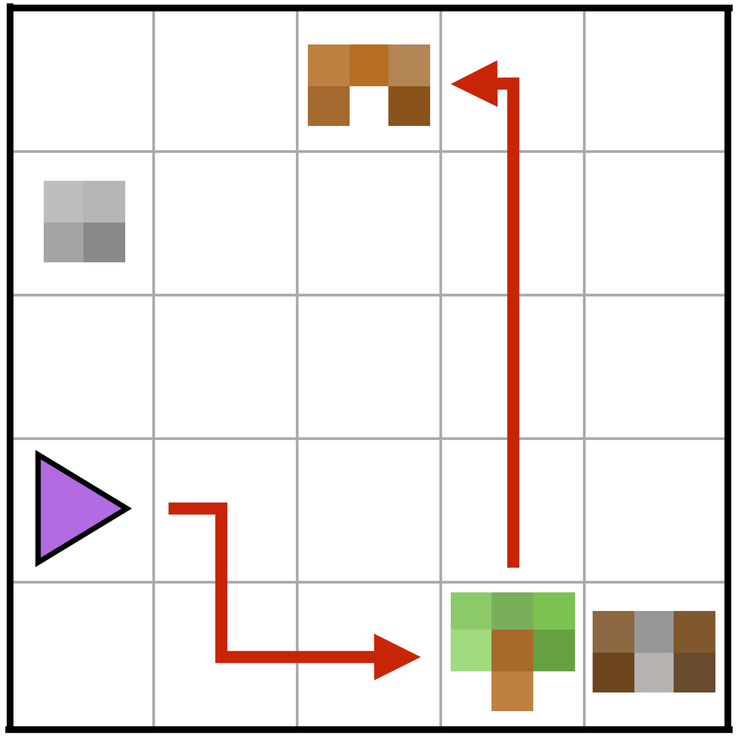
Modular multitask reinforcement learning with policy sketches

Jacob Andreas, Sergey Levine and Dan Klein

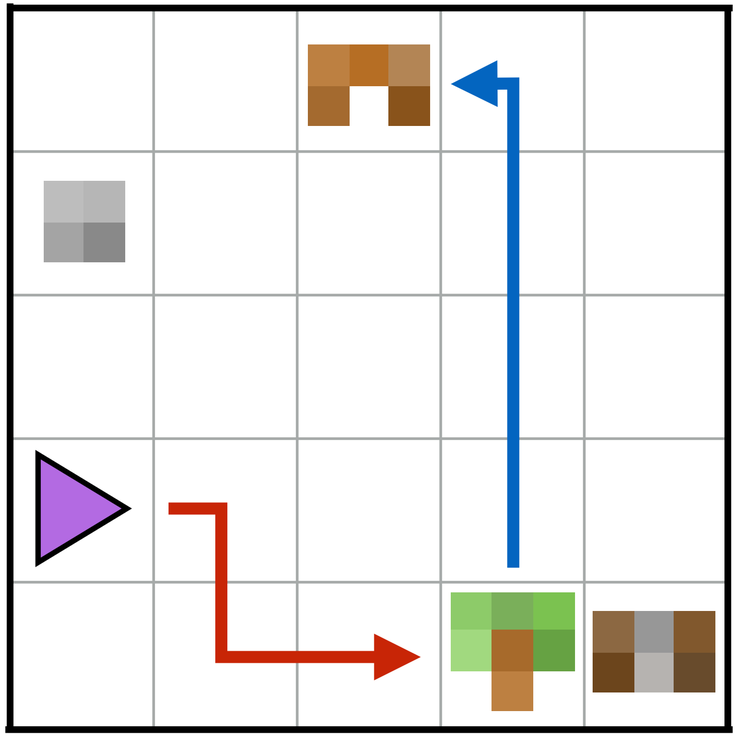
The learning problem

```
make planks
```

