# Introduction to Reinforcement Learning

w/ some applications to Energy

LEC 1b: Motivation and History

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Summer 2020



# Motivation

What problems does RL solve?



http://microsat.sm.bmstu.ru/e-library/Launch/Dnepr\_GEO.pdf

### **Example 2:** Hybrid Vehicle Energy Management





### **Example 3:** Clean Energy





### Example 4: My puppy Juno





### Short History – Ivan Pavlov (1890s)





## Short History – 20<sup>th</sup> Century



#### Richard Bellman – 1950s

Dynamic Programming Markov Decision Processes Optimal Control



### **Chris Watkins – 1989** Q-learning



**Paul Werbos – 1970s-1990s** PhD Thesis: Backpropagation "Heuristic Dynamic Programming"



Dimitri Bertsekas – 1990s-2000s Dynamic Programming Neuro-dynamic programming

### Recent History – 21<sup>st</sup> Century

#### Search: ((reinforcement learning) WN ALL)

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Reidmiller, Gabel, Hafner, Lange "Reinforcement Learning for Robot Soccer", 2009

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### Problem Setup

**Control Engineer view** 



Computer Science view





### Key Characteristics of RL

• Dynamic system

• Reward/cost

• Learning