

Last Time

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- What are the differences between online and offline solutions?
- Are there solution techniques that are *independent* of the state space size?

Guiding Questions

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- What tools do we have to solve MDPs with continuous S and A ?

Current Tool-Belt

Continuous S and A

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e.g. $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n, A \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m$

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The old rules still work!

Today: Four Tools

1. Linear Dynamics, Quadratic Reward

2. Value Function Approximation

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Fitted Value Iteration

while not converged

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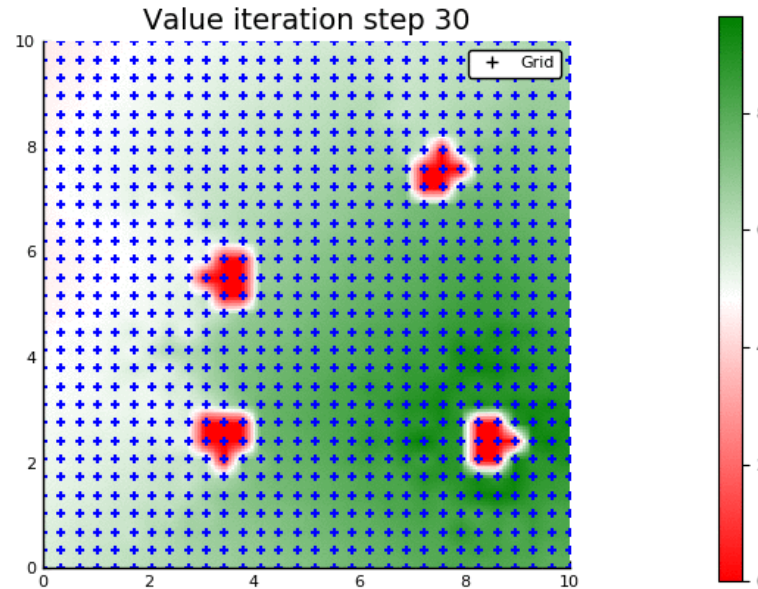
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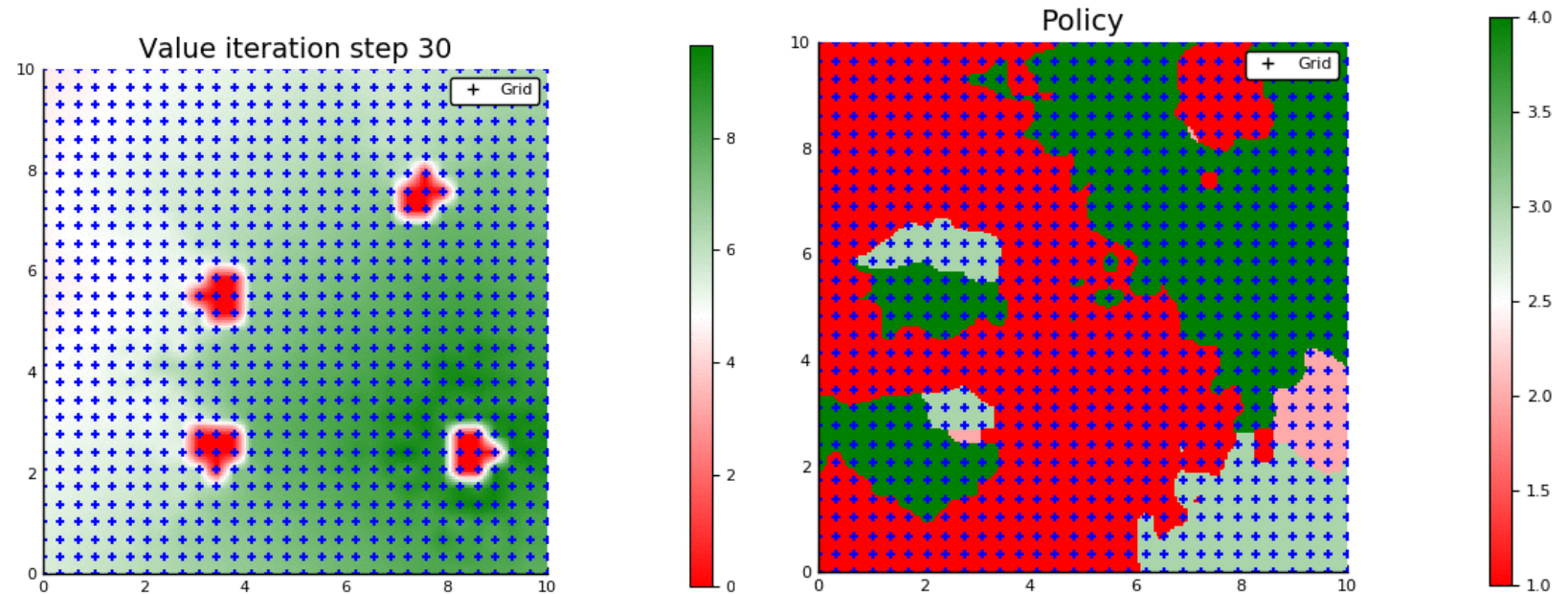
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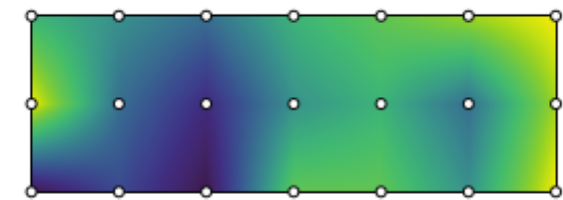
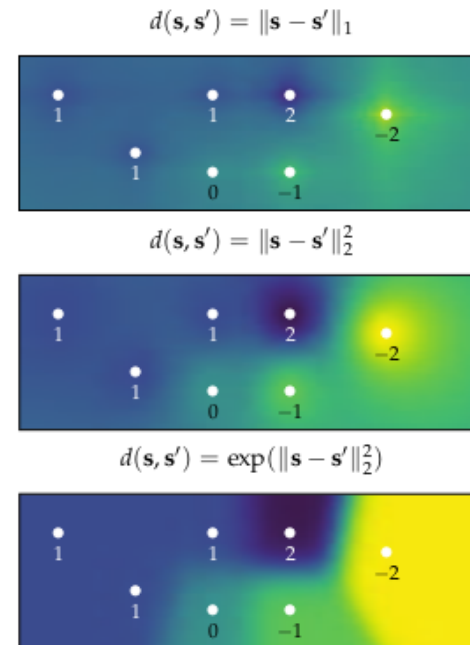
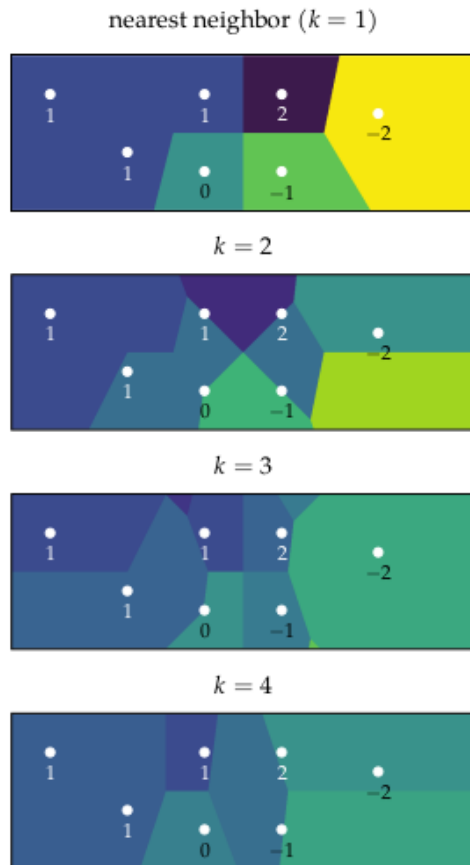


