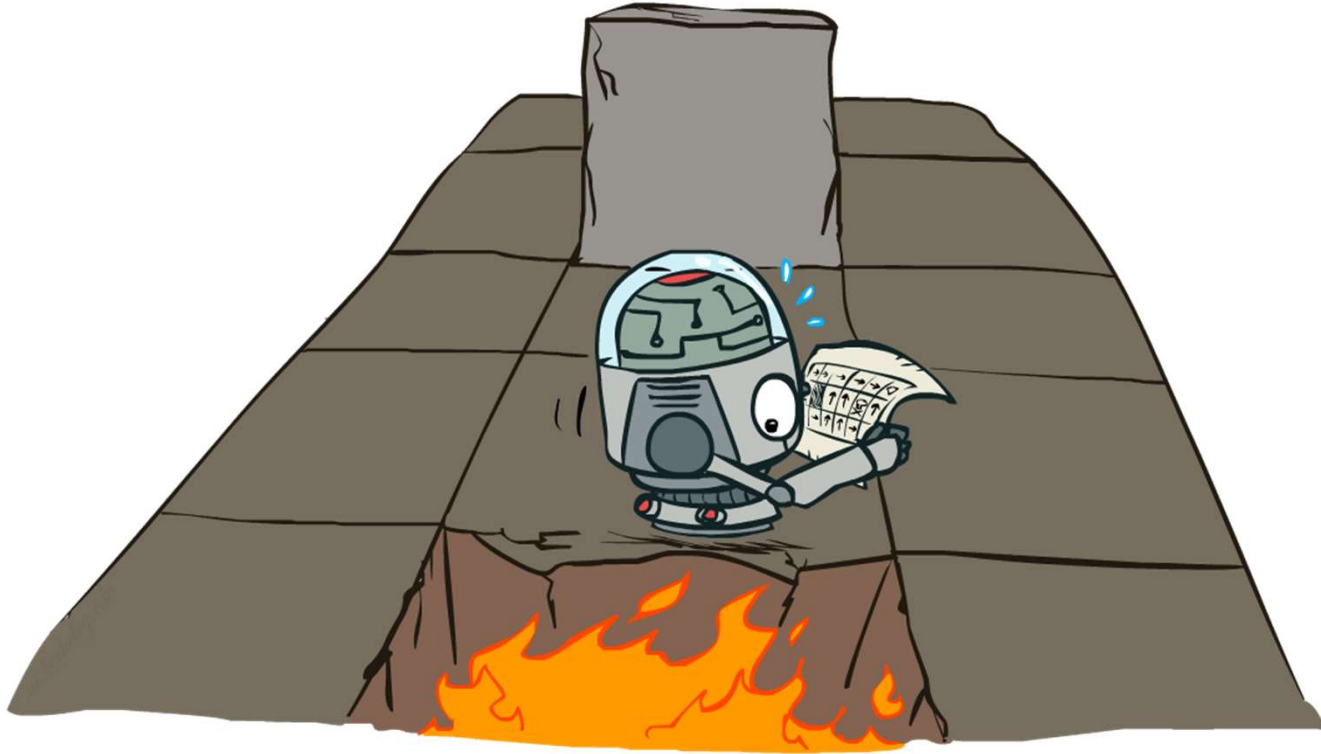


CSE 473: Introduction to Artificial Intelligence

Markov Decision Processes II

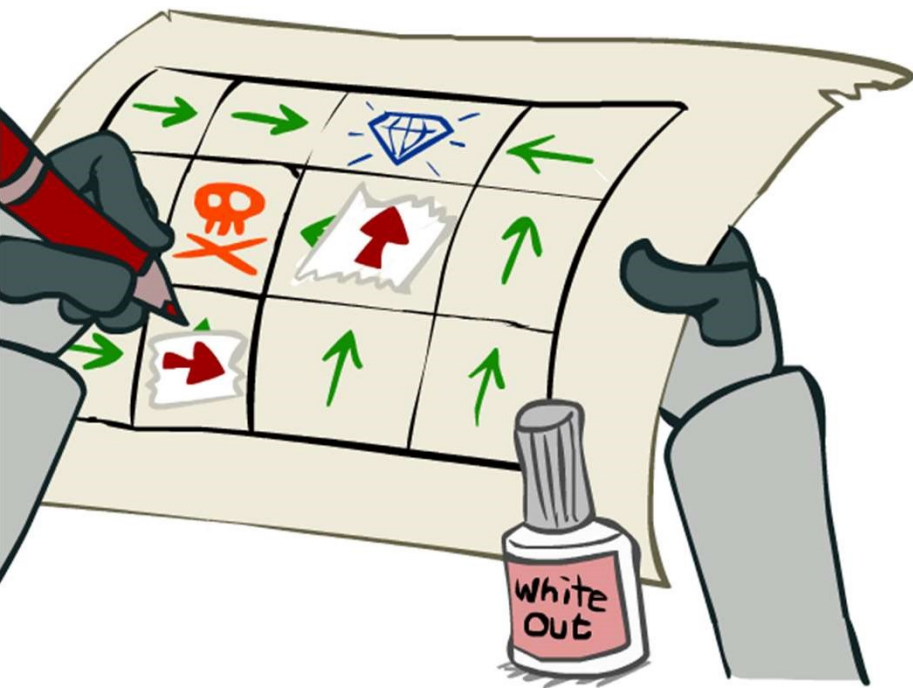


Steve Tanimoto

Based on slides by: Dan Klein and Pieter Abbeel --- University of California, Berkeley

