

8 Queens at Compile Time: A Journey from C++03 to Modern C++

Engineering

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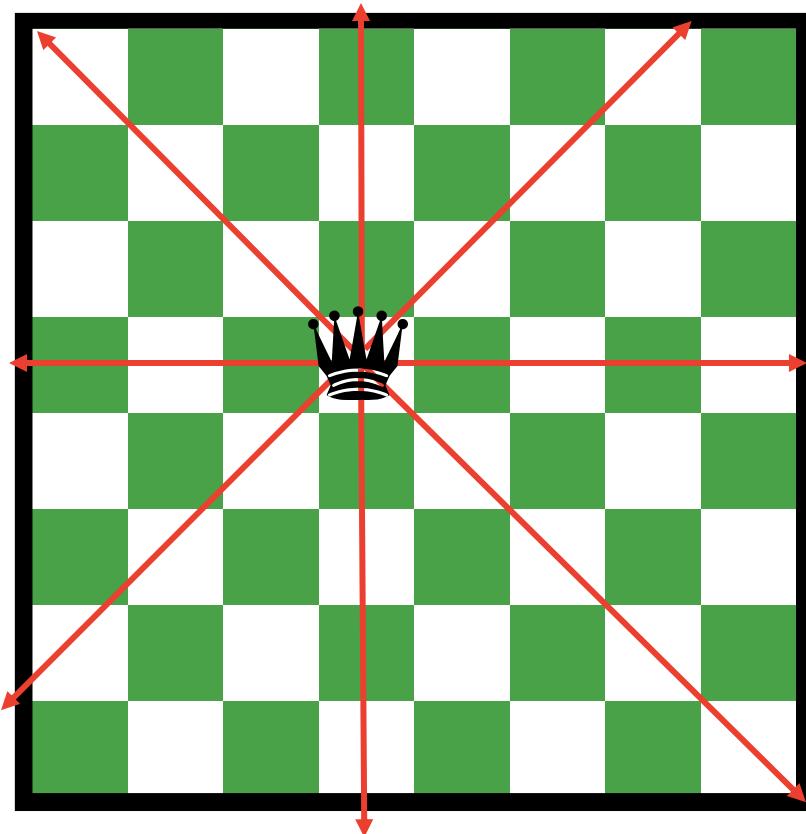
C++ Day 2025
October 25, 2025

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Intro to the Eight Queens Problem

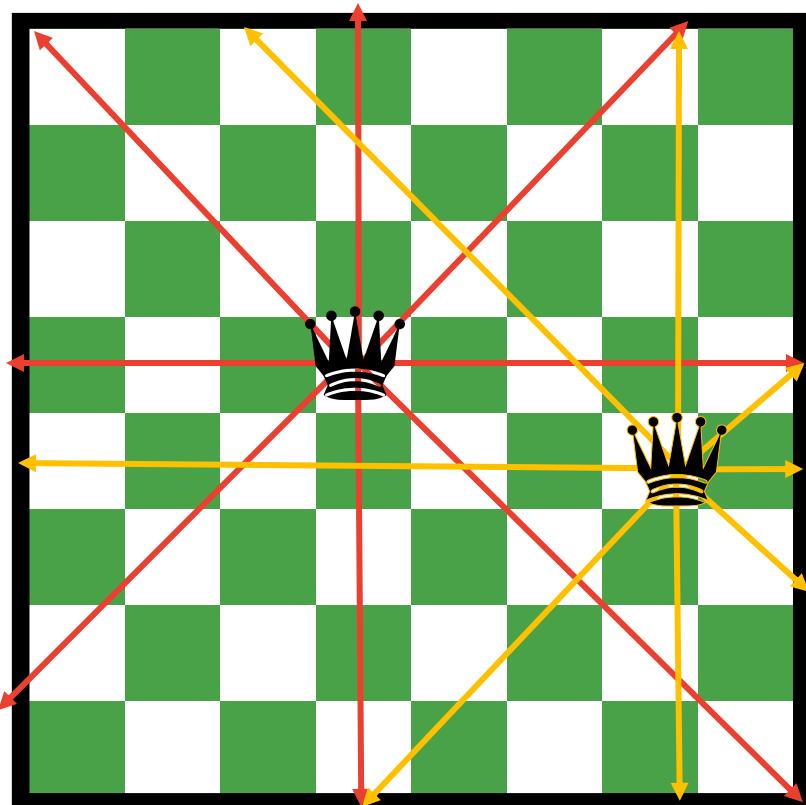


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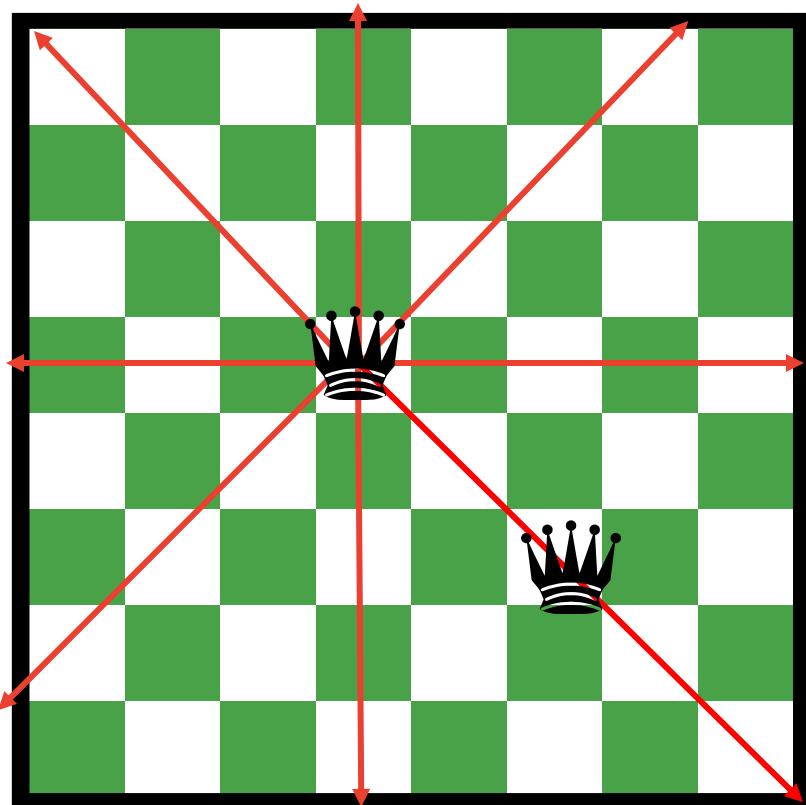
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Intro to the Eight Queens Problem



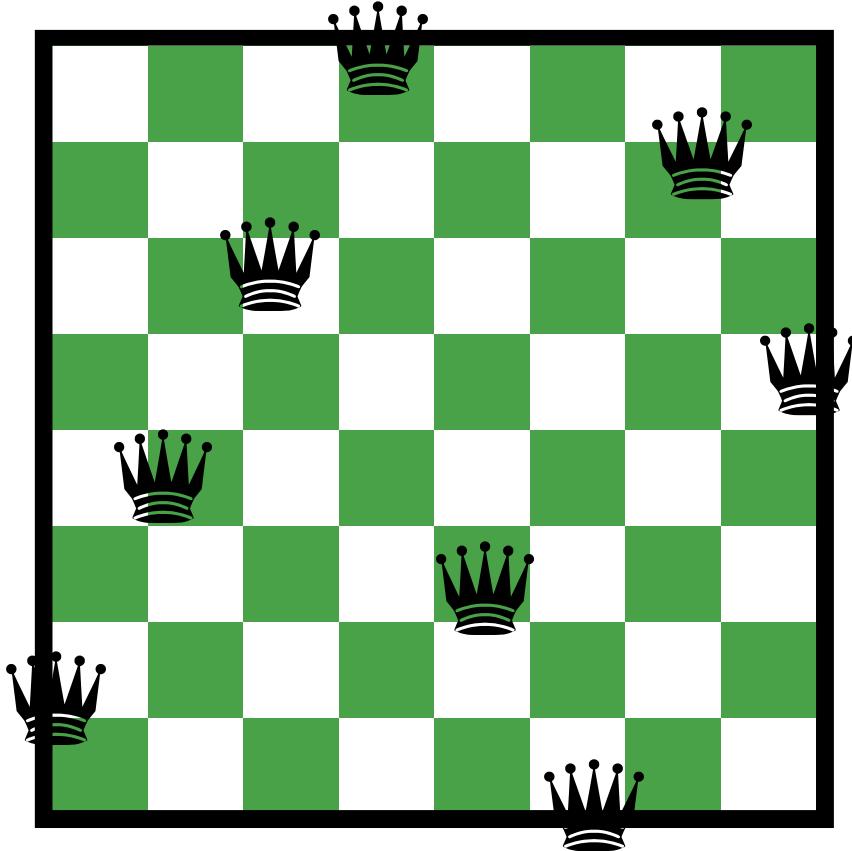
Valid Placement

Intro to the Eight Queens Problem



Invalid Placement

Intro to the Eight Queens Problem



Valid Solution

$64 \text{ choose } 8 =$
4,426,165,368 arrangements

92 valid solutions



Template Metaprogramming solution

C++03

1. Representation
2. Manipulators
3. Solution lists
4. Merging
5. Attack logic
6. Backtracking
7. Instantiation
8. Run-time logic

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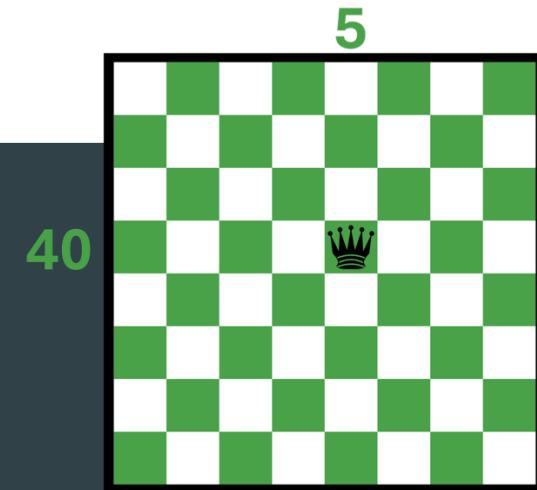
Engineering

1. Representation

```
1 template <int VALUE>
2 struct static_value_square_coordinates {
3     static const int value = VALUE;
4
5     operator int () const{
6         return VALUE;
7     }
8
9     static const int col = value % 10;
10    static const int row = value - col;
11 };
12
13 #define SQUARE(N) static_value_square_coordinates<N>
```

1. Representation

```
1 template <int VALUE>
2 struct static_value_square_coordinates {
3     static const int value = VALUE;
4
5     operator int () const{
6         return VALUE;
7     }
8
9     static const int col = value % 10;
10    static const int row = value - col;
11 };
12
13 #define SQUARE(N) static_value_square_coordinates<N>
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1. Representation

```
1 template <int VALUE>
2 struct static_value_square_coordinates {
3     static const int value = VALUE;
4
5     operator int () const{
6         return VALUE;
7     }
8
9     static const int col = value % 10;
10    static const int row = value - col;
11 };
12
13 #define SQUARE(N) static_value_square_coordinates<N>
```

1. Representation

```
1 struct empty {};
2
3 template <
4     typename T0 = empty,
5     typename T1 = empty,
6     typename T2 = empty,
7     typename T3 = empty,
8     typename T4 = empty,
9     typename T5 = empty,
10    typename T6 = empty,
11    typename T7 = empty
12 >
13 struct solution {
14 };
15
16 typedef solution<SQUARE(11), SQUARE(25), SQUARE(38), SQUARE(46),
17   SQUARE(53), SQUARE(67), SQUARE(72), SQUARE(84)> SampleSolution;
18
19 typedef solution<SQUARE(11), SQUARE(25), SQUARE(38)> SampleSolutionPartial;
```

1. Representation

