

Algorithms and Path Planning

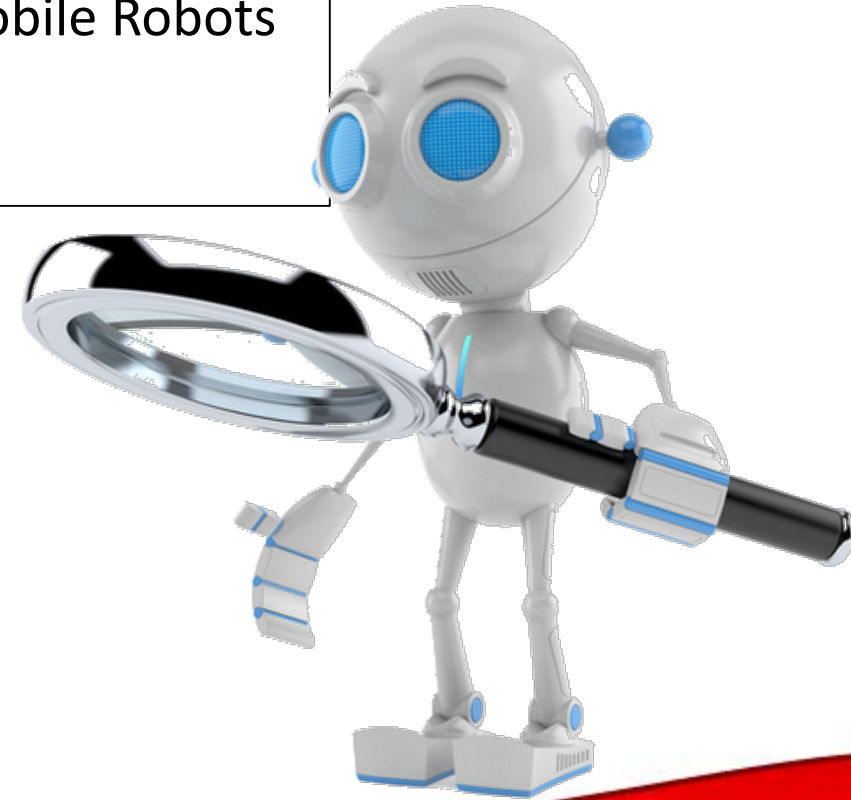
Topics

- Simple Search
- Depth First Search
- Breadth First Search
- Dijkstra's Search
- Greedy Best First Search
- A* Search
- Adversarial Search

Classes of interest

- ECE2400: Computer Systems Programming
- CS4700: Foundations of Artificial Intelligence
- CS4701: Practicum of Artificial Intelligence
- CS3758/MAE4180: Autonomous Mobile Robots
- ECON4020: Game Theory
- ORIE 4350: Game Theory

ECE 3400: Intelligent Physical Systems



Coverage

The full mazes will be 9 x 9 squares. The robot that maps the most of the maze correctly (wrt to walls and gaps) in a given round will receive 15 points. All other robots will receive scaled values thereof.

Treasures

- For every treasure which is located correctly: 1 point
- For every treasure that is located and color-identified correctly: 1 point
- For every treasure that is located and shape-identified correctly: 1 point
- For every discovery of a treasure that is not there: -1 point
- The minimum score per round is 0 points; the maximum is 20 points.

Can you explore the entire maze?

- 15s avg. for 6 squares
- 3.4min for 81 squares
- Unlikely, but possible.

Is there a reason to stop exploring?

Penalties

If your robot crashes into another robot you will receive -5 points per event (with the lowest score per round being 0 points).

Grading – last two milestones

Milestone 3 will be graded as follows:

- 8 points: Robot capable of maze exploration using DFS, BFS, Dijkstra, or A* (show that your robot can do different maze configurations, we expect at least one of them to be a minimum size of 4x5)
- 2 points: ..if the robot is also able to update the GUI

Milestone 4 will be graded as follows:

- 1 points: Robot which can detect when there are/are not treasures
- 4 points: Robot which can successfully distinguish between red and blue treasures
- 5 points: Robot which can successfully distinguish a square, triangle, and diamond shape

Search and Path Planning

- How do I get to my goal?
- No simple answers...
 - Can you see your goal?
 - Do you have a map?
 - Are obstacles unknown, or dynamic?
 - Does it matter how fast you get there?
 - Does it matter how smooth the path is?
 - How much computing power do you have?
 - How precise is your motion control?



**KEEP
CALM
AND
CALL ME
ENGINEER**

Search and Path Planning

- *What is the simplest possible search?*
 - Random motion (no intelligence)
- Reactive path planning (purely local)
 - Visual homing
 - Wall following, etc...
- Bug-based Algorithms (mostly local)
 - Sense direction and distance to the goal
 - No knowledge of map and obstacles



**KEEP
CALM
AND**



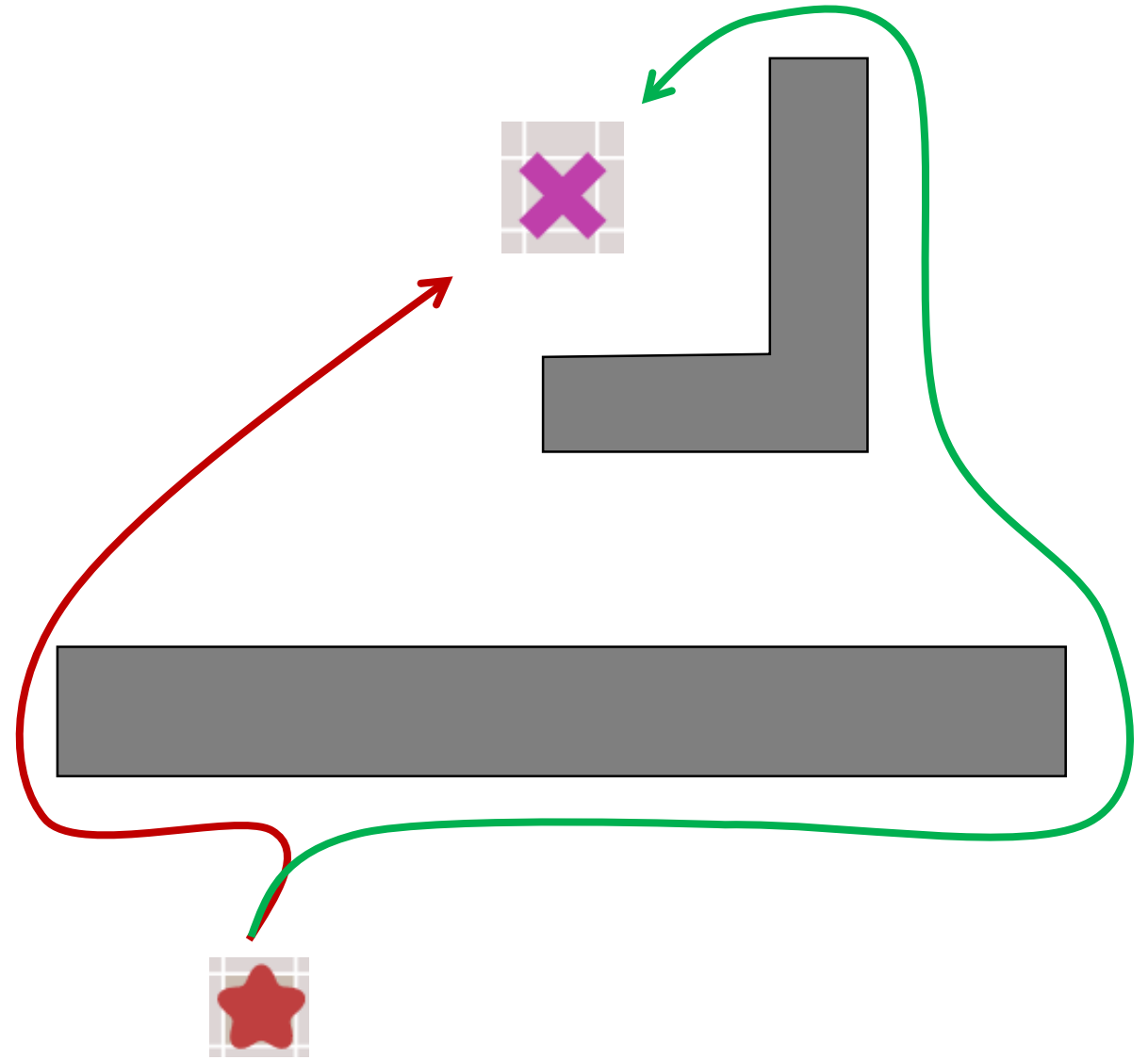
Bug 0

Sensor Assumptions:

- Direction to the goal
- Detect walls

Algorithm:

1. Go towards goal
2. Follow obstacles until you can go towards goal again
3. Loop



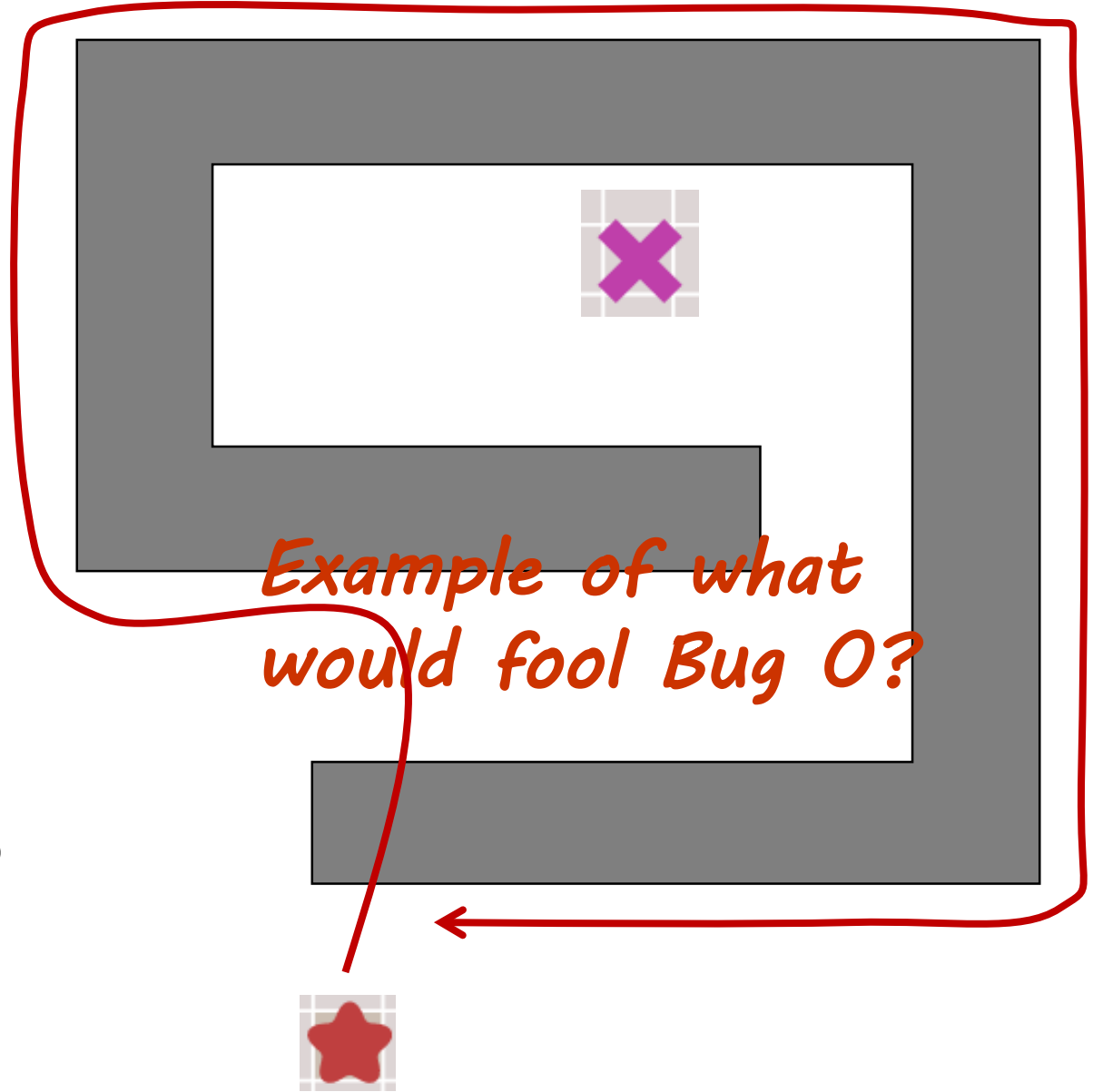
Bug 0

Sensor Assumptions:

