

Workshop

Reinforcement Learning



Overview

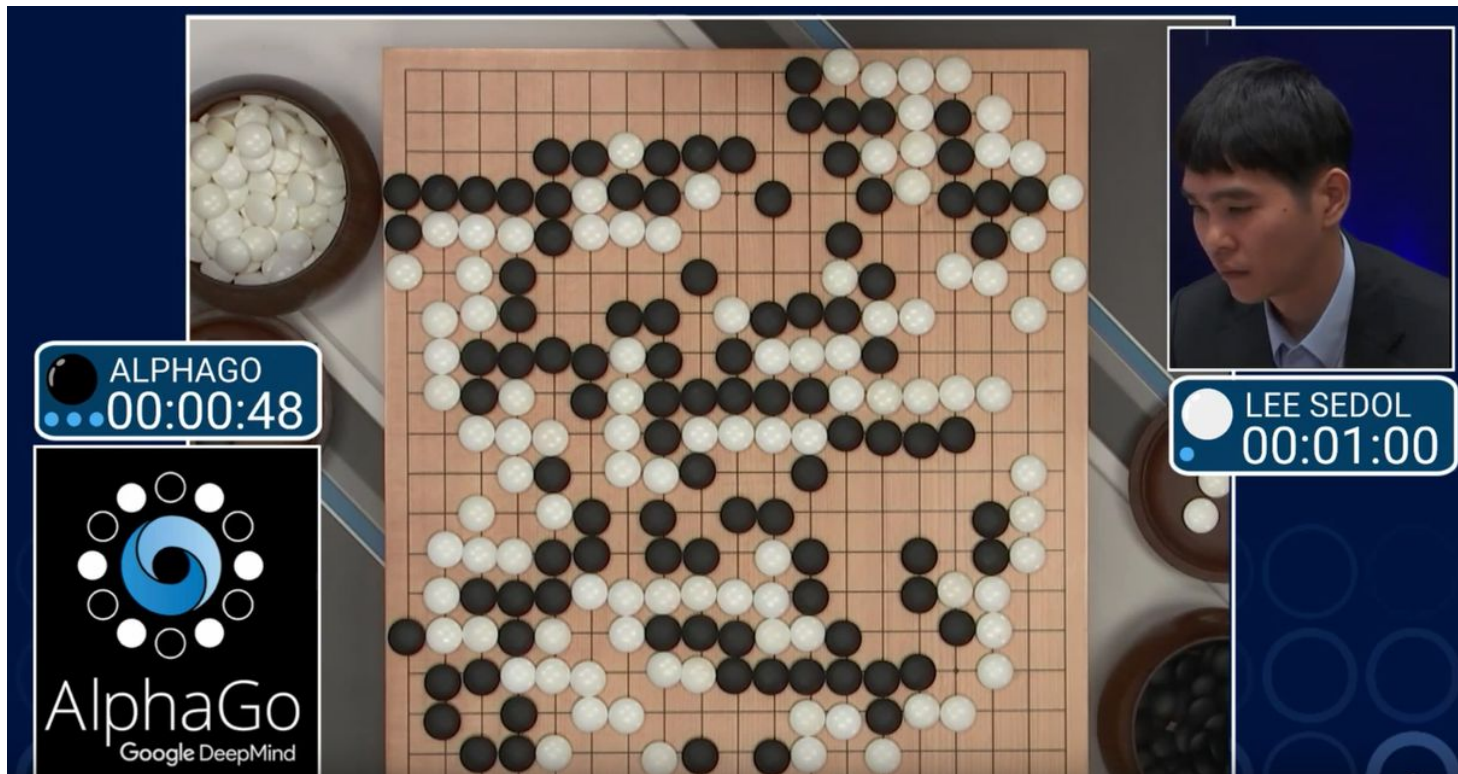
Introduction to RL

Reinforcement learning in context

Practical implementation: Q-learning

Reinforcement learning in context

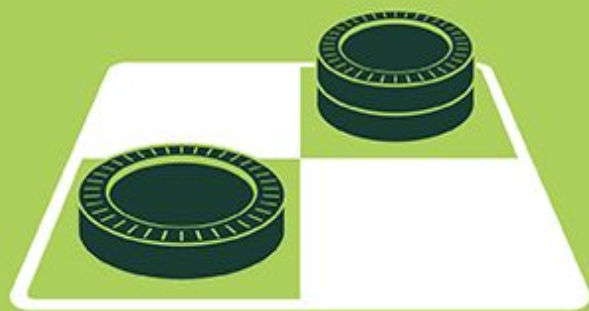
Examples



<https://deepmind.com/blog/article/alphago-zero-starting-scratch>

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Early artificial intelligence stirs excitement.



MACHINE LEARNING

Machine learning begins to flourish.



DEEP LEARNING

Deep learning breakthroughs drive AI boom.



1950's

1960's

1970's

1980's

1990's

2000's

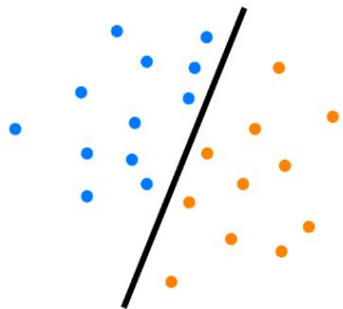
2010's

5

Overview learning algorithms

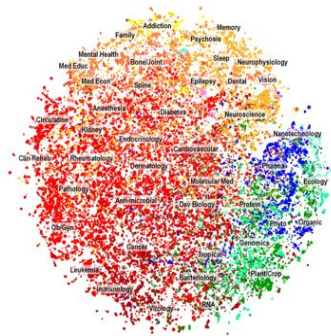
Supervised

Inputs with corresponding labels
Answers are provided
Task driven



Unsupervised

Corresponding labels are
not provided
Data driven (clustering)

