

## PAGE 0: RECONFIGURABLE REINFORCEMENT LEARNING NETWORKS

In humans, the process of learning is not only driven by the environment and structure of the brain. The development of the brain-structure itself defines what learning may take place; thus the conditions and patterns which direct brain formation are primary and total for the success of learning. As artificial intelligence research continually generates and publishes on novel structures discovered by humans, this work is centered around how the novel structures can be discovered using RLNs. This subject is frequently included in the subject of general intelligence, and is famous for both its philosophical and computational complexity, as well as its difficulty in finding funding. There have been previous works on this subject, such as [Consciousness as a State of Matter] [] [].

Specifically, this work presents a unification method for online learning (via Reinforcement Learning) and offline learning (via Backpropagation). In the most general sense, this work demonstrates an approach to the self-structuring of parametric models. First, it is reviewed that Concurrent Markov Decision Processes (CMDPs) can model parametric structure and facilitate optimal behaviour even when subject to large state spaces and generous state uncertainty. Second, it is shown that a variation of CMDPs called Reconfigurable Learning Networks (RLNs) can learn parametric decision networks. RLNs in structure and behaviour turn out to be equivalent to the structure and behaviour of feed-forward neural networks. Lastly, a few empirical examples are demonstrated, beginning with the MINST dataset. Two main contributions are made: First, RLNs can be trained online and offline, using Reinforcement Learning and then Backpropagation; online learning stimulates network growth and adaptation immediately, whereas backpropagation seems to be an ideal phase for network pruning. Second, an RLN can achieve empirical success even when the reward function for the system is changed dynamically. Thus both a degree of empirical success and general learning have been achieved.

In order for a generally intelligent system to operate, solutions to several open problems need to be solved analytically and/or heuristically. In this work, we present the related problem categories in the Introduction (Section 1), and include background on each area. Second, most of this work is focused around the reconfiguration of existing MDP models, so Section 2, Mapping, includes work on transfer learning and analytical analysis. Third, we express how convergence of behaviour policies can be preserved despite online RLN restructuring (Section 3). The tradeoff between network structure and computation time in learning is expressed analytically (Section 4). Lastly, it is shown that RLNs are actually just feed-forward Neural Networks, which adds the ability to use back propagation and other techniques on discovered models (Section 5).

In this work due to the difficulty of the subject matter initially, models are assumed noiseless and stochastically stable. It is expected that later work will broaden this work by considering state uncertainty, and non-stationary problems.

## NOTATION

In general, most online optimization problems can be expressed as fully observable Markov Decision Processes (MDPs) as  $\langle S, A, T, R, \pi \rangle$  tuples:

- $S \subseteq R^n$ : A discrete collection of states.

- $A \subseteq R^n$ : A discrete collection of actions.
- $T(s'|a, s) \in R$ : A stably stochastic transition function, where  $\sum_{s \in S} T(s|a, s') = 1$
- $R(s'|a, s) \in R$ : A stable stochastic reward function
- $\pi : S \times A \rightarrow R$ : A non-negative behaviour policy with the general property,  $\sum_{a \in A} \pi(s, a) = 1$

In general, we can express behaviour in this domain as a policy  $\pi : S \rightarrow R$  [**? looked like this, but would  $\pi : S \rightarrow A$  make more sense?**]. Particular attention is given to the optimal strategy.

In prior work the issue of tractability and subsequent decomposition have been articulated. In this work the subject of learning and generalizing this decomposition work into a General framework is discussed.

Ⓐ Theory	{	Section 1: Background & Introduction	Background of relevant research & RLN introduction
		Section 2: Mapping	a generalized set of mapping & deconstruction operations (parent, child)
		Section 3: Convergence (16):	parent, child, reward optimization, complexity
		Section 4: Worst Case Performance (23):	system behaviour with malformed problems
Ⓑ NN paper	{	Section 5: Neural Networks (24):	RRLN are just feed forward Neural Networks
		$\hookrightarrow (N.)$	

Special topics:

Temporal Difference (A1): how to discover & change time basis/scale

Transitional Learning (A2): how to re-use and generalize transitional models

Financial Systems (A3): how to use with financial systems

Origins (E1-E4): original examples and sketches

Transitional Encoding (E5-E6): Continuous Gaussian mixture models & applications

# 1 BACKGROUND AND INTRODUCTION

## INTRODUCTION: A RECONFIGURABLE REINFORCEMENT LEARNING METHOD

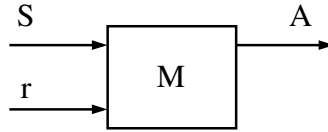
### 1.1 RLN MDP structure

The general approach that is taken to form an RLN is “split” one single MDP into parent and child processes. Doing so assumes the two process are partly independent [CMDP].

1. Largely, the models may be independent.
2. The child and parent may include elements of each other’s MDP definition in their own definition.

This section focuses on framing a model. In Sections ?? and later, subjects related to behavior optimality, convergence, and computational complexity are considered.

In order to consider the formation of a reconfigurable reinforcement network, it is required to analytically group all aspects of a process and a behavior policy into one tuples.



To do this, assume a Markov decision process  $M$  which can be internally modeled as a tuple  $M = \langle S, A, T, R, \pi, \tilde{T}, \tilde{R} \rangle$

$S$  – a set of states  $s \in S$  which may be experienced by  $M$

$A$  – a set of actions  $a \in A$  that may be executed

$T$  – a true transitional probability,  $T(s'|a, s)$  expressing the probability of executing an action  $a$  in state  $s$  before ending up in later state  $s'$ .

$R$  – is a reward function which quantifies how desirable a transition  $R(s'|a, s)$  is.  $R : S \times A \times S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$

$\tilde{T}$  – is the current model of  $T$ . The goal of  $\tilde{T}$  is thus  $\tilde{T} \sim T$

$\tilde{R}$  – is the predicted reward of the system, constructed from observation of  $R$ , s.t.  $\tilde{R} \rightarrow R$ .

