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Soft Policies

Soft RA

$$J(\pi) = \sum_{t=0}^{T} \mathbb{E}_{(\mathbf{s}_{t}, \mathbf{a}_{t}) \sim \rho_{\pi}} \left[r(\mathbf{s}_{t}, \mathbf{a}_{t}) + \alpha \mathcal{H}(\pi(\cdot | \mathbf{s}_{t})) \right].$$
 $e\rho$ isoble انتری پانی در قبل How does the Bellman equation change?

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Lecture 10 - 60

$$Q^{7}(S, \alpha) = Y(S, \alpha) + YE (V(S))$$

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 $V(s) = \mathbb{E}\left[Q(s, \alpha) - \alpha \log Z(\alpha|s)\right]$

Soft Policies

Lemma 1 (Soft Policy Evaluation). Consider the soft Bellman backup operator \mathcal{T}^{π} in Equation 2 and a mapping $Q^0: \mathcal{S} \times \mathcal{A} \to \mathbb{R}$ with $|\mathcal{A}| < \infty$, and define $Q^{k+1} = \mathcal{T}^{\pi}Q^k$. Then the sequence Q^k will converge to the soft Q-value of π as $k \to \infty$.

Proof

Lemma 1 (Soft Policy Evaluation). Consider the soft Bellman backup operator \mathcal{T}^{π} in Equation 2 and a mapping $Q^0: \mathcal{S} \times \mathcal{A} \to \mathbb{R}$ with $|\mathcal{A}| < \infty$, and define $Q^{k+1} = \mathcal{T}^{\pi}Q^k$. Then the sequence Q^k will converge to the soft Q-value of π as $k \to \infty$.

Proof. Define the entropy augmented reward as $r_{\pi}(\mathbf{s}_t, \mathbf{a}_t) \triangleq r(\mathbf{s}_t, \mathbf{a}_t) + \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{s}_{t+1} \sim p} \left[\mathcal{H} \left(\pi(\cdot | \mathbf{s}_{t+1}) \right) \right]$ and rewrite the update rule as

$$Q(\mathbf{s}_t, \mathbf{a}_t) \leftarrow r_{\pi}(\mathbf{s}_t, \mathbf{a}_t) + \gamma \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{s}_{t+1} \sim p, \mathbf{a}_{t+1} \sim \pi} \left[Q(\mathbf{s}_{t+1}, \mathbf{a}_{t+1}) \right]$$
(15)

and apply the standard convergence results for policy evaluation (Sutton & Barto, 1998). The assumption $|\mathcal{A}| < \infty$ is required to guarantee that the entropy augmented reward is bounded.

Optimal Soft Policy

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The optimal soft policy (optimizing entropy

augment objective) is:
$$\pi^*(a|s) = \frac{\exp Q(s,a)}{\sum_{a'} \exp Q(s,a')} \sqrt{-S}. \quad \pi^*(a|s) = \exp Q(s,a')$$

man
$$V^{7}(s) = IE$$

$$T = \frac{1}{\alpha_{1} \pi_{1}(\cdot|s)} \left[Q(s,\alpha) - \alpha \log_{10} \pi(\alpha|s) \right]$$

Soft actor-critic

1. Q-function update

Update Q-function to evaluate current policy:

$$Q(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{a}) \leftarrow r(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{a}) + \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{s}' \sim p_{\mathbf{s}}, \mathbf{a}' \sim \pi} \left[Q(\mathbf{s}', \mathbf{a}') - \log \pi(\mathbf{a}' | \mathbf{s}') \right]$$

This converges to $\,Q^{\pi}_{\,\cdot}\,$

2. Update policy

Update the policy with gradient of information projection:

$$\pi_{\mathrm{new}} = \arg\min_{\pi'} \mathrm{D_{KL}}\left(\pi'(\,\cdot\,|\mathbf{s}) \, \left\| \, rac{1}{Z} \exp Q^{\pi_{\mathrm{old}}}(\mathbf{s},\,\cdot\,)
ight)$$

In practice, only take one gradient step on this objective

3. Interact with the world, collect more data

Haarnoja, et al. **Soft Actor-Critic Algorithms** and **Applications**. '18

Soft Policy Improvement

Lemma 2 (Soft Policy Improvement). Let $\pi_{\text{old}} \in \Pi$ and let π_{new} be the optimizer of the minimization problem defined in Equation 4. Then $Q^{\pi_{\text{new}}}(\mathbf{s}_t, \mathbf{a}_t) \geq Q^{\pi_{\text{old}}}(\mathbf{s}_t, \mathbf{a}_t)$ for all $(\mathbf{s}_t, \mathbf{a}_t) \in \mathcal{S} \times \mathcal{A}$ with $|\mathcal{A}| < \infty$.

