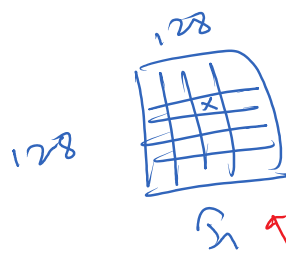


## Reinforcement Learning Value function approximation

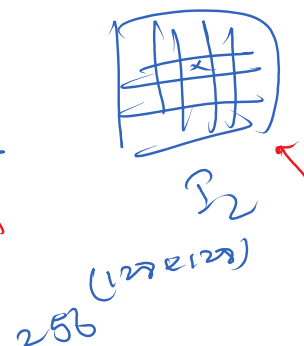
### High-dimension state space:



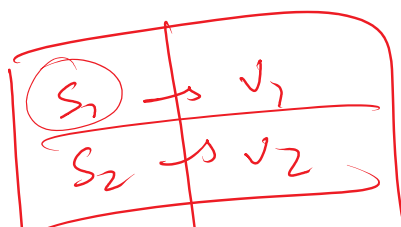
$10^{45}$



0-255



function approximation



$S_2$	$V_2$

### Supervised-learning perspective for approximation:

Monte-Carlo update equation:

$$\rightarrow \underline{V(S_t)} \leftarrow \underline{V(S_t)} + \alpha [\underline{G_t} - \underline{V(S_t)}]$$

TD(0) update equation:

$$\rightarrow \underline{V(S_t)} \leftarrow \underline{V(S_t)} + \alpha [\underline{R_{t+1}} + \gamma \underline{V(S_{t+1})} - \underline{V(S_t)}]$$

$$\text{New Est} \leftarrow \text{Old Est} + \alpha [\text{Target} - \text{Old Est}]$$

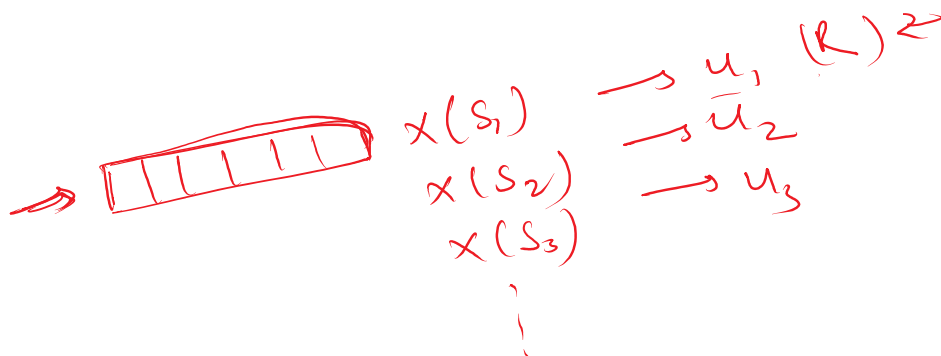
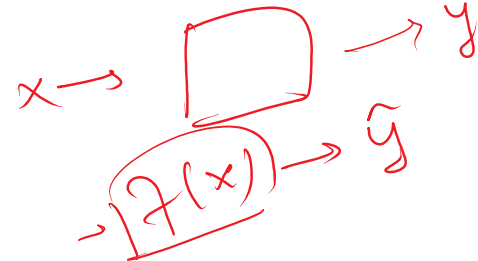
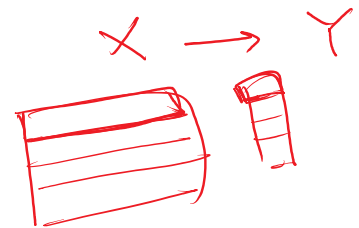
$$S_t \rightarrow u_t$$

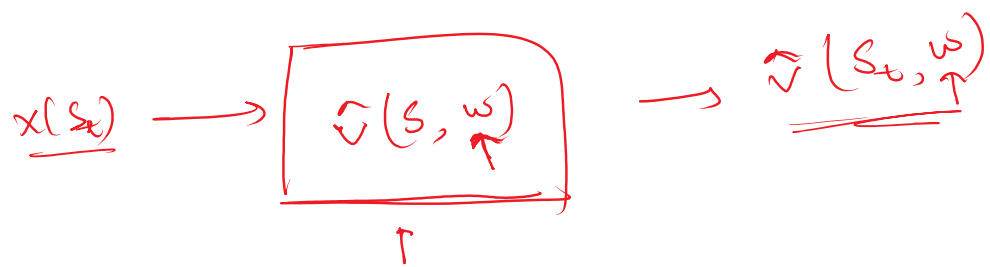
$$S_1 \rightarrow u_1$$

$$S_2 \rightarrow u_2$$

⋮

$$S_T \rightarrow u_T$$





## Reinforcement Learning

### Value Error

#### Value Error

$$\mu(s)$$

$$\sum_s \mu(s) = 1$$

$$(\hat{y}_i - y_i)^2$$

$$[\hat{v}(s, w) - v_{\pi}(s)]^2$$

Mean squared Value Error is defined as:

$$\overline{VE}(w) = \sum_{s \in \mathcal{S}} \mu(s) [v_{\pi}(s) - \hat{v}(s, w)]^2$$

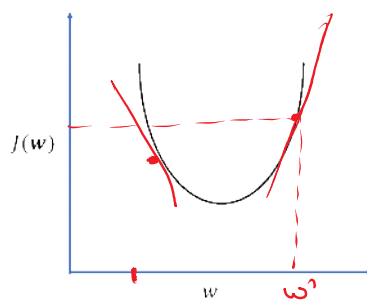
$$w^* \rightarrow \underline{VE}(w^*) \leq VE(w)$$



## Reinforcement Learning

### Gradient Monte-Carlo & Semi-gradient TD

#### Stochastic Gradient Descent



$$J(w) = \sum [y_i - f(w)]^2$$

$$\nabla J(w) = 2 * \sum [y_i - f(w)] \nabla f(w)$$

$$w \leftarrow w - \alpha \nabla J(w)$$

$$w' \geq w \text{ if } \nabla > 0$$

## Stochastic Gradient Descent on Value Error

Handwritten notes and diagrams illustrating Stochastic Gradient Descent on Value Error:

Handwritten:  $\tilde{v}(s, w)$

Handwritten:  $S_t$  and  $U_t$

Handwritten:  $p(s)$

SGD weight update for Value Error:

$$w_{t+1} = w_t - \frac{1}{2} \alpha \nabla [v_\pi(S_t) - \hat{v}(S_t, w_t)]^2$$

$$= w_t + \alpha [v_\pi(S_t) - \hat{v}(S_t, w_t)] \nabla \hat{v}(S_t, w_t)$$

Handwritten:  $U_t$  (circled)

Handwritten:  $\nabla \hat{v}(S_t, w_t) = \left( \frac{\partial \nabla \hat{v}(S_t, w_t)}{\partial w_t^{(1)}}, \frac{\partial \nabla \hat{v}(S_t, w_t)}{\partial w_t^{(2)}}, \frac{\partial \nabla \hat{v}(S_t, w_t)}{\partial w_t^{(3)}}, \dots, \frac{\partial \nabla \hat{v}(S_t, w_t)}{\partial w_t^{(d)}} \right)$

Diagram illustrating the sequence of states  $S_t$  and weights  $w_t$  over time  $t$  to  $T$ .

## Gradient Monte-Carlo

Gradient Monte-carlo weight update rule:

$$w_{t+1} = w_t + \alpha [\hat{G}_t - \hat{v}(S_t, w_t)] \nabla \hat{v}(S_t, w_t)$$

**Gradient Monte Carlo Algorithm for Estimating  $\hat{v} \approx v_\pi$**

- Input: the policy  $\pi$  to be evaluated
- Input: a differentiable function  $\hat{v} : \mathcal{S} \times \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
- Algorithm parameter: step size  $\alpha > 0$
- Initialize value-function weights  $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$  arbitrarily (e.g.,  $\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{0}$ )
- Loop forever (for each episode):
  - Generate an episode  $S_0, A_0, R_1, S_1, A_1, \dots, R_T, S_T$  using  $\pi$
  - Loop for each step of episode,  $t = 0, 1, \dots, T-1$ :
    - $\mathbf{w} \leftarrow \mathbf{w} + \alpha [\hat{G}_t - \hat{v}(S_t, \mathbf{w})] \nabla \hat{v}(S_t, \mathbf{w})$

## Semi-Gradient TD(0)

Semi Gradient TD(0) weight update rule:

$$w_{t+1} = w_t + \alpha [R_{t+1} + \gamma \hat{v}(S_{t+1}, w_t) - \hat{v}(S_t, w_t)] \nabla \hat{v}(S_t, w_t)$$