```
1 template <size_t N, typename SOLUTION>
2 struct typeat;
3
4 template <typename T0, typename T1,
5           typename T2, typename T3,
6           typename T4, typename T5,
7           typename T6, typename T7>
8 struct typeat<0,
9                 solution<T0,T1,T2,T3,T4,T5,T6,T7> > {
10    typedef T0 type;
11 }
12 //... all specializations for N=0..7
```

1. Representation

```
1 template<typename T>
2 struct is_empty_type {
3     static const bool value = false;
4 };
5
6 template<>
7 struct is_empty_type<empty> {
8     static const bool value = true
9 };
```

1. Representation

```
1 template <typename CONT, int N>
2 struct first_N_elems_not_empty {
3     static const bool value =
4         !is_empty_type<typename typeat<N-1,CONT>::type>::value &&
5         first_N_elems_not_empty<CONT, N-1>::value;
6 };
7
8 template <typename CONT>
9 struct first_N_elems_not_empty<CONT, 0> {
10     static const bool value = true;
11 };
```

1. Representation

```
1 template <typename CONT, int N>
2 struct first_N_elems_not_empty {
3     static const bool value =
4         !is_empty_type<typename typeat<N-1,CONT>::type>::value &&
5         first_N_elems_not_empty<CONT, N-1>::value;
6 };
7
8 template <typename CONT>
9 struct first_N_elems_not_empty<CONT, 0> {
10     static const bool value = true;
11 };
```

1. Representation

```
1 template <typename CONT, int N>
2 struct first_N_elems_not_empty {
3     static const bool value =
4         !is_empty_type<typename typeat<N-1,CONT>::type>::value &&
5         first_N_elems_not_empty<CONT, N-1>::value;
6 };
7
8 template <typename CONT>
9 struct first_N_elems_not_empty<CONT, 0> {
10     static const bool value = true;
11 };
```

2. Manipulators

```
1 template <typename SOLUTION>
2 struct pop_front;
3
4 template <typename T0, typename T1,
5           typename T2, typename T3,
6           typename T4, typename T5,
7           typename T6, typename T7>
8 struct pop_front< solution<T0,T1,T2,T3,T4,T5,T6,T7> > {
9     typedef solution<T1,T2,T3,T4,T5,T6,T7, empty> type;
10 };
11
```

2. Manipulators

```
1 template <typename SOLUTION>
2 struct pop_front;
3
4 template <typename T0, typename T1,
5           typename T2, typename T3,
6           typename T4, typename T5,
7           typename T6, typename T7>
8 struct pop_front< solution<T0,T1,T2,T3,T4,T5,T6,T7> > {
9     typedef solution<T1,T2,T3,T4,T5,T6,T7, empty> type;
10 };
11
```

2. Manipulators

```
1 template <typename SOLUTION, typename T>
2 struct push_front;
3
4 template <typename T0, typename T1,
5           typename T2, typename T3,
6           typename T4, typename T5,
7           typename T6, typename T7,
8           typename T>
9 struct push_front<solution<T0,T1,T2,T3,T4,T5,T6,T7>, T> {
10     typedef solution<T, T0,T1,T2,T3,T4,T5,T6> type;
11 };
```

2. Manipulators

```
1 template <typename SOLUTION, typename T>
2 struct push_front;
3
4 template <typename T0, typename T1,
5           typename T2, typename T3,
6           typename T4, typename T5,
7           typename T6, typename T7,
8           typename T>
9 struct push_front<solution<T0,T1,T2,T3,T4,T5,T6,T7>, T> {
10     typedef solution<T, T0,T1,T2,T3,T4,T5,T6> type;
11 };
```

2. Manipulators

```
1 template <typename SOLUTION, typename T, bool COND>
2 struct push_front_if {
3     typedef SOLUTION type;
4 };
5
6 template <typename SOLUTION, typename T>
7 struct push_front_if<SOLUTION, T, true> {
8     typedef typename push_front<SOLUTION,T>::type type;
9 };
```

2. Manipulators

```
1 template <typename SOLUTION, typename T, bool COND>
2 struct push_front_if {
3     typedef SOLUTION type;
4 };
5
6 template <typename SOLUTION, typename T>
7 struct push_front_if<SOLUTION, T, true> {
8     typedef typename push_front<SOLUTION,T>::type type;
9 };
```

3. Solution lists

```
1 template <typename H=empty, typename T=empty>
2 struct solution_list {
3     typedef H head;
4     typedef T tail;
5 };
6
7 typedef solution_list<empty, empty> empty_solution_list;
```

3. Solution lists

```
1 template < typename CONT, typename I>
2 struct push_front_solution_to_list;
3
4 template < typename H, typename T, typename I>
5 struct push_front_solution_to_list<solution_list<H,T>, I> {
6     typedef solution_list<I, solution_list<H,T> > type;
7 };
8
9 template< typename CONT, typename I, bool COND>
10 struct push_front_solution_to_list_if {
11     typedef CONT type;
12 };
13
14 template< typename CONT, typename I>
15 struct push_front_solution_to_list_if<CONT, I, true> {
16     typedef typename push_front_solution_to_list<CONT,I>::type type;
17 };
```

3. Solution lists

```
1 template < typename CONT, typename I>
2 struct push_front_solution_to_list;
3
4 template < typename H, typename T, typename I>
5 struct push_front_solution_to_list<solution_list<H,T>, I> {
6     typedef solution_list<I, solution_list<H,T> > type;
7 };
8
9 template< typename CONT, typename I, bool COND>
10 struct push_front_solution_to_list_if {
11     typedef CONT type;
12 };
13
14 template< typename CONT, typename I>
15 struct push_front_solution_to_list_if<CONT, I, true> {
16     typedef typename push_front_solution_to_list<CONT,I>::type type;
17 };
```

3. Solution lists

```
1 template < typename CONT, typename I>
2 struct push_front_solution_to_list;
3
4 template < typename H, typename T, typename I>
5 struct push_front_solution_to_list<solution_list<H,T>, I> {
6     typedef solution_list<I, solution_list<H,T> > type;
7 };
8
9 template< typename CONT, typename I, bool COND>
10 struct push_front_solution_to_list_if {
11     typedef CONT type;
12 };
13
14 template< typename CONT, typename I>
15 struct push_front_solution_to_list_if<CONT, I, true> {
16     typedef typename push_front_solution_to_list<CONT,I>::type type;
17 };
```

3. Solution lists

```
1 template < typename CONT>
2 struct pop_front_solution_from_list {
3     typedef empty type;
4 };
5
6 template < typename H, typename T>
7 struct pop_front_solution_from_list<solution_list<H,T> > {
8     typedef T type
9 };
```

3. Solution lists

```
1 template < typename CONT>
2 struct pop_front_solution_from_list {
3     typedef empty type;
4 };
5
6 template < typename H, typename T>
7 struct pop_front_solution_from_list<solution_list<H,T>> {
8     typedef T type
9 };
```

3. Solution lists

```
1 template <typename SINGLE>
2 struct get_solution_list_head {
3     typedef SINGLE type;
4 };
5
6 template <typename H, typename T>
7 struct get_solution_list_head<solution_list<H,T>> {
8     typedef H type;
9 };
```

3. Solution lists

```
1 template <typename SINGLE>
2 struct get_solution_list_head {
3     typedef SINGLE type;
4 };
5
6 template <typename H, typename T>
7 struct get_solution_list_head<solution_list<H,T> > {
8     typedef H type;
9 };
```

4. Merging

```
1 template <typename SOLUTION_LIST_1, typename SOLUTION_LIST_2>
2 struct merge_solution_lists;
3
4 template <typename SOLUTION_LIST_1>
5 struct merge_solution_lists<SOLUTION_LIST_1, empty_solution_list> {
6     typedef SOLUTION_LIST_1 type;
7 };
8
9 template <typename SOLUTION_LIST_2>
10 struct merge_solution_lists<empty_solution_list, SOLUTION_LIST_2> {
11     typedef SOLUTION_LIST_2 type;
12 };
13
14 template <>
15 struct merge_solution_lists<empty_solution_list, empty_solution_list> {
16     typedef empty_solution_list type;
17 };
```

4. Merging

```
1 template <typename SOLUTION_LIST_1, typename SOLUTION_LIST_2>
2 struct merge_solution_lists;
3
4 template <typename SOLUTION_LIST_1>
5 struct merge_solution_lists<SOLUTION_LIST_1, empty_solution_list> {
6     typedef SOLUTION_LIST_1 type;
7 };
8
9 template <typename SOLUTION_LIST_2>
10 struct merge_solution_lists<empty_solution_list, SOLUTION_LIST_2> {
11    typedef SOLUTION_LIST_2 type;
12 };
13
14 template <>
15 struct merge_solution_lists<empty_solution_list, empty_solution_list> {
16    typedef empty_solution_list type;
17 };
```

4. Merging

```
1 template <typename SOLUTION_LIST_1, typename SOLUTION_LIST_2>
2 struct merge_solution_lists {
3     typedef typename merge_solution_lists <
4         typename push_front_solution_to_list<
5             SOLUTION_LIST_1,
6             typename get_solution_list_head<SOLUTION_LIST_2>::type
7         >::type,
8         typename pop_front_solution_from_list<SOLUTION_LIST_2>::type
9     >::type type;
10};
```

4. Merging

```
1 template <typename SOLUTION_LIST_1, typename SOLUTION_LIST_2>
2 struct merge_solution_lists {
3     typedef typename merge_solution_lists <
4         typename push_front_solution_to_list<
5             SOLUTION_LIST_1,
6             typename get_solution_list_head<SOLUTION_LIST_2>::type
7         >::type,
8         typename pop_front_solution_from_list<SOLUTION_LIST_2>::type
9     >::type type;
10};
```

4. Merging

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1 template <typename SOLUTION_LIST_1, typename SOLUTION_LIST_2>
2 struct merge_solution_lists {
3     typedef typename merge_solution_lists <
4         typename push_front_solution_to_list<
5             SOLUTION_LIST_1,
6             typename get_solution_list_head<SOLUTION_LIST_2>::type
7         >::type,
8         typename pop_front_solution_from_list<SOLUTION_LIST_2>::type
9     >::type type;
10};
```

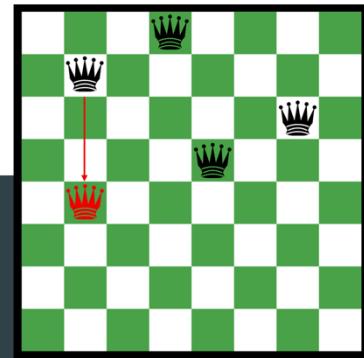
4. Merging

```
1 template <typename SOLUTION_LIST_1, typename SOLUTION_LIST_2>
2 struct merge_solution_lists {
3     typedef typename merge_solution_lists <
4         typename push_front_solution_to_list<
5             SOLUTION_LIST_1,
6             typename get_solution_list_head<SOLUTION_LIST_2>::type
7         >::type,
8         typename pop_front_solution_from_list<SOLUTION_LIST_2>::type
9     >::type type;
10};
```

4. Merging

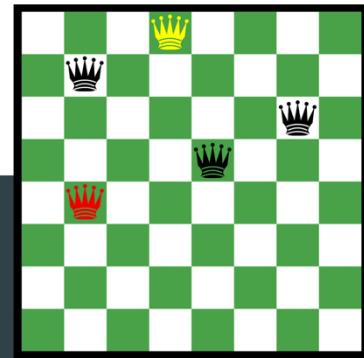
```
1 template <typename SOLUTION_LIST_1, typename SOLUTION_LIST_2>
2 struct merge_solution_lists {
3     typedef typename merge_solution_lists <
4         typename push_front_solution_to_list<
5             SOLUTION_LIST_1,
6             typename get_solution_list_head<SOLUTION_LIST_2>::type
7         >::type,
8         typename pop_front_solution_from_list<SOLUTION_LIST_2>::type
9     >::type type;
10};
```

