ALPHA - BETA PRUNING



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Alpha - Beta Pruning

 Avoid processing those sub-trees that have no effect on the result.

- Two new parameters
 - $\triangleright \alpha$:The best value for MAX seen so far
 - \triangleright β :The best value for MIN seen so far

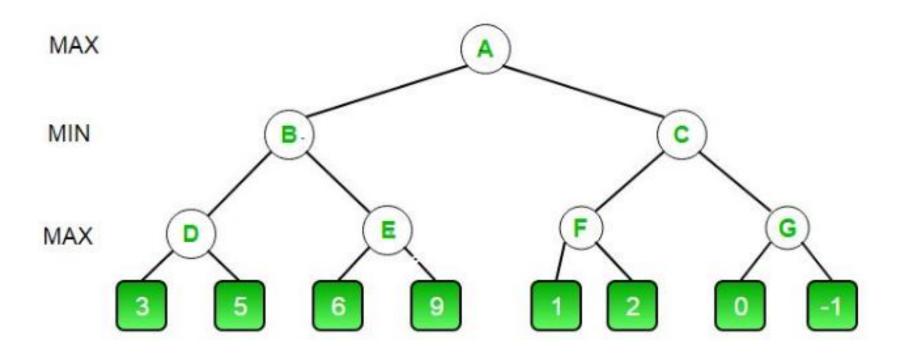
Alpha - Beta Pruning

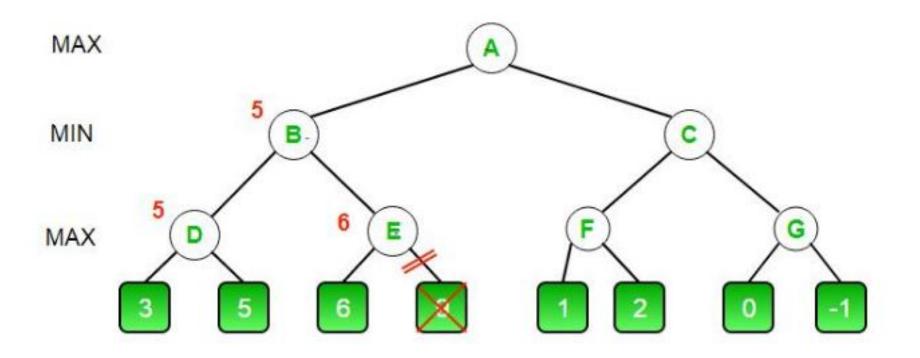
- α is used in MIN nodes, and is assigned in MAX nodes.
- β is used in MAX nodes, and is assigned in MIN nodes.
- When maximizing:
 - > cut off values lower than Alpha
- When minimizing:
 - > cut off values greater than Beta

