
CIS 471/571 (Fall 2020): Introduction to Artificial Intelligence

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Lecture <https://eduassistpro.github.io/> 1 Search
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Source: <http://ai.berkeley.edu/home.html>



Reminders

- Project 2:
 - Deadline: Oct 27th, 2020
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- Written assignment <https://eduassistpro.github.io/>
 - Deadline: Oct 24th, 2020
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Adversarial Games

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Types of Games

- Many different kinds of games!
- Axes:
 - Deterministic or stochastic
 - One, two, or more player
 - Zero sum?
 - Perfect information (can you see the state)?
- Want algorithms for calculating a strategy (policy) which recommends a move from each state

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Deterministic Games

- Many possible formalizations, one is:
 - States: S (start at s_0)
 - Players: $P=\{1...N\}$ (usually take turns)
 - Actions: A (may depend)
 - Transition Function: $S \times A \rightarrow S$
 - Terminal Test: $S \rightarrow \{t, f\}$
 - Terminal Utilities: $S \times P \rightarrow R$
- Solution for a player is a **policy**: $S \rightarrow A$

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Zero-Sum Games

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- Zero-Sum Games

- Agents have opposite utilities (values on outcomes)
- Lets us think of a single value that one maximizes and the other minimizes
- Adversarial, pure competition

- General Games

- Agents have independent utilities (values on outcomes)
- Cooperation, indifference, competition, and more are all possible
- More later on non-zero-sum games

Adversarial Search

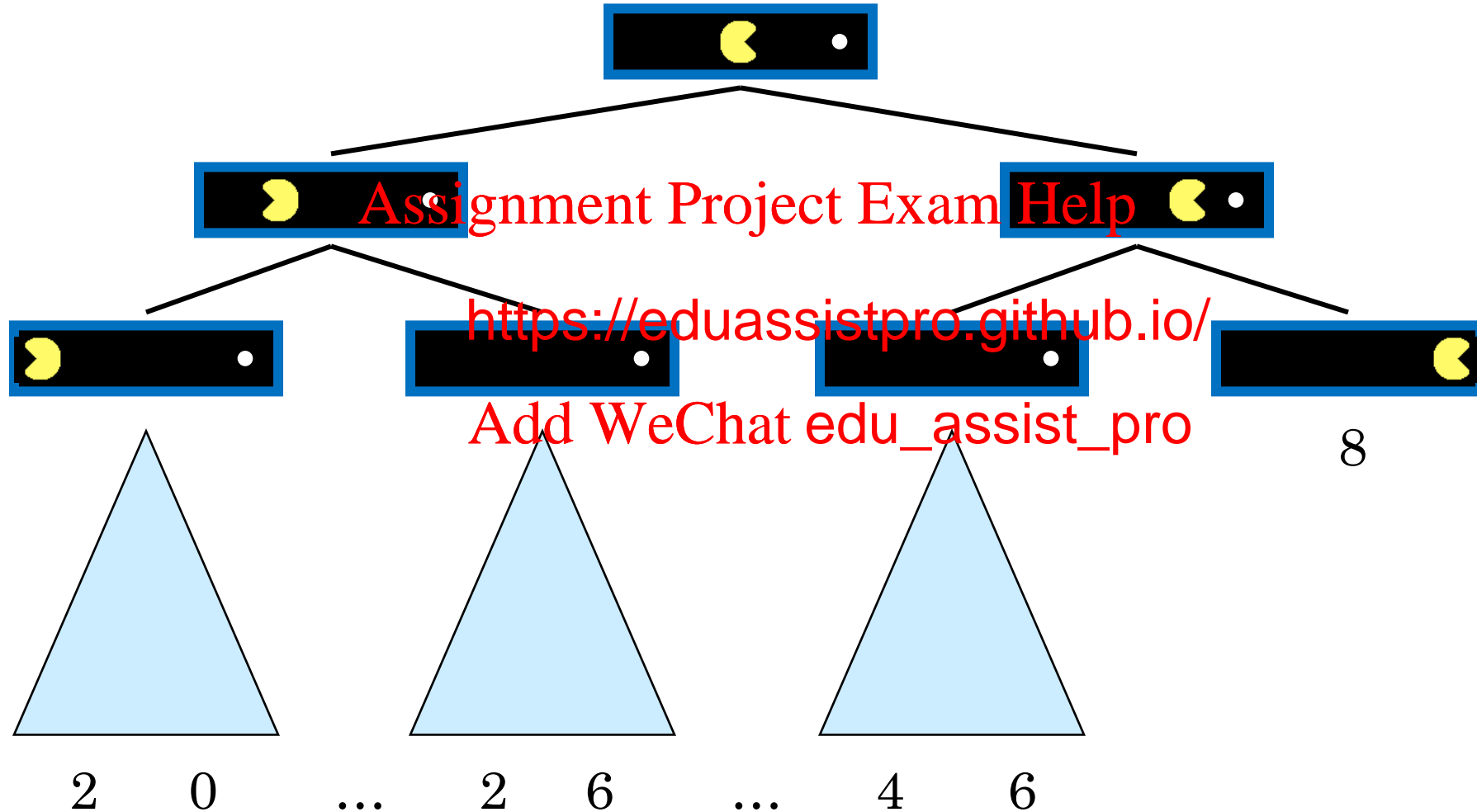
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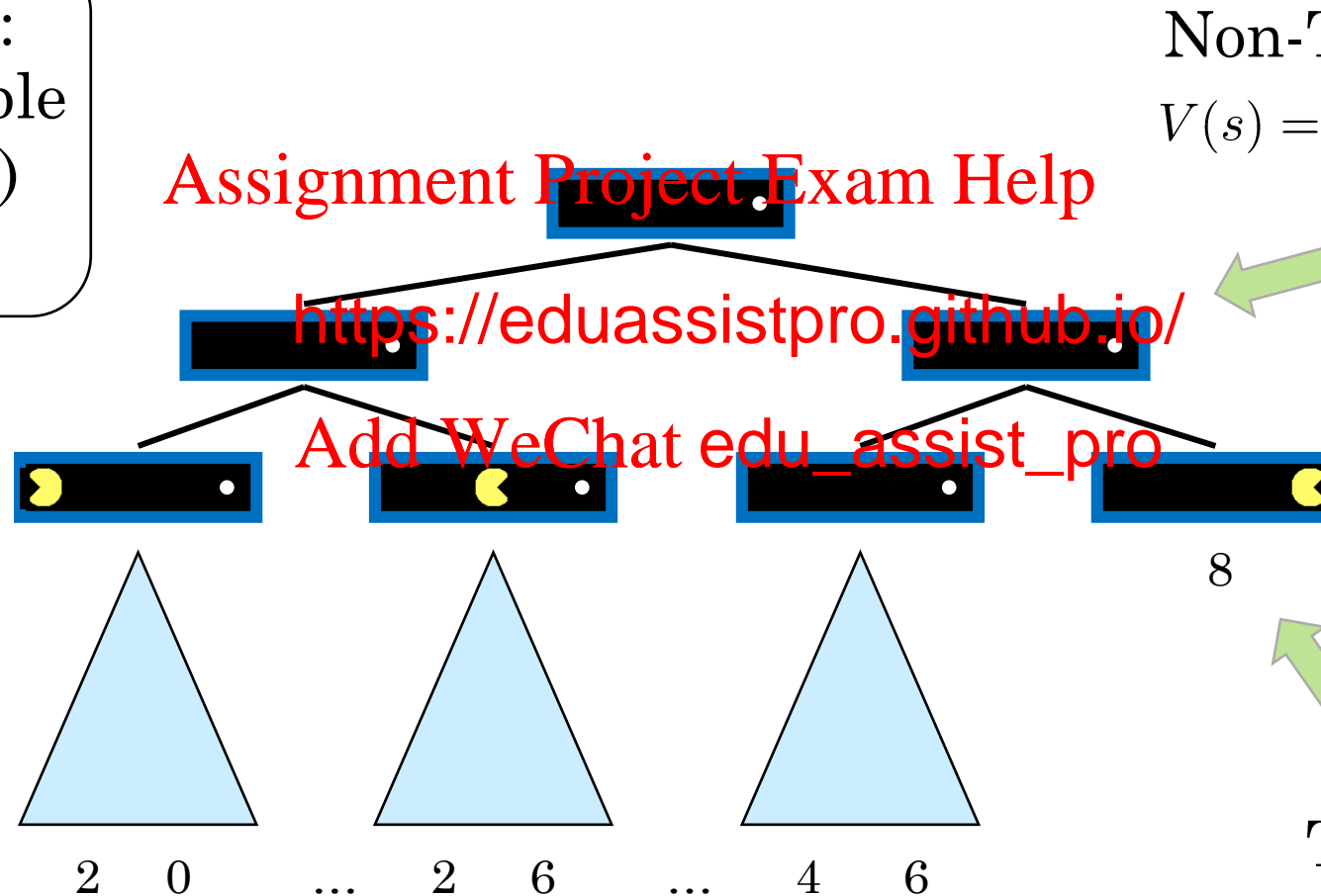