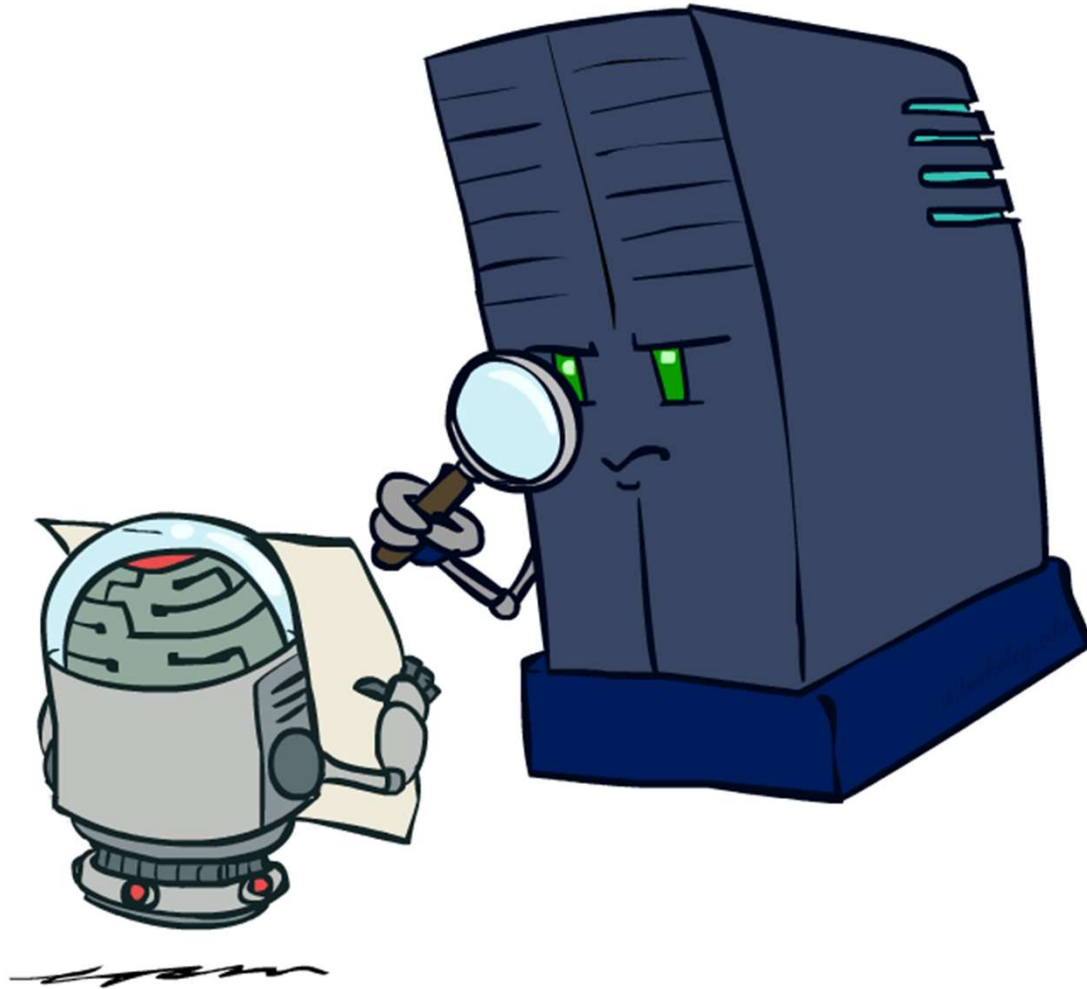
slides were created by Dan Klein and Pieter Abbeel for CS188 Intro to AI at UC Berkeley. All CS188 materials are available at <http://ai.berkeley.edu>

Solving MDPs



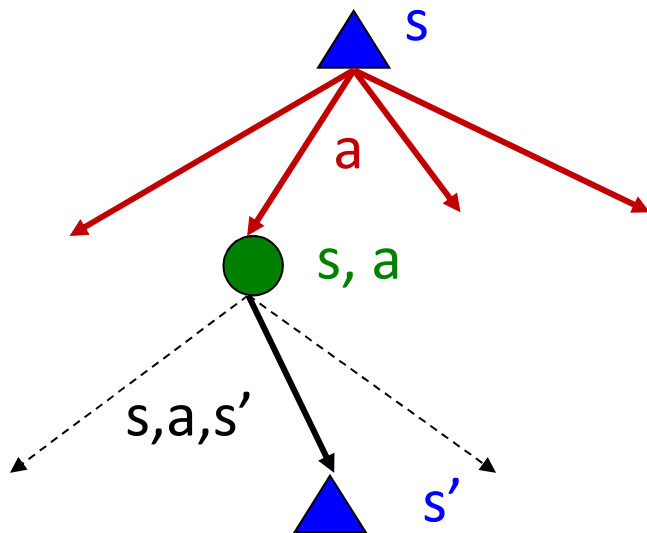
- Value Iteration
- Policy Iteration
- Reinforcement Learning

Policy Evaluation

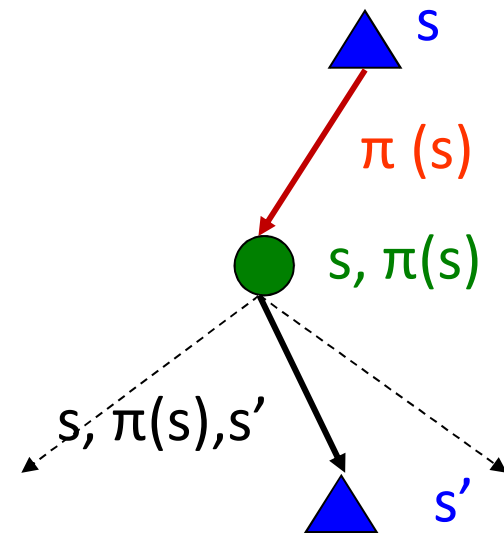


Fixed Policies

Do the optimal action



Do what π says to do



Expectimax trees max over all actions to compute the optimal values

if we fixed some policy $\pi(s)$, then the tree would be simpler – only one action per state

... though the tree's value would depend on which policy we fixed

Utilities for a Fixed Policy

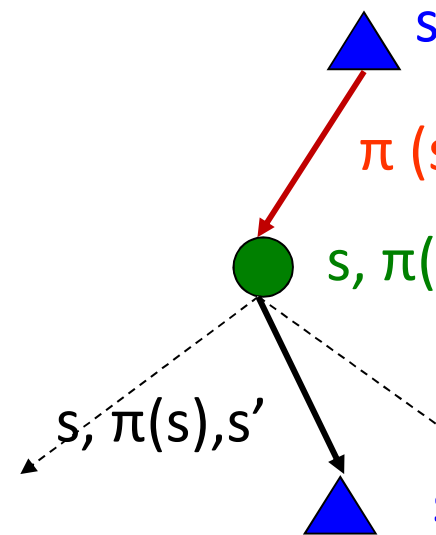
Another basic operation: compute the utility of a state s under a fixed (generally non-optimal) policy

