



Learning Energy Efficient Jumping Strategies for Flexible-Legged Systems

MECC 2021

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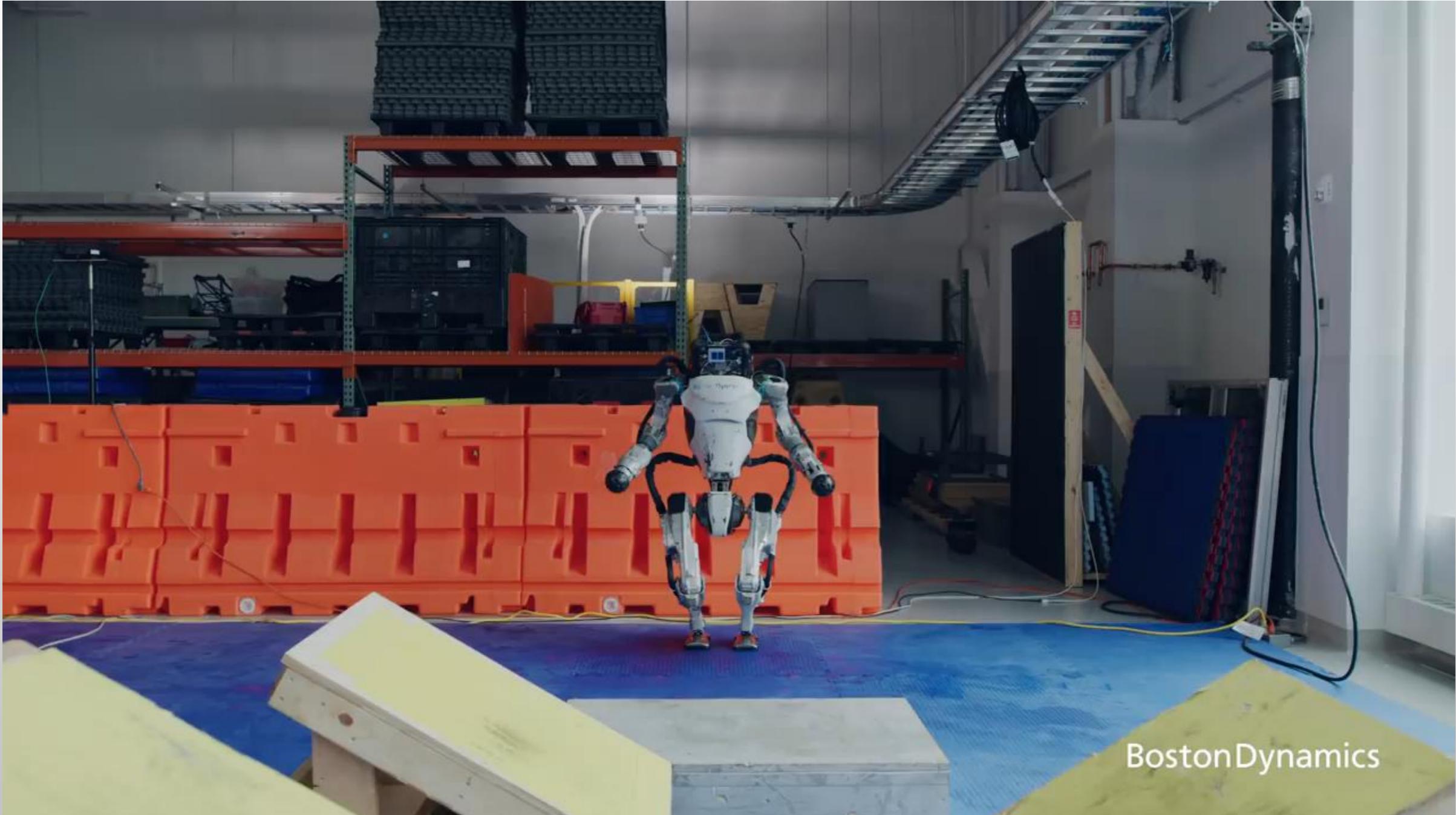
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Pros of Legged Robots



Cons of Legged Robots



Legged & Flexible Robots

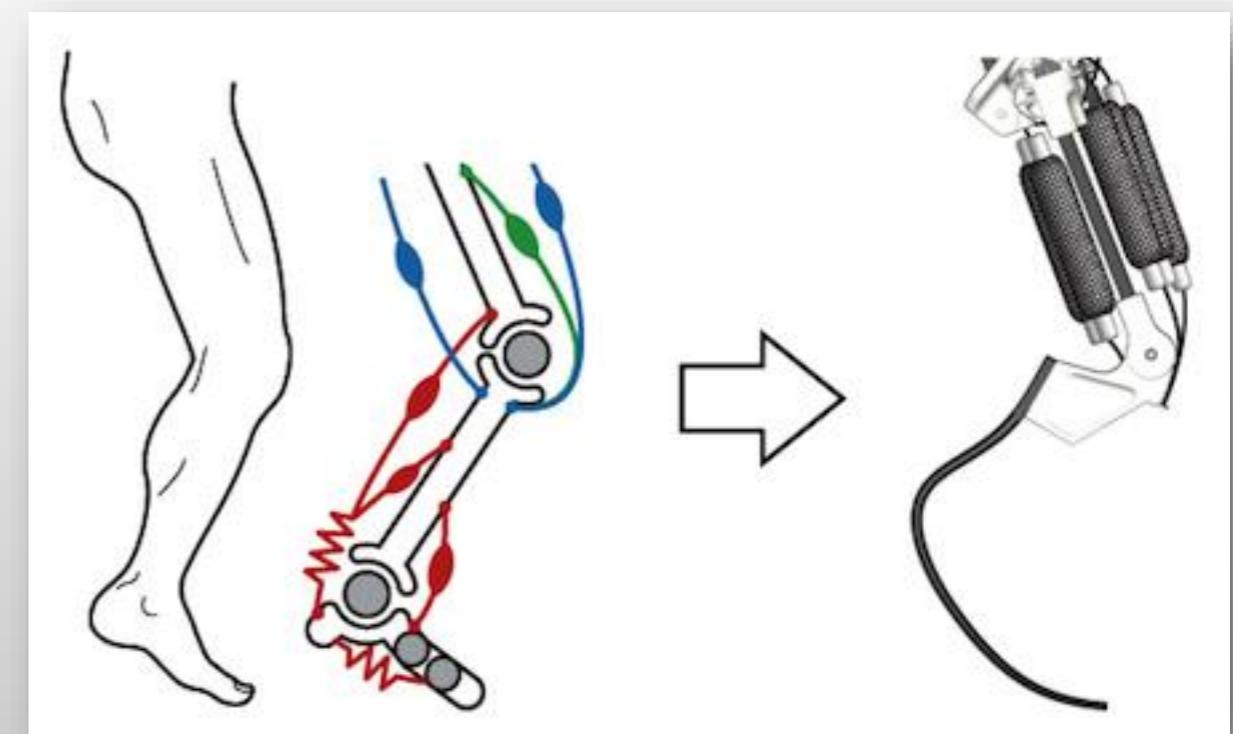


- Pros
 - Increases in efficiency
 - Better stability through adaptability
 - Higher performance

