



# ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Lecture 06

# UNIFORM COST SEARCH

BFS is optimal only if each step has same cost.

Uniform cost search modifies BFS such that it works with any cost function.

Instead of expanding the shallowest node, **uniform-cost search** expands the node  $n$  with the *lowest* path cost  $g(n)$ .

This is done by storing the frontier as a **priority queue** ordered by  $g$ .

# BFS — UCS DIFFERENCES

Goal test is applied to a node when it is *selected for expansion* rather than when it is first generated. (The reason is that the first goal node that is *generated* may be on a suboptimal path)

The second difference is that a test is added in case a better path is found to a node currently on the frontier

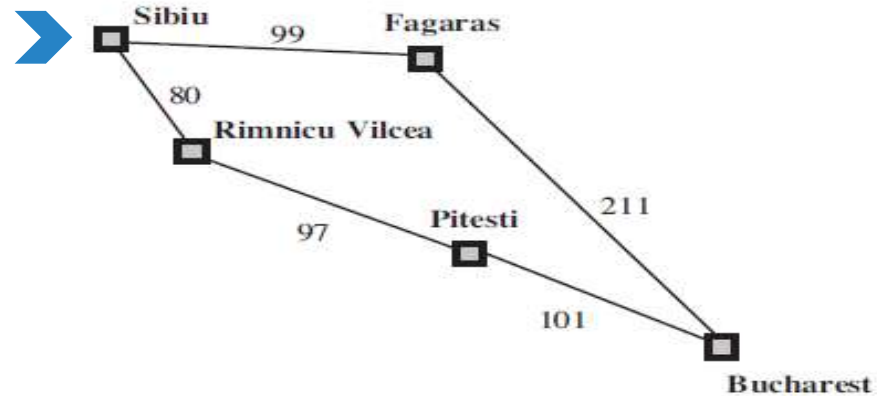
# REMEMBER?

- $n$ .STATE: the state in the state space to which the node corresponds;
- $n$ .PARENT: the node in the search tree that generated this node;
- $n$ .ACTION: the action that was applied to the parent to generate the node;
- $n$ .PATH-COST: the cost, traditionally denoted by  $g(n)$ , of the path from the initial state to the node, as indicated by the parent pointers.

# UCS- EXAMPLE

➤ Node

➤ Child



Frontier = [ S ]  
Explored = [ ]

node.state="Sibiu"  
node.parent=[]  
node.action=[]  
node.path\_cost=0

➔ S

**function** UNIFORM-COST-SEARCH(*problem*) **returns** a solution, or failure

*node* ← a node with STATE = *problem*.INITIAL-STATE, PATH-COST = 0  
*frontier* ← a priority queue ordered by PATH-COST, with *node* as the only element  
*explored* ← an empty set

**loop do**

**if** EMPTY?(*frontier*) **then return** failure

*node* ← POP(*frontier*) /\* chooses the lowest-cost node in *frontier* \*/

**if** *problem*.GOAL-TEST(*node*.STATE) **then return** SOLUTION(*node*)

  add *node*.STATE to *explored*

**for each** *action* **in** *problem*.ACTIONS(*node*.STATE) **do**

*child* ← CHILD-NODE(*problem*, *node*, *action*)

**if** *child*.STATE is not in *explored* or *frontier* **then**

*frontier* ← INSERT(*child*, *frontier*)

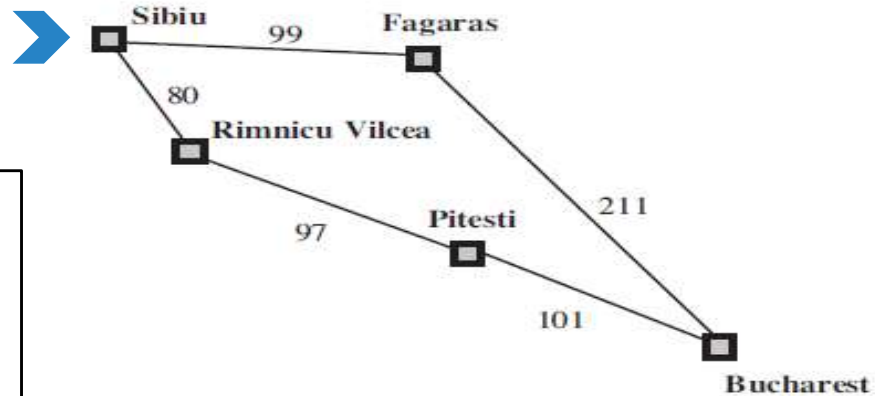
**else if** *child*.STATE is in *frontier* with higher PATH-COST **then**  
      replace that *frontier* node with *child*

# UCS- EXAMPLE

➤ Node

➤ Child

S.state="Sibiu"  
S.parent=[]  
S.action=[]  
S.path\_cost=0



```

function UNIFORM-COST-SEARCH(problem) returns a solution, or failure
  node ← a node with STATE = problem.INITIAL-STATE, PATH-COST = 0
  frontier ← a priority queue ordered by PATH-COST, with node as the only element
  explored ← an empty set
  loop do
    if EMPTY?(frontier) then return failure
    node ← POP(frontier) /* chooses the lowest-cost node in frontier */
    if problem.GOAL-TEST(node.STATE) then return SOLUTION(node)
    add node.STATE to explored
    for each action in problem.ACTIONS(node.STATE) do
      child ← CHILD-NODE(problem, node, action)
      if child.STATE is not in explored or frontier then
        frontier ← INSERT(child, frontier)
      else if child.STATE is in frontier with higher PATH-COST then
        replace that frontier node with child
  
```

Frontier = [ S ]

Explored = [ ]

S.state="Bucharest"?