Define the utility of a state s , under a fixed policy π :

$V^\pi(s)$ = expected total discounted rewards starting in s and following π

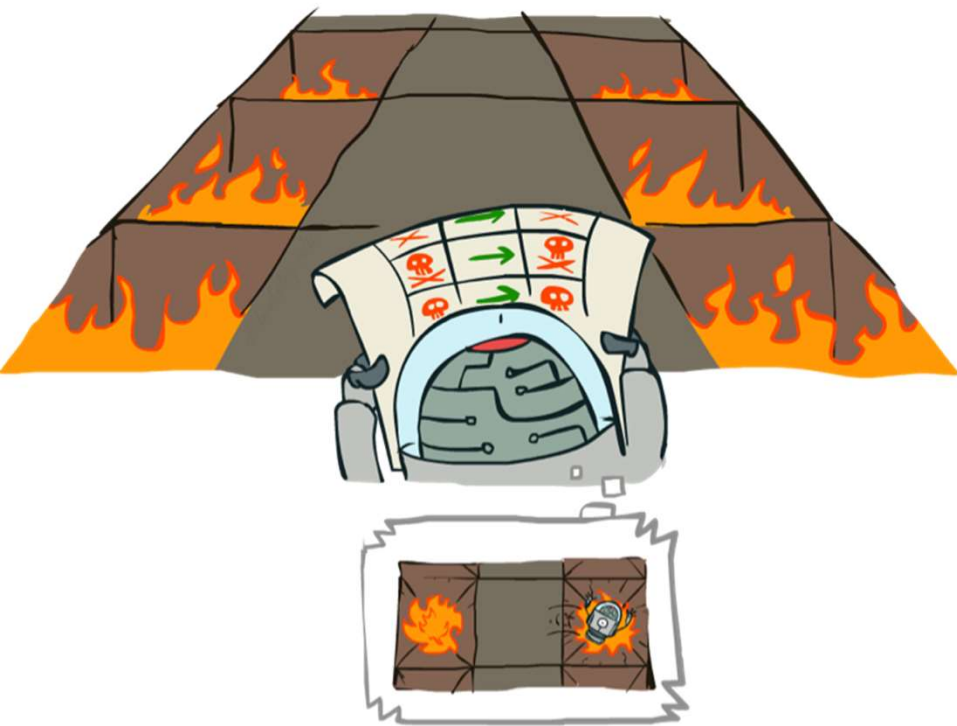
Recursive relation (one-step look-ahead / Bellman equation):

