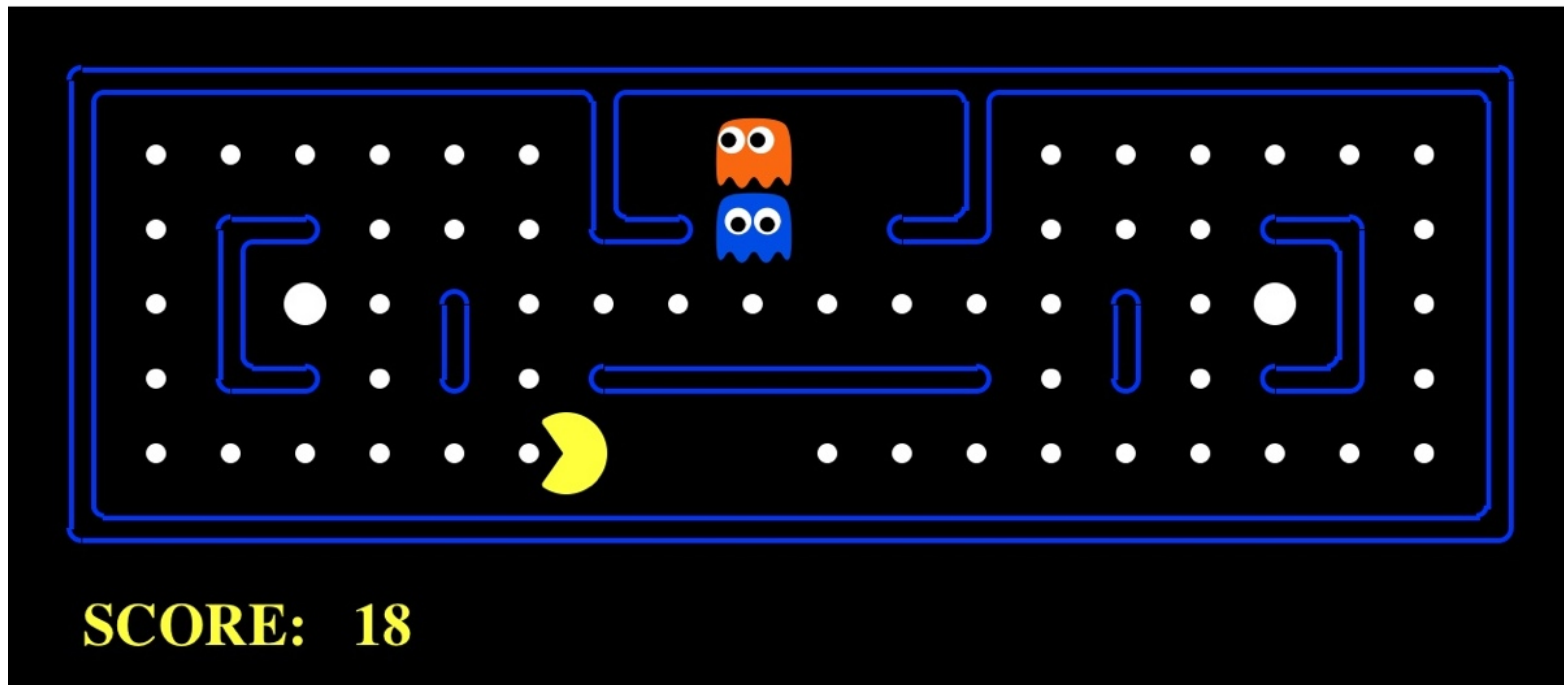


# Search I

March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018

- **Search Problems**
- **Uninformed Search**
  - **Depth-First Search**
  - **Breadth-First Search**
  - **Uniform-Cost Search**



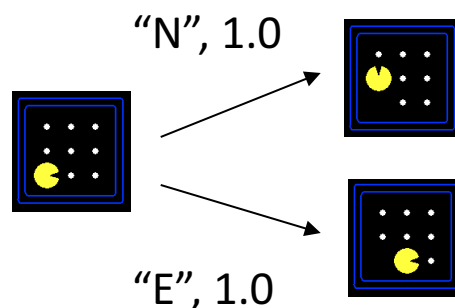
- A search problem consists of:
  - A state space
  - A successor function (with actions, costs)
  - A start state
  - A goal test

- A search problem consists of:

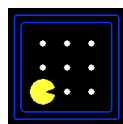
- A state space



- A successor function (with actions, costs)



- A start state



- A goal test

- Move to a specific position

# Real world task : the 8-puzzle



7	2	4
5		6
8	3	1

Start State

1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	

Goal State

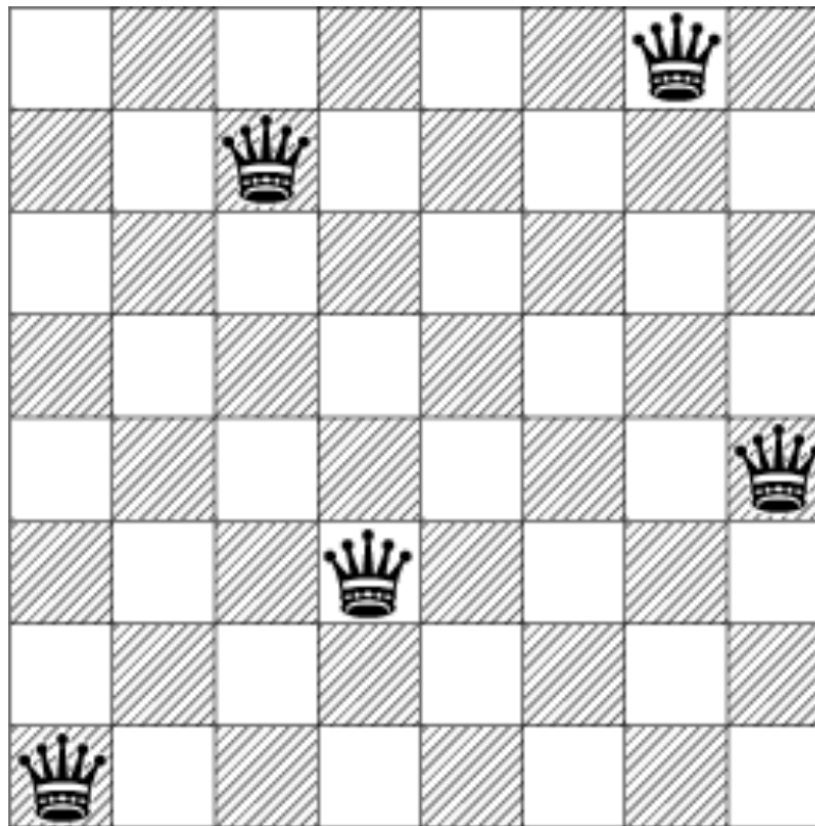
7	2	4
5		6
8	3	1

Start State

1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	

Goal State

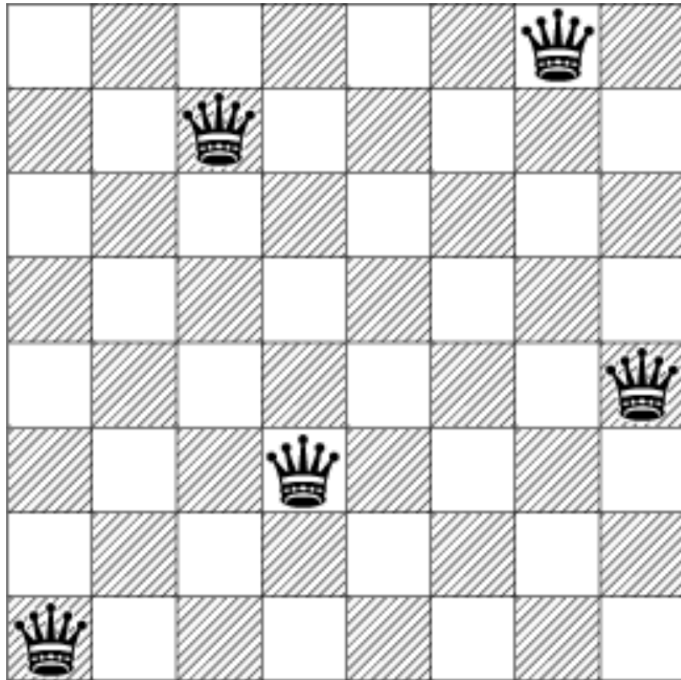
- State space
  - integer locations of 8 tiles.
- Successor function:
  - Move blank (up, down, right, left)



- Place 8 queens on a chessboard so that no two queens attack each other.
- A queen attacks any piece in the same row, column or diagonal.
- 3 more queens missing

