



上海科技大学  
ShanghaiTech University

## CS283: Robotics Fall 2016: Planning

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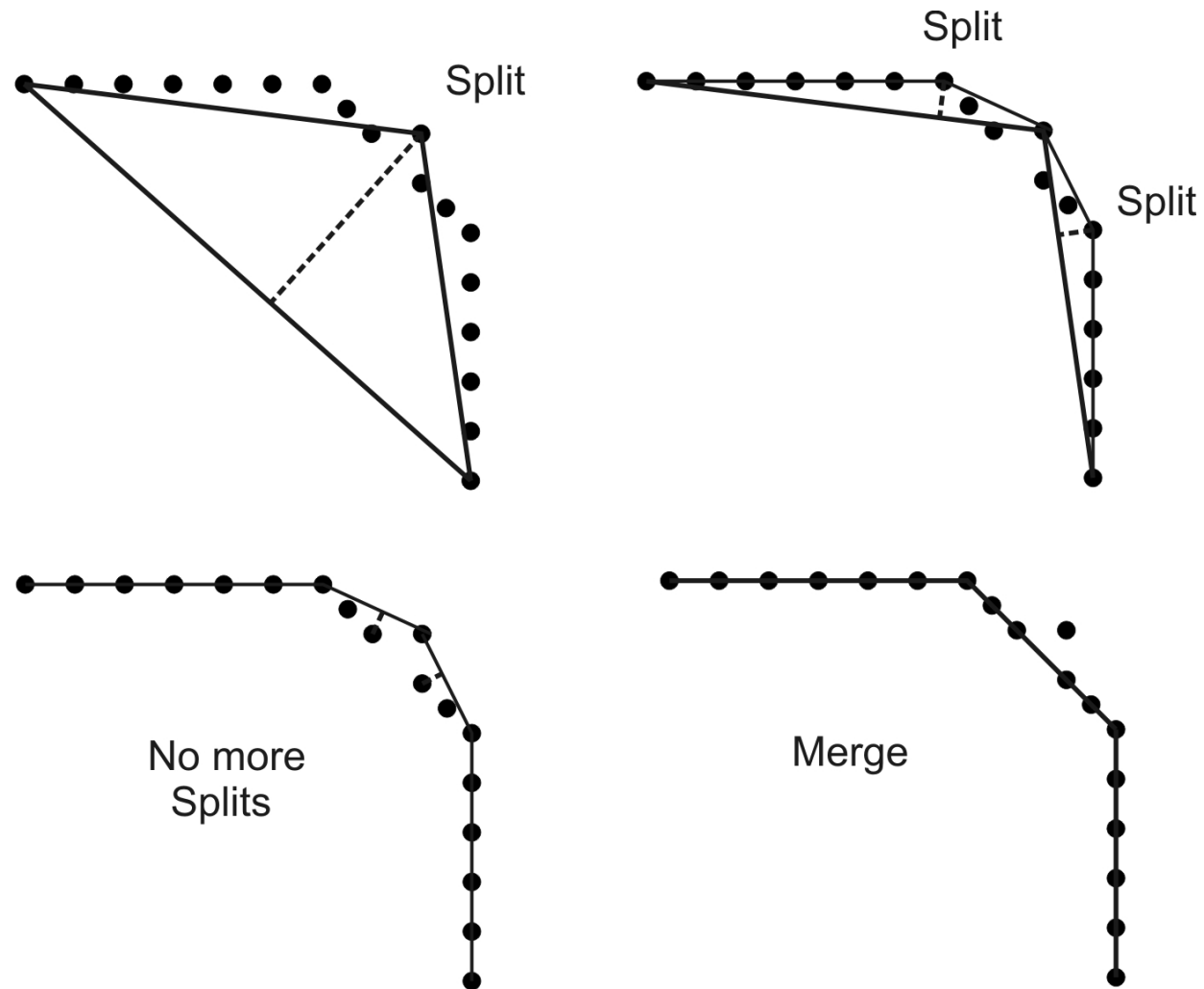
Sören Schwertfeger / 师泽仁

ShanghaiTech University

# REVIEW

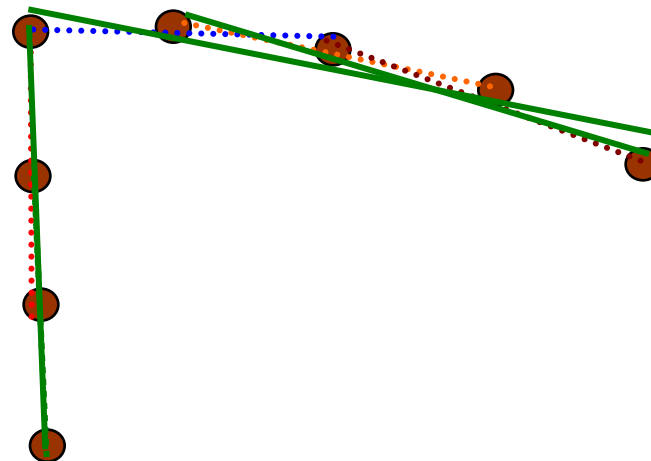
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# Algorithm 1: Split-and-Merge (Iterative-End-Point-Fit)



# Algorithm 2: Line-Regression

- Uses a “sliding window” of size  $Nf$
- The points within each “sliding window” are fitted by a segment
- Then adjacent segments are merged if their line parameters are close

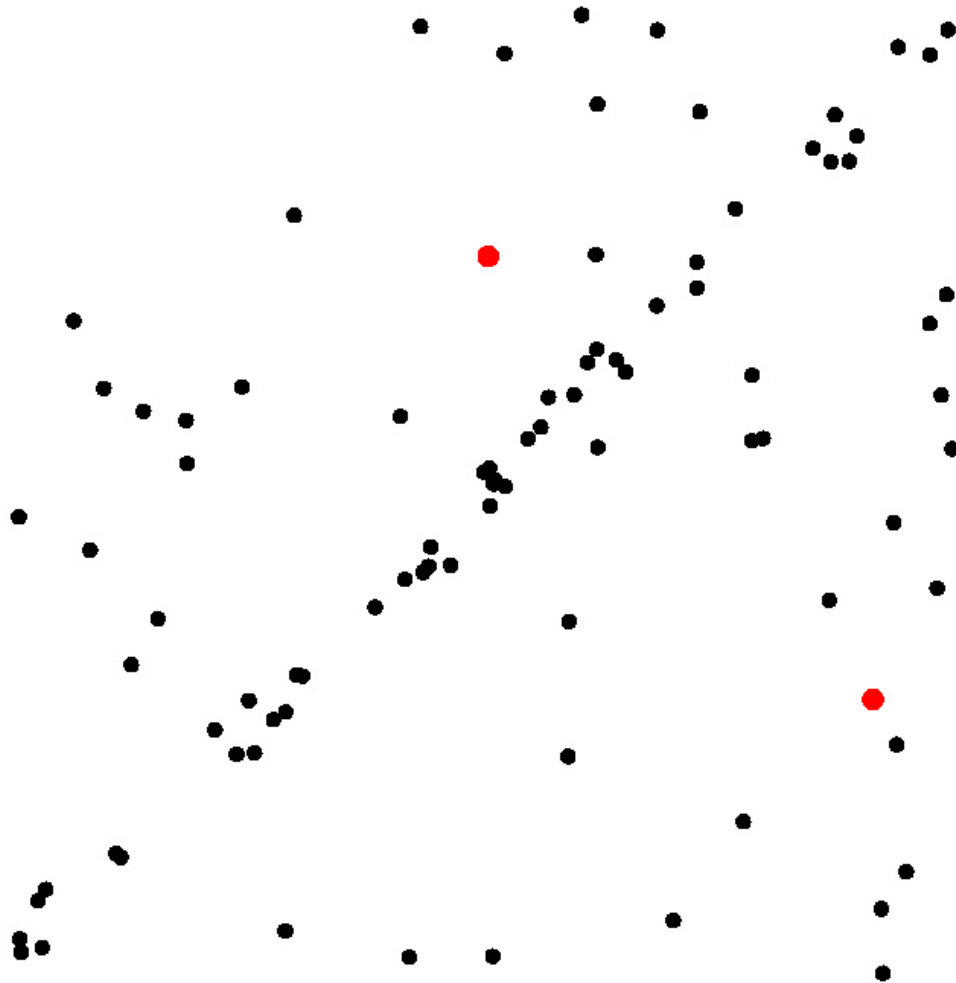


$Nf = 3$

# Algorithm 3: RANSAC

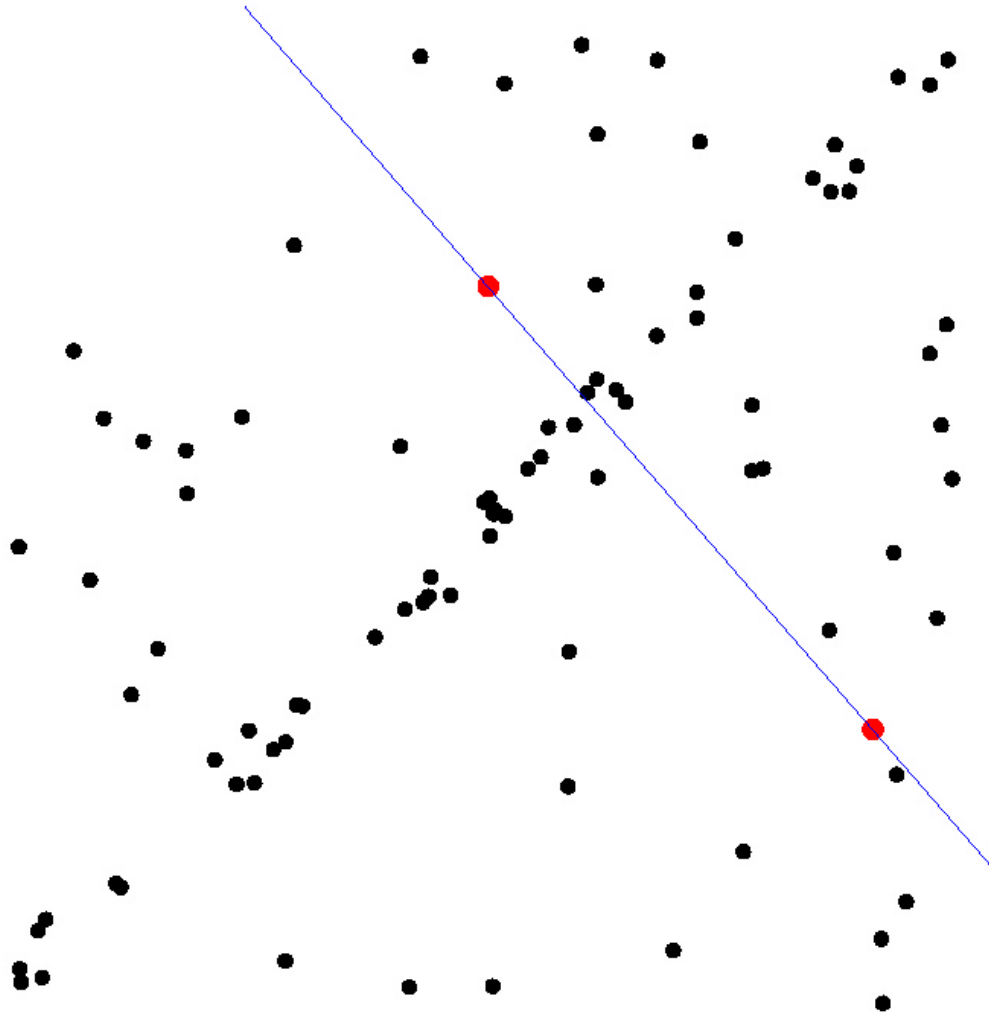


# Algorithm 3: RANSAC



- **Select sample of 2 points at random**

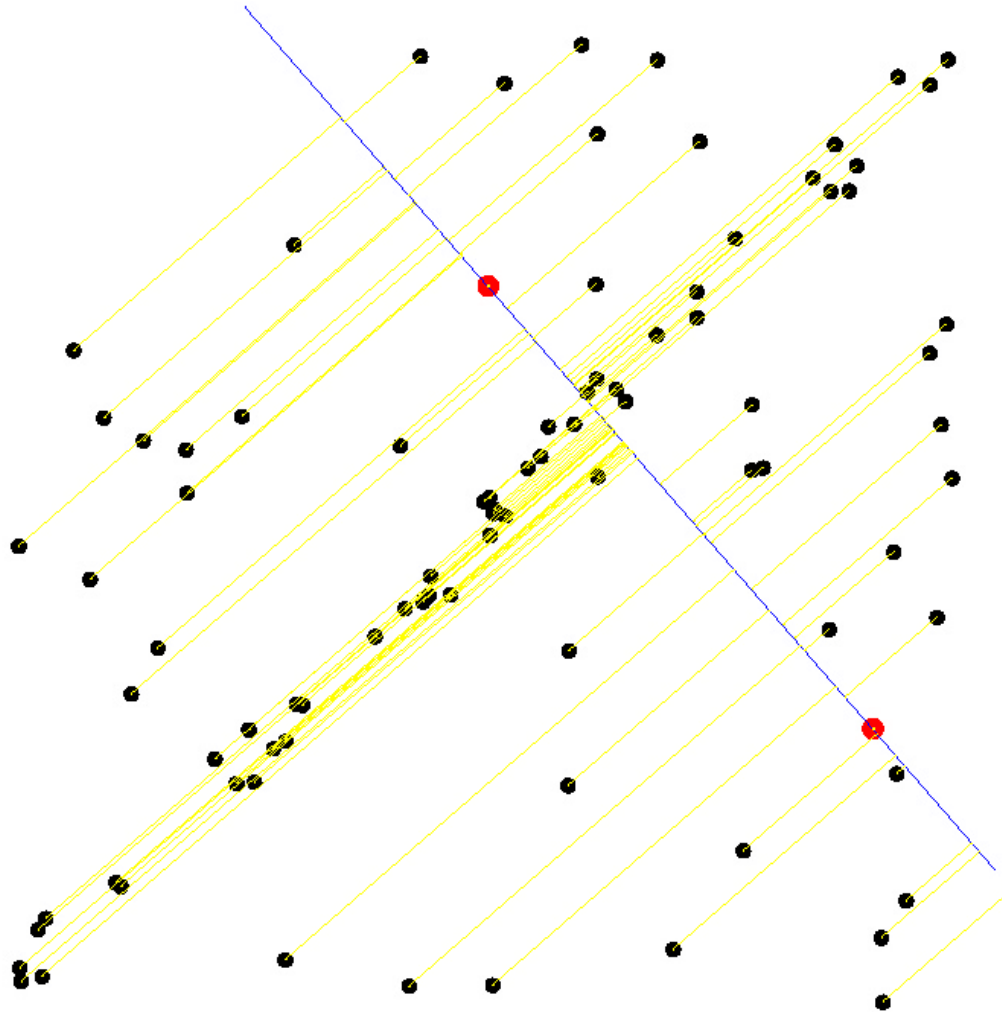
# Algorithm 3: RANSAC



- Select sample of 2 points at random

- **Calculate model parameters that fit the data in the sample**

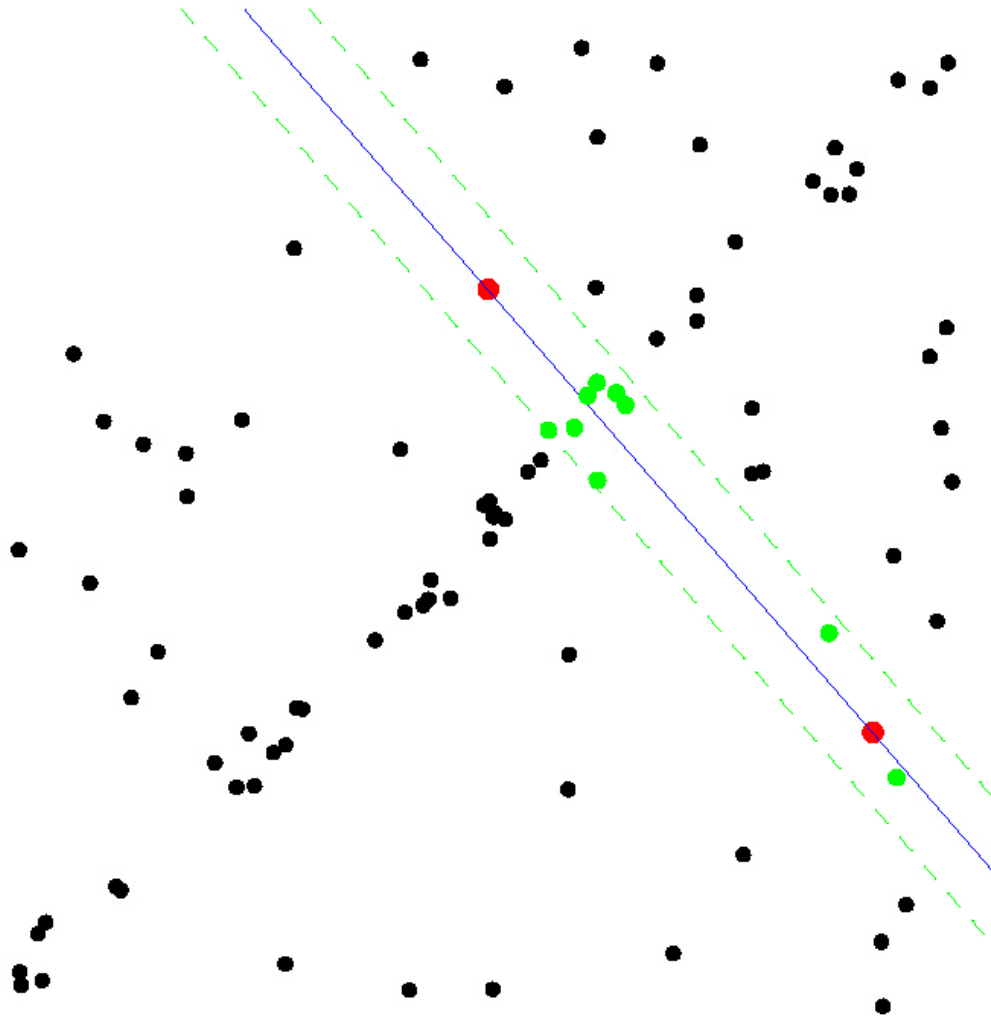
# RANSAC



- Select sample of 2 points at random
- Calculate model parameters that fit the data in the sample
- **Calculate error function for each data point**

