ALCHEMY
WITH FRIENDS

How to play (minimum 4 players)

1. Set the black and white decks face down on the table.

2. Nominate someone to be the first 'dealer'.

3. Deal each player 10 white cards.

4. Dealer picks up the top black card and reads it out.

5. Everyone except the dealer picks the white card(s) from their hand which they think will be the funniest in combination with the black card.

6. They place these face down on the table in a pile.

7. The dealer then shuffles them and reads them out loud.

8. The dealer then picks the funniest white card and whoever submitted the winning card(es) keeps the black card.

9. The dealer responsibility moves in a clockwise order and the game continues as above.

10. When you have had enough of playing, the player with the most black cards wins.

Schmidhuber

Mode collapse

Saddle points

Reviewer #2

Being scooped

Blockchain

Alchemy

Real science

Rigor police	My NeurIPS paper	Being a true Bayesian	A debate about PyTorch vs TensorFlow
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Dropout	Adding skip connections	@ML_Hipster	Tweeting @ BoredYannLecun
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Spending time on /r/ML

Saying how much better NeurIPS was in the old days

Debating when the singularity will happen

#FeelTheLearn

Testing on the training set

AGI

Not trying the linear baseline

Hyperparameter optimisation (including the random seed)

Reducing internal covariate shift

Vacuous generalization bounds

152 deep layers

Exploding gradients

Procrastinating while waiting for my GPU jobs to complete

Temporally recurrent optimal learning

Self-attention

Gradient noise

Collecting cool swag at NeurIPS	Talking to AI recruiters	Grad student descent	Not plotting error bars
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Meta-meta learning	Adversaries, bandits, and critics	Carefully decaying the learning rate until it works	Nature and Science papers
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Minimum innovation for maximum impact

Citing the Canadian mafia

#RocketAI

Waiting for the winter to come

Fixing random seeds

Comparing to random search

Ignoring the rebuttal period

Putting it on arXiv first

Montezuma's Revenge

Simpson's paradox

Using –999 to encode a missing value

Outlier removal

Restricted Boltzmann machines

Gaining half a percent accuracy on CIFAR-10

Some trivial data pre-processing

The minimal viable product

Sending complaint emails to the personal email address of the area chair

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Approximating AIXI

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My AI start-up

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Buying my NeurIPS registration on the darknet

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Occam's Razor

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Bits back

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GPU compute

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A weak classifier

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Machine Learning Yearning

Causal leakage

Overfitting

Biased data collection

Data visualization

A bag of bootstraps

Hand-coded features

NeurIPS registration queues

VC funding

Inductive biases

Optimizing on the test set

Shrinkage

Random kitchen sinks

Selecting k in k-means

Getting away with not reporting runtimes in your paper

Submitting your paper to a double-blind conference and arXiv at the same time

Asking the author to cite five of your papers in your anonymous review

An insufficient literature review

Finding a bug in your code after submitting your paper

$p<.05$

Cherry picking results

Bugs as regularizers

Sharing a single GPU with your labmates

Hacking the NeurIPS style file

Flattering likely reviewers in the background work section

The importance of convexity

Local optima

Random restarts

Early stopping

Gradient descent on the validation set

Using sudo to remove other people's GPU lock

A reproducibility crisis

Classifying MNIST digit 2 vs 9

Vapnik's principle

Software 2.0

Writing neural networks in Lua

Doing backpropagation manually in numpy

Ignoring ancient works pre-2015

Referring to work as AI rather than ML

Worrying that your data is not big enough

Discussion of the growth in NeurIPS attendees

Trying to shoehorn any problem through a ResNet

Einsum

Trying to come up with a catchy name for a new model

Writing a paper on the day of the deadline because you finally beat the random baseline