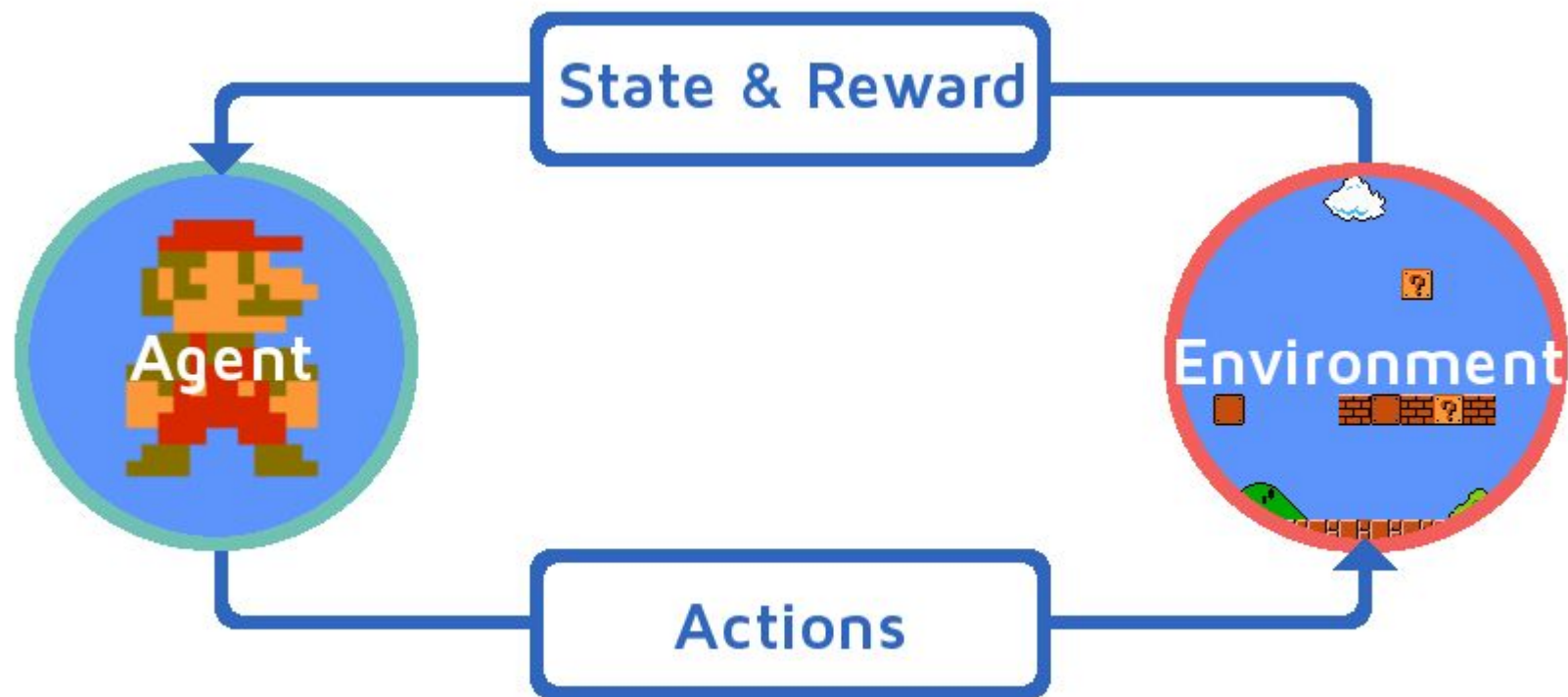


Reinforcement

Take the best actions in an
environment to maximize rewards



What is reinforcement learning?



What is reinforcement learning?



Examples



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4MIZncshy1Q>



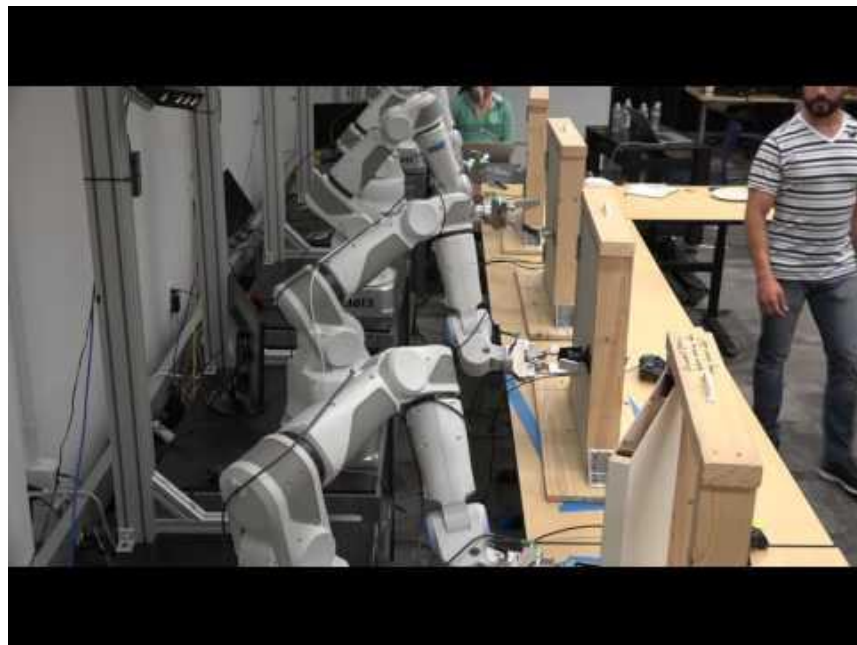
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eG1Ed8PTJ18>



