



K. J. Somaiya College of Engineering, Mumbai-77
(A Constituent College of Somaiya Vidyavihar University)
Department of Computer Engineering

Batch: B3 Roll No.: 16010121110

Experiment No. 9

Grade: AA / AB / BB / BC / CC / CD /DD

Signature of the Staff In-charge with date

Title: Implementation of N-Queen Problem using Backtracking Algorithm

Objective: To learn the Backtracking strategy of problem solving for 8-Queens problem

CO to be achieved:

Sr. No	Objective
CO 1	Compare and demonstrate the efficiency of algorithms using asymptotic complexity notations.
CO 2	Analyze and solve problems for divide and conquer strategy, greedy method, dynamic programming approach and backtracking and branch & bound policies.
CO 3	Analyze and solve problems for different string matching algorithms.

Books/ Journals/ Websites referred:

1. Ellis horowitz, Sarataj Sahni, S.Rajasekaran,” Fundamentals of computer algorithm”, University Press
2. T.H.Cormen ,C.E.Leiserson,R.L.Rivest and C.Stein,” Introduction to algorithms”,2nd Edition ,MIT press/McGraw Hill,2001
3. <http://www.math.utah.edu/~alfeld/queens/queens.html>
4. <http://www.isl.ece.arizona.edu/ece175/assignments275/assignment4a/Solving%208%20queen%20problem.pdf>
5. http://www.slideshare.net/Tech_MX/8-queens-problem-using-back-tracking
6. <http://www.mathcs.emory.edu/~cheung/Courses/170.2010/Syllabus/Backtracking/8queens.html>
7. <http://www.geeksforgeeks.org/backtracking-set-3-n-queen-problem/>
8. <http://www.hbmeyer.de/backtrack/achtdamen/eight.htm>



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Pre Lab/ Prior Concepts:

Data structures, Concepts of algorithm analysis

Historical Profile:

The **N-Queens puzzle** is the problem of placing N queens on an N×N chessboard so that no two queens attack each other. Thus, a solution requires that no two queens share the same row, column, or diagonal.

New Concepts to be learned:

Application of algorithmic design strategy to any problem, Backtracking method of problem-solving Vs other methods of problem solving, 8- Queens problem and its applications.

Algorithm N Queens Problem: -

```
void NQueens(int k, int n)
// Using backtracking, this procedure prints all possible placements of n queens on an n X n
chessboard so that they are nonattacking.
{
    for (int i=1; i<=n; i++)
    {
        if (Place(k, i))
        {
            x[k] = i;
            if (k==n)
                for (int j=1; j<=n; j++)          Print x[j] ;
            else NQueens(k+1, n);
        }
    }
}
```

Boolean Place(int k, int i)

// Returns true if a queen can be placed in kth row and ith column. Otherwise it returns false.
// x[] is a global array whose first (k-1) values have been set. abs(r) returns absolute value of r.

```
{
for (int j=1; j < k; j++)
    if ((x[j] == i) // Two in the same column
        || (abs(x[j]-i) == abs(j-k))) // or in the same diagonal
        return(false);
return(true);
}
```



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Example 8-Queens Problem:

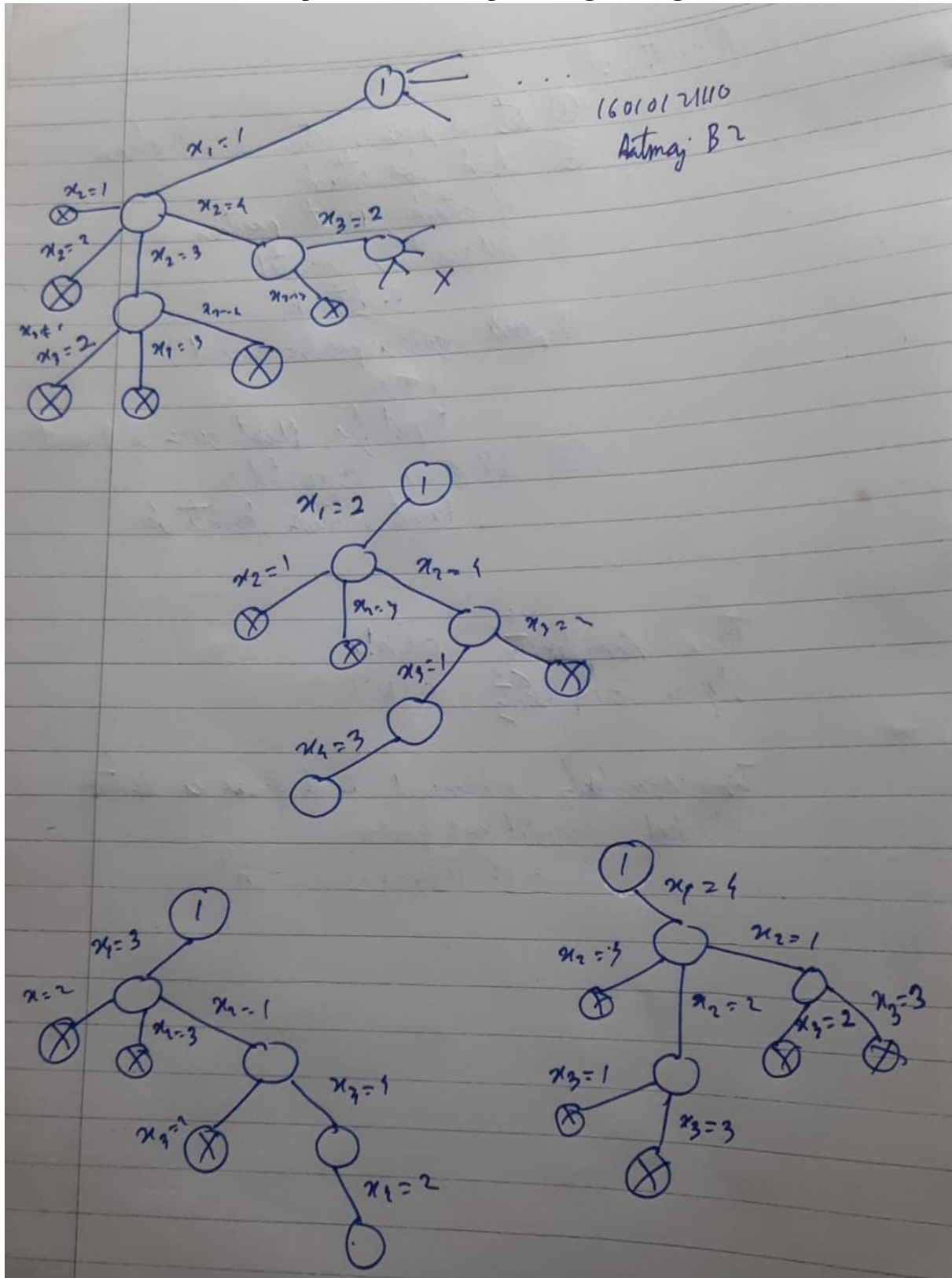
The eight queens puzzle is the problem of placing eight chess queens on an 8×8 chessboard so that no two queens threaten each other i.e. no two queens share the same row, column, or diagonal.

