



BIG DATA CONFERENCE

26-28 NOVEMBER 2019, VILNIUS

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www.buhlmeier.com

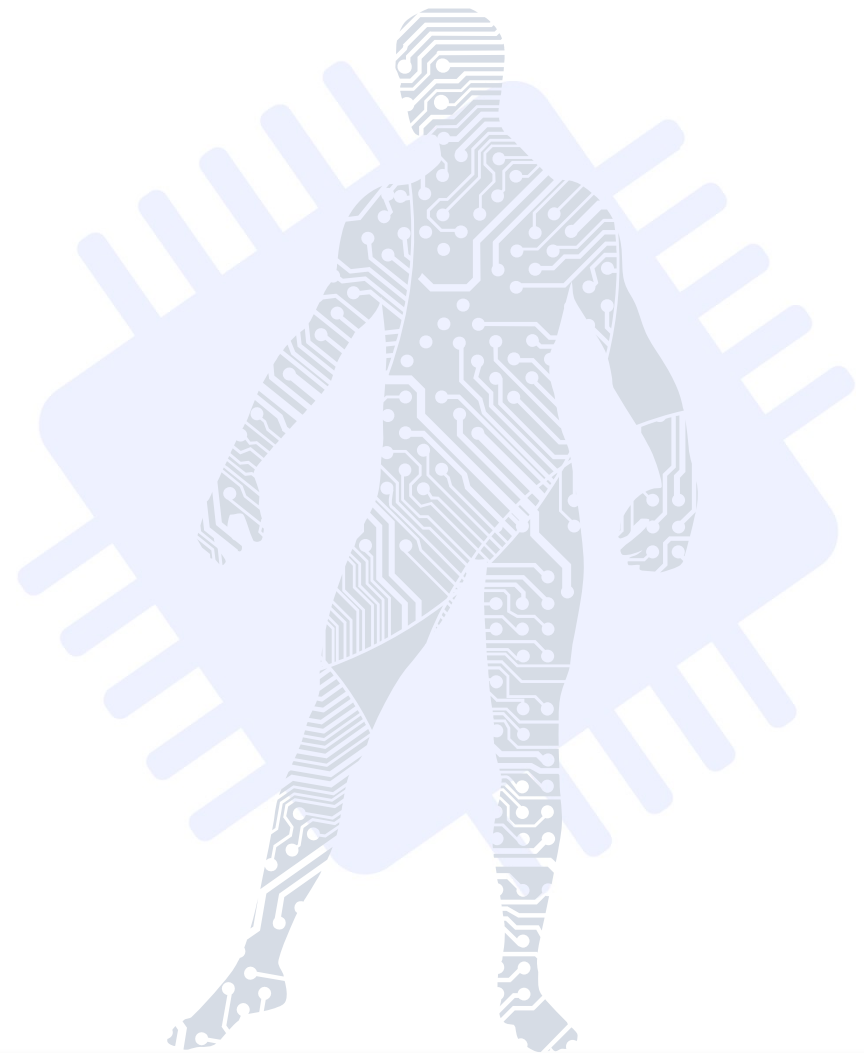
BREAKTHROUGHS & FUTURE OF (DEEP) REINFORCEMENT LEARNING

FOUNDATION, IMPLEMENTATION, APPLICATIONS & TRENDS



THIS -> (rather self.):

- **01 WHY** Reinforcement Learning Matters
- **02 WHO** invented it? RL roots
- **03 HOW** does it work?
- **04 LIVE:** Q-Learning in action
- **05 NOW:** Methods & Milestones
- **06 NEXT:** Future outlook