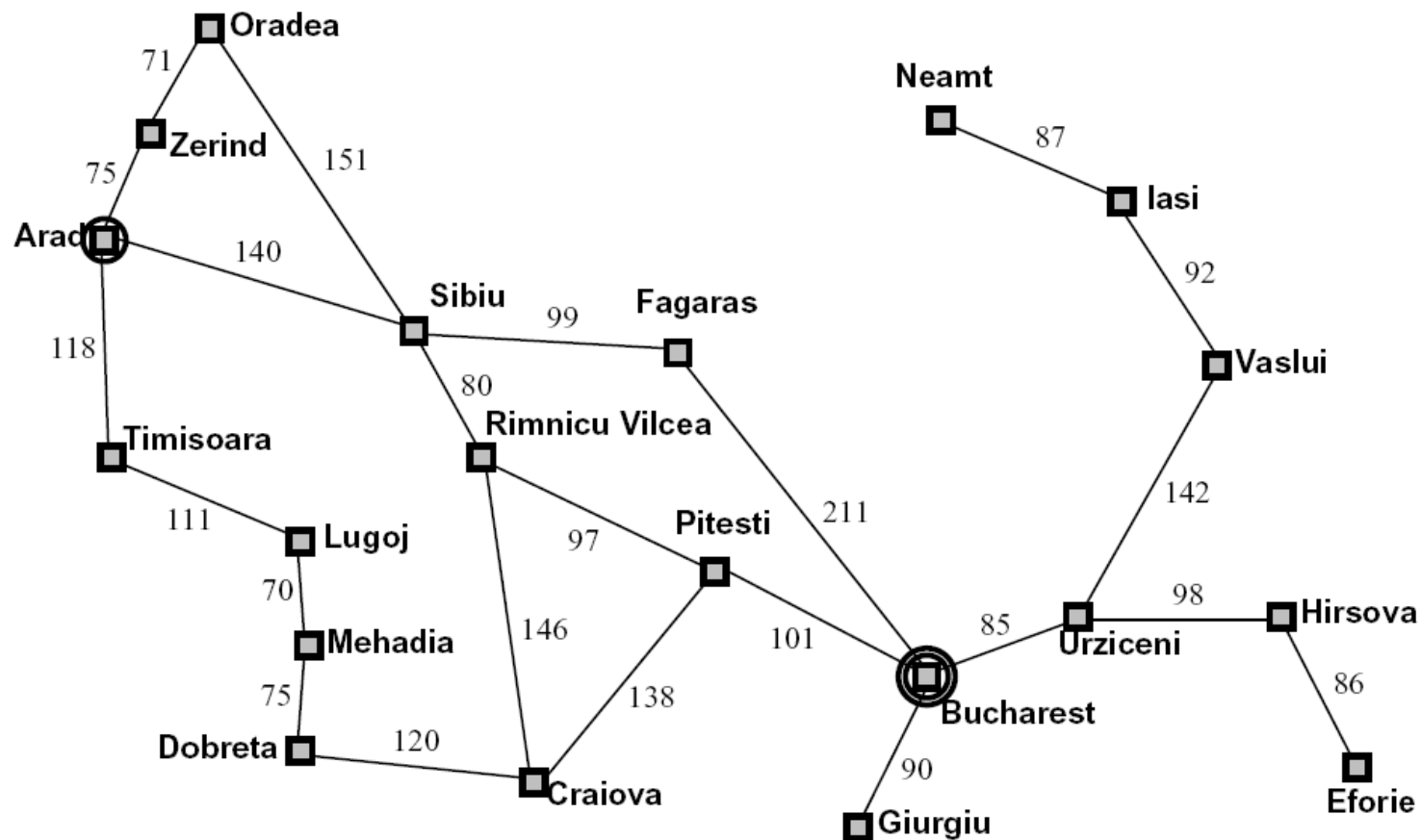


# Search Problem: 8-Queens Puzzle

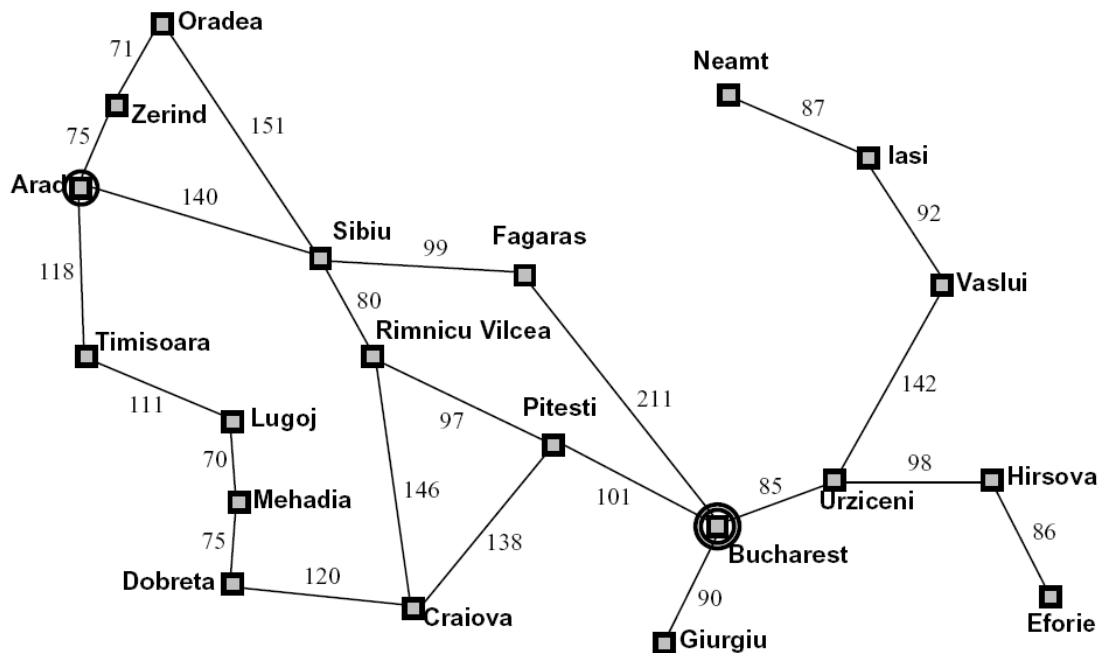


- **State space:** any arrangement of 0 to 8 queens on board
- **Successor function:** add a queen to any square
- **Start state:** blank board
- **Goal test:** 8 queens on board, non attacked

# Real world task : Traveling in Romania

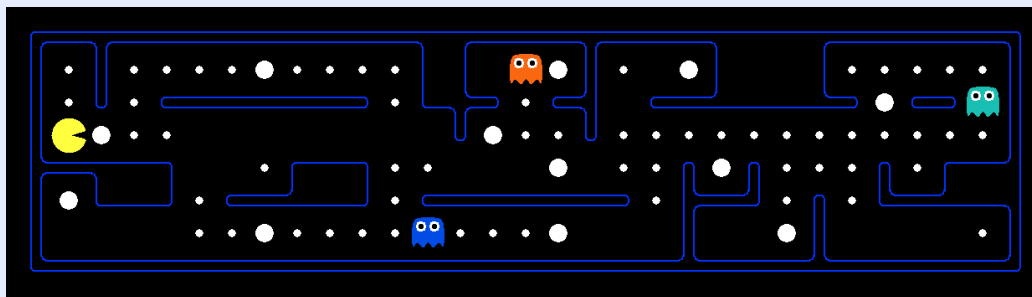


# Search Problems: Traveling in Romania



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

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



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

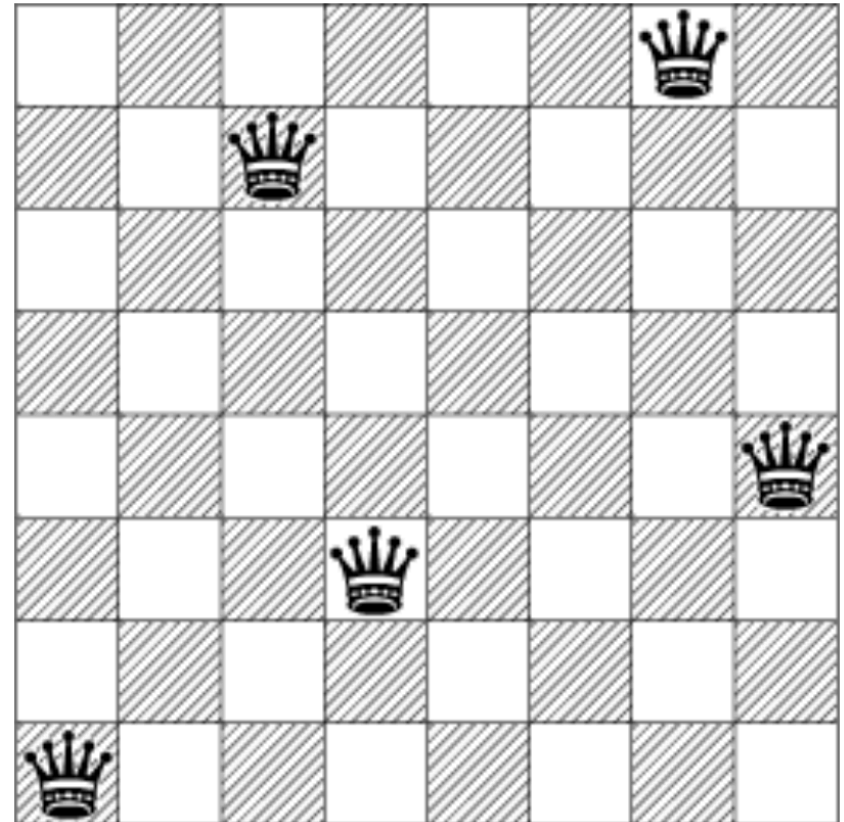
## ■ Problem: Pathing

- States:  $(x,y)$  location
- Actions: NSEW
- Successor: update location only
- Goal test: is  $(x,y)=END$

