

N-QUEENS PROBLEM

PROBLEM STATEMENT

The N-Queens problem is a classic backtracking problem where the goal is to place N queens on an $N \times N$ chessboard so that no two queens threaten each other.

That means:

- No two queens share the same row.
- No two queens share the same column.
- No two queens share the same diagonal.

TRACING



ALGORITHM

Algorithm Backtrack($X[1...i]$)

// Gives a template of a generic backtracking algorithm

// input: $X[1...i]$ specifies first i promising components of a solution

// output: All the tuples representing the problems solutions

if $X[1...i]$ is a solution write $X[1...i]$

else

for each element $x \in S_{i+1}$ consistent with $X[1...i]$ and the constraints do

$X[i+1] = x$

Backtrack($X[1...i+1]$)

TIME COMPLEXITY: $O(N!)$

- The actual complexity is less due to pruning, but asymptotically it's $O(N!)$ for generating permutations and checking constraints.

SPACE COMPLEXITY: $O(N)$

- One array of size N is used to store the column positions of queens.
- The recursion stack will go up to depth N .

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