## COMP3702 Tutorial 7

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### Markov Decision Processes

Markov Decision Process is a framework we can use to determine the best action that an agent should perform in a environment that is:

- Stochastic (non-deterministic)
- Discrete-time
- Discrete-transition (well defined transitions between states)

MDPs are the basis for Reinforcement Learning, and can be used to solve games like Tic Tac Toe, Chess, Go and other games in which we consider the other player.

### MDP Components

A set of states (S)

A set of actions (A)

Transition Function  $P(S_{t+1} | S_t, A_t)$ 

Reward Function  $R(S_t, A_t, S_{t+1})$ 

Discount Factor  $\gamma$ 

## Objective of MDP

The objective of an MDP is to maximise the expected value of the rewards

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{t=0}^{T} \gamma^t R(s_t, a_t)\right]$$

### MDPs – World State

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### MDPs — World State

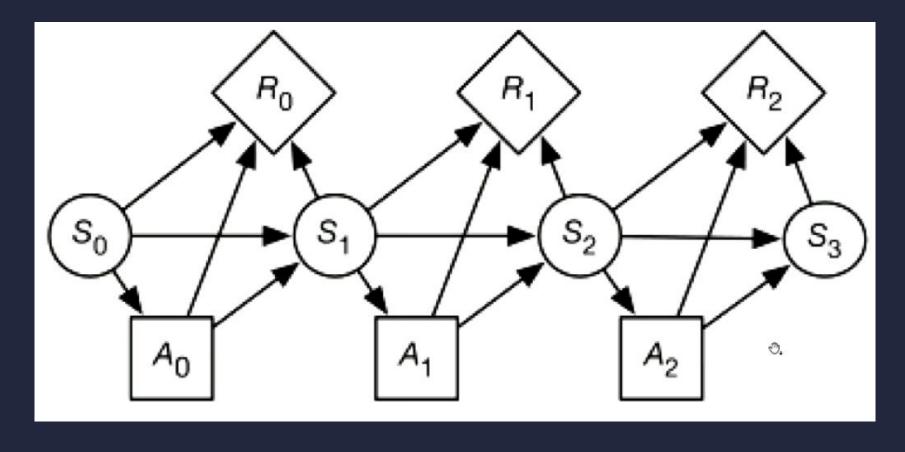
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### MDPs vs Markov Chains

A MDP augments a Markov Chain with actions and values.



### Planning Horizon & Information Availability

**Planning Horizon:** How far ahead the planner / agent looks forward to make a decision

**Information Availability:** What information is available when the agent decides what to do:

- Fully Observable MDP (FOMDP) The agent gets to observe  $S_t$  when deciding on action  $A_t$
- Partially Observable MDP (POMDP) The agent mas some noisy / imperfect sensor of the state

### Policies

A policy is a sequence of actions, taken to move from each state to the next state over the whole time horizon.

A Stationary Policy is a function or map. Given a state s, the policy  $\pi(s)$  specifies the action takes.

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A Stationary Policy is a function or map. Given a state s, the policy  $\pi(s)$  specifies the action takes.

An Optimal Policy, typically denoted as  $\pi^*$  is one with the maximum expected discount reward.

$$\max_{\pi} \mathbb{E} \left[ \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \gamma^{t} R(s_{t}, \pi(s_{t})) \right]$$

Given that  $\pi(t)$  is the action taken at time  $t^*$ 

### Value of a Policy

- We first approach MDPs using a recursive reformulation of the objective called a value function
  - The value function of an MDP,  $V^{\pi}(s)$  is the expected future reward of following an (arbitrary) policy  $\pi$  starting from state s, given by:

$$V^{\pi}(s) = \sum_{s' \in S} P(s'|\pi(s), s)[R(s, \pi(s), s') + \gamma V^{\pi}(s')]$$

Where the policy  $\pi(s)$  determines the action taken in state s

 $P(s'|\pi(s),s)$  is our transition function for our stochastic world.

 $R(s,\pi(s),s')$  is our reward function

 $\gamma V^{\pi}(s')$  is our discounted future value function

- $\circ~$  Here, we have dropped the time index as it is redundant, but note that  $a_t=\pi(s_t)$
- $\circ$  Note that this is a recursive definition the value of  $V^\pi(s)$  depends on the value of  $V^\pi(s')$

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### Value of a Policy

- Given a policy π
  - The Q-function represents the value of choosing an action and then following policy  $\pi$  in every subserquent state.
  - $\circ \ Q^\pi(s,a),$  where a is an action and s is a state, is the expected value of doing a in state s, then following policy  $\pi$
- $Q^{\pi}$  and  $V^{\pi}$  can be defined mutually recursively:

$$egin{align} Q^\pi(s,a) &= \sum_{s'} P(s'|a,s) (R(s,a,s') + \gamma V^\pi(s')) \ V^\pi(s) &= Q(s,\pi(s)) \ \end{aligned}$$

ullet Note : When computing the <code>future value</code> , choose the best action using the policy  $\pi$  instead of for some arbitrary action a

