

# Deep Reinforcement Learning

## Homework 2

DQN implementation for Super Mario Bros.

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### Preface

In this assignment, I implemented double dueling DQN to play Super Mario Bros. The environment settings, as well as the processes of training and testing, are introduced in detail as follows.

### Training

By following the instructions in the tutorial of Pytorch and modifying the code in the tutorial for performance enhancement, the implementation of training in this assignment includes the following parts.

### Environment Preprocessing

Since there are some segments that are not related to the game states in the frames, we use the preprocessing modules including `SkipFrame`, `GrayScaleObservation`, `ResizeObservation`, and `FrameStack` (the last one is imported from `gym.wrappers`) provided by OpenAI Gym to make the representation of observed states concise.

```

22 # Environment preprocessing
23 class SkipFrame(gym.Wrapper):
24     def __init__(self, env, skip):
25         """Return only every `skip`-th frame"""
26         super().__init__(env)
27         self._skip = skip
28
29     def step(self, action):
30         """Repeat action, and sum reward"""
31         total_reward = 0.0
32         for i in range(self._skip):
33             # Accumulate reward and repeat the same action
34             obs, reward, done, info = self.env.step(action)
35             total_reward += reward
36             if done:
37                 break
38         return obs, total_reward, done, info

```

```

40 class GrayScaleObservation(gym.ObservationWrapper):
41     def __init__(self, env):
42         super().__init__(env)
43         obs_shape = self.observation_space.shape[2:]
44         self.observation_space = Box(low=0, high=255, shape=obs_shape, dtype=np.uint8)
45
46     def permute_orientation(self, observation):
47         # permute [H, W, C] array to [C, H, W] tensor
48         observation = np.transpose(observation, (2, 0, 1))
49         observation = torch.tensor(observation.copy(), dtype=torch.float)
50         return observation
51
52     def observation(self, observation):
53         observation = self.permute_orientation(observation)
54         transform = T.Grayscale()
55         observation = transform(observation)
56         return observation

```

```

58 class ResizeObservation(gym.ObservationWrapper):
59     def __init__(self, env, shape):
60         super().__init__(env)
61         if isinstance(shape, int):
62             self.shape = (shape, shape)
63         else:
64             self.shape = tuple(shape)
65
66         obs_shape = self.shape + self.observation_space.shape[2:]
67         self.observation_space = Box(low=0, high=255, shape=obs_shape, dtype=np.uint8)
68
69     def observation(self, observation):
70         transforms = T.Compose([T.Resize(self.shape, antialias=True), T.Normalize(0, 255)])
71         observation = transforms(observation).squeeze(0)
72         return observation

```

Before the training process starts, we apply the aforementioned wrappers to the environment to make the observed states in 4 channels, with each channel having frames resized as 84 by 84 pixels.

```

368         # Apply Wrappers to environment
369         env = SkipFrame(env, skip=4)
370         env = GrayScaleObservation(env)
371         env = ResizeObservation(env, shape=84)
372         env = FrameStack(env, num_stack=4)

```

## Double Dueling DQN Architecture

The architecture of the dueling double DQN is implemented as follows. The architecture includes online and target networks. Each of the networks is built by a dueling DQN, which consists of 3 convolution layers operated by ReLU, followed by a FC layer operated by ReLU for 2 linear layers to predict the value and advantages (for actions in the action space), respectively.

```

75 # Duel DQN Architecture
76 class DuelDQN(nn.Module):
77     def __init__(self, observation_shape, n_actions):
78         super().__init__()
79         # CNN
80         self.conv1 = nn.Conv2d(observation_shape[0], 32, kernel_size=8, stride=4)
81         self.conv2 = nn.Conv2d(32, 64, kernel_size=4, stride=2)
82         self.conv3 = nn.Conv2d(64, 64, kernel_size=3, stride=1)
83         # CNN -> FC
84         fc_input_dims = self.calculate_conv_output_dims(observation_shape)
85         # FC
86         self.fc1 = nn.Linear(fc_input_dims, 512)
87         # DUELING
88         self.V = nn.Linear(512, 1)
89         self.A = nn.Linear(512, n_actions)
90
91     def forward(self, state):
92         t = F.relu(self.conv1(state))
93         t = F.relu(self.conv2(t))
94         t = F.relu(self.conv3(t))
95         t = F.relu(self.fc1(t.reshape(t.shape[0], -1)))
96         V = self.V(t)
97         A = self.A(t)
98         return V, A
99
100     def calculate_conv_output_dims(self, observation_shape):
101         dims = torch.zeros((1, *observation_shape))
102         dims = self.conv1(dims)
103         dims = self.conv2(dims)
104         dims = self.conv3(dims)
105         return int(np.prod(dims.shape))

