

Heuristic Analysis

Playing Matches									

Match #	Opponent	AB_Improved		AB_Custom		AB_Custom_2		AB_Custom_3	
		Won	Lost	Won	Lost	Won	Lost	Won	Lost
1	Random	7	3	10	0	8	2	9	1
2	MM_Open	5	5	8	2	5	5	8	2
3	MM_Center	8	2	8	2	6	4	8	2
4	MM_Improved	5	5	8	2	6	4	7	3
5	AB_Open	5	5	6	4	3	7	2	8
6	AB_Center	6	4	7	3	5	5	5	5
7	AB_Improved	5	5	6	4	6	4	5	5

Win Rate:		58.6%		75.7%		55.7%		62.9%	

Custom_1 seemed to perform better against all the different opponents.

I will start with the analysis of Custom_3 as 1 and 2 use it in addition to their own score calculation code.

Custom_3 determines the score of a move based on its distance from the center. 1 for the center and 0 for the furthest positions. My reasoning behind this is that even though I have not done the math, my intuition tells me that if the player stays as near as possible to the center, its future moves should have more options as they would be further away from the boundaries. I selected a range between 0 and 1 so I would be able to use it in the Custom 1 and 2 functions without it affecting their results too much.

Custom_1 bases its score in the amount of open moves from the player minus the number of open moves from the opponent and then it adds the score from Custom_3 for optimization. My reasoning behind this is simply that increasing the number of future open moves for the player should always give better chances of winning and reducing the number of open moves for the opponent should increase the chance of the opponent losing.

Custom_2 bases its score in the amount of open moves from the player and then it adds the score from Custom_3 for optimization. My reasoning behind this is simply that as a general rule increasing the number of future open moves for the player should always give better chances of winning.