- Direction to the goal
- Detect walls

Algorithm:

1. Go towards goal
2. Follow obstacles until you can go towards goal again
3. Loop



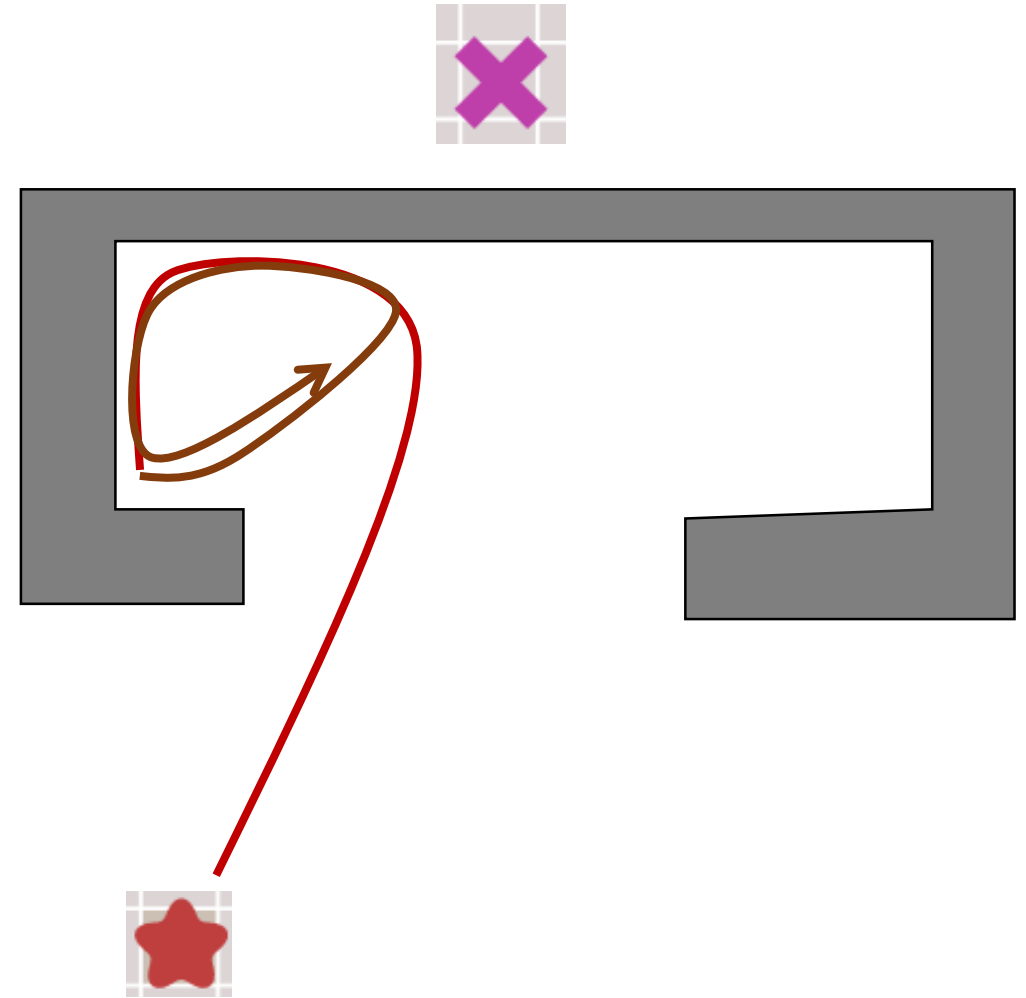
Bug 0

Sensor Assumptions:

- Direction to the goal
- Detect walls

Algorithm:

1. Go towards goal
2. Follow obstacles until you can go towards goal again
3. Loop



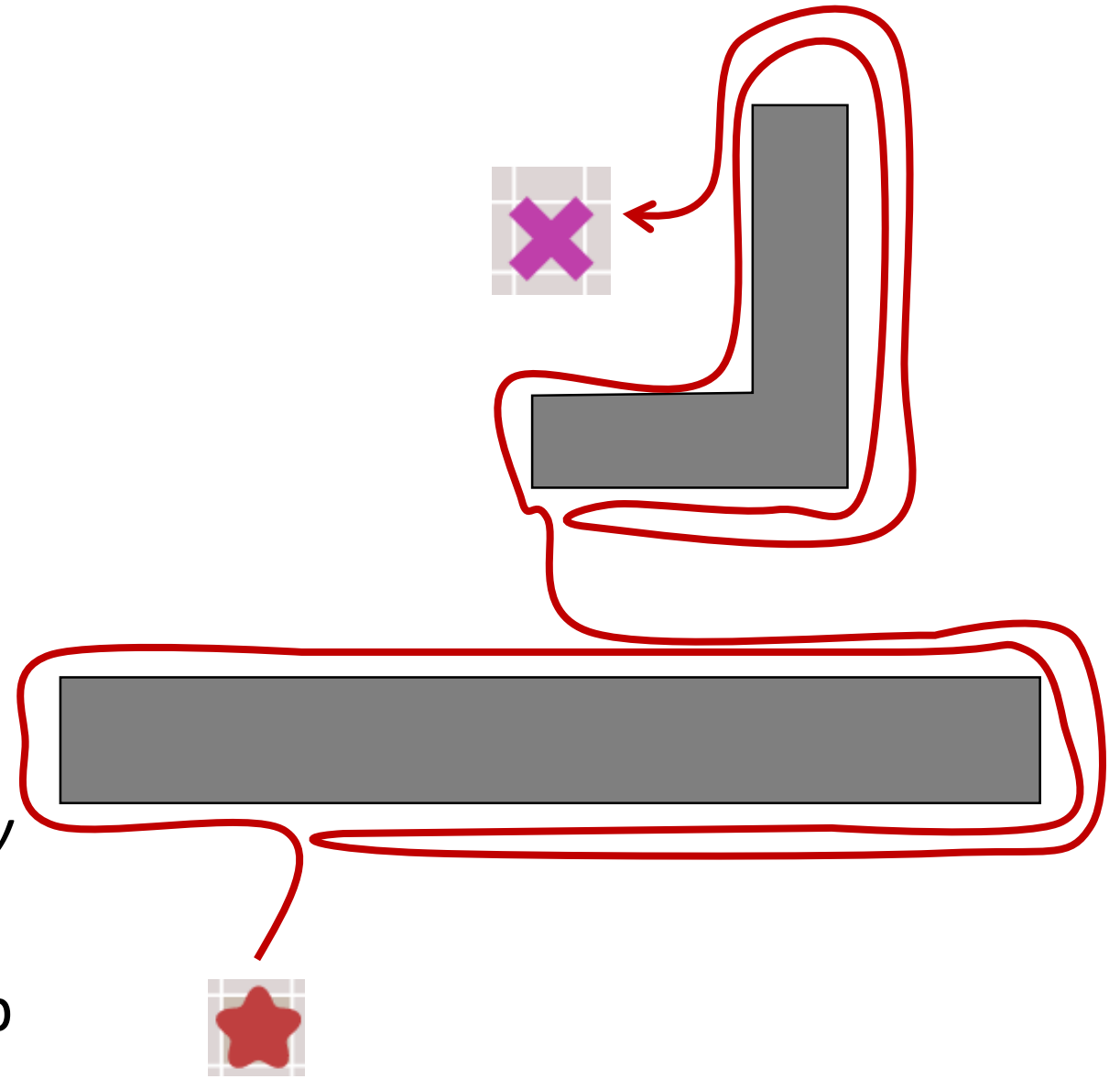
Bug 1

Sensor Assumptions:

- Direction to the goal
- Detect walls
- Odometry

Algorithm:

1. Go towards goal
2. Follow obstacles *and remember how close you got to the goal*
3. Return to the closest point, and loop



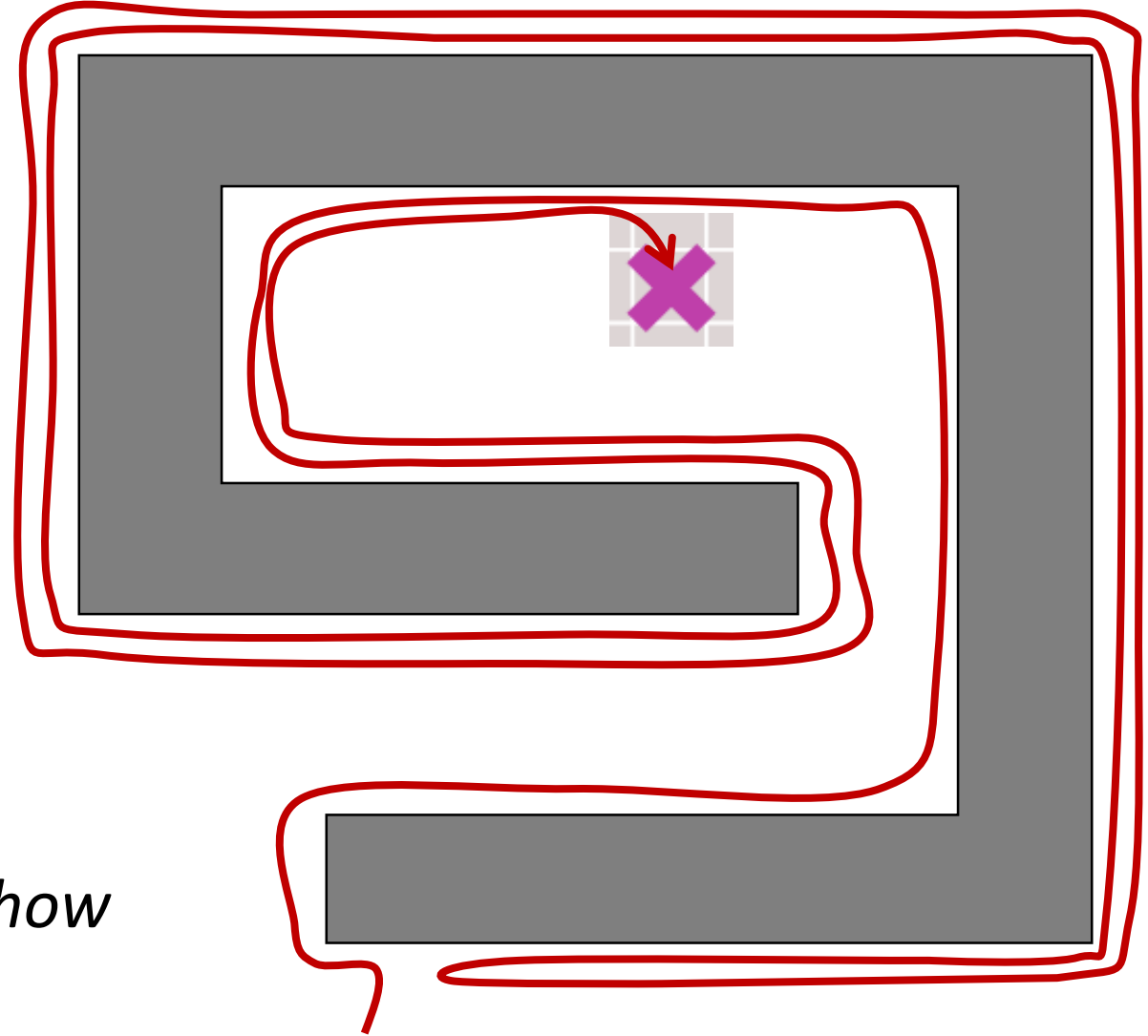
Bug 1

Sensor Assumptions:

- Direction to the goal
- Detect walls
- Odometry

Algorithm:

1. Go towards goal
2. Follow obstacles *and remember how close you got to the goal*
3. Return to the closest point, and loop



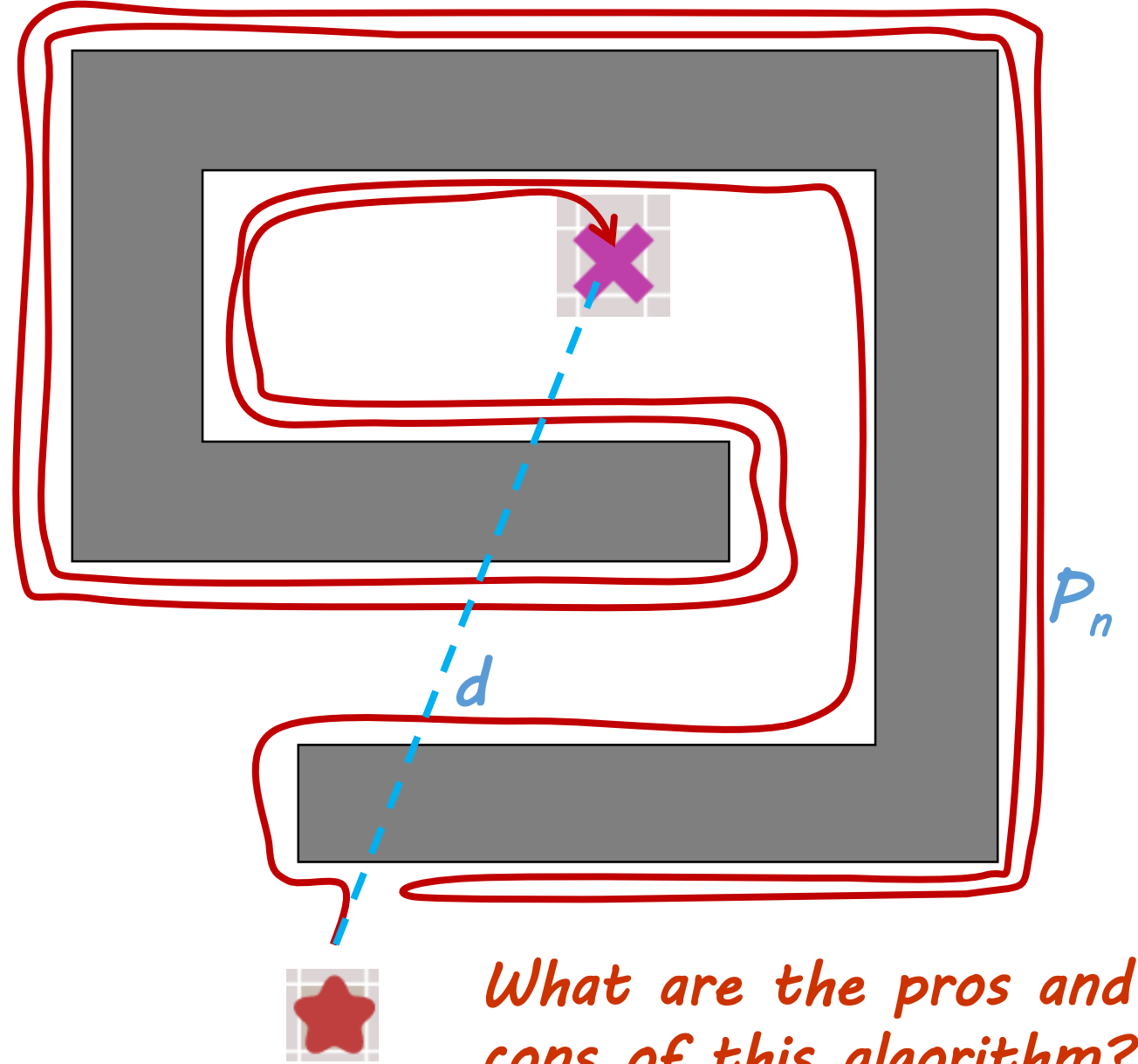
What are the pros and cons of this algorithm?

Bug 1 - formally

Sensor Assumptions:

- Direction to the goal
- Detect walls
- Odometry

- Lower bound traversal?
 - d
- Upper bound traversal?
 - $d + 1.5 \cdot \text{Sum}(P)$



What are the pros and cons of this algorithm?

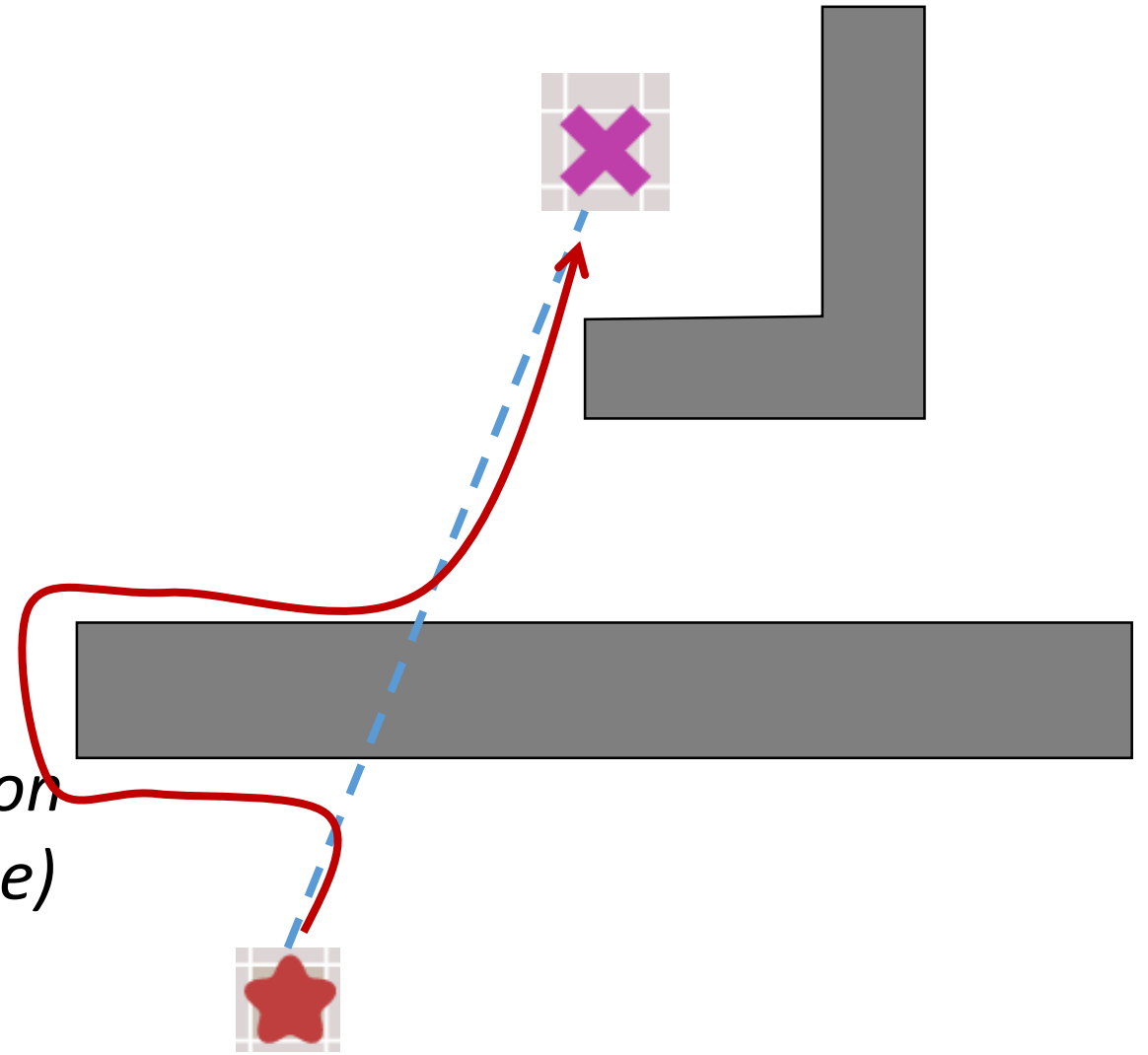
Bug 2

Sensor Assumptions:

- Direction to the goal
- Detect walls
- Odometry
- Original vector to the goal

Algorithm:

1. Go towards goal on the vector
2. Follow obstacles *until you are back on the vector (and closer to the obstacle)*
3. Loop



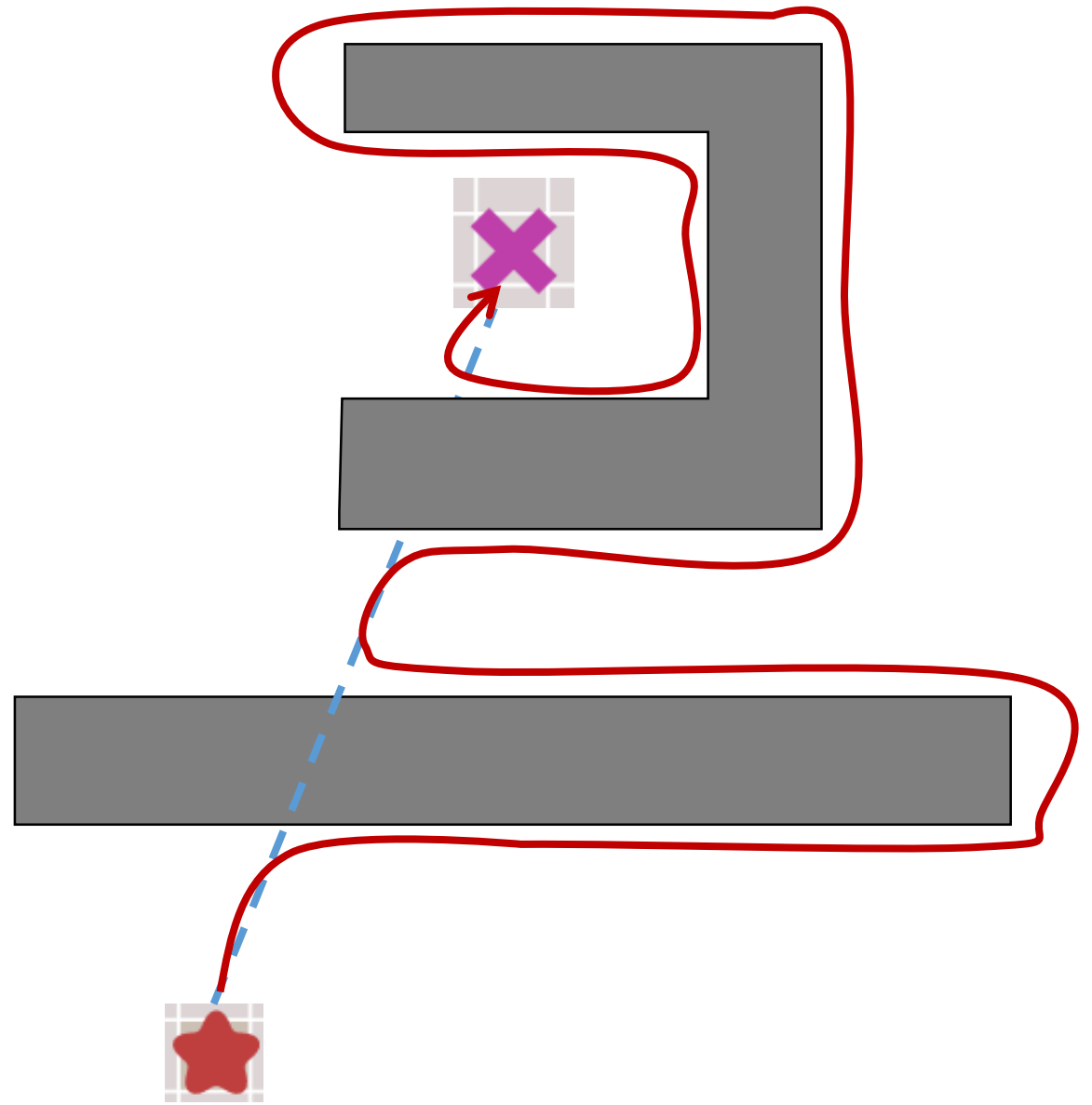
Bug 2

Sensor Assumptions:

