

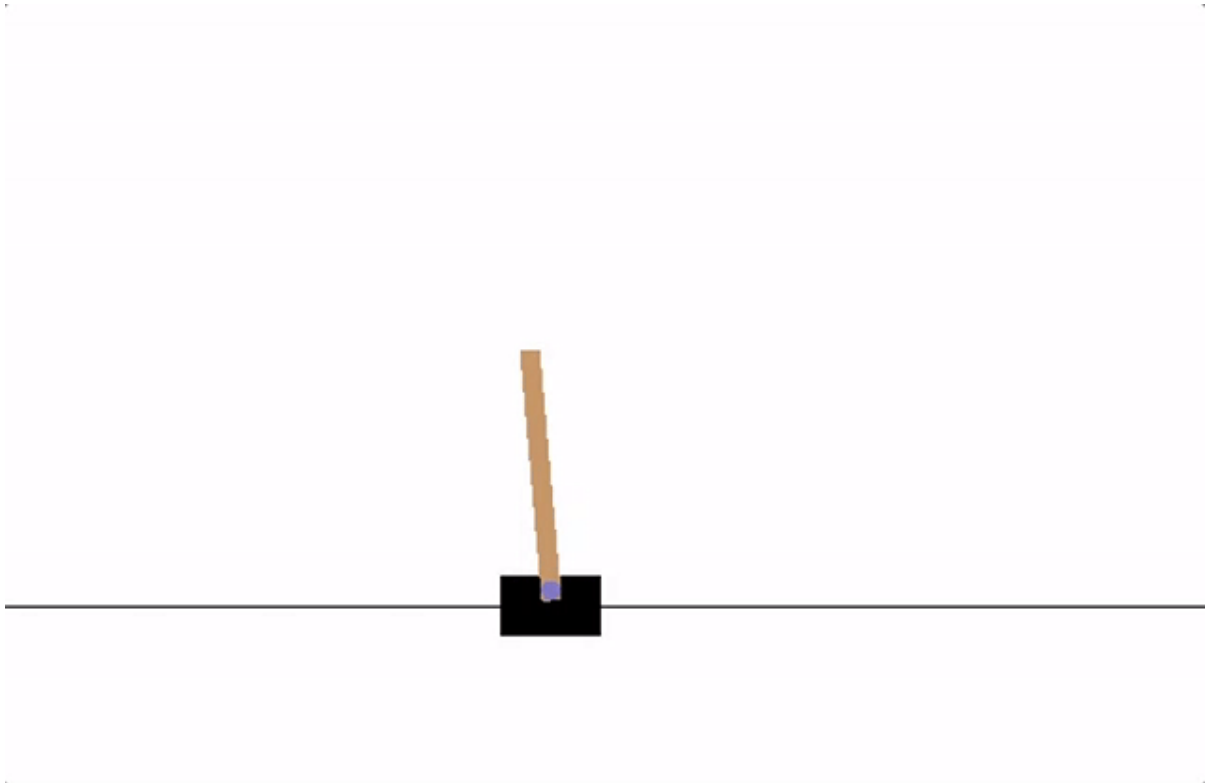
# Reinforcement Learning - Deep Q Learning

In this lab, you're going to:

1. Use PyTorch to train a Deep Q Learning (DQN) agent on the CartPole-v1 task from the [OpenAI Gym](#).
2. Use **experience replay memory** for training your DQN agent.
3. Create a simple plot to visualize your agent's efficiency.

## Description

In Cartpole, a pole is attached by an un-actuated joint to a cart, which moves along a frictionless track. The pole starts upright, and the goal is to prevent it from falling over. The system is controlled by applying a force of +1 or -1 to the cart. A reward of +1 is provided for every timestep that the pole remains upright. The **episode ends** when **the pole is more than 15 degrees from vertical**, or **the cart moves more than 2.4 units from the center of the track**.



```
In [ ]: ### Instantiate the Cartpole environment ###
import gym
env = gym.make("CartPole-v1")
env.seed(1)
```

Out[ ]: [1]

Given this setup for the environment and the objective of the game, we can think about:

- 1) What observations help define the environment's state;
- 2) What actions the agent can take.

