

```
→ Episode
                Reward: 26.0
Episode 50
                Reward: 133.0
Episode 100
                Reward: 138.0
Episode 150
                Reward: 171.0
Episode 200
                Reward: 215.0
Episode 250
                Reward: 79.0
Episode 300
                Reward: 140.0
Episode 350
                Reward: 131.0
Episode 400
                Reward: 148.0
Episode 450
                Reward: 128.0
Episode 500
                Reward: 500.0
Episode 550
                Reward: 461.0
Episode 600
                Reward: 345.0
Episode 650
                Reward: 102.0
Episode 700
                Reward: 500.0
Episode 750
                Reward: 500.0
Episode 800
                Reward: 500.0
Episode 850
                Reward: 267.0
Episode 900
                Reward: 252.0
Episode 950
                Reward: 290.0
Training complete
Learned Q-Network:
QNetwork(
  (net): Sequential(
    (θ): Linear(in_features=4, out_features=128, bias=True)
    (1): ReLU()
    (2): Linear(in_features=128, out_features=128, bias=True)
    (3): ReLU()
    (4): Linear(in_features=128, out_features=2, bias=True)
Average reward over last 100 episodes: 339.69
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Reflection:

For Task 3 I implemented and trained a Deep Q-Network (DQN) agent on the CartPole-v1 environment in Gymnasium. My goal was to gain hands-on experience with neural-network–based value approximation, ε-greedy exploration, experience replay, and target-network updates, and to visualize how these pieces come together to solve a classic control problem.

I did not entirely understand what CartPole did, but I am happy I chose this one so I could learn about it.

This is what CartPole does:

A cart can move left or right along a one-dimensional, frictionless track. A pole (a rigid rod) is hinged to the cart and initially starts nearly upright. Physics (gravity + simple dynamics) tries to make the pole fall over. When training CartPole-v1, the goal is to train it to make the pole stand upright for 500 steps. When it does that, the reward is 500 (max reward). Essentially, the less steps it does, the less of a reward it gets.

For the outputs:

The first picture shows the graph of all of the episodes, and the reward for each episode. As you can see, at the beginning, the reward was not very high because the model was learning and failing a lot. At around the 400 episode mark, the model learned how to keep the pole upright very consistently. The fluctuations are due to it trying to learn more and see if it can find an even better way to keep the pole upright (the model is constantly trying to better itself, even though it already knows how to keep it up for 500 steps, it wants to find more efficient ways to do it).

The second picture shows the episodes and their rewards (only every 50 episodes, as that would be a lot to show all 1000 episodes). It also shows what it learned after doing all of this, and the average reward level of the last 100 episodes (to see how much better it got from the beginning to the end).