0_Simple_approach

August 4, 2025

1 Simple aproach to Multi-armed bandit problem

Here I would like to compare three basic approaches to the Multi-armed bandit problem - **Epsilon-Greedy**, **Upper Confidence Bound**, and **Thompson Sampling**. Their implementation codes were taken from this source: https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/machine-learning/multi-armed-bandit-problem-in-reinforcement-learning/.

1.1 Aproaches

1.1.1 Epsilon-Greedy

```
[1]: class EpsilonGreedy:
         def __init__(self, n_arms, epsilon):
             self.n_arms = n_arms
             self.epsilon = epsilon
             self.counts = np.zeros(n_arms) # Number of times each arm is pulled
             self.values = np.zeros(n_arms) # Estimated values of each arm
         def select_arm(self):
             if np.random.rand() < self.epsilon:</pre>
                 return np.random.randint(0, self.n_arms)
             else:
                 return np.argmax(self.values)
         def update(self, chosen_arm, reward):
             self.counts[chosen_arm] += 1
             n = self.counts[chosen_arm]
             value = self.values[chosen_arm]
             self.values[chosen_arm] = ((n - 1) / n) * value + (1 / n) * reward
```

1.1.2 Upper Confidence Bound

```
[2]: class UCB:
    def __init__(self, n_arms):
        self.n_arms = n_arms
        self.counts = np.zeros(n_arms)
        self.values = np.zeros(n_arms)
        self.total_counts = 0
```

```
def select_arm(self):
    ucb_values = self.values + np.sqrt(2 * np.log(self.total_counts + 1) /
    (self.counts + 1e-5))
    return np.argmax(ucb_values)

def update(self, chosen_arm, reward):
    self.counts[chosen_arm] += 1
    self.total_counts += 1
    n = self.counts[chosen_arm]
    value = self.values[chosen_arm]
    self.values[chosen_arm] = ((n - 1) / n) * value + (1 / n) * reward
```

1.1.3 Thompson Sampling

```
[3]: class ThompsonSampling:
    def __init__(self, n_arms):
        self.n_arms = n_arms
        self.successes = np.zeros(n_arms)
        self.failures = np.zeros(n_arms)

def select_arm(self):
        sampled_values = np.random.beta(self.successes + 1, self.failures + 1)
        return np.argmax(sampled_values)

def update(self, chosen_arm, reward):
    if reward > 0:
        self.successes[chosen_arm] += 1
    else:
        self.failures[chosen_arm] += 1
```

1.2 Simulation

In this simulation the goal is to compare basic properties of theese there approaches.

Let's define parameters of the simulation: - n_arms: number of arms - n_simulations: Number of simulation repetitions - n_steps: Number of steps in one run - epsilon: Parameter for Epsilon-Greedy approach

```
[4]: # Libraties
import numpy as np
import pandas as pd
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import matplotlib.patches as mpatches
import seaborn as sns
```

```
[5]: # Function for simulation
```

```
def simulate_deterministic(agent_class, agent_kwargs, true_rewards, n_steps,_
 →n simulations):
   n_arms = len(true_rewards)
   rng sim = np.random.default rng()
   total_rewards = np.zeros((n_simulations, n_steps))
   records = []
   algorithm_label = f"{agent_class.__name__} {agent_kwargs}"
   for sim in range(n_simulations):
        agent = agent_class(**agent_kwargs)
       reward_cum = 0
       for t in range(n_steps):
            # Agent
            arm = agent.select_arm()
            reward = true_rewards[arm] # no noise, same reward all the time
            agent.update(arm, reward)
            # Save rewards
            reward cum += reward
            total rewards[sim, t] = reward
            # Save record
            records.append({
                "Simulation": sim,
                "Step": t,
                "Algorithm": algorithm_label,
                **agent_kwargs,
                "Reward": reward,
                "Cumulative Reward": reward_cum
            })
    # Calculate some statistics
    cumulative rewards = np.cumsum(total rewards, axis=1) # Kumulativní odměny
 ⇔v čase pro každou simulaci
   mean_rewards = np.mean(cumulative rewards, axis=0) # Průměrný průběh
 → kumulativní odměny napříč simulacemi
    std_rewards = np.std(cumulative_rewards[:, -1]) # Směrodatná odchylkau
 →celkové odměny na konci (stabilita výkonu)
   final_mean = np.mean(cumulative_rewards[:, -1]) # Průměrná celková odměna_
 →na konci simulací (výkon algoritmu)
   return {
    "mean_rewards": mean_rewards,
   "std_rewards": std_rewards,
   "final_mean": final_mean,
    "records_df": pd.DataFrame(records)
```

```
}
 [6]: # Parameters
      n_arms = 10
      true_rewards = np.array([0.2, 0.5, 0.8, 0.1, 0.3, 0.4, 0.7, 0.6, 0.25, 0.05])
      n steps = 1000
      n_simulations = 1000
 [7]: # Run the simulation
      results = {}
 [8]: results["Epsilon-Greedy (=0.1)"] = simulate_deterministic(
          EpsilonGreedy, {"n_arms": n_arms, "epsilon": 0.1}, true_rewards, n_steps,__
       →n_simulations
 [9]: results["UCB"] = simulate_deterministic(
          UCB, {"n_arms": n_arms}, true_rewards, n_steps, n_simulations
      )
[10]: results["Thompson Sampling"] = simulate_deterministic(
          ThompsonSampling, {"n_arms": n_arms}, true_rewards, n_steps, n_simulations
      )
[11]: # Check the results
      df_all = pd.concat([result["records_df"] for result in results.values()],__

→ignore_index=True)

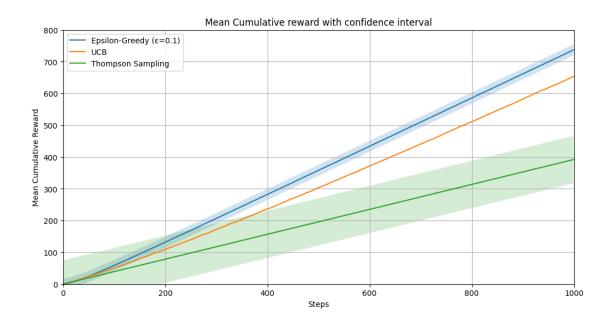
      # df_all.head()
      df all
[11]:
               Simulation
                           Step
                                                                     Algorithm \
                                 EpsilonGreedy {'n_arms': 10, 'epsilon': 0.1}
      0
      1
                        0
                                 EpsilonGreedy {'n_arms': 10, 'epsilon': 0.1}
                                 EpsilonGreedy {'n arms': 10, 'epsilon': 0.1}
      2
                        0
      3
                        0
                                 EpsilonGreedy {'n_arms': 10, 'epsilon': 0.1}
      4
                        0
                                 EpsilonGreedy {'n_arms': 10, 'epsilon': 0.1}
      2999995
                      999
                            995
                                              ThompsonSampling {'n_arms': 10}
      2999996
                      999
                            996
                                              ThompsonSampling {'n_arms': 10}
      2999997
                      999
                            997
                                              ThompsonSampling {'n_arms': 10}
                      999
                                              ThompsonSampling {'n_arms': 10}
      2999998
                            998
                      999
      2999999
                            999
                                              ThompsonSampling {'n_arms': 10}
               n_arms epsilon Reward Cumulative Reward
      0
                   10
                           0.1
                                  0.20
                                                      0.20
                   10
                           0.1
                                  0.20
                                                      0.40
      1
      2
                           0.1
                                  0.20
                                                      0.60
                   10
```

```
3
              10
                       0.1
                               0.20
                                                     0.80
4
              10
                       0.1
                               0.20
                                                     1.00
                               0.20
                                                  359.95
2999995
              10
                       NaN
2999996
              10
                       NaN
                               0.20
                                                  360.15
                               0.40
                                                  360.55
2999997
              10
                       \mathtt{NaN}
2999998
              10
                       NaN
                               0.25
                                                  360.80
2999999
              10
                       NaN
                               0.10
                                                  360.90
```