Single-Agent Trees



Value of a State

Value of a state:
The best achievable
outcome (utility)
from that state



Non-Terminal States:

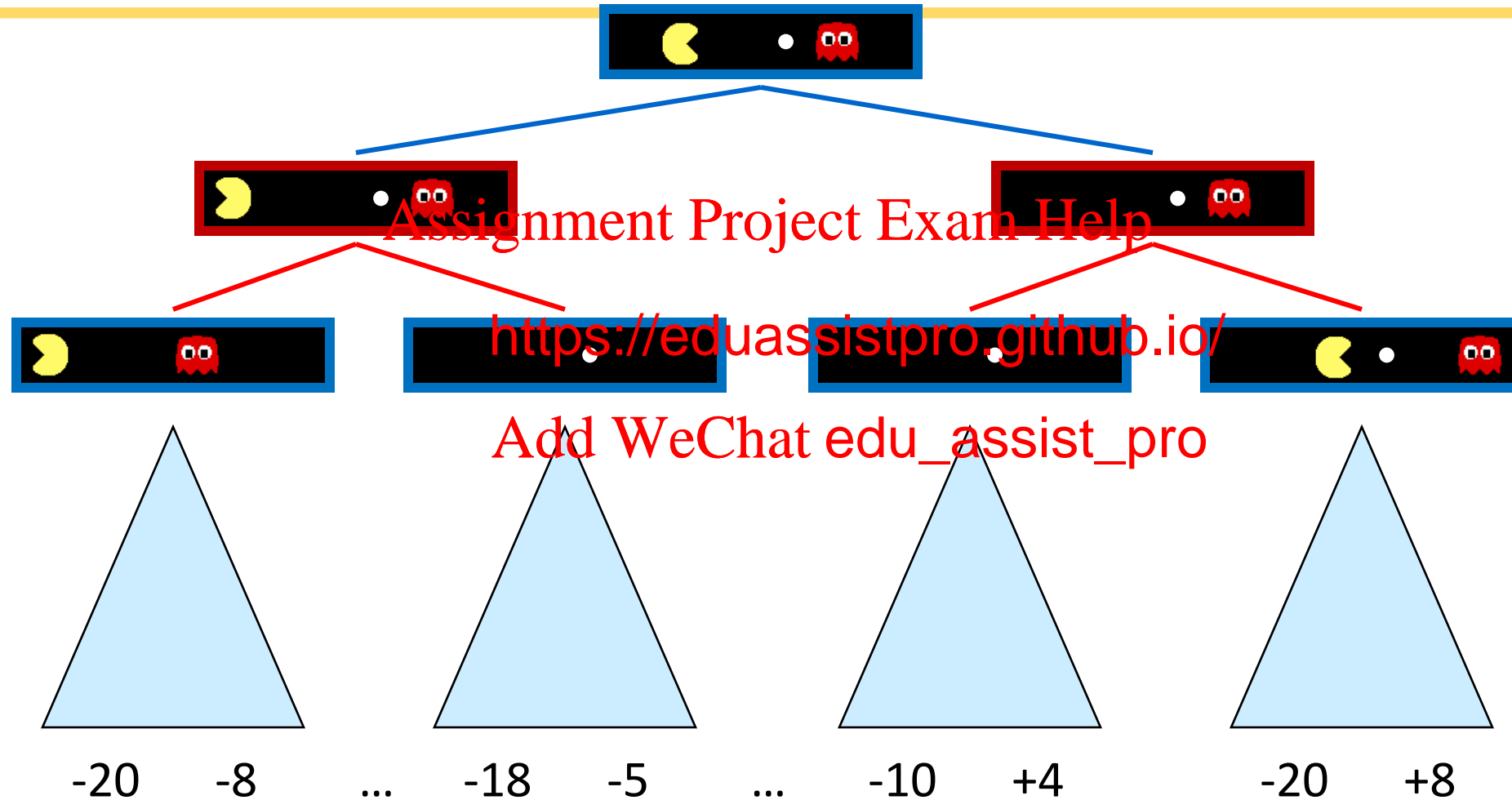
$$V(s) = \max_{s' \in \text{children}(s)} V(s')$$