Examples



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W_gxLKSsSIE



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZBFwe1gF0FU>

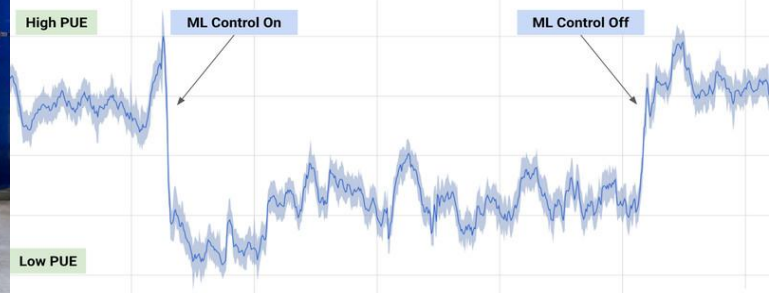
Examples



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VCdxqn0fcnE>



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=opsmd5yuBF0>





Reinforcement learning in humans



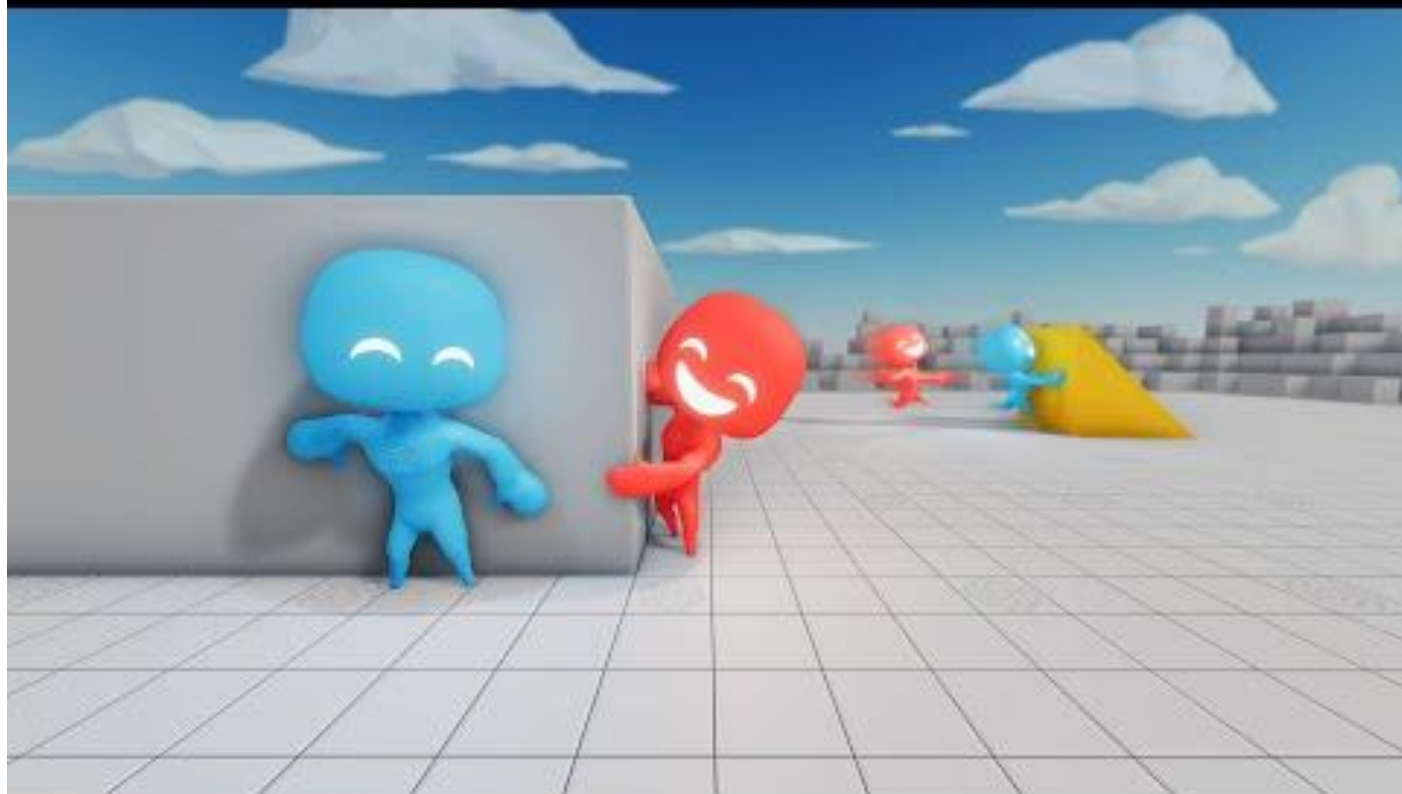
Examples



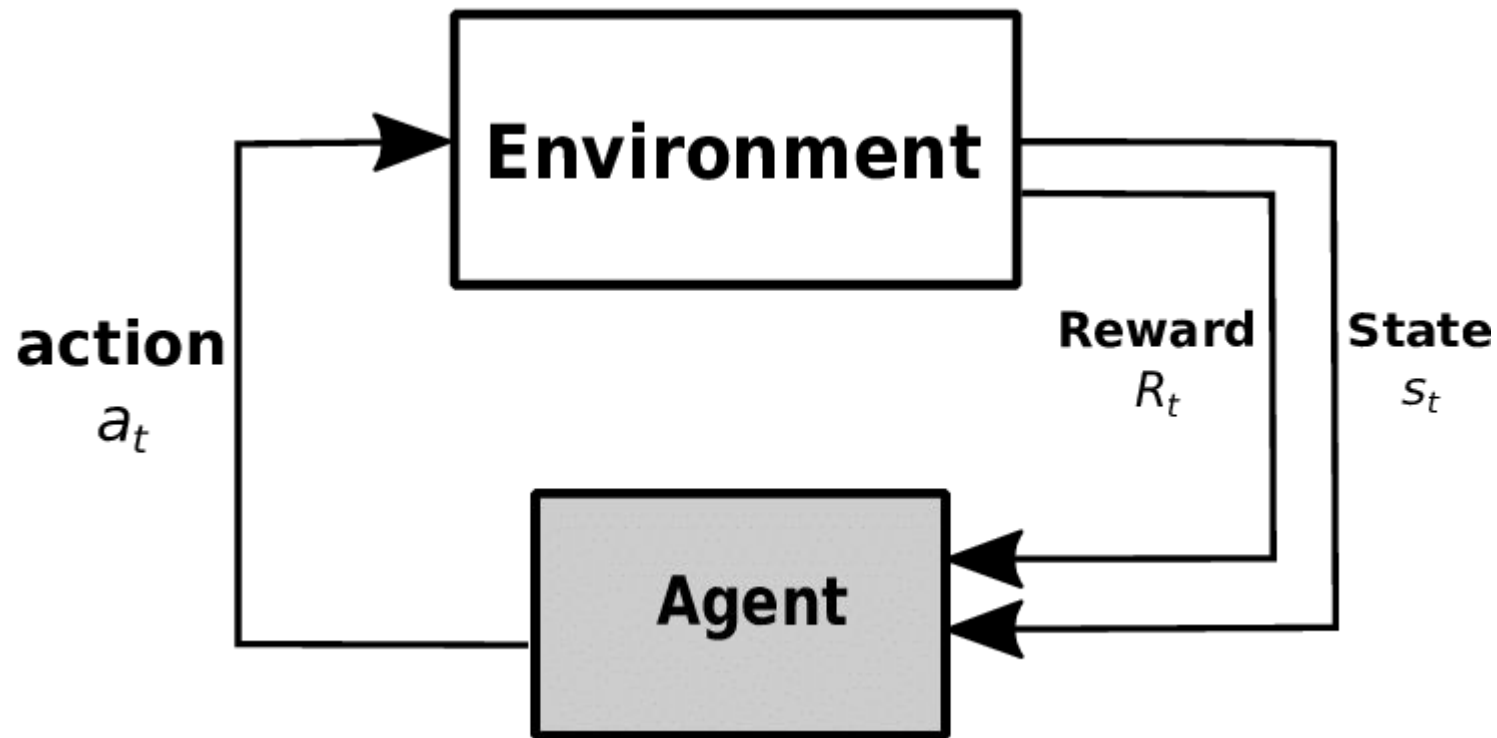
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gn4nRCC9TwQ>

A blue square logo containing the white letters 'Ti'.A 3D rendered scene showing two humanoid robots, one red and one green, wrestling on a purple circular platform. The background is a teal and blue checkered floor. The robots are in a sumo-like stance, pushing against each other.

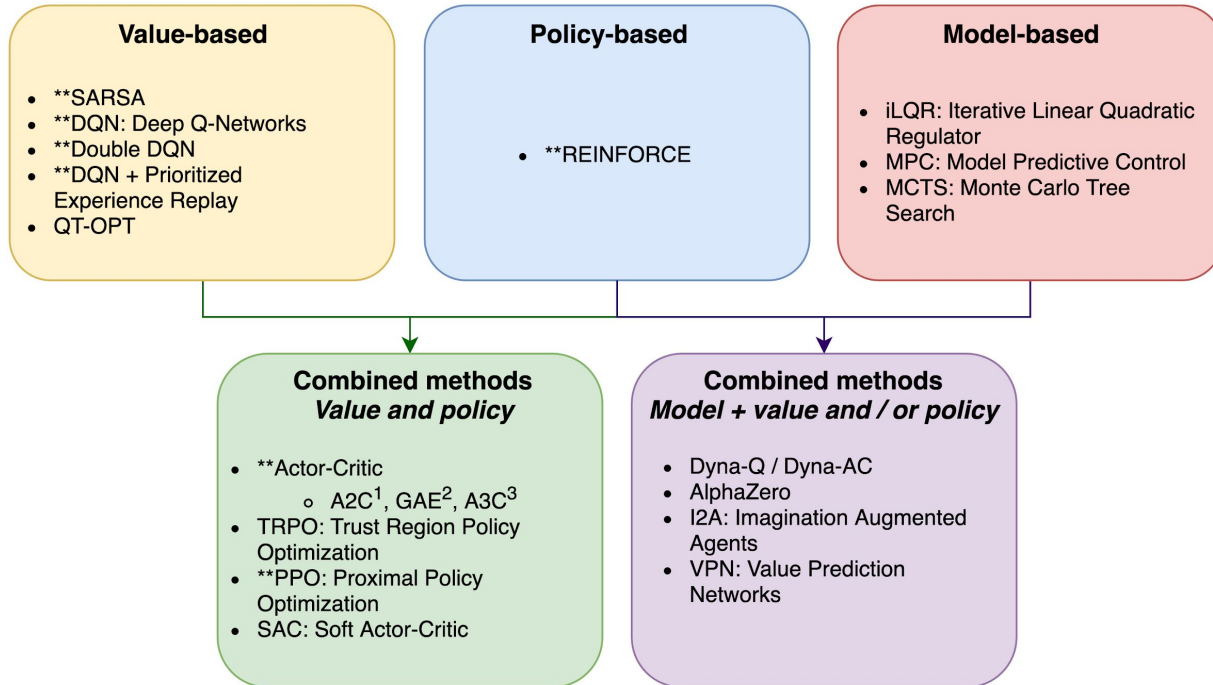
VIRTUAL ROBOTS SUMO WRESTLE



Reinforcement learning terminologies



Reinforcement learning taxonomy



** : discussed in this book

1. A2C: Advantage Actor-Critic

2. A3C: Asynchronous Advantage Actor-Critic

3. GAE: Actor-Critic with Generalized Advantage Estimation

Q-learning

Q-learning

What is Q-learning?

