

# Conceptual View of Q-Learning

- Q-Learning is a form of Reinforcement Learning.
- It uses a random exploration paired with delayed reward to generate values for a "Q table".
- For some examples - the Q table is used to select the best action to move to a goal state given the agent is in a particular state.

$$S(i) + a(j) \rightarrow S(k)$$

$\uparrow$   
 state (i) + action (j)  $\rightarrow$  State (k)

$\nwarrow$   $\swarrow$  results in  $\nwarrow$

usually - in Q learning there are a finite number of states an agent can be in

there are some # of actions available to the agent. Basic systems would have all actions for each state

new state as a result of action (j)

①

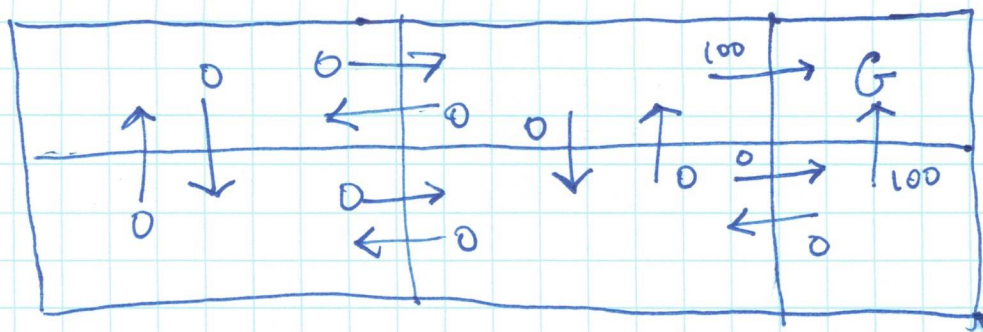


table  
shows  
immediate  
reward

- Only moving to the goal state provides a reward - that is an immediate reward.
- Every where else no immediate reward is given.

> A key part of Q learning is exploration of the state space.

- Agent is placed at a random state, and a random action is taken

> it is the exploration that fills out the state table.

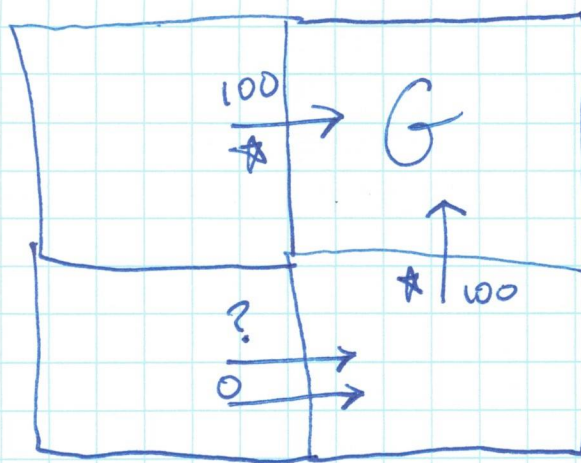
filling out the table relies on the concept of delayed reward

$$\text{delayed reward} = \text{immediate reward at state current} + \gamma * \text{reward of immediate successor state}$$

delay factor



2



G - goal state

★ - immediate reward for moving to the goal state

? - here we need to assign reward based on delay

? delay  
 0 immediate

let  $\gamma = .9$

delayed reward = immediate reward +  $\gamma$  \* reward of immediate successor state

$$90 = 0 + .9 * 100$$

most reward available from this state  
 (you have to pick the correct action to get it)

③

## Basic Q Algorithm

for ( $j=0$ ;  $j < n \text{ Epochs}$ ;  $j++$ ) {

myState = select Random State

~~myState~~

while (myState  $\neq$  goal State) {

myAction = select Random Action

~~myAction = select Random Action~~

next State = ~~myAction~~

~~Q Matrix~~  $adj$  [myState] [myAction]

immediate reward = <sup>immediate</sup> next State [immediate reward]

delayed reward = immediate reward +  $\gamma * \max$  (all rewards from successor states)

Q Table

state Table [myState] [myAction]

~~delayed Reward~~ = delayed Reward

myState = next State



4

3	4	5
0	1	2

left, right, up, down

$$qAdj = [ [-1, 1, 3, -1],$$

$qAdj$  [nStates]  
[nActions]

$$[0, 2, 4, -1],$$

$$[1, -1, 5, -1],$$

$$[-1, 4, -1, 0],$$

$$[3, 5, -1, 1]$$

$$[4, -1, -1, 2]]$$

$$nStates = 6$$

$$nActions = 4$$

$$[0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0]$$

$$qReward = [ [-1, 0, 0, -1],$$

$$[0, 0, 0, -1],$$

$$[0, -1, 0, -1],$$

$$[-1, 0, -1, 0],$$

$$[0, 0, -1, 0]$$

$$[0, -1, -1, 0]]$$

$$goal = 5$$

$$lastState = nStates - 1 \quad epochs = 0$$

$$qImmediate[goal] = 100$$

$$lastAction = nActions - 1$$

$$exploring = true$$

$$\alpha = .9$$

while (exploring) {

$$myState = random(0, lastState)$$

while (myState != goal) {

/\* Get a valid random action. \*/

$$myAction = random(0, lastAction)$$

while (qAdj[myState][myAction] != -1) {

$$myAction = random(0, lastAction)$$

}

$$nextState = qAdj[myState][myAction]$$

⑤

$$\text{immediateReward} = q_{\text{Immediate}}[\text{nextState}]$$

$$\text{delayedReward} = \max(q_{\text{reward}}[\text{nextState}]) * \gamma$$

$$\text{totalReward} = \text{immediateReward} + \text{delayedReward}$$

$$q_{\text{Reward}}[\text{myState}][\text{myAction}] = \text{totalReward}$$

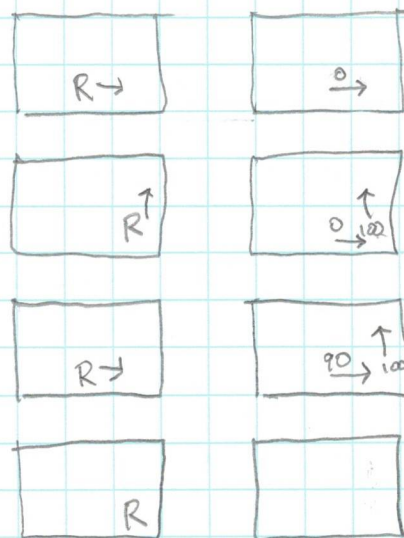
$$\text{myState} = \text{nextState}$$

}

epochs ++

if (epochs == maxEpochs) {  
    exploring = false  
}

}





# Basic Q Algorithm

$q$  Immediate is an array that holds immediate reward given when agent moves to that state from an adjacent state

$q$  Matrix is an array that holds the adjacent states given an action

$q$  Table holds the cumulative rewards of received when moving from one state to another

```
for ( $j=0$ ;  $j < n$  Epochs;  $j++$ ) {  
    myState = selectRandomState();  
    while (myState != goalState) {  
        myAction = selectRandomAction();  
        nextState =  $q$ Matrix[myState][myAction];  
        immediateReward =  $q$ Immediate[nextState];  
        delayedReward =  $\max(q$ Table[nextState])  
                        * decay  
    }  
}
```

total Reward = immediate Reward +  
delayed Reward

q Table [ my State ] [ my Action ] =  
total Reward

my State = next state

} /\* end while \*/

} /\* end for \*/