

Q2

1. 5 bins per dimension means  $5^4$  states  
Since two actions are possible, Q-table has  $5^4 \times 2$   
entries = 1250 entries

For, 50 bins per dimension,  $50^4 \times 2 = 1.25 \times 10^7$  entries are there

So in coarse discretization, each state is visited multiple times and model learns effectively. However, in the finer discretization every visit lands in unseen state. So, most Q-table values stay at initial values.

In short, the finer discretization is under-trained.

2. At 10K episodes, states start being revisited and finer discretization model outperforms coarse discretization. Q-values begin to converge (i.e. less Temporal Difference Error) which gradually increases efficiency.

3. Discretization is flawed in the sense that slightly different observations would lead to different stable states. This causes a "jerk" behaviour near bin edges.

At the same time, two different real states can be counted in same bin. While this can be overcome by finetuning discretization it is costly in terms of space, training time and computational resources.

Another flaw is dimensions. Cartpole has 4 dimensions but other situations (like lunar lander) have much more (8 for lunar lander) which complicates things.



4. Theoretically, yes. But any logic would say no.

5000 bins means  $1.25 \times 10^{15}$  Q-table entries

Assuming each entry is visited once and <sup>an</sup> update takes up just one ~~nanosecond~~ <sup>micro</sup>second (taller order actually) with unlimited memory (again, taller order)

It would still take  $1.25 \times 10^9$  seconds or roughly 40 years. ~~So~~ And one visit isn't enough of course.

So, after 40 years of continuous training, we ~~would~~ hardly have anything ~~worth~~