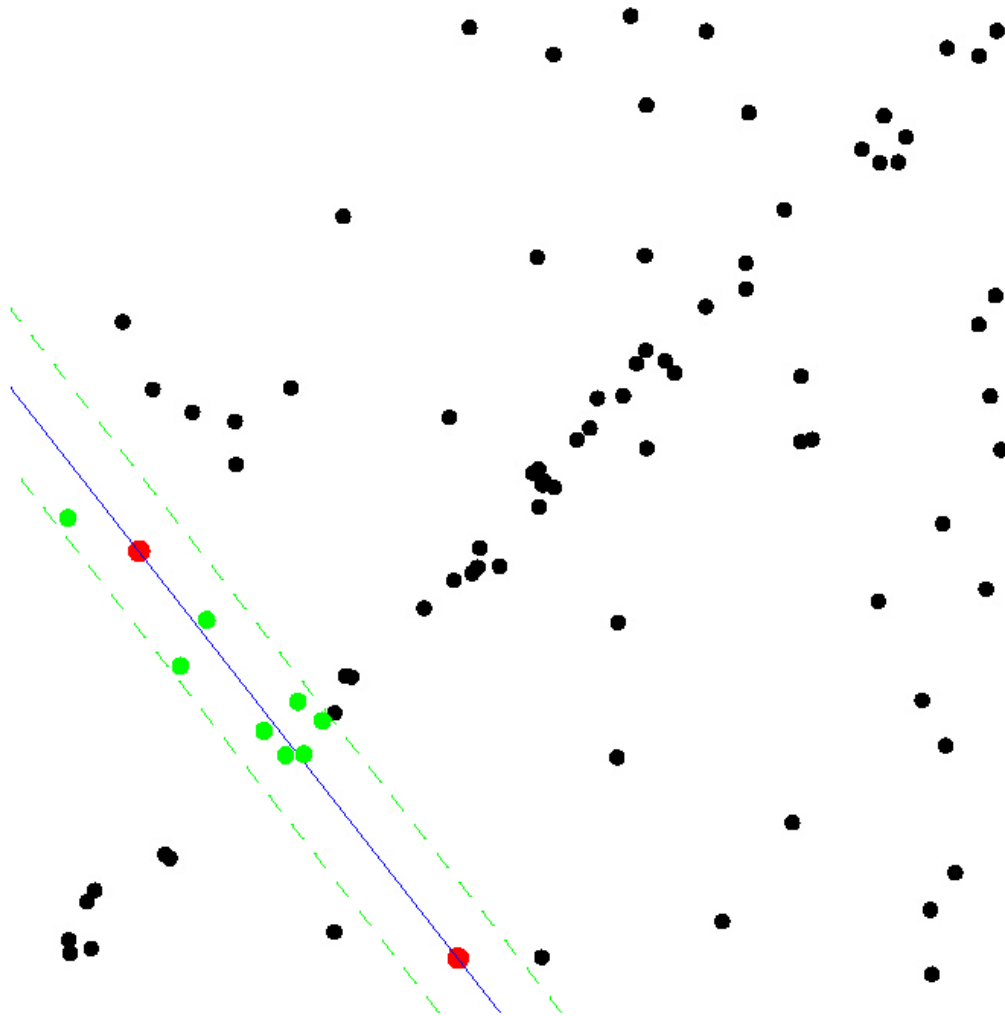


# Algorithm 3: RANSAC



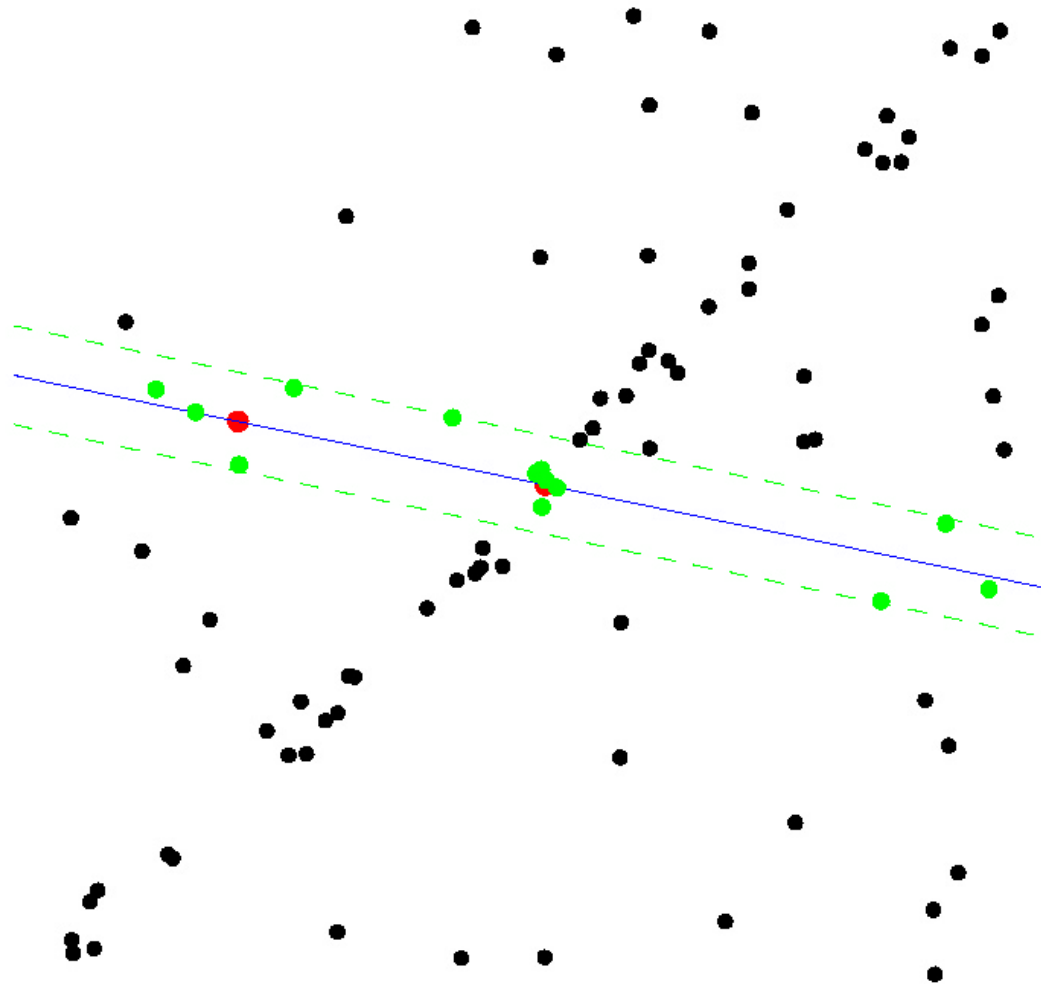
- Select sample of 2 points at random
- Calculate model parameters that fit the data in the sample
- Calculate error function for each data point
- **Select data that support current hypothesis**

# Algorithm 3: RANSAC



- Select sample of 2 points at random
- Calculate model parameters that fit the data in the sample
- Calculate error function for each data point
- Select data that support current hypothesis
- **Repeat sampling**

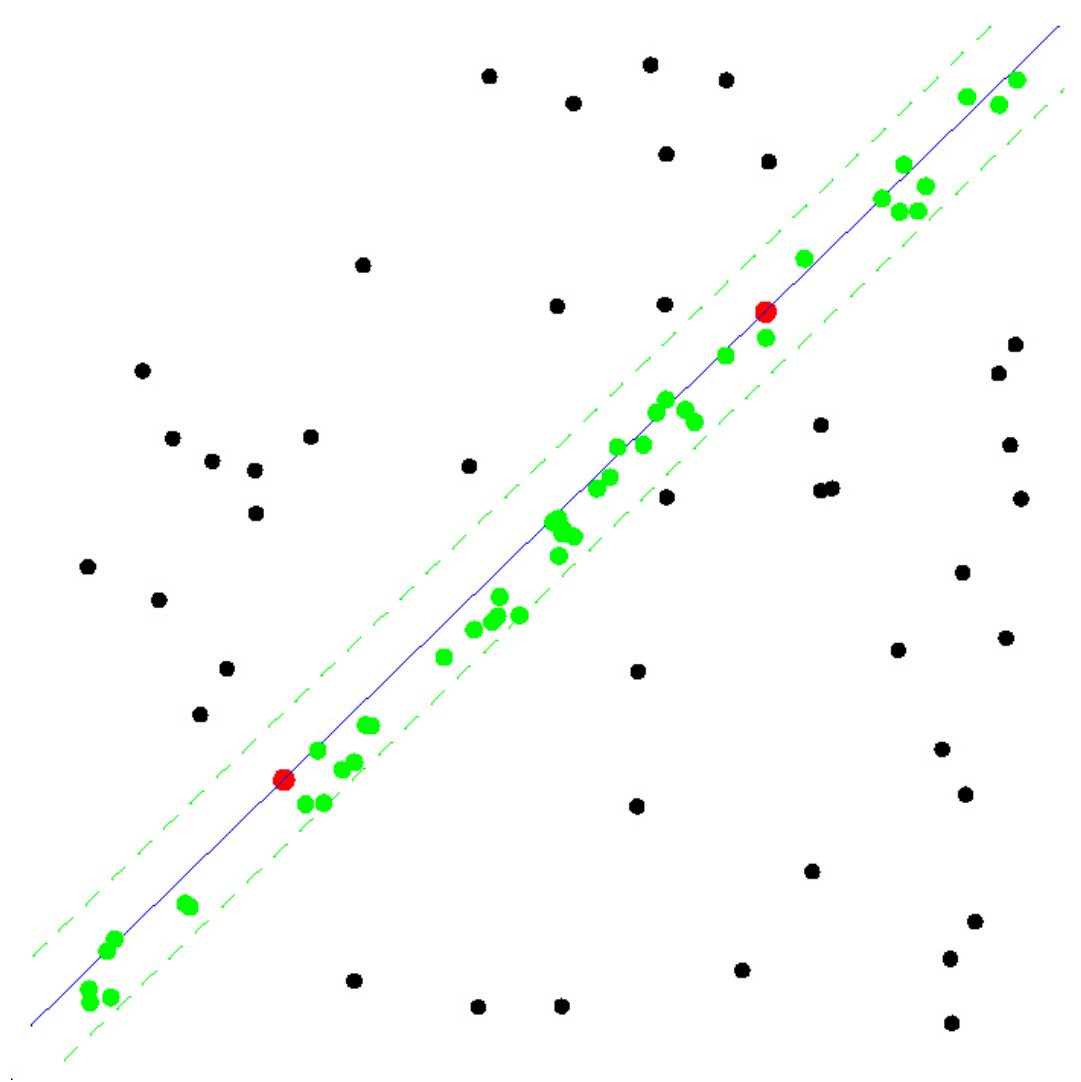
# Algorithm 3: RANSAC



- Select sample of 2 points at random
- Calculate model parameters that fit the data in the sample
- Calculate error function for each data point
- Select data that support current hypothesis
- **Repeat sampling**

# Algorithm 3: RANSAC

**ALL-OUTLIER SAMPLE**



# Algorithm 4: Hough-Transform

- Hough Transform uses a voting scheme

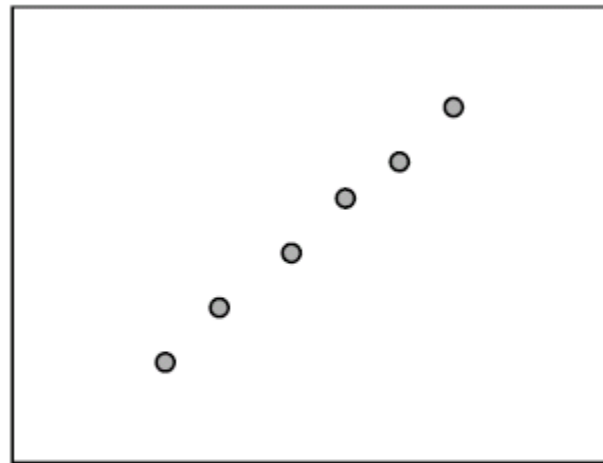
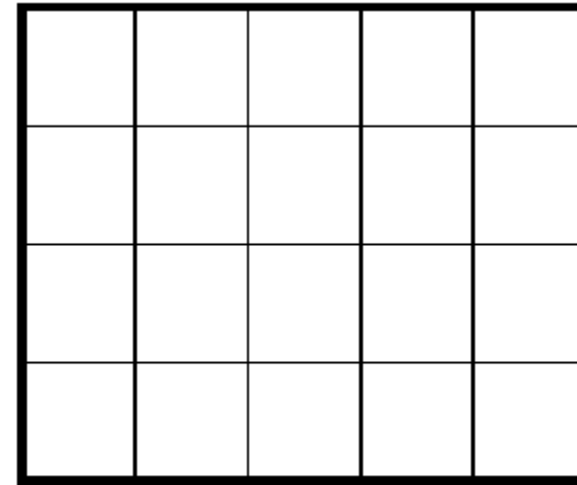
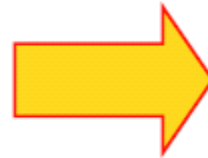
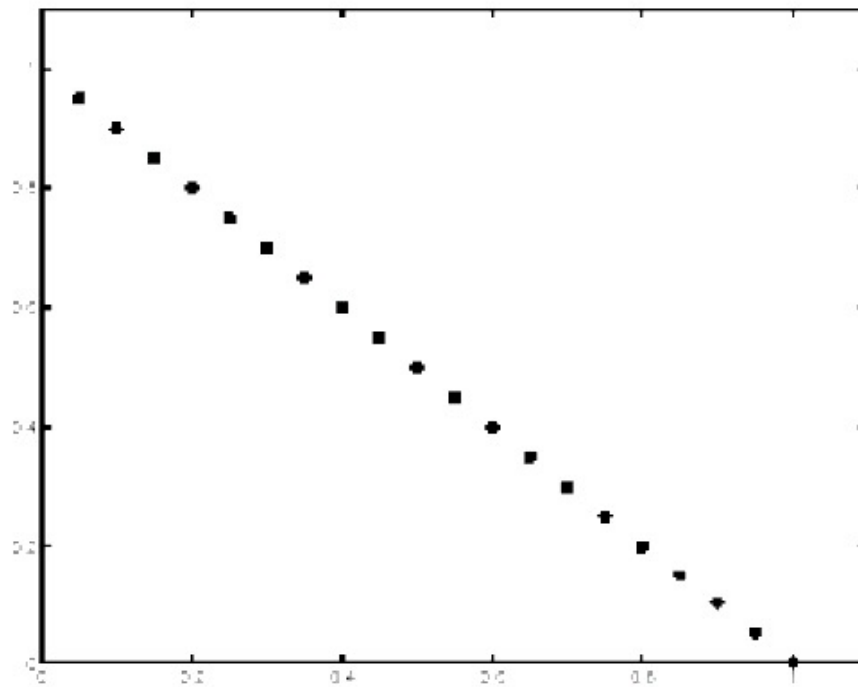


Image space

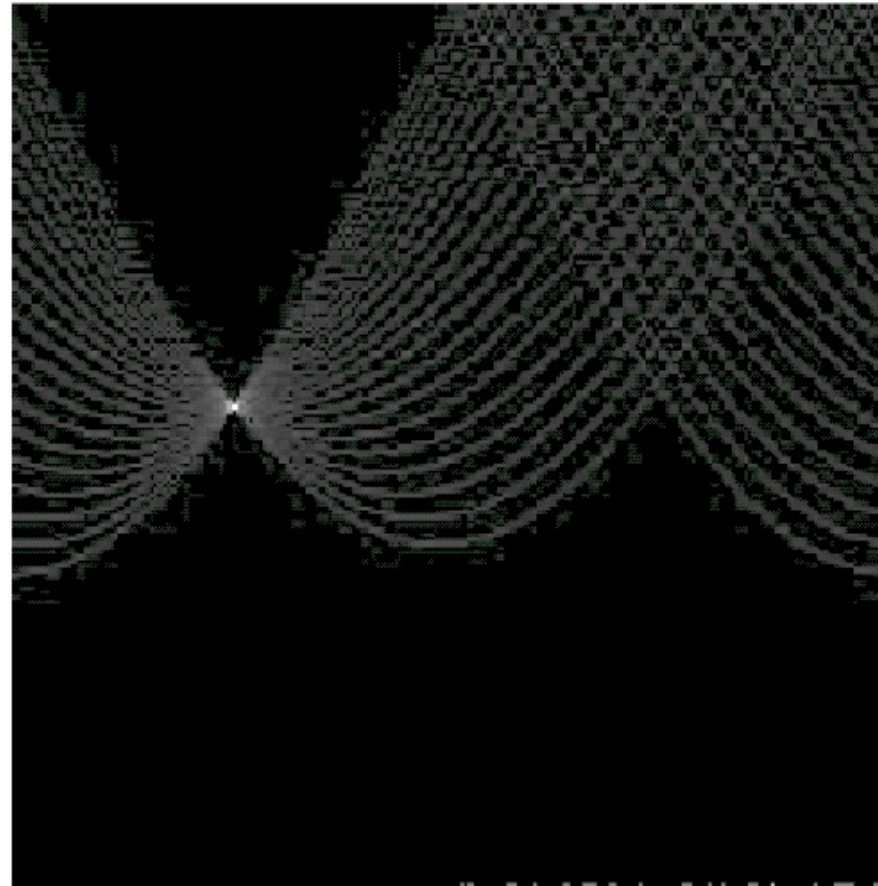


Hough parameter space

# Algorithm 4: Hough-Transform



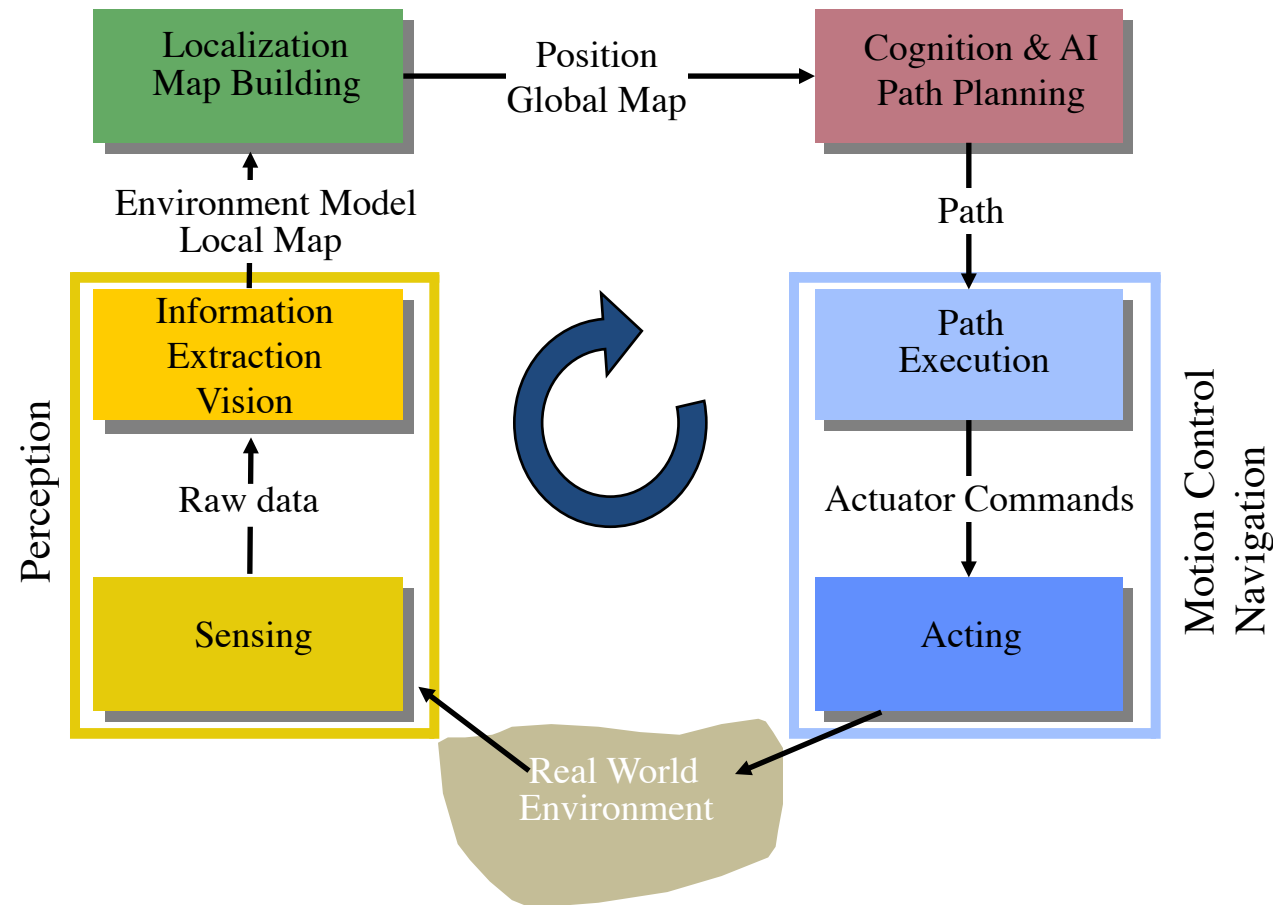
features



votes

- 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
    - Follow a path
  - Planning:
    - Long distance path planning
    - What is the way, optimize for certain parameters

