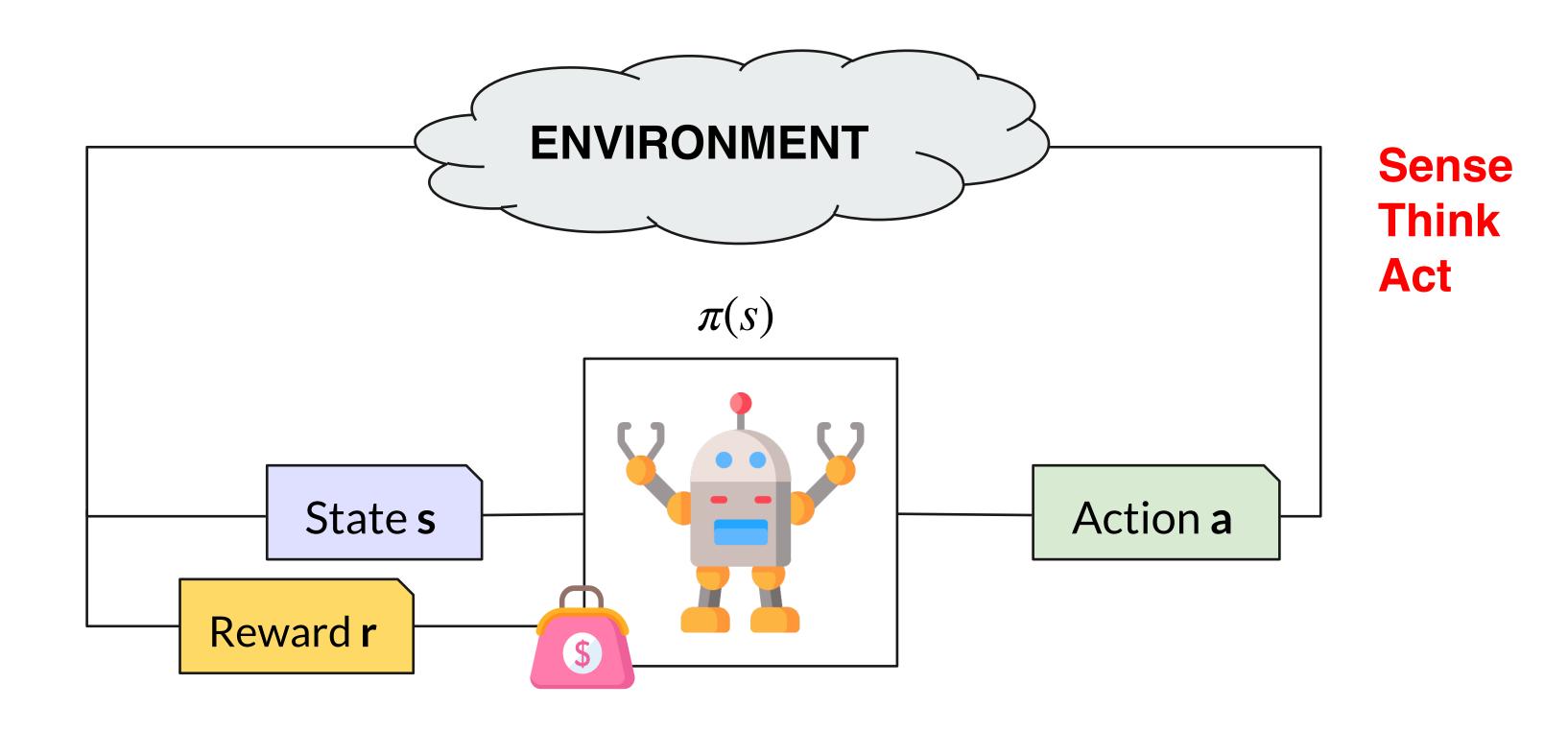


MARKOV DECISION PROCESSES

COMPUTER NETWORK PERFORMANCE 14-12-2020 N. BARTOLINI & M. PRATA

Reinforcement Learning

- Branch of automatic learning (just like Supervised Learning or Unsupervised Learning)
- An agent wants to learn an optimal policy (how to act) in an environment, maximising the cumulative reward signals it gets from the environment



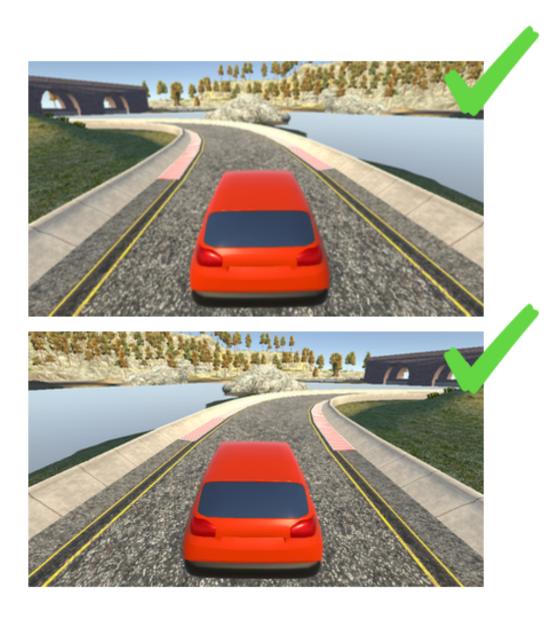
Reinforcement Learning an Example

- A self-driving car (the agent) drives autonomously without going off-road:
 - States: raw pixel inputs cameras mounted on the car (radars...)
 - Actions: steer right, steer left, do nothing
 - Rewards: a function of the distance of the car from the border lines





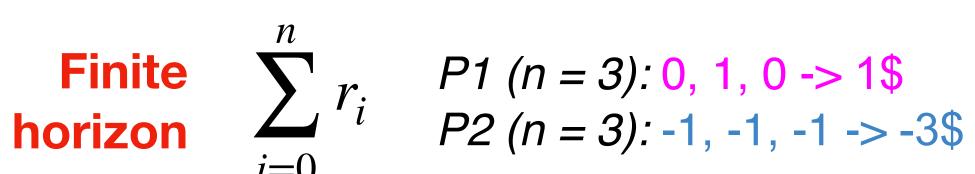


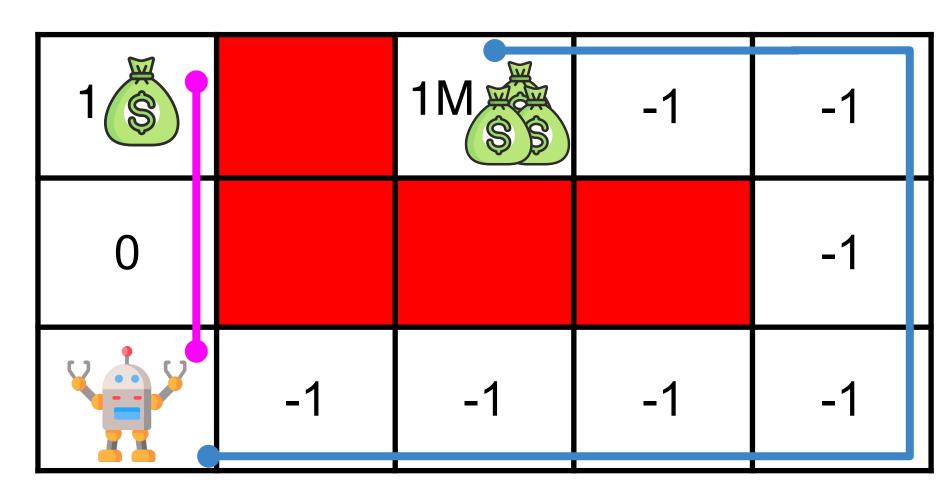


Reward Maximisation

• Three ways to optimise the sum of future rewards:

Infinite horizon
$$\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} r_i \quad P1:0, 1, 0, 1 \dots -> \infty \\ P2:-1, -1, -1, -1, -1, -1, -1, 1M, -1, 1M \dots -> \infty$$



