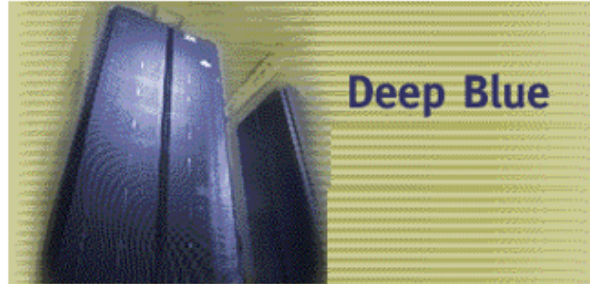
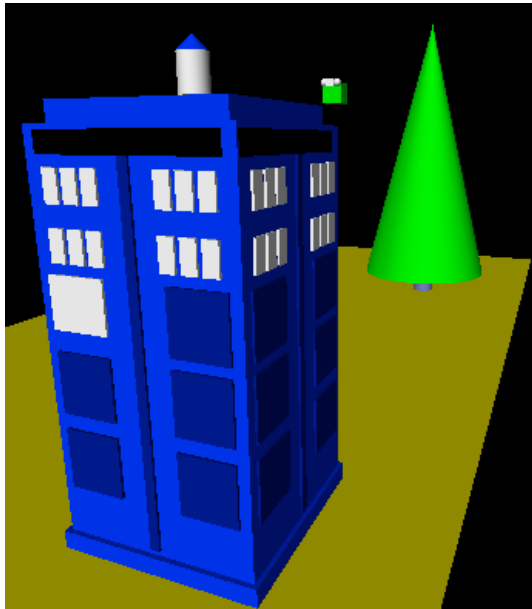
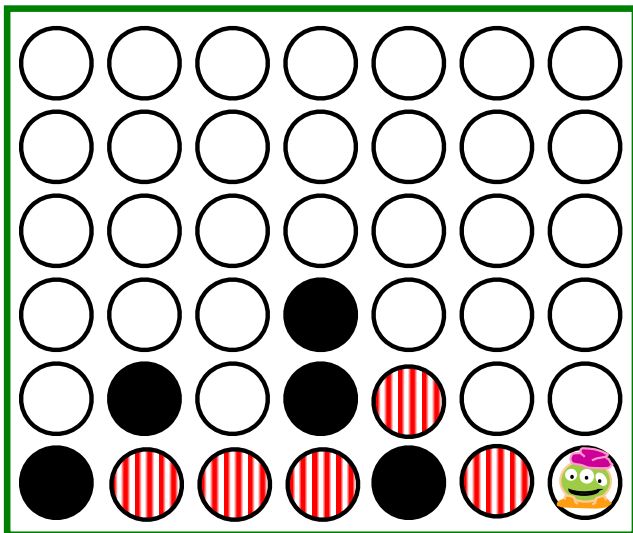


Intelligent CS 5 ?



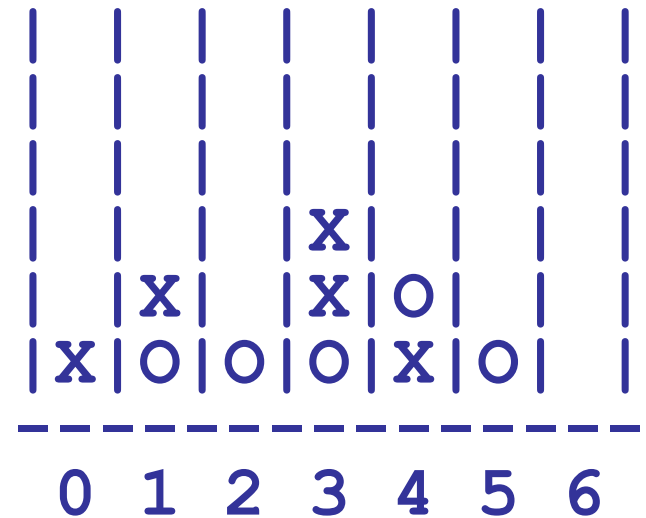
Hw11 due **Monday** @ 11:59pm



● X to move.

Is there a way to *ensure* a win?

If so, *how far ahead?*



Connect 4 AI ~ how could it work?

| | | | | | | |
|---------------|--|---|---|--|--|--|
| X X | | | | | | |
| X O | | O | X | | | |
| O O X O X O O | | | | | | |
| X X X O O X X | | | | | | |
| O O O X O O X | | | | | | |
| O X X X O X O | | | | | | |

0 1 2 3 4 5 6

Who won?!

Oh, I won!



It could just play randomly... *Let's try!*

Or, it could always play as far left as possible... *Let's try that, too!*

C4 AI ~ how could it work?

while True:

```
col = -1
while b.allowsMove(col) == False:
    col = random.choice(range(7))
```

```
b.addMove(ox, col)
```

```
if ox == '0':    ox = 'X'
else:           ox = '0'
```

```
# check if game is over!
```

```
|X|X| | | | | |
|X|O| | |O| |X|
|O|O|X|O|X|O|O|
|X|X|X|O|O|X|X|
|O|O|O|X|O|O|X|
|O|X|X|X|O|X|O|
-----
 0  1  2  3  4  5  6
```

Who won?!

Oh, I won!



It could just play randomly... *Let's try!*

Or, it could always play as far left as possible... *Let's try that, too!*

C4 AI ~ how could it work?

tiebreaking to the **LEFT**
when possible...


| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|--|--|--|
| | X | | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | X | | O | | | | O | | | | X | | | | | | |
| | O | | O | | X | | O | | X | | O | | O | | | | |
| | X | | X | | X | | O | | O | | X | | X | | | | |
| | O | | O | | O | | X | | O | | O | | X | | | | |
| | O | | X | | X | | X | | O | | X | | O | | | | |
| ----- | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 0 | | 1 | | 2 | | 3 | | 4 | | 5 | | 6 | | | | |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|--|--|--|
| | O | | O | | O | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | X | | X | | X | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | O | | O | | O | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | X | | X | | X | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | O | | O | | O | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | X | | X | | X | | X | | | | | | | | | | |
| ----- | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 0 | | 1 | | 2 | | 3 | | 4 | | 5 | | 6 | | | | |

Oh, I won!

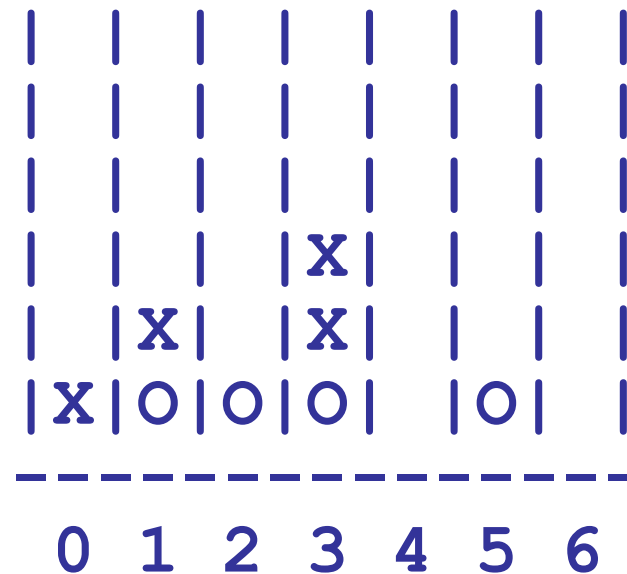
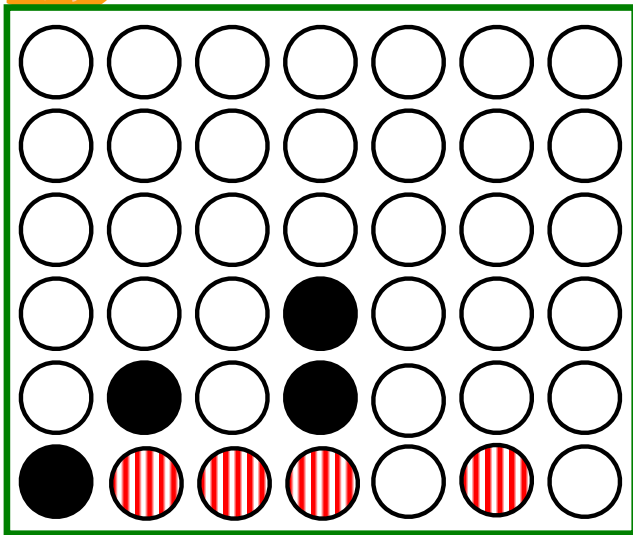


It could just play randomly... *Let's try!*

Or, it could always play as far left as possible... *Let's try that, too!* 

C4 AI ~ how should it work?

I feel ahead
of the game
here...

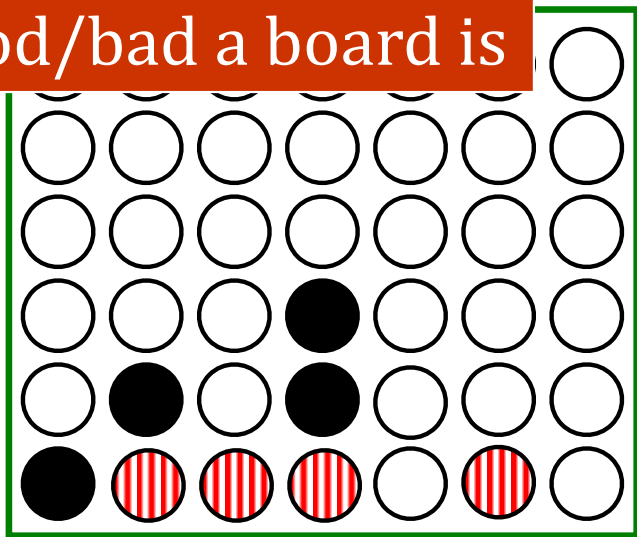


It should **(1)** win and **(2)** *block* wins, if possible.

Otherwise it should just play as well as it can... ?!

C4 AI ~ how should it work?

