



上海科技大学
ShanghaiTech University

CS283: Robotics Spring 2024: Planning

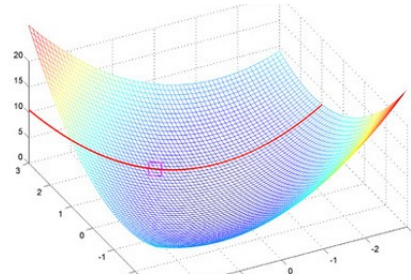
Sören Schwertfeger / 师泽仁

ShanghaiTech University

Path Planning: Overview of Algorithms

1. Optimal Control

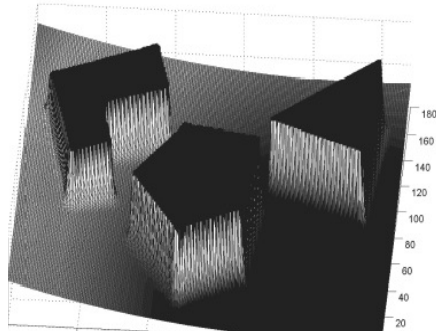
- Solves truly optimal solution
- Becomes intractable for even moderately complex as well as nonconvex problems



Source:
<http://mitocw.udsm.ac.tz>

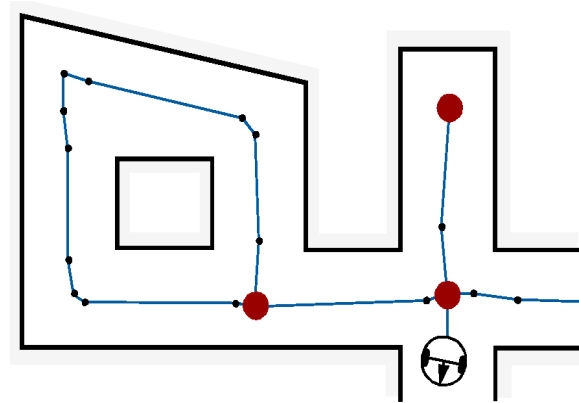
2. Potential Field

- Imposes a mathematical function over the state/configuration space
- Many physical metaphors exist
- Often employed due to its simplicity and similarity to optimal control solutions

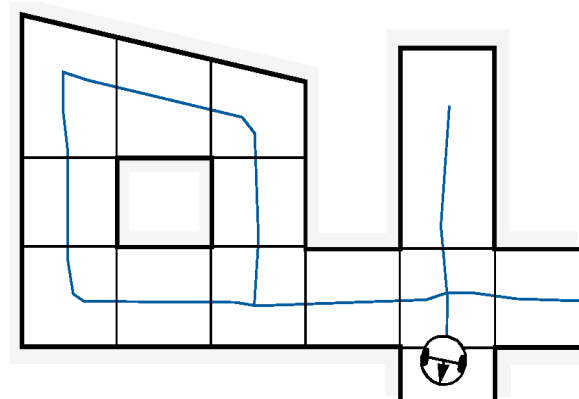


3. Graph Search

- Identify a set edges between nodes within the free space



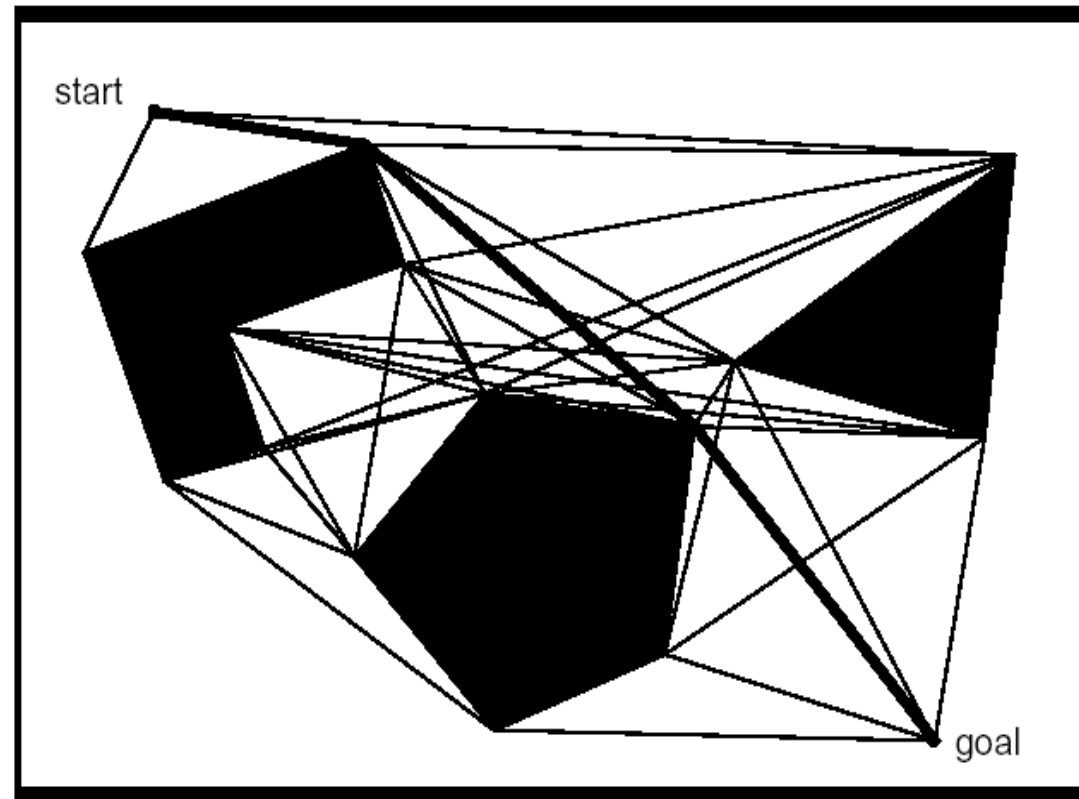
- Where to put the nodes?



Graph Search

- Overview
 - Solves a least cost problem between two states on a (directed) graph
 - Graph structure is a discrete representation
- Limitations
 - State space is discretized → completeness is at stake
 - Feasibility of paths is often not inherently encoded
- Algorithms
 - (Preprocessing steps)
 - Breath first
 - Depth first
 - Dijkstra
 - A* and variants
 - D* and variants

Graph Construction: Visibility Graph



- Particularly suitable for polygon-like obstacles
- Shortest path length
- Grow obstacles to avoid collisions

Graph Construction: Visibility Graph

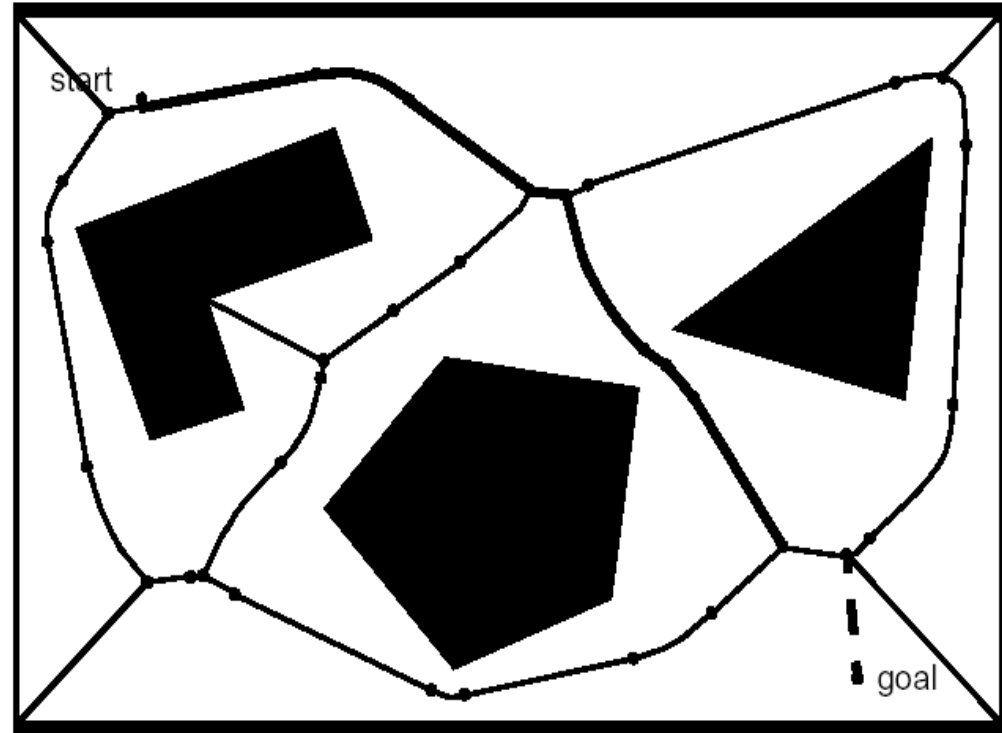
- Pros

- The found path is optimal because it is the shortest length path
- Implementation simple when obstacles are polygons

- Cons

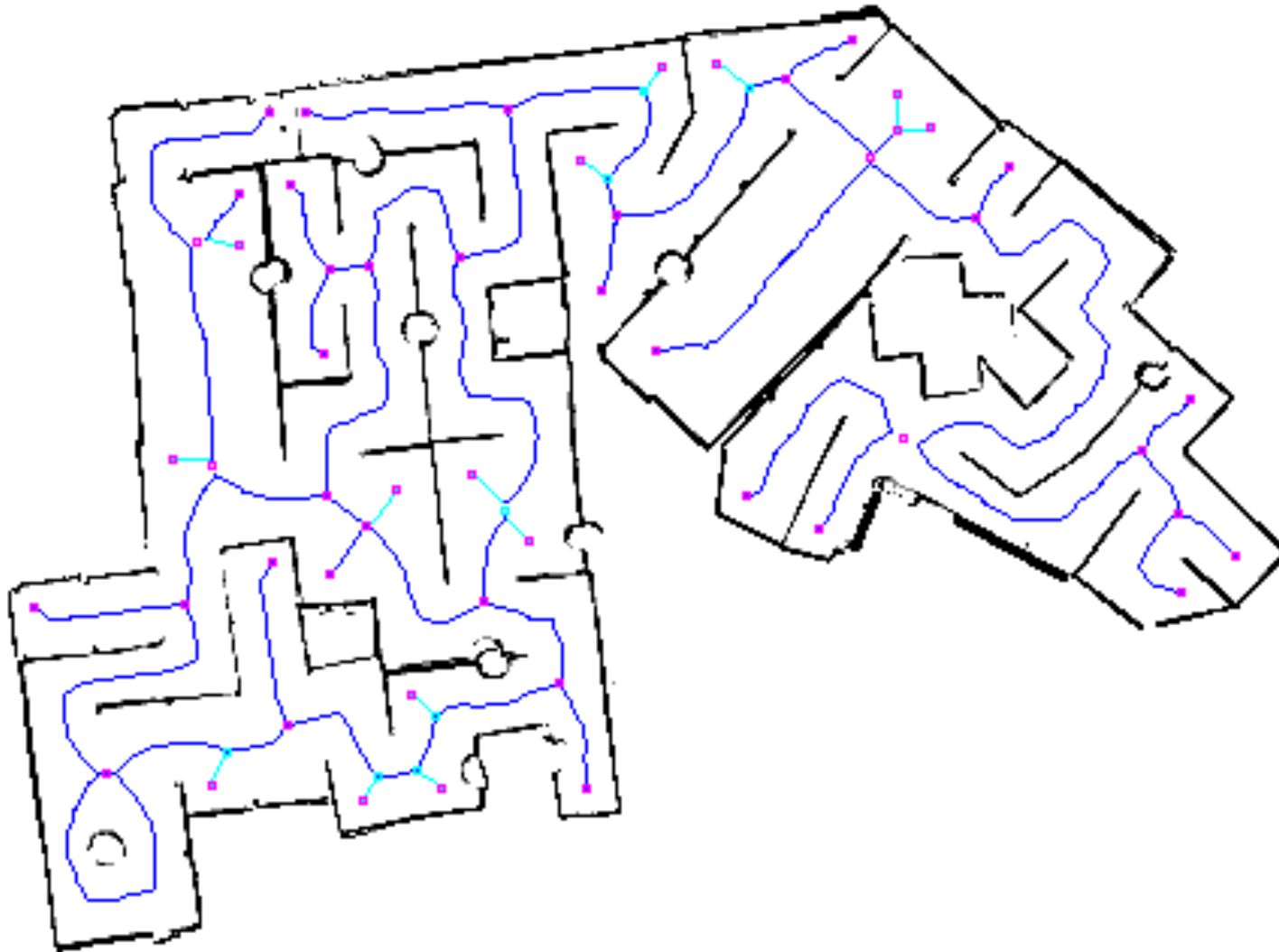
- The solution path found by the visibility graph tend to take the robot as close as possible to the obstacles: the common solution is to grow obstacles by more than robot's radius
- Number of edges and nodes increases with the number of polygons
- Thus it can be inefficient in densely populated environments

Graph Construction: Voronoi Diagram



- Tends to maximize the distance between robot and obstacles

Topology Graph



Graph Construction: Voronoi Diagram

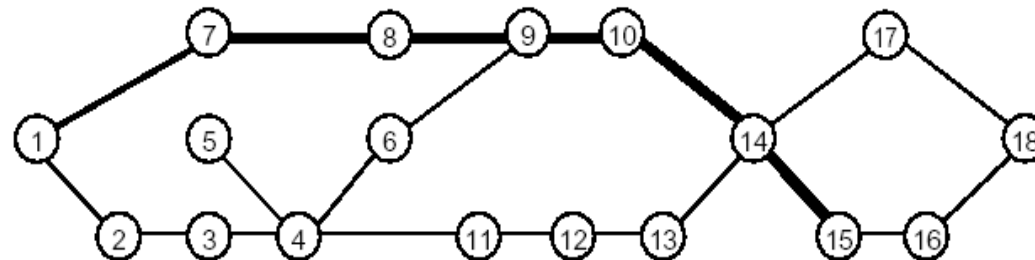
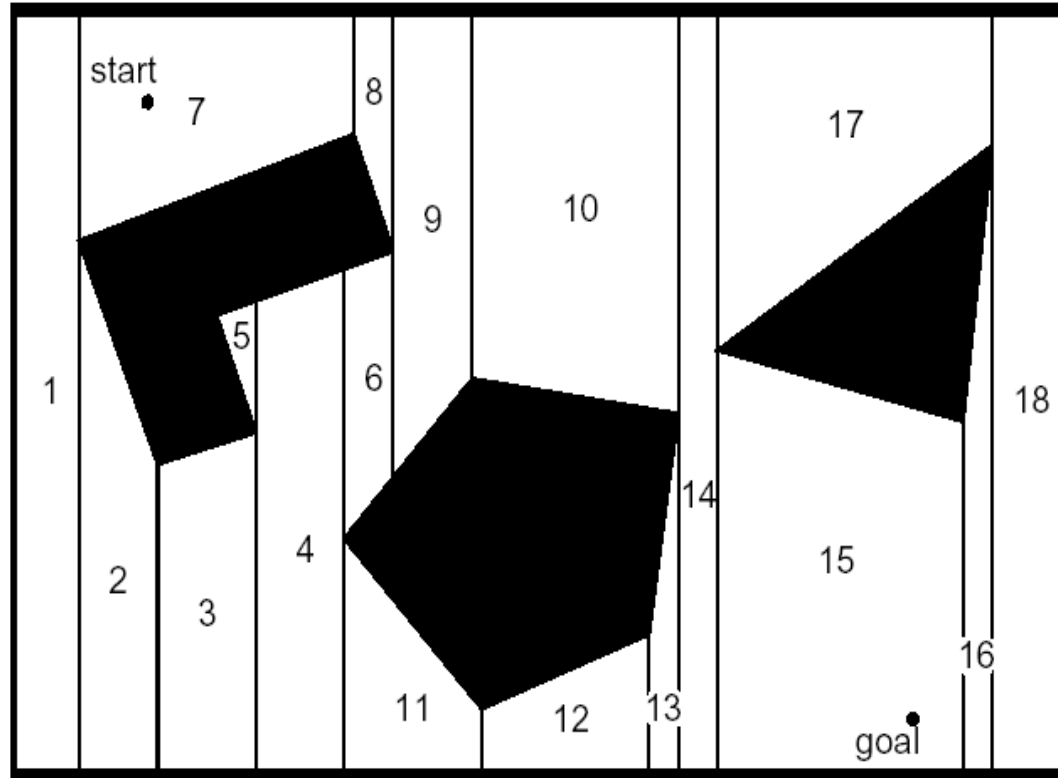
- Pros

- Using range sensors like laser or sonar, a robot can navigate along the Voronoi diagram using simple control rules