📖 Running speed

📖 Jumping height

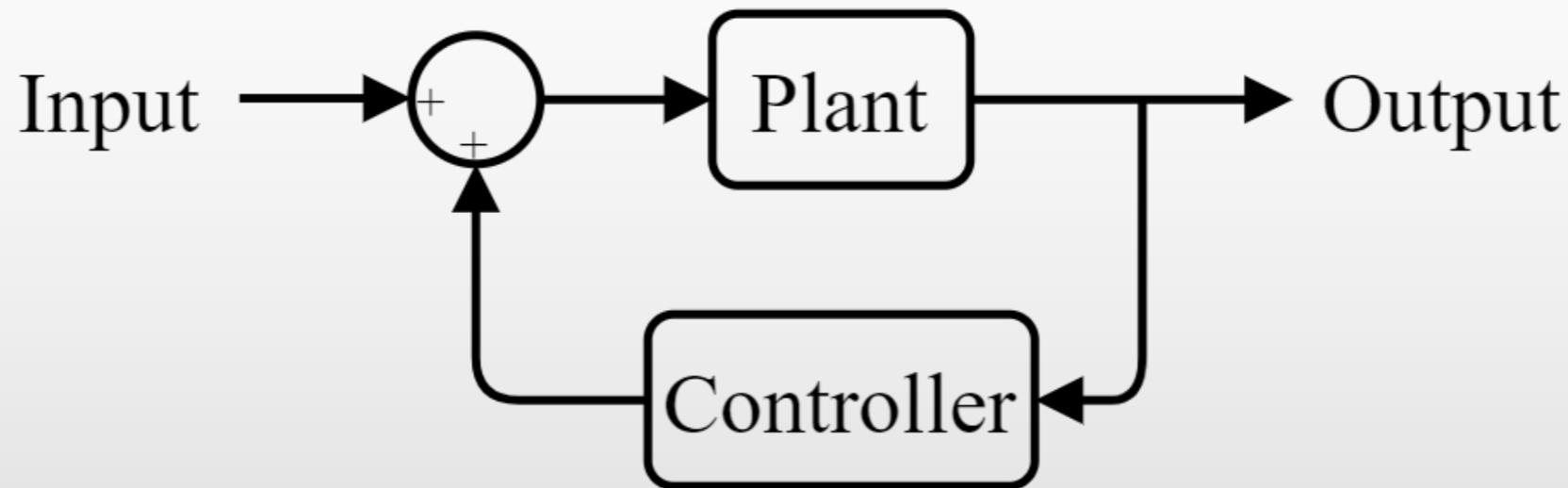
- Cons
 - Difficult to define models for due to non-linearities
 - Challenging to create controllers for



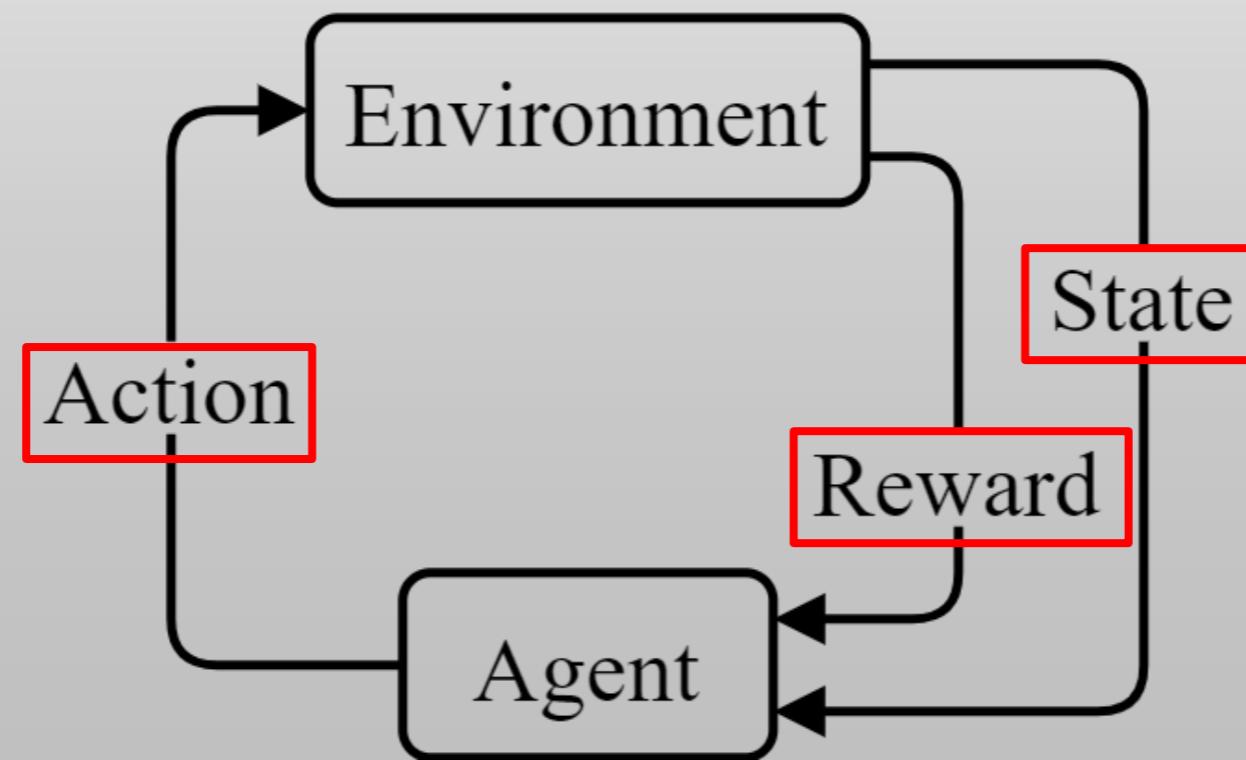
Control Methods



- Traditional Controls Method



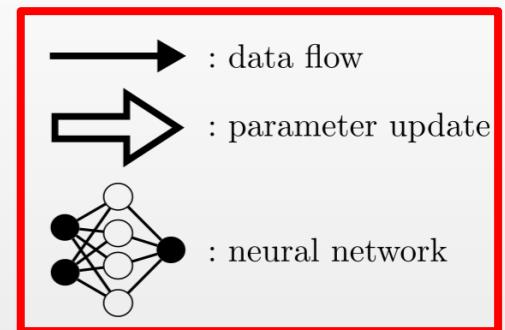
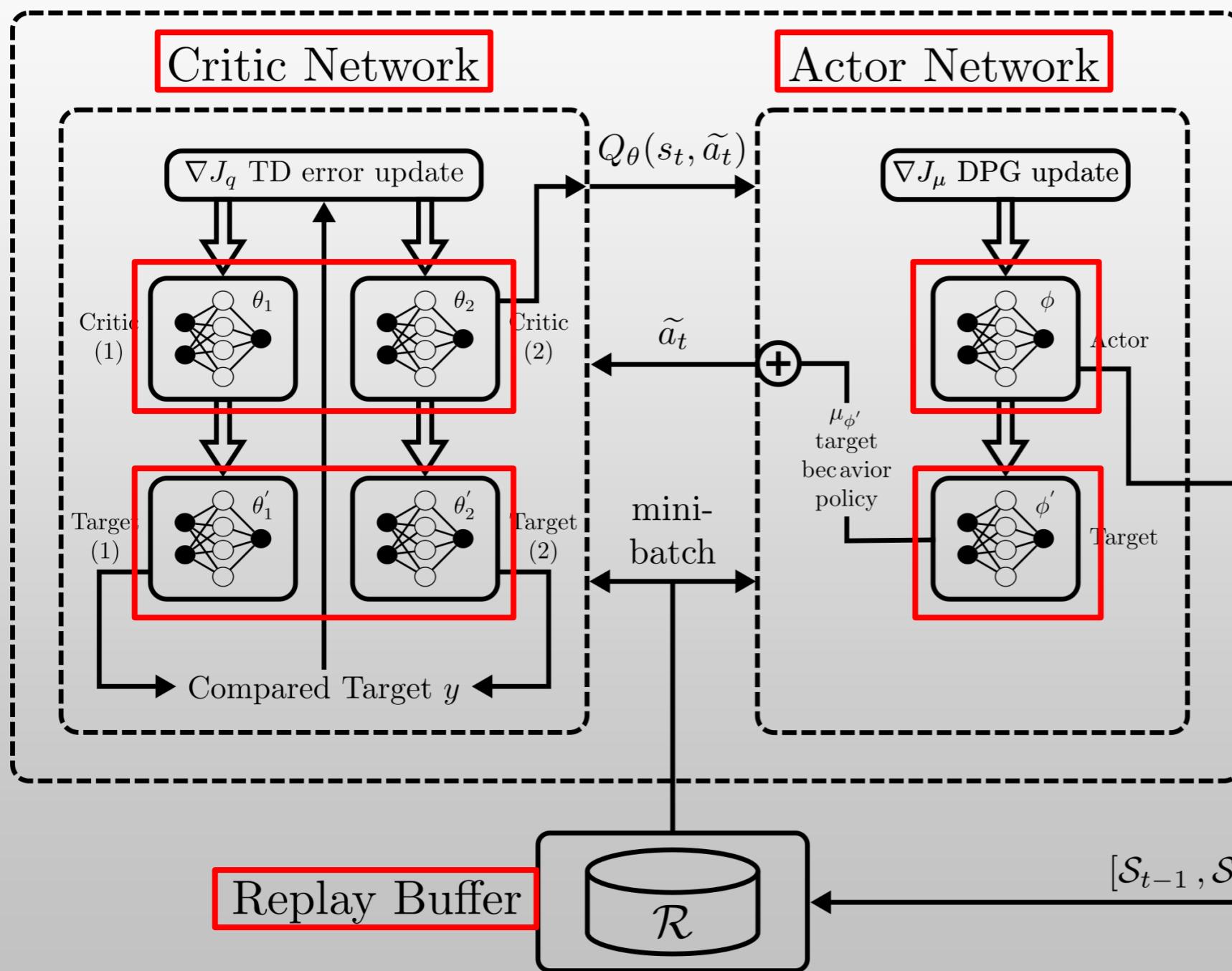
- Reinforcement Learning Method



