# AMIDEPFL

Deep Reinforcement Leaning for Satellite Constellation Planning and Routing 24 March 9:00 to 17:30

SwissTech Convention Center EPFL, Lausanne, Switzerland

#### Who are we?





Alexandre Carlhammar

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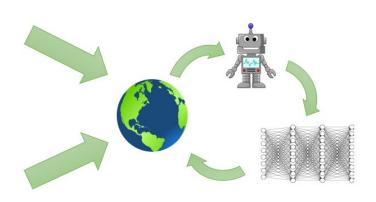


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Research in AI
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### Workshop Outline

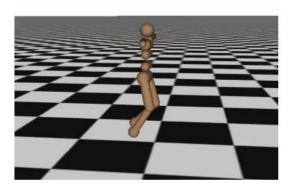
- I. Intro to RL
  - A. What is RL? Why is it useful?
  - B. Terminology & Notation
  - C. Markov Decision Process
  - D. Q and V functions
  - E. EXERCICES + Coffee Break
- II. Advanced RL
  - A. Policy Gradient
  - B. Variance and Bias: Baselines
  - C. Off policy + Importance Sampling
  - D. EXERCICES + Lunch

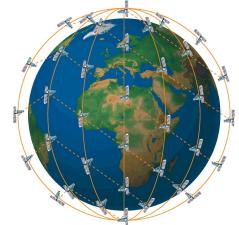


### Workshop Outline

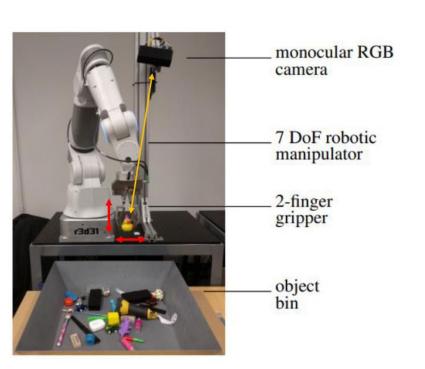
- III. Main RL algorithm
  - A. Discount Factor
  - B. Online & Offline Actor Critic
  - C. Generalized Advantage Estimator
  - D. Q-Learning
  - E. EXERCICES + Coffee Break
- IV. Space applications of RL
  - A. Intro to space related applications
  - B. Past research
  - C. Concrete Example
  - D. EXERCICES

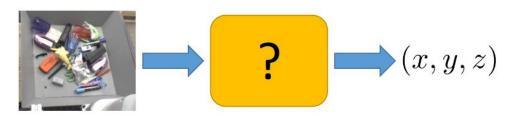
Iteration 2000





### What is RL?





#### Option 1:

Understand the problem, design a solution

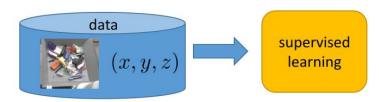




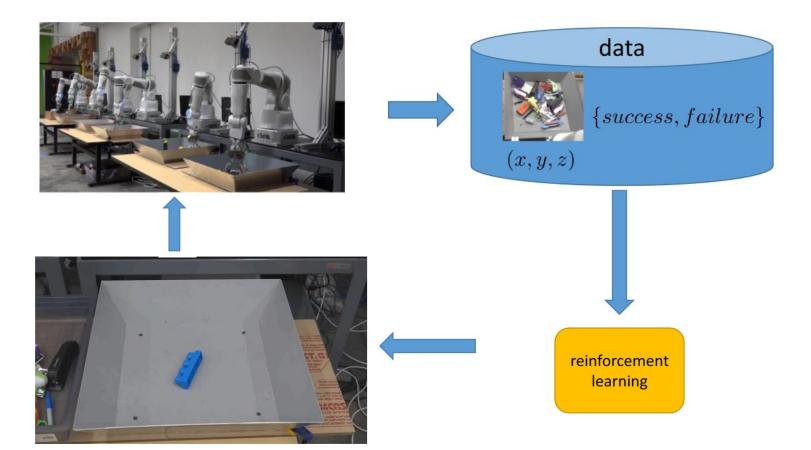


Option 2:

Set it up as a machine learning problem



### What is RL?



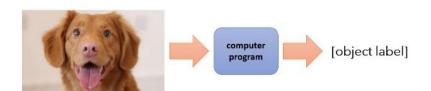
#### What is RL?

