



# Social-based city Reconstruction Planning in case of natural disasters: a Reinforcement Learning Approach

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# Outlines

- Motivating Scenario
- Main Challenges
- Research Problems
- Proposed Methodology
- Evaluation and Results
- Conclusion and Future work

# Motivating Scenario

➤ Natural disaster

➤ Post disaster

- ✓ Relief
- ✓ Recovery
- ✓ Development



# Motivating Scenario

## ✓Development

- Reconstruction of buildings
- Reconstruction of roads/bridges
- Social benefits of effected community



# Main Challenges

- Manual rebuilding plan is error prone
- Existing models do not consider key attributes:
  - ✓ Social benefits
  - ✓ Political Priorities
  - ✓ Physical Dependencies

# Research Problems

- RQ1:** Which is the best way to embeds the **political strategies** and **political priority** into the rebuilding planning model?
- RQ2:** How can we model local **community needs** (namely, **social benefits**) and embed them into rebuilding planning model?
- RQ3:** How can we model the **physical dependencies** and embed them into rebuilding planning model?
- RQ4:** Which is the most **efficient approach** that, leveraging on the defined rebuilding planning model, provides alternative rebuilding plans on real case studies?
- RQ5:** How do we validate the proposed **post-disaster rebuilding planning** approach?

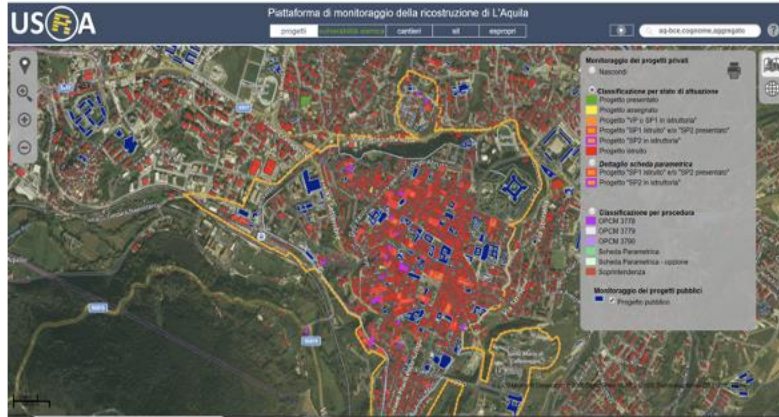
# Our solution

- Data Processing: from GIS data to a graph model
- Mathematical modeling
- Model solution by using Double Deep Q-Learning Network (DDQN)
- Validation on Sulmona dataset



# Proposed Methodology

Open data from Municipality USRA website



Data Processing



Undirected Graph



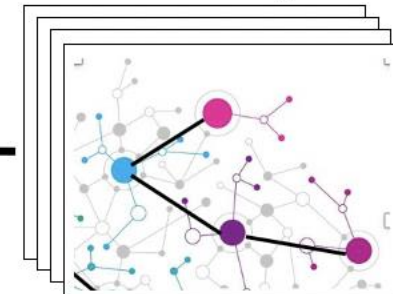
Social benefits for a plan 'P'

$$S_P = \sum_{u \in P} S(u) \cdot (T_e - T_u)$$

DDQN Algorithm



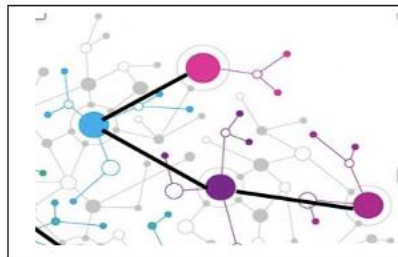
Multiple Generated Plans



Decision Makers (Politicians + Citizens)



