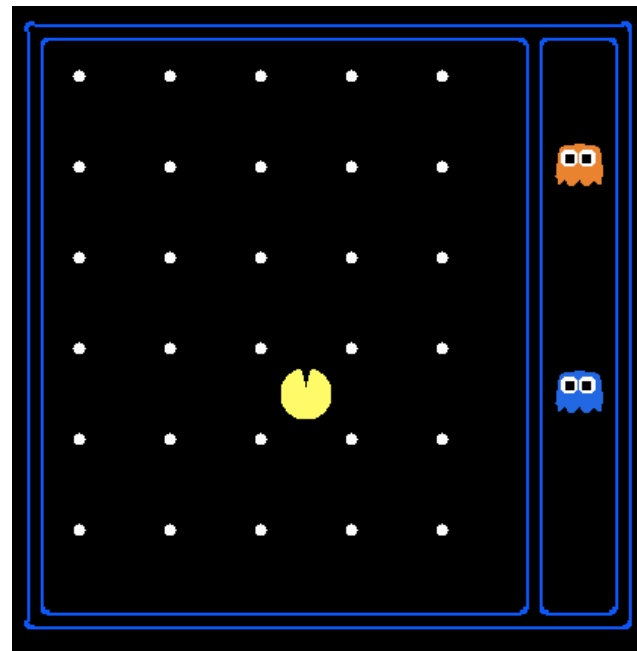


A **search state** keeps only the details needed for planning (abstraction)

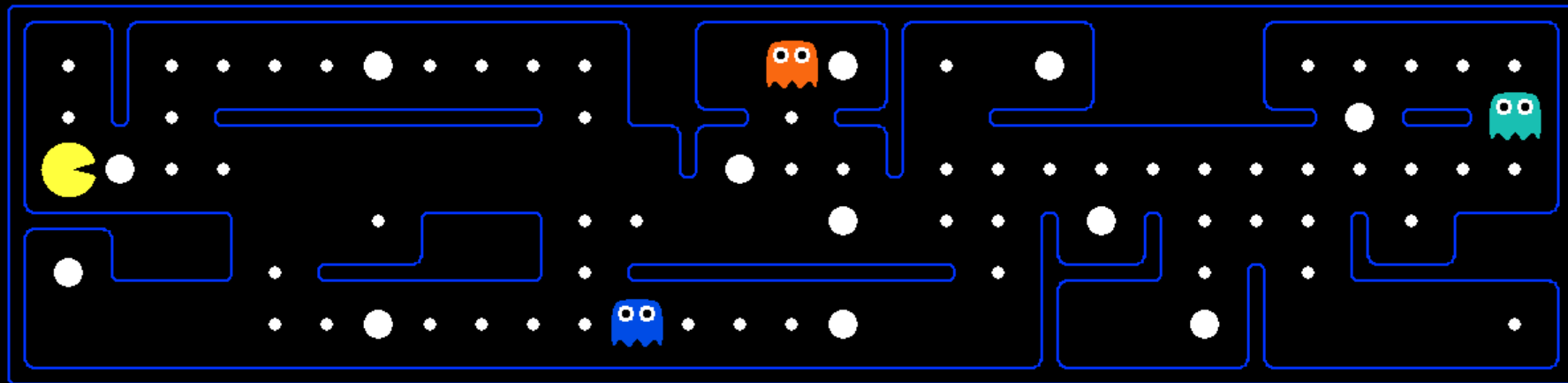
- Problem: Pathing
  - States:  $(x,y)$  location
  - Actions: NSEW
  - Successor: update location only
  - Goal test: is  $(x,y)=END$
- Problem: Eat-All-Dots
  - States:  $\{(x,y), \text{dot booleans}\}$
  - Actions: NSEW
  - Successor: update location and possibly a dot boolean
  - Goal test: dots all false

# State Space Sizes?

- World state:
  - Agent positions: 120
  - Food count: 30
  - Ghost positions: 12
  - Agent facing: NSEW
- How many
  - World states?  
 $120 \times (2^{30}) \times (12^2) \times 4$
  - States for pathing?  
120
  - States for eat-all-dots?  
 $120 \times (2^{30})$



# Quiz: Safe Passage

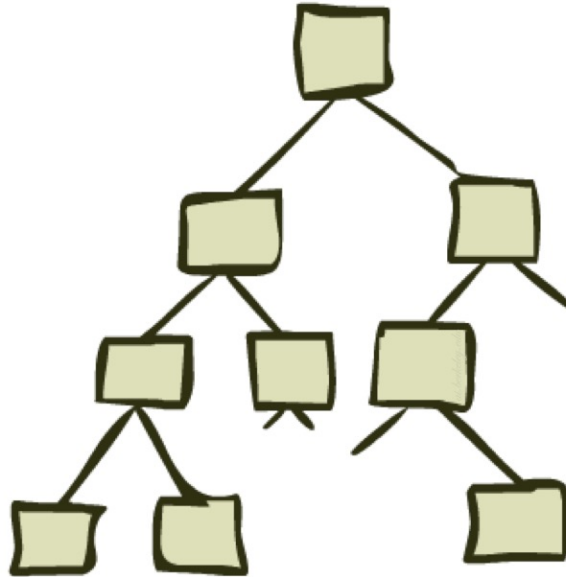


- Problem: eat all dots while keeping the ghosts perma-scared
- What does the state space have to specify?
  - (agent position, dot booleans, power pellet booleans, remaining scared time)



