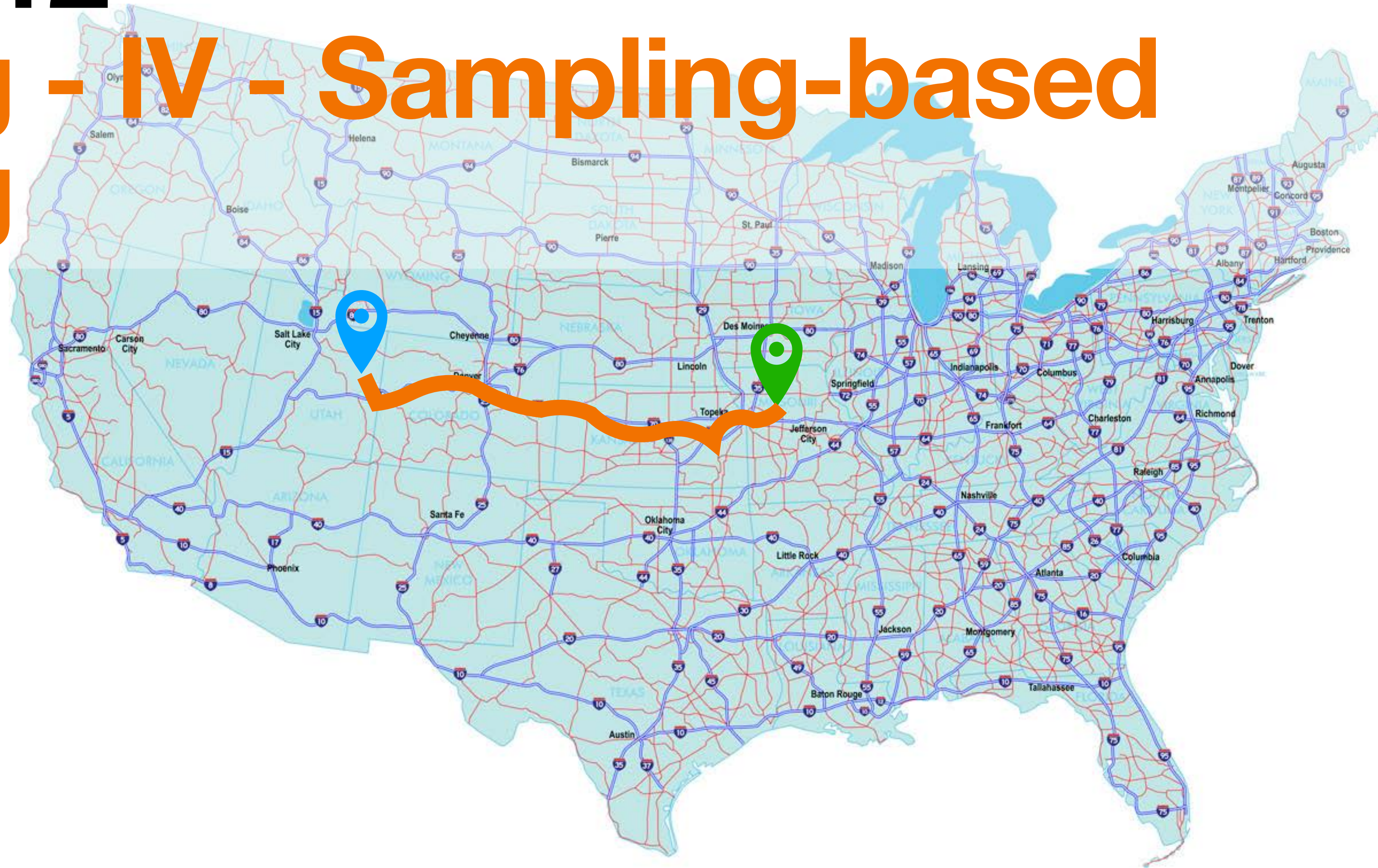


# Lecture 12

# Planning - IV - Sampling-based Planning





# Course Logistics

- Quiz 6 will be posted tomorrow at noon and will be due on Wed at noon.
- Project 4 is due on Wed 03/05.
- Project 5 will be posted on 03/05 and will be due on 03/24.

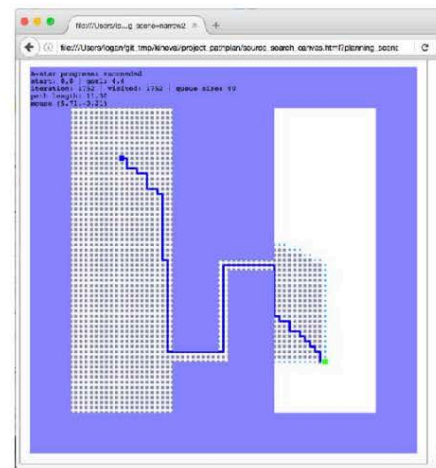


# Previously

Will our current search methods apply to this robot?

2D Path Planning

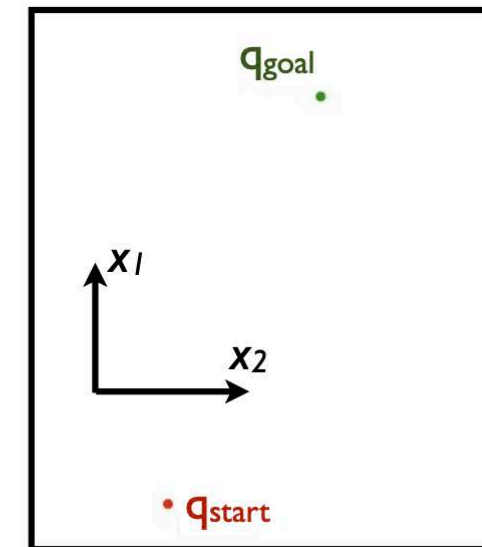
N-dimensional Motion Planning



## C-space examples

- How many configurations are in the C-space of a planar point robot in a bounded rectangular world?
  - DOFs: 2,  $\{x_1, x_2\}$
  - Number of poses is infinite
  - C-space:  $\mathbb{R}^2$

Topologically, this C-space is a homeomorphism of  $\mathbb{R}^2$



## C-space examples

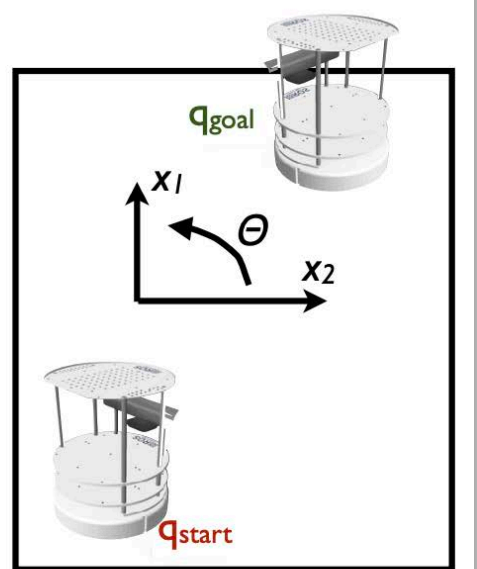
- What is the C-space of a Turtlebot?
  - DOFs: 3,  $\{x_1, x_2, \theta\}$
  - C-space:  $\mathbb{R}^2 \times S^1$

2D translation

rotation in 2D

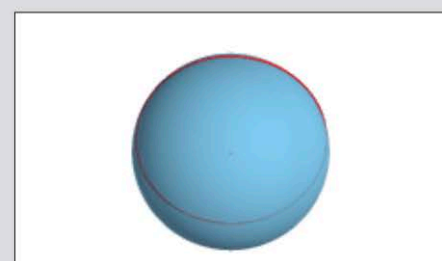
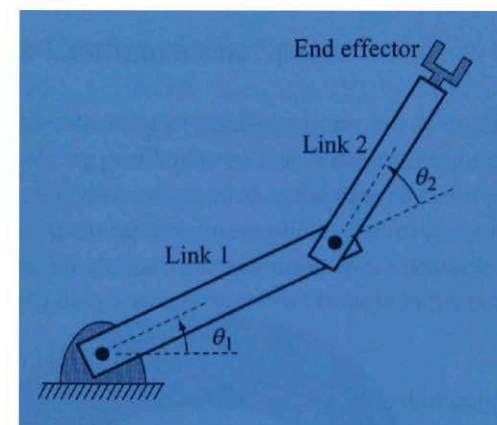
$\mathbb{R}^2 \times S^1$  is also known as the SE(2) group.

Group of homogeneous transformations in 2D



## C-space examples

- What is the C-space of a planar arm with 2 rotational joints?
  - DOFs: 2,  $\{\theta_1, \theta_2\}$
  - C-space:  $\mathbb{R}^2$  or  $S^2$  or  $S^1 \times S^1$ ?



$S^1 \times S^1 = S^2$  when torus axis on surface

## C-space examples

- What is the C-space of a quad rotor helicopter?
  - DOFs: 6
  - C-space: SE(3),
    - or  $\mathbb{R}^3 \times SO(3)$



Group of homogeneous transformations in 3D

3D translation 3D rotation

SE(3) combines:  
 $\mathbb{R}^3$ : 3D translation and  
 SO(3): 3D rotation

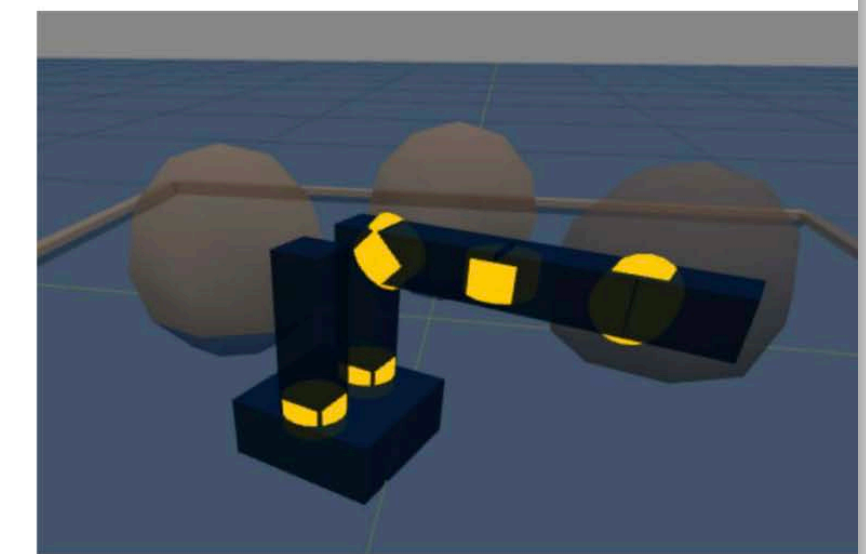
$SO(3) = S^1 \times S^1 \times S^1$

V. Kumar et al. - UPenn

## C-space examples

- What is the C-space of a MR2?
  - DOFs: 14
  - 3 in base: SE(2)
  - 5 in arms:  $T^5$

C-space: SE(2)  $\times$   $T^5$

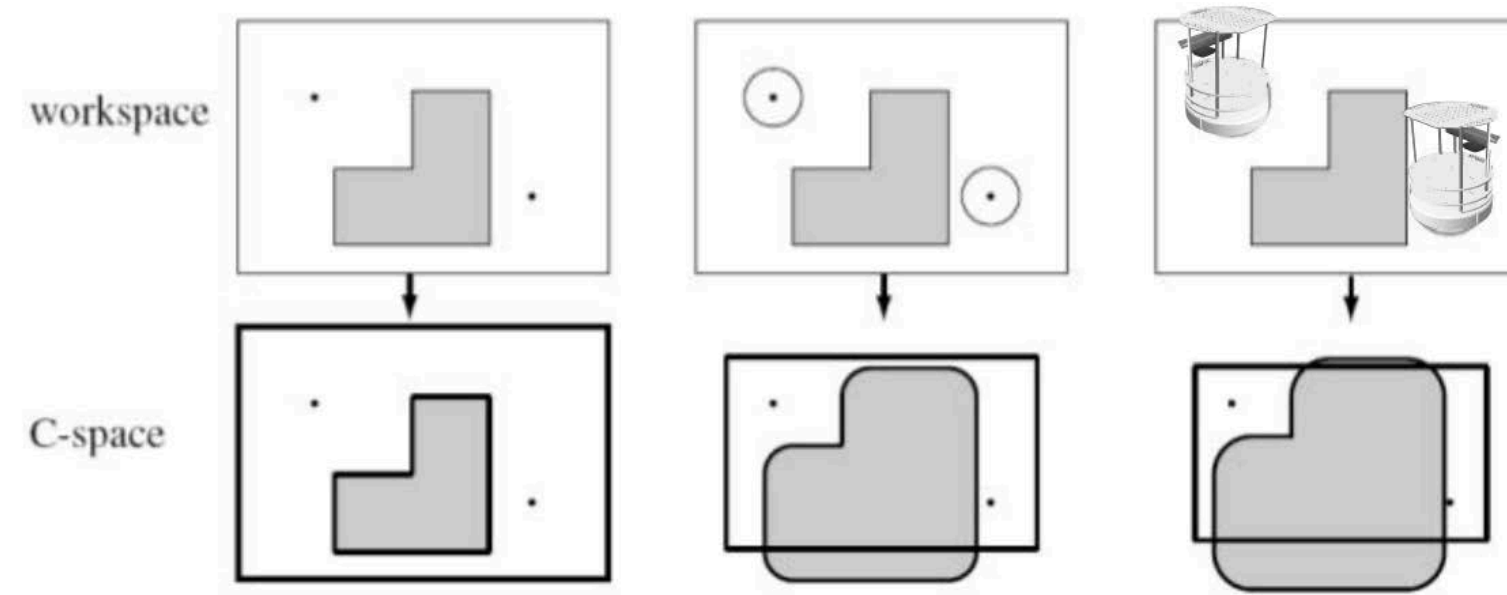




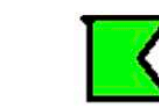
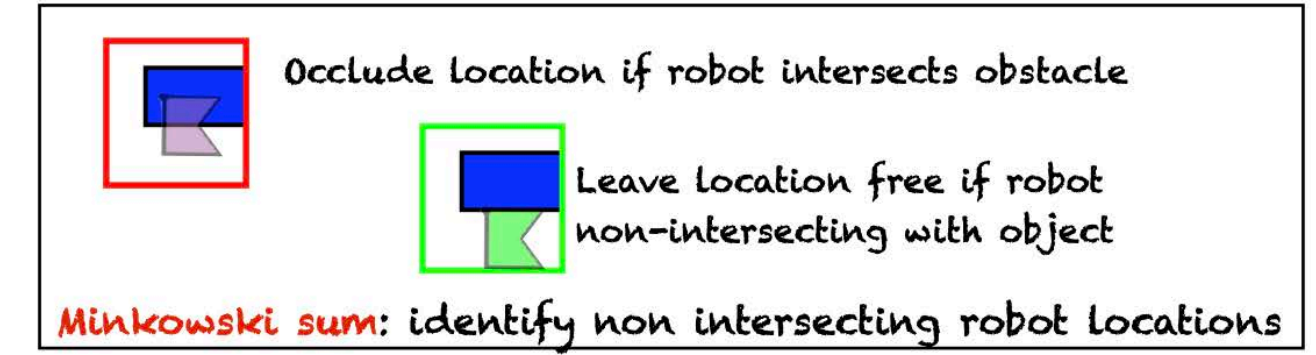
# Previously

## Robot Geometry

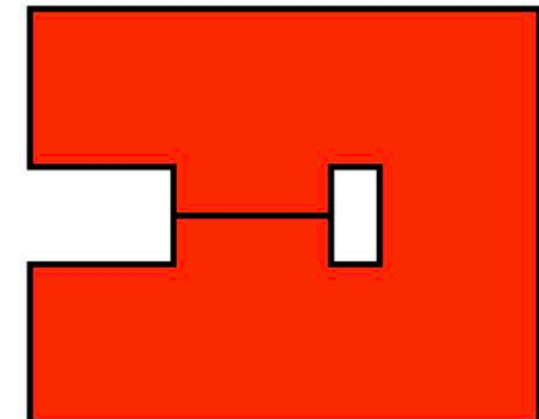
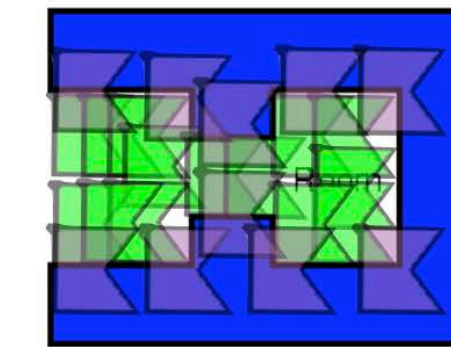
- Turtlebot is larger than a point, having a circular radius in the robot's planar workspace
- As this radius increases, the C-space shrinks



## Minkowski Planning

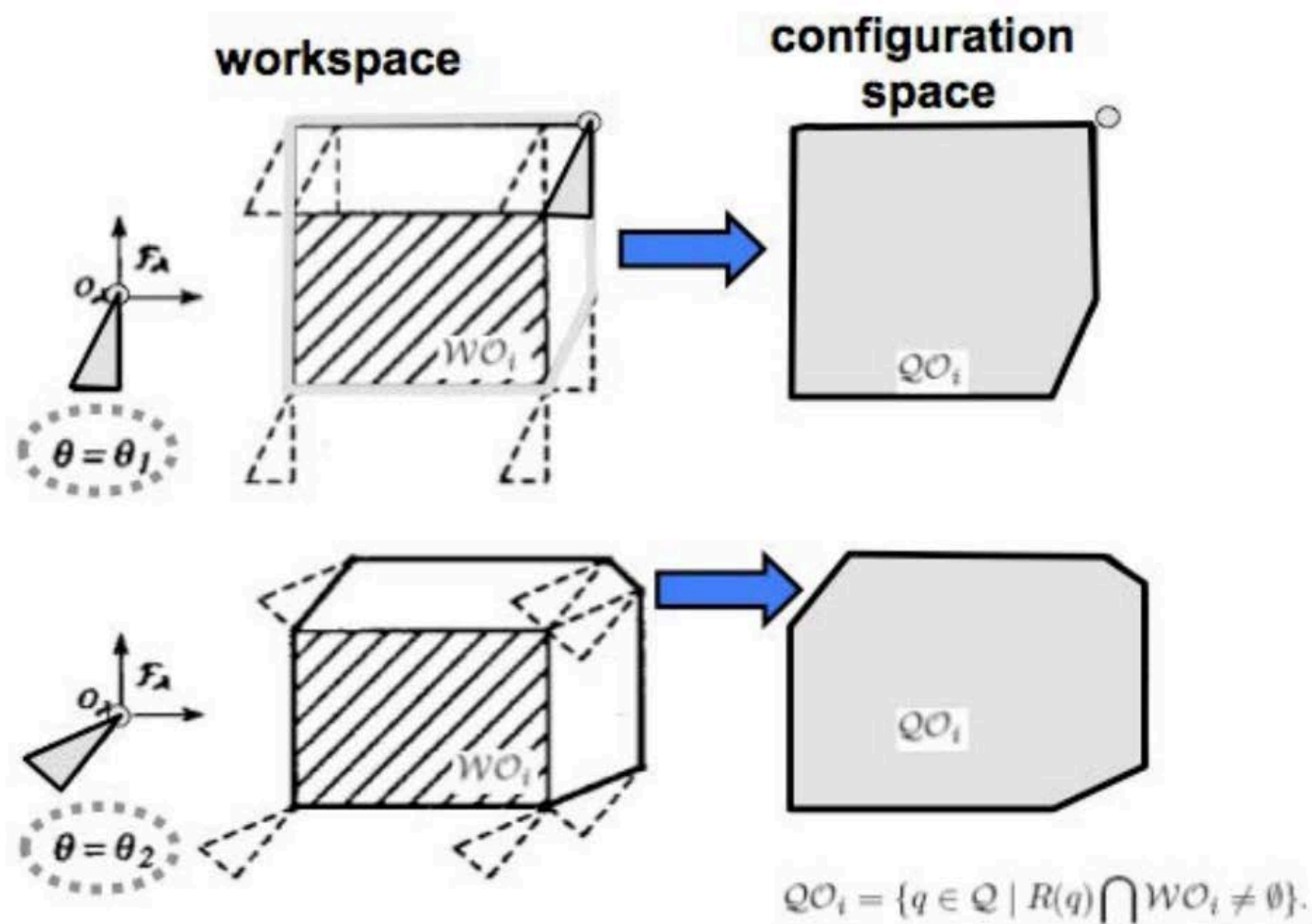


Robot geometry

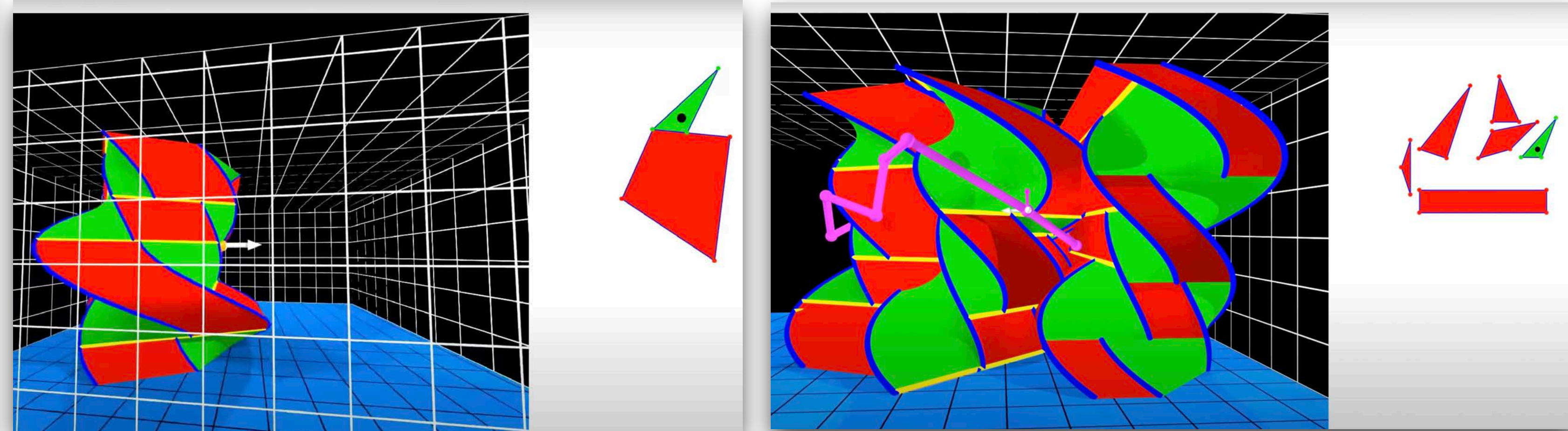


Space of valid paths defined by Minkowski sum

## C-space depends on rotation



**Robot is a point in the C-space!**



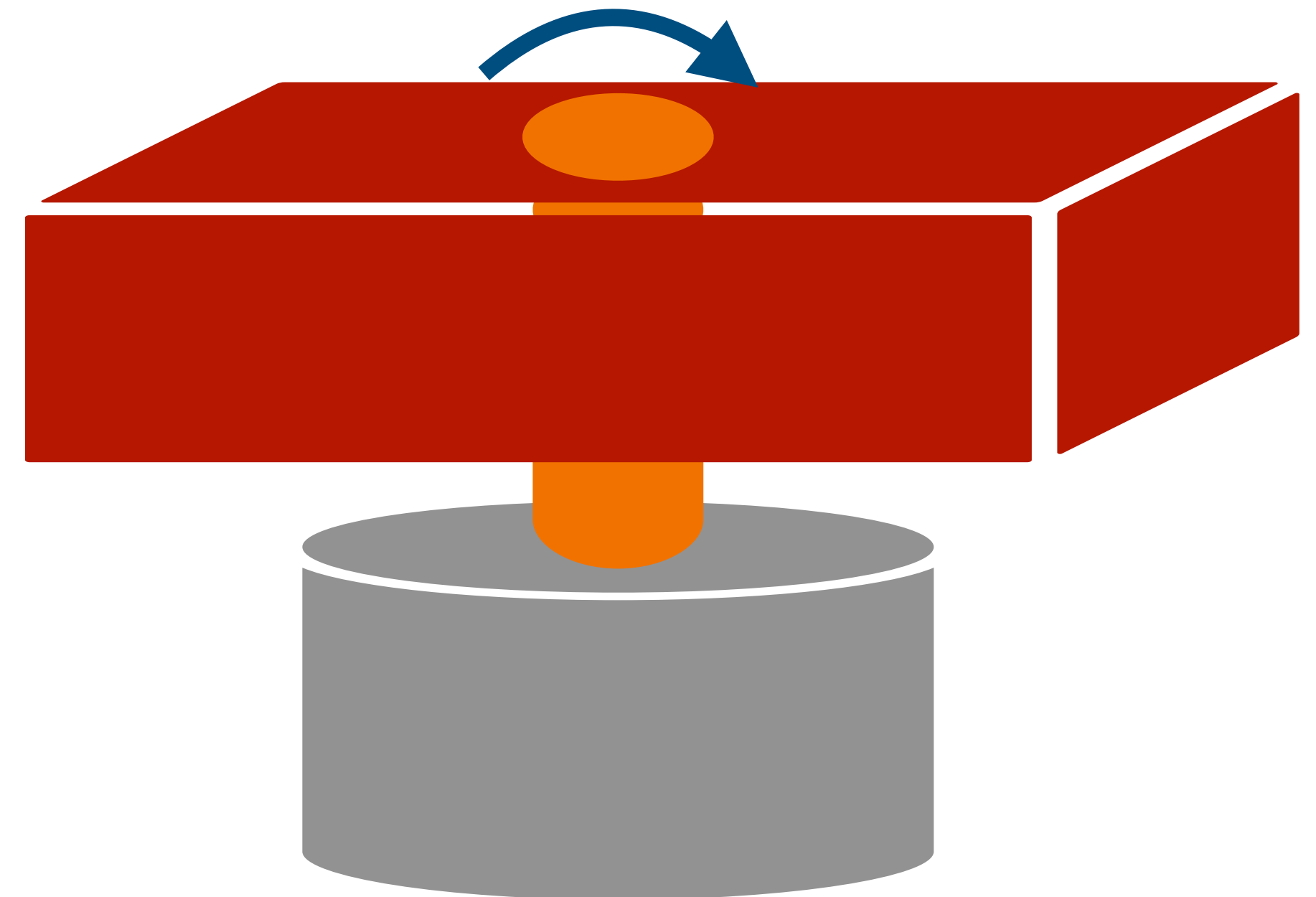
# DOF formally:

$$\text{dof} = \sum \text{freedoms of rigid bodies} - \# \text{ of independent constraints}$$

