

DSC291: Machine Learning with Few Labels

Generative Adversarial Learning

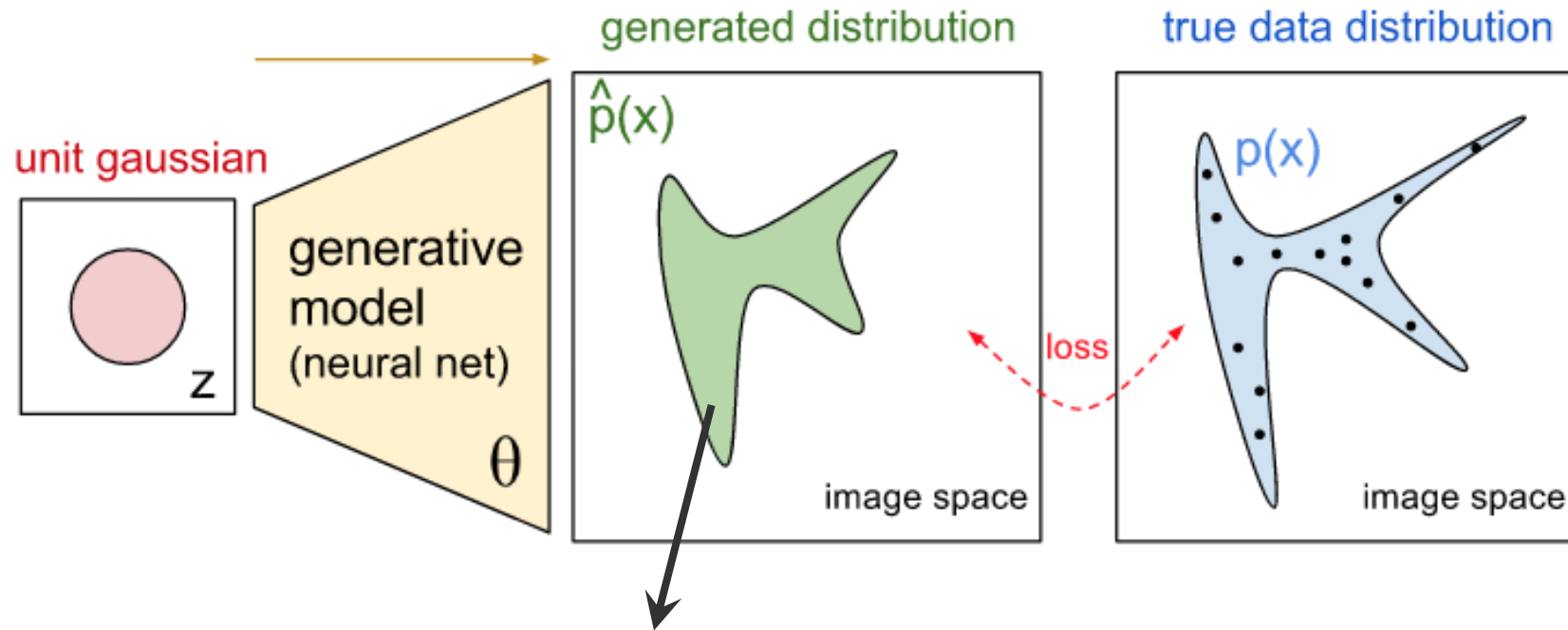
Zhiting Hu

Lecture 12, May 8, 2025

Outline

- Deep Generative Models
 - Generative adversarial learning
- Paper presentation:
 - Letong Liang: “DeepSeek-Prover-V2”
 - Ali El Lahib, Darin Djapri: “TD-MPC2: Scalable, Robust World Models for Continuous Control”

Recap: Implicit Generative Models



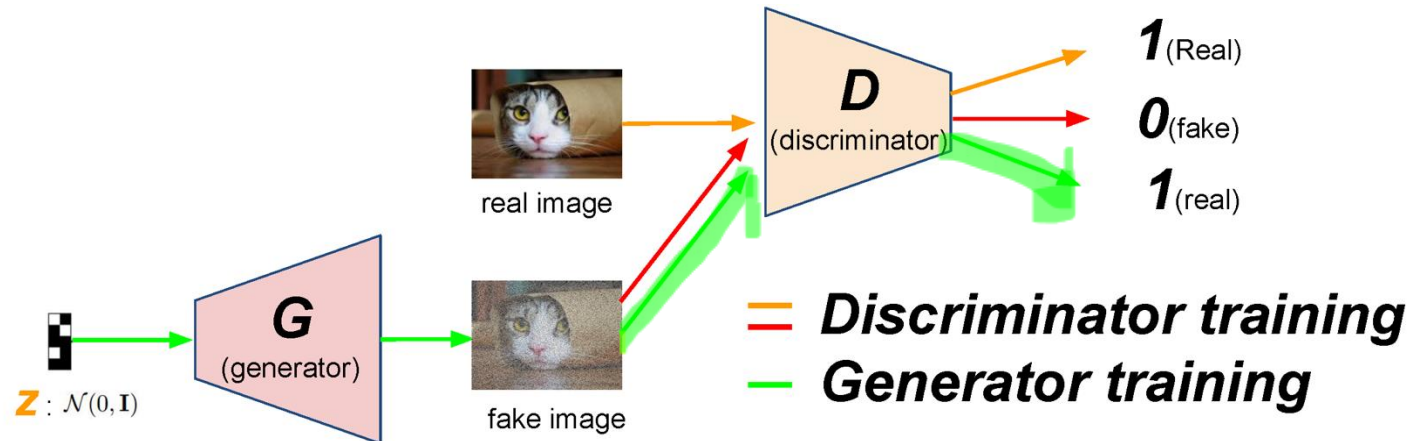
<https://blog.openai.com/generative-models/>