```

Then the two dueling DQNs are applied to construct double dueling DQN as follows.

```

107 # Dueling Double DQN Architecture
108 class D3QN(nn.Module):
109     def __init__(self, input_dim, output_dim):
110         super().__init__()
111         c, h, w = input_dim
112
113         if h != 84:
114             raise ValueError(f"Expecting input height: 84, got: {h}")
115         if w != 84:
116             raise ValueError(f"Expecting input width: 84, got: {w}")
117
118         self.online = DuelDQN(input_dim, output_dim)
119
120         self.target = DuelDQN(input_dim, output_dim)
121         self.target.load_state_dict(self.online.state_dict())
122
123     def forward(self, input, model):
124         if model == "online":
125             return self.online(input)
126         elif model == "target":
127             return self.target(input)

```

## Agent

The agent is implemented as follows.

### Parameters

- Memory size: 100000
- Gamma: 0.9
- Batch size: 32
- Exploration decay in epsilon greedy: 0.95
- Learning rate: 0.0025

```

129 # Agent
130 class Agent:
131     def __init__(self, state_dim, action_dim):
132         self.state_dim = state_dim
133         self.action_dim = action_dim
134
135         self.use_cuda = torch.cuda.is_available()
136
137         # Mario's DNN to predict the most optimal action - we implement this in the Learn section
138         self.net = D3QN(self.state_dim, self.action_dim).float()
139         if self.use_cuda:
140             self.net = self.net.to(device='cuda')
141
142         self.exploration_rate = 1
143         self.exploration_rate_decay = 0.95
144         self.exploration_rate_min = 0.1
145         self.curr_step = 0
146
147         self.save_every = 5e5 # no. of experiences between saving Mario Net
148         self.memory = deque(maxlen=100000)
149         self.batch_size = 32
150
151         self.gamma = 0.9
152
153         self.optimizer = torch.optim.Adam(self.net.parameters(), lr=0.00025)
154         self.loss_fn = torch.nn.SmoothL1Loss()
155
156         self.burnin = 1e4 # min. experiences before training
157         self.learn_every = 3 # no. of experiences between updates to Q_online
158         self.sync_every = 1e4 # no. of experiences between Q target & Q online sync

```

act

This function chooses an action via an epsilon-greedy strategy with an exploration decay.

```

147 def act(self, state):
148     """Given a state, choose an epsilon-greedy action"""
149     # EXPLORE
150     if np.random.rand() < self.exploration_rate:
151         action_idx = np.random.randint(self.action_dim)
152
153     # EXPLOIT
154     else:
155         state = state[0].__array__() if isinstance(state, tuple) else state.__array__()
156         state = torch.tensor(state).cuda().unsqueeze(0) if self.use_cuda else torch.tensor(state).unsqueeze(0)
157         action_values = self.net(state, model="online")
158         action_idx = torch.argmax(action_values, axis=1).item()
159
160     # decrease exploration_rate
161     self.exploration_rate *= self.exploration_rate_decay
162     self.exploration_rate = max(self.exploration_rate_min, self.exploration_rate)
163
164     # increment step
165     self.curr_step += 1
166     return action_idx
167

```

cache

This function adds the experiences (states, actions, rewards and corresponding next states) to the memory.

```

168     def cache(self, state, next_state, action, reward, done):
169         """Add the experience to memory"""
170         def first_if_tuple(x):
171             return x[0] if isinstance(x, tuple) else x
172         state = first_if_tuple(state).__array__()
173         next_state = first_if_tuple(next_state).__array__()
174
175         state = torch.FloatTensor(state).cuda() if self.use_cuda else torch.FloatTensor(state)
176         next_state = torch.FloatTensor(next_state).cuda() if self.use_cuda else torch.FloatTensor(next_state)
177         action = torch.LongTensor([action]).cuda() if self.use_cuda else torch.LongTensor([action])
178         reward = torch.DoubleTensor([reward]).cuda() if self.use_cuda else torch.DoubleTensor([reward])
179         done = torch.BoolTensor([done]).cuda() if self.use_cuda else torch.BoolTensor([done])
180
181         self.memory.append((state, next_state, action, reward, done))

