

## A Algorithm

Algorithm 1 provides pseudo code for RD<sup>2</sup> on the Atari environment, which learns sub-Q network with jointly learned reward decomposition. Note that RD<sup>2</sup> can plug in any Q-learning based methods. We found that the second variant of  $\mathcal{L}_{div}$  works better in Atari. At each time step, we first interact with environments, collect samples in replay buffer (Line 3 to 6). We then train the sub-reward prediction network to predict the total reward with minimal sufficient supporting sub-state (Line 9). We also train the auxiliary prediction network to predict sub-reward  $r_i$  using sub-state  $\hat{s}_j$  (Line 10) to compute  $\mathcal{L}_{div2}$ . After that, we update the mask network  $m_i$  to encourage diversity between sub-states (Line 13).

To train our RL agent, we first perform standard Q-learning using TD error (Line 16) with the full reward. Simultaneously, we use the decomposed sub-rewards to directly train sub-Q network with a global action (Line 20, 21).

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### Algorithm 1 RD<sup>2</sup>: Reward Decomposition with Representation Decomposition

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- 1: Initialize replay buffer  $\mathcal{D}$ , the parameters of sub-Q network  $\phi_i$ , sub-reward prediction network  $\theta_i (i = 1, 2, \dots, K)$ , auxiliary prediction network  $\theta_{ij} (i \neq j)$ , and mask network  $m_i (i = 1, 2, \dots, K)$ .
  - 2: **for** time step  $t$  **do**
  - 3:   Receive observation  $s_t$  from environment.
  - 4:   Select action using  $\epsilon$ -greedy policy  $a_t \leftarrow \operatorname{argmax}_a \sum_i Q_{\phi_i}(s_t, a)$ .
  - 5:   Take action  $a_t$ , receive reward  $r_t$  and next state  $s_{t+1}$
  - 6:   Append  $(s_t, a_t, r_t, s_{t+1})$  to  $\mathcal{D}$ .
  - 7:   **if**  $t \bmod n_{mini} == 0$  **then**
  - 8:     Sample training experiences  $(s, a, r, s')$  from  $\mathcal{D}$ .
  - 9:     Update parameters  $\theta_i$  to minimize the  $\mathcal{L}_{sum}$  in Eq. 4 and  $\mathcal{L}_{mini}$  in Eq. 9.
  - 10:    Update parameters  $\theta_{ij}$  in Eq. 11:  $\min_{\theta_{ij}} (g_{\theta_i}(\hat{s}_i, a) - g_{\theta_{ij}}(\hat{s}_j, a))^2$
  - 11:    **if**  $t \bmod n_{div} == 0$  **then**
  - 12:     Sample training experiences  $(s, a, r, s')$  from  $\mathcal{D}$ .
  - 13:     Update parameters  $m_i$  to minimize  $\mathcal{L}_{div2}$  in Eq. 11.
  - 14:    **if**  $t \bmod n_{update} == 0$  **then**
  - 15:     Sample training experiences  $(s, a, r, s')$  from  $\mathcal{D}$ .
  - 16:     Perform standard Q-learning to update agent’s parameters  $\phi$  to minimize TD error
  - 17:       
$$\phi_i \leftarrow \phi_i - \eta_1 \nabla_{\phi_i} (\sum_i Q_{\bar{\phi}_i}(s, a) - (r + \gamma \max_{a'} \sum_i Q_{\phi_i}(s', a'))^2, \forall i$$
  - 18:    **if**  $t \bmod n_{subq} == 0$  **then**
  - 19:     Sample training experiences  $(s, a, r, s')$  from  $\mathcal{D}$ .
  - 20:     Compute next action  $a' = \operatorname{argmax}_{a'} \sum_i Q_{\phi_i}(s', a')$
  - 21:     Update parameters of sub-Q network  $\phi_i$  with decomposed reward  $r_i = g_{\theta_i}(\hat{s}_i, a)$
  - 22:       
$$\phi_i \leftarrow \phi_i - \eta_2 \nabla_{\phi_i} (Q_{\bar{\phi}_i}(s, a) - (r_i + \gamma Q_{\phi_i}(s', a'))^2, \forall i$$
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## B Hyper-parameters

We build our code using the supplied implementation of [Castro et al., 2018]. For all experiments we use  $K = 2$ . However,  $K$  could vary depending on the games we choose. Following Castro et al. [2018], we use  $\eta_1 = 6.25e - 5$ . We use a large learning rate ( $\alpha = 10 \times \eta_1$ ) to minimize  $\mathcal{L}_{sum}$ . We sweep the learning rate  $\beta, \gamma, \eta_2$  in  $\{1.0, 0.1, 0.01, 0.001, 0.0001, 0.00001\} \times \eta_1$  and finally choose  $\beta = 0.0001 \times \eta_1, \gamma = 0.1 \times \eta_1, \eta_2 = 0.0001 \times \eta_1$ . In RD<sup>2</sup>, we update parameters with  $n_{mini} = 4, n_{div} = 16, n_{update} = 4, n_{subq} = 4$ . We use Adam [Kingma and Ba, 2014] to optimize all parameters.