Human-style game AI:
"intuitive" evaluation of
how good/bad a board is



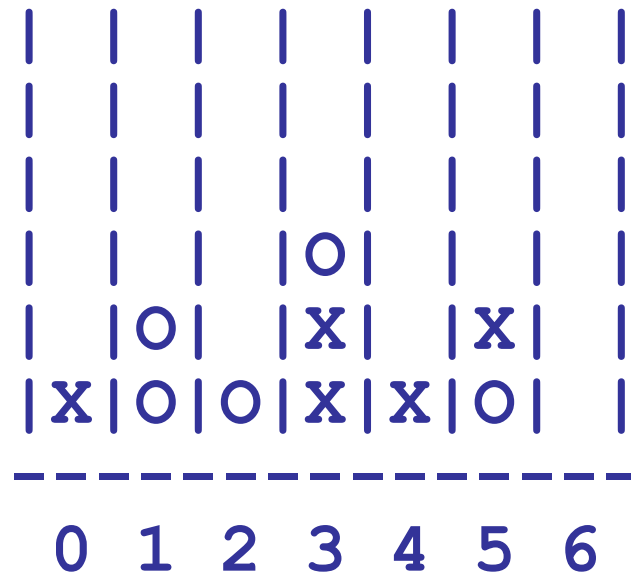
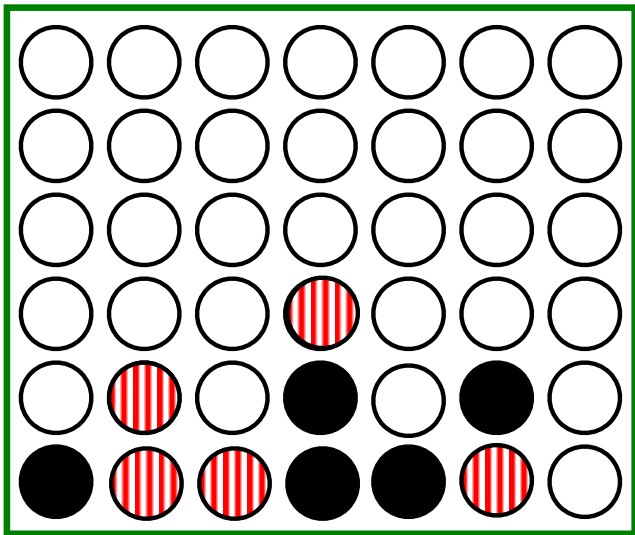
Machine-style game AI:
looking ahead as far as
possible

0 1 2 3 4 5 6

It should **(1)** win and **(2)** *block* wins, if possible.

Otherwise it should just play as well as it can... ?!

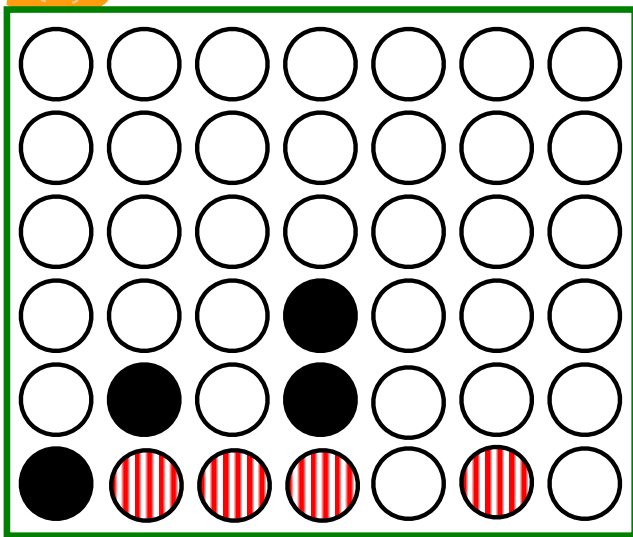
C4 AI ~ "intuitive" moves?



If there isn't a win or loss... where should you go? Why?

C4 AI ~ *lookahead* moves...

I feel ahead
of the game
here...



Both we – and machines –
can look ahead *much*
further than this!

0 1 2 3 4 5 6

It should **(1)** win and **(2)** *block* wins, when it can.

Otherwise it should just play as well as it can... ?!

Deep Blue (chess computer)

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Deep Blue was a chess-playing computer developed by IBM. On May 11, 1997, the machine, with human intervention between games, won the second six-game match against world champion Garry Kasparov by two wins to one with three draws.^[1] Kasparov accused IBM of cheating and demanded a rematch, but IBM refused and dismantled Deep Blue.^[2] Kasparov had beaten a previous version of Deep Blue in 1996.

Contents [hide]

- 1 Origins
- 2 Deep Blue versus Kasparov
- 3 Aftermath
- 4 See also
- 5 Notes
- 6 References
- 7 Further reading
- 8 External links



Origins

[\[edit\]](#)

Deep Blue (chess computer)

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Deep Blue was a chess-playing computer developed by IBM. On May 11, 1997, the machine, with human intervention between games, won the second six-game match against world champion Garry Kasparov by two wins to one with three draws.^[1] Kasparov accused IBM of cheating and demanded a rematch, but IBM refused and dismantled Deep Blue.^[2] Kasparov had beaten



Deep Blue, with its capability of evaluating 200 million positions per second, was the fastest computer to face a world chess champion. Today, in computer chess research and matches of world class players against computers, the focus of play has often shifted to software chess programs, rather than using dedicated chess hardware. Modern chess programs like Houdini, Rybka, Deep Fritz or Deep Junior are more efficient than the programs during Deep Blue's era. In a November 2006 match between Deep Fritz and world chess champion Vladimir Kramnik, the program ran on a computer system containing a dual-core Intel Xeon 5160 CPU, capable of evaluating only 8 million positions per second, but searching to an average depth of 17 to 18 plies in the middlegame thanks to heuristics; it won 4–2.^{[26][27]}

One of the cultural impacts of Deep Blue was the creation of a new game called Arimaa designed to be much more difficult for computers than chess.^[22]

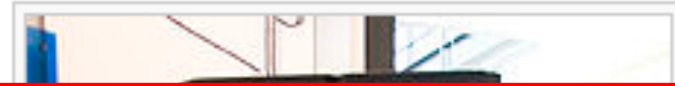
Origins

[\[edit\]](#)

Deep Blue (chess computer)

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Deep Blue was a chess-playing computer developed by IBM. On May 11, 1997, the machine,



[Arimaa - Intuitively simple ... intellectually challenging](#)

[arimaa.com/](#) ▼

GAMES Magazine: 2011 Best Abstract Strategy Game. This deep and groundbreaking game is not new, but we praise Z-Man for launching a thematic set to ...

[Arimaa Game Rules](#)

[arimaa.com/arimaa/learn/rulesIntro.html](#) ▼

Arimaa is designed so that it can easily be played using a standard chess set. To make the game easier to learn for someone who is not familiar with chess, the ...

[Arimaa - Wikipedia](#)

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arimaa> ▼

Arimaa /əˈriːmə/ (About this sound listen) is a two-player strategy board game that was designed to be playable with a standard chess set and difficult for ...

[Rules](#) · [Movement](#) · [Annual tournaments](#) · [Arimaa Challenge](#)

[Arimaa | Board Game | BoardGameGeek](#)

<https://boardgamegeek.com/boardgame/4616/arimaa> ▼

Arimaa, pronounced "a-ree-muh," is a game where stronger animals like elephants and camels freeze, push, and pull the weaker ones from the opposing team ...

[Arimaa Free Strategy Game Software - Smart Games](#)

[www.smart-games.com/arimaa.html](#) ▼



Arimaa

Game

Arimaa is a two-player strategy board game that was designed to be playable with a standard chess set and difficult for computers while still being easy to learn and fun to play for humans. [Wikipedia](#)

Publisher: [Z-Man Games](#)

Designer(s): Omar Syed and Aamir Syed

Players: 2

Skill(s) required: Strategy, tactics

Genres: Board game, Abstract strategy game

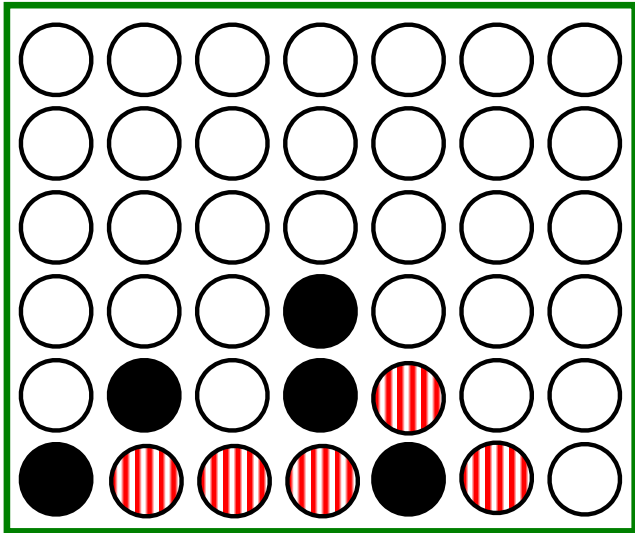
world chess
of play has
like
vember
system
ching to an

One of the cultural impacts of Deep Blue was the creation of a new game called **Arimaa** designed to be much more difficult for computers than chess.^[22]

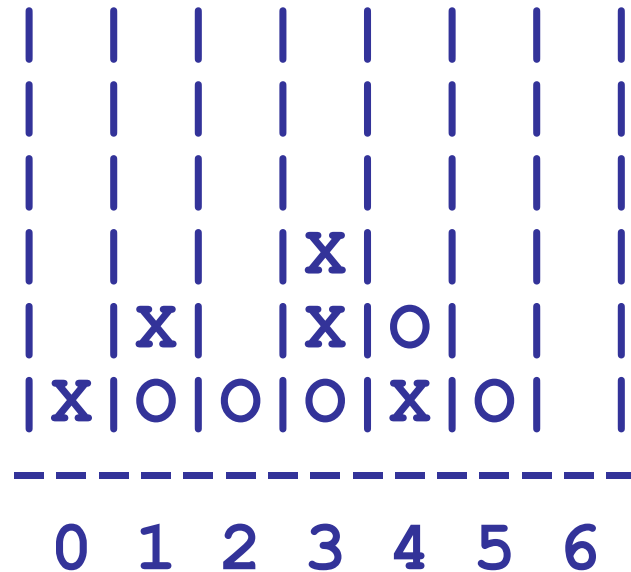
[Origins](#)

[\[edit\]](#)

Plies ~ "turns to checkmate" (for any game)



How many moves ahead might we have to look?



b0

x5.scoresFor(b0)

Plying our intuitions...

In all 4 of these boards, **X** will move to col 3,
even if both players tiebreak to the **LEFT**

Find + circle the reason why 'X' moves to col. #3 for each... Name(s) _____

↓

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| X | O | O | | | | | |
| X | X | X | | | | | |
| O | X | O | | | | | |
| O | X | X | | | | | |
| O | O | O | | | | | |
| X | X | O | | | | | |

0 1 2 3 4 5 6

ply == 0

bC

↓

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | | | |
| O | | | | | | | |
| X | O | X | O | | | | |
| O | X | O | O | | | | |
| X | X | O | X | | | | |

0 1 2 3 4 5 6

ply == 1

bA

↓

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | | | |
| O | X | | | | | | |
| X | X | | | | | | |
| O | O | O | | | | | |
| X | O | X | O | | | | |

0 1 2 3 4 5 6

ply == 2

bD

↓

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | | | |
| X | O | | | | | | |
| O | X | | | | | | |
| O | O | | | | | | |
| X | X | | | | | | |

0 1 2 3 4 5 6

ply == 3

bB

↓

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| O | O | O | | | | | |
| X | X | X | | | | | |
| O | O | O | | | | | |
| X | X | X | | | | | |
| O | O | O | | | | | |
| X | X | X | X | | | | |

0 1 2 3 4 5 6

Example

X: ply == 0,
O: ply == 0,
both: tbt == 'LEFT'

b.playGame(x0, o0)

Challenge: What will happen if you run **X** at 1 ply and **O** at 1 ply, each tiebreaking LEFT?

