

# Reinforcement learning

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Gergő Orbán

# Recap: Learning frameworks

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- Unsupervised

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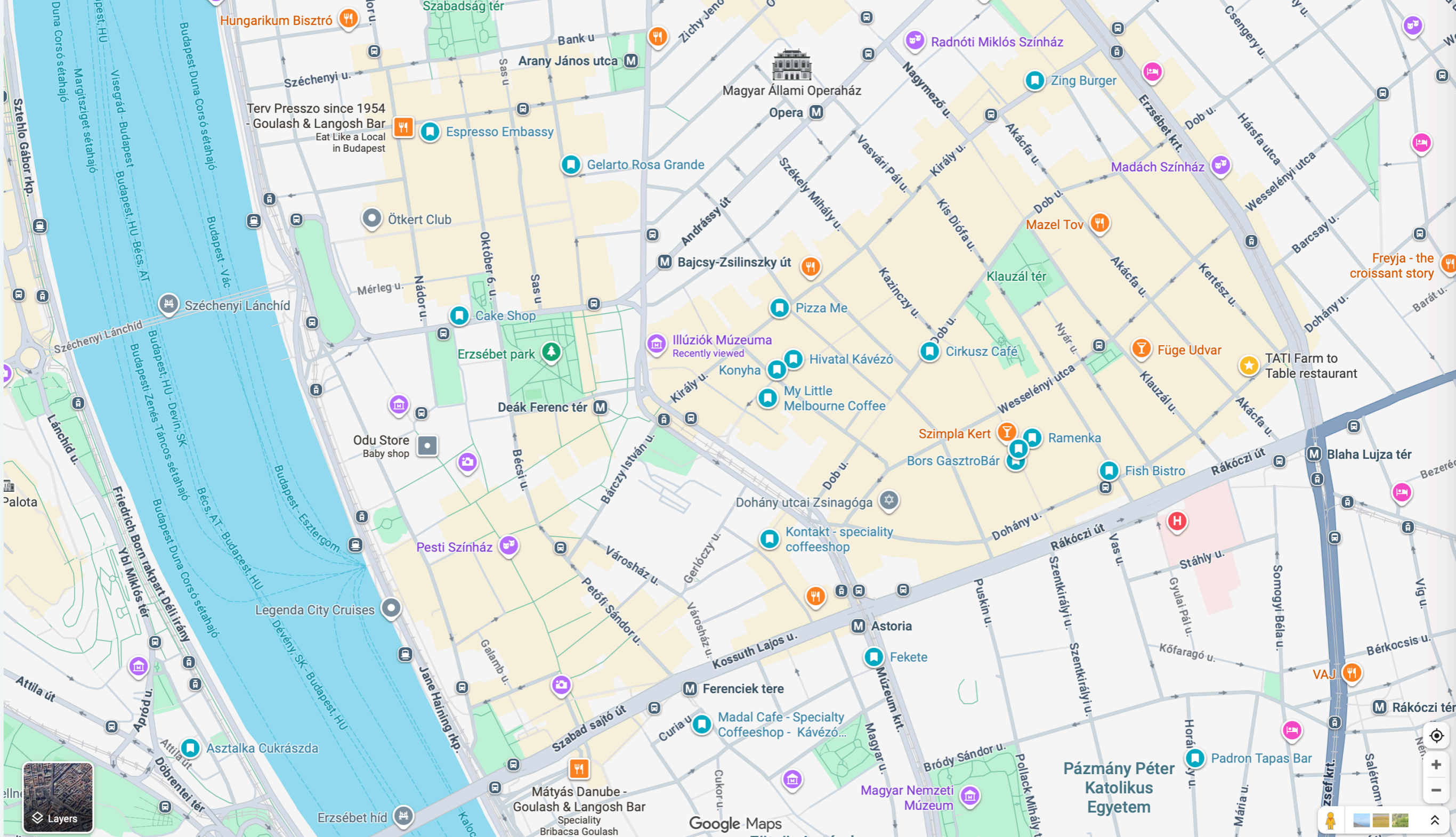
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- Unsupervised
- Supervised learning:  $y=f(x)$  — essentially a mapping from input to output
  - > task specific
  - > requires labelled data points
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- Reinforcement learning
  - > phrasing learning as collection of reward
  - > sparser learning signal
  - >  $\max E [\text{Reward}(\text{input}, \text{action})]$





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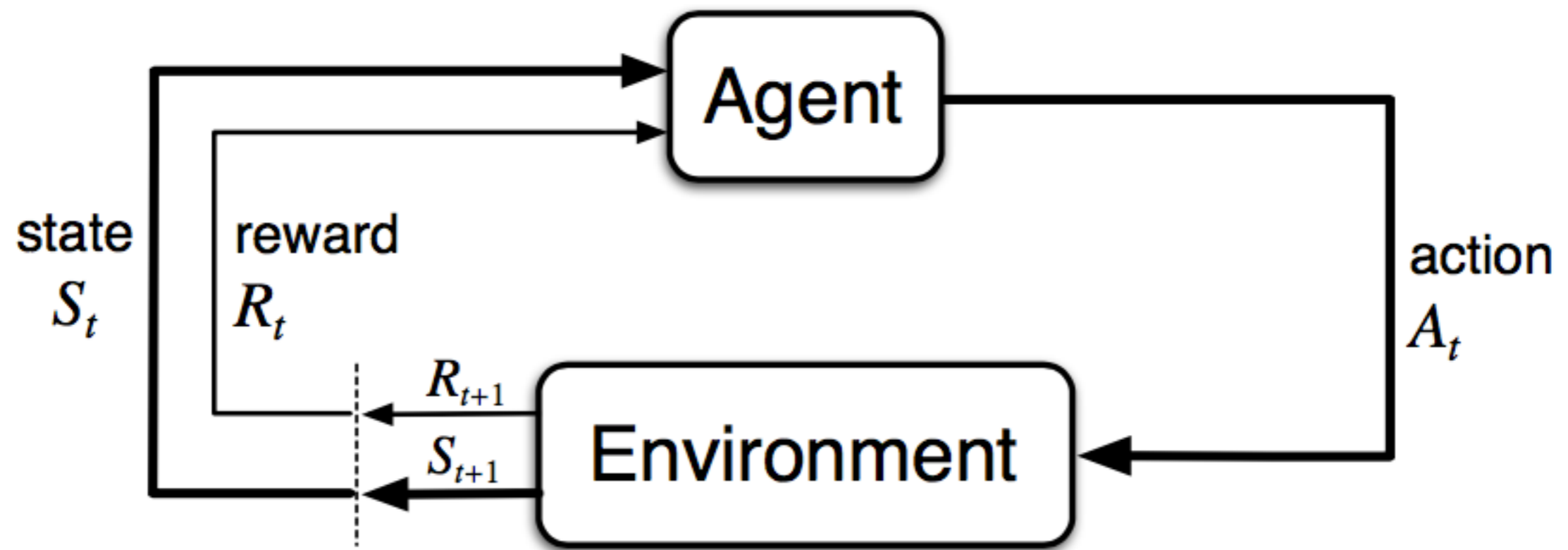
options are not readily available:

rewards are not known *and* one experience does not tell exactly how rewarding a state is

# Reinforcement learning

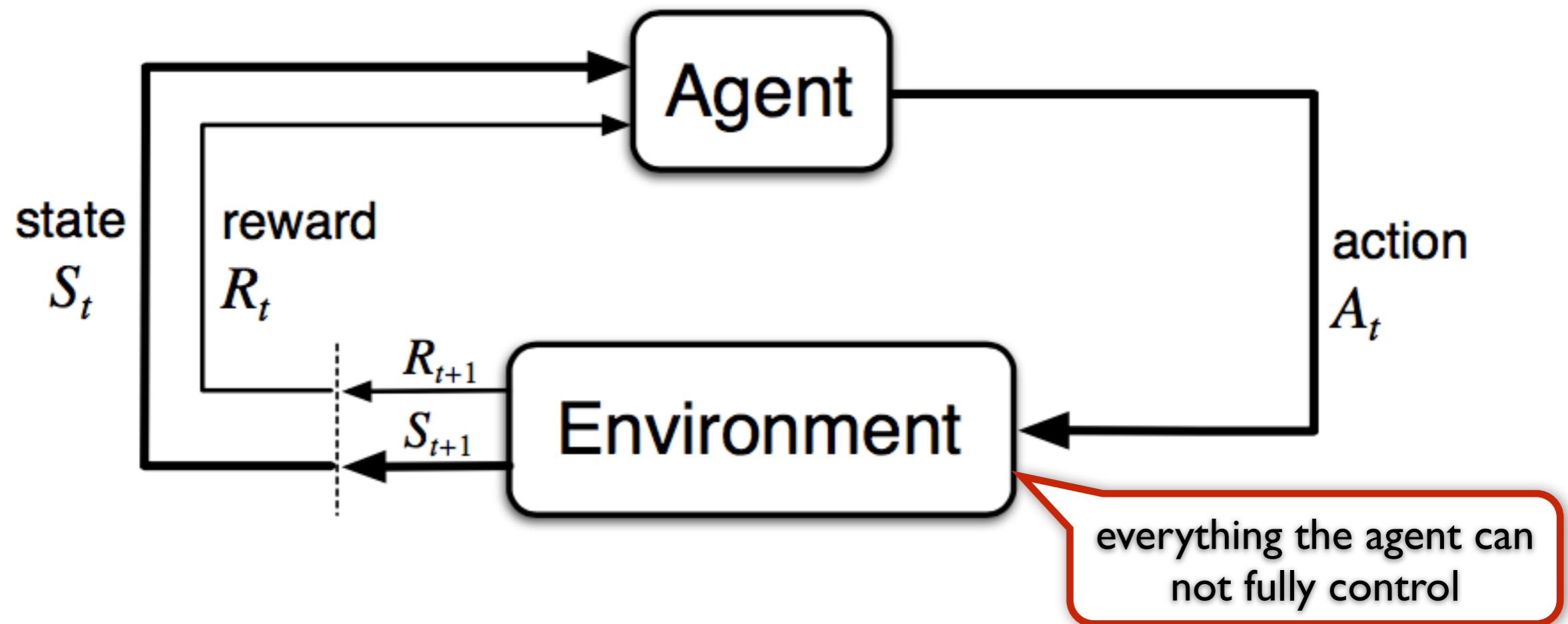
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# Reinforcement learning



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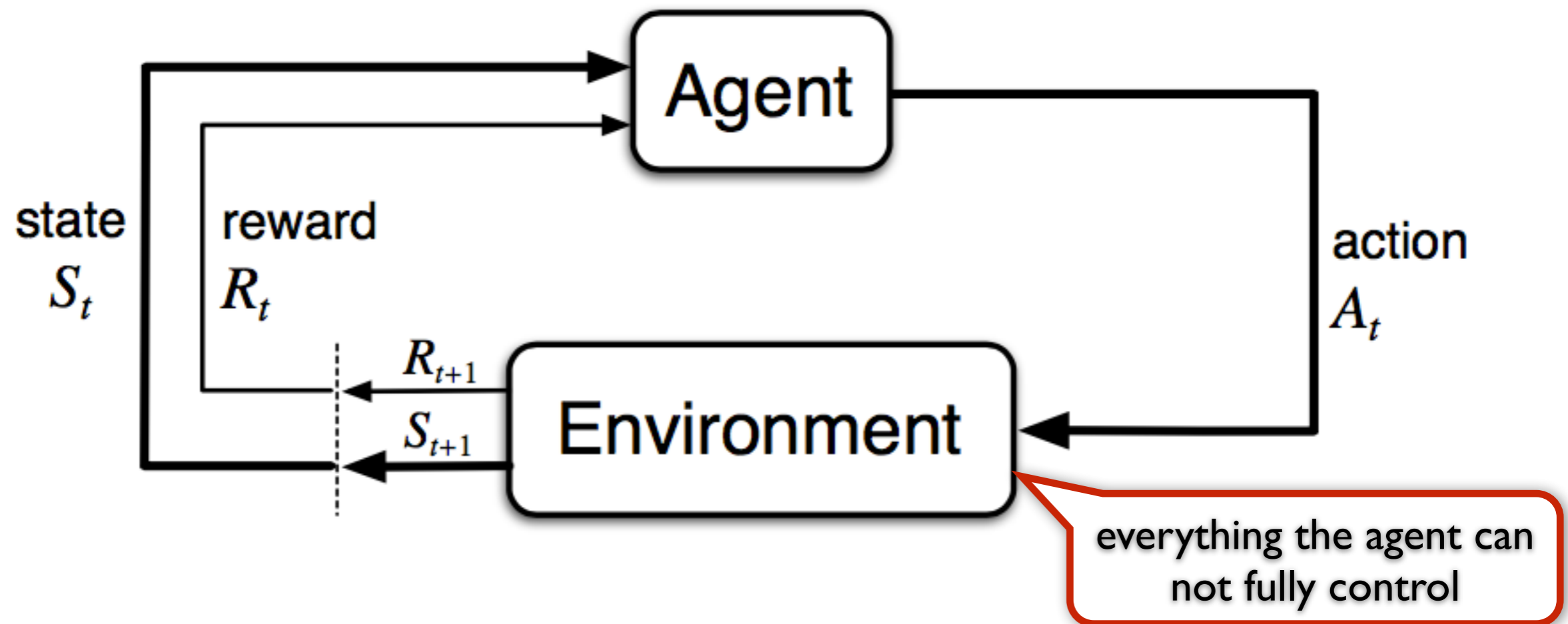
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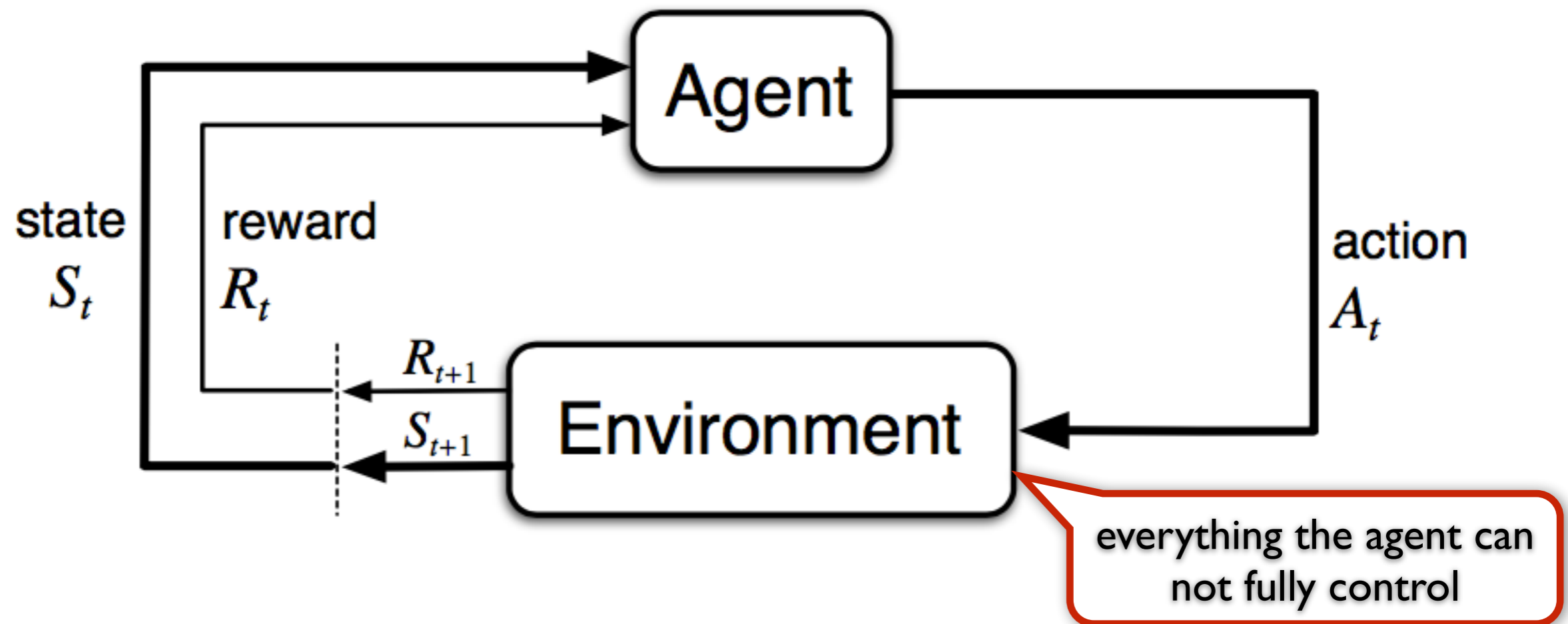
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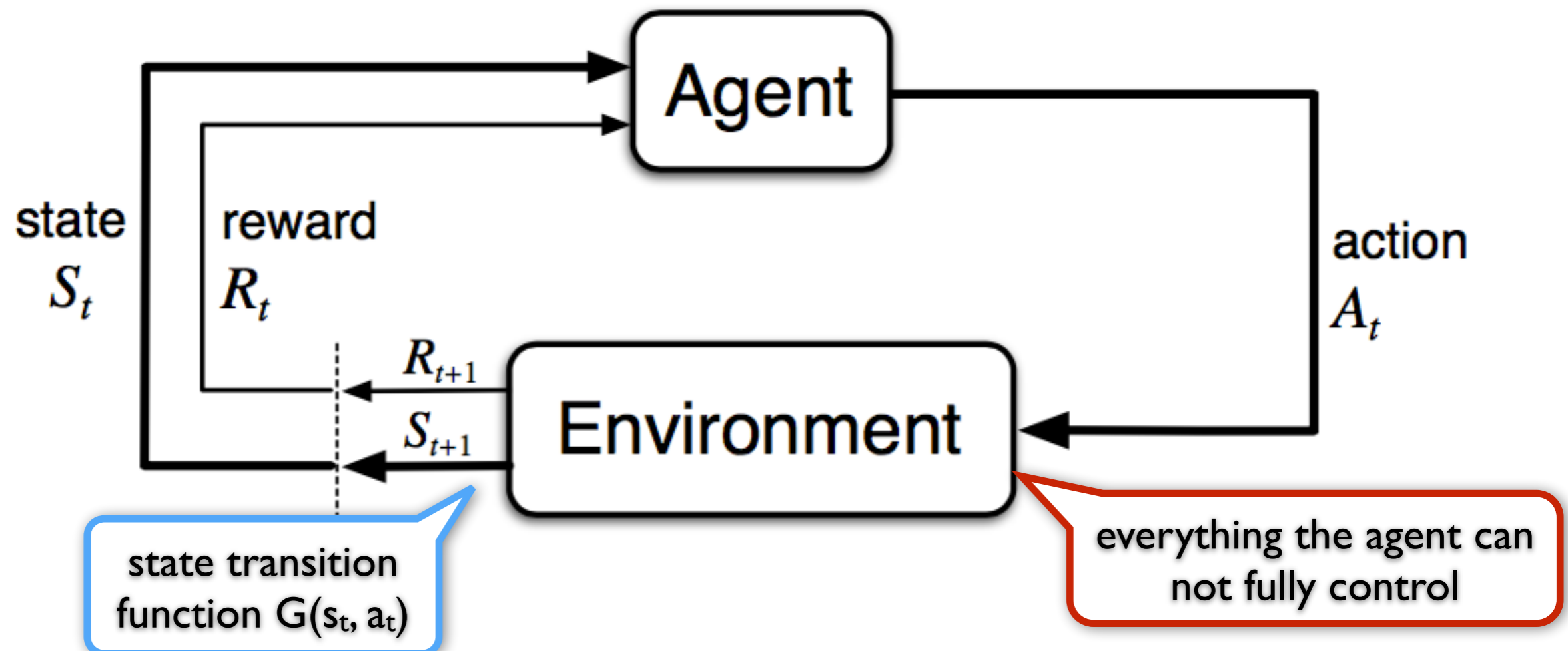
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- Markov property