### Semi-gradient TD(0) for estimating $\hat{v} \approx v_\pi$

Input: the policy  $\pi$  to be evaluated  
Input: a differentiable function  $\hat{v} : \mathcal{S}^+ \times \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that  $\hat{v}(\text{terminal}, \cdot) = 0$   
Algorithm parameter: step size  $\alpha > 0$   
Initialize value-function weights  $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$  arbitrarily (e.g.,  $\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{0}$ )

Loop for each episode:  
  Initialize  $S$   
  Loop for each step of episode:  
    Choose  $A \sim \pi(\cdot|S)$   
    Take action  $A$ , observe  $R, S'$   
     $\mathbf{w} \leftarrow \mathbf{w} + \alpha [R + \gamma \hat{v}(S', \mathbf{w}) - \hat{v}(S, \mathbf{w})] \nabla \hat{v}(S, \mathbf{w})$   
     $S \leftarrow S'$   
  until  $S$  is terminal



## Reinforcement Learning Linear Function Approximation

### State value function using linear function approximator

$$s \rightarrow x(s) \quad |x(s)| = |w|$$

$$x(s) = [x_1 \quad x_2 \quad x_3]^T$$

$$w = [w_1 \quad w_2 \quad w_3]^T$$

$$\hat{v}(s, w) = \sum_{i=1}^d w_i x_i(s)$$

$$\hat{v}(s, w) = (x_1 w_1 + x_2 w_2 + x_3 w_3)$$

$$\nabla \hat{v}(s, w) = \left[ \frac{\partial \hat{v}(s, w)}{\partial w_1}, \frac{\partial \hat{v}(s, w)}{\partial w_2}, \frac{\partial \hat{v}(s, w)}{\partial w_3} \right]$$

$$\nabla \hat{v}(s, w) = x(s)$$

$$\nabla \hat{v}(s, w) = x(s)$$

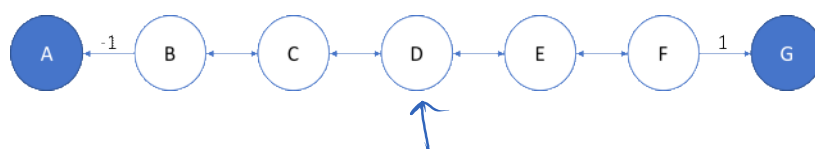
SGD update for linear function approximator:

$$w_{t+1} = w_t + \alpha [U_t - \hat{v}(S_t, w_t)] \underline{x(s)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\partial v}{\partial w_3} \\ &= [x_1 \quad x_2 \quad x_3] \\ &= x(s) \end{aligned}$$

$$\underline{VE(w_{TD})} \leq \frac{1}{1-\gamma} \left( \underline{VE(w_*)} \right)$$