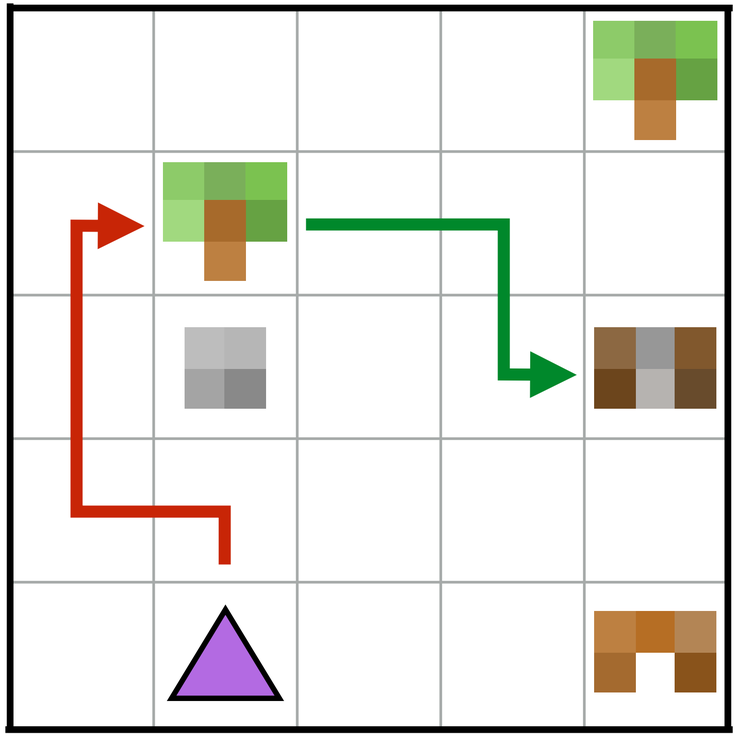


The learning problem

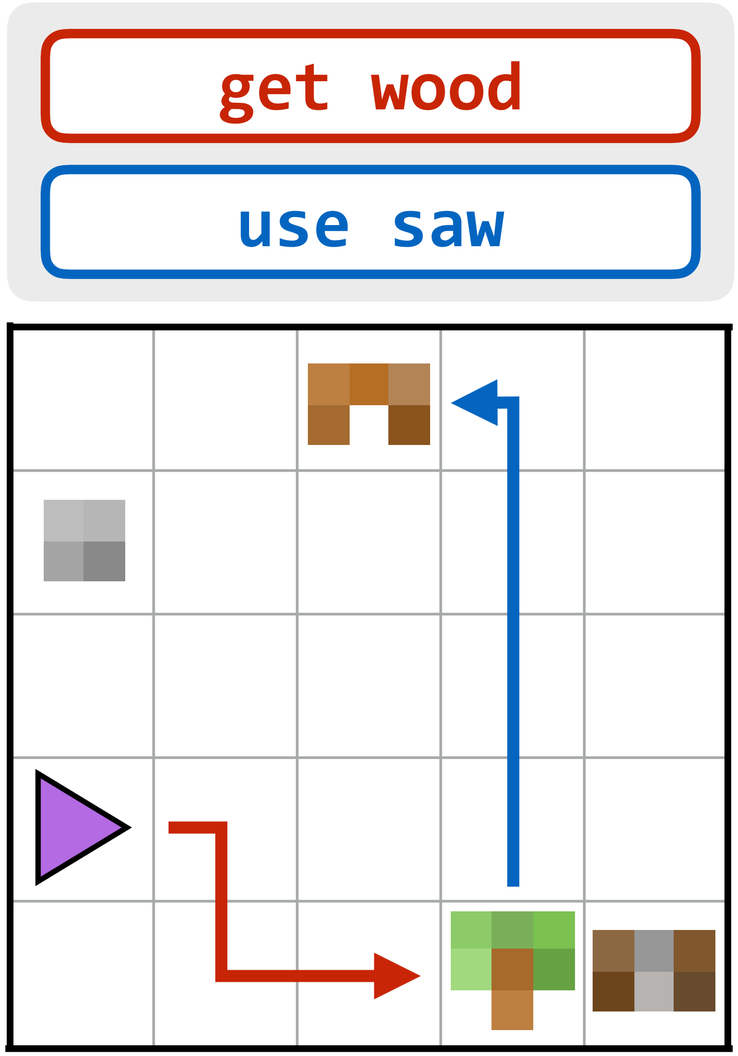
`make planks`

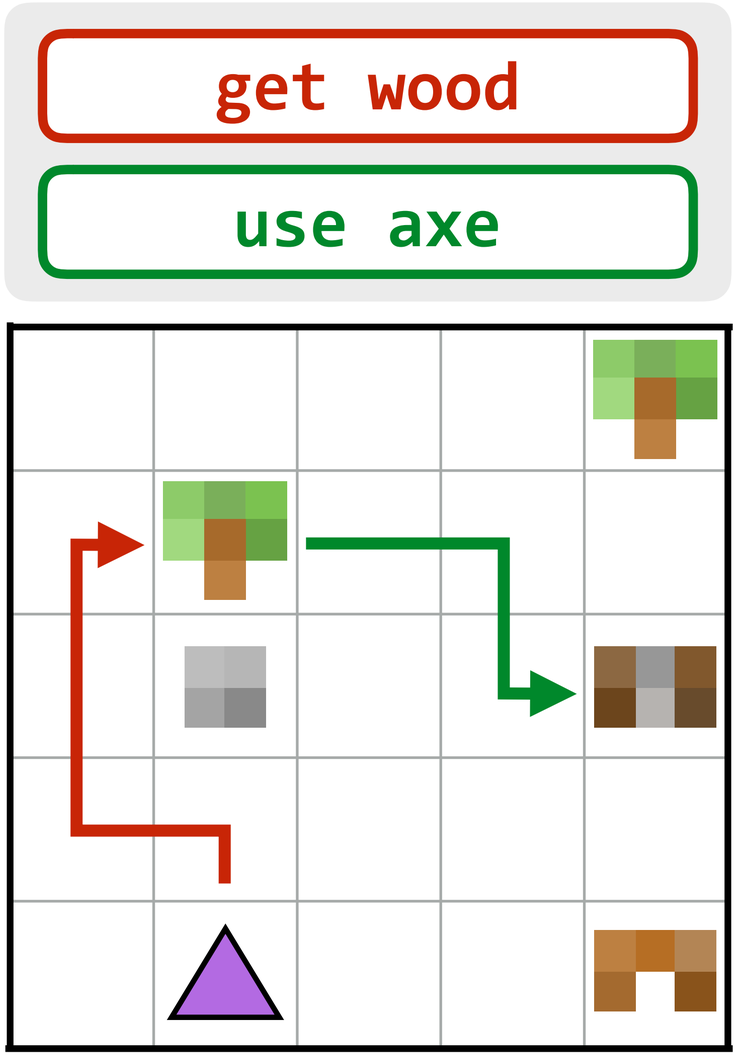


`make sticks`

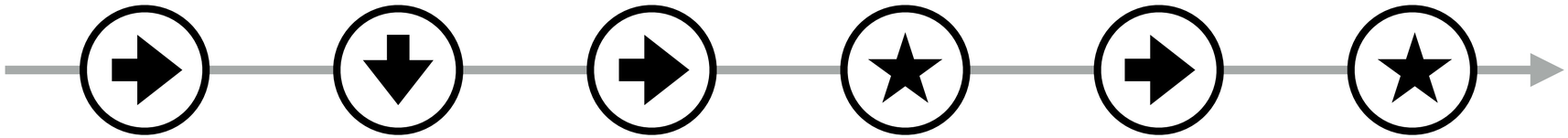


Learning from sketches

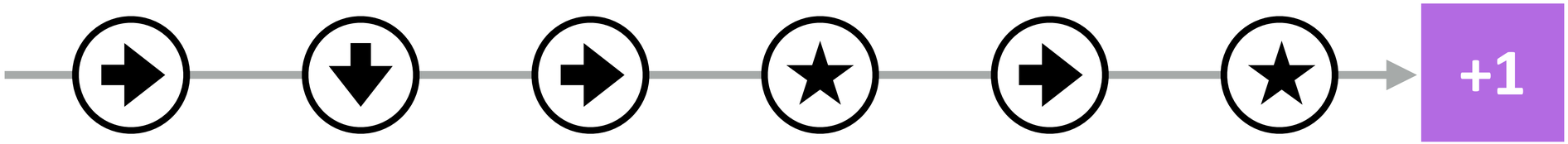




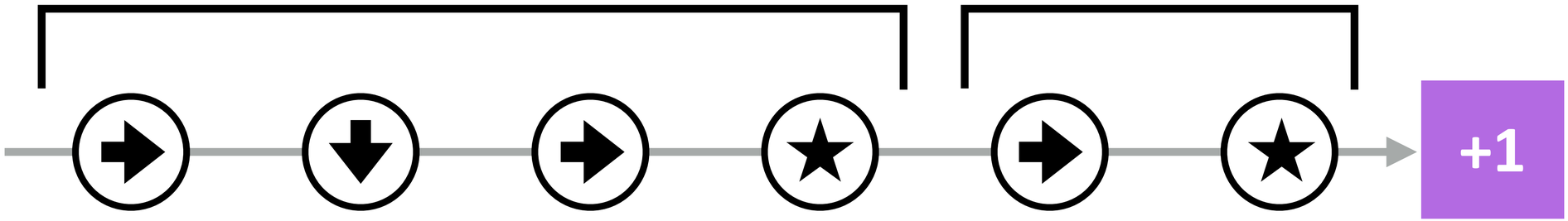
The options framework



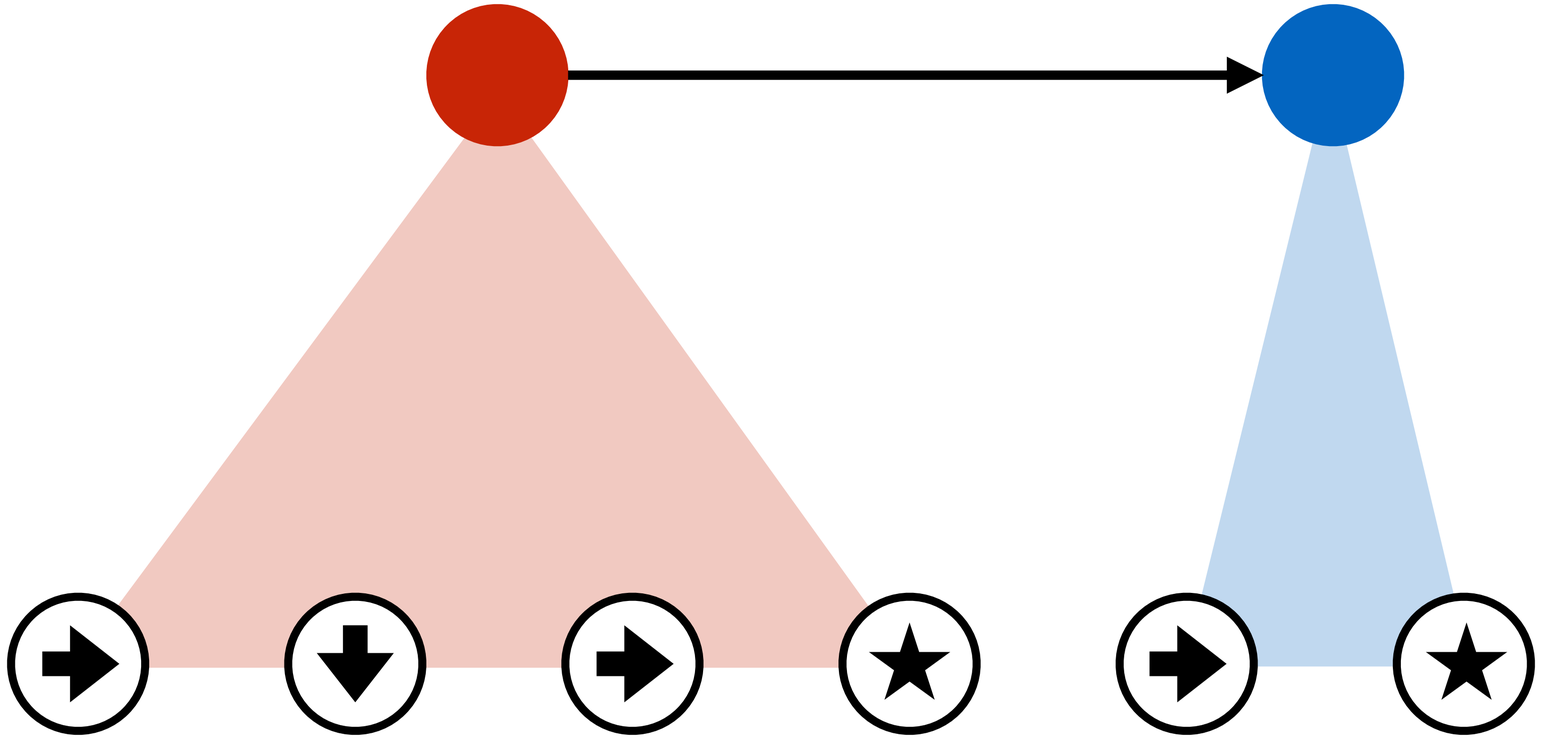
The options framework



The options framework

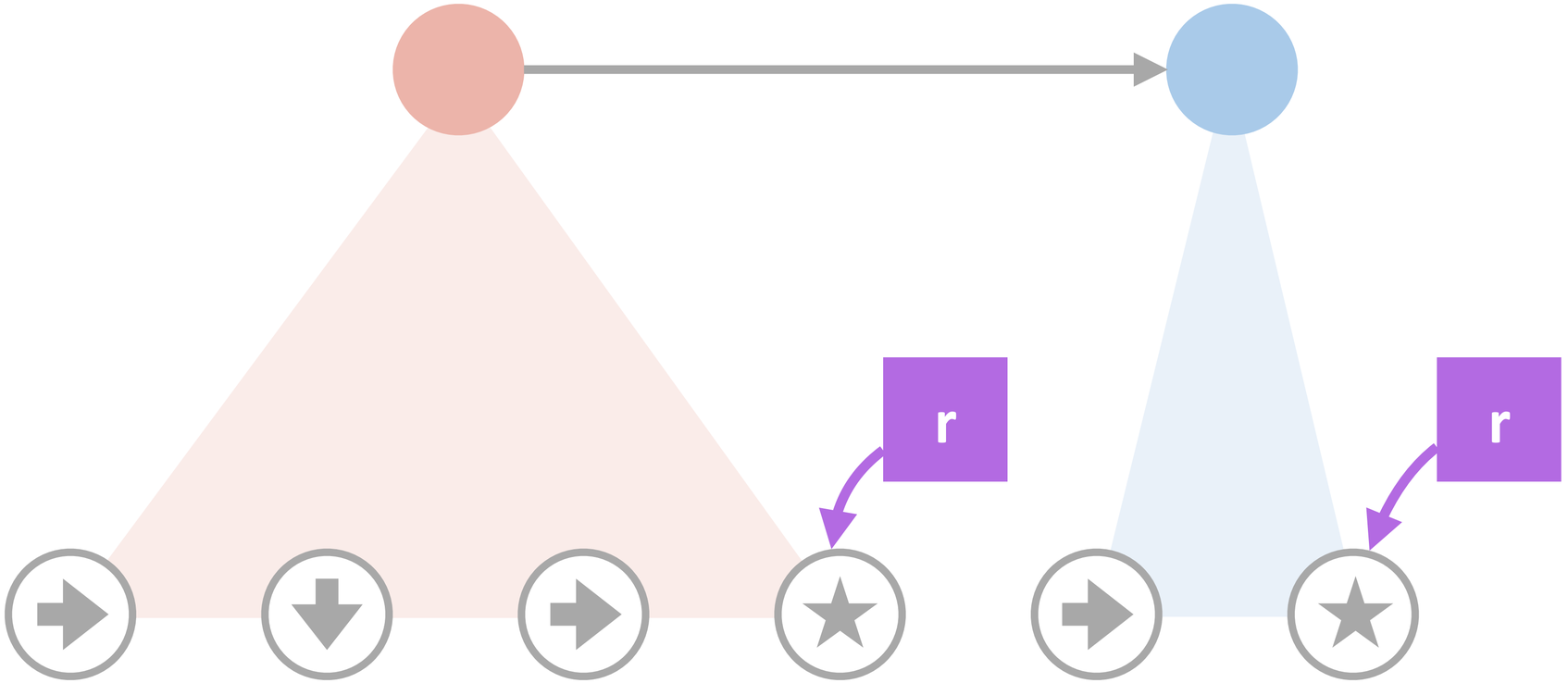


The options framework



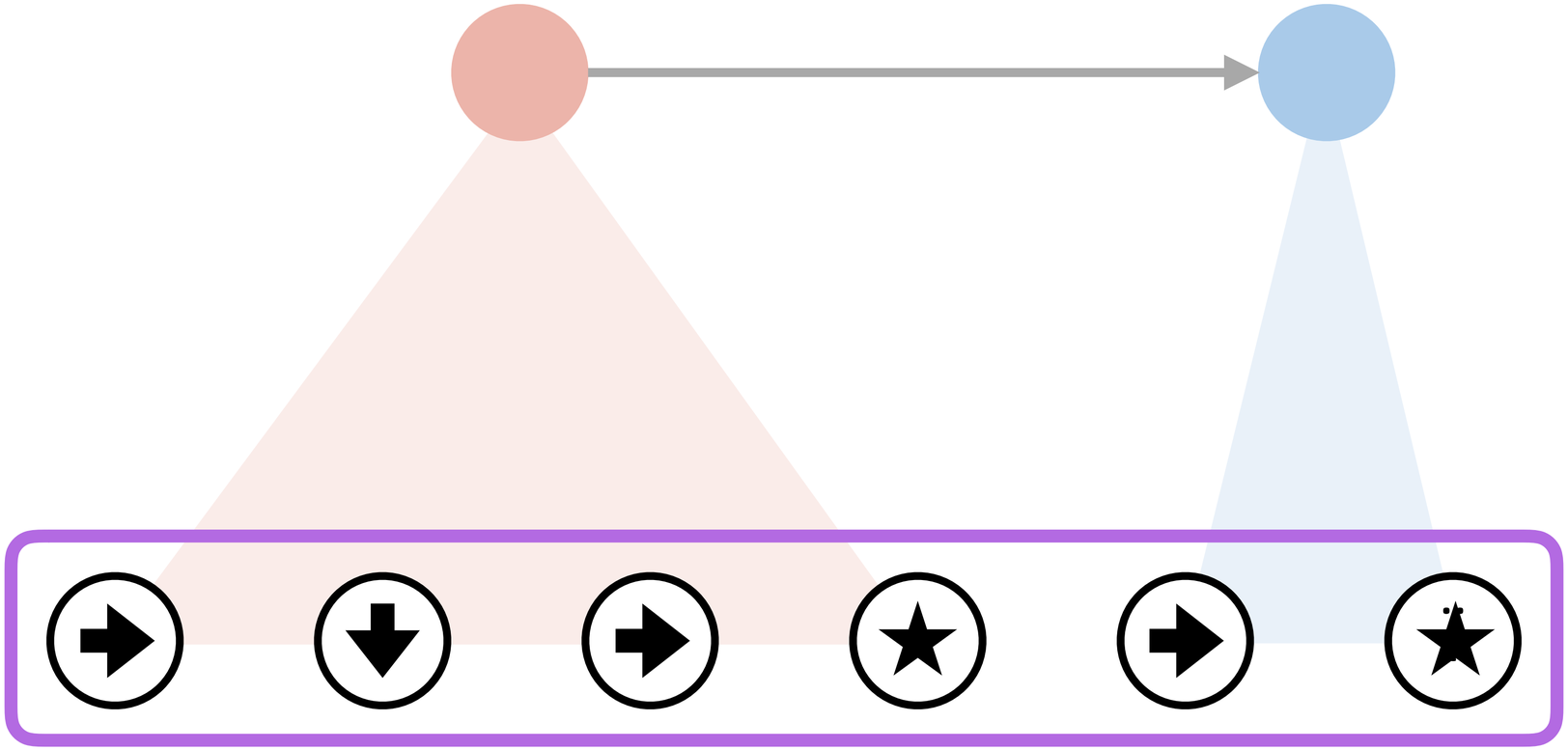
[Sutton et al. 99, Bacon & Precup 16]

Learning from intermediate rewards



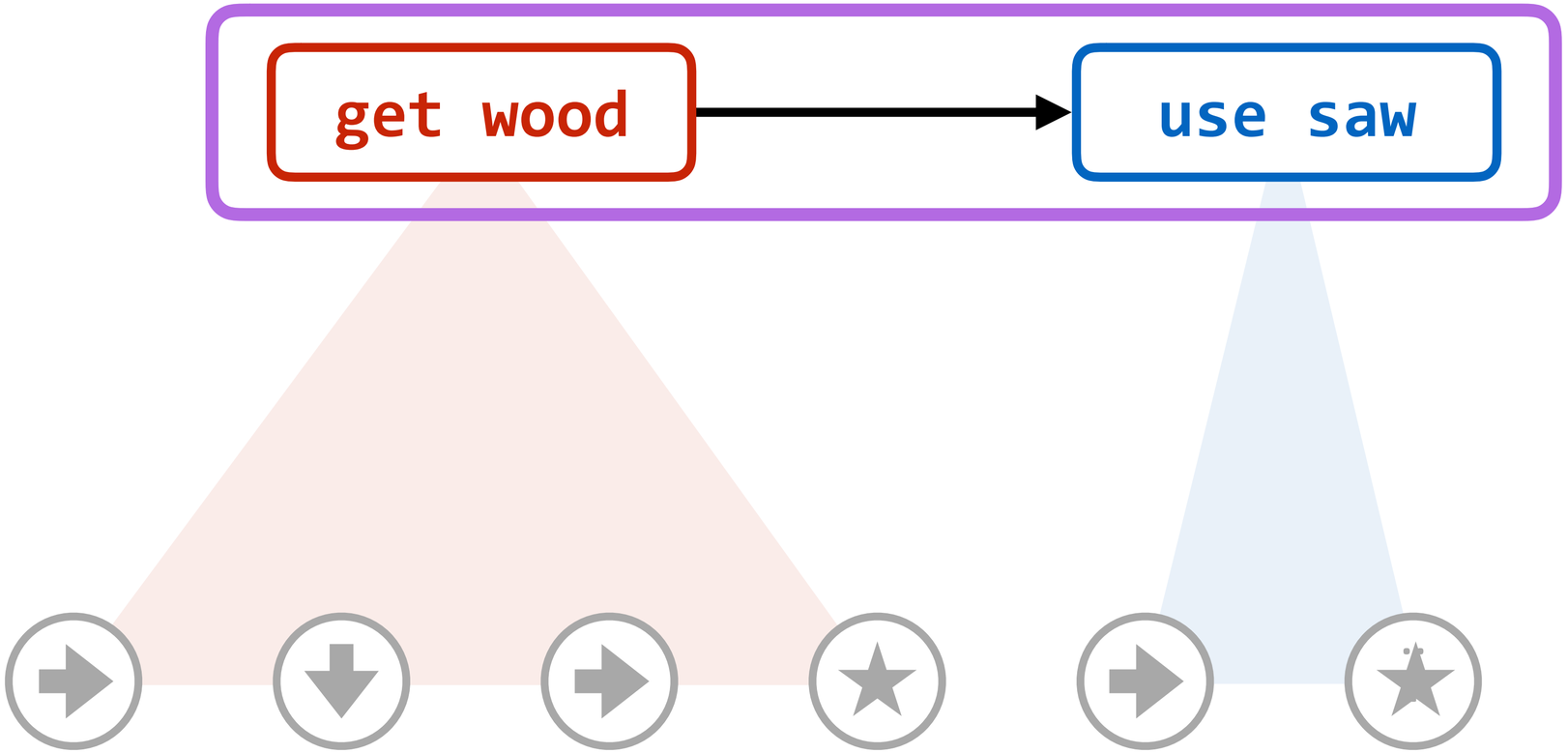
[Kearns & Singh 02, Kulkarni et al. 16]

Learning from demonstrations



[Stolle & Precup 02, Fox & Krishnan et al. 16]

Learning from policy sketches

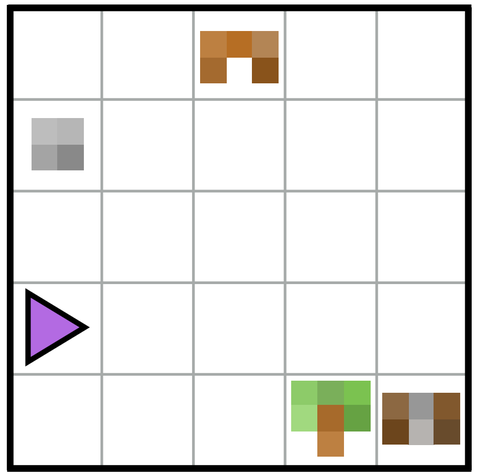


Why sketches?