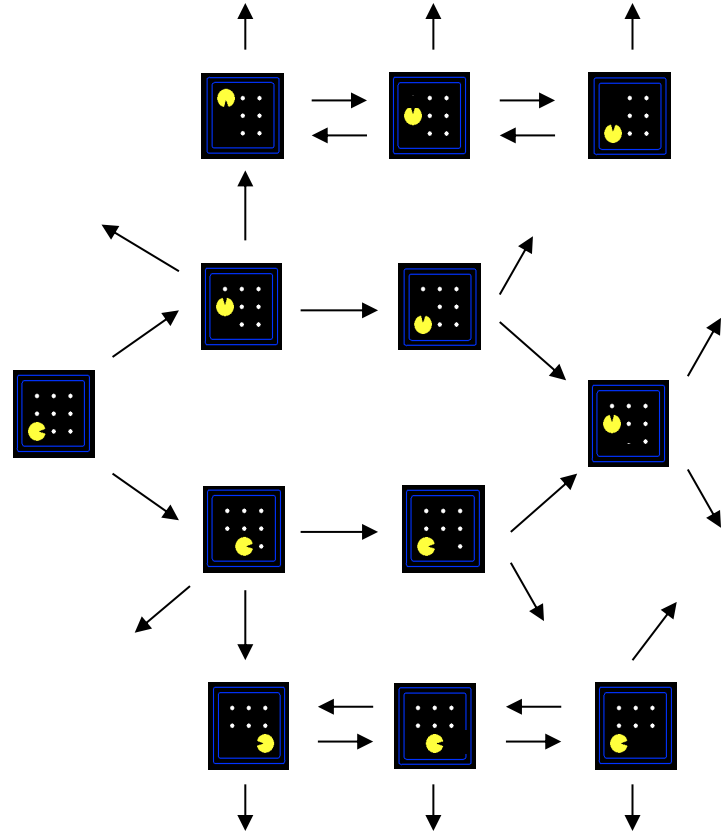
# State Space Graphs and Search Trees

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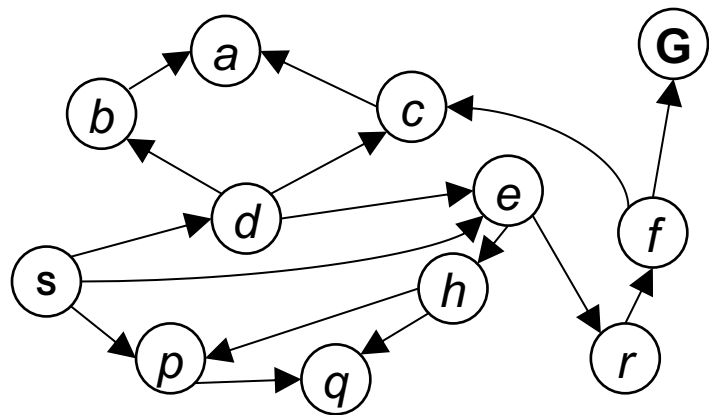
# State Space Graphs

- State space graph: A mathematical representation of a search problem
  - Nodes are (abstracted) world configurations
  - Arcs represent successors (action results)
  - The goal test is a set of goal nodes (maybe only one)
- In a state space graph, each state occurs only once!
- We can rarely build this full graph in memory (it's too big), but it's a useful idea



# State Space Graphs

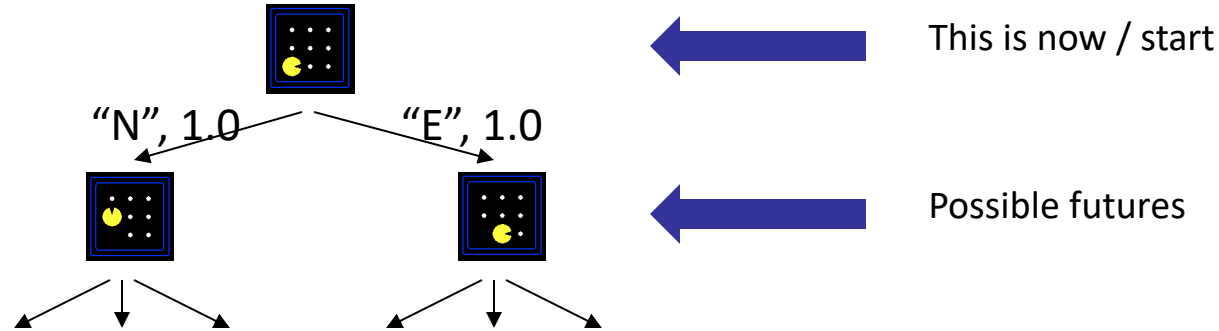
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*Tiny state space graph  
for a tiny search problem*

# Search Trees

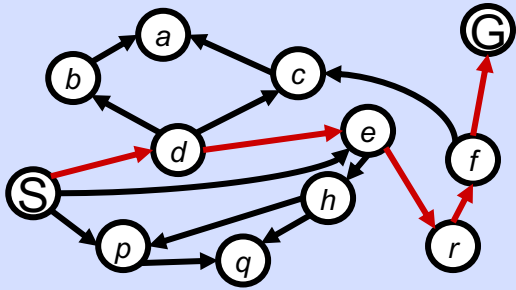
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- A search tree:
  - A “what if” tree of plans and their outcomes
  - The start state is the root node
  - Children correspond to successors
  - Nodes show states, but correspond to PLANS that achieve those states
  - For most problems, we can never actually build the whole tree

# State Space Graphs vs. Search Trees

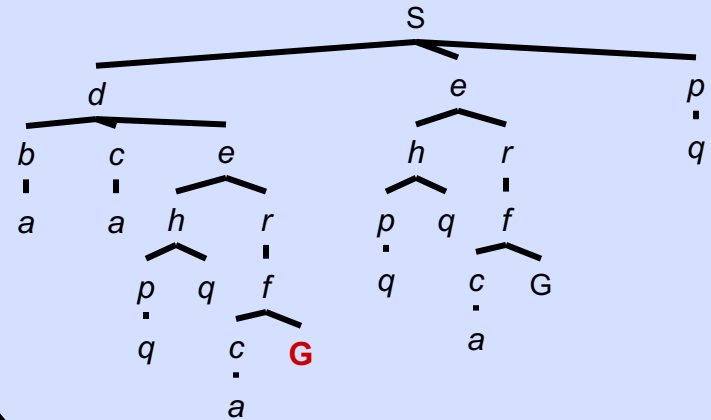
State Space Graph



*Each NODE in the search tree is an entire PATH in the state space graph.*

*We construct only what we need on demand*

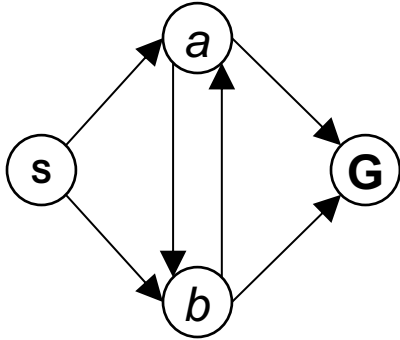
Search Tree



# Quiz: State Space Graphs vs. Search Trees

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Consider this 4-state graph:

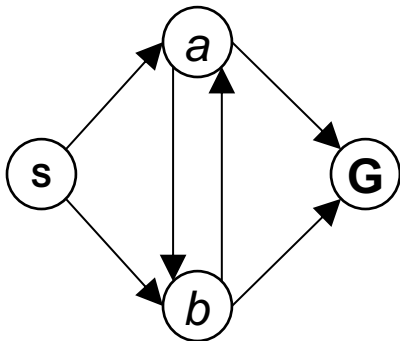


How big is its search tree (from S)?