$\pi$  – is an action selection policy, ideally chosen to maximize expected reward, an optimal policy is denoted  $\pi^*$ .

Ideally

$$\pi^*(s) = \arg \max_a \sum_{s'} \underbrace{R(s'|a, s)T(s'|a, s) + \gamma V(s')}_{\text{expected reward}}$$

and

$$\tilde{\pi}(s) = \arg \max_a \sum_{s'} \tilde{R}(s'|a, s)\tilde{T}(s'|a, s) + \gamma \tilde{V}(s')$$

[Note that  $\tilde{V}$  hasn’t been defined in the previous equation.]

### ENCODING

$$\pi^*(s) = \arg \max_a \sum_{s'} R(s'|s, a)T(s'|s, a) + \gamma V(s')$$

where

$$V(s) = \sum_{s'} R(s'|s, a)T(s'|s, a) + V(s').$$

A bellman backup can be used [Bellman backup]. In online applications stochastic gradient descent can be applied to regress to locally optimal solutions. This allows estimation of optimal policy

$$\pi^*(s) = \arg \max_a Q(s, a) .$$

To encode the expected reward over all states, typically  $Q$ -values are kept:  $Q(s, a) \sim \sum R(s'|a, s)T(s'|a, s) + \gamma V(s')$  and  $Q_{t+1}(s, a) \leftarrow Q_t(s, a) + \alpha (R(s'|a, s) - Q_t(s, a) + \gamma \arg \max_{a'} Q(s', a'))$ .

To render the process  $M$  separable, it is necessary to decouple the transitional values  $T$  from the reward values  $R$ . Thus, to directly encode  $Q(s, a)$  using  $\pi$  is prohibitive.

knowing:

$$Q : S \times A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$$

indirect encoding:

$$\pi : \{S \times A \times S \times \mathbb{N} | R\} \rightarrow Q$$

If the definitions of  $S$  or  $A$  change, then  $Q$  must be reinitialized. Alternatively,  $\tilde{T}$  and  $\tilde{R}$  are defined as intermediate encoding functions. Thus we define

$$\pi : \{S \times A \times S \times \mathbb{N}\} \rightarrow \tilde{T}, \tilde{R}, Q$$

simple transition

$$\tilde{T}_{t+1}(s'|s, a) = \frac{\text{freq}(s'|s, a)}{\text{freq}(s, a)}$$

simple reward

$$\tilde{R}_{t+1}(s'|s, a) = \tilde{R}(s'|s, a) + \alpha_R (\tilde{R}(s'|s, a) - R(s'|s, a))$$

$$f_Q : \tilde{T}_t \times \tilde{R}_t \rightarrow Q_t$$

In this paper we rely on a method of extracting dynamic  $Q$ -values from an encoded transition and reward function  $(\tilde{T}, \tilde{R})$ . The motivation for this encoding is that it allows mapping the transition function into multiple spaces, and allows the reward function to be altered. The significance of this finding is covered in ??? Price wash ???.

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## 2 RECONFIGURATION

Reconfiguring ??? Process  $M$  allows some intractable MDPs to be rendered tractable. As an example, a three dimensional foraging experiment with three thousand positions on the  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$  axes respectively will consume over three billion memory locations and may be impossible to explore. If this system is broken into three sub problems, each targets a special axis, the only nine thousand memory locations need be consumed. This decreases memory requirements by an exponential factor.

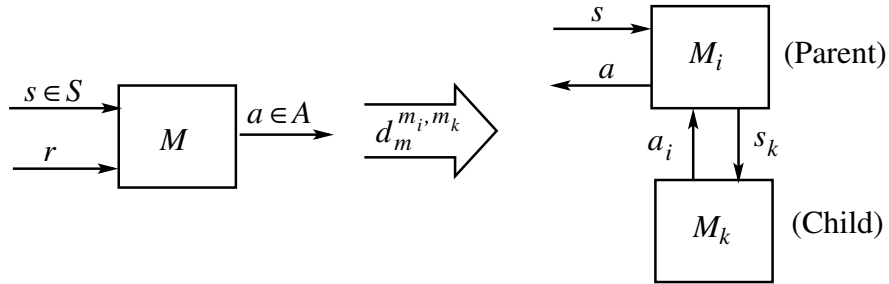
This paper presents a method of decomposition that, when followed, introduces no degeneration of the found policy  $\pi^*(s, a)$ . The summary of these conditions is presented.

## SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS

## INTRODUCTION TO APPROACH

$$d_M^{M_i, M_k} = M \longrightarrow \left\{ M_i, M_k \left| \begin{array}{l} S_i \times (S_k/s_i) = S, S_k \times (S_i/s_k) = S \\ A = A_i \cup A_k \\ \tilde{T} \sim d^{-1}(d(\tilde{T})), d(\tilde{T}) = \tilde{T}_i, \tilde{T}_k \\ \tilde{R} \sim d^{-1}(d(\tilde{R})), d(\tilde{R}) = \tilde{R}_i, \tilde{R}_k \end{array} \right. \right\}$$

where  $d, d$  represent belief mapping functions that decompose and recompose mapping functions. This allows ??? to be mapped as new spaces and observes are encountered. The decomposition process breaks one MDP into a parent and child:



**PAGE 7**

The system can be broken into the following MDP definitions

 $M_i$  – Parent

$S_i$  – a collection of states,  $s_i \in S_i$

$A_i$  – a collection of actions,  $a_i \in A_i$

$$\left. \begin{array}{c} \tilde{T} \\ \tilde{R} \end{array} \right\} \text{ Covered Pages on BII p12-14}$$

$P(s'_i | s_i, a_i)$  is observed directly

$$R_t \left( \begin{array}{c|cc} s'_i & & s_i \\ a'_k & a_i & a_k \end{array} \right) = R_t \left( \begin{array}{ccc} s'_i & a_i & s_i \\ s'_k & a_k & s_k \end{array} \right)$$