Figure 8.9. Two-dimensional linear interpolation over a 3×7 grid.

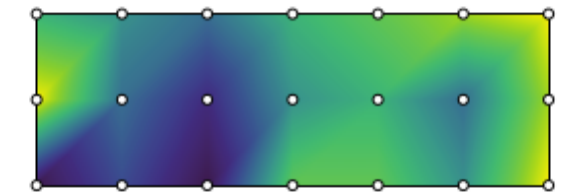
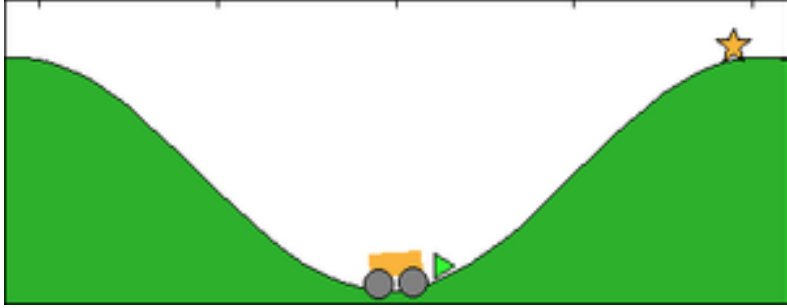


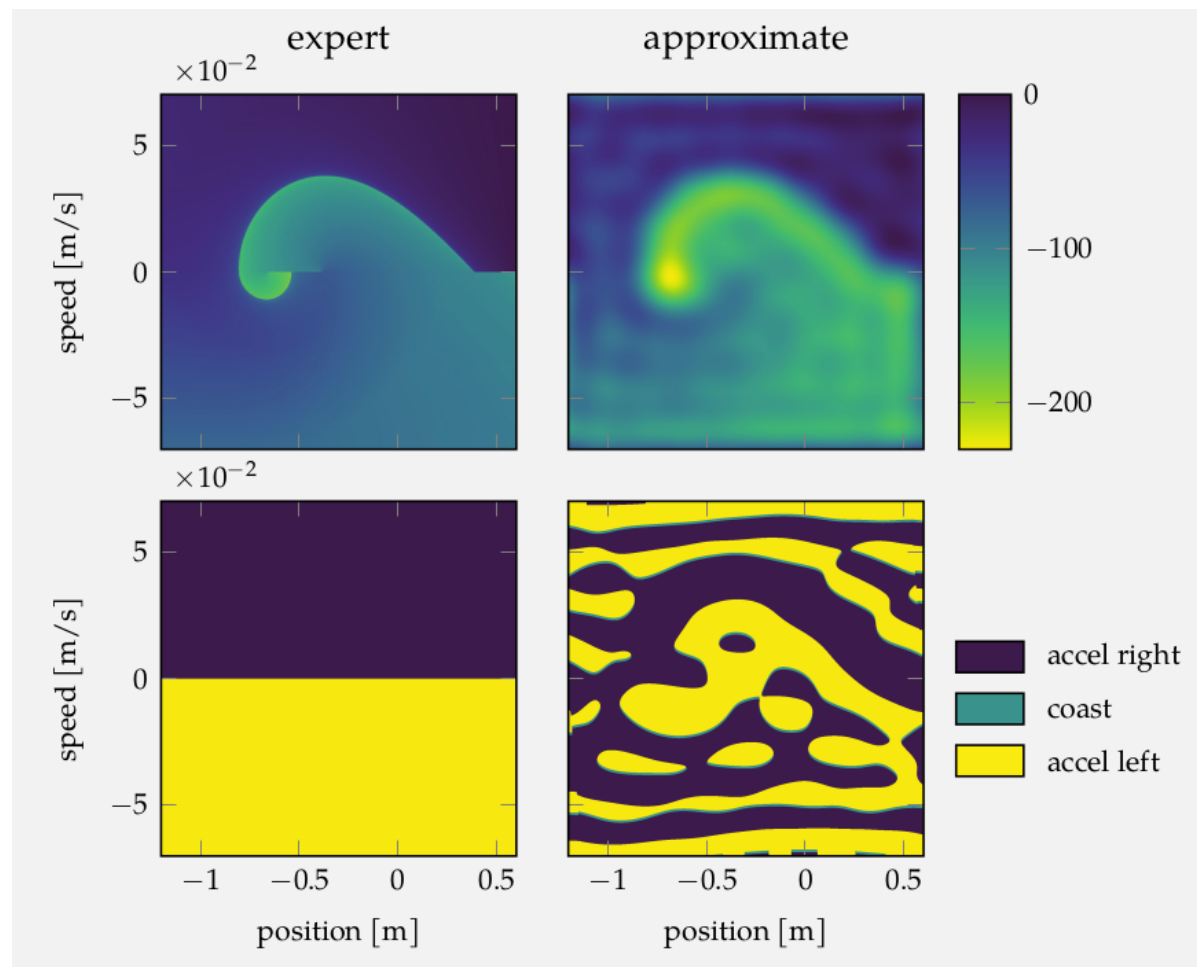
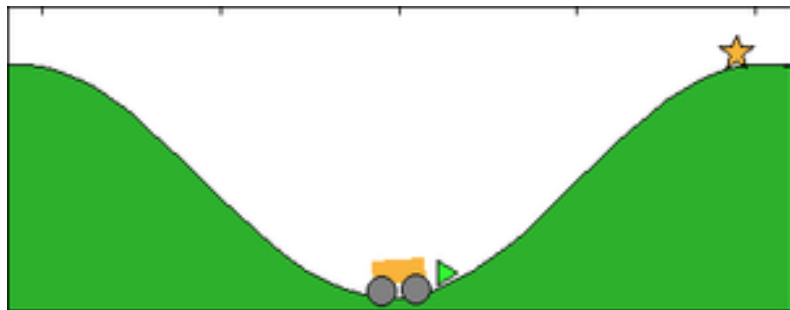
Figure 8.10. Two-dimensional simplex interpolation over a 3×7 grid.