Frontier = [ ]

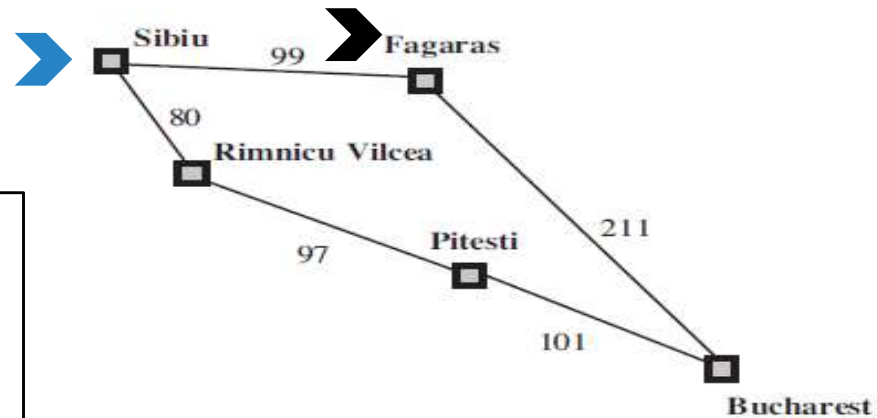
Explored = [ S ]

# UCS- EXAMPLE

➤ Node

➤ Child

F.state="Fagaras"  
F.parent=[ S ]  
F.action=[Go(F)]  
F.path\_cost= 99



**function** UNIFORM-COST-SEARCH(*problem*) **returns** a solution, or failure

*node* ← a node with STATE = *problem*.INITIAL-STATE, PATH-COST = 0  
*frontier* ← a priority queue ordered by PATH-COST, with *node* as the only element  
*explored* ← an empty set

**loop do**  
**if** EMPTY?(*frontier*) **then return** failure  
*node* ← POP(*frontier*) /\* chooses the lowest-cost node in *frontier* \*/  
**if** *problem*.GOAL-TEST(*node*.STATE) **then return** SOLUTION(*node*)  
 add *node*.STATE to *explored*

**for each** *action* **in** *problem*.ACTIONS(*node*.STATE) **do**  
*child* ← CHILD-NODE(*problem*, *node*, *action*)  
**if** *child*.STATE is not in *explored* or *frontier* **then**  
   *frontier* ← INSERT(*child*, *frontier*)  
**else if** *child*.STATE is in *frontier* with higher PATH-COST **then**  
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Frontier = [ ]  
Explored = [ S ]

Frontier = [ F ]

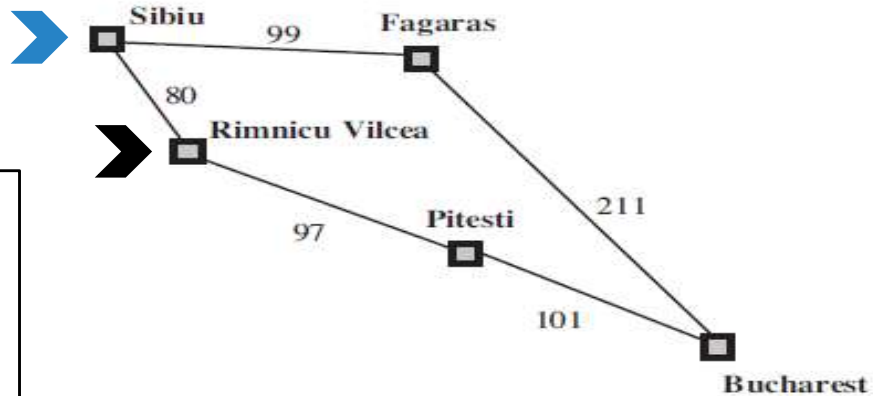


# UCS- EXAMPLE

➤ Node

➤ Child

R.state="Rimnicu"  
R.parent=[ S ]  
R.action=[Go(R)]  
R.path\_cost= 80



```

function UNIFORM-COST-SEARCH(problem) returns a solution, or failure
  node ← a node with STATE = problem.INITIAL-STATE, PATH-COST = 0
  frontier ← a priority queue ordered by PATH-COST, with node as the only element
  explored ← an empty set
  loop do
    if EMPTY?(frontier) then return failure
    node ← POP(frontier) /* chooses the lowest-cost node in frontier */
    if problem.GOAL-TEST(node.STATE) then return SOLUTION(node)
    add node.STATE to explored
    for each action in problem.ACTIONS(node.STATE) do
      child ← CHILD-NODE(problem, node, action)
      if child.STATE is not in explored or frontier then
        frontier ← INSERT(child, frontier)
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```

Frontier = [ F ]  
Explored = [ S ]

Frontier = [ F, R ]

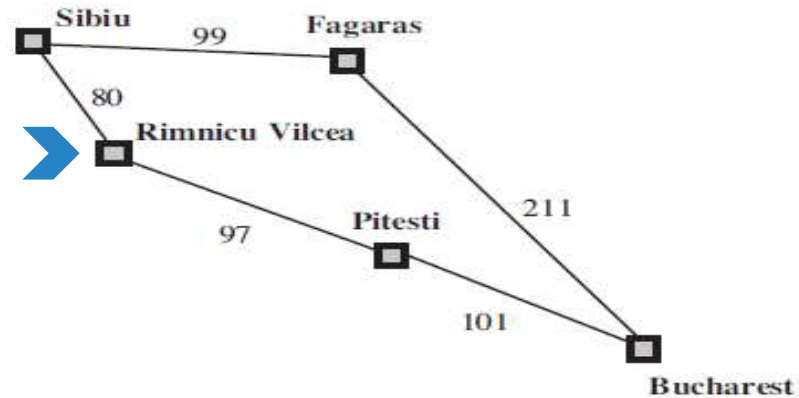


# UCS- EXAMPLE

➤ Node

➤ Child

R.state="Rimnicu"  
R.parent=[ S ]  
R.action=[Go(R)]  
R.path\_cost= 80