Challenge: What about 2-ply each?

→

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| O | O | | | | | | |
| X | X | | | | | | |
| O | O | | | | | | |
| X | X | | | | | | |
| O | O | | | | | | |
| X | X | | | | | | |

0 1 2 3 4 5 6

Plying our intuitions...

In all 4 of these boards, **X** will move to col 3, even if both players tiebreak to the **LEFT**

Find + circle the reason why 'X' moves to col. #3 for each...

Try this on the back page first...

bC

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| X | O | O | | | | |
| X | X | X | | | | |
| O | X | O | | | | |
| O | X | X | | | | |
| O | O | O | | | | |

0 1 2 3 4 5 6

No lookahead!

ply == 0

bA

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|--|--|--|
| | | | X | | | |
| O | | | | | | |
| X | O | X | O | | | |
| O | X | O | O | | | |
| X | X | O | X | | | |

0 1 2 3 4 5 6

ply == 1

bD

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|--|--|--|
| | O | X | | | | |
| X | X | | | | | |
| O | O | O | X | | | |
| X | O | X | O | | | |

0 1 2 3 4 5 6

ply == 2

bB

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | | |
| X | O | | | | | |
| O | X | | | | | |
| O | O | | | | | |
| X | X | | | | | |

0 1 2 3 4 5 6

ply == 3

Example

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|--|--|--|
| O | O | O | | | | |
| X | X | X | | | | |
| O | O | O | | | | |
| X | X | X | | | | |
| O | O | O | | | | |
| X | X | X | X | | | |

0 1 2 3 4 5 6

X: ply == 0,
O: ply == 0,
both: tbt == 'LEFT'

b.playGame(x0, o0)

Challenge: What will happen if you run **X** at 1 ply and **O** at 1 ply, each tiebreaking LEFT?

Challenge: What about 2-ply each?

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| | O | O | | | | |
| X | X | | | | | |
| O | O | | | | | |
| X | X | | | | | |
| O | O | | | | | |
| X | X | | | | | |

0 1 2 3 4 5 6

Let's try it!!

After Deep Blue...

You lose, man - World chess champion falls to super computer

Boston Herald - Monday, May 12, 1997

Author: Bill Hutchinson

Watch out humans, the world will never be the same.

IBM's super-calculating computer Deep Blue made a statement for oppressed machines everywhere when it thundered to victory over mankind's greatest chess player, Garry Kasparov.

Deep Blue? Heck, call it Mr. Blue from now on.

In the New York City chess duel of Man vs. Machine, Deep Blue puzzled its human counterpart to a blood-boiling breakdown.

"I have to apologize for today's performance," the 34-year-old Russian Kasparov said after suffering the first chess defeat of his professional career. "I had no real energy to fight."

Deep Blue scored its 3 1/2 point to 2 1/2 point triumph in an astonishing 88-minutes. Kasparov shocked the chess world by resigning after only 19 moves with the black pieces.



Championship

[ABOUT](#)

[SCHEDULE](#)

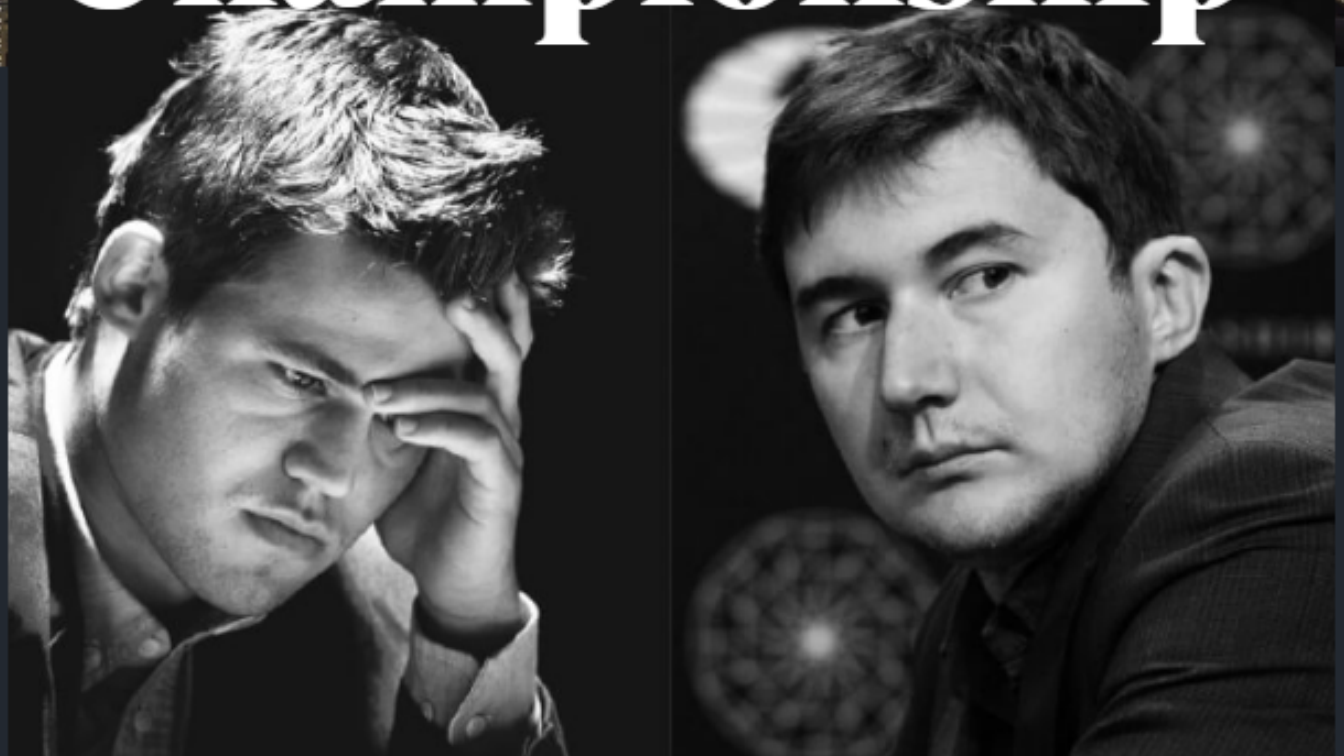
[VENUE](#)

[TICKETS](#)

[RULES](#)

[VIP](#)

[VOLUNTEER](#)



The World Chess Championship Match 2016, held from 11 to 30 November, will be contested by 25 year old reigning champion Magnus Carlsen of Norway and his challenger, 26 year old Sergey Karjakin of Russia – and this is the first time that two players who have come of age in the computer era are fighting for the title and represent a generational shift in chess.

Why 22-Year-Old Magnus Carlsen Is the New King of Chess

ARTICLE

COMMENTS (15)

CHESS MAGNUS CARLSEN NORWAY VISHY ANAND

Email Print Facebook Twitter Google+ LinkedIn

By Jamaal Abdul-Alim



But, in practice...

In Norway, Chess Broadcast Spurs NFL-Like Fan Frenzy

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

ESSAY

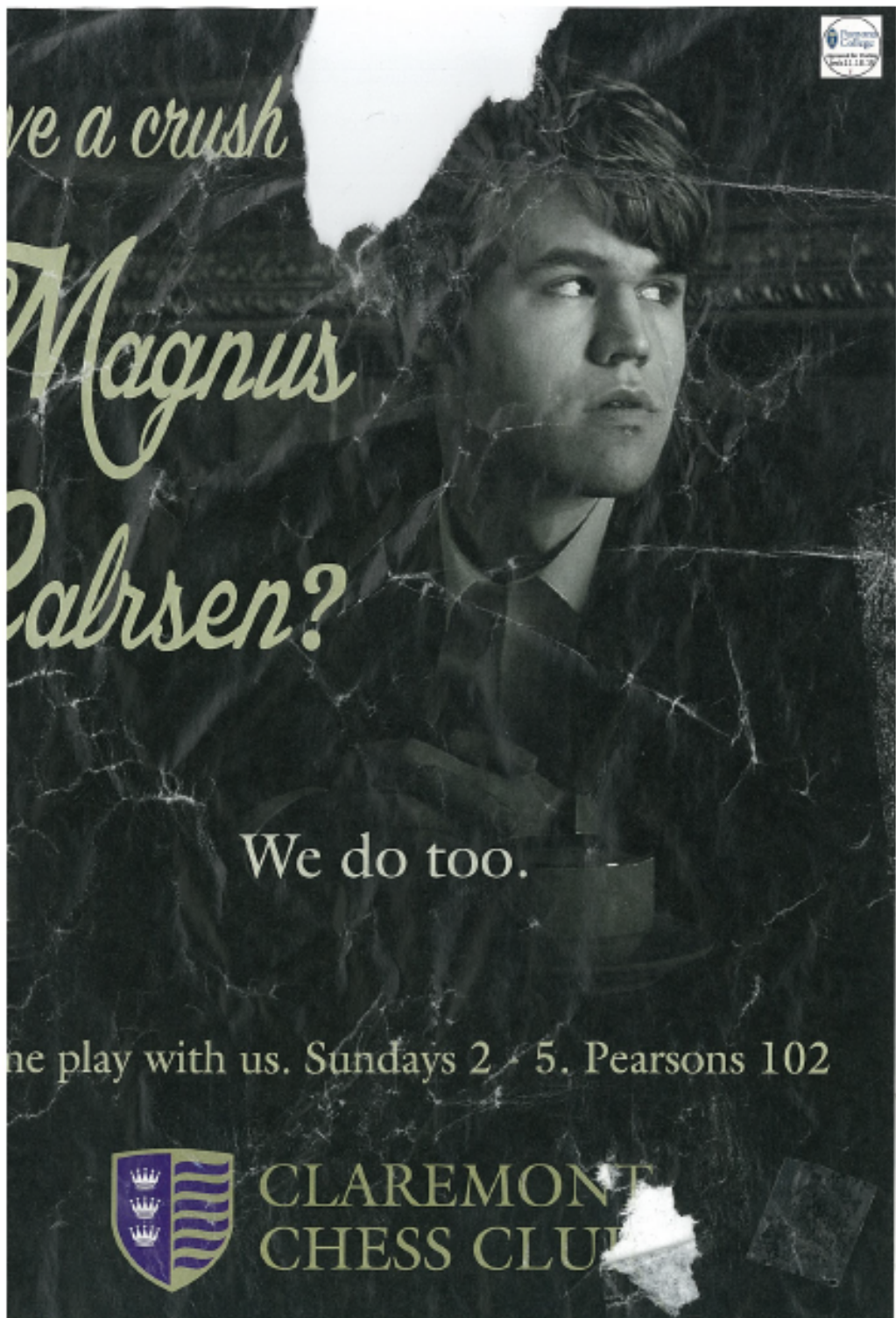
Chess-Championship Results Show Powerful Role of Computers

The digital revolution has pushed human abilities to new heights



Computers have gone so far that the top human players are now those who most often play the moves that would be chosen by the best engines (which sport names like Houdini, HIARCS and Rybka). Magnus Carlsen's biographers dub him the "hero of the computer era." Indeed, a study published on ChessBase.com earlier this year showed that in the tournament Mr. Carlsen won to qualify for the world championship match, he played more like a computer than any of his opponents.

