#### Revisiting Influential Papers

# Mastering the game of Go with deep neural networks and tree search

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A brief presentation by **George Fakidis**, MSc Student, Athens University of Economics and Business

#### **Presentation Structure**



Background Information and Related Work



**Novel Contributions** 



Methods used



Overview of Results

### Background Information, Related Work



GO is a board game, more complex and abstract compared to chess



Reinforcement Learning: Monte-Carlo simulation and tree-search, Policy and Value networks



Neural Networks: Deep Convolutional Neural Networks

#### **Novel Contributions**

Surpassing human experts in GO, a game with a significantly larger search space

Usage of CNNs in combination with Monte-Carlo Tree Search

Usage of Reinforcement Learning to improve CNN performance

# Learning Pipeline

Supervised Learning based on human expert games, to predict human moves

RL value and policy networks with self-play, targeting the final outcome not prediction ability

RL network for winner prediction (in self-play)

Supervised Learning(SL) Methodology (Step 1) Deep Convolutional Neural Network (CNN)

Aim: Search Space reduction

Target: Human moves prediction

Slightly better accuracy = substantial playing improvement

Slow to evaluate

#### Reinforcement Learning, Policy Networks (Step 2)

- The initial policy network is provided by the previous step
- Learning with Self-play
- Update weights to maximize expected outcome
- Wins 80% of games against the previous step network
- Wins 85% of games against the strongest open-source Go program, Pachi (without search!)
- Previous SOTA with only SL of CNNs won 11% against Pachi

#### Reinforcement Learning, Value Networks (Step 3)

- Goal: Estimate the value function of the strongest policy from previous step
- This NN outputs a single prediction not a distribution
- Minimise mean squared error(MSE) of the prediction and the actual outcome of the game.
- Training from complete games =>
   Overfitting
- Solution: Generate a self-play dataset, sampling distinct positions from separate games

# Selecting Actions with MCTS(Final Step)

Tree Traversal based on Maximum Action Value and a bonus that ensures exploration

$$V(s_L) = (1 - \lambda)\nu_{\theta}(s_L) + \lambda z_L$$

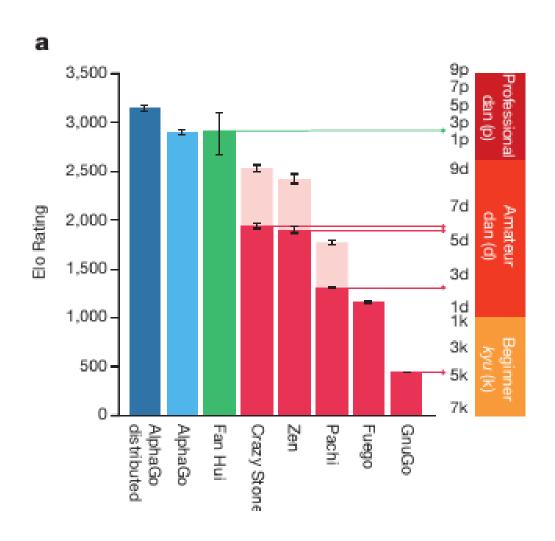
$$N(s,a) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} 1(s,a,i)$$

$$Q(s,a) = \frac{1}{N(s,a)} \sum_{i=1}^{n} 1(s,a,i) V(s_L^i)$$

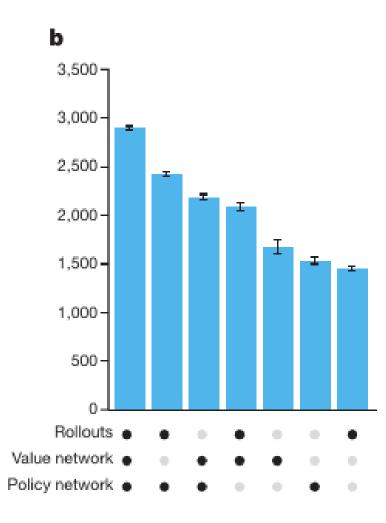
$$u(s,a) \propto \frac{P(s,a)}{1+N(s,a)}$$

$$a_t = \underset{a}{\operatorname{argmax}}(Q(s_t, a) + u(s_t, a))$$

#### Results



#### Results



## Thank you! Questions?