



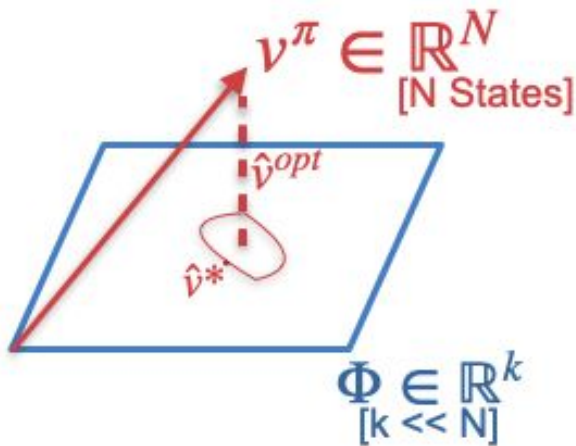
# Reinforcement Learning: LSTD, LSTDQ, LSPI, Fitted Q

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# LSTD & LSTDQ

## An overview of linear function approximations:



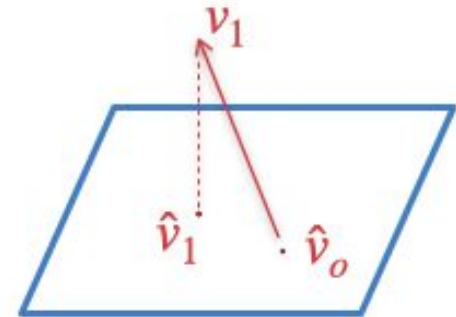
- We look for projection of real value function  $v^\pi$  to the space spanned by feature vectors  $\Phi$
- Given the true  $v^\pi$  values,  $\hat{v}^{opt}$  is the projection. Since, we do not know true  $v^\pi$ , we converge at  $\hat{v}^*$  following the procedure.

“Why the gap?”

## Procedure:

- Start with  $\hat{v}_o$
- Apply Update  $v_1 = \hat{T}_\pi \hat{v}_o$
- Project back  $\hat{v}_1 = \mathbb{P} v_1$
- Repeat till convergence

Final Update (each iteration)





# LSTD & LSTDQ

## Setting up as a traditional 'Regression Problem':

Traditional Data Representation

Fixed point solution (Desired ):  $(\mathbb{P}T_\pi)\hat{v}^\pi = \hat{v}^\pi$

$$\hat{v}^\pi = \underbrace{\Phi(\Phi^T\Phi)^{-1}\Phi}_{\text{Projection}} \underbrace{(R^\pi + \gamma P^\pi \hat{v}^\pi)}_{\text{Bellman}}$$

$$\Phi\theta^\pi = \Phi(\Phi^T\Phi)^{-1}\Phi(R^\pi + \gamma P^\pi \Phi\theta^\pi)$$

Therefore, The Least Square solution:

$$\theta^\pi = (\Phi^T(\Phi - \gamma P^\pi \Phi))^{-1}\Phi^T R^\pi$$

Weighted Version:

$$\underbrace{\Phi^T w}_{\text{A}} (\Phi - \gamma P^\pi \Phi) \theta^\pi = \underbrace{\Phi^T w}_{\text{b}} R^\pi$$

Equivalent for Value Function Approximation

Similarly

$$\hat{Q}^\pi = \Phi(\Phi^T\Phi)^{-1}\Phi(R^\pi + \gamma P^\pi \hat{Q}^\pi)$$

NOTE:

- We do NOT have the model
- This solution treats every sample as an equal contributor to the error.
- We wish to prioritise some states over others.

W - Weight function over all states  
(eg: steady-state probability distribution)



# LSTD & LSTDQ

Weighted Version: 
$$\underbrace{\Phi^T w (\Phi - \gamma P^\pi \Phi)}_A \theta^\pi = \underbrace{\Phi^T w R^\pi}_b$$

We wish to estimate A & B matrices directly from samples rather than, from the model based P & R matrices.

$$A = \Phi^T w (\Phi - \gamma P^\pi \Phi)$$

$$A = \sum_s \phi(s) w(s) (\Phi(s) - \gamma \sum_{s'} P(s, \pi(s), s'))^T$$

$$A = \sum_s w(s) \sum_{s'} P(s, \pi(s), s') [\phi(s) (\phi(s) - \gamma \phi(s'))^T]$$

$$b = \Phi^T w R^\pi$$

$$b = \sum_s \Phi(s) w(s) \sum_{s'} P(s, \pi(s), s') R(s, \pi(s), s')$$



# LSTD & LSTDQ

Given Samples of form:

$$D = \{(s_i, a_i, r_i, s'_i) \mid i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, L\} \quad [i \rightarrow \text{sample index; } L - \text{no. of samples}]$$

Estimate from samples:

$$\tilde{A} = \frac{1}{L} \sum_{i=1}^L [\phi(s_i) (\phi(s_i) - \gamma \phi(s'_i))^T]$$

$$\tilde{B} = \frac{1}{L} \sum_{i=1}^L \phi(s_i) r_i$$

Action version:

$$\tilde{A} = \frac{1}{L} \sum_{i=1}^L [\phi(s_i) (\phi(s_i) - \gamma \phi(s'_i, \pi(s'_i)))^T]$$

$$\tilde{B} = \frac{1}{L} \sum_{i=1}^L \phi(s_i, a_i) r_i$$

Now, we can solve for  
and thereby the value function.

$$\tilde{A} \cdot \theta^\pi = \tilde{b}$$



## Least Squares Policy Iteration

$$\pi_{t+1}(s) = \operatorname{argmax}_a \hat{Q}^{\pi_t}(s, a)$$

$$\pi_{t+1} = \operatorname{argmax} \Phi \hat{\theta}^{\pi_t}$$

- 
- Solve for (some) 'j' no of states
  - Generate training data for classifier (finite actions) or regressor (continuous actions)

$a_1$	$\phi_1(s_1), \phi_2(s_1), \dots, \phi_k(s_1)$
$a_2$	$\phi_1(s_2), \phi_2(s_2), \dots, \phi_k(s_2)$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$
$a_j$	$\phi_1(s_j), \phi_2(s_j), \dots, \phi_k(s_j)$

Training data

Issues:

Actions and States might be continuous and complex  
 Maximise each time to pick action?  
 Solve for all the states?



Sample for 'j' states

$(s_1, s_2, \dots, s_j) \rightarrow \text{States}$   
 $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_j) \rightarrow \pi_{t+1}(s)$



# Fitted-Q Iteration

- Start with few samples. Generate Targets (Q-Learning targets).  
Train(Fit) function approximator (Not necessarily linear) to predict the targets.
- Use function approximator to form policy to generate new samples.
- Repeat.