```

function UNIFORM-COST-SEARCH(problem) returns a solution, or failure
  node ← a node with STATE = problem.INITIAL-STATE, PATH-COST = 0
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    if EMPTY?(frontier) then return failure
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    for each action in problem.ACTIONS(node.STATE) do
      child ← CHILD-NODE(problem, node, action)
      if child.STATE is not in explored or frontier then
        frontier ← INSERT(child, frontier)
      else if child.STATE is in frontier with higher PATH-COST then
        replace that frontier node with child
  
```

Frontier = [ F, R ]

Explored = [ S ]

R.state="Bucharest"?

Frontier = [ F ]

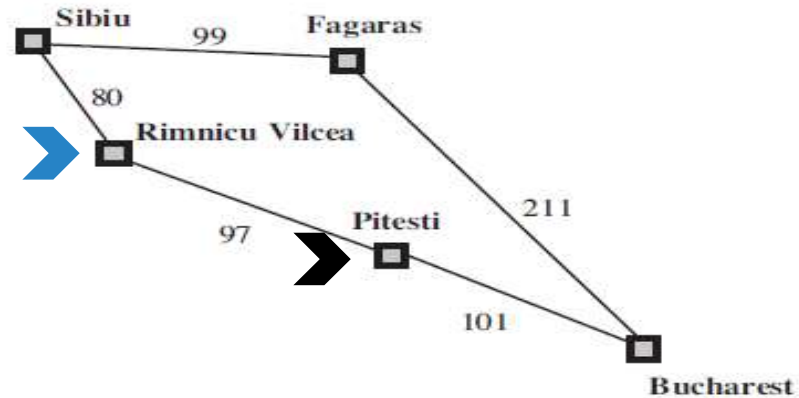
Explored = [ S, R ]

# UCS- EXAMPLE

➤ Node

➤ Child

P.state="Pitesti"  
P.parent=[ R ]  
P.action=[Go(P)]  
P.path\_cost= 80+97



**function** UNIFORM-COST-SEARCH(*problem*) **returns** a solution, or failure  
*node* ← a node with STATE = *problem*.INITIAL-STATE, PATH-COST = 0  
*frontier* ← a priority queue ordered by PATH-COST, with *node* as the only element  
*explored* ← an empty set

**loop do**

**if** EMPTY?(*frontier*) **then return** failure

*node* ← POP(*frontier*) /\* chooses the lowest-cost node in *frontier* \*/

**if** *problem*.GOAL-TEST(*node*.STATE) **then return** SOLUTION(*node*)

add *node*.STATE to *explored*

**for each** *action* **in** *problem*.ACTIONS(*node*.STATE) **do**

*child* ← CHILD-NODE(*problem*, *node*, *action*)

**if** *child*.STATE is not in *explored* or *frontier* **then**

*frontier* ← INSERT(*child*, *frontier*)

**else if** *child*.STATE is in *frontier* with higher PATH-COST **then**  
 replace that *frontier* node with *child*

Frontier = [ F ]

Explored = [ S, R ]

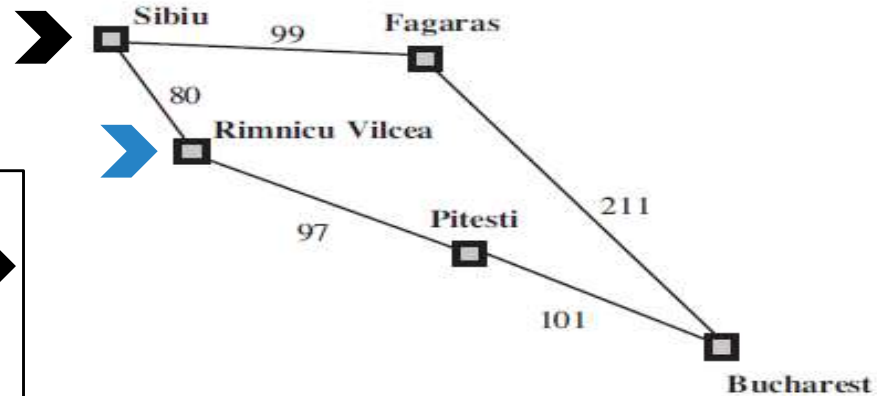
Frontier = [ F, P ]

# UCS- EXAMPLE

➤ Node

➤ Child

S.state="Sibiu"  
S.parent=[ R ]  
S.action=[Go(S)]  
S.path\_cost=80+80



**function** UNIFORM-COST-SEARCH(*problem*) **returns** a solution, or failure  
*node* ← a node with STATE = *problem*.INITIAL-STATE, PATH-COST = 0  
*frontier* ← a priority queue ordered by PATH-COST, with *node* as the only element  
*explored* ← an empty set

**loop do**

**if** EMPTY?(*frontier*) **then return** failure

*node* ← POP(*frontier*) /\* chooses the lowest-cost node in *frontier* \*/

**if** *problem*.GOAL-TEST(*node*.STATE) **then return** SOLUTION(*node*)

add *node*.STATE to *explored*

**for each** *action* in *problem*.ACTIONS(*node*.STATE) **do**

*child* ← CHILD-NODE(*problem*, *node*, *action*)

**if** *child*.STATE is not in *explored* or *frontier* **then**

*frontier* ← INSERT(*child*, *frontier*)

**else if** *child*.STATE is in *frontier* with higher PATH-COST **then**  
 replace that *frontier* node with *child*

Frontier = [ F, P ]

Explored = [ S, R ]

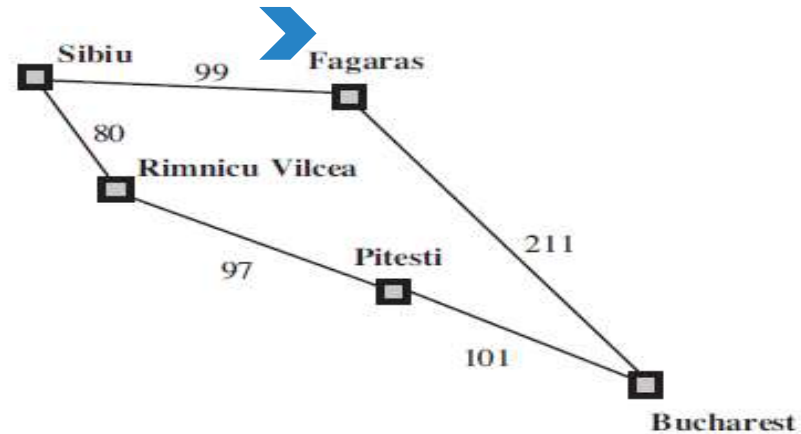
Both are false, no  
Change in frontier  
Or Explored

# UCS- EXAMPLE

➤ Node

➤ Child

F.state="Fagaras"  
F.parent=[ S ]  
F.action=[Go(F)]  
F.path\_cost= 99



Frontier = [ F, P ]

Explored = [ S, R ]

F.state=="Bucharest"?

Frontier = [ P ]

Explored = [ S, R, F ]

