

HW 1 Due: Oct 4th 11:59 PM

Exploration in Linear MDPs

Recap:

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Stochastic Linear Bandits

$$\mathcal{D} \subset \mathbb{R}^d \quad r(x) = \theta^\star \cdot x, \forall x$$


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Learner receives a scalar $r_n = \underbrace{\theta^\star \cdot x_n + \epsilon_n}_{\text{i.i.d}} \quad \mathbb{E}[\epsilon_n] = 0, |\epsilon_n| < \alpha$

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Stochastic Linear Bandits

$$\mathcal{D} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$$

$$r(x) = \theta^\star \cdot x, \forall x$$

$$x = \theta$$

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$$\text{Regret} = \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{n=1}^N \theta^\star \cdot x^\star - \underbrace{\sum_{n=1}^N \theta^\star \cdot x_n}_{\Delta} \right] \leq \tilde{O} d \sqrt{N}$$

Important Lemma:

Lemma [Self Normalized Bound for Vector-Valued Martingales] Suppose $\{\epsilon_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ are mean zero random variables with $|\epsilon_n| \leq \alpha$, for all n ; Let $\{x_i \in \mathbb{R}^d\}_{i=1}^{\infty}$ be some stochastic random process; Define $\Lambda^n = \lambda I + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i x_i^T$, then with probability at least

$$1 - \delta, \text{ for all } n \geq 1: \left\| \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \epsilon_i \right\|_{(\Lambda^n)^{-1}}^2 \leq 2\sigma^2 \ln \left(\frac{\det(\Lambda^n)^{1/2} \det(\lambda I)^{-1/2}}{\delta} \right)$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n x_i \epsilon_i \xrightarrow{n}$$

$$\Lambda^n \xrightarrow{n}$$

$$\left\| \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \epsilon_i \right\|_{\Lambda^n} \approx o(n)$$

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$$1 - \delta, \text{ for all } n \geq 1: \left\| \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \epsilon_i \right\|_{(\Lambda^n)^{-1}}^2$$

$$\Sigma \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$$

$$\leq 2\sigma^2 \ln \left(\frac{\det(\Lambda^n)^{1/2} \det(\lambda I)^{-1/2}}{\delta} \right)$$

$$\det(\Lambda^n) = \prod_{i=1}^n \sigma_i$$

$$\sigma_{\max}(\Lambda^n) = \sigma_{\max}(\lambda I + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i x_i^T)$$

$$\sigma_1(\Sigma) = 1, \sigma_2(\Sigma) \leq 1, \sigma_3(\Sigma) \leq e^{-10}$$

$$\dots \sigma_{\infty}(\Sigma) \leq e^{-10} \det(\Lambda^n) \leq (\lambda + n)^d$$

$$\ln \det(\lambda I + \Sigma)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \ln(1 + \sigma_i) \approx 2$$

$$2\sigma^2 \ln(\det(\Lambda^n)^{1/2} \det(\lambda I)^{-1/2} / \delta) \leq \sigma^2 (d \ln(1 + n/\lambda) + 2 \ln(1/\delta))$$

Notations and Useful Inequalities

For real-value matrix A :

$$\sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \sqrt{x^T A^T A x} = \sqrt{\sigma_{\max}(A^T A)}$$

$$\|A\|_F^2 = \sum_{i,j} A_{i,j}^2 \quad \|A\|_2 = \sup_{x: \|x\|_2 \leq 1} \|Ax\|_2$$

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$$\begin{aligned}\|A\|_2 &\leq \|A\|_F = \sqrt{\text{Tr}(AA^T)} \\ &= \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^d \sigma_i^2} \\ \sigma_i &\rightarrow \text{eigenvalue of } AA^T\end{aligned}$$

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$$\|x\|_{\Lambda}^2 = \underbrace{x^\top}_{\textcolor{red}{\underline{x}}} \underbrace{\Lambda x}_{\textcolor{red}{\overbrace{x}}}$$

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$$\sigma_{\min}(\Lambda), \sigma_{\max}(\Lambda) \quad \det(\Lambda) = \prod_{i=1}^d \sigma_i$$

$$\mathbb{E}_{s' \sim P_h(\cdot | s, a)} f(s') = P_h(\cdot | s, a) \cdot f$$

$$\|x\|_\Lambda^2 = x^\top \Lambda x$$

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$$\mathbb{E}_{s' \sim P_h(\cdot | s, a)} f(s') = P_h(\cdot | s, a) \cdot f$$

$$\phi_h^i := \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)$$

↑ episode index
↑ time step

Low-Rank MDP Definition

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Finite horizon time-dependent episodic MDP $\mathcal{M} = \{S, A, H, \underbrace{\{r\}_h}_{\text{1}}, \underbrace{\{P\}_h}_{\text{1}}, s_0\}$

