

Biologically Inspired Artificial Intelligence

Prisoner's Dilemma

Marek Skrzypecki

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1. Prisoner's Dilemma

The Prisoner's Dilemma, can be formulated as follows: Two individuals (call them Mr. X and Mr. Y) are arrested for committing a crime together and are held in separate cells, with no communication possible between them. Mr. X is offered the following deal: If he confesses and agrees to testify against Mr. Y, he will receive a suspended sentence with probation, and Mr. Y will be put away for 5 years. However, if at the same time Mr. Y confesses and agrees to testify against Mr. X, his testimony will be discredited, and each will receive 4 years for pleading guilty. Mr. X is told that Mr. Y is being offered precisely the same deal. Both Mr. X and Mr. Y know that if neither testifies against the other they can be convicted only on a lesser charge for which they will each get 2 years in jail. Should Mr. X "defect" against Mr. Y and hope for the suspended sentence, risking, a 4- year sentence if Mr. Y defects? Or should he "cooperate" with Mr. Y (even though they cannot communicate), in the hope that he will also cooperate so each will get only 2 years, thereby risking a defection by Mr. Y that will send him away for 5 years? The game can be described more abstractly. Each player independently decides which move to make— i.e., whether to cooperate or defect. A "game" consists of each player's making a decision (a "move"). The possible results of a single game are summarized in a payoff matrix. Here the goal is to get as many points (as opposed to as few years in prison) as possible.

The payoff matrix:

| | | Player 2 | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| Decision | | Cooperate | Defect |
| P l a y e r 1 | Cooperate | R=3 R=3 | S=0 T=5 |
| | Defect | T=5 S=0 | P=1 P=1 |

What is the best strategy to use in order to maximize one's own payoff? If you suspect that your opponent is going to cooperate, then you should surely defect. If you suspect that your opponent is going to defect, then you should defect too. No matter what the other player does, it is always better to defect.

The dilemma is that if both players defect each gets a worse score than if they cooperate. If the game is iterated (that is, if the two players play several games in a row), both players always defecting will lead to a much lower total payoff than the players would get if they cooperated.

2. The best strategy

In the Prisoner's Dilemma the dominant mutual defection strategy relies on the fact that it is a one-shot game, with no future. But in the Iterated Prisoner's Dilemma (IPD) the two players may play each other again; this allows the players to develop strategies based on previous game interactions. Therefore a player's move now may affect how his/her opponent behaves in the future and thus affect the player's future payoffs. This removes the single dominant strategy of mutual defection as players use more complex strategies dependant on game histories in order to maximize the payoffs they receive. In fact, under the correct circumstances mutual cooperation can emerge. The length of the IPD (i.e. the number of repetitions of the Prisoner's Dilemma played) must not be known to either player, if it was the last iteration would become a one-shot play of the Prisoner's Dilemma and as the players know they would not play each other again, both players would defect. Thus the second to last game would be a one-shot game (not influencing any future) and incur mutual defection, and so on till all games are one-shot plays of the Prisoner's Dilemma.

Summarizing:

- The winner is the player with highest score in the end, but
- This is a Non zero Sum Game which means that both players can simultaneously win or lose.
- The number of moves should not be known to the players.
- There is no universal best strategy as the optimal strategy depends upon the opponent.

3. Genetic Algorithm

The problem of the project is to model the IPD described above and devise strategies to play it. The fundamental Prisoner's Dilemma will be used without alteration. This assumes a player may interact with many others but is assumed to be interacting with them one at a time. The players will have a memory of the previous three games only (memory-3 IPD).

A simple genetic algorithm works on the basis of the following steps:

Step 1. Start with a randomly generated population of n l-bit chromosomes (Candidate solution to a problem).

Step 2. Calculate the fitness $f(x)$ of each chromosome x in the population.

Step 3. Repeat the following steps until n offspring have been created:

- Select a pair of parent chromosomes from the current population, the probability of selection being an increasing function of fitness. Selection is done —with replacement meaning that, the same chromosome can be selected more than once to become a parent.
- With probability P_c (the —crossover probability), crossover the pair at a randomly chosen point to form two offspring. If no crossover takes place, form two offspring that are exact copies of their respective parents.
- Mutate the two offspring at each locus with probability P_m (the mutation probability or mutation rate), and place the resulting chromosomes in the new population.

