# Project: Navigation (Part of Udacity Deep Reinforcement Learning Nanodegree)

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## **Used Neural Network:**

- Fully connected layer input: 37 (state size), output: 64
- Fully connected layer input: 64 (fc1 units), output 64 (fc2 units)
- Fully connected layer input: 64 (fc1\_units), output: 4 (action size)

A reward of +1 is provided for collecting a yellow banana, and a reward of -1 is provided for collecting a blue banana. Thus, the goal of your agent is to collect as many yellow bananas as possible while avoiding blue bananas.

The state space has 37 dimensions and contains the agent's velocity, along with ray-based perception of objects around agent's forward direction. Given this information, the agent has to learn how to best select actions. Four discrete actions are available, corresponding to:

- 0 move forward.
- 1 move backward.
- 2 turn left.
- 3 turn right.

The task is episodic, and in order to solve the environment, your agent must get an average score of +13 over 100 consecutive episodes.

# **Used Learning Algorithm:**

Deep Q Learning (DQN) with Replay Buffer

```
Algorithm 1: deep Q-learning with experience replay.
Initialize replay memory D to capacity N
Initialize action-value function Q with random weights \theta
Initialize target action-value function \hat{Q} with weights \theta^- = \theta
For episode = 1, M do
   Initialize sequence s_1 = \{x_1\} and preprocessed sequence \phi_1 = \phi(s_1)
   For t = 1,T do
        With probability \varepsilon select a random action a_t
        otherwise select a_t = \operatorname{argmax}_a Q(\phi(s_t), a; \theta)
        Execute action a_t in emulator and observe reward r_t and image x_{t+1}
        Set s_{t+1} = s_t, a_t, x_{t+1} and preprocess \phi_{t+1} = \phi(s_{t+1})
        Store transition (\phi_t, a_t, r_t, \phi_{t+1}) in D
       Sample random minibatch of transitions (\phi_j, a_j, r_j, \phi_{j+1}) from D

Set y_j = \begin{cases} r_j & \text{if episode terminates at step } j+1 \\ r_j + \gamma \max_{a'} \hat{Q}(\phi_{j+1}, a'; \theta^-) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}
        Perform a gradient descent step on (y_j - Q(\phi_j, a_j; \theta))^2 with respect to the
        network parameters \theta
        Every C steps reset Q = Q
   End For
End For
```

Source: <a href="https://medium.com/@jonathan\_hui/rl-dqn-deep-q-network-e207751f7ae4">https://medium.com/@jonathan\_hui/rl-dqn-deep-q-network-e207751f7ae4</a>

#### **Hyperparameters:**

Maximum steps per episode: 1000

Starting epsilon: 1.0

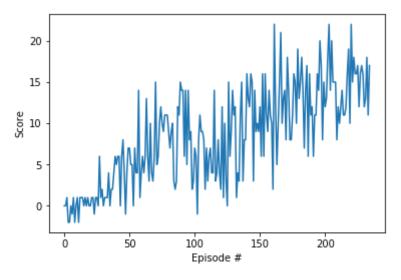
Ending epsilon: 0.02

Epsilon decay rate: 0.96

# **Best Result:**

Episode 100 Average Score: 4.59 Episode 200 Average Score: 10.11 Episode 235 Average Score: 13.00

Environment solved in 235 episodes! Average Score: 13.00



# **Other Results:**

In total, I have done 64 runs with different hyperparameters, algorithms (dueling and double DQN) and neural networks. My top 10 results use all the DQN algorithm with a 64 (fc1\_units), 64 (fc2\_units) neural network. The biggest impact had the change of the EPS decay rate from 0.999 to 0.96.

Top 10 Results:

Туре	fc1_units	c fc2_units	Episodes to solve environment	E Average Score	F Eps Start	G Eps End	H Eps Decay
DQN	64	64	249	13.01	1.0	0.04	0.90
DQN	64	64	271	13.01	1.0	0.04	0.96
DQN	64	64	277	13.02	1.0	0.02	0.90
DQN	64	64	279	13.06	1.0	0.01	0.90
DQN	64	64	286	13.01	1.0	0.01	0.96
DQN	64	64	288	13.04	1.0	0.03	0.96
DQN	64	64	301	13.05	1.0	0.04	0.85
DQN	64	64	302	13.06	1.0	0.05	0.90
DQN	64	64	308	13.07	1.0	0.04	0.98

All other results (with Double DQN, Dueling DQN, different convolutional layers)

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1du2mcoiwSwLUT331zakxkW0hfP7S00GMonyVpMxSk8Q/edit?usp=sharing

## **Sources:**

https://github.com/udacity/deep-reinforcement-learning/blob/master/p1\_navigation/R EADME.md

https://medium.com/@jonathan\_hui/rl-dqn-deep-q-network-e207751f7ae4 https://www.cs.toronto.edu/~vmnih/docs/dqn.pdf