Technical University of Crete School of Electrical and Computer Engineering

Course: Reinforcement Learning and Dynamic Optimization

Assignment 1

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1. In the experiments of figure 1, we are testing the effect that the ratio $\frac{k}{T}$ has on the performance of both algorithms.

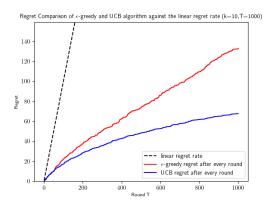
We can observe that, when $k \ll T$ the UCB algorithms achieves a distinguishably lesser regret rate and thus lower regret at the horizon.

Though, when $k < \frac{1}{2}T$ the UCB algorithm has slightly lower regret rate and achieves a lower regret at the horizon but by a significantly lesser margin.

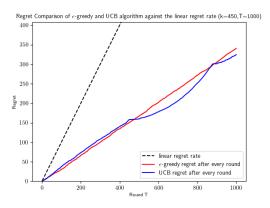
When k can be considered $k \approx \frac{1}{2}T$ the algorithms have similar regret rates. Worth noting that UCB presents "spikes" where the regret becomes lower than t ϵ -greedy but after again equalizing as shown in figure 1 (c) and (d). Those spikes are probably due to the algorithm choosing the best hand but afterwards switching.

Lastly when $k \approx T$ both algorithms present the same regret rate.

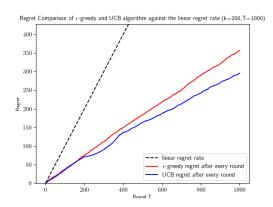
The experiments of figure 1 where tested again for different values of k, T but with the same $\frac{k}{T}$ ratios. As shown in figure 2 the algorithms present the same behaviors observed in figure 1.



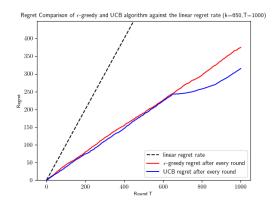
(a)
$$(k = 10, T = 1000)$$



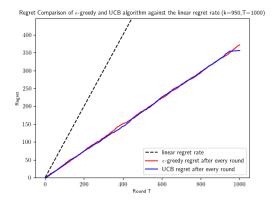
(c)
$$(k = 450, T = 1000)$$



(b)
$$(k = 200, T = 1000)$$

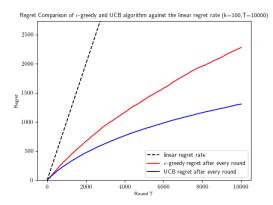


(d)
$$(k = 650, T = 1000)$$

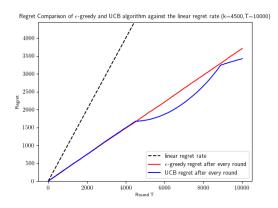


(e)
$$(k = 950, T = 1000)$$

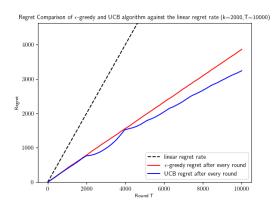
Figure 1: $(k \in [10, 950], T = 1000)$



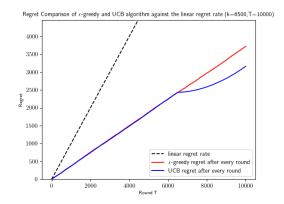
(a)
$$(k = 100, T = 10000)$$



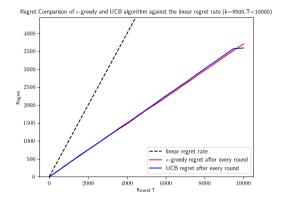
(c)
$$(k = 4500, T = 10000)$$



(b)
$$(k = 2000, T = 10000)$$



(d)
$$(k = 6500, T = 10000)$$



(e)
$$(k = 9500, T = 10000)$$

Figure 2: $(k \in [100, 9500], T = 10000)$