Policy Gradient

Just optimize it!

Goal: Policy Gradient

$$\theta = \theta + \alpha \nabla_{\theta} J(\theta)$$

$$\nabla_{\theta} J(\theta) = \mathbb{E}_{\tau \sim \pi_{\theta}} \left[\sum_{t=0}^{T} \Phi_{t} \nabla_{\theta} log \pi_{\theta}(A_{t} | S_{t}) \right]$$

Problem Statement

$$au = (S_0, A_0, R_0, S_1, A_1, R_1, \dots, S_{T+1})$$
 Trajectory $G(au) = R_0 + \gamma R_1 + \gamma^2 R_2 + \dots + \gamma^T R_T$
$$J(heta) = \mathbb{E}_{ au \sim \pi_{ heta}} \left[G(au) \right] \qquad \nabla_{ heta} J(heta) = \nabla_{ heta} \mathbb{E}_{ au \sim \pi_{ heta}} \left[G(au) \right]$$
 기대 장기 보상
$$= \mathbb{E}_{ au \sim \pi_{ heta}} \left[\sum_{t=0}^T G(au) \nabla_{ heta} log \pi_{ heta}(A_t | S_t) \right]$$

Problem Statement

$$\nabla_{\theta} J(\theta) = \nabla_{\theta} \mathbb{E}_{\tau \sim \pi_{\theta}} \left[G(\tau) \right]$$

$$= \mathbb{E}_{\tau \sim \pi_{\theta}} \left[\sum_{t=0}^{T} G(\tau) \nabla_{\theta} log \pi_{\theta}(A_{t} | S_{t}) \right]$$

$$\theta = \theta + \alpha \nabla_{\theta} J(\theta) \qquad \nabla_{\theta} log \pi_{\theta}(A_t | S_t) = \frac{\nabla_{\theta} \pi_{\theta}(A_t | S_t)}{\pi_{\theta}(A_t | S_t)}$$

REINFORCE algorithm

$$\nabla_{\theta} J(\theta) = \mathbb{E}_{\tau \sim \pi_{\theta}} \left[\sum_{t=0}^{T} G_{t} \nabla_{\theta} log \pi_{\theta}(A_{t} | S_{t}) \right]$$

$$G_t = R_t + \gamma R_{t+1} + \dots + \gamma^{T-t} R_T$$

REINFORCE algorithm

```
# 학습 루프
for episode in range(1000):
    state = env.reset()
    log_probs = []
    rewards = []

done = False
    while not done:
        state_tensor = torch.FloatTensor(state).unsqueeze(0)
        probs = policy(state_tensor)
        dist = torch.distributions.Categorical(probs)
        action = dist.sample()

        log_prob = dist.log_prob(action)
        log_probs.append(log_prob)

        state, reward, done, _ = env.step(action.item())
        rewards.append(reward)
```

REINFORCE algorithm

```
# 누적 보상 계산
returns = []
R = 0
for r in reversed(rewards):
    R = r + gamma * R
    returns.insert(0, R)
returns = torch.tensor(returns)

# Normalize returns (optional but helpful)
returns = (returns - returns.mean()) / (returns.std() + 1e-9)
```

```
# 손실 계산 및 업데이트
loss = 0
for log_prob, Gt in zip(log_probs, returns):
    loss += -log_prob * Gt # Gradient ascent -> minimize negative

optimizer.zero_grad()
loss.backward()
optimizer.step()
```

REINFORCE algorithm with baseline

$$\nabla_{\theta} J(\theta) = \mathbb{E}_{\tau \sim \pi_{\theta}} \left[\sum_{t=0}^{T} G_{t} \nabla_{\theta} log \pi_{\theta}(A_{t} | S_{t}) \right]$$

$$= \mathbb{E}_{\tau \sim \pi_{\theta}} \left[\sum_{t=0}^{T} (G_{t} - b(S_{t})) \nabla_{\theta} log \pi_{\theta}(A_{t} | S_{t}) \right]$$