- Direction to the goal
- Detect walls
- Odometry
- Original vector to the goal

Algorithm:

1. Go towards goal on the vector
2. Follow obstacles *until you are back on the vector*
3. Loop



Bug 2

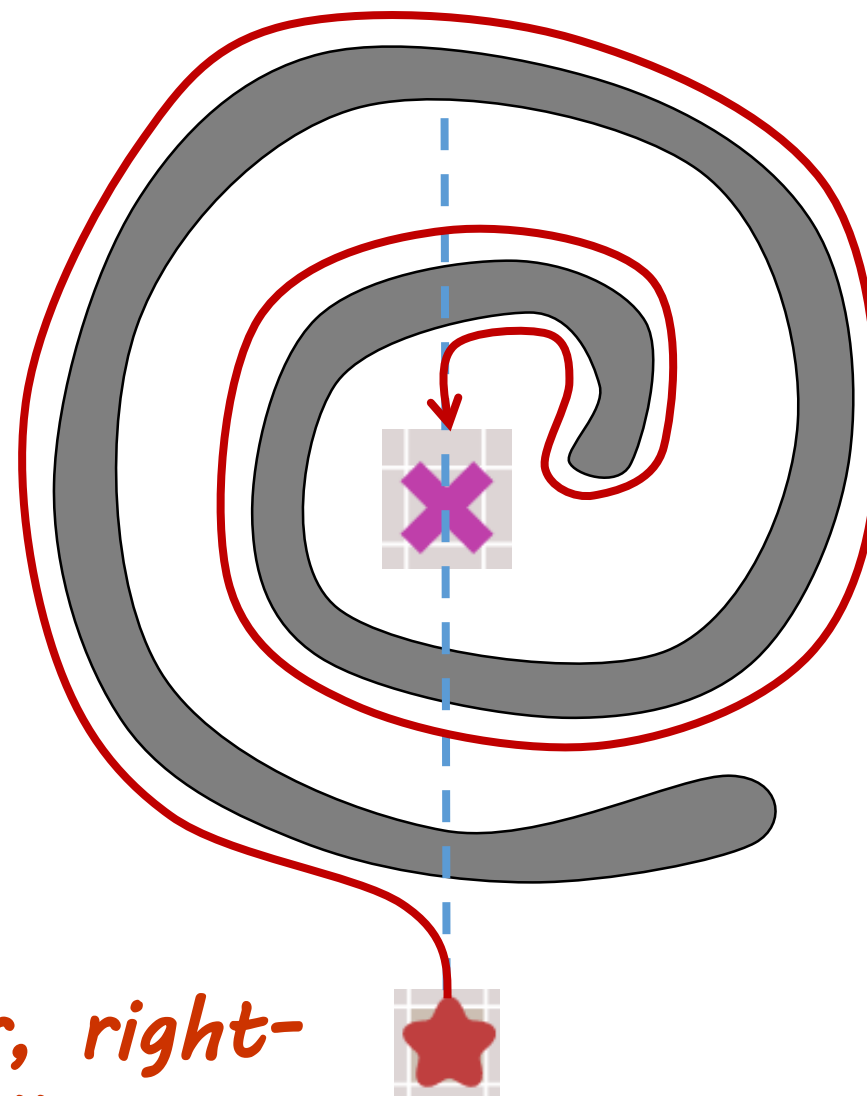
Sensor Assumptions:

- Direction to the goal
- Detect walls
- Odometry
- Original vector to the goal

Algorithm:

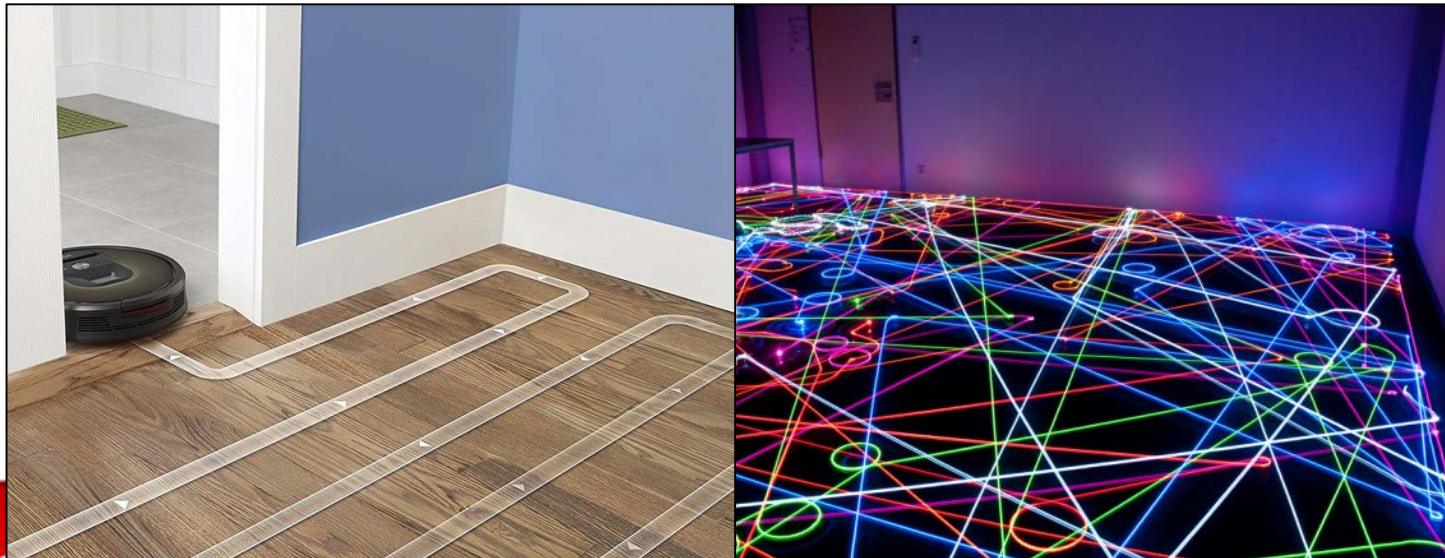
1. Go towards goal on the vector
2. Follow obstacles *until you are back on the vector (and doing something new)*
3. Loop

*What is faster, right-
or left wall following?*



Algorithms and Search

- *What is the simplest thing to do?*
 - Brute force search
 - *How many grid traversals will it take?*
 - First establish a search order
 - Advance x first, then increment y and decrease x, etc.



Find a treasure

		★	12
8	9	10	11
7	6	5	4
S	1	2	3

Algorithms and Search

- *What is the simplest thing to do?*
 - Brute force search
- *Other methods?*
 - Depth First Search (DFS)

Search order: N, E, S, W

Find a treasure

4	5	6	7
3		★	8
2		14	9
1		13	10
S		12	11

Algorithms and Search

- *What is the simplest thing to do?*
 - Brute force search
- *Other methods?*
 - Depth First Search (DFS)
 - Breadth First Search (BFS)

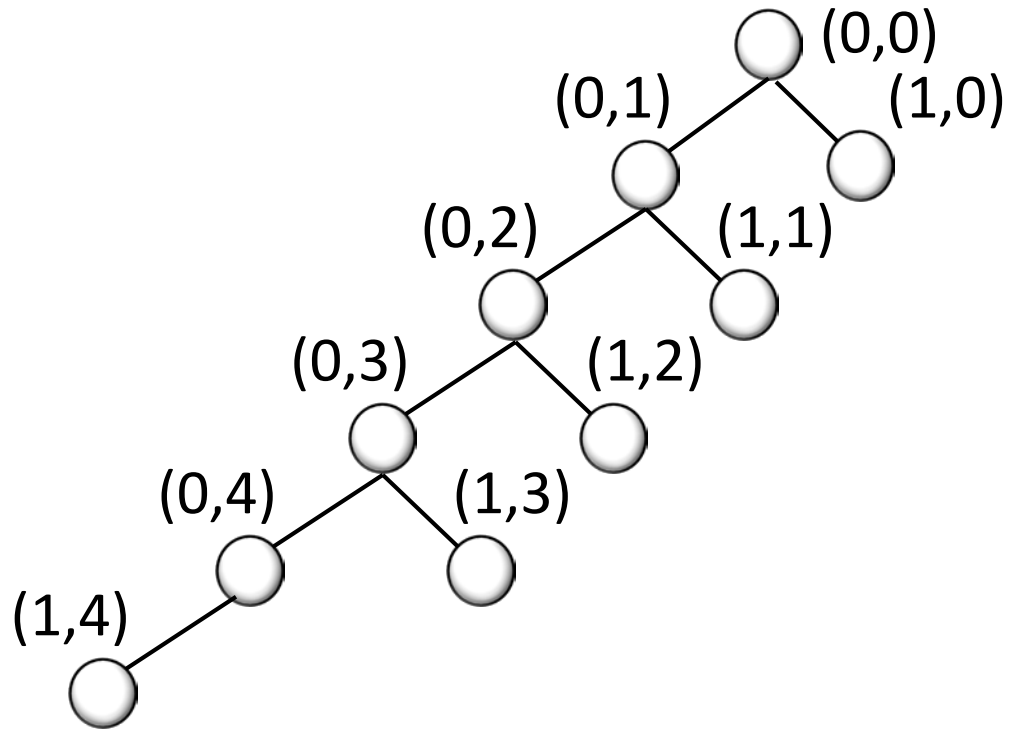
Search order: N, E, S, W

Find a treasure

10	14		
6	11		
3	7	12	
1	4	8	13
S	2	5	9

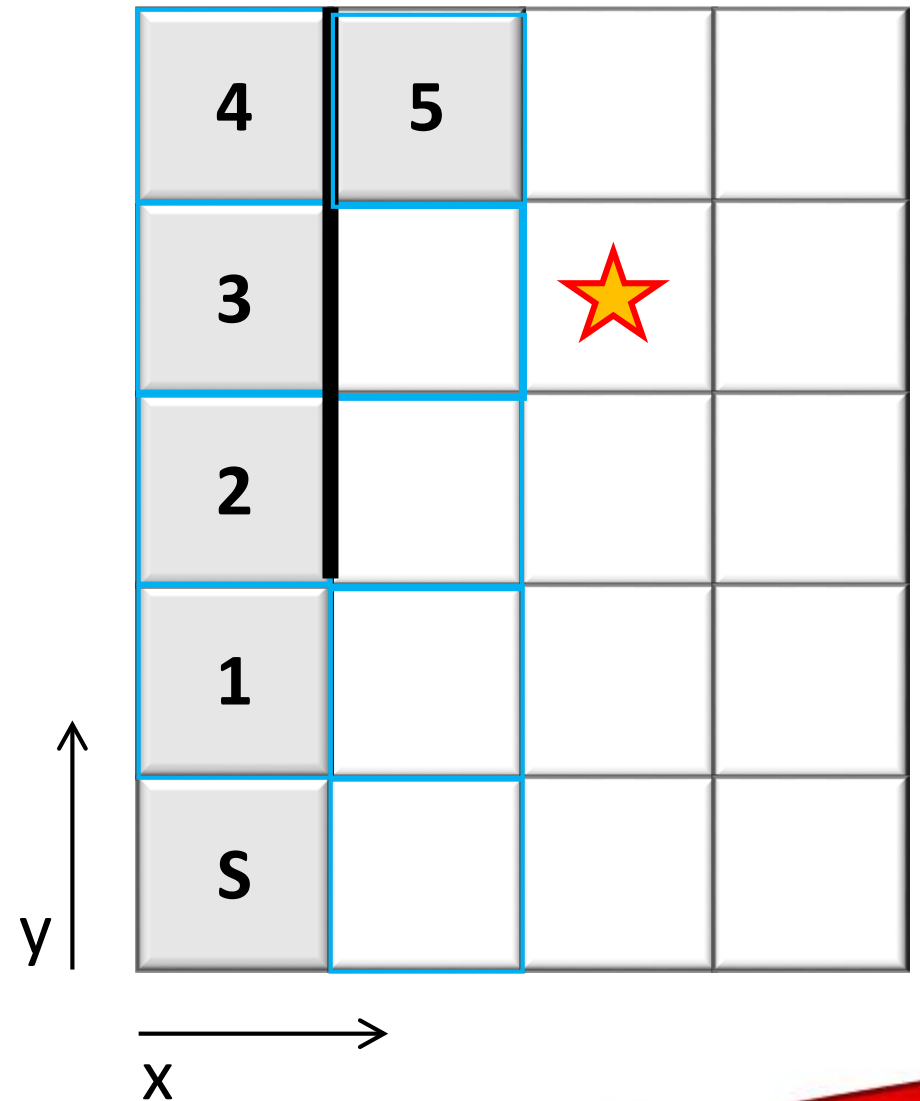
Algorithms and Search

- Depth First Search (DFS)



