

Python Template for Stochastic Dynamic Programming

Assumptions: the states are nonnegative whole numbers, and stages are numbered starting at 1.

```
import numpy
hugeNumber = float("inf")
```

Initialize all needed parameters and data

```
stages = number of stages
```

```
f = numpy.zeros([stages + 2, (highest-numbered state) + 1])
```

```
x = numpy.zeros([stages + 1, (highest-numbered state) + 1])
```

If not zero, set each $f[\text{stages}+1, i]$ to the terminal value of being in state i at the end

For forbidden terminal states, use hugeNumber for minimization, -hugeNumber for maximization

```
for t in range(stages, 0, -1) :
```

```
    for i in (possible states) :
```

Determine set of decisions d which are possible in this stage/state combination

value = -hugeNumber if maximizing or hugeNumber if minimizing

```
    for d in (set of allowed decisions  $d$ ) :
```

Compute rewards/costs that are not random

moveValue = (net rewards/costs that are not random)

```
        for r in (set of random outcomes  $r$ ) :
```

```
            j = (resulting next state)
```

Compute rewards/costs that depend on r

```
            moveValue += (probability of  $r$ ) * ((rewards/costs depending on  $r$ ) +  $f[t+1, j]$ )
```

```
            # If net present value is involved,  $\beta * f[t+1, j]$  instead, where
```

```
            #  $\beta = 1/(1 + r)$  is the discount factor
```

```
        if moveValue > value : (use < instead of > if minimizing)
```

```
            value = moveValue
```

```
            bestMove = d
```

```
    # End of d loop
```

```
    f[t, i] = value
```

```
    x[t, i] = bestMove
```

```
    # End of i loop
```

```
# End of t loop
```

```
print("Optimal solution value is " + str(f[1, (initial state)]))
```

```
print("In stage 1, (describe decision) " + str(x[1, (initial state)]))
```

```
for t in range(2, stages+1) :
```

```
    print("In stage " + str(t) + ":")
```

```
    for i in (possible states) :
```

```
        print("    If (describe state) " + str(i) + ", (describe decision) " + str(x[t, i])
```