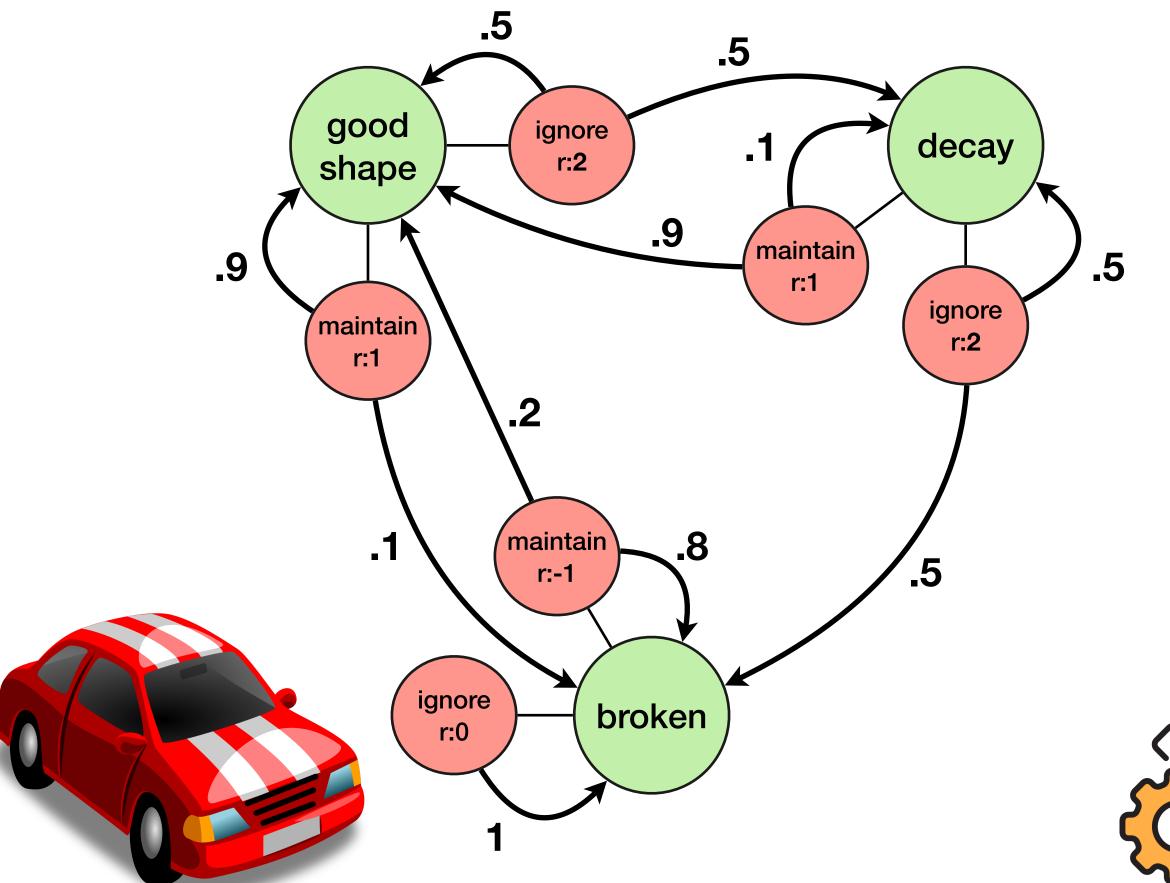


- Consider: if it takes 4 years to get 1\$, that dollar is less valuable than if it takes 1 year (inflation)!
- **Discounted rewards** $0 < \gamma \le 1$ with parameter $\gamma = 0.95$ means that each reward in the future values 5% less than the immediate reward

Discounted reward
$$\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \gamma^i \ r_i = r_0 + \gamma r_1 + \gamma^2 r_2 + \dots$$

- A Markov Decision Process is a 4 tuple MDP = (S, A, T, R)
 - \bullet S: set of states
 - \bullet A: set of actions
 - $T: \{S \times A \times S\} \to [0,1]$: transition probability function s.t. $\sum_{s' \in S} T[s,a,s'] = 1 \ \forall s \in S, a \in A$
 - \bullet $R: \{S \times A\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$: reward function
- ullet The **policy** is a function $\pi:S o A$ specifying what action to take in each state
- The goal is to find π^* , a policy that maximises cumulative discounted reward $\sum_{i=0}^{\gamma^i} r_i$

A Markov Decision Process is a 4 tuple MDP = (S, A, T, R)



$$S = \{ \mbox{good shape, decay, broken} \}$$
 $A = \{ \mbox{maintain, ignore} \}$
 $m.$
 $i.$
 $R = \begin{bmatrix} +1 & +2 \\ +1 & +2 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \mbox{good shape decay broken}$

$$T = \begin{bmatrix} 0.9 & 0 & 0.1 \\ 0.9 & 0.1 & 0 \\ 0.2 & 0 & 0.8 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0.5 & 0.5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.5 & 0.5 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$
good shape decay broken

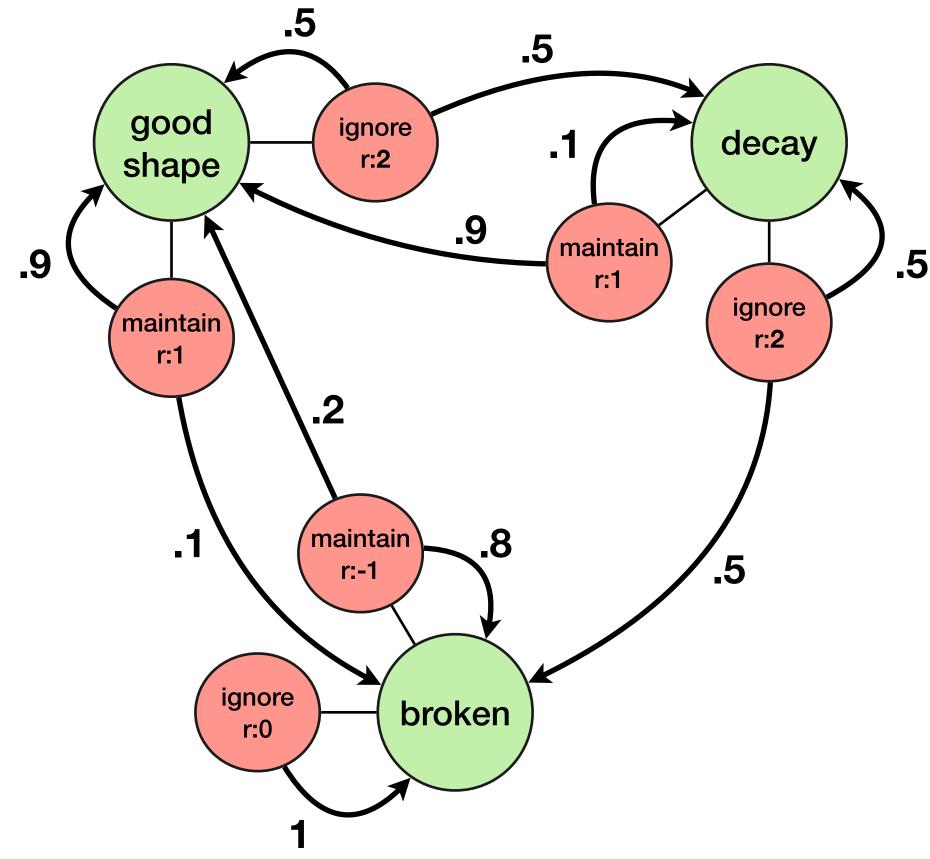


 $\pi = [ignore, ignore, maintain]$

Process evolution

- At time step t = 0, given policy π and initial state s_0
- For t = 0 until done:
 - Agent select $a_t \leftarrow \pi[s_t]$
 - Get target state $s_{t+1} \sim T[s_t, a_t, *]$
 - Get reward $r_t \leftarrow R[s_t, a_t]$
 - Agent collects experience tuple (s_t, a_t, s_{t+1}, r_t)

$$\pi = \begin{array}{lll} & \text{ignore, ignore, maintain} \end{array} \quad s_0 = \text{good shape} \\ & \text{m.} & \text{i.} & \text{m.} & \text{i.} \\ T = \begin{bmatrix} 0.9 & 0 & 0.1 \\ 0.9 & 0.1 & 0 \\ 0.2 & 0 & 0.8 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0.5 & 0.5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.5 & 0.5 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad R = \begin{bmatrix} +1 & +2 \\ +1 & +2 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{array}{l} & \text{good shape} \\ & \text{decay} \\ & \text{broken} \end{array}$$



t = 0: (good shape, ignore, good shape, 2)

t = 1: (good shape, ignore, decay, 2)

