

# Atari Breakout with $LTL_f$ / $LDL_f$ Goals

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# Introduction

The main goal of the project is to train an agent acting on a non-Markovian reward decision process (NMRDP) environment.

Rewards are define through  $LTL_f/LDL_f$  formulas, defining complex behaviour made up of multiple steps over time.

The learning is done using classical reinforcement learning algorithm working on MDP environments.

Q-Learning is a temporal difference (TD) reinforcement learning algorithm.

The Q-function is approximated through a Q-table that stores the expected rewards for taking action  $A$  in state  $S$ .

$$Q(S_t, A_t) \leftarrow Q(S_t, A_t) + \alpha \left[ R_{t+1} + \gamma \max_a Q(S_{t+1}, a) - Q(S_t, A_t) \right]$$

Off-policy algorithm: action at time  $t + 1$  independent from current policy.

Converges to optimal policy if all state-action pairs are continuously updated.

SARSA is a TD reinforcement learning algorithm which uses a quintuple  $\langle S_t, A_t, R_t, S_{t+1}, A_{t+1} \rangle$  from which takes name.

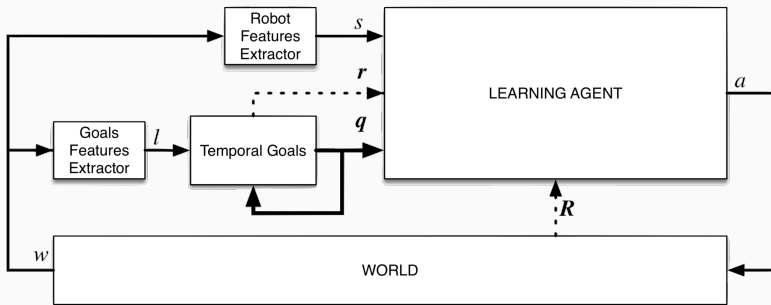
$$Q(S_t, A_t) \leftarrow Q(S_t, A_t) + \alpha \left[ R_{t+1} + \gamma Q(S_{t+1}, A_{t+1}) - Q(S_t, A_t) \right]$$

On-policy algorithm: action  $A_{t+1}$  chosen following current policy.

Converge to optimal policy if each state-action pair is visited infinitely often.

# $LTL_f/LDL_f$ Non-Markovian Rewards

$LTL_f/LDL_f$  non-Markovian rewards + integration in our project.



**Figure 1:** Pipeline describing how the agent is interacting with the world and how the robot features extractor and the goal features extractor are used in order to handle non-Markovian rewards.

## LTL<sub>f</sub>/LDL<sub>f</sub> Non-Markovian Rewards

Reward for destroying the block rows in order from top to bottom.

$$\langle (\neg\varphi_0 \wedge \neg\varphi_1 \wedge \neg\varphi_2)^*; (\varphi_0 \wedge \neg\varphi_1 \wedge \neg\varphi_2); (\varphi_0 \wedge \neg\varphi_1 \wedge \neg\varphi_2)^*; \\ (\varphi_0 \wedge \varphi_1 \wedge \neg\varphi_2); (\varphi_0 \wedge \varphi_1 \wedge \neg\varphi_2)^*; (\varphi_0 \wedge \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2) \rangle tt$$

where  $\varphi_i$  indicates the  $i$ -th row.

$(\neg\varphi_0 \wedge \neg\varphi_1 \wedge \neg\varphi_2)^*$  all rows not destructed for an indefinite amount of time.

$(\varphi_0 \wedge \neg\varphi_1 \wedge \neg\varphi_2)$  first row destructed, other still there.

# LTL<sub>f</sub>/LDL<sub>f</sub> Non-Markovian Rewards

LTL<sub>f</sub>/LDL<sub>f</sub> transformed to an equivalent automaton.

Automaton representation given in input to the learning agent.