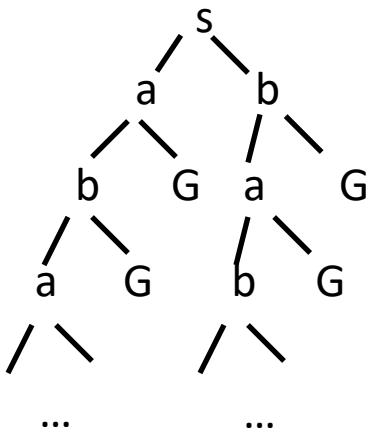


# Quiz: State Space Graphs vs. Search Trees

Consider this 4-state graph:



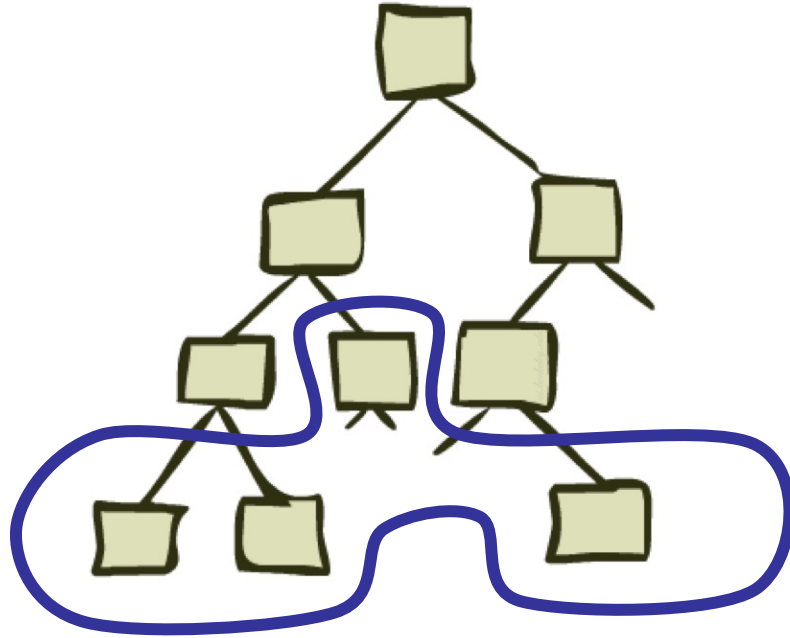
How big is its search tree (from S)?



Important: Lots of repeated structure in the search tree!

# Tree Search

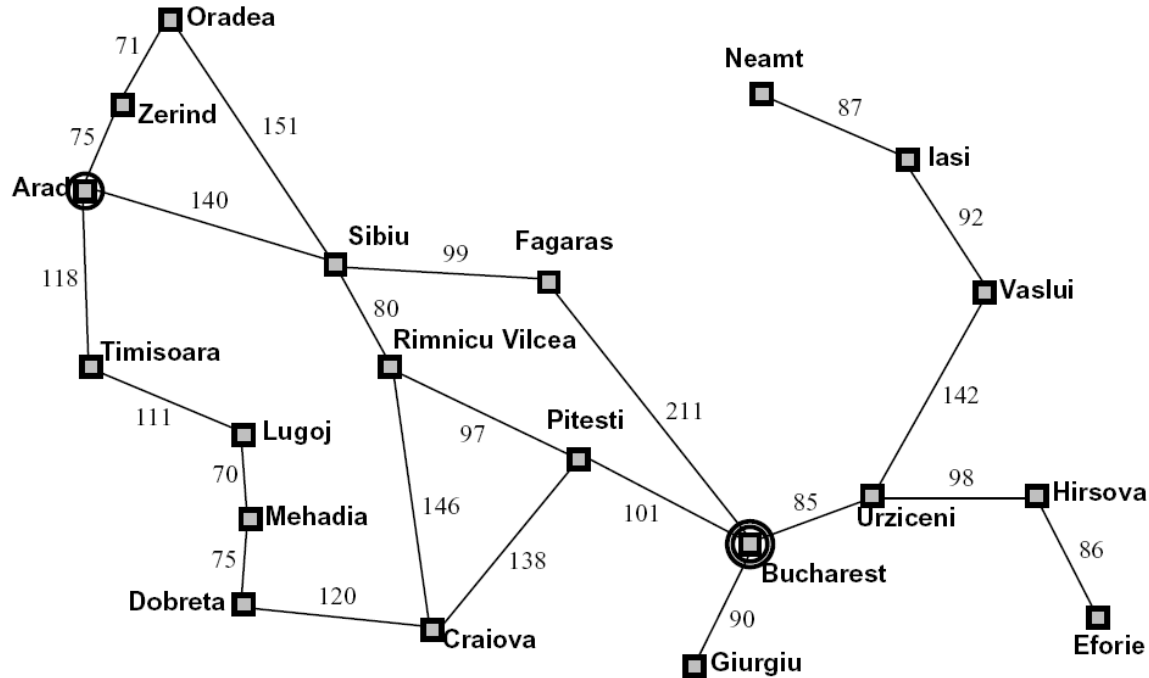
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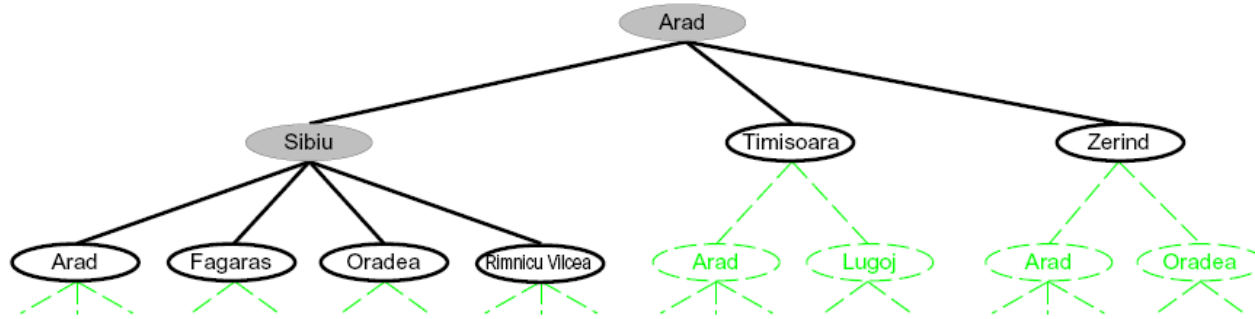
# Search Example: Romania

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# Searching with a Search Tree

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- Search:
  - Expand out potential plans (tree nodes)
  - Maintain a **fringe** of partial plans under consideration
  - Try to expand as few tree nodes as possible