# General Control Scheme for Mobile Robot Systems





# MAPS

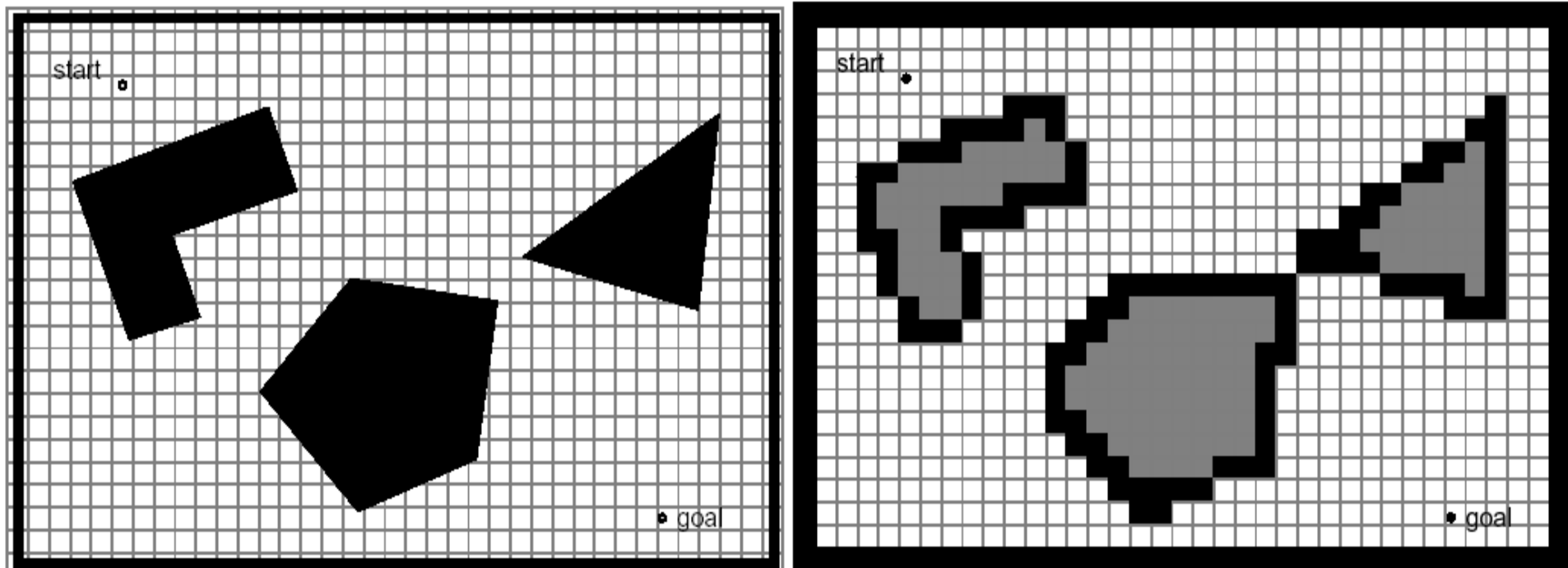
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# Representation of the Environment

- Environment Representation
  - Continuous Metric →  $x, y, \theta$
  - Discrete Metric → metric grid
  - Discrete Topological → topological grid
- Environment Modeling
  - Raw sensor data, e.g. laser range data, grayscale images
    - large volume of data, low distinctiveness on the level of individual values
    - makes use of all acquired information
  - Low level features, e.g. line other geometric features
    - medium volume of data, average distinctiveness
    - filters out the useful information, still ambiguities
  - High level features, e.g. doors, a car, the Eiffel tower
    - low volume of data, high distinctiveness
    - filters out the useful information, few/ no ambiguities

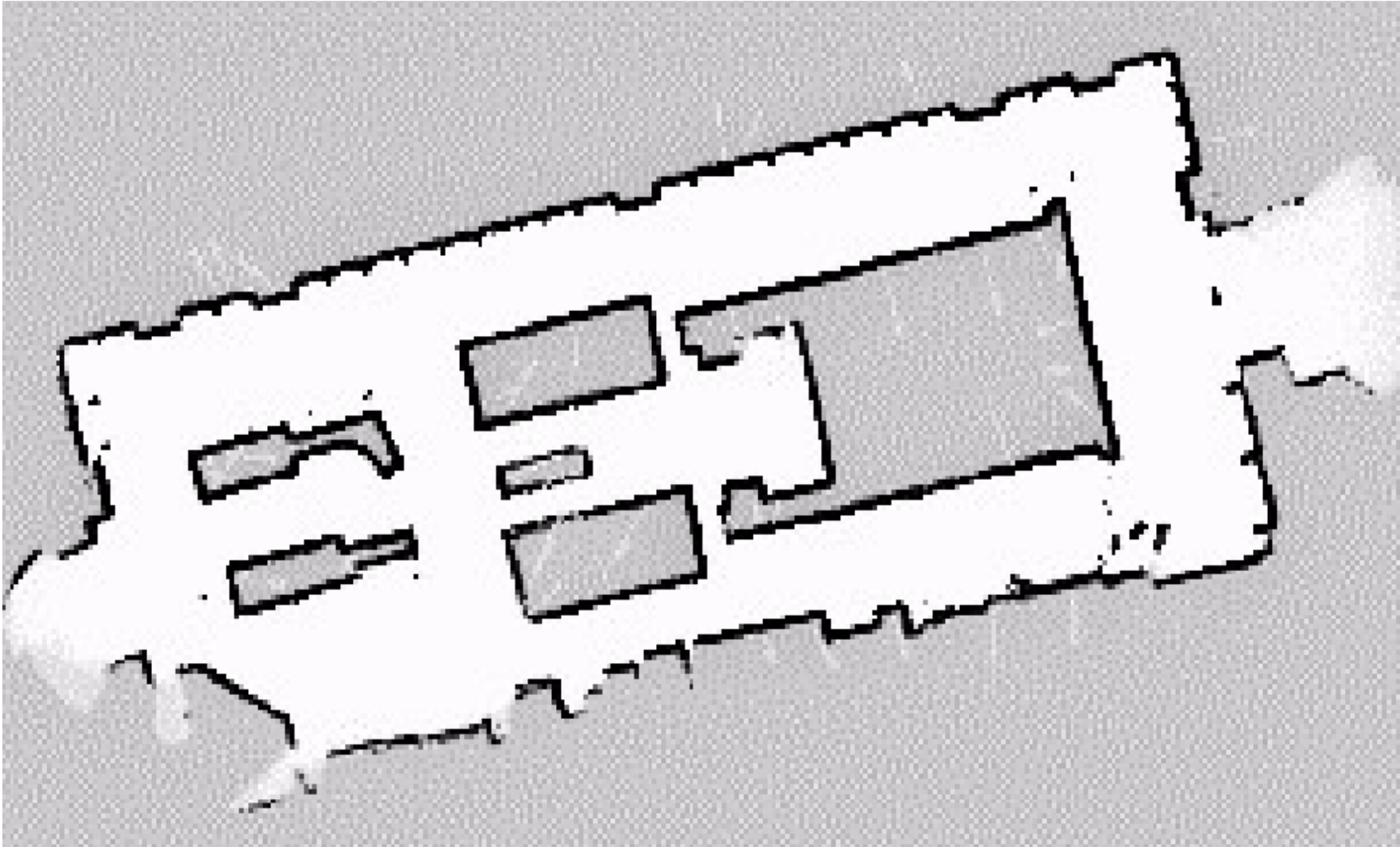
# Map Representation: Approximate cell decomposition

- Fixed cell decomposition => 2D grid map
  - Cells: probability of being occupied =>
    - 0 free; 0.5 (or 128) unknown; 1 or (255) occupied



# Map Representation: Occupancy grid

- Fixed cell decomposition: occupancy grid example

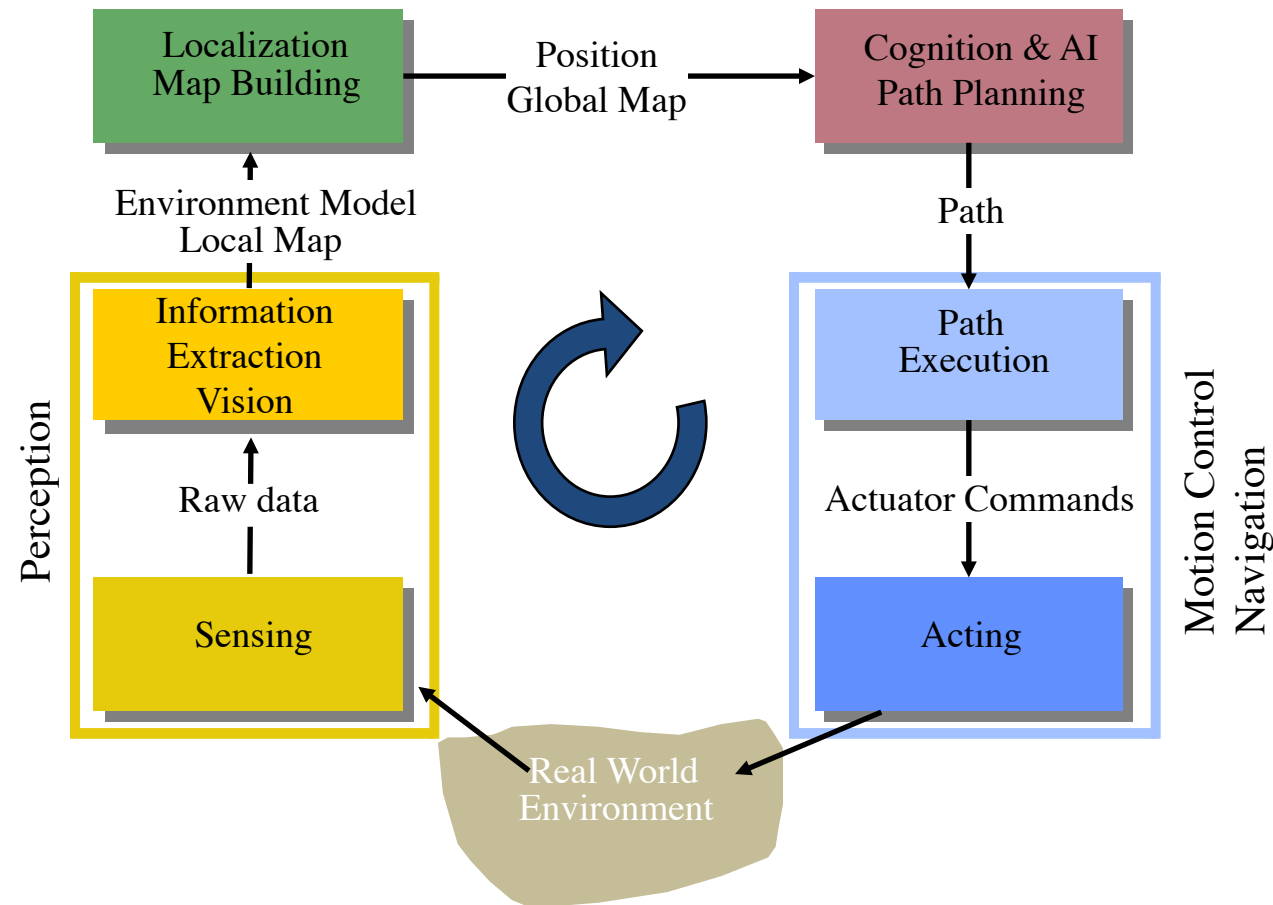


*Courtesy of S. Thrun*

# PLANNING

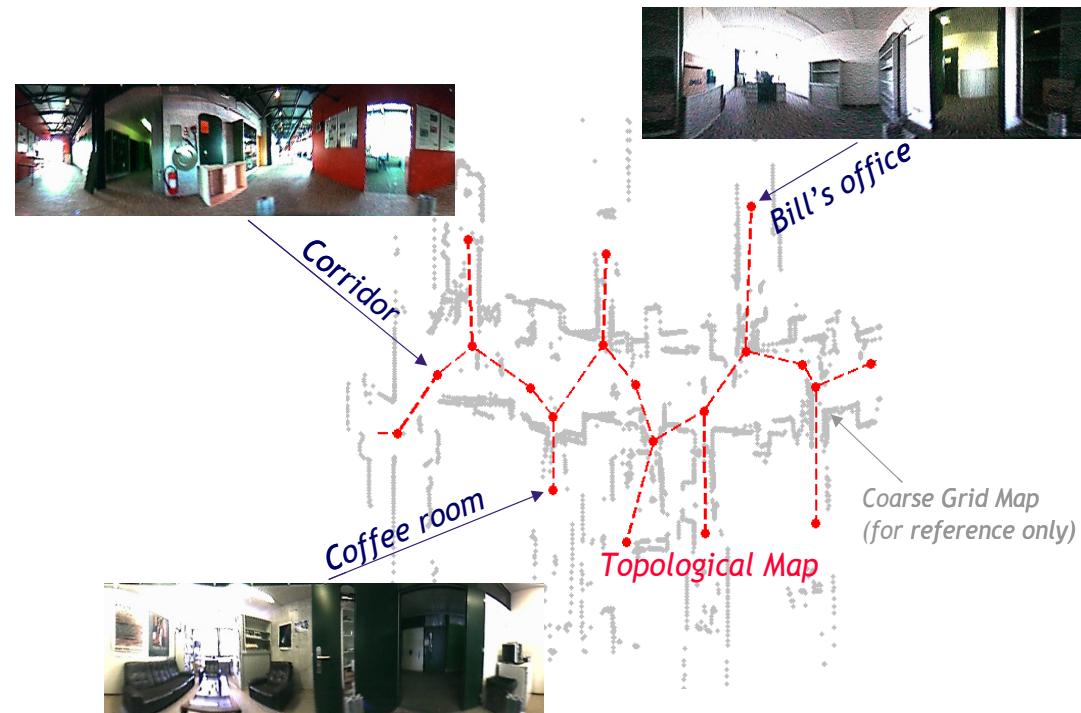
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# General Control Scheme for Mobile Robot Systems



# The Planning Problem

- The problem: **find a path in the work space** (physical space) from the initial position to the goal position avoiding all collisions with the obstacles
- Assumption: there exists a good enough map of the environment for navigation.



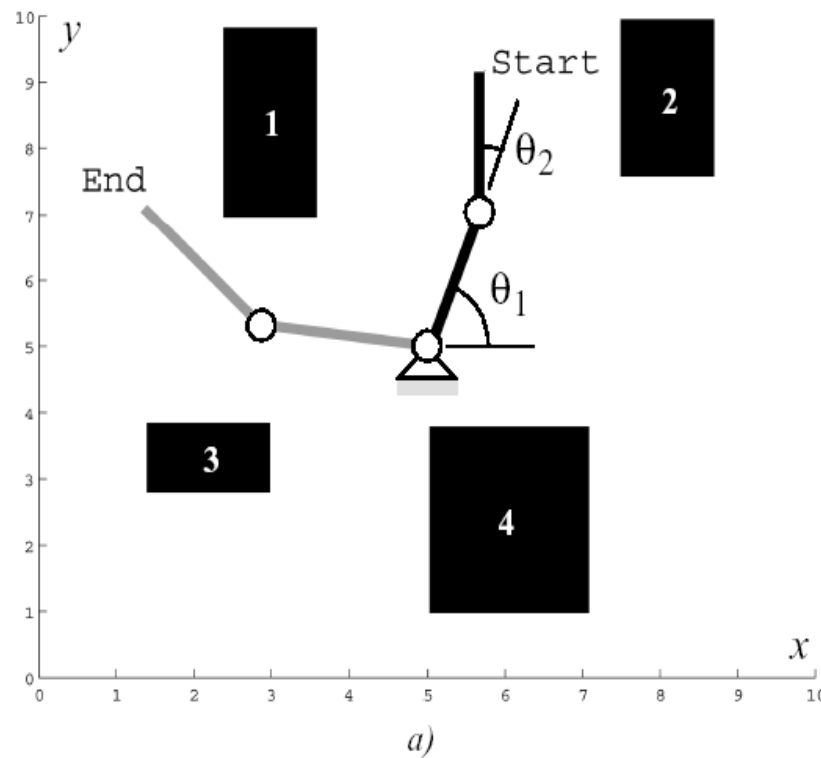
# The Planning Problem

- We can generally distinguish between
  - (global) path planning and
  - (local) obstacle avoidance.
- First step:
  - Transformation of the map into a representation useful for planning
  - This step is planner-dependent
- Second step:
  - Plan a path on the transformed map
- Third step:
  - Send motion commands to controller
  - This step is planner-dependent (e.g. Model based feed forward, path following)

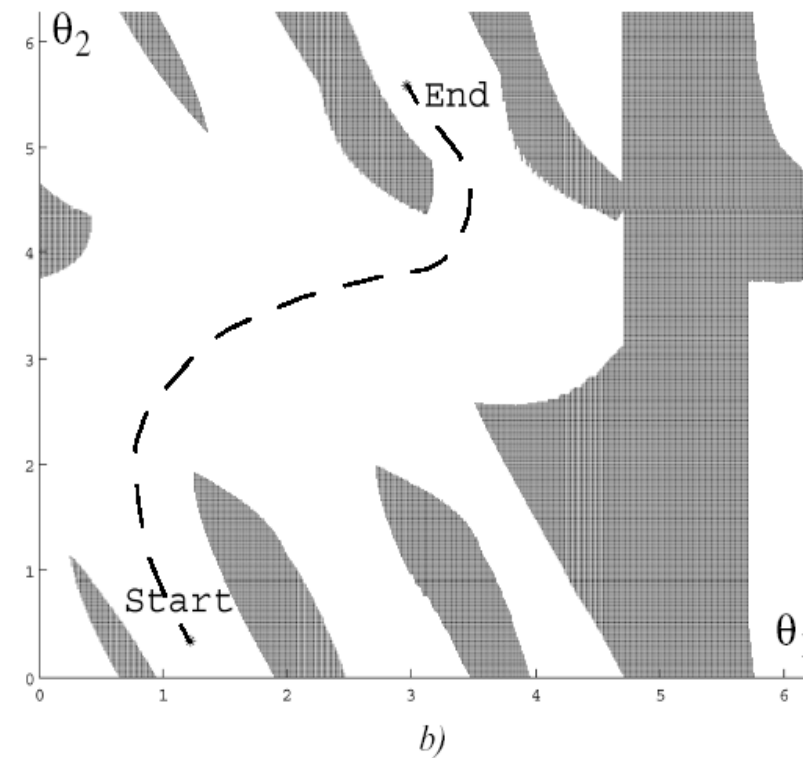


# Work Space (Map) $\rightarrow$ Configuration Space

- State or configuration  $q$  can be described with  $k$  values  $q_i$



**Work Space**



**Configuration Space:**

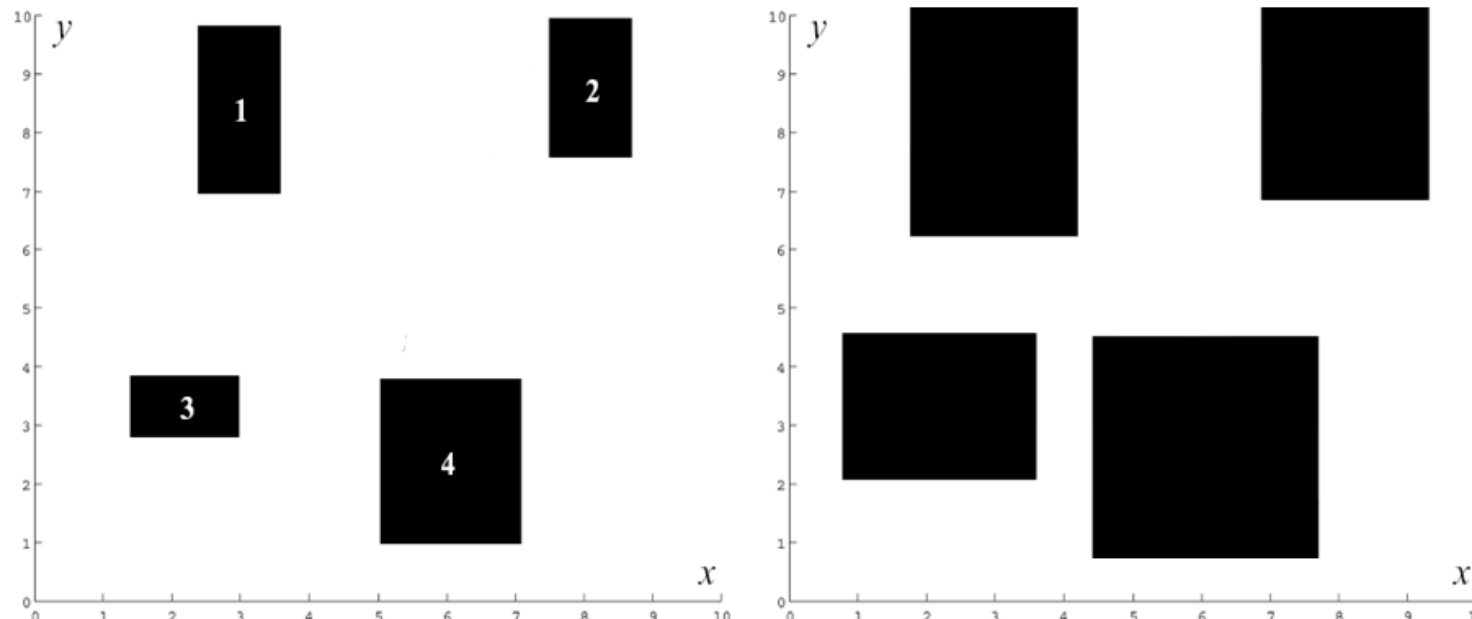
the dimension of this

space is equal to the Degrees of Freedom (DoF) of the robot

- What is the configuration space of a mobile robot?