Function Approximation: Mountain Car

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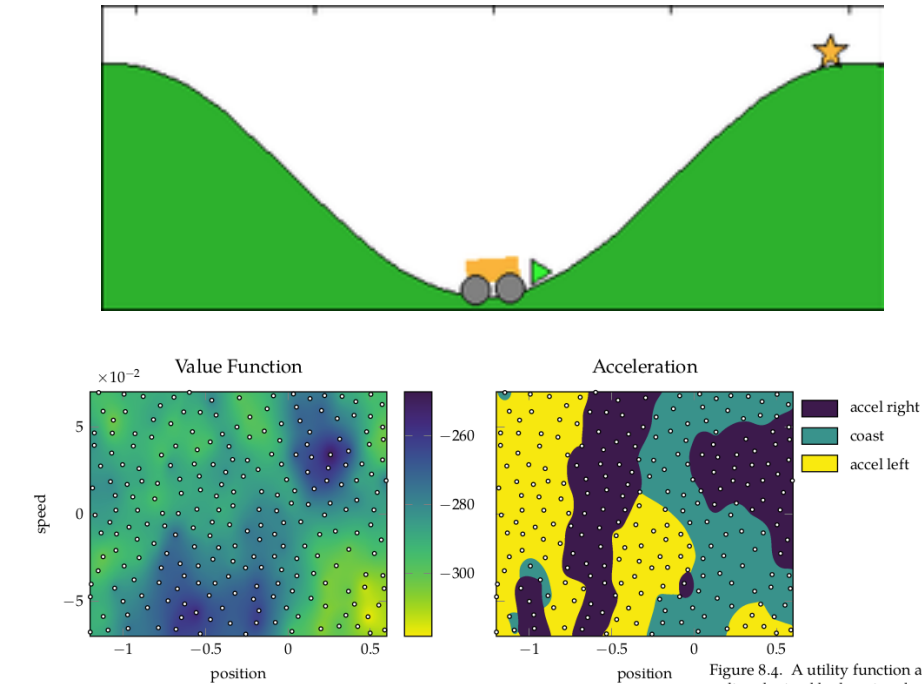


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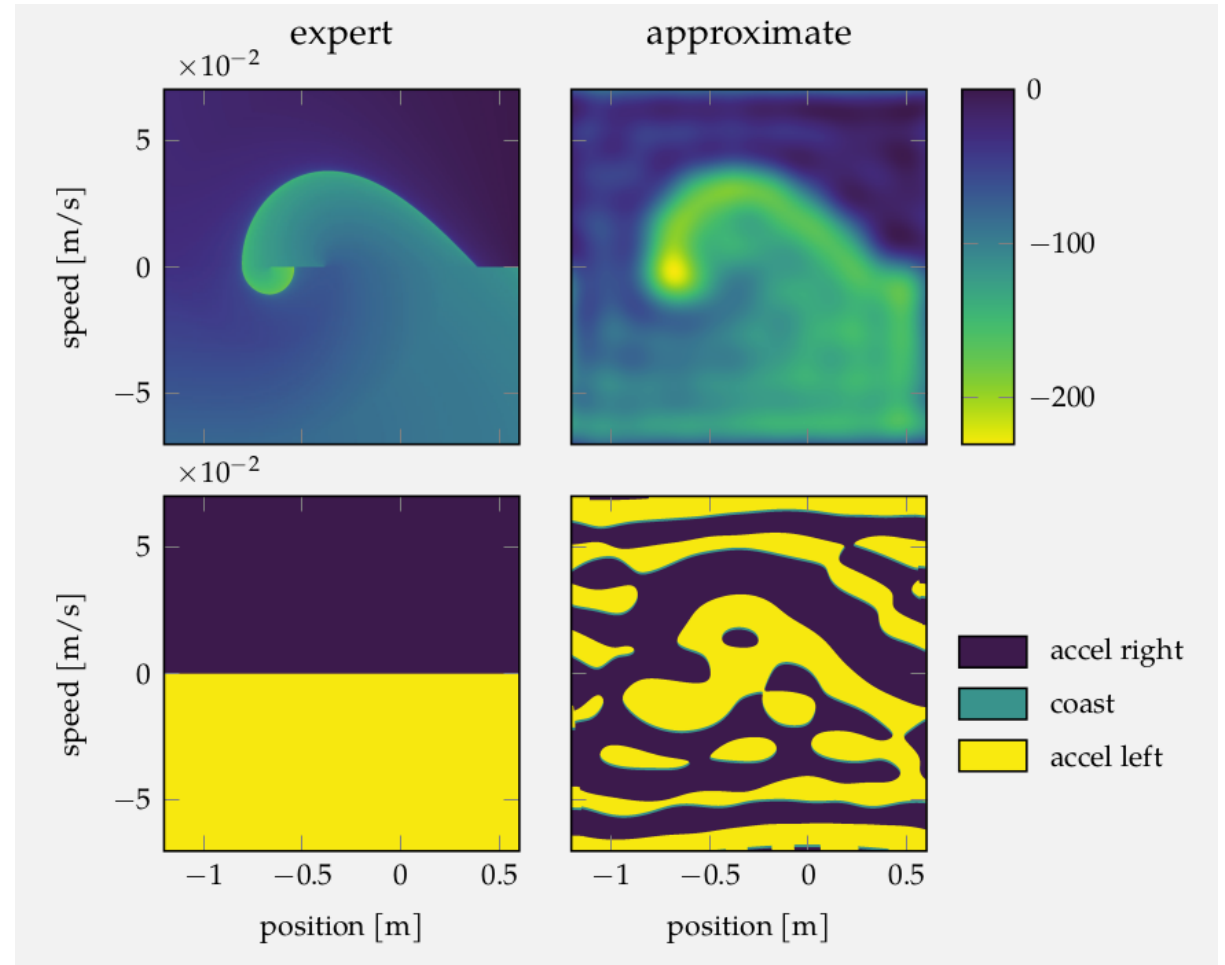
(Fourier, 17 params)