Search order: N, E, S, W

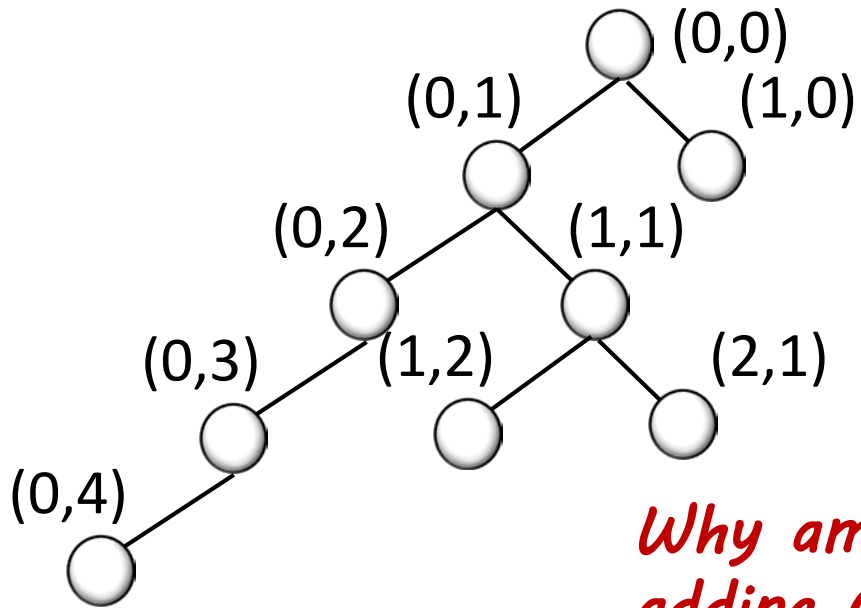
Find a treasure



Algorithms and Search

Search order: N, E, S, W

- Depth First Search (DFS)

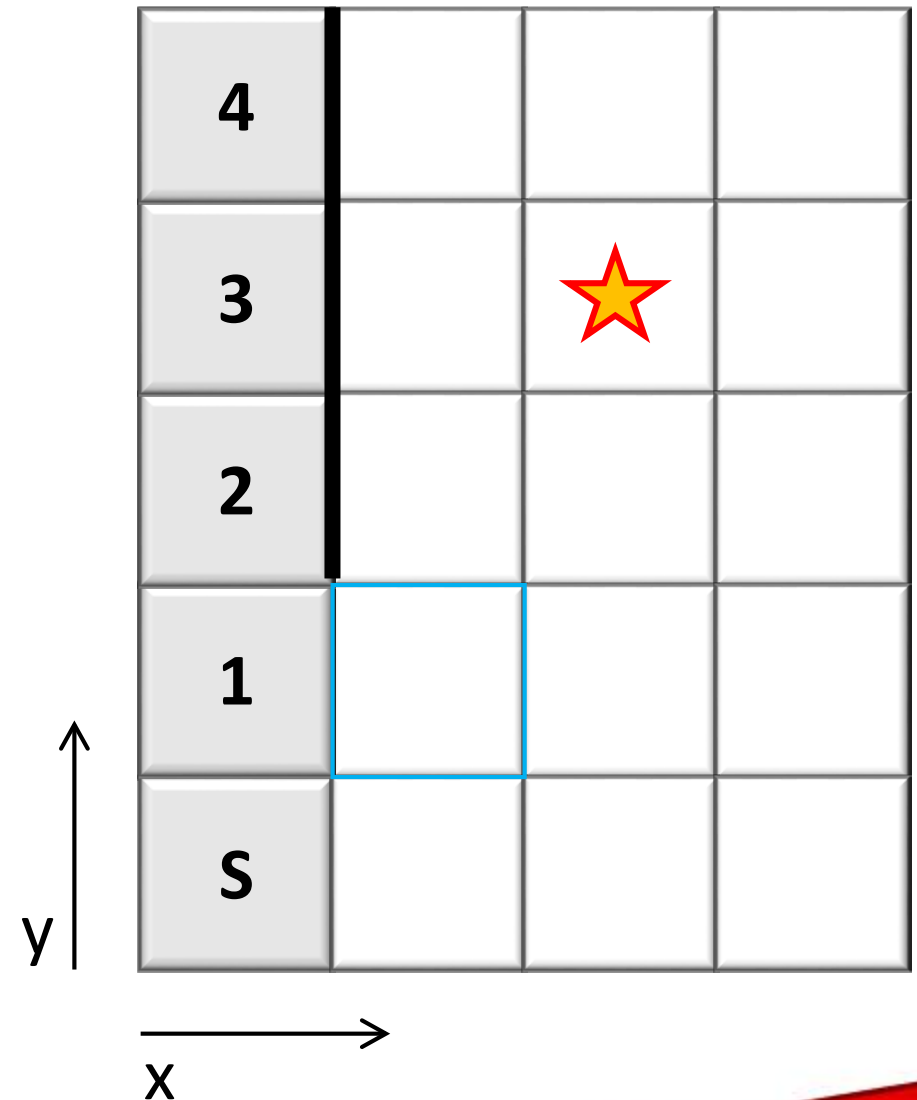


and so on...

Why am I not also adding (1,0)?

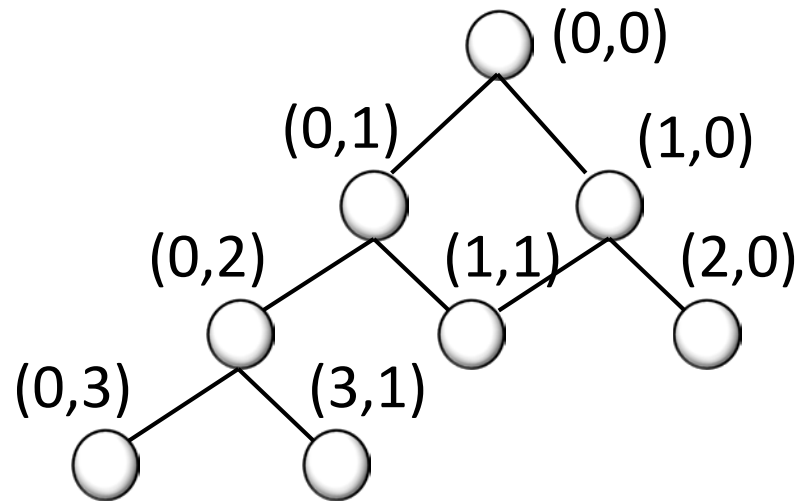
- Keep track of what is already on the frontier

Find a treasure



Algorithms and Search

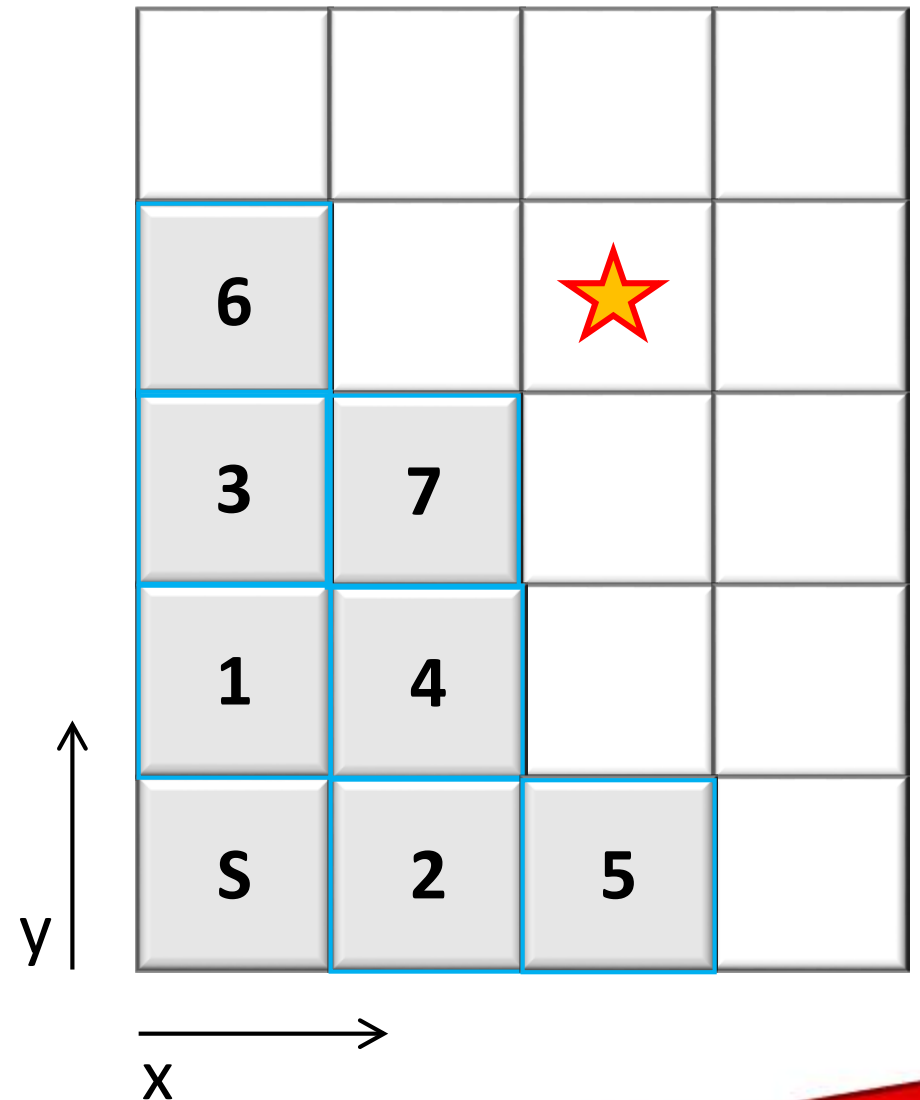
- Depth First Search (DFS)
- Breadth First Search (BFS)



and so on...