01

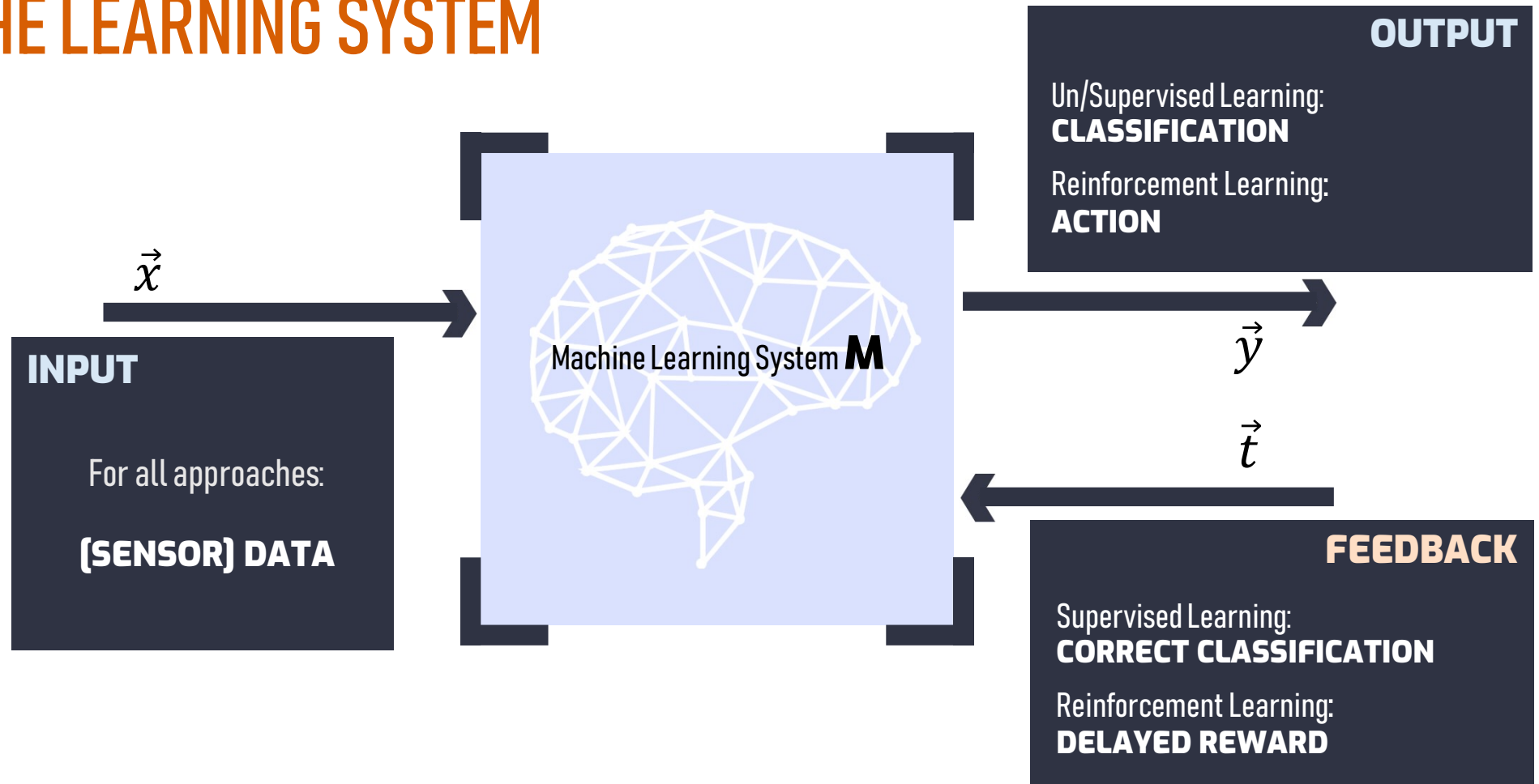
WHY

RL MATTERS

...it is *different.*



THE LEARNING SYSTEM

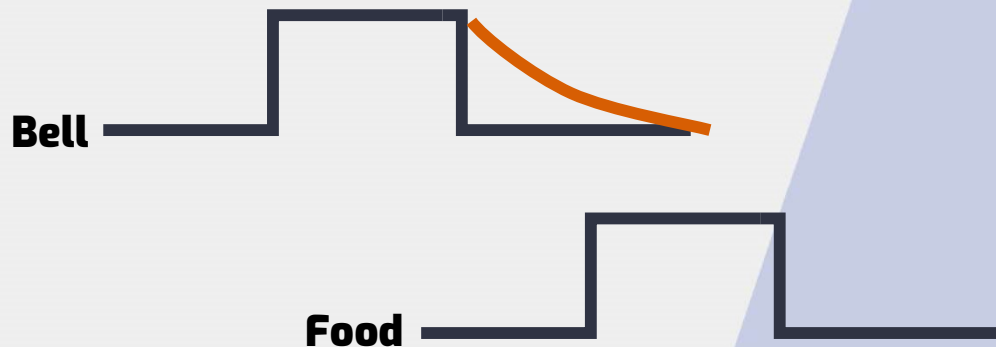


02 WHO

INVENTED IT

ROOTS of Reinforcement Learning Theories

A: PSYCHOLOGY, CLASSICAL CONDITIONING



- Pavlov (1927): ... every stimulus must leave a **TRACE** in the nervous system...

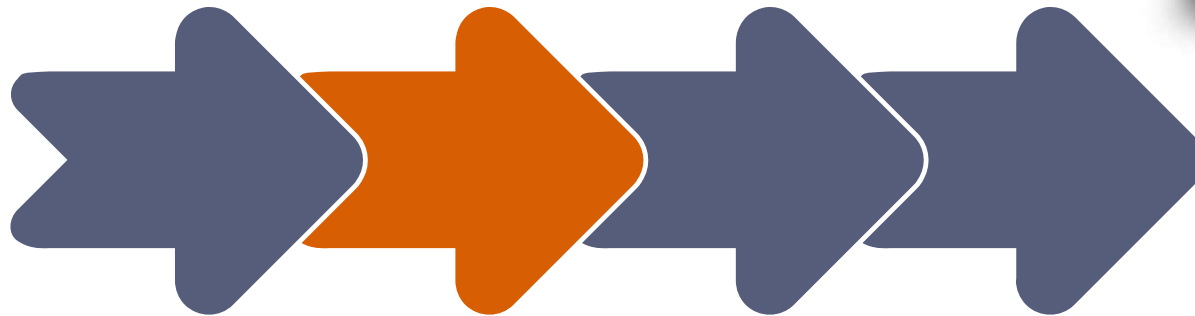
See also: Barto and Sutton: Reinforcement Learning - An Introduction, 2018, MIT Press

B: DYNAMIC PROGRAMMING

- Optimal Control, Bellmann (1952):

