

Problem 1: MDP Warm-up

Consider an MDP problem. There are four states $\{S_A, S_B, S_C, S_D\}$, at each of which two actions $\{+, -\}$ are available, and the state transition and reward have no randomness. All the (action, reward) pairs are described in Figure 1. Assume all the episodes have length 3 (e.g. $S_A \xrightarrow{+} S_B \xrightarrow{-} S_A \xrightarrow{-} S_A$).

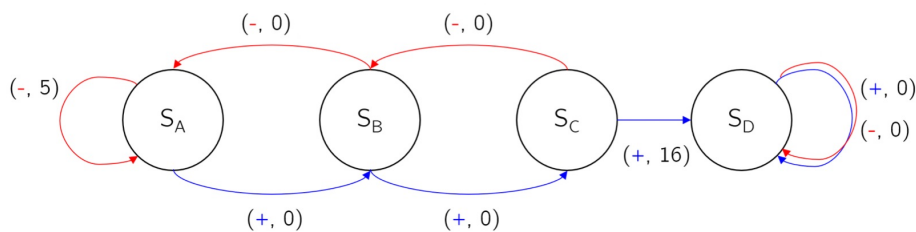


Figure 1: MDP problem with (action, reward) pairs.

Problem 1a [2 points]

Find the optimal policy at the initial state S_A with discount factor $\gamma = 0.001$. Justify your answer.

Problem 1b [2 points]

Find the optimal policy at the initial state S_A with discount factor $\gamma = 0.999$. Justify your answer.

Problem 1c [2 points]

What is the optimal policy at the initial state S_B ? Explain your answer in terms of discount factor $\gamma \in (0, 1)$.

(a, b) $\pi(S_A)$ 는 + 와 - 이 된다. $T(S, \pi(S), S') = 1$ 이다 (No randomness)

① $\pi(S_A) = +$

② $\pi(S_A) = -$

let action sequence = e (episode)

$e = (+, +, +) \rightarrow R_e = 16r^2$

$e = (-, -, -) \rightarrow R_e = 5(4r + r^2)$

$e = (+, +, -) \rightarrow R_e = 0$

$e = (-, -, +) \rightarrow R_e = 5(4r)$

$e = (+, -, +) \rightarrow R_e = 0$

$e = (-, +, -) \rightarrow R_e = 5$

$e = (+, -, -) \rightarrow R_e = 5r^2$

$e = (-, +, +) \rightarrow R_e = 5$

각 episode의 probability = $\frac{1}{4}$

$\pi(S_A) = +$ 이고 3개의 action을 취했을 때

$\pi(S_A) = -$ 이고 3개의 action을 취했을 때

value = $\frac{21r^2}{4}$

value = $\frac{20 + 10r + 5r^2}{4}$

1a. $r = 0.001$ $\frac{21}{4}(0.001)^2 < \frac{20 + 10 \times (0.001) + 5 \times (0.001)^2}{4}$ optimal policy = $(-)$

1b. $r = 0.999$ $\frac{21}{4}(0.999)^2 < \frac{20 + 10 \times (0.999) + 5 \times (0.999)^2}{4}$ optimal policy = $(-)$

1c. ① $\pi(S_B) = +$

② $\pi(S_B) = -$

$e = (+, +, +) \rightarrow R_e = 16r$

$e = (-, -, -) \rightarrow R_e = 5(r + r^2)$

$e = (+, +, -) \rightarrow R_e = 16r$

$e = (-, -, +) \rightarrow R_e = 5r$

$e = (+, -, +) \rightarrow R_e = 0$

$e = (-, +, -) \rightarrow R_e = 0$

$e = (+, -, -) \rightarrow R_e = 0$

$e = (-, +, +) \rightarrow R_e = 0$

각 episode의 probability = $\frac{1}{4}$

$\pi(S_B) = +$ 이고 3개의 action을 취했을 때

$\pi(S_B) = -$ 이고 3개의 action을 취했을 때

value = $8r$

value = $\frac{10r + 5r^2}{4}$

$10r + 5r^2$, 12r 이고

$10r + 5r^2 - 12r = 5r^2 - 2r$

$\therefore r \in (0, 1)$ 에서 항상

$\pi(S_B) = +$ 이 더 큰지 : $5r^2 - 2r < 0$

$5r(r - \frac{2}{5}) < 0$

$0 < r < \frac{2}{5}$

$\pi(S_B) = +$ 이 episode의 expected value가 더 크다