

# Policy Gradient Method.

Deep-Q-learning

$$\hat{Q}_\theta(s, a) = \sum_i W_i f_i(s, a)$$

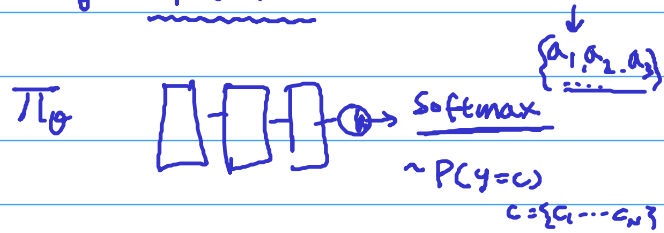
$$\mathcal{L}(Q - \hat{Q}) =$$

$$\theta \leftarrow \theta - \alpha \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \theta}$$

Optimal policy  $G_k = \sum_t \gamma^t \cdot r_t$   
 $E[G_k]$

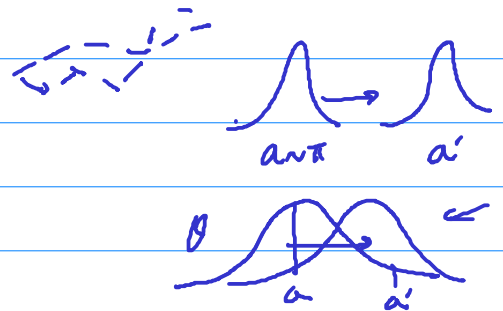
$$Q \Rightarrow \begin{matrix} \downarrow & \downarrow \\ (s, a) & r \end{matrix}$$

$$\pi_\theta = P(a|s)$$

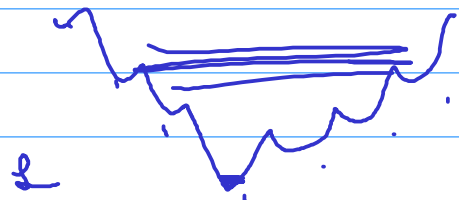


$$P(a|s)$$

$\epsilon$ -greedy  $\pi \rightarrow$  random



PG: stronger "convergence" guaranteed



$$\pi_\theta = F_\theta(s)$$

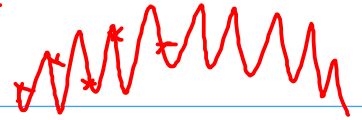
$$\begin{aligned} \rightarrow \underline{J_\theta} &= \underbrace{E[r(\tau)]}_{\tau \sim \pi_\theta}, \tau: \text{trajectory, rollout in an episode.} \\ &= \int_{\tau} \pi_\theta(\tau) \cdot r(\tau) d\tau \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_\theta J_\theta &= \int \nabla_\theta \pi_\theta r(\tau) d\tau \quad x \, d \log x = \frac{dx}{x} \\ &= \int \pi_\theta \left[ \nabla_\theta \log \pi_\theta \cdot r(\tau) \right] d\tau = \underbrace{E_{\tau \sim \pi_\theta} [\nabla_\theta \log \pi_\theta \cdot r(\tau)]}_{\text{PG}} \end{aligned}$$

$$= \underbrace{\frac{1}{N} \sum_i^N}_{\text{MC}} \left( \underbrace{\sum_{t=0}^T \nabla_\theta \log \pi_\theta(a_{i,t} | s_{i,t})}_{\text{PG}} \right) \cdot \left( \sum_{t=0}^T r(s_{i,t}, a_{i,t}) \right)$$

# REINFORCE

- gradient is noisy -
- high variance -



For  $\epsilon$  in Sample  $N$  episodes following  $\pi_\theta$   
 For  $t$  in  $\{0 \dots T\}$   
 $G_t \leftarrow \sum_{k=t}^T \gamma^k R_k$   
 $\theta \leftarrow \theta + \alpha \nabla_\theta J$

$$J_\theta = E_{\tau \sim \pi_\theta} [r(\tau)]$$

$$\nabla_\theta J = E_{\tau \sim \pi_\theta} [\nabla_\theta (\log \pi_\theta) \cdot r(\tau)]$$

$$\text{Var}(g(\tau)r(\tau)) = E[g^2(\tau)r^2(\tau)] - E[g \cdot r]^2$$

## 1) Causality

### REINFORCE: Monte-Carlo Policy-Gradient Control (episodic) for $\pi_*$

Input: a differentiable policy parameterization  $\pi(a|s, \theta)$

Algorithm parameter: step size  $\alpha > 0$

Initialize policy parameter  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^{d'}$  (e.g., to 0)

Loop forever (for each episode):

Generate an episode  $S_0, A_0, R_1, \dots, S_{T-1}, A_{T-1}, R_T$ , following  $\pi(\cdot|\cdot, \theta)$

Loop for each step of the episode  $t = 0, 1, \dots, T-1$ :

$$G \leftarrow \sum_{k=t}^T \gamma^{k-t} R_k \quad \frac{1}{T-t} r = \frac{1}{T-t} r + \frac{1}{T-t} r \quad \text{reward to go } (G_t)$$

$$\theta \leftarrow \theta + \alpha \gamma^t G \nabla \ln \pi(A_t|S_t, \theta)$$

$$\nabla_\theta J_\theta \propto G_t$$

## 2) baseline

$$J = E_{\tau \sim \pi_\theta} [r(\tau)] \rightarrow E_{\tau \sim \pi_\theta} [r(\tau) - b]$$

$$\nabla_\theta J \rightarrow \text{Policy gradient } \nabla_\theta \log \pi_\theta \text{ or } \nabla_\theta \pi_\theta$$

$$\nabla_\theta J = E_{\tau \sim \pi_\theta} [\nabla_\theta \log \pi_\theta \cdot (r - b)] = E_{\tau \sim \pi_\theta} [\nabla_\theta \log \pi_\theta \cdot r]$$

$$= E_{\tau \sim \pi_\theta} [\nabla_\theta \log \pi_\theta r] - b E_{\tau \sim \pi_\theta} [\nabla_\theta \log \pi_\theta] \rightarrow 0$$

$$b \rightarrow \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N r_i(\tau) \quad \text{practical}$$

$$\text{Var} \left[ \frac{\nabla_{\theta} \log \pi_{\theta}(r-b)}{g(\omega)(r(\omega)-b)} \right]$$

$$= \frac{E[g^2(r-b)^2]}{E[g(r-b)]^2} - \frac{E[g(r-b)]^2}{E[g(r-b)]^2} \quad E[g(r-b)] = E[g r]$$

$$\text{Var} = \frac{E[g^2 r^2] - E[2 g r b] - E[g r]^2}{E[g^2 b^2]}$$

$$b \quad \frac{\partial \text{Var}}{\partial b} = 0 = - \frac{\partial}{\partial b} E[2 g r b] + \frac{\partial}{\partial b} E[g^2 b^2] = 0$$

$$- E[2 g r] + 2 b E[g^2] = 0$$

$$b = \frac{E[g(\omega)^2 \cdot r(\omega)]}{E[g(\omega)^2]} \rightarrow$$