Reinforcement learning is fundamentally 2 things:

- Mathematical formalism for learning based decision making
  - → allows to design algorithms
- Approach for learning decision making and control from experience

#### How does it compare to other methods?

#### supervised learning



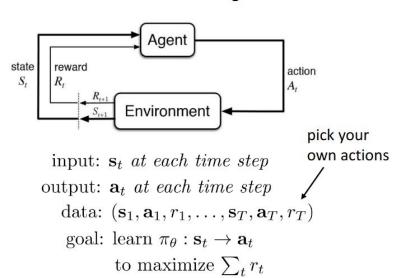
input: x

output: y

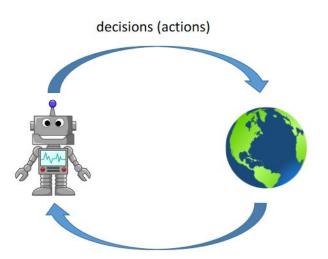
data:  $\mathcal{D} = \{(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{y}_i)\}_{\mathbf{x}}$ goal:  $f_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_i) \approx \mathbf{y}_i$ 

someone gives this to you

#### reinforcement learning



## Examples....



consequences observations (states) rewards



Actions: muscle contractions Observations: sight, smell

Rewards: food



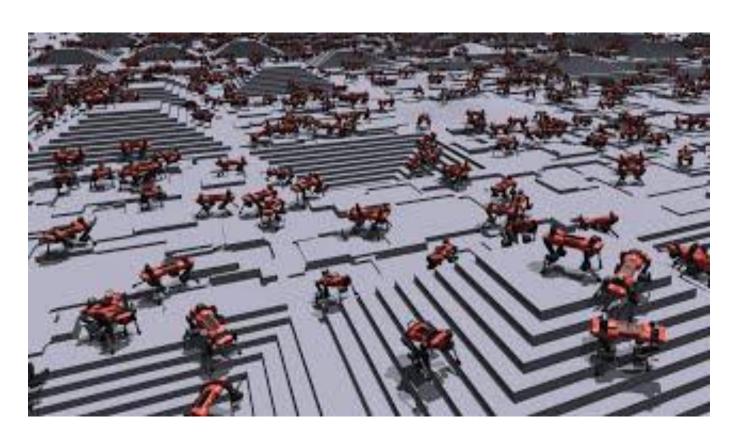
Actions: motor current or torque Observations: camera images Rewards: task success measure (e.g., running speed)



Actions: what to purchase Observations: inventory levels

Rewards: profit

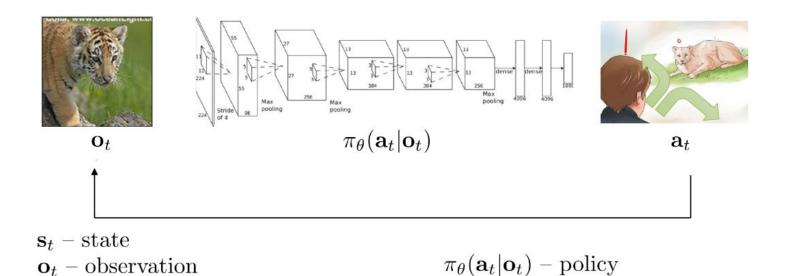
## Examples....



## Examples....



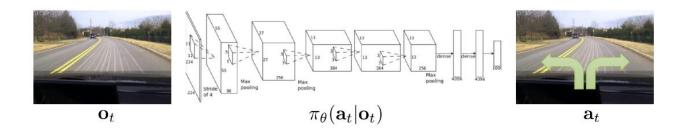
#### Terminology & Notation: States & Actions



 $\pi_{\theta}(\mathbf{a}_t|\mathbf{s}_t)$  – policy (fully observed)

 $\mathbf{a}_t$  – action

#### Terminology & Notation: Reward Function



which action is better or worse?

