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TIC TAC TOE

PROJECT DESIGN

About

The Tic Tac Toe game is a classic two-player game where the goal is to form a straight line (horizontal, vertical, or diagonal) with three X's or O's on a 3x3 grid. This project creates a single-player version where the player competes against a bot with three difficulty levels: Easy (random moves), Medium (heuristic blocking), and Hard (DFS-based Minimax).

Design Overview

- The board is a 3x3 grid, initialized as a 2D character array (`arr[3][3]`) filled with '.' indicating empty cells.
- Player vs. Bot setup:
 - Player marks with 'X'.
 - Bot marks with 'O'.
- User interface is console-based with functions:
 - `mainScreen()`: Displays the main screen.
 - `gameBoard()`: Displays the current game board and status.
 - `init()`: Initializes the game board.
- Game control:
 - User chooses if the bot starts first.
 - User selects bot difficulty (0=Easy, 1=Medium, 2=Hard).

Bot Design

- Easy Bot: Random move selection.

- Medium Bot:
 - First, tries to win in one move.
 - If not possible, blocks the player's immediate win.
 - Otherwise, makes a random move.
- Hard Bot: Implements the Minimax algorithm to choose the optimal move, making it unbeatable.

ALGORITHM ANALYSIS

Game Mechanics

- Win Condition Checking (`result()`):
 - Checks rows, columns, and diagonals for identical non-empty marks.
 - Returns 'X' (player win), 'O' (bot win), 'T' (draw), or '-' (game continues).

Bot Logic

Easy Bot

- Randomly selects an empty cell using `rand() % 3`.
- Simple but not strategic.

Medium Bot

- Uses `tryMove()` to check for immediate winning moves (for bot) or blocking moves (against player).
- If neither is available, falls back to `botMoveEasy()`.

Hard Bot (Minimax)

- Recursive minimax search:
 - Terminal States: Bot win (+10), player win (-10), draw (0).
 - Bot Turn: Maximizes score by simulating placing 'O' in empty cells.
 - Player Turn: Minimizes score by simulating placing 'X'.
- Time Complexity:
 - The minimax algorithm explores up to $O(9!)$ game states, but practical branching is reduced since the board fills quickly.
- Space Complexity: $O(n)$, where n is the recursion depth (maximum 9).

SOURCE CODE

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <stdbool.h>
#include <time.h>

char arr[3][3];

void init() {
    for (int i = 0; i < 3; i++)
        for (int j = 0; j < 3; j++)
            arr[i][j] = '.';
}
```

```

}

void mainScreen() {
    printf("===== Tic Tac Toe =====\n\n");
    printf("\tPlayer vs Bot\n");
    printf("===== \n");
}

void gameBoard(const char* P1, const char* P2) {
    printf("===== Tic Tac Toe =====\n\n");
    printf("\t\t%c | %c | %c \n", arr[0][0], arr[0][1], arr[0][2]);
    printf("\t\t---+---+---\n");
    printf("\t\t%c | %c | %c \n", arr[1][0], arr[1][1], arr[1][2]);
    printf("\t\t---+---+---\n");
    printf("\t\t%c | %c | %c \n", arr[2][0], arr[2][1], arr[2][2]);
    printf("\n\t%s : 'X'\t%s : 'O'\n", P1, P2);
    printf("===== \n");
}

char result() {
    for (int i = 0; i < 3; i++) {
        if (arr[i][0] == arr[i][1] && arr[i][1] == arr[i][2] && arr[i][0] !=
'.')
            return arr[i][0];
        if (arr[0][i] == arr[1][i] && arr[1][i] == arr[2][i] && arr[0][i] !=
'.')
            return arr[0][i];
    }
    if (arr[0][0] == arr[1][1] && arr[1][1] == arr[2][2] && arr[0][0] != '.')
        return arr[0][0];
    if (arr[0][2] == arr[1][1] && arr[1][1] == arr[2][0] && arr[0][2] != '.')
        return arr[0][2];

    for (int i = 0; i < 3; i++)
        for (int j = 0; j < 3; j++)
            if (arr[i][j] == '.')
                return '-';

    return 'T';
}

bool isMovesLeft() {
    for (int i = 0; i < 3; i++)

```

```

        for (int j = 0; j < 3; j++)
            if (arr[i][j] == '.')
                return true;
    return false;
}

int minimax(bool isBotTurn) {
    char res = result();
    if (res == 'O') return +10;
    if (res == 'X') return -10;
    if (res == 'T') return 0;

    if (isBotTurn) {
        int bestScore = -1000;
        for (int i = 0; i < 3; i++) {
            for (int j = 0; j < 3; j++) {
                if (arr[i][j] == '.') {
                    arr[i][j] = 'O';
                    int score = minimax(false);
                    arr[i][j] = '.';
                    if (score > bestScore) bestScore = score;
                }
            }
        }
        return bestScore;
    } else {
        int bestScore = 1000;
        for (int i = 0; i < 3; i++) {
            for (int j = 0; j < 3; j++) {
                if (arr[i][j] == '.') {
                    arr[i][j] = 'X';
                    int score = minimax(true);
                    arr[i][j] = '.';
                    if (score < bestScore) bestScore = score;
                }
            }
        }
        return bestScore;
    }
}