5. Attack logic



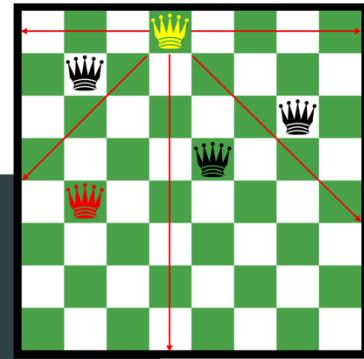
```
1 template <typename PARTIAL SOLUTION, typename POS>
2 struct is_under_attack {
3     typedef typename typeat<0, PARTIAL SOLUTION>::type FirstQueen;
4
5     static const bool value =
6         attacks<FirstQueen, POS>::value ||
7         is_under_attack<typename pop_front<PARTIAL SOLUTION>::type,
8                         POS>::value;
9 };
10
11 template<typename POS>
12 struct is_under_attack< solution<empty, empty, empty, empty,
13                               empty, empty, empty, empty>,
14                               POS > {
15     static const bool value = false;
16 };
```

5. Attack logic



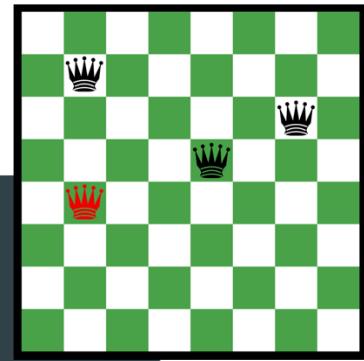
```
1 template <typename PARTIAL SOLUTION, typename POS>
2 struct is_under_attack {
3     typedef typename typeat<0, PARTIAL SOLUTION>::type FirstQueen;
4
5     static const bool value =
6         attacks<FirstQueen, POS>::value ||
7         is_under_attack<typename pop_front<PARTIAL SOLUTION>::type,
8                         POS>::value;
9 };
10
11 template<typename POS>
12 struct is_under_attack< solution<empty, empty, empty, empty,
13                               empty, empty, empty, empty>,
14                               POS > {
15     static const bool value = false;
16 };
```

5. Attack logic



```
1 template <typename PARTIAL SOLUTION, typename POS>
2 struct is_under_attack {
3     typedef typename typeat<0, PARTIAL SOLUTION>::type FirstQueen;
4
5     static const bool value =
6         attacks<FirstQueen, POS>::value ||
7         is_under_attack<typename pop_front<PARTIAL SOLUTION>::type,
8                         POS>::value;
9 };
10
11 template<typename POS>
12 struct is_under_attack< solution<empty, empty, empty, empty,
13                               empty, empty, empty, empty>,
14                               POS > {
15     static const bool value = false;
16 };
```

5. Attack logic



```
1 template <typename PARTIAL SOLUTION, typename POS>
2 struct is_under_attack {
3     typedef typename typeat<0, PARTIAL SOLUTION>::type FirstQueen;
4
5     static const bool value =
6         attacks<FirstQueen, POS>::value ||
7         is_under_attack<typename pop_front<PARTIAL SOLUTION>::type,
8                         POS>::value;
9 };
10
11 template<typename POS>
12 struct is_under_attack< solution<empty, empty, empty, empty,
13                               empty, empty, empty, empty>,
14                               POS > {
15     static const bool value = false;
16 };
```

5. Attack logic

```
1 template <typename Q, typename POS>
2 struct attacks {
3     static const int posV = POS::value;
4
5     static const bool value =
6         Q::col == POS::col ||
7         Q::row == POS::row ||
8         diag_attack<Q::col, Q::row ,posV>::value;
9 }
10
11 template<typename POS>
12 struct attacks<empty, POS> {
13     static const bool value = false;
14 }
```

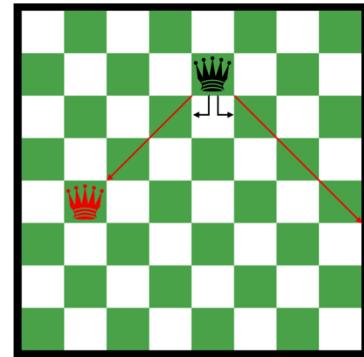
5. Attack logic

```
1 template <typename Q, typename POS>
2 struct attacks {
3     static const int posV = POS::value;
4
5     static const bool value =
6         Q::col == POS::col || 
7         Q::row == POS::row || 
8         diag_attack<Q::col, Q::row ,posV>::value;
9 }
10
11 template<typename POS>
12 struct attacks<empty, POS> {
13     static const bool value = false;
14 }
```

5. Attack logic

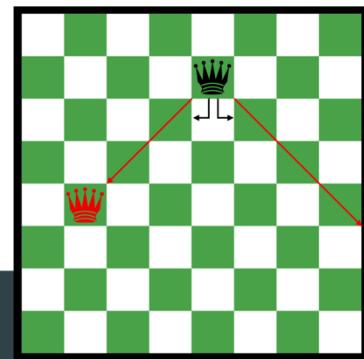
```
1 template <typename Q, typename POS>
2 struct attacks {
3     static const int posV = POS::value;
4
5     static const bool value =
6         Q::col == POS::col ||
7         Q::row == POS::row ||
8         diag_attack<Q::col, Q::row ,posV>::value;
9 }
10
11 template<typename POS>
12 struct attacks<empty, POS> {
13     static const bool value = false;
14 }
```

5. Attack logic



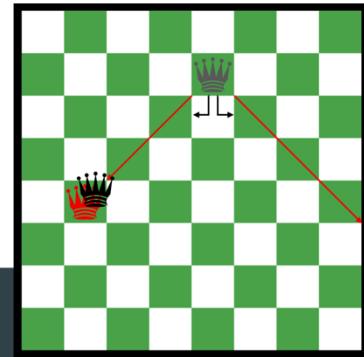
```
1 template <int QCOL, int QROW, int POS>
2 struct diag_attack {
3     static const bool value =
4         diag_attack_down_right<QCOL+1, QROW+10, POS>::value ||
5         diag_attack_down_left <QCOL-1, QROW+10, POS>::value;
6 };
```

5. Attack logic



```
1 template <int QCOL, int QROW, int POS>
2 struct diag_attack_down_left {
3     static const bool value = (QROW + QCOL == POS) ||
4                             diag_attack_down_left<QCOL-1, QROW+10, POS>::value;
5 };
6
7 template <int QCOL, int QROW, int POS>
8 struct diag_attack_down_right {
9     static const bool value = (QROW + QCOL == POS) ||
10                            diag_attack_down_right<QCOL+1, QROW+10, POS>::value;
11 };
```

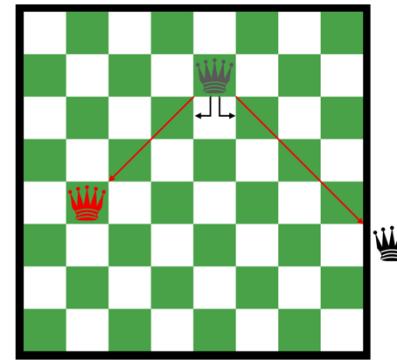
5. Attack logic



```
1 template <int QCOL, int QROW, int POS>
2 struct diag_attack_down_left {
3     static const bool value = (QROW + QCOL == POS) ||
4                             diag_attack_down_left<QCOL-1, QROW+10, POS>::value;
5 };
6
7 template <int QCOL, int QROW, int POS>
8 struct diag_attack_down_right {
9     static const bool value = (QROW + QCOL == POS) ||
10                            diag_attack_down_right<QCOL+1, QROW+10, POS>::value;
11 };
```

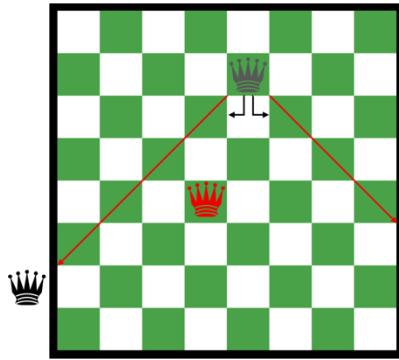
5. Attack logic

```
1 template <int QROW, int POS>
2 struct diag_attack_down_right<9, QROW, POS> {
3     static const bool value = false;
4 };
5
6 template <int QCOL, int POS>
7 struct diag_attack_down_right<QCOL, 90, POS> {
8     static const bool value = false;
9 };
10
11 template <int POS>
12 struct diag_attack_down_right<9, 90, POS> {
13     static const bool value = false;
14 };
```



5. Attack logic

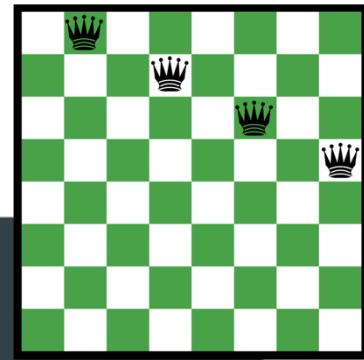
```
1 template <int QROW, int POS>
2 struct diag_attack_down_left<0, QROW, POS> {
3     static const bool value = false;
4 }
5
6 template <int QCOL, int POS>
7 struct diag_attack_down_left<QCOL, 90, POS> {
8     static const bool value = false;
9 }
10
11 template <int POS>
12 struct diag_attack_down_left<0, 90, POS> {
13     static const bool value = false;
14 }
```



6. Backtracking

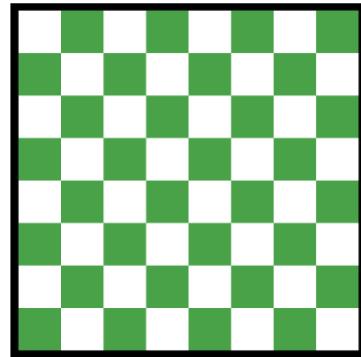
```
1 template<typename CURR_SOLUTION,  
2         int CURR_ROW,  
3         int CURR_COL,  
4         bool CONTINUE>  
5 struct ProcessSquare;
```

6. Backtracking



```
1 solution<
2     SQUARE<12>,      // Queen in row 1, col 2
3     SQUARE<24>,      // Queen in row 2, col 4
4     SQUARE<36>,      // Queen in row 3, col 6
5     SQUARE<48>,      // Queen in row 4, col 8
6     empty,            // Row 5 (current) - not filled yet
7     empty,            // Row 6 - not filled yet
8     empty,            // Row 7 - not filled yet
9     empty             // Row 8 - not filled yet
10    >
```

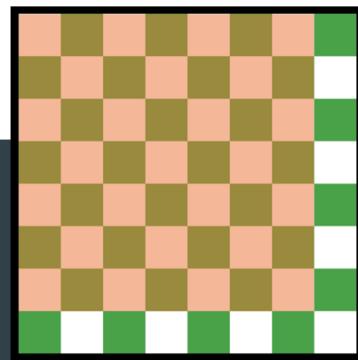
6. Backtracking



```
1 template<typename CURR_SOLUTION,  
2           int CURR_ROW,  
3           int CURR_COL>  
4 struct ProcessSquare<  
5           CURR_SOLUTION,  
6           CURR_ROW,  
7           CURR_COL,  
8           false  
9           > {  
10      typedef solution_list<> SolutionList;  
11 };
```

