Recent Advances in Reinforcement Learning (with a focus on AlphaGo)

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Taxonomic position of RL



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Basics of RL









"Deep" Learning and Reinforcement learning



Mnih, V., Kavukcuoglu, K., Silver, D. et al. 'Human-level control through deep reinforcement learning'. Nature 518, 529–533 (2015). https://doi.org/10.1038/nature14236



"Go" as the next holy grail

Using expert moves for supervised learning Playing against earlier versions to generate data





Defeated Lee Sedol (world champion) in a regular match 4:1 (using 48 TPUs)

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Silver, D., Huang, A., Maddison, C. et al. 'Mastering the game of Go with deep neural networks and tree search'. Nature 529, 484–489 (2016). https://doi.org/10.1038/nature16961



"Go" as the next holy grail

Monte Carlo Tree Search



Silver, D., Huang, A., Maddison, C. et al. 'Mastering the game of Go with deep neural networks and tree search'. Nature 529, 484–489 (2016). https://doi.org/10.1038/nature16961



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Dropping initial human input

Major design changes:

- using MCTS action distribution to train
- combining policy and value network
- switching to ResNet architecture
- no hand-crafted input features any more



b Neural network training







(using 4 TPUs)

Silver, D., Schrittwieser, J., Simonyan, K. et al. 'Mastering the game of Go without human knowledge'. Nature 550, 354-359 (2017). https://doi.org/10.1038/nature24270



Generalizing input/output representation

Go Chess Shogi Major design changes: Planes Feature Planes Feature Feature Planes including draws P1 stone P1 piece P1 piece 14 1 6 P2 stone P2 piece P2 piece 14 1 6 no augmentation Repetitions 2 Repetitions 3 P1 prisoner count 7 exploitation any more P2 prisoner count 7 continuously updating Colour Colour Colour 1 1 1 instead of choosing a Total move count Total move count P1 castling 2 winner after iteration 2 P2 castling always same hyper-No-progress count 1 parameters 17 119 Total Total Total 362 С Α B Chess Shogi Go 5000 -4000 3000 Elo AlphaZero 2000 AlphaZero AlphaZero AlphaGo Zero 1000 Stockfish Elmo AlphaGo Lee 0 100 200 300 400 500 600 700 100 200 300 400 500 600 700 100 200 300 400 500 600 700 0 0 0 Thousands of Steps Thousands of Steps Thousands of Steps

Silver, David, et al. 'A General Reinforcement Learning Algorithm That Masters Chess, Shogi, and Go through Self-Play'. Science, vol. 362, no. 6419, Dec. 2018, pp. 1140–44.



Leaving perfect information environments



Schrittwieser, Julian, et al. 'Mastering Atari, Go, Chess and Shogi by Planning with a Learned Model'. ArXiv:1911.08265 [Cs, Stat], Nov. 2019. arXiv.org, http://arxiv.org/abs/1911.08265.



Leaving perfect information environments



learns all game rules on its own

Compared against: Stockfish (chess), Elmo (Shogi), AlphaZero (Go), R2D2 (Atari)

Schrittwieser, Julian, et al. 'Mastering Atari, Go, Chess and Shogi by Planning with a Learned Model'. ArXiv:1911.08265 [Cs, Stat], Nov. 2019. arXiv.org, http://arxiv.org/abs/1911.08265.



Some other advances

Hide and Seek



Multiple agents in an open environment

Rw Observation Nurl Network Activations Outcome Prediction Outcome Pred

AlphaStar

approx. values	Chess	Go	Starcraft II
breadth	35	250	10 ²⁶
depth	80	150	1000s



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Thank you for your attention!

Any questions?



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Research for a Life without Cancer



