

Reinforcement Learning HW 3

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1 Recap

a)

b)

c)

2 TD(λ)

2.1 a)

$$\begin{aligned} G_t^{(n)} &= R_{t+1} + \gamma R_{t+2} + \cdots + \gamma^{n-1} R_{t+n} + \gamma^n V(S_{t+n}) \\ G_{t+1}^{(n-1)} &= R_{t+2} + \gamma R_{t+3} + \cdots + \gamma^{n-2} R_{t+n} + \gamma^{n-1} V(S_{t+n}) \\ G_t^{(n)} &= R_{t+1} + \gamma(R_{t+2} + \gamma R_{t+3} + \cdots + \gamma^{n-2} R_{t+n} + \gamma^{n-1} V(S_{t+n})) \\ &= R_{t+1} + \gamma G_{t+1}^{(n-1)} \end{aligned}$$

b)

$$G_t^\lambda = (1 - \lambda) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \lambda^{n-1} G_t^{(n)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Using part (a), } G_t^\lambda &= (1 - \lambda) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \lambda^{n-1} (R_{t+1} + \gamma G_{t+1}^{(n-1)}) \\ &= R_{t+1} (1 - \lambda) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \lambda^{n-1} + \gamma (1 - \lambda) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \lambda^{n-1} G_{t+1}^{(n-1)} \end{aligned}$$

By the geometric series,

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \lambda^{n-1} = \frac{1}{1 - \lambda}$$

$$\begin{aligned} G_t^{\lambda} &= R_{t+1} + \gamma(1-\lambda)\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\lambda^{n-1}G_{t+1}^{(n-1)} \\ &= R_{t+1} + \gamma(1-\lambda)\sum_{n=0}^{\infty}\lambda^nG_{t+1}^{(n)} \\ &= R_{t+1} + \gamma\Big[(1-\lambda)V(S_{t+1}) + \lambda G_{t+1}^{\lambda}\Big] \end{aligned}$$

$$\boxed{G_t^{\lambda} = R_{t+1} + \gamma\Big[(1-\lambda)V(S_{t+1}) + \lambda G_{t+1}^{\lambda}\Big]}$$