

CSE 2012- Design and Analysis of Algorithms
Practice Problem Sheet (Backtracking
Algorithms)
N-Queen's Problem

Practice makes you Perfect

N-Queen's Problem :

1. A positive integer n can be partitioned into a sequence of distinct positive integers a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n such that $n = a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_k$. We call $a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_k$ as k -size distinct partition of n . Here, none of the positive integers $a_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ are same. Distinct partitions of 3 are $2 + 1$ and 3. We consider the partition $2 + 1$ and the partition $1 + 2$, as the same partition. Maximum-size distinct partition of 3 is $2 + 1$. Similarly, distinct partitions of 6 are $1 + 5, 2 + 4, 3 + 2 + 1, 6$. Maximum-size distinct partition of 6 is $3 + 2 + 1$. Given a positive integer n , design a back-tracking algorithm to compute a maximum-size distinct partition of n . Analyse the algorithm with the running-time and the time-complexity.
2. Consider the Sudoku Problem : You are given a partially filled 9×9 grid. The task is to fill the 9×9 grid with digits (from 1 to 9) so that each column, each row, and each of the nine 3×3 subgrids contain all of the digits from 1 to 9. Design a backtracking algorithm to solve the Sudoku problem. Analyse the algorithm with the running-time and the time-complexity. Analyse the algorithm with the running-time and the time-complexity.
3. Graph coloring problem involves the assignment of colors to each vertex of a graph G such that no adjacent vertices get same color. The task is to colour the graph G with minimum number of colours. Design a back-tracking algorithm to solve the graph colouring Problem. Analyse the algorithm with the running-time and the time-complexity.
4. Consider the 'String Permutation Problem' where the input is a string of symbols S and the output is all the permutations of the symbols of the string S , in an alphabetical order. If S is abc , then the algorithm should output $abc, acb, bac, bca, cab, cba$. Design a brute-force algorithm and a back-tracking algorithm for the String Permutation Problem. Compare

both the algorithms in sense of time-complexity. In case, both the algorithms are of the same time-complexity, decide which algorithm is more efficient with appropriate justification.

5. Given a non-empty set S of non-negative integers and a positive integer k , problem is to find a subset S' of S such that sum of the integers of S' is equal to k . Design a back-tracking algorithm to solve the above Problem. Analyse the algorithm with the running-time and the time-complexity.