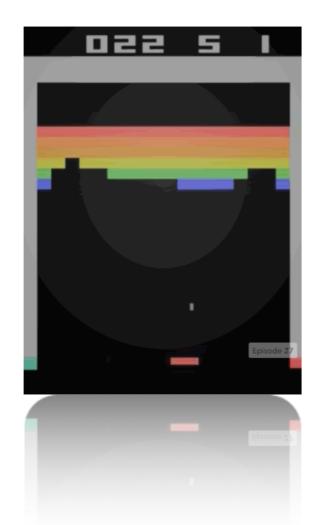
# Value Iteration Networks

#### NIPS 2016 BEST PAPER

Aviv Tamar, Yi Wu, Garrett Thomas, Sergey Levine, and Pieter Abbeel @ Berkeley Artificial Intelligence Research Lab (BAIR)

- Deep RL learns policies from complicated visual input
- Learns to act, but does it **understand**?
- A simple test: generalization on grid worlds

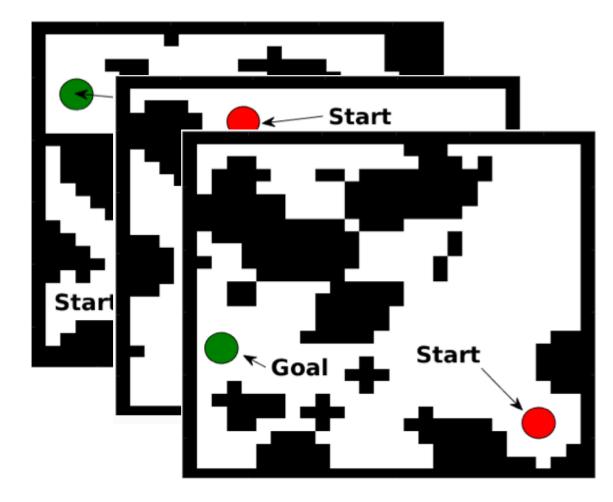




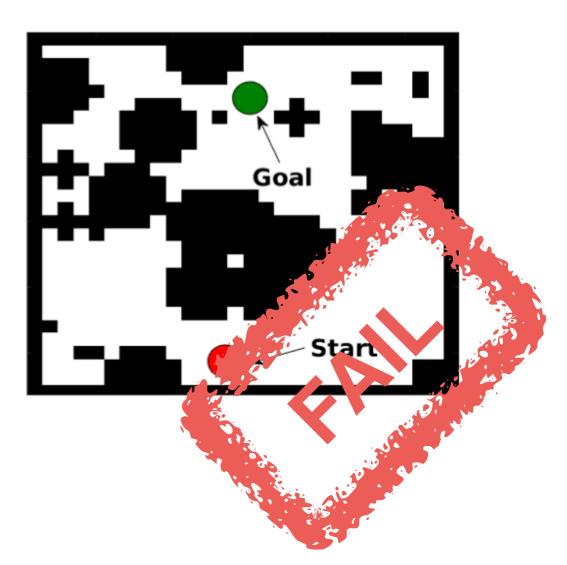
Runzhe Yang @ SJTU ACM CLASS