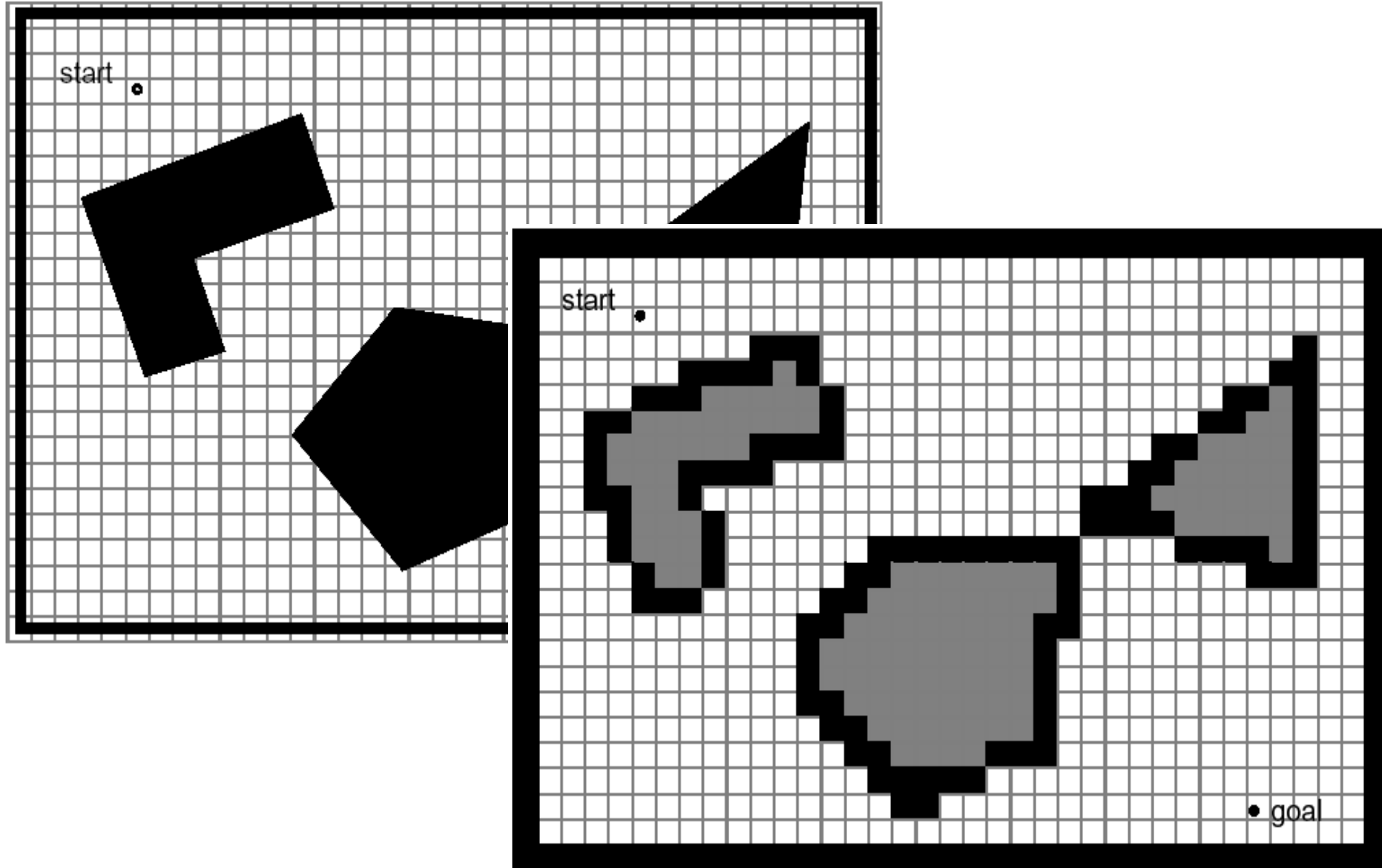
- Cons

- Because the Voronoi diagram tends to keep the robot as far as possible from obstacles, any short range sensor will be in danger of failing
- Voronoi diagram can change drastically in open areas

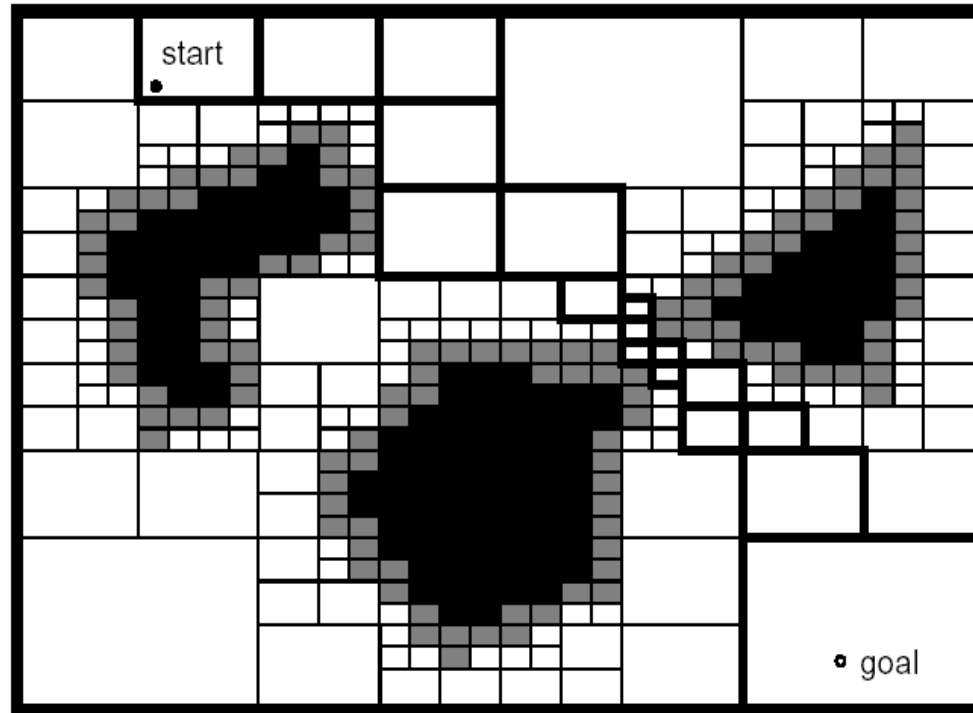
Graph Construction: Exact Cell Decomposition (2/4)



Graph Construction: Approximate Cell Decomposition (3/4)



Graph Construction: Adaptive Cell Decomposition (4/4)



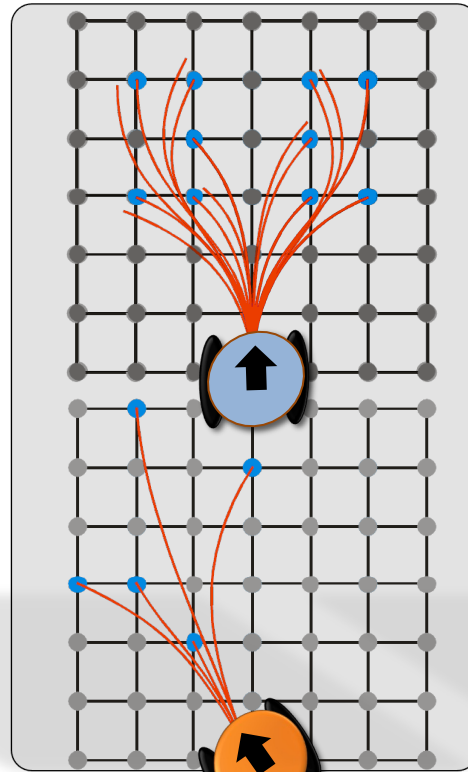
- Close relationship with map representation (Quadtree)!

Graph Construction: State Lattice Design (1/2)

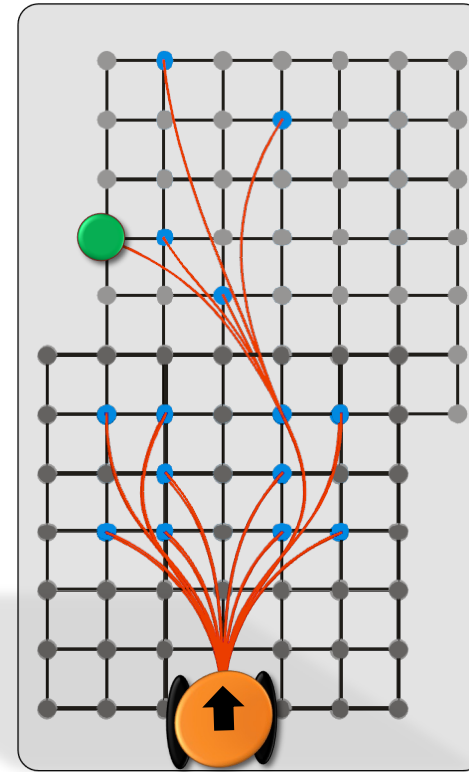
- Enforces **edge feasibility**



Offline:
Motion Model



Offline:
Lattice Gen.

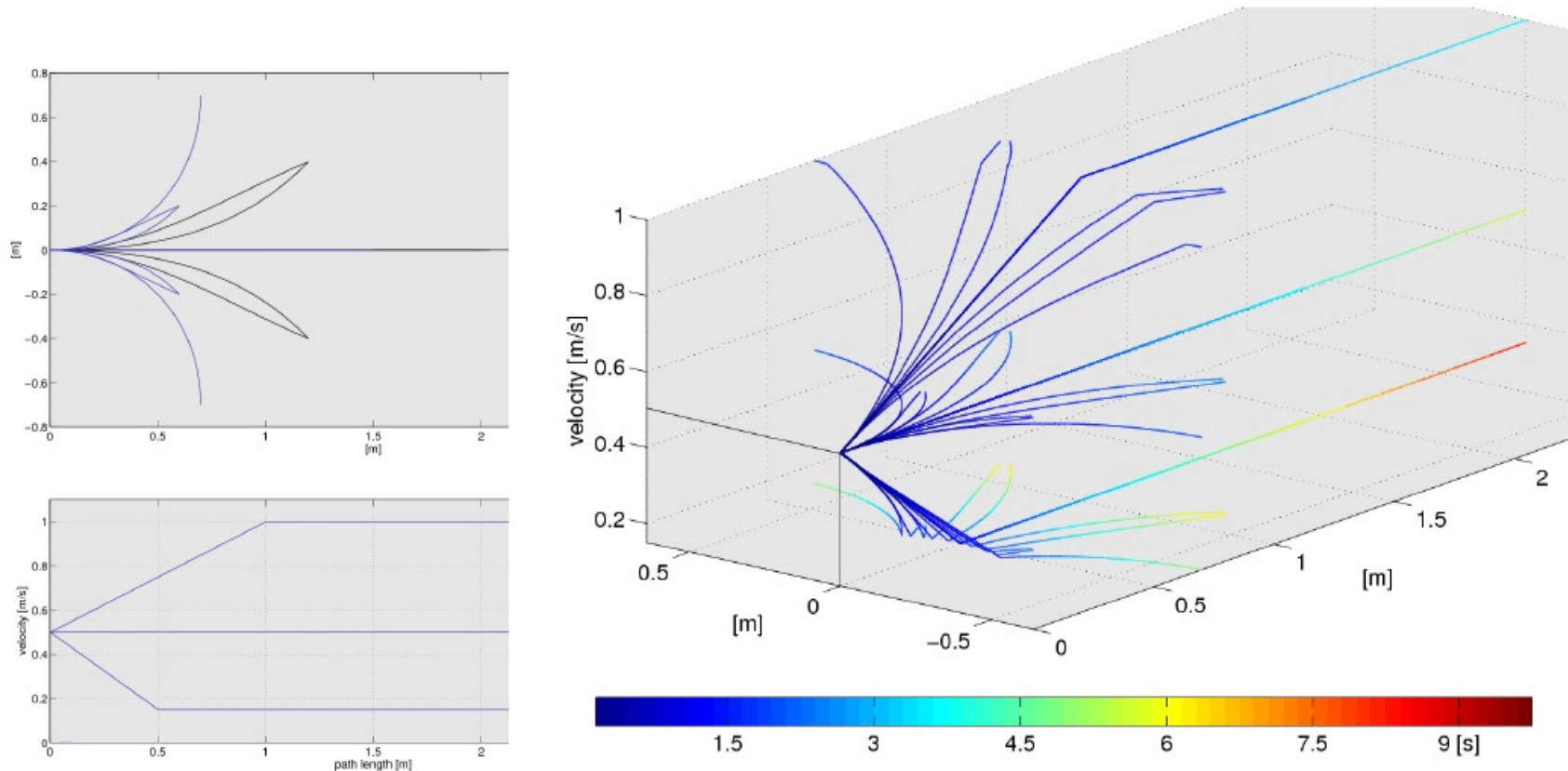


Online:
Incremental Graph
Constr.

Graph Construction: State Lattice Design (2/2)

Martin Rufli

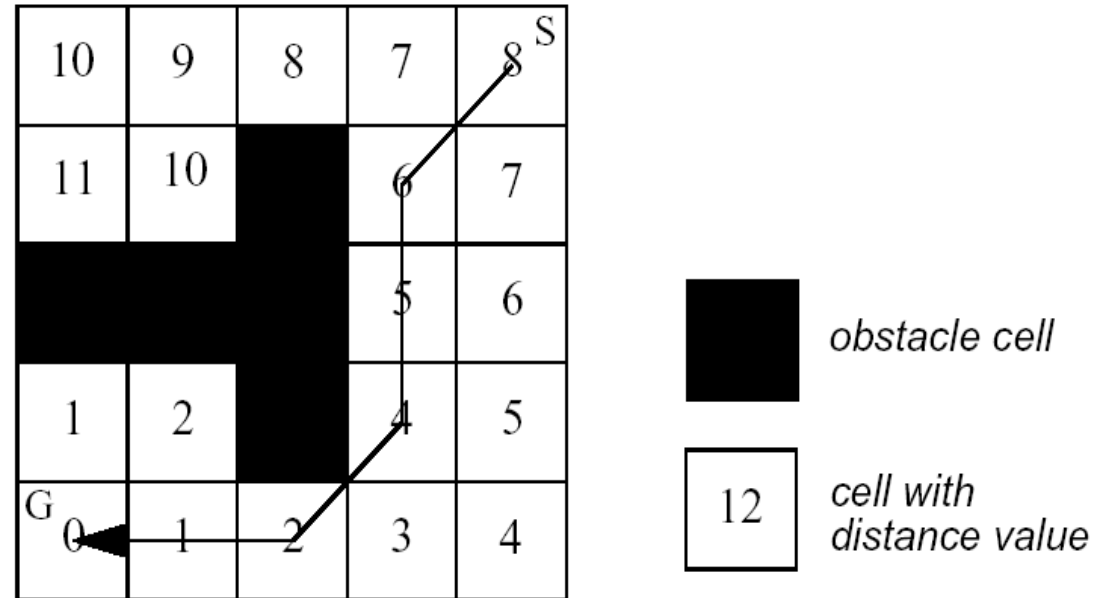
- State lattice encodes only kinematically feasible edges



Deterministic Graph Search

- Methods

- Breath First
- Depth First
- **Dijkstra**
- A* and variants
- D* and variants
- ...



ADMIN

HW4 is out

- Start early ...
- First 4 tasks are config only – build a Gazebo simulation and use ROS2 Navigation 2 to perform simple autonomy
- Task 5: Implement frontier exploration yourself 😊

Project

- May 26th, 22:00: due date for the intermediate project report
 - June 25th, 22:00: due date for the final demo. (You are welcome to do it earlier!)
 - June 28th, 22:00: due date for the final report. (You are welcome to finish it earlier!)
 - June 28th, 22:00: due date for the webpage. (You are welcome to finish it earlier!)
-
- Schedule Project meeting with me for tomorrow, Monday or Tuesday (April 26, April 29 or April 30)!
 - You contact me!
 - Counts towards your “attend weekly project meeting” score!

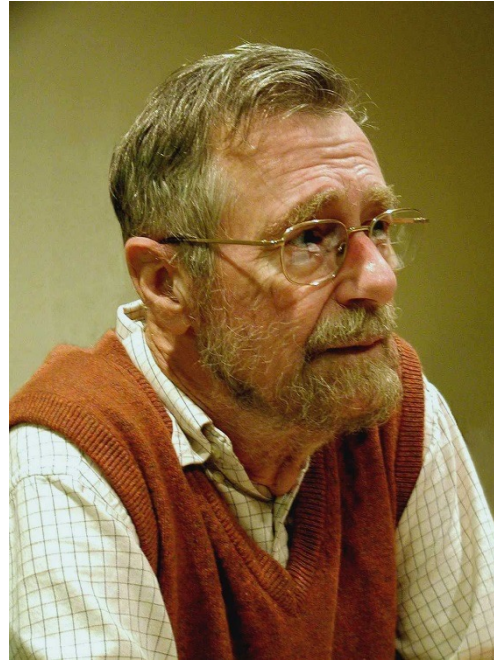
Project Safety!

- You work with real robotic hardware => can be dangerous!
- Don't stick your fingers where they don't belong!
- Be aware of the moving robot!
- Be careful when handling/ charging the batteries! If you are unsure, ask one of my students for help!
- Be careful with electric components.

- Be nice to the robot!

