
CIS 471/571 (Fall 2020): Introduction to Artificial Intelligence

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Lecture 2: Uninformed Search

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Thanh H. Nguyen

Most slides are by Pieter Abbeel, Dan Klein, Luke Zettlemoyer, John DeNero,
Stuart Russell, Andrew Moore, or Daniel Lowd
Source: <http://ai.berkeley.edu/home.html>



Announcement

- Project 1
 - Deadline: Oct 13th, 2020
- Written Assignment 1
 - Will be posted today
 - Deadline: Oct 10th, 2020

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Today

- Agents that Plan Ahead

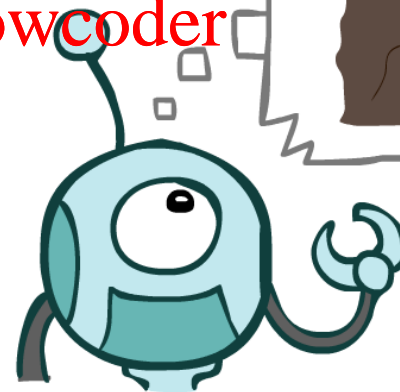
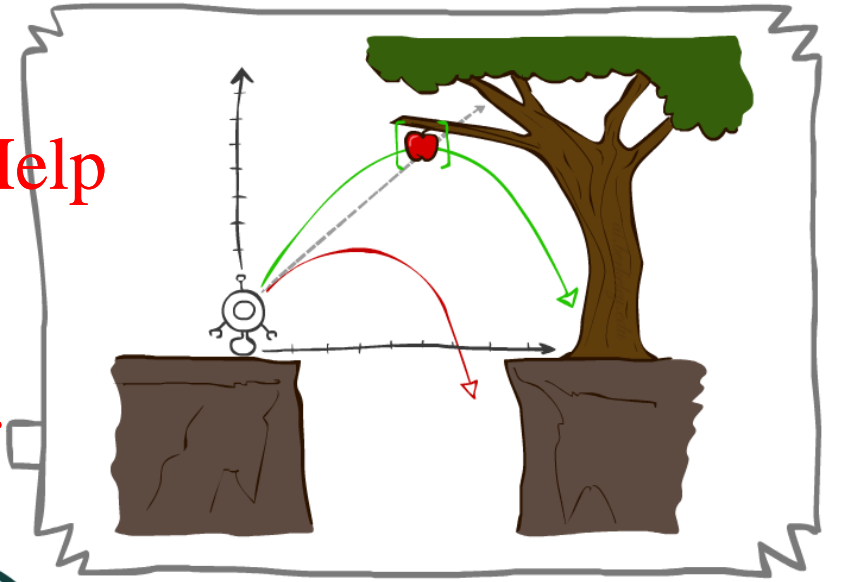
- Search Problems

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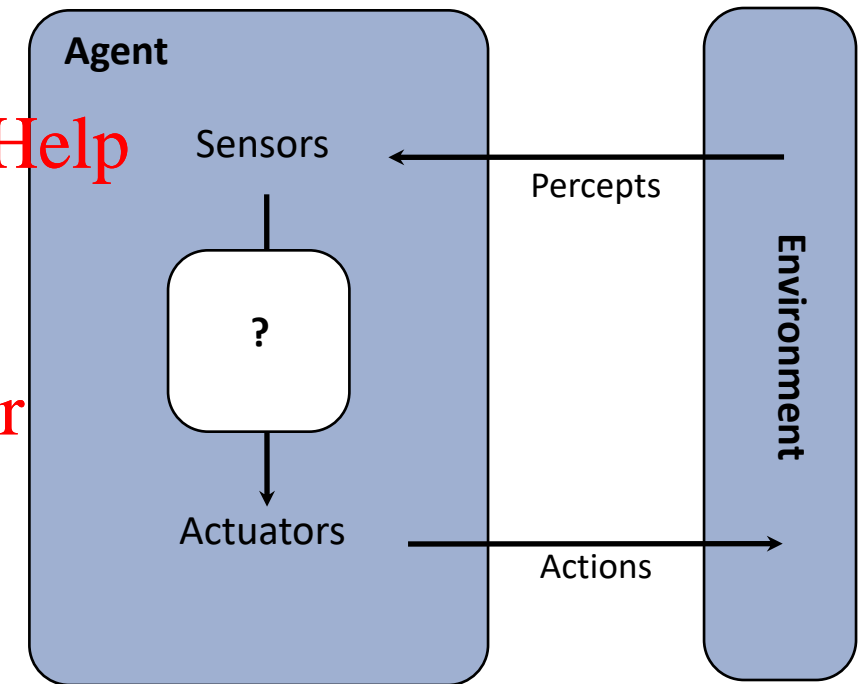
- Uninformed Search Methods

- Depth-First Search
- Breadth-First Search
- Uniform-Cost Search



Rational Agents

- An **agent** is an entity that *perceives* and *acts*.
- A **rational agent** selects actions that maximize its **utility function**.
- Characteristics of the **percepts**, **environment**, and **action space** dictate techniques for selecting rational actions.



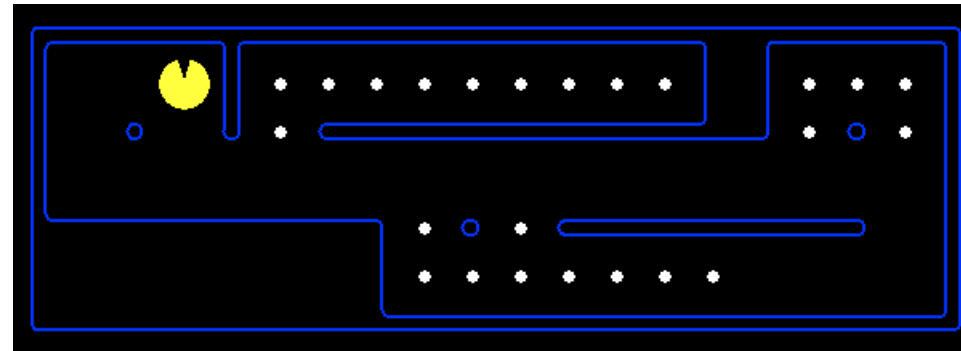
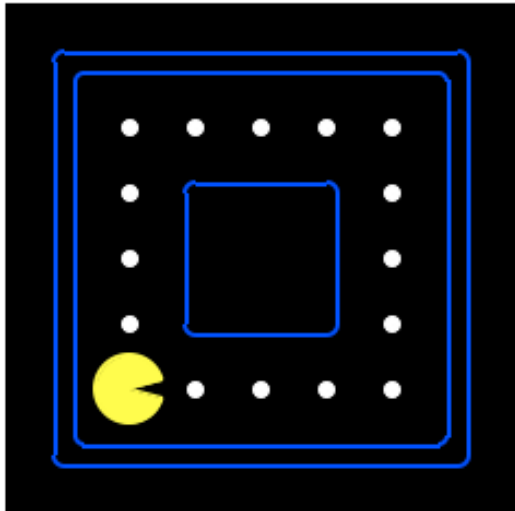
Reflex Agents

- Reflex agents:
 - Choose action based on current percept (and maybe memory)
 - Do not consider future consequences of their actions
 - Consider how the world is
- Can a reflex agent be rational?