Recap: Generative Adversarial Nets (GANs)

- Learning
 - A **minimax** game between the generator and the discriminator
 - Train D to maximize the probability of assigning the correct label to both training examples and generated samples
 - Train G to fool the discriminator

$$\max_D \mathcal{L}_D = \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \sim p_{data}(\mathbf{x})} [\log D(\mathbf{x})] + \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \sim G(\mathbf{z}), \mathbf{z} \sim p(\mathbf{z})} [\log(1 - D(\mathbf{x}))]$$

$$\min_G \mathcal{L}_G = \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \sim G(\mathbf{z}), \mathbf{z} \sim p(\mathbf{z})} [\log(1 - D(\mathbf{x}))].$$



Question: in practice, we're unlikely to get the optimal D^* . In this case, what is the minimax game truly optimizing?

Recap: Optimality of GANs

- The minimax game can now be reformulated as

$$\begin{aligned} C(G) &= \max_D V(G, D) \\ &= \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \sim p_{\text{data}}} [\log D_G^*(\mathbf{x})] + \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{z} \sim p_z} [\log(1 - D_G^*(G(\mathbf{z})))] \\ &= \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \sim p_{\text{data}}} [\log D_G^*(\mathbf{x})] + \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \sim p_g} [\log(1 - D_G^*(\mathbf{x}))] \\ &= \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \sim p_{\text{data}}} \left[\log \frac{p_{\text{data}}(\mathbf{x})}{p_{\text{data}}(\mathbf{x}) + p_g(\mathbf{x})} \right] + \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \sim p_g} \left[\log \frac{p_g(\mathbf{x})}{p_{\text{data}}(\mathbf{x}) + p_g(\mathbf{x})} \right] \end{aligned}$$

Theorem 1. *The global minimum of the virtual training criterion $C(G)$ is achieved if and only if $p_g = p_{\text{data}}$. At that point, $C(G)$ achieves the value $-\log 4$.*

$$\begin{aligned} C(G) &= -\log(4) + KL \left(p_{\text{data}} \left\| \frac{p_{\text{data}} + p_g}{2} \right\| \right) + KL \left(p_g \left\| \frac{p_{\text{data}} + p_g}{2} \right\| \right) \\ &= -\log(4) + 2 \cdot JSD(p_{\text{data}} \| p_g) \quad \text{Jensen-Shannon Divergence} \end{aligned}$$

Wasserstein GAN (WGAN)

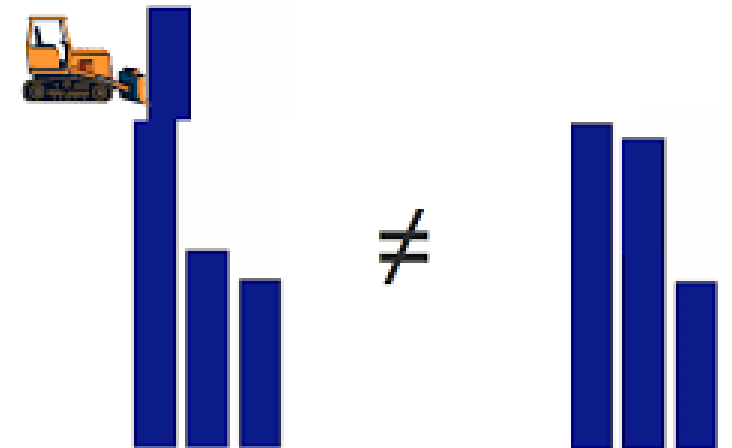
- If our data are on a **low-dimensional** manifold of a high dimensional space, the model's manifold and the true data manifold can have a **negligible intersection in practice**

Wasserstein GAN (WGAN)

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Wasserstein GAN (WGAN)

- If our data are on a **low-dimensional** manifold of a high dimensional space, the model's manifold and the true data manifold can have a **negligible intersection in practice**
- The loss function and gradients may not be continuous and well behaved
- The **Wasserstein Distance** is well defined
 - Earth Mover's Distance
 - Minimum transportation cost for making one pile of dirt in the shape of one probability distribution to the shape of the other distribution



Wasserstein GAN (WGAN)

- Objective

$$W(p_{data}, p_g) = \frac{1}{K} \sup_{\|D\|_L \leq K} \mathbb{E}_{x \sim p_{data}} [D(x)] - \mathbb{E}_{x \sim p_g} [D(x)]$$

- $\|D\|_L \leq K$: K- Lipschitz continuous
- Use gradient-clipping to ensure D has the Lipschitz continuity