Algorithm Used – TD3



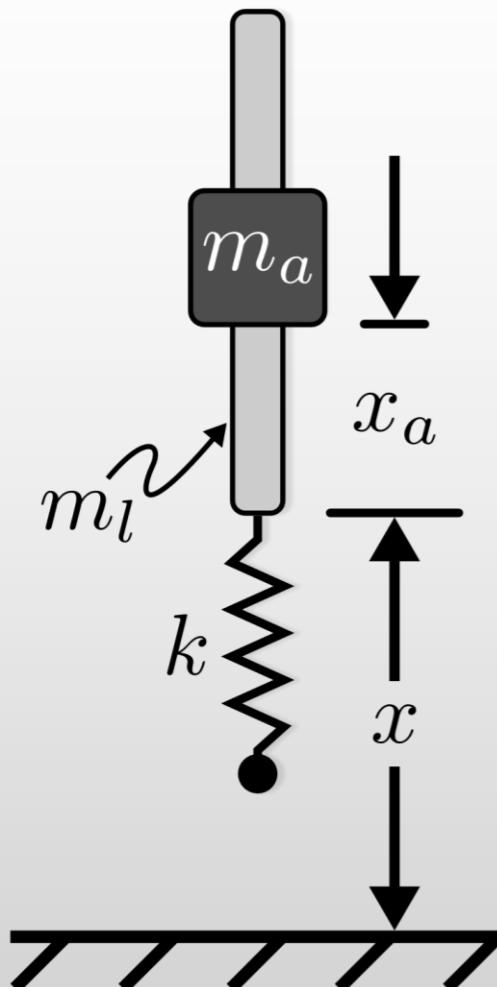
Agent



Environment



Flexible Jumping System



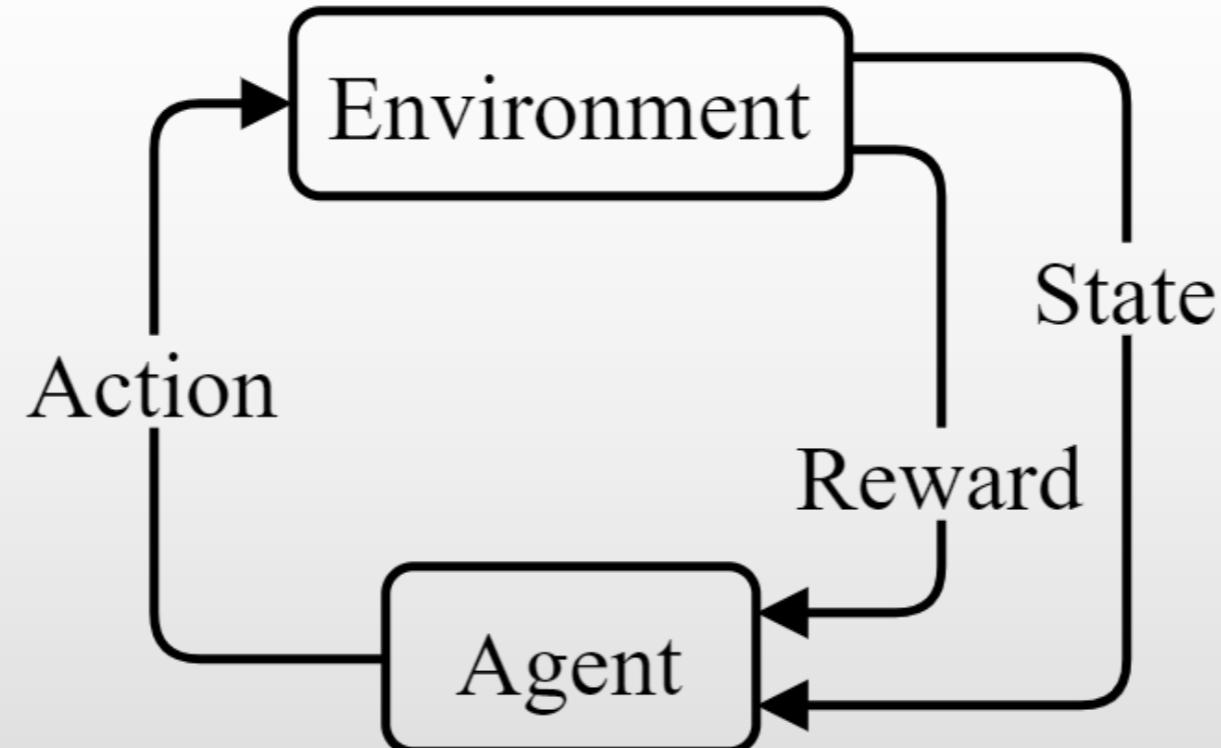
Model Parameter	Value
Mass of Leg, m_l	0.175 kg
Mass of Actuator, m_a	1.003 kg
Natural Frequency, ω_n	11.13 Hz
Spring Constant, k	200000 N/m
Actuator Stroke, $(x_a)_{\max}$	25 mm
Actuator Velocity, $(\dot{x}_a)_{\max}$	2.0 m/s
Actuator Acceleration, $(\ddot{x}_a)_{\max}$	10 m/s

$$\ddot{x} = \alpha \left(\frac{k}{m_t} x^3 + \frac{c}{m_t} \dot{x} \right) - \frac{m_a}{m_t} \ddot{x}_a - g$$

$$\alpha = \begin{cases} -1, & x \leq 0 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