$S, T_i, S_k, S'_k$  are not directly observable

ii)  $a_k = \pi_k(s_k)$

iii)  $a'_k = \pi_k(s_k)$

iiii)  $(s_k, s'_k)$  chosen indirectly by  $\pi_k(\cdot)$  in a manner that

$$\boxed{A^*} \longrightarrow E[R_{t+1}(\cdot)] \geq E[R_t(\cdot)]$$

 $M_k$  – child

$S'_i$  – all child states,  $s_k \in S_k$

$a_k \in A_k$

$P(s'_k | s_k, a_k)$

$R_t(s'_k, a_k, s_k) = R_t \left( \begin{array}{c} s_i \\ s'_k, a_k, s_k \end{array} \right)$  s.t.  $s_i, s'_i$  are chosen by another process, and

$$\boxed{A^*} \longrightarrow E[R_{t+1}(\cdot)] \geq E[R_t(\cdot)]$$

**PAGE 8**Definitions

$$\underline{M} \quad S = (S_i/S_k) \times (S_k/S_i)$$

$$A = A_i \cup A_k$$

$$T = P(S \times A \times S)$$

$$R = \text{real, positive, convergent stochastic as } t \rightarrow \infty$$

$$R(s', a, s) = R \begin{pmatrix} s'_i & a_i & s_i \\ s'_k & a_k & s_k \end{pmatrix}$$

Parent MDP

$$\underline{M}_i \quad S_i, s_i \in S_i$$

$$a_i \in A_i$$

$$P \begin{pmatrix} s'_i & a_i & s_i \\ a'_k & a_k & s_k \end{pmatrix}$$

$$R_t \begin{pmatrix} s'_i & a_i & s_i \\ a'_k & a_k & s_k \end{pmatrix} = R_t \begin{pmatrix} s'_i & a_i & s_i \\ s'_k & a_k & s_k \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{s.t. } s_k, s'_k \text{ are not directly observable}$$

$$a_k = \pi_k(s_k)$$

$$a'_k = \pi_k(s'_k)$$

\* ————— assume  $s_k, s'_k$  chosen s.t. as  $t \rightarrow \infty \quad E[R_{t+1}(\cdot)] \geq E[R_t(\cdot)]$

Child MDP

$$\underline{M}_k \quad S_k, s_k \in S_k$$

$$a_k \in A_k$$

$$P(s'_k | s_k, a_k)$$

$$R_t(s'_k, a_k, s_k) = R_t \begin{pmatrix} s'_i & a_i & s_i \\ s'_k & a_k & s_k \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{s.t. } s_i, s'_i \text{ are chosen by another process}$$

$$a_i = \pi_i(s_i)$$

\* time monotonicity assumed.

**PAGE 9**Basic mapping requirements

$$S_i, S_j, S_k: \quad S_j \times (S_k/S_j) \supseteq S_i, \quad S_k \times (S_j/S_k) \supseteq S_i$$

$$A_i, A_j, A_k: \quad A_i \subseteq A_j \cup A_k$$

$T_i, R_i \sim$  unknown/unknowable, stable decomposition

more  $\rightarrow$  
 assumed  
 \* important to select so that  $\tilde{T}_i$  &  $\tilde{T}_k$  seem independent

$$\exists f_1 : \tilde{T}_i \rightarrow \tilde{T}_j, \tilde{T}_k, \text{invertible}; \tilde{T}_i = f_1 \left( f^{-1} \left( \tilde{T}_i \right) \right)$$

$$\exists f_2 : \tilde{R}_i \rightarrow \tilde{R}_j, \tilde{R}_k, \text{invertible}; \tilde{R}_i = f_2 \left( f_2^{-1} \left( \tilde{R}_i \right) \right)$$

(Network approach)

Parent/child augmentation

$j$  – parent     $k$  – child

$$\tilde{R}_j \leftarrow E[\tilde{R}_k]$$

$$s_j \in S_j \leftarrow \{S_j, a_k = \pi_k(\cdot)\}$$

Continuous  
 (Now)

old approach  
  
 Brech  
 Reword  
 (BI, p.72)



**PAGE 11**Total Mapping

$$* A_R = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{State 1, State 2, Action 1, Action 2} \\ \text{merge, time up, time down} \end{array} \right\}$$

Given  $S \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , define dimensions  $\{i_s\}_{i_s=1}^n$

$A \in \mathbb{N}^m$ , define dimensions  $\{i_r\}_{i_r=1}^m$

Then, with an initial MDP  $M = \langle S, A, T, R, \pi, M_R \rangle$ , all possible “sub mdps”  $M_1, M_2, M_3, \dots$  represent the family of MDPs which can be created from  $M$ ,  $\mathcal{P}(M) = \{M_x | S_x \subseteq S, A_x \subseteq A, R, \pi \text{ from MDPs } ???\}$  and each member  $M_x$  is characterized by a language  $J_{sx} \subseteq \{i_s\}_{i_s=1}^n$  or  $J_{sy} \subseteq \{i_r\}_{i_r=1}^m$  where  $J_{sx} \times J_{sy}$  defines a space  $S_R$ , for the reconfiguration MDP to explore, with actions from  $A_R$ .

$$J \left| \begin{array}{l} \text{Reward is defined as average expected reward over an epoch } e. \\ \text{in terms of transition} \end{array} \right.$$

$$* S_R = \mathcal{P}(\{i_s\}_{i_s=1}^n) \times \mathcal{P}(\{i_r\}_{i_r=1}^m) \quad \leftarrow \text{exponential increase in space (stupid!)}$$

Problems 1) exponential space consumption

2) how to handle chaining/nesting

3) how to structure action choice policy

## PAGE 12

### Mapping function rewards

Given  $(S_{\text{map}}, A_{\text{map}}, T_{\text{map}}, R_{\text{map}}^i, \pi_{\text{map}})$ , applied to  $M = \langle S_x, A_x, \tilde{T}_x, R_x, \tilde{\pi}_x \rangle$ , we may trivially define  $M_y = \langle S_y, A_y, \tilde{T}_y, R_y, \pi_y \rangle$  in a method consistent with Bush, p. 74, with  $M_x$  being the parent process and  $M_y$  being the child.

