# Attention-Over-Actions Option-Critic

IB Computer Science Extended Essay Word Count: 3936

# Research Question

How are localized options trained in the Option-Critic architecture?

#### 1 Introduction

As humasn we operate in high level actions. For example when driving a car, we make decisions about turning left or right instead of thinking about which muscle to contract. Human have the ability to group a chain of actions into one single high level action.

In Reinforcement Learning, we have a way to capture this idea of grouping action by using options [1]. When the options are defined, learning how to use them is very simple. However, if the options are not given and need to be learned, things get a lot harder since it requires knowing what makes an option good.

Many people argued that a good options should be diverse and localized [2][3], and many recent algorithms have followed this argument. These algorithms were able to discover options that are localized, so in this essay, I will try to derive a framework for localization in order to answer my research question, and I will develop an algorithm from the framework to see whether or not it can actually train localized options.

This essay will be structured as follows: First, preliminaries and related work will be presented to give a context to what I am trying to do. Second, previous work will be analyzed to figure out how localization is achieved. Third, a framework will be proposed based on the observations made in the analysis. Forth, an algorithm will be derived from the framework. Finally, the algorithm will be tested in the Four Rooms environment.

# 2 Preliminary

This section only acts as a summary. You are assumed to have basic knowledge about Reinforcement Learning and Option Framework.

#### Markov Decision Process

Markov decision process (MDP) [4] is a mathematical framework for modeling decision making in a stochastic environment. It is defined as a tuple:  $\langle S, A, r, \gamma, P \rangle$  where:

 $\mathcal{S}$  is the set of states.

 $\mathcal{A}$  is the set of actions

 $r: \mathcal{S} \times \mathcal{A} \to \mathbb{R}$  is the reward function

 $\gamma \in [0,1)$  is the discount factor that ensure the cumulative reward  $\sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \gamma^t r(s_t, a_t)$  converges

 $P: \mathcal{S} \times A \times \mathcal{S} \to [0,1]$  is the transition model which gives the probability for a particular transition to occur.

All MDPs must follow the Markov Property, which means that everything is stateless and does not depend on the history. In an MDP, A policy  $\pi: \mathcal{S} \times \mathcal{A} \to [0,1]$  is responsible for choosing the action, after an action is chosen, the environment transitions to a new state according to P(s, a, s'), and a reward is given to the policy. This process repeats until the environment enters a terminal state.

### Reinforcement Learning

Reinforcement Learning (RL) [4] is a machine learning paradigm which allows an agent to learn from interaction in an MDP. The agent's goal is to maximize a certain objective function.

Actor-Critic [5] is one of the popular classes of algorithms that harvest the advantage of both Q-Learning and Policy Gradient. An actor network is trained to choose the best action, while a critic network is trained to evaluate the decision made by the actor network.

### **Option Framework**

In the Option Framework[1], instead of only using 1 policy, we use a set of options, each option is defined as a tuple:  $\langle \mathcal{I}_{\omega}, \pi_{\omega}, \beta_{\omega} \rangle$ , where:

 $\mathcal{I}_{\omega} \subseteq \mathcal{S}$  is the initiation set that define which state the option can be selected

 $\pi_{\omega}: \mathcal{S} \times \mathcal{A} \to [0,1]$  is the internal policy

 $\beta_{\omega}: \mathcal{S} \to [0,1]$  is the termination probability.

These options take turns to choose the action. A policy-over-options  $\pi_{\Omega}: \mathcal{S} \times \Omega \to [0,1]$ , where  $\Omega$  is the set of options, decides which option to use. When an option is chosen, actions are chosen by its internal policy  $\pi_{\omega}$  from then on, until it terminated according to its  $\beta_{\omega}$ , then the policy-over-options  $\pi_{\Omega}$  chooses an option again. An option has a chance to terminate every time the environment transitions to a new state.

If the options are defined, the policy-over-options  $\pi_{\Omega}$  can be learned by using SMDP Q-Learning [6] or Intra-Option Learning [7]. However, options are not always predefined and need to be discovered.

#### Four Rooms Environment

The Four Rooms environment [8] is commonly used to evaluate option discovery algorithms. The agent can perform 4 actions: up, down, left and right, which will move the agent in that corresponding direction. The choice of agent has 1/3 chance to fail and a random action will be chosen instead.

+50 reward will be given to the agent when it arrives to the goal state, and the episode will terminate after that.

Each cell position in the environment is mapped to a state number and is given to the agent in each step. The agent starts in a random state when an episode starts.

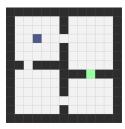


Figure 1: The Four Room environment. The black cells indicate the wall. The white cells indicate the area the agents can be in. The blue cell indicates the current position of the agent. The green cell indicates the goal.

#### 3 Related Work

In this section, some option discovery algorithms will be summarized.

### **Option-Critic**

Option-Critic [9] is an RL algorithm inspired by Action-Critic [5], where options are trained to maximize expected return, while an option-value function  $Q_{\Omega}$  is trained to evaluate the decision of the options.

#### **Deliberation Cost**

Since optimal policy can be achieved even without using options, if options are trained only to maximize expected return, they may degenerate and either terminate every step or never terminate. Deliberation Cost [10] is a way to encourage longer option duration by punishing option switching.

#### **Interest Option-Critic**

The original Option-Critic assumes that options can be initiated everywhere, Interest Option-Critic [2] tries to remove this assumption by introducing interest functions  $I: \mathcal{S} \times \Omega \to [0,1]$  as a replacement for the initiation set. Experimental results show that options learned by Interest Option-Critic are localized.

#### **Termination-Critic**

Termination-Critic [11] changes the objective of the termination function  $\beta$  from maximizing the expected return to minimize the entropy of the termination state. Since entropy can be interpreted as the information gain, this means minimizing the information gained from knowing the termination state, or in other words, making the termination state more predictable.

#### **Attention Option-Critic**

Attention Option-Critic [3] implements attention mechanism into Option-Critic. Different options are trained to attend to different features of the state. The attention units were trained not only to maximize the expected return, but also other things like maximizing difference between attention of different options.

## 4 Exploration

An analysis on localization will be conducted in this section.

#### What is Localization?

Localization is about options each responsible for a sub-task, or another way of looking at it is options each representing a skill. However, defining and measuring localization quantitatively is hard, which is why most work evaluate these option discovery algorithms qualitatively, by observing the agent acting for an episode in the environment. For example in the Four Rooms environment, only using one option in each room is considered as localization.

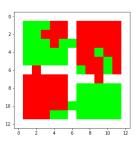


Figure 2: Red and green each represents an option, the options are pretty localized here.

#### Why Localization?

To understand why we want localization, first we need to answer a fundamental question: Why do we even use options in the first place? Is it to maximize expected return? However, optimal policy can

be achieved using only primitive actions. If options cannot give us a higher return, why do we even need options? Some researchers suggest that options should speed up planning [10] [11] and also options should be transferable [2] [3].

If this is what a good option should be like, then a set of localized options would be beneficial. Localized options are easy to interpret, which made it easily reusable when transferred to a different environment. Also, easy-to-interpret options can speed up planning because each option has its clear purpose and usage.

#### How Localization is achieved?

Now I will analyze how some of the previous work achieve localization of options.

### **Attention Option-Critic**

In Attention Option-Critic [3], each options are trained to attend to different features of the state. My hypothesis is that the attention mechanism can act as a constraint on what kind of policy each option can have. Each feature of the state represents a piece of information about the state. When performing a sub-task, not all the features are necessary. Each sub-task requires different subset of features. Since the attention mechanism limits the subset of features given to an option, the option cannot learn sub-task that requires features outside of the subset of features it was given, or else the option will perform poorly. In the algorithm, each option is trained to have diverse attention, which force each option to learn to complete a different sub-task.

For example, there is 3 options and an RGB 2D image is the features of the state. Suppose the 3 options each attend to one of the RGB channels, and one of the sub-tasks is checking if there is a purple circle on the image. In this case, only the option with attention on the green channel can complete this sub-task.

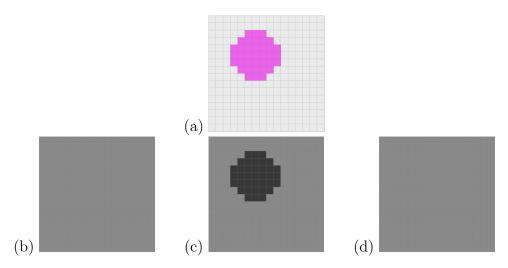


Figure 3: (a) is the RGB input, (b), (c) and (d) are the red, green and blue channel respectively. The circle can only be seen in the green channel.

#### Deliberation Cost

In Deliberation Cost [10], options are encouraged to be more temporally extended. Since options that terminates every step must be non-localized, Deliberation Cost can increase the chance of achieving localization.

#### **Termination-Critic**

In Termination-Critic [11], option termination states' entropy is being minimized, and experimental

results show that option trained by this usually choose to terminate in bottleneck states (frequently visited states). My hypothesis is that bottleneck states are usually the start or end of a sub-task, having the option terminate at these states essentially chains termination with initiation.

I will illustrate this with a simple example: In the Four Rooms environment, assume that the sub-task is walking from one doorway to another. The two doorway are bottleneck states because the agent must go through them. Since the agent can take on many paths, all the other states are not bottleneck states. When the agent gets to the next doorway, another option can be immediately initiated.