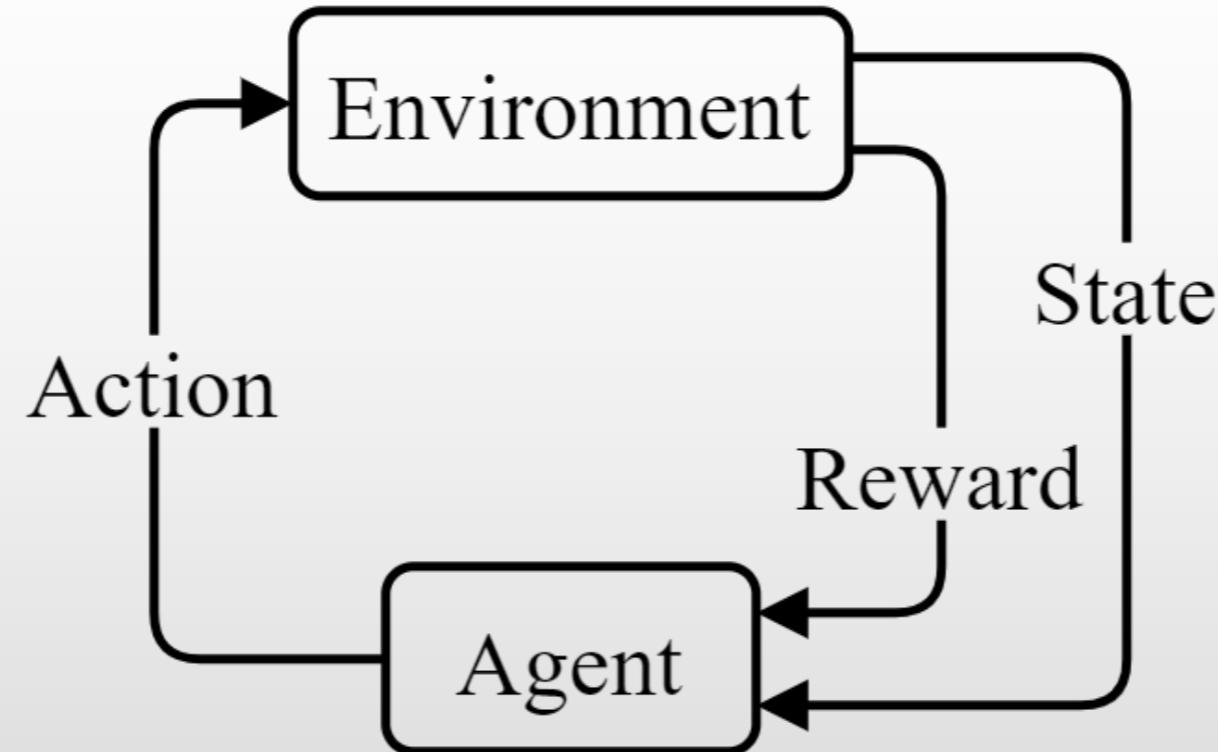
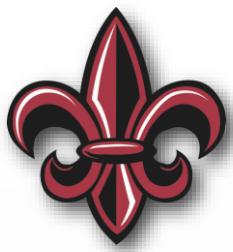
Environment Spaces



$$\mathcal{S} = [x_{at}, \dot{x}_{at}, x_t, \dot{x}_t]$$

$$\mathcal{A} = [\ddot{x}_{at}]$$

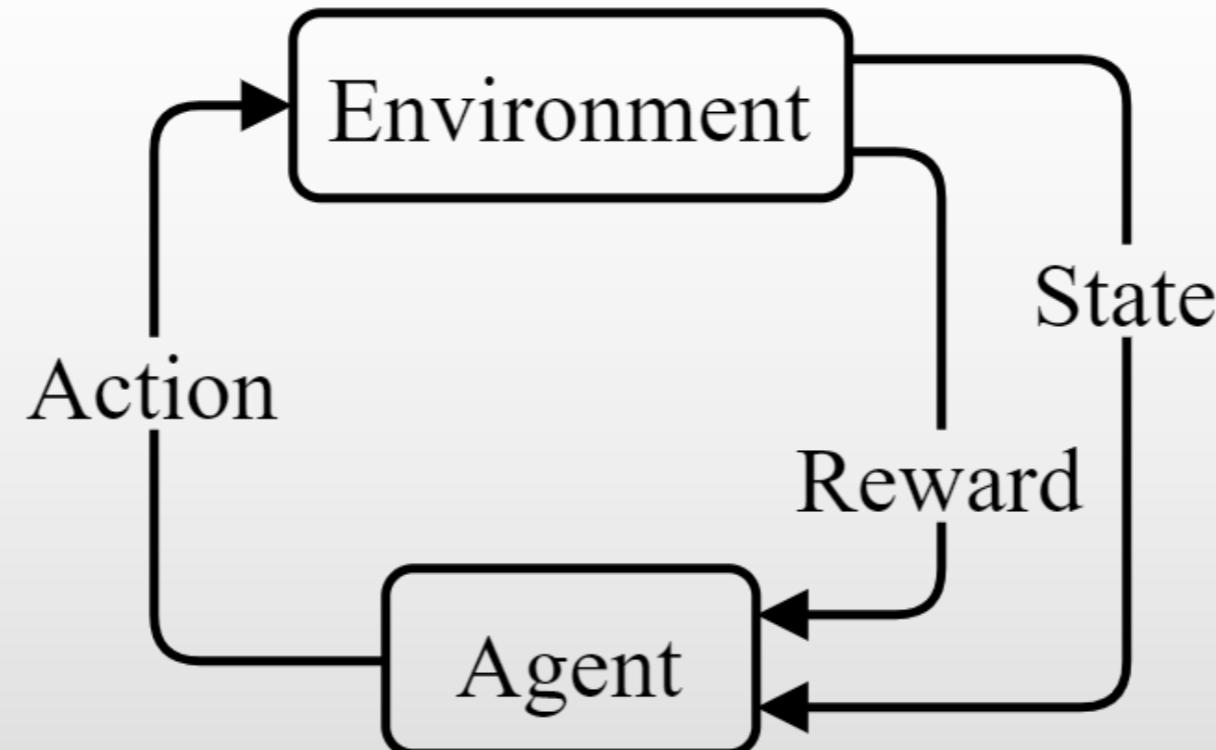
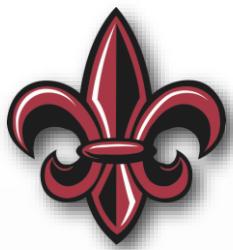
Reward Jumping High



