Lecture 8: Integrating Learning and Planning

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Outline

1 Introduction

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- 2 Model-Based Reinforcement Learning
- 3 Integrated Architectures

4 Simulation-Based <u>Search</u>

Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Model-Based Reinforcement Learning
- 3 Integrated Architectures
- 4 Simulation-Based Search

Model-Based Reinforcement Learning

- Last lecture: learn policy directly from experience
- Previous lectures: learn value function directly from experience
- This lecture: learn model directly from experience
- and use planning to construct a value function or policy
- Integrate learning and planning into a single architecture

Model-Based and Model-Free RL

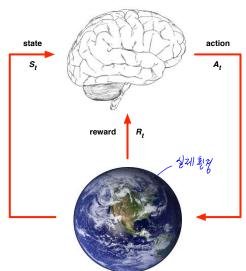
- Model-Free RL
 - No model
 - Learn value function (and/or policy) from experience

Model-Based and Model-Free RL

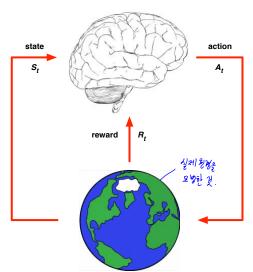
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- Model-Free RL
 - No model
 - Learn value function (and/or policy) from experience
 - Model-Based RL
 - Learn a model from experience
 - Plan value function (and/or policy) from model

Model-Free RL



Model-Based RL

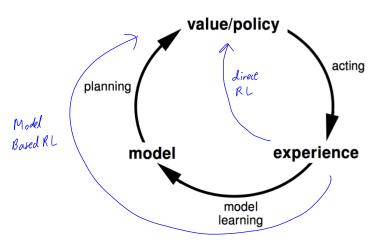


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- 2 Model-Based Reinforcement Learning
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Model-Based RL

MDP= 2= = 2 = 2 = 3=



Advantages of Model-Based RL

Advantages:

- Can efficiently learn model by supervised learning methods
- Can reason about model uncertainty

Disadvantages:

- First learn a model, then construct a value function
 - \Rightarrow two sources of approximation error

What is a Model?

■ A model \mathcal{M} is a representation of an MDP $\langle \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{P}, \mathcal{R} \rangle$, + \mathcal{T} parametrized by η of the η discounted discounted the probability of the η discounted discount

- lacktriangle We will assume state space ${\mathcal S}$ and action space ${\mathcal A}$ are known
- So a model $\mathcal{M} = \langle \mathcal{P}_{\eta}, \mathcal{R}_{\eta} \rangle$ represents state transitions $\mathcal{P}_{\eta} \approx \mathcal{P}$ and rewards $\mathcal{R}_{\eta} \approx \mathcal{R}$

$$S_{t+1} \sim \mathcal{P}_{\eta}(S_{t+1} \mid S_t, A_t) \ R_{t+1} = \mathcal{R}_{\eta}(R_{t+1} \mid S_t, A_t)$$

 Typically assume conditional independence between state transitions and rewards

$$\mathbb{P}[S_{t+1}, R_{t+1} \mid S_t, A_t] = \mathbb{P}[S_{t+1} \mid S_t, A_t] \mathbb{P}[R_{t+1} \mid S_t, A_t]$$

Model Learning

- Goal: estimate model \mathcal{M}_{η} from experience $\{S_1, A_1, R_2, ..., S_T\}$
- This is a supervised learning problem

$$S_1, A_1
ightarrow R_2, S_2 \ S_2, A_2
ightarrow R_3, S_3 \ dots \ S_{T-1}, A_{T-1}
ightarrow R_T, S_T$$

Learning $s, a \rightarrow r$ is a *regression* problem

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Supervised learning

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- Learning $s, a \rightarrow s'$ is a density estimation problem
- Pick loss function, e.g. mean-squared error, KL divergence, ...
- Find parameters η that minimise empirical loss প্রথা খু খুব রূপু না

Examples of Models

- Table Lookup Model
- Linear Expectation Model
- Linear Gaussian Model
- Gaussian Process Model
- Deep Belief Network Model
- ...