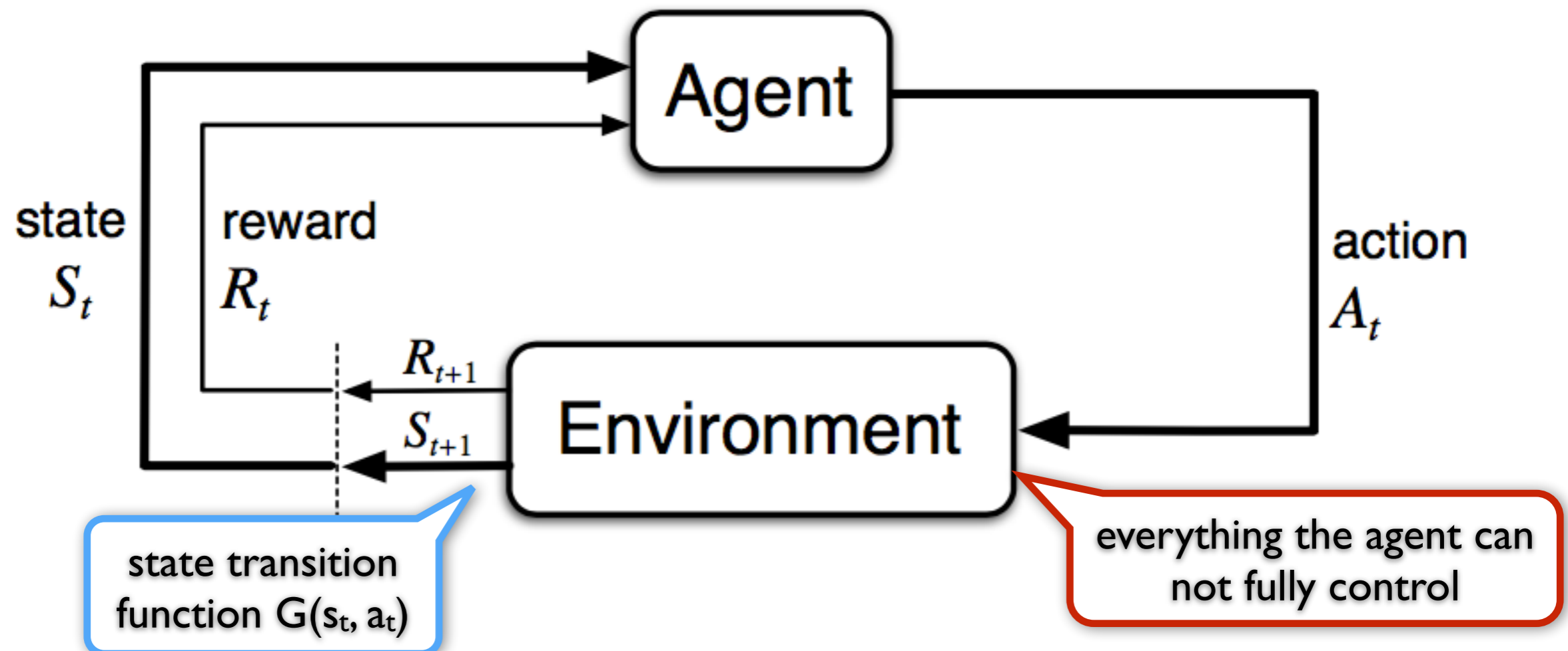


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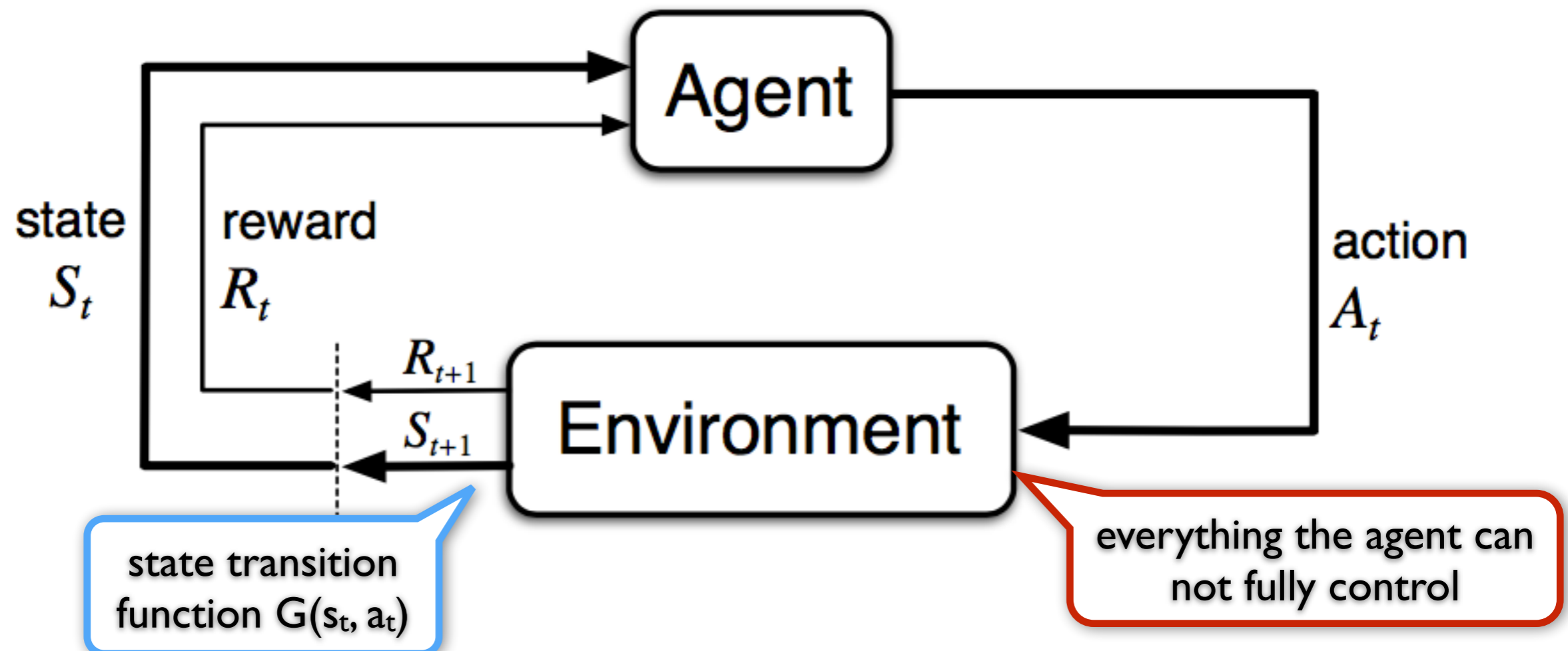
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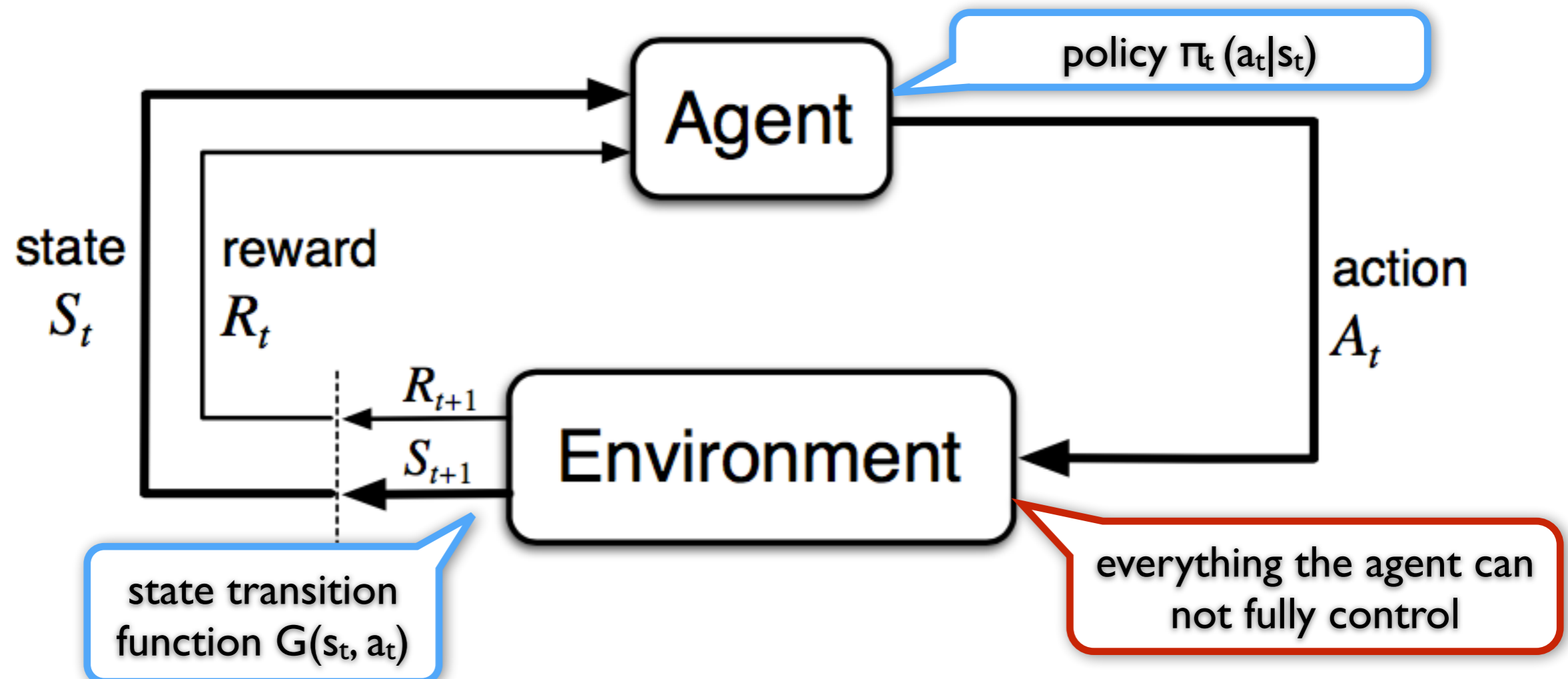
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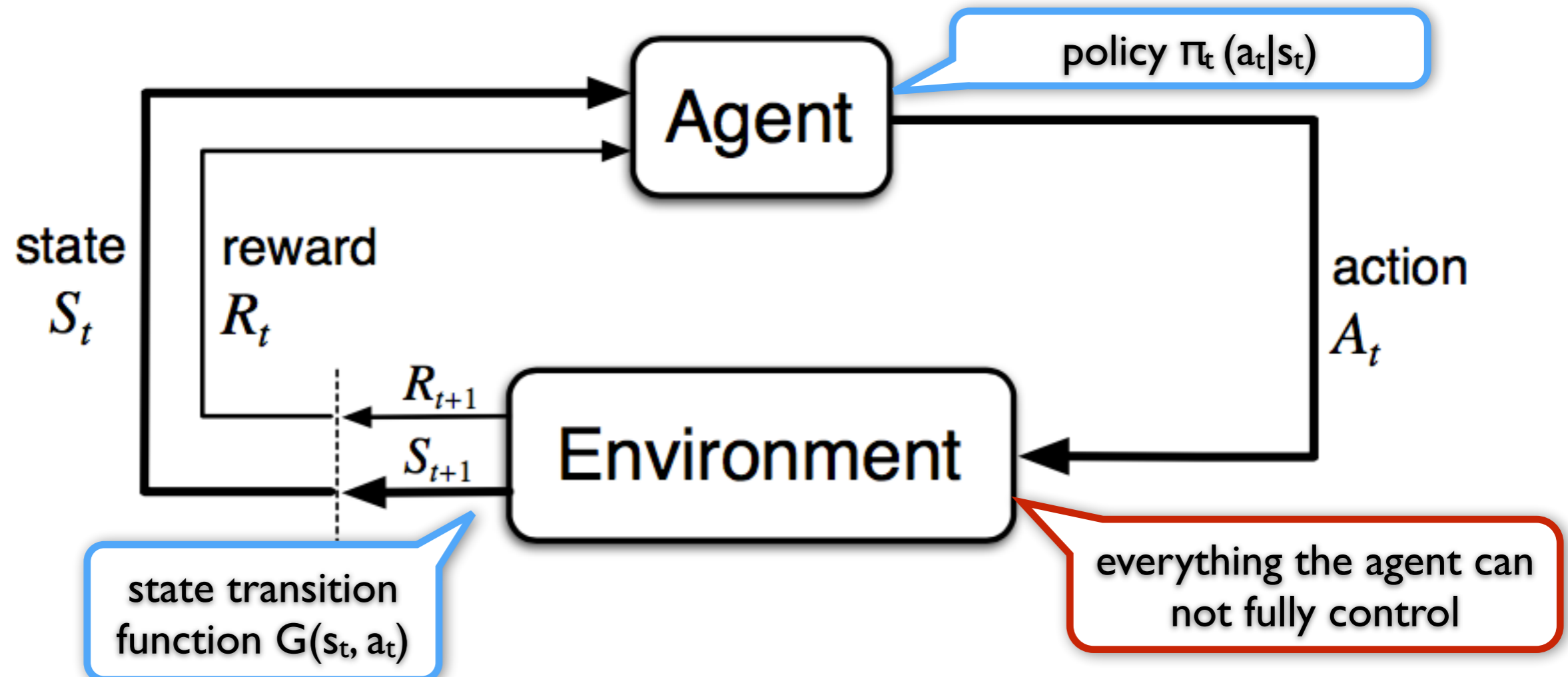
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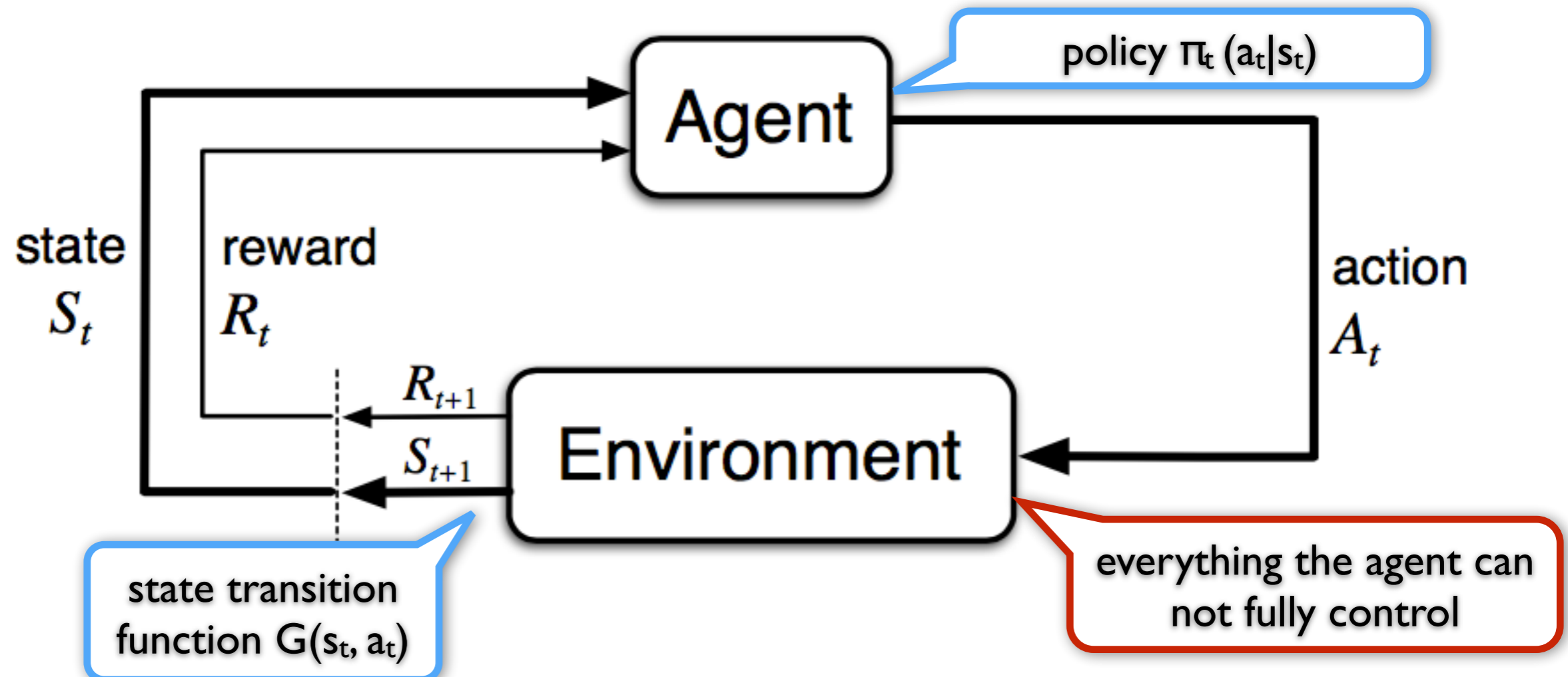
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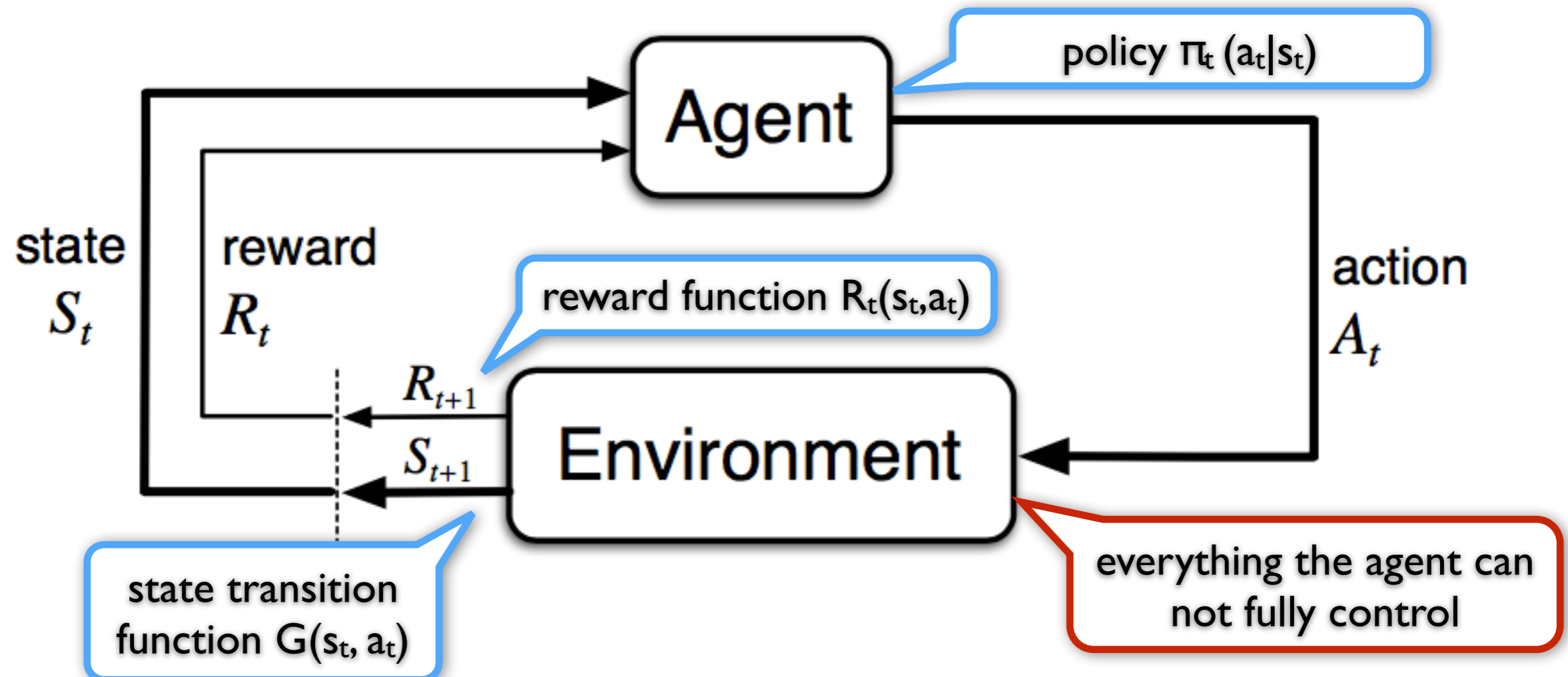
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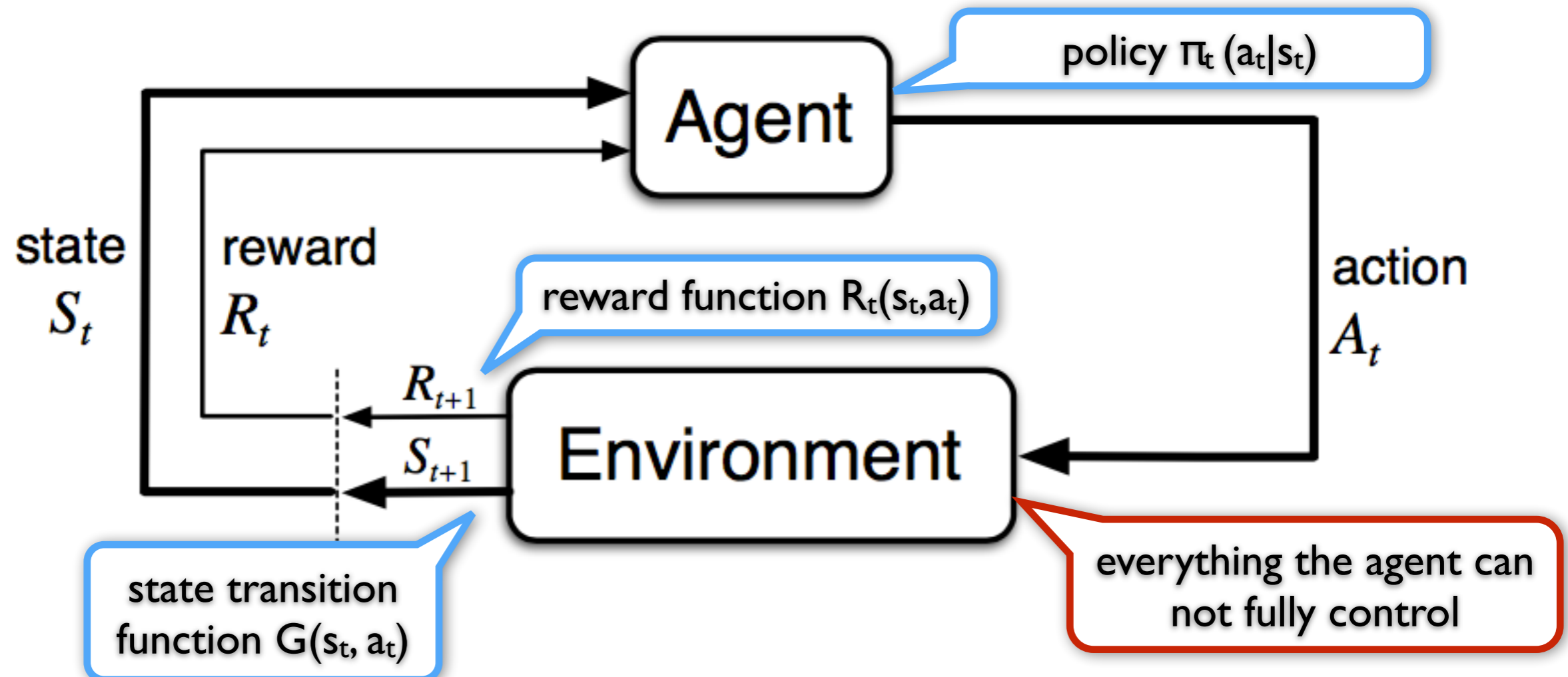
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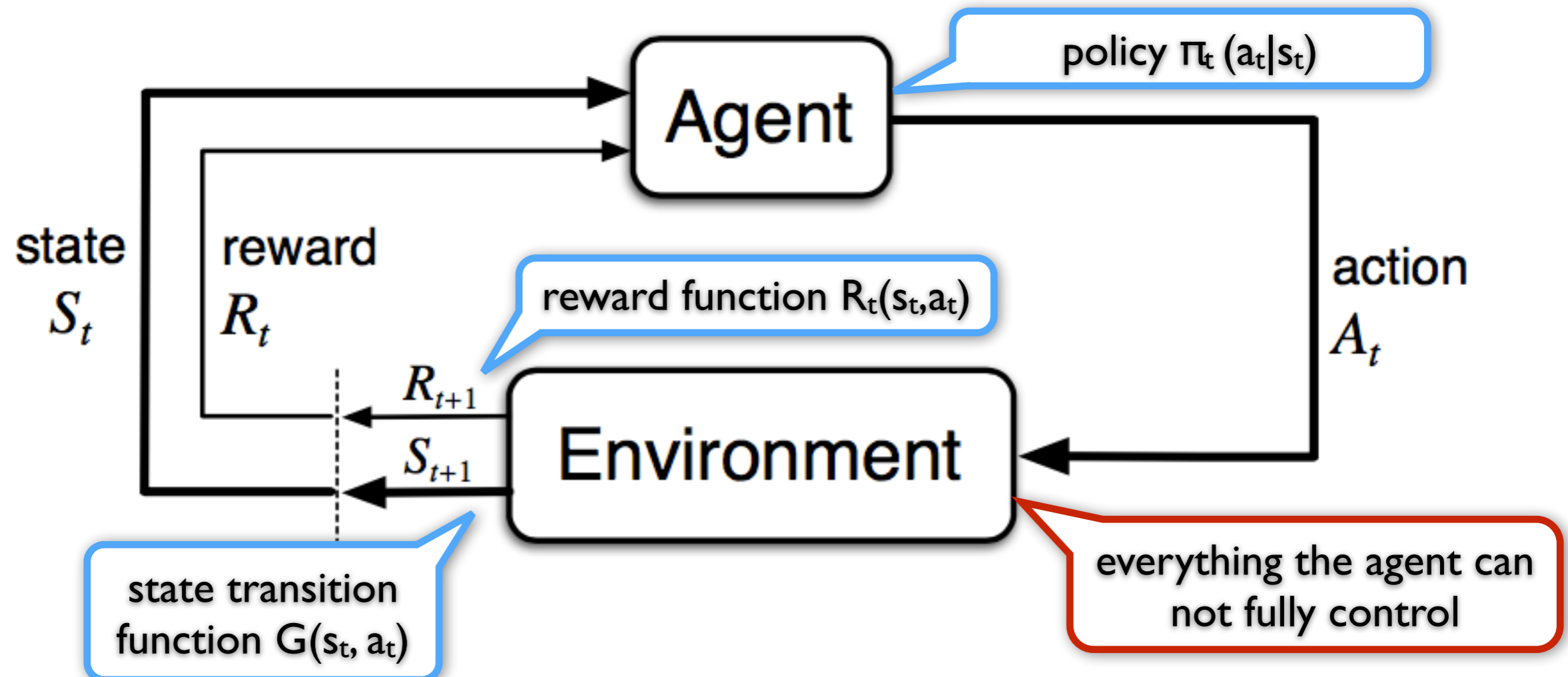
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- goal: maximise total reward



