# Frontier search (manage choices)

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frontierSearch([Node|Rest]) := goal(Node);
  (findall(Next, arc(Node,Next), Children),
    add2frontier(Children, Rest, NewFrontier),
  frontierSearch(NewFrontier)).
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Depth first: append(Children, Rest, NewFrontier)

Breadth-first: append(Rest, Children, NewFrontier)

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For add2frontier(Children, Rest, NewFrontier), require

NewFrontier merges Children and Rest

where a list L is defined to merge lists L1 and L2 if

- (a) every member of L is a member of L1 or L2
- (b) every member of L1 or of L2 is a member of L.

# Exercise (Prolog)

```
Suppose a positive integer Seed links nodes 1,2,... in two ways
    arc(N,M,Seed) :- M is N*Seed.
    arc(N,M,Seed) :- M is N*Seed +1.
e.g. Seed=3 gives arcs (1,3), (1,4), (3,9), (3, 10) ...
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Goal nodes are multiples of a positive integer Target
    goal(N,Target) :- 0 is N mod Target.
e.g. Target=13 gives goals 13, 26, 39 ...
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Goal nodes are multiples of a positive integer Target
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e.g. Target=13 gives goals 13, 26, 39 ...
Modify frontier search to define predicates
    breadth1st(+Start, ?Found, +Seed, +Target)
    depth1st(+Start, ?Found, +Seed, +Target)
that search breadth-first and depth-first respectively for a
Target-goal node Found linked to Start by Seed-arcs.
```

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Head is "no worse than" any in Tail.

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What can it mean for Node1 to be no worse than Node2?

(A1) Node1 costs no more than Node2

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- (A2) Node1 is deemed no further from a goal node than Node2

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- (A1) Node1 costs no more than Node2
- (A2) Node1 is deemed no further from a goal node than Node2
- (A3) some mix of (A1) and (A2)

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- (A1) Node1 costs no more than Node2

  → minimum cost search (= breadth-first if every arc costs 1)
- (A2) Node1 is deemed no further from a goal node than Node2
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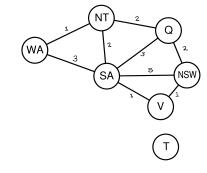
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- (A3) some mix of (A1) and (A2) → A-star (next week)

# Arc costs (space, time, money, ...)

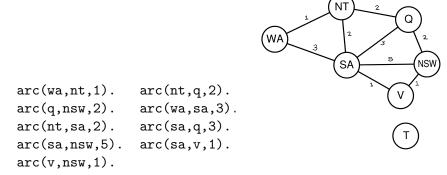
```
arc(wa,nt,1). arc(nt,q,2). arc(q,nsw,2). arc(wa,sa,3). arc(sa,nsw,5). arc(sa,v,1). arc(v,nsw,1).
```

# Arc costs (space, time, money, ...)



$$cost(wa,nt,q,nsw) = 1 + 2 + 2 = 5$$
  
 $cost(x_1, x_2,...,x_{k+1}) := \sum_{i=1}^{k} cost(x_i, x_{i+1})$ 

# Arc costs (space, time, money, . . .)



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 $cost(x_1, x_2,...,x_{k+1}) := \sum_{i=1}^{k} cost(x_i, x_{i+1})$   
 $cost(wa,sa,nsw) = 3 + 5 = 8$ 

h(Node) = estimate the minimum cost of a path from Node to a goal node

$$h(Node) = estimate the minimum cost of$$
  
a path from Node to a goal node

#### EXAMPLES

► Fsm accept where node = [Q,String] and every arc costs 1
h([Q,String]) = length(String)

$$h(Node) = estimate$$
 the minimum cost of a path from Node to a goal node

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► Fsm accept where node = [Q,String] and every arc costs 1

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Prolog search where node = list of propositions to prove, and every arc costs 1

$$h(List) = length(List)$$

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$$h(\mathtt{List}) = \mathsf{length}(\mathtt{List})$$

Node = point on a Euclidean plane, cost = distance between nodes, goal is a point G

$$h(Node) = straight-line distance to G$$

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 the minimum cost of a path from Node to a goal node

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Node = point on a Euclidean plane, cost = distance between nodes, goal is a point G

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estimate assuming lots of arcs (simplifying the problem)

#### Best-first search

```
Form NewFrontier = [Head|Tail] such that h(\texttt{Head}) \leq h(\texttt{Node}) \; \mathsf{for} \; \mathsf{every} \; \mathsf{Node} \; \mathsf{in} \; \mathsf{Tail}
```

### Best-first search

Form NewFrontier = [Head|Tail] such that  $h({\tt Head}) \leq h({\tt Node})$  for every Node in Tail