Function Approximation: Mountain Car



(Kernel, > 100 params)

Figure 8.4. A utility function and policy obtained by learning the action values for a finite set of states (white) in the mountain car problem using the distance function $\|s - s'\|_2 + 0.1$.



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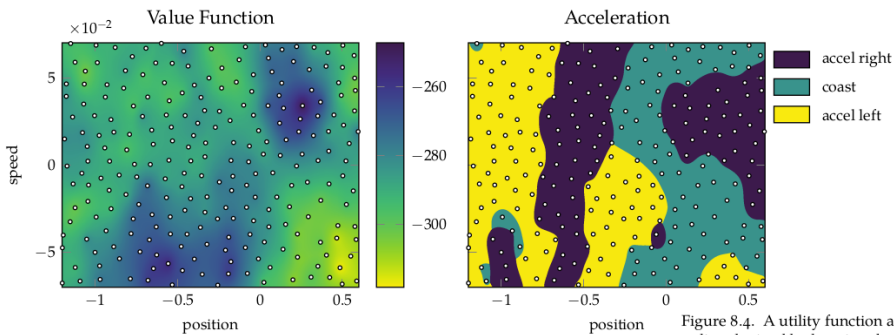
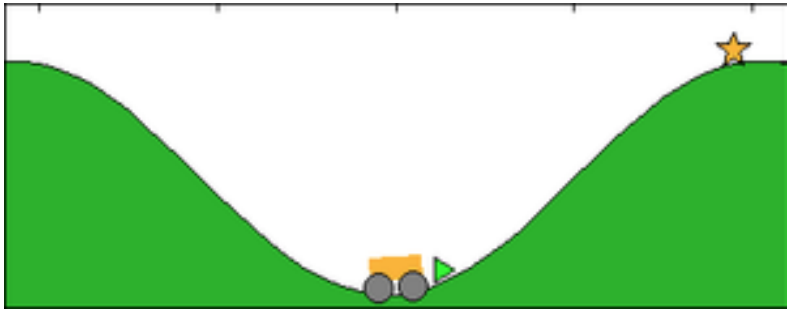
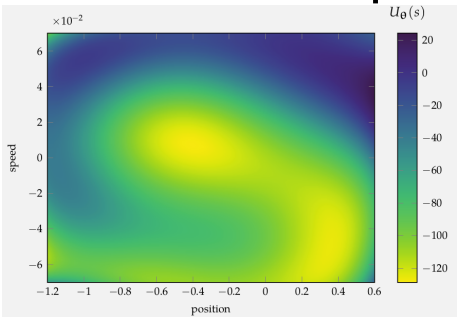
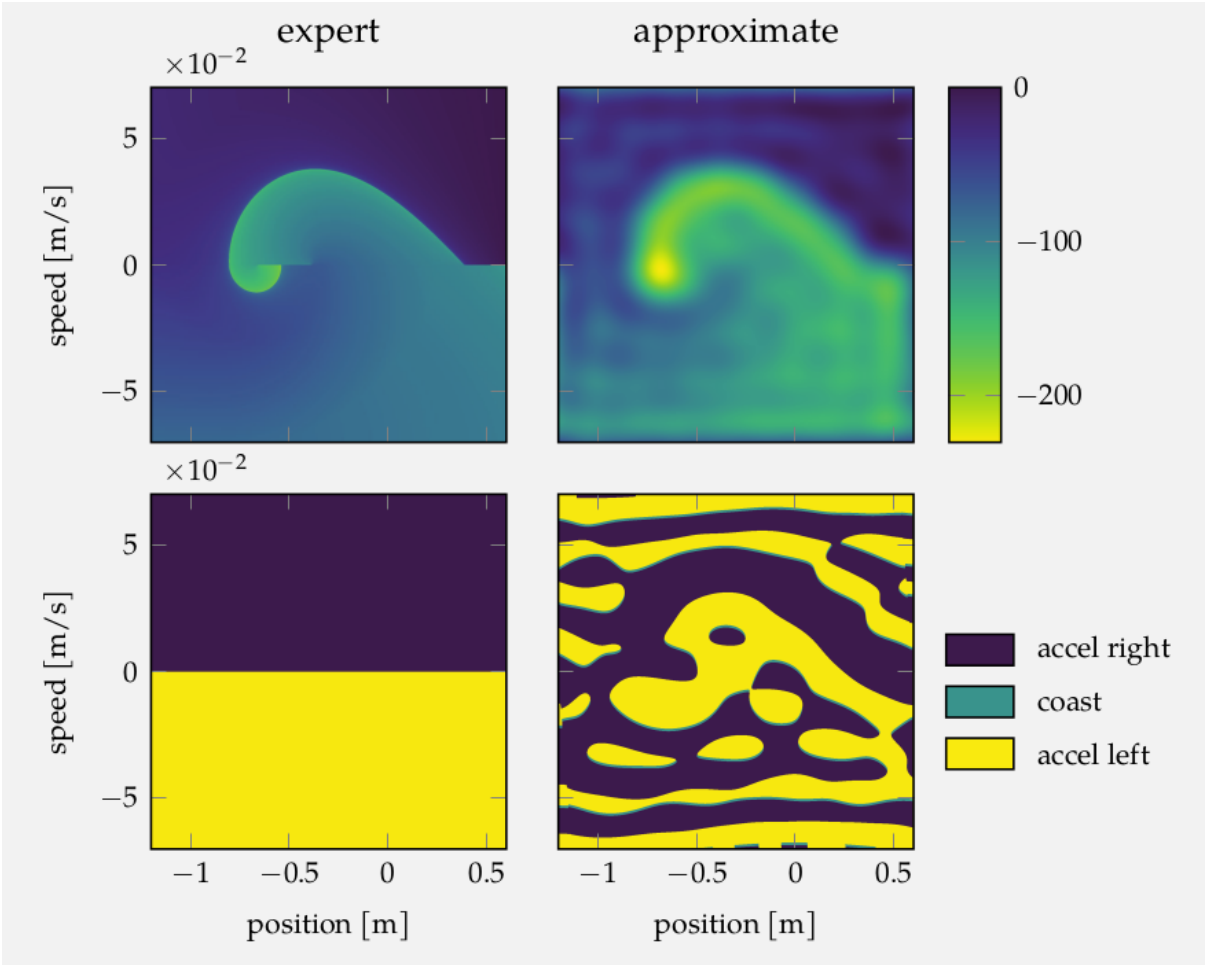