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thus, make explicit that not all states are equivalent:  $r_{t+1} = r(s_t, a_t, s_{t+1})$

along with how the world works —  $p(s_{t+1} | s_t, a_t)$  — we have all the ingredients

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**Slight generalization: Bellmann equation for Q:**

$$\begin{aligned} Q_{\pi}(s, a) &= \\ &= \sum_{s'} P(s'|a, s) \left[ r(s, a, s') + \sum_a \pi(a|s') \gamma Q_{\pi}(s', a) \right] \end{aligned}$$

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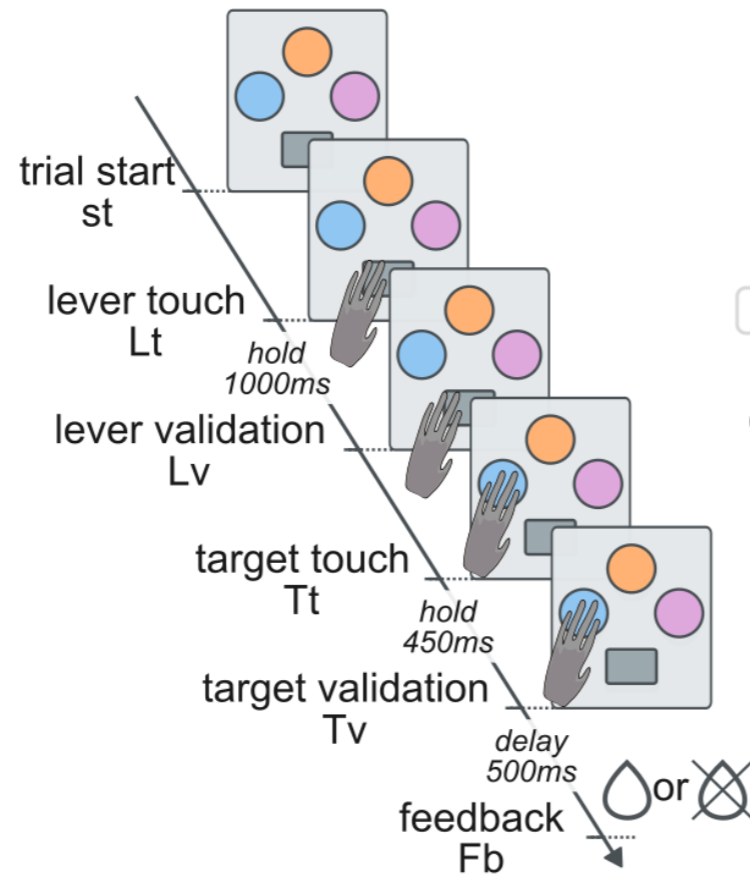
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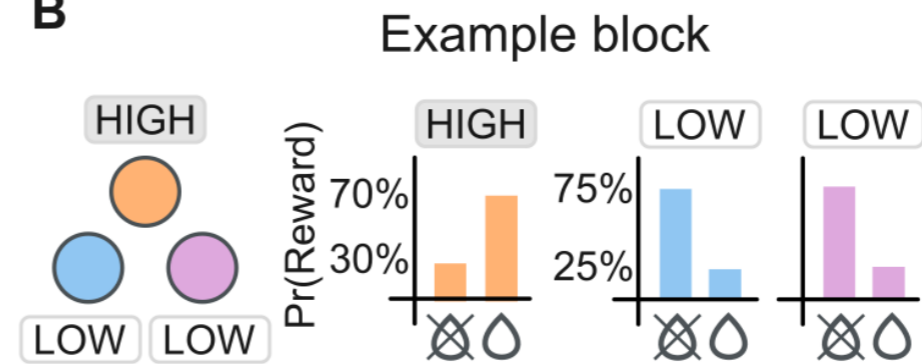


# Neural correlates of RL

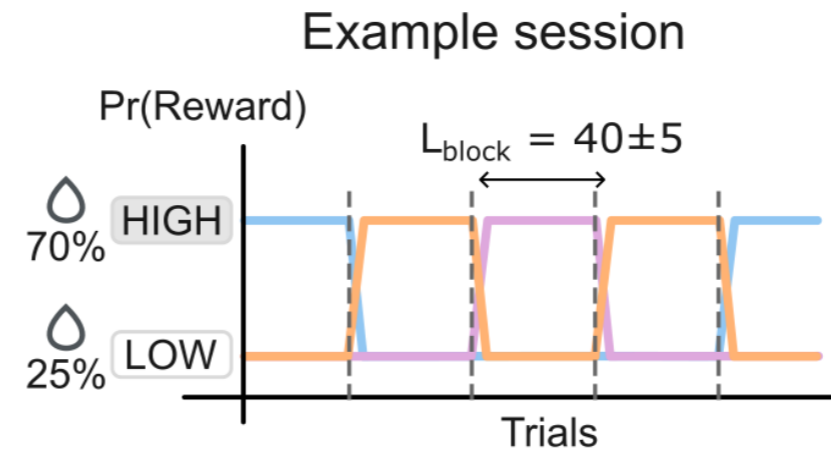
**A**



**B**

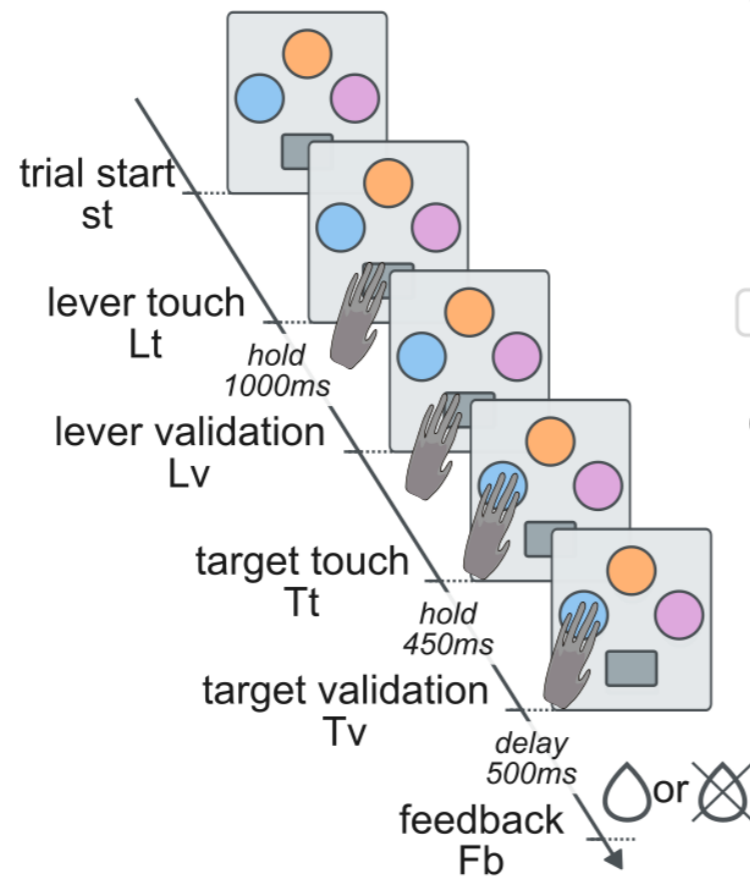


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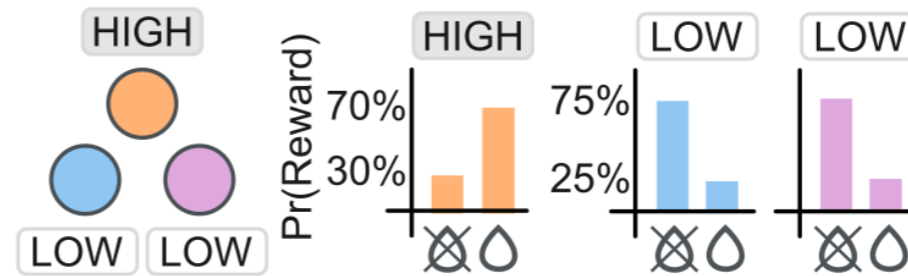


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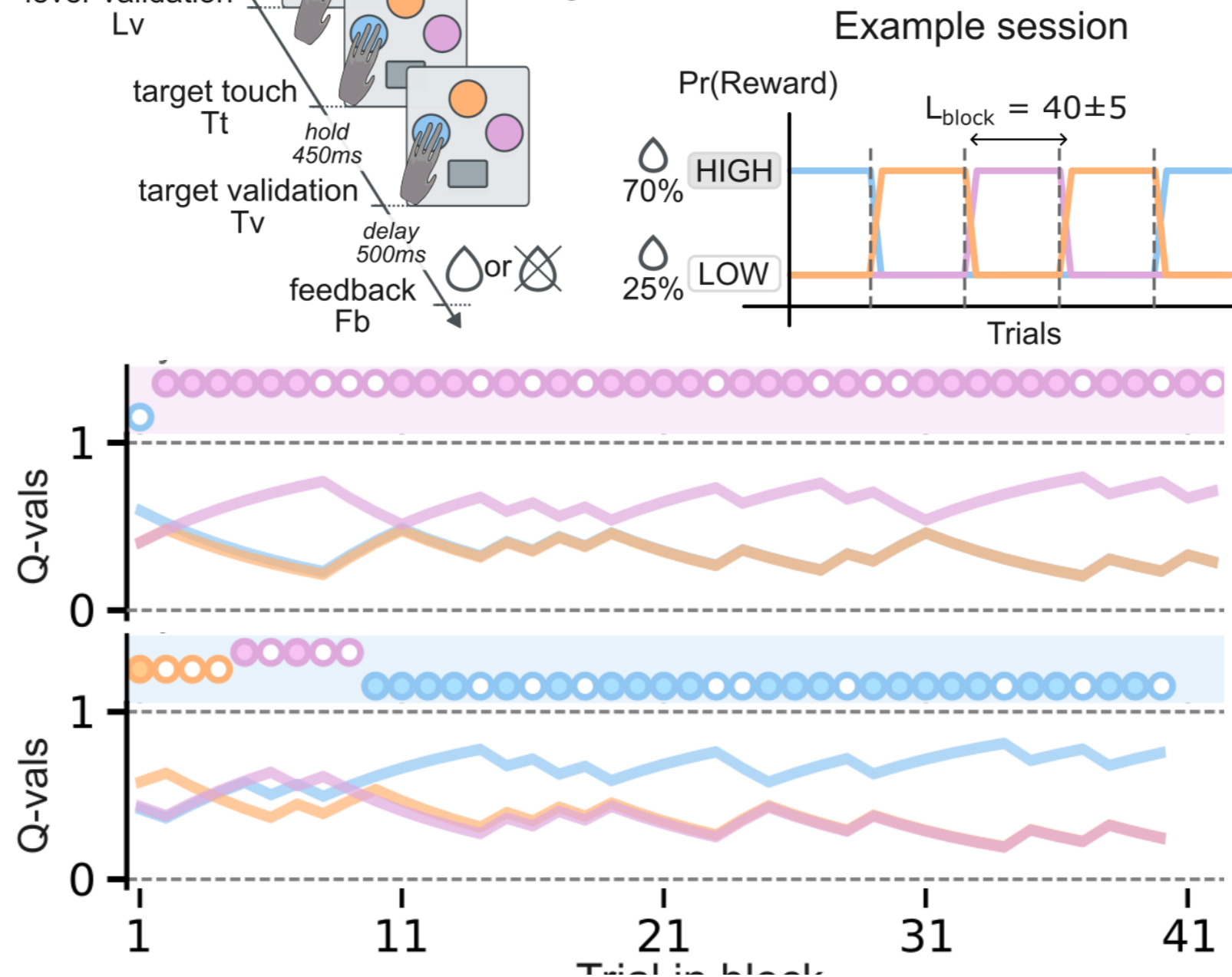
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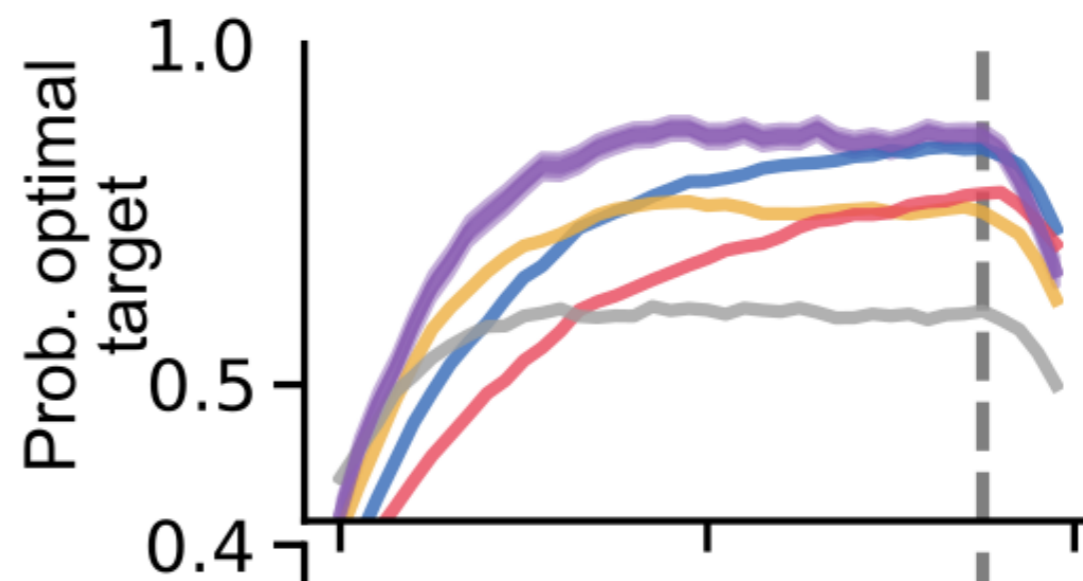
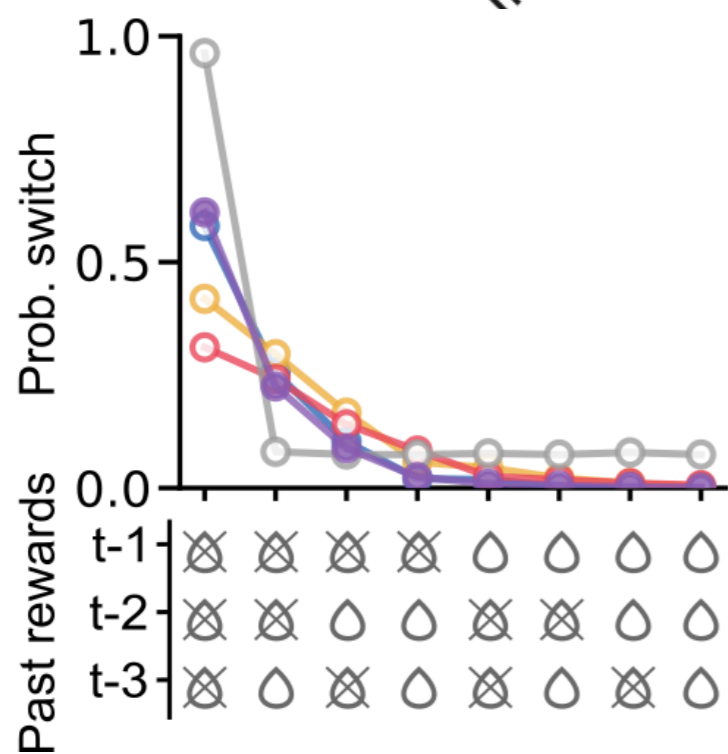
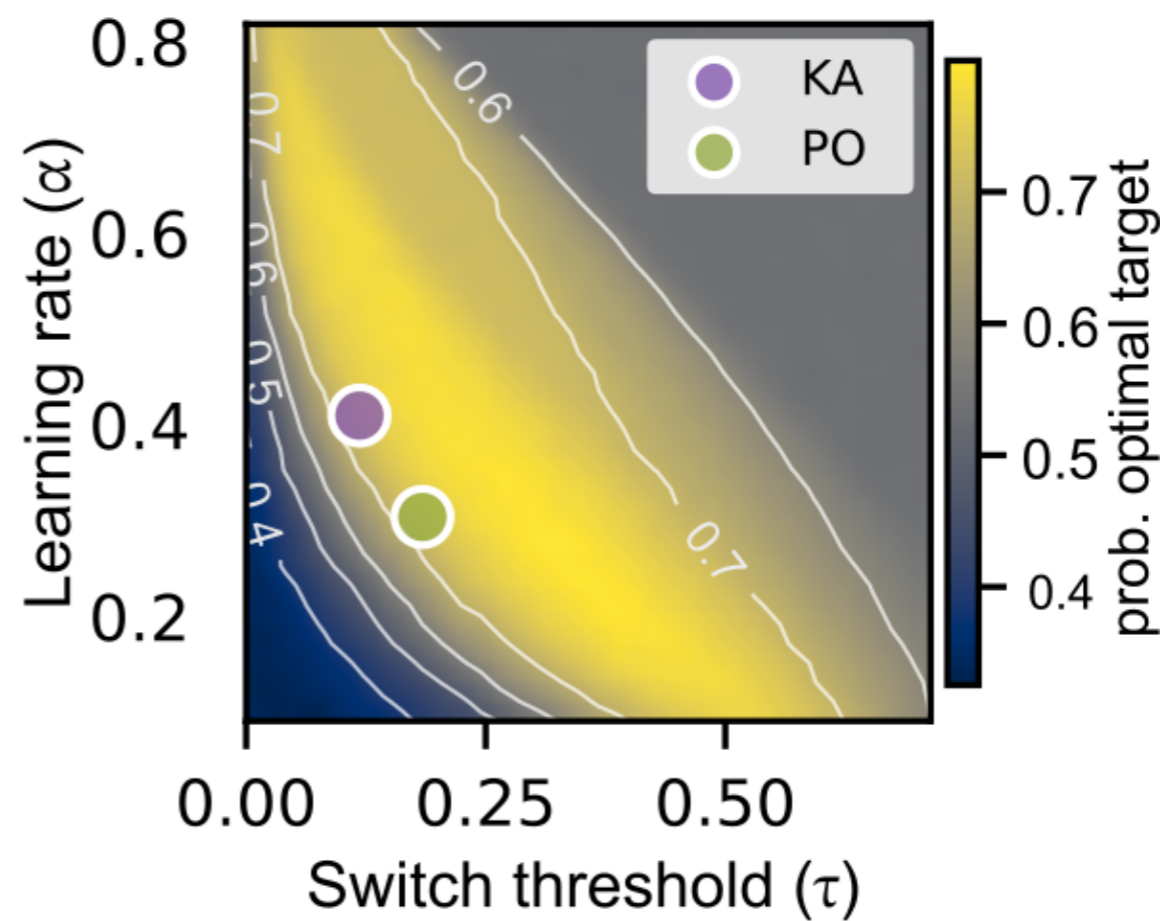
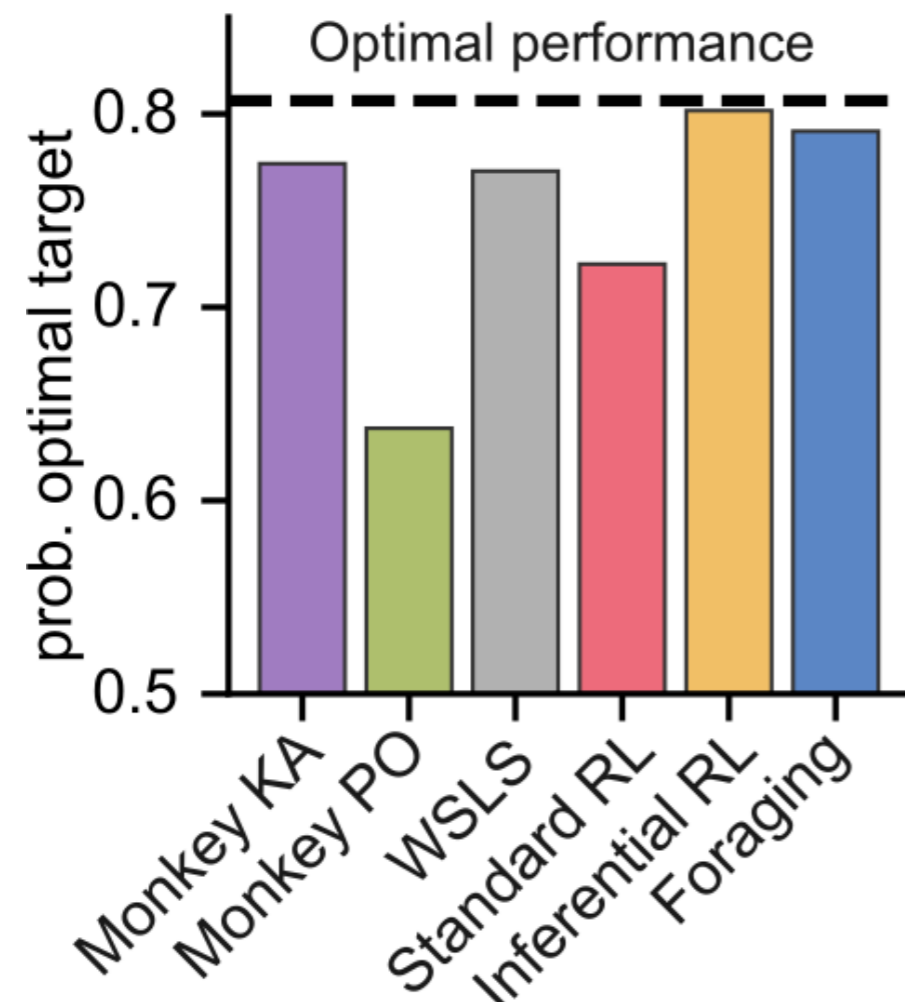