$$V^\pi(s) = \sum_{s'} T(s, \pi(s), s') [R(s, \pi(s), s') + \gamma V^\pi(s')]$$

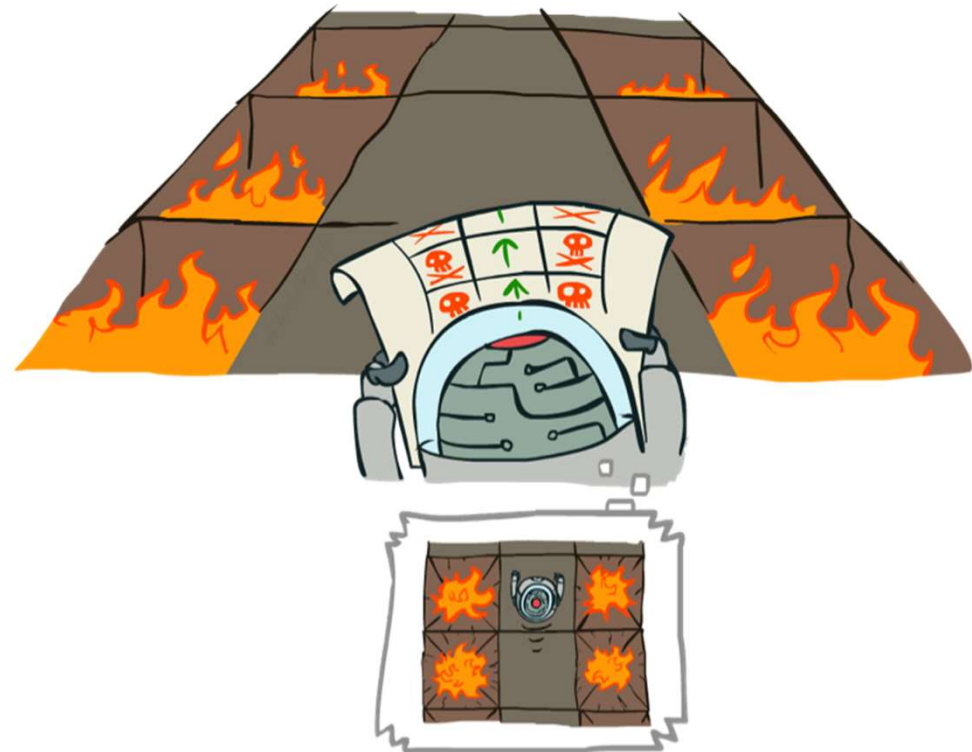


Example: Policy Evaluation

Always Go Right



Always Go Forward

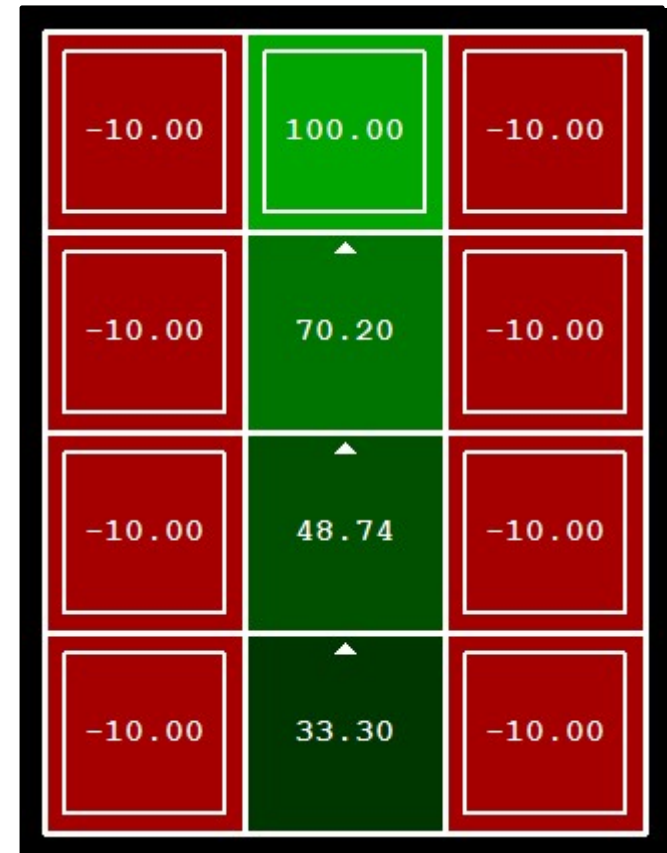


Example: Policy Evaluation

Always Go Right



Always Go Forward



Policy Evaluation

How do we calculate the V 's for a fixed policy π ?

idea 1: Turn recursive Bellman equations into updates (like value iteration)

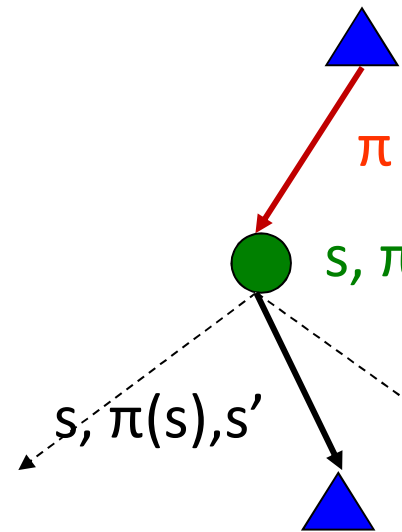
$$V_0^\pi(s) = 0$$

$$V_{k+1}^\pi(s) \leftarrow \sum_{s'} T(s, \pi(s), s') [R(s, \pi(s), s') + \gamma V_k^\pi(s')]$$

Efficiency: $O(S^2)$ per iteration

idea 2: Without the maxes, the Bellman equations are just a linear system

Solve with Matlab (or your favorite linear system solver)



Policy Iteration

Alternative approach for optimal values:

Step 1: Policy evaluation: calculate utilities for some fixed policy (not optimal utilities!) until convergence

$$V_{k+1}^{\pi_i}(s) \leftarrow \sum_{s'} T(s, \pi_i(s), s') \left[R(s, \pi_i(s), s') + \gamma V_k^{\pi_i}(s') \right]$$

Step 2: Policy improvement: update policy using one-step look-ahead with results converged (but not optimal!) utilities as future values

$$\pi_{i+1}(s) = \arg \max_a \sum_{s'} T(s, a, s') \left[R(s, a, s') + \gamma V^{\pi_i}(s') \right]$$

Repeat steps until policy converges

This is **policy iteration**

It's still optimal! Can converge (much) faster under some conditions

Comparison

Both value iteration and policy iteration compute the same thing (all optimal values)

Value iteration:

- Every iteration updates both the values and (implicitly) the policy
- We don't track the policy, but taking the max over actions implicitly recomputes it

Policy iteration:

- We do several passes that update utilities with fixed policy (each pass is fast because we consider only one action, not all of them)
- After the policy is evaluated, a new policy is chosen (slow like a value iteration pass)
- The new policy will be better (or we're done)

Both are dynamic programs for solving MDPs

Summary: MDP Algorithms

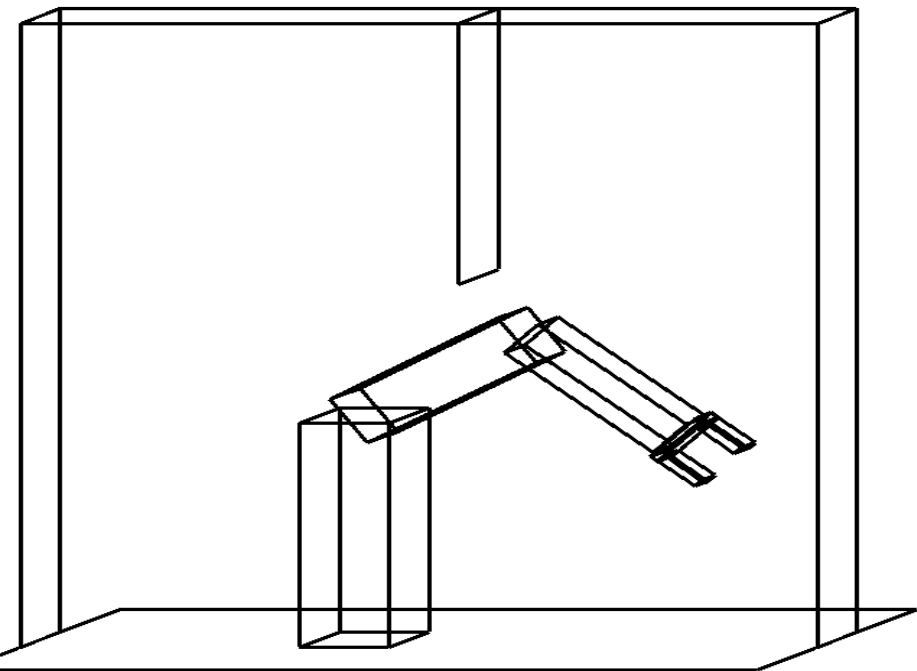
What you want to....

- Compute optimal values: use value iteration or policy iteration
- Compute values for a particular policy: use policy evaluation
- Turn your values into a policy: use policy extraction (one-step lookahead)

These all look the same!