Progressive GAN

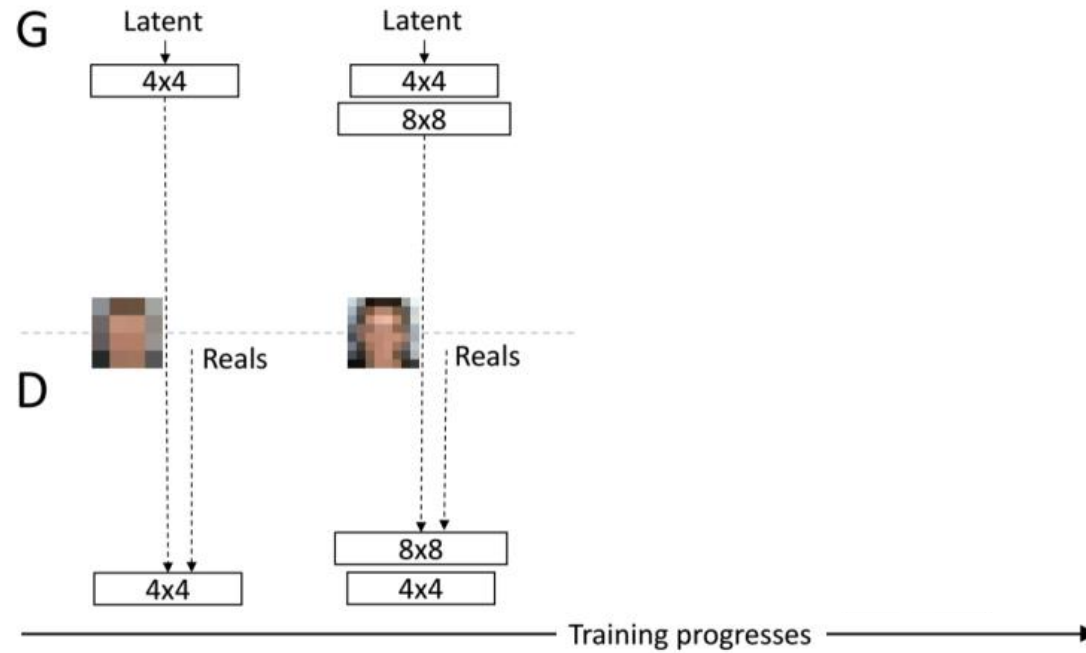
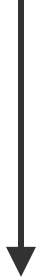
Low resolution images



Progressive GAN

Low resolution images

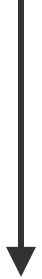
add in
additional
layers



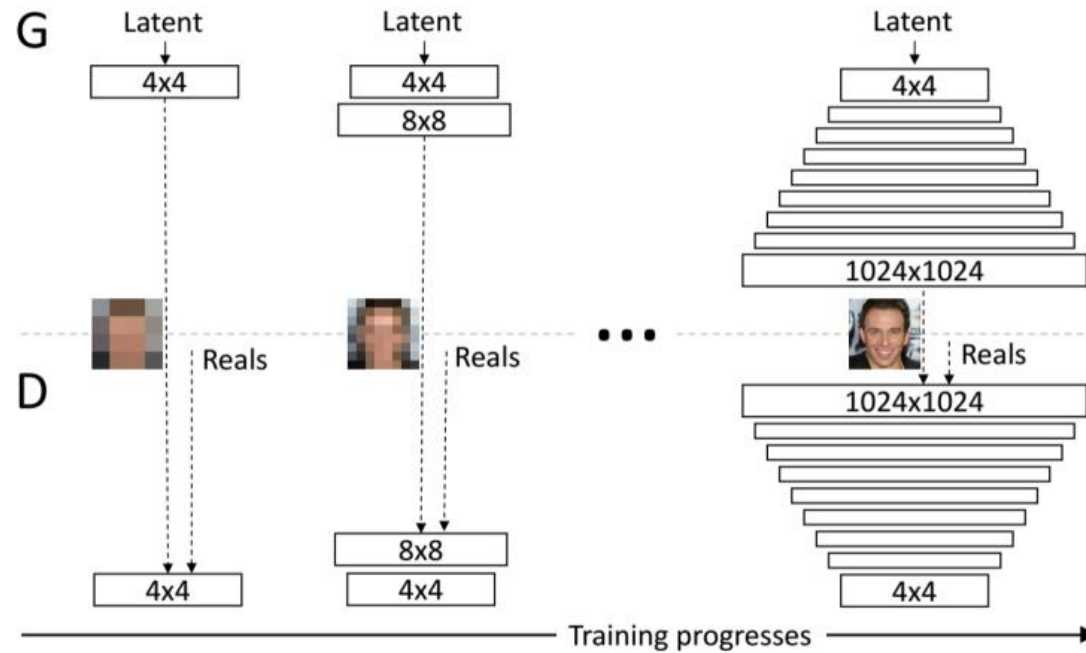
Progressive GAN

Low resolution images

add in
additional
layers



High resolution images



BigGAN

BigGAN

- GANs benefit dramatically from **scaling**

BigGAN

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- 2x – 4x more parameters
- 8x larger batch size
- Simple architecture changes that improve scalability

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BigGAN

- GANs benefit dramatically from **scaling**
- 2x → 4x more parameters
- 8x
- Sim



Key Takeaways

- Deep Generative Models: brief history
- GANs:
 - Implicit generative model
 - Minimax formulation
 - Wasserstein GAN

