

Episodic semi-gradient n -step Sarsa for estimating $\hat{q} \approx q_*$ or q_π

Input: a differentiable action-value function parameterization $\hat{q} : \mathcal{S} \times \mathcal{A} \times \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

Input: a policy π (if estimating q_π)

Algorithm parameters: step size $\alpha > 0$, small $\varepsilon > 0$, a positive integer n

Initialize value-function weights $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ arbitrarily (e.g., $\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{0}$)

All store and access operations (S_t , A_t , and R_t) can take their index mod $n + 1$

Loop for each episode:

 Initialize and store $S_0 \neq \text{terminal}$

 Select and store an action $A_0 \sim \pi(\cdot | S_0)$ or ε -greedy wrt $\hat{q}(S_0, \cdot, \mathbf{w})$

$T \leftarrow \infty$

 Loop for $t = 0, 1, 2, \dots$:

 If $t < T$, then:

 Take action A_t

 Observe and store the next reward as R_{t+1} and the next state as S_{t+1}

 If S_{t+1} is terminal, then:

$T \leftarrow t + 1$

 else:

 Select and store $A_{t+1} \sim \pi(\cdot | S_{t+1})$ or ε -greedy wrt $\hat{q}(S_{t+1}, \cdot, \mathbf{w})$

$\tau \leftarrow t - n + 1$ (τ is the time whose estimate is being updated)

 If $\tau \geq 0$:

$G \leftarrow \sum_{i=\tau+1}^{\min(\tau+n, T)} \gamma^{i-\tau-1} R_i$

 If $\tau + n < T$, then $G \leftarrow G + \gamma^n \hat{q}(S_{\tau+n}, A_{\tau+n}, \mathbf{w})$ ($G_{\tau:\tau+n}$)

$\mathbf{w} \leftarrow \mathbf{w} + \alpha [G - \hat{q}(S_\tau, A_\tau, \mathbf{w})] \nabla \hat{q}(S_\tau, A_\tau, \mathbf{w})$

 Until $\tau = T - 1$