$$r = \frac{x_t - x_{min}}{x_{max} - x_{min}}$$



Reward Jumping Efficiently



$$r = \frac{e_t - e_{min}}{e_{max} - e_{min}}, \text{ where}$$

$$e_t = \frac{x_t}{\sum_{t=0}^t p_t}$$

$$p_t = m_a \ddot{x}_{at} \dot{x}_{at}$$



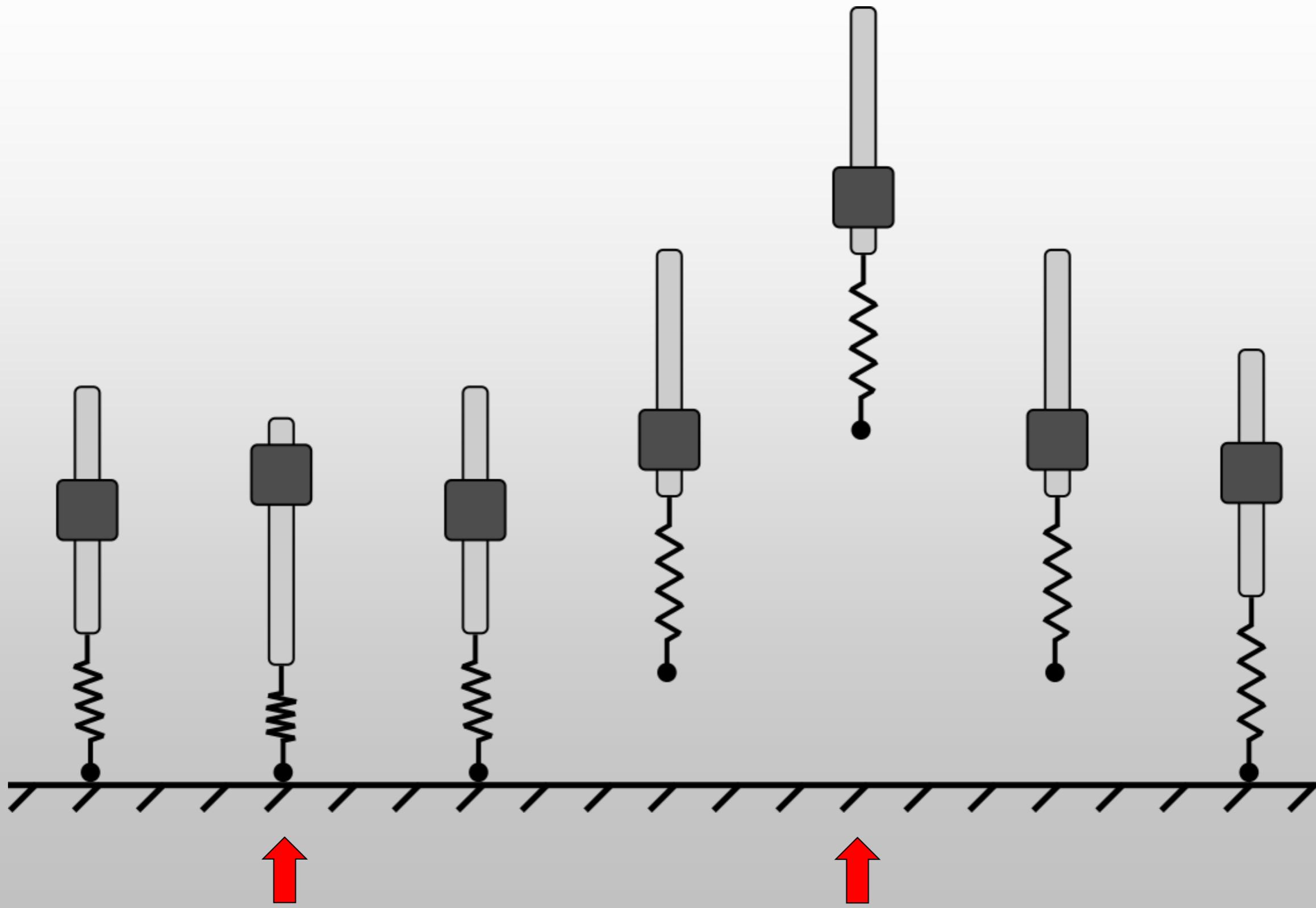
Training Schedule



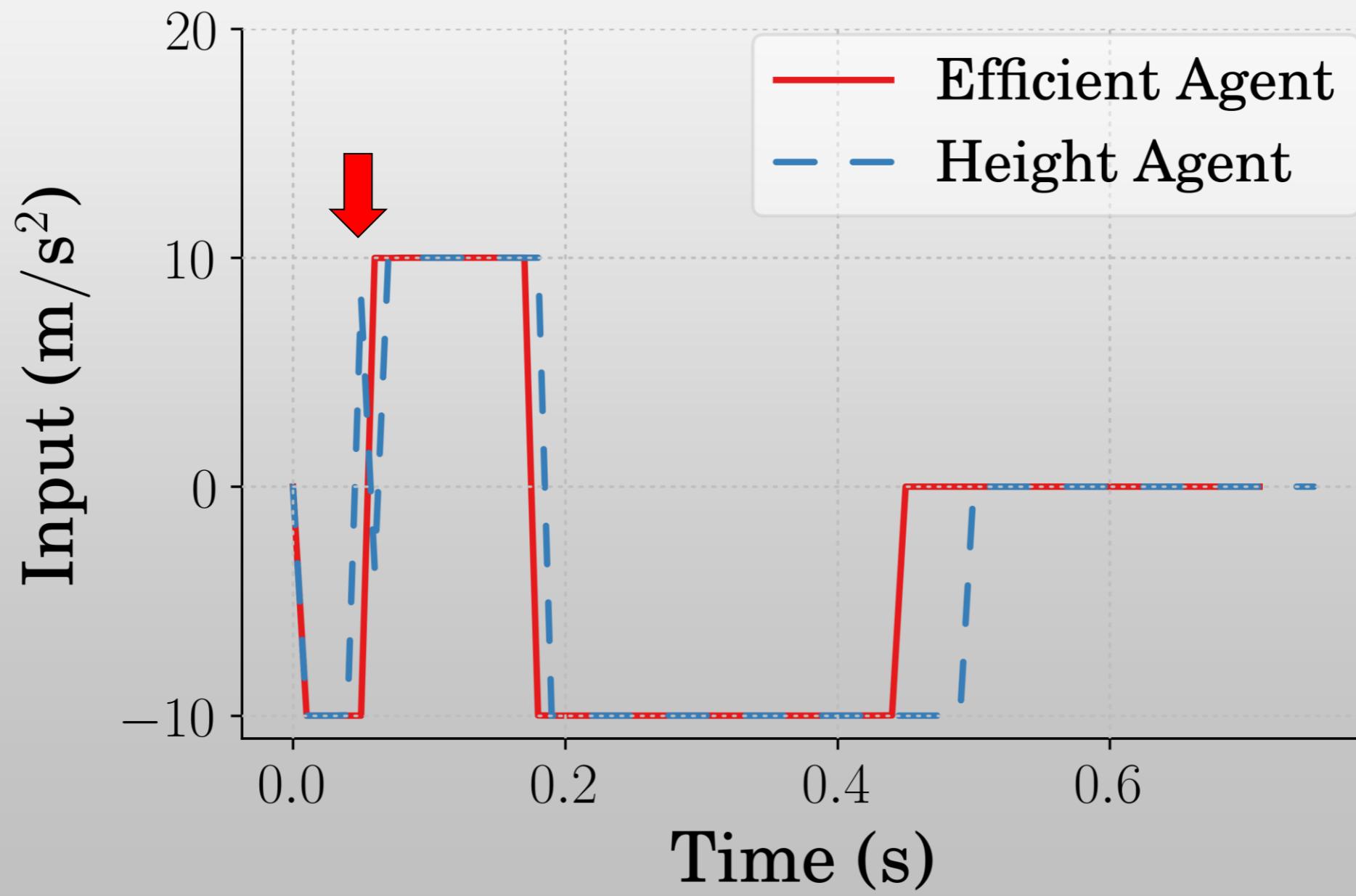
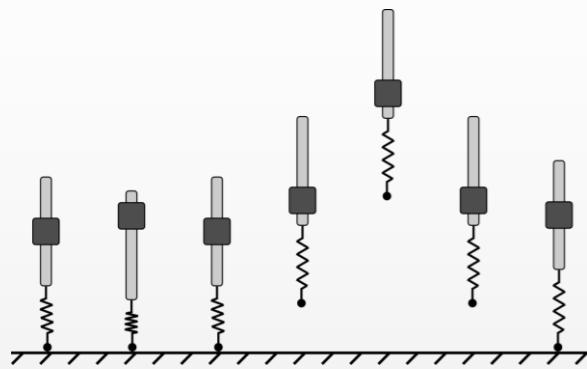
Task	Jump Type	# Agents	Network Seeds
Jump High	Stutter Jump	10	9, 16, 104, 107, 250, 676, 868, 878, 918, 947
	One Jump	10	
Conserve Power	Stutter Jump	10	9, 16, 104, 107, 250, 676, 868, 878, 918, 947
	One Jump	10	