• A simple test: generalization on grid worlds



Train

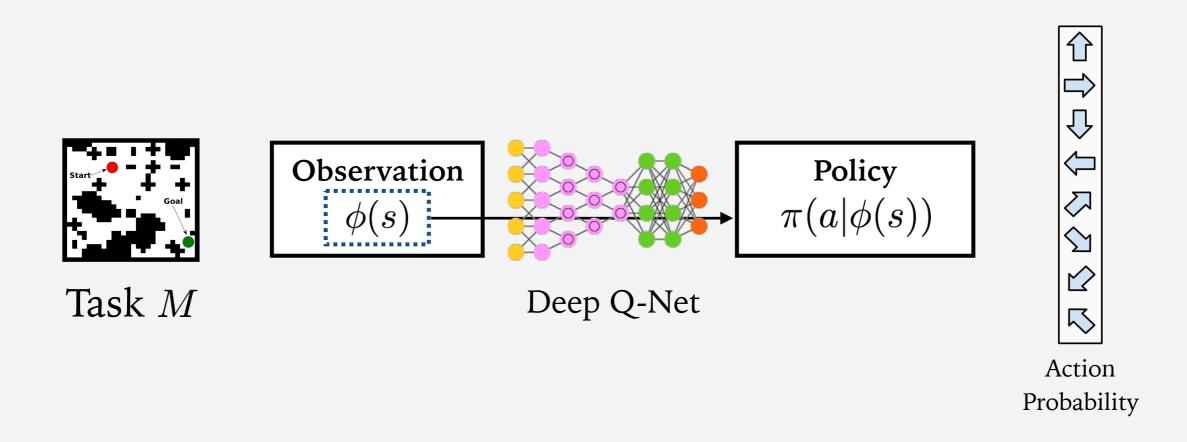


#### Test

#### Why doesn't it **understand**?

#### Introduction

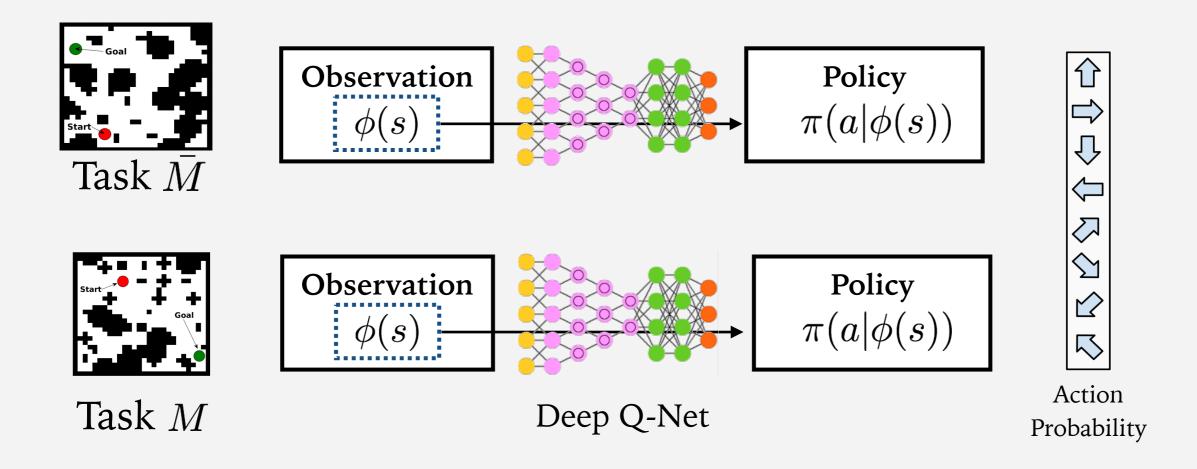
- A neural network (NN) is trained to represent a policy



#### Why doesn't it **understand**?

#### Introduction

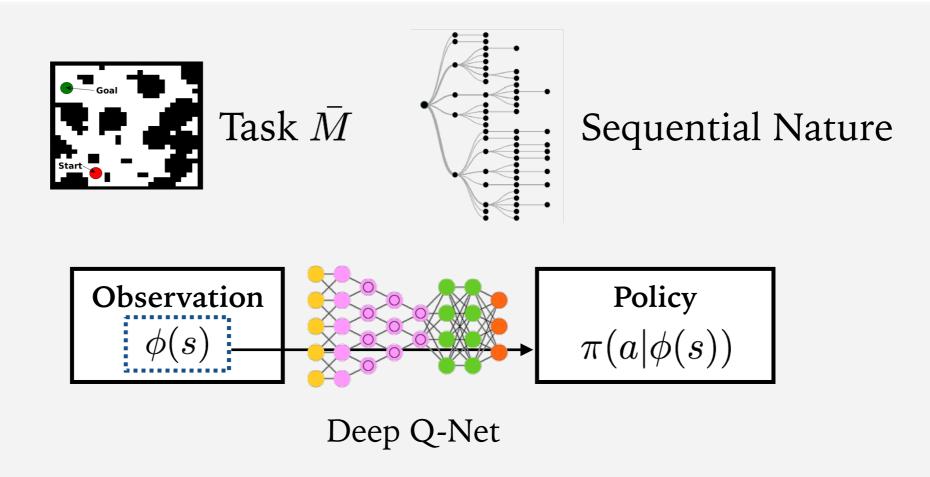
- A neural network (NN) is trained to represent a policy
- New task  $\rightarrow$  need to re-plan