Easy to collect

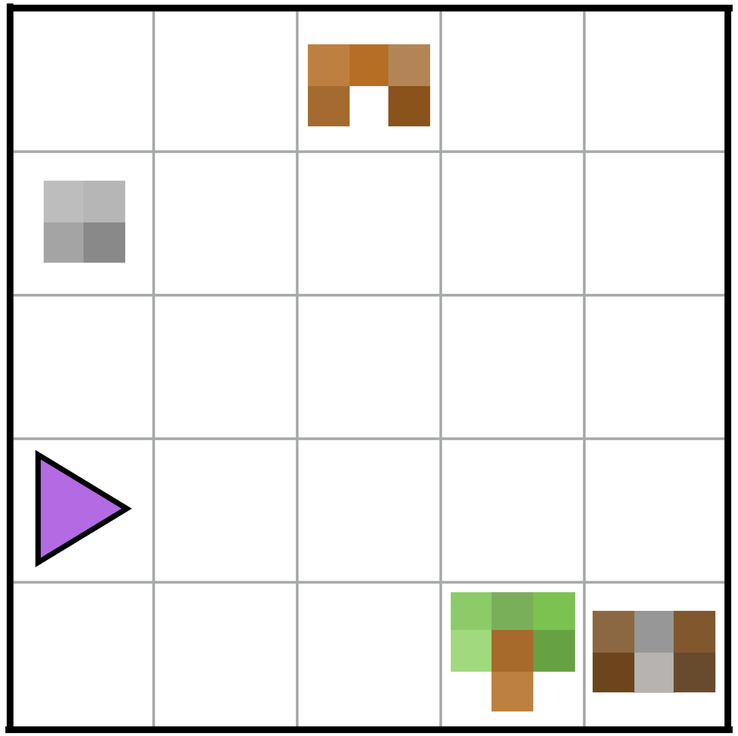
make plank	get wood	use tool
make stick	get wood	use workb
make cloth	get grass	use factc
make rope	get grass	use tool
make bridge	get iron	get wood
make bed*	get wood	use tool
make axe*	get wood	use workb
make shears	get wood	use workb
get gold	get iron	get wood
get gem	get wood	use workb

Portable



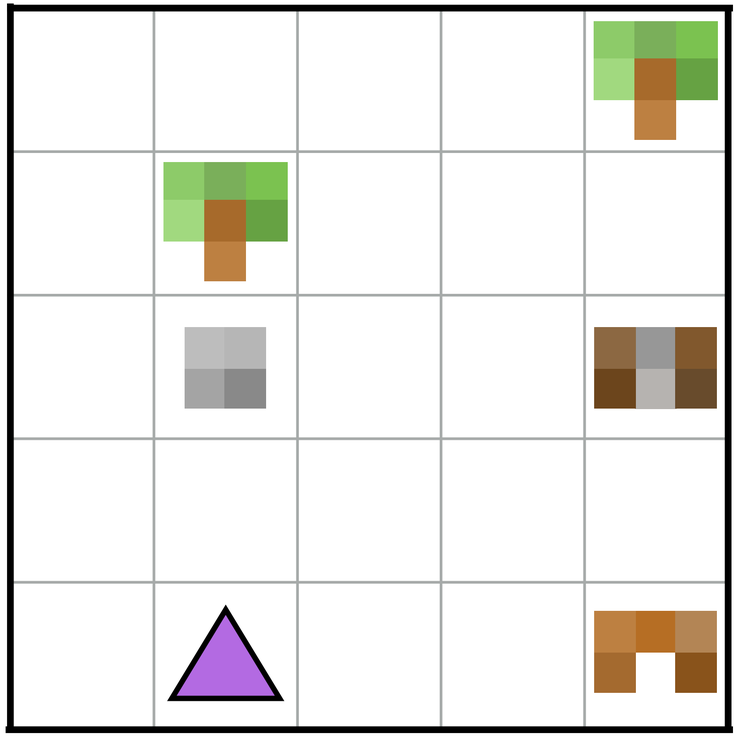
Learning from policy sketches

Learning from policy sketches



```
make planks
get wood
use saw
```

Learning from policy sketches

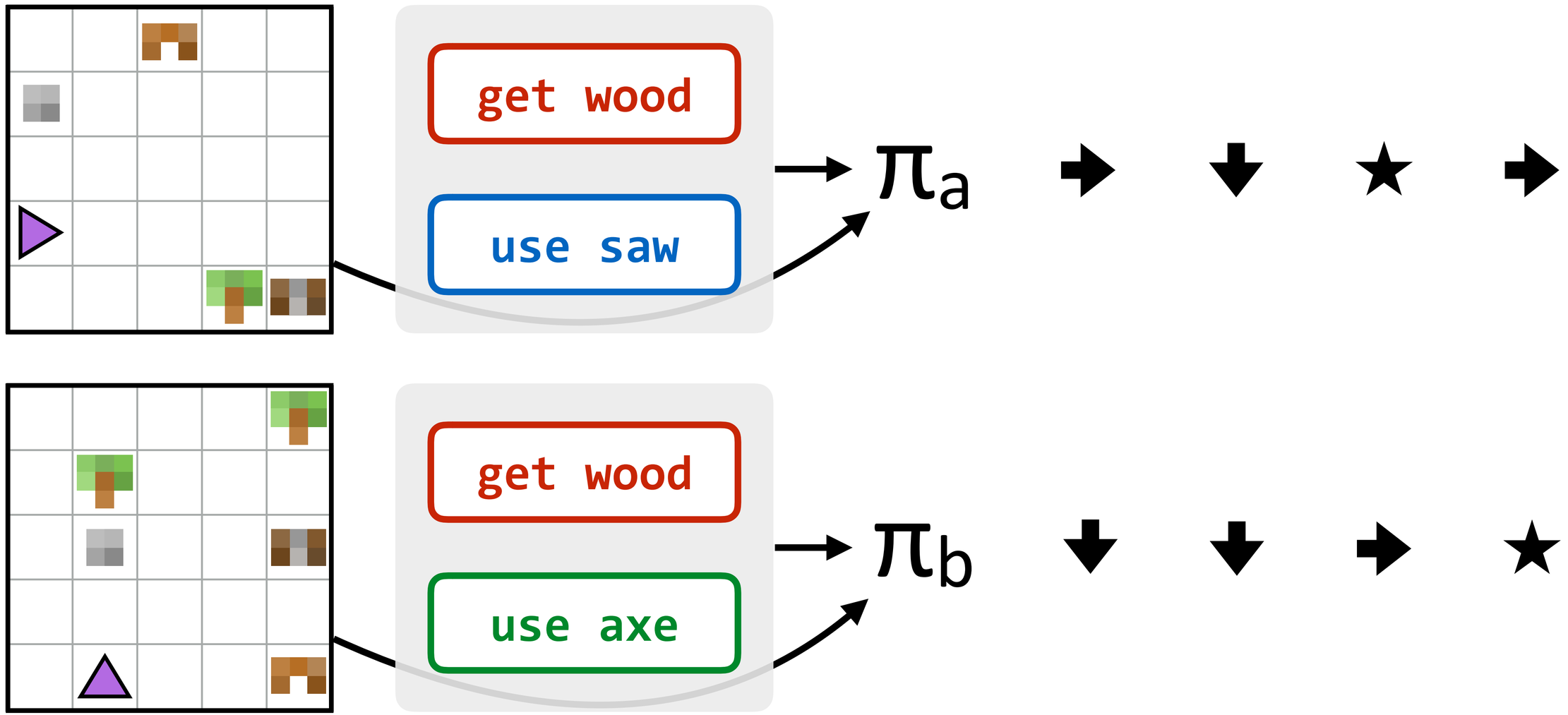


make sticks

get wood

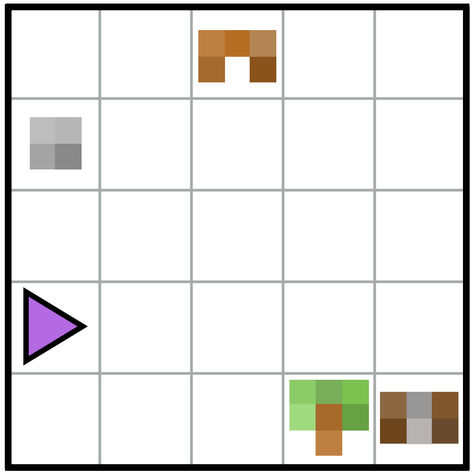
use axe

Learning from policy sketches



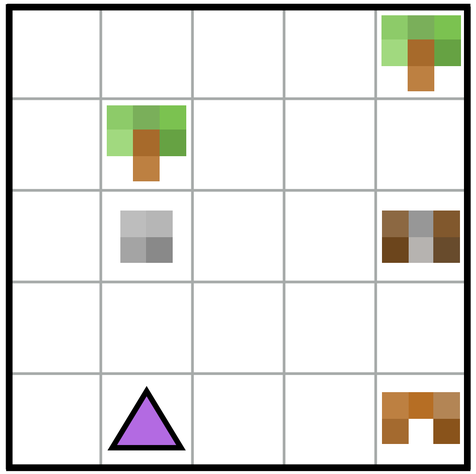
[e.g. Branavan et al. 09, Oh et al. 17, Hermann et al. 17]

