The basic premise is that you teach the algorithm to take certain actions based on prior experience by rewarding or punishing actions actions that lead to less reward are shunned /looked down upon . very bad! So, how it does that 3 4 100 5 1 If this is not punishing actions, I don't know what is. Exploitation Exploration Just use whatever learned Record is) kept track in q-table), use that doff. from State 2 and 4, goes to state 5, very rewarding . (100) Now, from state 2, say take left action (to state 1) get immediate reward, 0) 0+0.9% & biggest reward available from any action in state 1 0+0.91.00 90