Learning agent input:  $\langle \text{environment state, automaton state} \rangle$

Starting from the work presented in [4] the agents were trained on a modified PyGame Breakout with a  $6 \times 18$  grid.

Game state already stored inside the class instance (ball position, paddle position, blocks status).

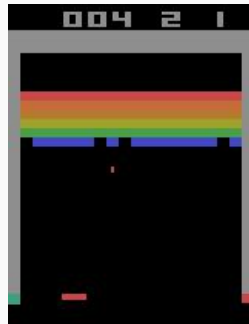


# Atari Breakout

Breakout from OpenAI Gym: toolkit for comparing learning algorithm. Provides easy access to state and reward. No assumption on the agent.

Class stores pixels status. Need to extract information about the game state from it.

The environment is more stochastic.



# Implementation

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Atari wrappers from OpenAI baselines:

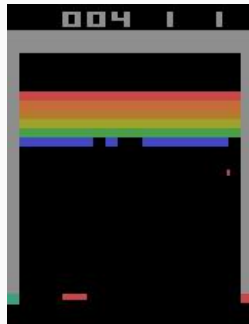
- `EpisodicLifeEnv`: make an “end of life” be the end of the episode resetting the environment only on the true game over, this helps in value estimation
- `FireResetEnv`: use “Fire” as starting action in order to launch the ball
- `MaxAndSkipEnv`: returns only the skip-th frame, this reduces the amount of frame the agent has to deal with (set to 4 in the main experiments)

# Robot Features Extraction

- extracting **paddle position**
- extracting **ball position**
- features can be increased with **ball direction**
- **previous positions** could help the training too
- more features increase the state space
- OpenCV

# Robot Features Extraction

Extracting **paddle position** from the observation:  
tensor of dimension (210, 160, 3) where each value  
represents a color of the pixel.



# Robot Features Extraction

Considering only the **lower part** of the observation which contains the paddle.



# Robot Features Extraction

Converting the image to **gray-scale** in order to reduce the number of channels.

This makes it easier to apply a threshold function.



# Robot Features Extraction

Determine the position of the paddle:

- apply a **threshold** function to obtain a black and white image
- find **contours**
- extract **centroid** of the paddle
- $\text{paddle}_x = 35$





# Robot Features Extraction

Similarly, extract **ball position** from initial observation.



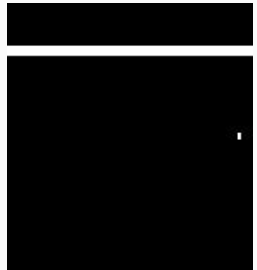
# Robot Features Extraction

Considering only the **upper part** of the observation which contains the ball.



# Robot Features Extraction

- `inRange` function to consider only pixels with the same color of the ball, obtain a black and white image
- remove the **remaining bricks** by checking surrounding pixels, width of the ball is much smaller



# Robot Features Extraction

Determine the position of the ball:

- find **contours**
- extract **centroid** of the ball
- $ball_x = 135, ball_y = 77$



## Robot Features Extraction

Return the difference between the position of the paddle and the ball on the x axis and the position of the ball on the y axis:

$$(\text{ball}_x - \text{paddle}_x + 143, \text{ball}_y) = (243, 77)$$

# Goal Features Extraction

Extract a binary representation of the bricks from the observation:

```
1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
1 1 1 1 1 1 0 1 0 0 1 1 1 1 1 1 0
```

It will be used to evaluate fluents in temporal goals.