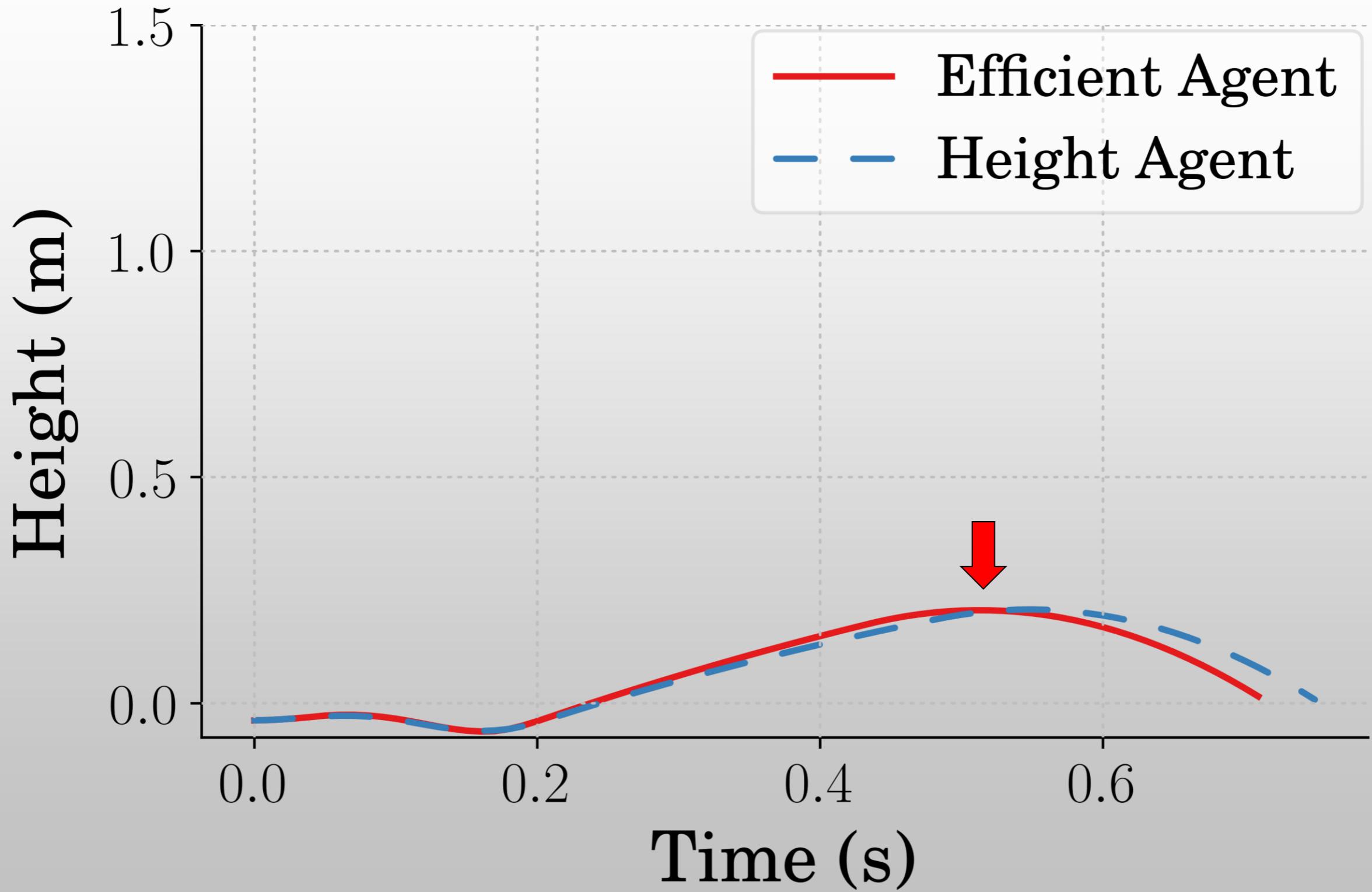
Single Jump



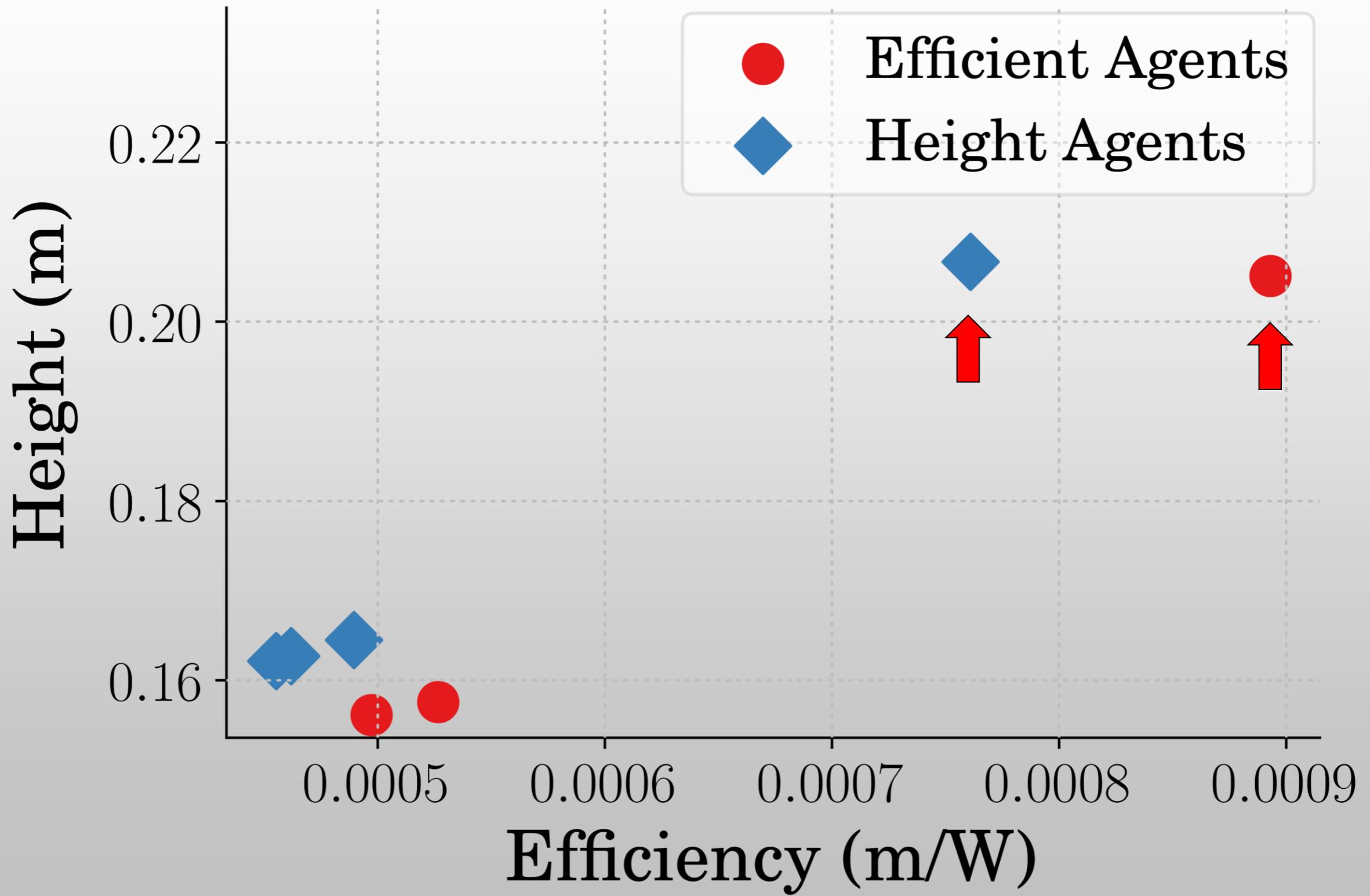
Single Jump Input



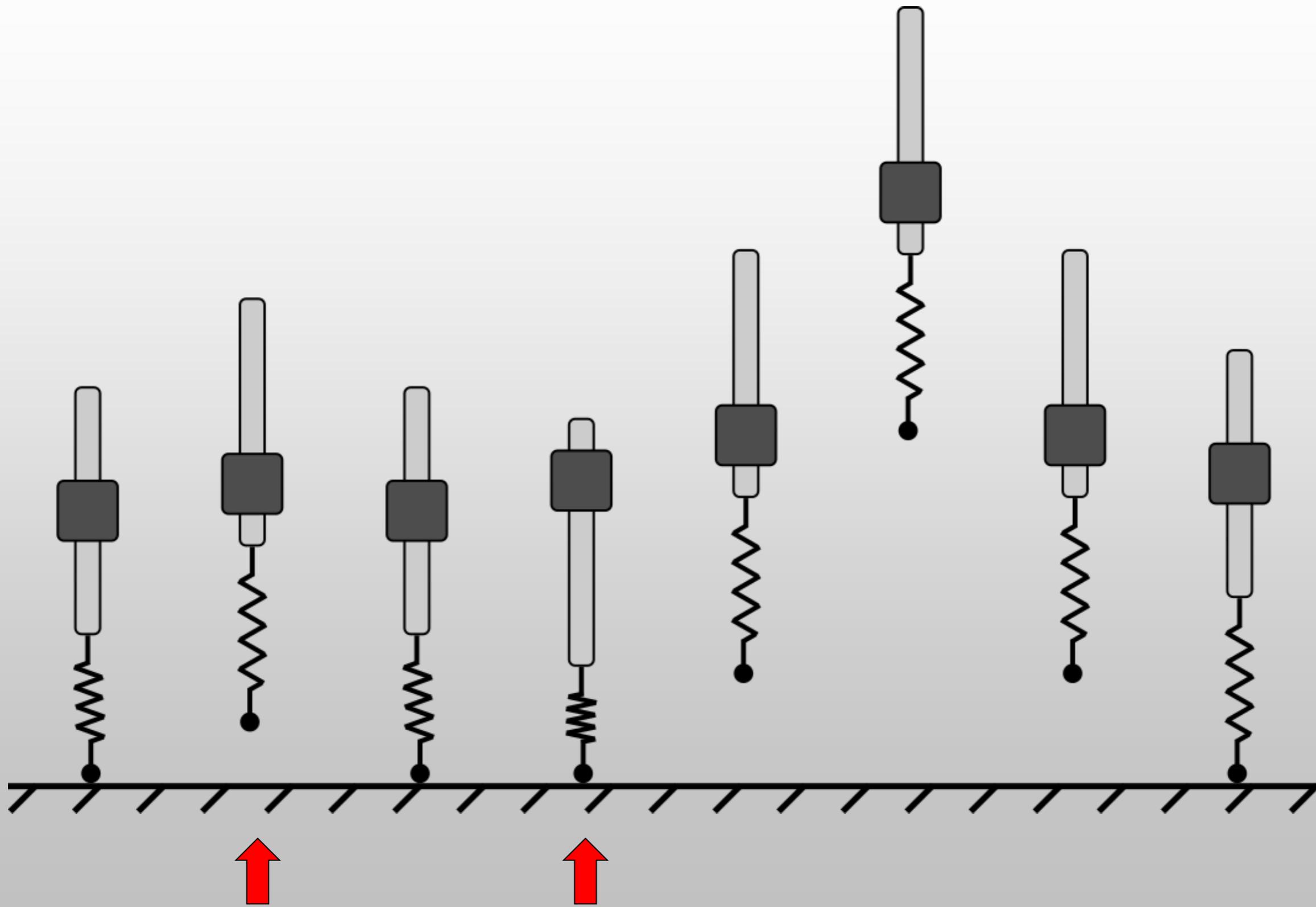