## Exercise 7.1

$$V^{\pi}(s) = \sum_{s' \in S} P(s'|\pi(s), s) [R(s, \pi(s), s') + \gamma V^{\pi}(s')]$$

**Exercise 7.1.** Consider the gridworld below:

s0	s1	s2	s3	s4	s5
5		*			10
			0	0	

An agent is currently on grid cell  $s_2$ , as indicated by the star, and would like to collect the rewards that lie on both sides of it. If the agent is on a numbered square (0, 5 or 10), the instance terminates and the agent receives a reward equal to the number on the square. On any other (non-numbered) square, its available actions are to move Left and Right. Note that Up and Down are never available actions. If the agent is in a square with an adjacent square below it, it does not always move successfully: when the agent is in one of these squares and takes a move action, it will only succeed with probability p. With probability 1 - p, the move action will fail and the agent will instead fall downwards into a trap. If the agent is not in a square with an adjacent space below, it will always move successfully.

- a) Consider the policy  $\pi_R$ , which is to always move right when possible. For each state  $s \in \{s_1, s_2, s_3, s_4\}$  in the diagram above, give the value function  $V^{\pi_R}$  in terms of  $\gamma \in [0, 1]$  and  $p \in [0, 1]$ .
- b) Consider the policy  $\pi_L$ , which is to always move left when possible. For each state  $s \in \{s_1, s_2, s_3, s_4\}$  in the diagram above, give the value function  $V^{\pi_L}$  in terms of  $\gamma$  and p.

## Exercise 7.2a

s0	sI	s2	s3	s4	s5
5		*			10
			0	0	

We first recall that we're computing the value of the value function at each state, for policy  $\pi_R$ . Under this policy, the optimal action in each state is to move right.

We recall the definition of a value function of a MDP.

$$V^{\pi}(s) = \sum_{s' \in S} P(s' | \pi(s), s) [R(s, \pi(s), s') + \gamma V^{\pi}(s')]$$

And thus, our values are:

$$V^{\pi_R}(s_4) = p[0 + \gamma 10] = 10p\gamma$$
  
 $V^{\pi_R}(s_3) = p[0 + 10p\gamma^2] = 10p^2\gamma^2$   
 $V^{\pi_R}(s_2) = 1[0 + 10p^2\gamma^3] = 10p^2\gamma^3$   
 $V^{\pi_R}(s_1) = 1[0 + 10p^2\gamma^4] = 10p^2\gamma^4$ 

Probability of not falling is p. Next state s' is  $s_5$  and it has value of 10 Probability of not falling is p. Next state s' is  $s_4$  and it has value of  $10p\gamma$  Probability of not falling is 1. Next state s' is  $s_3$  and it has value of  $10p^2\gamma^2$  Probability of not falling is 1. Next state s' is  $s_2$  and it has value of  $10p^2\gamma^3$ 

## Exercise 7.2a

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$$V^{\pi_R}(s_3) = p[0 + 10p\gamma^2] = 10p^2\gamma^2$$

$$V^{\pi_R}(s_2) = 1[0 + 10p^2\gamma^3] = 10p^2\gamma^3$$

$$V^{\pi_R}(s_1) = 1[0 + 10p^2\gamma^4] = 10p^2\gamma^4$$

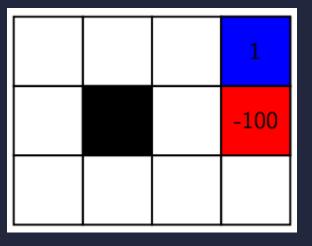
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	s0	s1	s2	s3	s4	s5	
	5	$10\gamma^4p^2$	$10\gamma^3p^2$	$10\gamma^2p^2$	10γp	10	
,				0	0		1

## Exercise 7.2

#### Exercise 7.2.

- a) Implement the attempt\_move and get\_transition\_probabilities methods in the Grid class in grid\_world\_starter.py according to their docstrings. The aim is to have functions that can be used on an arbitrary gridworld (i.e. do not hard-code your function just for this problem instance!).
- b) What is the one-step probability of arriving in each state s' when starting from [0,0] for each a, i.e what is  $P(s'|a,[0,0]) \ \forall \ a,s'$ ?
- c) What is the one-step probability of arriving in state [1,0] from each state s after taking action a, i.e what is  $P([1,0]|a,s) \ \forall \ (a,s)$ ?
- 1. Download grid\_world\_starter.py off Blackboard or GitHub and implement two functions:
  - 1. attempt\_move(self, state, action)
  - 2. get\_transition\_probabilities(self, state, action)



**States** – Positions on tiles.

Terminal States – Add a pseudo-extra absorbing state called "EXIT\_STATE" T(exited, a, exited) = 1

**Actions** = {U, D, L, R}

(non-deterministic)

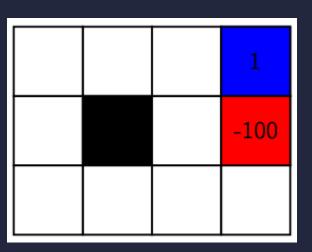
#### Rewards

R([3,2], exit)=1

R([3,1], exit=-100

$$\gamma = 0.9$$

ACTION\_NAMES = ['UP', 'DOWN', 'LEFT', 'RIGHT']