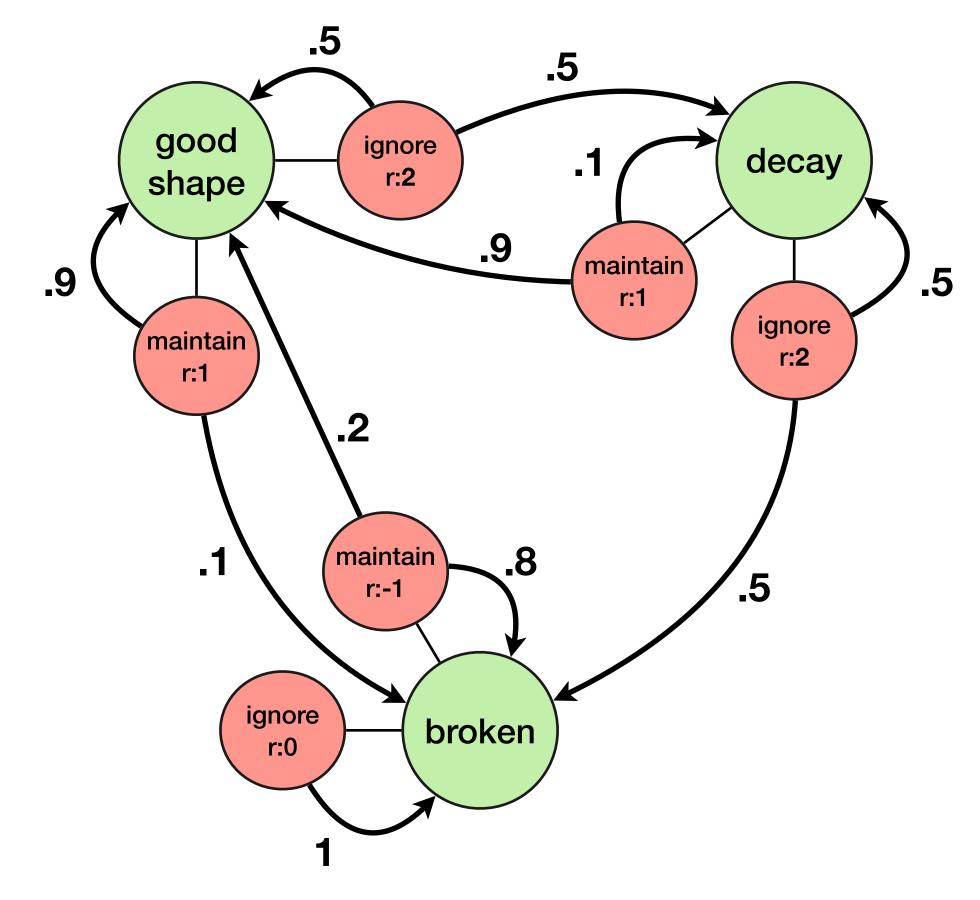
t = 2: (decay, ignore, broken, 2)

t = 3: (broken, maintain, broken, -1)...

$$R = 2 + 2 + 2 - 1 \dots$$

Process evolution

- At time step t = 0, given policy π and initial state s_0
- For t = 0 until done:
 - Agent select $a_t \leftarrow \pi[s_t]$
 - Get target state $s_{t+1} \sim T[s_t, a_t, *]$
 - Get reward $r_t \leftarrow R[s_t, a_t]$
 - Agent collects experience tuple (s_t, a_t, s_{t+1}, r_t)

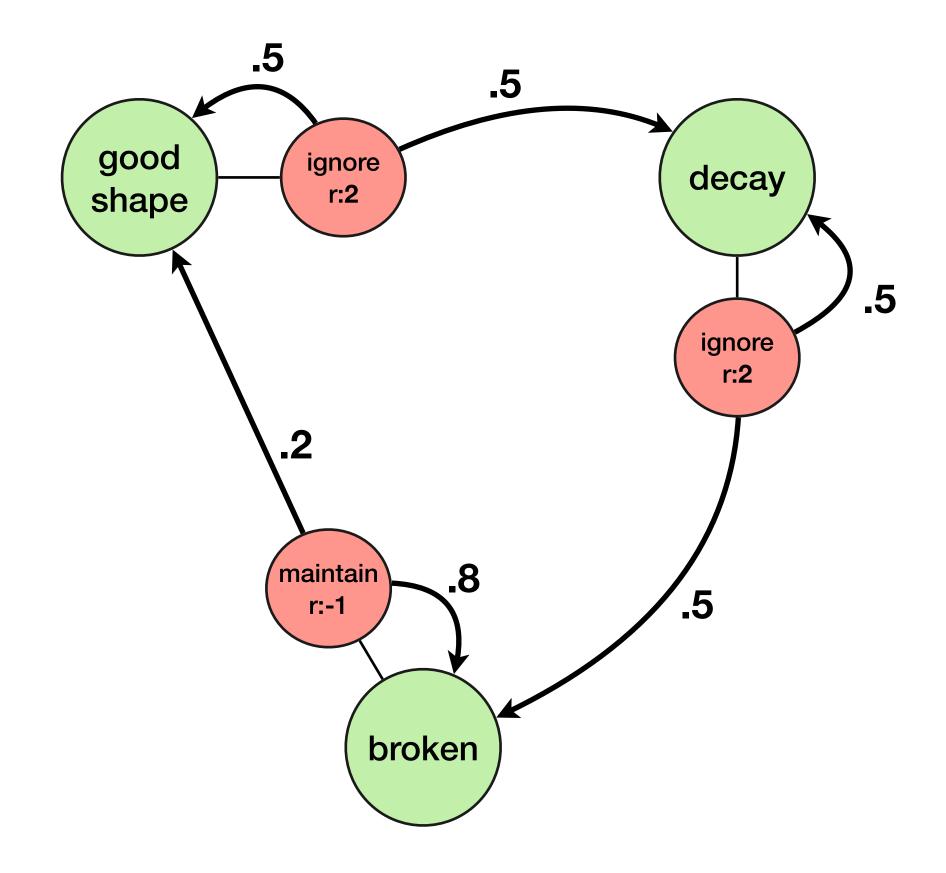


$$T_{\pi} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.5 & 0.5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.5 & 0.5 \\ 0.2 & 0 & 0.8 \end{bmatrix}$$

Process evolution

- At time step t = 0, given policy π and initial state s_0
- For t = 0 until done:
 - Agent select $a_t \leftarrow \pi[s_t]$
 - Get target state $s_{t+1} \sim T[s_t, a_t, *]$
 - Get reward $r_t \leftarrow R[s_t, a_t]$
 - Agent collects experience tuple (s_t, a_t, s_{t+1}, r_t)

$$\pi = [\text{ignore, ignore, maintain}]$$
 $s_0 = \text{good shape}$ $m.$ i.
$$T = \begin{bmatrix} 0.9 & 0 & 0.1 \\ 0.9 & 0.1 & 0 \\ 0.2 & 0 & 0.8 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0.5 & 0.5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.5 & 0.5 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} R = \begin{bmatrix} +1 & +2 \\ +1 & +2 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \frac{\text{good shap}}{\text{broken}}$$



$$T_{\pi} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.5 & 0.5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.5 & 0.5 \\ 0.2 & 0 & 0.8 \end{bmatrix}$$

- For every MDP there exists an optimal policy (proven)
- The optimal policy is the one that maximises the expected cumulative discounted reward

$$\pi^* = \arg\max_{\pi} \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \gamma^t r_t \middle| \pi \right]$$

How good is a state?

The **value function** at state s is the expected cumulative reward from following the policy from state s. It obeys the Bellman equation, relating the value function to itself as:

$$V^{\pi}(s) = \mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \gamma^{t} r_{t} \middle| s_{0} = s, \pi\right] = R[s, \pi[s]] + \sum_{s' \in S} T[s, \pi[s], s'] \cdot \gamma \cdot V^{\pi}(s')$$
immediate reward
expected cumulative discounted reward

Optimal
$$V^*(s) = \max_{a \in A} R[s,a] + \sum_{s' \in S} T[s,a,s'] \cdot \gamma \cdot V^*(s')$$
 value function

- $set V[s] = 0 \ \forall s \in S$
- while true:
 - \bullet for each $s \in S$:

$$*V[s] = \max_{a \in A} R[s, a] + \sum_{s' \in S} T[s, a, s'] \cdot \gamma \cdot V[s']$$

 \bullet exit if convergence (small change from previous and actual $V[s] \ \forall s$)

Optimal policy!
$$\pi^*[s] = \arg\max_{a \in A} R[s, a] + \sum_{s' \in S} T[s, a, s'] \cdot \gamma \cdot V[s']$$

$$T = \begin{bmatrix} 0.9 & 0 & 0.1 \\ 0.9 & 0.1 & 0 \\ 0.2 & 0 & 0.8 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0.5 & 0.5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.5 & 0.5 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} R = \begin{bmatrix} +1 & +2 \\ +1 & +2 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \frac{\text{good shape}}{\text{broken}}$$

$$\gamma = 0.9$$
 maintain = a_0 ignore = a_1

• set
$$V[s] = 0 \ \forall s \in S$$

- while true:
 - \bullet for each $s \in S$:

$$* V[s] = \max_{a \in A} R[s, a] + \sum_{s' \in S} T[s, a, s'] \cdot \gamma \cdot V[s']$$

exit if convergence (small change from previous and actual $V[s] \ \forall s$)

Optimal policy!
$$\pi^*[s] = \arg\max_{a \in A} R[s, a] + \sum_{s' \in S} T[s, a, s'] \cdot \gamma \cdot V[s']$$

