

# A Tutorial on Google AlphaGo

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**Bo An**

Slides based on:

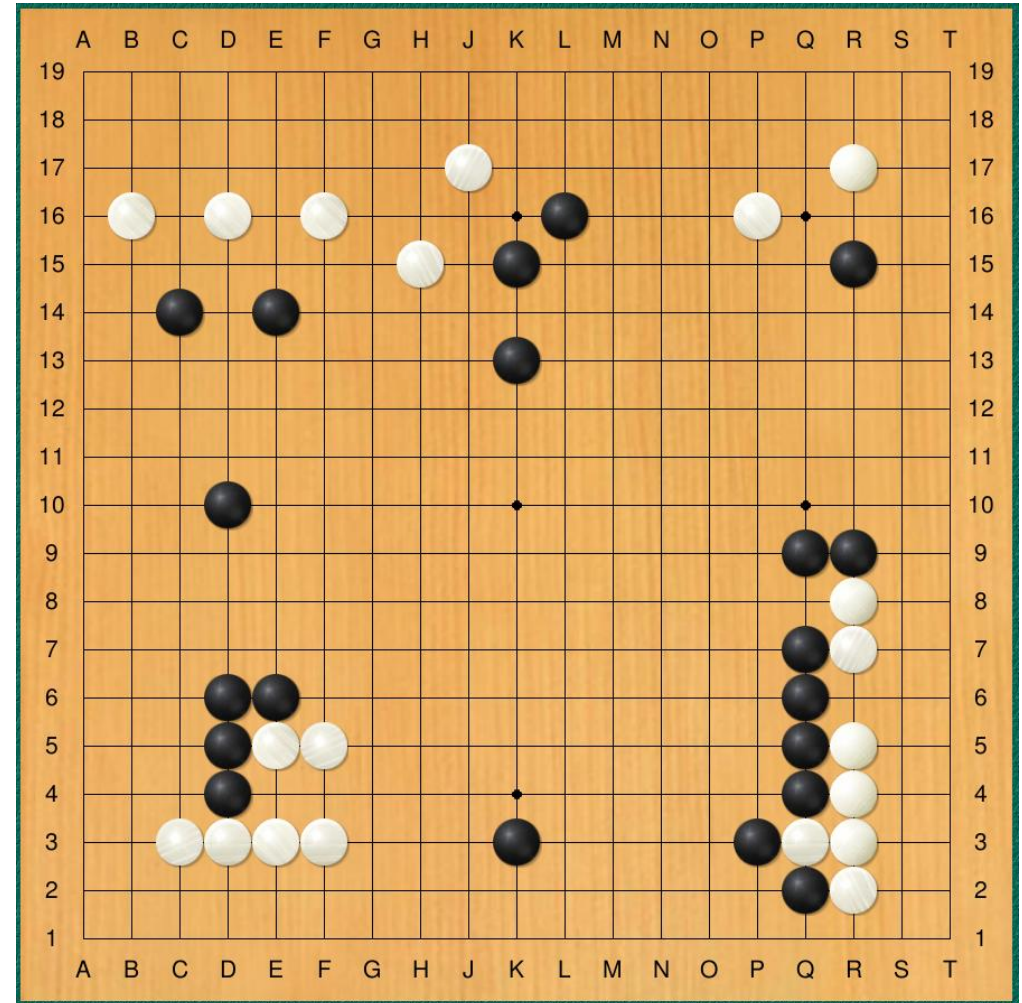
- ❑ Silver, David, et al. “Mastering the game of Go with deep neural networks and tree search .” *Nature* 529.7587 (2016): 484-489.
- ❑ Shane Moon’s presentation

# Games in AI

- Ideal test bed for AI research
  - *Clear results*
  - *Clear motivation*
  - *Good challenge*
- Success in search-based approach
  - *chess (1997, Deep Blue)*
  - *and others*
- Not successful in the game of Go
  - *Go is to Chess as Poetry is to Double-entry accounting*
  - *It goes to the core of artificial intelligence, which involves the study of learning and decision-making, strategic thinking, knowledge representation, pattern recognition and, perhaps most intriguingly, intuition*

# The game of Go

- A 4,000 years old board game from China
- Standard size  $19 \times 19$
- Two players, Black and White, place the stones in turns
- Stones can not be moved, but can be captured and taken off
- Larger territory wins



# AlphaGo vs European Champion (Fan Hui 2-Dan\*)rank



October 5– 9, 2015

- Time limit: 1 hour
- AlphaGo Wins (5:0)





# AlphaGo vs World Champions



March 9 – 15, 2016 (Lee Sedol)

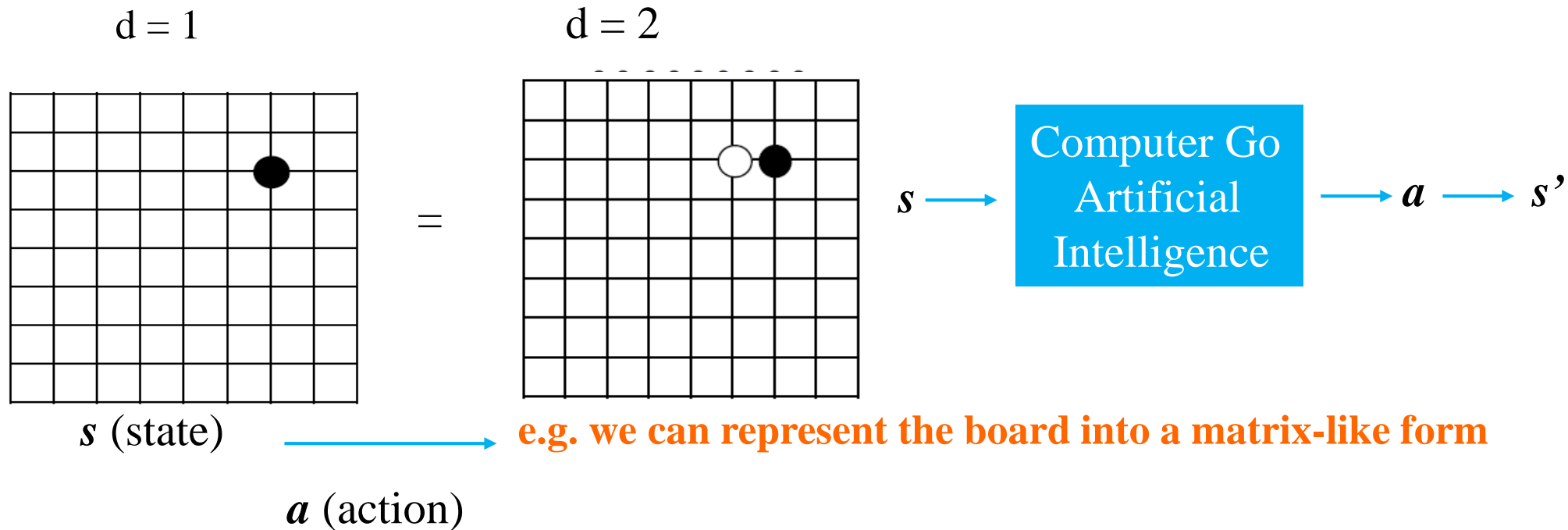
- Time limit: 2 hours
- Venue: Seoul, Four Seasons Hotel
- AlphaGo Wins (4:1)