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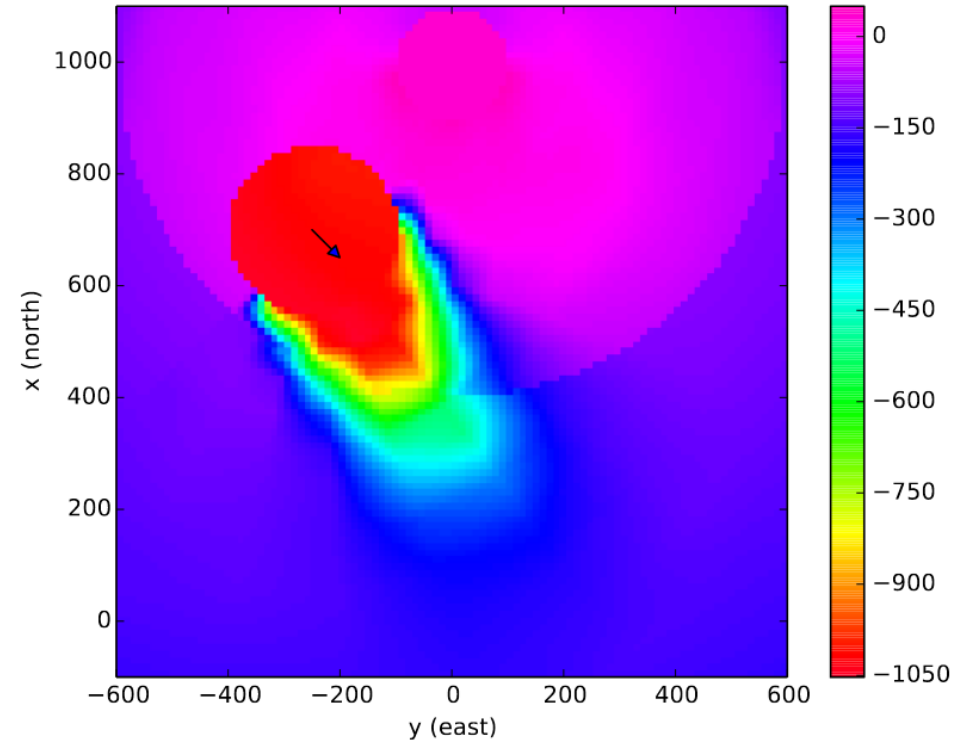
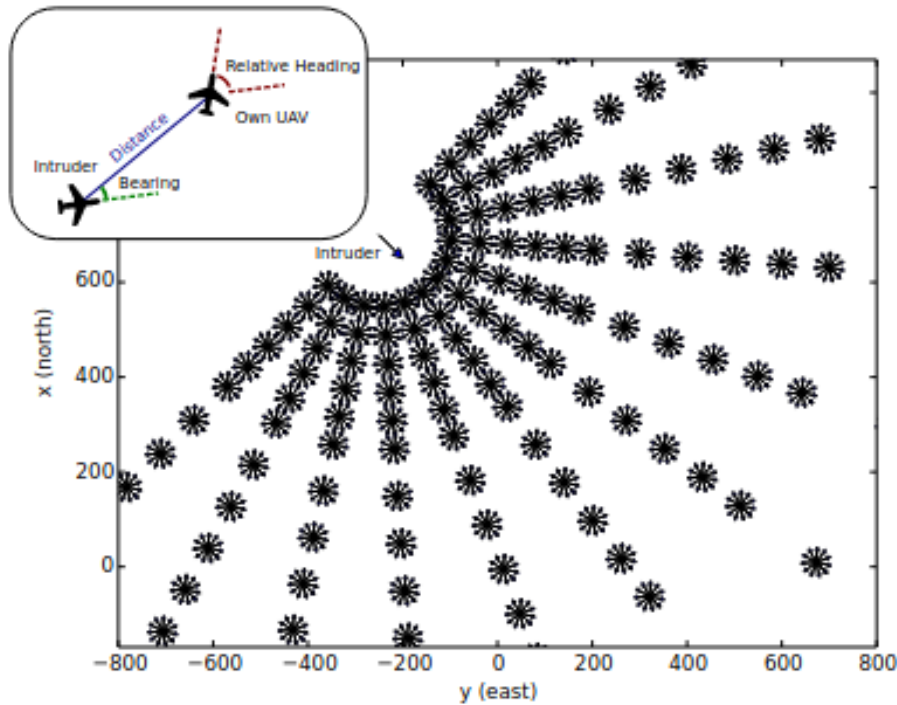