# Configuration Space for a Mobile Robot

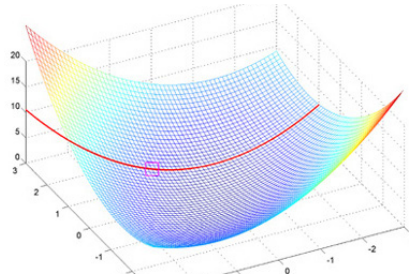
- Mobile robots operating on a flat ground (2D) have 3 DoF:  $(x, y, \theta)$
- Differential Drive: only two motors => only 2 degrees of freedom directly controlled (forward/ backward + turn) => non-holonomic
- Simplification: assume robot is holonomic and it is a point => configuration space is reduced to 2D  $(x,y)$
- => inflate obstacle by size of the robot radius to avoid crashes => obstacle growing



# Path Planning: Overview of Algorithms

## 1. Optimal Control

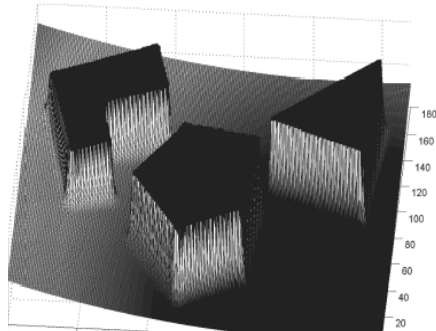
- Solves truly optimal solution
- Becomes intractable for even moderately complex as well as nonconvex problems



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

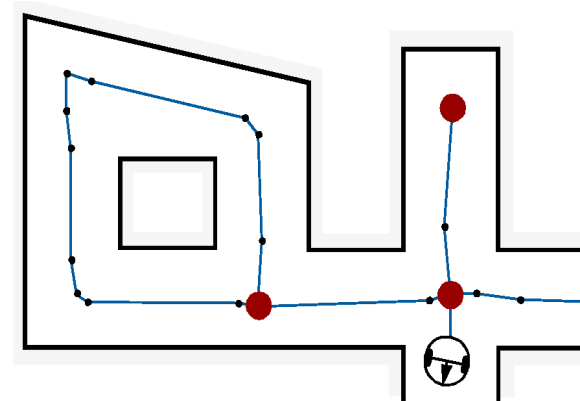
## 2. Potential Field

- 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

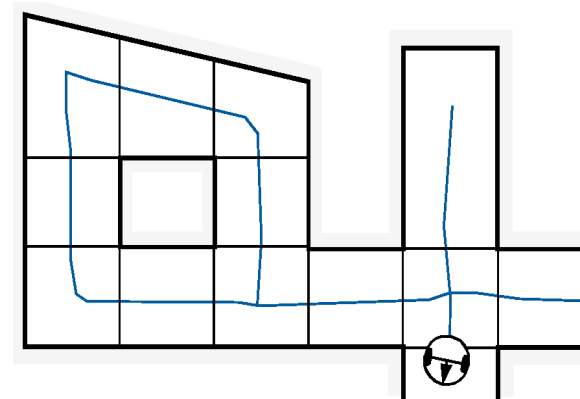


## 3. Graph Search

- Identify a set edges between nodes within the free space

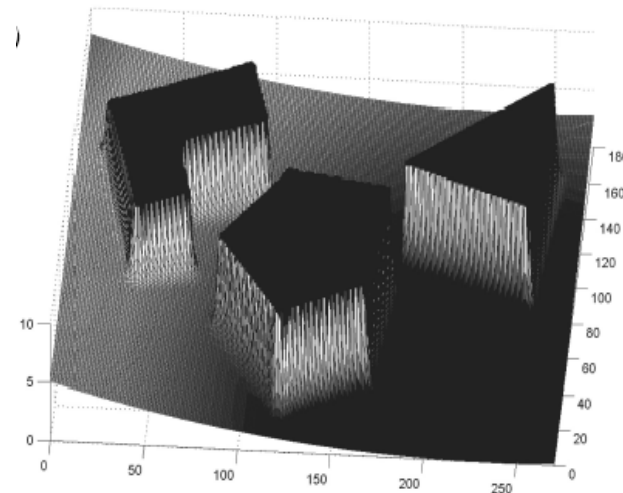
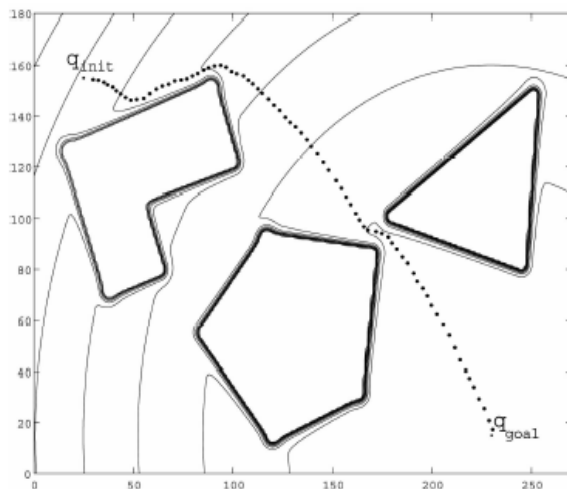
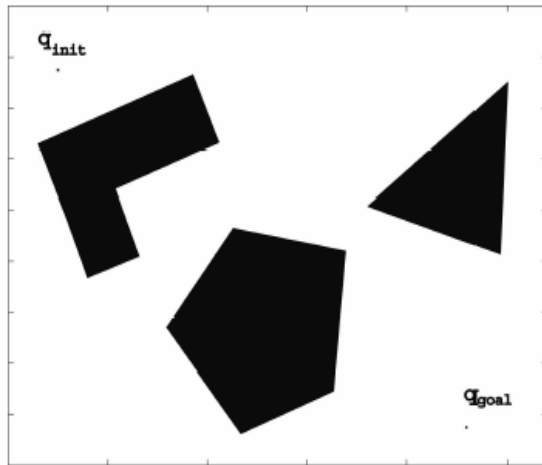


- Where to put the nodes?



# Potential Field Path Planning Strategies

- Robot is treated as a *point under the influence* of an artificial potential field.
- Operates in the continuum
  - Generated robot movement is similar to a ball rolling down the hill
  - Goal generates attractive force
  - Obstacle are repulsive forces



# Potential Field Path Planning: Potential Field Generation

- Generation of potential field function  $U(q)$ 
  - attracting (goal) and repulsing (obstacle) fields
  - summing up the fields
  - functions must be differentiable
- Generate artificial force field  $F(q)$

$$F(q) = -\nabla U(q) = -\nabla U_{att}(q) - \nabla U_{rep}(q) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial U}{\partial x} \\ \frac{\partial U}{\partial y} \end{bmatrix}$$

- Set robot speed  $(v_x, v_y)$  proportional to the force  $F(q)$  generated by the field
  - the force field drives the robot to the goal
  - if robot is assumed to be a point mass
  - Method produces both a plan *and* the corresponding control

# Potential Field Path Planning: Attractive Potential Field

- Parabolic function representing the Euclidean distance to the goal  $\rho_{goal} = \|q - q_{goal}\|$

$$\begin{aligned}U_{att}(q) &= \frac{1}{2}k_{att} \cdot \rho_{goal}^2(q) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}k_{att} \cdot (q - q_{goal})^2\end{aligned}$$

- Attracting force converges linearly towards 0 (goal)

$$\begin{aligned}F_{att}(q) &= -\nabla U_{att}(q) \\ &= k_{att} \cdot (q - q_{goal})\end{aligned}$$

# Potential Field Path Planning: Repulsing Potential Field

- Should generate a barrier around all the obstacle
  - strong if close to the obstacle
  - not influence if far from the obstacle

$$U_{rep}(q) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2}k_{rep}\left(\frac{1}{\rho(q)} - \frac{1}{\rho_0}\right)^2 & \text{if } \rho(q) \leq \rho_0 \\ 0 & \text{if } \rho(q) \geq \rho_0 \end{cases}$$

- $\rho(q)$  : minimum distance to the object
- Field is positive or zero and *tends to infinity* as q gets closer to the object

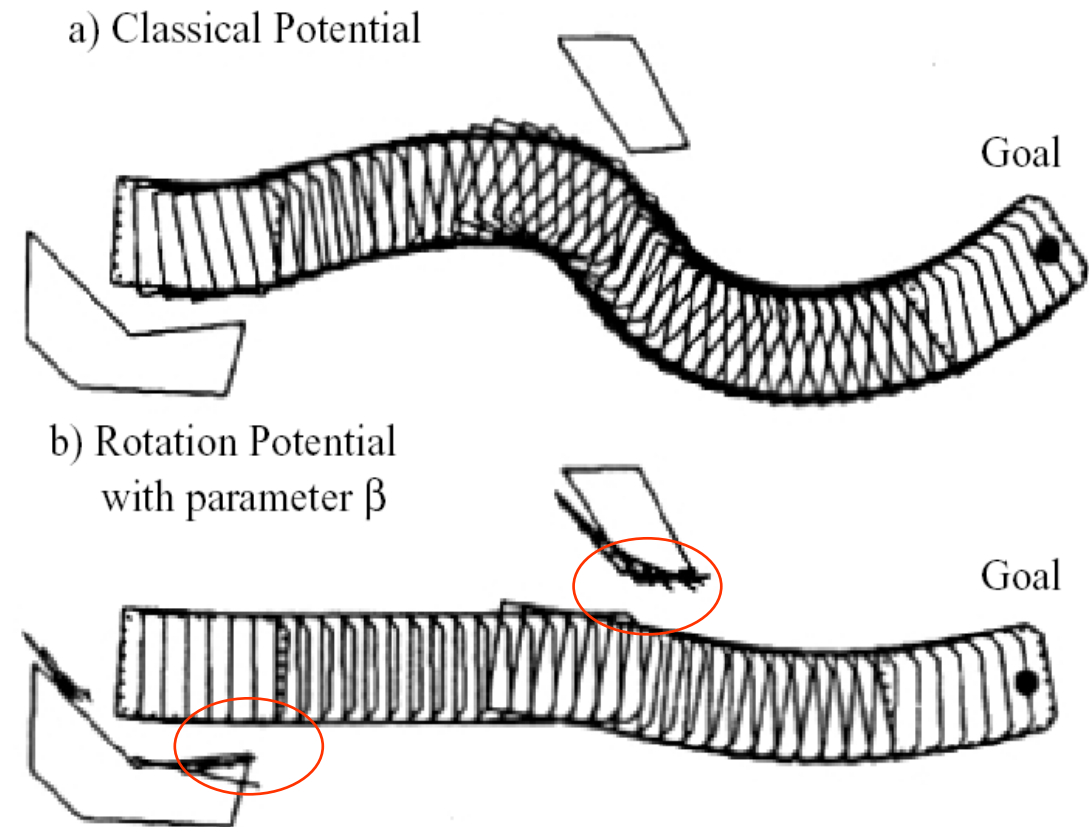
# Potential Field Path Planning:

- Notes:
  - Local minima problem exists
  - problem is getting more complex if the robot is **not** considered as a **point mass**
  - If objects are **non-convex** there exists situations where several minimal distances exist → can result in oscillations



## Potential Field Path Planning: Extended Potential Field Method

- Additionally a *rotation potential field* and a *task potential field* is introduced
- Rotation potential field
  - force is also a function of robots orientation relative to the obstacles. This is done using a gain factor that reduces the repulsive force when obstacles are parallel to robot's direction of travel
- Task potential field
  - Filters out the obstacles that should not influence the robots movements, i.e. only the obstacles in the sector in front of the robot are considered

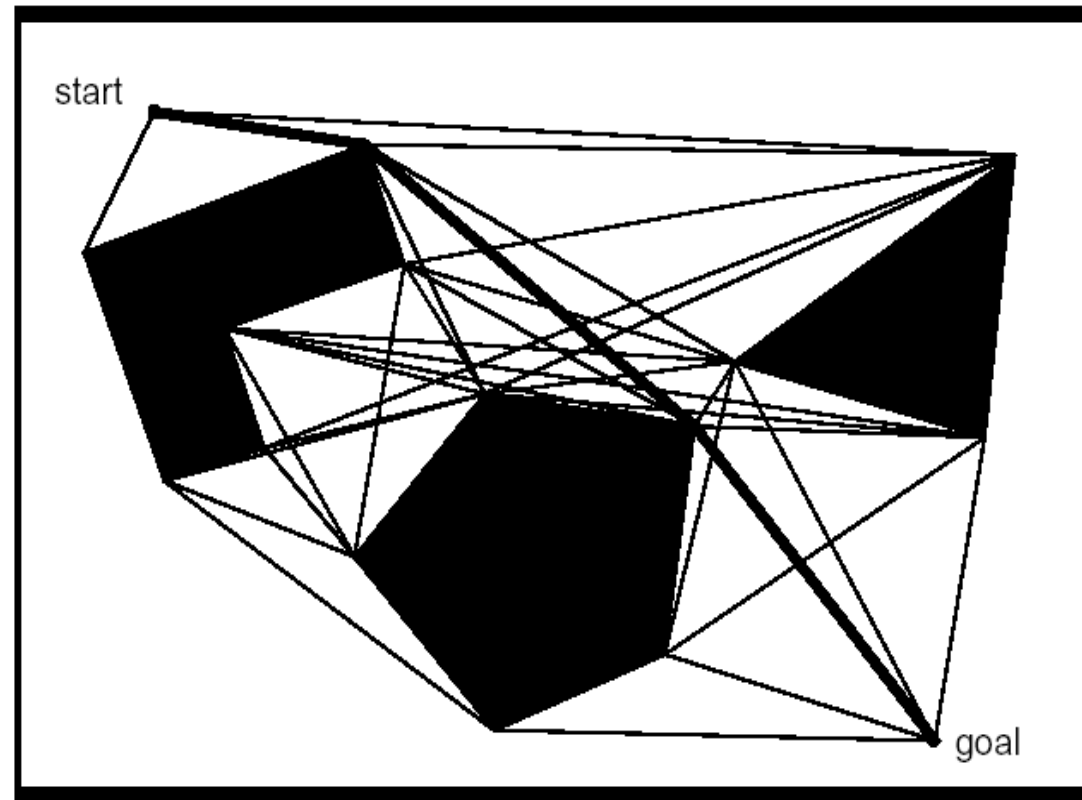


*Khatib and Chatila*

# 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

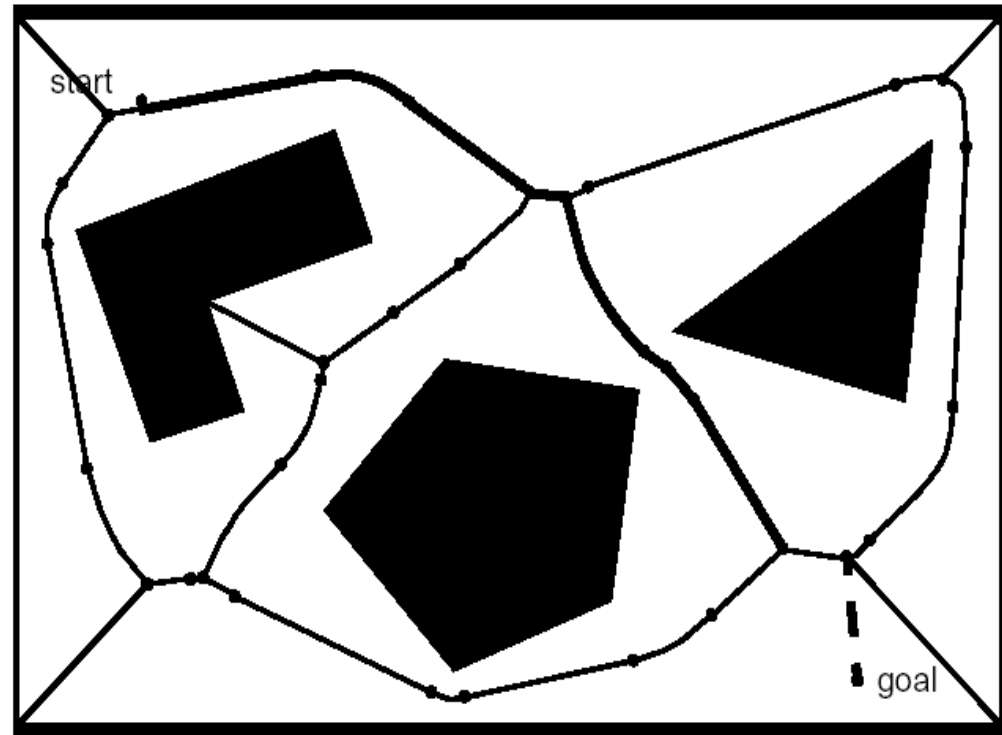
- Pros

- 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

# Graph Construction: Voronoi Diagram

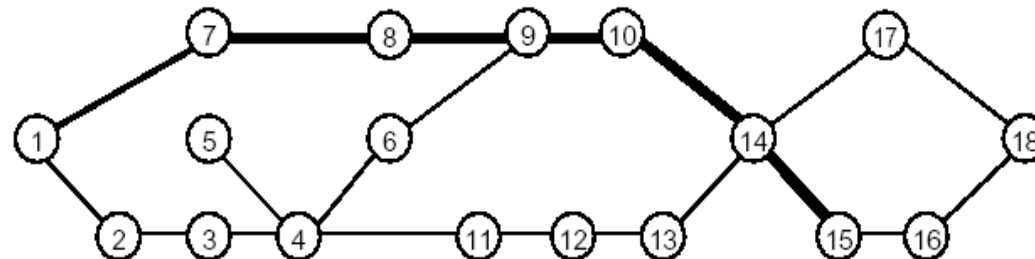
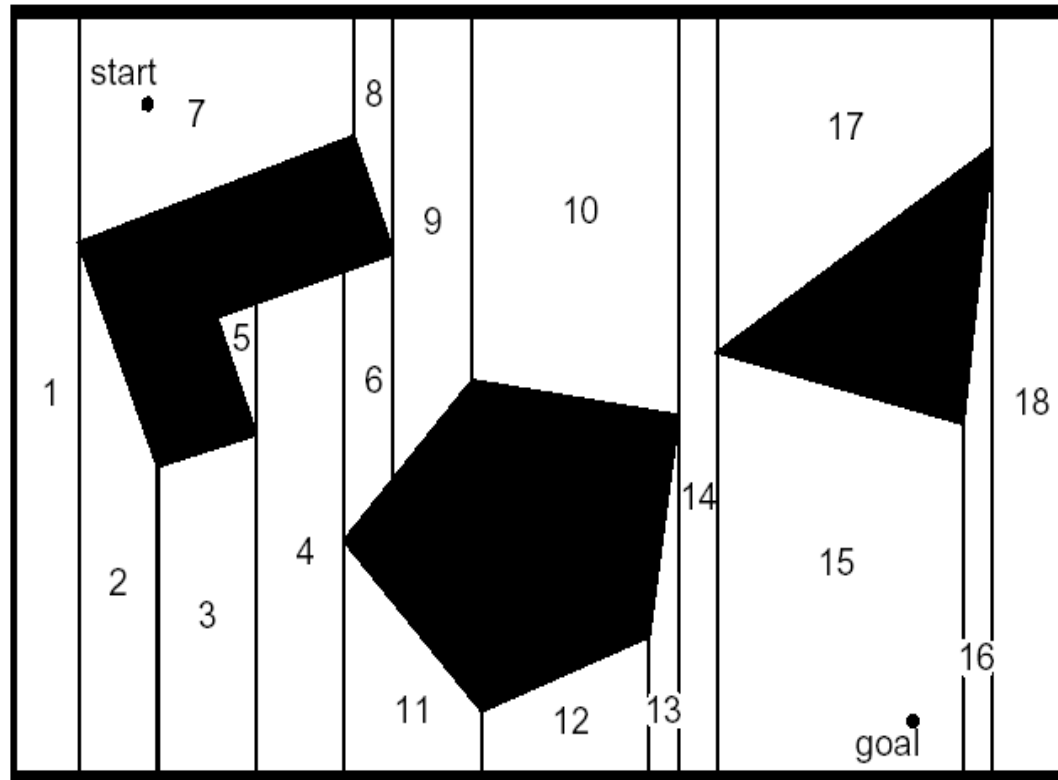
- Pros