May 23 – 27, 2017 (Ke Jie)

- Venue: Wuhan, China
- AlphaGo Wins (3:0)

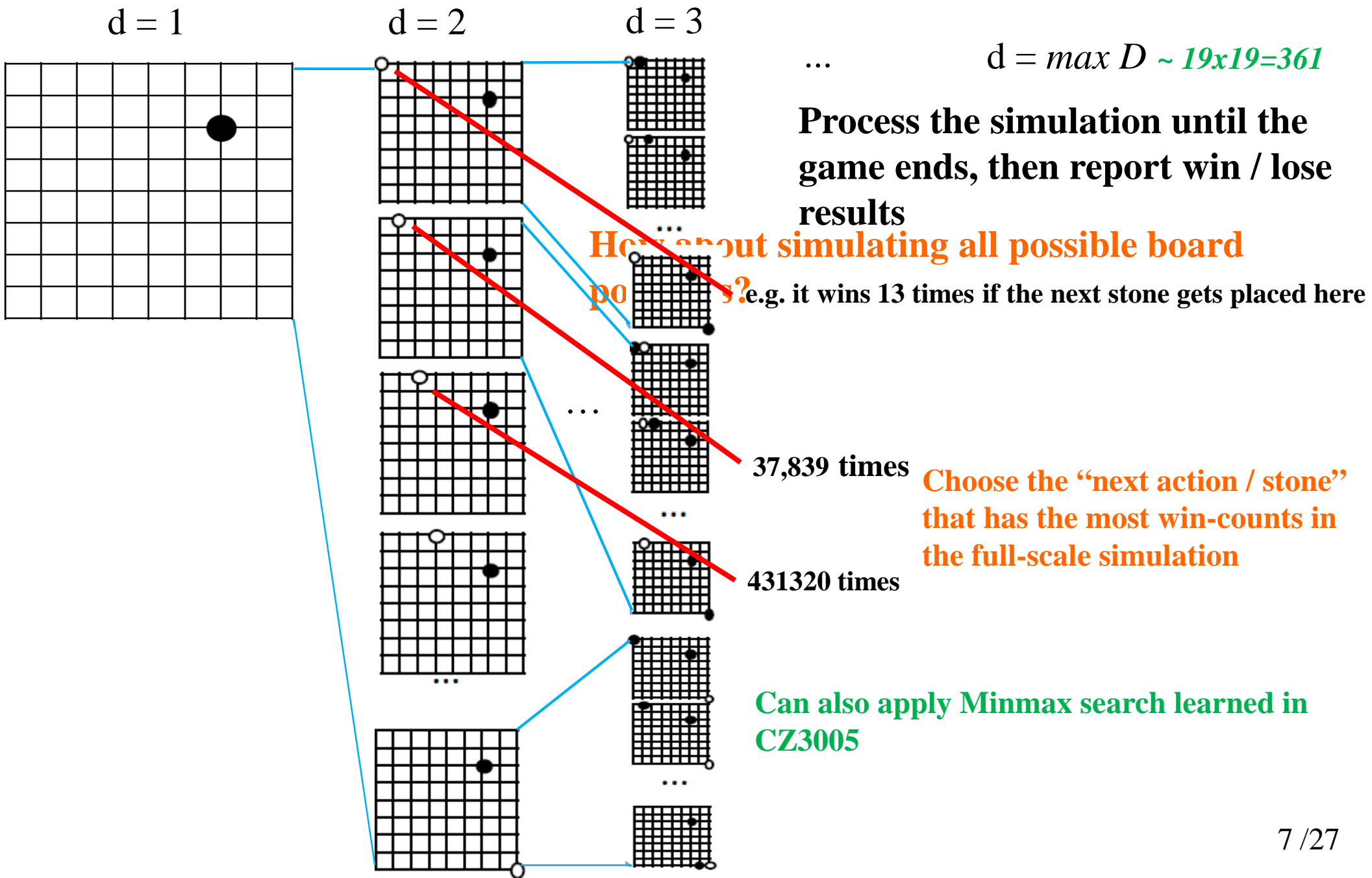


# Computer Go AI - Definition



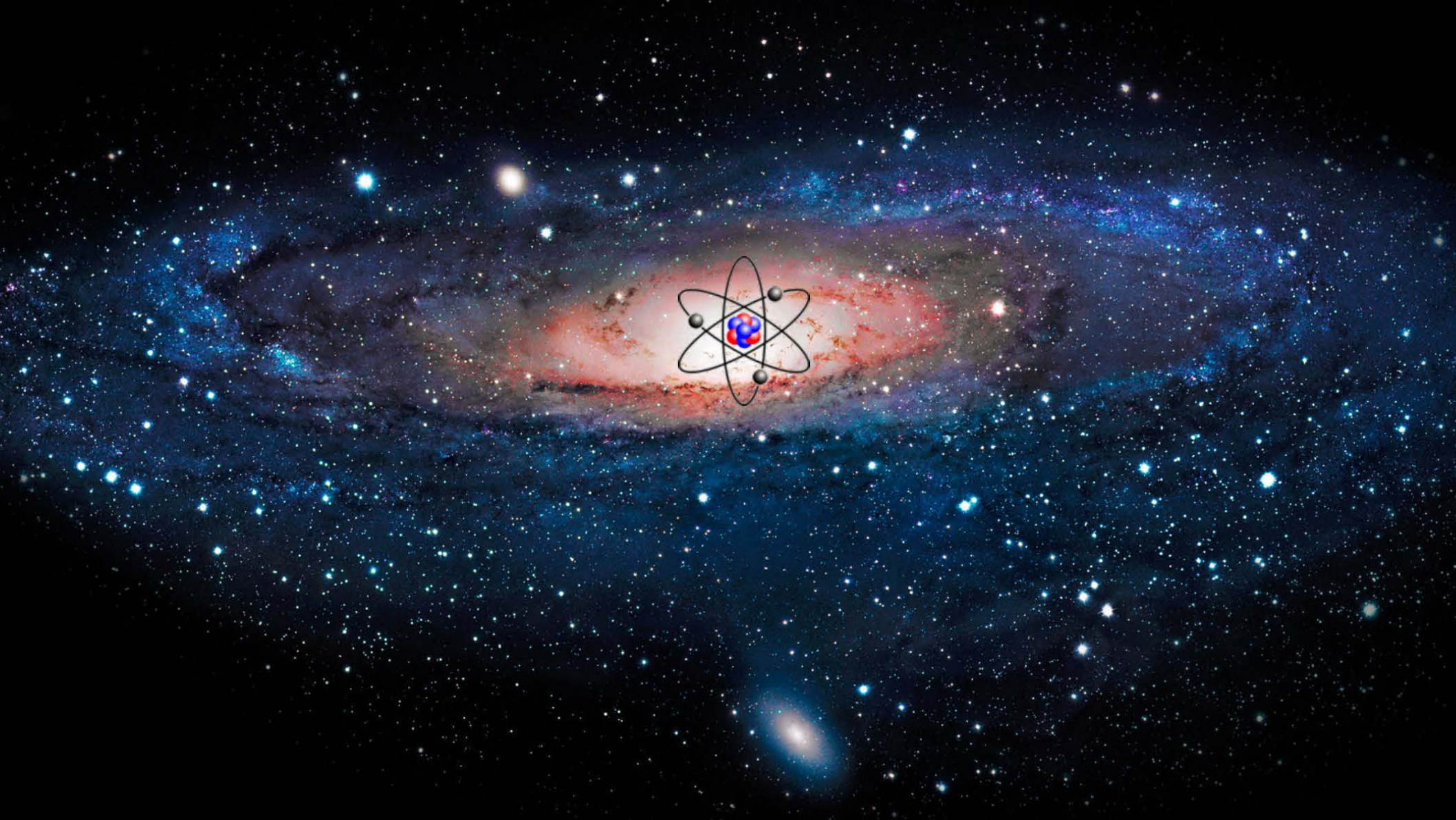
Given  $s$ , pick the best  $a$

# Computer Go AI – An Implementation Idea?





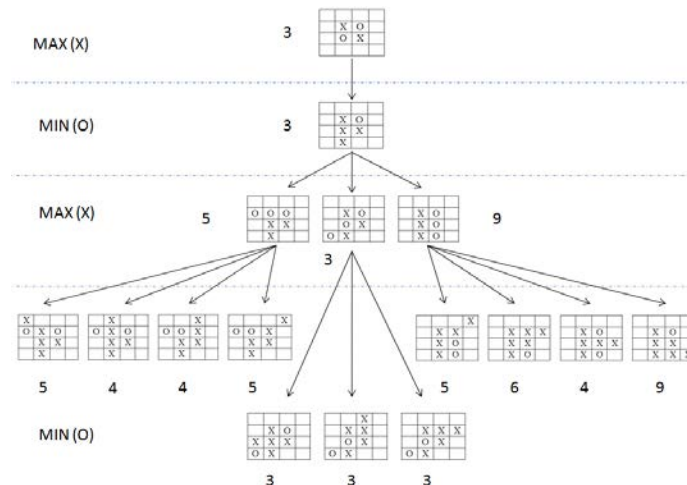
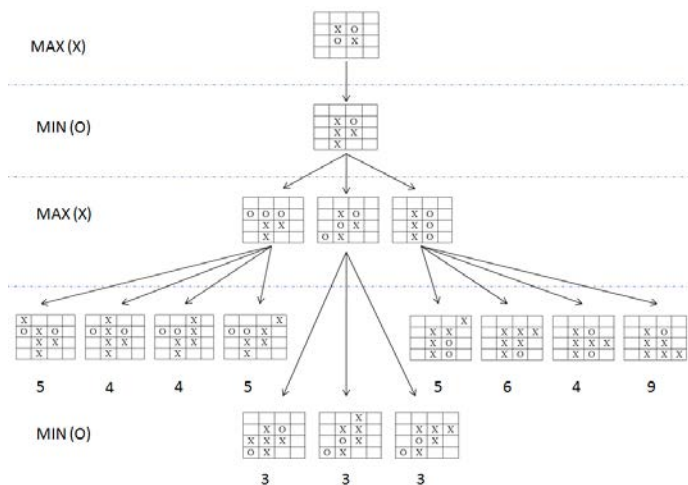
This is NOT possible; it is said the possible configurations of the board exceeds the number of atoms in the universe





