Making Complex Decisions

Paolo Turrini

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Introduction to Artificial Intelligence 2nd Part

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Google's AI beats world Go champion in first of five matches

() 9 March 2016 Technology



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Algorithm vs intuition

The five-day battle is being seen as a major test of what scientists and engineers have achieved in the sphere of artificial intelligence.

Go is a 3,000-year old Chinese board game and is considered to be a lot more complex than chess where artificial intelligence scored its most famous victory to date when IBM's Deep Blue beat grandmaster Gary Kasparov in 1997.

But experts say Go presents an entirely different challenge because of the game's incomputable number of move options which means that the computer must be capable of human-like "intuition" to prevail.

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Welcome to scientific journalism!

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Welcome to scientific journalism!

It's the number of possible positions the fundamental difference, together with the branching factor.

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Outline

- Time
- Patience
- Risk

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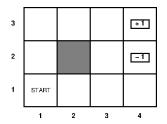
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The main reference

Stuart Russell and Peter Norvig Artificial Intelligence: a modern approach Chapters 17

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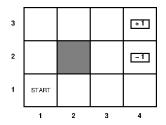
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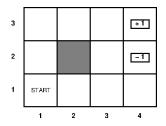


• Begin at the start state

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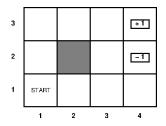
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- Begin at the start state
- The game ends when we reach either goal state +1 or -1

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- Begin at the start state
- The game ends when we reach either goal state +1 or -1
- Collision results in no movement

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The agent goes:

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The agent goes:

• towards the intendend direction with probability 0.8

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The agent goes:

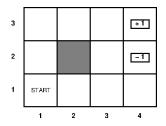
- towards the intendend direction with probability 0.8
- to the left of the intended direction with probability 0.1

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The agent goes:

- towards the intendend direction with probability 0.8
- to the left of the intended direction with probability 0.1
- to the right of the intended direction with probability 0.1





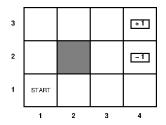
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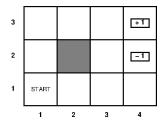


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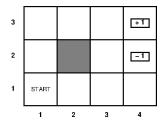
The environment is fully observable:





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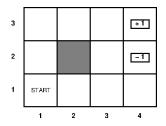
• the agent always knows what the world looks like: e.g., there is a wall, where the wall is, how to get to the wall ...





The environment is **fully observable**:

- the agent always knows what the world looks like: e.g., there is a wall, where the wall is, how to get to the wall ...
- the agent always knows his or her position during the game, even though some trajectories might not be reached with certainty.

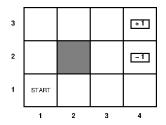




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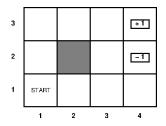
The environment is Markovian:





The environment is Markovian:

• the probability of reaching a state, only depends on the state the agent is in and the action she performs.





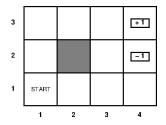
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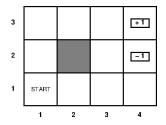


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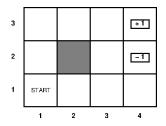
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• $[x, y]_t$ is the fact that the agent is at square [x, y] at time t





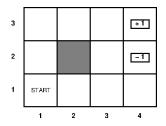
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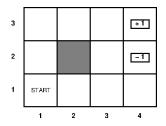
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P([x, y]_t | (x, y)_{t-1}, [x - 1, y]_{t-1}) =





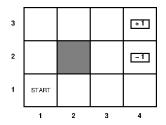
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P([x, y]_t | (x, y)_{t-1}, [x − 1, y]_{t-1}, [x − 5, y − 6]_{t-20}) =





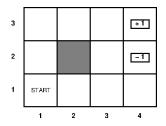
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 P([x, y]_t | (x, y)_{t-1}, [x - 1, y]_{t-1}, (x - 4, y - 6)_{t-20})





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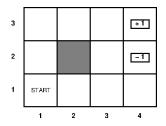
These properties allow us to make plans.





These properties allow us to make plans. E.g., plans with determistic agents: as we know $P([x, y]_t | (x, y)_{t-1}, [x - 1, y]_{t-1}) = 1$

Lets make plans then





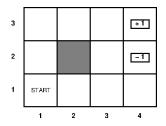
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Lets make plans then





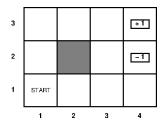
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 $\{Up, Down, Left, Right\}$ to denote the intended directions.