often comes from joints



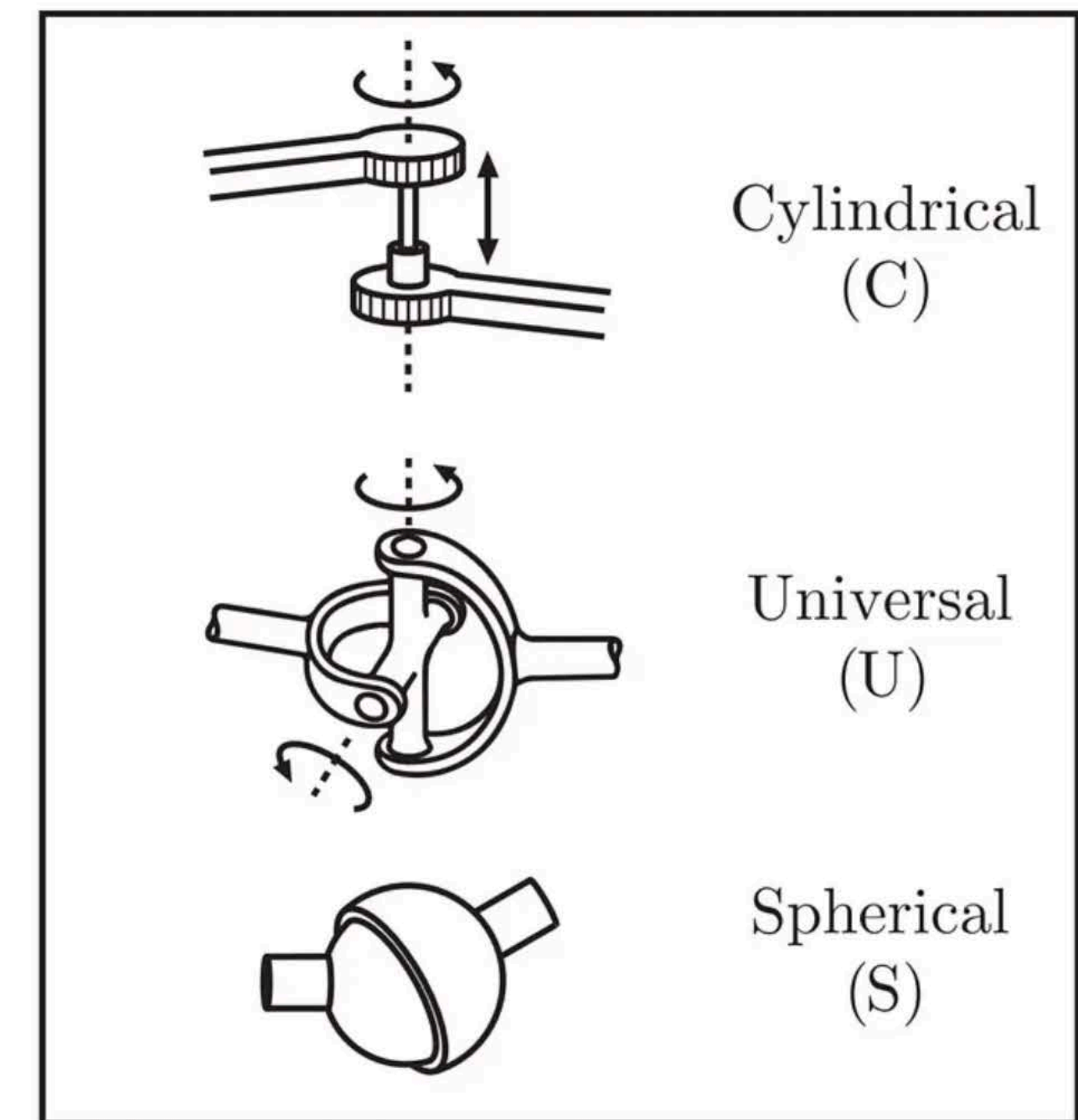
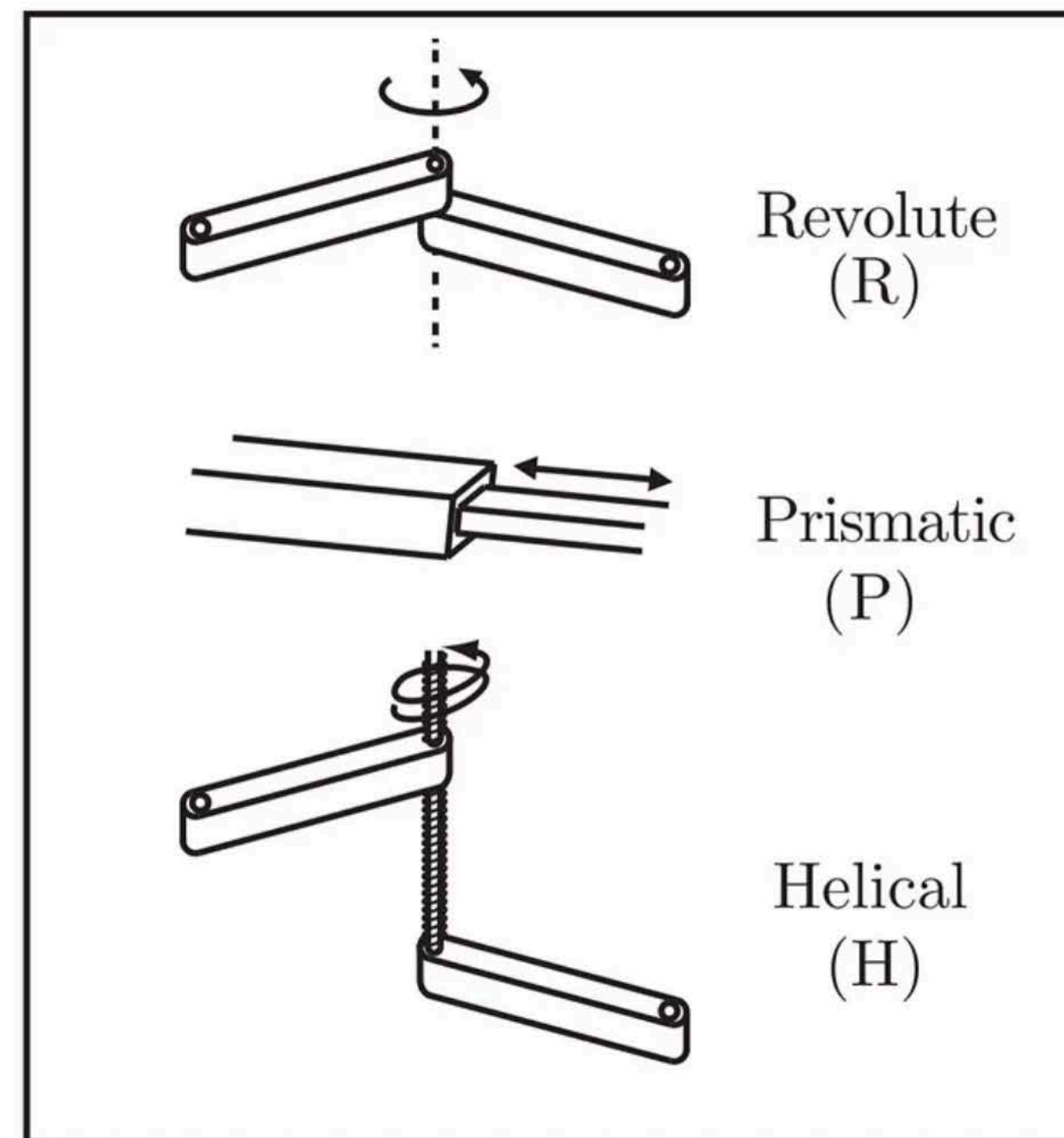
What is the degrees of freedom for this rigid body?



If we add a revolute joint, what happens to the degrees of freedom of this system?



# Joints & Constraints



| Joint type      | dof $f$ |
|-----------------|---------|
| Revolute (R)    | 1       |
| Prismatic (P)   | 1       |
| Helical (H)     | 1       |
| Cylindrical (C) | 2       |
| Universal (U)   | 2       |
| Spherical (S)   | 3       |

From the book MODERN ROBOTICS  
by Kevin M. Lynch and Frank C. Park May 3, 2017

# DOF formally

$$\text{dof} = \sum \text{freedoms of rigid bodies} - \# \text{ of independent constraints}$$

$N = \#$  of bodies, including the ground

$J = \#$  of joints

$m = 6$  for spatial bodies; 3 for planar bodies

$$\text{dof} = \underbrace{m(N - 1)}_{\text{Rigid body freedoms}} - \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^J c_i}_{\text{Joint Constraints}}$$

$$\text{dof} = m(N - 1) - \sum_{i=1}^J (m - f_i)$$

Only applicable if the constraints provided by the joints are independent

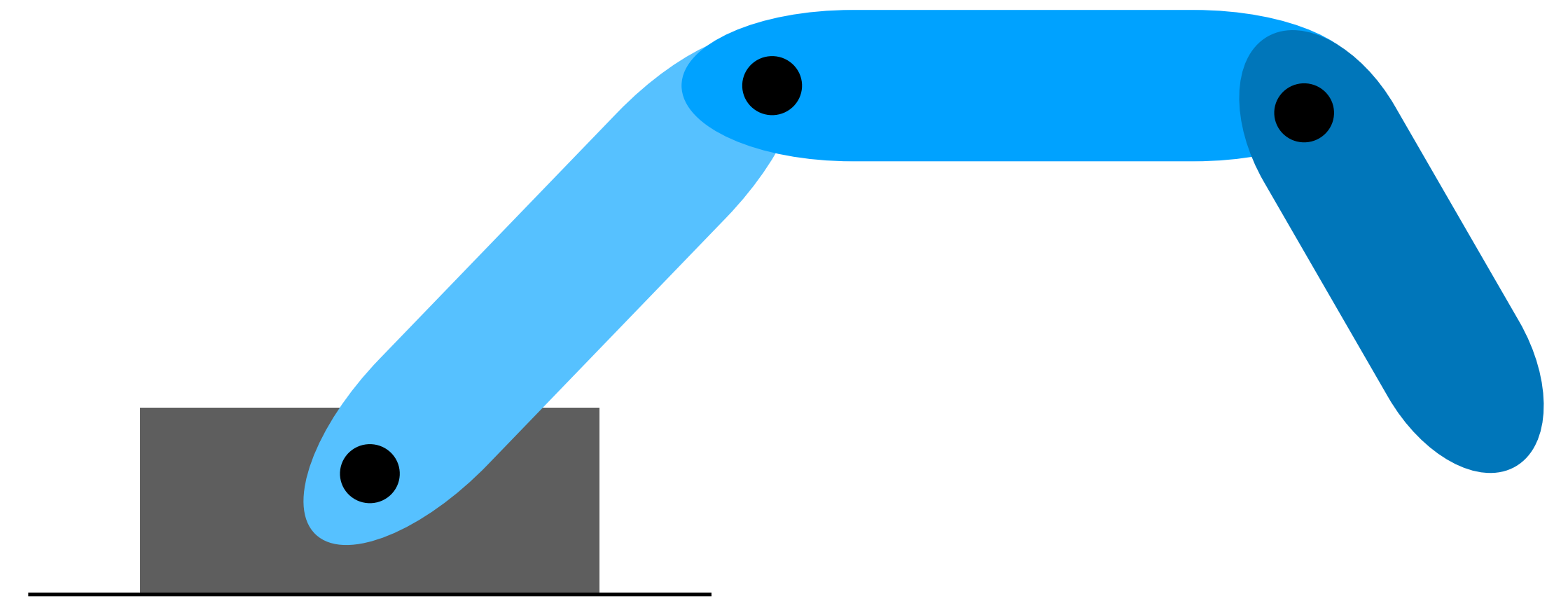


$$\text{dof} = m(N - J - 1) + \sum_{i=1}^J (f_i)$$

**Grübler's formula**

# DOF formally: Example 1

$$\text{dof} = m(N - J - 1) + \sum_{i=1}^J (f_i)$$



3R Serial "open-chain" Robot

| Joint type      | dof $f$ | Constraints $c$<br>between two<br>planar<br>rigid bodies | Constraints $c$<br>between two<br>spatial<br>rigid bodies |
|-----------------|---------|--|---|
| Revolute (R)    | 1       | 2  | 5   |
| Prismatic (P)   | 1       | 2  | 5   |
| Helical (H)     | 1       | N/A  | 5   |
| Cylindrical (C) | 2       | N/A  | 4   |
| Universal (U)   | 2       | N/A  | 4   |
| Spherical (S)   | 3       | N/A  | 3   |

$$\begin{aligned} m &= \\ J &= \\ N &= \end{aligned}$$

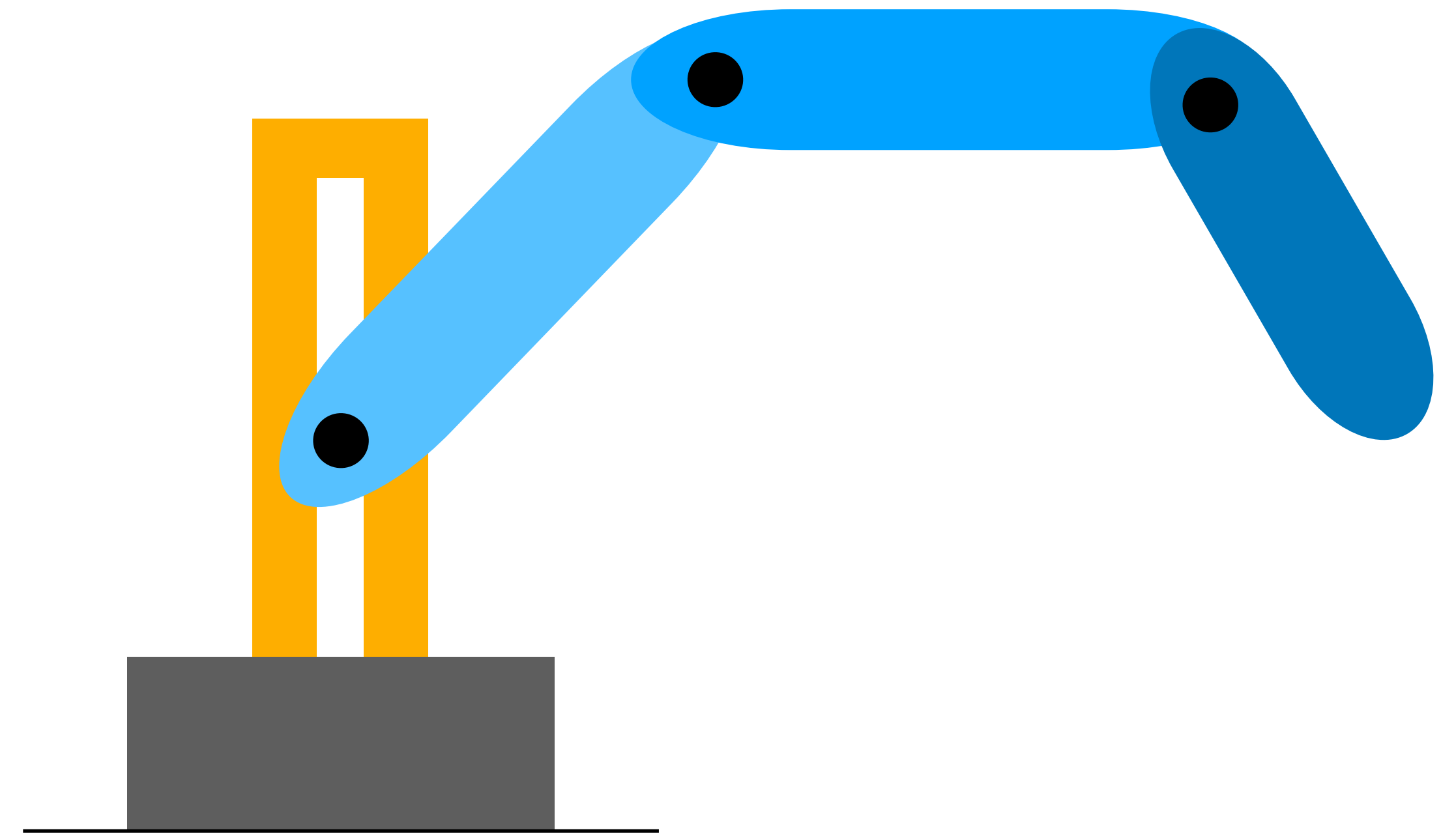
$$\text{dof} =$$



# DOF formally: Example 2

$$\text{dof} = m(N - J - 1) + \sum_{i=1}^J (f_i)$$

| Joint type      | dof $f$ | Constraints $c$<br>between two<br>planar<br>rigid bodies | Constraints $c$<br>between two<br>spatial<br>rigid bodies |
|-----------------|---------|--|---|
| Revolute (R)    | 1       | 2  | 5   |
| Prismatic (P)   | 1       | 2  | 5   |
| Helical (H)     | 1       | N/A  | 5   |
| Cylindrical (C) | 2       | N/A  | 4   |
| Universal (U)   | 2       | N/A  | 4   |
| Spherical (S)   | 3       | N/A  | 3   |



$$m = 3$$

$$J = 3$$

$$N = 4$$

$$\text{dof} = 3(4 - 3 - 1) + 3 = 3$$



# DOF formally

$$\text{dof} = \sum \text{freedoms of rigid bodies} - \# \text{ of independent constraints}$$

$N = \#$  of bodies, including the ground

$J = \#$  of joints

$m = 6$  for spatial bodies;  $3$  for planar bodies

$$\text{dof} = \underbrace{m(N - 1)}_{\text{Rigid body freedoms}} - \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^J c_i}_{\text{Joint Constraints}}$$

$$\text{dof} = m(N - 1) - \sum_{i=1}^J (m - f_i)$$

$$\text{dof} = m(N - J - 1) + \sum_{i=1}^J (f_i)$$

**Grübler's formula**

???

Only applicable if the constraints provided by the joints are independent





# Sampling-based Planning



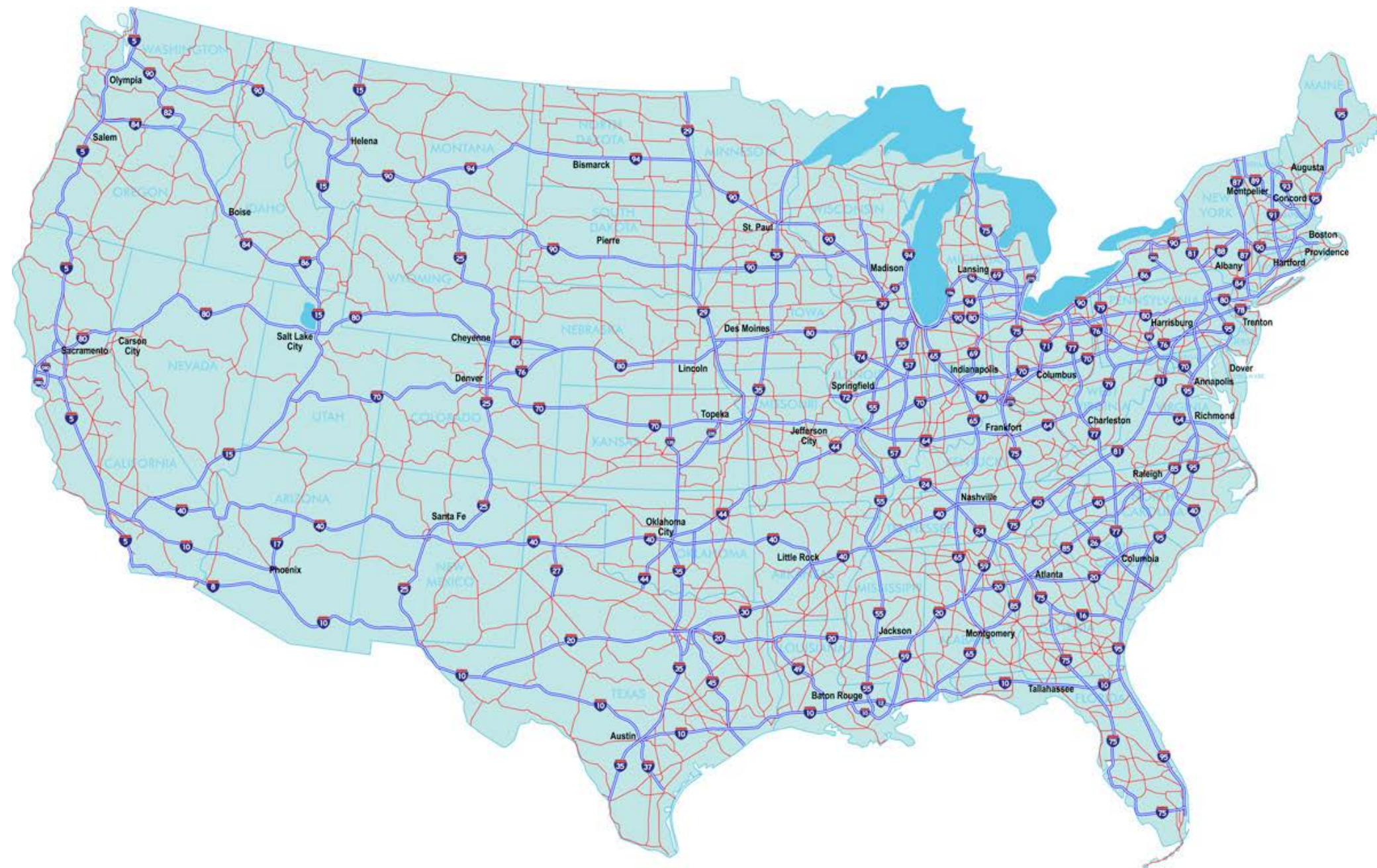


# Approaches to motion planning

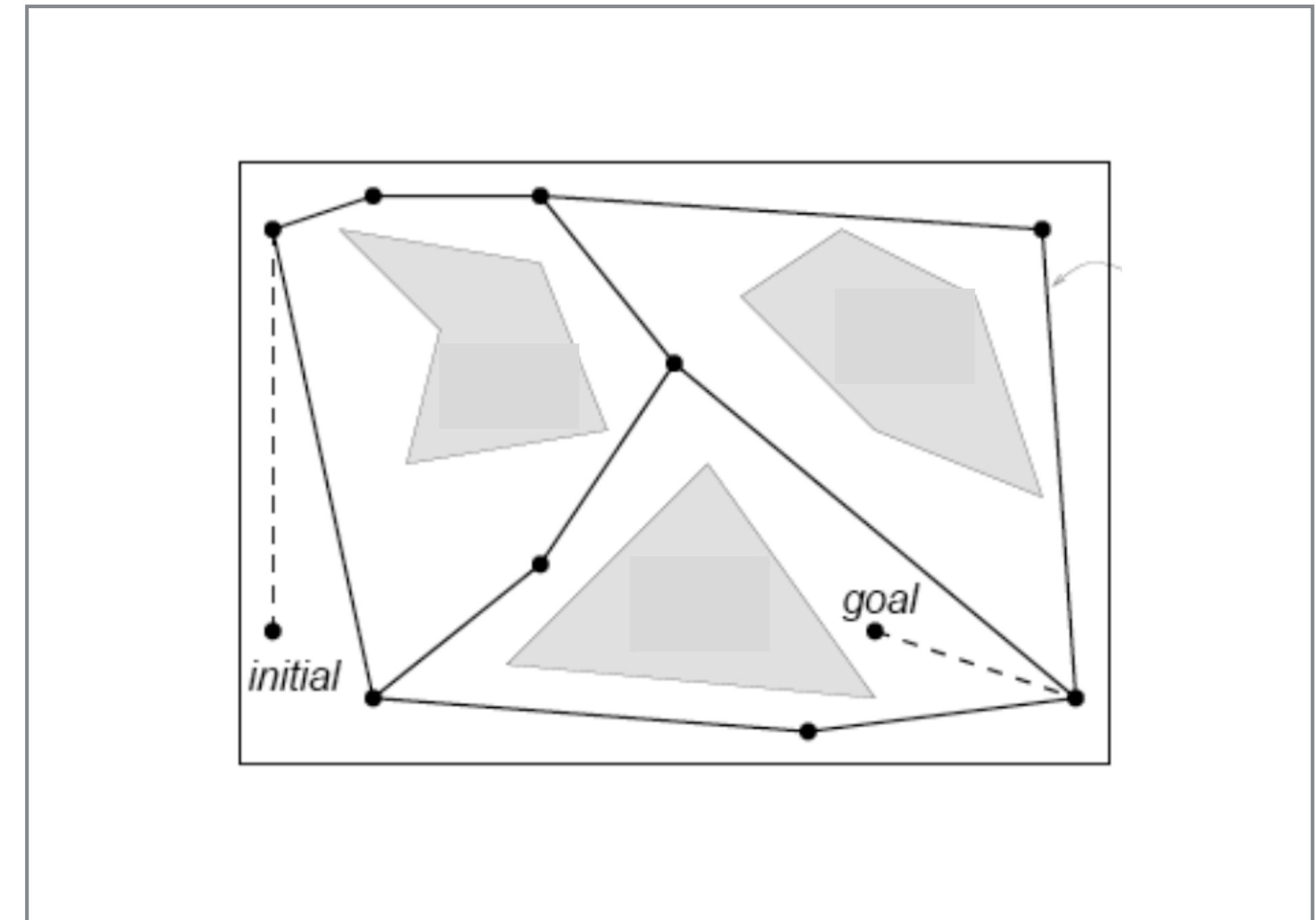
- Bug algorithms: Bug[0-2], Tangent Bug
- Graph Search (fixed graph)
  - Depth-first, Breadth-first, Dijkstra, A-star, Greedy best-first
- **Sampling-based Search (build graph):**
  - **Probabilistic Road Maps, Rapidly-exploring Random Trees**
- Optimization and local search:
  - Gradient descent, Potential fields, Simulated annealing, Wavefront



# Roadmaps



Roadmap over geolocations

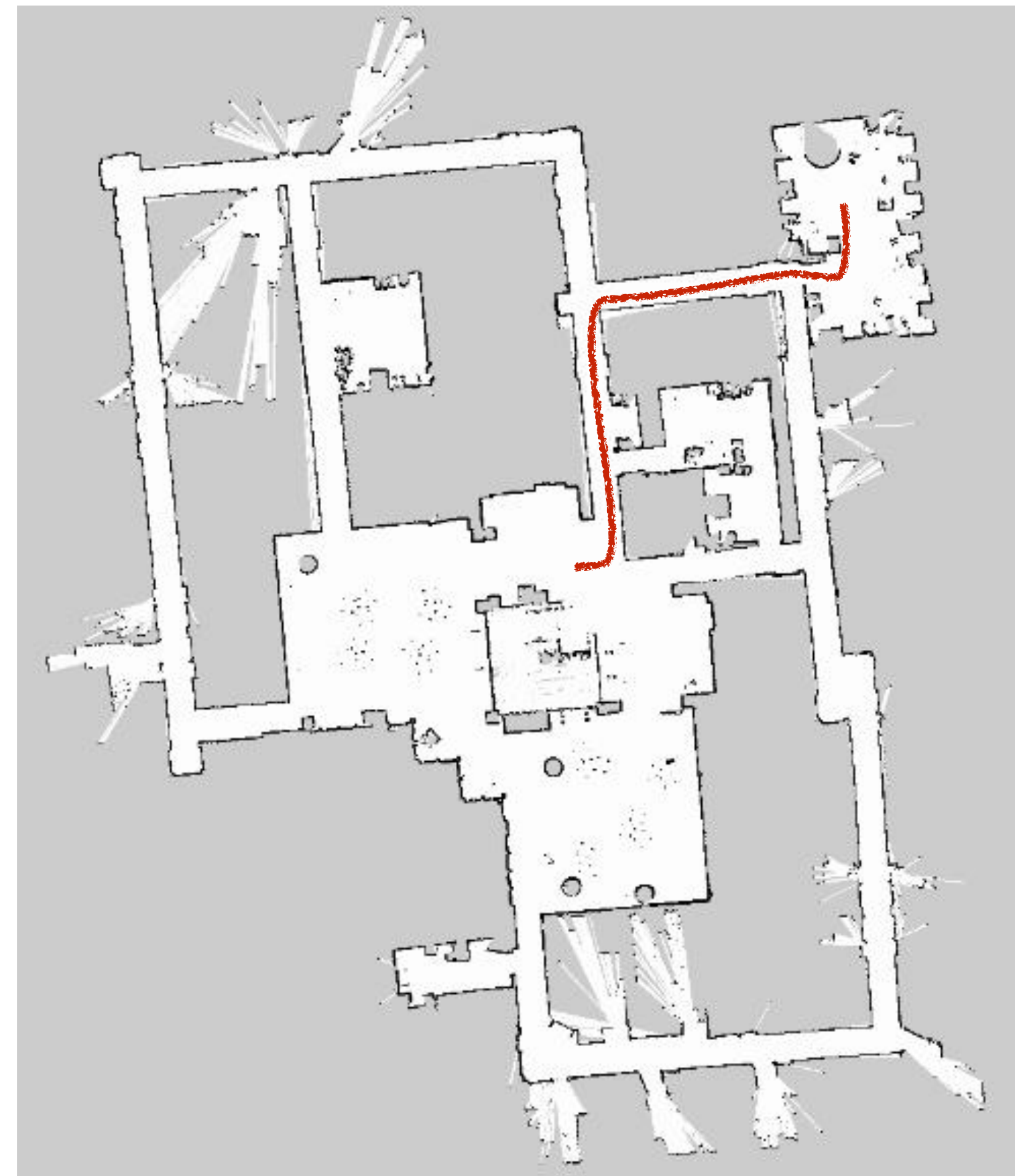
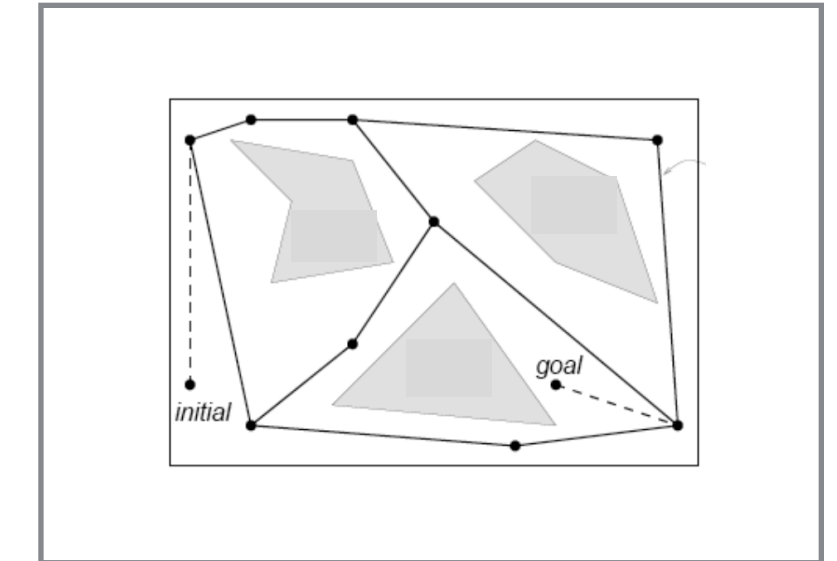