# General Tree Search

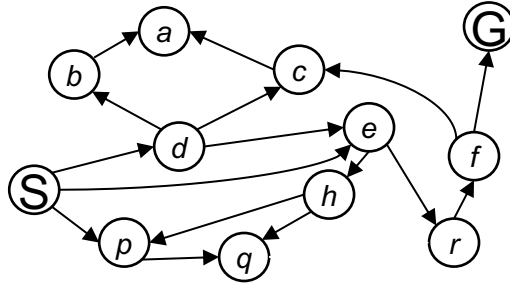
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```
function TREE-SEARCH( problem, strategy ) returns a solution, or failure
  initialize the search tree using the initial state of problem
  loop do
    if there are no candidates for expansion then return failure
    choose a leaf node for expansion according to strategy
    if the node contains a goal state then return the corresponding solution
    else expand the node and add the resulting nodes to the search tree
  end
```

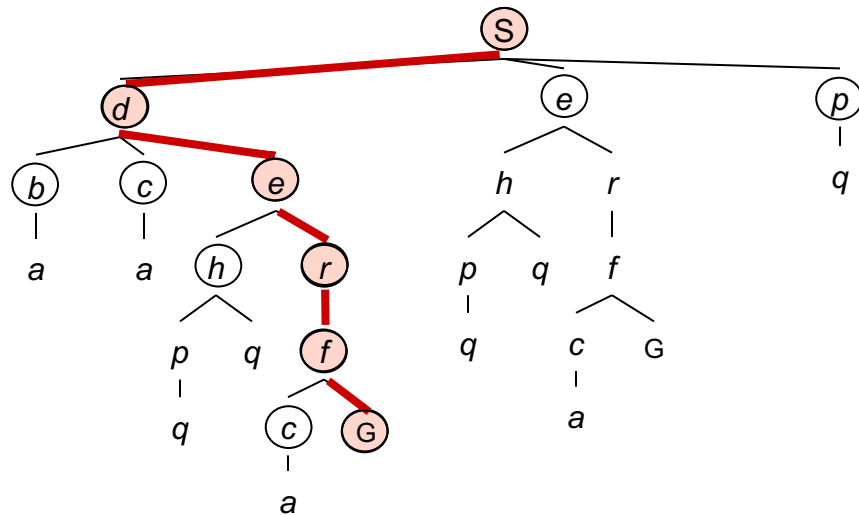
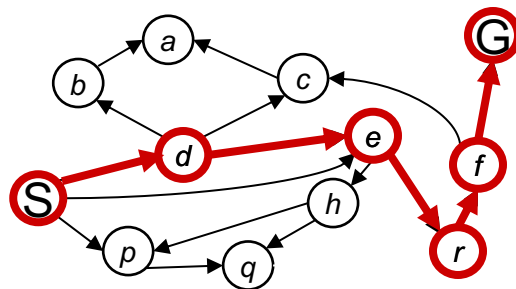
- Important ideas:
  - Fringe
  - Expansion
  - Exploration strategy
- Main question: which fringe nodes to explore?

# Example: Tree Search

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# Example: Tree Search



~~s~~  
~~s → d~~  
 s → e  
 s → p  
 s → d → b  
 s → d → c  
~~s → d → e~~  
 s → d → e → h  
~~s → d → e → r~~  
~~s → d → e → r → f~~  
 s → d → e → r → f → c  
~~s → d → e → r → f → G~~

# Depth-First Search

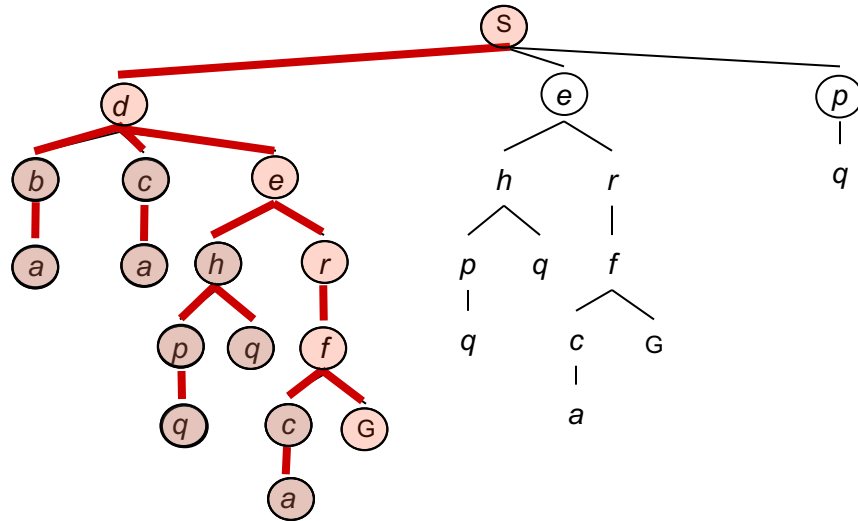
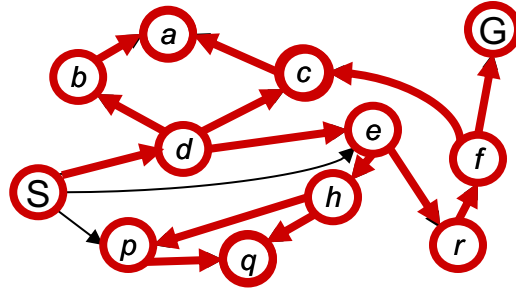
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# Depth-First Search

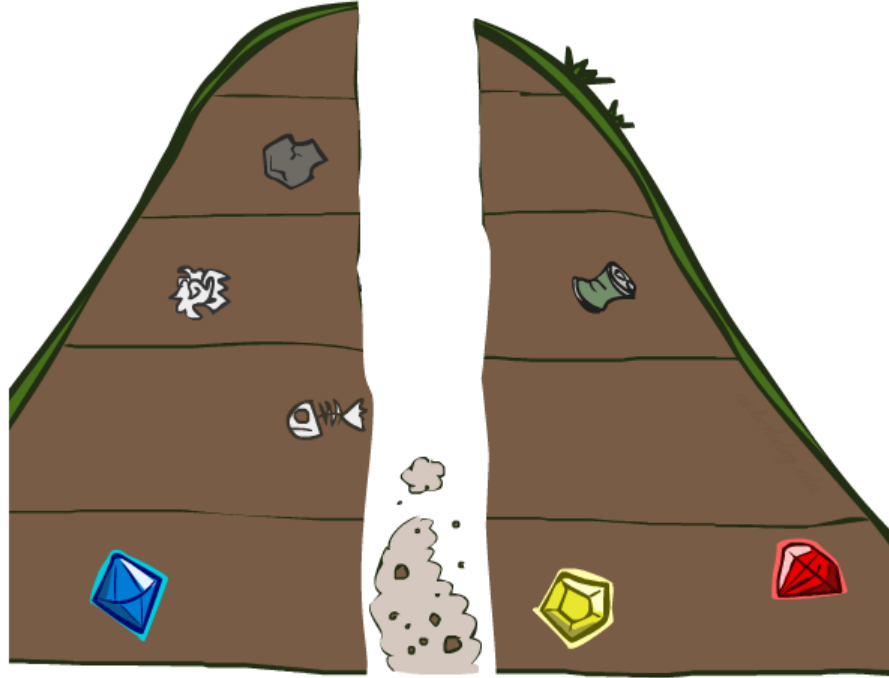
*Strategy: expand a deepest node first*

*Implementation:  