Lets make plans then

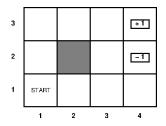




{*Up*, *Down*, *Left*, *Right*} to denote the intended directions.

So [*Up*, *Down*, *Up*, *Right*] is going to be the plan that, from the starting state, executes the moves n the specified order.

Makings plans



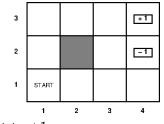


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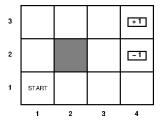
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Goal: get to +1



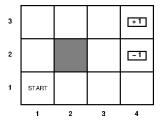


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Goal: get to +1

Consider the plan [Up, Up, Right, Right, Right]:

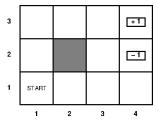




Goal: get to +1

Consider the plan [*Up*, *Up*, *Right*, *Right*, *Right*]:

• With deterministic agents, it gets us to +1 with probability 1.

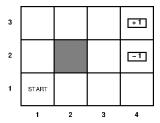




Goal: get to +1

Consider the plan [*Up*, *Up*, *Right*, *Right*, *Right*]:

- With deterministic agents, it gets us to +1 with probability 1.
- But now?





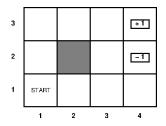
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Goal: get to +1

Consider the plan [*Up*, *Up*, *Right*, *Right*, *Right*]:

- With deterministic agents, it gets us to +1 with probability 1.
- But now?

What's the probability that [Up, Up, Right, Right, Right] gets us to +1?



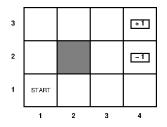


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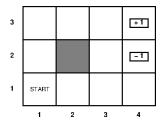
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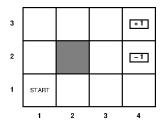
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• It's not 0.8⁵!



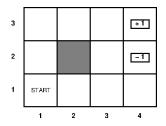


- It's not 0.8⁵!
- 0.8⁵ is the probability that we get to +1 actually using the intended plan [*Up*, *Up*, *Right*, *Right*, *Right*]





- It's not 0.8⁵!
- 0.8⁵ is the probability that we get to +1 actually using the intended plan [*Up*, *Up*, *Right*, *Right*, *Right*]
- $0.8^5 = 0.32768$: this means that we do not even get there 1 time out of 3.



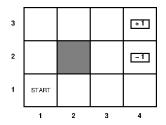


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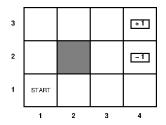
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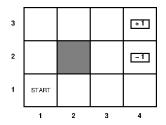


• There is a small chance of [*Up*, *Up*, *Right*, *Right*, *Right*] accidentally reaching the goal by going the other way round!



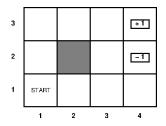


- There is a small chance of [*Up*, *Up*, *Right*, *Right*, *Right*] accidentally reaching the goal by going the other way round!
- The probability of this to happen is $0.1^4 \times 0.8 = 0.00008$





- There is a small chance of [*Up*, *Up*, *Right*, *Right*, *Right*] accidentally reaching the goal by going the other way round!
- The probability of this to happen is $0.1^4 \times 0.8 = 0.00008$
- So the probability that [Up, Up, Right, Right, Right] gets us to +1 is 0.32768 + 0.00008 = 0.32776



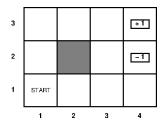


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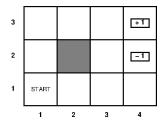
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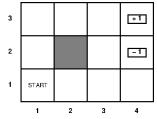


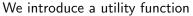
• In this case, the probability of accidental successes doesn't play a significant role. However it might very well, under different decision models, rewards, environments etc.





- In this case, the probability of accidental successes doesn't play a significant role. However it might very well, under different decision models, rewards, environments etc.
- 0.32776 is still less than $\frac{1}{3}$, so we don't seem to be doing very well.





 $r:S\to\mathbb{R}$

0.8

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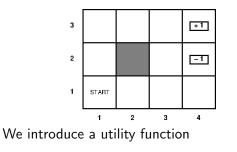
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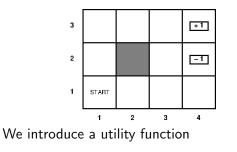


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 $r: S \to \mathbb{R}$

r stands for rewards. To avoid confusion with established terminology, we also call it a reward function.