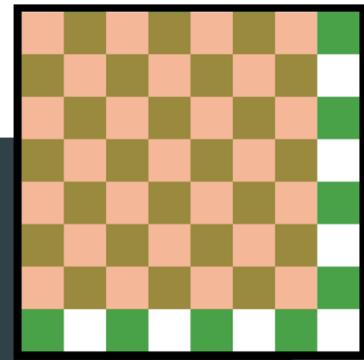


6. Backtracking



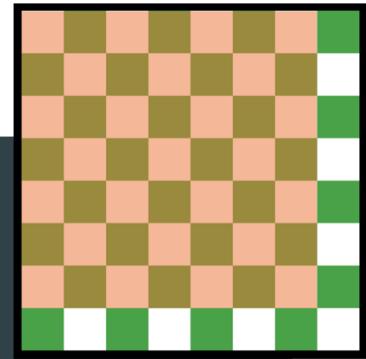
```
1 template<typename CURR_SOLUTION, int CURR_ROW, int CURR_COL>
2 struct ProcessSquare<CURR_SOLUTION,CURR_ROW, CURR_COL, true> {
3     static const int pos = CURR_ROW + CURR_COL;
4     static const int num_elems_in_curr_solution = (CURR_ROW-10)/10;
5
6     static const bool is_curr_solution_valid =
7         first_N_elems_not_empty<CURR_SOLUTION, num_elems_in_curr_solution>::value;
8
9     typedef typename push_front_if<CURR_SOLUTION,
10                                 SQUARE(pos),
11                                 !is_under_attack<CURR_SOLUTION, SQUARE(pos)>::value
12                                 >::type next_curr_solution;
13
14     typedef typename ProcessSquare<next_curr_solution,
15                                         CURR_ROW+10, 1,
16                                         is_curr_solution_valid>::SolutionList
17     SolutionsIncludingCurrentPos;
```

6. Backtracking



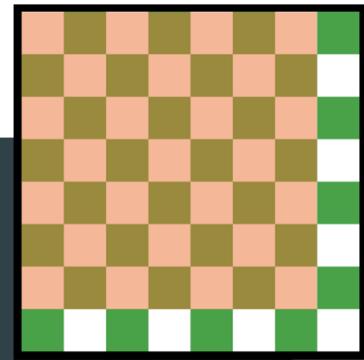
```
1 template<typename CURR_SOLUTION, int CURR_ROW, int CURR_COL>
2 struct ProcessSquare<CURR_SOLUTION,CURR_ROW, CURR_COL, true> {
3     static const int pos = CURR_ROW + CURR_COL;
4     static const int num_elems_in_curr_solution = (CURR_ROW-10)/10;
5
6     static const bool is_curr_solution_valid =
7         first_N_elems_not_empty<CURR_SOLUTION, num_elems_in_curr_solution>::value;
8
9     typedef typename push_front_if<CURR_SOLUTION,
10                                 SQUARE(pos),
11                                 !is_under_attack<CURR_SOLUTION, SQUARE(pos)>::value
12                               >::type next_curr_solution;
13
14     typedef typename ProcessSquare<next_curr_solution,
15                                     CURR_ROW+10, 1,
16                                     is_curr_solution_valid>::SolutionList
17     SolutionsIncludingCurrentPos;
```

6. Backtracking



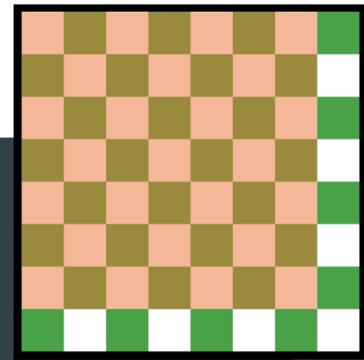
```
1 template<typename CURR_SOLUTION, int CURR_ROW, int CURR_COL>
2 struct ProcessSquare<CURR_SOLUTION,CURR_ROW, CURR_COL, true> {
3     static const int pos = CURR_ROW + CURR_COL;
4     static const int num_elems_in_curr_solution = (CURR_ROW-10)/10;
5
6     static const bool is_curr_solution_valid =
7         first_N_elems_not_empty<CURR_SOLUTION, num_elems_in_curr_solution>::value;
8
9     typedef typename push_front_if<CURR_SOLUTION,
10                                     SQUARE(pos),
11                                     !is_under_attack<CURR_SOLUTION, SQUARE(pos)>::value
12                                     >::type next_curr_solution;
13
14     typedef typename ProcessSquare<next_curr_solution,
15                                     CURR_ROW+10, 1,
16                                     is_curr_solution_valid>::SolutionList
17     SolutionsIncludingCurrentPos;
```

6. Backtracking



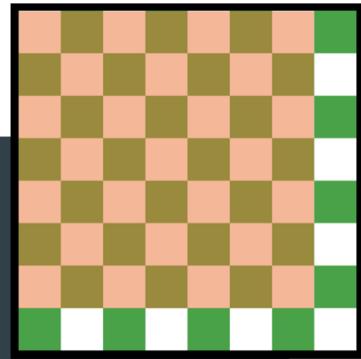
```
1 template<typename CURR_SOLUTION, int CURR_ROW, int CURR_COL>
2 struct ProcessSquare<CURR_SOLUTION,CURR_ROW, CURR_COL, true> {
3     static const int pos = CURR_ROW + CURR_COL;
4     static const int num_elems_in_curr_solution = (CURR_ROW-10)/10;
5
6     static const bool is_curr_solution_valid =
7         first_N_elems_not_empty<CURR_SOLUTION, num_elems_in_curr_solution>::value;
8
9     typedef typename push_front_if<CURR_SOLUTION,
10                                 SQUARE(pos),
11                                 !is_under_attack<CURR_SOLUTION, SQUARE(pos)>::value
12                               >::type next_curr_solution;
13
14     typedef typename ProcessSquare<next_curr_solution,
15                                         CURR_ROW+10, 1,
16                                         is_curr_solution_valid>::SolutionList
17     SolutionsIncludingCurrentPos;
```

6. Backtracking

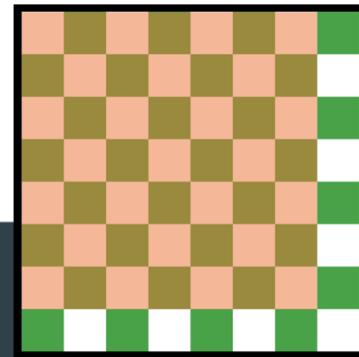


```
1 template<typename CURR_SOLUTION, int CURR_ROW, int CURR_COL>
2 struct ProcessSquare<CURR_SOLUTION,CURR_ROW, CURR_COL, true> {
3     static const int pos = CURR_ROW + CURR_COL;
4     static const int num_elems_in_curr_solution = (CURR_ROW-10)/10;
5
6     static const bool is_curr_solution_valid =
7         first_N_elems_not_empty<CURR_SOLUTION, num_elems_in_curr_solution>::value;
8
9     typedef typename push_front_if<CURR_SOLUTION,
10                                 SQUARE(pos),
11                                 !is_under_attack<CURR_SOLUTION, SQUARE(pos)>::value
12                               >::type next_curr_solution;
13
14     typedef typename ProcessSquare<next_curr_solution,
15                                         CURR_ROW+10, 1,
16                                         is_curr_solution_valid>::SolutionList
17     SolutionsIncludingCurrentPos;
```

6. Backtracking



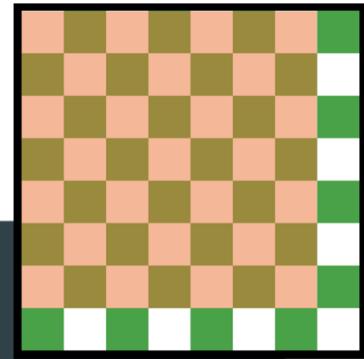
```
1 template<typename CURR_SOLUTION, int CURR_ROW, int CURR_COL>
2 struct ProcessSquare<CURR_SOLUTION,CURR_ROW, CURR_COL, true> {
3     static const int pos = CURR_ROW + CURR_COL;
4     static const int num_elems_in_curr_solution = (CURR_ROW-10)/10;
5
6     static const bool is_curr_solution_valid =
7         first_N_elems_not_empty<CURR_SOLUTION, num_elems_in_curr_solution>::value;
8
9     typedef typename push_front_if<CURR_SOLUTION,
10                                 SQUARE(pos),
11                                 !is_under_attack<CURR_SOLUTION, SQUARE(pos)>::value
12                               >::type next_curr_solution;
13
14     typedef typename ProcessSquare<next_curr_solution,
15                                     CURR_ROW+10, 1,
16                                     is_curr_solution_valid>::SolutionList
17     SolutionsIncludingCurrentPos;
```



6. Backtracking

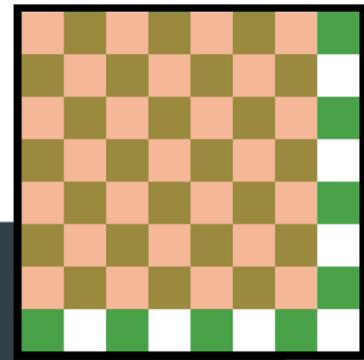
```
1     typedef ProcessSquare<CURR SOLUTION,  
2                         CURR_ROW,  
3                         CURR_COL+1,  
4                         is_curr_solution_valid> ProcessNextCol;  
5  
6     typedef typename  
7         merge_solution_lists<  
8                         SolutionsIncludingCurrentPos,  
9                         typename ProcessNextCol::SolutionList  
10                        >::type SolutionList;  
11 };
```

6. Backtracking



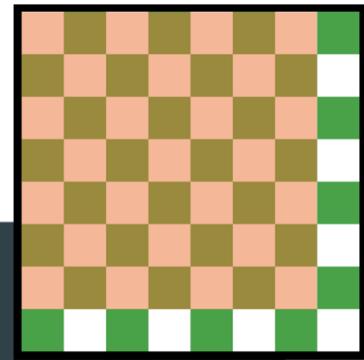
```
1     typedef ProcessSquare<CURR SOLUTION,  
2                         CURR_ROW,  
3                         CURR_COL+1,  
4                         is_curr_solution_valid> ProcessNextCol;  
5  
6     typedef typename  
7         merge_solution_lists<  
8                         SolutionsIncludingCurrentPos,  
9                         typename ProcessNextCol::SolutionList  
10                        >::type SolutionList;  
11 };
```

6. Backtracking



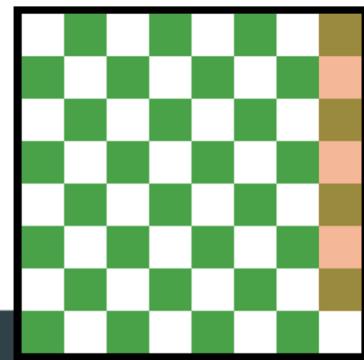
```
1     typedef ProcessSquare<CURR SOLUTION,  
2                         CURR ROW,  
3                         CURR COL+1,  
4                         is_curr_solution_valid> ProcessNextCol;  
5  
6     typedef typename  
7         merge_solution_lists<  
8                         SolutionsIncludingCurrentPos,  
9                         typename ProcessNextCol::SolutionList  
10                        >::type SolutionList;  
11 };
```

6. Backtracking



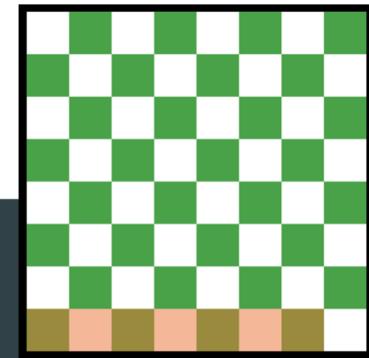
```
1     typedef ProcessSquare<CURR SOLUTION,  
2                     CURR_ROW,  
3                     CURR_COL+1,  
4                     is_curr_solution_valid> ProcessNextCol;  
5  
6     typedef typename  
7         merge_solution_lists<  
8             SolutionsIncludingCurrentPos,  
9             typename ProcessNextCol::SolutionList  
10            >::type SolutionList;  
11 };
```