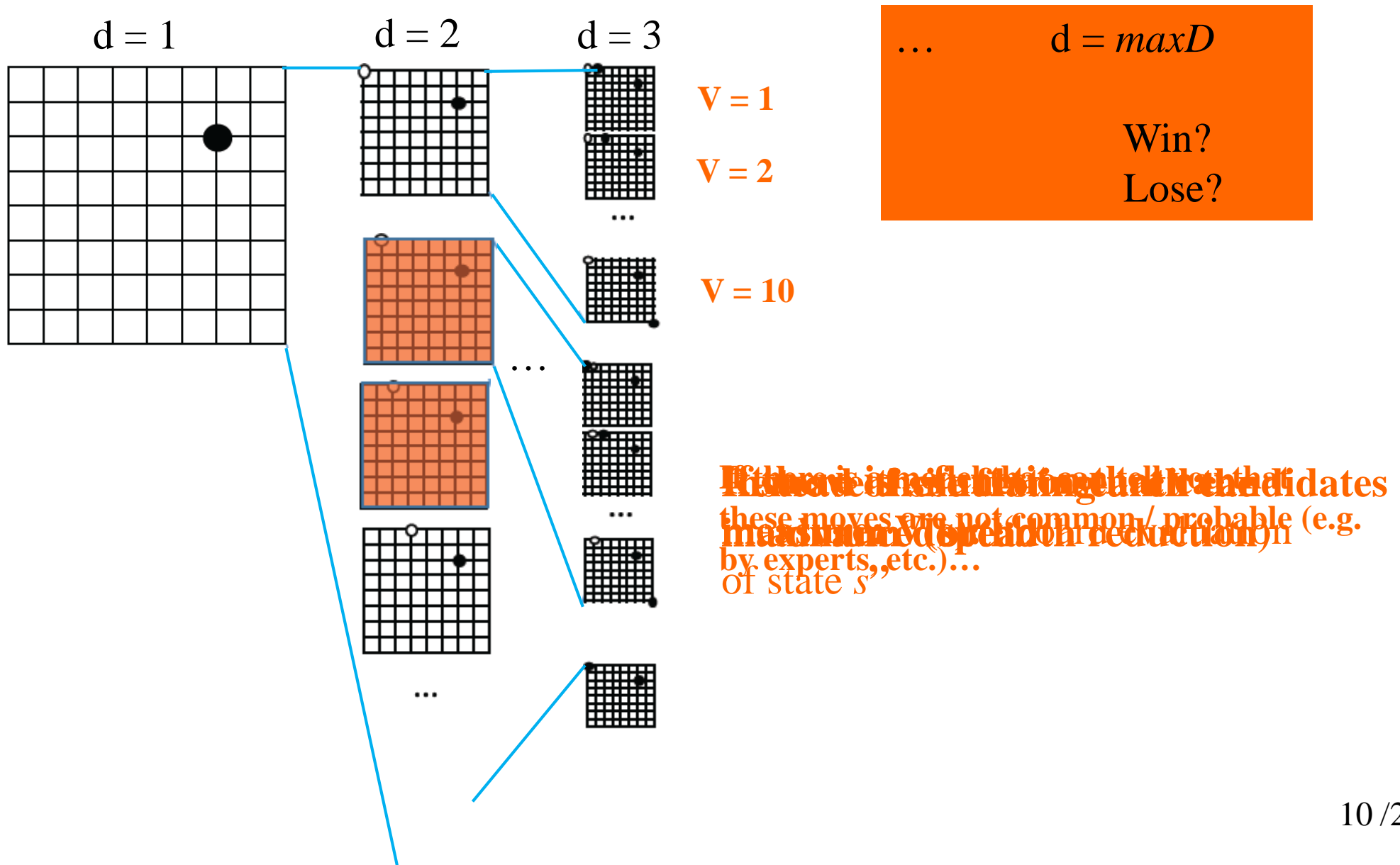
# AlphaGo: Key Ideas

- Objective: Reduce search space without sacrificing quality
- Key Idea 1: Take advantage of human top players' data
  - *Deep learning*
- Key Idea 2: Self-play
  - *Reinforcement learning*
- Key Idea 3: Looking ahead
  - *Monte Carlo tree search*
  - *We learned Minimax search with evaluation functions*



# Reducing Searching Space

## 2. Reducing Valuation Candidates (Pruned Depth Reduction)



# 1. Reducing “action candidates”

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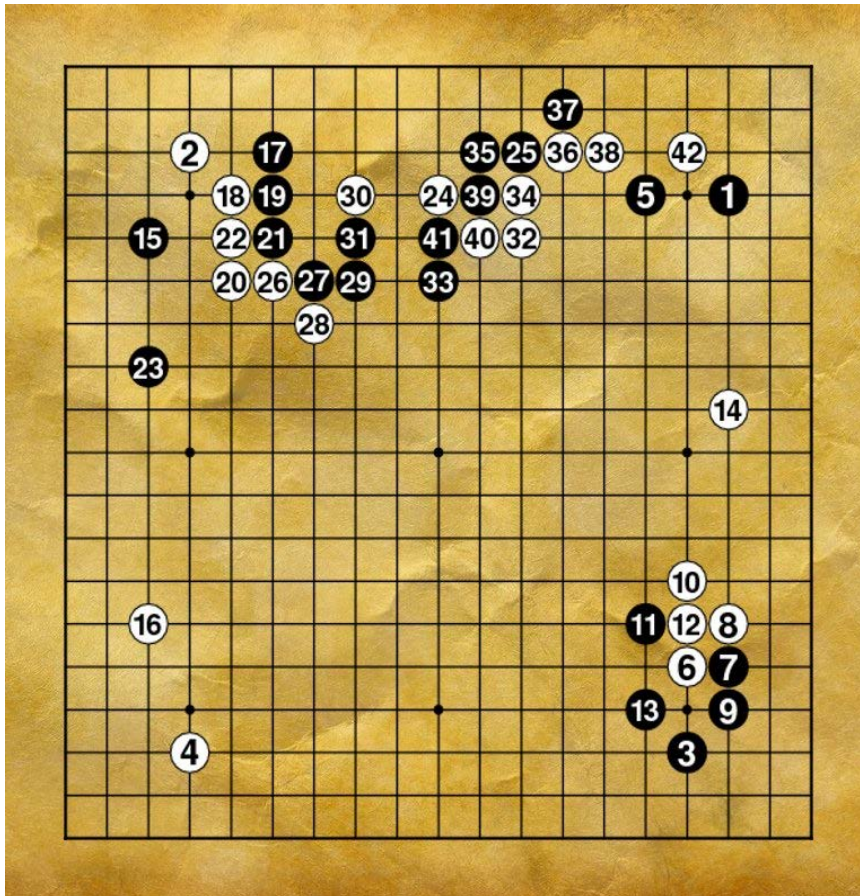
**Learning:  $P(\text{next action} \mid \text{current state})$**

$$= P(a \mid s)$$