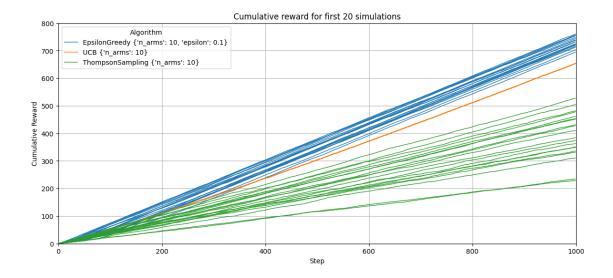
[3000000 rows x 7 columns]

```
Epsilon-Greedy (=0.1): Final mean = 737.06, Std = 17.25 UCB: Final mean = 653.60, Std = 0.00 Thompson Sampling: Final mean = 392.07, Std = 74.25
```

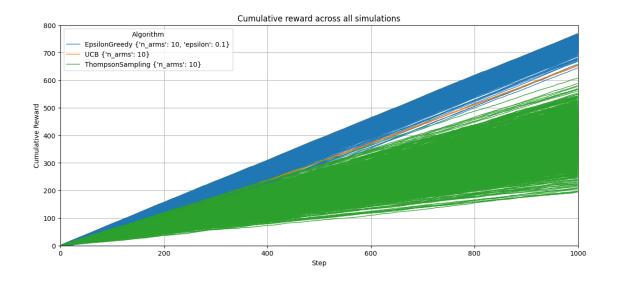
```
[13]: plt.figure(figsize=(12, 6))
      for label, result in results.items():
          mean_rewards = result["mean_rewards"]
          std_rewards = result["std_rewards"]
          plt.plot(mean_rewards, label=label)
          plt.fill_between(range(n_steps),
                           mean_rewards - std_rewards,
                           mean_rewards + std_rewards,
                           alpha=0.2)
      plt.xlabel("Steps")
      plt.ylabel("Mean Cumulative Reward")
      plt.title("Mean Cumulative reward with confidence interval")
      plt.legend()
      plt.xlim(0, 1000)
      plt.ylim(0, 800)
      plt.ylim(bottom=0)
      plt.grid(True)
      # plt.show()
```



```
[14]: # Visualize first 20 simulations
      df_plot = df_all[df_all["Simulation"] < 20]</pre>
      plt.figure(figsize=(14, 6))
      sns.lineplot(
          data=df_plot,
          x="Step",
          y="Cumulative Reward",
          hue="Algorithm",
          units="Simulation",
          estimator=None,
      plt.title("Cumulative reward for first 20 simulations")
      plt.xlim(0, 1000)
      plt.ylim(0, 800)
      plt.ylim(bottom=0)
      plt.grid(True)
      # plt.show()
```



```
[15]: # Visualize all simulations
      df_plot = df_all
      plt.figure(figsize=(14, 6))
      sns.lineplot(
          data=df_plot,
          x="Step",
          y="Cumulative Reward",
          hue="Algorithm",
          units="Simulation",
          estimator=None,
          lw=1
      plt.title("Cumulative reward across all simulations")
      plt.xlim(0, 1000)
      plt.ylim(0, 800)
      plt.ylim(bottom=0)
      plt.grid(True)
      # plt.show()
```



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