# Solving problems by searching 

Chapter 3 addendum
(Bidirectional search)

## Bidirectional Search

- Simultaneously search both forward (from the initial state) and backward (from the goal state)
- Stop when the two searches meet.
- Intuition $=2 * O\left(b^{d / 2}\right)$ is smaller than $O\left(b^{d}\right)$



## Bidirectional Search Discussion

- Numerical Example ( $b=10, I=5$ )
- Bi-directional search finds solution at d=3 for both forward and backward search. Assuming BFS in each half 2222 nodes are expanded.
- Implementation issues:
- Operators are reversible, e.g., $\operatorname{Pred}(\operatorname{Succ}(n))=\operatorname{Pred}(\operatorname{Succ}(n))$
- There may be many possible goal states.
- Construct a goal state containing the superset of all goal states.
- Check if a node appears in the "other" search tree.
- Using different search strategies for each half.

