

CS221 Fall 2018 Homework 4

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Collaborators:

By turning in this assignment, I agree by the Stanford honor code and declare that all of this is my own work.

Problem 1

- (a) We give the value for each iteration. We note that $V_{\text{opt}}^0(s) = 0$ to start out. We also note that since for $s_t \in \{-2, 2\}$ we are at a terminal state, we'll have $V_{\text{opt}}(s_t) = 0$ for all iterations.

- (a) After iteration 0, we'll have:

$$V_{\text{opt}}^0(-1) = 0$$

$$V_{\text{opt}}^0(0) = 0$$

$$V_{\text{opt}}^0(1) = 0$$

- (b) After the first iteration, we'll have the following values:

$$\begin{aligned} V_{\text{opt}}^1(-1) &= \max_{a \in \{-1, 1\}} \{0.8[20 + V_{\text{opt}}^0(-2)] + 0.2[-5 + V_{\text{opt}}^0(0)], 0.7[20 + V_{\text{opt}}^0(-2)] + 0.3[-5 + V_{\text{opt}}^0(0)]\} \\ &= 15 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} V_{\text{opt}}^1(0) &= \max_{a \in \{-1, 1\}} \{0.8[-5 + V_{\text{opt}}^0(-1)] + 0.2[-5 + V_{\text{opt}}^0(1)], 0.7[-5 + V_{\text{opt}}^0(-1)] + 0.3[-5 + V_{\text{opt}}^0(1)]\} \\ &= -5 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} V_{\text{opt}}^1(1) &= \max_{a \in \{-1, 1\}} \{0.8[-5 + V_{\text{opt}}^0(0)] + 0.2[100 + V_{\text{opt}}^0(2)], 0.7[-5 + V_{\text{opt}}^0(0)] + 0.3[100 + V_{\text{opt}}^0(2)]\} \\ &= 26.5 \end{aligned}$$

- (c) Finally, after the second iteration, we'll have:

$$\begin{aligned} V_{\text{opt}}^2(-1) &= \max_{a \in \{-1, 1\}} \{0.8[20 + V_{\text{opt}}^1(-2)] + 0.2[-5 + V_{\text{opt}}^1(0)], 0.7[20 + V_{\text{opt}}^1(-2)] + 0.3[-5 + V_{\text{opt}}^1(0)]\} \\ &= 14 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} V_{\text{opt}}^2(0) &= \max_{a \in \{-1, 1\}} \{0.8[-5 + V_{\text{opt}}^1(-1)] + 0.2[-5 + V_{\text{opt}}^1(1)], 0.7[-5 + V_{\text{opt}}^1(-1)] + 0.3[-5 + V_{\text{opt}}^1(1)]\} \\ &= 13.45 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} V_{\text{opt}}^2(1) &= \max_{a \in \{-1, 1\}} \{0.8[-5 + V_{\text{opt}}^1(0)] + 0.2[100 + V_{\text{opt}}^1(2)], 0.7[-5 + V_{\text{opt}}^1(0)] + 0.3[100 + V_{\text{opt}}^1(2)]\} \\ &= 23 \end{aligned}$$

- (b) We interpret this question as asking for the resulting optimal policy for non-terminal states after two iterations. In that case, we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
\pi_{\text{opt}}^2(-1) &= \arg \max_{a \in \{-1,1\}} \{0.8[20 + V_{\text{opt}}^1(-2)] + 0.2[-5 + V_{\text{opt}}^1(0)], 0.7[20 + V_{\text{opt}}^1(-2)] + 0.3[-5 + V_{\text{opt}}^1(0)]\} \\
&= -1 \\
\pi_{\text{opt}}^2(0) &= \arg \max_{a \in \{-1,1\}} \{0.8[-5 + V_{\text{opt}}^1(-1)] + 0.2[-5 + V_{\text{opt}}^1(1)], 0.7[-5 + V_{\text{opt}}^1(-1)] + 0.3[-5 + V_{\text{opt}}^1(1)]\} \\
&= 1 \\
\pi_{\text{opt}}^2(1) &= \arg \max_{a \in \{-1,1\}} \{0.8[-5 + V_{\text{opt}}^1(0)] + 0.2[100 + V_{\text{opt}}^1(2)], 0.7[-5 + V_{\text{opt}}^1(0)] + 0.3[100 + V_{\text{opt}}^1(2)]\} \\
&= 1
\end{aligned}$$