- a) for  $R_{\text{map}}^i$ , there are five versions  $i \in \{1, \dots, 5\}$
- b) Given  $M_x, M_y$ , a merge is also possible, so recovering  $M$
- c) we can perform temporal Sink actions on an MDP (Book I, p. 88)
  - $\hookrightarrow$  reduce resolution
  - $\hookrightarrow$  re-increase resolution

### Actions

$\therefore$  Seven “actions” can be performed on an MDP:  $(M_R)$

???

$$\left\{ R_{\text{map}}^i \right\}_{i=0}^5 \cup \{\text{merge}\} \times \left\{ \text{scale up}^i \right\}_{i=0}^5 \cup \{\text{normal}\} \cup \{\emptyset\}$$

### Reward

$$R(s', a, s) = \sum_{l \in e} R(l) \quad \text{reward during a trajectory}$$

$e$  = epoch

### Transition

-easy to explain in MS Word

$$T = \begin{cases} 1 - \text{allow ???} \\ 0 - \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

**PAGE 13**Reward function mapping (5 way)

knowing  $R(\{s_x, s_y\}|a, \{s'_x, s'_y\}) = R(s|a, s)$

1) Average method:

$$R(s'_x|a, s_x) = \underbrace{\sum_{s_y} \sum_{s'_y} R(\{s'_x, s'_y\}|a, \{s_x, s_y\})}_{|S_y|^2}$$

$m \in \{\max, \min\}$

$m' \in \{\max, \min\}$

max, max 2) max method!

max, min 3) min

4)  $R(s'_x|a, s_x) = m \quad m' \quad s_x \in S_x \quad s'_y \in S_y \quad R(\{s'_x, s'_y\}|a, \{s_x, s_y\})$

min, max 5)

min, min

6)

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Mapping Policy (1 way)

finding:  $f\tilde{\pi}(s) \rightarrow f\tilde{\pi}(s_y)$

$$\tilde{\pi}(a_y|s_y) \leftarrow \sum_{s_x} \sum_{a_x} \tilde{\pi}(\{a_x, a_y\}|\{s_x, s_y\}) P(s_x)$$

**PAGE 15**Action mapping (1 way)

Next, we can consider an action mapping where actions from  $A$  can be randomly assigned to  $A_x, A_y$ :  $A_x \leftarrow \{a \in A' | A' \subseteq A\}$ ,  $A_x, A_y \subseteq A$ ,  $A_x \cup A_y = A$ ,  $A_x \neq \{\}$ ,  $A_y \neq \{\}$ .

General approach: High reward for ???ve states

Given  $\tau \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\pi(a|s)$ ,  $\tilde{Q}(a, s)$  then

$$A_x \leftarrow A_x \cup \left\{ a \left| \underbrace{\pi(a|s) \tilde{Q}(a, s)}_{\text{condition}} > \tau \right. \right\}$$

or, more usefully/generally

$$A_x \leftarrow A_x \cup \left\{ a \left| \underbrace{\left( \pi(a | S_s^{R'}) \right) \tilde{Q}(a, S^{*'})}_{\text{condition}} > \tau \right. \right\}$$

where

$$S_s^{*'} = \{S' | S/s_s^* \neq S\} \quad (\text{see p. 12})$$

Condition options:

$$\text{*reformulation over set } S \text{ vs. } s \in S \quad \begin{cases} \text{a) } \pi(a|s) \tilde{Q}(a, s) > \tau & \dots \text{ High reward} \\ \text{b) } \pi(a|s) \tilde{Q}(a, s) > \tau, \quad \pi(a|s) > 0 & \dots \text{ small reward} \end{cases}$$

Transition function mapping: knowing  $s_x \in S_x, s_y \in S_y$  (1 way)

Goal  $\exists f : P(S_x | A, S_x) \leftarrow P(S_x | A, S)$

knowing  $P(S_x \times S_y | A_x \cup A_y, S_x \times S_y) = P(S | A, S)$

Clearly:

$$P(s'_x | s_x, a_x) = \sum_{s'_y} \sum_{a_y} \sum_{s_y} P(s'_x, s'_y | s_x, s_y, a_x, a_y) P(a_y | S_y) P(s_y)$$

$$\therefore \tilde{T}(s'_x | s_x, a_x) = \sum_{s'_y} \sum_{a_y} \sum_{s_y} \tilde{T}(s' | a, s) \underbrace{\tilde{\pi}(a_y | s_y)}_{\text{require policy mapping}} P(s_y)$$

## PAGE 15.1

### MDP Policy Decomposition

$$\pi^*(s) = \arg \max_a \sum_{s'} R(s, a, s') P(s'|s, a) + \gamma V(s')$$

Given  $\pi_i^*(S_i, A_k), \pi_k^*(S_k)$

$$1. \quad \pi^*(s_i, s_k) = \arg \max_{a_i, a_k} \sum_{s'_i} \sum_{s'_k} R((s_i, s_k), (a_i, a_k), (s'_i, s'_k)) P((s'_i, s'_k)|(s_i, s_k), (a_i, a_k))$$

\* Lemma 1

–augmentation with  $a_k$  where  $a'_k = \pi^*(s'_k)$

$$2. \quad \pi^*(s_i, s_k) = \arg \max_{a_i, a_k} \sum_{s'_i} \sum_{s'_k} R((s_i, s_k, a_k), (a_i, a_k), (s'_i, s'_k, a'_k)) P((s'_i, s'_k, a'_k)|(s_i, s_k), (a_i, a_k))$$

\* Lemma 2 – Simplification

$$* \quad \overbrace{\arg \max_{a_i, a_k} \equiv \arg \max_{a_i} \arg \max_{a_k}}^{\text{separability}} \text{ assume}$$

$$3. \quad \pi^*(s_i, s_k) = \arg \max_{a_i, a_k} \sum_{s'_i} R((s_i, a_k), (a_i, a_k), (s'_i, a'_k)) P(s'_i, a'_k|(a_i, a_k), (s_i, s_k))$$