# 1. Reducing “action candidates”

(1) Imitating expert moves (supervised learning)



Current State

Next State

s1

s2

s2

s3

s3

s4

Prediction  
Model

**Data:** Online Go Experts (5 ~ 9 dan)  
160K games, 30M board positions

# 1. Reducing “action candidates”

(1) Imitating expert moves (supervised learning)

Current Board

00	000	0000
00	000	1000
0-1	001-11	00
01	001-1000	0
00	00-10000	0
00	000	0000
0-1	000	0000
00	000	0000

$s$

Prediction  
Model

Next Board

00	00000000
00	00000000
00	00000000
00	00000000
00	00000000
00	00001000
00	00000000
00	00000000
00	00000000

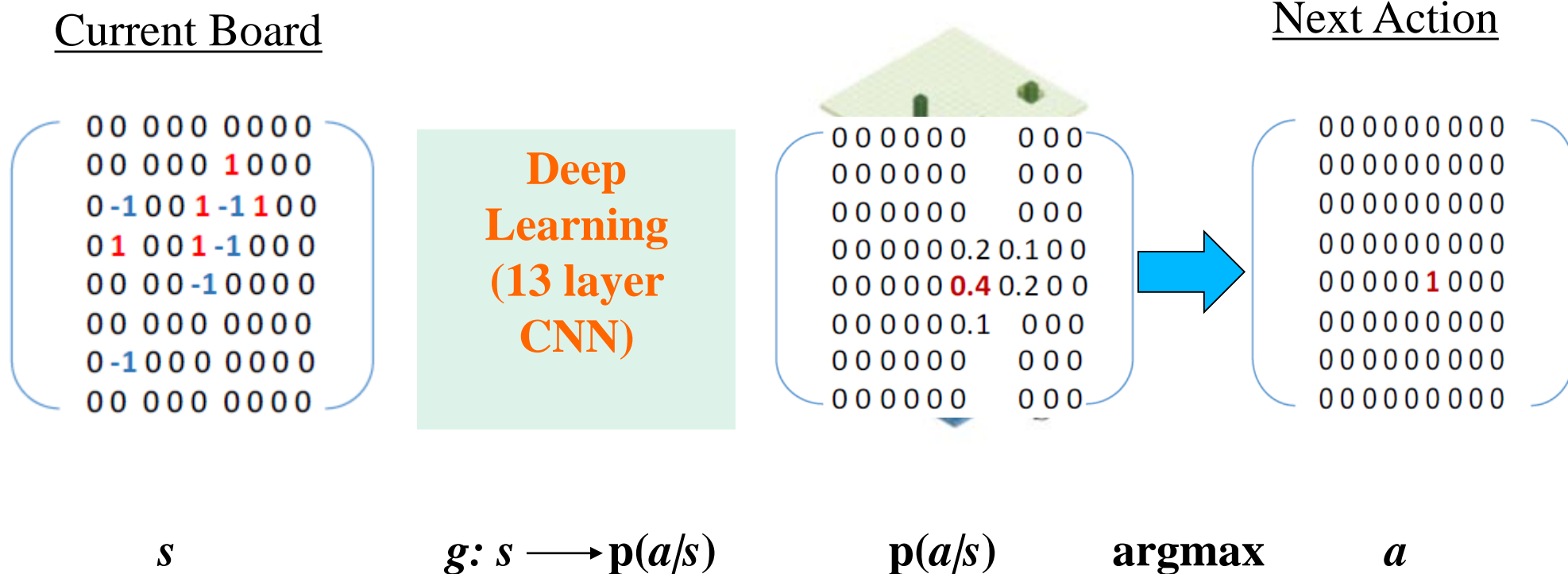
$f: s \rightarrow a$

There are  $19 \times 19 = 361$  possible actions  
(with different possibilities)

