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2. a.

starting moves:

    player determines whether to start or defer to AI
    if player starts, player picks a coordinate to remove black piece from, board is updated
    ai then picks random adjacent piece, board is updated
    if player defers, ai picks random legal coordinate to remove black piece from, board is updated
    player then picks adjacent piece, board is updated

player playing:

    possible legal moves are found and given to player
    if no legal moves, end_the_game set to 1
    player chooses a move, board is updated
    current player swaps

ai playing ai:

    possible legal moves are found
    if no legal moves, end_the_game set to 1
    random move selected from legal moves
    board is updated
    current player swaps

ai playing:

    possible legal moves are found
    if no legal moves, end_the_game set to 1
    if random ai:
        random move selected from legal moves
        board is updated
        current player swaps
    if minimax ai:
        run minimax with current state and depth = 0
    if alpha beta pruning ai:
        run minimax_ab with current state, alpha be -inf, beta be inf, and depth = 0

Minimax:

    Check depth if equal to certain number (ex: 4):
        If true increment static eval count
        Get static evaluation
    Elif its player 0:
        Increment calls count
        Loop over all successors
            Increment branch count
            Recursively call minimax with current successor state and depth + 1

```
                Return last move of successor
    Else:
        Increment calls count
        Loop over all successors
            Increment branch count
            Recursively call minimax with current successor state and depth + 1
            Return last move of successor

Minimax_ab:
    Check depth if equal to certain number (ex: 4):
        If true increment static eval count
        Get static evaluation
    Elif its player 0:
        Increment calls count
        Loop over all successors
            Increment branch count
            Recursively call minimax_ab with current successor state, new alpha,
            new beta and depth + 1
            Check if new value is greater than alpha
                If so, assign best move to the successor's last move
            Check if new alpha is greater than or equal to current beta
                If so, increment cutoff count
                Return the beta and best move as a tuple
        Return the alpha and current best move
    Else:
        Increment calls count
        Loop over all successors
            Increment branch count
            Recursively call minimax_ab with current successor state, new alpha,
            new beta and depth + 1
            Check if new value is less than beta
                If so, assign best move to the successor's last move
            Check if new beta is less than or equal to current alpha
                If so, increment cutoff count
                Return the beta and best move as a tuple
        Return the beta and current best move
```

b. static evaluation:

Our static evaluation function returns how many more moves a player has left compared to the artificial intelligence. If the player has more moves than the ai left, then that is positive, and if the player has fewer moves than the ai left, then it is negative. Since this evaluation gets minimized, it means the minimax returns the option which yields the option where the ai is left with more moves. If there is no option where ai has more moves, it yields the option where the player has the least amount more moves than the ai.

code of function:

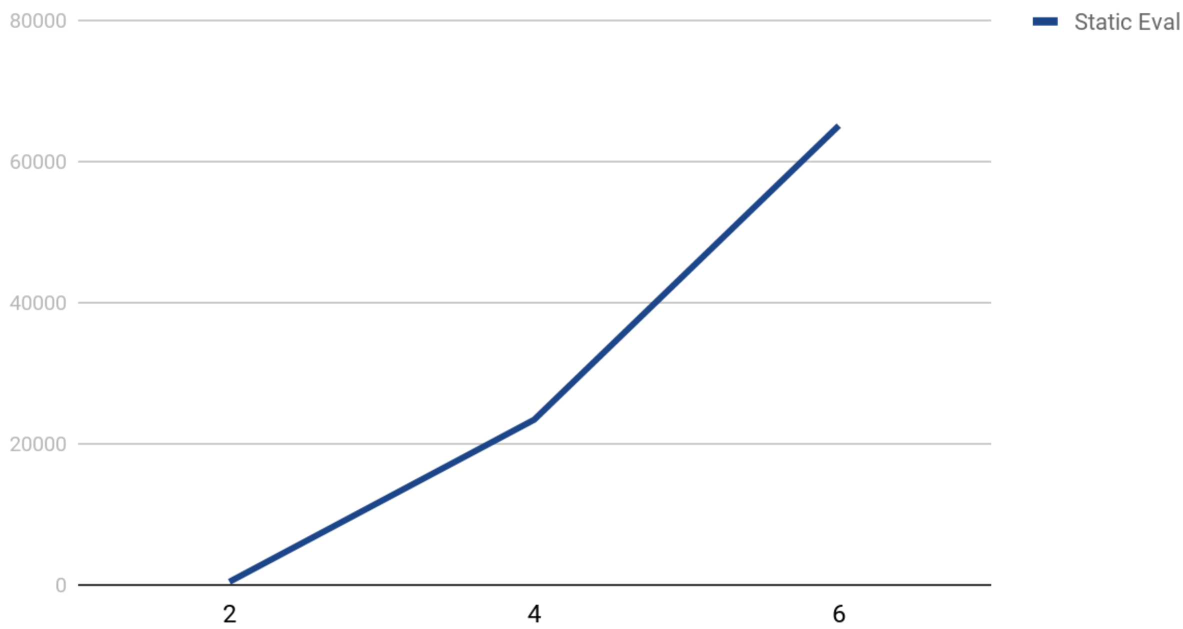
```
def static_evaluation(self):
    player_moves = self.find_moves(0)
    ai_moves = self.find_moves(1)
    if ai_moves == 0:
        return float("inf")
    if player_moves == 0:
        return float("-inf")
    return len(player_moves) - len(ai_moves)
```