While • iter 1

$$V = [0,0,0]$$

state 0 – good shape :
$$V[0] = \max\{ a_0 : 1 + (0.9 \cdot \gamma \cdot 0) + (0 \cdot \gamma \cdot 0) + (0.1 \cdot \gamma \cdot 0);$$

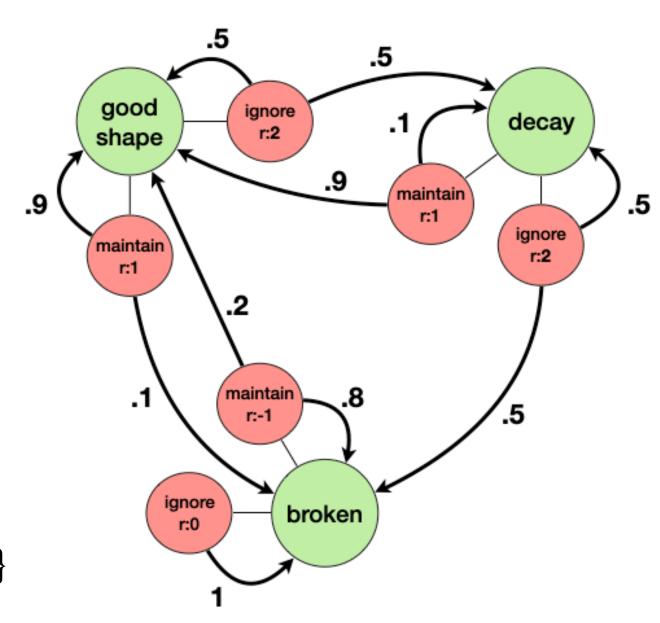
$$a_1 : 2 + (0.5 \cdot \gamma \cdot 0) + (0.5 \cdot \gamma \cdot 0) + (0 \cdot \gamma \cdot 0) \} = \max\{1,2\}$$

• V = [2,0,0]

state 1 -decay :
$$V[1] = \max\{ a_0 : 1 + (0.9 \cdot \gamma \cdot 2) + (0.1 \cdot \gamma \cdot 0) + (0 \cdot \gamma \cdot 0);$$

$$a_1 : 2 + (0 \cdot \gamma \cdot 2) + (0.5 \cdot \gamma \cdot 0) + (0.5 \cdot \gamma \cdot 0) \} = \max\{2.62, 2\}$$

• V = [2, 2.62, 0]



$$T = \begin{bmatrix} 0.9 & 0 & 0.1 \\ 0.9 & 0.1 & 0 \\ 0.2 & 0 & 0.8 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0.5 & 0.5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.5 & 0.5 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} R = \begin{bmatrix} +1 & +2 \\ +1 & +2 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \frac{\text{good shape}}{\text{broken}}$$

$$\gamma = 0.9$$
 maintain = a_0 ignore = a_1

- set $V[s] = 0 \ \forall s \in S$
- while true:
 - \bullet for each $s \in S$:

$$* V[s] = \max_{a \in A} R[s, a] + \sum_{s' \in S} T[s, a, s'] \cdot \gamma \cdot V[s']$$

exit if convergence (small change from previous and actual $V[s] \ \forall s$)

Optimal policy!
$$\pi^*[s] = \arg\max_{a \in A} R[s, a] + \sum_{s' \in S} T[s, a, s'] \cdot \gamma \cdot V[s']$$

V = [2, 2.62, 0]While • iter 2

state 0 – good shape: $V[0] = \max\{ a_0 : 1 + (0.9 \cdot \gamma \cdot 2) + (0 \cdot \gamma \cdot 2.68) + (0.1 \cdot \gamma \cdot 0);$

$$a_1: 2 + (0.5 \cdot \gamma \cdot 2) + (0.5 \cdot \gamma \cdot 2.62) + (0 \cdot \gamma \cdot 0) = \max\{2.62, 4.08\}$$

V = [4.08, 2.62, 0]

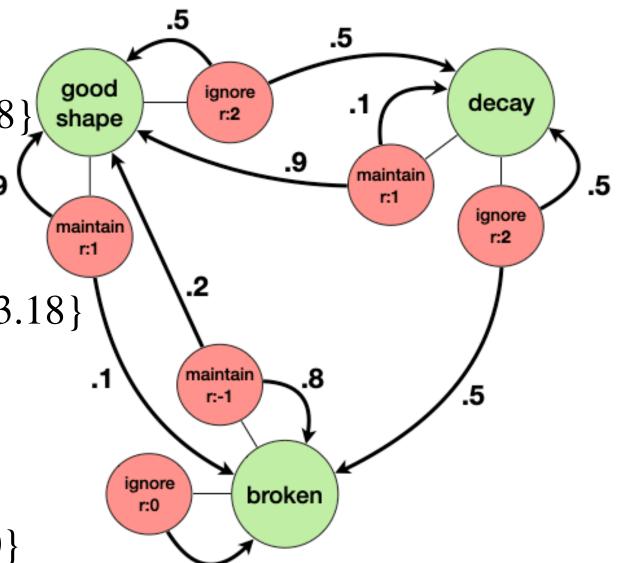
state 1 – decay: $V[1] = \max\{ a_0 : 1 + (0.9 \cdot \gamma \cdot 4.08) + (0.1 \cdot \gamma \cdot 2.62) + (0 \cdot \gamma \cdot 0);$

$$a_1: 2 + (0 \cdot \gamma \cdot 4.08) + (0.5 \cdot \gamma \cdot 2.62) + (0.5 \cdot \gamma \cdot 0) = \max\{4.54, 3.18\}$$

V = [4.08, 4.54, 0]

state 2 -broken:
$$V[2] = \max\{ a_0 : -1 + (0.2 \cdot \gamma \cdot 4.08) + (0 \cdot \gamma \cdot 4.54) + (0.8 \cdot \gamma \cdot 0);$$

$$a_1: 0 + (0 \cdot \gamma \cdot 4.08) + (0 \cdot \gamma \cdot 4.54) + (1 \cdot \gamma \cdot 0) = \max\{-0.27, 0\}$$



$$T = \begin{bmatrix} 0.9 & 0 & 0.1 \\ 0.9 & 0.1 & 0 \\ 0.2 & 0 & 0.8 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0.5 & 0.5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.5 & 0.5 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} R = \begin{bmatrix} +1 & +2 \\ +1 & +2 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$
good shape decay broken

$$\gamma = 0.9$$
 maintain = a_0 ignore = a_1

• set $V[s] = 0 \ \forall s \in S$

- while true:
 - for each $s \in S$: * $V[s] = \max R[s, a] + \sum T[s, a, s'] \cdot \gamma \cdot V[s]$

$$* V[s] = \max_{a \in A} R[s, a] + \sum_{s' \in S} T[s, a, s'] \cdot \gamma \cdot V[s']$$

exit if convergence (small change from previous and actual $V[s] \ \forall s$)

Optimal policy!
$$\pi^*[s] = \arg\max_{a \in A} R[s, a] + \sum_{s' \in S} T[s, a, s'] \cdot \gamma \cdot V[s']$$

Converged at iter. 50! Now it is time to find the optimal policy

• V = [16.69, 15.95, 7.15]

$$\text{state 0} - \text{good shape} \colon \pi^*[0] = \arg\max\{\ a_0 \colon 1 + (0.9 \cdot \gamma \cdot 16.69) + (0 \cdot \gamma \cdot 15.95) + (0.1 \cdot \gamma \cdot 7.15); \\ a_1 \colon 2 + (0.5 \cdot \gamma \cdot 16.69) + (0.5 \cdot \gamma \cdot 15.95) + (0 \cdot \gamma \cdot 7.15)\} = \arg\max\{15.16, 16.68\} = \mathbf{1} \quad \text{ignore}$$

state 1 – decay:
$$\pi^*[1] = \arg\max\{ a_0 : 1 + (0.9 \cdot \gamma \cdot 16.69) + (0.1 \cdot \gamma \cdot 15.95) + (0 \cdot \gamma \cdot 7.15);$$

$$a_1 : 2 + (0 \cdot \gamma \cdot 16.69) + (0.5 \cdot \gamma \cdot 15.95) + (0.5 \cdot \gamma \cdot 7.15) \} = \arg\max\{15.95, 12.4\} = \mathbf{0} \quad \text{maintain}$$

state 2 – broken:
$$\pi^*[2] = \arg\max\{ \ a_0 : -1 + (0.2 \cdot \gamma \cdot 16.69) + (0 \cdot \gamma \cdot 15.95) + (0.8 \cdot \gamma \cdot 7.15);$$

$$a_1 : 0 + (0 \cdot \gamma \cdot 16.69) + (0 \cdot \gamma \cdot 15.95) + (1 \cdot \gamma \cdot 7.15) \} = \arg\max\{7.15, 6.44\} = \mathbf{0} \text{ maintain}$$

 π^* = [ignore, maintain, maintain]