Learning from policy sketches



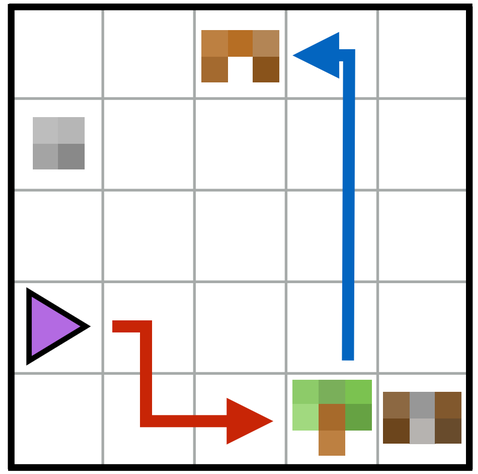
`get wood`

`use saw`



`get wood`

`use axe`

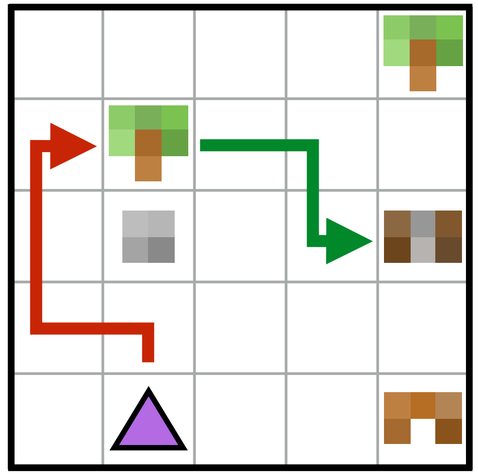


get wood

use saw

π_1

π_2

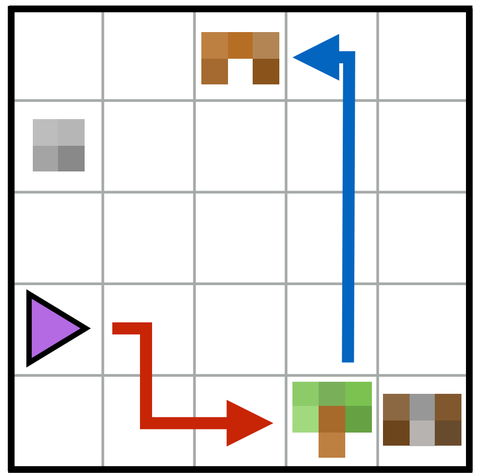


get wood

use axe

π_1

π_3

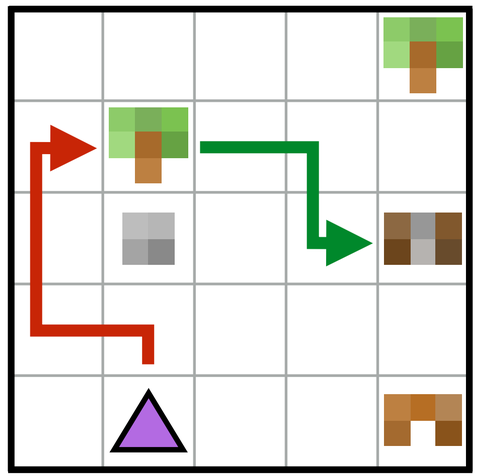


get wood

use saw

π_1

π_2



get wood

use axe

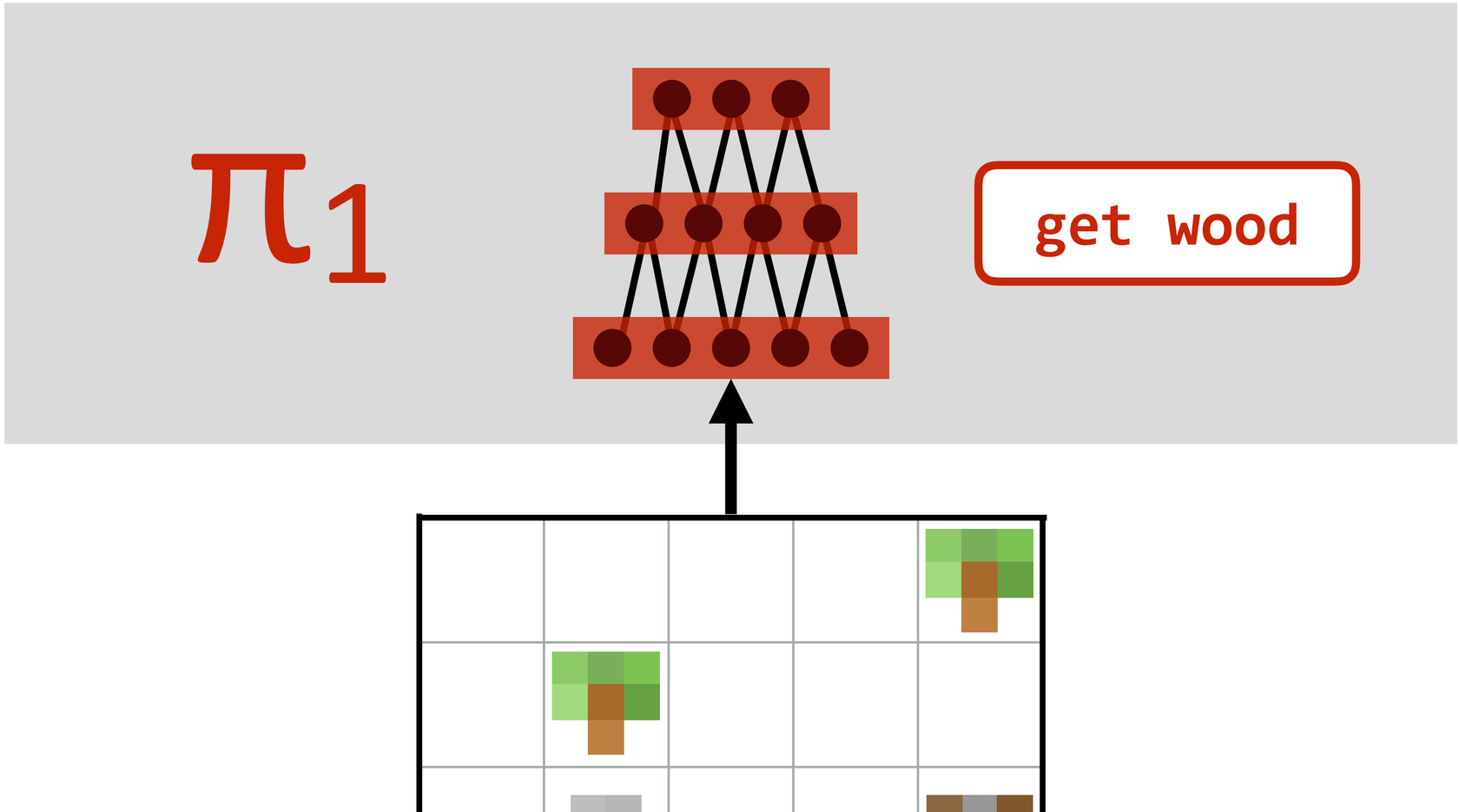
π_1

π_3

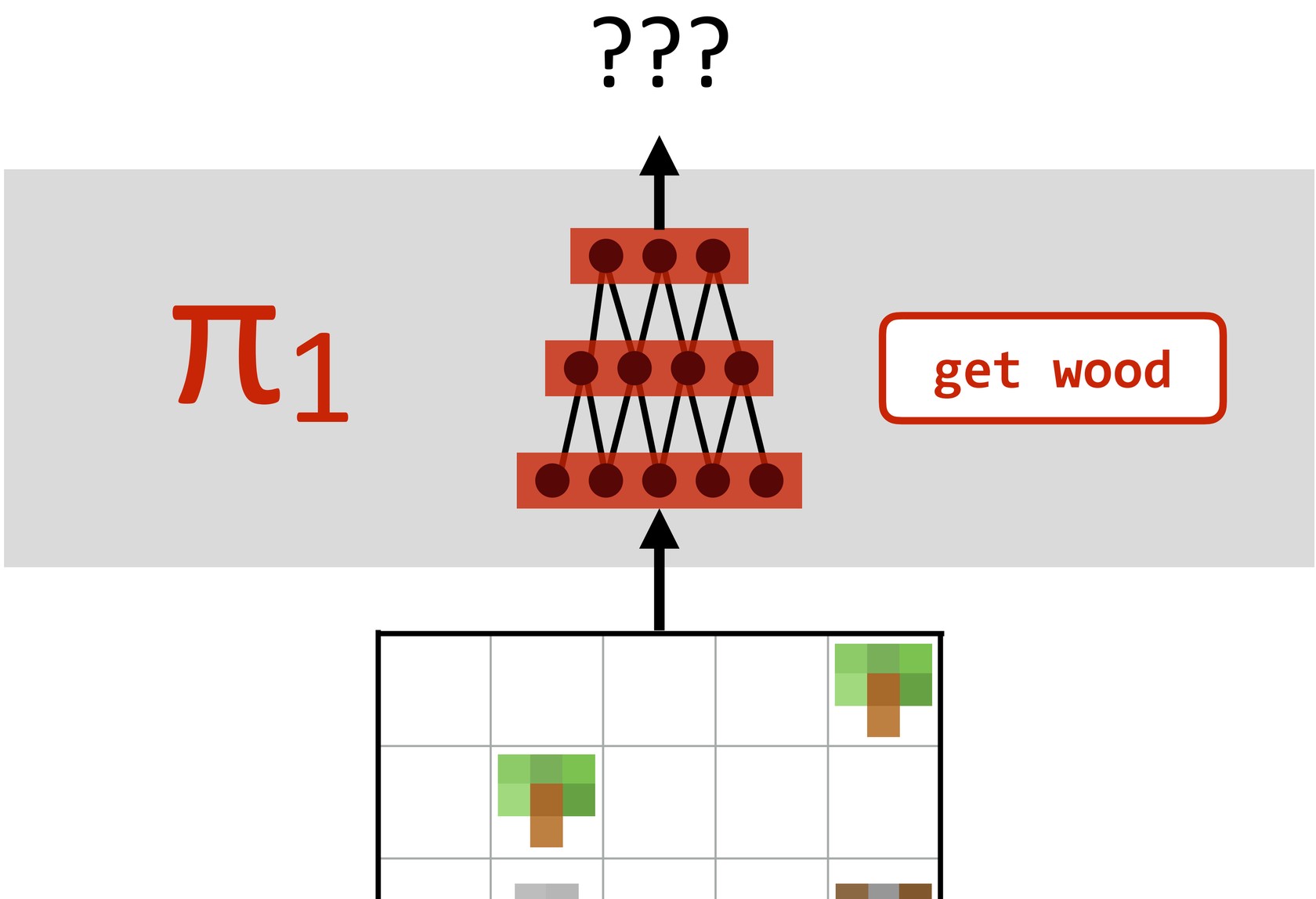
`get wood`

π_1

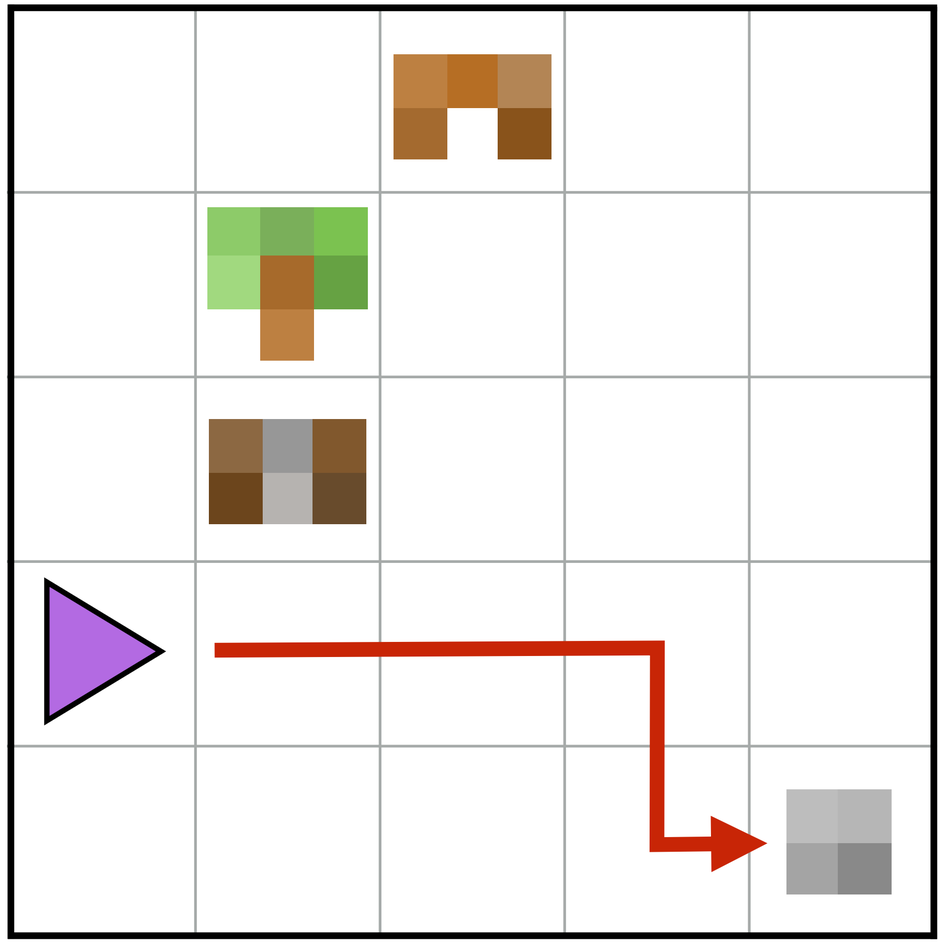
Policy representation



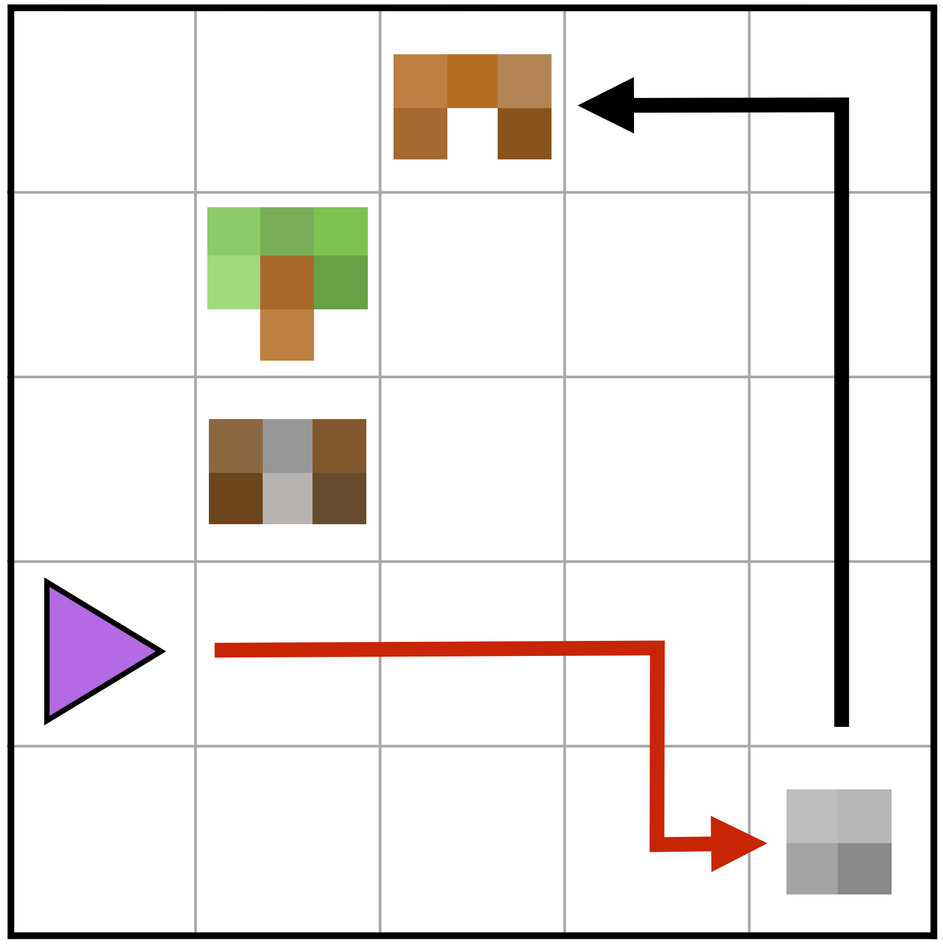
Policy representation



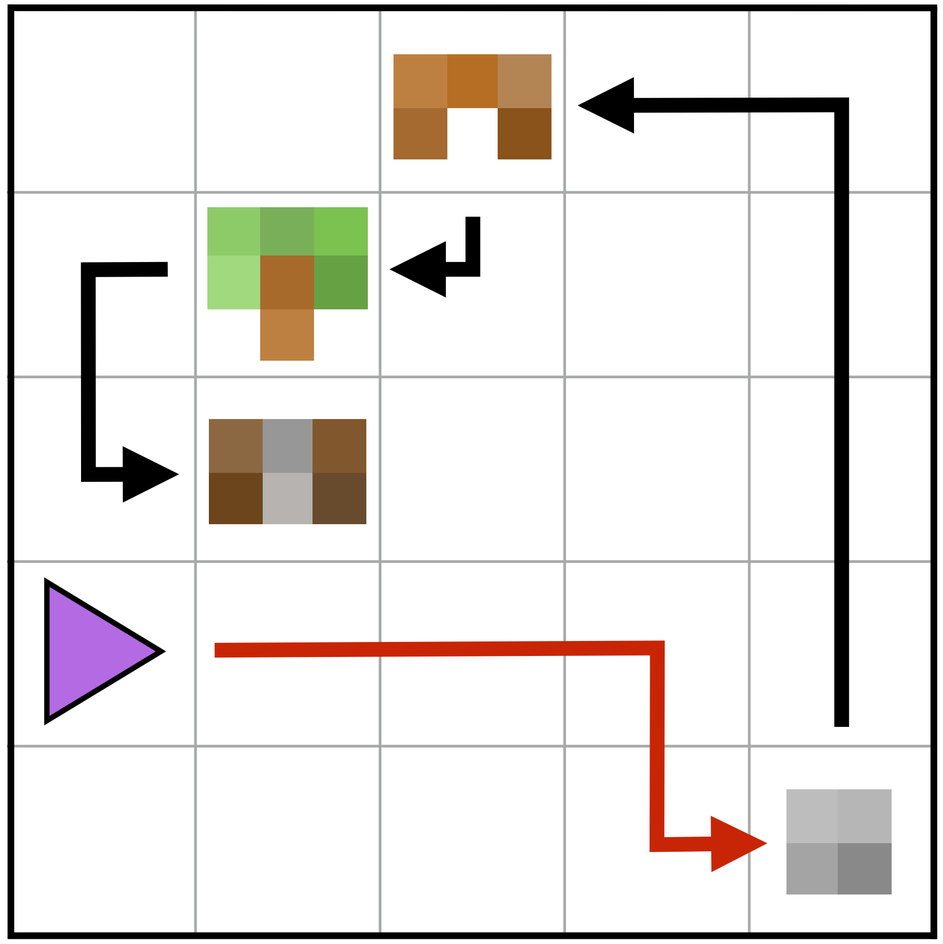
Policy representation



Policy representation

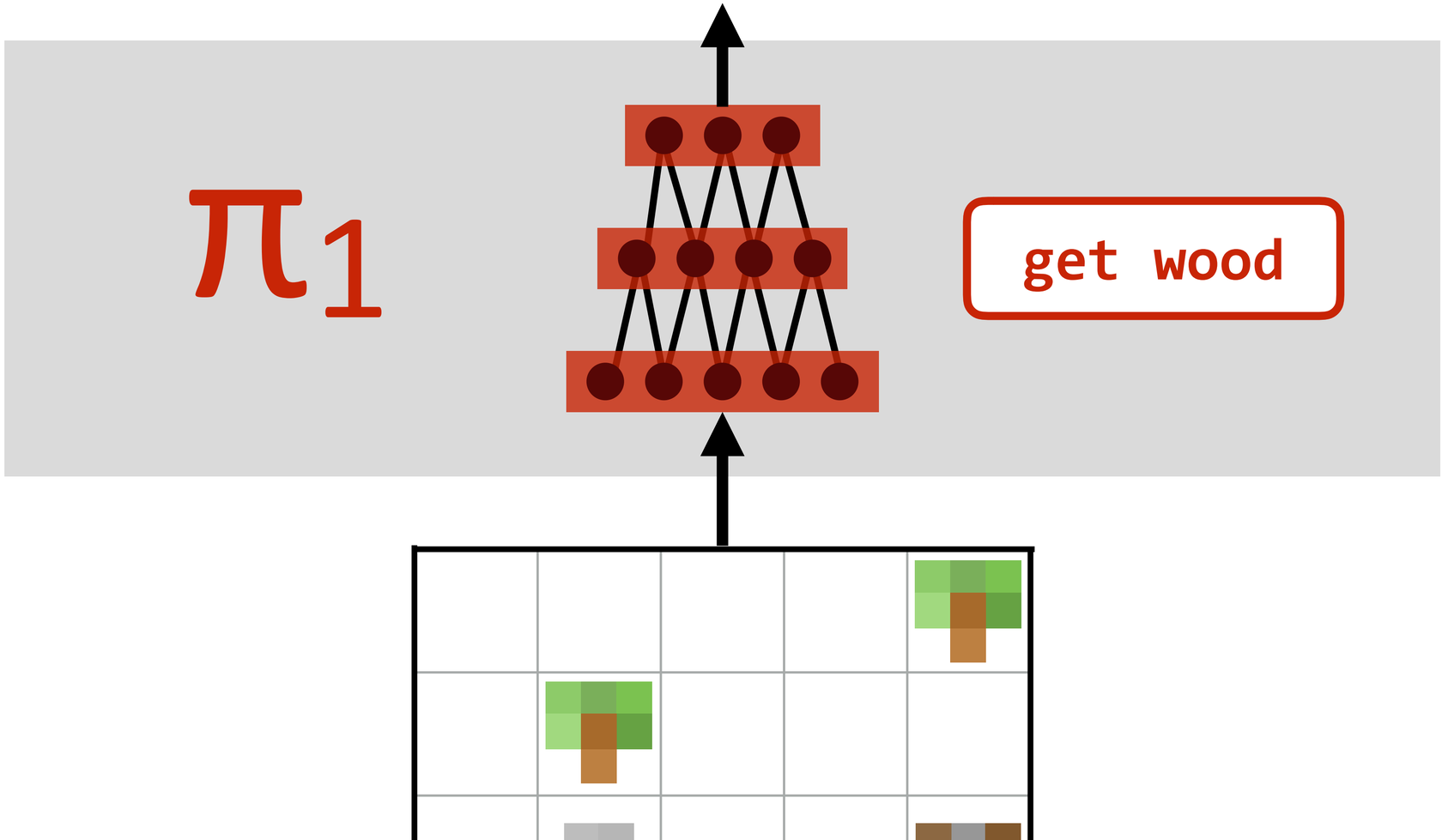


Policy representation



Policy representation

Action probabilities



Policy search

action state reward baseline

$$\sum_{\text{tasks}} \sum_{\text{steps}} \left(\nabla \log \pi(\rightarrow | \text{  }) \right) (r_t - b)$$

Policy search