Humans adapt!



still popular!

Way, Chess Broadcast Spurs ke Fan Frenzy

T JOURNAL.

onship Results Show Powerful Role of

as pushed human abilities to new heights

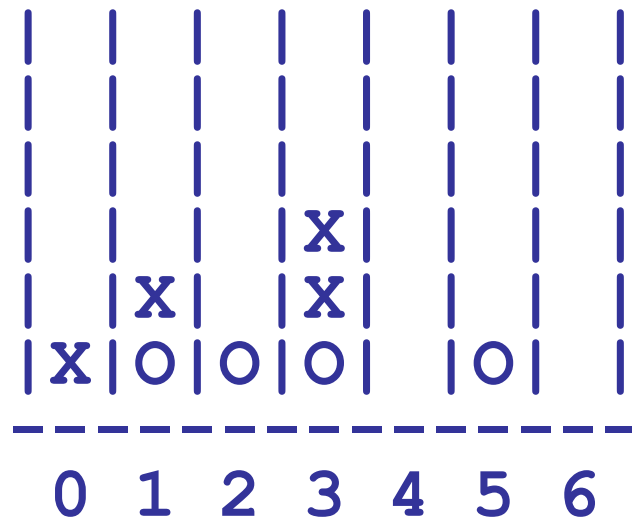
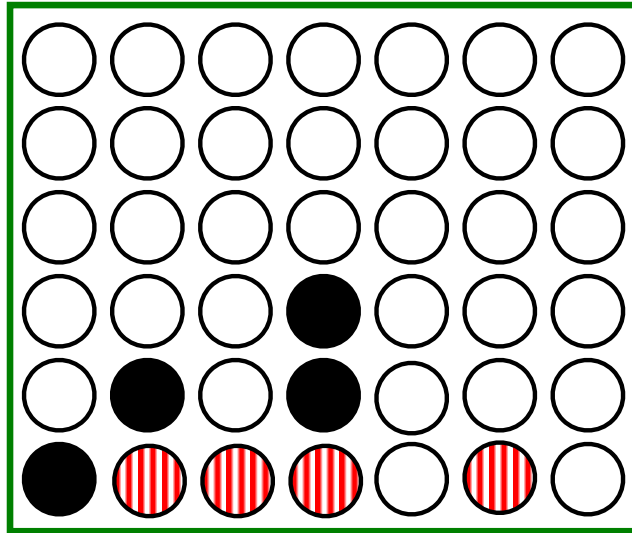


man players are now those who most often
e best engines (which sport names like
sen's biographers dub him the "hero of the
n ChessBase.com earlier this year showed
qualify for the world championship match, he
opponents.

Humans
adapt!

Connect 4, Part 2

hw11pr2.py



1 ply + 2 ply

what methods will help?

`colsToWin(self, ox)`

`b.colsToWin('O')`

`b.colsToWin('X')`

intuition-based
tiebreaking

what methods will help?

`aiMove(self, ox)`

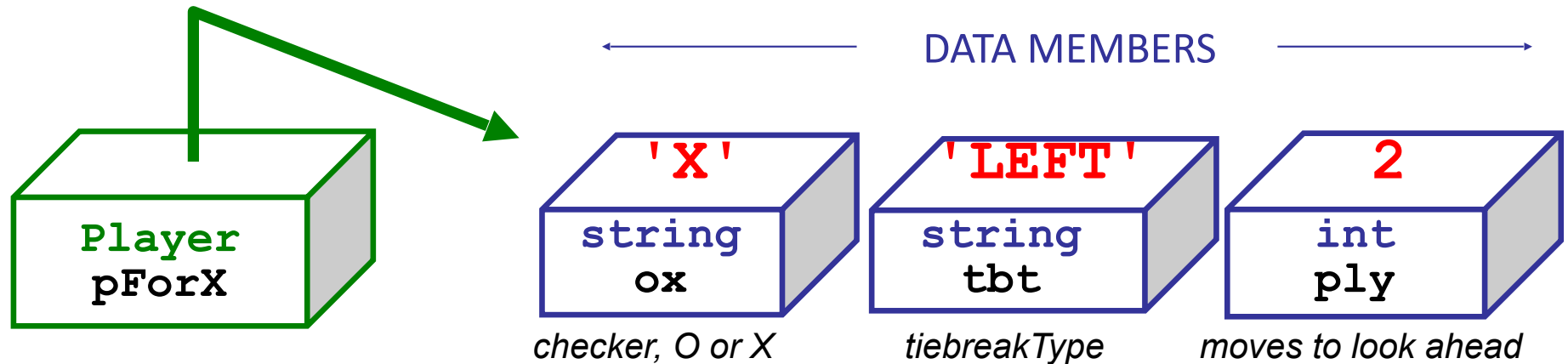
`b.aiMove('O')`

`b.aiMove('X')`

`hostGame(self)`

The `Player` class

What **data** does a computer AI player need?



ox? tbt? ply?



... perhaps *surprisingly, not so much.*

```
x = Player('X', 'LEFT', 42)
x0rn
o0rn
b.playGame( x0rn, o0rn )
```

Looking further ahead... !

How could we write a 3-ply lookahead?
What about 4-ply? *N-ply*?

How many ply of lookahead would we need to play a *perfect* game of Connect Four?



Player's algorithms...

Board

`__init__(self, width, height)`

`allowsMove(self, col)`

`addMove(self, col, ox)`

`delMove(self, col)`

`__repr__(self)`

`isFull(self)`

`winsFor(self, ox)`

`hostGame(self)`

`playGame(self, pForX, pForO)`

Player

`__init__(self, ox, tbt, ply)`

`__repr__(self)`

`oppCh(self)`

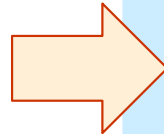
`scoreBoard(self, b)`

`scoresFor(self, b) ★`

`tiebreakMove(self, scores)`

`nextMove(self, b)`

Demos?

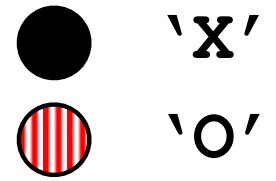


Why AI is challenging:

Make no mistake about it:
computers process numbers -
not symbols.

Computers can only help us to
the extent that we can
arithmetize an activity.

scoreBoard(self, b)



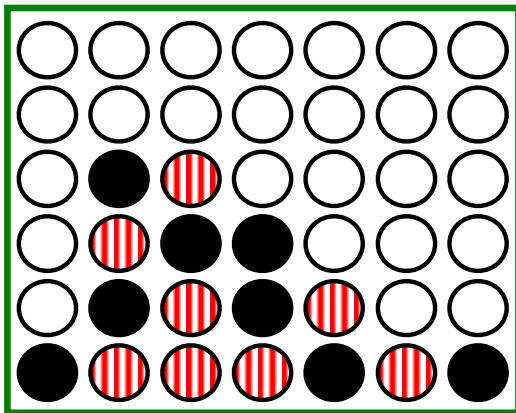
Returns a *score* for any board, **b**

A simple system:

100.0
for a win

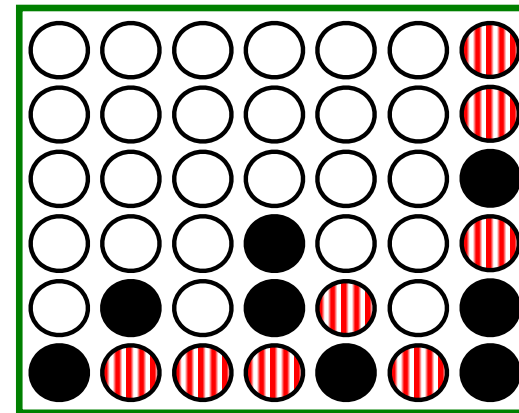
50.0
for anything else

0.0
for a loss



Score for ●

Score for ○



Score for ●

Score for ○

scoresFor at 0 ply...

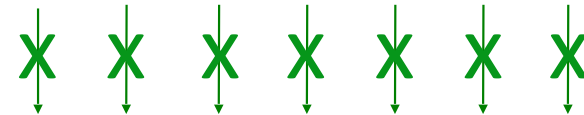
What should `scoresFor` return for  with `ply == 0`

0 ply is a Zen-like approach: *exist only in the present*



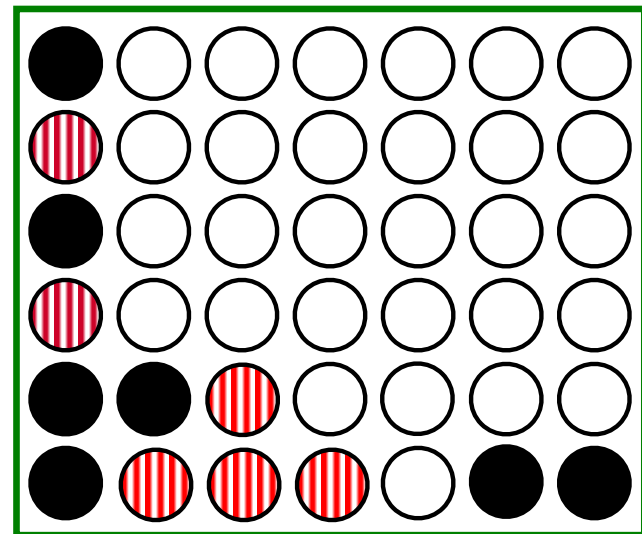
We still use `-1` as the score into a full column.

0-ply scores for 



0-ply means 0 moves are made!


to
move



`o0.scoresFor(b2)`

scoresFor at 1 ply...

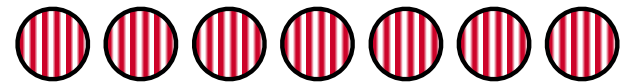
What should `scoresFor` return for  with `ply == 1`

A 1-ply lookahead player will "see" an impending victory.

"Gotcha!"

