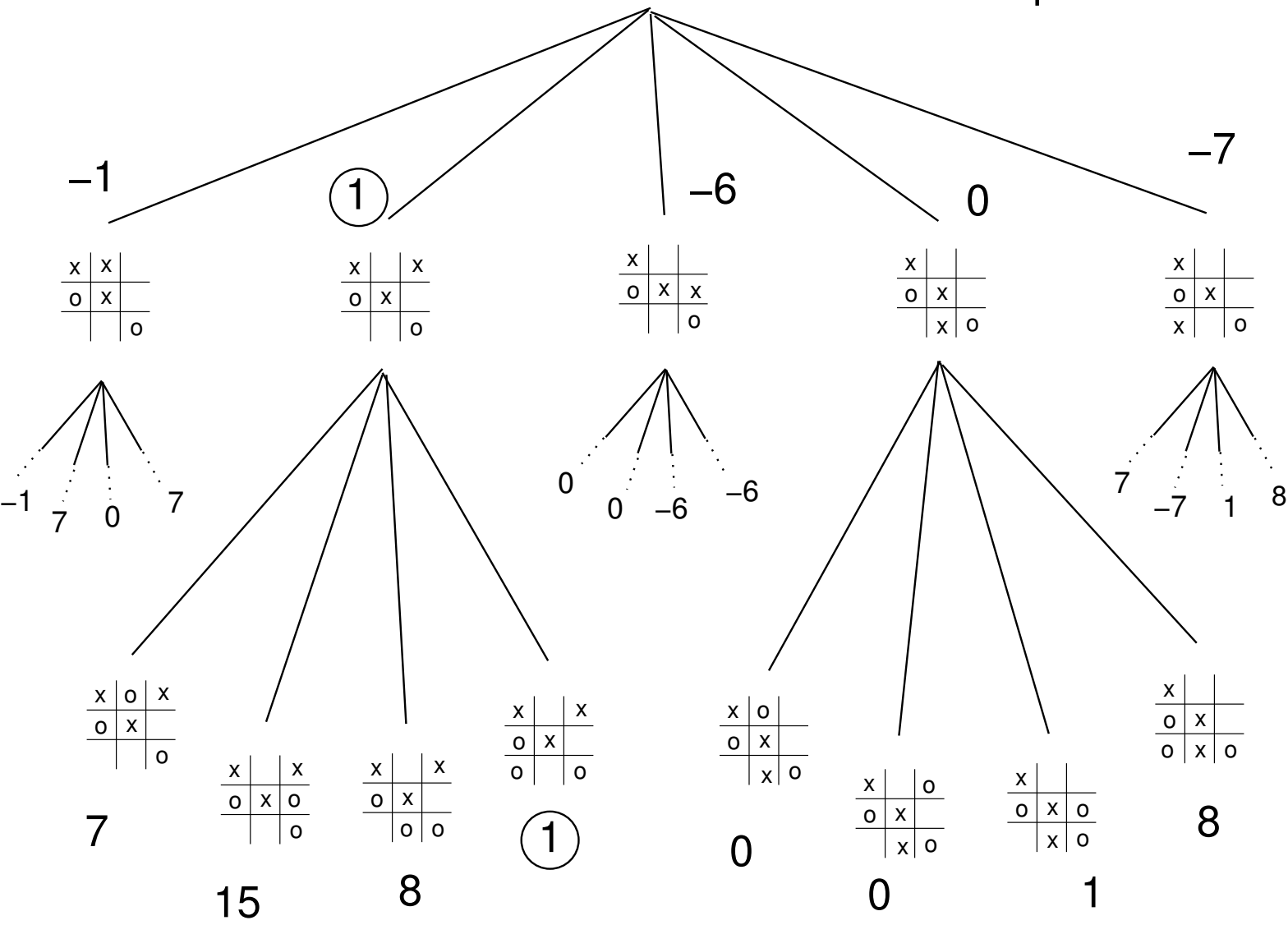


X TO MOVE

x		
o	x	
		o

"Minimaxing"  
backed-up values



Search Depth = 2

Notice that a search depth of 3 would reveal that x's best choice (row 1, column 3) leads to a win no matter what move is made by o.

Each of the 4 possible moves o could make allows 1 or 2 winning moves from the remaining 3 choices left for x.