UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

Building Complex Measurement Layouts For Cognitive Benchmarks

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Leverhulme Centre for the Future of Intelligence,
University of Cambridge,

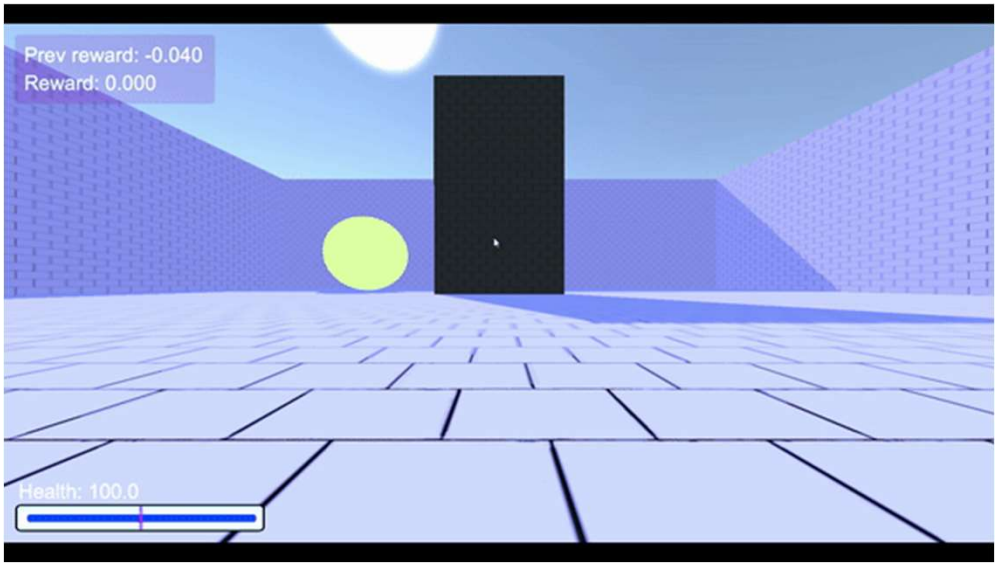
This Session

- Introduce key considerations for developing a useful benchmark for a measurement layout.
- Motivate the role of theoretical knowledge about capabilities in benchmark design and measurement layout development.
- Incrementally build a complex measurement layout for evaluating object permanence (and related capabilities).
- Extend the measurement layout to the multivariate case.
- Apply this measurement layout to real data from DRL agents.

Choosing A (Primary) Capability

- Reinforcement Learning:
    - Long-term planning
    - Tool-use
    - Intuitive physics (object permanence, causality, solidity, inertia)
- Language Models:
    - Theory of Mind
    - Arithmetic
    - Detecting deception

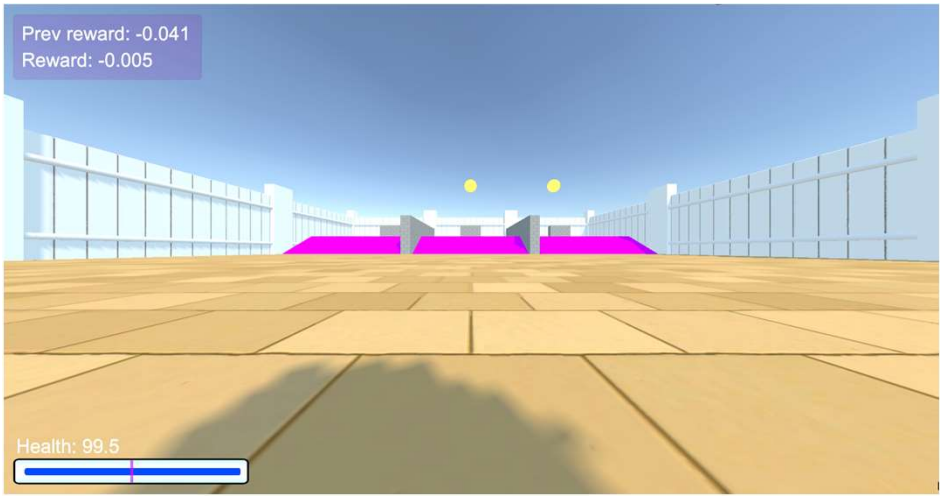
Today’s Capability: Object Permanence



Construct Validity

- To what degree does a test accurately measure what it is intended to measure?
- Difficult to guarantee:
    - Tests require validation against other measures.
    - Measures need to be reliable (test-retest).
    - May ultimately be circularly defined.
- In AI Evaluation, we can often draw on research evaluating capabilities in other systems: humans and other animals.

