

Deep Reinforcement Learning

Overview of main articles

Part 3. Advanced topics

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November 2, 2018

MSU

Continuous Control (2016)

Hindsight Experience Replay (2018)

Continuous Control (2016)

Continuous Control Task

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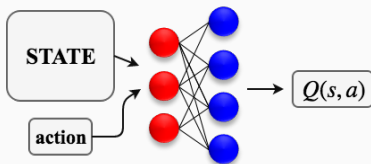
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- * policy gradients algorithms can be used with $\pi_{\theta}(a | s)$ parameterized as some distribution (for example, $\mathcal{N}(\mu_{\theta}(s_t), \sigma_{\theta}(s_t)I)$)
 - limits model's capacity
- Deep Q-learning based methods become extremely expensive.

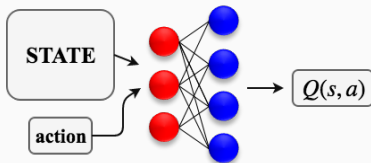
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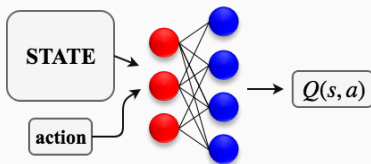


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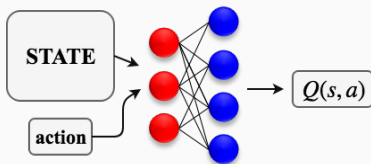


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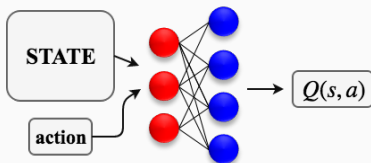


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 - needs a lot of passes through the network on each step \Rightarrow strong slowdown.
- * approximate $Q_{\theta}(s, a) \approx \phi(a, \mu_{\theta}(s))$, e. g. quadratic function.
 - same problems as in policy gradients methods.

Continuous control with deep reinforcement learning (2016):

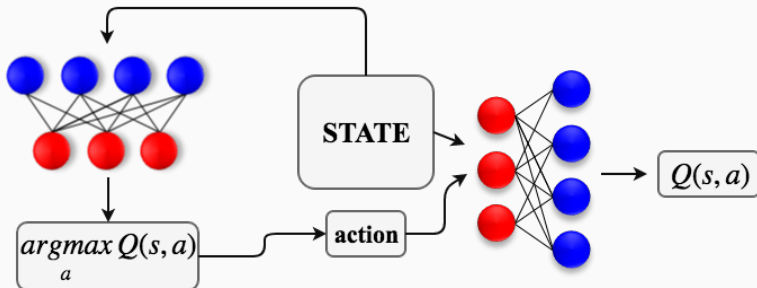


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Continuous control with deep reinforcement learning (2016):



Use one more neural net to approximate $\operatorname{argmax}_a Q(s, a)$!



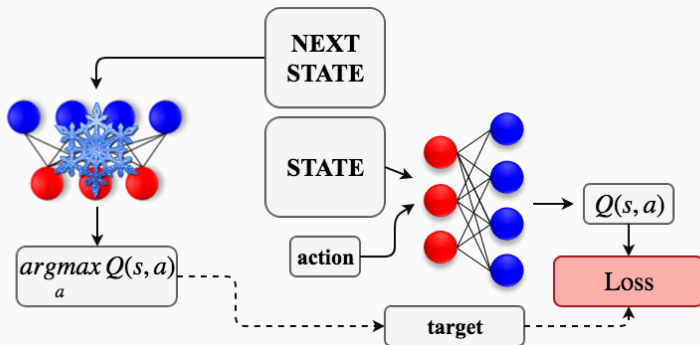
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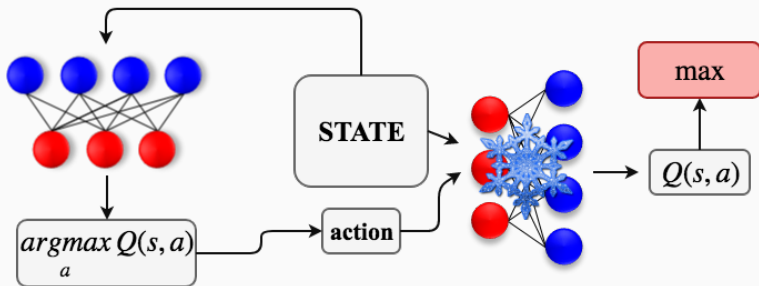
On each step of optimization target for Q-network (critic) is generated using actor.



DDPG: Training

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Actor is trained to maximize $Q(s, a)$ (critic) by input.



- + number of network passes stays the same!
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 - though now we have two networks.
- + can be extended on policy gradient methods! ¹
 - though the policy becomes deterministic.

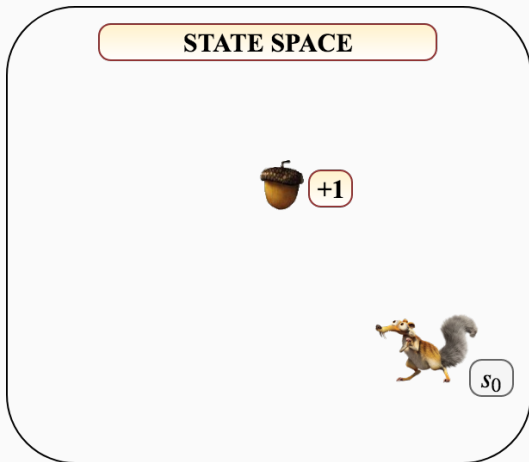
¹how?