$$\nabla_{\theta} J(\theta) = \mathbb{E}_{\tau \sim \pi_{\theta}} \left[\sum_{t=0}^{T} (G_{t} - b(S_{t})) \nabla_{\theta} log \pi_{\theta}(A_{t} | S_{t}) \right]$$
$$= \mathbb{E}_{\tau \sim \pi_{\theta}} \left[\sum_{t=0}^{T} (G_{t} - V_{w}(S_{t})) \nabla_{\theta} log \pi_{\theta}(A_{t} | S_{t}) \right]$$

```
# 학습 루프
for episode in range(1000):
    state = env.reset()
   log_probs = []
   values = []
   rewards = []
   done = False
   while not done:
        state_tensor = torch.FloatTensor(state).unsqueeze(0)
       logits, value = model(state_tensor)
       # 정책으로부터 행동 선택
       dist = torch.distributions.Categorical(logits=logits)
        action = dist.sample()
       log_prob = dist.log_prob(action)
       next_state, reward, done, _ = env.step(action.item())
        log_probs.append(log_prob)
        values.append(value)
       rewards.append(reward)
        state = next_state
```

```
# 마지막 상태의 value는 0으로 가정 (terminal)
returns = []
R = 0
for r in reversed(rewards):
    R = r + gamma * R
    returns.insert(0, R)

returns = torch.tensor(returns)
values = torch.cat(values).squeeze()
log_probs = torch.stack(log_probs)
```

```
# Advantage 계산
advantage = returns - values.detach()

# 손실 함수
actor_loss = -(log_probs * advantage).mean()
critic_loss = nn.MSELoss()(values, returns)
loss = actor_loss + critic_loss

# 경사 하강
optimizer.zero_grad()
loss.backward()
optimizer.step()
```

$$\nabla_{\theta} J(\theta) = \mathbb{E}_{\tau \sim \pi_{\theta}} \left[\sum_{t=0}^{T} \left(R_{t} + \gamma V_{w}(S_{t+1}) - V_{w}(S_{t}) \right) \nabla_{\theta} log \pi_{\theta}(A_{t} | S_{t}) \right]$$

Policy Gradient

- Pros
 - Direct optimization
 - Works for continuous action space
 - Stochastic policy
- Cons
 - High variance
 - Sample inefficiency
 - Sensitive to hyper parameters

