

<u>Course</u> > <u>Bandits</u> > <u>Lab</u> > Exercis...

# **Exercise 2B Optimistic Greedy**

Exercise 2.2B: Optimistic Greedy

In this exercise, you will implement the optimistic greedy policy.

Make sure that you have:

- 1. Completed the setup requirements as described in the Set Up Lab Environments section
- 2. Completed the previous exercises in this lab

Now, run jupyter notebook and open the "Ex2.2B Optimistic Greedy.ipynb" notebook under Module 2 folder.

- 1. Examine the notebook.
- 2. Your task is to implement an optimistic greedy policy: that is initialize the  $\hat{r}_a$  to a large initial value  $m{R}$  , which is implemented in the init() function, and then play the greedy algorithm.
- 3. We have given you some boiler plate code, you only need to modify the part as indicated.
- 4. Once you have done that, prepare a simulation. Don't change any other parameter, that is:
  - evaluation\_seed = 5016
  - num\_actions = 10
  - trials = 10000
  - distribution = "bernoulli"
- 5. Set the R to zero.
- 6. Run the simulation, observe the results, and answer the following questions.

### Lab Question

1/1 point (graded)

With  $m{R}$  set to zero, what do you observe?

- The optimistic greedy behaves randomly
- The optimistic greedy behaves like the epsilon greedy algorithm
- The optimistic greedy behaves like the greedy algorithm

Submit

You have used 2 of 2 attempts

✓ Correct (1/1 point)

Set the  ${\it R}$  to a very, very large number, let's use 10000, which is the same number with the number of trials. Run the simulation again and observe the results.

## Lab Question

1/1 point (graded)

With  $\boldsymbol{R}$  set to 10000, what do you observe?

• The optimistic greedy behaves randomly



- The optimistic greedy behaves like the optimistic greedy algorithm
- The optimistic greedy behaves like the greedy algorithm

Submit

You have used 1 of 2 attempts

✓ Correct (1/1 point)

Now, try several different number of  ${\it R}$  (1, 3, 5). Make sure the other parameters stay the same, that is:

- evaluation\_seed = 5016
- num\_actions = 10
- trials = 10000
- distribution = "bernoulli"

Run the simulations and observe the results.

### Lab Question

1/1 point (graded)

Which is the smallest  $oldsymbol{R}$  that allow the optimistic greedy to find the optimal arm?





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Submit You have used 1 of 2 attempts

✓ Correct (1/1 point)

Now let's prepare another simulation by setting a different seed, so your parameters should look like this:

- evaluation\_seed = 1239
- num\_actions = 10
- trials = 10000
- distribution = "bernoulli"

Run the simulations with different number of  $\mathbf{R}$  (1, 3, 5) and observe the results.

# Lab Question

1/1 point (graded)

Which is the smallest R that allow the optimistic greedy to find the optimal arm?



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