$$\sum_{\text{tasks}} \sum_{\text{steps}} \left(\nabla \log \pi(\rightarrow | \text{  }) \right) (r_t - b)$$

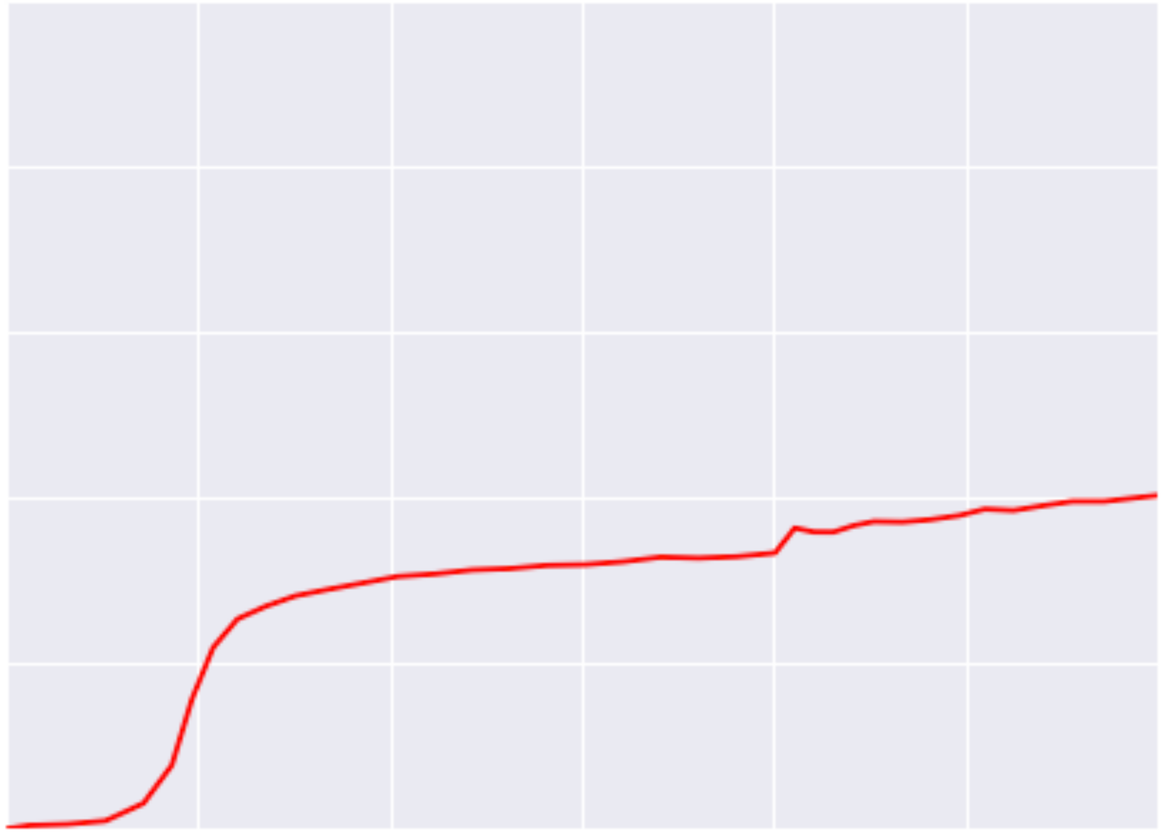
get wood

Policy search

$$\sum_{\text{tasks}} \sum_{\text{steps}} \left(\nabla \log \pi(\rightarrow | \text{  }) \right) (r_t - b)$$

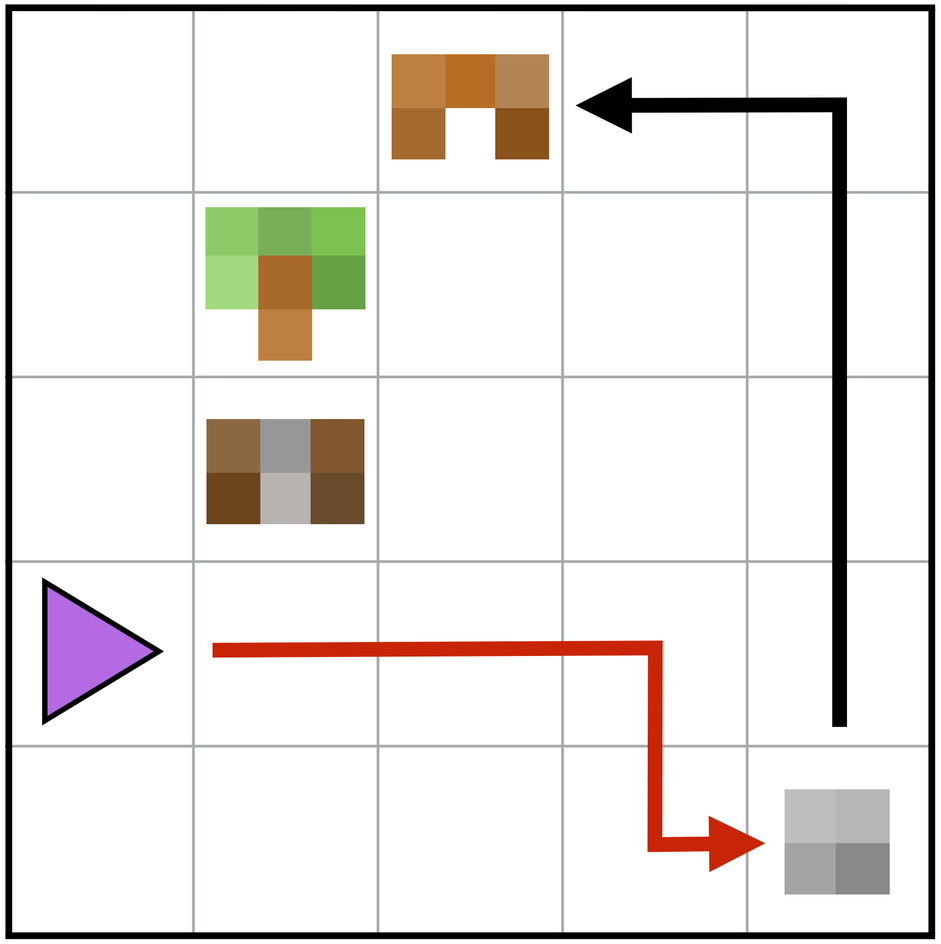
use axe

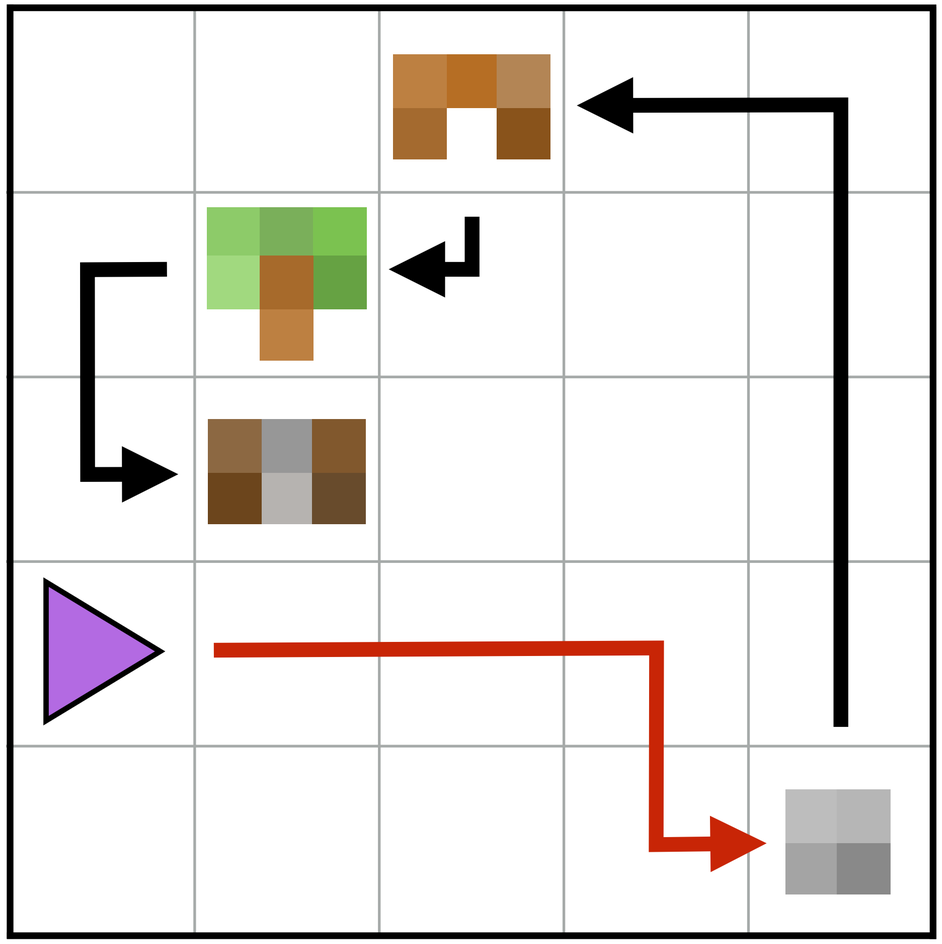
Policy search



$$\sum_{\text{tasks}} \sum_{\text{steps}} \left(\nabla \log \boxed{\texttt{SUBPOLICY}}\right) (r_t - b)$$

Improving policy search





Improving policy search

action state reward baseline

$$\sum_{\text{tasks}} \sum_{\text{steps}} \left(\nabla \log \pi(\rightarrow | \text{  }) \right) (r_t - b)$$

Improving policy search

$(\nabla \log$ `use saw` $)(r_t -$ `make planks` $)$

$(\nabla \log$ `use saw` $)(r_t -$ `make nails` $)$

$(\nabla \log$ `use axe` $)(r_t -$ `make planks` $)$

$(\nabla \log$ `use axe` $)(r_t -$ `make nails` $)$

$(\nabla \log$ `get wood` $)(r_t -$ `make planks` $)$

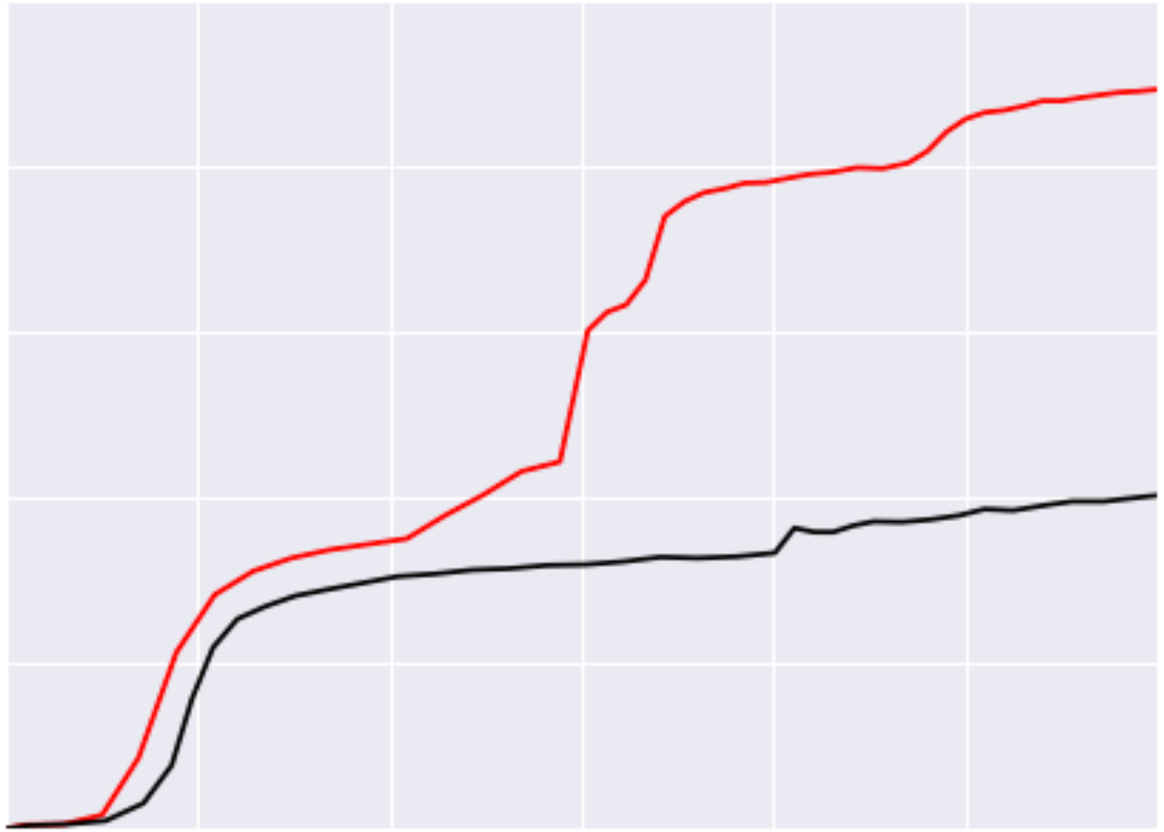
$(\nabla \log$ `get wood` $)(r_t -$ `make nails` $)$