c. Theoretically with Alpha Beta pruning, fewer nodes are explored and time is saved.

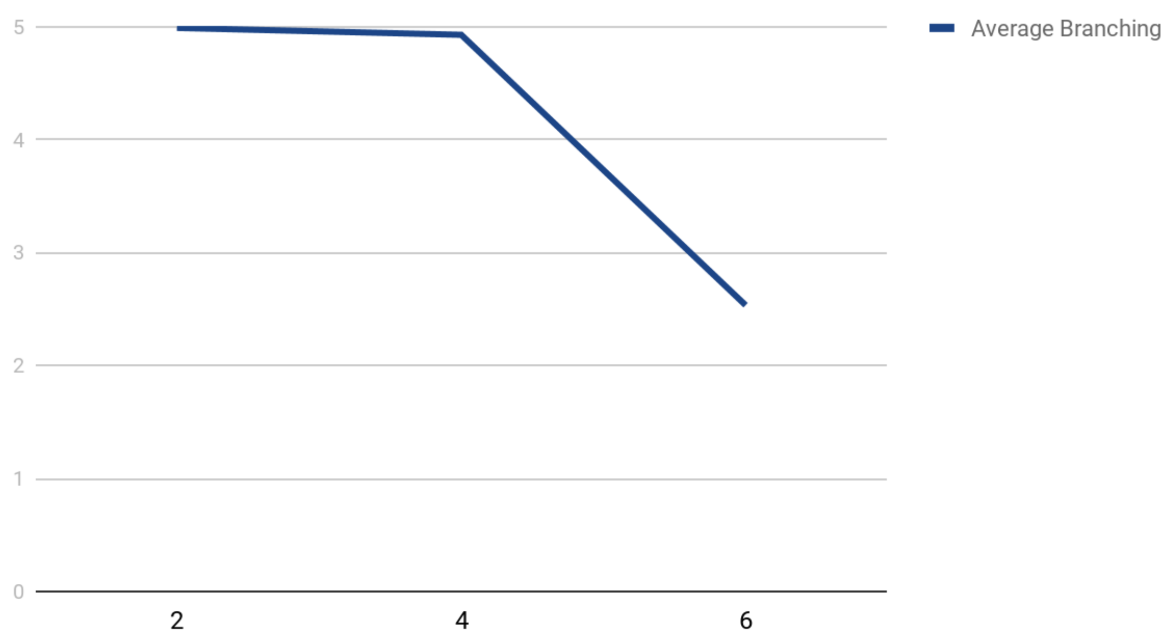
Minimax:

Depth	Static Eval	Avg. Branching	Number Cutoffs
2	452	4.990825	N/A
4	23414	4.92978330	N/A
6	65081	2.5349517	N/A