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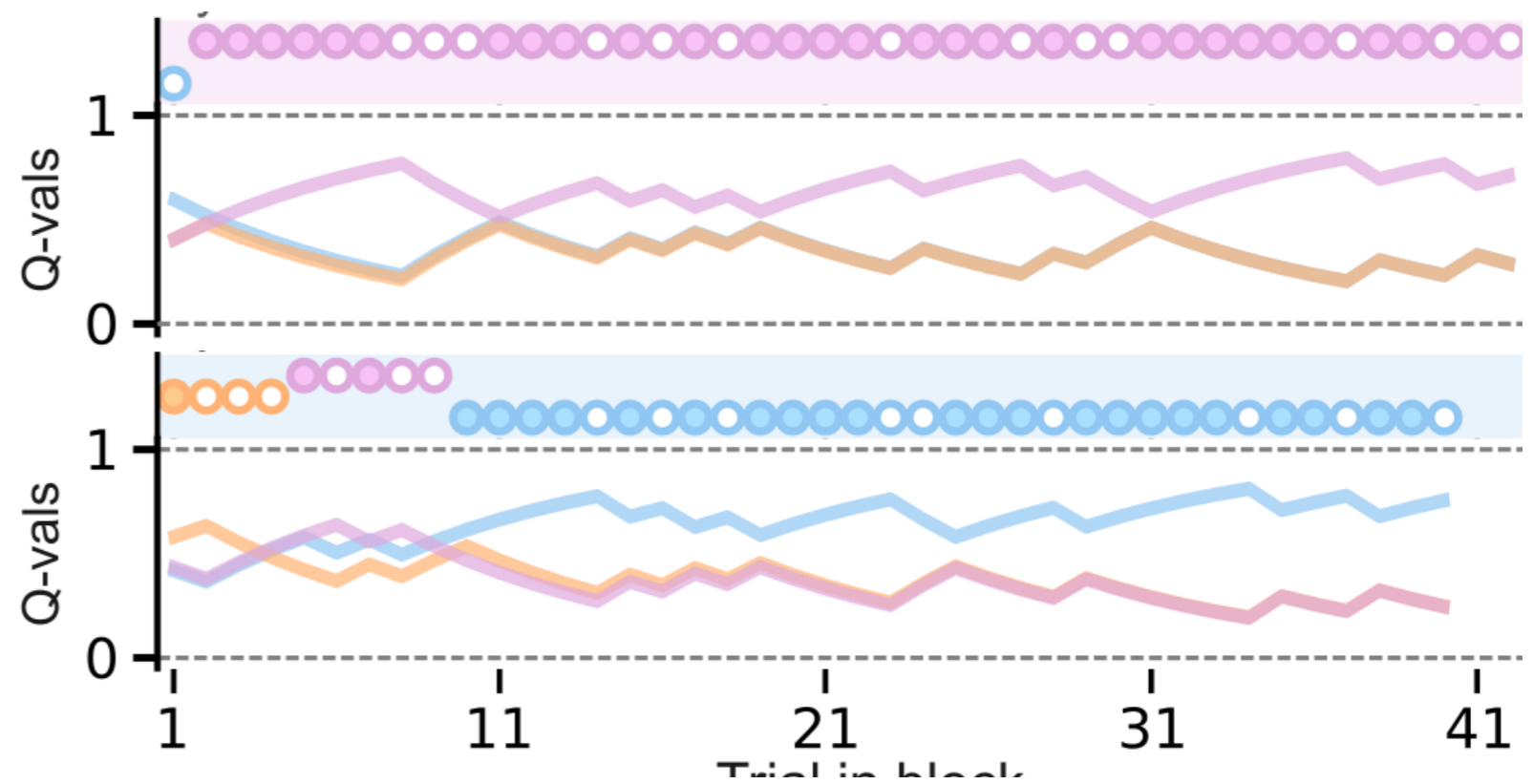
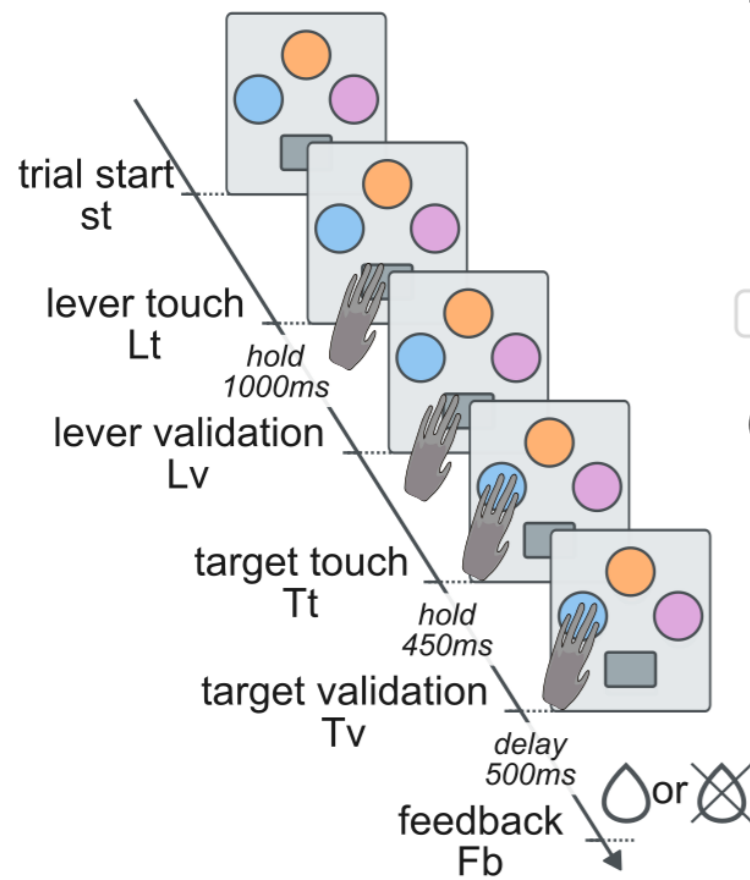


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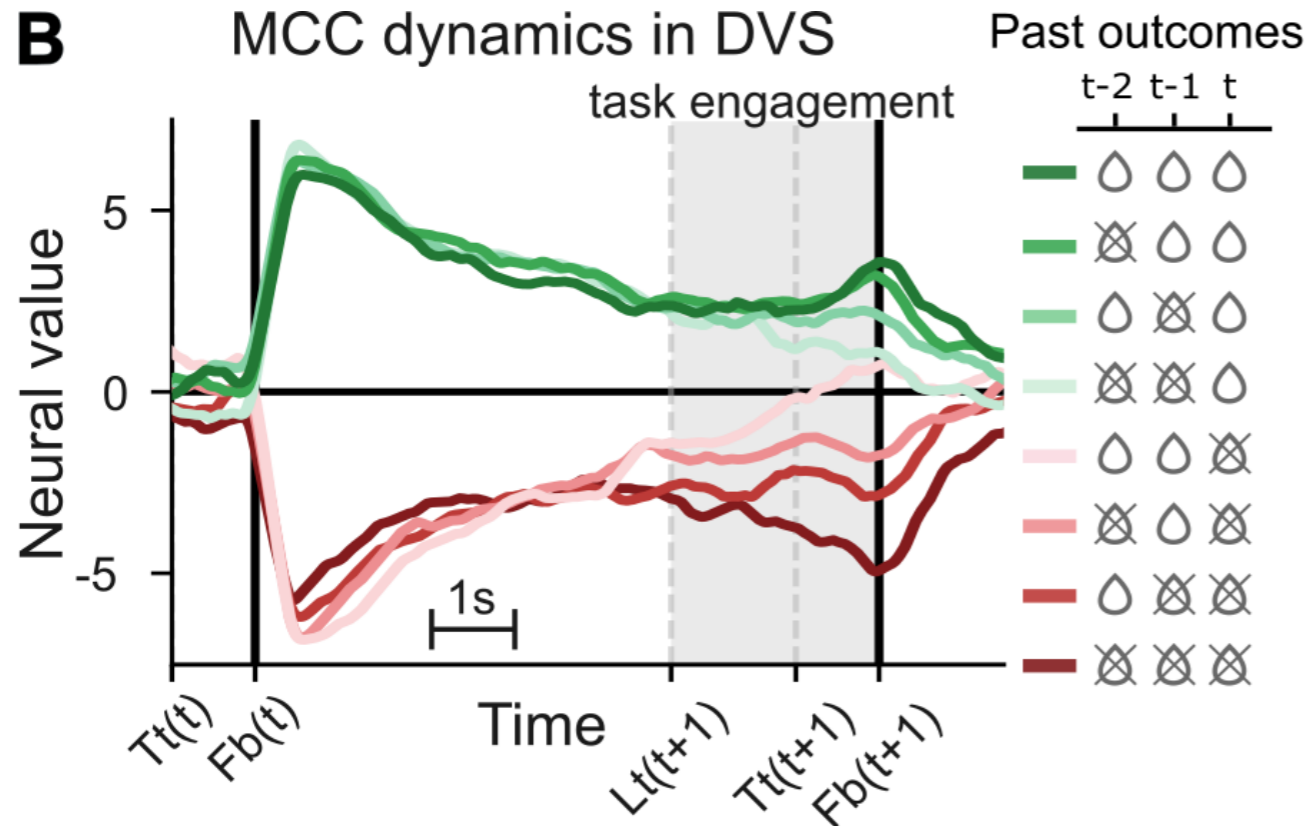
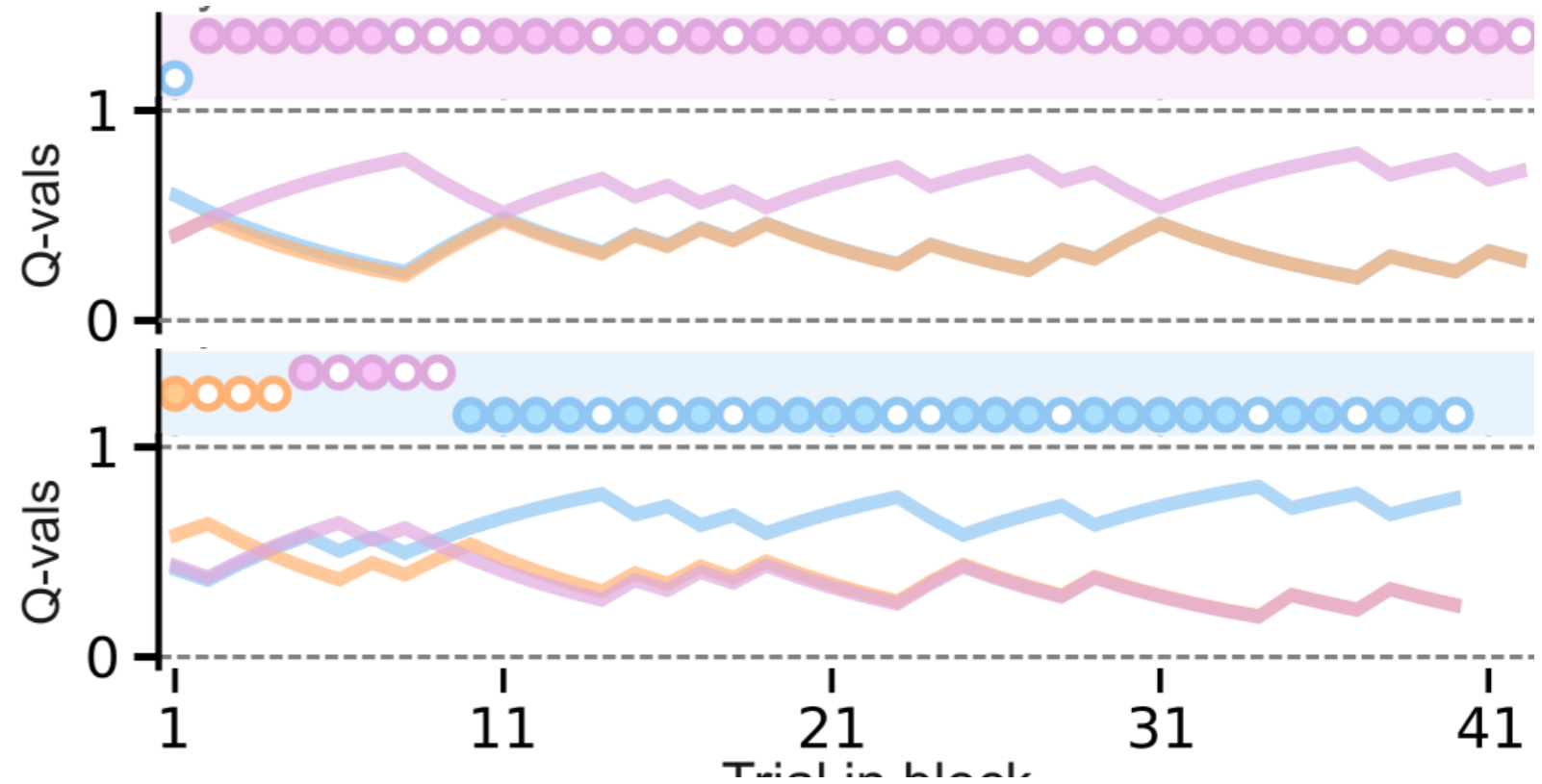
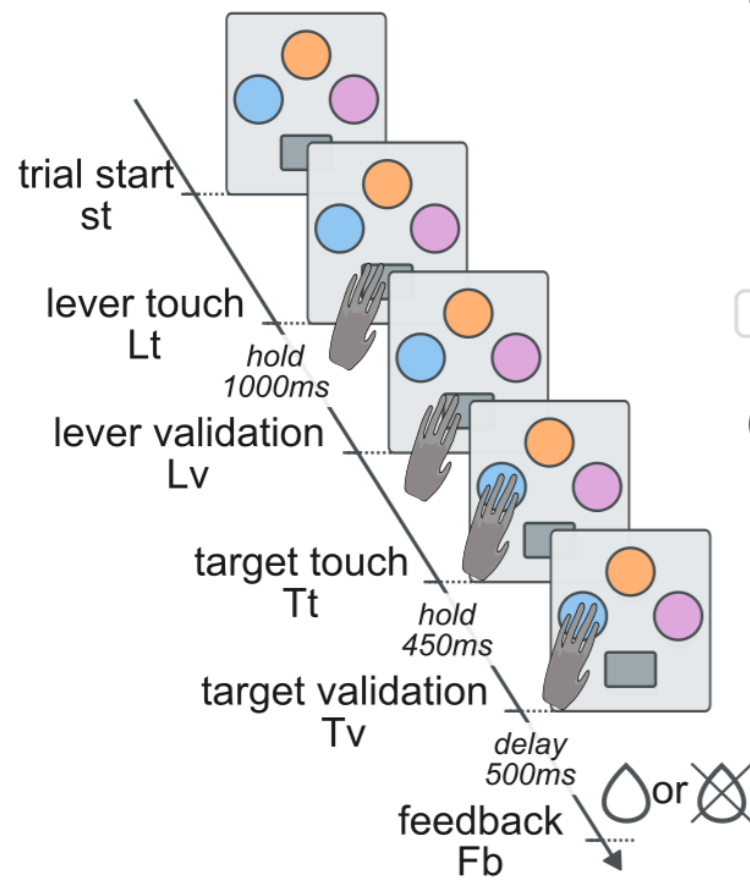




