# Week 8: MDP and Value Iteration

COMP90054 – Al Planning for Autonomy

## Key concepts

- Markov Decision Processes (MDPs)
- Solving MDPs:
  - Value Iteration

#### Classical Planning vs. MDPs

	Classical Planning	Markov Decision Processes (MDPs)	
17	Set of states S	Set of states S	1
27	Initial state $s_0$	Initial state $s_0$	2
37	Action A(s)	Action A(s)	3
47	Transition function $s' = f(a, s)$	Transition probabilities $P_a(s' s)$	n-deterministic
57	Goals $S_G \subseteq S$	Reward function r(s, a, s') (positive or	
67	Action costs c(a, s)	negative)	
		Discount factor $0 \le \gamma \le 1$ (prefer shorter plans over longer plans)	

S<sub>1</sub>  $\xrightarrow{\alpha}$  S<sub>2</sub>
(single outcome)
Solution: minimise the cost

$$S_1 \xrightarrow{P=0.8} S_2$$
 $P=0.8 \times S_3$ 
Maximise the reward

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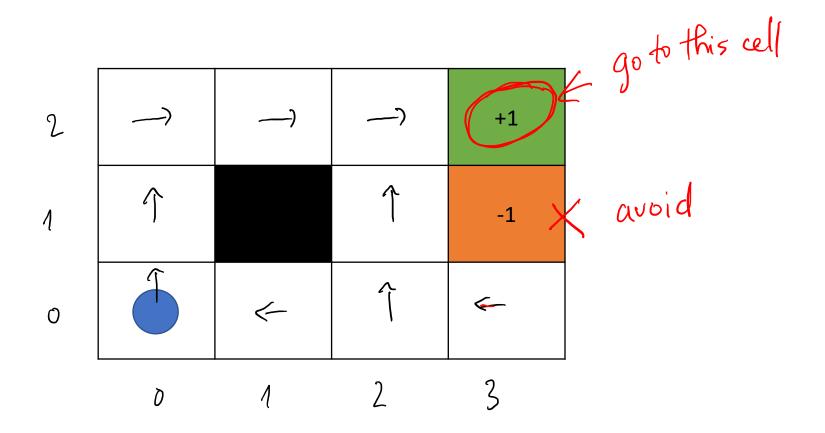
Task 1: Model the Grid MDP example with a formal discounted-reward MDP model

S,  $s_0$ , A(s),  $P_a(s'|s)$ , r(s, a, s'),  $\gamma$ maximise the reward  $S = \{ \langle x, y \rangle \mid x = \{0, 1, 2, 3\},$ y = \{0,1,2\} avoid So = <0,07 A= & North, South, East, West }

Task 1: Model the Grid MDP example with a formal discounted-reward MDP model

+1 slip right

Task 1: Model the Grid MDP example with a formal discounted-reward MDP model



### Solving MDPs?

Value Iteration.

**Bellman equations** 

aim to maximise the reward

) jind the expected reward of an action

For discounted-reward MDPs the Bellman equation is defined recursively as:

$$C = Q(s,a) = \sum_{s' \in S} P_a(s'|s) \left[ r(s,a,s') + \gamma |V(s')| \right]$$

$$\text{immediate foliate of action a pattern reward of action a discount to the probability of action a discount to the probability of action and discount to the probability of action action and discount to the probability of action action action and discount to the probability of action ac$$

$$V(s) = \max_{a \in A(s)} Q(s, a)$$

expected value of being in states and acting optimally

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#### Solving MDPs? Value Iteration

- Set  $V_0$  to arbitrary value function; e.g.,  $V_0(s) = 0$  for all s.
- Set  $V_{i+1}$  to result of Bellman's **right hand side** using  $V_i$  in place of V:

$$V_{i+1}(s) := \max_{a \in A(s)} \sum_{s' \in S} P_a(s'|s) [r(s, a, s') + \gamma V_i(s')]$$

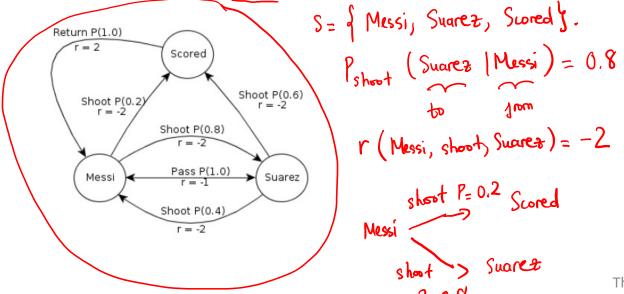
Consider two football-playing robots: Messi and Suarez.