Roadmap over robot configurations



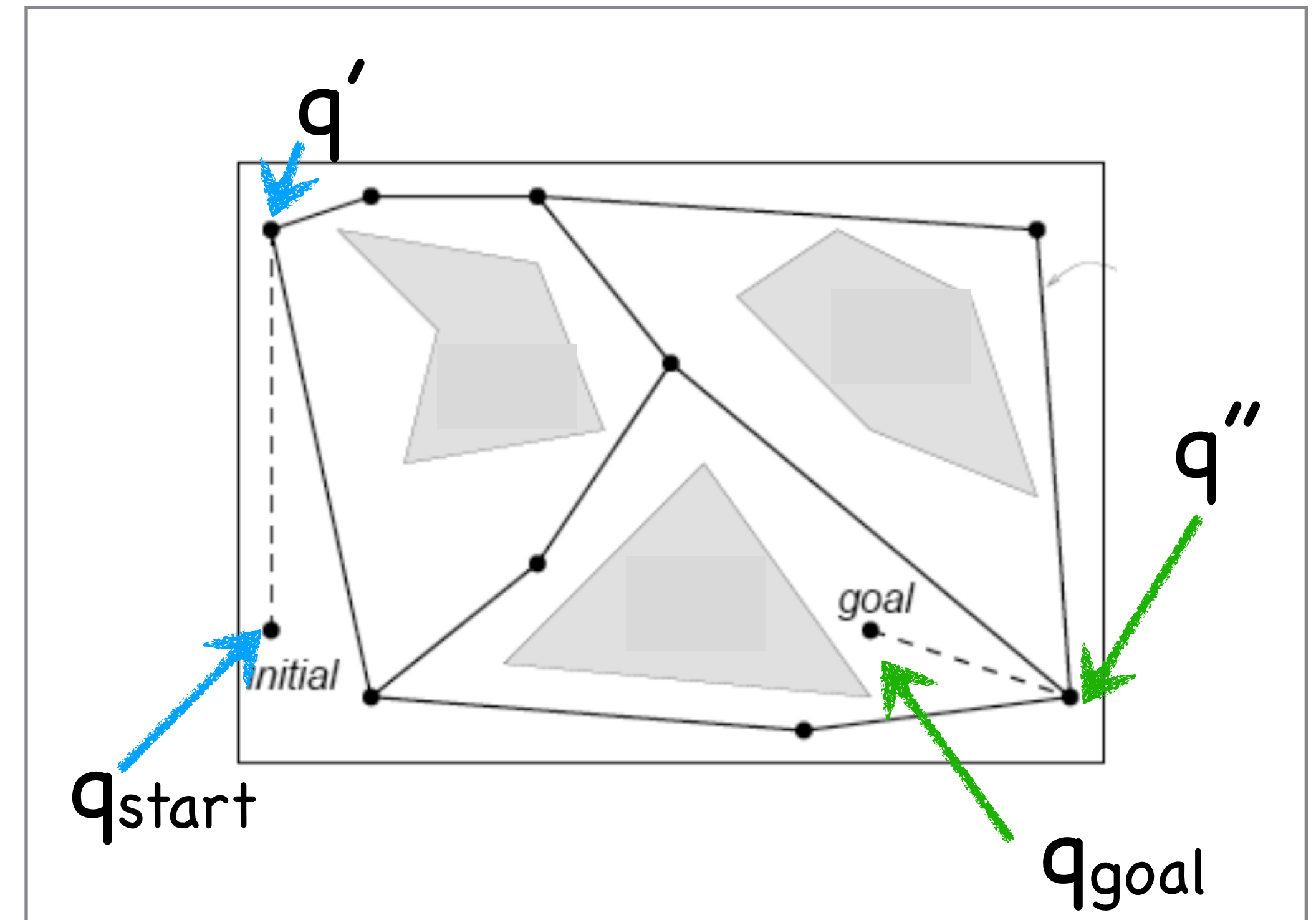
# Roadmaps

- Graph search assumed C-space as a fixed uniform grid
  - finite set of discretized cells
- How does this scale beyond planar navigation?
  - curse of dimensionality
- Roadmaps are a more general notion of graphs in C-space



# Roadmap Definition

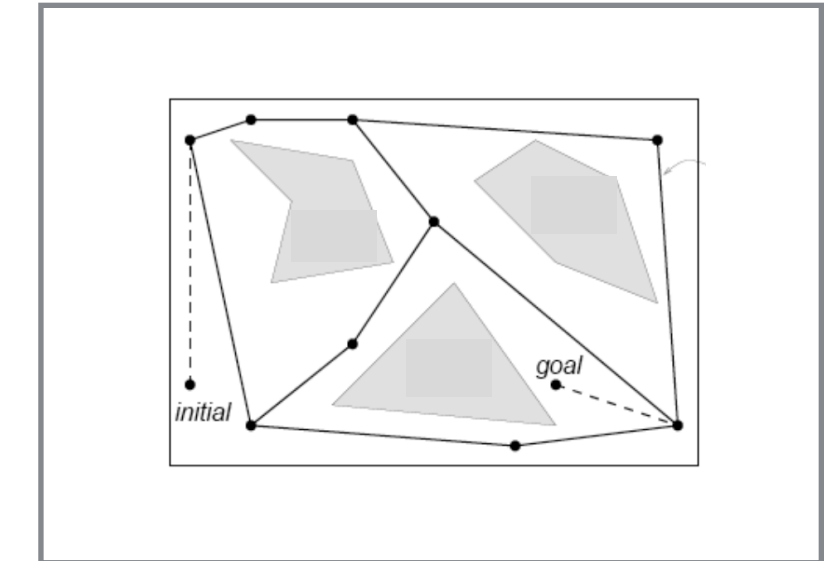
- A roadmap  $RM$  is a union of curves s.t. all start and goal points in C-space ( $Q_{free}$ ) can be connected by a path
- Roadmap properties:



- **Accessibility**: There is a path from  $q_{start} \in Q_{free}$  to some  $q' \in RM$
- **Departability**: There is a path from  $q'' \in RM$  to  $q_{goal} \in Q_{free}$
- **Connectivity**: there exists a path in  $RM$  between  $q'$  and  $q''$



# Basic Roadmap Planner



1) **Build** the roadmap  $RM$  as graph  $G(V,E)$

•  $V$ : nodes are “valid” in C-space in  $Q_{free}$

- a configuration  $q$  is valid if it is not in collision and within joint limits

•  $E$ : an edge  $e(q_1, q_2)$  connects two nodes if a free path connects  $q_1$  and  $q_2$

- all configurations along edge assumed to be valid

2) **Connect** start and goal configurations to  $RM$  at  $q'$  and  $q''$ , respectively

3) **Find** path in  $RM$  between  $q'$  and  $q''$

# How to build a roadmap?





# How to build a roadmap?

## 2 Approaches



# 2 Approaches to Roadmaps

## **Deterministic:**

complete algorithms

- Visibility Graph
  - trace lines connecting obstacle polygon vertices
- Voronoi Planning
  - trace edges equidistant from obstacles

## **Probabilistic:**

C-space sampling

- Probabilistic Roadmap (PRM)
  - sample and connect vertices in graph for multiple planning queries
- Rapidly-exploring Random Tree (RRT)
  - sample and connect vertices in trees rooted at start and goal configuration



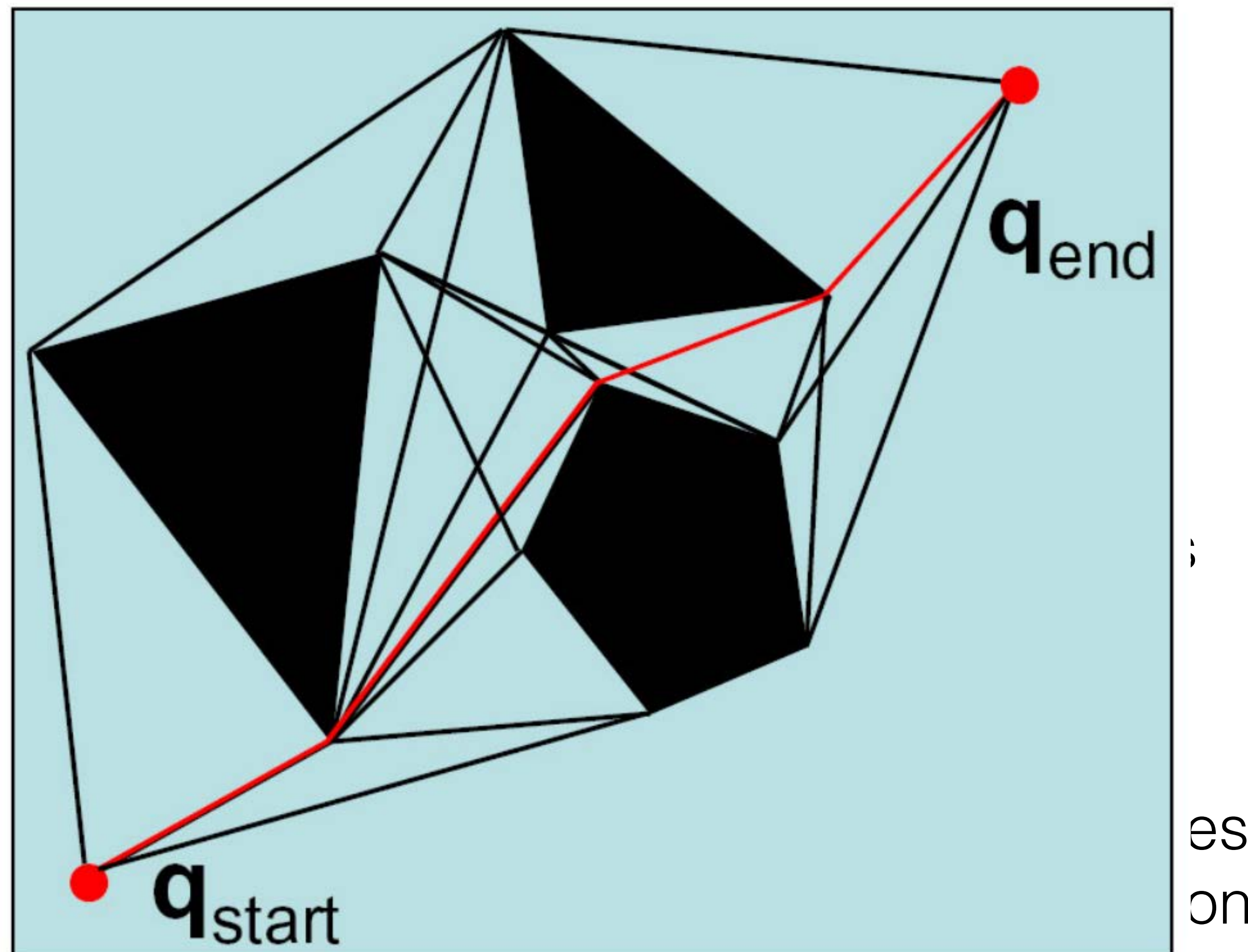


# 2 Approaches to Roadmaps

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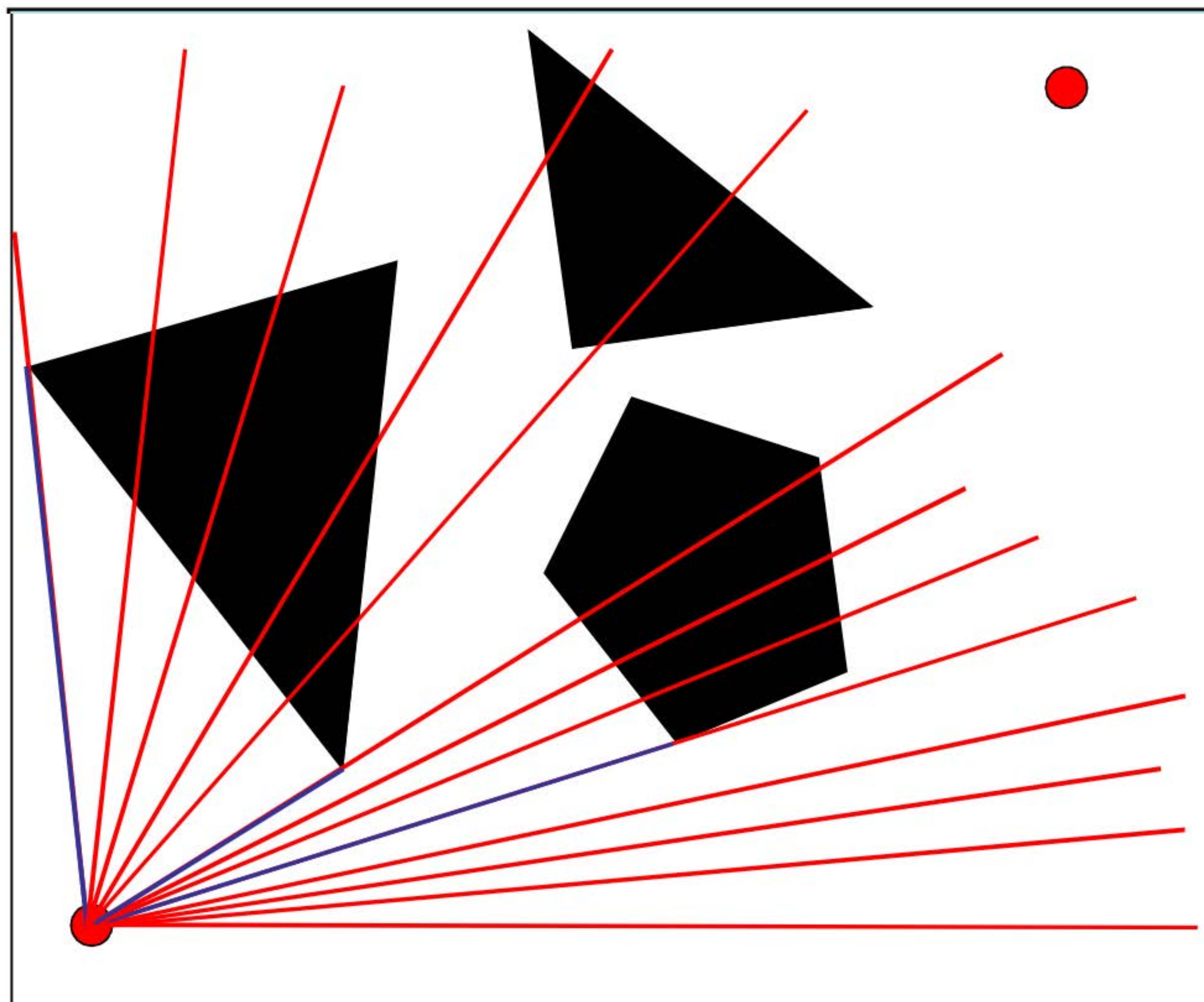


# 2 Approaches to Roadmaps

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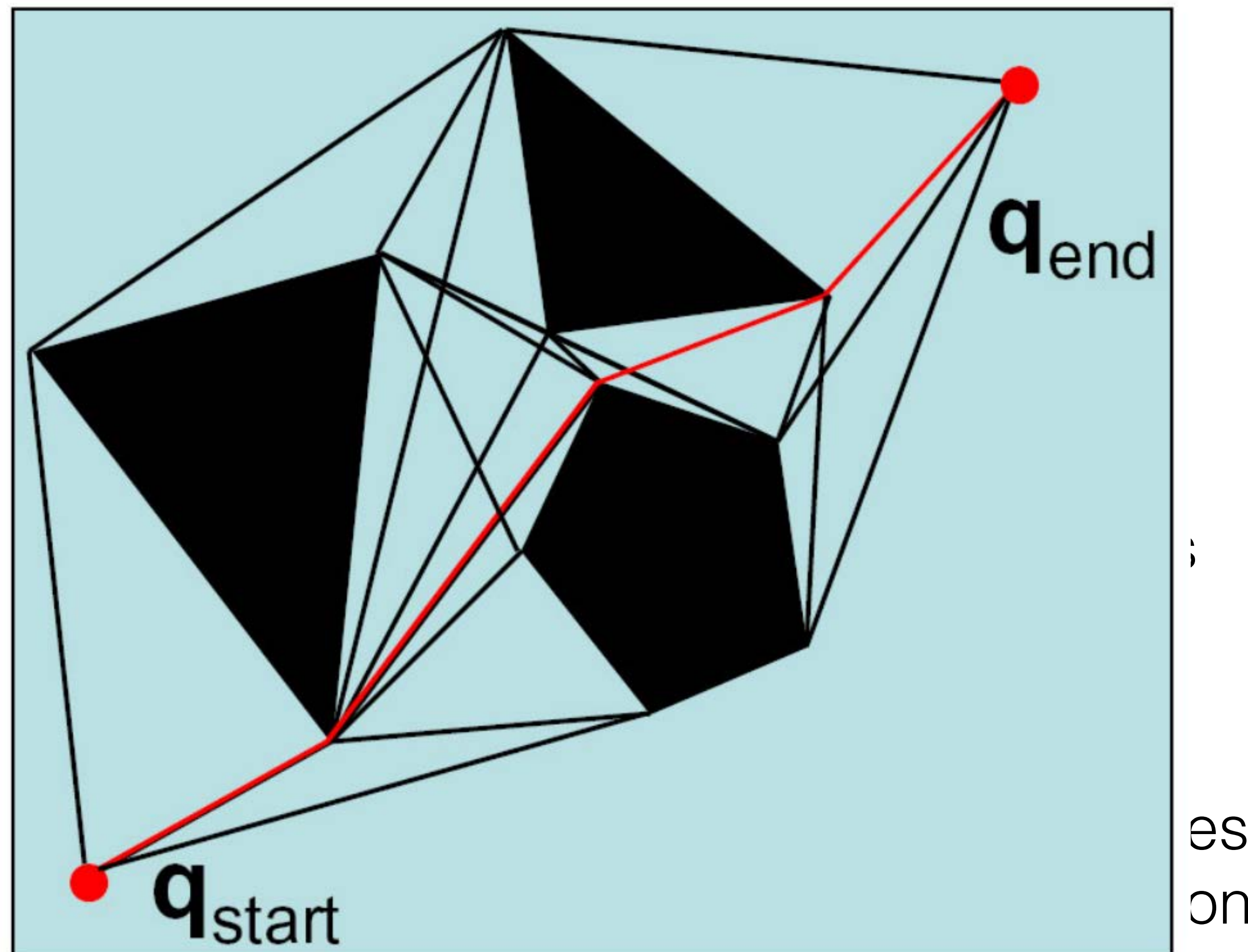


# 2 Approaches to Roadmaps

## Deterministic:

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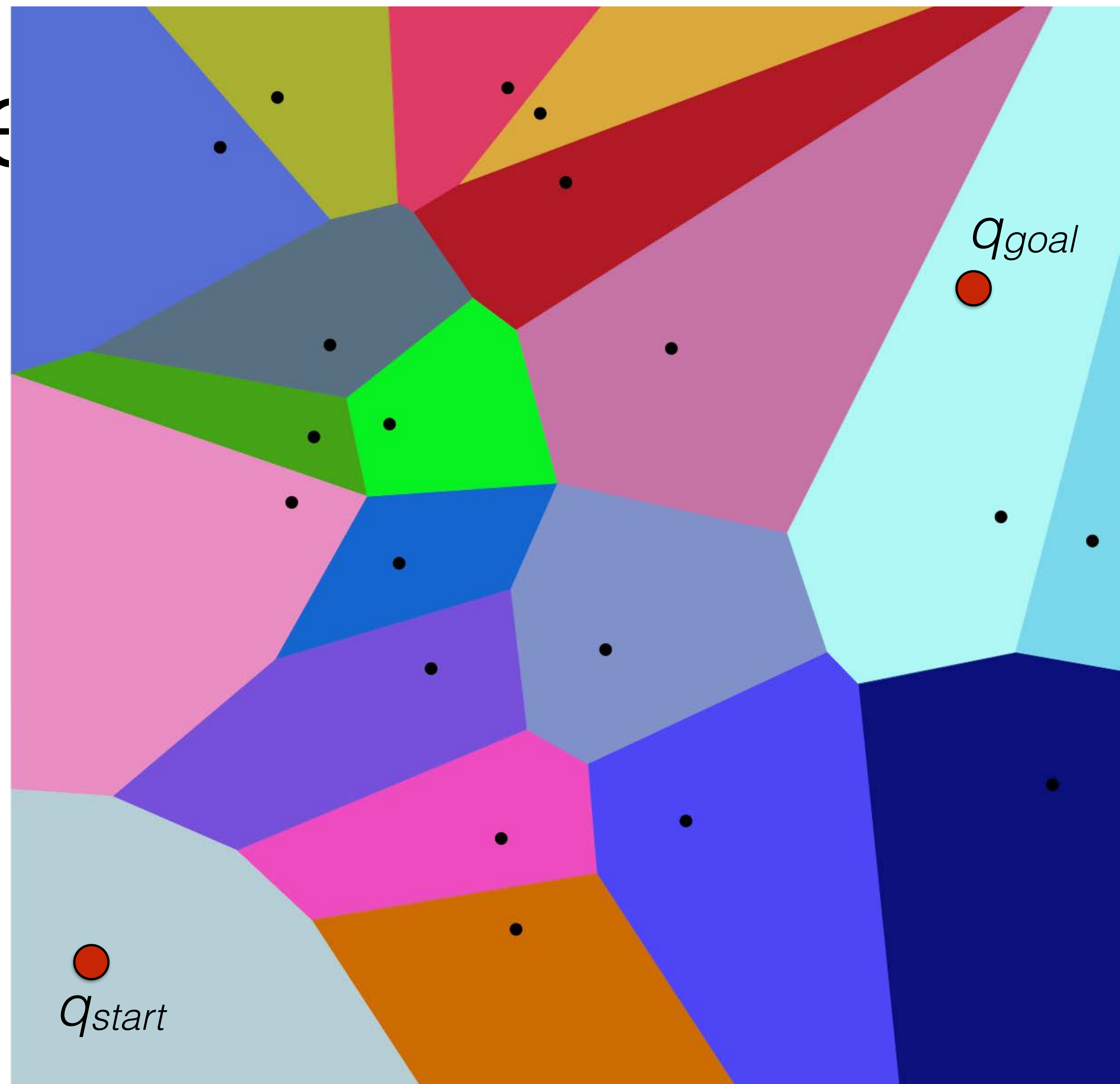


# 2 Approaches

## Deterministic:

complete algorithms

- Visibility Graph
  - trace lines connecting obstacle polygon vertices
- Voronoi Planning
  - trace edges equidistant from obstacles





# Voronoi Diagram

- Given  $N$  input points in a  $d$  dimensional space
- Find region boundaries such that each point on a boundary are equidistant to two or more input points
- Delaunay triangulation is a dual to the Voronoi diagram



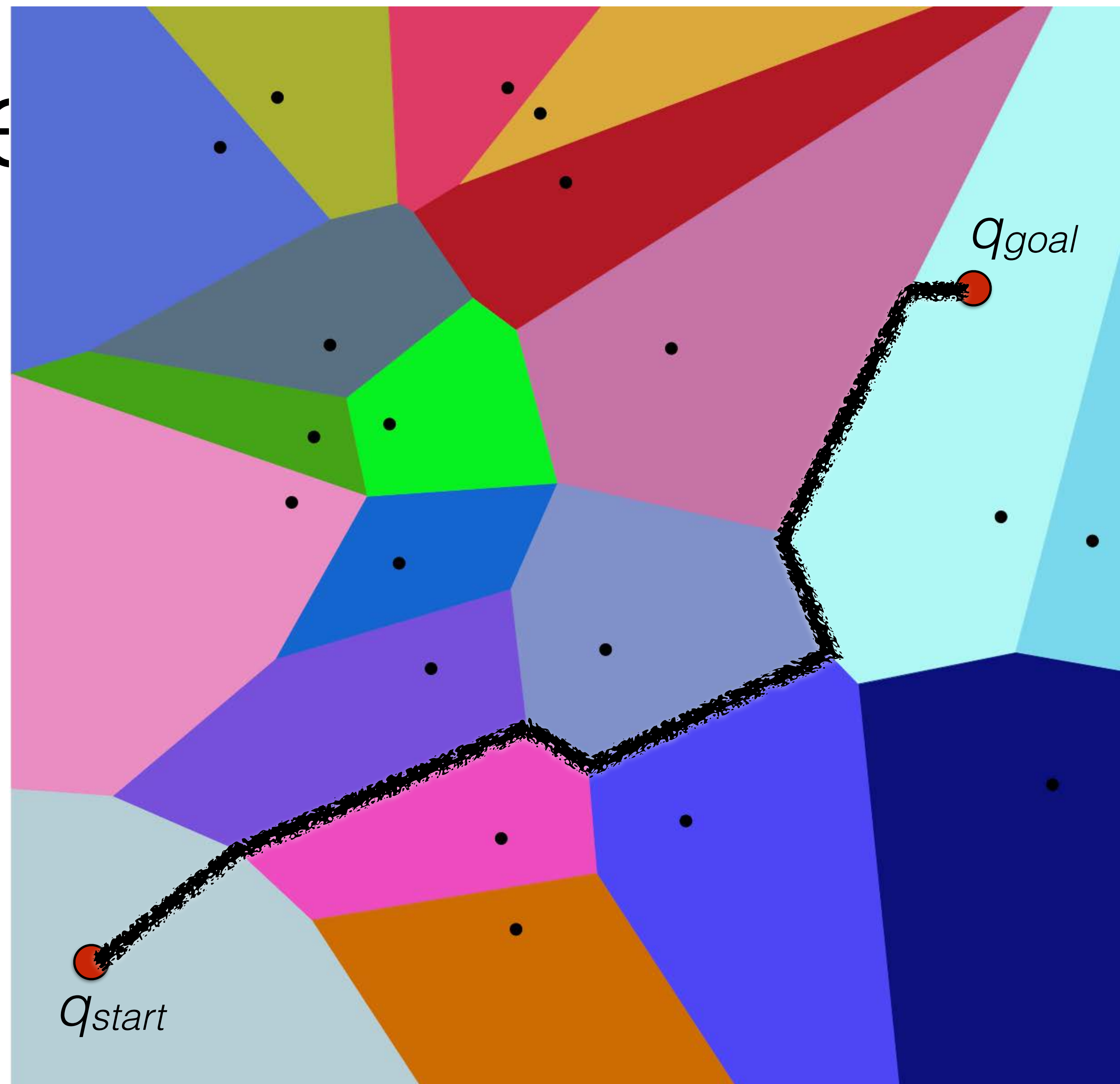
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Voronoi\\_diagram#/media/File:Voronoi\\_growth\\_euclidean.gif](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Voronoi_diagram#/media/File:Voronoi_growth_euclidean.gif)

# 2 Approaches

## Deterministic:

complete algorithms

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  - trace lines connecting obstacle polygon vertices
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# 2 Approaches to Roadmaps

## **Deterministic:**

complete algorithms

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  - trace lines connecting obstacle polygon vertices
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## **Probabilistic:**

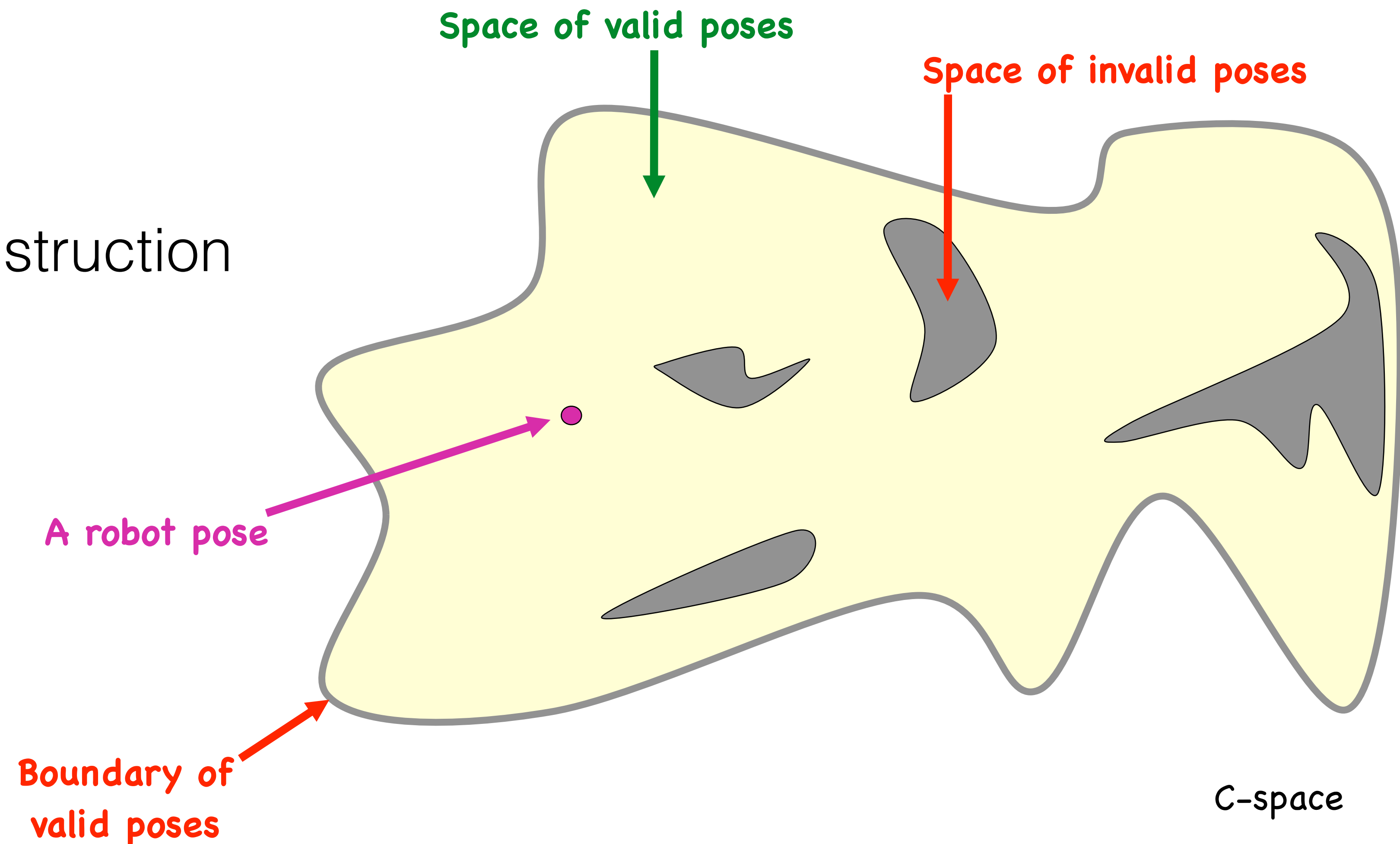
C-space sampling

- Probabilistic Roadmap (PRM)
  - sample and connect vertices in graph for multiple planning queries
- Rapidly-exploring Random Tree (RRT)
  - sample and connect vertices in trees rooted at start and goal configuration