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

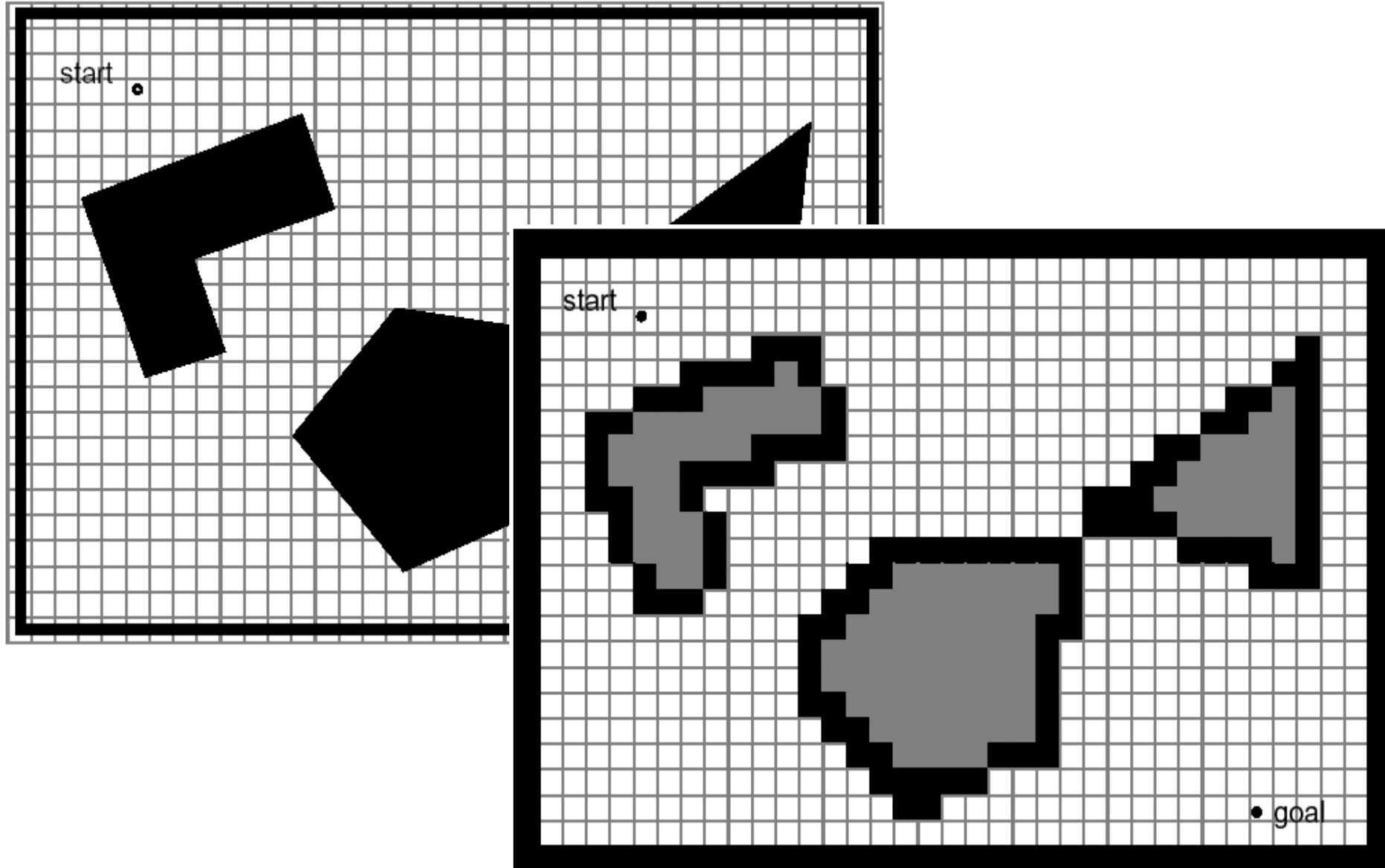
- Cons

- 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)

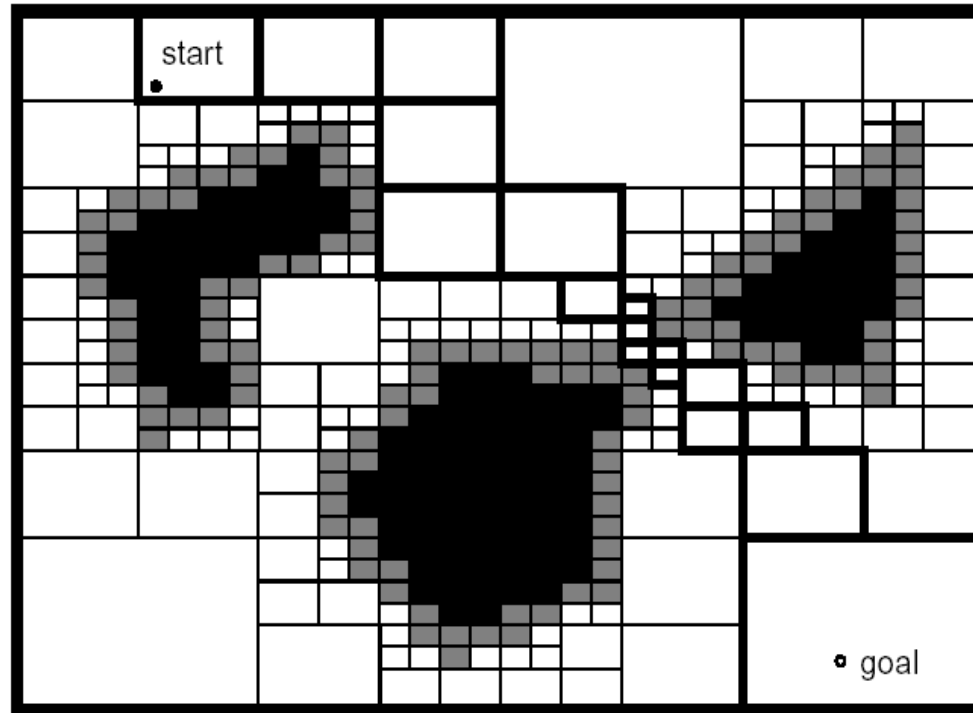


## Graph Construction: Approximate Cell Decomposition (3/4)





# Graph Construction: Adaptive Cell Decomposition (4/4)



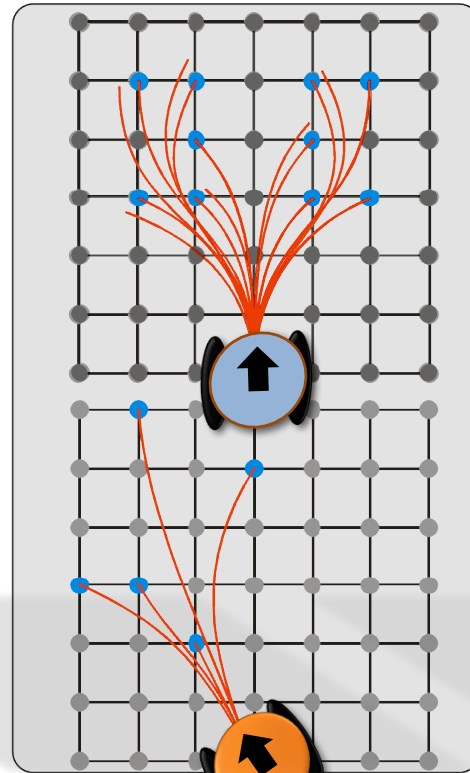
- Close relationship with map representation (Quadtree)!

# Graph Construction: State Lattice Design (1/2)

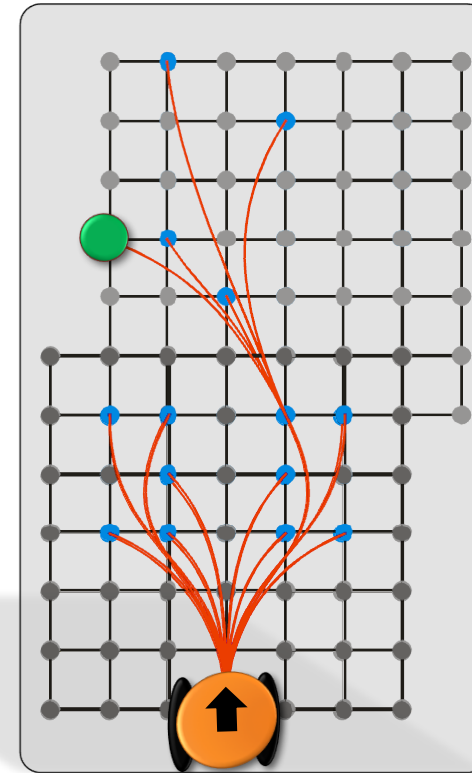
- Enforces **edge feasibility**



Offline:  
Motion Model



Offline:  
Lattice Gen.

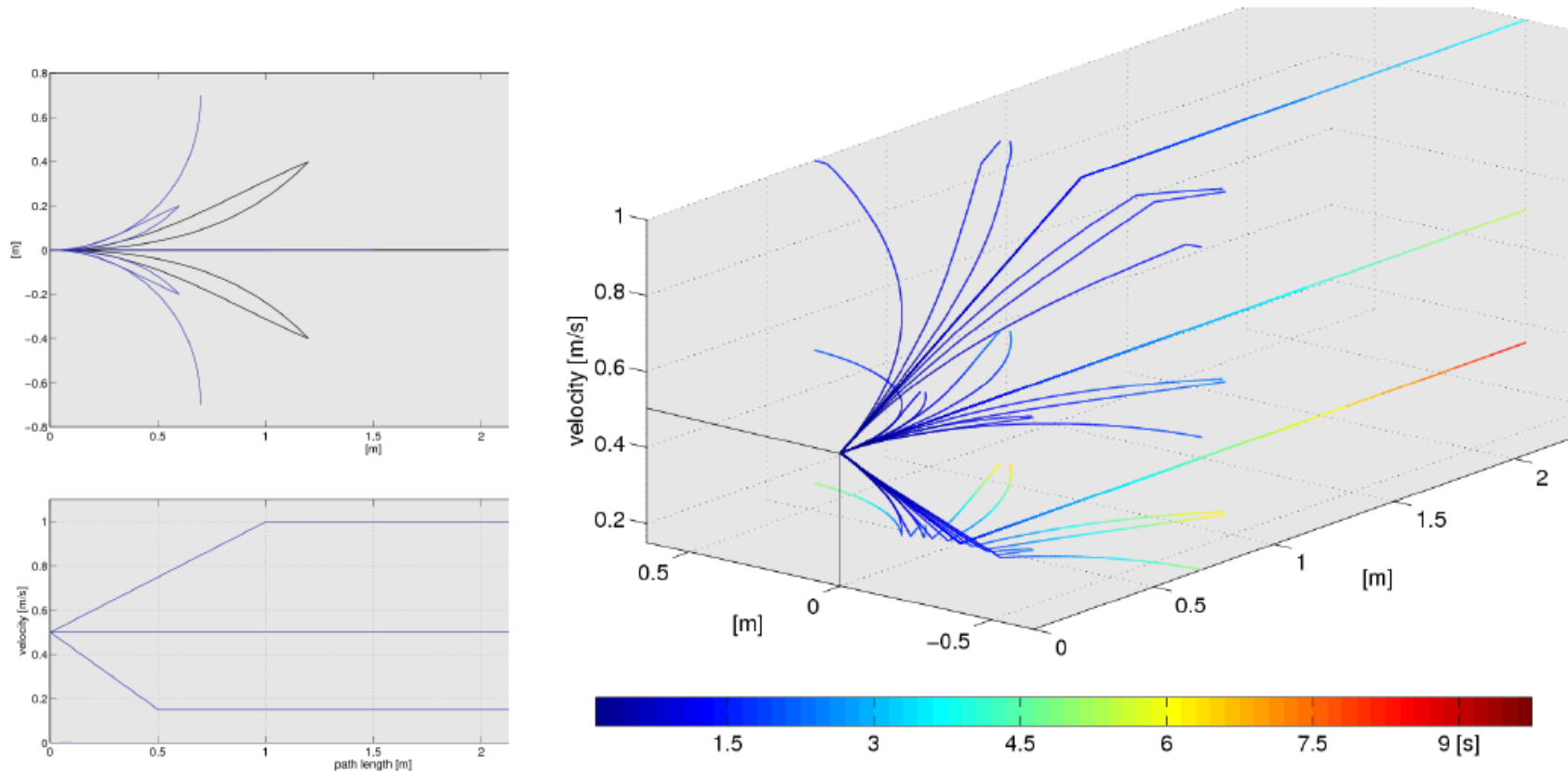


Online:  
Incremental Graph  
Constr.

# Graph Construction: State Lattice Design (2/2)

Martin Rufli

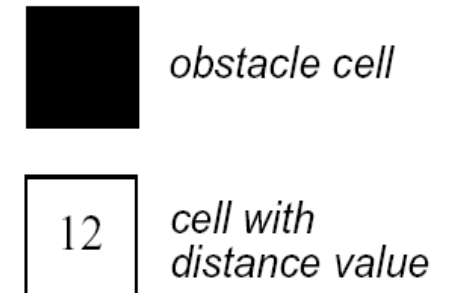
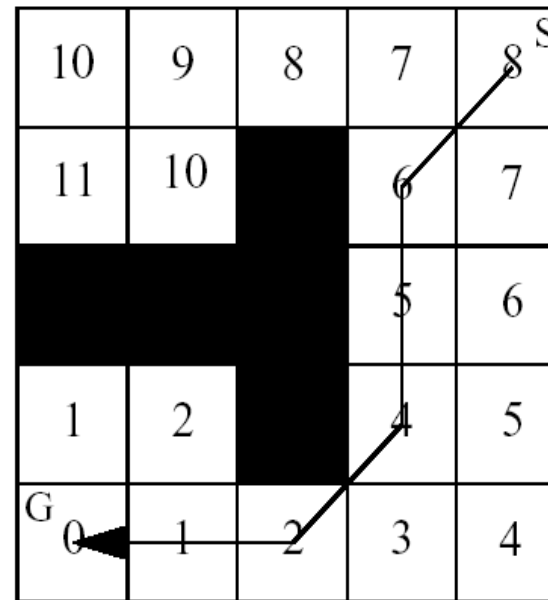
- State lattice encodes only kinematically feasible edges



