

Last Time

- What does "Markov" mean in "Markov Decision Process"?

Guiding Questions

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- What is a **Markov decision process**?

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- What is a **Markov decision process**?
- What is a **policy**?

Guiding Questions

- What is a **Markov decision process**?
- What is a **policy**?
- How do we **evaluate** policies?

Decision Networks and MDPs

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Decision Network

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Decision Networks and MDPs

Decision Network

 Chance node

Decision Networks and MDPs

Decision Network

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Chance node






Decision node



Utility node

Decision Networks and MDPs




Decision Network

-  Chance node
-  Decision node
-  Utility node

MDP Dynamic Decision Network

Decision Networks and MDPs

Decision Network

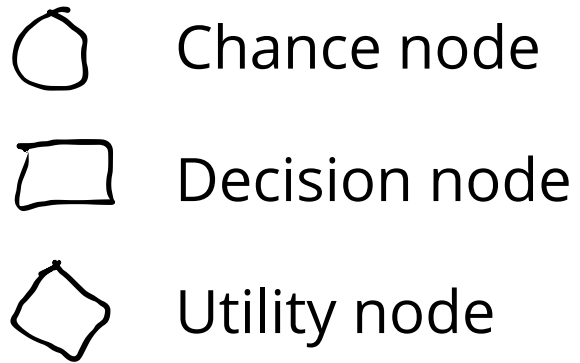
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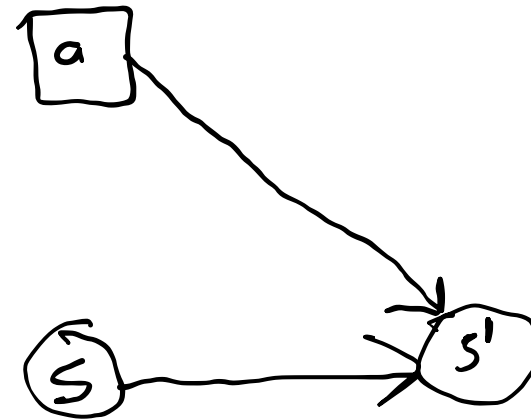


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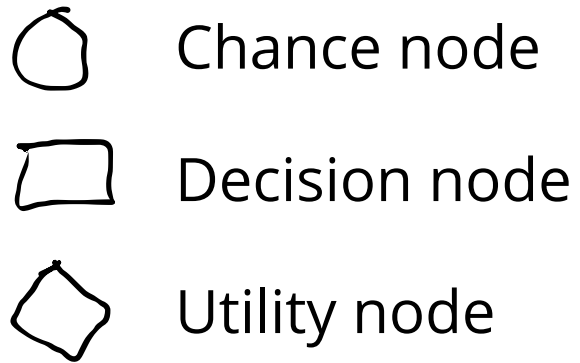


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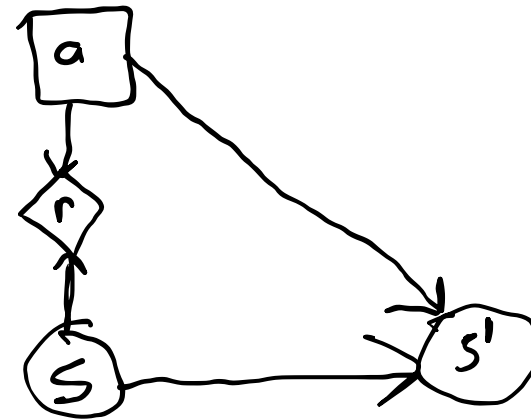


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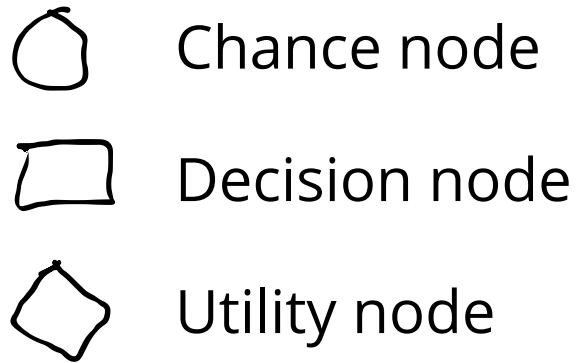


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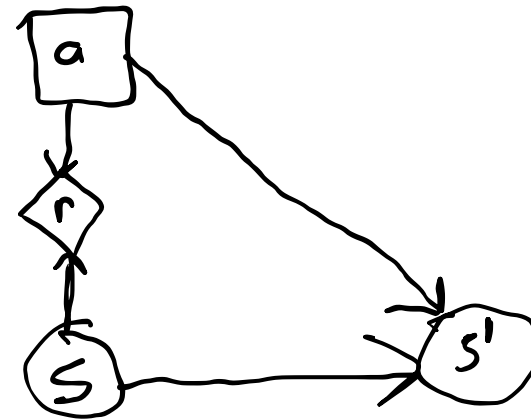