DIJKSTRA'S ALGORITHM

EDSGER WYBE DIJKSTRA



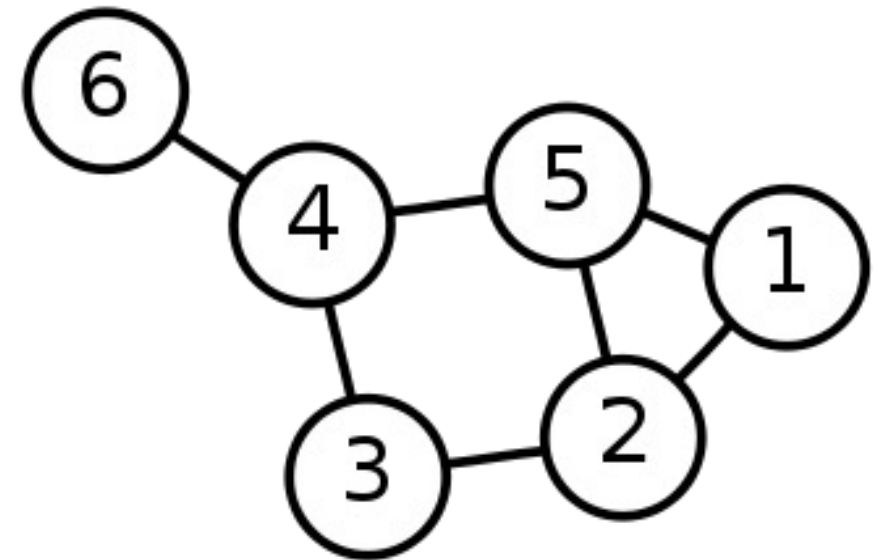
1930 - 2002

"Computer Science is no more about computers than astronomy is about telescopes."

<http://www.cs.utexas.edu/~EWD/>

SINGLE-SOURCE SHORTEST PATH PROBLEM

- **Single-Source Shortest Path Problem** - The problem of finding shortest paths from a source vertex v to all other vertices in the graph.
- **Graph**
 - Set of vertices and edges
 - Vertex:
 - Place in the graph; connected by:
 - Edge: connecting two vertices
 - Directed or undirected (undirected in Dijkstra's Algorithm)
 - Edges can have weight/ distance assigned



Dijkstra's Algorithm

- Assign all vertices infinite distance to goal
- Assign 0 to distance from start
- Add all vertices to the queue

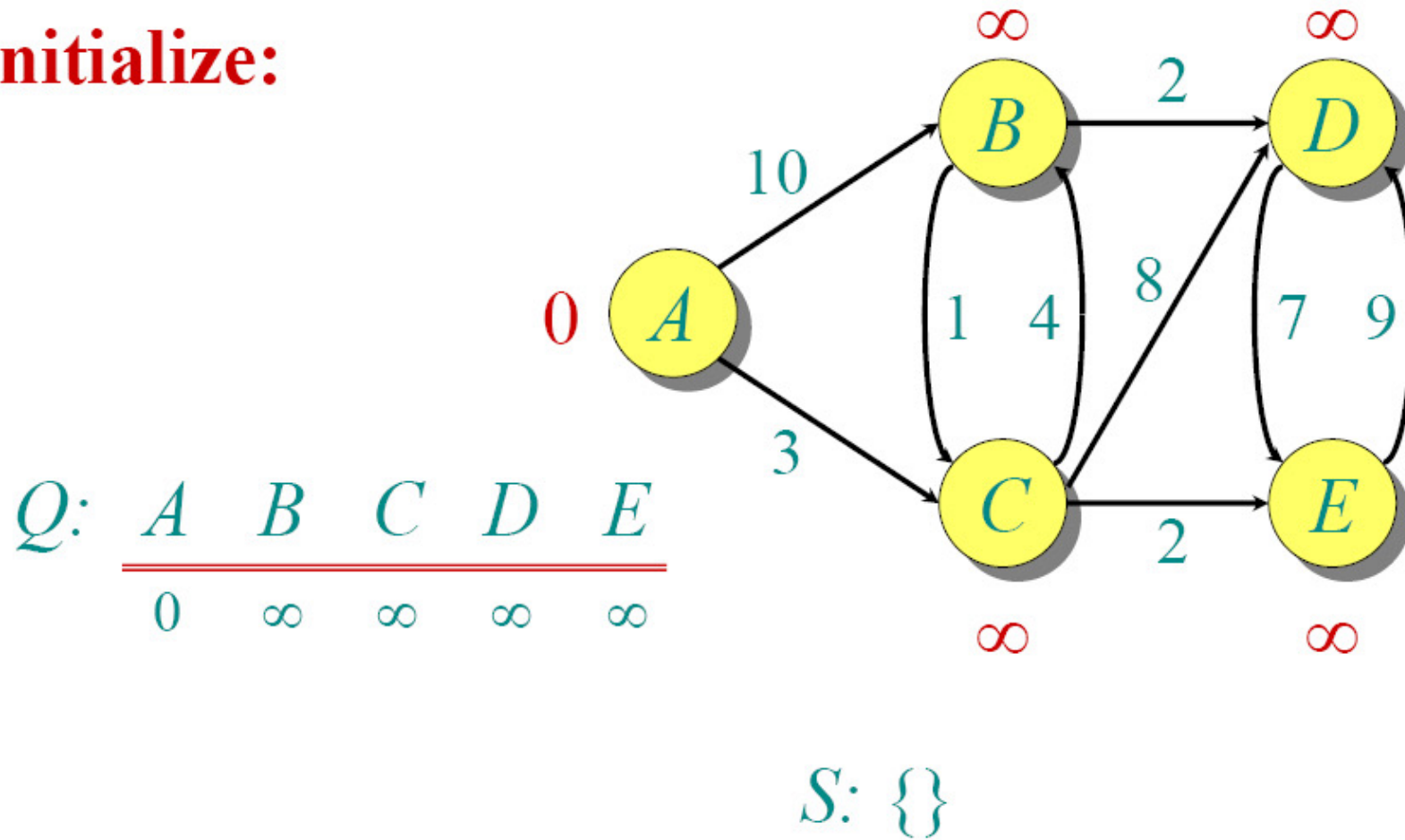
- While the queue is not empty:
 - Select vertex with smallest distance and remove it from the queue
 - Visit all neighbor vertices of that vertex,
 - calculate their distance and
 - update their (the neighbors) distance if the new distance is smaller

Dijkstra's Algorithm - Pseudocode

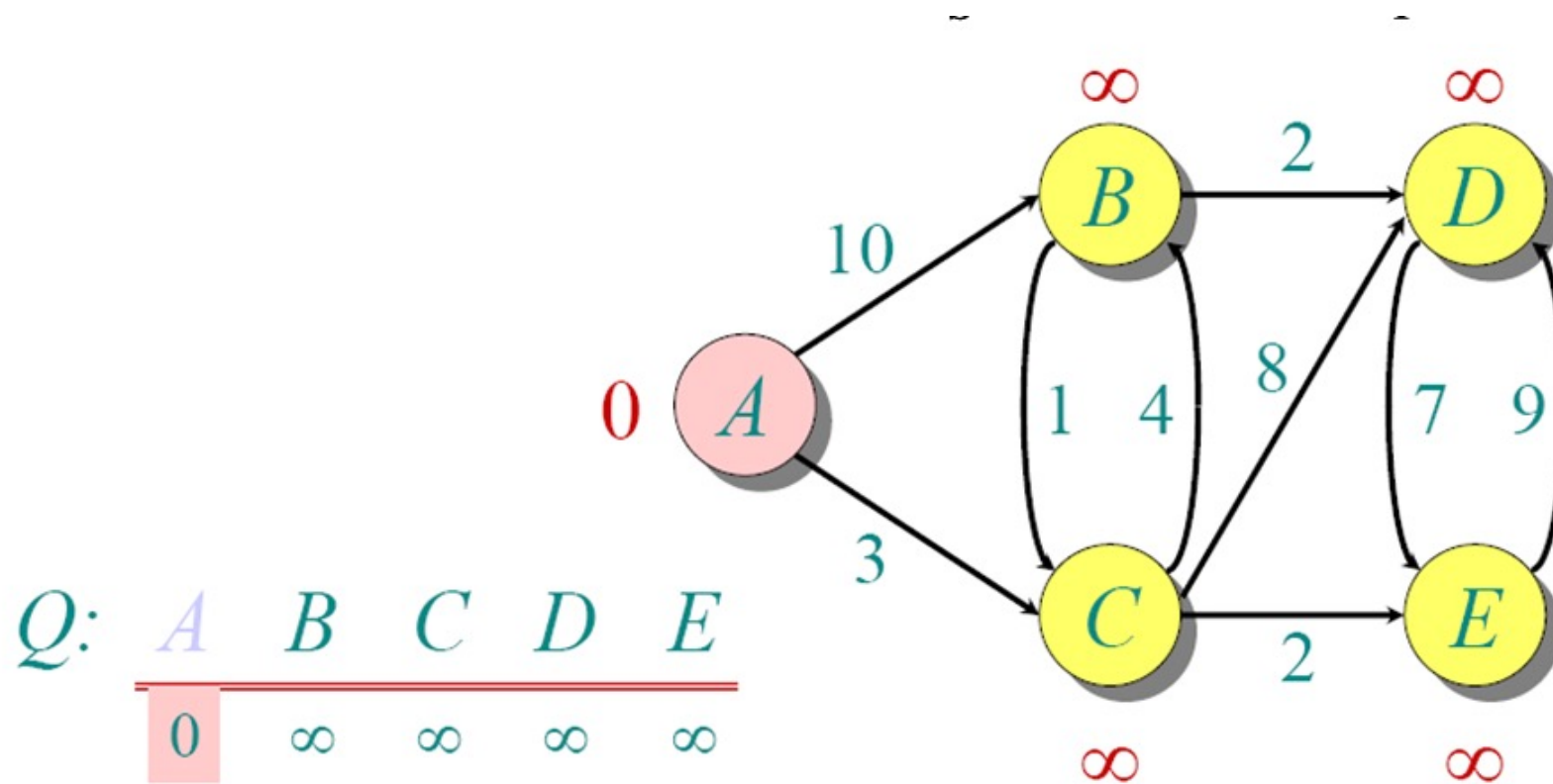
```
dist[s] ← 0                                (distance to source vertex is zero)
for all v ∈ V - {s}
  do dist[v] ← ∞                            (set all other distances to infinity)
S ← ∅                                        (S, the set of visited vertices is initially empty)
Q ← V                                       (Q, the queue initially contains all vertices)
while Q ≠ ∅                                 (while the queue is not empty)
do u ← mindistance(Q, dist)                (select the element of Q with the min. distance)
  S ← S ∪ {u}                              (add u to list of visited vertices)
  for all v ∈ neighbors[u]
    do if dist[v] > dist[u] + w(u, v)      (if new shortest path found)
       then d[v] ← d[u] + w(u, v)        (set new value of shortest path)
      (if desired, add traceback code)
return dist
```

Dijkstra Example

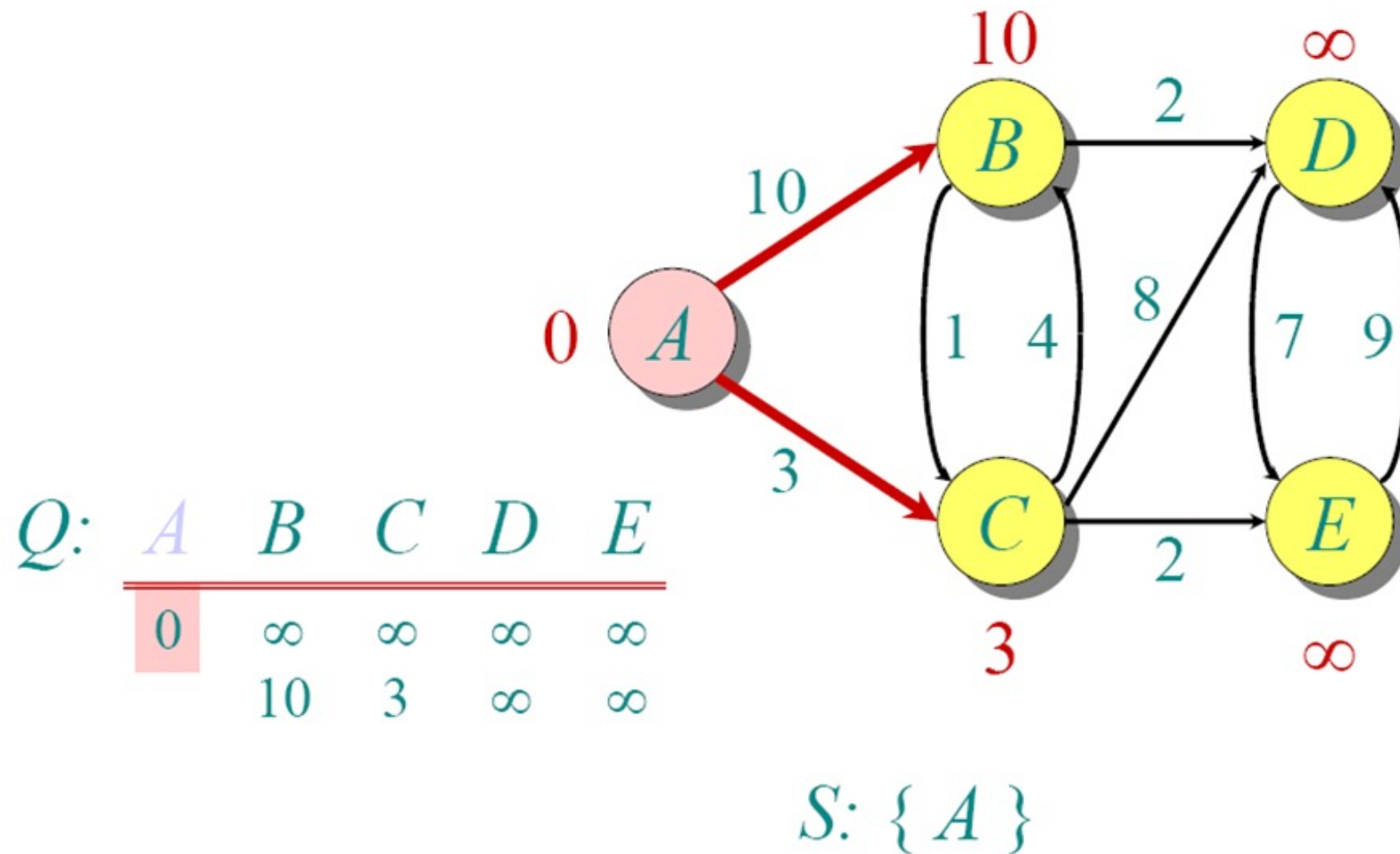
Initialize:



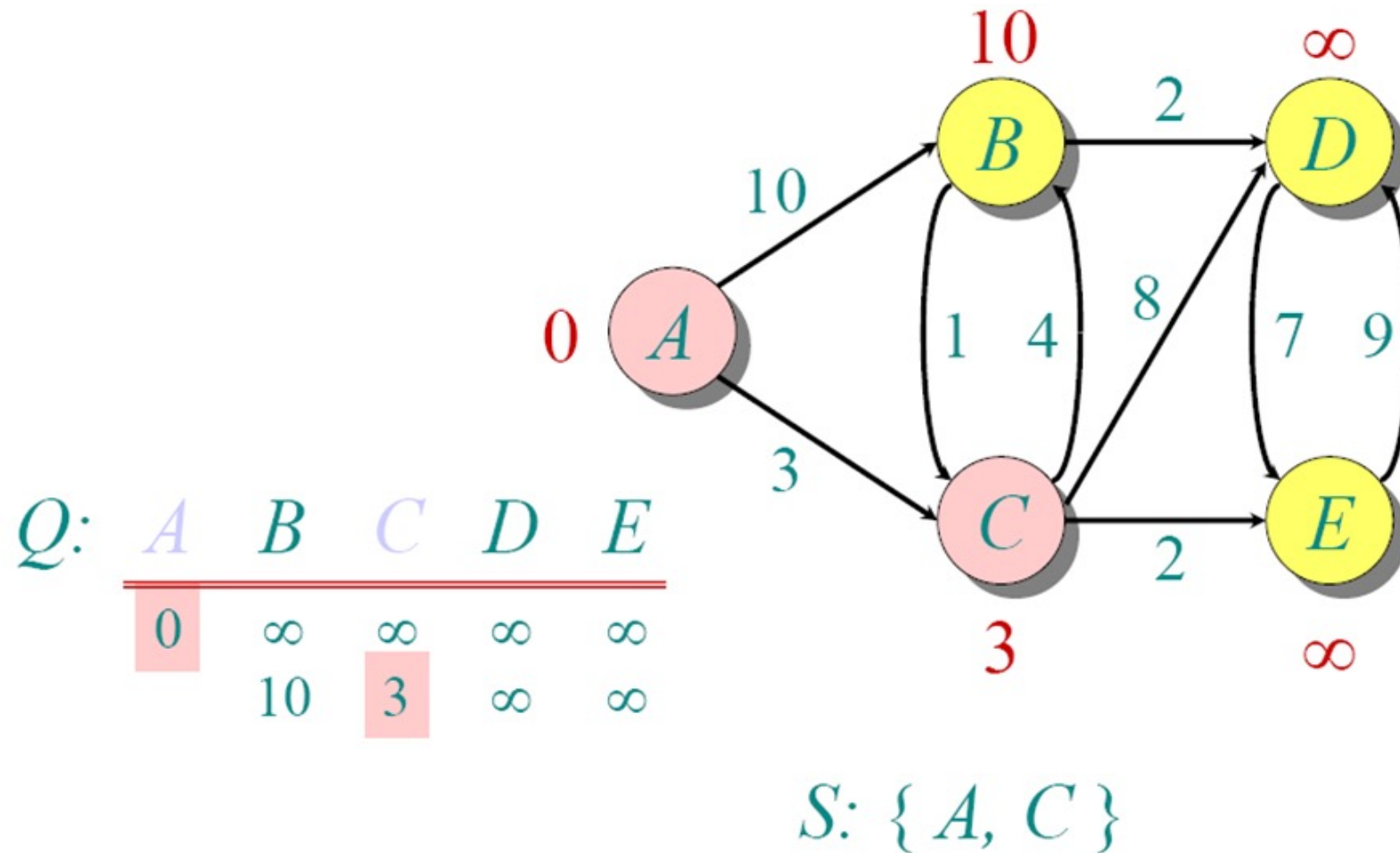
Dijkstra Example



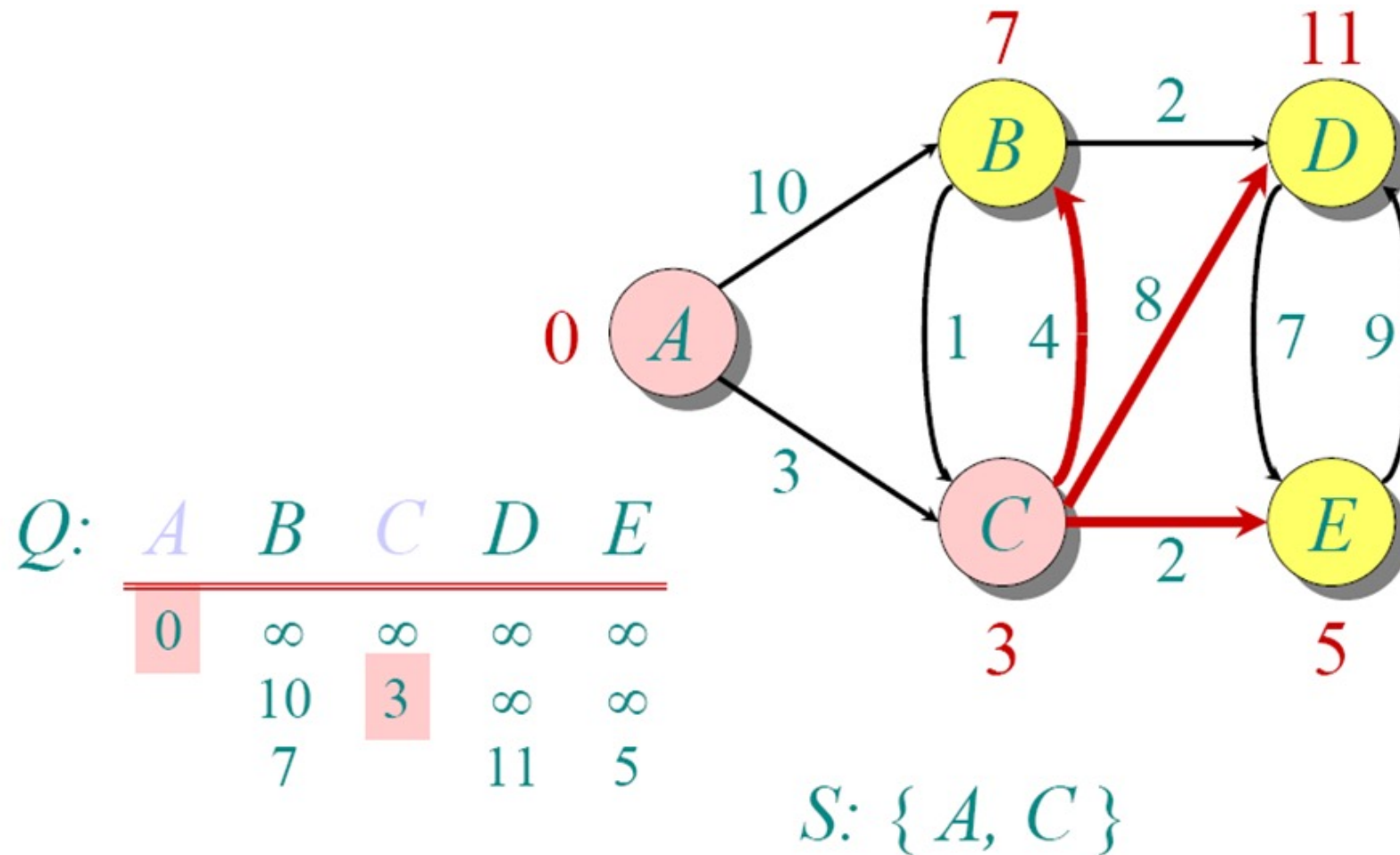
Dijkstra Example



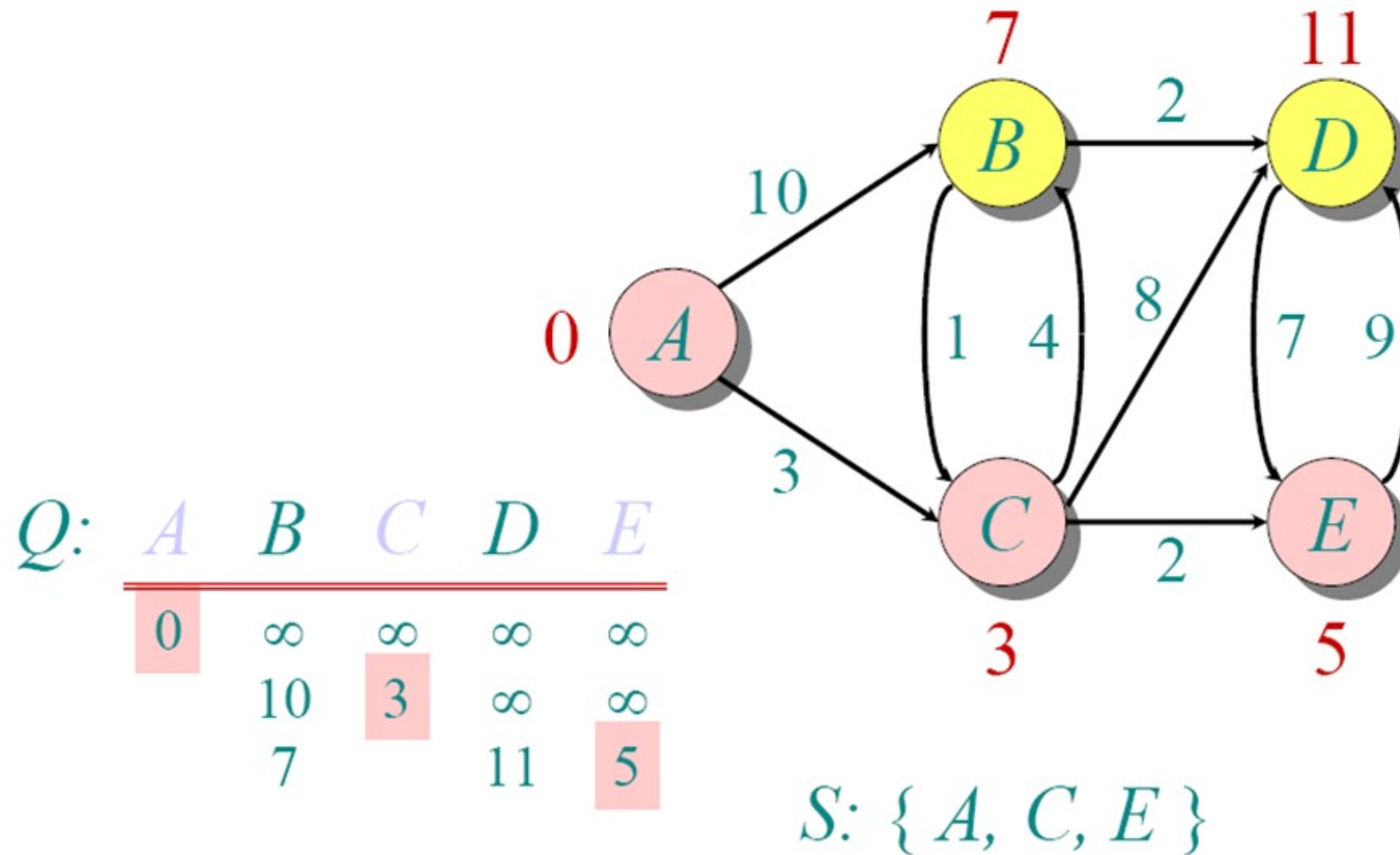
Dijkstra Example



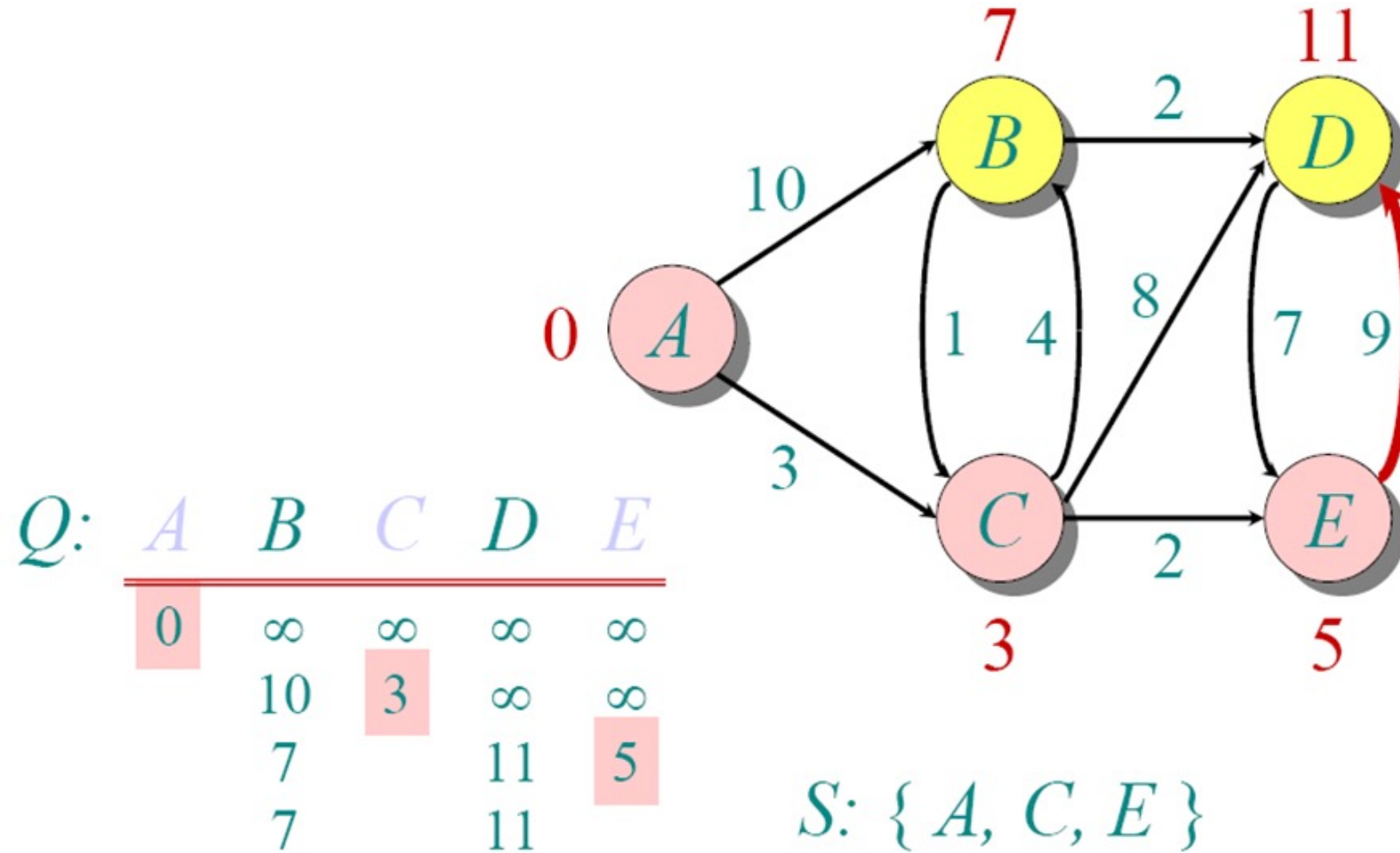
Dijkstra Example



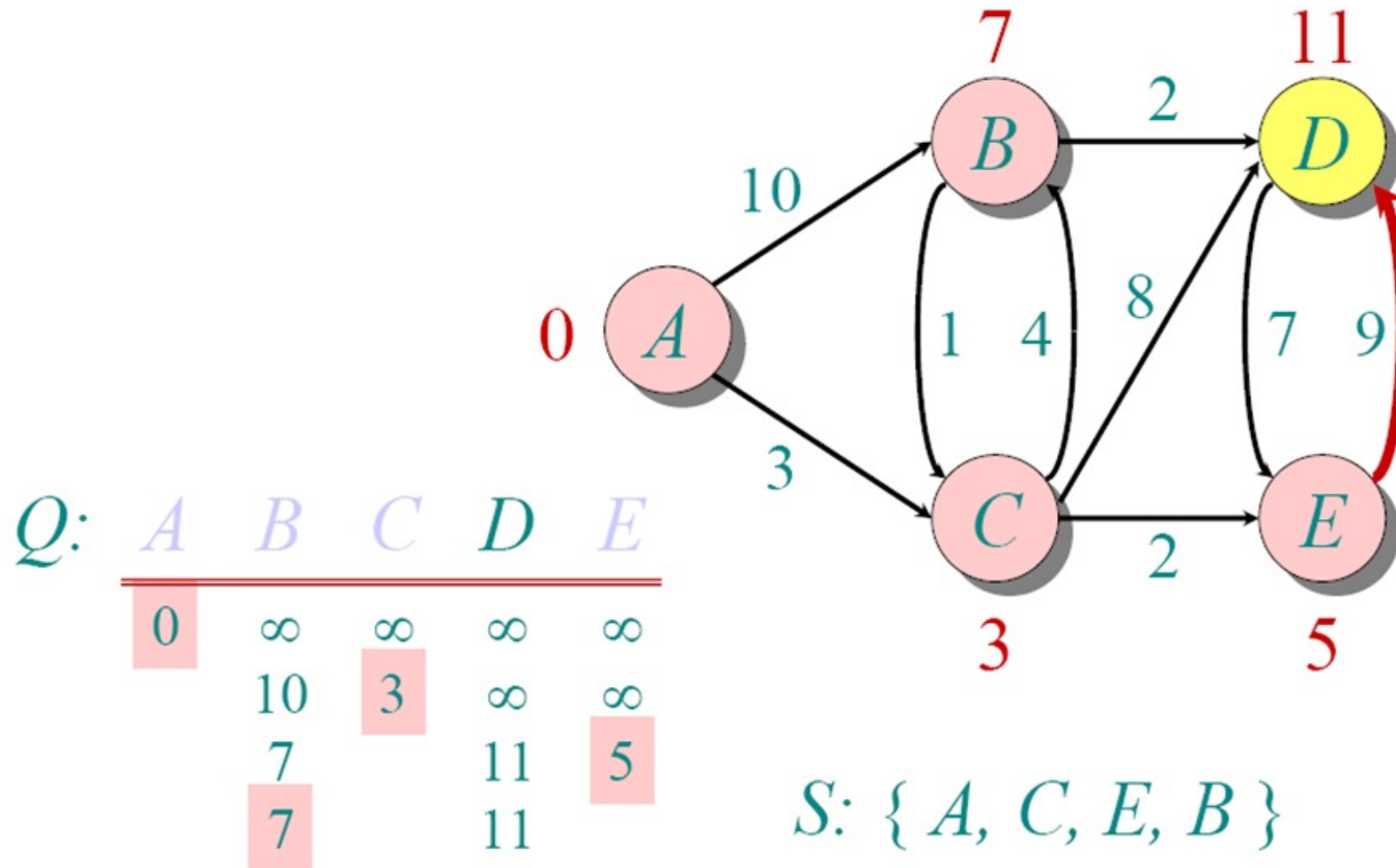
Dijkstra Example



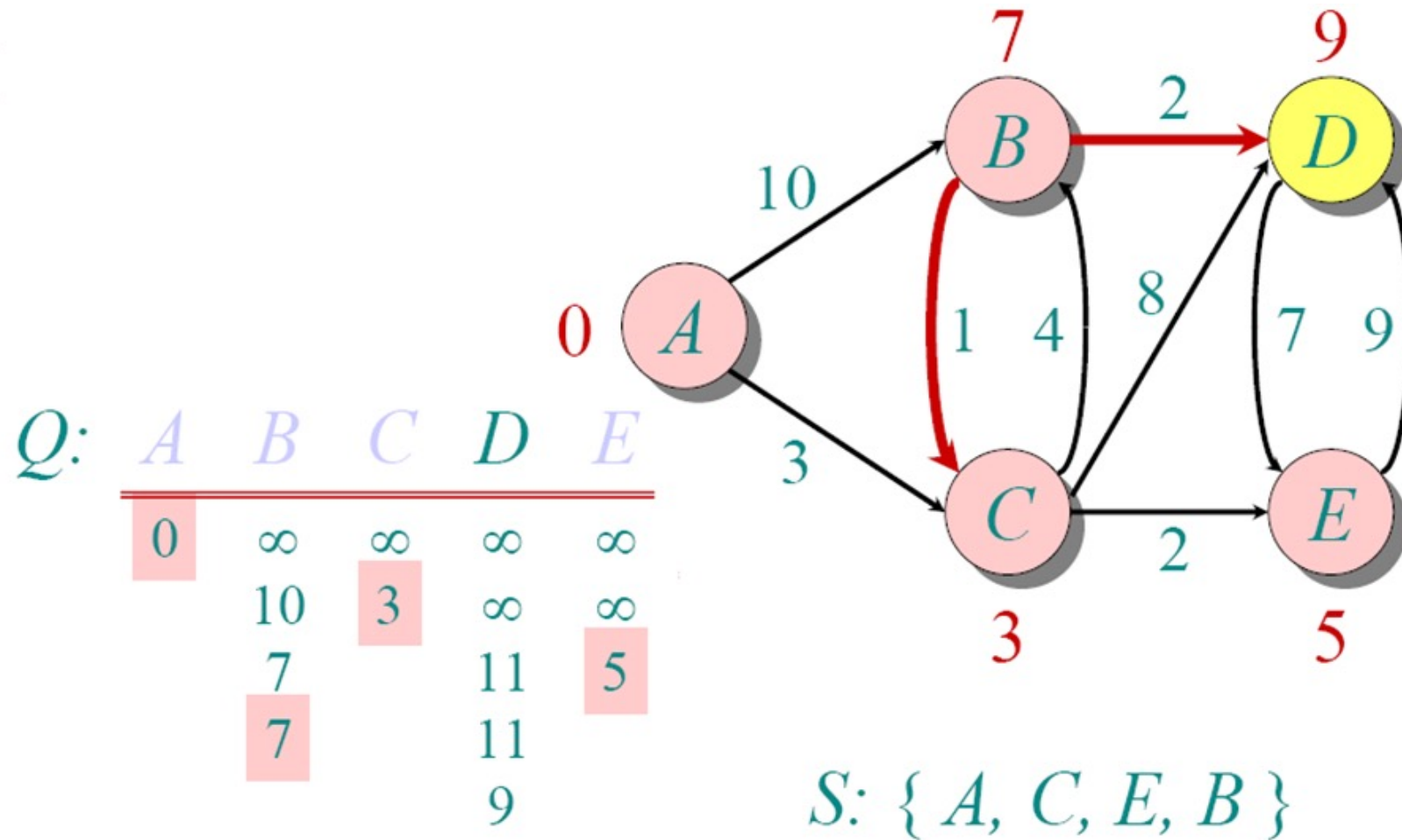
Dijkstra Example



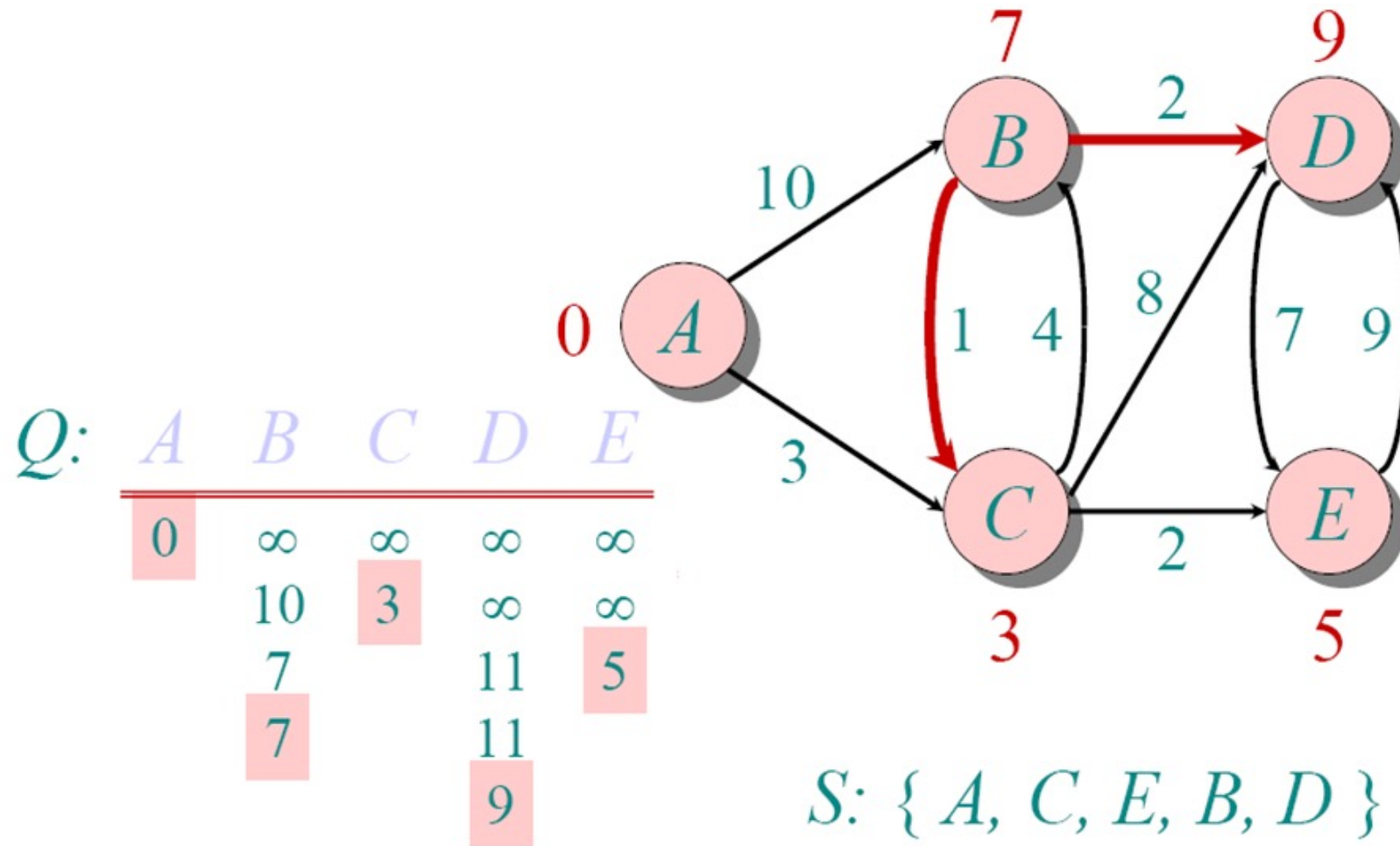
Dijkstra Example



Dijkstra Example



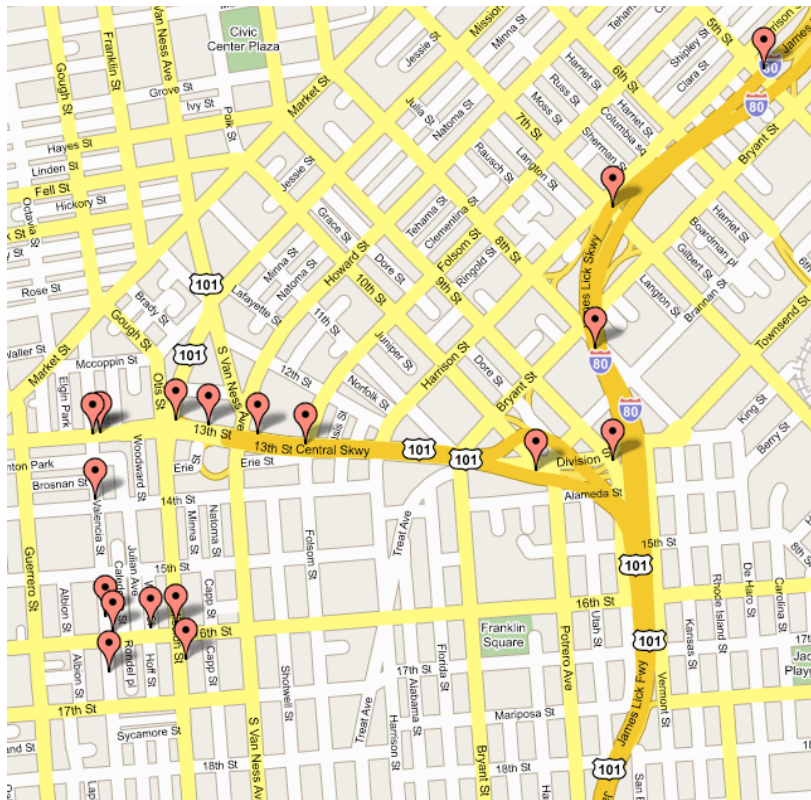
Dijkstra Example



APPLICATIONS OF DIJKSTRA'S ALGORITHM

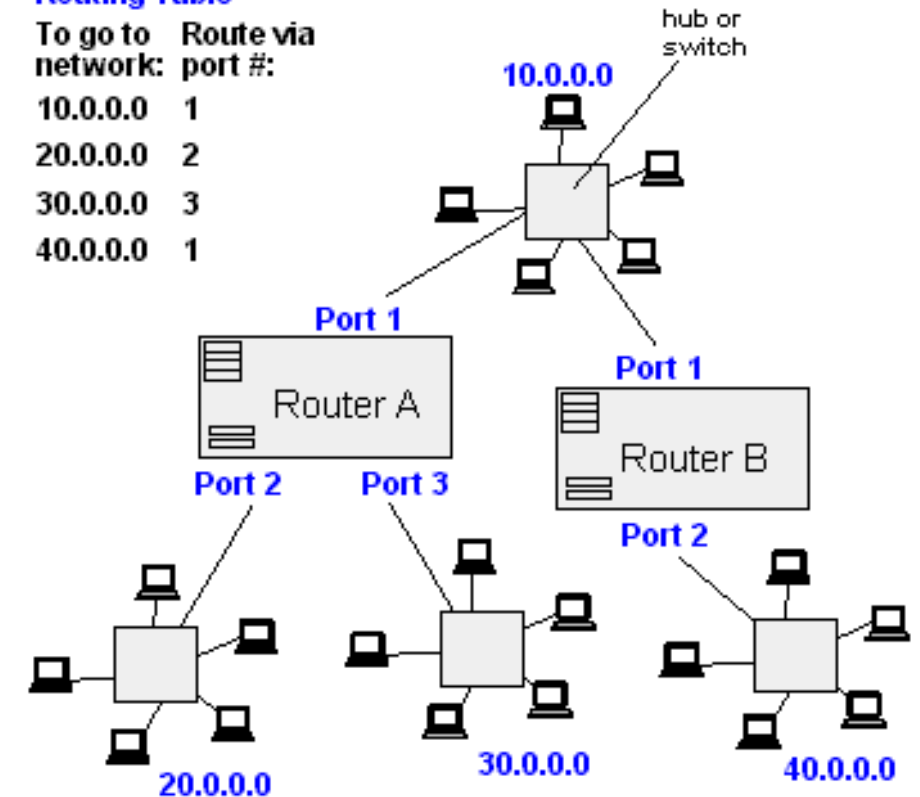
- Navigation Systems
- Internet Routing