```

## recall

This function samples a batch of experiences (states, actions, rewards and corresponding next states) from the memory.

```

184     def recall(self):
185         """Sample experiences from memory"""
186         batch = random.sample(self.memory, self.batch_size)
187         state, next_state, action, reward, done = map(torch.stack, zip(*batch))
188         return state, next_state, action.squeeze(), reward.squeeze(), done.squeeze()

```

## learn

This function first samples a batch of experiences (states, actions, rewards and corresponding next states) from the memory with function `recall`, estimates the current Q-value with the value and advantage of the current state predicted by the online network in function `td_estimate`, calculates the Q-value in the next state with the values and advantages predicted by online and target networks in function `td_target`, and updates the online network with SGD in function `update_Q_online` by calculating the TD error between the current Q-value and the Q-value in the next state.

Besides, this function synchronizes the target network and the online network with function `sync_Q_target` per 10000 steps and saves the model with function `save_model` per 500000 steps.

```

203 def td_estimate(self, state, action):
204     current_V, current_A = self.net(state, model="online")
205     current_Q = current_V + (current_A - current_A.mean(dim=1, keepdim=True)) # q - batch_size * n_actions
206     return current_Q[np.arange(0, self.batch_size), action] # Q_online(s,a)
207
208 @torch.no_grad()
209 def td_target(self, reward, next_state, done):
210     next_state_V1, next_state_A1 = self.net(next_state, model="online")
211     next_state_V2, next_state_A2 = self.net(next_state, model="target")
212     next_state_Q1 = next_state_V1 + (next_state_A1 - next_state_A1.mean(dim=1, keepdim=True))
213     next_state_Q2 = next_state_V2 + (next_state_A2 - next_state_A2.mean(dim=1, keepdim=True))
214     best_action = torch.argmax(next_state_Q1, axis=1)
215     next_Q2 = next_state_Q2[np.arange(0, self.batch_size), best_action]
216     return (reward + (1 - done.float()) * self.gamma * next_Q2).float()
217
218 def update_Q_online(self, td_estimate, td_target):
219     loss = self.loss_fn(td_estimate, td_target)
220     self.optimizer.zero_grad()
221     loss.backward()
222     self.optimizer.step()
223     return loss.item()
224
225 def sync_Q_target(self):
226     self.net.target.load_state_dict(self.net.online.state_dict())
227
228 def learn(self):
229     """Update online action value (Q) function with a batch of experiences"""
230     if self.curr_step % self.sync_every == 0:
231         self.sync_Q_target()
232
233     if self.curr_step % self.save_every == 0:
234         self.save_model()
235
236     if self.curr_step < self.burnin:
237         return None, None
238
239     if self.curr_step % self.learn_every != 0:
240         return None, None
241
242     # Sample from memory
243     state, next_state, action, reward, done = self.recall()
244
245     # Get TD Estimate
246     td_est = self.td_estimate(state, action)
247
248     # Get TD Target
249     td_tgt = self.td_target(reward, next_state, done)
250
251     # Backpropagate Loss through Q_online
252     loss = self.update_Q_online(td_est, td_tgt)
253
254     return (td_est.mean().item(), loss)

```

Then the online network model is saved with the function `save_model`. (PS. Thanks to the TA's suggestion, I found the cause of the model's oversize and updated the way of model saving.)

```

256 def save_model(self):
257     save_path = '112065802_hw2_data'
258     torch.save(self.net.online, save_path)
259     print(f"D3QN model saved to {save_path} at step {self.curr_step}")