6. Backtracking



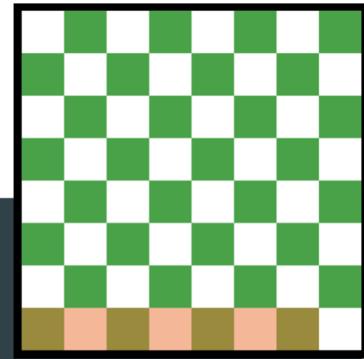
```
1 template<typename CURR_SOLUTION, int CURR_ROW>
2 struct ProcessSquare<
3                         CURR_SOLUTION,
4                         CURR_ROW, 8,
5                         true
6                     >
7
```

6. Backtracking



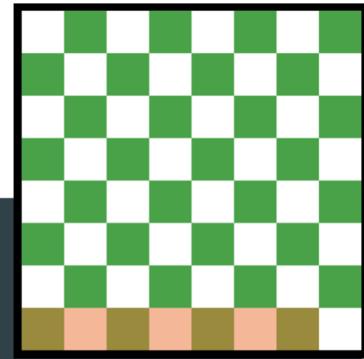
```
1 template<typename CURR_SOLUTION, int CURR_COL>
2 struct ProcessSquare<CURR_SOLUTION, 80, CURR_COL, true> {
3     static const int pos = 80 + CURR_COL;
4
5     typedef typename push_front_if< CURR_SOLUTION, SQUARE(pos),
6                                     !is_under_attack<CURR_SOLUTION, SQUARE(pos)>::value
7                                     >::type
8     last_curr_solution;
9
10    typedef typename
11        push_front_solution_to_list_if <
12                                solution_list<>,
13                                last_curr_solution,
14                                first_N_elems_not_empty<last_curr_solution, 8>::value
15                                >::type
16    SolutionListWithCurrentPosOrEmpty;
```

6. Backtracking



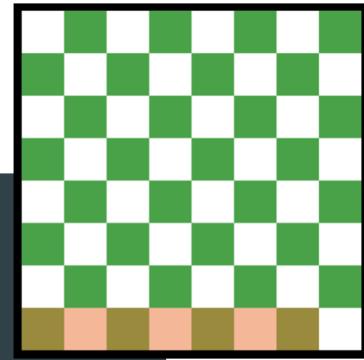
```
1 template<typename CURR_SOLUTION, int CURR_COL>
2 struct ProcessSquare<CURR_SOLUTION, 80, CURR_COL, true> {
3     static const int pos = 80 + CURR_COL;
4
5     typedef typename push_front_if< CURR_SOLUTION, SQUARE(pos),
6                                     !is_under_attack<CURR_SOLUTION, SQUARE(pos)>::value
7                                     >::type
8         last_curr_solution;
9
10    typedef typename
11        push_front_solution_to_list_if <
12                        solution_list<>,
13                        last_curr_solution,
14                        first_N_elems_not_empty<last_curr_solution, 8>::value
15                        >::type
16    SolutionListWithCurrentPosOrEmpty;
```

6. Backtracking



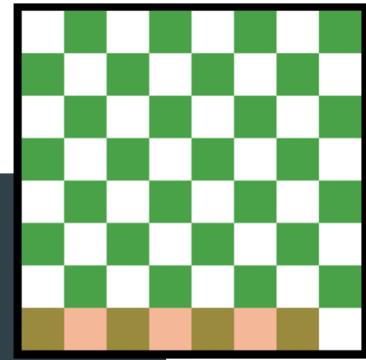
```
1 template<typename CURR_SOLUTION, int CURR_COL>
2 struct ProcessSquare<CURR_SOLUTION, 80, CURR_COL, true> {
3     static const int pos = 80 + CURR_COL;
4
5     typedef typename push_front_if< CURR_SOLUTION, SQUARE(pos),
6                                     !is_under_attack<CURR_SOLUTION, SQUARE(pos)>::value
7                                     >::type
8         last_curr_solution;
9
10    typedef typename
11        push_front_solution_to_list_if <
12                    solution_list<>,
13                    last_curr_solution,
14                    first_N_elems_not_empty<last_curr_solution, 8>::value
15                    >::type
16    SolutionListWithCurrentPosOrEmpty;
```

6. Backtracking



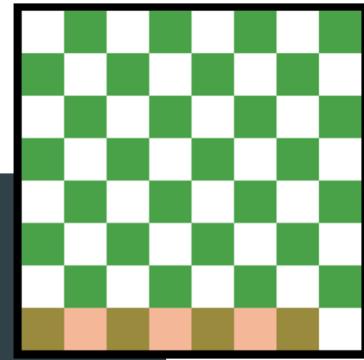
```
1 static const bool is_curr_solution_valid =
2     first_N_elems_not_empty<CURR SOLUTION, 7>::value;
3
4 typedef ProcessSquare<
5             CURR SOLUTION,
6             80, CURR_COL+1,
7             is_curr_solution_valid
8         >
9         ProcessNextCol;
10
11 typedef typename
12     merge_solution_lists<
13             SolutionListWithCurrentPosOrEmpty,
14             typename ProcessNextCol::SolutionList
15         >::type
16     SolutionList;
17 };
```

6. Backtracking



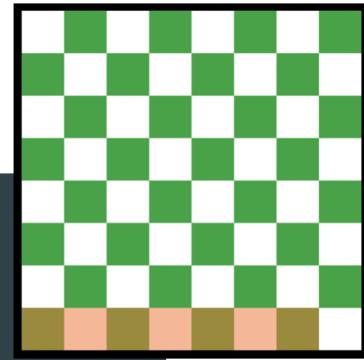
```
1 static const bool is_curr_solution_valid =
2     first_N_elems_not_empty<CURR SOLUTION, 7>::value;
3
4 typedef ProcessSquare<
5             CURR SOLUTION,
6             80, CURR_COL+1,
7             is_curr_solution_valid
8         >
9         ProcessNextCol;
10
11 typedef typename
12     merge_solution_lists<
13             SolutionListWithCurrentPosOrEmpty,
14             typename ProcessNextCol::SolutionList
15         >::type
16     SolutionList;
17 };
```

6. Backtracking



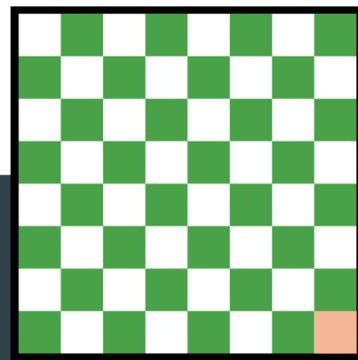
```
1 static const bool is_curr_solution_valid =
2     first_N_elems_not_empty<CURR SOLUTION, 7>::value;
3
4 typedef ProcessSquare<
5     CURR SOLUTION,
6     80, CURR_COL+1,
7     is_curr_solution_valid
8     >
9     ProcessNextCol;
10
11 typedef typename
12     merge_solution_lists<
13         SolutionListWithCurrentPosOrEmpty,
14         typename ProcessNextCol::SolutionList
15         >::type
16     SolutionList;
17 };
```

6. Backtracking



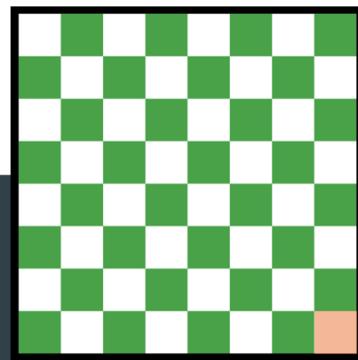
```
1 static const bool is_curr_solution_valid =
2     first_N_elems_not_empty<CURR SOLUTION, 7>::value;
3
4 typedef ProcessSquare<
5     CURR SOLUTION,
6     80, CURR_COL+1,
7     is_curr_solution_valid
8     >
9     ProcessNextCol;
10
11 typedef typename
12     merge_solution_lists<
13         SolutionListWithCurrentPosOrEmpty,
14         typename ProcessNextCol::SolutionList
15         ::type
16     SolutionList;
17 };
```

6. Backtracking



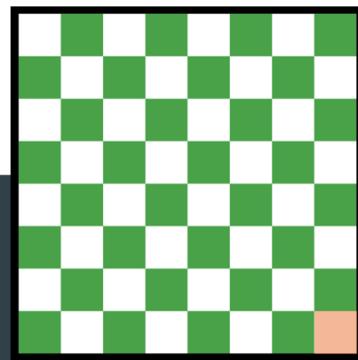
```
1 template<typename CURR SOLUTION>
2 struct ProcessSquare<CURR SOLUTION, 80, 8, true> {
3     static const int pos = 88;
4     typedef typename push_front_if<
5                     CURR SOLUTION, SQUARE(pos),
6                     !is_under_attack<CURR SOLUTION, SQUARE(pos)>::value
7                 >::type
8     last_curr_solution;
9
10    typedef typename
11        push_front_solution_to_list_if<
12                    solution_list<>,
13                    last_curr_solution,
14                    first_N_elems_not_empty<last_curr_solution, 8>::value
15                >::type
16    SolutionList;
17};
```

6. Backtracking



```
1 template<typename CURR_SOLUTION>
2 struct ProcessSquare<CURR_SOLUTION, 80, 8, true> {
3     static const int pos = 88;
4     typedef typename push_front_if<
5             CURR_SOLUTION, SQUARE(pos),
6             !is_under_attack<CURR_SOLUTION, SQUARE(pos)>::value
7         >::type
8     last_curr_solution;
9
10    typedef typename
11        push_front_solution_to_list_if<
12            solution_list<>,
13            last_curr_solution,
14            first_N_elems_not_empty<last_curr_solution, 8>::value
15        >::type
16    SolutionList;
17};
```

6. Backtracking



```
1 template<typename CURR SOLUTION>
2 struct ProcessSquare<CURR SOLUTION, 80, 8, true> {
3     static const int pos = 88;
4     typedef typename push_front_if<
5                     CURR SOLUTION, SQUARE(pos),
6                     !is_under_attack<CURR SOLUTION, SQUARE(pos)>::value
7                 >::type
8     last_curr_solution;
9
10    typedef typename
11        push_front_solution_to_list_if<
12            solution_list<>,
13            last_curr_solution,
14            first_N_elems_not_empty<last_curr_solution, 8>::value
15        >::type
16    SolutionList;
17};
```

7. Instantiation

```
1 struct Solve {  
2     typedef ProcessSquare<  
3                                     solution<>,  
4                                     10, 1,  
5                                     true  
6                                     >::SolutionList  
7     TheSolutions;  
8 };
```

7. Instantiation

```
1 struct Solve {  
2     typedef ProcessSquare<  
3                                     solution<>,  
4                                     10, 1,  
5                                     true  
6                                     >::SolutionList  
7     TheSolutions;  
8 };
```

7. Instantiation

```
1 struct Solve {  
2     typedef ProcessSquare<  
3                                     solution<>,  
4                                     10, 1,  
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6                                     >::SolutionList  
7     TheSolutions;  
8 };
```

7. Instantiation

```
1 struct Solve {  
2     typedef ProcessSquare<  
3                                     solution<>,  
4                                     10, 1,  
5                                     true  
6                                     >::SolutionList  
7     TheSolutions;  
8 };
```

7. Instantiation

```
1 struct Solve {  
2     typedef ProcessSquare<  
3                                     solution<>,  
4                                     10, 1,  
5                                     true  
6                                     >::SolutionList  
7     TheSolutions;  
8 };
```

8. Run-time logic

```
1 int main( int argc, char* argv[] )
2 {
3     std::cout<< "Solutions:\n";
4     Solve::TheSolutions s;
5     printAllSolutions(s);
6     return 0;
7 }
```

