

REVIEW EXERCISE 03

Question 1. The N -queens problem requires you to place N queens on an $N \times N$ chessboard such that no queen attacks another queen. (A queen attacks any piece in the same row or column or diagonal). Here are some important facts:

- The states are any configurations where **all** N queens are on the board, one per column.
- The **moveset** includes all possible states generated by moving a single queen to another square in the same column. The function to obtain these states is called the **successor** function.
- The heuristic function $h(\text{state})$ is the number of **attacking** pairs of queens.

a) Consider $N=4$. How many states are there in total? Explain your answer.

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b) For each state, how many successor states are there in the moveset? Explain your answer

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c) What value will the heuristic function $h(\text{state})$ return for state S shown aside? Explain your answer.



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d) Use some hill-climbing variant that can lead to a solution. Draw the search tree from S (Only draw the branches that lead to a solution; for each node on the tree, write down its $h(\)$ value).

Question 2. Consider the game search tree shown below, in which a square denotes MAX's move and a circle for MIN's move. Write down the utility value for each node of the tree using Minimax algorithm. Show where alpha-beta pruning occurs by crossing out corresponding branches. Briefly explain for each case.