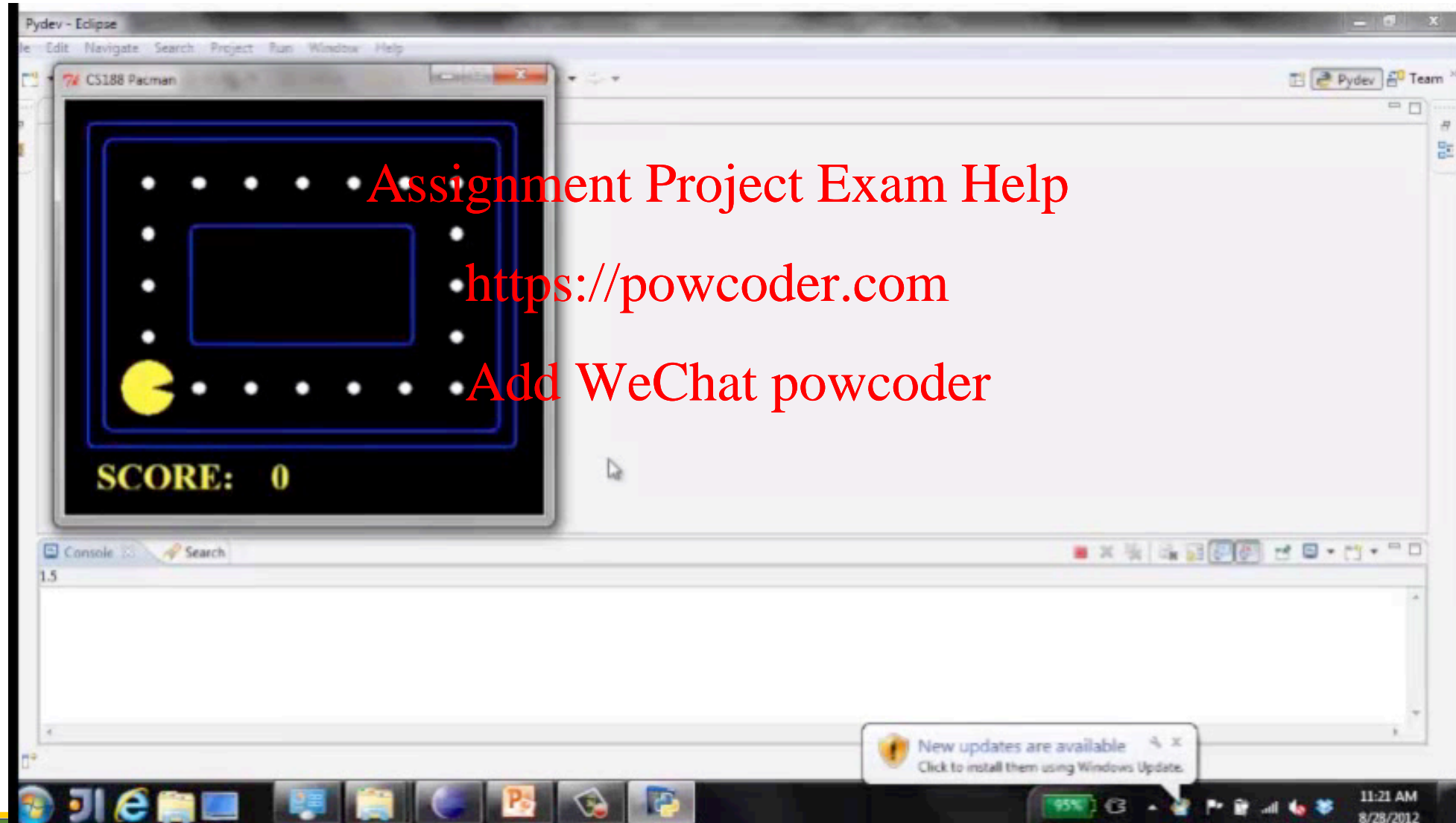
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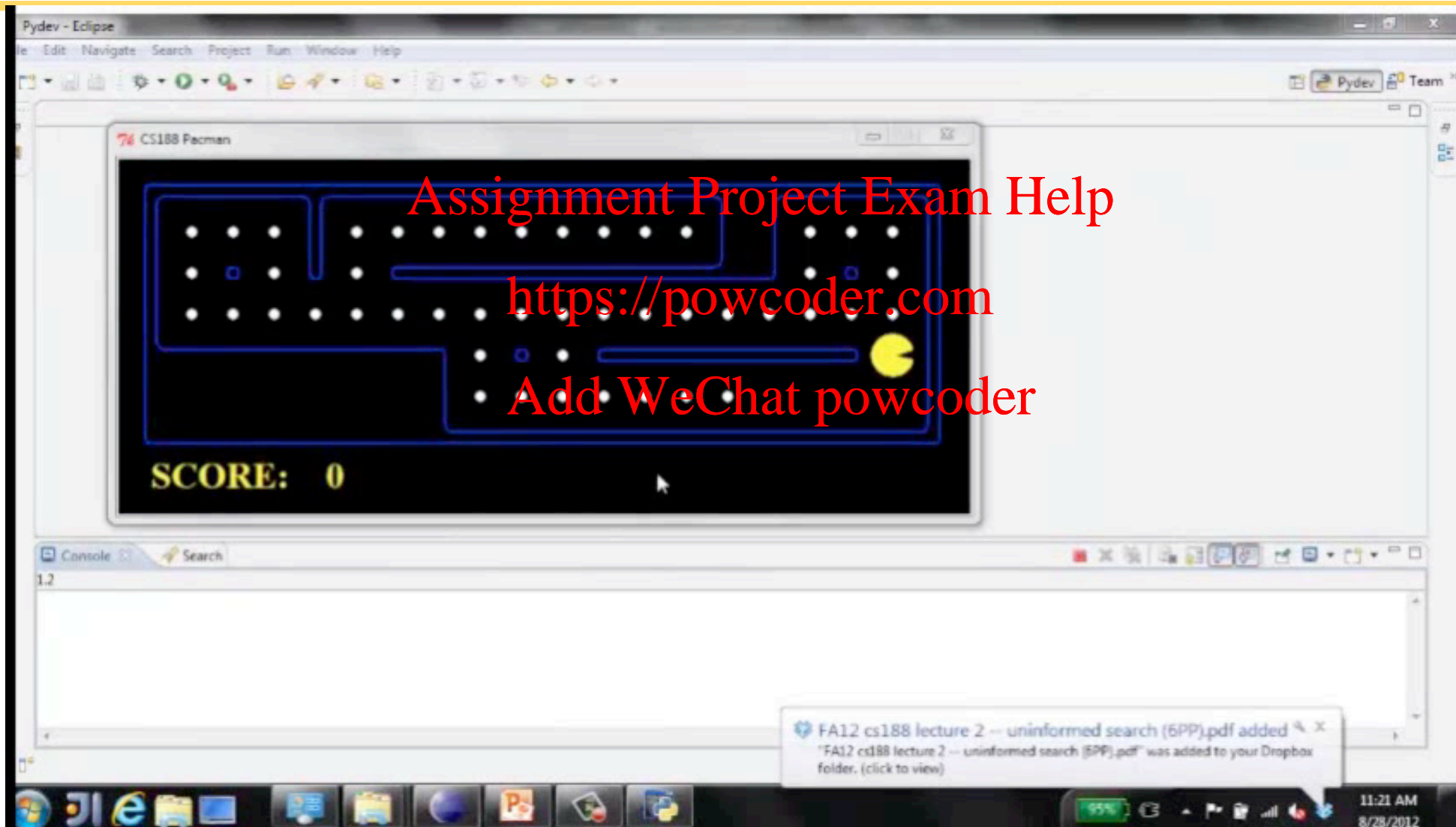
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Video of Demo Reflex Optimal



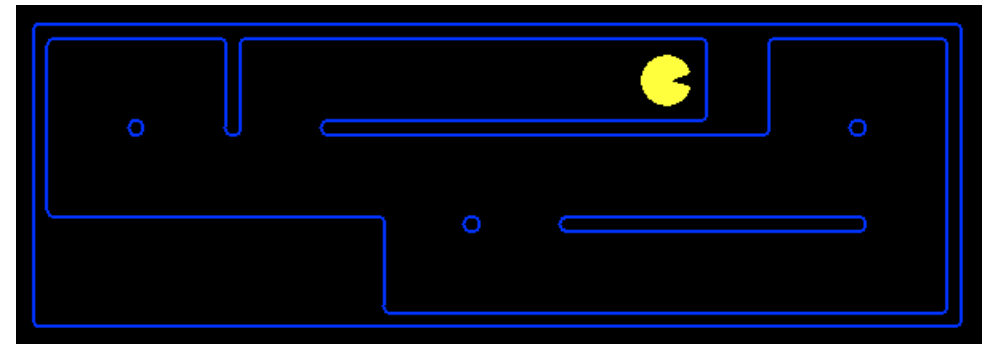
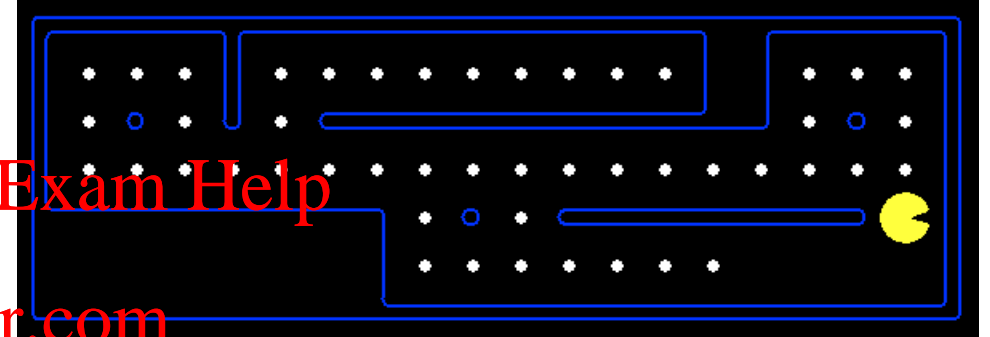
Video of Demo Reflex Odd