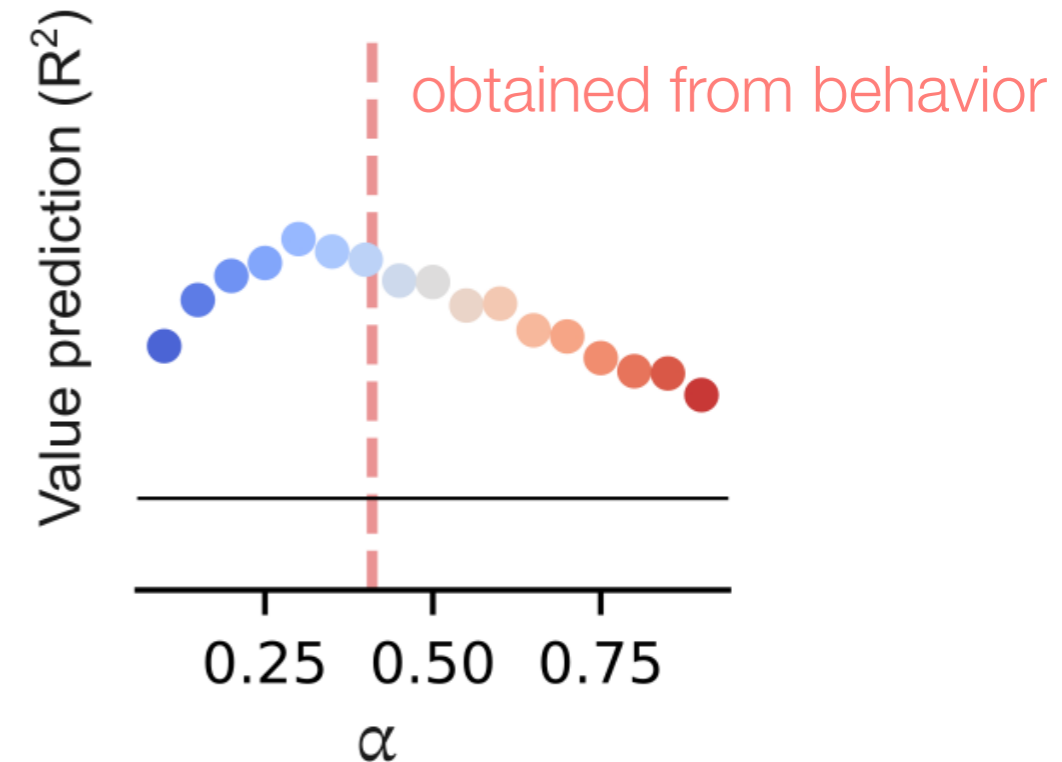
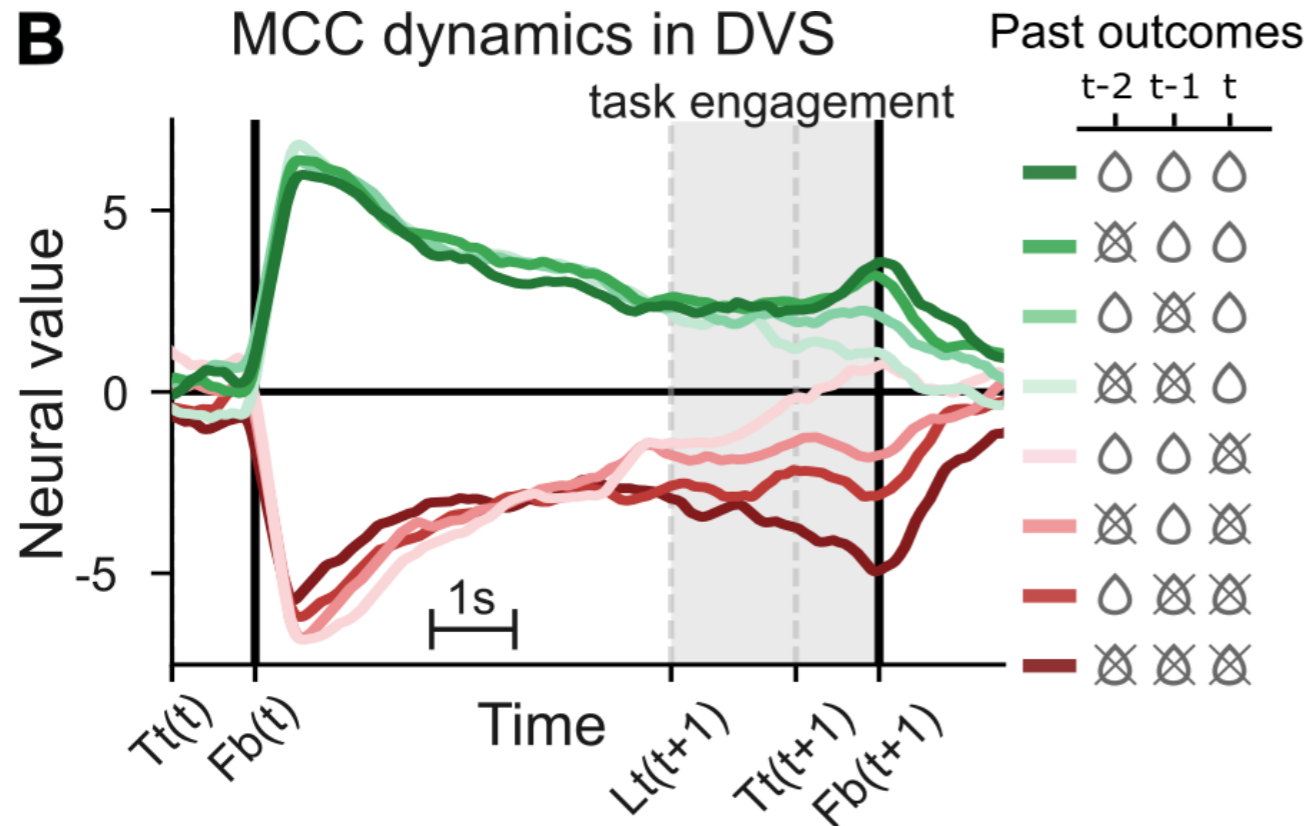
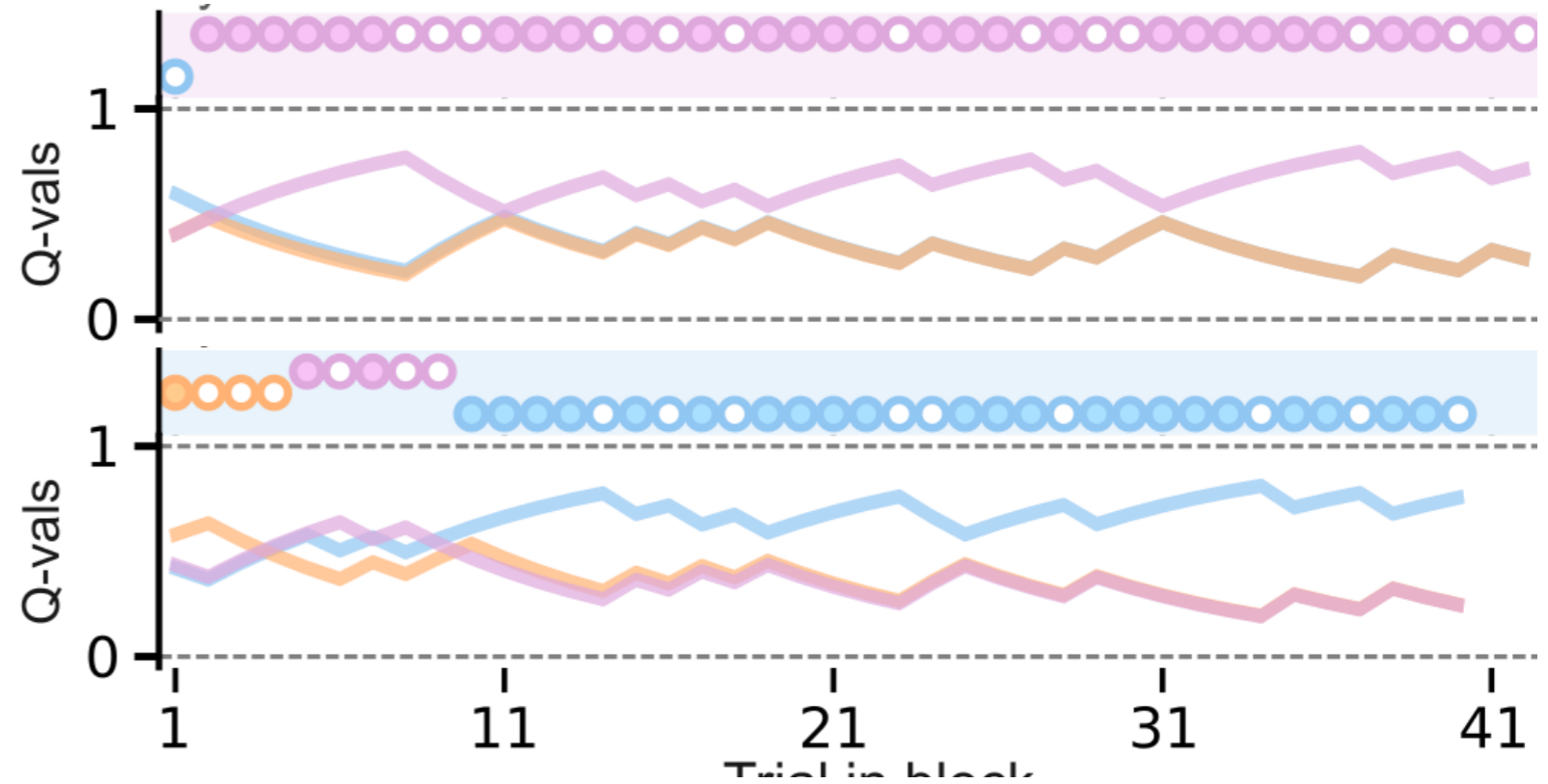
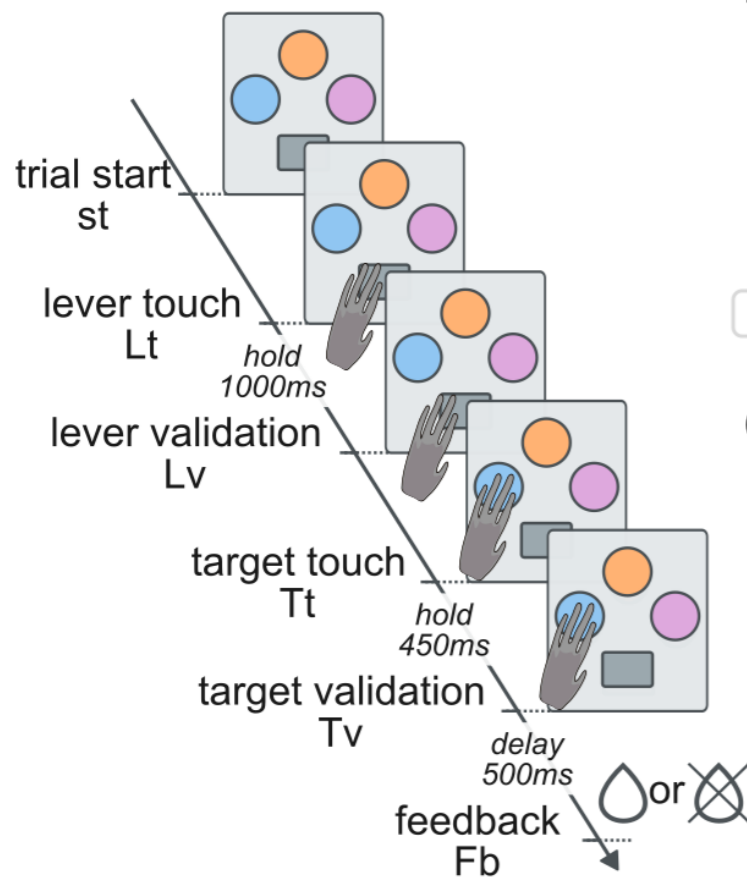
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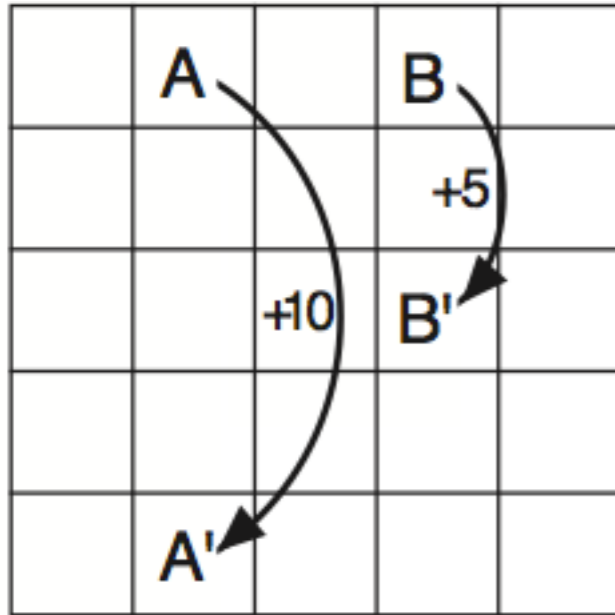
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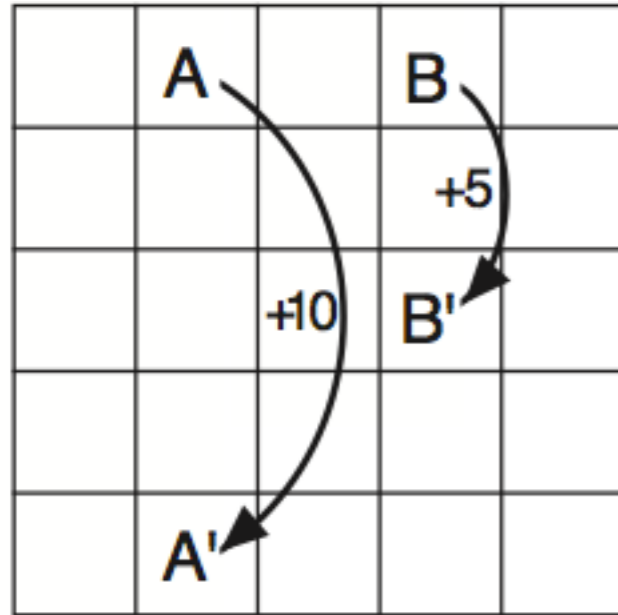
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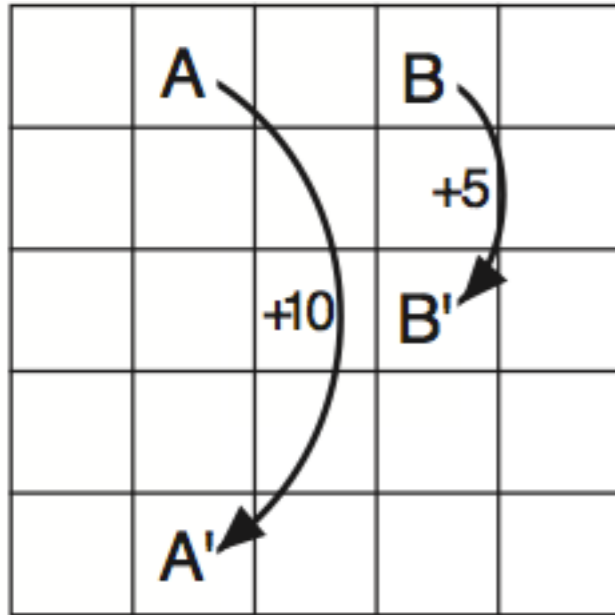
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**state transitions**

$$P(s_{t+1} | s_t, a_t)$$

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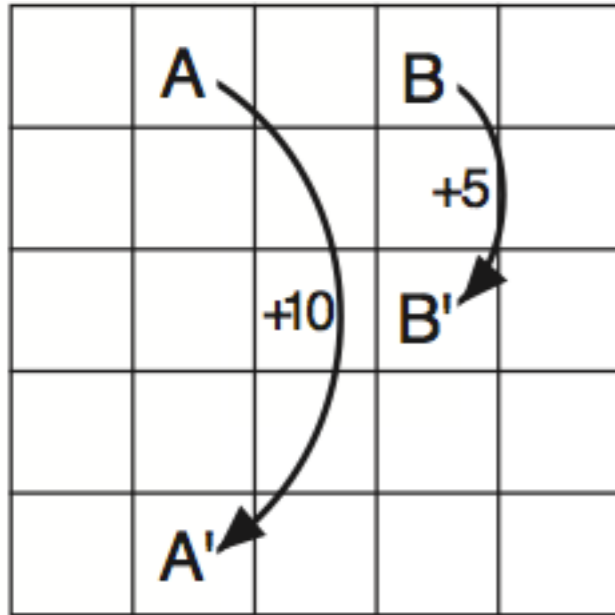
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**rewards:**  $r(s_t, a_t, s_{t+1})$

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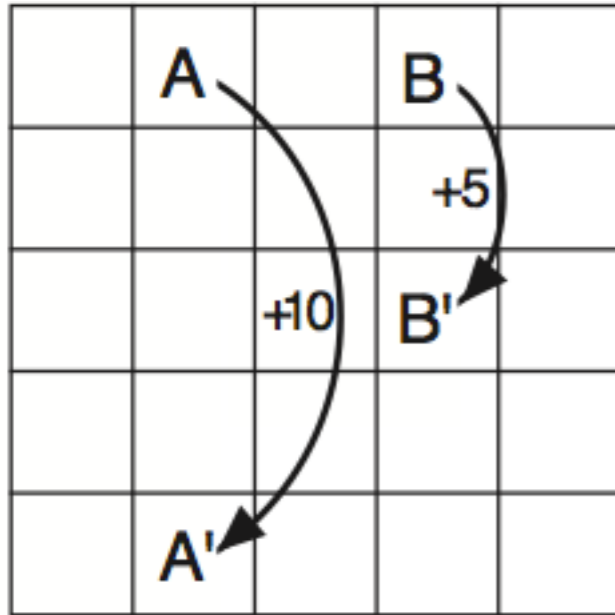
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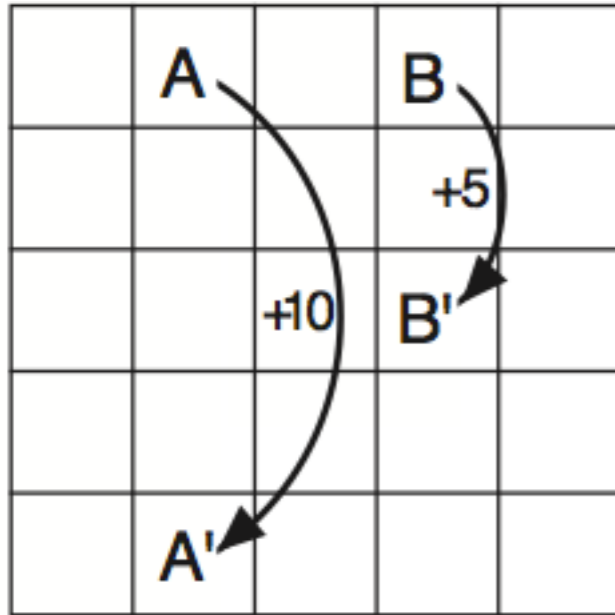
**discounting:**  $\mathcal{R}_t = r_{t+1} + \gamma r_{t+2} + \gamma^2 r_{t+2} + \dots$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \gamma^k r_{t+k+1}$$

**policy:**  $\pi(a_t|s_t)$

**what is the value associated with a given state under a policy?**

# Simple model environment: gridworld



**state transitions**  $P(s_{t+1}|s_t, a_t)$

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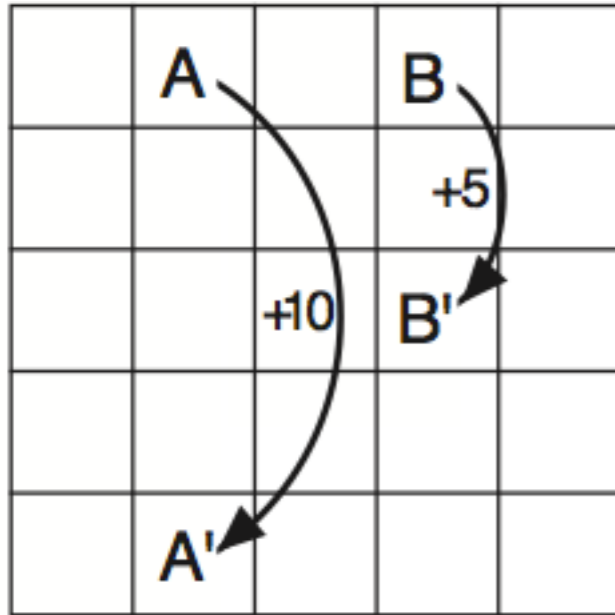
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**what is the value associated with a given state under a policy?**

**Bellmann equation:**

# Simple model environment: gridworld



**state transitions**  $P(s_{t+1} | s_t, a_t)$

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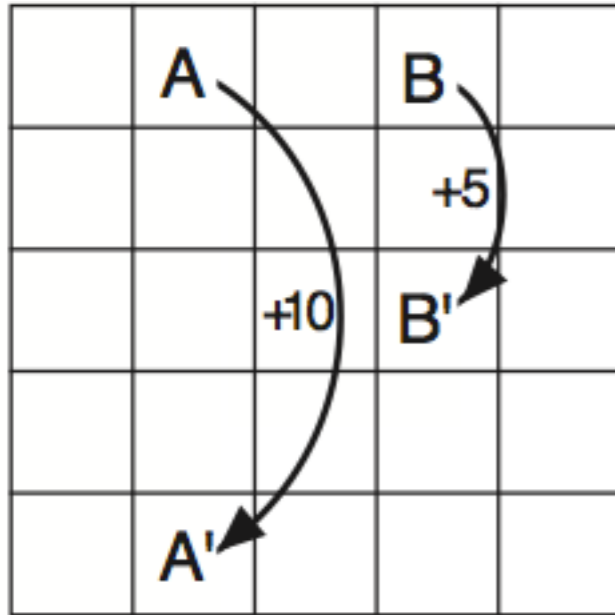
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$$V_{\pi}(s) = \mathbb{E}_{\pi}[\mathcal{R}_t | S_t = s]$$

# Simple model environment: gridworld



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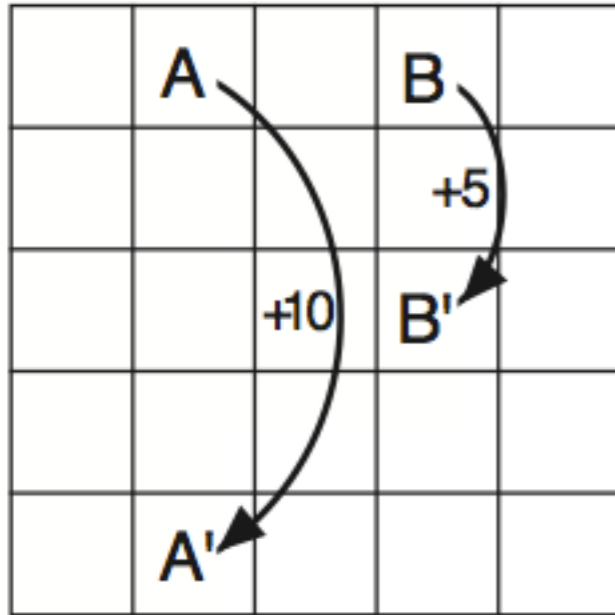
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# Simple model environment: gridworld



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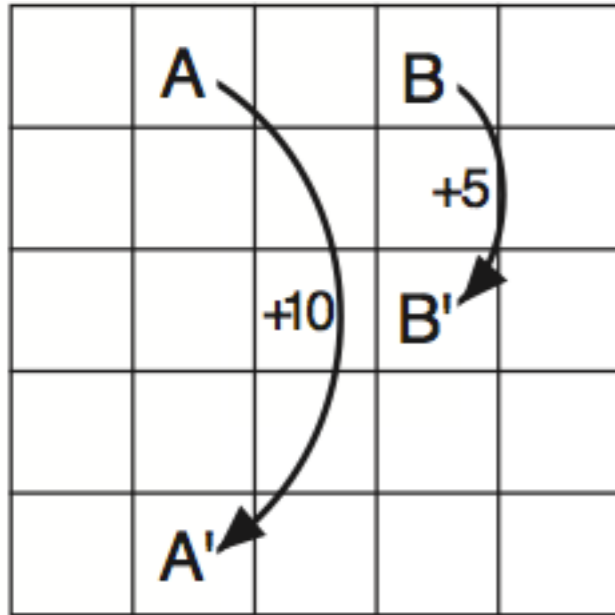
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# Simple model environment: gridworld



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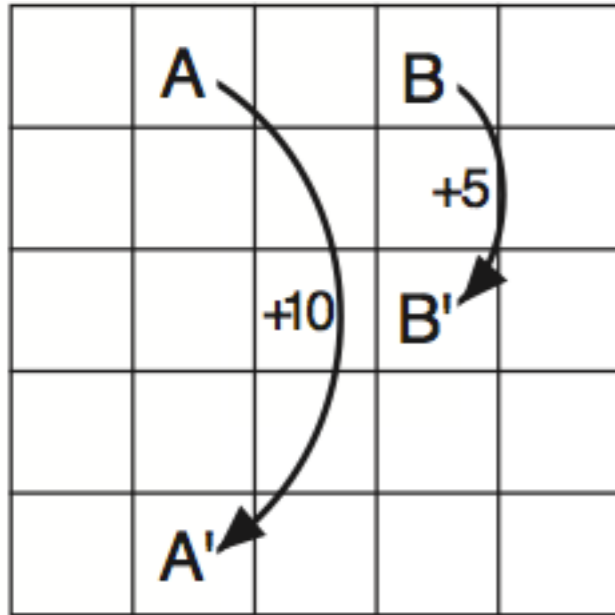
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# Simple model environment: gridworld



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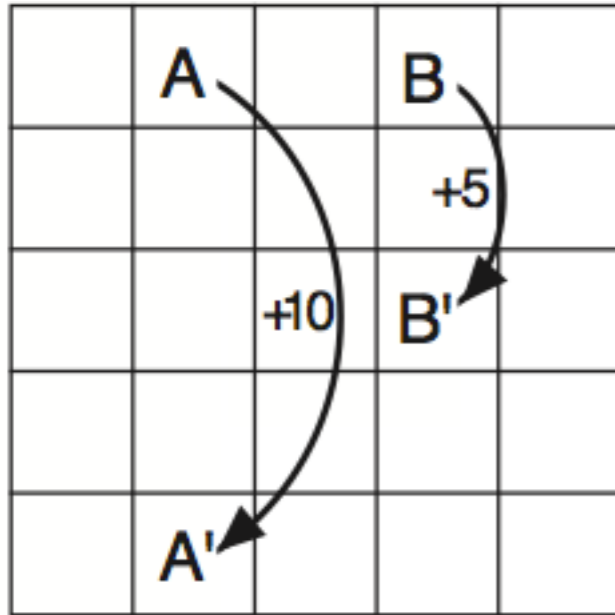
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# Simple model environment: gridworld



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- consistency relationship between states
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- optimal policy: highest value
- learning: find the optimal policy

# Simple model environment: gridworld

	A		B		<b>state transitions</b>	$P(s_{t+1} s_t, a_t)$
					<b>rewards:</b>	$r(s_t, a_t, s_{t+1})$
					<div> <b>Bellmann equation for Q:</b> <math display="block">Q_{\pi}(s, a) = \sum_{s'} P(s' a, s) \left[ r(s, a, s') + \sum_a \pi(a s') \gamma Q_{\pi}(s', a) \right]</math> </div>	
	A'				<b>policy:</b>	$\pi(a_t s_t)$

what is the value associated with a given state under a policy?