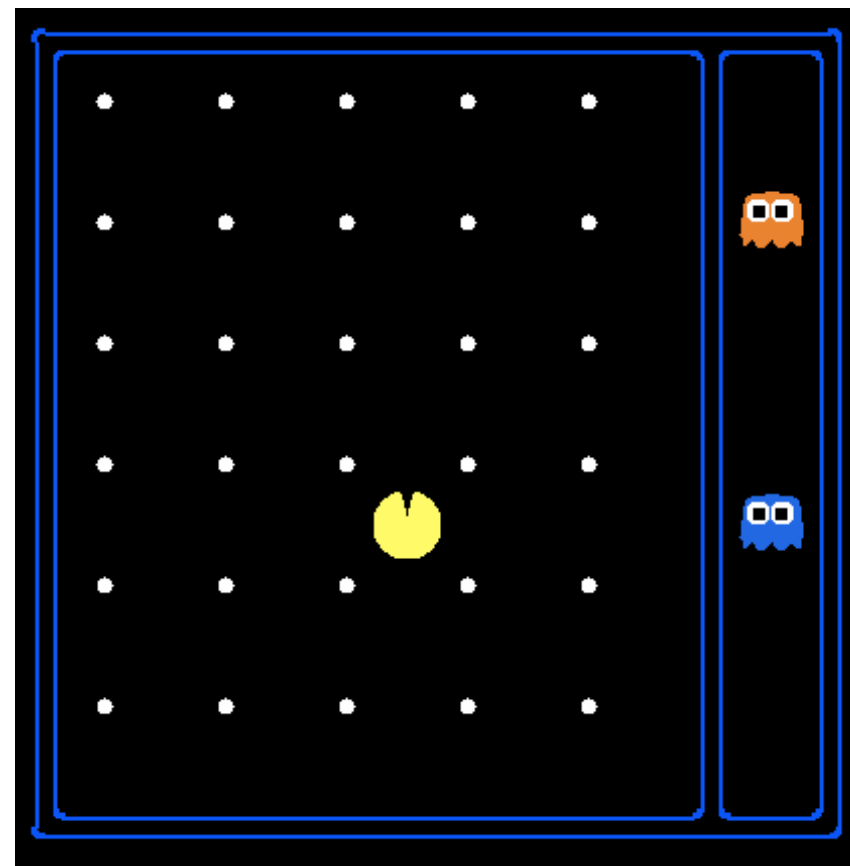
## ■ Problem: Eat-All-Dots

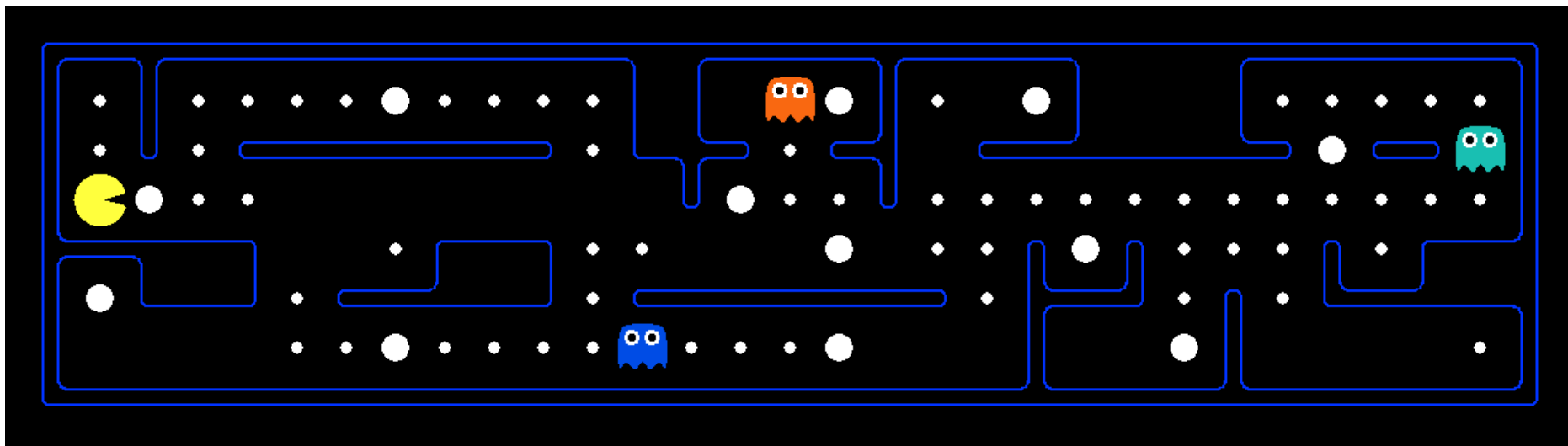
- States:  $\{(x,y), \text{dot booleans}\}$
- Actions: NSEW
- Successor: update location and possibly a dot boolean
- Goal test: dots all false

- World state:
  - Board blanks: 64
  - Queen number: 8
- How many
  - World states?
  - $64^8$

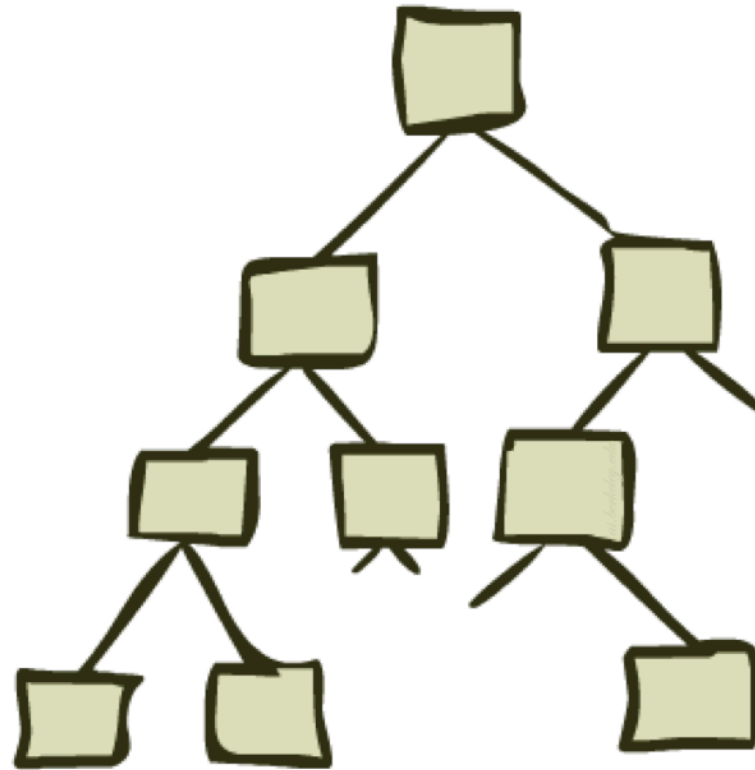


- World state:
  - Agent positions: 120
  - Food count: 30
  - Ghost positions: 12
  - Agent facing: NSEW
- How many
  - World states?  
 $120 \times (2^{30}) \times (12^2) \times 4$
  - States for pathing?  
120
  - States for eat-all-dots?  
 $120 \times (2^{30})$



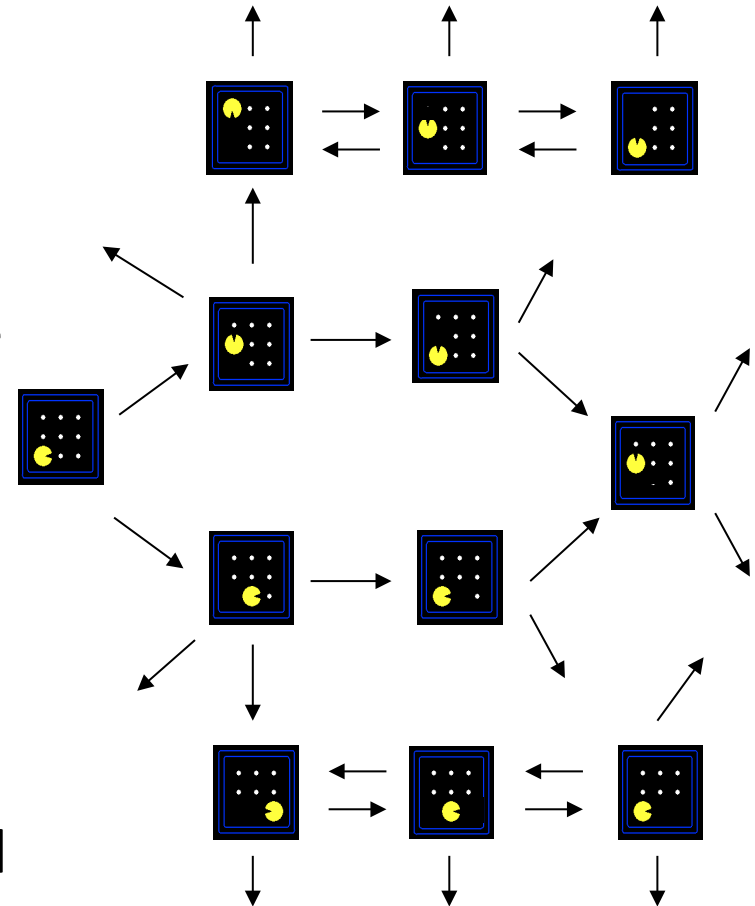


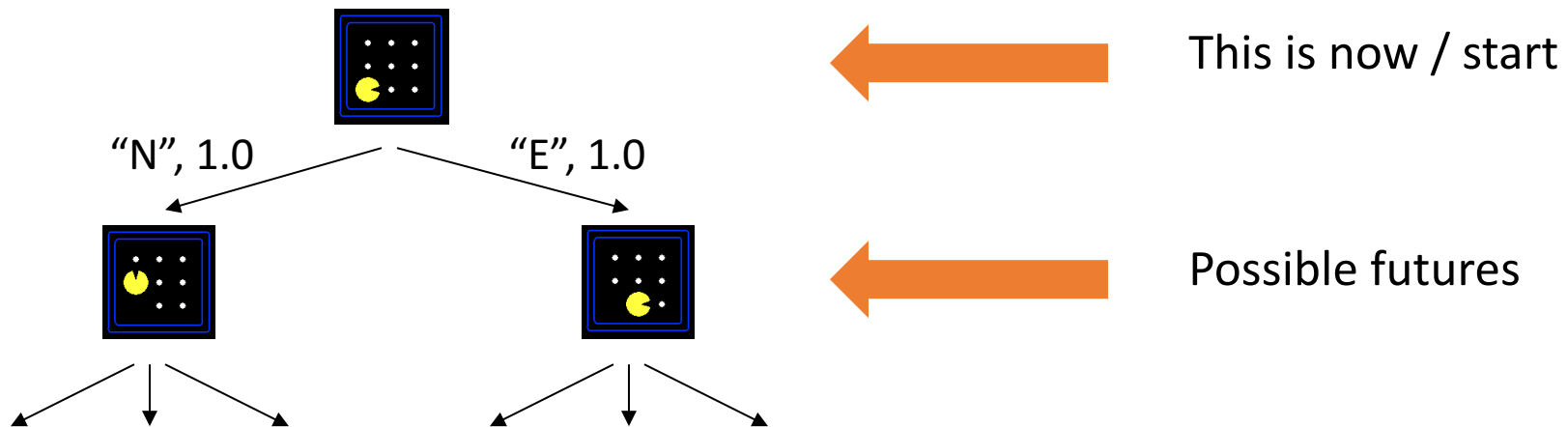
- Problem: eat all dots while keeping the ghosts **perma-scared**
- What does the state space have to specify?
  - (agent position, dot booleans, power dot booleans, remaining scared time)