Diffusion model

- **Forward / noising process**

- Sample data $p(\mathbf{x}_0) \rightarrow$ turn to noise



- **Reverse / denoising process**

- Sample noise $p_T(\mathbf{x}_T) \rightarrow$ turn into data

Reinforcement Learning

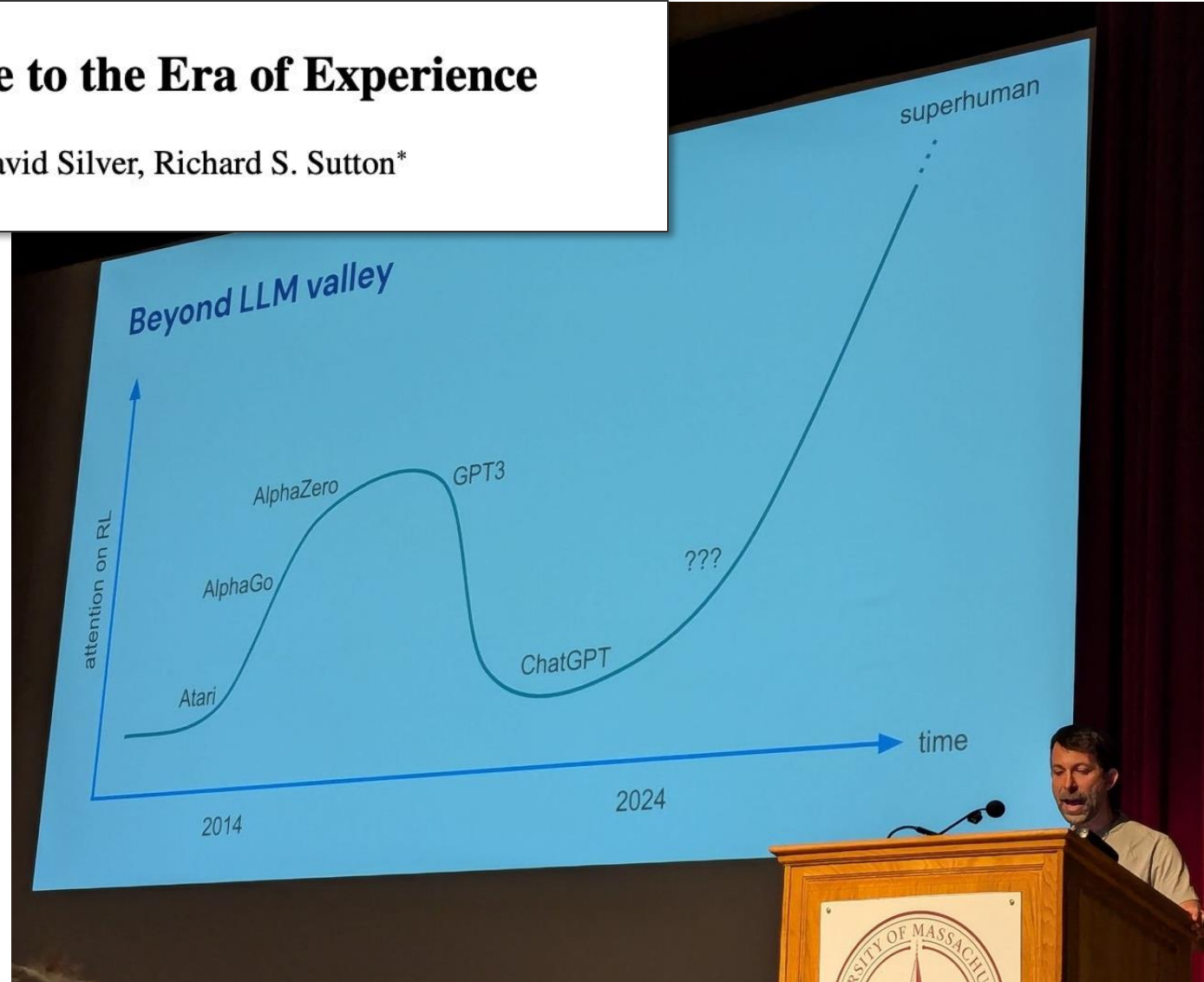
RL Conference 2024



RL Conference 2024

Welcome to the Era of Experience

David Silver, Richard S. Sutton*



So far... Supervised Learning

Data: (x, y)

x is data, y is label

Goal: Learn a *function* to map $x \rightarrow y$

Examples: Classification,
regression, object detection,
semantic segmentation, image
captioning, etc.



→ Cat

Classification

So far... Unsupervised Learning

Data: x
no labels!

Goal: Learn some underlying
hidden *structure* of the data

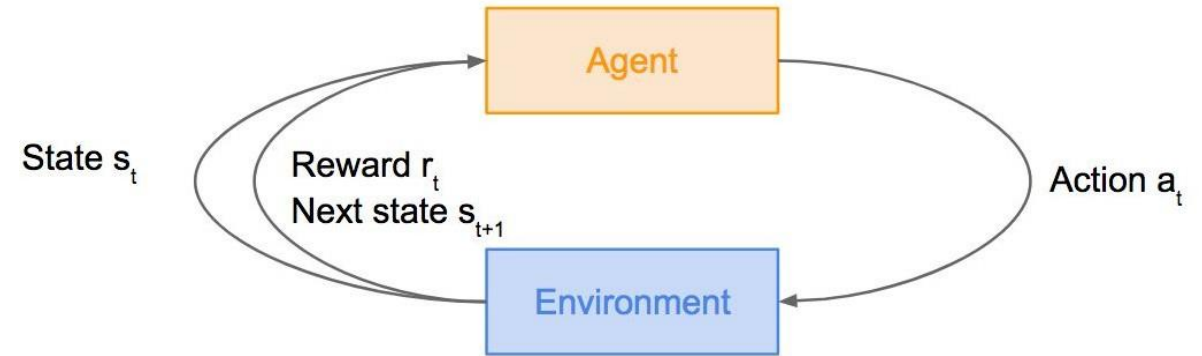
Examples: Clustering,
dimensionality reduction, feature
learning, density estimation, etc.