First, let's consider the observation space. In this Cartpole environment, our observations are:

- Cart position
- Cart velocity
- Pole angle
- Pole rotation rate

We can confirm the size of the space by querying the environment's observation space:

```
In [ ]: n_observations = env.observation_space
        print("Environment has observation space =", n_observations)

Environment has observation space = Box(-3.4028234663852886e+38, 3.4028234663852886e+38, (4,), float32)
```

Second, we consider the action space. At every time step, the agent can move either **right** or **left**. Again, we can confirm the size of the action space by querying the environment:

```
In [ ]: n_actions = env.action_space.n
        print("Number of possible actions that the agent can choose from =", n_actions)

Number of possible actions that the agent can choose from = 2
```

## Solved Requirements

Considered solved when the average reward is **greater than or equal to 450.0 over 100 consecutive trials**.

## Packages

Let's import the needed packages. In this lab, you will use the following from PyTorch:

- neural networks ( torch.nn )
- optimization ( torch.optim )
- automatic differentiation ( torch.autograd )

```
In [ ]: import math
        import random
        import numpy as np
        import matplotlib
        import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
        from collections import namedtuple, deque
        from itertools import count
        from PIL import Image

        import torch
        import torch.nn as nn
        import torch.optim as optim
        import torch.nn.functional as F
        from torch import randint
```

```
In [ ]: env = gym.make('CartPole-v1')

        # set up matplotlib
        is_ipython = 'inline' in matplotlib.get_backend()
```

```

if is_ipython:
    from IPython import display

plt.ion()

# if gpu is to be used
device = torch.device("cuda" if torch.cuda.is_available() else "cpu")

```

## The Behavior of a Random Agent

We will first check the average reward that a random agent can earn. By **Random Agent**, we're referring to an agent selecting actions randomly (i.e. without using any environmental information). Running this snippet gave an average reward in range (20, 25). It may vary slightly in your case. But still, the problem is far from solved.

```

In [ ]:
rew_arr = []
episode_count = 100
for i in range(episode_count):
    obs, done, rew = env.reset(), False, 0
    while (done != True) :
        A = randint(0, env.action_space.n, (1,))
        obs, reward, done, info = env.step(A.item())
        rew += reward
    rew_arr.append(rew)

print("Average reward per episode :", sum(rew_arr) / len(rew_arr))

```

Average reward per episode : 21.52

Now, let's define our model. But first, let's quickly recap what a DQN is.

## DQN algorithm

Our environment is deterministic, so all equations presented here are also formulated deterministically for the sake of simplicity. In the reinforcement learning literature, they would also contain expectations over stochastic transitions in the environment.

Our aim will be to train a policy that tries to maximize the discounted, cumulative reward  $R_{t_0} = \sum_{t=t_0}^{\infty} \gamma^{t-t_0} r_t$ , where  $R_{t_0}$  is also known as the *return*. The discount,  $\gamma$ , should be a constant between 0 and 1 that ensures the sum converges. It makes rewards from the uncertain far future less important for our agent than the ones in the near future that it can be fairly confident about.

The main idea behind Q-learning is that if we had a function  $Q^* : State \times Action \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , that could tell us what our return would be, if we were to take an action in a given state, then we could easily construct a policy that maximizes our rewards:

$$\pi^*(s) = \operatorname{argmax}_a Q^*(s, a) \quad (1)$$

However, we don't know everything about the world, so we don't have access to  $Q^*$ . But, since neural networks are universal function approximators, we can simply create one and train it to resemble  $Q^*$ .

For our training update rule, we'll use a fact that every  $Q$  function for some policy obeys the Bellman equation:

$$Q^\pi(s, a) = r + \gamma Q^\pi(s', \pi(s')) \quad (2)$$

The difference between the two sides of the equality is known as the temporal difference error,  $\delta$ :

$$\delta = Q(s, a) - (r + \gamma \max_a Q(s', a)) \quad (3)$$

To minimise this error, we will use the [MSE loss](#).