Selected Plan

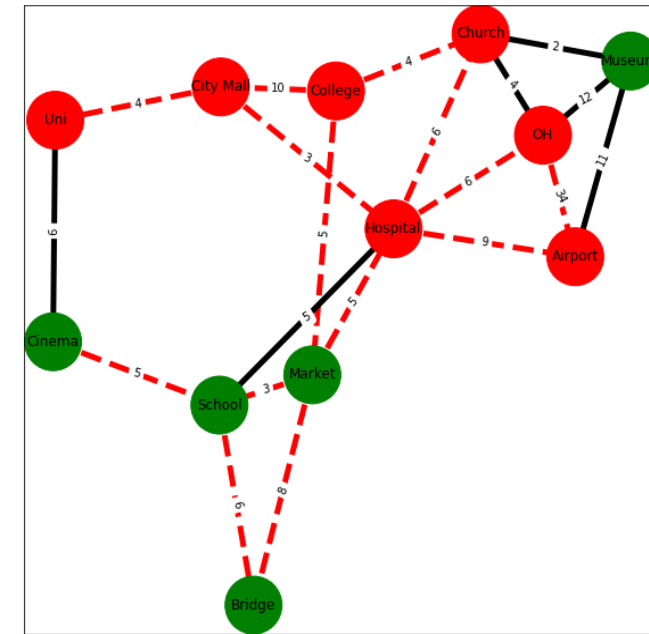




# Graph model of the damaged area

Labelled undirected graph  $G(V,E)$  where

- ✓  $V$ = Set of vertices 'v' that represents single reconstruction unit
- ✓  $E$ = Set of edges 'e' that represents adjacency between two reconstruction units
- ✓  $d(v_1, v_2)$  = label on the edges representing a function that specify the distance between two reconstruction units



We have additional informations on reconstruction units such as  
(e.g number of people, status of buildings, cost and time for reconstructions)



# pdRPP- Model Constraints

**Time** : it concerns the time required to construct any damage unit/building.

$$\max_{v \in P} T_v \leq T_e$$

**Cost**: it concerns the cost required to construct any damage unit/building.

$$\sum_{v \in P} C_v \leq Budget$$

**Political Priority** : it imposes a threshold on the plan in order to guarantee that the building plan respects the set political strategies

$$\text{Political Constraints : } \frac{\sum_{v \in P} P_v}{|P|} \geq 80$$

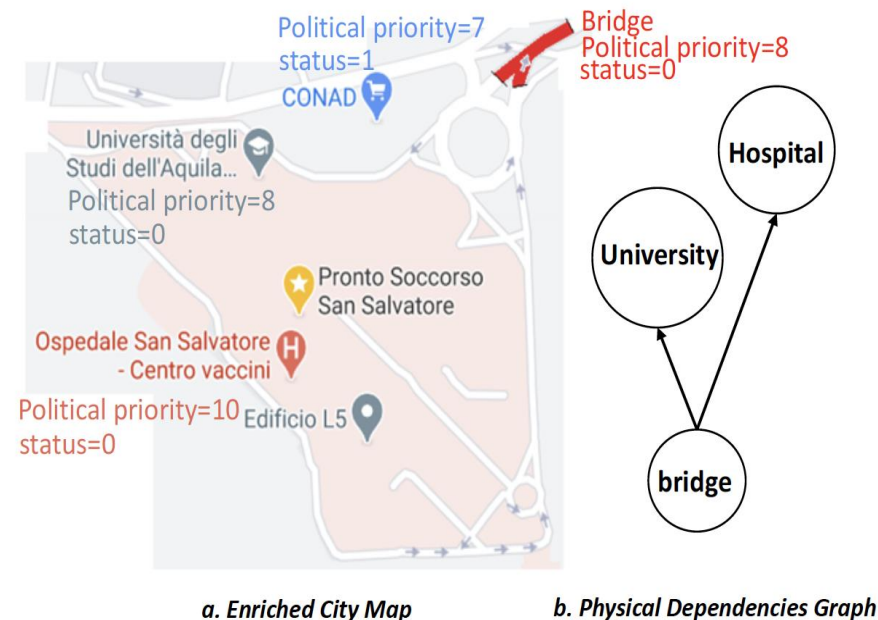
# pdRPP- Model Constraints

**Physical dependencies:** among reconstruction units (like bridge/flyover) that impose ordering in the building reconstruction

$\exists v \in P$  that is

$$e = (v, \bar{v})$$

$\bar{v} \notin p$  and  $s_v = 1$



# pdRPP- Model Optimization function

**Social benefits** : it concerns the number of people who will use any unit/building, describe how much the plan is beneficial for the affected community

$$P = \{(v_0), (v_1)(v_2)(v_3)....\}$$

$$\max \sum_{p \in P} S(v_p) \cdot (T_e)$$

# Double Deep Q-Learning Network

➤ Markov Decision Process

➤ Bellman Equation

$$Q(s, a; \theta) = S_r(v) + \gamma \max_{a' \in A_v} Q'(s', a'; \theta_i^-)$$

➤ Neural Networks

$$L_i(\theta_i) = E\left[\overbrace{(S_r(v) + \gamma \max_{a' \in A_v} Q'(s', a'; \theta_i^-))}^{\text{Q-target}} - \overbrace{Q(s, a; \theta_i)}^{\text{Q-network}}\right]^2$$



