

# Reinforcement Learning: Overview

Prabuchandran K.J.

Assistant Professor, IIT Dharwad

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# Outline

- Faces of Reinforcement Learning (RL)

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  - ▶ Computer Science  $\rightarrow$  Machine Learning  $\rightarrow$  Reinforcement Learning

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- Faces of Reinforcement Learning (RL)
  - ▶ Computer Science → Machine Learning → Reinforcement Learning
- Sequential Decision Making (SDM) problems

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  - ▶ How to solve SDM Problems?

## Reinforcement Learning Methods

- ▶ Examples and successful RL solutions

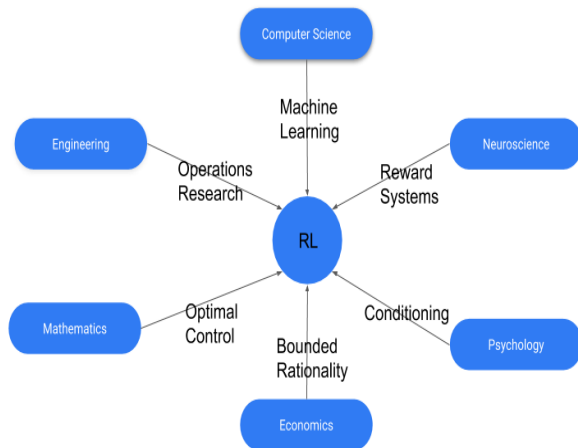
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  - ▶ Computer Science → Machine Learning → Reinforcement Learning
- Sequential Decision Making (SDM) problems
  - ▶ How to solve SDM Problems?

## Reinforcement Learning Methods

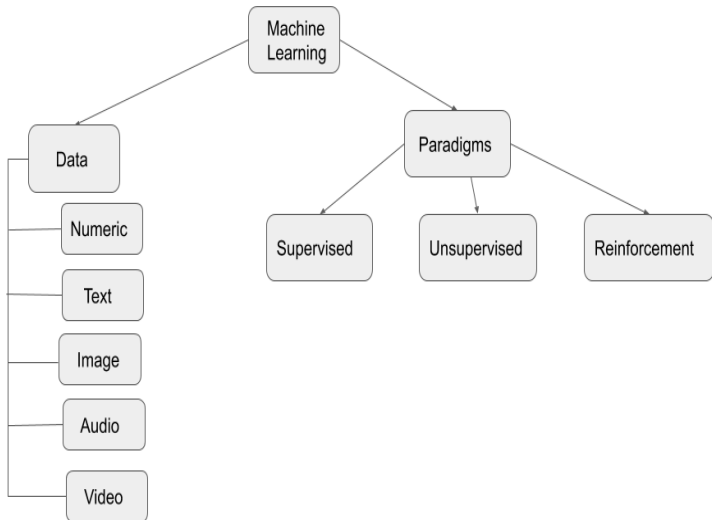
- ▶ Examples and successful RL solutions
- Mathematical frameworks for studying SDM Problems