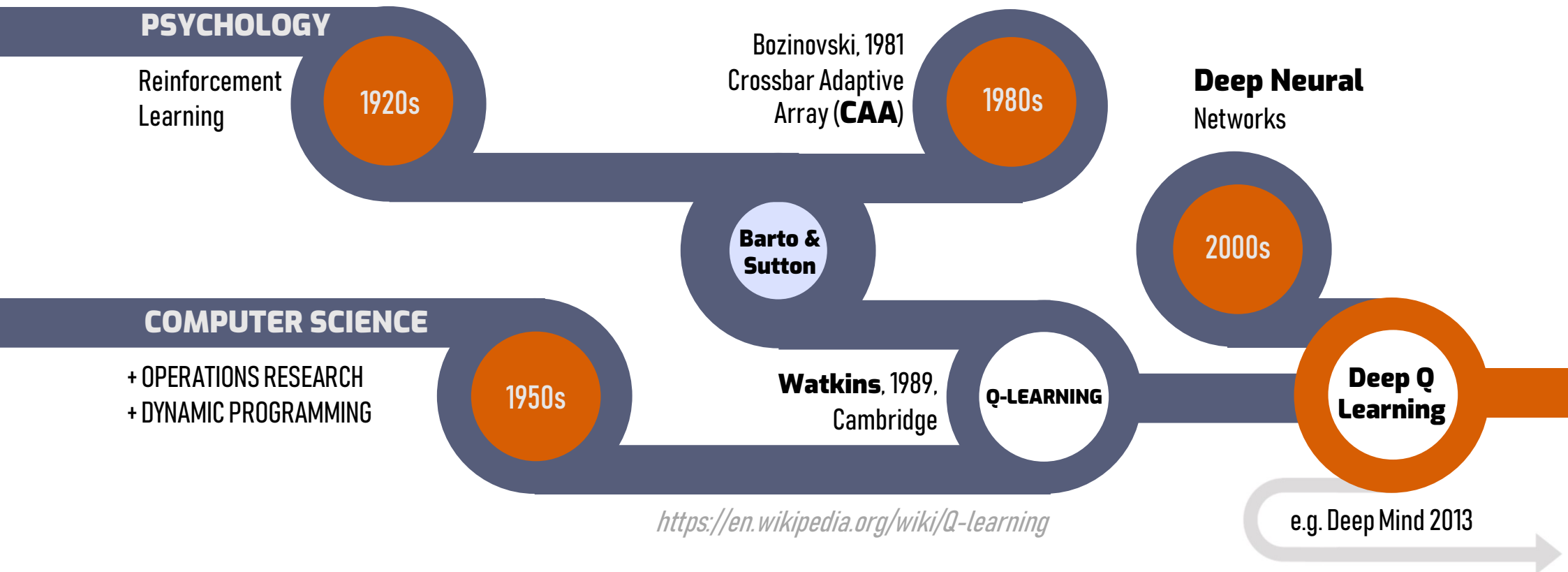
... **sequence of operations** ...

for the purpose of achieving
a desired **result**...



R Bellman, *On the Theory of Dynamic Programming*,
Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences

C: BRINGING IT TOGETHER: A TIMELINE OF RL





In 2014 Google DeepMind patented "deep reinforcement learning" or "**deep Q-learning**" that can play Atari 2600 games at **expert human levels**.

Screenshot from Pitfall!, the popular Atari 2600 video game released in 1982.

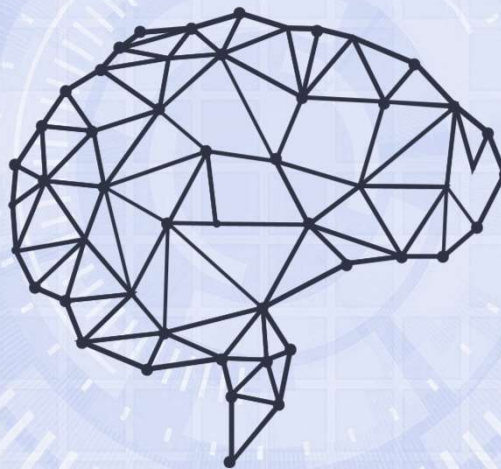
WHY & WHO: SUMMARY I

01

Q-Learning rooted
in Psychology and
Computer Science

02

Several decades of
development



03

Main differences to other
machine learning algorithms:

Concept of an agent that
senses and acts

04

feedback only after a
sequence of actions

03

HOW

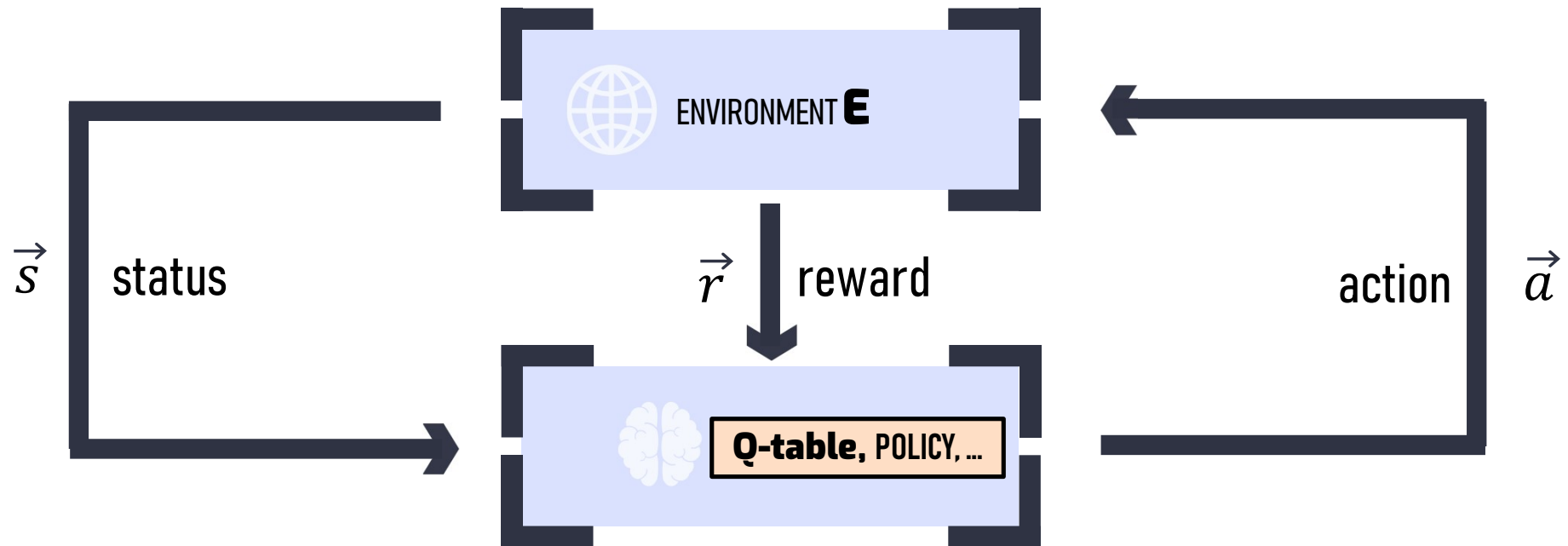
RL WORKS

...and first successes.

ADDING AN ENVIRONMENT



ADDING AN ENVIRONMENT





04 LIVE

Q-LEARNING in action

TAXI ENVIRONMENT FOR REINFORCEMENT LEARNING

TAXI ENVIRONMENT TEST: SWITCHING TO LIVE

[Dietterich2000] "Hierarchical Reinforcement Learning with the MAXQ Value Function Decomposition"

```
+-----+
|R: | : :G|
| : : : : |
| | : | : |
|Y| : |B: |
+-----+
(South)
Status: 214
```

Choose next action: 0(South), 1(North),2(East), 3(West), 4(Pickup), 5(Dropoff)(type exit to end)

4 locations | Pick up at **blue**, drop off at **purple** | Free taxi is **yellow**, with passenger **green** | Successful drop-off +20 pts | Each timestep: -1 pt | Pick-up/drop-off penalties: -10 pts|

STEPS IN Q-LEARNING

```
while done != True:  
    action = getAction(state) # determine the next action  
    new_state, reward, done, info = env.step(action) # get the next state and reward  
    Q[state, action] += alpha * (reward + gamma*np.max(Q[new_state]) - Q[state, action])
```