## Reinforcement Learning State Aggregation



$$D: x(D) = [0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0]$$

$$A: x(A) = [1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0]$$

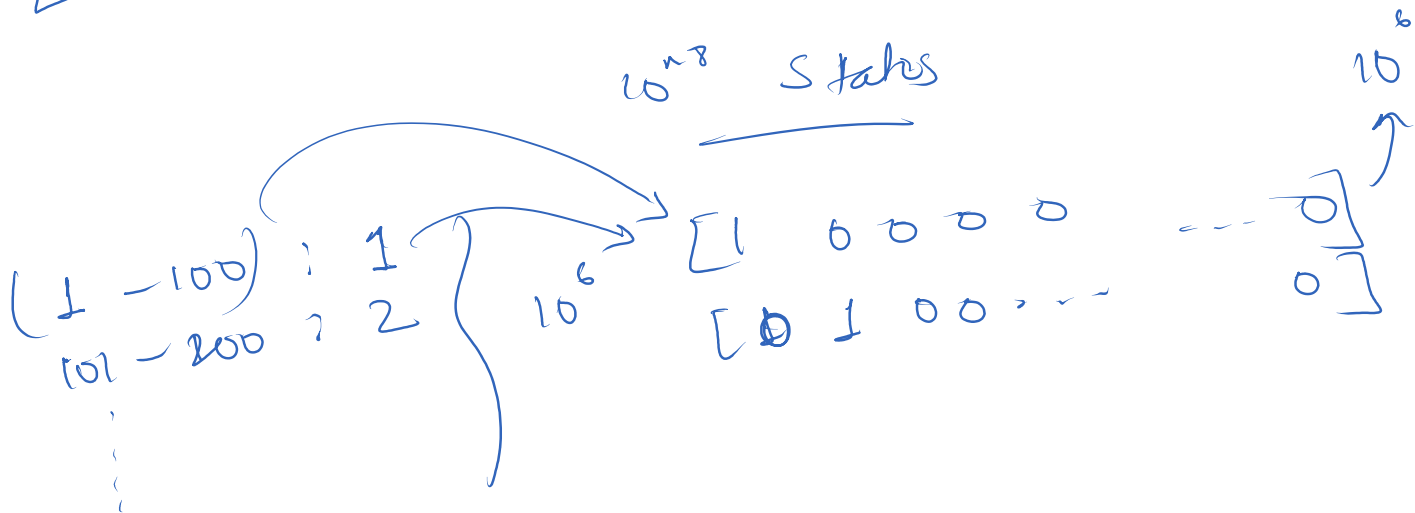
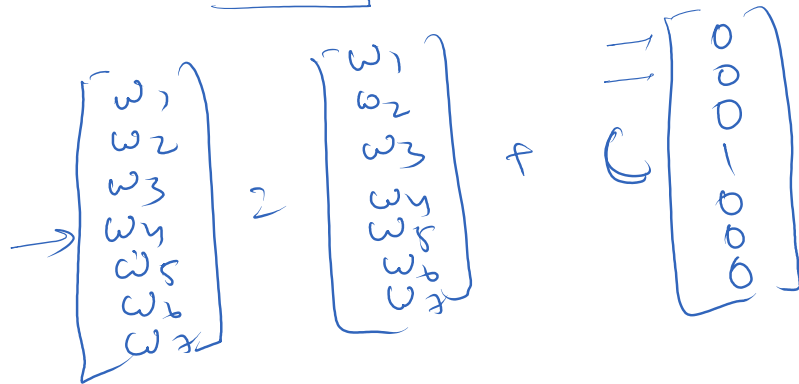
$$B: x(B) = [0 \ 1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0]$$

$$w = [w_1 \ w_2 \ w_3 \ w_4 \ w_5 \ w_6 \ w_7]$$

$$D: x(D) \rightarrow u_t$$

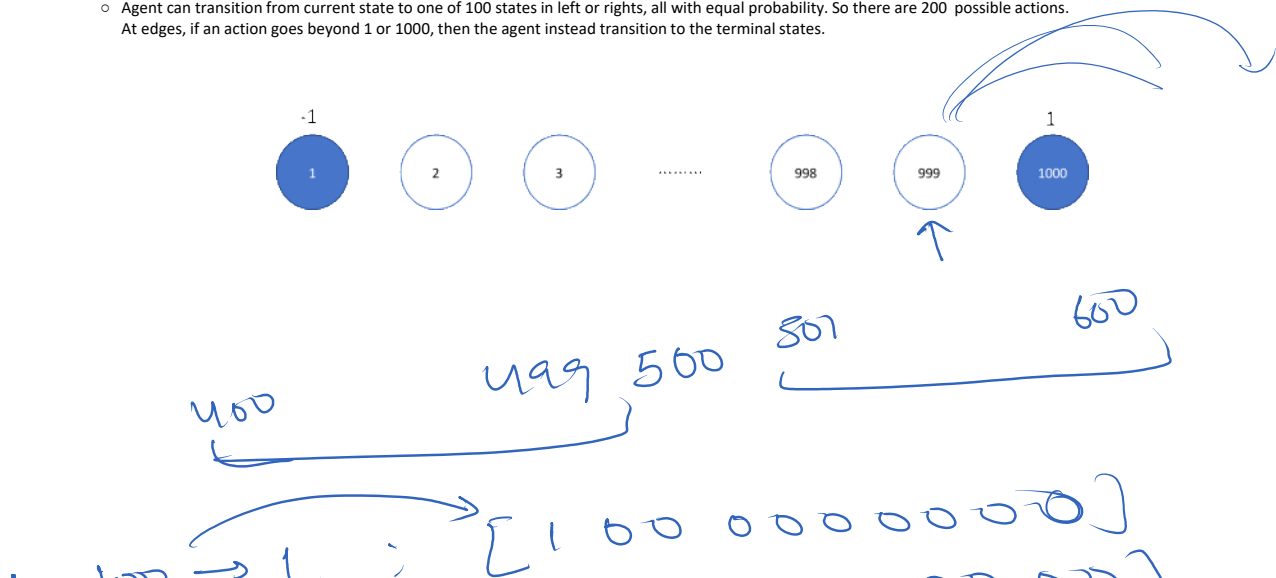
SGD update for linear function approximator:

$$w_{t+1} = w_t + \alpha [U_t - \hat{v}(S_t, w_t)] x(s)$$



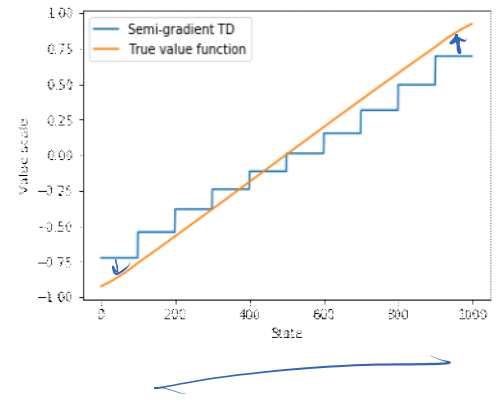
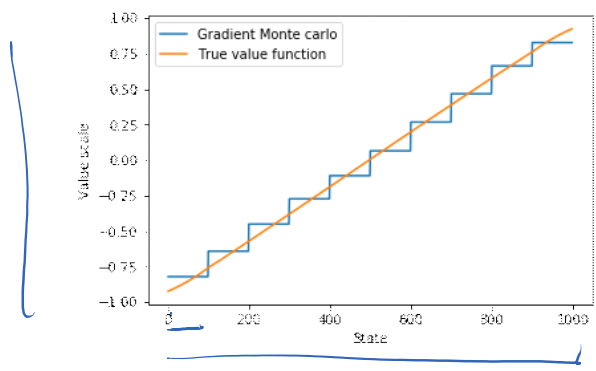
### 1000 state random-walk MDP with state aggregation:

- States are numbered from 1 to 1000, from left to right.
- All episodes begin near the center on state 500.
- States 1 and 1000 are terminal states, and it fetches a reward of -1 and 1 on transitioning to them, respectively.
- Policy:
  - Agent can transition from current state to one of 100 states in left or right, all with equal probability. So there are 200 possible actions.
  - At edges, if an action goes beyond 1 or 1000, then the agent instead transition to the terminal states.



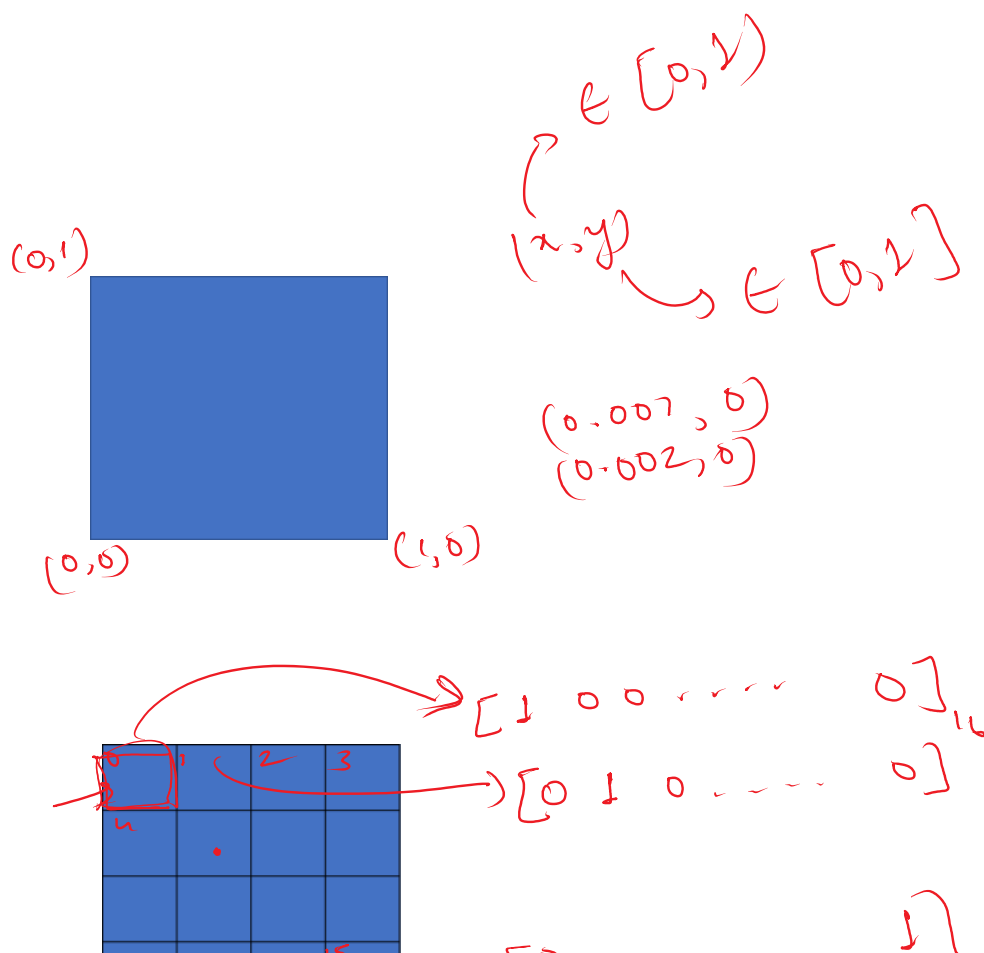
$\frac{1-100}{100} \rightarrow 1$   
 $101 \rightarrow 200 \rightarrow 2$   
 $201 \rightarrow 300 \rightarrow 3$   
 $\vdots$   
 $901 \rightarrow 1000 \rightarrow 10$

