

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(b<sup>d/2</sup>) is smaller than O(b<sup>d</sup>)



## **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., Pred(Succ(n)) = Pred(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.