# Probabilistic road maps

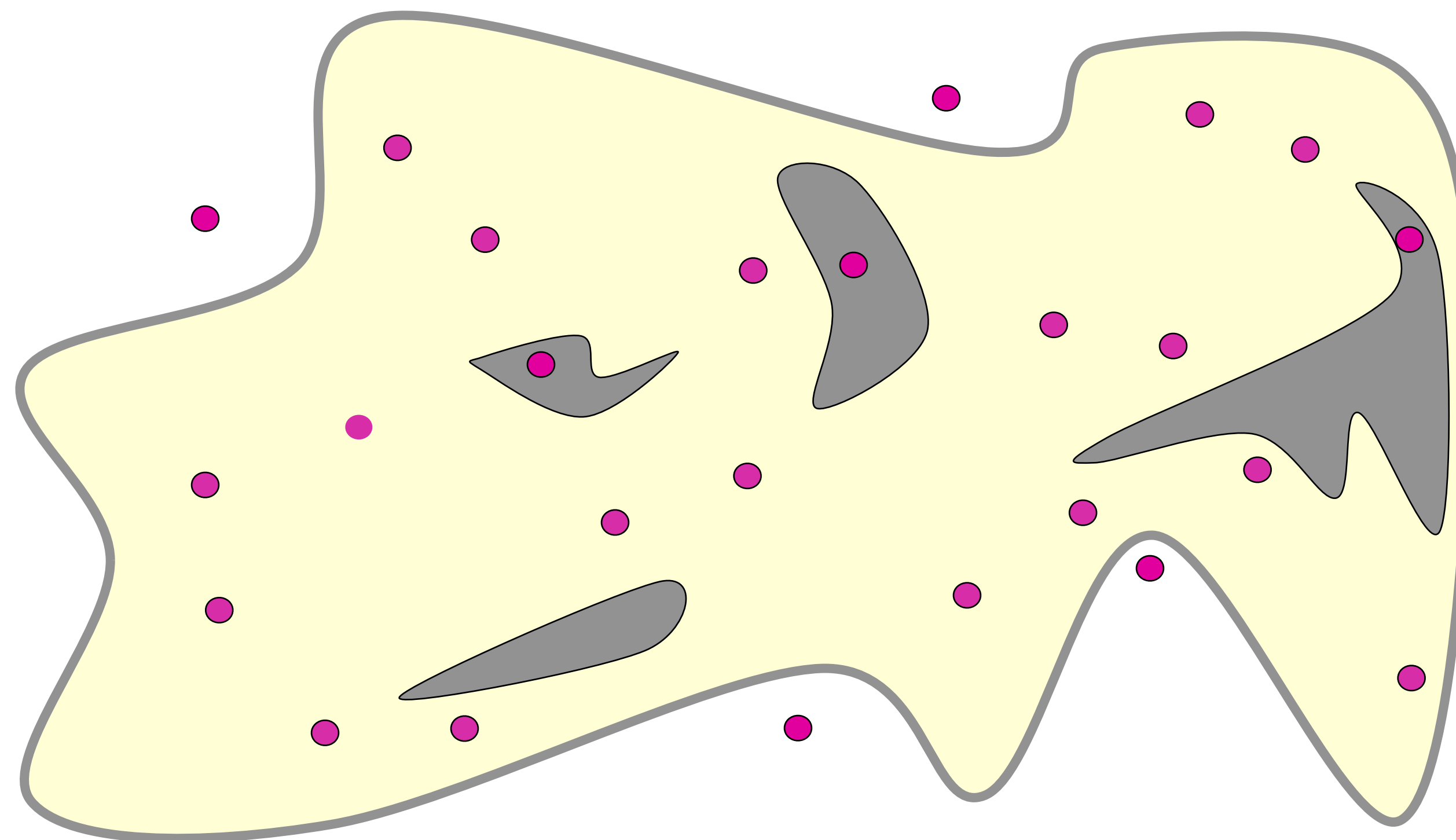
- Two phases
  - Roadmap construction
  - Path Query





# PRM: construction phase

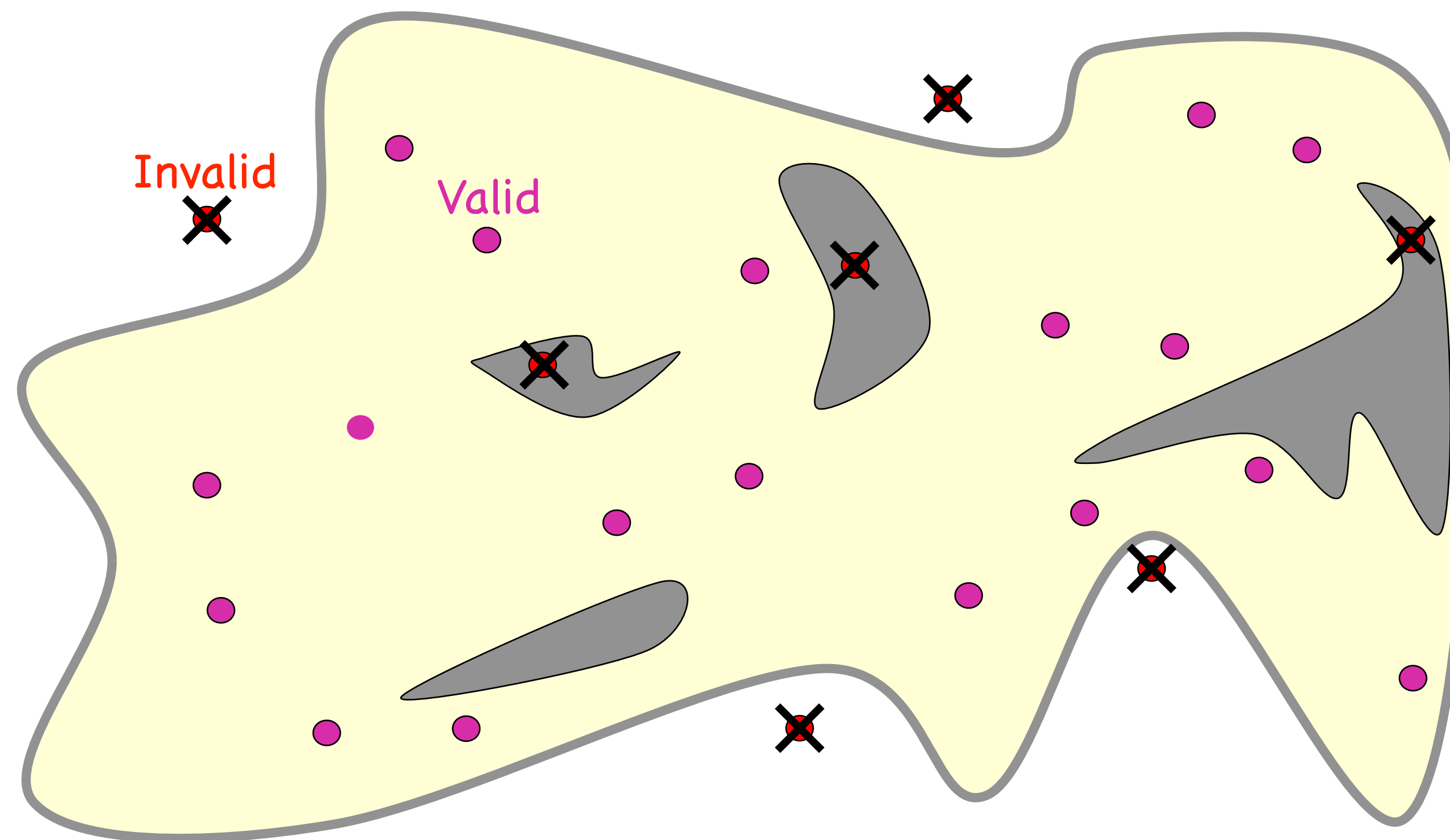
- 1) **Select N sample poses at random**
- 2) Eliminate invalid poses
- 3) Connect neighboring poses



C-space

# PRM: construction phase

- 1) Select N sample poses at random
- 2) **Eliminate invalid poses**
- 3) Connect neighboring poses



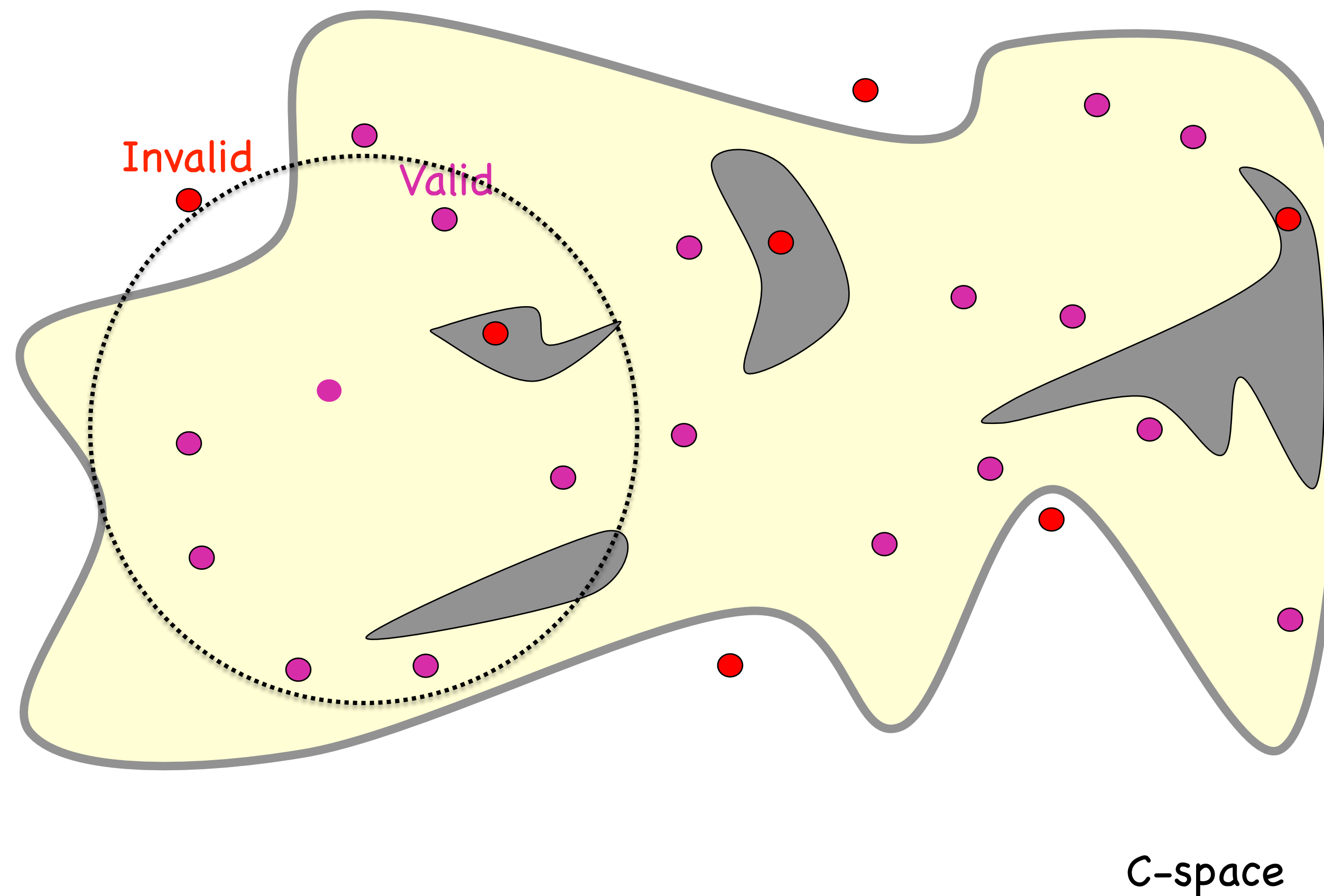
Collision detection  
will be covered later

C-space



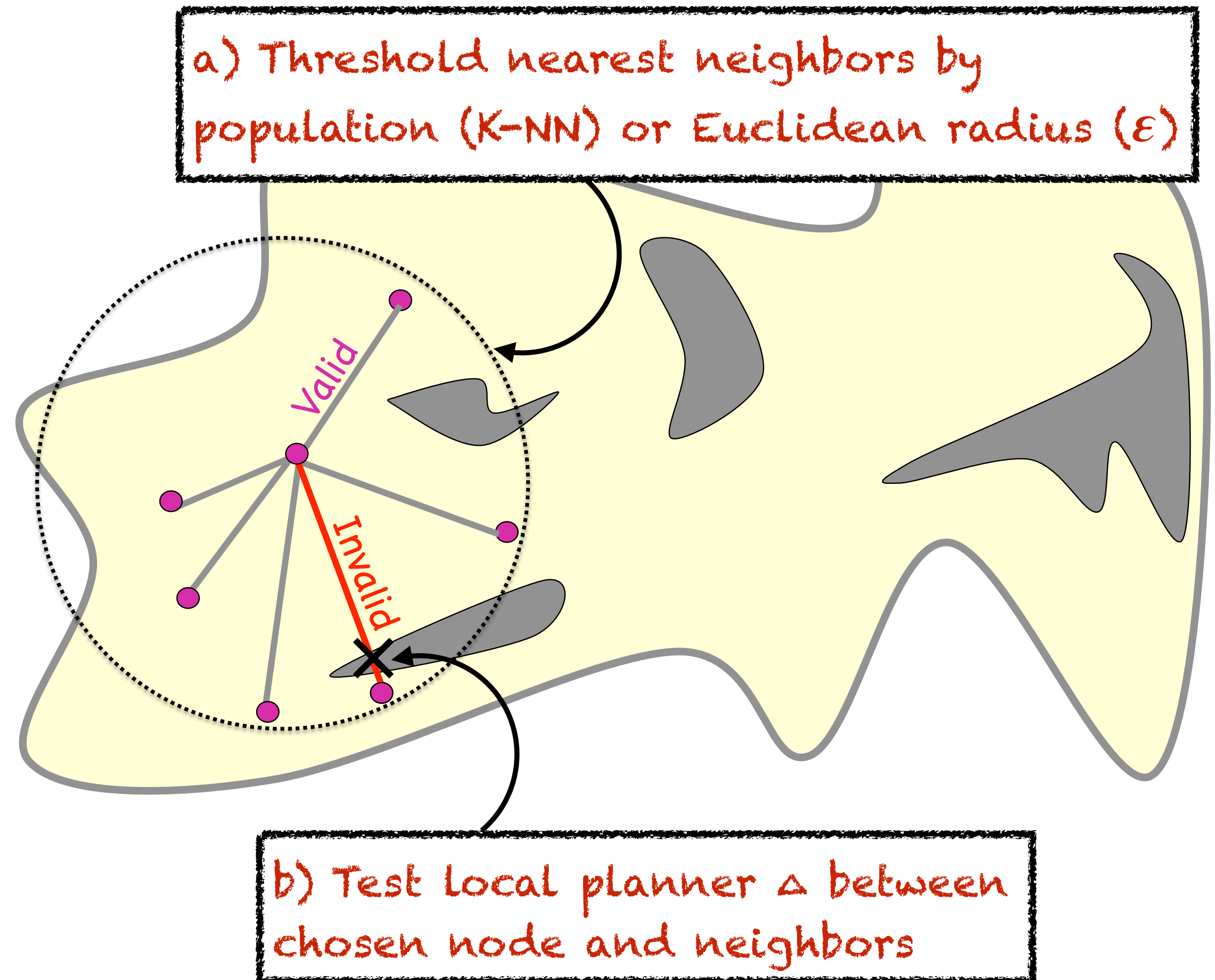
# PRM: construction phase

- 1) Select N sample poses at random
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# PRM: construction phase

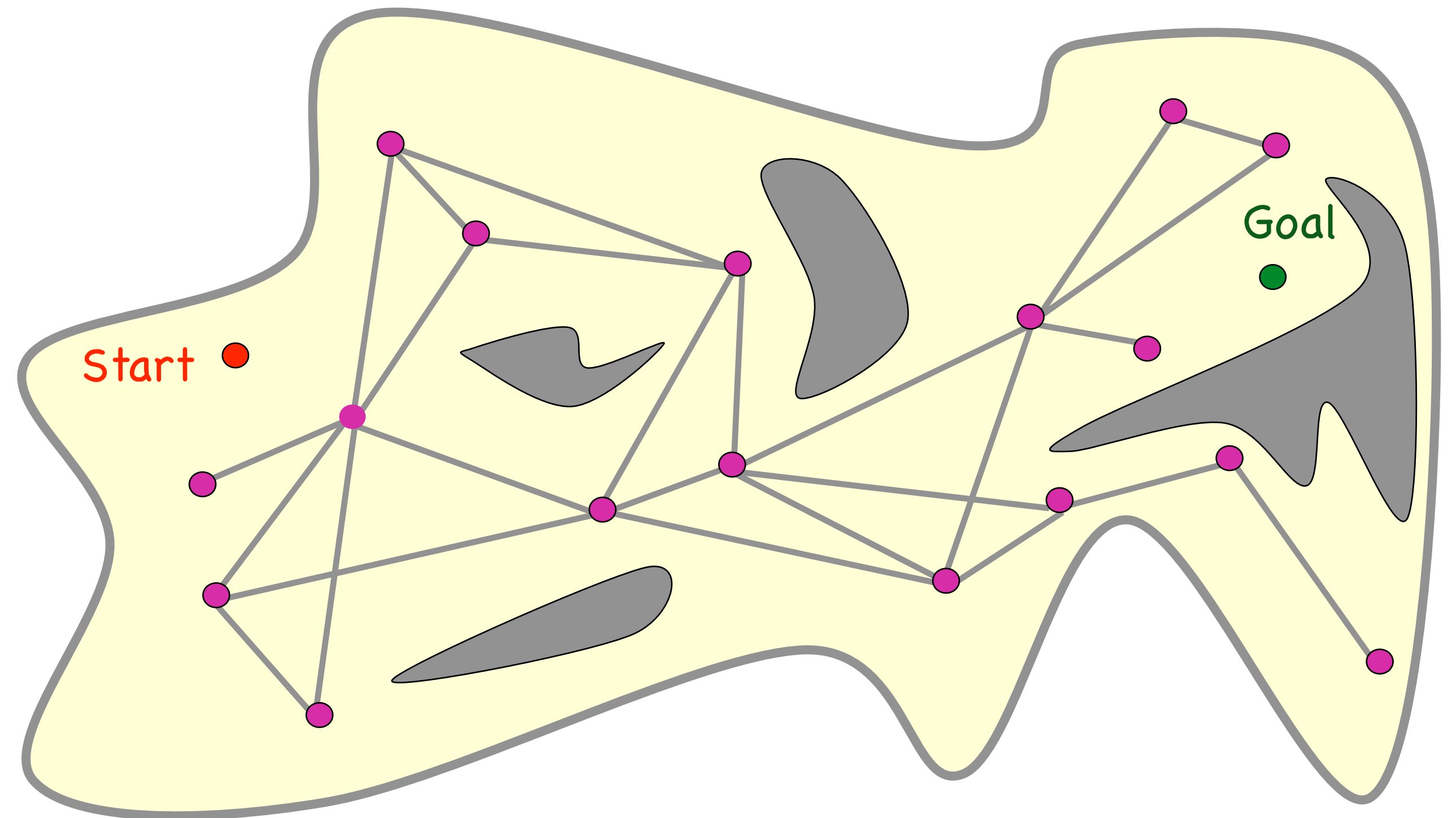
- 1) Select  $N$  sample poses at random
- 2) Eliminate invalid poses
- 3) **Connect neighboring poses**





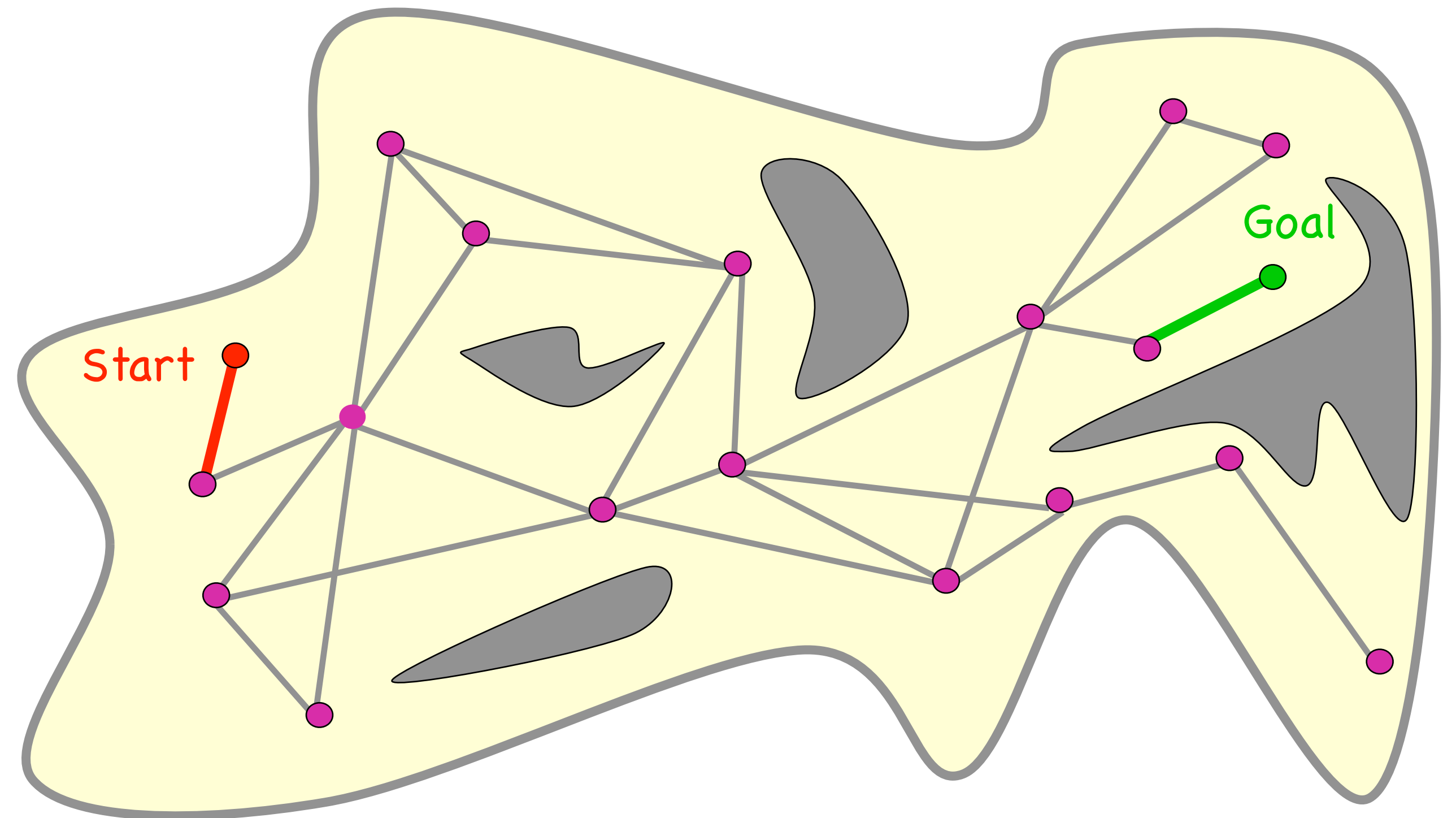
# PRM: query phase

- 1) **Given constructed roadmap, start pose, and goal pose**
- 2) Attach goal and start to nearest roadmap entry nodes
- 3) Search for path between roadmap entry nodes
- 4) Return path with entry and departure edges



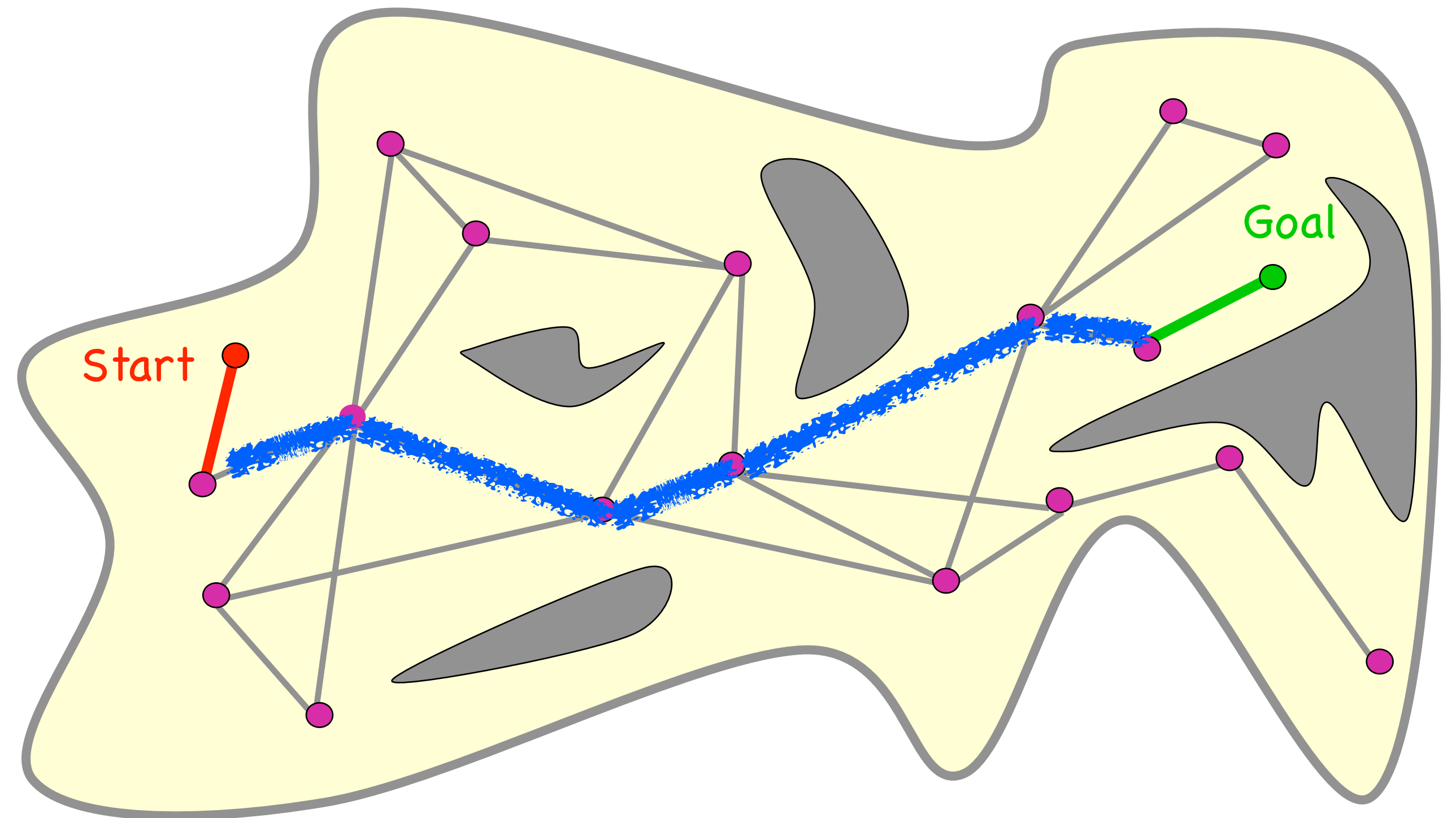
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# PRM: query phase