# Deterministic Graph Search

- Methods

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



# DIJKSTRA'S ALGORITHM

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# EDSGER WYBE DIJKSTRA



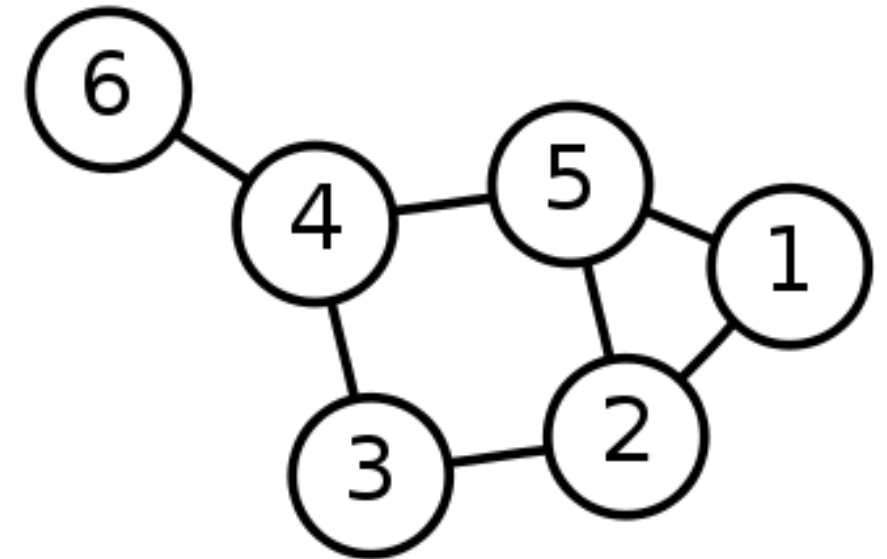
1930 - 2002

"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
for all v ∈ V - {s}
    do dist[v] ← ∞
S ← ∅
Q ← V
while Q ≠ ∅
do u ← mindistance(Q, dist)
   S ← S ∪ {u}
   for all v ∈ neighbors[u]
       do if dist[v] > dist[u] + w(u, v)
           then d[v] ← d[u] + w(u, v)
return dist

```

(distance to source vertex is zero)

(set all other distances to infinity)

(S, the set of visited vertices is initially empty)

(Q, the queue initially contains all vertices)

(while the queue is not empty)

(select the element of Q with the min. distance)

(add u to list of visited vertices)

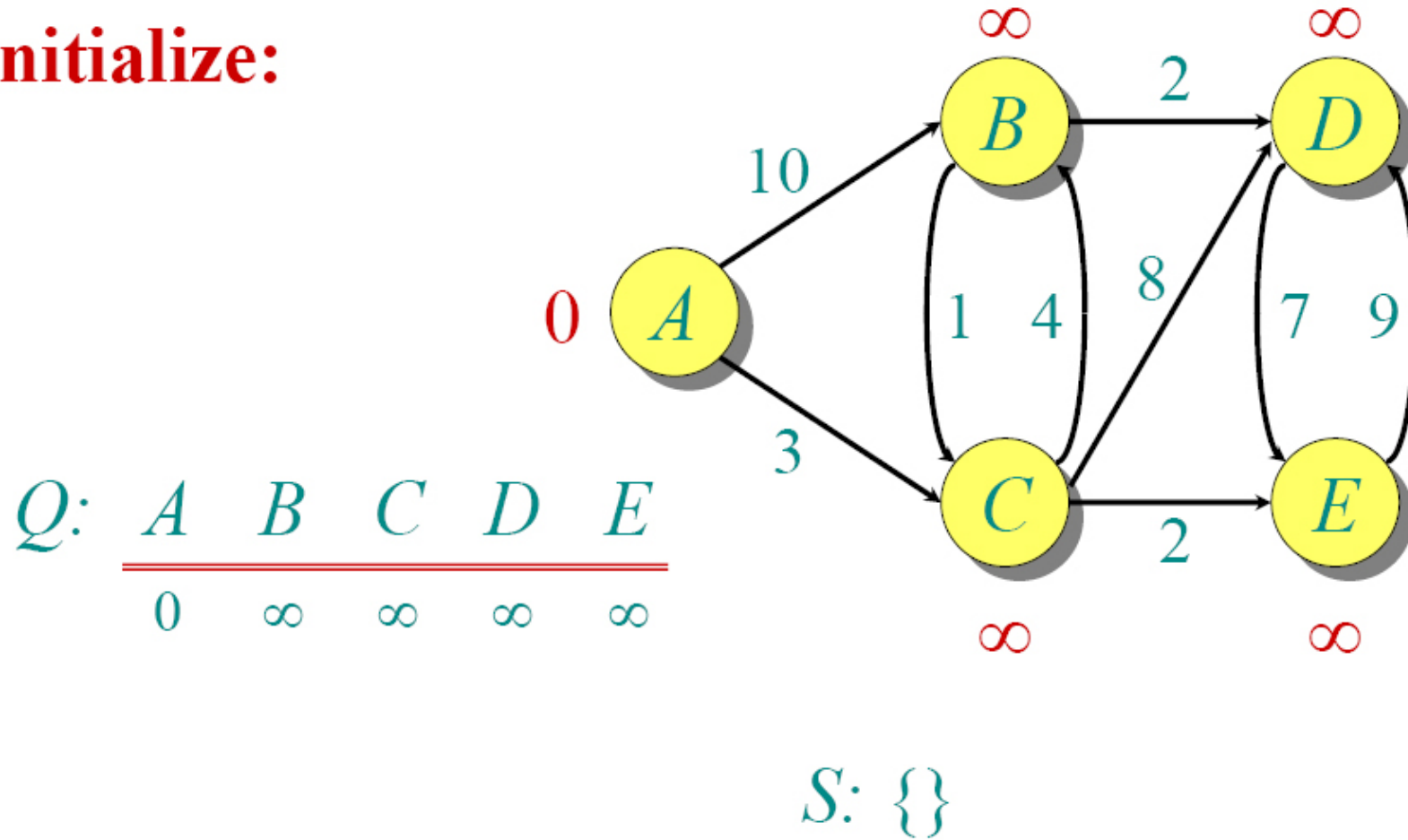
(if new shortest path found)

(set new value of shortest path)