They play a simple two-player cooperate game of football, and you need to write a controller for them. Each player can pass the ball or can shoot at goal.

The football game can be modelled as a discounted-reward MDP with three states: Messi, Suarez (denoting who has the ball), and Scored (denoting that a goal has been scored); and the following action descriptions:

- If Messi shoots, he has 0.2 chance of scoring a goal and a 0.8 chance of the ball going to Suarez. Shooting towards the goal incurs a cost of 2 (or a reward of -2).
- If Suarez shoots, he has 0.6 chance of scoring a goal and a 0.4 chance of the ball going to Messi. Shooting towards the goal incurs a cost of 2 (or a reward of -2).
- If either player passes, the ball will reach its intended target with a probability of 1.0. Passing the ball incurs a cost 1 (or a reward of -1).
- If a goal is scored, the only action is to return the ball to Messi, which has a probability of 1.0 and has a reward of 2. Thus the reward for scoring is modelled by giving a reward of 2 when **leaving** the goal state.

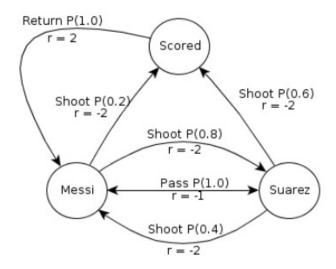
The following diagram shows the transition probabilities and rewards:



	Iteration 0	Iteration 1	Iteration 2	Iteration 3
V(Messi)	0			
V(Suarez)	0			
V(Scored)	0			

Iteration 0: Set  $V_0(s) = 0$  for all s

The following diagram shows the transition probabilities and rewards:



$$\gamma = 1$$

Shoot P(0.6)

Suarez

Scored

Shoot P(0.8) r = -2

Shoot P(0.4

Pass P(1.0)

#### Workshop Problem

	Iteration 0	Iteration 1	Iteration 2	Iteration 3
V(Messi) 💪	- 0	$\left( -1 \right)^{\frac{9}{4}}$		
V(Suarez)	0			
V(Scored)	0			

■ Set  $V_{i+1}$  to result of Bellman's **right hand side** using  $V_i$  in place of V:

$$V_{i+1}(s) := \underbrace{\max_{a \in A(s)} \sum_{s' \in S} P_a(s'|s)}_{s' \in S} [r(s, a, s') + \gamma \ V_i(s')]$$

s = Messi

s' = Suarez/Scored

Return P(1.0)

Shoot P(0.2

Messi

a = shoot/pass

• shoot 
$$\frac{P_{\text{shoot}}(Sured | \text{Messi})}{Shoot} = \frac{1}{Shoot} = \frac{P_{\text{shoot}}(Sured | \text{Messi})}{Sured} = \frac{1}{Shoot} = \frac{P_{\text{shoot}}(Sured | \text{Messi})}{Sured} = \frac{1}{Shoot} = \frac{1$$

pass

Ppass (Suarez | Messi) [r (Messi, pass, Suarez) + 8. Vo (Suarez)]

Max

	Iteration 0	Iteration 1	Iteration 2	Iteration 3
V(Messi)	0	-1		
V(Suarez)	0	-1		
V(Scored)	0			

■ Set  $V_{i+1}$  to result of Bellman's **right hand side** using  $V_i$  in place of V:

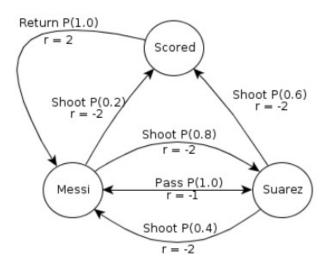
$$V_{i+1}(s) := \max_{a \in A(s)} \sum_{s' \in S} P_a(s'|s) [r(s, a, s') + \gamma V_i(s')]$$

Iteration 1:  $V_1(Suarez)$ 

shoot

pass

The following diagram shows the transition probabilities and rewards:



s = Suarez

s' = Messi/Scored

a = shoot/pass

$$\gamma = 1$$

	Iteration 0	Iteration 1	Iteration 2	Iteration 3
V(Messi)	0	-1		
V(Suarez)	0	-1		
V(Scored)	0	2		