- They basically are – they are all variations of Bellman updates
- They all use one-step lookahead expectimax fragments
- They differ only in whether we plug in a fixed policy or max over actions

Manipulator Control

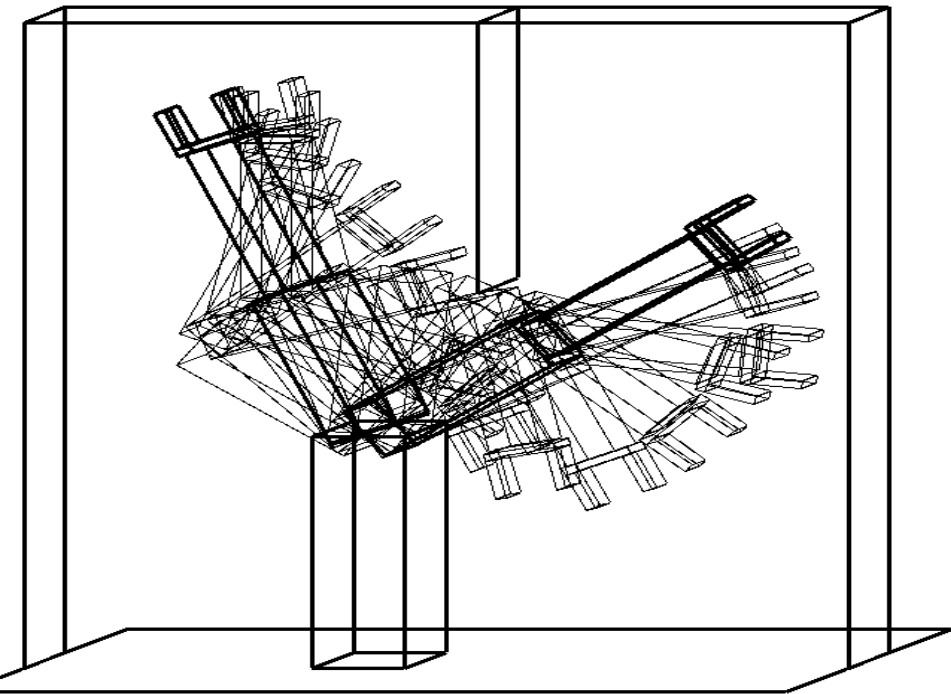


Arm with two joints (workspace)

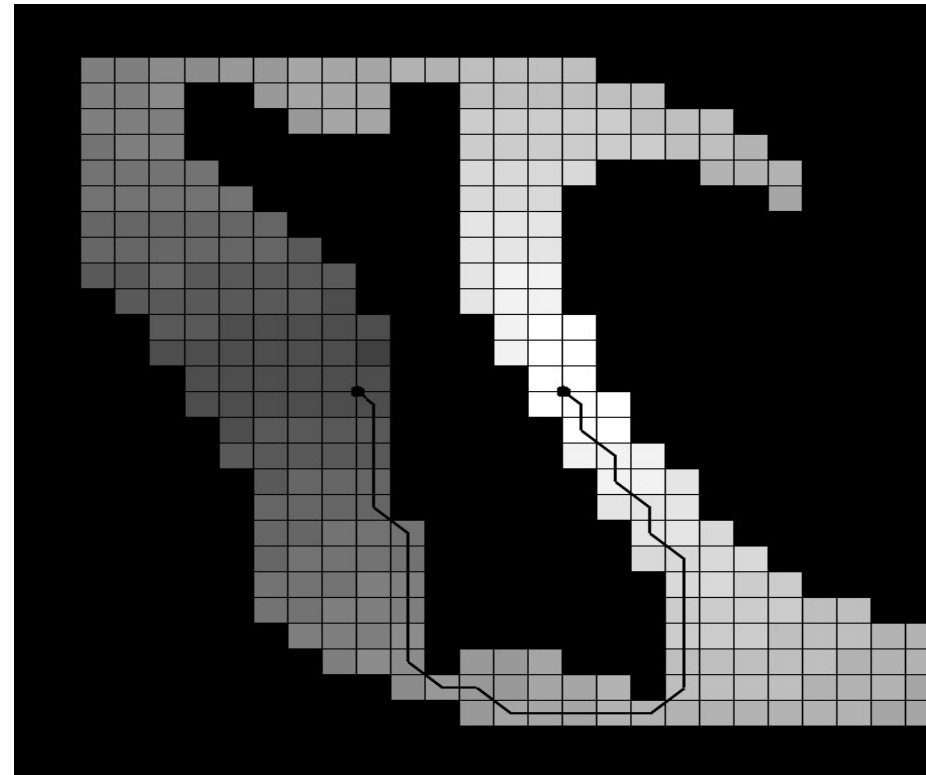


Configuration space

Manipulator Control Path

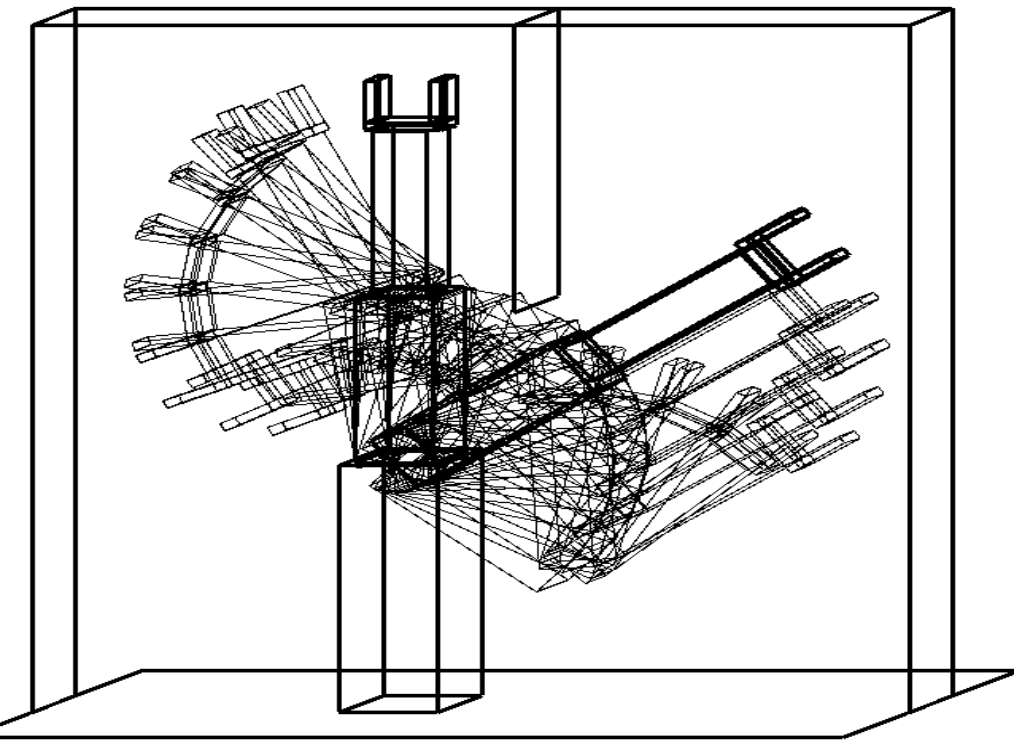


Arm with two joints (workspace)

