CS 188: Artificial Intelligence

Adversarial Search



[These slides were created by Dan Klein and Pieter Abbeel for CS188 Intro to AI at UC Berkeley (ai.berkeley.edu).]

Game Playing State-of-the-Art

- Checkers: 1950: First computer player. 1994: First computer champion: Chinook ended 40-year-reign of human champion Marion Tinsley using complete 8-piece endgame. 2007: Checkers solved!
- Chess: 1997: Deep Blue defeats human champion Gary Kasparov in a six-game match. Deep Blue examined 200M positions per second, used very sophisticated evaluation and undisclosed methods for extending some lines of search up to 40 ply. Current programs are even better, if less historic.
- Go: Human champions are now starting to be challenged by machines. In go, b > 300! Classic programs use pattern knowledge bases, but big recent advances use Monte Carlo (randomized) expansion methods.



Game Playing State-of-the-Art

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- Go: 2016: Alpha GO defeats human champion. Uses Monte Carlo Tree Search, learned evaluation function.
- Pacman



Behavior from Computation



Video of Demo Mystery Pacman



Adversarial Games



Types of Games

- Many different kinds of games!
- Axes:
- Deterministic or stochastic?
- One, two, or more players?
- Zero sum?



- Perfect information (can you see the state)?
- Want algorithms for calculating a strategy (policy) which mends a move from each state

Deterministic Games

- Many possible formalizations, one is:
 - States: S (start at s₀)
 - Players: P={1...N} (usually take turns)
 - Actions: A (may depend on player / state)
 - Transition Function: $SxA \rightarrow S$
 - Terminal Test: $S \rightarrow \{t, f\}$
 - Terminal Utilities: $SxP \rightarrow R$
- Solution for a player is a policy: $S \rightarrow A$



Zero-Sum Games





- Zero-Sum Games
- Agents have opposite utilities (values on es)
- Lets us think of a single value that one maximizes and the other minimizes
- Adversarial, pure competition

- General Games
- Agents have independent utilities (values on es)
- Cooperation, indifference, competition, and more are all possible
- More later on non-zero-sum games

Adversarial Search



Single-Agent Trees



Value of a State



Adversarial Game Trees



Minimax Values



V(s) =known

Tic-Tac-Toe Game Tree



Adversarial Search (Minimax)

- Deterministic, zero-sum games:
 - Tic-tac-toe, chess, checkers
 - One player maximizes result
 - The other minimizes result
- Minimax search:
 - A state-space search tree
 - Players alternate turns
 - Compute each node's minimax value: the best achievable utility against a rational (optimal) adversary

Minimax values: computed recursively



Terminal values: part of the game

Minimax Implementation

def max-value(state):

initialize v = -∞
for each successor of state:
 v = max(v, min-value(successor))
return v

$$V(s) = \max_{s' \in \text{successors}(s)} V(s')$$

def min-value(state):
 initialize v = +∞
 for each successor of state:
 v = min(v, max-value(successor))
 return v

$$V(s') = \min_{s \in \text{successors}(s')} V(s)$$

Minimax Implementation (Dispatch)

def value(state):

if the state is a terminal state: return the state's utility if the next agent is MAX: return max-value(state) if the next agent is MIN: return min-value(state)



def min-value(state):
 initialize v = +∞
 for each successor of state:
 v = min(v, value(successor))
 return v

Minimax Example



Minimax Properties





Optimal against a perfect player. Otherwise?

[Demo: min vs exp (L6D2, L6D3)]

Video of Demo Min vs. Exp (Min)



Video of Demo Min vs. Exp (Exp)



Minimax Efficiency

How efficient is minimax?

- Just like (exhaustive) DFS
- Time: O(b^m)
- Space: O(bm)
- Example: For chess, $b \approx 35$, $m \approx 100$
 - Exact solution is completely infeasible
 - But, do we need to explore the whole tree?



Resource Limits



Game Tree Pruning



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