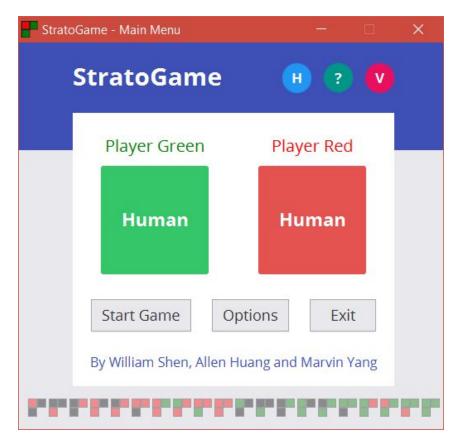
COMP1140 Group Assignment

By William Shen, Allen Huang, and Marvin Yang (tue13s)

General Summary and Design Approach

- Modern and intuitive UI and UX design easy to use, aesthetically pleasing
- Package Organisation easy to make changes if game rules are altered.
- Abstraction breaking things down into smaller segments (e.g. Tiles have been broken down into Position, Shape (which is broken down into Colour), and Orientation. Making use of the object-oriented paradigm.
- **Features** hints for human players, bot vs bot (including helpful console messages), HardBot difficulty, music, options menu, keyboard support, instructions, and tile placement viewer.

Menu





Instructions and Help



How to Play StratoGame - Instructions

nstructio

StratoGame

Basic Rules:

Players can choose either Green or Red. Each player, starts with twenty randomly shuffled tiles. By using the mouse, you can hover over to the position you want to place your tile on. Player Green can also use WASD to position, QE to rotate and Spacebar to place the tile. Player Red can use IJKL to position, UO to rotate and Enter to place the tile.

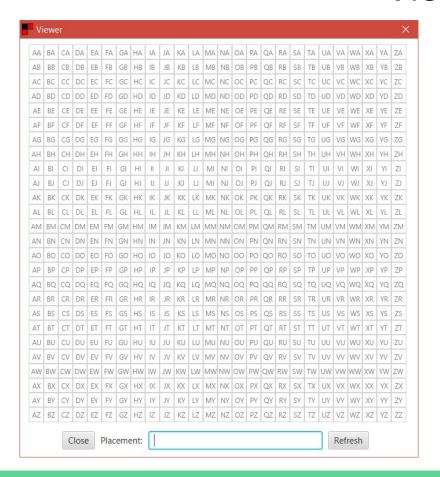
There are two rules for a tile placement

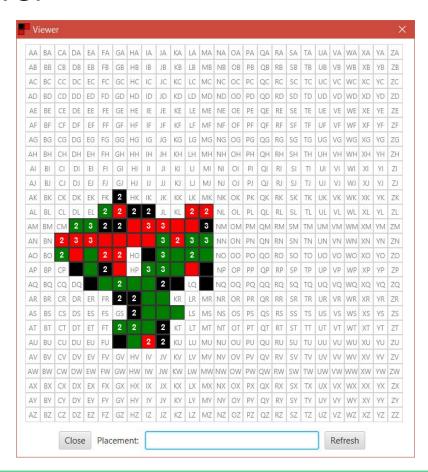
- 1. The tile must be next to or above another tile.
- 2. In order to place a tile above other tiles, each colour on the tile may only be stacked on top of itself or black. There must also be no overhangs, and each stacked tile must be over at least two different tiles.

Score is calculated by multiplying the number of squares in your largest region of connected tiles of your colour with the maximum height of tiles in the region. The player with the higher score wins. If the scores are equal, ties will be broken according to the value of the next largest region; cascading to smaller regions if ties persist; and ultimately to a random choice in the unlikely event that it remains unbroken.