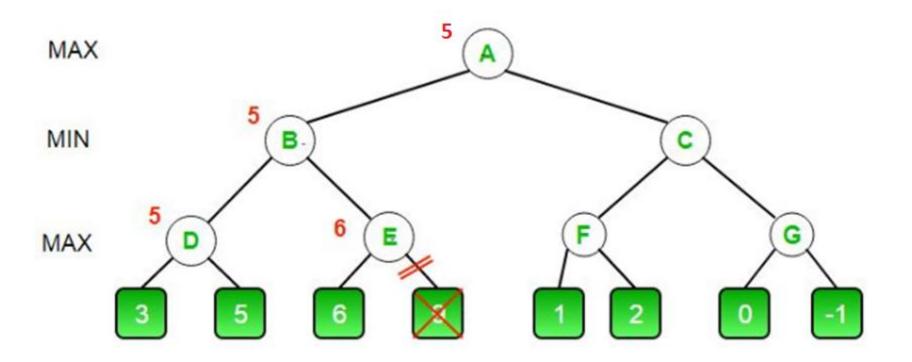
When to Prune

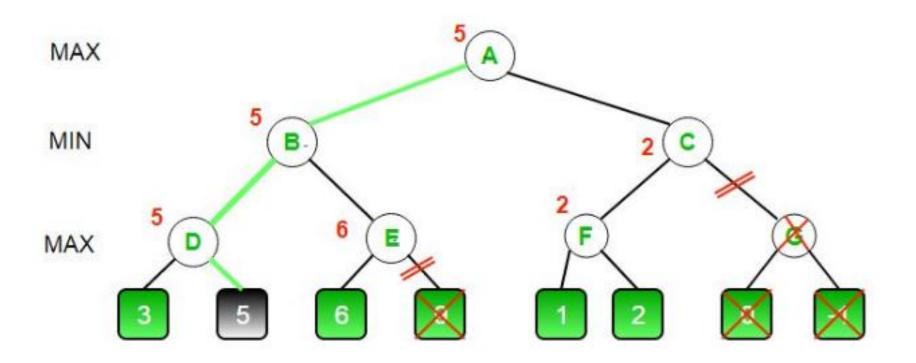
- Prune whenever $\alpha \ge \beta$
- Prune below a Max node whose alpha value becomes >= the beta value of its ancestors.
 - Max nodes update alpha based on children's returned values.
- Prune below a Min node whose beta value becomes <= the alpha value of its ancestors.
 - Min nodes update beta based on children's returned values.