$(\nabla \log$ `get iron` $)(r_t -$ `make planks` $)$

$(\nabla \log$ `get iron` $)(r_t -$ `make nails` $)$

Improving policy search

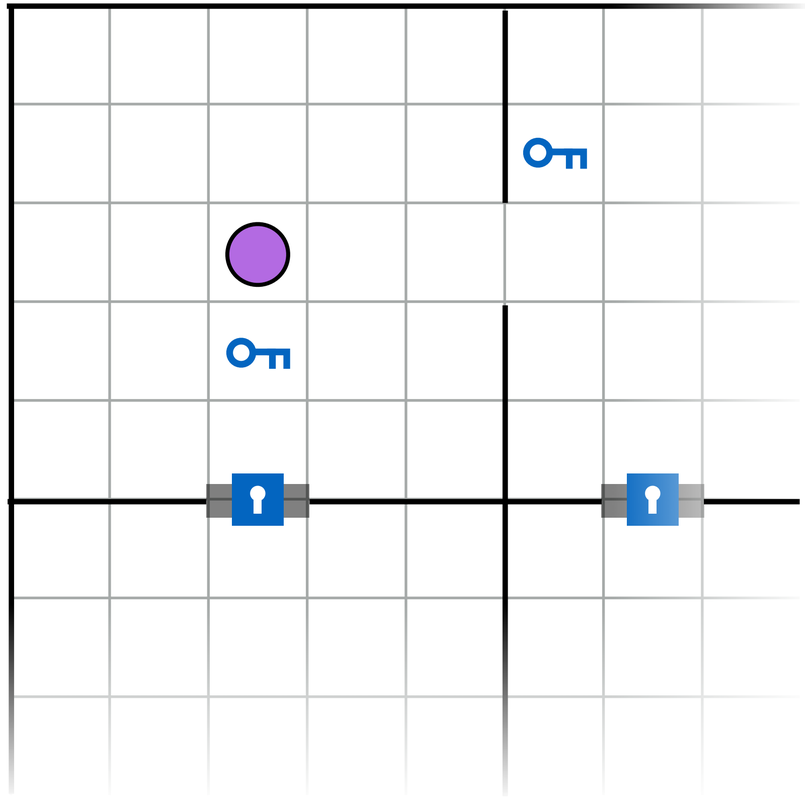
Reward



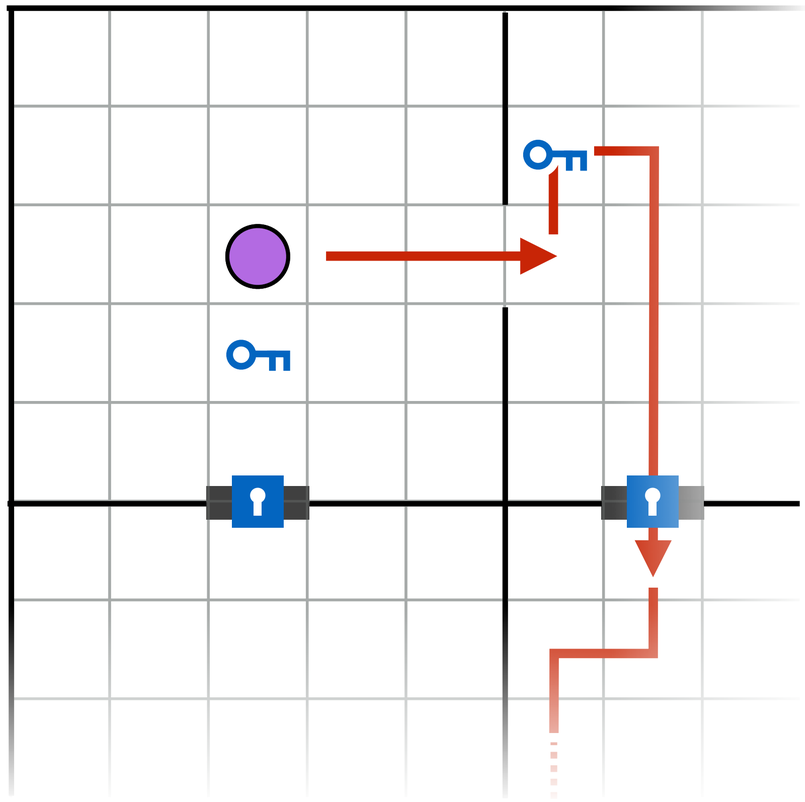
$$\sum_{\text{tasks}} \sum_{\text{steps}} \left(\nabla \log \boxed{\texttt{SUBPOLICY}}\right) \left(r_t - \boxed{\texttt{TASK}}\right)$$

Do sketches help?