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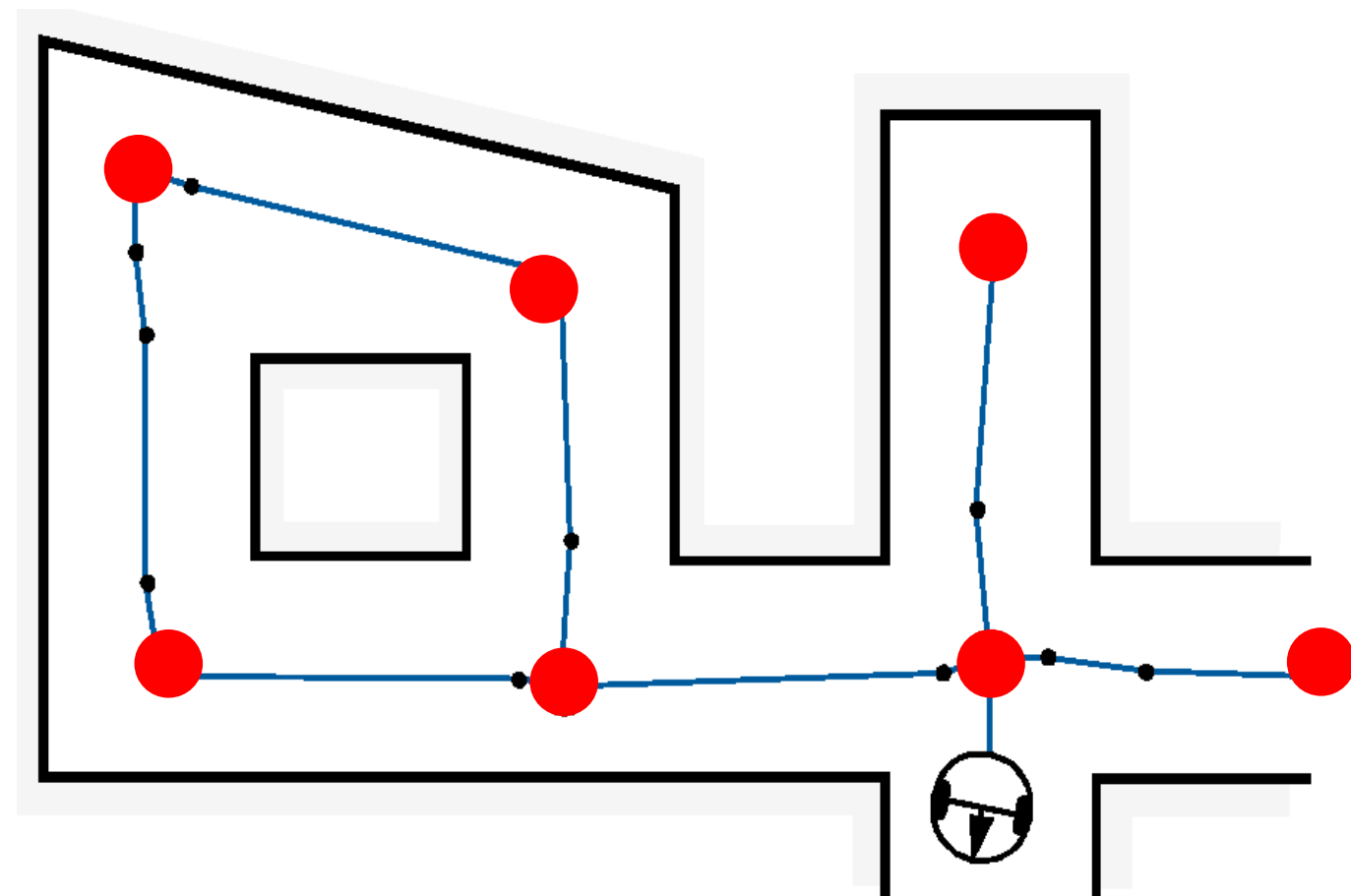
Router A Routing Table

To go to network:	Route via port #:
10.0.0.0	1
20.0.0.0	2
30.0.0.0	3
40.0.0.0	1



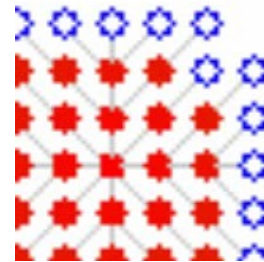
Dijkstra's Algorithm for Path Planning: Topological Maps

- Topological Map:
 - Places (vertices) in the environment (red dots)
 - Paths (edges) between them (blue lines)
 - Length of path = weight of edge
- => Apply Dijkstra's Algorithm to find path from start vertex to goal vertex



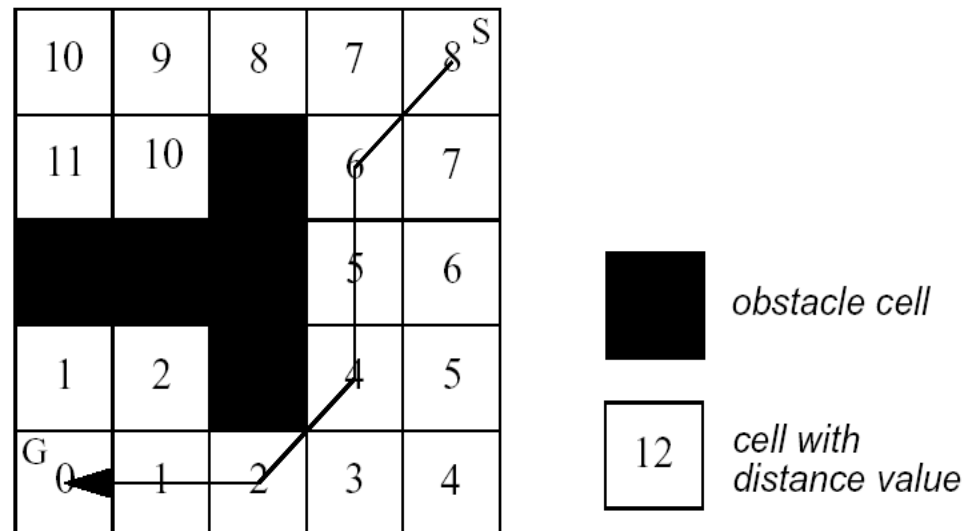
Dijkstra's Algorithm for Path Planning: Grid Maps