- The objective of Q-learning is to find a policy that is optimal in the sense that the expected value of the total reward over all successive steps is **the maximum achievable**.
- The goal of Q-learning is to **find the optimal policy by learning the optimal Q-values** for each **state-action pair**.
- The Q-learning algorithm iteratively updates the Q-values for each state-action pair using the Bellman equation until the Q-function converges to the optimal Q-function, q^* . This approach is called **value iteration**.
- Q-learning **converges to optimal Q-values** if all states are visited by the agent for an infinite amount of times.
- Q-learning is **off-policy**

Q-learning

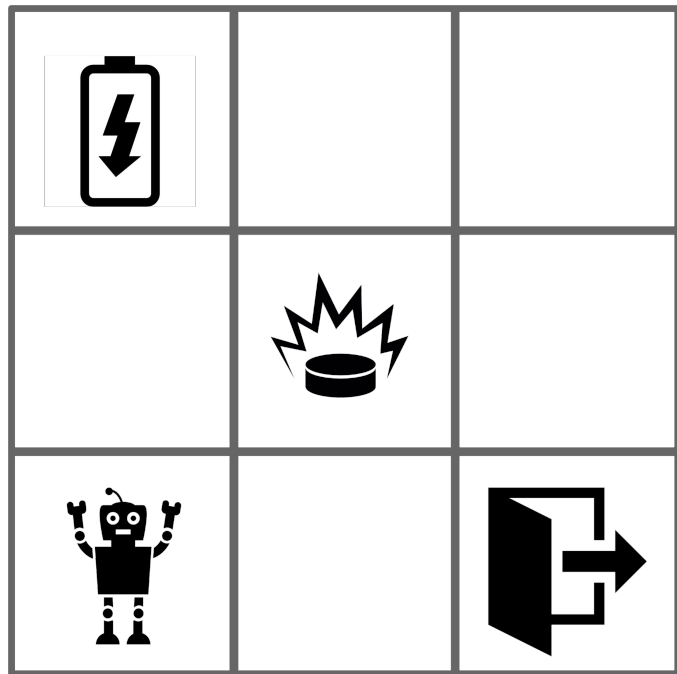
Updating the Q-values

$$Q(s_t, a_t) \leftarrow (1 - \alpha) \cdot \underbrace{Q(s_t, a_t)}_{\text{old value}} + \underbrace{\alpha}_{\text{learning rate}} \cdot \left(\underbrace{r_t}_{\text{reward}} + \underbrace{\gamma}_{\text{discount factor}} \cdot \underbrace{\max_a Q(s_{t+1}, a)}_{\text{estimate of optimal future value}} \right)$$

learned value

Q-learning

Example



The goal for the robot (agent) is to **find the exit**:

1 step = -10 points.

Charging = + 10 points.

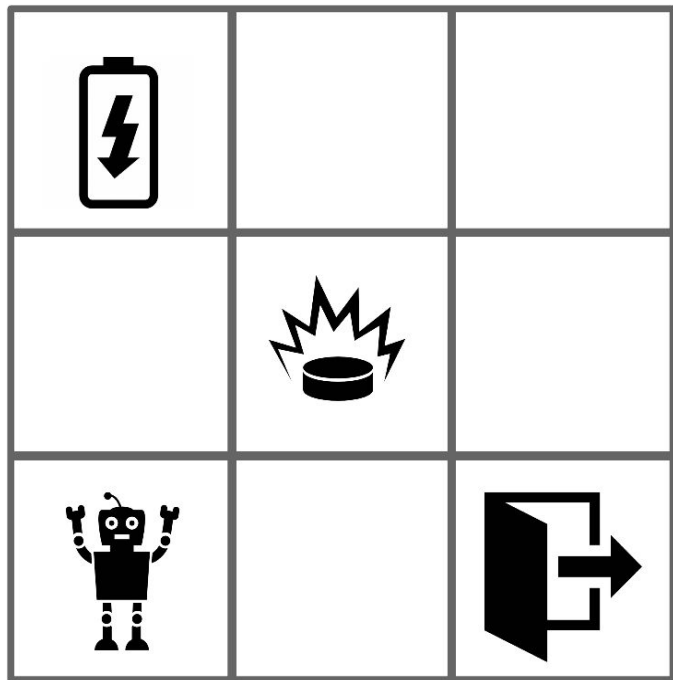
Reaching the exit = +100 points and episode ends.

Stepping on a landmine = -100 points and episode ends.

For the purpose of the example the robot will only explore the environment (= only taking random actions) and not yet exploit it's knowledge of the environment.

Q-learning

Q-table

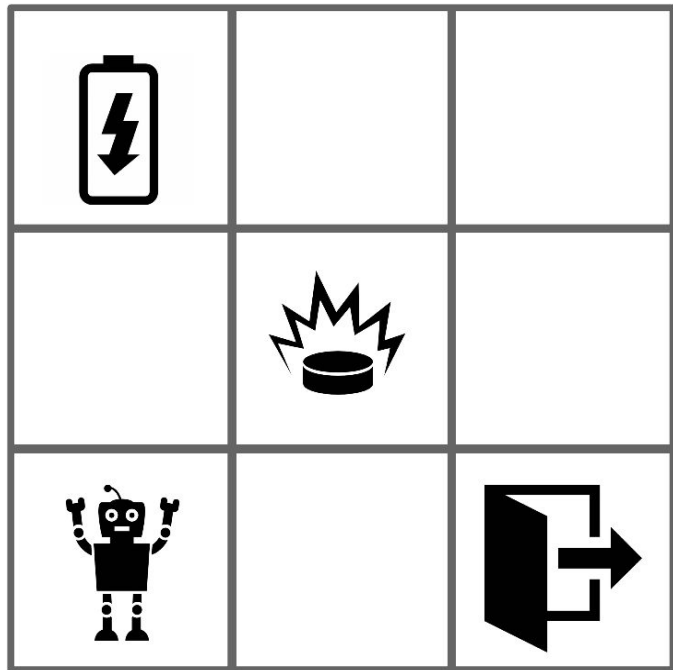


Q-table

	Left	Right	Up	Down
Charging	X		X	
Empty cel 1			X	
Empty cel 2		X	X	
Empty cel 3	X			
Land mine	X	X	X	X
Empty cel 4		X		
Start	X			X
Empty cel 5				X
Exit	X	X	X	X

Q-learning

Q-table initialization (with zeros)

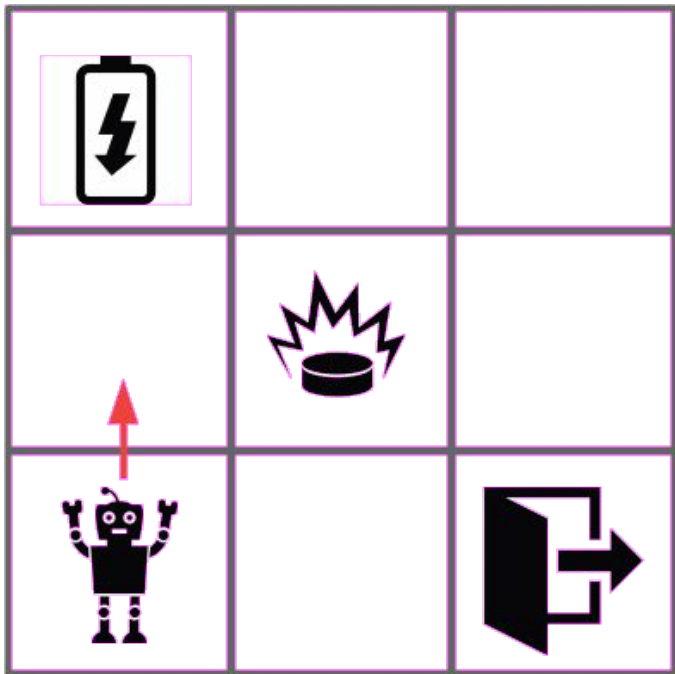


Q-table

	Left	Right	Up	Down
Charging	X	0	X	0
Empty cel 1	0	0	X	0
Empty cel 2	0	X	X	0
Empty cel 3	X	0	0	0
Land mine	X	X	X	X
Empty cel 4	0	X	0	0
Start	X	0	0	X
Empty cel 5	0	0	0	X
Exit	X	X	X	X

