

MSR stands for **M**inimal **S**ufficient **R**efinements and for **M**inimal **S**tructural **R**epresentations

We want to create a library called `msrgym` which has sublibraries corresponding to different types of agents in different types of environments. For example `msrgym.robot_arm` and `msrgym.bot_in_a_maze`. Each of them has a subsublibrary `.ext` and `.int` (external and internal). I am thinking of such a “subsublibrary” as a class. Let us focus on the robot arm, because that’s the first one to be implemented.

Robot arm: External

Initialization The class `msrgym.robot_arm.ext` is initialized with the following parameters:

1. n = number of joints. An integer > 0 ,
2. L = arm lengths. A list of floats. The length of this list is n .
3. O = obstacles.
4. p = initial position of the arm, a sequence of integers between 0 and 359. The length of this sequence is n .
5. `get_S()` = sensory distribution. This is a function which returns an integer. The answer cannot be different for the same values of n, L, O, p . The idea is that the sensory data depends on the (actual) position of the arm.

How to present obstacles? The simplest obstacle is a disk. It is given by a center point and a radius. A more complicated one is presented as a closed polygon. A polygon can be presented as a sequence points in a plane, i.e. pairs of floats. Assuming that the first joint of the robot arm is at $(0,0)$. For example

$$O = [[1,1], [2,1], [2,1]], [[-1,-1], [-3,-1], [-2,-1]]]$$

would be a set of two obstacles each of which is a triangle near the origin.

The initial position p_0 must be such that the arm doesn’t touch the obstacles, otherwise an error should be thrown. This means that the piecewise linear curve which starts from $(0,0)$ and which is defined by L and p_0 together doesn’t intersect any of the polygonal areas defined in O .

Functions.

1. `_hit_obstacle(p_input)` this returns `True`, if the position defined by `p_input` is such that the arm intersects one of the polygonal obstacles. Otherwise return `False`.
2. `update(a)`. This function takes as an input an action a . The action a is an integer such that $0 \leq a < 2n$. If $a = 2k$ for some k , then the k :th joint moves counterclockwise, and if $a = 2k + 1$ for some k , then the k :th joint moves clockwise. The move is successfull if no obstacle is in the way, otherwise the arm stays still:

```

p_new := p.copy()
if a is even:
    k := a/2
    p_new[k] := (p_new[k]+1) mod 360
else:
    k := (a-1)/2
    p_new[k] := (p_new[k]-1) mod 360
if not self._hit_obstacle(p_new):
    p := p_new

```

The output of this function is `None` (or no output).
3. `get_sensory_data()`. Function with no input. The output is given by `get_S()`.

4. `get_position()`. This function returns p and also the actual geometry of the arm, i.e. the coordinates of the joints. This can be computed using p and L , assuming that the first joint is in the origin $(0, 0)$.

Note that `_hit_obstacle` is only an internal function which needs never be called from outside. From outside we only call `update`, `get_sensory_data`, and `get_position`.

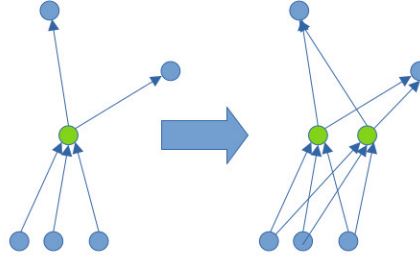
Robot arm: Internal

Initialization The class `msrgym.robot_arm.int` is initialized with the following parameters:

1. G = A transition multigraph given as a square matrix whose entries are sets of actions (integers between 0 and $2n$ where n should match the n above). Initialize as a (1×1) -matrix with the (only) set of actions being the set of all actions.
2. Current state m which is an integer between 0 and $d - 1$ where d is the size of G , i.e. the dimensions of the matrix are $d \times d$. Initialized as 0.

Functions.

1. `split(n)` this function changes the transition graph G by splitting a node into two nodes. All the incoming and outgoing transitions are duplicated. An illutsration of the change in the graph:



In terms of the transition matrix this means that the number of both columns and rows is increased by one and the new column is a copy of the n :th column and the new row is a copy of the n :th row. The element a_{dd} is the same as a_{nn} . For example, if the original matrix is

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} \{0, 1\} & \{1, 2, 3, 4\} \\ \{1, 3, 4\} & \{0, 2\} \end{bmatrix}$$

and the input is $n = 0$, the new matrix is

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} \{0, 1\} & \{1, 2, 3, 4\} & \{0, 1\} \\ \{1, 3, 4\} & \{0, 2\} & \{1, 3, 4\} \\ \{0, 1\} & \{1, 2, 3, 4\} & \{0, 1\} \end{bmatrix}$$

2. `merge(n,m)` Opposite of `split`. Remove columns n, m and rows n, m and add instead one row and one column which are obtained by taking unions of elements of original rows/columns. Thus, if the matrix is

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} \{1\} & \{2, 4\} & \{2\} \\ \{\} & \{\} & \{1\} \\ \{0\} & \{\} & \{\} \end{bmatrix}$$

and the input is $(n, m) = (0, 1)$, then the output is

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} \{1, 2, 4\} & \{1, 2\} \\ \{0\} & \{\} \end{bmatrix}$$

3. **add(n,m,k)** add a connection from n to m with label k , meaning that $a_{nm} := a_{nm} \cup \{k\}$.
4. **del(n,m,k)** remove the connection from n to m , if it has label k , meaning that $a_{nm} := a_{nm} \setminus \{k\}$.
5. **transition(k)** This is a non-deterministic transition. If the state currently is n , then we go to one of the states in the set

$$\{m \mid k \in a_{nm}\},$$

meaning we go to one of the states to which there is a connection from n with label k . We can pick it randomly.