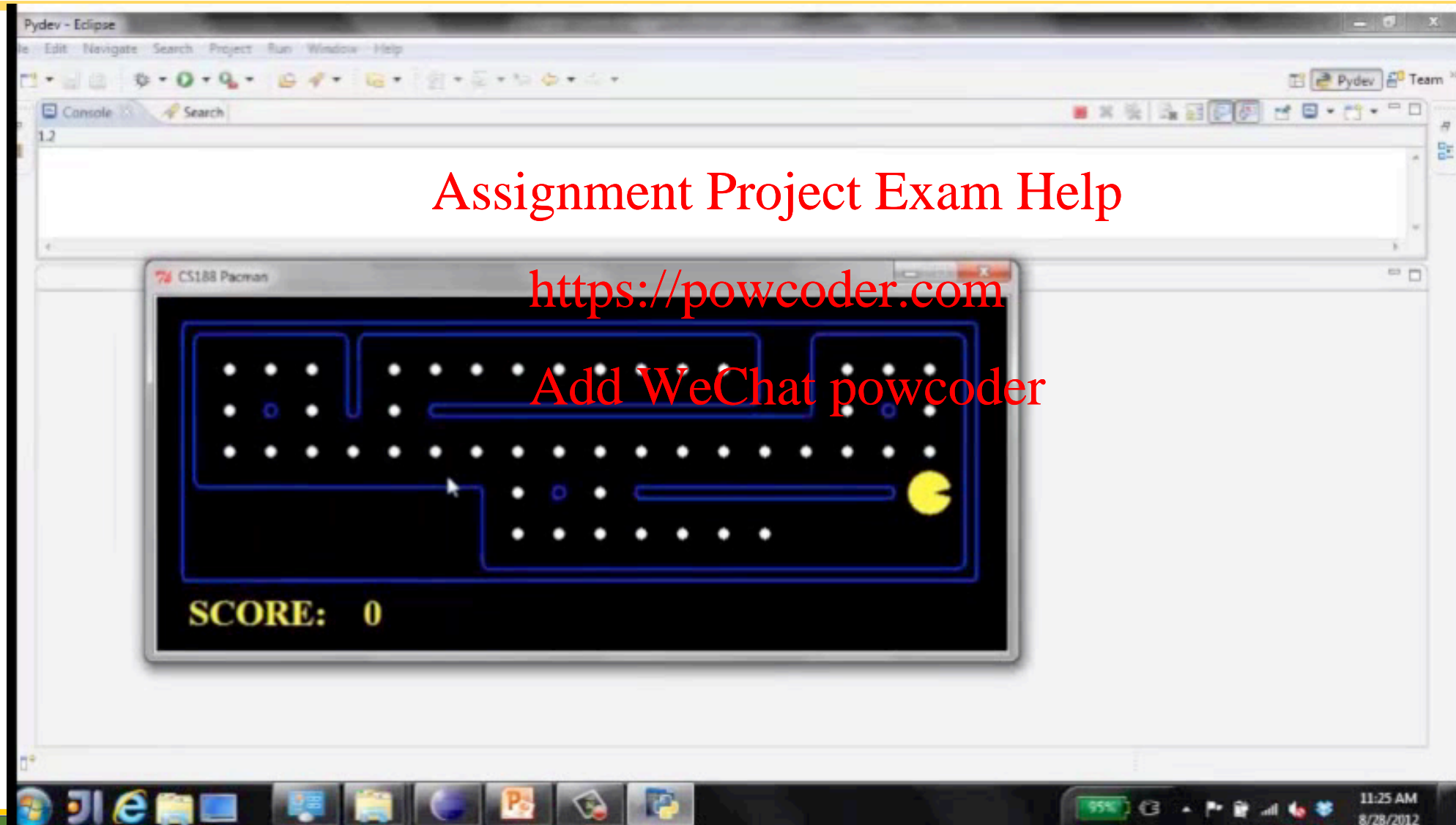
Goal-based Agents

- Goal-based agents:

- Plan ahead
- Ask “what if”
- Decisions based on (hypothesized) consequences of actions
- Must have a model of how the world evolves in response to actions
- **Act on how the world WOULD BE**



Video of Demo Mastermind



Search Problem

- A **search problem** consists of:

- A state space

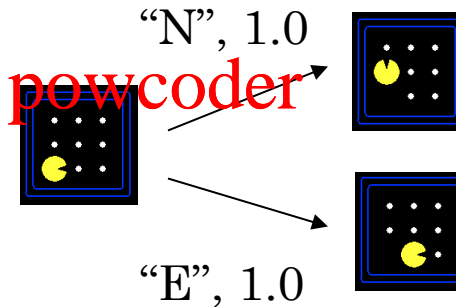
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- A successor function
(with actions, costs)

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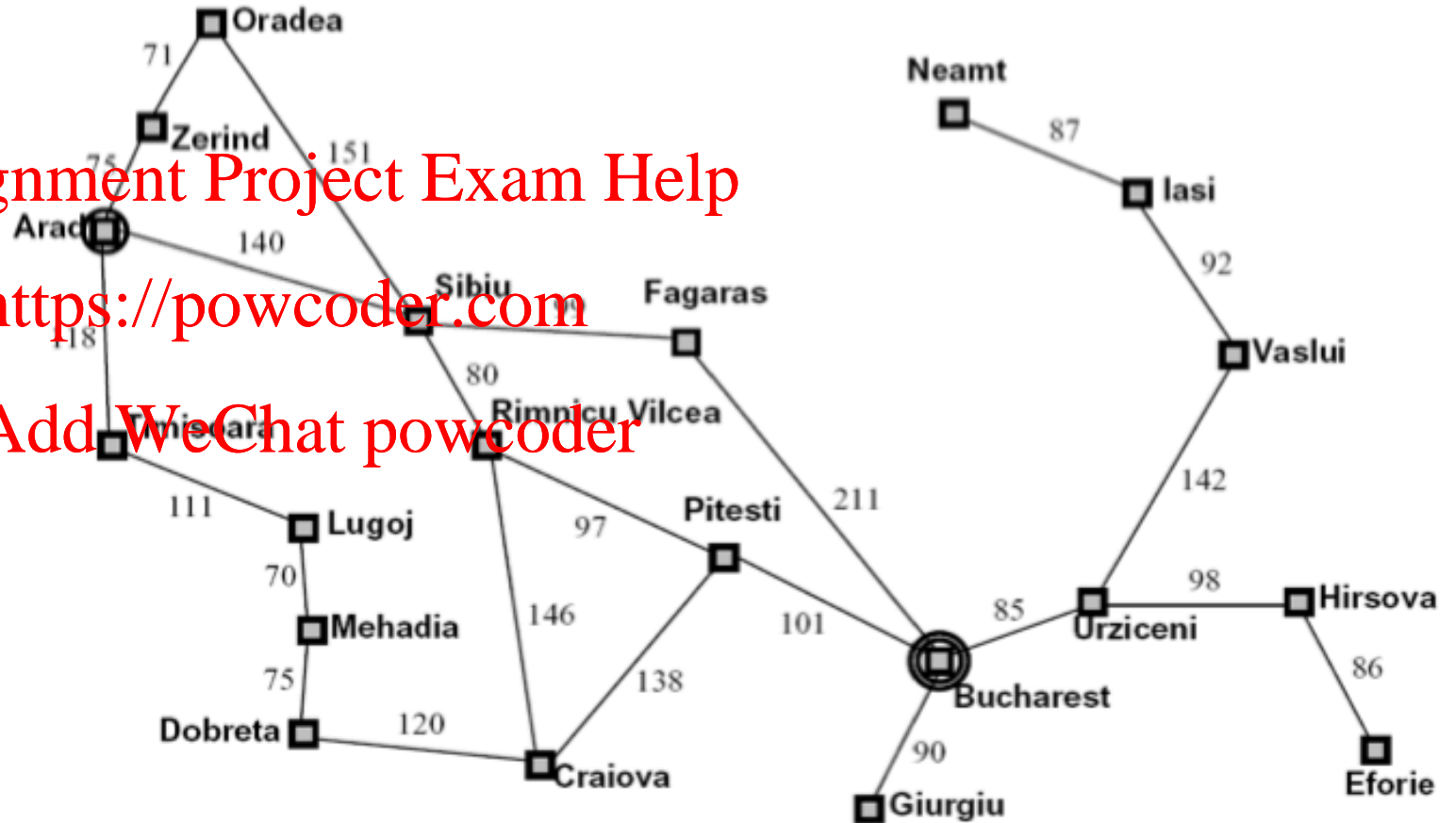
- A start state and a goal test

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



Example: Romania

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



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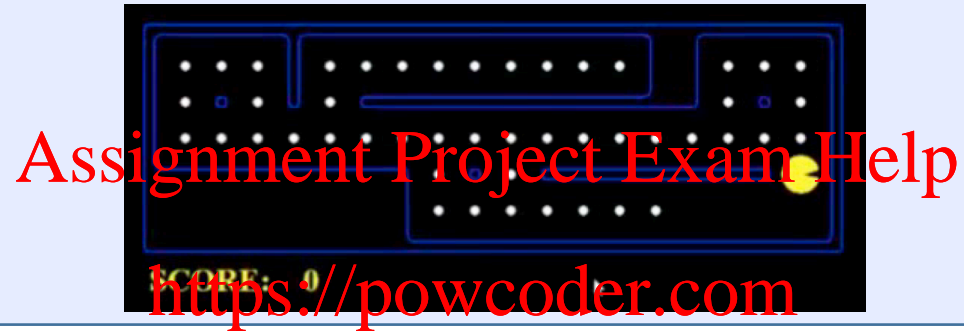
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What is in State Space