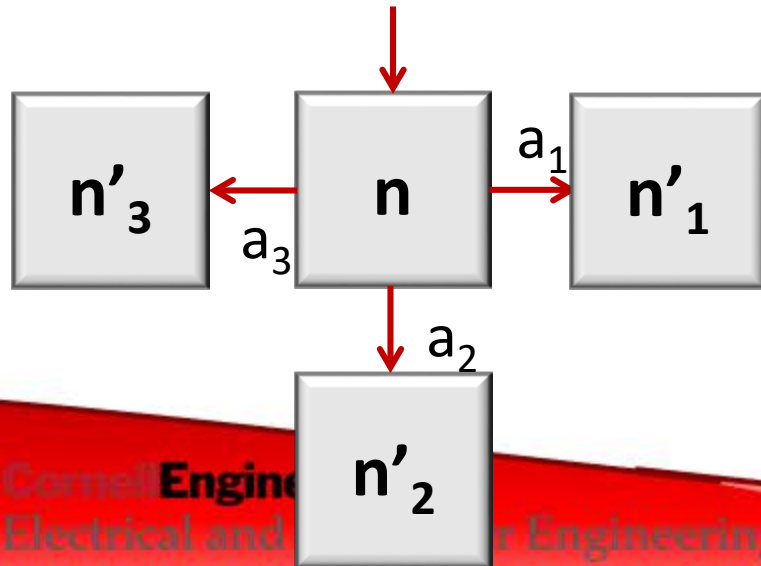
Search order: N, E, S, W

Find a treasure

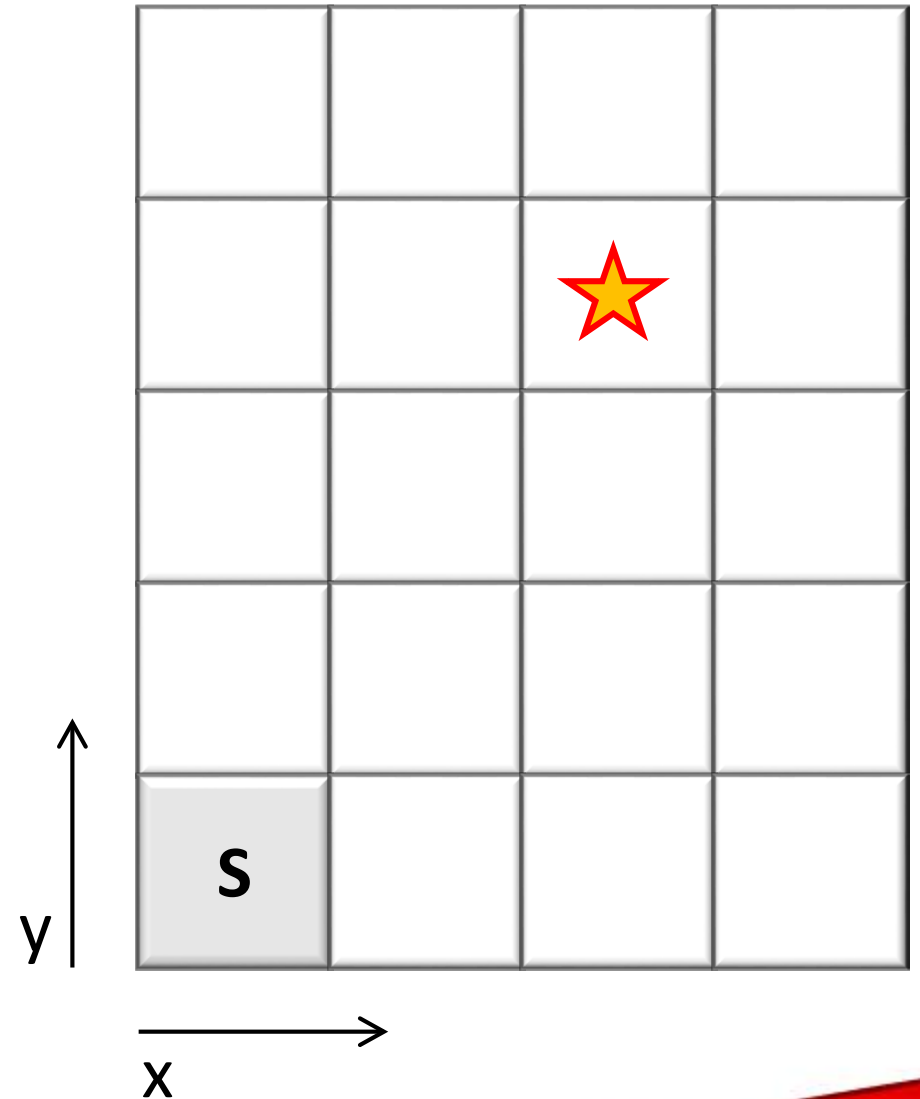


Algorithms and Search

- Depth First Search (DFS)
- Breadth First Search (BFS)
- Common graph structure
 - For every node, n
 - you have a set of actions, a
 - that moves you to a new node, n'

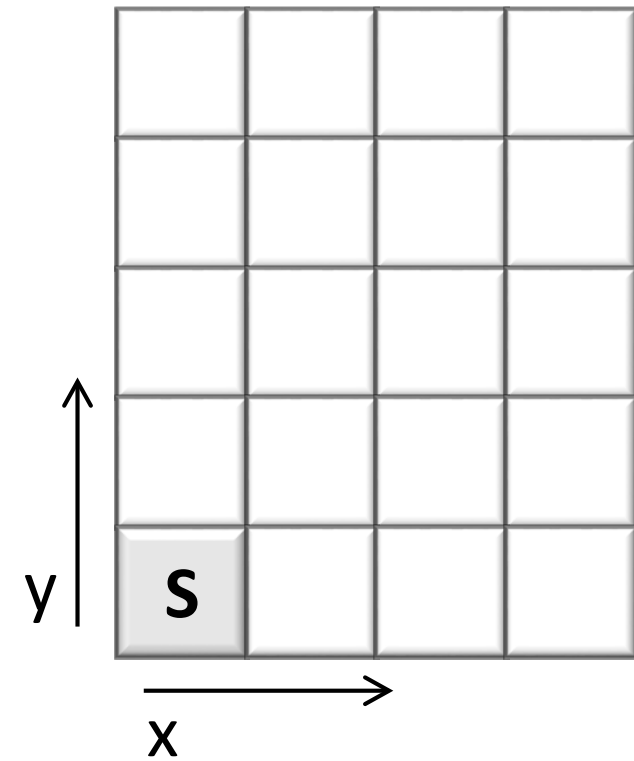
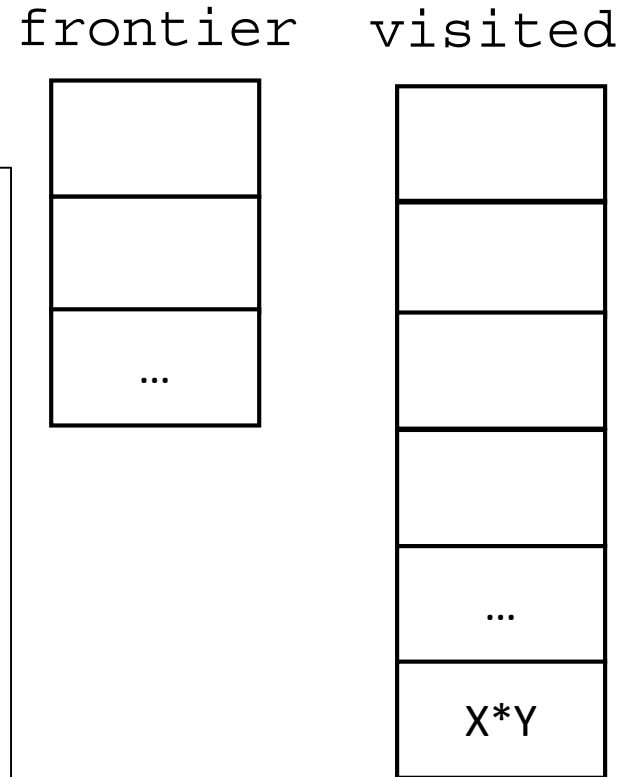


Find a treasure



General Search Algorithm

```
n = state(init)
frontier.append(n)
while(frontier not empty)
  n = pull state from frontier
  append n to visited
  if n = goal, return solution
  for all actions in n
    n' = a(n)
    if n' not visited
      append n' to frontier
```

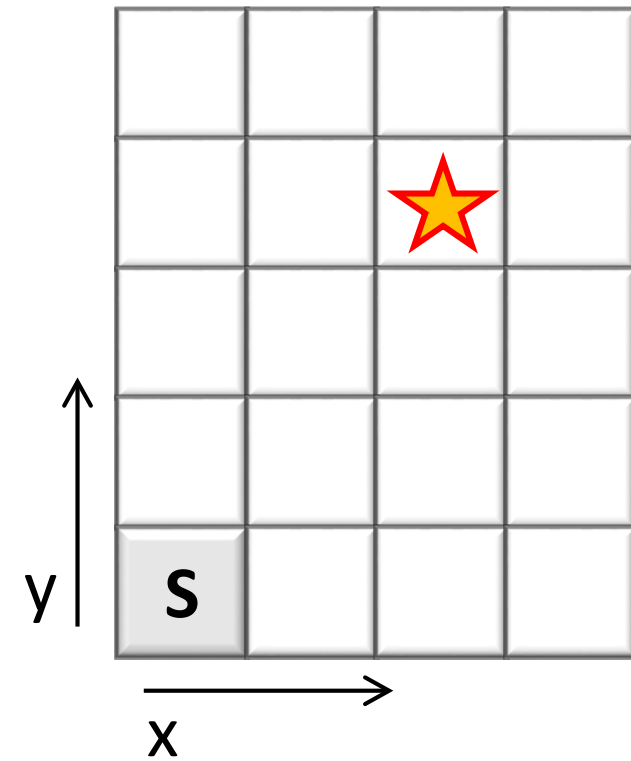
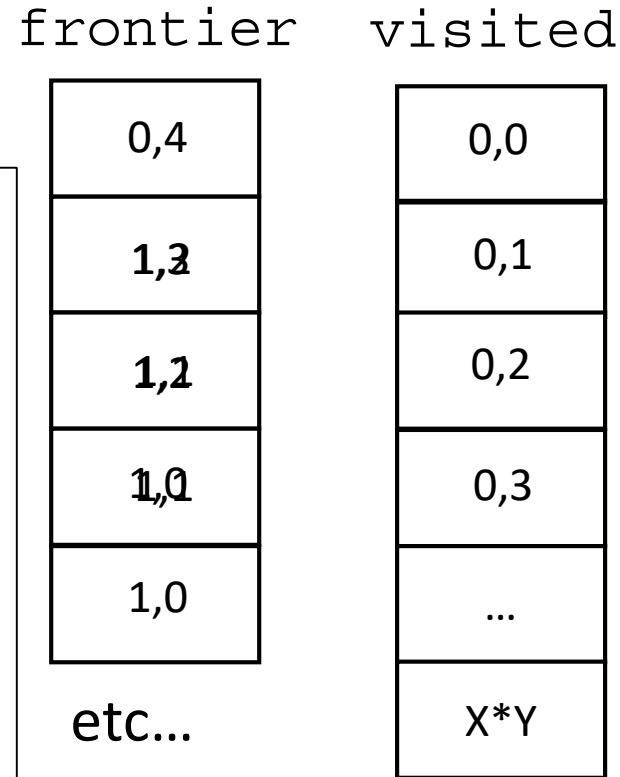


How much space to allocate to visited?