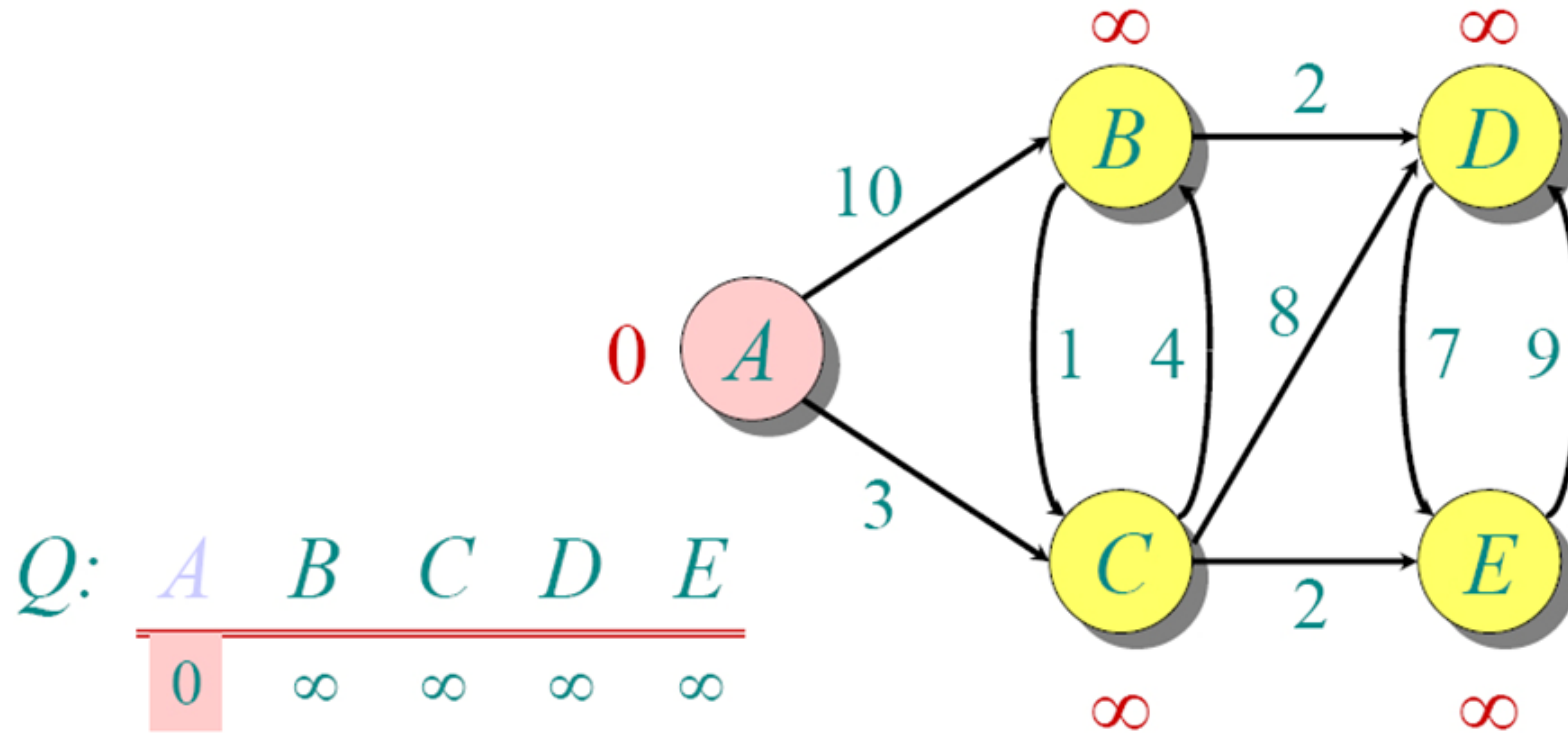
(if desired, add traceback code)

# Dijkstra Example

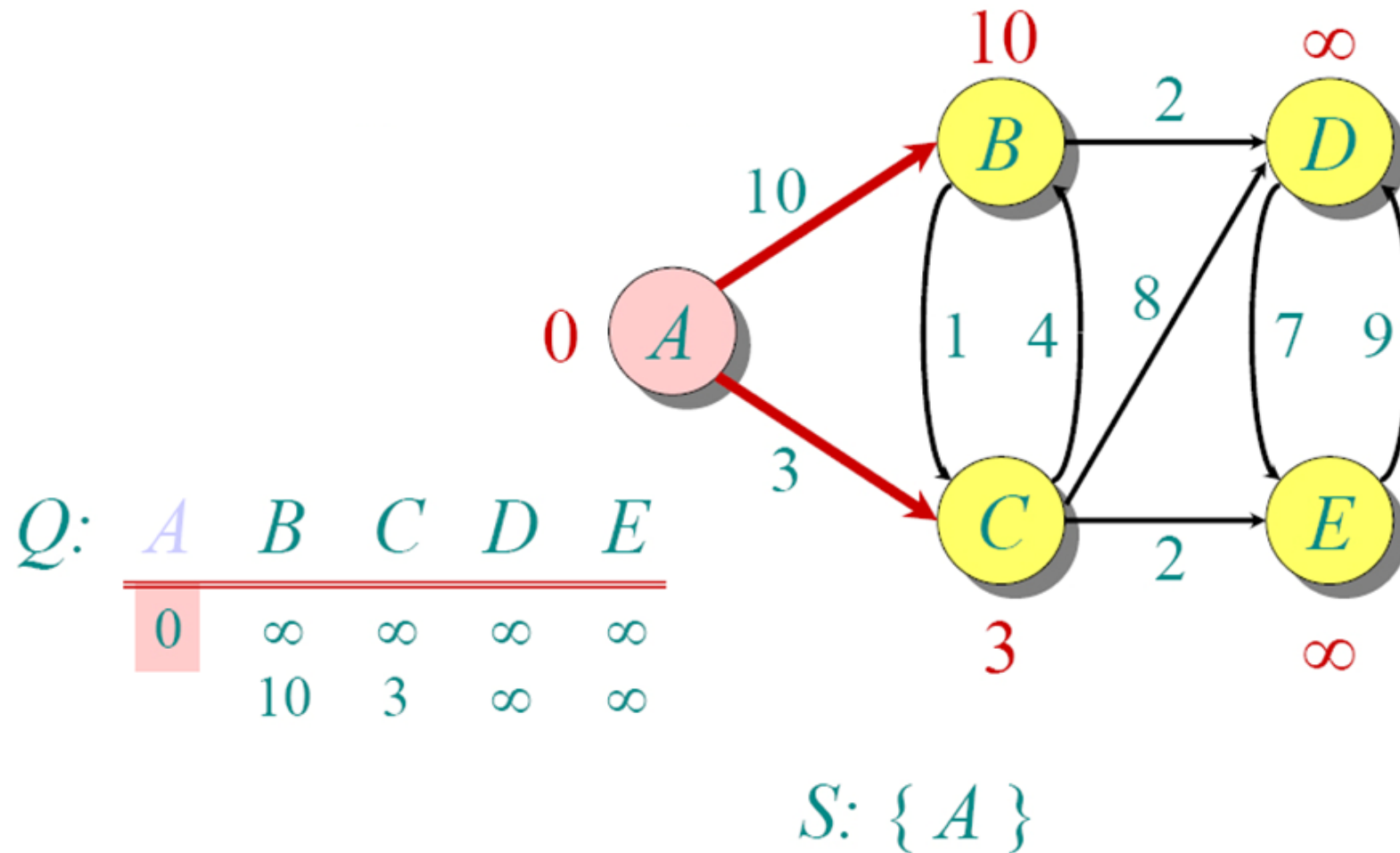
**Initialize:**



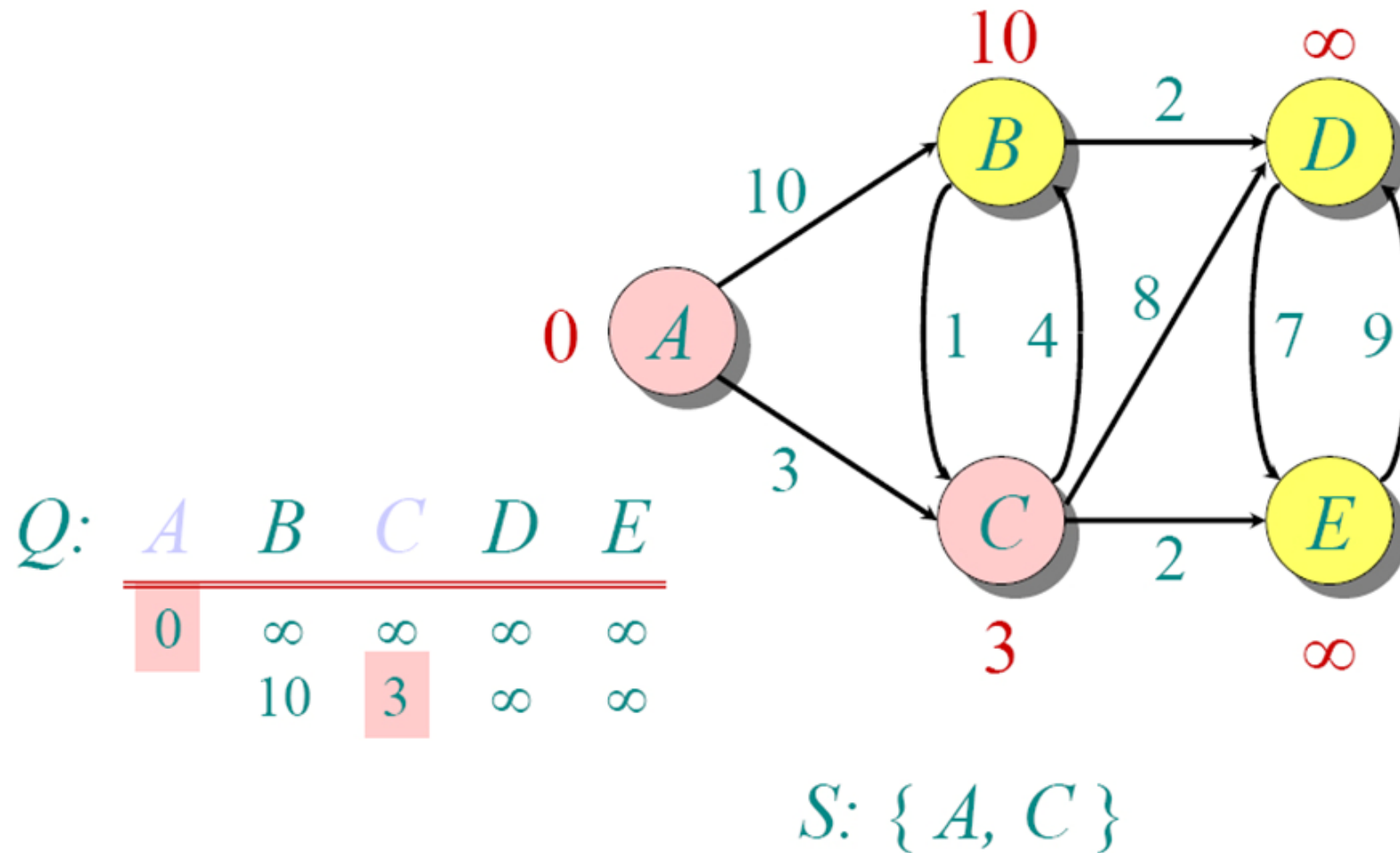
# Dijkstra Example



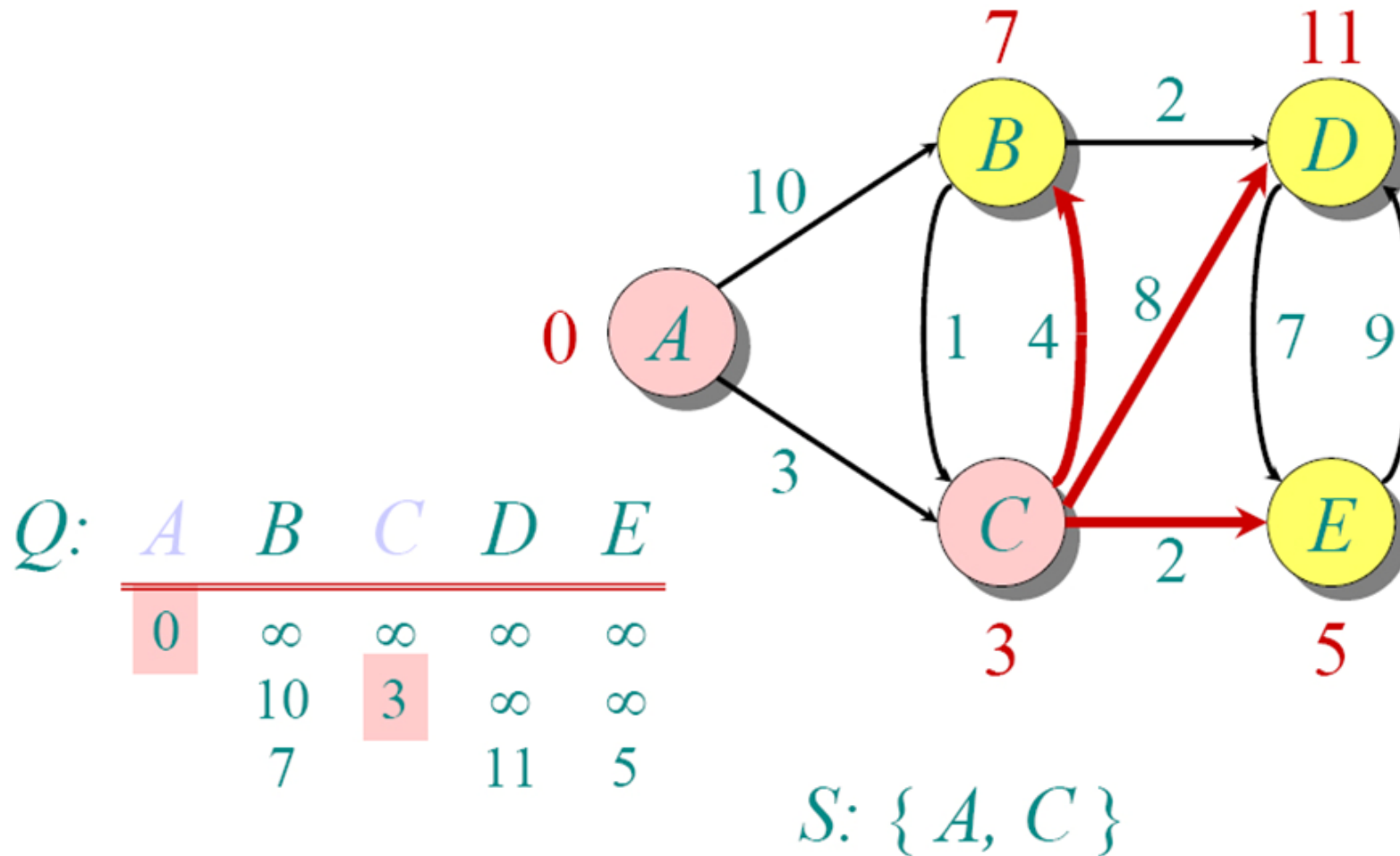
# Dijkstra Example



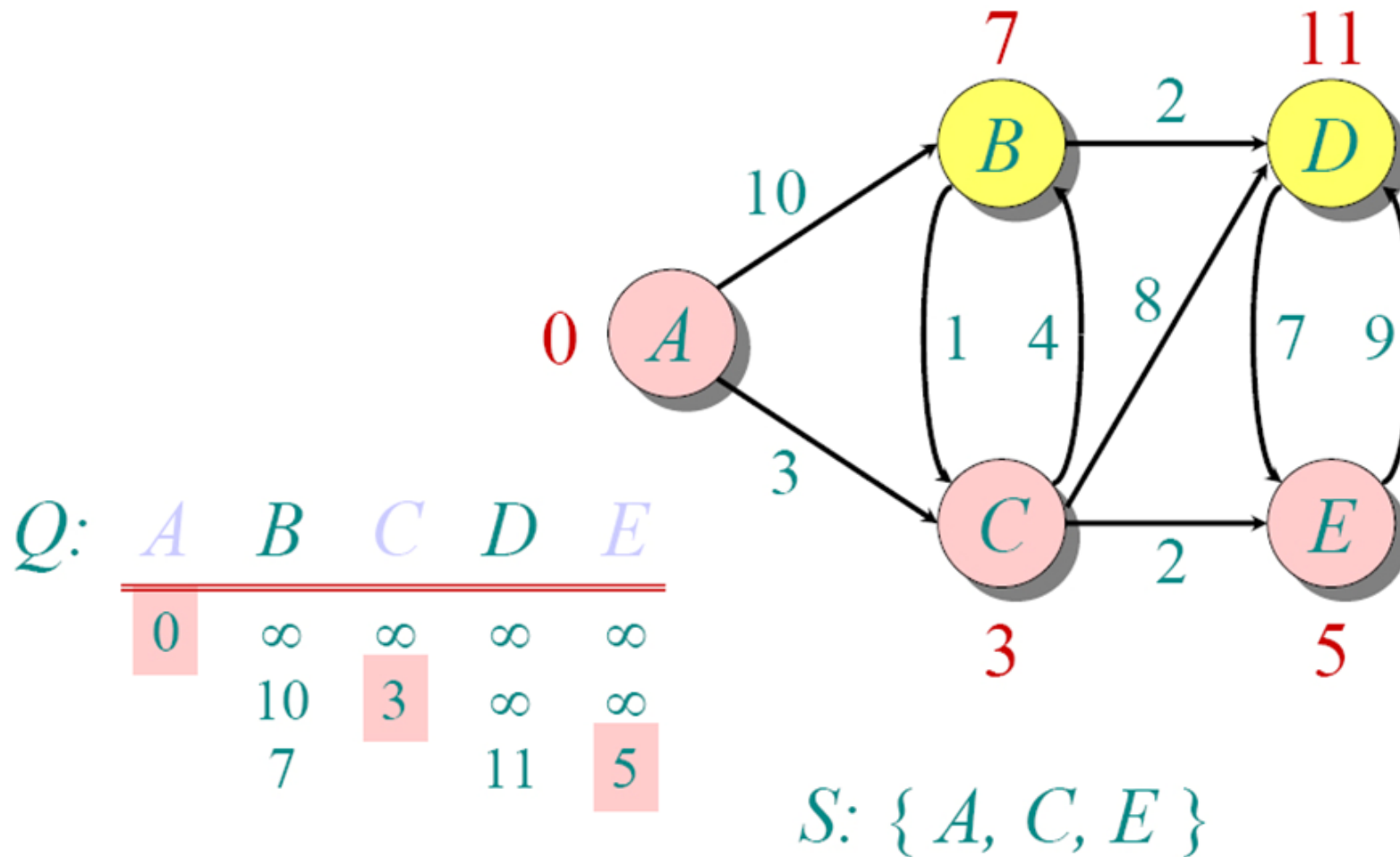
# Dijkstra Example



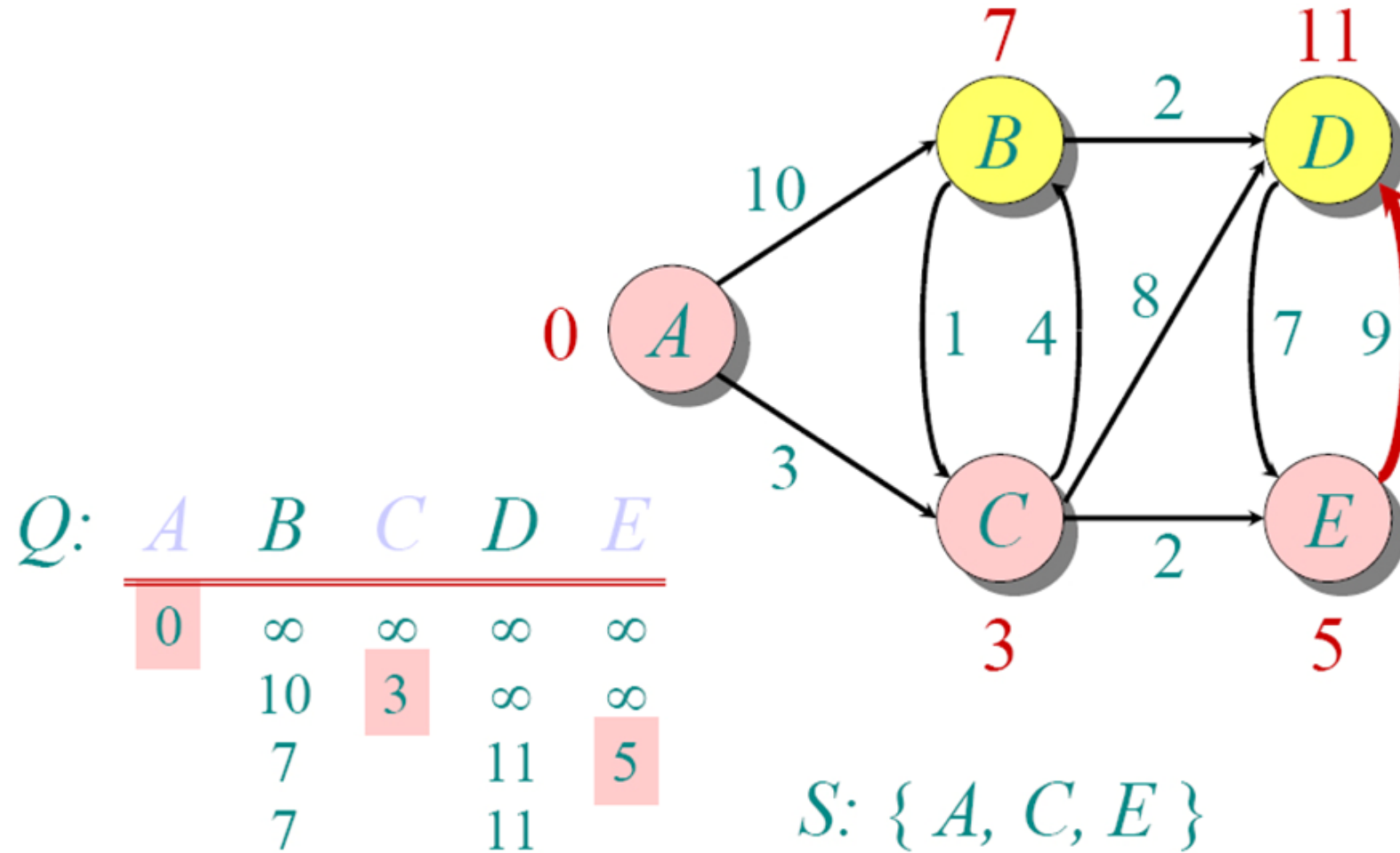
# Dijkstra Example



# Dijkstra Example

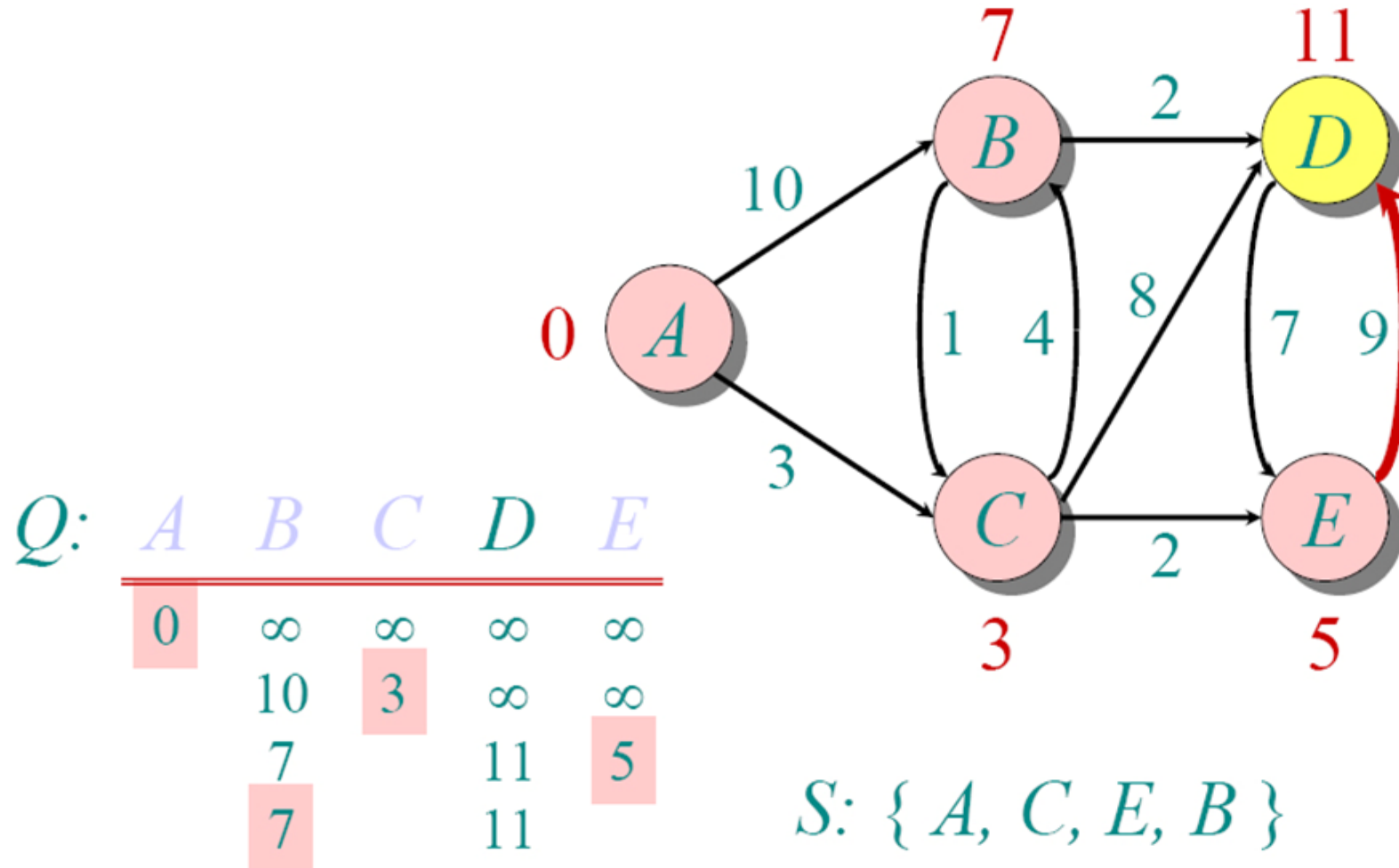


# Dijkstra Example

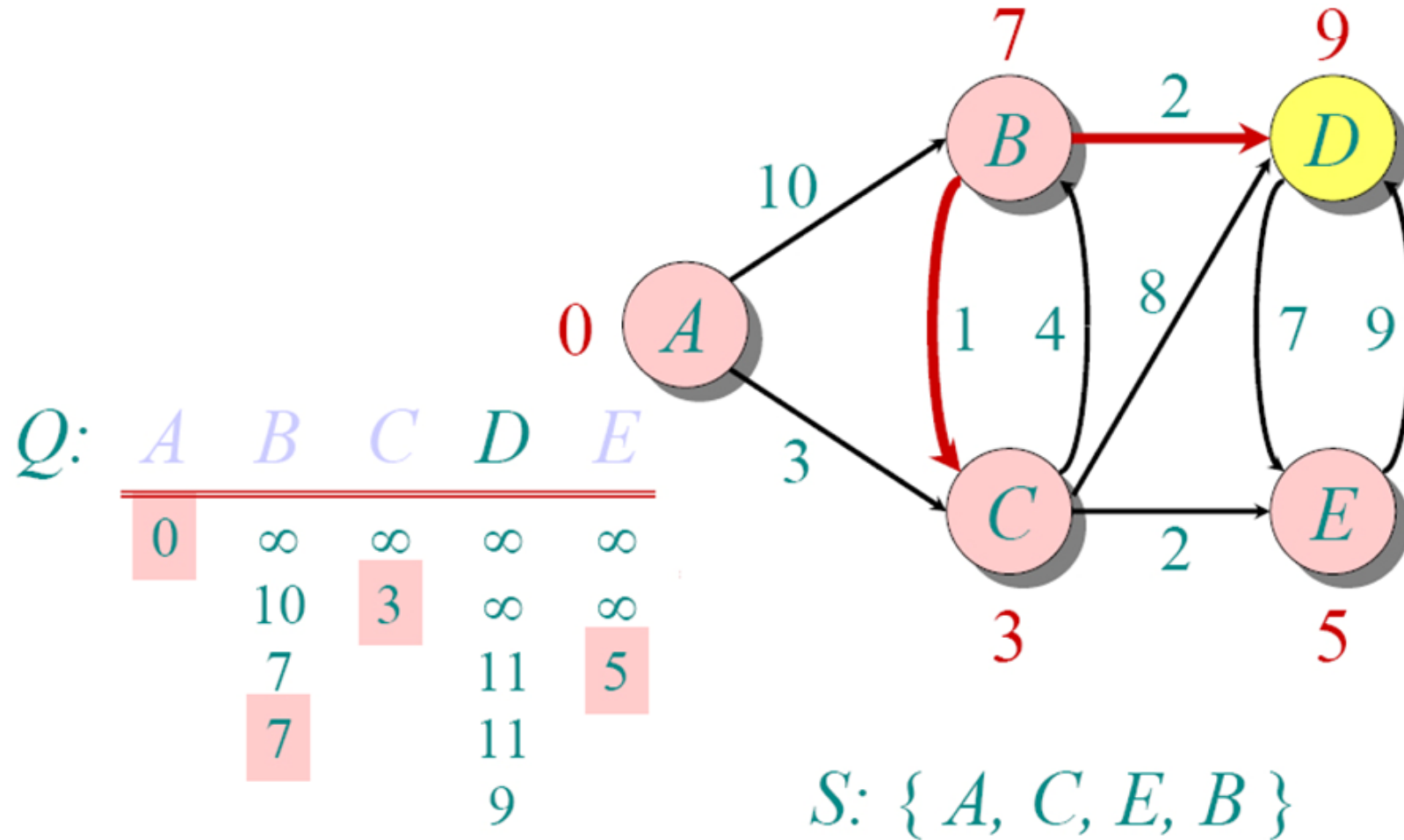




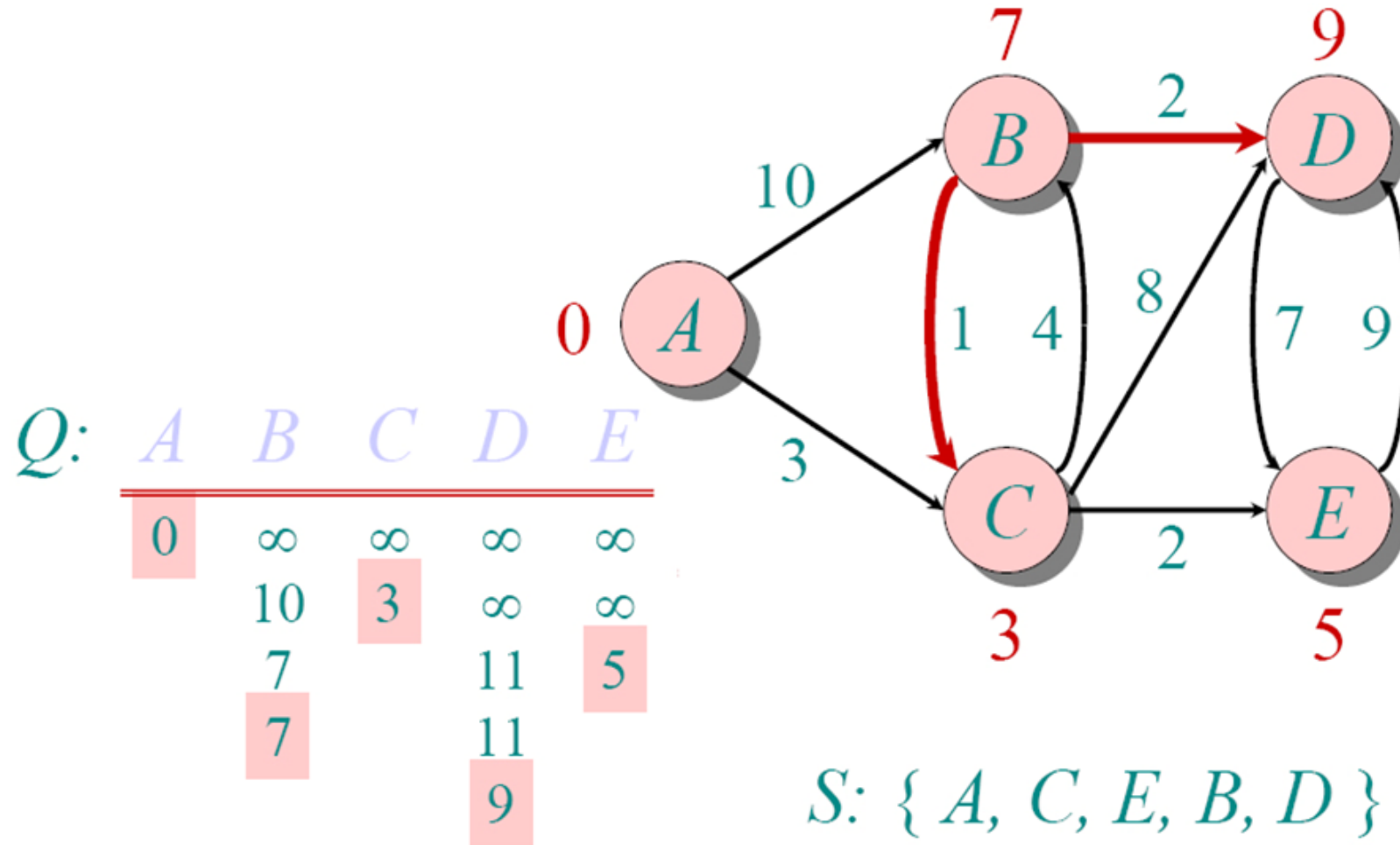
# Dijkstra Example



# Dijkstra Example



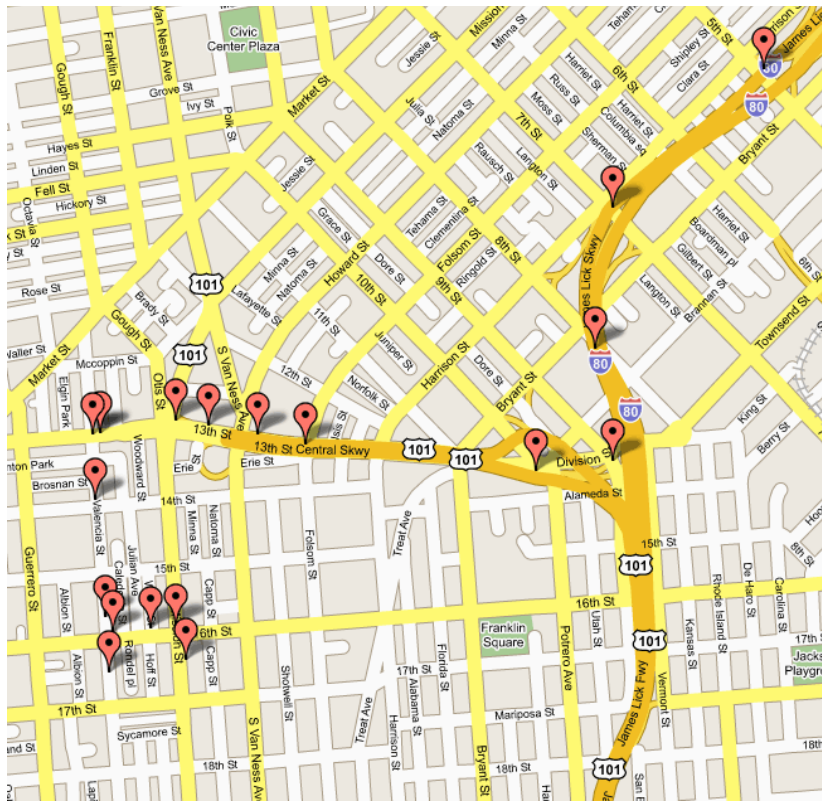
# Dijkstra Example



# APPLICATIONS OF DIJKSTRA'S ALGORITHM

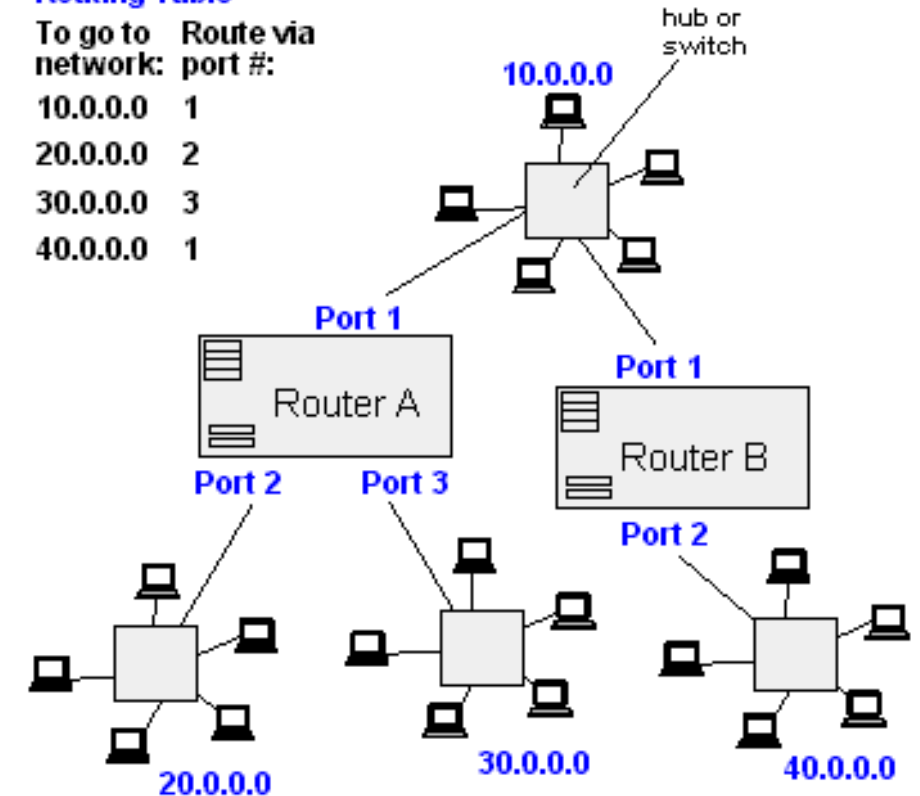
- Navigation Systems
- Internet Routing

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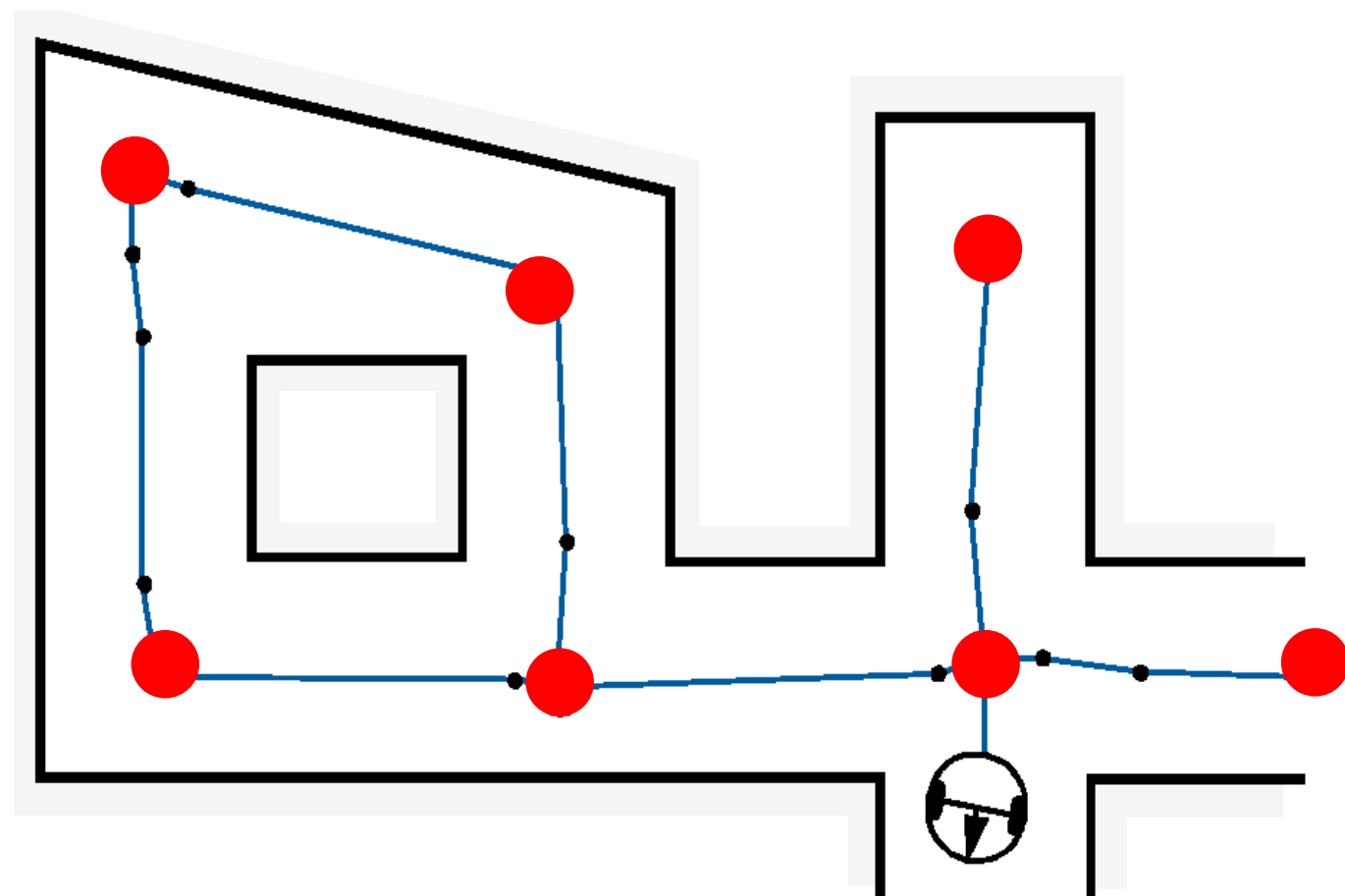
## Router A Routing Table

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