O-PIAAGETS: PCTB



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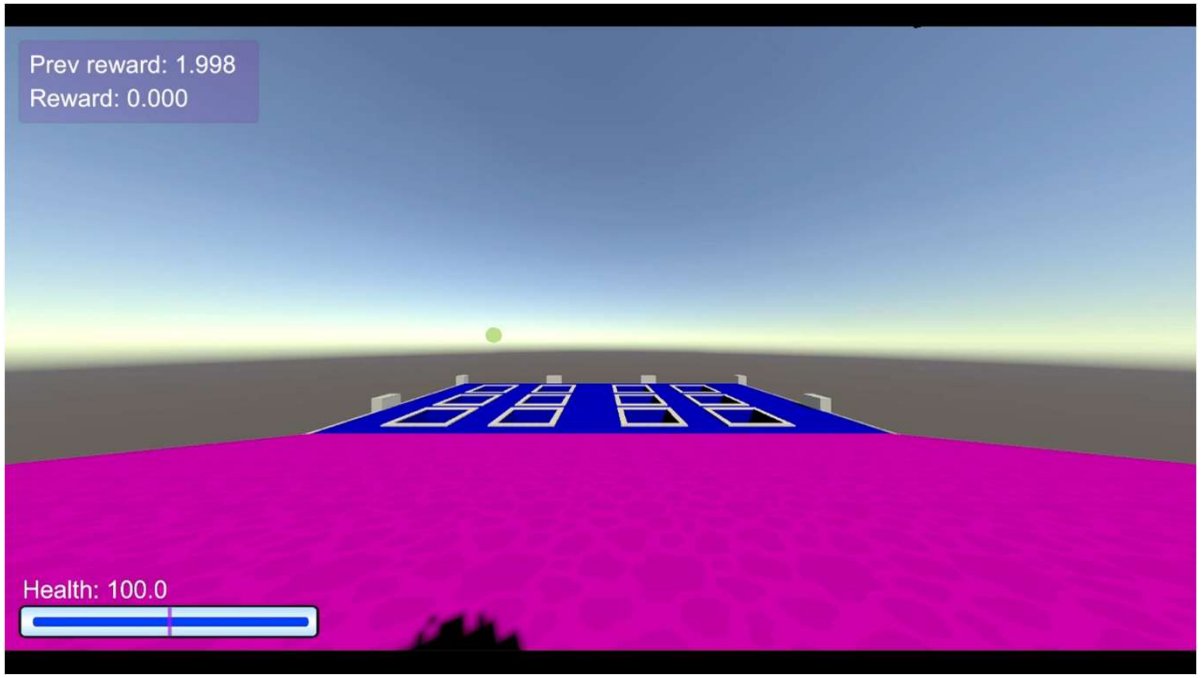

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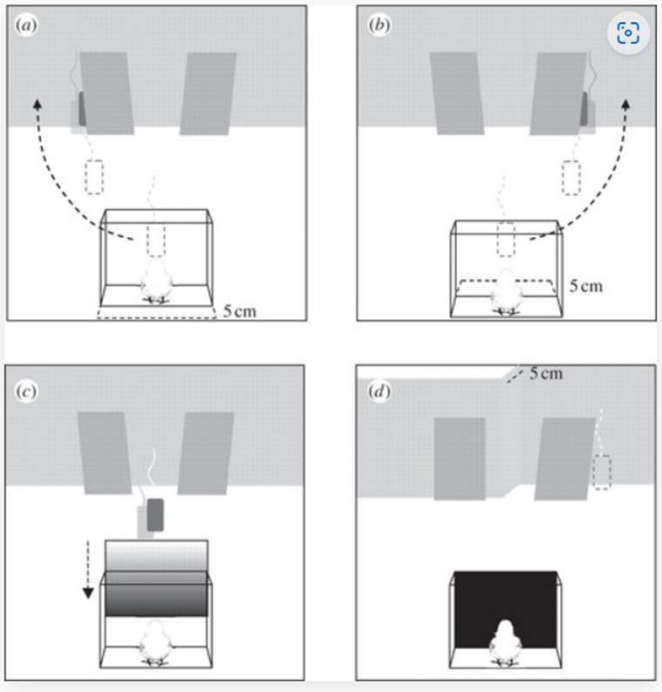
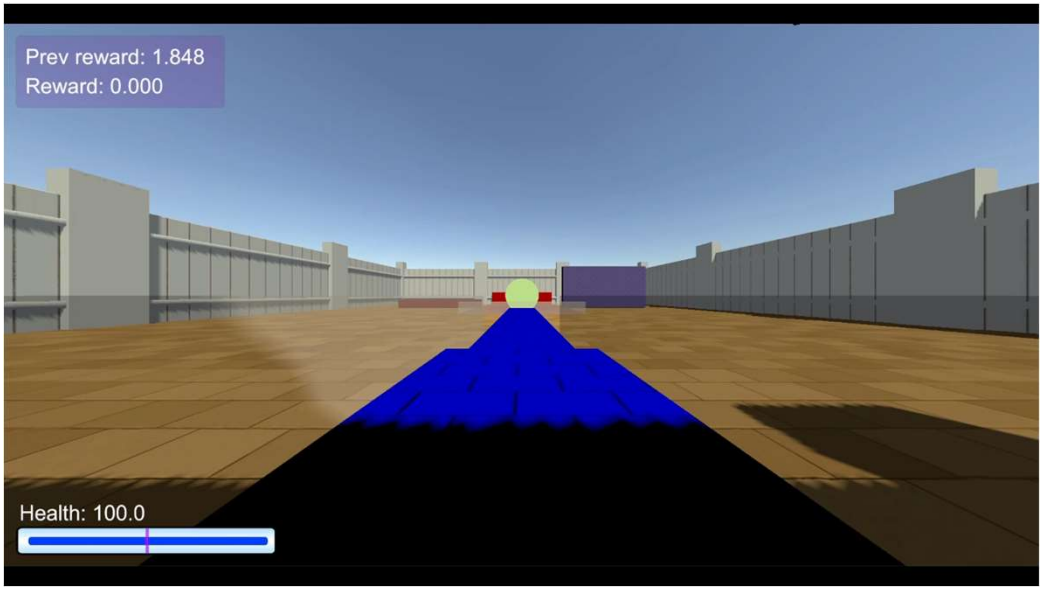
O-PIAAGETS: CV Chick Tasks