Terminal States:

$$V(s) = \text{known}$$



Adversarial Game Trees



Minimax Values

States Under Agent's Control:

$$V(s) = \max_{s' \in \text{successors}(s)} V(s')$$

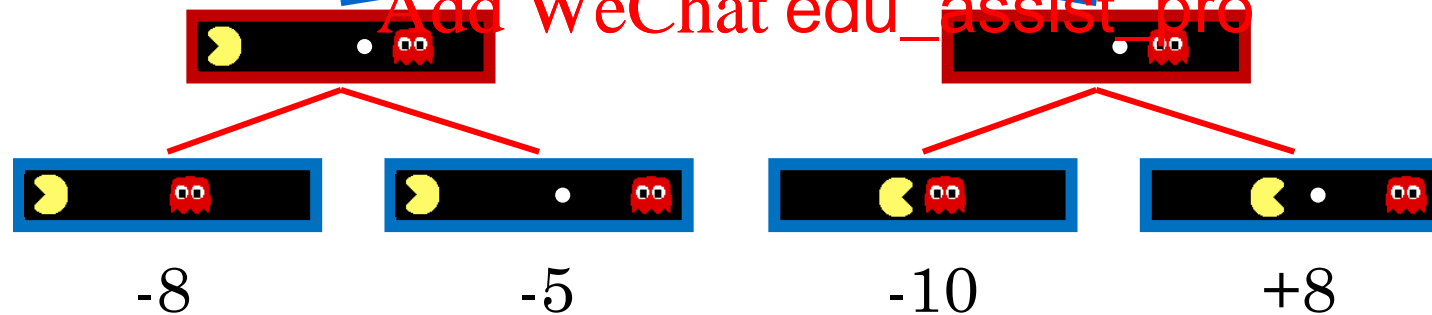
States Under Opponent's Control:

$$V(s') = \min_{s \in \text{successors}(s')} V(s)$$

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Terminal States:

$$V(s) = \text{known}$$



Tic-Tac-Toe Game Tree



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Adversarial Search (Minimax)

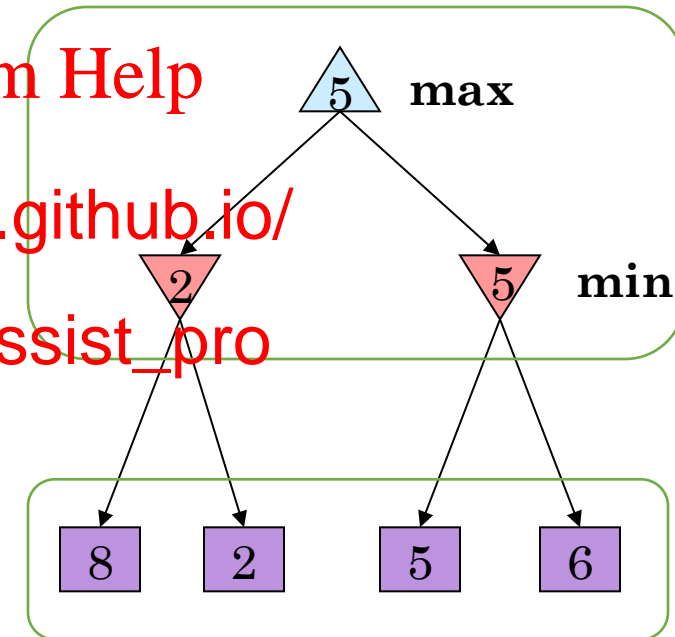
- Deterministic, zero-sum games:

- Tic-tac-toe, chess, checkers
- One player maximizes result
- The other minimizes

- Minimax search:

- A state-space search tree
- Players alternate turns
- Compute each node's **minimax value**:
the best achievable utility against a
rational (optimal) adversary

Minimax values:
computed recursively



Terminal values:
part of the game

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Minimax Implementation

```
def value(state):
```

```
    if the state is a terminal state: return the state's utility
```

```
    if the next agent is MAX: return max-value(state)
```

```
    if the next agent is MIN: return min-value(state)
```

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```
def max-value(state):
```

```
    initialize v = -∞
```

```
    for each successor of state:
```

```
        v = max(v, value(successor))
```

```
    return v
```

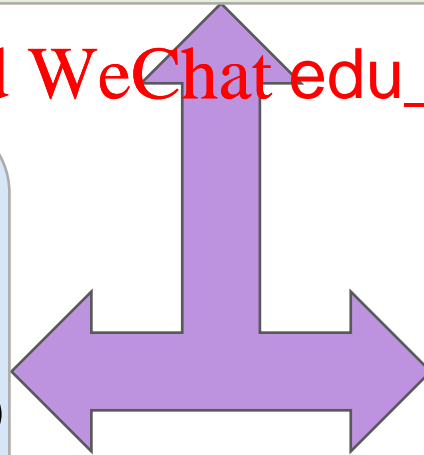
```
def min-value(state):
```