Static Evaluation vs. Depth

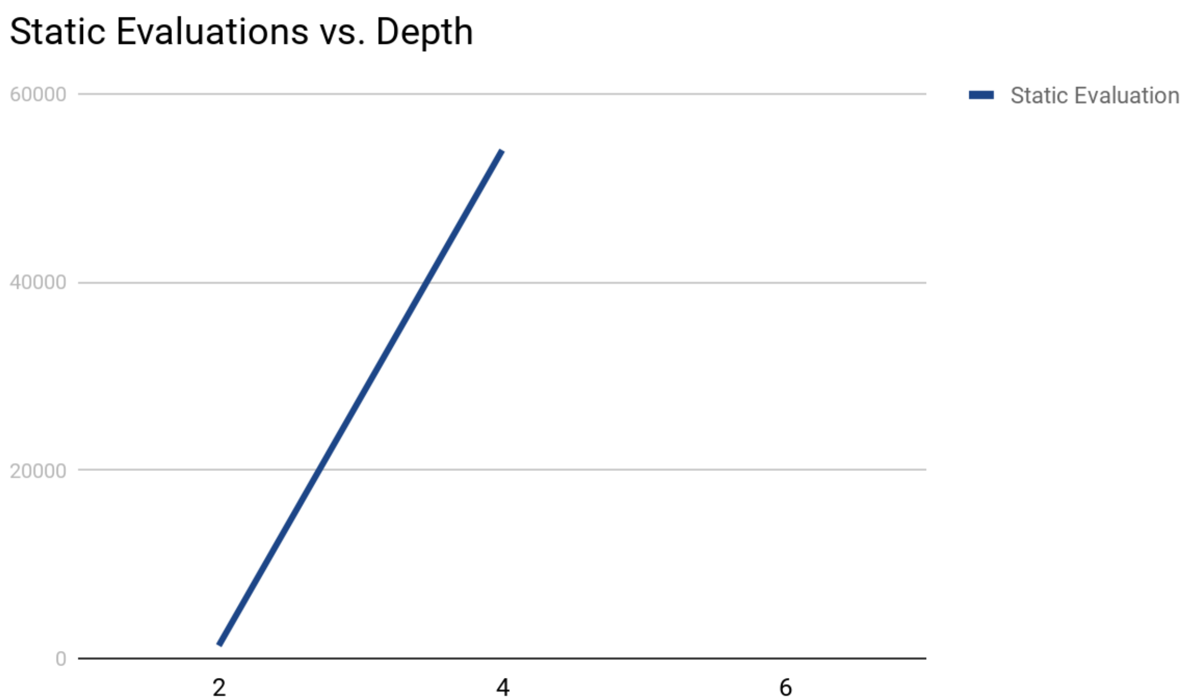


Average Branching vs. Depth

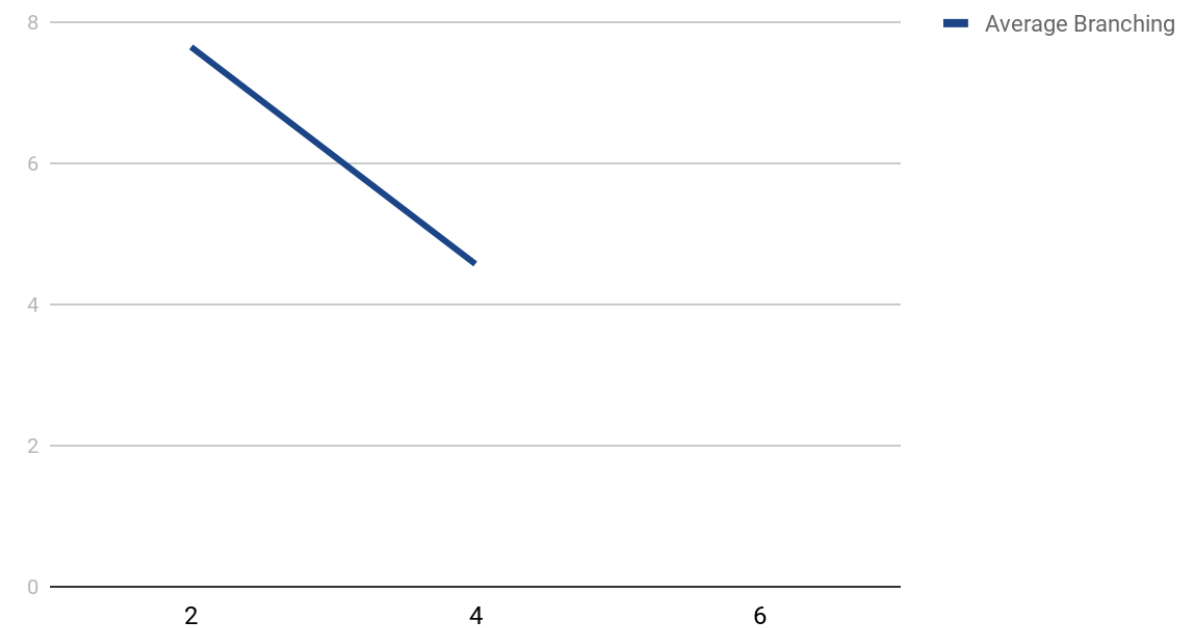


Alpha Beta:

Depth	Static Eval	Avg. Branching	Number Cutoffs
2	1365	7.64851485	350
4	54018	4.57355	11945
6			



Average Branching vs. Depth



Cutoffs vs. Depth