

Assignment Problem Proposal

Title: "Optimizing Cancer Treatment with Multi-Armed Bandits"

Problem Statement:

You are a data scientist working in cancer research, collaborating with a medical institution that conducts clinical trials for different treatment protocols. The objective is to optimize the allocation of resources (Research time, and funding) across diverse treatment arms within breast cancer clinical trials. The primary goal is to identify the most efficacious and personalized treatment strategies while minimizing resource expenditure and expediting the development of effective treatments for cancer patients.

Consider the following aspects:

Treatment Arms and Patient Response: Each treatment arm represents a different treatment technique (Hormone Therapy, Radiation Therapy, Chemotherapy and Surgery). Different arms might have varying efficacies (Treatment status – Either success (Value 1) or Failure (Value 0)), cancer characteristics such as radius, texture etc., budget and treatment duration.

Requirements and Deliverables:

1. Elaborate on, how cancer treatment clinical trial problem is related with Multi armed bandit problem and explain the strategy to solve the problem. Let the detailed description be in a **Word document**. (2 Marks)
2. Prepare a **Colab sheet** with outputs saved satisfying the following requirements. Implementation should be in OpenAI gym with python.
 - (a) Using the given dataset (Link given at end of the page), model the effectiveness of different treatment arms based on treatment status. (2 Marks)
 - (b) Implement the multi-armed bandit algorithm to dynamically allocate patients to different treatment arms to maximize the discovery of effective treatments while minimizing risks and costs. Consider constraints such as the maximum number of patients that can be assigned to each arm, ethical considerations, and the need for statistical significance in trial outcomes. (3 Marks)
 - (c) Evaluate the performance of your algorithm by measuring metrics such as the identification of the most effective treatment arm, time-to-discovery, patient safety, and overall cost-effectiveness. (1 Mark)

Dataset:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1fdsf_2BO0FhcRrFOPy51F0NhMqljs2ES/view?usp=sharing