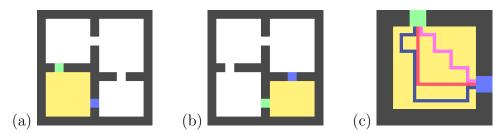


Figure 4: (a) and (b) are two options in the theoretic example. Green is the start of the option, blue is the end of the option, yellow is the intermediate states the option may encounter. (c) is a zoomed-in version of the bottom left room. Dark blue, red and pink lines are some of the paths the option can take.

#### **Interest Option-Critic**

In Interest Option-Critic. My hypothesis is that the interest function made the policy-over-options bias to choosing one of the options in a state, and since the paper uses a neural network as the interest function, the policy-over-options will also bias to choosing that option in neighboring states.

#### 5 The Localization Framework

Naturally, the next question that will be asked is: What do all of these algorithms have in common? Now I will propose a framework that can act as an abstraction for all of these algorithms.

#### The Localization Framework

#### 1. Grouping

Group states into meaningful sub-tasks based on a certain criterion

#### 2. Assignment

Assign the sub-tasks to different options

#### 3. Optimization

Train options to perform well in the sub-task it is given and also improve the initial grouping of sub-tasks

#### 4. Selection

Form the policy-over-options to select option in different state

This framework is inspired by Adaboost [12], which is an Ensemble Learning algorithm from Supervised Learning. There are a lot of similarities between Ensemble Learning and Option Learning, this has already been pointed out in previous work [13], the individual weak classifiers can be thought of as options.

Each weak classifier is responsible for classifying a small subset of the training data, just like how each option is responsible for a sub-task. In Adaboost, a bunch of weak classifiers are trained sequentially, each of them focuses on training data that is classified poorly by the previous weak classifiers.

Since this training process involves dividing training example into groups, then assign it to different weak classifiers, it inspires the Grouping and Assignment steps in the Localization Framework. Also, the

Optimization step in the framework is reminiscent of the weak classifiers learning to classify the training examples. After a lot of weak classifiers are trained, Adaboost combines them together to form a boosted classifier. The boosted classifier is the weighted sum of all the weak classifiers, the weighting is somewhat like a selection process, so it inspires the Selection step in the framework.

	Grouping	Assignment	Optimization	Selection
Attention Option- Critic	Group states that need the same sets of features	The algorithm assign an attention mecha- nism to each option	Options and attention mechanisms maximize return	Choose the option with maximum expected return
Termination- Critic	Group states between two bottleneck states	Each option terminates in a bottleneck state	Internal policy maximize return, termination function minimize entropy	Choose the option with maximum expected return
Interest Option- Critic	Group states that are close together	The algorithm assign an interest function to each option	Options and interest functions maximize return	Choose the option with high expected return and interest

Table 1: Previously mentioned algorithms can be fitted into the Localization Framework

This framework is the abstraction of algorithms that produce localized options, so it is very useful in deriving a new algorithm in the next section.

# 6 Attention-Over-Actions Option-Critic

Now that there is a framework, I can just follow the framework and derive a new algorithm. The following algorithm will be called Attention-Over-Actions Option-Critic (AOAOC) because it perform abstraction on the action space, this algorithm is largely inspired by Attention Option-Critic [3].

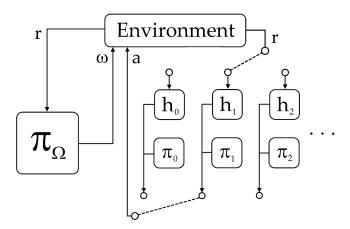


Figure 5: Visualization of the interaction between the environment and the Attention-Over-Actions Option-Critic (AOAOC) algorithm.

### 1. Grouping

In Attention Option-Critic, the Grouping step identifies sub-tasks based on features needed, this works because each sub-task requires a different subset of features. The following algorithm borrow the idea of attention over state features and apply it to actions, so each option will attend to a different sets of actions.

The intuition for this is that each sub-task will not need to use all the actions, for example, you would not consider performing a kicking action when you are driving a car. This is essentially performing actions abstraction, since the option can only attend to a subset of the actions.

#### 2. Assignment

The following algorithm assigns the sub-task in a similar way as Attention Option-Critic, an attention mechanism  $h_{\omega,\phi}:\mathcal{A}\to[0,1]$  parameterized by  $\phi$  will be given to each option. But instead of masking the state features, it masks the probability for choosing each action. So the final policy  $\pi_{h_{\omega}}$  for option  $\omega$  to choose action a will be:

$$\pi_{h_{\omega}}(a|s) = \frac{\pi_{\omega,\theta}(a|s)h_{\omega,\phi}(a)}{\sum_{a'} \pi_{\omega,\theta}(a'|s)h_{\omega,\phi}(a')}$$

where  $\pi_{\omega,\theta}$  is the internal policy of option  $\omega$  and is parameterized by  $\theta$ .

#### 3. Optimization

The optimization of the attention mechanism and that of the option will be described separately.

#### **Option Optimization**

Let's first consider the optimization of the option. I will train the internal policy and termination function just like in Option-Critic [9]. They will maximize the expected return by using gradient ascent:

$$\theta \leftarrow \theta + \alpha_{\theta} \nabla_{\theta} Q_{\Omega}(s, \omega)$$

$$\nu \leftarrow \nu + \alpha_{\nu} \nabla_{\nu} U_{\Omega}(s', \omega)$$

where  $\theta$  and  $\nu$  are the parameters for the internal policy and termination function respectively,  $Q_{\Omega}(s,\omega)$  and  $U_{\Omega}(s',\omega)$  are the expected return for choosing the option  $\omega$  in state s and entering the state s when using option  $\omega$  respectively.

I can directly reuse the result from the Option-Critic paper:

$$\nabla_{\theta} Q_{\Omega}(s, \omega) = E[\nabla_{\theta} \log \pi_{\omega, \theta}(a|s) Q_{U}(s, \omega, a)]$$

$$\nabla_{\nu} U_{\Omega}(s', \omega) = E[\nabla_{\nu} \beta_{\omega, \nu}(s') A(s', \omega)]$$

where  $Q_U(s,\omega,a)$  is the expected return for choosing action a when using option  $\omega$  in state s.

The reason why I ignored the attention mechanism here is that the internal policy should not know about the attention mechanism, or else it may want to revert the effect of the attention mechanism, i.e. Assigning a high weight to an action with low attention.

#### Attention Mechanism Optimization

Now let's consider the optimization of  $h_{\omega,\phi}$ . I want the grouping to be different for all options because or else all options will just aim for the sub-task with the highest return. I also want the options to focus on as little actions as possible while still having acceptable performance. Essentially what I need is the algorithm to consider the trade-off between these objectives and achieve a balance between them. A nice way to do this is to add all of these objective up and then perform gradient ascent on the sum:

$$\phi \leftarrow \phi + \alpha_{\phi} \nabla_{\phi} \sum_{o} (w_{o} O_{o})$$

where o is the index of an objective,  $w_o$  is the weight of the objective,  $O_o$  is the objective function. This method has been used for Attention Option-Critic too. Now I will list out the objectives that I want the option to consider:

- 1. Perform well
- 2. Different from other options
- 3. The components of the attention mechanism is close to 0 or 1
- 4. Focus on small set of actions

From now on I will sometimes consider  $h_{\omega,\phi}$  as a vector to ease the computation process.

For the first objective, I can just use  $Q_{\Omega}(s,\omega)$  like in Attention Critic.

$$\max_{h} O_1 = \max_{h} Q_{\Omega}(s, \omega)$$

For the second objective, I will minimize cosine similarity just like in Attention Critic.

$$\min_{h} O_2 = \min_{h} \sum_{h' \neq h} C(h, h') = \min_{h} \sum_{h' \neq h} \frac{\langle h', h \rangle}{||h'|| \times ||h||}$$

For the third objective, I will minimize entropy in the attention mechanism. Entropy measures the uncertainty in a probability distribution, so h should be normalized first.

$$\min_{h} O_3 = \min_{h} H(\frac{h}{||h||}) = \max_{h} < \frac{h}{||h||}, \log \frac{h}{||h||} >$$

For the forth objective, I will minimize the length of the attention mechanism, which discourage focusing on too many actions.

$$\min_{h} O_4 = \min_{h} ||h||$$

#### 4. Selection

Any policy-over-options that favor higher Q-value options will work in this case, because the option will need the right set of actions in order to perform well, or else it will fail horribly. So the Q-value already encoded which option has the right set of actions. This means that policies like  $\epsilon$ -greedy should work for this algorithm.

#### Algorithm 1 Pseudocode for Attention-Over-Actions Option-Critic (AOAOC)

```
s \leftarrow s_0
Choose \omega according to the policy-over-options \pi_{\Omega}(s)
repeat
     Choose a according to \pi_{h_{\omega}}(a|s)
     Take action a in s, observe s', r
     1. Options evaluation:
     \delta \leftarrow r - Q_U(s, \omega, a)
     if s' is non-terminal then
      \delta \leftarrow \delta + \gamma (1 - \beta_{\omega,\nu}(s')) Q_{\Omega}(s',\omega) + \gamma \beta_{\omega,\nu}(s') \max_{\omega'} Q_{\Omega}(s',\omega')
     Q_U(s,\omega,a) \leftarrow Q_U(s,\omega,a) + \alpha\delta
     1. Options improvement:
     \theta \leftarrow \theta + \alpha_{\theta} \nabla_{\theta} \log \pi_{\omega,\theta}(a|s) Q_U(s,\omega,a)
     \nu \leftarrow \nu + \alpha_{\nu} \nabla_{\nu} \beta_{\omega,\nu}(s') (Q_{\Omega}(s',\omega) - V_{\Omega}(s'))
     \phi \leftarrow \phi + \alpha_{\phi} \nabla_{\phi} \sum_{o} (w_{o} O_{o})
     if \beta_{\omega,\nu} terminates in s' then
      choose new \omega according to the policy-over-options \pi_{\Omega}(s)
     end if
     s \leftarrow s'
until s' is terminal
```

## 7 Experiment

In this section the algorithm AOAOC will be tested in the Four Rooms environment. (For details see Appendix C)

### Initial Setup of the Experiment

 $Q_{\Omega}$  and  $Q_U$  each is represented as a tensor. I do not need to use a neural network here since the state space is discrete in Four Rooms.