```
    initialize v = +∞
```

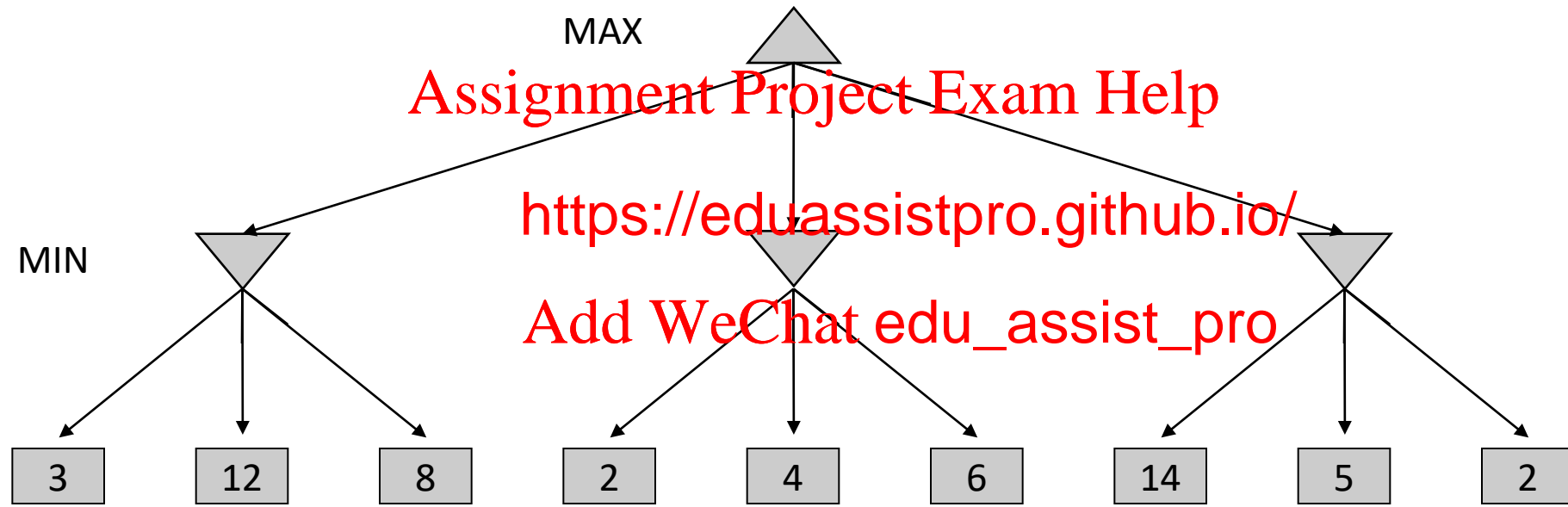
```
    for each successor of state:
```