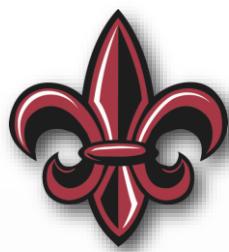
Single Jump Height Reached



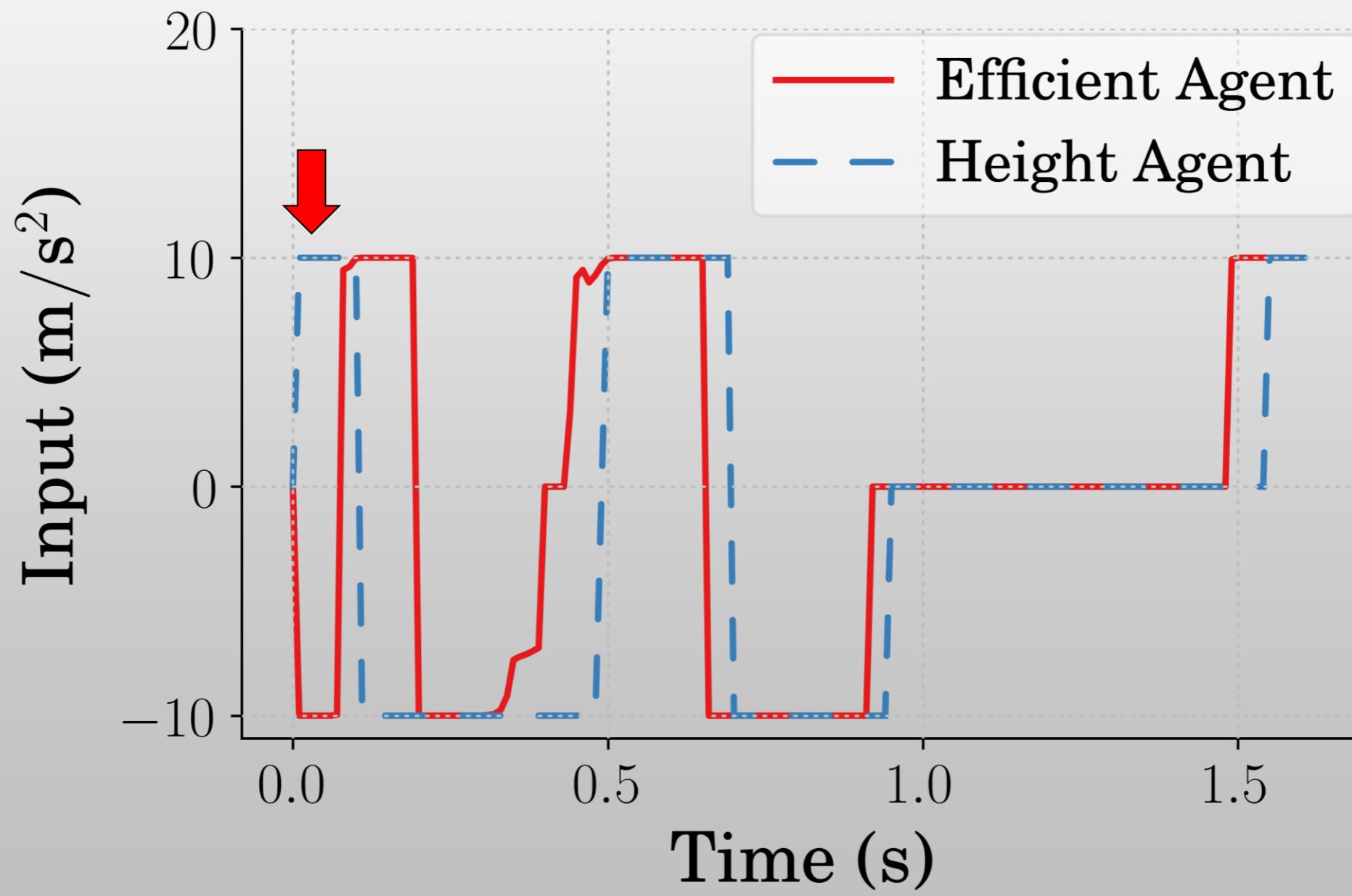
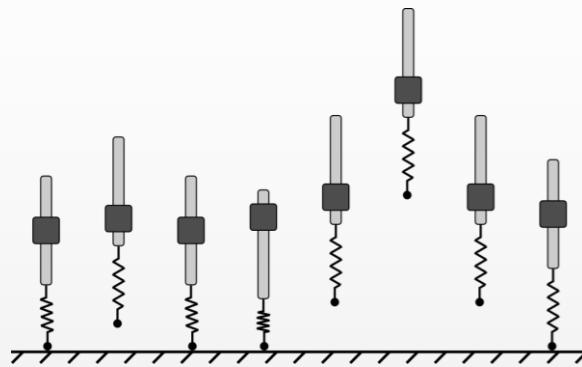
Single Jump Performance



