

# Alpha-Beta Pruning

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# Alpha - Beta Pruning

Alpha - Beta pruning = Alpha beta pruning is a modified version of the min-max algorithm. It is an optimization technique for the min-max algorithm.

Alpha ( $\alpha$ ) = The best (high value)  
= Initial value of alpha is  $-\infty$

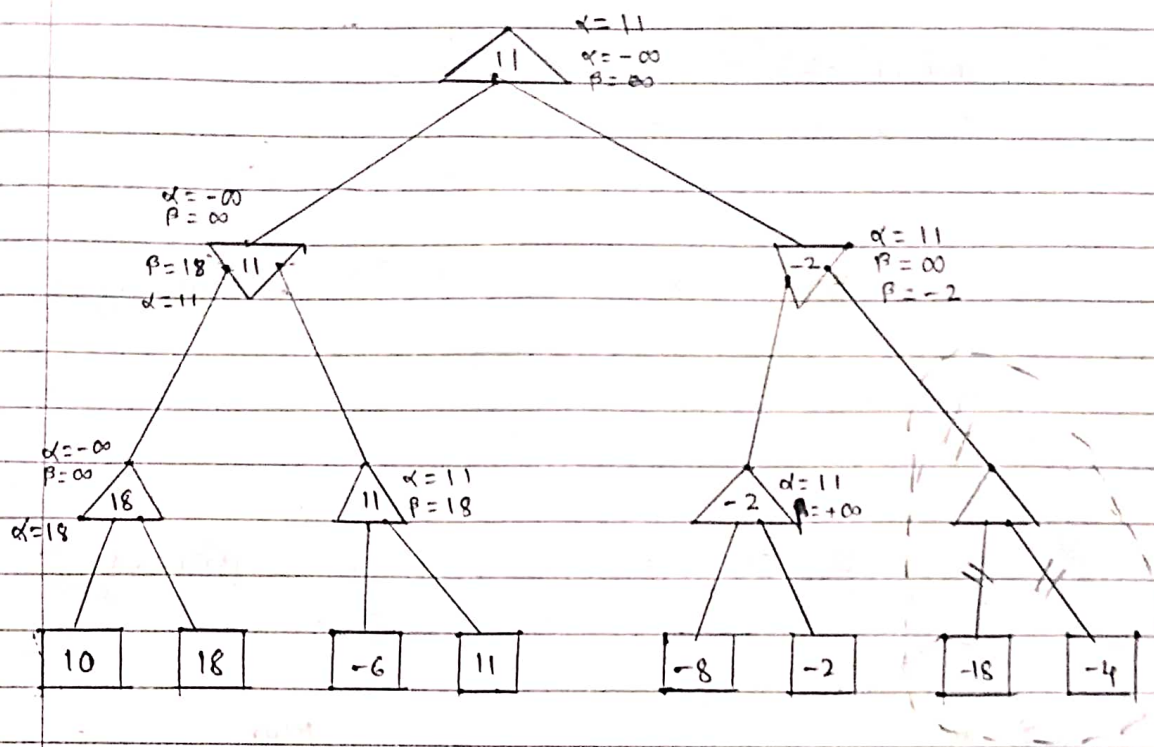
Beta ( $\beta$ ) = The best (highest value)  
= Initial value is beta is  $+\infty$

## \* Rules & conditions

- ① The max player will only update the value of alpha.
- ② The min player will only update the value of  $\beta$ .
- ③ we will only pass the alpha, beta values to the child nodes.
- ④ Node values will be passed to upper nodes instead of values of alpha & beta.

- Condition to prune :  $\alpha \geq \beta$  or  $\beta \leq \alpha$

- when alpha is greater than or equal to beta.



①  $\alpha(-\infty, 10) = 10$

$\alpha(-\infty, 18) = 18$

$\alpha(10, 18) = 18$

②  $\beta(0, 18) = 18$

③  $\alpha(-\infty, -6) = -6$

$\alpha(-\infty, 11) = 11$

$\alpha(-6, 11) = 11$

④  $\alpha(11, -2) = -2$

⑤  $\beta(18, 11) = 11$

⑥  $\beta(\infty, -2) = -2$



$$\textcircled{7} \quad \alpha(11, -8) = 11$$

$$\alpha(11, -2) = 11$$

$$\alpha(-8, -2) = -2$$

$$\textcircled{8} \quad \beta(\infty, -8) = -8$$

- Min (right)

$$\alpha = 11$$

$$\beta = -2$$

$\alpha \geq \beta$  so the next node is pruned

$$\textcircled{9} \quad \alpha = 11$$

- Max

$$\beta = \infty$$

$$\alpha(11, -2) = 11$$

The answer is  $\alpha(11, -2) = 11$ .