```

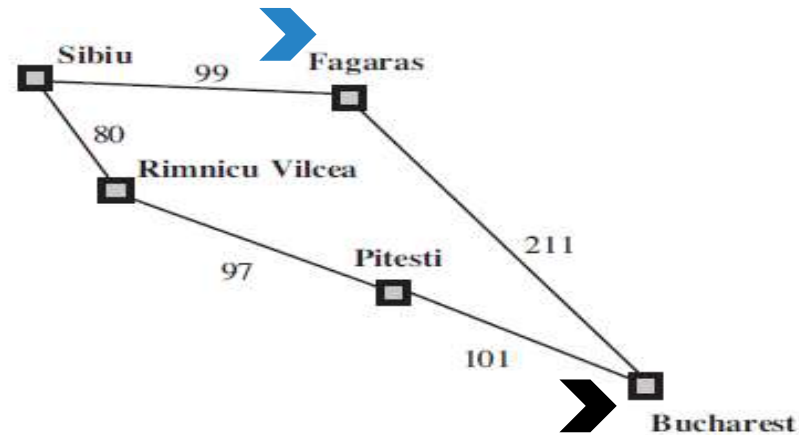
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  node ← a node with STATE = problem.INITIAL-STATE, PATH-COST = 0
  frontier ← a priority queue ordered by PATH-COST, with node as the only element
  explored ← an empty set
  loop do
    if EMPTY?(frontier) then return failure
    node ← POP(frontier) /* chooses the lowest-cost node in frontier */
    if problem.GOAL-TEST(node.STATE) then return SOLUTION(node)
    add node.STATE to explored
    for each action in problem.ACTIONS(node.STATE) do
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      if child.STATE is not in explored or frontier then
        frontier ← INSERT(child, frontier)
      else if child.STATE is in frontier with higher PATH-COST then
        replace that frontier node with child
  
```

# UCS- EXAMPLE

➤ Node

➤ Child

B.state="Bucharest"  
B.parent=[ F ]  
B.action=[Go(B)]  
B.path\_cost= 99 + 211



```

function UNIFORM-COST-SEARCH(problem) returns a solution, or failure
  node ← a node with STATE = problem.INITIAL-STATE, PATH-COST = 0
  frontier ← a priority queue ordered by PATH-COST, with node as the only element
  explored ← an empty set
  loop do
    if EMPTY?(frontier) then return failure
    node ← POP(frontier) /* chooses the lowest-cost node in frontier */
    if problem.GOAL-TEST(node.STATE) then return SOLUTION(node)
    add node.STATE to explored
    for each action in problem.ACTIONS(node.STATE) do
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      if child.STATE is not in explored or frontier then
        frontier ← INSERT(child, frontier)
      else if child.STATE is in frontier with higher PATH-COST then
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```

Frontier = [ P ]

Explored = [ S, R, F ]

Frontier = [ P, B ]