## Model Architecture

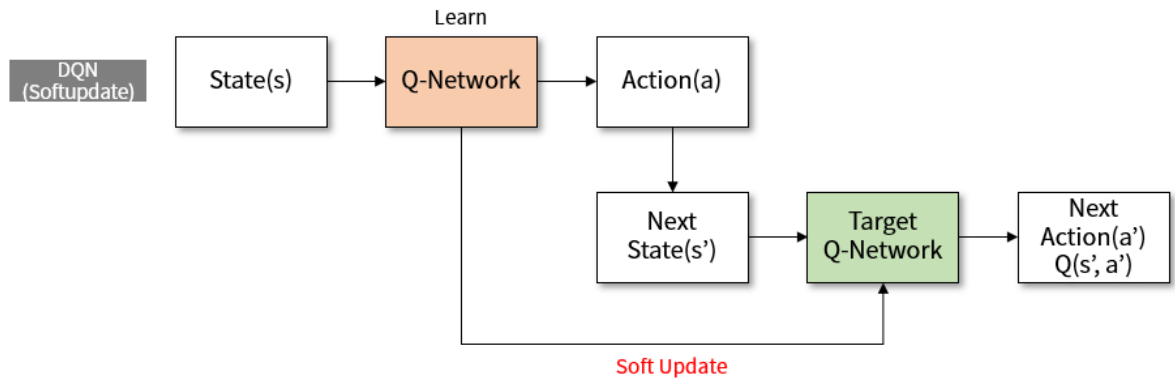
```
In [ ]:
class QNetwork(nn.Module):
    def __init__(self, state_size, action_size, seed, fc1_unit=64, fc2_unit=64):
        """
        Initialize parameters and build model.
        Params:
            - state_size (int): Dimension of each state
            - action_size (int): Dimension of each action
            - seed (int): Random seed
            - fc1_unit (int): Number of nodes in first hidden layer
            - fc2_unit (int): Number of nodes in second hidden layer
        """
        super(QNetwork, self).__init__() ## calls __init__ method of nn.Module class
        self.seed = torch.manual_seed(seed)

        ### YOUR CODE HERE ###
        self.fc1= nn.Linear(state_size, fc1_unit)
        self.fc2 = nn.Linear(fc1_unit, fc2_unit)
        self.fc3 = nn.Linear(fc2_unit, action_size)
        ### END ###

    def forward(self, state):
        """
        Build a network that maps state -> action values.
        """
        ### YOUR CODE HERE ###
        x = F.relu(self.fc1(state))
        x = F.relu(self.fc2(x))
        return self.fc3(x)
        ### END ###
```

## DQN Agent

In this Lab, we will use Soft update in DQN network.



A **soft update** means that we do not update this target network at once, but **frequently and very little**. The value of  $\tau$  is used. In Deepmind's paper, which proposed an algorithm called DPG, they used  $\tau = 0.001$ . The target network is updated as follows:

$$\theta_{target} = \tau * \theta_{local} + (1 - \tau) * \theta_{target}$$

The target network will move slightly to the value of Q-network. Since the value of  $\tau$  is small, the update should be frequent so that the effect will be noticeable.

## Hyperparameters

```
In [ ]: BUFFER_SIZE = int(1e5)    # replay buffer size
        BATCH_SIZE = 64        # minibatch size
        GAMMA = 0.99           # discount factor
        TAU = 1e-3             # for soft update of target parameters
        UPDATE_EVERY = 4       # how often to update the network
```