Table Lookup Model

- Model is an explicit MDP, $\hat{\mathcal{P}}, \hat{\mathcal{R}}$
- Count visits N(s, a) to each state action pair

$$\hat{\mathcal{P}}_{s,s'}^{a} = \frac{1}{N(s,a)} \sum_{t=1}^{T} \mathbf{1}(S_{t},A_{t},S_{t+1}=s,a,s')$$

$$\hat{\mathcal{R}}_{s}^{a} = \frac{1}{N(s,a)} \sum_{t=1}^{T} \mathbf{1}(S_{t},A_{t}=s,a) R_{t}$$

$$\hat{\mathcal{R}}_{s}^{a} = \frac{1}{N(s,a)} \sum_{t=1}^{T} \mathbf{1}(S_{t},A_{t}=s,a) R_{t}$$

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$$\hat{\mathcal{R}}_{s,s'}^{a} = \frac{1}{N(s,a)} \sum_{t=1}^{T} \mathbf{1}(S_{t},A_{t}=s,a) R_{t$$

- Alternatively

 - lacksquare To sample model, randomly pick tuple matching $\langle s,a,\cdot,\cdot
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AB Example

Two states A, B; no discounting; 8 episodes of experience

We have constructed a table lookup model from the experience

Planning with a Model

- Given a model $\mathcal{M}_{\eta} = \langle \mathcal{P}_{\eta}, \mathcal{R}_{\eta} \rangle$ Solve the MDP $\langle \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{A}, \underline{\mathcal{P}_{\eta}}, \mathcal{R}_{\eta} \rangle$
- Using favourite planning algorithm
 - Value iteration
 - Policy iteration
 - Tree search

Sample-Based Planning

- A simple but powerful approach to planning
- Use the model only to generate samples
- Sample experience from model

$$S_{t+1} \sim \mathcal{P}_{\eta}(S_{t+1} \mid S_t, A_t)$$

$$R_{t+1} = \mathcal{R}_{\eta}(R_{t+1} \mid S_t, A_t)$$

- Apply model-free RL to samples, e.g.:
 - Monte-Carlo control
 - Sarsa
 - Q-learning

Dynamic Programing - Naive Full buckup Sample backup- DPM wish 21-3914; AZEO Lo (use of dimonsionality & 8HM2

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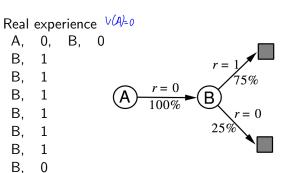
of samples model-free RI

Sample-based planning methods are often more efficient



Back to the AB Example

- Construct a table-lookup model from real experience
- Apply model-free RL to sampled experience



Sampled experience B, 1 B, 0 B, 1

V(A)=1

B, 1 A, 0, B, 1 B, 1

A, 0, B, 1 B, 1

В, (

e.g. Monte-Carlo learning: V(A) = 1, V(B) = 0.75

Planning with an Inaccurate Model

- Given an imperfect model $\langle \mathcal{P}_{\eta}, \mathcal{R}_{\eta} \rangle \neq \langle \mathcal{P}, \mathcal{R} \rangle$
- Performance of model-based RL is limited to optimal policy for approximate MDP $\langle \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{P}_{\eta}, \mathcal{R}_{\eta} \rangle$
- i.e. Model-based RL is only as good as the estimated model
- When the model is inaccurate, planning process will compute a suboptimal policy
- Solution 1: when model is wrong, use model-free RL
- Solution 2: reason explicitly about model uncertainty

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Real and Simulated Experience

We consider two sources of experience

Real experience Sampled from environment (true MDP)

$$S' \sim \mathcal{P}_{s,s'}^a$$

 $R = \mathcal{R}_s^a$

Simulated experience Sampled from model (approximate MDP)

$$S' \sim \mathcal{P}_{\eta}(S' \mid S, A)$$

 $R = \mathcal{R}_{\eta}(R \mid S, A)$

Integrating Learning and Planning

- Model-Free RL
 - No model
 - Learn value function (and/or policy) from real experience