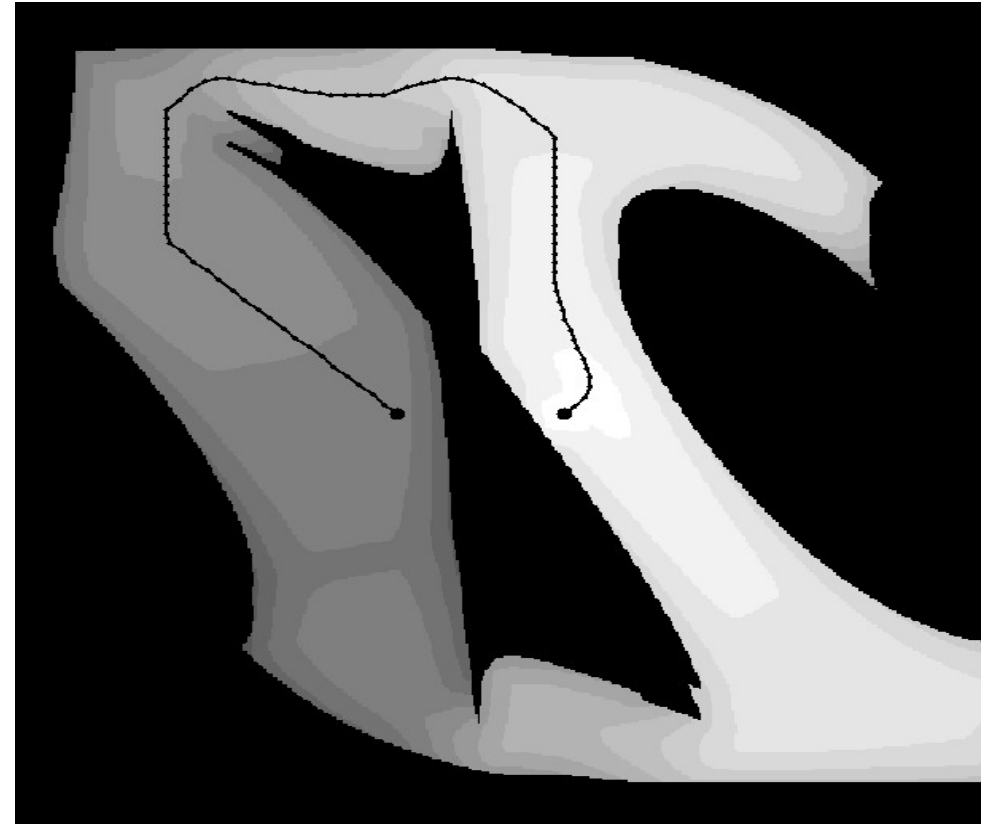


Configuration space

Manipulator Control Path

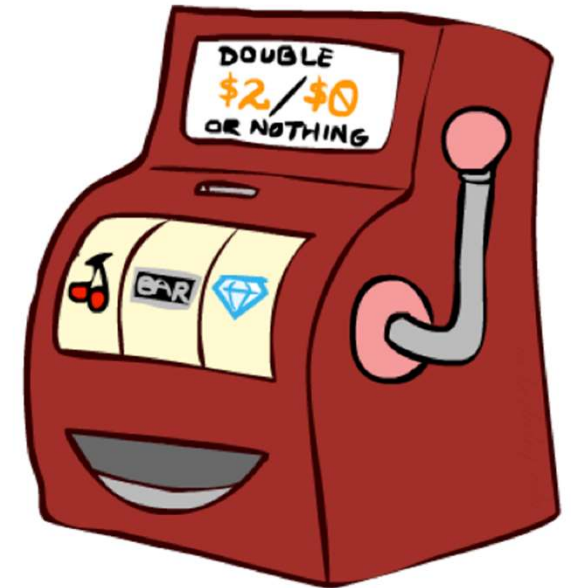
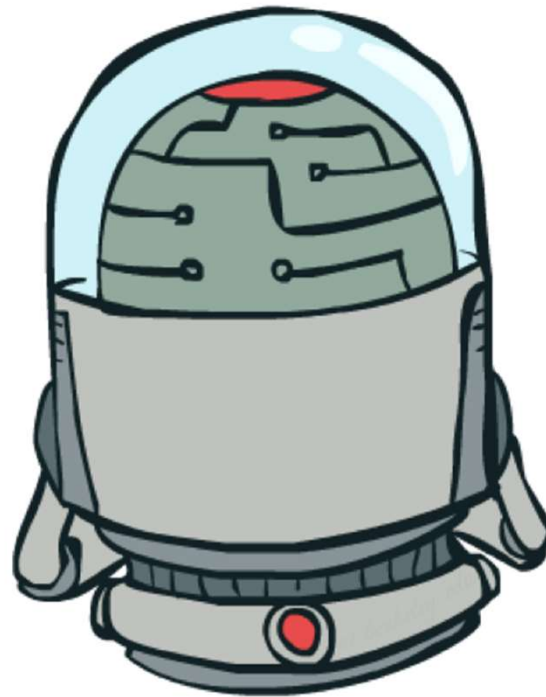


Arm with two joints (workspace)