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



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- 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), dot booleans}
 - Actions: NSEW
 - Successor: update location and possibly a dot boolean
 - Goal test: dots all false

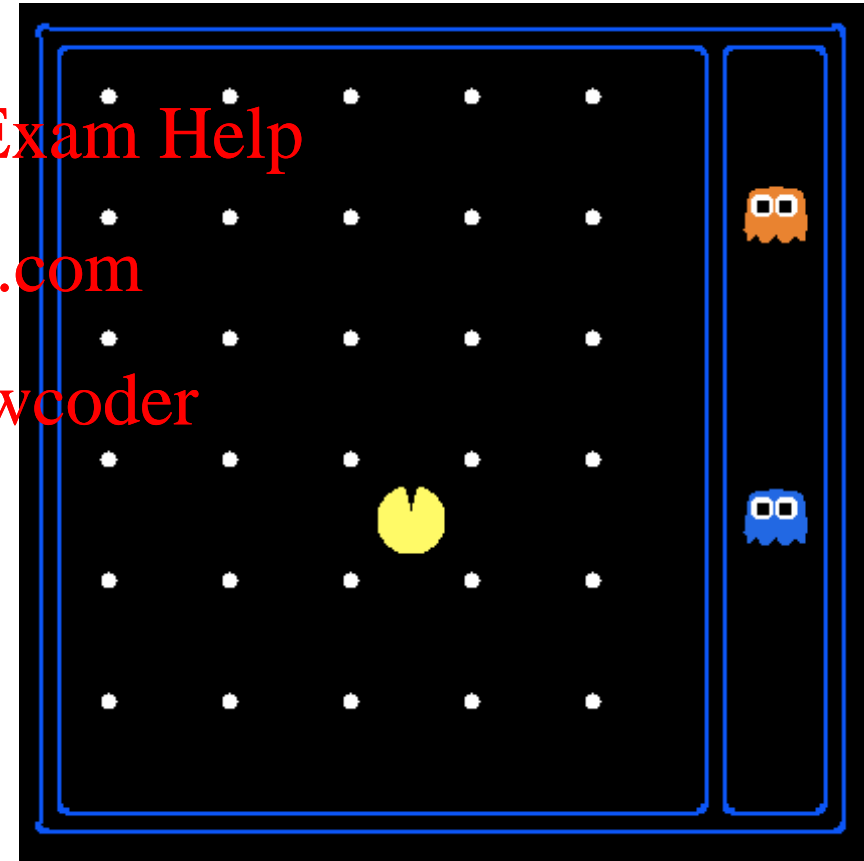
State Space Size

- Search Problem:
Eat all of the food
- Pacman positions: $10 \times 12 = 120$
- Pacman facing: up, down, left, right
- Food Count: 30
- Ghost positions: 12
- How many
- World states? $120 \times (2^{30}) \times (12^2) \times 4$
- States for pathing? 120
- States for eat-all-dots? $120 \times (2^{30})$

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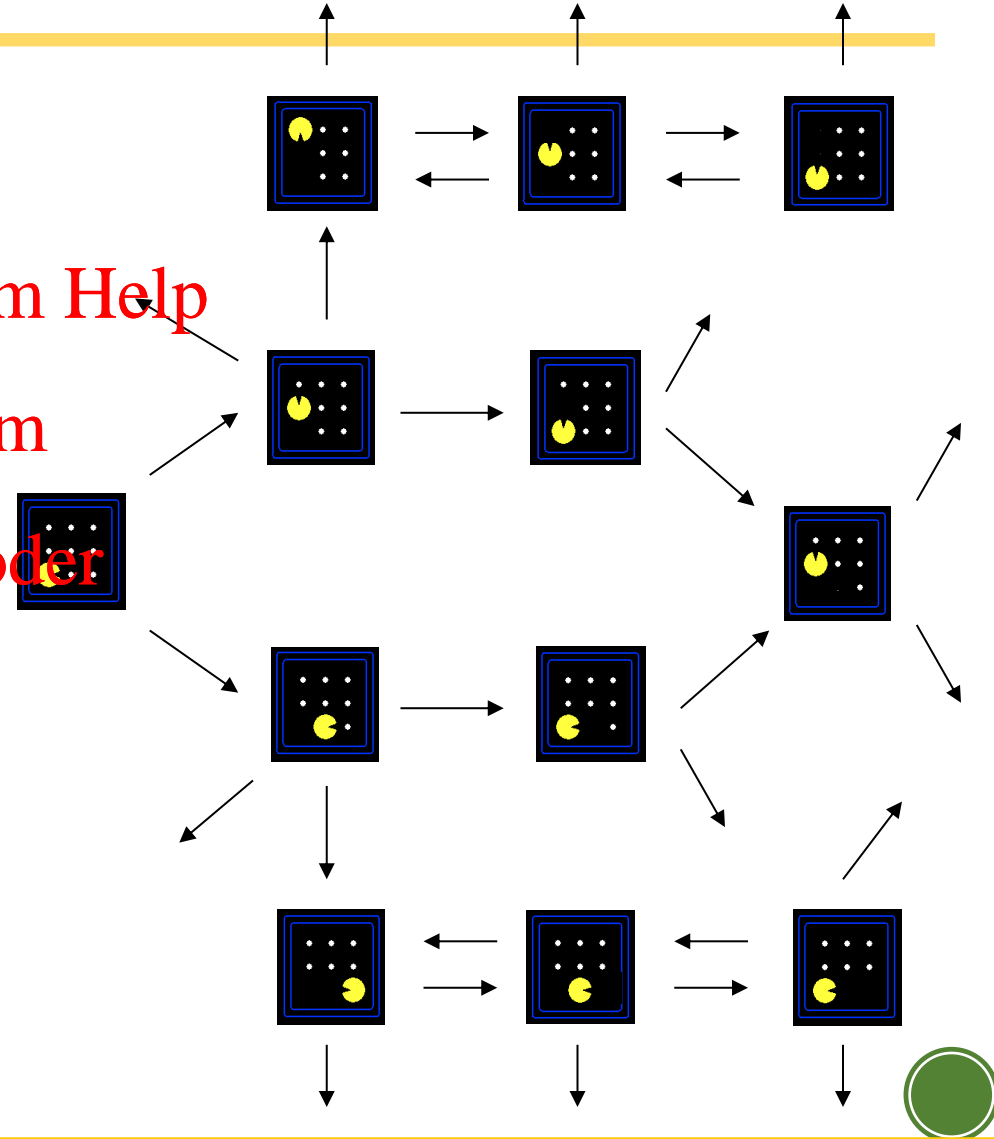
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State Space Graphs

- 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



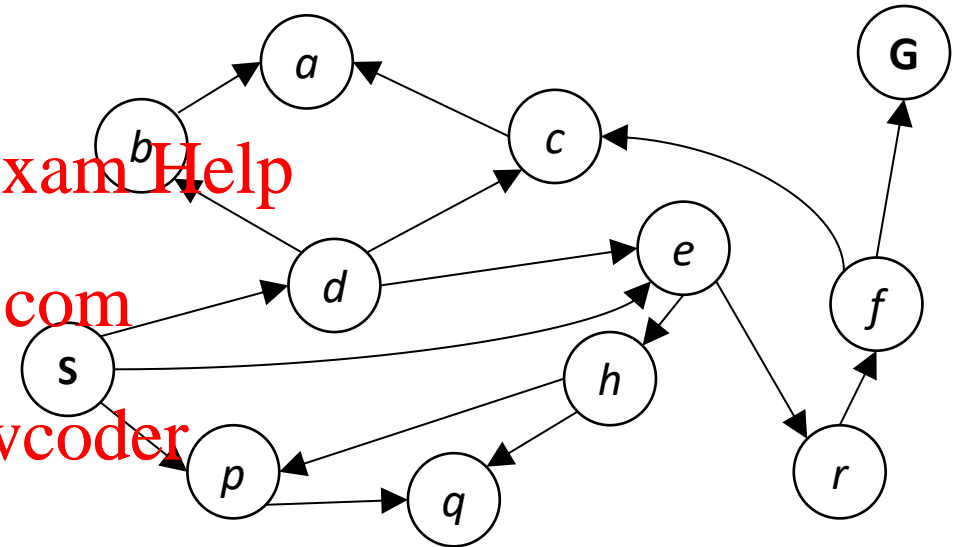
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State Space Graphs