Lemma 3

\* separation of  $a_k$ , and  $a_k \leftarrow \pi_k^*(s_k)$

$$4. \quad \pi^*(s_i, s_k) = \left( \arg \max_{a_i} \sum_{s'_i} R((s_i, a_k), a_i, (s'_i, a'_k)) P(s'_i, a'_k|a_i, (s_i, s_k)) \right)$$

\* Lemma 4

$$a_i = \pi_i^*(s_i) \longrightarrow \cup \left( \arg \max_{a_k} \sum_{s'_k} R(s_k, a_k, s'_k, a'_k) P(s'_k|a_k, s_k) \right)$$

$$5. \quad \pi^*(s_i, s_k) = \pi_i^*(s_i, a_k) \cup P(s_k)$$

## PAGE 15.2

### MDP Policy Decomposition

$$\pi^*(s) = \arg \max_a \sum_{s'} R(s, a, s') P(s'|s, a) + \gamma V(s)$$

Given  $\pi_i^*(S_i, A_k), \pi^*(S_k)$

$$1. \quad \pi^*(s_i, s_k) = \arg \max_{a_i, a_k} \sum_{s'_i} \sum_{s'_k} R((s_i, s_k), (a_i, a_k), (s'_i, s'_k)) P((s'_i, s'_k) | (s_i, s_k), (a_i, a_k))$$

Note:  $R((s_i, s_k, a_k), (a_i, a_k), (s'_i, s'_k)) \leftarrow R((s_i, s_k), (a_i, a_k), (s'_i, s'_k))$

$R((s_i, s_k, a_k), (a_i, a_k), (s'_i, s'_k, a'_k)) \leftarrow R((s_i, s_k), (a_i, a_k), (s'_i, s'_k))$

\*assume separability  $\longrightarrow$

$$2. \quad \pi^*(s_i, s_k) = \arg \max_{a_i} \arg \max_{a_k} \sum_{s'_i} \sum_{s'_k} R((s_i, s_k, a_k), (a_i, a_k), (s'_i, s'_k, a'_k)) P((s'_i, s'_k, a'_k) | \cdot)$$

$$= \arg \max_{a_i} \sum_{s'_i} \sum_{s'_k} R \left( (s_i, s_k, a_k), \begin{array}{c|c} a_i & s'_i \\ s'_k & s'_k \\ a'_k & a'_k \end{array} \right) P \left( \begin{array}{c|c} s'_i & s_i \\ s'_k & a_i, s_k \\ a'_k & a_k \end{array} \right) \\ \cup \arg \max_{a_k} \sum_{s'_k} R \left( \begin{array}{c|c} s_i & a_i \\ s_k & a_k \\ a_k & a'_k \end{array}, \begin{array}{c} s'_i \\ s'_k \\ a'_k \end{array} \right) P \left( \begin{array}{c|c} s'_i & s_i \\ s'_k & a_i, s_k \\ a'_k & a_k \end{array} \right)$$

$$* \quad \text{let } a_k^* = \arg \max_{a_k} \sum_{s'_k} R \left( \begin{array}{c|c} s_i & a_i \\ s_k & a_k \\ a_k & a'_k \end{array}, \begin{array}{c} s'_i \\ s'_k \\ a'_k \end{array} \right) P \left( \begin{array}{c|c} s'_i & s_i \\ s_k & a_i, s_k \\ a_k & a_k \end{array} \right)$$

$$\text{s. t. } s_i, s'_i \leftarrow \pi_i^*(s)$$

$$a_i^* = \pi_i^*(s)$$

$$3. \quad = \arg \max_{a_i} \sum_{s'_i} R \left( \begin{array}{c|c} s_i & a_k \\ a_k & a_k^* \end{array}, \begin{array}{c} s'_i \\ a'_k \end{array} \right) P \left( \begin{array}{c|c} s'_i & a_i, s_i \\ a'_k & a_k^* \end{array} \right) \cup \pi_k^*(s_k) = a_k$$

$$= \pi_i^*(s_i | \pi_k^*) \cup \pi_k^*(s_k)$$

## PAGE 16

## Parent Policy Convergence

For the Parent MDP  $M_k$

–from definition  $E[R_t(s'_k|a_k, s_k)] \geq E[R_{t+1}(s'_k|a_k, s_k)]$

$$R_t(s'_i|a'_i, s'_i) = R \left( \begin{array}{c|cc} s'_i & a_i & s_i \\ s'_k & a_k & s_k \end{array} \right)$$

- i.  $a_k = \pi_k(s_k)$   
 $(s'_k, s_k)$  result from  $a_i$  s.t.
- ii.  $s'_k \sim T(S_k|\pi_i(s_k), s_k)$
- iii.  $s_k \sim T(S_k|\pi_i(s_k^*), s_k^*)$

A)

$$\boxed{*} - \pi_k(\cdot) \text{ is effective: } E \left[ R \left( \begin{array}{c|cc} s'_i & a_i & s_i \\ s'_k & a_k^* & s_k \end{array} \right) \right] \geq E \left[ R \left( \begin{array}{c|cc} s'_i & A_i & s_i \\ s'_k & A_k & s_k \end{array} \right) \right]$$

$$\exists a_i, a_k^* \leftarrow \pi_k(s_k)$$

B)

$\boxed{*} - \pi_k(\cdot)$  is convergent:

$$E \left[ R_{t+1} \left( \cdot \middle| \pi_{t+1}^k, \cdot \right) \right] \geq E \left[ R_{t+1} \left( \cdot \middle| \pi_{t+1}^k, \cdot \right) \right]$$

assume some policy  $\pi_k(\cdot)$  is both effective and convergent, then:

$$\textcircled{A} + \textcircled{B} \rightarrow \textcircled{C}$$

C)

$$\boxed{*} \quad \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} R_t(s'_i|a_i, s_i) \sim R_{t+1}(s'_i|a_i, s_i)$$

E) Show other typical convergence ???,

Done

For the child

$\boxed{*}$  trivial



**PAGE 16.1**

- ③ Tractability: it is not possible to map infinite state spaces in practice, so it is advantageous to set up  $f_Q$  on a subspace