Today: Reinforcement Learning

Problems involving an **agent** interacting with an **environment**, which provides numeric **reward** signals

Goal: Learn how to take actions in order to maximize reward



Overview

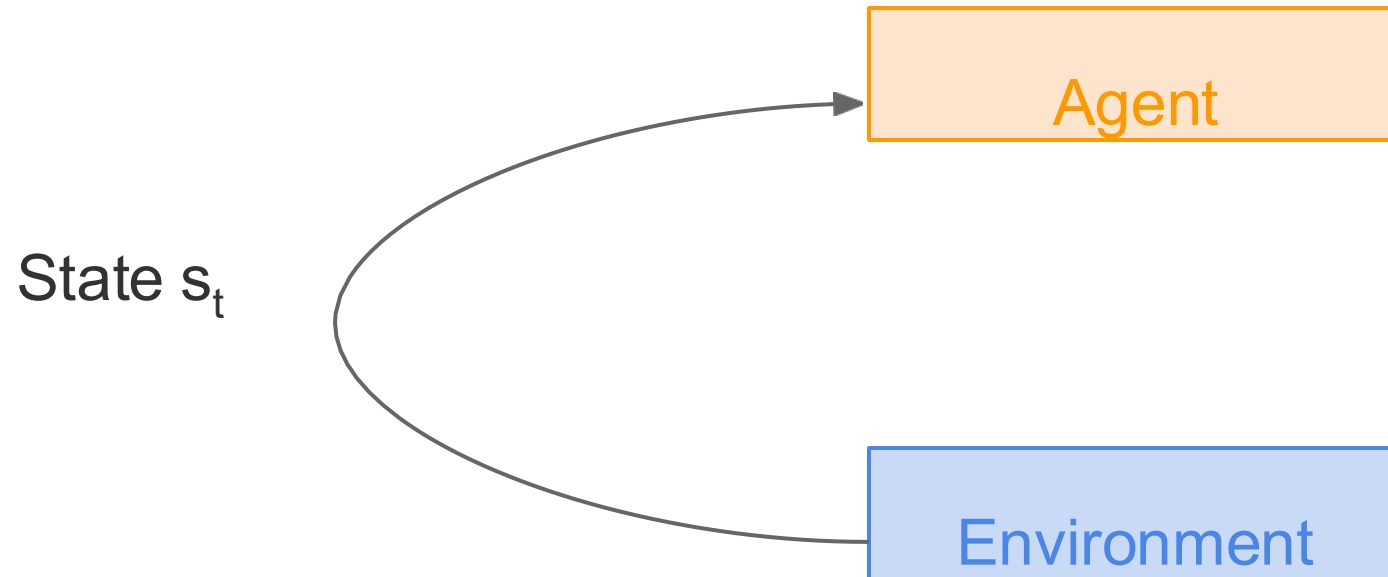
- What is Reinforcement Learning?
- Markov Decision Processes
- Q-Learning
- Policy Gradients