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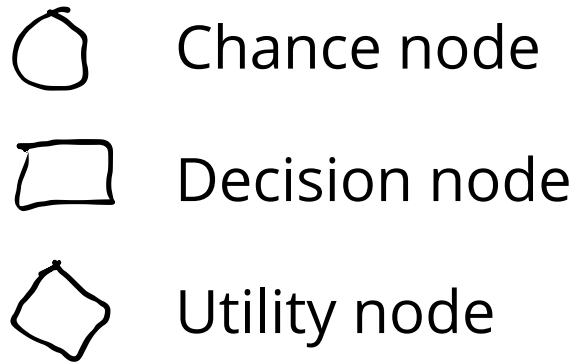
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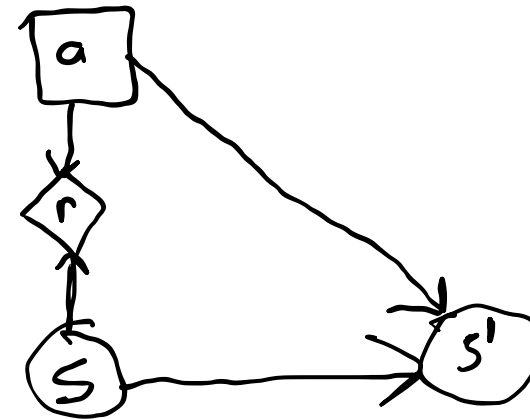
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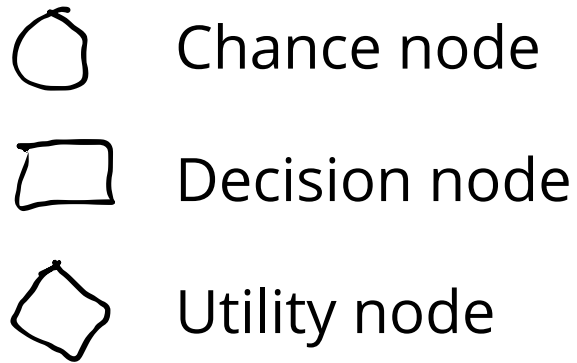


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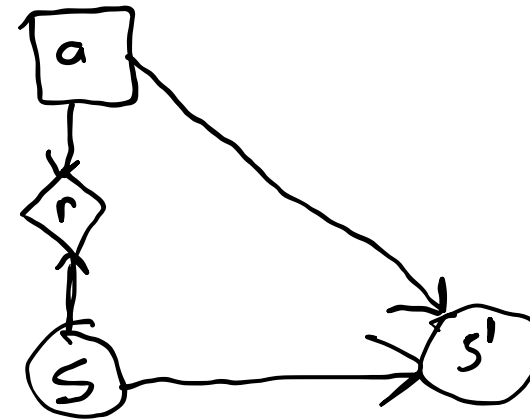
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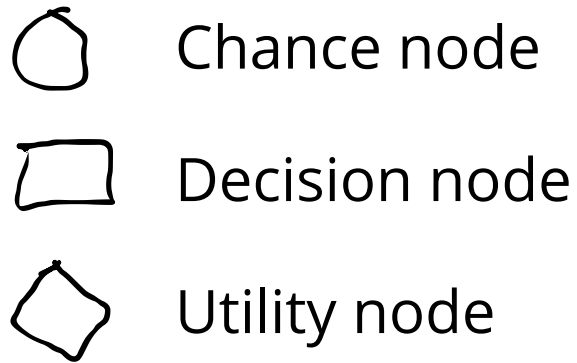


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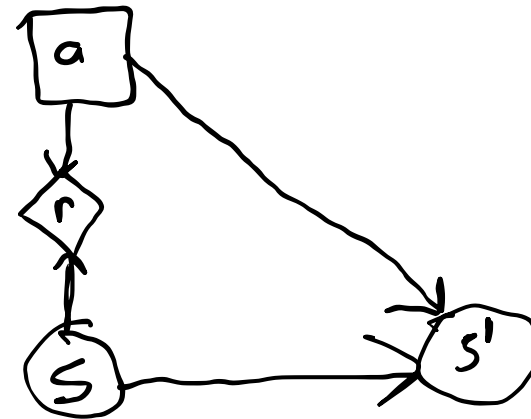
maximize $E \left[\sum_{t=1}^{\infty} r_t \right]$ Not well formulated!

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Infinite

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(S, A, T, R, γ) (and b in some contexts)

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- b : initial state distribution

MDP Example

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- If you drive, you will have to pay \$15 for parking; biking is free.
- On 1% of cold days, the ground is covered in ice and you will crash if you bike, but you can't discover this until you start riding. After your crash, you limp home with pain equivalent to losing \$100.

Policies and Simulation

Policies and Simulation

- A *policy*, denoted with π , as in $a_t = \pi(s_t)$ is a function mapping every state to an action.