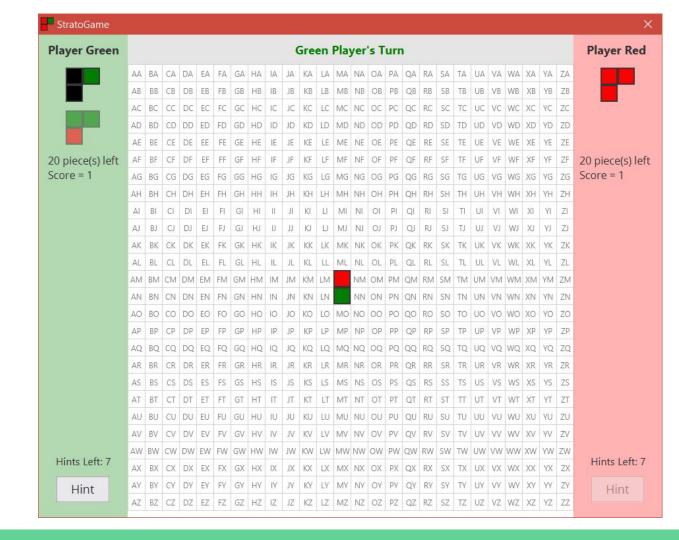
Close

Viewer

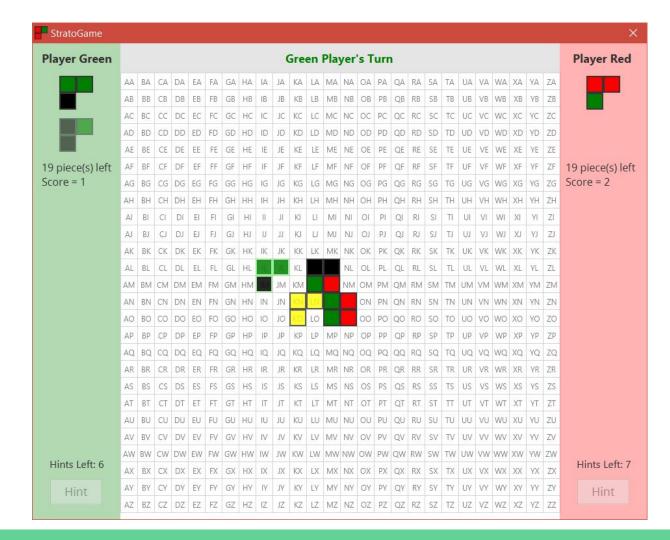




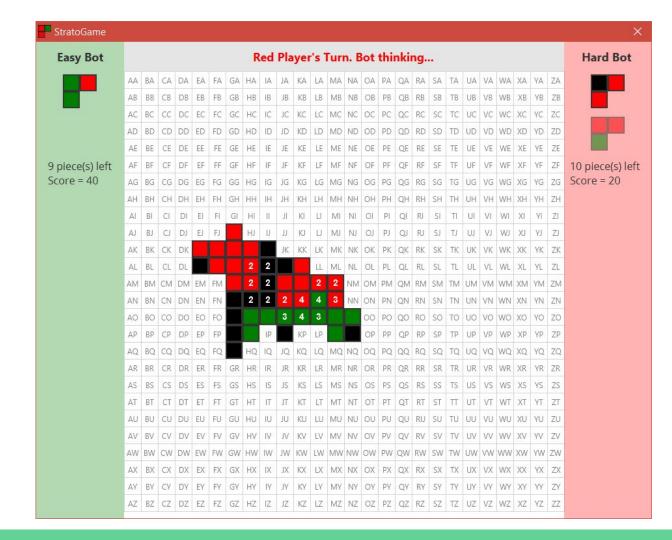
Initial Board State



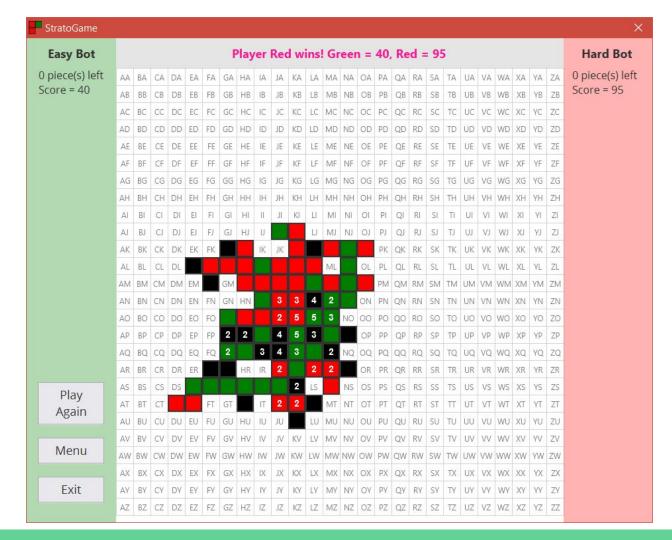
Human vs Human
Hovering
Hints on



Bot vs Bot



End Game



UI and UX Design Approach

Easy to Use

- You can hover tiles around the board (green/red outlines)
- Helpful messages if anything needs confirmation or goes wrong