Policy Iteration Algorithm

• Value iteration is slow $\mathcal{O}(S^2A)$

Initialisation • set V[s] random value and $\pi[s]$ random action $\forall s \in S$

evaluation

- Policy | while true:
 - for each $s \in S$: * $V[s] = R[s, \pi[s]] + \sum_{s' \in S} T[s, \pi[s], s'] \cdot \gamma \cdot V[s']$
 - \odot exit if convergence (small change from previous and actual $V[s] \ \forall s$)

update

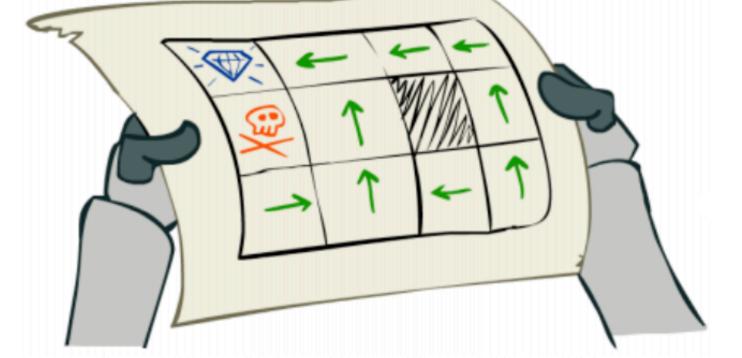
Policy | • for each $s \in S$:

$$* \pi^*[s] = \arg\max_{a \in A} R[s, a] + \sum_{s' \in S} T[s, a, s'] \cdot \gamma \cdot V[s']$$

if the policy did not change after the last loop, return it; else go back to policy evaluation

Two Reinforcement Learning Ways

- What we have seen so far was model based reinforcement learning, use Value Iteration and Policy Iteration algorithms for finding an optimal policy
- What if you don't have full knowledge of the environment and you want to discover the optimal policy anyways. You don't know T and R, at least not completely
- Another reinforcement learning class of problems is called model free reinforcement learning
- A robot discovering an unknown environment and learning what to do, from the unknown feedback it gets from it
- That's when Q-learning comes in



Q-Learning

Remember value function:

Optimal
$$V^*(s) = \max_{a \in A} R[s, a] + \sum_{s' \in S} T[s, a, s'] \cdot \gamma \cdot V^*(s')$$
 value function

• Let Q be a function mapping a **state** and an **action** to the quality of that pair, it satisfies the Bellman equation as:

$$Q^*(s, a) = \max_{\pi} \mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \gamma^t r_t \left| s_0 = s, a_0 = a, \pi \right] = \mathbb{E}\left[r + \gamma \max_{a' \in A} Q^*(s', a') \left| s_0 = s, a_0 = a \right]\right]$$

Optimal
$$\pi^*(s) = \arg \max_{a \in A} Q^*(s, a)$$
 policy

Q-Learning Algorithm

- $set Q[s,a] = 0 \ \forall s \in S, a \in A$
- while true:
 - \blacktriangleright from state s (random at the start of the epoch) let the process evolve, until s is end, as:
 - * choose action initially random with decaying probability, then $a = \arg\max_{a' \in A} Q(s, a')$
 - \star take action and observe s', r

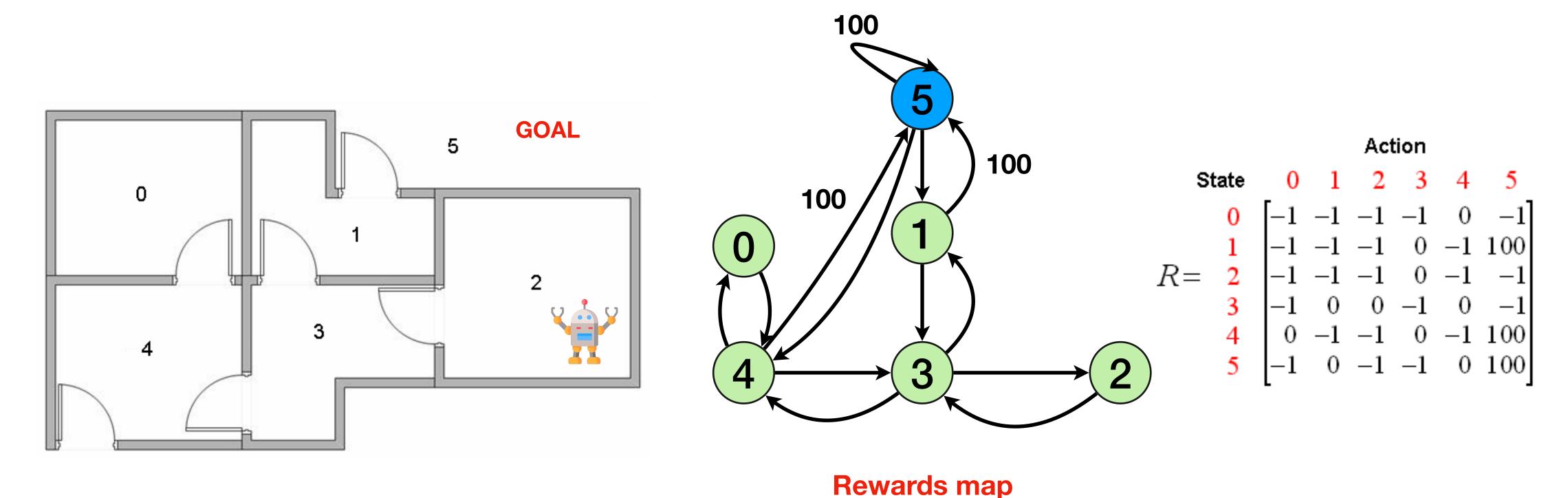
$$* Q[s, a] = (1 - \alpha)Q[s, a] + \alpha(r + \gamma \max_{a' \in A} Q[s', a'])$$

- # set s = s'
- exit when converged

Optimal
$$\pi^*(s) = \arg\max_{a \in A} Q(s, a)$$
 policy

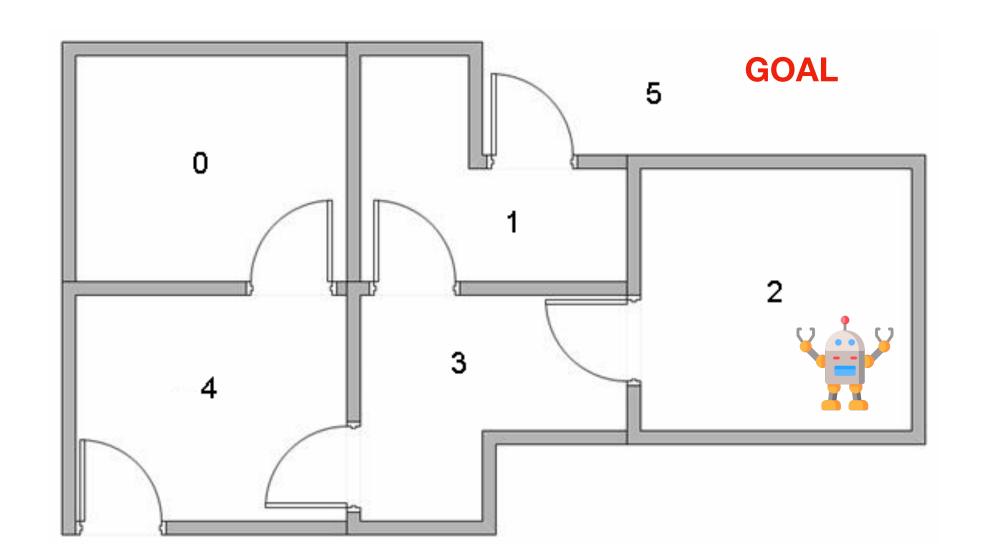
success depends on exploration and experience replay

• There are 5 rooms (0 to 4) in a building connected by doors. Doors 1 and 4 lead into the building from the outside. Let us teach to an agent the **best policy to go out**.



• R is unknown to the agent, it just perceives those feedbacks online. -1 represent null rewards.