 $r(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{a})$ : reward function

tells us which states and actions are better

 $\mathbf{s}$ ,  $\mathbf{a}$ ,  $r(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{a})$ , and  $p(\mathbf{s}'|\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{a})$  define Markov decision process



high reward



low reward

#### Terminology & Notation: Markov Chain

#### Definitions

Markov chain

$$\mathcal{M} = \{\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{T}\}$$

S – state space

 $\mathcal{T}$  – transition operator

why "operator"?

states  $s \in \mathcal{S}$  (discrete or continuous)



Andrey Markov

let  $\mu_{t,i} = p(s_t = i)$ 

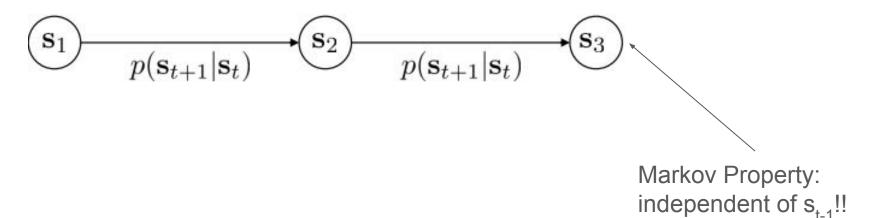
 $p(s_{t+1}|s_t)$ 

let  $\mathcal{T}_{i,j} = p(s_{t+1} = i | s_t = j)$ 

 $\vec{\mu}_t$  is a vector of probabilit

then  $\vec{\mu}_{t+1} = \mathcal{T} \vec{\mu}_t$ 

#### Terminology & Notation: Markov Property



WHAT'S MISSING?

#### Terminology & Notation: Markov Decision Process

#### **Definitions**

Markov decision process

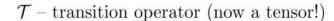
$$\mathcal{M} = \{\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{T}, r\}$$

S – state space

states  $s \in \mathcal{S}$  (discrete or continuous)

 $\mathcal{A}$  – action space

actions  $a \in \mathcal{A}$  (discrete or continuous)



$$r$$
 – reward function

$$r: \mathcal{S} \times \mathcal{A} \to \mathbb{R}$$

$$r(s_t, a_t)$$
 – reward



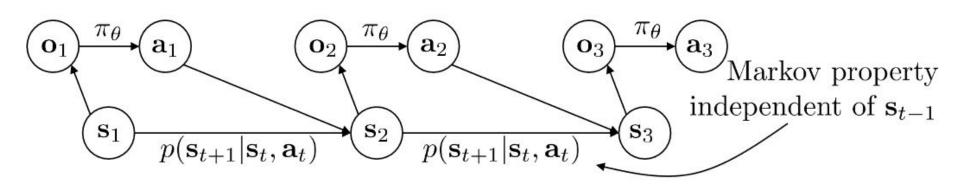
Richard Bellman

#### Terminology & Notation: Partially Observable MDP

#### **Definitions**

```
\mathcal{M} = \{\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{O}, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{E}, r\}
 partially observed Markov decision process
                                           states s \in \mathcal{S} (discrete or continuous)
S – state space
                                           actions a \in \mathcal{A} (discrete or continuous)
 \mathcal{A} – action space
\mathcal{O} – observation space
                                           observations o \in \mathcal{O} (discrete or continuous)
T – transition operator (like before)
\mathcal{E} – emission probability p(o_t|s_t)
 r - reward function r: \mathcal{S} \times \mathcal{A} \to \mathbb{R}
```

### Terminology & Notation



### **Exercice Session**

- 3 exercise sessions in total
- work in group as much as you can!!!
- corrections published when ¾ of the allocated time for exercises has passed
- we will provide detailed correction presentation at the end of each session for critical algorithm implementation and/or if we notice you have many similar questions

### Exercice Session 1 - 1H

- Assignment 1.1
  - basic Numpy and Torch review
  - advanced Torch review
  - implement a policy parametrized by a gaussian distribution as a neural network

- Assignment 1.2
  - implement a basic "Grid World" environment that mimics the functionality of OpenAl Gym environments