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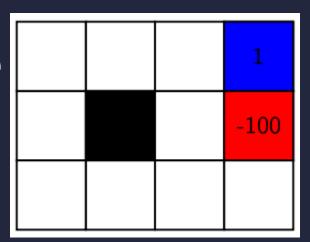
R([3,2], exit)=1

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$$\gamma = 0.9$$

```
ACTION_NAMES = ['UP', 'DOWN', 'LEFT', 'RIGHT']

self.states = list((x, y) for x in range(self.x_size) for y in range(self.y_size))
```



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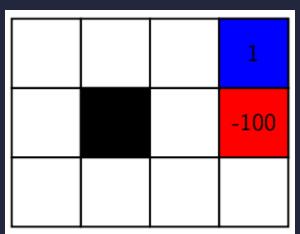
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def attempt_move(self, s, a):
    x, y = s
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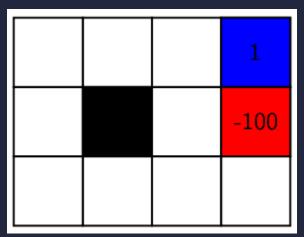
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ACTION_NAMES = ['UP', 'DOWN', 'LEFT', 'RIGHT']

def attempt_move(self, s, a):
    x, y = s

# Check absorbing state
    if s == EXIT_STATE:
        return s
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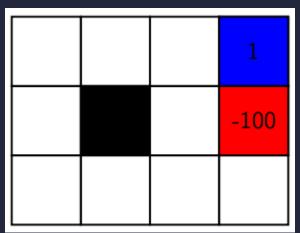
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def attempt_move(self, s, a):
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    if s == EXIT_STATE:
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    if s in self.rewards.keys():
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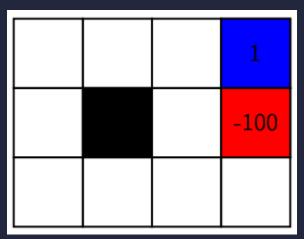
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# Default: no movement
    result = s
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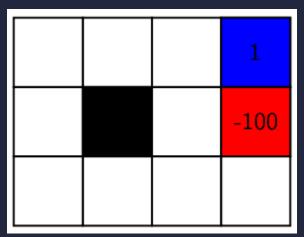
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    # Check absorbing state
    if s == EXIT STATE:
        return s
    if s in self.rewards.keys():
        return EXIT_STATE
    # Default: no movement
    result = s
    if a == LEFT and x > 0:
        result = (x - 1, y)
```



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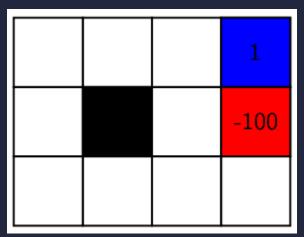
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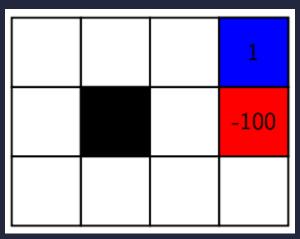
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    x, y = s
    # Check absorbing state
    if s == EXIT STATE:
        return s
    if s in self.rewards.keys():
        return EXIT_STATE
    # Default: no movement
    result = s
    if a == LEFT and x > 0:
        result = (x - 1, y)
    if a == RIGHT and x < self.x size - 1:
        result = (x + 1, y)
    if a == UP and y < self.y_size - 1:</pre>
        result = (x, y + 1)
    if a == DOWN and y > 0:
        result = (x, y - 1)
```



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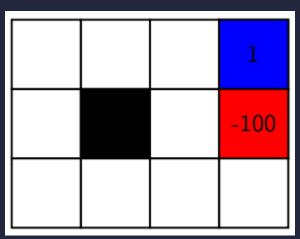
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def attempt move(self, s, a):
    x, y = s
    # Check absorbing state
    if s == EXIT STATE:
        return s
    if s in self.rewards.keys():
        return EXIT STATE
    # Default: no movement
    result = s
    if a == LEFT and x > 0:
        result = (x - 1, y)
    if a == RIGHT and x < self.x size - 1:
        result = (x + 1, y)
    if a == UP and y < self.y_size - 1:</pre>
        result = (x, y + 1)
    if a == DOWN and y > 0:
        result = (x, y - 1)
    # Check obstacle cells
    if result in OBSTACLES:
        return s
    return result
```



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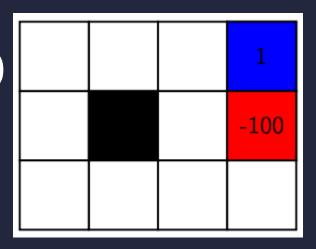
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$$\gamma = 0.9$$

## Exercise 7.2 – transition prob