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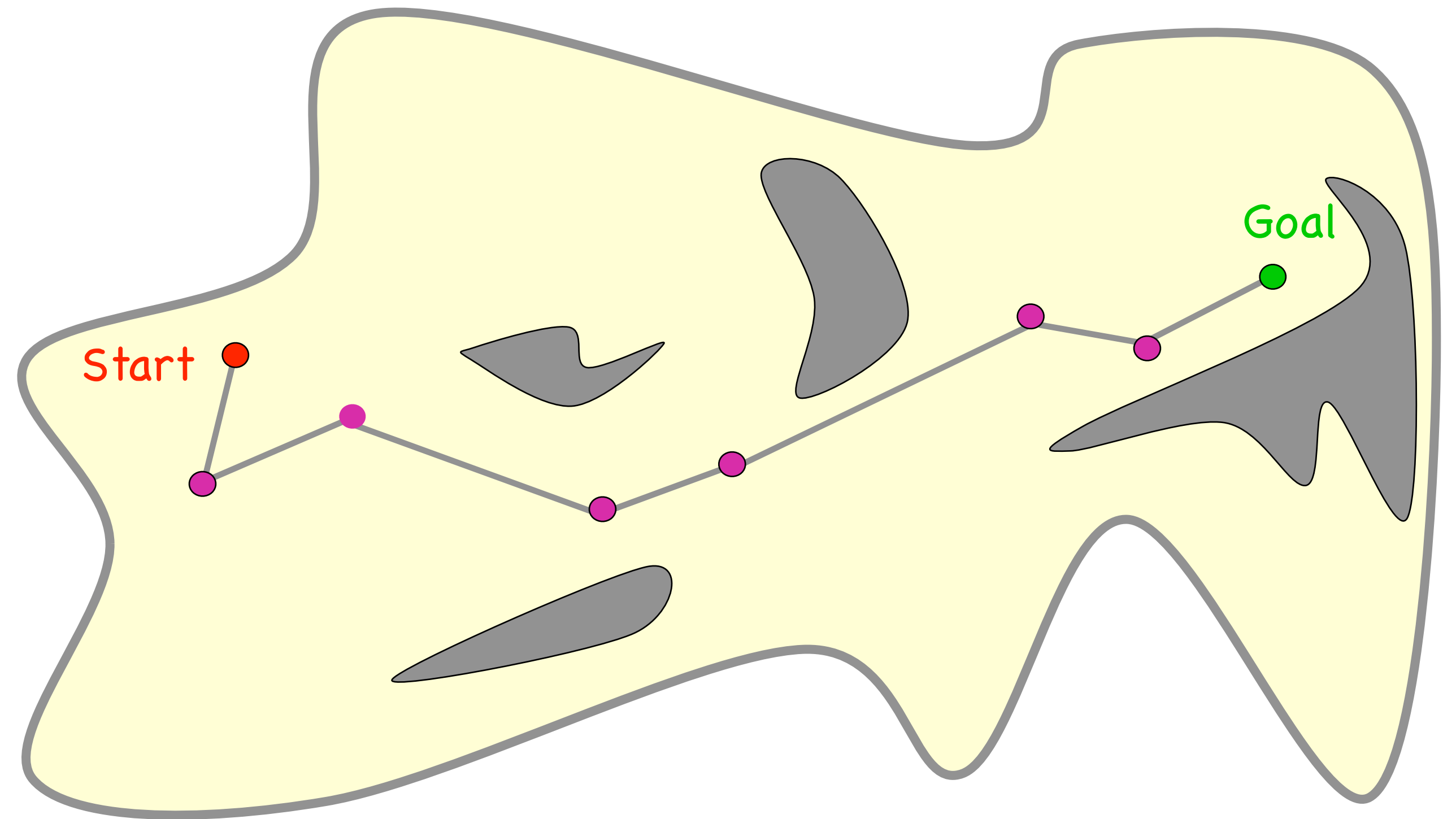
Remember: graph search algorithms  
A\*, Dijkstra, BFS, DFS





# PRM: query phase

- 1) Given constructed roadmap, start pose, and goal pose
- 2) Attach goal and start to nearest roadmap entry nodes
- 3) Search for path between roadmap entry nodes
- 4) **Return path with entry and departure edges**



# Multi-query planning: Considerations

i.e. if you will be querying the map multiple times (PRM by design allows this)

- Number of samples wrt. C-space dimensionality
- Balanced sampling over C-space
- Choice of distance (e.g., Euclidean)
- Choice of local planner (e.g., line subdivision)
- Selecting neighbors: (e.g., K-NN, kd-tree, cell hashing)



# 2 Approaches to Roadmaps

## **Deterministic:**

complete algorithms

- Visibility Graph
  - trace lines connecting obstacle polygon vertices
- Voronoi Planning
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## **Probabilistic:**

C-space sampling

- Probabilistic Roadmap (PRM)
  - sample and connect vertices in graph for multiple planning queries
- Rapidly-exploring Random Tree (RRT)
  - sample and connect vertices in trees rooted at start and goal configuration





# Single Query Planning

- Given specific start and goal configurations
- Grow trees from start and goal towards each other
- Path is found once trees connect
- Focus sampling in unexplored areas of C-space and moving towards start/goal
- Common algorithms:
  - ESTs (expansive space trees)
  - **RRTs (rapidly exploring random trees)**



# RRT Algorithm



# RRT Algorithm

Extend graph towards a random configuration and repeat

---

```
BUILD_RRT( $q_{init}$ )
1   $\mathcal{T}$ .init( $q_{init}$ );
2  for  $k = 1$  to  $K$  do
3     $q_{rand} \leftarrow$  RANDOM_CONFIG();
4    EXTEND( $\mathcal{T}$ ,  $q_{rand}$ );
5  Return  $\mathcal{T}$ 
```

---





# RRT Algorithm

Extend graph towards a random configuration and repeat

---

```

BUILD_RRT( $q_{init}$ )
1   $\mathcal{T}.init(q_{init});$ 
2  for  $k = 1$  to  $K$  do
3     $q_{rand} \leftarrow \text{RANDOM\_CONFIG}();$ 
4     $\text{EXTEND}(\mathcal{T}, q_{rand});$ 
5  Return  $\mathcal{T}$ 

```

---

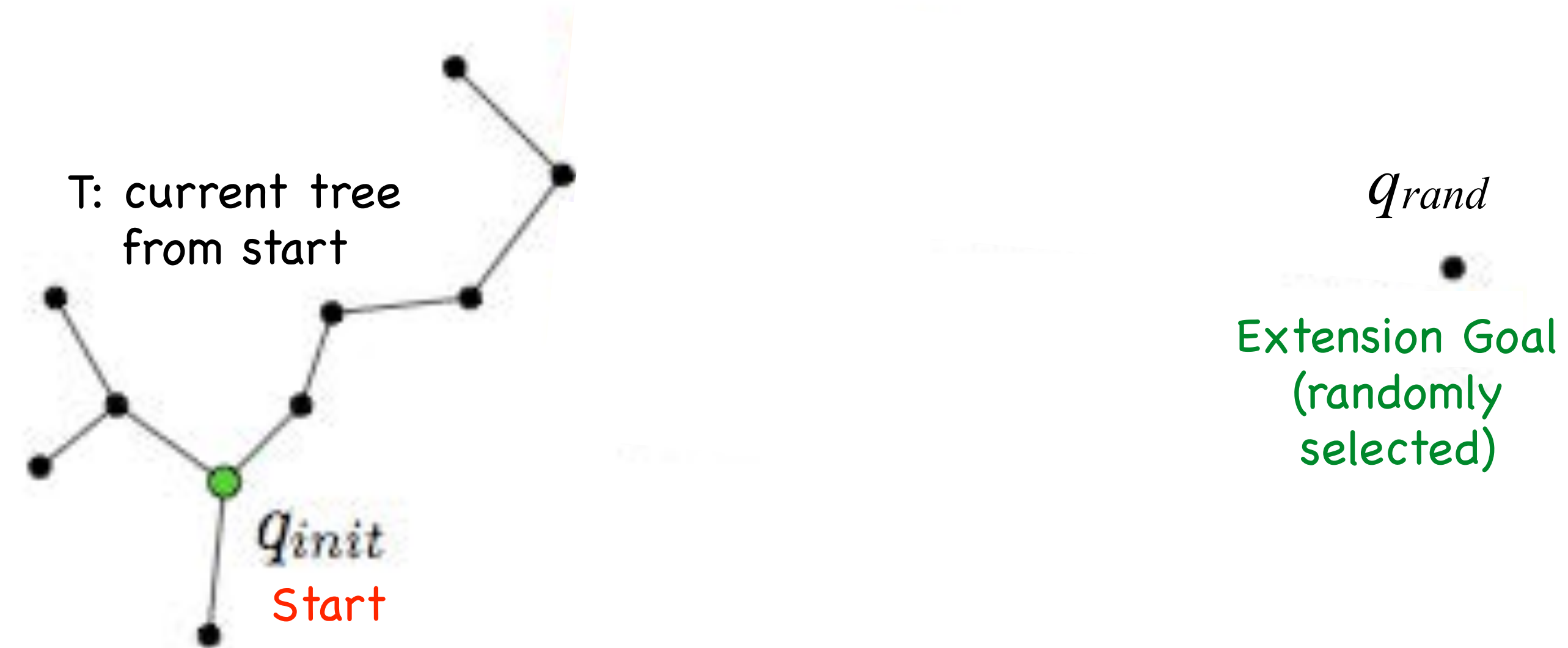


Figure 3: The EXTEND operation.

# RRT Algorithm

Extend graph towards a random configuration and repeat

---

```
BUILD_RRT( $q_{init}$ )
```

```

1   $\mathcal{T}.$ init( $q_{init}$ );
2  for  $k = 1$  to  $K$  do
3       $q_{rand} \leftarrow$  RANDOM_CONFIG();
4      EXTEND( $\mathcal{T}, q_{rand}$ );
5  Return  $\mathcal{T}$ 

```

---



---

```
EXTEND( $\mathcal{T}, q$ )
```

```

1   $q_{near} \leftarrow$  NEAREST_NEIGHBOR( $q, \mathcal{T}$ );
2  if NEW_CONFIG( $q, q_{near}, q_{new}$ ) then
3       $\mathcal{T}.$ add_vertex( $q_{new}$ );
4       $\mathcal{T}.$ add_edge( $q_{near}, q_{new}$ );
5      if  $q_{new} = q$  then
6          Return Reached;
7      else
8          Return Advanced;
9  Return Trapped;

```

---

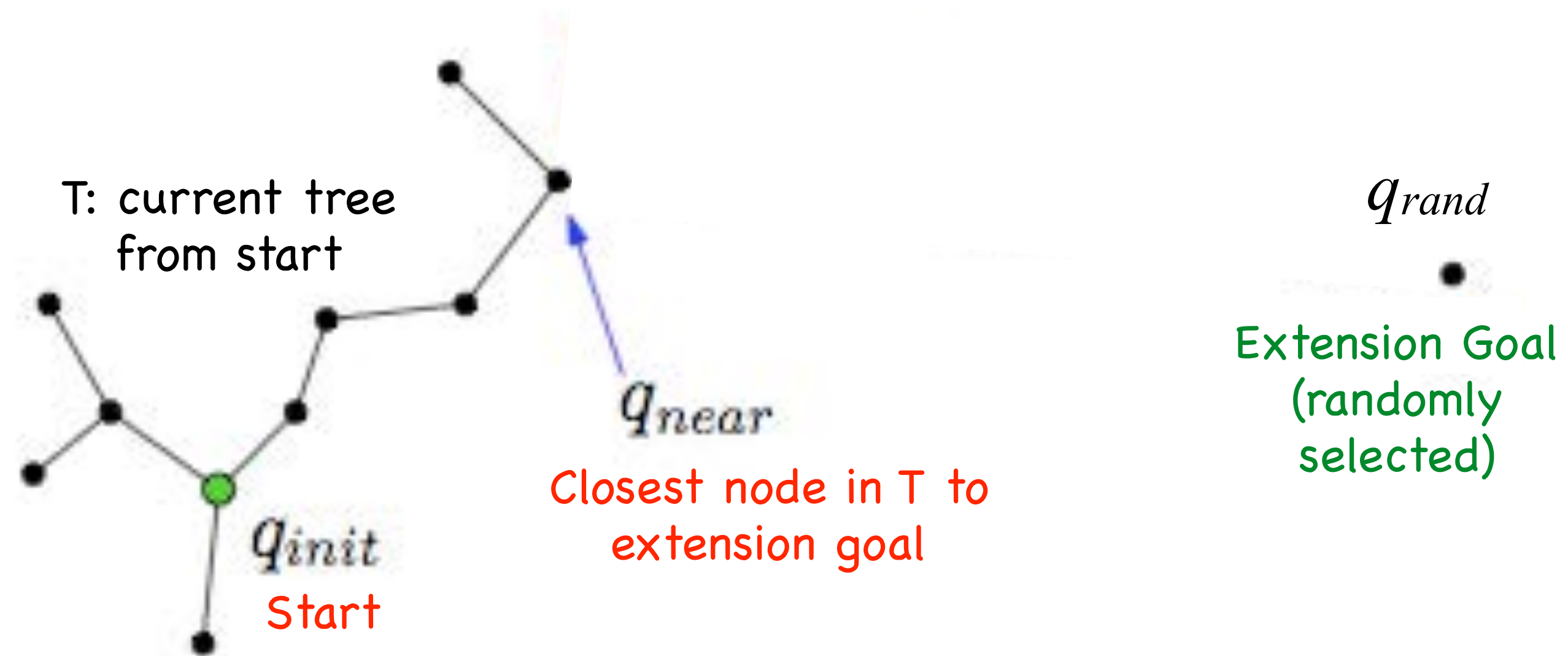


Figure 3: The EXTEND operation.

Extend graph towards a random configuration

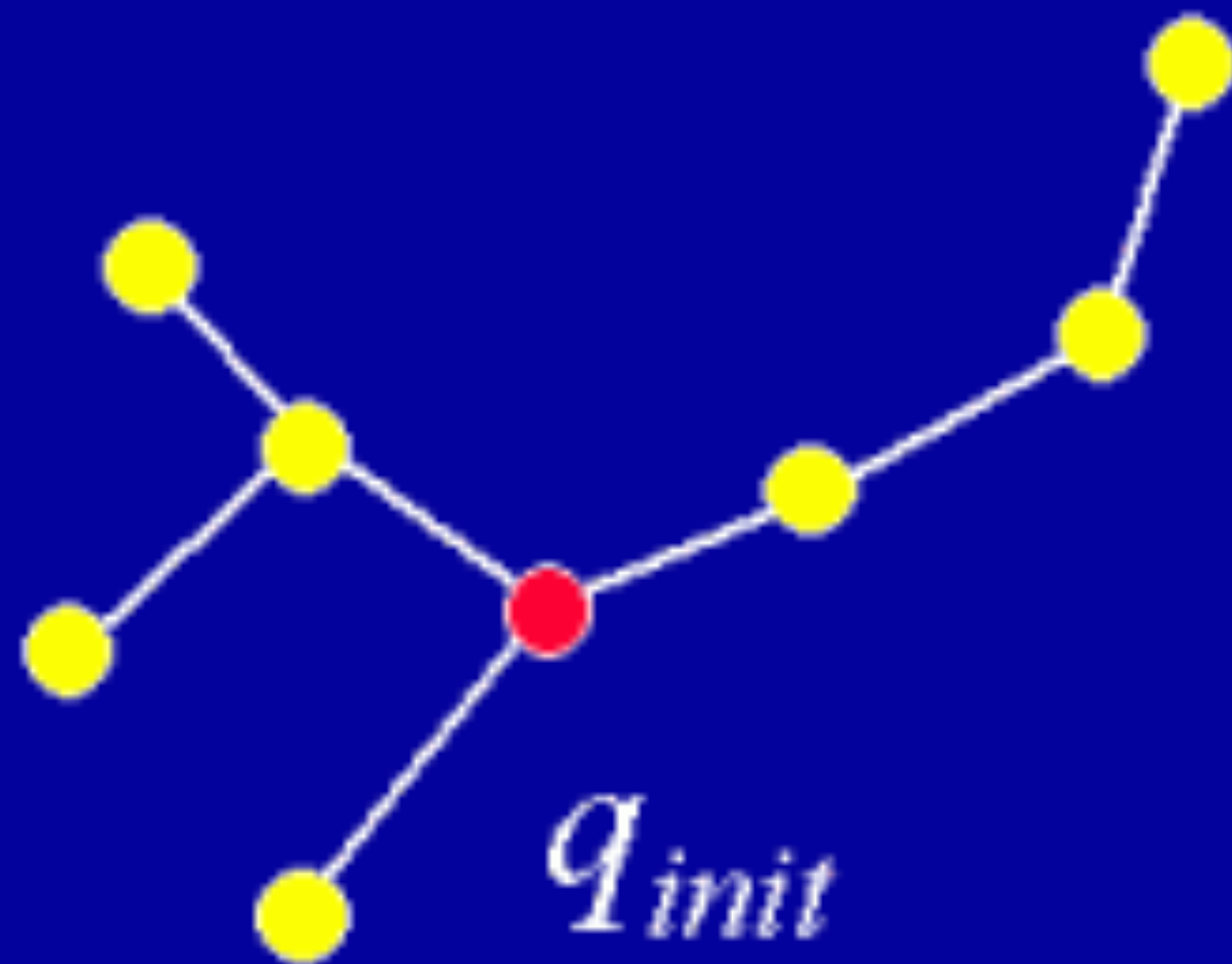






# RRT Extend animation

Existing RRT is “grown” as follows...



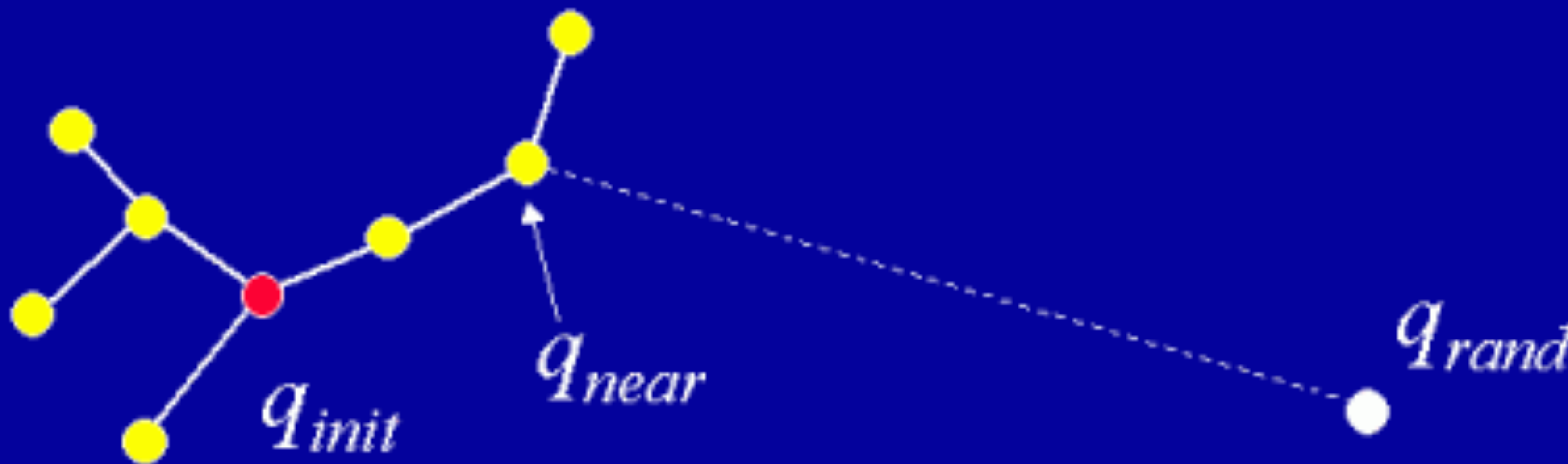
# RRT Extend animation

1) Select a random "target" node



# RRT Extend animation

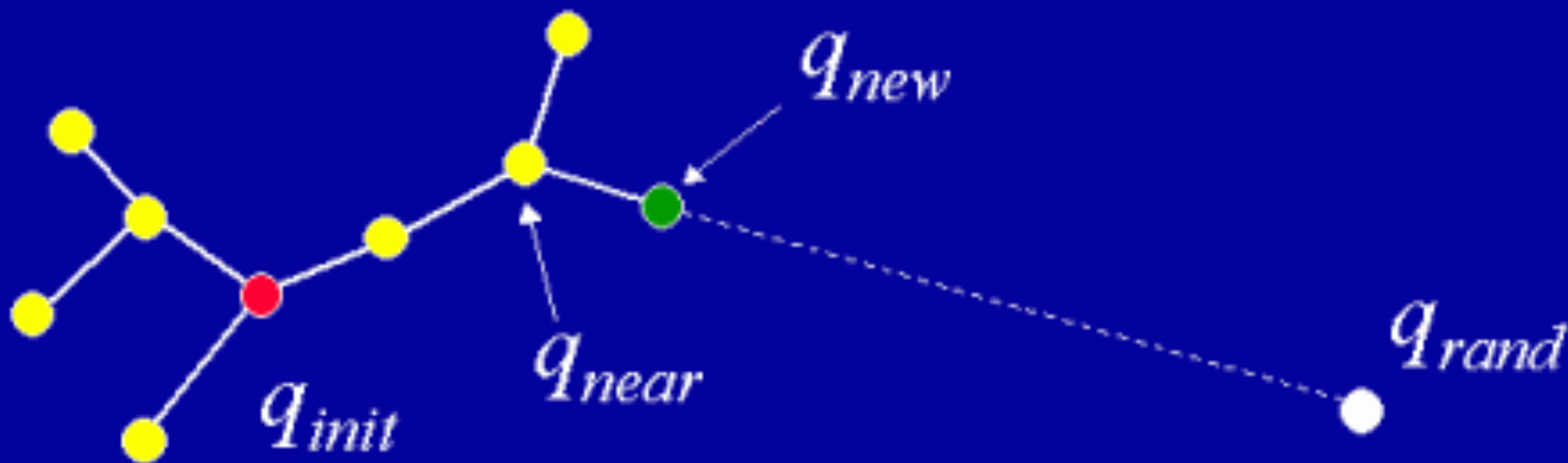
2) Calculate “nearest” node in tree





# RRT Extend animation

3) Try to add new collision-free branch



# Demo



# RRT Connect

0) Use 2 trees (A and B) rooted at start and goal configurations

---

```

RRT_CONNECT_PLANNER( $q_{init}, q_{goal}$ )
1   $\mathcal{T}_a$ .init( $q_{init}$ );  $\mathcal{T}_b$ .init( $q_{goal}$ );
2  for  $k = 1$  to  $K$  do
3       $q_{rand} \leftarrow$  RANDOM_CONFIG();
4      if not (EXTEND( $\mathcal{T}_a, q_{rand}$ ) = Trapped) then
5          if (CONNECT( $\mathcal{T}_b, q_{new}$ ) = Reached) then
6              Return PATH( $\mathcal{T}_a, \mathcal{T}_b$ );
7      SWAP( $\mathcal{T}_a, \mathcal{T}_b$ );
8  Return Failure

```

---





# RRT Connect

0) Use 2 trees (A and B) rooted at start and goal configurations

---

```

RRT_CONNECT_PLANNER( $q_{init}, q_{goal}$ )
1   $\mathcal{T}_a$ .init( $q_{init}$ );  $\mathcal{T}_b$ .init( $q_{goal}$ );
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7    SWAP( $\mathcal{T}_a, \mathcal{T}_b$ );
8  Return Failure
  
```

---



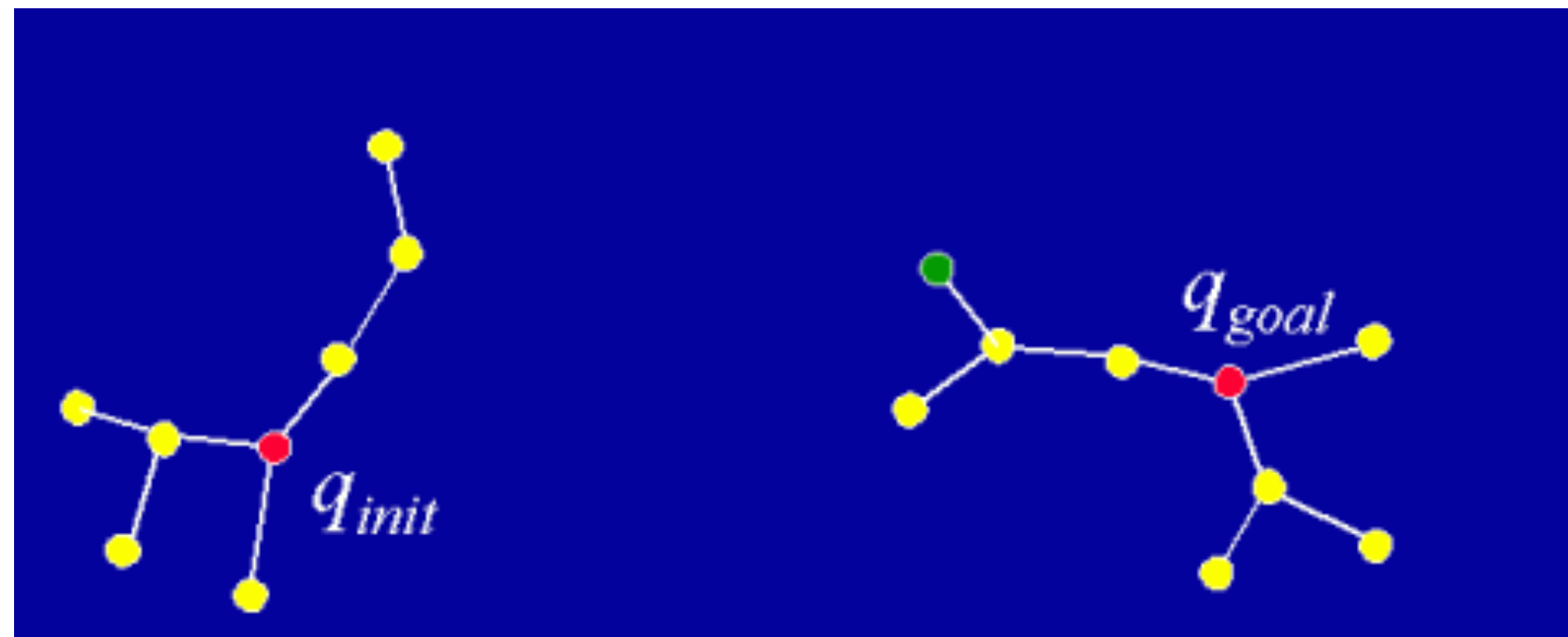
---

```

EXTEND( $\mathcal{T}, q$ )
1   $q_{near} \leftarrow$  NEAREST_NEIGHBOR( $q, \mathcal{T}$ );
2  if NEW_CONFIG( $q, q_{near}, q_{new}$ ) then
3     $\mathcal{T}$ .add_vertex( $q_{new}$ );
4     $\mathcal{T}$ .add_edge( $q_{near}, q_{new}$ );
5    if  $q_{new} = q$  then
6      Return Reached;
7    else
8      Return Advanced;
9  Return Trapped;
  
```

---

1) Extend tree A towards a random configuration



# RRT Connect

0) Use 2 trees (A and B) rooted at start and goal configurations

---

```

RRT_CONNECT_PLANNER( $q_{init}, q_{goal}$ )
1   $\mathcal{T}_a.init(q_{init}); \mathcal{T}_b.init(q_{goal});$ 
2  for  $k = 1$  to  $K$  do
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4      if not (EXTEND( $\mathcal{T}_a, q_{rand}$ ) = Trapped) then
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---



---

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9  Return Trapped;
  
```

---

1) Extend tree A towards a random configuration

---

```

CONNECT( $\mathcal{T}, q$ )
1  repeat
2       $S \leftarrow EXTEND(\mathcal{T}, q);$ 
3  until not ( $S = Advanced$ )
4  Return  $S$ ;
  
```

---

2) Try to connect tree B to tree A by extending repeatedly from its nearest neighbor





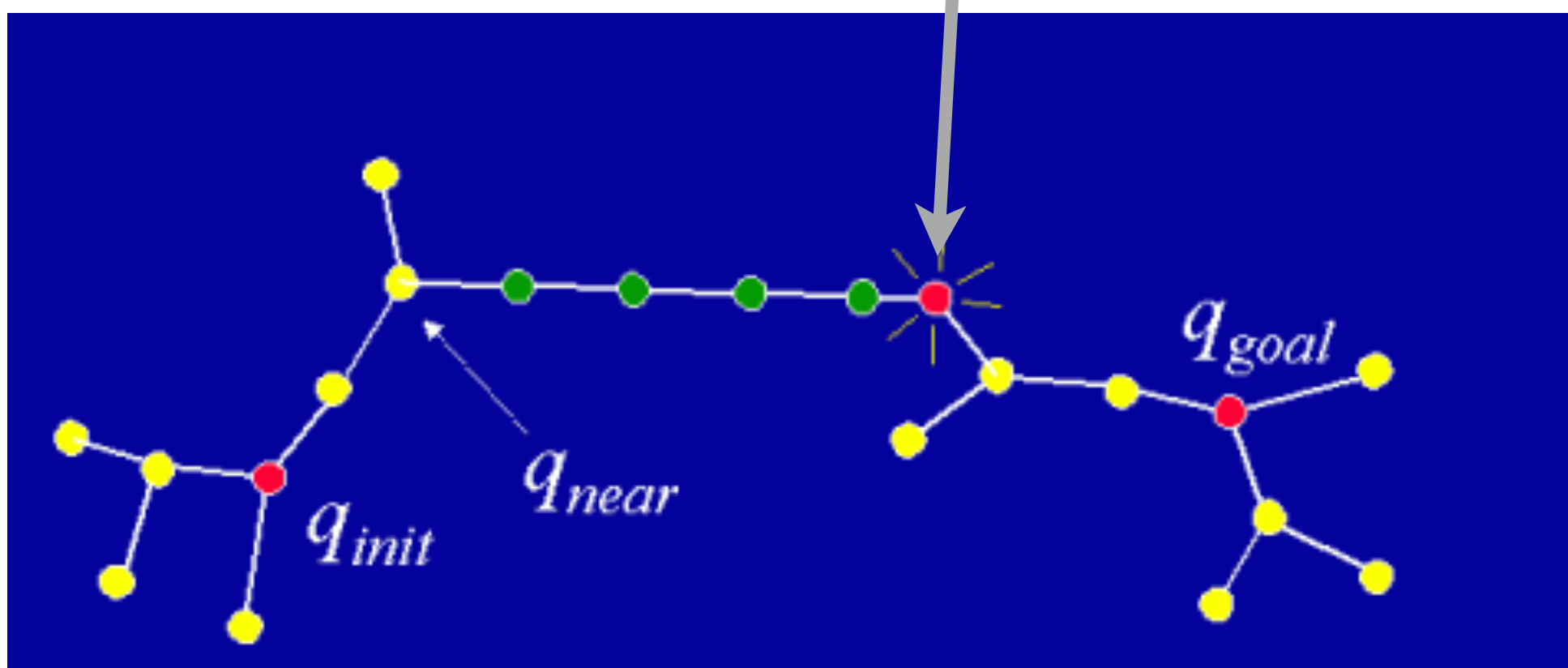
# RRT Connect

0) Use 2 trees (A and B) rooted at start and goal configurations

```

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6        Return PATH( $\mathcal{T}_a, \mathcal{T}_b$ );
7    SWAP( $\mathcal{T}_a, \mathcal{T}_b$ );
8  Return Failure
  