 $\pi_{\Omega}$  is an  $\epsilon$ -greedy policy for  $Q_{\Omega}$ , i.e. the policy-over-options has a probability of  $1 - \epsilon + \frac{\epsilon}{n_{\Omega}}$  to select the best option, where  $n_{\Omega}$  is the number of options.

 $\nu$  is a tensor, and  $\beta_{\omega,\nu}$  is parameterized by  $\nu$ . More precisely,  $\beta_{\omega,\nu} = \sigma(\nu)$ , where  $\sigma$  is the sigmoid function  $\frac{1}{1+e^{-x}}$ . This can ensure that  $\beta_{\omega,\nu}$  is a probability.

 $\theta$  is also a tensor, and  $\pi_{\omega,\theta}$  is parameterized by  $\theta$ . More precisely,  $\pi_{\omega,\theta}$  is the softmax policy. This can ensure that  $\pi_{\omega,\theta}$  is a probability distribution over actions.

 $\phi$  is also a tensor, and  $h_{\omega,\phi}$  is parameterized by  $\phi$ . Just like  $\beta_{\omega,\nu}$ ,  $h_{\omega,\phi} = \sigma(\phi)$ . This can ensure that  $h_{\omega,\phi}$  is between 0 and 1.

Also, I would like the agent to have a larger incentive to go to the goal in a shorter duration, so I added a punishment of -2 for each step taken by the agent.

#### **Problematic Attention Mechanism**

When running the experiment, two problem is encountered:

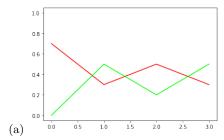
- 1. The attention mechanism  $h_{\omega}$  often becomes all one.
- 2. The attention objectives conflict with one another.

Problem 1 leads to degenerate attention mechanism because the option is paying the same amount of attention to all actions. Suppose each of the component in the attention mechanism is a constant k, i.e.  $h_{\omega} = [k, k, k, ...]$ . The final policy will be:

$$\pi_{h_{\omega}}(a|s) = \frac{k \times \pi_{\omega}(a|s)}{\sum_{a'} k \times \pi_{\omega}(a'|s)} = \frac{\pi_{\omega}(a|s)}{\sum_{a'} \pi_{\omega}(a'|s)}$$

which is the same as not using attention at all.

This problem is probably caused by the objective 1, which is to maximizing  $Q_{\Omega}(s,\omega)$ . Having a uniform attention always yields a higher return because there will not be a constraint to which action it can use.



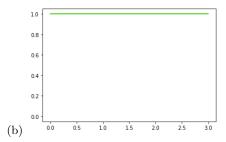


Figure 6: x-axis is the actions. y-axis is the attention on that action. Red and green lines each represents an attention mechanism. (a) is what the attention mechanism should look like. (b) is when it becomes all one.

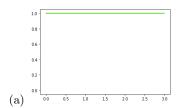
Problem 2 follows directly from problem 1. Objective 1 will try to increase all the components to 1. Objective 3 will try to make only one of the components to 1, while the others all 0. Objective 4 will try to decrease all the components to 0.

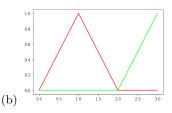
My original intention is that the algorithm will automatically balance each objective and find the optimal attention mechanism. However, it turns out that the attention mechanism almost always result in 1 of 3 situations:

1. All components are 1

- 2. All components are 0
- 3. Only 1 of the component is one, while the others are all zero

For most of the time, 1 of the objectives completely dominates and results in 1 of the 3 situations above. In order to resolve this problem, I can try controlling the number of actions that an option can attend to. However, this will lead to the attention being designed by me instead of being learned by the algorithm, since I have too much control over the training process. Moreover, the desire number of actions for each option is not clear anyway.





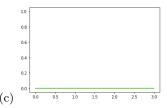


Figure 7: (a), (b) and (c) is the perfect end result for objective 1,3 and 4 respectively. All of which are degenerated attention mechanism.

In order to solve both of these problems, I decided to limit the attention mechanism to be a probability distribution. Instead of using a sigmoid function, I will use a softmax function for the attention mechanism.

This has a lot of benefit, for instance, the objective 4 can be eliminated because a probability distribution needs to add up to 1 anyway. Also, the situation where all the components of the attention mechanism becomes 0 or 1 will not happen. This change also makes intuitive sense, since as you pay more attention to one thing, you pay less attention to others.

#### Adding Deliberation Cost

One way of qualitatively evaluating the algorithm's ability to create localized options is to look at the  $Q_{\Omega}$  in each state. If the options are localized, the state space will be clearly divided into regions. However, when I ran the experiment, this is not the case.

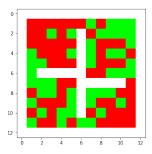


Figure 8: The option that will be chosen in each state. Red and green cell each corresponds to 1 of the options. In this figure, the options are not localized.

This is not completely unreasonable, because the algorithm has no reason to group actions that are being used successively together. So I decided to add deliberation cost to the algorithm. I will now provide a simple scenario to illustrate why I added deliberation cost.

Suppose  $a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4$  are actions, and there is a sub-task where first you have to perform  $a_1$  and  $a_2$  in an alternating fashion, after a while, you have to perform  $a_3$  and  $a_4$  also in an alternating fashion.

Without deliberation cost, the algorithm has no reason not to make one option attend to  $a_1$  and  $a_3$ , another option attend to  $a_2$  and  $a_4$ . However, with deliberation cost, the algorithm will make one option attend to  $a_1$  and  $a_2$ , another option attend to  $a_3$  and  $a_4$ , because this will decrease the option switching.

Note that the deliberation cost used here has hyperparameter  $\tau = 0$  [10].

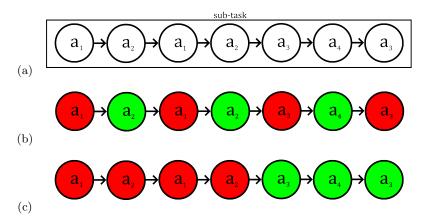


Figure 9: (a) is the hypothetical sub-task. Red and green each corresponds to 1 of the options. (b) and (c) corresponds to not using and using deliberation cost respectively. In (b), the red option attends to  $a_1, a_3$ , the green option attends to  $a_2, a_4$ . In (c), the red option attends to  $a_1, a_2$ , the green option attends to  $a_3, a_4$ .

Adding deliberation cost can also be interpreted as adding an extra constraint to the original deliberation cost algorithm, so that apart from having long options, options should also use a small set of actions.

### Comparison with Deliberation Cost

Indeed it is sometimes able to divide the state space into regions. However, when comparing this with the original deliberation cost algorithm, it is not clear what benefit has the attention mechanism brought.

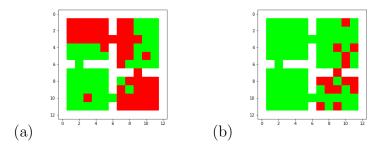


Figure 10: Localization only occurs sometimes. (a) is a cherry-picked result that localization has been achieved. (b) is what the result looks with the same hyperparameters.

AOAOC with deliberation cost and Deliberation Cost alone seem to produce pretty similar results. The state space is divided into regions when using either algorithms. This means that probably the localization is only achieved because of the deliberation cost.

Even though there seems to be no benefit in using attention mechanism from the above results, in theory, localized options produced by AOAOC should be more meaningful than that produced by deliberation cost. Deliberation cost group states that are close together into a sub-task, while AOAOC should group actions that are used consecutively into a sub-task.

This is why I modified the environment to make this feature more prominent. I switched the left and right action in the top-right and bottom-left room. This way each room should only need 2 of the actions, and also the 2 actions needed in a room should be completely different from its neighboring rooms.

What I expect to see is that 1 option is responsible for the top-left and bottom-right rooms, while the other is responsible for the top-right and bottom-left rooms. So I did an experiment in four scenario (For results see Appendix D):

1. Using AOAOC in unmodified Four Rooms

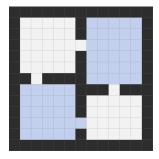


Figure 11: Modified Four Rooms. The left and right actions in the blue area is switched. So in the white area, only the up and right actions are needed. While in the blue area, only the down and left actions are needed.

- 2. Using AOAOC in modified Four Rooms
- 3. Using Deliberation Cost in unmodified Four Rooms
- 4. Using Deliberation Cost in modified Four Rooms

When looking at the results, out of these 4 scenario, scenario 2 is most likely to have 1 option for the top-left and bottom-right rooms, while another option for the top-right and bottom-left rooms. However, there are quite a lot of times where the options discovered are not like this.