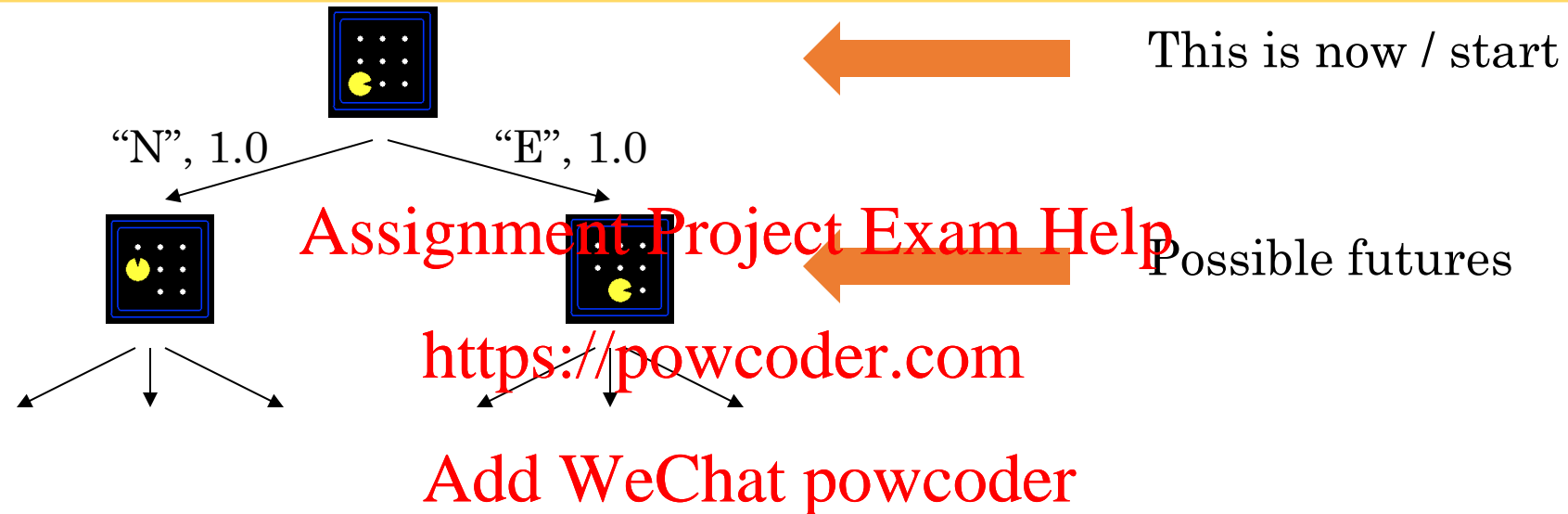
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Tiny state space graph for a tiny search problem



Search Trees

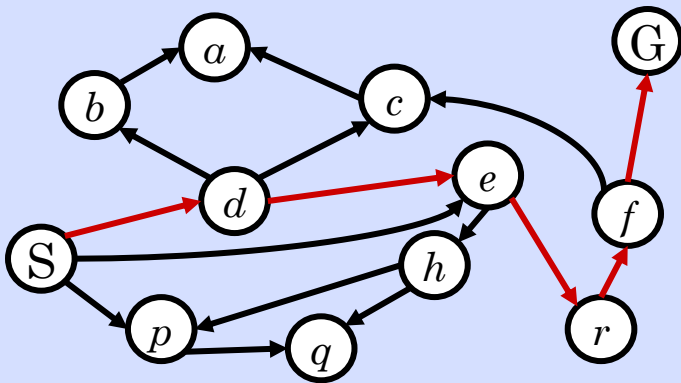


- A search tree:
 - A “what if” tree of plans and their outcomes
 - The start state is the root node
 - Children correspond to successors
 - Nodes show states, but correspond to PLANS that achieve those states
 - For most problems, we can never actually build the whole tree



State Space Graphs vs. Search Trees

State Space Graph



*Each NODE in
in the search tree*

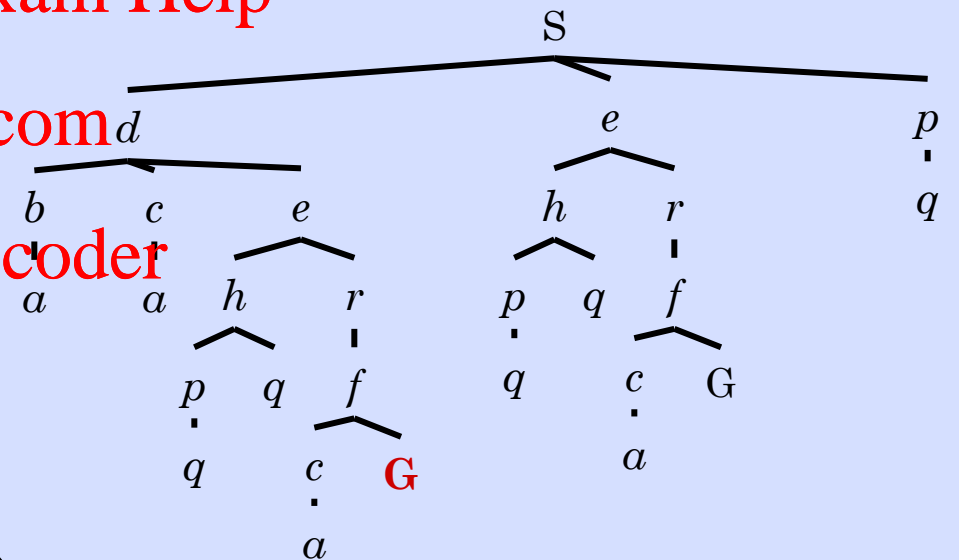
*is an entire
PATH in the*

*state space
graph.*

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*We construct both
on demand – and
we construct as
little as possible.*

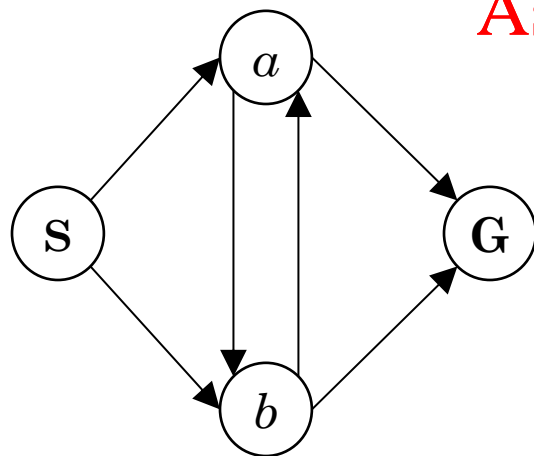
Search Tree



Quiz: State Space Graphs vs. Search Trees

Consider this 4-state graph:

How big is its search tree (from S)?



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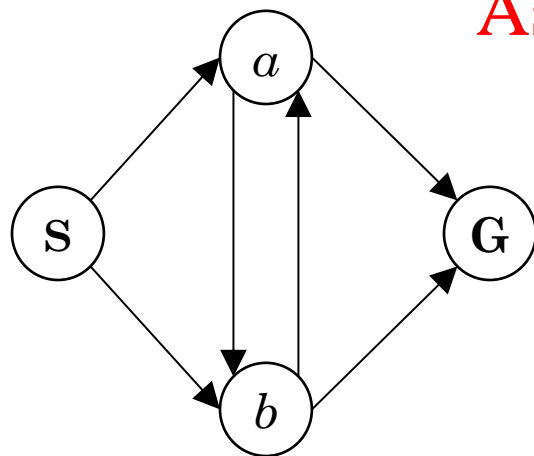
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Quiz: State Space Graphs vs. Search Trees

Consider this 4-state graph:

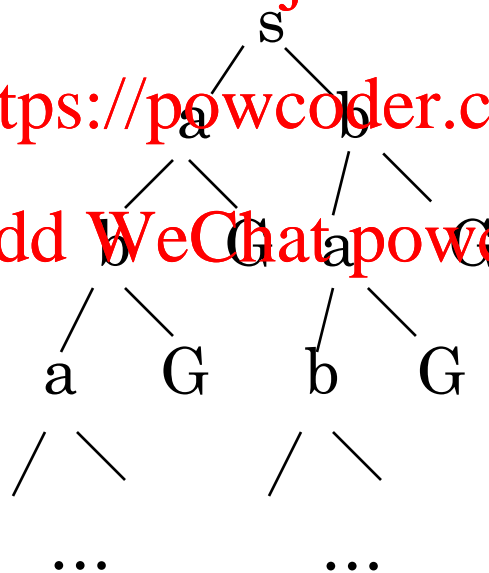
How big is its search tree (from S)?