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{Z} &= S \times A \times S \\ \text{s.t.: } f_Q : \tilde{T}_t(\mathfrak{Z}) \times \tilde{R}_t(\mathfrak{Z}) &\rightarrow Q_t(\mathfrak{Z}) \quad \leftarrow \text{(sloppy)} \end{aligned}$$

which more or less can be directly incorporated into  $Q_t$ :

$$f_m : Q_{t+1}(S \times A) \times Q_t(\mathfrak{Z}) \rightarrow Q_t(S \times A)$$

We also need to keep  $\tilde{T}$  and  $\tilde{R}_t$  updated and can employ ??? regression instances to do this

$$\begin{aligned} f_T : \tilde{T}_{t-1}(\mathfrak{Z}) \times \{s, a, s'\} &\rightarrow \tilde{T}_t(\mathfrak{Z}) \\ f_R : \tilde{R}_{t-1}(\mathfrak{Z}) \times \{R(s'|a, s)\} &\rightarrow \tilde{R}_t(\mathfrak{Z}) \end{aligned}$$


---

- ④ Implementation: I use instances of stochastic gradient descent to regress  $\boxed{f_T}$  and  $\boxed{f_R}$

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{T}_t(s'|a, s) &\leftarrow f_T(s, a, s', T_{t-1}) = \tilde{T}_{t-1}(s'|a, s) + \alpha_T \left( \frac{f_r(s, a, s')}{f_r(s, a)} - T_{t-1}(s'|a, s) \right) \\ \tilde{R}_t &\leftarrow \text{user defined (in this case), and is readily "pulled"} \end{aligned}$$

where  $f_r(s, a, s')$  and  $f_r(s, a)$  reflect visitation frequencies.

$f_Q$  is more difficult, and can be broken into exact solutions and approximate solutions

$$Q_t(s, a) \leftarrow f_Q^{\text{exact}}(\mathfrak{Z}, \tilde{T}_t, \tilde{R}_t) = \sum_{s' \in \mathfrak{Z}} \tilde{T}(s'|s, a) \tilde{R}(s'|s, a) + \gamma V(s')$$

where  $V(s) \approx \arg \max_a Q_{t-1}(s, a)$ , where  $\mathfrak{Z} = S \times A$  yields the more accurate and intractable model, it may be desired to focus on estimation,  $f_a^{\text{est}}$ .

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On The Generalization and reuse of transitional knowledge #2

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- ① Setting the state, taking a general FOMDP given usual expectations (stably stochastic etc.)  $m = \langle S, A, T, R \rangle$  want to find  $\pi^* : \{S \times A\} \cup Q(S, A) \rightarrow A$  s. t. for some value function  $V(s)$ ,  $\pi^*(s) = \arg \max_a \sum_{s'} T(s'|a, s) R(s'|a, s) + \gamma V(s')$

Traditionally, convergence can be found directly, using stochastic gradient descent

$$Q_{t+1}(s, a) = Q_t(s, a) + \alpha \left( R(s'|s, a) - Q_t(s, a) + \gamma \arg \max_a (Q_t(s', a^*)) \right)$$

which is limited because as  $Q(S, A)$  converges, it becomes difficult to adjust to changes in  $R(S, A, S)$ .

---

- ② Optimization objectives change, meaning the basis of  $Q(S, A)$  is typically malleable in real-life scenarios.

In this paper we present a method for separating transitional models and reward models.

We hold reward and transitional functioning separate as  $\tilde{T}$  and  $\tilde{R}$ ; and attempt to regress to true values s. t.  $\tilde{T} \approx T$  and  $\tilde{R} \approx R$ . We then develop a  $Q_{\text{map}}$  function  $f_Q$  to ???  $Q(S, A)$  space as needed:

$$f_Q : \tilde{T}(S \times A \times S) \times \tilde{R}(S \times A \times S) \rightarrow Q_t(S, A)$$

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MDP: Linearization of Reward/Optimal Policy

 $P_a - P_a(i, j)$  represents  $T(s_i, a, s_j)$        $S$  – all states $\gamma$  – decay factor       $(0, 1)$  $\pi$  – policy $V^\pi(s)$  – typical value function $\mathbf{V}^\pi$  – vector of all values  $\{V^\pi(s_1), \dots, V^\pi(s_n)\}$  $\prec$  and  $\preceq$  denote strict and non-strict vectoral inequality. $\mathbf{R}$  – vector of reward (like  $\mathbf{V}^\pi(s)$ )

for optimal reward:

$$(P_{a_i} - P_a)(I - \gamma P_{a_i})^{-1} \mathbf{R} \succeq 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow$$

Proof (cool as fuck):

$$a_1 \equiv \pi(s) \in \arg \max_{a \in A} \sum_{s'} P_{s_a}(s') V^\pi(s') \quad \forall s \in S$$

$$\sum_{s'} P_{s_{a_1}} \geq \sum_{s'} P_{s_a}(s') V^\pi(s') \quad \forall s \in S, a \in A$$

$$\vdots \quad \begin{array}{c} \nwarrow \\ \nearrow \end{array} a_1 \text{ is Pareto efficient (!)}$$

$$P_{a_1} \mathbf{V}^\pi \succeq P_a \mathbf{V}^\pi \quad \forall a \in A \setminus a_1 \quad (\text{non-strict improvement})$$

$$\vdots$$

$$P_{a_1}(I - \gamma P_{a_1})^{-1} \mathbf{R} \succeq P_a(I - \gamma P_{a_1})^{-1} \mathbf{R} \quad \forall a \in A \setminus a_1$$

The hard part to verify:  $\mathbf{V}^\pi = (I - \gamma P_{a_1}) \mathbf{R}$

**PAGE 19**Transitional Learning Continued

- $\{s, s', w\}$  can be controlled to both represent the state space and accurately represent  $P + (s'|s', a)$
- $A + h, B + h$  and  $\gamma$  can be controlled to speed the algorithm  $R_\gamma$
- Q-learning can still be used, if calculation of  $\bar{R}_\gamma$  is too “slow”.
- the reward function  $R(s, a, s')$  can be redefined at an instant to allow immediate re-calculation of a policy  $\bar{R}_\gamma(s, a)$ .