Fringe is a LIFO stack*



# Search Algorithm Properties

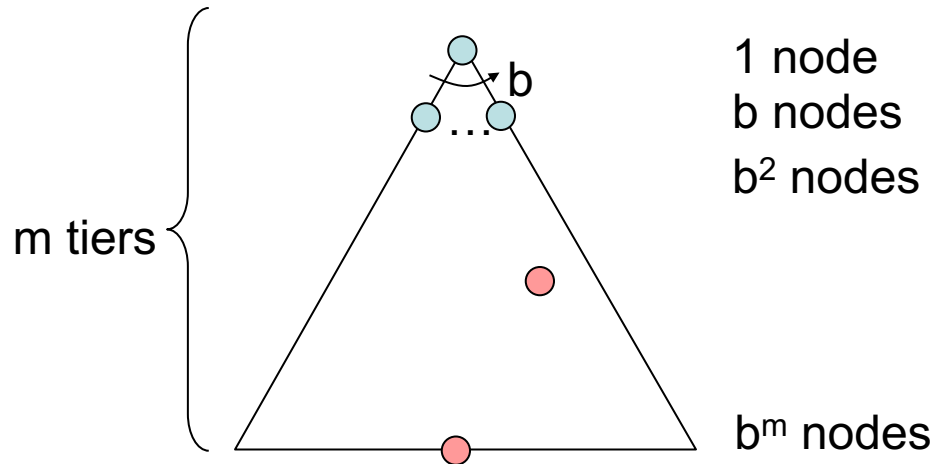
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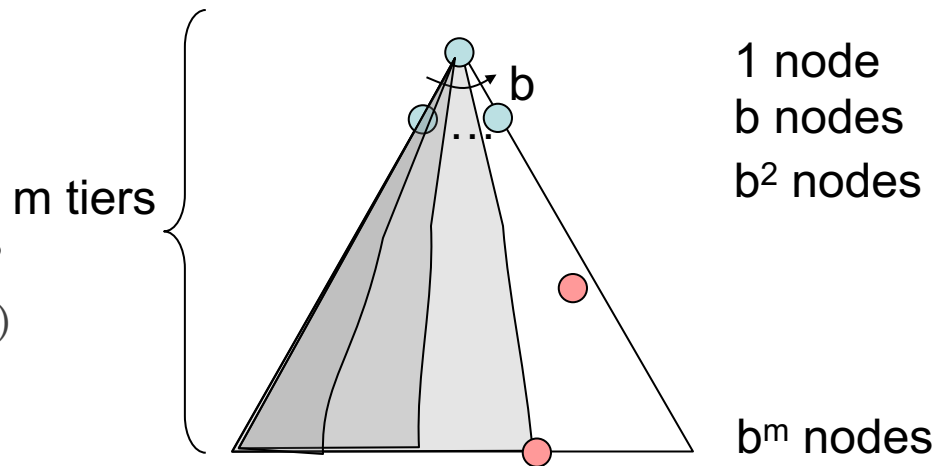
# Search Algorithm Properties

- Complete: Guaranteed to find a solution if one exists?
- Optimal: Guaranteed to find the least cost path?
- Time complexity?
- Space complexity?
- Cartoon of search tree:
  - $b$  is the branching factor
  - $m$  is the maximum depth
  - solutions at various depths
- Number of nodes in entire tree?
  - $1 + b + b^2 + \dots + b^m = O(b^{m+1})$



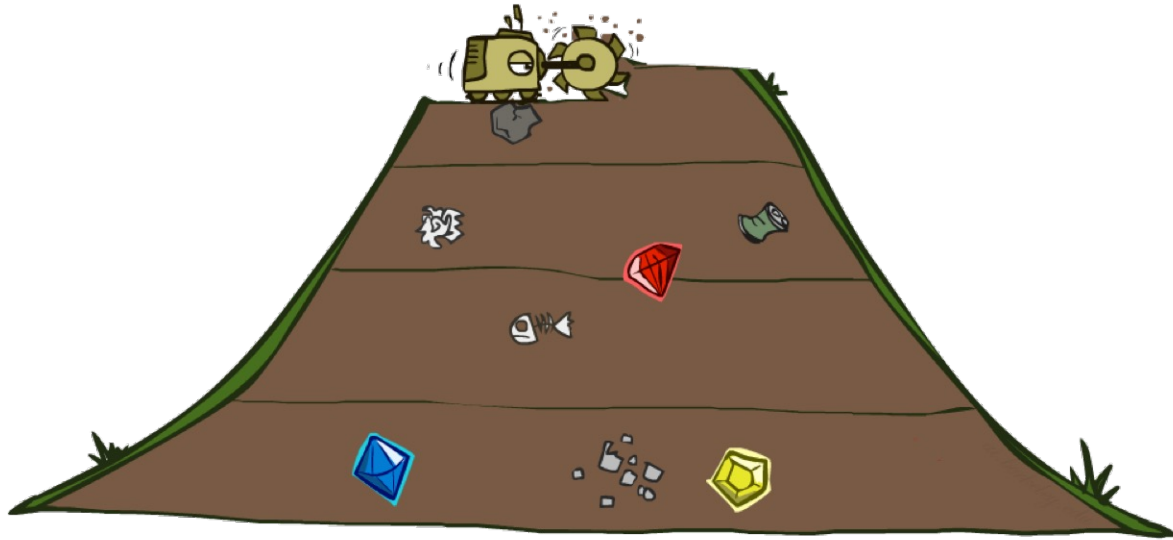
# Depth-First Search (DFS) Properties

- What nodes DFS expand?
  - Some left prefix of the tree.
  - Could process the whole tree!
  - If  $m$  is finite, takes time  $O(b^m)$
- How much space does the fringe take?
  - Only has siblings on path to root, so  $O(bm)$
- Is it complete?
  - $m$  could be infinite, so only if we prevent cycles (more later)
- Is it optimal?
  - No, it finds the “leftmost” solution, regardless of depth or cost



# Breadth-First Search

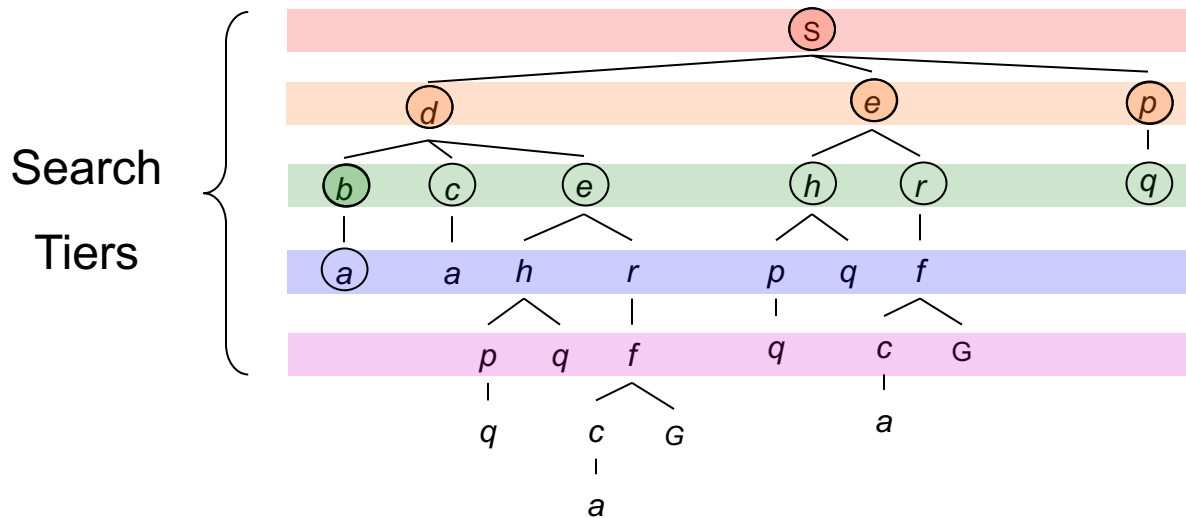
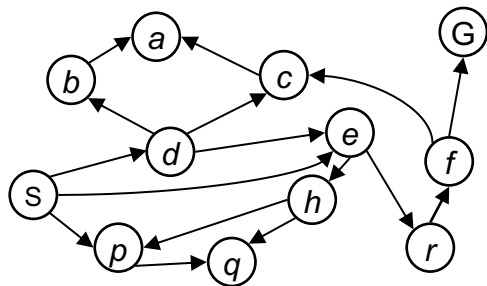
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# Breadth-First Search

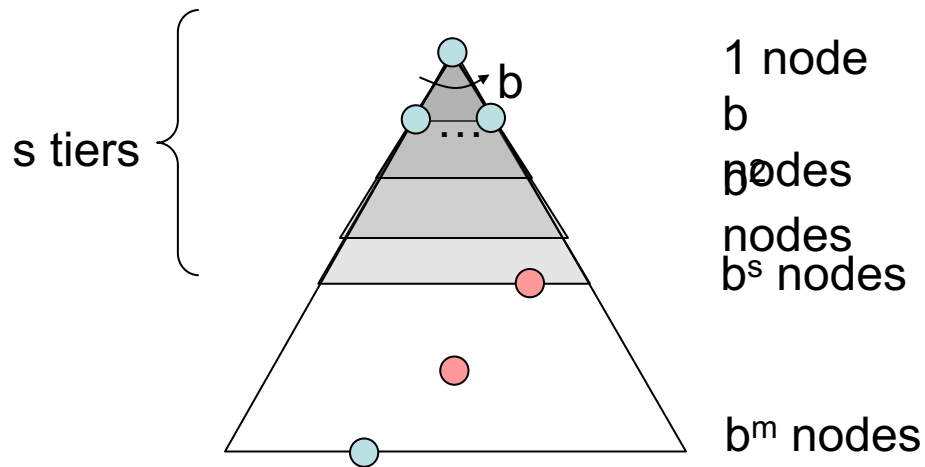
*Strategy: expand a shallowest node first*