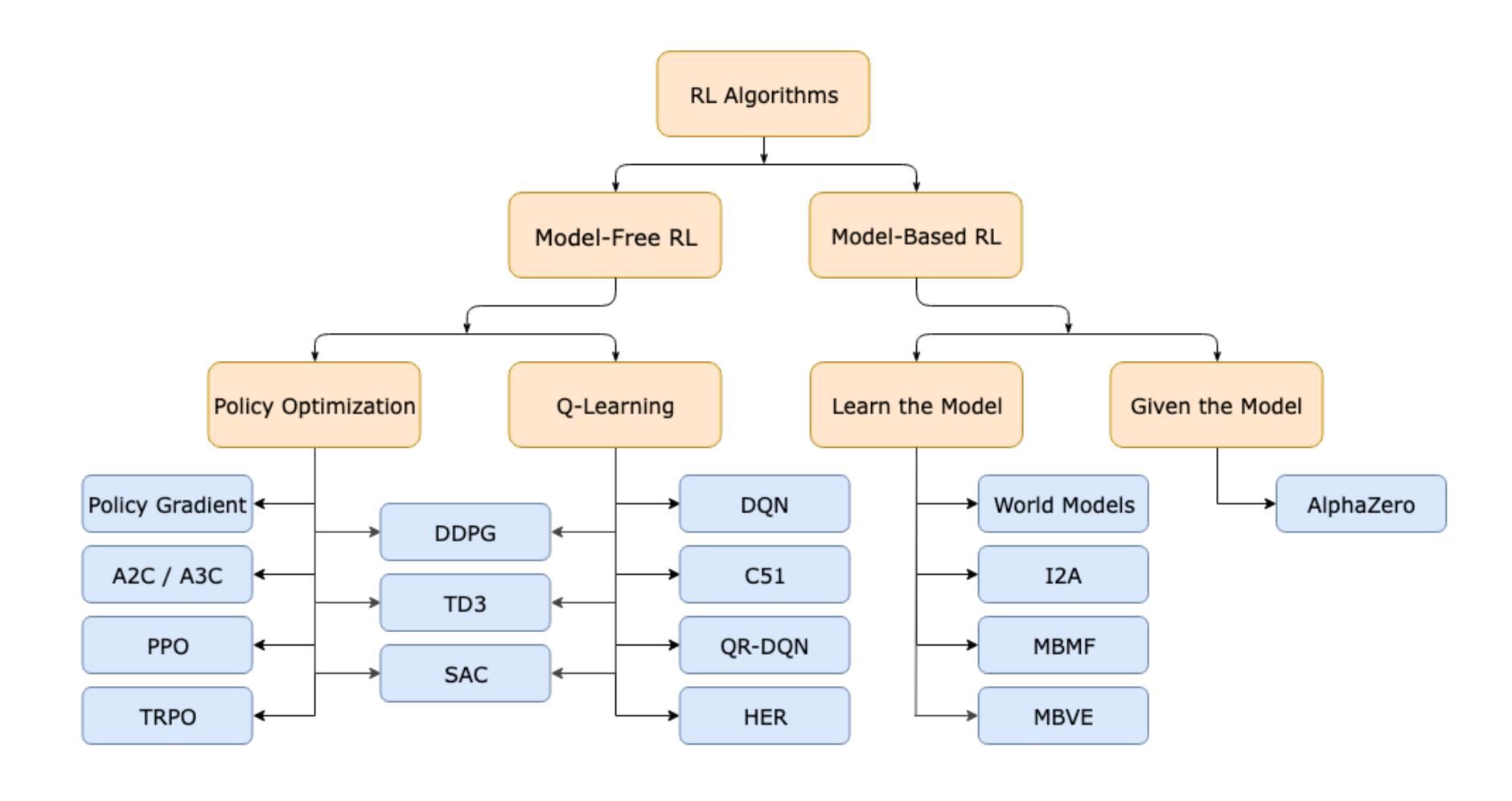
Goal: Policy Gradient

$$\theta = \theta + \alpha \nabla_{\theta} J(\theta)$$

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Taxonomy of Reinforcement Learning algorithms

By Learning Paradigm



Type of policy

- Value-based (Q-learning, DQN)
 - 상태의 가치를 추정하여 행동 선택
- Policy-based (REINFORCE)
 - 정책을 직접 학습
- Actor-Critic (A3C, PPO, DDPG)
 - 정책 + 가치 함수 동시 학습

Value usage

- Value-based: 가치 함수 사용 (e.g., Q-function)
- Policy-based: 정책 함수만 사용
- Hybrid: 둘 다 사용 (Actor-Critic)
- 용도에 따라 선택
 - Value-based 는 탐험 효율이 높음
 - Policy-based는 연속 액션 공간에 강함

Action 공간

- Discrete: 행동이 명확히 나뉘어 있음 (Q-learning, DQN)
- Continuous: 행동이 연속 값 (DDPG, SAC, TD3)
 - Discretization을 하는 것이 나은지 Policy gradient를 하는게 나은지 잘 선택해야 함

On-policy vs Off-policy

- On-policy
 - 정책 안정성
 - Sample inefficiency
 - Exploration이 필수적
- Off-policy
 - 데이터 효율성 (replay buffer 사용 가능)
 - 실제 데이터 + 로그 학습에 유리
 - 배치 학습 (offline RL) 가능
 - Distribution mismatch 위험

Model usage

- Model-free (DQN, PPO)
 - 환경 모델 없이 직접 상호작용
- Model-based (MuZero, Dreamer)
 - 환경 모델을 학습 후 사용
 - Model-based는 예측된 시퀀스를 생성해 planning

Online vs Offline

- Online
 - 실시간으로 샘플 수집 및 업데이트
 - 현실 적용 쉬움, 샘플 효율 낮음
 - e.g., 게임 플레이, 로봇 제어, 시뮬레이션 기반 전략 학습 등
- Offline (Batch RL)
 - 기존 데이터셋으로만 학습
 - 데이터 효율 높음, 안정성 문제
 - 병원 환자 기록, 자율주행 로그, 금융 거래 내역 등

환경 특성에 따른 분류

- Markov Decision Process (MDP) vs Partially Observable MDP (POMDP)
- Single-agent vs Multi-agent
- Stationary vs Non-stationary environment
- Deterministic vs Stochastic dynamics
- E.g.,
 - AlphaStar: Multi-agent + POMDP + Stochastic
 - Robotics: Continuous action + Model-based + POMDP

Conclusion

• 강화학습 방법은 굉장히 많고 comprehensive coverage 를 갖는다

• 원리는 우리가 충분히 배웠으니, "상황을 이해해서" 어떤 환경과 모델을 적용할지 잘 골라 보자

• 고생 많으셨음!