Each snake only has four available options for to choose from on each move (UP, DOWN, LEFT, RIGHT).

Elttab Ekans strategy in its most basic form will to verify which directions have no obstructions (snakes or walls) and move into an available space.

Although there are four directions to choose from, only three directions at most are viable for each move as one is occupied by the body of our snake.

So, our snake will verify which of the remaining three directions are without obstructions and those free spaces will become the basis of further computation to determine the move selected.

Optional Strategies:

Aggressive snake – Actively pursue and ensnare enemy snakes.

Avoidance snake – Move to most open space on board away from heads of other snakes.

Glutton snake – Move to eat all apples appearing on board.

Dainty snake – Ignore all apples on board until health reaches critical point.

A combination of strategies may be desired with shifts in focus as different thresholds are passed. For example we may start out with a dainty avoidance snake that, once a certain number of apples have been eaten by necessity and critical length is achieved, becomes an aggressive glutton snake, growing larger to better ensnare enemy snakes.