*Implementation:  
Fringe is a FIFO queue*



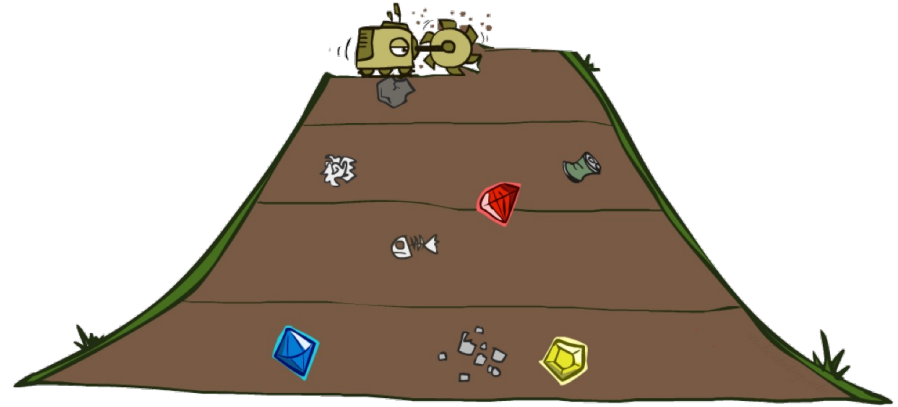
# Breadth-First Search (BFS) Properties

- What nodes does BFS expand?
  - Processes all nodes above shallowest solution
  - Let depth of shallowest solution be  $s$
  - Search takes time  $O(b^s)$
- How much space does the fringe take?
  - Has roughly the last tier, so  $O(b^s)$
- Is it complete?
  - $s$  must be finite if a solution exists, so yes!
- Is it optimal?
  - Only if costs are all 1 (more on costs later)



# Quiz: DFS vs BFS

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# Video of Demo Maze Water DFS/BFS (part 1)

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# Video of Demo Maze Water DFS/BFS (part 2)

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# Quiz: DFS vs BFS

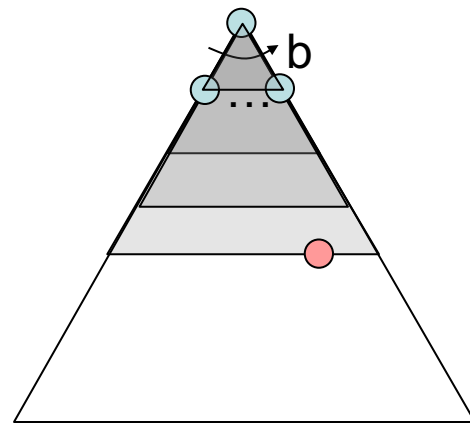
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- When will BFS outperform DFS?
- When will DFS outperform BFS?

# Iterative Deepening

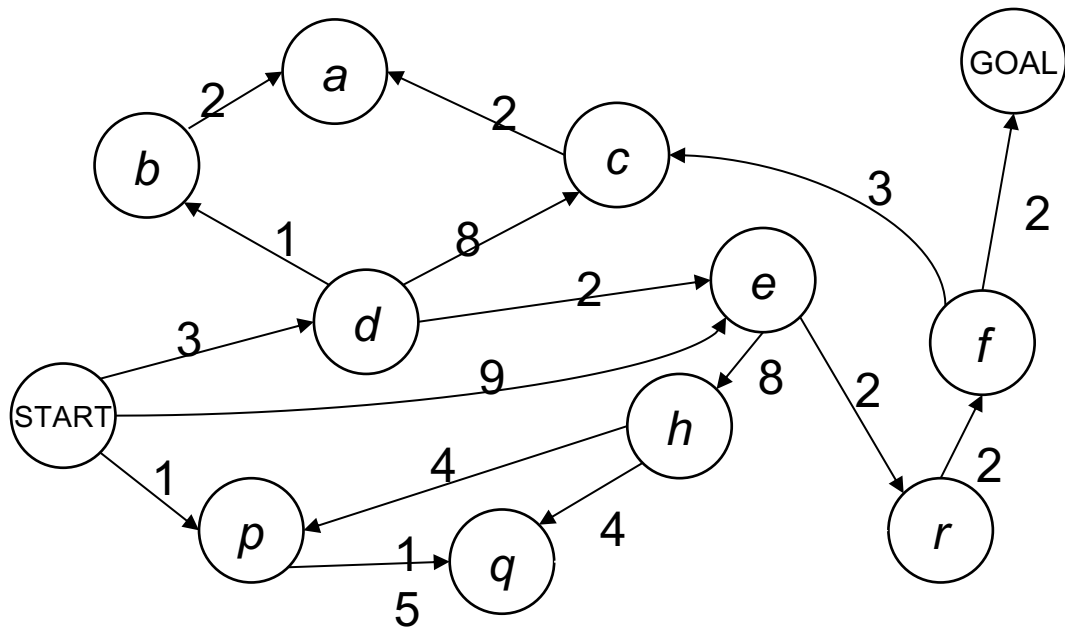
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- Idea: get DFS's space advantage with BFS's time / shallow-solution advantages
  - Run a DFS with depth limit 1. If no solution...
  - Run a DFS with depth limit 2. If no solution...
  - Run a DFS with depth limit 3. ....