Exploit a Q table as representing the memory of what the agent has learned through experience.
 The rows of matrix Q represent the current state of the agent, and the columns represent the possible actions leading to the next state

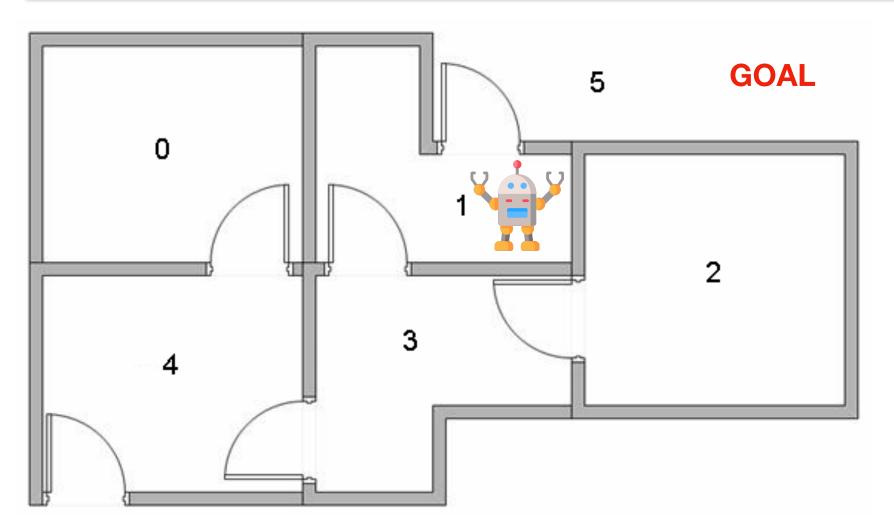


• We'll start by setting the value of the learning parameter $\gamma=0.8, \alpha=1$

- $set Q[s, a] = 0 \ \forall s \in S, a \in A$
- while true:
 - from state s (random at the start of the epoch) let the process evolve until s is end
 - * choose action initially random with decaying probability, then $a = \arg\max_{a' \in A} Q(s, a')$
 - * take action and observe s', r

$$* Q[s,a] = (1-\alpha)Q[s,a] + \alpha(r + \gamma \max_{a' \in A} Q[s',a'])$$

- * set s = s'
- exit when converged



While state room 1 (chosen randomly)

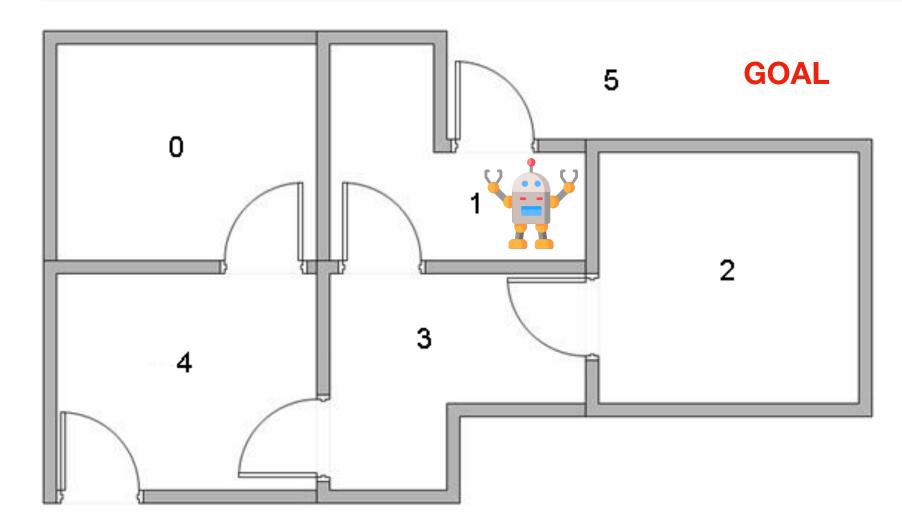
iter 1 (epoch)

- choose action randomly from go to room {5, 3} -> 5
- received reward 100
- $Q[1,5] = R[1,5] + 0.8 \cdot \max\{Q[5,1], Q[5,4], Q[5,5]\} = 100 + 0.8 \cdot 0 = 100$
- s = 5

- $\operatorname{set} Q[s, a] = 0 \ \forall s \in S, a \in A$
- while true:
 - from state s (random at the start of the epoch) let the process evolve until s is end
 - * choose action initially random with decaying probability, then $a = \arg \max_{a' \in A} Q(s, a')$
 - * take action and observe s', r

$$* Q[s,a] = (1-\alpha)Q[s,a] + \alpha(r + \gamma \max_{a' \in A} Q[s',a'])$$

- * set s = s'
- exit when converged



$$Q = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 100 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 4 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 5 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

State 0 1 2 3 4 5

0
$$\begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 0 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & -1 & 0 & -1 & 100 \end{bmatrix}$$
 $R = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 0 & -1 & 100 \\ -1 & -1 & -1 & 0 & -1 & 0 & -1 \\ 3 & -1 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & -1 \\ 4 & 0 & -1 & -1 & 0 & -1 & 100 \\ 5 & -1 & 0 & -1 & -1 & 0 & 100 \end{bmatrix}$

while iter 1 (epoch)

state room 1 (chosen randomly)

- choose action randomly from go to room {5, 3} -> 5
- received reward 100
- $Q[1,5] = R[1,5] + 0.8 \cdot \max\{Q[5,1], Q[5,4], Q[5,5]\} = 100 + 0.8 \cdot 0 = 100$
- s = 5

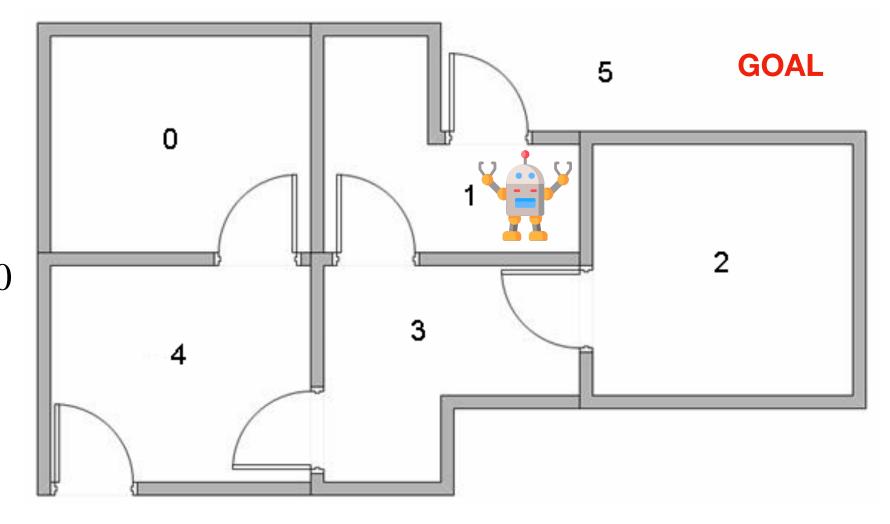
state room 5

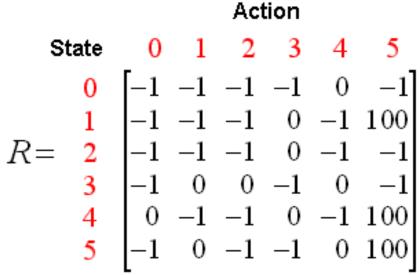
- choose action randomly from go to room {1, 4, 5} -> 5
- received reward 100
- $Q[5,5] = R[5,5] + 0.8 \cdot \max\{Q[5,1], Q[5,4] + Q[5,5]\} = 100 + 0.8 \cdot 0 = 100$
- s = 1

- $\operatorname{set} Q[s, a] = 0 \ \forall s \in S, a \in A$
- while true:
 - from state s (random at the start of the epoch) let the process evolve until s is end
 - * choose action initially random with decaying probability, then $a = \arg \max_{a' \in A} Q(s, a')$
 - * take action and observe s', r

$$* Q[s,a] = (1-\alpha)Q[s,a] + \alpha(r + \gamma \max_{a' \in A} Q[s',a'])$$

- * set s = s'
- exit when converged





while iter 1 (epoch)

state room 1 (chosen randomly)

- choose action randomly from go to room {5, 3} -> 5
- received reward 100
- $Q[1,5] = R[1,5] + 0.8 \cdot \max\{Q[5,1], Q[5,4], Q[5,5]\} = 100 + 0.8 \cdot 0 = 100$
- s = 5

state room 5

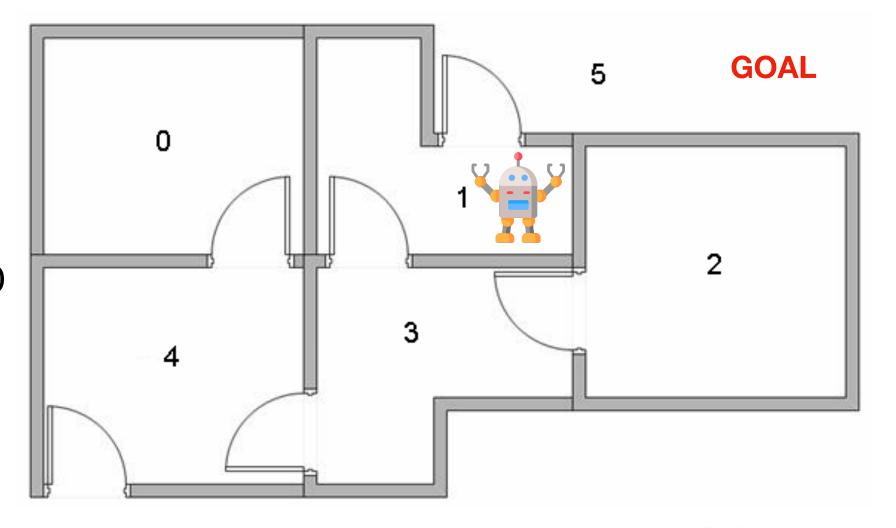
- choose action randomly from go to room {1, 4, 5} -> 5
- received reward 100
- $Q[5,5] = R[5,5] + 0.8 \cdot \max\{Q[5,1], Q[5,4] + Q[5,5]\} = 100 + 0.8 \cdot 0 = 100$
- s = 1