```

The training process is implemented with 10000 episodes as follows. The metric logger is implemented to monitor the training process (Note the details of the metric logger is omitted here since the main focus of this report is to explain the implementation of double DQN algorithm).

```

380     mario = Agent(state_dim=(4, 84, 84), action_dim=env.action_space.n)
381
382     logger = MetricLogger(save_dir)
383
384     episodes = 10000
385     for e in range(episodes):
386
387         state = env.reset()
388
389         # Play the game!
390         while True:
391
392             # Run agent on the state
393             action = mario.act(state)
394
395             # Agent performs action
396             next_state, reward, done, info = env.step(action)
397
398             # Remember
399             mario.cache(state, next_state, action, reward, done)
400
401             # Learn
402             q, loss = mario.learn()
403
404             # Logging
405             logger.log_step(reward, loss, q)
406
407             # Update state
408             state = next_state
409
410             # Check if end of game
411             if done or info["flag_get"]:
412                 break
413
414             logger.log_episode()
415
416         if (e % 20 == 0) or (e == episodes - 1):
417             logger.record(episode=e, epsilon=mario.exploration_rate, step=mario.curr_step)
418             mario.save_model()

```

## Testing

Since the trained model is to be loaded, the agent is implemented in a different way from the training process as follows.

- The observed states are preprocessed manually with functions of OpenCV in the function `act`.
- The best action with the maximum probability predicted by the loaded model is chosen in each iteration.



```

76 # Agent
77 class Agent:
78     def __init__(self):
79         # for local test
80         self.use_cuda = torch.cuda.is_available()
81         self.net = torch.load('112065802_hw2_data')
82         if self.use_cuda:
83             self.net = torch.load('112065802_hw2_data').cpu()
84         else:
85             self.net = torch.load('112065802_hw2_data')
86         self.frames = deque(maxlen=4)
87         self.curr_step = 0
88         self.memory = deque(maxlen=100000)
89
90     def act(self, observation):
91         preprocess_obs = cv2.cvtColor(observation, cv2.COLOR_RGB2GRAY)
92         preprocess_obs = cv2.resize(preprocess_obs, (84, 84), interpolation=cv2.INTER_AREA)
93         while len(self.frames) < 3:
94             self.frames.append(preprocess_obs)
95         preprocess_obs = torch.from_numpy(np.array(self.frames) / 255).float().unsqueeze(0)
96         _, action_values = self.net(preprocess_obs)
97         action_idx = torch.argmax(action_values, axis=1).item()
98
99         # increment step
100        self.curr_step += 1
101
102        return action_idx
103
104    def cache(self, state, next_state, action, reward, done):
105        """Add the experience to memory"""
106        def first_if_tuple(x):
107            return x[0] if isinstance(x, tuple) else x
108        state = first_if_tuple(state).__array__()
109        next_state = first_if_tuple(next_state).__array__()
110
111        state = torch.FloatTensor(state.copy())
112        next_state = torch.FloatTensor(next_state.copy())
113        action = torch.LongTensor([action])
114        reward = torch.DoubleTensor([reward])
115        done = torch.BoolTensor([done])
116
117        self.memory.append((state, next_state, action, reward, done))
118

```

The testing process is implemented with 50 episodes as follows (with each episode iteratively performing the action, cache, and calculation of the cumulative reward). The average reward is calculated after finishing 50 episodes.

```

120 if __name__ == '__main__':
121     env = gym_super_mario_bros.make('SuperMarioBros-v0')
122     env = JoypadSpace(env, COMPLEX_MOVEMENT)
123
124     env.reset()
125     mario = Agent()
126
127     total_reward = 0
128     episodes = 50
129
130     for e in range(episodes):
131         state = env.reset()
132         episode_reward = 0
133         print(f'Episode {e}')
134         while True:
135             # env.render()
136             action = mario.act(state)
137             next_state, reward, done, info = env.step(action)
138             mario.cache(state, next_state, action, reward, done)
139             episode_reward += reward
140
141             state = next_state
142
143             if done or info['flag_get']:
144                 break
145
146         print(f'Episode reward in episode {e}: {episode_reward}')
147         total_reward += episode_reward
148
149     avg_reward = total_reward/50
150     print(f'Average reward: {avg_reward}')

```

## Postscript

Since I cannot use GPU due to the issues of the driver in my lab's servers until I found another resource today, and there was a mistake when uploading my trained model to leaderboard, the progress was one day late again.....(I also handed in my homework 1 one day late)

However, to take responsibility for my own homework, I decided to update and resubmit the training/testing code (with Double Dueling DQN implementation and model saving/loading), the saved (online) model (with size reduced to 6MB), and this report.