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A Doubly Robust Approach to Sparse Reinforcement Learning

Tuesday, June 18, 2024 2:30 PM (30 minutes)

We propose a new regret minimization algorithm for episodic sparse linear Markov decision process (SMDP) where the state-transition distribution is a linear function of observed features.

The only previously known algorithm for SMDP requires the knowledge of the sparsity parameter and oracle access to a reference policy.

We overcome these limitations by combining the doubly robust method that allows one to use feature vectors of \emph{all} actions with a novel analysis technique that enables the algorithm to use data from all periods in all episodes. This algorithm is shown to achieve best possible regret (up to log factors)

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