$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$



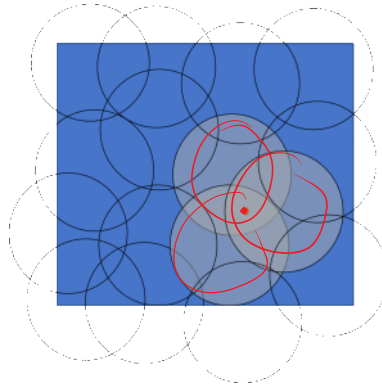
## Reinforcement Learning Coarse coding and tile coding

### Coarse coding:





$\rightarrow [0 \dots 1]$

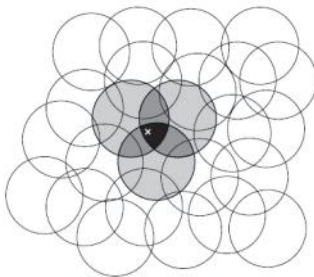


$n$  circles

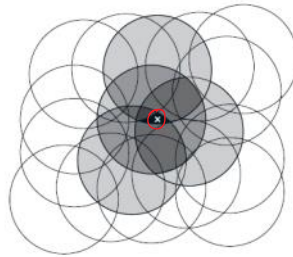
$[0 \ 0 \ 1 \ 0 \ 1 \ 0 \ 1]_n$

$\downarrow$

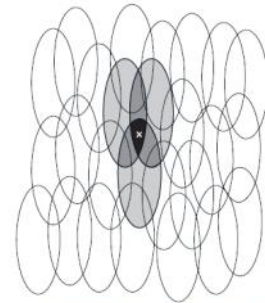
$[w_1 \ w_2 \dots \ w_n]$



Narrow generalization



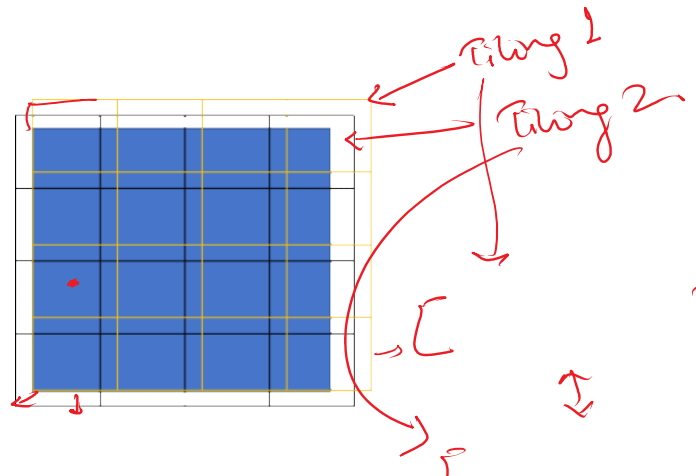
Broad generalization

