

## 8-Puzzle Game, Part I: Solvability decision

**Input:** a state

**Output:** a Boolean value indicating whether there is a solution for the given state or not

**[Hint] Solvability of N-puzzle problems**

Note that the board of an N-puzzle game is an  $n \times n$  square where  $N = n \times n - 1$ .

If  $n$  is odd, and the number of disorder digits (in the state presentation) is even, the problem is solvable. Number of disorder digits is measured by counting pairs of digits (i, j) where  $1 \leq i < j \leq N$  but  $\text{position}(i) > \text{position}(j)$ . For example,

3	1	2
4	5	7
6		8

is unsolvable, because its state representation 31245768 (discarding 0) has 3 disordered pairs: (1,3) (2,3) (6,7).

If  $n$  is even, and the index of the row containing the empty tile plus the number of disorder digits is even, the problem is solvable. For example,

1	2	7	4
3		6	10
8	5	13	11
9	12	14	15

is unsolvable,

because its state representation 127436A85DB9CEF (discarding 0) has 14 disordered pairs: (3,7) (4,7) (5,7)

(6,7) (3,4) (5,6) (5,A) (8,A) (9,A) (5,8) (9,D) (B,D) (C,D) (9,B),

and the empty tile is at Row #1 (index starts from 0),

so  $14 + 1 = 15$  is odd.

(Note that A ~ F stand for 10 ~ 15.)

Testing Input (for 8-puzzle)

Input	Meaning
10	Number of test data
312457680	State of test data #1
724506831	State of test data #2
438126507	.
167352480	.
104782563	.
817365204	
320685741	
426031785	
102345678	
041235678	
Output	Meaning

NO	Output of test data #1
YES	Output of test data #2
NO	.
NO	.
YES	.
YES	
NO	
YES	
YES	
NO	