Reinforcement Learning

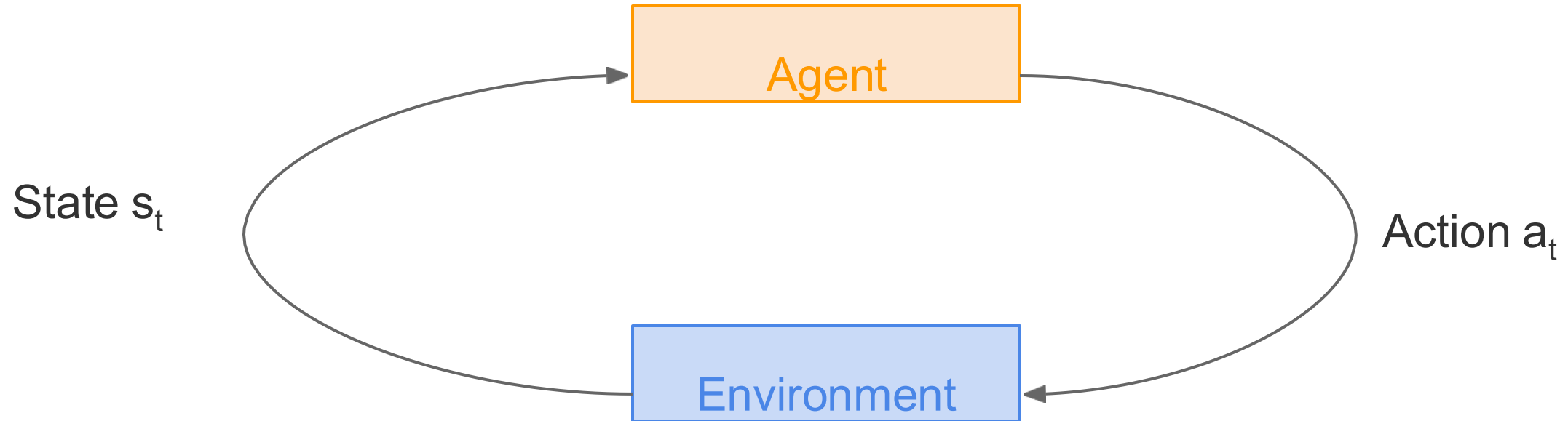
Agent

Environment

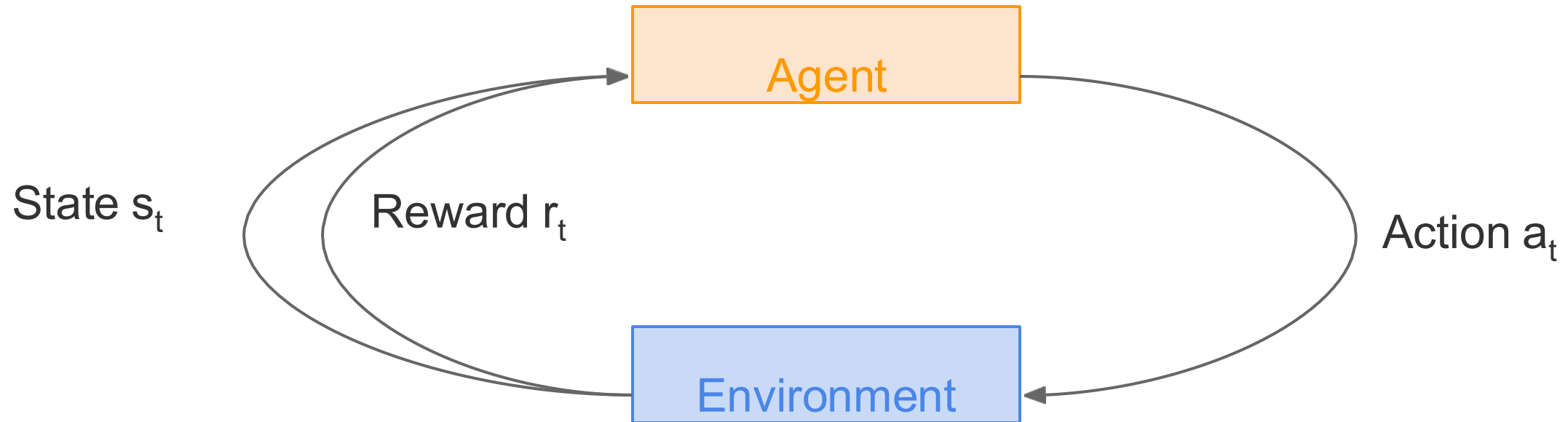
Reinforcement Learning



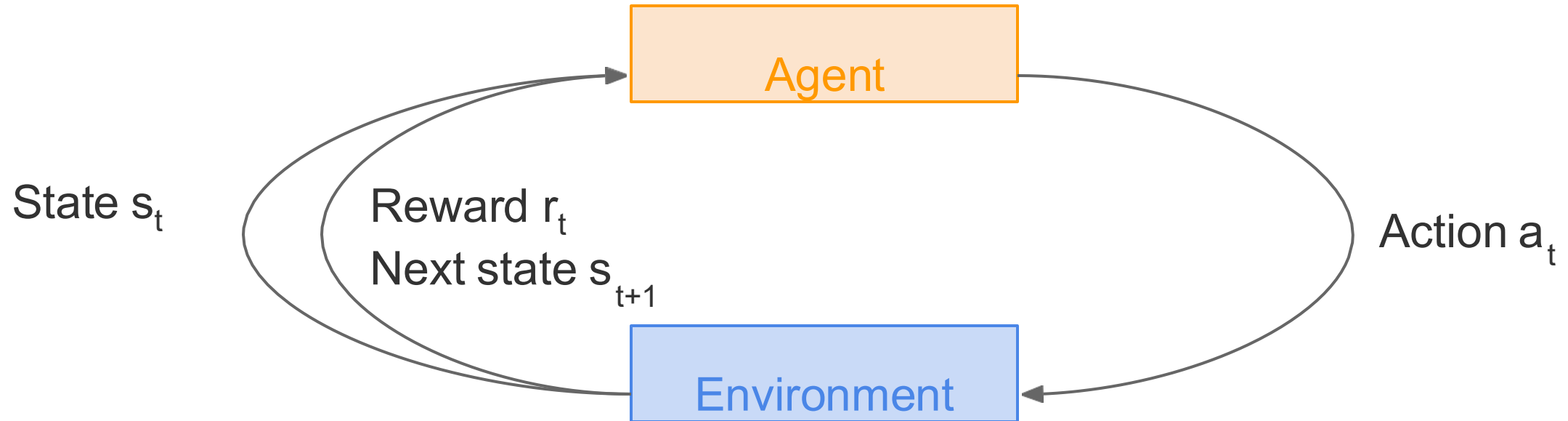
Reinforcement Learning



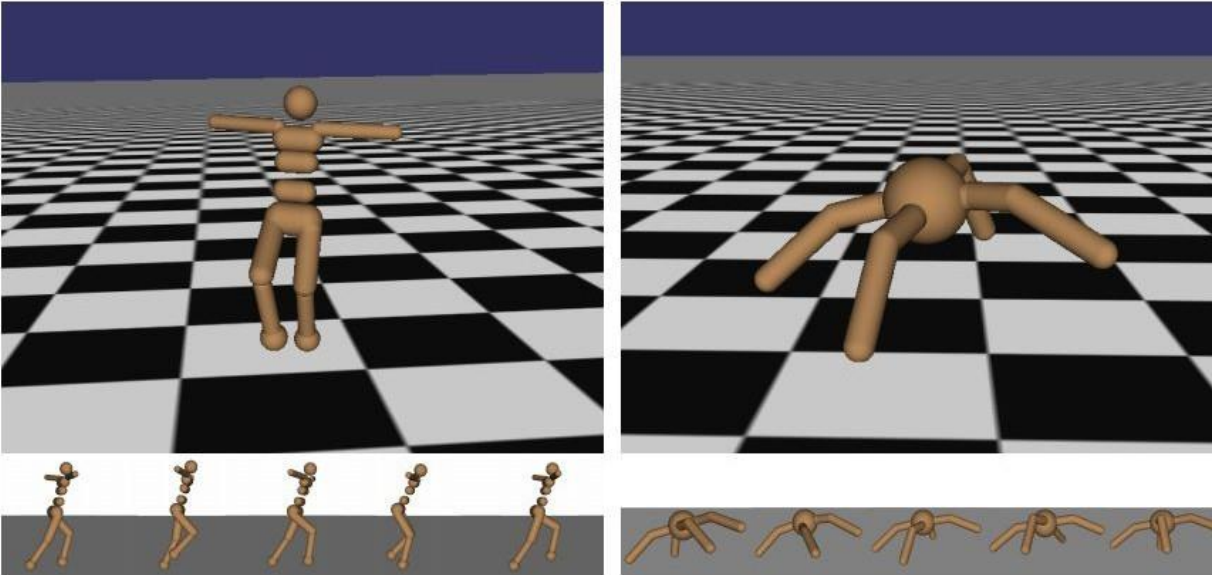
Reinforcement Learning



Reinforcement Learning