Break

- Suggest a policy that you think is optimal for the icy day problem

Utility

Policy Evaluation

Value Function-Based Policy Evaluation

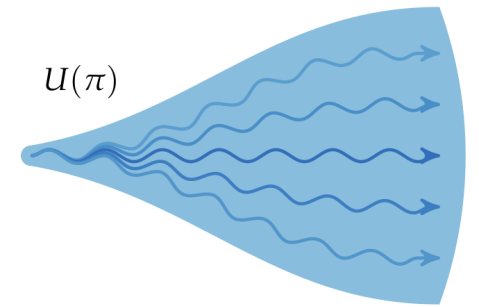
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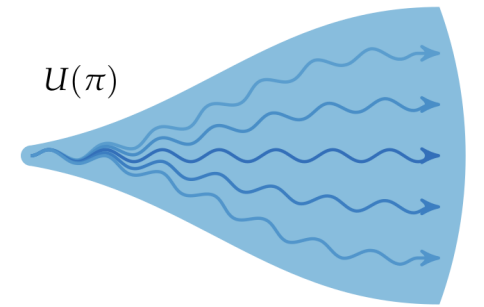
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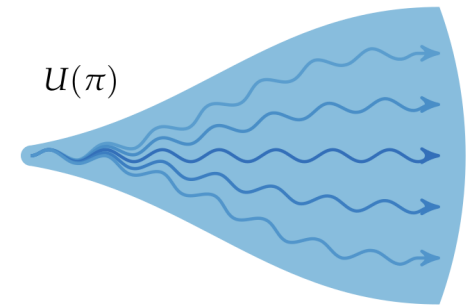


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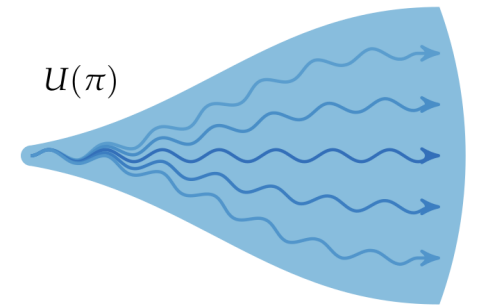
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where $\hat{u}^{(i)}$ is generated by a rollout simulation



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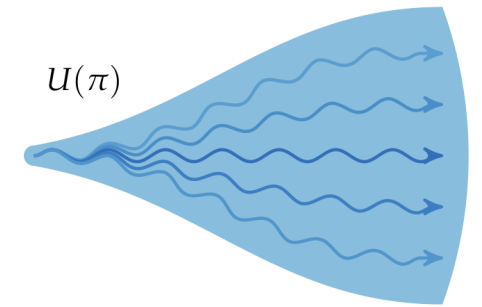
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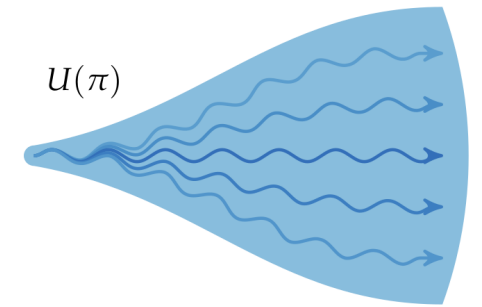
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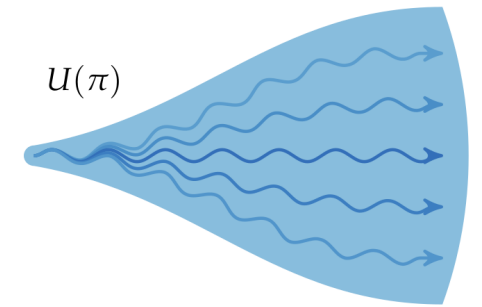
also an R.V.

$$U(\pi) \approx \bar{u}_m = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m \hat{u}^{(i)}$$

How can we quantify the accuracy of \bar{u}_m ?

C.L.T.

where $\hat{u}^{(i)}$ is generated by a rollout simulation



Monte Carlo Policy Evaluation

- Running a large number of simulations and averaging the accumulated reward is called *Monte Carlo Evaluation*

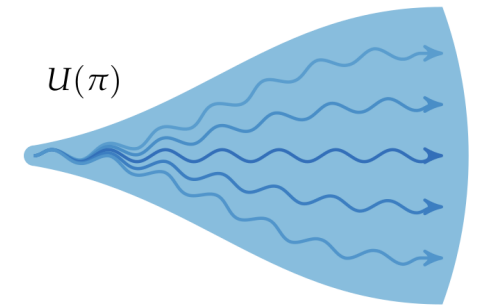
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CLT not
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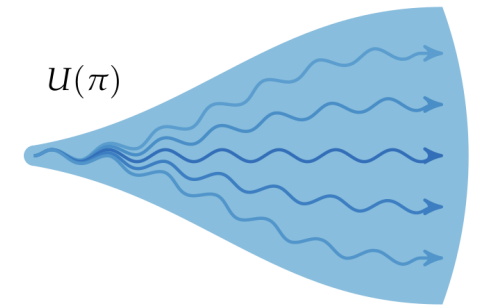
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Standard Error of the Mean



How can we quantify the accuracy of \bar{u}_m ?

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$$\text{s.e.m.} = \frac{\text{std}(\hat{u})}{\sqrt{m}}$$

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