# Why doesn't it **understand**?

# Why doesn't it **understand**?

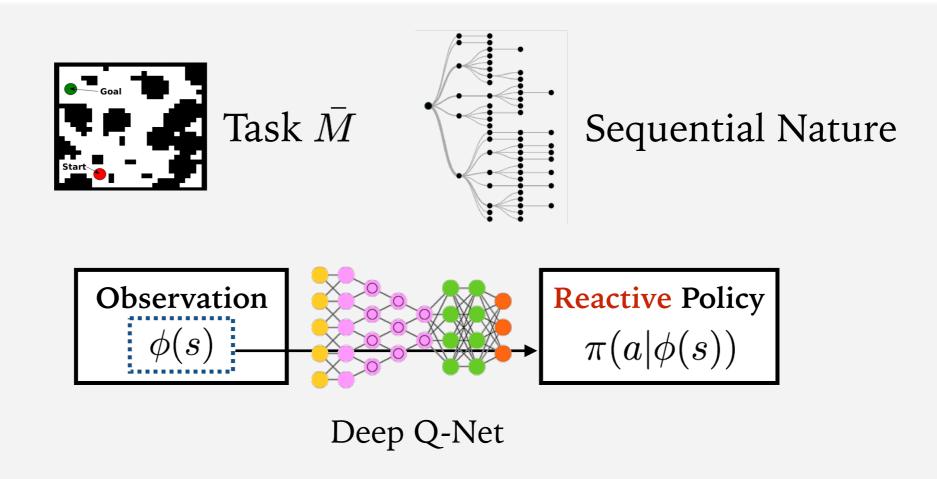
- A sequential problem requires a planning computation



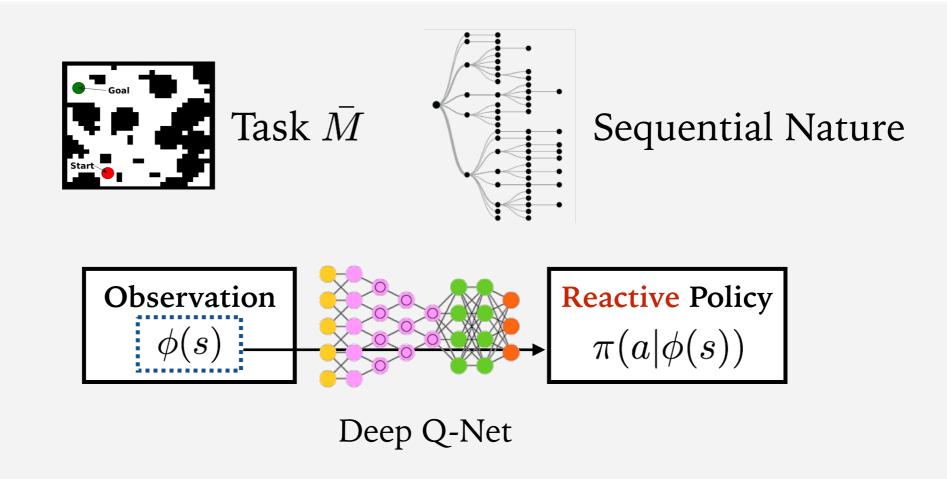
#### Introduction

# Why doesn't it **understand**?

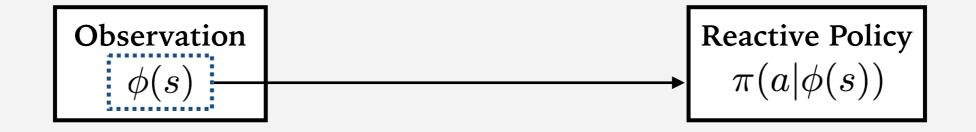
- A sequential problem requires a planning computation
- RL gets around that (learns a mapping, State  $\rightarrow$  Q-value)
- Lack of planning computation  $\Rightarrow$  bad understanding