Integrating Learning and Planning

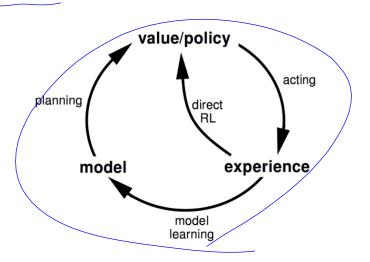
- Model-Free RL
 - No model
 - Learn value function (and/or policy) from real experience
- Model-Based RL (using Sample-Based Planning)
 - Learn a model from real experience
 - Plan value function (and/or policy) from simulated experience

Integrating Learning and Planning

- Model-Free RL
 - No model
 - Learn value function (and/or policy) from real experience
- Model-Based RL (using Sample-Based Planning)
 - Learn a model from real experience
 - Plan value function (and/or policy) from simulated experience
- Dyna
 - Learn a model from real experience
 - Learn and plan value function (and/or policy) from real and simulated experience

L Dyna

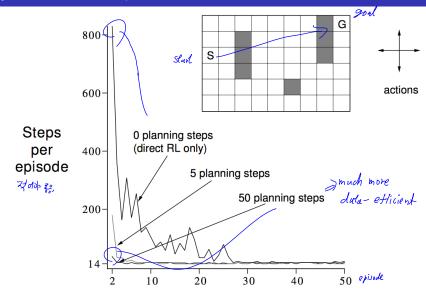
Dyna Architecture



Dyna-Q Algorithm

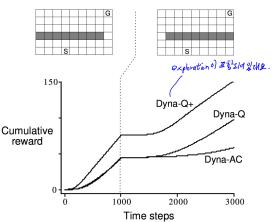
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Initialize Q(s, a) and Model(s, a) for all s \in S and a \in A(s)
        Do forever:
model free (a) S \leftarrow \text{current (nonterminal) state} (b) A \leftarrow \varepsilon\text{-greedy}(S,Q) (c) Execute action A; observe resultant reward, R, and state, S'
        (d) Q(S,A) \leftarrow Q(S,A) + \alpha [R + \gamma \max_{a} Q(S',a) - Q(S,A)]
  Model (S, A) \leftarrow R, S' (assuming deterministic environment)
            (f) Repeat n times: Planify 22 Q2 update &ch
                    S \leftarrow \text{random previously observed state}
                    A \leftarrow \text{random action previously taken in } S
                    R, S' \leftarrow Model(S, A)
                   Q(S, A) \leftarrow Q(S, A) + \alpha [R + \gamma \max_{a} Q(S', a) - Q(S, A)]
```

Dyna-Q on a Simple Maze



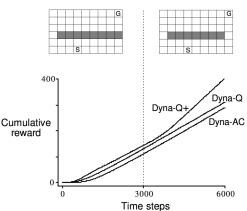
Dyna-Q with an Inaccurate Model

■ The changed environment is harder



Dyna-Q with an Inaccurate Model (2)

■ The changed environment is easier



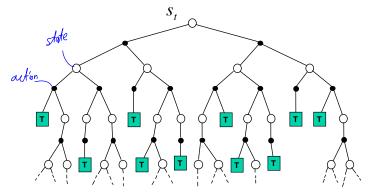
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Forward Search

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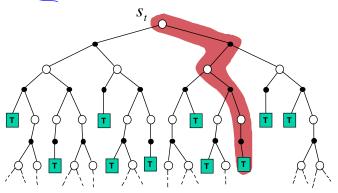
- Forward search algorithms select the best action by lookahead
- They build a search tree with the current state s_t at the root
- Using a model of the MDP to look ahead



■ No need to solve whole MDP, just sub-MDP starting from now

Simulation-Based Search

- Forward search paradigm using sample-based planning
- Simulate episodes of experience from now with the model
- Apply model-free RL to simulated episodes



Simulation-Based Search (2)

Simulate episodes of experience from now with the model

$$\{s_t^k, A_t^k, R_{t+1}^k, ..., S_T^k\}_{k=1}^K \sim \mathcal{M}_{\nu}$$

- Apply model-free RL to simulated episodes
 - Monte-Carlo control → Monte-Carlo search
 - \blacksquare Sarsa \rightarrow TD search