Q-learning

Agent is taking a random action



Robot takes random action 'up'

From 'starting state' to state 'empty cell 3'

Updating the Q-values with $\alpha=0.7$ and $\gamma=0.8$:

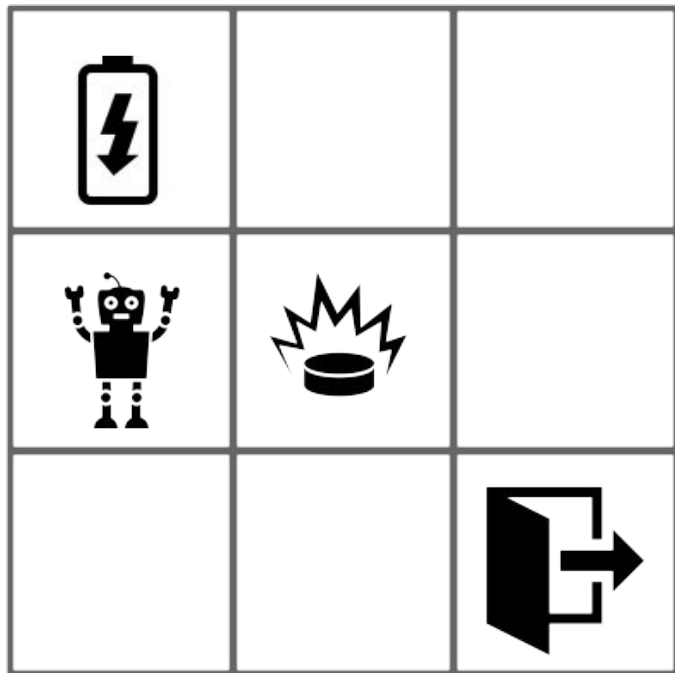
$$\begin{aligned}Q(s_t, a_t) &= (1 - \alpha) \cdot Q(s_t, a_t) + \alpha \cdot (r_t + \gamma \cdot \max_Q(s_{t+1}, a)) \\ &= (1 - 0.7) \cdot 0 + 0.7 \cdot (-10 + 0.8 \cdot 0) \\ &= -7\end{aligned}$$

Q-table

	Left	Right	Up	Down
Charging	X	0	X	0
Empty cel 1	0	0	X	0
Empty cel 2	0	X	X	0
Empty cel 3	X	0	0	0
Land mine	X	X	X	X
Empty cel 4	0	X	0	0
Start	X	0	0	X
Empty cel 5	0	0	0	X
Exit	X	X	X	X

Q-learning

Updating the Q-table

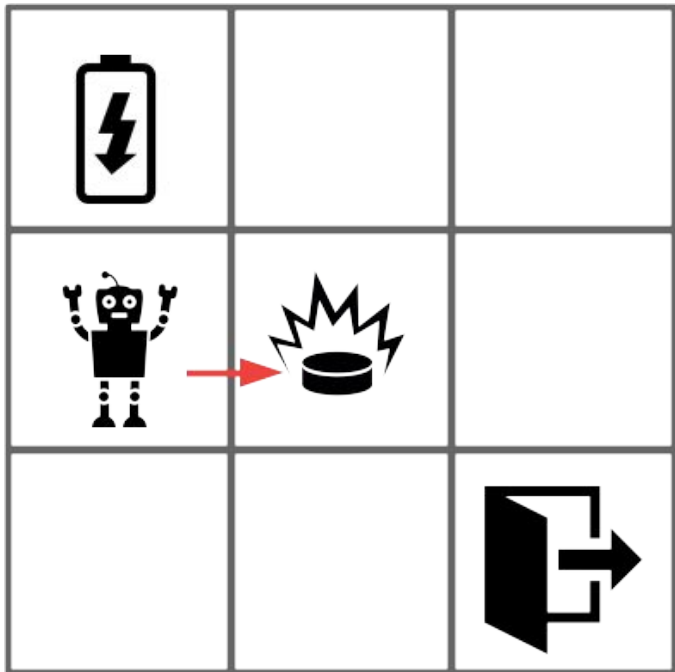


Q-table

	Left	Right	Up	Down
Charging	X	0	X	0
Empty cel 1	0	0	X	0
Empty cel 2	0	X	X	0
Empty cel 3	X	0	0	0
Land mine	X	X	X	X
Empty cel 4	0	X	0	0
Start	X	0	-7	X
Empty cel 5	0	0	0	X
Exit	X	X	X	X

Q-learning

Agent is taking a random action



Robot takes random action 'right'

From state 'empty cell 3' to state 'landmine'

Updating the Q-values with $\alpha=0.7$ and $\gamma=0.8$:

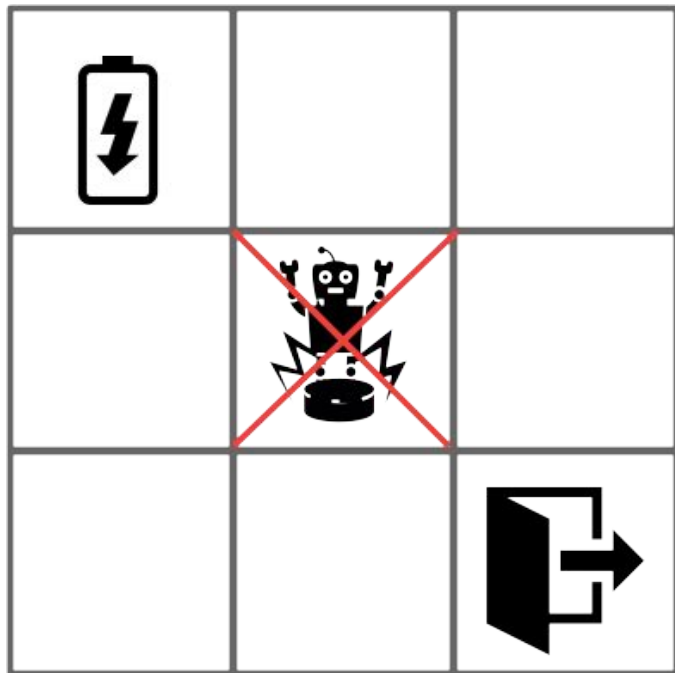
$$\begin{aligned}Q(s_t, a_t) &= (1 - \alpha) \cdot Q(s_t, a_t) + \alpha \cdot (r_t + \gamma \cdot \max_Q(s_{t+1}, a)) \\ &= (1 - 0.7) \cdot 0 + 0.7 \cdot ((-10 - 100) + 0.8 \cdot 0) \\ &= -77\end{aligned}$$