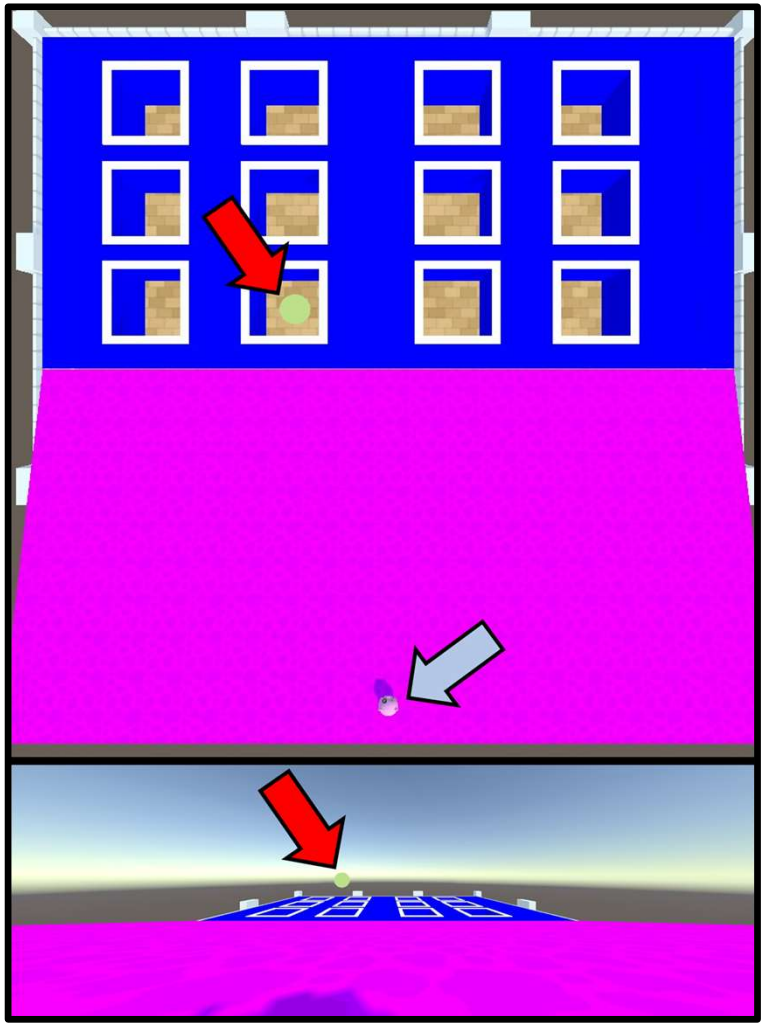




Chiandetti, C., & Vallortigara, G. (2011). Intuitive physical reasoning about occluded objects by inexperienced chicks. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences*, *278*(1718), 2621-2627.