## C Ablation Study

To investigate the contribution of each loss term in algorithm 1, we compare three variants of RD<sup>2</sup>: (1) RD<sup>2</sup> without  $\mathcal{L}_{sum}$ ; (2) RD<sup>2</sup> without  $\mathcal{L}_{mini}$ ; (3) RD<sup>2</sup> without  $\mathcal{L}_{div2}$ . As shown in Figure 6, when

we drop the  $\mathcal{L}_{sum}$  term,  $RD^2$  is equivalent to learn with randomly decomposed reward. Therefore, the performance deteriorates dramatically. When we drop the diversity encouraging term  $\mathcal{L}_{div2}$ , we get the trivial reward decomposition, which is not helpful to accelerate the training process. Finally, we find that the minimal sufficient regularization term  $\mathcal{L}_{mini}$  mainly contributes to the later training process.

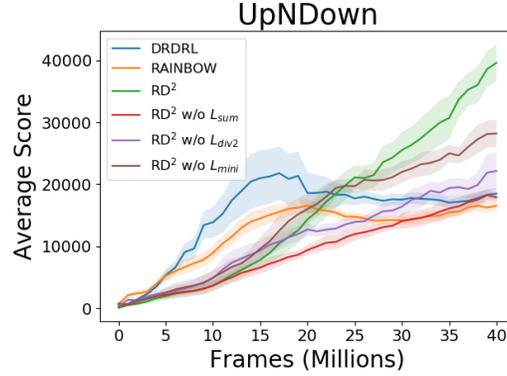


Figure 6: Ablation study

## D Network Architecture

Figure 7 shows the diagram of  $RD^2$  to demonstrate the workflow.  $r_i$  can then be plugged into any Q-learning algorithm with multiple sub-Q functions. Note that only one of  $\mathcal{L}_{div1}$  or  $\mathcal{L}_{div2}$  is required. In our toy experiment, we use  $\mathcal{L}_{div1}$ . In Atari, we use  $\mathcal{L}_{div2}$ .

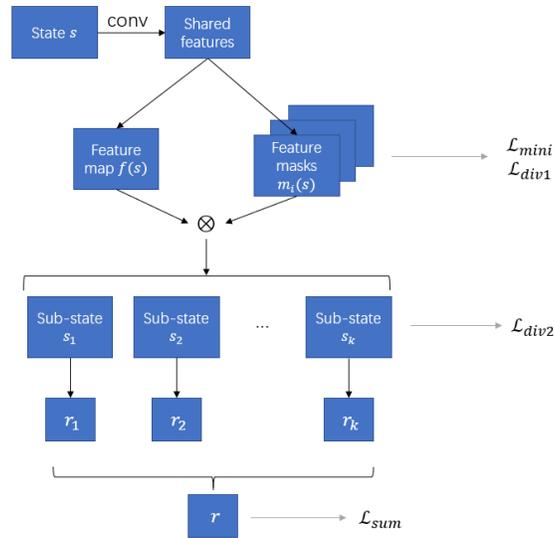


Figure 7:  $RD^2$  work flow.

Figure 8 shows the detailed network architecture. Multiple arrows indicate different network for each of the  $K$  reward channels.

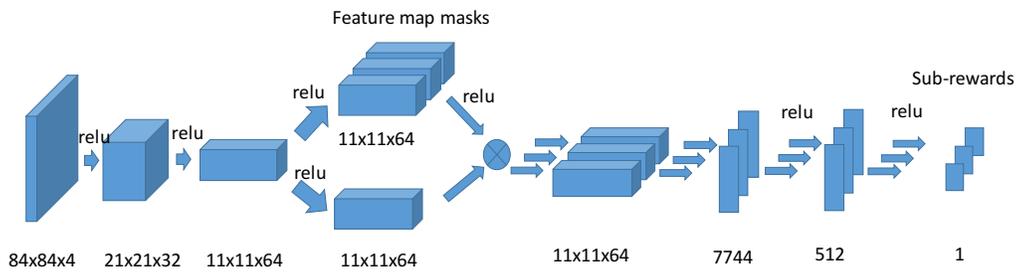


Figure 8: Network architecture of RD<sup>2</sup>.