```

search succeeds if trees connect



```

EXTEND( $\mathcal{T}, q$ )
1   $q_{near} \leftarrow NEAREST\_NEIGHBOR(q, \mathcal{T});$ 
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1) Extend tree A towards a random configuration

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# RRT Connect

0) Use 2 trees (A and B) rooted at start and goal configurations

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5    if  $q_{new} = q$  then
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7    else
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9  Return Trapped;
  
```

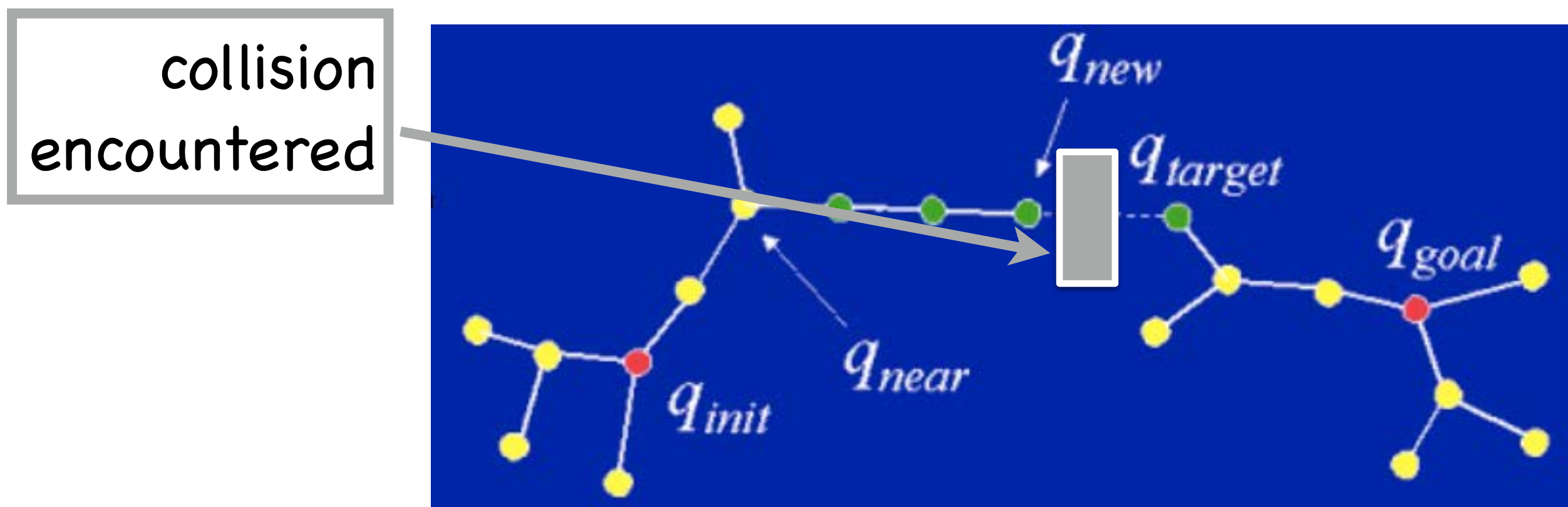
1) Extend tree A towards a random configuration

3) reverse roles for trees A and B and repeat

```

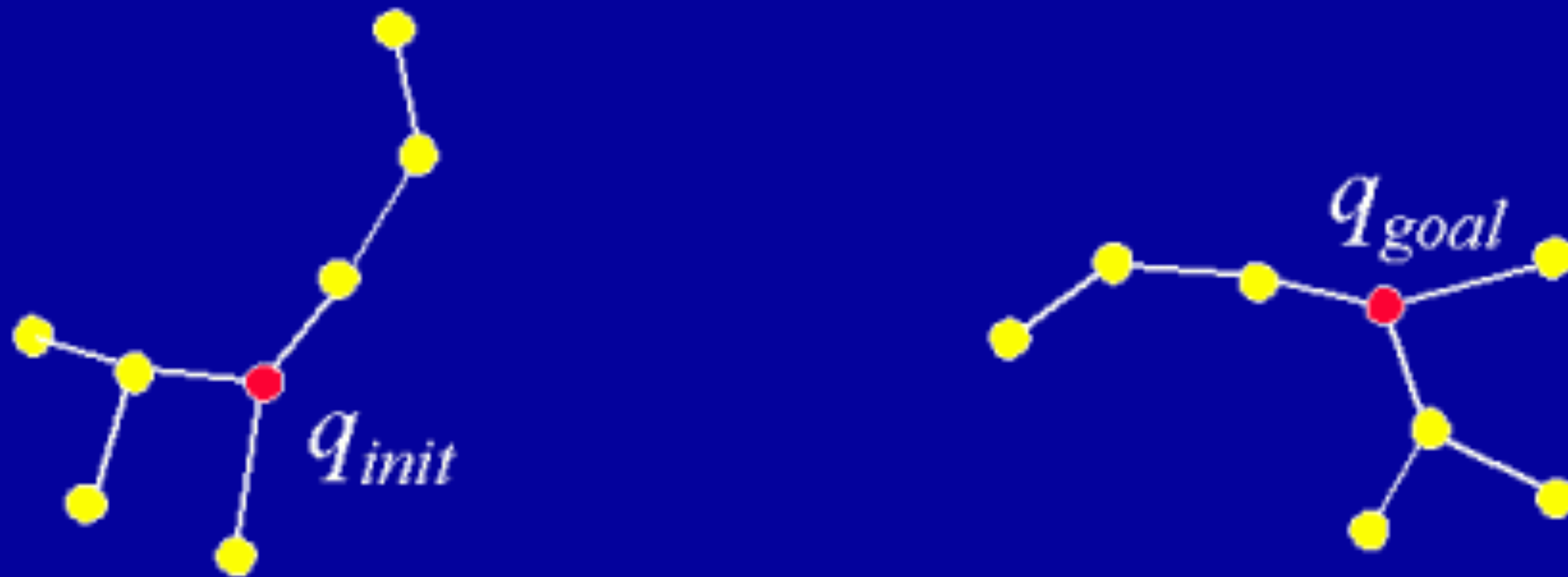
CONNECT( $\mathcal{T}, q$ )
1  repeat
2     $S \leftarrow EXTEND(\mathcal{T}, q);$ 
3  until not ( $S = Advanced$ )
4  Return  $S$ ;
  
```

2) Try to connect tree B to tree A by extending repeatedly from its nearest neighbor



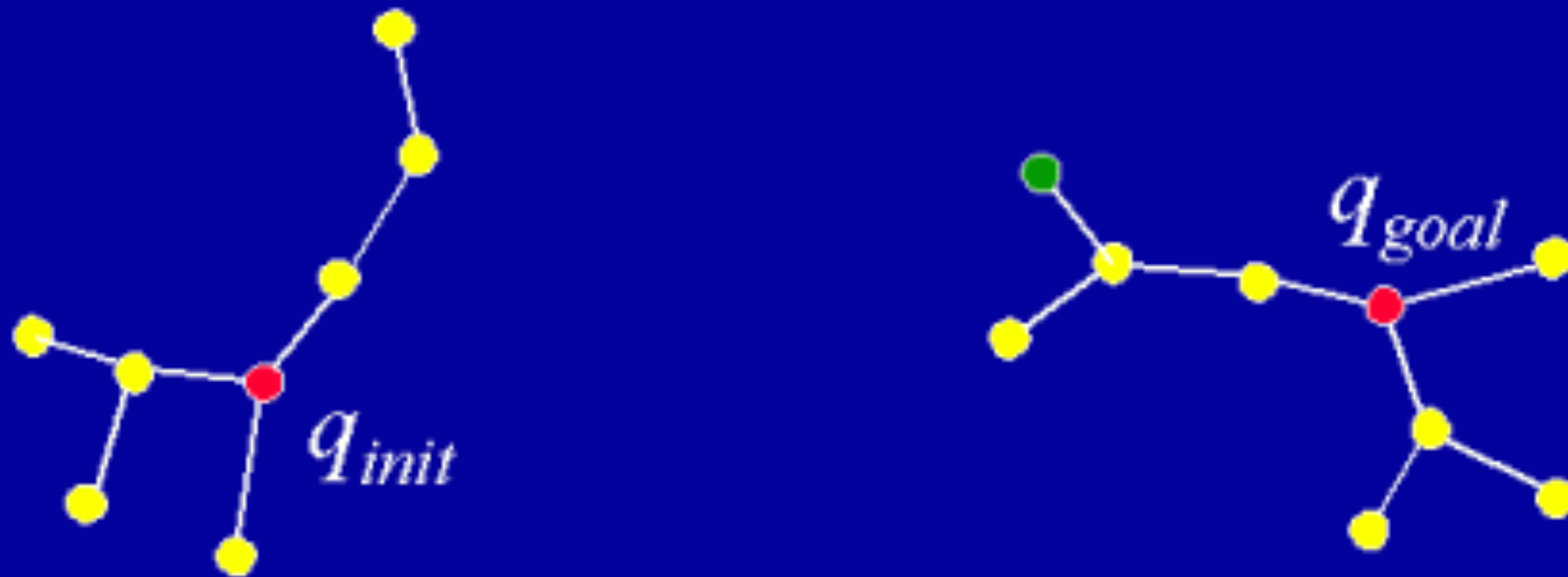
# RRT-Connect animation

A single RRT-Connect iteration...



# RRT-Connect animation

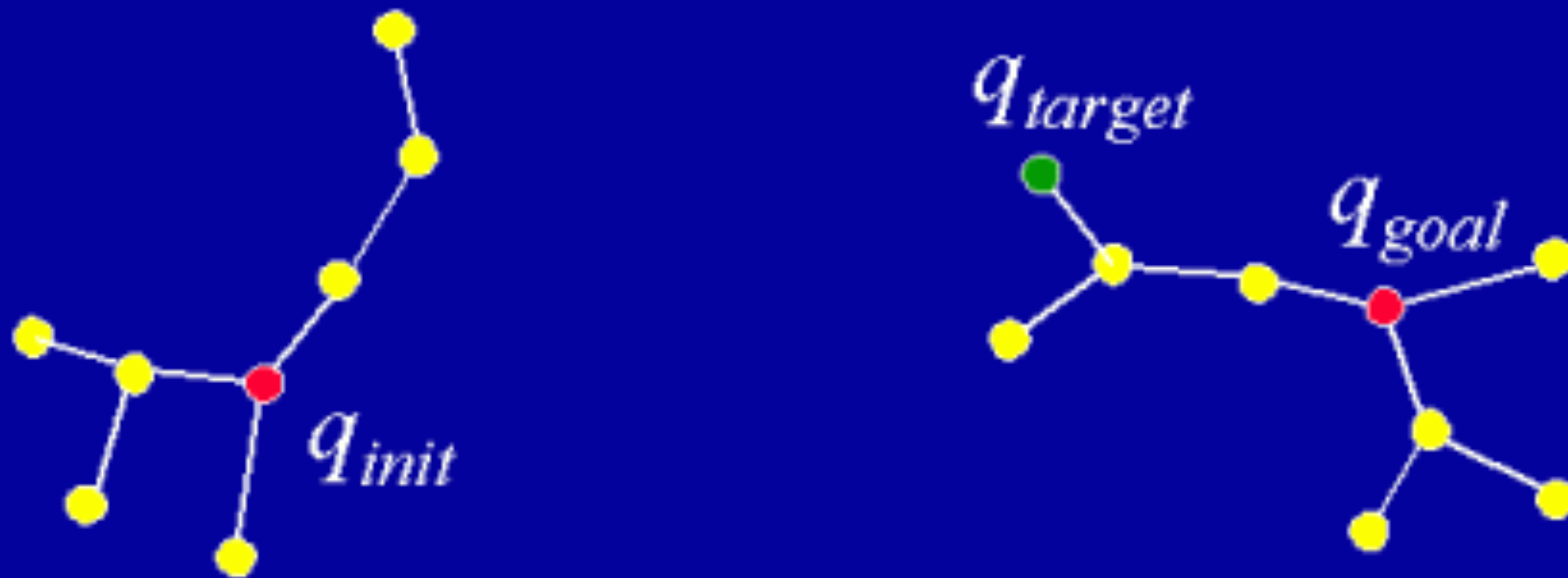
1) One tree grown using random target





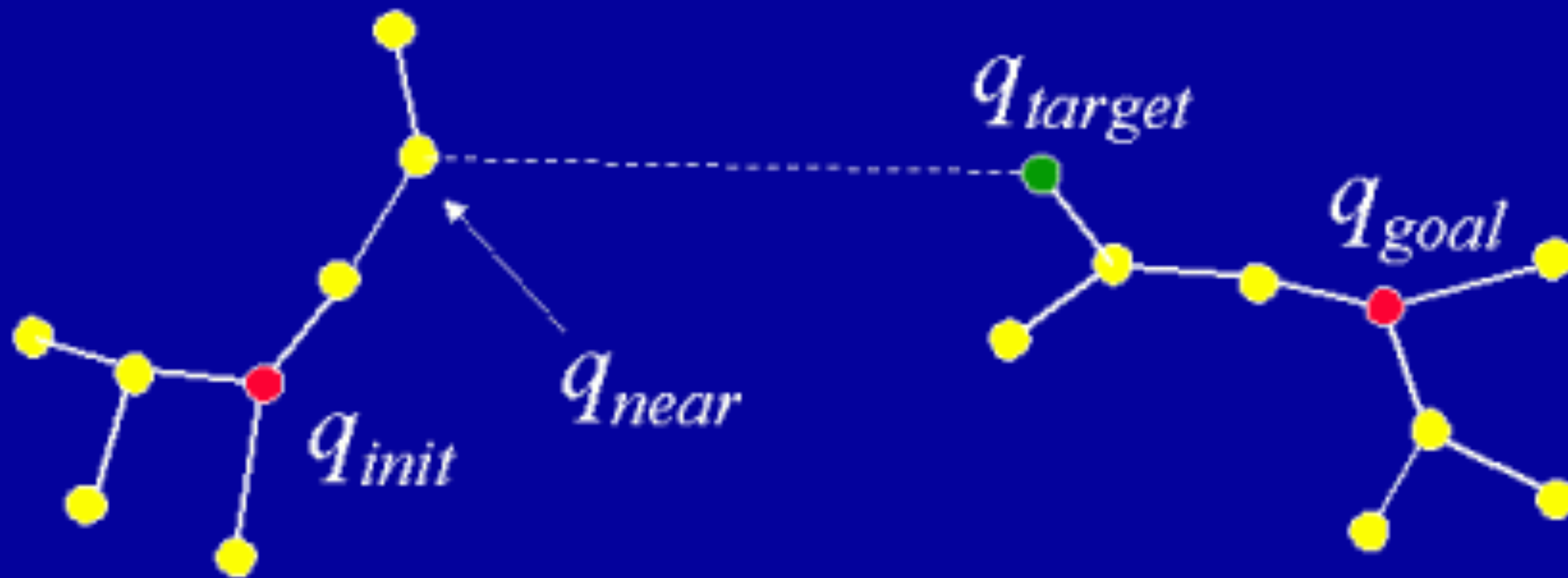
# RRT-Connect animation

2) New node becomes target for other tree



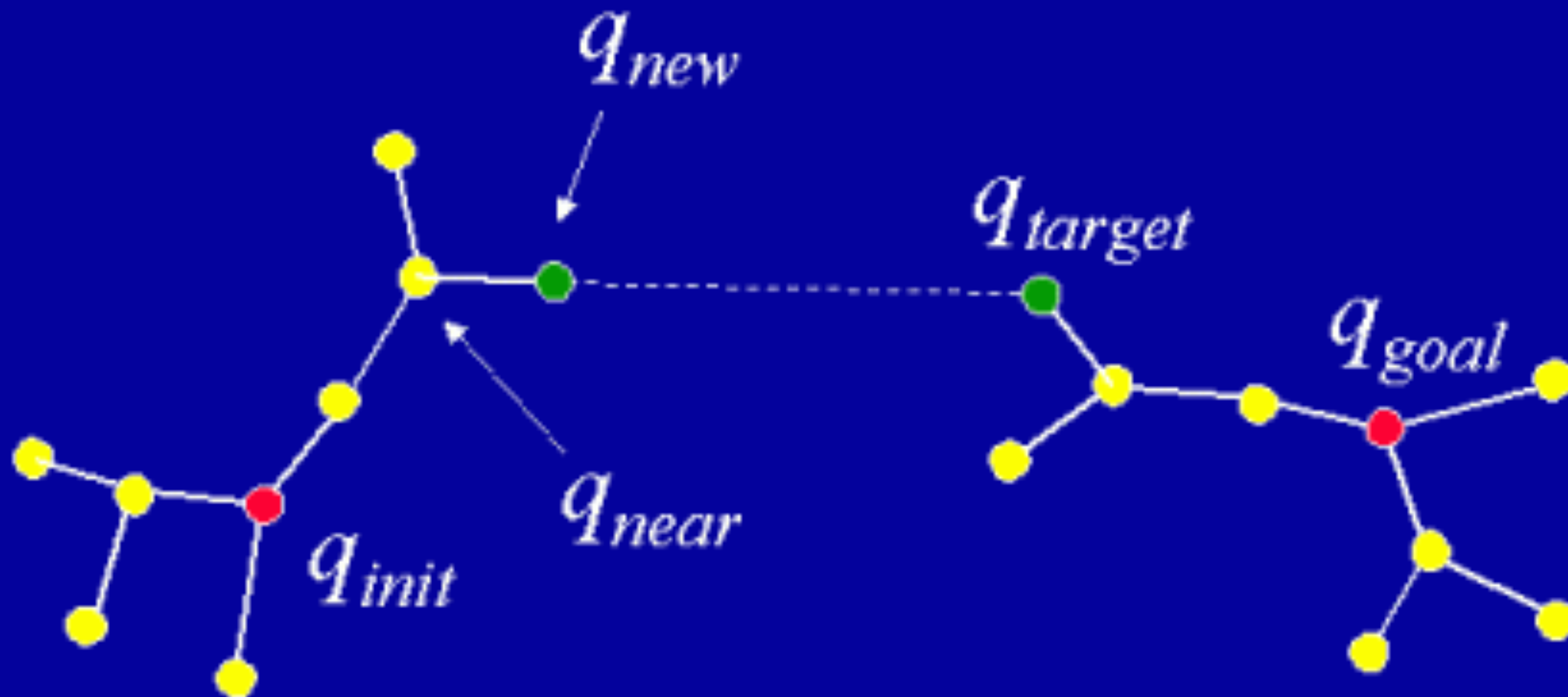
# RRT-Connect animation

3) Calculate node “nearest” to target



# RRT-Connect animation

4) Try to add new collision-free branch





# RRT-Connect animation

5) If successful, keep extending branch



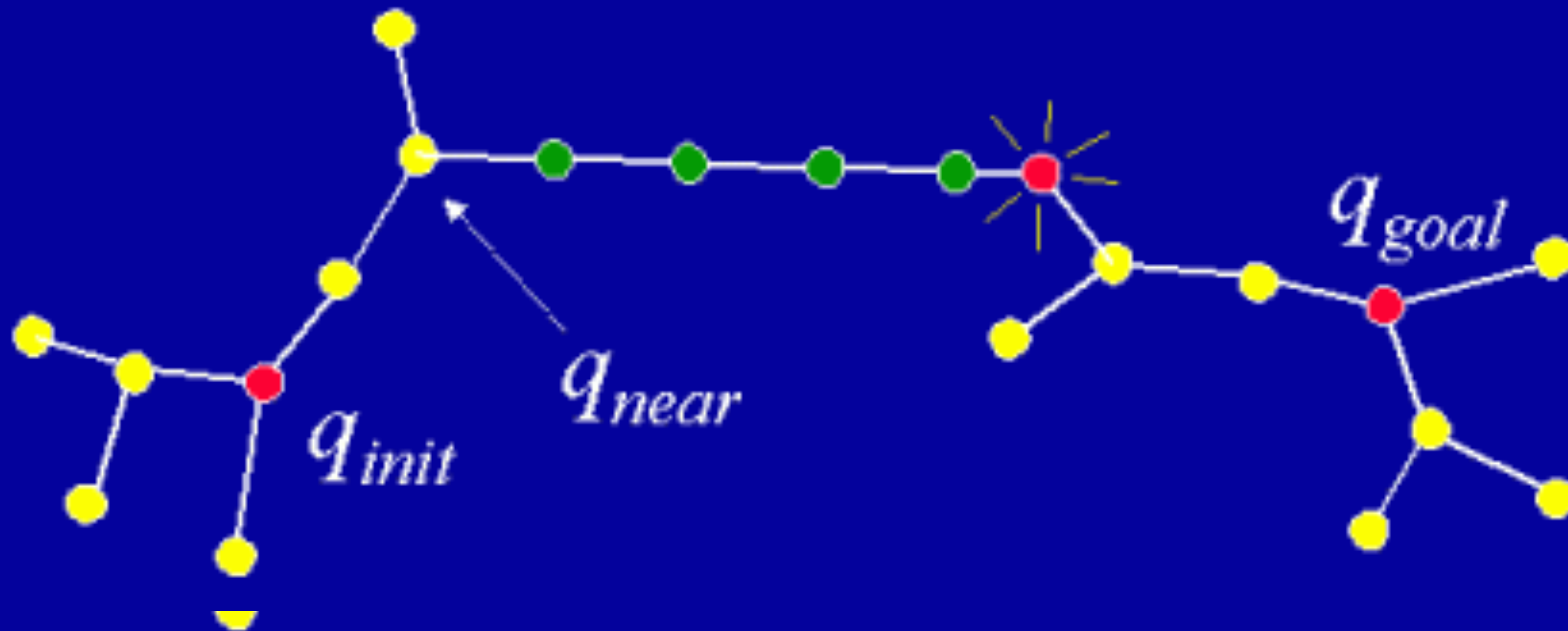
# RRT-Connect animation

5) If successful, keep extending branch



# RRT-Connect animation

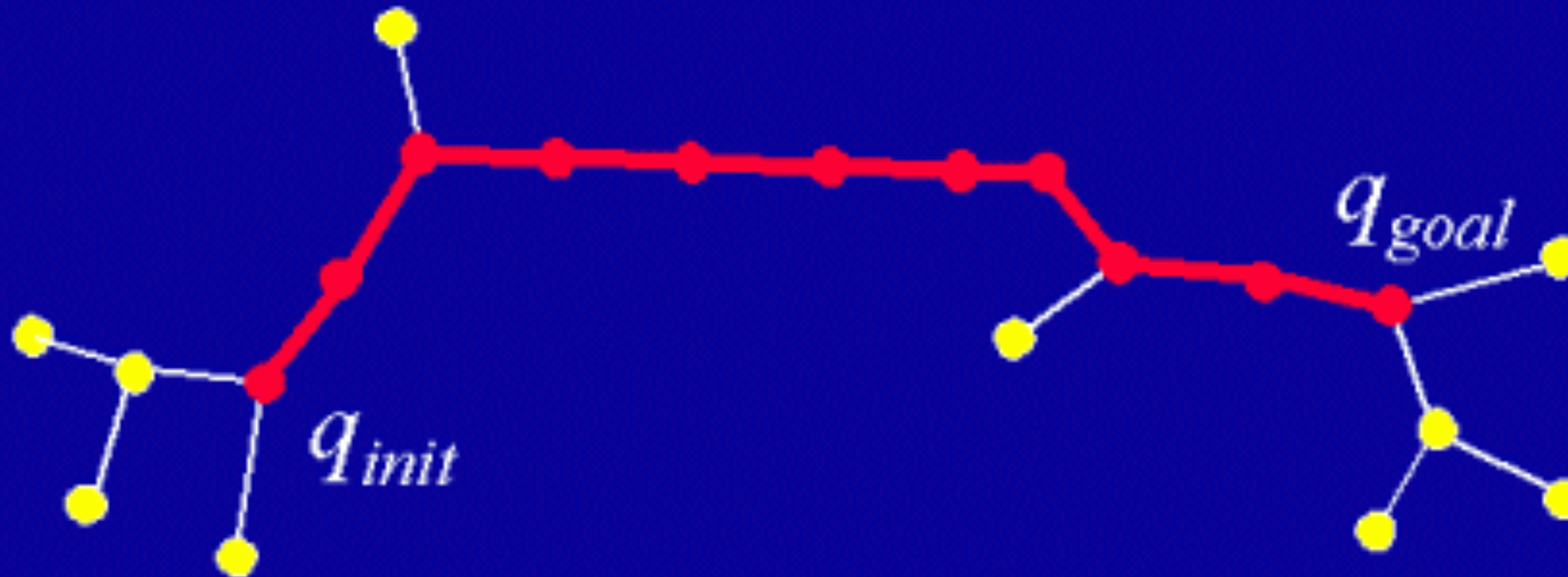
6) Path found if branch reaches target





# RRT-Connect animation

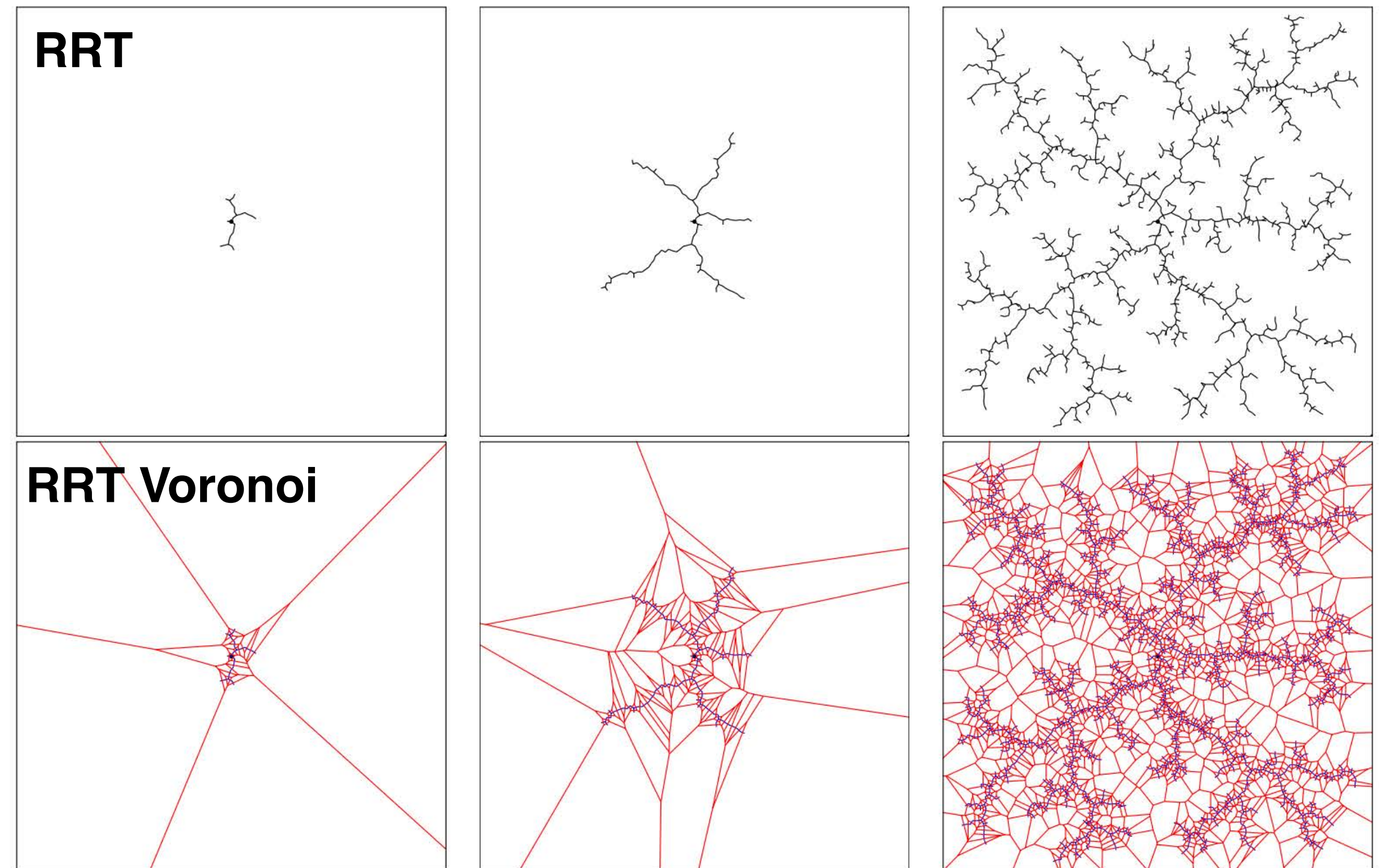
7) Return path connecting start and goal