```
def stoch action(self, a):
    """ Returns the probabilities with which each action will actually occur,
        given that action a was requested.
    Parameters:
        a: The action requested by the agent.
    Returns:
        The probability distribution over actual actions that may occur.
    if a == RIGHT:
        return {RIGHT: self.p , UP: (1-self.p)/2, DOWN: (1-self.p)/2}
    elif a == UP:
        return {UP: self.p , LEFT: (1-self.p)/2, RIGHT: (1-self.p)/2}
    elif a == LEFT:
        return {LEFT: self.p , UP: (1-self.p)/2, DOWN: (1-self.p)/2}
    return {DOWN: self.p , LEFT: (1-self.p)/2, RIGHT: (1-self.p)/2}
```



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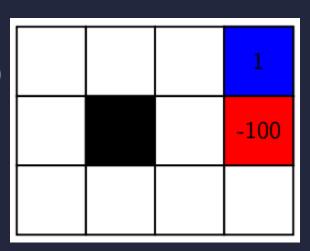
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# Exercise 7.2 — transition prob

```
def get_transition_probabilities(self, s, a):
    probabilities = {}
```



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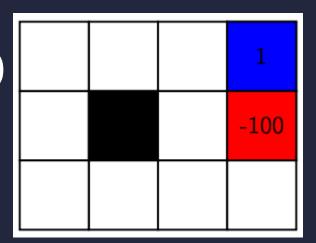
R([3,2], exit)=1

R([3,1], exit=-100]

$$\gamma = 0.9$$

# Exercise 7.2 – transition prob

```
def get_transition_probabilities(self, s, a):
    probabilities = {}
    for action, probability in self.stoch_action(a).items():
        next_state = self.attempt_move(s, action)
        probabilities[next_state] = probabilities.get(next_state, 0) + probability
```



**States** – Positions on tiles.

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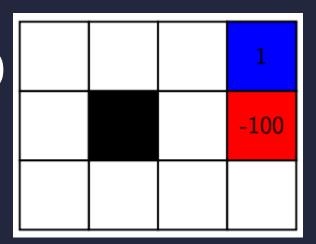
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    for action, probability in self.stoch_action(a).items():
        next_state = self.attempt_move(s, action)
        probabilities[next_state] = probabilities.get(next_state, 0) + probability
    return probabilities
```



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**Actions** = {U, D, L, R}

(non-deterministic)

### Rewards

R([3,2], exit)=1

R([3,1], exit=-100

$$\gamma = 0.9$$

## Exercise 7.2b

b) What is the one-step probability of arriving in each state s' when starting from [0,0] for each a, i.e what is  $P(s'|a,[0,0]) \ \forall \ a,s'$ ?

We can determine the one-step probability of arriving in each state by calling our get\_transition\_probabilities function for each action.

```
UP = 0 DOWN = 1 LEFT = 2 RIGHT = 3
Action LEFT
   {2: 0.8, 0: 0.0999999999999998, 1: 0.0999999999999998}
   \{(0,0): 0.9, (0,1): 0.0999999999999998\}
Action RIGHT
   {3: 0.8, 0: 0.0999999999999998, 1: 0.0999999999999998}
   Action UP
   {0: 0.8, 2: 0.0999999999999998, 3: 0.0999999999999998}
   Action DOWN
   {1: 0.8, 2: 0.0999999999999998, 3: 0.0999999999999998}
   \{(0,0): 0.9, (1,0): 0.0999999999999998\}
```

### Exercise 7.2b

b) What is the one-step probability of arriving in each state s' when starting from [0,0] for each a, i.e what is  $P(s'|a,[0,0]) \ \forall \ a,s'$ ?

We can determine the one-step probability of arriving in each state by calling our get\_transition\_probabilities function for each action.

$$P((1, 0)|right,(0, 0)) = 0.8$$
  
 $P((0, 1)|right,(0, 0)) = P((0, 0)|right,(0, 0)) = 0.1$   
 $P((0, 1)|up,(0, 0)) = 0.8$   
 $P((1, 0)|up,(0, 0)) = P((0, 0)|up,(0, 0)) = 0.1$   
 $P((0, 0)|left,(0, 0)) = 0.9$   
 $P((0, 1)|left,(0, 0)) = 0.1$   
 $P((0, 0)|down,(0, 0)) = 0.9$   
 $P((1, 0)|down,(0, 0)) = 0.1$ 

### Exercise 7.2c

c) What is the one-step probability of arriving in state [1,0] from each state s after taking action a, i.e what is  $P([1,0]|a,s) \ \forall \ (a,s)$ ?