Internal Validity

- What could explain success/failure on this task?
- Object permanence
- Spatial Navigation
- Visual Acuity
- Idiosyncrasies of the test
- Vary as many features as possible



A Battery of Tasks

- Varying:
  - Whether the goal(s) are occluded
  - The shortest path to the goal/choice (a proxy for how long the goal is occluded for).
  - How circuitous that path is
  - The Euclidean distance to the goal(s)
  - The size of the goal(s)
  - The presence of lava
  - Where the goal(s) are placed (left, centre, right)
  - The type of task

A Battery of Agents

- 4202 tasks for 4 agents (Random, Heuristic, PPO, Dreamer-v3)
- 1608 tasks for human players
- Random Action Agent

    - Randomly samples actions with equal weight and takes that action for a number of steps sampled from $U(1,20)$.

- Heuristic Agent

    - Navigates towards green and yellow goals and away from red lava, following a rigid rule. No Memory.

- Proximal Policy Optimisation (PPO) Agent

    - Two agents trained on different curricula.

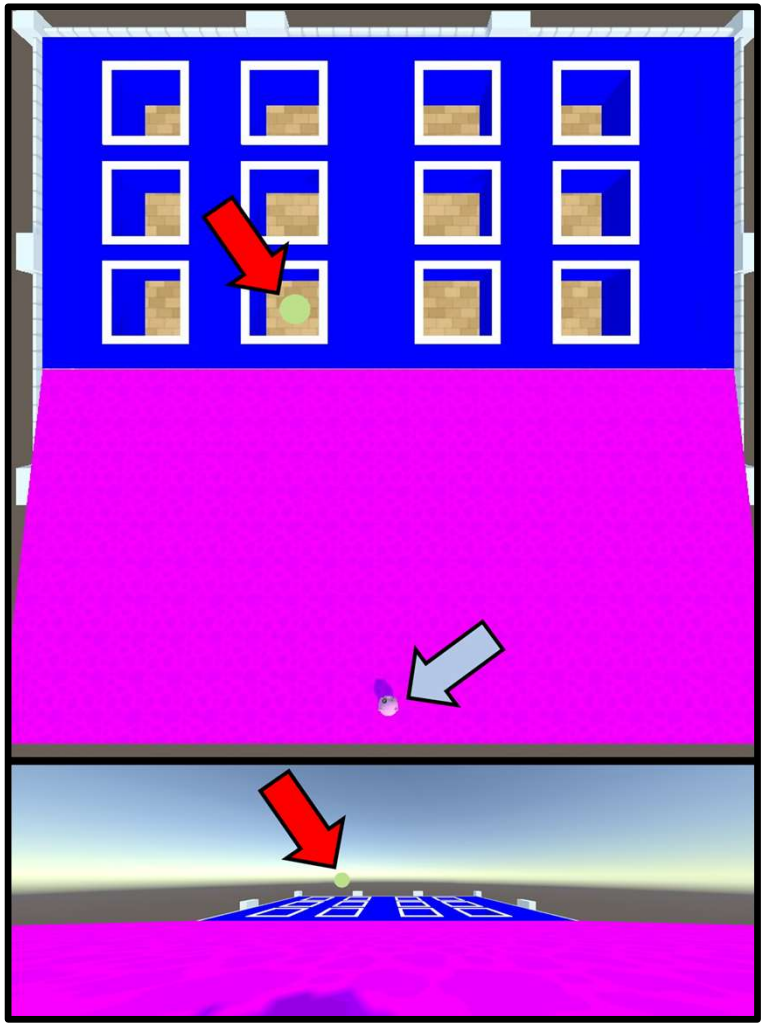
- Dreamer-v3 Agent

    - Two agents trained on different curricula.