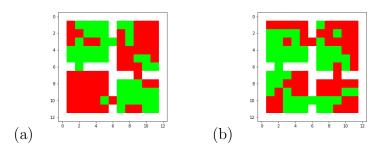


Figure 12: (a) is again a cherry-picked result that localization has been achieved. (b) is from the same hyperparameters but did not achieve localization.

### 8 Conclusion

Even though the results in the experiments are in favour of the algorithm AOAOC. This may not mean that AOAOC can produce meaningful localized options, because the modified Four Rooms is tailor made to fit this algorithm. Despite this, the algorithm fails to divide the state space into regions a lot of times.

The fact that this algorithm performs poorly in Four Room has several possible reasons.

First, the action space is too small. This made the need for using attention questionable, because an abstraction over action space is not really needed.

Second, the attention mechanism learning in the algorithm is not really reasonable. The objectives that I gave the algorithm is based only on intuition, what makes an attention mechanism good is still an unanswered question.

All in all, this algorithm is quite weak and will need modification before it can give desirable results.

Going back to the research question, the Localization Framework I proposed may be how localized options are trained in Option-Critic, this can be easily verify if the algorithm developed afterward successfully produce localized options. However, this is not the case, so there might be the framework or the algorithm that is the problem, but I do not know which one.

#### 9 Future Direction

As mentioned before, this algorithm probably can only work in environment with large discrete action space. Hence, a possible future direction is trying to apply this in an environment which has a large action space.

Besides, the idea of this algorithm can also be extended to continuous action space. In continuous action space sometimes the action will be a vector, the options can attend to only some of the components of this action vector.

Lastly, and perhaps most importantly, how attention mechanism is learnt should be reconsidered. And the question "What makes an attention good?" can be explored in the future.

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# Appendix

#### A Notations

Markov Decision Process

S — Set of states

 $\mathcal{A}$  — Set of actions

r — Reward function or reward

 $\gamma$  — Discount factor

P — Transition model

 $\pi$  — Policy

s — State

a — Action

 $s_T$  — Terminal state

#### **Option Framework**

 $\Omega$  — Set of options

 $\pi_{\omega,\theta}$  — Internal policy of option  $\omega$ 

 $\beta_{\omega}$  — Termination probability of option  $\omega$ 

 $\mathcal{I}_{\omega}$  — Initiation set of option  $\omega$ 

 $\pi_{\Omega}$  — Policy-over-options

 $Q_U$  — Expected return for choosing an action

 $Q_{\Omega}$  — Expected return for choosing an option

 $A_{\Omega}$  — Expected advantage for choosing an option

 $V_{\Omega}$  — Expected return in a state

 $U_{\Omega}$  — Expected return for arriving in a state

 $\theta$  — Parameter for internal policy

 $\nu$  — Parameter for termination probability

 $\omega$  — option

#### Attention-Over-Actions Option-Critic

 $h_{\omega,\phi}$  — Attention Mechanism

 $\pi_{h_{\omega}}$  — Final probability

 $\phi$  — Parameter for attention mechanism

 $\alpha$  — Learning rate for  $Q_U$ 

 $\alpha_{\theta}$  — Learning rate for internal policy

 $\alpha_{\nu}$  — Learning rate for termination probability

 $\alpha_{\phi}$  — Learning rate for attention mechanism

 $O_o$  — Objective function

 $w_o$  — Weight of objective function

o — Objective

 $\delta$  — One step Q-value error

#### **Operations**

 $\nabla$  — Gradient

 $E[\ ]$  — Expected value

 $\leftarrow -- Assignment$ 

<,> — Dot product

||.|| — Length of a vector

#### B Proof

#### B.1 Derivative of Objective 1

Let  $h_{\omega}^{a}$  be the element in the attention vector  $h_{\omega}$  that corresponds to the action a, i.e.  $h_{\omega} = [h_{\omega}^{a_0}, h_{\omega}^{a_1}, ...]$ 

$$\begin{split} \frac{\partial Q_{\Omega}(s,\omega)}{\partial h_{\omega}^{a}} &= \sum_{s,\omega} \mu_{\Omega}(s,\omega|s_{0},\omega_{0}) \sum_{a} \frac{\partial \pi_{h_{\omega}}(a|s)}{\partial h_{\omega}^{a}} Q_{U}(s,\omega,a) \\ &= E_{s,\omega,a \sim \pi_{h_{\omega}}} \left[ \frac{\partial \log \pi_{h_{\omega}}(a|s)}{\partial h_{\omega}^{a}} Q_{U}(s,\omega,a) \right] \end{split}$$

The steps above follows directly from the Option-Critic appendix [9]. The next step is to express  $\frac{\partial \log \pi_{h_{\omega}}(a|s)}{\partial h_{\omega}^{a}}$  in a simpler form.

$$\begin{split} \frac{\partial \log \pi_{h_{\omega}}(a|s)}{\partial h_{\omega}^{a}} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial h_{\omega}^{a}} [\log \frac{\pi_{\omega}(a|s)h_{\omega}^{a}}{\sum_{a'} \pi_{\omega}(a'|s)h_{\omega}^{a'}}] \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial h_{\omega}^{a}} [\log \pi_{\omega}(a|s) + \log h_{\omega}^{a} - \log \sum_{a'} \pi_{\omega}(a'|s)h_{\omega}^{a'}] \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial h_{\omega}^{a}} [\log \pi_{\omega}(a|s)] + \frac{\partial}{\partial h_{\omega}^{a}} [\log h_{\omega}^{a}] - \frac{\partial}{\partial h_{\omega}^{a}} [\log \sum_{a'} \pi_{\omega}(a'|s)h_{\omega}^{a'}] \end{split}$$

 $\pi_{\omega}(a|s)$  is independent of  $h_{\omega}^{a}$ , hence  $\frac{\partial}{\partial h_{\alpha}^{a}}[\log \pi_{\omega}(a|s)] = 0$ 

$$= \frac{\partial}{\partial h_{\omega}^{a}} [\log h_{\omega}^{a}] - \frac{\partial}{\partial h_{\omega}^{a}} [\log \sum_{a'} \pi_{\omega}(a'|s) h_{\omega}^{a'}]$$

$$= \frac{1}{h_{\omega}^{a}} - \frac{\pi_{\omega}(a|s)}{\sum_{a'} \pi_{\omega}(a'|s) h_{\omega}^{a'}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{h_{\omega}^{a}} - \frac{\pi_{\omega}(a|s)}{\sum_{a'} \pi_{\omega}(a'|s) h_{\omega}^{a'}} \times \frac{h_{\omega}^{a}}{h_{\omega}^{a}}$$

By definition  $\pi_{h_{\omega}}(a|s) = \frac{\pi_{\omega}(a|s)h_{\omega}^{a}}{\sum_{a'} \pi_{\omega}(a'|s)h_{\omega}^{a'}}$ 

$$\begin{split} &= \frac{1}{h_{\omega}^{a}} - \frac{\pi_{h_{\omega}}(a|s)}{h_{\omega}^{a}} \\ &= \frac{1 - \pi_{h_{\omega}}(a|s)}{h_{\omega}^{a}} \end{split}$$

Substitute back to the original calculation,

$$\frac{\partial Q_{\Omega}(s,\omega)}{\partial h_{\omega}^{a}} = E_{s,\omega,a \sim \pi_{h_{\omega}}} \left[ \frac{1 - \pi_{h_{\omega}}(a|s)}{h_{\omega}^{a}} Q_{U}(s,\omega,a) \right]$$

## B.2 Derivative of Objective 2

Let  $h_{\omega}^{a}$  be the element in the attention vector  $h_{\omega}$  that corresponds to the action a, i.e.  $h_{\omega} = [h_{\omega}^{a_0}, h_{\omega}^{a_1}, ...]$ Since we would like to minimize the cosine similarity, the negative cosine similarity will be used instead.

$$\sum_{h_{\omega'} \neq h_{\omega}} \frac{\partial [-C(h_{\omega}, h_{\omega'})]}{\partial h_{\omega}^{a}} = \sum_{h_{\omega'} \neq h_{\omega}} \frac{\partial}{\partial h_{\omega}^{a}} \frac{-\langle h_{\omega}, h_{\omega'} \rangle}{||h_{\omega}|| \times ||h_{\omega'}||}$$

$$= \sum_{h_{\omega'} \neq h_{\omega}} -\frac{||h_{\omega}|| \times ||h_{\omega'}|| \frac{\partial}{\partial h_{\omega}^{a}} \langle h_{\omega}, h_{\omega'} \rangle - \langle h_{\omega}, h_{\omega'} \rangle \frac{\partial}{\partial h_{\omega}^{a}} ||h_{\omega}|| \times ||h_{\omega'}||}{(||h_{\omega}|| \times ||h_{\omega'}||)^{2}}$$

I will calculate each of the derivative separately:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial h_{\omega}^{a}} \langle h_{\omega}, h_{\omega'} \rangle = \frac{\partial}{\partial h_{\omega}^{a}} \sum_{a'} h_{\omega}^{a'} h_{\omega'}^{a'} = h_{\omega'}^{a}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial h_{\omega}^{a}} ||h_{\omega}|| \times ||h_{\omega'}|| = ||h_{\omega'}|| \frac{\partial}{\partial h_{\omega}^{a}} \sqrt{\sum_{a'} (h_{\omega}^{a'})^{2}} = ||h_{\omega'}|| \frac{h_{\omega}^{a}}{\sqrt{\sum_{a'} (h_{\omega}^{a'})^{2}}}$$