void botMoveHard() {
    int bestScore = -1000;

```

```

    int moveX = -1, moveY = -1;

    for (int i = 0; i < 3; i++) {
        for (int j = 0; j < 3; j++) {
            if (arr[i][j] == '.') {
                arr[i][j] = 'O';
                int score = minimax(false);
                arr[i][j] = '.';
                if (score > bestScore) {
                    bestScore = score;
                    moveX = i;
                    moveY = j;
                }
            }
        }
    }

    if (moveX != -1 && moveY != -1)
        arr[moveX][moveY] = 'O';
}

void botMoveEasy() {
    int x, y;
    srand((unsigned)time(NULL));
    while (1) {
        x = rand() % 3;
        y = rand() % 3;
        if (arr[x][y] == '.') {
            arr[x][y] = 'O';
            break;
        }
    }
}

bool tryMove(char player, int* moveX, int* moveY) {
    for (int i = 0; i < 3; i++) {
        for (int j = 0; j < 3; j++) {
            if (arr[i][j] == '.') {
                arr[i][j] = player;
                if (result() == player) {
                    arr[i][j] = '.';
                    *moveX = i;
                    *moveY = j;
                    return true;
                }
            }
        }
    }
}

```

```

        }
        arr[i][j] = '.';
    }
}
return false;
}

```

```

void botMoveMedium() {
    int x = -1, y = -1;

    if (tryMove('O', &x, &y)) {
        arr[x][y] = 'O';
        return;
    }
    if (tryMove('X', &x, &y)) {
        arr[x][y] = 'O';
        return;
    }
    botMoveEasy();
}

```

```

int main() {
    while (1) {
        system("cls");
        mainScreen();
        init();

        int cnt = 0;
        int turn;
        int difficulty;

        printf("Bot go first? (1/0) : ");
        scanf("%d", &turn);

        printf("Select difficulty (0=Easy, 1=Medium, 2=Hard): ");
        scanf("%d", &difficulty);

        if (turn) cnt++;

        while (1) {
            system("cls");
            gameBoard("Player", "Bot");

```

```

        if (cnt % 2 == 0) {
            printf("\n\t\t\t\t\t Player your move: \n\t\t\t\t\t ");
            int x, y;
            scanf("%d %d", &x, &y);
            if (x < 0 || x > 2 || y < 0 || y > 2 || arr[x][y] != '.')
continue;

            arr[x][y] = 'X';
            cnt++;
        } else {
            printf("\nBot is thinking...\n");
            if (difficulty == 0) botMoveEasy();
            else if (difficulty == 1) botMoveMedium();
            else botMoveHard();
            cnt++;
        }

        char res = result();
        if (res != '-') {
            system("cls");
            gameBoard("Player", "Bot");
            if (res == 'O')
                printf("\n\t\t\t\t\t Bot Wins.\n");
            else if (res == 'X')
                printf("\n\t\t\t\t\t Player Wins.\n");
            else if (res == 'T')
                printf("\n\t\t\t\t\t Draw.\n");
            break;
        }
    }

    int repeat;
    printf("\n===== \n\n");
    printf("\t\t\t\t\t Play again? (1/0) : ");
    scanf("%d", &repeat);
    if (repeat == 0) break;
}
return 0;
}

```

OUTPUT

1. Intro & select level

```
===== Tic Tac Toe =====  
  
Player vs Bot  
=====  
Bot go first? (1/0) : 1  
Select difficulty (0=Easy, 1=Medium, 2=Hard): 1
```

2. Choose your position

```
===== Tic Tac Toe =====  
  
  . | . | .  
--+-+--  
  0 | X | .  
--+-+--  
  . | . | .  
  
Player : 'X'    Bot : 'O'  
=====  
  
Player your move:  
  0 2
```



```
===== Tic Tac Toe =====

  . | . | X
  ---+---+---
  0 | X | .
  ---+---+---
  . | . | 0

    Player : 'X'    Bot : 'O'

=====

    Player your move:
      2 0
```

3. Player wins

```
===== Tic Tac Toe =====

  . | . | X
  ---+---+---
  0 | X | .
  ---+---+---
  X | . | 0

    Player : 'X'    Bot : 'O'

=====

    Player Wins.

