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The nature of minimax search

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The Nature of Minimax Search

D.F. Beal

1. Search is the judge of knowledge.
   (Chapter 3 - search produces more reliable values.)

2. Proofs can be harder to verify than the propositions they prove.
   (Chapter 5 - IBV.)

3. Reasoning backwards is harder than reasoning forwards.
   (Chapter 8)

4. We are limited not by what we can see, but by what we have time to see.
   (Chapter 9 - search envelopes.)

5. A successful strategy assumes there is always some way to improve the situation.
   (Chapter 10 - null-move quiescence.)

6. Any plan is better than no plan.
   (Minimax search on any numbers is better than random play.)

7. Probability theory is the understanding of ignorance.

8. Literature and arts represent the peaceful side of human nature. On the other side, games are better than war.

9. Human efforts are at their most successful when the work benefits other people.

10. Computers can think the unthinkable.