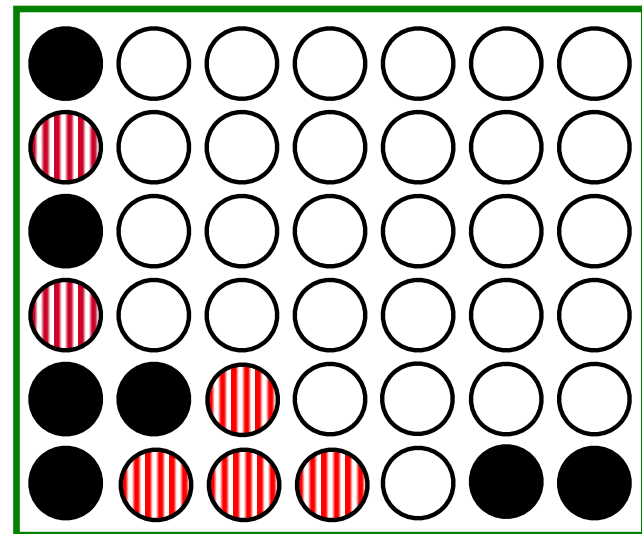


1-ply scores for 



1-ply means 1 move is made!


to
move



`o1.scoresFor(b2)`

scoresFor at 2 ply for ●

What should `scoresFor` return for ● with `ply == 2`

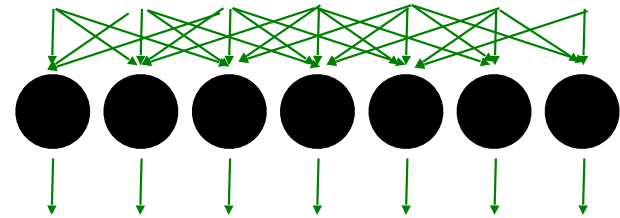
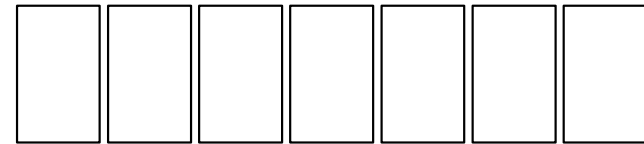
A 2-ply lookahead player will see a way to win or block the opponent's win

"Gotcha!" + "Uh Oh..."

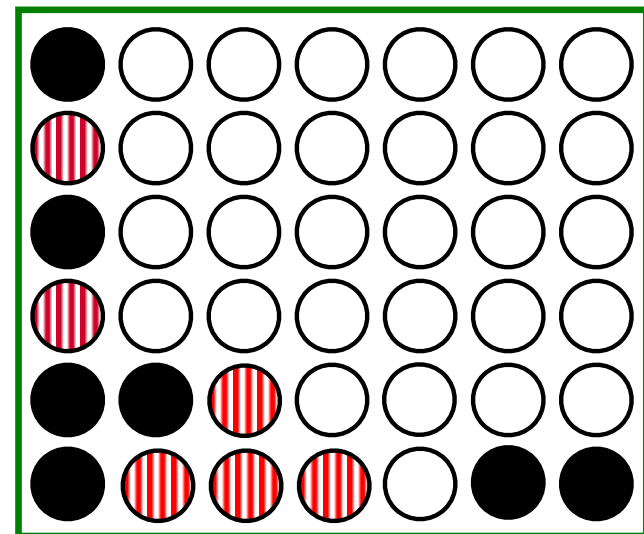


What about 3-ply?

2-ply scores for ●



2-ply means 2 moves are made!



●
to
move

`x2.scoresFor (b2)`

scoresFor at 2 ply for

What should `scoresFor` return for  with `ply == 2`

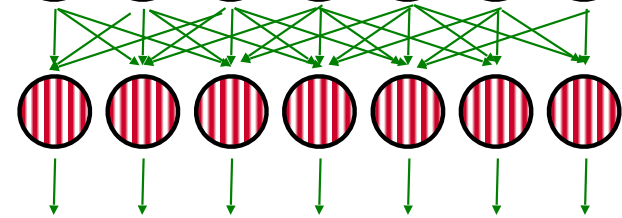
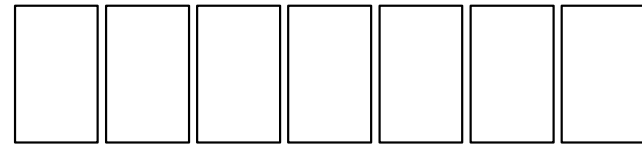
A 2-ply lookahead player will see a way to win or block the opponent's win

"Gotcha!" + "Uh Oh..."

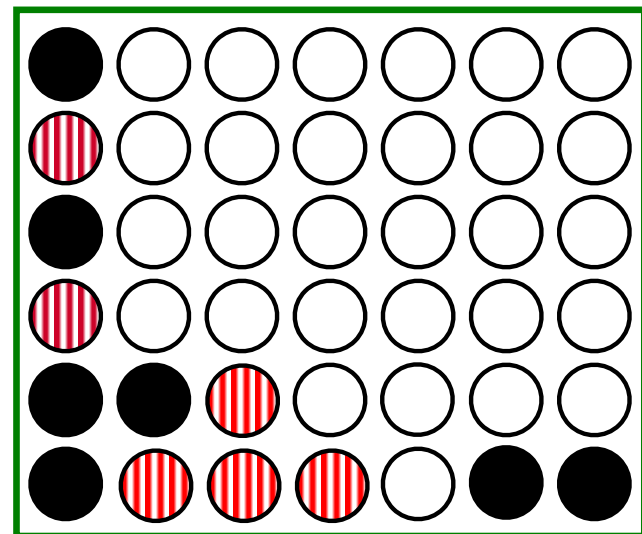


What about 3-ply?

2-ply scores for



2-ply means 2 moves are made!




to
move

`o2.scoresFor (b2)`

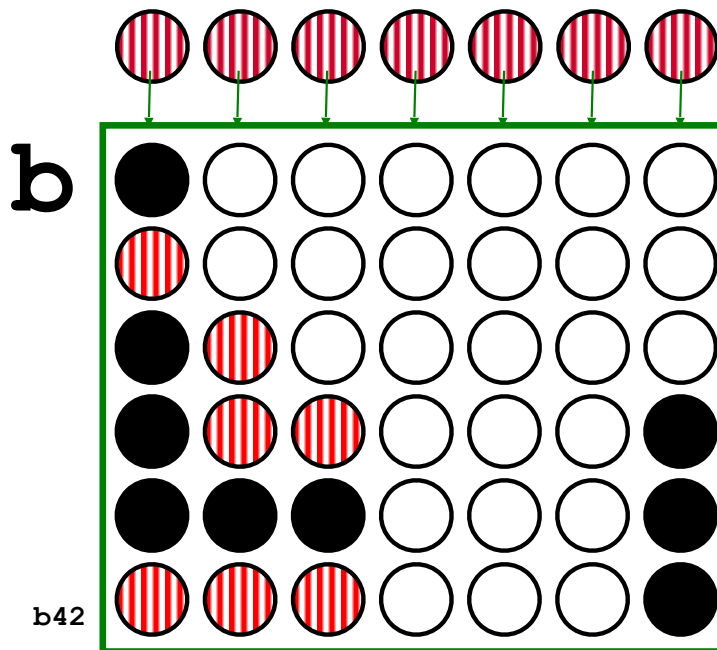
So many ply!

Fill in the list of scores returned by `scoresFor`

The same move is evaluated at each ply... it's just evaluated farther into the future!

Each row is different in at least 1 score...

Quiz



 'O'
you are playing 'O'

`scoresFor (b)`
`ox == 'O' and ply == 0`

| col 0 | col 1 | col 2 | col 3 | col 4 | col 5 | col 6 |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| -1 | 50 | 50 | 50 | 50 | 50 | 50 |

`scoresFor (b)`
`ox == 'O' and ply == 1`

| col 0 | col 1 | col 2 | col 3 | col 4 | col 5 | col 6 |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| -1 | | | | | | |

`scoresFor (b)`
`ox == 'O' and ply == 2`

| col 0 | col 1 | col 2 | col 3 | col 4 | col 5 | col 6 |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| -1 | | | | | | |

`scoresFor (b)`
`ox == 'O' and ply == 3`

| col 0 | col 1 | col 2 | col 3 | col 4 | col 5 | col 6 |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| -1 | | | | | | |

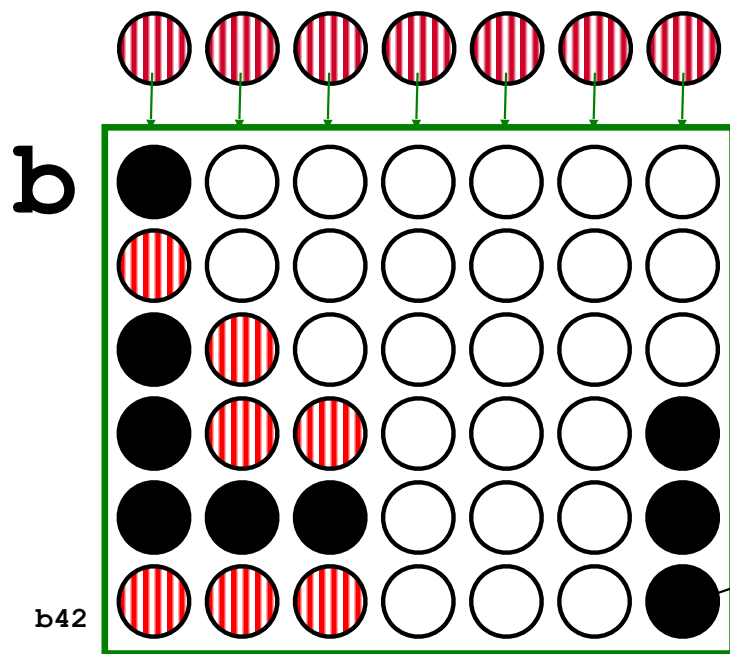
So many ply!

Fill in the list of scores returned by `scoresFor`

The same move is evaluated at each ply... it's just evaluated farther into the future!

Each row is different in at least 1 score...