Q-table

	Left	Right	Up	Down
Charging	X	0	X	0
Empty cel 1	0	0	X	0
Empty cel 2	0	X	X	0
Empty cel 3	X	0	0	0
Land mine	X	X	X	X
Empty cel 4	0	X	0	0
Start	X	0	-7	X
Empty cel 5	0	0	0	X
Exit	X	X	X	X

Q-learning

Updating the Q-table



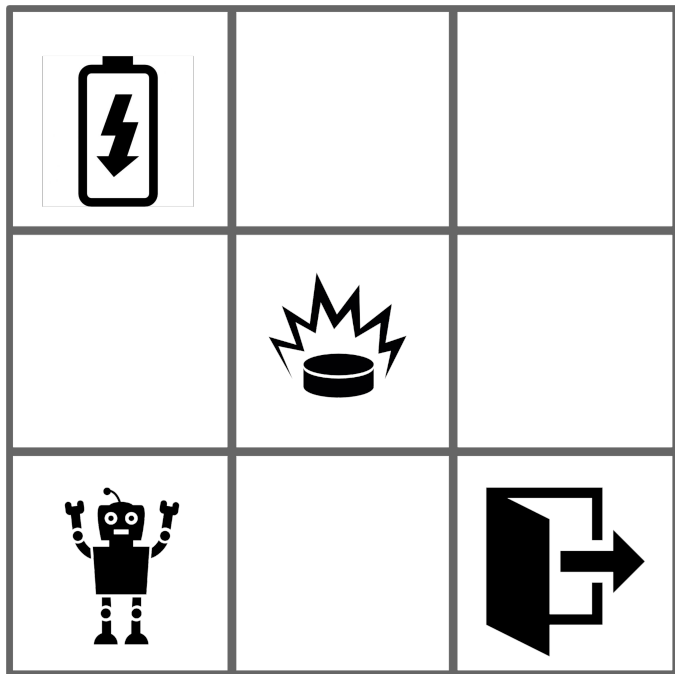
END OF THE EPISODE

Q-table

	Left	Right	Up	Down
Charging	X	0	X	0
Empty cel 1	0	0	X	0
Empty cel 2	0	X	X	0
Empty cel 3	X	-77	0	0
Land mine	X	X	X	X
Empty cel 4	0	X	0	0
Start	X	0	-7	X
Empty cel 5	0	0	0	X
Exit	X	X	X	X

Q-learning

Start new episode

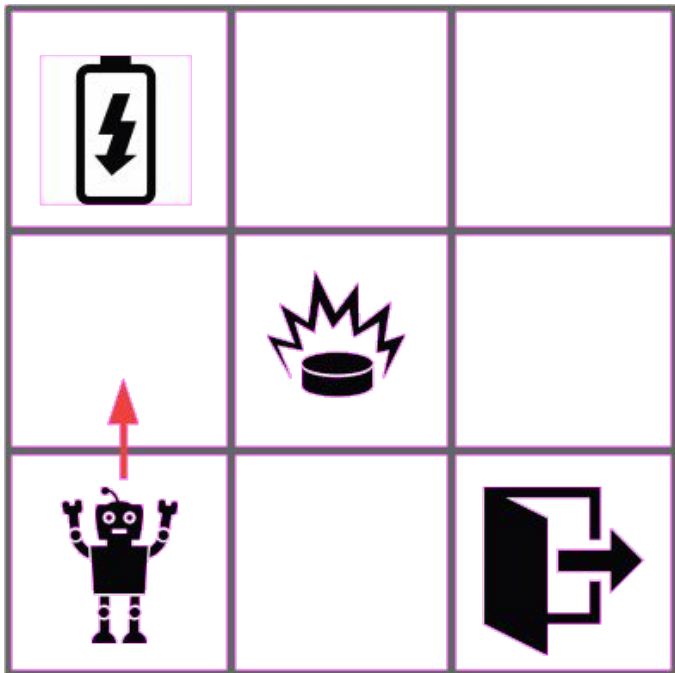


Q-table

	Left	Right	Up	Down
Charging	X	0	X	0
Empty cel 1	0	0	X	0
Empty cel 2	0	X	X	0
Empty cel 3	X	-77	0	0
Land mine	X	X	X	X
Empty cel 4	0	X	0	0
Start	X	0	-7	X
Empty cel 5	0	0	0	X
Exit	X	X	X	X

Q-learning

Agent is taking a random action



Robot takes random action 'up'

From 'starting state' to state 'empty cell 3'

Updating the Q-values with $\alpha=0.7$ and $\gamma=0.8$:

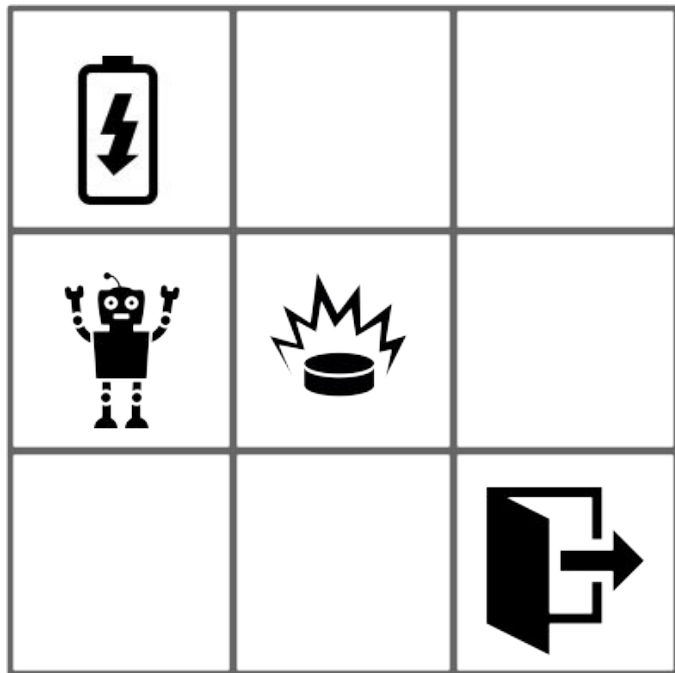
$$\begin{aligned}Q(s_t, a_t) &= (1 - \alpha) \cdot Q(s_t, a_t) + \alpha \cdot (r_t + \gamma \cdot \max_Q(s_{t+1}, a)) \\ &= (1 - 0.7) \cdot (-7) + 0.7 \cdot (-10 + 0.8 \cdot \max(-77; 0; 0)) \\ &= 0.3 \cdot (-7) + 0.7 \cdot (-10 + 0.8 \cdot 0) \\ &= -9.1\end{aligned}$$

Q-table

	Left	Right	Up	Down
Charging	X	0	X	0
Empty cel 1	0	0	X	0
Empty cel 2	0	X	X	0
Empty cel 3	X	-77	0	0
Land mine	X	X	X	X
Empty cel 4	0	X	0	0
Start	X	0	-7	X
Empty cel 5	0	0	0	X
Exit	X	X	X	X