Robot Locomotion



Objective: Make the robot move forward

State: Angle and position of the joints

Action: Torque applied on joints

Reward: 1 at each time step upright + forward movement

Atari Games



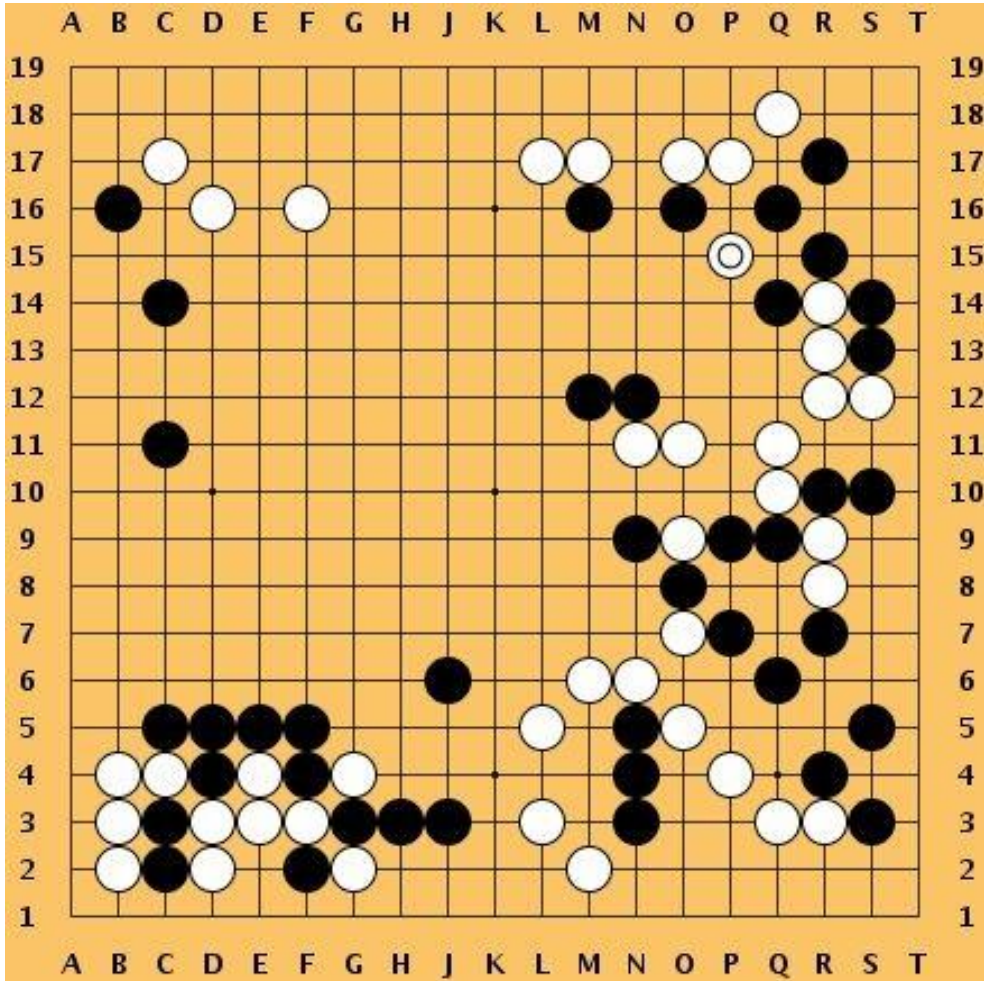
Objective: Complete the game with the highest score