# Faces of Reinforcement Learning





# Machine Learning

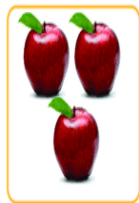


# Traditional Programming vs Machine Learning



# Supervised Learning

Input data



Annotations

These are  
apples



Model

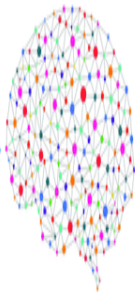


Prediction



# Unsupervised Learning

Input data



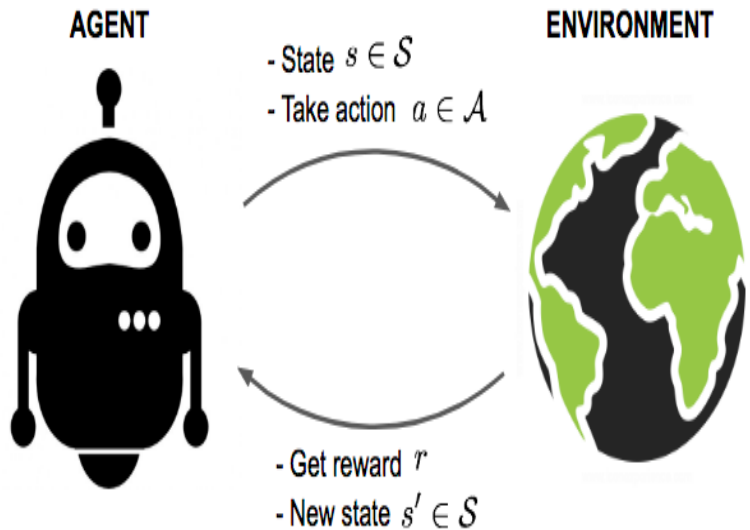
Model



# Reinforcement Learning



# Reinforcement Learning Problem



# Supervised vs Reinforcement Learning

## Supervised Learning

- Examples with target
- (images, labels)
- Instructive Feedback

## Reinforcement Learning

- Examples without target
- (states, actions, rewards)
- Evaluative Feedback

# Characteristics of Reinforcement Learning

- Decision Making in the face of uncertainty



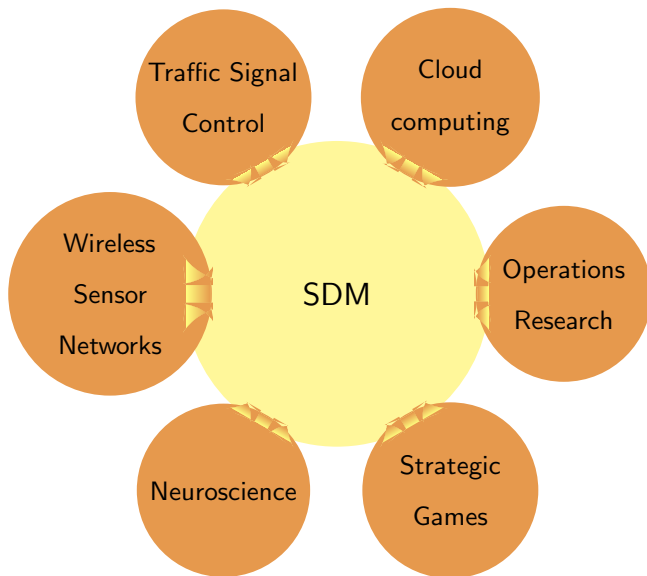
# Characteristics of Reinforcement Learning

- Decision Making in the face of uncertainty
- Delayed rewards

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- Decision Making in the face of uncertainty
- Delayed rewards
- Credit assignment Problem

# Sequential Decision Making (SDM) Problems



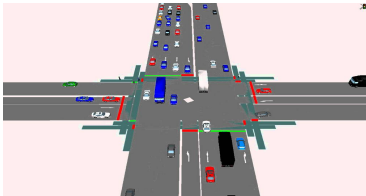
# Examples of SDM problems



Strategic Games



Robo Soccer



Traffic Signal Control



Inventory Management

# Common Features of SDM Problems

- Long-term goal that needs to be achieved

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- Long-term goal that needs to be achieved
- Uncertainty in the evolution of configuration (state)
- Decisions (actions) need to be taken in stages
- Simple feedback signal (reward/cost) - how good is the action for the given state
- Available information or experience - state, action and reward

# Solving SDM Problems

How do we model?

Bandits/ Markov Decision Process

How to learn from experience?

Reinforcement Learning and Stochastic Optimization algorithms

How to analyse these algorithms?