Configuration space

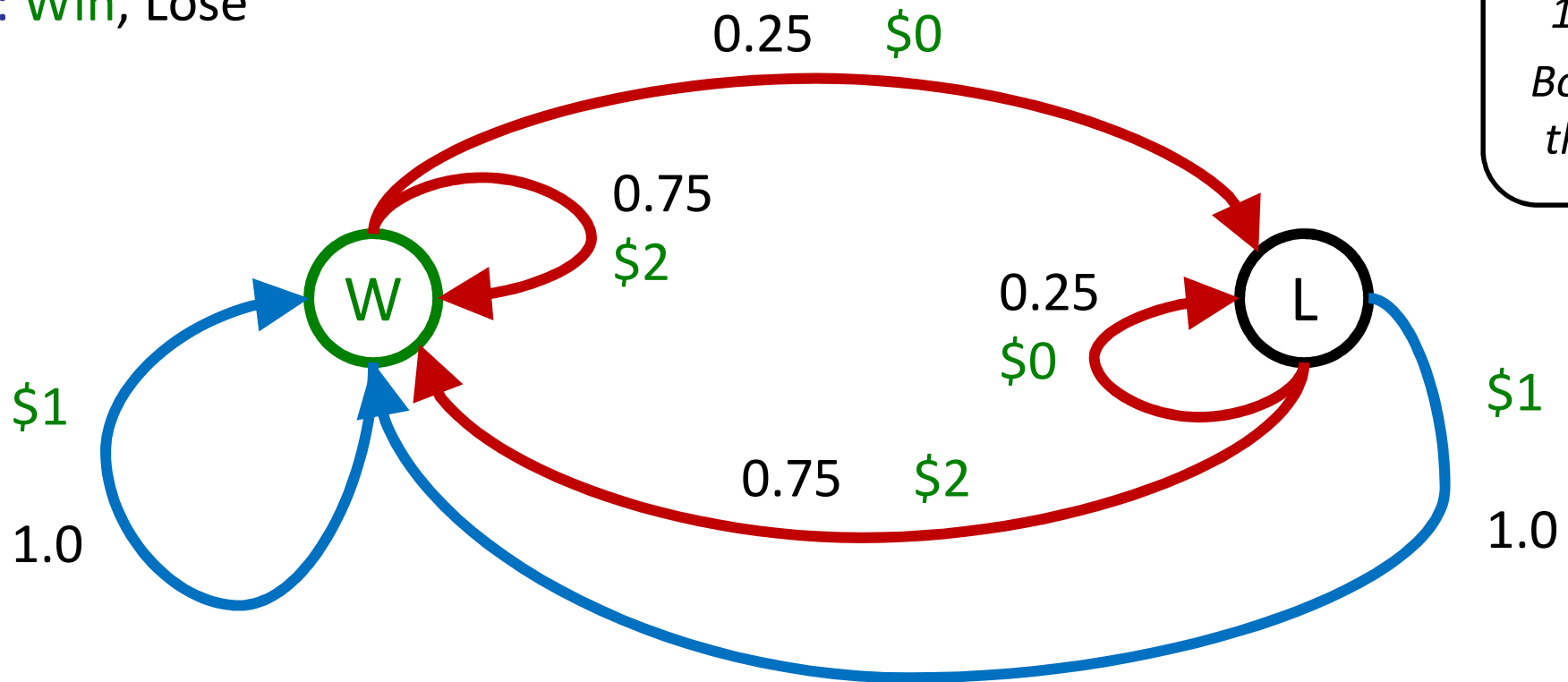
Double Bandits



Double-Bandit MDP

Actions: *Blue, Red*

States: *Win, Lose*



No discount
100 time steps
Both states have
the same value

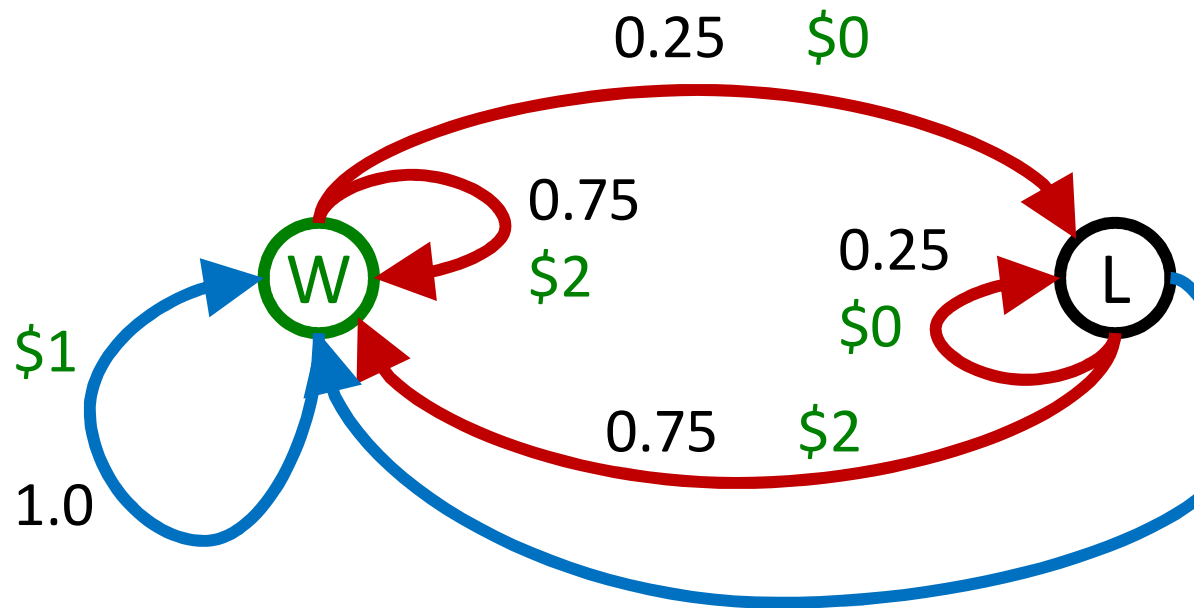
Offline Planning

Solving MDPs is offline planning

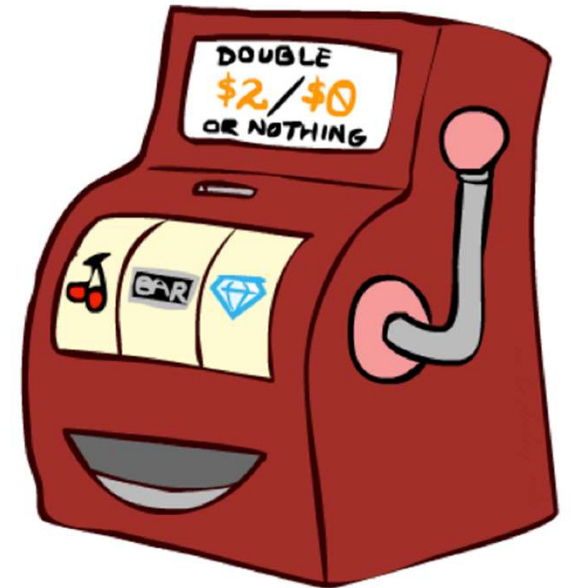
- You determine all quantities through computation
- You need to know the details of the MDP
- You do not actually play the game!