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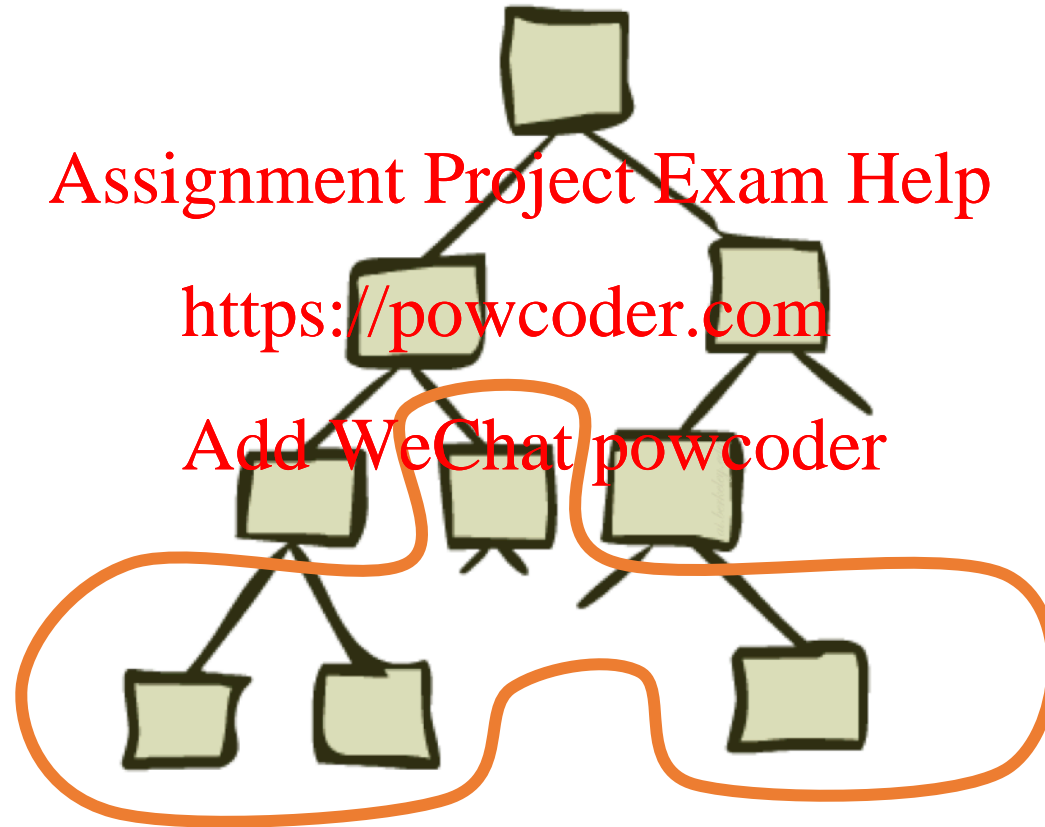
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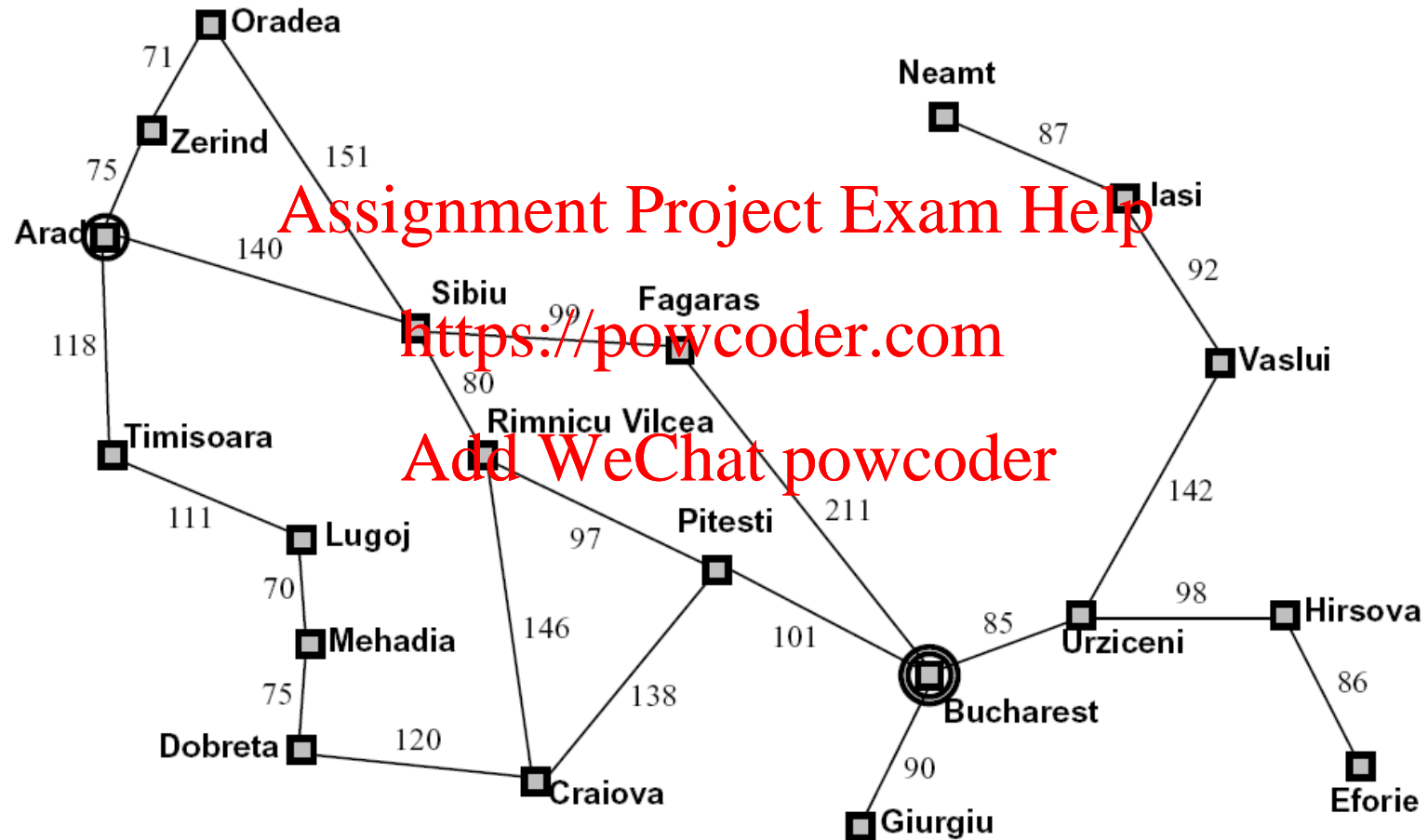
Important: Lots of repeated structure in the search tree!



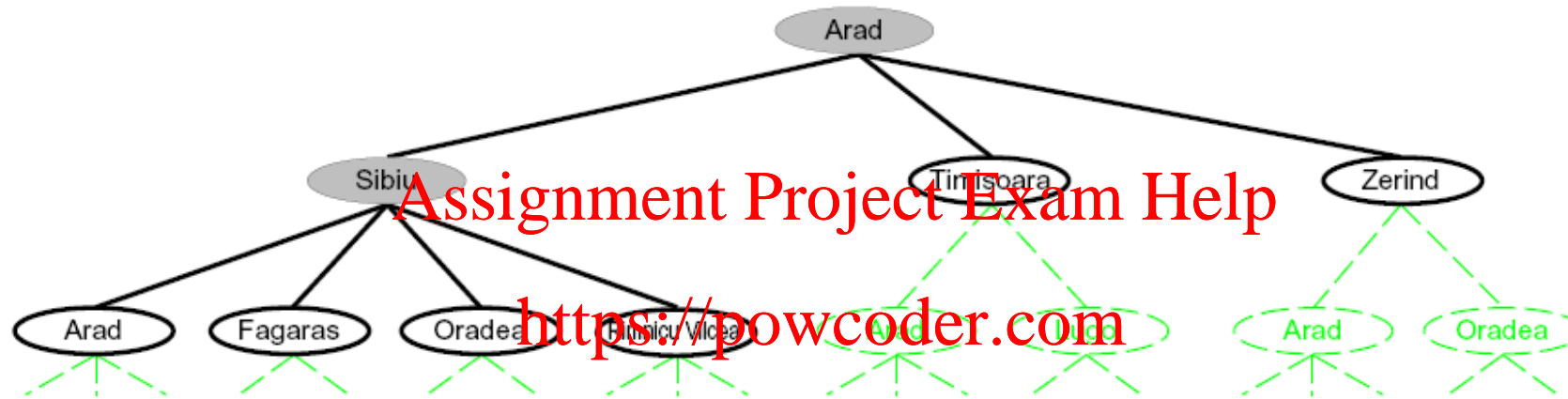
Tree Search



Search Example: Romania



Searching with a Search Tree



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

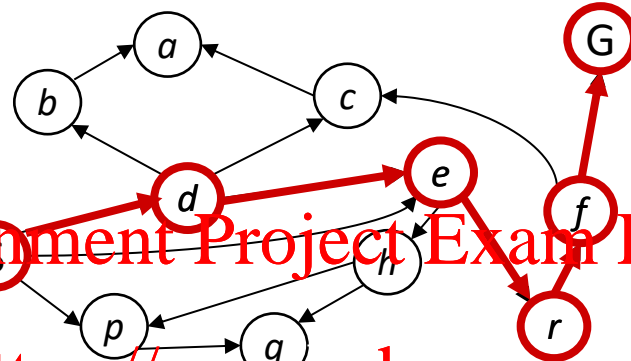


General Tree Search

- Tree Search
 - Initialize the *root node* of the search tree with the *start state*
 - While there are unexpanded leaf nodes (fringe):
 - Choose a leaf node (strategy)
 - If the node contains a goal state:
return the corresponding solution
 - Else: expand the node and add its children to the tree
- Important ideas:
 - Fringe
 - Expansion
- Strategy: which fringe nodes to explore?