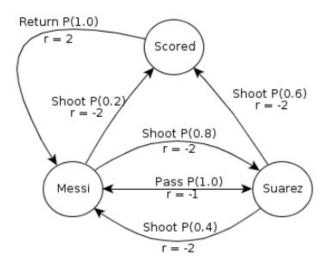
■ Set  $V_{i+1}$  to result of Bellman's **right hand side** using  $V_i$  in place of V:

$$V_{i+1}(s) := \max_{a \in A(s)} \sum_{s' \in S} P_a(s'|s) [r(s, a, s') + \gamma V_i(s')]$$

Iteration 1:  $V_1(Scored)$ 

return

The following diagram shows the transition probabilities and rewards:



s = Scored

s' = Messi

a = return

$$\gamma = 1$$

	Iteration 0	Iteration 1	Iteration 2	Iteration 3
V(Messi)	0	-1	-2	
V(Suarez)	0	-1		
V(Scored)	0	2		

■ Set  $V_{i+1}$  to result of Bellman's **right hand side** using  $V_i$  in place of V:

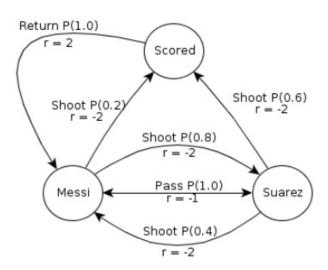
$$V_{i+1}(s) := \max_{a \in A(s)} \sum_{s' \in S} P_a(s'|s) [r(s, a, s') + \gamma \ V_i(s')]$$

Iteration 2:  $V_2(Messi)$ 

• shoot

pass

The following diagram shows the transition probabilities and rewards:



	Iteration 0	Iteration 1	Iteration 2	Iteration 3
V(Messi)	0	-1	-2	
V(Suarez)	0	-1	-1.2	
V(Scored)	0	2		

■ Set  $V_{i+1}$  to result of Bellman's **right hand side** using  $V_i$  in place of V:

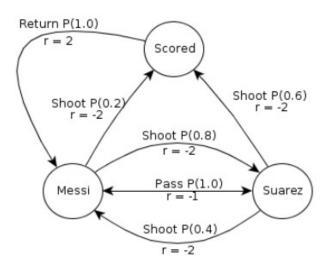
$$V_{i+1}(s) := \max_{a \in A(s)} \sum_{s' \in S} P_a(s'|s) [r(s, a, s') + \gamma \ V_i(s')]$$

Iteration 2:  $V_2(Suarez)$ 

shoot

pass

The following diagram shows the transition probabilities and rewards:



	Iteration 0	Iteration 1	Iteration 2	Iteration 3
V(Messi)	0	-1	-2	
V(Suarez)	0	-1	-1.2	
V(Scored)	0	2	1	

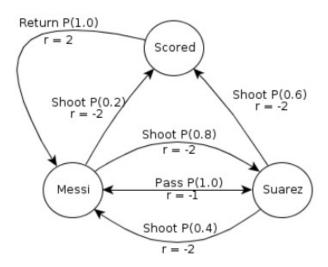
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Iteration 2:  $V_2(Scored)$ 

return

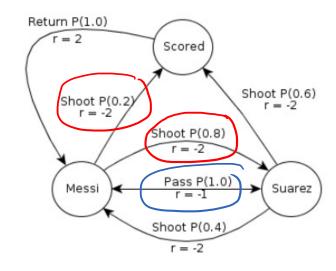
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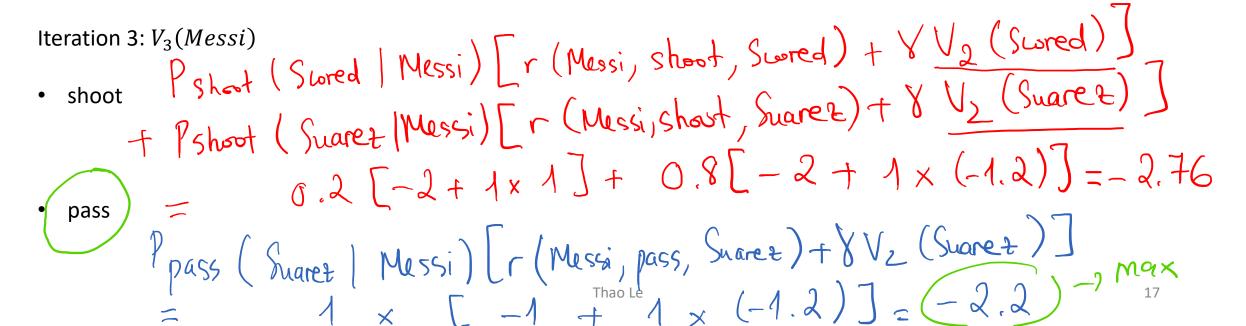