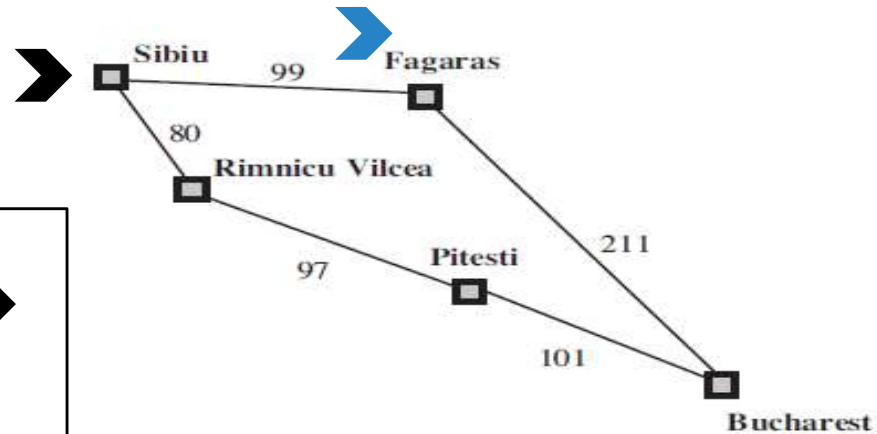


# UCS- EXAMPLE

➤ Node

➤ Child

S.state="Sibiu"  
S.parent=[ F ]  
S.action=[Go(S)]  
S.path\_cost=99+80



```

function UNIFORM-COST-SEARCH(problem) returns a solution, or failure
  node ← a node with STATE = problem.INITIAL-STATE, PATH-COST = 0
  frontier ← a priority queue ordered by PATH-COST, with node as the only element
  explored ← an empty set
  loop do
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    node ← POP(frontier) /* chooses the lowest-cost node in frontier */
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        replace that frontier node with child
  
```

Frontier = [ P, B ]

Explored = [ S, R, F ]

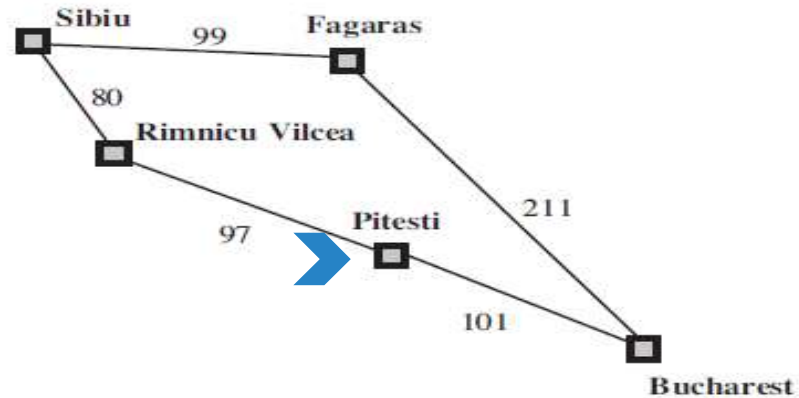
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Change in frontier  
Or Explored

# UCS- EXAMPLE

➤ Node

➤ Child

P.state="Pitesti"  
P.parent=[ R ]  
P.action=[Go(P)]  
P.path\_cost= 80+97



```

function UNIFORM-COST-SEARCH(problem) returns a solution, or failure
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```

Frontier = [ P, B ]

Explored = [ S, R, F ]

P.state=="Bucharest"?

Frontier = [ B ]

Explored = [ S, R, F, P ]

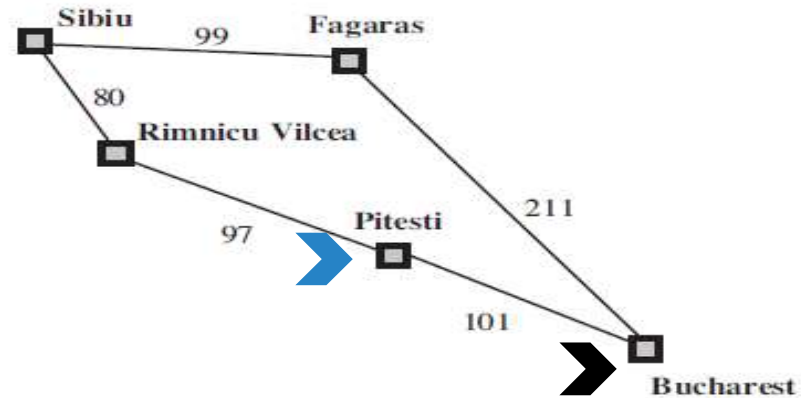


# UCS- EXAMPLE

➤ Node

➤ Child

B.state="Bucharest"  
B.parent=[ P ]  
B.action=[Go(B)]  
B.path\_cost= 80+97+101



```

function UNIFORM-COST-SEARCH(problem) returns a solution, or failure
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      if child.STATE is not in explored or frontier then
        frontier ← INSERT(child, frontier)
      else if child.STATE is in frontier with higher PATH-COST then
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```

Frontier = [ B ]

Explored = [ S, R, F, P ]

Replace old B with new B, both have same states  
but different parents, consequently different costs