Possible experiments:

- show speed of convergence is greater, due to the “storing” of the transitional model across all actions
- show that the generalized learning allows for redefinition of the reward function.

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Policy

Convergence of “Bad MDP”

Question, given  $\pi_i^*$ , is it possible to find

$$f : \pi_j^*, \pi_k^* \rightarrow \pi_i^*$$

$$f(\pi_j(s))$$

a) suppose  $f(\pi_j(s, \pi_k(s))) = \pi_j(s, \pi_k(s)) \cup \pi_k(s)$

b)  $S_k, S_j$  – assume a subspace that is independent of effect by  $A$ ,  $S_j \in S_i$

$A_k, A_j$  – assume a subset of  $A_j$

$T_k, T_j$  – assume  $T(s_i, a, s'_j) = 0 \quad \forall (s_i, a_j, s_j) \in S_j \times A_j \times S_j$

$R_k, R_j$  – assume  $R(s_i, a, s_j)$

In this case,  $A_j$  must effect  $T(s_k, a_k, s'_k)$  and  $A_k$  must effect  $T(s_j, a_j, s'_j)$

effect how:

$$\exists a_j, a_k \sum_{s'_j \neq s_j} T \left( s'_j \left| \begin{array}{c} a_j \\ a_k \end{array} \right. , s_j \right) > 0$$

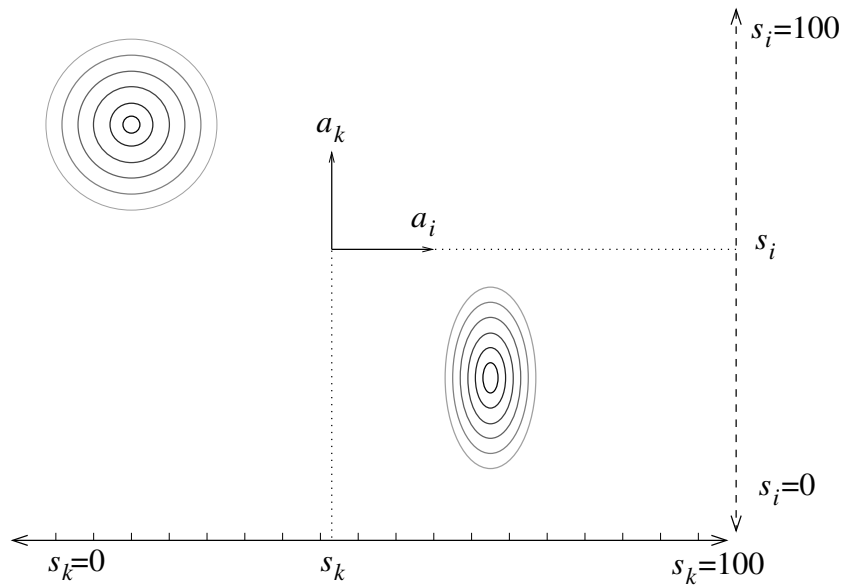
\*(Derive this conclusion from  $T(s_i, a_i, s_i)$ )\*

c)  $M_j, M_k$  execute concurrently, meaning at each time  $t \exists (a_j, a_k) \in A_i$ , chosen by  $a_j \sim \pi_j(s_j, a_k) \quad a_k \sim \pi_k(s_k)$

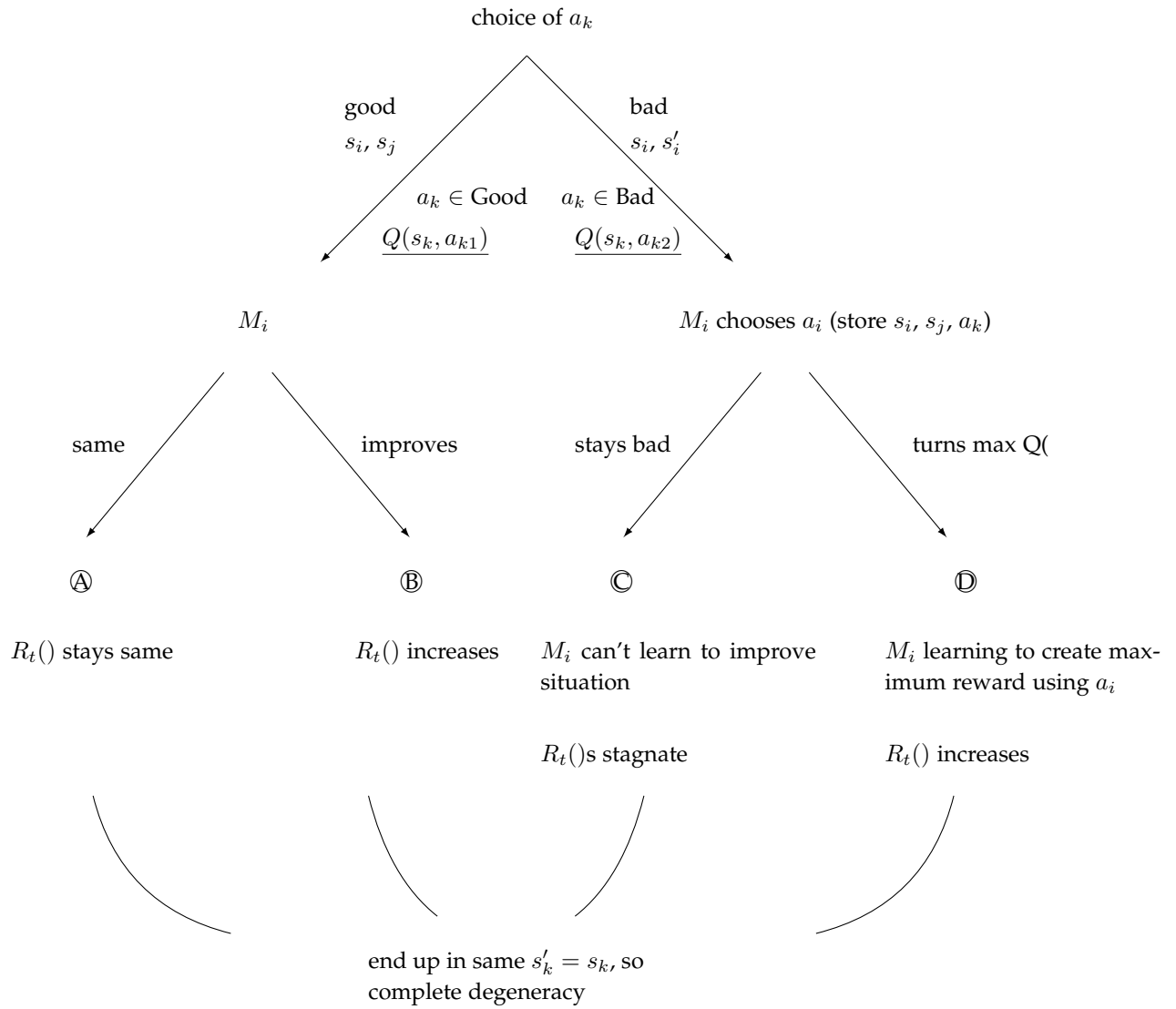
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child convergence assume during concurrent learning