(Polynomial, 28 params)



(Fourier, 17 params)

Function Approximation

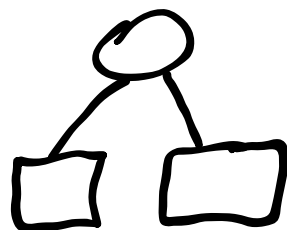


Break

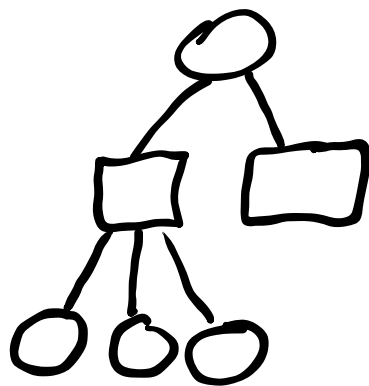
What will a Monte Carlo Tree Search tree look like if run on a problem with continuous spaces?

3. Sparse Tree Search/Progressive Widening

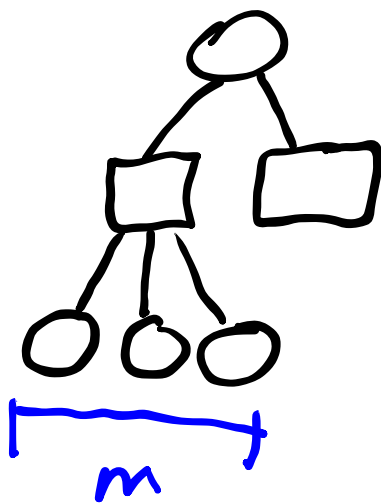
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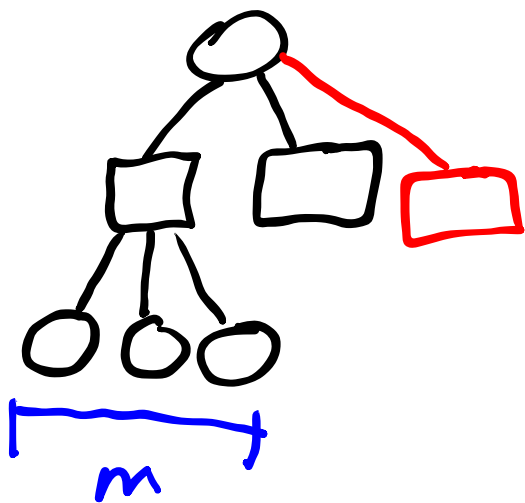
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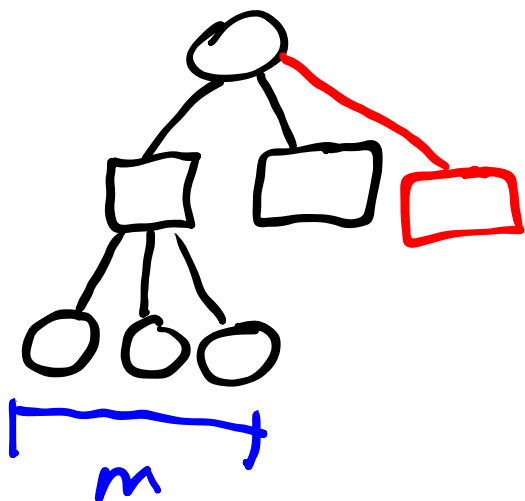
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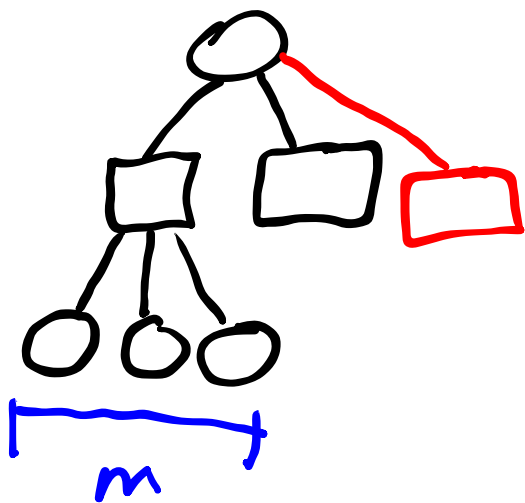


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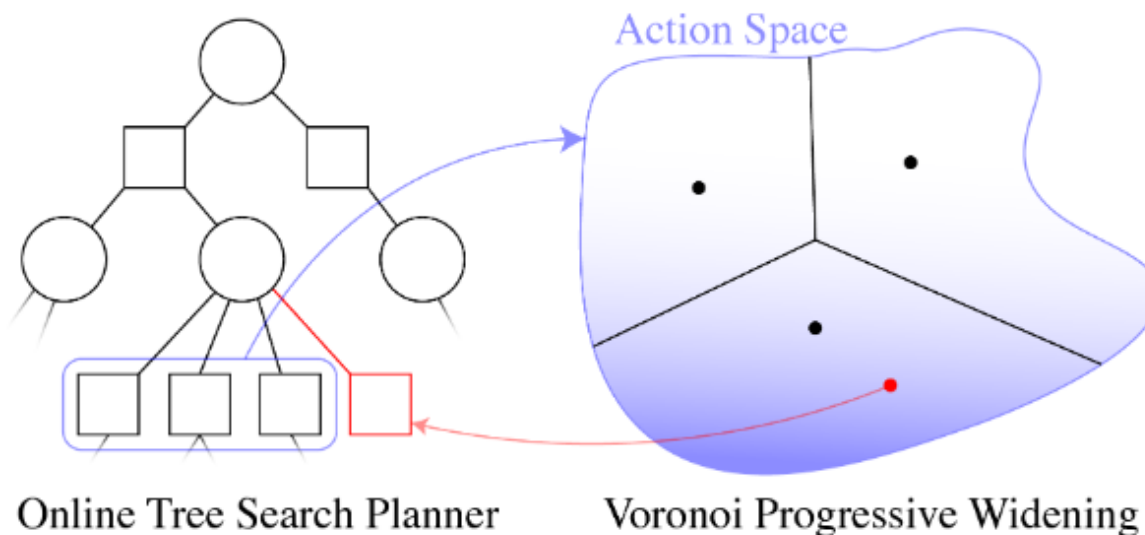


add new branch if $C < kN^\alpha$ ($\alpha < 1$)

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Online Tree Search Planner

Voronoi Progressive Widening

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(Use off-the-shelf optimization software, e.g. Ipopt)

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Certainty-
Equivalent

$$\begin{array}{ll} \underset{a_{1:d}, s_{1:d}}{\text{maximize}} & \sum_{t=1}^d \gamma^t R(s_t, a_t) \\ \text{subject to} & s_{t+1} = \mathbb{E}[T(s_t, a_t)] \quad \forall t \end{array}$$

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Open-Loop

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Hindsight
Optimization

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