# Adaptive Neural Network Usage in Computer Go

Alexi Kessler, Ian Shusdock

#### Outline

- The Game of Go
- Computer Go Techniques
- Our Project
- Conclusions
- Future Work

# What is Go?

- Two-player alternating stone placing game
- 19x19 board
- Group: Connected pieces
- Liberty: Empty adjacent position to group
- Captured: When a group has no liberties
- **Territory**: Empty locations "controlled" by a player
- No stone sacrifice
- Winner determined by territory and stone captures



# What Makes Go Interesting?

- Incredibly complex
- ~10<sup>81</sup> atoms in the known universe
- Orders of magnitude harder than chess
- Complexity closely resembles real world
- Can lead to advances in artificial intelligence

	Chess	Go
Possible board states	10 <sup>47</sup>	10 <sup>170</sup>
Possible legal move sequences	10 <sup>123</sup>	10 <sup>360</sup>

# Why Study Go Al?

- Functionally infinite states and sequences
- Actions have long term influences
- States are not always as they appear
- In short, **very** hard
- Similar to sequential decision based problems



# **Previous Techniques**

# Minimax

- Tree of possible move sequences
- Assumes perfect play
- One player maximizes tree
- One player minimizes tree
- Best move chosen for root player
- Requires the entire tree mapped OR
- A heuristic function



# **Monte Carlo Simulation**

- Policy based
- Value estimation
- Simulate games based on policy
- Sensitive to policy choice
- Randomization of policy



#### Monte Carlo Tree Search

- A combination of game tree search and Monte Carlo simulation
- Limited minimax with heuristic
- Gradually adapt Monte Carlo policy
- Rely on fixed policy for "leaf" nodes
- Works well with Go



# **Upper Confidence on Trees**

- Action selection is treated as separate problem for every node
- Select action *a* that maximizes following equation
  - (estimated value of action *a*) + (modified bias sequence)
- Bias sequence is higher for less explored states/actions
- More likely to choose unexplored nodes
- Handles exploration-exploitation dilemma

#### **Convolutional Neural Networks**





- Functions similarly to normal neural network
- Processes overlapping tiles from input
- Great at visual identification

# AlphaGo

- Developed by Google
- Two neural networks and MCTS
- Massive computing resources
- Plays moves that humans would not
- Beat best human player, Lee Sedol, in 2016



#### Last Year's MQP

- 4 approaches to help move selection
  - Introduce a neural network to Pachi
  - Change the neural network used based on tree depth
  - Train a neural network to inform Pachi search
  - Teach a neural network to use Pachi's search
- Using a single neural network gave the best result
- Anomalous results



#### Overview

- Investigated anomalous data
- Reinterpreted last year's results
- Adaptive neural network weighting
- Compared optimized neural network Pachi to default Pachi

#### **Anomalous Data**



# **Reinterpreted Results**



# Adaptive Neural Network Weighting

- Determine the optimal weighting
- Go is complex, static weighting won't work
- Based on
  - $\circ \quad \text{Board state} \quad$
  - Game turn
- Trained using Fuego
- Trained two different functions

#### First Round Performance



#### Second Round Performance



#### V2 vs. Default Pachi



#### V2 vs. Fuego



#### **Depth Based Neural Network**



#### Conclusions

- Adaptive weighting is powerful
- The faster neural network is not very good
- The slower neural network is strong



#### Future Work

- Use the slower, more accurate neural network
- Train function longer
- Experiment with more parameters
- Revisit the two other approaches from last year

#### Acknowledgements

- Levente Kocsis, Project Advisor and SZTAKI liaison
- MTA-SZTAKI
- Gabor Sarkozy, MQP Advisor
- Oscar Perez and Joshua Keller, last year's MQP team
- Worcester Polytechnic Institute

# **Questions?**

RINGER

mmmm

n

TREF TREFT

12.1

3633633

Antonio Management

11111111111

enternette freetersternet

The second