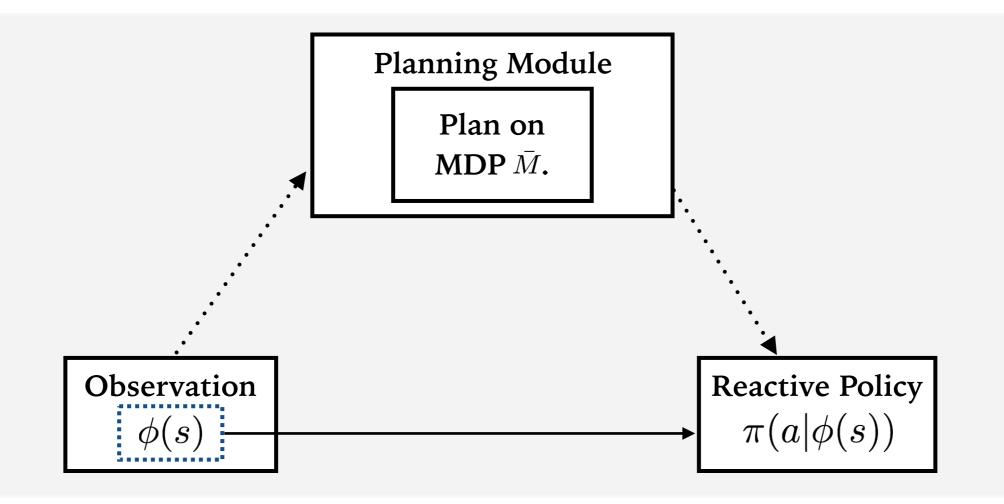
- In this work:
- Learn to plan
- Policies that generalize to unseen tasks



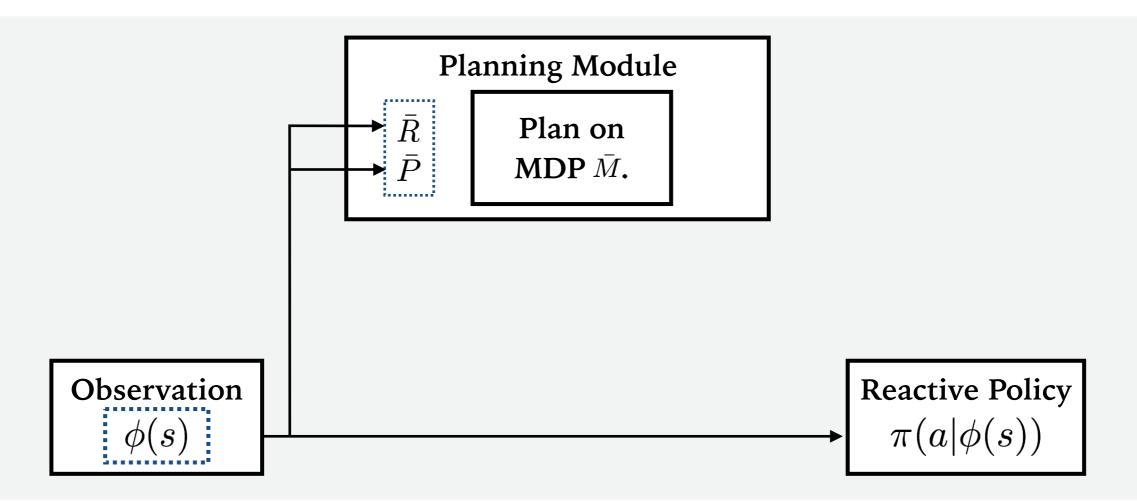
- Start from reactive policy



- Add an explicit planning computation
- Assumption: observation can be mapped to a useful (but **unknown**) planning computation

