Parallel programming HW4 assignment





## Markov Decision Process (MDP)

- Discrete-time stochastic control process.
- Set of states and actions
  - Finite set of states *S*
  - Finite set of actions *A*
- At each time step, the process is in some state *s*
- Decision maker may choose any action *a* that is available in state *s*
- The process randomly moves into a new state s'



# Formal definition of MDP

- Markov decision process is a 4-tuple  $(S, A, R_a, P_a)$ 
  - *S* is a set of states called the **state space**
  - A is a set of actions called the **action space** (alternatively  $A_s$ )
  - *R<sub>a</sub>(s, s')* is the reward received after transitioning from state *s* to s' due to action *a*
  - *P<sub>a</sub>(s, s')* is the probability of the fact that taking the action *a* in state *s* at time step *t* will lead to state *s'* at time step *t* + 1

• 
$$P(s_{t+1} = s' | s_t = s, a_t = a)$$

- Stochastic environment
  - There is a nonzero probability, that action a will lead to desired state





# Policy definition

- Given some state the policy returns an action to perform in this state
  - Optimal policy is the policy which maximizes the long-term reward
  - Reward is based on the chance that policy leads to desired state
- Our goal is to find that optimal policy.
- $\pi^*(s) = \arg \max_{\pi} V^{\pi}(s)$





#### Value Iteration

- Value iteration is an iterative algorithm based on Dynamic Programming.
- Requires to store two arrays.
  - Array of values **V**, which contains real values
  - Policy array  $\pi$  which contains actions
- At the end of the algorithm, π will contain the solution and V will contain the discounted sum of the rewards to be earned.
- We are talking about policies instead of actions because of the stochastic behaviour of the environment
- Three steps of value iteration
  - 1. Initialize state values
  - 2. Improve values
  - 3. Extract policy from values



- Formally: We have a reward function which gives us the rewards for transitioning from one state to another, the state value of all terminal states is zero.
- Simplified: There is no reward function, and the value of the terminal states corresponds to the reward obtained for reaching them
- The simplified version assumes that a reward is obtained only in terminal states and depends only on them
- This task satisfies that assumption



# Step 1 - Formally

• Initialize values, arbitrarily for non-terminal states and zero in terminal states



# Step 2 - Formally

- Update the value for every non-terminal state using Bellman's equation:
  - $V(s) = \max_{a \in A} \left( \sum_{s'} P_a(s, s') \cdot \left[ R_a(s, s') + \gamma \cdot V(s') \right] \right)$
  - P<sub>a</sub>(s, s') is the transition probability from state s to state s' by action a
  - R<sub>a</sub>(s, s') is the reward for transitioning from state s to state s' by action a
  - V(s) (resp. V(s')) is value of state s (resp. s')
  - $\gamma$  is the discount factor satisfying  $\gamma \in \langle 0,1 \rangle$



# Step 1 - Simplified

 Initialize values, arbitrarily for non-terminal states and a reward for reaching the terminal state in terminal states



# Step 2 - Simplified

- Update the value for every non-terminal state using simplified Bellman's equation:
  - $V(s) = \gamma \cdot \max_{a \in A}(\sum_{s'} P_a(s, s') \cdot V(s'))$
  - P<sub>a</sub>(s, s') is the transition probability from state s to state s' by action a
  - V(s) (resp. V(s')) is value of state s (resp. s')
  - $\gamma$  is the discount factor satisfying  $\gamma \in \langle 0,1 \rangle$ 
    - Use e.g.  $\gamma = 0.99$



- For every state, get the best action from value function as
  - $\pi(s) = \operatorname{argmax}_{a \in A} \{ \sum_{s'} P(s'|s, a) \cdot V(s') \}$
  - $\pi(s)$  is a new policy (optimal action for state *s*)



### Value iteration algorithm

- Repeat step 2 until convergence (difference between old and new value is smaller than some  $\delta$ ).
- Extract optimal policy from converged values (step 3)



#### Your state space

- 2D maze with walls and desired state
- Goal is to find optimal policy that will lead to desired state
- Given an agent (vehicle) with actions
  - Go right
  - Go left
  - Go Up
  - Go Down
- Each action has 80% success rate
  - At 80% vehicle will go to desired direction
  - At 10% vehicle will move to +90° direction
  - At 10% vehicle will move to -90° direction
- Only accessible states are other fields of maze, walls are inaccessible
- Trying to move into a wall = staying in place





- Find optimal policy for given maze
- Use GPU with Numba library
- You can use provided maze generator to get another instances



#### Inputs and outputs

- Input is .txt file where
  - In first line there are 2 integers w and h representing width and height
  - On the rest h lines there are exactly w integers of values {0,1,2}, where
    - 0 represents accesible state (field)
    - 1 represents unaccesible state (wall)
    - 2 represents desired state

#### • Output is .txt file with **h** lines of **w** integers where

- Each value representing optimal policy at given state
  - 0 is "Go Up"
  - 1 is "Go Right
  - 2 is "Go Down"
  - 3 is "Go Left"
  - 5 is policy for unaccessible states (walls)
  - 6 is for final state



#### Input Example







#### **Output Example**