$a$

# 1. Reducing “action candidates”

(1) Imitating expert moves (supervised learning)

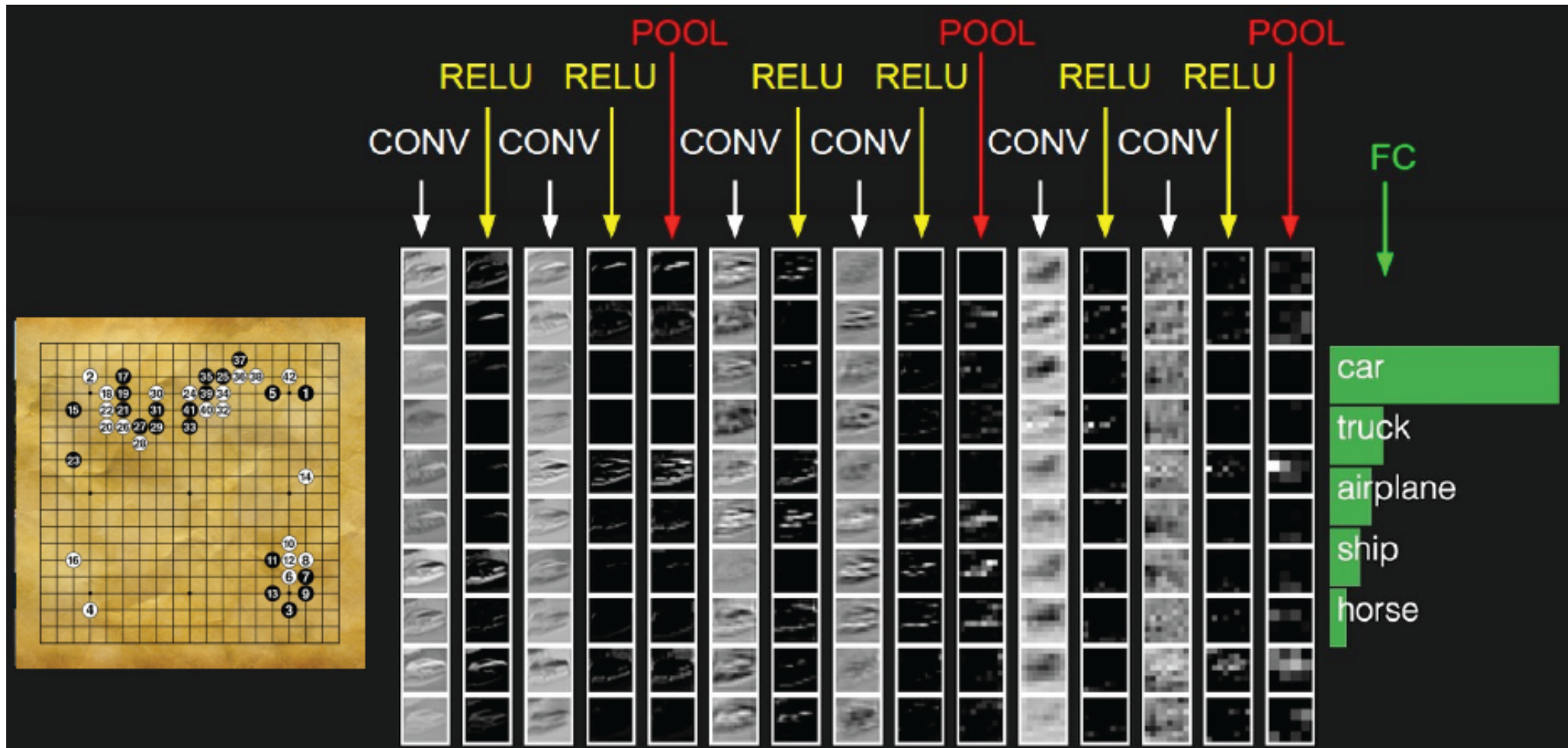




# Convolutional Neural Network (CNN)

**Go:** abstraction is the key to win

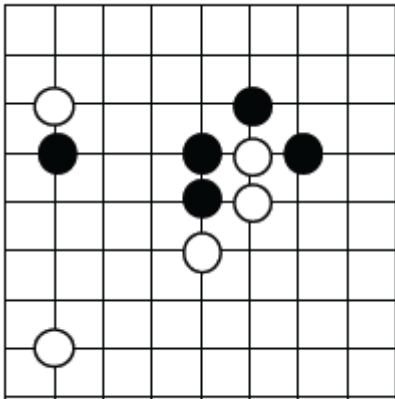
**CNN:** abstraction is its *forte*



# 1. Reducing “action candidates”

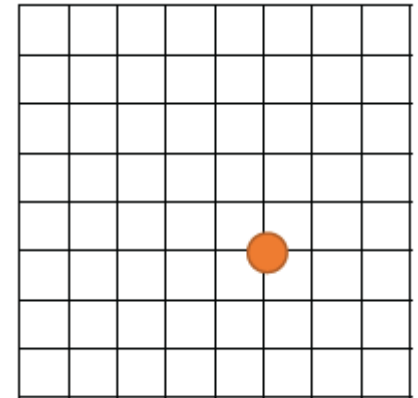
(1) Imitating expert moves (supervised learning)

Current Board



Expert Moves Imitator Model  
(w/CNN)

Next Action



Training:  $\Delta\sigma \propto \frac{\partial \log p_{\sigma}(a|s)}{\partial \sigma}$

# 1. Reducing “action candidates”

(2) Improving through self-plays (reinforcement learning)

**improving by playing against itself**

**Expert Moves  
Imitator Model  
(w/CNN)**

**VS**

**Expert Moves  
Imitator Model  
(w/CNN)**



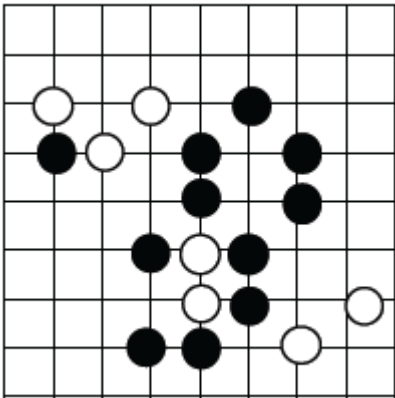
Return: board positions, win/lose info



# 1. Reducing “action candidates”

(2) Improving through self-plays (reinforcement learning)