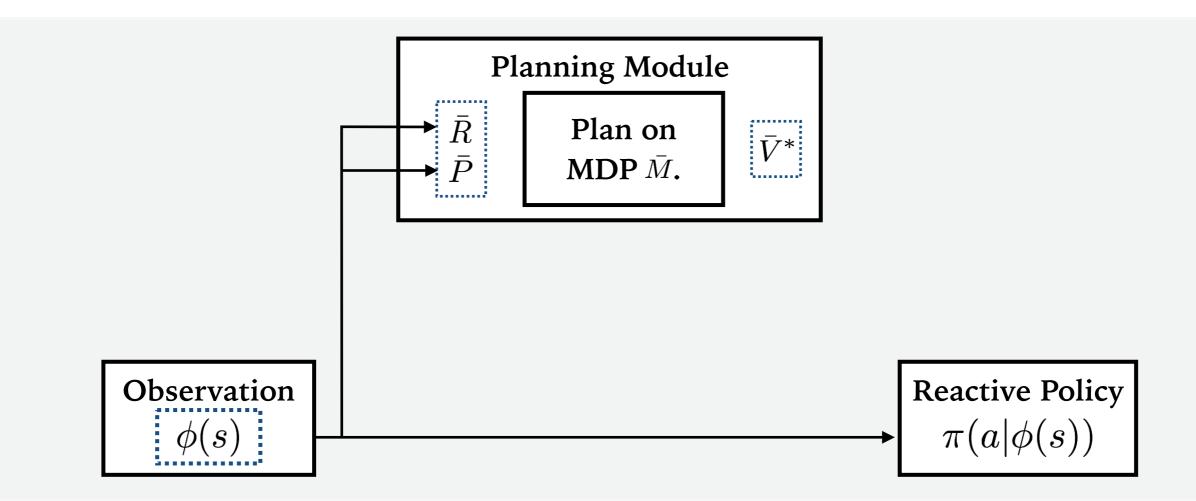


- NNs map observation to reward and transitions
- Later, learn on new MDP



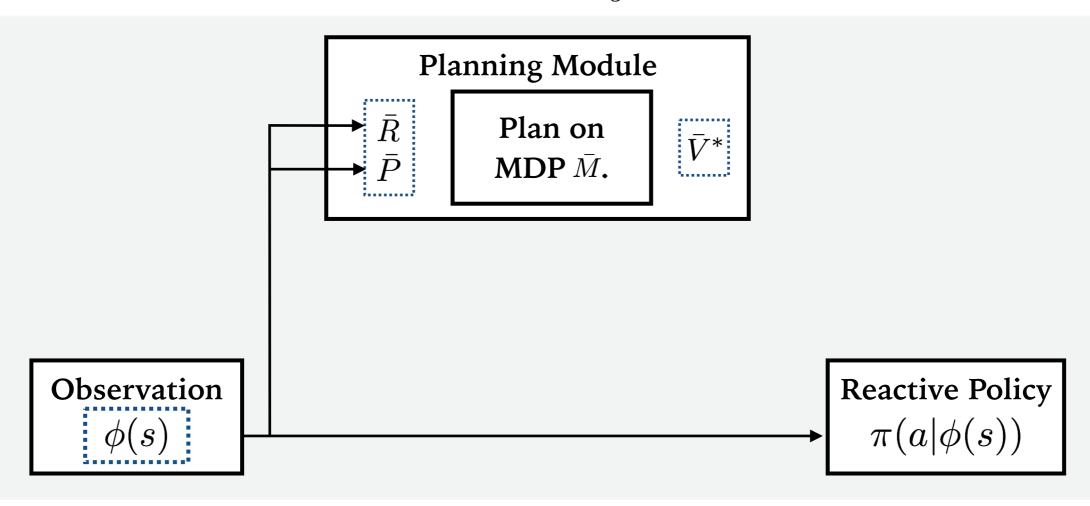
- How to use the planning computation?