- 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

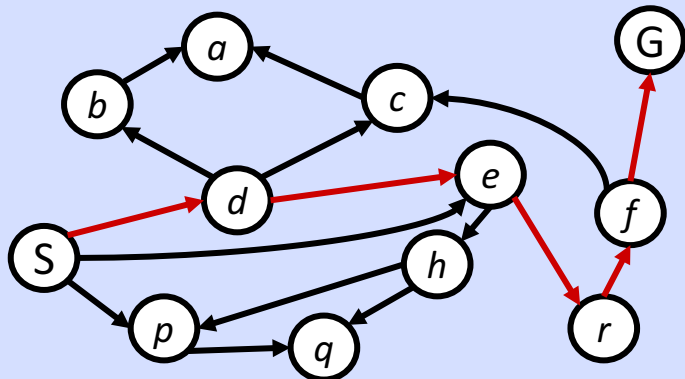




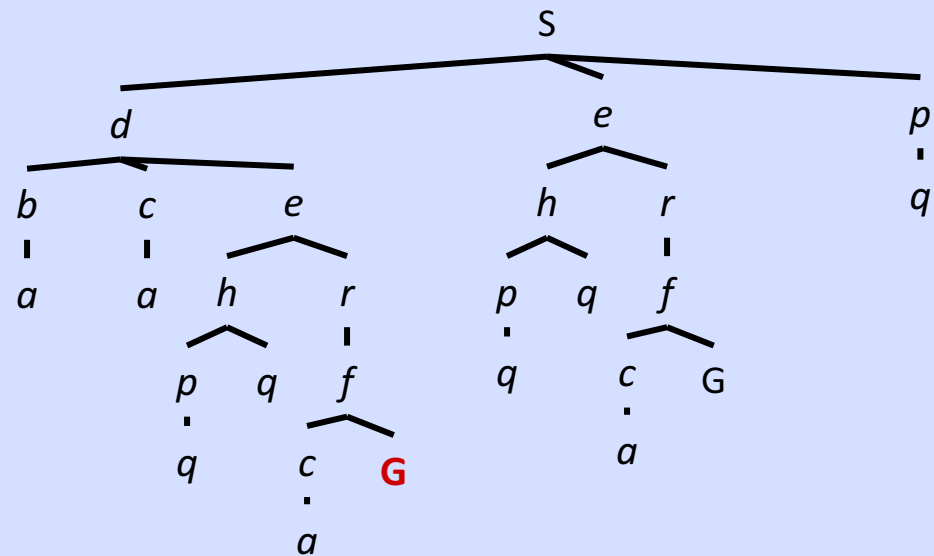
## ■ A search tree:

- 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 Graph

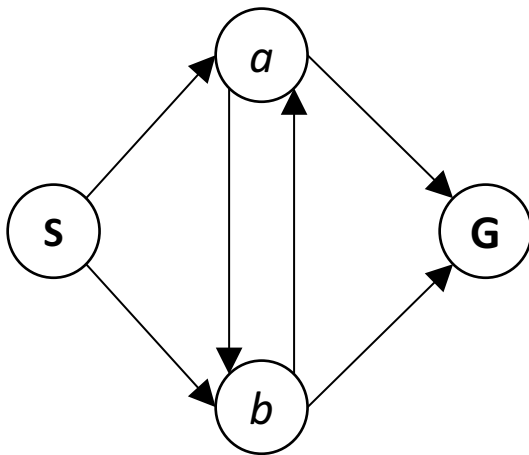


## Search Tree



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

Consider this 4-state graph:

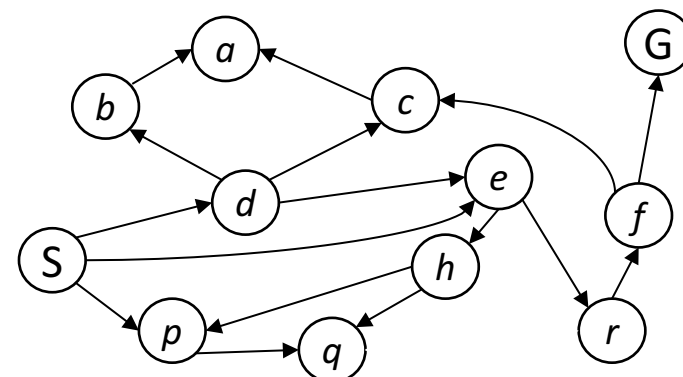
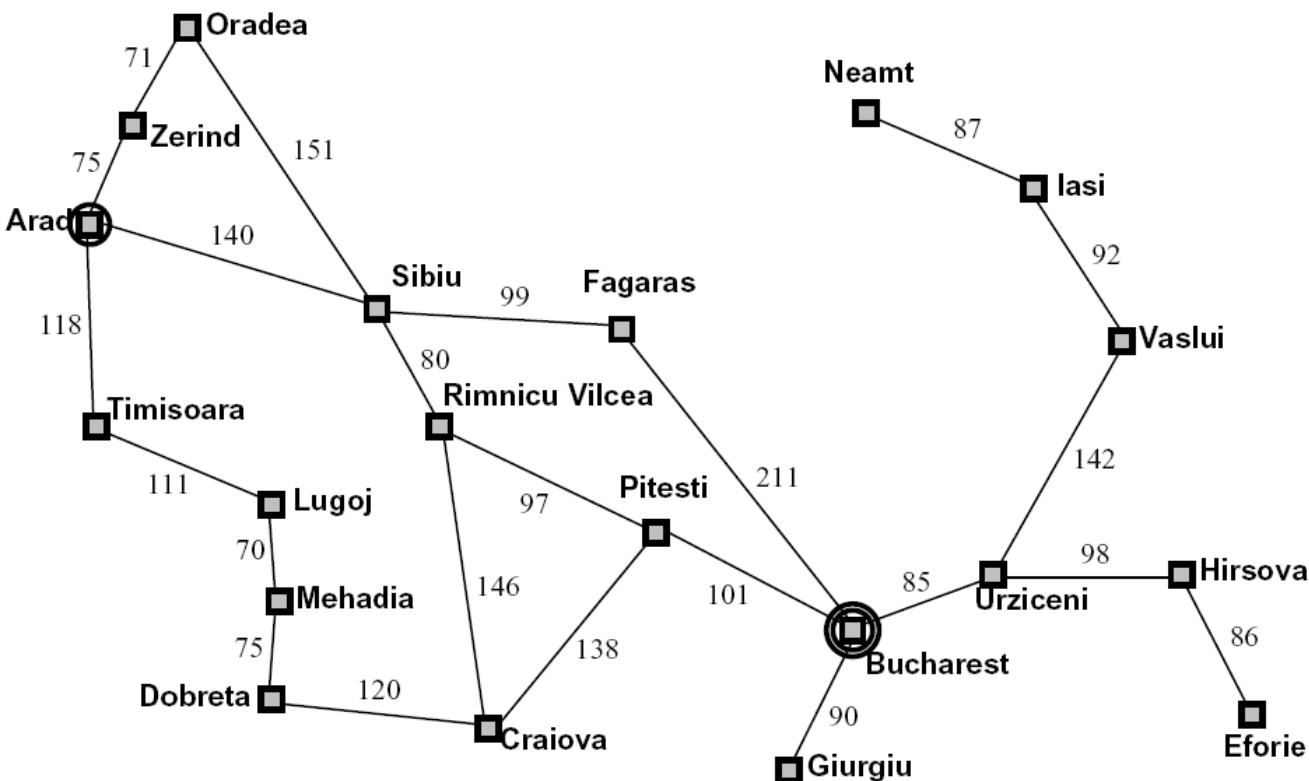


How big is its search tree (from S)?

Important: Lots of repeated structure in the search tree!