Step 4. Replace the current population with the new population.

Step 5. Go to step 2.

3.1. Chromosome

For the purpose of the project the chromosome should be represented as 70-letter long string e.g. CCDDDCDDDDCCCCDCDDCCDDCCCCDDDCDD..., where 64 letters encode a strategy (every letter is a decision for a different possibility, based on three previous moves) and 6 letters encode three hypothetical previous moves used by the strategy to decide how to move in the first actual game.

Since each locus in the string has two possible alleles (C and D), the number of possible strategies is 2^{70} .

3.2. Fitness Function

The next problem faced when designing a Genetic Algorithm is how to evaluate the success of each candidate solution. The Prisoner's Dilemma provides a natural means of evaluating the success, or fitness, of each solution – the game payoffs. We can state that the strategy, which earns the highest payoff score according to the rules of the Iterated Prisoner's Dilemma, is the fittest, while the lowest scoring strategy is the weakest.

However these 'raw' fitness values present some problems. The initial populations are likely to have a small number of very high scoring individuals in a population that will take it over rapidly and cause the population to converge on one strategy.

3.3. Fitness Scaling

It is useful to scale the 'raw' fitness scores to help avoid the above situations. This algorithm uses linear scaling that produces a linear relationship between raw fitness – f and scaled fitness f' as follows:

$$f' = af + b,$$

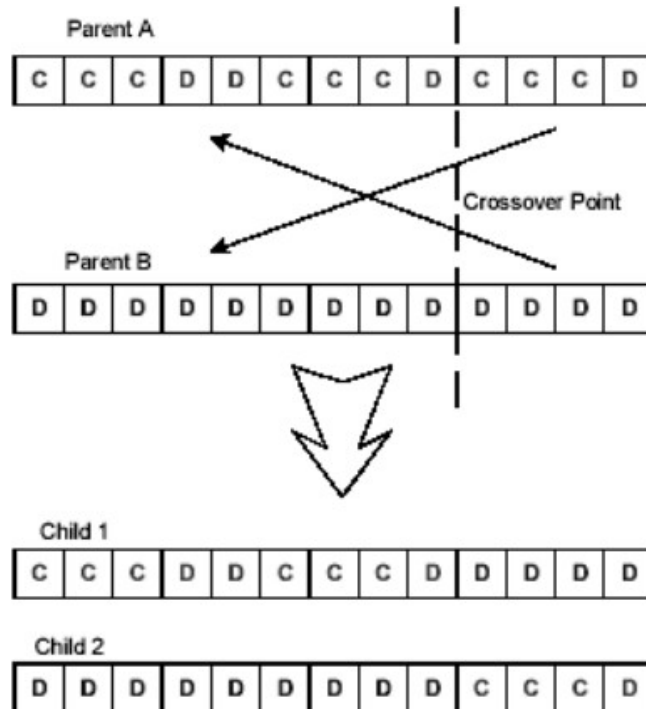
Coefficients a and b may be calculated as follows:

$$a = \frac{f_{avg}}{f_{avg} - f_{min}} \qquad b = -f_{min} \cdot \frac{f_{avg}}{f_{avg} - f_{min}}$$

Where c is the number of times the fittest individual should be allowed to reproduce. A value of 2 was found to produce accurate scaling in this method.

3.4. Crossover

Crossover is an artificial implementation of the exchange of genetic information that occurs in real-life reproduction. This algorithm, breaking both the parent chromosomes at the same randomly chosen point and then rejoining the parts, can implement it.



This crossover action, when applied to strategies selected proportional to their fitness, constructs new ideas from high scoring building blocks.

3.5. Mutation

Mutation will have a small possibility of occurring (0.1%) and will consist of a bit copied between the parent and the child being flipped (One letter in the chromosome string changed from C to D or D to C). These mutations provide a means of exploration to the search.

3.6. Replacement

The genetic algorithm is run across the population until it has produced enough children to build a new generation. The children then replace all of the original population.

4. Used Technology

Whole project, including genetic algorithm has been implemented using C++ programming language. Only basic libraries were used.