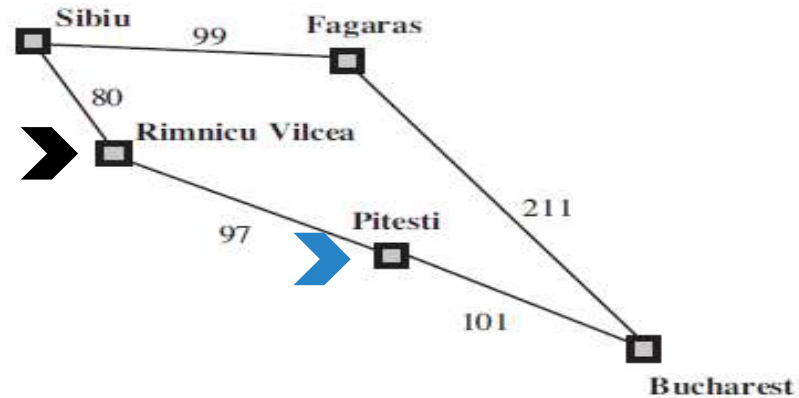
Frontier = [ B ]

# UCS- EXAMPLE

➤ Node

➤ Child

R.state="Rimnicu"  
R.parent=[ P ]  
R.action=[Go(R)]  
R.path\_cost= 80+97+97



```

function UNIFORM-COST-SEARCH(problem) returns a solution, or failure
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Frontier = [ B ]

Explored = [ S, R, F, P ]

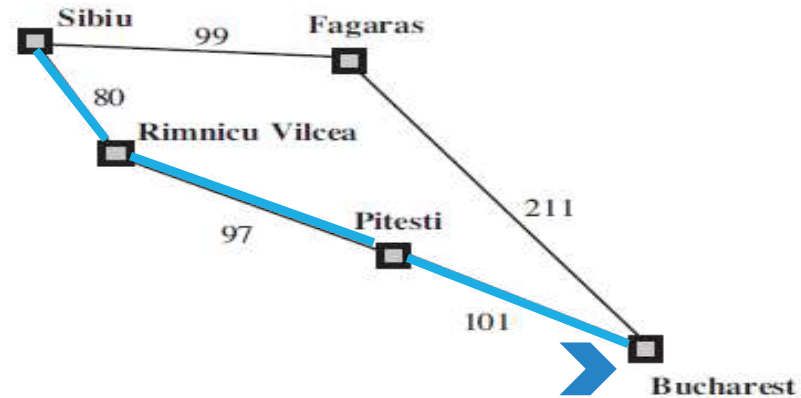
Both are false, no  
Change in frontier  
Or Explored

# UCS- EXAMPLE

➤ Node

➤ Child

B.state="Bucharest"  
B.parent=[ P ]  
B.action=[Go(B)]  
B.path\_cost= 80+97+101



Frontier = [ B ]

Explored = [ S, R, F, P ]

B.state=="Bucharest"?

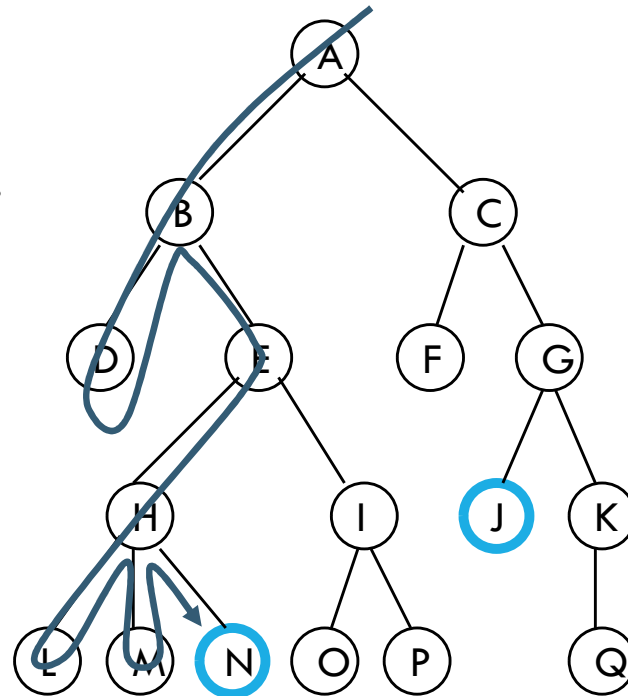
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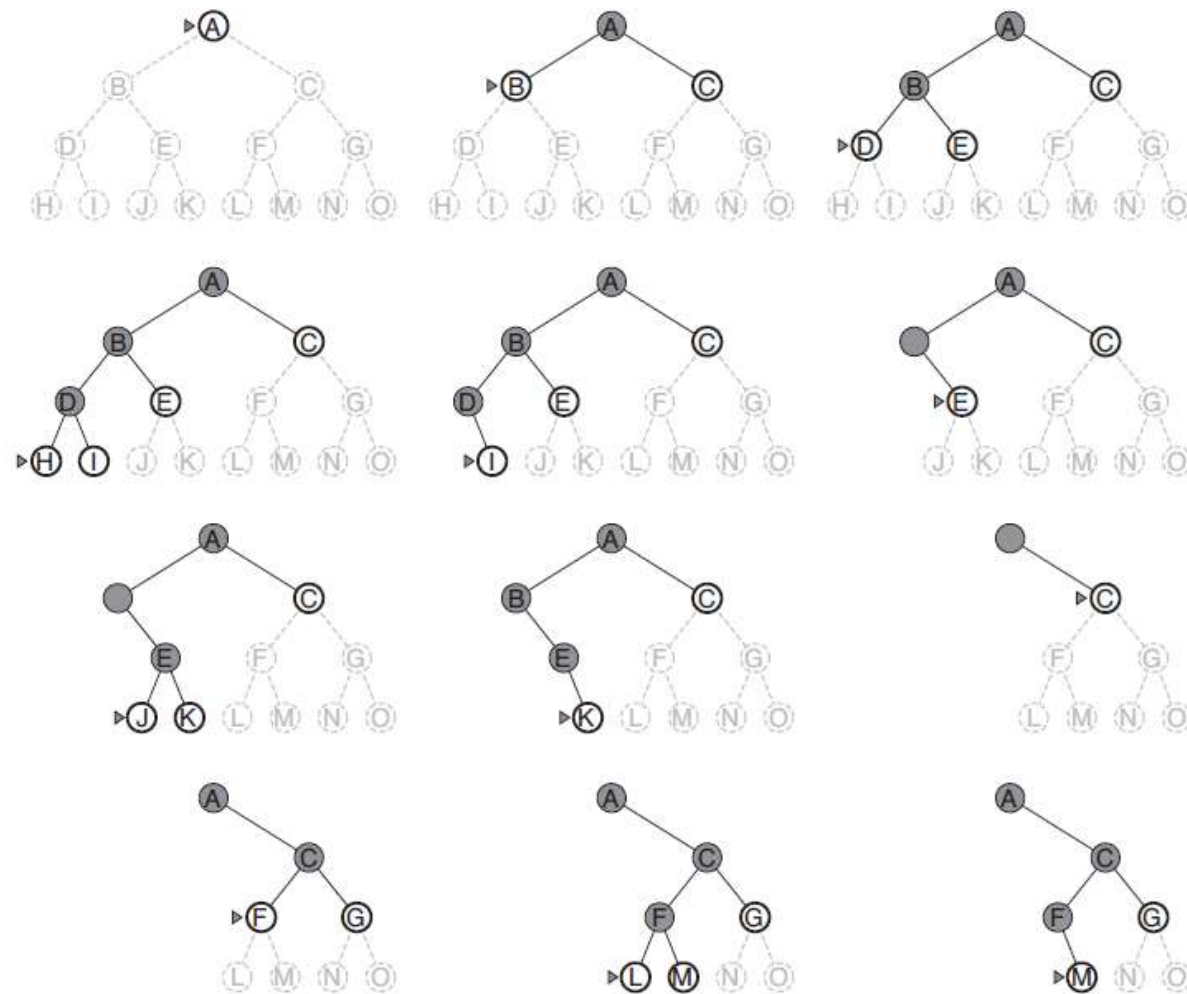