- **Uninformed Search**
  - **Depth-First Search**
  - **Breadth-First Search**
  - **Uniform-Cost Search**

# Search Example: Romania

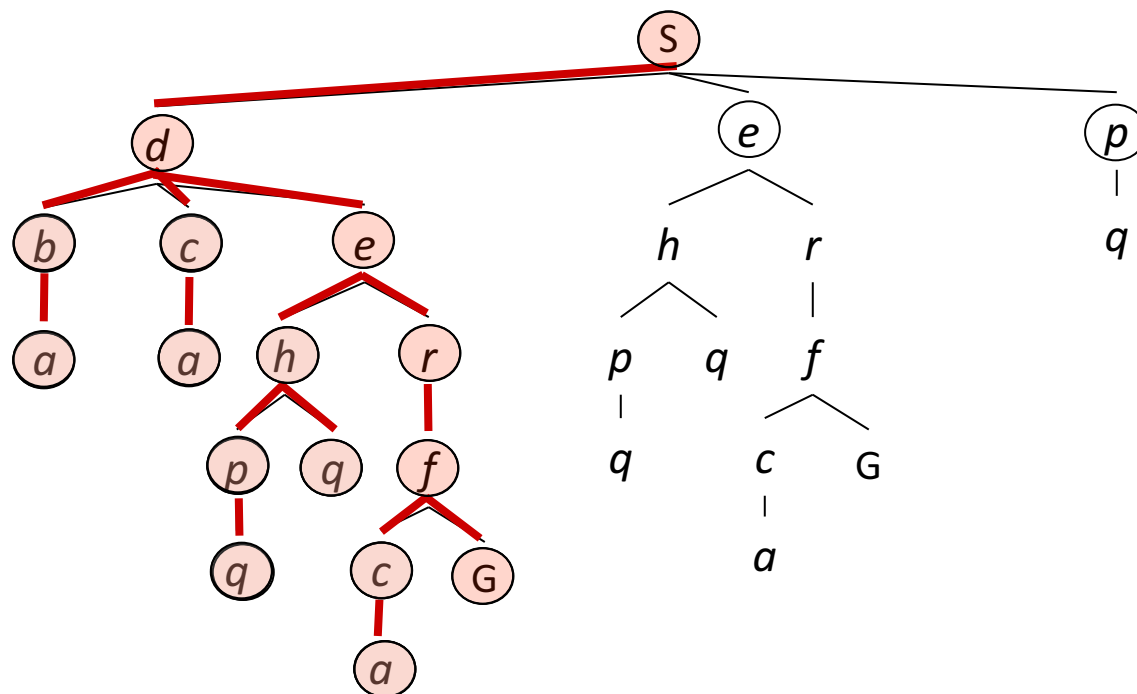
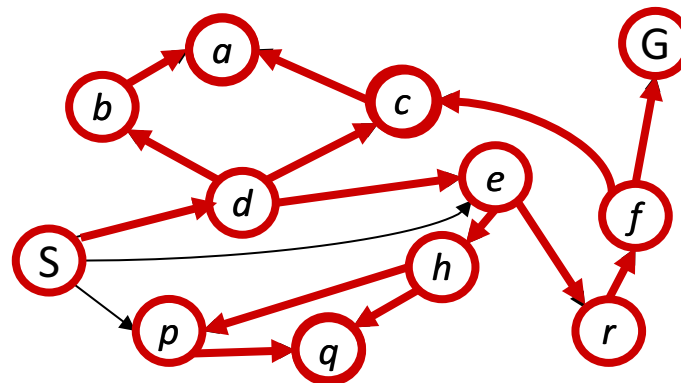


# Depth-First Search



*Strategy: expand a  
deepest node first*

*Implementation:  
Fringe is a LIFO stack*



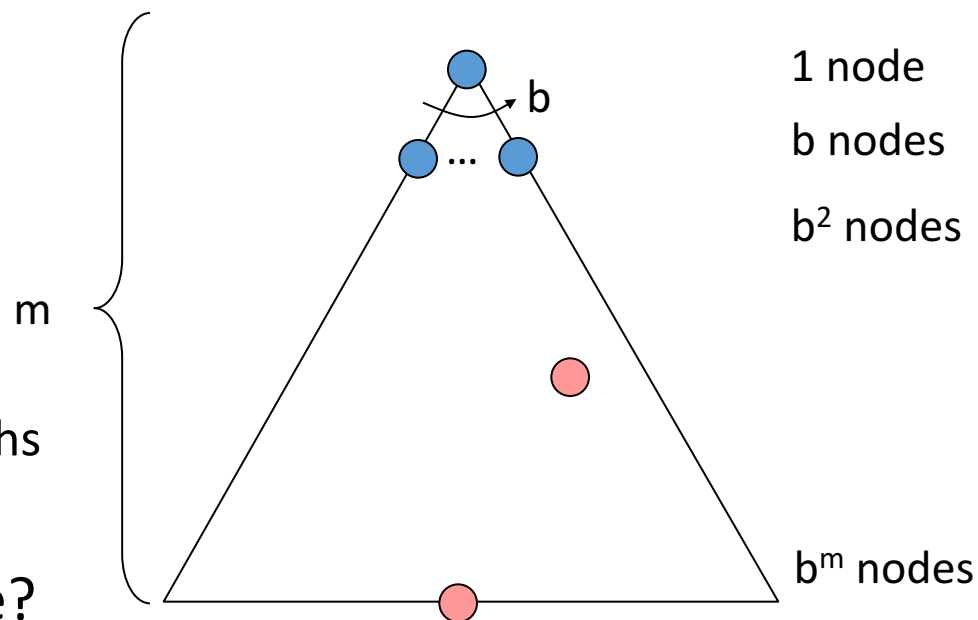
- Complete: Guaranteed to find a solution if one exists?
- Optimal: Guaranteed to find the least cost path?
- Time complexity?
- Space complexity?

- Cartoon of search tree:

- $b$  is the branching factor
- $m$  is the maximum depth
- $s$  is the solutions at various depths

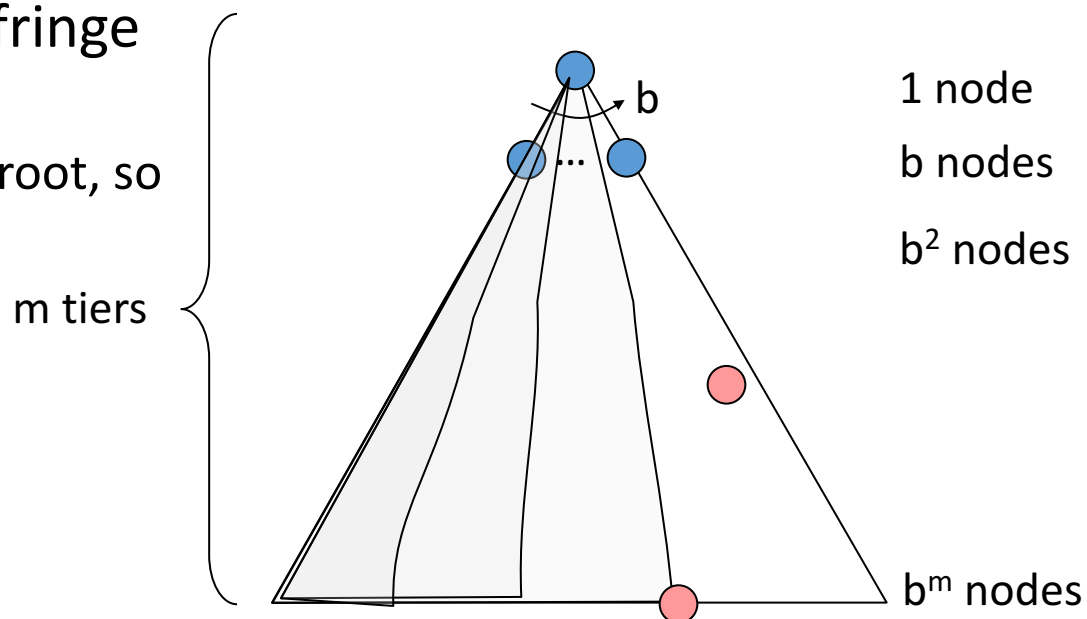
- Number of nodes in entire tree?

- $1 + b + b^2 + \dots + b^m = O(b^{m+1})$





- What nodes DFS expand (Time Complexity)?
  - Some left prefix of the tree.
  - If  $m$  is finite, takes time  $O(b^m)$
- How much space does the fringe take (Space Complexity)?
  - Only has siblings on path to root, so  $O(bm)$
- Is it complete?
  - No,  $m$  can be infinite
- Is it optimal?
  - No, it finds the “leftmost” solution, regardless of depth or cost

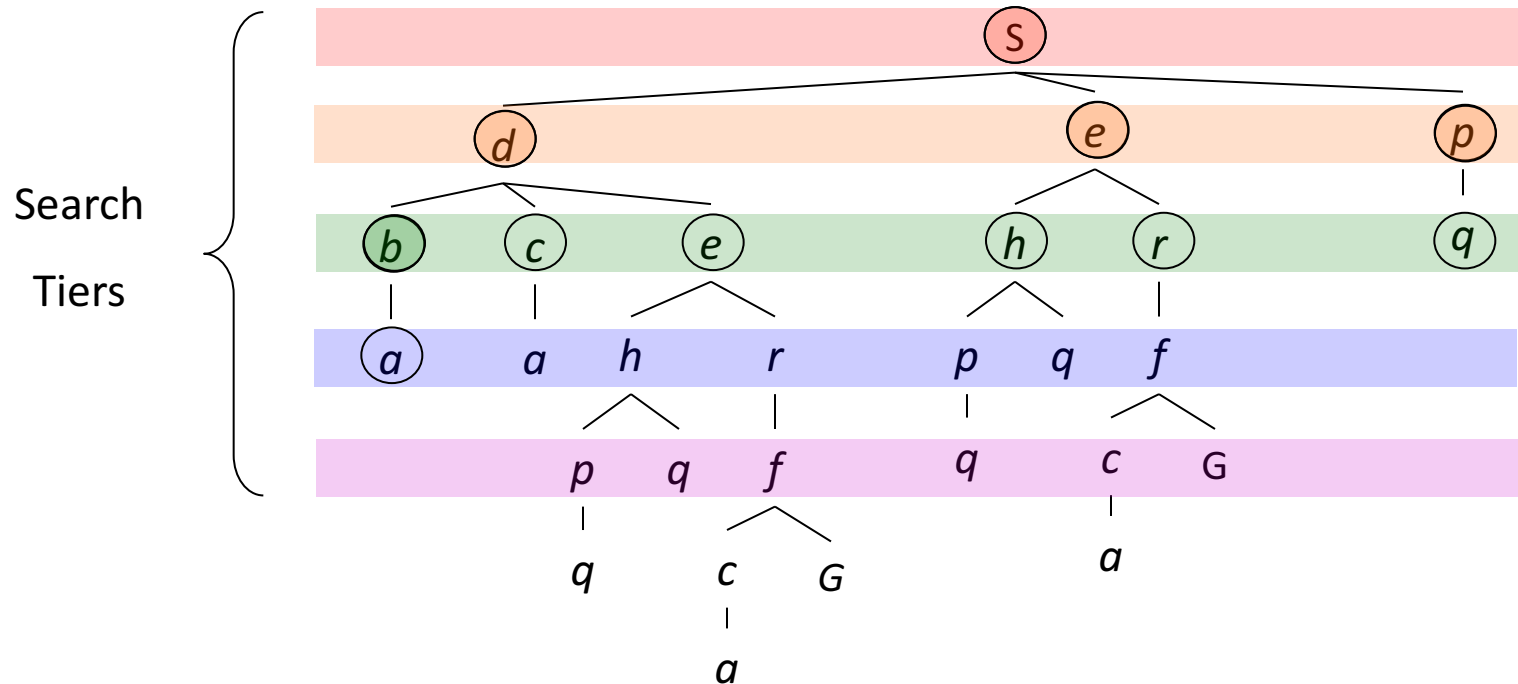
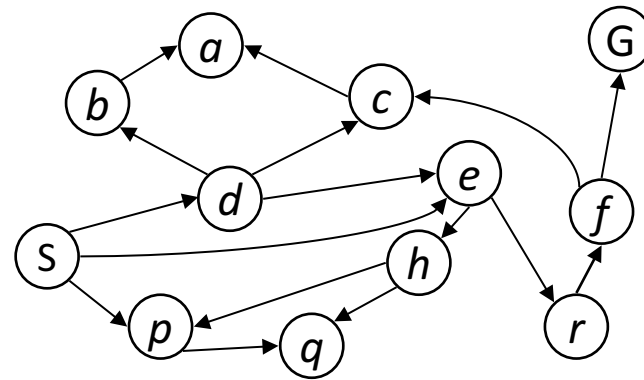