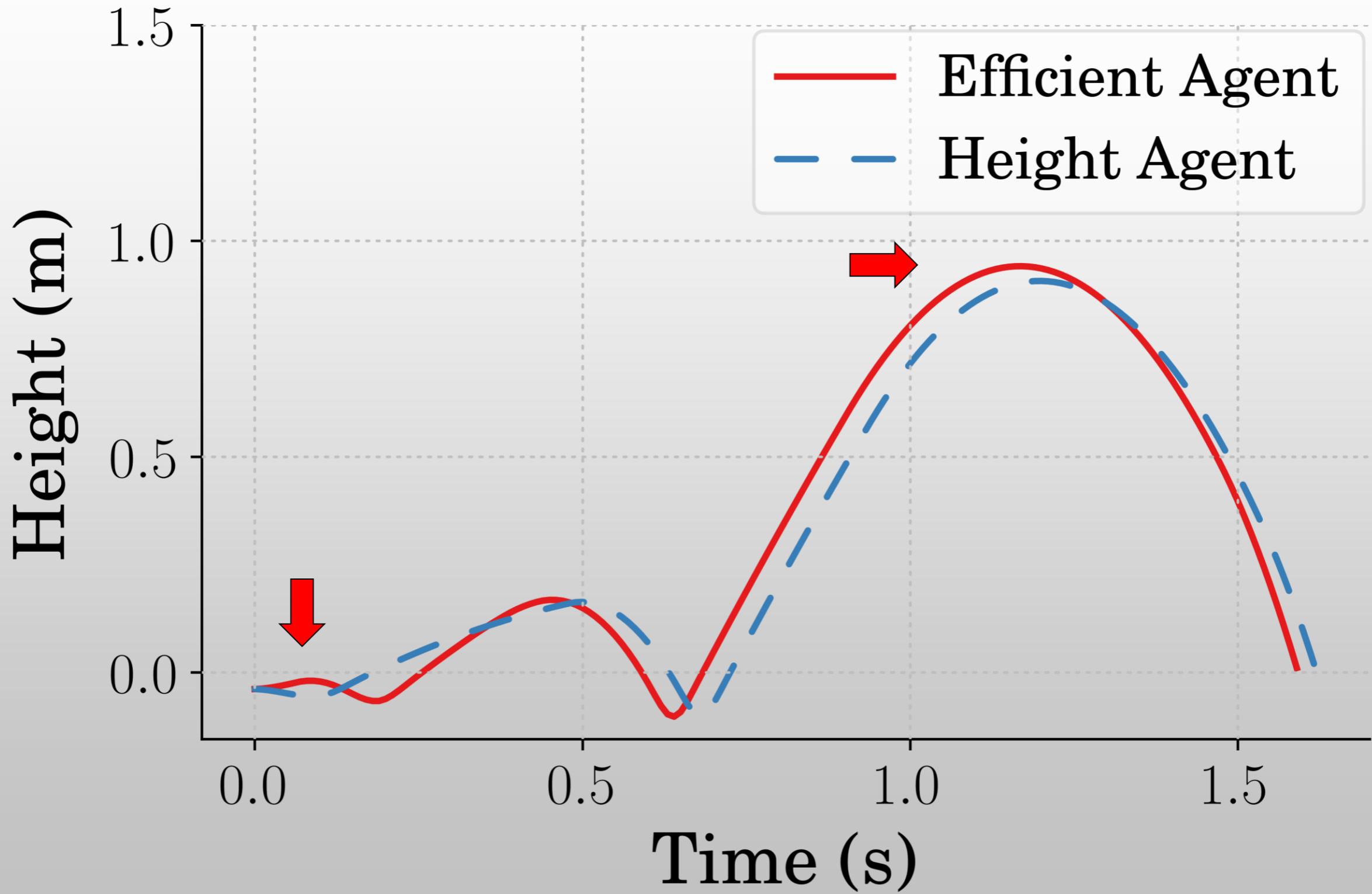
Stutter Jump



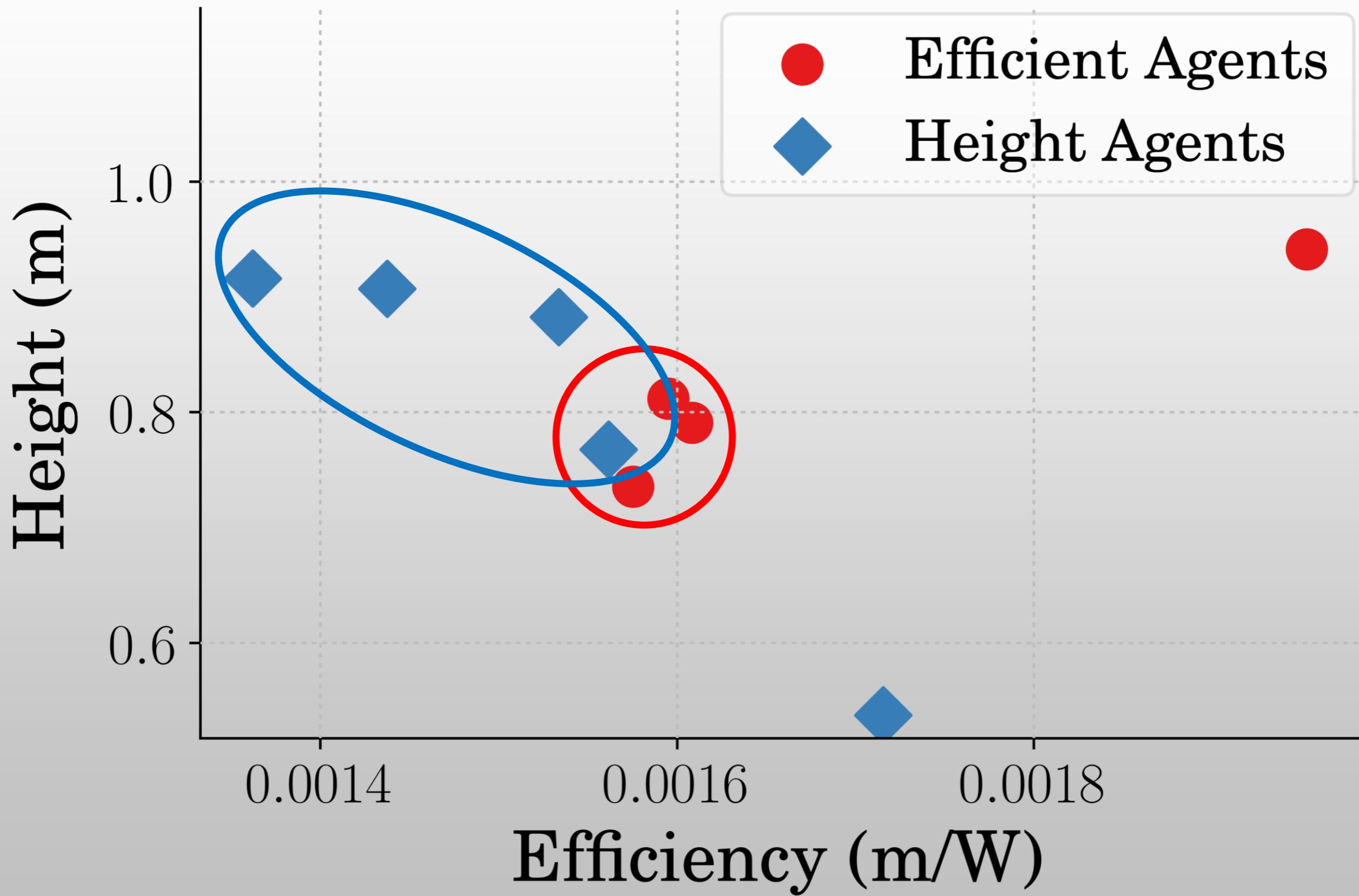
Stutter Jump Input



Stutter Jump Height



Stutter Jump Performance



Conclusion



- Reinforcement learning can be used to find control policies that are more efficient
- Agents can learn efficient control strategies where more complex control inputs are required
- Controllers can be learned that are both higher in performance and efficiency metrics



Thank you.