Q-learning

Updating the Q-table

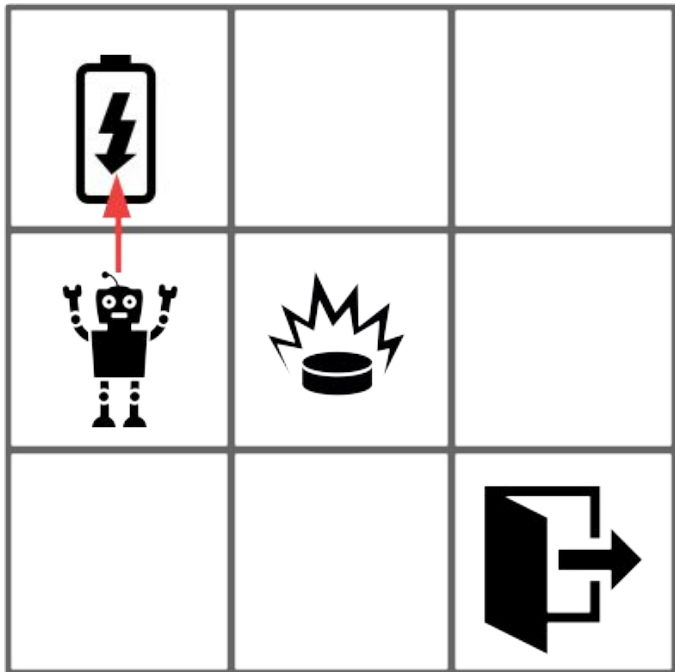


Q-table

	Left	Right	Up	Down
Charging	X	0	X	0
Empty cel 1	0	0	X	0
Empty cel 2	0	X	X	0
Empty cel 3	X	-77	0	0
Land mine	X	X	X	X
Empty cel 4	0	X	0	0
Start	X	0	-9.1	X
Empty cel 5	0	0	0	X
Exit	X	X	X	X

Q-learning

Agent is taking a random action



Q-table				
	Left	Right	Up	Down
Charging	X	0	X	0
Empty cel 1	0	0	X	0
Empty cel 2	0	X	X	0
Empty cel 3	X	-77	0	0
Land mine	X	X	X	X
Empty cel 4	0	X	0	0
Start	X	0	-9.1	X
Empty cel 5	0	0	0	X
Exit	X	X	X	X

Robot takes random action 'up'

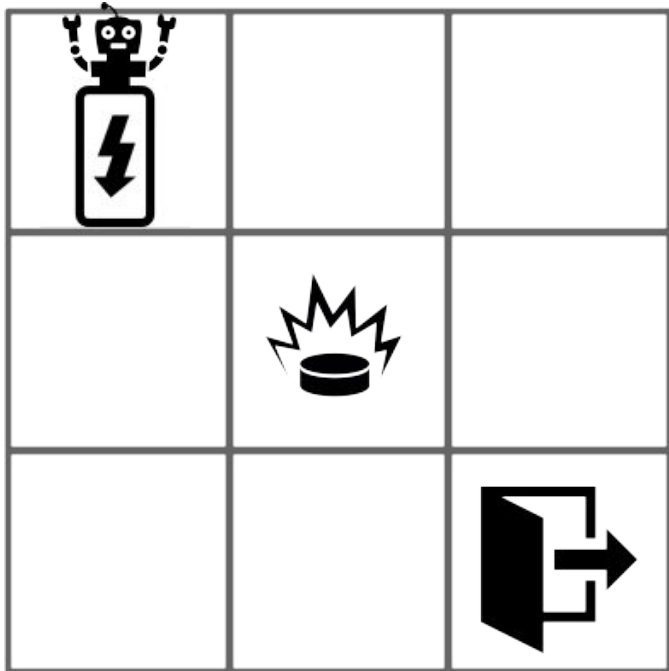
From 'empty cell 3' to state 'charging'

Updating the Q-values with $\alpha=0.7$ and $\gamma=0.8$:

$$\begin{aligned}Q(s_t, a_t) &= (1 - \alpha) \cdot Q(s_t, a_t) + \alpha \cdot (r_t + \gamma \cdot \max_Q(s_{t+1}, a)) \\ &= (1 - 0.7) \cdot 0 + 0.7 \cdot (-10 + 10 + 0.8 \cdot \max(0; 0)) \\ &= 0.3 \cdot (-7) + 0.7 \cdot (0 + 0.8 \cdot 0) \\ &= -2.1\end{aligned}$$

Q-learning

Updating the Q-table

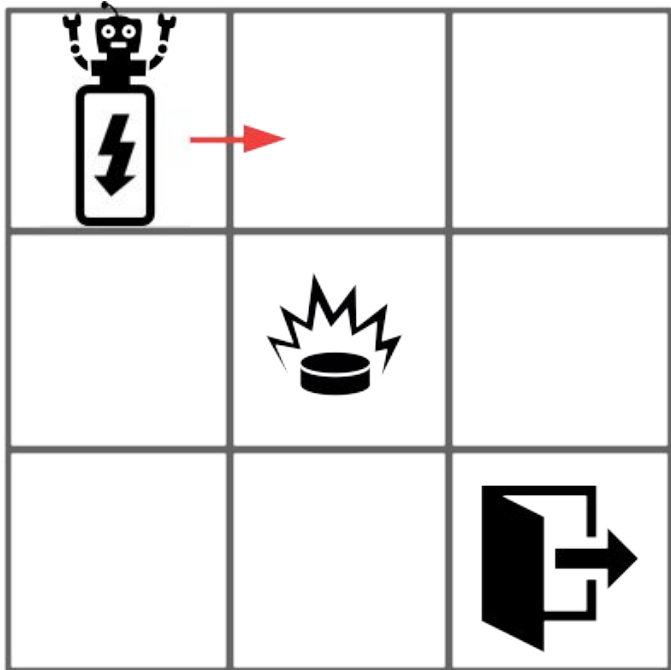


Q-table

	Left	Right	Up	Down
Charging	X	0	X	0
Empty cel 1	0	0	X	0
Empty cel 2	0	X	X	0
Empty cel 3	X	-77	-2.1	0
Land mine	X	X	X	X
Empty cel 4	0	X	0	0
Start	X	0	-9.1	X
Empty cel 5	0	0	0	X
Exit	X	X	X	X

Q-learning

Agent is taking a random action



Robot takes random action 'right'

From 'charging' to state 'empty cell 1'

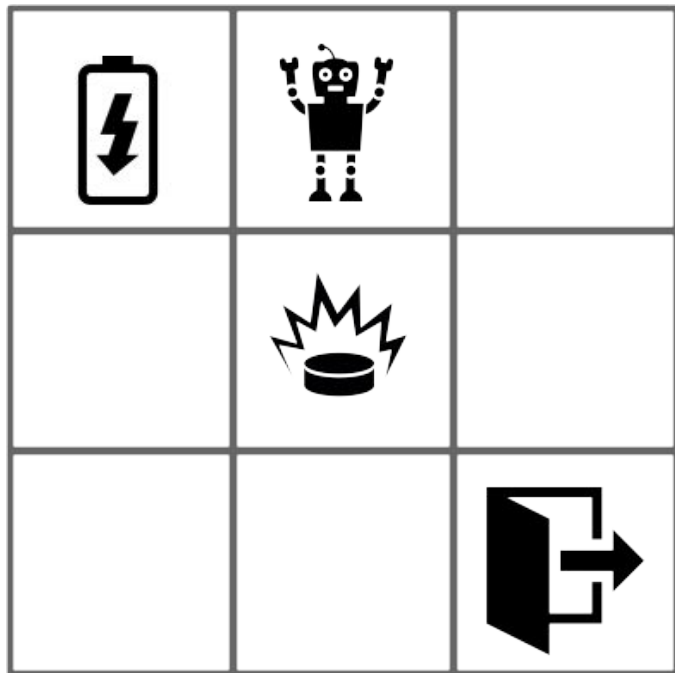
Updating the Q-values with $\alpha=0.7$ and $\gamma=0.8$:

$$\begin{aligned}Q(s_t, a_t) &= (1 - \alpha) \cdot Q(s_t, a_t) + \alpha \cdot (r_t + \gamma \cdot \max_Q(s_{t+1}, a)) \\ &= (1 - 0.7) \cdot 0 + 0.7 \cdot (-10 + 0.8 \cdot \max(0; 0; 0)) \\ &= 0 + 0.7 \cdot (-10 + 0.8 \cdot 0) \\ &= -7\end{aligned}$$