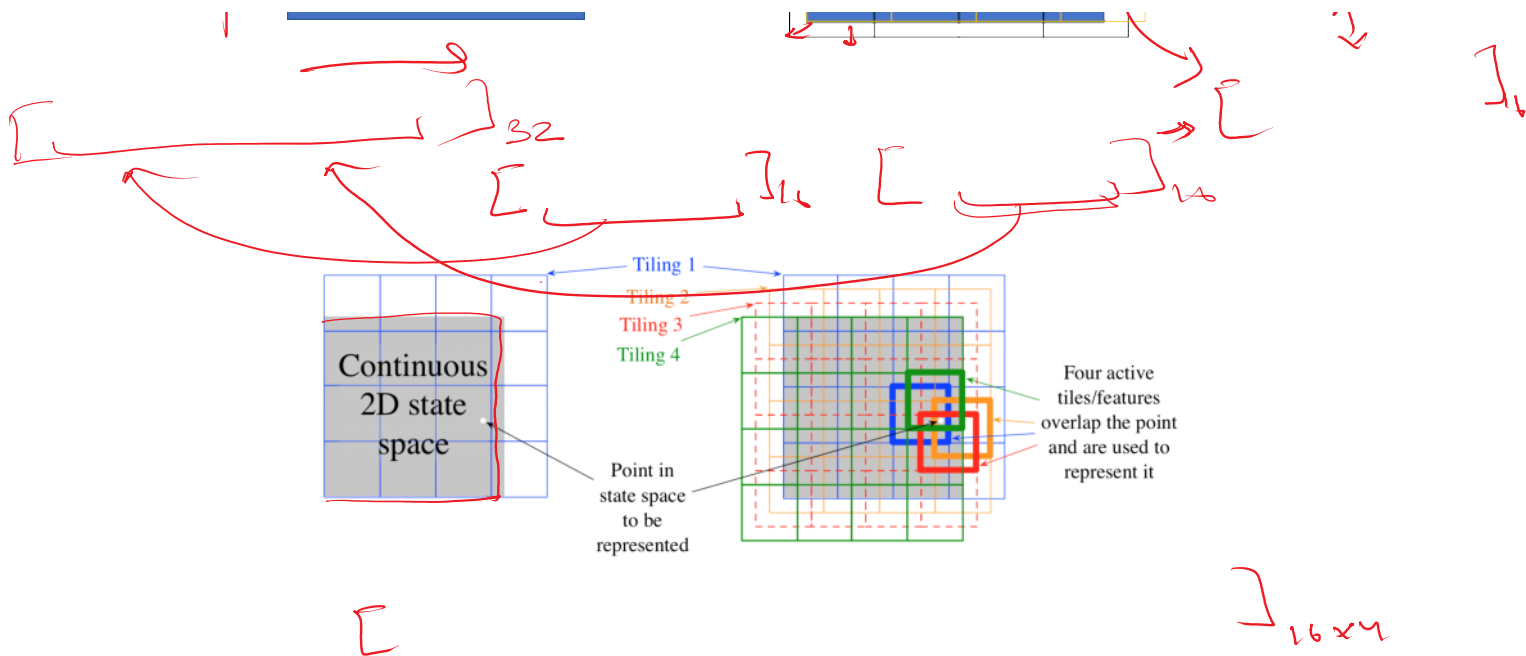


Asymmetric generalization



### Tile coding:



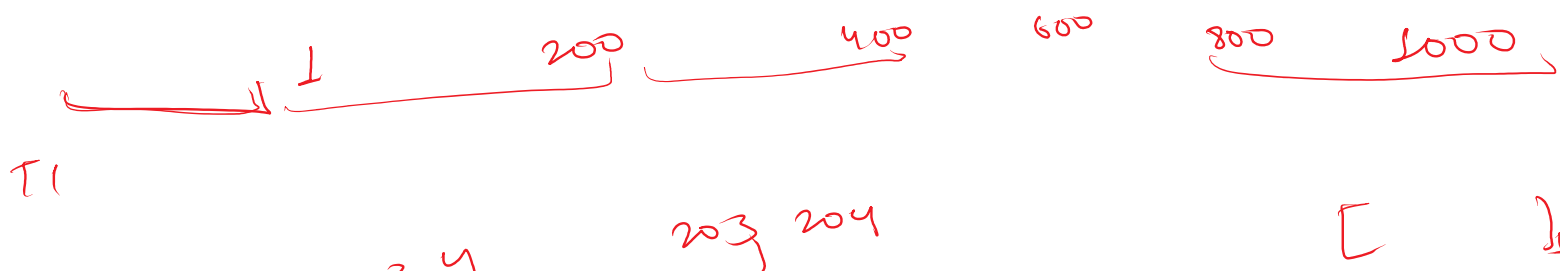


### 1000 state random-walk MDP:

- States are numbered form 1 to 1000, from left to right.
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- Policy:
  - Agent can transition from current state to one of 100 states in left or rights, all with equal probability. So there are 200 possible actions. At edges, if an action goes beyond 1 or 1000, then the agent instead transition to the terminal states.