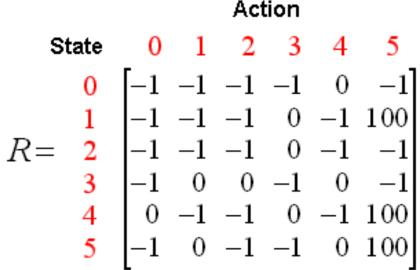
State 5 is a "done state" thus a new epoch should start

- $\operatorname{set} Q[s, a] = 0 \ \forall s \in S, a \in A$
- while true:
 - \blacktriangleright from state s (random at the start of the epoch) let the process evolve until s is end
 - * choose action initially random with decaying probability, then $a = \arg \max_{a' \in A} Q(s, a')$
 - * take action and observe s', r

$$* Q[s,a] = (1-\alpha)Q[s,a] + \alpha(r + \gamma \max_{a' \in A} Q[s',a'])$$

- * set s = s'
- exit when converged





iter 1 (epoch)

state room 1 (chosen randomly)

- choose action randomly from go to room {5, 3} -> 5
- received reward 100
- $Q[1,5] = R[1,5] + 0.8 \cdot \max\{Q[5,1], Q[5,4], Q[5,5]\} = 100 + 0.8 \cdot 0 = 100$
- s = 5

state room 5

- choose action randomly from go to room {1, 4, 5} -> 5
- received reward 100
- $Q[5,5] = R[5,5] + 0.8 \cdot \max\{Q[5,1], Q[5,4] + Q[5,5]\} = 100 + 0.8 \cdot 0 = 100$
- s = 1

State 5 is a "done state" thus a new epoch should start

While

state room 3 (chosen randomly)

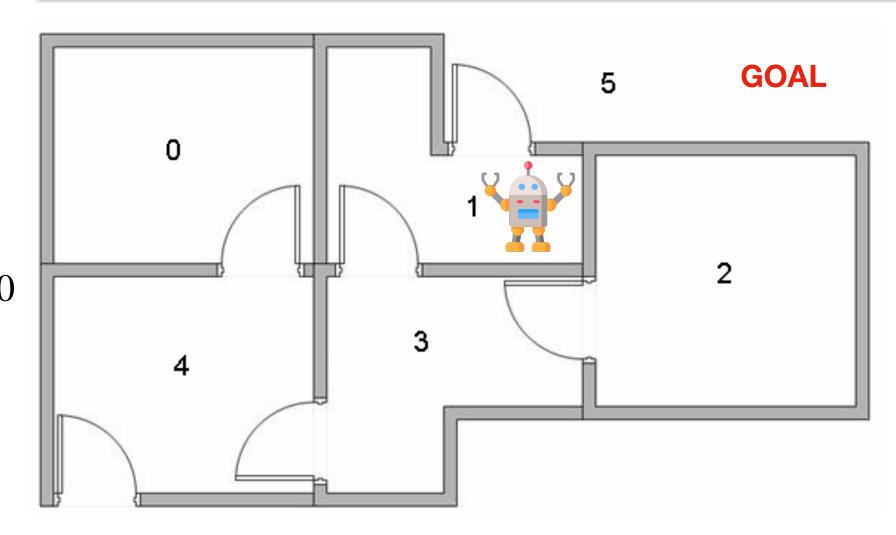
(epoch)

- choose action randomly from go to room {1, 2, 4} -> 1
- received reward 0
- $Q[3,1] = R[3,1] + 0.8 \cdot \max\{Q[1,3], Q[1,5]\} = 0 + 0.8 \cdot 100 = 80$
- s = 1

- $\operatorname{set} Q[s, a] = 0 \ \forall s \in S, a \in A$
- while true:
 - from state s (random at the start of the epoch) let the process evolve until s is end
 - * choose action initially random with decaying probability, then $a = \arg \max_{a' \in A} Q(s, a')$
 - \star take action and observe s', r

$$* Q[s,a] = (1-\alpha)Q[s,a] + \alpha(r+\gamma \max_{a'\in A} Q[s',a'])$$

- * set s = s'
- exit when converged



While iter 2 (epoch)

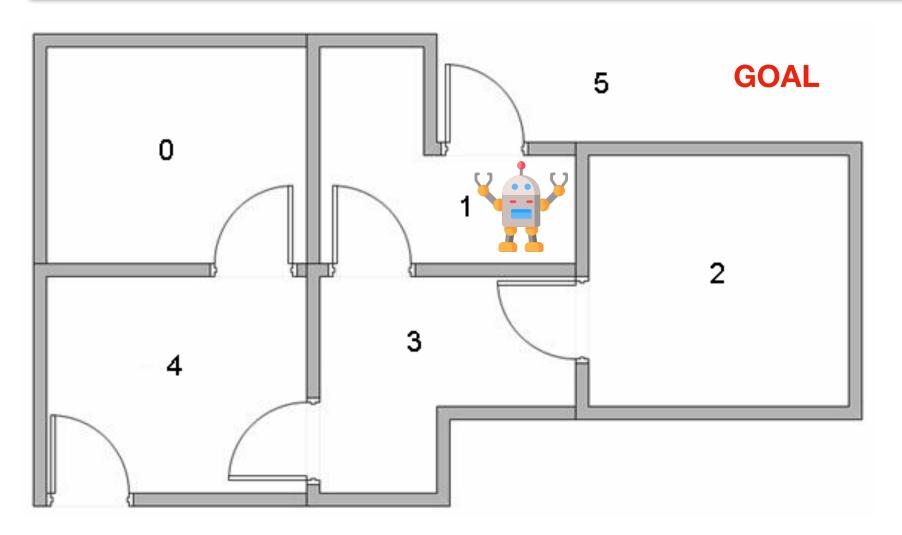
state room 1

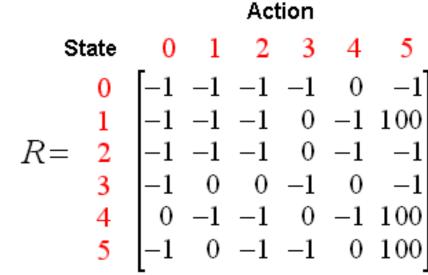
- choose action randomly from go to room {5, 3} -> 3
- received reward 0
- $Q[1,3] = R[1,3] + 0.8 \cdot \max\{Q[3,1], Q[3,2], Q[3,4]\} = 0 + 0.8 \cdot 80 = 64$
- s = 3

- $\operatorname{set} Q[s, a] = 0 \ \forall s \in S, a \in A$
- while true:
 - from state s (random at the start of the epoch) let the process evolve until s is end
 - * choose action initially random with decaying probability, then $a = \arg \max_{a' \in A} Q(s, a')$
 - * take action and observe s', r

$$* Q[s,a] = (1-\alpha)Q[s,a] + \alpha(r + \gamma \max_{a' \in A} Q[s',a'])$$

- * set s = s'
- exit when converged





While iter 2 (epoch)

state room 1

- choose action randomly from go to room {5, 3} -> 3
- received reward 0
- $Q[1,3] = R[1,3] + 0.8 \cdot \max\{Q[3,1], Q[3,2], Q[3,4]\} = 0 + 0.8 \cdot 80 = 64$
- s = 3