Q-table				
	Left	Right	Up	Down
Charging	X	0	X	0
Empty cel 1	0	0	X	0
Empty cel 2	0	X	X	0
Empty cel 3	X	-77	-2.1	0
Land mine	X	X	X	X
Empty cel 4	0	X	0	0
Start	X	0	-9.1	X
Empty cel 5	0	0	0	X
Exit	X	X	X	X

Q-learning

Updating the Q-table

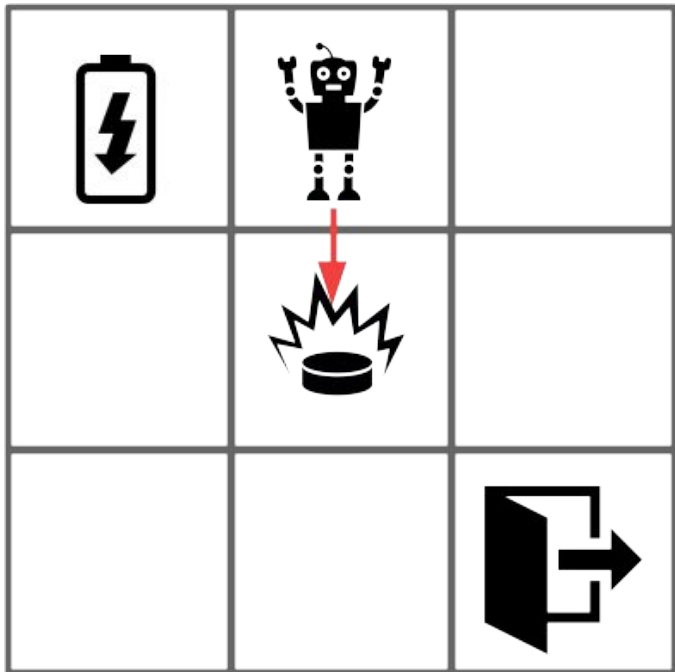


Q-table

	Left	Right	Up	Down
Charging	X	-7	X	0
Empty cel 1	0	0	X	0
Empty cel 2	0	X	X	0
Empty cel 3	X	-77	-2.1	0
Land mine	X	X	X	X
Empty cel 4	0	X	0	0
Start	X	0	-9.1	X
Empty cel 5	0	0	0	X
Exit	X	X	X	X

Q-learning

Agent is taking a random action



Robot takes random action 'Down'

From 'empty cell 1' to state 'landmine'

Updating the Q-values with $\alpha=0.7$ and $\gamma=0.8$:

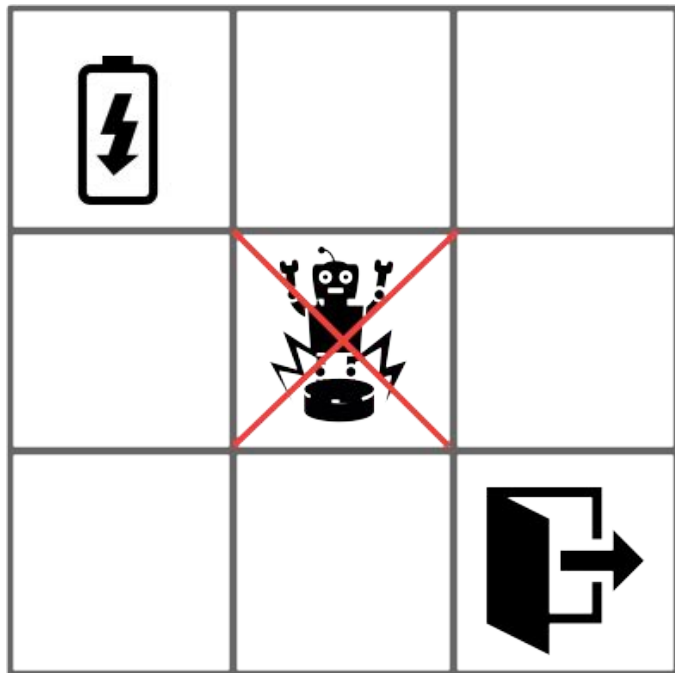
$$\begin{aligned}Q(s_t, a_t) &= (1 - \alpha) \cdot Q(s_t, a_t) + \alpha \cdot (r_t + \gamma \cdot \max_Q(s_{t+1}, a)) \\ &= (1 - 0.7) \cdot 0 + 0.7 \cdot (-10 - 100 + 0.8 \cdot 0) \\ &= 0 + 0.7 \cdot (-110) \\ &= -77\end{aligned}$$

Q-table

	Left	Right	Up	Down
Charging	X	-7	X	0
Empty cel 1	0	0	X	0
Empty cel 2	0	X	X	0
Empty cel 3	X	-77	-2.1	0
Land mine	X	X	X	X
Empty cel 4	0	X	0	0
Start	X	0	-9.1	X
Empty cel 5	0	0	0	X
Exit	X	X	X	X

Q-learning

Updating the Q-table



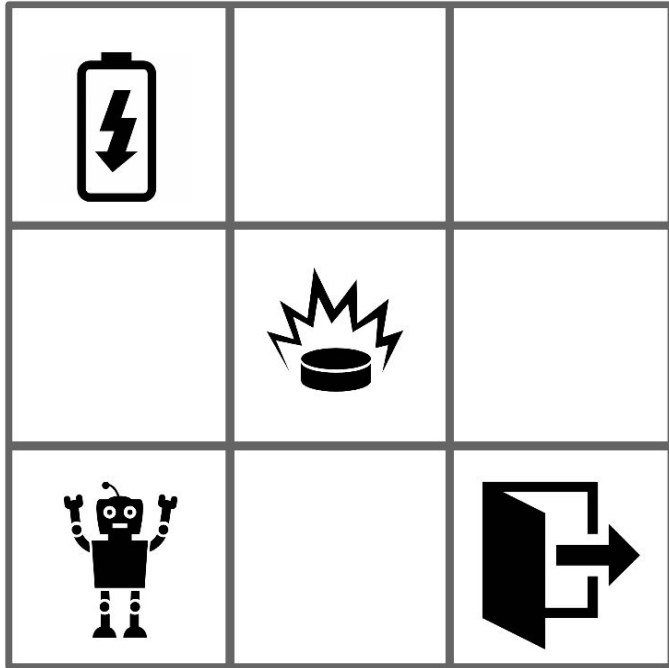
END OF THE EPISODE

Q-table

	Left	Right	Up	Down
Charging	X	-7	X	0
Empty cel 1	0	0	X	-77
Empty cel 2	0	X	X	0
Empty cel 3	X	-77	-2.1	0
Land mine	X	X	X	X
Empty cel 4	0	X	0	0
Start	X	0	-9.1	X
Empty cel 5	0	0	0	X
Exit	X	X	X	X

Q-learning

Suppose after many episode we end up with the following Q-table



Q-table

	Left	Right	Up	Down
Charging	X	1.4	X	-6.4
Empty cel 1	-0.4	8.0	X	-86.7
Empty cel 2	-4.2	X	X	16.3
Empty cel 3	X	-86.4	7.1	-0.48
Land mine	X	X	X	X
Empty cel 4	-82.9	X	-8.7	78.4
Start	X	32.4	18.9	X
Empty cel 5	-8.4	89.1	-86.7	X
Exit	X	X	X	X

During exploitation the agent will follow the state-actions with the highest Q-values: Start -> Empty cell 5 -> Exit

