Improving Reward Shaping Via Language Instructions Yutong Yan*, Irene Zhang*

Reinforcement Learning (RL)



RL Tasks (Atari Games)

• Problem: Sparse rewards



Figure 1: The Atari game Montezuma's Revenge is a classic task which shows the difficulty for solving sparse reward problems. Through out the game, the agent must perform long sequences of actions before receiving a reward at checkpoints.

1.	wait
2.	using the ladder on standing
3.	going slow and climb down the ladder
4.	move down the ladder and walk left
5.	go left watch the trap and move on
6.	climbling down the ladder
7.	ladder dwon and running this away
8.	stay in place on the ladder.
9.	go down the ladder
10.	go right and climb up the ladder
11.	just jump and little move to right side
12.	run all the way to the left.
13.	go left jumping once
14.	go left
15.	move right and jump over green
	creature then go down the ladder
16.	hop over to the middle ledge
17.	wait for the two skulls and dodge
	them in the middle
18.	walk to the left and then jump down
19.	jump to collected gold coin and little move
20.	wait for the platform to materialize then
	walk and leap to your right to collect the coins.

Figure 3: Examples of descriptions collected.

LanguagE-Action Reward Network (LEARN)





Our Planned Contribution

Temporal ordering
State-based Rewards
Reward Function Modification