5. Program's Operation

Program consists of a console application. After starting user is asked to provide the number of cycles and individuals in the population.

```
Provide number of cycles (20-200):50
Provide number of individuals in population (20-100):50_
```

After both number are provided program creates a starting, randomly generated population and simulates it's evolution. Whole population in every cycle is listed in the console along with the individuals raw and fitness scores (sorted by fitness score).

Starting population listed in console:

```
E:\Foldery\Studia\BIA\PrisonersDilemma\x64\Release\PrisonersDilemma.exe

Provide number of cycles (20-200):50
Provide number of individuals in population (20-100):40

START

Cycle 1
Population:
DDCCDC DCCCCCDDCDCCDDDDCCDDCCDDCCDDCCDDDDDDCDCCDDDDDDCCCCCDDCC 6184 6548
DDCCDC DCCCCCDDCDCCDDDDCCDDCCDDCCDDCCDDDDDDCDCCDDDDDDCCCCCDDCC 6184 6548
DDCCDC DCCCCCDDCDCCDDDDCCDDCCDDCCDDCCDDDDDDCDCCDDDDDDCCCCCDDCC 6184 6548
DDCCDC DCCCCCDDCDCCDDDDCCDDCCDDCCDDCCDDDDDDCDCCDDDDDDCCCCCDDCC 6054 6288
DDCCDC DCCCCCDDCDCCDDDDCCDDCCDDCCDDCCDDDDDDCDCCDDDDDDCCCCCDDCC 6054 6288
DDCCDC DCCCCCDDCDCCDDDDCCDDCCDDCCDDCCDDDDDDCDCCDDDDDDCCCCCDDCC 5432 5044
DDCCDC DCCCCCDDCDCCDDDDCCDDCCDDCCDDCCDDDDDDCDCCDDDDDDCCCCCDDCC 5432 5044
DDCCDC DCCCCCDDCDCCDDDDCCDDCCDDCCDDCCDDDDDDCDCCDDDDDDCCCCCDDCC 5416 5012
DDCCDC DCCCCCDDCDCCDDDDCCDDCCDDCCDDCCDDDDDDCDCCDDDDDDCCCCCDDCC 5416 5012
DDCCDC DCCCCCDDCDCCDDDDCCDDCCDDCCDDCCDDDDDDCDCCDDDDDDCCCCCDDCC 5416 5012
DDCCDC DCCCCCDDCDCCDDDDCCDDCCDDCCDDCCDDDDDDCDCCDDDDDDCCCCCDDCC 5368 4916
DDCCDC DCCCCCDDCDCCDDDDCCDDCCDDCCDDCCDDDDDDCDCCDDDDDDCCCCCDDCC 5368 4916
DDCCDC DCCCCCDDCDCCDDDDCCDDCCDDCCDDCCDDDDDDCDCCDDDDDDCCCCCDDCC 5368 4916
DDCCDC DCCCCCDDCDCCDDDDCCDDCCDDCCDDCCDDDDDDCDCCDDDDDDCCCCCDDCC 5292 4764
DDCCDC DCCCCCDDCDCCDDDDCCDDCCDDCCDDCCDDDDDDCDCCDDDDDDCCCCCDDCC 5292 4764
DDCCDC DCCCCCDDCDCCDDDDCCDDCCDDCCDDCCDDDDDDCDCCDDDDDDCCCCCDDCC 5292 4764
DDCCDC DCCCCCDDCDCCDDDDCCDDCCDDCCDDCCDDDDDDCDCCDDDDDDCCCCCDDCC 5284 4748
DDCCDC DCCCCCDDCDCCDDDDCCDDCCDDCCDDCCDDDDDDCDCCDDDDDDCCCCCDDCC 5284 4748
DDCCDC DCCCCCDDCDCCDDDDCCDDCCDDCCDDCCDDDDDDCDCCDDDDDDCCCCCDDCC 5284 4748
DDCCDC DCCCCCDDCDCCDDDDCCDDCCDDCCDDCCDDDDDDCDCCDDDDDDCCCCCDDCC 5258 4696
DDCCDC DCCCCCDDCDCCDDDDCCDDCCDDCCDDCCDDDDDDCDCCDDDDDDCCCCCDDCC 5258 4696
DDCCDC DCCCCCDDCDCCDDDDCCDDCCDDCCDDCCDDDDDDCDCCDDDDDDCCCCCDDCC 5134 4448
DDCCDC DCCCCCDDCDCCDDDDCCDDCCDDCCDDCCDDDDDDCDCCDDDDDDCCCCCDDCC 5134 4448
DDCCDC DCCCCCDDCDCCDDDDCCDDCCDDCCDDCCDDDDDDCDCCDDDDDDCCCCCDDCC 5118 4416
DDCCDC DCCCCCDDCDCCDDDDCCDDCCDDCCDDCCDDDDDDCDCCDDDDDDCCCCCDDCC 5118 4416
DDCCDC DCCCCCDDCDCCDDDDCCDDCCDDCCDDCCDDDDDDCDCCDDDDDDCCCCCDDCC 5076 4332