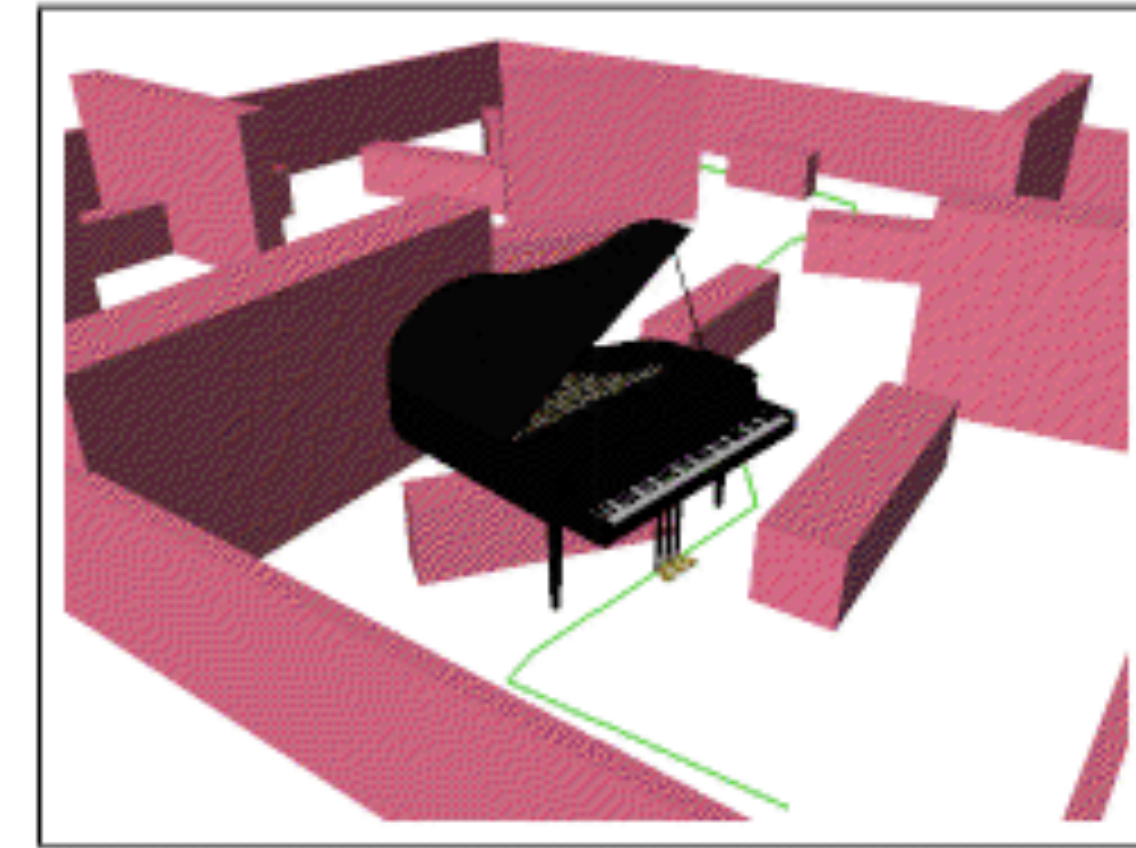
# RRT Probabilistic Completeness

- RRTs converge to a uniform coverage of C-space as the number of samples increases
- Probability a vertex is selected for extension is proportional to its area in Voronoi diagram



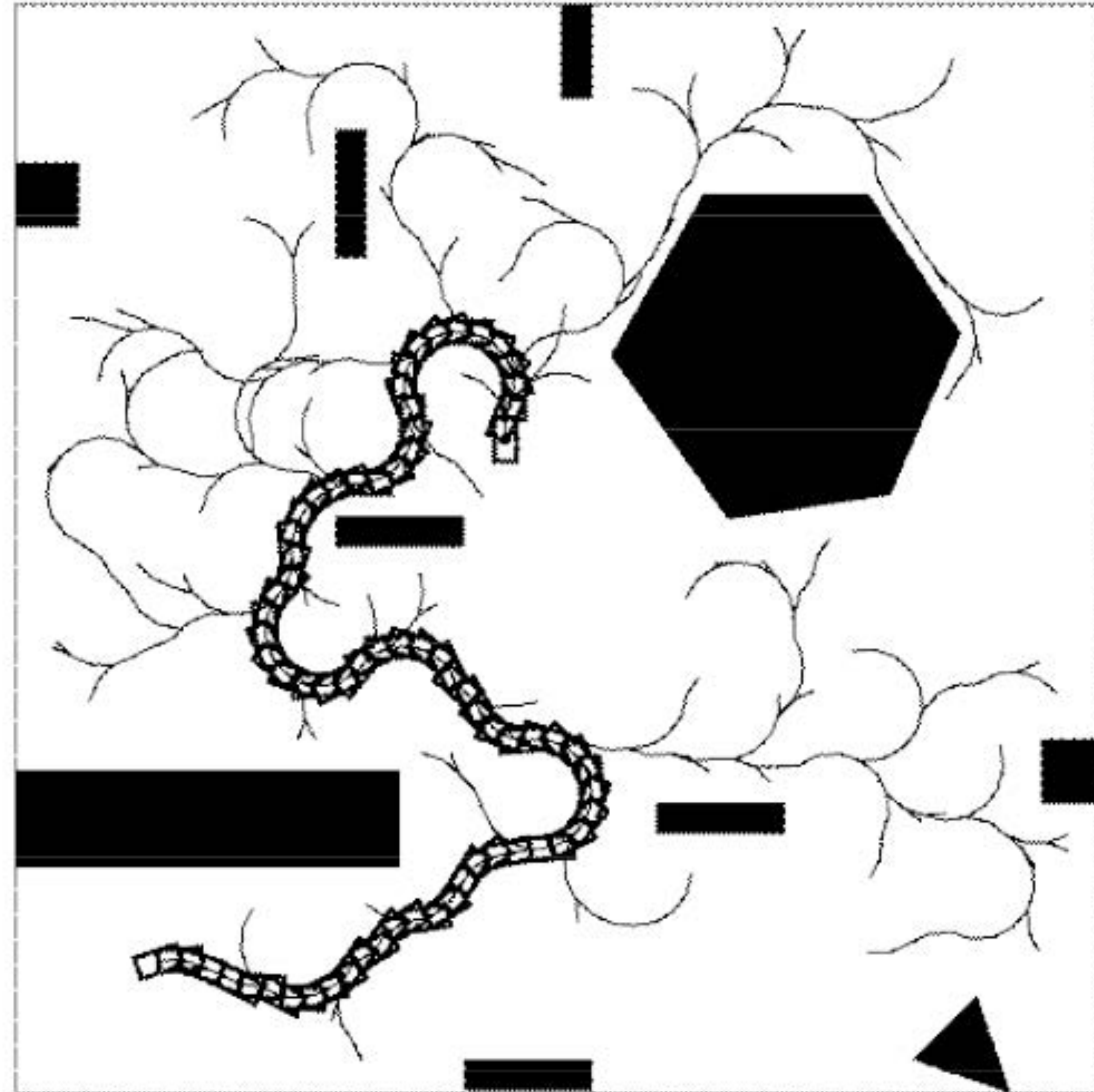


# Piano Mover's Problem



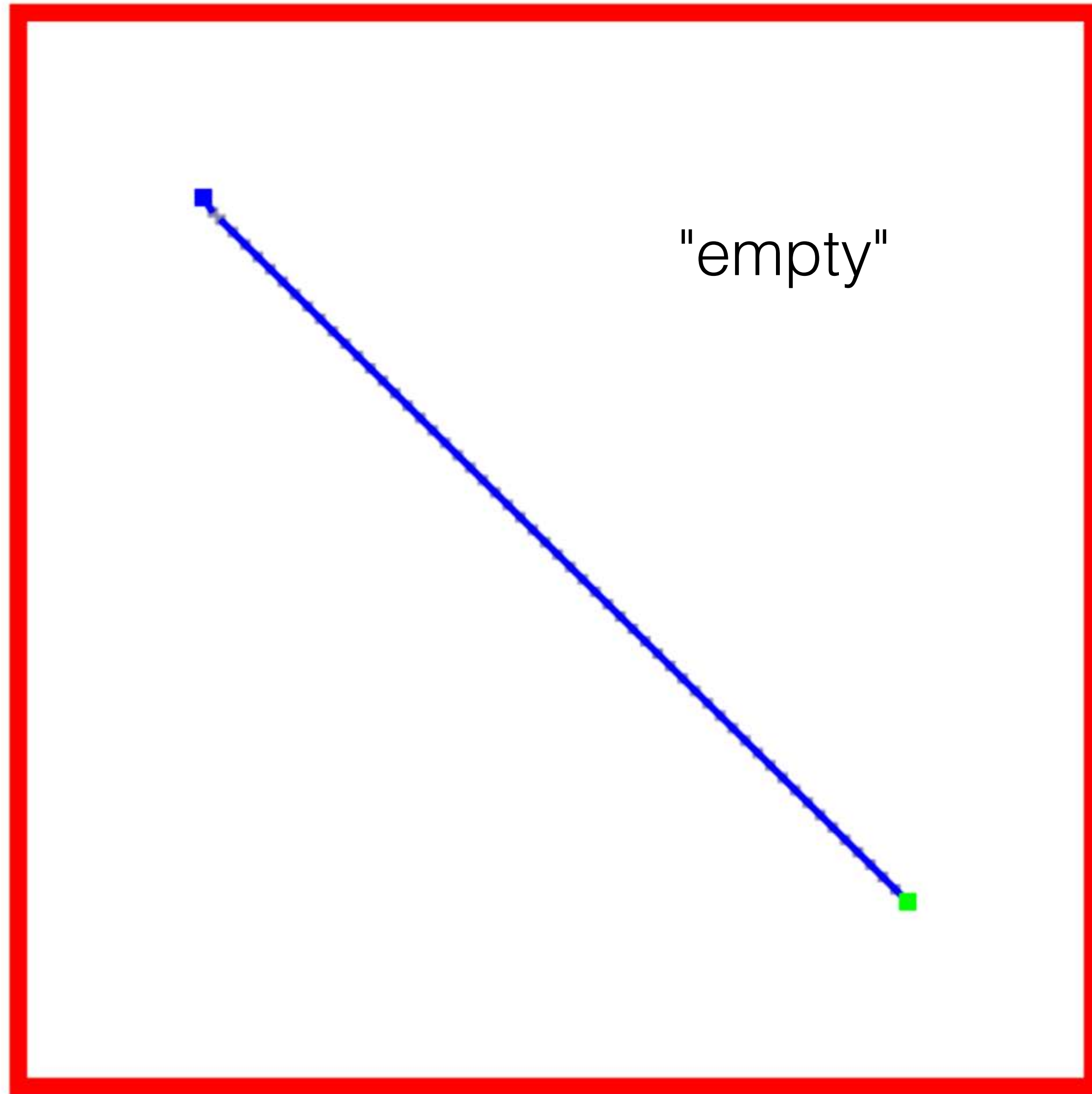


# A Car-Like Robot



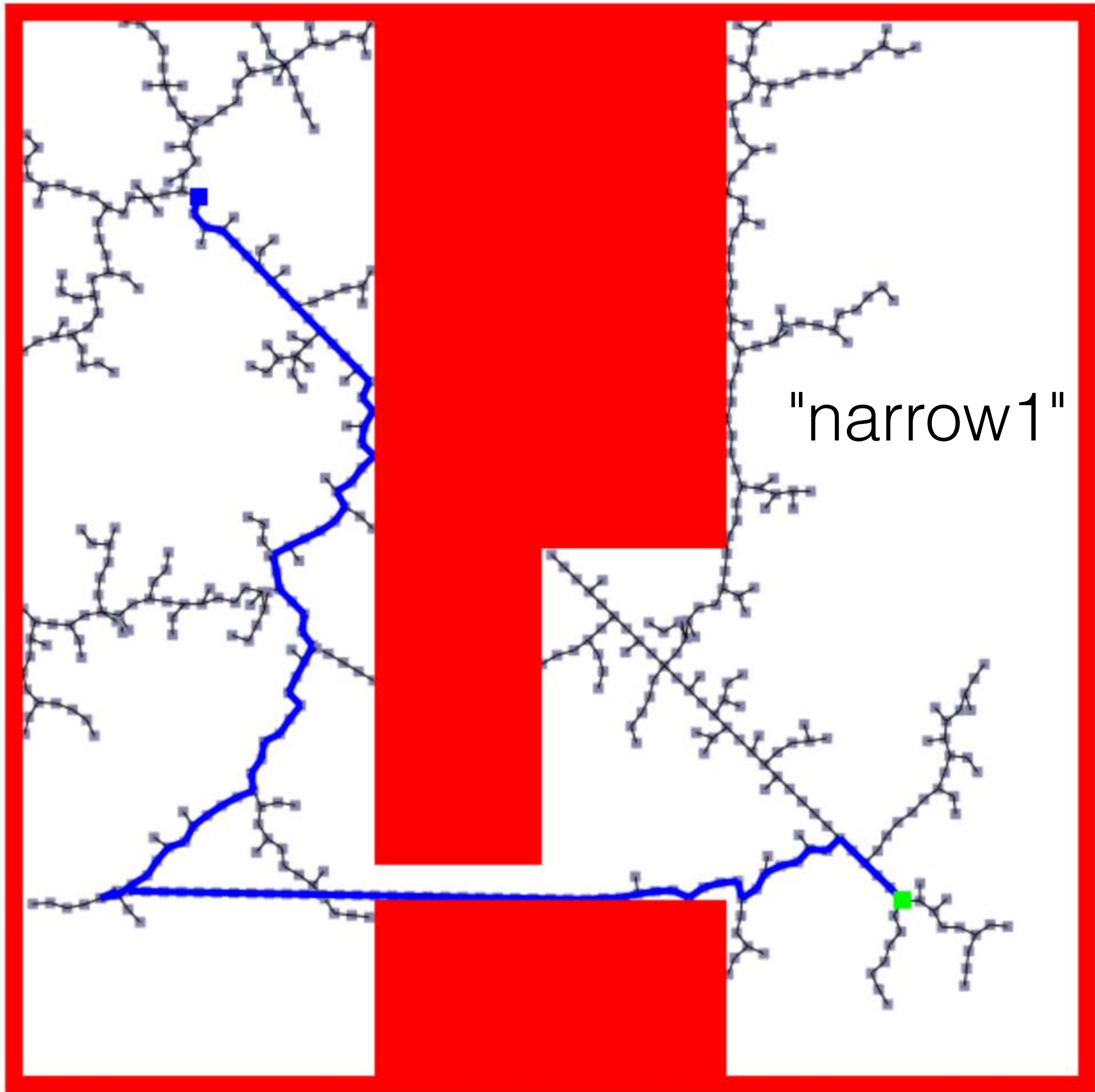
# Canvas Stencil Examples

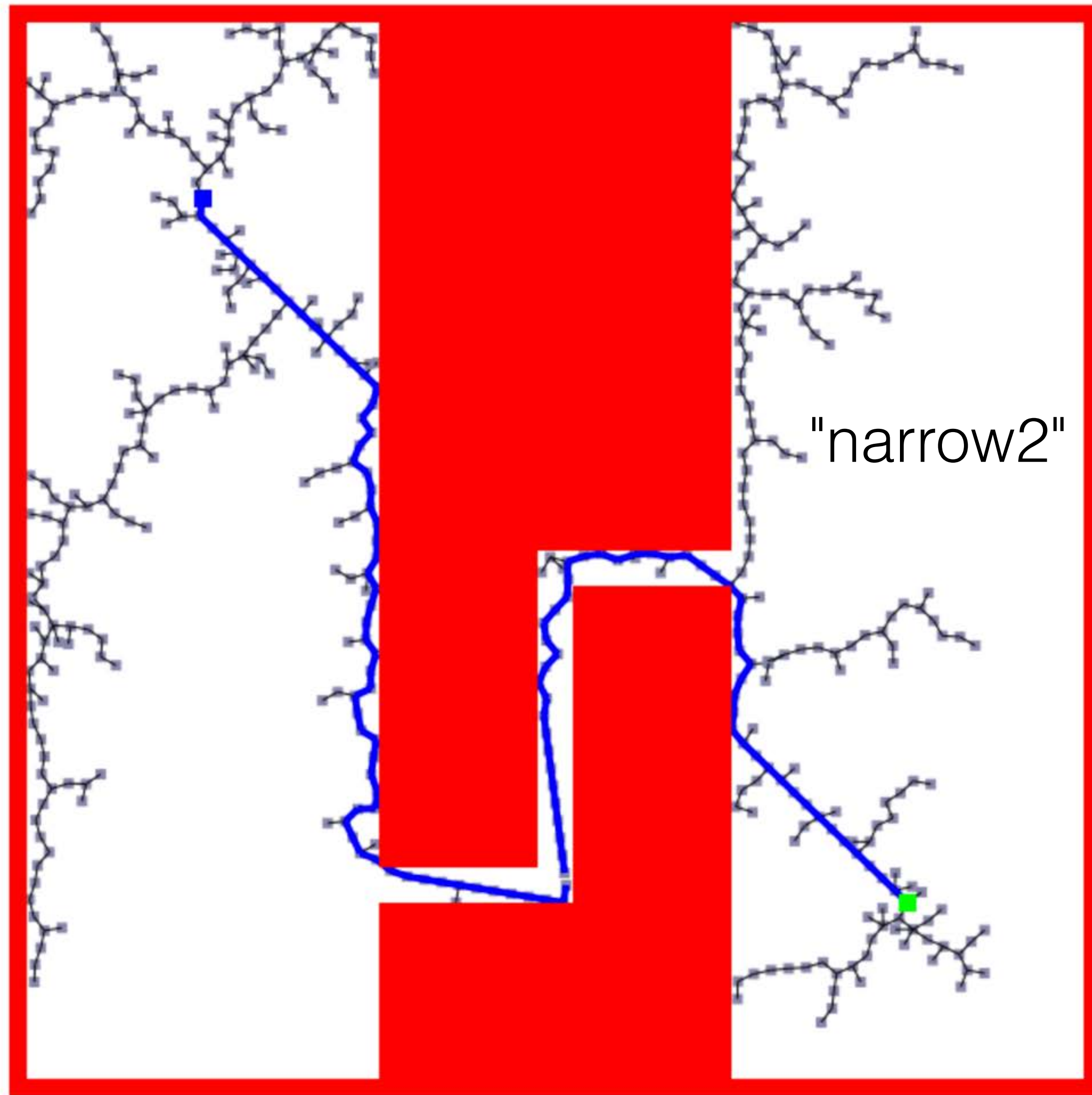




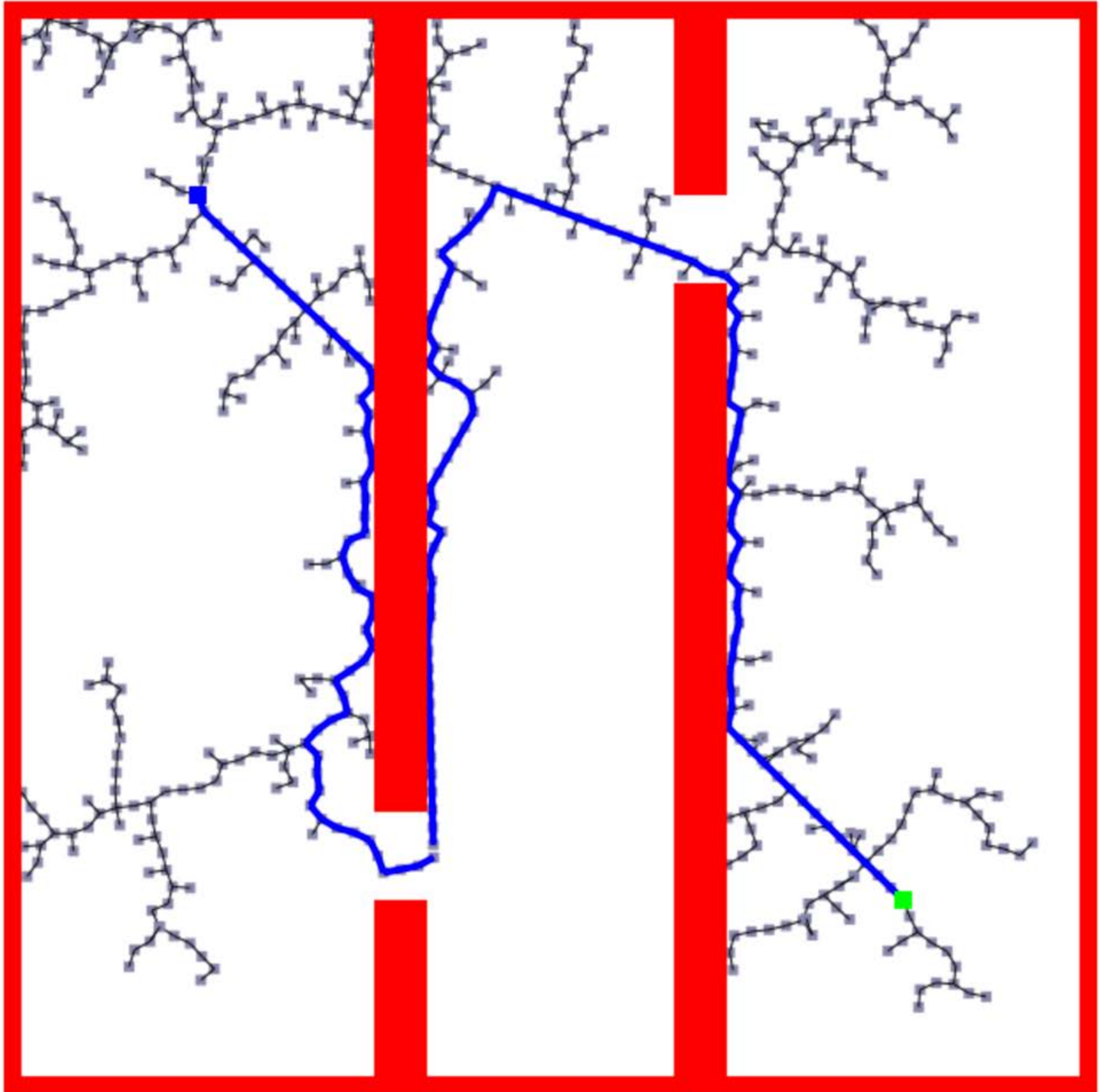








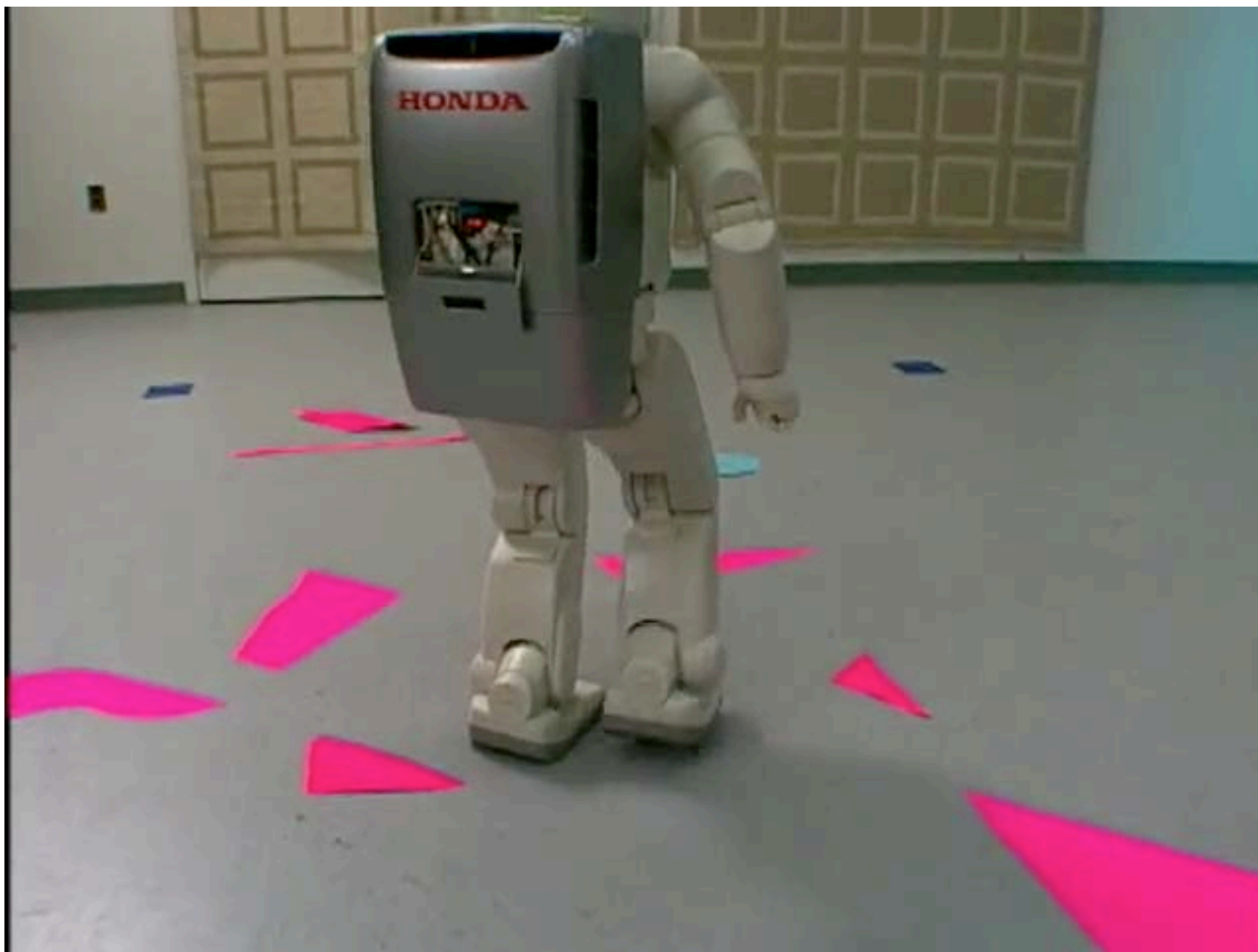




"three\_sections"

“We’ve made robot history”





Kuffner/Asimo Discovery Channel feature - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wtVmbiTfm0Q>





# RRT Practicalities

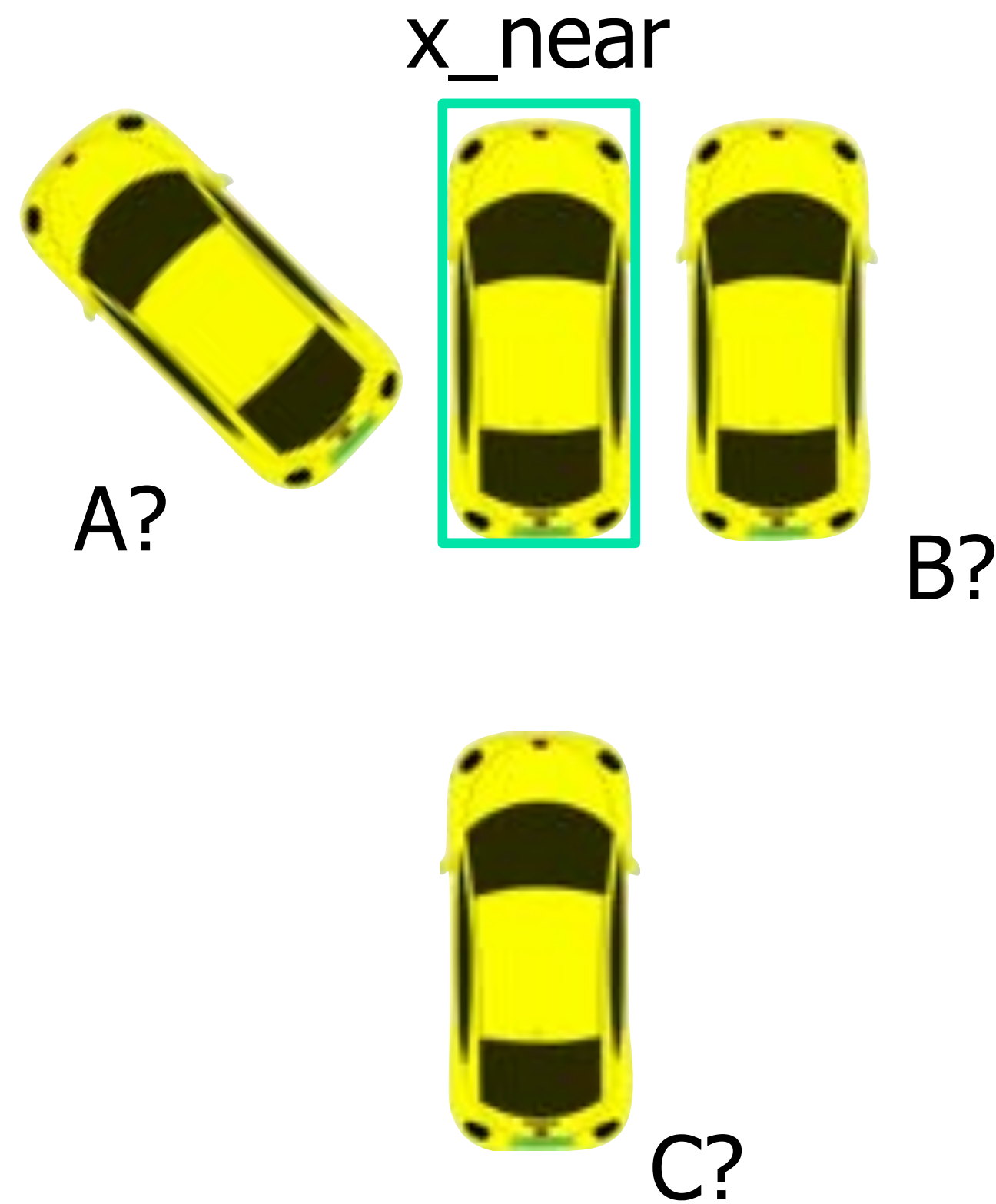
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- $\text{NEAREST\_NEIGHBOR}(x_{\text{rand}}, T)$ : need to find (approximate) nearest neighbor efficiently
  - KD Trees data structure (upto 20-D) [e.g., FLANN]
  - Locality Sensitive Hashing
- $\text{SELECT\_INPUT}(x_{\text{rand}}, x_{\text{near}})$ 
  - Two point boundary value problem
    - If too hard to solve, often just select best out of a set of control sequences. This set could be random, or some well chosen set of primitives.