- Play game with keyboard (2-player, laptop trackpads, etc.)

Intuitive and Aesthetic Interface

- Subtle changes on controls using CSS e.g. hover over button
- Colours to easily identify which controls for each player.
- Large and easily accessible buttons
- Helpful console messages (if launched from command line)

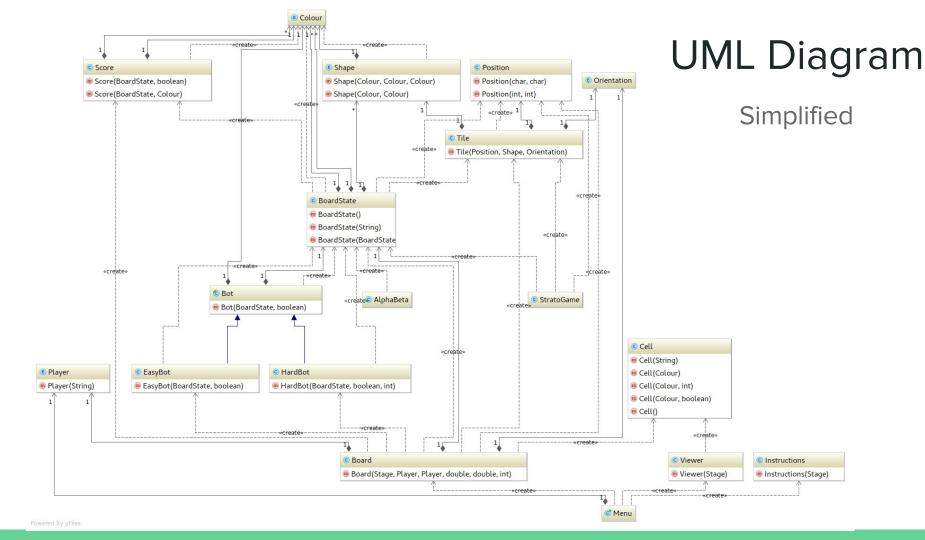
Package Organisation

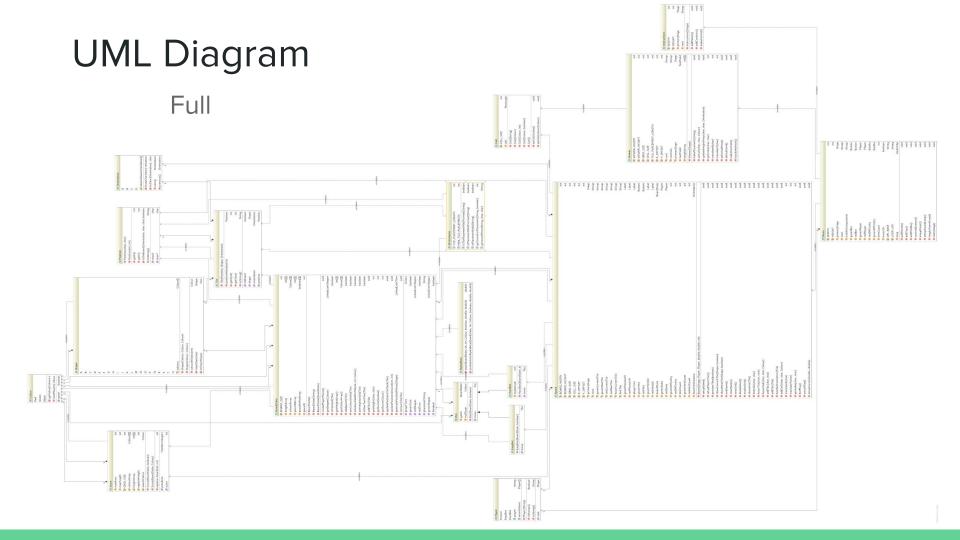
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bots