Quiz



b42

| col 0 | col 1 | col 2 | col 3 | col 4 | col 5 | col 6 |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| -1 | 50 | 50 | 50 | 50 | 50 | 50 |

`scoresFor (b)`
ox == 'O' and ply == 0

| col 0 | col 1 | col 2 | col 3 | col 4 | col 5 | col 6 |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| -1 | 50 | 50 | 100 | 50 | 50 | 50 |

`scoresFor (b)`
ox == 'O' and ply == 1

| col 0 | col 1 | col 2 | col 3 | col 4 | col 5 | col 6 |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| -1 | 0 | 0 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 50 |

`scoresFor (b)`
ox == 'O' and ply == 2

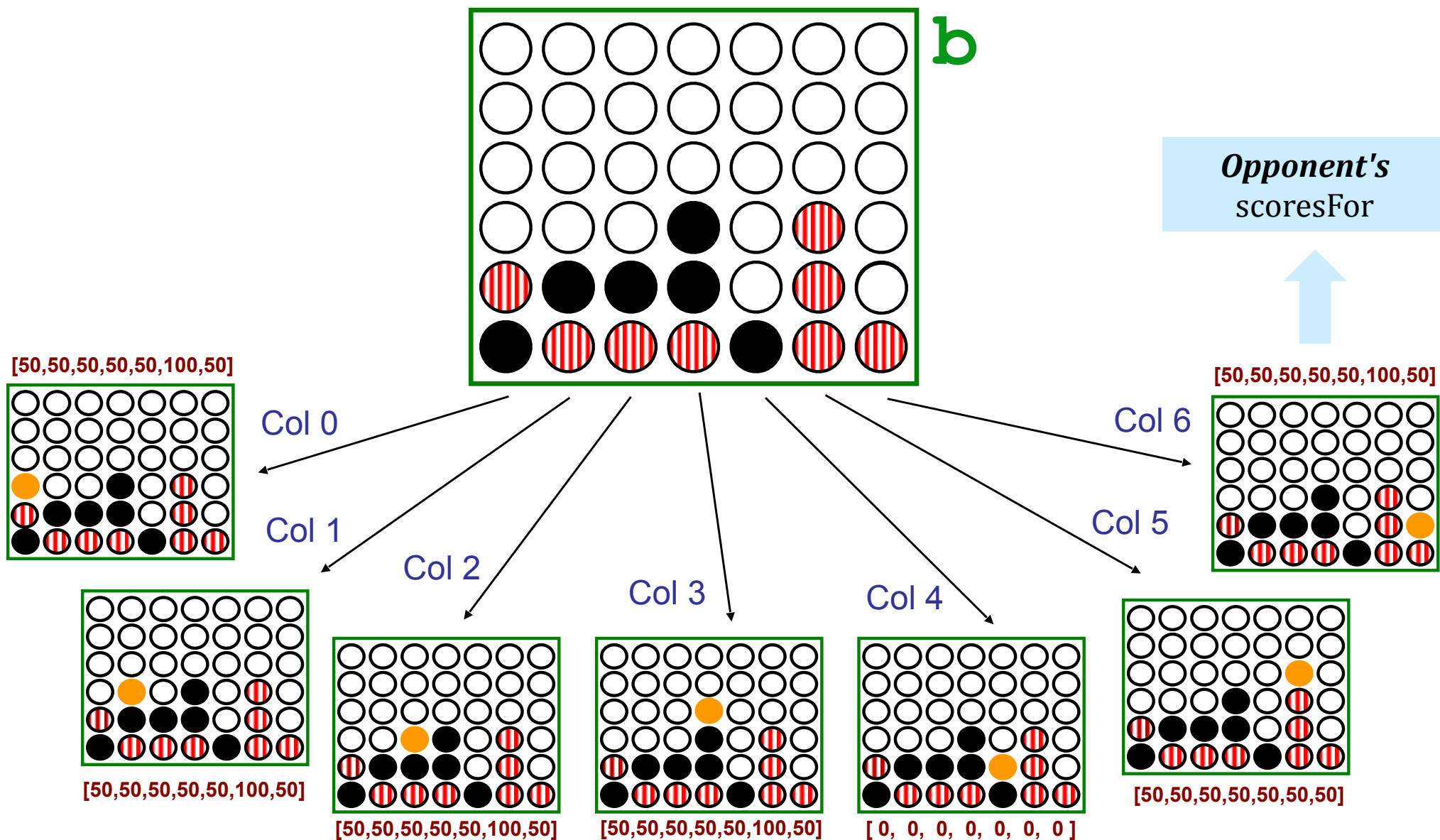
| col 0 | col 1 | col 2 | col 3 | col 4 | col 5 | col 6 |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| -1 | 0 | 0 | 100 | 0 | 0 | |

`scoresFor (b)`
ox == 'O' and ply == 3

?

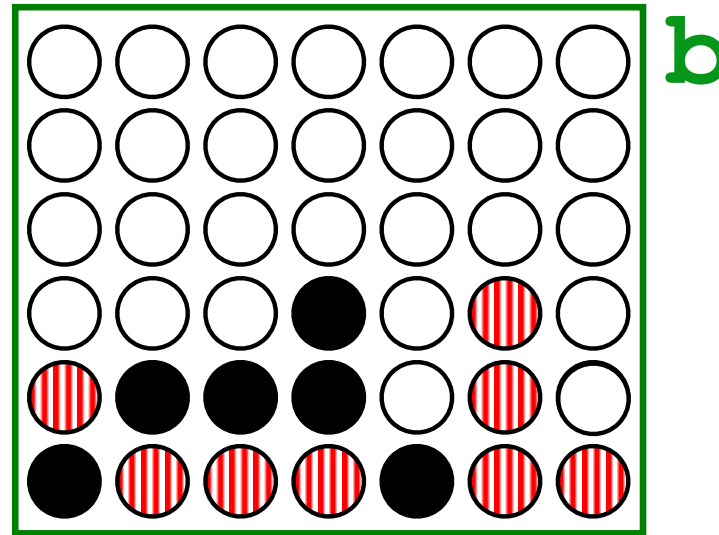
Idea: scoresFor

(self) 'X' ●
new 'X' ●



Idea: scoresFor

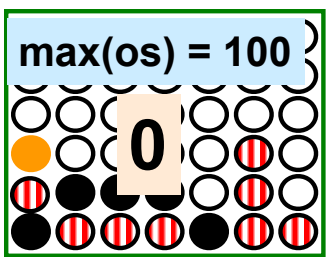
(self) 'X' ●
 new 'X' ●



Which score will the opponent choose?

self gets the **OPPOSITE** score as a result!

[50,50,50,50,50,100,50]



Col 0

Col 1

Col 2

Col 3

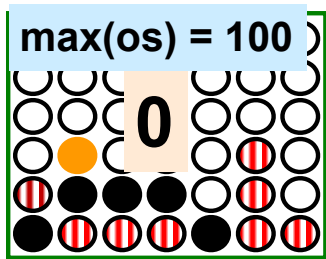
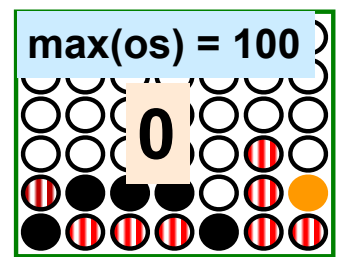
Col 4

Col 5

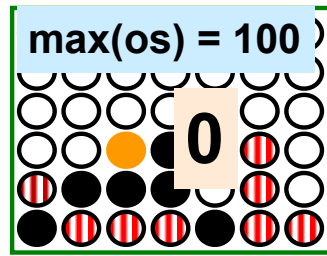
Col 6

Opponent's scoresFor

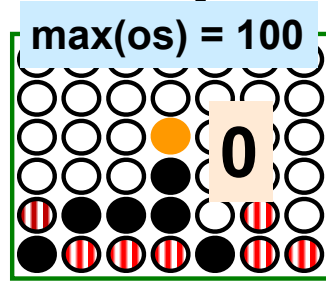
[50,50,50,50,50,100,50]



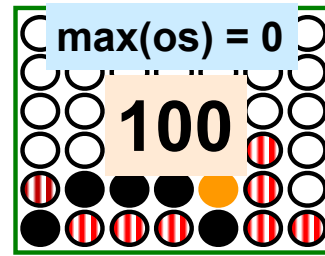
[50,50,50,50,50,100,50]



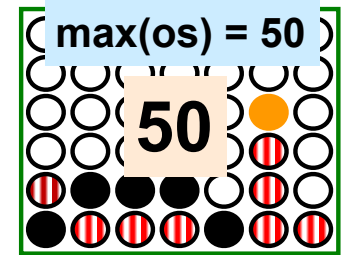
[50,50,50,50,50,100,50]



[50,50,50,50,50,100,50]



[0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0]



[50,50,50,50,50,50,50]

(0) Suppose you're playing at 2 ply...

(1) Make ALL moves!

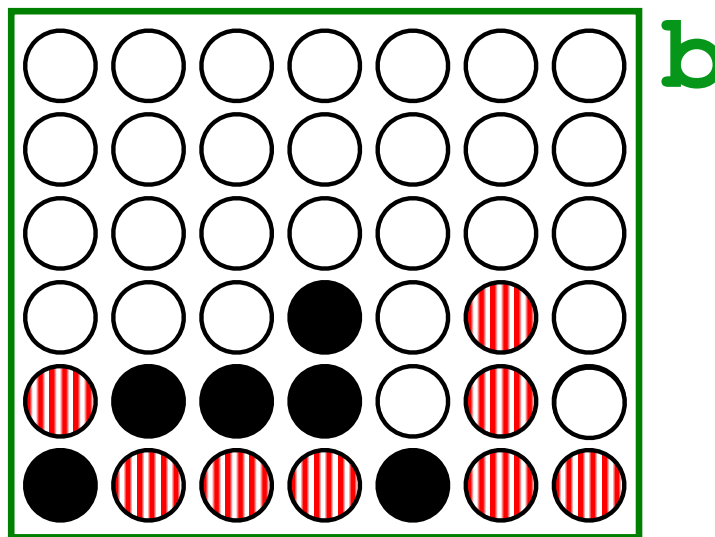
(2) Ask **OPPONENT** its scoresFor at ply-1

(3) Compute which score the opp. will take

(4) Compute what score you get...

scoresFor

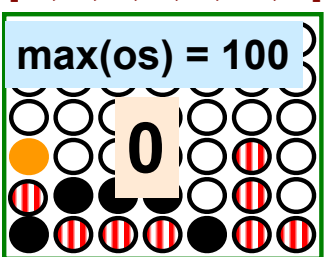
(self) 'X' ●
new 'X' ●



Which score will the opponent choose?

self gets the **OPPOSITE** score as a result!

[50,50,50,50,50,100,50]



Col 0

Col 1

Col 2

Col 3

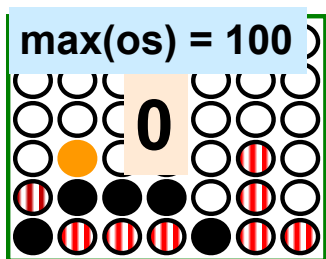
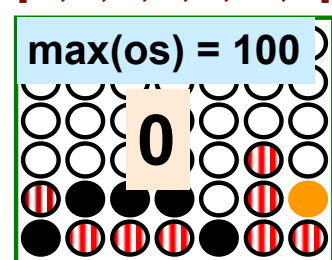
Col 4

Col 6

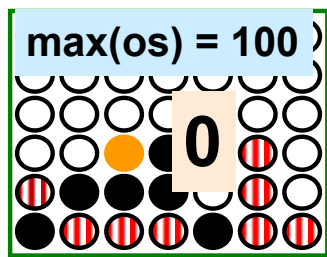
Col 5

Opponent's scoresFor

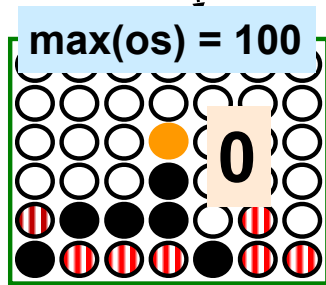
[50,50,50,50,50,100,50]



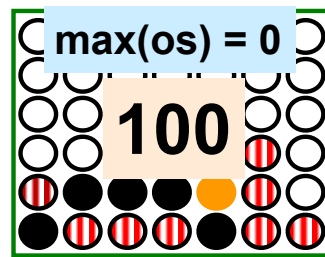
[50,50,50,50,50,100,50]



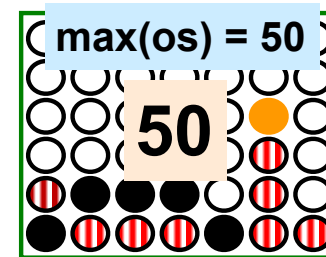
[50,50,50,50,50,100,50]



[50,50,50,50,50,100,50]



[0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0]



[50,50,50,50,50,50,50]

?

