深度强化学习方法第三次作业说明文件: TD(0), Sarsa, Q-learning

一、问题重述

基于强化学习的课程背景,我们学习了动态规划、蒙特卡洛方法,并基于此探讨了时序差分问题,在时序差分方法中,通过综合前两种方法的自举特性和采样特性,组成了新的一种强化学习方法,并且通过同轨策略和离轨策略划分为 Sarsa 方法和 Q-learning 方法。

TD(0) 是 Monte Carlo 的改进,无物理模型的采样,无需等待路径终点,根据已学习的下一状态值,预测当前状态。其迭代更新公式及算法如下所示:

$$V(S_t) = V(S_t) + \alpha [R_{t+1} + \gamma V(S_{t+1}) - V(S_t)]$$

图 1: TD(0)算法

Sarsa 方法是一类同轨策略的时序差分方法,是指采样策略与目标策略相同。此处是学习动作值,不是状态值。按照动作策略 π ,评估所有动作价值,并且根据q值,通过 ϵ 贪婪法生成新的策略。其迭代更新公式及算法如下所示:

$$Q(S_t, A_t) = Q(S_t, A_t) + \alpha [R_{t+1} + \gamma Q(S_{t+1}, A_{t+1}) - Q(S_t, A_t)]$$

图 2: Sarsa 算法

Q-learning 方法是一类离轨策略的时序差分方法,是指采样策略与目标策略不同,采样策略使用 ϵ 贪婪法,目标策略通过采用贪婪法,计算下一个状态最优值 V^* ,其迭代更新公式及算法如下所示:

$$Q(S_t, A_t) = Q(S_t, A_t) + \alpha [R_{t+1} + \gamma \max_{a} Q(S_{t+1}, a) - Q(S_t, A_t)]$$

Q 学习 (离轨策略下的时序差分控制) 算法,用于预测 $\pi \approx \pi_*$ 算法参数: 步长 $\alpha \in (0,1]$,很小的 $\varepsilon, \varepsilon > 0$

对所有 $s \in S^+, a \in A(s)$, 任意初始化 Q(s,a), 其中 $Q(终止状态,\cdot) = 0$ 对每幕:

初始化 S

对幕中的每一步循环:

使用从 Q 得到的策略 (例如 ε -贪心), 在 S 处选择 A

执行 A, 观察到 R, S'

 $Q(S, A) \leftarrow Q(S, A) + \alpha [R + \gamma \max_{a} Q(S', a) - Q(S, A)]$

 $S \leftarrow S'$

直到 S 是终止状态

图 3: Q-learning 算法

二、实验环境

硬件环境 PC 机,CPU Intel(R)Core (TM) I7-9750H@2.60GHz 内存 16GB 软件环境 Visual Studio Code, python 版本 3.7.6

三、实验方法

1、 Cliffwalk 悬崖行走问题建模:

在本次实验中,我们将悬崖地图看作一个有(4 rows×12 columns)48 个状态,4 个动作的有限状态马尔可夫过程,其中地图如下图所示,模拟在悬崖边散步,agent 目标是从起点 S 到终点 G,agent 的动作有上下左右四个,agent 每一步的动作奖励为-1,掉下悬崖是-100,走到终点是 0。采样策略都是 ε 贪婪法。

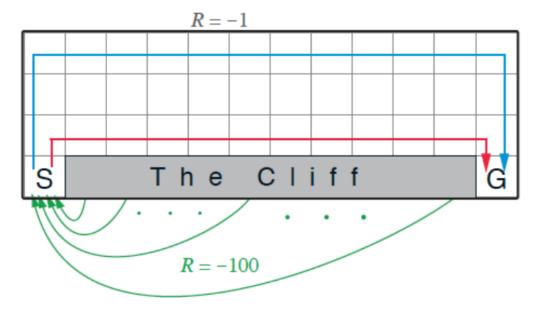


图 4: 悬崖行走地图

因此在实验编程中会初始化一个有着(4, rows*columns)个状态-动作对的动作价值函数/(rows*columns)个状态的状态价值函数,并且对此价值 Q 函数的 list 构建相关的函数(如ε贪婪策略函数、策略更新函数等等)。函数的参数及功能说明在代码中也有呈现。然后分别通过 TD(0), Sarsa, Q-learning 的迭代方程分别实现迭代更新。

2、 问题解决与结果展示:

1). TD(0)算法

相对于 Sarsa 和 Q-learning 初始化动作价值函数而言,TD(0)初始化状态价值函数,因此其代码单独列于 cliff_walk_td.py 中,其中关键的 TD(0)迭代函数如下所示

```
def td 0(num episodes = 500, gamma discount = 0.9, alpha = 0.5, epsilon = 0.1):
         Implementation of td(0) algorithm. (Sutton's book), adapted from glearning
         Args:
             num_episodes -- type(int), 500 acts' number of games to train agent
             gamma_discount -- type(float) discount factor determines importance of
future rewards
             alpha -- type(float) determines convergence rate of the algorithm (can think
as updating states fast or slow)
             epsilon -- type(float) explore/ exploit ratio (exe: default value 0.1
indicates %10 exploration)
         Returns:
             v_table -- type(np.array) Determines state value
             reward_cache -- type(list) contains cumulative_reward, which is used to plot
a draw
.....
         # initialize all states to 0
         # Terminal state cliff_walking ends
         reward cache = list()
         step_cache = list()
         v_table = createV_table()
         agent = (3, 0) # 1. starting from left down corner
         # start iterating through the episodes
         for episode in range(0, num_episodes):
             env = np.zeros((4, 12))
             env = visited env(agent, env)
             agent = (3, 0) # starting from left down corner
             game_end = False
             reward_cum = 0 # cumulative reward of the episode
             step_cum = 0 # keeps number of iterations untill the end of the game
             while(game end == False):
                  # get the state from agent's position
                  state = get_state(agent)
                  state_value=v_table[state]
                  # choose action using epsilon-greedy policy
                  action = epsilon_greedy_policy(agent,v_table)
                  # move agent to the next state
                  agent = move_agent(agent, action)
```

```
env = visited_env(agent, env) # mark the visited path
                  step\_cum += 1
                  # observe next state value
                  next_state = get_state(agent)
                  max_next_state_value = v_table[state]
                  # observe reward and determine whether game ends
                  reward, game_end = get_reward(next_state)
                  reward_cum += reward
                  # update q_table
                  v_table = update_vTable(v_table, state, reward, max_next_state_value,
gamma discount, alpha)
                  # update the state
                  state = next_state
             reward_cache.append(reward_cum)
             if(episode > 498):
                  print("Agent trained with td(0) after 500 iterations")
                  print(env) # display the last 2 path agent takes
             step_cache.append(step_cum)
    return v_table, reward_cache, step_cache
```

除了更新函数外,代码中还包括了初始化算法`createV_table`创建了一个 rows×columns 的状态价值函数表, `epsilon_greedy_policy`创建了ε贪婪算法的函数, `vis_env`提供了路径可视化的方法, `get_state`, `move_agent`, `get_reward`提供了状态转移中的必要函数, 而`update_vTable `给出了更新状态函数的方法, 如下所示:

```
def update_vTable(v_table, state, reward, next_state_value, gamma_discount = 0.9, alpha
= 0.5):"""
         Update the q_table based on observed rewards and maximum next state value
         Sutton's Book pseudocode: V(S) \leftarrow V(S) + [alpha * (reward + (gamma * V(S')) -
V(S) ]
         Args:
             v_table -- type(np.array) Determines state value
             state -- type(int) state value between [0,47]
             reward -- type(int) reward in the corresponding state
             next_state_value -- type(float) maximum state value at next state
             gamma_discount -- type(float) discount factor determines importance of
future rewards
             alpha -- type(float) controls learning convergence
         Returns:
             v_table -- type(np.array) Determines state value
         update_v_value = v_table[state] + alpha * (reward + (gamma_discount *
next_state_value) - v_table[state])
         v_table[state] = update_v_value
    return v_table
```

相对于 Sarsa 和 Q-learning 算法,TD(0)的收敛性相对较差,最后一个 epoch (500) 迭代中的路线图在随机性的引导下容易得到不同的路线,得到的路线和每个状态的价值函数热力图如下所示,可以看见在三次独立的迭代中,路线产生了差异:



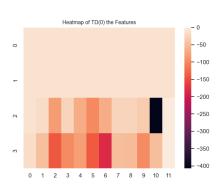


图 5: TD(0)方法下路径选择与状态价值函数热力图

2). Sarsa 算法

Sarsa 算法是一类同轨策略的时间差分方法,即是目标策略和采样策略一致,其中关键的 Sarsa 迭代函数如下所示:

```
def sarsa(num_episodes = 500, gamma_discount = 0.9, alpha = 0.5, epsilon = 0.1):
    reward_cache = list()
    step_cache = list()
    q_table = createQ_table()
    # start iterating through the episodes
    for episode in range(0, num_episodes):
         agent = (3, 0) # starting from left down corner
         game_end = False
         env = np.zeros((4, 12))
         env = visited_env(agent, env)
         reward_cum = 0 # cumulative reward of the episode
         step_cum = 0 # keeps number of iterations untill the end of the game
         # choose action using policy
         state, _ = get_state(agent, q_table)
         action = epsilon_greedy_policy(state, q_table)
         while(game end == False):
             # move agent to the next state
             agent = move_agent(agent, action)
             env = visited_env(agent, env)
             step\_cum += 1
             # observe next state value
             next_state, _ = get_state(agent, q_table)
             # observe reward and determine whether game ends
             reward, game_end = get_reward(next_state)
             reward_cum += reward
             # choose next_action using policy and next state, which is the need of sarsa
             next_action = epsilon_greedy_policy(next_state, q_table)
             # update q_table
```