- Isn't that wastefully redundant?
  - Generally most work happens in the lowest level searched, so not so bad!



# Cost-Sensitive Search

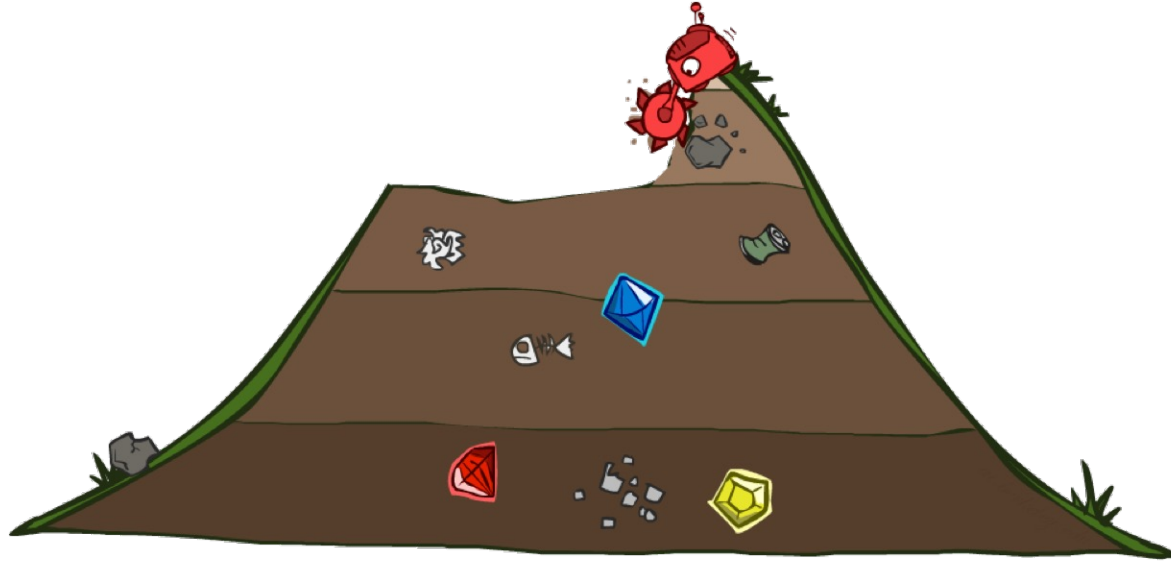
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BFS finds the shortest path in terms of number of actions.  
It does not find the least-cost path. We will now cover  
a similar algorithm which does find the least-cost path.

# Uniform Cost Search

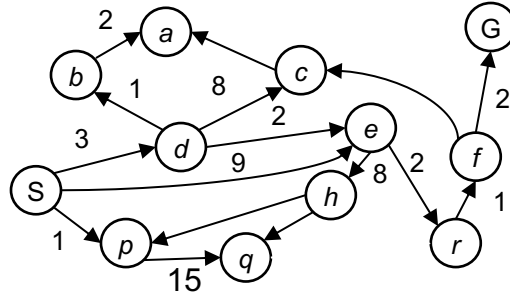
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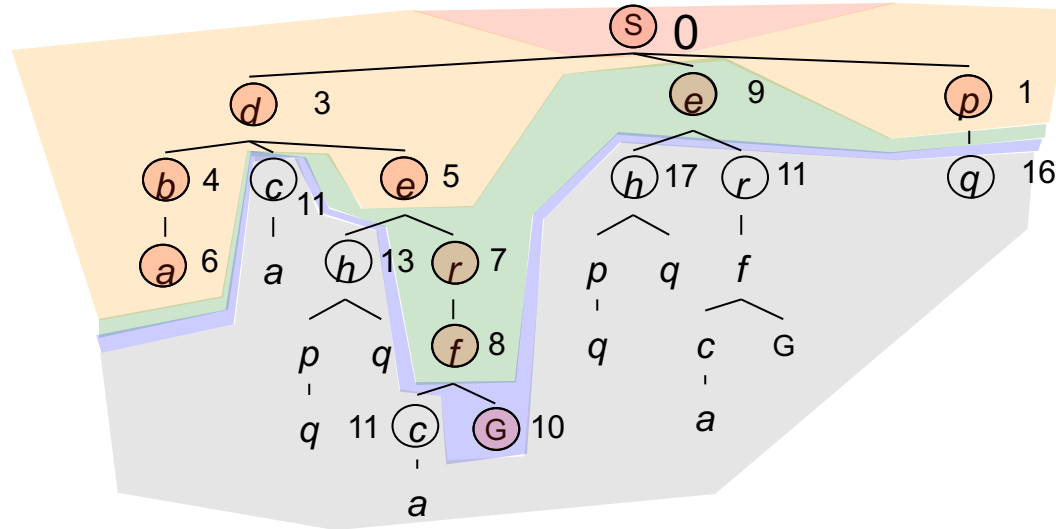
# Uniform Cost Search

*Strategy: expand a  
cheapest node first:*

*Fringe is a priority queue  
(priority: cumulative cost)*

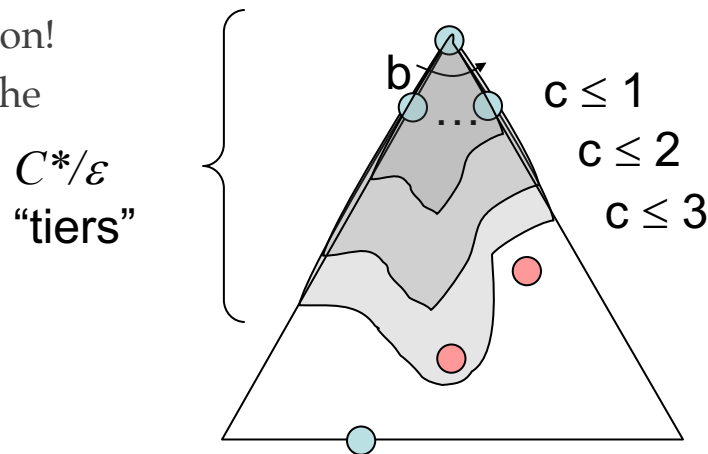


Cost  
contours



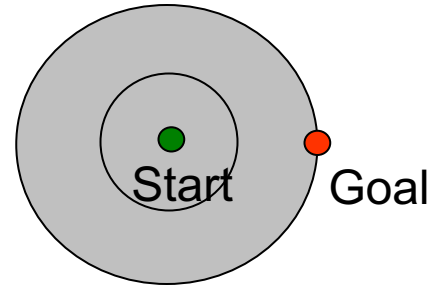
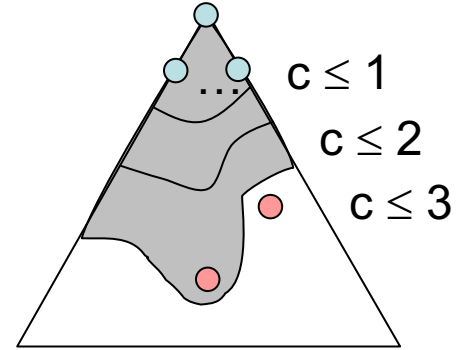
# Uniform Cost Search (UCS) Properties

- What nodes does UCS expand?
  - Processes all nodes with cost less than cheapest solution!
  - If that solution costs  $C^*$  and arcs cost at least  $\epsilon$ , then the “effective depth” is roughly  $C^*/\epsilon$
  - Takes time  $O(b^{C^*/\epsilon})$  (exponential in effective depth)
- How much space does the fringe take?
  - Has roughly the last tier, so  $O(b^{C^*/\epsilon})$
- Is it complete?
  - Assuming best solution has a finite cost and minimum arc cost is positive, yes!