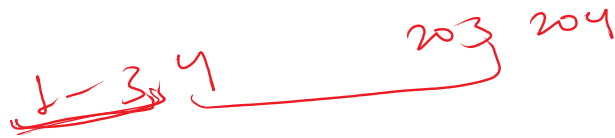
50 things  
 → 5 buckets (6 buckets)  
 4 offset [ ]<sub>6</sub>





11

T2



[ ]

[ ]

T50

[

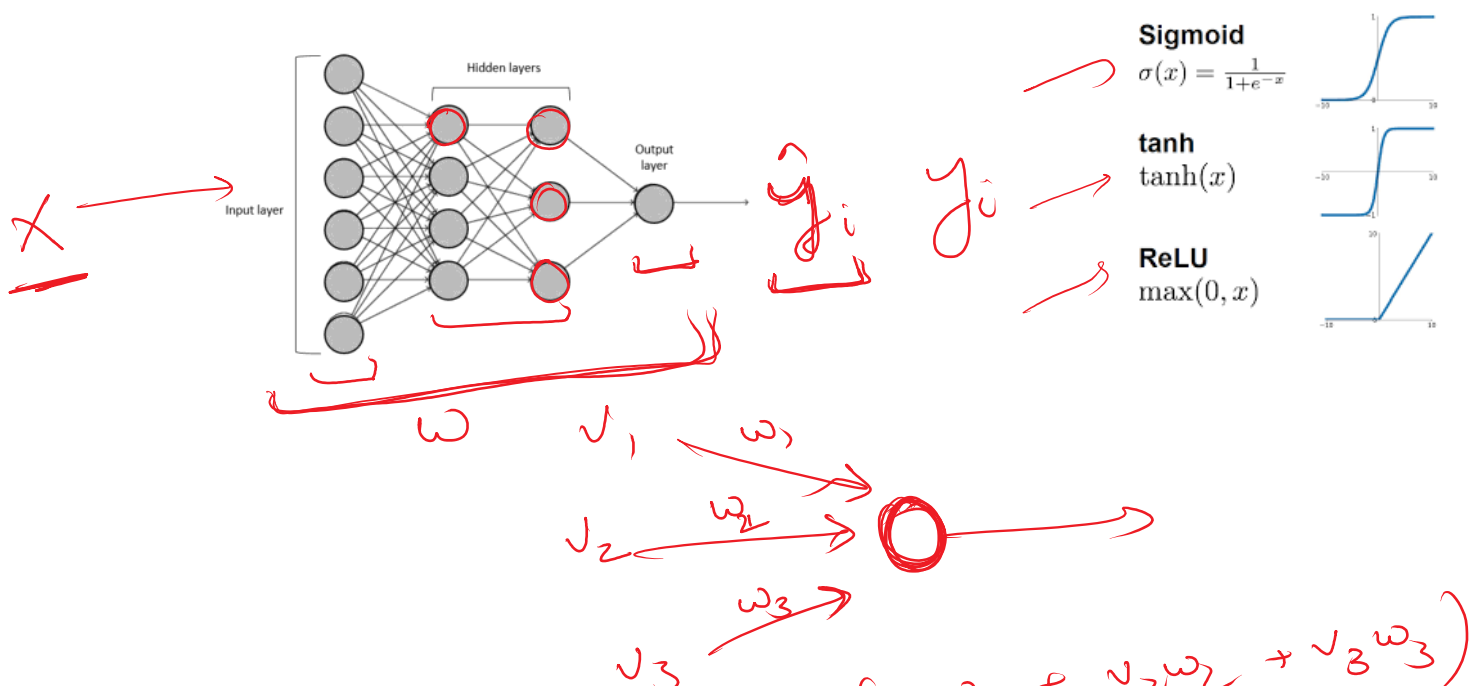
[

] 250

→ 50 values = 1  
] 6x50

## Reinforcement Learning Non-linear function approximator - Artificial Neural Networks

### Artificial Neural Networks:



$$v_3 \xrightarrow{\omega_3} \theta(v_1\omega_1 + v_2\omega_2 + v_3\omega_3)$$