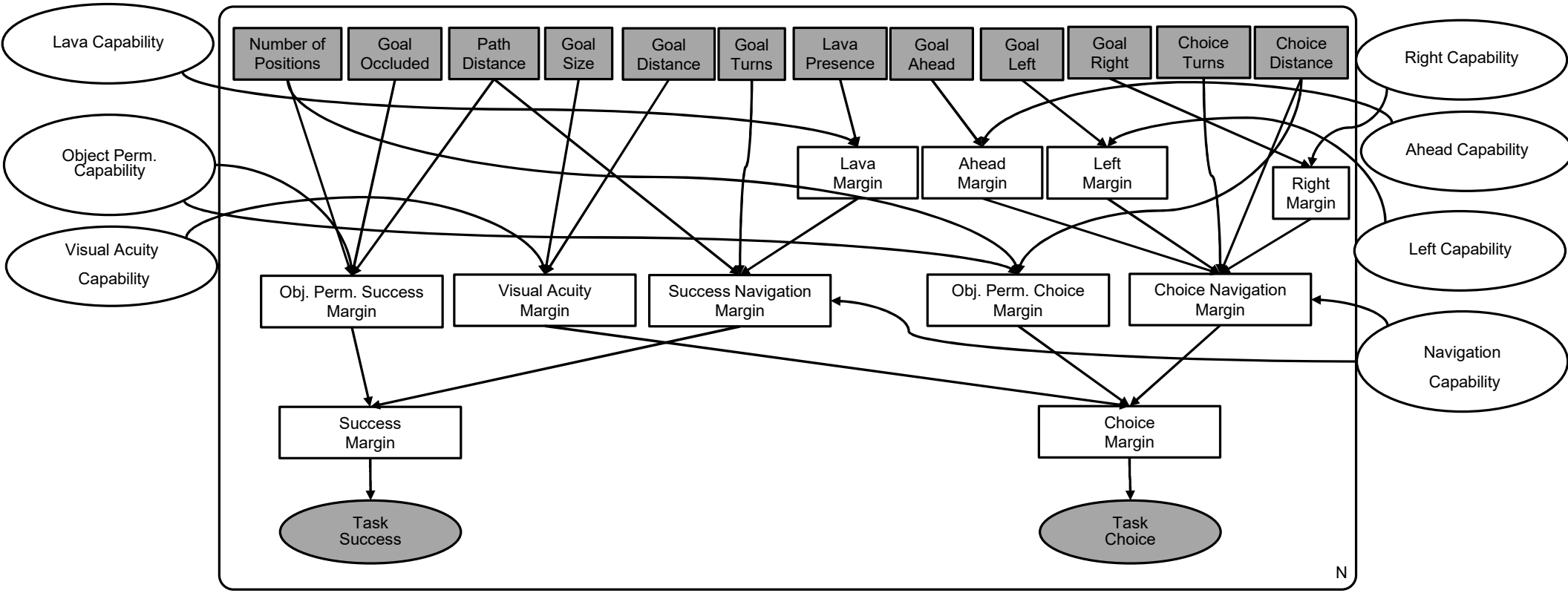
- Combined data from 30 humans.

Response Variables

- Whether the agent obtained the goal (success)
- Whether the agent made the correct choice (choice)



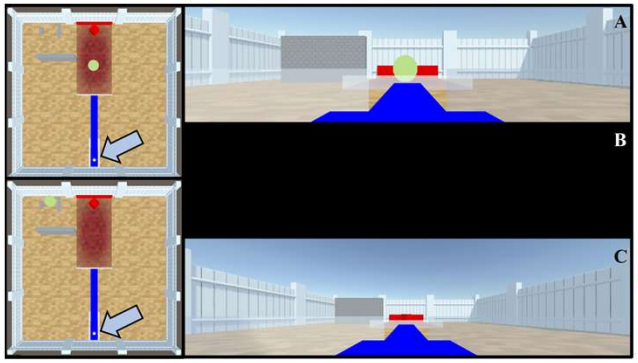
Let’s Start Building: End Goal



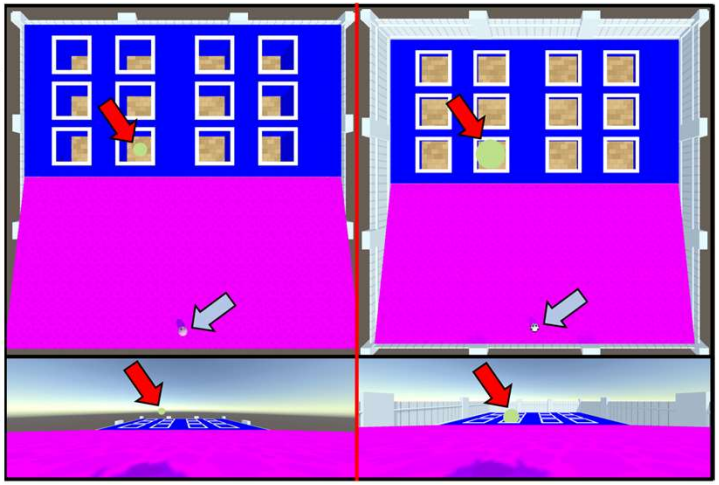
Let’s Start Building

- https://github.com/Kinds-of-Intelligence-CFI/measurement-layout-tutorial/blob/main/tutorial-notebooks/4_BuildingComplexMeasurementLayouts.ipynb

CV Chick Task



PCTB Grid Task



PCTB Cup Task