

FINSEARCH



USE DEEP  
REINFORCEMENT LEARNING  
(RL) TO OPTIMISE STOCK  
TRADING STRATEGY AND  
THUS MAXIMISE  
INVESTMENT RETURN



# Timeline

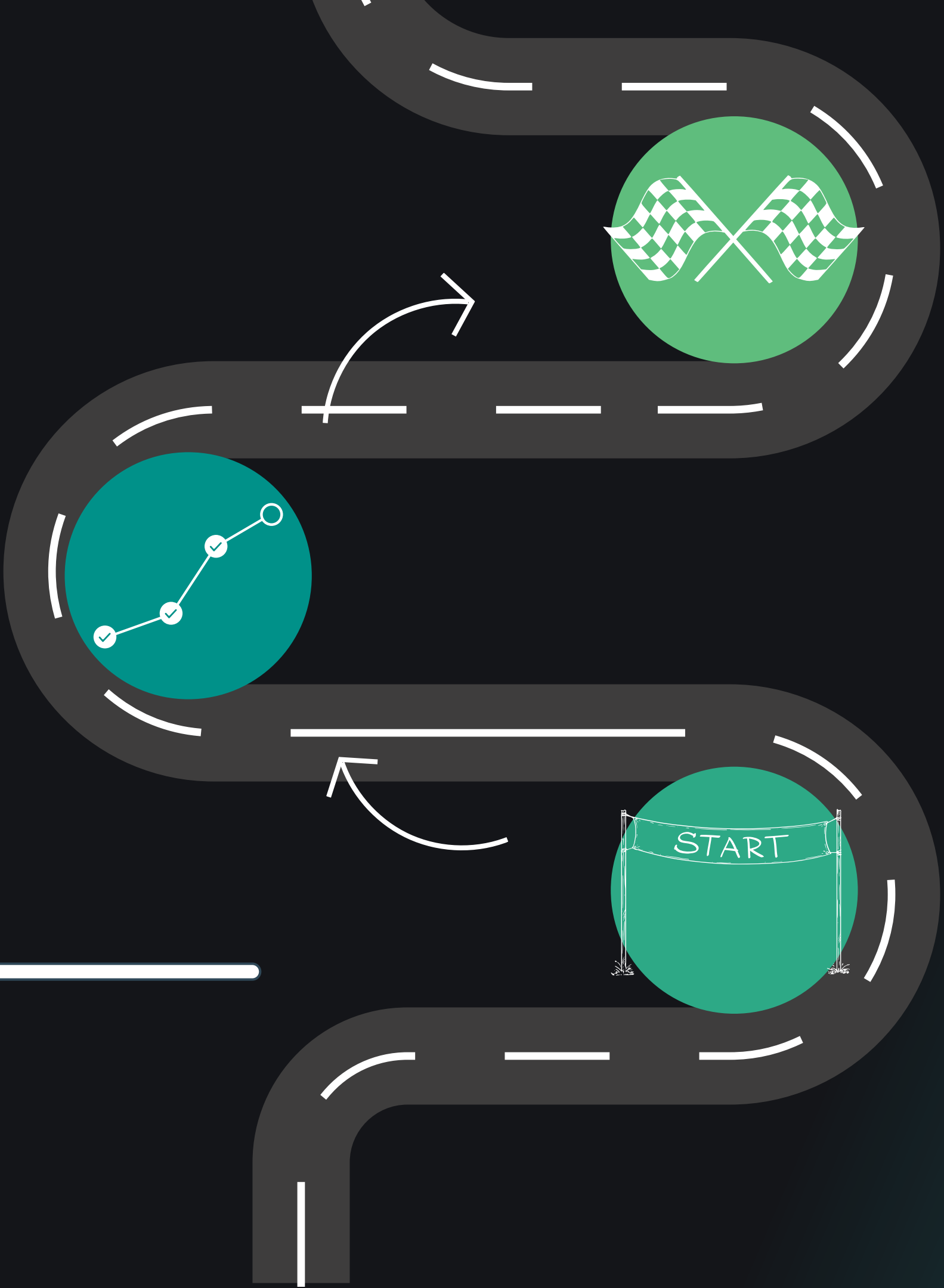
Mid-term Report  
Submission

11 July

End-term Report  
Submission

1st week of Aug

Start



# Roadmap

## Checkpoint 1

Introduction to  
RL and DL



## Checkpoint 3

Application



## Checkpoint 5

Training, Testing,  
Fine Tuning,  
Comparison



## Checkpoint 2

Intro to some  
useful  
algorithms



## Checkpoint 4

Data Collection  
and  
preprocessing



## Checkpoint 6

Testing our  
model on the  
week 6 data.