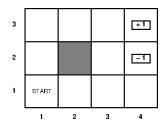


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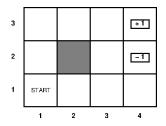




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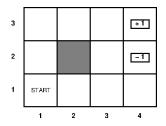




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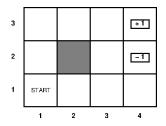
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rewards for local utilities, assigned to states - denoted r



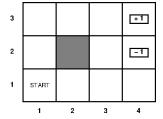


rewards for local utilities, assigned to states - denoted r**values** for global long-range utilities, also assigned to states - denoted v





rewards for local utilities, assigned to states - denoted r**values** for global long-range utilities, also assigned to states - denoted v**utility** and **expected utility** used as general terms applied to actions, states, sequences of states etc. - denoted u



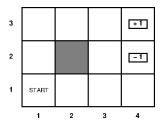


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Consider now the following. The reward is:

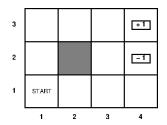




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+1 at state +1, -1 at -1, -0.04 in all other states.

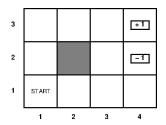




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What's the expected utility of [*Up*, *Up*, *Right*, *Right*, *Right*]?



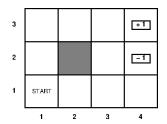


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IT DEPENDS





Consider now the following. The reward is:

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What's the expected utility of [Up, Up, Right, Right, Right]?

IT DEPENDS on how we are going to put rewards together!

We need to compare sequences of states.

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We need to compare **sequences** of states. Look at the following:

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multi-criteria decision making

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multi-criteria decision making

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We are going to assume only one axiom,

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 $[r, r_0, r_1, r_2, \ldots] \succ [r, r'_0, r'_1, r'_2, \ldots] \Leftrightarrow [r_0, r_1, r_2, \ldots] \succ [r'_0, r'_1, r'_2, \ldots]$

Theorem

There are only two ways to combine rewards over time.



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• Additive utility function:

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• Additive utility function:

$$u([s_0, s_1, s_2, \ldots]) = r(s_0) + r(s_1) + r(s_2) + \cdots$$

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Theorem

There are only two ways to combine rewards over time.

- Additive *utility function:* $u([s_0, s_1, s_2, ...]) = r(s_0) + r(s_1) + r(s_2) + \cdots$
- Discounted utility function:

Theorem

There are only two ways to combine rewards over time.

- Additive *utility function:* $u([s_0, s_1, s_2, ...]) = r(s_0) + r(s_1) + r(s_2) + \cdots$
- Discounted *utility function:* $u([s_0, s_1, s_2, \ldots]) = r(s_0) + \gamma r(s_1) + \gamma^2 r(s_2) + \cdots$

Theorem

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where $\gamma \in [0,1]$ is the discount factor

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- Used everywhere in AI, game theory, cognitive psychology
- A lot of experimental research on it
- Variants: hyperbolic discounting

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With discounted rewards the utility of an infinite sequence if finite

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With discounted rewards the utility of an infinite sequence if **finite** In fact, if $\gamma < 1$ and rewards are bounded by **r**, we have:

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With discounted rewards the utility of an infinite sequence if **finite** In fact, if $\gamma < 1$ and rewards are bounded by **r**, we have:

$$u[s_1, s_2, \ldots] = \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \gamma^t r(s_t) \le \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \gamma^t \mathbf{r} = \frac{\mathbf{r}}{1-\gamma}$$

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A Markov Decision Process is a sequential decision problem for a:

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A Markov Decision Process is a sequential decision problem for a:

- fully observable environment
- with stochastic actions
- with a Markovian transition model
- and with discounted (possibly additive) rewards

MDPs formally

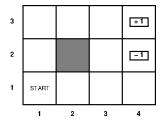


Definition

States $s \in S$, actions $a \in A$ Model P(s'|s, a) = probability that a in s leads to s'Reward function R(s) (or R(s, a), R(s, a, s')) = $\begin{cases}
-0.04 \quad (\text{small penalty}) \text{ for nonterminal states} \\
\pm 1 \quad \text{for terminal states}
\end{cases}$

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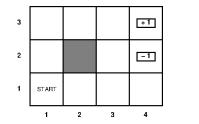


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The utility of executing a plan p from state s is given by:





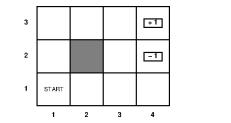
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$$v^{p}(s) = E[\sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \gamma^{t} r(S_{t})]$$





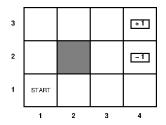
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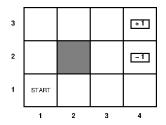
$$v^{p}(s) = E[\sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \gamma^{t} r(S_{t})]$$

Where S_t is a random variable and the expectation is wrt to the probability distribution over state sequences determined by s and p.