**Bellmann equation:**

$$V_{\pi}(s) = \mathbb{E}_{\pi}[\mathcal{R}_t \mid S_t = s]$$

$$= \mathbb{E}_{\pi} \left[ \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \gamma^k r_{t+k+1} \mid S_t = s \right]$$

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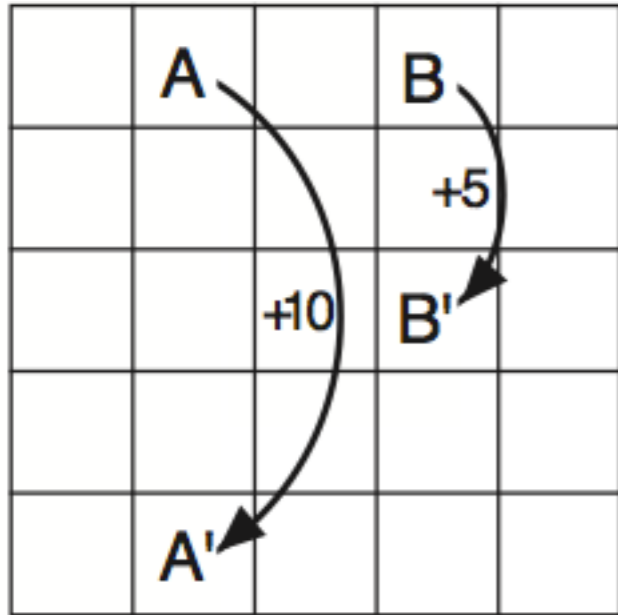
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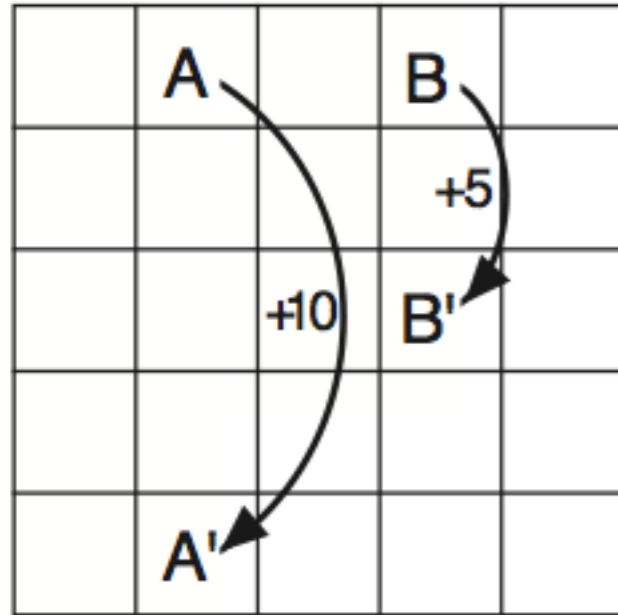
# Simple model environment: gridworld

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# Simple model environment: gridworld



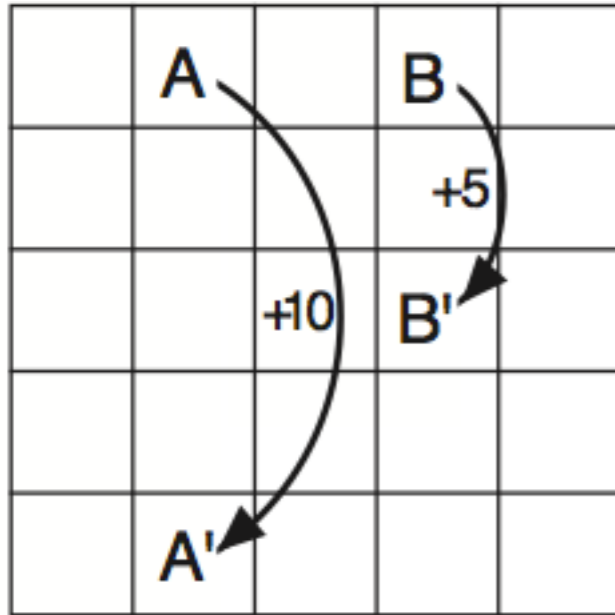
# Simple model environment: gridworld



**state transitions**

$$P(s_{t+1} | s_t, a_t)$$

# Simple model environment: gridworld



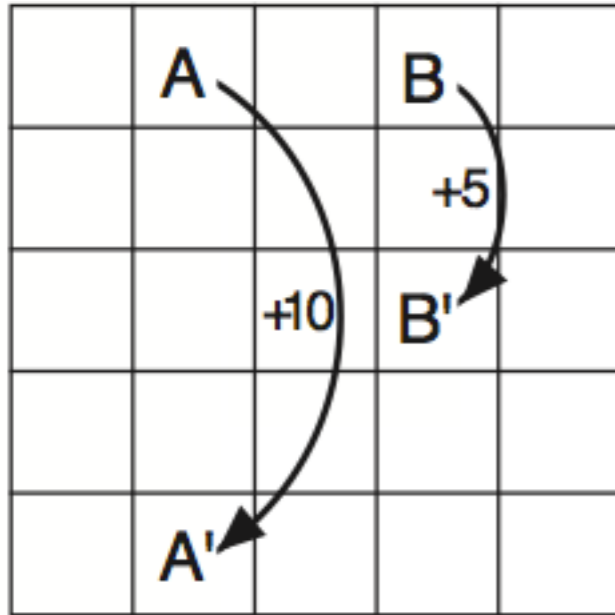
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# Simple model environment: gridworld



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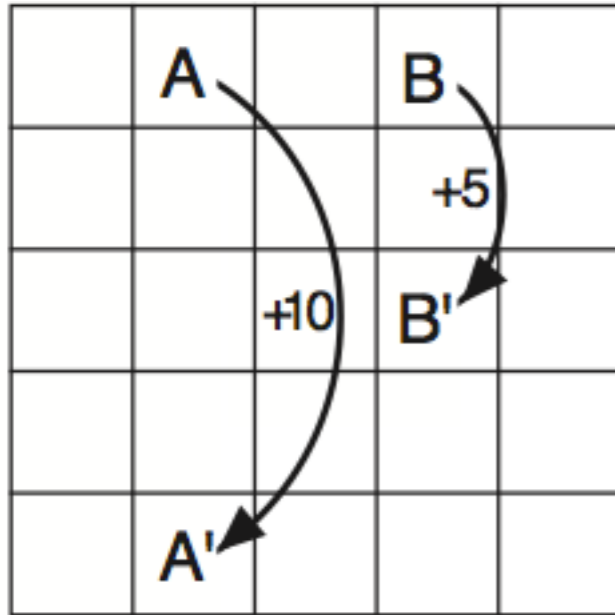
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# Simple model environment: gridworld



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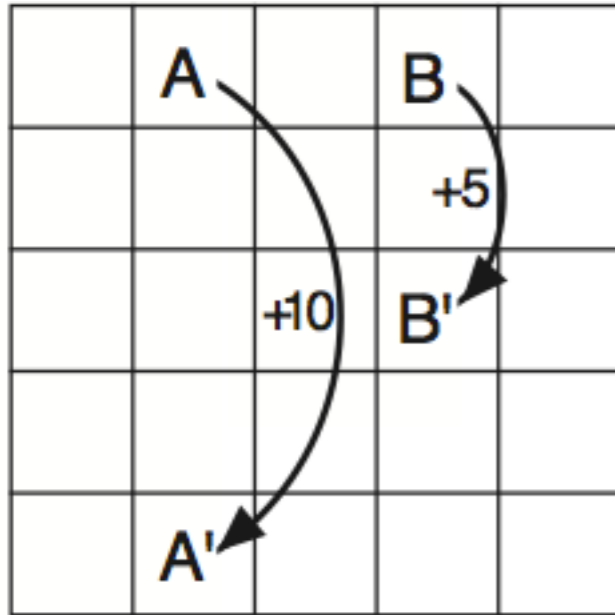
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# Simple model environment: gridworld



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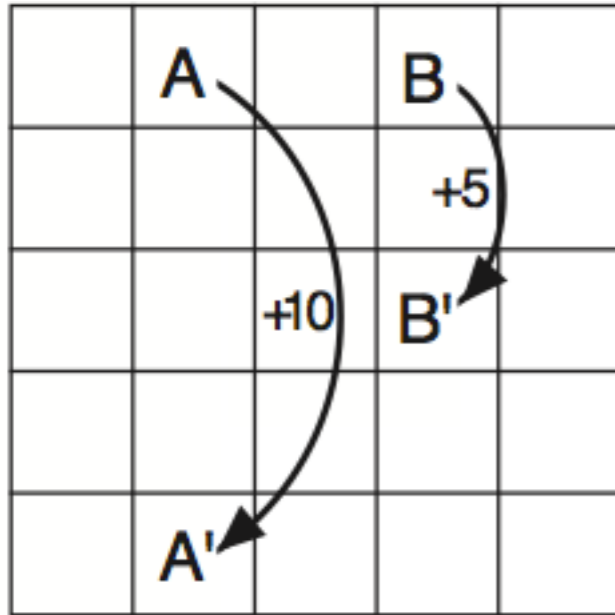
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**Bellmann equation:**

# Simple model environment: gridworld



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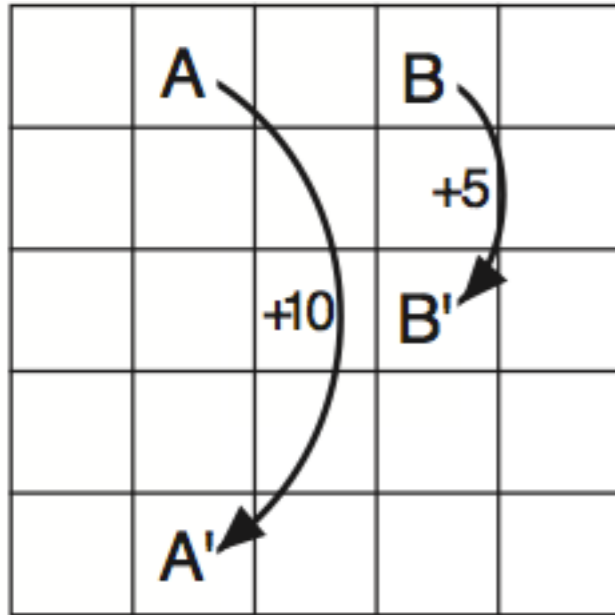
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# Simple model environment: gridworld



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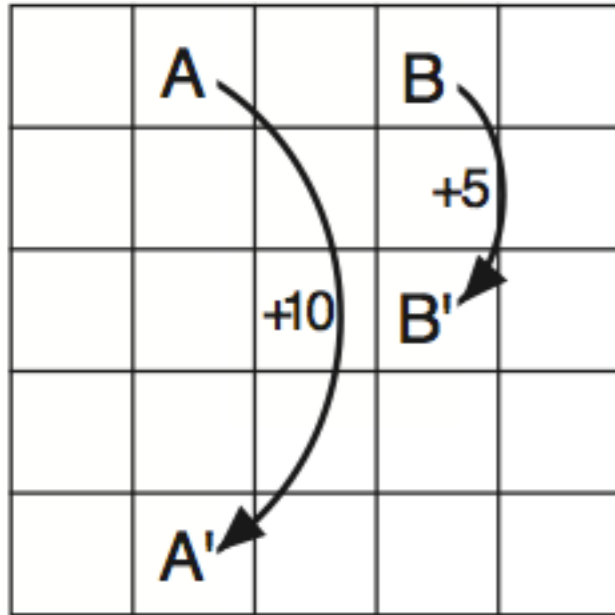
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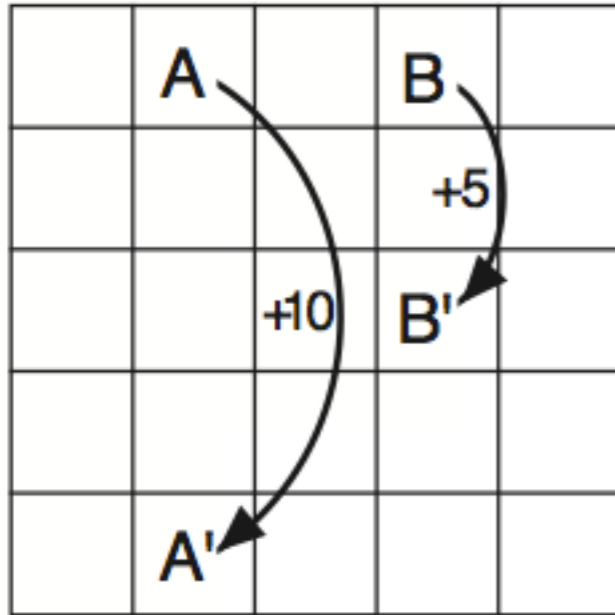
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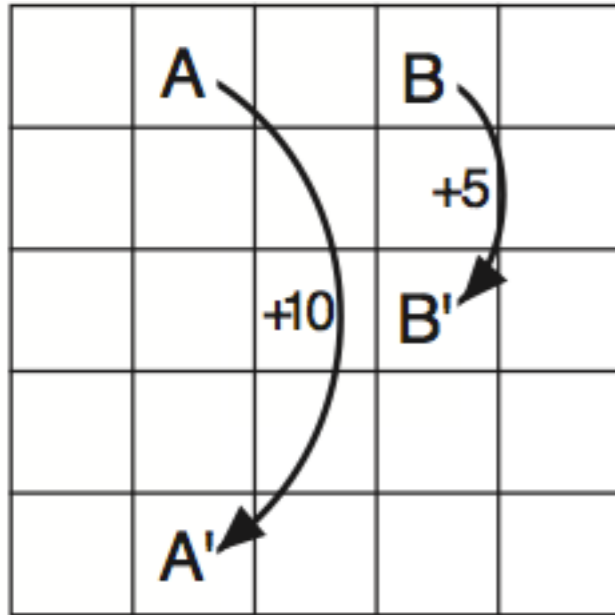
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# Simple model environment: gridworld



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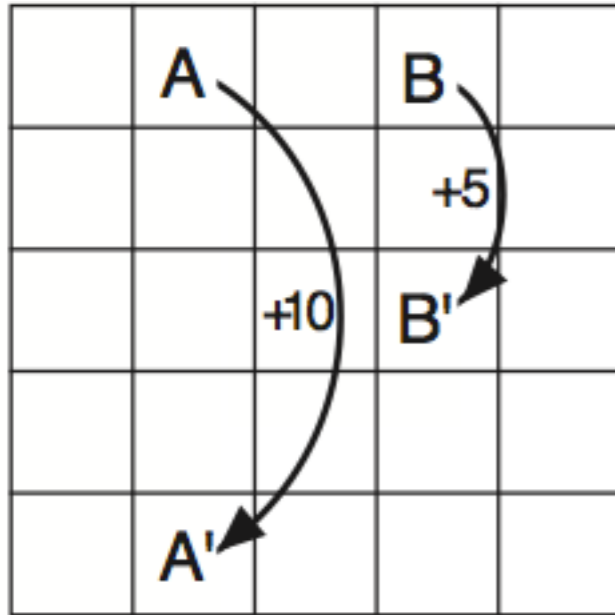
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# Simple model environment: gridworld



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- consistency relationship between states
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# Simple model environment: gridworld

	A		B		state transitions	$P(s_{t+1}   s_t, a_t)$
					rewards:	$r(s_t, a_t, s_{t+1})$
	A'				policy:	$\pi(a_t   s_t)$

**Bellmann equation for Q:**

$$Q_{\pi}(s, a) = \sum_{s'} P(s' | a, s) \left[ r(s, a, s') + \sum_a \pi(a | s') \gamma Q_{\pi}(s', a) \right]$$

**what is the value associated with a given state under a policy?**

**Bellmann equation:**

$$V_{\pi}(s) = \mathbb{E}_{\pi}[\mathcal{R}_t | S_t = s]$$

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# Simple model environment: gridworld

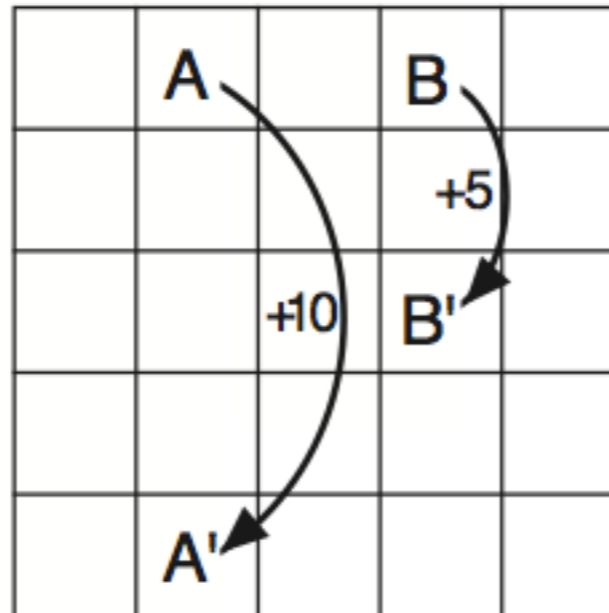
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Computing the value function,  $V(s)$

# Simple model environment: gridworld

## Computing the value function, $V(s)$

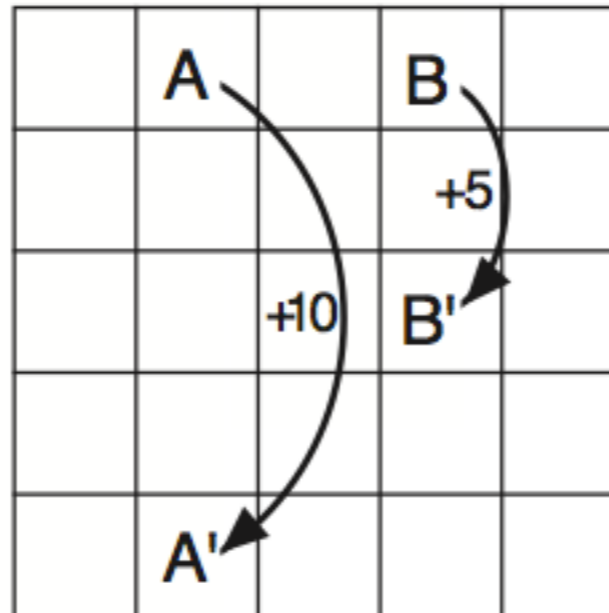
random policy



# Simple model environment: gridworld

## Computing the value function, $V(s)$

random policy

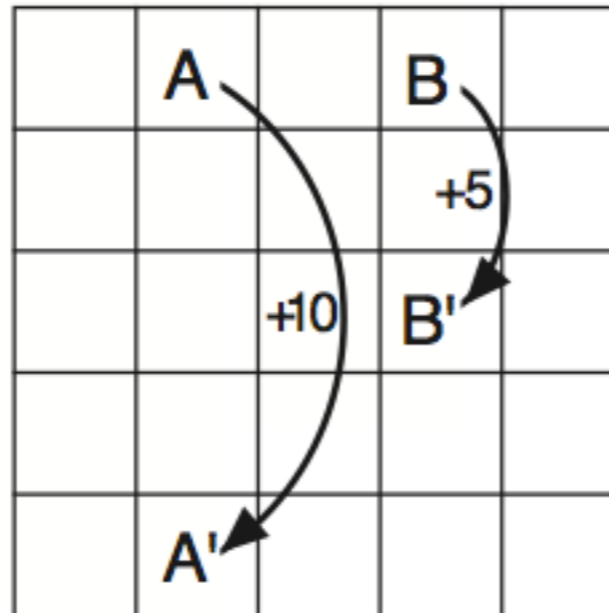


3.3	8.8	4.4	5.3	1.5
1.5	3.0	2.3	1.9	0.5
0.1	0.7	0.7	0.4	-0.4
-1.0	-0.4	-0.4	-0.6	-1.2
-1.9	-1.3	-1.2	-1.4	-2.0