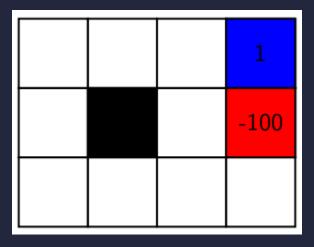
We can once again call the get\_transition\_probabilities function in a loop over all state and action pairs.

$$P((1, 0)|right,(0, 0)) = 0.8$$
  
 $P((1, 0)|up,(0, 0)) = 0.1$   
 $P((1, 0)|down,(0, 0)) = 0.1$   
 $P((1, 0)|left, [2, 0]) = 0.8$   
 $P((1, 0)|up, [2, 0]) = 0.1$   
 $P((1, 0)|down, [2, 0]) = 0.1$   
 $P((1, 0)|up,(1, 0)) = 0.8$   
 $P((1, 0)|down,(1, 0)) = 0.8$   
 $P((1, 0)|left,(1, 0)) = 0.2$   
 $P((1, 0)|right,(1, 0)) = 0.2$ 

**Exercise 7.3.** Implement VI for this problem, using:  $V[s] \leftarrow \max_{a} \sum_{s'} P(s' \mid s, a) \left( R(s, a, s') + \gamma V[s'] \right)$ .

Note that R(s, a, s') = R(s) is the reward for landing on a square, which is non-zero for only the red and blue squares at [3,1] and [3,2], respectively.

- a) What is the value function estimate after 4 iterations? What is the policy according to the value function estimate after 4 iterations?
- b) What is the value function estimate after 10 iterations? What is the policy according to the value function estimate after 10 iterations?



**States** – Positions on tiles.

Terminal States – Add a pseudo-extra absorbing state called "EXIT\_STATE" T(exited, a, exited) = 1

**Actions** = {U, D, L, R}

(non-deterministic)

Rewards

R([3,2], exit)=1

R([3,1], exit=-100

**Discount Factor** 

$$\gamma = 0.9$$

The equation  $V[s] \leftarrow \max_{a} \sum_{s'} P(s'|a,s)[R(s,a,s') + \gamma V[s']]$  is a version of the Bellman update equation for Value Iteration.

To implement Value Iteration, we want to compute  $\sum_{s'} P(s'|a,s)[R(s,a,s') + \gamma V[s']]$  for each possible next state, s'.

The equation  $V[s] \leftarrow \max_{a} \sum_{s'} P(s'|a,s)[R(s,a,s') + \gamma V[s']]$  is a version of the Bellman update equation for Value Iteration.

To implement Value Iteration, we want to compute  $\sum_{s'} P(s'|a,s)[R(s,a,s') + \gamma V[s']]$  for each possible next state, s'.

We first define some functions and constants that help with the Value Iteration implementation.

```
def dict_argmax(d):
    max_value = max(d.values())
    for k, v in d.items():
        if v == max_value:
            return k
```

We first create a class containing all of the information we want to keep track of in our Value Iteration implementation

```
class ValueIteration:
    def __init__(self, grid):
        self.grid = grid
        self.values = {state: 0 for state in self.grid.states}
        self.policy = {state: RIGHT for state in self.grid.states}
        self.converged = False
        self.differences = []
```

```
class ValueIteration:
    def next_iteration(self):
        new_values = dict()
        new_policy = dict()
```

```
class ValueIteration:
    def next_iteration(self):
        new_values = dict()
        new_policy = dict()
        for s in self.grid.states:
            # Keep track of maximum value
            action_values = dict()
```

```
class ValueIteration:
    def next_iteration(self):
        new_values = dict()
        new_policy = dict()
        for s in self.grid.states:
            # Keep track of maximum value
            action_values = dict()
```

```
V^{\pi}(s) = \sum_{s} P(s'|\pi(s), s)[R(s, \pi(s), s') + \gamma V^{\pi}(s')]
class ValueIteration:
    def next iteration(self):
        new values = dict()
        new policy = dict()
        for s in self.grid.states:
             # Keep track of maximum value
             action_values = dict()
             for a in self.grid.actions:
                 total = 0
                 for stoch_action, p in self.grid.stoch_action(a).items():
                     # Apply action
                      s_next = self.grid.attempt_move(s, stoch_action)
                     total += p * (self.grid.get_reward(s)
                                 + (self.grid.discount * self.values[s_next]))
                 action values[a] = total
```

```
class ValueIteration:
   def next iteration(self):
        new values = dict()
        new policy = dict()
        for s in self.grid.states:
            # Keep track of maximum value
            action values = dict()
            for a in self.grid.actions:
                total = 0
                for stoch_action, p in self.grid.stoch_action(a).items():
                    # Apply action
                    s_next = self.grid.attempt_move(s, stoch_action)
                    total += p * (self.grid.get reward(s)
                               + (self.grid.discount * self.values[s_next]))
                action values[a] = total
            # Update state value with best action
            new values[s] = max(action values.values())
            new_policy[s] = dict_argmax(action_values)
```

```
class ValueIteration:
    def next iteration(self):
        new values = dict()
        new policy = dict()
        for s in self.grid.states:
            # Update state value with best action
            new_values[s] = max(action_values.values())
            new_policy[s] = dict_argmax(action_values)
        # Check convergence
        differences = [abs(self.values[s] - new_values[s]) for s in self.grid.states]
        max diff = max(differences)
        self.differences.append(max diff)
        if max diff < EPSILON:</pre>
            self.converged = True
        # Update values
        self.values = new values
        self.policy = new policy
```

```
def run_vi():
    grid = Grid()
    vi = ValueIteration(grid)
    start = time.time()
    print("Initial values:")
    vi.print_values()
    print()
    for i in range(MAX_ITER):
        vi.next iteration()
        print("Values after iteration", i + 1)
        vi.print_values_and_policy()
        print()
        if vi.converged:
            break
    end = time.time()
    print("Time to complete", i + 1, "VI iterations")
    print(end - start)
```

