Incremental Least-Squares Temporal Difference Learning

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Linear Function Approximation



Sparsity: Only k features are active at any given moment.



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Simulated leg [Lin, Kim 94]: 350 << 40000
Card game [Bowling *et al.* 02]: 3 << 10^6

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Card game [Bowling *et al.* 02]: 3 << 10^6
Keep away soccer [Stone *et al.* 05]: 416 << 10^4

Sparsity: Only k features are active at any given moment.



Simulated leg [Lin, Kim 94]: 350 << 40000
Card game [Bowling *et al.* 02]: 3 << 10^6
Keep away soccer [Stone *et al.* 05]: 416 << 10^4
Go [Silver *et al.* 07]: ~200 << ~10^6

Policy Evaluation



Policy Improvement



Policy Improvement



Policy Improvement

Feature, Dimension, Component

- Feature, Dimension, Component
- Time, Running time, Speed, Computation, Computer time

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- Data, Data Efficiency

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Contributions

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- iLSTD: A new policy evaluation algorithm
 - Computation analysis
 - Extension with eligibility traces
 - Proof of convergence
 - Component selection methods
 - Empirical results

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Eligibility Traces


 $O(k) \to O(lk)$



 $O(k) \rightarrow O(lk)$





iLSTD $O(mn + k^2) \rightarrow O(mn + lk^2)$





iLSTD $O(mn + k^2) \rightarrow O(mn + lk^2)$



 $O(n^2)$



Proof of Convergence

Solution Theorem : iLSTD converges with probability one to the same solution as TD, under the usual step-size conditions, for any component selection method such that all components for which μ_t is non-zero are selected in the limit an infinite number of times.

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Greedy Component Selection

Pick the component for which the descent is steepest

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Pick the component for which the descent is steepest

Different from steepest descent method!

Greedy Component Selection

- Pick the component for which the descent is steepest
 - Different from steepest descent method!
 - Not proven to converge.

ε-Greedy Component Selection



ε: Non-Zero Random

 \Im (1- ε): Greedy

ε-Greedy Component Selection

💩 ε: Non-Zero Random

 \Im (1- ε): Greedy

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Boltzmann Distribution + Non-Zero Random

8

Boltzmann Distribution + Non-Zero Random

8

Boltzmann Distribution + Non-Zero Random

 $\psi \times m$

8

Boltzmann Distribution + Non-Zero Random

Boltzmann Distribution

 $\psi \times m$

3

8

Boltzmann Distribution + Non-Zero Random

Boltzmann Distribution

 $\psi \times m$

3

8

iLSTD outperforms TD both data and computation wise.

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 - Better idea: counting the number of floating point operations

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 - Computations are based on implementation.
 - Better idea: counting the number of floating point operations
- If the number of features increases enough, iLSTD outperforms LSTD based on computation.

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- Data wise LSTD outperforms TD.
- Greedy component selection method outperformed Random, ε-Greedy, and Boltzmann in most cases.

No convergence proof!



Computation











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