# Simple model environment: gridworld

## Computing the value function, $V(s)$

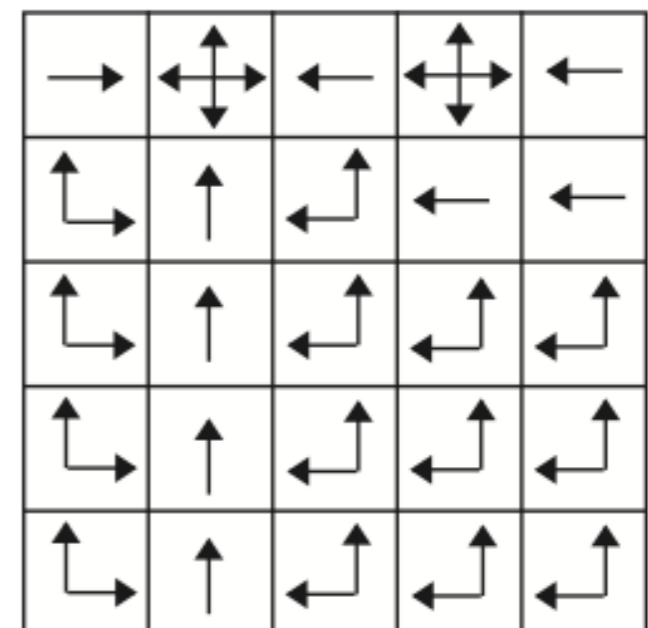
random policy



3.3	8.8	4.4	5.3	1.5
1.5	3.0	2.3	1.9	0.5
0.1	0.7	0.7	0.4	-0.4
-1.0	-0.4	-0.4	-0.6	-1.2
-1.9	-1.3	-1.2	-1.4	-2.0

optimal policy

22.0	24.4	22.0	19.4	17.5
19.8	22.0	19.8	17.8	16.0
17.8	19.8	17.8	16.0	14.4
16.0	17.8	16.0	14.4	13.0
14.4	16.0	14.4	13.0	11.7



# Alternative solutions to Bellmann equation

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# Intuition for Temporal Difference Learning

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<i>State</i>	<i>Elapsed Time (minutes)</i>	<i>Predicted Time to Go</i>	<i>Predicted Total Time</i>
leaving office, friday at 6	0	30	30
reach car, raining	5	35	40
exiting highway	20	15	35
2ndary road, behind truck	30	10	40
entering home street	40	3	43
arrive home	43	0	43

# Intuition for Temporal Difference Learning

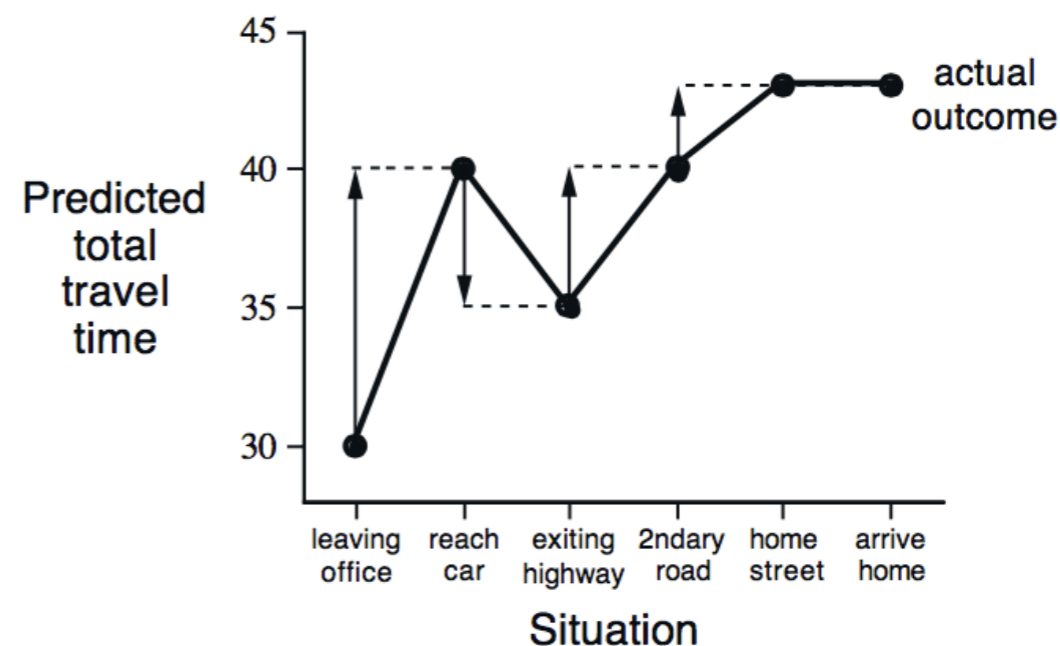
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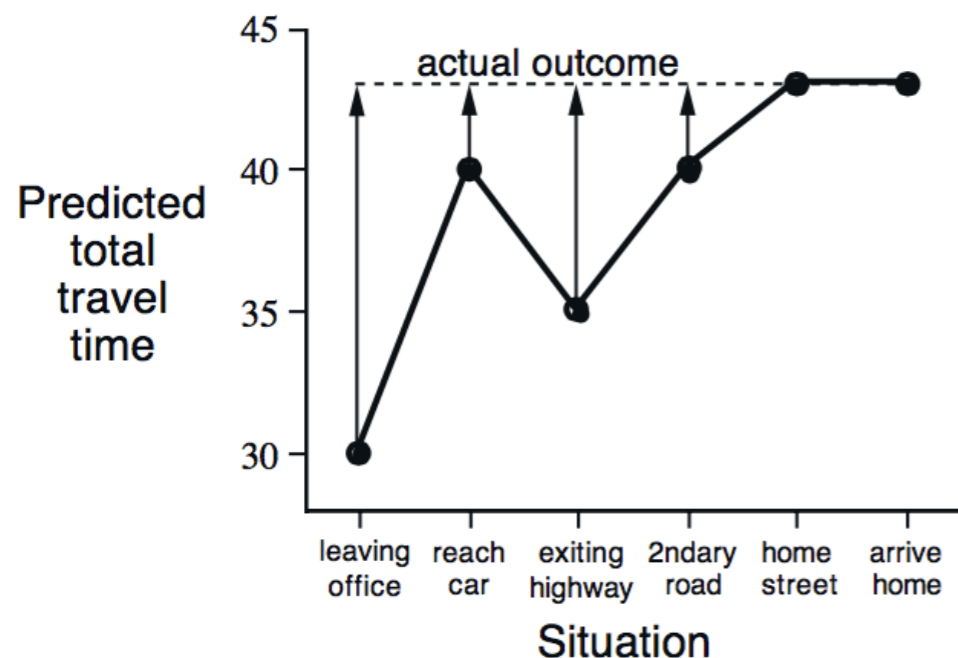
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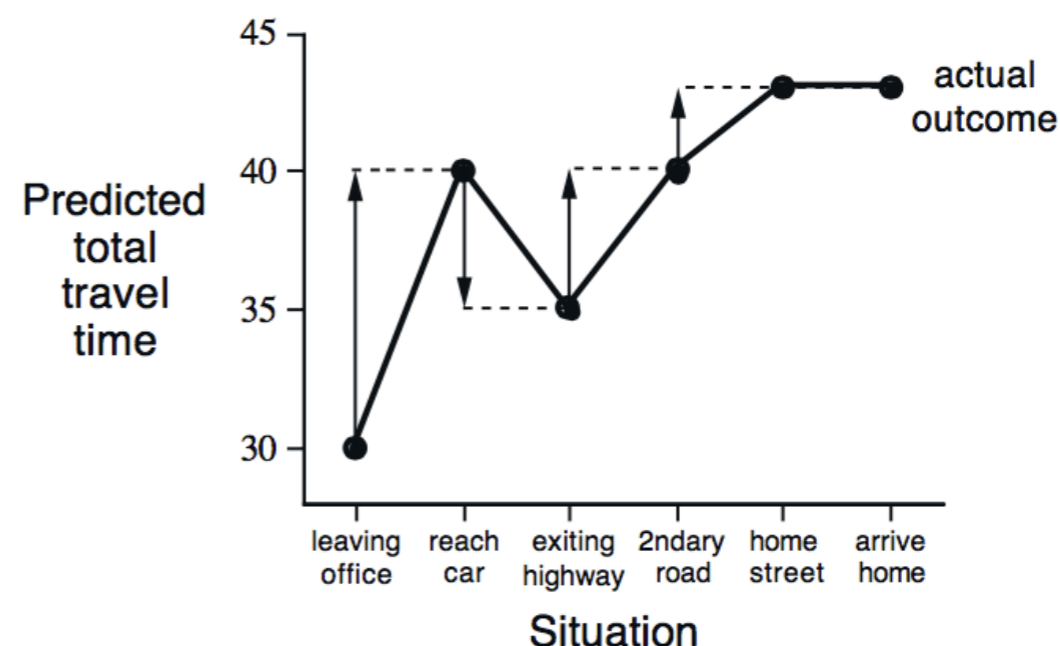
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### Monte Carlo



### temporal difference



# RL in practice

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## temporal difference learning

- don't wait with the updates until the end of the trial!

$$Q_{\pi}(s_t, a_t) \leftarrow Q_{\pi}(s_t, a_t) + \alpha \left[ \underbrace{r_{t+1} + \gamma Q(s_{t+1}, a_{t+1})}_{\text{estimate}} - Q(s_t, a_t) \right]$$

- Q-learning:  
a powerful algorithm that has been applied to many different real-world problems

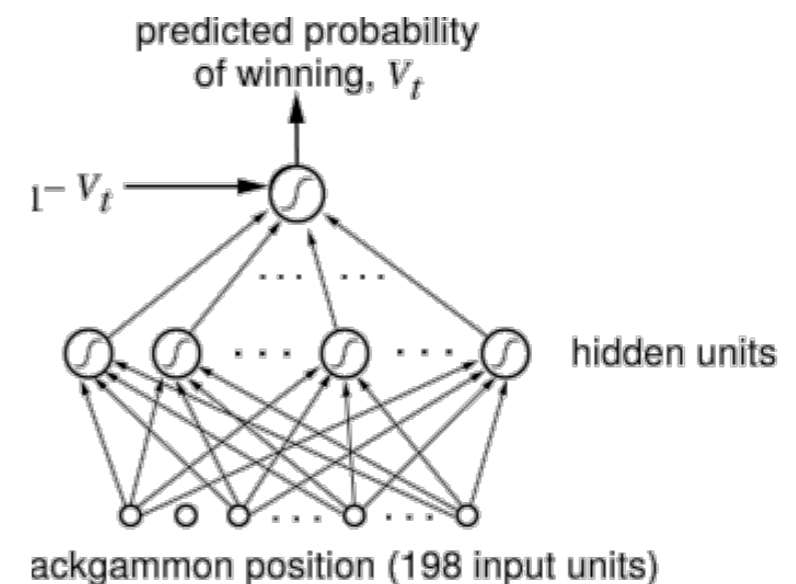
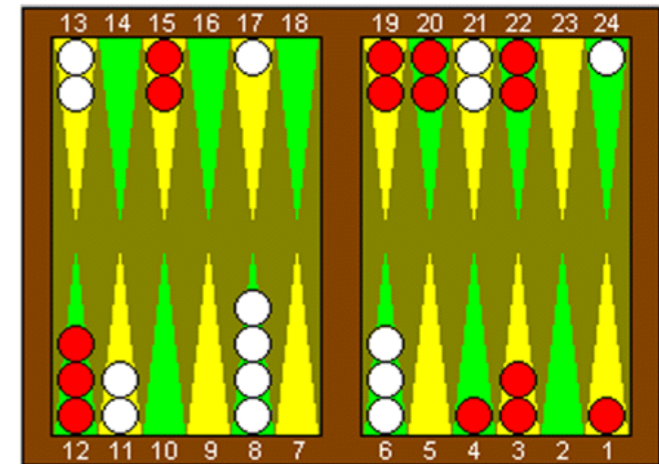
$$Q(s_t, a_t) \leftarrow Q(s_t, a_t) + \alpha \left[ \underbrace{r_{t+1} + \gamma \max_a Q(s_{t+1}, a)}_{\text{prediction error}} - Q(s_t, a_t) \right]$$

neuronal implementation:

- learn the state space - representational learning
- tabular vs. function approximation
- learning is based on prediction error
- is reward prediction error calculated by the brain?

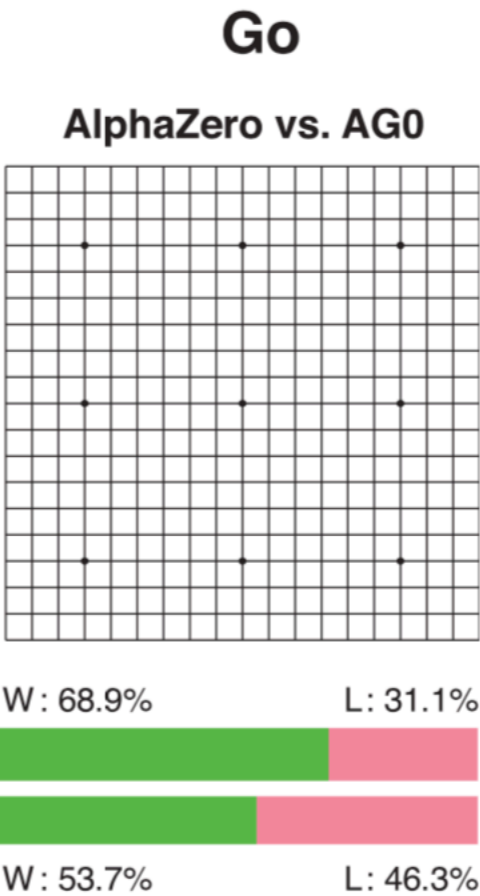
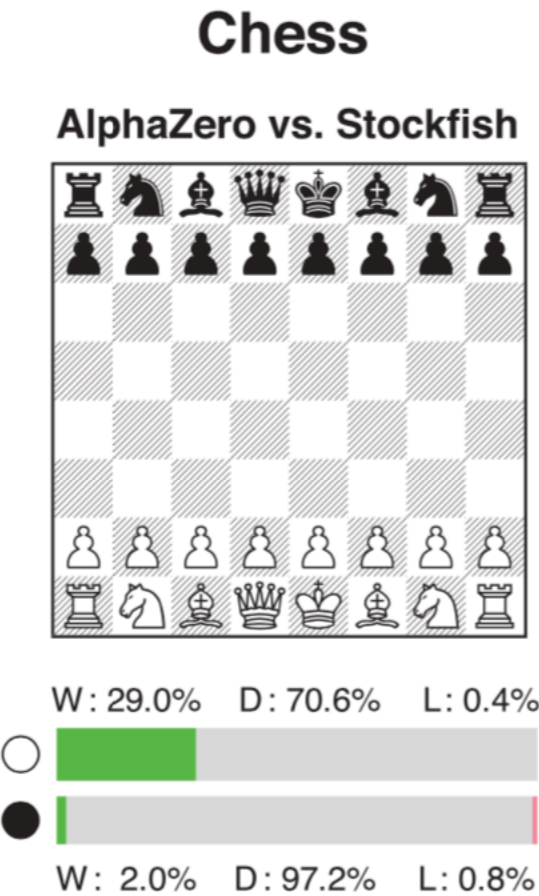
# Decision making with a neural network and TD learning

- Gerard Tesauro TD-backgammon
  - Multi-layer neural network
  - Input: possible states achieved by potential moves
  - Output: the probability of winning from an actual state
- Based on these, a policy can be established
- Result: performance is compatible with the best human players
- Training the algorithm takes about 5s



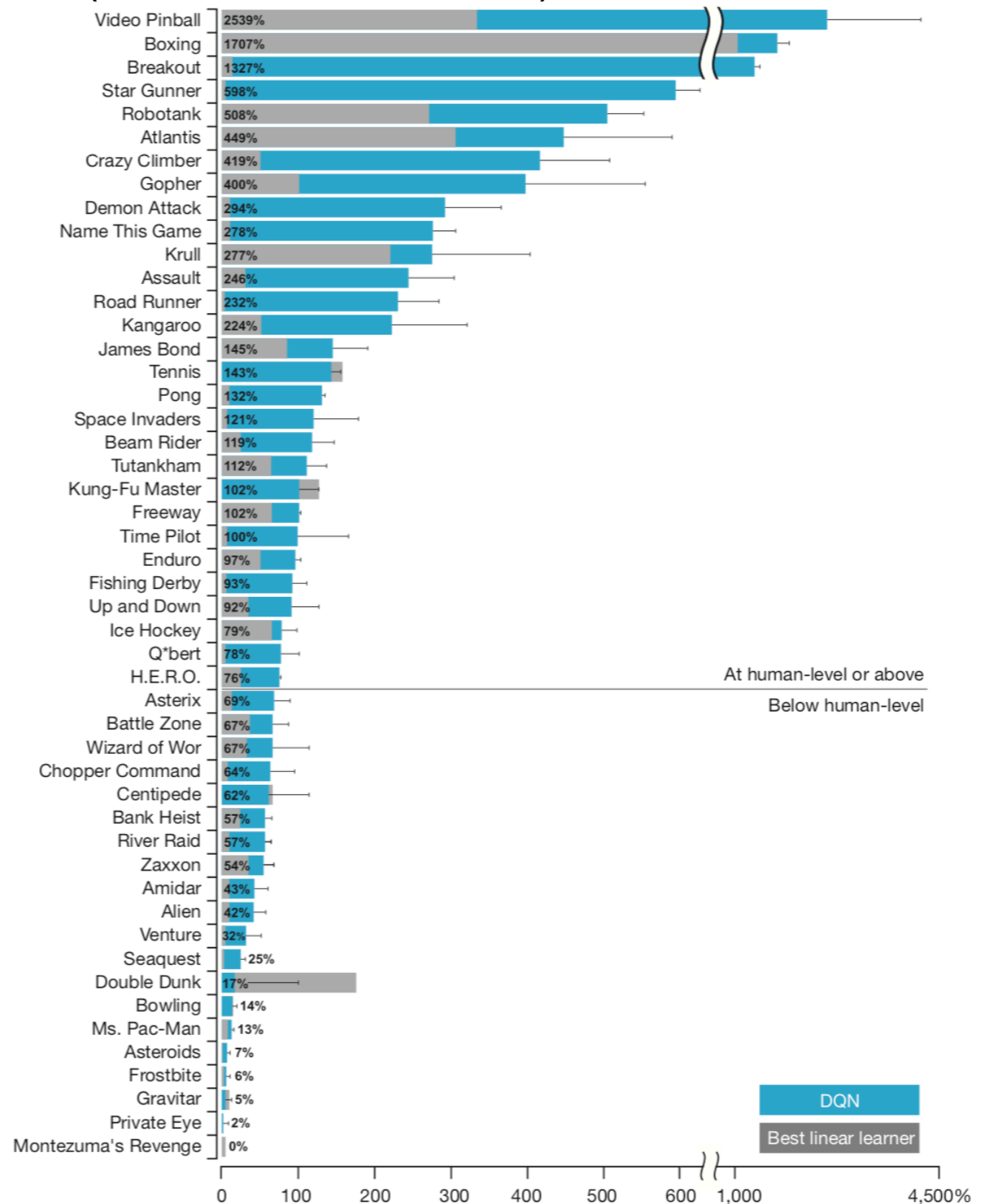
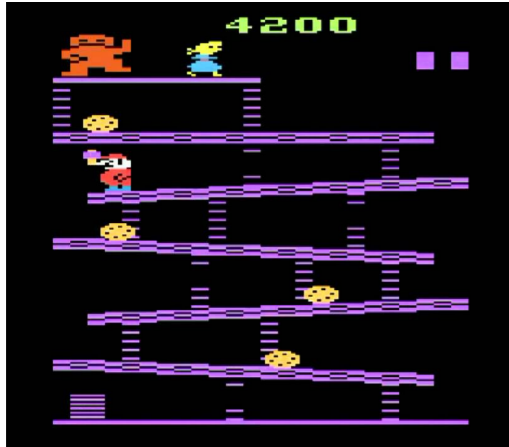
# Decision making with a neural network and TD learning Deep Q learning