## Exercise 7.3a and b

```
Values and Policies after iteration 4
(0, 0)
          UP
                    0.0
(0, 1)
                    0.0
(0, 2)
          RIGHT
                    0.37324800000000001
(1, 0)
          UP
                    0.0
                    0.65836800000000002
          RIGHT
          UP
                    0.046656
(2, 0)
(2, 1)
          LEFT
                    0.11728799999999999
(2, 2)
          RIGHT
                    0.79646400000000001
(3, 0)
          DOWN
                    0.0
(3, 1)
          UP
                    -100.0
                    1.0
                    0.0
(-1, -1)
Converged: False
```

```
Values and Policies after iteration 10
(0, 0)
          UP
                    0.4490637007006404
(0, 1)
          UP
                    0.5362371998424762
                    0.61632756154903
(0, 2)
          RIGHT
(1, 0)
          LEFT
                    0.3679911227699528
(1, 2)
                    0.7155133495934718
          RIGHT
          LEFT
                    0.28052219829783076
(2, 0)
(2, 1)
          LEFT
                    0.28600606577514903
(2, 2)
                    0.8174373191274608
          RIGHT
(3, 0)
          DOWN
                    0.05225467158005328
(3, 1)
          UP
                    -100.0
(3, 2)
                    1.0
                    0.0
(-1, -1)
Converged: False
```

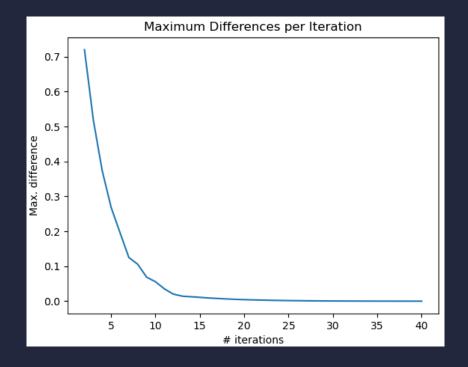
```
Values and Policies after iteration 4
(0, 0)
          UP
                    0.0
(0, 1)
          UP
                    0.0
(0, 2)
          RIGHT
                    0.37324800000000001
(1, 0)
          UP
                    0.0
(1, 2)
          RIGHT
                    0.65836800000000002
          UP
(2, 0)
                    0.046656
(2, 1)
          LEFT
                    0.11728799999999999
(2, 2)
          RIGHT
                    0.79646400000000001
          DOWN
(3, 0)
                    0.0
(3, 1)
          UP
                    -100.0
                    1.0
(3, 2)
                    0.0
(-1, -1)
                              Values and Policies after iteration 40
Converged: False
                              (0, 0)
                                         UP
                                                   0.4800323382261456
                              (0, 1)
                                                   0.5540265799556026
                                         UP
                              (0, 2)
                                         RIGHT
                                                   0.6309786313152921
                              (1, 0)
                                         LEFT
                                                   0.42148665011938496
                              (1, 2)
                                         RIGHT
                                                   0.728236805418173
                              (2, 0)
                                         LEFT
                                                   0.37165369571437096
                                         LEFT
                                                   0.38600516990982364
                              (2, 1)
                              (2, 2)
                                         RIGHT
                                                   0.8293834149435776
                              (3, 0)
                                         DOWN
                                                   0.17564736007905382
                                         UP
                                                   -100.0
                              (3, 2)
                                         UP
                                                   1.0
                                                   0.0
                              (-1, -1)
                                         UP
```

