

①
a)

Action space : $\{ \text{forage patch 1, forage patch 2, forage patch 3} \}$
 (call them as a_1, a_2, a_3 respectively)

State space : $\{ \text{Animal is dead, 2 units of energy in reserve, 3 units of energy in reserve, 4 units of energy in reserve} \}$

We want to maximise probability of survival at the end of 3 time periods.

$$g_3(x_3) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x_3 \in \{2, 3, 4\} \\ 0 & \text{if } x_3 = \text{dead} \end{cases}$$

↓
Terminal cost

So we give a terminal cost of 1 if the animal has survived & all other transition costs to be 0. (we want to maximise it)

$$\text{i.e. } g_k(i, a, j) = 0 \quad \forall k, i, a, j$$

So by maximising J ,

$$J = \max E(g_3(x_3) -$$

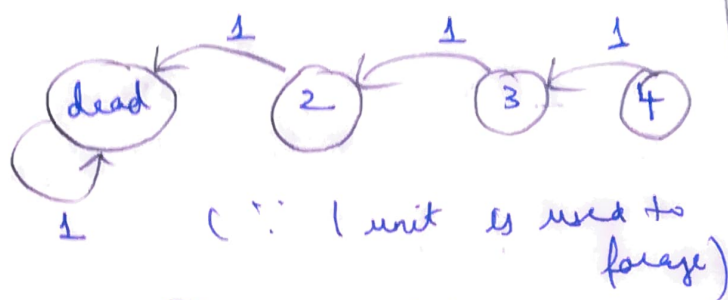
$$\sum_{k=0}^{K-2} g_k(x_k, u_k(x_k), x_{k+1}))$$

$$= \max E(g_3(x_3))$$

we in fact maximise the probability of survival
 (= $E(g_3(x_3))$)

Let us make the transition probabilities for each action

a1: Forage patch 1



$$\begin{aligned} P_{dd} &= 1 \\ P_{2d} &= 1 & P_{1j} &= 0 \\ P_{32} &= 1 & \text{for all} & \\ P_{43} &= 1 & \text{others} & \end{aligned}$$

a2: Forage patch 2

Assume: risk of predation \propto finding food.

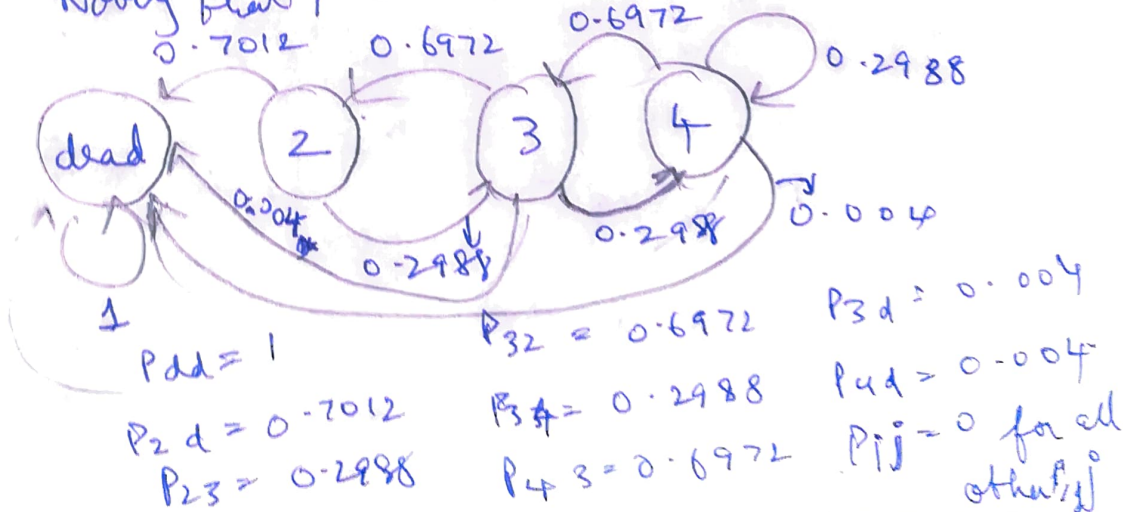
\therefore risk of predation = 0.004, there is a 0.004 probability that the animal dies