Board position



Expert Moves Imitator Model  
(w/CNN)

win/loss

~~Loss~~

$z = +1$

**Training:**  $\Delta\rho \propto \frac{\partial \log p_\rho(a_t|s_t)}{\partial \rho} z_t.$

# 1. Reducing “action candidates”

(2) Improving through self-plays (reinforcement learning)

**older models vs. newer models**

**Expert Moves  
Imitator Model**

**VS**

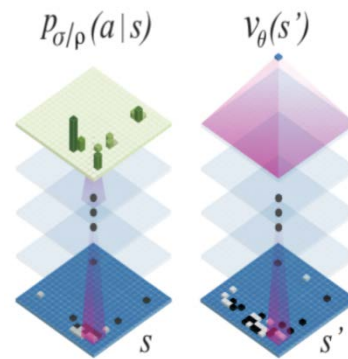
**Updated Model  
ver 1,000,000**

**It uses the same topology as the expert moves imitator model, and just uses the updated parameters**



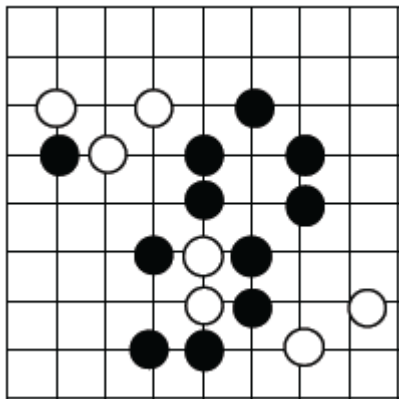
**The updated model wins 80% of the time when playing against the first model**

## 2. Board Evaluation



Adds a regression layer to the model  
 Predicts values between 0~1  
 Close to 1: a good board position  
 Close to 0: a bad board position

Board position



**Updated Model  
 ver 1,000,000**

**Value  
 Prediction  
 Model  
 (Regression)**

Win / Lose

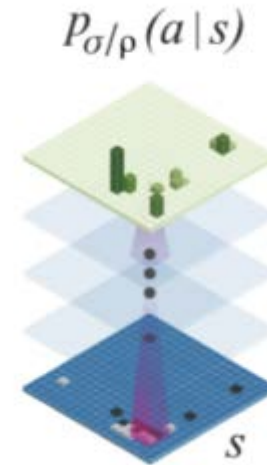
**Win  
 (0 / 1)**

**Training:** 
$$\Delta\theta \propto \frac{\partial v_{\theta}(s)}{\partial \theta} (z - v_{\theta}(s))$$

# Reducing Search Space

1. Reducing “action candidates”  
(Breadth Reduction)

**Policy Network**



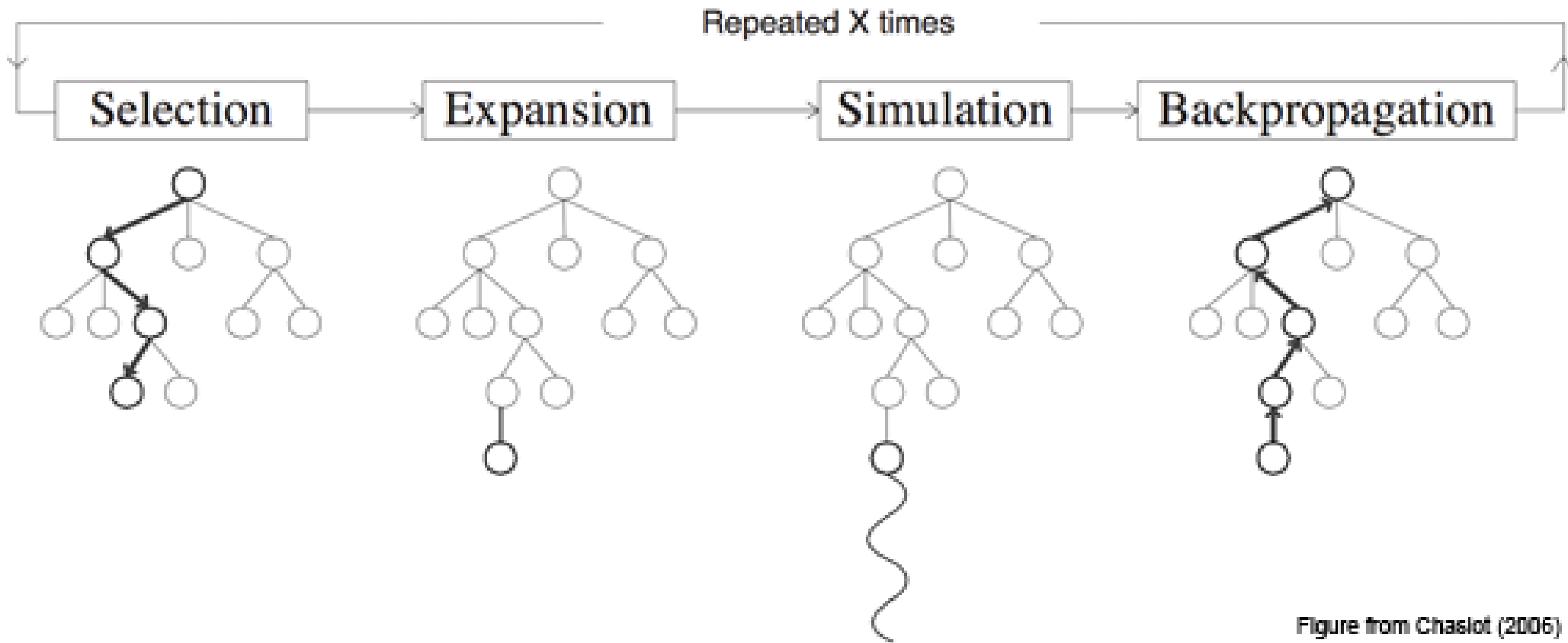
2. Board Evaluation (Depth Reduction)