Strategic thinking == intelligence

Two-player games have been a key focus of AI
as long as computers have been around...



Alan Turing memorial
Manchester, England

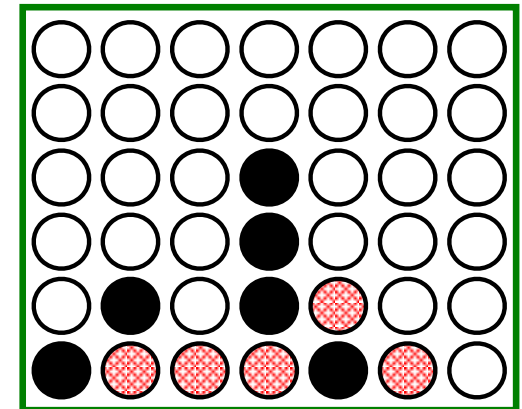
In **1945**, Alan Turing
predicted that computers
would be better chess
players than people in ~
50 years...

*and thus would have
achieved intelligence.*

Humans play via "look-up table"

An experiment (by A. deGroot) was performed in which chess positions were shown to novice and expert players for a few seconds...

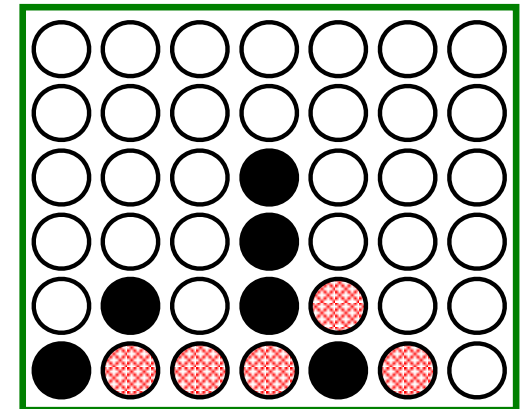
- experts could reconstruct these perfectly
- novice players did far worse...



Humans play via "look-up"

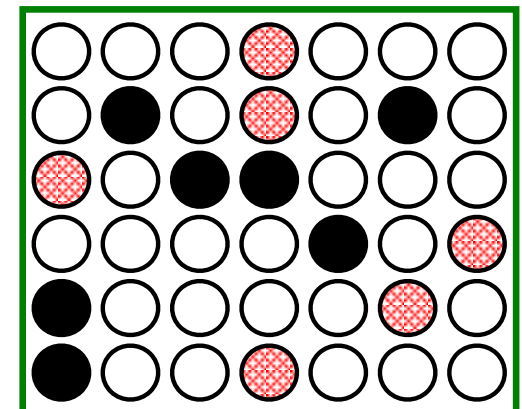
An experiment (by A. deGroot) was performed in which chess positions were shown to novice and expert players for a few seconds...

- experts could reconstruct these perfectly
- novice players did far worse...



Random chess positions (not legal ones) were then shown to the two groups

- experts and novices did **equally badly** at reconstructing them!



Connecting Connect Four ...

Connect 4



How complex are
these games?
Least? Most?

... to other strategy games.

Connecting Connect Four ...

Connect 4

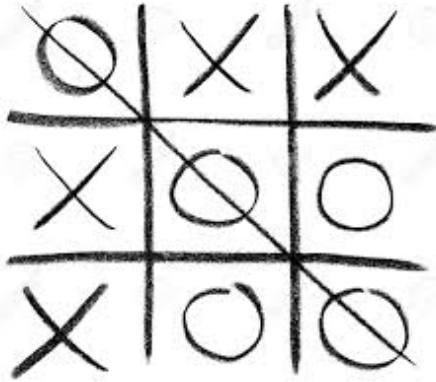


checkers

chess



reversi



tic-tac-toe



Go

How complex are these games?
Least? Most?

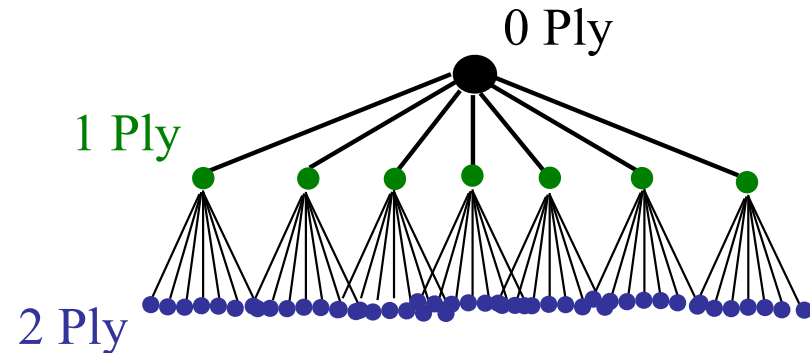
... to other strategy games.

Games' Branching Factors



On average, Connect 4 players have **seven choices** per move.

Chess players have more, **perhaps around 40**, possible choices in a given move.



Boundaries for *qualitatively* different games...

“solved” games

computer-dominated

human-dominated

Branching Factors
for different two-player games

Tic-tac-toe 4

Connect Four 7

Checkers 10

Reversi 30

Chess 40

Go 300

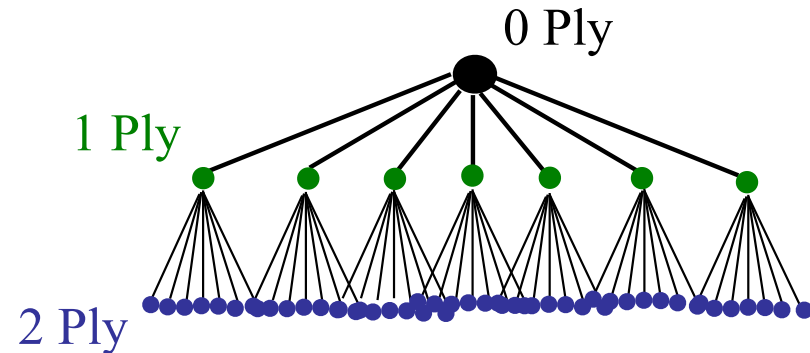
Arimaa 17,000

Games' Branching Factors



On average, Connect 4 players have **seven choices** per move.

Chess players have more, **perhaps around 40**, possible choices in a given move.



Boundaries for *qualitatively* different games...

“solved” games

computer-dominated

only until 2016

human-dominated

Branching Factors
for different two-player games

Tic-tac-toe 4

Connect Four 7

Checkers 10

Reversi 30

Chess 40

Go 300

Arimaa 17,000

A Knowledge-based Approach of Connect-Four

The Game is Solved: White Wins

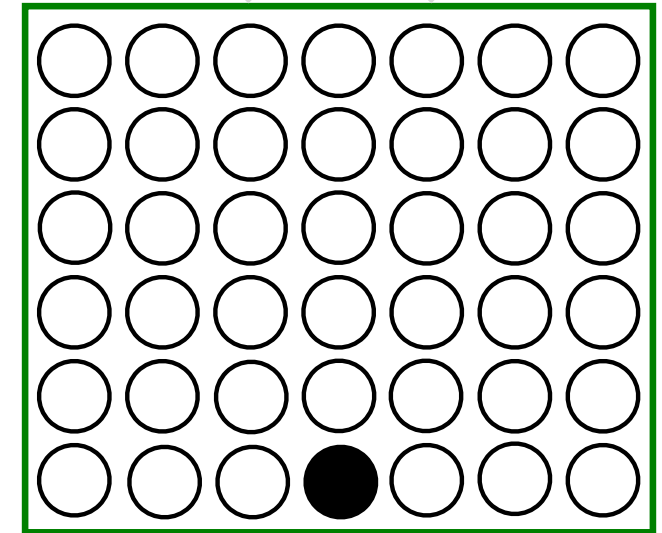
Victor Allis

Department of Mathematics and Computer Science

Vrije Universiteit

Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Masters Thesis, October 1988 †



draw/tie with perfect play

first-player loses (with perfect play)

first-player wins (with perfect play)

Connect 4 was solved in **1988**.

Science 14 September 2007:
Vol. 317. no. 5844, pp. 1518 – 1522
DOI: 10.1126/science.1144079