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      if child.STATE is not in explored or frontier then
        frontier ← INSERT(child, frontier)
      else if child.STATE is in frontier with higher PATH-COST then
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```

# DEPTH FIRST SEARCH

DFS always expand deepest node first.

DFS uses LIFO (whereas BFS used FIFO)





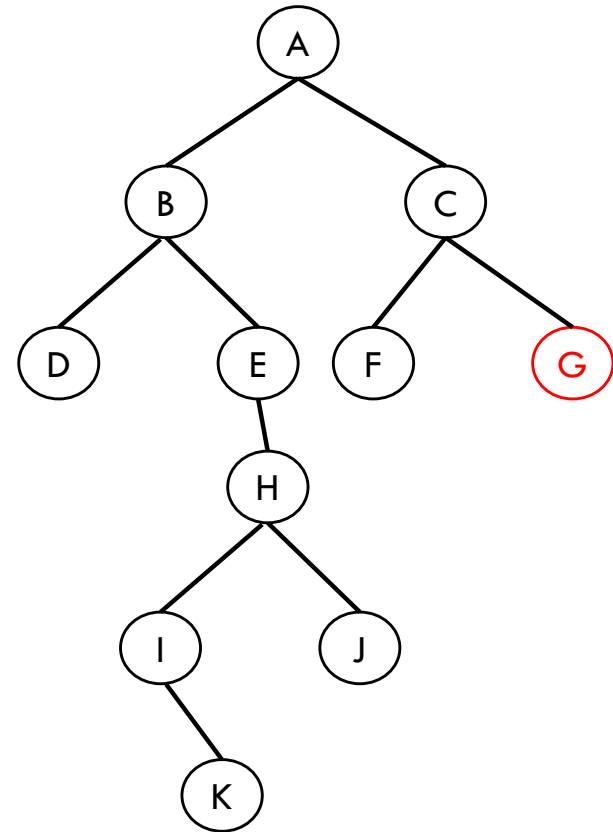
**Figure 3.16** Depth-first search on a binary tree. The unexplored region is shown in light gray. Explored nodes with no descendants in the frontier are removed from memory. Nodes at depth 3 have no successors and *M* is the only goal node.

# COMPLETENESS?

Goal, G is at depth,  $d=2$

Max depth of tree,  $m = 5$

DFS is complete ONLY if  $m$  is finite



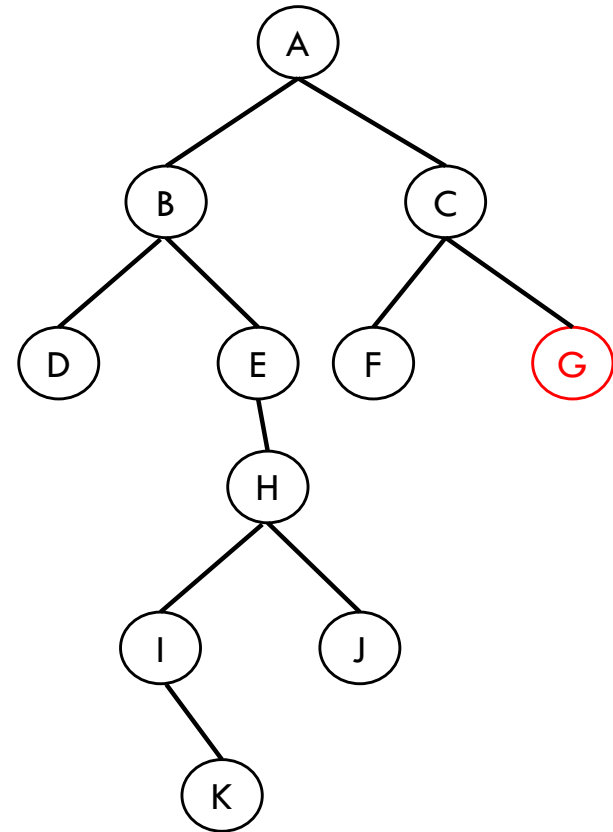