Converged: True

```
Values and Policies after iteration 10
(0, 0)
          UP
                    0.4490637007006404
(0, 1)
          UP
                    0.5362371998424762
(0, 2)
          RIGHT
                    0.61632756154903
(1, 0)
          LEFT
                    0.3679911227699528
(1, 2)
                    0.7155133495934718
          RIGHT
                    0.28052219829783076
(2, 0)
          LEFT
(2, 1)
          LEFT
                    0.28600606577514903
                    0.8174373191274608
(2, 2)
          RIGHT
(3, 0)
          DOWN
                    0.05225467158005328
(3, 1)
          UP
                    -100.0
(3, 2)
                    1.0
                    0.0
(-1, -1)
Converged: False
```

```
MaxDiff: 100.0 iteration = 0
MaxDiff: 0.7200000000000001
                                iteration = 1
                                iteration = 2
MaxDiff: 0.51840000000000001
                                iteration = 3
MaxDiff: 0.3732480000000001
                                iteration = 4
MaxDiff: 0.26873856000000007
MaxDiff: 0.19651507200000007
                                iteration = 5
MaxDiff: 0.12516498432
                                iteration = 6
MaxDiff: 0.10572027144192
                                iteration = 7
MaxDiff: 0.0688670804422657
                                iteration = 8
MaxDiff: 0.055693793138070685
                                iteration = 9
MaxDiff: 0.03541895386310351
                                iteration = 10
MaxDiff: 0.020406488641122267
                                iteration = 11
MaxDiff: 0.014469165897111988
                                iteration = 12
MaxDiff: 0.01276617362193612
                                iteration = 13
MaxDiff: 0.010953912341080507
                                iteration = 14
MaxDiff: 0.009252095430991175
                                iteration = 15
MaxDiff: 0.0077449479888855866
                                iteration = 16
MaxDiff: 0.006452362030390624
                                iteration = 17
                                iteration = 18
MaxDiff: 0.0053647123430298205
MaxDiff: 0.004457891514759699
                                iteration = 19
MaxDiff: 0.003703988627437288
                                iteration = 20
MaxDiff: 0.0030769857665578215
                                iteration = 21
MaxDiff: 0.0025548243622560696
                                iteration = 22
MaxDiff: 0.0021195066796275974
                                iteration = 23
MaxDiff: 0.0017564643518459266
                                iteration = 24
MaxDiff: 0.0014538233682367119
                                iteration = 25
MaxDiff: 0.0012017914934342455
                                iteration = 26
```

```
MaxDiff: 0.0009922017781994474 iteration = 27
MaxDiff: 0.0008181866026194806
                                iteration = 28
MaxDiff: 0.0006739451222508019
                              iteration = 29
                               iteration = 30
MaxDiff: 0.0005545718913637643
MaxDiff: 0.0004559236087381957
                              iteration = 31
                               iteration = 32
MaxDiff: 0.0003745096366224443
MaxDiff: 0.00030739837798915426 iteration = 33
MaxDiff: 0.00025213556900344214 iteration = 34
MaxDiff: 0.00020667261021548033 iteration = 35
MaxDiff: 0.0001693039437246635
                                iteration = 36
MaxDiff: 0.0001386127553908434
                                iteration = 37
MaxDiff: 0.00011342429908361984 iteration = 38
MaxDiff: 9.27660922024065e-05
                                iteration = 39
```



#### Exercise 7.4.

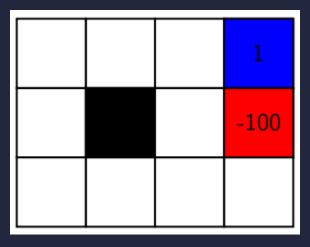
- a) Using an iterative approach to policy evaluation, implement PI for this problem, following:
  - Set  $\pi(s) = \forall s \in S$ , and let iter = 0
  - Repeat:
    - 1. Policy evaluation Solve for  $V^{\pi_i}(s)$  (or  $Q^{\pi_i}(s,a)$ ):

$$V^{\pi_i}(s) = \sum_{s' \in S} P(s' \mid \pi_i(s), s) \left[ R(s, \pi_i(s), s') + \gamma V^{\pi_i}(s') \right] \quad \forall s \in S$$

2. Policy improvement - Update policy:

$$\pi_{i+1}(s) \leftarrow \arg\max_{a} \sum_{s' \in \mathcal{S}} P(s' \mid a, s) \left[ R(s, a, s') + \gamma V^{\pi_i}(s') \right]$$

- 3. iter = iter + 1
- until  $\pi_i(s) = \pi_{i-1}(s)$



States – Positions on tiles.

Terminal States – Add a pseudo-extra absorbing state called "EXIT\_STATE" T(exited, a, exited) = 1

**Actions** = {U, D, L, R}

(non-deterministic)