- Graph:
 - Neighboring free cells are connected:
 - 4-neighborhood: up/ down/ left right
 - **8-neighborhood**: also diagonals
 - All edges have weight 1
- Stop once goal vertex is reached
- Per vertex: save edge over which the shortest distance from start was reached => Path

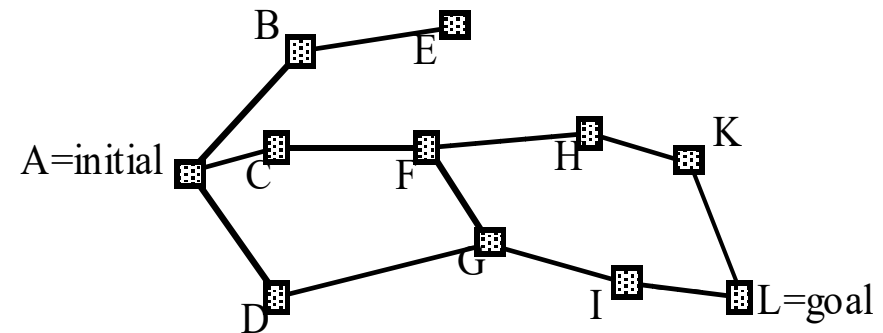
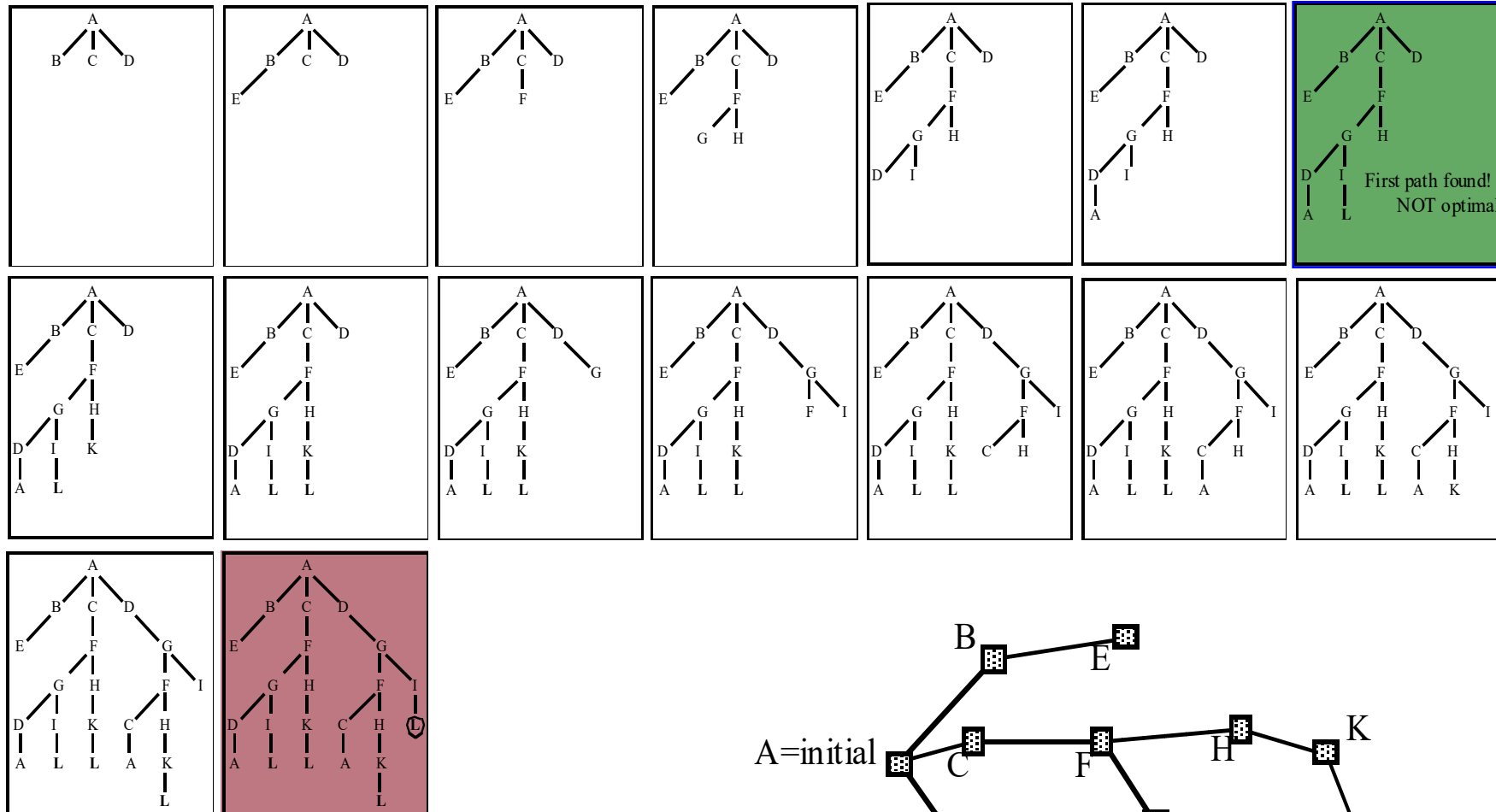


Graph Search Strategies: Breath-First Search

- Corresponds to a wavefront expansion on a 2D grid
- Breath-First: Dijkstra's search where all edges have weight 1

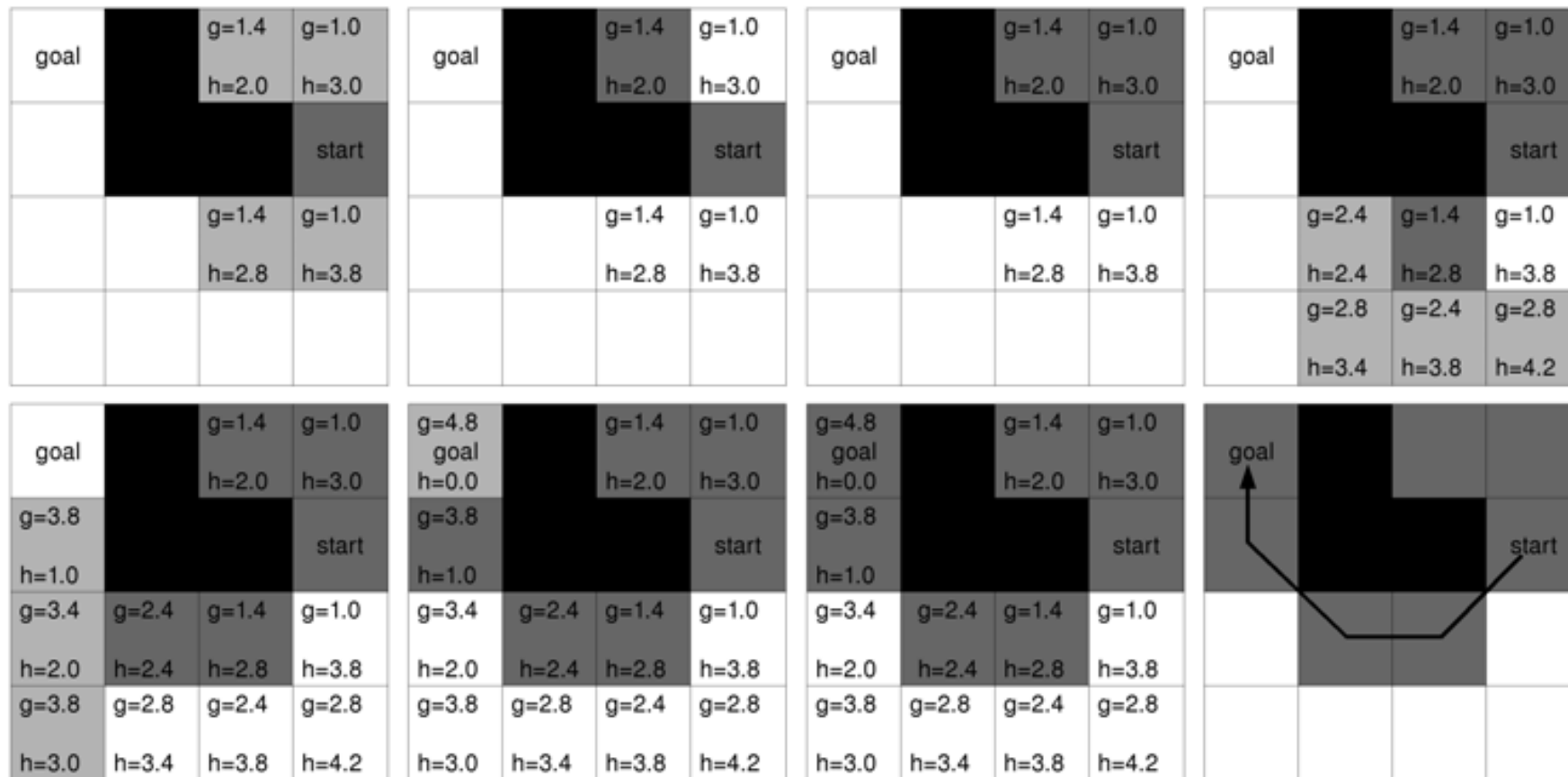


Graph Search Strategies: Depth-First Search



Graph Search Strategies: A* Search

- Similar to Dijkstra's algorithm, except that it uses a heuristic function $h(n)$
- $f(n) = g(n) + h(n)$



A*

- Developed 1986 as part of the Shakey project!
- Complexity:

Worst-case performance $O(|E|) = O(b^d)$

Worst-case space complexity $O(|V|) = O(b^d)$

b: branching factor

d: depth

- Good heuristic => small branching factor



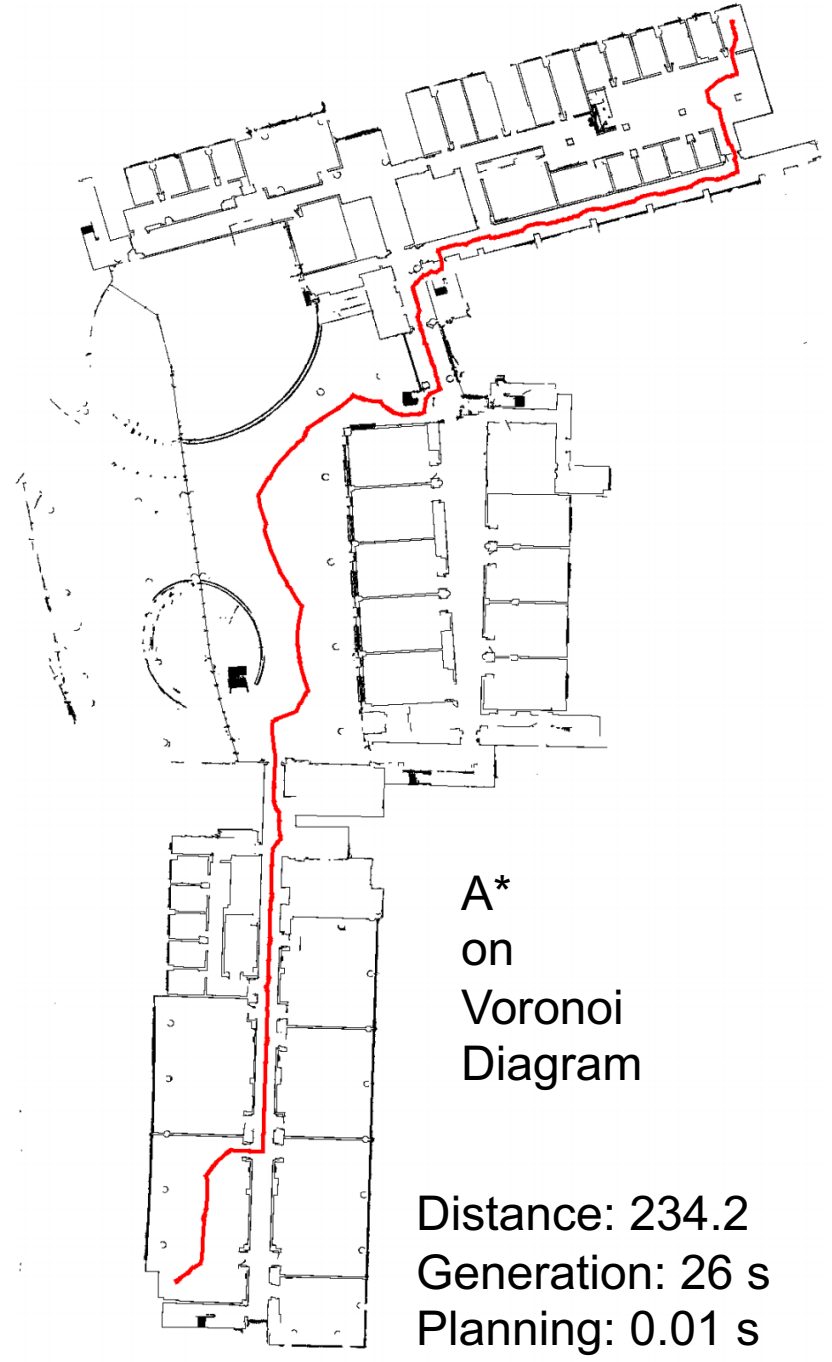
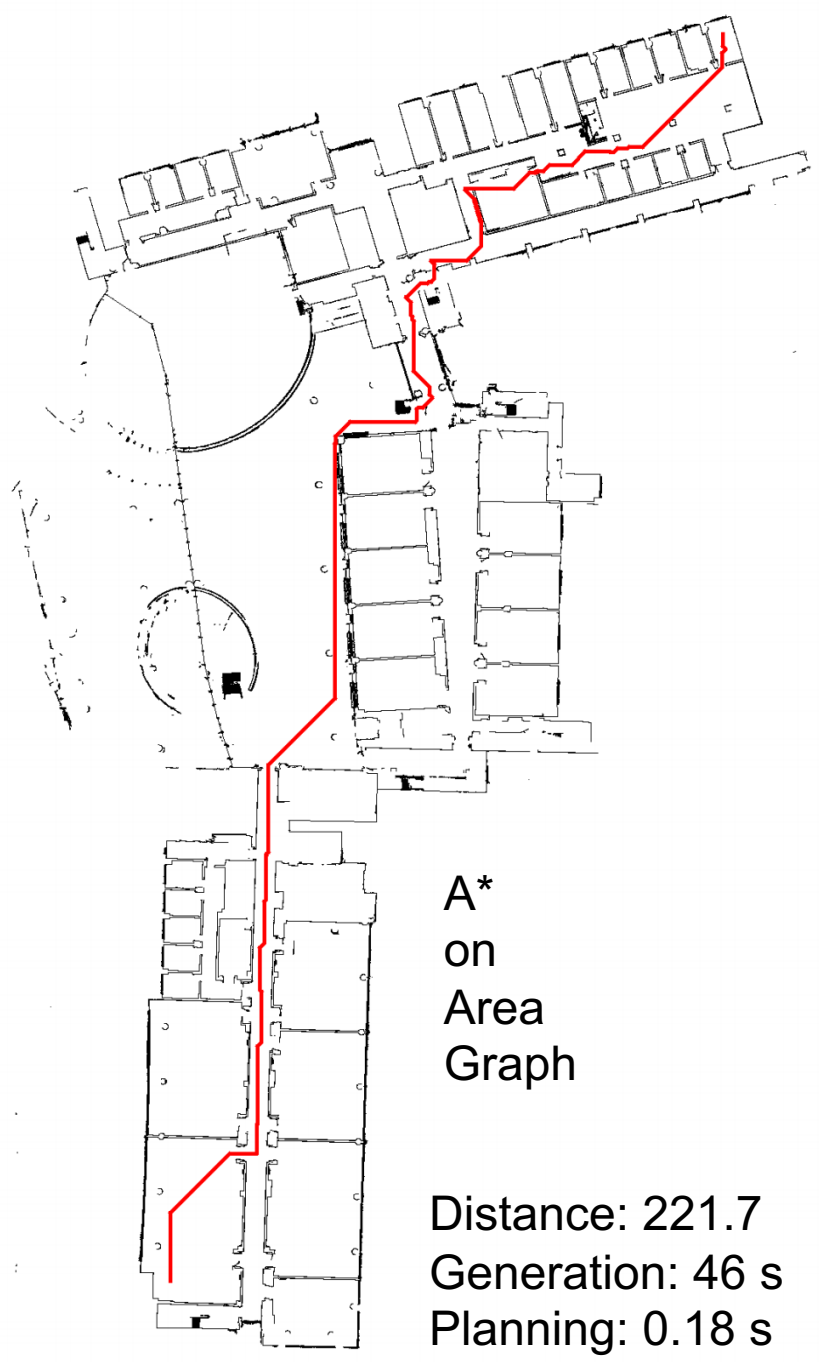
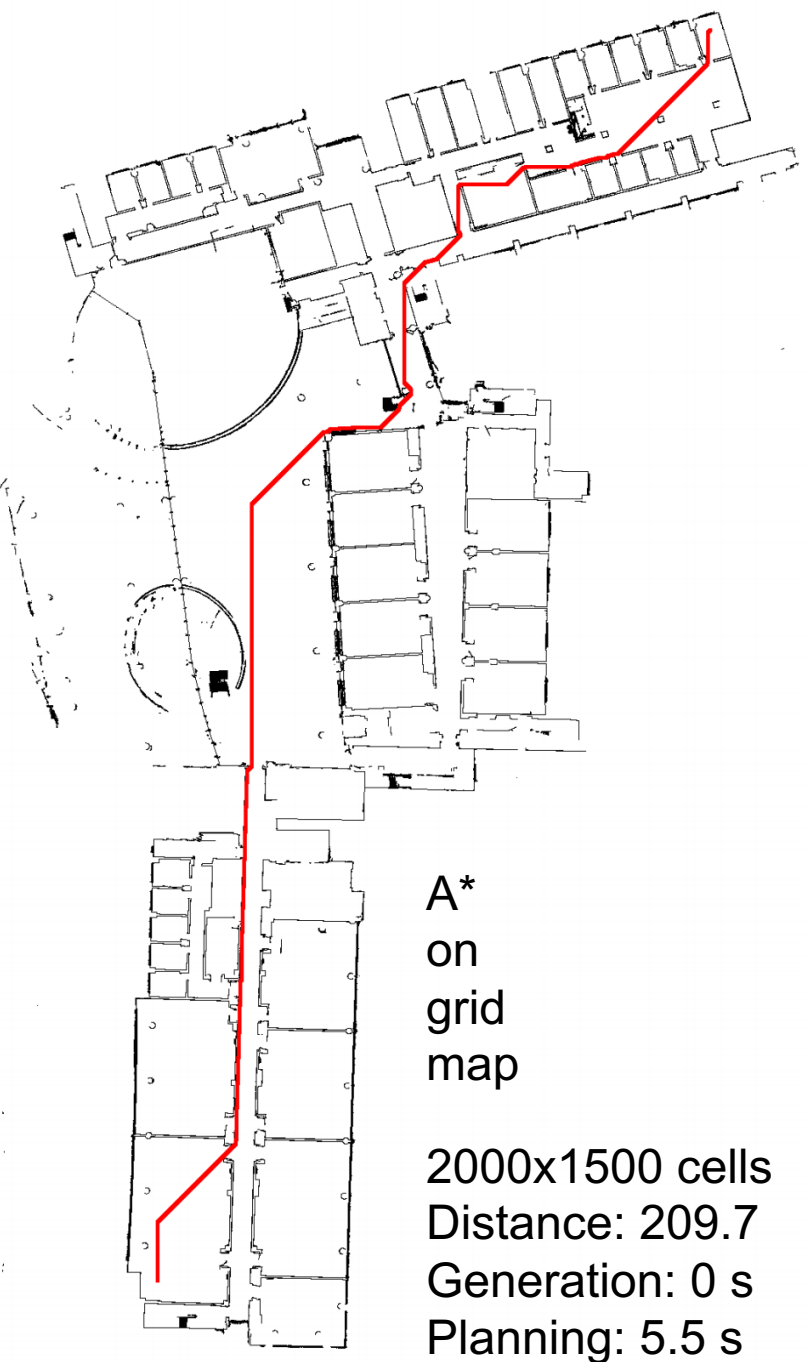
Optimal Planning