Simple Monte-Carlo Search

- Given a model \mathcal{M}_{ν} and a simulation policy π \mathcal{M} \mathcal{M}
- For each action $a \in A$
 - Simulate K episodes from current (real) state s_t

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{9.5. autim 11 day } & \text{real} & \text{Simulation} \\ \text{episode 484} & \{\underbrace{\textbf{5_t}, \textbf{a}}_{t+1}, \underbrace{R_{t+1}^k, S_{t+1}^k, A_{t+1}^k, ..., S_{T}^k}\}_{k=1}^K \sim \mathcal{M}_{\nu}, \pi \\ \end{array}$$

Evaluate actions by mean return (Monte-Carlo evaluation)

$$Q(s_t, a) = \frac{1}{K} \sum_{k=1}^{K} G_t \stackrel{P}{
ightarrow} q_{\pi}(s_t, a)$$

Select current (real) action with maximum value

$$a_t = \operatorname*{argmax}_{a \in \mathcal{A}} Q(s_t, a)$$

Monte-Carlo Tree Search (Evaluation)

M (TS
planning
forward search
simulation based
search
Monte Carlo Search

- lacksquare Given a model $\mathcal{M}_{
 u}$
- Simulate K episodes from current state s_t using current simulation policy π policy? Simulate.

$$\{\boldsymbol{s_t}, A_t^k, R_{t+1}^k, S_{t+1}^k, ..., S_T^k\}_{k=1}^K \sim \mathcal{M}_{\nu}, \pi$$

- Build a search tree containing visited states and actions
- **Evaluate** states Q(s, a) by mean return of episodes from s, a

$$Q(s,a) = \frac{1}{N(s,a)} \sum_{k=1}^{K} \sum_{u=t}^{T} \mathbf{1}(S_u, A_u = s, a) G_u \stackrel{P}{\rightarrow} q_{\pi}(s, a)$$

 After search is finished, select current (real) action with maximum value in search tree

$$a_t = \underset{a \in A}{\operatorname{argmax}} Q(s_t, a)$$

Monte-Carlo Tree Search (Simulation)

- In MCTS, the simulation policy π improves
- Each simulation consists of two phases (in-tree, out-of-tree)
 - Tree policy (improves): pick actions to maximise Q(S, A)
 - Default policy (fixed): pick actions randomly
- Repeat (each simulation)
 - **Evaluate** states Q(S, A) by Monte-Carlo evaluation
 - Improve tree policy, e.g. by ϵ greedy(Q)
- Monte-Carlo control applied to simulated experience
- lacksquare Converges on the optimal search tree, $Q(S,A) o q_*(S,A)$

Case Study: the Game of Go

- The ancient oriental game of Go is 2500 years old
- Considered to be the hardest classic board game
- Considered a grand challenge task for AI (John McCarthy)
- Traditional game-tree search has failed in Go



Rules of Go

- Usually played on 19x19, also 13x13 or 9x9 board
- Simple rules, complex strategy
- Black and white place down stones alternately
- Surrounded stones are captured and removed
- The player with more territory wins the game





Position Evaluation in Go

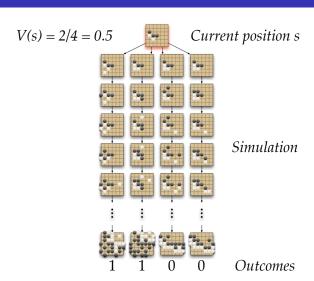
- How good is a position s?
- Reward function (undiscounted):

$$R_t = 0$$
 for all non-terminal steps $t < T$ $R_T = \left\{ egin{array}{ll} 1 & ext{if Black wins} \\ 0 & ext{if White wins} \end{array}