- Fact 1: value function = sufficient information about plan



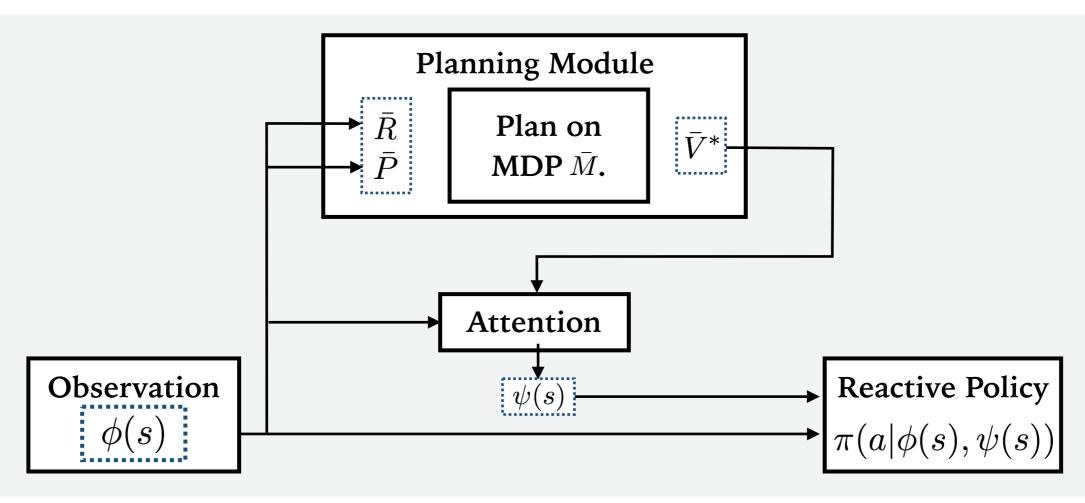
- Fact 1: value function = sufficient information about plan
- Fact 2: action prediction can require only subset of  $\bar{V}^*$

$$\pi^*(a|s) = \arg\max_{a} R(s,a) + \gamma \sum_{s'} P(s'|s,a) V^*(s')$$

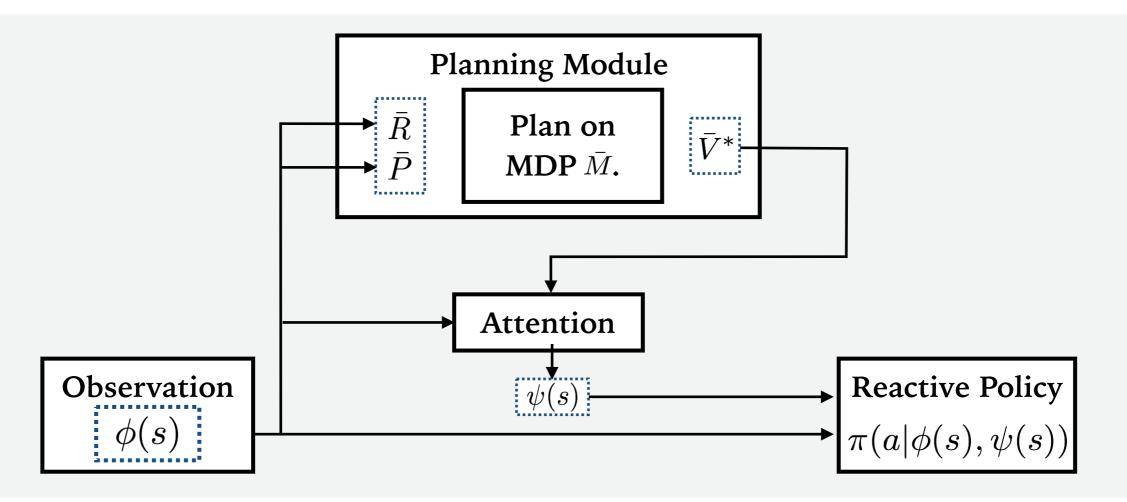


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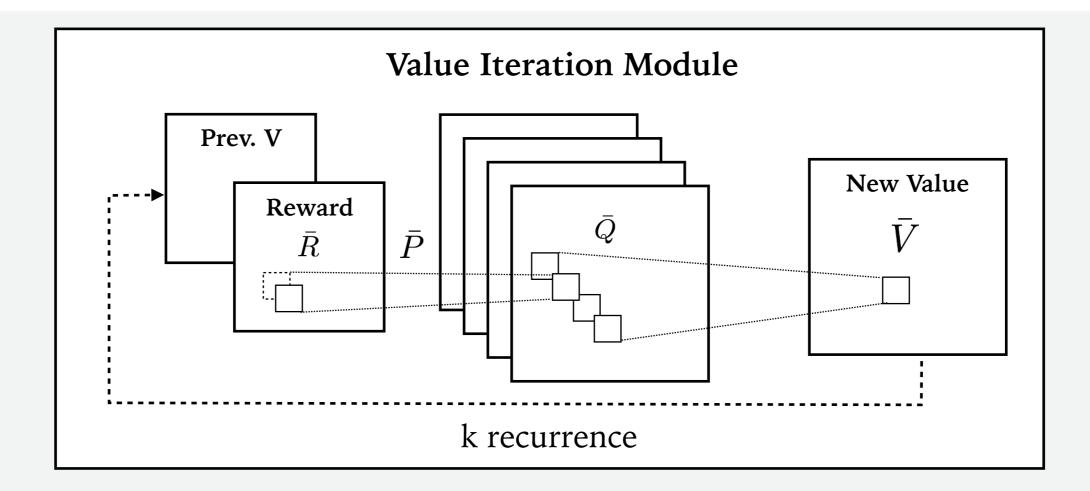