Solution Using Backtracking Approach:

The idea is to place queens one by one in different columns, starting from the leftmost column. When we place a queen in a column, we check for clashes with already placed queens. In the current column, if we find a row for which there is no clash, we mark this row and column as part of the solution. If we do not find such a row due to clashes then we backtrack and return false.

State Space tree for N-Queens (Solution):

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Implementation (Code):

```
/******  
*****
```

Need to put value of N

```
*****  
*****/
```

```
public class queen  
{  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
        System.out.println("Hello World");  
        int N=8;  
        int[][] positions = new int[N][N];  
  
        boolean a = place(0,positions);  
  
        //printPos(positions);  
    }  
    public static boolean place(int queenNo,int[][] positions){  
        boolean val=false;  
        for(int row=0;row<positions[0].length;row++){//iterate row  
  
            if(checkQueen(queenNo,positions,row)==true){  
                //place queen  
                positions[row][queenNo]=1; //column is queenNo  
  
                if(queenNo==positions[0].length-1){  
                    //end of recursion  
                    printPos(positions);  
                    positions[row][queenNo]=0;  
                    return true;  
                }  
                //recur  
                if(place(queenNo+1,positions)==false){  
                    //failed  
                    positions[row][queenNo]=0;  
                    continue; //look for next position  
                }  
            }  
        }  
    }  
}
```



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```
    }
    else{
        val = true;//valid position
        positions[row][queenNo]=0;
        continue; //still look for next position
    }
}
}
}
if(val==true){
    return true;
}
//backtrack
return false;
}
public static boolean checkQueen(int column,int [][] positions, int
row){

if(checkRow(column,positions,row)&&checkdiaLeft(column,positions,row)&&
checkdiaRight(column,positions,row)){
    return true;
}
return false;

}
public static boolean checkRow(int column,int [][] positions, int row){
for(int i=0;i<positions[0].length;i++){ //iterate columns
    if(positions[row][i]==1){

        return false;
    }
}
return true;
}
public static boolean checkdiaLeft(int column,int [][] positions, int row){
for(int i=0;i<positions[0].length;i++){ //iterate row
for(int j=0;j<positions[0].length;j++){ //iterate columns
    if(i-j==row-column){

        if(positions[i][j]==1 ){
```



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```
        return false;
    }
}

}

return true;
}

public static boolean checkdiaRight(int column,int [][] positions, int row){
    for(int i=0;i<positions[0].length;i++){ //iterate row
        for(int j=0;j<positions[0].length;j++){ //iterate columns
            if(i+j==row+column){

                if(positions[i][j]==1 ){

                    return false;
                }
            }
        }
    }

    return true;
}

public static void printPos(int [][] positions){
    for(int i=0;i<positions[0].length;i++){ //iterate columns
        for(int j=0;j<positions[0].length;j++){ //iterate rows
            System.out.print(positions[i][j]+" ");
        }
        System.out.println();
    }
    System.out.println("_____");
}
}
```

OUTPUT:



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0,0,1,0,

1,0,0,0,

0,0,0,1,

0,1,0,0,

0,1,0,0,

0,0,0,1,

1,0,0,0,

0,0,1,0,

Algorithm:

Analysis of Backtracking solution:



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Algorithm:

- ① set a queen position to i^{th} column
- ② check for attack
If attack, Next position
- ③ All positions Exhausted?
Backtrack
- ④ ~~Are~~ queens position correct?
 $i++$
Repeat for Next queen if Present
- ⑤ All queen exhausted?
Print solution, Backtrack

Time complexity $O(h^?)$
Space complexity $O(N^2)$

Time complexity is because each queen is in turn checked against $h-1$ queens
$$h(h-1)(h-2) \dots = h!$$

CONCLUSION:

Thus we have understood the N queen algorithm and implemented it. This problem is a standard example of backtracking and is used in various applications like VLSI testing, traffic control, parallel memory storage schemes, and deadlock prevention.