## Agent

```
In [ ]: class Agent():
        """
        Interacts with and learns from environment.
        """

        def __init__(self, state_size, action_size, seed):
            """
            Initialize an Agent object.
            Params:
            - state_size (int): dimension of each state
            - action_size (int): dimension of each action
            - seed (int): random seed
            """

            self.state_size = state_size
            self.action_size = action_size
            self.seed = random.seed(seed)

            # Q-Network
            self.qnetwork_local = QNetwork(state_size, action_size, seed).to(device)
            self.qnetwork_target = QNetwork(state_size, action_size, seed).to(device)

            self.optimizer = optim.Adam(self.qnetwork_local.parameters())

            # Replay Memory
            self.memory = ReplayBuffer(action_size, BUFFER_SIZE, BATCH_SIZE, seed)

            # Initialize time step (for updating every UPDATE_EVERY steps)
```

```

self.t_step = 0

def step(self, state, action, reward, next_step, done):
    # Save experience in replay memory
    self.memory.add(state, action, reward, next_step, done)

    # Learn every UPDATE_EVERY time steps.
    self.t_step = (self.t_step+1) % UPDATE_EVERY
    if self.t_step == 0:
        # If enough samples are available in memory, get random subset and learn
        if len(self.memory) > BATCH_SIZE:
            experience = self.memory.sample()
            self.learn(experience, GAMMA)

def act(self, state, eps = 0):
    """
    Returns action for given state as per current policy.
    Params:
        - state (array_like): current state
        - eps (float): epsilon, for epsilon-greedy action selection
    """
    state = torch.from_numpy(state).float().unsqueeze(0).to(device)
    self.qnetwork_local.eval()
    with torch.no_grad():
        action_values = self.qnetwork_local(state)
    self.qnetwork_local.train()

    # Epsilon-greedy action selection
    if random.random() > eps:
        return np.argmax(action_values.cpu().data.numpy())
    else:
        return random.choice(np.arange(self.action_size))

def learn(self, experiences, gamma):
    """
    Update value parameters using given batch of experience tuples.
    Params:
        - experiences (Tuple[torch.Variable]): tuple of (s, a, r, s', done) tuple
        - gamma (float): discount factor
    """
    states, actions, rewards, next_states, dones = experiences
    ### YOUR CODE HERE ###
    ## TODO: compute and minimize the loss
    # Get max predicted Q values (for next states) from target model
    Q_targets_next = self.qnetwork_target(next_states).detach().max(1)[0].unsqueeze(1)

    # Compute Q targets for current states
    Q_targets = rewards + (gamma * Q_targets_next * (1 - dones))

    # Get expected Q values from local model
    Q_expected = self.qnetwork_local(states).gather(1, actions)

    # Compute loss
    loss = F.mse_loss(Q_expected, Q_targets)

    # Minimize the loss
    self.optimizer.zero_grad()
    loss.backward()
    self.optimizer.step()
    ### END ###

    # ----- update target network ----- #
    self.soft_update(self.qnetwork_local, self.qnetwork_target, TAU)

```

```

def soft_update(self, local_model, target_model, tau):
    """
    Soft update model parameters.
     $\theta_{\text{target}} = \tau \theta_{\text{local}} + (1 - \tau) \theta_{\text{target}}$ 

    Params:
        - local_model (PyTorch model): weights will be copied from
        - target_model (PyTorch model): weights will be copied to
        - tau (float): interpolation parameter
    """
    for target_param, local_param in zip(target_model.parameters(), local_model.parameters()):
        target_param.data.copy_(tau*local_param.data + (1-tau)*target_param.data)

```

## Replay Memory

We'll be using experience replay memory for training our DQN. It stores the transitions that the agent observes, allowing us to reuse this data later. By sampling from it randomly, the transitions that build up a batch are decorrelated. It has been shown that this greatly stabilizes and improves the DQN training procedure.

```

In [ ]: class ReplayBuffer:
    """
    Fixed-size buffer to store experience tuples.
    """
    def __init__(self, action_size, buffer_size, batch_size, seed):
        """
        Initialize a ReplayBuffer object.
        Params:
            - action_size (int): dimension of each action
            - buffer_size (int): maximum size of buffer
            - batch_size (int): size of each training batch
            - seed (int): random seed
        """
        self.action_size = action_size
        self.memory = deque(maxlen=buffer_size)
        self.batch_size = batch_size
        self.experiences = namedtuple("Experience", field_names=["state", "action", "reward", "next_state", "done"])
        self.seed = random.seed(seed)

    def add(self, state, action, reward, next_state, done):
        """
        Add a new experience to memory.
        """
        e = self.experiences(state, action, reward, next_state, done)
        self.memory.append(e)

    def sample(self):
        """
        Randomly sample a batch of experiences from memory.
        """
        experiences = random.sample(self.memory, k=self.batch_size)

        states = torch.from_numpy(np.vstack([e.state for e in experiences if e is not None]))
        actions = torch.from_numpy(np.vstack([e.action for e in experiences if e is not None]))
        rewards = torch.from_numpy(np.vstack([e.reward for e in experiences if e is not None]))
        next_states = torch.from_numpy(np.vstack([e.next_state for e in experiences if e is not None]))
        dones = torch.from_numpy(np.vstack([e.done for e in experiences if e is not None]))

        return (states, actions, rewards, next_states, dones)