General Search Algorithm

- **Depth First Search (DFS)**

```
n = state(init)
frontier.append(n)
while(frontier not empty)
  n = pull state from frontier
  append n to visited
  if n = goal, return solution
  for all actions in n
    n' = a(n)
    if n' not visited
      append n' to frontier
```

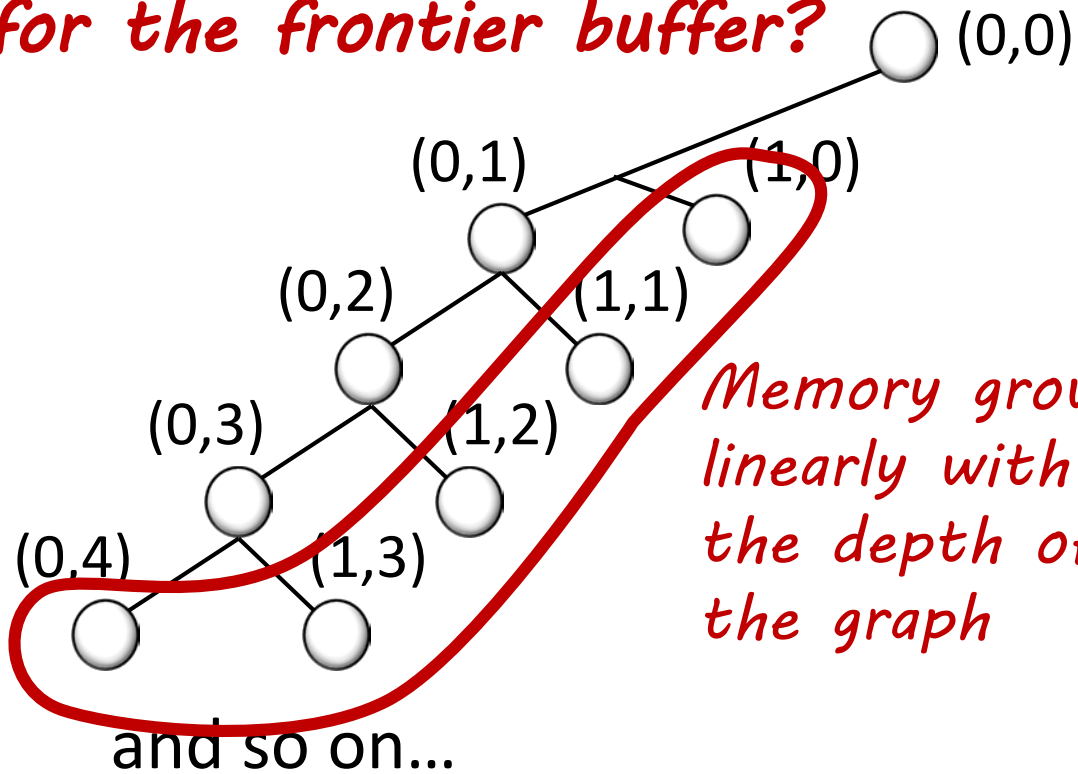


Type of Buffer?
Last-In First-Out (LIFO) Buffer

General Search Algorithm

- Depth First Search (DFS)

How much memory to allocate for the frontier buffer?



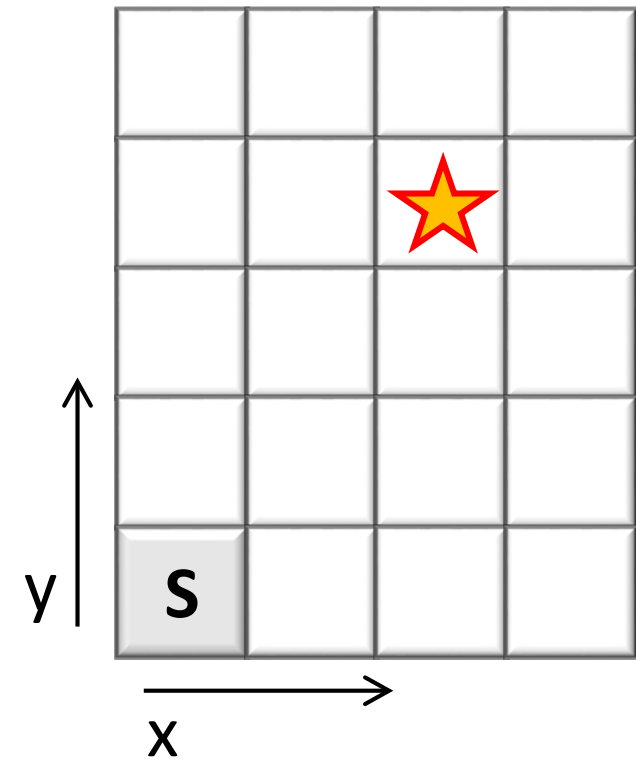
Memory grows linearly with the depth of the graph

frontier

0,4
1,3
1,2
1,1
1,0

visited

0,0
0,1
0,2
0,3
...
X*Y



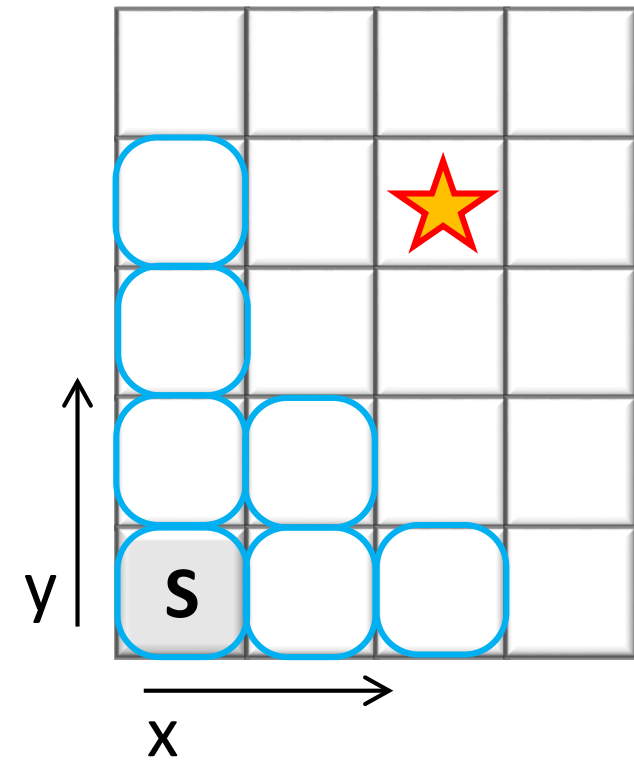
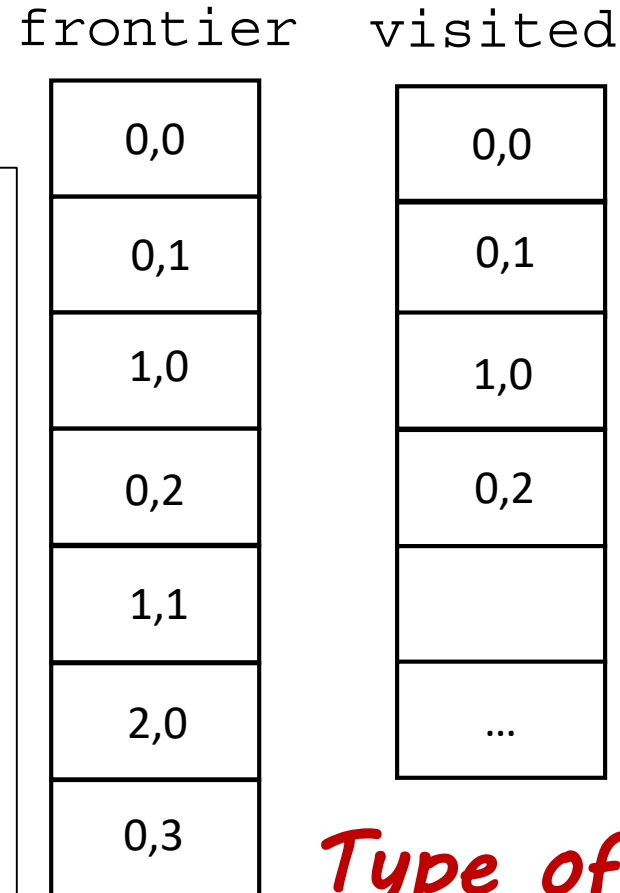
Type of Buffer?

Last-In First-Out (LIFO) Buffer

General Search Algorithm

- Depth First Search (DFS)
- **Breadth First Search (BFS)**

```
n = state(init)
frontier.append(n)
while(frontier not empty)
  n = pull state from frontier
  if n is goal, return solution
  for all actions in n
    n' = a(n)
    if n' not visited
      append n' to visited
      append n' to frontier
```

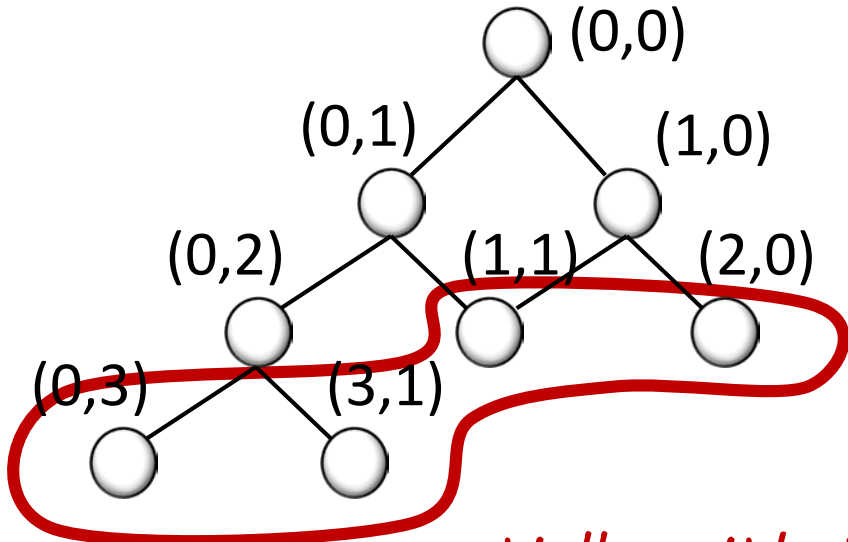


Type of Buffer?
First-In First-Out (FIFO) Buffer

General Search Algorithm

- Depth First Search (DFS)
- **Breadth First Search (BFS)**

How much memory to allocate for the frontier buffer?

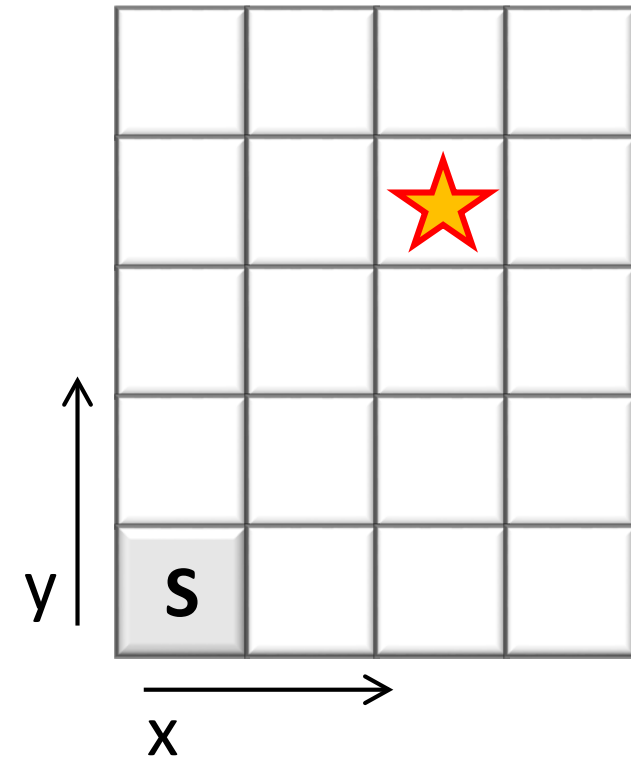


Memory grows exponentially with the depth of the graph

frontier visited

1,1
2,0
0,3

0,0
0,1
1,0
0,2
...



Type of Buffer?

First-In First-Out (FIFO) Buffer

Maze Exploration

- What is the most efficient way to explore a maze with obstacles?
 - Hint: Your robot takes time to move!
 - Double hint: Your robot takes time to turn!