# pdRPP- DDQN Immediate Reward

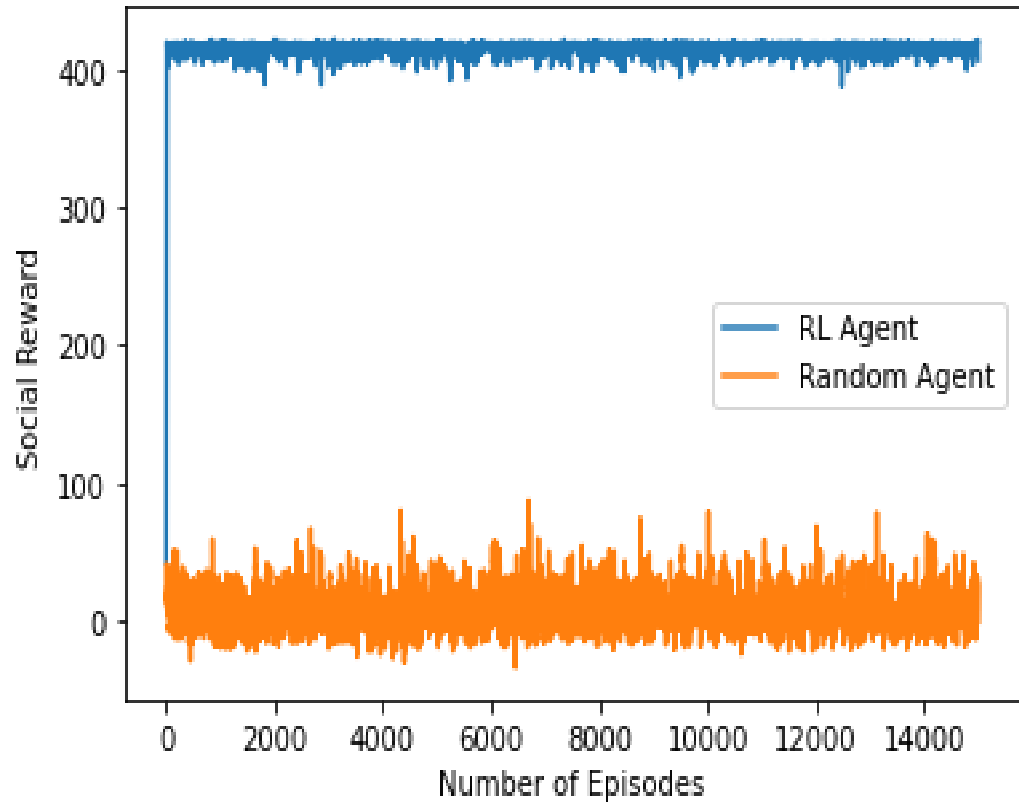
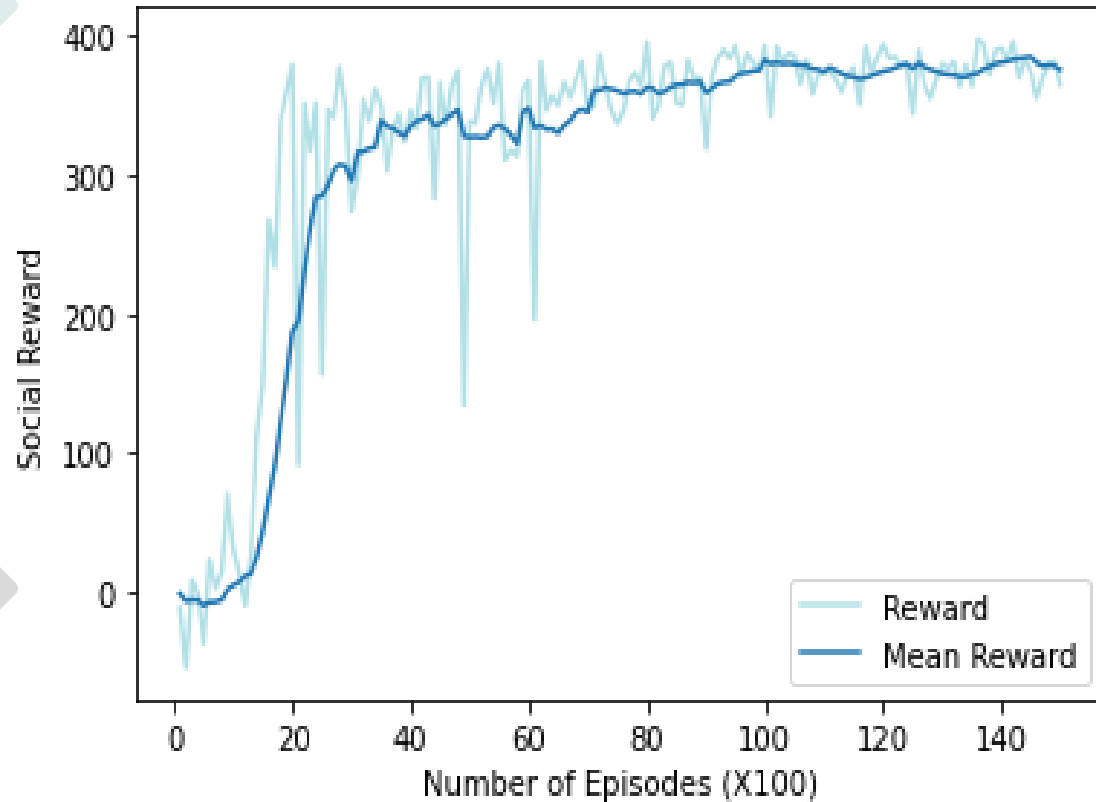
$$S_r(v) = \left[ \alpha \cdot b_v + \beta \left( \sum_{u \in V | s_u = 1} \frac{S(u)}{d(u, v)} \right) \right]$$