➤ **Loop:** select the action, observe new state & reward, update Q-table

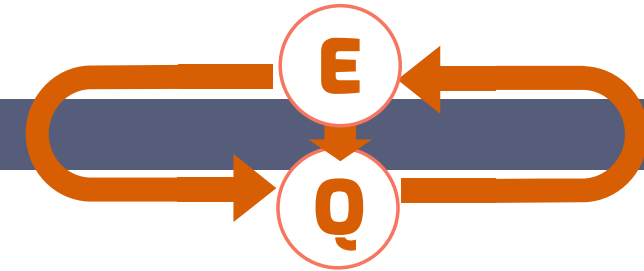
➤ **Initialize** the Q-TABLE

➤ **Initialize** environment

3

2

1



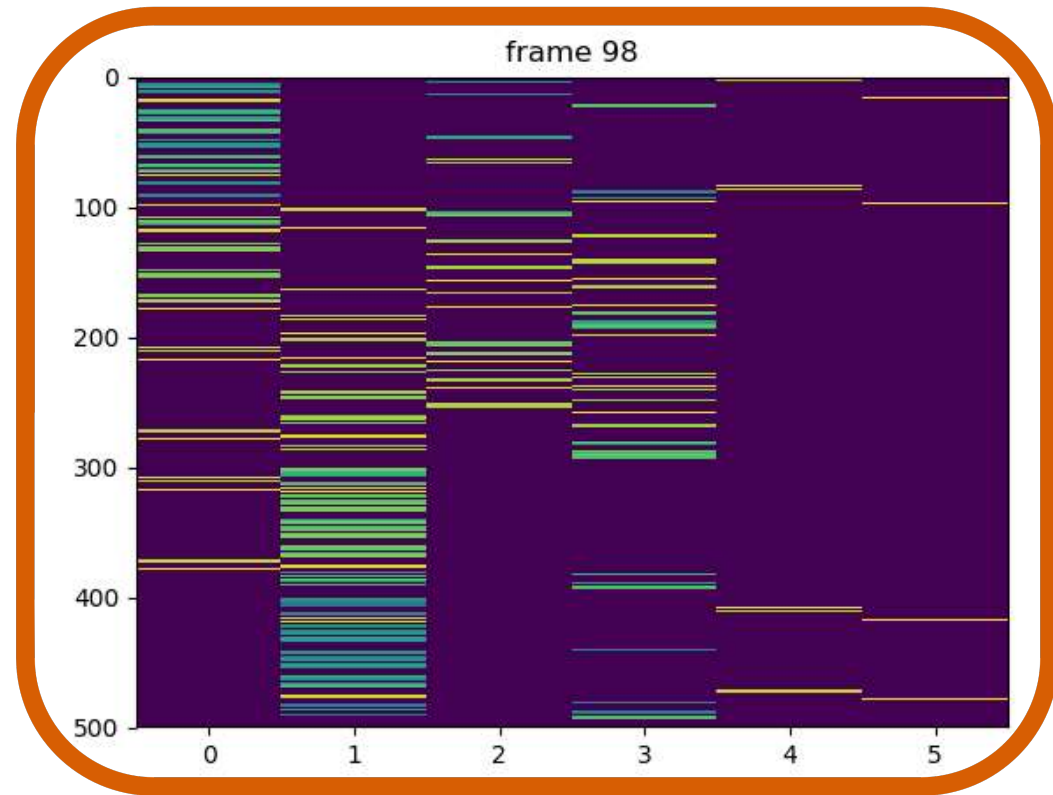
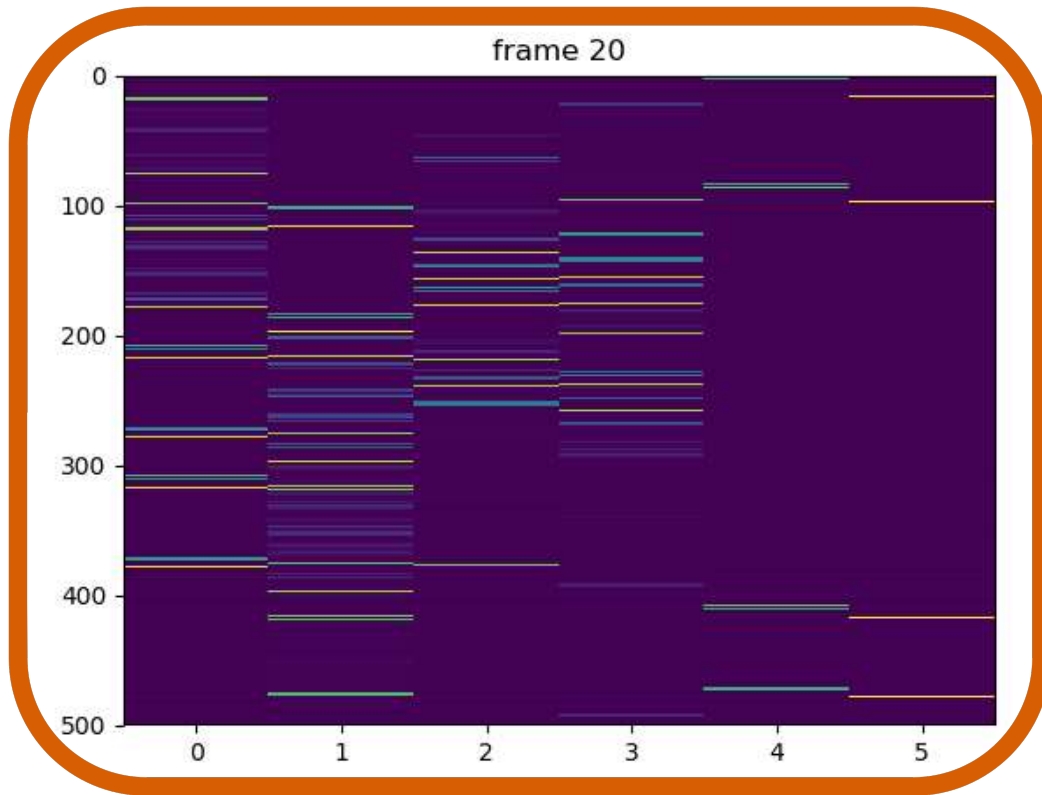
$$\Delta Q(s_t, a_t) = \alpha(r_t + \gamma \max_a Q(s_{t+1}, a) - Q(s_t, a_t))$$

Learning Rate Discount

Reward Future value estimate

FILLING THE Q-TABLE

500 states: 25 squares, 5 locations for the passenger, 4 destinations | **6 actions:** 4 directions, pick up, drop



DOWN TO THE NUMBERS:

```
+-----+
|R: | : :G|
| : : : : |
| : : : : |
| | : | : |
|G| : |B: |
+-----+
(South)
Status: 418
```

416	-0,836523509	1738,554243	-0,836523509	-0,836523509	-0,896681859	-0,84172871
417	-2,420350651	1656,676475	-2,420350651	-2,420350651	-2,497002299	-2,433222667
418	-0,01	-0,01	-0,01	-0,01	-0,1	1831,963936

➤ Means „drop passenger“

Choose next action: 0(South), 1(North),2(East), 3(West), 4(Pickup), 5(Dropoff)(type exit to end)

4 locations | Pick up at blue, drop off at purple | Free taxi is yellow, with passenger green | Successful drop-off +20 pts | Each timestep: -1 pt | Pick-up/drop-off penalties: -10 pts|