# Breadth-First Search

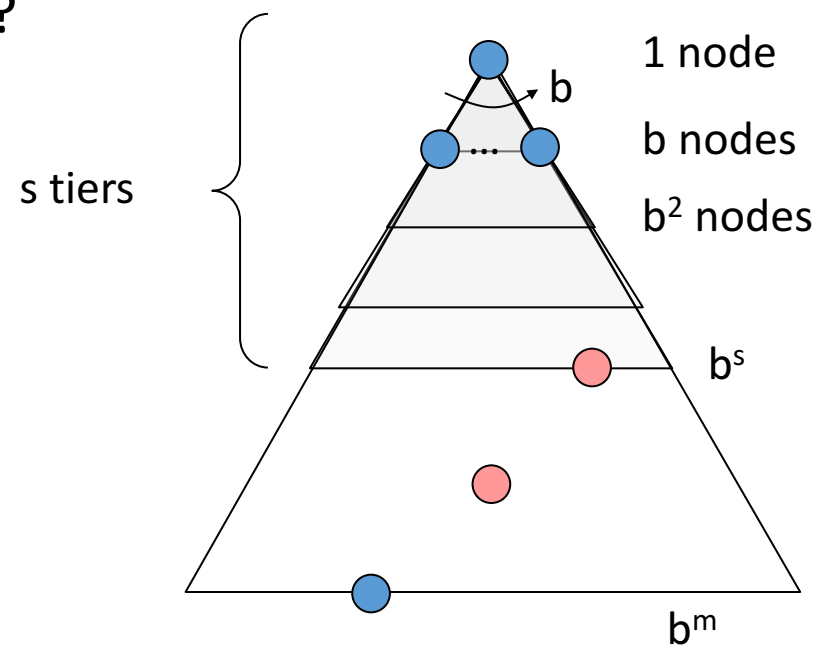


*Strategy: expand a shallowest node first*

*Implementation: Fringe is a FIFO queue*

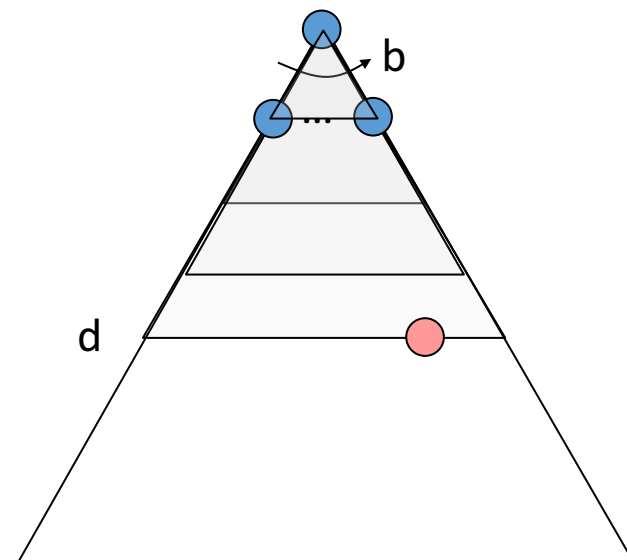


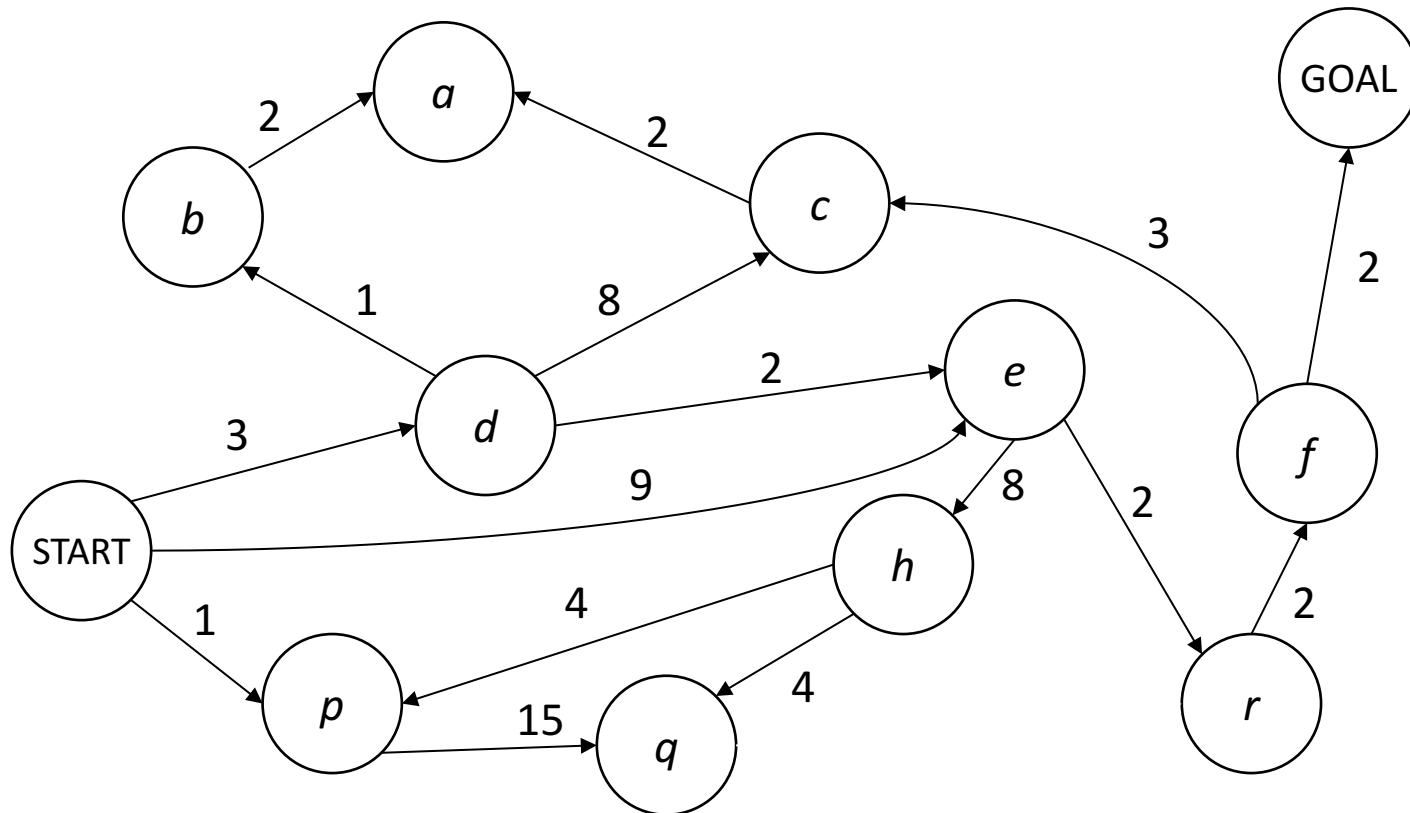
- What nodes does BFS expand (Time Complexity)?
  - Processes all nodes above shallowest solution
  - Let depth of shallowest solution be  $s$
  - Search takes time  $O(b^s)$
- How much space does the fringe take?
  - Has roughly the last tier, so  $O(b^s)$
- Is it complete?
  - yes
- Is it optimal?
  - Yes (if the cost is equal per step)



- When will BFS outperform DFS?
  - The branch factor is relatively small.
  - The depth of the optimal solution is relatively shallow.
- When will DFS outperform BFS?
  - The tree is deep and the answer is frequent.

