

## Lab1: Temporal Difference Learning

### Lab Objective:

In this lab, you will learn temporal difference learning (TD) algorithm by solving the 2048 game using an  $n$ -tuple network.

### Important Date:

1. Submission Deadline: 10/1 (Sun) 23:59

2. Demo date: 10/2 (Mon)

### Turn in:

1. Experiment report (.pdf)

2. Source code [NOT including model weights]

Notice: zip all files with name “RL\_LAB1\_StudentId\_Name.zip”,  
e.g.: 「RL\_LAB1\_311551043\_廖唯辰.zip」

### Lab Description:

- Understand the concept of (before-)state and after-state.
- Learn to construct and design an  $n$ -tuple network.
- Understand TD algorithm.
- Understand Q-learning network training.

### Requirements:

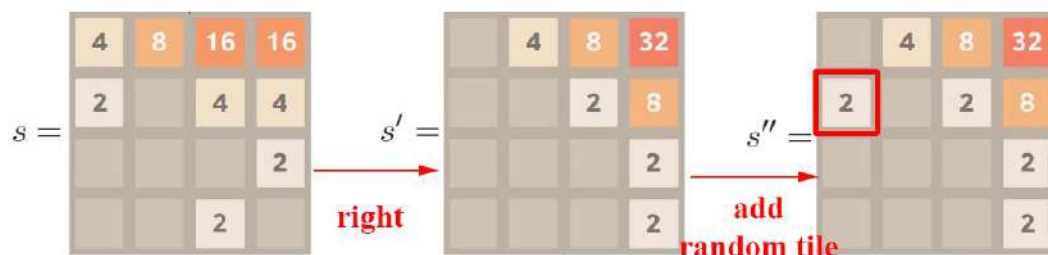
- Implement TD(0) algorithm
  - Construct an  $n$ -tuple network.
  - Action selection according to the  $n$ -tuple network.
  - Calculate TD-target and TD-error.
  - Update  $V(\text{state})$ , not  $V(\text{after-state})$ .
    - ◆ That is, you need to use the information of  $P(\text{popup tile } 2) = 0.9$  and  $P(\text{popup tile } 4) = 0.1$  in your code.
  - Understand temporal difference learning mechanisms.

Game Environment – 2048:

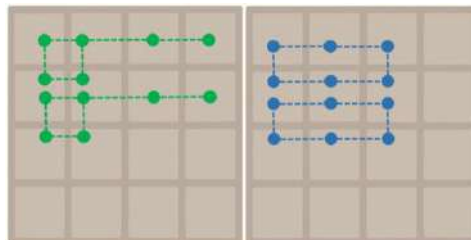
- Introduction: 2048 is a single-player sliding block puzzle game. The game's objective is to slide numbered tiles on a grid to combine them to create a tile with the number 2048.
- Actions: **Up, Down, Left, Right**
- Reward: The score is the value of new tile when two tiles are combined.



- A sample of two-step state transition

Implementation Details:**Network Architecture**

- $n$ -tuple patterns:  $4 \times 6$ -tuples with all possible isomorphisms

**Training Arguments**

- Learning rate: 0.1
  - Learning rate for features of  $n$ -tuple network with  $m$  features:  $0.1 \div m$
- Train the network at least 100k episodes

Algorithm:**A pseudocode of the game engine and training.** (modified backward training method)

```

function PLAY GAME
   $score \leftarrow 0$ 
   $s \leftarrow \text{INITIALIZE GAME STATE}$ 
  while IS NOT TERMINAL STATE( $s$ ) do
     $a \leftarrow \underset{a' \in A(s)}{\text{argmax}} \text{EVALUATE}(s, a')$ 
     $r, s', s'' \leftarrow \text{MAKE MOVE}(s, a)$ 
    SAVE RECORD( $s, a, r, s', s''$ )
     $score \leftarrow score + r$ 
     $s \leftarrow s''$ 
  for ( $s, a, r, s', s''$ ) FROM TERMINAL DOWNT0 INITIAL do
    LEARN EVALUATION( $s, a, r, s', s''$ )
  return  $score$ 

function MAKE MOVE( $s, a$ )
   $s', r \leftarrow \text{COMPUTE AFTERSTATE}(s, a)$ 
   $s'' \leftarrow \text{ADD RANDOM TILE}(s')$ 
  return ( $r, s', s''$ )

```

**TD-state**

```

function EVALUATE( $s, a$ )
   $s', r \leftarrow \text{COMPUTE AFTERSTATE}(s, a)$ 
   $S'' \leftarrow \text{ALL POSSIBLE NEXT STATES}(s')$ 
  return  $r + \sum_{s'' \in S''} P(s, a, s'') V(s'')$ 

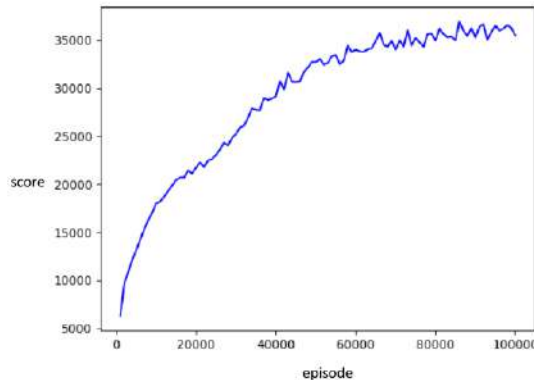
function LEARN EVALUATION( $s, a, r, s', s''$ )
   $V(s) \leftarrow V(s) + \alpha(r + V(s'') - V(s))$ 

```

## Scoring Criteria:

Show your work, otherwise no credit will be granted.

- Report (20% + Bonus 20%)
  - A plot shows scores (mean) of at least 100k training episodes (20%)  
E.g.



- Bonus: (20%)
  - ◆ Describe the implementation and the usage of  $n$ -tuple network. (5%)
  - ◆ Explain the mechanism of TD(0). (5%)
  - ◆ Describe your implementation in detail including action selection and TD-backup diagram. (10%)
- Demo Performance (80%)
  - The 2048-tile win rate in 1000 games,  $[\text{winrate}_{2048}]$ . (60%)  
E.g.

1000	mean = 21355.2	max = 64492
128	100%	(0.1%)
256	99.9%	(1.4%)
512	98.5%	(11.6%)
1024	86.9%	(51.2%)
2048	35.7%	(34.6%)
4096	1.1%	(1.1%)

- Questions. (20%)

## References:

- [1] Szubert, Marcin, and Wojciech Jaśkowski. "Temporal difference learning of N-tuple networks for the game 2048." 2014 IEEE Conference on Computational Intelligence and Games. IEEE, 2014.
- [2] Kun-Hao Yeh, I-Chen Wu, Chu-Hsuan Hsueh, Chia-Chuan Chang, Chao-Chin Liang, and Han Chiang, Multi-Stage Temporal Difference Learning for 2048-like Games, accepted by IEEE Transactions on Computational Intelligence and AI in Games (SCI), doi: 10.1109/TCIAIG.2016.2593710, 2016.
- [3] Oka, Kazuto, and Kiminori Matsuzaki. "Systematic selection of n-tuple networks for 2048." International Conference on Computers and Games. Springer International Publishing, 2016.
- [4] moporgic. "Basic implementation of 2048 in Python." Retrieved from Github: <https://github.com/moporgic/2048-Demo-Python>.
- [5] moporgic. "Temporal Difference Learning for Game 2048 (Demo)." Retrieved from Github: <https://github.com/moporgic/TDL2048-Demo>.
- [6] lukewayne123. "2048-Framework" Retrieved from Github: <https://github.com/lukewayne123/2048-Framework>.