- Dijkstra finds the optimal path
- What about A*?
 - Find admissible heuristic $h(n)$
 - Admissible: do not overestimate the true cost-to-go
 - A* is optimal (finds optimal/ shortest path) if $h(n)$ is admissible for all n
 - Admissible example: use geometric distance for $h(n)$:
$$h(n) = \sqrt{(x_{goal} - x)^2 + (y_{goal} - y)^2}.$$
 - Example: heuristic 5x geometric distance
 - $h(n) = 0 \Rightarrow$ Dijkstra's Algorithm



A*

- Hierarchical planning possible e.g.: Go to the library:
 - First plan how to get from SIST building to library
 - Then plan how to get from entrance of library to goal room (campus level vs. library level)
- Many variants of A* algorithms exist – with different properties
- A* as graph search: applications outside of robotics/ path planning
 - Video games
 - Parsing with stochastic grammars in natural language processing
- Graph on which planning is done matters!
 - E.g.: Grid map; Pose Graph; Topological Graph; Open Street Map; Lattice Graphs; ...

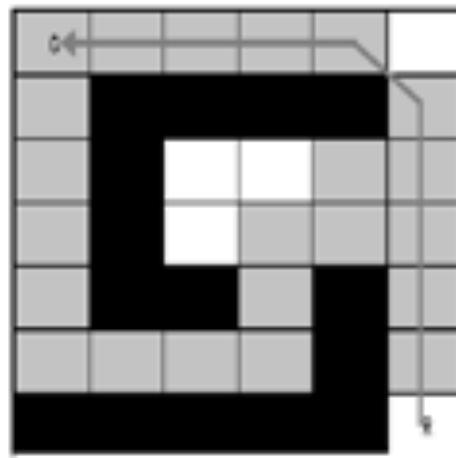


3D Path planned with A* in Area Graph of 2 stories of SIST & SEM buildings

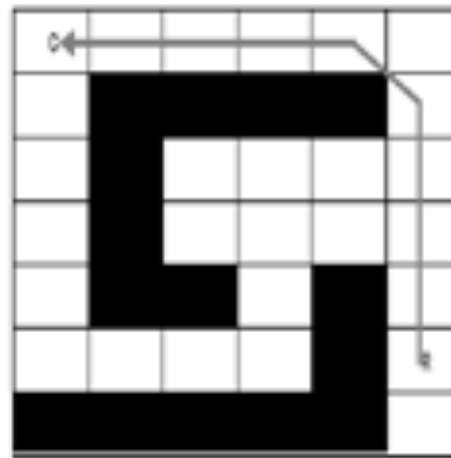


Graph Search Strategies: D* Search

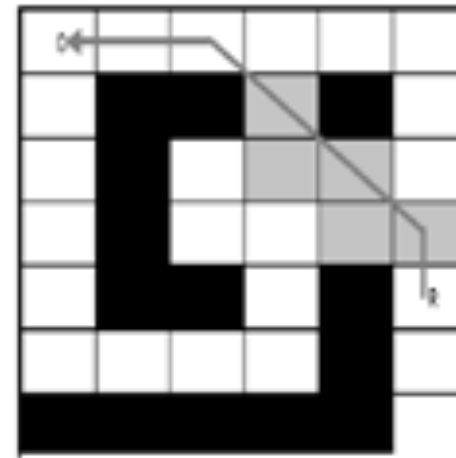
- Similar to A* search, except that the search starts from the goal outward
- $f(n) = g(n) + \epsilon h(n)$
- First pass is identical to A*
- Subsequent passes reuse information from previous searches



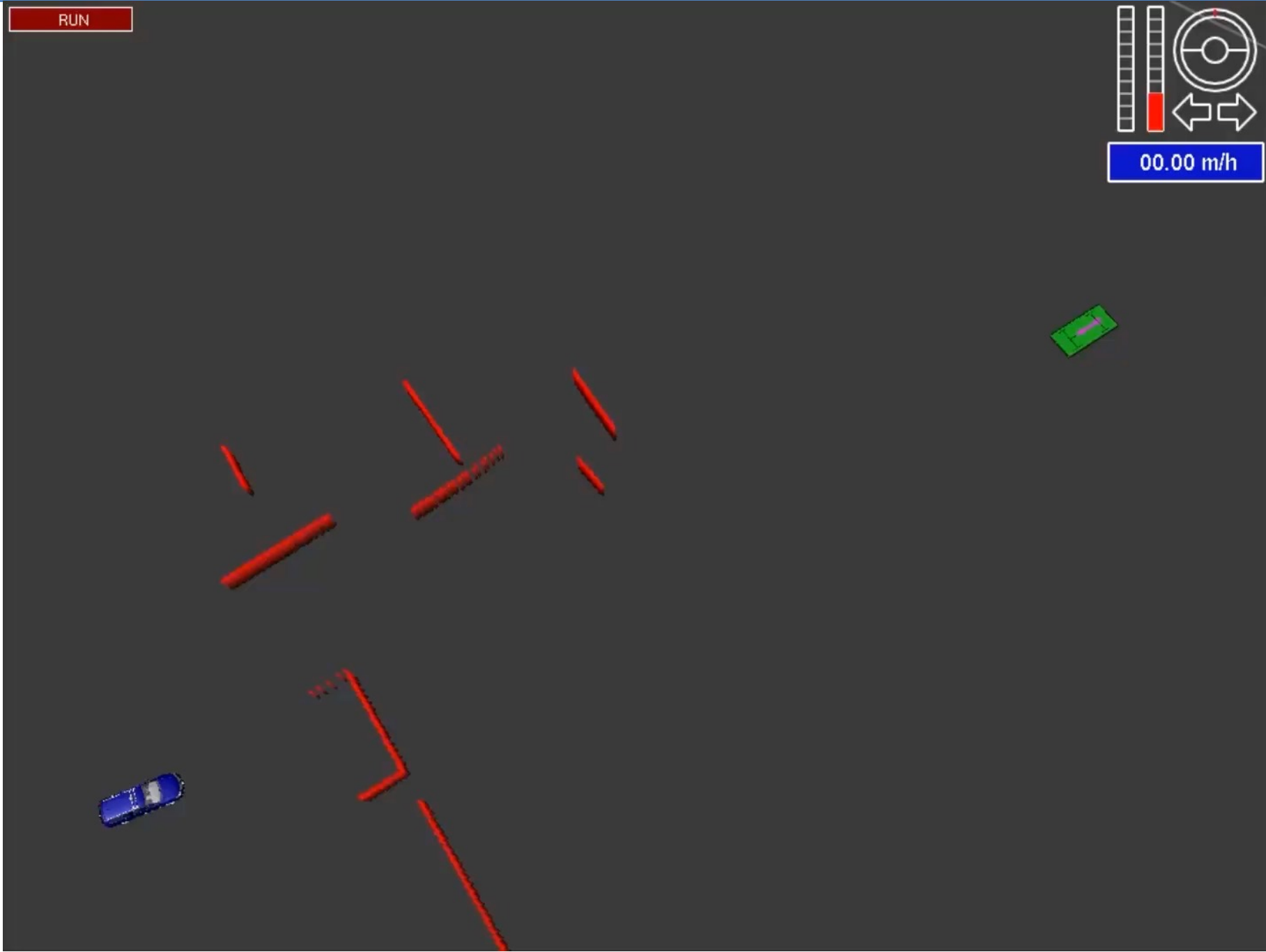
$\epsilon = 1.0$



$\epsilon = 1.0$



$\epsilon = 1.0$

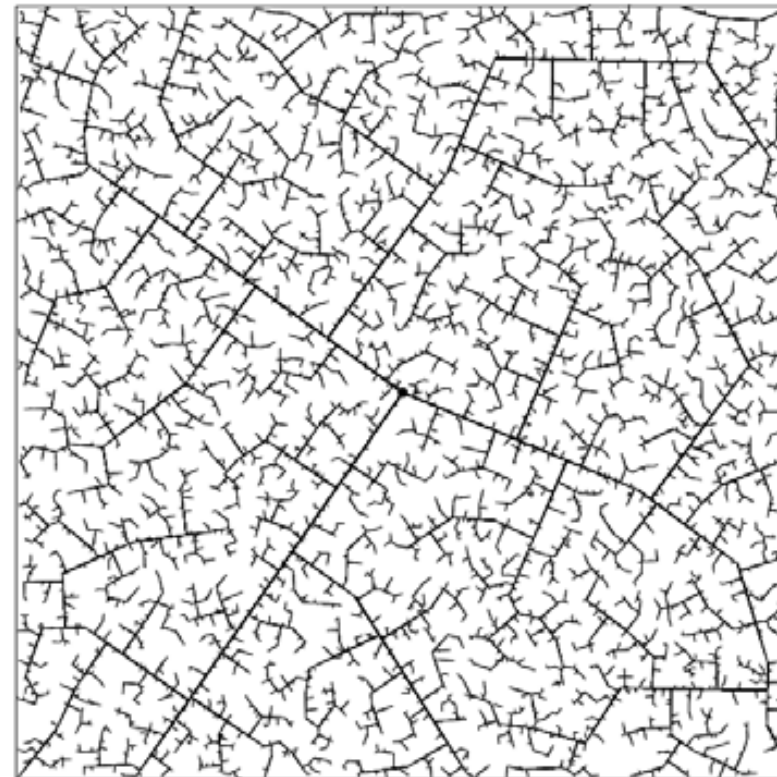


Graph Search Strategies: Randomized Search

- Most popular version is the rapidly exploring random tree (RRT)
 - Well suited for high-dimensional search spaces
 - Often produces highly suboptimal solutions