In the 0.996 chance the animal survives, there is a 0.3 chance to get food of 2 energy units
 $P(\text{food} | \text{survived}) = 0.3 \Rightarrow P(\text{food} | \text{survived}) = 0.3 \times P_{\text{survived}}$
 (gaining 1 energy unit as a result - 1 unit will be used to forage)

& 0.7 chance it doesn't get food

(\Rightarrow loses 1 unit as a result of foraging)

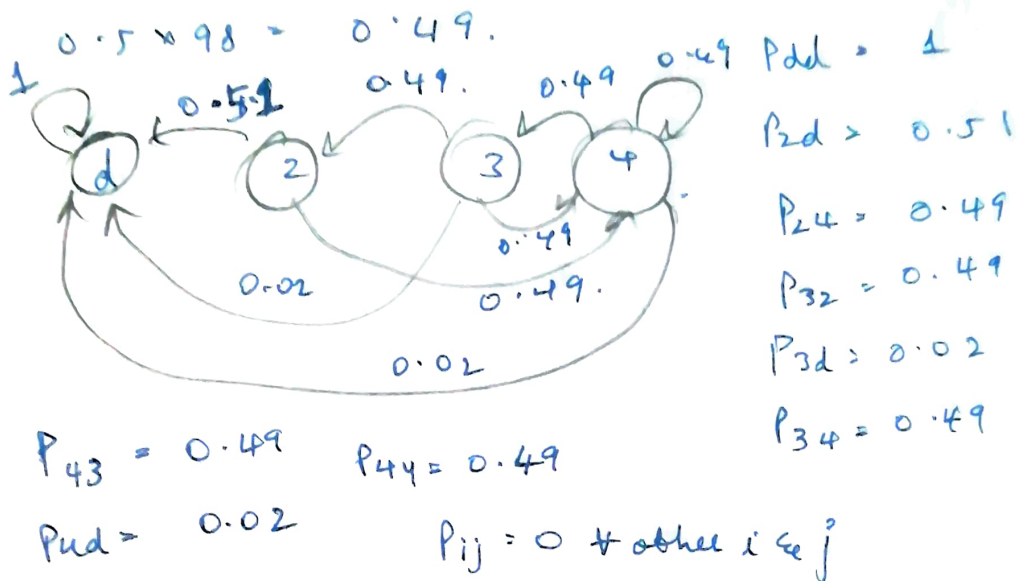
Noting that, $0.996 \times 0.3 = 0.2988$ & $0.996 \times 0.7 = 0.6972$



a3: Forage patch 3.

Here the large gain 3 units (\Rightarrow net gain of 2 units)

Proceeding similar to the case of a2



$$\begin{aligned}
 b) \quad J_3^+(x_3) &= g_3(x_3) \\
 &= \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x_3 \in \{2, 3, 4\} \\ 0 & \text{if } x_3 = d. \end{cases}
 \end{aligned}$$

DP Algorithm:

$$\begin{aligned}
 J_2^+(x_2) &= \max_a E_{x_3} \left(g_2(x_2, a, x_3) + J_3^+(x_3) \right) \\
 &= \max_a \sum_{i \neq j \in S} P_{ij}(a) \left(g_2(x_2, a, j) + J_3^+(j) \right) \\
 \text{but } g(1, a, j) &= 0 \text{ always}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow J_2^+(x_2) = \max_a \sum_{j \in S} P_{1j}(a) J_3^+(j)$$

