

# POMDPFiles.jl

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# Contents

<b>Contents</b>	<b>ii</b>
<b>I Home</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1 Home</b>	<b>2</b>
1.1 Types . . . . .	2
1.2 Functions . . . . .	3

**Part I**

**Home**

# Chapter 1

## Home

This is the first page of my documentation.

### 1.1 Types

POMDPFiles.ContainerNames - Type.

ContainerNames

names: **Vector**{**String**} - a vector with the names of the actions, states, or observations.  
number: **Int** - the number of actions, states, or observations.

This type was created to store the names and number of actions, states, and observations when  
↪ parsed from the preamble of a .pomdp file format.

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POMDPFiles.InitialStateParam - Type.

InitialStateParam was created to store the initial state distribution of a POMDP. The  
↪ distribution can be of any type, but it is stored as a vector of **Float64** values.

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POMDPFiles.SFilePOMDP - Type.

SFilePOMDP is used whenever the names of the states, actions, and observations are known. It is  
↪ used to represent a POMDP problem from a file.

dic\_states: dictionary with the names of the states  
dic\_actions: dictionary with the names of the actions  
dic\_obs: dictionary with the names of the observations  
pomdp: FilePOMDP structure

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POMDPFiles.FilePOMDP – Type.

FilePOMDP is the main data structure of the package. It is used to represent a POMDP problem  
↪ from a file.

```

ns: number of states
na: number of actions
no: number of observations

support_initialstate: support of the initial state distribution
initialstate_distribution: initial state distribution

discount: discount factor

T: transition matrix
O: observation matrix
R: reward matrix

```

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## 1.2 Functions

POMDPFiles.test\_if\_probability – Function.

```
test_if_probability(prob::Union{Vector{Float64}, Vector{Nothing}, Nothing}; rtol=1e-3)
```

Built-in function that tests whether a vector is a probability distribution. It checks if the  
↪ elements are between 0 and 1 and if the sum of the elements is approximately 1. The function  
↪ returns true if the vector is a probability distribution and false otherwise.

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POMDPFiles.read\_pomdp – Function.

Read a .pomdp file following the specification at <http://www.pomdp.org/code/pomdp-file-spec.html>  
↪ and returns a FilePOMDP or SFilePOMDP object that can be used within the POMDPs.jl  
↪ interface.

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Base.write – Function.

Writes out the alpha vectors in the .alpha file format

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Write out a .pomdp file using the POMDPs.jl interface Specification: <http://cs.brown.edu/research/ai/pomdp/examples/pomdp-file-spec.html> A more recent version of the spec: <https://pomdp.org/code/pomdp-file-spec.html>

[source](#)

POMDPFiles.prob – Function.

value returns the a vector with the initial state distribution.

source

POMDPFiles.number - Function.

number returns the number of actions, states, or observations **in** the ContainerNames object.

source

number returns the number of states **in** the initial state distribution.

source

POMDPFiles.remove\_comments\_and\_white\_space - Function.

remove\_comments\_and\_white\_space(file::Vector{String}) is used by read\_pomdp to remove comments  
 ↪ and white spaces from the file. This **function** allows **for** some standardization of process of  
 ↪ parsing files.

source

POMDPFiles.read\_alpha - Function.

Read a ``.alpha`` file as generated by pomdp-solve.  
 Works the same was as ``read_pomdp` in `POMDPXFile.jl``.

The ``.alpha`` file format is recapped here as follows,  
 see: <http://www.pomdp.org/code/alpha-file-spec.html>

A set of vectors is the representation use **for** the value **function** and each vector has an action associated with it. The vectors represent the coefficients of a hyperplane passing through the origin. The format specified here is what is output from the ``pomdp-solve`` program and what will be necessary **for** input to the ``pomdp-solve`` program with the ``-terminal_values`` command line option.

The format is simply:

```
A
V1 V2 V3 ... VN
```

```
A
V1 V2 V3 ... VN
```

```
...
```

Where ``A`` is an action number and the ``V1`` through ``VN`` are real values

representing the components of a particular vector that has the associated action. The action number is the 0-based index of the action as specified **in** the input POMDP file. The vector represents the coefficients of a hyperplane representing one facet of the piecewise linear and convex value **function**. Note that the length of the lists needs to be equal to the number of states **in** the POMDP.

To find which action is the **"best"** **for** a given set of alpha vectors, the belief state probabilities would be used **in** a dot product against each alpha vectors' coefficients. The action associated with the vector with the highest value is the best action to take **for** that belief state given the value **function**.

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POMDPs.states - Function.

Implementing the functions required by the POMDP interface. See  
 ↪ [POMDPs.jl](https://juliapomdp.github.io/POMDPs.jl/latest/) **for** more details on the  
 ↪ interface.

[source](#)

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 ↪ interface.

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POMDPFiles.convert\_to\_data\_structure - Function.

convert\_to\_data\_structure(field::**String**, preamble::**Dict{String,String}**) is used by read\_pomdp to  
 ↪ convert the information **in** the preamble into an intermediate format before passing it into a  
 ↪ ContainerNames object.

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POMDPFiles.check\_preamble\_fields - Function.

check\_preamble\_fields(preamble::**String**) is used by read\_pomdp to check **if** the preamble of the  
 ↪ file has all the necessary fields. An error is issued **if** one of the fields **"discount"**,  
 ↪ **"values"**, **"states"**, **"actions"**, or **"observations"** is **missing**.

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POMDPFiles.support - Function.

support returns the support of the initial state distribution.

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POMDPFiles.process\_preamble - Function.

```
process_preamble(preamble::Dict{String, String}) is used by read_pomdp to process the preamble
↳ of the file and check if the fields "discount", "values", "states", "actions", and
↳ "observations" have the correct syntax. The output are the discount, values, actions,
↳ states, and observations parameters, where actions, states, and observations are converted
↳ into ContainerNames objects.
```

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POMDPFiles.order\_of\_transition\_reward\_observation - Function.

```
order_of_transition_reward_observation(file_lines::Vector{String}, start_line::Int64) is used by
↳ read_pomdp to find the order of the transition, reward, and observation matrices in the
↳ file.
```

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