$$\alpha, \beta \in [0, 1], \quad \alpha + \beta = 1$$

# Implementation: Fixed Parameters

Fixed Parameters	Value
Optimizer	Adam optimizer, learning rate = 0.001
Loss function	Mean squared error, Eq. 8
Q-Learning function	$Q(s,a;\theta) = S_r(v) + \gamma \max_{a' \in A_v} Q'(s', a'; \theta_i^-)$
Batch size	32
Steps before training	15000
Maximum memory size	2000
Political Priority	Minimum=0 , Maximum =10
Exploration strategy	Epsilon greedy policy (Epsilon $\in 10^{-7}, 1$ and self.epsilon_decay=0.0003.)
Reward discount factor	self.discount_factor = 0.95
Input Parameters	'Budget' and 'Time' ( $T_e$ )

# Implementation: Agent Training and Testing



# Why we choose Double Deep Q-Learning?

- Due to dynamic action space (action space is the damage area and every unit has different attributes)
- Complexity increase in Q-Learning, SARSA, Temporal Difference, Monte Carlo once number of states (node/buildings) increased
- Increasing states and complexity problem solved in DDQN by using Neural Networks
- Fast Learning

# Evaluation and Results

- Sulmona Dataset
- 597 damage buildings out 1214
- 470 damage roads out of 3476

# Evaluation and Results

Budget: \$100000 Time:60 Months						
Sr. No	Units ID	Type	Buildings	PD	PP	Sp
1	35	Building	130	96	8.6	6257
2	690-783	Road				
3	732	Building				
4	434	Building				
5	1166	Building				
6	432	Building				
7	911	Building				
8	1213-681	Road				
9	582	Building				
10	85-82	Road				
—	—	—				
226	131	Building				

Budget: \$100000 Time:60 Months						
Sr. No	Units ID	Type	Buildings	PD	PP	Sp
1	65	Building	134	92	8.5	6254
2	516-1071	Road				
3	906-912	Road				
4	912	Building				
5	1166	Building				
6	432	Building				
7	911	Building				
8	1213-681	Road				
9	582	Building				
10	85-82	Road				
—	—	—				
226	131	Building				



# Evaluation and Results

Sr.No	Cycles	Units	Buildings	PD/Roads	PP	Sp
1	Cycle 2	239	127	112	7.9	5237
2	Cycle 3	217	122	95	6.9	4527
3	Cycle 4	206	115	91	6.1	4112
4	Cycle 5	205	103	102	5.2	3601

# Results Summary

- The proposed model will be an efficient mechanism to define reconstruct plans on behalf of social benefits.
- Proposed framework provides a set of alternative plans which contain different order of reconstruction units.
- Every plan satisfies time, budget and political priority constraints.
- The proposed approach has the ability to identify and consider physical dependencies among reconstruction units.

# Conclusion and Future Work

- pd-RPP is comprehensive and multi-attributes decision support system for post- disaster reconstruction planning.
- Used Dual Deep Q-Network (DDQN) for implementation
- The proposed model minimizes human errors in reconstruction planning.
- **In future we** will investigate additional social benefits more in depth (service access quality and street walk-ability)
- **In future** work we will make comparison of pd-RPP with conventional/traditional and scientific approaches.



THANK YOU FOR  
YOUR ATTENTION

ANY QUESTIONS?