Proof. Let $\pi_{\text{old}} \in \Pi$ and let $Q^{\pi_{\text{old}}}$ and $V^{\pi_{\text{old}}}$ be the corresponding soft state-action value and soft state value, and let π_{new} be defined as

$$\pi_{\text{new}}(\cdot|\mathbf{s}_t) = \arg\min_{\pi' \in \Pi} D_{\text{KL}}(\pi'(\cdot|\mathbf{s}_t) \parallel \exp(Q^{\pi_{\text{old}}}(\mathbf{s}_t, \cdot) - \log Z^{\pi_{\text{old}}}(\mathbf{s}_t)))$$

$$= \arg\min_{\pi' \in \Pi} J_{\pi_{\text{old}}}(\pi'(\cdot|\mathbf{s}_t)). \tag{16}$$

It must be the case that $J_{\pi_{\text{old}}}(\pi_{\text{new}}(\cdot|\mathbf{s}_t)) \leq J_{\pi_{\text{old}}}(\pi_{\text{old}}(\cdot|\mathbf{s}_t))$, since we can always choose $\pi_{\text{new}} = \pi_{\text{old}} \in \Pi$. Hence

$$\mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{a}_t \sim \pi_{\text{new}}} \left[\log \pi_{\text{new}}(\mathbf{a}_t | \mathbf{s}_t) - Q^{\pi_{\text{old}}}(\mathbf{s}_t, \mathbf{a}_t) + \log Z^{\pi_{\text{old}}}(\mathbf{s}_t) \right] \leq \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{a}_t \sim \pi_{\text{old}}} \left[\log \pi_{\text{old}}(\mathbf{a}_t | \mathbf{s}_t) - Q^{\pi_{\text{old}}}(\mathbf{s}_t, \mathbf{a}_t) + \log Z^{\pi_{\text{old}}}(\mathbf{s}_t) \right],$$

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Soft Policy Improvement

and since partition function $Z^{\pi_{\text{old}}}$ depends only on the state, the inequality reduces to

$$\mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{a}_t \sim \pi_{\text{new}}} \left[Q^{\pi_{\text{old}}}(\mathbf{s}_t, \mathbf{a}_t) - \log \pi_{\text{new}}(\mathbf{a}_t | \mathbf{s}_t) \right] \ge V^{\pi_{\text{old}}}(\mathbf{s}_t). \tag{18}$$

Next, consider the soft Bellman equation:

$$Q^{\pi_{\text{old}}}(\mathbf{s}_{t}, \mathbf{a}_{t}) = r(\mathbf{s}_{t}, \mathbf{a}_{t}) + \gamma \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{s}_{t+1} \sim p} \left[V^{\pi_{\text{old}}}(\mathbf{s}_{t+1}) \right]$$

$$\leq r(\mathbf{s}_{t}, \mathbf{a}_{t}) + \gamma \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{s}_{t+1} \sim p} \left[\mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{a}_{t+1} \sim \pi_{\text{new}}} \left[Q^{\pi_{\text{old}}}(\mathbf{s}_{t+1}, \mathbf{a}_{t+1}) - \log \pi_{\text{new}}(\mathbf{a}_{t+1} | \mathbf{s}_{t+1}) \right] \right]$$

$$\vdots$$

$$\leq Q^{\pi_{\text{new}}}(\mathbf{s}_{t}, \mathbf{a}_{t}), \tag{19}$$

where we have repeatedly expanded $Q^{\pi_{\text{old}}}$ on the RHS by applying the soft Bellman equation and the bound in Equation 18. Convergence to $Q^{\pi_{\text{new}}}$ follows from Lemma 1.

Soft actor-critic

Algorithm 1 Soft Actor-Critic

Inputs: The learning rates, λ_{π} , λ_{Q} , and λ_{V} for functions π_{θ} , Q_{w} , and V_{ψ} respectively; the weighting factor τ for exponential moving average.

- 1: Initialize parameters θ , w, ψ , and ψ .
- 2: for each iteration do
- 3: (In practice, a combination of a single environment step and multiple gradient steps is found to work best.)
- 4: **for** each environment setup **do**
- 5: $a_t \sim \pi_{\theta}(a_t|s_t)$
- 6: $s_{t+1} \sim \rho_{\pi}(s_{t+1}|s_t, a_t)$
- 7: $\mathcal{D} \leftarrow \mathcal{D} \cup \{(s_t, a_t, r(s_t, a_t), s_{t+1})\}$
- 8: **for** each gradient update step **do**
- 9: $\psi \leftarrow \psi \lambda_V \nabla_{\psi} J_V(\psi)$.
- 10: $w \leftarrow w \lambda_Q \nabla_w J_Q(w)$.
- 11: $\theta \leftarrow \theta \lambda_{\pi} \nabla_{\theta} J_{\pi}(\theta)$.
- 12: $\bar{\psi} \leftarrow \tau \psi + (1 \tau)\bar{\psi}$).