# TIME COMPLEXITY

Number of nodes visited?  $O(b^m)$

For BFS, remember it was  $O(b^d)$

DFS is terrible if  $m$  is much larger than  $d$

- but if solutions are dense (goal is at K instead of G), DFS is faster than BFS.





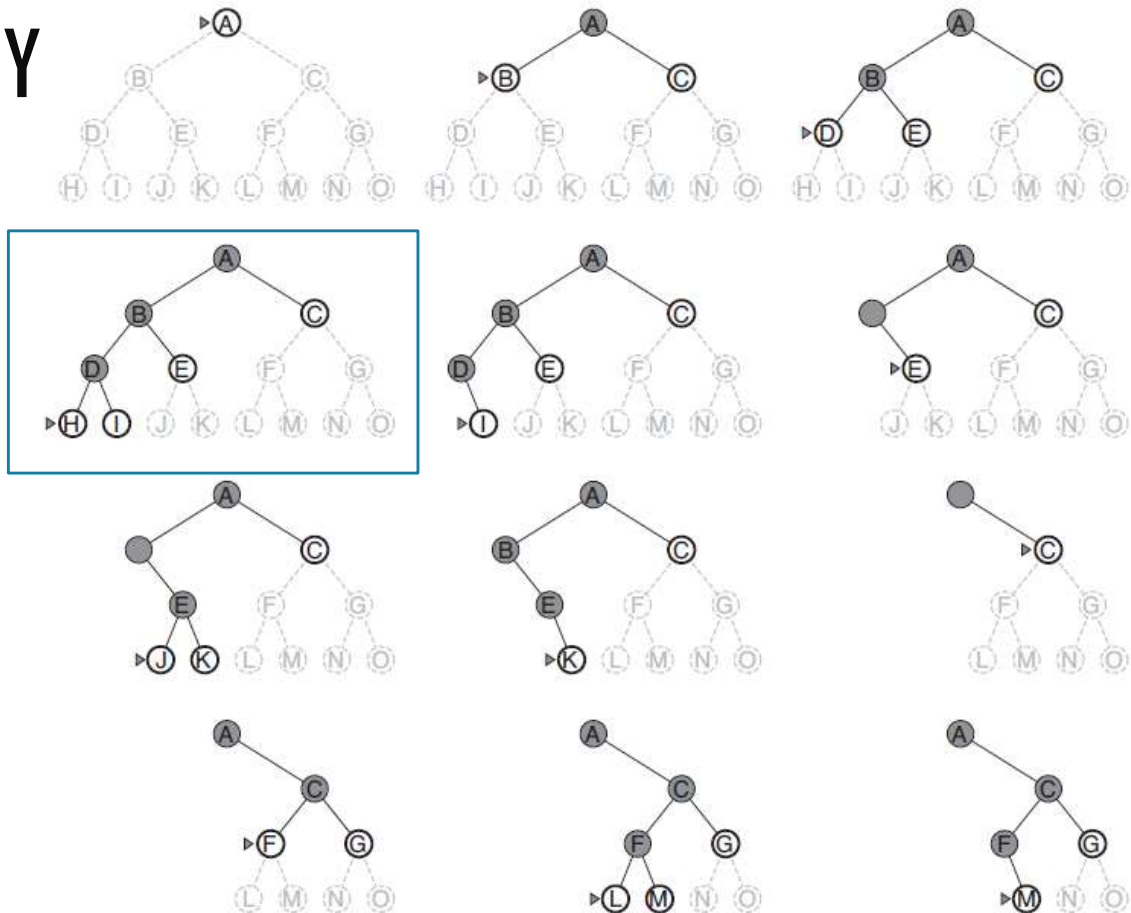
## SPACE COMPLEXITY

$O(bm)$ , i.e., linear space!

(we only need to remember a single path + expanded unexplored nodes)

BFS had  $O(b^d)$  i.e., exponential space requirement

$O(bm)$ ? E.g.  $m=3, b=2$  (we need to save max of  $3*2=6$  nodes in memory)



# OPTIMAL?

Remember BFS was optimal if each step has same cost.

Even if this is the case, DFS is not guaranteed to find the optimum path to the goal.

For the graph on the right, BFS will return optimal path but DFS won't (assuming each step has same cost)