Stochastic Approximation framework

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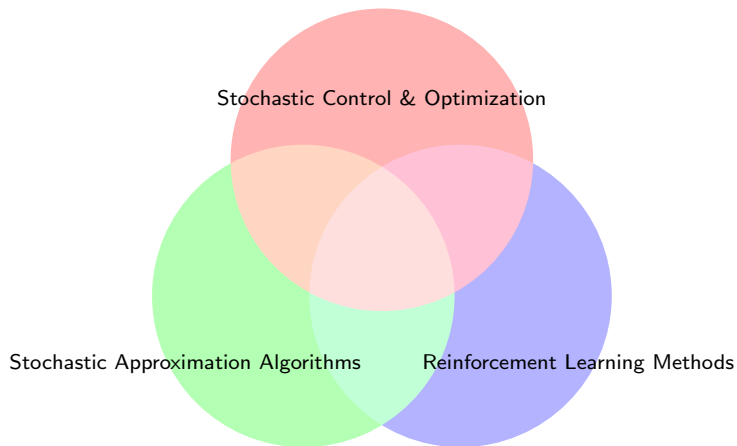
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# Solution to SDM problems

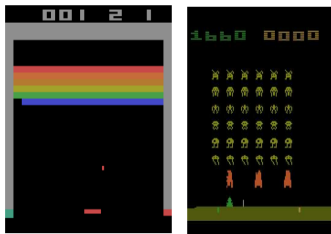




# Successful Reinforcement Learning (RL) solutions

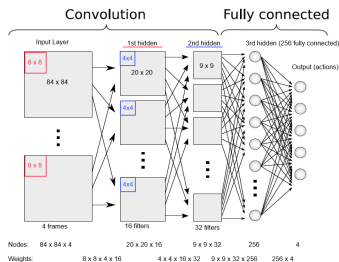
- Q-learning / Deep Q-Networks (DQN)
- Actor-Critic methods (AC) / Policy gradient methods
- Upper Confidence Tree (UCT) / Monte-Carlo Tree Search algorithm

# Deep Q-Networks



Breakout and Space Invaders, 2 of the 49 Atari games used in the paper

Break out and Space Invaders

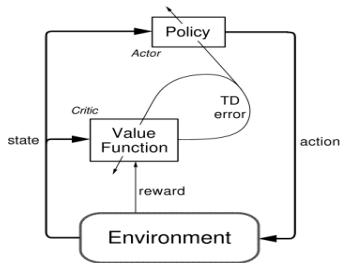


Deep Q-Network

# Deep Deterministic Policy Gradient

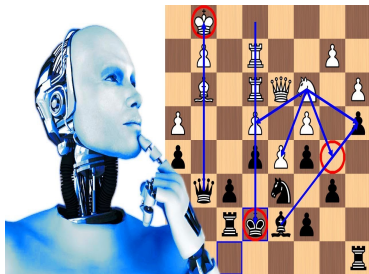


TORCS car simulation



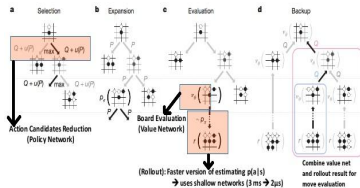
Actor-Critic Network

# Upper Confidence Tree (UCT)



Alpha Zero

Looking ahead (w/ Monte Carlo Search Tree)



UCT algorithm

# Reason for Success

Rule Based Methods



Feature Based Methods



Automatic Feature Based Methods

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Rule Based Methods



Feature Based Methods



Automatic Feature Based Methods

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Rule Based Methods

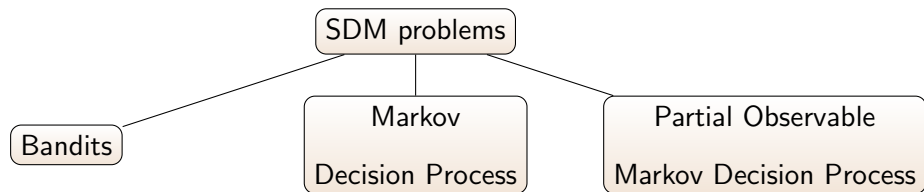


Feature Based Methods



Automatic Feature Based Methods

# Mathematical Framework for solving SDM Problems





# Questions

**Thank you !**