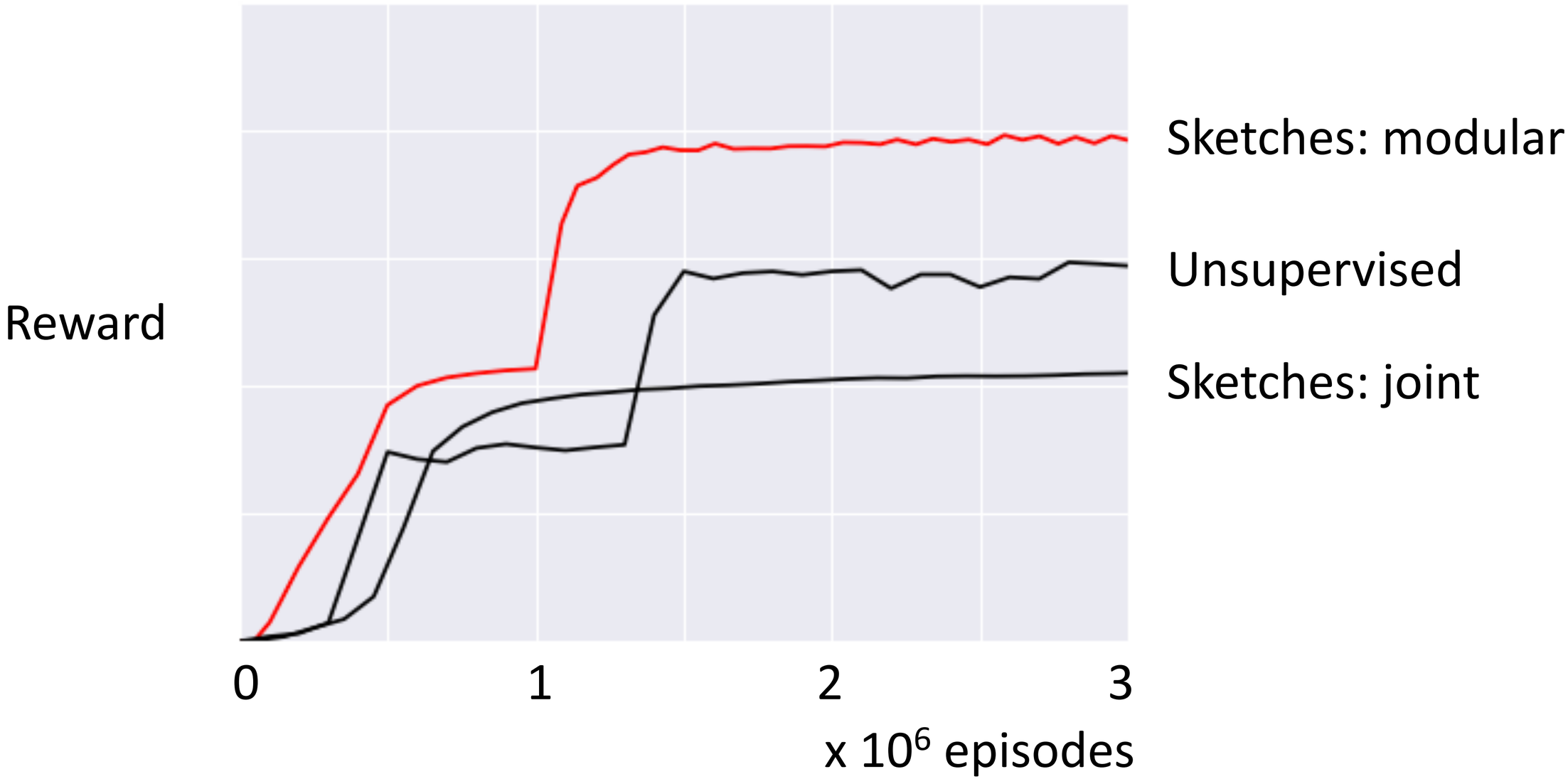
The maze navigation task



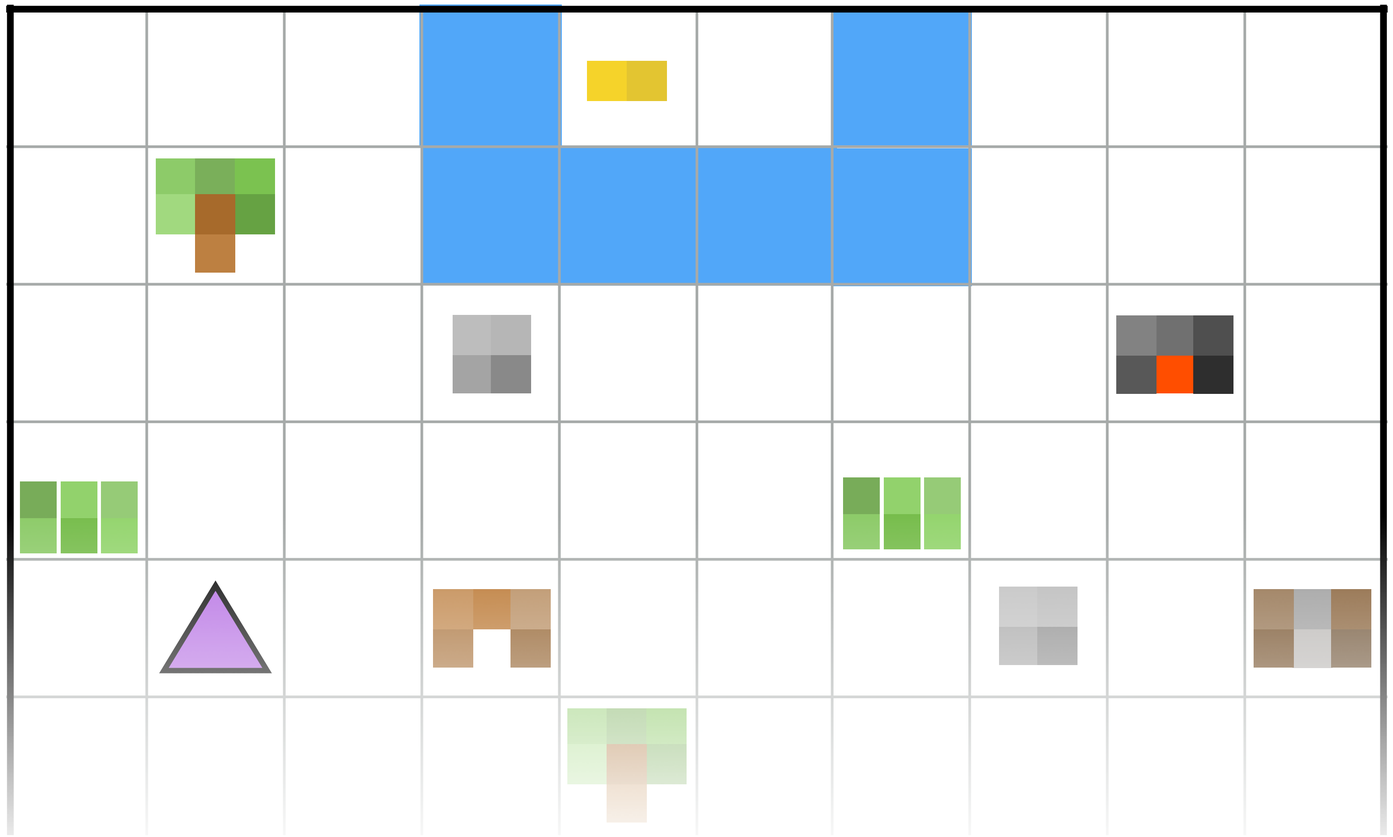
The maze navigation task



The maze navigation task



The mini-craft task



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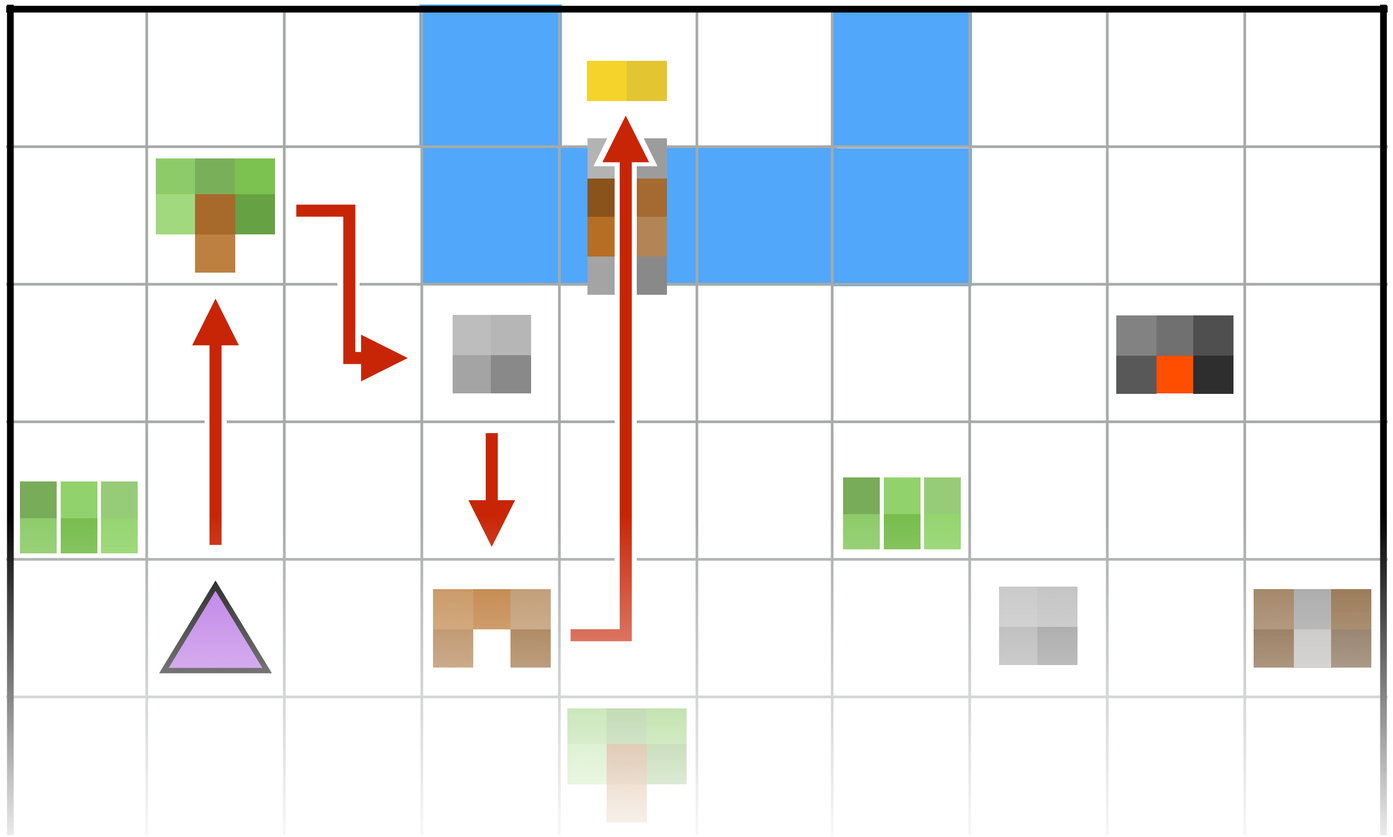
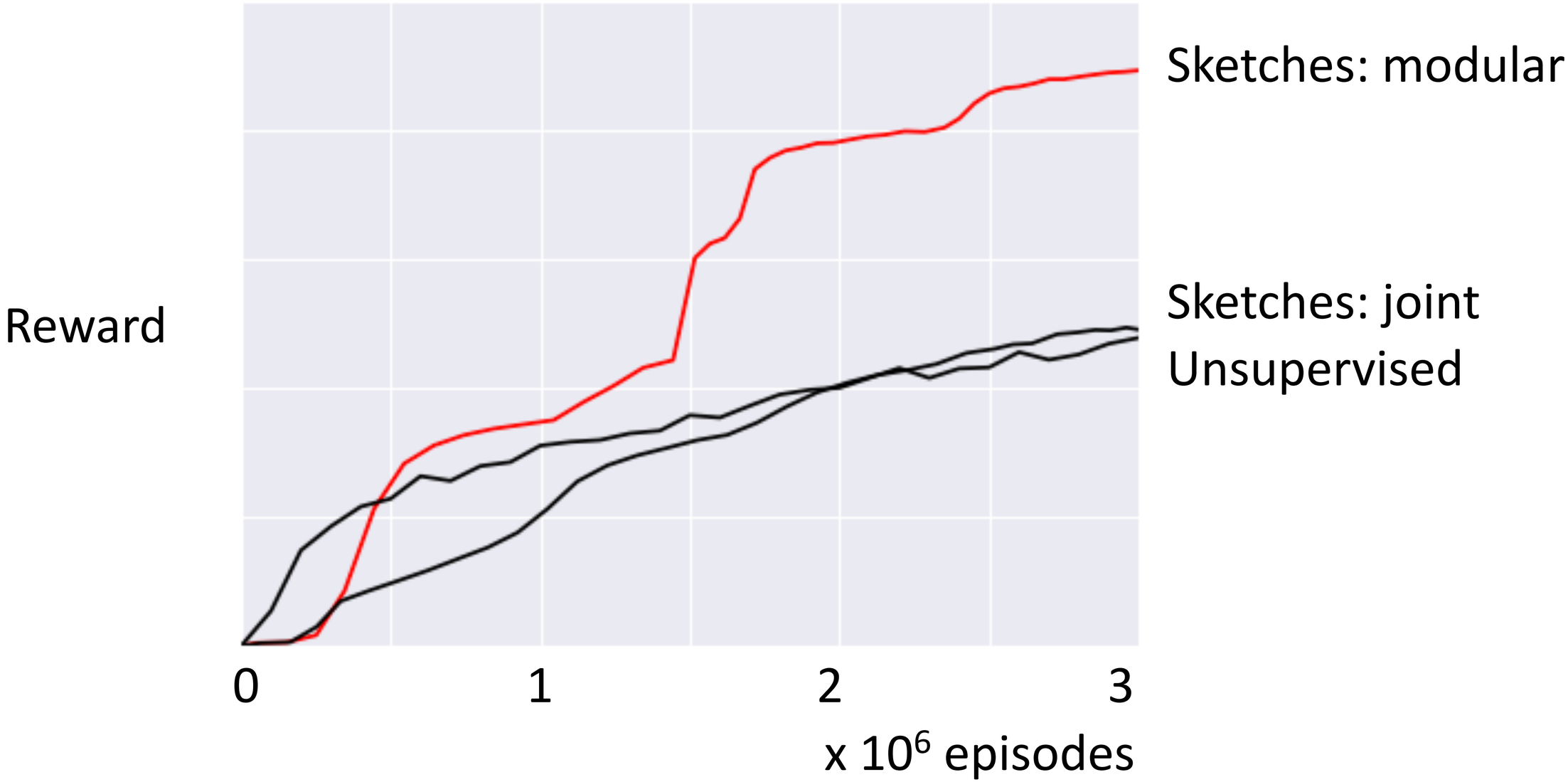
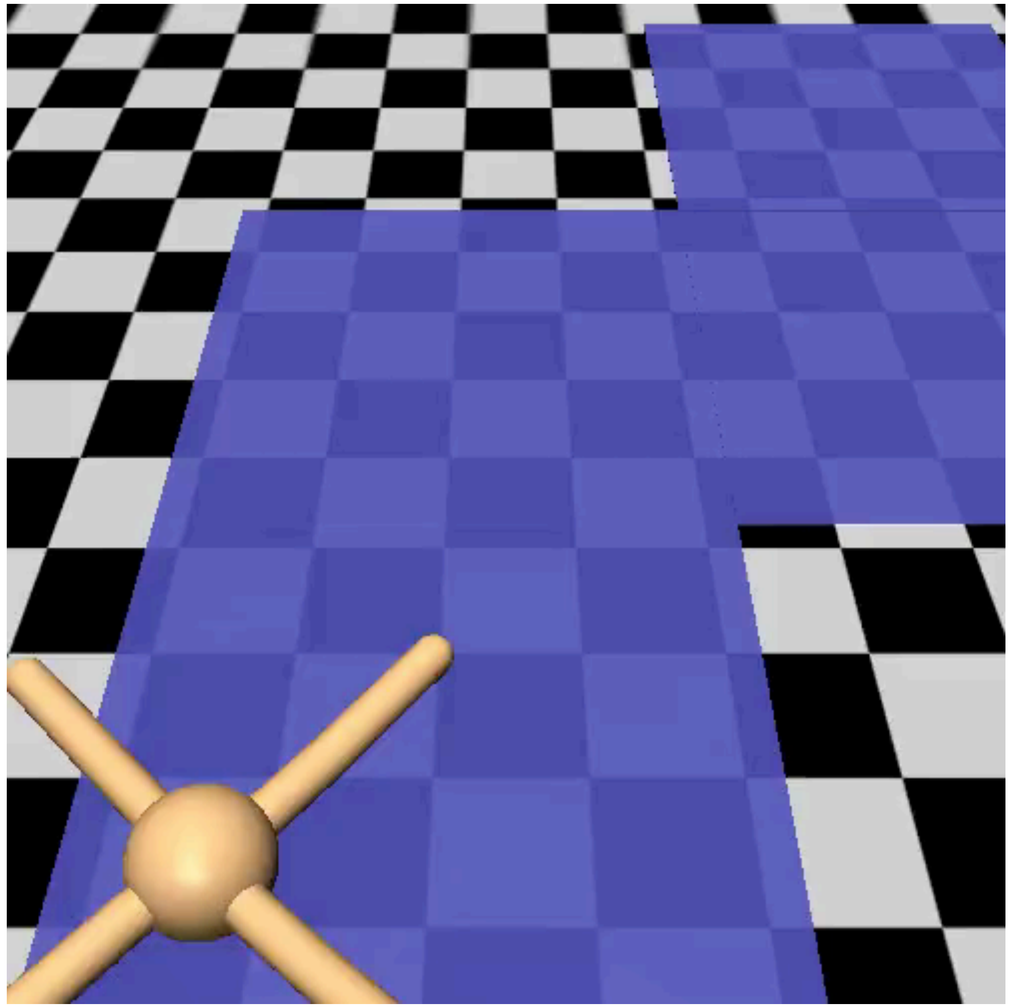


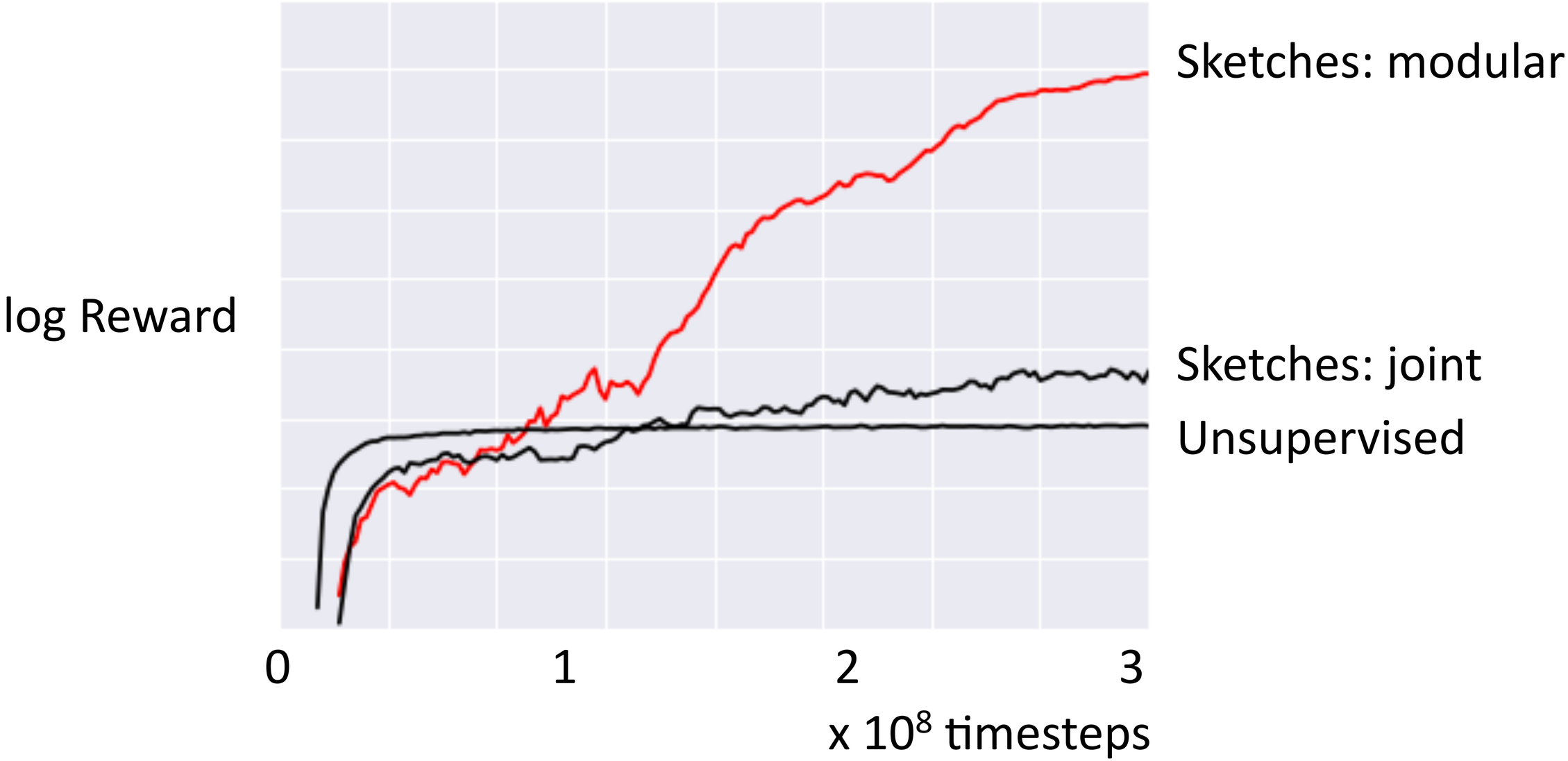
The mini-craft task



The cliff-walking task



The cliff-walking task



Zero-shot generalization

What if I see a sketch I’ve never seen before?