## AlphaZero (Silver et al., 2018)



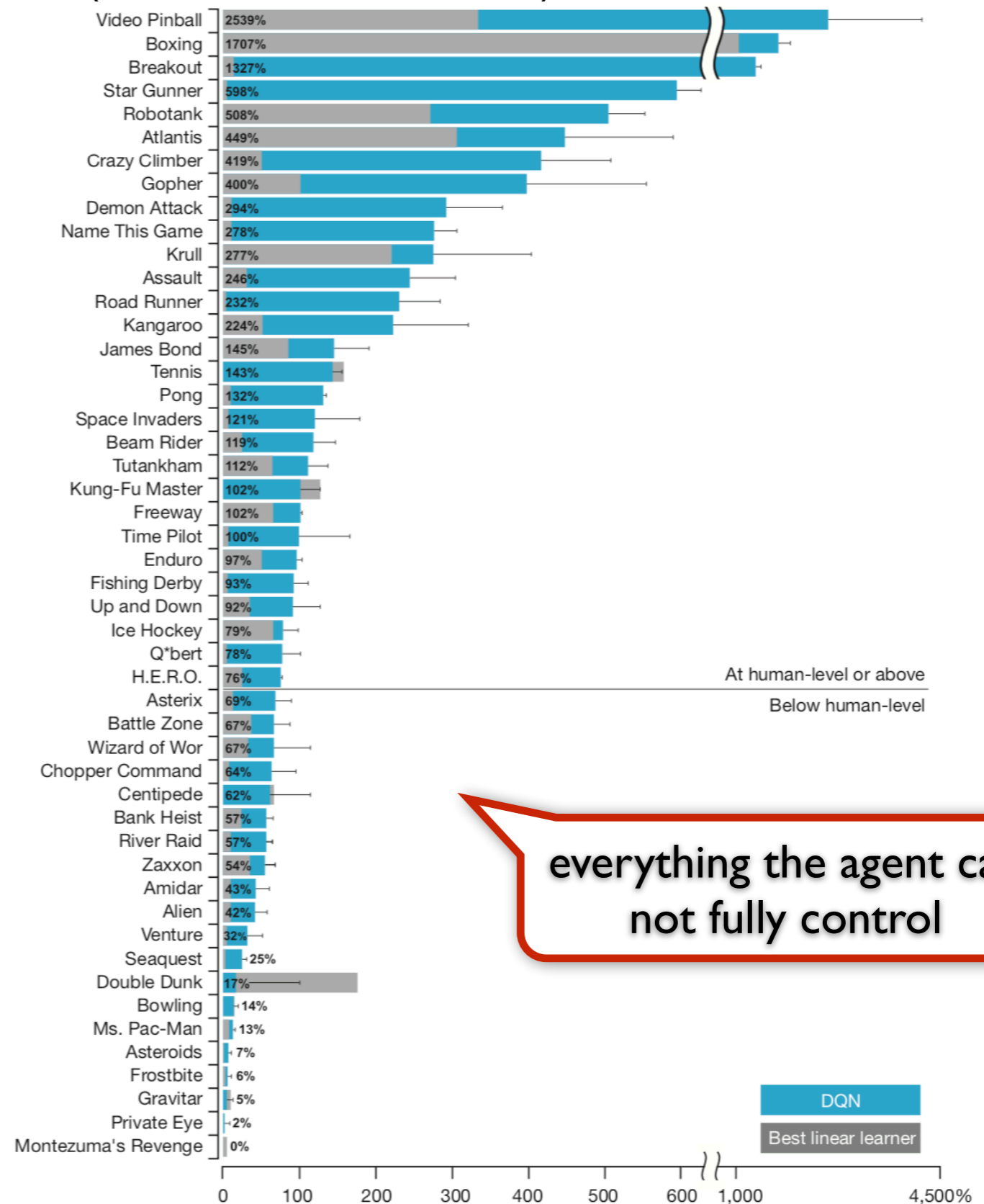
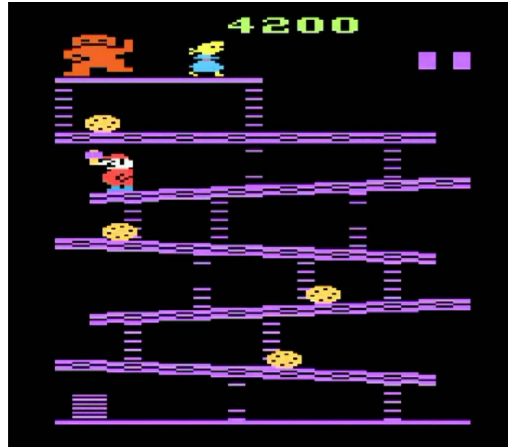
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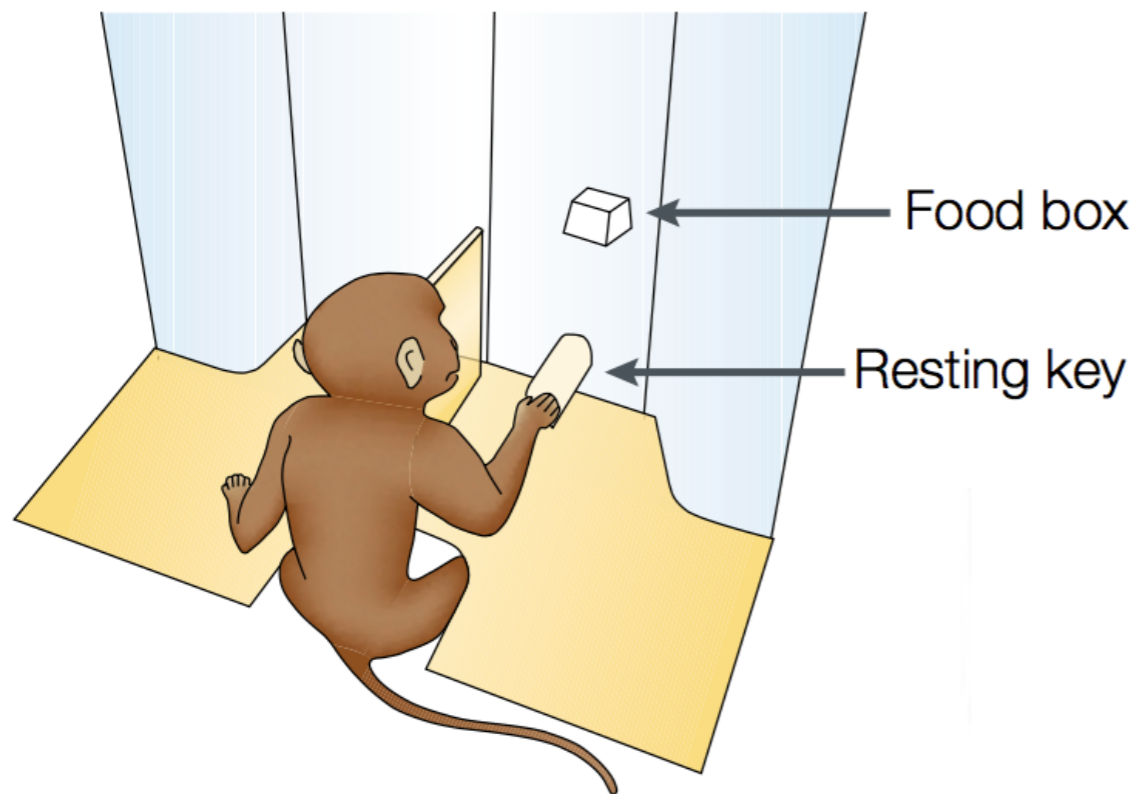
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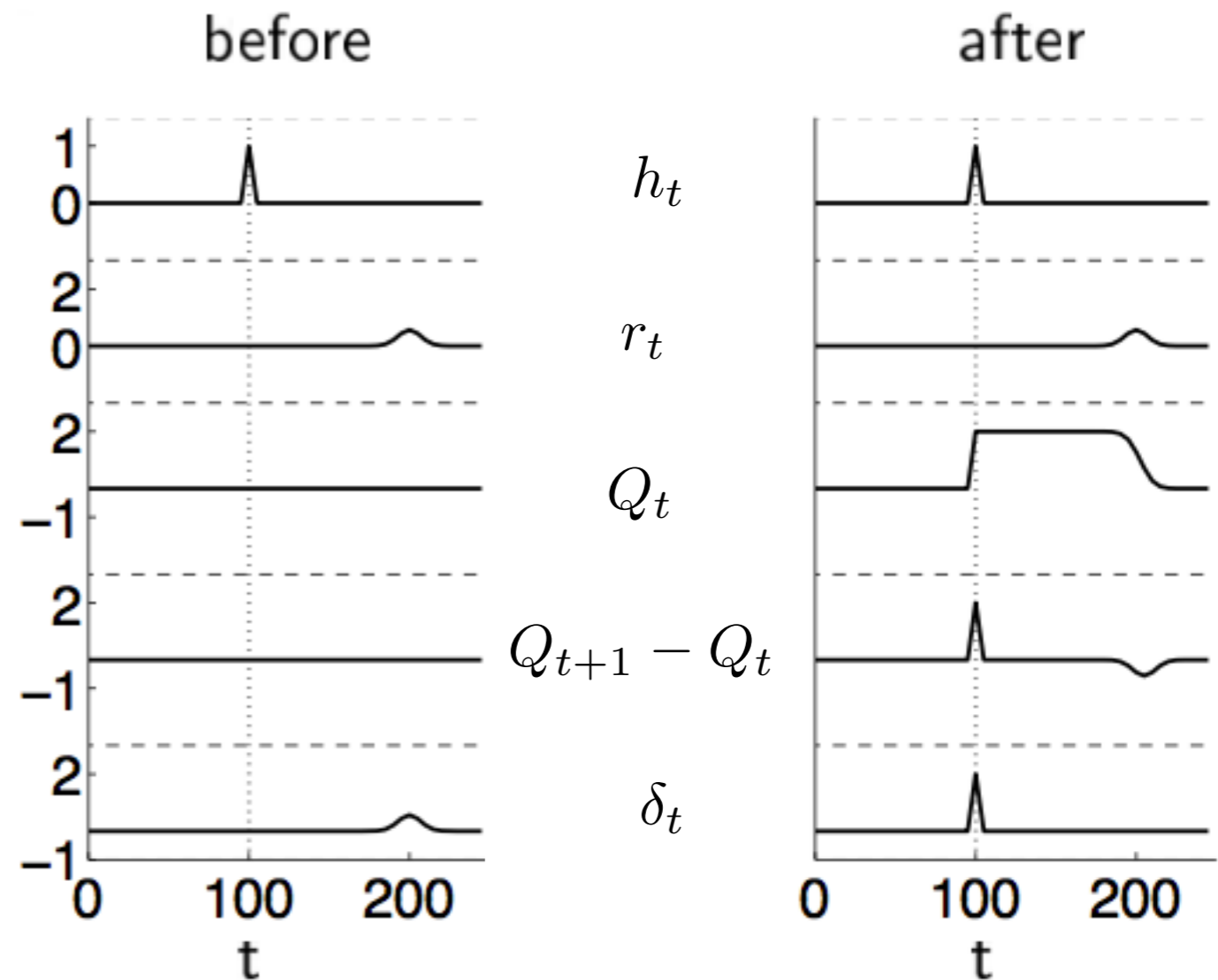
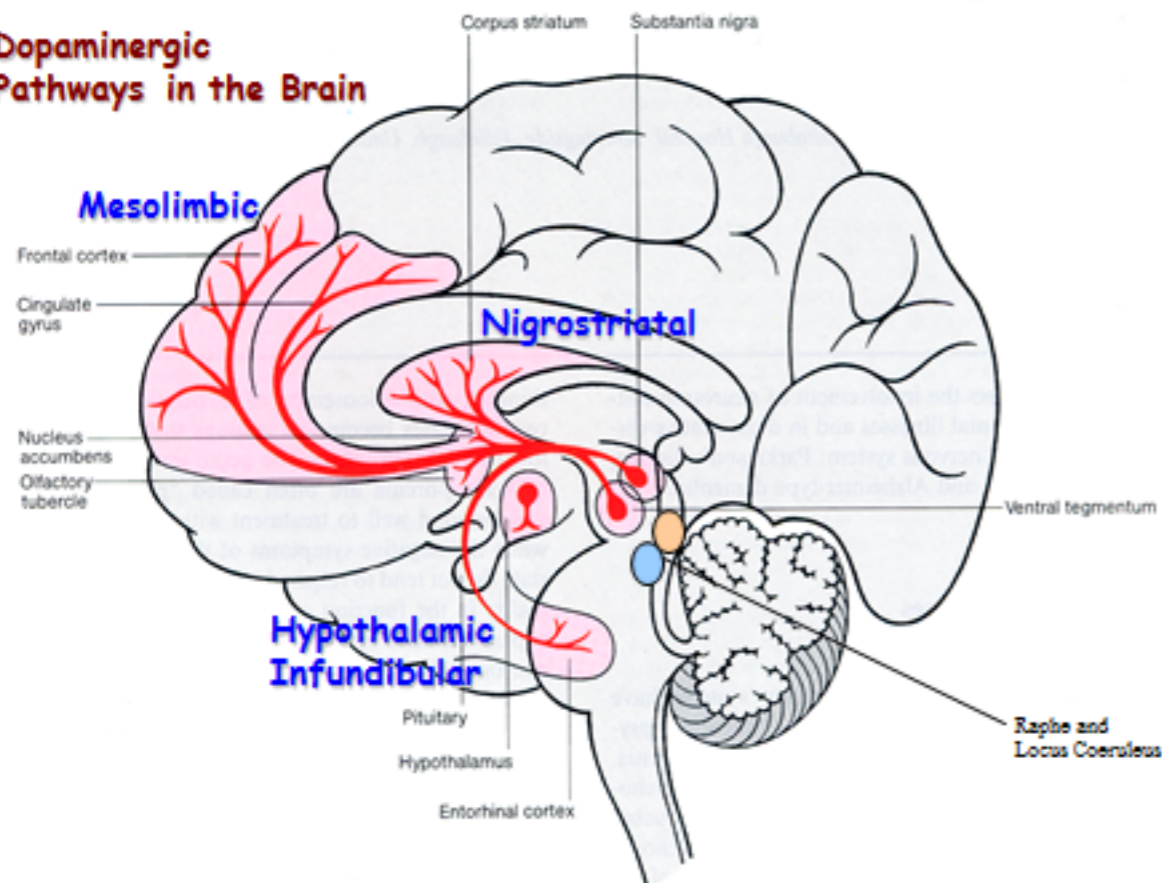


everything the agent can not fully control

# Neural representation: dopamine signal

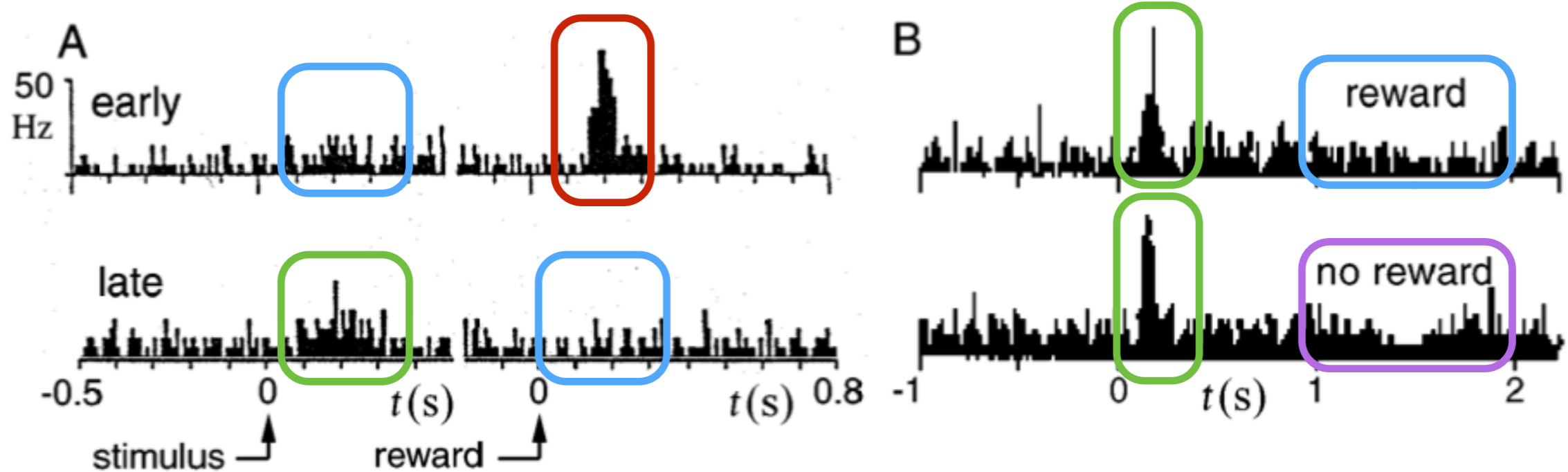
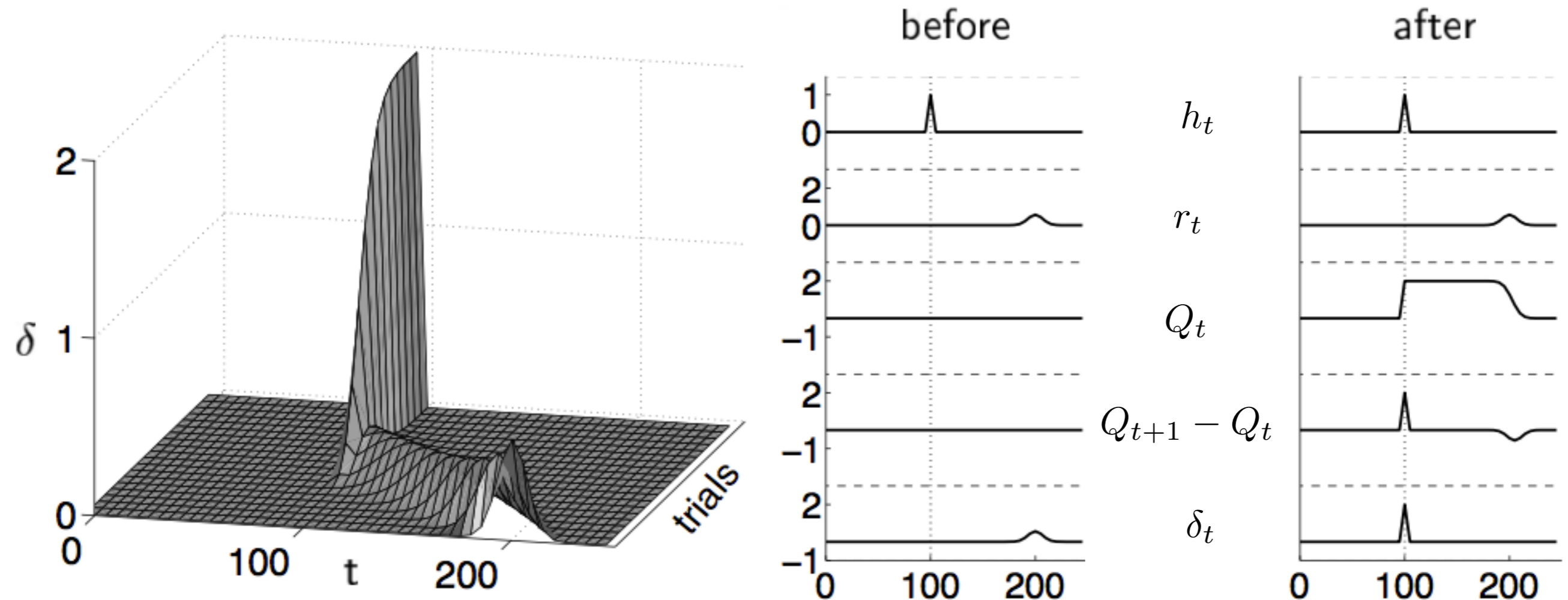


## Dopaminergic Pathways in the Brain



$$\alpha \left[ \underbrace{r_{t+1} + \gamma \max_a Q(s_{t+1}, a) - Q(s_t, a_t)}_{\delta_t} \right]$$

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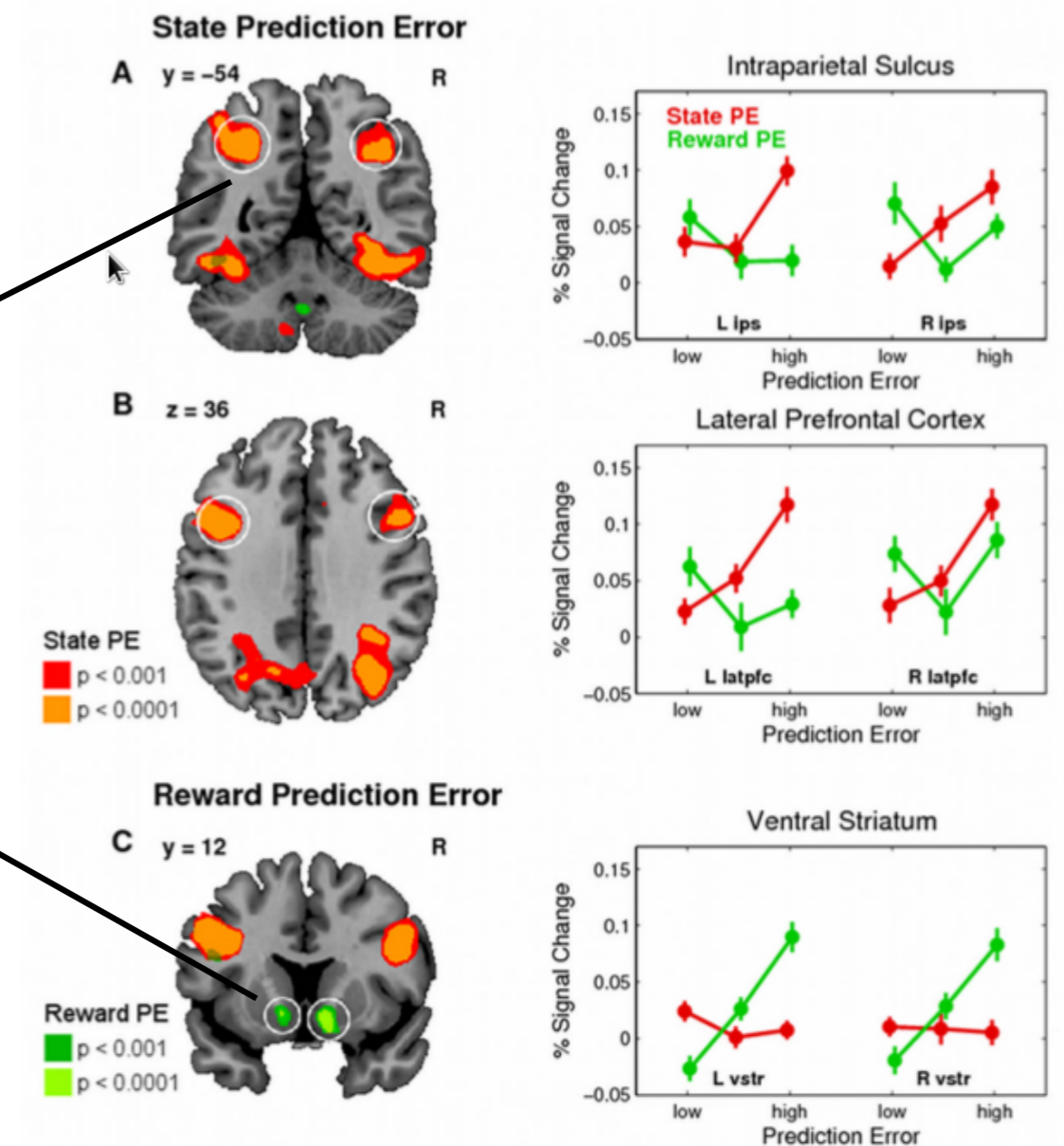


# Model-based RL in the brain



## Deliberative, model-based RL prefrontal and parietal cortices

## Reactive, model-free RL subcortical structures



# Conclusions

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