Solving General Twisty Puzzles with RL

Goal: Compute interpretable solutions on consumer hardware

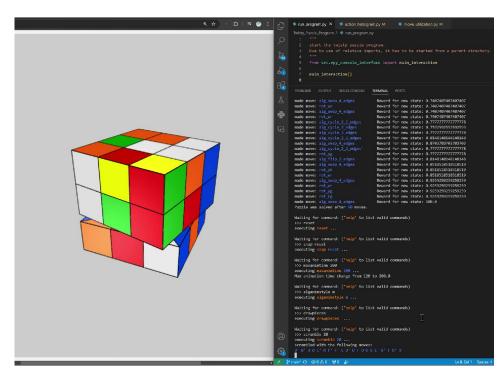
Methods:

- Automatic action space augmentation
- Dense, intuitive rewards

Result:

- 100x faster training than previous RL-approaches
- Al solutions similar to human ones

Time: ~600 hours over 4 years



Code on GitHub

master's thesis

<u>video explanation</u> <u>more demo videos</u>

Simulating real-world traffic sensor noise for more robust RL-Traffic Signal Control

Goal: Improve robustness of RL-TSC agents against noisy data

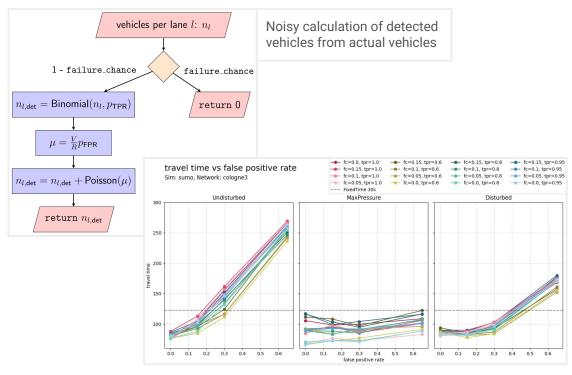
Methods:

- Simulate realistic sensor noise
- >600,000 simulated hours to test parameter settings and analyze their impact

Result:

- Understanding impact of different noise types on tested RL and non-RL agents
- Actionable sensor type deployment recommendations

Time: 2-3 months



Code on GitHub

publication planned

Custom Ticket to Ride Map Creation Tools

Goal: Efficiently create custom Ticket to Ride versions

Methods:

- Analyzed creation bottlenecks and processes
- Built tools to support creation at multiple stages

Result:

- Faster creation of variants
- High-quality custom games

Time: ~300 hours over 1 year



Northgard Board Game with Web-Ul

Goal:

- Recreate the board game Northgard digitally
- Write web-UI without prior JS/CSS/html knowledge

Methods:

- Al tools for writing frontend
- Python backend
- Custom tools for asset creation

Result:

Prototype with responsive web-UI

Time: ~100 hours incl. asset creation



<u>Code on GitHub</u> <u>Assets on GitHub</u> demo video

game info

Simplified Saboteur Game with RL players

Goal:

 Investigate emergence of deceptive AI behaviour

Methods:

LLM-accelerated coding

Result:

- RL-agents successfully play simplified game
- unfinished

Time: ~20 hours



Code on GitHub

YouTube demo

Learning Methods in Humans, Animals and Al

Goal: Compare learning techniques in different organisms to inspire future research

Methods:

- Offered Workshop at VANconference25
- Years of following current research

Result:

 Overview helps predict industry & research direction

Time: <10 hours

Learning method	Animals	Humans	Computer (Machine Learning)
Evolution	genetic evolution	genetic evolution	genetic algorithms (e.g. NEAT)
Trial & Error	Conditioning	Conditioning	Reinforcement learning
mitation	Orcas teaching hunting methods & language	Learning language	Supervised learning, Imitation learning
Abstract Instructions	Bee dance to describe location of food	Most of school / higher education, baking recipes	In-context learning in LLMs
Mental Simulation	Birds cracking nuts using cars, tool use	Dreams, pondering other's reactions	World models (e.g. DreamerV3)

GitHub page

Wizard Game with multiple Al players

Goal: Compare different Al techniques for creating wizard game agents

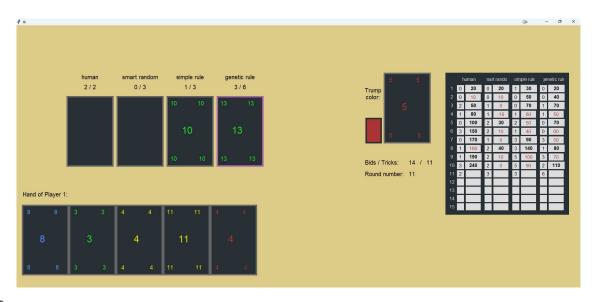
Methods:

- Rule-based AI, optimized via genetic evolution
- tkinter GUI design

Result:

Major capability differences

Time: ~60 hours



Code on GitHub