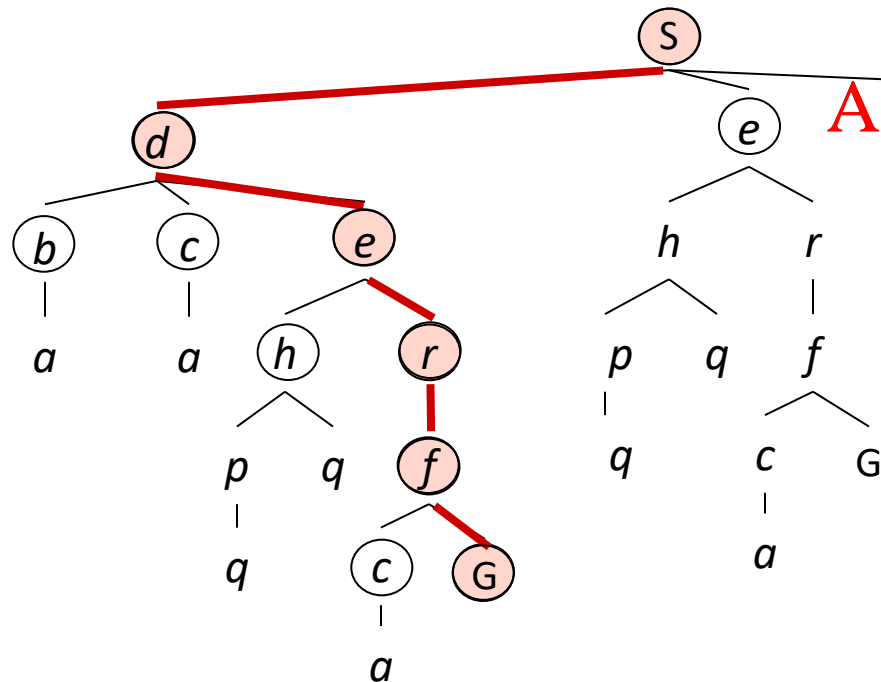


Example: Tree Search



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~~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~~



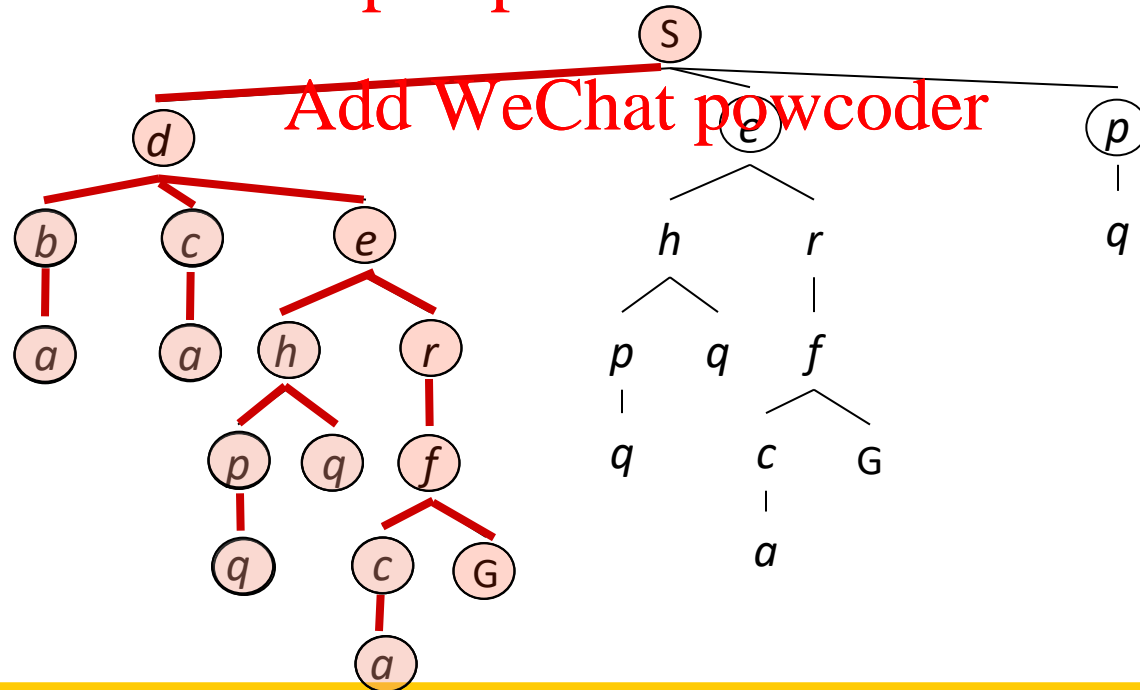
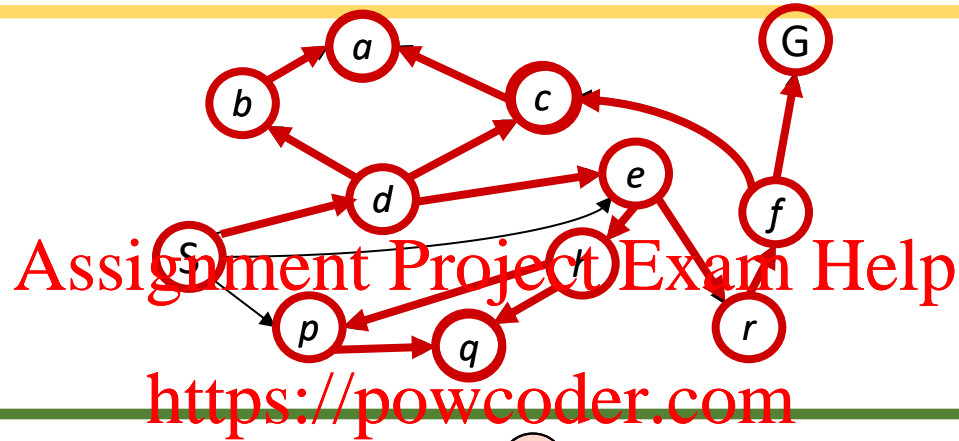
Depth-First Search (DFS)



Depth-First Search (DFS)

*Strategy: expand a
deepest node first*

*Implementation: Fringe
is a LIFO stack*



Search Algorithm Properties

- Complete: Guaranteed to find a solution if one exists?
- Optimal: Guaranteed to find the least cost path?
- Time complexity?
- Space complexity?

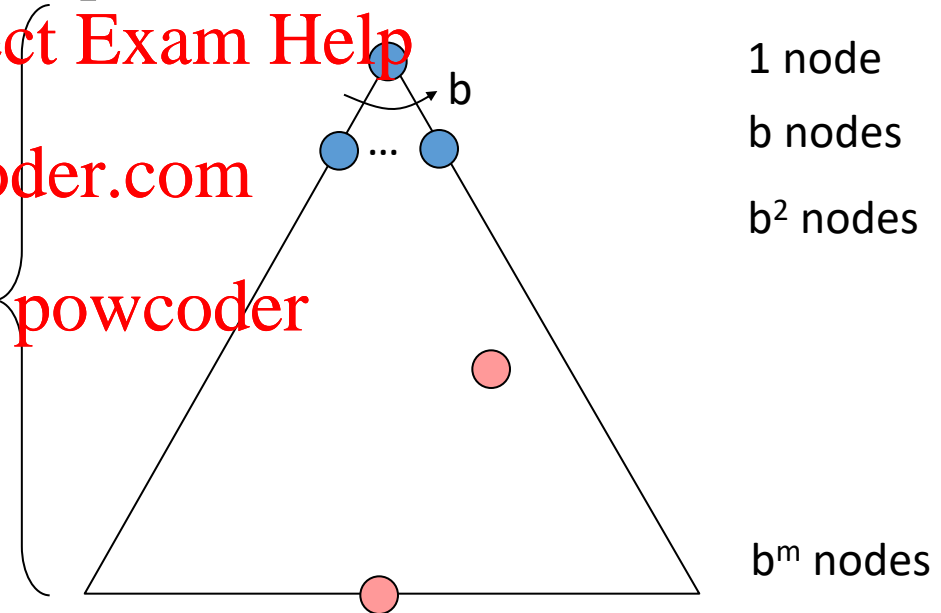
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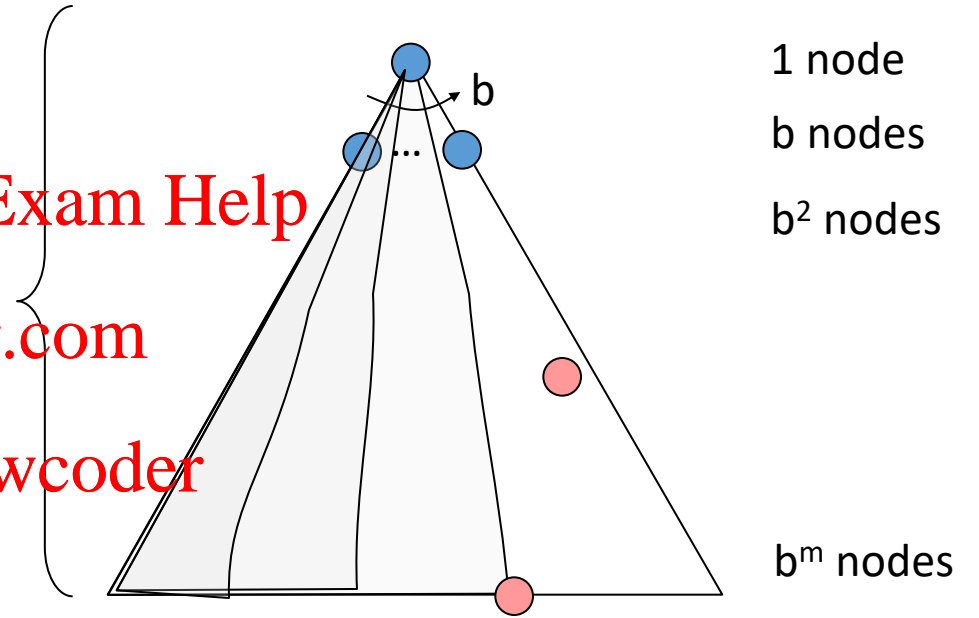
- Cartoon of search tree:
 - b is the branching factor
 - m is the maximum depth
 - solutions at various depths