**Value Network**

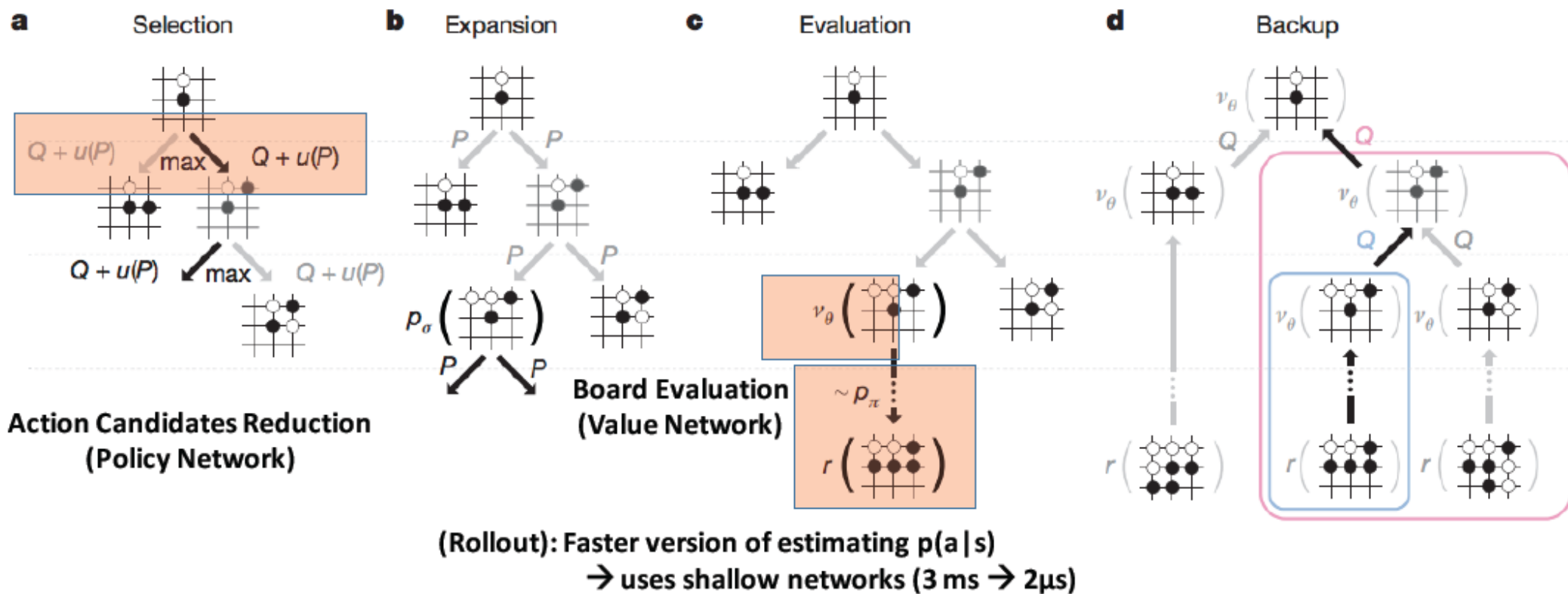




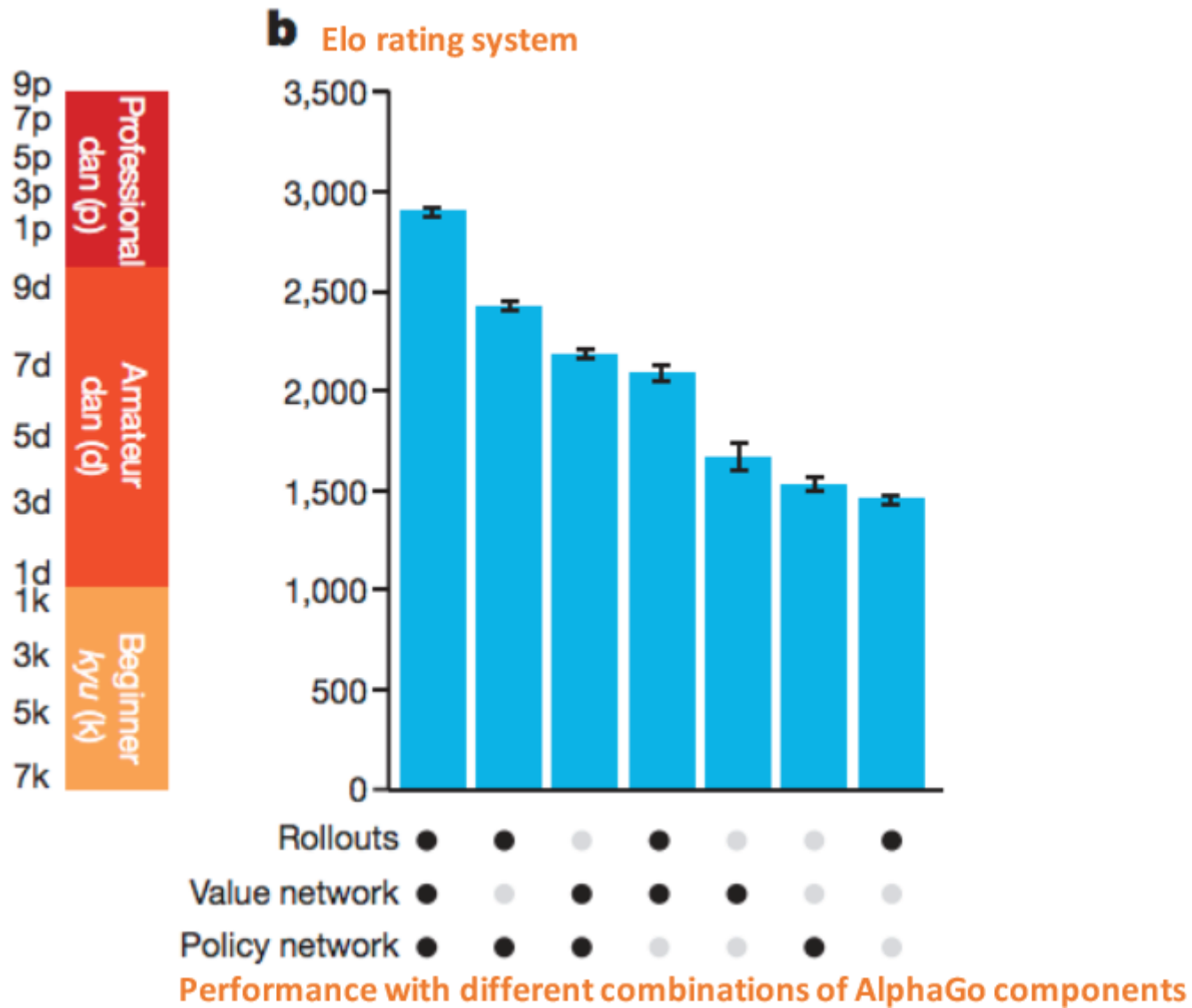
# Looking Ahead (Monte Carlo Search Tree)