Substitute back to the original calculation,

$$\begin{split} \sum_{h_{\omega'} \neq h_{\omega}} \frac{\partial}{\partial h_{\omega}^{a}} \frac{-\langle h_{\omega}, h_{\omega'} \rangle}{||h_{\omega}|| \times ||h_{\omega'}||} &= \sum_{h_{\omega'} \neq h_{\omega}} -\frac{||h_{\omega}|| \times ||h_{\omega'}|| |h_{\omega'}^{a} - \langle h_{\omega}, h_{\omega'} \rangle ||h_{\omega'}|| \frac{h_{\omega}^{a}}{\sqrt{\sum_{a'} (h_{\omega}^{a'})^{2}}}}{(||h_{\omega}|| \times ||h_{\omega'}||)^{2}} \\ &= \sum_{h_{\omega'} \neq h_{\omega}} -[\frac{h_{\omega'}^{a}}{||h_{\omega}|| \times ||h_{\omega'}||} - \frac{\langle h_{\omega}, h_{\omega'} \rangle h_{\omega}^{a}}{(||h_{\omega}|| \times ||h_{\omega'}||) \times ||h_{\omega}||^{2}}] \end{split}$$

## B.3 Derivative of Objective 3

Let  $h_{\omega}^{a}$  be the element in the attention vector  $h_{\omega}$  that corresponds to the action a, i.e.  $h_{\omega} = [h_{\omega}^{a_0}, h_{\omega}^{a_1}, ...]$ Since we would like to minimize the length, the negative entropy will be used instead. Since entropy usually applies to probabilities, I will normalize the attention unit into  $\overline{h_{\omega}} = \frac{h_{\omega}}{\sum_{\omega'} h_{\omega'}^{a'}}$ 

$$\begin{split} \frac{\partial [-H(\overline{h_{\omega}})]}{\partial h_{\omega}^{a}} &= \frac{\partial \sum_{a'} \overline{h_{\omega}^{a'}} \log \overline{h_{\omega}^{a'}}}{\partial h_{\omega}^{a}} \\ &= \frac{\partial \overline{h_{\omega}^{a}} \log \overline{h_{\omega}^{a}}}{\partial h_{\omega}^{a}} + \sum_{\overline{h_{\omega}^{a'}} \neq \overline{h_{\omega}^{a}}} \frac{\partial \overline{h_{\omega}^{a'}} \log \overline{h_{\omega}^{a'}}}{\partial h_{\omega}^{a'}} \\ &= \frac{\partial \overline{h_{\omega}^{a}} \log \overline{h_{\omega}^{a}}}{\partial \overline{h_{\omega}^{a}}} \times \frac{\partial \overline{h_{\omega}^{a}}}{h_{\omega}^{a}} + \sum_{\overline{h_{\omega}^{a'}} \neq \overline{h_{\omega}^{a}}} \frac{\partial \overline{h_{\omega}^{a'}} \log \overline{h_{\omega}^{a'}}}{\partial \overline{h_{\omega}^{a'}}} \times \frac{\partial \overline{h_{\omega}^{a'}}}{h_{\omega}^{a'}} \end{split}$$

I will calculate each of the derivative separately:

$$\frac{\partial \overline{h_{\omega}^{a}} \log \overline{h_{\omega}^{a}}}{\partial \overline{h_{\omega}^{a}}} = \log \overline{h_{\omega}^{a}} \frac{\partial \overline{h_{\omega}^{a}}}{\partial \overline{h_{\omega}^{a}}} + \overline{h_{\omega}^{a}} \frac{\partial \log \overline{h_{\omega}^{a}}}{\partial \overline{h_{\omega}^{a}}} = \log \overline{h_{\omega}^{a}} + 1$$

$$\frac{\partial \overline{h_{\omega}^{a}}}{\partial h_{\omega}^{a}} = \frac{\partial}{\partial h_{\omega}^{a}} \frac{h_{\omega}^{a}}{\sum_{b} h_{\omega}^{b}} = \frac{\sum_{b} h_{\omega}^{b} - h_{\omega}^{a}}{(\sum_{b} h_{\omega}^{b})^{2}}$$

$$\frac{\partial \overline{h_{\omega}^{a'}}}{\partial h_{\omega}^{a}} = \frac{\partial}{\partial h_{\omega}^{a}} \frac{h_{\omega}^{a'}}{\sum_{b} h_{\omega}^{b}} = \frac{-h_{\omega}^{a'}}{(\sum_{b} h_{\omega}^{b})^{2}}$$

Substitute back to the original calculation,

$$\begin{split} \frac{\partial \overline{h_{\omega}^{a}} \log \overline{h_{\omega}^{a}}}{\partial \overline{h_{\omega}^{a}}} &= (\log \overline{h_{\omega}^{a}} + 1) \frac{\sum_{b} h_{\omega}^{b} - h_{\omega}^{a}}{(\sum_{b} h_{\omega}^{b})^{2}} + \sum_{\overline{h_{\omega}^{a'}} \neq \overline{h_{\omega}^{a}}} (\log \overline{h_{\omega}^{a'}} + 1) \frac{-h_{\omega}^{a'}}{(\sum_{b} h_{\omega}^{b})^{2}} \\ &= \frac{(\log \overline{h_{\omega}^{a}} + 1)}{\sum_{b} h_{\omega}^{b}} + \sum_{h_{\omega}^{a'}} (\log \overline{h_{\omega}^{a'}} + 1) \frac{-h_{\omega}^{a'}}{(\sum_{b} h_{\omega}^{b})^{2}} \end{split}$$

### B.4 Derivative of Objective 4

Let  $h_{\omega}^{a}$  be the element in the attention vector  $h_{\omega}$  that corresponds to the action a, i.e.  $h_{\omega} = [h_{\omega}^{a_0}, h_{\omega}^{a_1}, ...]$ Since we would like to minimize the length, the negative length will be used instead.

$$\begin{split} \frac{\partial (-||h_{\omega}||)}{\partial h_{\omega}^{a}} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial h_{\omega}^{a}} (-\sqrt{\sum_{a'} (h_{\omega}^{a'})^{2}}) \\ &= \frac{-h_{\omega}^{a}}{\sqrt{\sum_{a'} (h_{\omega}^{a'})^{2}}} = \frac{-h_{\omega}^{a}}{||h_{\omega}||} \end{split}$$

# C Experimental Details

# 1 Import Modules

```
[1]: import numpy as np
    from fourrooms import Fourrooms
    from IPython.display import clear_output
    from aoaoc_tabular import *
    import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
    from visualize import Visualization
```

# 2 HyperParameters

```
[2]: # Replace the command line argparse
     class Arguments:
         def __init__(self):
             # Numbers
             self.nepisodes=3000
             self.nsteps=2000
             self.noptions=2
              # Learning Rates
             self.lr_term=0.25
             self.lr intra=0.25
             self.lr_critic=0.5
              self.lr_criticA=0.5
             self.lr_attend=0.01
              # Environment Parameters
             self.discount=0.99
             self.punishEachStep = True
             self.modified = True
              # Attention Parameters
             self.h_learn = True
             self.normalize = True
              # Policy Parameters
              self.epsilon=1e-1
             self.temp=2.
              # Objective Parameters
             self.wo1 = 0.1 #q
             self.wo2 = 1. #cosim
self.wo3 = 0. #entropy
             self.wo4 = 0.
              # Randomness Parameters
             self.seed=2222
             self.seed_startstate=1111
```

```
# Display Parameters
self.showMap = False
self.showAttention = False
self.showOptPref = False
self.showFrequency = 10

# Other Parameters
self.baseline=True
self.dc = 2.
args = Arguments()
```

#### 3 Run

#### 3.1 Set up

```
[3]: rng = np.random.RandomState(args.seed)
  env = Fourrooms(args.seed_startstate, args.punishEachStep, args.modified)
  features = Tabular(env.observation_space)
  nfeatures, nactions = len(features), env.action_space
  viz = Visualization(env, args, nactions)
```

### 3.2 Main loop

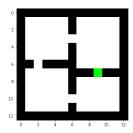
```
[]: # Set up classes
     policy_over_options = POO(rng, nfeatures, args)
     CoSimObj.reset()
     options = [Option(rng, nfeatures, nactions, args, policy_over_options, i) for i in
       range(args.noptions)]
     # Loop through games
     for episode in range(args.nepisodes):
         # Initial state
         return_per_episode = 0.0
         observation = env.reset()
         phi = features(observation)
         option = policy_over_options.sample(phi)
         action = options[option].sample(phi)
         traject = [[phi,option],[phi,option],action]
         viz.resetMap(phi)
         # Reset record
         cumreward = 0.
         duration = 1
         option_switches = 0
         avgduration = 0.
         # Loop through frames in 1 game
```

```
for step in range(args.nsteps):
     # Collect feedback from environment
     observation, reward, done, _ = env.step(action)
     phi = features(observation)
     return_per_episode += pow(args.discount, step)*reward
     # Render
     if args.showMap and episode % 100 == 99:
         clear_output(wait=True)
         viz.showMap(phi, option)
     # Store option index
     last_option = option
     # Check termination
     termination = options[option].terminate(phi, value=True)
     if options[option].terminate(phi):
         option = policy_over_options.sample(phi)
         option_switches += 1
         avgduration += (1./option_switches)*(duration - avgduration)
         duration = 1
     # Record into trajectory
     traject[0] = traject[1]
     traject[1] = [phi, option]
     traject[2] = action
     # Sample next action
     action = options[option].sample(phi)
     # Policy Evaluation + Policy Improvement
     baseline = policy_over_options.value(traject[0][0], traject[0][1])
     advantage = policy_over_options.advantage(phi, last_option)
     options[last_option].update(traject, reward, done, phi, last_option,
termination, baseline, advantage)
     policy_over_options.update(traject, reward, done, termination)
     # End of frame
     cumreward += reward
     duration += 1
     if done:
         break
 # Attention graph
 if episode % args.showFrequency == 0:
     if args.showAttention:
         clear_output(wait=True)
         viz.showAttention(options)
         print(options[0].policy.attention.weights)
     if args.showOptPref:
         clear_output(wait=True)
 print('Episode {} steps {} cumreward {} avg. duration {} switches {}'.
format(episode, step, cumreward, avgduration, option_switches))
```