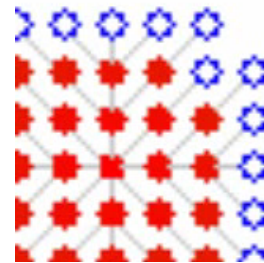
# Dijkstra's Algorithm for Path Planning: Topological Maps

- 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



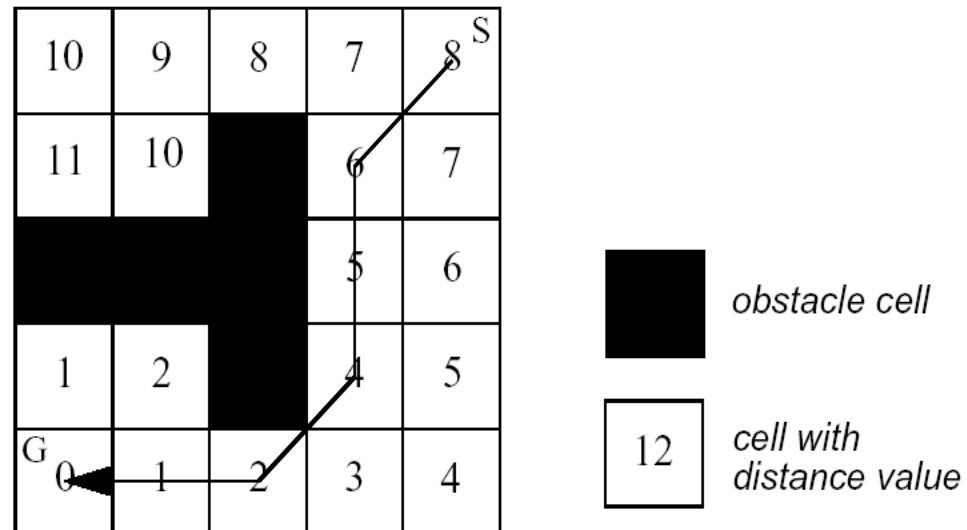
# Dijkstra's Algorithm for Path Planning: Grid Maps

- 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

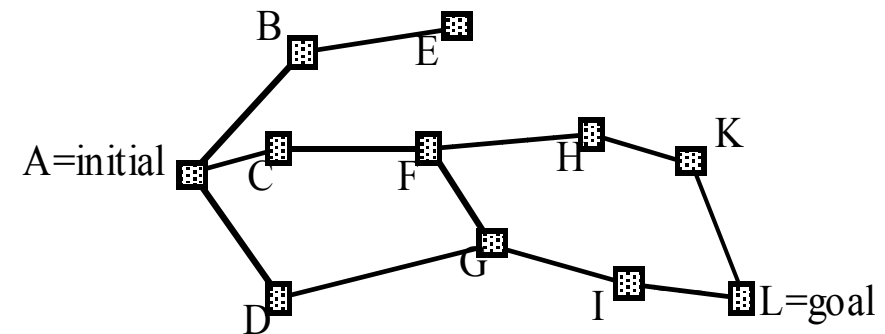
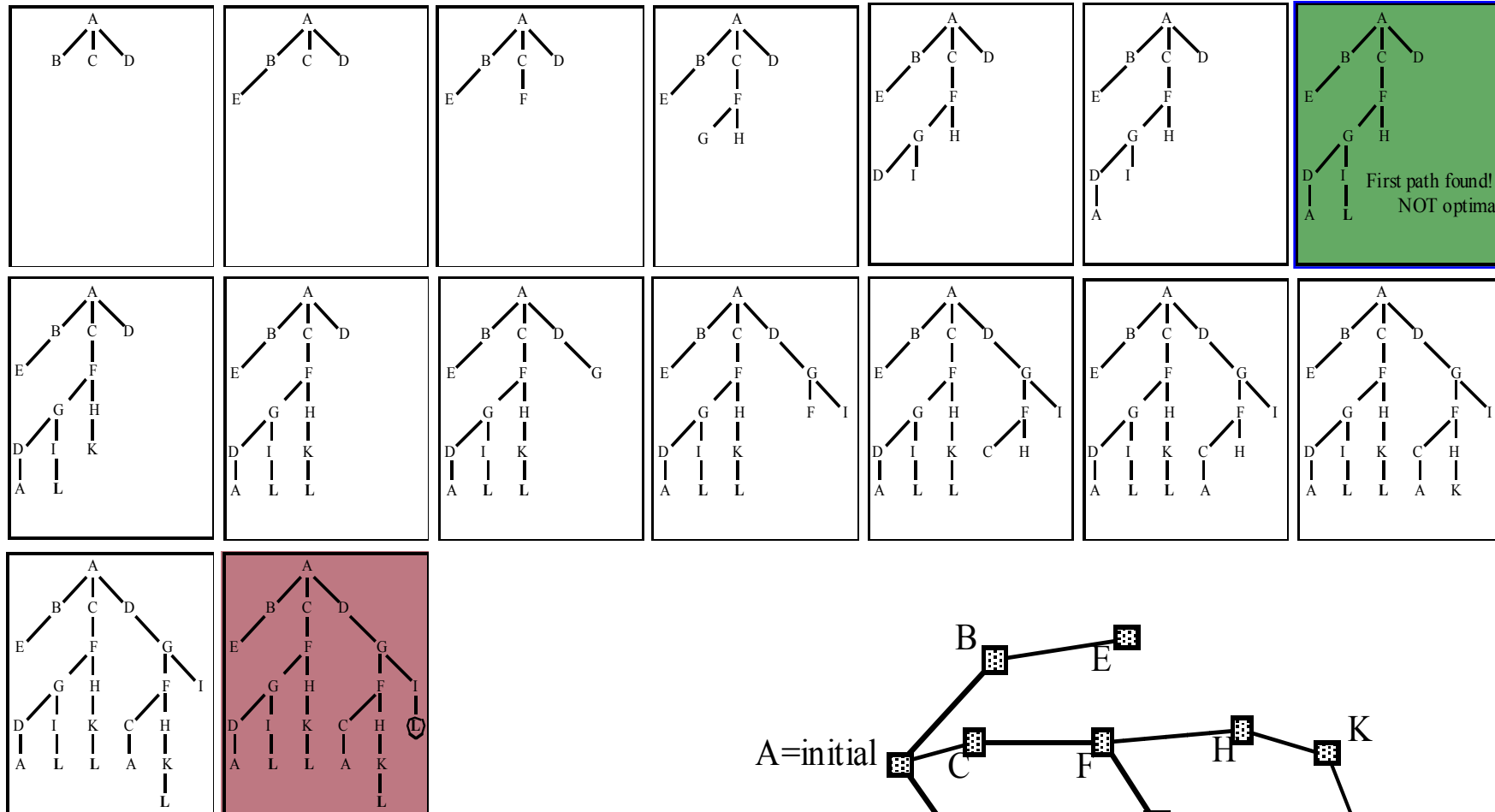


# Graph Search Strategies: Breath-First Search

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



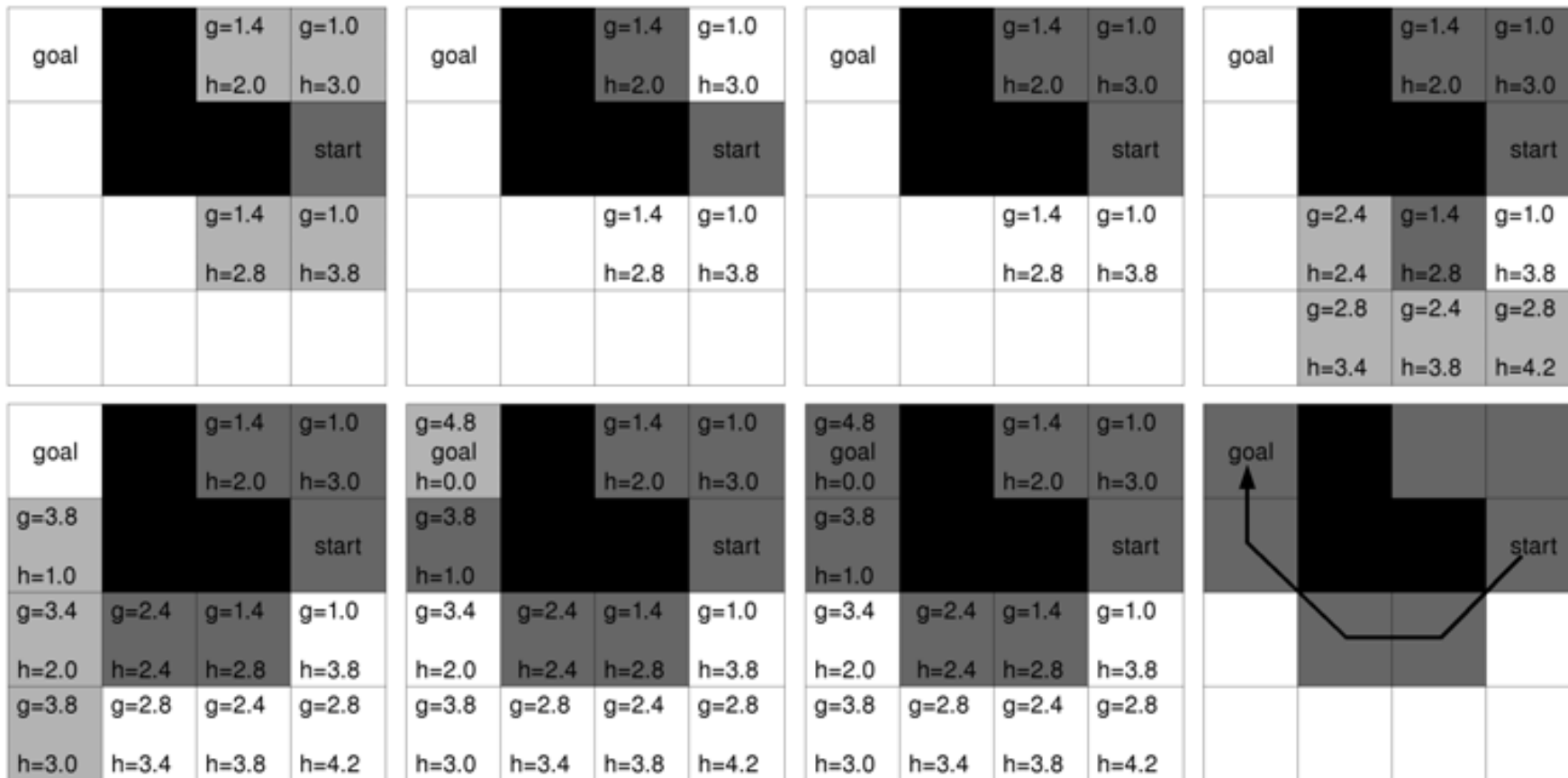
# Graph Search Strategies: Depth-First Search





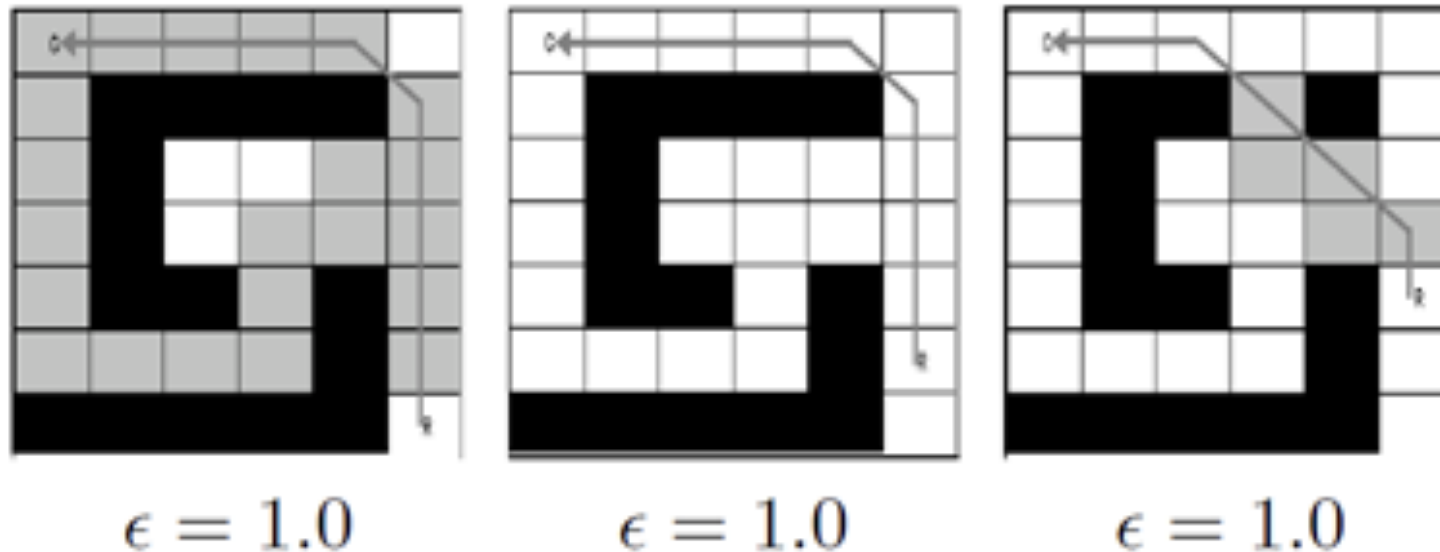
# Graph Search Strategies: A\* Search

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



# 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

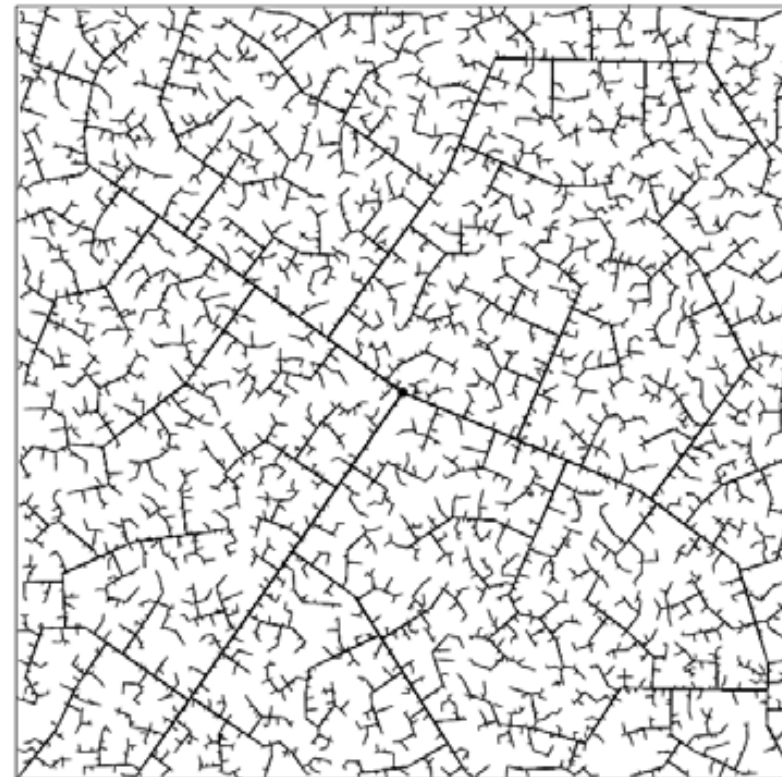


# Graph Search Strategies: Randomized Search

- 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