- 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. ....
- How many nodes does BFS expand?
  - $O(b^d)$
- How much space does the fringe take?
  - $O(bd)$
- Is it complete?
  - yes!
- Is it optimal?
  - Yes! (if the cost is equal per step)





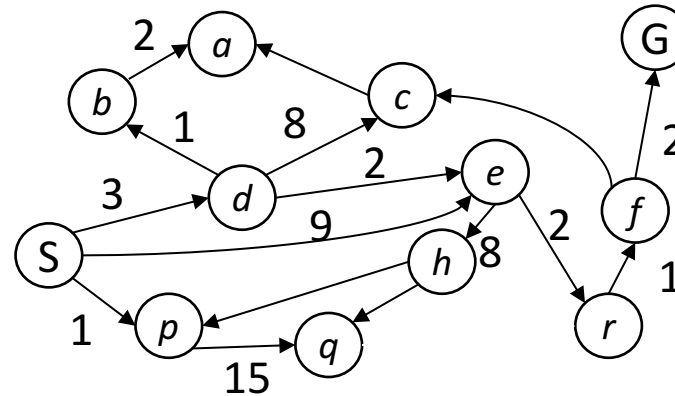
BFS finds the shortest path in terms of number of actions.  
It does not find the least-cost path. We will now cover  
a similar algorithm which does find the least-cost path.

# Uniform Cost Search



Strategy: expand a cheapest node first:

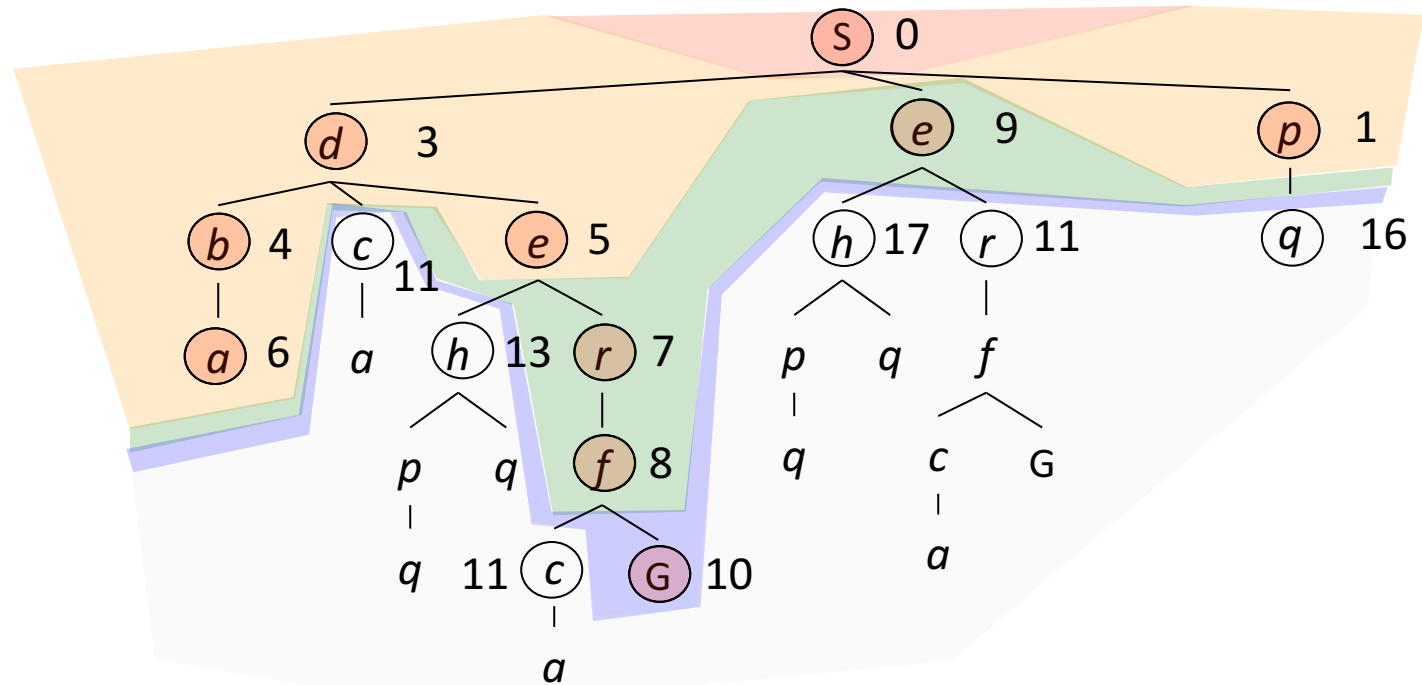
Fringe is a priority queue  
(priority: cumulative cost)



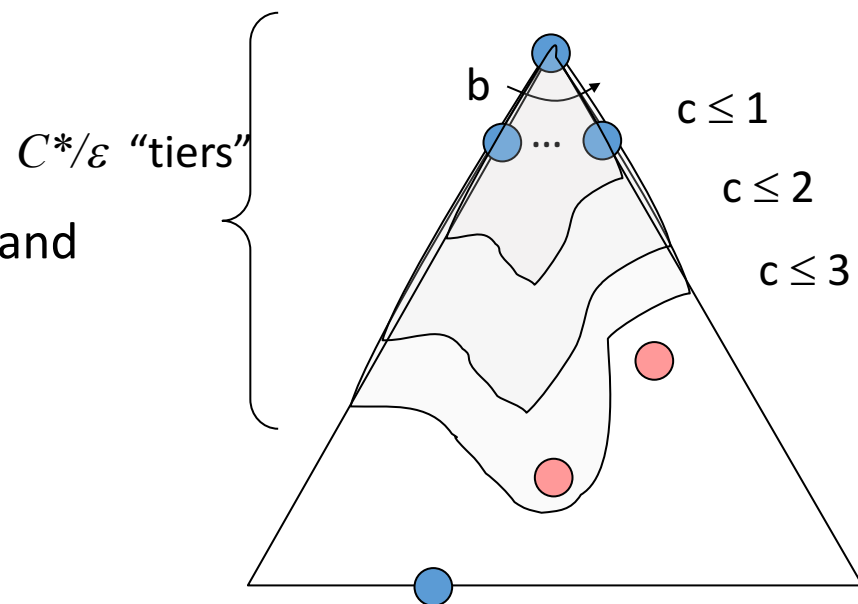
Cost contours

Suppose

$C^* = 10$  and  $\epsilon$   
equals 3

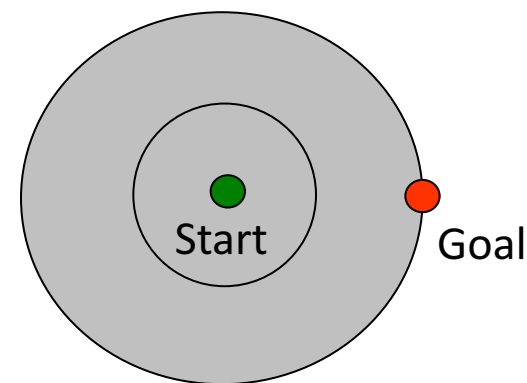
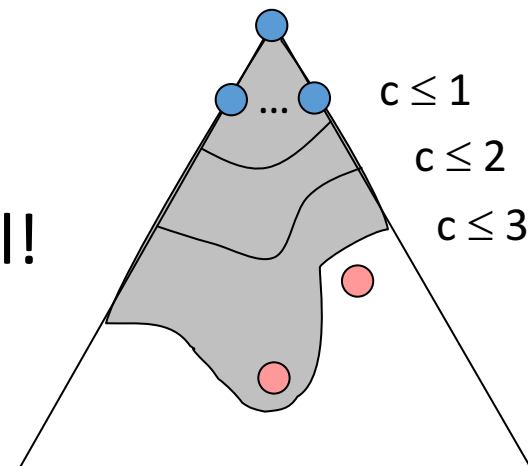


- What nodes does UCS expand?
  - Processes all nodes with cost less than cheapest solution!
  - If that solution costs  $C^*$  and arcs cost at least  $\varepsilon$ , then the “effective depth” is roughly  $C^*/\varepsilon$
  - Takes time  $O(b^{C^*/\varepsilon})$  (exponential in effective depth)
-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





- 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



Algorithm	Complete?	Optimal?	Time?	Space?
DFS	N	N	$O(b^m)$	$O(bm)$
BFS	Y	Y	$O(b^d)$	$O(b^d)$
IDS	Y	Y	$O(b^d)$	$O(bd)$
UCS	Y	Y	$O(b^{C^*/\epsilon})$	$O(b^{C^*/\epsilon})$

For BFS, Suppose the branching factor  $b$  is finite and step costs are identical;