- Number of nodes in entire tree?
 - $1 + b + b^2 + \dots + b^m = O(b^{m+1})$



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



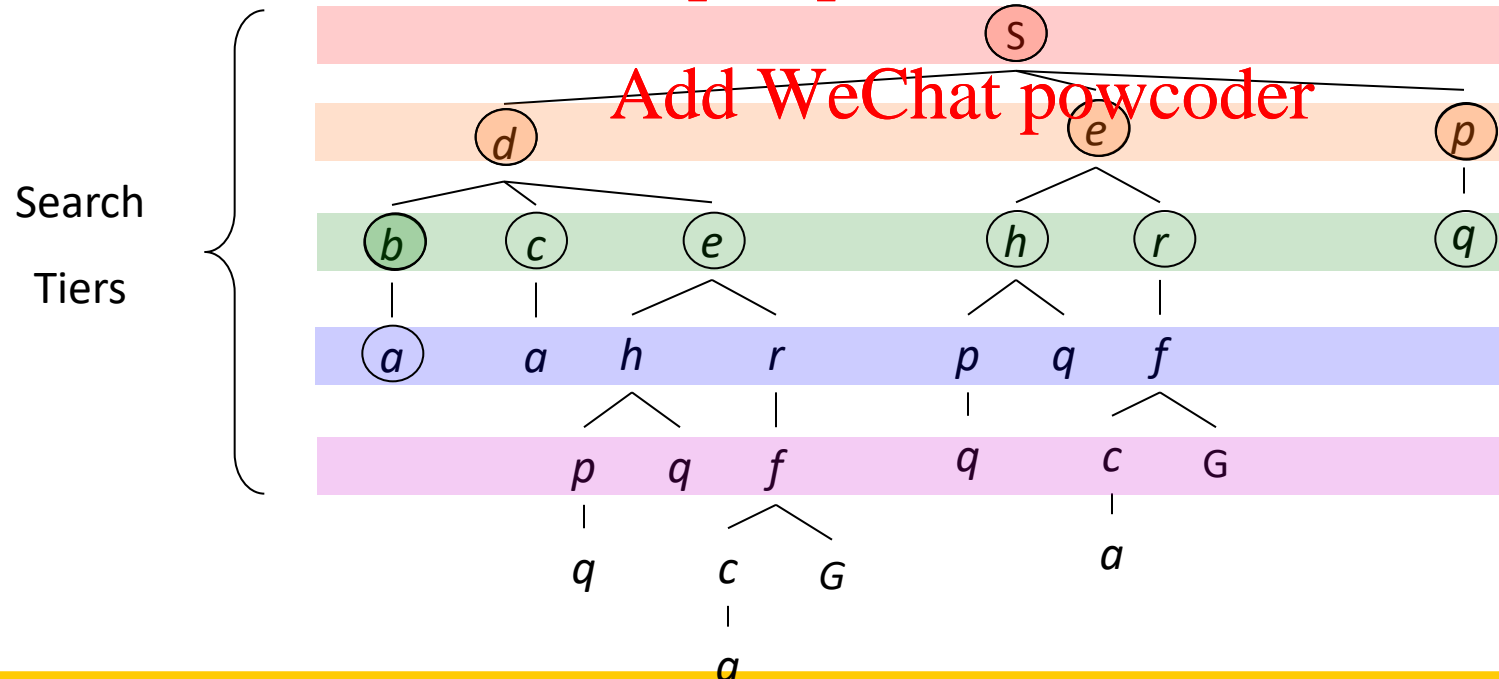
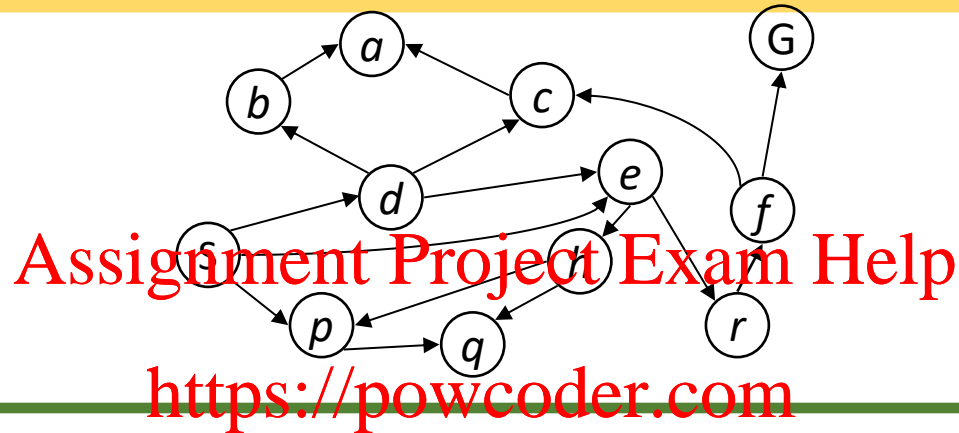
Breadth-First Search (BFS)



Breadth-First Search (BFS)

Strategy: expand a shallowest node first

*Implementation:
Fringe is a FIFO queue*



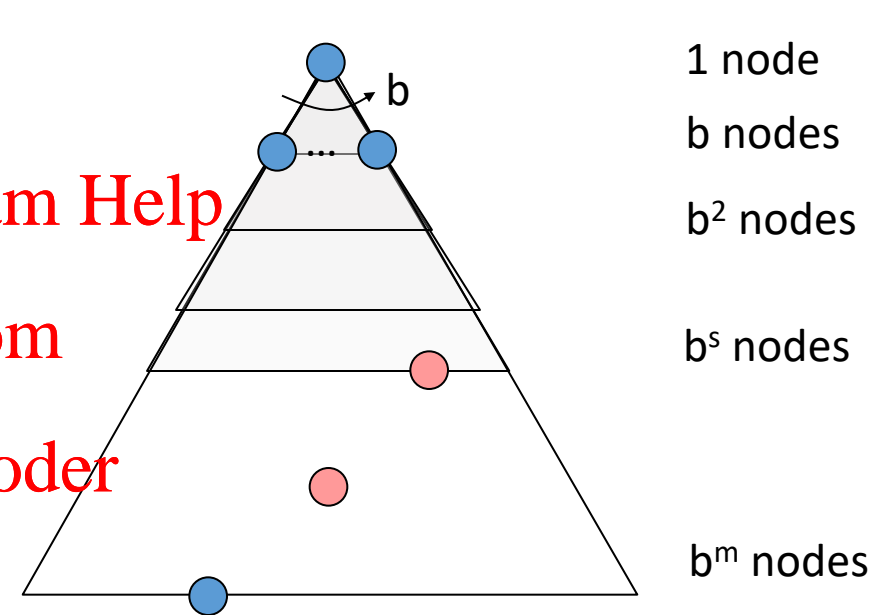
BFS Properties

- 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?
 - $O(b^{s+1})$

- 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)



DFS vs BFS

- When will BFS outperform DFS?
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- When will DFS outperform BFS?
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Iterative Deepening

- Idea: get DFS's space advantage with BFS's time / shallow-solution advantages

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- 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.

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- Isn't that wastefully redundant?
 - Generally most work happens in the lowest level searched, so not so bad!