```
        v = min(v, value(successor))
```

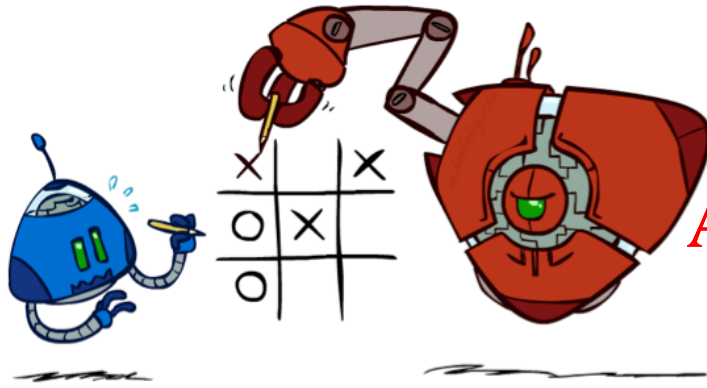
```
    return v
```



Minimax Example



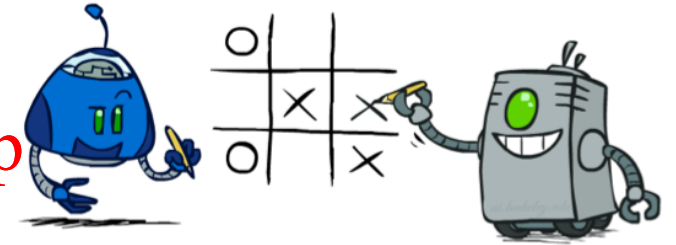
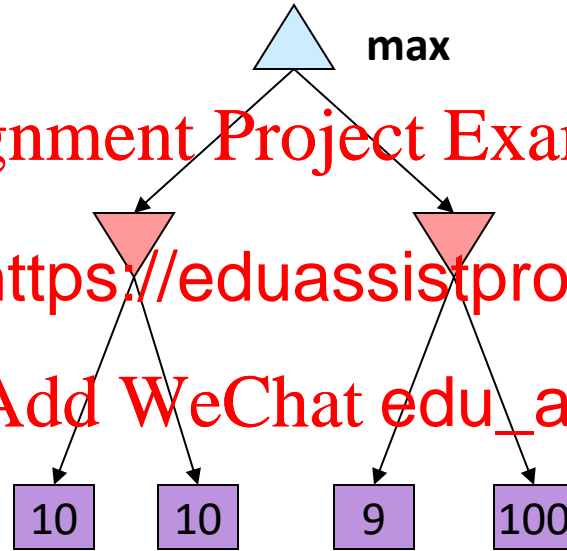
Minimax Properties



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Optimal against a perfect player. Otherwise?



Minimax Efficiency

- How efficient is minimax?

- Just like (exhaustive) DFS
- Time: $O(b^m)$
- Space: $O(bm)$

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- Example: For chess, $b \approx 35$, $m \approx 100$

- Exact solution is completely infeasible
- But, do we need to explore the whole tree?



Resource Limits

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Game Tree Pruning

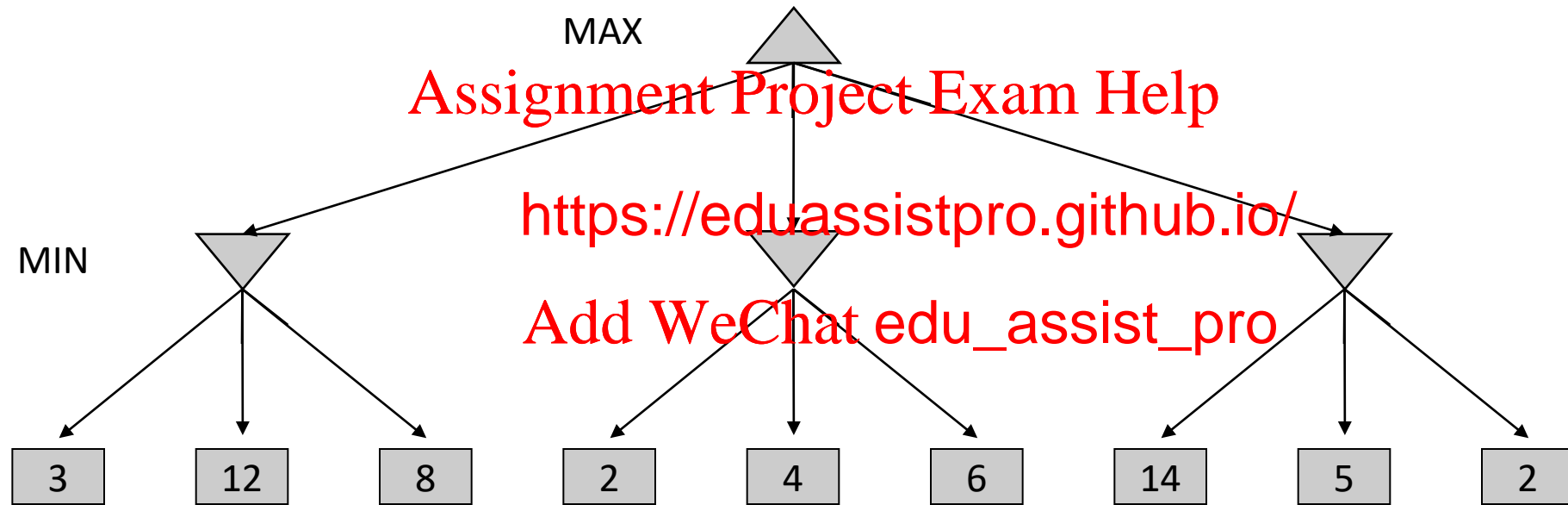
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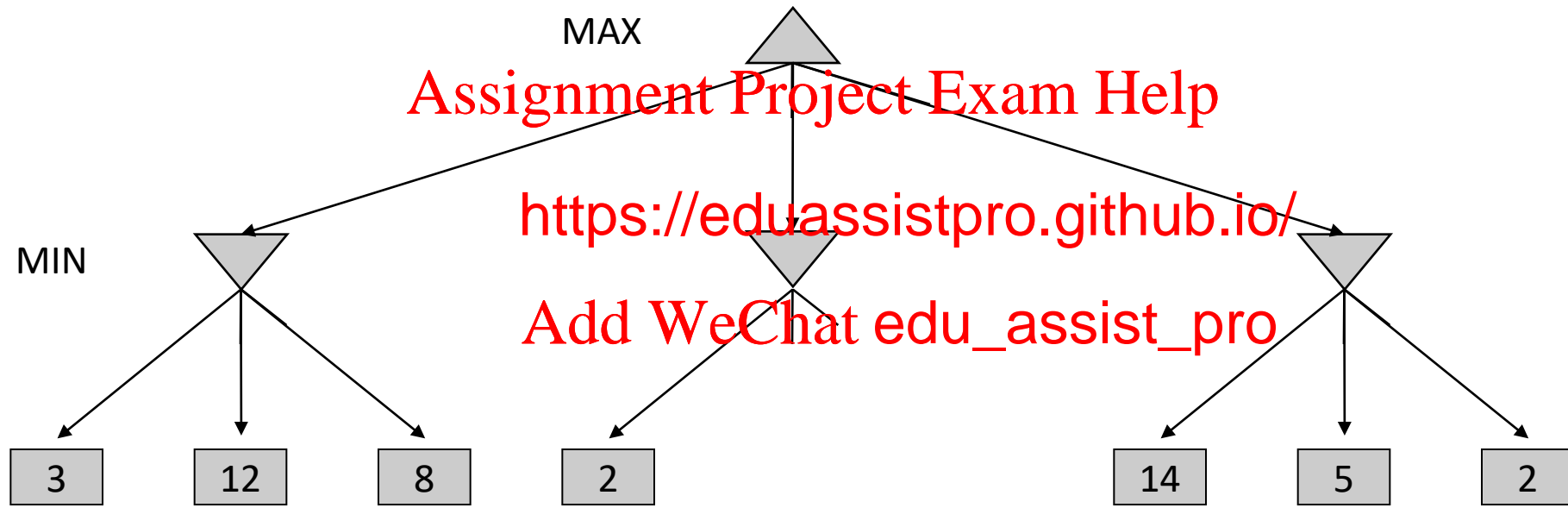
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Minimax Example



Minimax Pruning



Alpha-Beta Pruning

- **Alpha α** : value of the best choice so far for MAX (lower bound of Max utility)
- **Beta β** : value of the best choice so far for MIN (upper bound of Min utility)
- Expanding at MAX node **n**: update α
 - If a child of **n** has value greater than β , stop expanding the MAX node **n**
 - Reason: MIN parent of **n** would not choose the action which leads to **n**
- At MIN node **n**: update β
 - If a child of **n** has value less than α , stop expanding the MIN node **n**
 - Reason: MAX parent of **n** would not choose the action which leads to **n**

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Alpha-Beta Implementation

```
def value(state,  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ):
```

```
    if the state is a terminal state: return the state's utility
```

```
    if the next agent is MAX: return max-value(state,  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ )
```

```
    if the next agent is MIN: return min-value(state,  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ )
```

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```
def max-value(state,  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ):
```

```
    initialize  $v = -\infty$ 
```

```
    for each successor of state:
```

```
         $v = \max(v, \text{value}(\text{successor}, \alpha, \beta))$ 
```

```
        if  $v \geq \beta$  return  $v$ 
```

```
         $\alpha = \max(\alpha, v)$ 
```

```
    return  $v$ 
```