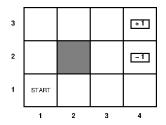


• Calculate the utility of the sequences you can actually perform, times the probability of reaching them.





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- Add these numbers





- Calculate the utility of the sequences you can actually perform, times the probability of reaching them.
- Add these numbers
- Forget about the rest

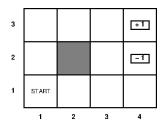




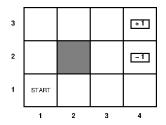
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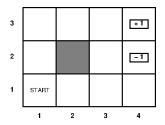
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For instance the plan [Up, Up] can generate sequences





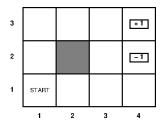
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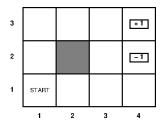




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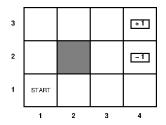




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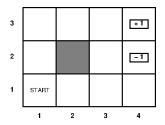
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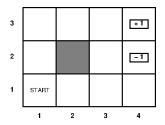
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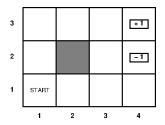




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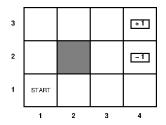
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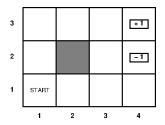
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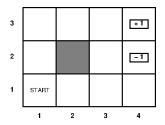
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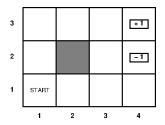
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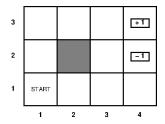
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- ([1,1],[1,2],[1,1]) with probability 0.1^2
- ([1,1],[1,2],[1,3]) with probability 0.1^2
- for a total of nine sequences

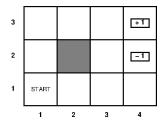




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Adding utility and summing up, we have that the expected utility is $-0.08\,$





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To be expected, because no matter how we proceed, we are making two steps and at each step getting -0.04 of reward.

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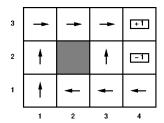
- We have looked at a finite sequence of actions. But why should the agent stop after, say, five steps, if she can reach the terminal states in a few steps?
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A policy is a specification of moves at each decision point

A policy



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The expected utility (or value) of policy π , from state *s* is:

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We want the **optimal** policy:

$$\pi_s^* = \operatorname*{argmax}_{\pi} v^{\pi}(s)$$

A remarkable fact

Theorem

With discounted rewards and infinite horizons $\pi^*_s = \pi^*_{s'}$, for each $s' \in S$

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A remarkable fact

Theorem

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Idea: Take π_a^* and π_b^* . If they both reach a state c, because they are both optimal, there is no reason why they should disagree. So π_c^* is identical for both. But then they behave the same at all states!

Optimal policies

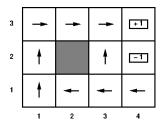
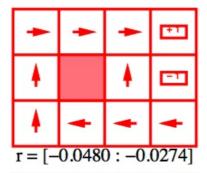


Figure: Optimal policy when state penalty R(s) is -0.04:

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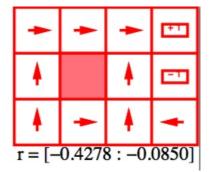
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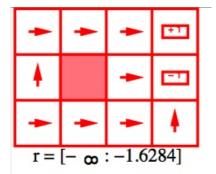
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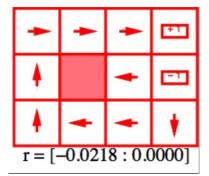
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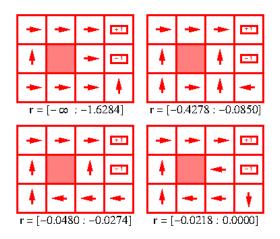
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To be continued

• Next Tuesday we are going to finish the slides on MDPs

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