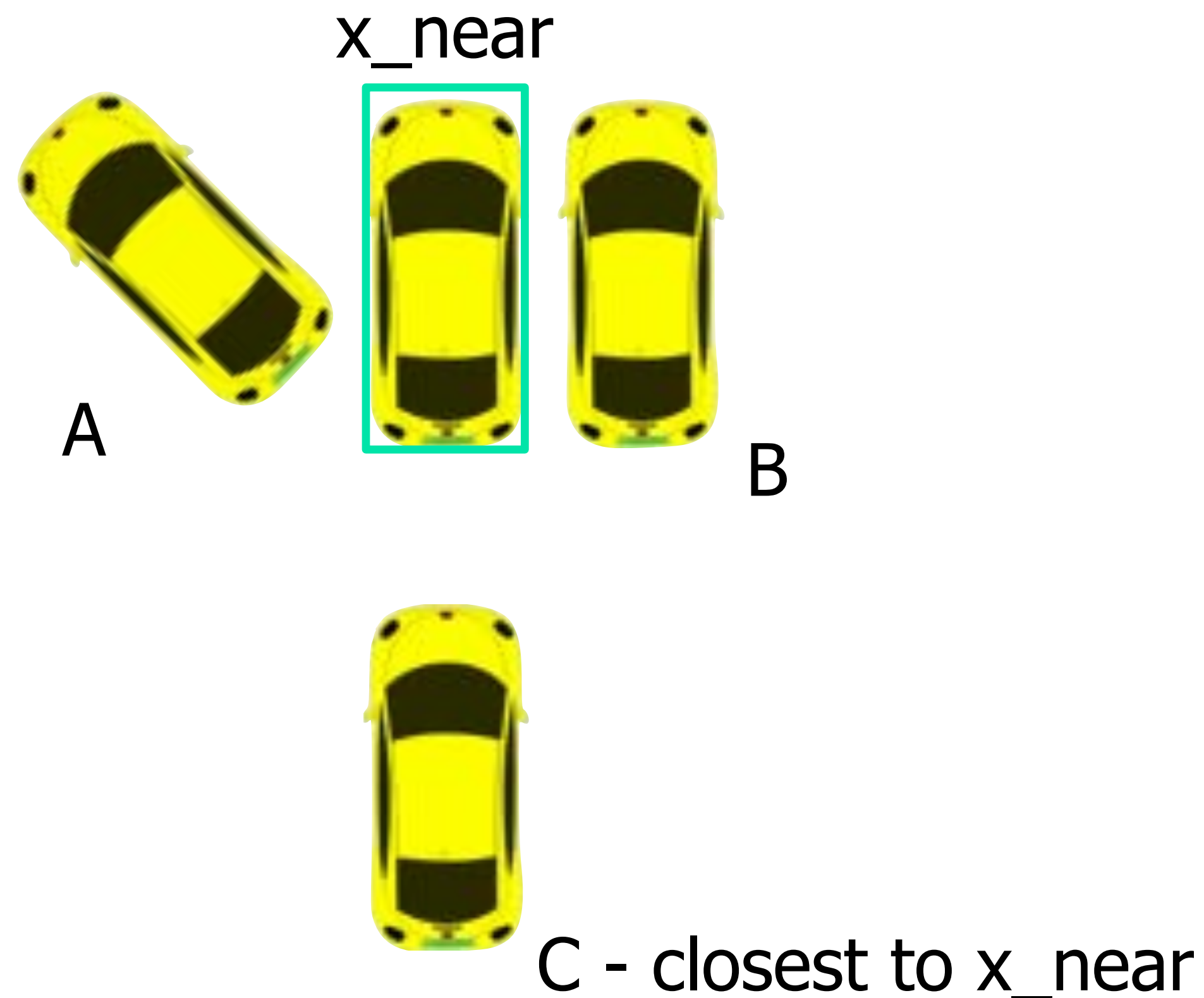
# RRT Extension

- Non-holonomic: approximately (sometimes as approximate as picking best of a few random control sequences) solve two-point boundary value problem



# RRT Extension

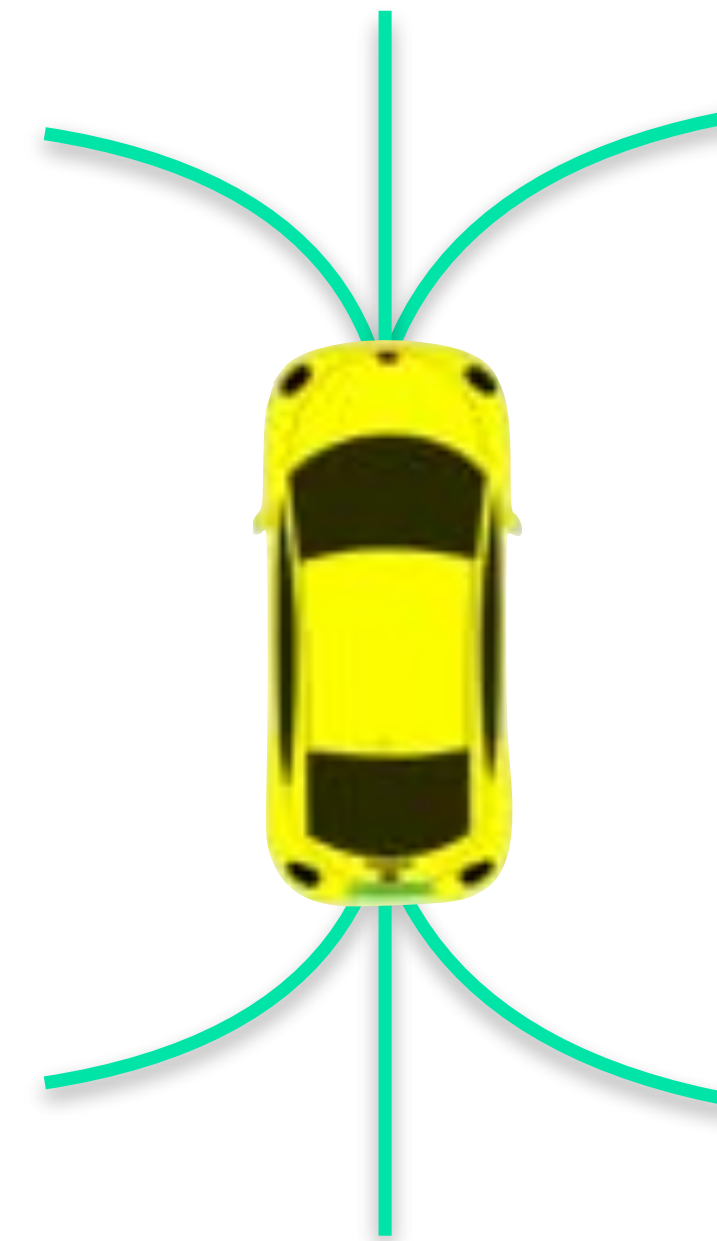
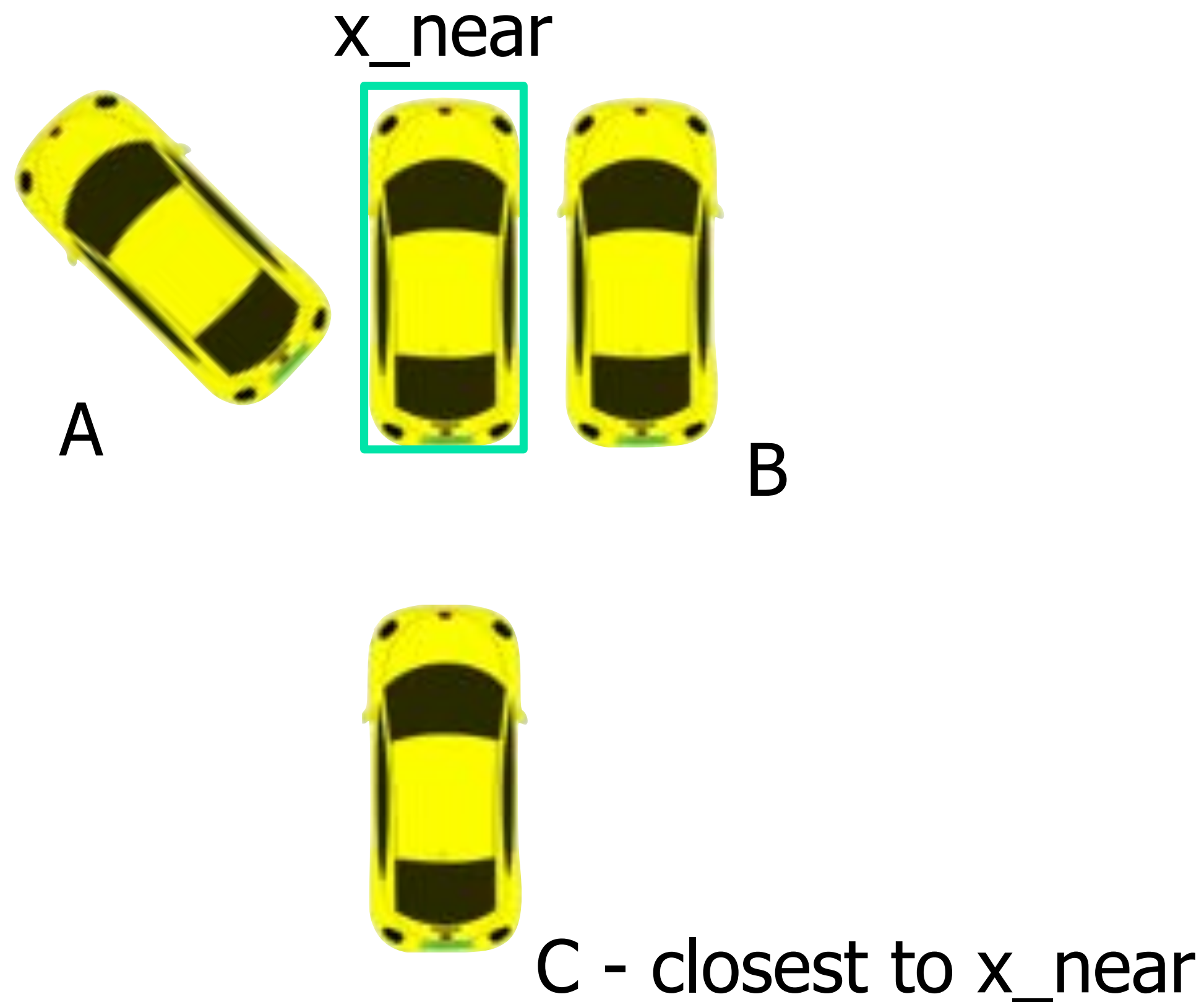
- Non-holonomic: approximately (sometimes as approximate as picking best of a few random control sequences) solve two-point boundary value problem





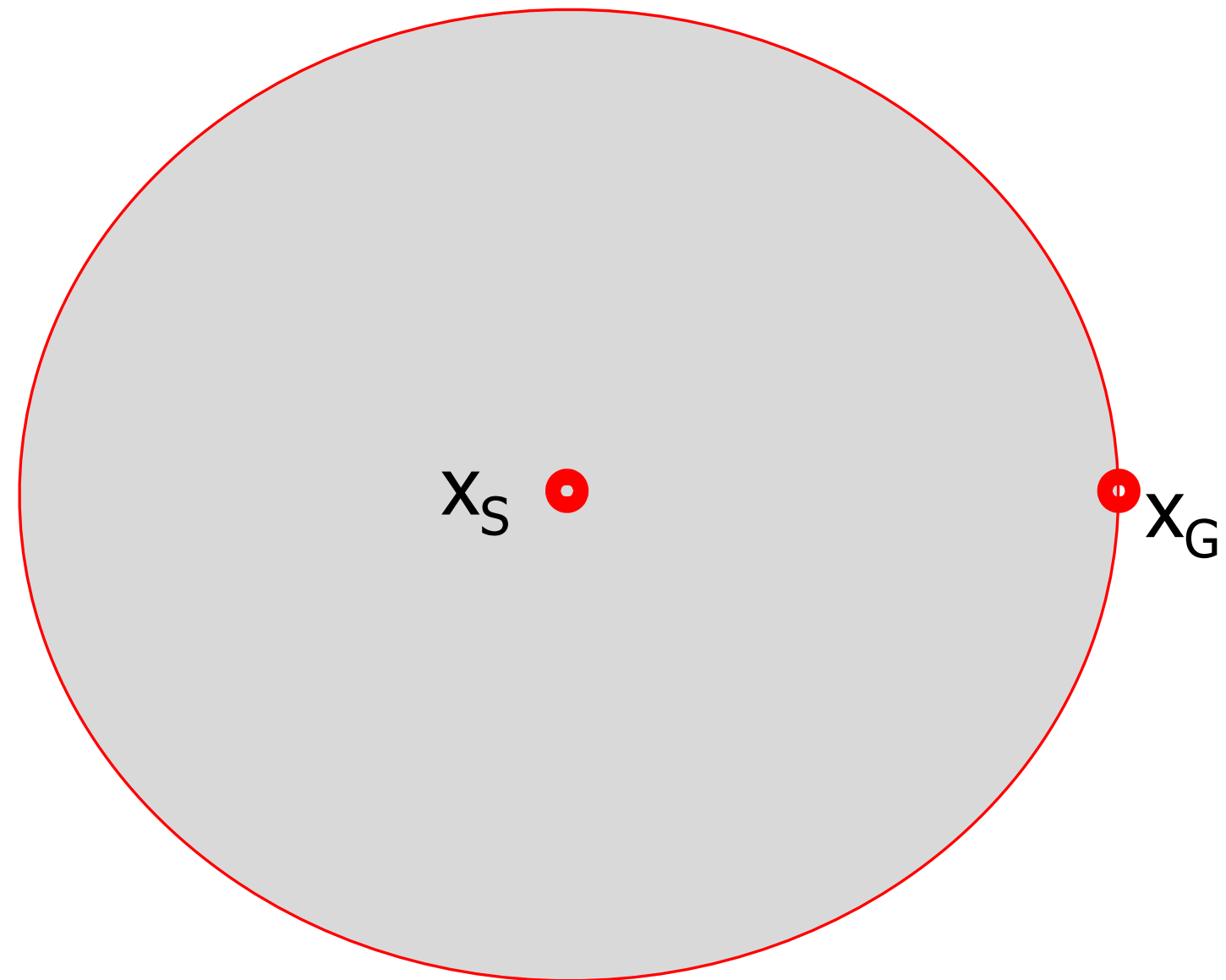
# RRT Extension

- Non-holonomic: approximately (sometimes as approximate as picking best of a few random control sequences) solve two-point boundary value problem

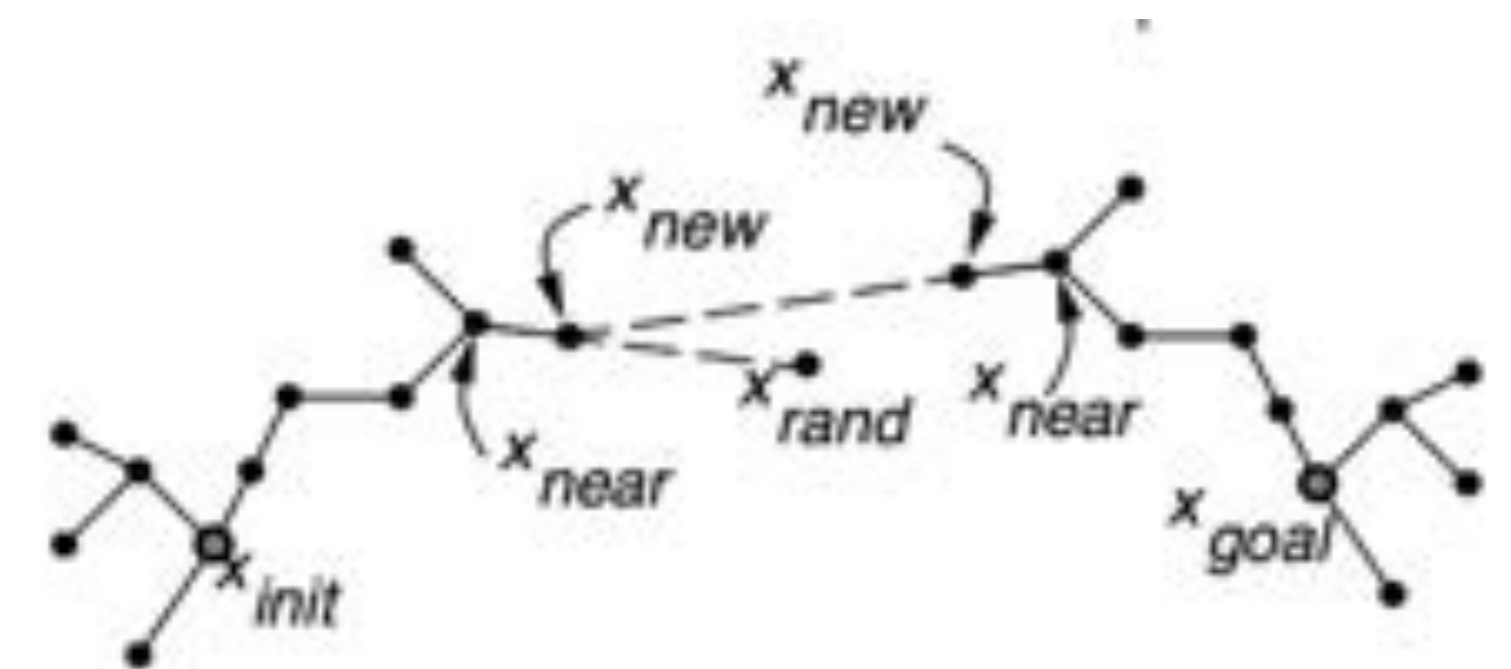
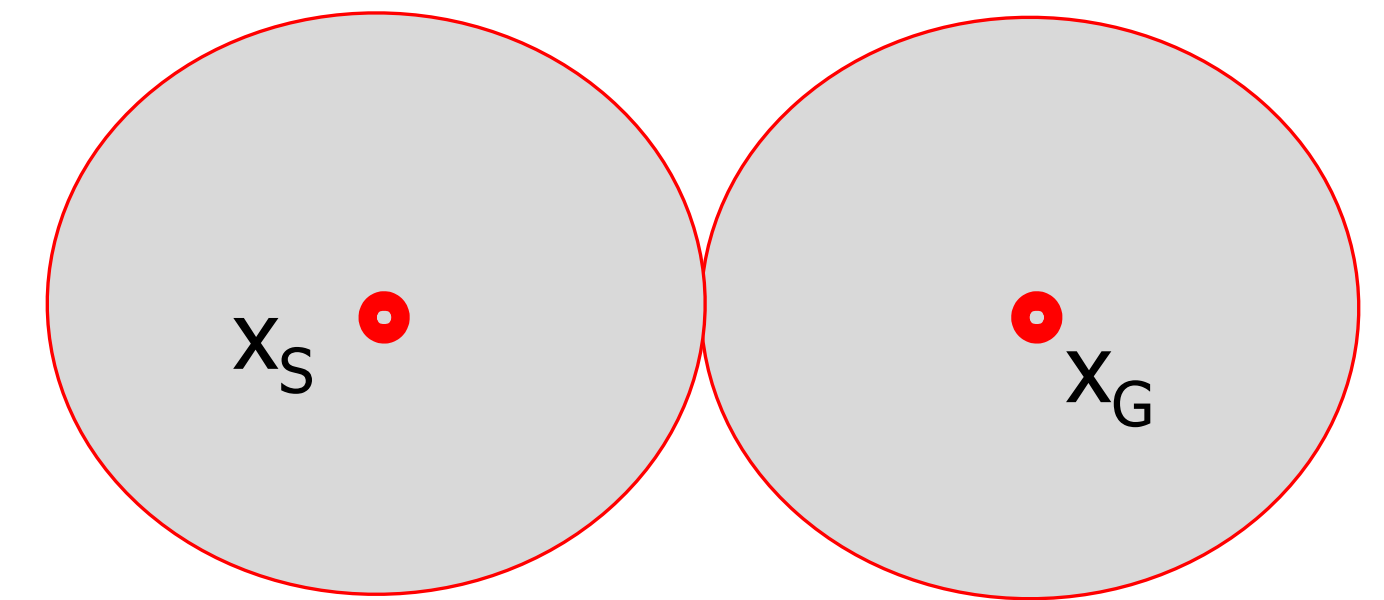


# Bi-directional RRT

- Volume swept out by unidirectional RRT:



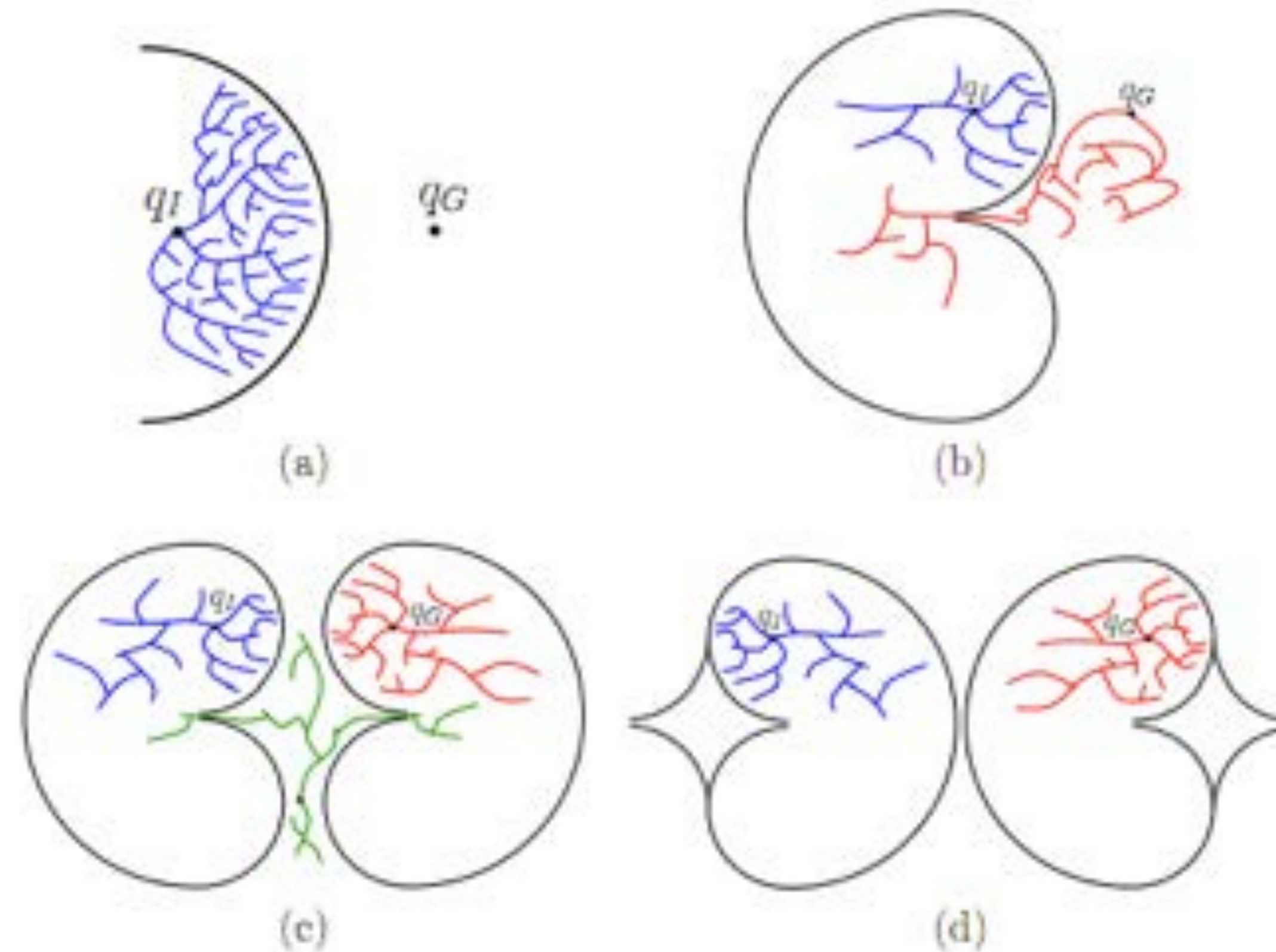
- Volume swept out by bi-directional RRT:



- Difference more and more pronounced as dimensionality increases

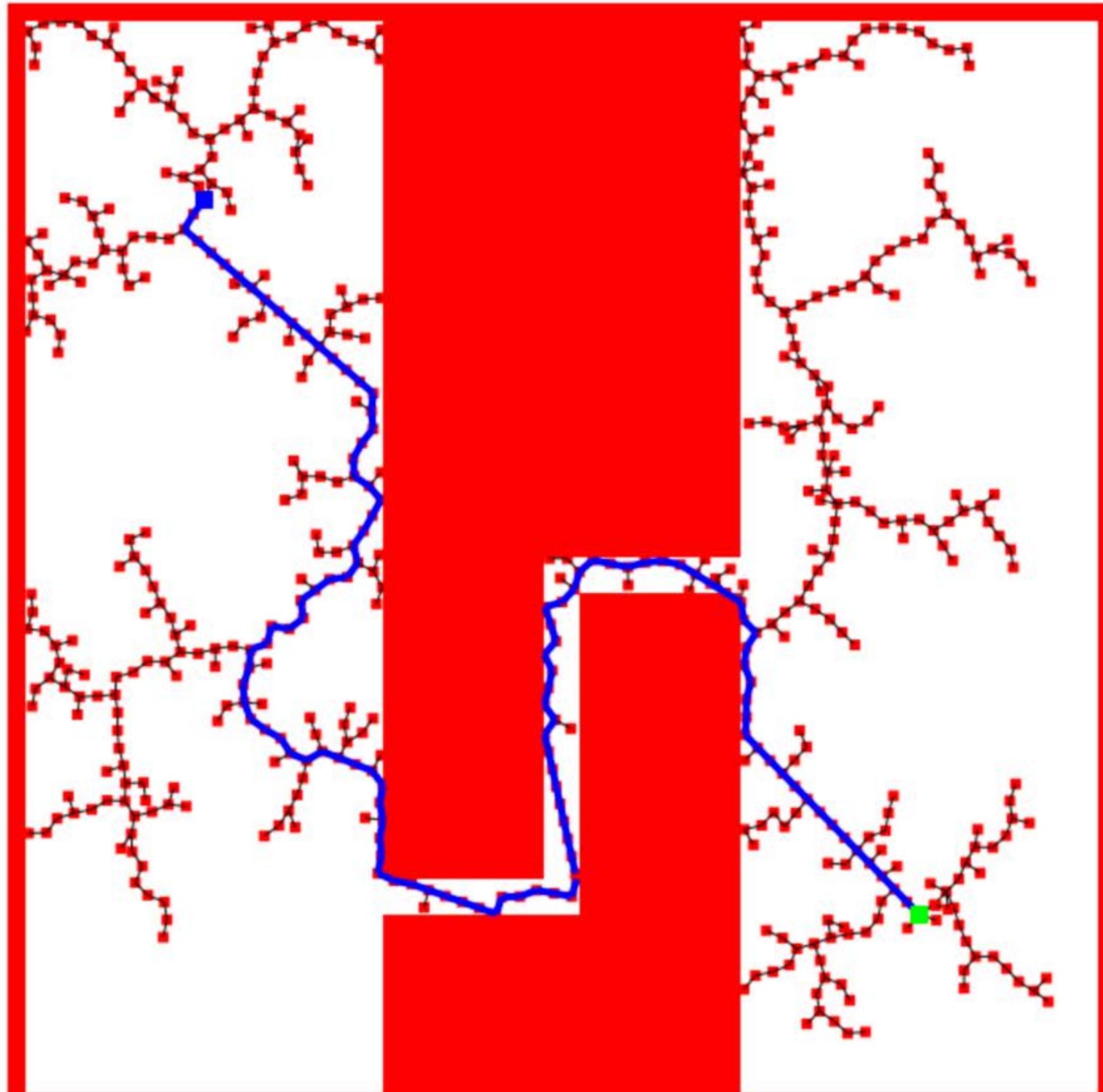
# Multi-directional RRT

- Planning around obstacles or through narrow passages can often be easier in one direction than the other





# RRTs can take a lot of time...



Is there a  
simpler way?

Next Lecture

Planning - V - Collision Detection