No discount
100 time steps
Both states have
the same value

	Value
Play Red	150
Play Blue	100



Let's Play!

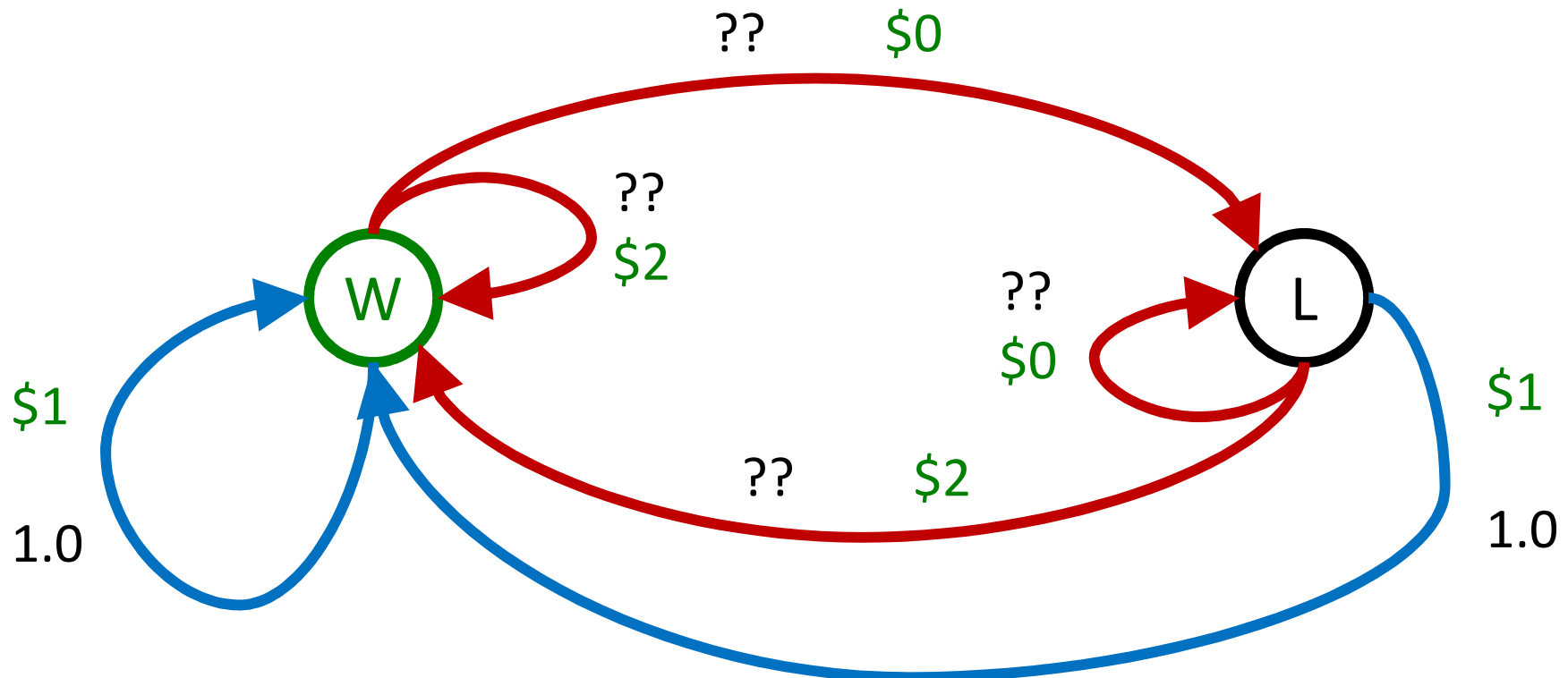


\$2 \$2 \$0 \$2 \$2

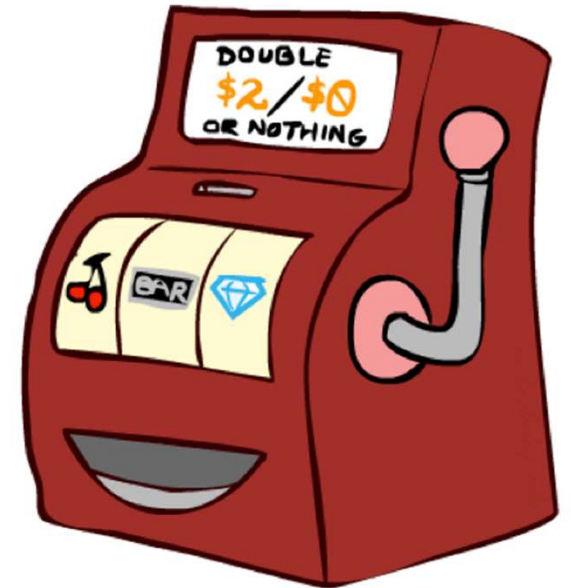
\$2 \$2 \$0 \$0 \$0

Online Planning

Rules changed! Red's win chance is different.



Let's Play!



\$0 \$0 \$0 \$2 \$0
\$2 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0

What Just Happened?

That wasn't planning, it was learning!

- Specifically, reinforcement learning
- There was an MDP, but you couldn't solve it with just computation
- You needed to actually act to figure it out



Important ideas in reinforcement learning that came up

- Exploration: you have to try unknown actions to get information
- Exploitation: eventually, you have to use what you know
- Regret: even if you learn intelligently, you make mistakes
- Sampling: because of chance, you have to try things repeatedly
- Difficulty: learning can be much harder than solving a known MDP

Next Time: Reinforcement Learning!