- Is it optimal?
  - Yes! (Proof via  $A^*$ )



# Uniform Cost Issues

- Remember: UCS explores increasing cost contours
- The good: UCS is complete and optimal!
- The bad:
  - Explores options in every “direction”
  - No information about goal location
- We'll fix that soon!



# Video of Demo Empty UCS

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# Demo Maze with Deep / Shallow Water --- DFS, BFS, or UCS? (part 1)

---



## Demo Maze with Deep / Shallow Water --- DFS, BFS, or UCS? (part 2)

---



## Demo Maze with Deep / Shallow Water --- DFS, BFS, or UCS? (part 3)

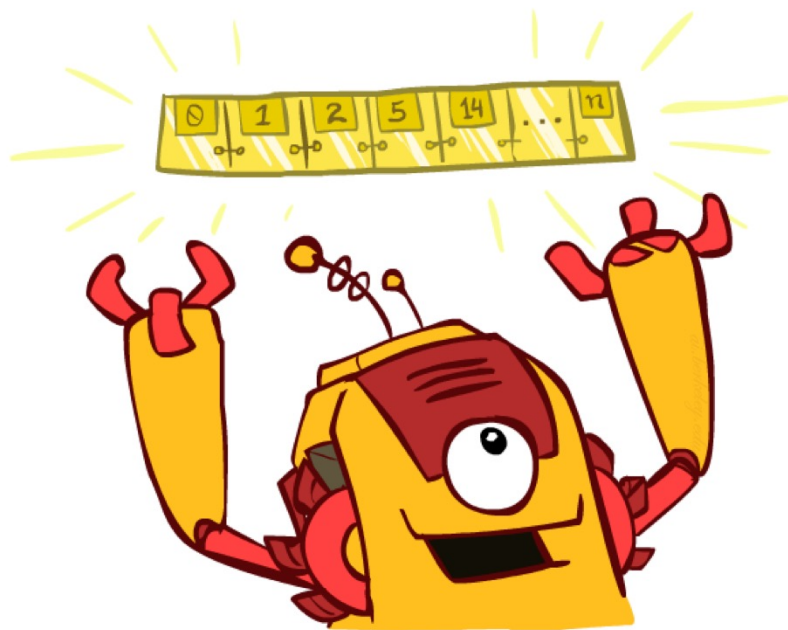
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# The One Queue

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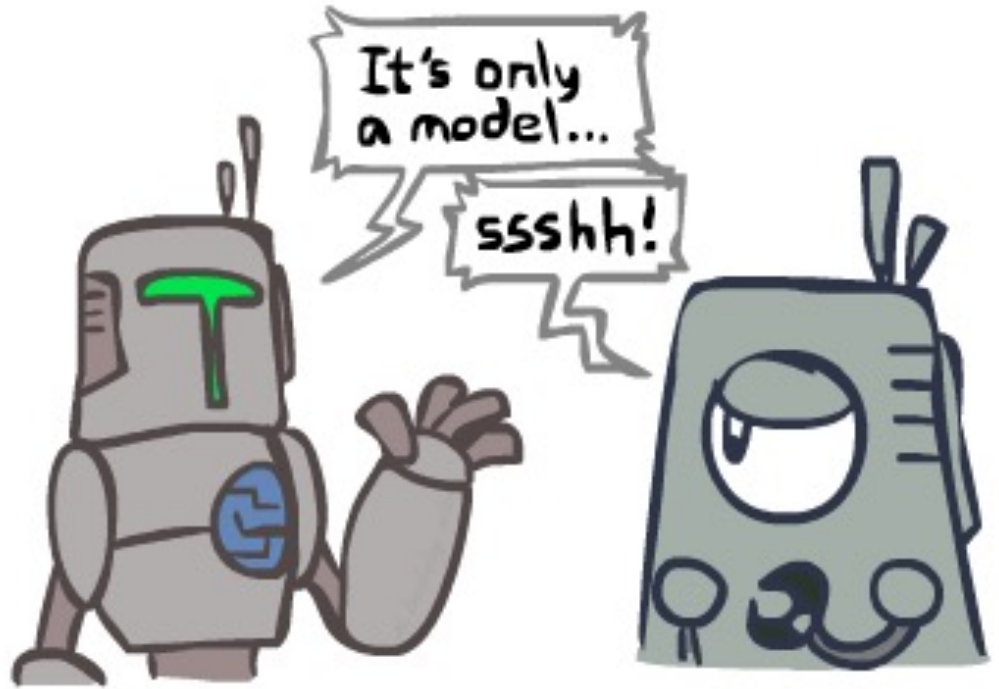
- All these search algorithms are the same except for fringe strategies
  - DFS: Fringe is a Stack
  - BFS: Fringe is a Queue
  - UCS: Fringe is a PriorityQueue
  - Can even code one implementation that takes a variable queuing object



# Search and Models

---

- Search operates over models of the world
  - The agent doesn't actually try all the plans out in the real world!
  - Planning is all “in simulation”
  - Your search is only as good as your models...



# Search Gone Wrong?