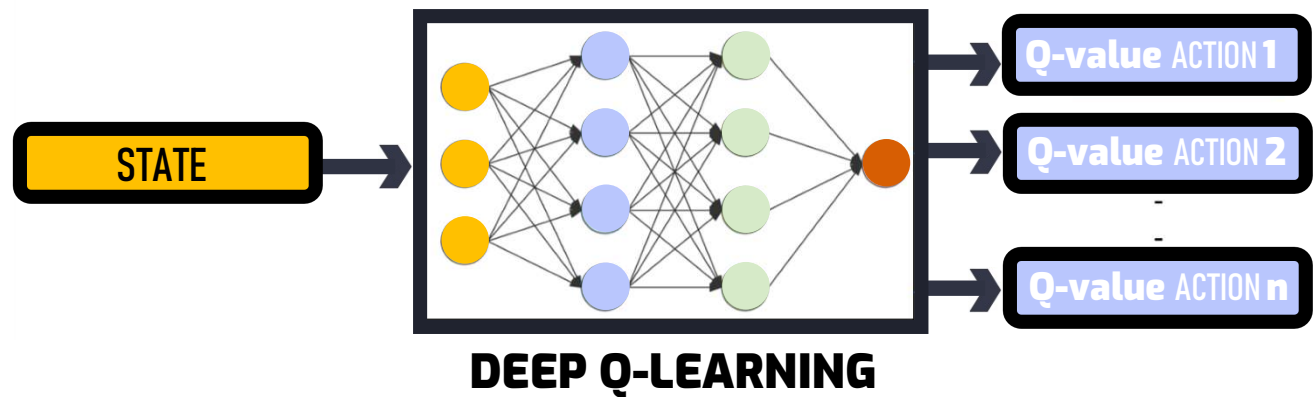
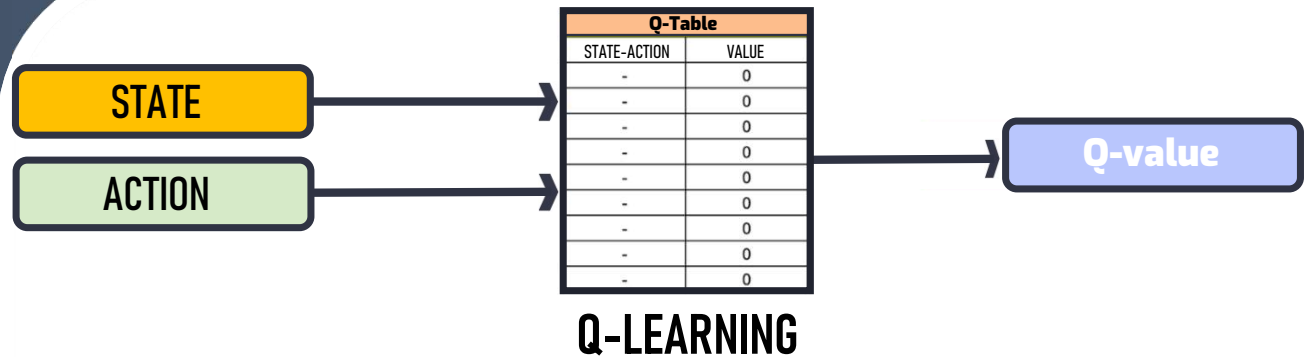
CURSE OF DIMENSIONALITY

➤ Taxi game has 500 states, 6 possible actions = 3000 values

➤ In more realistic scenarios, the dimensionality explodes

- Camera with 1M pixel * 256 color values... etc

➤➤➤ better replace the table



HOW / IN ACTION: SUMMARY II

01

Q-Learning is a relatively simple algorithm

02

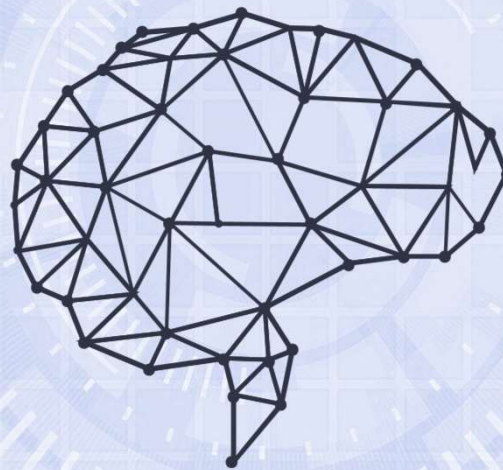
Basic Q Learning stores values in a table

03

(Deep) NN overcomes the curse of dimensionality

04

Q-Learning is 'model free' (no idea what the next state will be)



A high-angle, blurred photograph of a crowd of people walking on a light-colored tiled floor. The people are out of focus, creating a sense of motion and a busy environment. The overall color palette is light and airy, with a blueish tint.