#### Rewards

R([3,2], exit)=1

R([3,1], exit=-100

#### **Discount Factor**

$$\gamma = 0.9$$

```
while not converged: # Convergence criteria - (new policy == policy)
  # policy evaluation uses linear algebra to derive a set of values
  # as shown above
  values <- policy evaluation(policy)
  # compute a new policy using the previously computed set of values
  # Looks like value iteration, but only a single iteration is performed.
  new policy <- policy improvement(values)</pre>
  if new policy == policy:
    # Convergence criteria matched, return the policy
    return policy
  # Convergence criteria not matched, set the policy and perform
  # another iteration
  policy <- new policy
```

```
class PolicyIteration:
    def __init__(self, grid):
        self.grid = grid
        self.values = {state: 0 for state in self.grid.states}
        self.policy = {pi: RIGHT for pi in self.grid.states}
        self.r = [0 for s in self.grid.states]
        self.USE_LIN_ALG = False
        self.converged = False
```

```
class PolicyIteration:
    def __init__(self, grid):
       self.grid = grid
        self.values = {state: 0 for state in self.grid.states}
        self.policy = {pi: RIGHT for pi in self.grid.states}
        self.r = [0 for s in self.grid.states]
        self.USE LIN ALG = False
        self.converged = False
       # Full transition matrix (P) of dimensionality |S|x|A|x|S| since its
       # not specific to any one policy. We'll slice out a |S|x|S| matrix
       # from it for each policy evaluation
       # t model (lin alg)
        self.t model = np.zeros([len(self.grid.states), len(self.grid.actions),
                                     len(self.grid.states)])
        for i, s in enumerate(self.grid.states):
            for j, a in enumerate(self.grid.actions):
                transitions = self.grid.get_transition_probabilities(s, a)
                for next_state, prob in transitions.items():
                    self.t model[i][j][self.grid.states.index(next state)] = prob
```

```
class PolicyIteration:
    def __init__(self, grid):
        • • •
        # Reward vector
        r_model = np.zeros([len(self.grid.states)])
        for i, s in enumerate(self.grid.states):
            r model[i] = self.grid.get reward(s)
        self.r model = r model
        # lin alg policy
        la_policy = np.zeros([len(self.grid.states)], dtype=np.int64)
        for i, s in enumerate(self.grid.states):
            la_policy[i] = 3 # Allocate arbitrary initial policy
        self.la policy = la policy
```

```
class PolicyIteration:
    def next_iteration(self):
        new_values = dict()
        new_policy = dict()

        self.policy_evaluation()
        new_policy = self.policy_improvement()
        self.convergence_check(new_policy)
```

```
class PolicyIteration:
    def policy evaluation(self):
        if not self.USE LIN ALG:
            # use 'naive'/iterative policy evaluation
            value_converged = False
            while not value converged:
                new values = dict()
                for s in self.grid.states:
                    total = 0
                    for stoch action, p in self.grid.stoch action(self.policy[s]).items():
                        # Apply action
                        s_next = self.grid.attempt_move(s, stoch_action)
                        total += p * (self.grid.get_reward(s) + (self.grid.discount * self.values[s_next]))
                    # Update state value with best action
                    new values[s] = total
                # Check convergence
                differences = [abs(self.values[s] - new values[s]) for s in self.grid.states]
                if max(differences) < EPSILON:</pre>
                    value converged = True
                # Update values and policy
                self.values = new values
```

```
def policy improvement(self):
   if self.USE LIN ALG:
        new_policy = {s: self.grid.actions[self.la_policy[i]] for i, s in enumerate(self.grid.states)}
    else:
        new policy = {}
   for s in self.grid.states:
        # Keep track of maximum value
        action_values = dict()
        for a in self.grid.actions:
            total = 0
            for stoch_action, p in self.grid.stoch_action(a).items():
                # Apply action
                s next = self.grid.attempt move(s, stoch action)
                total += p * (self.grid.get_reward(s) + (self.grid.discount * self.values[s_next]))
            action values[a] = total
        # Update policy
        new policy[s] = dict argmax(action values)
    return new policy
```

```
def convergence_check(self, new_policy):
    if new_policy == self.policy:
        self.converged = True

self.policy = new_policy
    if self.USE_LIN_ALG:
        for i, s in enumerate(self.grid.states):
            self.la_policy[i] = self.policy[s]
```

Let  $P^{\pi} \in R^{|S| \times |S|}$  be a matrix containing probabilities for each transition under some policy  $\pi$ , where:

$$P_{ij}^{\pi} = P(s_{t+1} = j \mid s_t = i, a_t = \pi(s_t))$$

Calculate the size of  $P^{\pi}$  in this gridworld, when the special pseudo-state *exited* is included.

Excluding the obstacle at (1,1) as an unreacable state, but include the exit state, then the size of  $P^{\pi}$  is 12x12.

Including the obstacle brings the size to 13x13 but the transition probability to (1,1) is 0 from all states.

c) Set the policy to move right everywhere,  $\pi(s) = \text{RIGHT } \forall s \in S$ . Calculate the row of  $P^{\text{RIGHT}}$  corresponding to an initial state at the bottom left corner, (0,0) of the gridworld.

Let the state indices be ordered:

$$((0,0),(1,0),(2,0),(3,0),(0,1),(2,1),(3,1),(0,2),(1,2),(2,2),(3,2),$$
  
EXIT\_STATE)

The row is  $P_{((0,0),j)}^{\text{RIGHT}} = [0.1 \ 0.8 \ 0 \ 0.1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0]$ 

i.e. The probability of starting in state (0,0) and moving to state j==s' when performing the action RIGHT has the probability \_\_\_\_.

$$P((0,0)|(0,0), \text{RIGHT}) = 0.1$$

The probability of starting in state (0,0) and moving to state (0,0) when action RIGHT is performed has probability 0.01 of occurring - this is the first perpendicular state.

$$P((0,1)|(0,0), RIGHT) = 0.8$$

The probability of starting in state (0,0) and moving to state (1,0) when action RIGHT is performed has probability of 0.8 occurring - this is the chosen direction

$$P((0,0)|(0,0), RIGHT) = 0.1$$

The probability of starting in state (0,0) and moving to state (2,0) when action RIGHT is performed has probability of 0.8 occurring - this is the second perpendicular state.

d) Write a function that calculate the row of  $P^{\text{RIGHT}}$  corresponding to an initial state at the bottom left corner, (0,0) of the gridworld for any action or deterministic  $\pi((0,0))$ .