RESEARCH ARTICLES

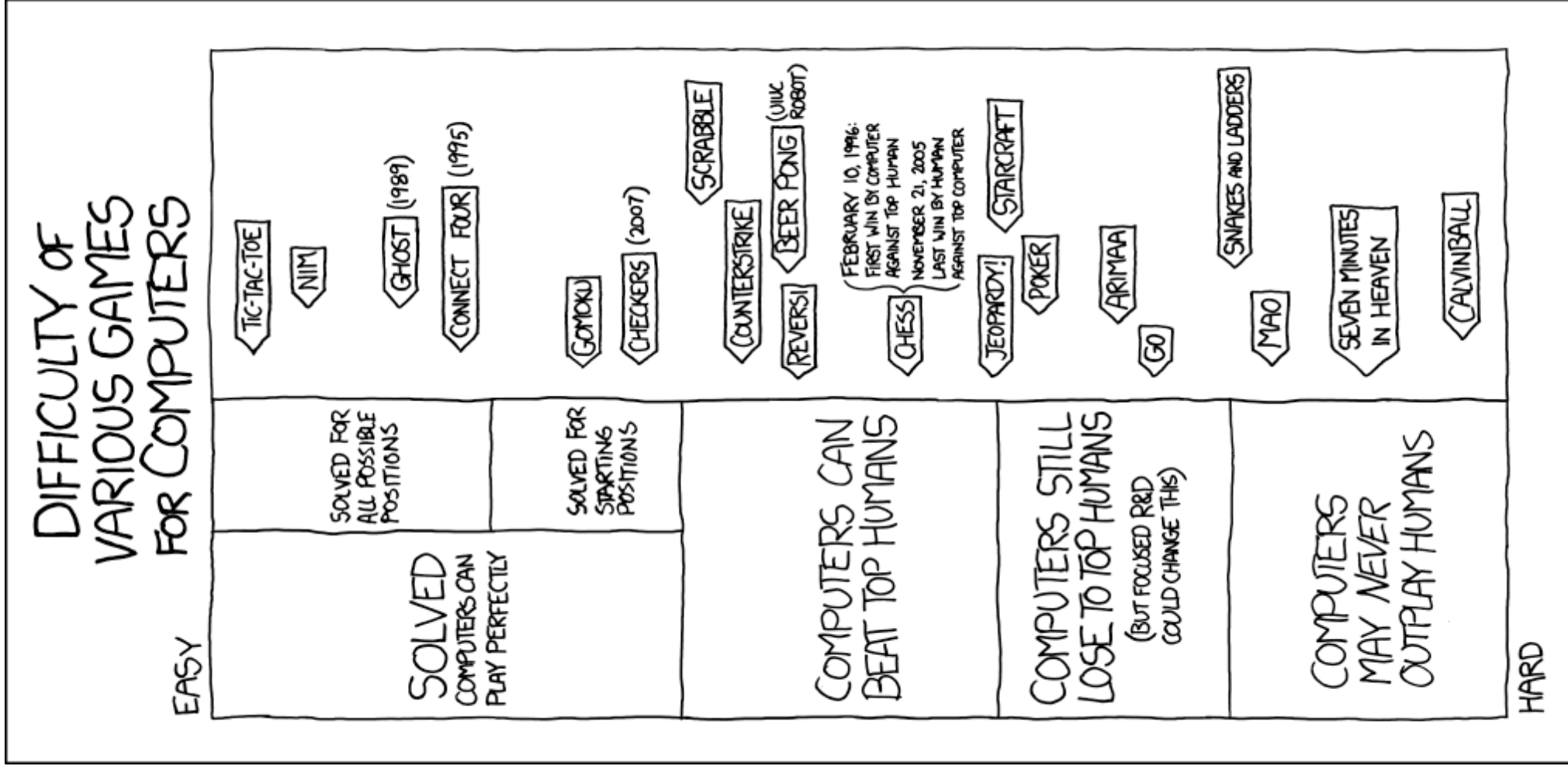
Checkers Is Solved

Jonathan Schaeffer,^{*} Neil Burch, Yngvi Björnsson,[†] Akihiro Kishimoto,[‡]
Martin Müller, Robert Lake, Paul Lu, Steve Sutphen

The game of checkers has roughly 500 billion billion possible positions (5×10^{20}). The task of solving the game, determining the final result in a game with no mistakes made by either player, is daunting. Since 1989, almost continuously, dozens of computers have been working on solving checkers, applying state-of-the-art artificial intelligence techniques to the proving process. This paper announces that checkers is now solved: Perfect play by both sides leads to a draw. This is the most challenging popular game to be solved to date, roughly one million times as complex as Connect Four. Artificial intelligence technology has been used to generate strong heuristic-based game-playing programs, such as Deep Blue for chess. Solving a game takes this to the next level by replacing the heuristics with perfection.

Checkers was solved in **2007.**

Games' complexity ~ xkcd



EASY

DIFFICULTY OF VARIOUS GAMES FOR COMPUTERS

(Games' Branching Factors)

SOLVED
COMPUTERS CAN
PLAY PERFECTLY

SOLVED FOR
ALL POSSIBLE
POSITIONS

SOLVED FOR
STARTING
POSITIONS

TIC-TAC-TOE

NIM

GHOST (1989)

CONNECT FOUR (1995)

GOMOKU

CHECKERS (2007)

SCRABBLE

COUNTERSTRIKE

REVERSI

BEER PONG (UIUC ROBOT)

COMPUTERS CAN
BEAT TOP HUMANS

CHESS

FEBRUARY 10, 1996:
FIRST WIN BY COMPUTER
AGAINST TOP HUMAN
NOVEMBER 21, 2005
LAST WIN BY HUMAN

COMPUTERS CAN BEAT TOP HUMANS

COMPUTERS STILL LOSE TO TOP HUMANS
(BUT FOCUSED R&D COULD CHANGE THIS)

COMPUTERS MAY NEVER OUTPLAY HUMANS

HARD

REVERSI (GO)

CHES

FEBRUARY 10, 1996:
FIRST WIN BY COMPUTER
AGAINST TOP HUMAN
NOVEMBER 21, 2005
LAST WIN BY HUMAN
AGAINST TOP COMPUTER

JEOPARDY!

STARCRAFT

POKER

ARIMAA

2015

GO

2016

SNAKES AND LADDERS

MAO

SEVEN MINUTES
IN HEAVEN

CALVINBALL

DIFFICULTY OF
VARIOUS GAMES
FOR COMPUTERS

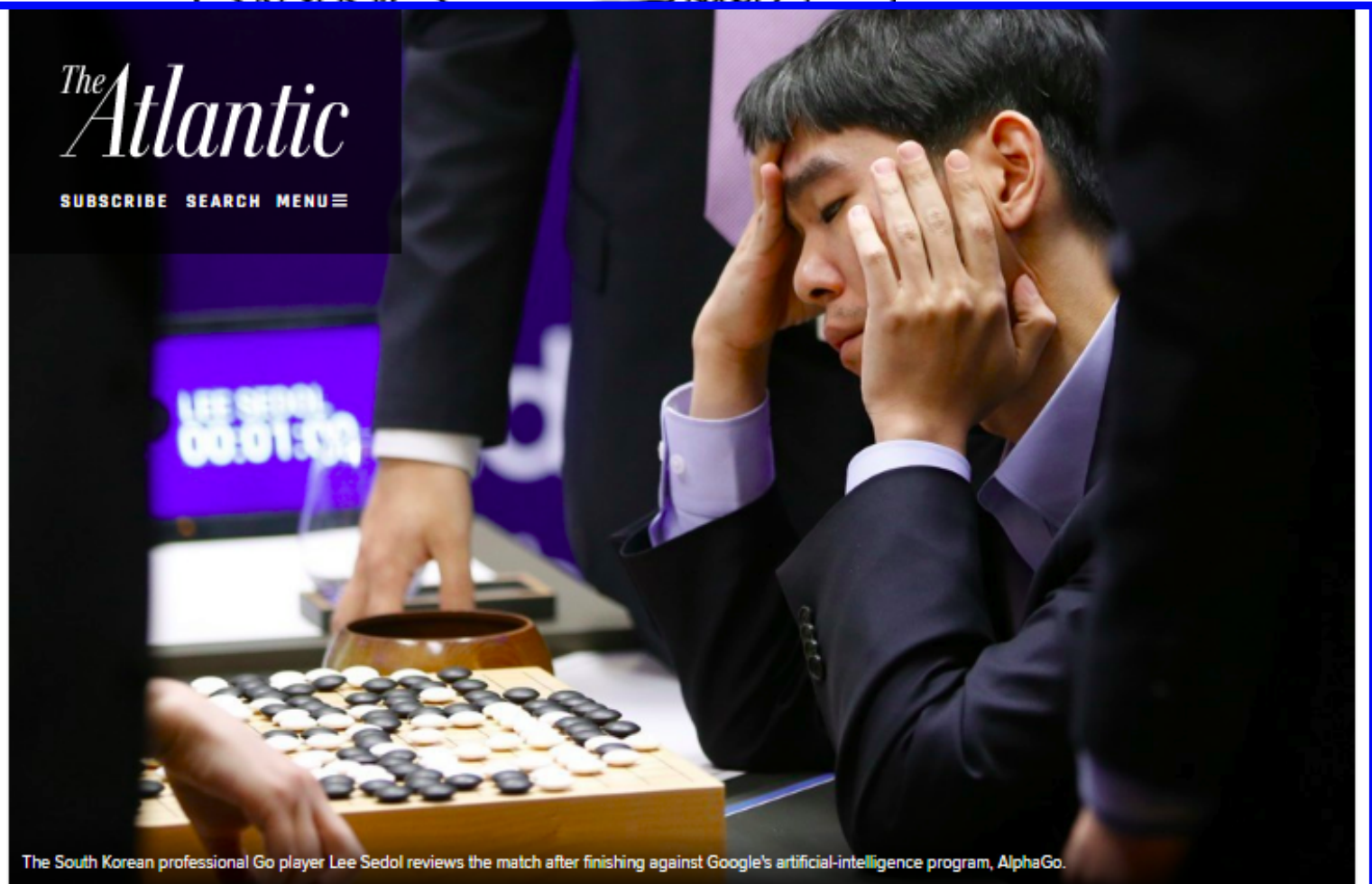
unlikely

COMPUTERS
BEAT TOP H

COMPUTERS
LOSE TO TOP
(BUT FOCUSED
COULD CHANGE

COMPUTER
MAY NEVER
OUTPLAY HU

HARD



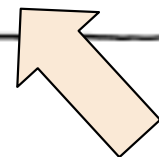
The South Korean professional Go player Lee Sedol reviews the match after finishing against Google's artificial-intelligence program, AlphaGo.

Lee Jin-man / AP

How Google's AlphaGo Beat a Go World Champion

CALVINBALL

VARIOUS GAMES
FOR COMPUTERS



COMPUTERS

The



MENU ▾

nature

International journal of science <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Sm922Xp5N4>

Altmetric: 2133 Citations: 1

[More detail >>](#)

Article

Mastering the game of Go without human knowledge

David Silver , Julian Schrittwieser, Karen Simonyan, Ioannis Antonoglou, Aja Huang, Arthur Guez, Thomas Hubert, Lucas Baker, Matthew Lai, Adrian Bolton, Yutian Chen, Timothy Lillicrap, Fan Hui, Laurent Sifre, George van den Driessche, Thore Graepel & Demis Hassabis

Nature 550, 354–359 (19 October 2017)

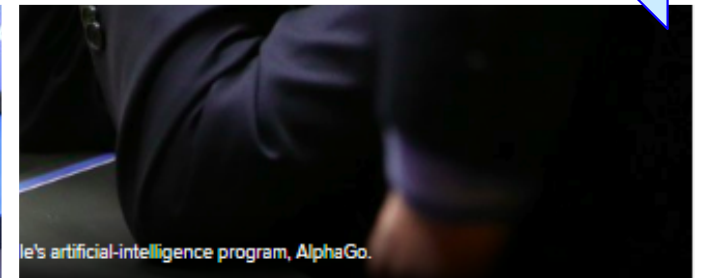
Received: 07 April 2017

doi:10.1038/nature24270

Accepted: 13 September 2017

[Download Citation](#)

Published online: 18 October 2017



le's artificial-intelligence program, AlphaGo.

Lee Jin-man / AP

COMPUTERS
MAY NEVER
OUTPLAY HU

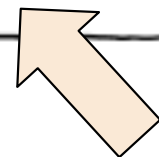
How Google's AlphaGo Beat a Go World Champion

CALVINBALL

VARIOUS GAMES
FOR COMPUTERS

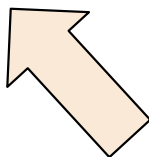
HARD

unlikely





CALVINBALL



DIFFICULTY OF VARIOUS GAMES FOR COMPUTERS