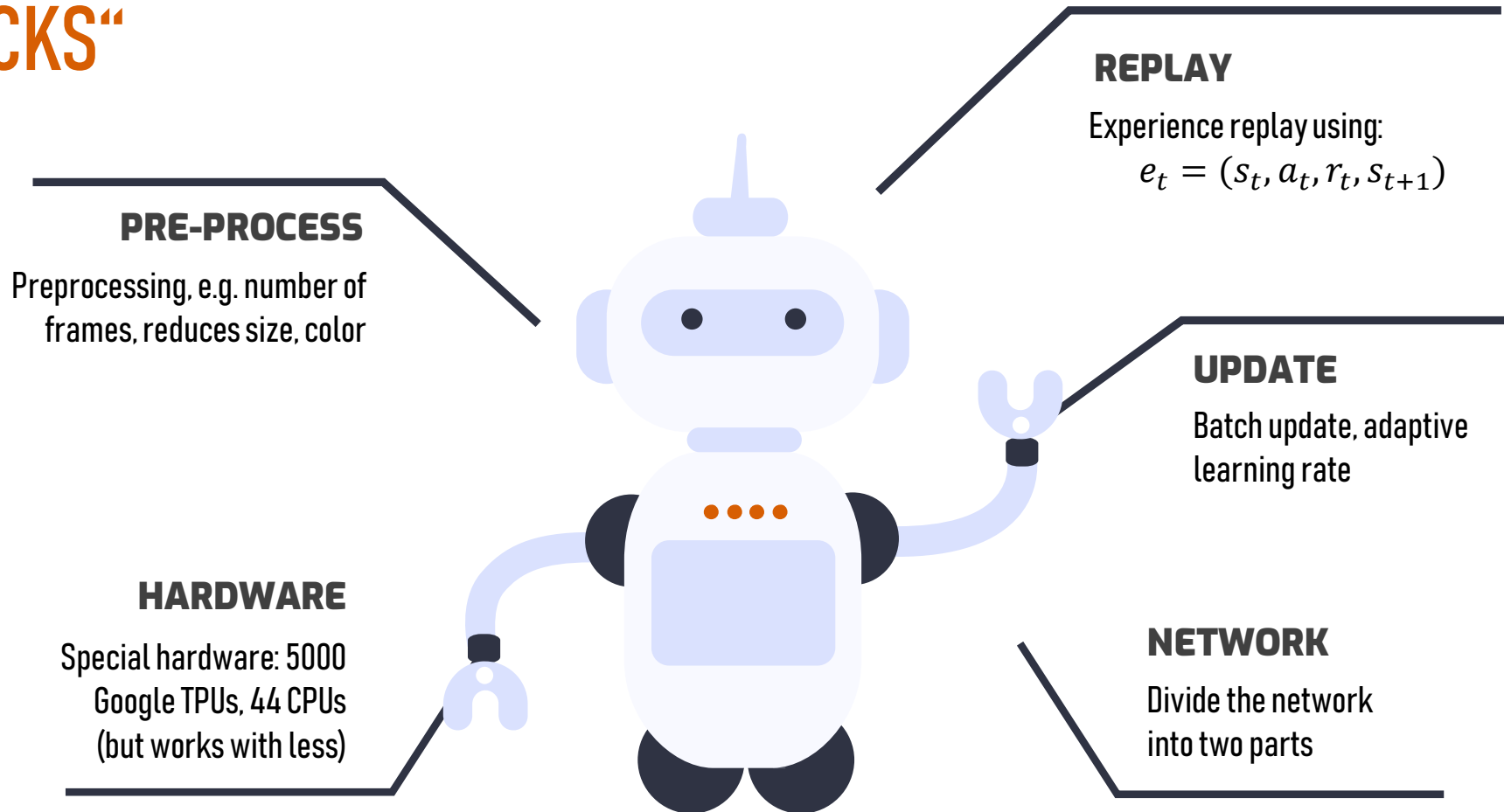
05 NOW

Methods & Milestones

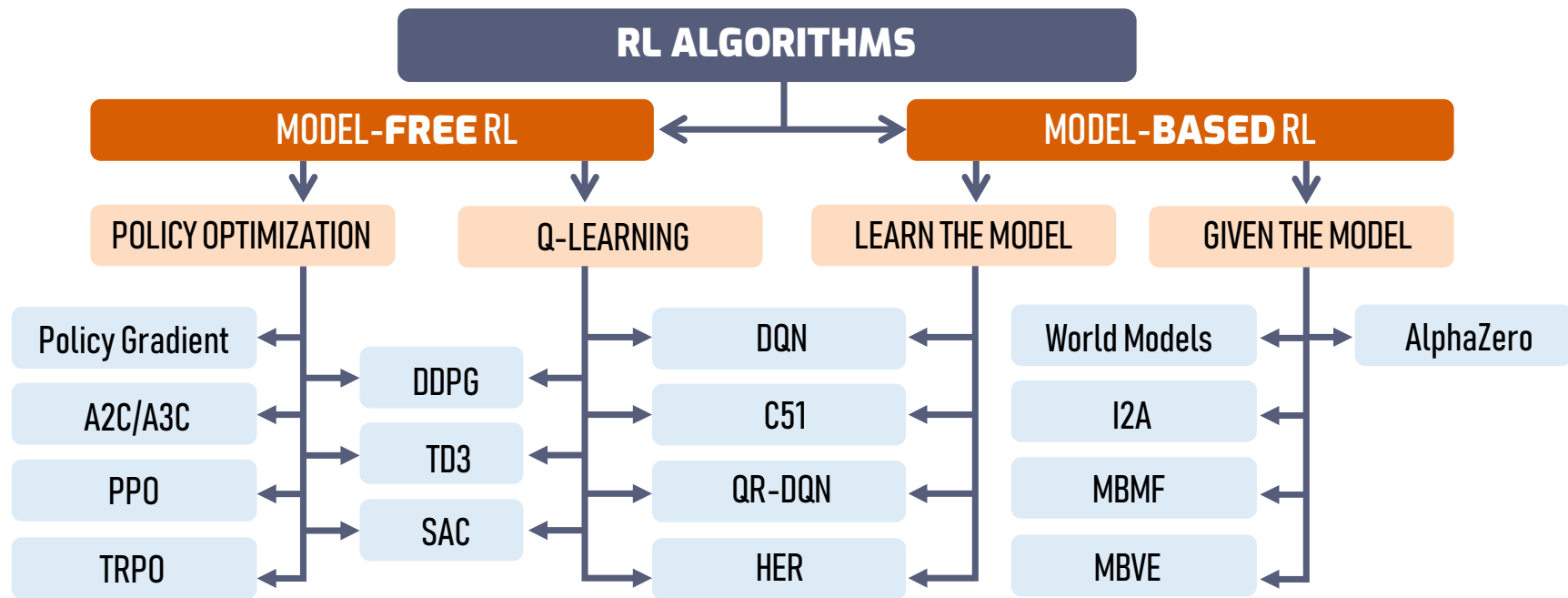
MILESTONES: WINNING GAMES



„TRICKS“



TAXONOMY OF RL METHODS



<https://spinningup.openai.com>

A blurred, high-angle photograph of a large crowd of people walking across a crosswalk, overlaid with a light blue tint. The motion blur gives a sense of a busy, forward-moving environment.