# How bad is BFS?

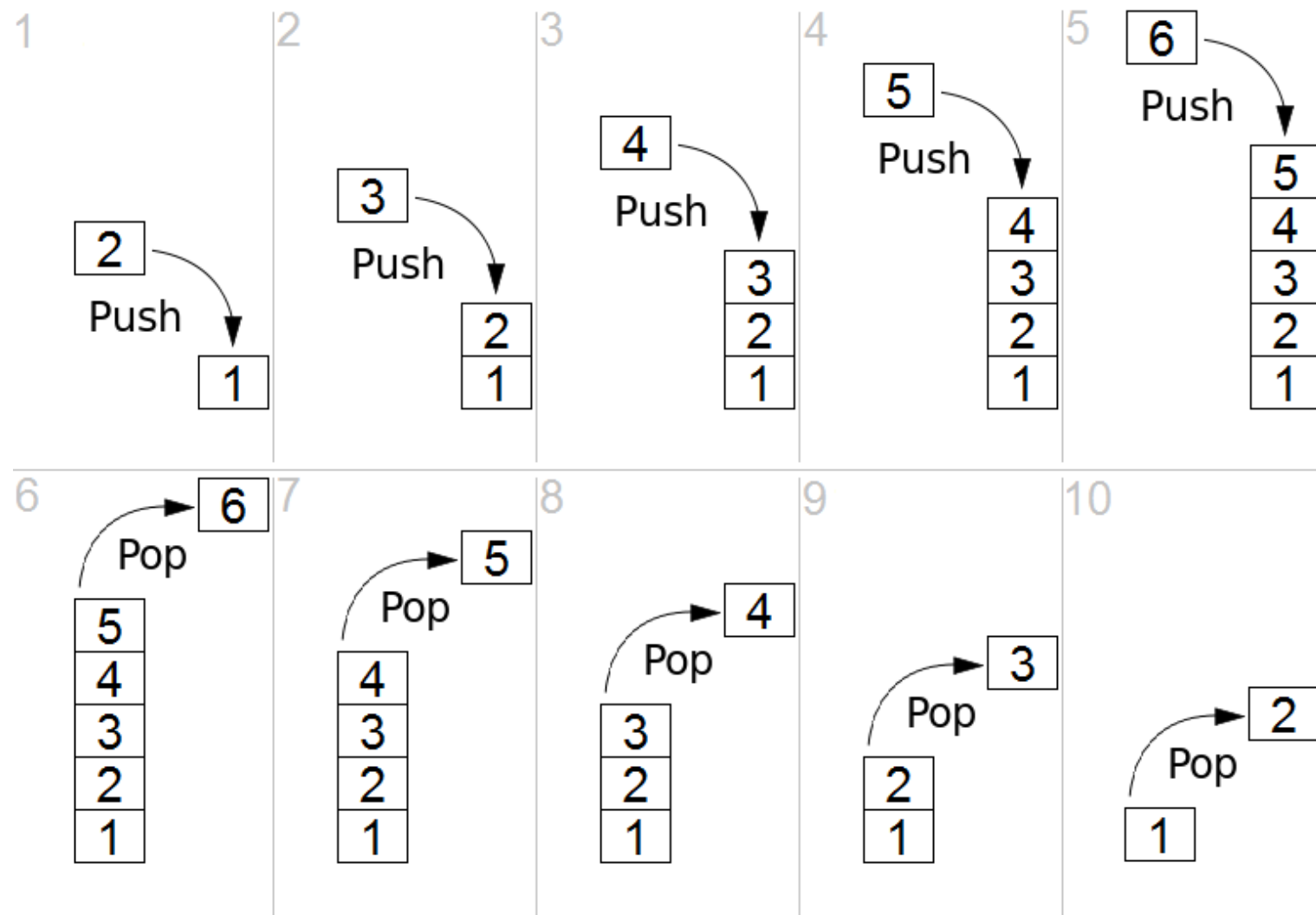


Depth	Nodes	Time	Memory
2	110	.11 milliseconds	107 kilobytes
4	11,110	11 milliseconds	10.6 megabytes
6	$10^6$	1.1 seconds	1 gigabyte
8	$10^8$	2 minutes	103 gigabytes
10	$10^{10}$	3 hours	10 terabytes
12	$10^{12}$	13 days	1 petabyte
14	$10^{14}$	3.5 years	99 petabytes
16	$10^{16}$	350 years	10 exabytes

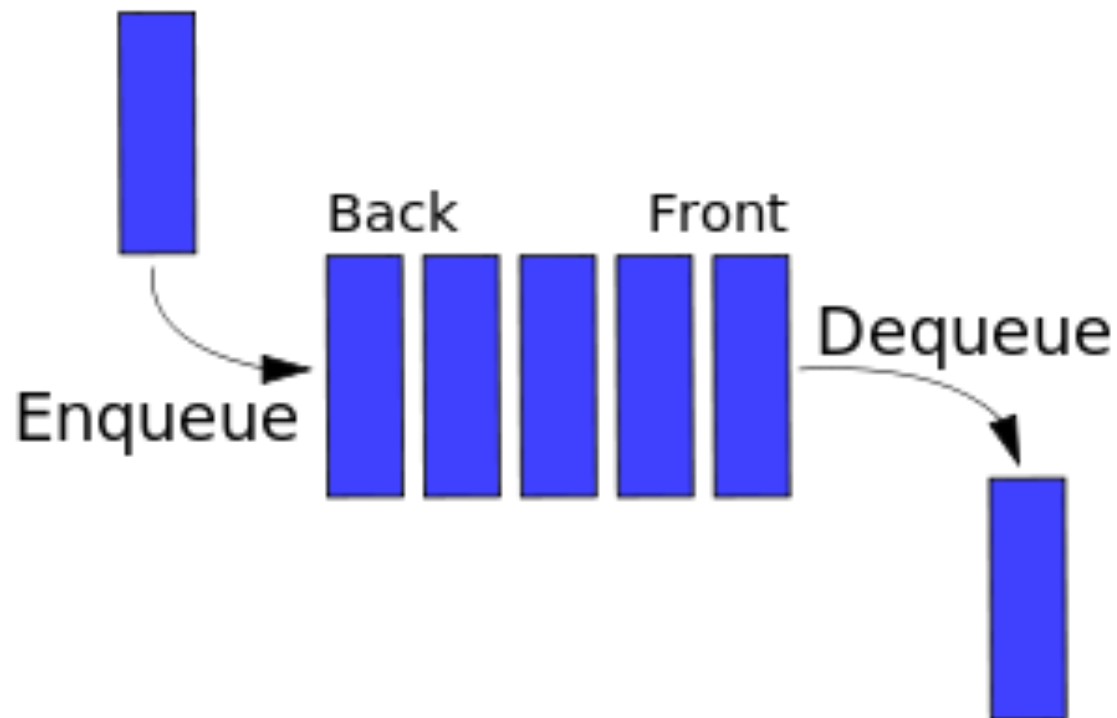
**Figure 3.13** Time and memory requirements for breadth-first search. The numbers shown assume branching factor  $b = 10$ ; 1 million nodes/second; 1000 bytes/node.

- LIFO stack
- FIFO queue
- Priority queue

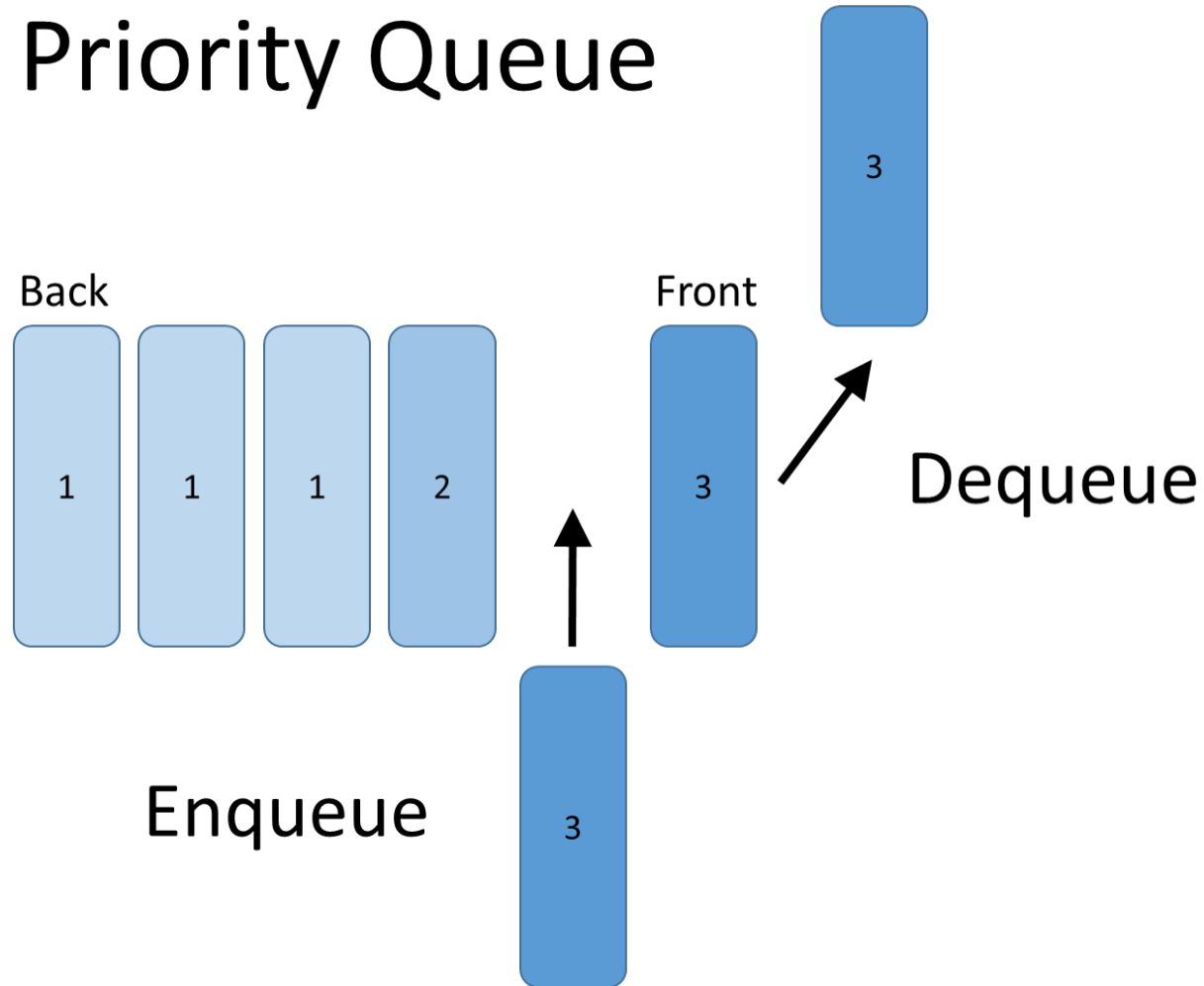
# Last in First out Stack



# FIFO queue



## Priority Queue



- All these search algorithms are the same except for fringe strategies
  - Conceptually, all fringes are priority queues (i.e. collections of nodes with attached priorities)
  - Can even code one implementation that takes a variable queuing object