State: Raw pixel inputs of the game state

Action: Game controls e.g. Left, Right, Up, Down

Reward: Score increase/decrease at each time step

Go



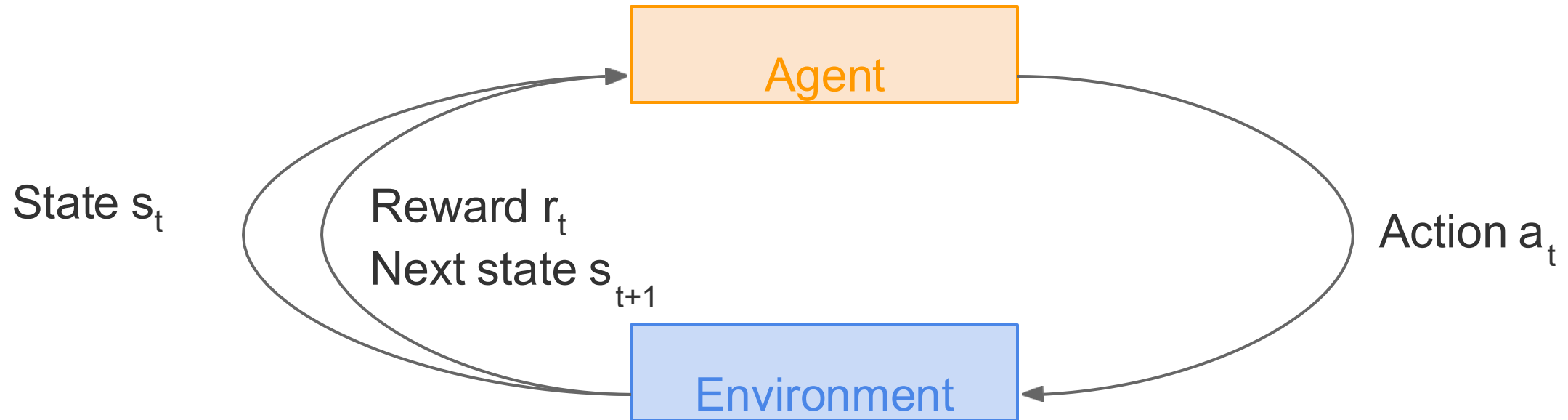
Objective: Win the game!

State: Position of all pieces

Action: Where to put the next piece down

Reward: 1 if win at the end of the game, 0 otherwise

How can we mathematically formalize the RL problem?



Markov Decision Process

- Mathematical formulation of the RL problem
- **Markov property**: Current state completely characterises the state of the world

Defined by: $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{R}, \mathbb{P}, \gamma)$

\mathcal{S} : set of possible states

\mathcal{A} : set of possible actions

\mathcal{R} : distribution of reward given (state, action) pair

\mathbb{P} : transition probability i.e. distribution over next state given (state, action) pair

γ : discount factor

Markov Decision Process

- At time step $t=0$, environment samples initial state $s_0 \sim p(s_0)$
- Then, for $t=0$ until done:
 - Agent selects action a_t
 - Environment samples reward $r_t \sim R(\cdot | s_t, a_t)$
 - Environment samples next state $s_{t+1} \sim P(\cdot | s_t, a_t)$
 - Agent receives reward r_t and next state s_{t+1}
- A policy π is a function from S to A that specifies what action to take in each state
- **Objective:** find policy π^* that maximizes cumulative discounted reward: $\sum_{t \geq 0} \gamma^t r_t$

A simple MDP: Grid World

actions = {

1. right 

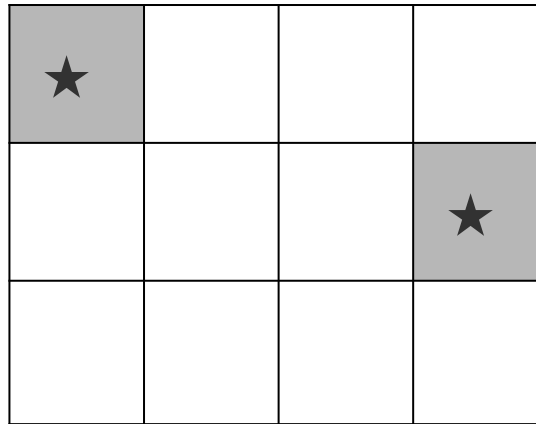
2. left 

3. up 

4. down 

}

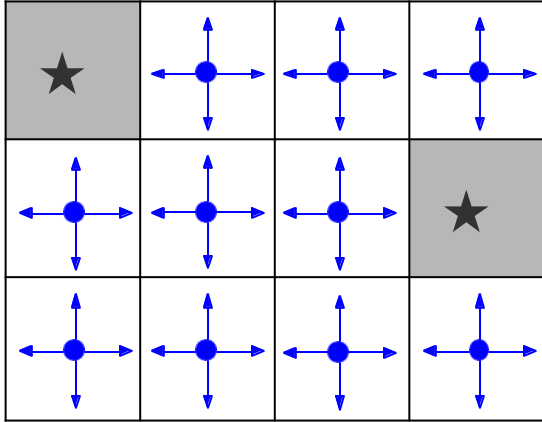
states



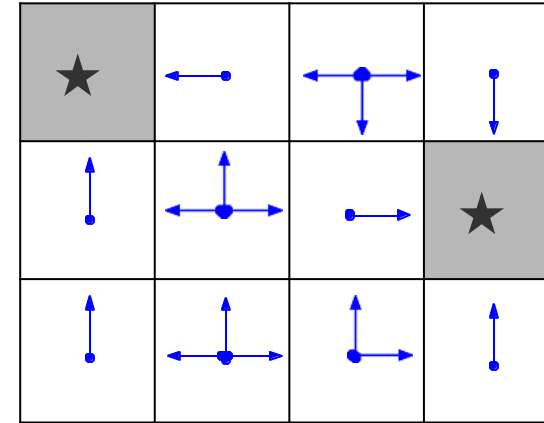
Set a negative “reward”
for each transition
(e.g. $r = -1$)

Objective: reach one of terminal states (greyed out) in
least number of actions

A simple MDP: Grid World



Random Policy



Optimal Policy

Questions?