ALPHA - BETA PRUNING Example 1

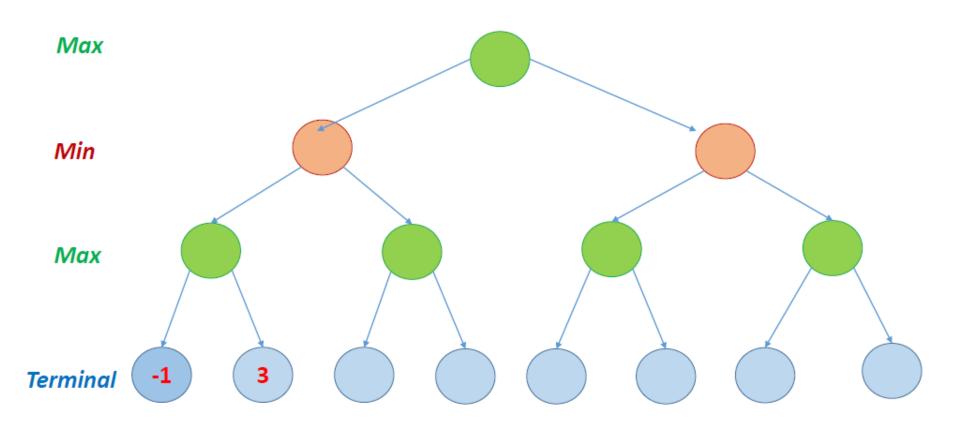


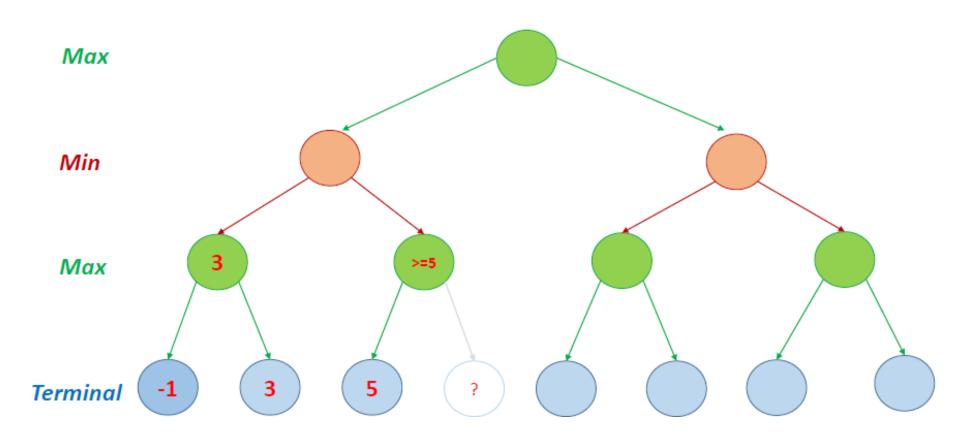


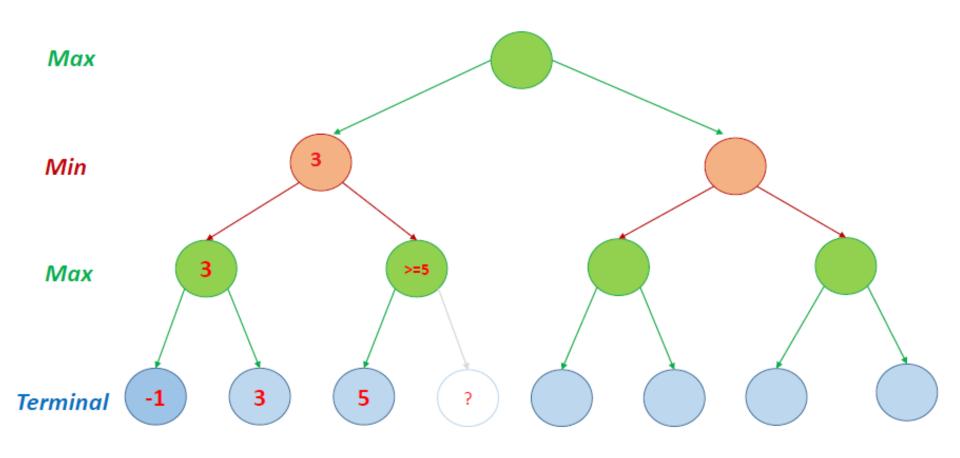


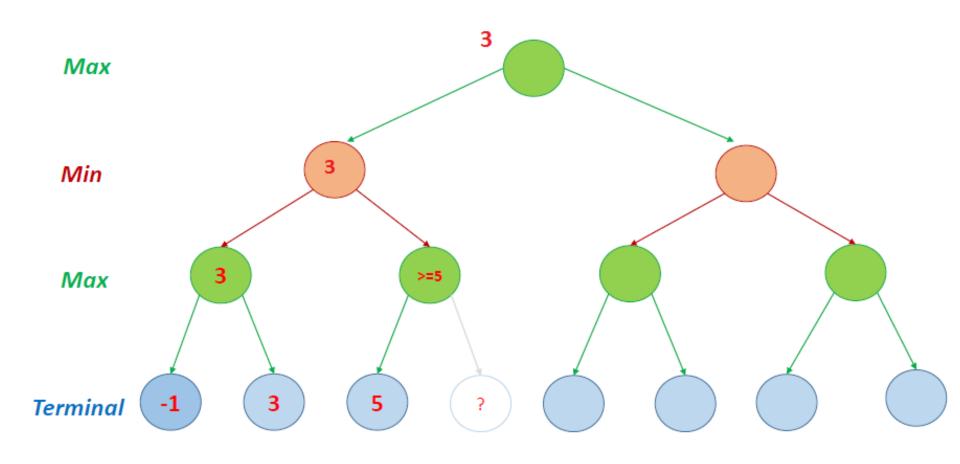


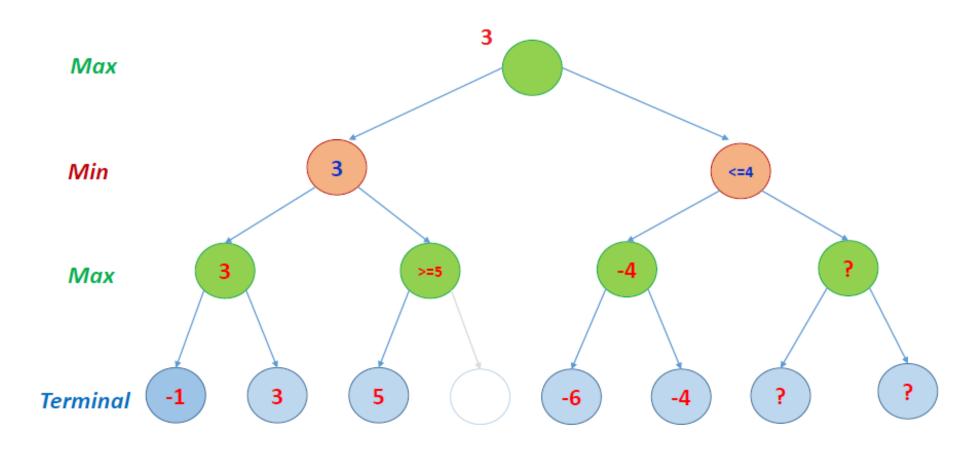
ALPHA - BETA PRUNING Example 2

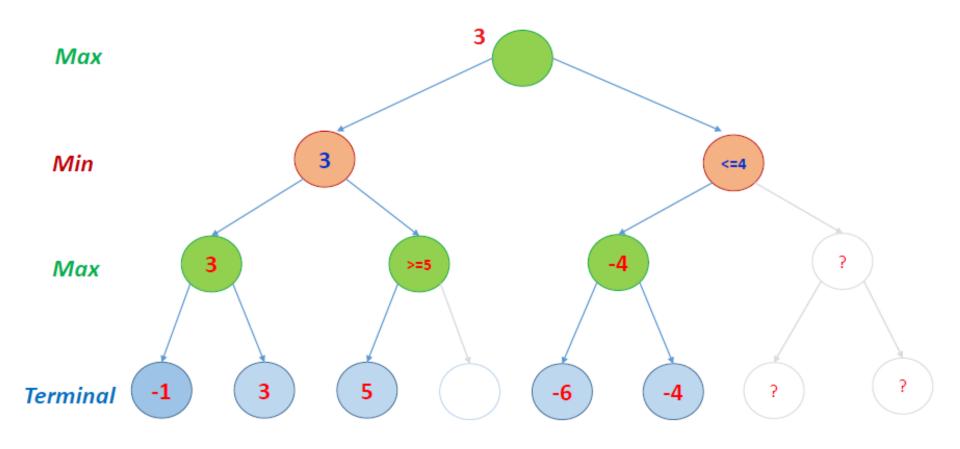


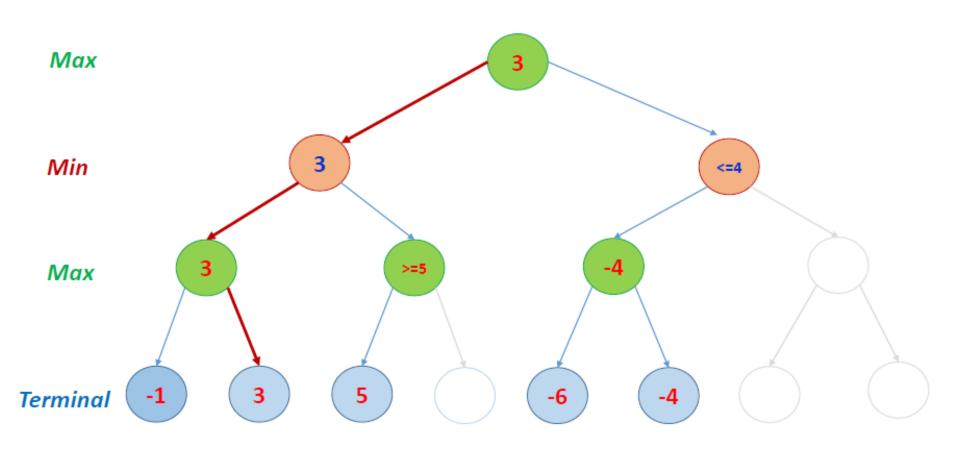






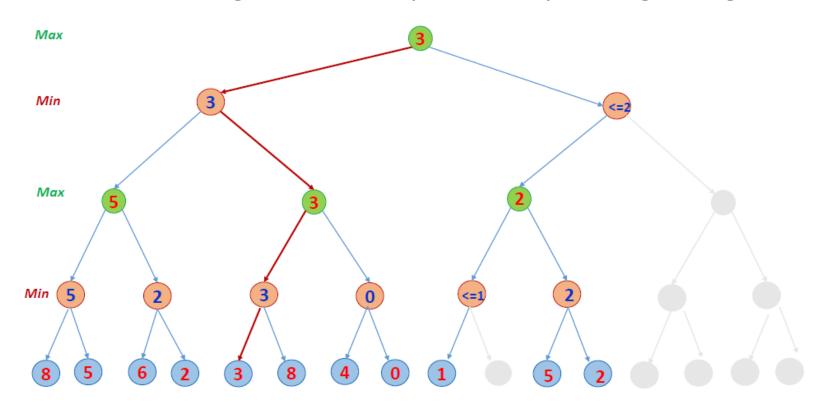






Homework

- Alpha Beta Pruning algorithm
- Benefits of Alpha Beta Pruning.
- Give the reasoning of below alpha-beta pruning of a game tree.



References

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- 3. E Charniak and D McDermott, "Introduction to Artificial Intelligence", Pearson.
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- 5. https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/minimax-algorithm-in-game-theory-set-4-alphabeta-pruning/
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