8. Run-time logic

```
1 typedef solution<empty,empty,empty,empty,  
2                         empty,empty,empty,empty> EmptySolution;  
3  
4 void seqPrint(const EmptySolution&)  
5 {}  
6  
7 template<typename S>  
8 void seqPrint(const S&)  
9 {  
10     typename typeat<0,S>::type front;  
11     std::cout<< "[" << front << "]";  
12  
13     typename pop_front<S>::type tail;  
14     seqPrint(tail);  
15 }
```

8. Run-time logic

```
1 template<typename S>
2 void printSolution(const S& container) {
3     std::cout<< "Solution:";
4     seqPrint(container);
5     std::cout<<"\n";
6 }
7
8 void printSolution(const empty&){
9 }
```

8. Run-time logic

```
1 void printAllSolutions(const empty&){}
2
3 template<typename ALL_SOLUTIONS>
4 void printAllSolutions(const ALL_SOLUTIONS&){
5     typename get_solution_list_head<ALL_SOLUTIONS>::type aSolution;
6     printSolution(aSolution);
7
8     typename pop_front_solution_from_list<ALL_SOLUTIONS>::type remainingSolutions;
9     printAllSolutions(remainingSolutions);
10 }
```

Template Metaprogramming solution

C++03

1. Representation
2. Manipulators
3. Solution lists
4. Merging
5. Attack logic
6. Backtracking
7. Instantiation
8. Run-time logic

Bloomberg

Engineering

Building TMP solution

```
8 Queens - C++03 + | - X
gmake[3]: Entering directory '/home9/mmarcell/src_personal/eightqueens/build'
[ 50%] Building CXX object src/c++_03/CMakeFiles/c++_03_EightQueens.dir/EightQueens.cpp.o
cd /home/mmarcell/src_personal/eightqueens/build/src/c++_03 && /opt/bb/bin/c++ -O0 -std=gnu++98 -Wall -MD -MT src/c++_03/CMakeFile
s/c++_03_EightQueens.dir/EightQueens.cpp.o -MF CMakeFiles/c++_03_EightQueens.dir/EightQueens.cpp.o.d -o CMakeFiles/c++_03_EightQueens
.dir/EightQueens.cpp.o -c /home/mmarcell/src_personal/eightqueens/src/c++_03/EightQueens.cpp
[100%] Linking CXX executable c++_03_EightQueens
cd /home/mmarcell/src_personal/eightqueens/build/src/c++_03 && /opt/bb/bin/cmake -E cmake_link_script CMakeFiles/c++_03_EightQueens.d
ir/link.txt --verbose=1
/opt/bb/bin/c++ -O0 CMakeFiles/c++_03_EightQueens.dir/EightQueens.cpp.o -o c++_03_EightQueens
gmake[3]: Leaving directory '/home9/mmarcell/src_personal/eightqueens/build'
[100%] Built target c++_03_EightQueens
gmake[2]: Leaving directory '/home9/mmarcell/src_personal/eightqueens/build'
/opt/bb/bin/cmake -E cmake_progress_start /home/mmarcell/src_personal/eightqueens/build/CMakeFiles 0
gmake[1]: Leaving directory '/home9/mmarcell/src_personal/eightqueens/build'

real    0m5.319s
user    0m4.898s
sys     0m0.350s
```

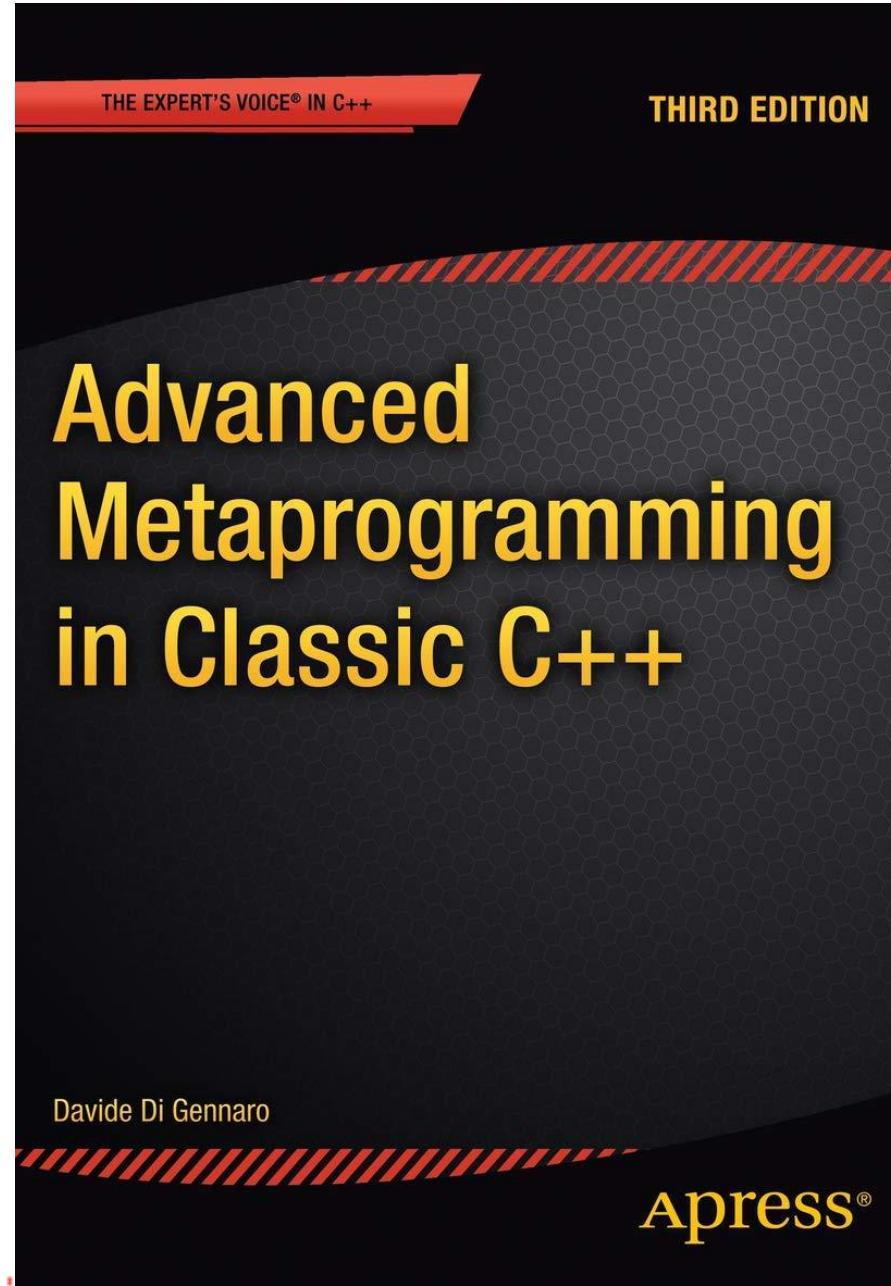
Running TMP solution

```
8 Queens - C++03      x  +  ▾
mmarcell@rdev-ob-628 eightqueens (main)$ build/src/c++_03/c++_03_EightQueens
Solutions:
Solution:[85][77][61][53][48][36][24][12]
Solution:[85][73][68][54][47][31][26][12]
Solution:[85][77][64][51][43][38][26][12]
Solution:[84][77][65][53][41][36][28][12]
Solution:[83][76][64][51][48][35][27][12]
Solution:[84][71][65][58][46][33][27][12]
Solution:[83][76][68][51][44][37][25][12]
Solution:[84][76][68][53][41][37][25][12]
Solution:[86][73][67][52][48][35][21][14]
Solution:[82][77][63][56][48][35][21][14]
Solution:[87][73][68][52][45][31][26][14]
Solution:[82][75][67][51][43][38][26][14]
Solution:[85][73][61][57][42][38][26][14]
Solution:[85][77][62][56][43][31][28][14]
Solution:[83][76][62][57][45][31][28][14]
Solution:[86][72][67][51][43][35][28][14]
Solution:[86][71][65][52][48][33][27][14]
Solution:[82][78][66][51][43][35][27][14]
Solution:[88][73][61][56][42][35][27][14]
Solution:[83][76][62][55][48][31][27][14]
Solution:[85][71][68][56][43][37][22][14]
Solution:[81][75][68][56][43][37][22][14]
```

```
8 Queens - C++03      x  +  ▾
Solution:[83][76][68][51][45][37][22][14]
Solution:[87][75][63][51][46][38][22][14]
Solution:[86][73][61][57][45][38][22][14]
Solution:[87][73][61][56][48][35][22][14]
Solution:[84][77][63][58][42][35][21][16]
Solution:[84][72][68][55][47][31][23][16]
Solution:[87][74][62][55][48][31][23][16]
Solution:[85][77][62][54][48][31][23][16]
Solution:[85][71][68][54][42][37][23][16]
Solution:[84][71][65][58][42][37][23][16]
Solution:[85][72][68][51][44][37][23][16]
Solution:[87][72][64][51][48][35][23][16]
Solution:[88][72][64][51][47][35][23][16]
Solution:[83][75][67][51][44][32][28][16]
Solution:[83][71][67][55][48][32][24][16]
Solution:[83][75][62][58][41][37][24][16]
Solution:[88][72][65][53][41][37][24][16]
Solution:[83][77][62][58][45][31][24][16]
Solution:[83][75][68][54][41][37][22][16]
Solution:[84][78][65][53][41][37][22][16]
Solution:[86][73][65][57][41][34][22][18]
Solution:[86][74][67][51][43][35][22][18]
Solution:[85][77][62][56][43][31][24][18]
Solution:[84][77][65][52][46][31][23][18]
```

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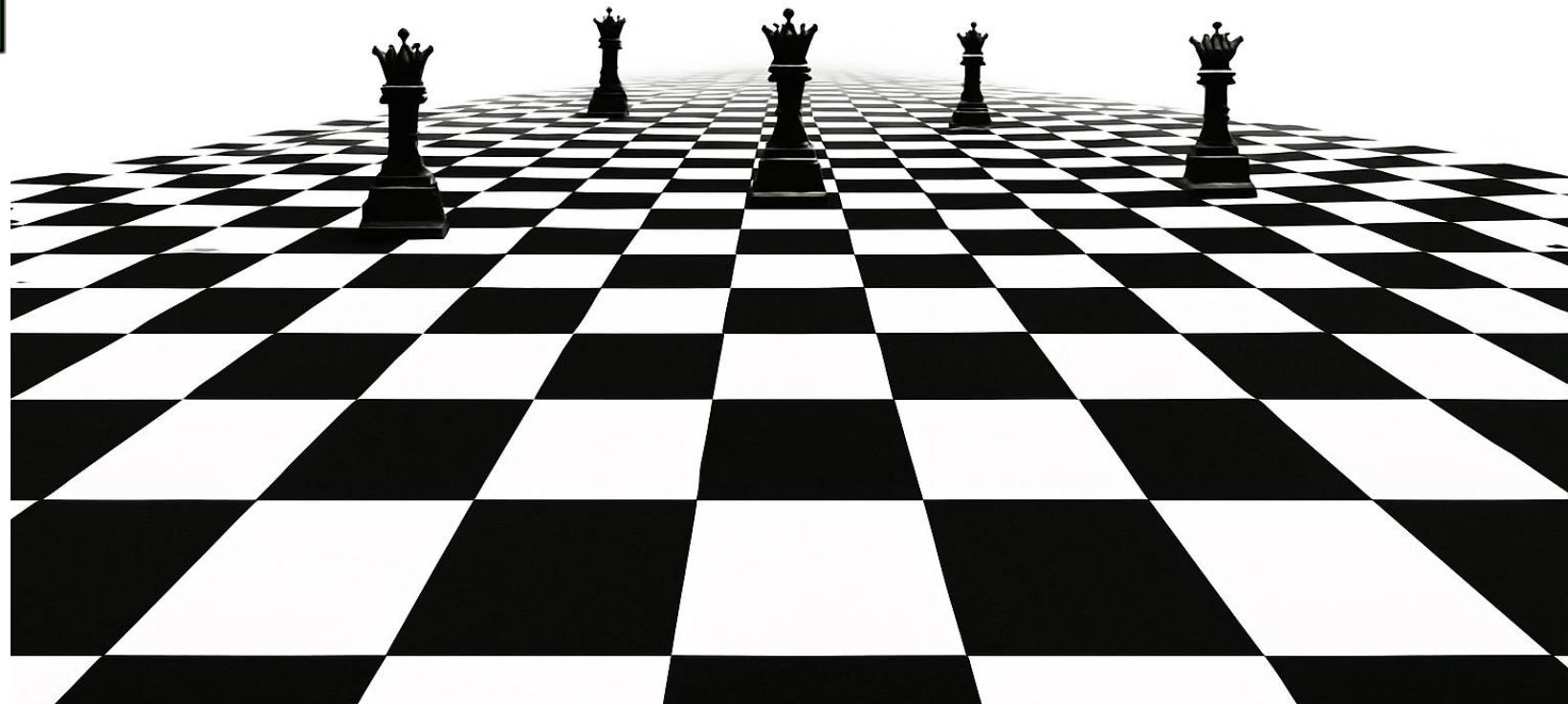


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Engineering



The N Queens problem

- Variadic template metaprogramming?
- constexpr approach 



What is a constant expression?