What conversational agents gossip with each other

Competing with robots in an automated warehouse

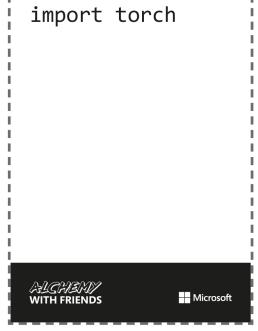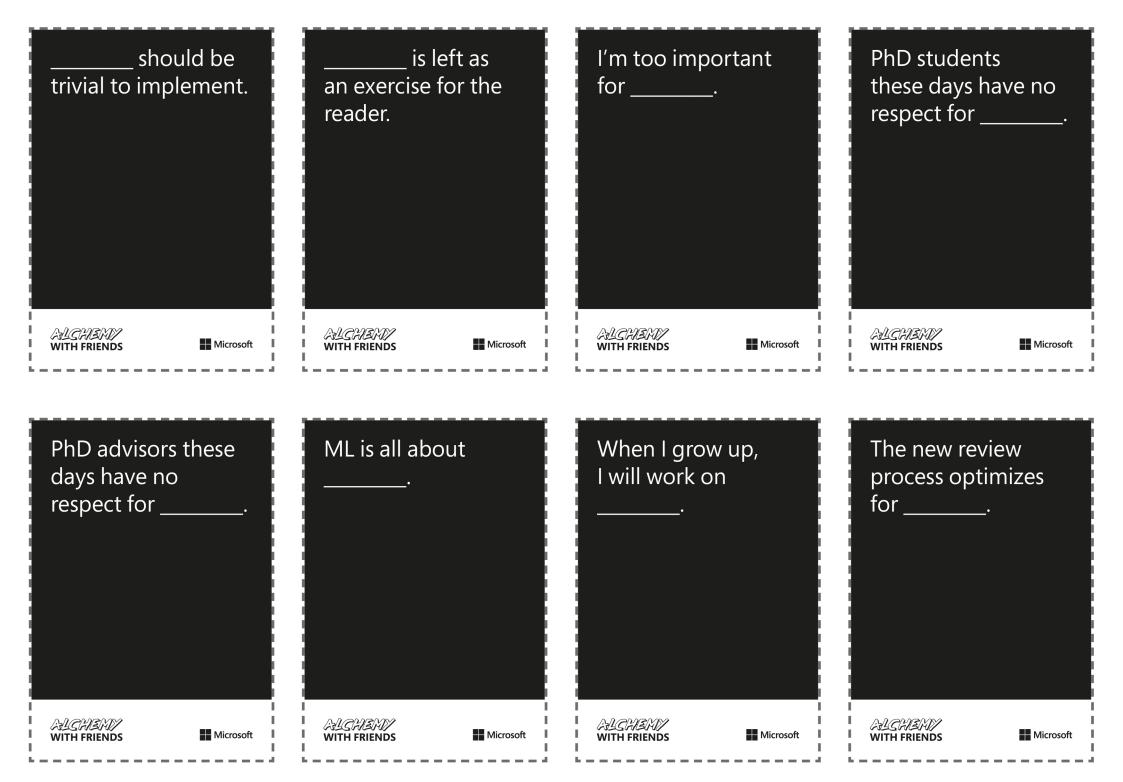Hiring mechanical Turk workers to tune the hyperparameters of your RL agent

Novel evaluation metric

Math to look smart

Understand the bug that made it work

A conversational agent's social media addiction

$$P(B \mid A) = \frac{p(A \mid B)p(B)}{p(A)}$$

```
import torch
```

_____ should be trivial to implement.

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Microsoft

_____ is left as an exercise for the reader.

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I'm too important for _____.

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PhD students these days have no respect for _____.

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PhD advisors these days have no respect for _____.

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ML is all about _____.

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When I grow up, I will work on _____.

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Microsoft

The new review process optimizes for _____.

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Microsoft

I had the time of my life solving problems with _____.

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Blood, sweat, and _____.

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My supervisor could not respond to my email because apparently _____.

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I can't believe I had a paper with _____ accepted at NeurIPS.

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Hey kids, study ML and one day you too can aspire to work on _____.

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_____ is a slippery slope that leads to _____.

2 Pick two cards!

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I finally experienced _____ and now I understand _____.

2 Pick two cards!

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Self-Attention is so 2018. 2019 is all about _____.

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When I sell my AI start-up, I will erect a 20ft statue to commemorate _____.

I told the AI recruiter I focus on _____.

Reviewer 2 rejected the paper because of _____.

The field of AI is stuck until we understand _____.

During my PhD I focused too much on _____.

During my PhD my supervisor focused too much on _____.

_____ explains how the brain works.

_____ is the new electricity.

_____ is all you need.

_____ is a real ethical concern.

Being Bayesian about _____ would solve all your problems.

Neural _____ models are the next big thing.

"Science is _____. Religion is _____."

- Alan Turing

2 Pick two cards!

"The development of _____ could spell the end of the human race."

- Stephen Hawking

When I grow up I'm going to work at Microsoft.

Microsoft is looking for machine learning experts and we want you.

To find out more visit:
aka.ms/neurips-2018