gui

logic





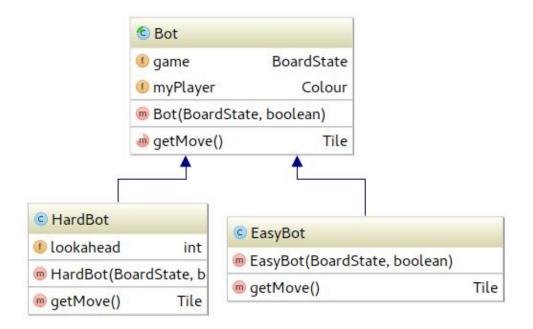
Bots Package

AlphaBeta

Bot

EasyBot

HardBot



© AlphaBeta

@ start(BoardState, int, int, Colour, boolean, double, double)

@ probabilisticAlphaBeta(BoardState, int, Colour, boolean, double, double)

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Bots

Bot: abstract class used to define what EasyBot and HardBot should implement

EasyBot: extends and implements Bot

HardBot: extends and implements Bot

AlphaBeta: statically called from HardBot

Bots

Heuristic is just *My Score* — *Opponent's Score*

EasyBot has a search depth of one, and just chooses the highest scoring move of the possible moves

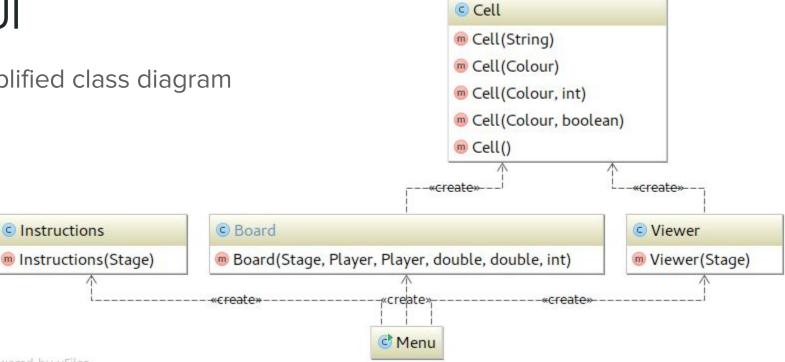
HardBot for the first two depths is just normal minimax with alpha beta pruning. After two depths it no longer has information and returns a weighted score.

GUI Package

- assets font files, music, tile images, and CSS file (for styling)
- Board main stage on which games are played
- Cell for creating a cell of a tile, or a cell-grid identifier
- Instructions help for the user
- Menu where the game is initialised, for choosing game options
- Viewer for viewing tile placements

GUI

Simplified class diagram



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GUI

- Menu passes the relevant option parameters to board
 - HardBot difficulties
 - Hints
- Board, Instructions, and Viewer extend Stage.
 - Opened from Menu
 - This allows us to seamlessly open and close them.
 - Opened as blocking dialogs.
- All logic has been outsourced to the classes in logic package.

- Most of the code here is related to JavaFX. For example,
 - Displaying preview tiles and hover tiles
 - Preparing grid and showing pieces
 - Updating score labels
- All logic has been outsourced to other classes. For example,
 - Checking if tile placement/hover is legal (BoardState, Tile)
 - Handling each player's pieces (BoardState)
 - Getting game result and breaking ties (Score)
 - Generating Hints (EasyBot)

Cell

Extends StackPane

- Allows us to create a 'cell' to display on the grid.
- StackPane allows us to group text, colour fill and border together