- An expression whose value can be computed at compile time
 - Only constexpr function calls
 - Reinterpret cast, undefined behaviour, goto, assembly, ...
 - Thrown exceptions (since C++26: unless caught within evaluation
- Since C++20:
 - constexpr virtual functions
 - new/delete (if all allocations are deallocated within evaluation)
- Only objects of literal type can be created within constant expressions
 - constexpr constructor & trivial destructor (or constexpr destructor since C++20)
 - Other restrictions: no virtual base classes

Positions

```
1 struct Position {
2     int d_row;
3     int d_col;
4
5     constexpr bool is_on_last_row(size_t size) const {
6         return d_row == size - 1;
7     }
8
9     constexpr bool is_on_last_column(size_t size) const {
10        return d_col == size - 1;
11    }
12
13    constexpr Position get_start_of_next_row() const {
14        return Position{.d_row = d_row+1, .d_col = 0};
15    }
16
17    constexpr Position get_next_col() const {
18        return Position{.d_row = d_row, .d_col = d_col+1};
19    }
20
21    friend std::ostream& operator<<(std::ostream& os, Position const& pos) {
22        os << '(' << pos.d_row << ", " << pos.d_col << ')';
23        return os;
24    }
25};
```

Queens

```
1 struct Queen {  
2     Position d_position;  
3  
4     constexpr bool can_take(Position const& other_position) const {  
5         return d_position.d_row == other_position.d_row  
6             || d_position.d_col == other_position.d_col  
7             || d_position.d_col - other_position.d_col == d_position.d_row - other_position.d_row  
8             || d_position.d_col - other_position.d_col == -1*(d_position.d_row - other_position.d_row);  
9     }  
10  
11    friend std::ostream& operator<<(std::ostream& os, Queen const& queen) {  
12        os << queen.d_position;  
13        return os;  
14    }  
15};
```

std::abs

Compile time assertions

```
1 static_assert(Queen{{1,1}}.can_take({1, 2}));  
2 static_assert(Queen{{1,1}}.can_take({2, 2}));  
3 static_assert(Queen{{1,1}}.can_take({2, 1}));  
4 static_assert(Queen{{1,1}}.can_take({2, 0}));  
5 static_assert(Queen{{1,1}}.can_take({1, 0}));  
6 static_assert(Queen{{1,1}}.can_take({0, 0}));  
7 static_assert(Queen{{1,1}}.can_take({0, 1}));  
8 static_assert(Queen{{1,1}}.can_take({0, 2}));  
9 static_assert(Queen{{1,1}}.can_take({2, 2}));  
10  
11 static_assert(!Queen{{1,1}}.can_take({3, 0}));  
12 static_assert(!Queen{{1,1}}.can_take({3, 2}));  
13 static_assert(!Queen{{1,1}}.can_take({2, 3}));  
14 static_assert(!Queen{{1,1}}.can_take({0, 3}));  
15
```

Partial Solution

```
1 template<size_t N>
2 struct PartialSolution
3 {
4     std::array<Queen, N> d_solution;
5     size_t d_number_pieces;
6
7     constexpr PartialSolution create_updated(Position const& new_pos) const {
8         PartialSolution updated_partial_solution = *this;
9         ++updated_partial_solution.d_number_pieces;
10        updated_partial_solution.d_solution[d_number_pieces] = Queen{new_pos};
11        return updated_partial_solution;
12    }
13
14    constexpr auto begin() const {
15        return d_solution.begin();
16    }
17
18    constexpr auto end() const {
19        return d_solution.begin() + d_number_pieces;
20    }
21};
```

Partial Solution

```
1 template<size_t N> ← N
2 struct PartialSolution
3 {
4     std::array<Queen, N> d_solution; ← N
5     size_t d_number_pieces;
6
7     constexpr PartialSolution create_updated(Position const& new_pos) const {
8         PartialSolution updated_partial_solution = *this;
9         ++updated_partial_solution.d_number_pieces;
10        updated_partial_solution.d_solution[d_number_pieces] = Queen{new_pos};
11        return updated_partial_solution;
12    }
13
14    constexpr auto begin() const {
15        return d_solution.begin();
16    }
17
18    constexpr auto end() const {
19        return d_solution.begin() + d_number_pieces;
20    }
21};
```

Solution Concept

```
1 template<typename T>
2 concept Solution = std::ranges::random_access_range<T>
3             && std::same_as<std::ranges::range_value_t<T>, Queen>;
4
5 template<size_t N>
6 using ArraySolution = std::array<Queen, N>;
7
8 using VectorSolution = std::vector<Queen>;
9
10 static_assert(Solution<ArraySolution<3>>);
11 static_assert(Solution<VectorSolution>);
```

Partial Solution

concept Solution

std::vector

std::array

```
1 template<Solution S>
2 struct PartialSolution
3 {
4     S d_solution;
5     size_t d_number_pieces;
6
7     PartialSolution(size_t board_size)
8         requires std::is_same_v<S, VectorSolution>
9         : d_solution{}
10        , d_number_pieces{0} {
11            d_solution.resize(board_size);
12        }
13
14     constexpr PartialSolution()
15         requires (!std::is_same_v<S, VectorSolution>) = default;
16     // rest...
```

Build Solutions

```
1 template<Solution S>
2 constexpr void build_solution(
3     std::vector<S>& solution_set,
4     size_t board_size,
5     PartialSolution<S> current_partial_solution,
6     Position position_under_evaluation)
7 {
8     //...
```

Build Solutions

```
1 template<Solution S>
2 constexpr void build_solution(
3     std::vector<S>& solution_set, size_t board_size, PartialSolution<S> current_partial_solution, Position
4     position_under_evaluation) {
5     if (std::ranges::none_of(current_partial_solution, [&](Queen const& existing_queen) {
6         return existing_queen.can_take(position_under_evaluation);
7     })) {
8         auto next_partial_solution = current_partial_solution.create_updated(position_under_evaluation);
9
10        if (position_under_evaluation.is_on_last_row(board_size)) {
11            solution_set.push_back(next_partial_solution.d_solution);
12        }
13        else {
14            build_solution(
15                solution_set, board_size, next_partial_solution, position_under_evaluation.get_start_of_next_row());
16        }
17        if (!position_under_evaluation.is_on_last_column(board_size)) {
18            build_solution(
19                solution_set, board_size, current_partial_solution, position_under_evaluation.get_next_col());
20        }
21    }
```

Build Solutions

```
1 template<size_t N, typename S = ArraySolution<N>>
2 constexpr std::vector<S> find_n_queens_solutions() {
3     std::vector<S> solution_set{};
4     build_solution<S>(solution_set, N, PartialSolution<S>{}, Position{.d_row=0, .d_col=0});
5     return solution_set;
6 }
7
8 std::vector<VectorSolution> find_n_queens_solutions(size_t board_size) {
9     std::vector<VectorSolution> solution_set{};
10    build_solution<VectorSolution>(
11        solution_set,
12        board_size,
13        PartialSolution<VectorSolution>{board_size},
14        Position{.d_row=0, .d_col=0});
15    return solution_set;
16 }
```

Done?

```
1 static_assert(find_n_queens_solutions<8>().size() == 92);  
2 static_assert(find_n_queens_solutions<9>().size() == 352);
```

Done?



```
1 int main() {  
2     static constexpr auto eight_queens_solutions = find_n_queens_solutions<8>();
```

gcc

```
1 [build] /include/c++/13/bits/allocator.h: In function 'int main()':  
2 [build] /include/c++/13/bits/allocator.h:195:52: error: 'find_n_queens_solutions()' [with long unsigned int size  
= 8; Sol = std::array<Queen, 8>()]' is not a constant expression because it refers to a result of 'operator new'  
3 [build] 195 |         return static_cast<_Tp*>(::operator new(__n));
```

clang

```
1 ConstexprEightQueens.cpp:312:27: error: constexpr variable 'eight_queens_solutions' must be initialized by a constant expression  
2   312 |     static constexpr auto eight_queens_solutions = find_n_queens_solutions<8>();  
3   |           ^~~~~~  
4 ConstexprEightQueens.cpp:312:27: note: pointer to subobject of heap-allocated object is not a constant expression  
5 /include/c++/v1/__memory/allocator.h:103:32: note: heap allocation performed here  
6   103 |         return static_cast<_Tp*>(::operator new(__n * sizeof(_Tp)))
```

msvc

```
1 <source>(312): error C2131: expression did not evaluate to a constant  
2 <source>(312): note: (sub-)object points to memory which was heap allocated during constant evaluation
```

Vector to array

```
1 template<size_t N, typename T>
2 constexpr std::array<T, N> vec_to_array(std::vector<T> const& vec) {
3     std::array<T, N> out;
4     std::copy(vec.begin(), vec.end(), out.begin());
5     return out;
6 }
7
8 template<size_t N>
9 constexpr auto find_n_queens_solutions_array() {
10     return vec_to_array<find_n_queens_solutions<N>().size()(find_n_queens_solutions<N>());
11 }
```

Vector to array

```
1 template<size_t N>
2 constexpr auto find_n_queens_solutions_array( ) {
3     auto res = find_n_queens_solutions<N>( );
4     return vec_to_array<res.size( )>(res);
5 }
```

```
1 [build] /workarea/eightqueens/src/constexpr/ConstexprEightQueens.cpp:255:36:  
error: the value of 'res' is not usable in a constant expression  
2 [build] 255 |     return vec_to_array<res.size()>(res);  
3 [build] |           ~~~~~^~~~~~  
4 [build] /workarea/eightqueens/src/constexpr/ConstexprEightQueens.cpp:254:10:  
note: 'res' was not declared 'constexpr'  
5 [build] 254 |     auto res = find_n_queens_solutions<N>();  
6 [build]
```

C++26: std::define_static_array

```
1 template <ranges::input_range R>
2 consteval auto define_static_array(R&& r) -> span<ranges::range_value_t<R> const>;
```

```
1 template<size_t N>
2 consteval auto find_n_queens_solutions_array() {
3     // return vec_to_array<find_n_queens_solutions<N>().size()>(find_n_queens_solutions<N>());
4     return std::define_static_array(find_n_queens_solutions<N>());
5 }
```

wg21.link/P3491R3

Done 

```
1 static constexpr auto eight_queens_solutions = find_n_queens_solutions_array<8>();  
2 print_solution(eight_queens_solutions);
```