DDCCDC DCCCCCDDCDCCDDDDCCDDCCDDCCDDCCDDDDDDCDCCDDDDDDCCCCCDDCC 5076 4332
DDCCDC DCCCCCDDCDCCDDDDCCDDCCDDCCDDCCDDDDDDCDCCDDDDDDCCCCCDDCC 5056 4292
DDCCDC DCCCCCDDCDCCDDDDCCDDCCDDCCDDCCDDDDDDCDCCDDDDDDCCCCCDDCC 5056 4292
DDCCDC DCCCCCDDCDCCDDDDCCDDCCDDCCDDCCDDDDDDCDCCDDDDDDCCCCCDDCC 4930 4040
DDCCDC DCCCCCDDCDCCDDDDCCDDCCDDCCDDCCDDDDDDCDCCDDDDDDCCCCCDDCC 4930 4040
DDCCDC DCCCCCDDCDCCDDDDCCDDCCDDCCDDCCDDDDDDCDCCDDDDDDCCCCCDDCC 4878 3936
DDCCDC DCCCCCDDCDCCDDDDCCDDCCDDCCDDCCDDDDDDCDCCDDDDDDCCCCCDDCC 4878 3936
DDCCDC DCCCCCDDCDCCDDDDCCDDCCDDCCDDCCDDDDDDCDCCDDDDDDCCCCCDDCC 4878 3936
DDCCDC DCCCCCDDCDCCDDDDCCDDCCDDCCDDCCDDDDDDCDCCDDDDDDCCCCCDDCC 4600 3380
DDCCDC DCCCCCDDCDCCDDDDCCDDCCDDCCDDCCDDDDDDCDCCDDDDDDCCCCCDDCC 4600 3380
DDCCDC DCCCCCDDCDCCDDDDCCDDCCDDCCDDCCDDDDDDCDCCDDDDDDCCCCCDDCC 3918 2016
DDCCDC DCCCCCDDCDCCDDDDCCDDCCDDCCDDCCDDDDDDCDCCDDDDDDCCCCCDDCC 3918 2016
DDCCDC DCCCCCDDCDCCDDDDCCDDCCDDCCDDCCDDDDDDCDCCDDDDDDCCCCCDDCC 2910 0
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[illegible]

By just looking on the results listed in console we can see the differences in both populations. Staring population consists of various individuals which are quite different from each other. Their raw scores (left column) are more evenly spread beetwen the highest and lowest scoring individuals.

However in case of the final population we can see that individuals are more similar to each other, especially in specific areas. This is a result of selecting only individuals with parts of chromosomes that guarantee high scores to produce the next generations. Looking at the scores (apart from the singular highest and lowest scoring individuals) we can see whole population with really similar scores. But what's important is that the score that seems to be average in the final population is as good if not better than the score of the best individual of the starting population.

6. Conclusions

As for my thoughts and conclusions about the project I have to say that I was surprised at the first results of my work, which were actually pretty good, despite not using any ready libraries or technologies dedicated for this kind of work.

While reading about Prisoner's Dilemma I got to learn a lot of variations of this game and it's reflection in real world phenomenon like game theory, economics or political science. I also came across other similar games like Mastermind in which players are developing kind of a strategy and genetic algorithms could be applied to do that.

Working on this project helped me to understand how genetic algorithms work and see that there are many applications to them.

GitHub repository: [GitHub](#)

Google Drive: [GoogleDrive](#)