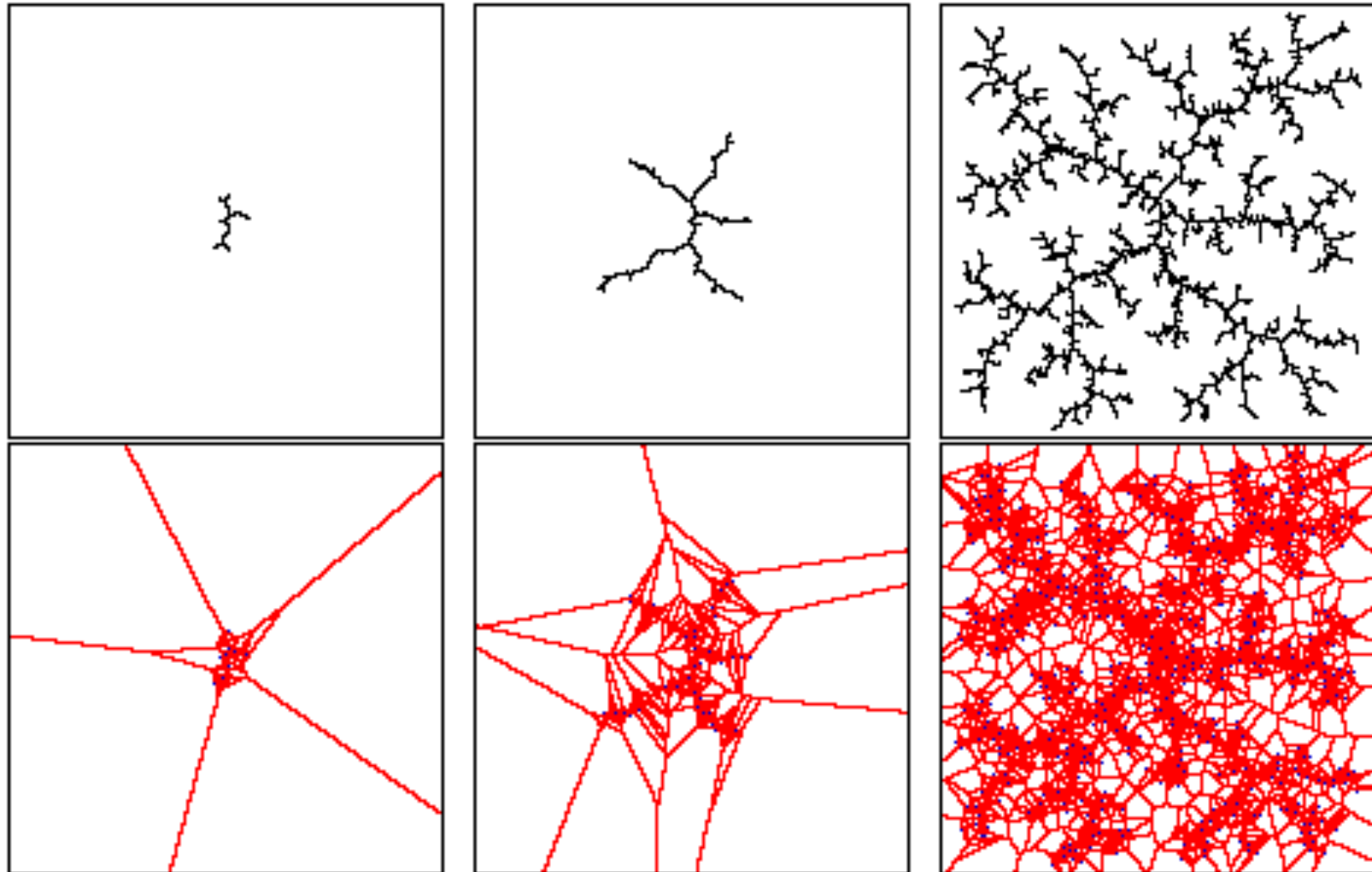
45 iterations

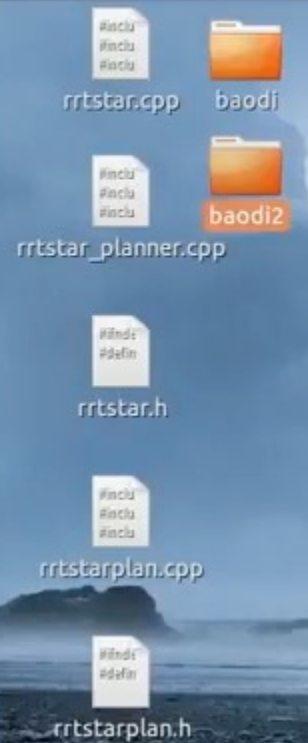


2345 iterations

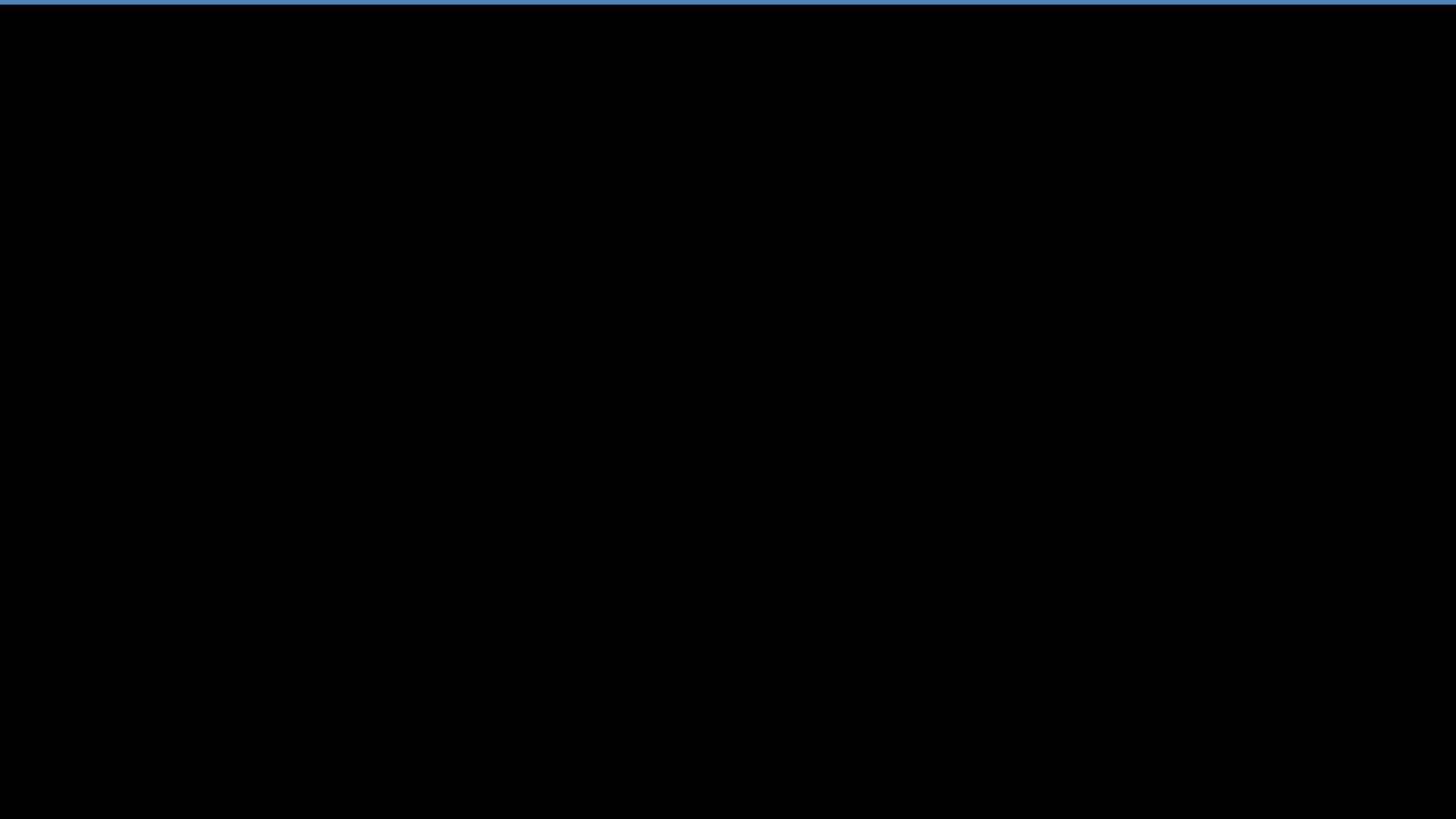
Why are RRT's rapidly exploring?

The probability of a node to be selected for expansion is proportional to the area of its Voronoi region





```
lizhi@lizhi-HP-EliteBook-8460w: ~/download codes/rrtstar_planner
goal: 5.96963 7.10589
1
New Path Found. Total paths 1
Finding Optimal Path
[ INFO] [1497922923.557025739, 592.300000000]: Got new plan
[ INFO] [1497922923.957553192, 592.700000000]: Goal reached
^C[rviz-13] killing on exit
[amcl-12] killing on exit
[map_server-11] killing on exit
[move_base-10] killing on exit
[kobuki_safety_controller-9] killing on exit
[navigation_velocity_smoother-8] killing on exit
[cmd_vel_mux-7] killing on exit
[mobile_base_nodelet_manager-6] killing on exit
[joint_state_publisher-5] killing on exit
[diagnostic_aggregator-4] killing on exit
[robot_state_publisher-3] killing on exit
[stageros-2] killing on exit
[rosout-1] killing on exit
[master] killing on exit
shutting down processing monitor...
... shutting down processing monitor complete
done
lizhi@lizhi-HP-EliteBook-8460w:~/download codes/rrtstar_planner$
```

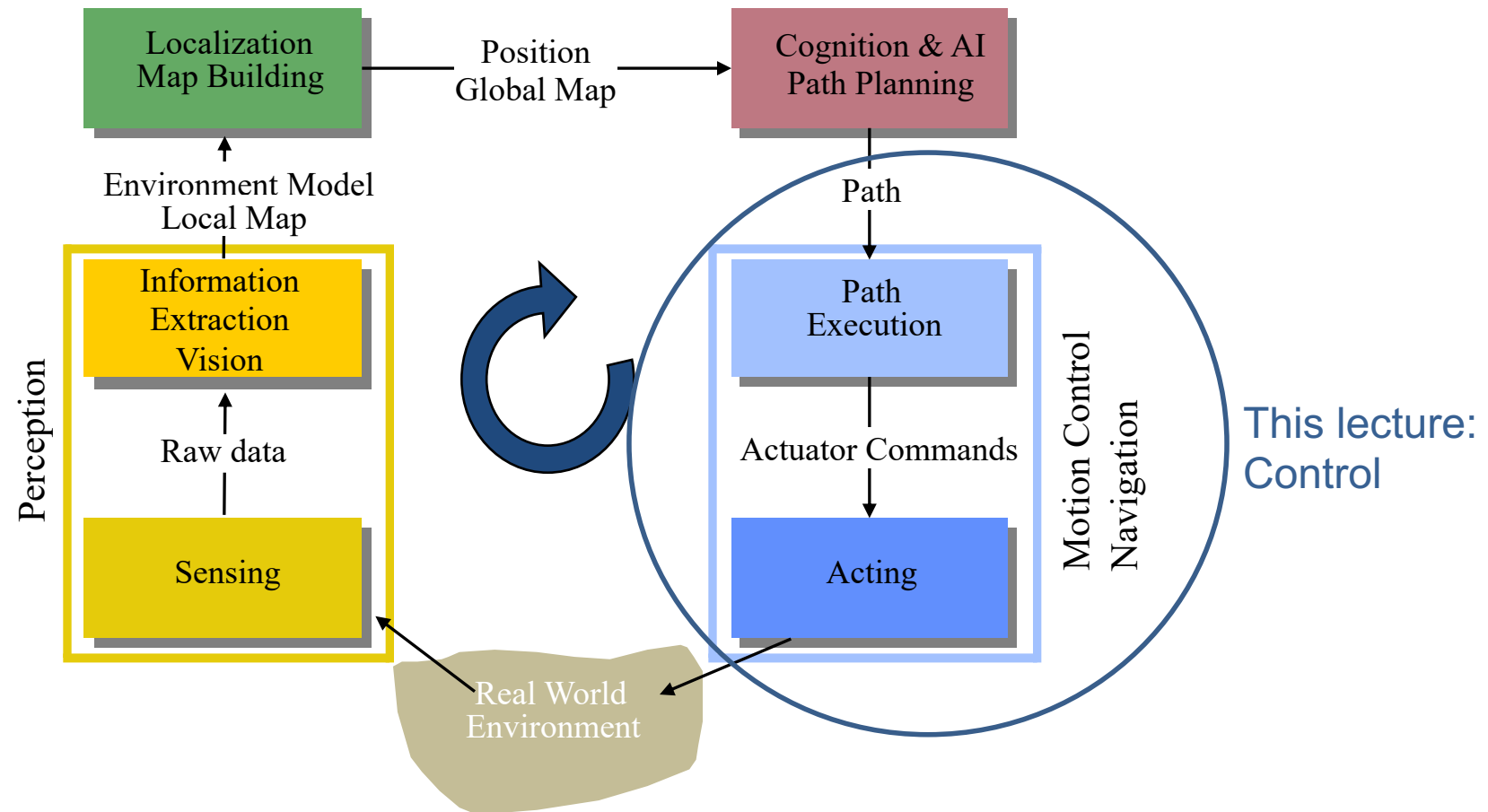




teb_local_planner

An optimal trajectory planner for mobile robots based on Timed-Elastic-Bands

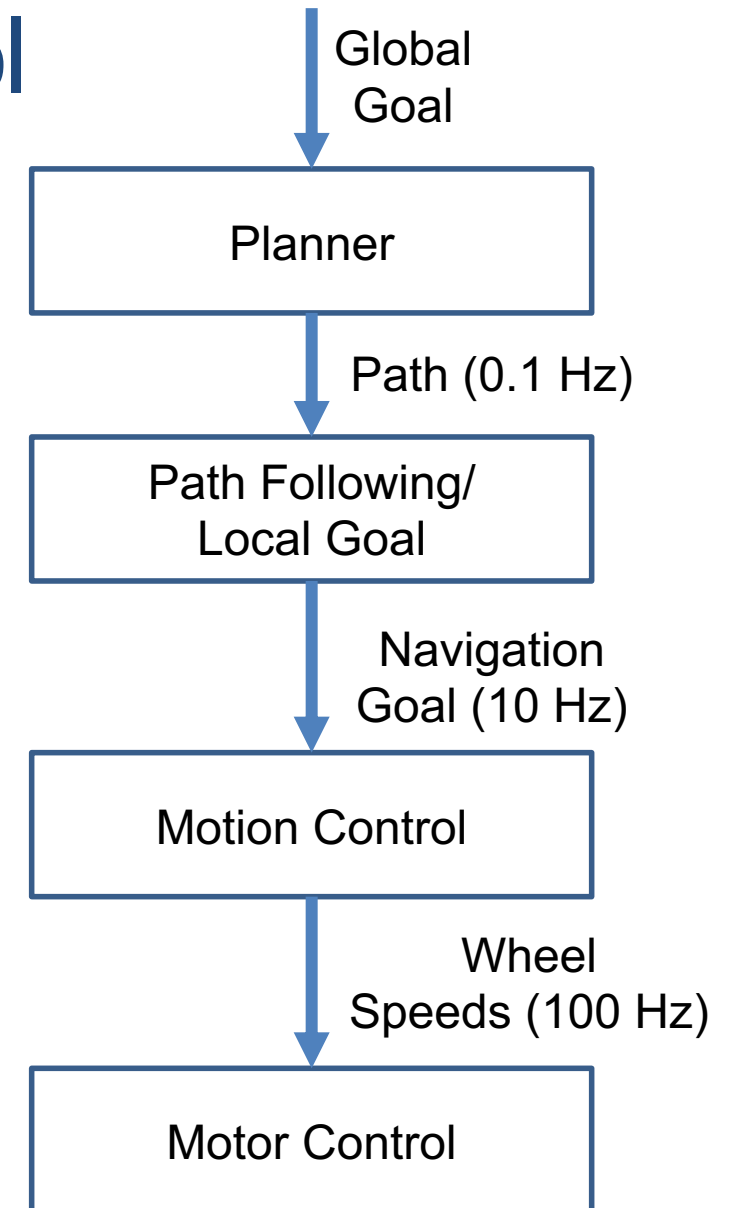
General Control Scheme for Mobile Robot Systems



- Autonomous mobile robots move around in the environment. Therefore **ALL** of them:
 - They need to know **where** they **are**.
 - They need to know **where** their **goal** is.
 - They need to know **how** to get there.
- Different levels:
 - Control:
 - How much power to the motors to move in that direction, reach desired speed
 - Navigation:
 - Avoid obstacles
 - Classify the terrain in front of you
 - Predict the behavior (motion) of other agents (humans, robots, animals, machines)
 - Planning:
 - Long distance path planning
 - What is the way, optimize for certain parameters

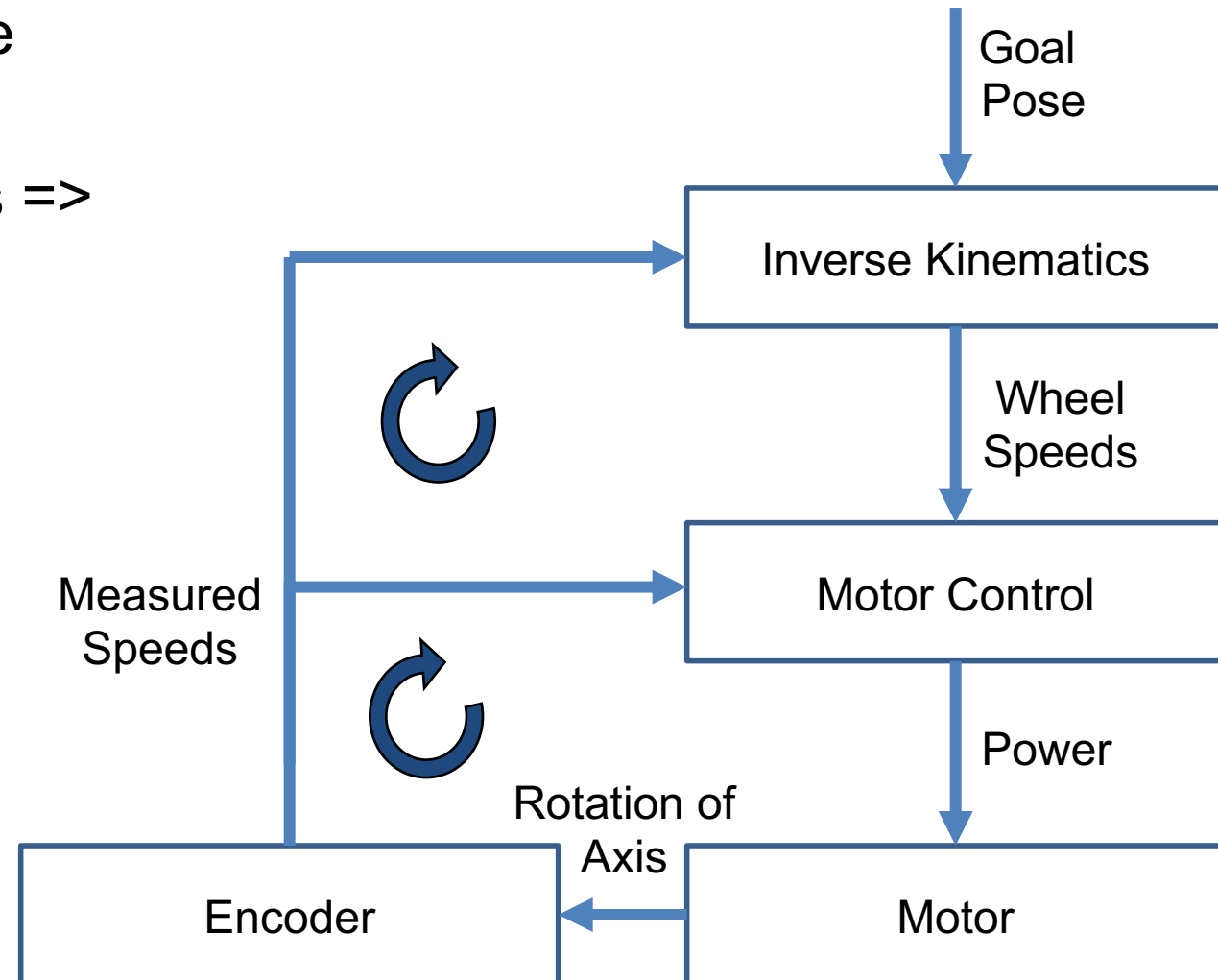
Navigation, Motion & Motor Control

- Navigation/ Motion Control:
 - Where to drive to **next** in order to reach goal
 - Output: motion vector (direction) and speed
 - For example:
 - follow path (Big Model)
 - go to unexplored area (Big Model)
 - drive forward (Small Model)
 - be attracted to goal area (Small Model)
- Motion Control:
 - How use propulsion to achieve motion vector
- Motor Control:
 - How much power to achieve propulsion (wheel speed)



Control Hierarchy

- Assume we have a goal pose (close by)
- Calculate Inverse Kinematics =>
- Desired wheel speeds
 - Typically not just one wheel =>
 - Many motor controllers, motors, encoders
- Motor control loop
- Pose control loop



ROS2 Navigation 2

navigation.ros.org/

More infos next
class!