# INTRO TO RL AND DL

## Reinforcement Learning:

Reinforcement learning is a type of machine learning where an agent learns to make decisions by performing actions in an environment to maximize cumulative rewards. It involves trial-and-error interactions and learning from the outcomes of actions to improve future performance.

## Deep Learning:

Deep learning is a subset of machine learning that uses neural networks with many layers (deep neural networks) to model complex patterns in large datasets. It is particularly effective in tasks such as image and speech recognition, natural language processing, and autonomous driving.

## Check Point 1

[Reinforcement Learning: youtube video](#)

[Deep Learning: reading material:](#)

[Reinforcement Learning: Sutton & Barto book](#)

# INTRO TO SOME USEFUL ALGORITHMS

There are various RL and DL algorithms such as:  
Q-Learning, Deep Q-Network (DQN), Policy  
Gradient Methods, Proximal  
Policy Optimization (PPO), Advantage Actor-Critic  
(A2C), Deep Deterministic  
Policy Gradient (DDPG), Twin Delayed Deep  
Deterministic Policy Gradient  
(TD3), Soft Actor-Critic (SAC).

## Check Point 2

Deep Q-Network(DQN)

[YouTube Video:](#)

Deep Deterministic Policy Gradient (DDPG):

[YouTube Video:](#)

# APPLICATION IN A PROBLEM

We are trying to solve the classic Inverted Pendulum control problem. In this setting, we can take only two actions: swing left or swing right. The classic inverted pendulum problem aims to stabilize an upright pendulum (inverted position) by controlling its base in such a way that it remains balanced. Specifically, the question being addressed is how to control the movement of the base of the pendulum (often a cart) so that the pendulum stays upright against the force of gravity and any disturbances.

The code given involves a lot of python and ML concepts, ChatGPT is your best friend if you need to understand what is going on in the code.

## Check Point 3

Deep Deterministic Policy Gradient (DDPG).  
example

# 3



# DATA COLLECTION AND PREPROCESSING

- **Collect the stock data of NIFTY50 stocks from Jan-2010 to Jun-2019**

Read up on how to fetch stock data using Yahoo finance or Alpha Vantage

- **Define the state representation to capture market conditions**

A state representation is a set of variables or features that describe the current state of the environment comprehensively enough for the agent to make decisions.

- **Design the action space for buying, selling and holding stocks**

The action space is a set of possible actions that the RL agent can select from at each step of interaction with the environment.

- **Create a reward function based on desired stock return optimization**

A reward function  $R(s, a, s')$  maps the current state  $s$ , action  $a$ , and resulting next state  $s'$  to a real number representing the immediate reward received by the agent.

## Check Point 4



# TRAINING THE MODEL, TESTING AND TUNING, COMPARING

Train the RL agent using historical data and an RL algorithm  
Evaluate the agent's performance using a separate testing dataset

Fine-tune the model and parameters to improve performance  
Exercise caution when applying RL agents to real-time trading scenarios.

Create RL and the benchmark models  
(ARIMA or LSTM based) and compare the performance

Your comparison must include both returns and risk. It may be helpful to think about different ways to segment the data into train and test. (the following paper may help in creating the RL environment and variable selection:

## Check Point 5

[Research paper for RL enviroment](#)

[Research paper for Variable Selection](#)

5



# TEST PERFORMANCE OF YOUR MODELS

Code (use any programming language) and create a write-up that includes the relevant literature (at least 8-10 references), methodology used, data description and findings.

Check Point 6

6

THANK YOU