	Iteration 0	Iteration 1	Iteration 2	Iteration 3
V(Messi)	0	-1	-2	(? - 2.2)
V(Suarez)	0	-1	-1.2	
V(Scored)	0	2	1	

■ Set  $V_{i+1}$  to result of Bellman's **right hand side** using  $V_i$  in place of V:

$$V_{i+1}(s) := \max_{a \in A(s)} \sum_{s' \in S} P_a(s'|s) [r(s, a, s') + \gamma \ V_i(s')]$$

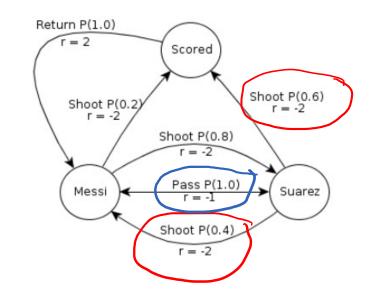




	Iteration 0	Iteration 1	Iteration 2	Iteration 3
V(Messi)	0	-1	-2	-2.2
V(Suarez)	0	-1	-1.2	-2.2
V(Scored)	0	2	1	

■ Set  $V_{i+1}$  to result of Bellman's **right hand side** using  $V_i$  in place of V:

$$V_{i+1}(s) := \max_{a \in A(s)} \sum_{s' \in S} P_a(s'|s) [r(s, a, s') + \gamma V_i(s')]$$



Iteration 3:  $V_3(Suarez)$ Short (Swarez) [r(Swarez, short, Swared) +  $V_2$  (Swared)]

+ Short (Messi | Swarez) [r (Swarez, short, Messi) +  $V_2$  (Messi)]

+ Short (Messi | Swarez) [r (Swarez, short, Messi) +  $V_2$  (Messi)]

• pass

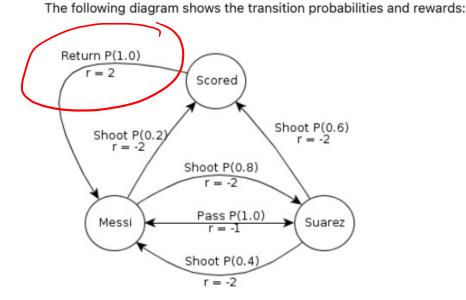
| pass (Messi | Swarez) [r (Swarez, pass, Messi) +  $V_2$  (Messi)]

=  $V_3(Suarez)$ |  $V_3(Suarez)$  |  $V_2(Swared)$  |  $V_3(Swared)$  |  $V_3(Swared)$ 

	Iteration 0	Iteration 1	Iteration 2	Iteration 3
V(Messi)	0	-1	-2	-2.2
V(Suarez)	0	-1	-1.2	-2.2
V(Scored)	0	2	1	O



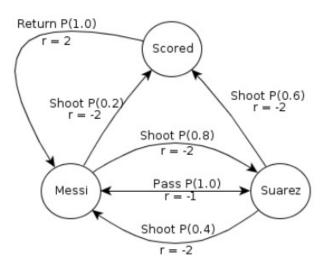
$$V_{i+1}(s) := \max_{a \in A(s)} \sum_{s' \in S} P_a(s'|s) [r(s, a, s') + \gamma V_i(s')]$$



Iteration 3: 
$$V_3(Scored)$$

	Iteration 0	Iteration 1	Iteration 2	Iteration 3
V(Messi)	0	-1	-2	-2.2
V(Suarez)	0	-1	-1.2	-2.2
V(Scored)	0	2	1	0

The following diagram shows the transition probabilities and rewards:



If we only have 3 iterations, what actions did we take to maximise the reward?

Messi Pass Suarez Shoot Scored Return



	Iteration 0		Iteration 1			Iteration 2			Iteration 3		
V(Messi)	0	P	Ŷ	-1	T	<u>ئ</u>	-2	T	$\overline{}$	-2.2	
V(Suarez)	0	7	P	-1	T	P	-1.2	T	7	-2.2	
V(Scored)	0		1	2	(	-?)	1			0	

When to stop the iteration?

The iteration is stopped when  $\Delta$  reaches some pre-defined threshold  $\theta$ 

(when the largest change in the values between iterations is "small enough")