- Policy is still a mapping  $\phi(s) \longrightarrow \operatorname{Prob}(a)$
- Parameters  $\theta$  for mapping  $\overline{R}$ ,  $\overline{P}$ , attention



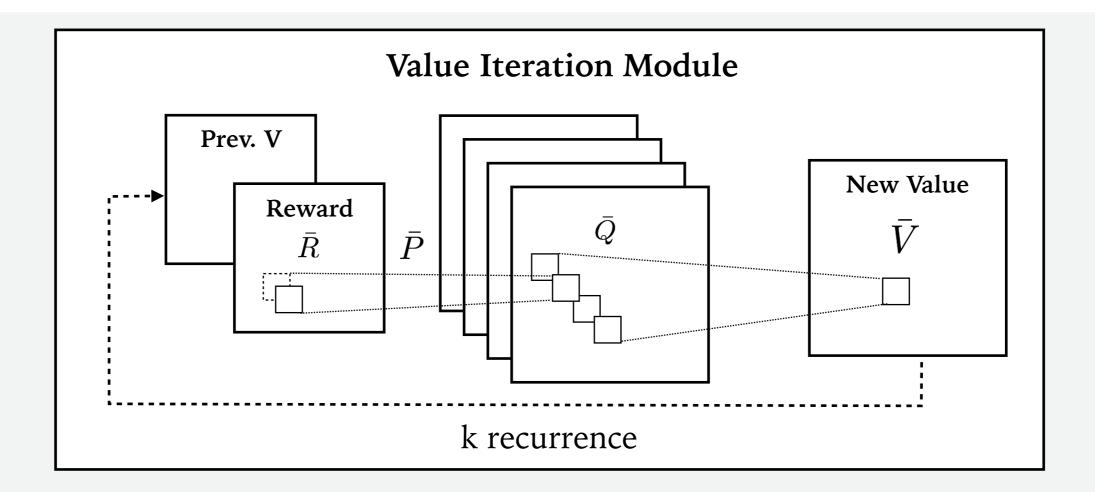
- How to back-prop through planning computation?

- Differential planner (Value Iteration  $\approx$  CNN)



Conv: 
$$\bar{Q}_{\bar{a},i'j'} = \sum_{l,i,j} W^{\bar{a}}_{l,i,j} \bar{R}_{l,i'-i,j'-j}$$

- Differential planner (Value Iteration  $\approx$  CNN)

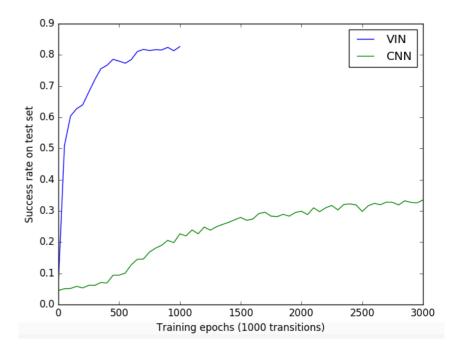


Conv: 
$$\bar{Q}_{\bar{a},i'j'} = \sum_{l,i,j} W^{\bar{a}}_{l,i,j} \bar{R}_{l,i'-i,j'-j}$$
 Pool:  $\bar{V}_{i,j} = \max_{\bar{a}} \bar{Q}(\bar{a},i,j)$ 

#### 1. Grid-World Domain

Network	8 × 8	16 × 16
VIN	90.9%	82.5%
CNN	86.9%	33.1%

Table: RL Results – performance on **test maps**.



2. Mars Rover Navigation 3. Continuous Control

4. WebNav Challenge



# Thank you!