#### 4 Visualization

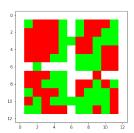
## 4.1 Simulate an episode

```
[5]: states = np.zeros((13,13), dtype="int")
     occupancy = env.occupancy.astype('float64')
     for i in range(13):
         for j in range(13):
             if occupancy[i,j] == 0:
                 states[i,j] = s
                 s+=1
    print(states)
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[6]: startState = 57
     # Simulation
     observation = env.reset(startState)
     viz.resetMap(phi)
     option = policy_over_options.sample(phi)
     action = options[option].sample(phi)
     for step in range(args.nsteps):
         observation, reward, done, _ = env.step(action)
         phi = features(observation)
         #render
         clear_output(wait=True)
         viz.showMap(phi, option)
         if options[option].terminate(phi):
             option = policy_over_options.sample(phi)
         action = options[option].sample(phi)
         if done:
             break
```

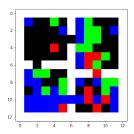


# 4.2 Display action and option preference in each state

[7]: # Display option preference viz.showPref(policy\_over\_options.weights)

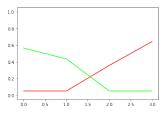


[8]: opt = 0
# Display action preference for opt
viz.showPref(options[opt].weights)



# 4.3 Display Attention

[9]: viz.showAttention(options)



# D Experimental Results

## **AOAOC** in Unmodified Four Rooms

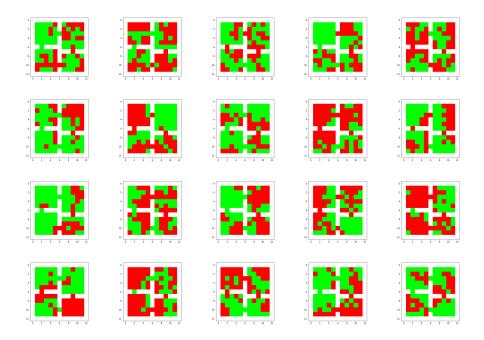


Figure 13: Deliberation Cost = 1. Learning rate of attention mechanism = 0.01, 0.05, 0.1 and 0.2 from top to bottom. Same row means same hyperparameters, each column is a different trial.

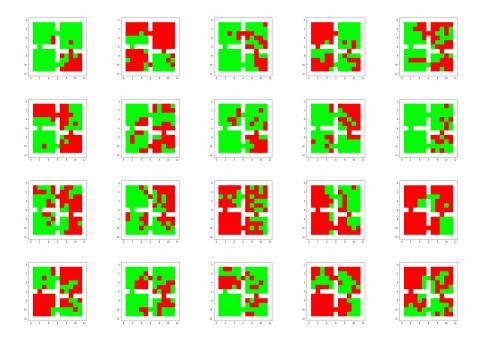


Figure 14: Deliberation Cost = 2. Learning rate of attention mechanism = 0.01, 0.05, 0.1 and 0.2 from top to bottom. Same row means same hyperparameters, each column is a different trial.

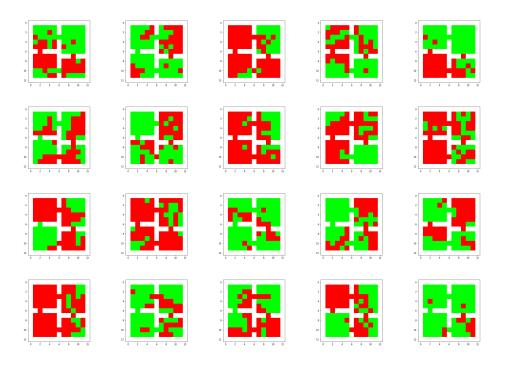


Figure 15: Deliberation Cost = 3. Learning rate of attention mechanism = 0.01, 0.05, 0.1 and 0.2 from top to bottom. Same row means same hyperparameters, each column is a different trial.

## **AOAOC** in Modified Four Rooms

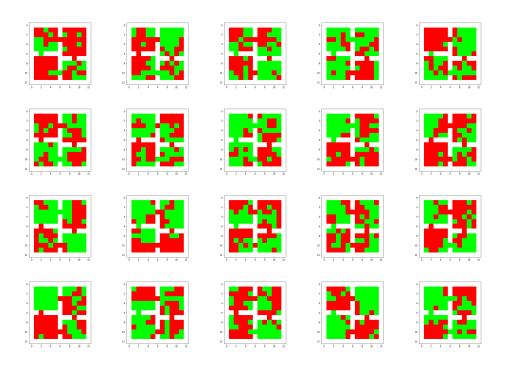


Figure 16: Deliberation Cost = 1. Learning rate of attention mechanism = 0.01, 0.05, 0.1 and 0.2 from top to bottom. Same row means same hyperparameters, each column is a different trial.

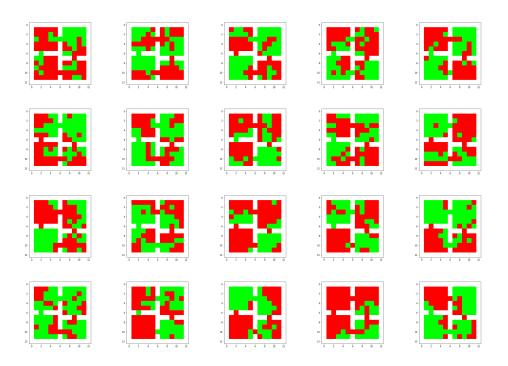


Figure 17: Deliberation Cost = 2. Learning rate of attention mechanism = 0.01, 0.05, 0.1 and 0.2 from top to bottom. Same row means same hyperparameters, each column is a different trial.

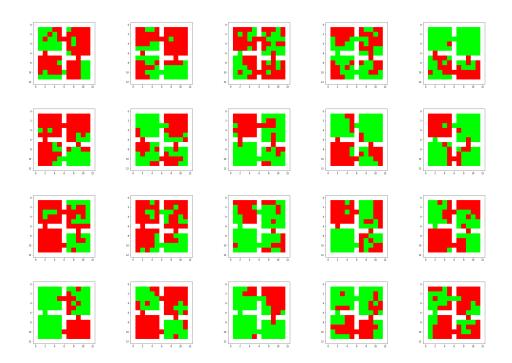


Figure 18: Deliberation Cost = 3. Learning rate of attention mechanism = 0.01, 0.05, 0.1 and 0.2 from top to bottom. Same row means same hyperparameters, each column is a different trial.

## Deliberation Cost in Unmodified Four Rooms

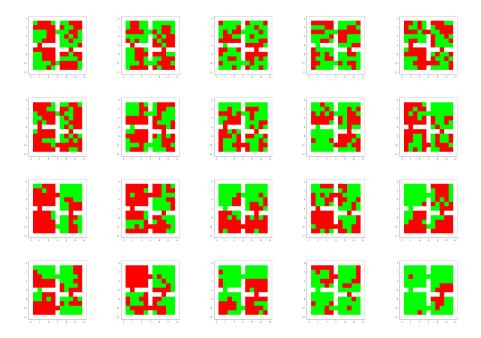


Figure 19: Deliberation Cost = 0.5, 1, 2 and 3 from top to bottom. Same row means same hyperparameters, each column is a different trial.

## **Deliberation Cost in Modified Four Rooms**

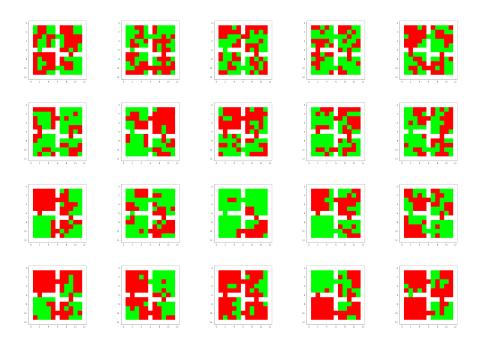


Figure 20: Deliberation Cost = 0.5, 1, 2 and 3 from top to bottom. Same row means same hyperparameters, each column is a different trial.