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```
def min-value(state,  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ):
```

```
    initialize  $v = +\infty$ 
```

```
    for each successor of state:
```

```
         $v = \min(v, \text{value}(\text{successor}, \alpha, \beta))$ 
```

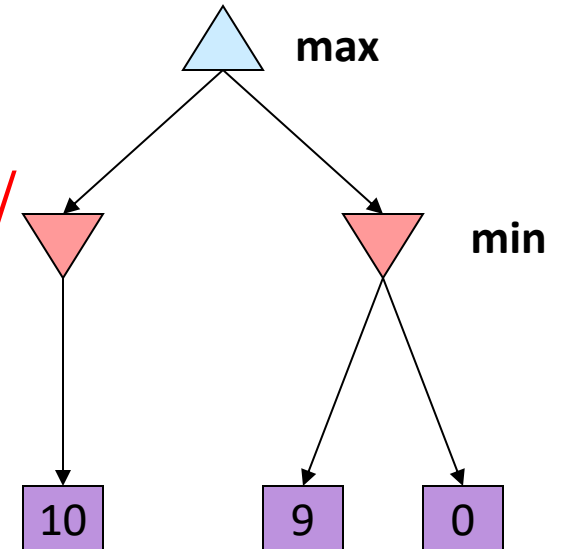
```
        if  $v \leq \alpha$  return  $v$ 
```