```

```

def __len__(self):
    """
    Return the current size of internal memory.
    """
    return len(self.memory)

```

## Train the Agent with DQN

```

In [ ]: # Init agent
agent = Agent(state_size=env.observation_space.shape[0], action_size=env.action

```

```

In [ ]: def DQN(n_episodes= 10000, eps_start=0.9, eps_end = 0.01, eps_decay=0.9):
    """
    Deep Q-Learning
    Params:
        - n_episodes (int): maximum number of training episodes
        - eps_start (float): starting value of epsilon, for epsilon-greedy action
        - eps_end (float): minimum value of epsilon
        - eps_decay (float): mutiplicative factor (per episode) for decreasing ep
    """

    scores = [] # list containing score from each episode
    scores_window = deque(maxlen=100) # last 100 scores
    eps = eps_start
    for i_episode in range(n_episodes):
        state, score, done = env.reset(), 0, False

        while(done != True):
            action = agent.act(state, eps)
            next_state, reward, done, _ = env.step(action)
            agent.step(state, action, reward, next_state, done)
            ## above step decides whether we will train(learn) the network
            ## actor (local_qnetwork) or we will fill the replay buffer
            ## if len replay buffer is equal to the batch size then we will
            ## train the network or otherwise we will add experience tuple in our r

            state = next_state
            score += reward
            # decrease the epsilon
            eps = max(eps*eps_decay, eps_end)

            # print('\rEpisode {} \tScore {:.2f}'.format(i_episode, np.mean(score)),

        scores.append(score)
        scores_window.append(score)
        print('\rEpisode {} \tAverage Score: {:.2f}'.format(i_episode, np.mean(scores_window)))
        if np.mean(scores_window) >= 450.0:
            print('\nEnvironment solved in {:d} episodes! \tAverage Score: {:.2f}'.format(i_episode, np.mean(scores_window)))
            torch.save(agent.qnetwork_local.state_dict(), 'checkpoint.pth')
            break
    return scores

```

```

In [ ]: scores = DQN()

```

```

Episode 3024      Average Score: 453.82
Environment solved in 2924 episodes!      Average Score: 453.82

```

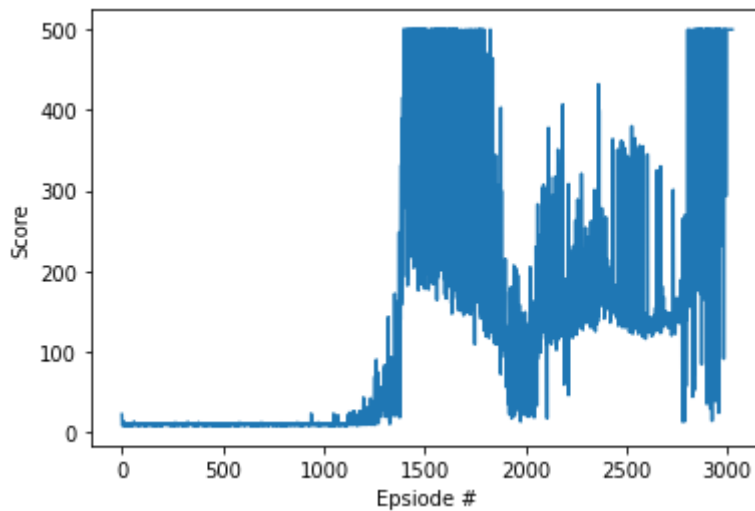
```

In [ ]: #plot the scores
fig = plt.figure()

```



```
ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
plt.plot(np.arange(len(scores)), scores)
plt.ylabel('Score')
plt.xlabel('Epsiode #')
plt.show()
```



## Explore

In this exercise, you have implemented a DQN agent and demonstrated how to use it to solve an OpenAI Gym environment. To continue your learning, you are encouraged to complete any (or all!) of the following tasks:

- Amend the various hyperparameters and network architecture to see if you can get your agent to solve the environment faster. Once you build intuition for the hyperparameters that work well with this environment, try solving a different OpenAI Gym task with discrete actions!
- You may like to implement some improvements such as prioritized experience replay, Double DQN, or Dueling DQN!
- Write a blog post explaining the intuition behind the DQN algorithm and demonstrating how to use it to solve an RL environment of your choosing.