Different Cells can be created using the constructors

- Grid Identifier Cells (e.g. 'AB', 'MM', 'GZ')
- Normal Coloured Cells (filled with black, green or red)
- Normal Coloured Cells with height identifier
- Coloured Cell for Hovering (decreased opacity, outline)
- Yellow Coloured Cell for showing hints

Logic Package

BoardState - stores ALL information about the board

Colour - colours on a tile, and colour of the player (enum)

Orientation - orientation of a tile on the board (enum)

Player - Human, EasyBot, or HardBot - used for Menu and Board

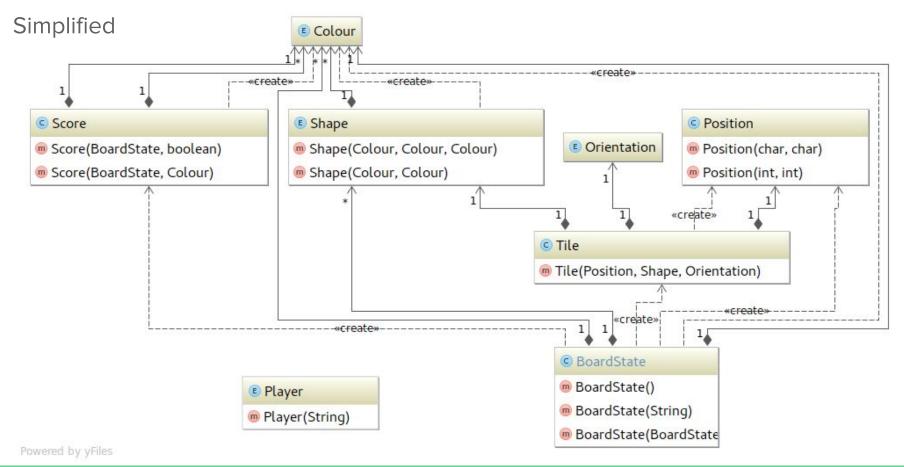
Position - position of a tile on the board in character coordinates

Score - calculating score for BoardState and determine winner

Shape - storing shapes and their colours (enum)

Tile - Position, Shape and Orientation combined

Logic



BoardState

Stores all information about a game

- Board represented as 2D arrays: colour, height and piece ID array.
- Keep track of Player Green and Red's remaining pieces
- Whose turn it is, placement string, etc.
- We keep an array of possible positions for the bots (and hints)

Constructors. We can either:

- 1. Create a blank board i.e. with MMUA
- 2. Create a BoardState from a placement string (for StratoGame)
- 3. Create a new copy of a BoardState (mainly for bots)

BoardState

Useful Functions

- Retrieve data about a BoardState e.g. height at a given cell
- Generate pieces for the players
- Generate possible moves for a given shape on the board
- Easy access to the scoring interface
- Check whether Tile placements are legal, and adding them

Tile

- Tile is made of Position, Shape, and Orientation
 - Position represents the coordinates of the tile
 - Shape is an enum class representing each Shape ID with its relevant colours at their indexes.
 - Orientation is an enum class of either A, B, C, D
- Each of these classes have functions which help us
 - 1. Retrieve relevant data
 - 2. Check if additions are legal
 - 3. Make general changes to a Tile

Score - determining winner

- When scoring at end-game, each area is added into a TreeSet
 - TreeSet ensures uniqueness and order
 - Elements are sorted in descending order using compareTo

If the maximum scores are equal, then we:

- 1. Loop through the TreeSet each element at a time, until empty
- 2. Compare green and red's areas accordingly
- 3. Continue or return the appropriate value
- 4. End of Loop: generate random int that is either 0 or 1 (coin toss)
- 5. 0 = Green, 1 = Red. Return accordingly

Limitations

- Bot vs. Bot game cannot be terminated until end game
 - Why? Threads are continuously created and killed for the bots
 - Board calls botPlay which is ultimately recursive
- More research could go into finding a better heuristic
 - My Score Opponent's Score is very basic
 - A better heuristic would weigh different areas of the board differently
 - Move preference is to top-left right now Possible position array is
 2D and read left-to-right, row-by-row from the top.