```
         $\beta = \min(\beta, v)$ 
```

```
    return  $v$ 
```

Alpha-Beta Pruning Properties

- This pruning has **no effect** on minimax value computed for the root!
- Values of intermediate nodes might be wrong
 - Important: children of the root
 - So the most naïve version would not work
- Good child ordering improves effectiveness



Alpha-Beta Quiz

max

$[\alpha, \beta] = [-\infty, +\infty]$

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min

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Alpha-Beta Quiz

max

$[\alpha, \beta] = [-\infty, +\infty]$

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min

$[\alpha, \beta] = [-\infty, +\infty]$
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Alpha-Beta Quiz

max

$[\alpha, \beta] = [-\infty, +\infty]$

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min

$[\alpha, \beta] = [-\infty, 10]$
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Alpha-Beta Quiz

max

$[\alpha, \beta] = [-\infty, +\infty]$

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min

$[\alpha, \beta] = [-\infty, +\infty]$
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Alpha-Beta Quiz

max

$[\alpha, \beta] = [-\infty, +\infty]$

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min

8

$[\alpha, \beta] = [-\infty, 8]$
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Alpha-Beta Quiz

max

$[\alpha, \beta] = [8, +\infty]$

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min

8

$[\alpha, \beta] = [-\infty, 8]$
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Alpha-Beta Quiz

max

$[\alpha, \beta] = [8, +\infty]$

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min

8

$[\alpha, \beta] = [8, +\infty]$

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Alpha-Beta Quiz

max

$[\alpha, \beta] = [8, +\infty]$

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min

8

$[\alpha, \beta] = [8, +\infty]$ Add WeChat edu_assist_pro $[\alpha, \beta] = [8, +\infty]$



Alpha-Beta Quiz

max

$[\alpha, \beta] = [8, +\infty]$

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min

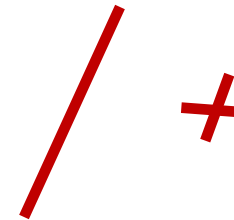
8

$[\alpha, \beta] = -\infty, 8]$

4

$[\alpha, \beta] = [8, +\infty]$

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Alpha-Beta Quiz 2

max

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max



Alpha-Beta Quiz 2

max

$[\alpha, \beta] = [-\infty, +\infty]$

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max

$[\alpha, \beta] = [-\infty, +\infty]$



Alpha-Beta Quiz 2

max

$[\alpha, \beta] = [-\infty, +\infty]$

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max

$[\alpha, \beta] = [-\infty, +\infty]$



Alpha-Beta Quiz 2

max

$[\alpha, \beta] = [-\infty, +\infty]$

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max

$[\alpha, \beta] = [10, +\infty]$



Alpha-Beta Quiz 2

max

$[\alpha, \beta] = [-\infty, +\infty]$

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min

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max

$[\alpha, \beta] = [10, +\infty]$



Alpha-Beta Quiz 2

max

$[\alpha, \beta] = [-\infty, +\infty]$

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max

10

$[\alpha, \beta] = [10, +\infty]$



Alpha-Beta Quiz 2

max

$[\alpha, \beta] = [-\infty, +\infty]$

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max

10

$[\alpha, \beta] = [10, +\infty]$



Alpha-Beta Quiz 2

max

$[\alpha, \beta] = [-\infty, +\infty]$

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max

10

$[\alpha, \beta] = [10, +\infty]$

$[\alpha, \beta] = [-\infty, 10]$



Alpha-Beta Quiz 2

max

$[\alpha, \beta] = [-\infty, +\infty]$

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min

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max

10

$[\alpha, \beta] = [10, +\infty]$

$[\alpha, \beta] = [-\infty, 10]$



Alpha-Beta Quiz 2

max

$[\alpha, \beta] = [-\infty, +\infty]$

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min

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max

10

$[\alpha, \beta] = [10, +\infty]$

100

$[\alpha, \beta] = [-\infty, 10]$

~~+~~



Alpha-Beta Quiz 2

max $[\alpha, \beta] = [-\infty, +\infty]$

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min 10 <https://eduassistpro.github.io/>

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max 10 $[\alpha, \beta] = [10, +\infty]$ 100 $[\alpha, \beta] = [-\infty, 10]$

+



Alpha-Beta Quiz 2

max $[\alpha, \beta] = [10, +\infty]$

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min 10 ~~<https://eduassistpro.github.io/>~~ $[\alpha, \beta] = [10, +\infty]$