				4	5	6	7	13	14	18	19
				3	16	17	8	6	12	15	17
				2	15	18	9	3	7	11	16
				1	14	19	10	1	4	8	10
S				S	13	12	11	S	2	5	9

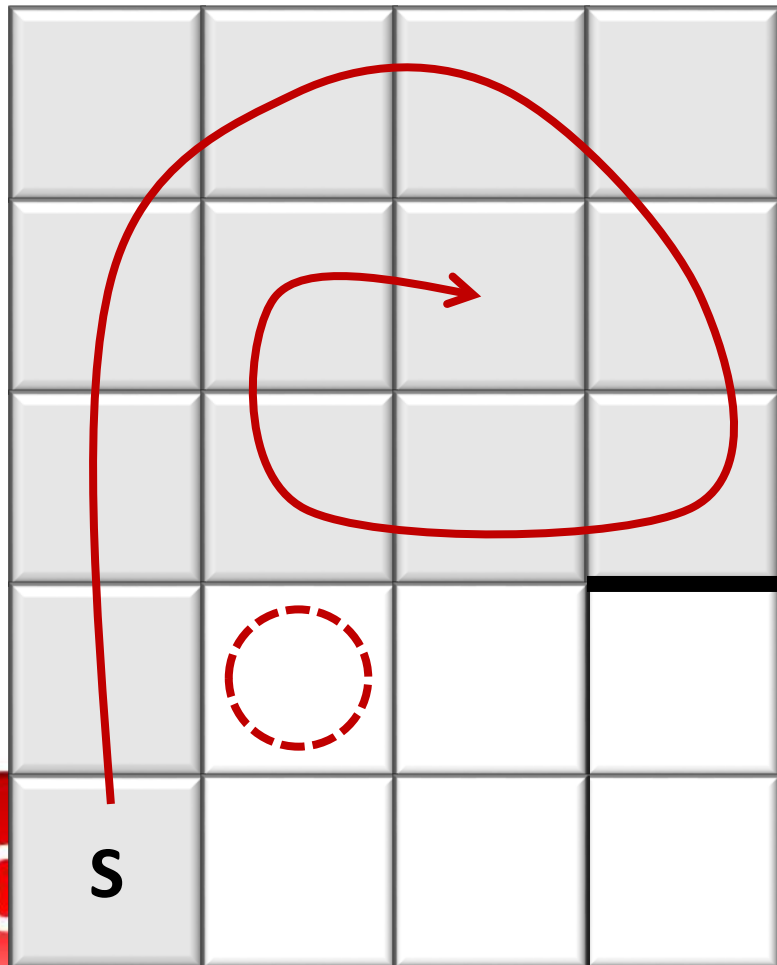
EC

DFS

BFS

Maze Exploration with Depth First Search

- *Can we be done already?*
- *What path is the robot going to take?*
- *What is the next frontier?*



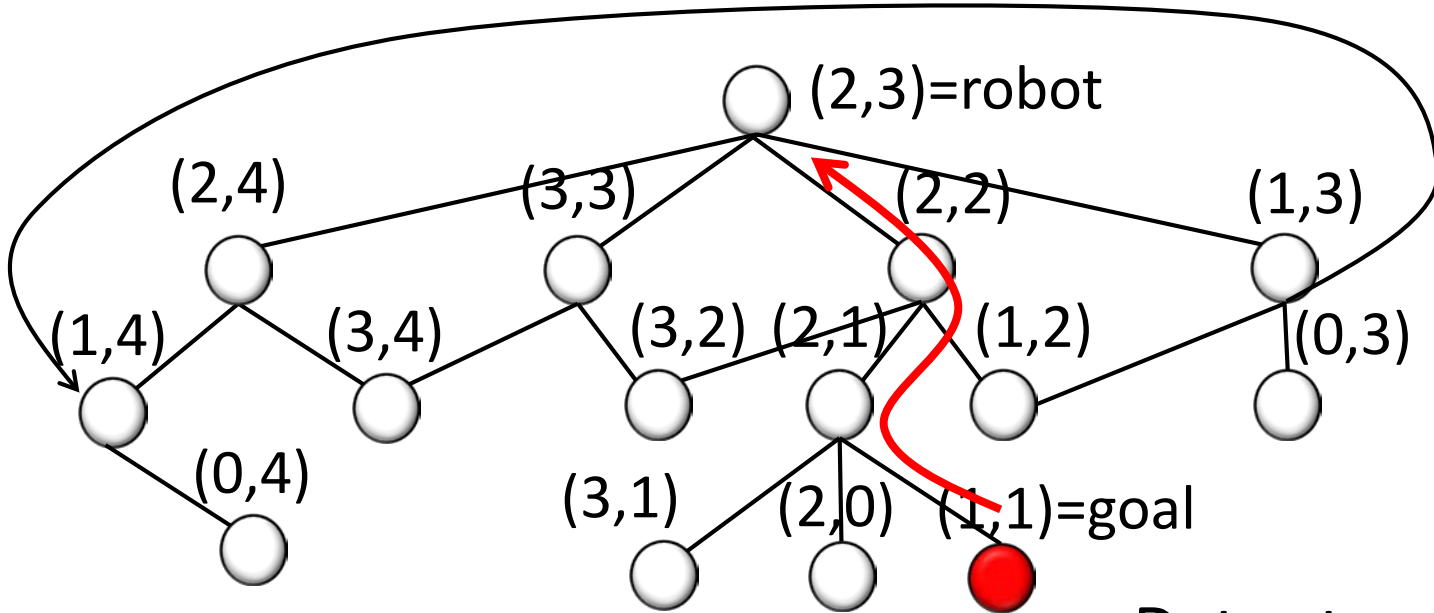
- *How should the robot plan how to get there?*

Procedure:

- Depth First exploration
- Breadth First Search to find the shortest path to the frontier
- (sequence of actions to get to the frontier)

Breadth First Search

Search order: N, E, S, W



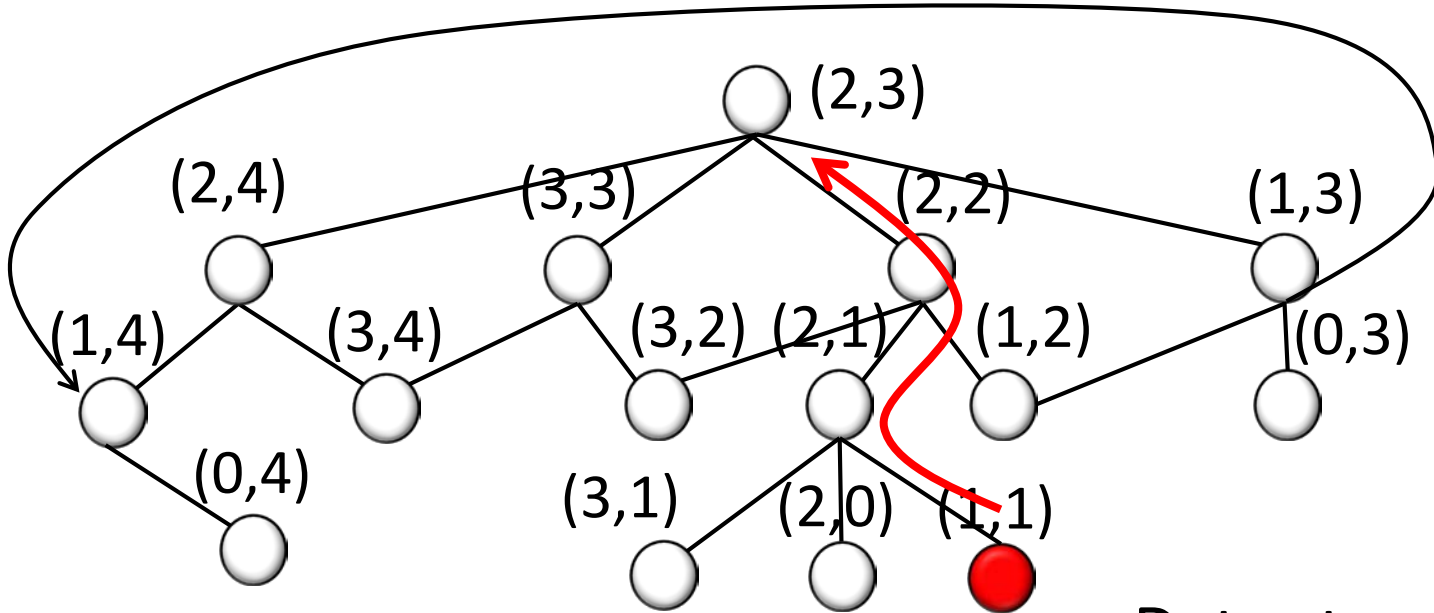
What is the shortest path to the goal?

- Data structure
- n.state
 - n.parent

(0,4)	(1,4)	(2,4)	(3,4)
(0,3)	(1,3)	R	(3,3)
	(1,2)	(2,2)	(3,2)
	G	(2,1)	(3,1)
		(2,0)	

Breadth First Search

Search order: N, E, S, W



Does not include the cost to get there...

- Data structure
- n.state
 - n.parent

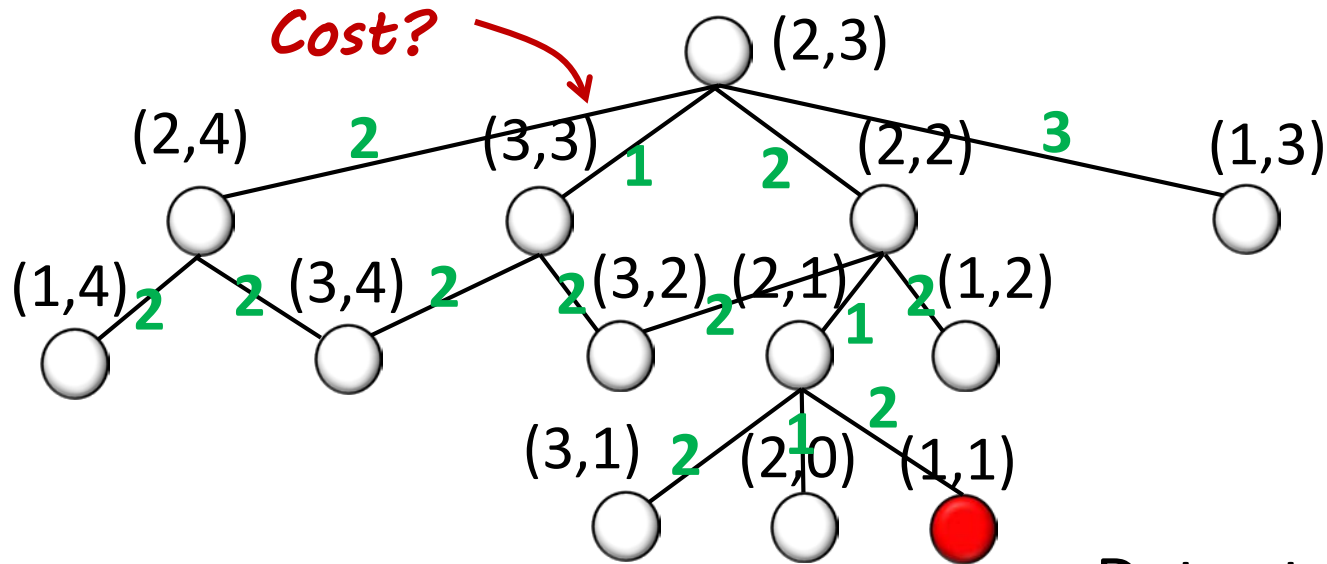
(0,4)	(1,4)	(2,4)	(3,4)
(0,3)	(1,3) — R		(3,3)
	(1,2) —	(2,2)	(3,2)
	G ←	(2,1)	(3,1)
		(2,0)	

The table represents a grid search space. Red arrows show the search path: starting from (1,3) (labeled 'R'), moving down to (1,2), then down to (1,1) (labeled 'G'), and finally left to (0,1). A thick horizontal line is drawn under the cell (3,2).

Breadth First Search and Dijkstra's Algorithm

Search order: N, E, S, W

- Dijkstra's Algorithm: consider parent cost



What node to expand next?

...may save some computation!

Data structure

- n.state
- n.parent
- n.cost
- n.action

What cost heuristic could we add?

- Go straight, cost 1
- Turn quadrant, cost 1

	(1,4)	(2,4)	(3,4)
	(1,3)	R →	(3,3)
	(1,2)	(2,2)	(3,2)
	G ←	(2,1)	(3,1)
		(2,0)	

Go Build Robots!



Class website: <https://cei-lab.github.io/ece3400/>

Piazza: <https://piazza.com/cornell/fall2017/ece3400/home>