

A square maze with black walls and white paths. A green path is highlighted, starting from the top right and winding through the maze. Below the maze is a horizontal bar with a rainbow gradient, transitioning from blue on the left to red on the right.

Stochastic Shortest path MAZE

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Introduction

Stochastic shortest path (SSP) problems involve finding the shortest path between two nodes in a graph,

The length of each edge is a random variable.

To implement SSP in Python,

NetworkX and perform Monte Carlo simulation to estimate the expected value of the path length.

Create

Create a graph
using NetworkX:

Specify

Specify edge
weights:

Perform

Perform Monte
Carlo simulation

Compute

Compute
expected value:

Monte Carlo Simulation

Stochastic Shortest Path (SSP) implementation is where the expected value of the path length is estimated through simulation. The idea behind Monte Carlo simulation is to generate a large number of random samples of the weights of the edges in the graph and use these samples to approximate the expected value of the path length.



Initialize the simulation: In this step, you set the number of simulations you want to run. For example, you might want to run 1000 simulations.



Sample edge weights: For each simulation, generate random samples of the edge weights. The edge weights represent the random variable associated with the length of each edge.



Find the shortest path: In each simulation, shortest path algorithm such as Dijkstra's algorithm to find the shortest path between the two nodes of interest. The edge weights used in this step are the ones generated in the previous step.



Record the path length: After finding the shortest path, record its length. This length represents the random variable associated with the path length in this simulation.



Repeat the process: Repeat the above steps (sampling edge weights, finding the shortest path, and recording the path length) for each of the simulations.



Compute the expected value: After all simulations are completed, you compute the expected value of the path length by averaging the lengths of all the shortest paths found in the simulations. This expected value represents an estimate of the average length of the shortest path in the graph.

Iterate over all nodes in the graph and add edges between them if they are adjacent in the maze and their corresponding cells are accessible

```
[ ] # add nodes
for i in range(len(maze)):
    for j in range(len(maze[0])):
        if maze[i][j] == 0:
            G.add_node((i, j))
```

```
[ ] # add edges
for node in G.nodes:
    i, j = node
    if i > 0 and maze[i-1][j] == 0:
        G.add_edge(node, (i-1, j))
    if i < len(maze)-1 and maze[i+1][j] == 0:
        G.add_edge(node, (i+1, j))
    if j > 0 and maze[i][j-1] == 0:
        G.add_edge(node, (i, j-1))
    if j < len(maze[0])-1 and maze[i][j+1] == 0:
        G.add_edge(node, (i, j+1))
```

Monte carlo Simulation

```
[ ] # perform Monte Carlo simulation
simulations = 1000
path_lengths = []
for i in range(simulations):
    # sample weights for each edge
    weights = {edge: random.uniform(0, 1) for edge in G.edges}
    nx.set_edge_attributes(G, values=weights, name='weight')

    # find shortest path using Dijkstra's algorithm
    path_lengths.append(nx.dijkstra_path_length(G, (0, 0), (5, 5), weight='weight'))
```

```
[ ] # calculate expected value
expected_value = sum(path_lengths) / simulations
print(expected_value)
```

```
# plot maze
maze = np.array(maze)
plt.imshow(maze, cmap='binary')
plt.title('Stochastic Shortest Path Maze')
plt.axis('off')
```

```
4.959841316620341
(-0.5, 5.5, 5.5, -0.5)
```

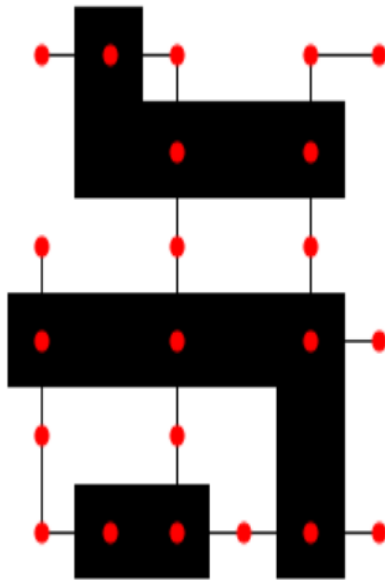


{x}



```
plt.show()
```

Stochastic Shortest Path Maze



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[1]

```
[ ]
```

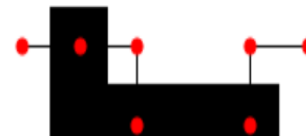
```
# plot maze
maze = np.array(maze)
plt.imshow(maze, cmap='binary')
plt.title('Stochastic Shortest Path Maze')
plt.axis('off')

# plot nodes
pos = {node: node for node in G.nodes}
nx.draw_networkx_nodes(G, pos, node_color='red', node_size=50)

# plot edges
nx.draw_networkx_edges(G, pos)

plt.show()
```