~~But~~ $x_2 = d \Rightarrow$ action doesn't matter the animal is already dead

action 1: forage patch 1

$$\begin{array}{c} x_2 \\ \hline d \end{array} \quad \sum J^* P_{ij}$$

$$d \quad 1 + 0 = 0$$

$$3 \quad P_{32} J_3^+(2) = 1$$

$$4 \quad P_{43} J_3^+(3) = 1$$

$$(\because P_{3j} = 0 \text{ or } P_{4j} = 2)$$

action 2: forage patch 2

$$x_2 \quad \sum J^* P_{ij}$$

$$d \quad 0$$

$$3 \quad 0.2988 J_3^+(3) = 0.2988$$

$$1 \quad 0.2988 J_3^+(4) = 0.2988 \cdot 0.996$$

$$3 \quad + 0.6972 J_3^+(2)$$

$$4 \quad 0.2988 J_3^+(4) = 0.996$$

$$+ 0.6972 J_3^+(2)$$

action 3: forage patch 3

$$x_2 \quad \sum J^* P_{ij}$$

$$d \quad 0$$

$$x_2 \quad \sum P_{i1} J_3^+(j)$$

$$2 \quad P_{24} J^+(4) = 0.49.$$

$$3 \quad 0.49 J^+(2) + 0.49 J^+(4) = 0.98$$

$$4 \quad 0.49 J^+(3) + 0.49 J^+(4) = 0.98$$

choosing the actions that minimise the
probable cost $J_2(x_2)$ we have

x_2	$J_2^+(x_2)$	a.
		— (doesn't matter)
1	0	
2	0.49.	a_3 (force patch 3)
3	1	a_1 (force patch 1)
4	1	a_1 (force patch 1)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now, } J_1^+(x_1) &= \max_a E(g(x_1, a, j) + J_2^+(j)) \\ &= \max_a E(J_2^+(j)) \end{aligned}$$

↪ over j

If we choose action a ,

$$E(J_2^+(j)) = \sum P_{ij}(a) J_2^+(j)$$

We make a table & compare $J_1(x_1)$ values for each action and then decide the optimal value

x_1	a_1	a_2	a_3
d	0	0	0
2	0	$0.2988 J_2^+(3)$ $= 0.2988$	$0.49 J_2^+(4)$ $= 0.49$
3	$1 \times J_2^+(2)$ $= 0.49$	$0.2988 J_2^+(4)$ $+ 0.6972 J_2^+(2)$ $= 0.6404$	$0.49 J_2^+(4)$ $+ 0.49 J_2^+(2)$ $= 0.7301$
4	$1 \times J_2^+(3)$ $= 1$	0.996	$0.49 J_2^+(4)$ $+ 0.49 J_2^+(3)$ $= 0.98$

choosing the action that maximizes
the reward, ~~probability of~~
turn

x_1	$J_1^+(x_1)$	Action
d	0	- (can't take any action - dead)
2	0.49	Forage patch 3 (a_3)
3	0.7301	Forage patch 3 (a_3)
4	1	Forage patch 1 (a_1)

Similarly, $J_0^+(x_0) = \max_a \sum_{i,j} P_{ij}(a) (J_1^+(x_i))$

We once again make a table of action & reward

x_0	J_0^*	a_2	a_3
d	0	0	0
2	0	$0.2988(0.73)$ $= 0.218$	0.49
3	0.49	$0.2988(1)$ $+ 0.6972(0.49)$ $= 0.6404$	$0.49 + (0.49)^2$ $= 0.7301$
4	0.7301	$(0.2988) + (0.6972)(0.73)$ $= 0.8078$	$0.49 +$ 0.49×0.7301 $= 0.8477$

Choosing the action that optimises the reward,

x_0	$J_0^*(x_0)$	Action
d	0	For - (dead)
2	0.49	Forage patch 3 (a_3)
3	0.7301	Forage patch 3 (a_3)
4	0.8477	Forage patch 3 (a_3)

Optimal policy for foraging obtained from the above analysis!

$$\mu^* = \{ \mu_0(x), \mu_1(x), \mu_2(x) \}$$

$$\mu_0(x) = \begin{cases} \text{can't perform action} & x = d \\ a_3 & x = 2 \quad (\text{forage patch 3}) \\ a_3 & x = 3 \quad (\text{forage patch 3}) \\ a_3 & x = 4 \quad (\text{forage patch 3}) \end{cases}$$

$$M_1(x) = \begin{cases} \text{cant perform action} & x = d \\ a_3 & x = 2 \text{ (Forage patch 3)} \\ a_3 & x = 3 \text{ (Forage patch 3)} \\ a_1 & x = 4 \text{ (Forage patch 1)} \end{cases}$$

$$M_2(x) = \begin{cases} \text{cant perform action} & x = d \\ a_3 & x = 2 \text{ (forage patch 3)} \\ a_1 & x = 3 \text{ (forage patch 1)} \\ a_1 & x = 4 \text{ (forage patch 1)} \end{cases}$$