FUTURE OUTLOOK

06 NEXT

Optimization of Molecules via Deep Reinforcement Learning

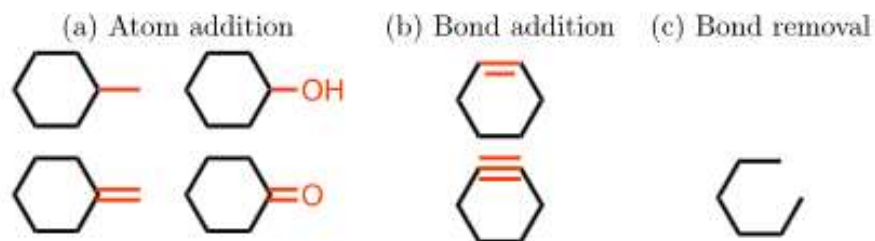
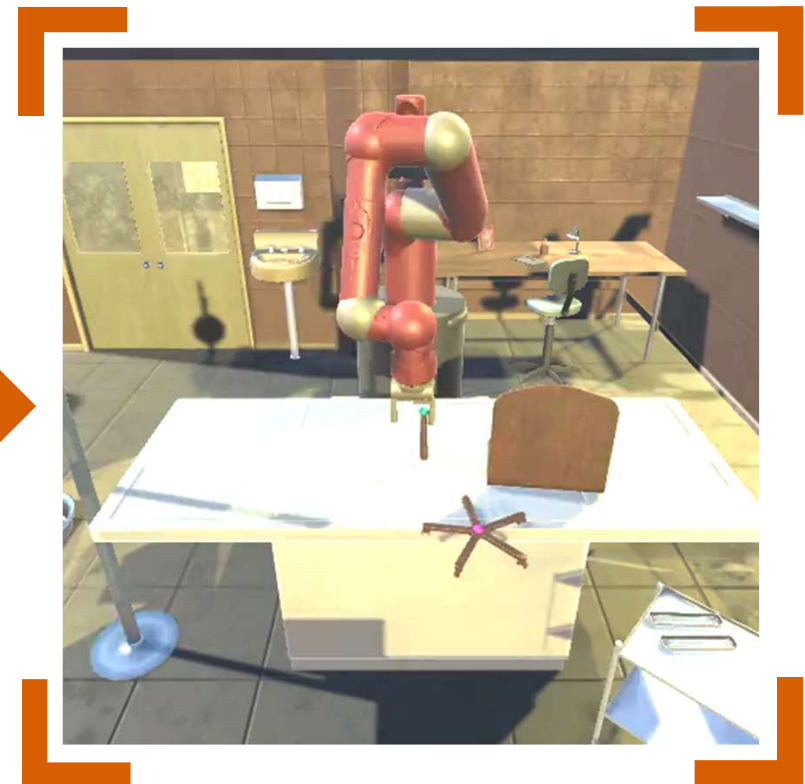
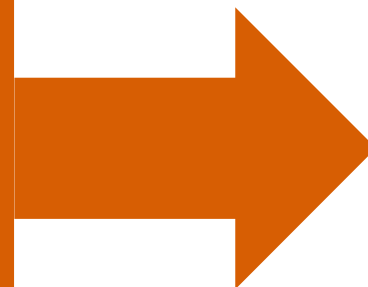


Figure 1. Valid actions on the state of cyclohexane. Modifications are shown in red. Invalid bond additions which violate the heuristics explained in Section 2.1 are not shown.

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-019-47148-x>

GYM UPDATE FROM 2013 TO 2019 & BEYOND



<https://clvrai.github.io/furniture/>

KEY TAKE HOME CONCEPTS



Reinforcement Learning has a **long history**



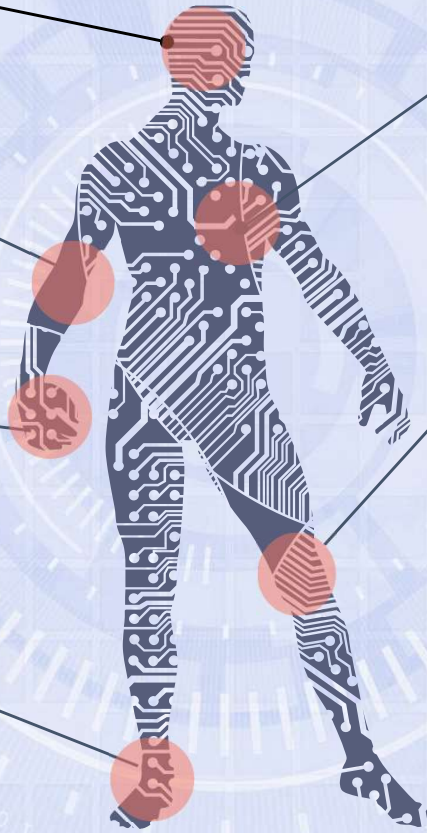
Markovian Decision Process



Q-Learning:
exploration vs exploitation



Deep Learning



Future Applications:


what to expect



New results expected

- in all areas that can be **simulated** (can do many trials)
- from **new combinations** of the many approaches





„...new beings will emerge from existing artificial intelligence systems. They will think 10,000 times faster than we do and they will regard us as we now regard plants. We will be partners in this project... “

~ James Lovelock in ‚Novacene‘

PRODUCTION & DESIGN CREDITS

- [MARIA JC MONTEIRO](#): slideshow concept, design, layout, production
- [ALLPPT.COM](#): free powerpoint templates
- [WIKIPEDIA.ORG](#): Ivan Pavlov & Richard Ernest Bellman images
- [GOOGLE IMAGES](#): „Pitfall“ game image, usage rights „labelled for reuse with modification“
- [PIXABAY.COM](#): „free for commercial use, no attribution required“ images
 - Thanks to (in order of image first appearance) [Svajoklis1](#) | [Svajunas Kraujalis](#), [Pexels](#), [PourquoiPas](#), [TheDigitalArtist](#) | [Pete Linforth](#), [CreativeMagic](#) | [Magic Creative](#) , [Free-Photos](#), [B_Me](#) | [Brian Merrill](#)



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Labai ačiū!

HAPPY TO ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS NOW 😊