## E Code

The code below is based on codes in the ioc repository.[14]

### fourrooms.py

```
import numpy as np
  from random import uniform
  class Fourrooms:
      def __init__(self, initstate_seed, punishEachStep, modified):
           self.punishEachStep = punishEachStep
           self.modified = modified
           self.layout = """\
  wwwwwwwwwwww
11
  W
        W
  w
12
         W
13
  W
14
  W
         W
               W
  W
        W
16
  ww www
               W
  W
17
        www www
18
         W
               W
19
  W
20
21
  W
         W
               W
  wwwwwwwwww
22
23
24
           self.occupancy = np.array([list(map(lambda c: 1 if c=='w' else 0, line)) for line in
25
                self.layout.splitlines()])
26
           self.action_space = 4
27
28
           self.observation_space = int(np.sum(self.occupancy == 0))
29
30
           # 0 - Up
31
           # 1 - Down
32
           # 2 - Left
# 3 - Right
33
34
35
           self.directions = [np.array((-1,0)), np.array((1,0)), np.array((0,-1)), np.array((0,-1))]
36
               ((0,1))]
37
           self.rng = np.random.RandomState(1234)
38
39
           self.initstate_seed = initstate_seed
40
           self.rng_init_state = np.random.RandomState(self.initstate_seed)
41
42
           self.tostate = {}
43
44
           self.occ_dict = dict(zip(range(self.observation_space),
45
                                      np.argwhere(self.occupancy.flatten() == 0).squeeze()))
46
47
           statenum = 0
48
           for i in range(13):
49
50
               for j in range(13):
                    if self.occupancy[i, j] == 0:
51
                        self.tostate[(i, j)] = statenum
52
                        statenum += 1
53
54
           self.tocell = {v:k for k,v in self.tostate.items()}
55
56
57
           self.goal = 62
           self.init_states = list(range(self.observation_space))
```

```
self.init_states.remove(self.goal)
59
61
62
       def empty_around(self, cell):
           avail = []
63
           for action in range(self.action_space):
64
                nextcell = tuple(cell + np.multiply(self.directions[action], self.inQuad24(self.
65
                    currentcell)))
                if not self.occupancy[nextcell]:
66
                    avail.append(nextcell)
67
           return avail
68
69
       def reset(self, test=None):
70
           if test:
71
72
                state = test
73
                state = self.rng_init_state.choice(self.init_states)
74
           self.currentcell = self.tocell[state]
75
76
           return state
77
78
       def step(self, action):
           reward = -2 * int(self.punishEachStep)
79
            if self.rng.uniform() < 1/3:</pre>
80
                empty_cells = self.empty_around(self.currentcell)
81
                nextcell = empty_cells[self.rng.randint(len(empty_cells))]
82
            else:
83
                nextcell = tuple(self.currentcell + np.multiply(self.directions[action], self.
84
                    inQuad24(self.currentcell)))
88
            if not self.occupancy[nextcell]:
86
                self.currentcell = nextcell
88
           state = self.tostate[self.currentcell]
89
90
           if state == self.goal:
91
                reward = 50
92
93
94
           done = state == self.goal
           return state, reward, float(done), None
95
96
       def inQuad24(self, cell):
97
           if not(self.modified):
98
                return np.array([1,1])
           if cell[1] > 6:
                if cell[0] < 7:</pre>
101
                    return np.array([1, -1])
           else:
103
                if cell[0] > 6:
104
                    return np.array([1, -1])
           return np.array([1, 1])
```