ight.$

- Policy $\pi = \langle \pi_B, \pi_W \rangle$ selects moves for both players
- Value function (how good is position *s*):

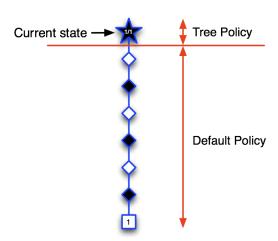
$$egin{aligned} v_\pi(s) &= \mathbb{E}_\pi\left[R_T \mid S = s
ight] = \mathbb{P}\left[\mathsf{Black\ wins} \mid S = s
ight] \ v_*(s) &= \max_{\pi_B} \min_{\pi_W} v_\pi(s) \end{aligned}$$

Monte-Carlo Evaluation in Go

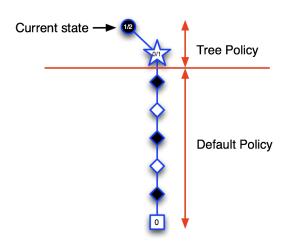


Applying Monte-Carlo Tree Search (1)

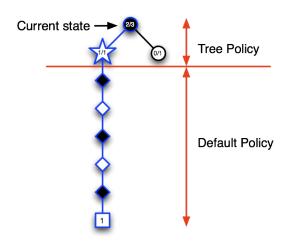
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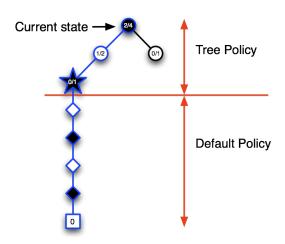
Applying Monte-Carlo Tree Search (2)



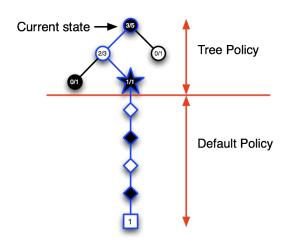
Applying Monte-Carlo Tree Search (3)



Applying Monte-Carlo Tree Search (4)



Applying Monte-Carlo Tree Search (5)

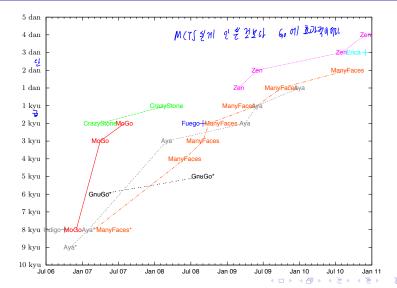


Advantages of MC Tree Search

- Highly selective best-first search
- Evaluates states dynamically (unlike e.g. DP)
- Uses sampling to break curse of dimensionality
- Works for "black-box" models (only requires samples)
- Computationally efficient, anytime, parallelisable

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Example: MC Tree Search in Computer Go



Temporal-Difference Search

- Simulation-based search
- Using TD instead of MC (bootstrapping)
- MC tree search applies MC control to sub-MDP from now
- TD search applies Sarsa to sub-MDP from now

MC vs. TD search

- For model-free reinforcement learning, bootstrapping is helpful
 - TD learning reduces variance but increases bias
 - TD learning is usually more efficient than MC
 - $\mathsf{TD}(\lambda)$ can be much more efficient than MC
- For simulation-based search, bootstrapping is also helpful
 - TD search reduces variance but increases bias
 - TD search is usually more efficient than MC search
 - $TD(\lambda)$ search can be much more efficient than MC search

TD Search

- Simulate episodes from the current (real) state s_t
- **E**stimate action-value function Q(s, a)
- For each step of simulation, update action-values by Sarsa

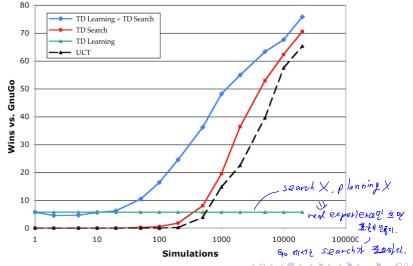
$$\Delta Q(S,A) = \alpha (R + \gamma Q(S',A') - Q(S,A))$$

- Select actions based on action-values Q(s, a)
 - \blacksquare e.g. ϵ -greedy
- May also use function approximation for Q

Dyna-2

- In Dyna-2, the agent stores two sets of feature weights
 - Long-term memory
 - Short-term (working) memory
- Long-term memory is updated from real experience using TD learning
 - General domain knowledge that applies to any episode
- Short-term memory is updated from simulated experience using TD search
 - Specific local knowledge about the current situation
- Over value function is sum of long and short-term memories

Results of TD search in Go



Temporal-Difference Search

Questions?