- $R_t$  must be time-monotonic and convergent stochastic.
- Evaluate selection of  $s'_i$  and  $s_i$ , assuming worst case:  $a_k$  has no impact on  $s'_k, s_k$  and only an impact on  $s_i$  and  $s'_i$



consider policy learning: execution of  $\pi_k(s_k)$  yielding  $s'_k$



As  $t \rightarrow \infty$ , i) Ⓐ & Ⓒ will never be selected by  $M_k()$

ii) if Ⓑ > Ⓓ  $Q(a_k \in \text{Good}, s_k) > Q(a_k \in \text{Bad})$  and then  $a_k \in \text{Good}$  will be chosen

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Child convergence rewrite, using time index

$$m_1, \dots, m_\alpha$$

$$m_1: (s_i, s_k) \quad \text{pre-existing } s_i = 1, s_k = 1$$

$$m_2: a_k = \pi_k(s_k) = (x) \text{ — worst case, effects only } s_i, s_j,$$

→  
supposes

$$\rightarrow m_3: a_i = \pi_i(s_i, a_k)$$

$$s'_i \leftarrow 2$$

$$s'_k \leftarrow 2$$

$$m_4: Q(s_k, a_k) \leftarrow \text{update: } R(s_k, a_k, s'_k)$$

$$m_5: Q(s_i, a_k, s_i) \leftarrow \text{update: } R(s_i, a_k, a_i, s'_k)$$

$$\hookrightarrow \text{update } \pi_i(s_i, a_k)$$

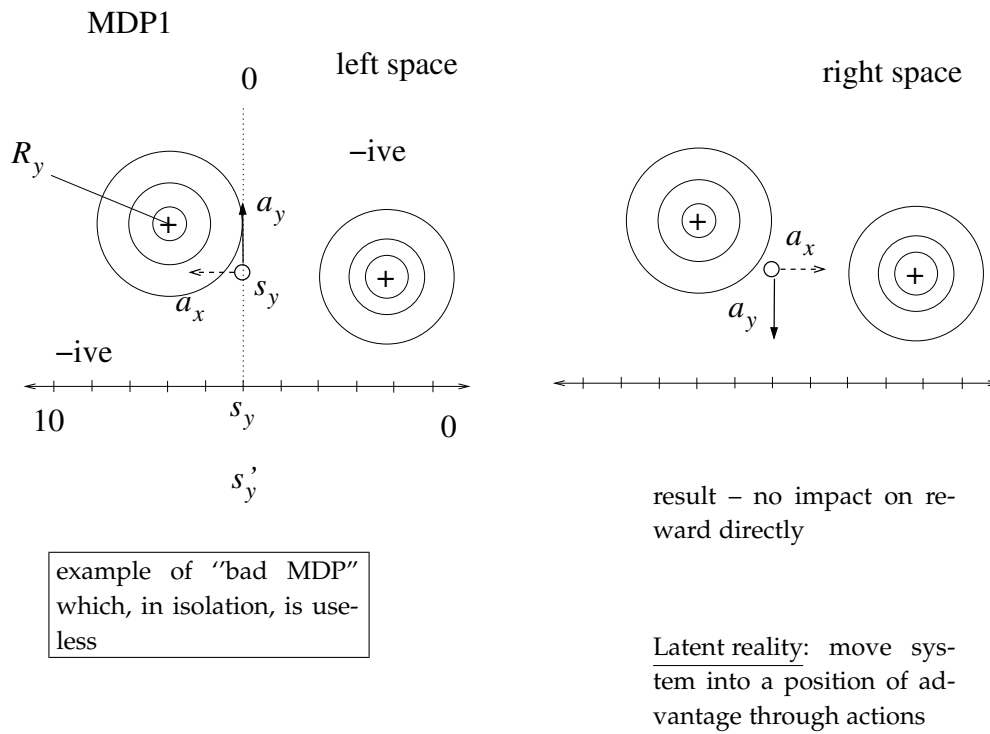
so:  $m_2$  assumed  $\pi(s_i, a_k)(m_3)$  to be convergent stochastic and monotonic in reward ???, which is assured by updating  $Q(s_i, a_k, a_i)$  at  $m_5$

$$\pi_k(s_k) \rightarrow Q(s_k, a_k) \quad \pi_i(s_i, a_k) \rightarrow Q(s_k, a_k, s_k)$$



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Bad MDP Decomposition (worst possible case)



ways to understand:

- 1) analyze actions of subsystem
  - 2) analyze effectiveness of subsystem
- ↔ Do until ave coordination

only ability: coordinate acting with subsystem, s.t., an understanding of the relationship of your action & subsystem action arises