=====

    Play again? (1/0) : 
```

ANALYSIS

Code analysis:

init()

- Purpose: Initializes the game board to '.' (empty).
- Design: Loops over a 3x3 matrix, setting each cell.
- Complexity: $O(1)$ (since it's a constant 3x3 grid).
- Improvement: None needed; it's simple and effective.

mainScreen()

- Purpose: Displays the main menu with a simple header.
- Design: Prints static text using `printf`.
- Complexity: $O(1)$.
- Improvement: Could include dynamic elements (e.g., showing last scores), but for a console game, this is fine.

gameBoard(const char* P1, const char* P2)

- Purpose: Renders the current game board and player symbols.
- Design: Prints each row of the board and the player markers.
- Complexity: $O(1)$.
- Improvement: Consider clearing the screen more cleanly (e.g., using platform-specific methods instead of `system("cls")`).

char result()

- Purpose: Checks for a win condition (rows, columns, diagonals) or a draw.
- Design:
 - Scans rows and columns for three in a row.
 - Checks two diagonals.
 - If no win, checks for any remaining '!'.
 - Returns 'X', 'O', 'T' (tie), or '-' (continue).
- Complexity: $O(1)$.
- Improvement: Solid as-is; for a 3x3 board, this exhaustive check is acceptable.

bool isMovesLeft()

- Purpose: Checks if any moves are left on the board.
- Design: Scans the board for any '!'.
- Complexity: $O(1)$.
- Improvement: Could integrate this check into `result()` to avoid redundant loops.

int minimax(bool isBotTurn)

- Purpose: Recursive Minimax algorithm for the hard bot.
- Design:
 - Scores moves as +10 for bot win, -10 for player win, 0 for draw.
 - Recursively explores all possible future moves.
 - Chooses best score for bot and worst for player.
- Complexity: Exponential ($O(b^d)$ where $b=9$ branches, d =number of empty cells).
- Improvement: Could add alpha-beta pruning to reduce unnecessary branches.

void botMoveHard()

- Purpose: Executes the best move for the bot using Minimax.
- Design:
 - Iterates over all possible moves.
 - Calls `minimax` to evaluate each move.
 - Selects the move with the best score.
- Complexity: $O(b^d)$, bottlenecked by `minimax`.
- Improvement: Consider memoization or pruning to speed up.

`void botMoveEasy()`

- Purpose: Picks a random move for the bot.
- Design: Randomly selects coordinates until an empty cell is found.
- Complexity: $O(1)$ in the best case; $O(n)$ in the worst (if the board is almost full).
- Improvement: Could scan the board once for available moves and select randomly from them for efficiency.

`bool tryMove(char player, int* moveX, int* moveY)`

- Purpose: Checks if the player can win immediately by placing a marker.
- Design:
 - Tries each empty cell, placing a marker temporarily.
 - Checks if it results in a win.
 - Returns the first found winning move.
- Complexity: $O(1)$.
- Improvement: Efficient for a small board. Could be expanded for larger boards or complex win conditions.

`void botMoveMedium()`

- Purpose: Medium difficulty bot:
 1. Tries to win.
 2. Blocks the player's win.
 3. Otherwise, makes a random move.
- Design: Combines `tryMove` and `botMoveEasy`.
- Complexity: $O(1)$ since the board is small.
- Improvement: Could prioritize center or corner cells for slightly smarter play.

`int main()`

- Purpose: The main loop managing:
 - Game initialization.
 - User input (first move, difficulty).
 - Game loop: alternating turns, rendering the board, checking for a result.
 - Replay prompt.

- Design:
 - Uses `system("cls")` to clear the console screen.
 - Alternates between player and bot based on `cnt`.
- Complexity: Linear in the number of moves (up to 9).
- Improvement:
 - Replace `system("cls")` with platform-independent clear screen methods.
 - Validate user input more strictly.
 - Add error handling for non-numeric inputs.

Overall analysis:

Strengths

- (+) The game flow is smooth, with clear prompts and a clean display of the board.
- (+) Multiple difficulty levels allow players of varying skill levels to enjoy the game.
- (+) Hard bot is unbeatable due to the optimal Minimax implementation.
- (+) Randomness in easy and medium modes makes gameplay unpredictable.

Weaknesses

- (-) No move validation feedback, invalid player moves are silently ignored (e.g., selecting an occupied cell).
- (-) No adaptive strategy for bot, the bot plays strictly based on difficulty and does not adapt during the game.
- (-) Hardcoded console interface, the user interface is not graphical and limited to the console.

Potential Improvements

- Add error messages for invalid player moves.
- Implement a graphical interface (e.g., using SDL, SFML, or a web-based GUI).
- Include a score tracker across multiple rounds.
- Allow PvP mode (Player vs Player).

Github Repository:

https://github.com/Dancingaroundthelies/EF234405_DAA_Q2_5025211252_Nur-Azizah_5025221204_Andina-Safitri-Innayah.git

"In the name of Allah (God) Almighty, I hereby pledge and sincerely declare that I have completed Quiz 2 independently. I have not committed any form of cheating, plagiarism, or received unauthorized assistance. I accept all consequences should it be proven that I have engaged in cheating and/or plagiarism."

Surabaya, 29 Mei 2025



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