Building a lookup table for board sizes

```
1 template<size_t N>
2 constexpr auto build_n_queens_lookup_table()
3 {
4     return []<size_t... Indices>(std::index_sequence<Indices...>)
5     {
6         return std::tuple{find_n_queens_solutions_array<Indices+1>()...};
7     }(std::make_index_sequence<N>{});
8     // return std::tuple{
9     //     find_n_queens_solutions_array<1>(),
10    //     find_n_queens_solutions_array<2>(),
11    //     ... ,
12    //     find_n_queens_solutions_array<N>()};
13 }
```

std::index_sequence<0, 1, 2, ..., N-1>

```
1 constexpr int lookup_size = 10;
2 static constexpr auto lookup_table = build_n_queens_lookup_table<lookup_size>();
3 std::cout << "Number of solutions for each board size:\n";
4
5 []<size_t... I>(std::index_sequence<I...>) {
6     ((std::cout << (I + 1)
7             << " Queens Problem solutions count: "
8             << std::get<I>(lookup_table).size() << '\n'), ...
9 }(&std::make_index_sequence<lookup_size>{});
```

```
1 Number of solutions for each board size:
2 1 Queens Problem solutions count: 1
3 2 Queens Problem solutions count: 0
4 3 Queens Problem solutions count: 0
5 4 Queens Problem solutions count: 2
6 5 Queens Problem solutions count: 10
7 6 Queens Problem solutions count: 4
8 7 Queens Problem solutions count: 40
9 8 Queens Problem solutions count: 92
10 9 Queens Problem solutions count: 352
11 10 Queens Problem solutions count: 724
```

std::index_sequence<0, 1, 2, ..., 9>

Accessing the lookup table

```
1 [board_size]<size_t... I>(std::index_sequence<I...>) {
2     (void)((board_size == I+1
3             ? (print_solution(std::get<I>(lookup_table)), true)
4             : false) || ...);
5 }(std::make_index_sequence<lookup_size>{});
6
7 //    (board_size == 1 ? (print_solution(std::get<0>(lookup_table)), true) : false)
8 // || (board_size == 2 ? (print_solution(std::get<1>(lookup_table)), true) : false)
9 // || ...
10 // || (board_size == N ? (print_solution(std::get<N-1>(lookup_table)), true) : false)
```

Compiling Quirks

gcc

clang

```
1 /Users/jmarriott13/code/eightqueens/src/constexpr/ConstexprEightQueens.cpp:240:15: error: static assertion expression  
is not an integral constant expression  
2 240 | static_assert(find_n_queens_solutions<9>().size() == 352);  
3 | ^~~~~~  
4 /Library/Developer/CommandLineTools/SDKs/MacOSX26.0.sdk/usr/include/c++/v1/array:220:94: note: constexpr evaluation  
hit maximum step limit; possible infinite loop?  
5 220 | LIBCPP_HIDE_FROM_ABI LIBCPP_CONSTEXPR SINCE CXX17 const iterator begin() const NOEXCEPT {
```

msvc

```
1 <source>(240): error C2131: expression did not evaluate to a constant
2 <source>(144) note: failure was caused by evaluation exceeding step limit of 1048576 (/constexpr:steps<NUMBER>)
```

Compiling Quirks

```
1 add_executable(constexprEightQueens ConstexprEightQueens.cpp)
2
3 if (CMAKE_CXX_COMPILER_ID MATCHES "Clang")
4     target_compile_options(constexprEightQueens PRIVATE -fconstexpr-steps=100000000)
5 elseif (CMAKE_CXX_COMPILER_ID STREQUAL "GNU")
6     target_compile_options(constexprEightQueens PRIVATE -fconstexpr-ops-limit=1000000000)
7 endif()
```

Compiling Quirks

~~std::ranges::none_of~~
for loop 

```
1 constexpr bool piece_can_be_placed_at(Position const& position_under_evaluation,
2                                         Solution auto const& current_partial_solution) {
3     for (auto const& existing_queen: current_partial_solution) {
4         if (existing_queen.can_take(position_under_evaluation))
5             return false;
6     }
7     return true;
8 }
9
10 template<Solution Sol>
11 constexpr void build_solution(
12     PartialSolution<Sol> current_partial_solution, Position position_under_evaluation, /*other args*/)
13 {
14     // if (std::ranges::none_of(current_partial_solution, [&](Queen const& existing_queen) {
15     //     return existing_queen.can_take(position_under_evaluation); }))
16     if (piece_can_be_placed_at(position_under_evaluation, current_partial_solution))
17     { // rest...
```

```
1 > time cmake --build /build --config RelWithDebInfo --clean-first
   --target constexprEightQueens
2 [1/1] Cleaning all built files...
3 Cleaning... 0 files.
4 [2/2] Linking CXX executable src/constexpr/constexprEightQueens
5
6 real    2m28.997s
7 user    2m11.935s
8 sys     0m14.090s
```

std::ranges::none_of

```
1 > time cmake --build /build --config RelWithDebInfo --clean-first
   --target constexprEightQueens
2 [1/1] Cleaning all built files...
3 Cleaning... 0 files.
4 [2/2] Linking CXX executable src/constexpr/constexprEightQueens
5
6 real    0m57.195s
7 user    0m53.185s
8 sys     0m3.415s
```

~60% decrease in compile
time

piece_can_be_placed_at

Compile Time (clang)

Board sizes: 1 to 8
~5 seconds

```
● > time cmake --build build --target constexprEightQueens
[ 50%] Building CXX object src/constexpr/CMakeFiles/constexprEightQueens.dir/ConstexprEightQueens.cpp.o
[100%] Linking CXX executable constexprEightQueens
[100%] Built target constexprEightQueens
cmake --build build --target constexprEightQueens 4.72s user 0.18s system 96% cpu 5.084 total
```

Board sizes: 1 to 9
~7 seconds

```
● > time cmake --build build --target constexprEightQueens
[ 50%] Building CXX object src/constexpr/CMakeFiles/constexprEightQueens.dir/ConstexprEightQueens.cpp.o
[100%] Linking CXX executable constexprEightQueens
[100%] Built target constexprEightQueens
cmake --build build --target constexprEightQueens 6.69s user 0.17s system 97% cpu 7.010 total
```

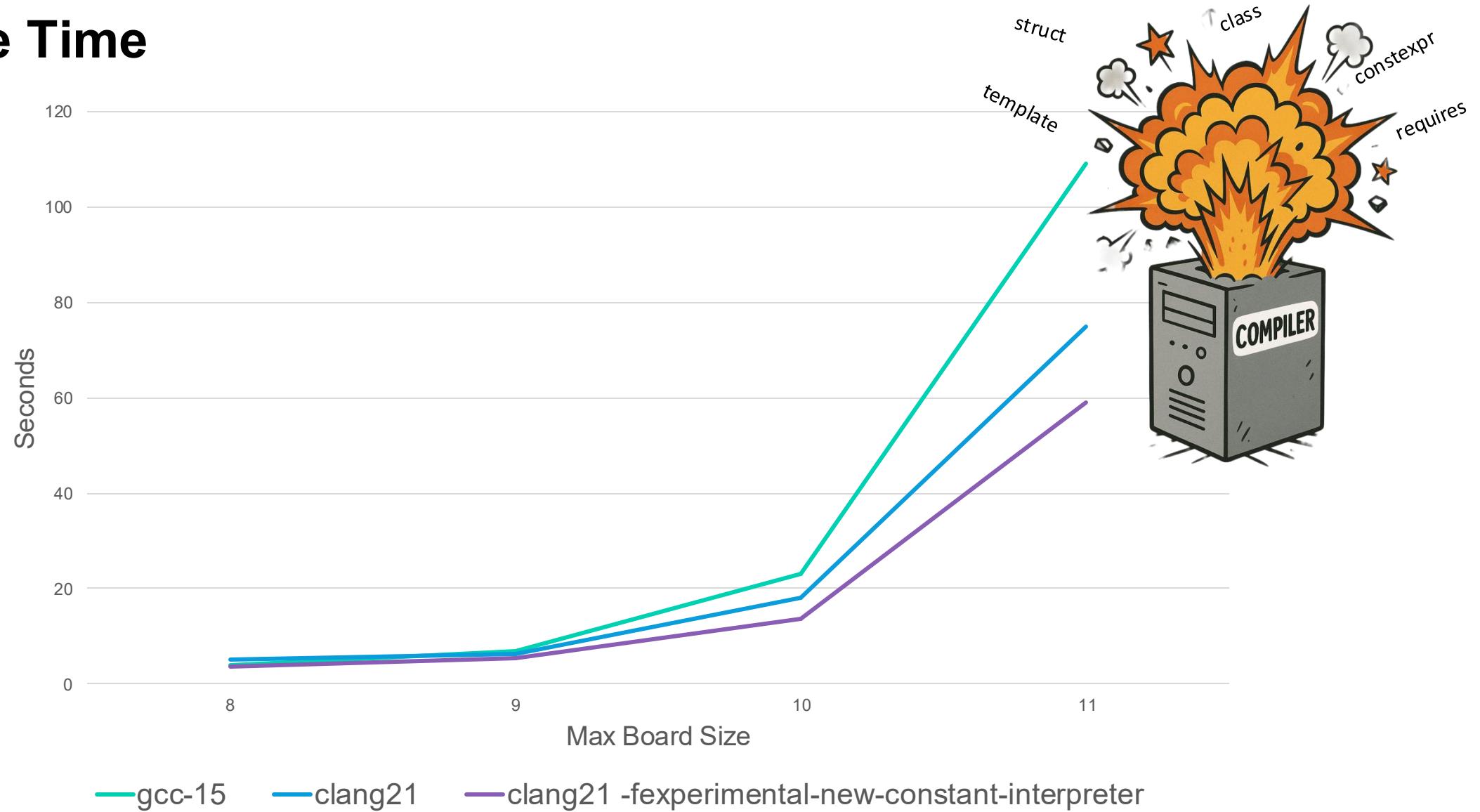
Board sizes: 1 to 10
~18 seconds

```
● > time cmake --build build --target constexprEightQueens
[ 50%] Building CXX object src/constexpr/CMakeFiles/constexprEightQueens.dir/ConstexprEightQueens.cpp.o
[100%] Linking CXX executable constexprEightQueens
[100%] Built target constexprEightQueens
cmake --build build --target constexprEightQueens 17.71s user 0.18s system 99% cpu 18.028 total
```

Board sizes: 1 to 11
~79 seconds

```
● > time cmake --build build --target constexprEightQueens
[ 50%] Building CXX object src/constexpr/CMakeFiles/constexprEightQueens.dir/ConstexprEightQueens.cpp.o
[100%] Linking CXX executable constexprEightQueens
[100%] Built target constexprEightQueens
cmake --build build --target constexprEightQueens 79.39s user 0.30s system 99% cpu 1:19.94 total
```

Compile Time



Source of generated image on this slide: ChatGPT

Demo

```
○ > ./build/src/constexpr/constexprEightQueens
Number of solutions for each board size:
1 Queens Problem solutions count: 1
2 Queens Problem solutions count: 0
3 Queens Problem solutions count: 0
4 Queens Problem solutions count: 2
5 Queens Problem solutions count: 10
6 Queens Problem solutions count: 4
7 Queens Problem solutions count: 40
8 Queens Problem solutions count: 92
9 Queens Problem solutions count: 352
10 Queens Problem solutions count: 724
```

Interactive mode: View solutions from the lookup table or runtime

Enter a positive board size (1-10) to see its solutions from the compile-time generated lookup table

Enter a negative board size (-1 and below) to see its solutions computed at runtime

Enter 0 to exit

Enter a value:



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and the corresponding
values of α and β .

Figure 1 shows the
estimated values of α and β .