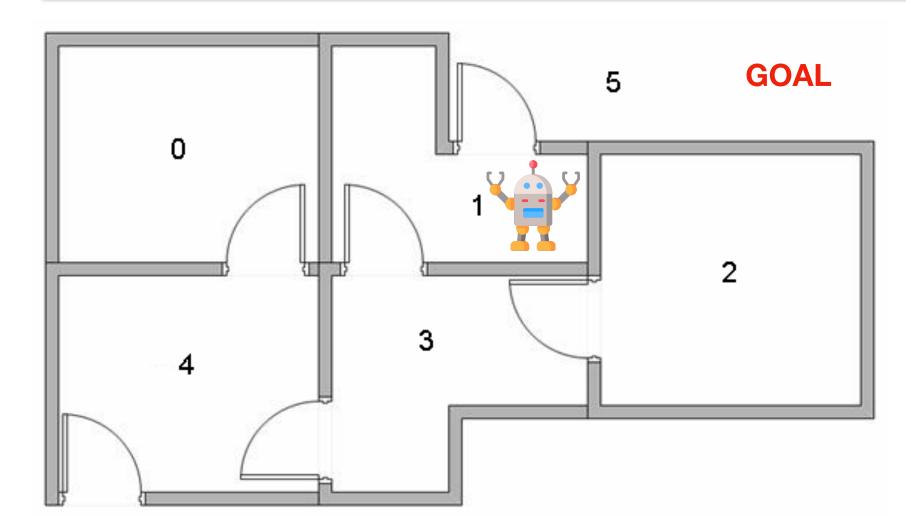
state room 3

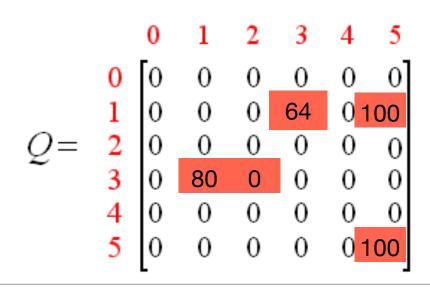
- choose action randomly from go to room {1, 2, 4} -> 2
- received reward 0
- $Q[3,2] = R[3,2] + 0.8 \cdot \max\{Q[2,3]\} = 0 + 0.8 \cdot 0 = 0$
- s = 2

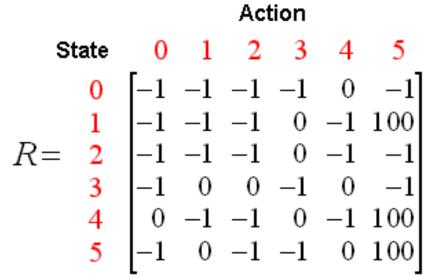
- $\operatorname{set} Q[s, a] = 0 \ \forall s \in S, a \in A$
- while true:
 - \blacktriangleright from state s (random at the start of the epoch) let the process evolve until s is end
 - * choose action initially random with decaying probability, then $a = \arg \max_{a' \in A} Q(s, a')$
 - \star take action and observe s', r

$$* Q[s,a] = (1-\alpha)Q[s,a] + \alpha(r + \gamma \max_{a' \in A} Q[s',a'])$$

- * set s = s'
- exit when converged

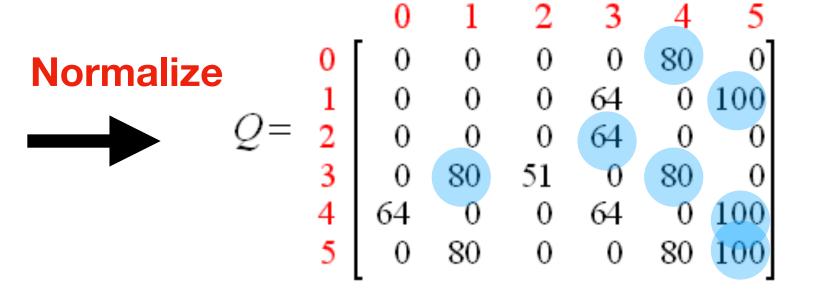






Once Q converged, normalise it for convenience and find the optimal policy

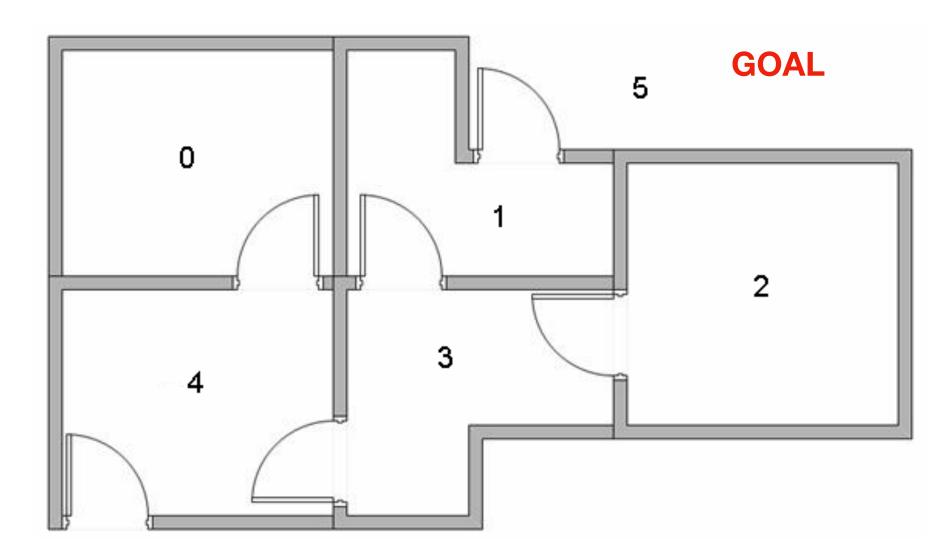
$$Q = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 400 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 320 & 0 & 500 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 320 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 400 & 256 & 0 & 400 & 0 \\ 320 & 0 & 0 & 320 & 0 & 500 \\ 5 & 0 & 400 & 0 & 0 & 400 & 500 \end{bmatrix}$$

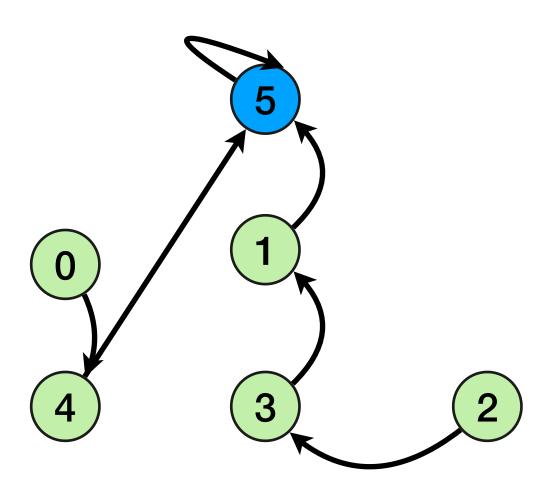




$$\pi^*(s) = \arg \max_{a \in A} Q(s, a)$$

$$\pi^* = [4, 5, 3, 1, 5, 5]$$



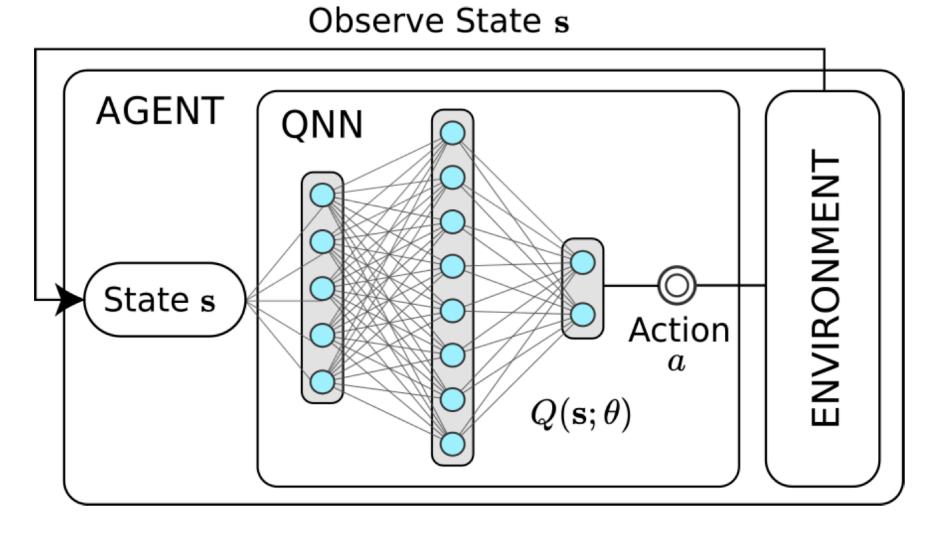


Deep Reinforcement Learning

- What's the problem with Q-learning?
- We need to keep in memory a table of $|S| \cdot |A|$ entries. State space is generally **HUGE**!
- If you need a dense state space, exploit Deep Reinforcement Learning (DRL)
- A neural network (a function approximator) can predict Q values (one for each action) given a state as input. Just learn to minimise this loss function

$$L(\theta) = \left(\underbrace{r + \gamma \max_{a'} Q(\mathbf{\hat{s}}; \theta)[a']}_{\text{target}} - \underbrace{Q(\mathbf{s}; \theta)[a]}_{\text{prediction}}\right)^{2}$$

Read more about it, or ask: Mnih, Volodymyr, et al.
 "Playing atari with deep reinforcement learning."



Go Code Some RL Algorithm

- Go to https://github.com/matteoprata/markov-processes-class
- To get these slides and a Jupyter Notebook with Value Iteration, Policy Iteration and Q-Learning algorithms implemented on the two examples showed in class