Man Versus Machine for the World Checkers Championship

Jonathan Schaeffer
Norman Treloar
Paul Lu
Robert Lake

DOI: https://doi.org/10.1609/aimag.v14i2.1040

Abstract

In August 1992, the world checkers champion, Marion Tinsley, defended his title against the computer program CHINOOK. Because of its success in human tournaments, CHINOOK had earned the right to play for the world championship. Tinsley won the best-of-40-game match with a score of 4 wins, 2 losses, and 33 draws. This event was the first time in history that a program played for a human world championship and might be a prelude to what is to come in chess. This article tells the story of the first Man versus Machine World Championship match.
Man Versus Machine for the World Checkers Championship. ICCA Journal, Vol. 16, No. 2. 1995 ... The Layered Learning method and its Application to Generation of Evaluation Functions for the Game of Checkers. 11. PPSN, pdf. João Guerra (2011). For the August 1992, Man Versus Machine World Draughts Championship match between Chinook and Dr. Marion Tinsley, a parallel Chinook, or ParaChinook, was developed. This thesis describes the parallelization of Chinook's Alpha-Beta search. The checkers program Chinook has won the right to play a 40-game match for the World Checkers Championship against Dr. Marion Tinsley. This was earned by placing second, after Dr. Tinsley, at the 1990 U.S. National Open, the biennial event used to determine a challenger for the championship. This is the first time a program has earned the right to contest for a human world championship. In an That achievement should have earned Chinook the right to challenge Dr. Tinsley, a professor of mathematics at Florida A&M University, for the world championship, but the American Checkers Federation and the English Draughts Association refused to sanction a match. After much wrangling in the checkers world, Dr. Tinsley and Chinook battled for the man-versus-machine checkers title in 1992. Dr. Tinsley won, 4 to 2 with 33 draws. Chinook’s two wins were only the sixth and seventh losses for Dr. Tinsley since 1950. Next week, his program, Polaris, will take on two professional poker players in Texas Hold’Em for the $50,000 man-versus-machine world championship. Advertisement. Continue reading the main story.