# Looking Ahead (Monte Carlo Search Tree)



# Results



# AlphaGo

## Lee Sedol 9-dan vs AlphaGo Energy Consumption

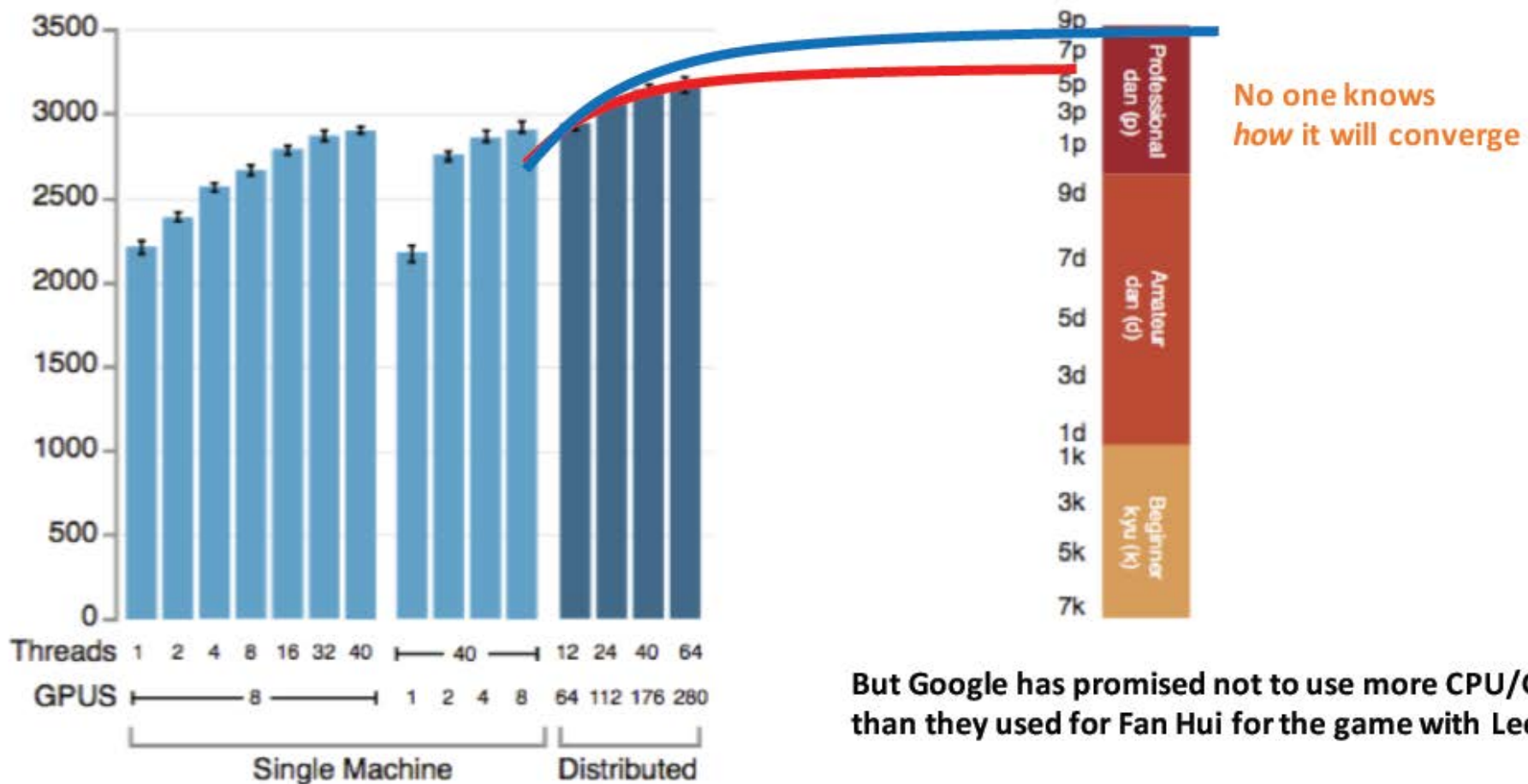
Lee Sedol	AlphaGo
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Recommended calories for a man per day : ~2,500 kCal</li><li>- Assumption: Lee consumes the entire amount of per-day calories in this one game <math>2,500 \text{ kCal} * 4,184 \text{ J/kCal}</math></li></ul> $\approx 10\text{M [J]}$	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Assumption: CPU: ~100 W, GPU: ~300 W</li><li>- <b>1,202 CPUs, 176 GPUs</b></li></ul> $170,000 \text{ J/sec} * 5 \text{ hr} * 3,600 \text{ sec/hr}$ $\approx 3,000\text{M [J]}$

A very, very tough calculation;)



# AlphaGo

Taking CPU / GPU resources to virtually infinity



But Google has promised not to use more CPU/GPUs than they used for Fan Hui for the game with Lee

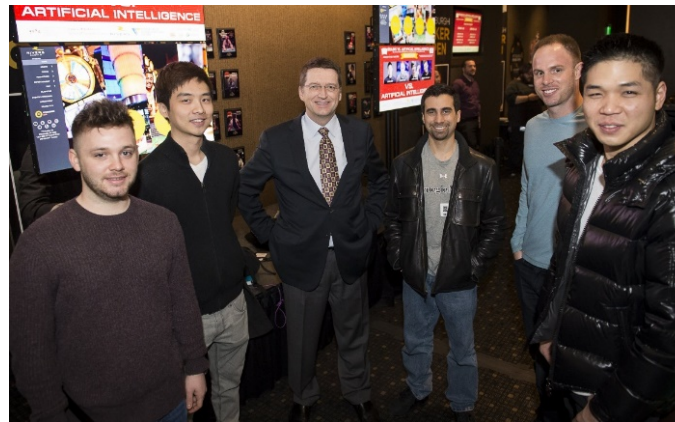
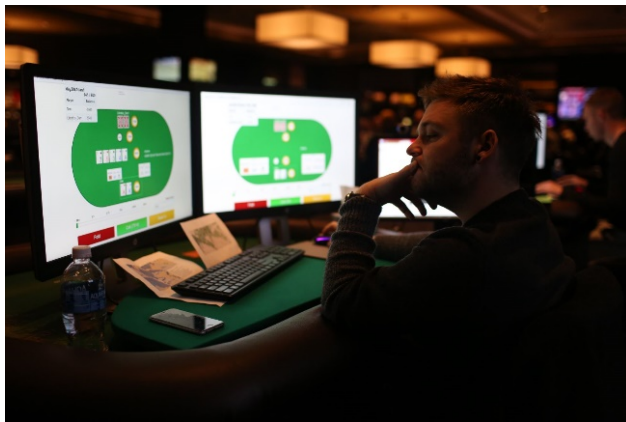
# Libratus vs World Champions



**The first AI to defeat top human poker players**

**January 11 to 31, 2017**

- ❑ Venue: Pittsburgh
- ❑ 120,000 hands



# Architecture of Libratus

## Abstraction (offline)

- action abstraction
- card abstraction
- took the game size from  $10^{161}$  to  $10^{12}$

## Equilibrium Finding (offline)

- CFR
- CFR<sup>+</sup>
- Monte Carlo CFR

## Decomposition and Subgame Refinement (offline)

- endgame solving
- subgame re-solving
- max-margin subgame refinement