Sarsa 算法的最后一个 epoch 迭代得到的路线和每个状态的价值函数热力图如下所示:



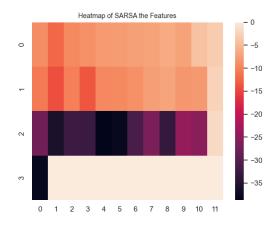


图 6: Sarsa 方法下路径选择与动作价值函数热力图

3). Q-learning 算法

Q-learning 算法是一类离轨策略的时间差分方法, 即是目标策略和采样策略不一致, 其中关键的 Q-learning 迭代函数如下所示:

```
def qlearning(num_episodes = 500, gamma_discount = 0.9, alpha = 0.5, epsilon = 0.1):

# initialize all states to 0

# Terminal state cliff_walking ends

reward_cache = list()

step_cache = list()

q_table = createQ_table()

agent = (3, 0) # 1. starting from left down corner

# start iterating through the episodes

for episode in range(0, num_episodes):

env = np.zeros((4, 12))

env = visited_env(agent, env)
```

```
agent = (3, 0) # starting from left down corner
        game_end = False
        reward_cum = 0 # cumulative reward of the episode
        step_cum = 0 # keeps number of iterations untill the end of the game
        while(game_end == False):
             # get the state from agent's position
             state, _ = get_state(agent, q_table)
             # choose action using epsilon-greedy policy
             action = epsilon_greedy_policy(state, q_table)
             # move agent to the next state
             agent = move_agent(agent, action)
             env = visited_env(agent, env) # mark the visited path
             step_cum += 1
             # observe next state value
             next_state, max_next_state_value = get_state(agent, q_table)
             # observe reward and determine whether game ends
             reward, game_end = get_reward(next_state)
             reward_cum += reward
             # update q_table
             q_table
                        =
                               update_qTable(q_table,
                                                                               reward,
                                                          state,
                                                                    action,
max_next_state_value, gamma_discount, alpha)
             # update the state
             state = next_state
        reward_cache.append(reward_cum)
        if(episode > 498):
             print("Agent trained with Q-learning after 500 iterations")
             print(env) # display the last 2 path agent takes
        step_cache.append(step_cum)
    return q_table, reward_cache, step_cache
```

Q-learning 算法的最后一个 epoch 迭代得到的路线和每个状态的价值函数热力图如下所示:

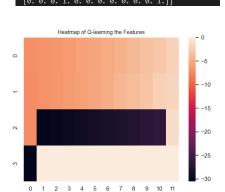


图 7: Q-learning 方法下路径选择与动作价值函数热力图

3、结果比较

对比 TD (0) 与 Sarsa, Q-learning 的步数以及到终点时的收益积累,可以发现 TD (0) 的效果相对较差,并且经历的 epoch 更多,而 Q-learning 相对于 Sarsa 性能更好,在下两图中可以看见 Q-learning 的收敛相对更稳定,可能与其使用了离轨策略有关,Q-learning 和 Sarsa 的性能比较也是强化学习中一直被关注的话题,值得进一步研究

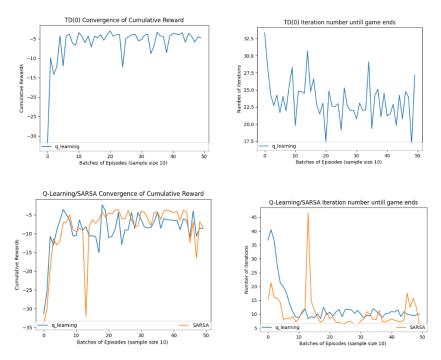


图 8: 三类方法每个 epoch 下到达终点时累计收益及步数可视化

4、额外说明

本次的代码由于 TD(0)运用状态价值函数,因此单独写在 cliff_walk_td.py 文件中,Sarsa 和 Q-learning 用动作价值函数,卸载 cliff_walk.py 中,代码仓库亦可见 https://github.com/Mu-Yanchen/rl_hw,代码参考 https://github.com/zeynepCankara/Cliff-Walking-Solution