# Temporal Goals

- string formula to break rows from top to bottom:

```
<(!10 & !11 & ... & !15)*;  
 ( 10 & !11 & ... & !15);  
      ...  
 ( 10 & 11 & ... & !15)*;  
 ( 10 & 11 & ... & 15)>tt
```

- parsed with `LDLfParser (FLL0AT)`
- `LDLfFormula` passed to abstract class `TemporalEvaluator`
- automaton is being created (RLTG, DFA built upon Pythomata) in order to create the extended MDP

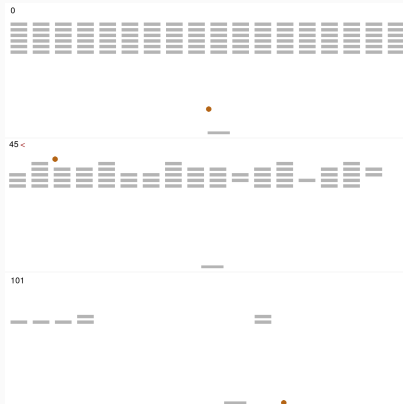
# Experiments

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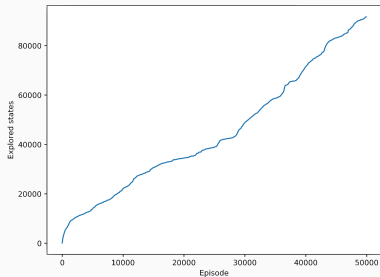
All the experiments.

# Experiments

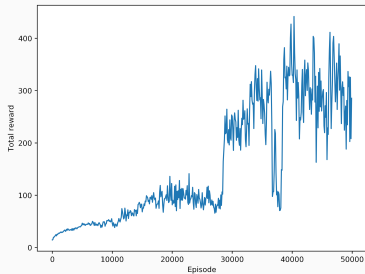


Description.

# Experiments

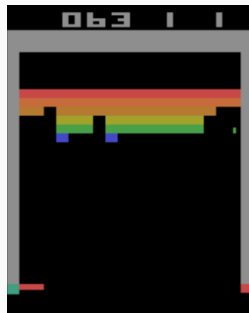
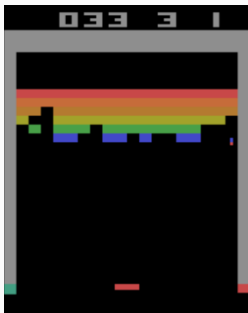
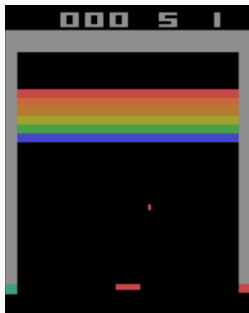


PyGame SARSA.

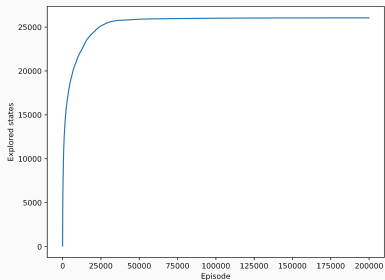


# Experiments

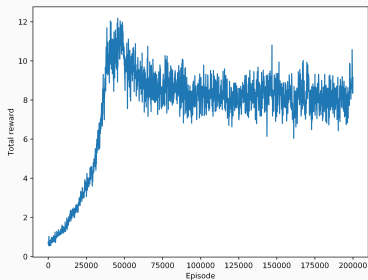
Atari frames.



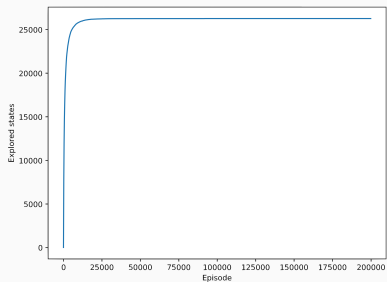
# Experiments



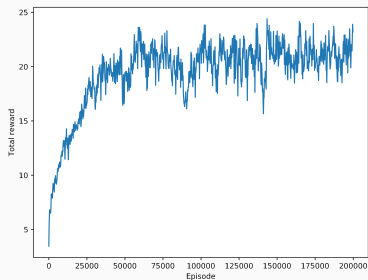
Atari Q-Learning.



# Experiments



Atari SARSA.



Conclusion.

**Q&A**



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