



Chess AI: GrandQ

5-Artificiële Intelligentie

Mathias Maes, Tijs Van Alphen
en Willem Van der Elst



GrandQ

- ▶ Special Q-learner
 - ▶ Alpha-Beta pruning agent inside
- ▶ Our project has 2 agents
- ▶ Based on:
 - ▶ Mannen, H. (2003). *Learning to play chess using reinforcement learning with database games*. Utrecht: Utrecht University.
Retrieved 12 12, 2020, from
<http://citeseerx.ist.psu.edu/viewdoc/download?doi=10.1.1.109.810&rep=rep1&type=pdf>
- ▶ Git: https://gitlab.com/Artificiele_Intelligentie/chess



Q-Learning agent

- ▶ Generalised Q-Learner
- ▶ Highly optimized
 - ▶ Multi-threading
 - ▶ Mutex locking
 - ▶ Caching of states
- ▶ Faster at calculating → Faster training



Q-Learning agent: Features

- ▶ Lots of features
 - ▶ Better understanding of environment
 - ▶ Alpha-Beta for predicting
- ▶ Struggles with overlearning
 - ▶ Normalise input
 - ▶ $\sigma^*(x) = \frac{2}{1+e^{-x}} - 1 : \sigma^*(x) \in]-1, 1[$
 - ▶ Derived from $\sigma(x) = \frac{1}{1+e^{-x}}$



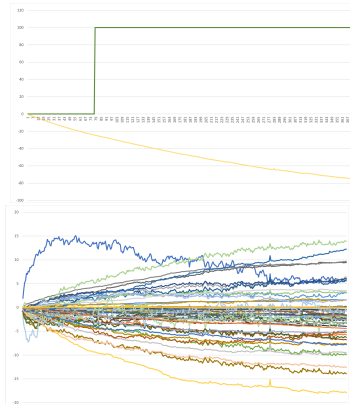
Q-Learning agent: Training

- ▶ Created convenient script
 - ▶ Changing variables quick (like max depth, epsilon, ...)
- ▶ Trained on VPS
 - ▶ Google collab: slow with CPU driven programs
 - ▶ Microsoft Azure:
 - ▶ Ran on Free Credits
 - ▶ About a week
- ▶ Opponents: Stockfish, Alpha-Beta, (GrandQ)

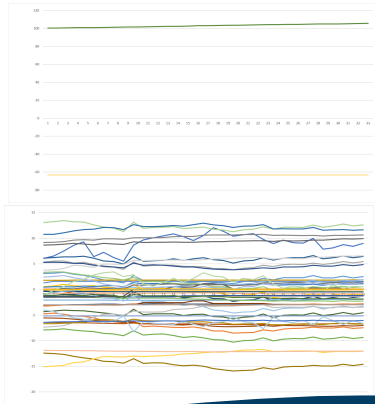


Results and conclusion

Stockfish



Alpha-Beta





Demo

- ▶ GrandQ is open to play with on lichess
 - ▶ Possible to play against it yourself
- ▶ https://lichess.org/@/grandQ_AI