## aoaoc\_tabular.py

```
import numpy as np
from fourrooms import Fourrooms
from scipy.special import logsumexp, expit, softmax

'''

======CLASS MAP======

Option

- FinalPolicy pi_h

- Internal Policy (SoftmaxPolicy) pi_omega

- Attention Unit (LearnableAttention/PredefinedAttention) h_omega

- Value Objective (ValueObj) o1

- Cosine Similarity Objective (CoSimObj) o2

- Entropy Objective (EntropyObj) o3

- Length Objective (LengthObj) o4
```

```
- Termination Function (SigmoidTermination) beta_omega
      - Q_omega (Q_O)
15
  Policy Over Options (POO) pi_Omega
17
      - Policy (EgreedyPolicy)
      - Q_Omega (Q_U)
18
  , , ,
  #=====Option======
20
  class Option:
21
      def __init__(self, rng, nfeatures, nactions, args, policy_over_options, index):
           self.weights = np.zeros((nfeatures, nactions))
23
           self.policy = FinalPolicy(rng, nfeatures, nactions, args, self.weights, index)
24
           self.termination = SigmoidTermination(rng, nfeatures, args)
25
           self.Qval = Q_U(nfeatures, nactions, args, self.weights, policy_over_options)
26
27
      def sample(self, phi):
28
           return self.policy.sample(phi)
29
30
      def terminate(self, phi, value=False):
31
           if value:
32
               return self.termination.pmf(phi)
33
34
           else:
               return self.termination.sample(phi)
35
36
37
      def _Q_update(self, traject, reward, done, termination):
           self.Qval.update(traject, reward, done, termination)
38
39
      def _H_update(self, traject):
40
           qVal = self.Qval.value(traject[0][0], traject[2])
41
           self.policy.H_update(traject, qVal)
42
43
      def _B_update(self, phi, option, advantage):
44
           self.termination.update(phi, option, advantage)
4.5
46
      def _P_update(self, traject, baseline):
47
           self.policy.P_update(traject, baseline)
48
49
      def update(self, traject, reward, done, phi, option, termination, baseline, advantage):
50
51
           self._Q_update(traject, reward, done, termination)
           self._H_update(traject)
52
           self._P_update(traject, baseline)
53
           self._B_update(phi, option, advantage)
54
55
56
  #=====Final Policy======
57
  class FinalPolicy:
58
      def __init__(self, rng, nfeatures, nactions, args, qWeight, index):
59
           self.rng = rng
60
           self.nactions = nactions
61
           self.internalPI = SoftmaxPolicy(rng, nfeatures, nactions, args, qWeight)
62
           if (args.h_learn):
63
               self.attention = LearnableAttention(nactions, args, index)
64
65
66
               self.attention = PredefinedAttention(args, index)
67
68
      def pmf(self, phi):
           pi = self.internalPI.pmf(phi)
69
           h = self.attention.pmf()
70
71
           normalizer = np.dot(pi, h)
           return (pi*h)/normalizer
72
73
      def sample(self, phi):
74
           return int(self.rng.choice(self.nactions, p=self.pmf(phi)))
75
76
      def H_update(self, traject, qVal):
77
78
           self.attention.update(traject, self.pmf(traject[0][0]), qVal)
79
      def P_update(self, traject, baseline):
           self.internalPI.update(traject, baseline)
```

```
82
   #===== Internal Policy ======
84
85
   class SoftmaxPolicy:
       def __init__(self, rng, nfeatures, nactions, args, qWeight):
86
           self.rng = rng
87
           self.nactions = nactions
           self.temp = args.temp
89
           self.weights = np.zeros((nfeatures, nactions))
90
           self.qWeight = qWeight
91
           self.lr = args.lr_intra
92
93
       def _value(self, phi, action=None):
94
           if action is None:
98
96
               return np.sum(self.weights[phi, :], axis=0)
           return np.sum(self.weights[phi, action], axis=0)
97
98
       def pmf(self, phi):
99
100
           v = self._value(phi)/self.temp
           return np.exp(v - logsumexp(v))
101
       def sample(self, phi):
           return int(self.rng.choice(self.nactions, p=self.pmf(phi)))
104
       def update(self, traject, baseline):
106
           actions_pmf = self.pmf(traject[0][0])
107
           critic = self.qWeight[traject[0][0], traject[2]]
           if baseline:
109
                critic -= baseline
           self.weights[traject[0][0], :] -= self.lr*critic*actions_pmf
           self.weights[traject[0][0], traject[2]] += self.lr*critic
   #====== Attention ======
   class LearnableAttention():
       def __init__(self, nactions, args, index):
117
           self.weights = np.random.uniform(low=-1, high=1, size=(nactions,))
           self.lr = args.lr_attend
           self.o1 = ValueObj(args)
120
121
           self.o2 = CoSimObj(args, index)
           self.o3 = EntropyObj(args)
122
           self.o4 = LengthObj(args)
           CoSimObj.add2list(self)
124
           self.normalize = args.normalize
125
126
       def pmf(self):
127
           if self.normalize:
                return np.clip(softmax(self.weights), 0.05, None)
129
           return expit(self.weights)
130
131
       def _grad(self):
132
           attend = self.pmf()
           return attend*(1. - attend)
134
135
136
       def attention(self, a):
           return self.pmf()[a]
137
138
139
       def update(self, traject, finalPmf, qVal):
           hPmf = self.pmf()
140
           gradList = [self.o1.grad(traject[0][0], traject[2], hPmf, finalPmf, qVal), self.o2.
141
                grad(hPmf), self.o3.grad(hPmf), self.o4.grad(hPmf)]
           self.weights += self.lr * np.sum(gradList, axis=0) * self._grad()
           if self.normalize:
143
               self.normalizing()
144
145
       def normalizing(self):
146
           self.weights -= np.mean(self.weights)
147
148
```

```
149
   class PredefinedAttention():
       def __init__(self, args, index):
152
           if (index == 0):
               self.weights = np.array([1, 1, 1, 1])
           if (index==1):
               self.weights = np.array([1, 1, 1, 1])
155
156
       def pmf(self):
157
           return self.weights
       def attention(self, a):
160
           return self.pmf()[a]
161
162
       def update(self, traject, finalPmf, qVal):
163
164
165
166
   #======Objectives======
167
   class Objective:
169
       def __init__(self, weight):
           self.weight = weight
171
       def grad(self):
172
           return None
174
       def loss(self):
           return None
176
177
178
   class ValueObj(Objective):
179
       def __init__(self, args):
180
           super().__init__(args.wo1)
181
182
       183
           return self.weight * ((finalPmf + 1)/hPmf[a]) * qVal
184
185
       def loss(self):
187
           pass
188
189
   class CoSimObj(Objective):
190
       hList = []
191
192
       def __init__(self, args, index):
193
           super().__init__(args.wo2)
194
           self.index = index
195
196
       def grad(self, hPmf): # proof is in appedix B.2
197
           gradient = []
198
           for i in range(len(hPmf)):
199
               derivative = 0.
200
               exclude = 0
201
               for a in self.hList:
202
                    if exclude == self.index:
203
                        continue
204
                    exclude +=1
205
206
                   normalizer = np.linalg.norm(hPmf)*np.linalg.norm(a.pmf())
207
                    term1 = a.pmf()[i]/normalizer
                    term2 = hPmf[i]*np.dot(hPmf,a.pmf()) / (normalizer*np.power(np.linalg.norm(
209
                        hPmf),2))
                   derivative += -1*(term1 - term2)
               gradient.append(derivative)
211
212
           return self.weight * np.array(gradient)
213
       def loss(self):
```

```
return np.sum([np.dot(hPmf,a.pmf())/(np.linalg.norm(hPmf)*np.linalg.norm(a.pmf()))
215
                for a in self.hList])
216
       @classmethod
       def add2list(cls, attention):
218
            cls.hList.append(attention)
219
220
       @classmethod
221
       def reset(cls):
            cls.hList = []
224
225
   class EntropyObj(Objective):
       def __init__(self, args):
227
           super().__init__(args.wo3)
228
229
       def grad(self, hPmf): # proof is in appedix B.3
230
           gradient = []
231
           normalizer = np.sum(hPmf)
232
           normh = hPmf/normalizer
233
23
            for i in range(len(hPmf)):
                term1 = (1.+np.log(normh[i]))/normalizer
235
                term2 = np.sum([(1.+np.log(normh[index]))*hPmf[index]/(normalizer**2) for index
236
                    in range(len(hPmf))])
                {\tt gradient.append((term1-term2)*(self.loss(hPmf)-0.69))}
237
           return self.weight * np.array(gradient)
238
       def loss(self, hPmf):
240
           normalizer = np.sum(hPmf)
241
           normh = hPmf/normalizer
242
           return -1*np.sum(normh * np.log(normh))
243
244
   class LengthObj(Objective):
246
       def __init__(self, args):
247
248
            super().__init__(args.wo4)
249
       def grad(self, hPmf): # proof is in appedix B.4
250
           return -1 * hPmf / self.loss(hPmf)
251
252
253
       def loss(self, hPmf):
254
           return np.linalg.norm(hPmf)
256
257
   #=====Termination Function======
258
   class SigmoidTermination:
259
       def __init__(self, rng, nfeatures, args):
260
           self.rng = rng
261
           self.weights = np.zeros((nfeatures,))
262
           self.lr = args.lr_term
263
           self.dc = args.dc
264
265
       def pmf(self, phi):
266
267
            return expit(np.sum(self.weights[phi]))
268
       def sample(self, phi):
269
           return int(self.rng.uniform() < self.pmf(phi))</pre>
271
272
       def _grad(self, phi):
            terminate = self.pmf(phi)
273
           return terminate*(1. - terminate), phi
275
       def update(self, phi, option, advantage):
276
27
           magnitude, direction = self._grad(phi)
           self.weights[direction] -= self.lr*magnitude*(advantage+self.dc)
279
280
```

```
#=====Q-Value Individual Option======
281
   class Q_U:
       def __init__(self, nfeatures, nactions, args, weights, policy_over_options):
283
            self.weights = weights
           self.lr = args.lr_criticA
285
           self.discount = args.discount
286
           self.policy_over_options = policy_over_options
28
288
       def value(self, phi, action):
           return np.sum(self.weights[phi, action], axis=0)
290
291
       def update(self, traject, reward, done, termination):
292
           update_target = reward
293
            if not done:
294
                current_values = self.policy_over_options.value(traject[1][0])
295
                update_target += self.discount*((1. - termination)*current_values[traject[0][1]]
296
                     + termination*np.max(current_values))
297
           tderror = update_target - self.value(traject[0][0], traject[2])
298
           self.weights[traject[0][0], traject[2]] += self.lr*tderror
299
301
   #=====Policy Over Option======
302
   class POO:
303
       def __init__(self, rng, nfeatures, args):
304
            self.weights = np.zeros((nfeatures, args.noptions))
305
           self.policy = EgreedyPolicy(rng, args, self.weights)
306
            self.Q_Omega = Q_O(args, self.weights)
307
308
       def update(self, traject, reward, done, termination):
309
            self.Q_Omega.update(traject, reward, done, termination)
310
311
       def sample(self, phi):
312
           return self.policy.sample(phi)
313
314
       def advantage(self, phi, option=None):
315
           values = np.sum(self.weights[phi],axis=0)
316
317
            advantages = values - np.max(values)
           if option is None:
318
319
                return advantages
           return advantages[option]
321
       def value(self, phi, option=None):
322
           if option is None:
323
                return np.sum(self.weights[phi, :], axis=0)
324
           return np.sum(self.weights[phi, option], axis=0)
325
327
   class EgreedyPolicy:
       def __init__(self, rng, args, weights):
329
           self.rng = rng
330
           self.epsilon = args.epsilon
331
332
           self.noptions = args.noptions
           self.weights = weights
333
334
       def _value(self, phi, action=None):
335
            if action is None:
336
337
                return np.sum(self.weights[phi, :], axis=0)
           return np.sum(self.weights[phi, action], axis=0)
338
339
       def sample(self, phi):
340
           if self.rng.uniform() < self.epsilon:</pre>
                return int(self.rng.randint(self.weights.shape[1]))
349
           return int(np.argmax(self._value(phi)))
343
344
345
   #=====Q-Value All Option======
347 class Q_O:
```

```
def __init__(self, args, weights):
348
           self.weights = weights
           self.lr = args.lr_critic
350
351
           self.discount = args.discount
352
       def _value(self, phi, option=None):
354
            if option is None:
                return np.sum(self.weights[phi, :], axis=0)
355
           return np.sum(self.weights[phi, option], axis=0)
356
357
       def update(self, traject, reward, done, termination):
358
           update_target = reward
359
           if not done:
360
                current_values = self._value(traject[1][0])
361
                update_target += self.discount*((1. - termination)*current_values[traject[0][1]]
362
                     + termination*np.max(current_values))
363
           tderror = update_target - self._value(traject[0][0], traject[0][1])
364
           self.weights[traject[0][0],traject[0][1]] += self.lr*tderror
365
366
36
   #=====Standard======
368
   # Follow the code standard of the ioc repository
369
   class Tabular:
370
       def __init__(self, nstates):
371
           self.nstates = nstates
372
373
       def __call__(self, state):
374
           return np.array([state,])
375
376
       def __len__(self):
37
           return self.nstates
```

#### visualize.py

```
import numpy as np
  import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
  from fourrooms import Fourrooms
  from time import sleep
  # 0 - Red
  # 1 - Green
  # 2 - Blue
  # 3 - Black
  class Visualization:
      def __init__(self, fRoom, args, nactions, colorList
11
          =[[255,0,0],[0,255,0],[0,0,255],[0,0,0]]):
          assert args.noptions <= len(colorList), "Lengthuofucolorulistumustumatchunumberuofu
12
               options"
          self.colorList = colorList
          self.layout = fRoom.layout
          self.occupancy = fRoom.occupancy
          self.tostate = fRoom.tostate
16
          self.tocell = fRoom.tocell
17
          self.screen = np.array([list(map(lambda c: [0,0,0] if c=='w' else [255,255,255],
18
               line)) for line in self.layout.splitlines()])
          self.lastphi = None
          self.noptions = args.noptions
20
          self.nactions = nactions
21
22
      def showMap(self, phi, option):
23
          color = self.colorList[option]
24
25
          self._draw(self.lastphi, [255,255,255])
          self._draw(phi, color)
26
27
          self.lastphi = phi
          plt.figure(figsize=(5,5))
```

```
plt.subplot(111)
29
           plt.imshow(self.screen, vmax=255, vmin=0)
30
           plt.show()
31
32
           sleep(0.05)
33
      def showAttention(self, options):
    x = np.array([i for i in range(self.nactions)])
34
35
           plt.plot(x, np.array([int(i != 0) for i in range(self.nactions)]), color=[1,1,1])
36
37
           for i in range(self.noptions):
               plt.plot(x, options[i].policy.attention.pmf(), color=np.array(self.colorList[i])
38
                    /255.)
           plt.show()
39
40
      def showPref(self, weight): # policy_over_options.weightsP or options[index].weightsP
41
           for weight
           pref = np.zeros((13,13,3), dtype="int")
42
           for i in range (13):
43
               for j in range(13):
44
45
                    if self.occupancy[i,j] == 0:
                        choice = np.argmax(weight[self.tostate[(i,j)],:])
46
47
                        pref[i,j] = np.array(self.colorList[choice])
48
                        pref[i,j] = np.array([255,255,255])
49
           plt.figure(figsize=(5,5))
50
           plt.subplot(111)
51
           plt.imshow(pref, vmax=255, vmin=0)
52
           plt.show()
53
54
      def resetMap(self, phi):
55
           self.screen = np.array([list(map(lambda c: [0,0,0] if c=='w' else [255,255,255],
56
               line)) for line in self.layout.splitlines()])
           self.lastphi = phi
57
           self._draw([62],[200,200,200])
58
      def _draw(self, phi, rgb):
60
           self.screen[self.tocell[phi[0]]] = np.array(rgb)
```