Stochastic Shortest Path Maze

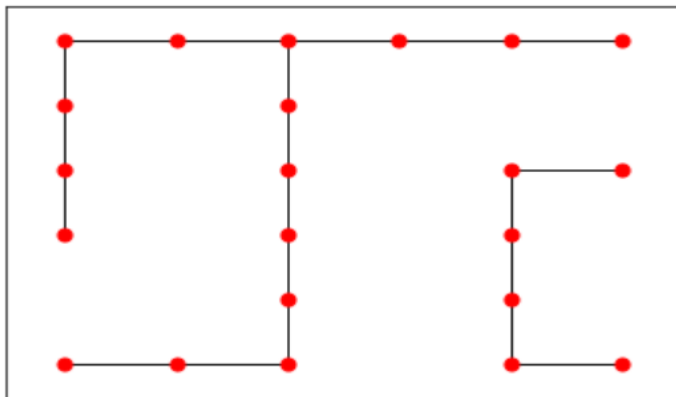


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```
# plot nodes
pos = {node: node for node in G.nodes}
nx.draw_networkx_nodes(G, pos, node_color='red', node_s

# plot edges
nx.draw_networkx_edges(G, pos)

plt.show()
```



[]

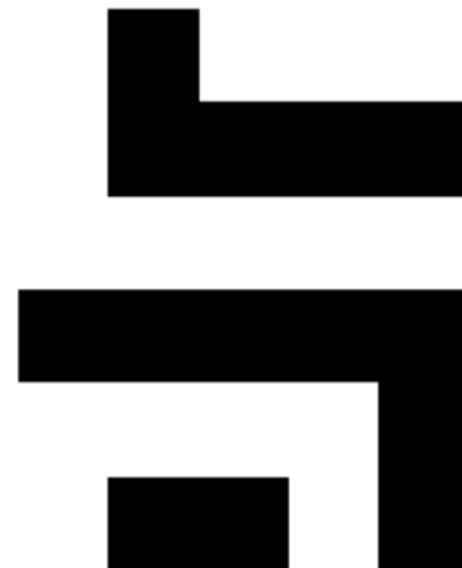


{x}



```
4.959841316620341
(-0.5, 5.5, 5.5, -0.5)
```

Stochastic Shortest Path Maze



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```
[ ] # plot nodes
```

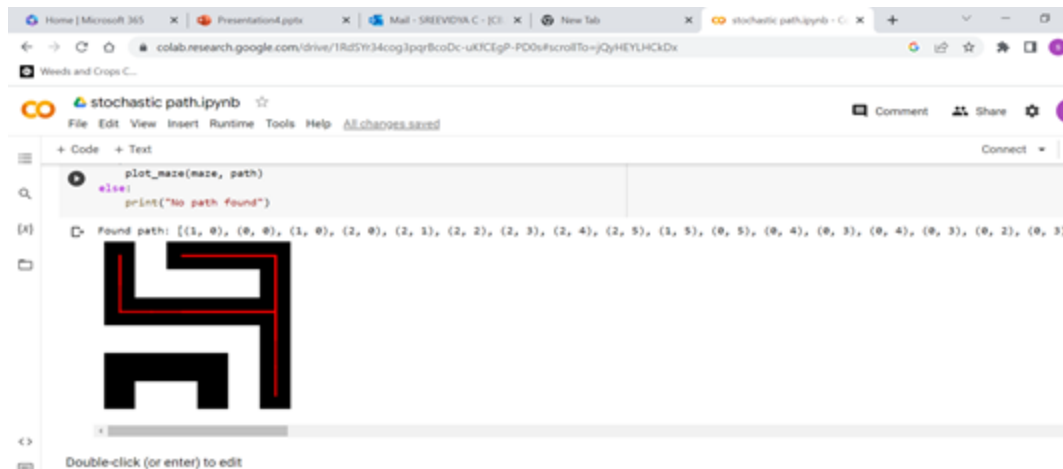


```
[ ] def plot_maze(maze, path=None):
    fig, ax = plt.subplots()
    rows, cols = len(maze), len(maze[0])
    ax.imshow(np.array(maze), cmap='gray')
    if path:
        for i in range(len(path) - 1):
            start = path[i]
            stop = path[i+1]
            ax.plot([start[1], stop[1]], [start[0], stop[0]], 'r-', linewidth=2.5)
    ax.axis('off')
    plt.show()

def stochastic_shortest_path(maze, start, goal):
    rows, cols = len(maze), len(maze[0])
    state = start
    path = []

    while state != goal:
        row, col = state
        neighbors = [(row-1, col), (row, col-1), (row, col+1), (row+1, col)]
        valid_neighbors = [(r, c) for r, c in neighbors if 0 <= r < rows and 0 <= c < cols and maze[r][c] == 0]
        if valid_neighbors:
            state = random.choice(valid_neighbors)
```

Shortest Path (SSP) algorithm using a Markovian Decision Rule and a Greedy policy



This function takes a maze, a start position, and a goal position as inputs. It initializes the current state to the start position and an empty path. It then enters a loop that continues until the current state is the goal position. In each iteration, it finds all the neighbors of the current state and selects one of them randomly as the next state, as long as there are valid neighbors. If there are no valid neighbors, it returns none, indicating that no path was found. The new state is then added to the path.

Thank you