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max 10 $[\alpha, \beta] = [10, +\infty]$ 100 $[\alpha, \beta] = [-\infty, 10]$ $[\alpha, \beta] = [10, +\infty]$

~~+~~



Alpha-Beta Quiz 2

max $[\alpha, \beta] = [10, +\infty]$

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min 10 ~~<https://eduassistpro.github.io/>~~ $[\alpha, \beta] = [10, +\infty]$

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max 10 $[\alpha, \beta] = [10, +\infty]$ 100 $[\alpha, \beta] = [-\infty, 10]$ $[\alpha, \beta] = [10, +\infty]$

~~+~~



Alpha-Beta Quiz 2

max $[\alpha, \beta] = [10, +\infty]$

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min 10 ~~<https://eduassistpro.github.io/>~~ $[\alpha, \beta] = [10, +\infty]$

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max 10 $[\alpha, \beta] = [10, +\infty]$ 100 $[\alpha, \beta] = [-\infty, 10]$ $[\alpha, \beta] = [10, +\infty]$

~~+~~



Alpha-Beta Quiz 2

max $[\alpha, \beta] = [10, +\infty]$

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min 10 ~~<https://eduassistpro.github.io/>~~ $[\alpha, \beta] = [10, +\infty]$

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max 10 $[\alpha, \beta] = [10, +\infty]$ 100 $[\alpha, \beta] = [-\infty, 10]$ 2 $[\alpha, \beta] = [10, +\infty]$

~~+~~



Alpha-Beta Quiz 2

max $[\alpha, \beta] = [10, +\infty]$

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min 10 $[\alpha, \beta] = [10, +\infty]$ 2
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max 10 $[\alpha, \beta] = [10, +\infty]$ 100 $[\alpha, \beta] = [-\infty, 10]$ 2 $[\alpha, \beta] = [10, +\infty]$

+



Alpha-Beta Quiz 2

$$\max_{10} [\alpha, \beta] = [10, +\infty]$$

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$$\min_{10} [\alpha, \beta] = [10, +\infty]$$

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$$\max_{10} [\alpha, \beta] = [10, +\infty] \quad 100 [\alpha, \beta] = [-\infty, 10] \quad 2 [\alpha, \beta] = [10, +\infty]$$

+



Resource Limits

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Resource Limits

- Problem: In realistic games, cannot search to leaves!

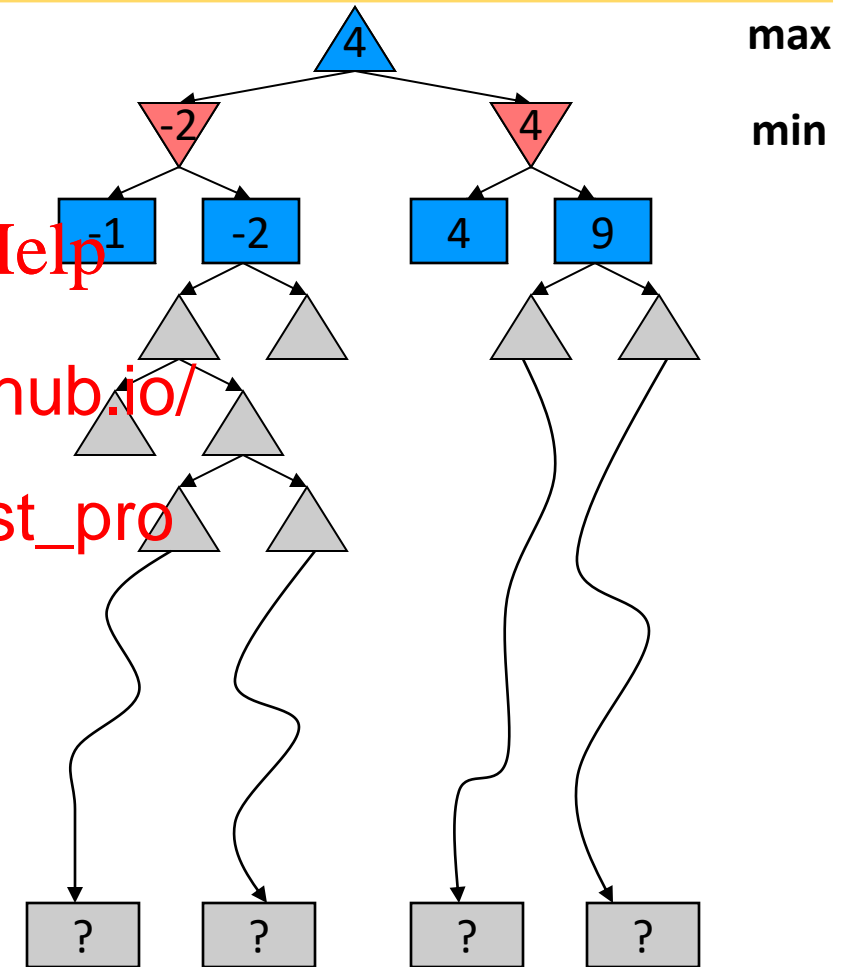
- Solution: Depth-limited search

- Instead, search only to a limited depth in the tree
- Replace terminal utilities with an estimated terminal positions

- Example:

- Suppose we have 100 seconds, can explore 10K nodes /
- So can check 1M nodes per move
- α - β reaches about depth 8 – decent chess program

- Guarantee of optimal play is gone
- More plies makes a BIG difference
- Use iterative deepening for an anytime algorithm



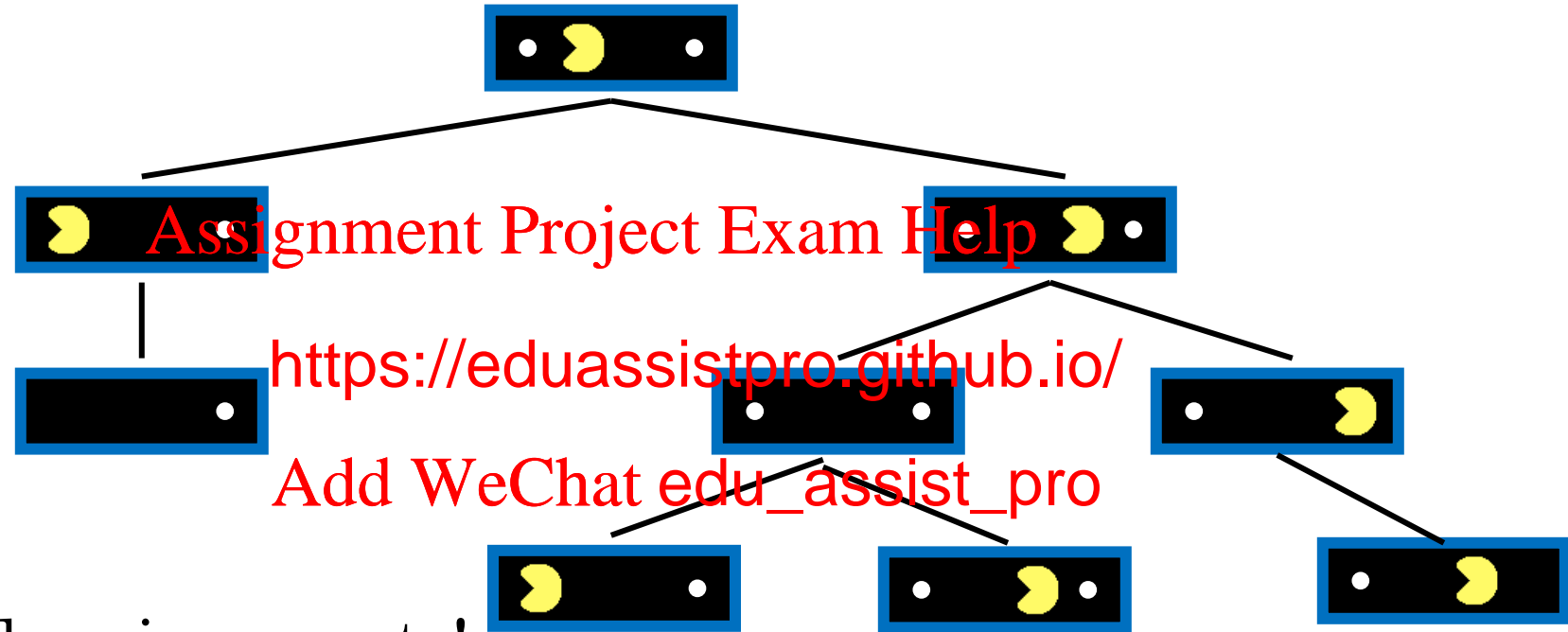
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Why Pacman Starves



- A danger of replanning agents!
 - He knows his score will go up by eating the dot now (west, east)
 - He knows his score will go up just as much by eating the dot later (east, west)
 - There are no point-scoring opportunities after eating the dot (within the horizon, two here)
 - Therefore, waiting seems just as good as eating: he may go east, then back west in the next round of replanning!



Evaluation Functions

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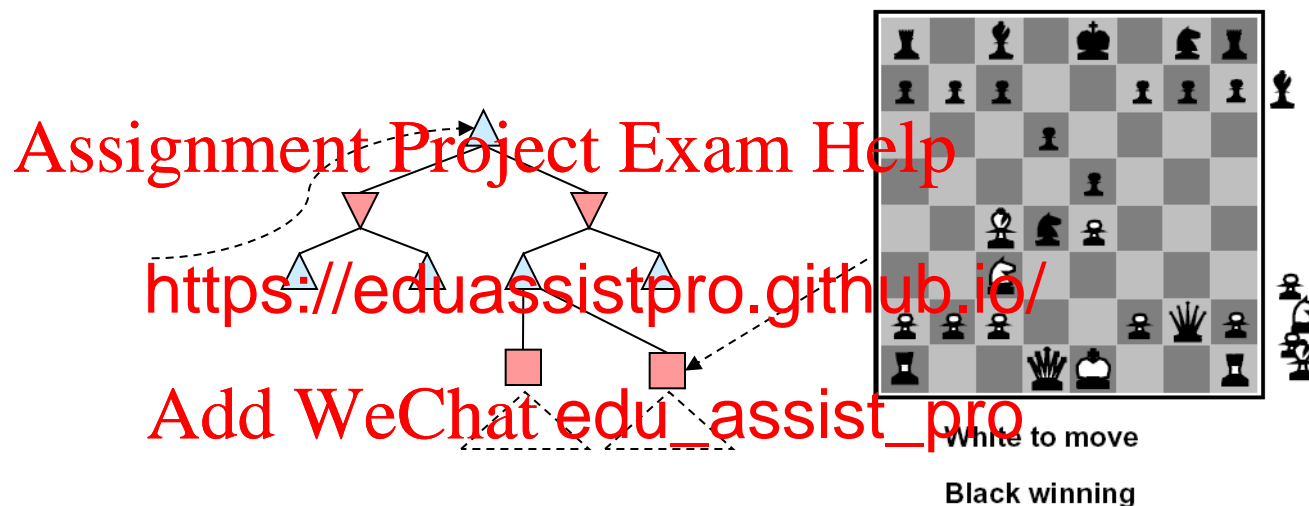
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Evaluation Functions

- Evaluation functions score non-terminals in depth-limited search



- Ideal function: returns the actual minimax value of the position
- In practice: typically weighted linear sum of features:

$$Eval(s) = w_1 f_1(s) + w_2 f_2(s) + \dots + w_n f_n(s)$$

- e.g. $f_1(s) = (\text{num white queens} - \text{num black queens})$, etc.



Evaluation for Pacman

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Depth Matters

- Evaluation functions are always imperfect
- The deeper in the tree the evaluation function is the less the quality of evaluation function matters
- An important example of the tradeoff between complexity of features and complexity of computation

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Synergies between Evaluation Function and Alpha-Beta?

- Alpha-Beta: amount of pruning depends on expansion ordering
 - Evaluation function can provide guidance to expand most promising nodes first (which later makes it more likely there is already a good alternative on the path to the root)
 - (somewhat similar to role of)
- Alpha-Beta: (similar for nodes of min)
- Value at a min-node will only keep going down
- Once value of min-node lower than better option for max along path to root, can prune
- Hence: IF evaluation function provides upper-bound on value at min-node, and upper-bound already lower than better option for max along path to root THEN can prune

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