Hindsight Experience Replay (2018)

Problem of sparse rewards

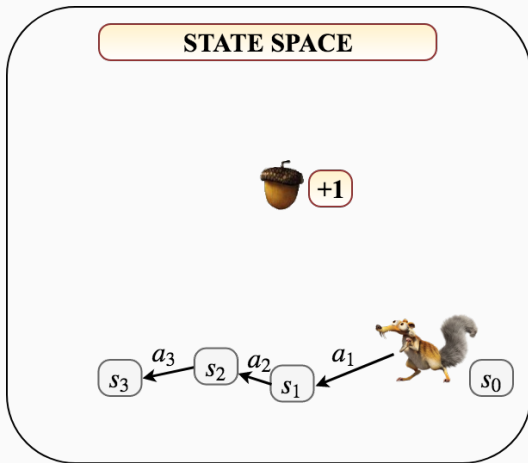
Consider the extreme sparse rewards case:

- +1 reward for achieving the goal, 0 otherwise
- game ends after achieving the goal



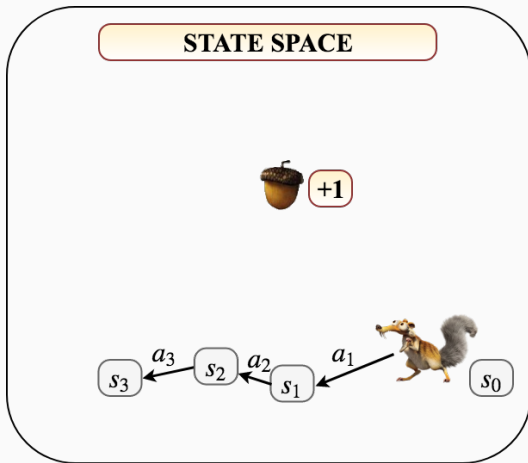
Problem of sparse rewards

At the beginning of learning, agent usually behaves randomly and can never achieve the goal.



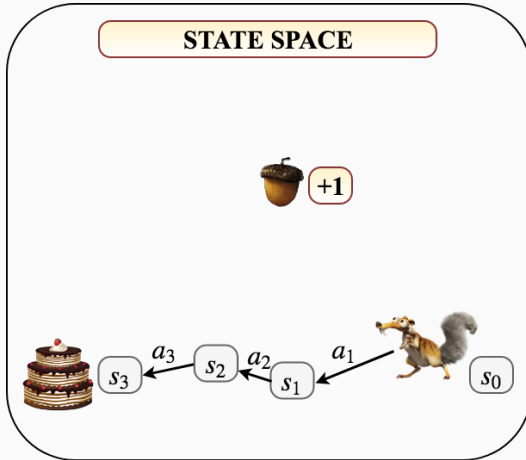
Problem of sparse rewards

Usually game session is terminated after some time and restarts. Having obtained nothing but zero reward the agent can't learn anything at all.



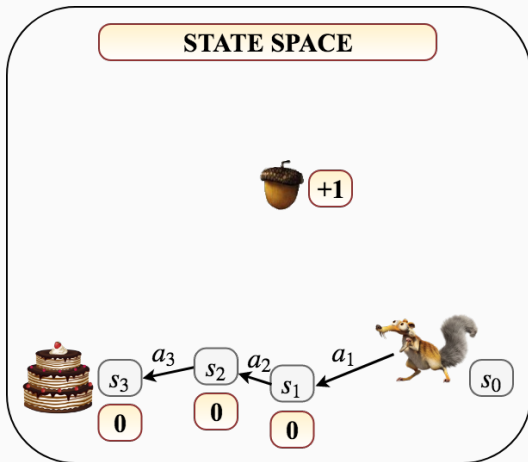
Hindsight Experience Replay

Suppose that in the state we terminated in there was another goal.



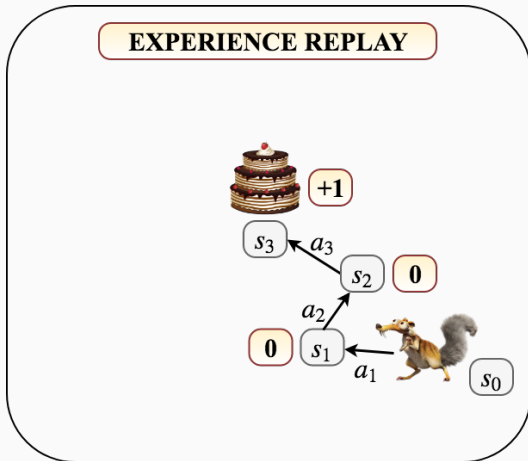
Hindsight Experience Replay

This goal was undesired, so we still receive 0 rewards.



Hindsight Experience Replay

But we may store in experience replay, that it was desired.



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- * Concatenation of current state and goal state is given to agent as input.
- * During simulations agent tries to reach true goal state ².
- + Allows agent to learn navigation in state space without reward supervision.
- + "Learning from own mistakes".

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NEXT: ?