Zero-shot generalization

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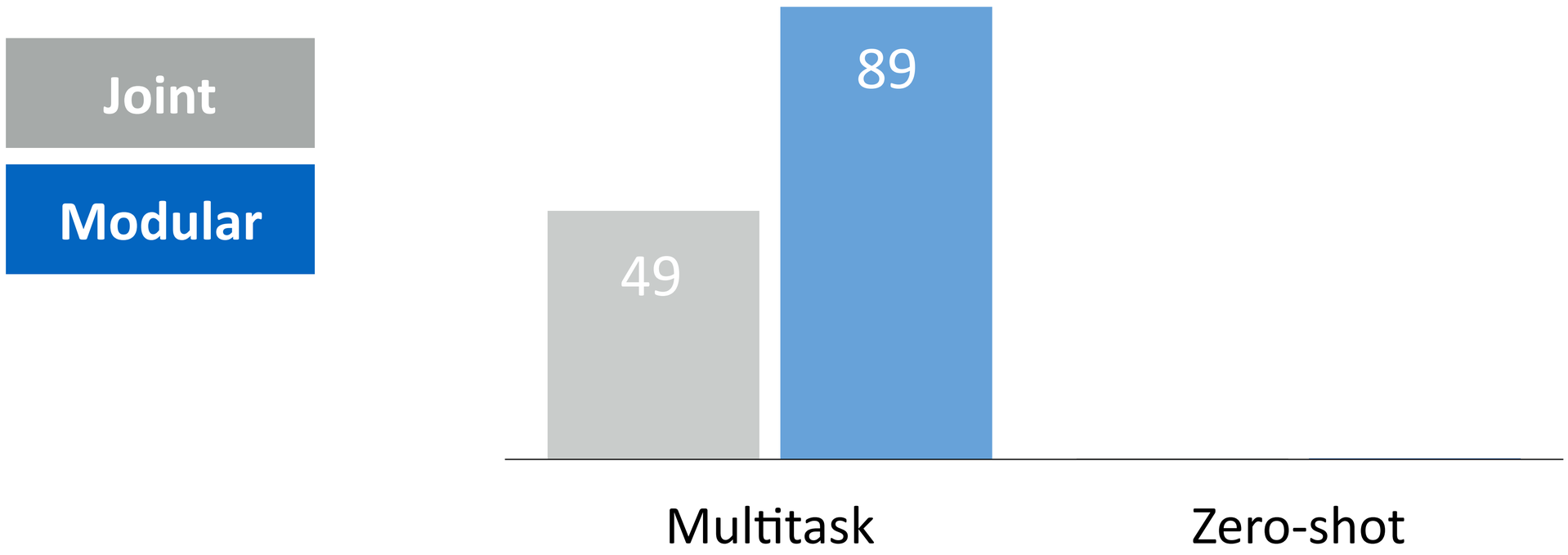
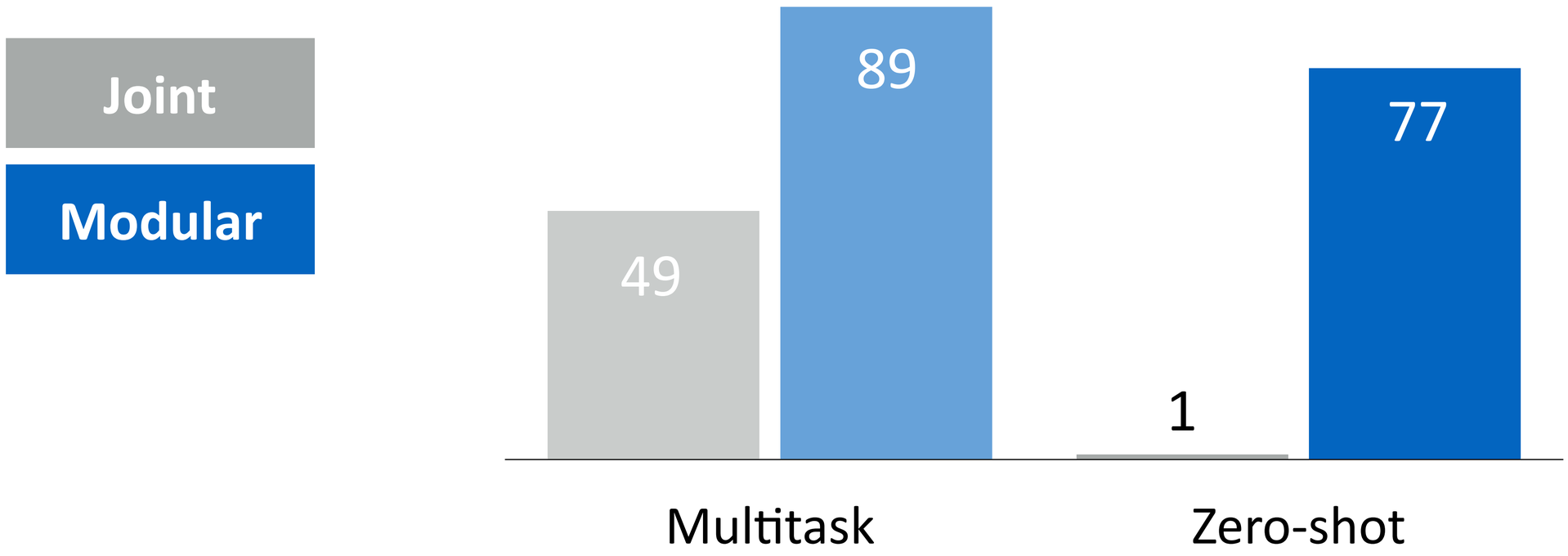


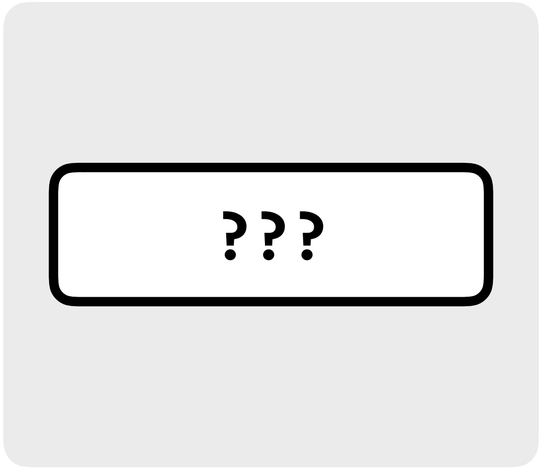
Zero-shot generalization

What if I see a sketch I've never seen before?



Fast adaptation

What if I don’t get a sketch at test time?



Fast adaptation

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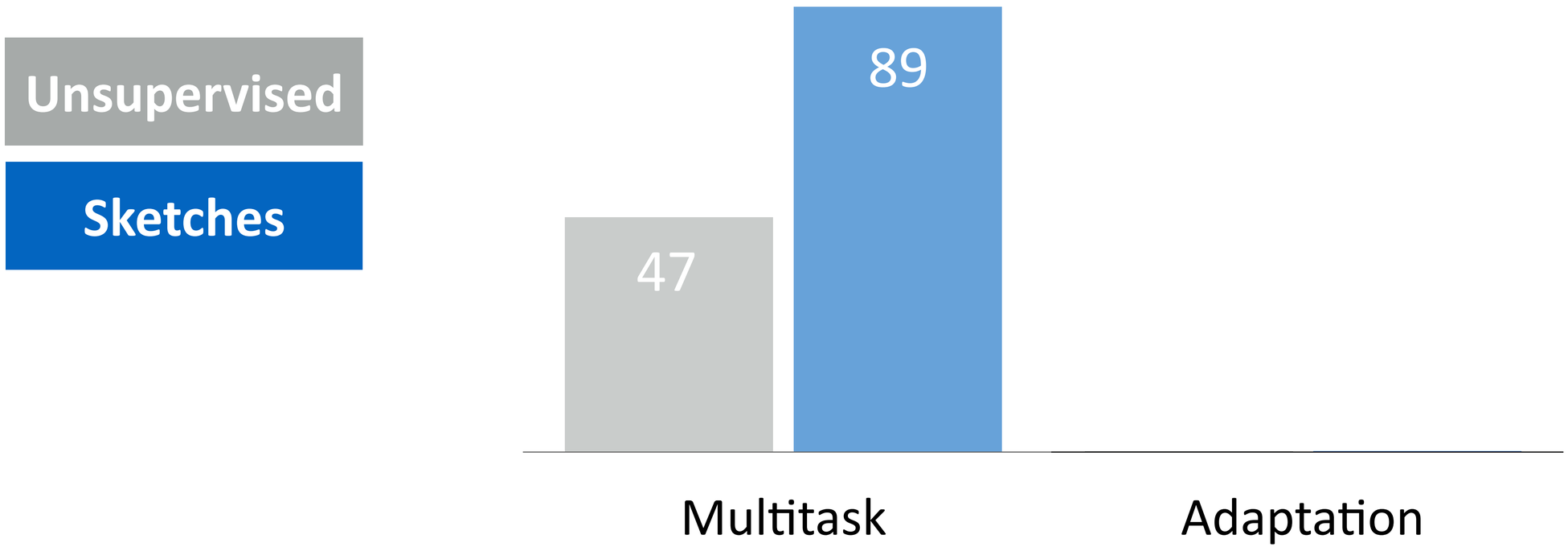
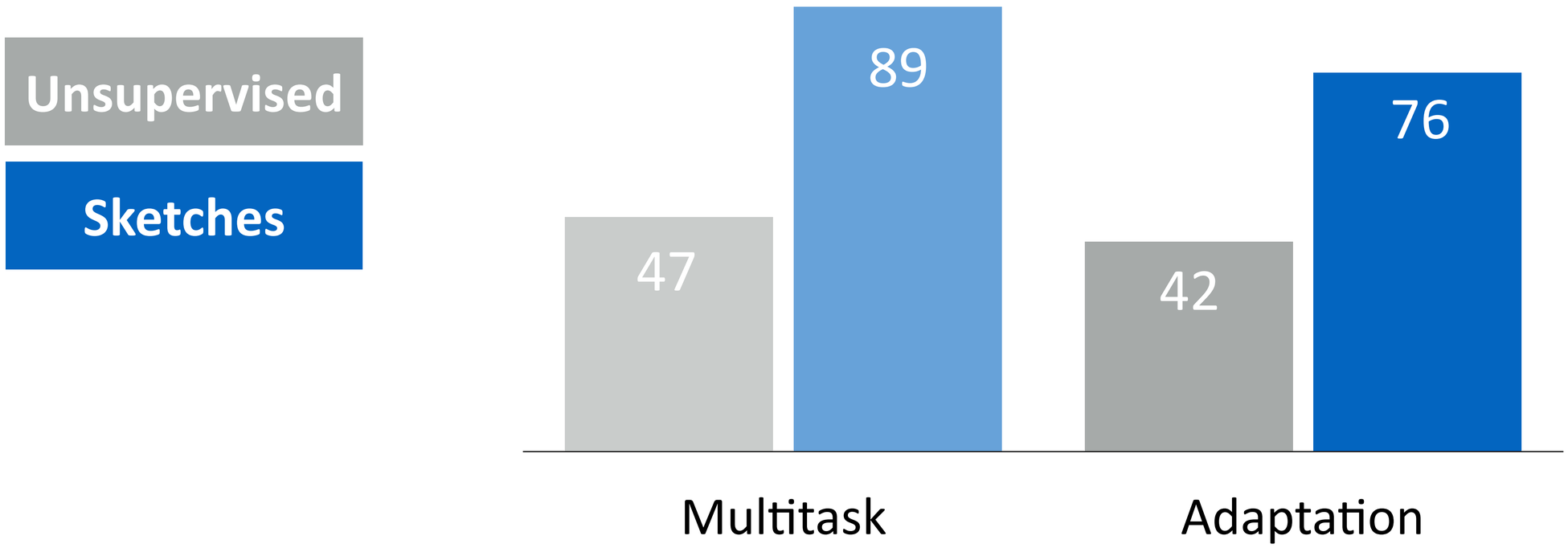


Fast adaptation

What if I don’t get a sketch at test time?



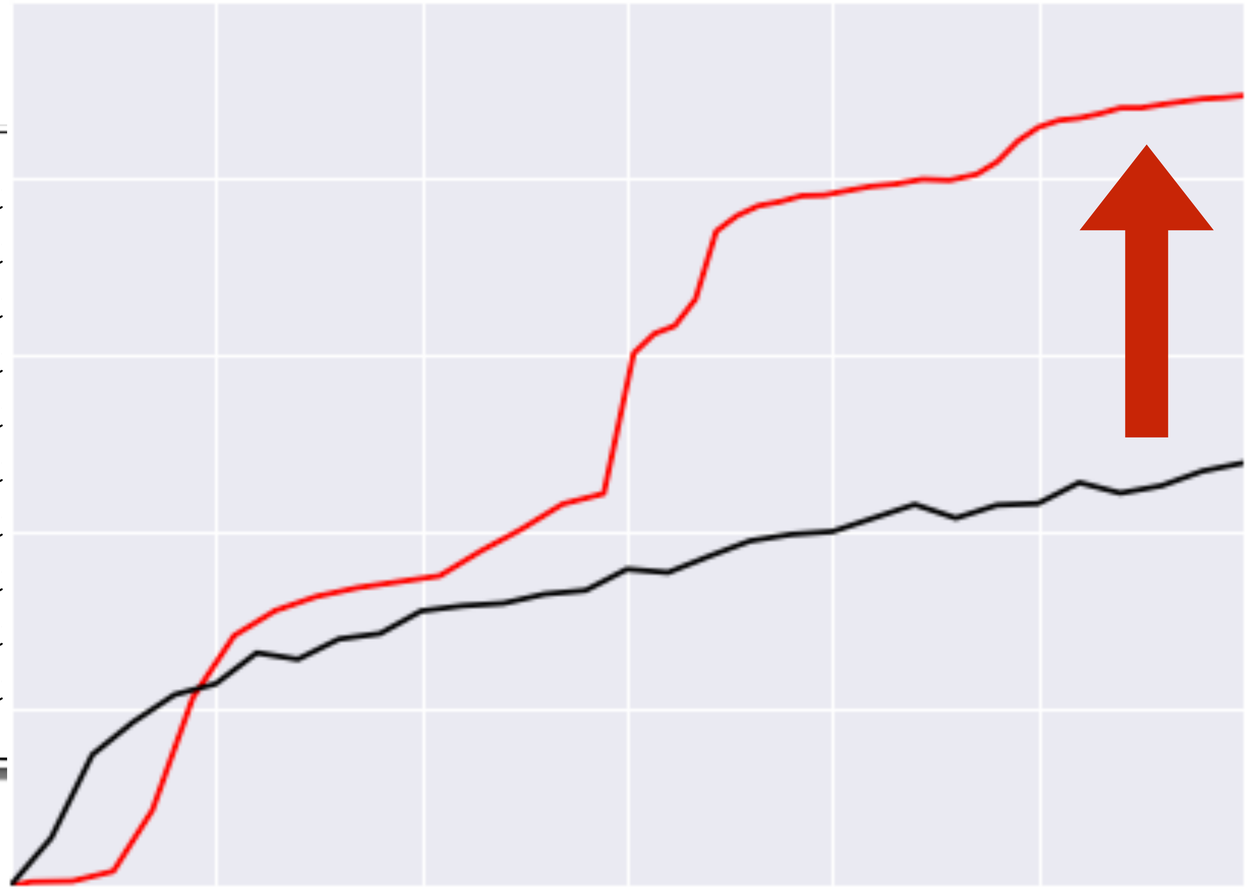
Conclusions

A tiny bit of data goes a long way

```
make plank    get wood    use toolshed
make stick    get wood    use workbench
make cloth    get grass   use factory
make rope     get grass   use toolshed
make bridge   get iron    get wood        use factory
make bed*     get wood    use toolshed    get grass    use workbench
make axe*     get wood    use workbench   get iron     use toolshed
make shears   get wood    use workbench   get iron     use workbench
get gold      get iron    get wood        use factory  use bridge
get gem       get wood    use workbench   get iron     use toolshed   use axe
```

A tiny bit of data goes a long way

```
make plank    get
make stick    get
make cloth    get
make rope     get
make bridge   get
make bed*     get
make axe*     get
make shears   get
get gold      get
get gem       get
```



```
rkbench
olshed
rkbench
idge
olshed    use axe
```

Thank you!

https://github.com/jacobandreas/psketch