

## PRACTICAL10

# Alpha-Beta Pruning function

```
def alpha_beta(node, depth, alpha, beta, maximizingPlayer, game_tree, values):
```

```
    """
```

```
    node        -> current node (state in the game tree)
```

```
    depth       -> remaining depth to explore
```

```
    alpha       -> best value the maximizer has found so far
```

```
    beta        -> best value the minimizer has found so far
```

```
    maximizingPlayer -> True if it's MAX's turn, False if it's MIN's turn
```

```
    game_tree   -> dictionary representing game tree (parent -> [children])
```

```
    values      -> dictionary of heuristic values for leaf nodes
```

```
    """
```

```
# 1. Base case: stop when depth = 0 or node has no children (terminal node)
```

```
if depth == 0 or node not in game_tree:
```

```
    return values[node] # return heuristic (leaf node value)
```

```
# 2. If current player is the Maximizer (trying to maximize score)
```

```
if maximizingPlayer:
```

```
    value = float("-inf") # Start with  $-\infty$  (worst case for maximizer)
```

```
# Explore all children of current node
```

```
for child in game_tree[node]:
```

```
    # Recursive call: switch to Minimizer
```

```
    value = max(value, alpha_beta(child, depth - 1, alpha, beta, False, game_tree, values))
```

```
# Update alpha with the best value found so far
```

```
alpha = max(alpha, value)
```

```
# Pruning condition: if  $\beta \leq \alpha$ , stop exploring further
```

```
if beta <= alpha:
```

```
    break #  $\beta$  cut-off (no need to check remaining children)
```

```
return value # Return best value found for Maximizer
```

```
# 3. If current player is the Minimizer (trying to minimize score)
```

```
else:
```

```
    value = float("inf") # Start with  $+\infty$  (worst case for minimizer)
```

```
# Explore all children of current node
```

```
for child in game_tree[node]:
```

```
    # Recursive call: switch to Maximizer
```

```
    value = min(value, alpha_beta(child, depth - 1, alpha, beta, True, game_tree, values))
```

```

    # Update beta with the best value found so far
    beta = min(beta, value)

    # Pruning condition: if  $\beta \leq \alpha$ , stop exploring further
    if beta <= alpha:
        break #  $\alpha$  cut-off

return value # Return best value found for Minimizer

# ----- Example Usage -----
if __name__ == "__main__":
    # Define a simple game tree as adjacency list
    game_tree = {
        'A': ['B', 'C'], # Root A has two children: B and C
        'B': ['D', 'E'], # Node B has two children: D and E
        'C': ['F', 'G'] # Node C has two children: F and G
    }

    # Define heuristic values (leaf nodes only)
    values = {
        'D': 3, # Leaf node D has value 3
        'E': 5, # Leaf node E has value 5
        'F': 6, # Leaf node F has value 6
        'G': 9 # Leaf node G has value 9
    }

    # Call alpha-beta pruning starting at root node 'A'
    # depth = 3 (A -> B/C -> D/E/F/G)
    # alpha = - $\infty$ , beta = + $\infty$ , maximizingPlayer = True (root is MAX's turn)
    best_value = alpha_beta('A', 3, float("-inf"), float("inf"), True, game_tree, values)

    # Print result
    print("Best achievable value for root A:", best_value)

```