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Low-Rank Decomposition:

$$P_h \in \mathbb{R}^{|S| \times |SA|}$$
$$P_h(s' | s, a) = \mu_h \phi$$

Rank d

$$|S| |A|$$

$\underbrace{}_d$

Low-Rank MDP Definition

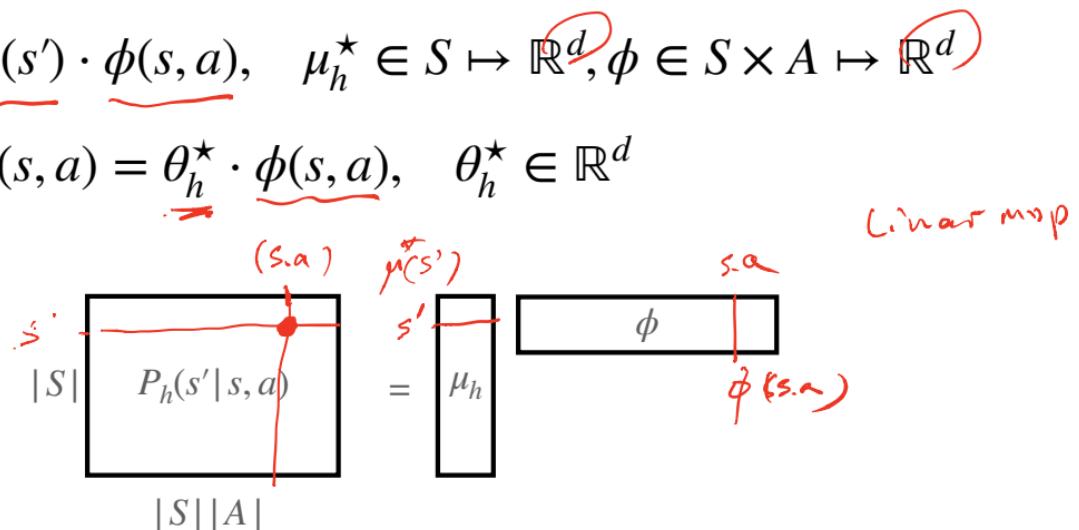
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S & A could be large or even continuous, hence $\text{poly}(S, A)$ is not acceptable

$$P_h(s' | s, a) = \underbrace{\mu_h^\star(s')}_{\text{---}} \cdot \underbrace{\phi(s, a)}_{\text{---}}, \quad \mu_h^\star \in S \mapsto \mathbb{R}^d, \phi \in S \times A \mapsto \mathbb{R}^d$$

$$r(s, a) = \theta_h^\star \cdot \underbrace{\phi(s, a)}_{\text{---}}, \quad \theta_h^\star \in \mathbb{R}^d$$

Low-Rank Decomposition:



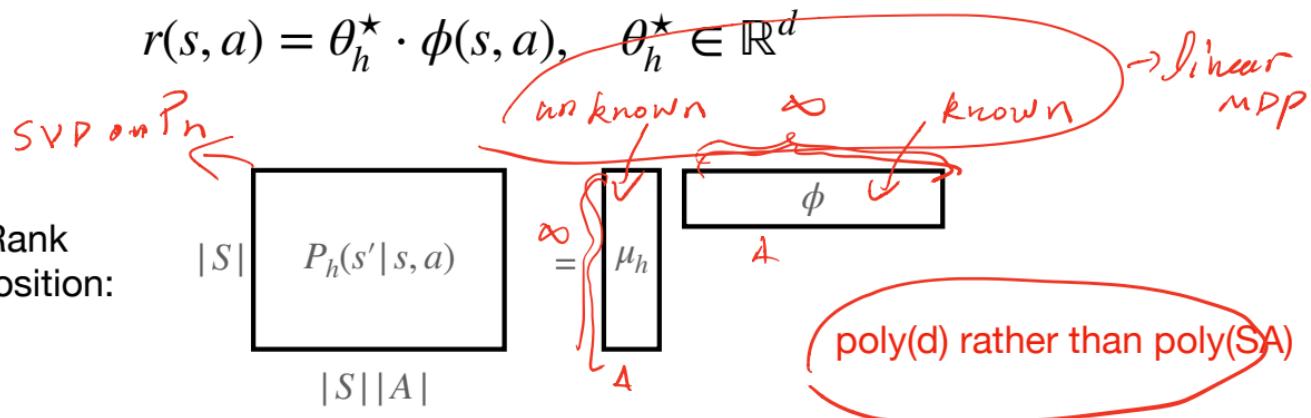
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Low-Rank Decomposition:



Linear MDP Definition

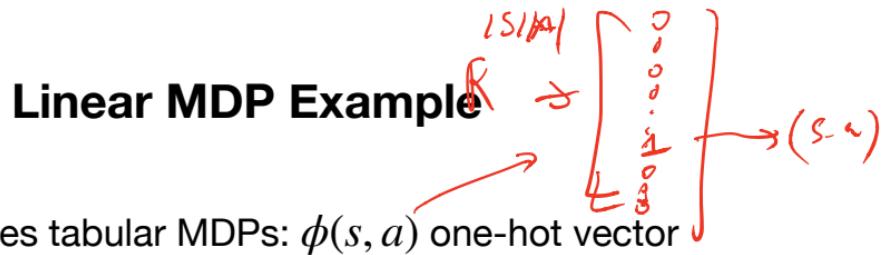
Finite horizon time-dependent episodic MDP $\mathcal{M} = \{S, A, H, \{r\}_h, \{P\}_h, s_0\}$

S & A could be large or even continuous, hence $\text{poly}(S, A)$ is not acceptable

$$P_h(s' | s, a) = \underbrace{\mu_h^*(s')}_{\text{red underline}} \cdot \phi(s, a), \quad \mu_h^* \in S \mapsto \mathbb{R}^d, \phi \in S \times A \mapsto \mathbb{R}^d$$

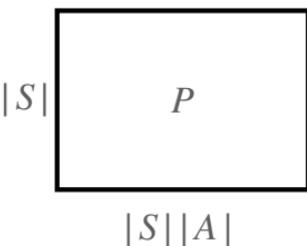
$$r(s, a) = \theta_h^* \cdot \phi(s, a), \quad \theta_h^* \in \mathbb{R}^d$$

Feature map ϕ is known to the learner!
(We assume reward is known, i.e., θ^* is known)



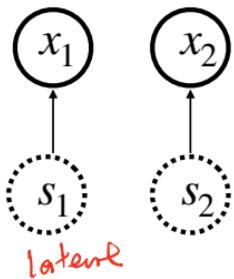
$$\underbrace{P(\cdot | s, a)}_{\text{one-hot vector}} = P\phi(s, a) \rightarrow \text{Rank} \leq |S|$$

where $P \in \mathbb{R}^{|S| \times |SA|}$ is the transition matrix



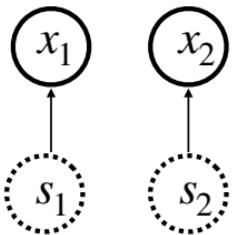
Low-Rank Example

Can encode latent variables: block-MDPs



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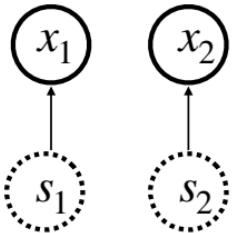


Discrete latent state space S : $|S|$ is small, transition $T : S \times A \mapsto S$

$$T(s'|s, a)$$

Low-Rank Example

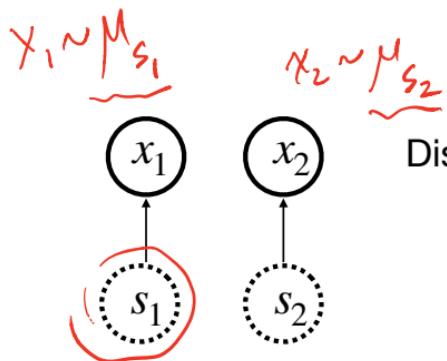
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Large observation space X (hence any
poly dependency on $|X|$ is bad)

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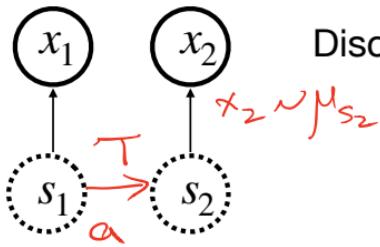
Each state s has an emission distribution $\mu_s \in \Delta(X)$, also μ_s

and $\mu_{s'}$ have disjoint support for any $s \neq s'$

(i.e, latent state is decodable) $\nexists P \circ M \triangleright P$

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Large observation space X (hence any poly dependency on $|X|$ is bad)

Each state s has an emission distribution $\mu_s \in \Delta(X)$, also μ_s and $\mu_{s'}$ have **disjoint support** for any $s \neq s'$
(i.e, latent state is decodable)

Rank ≤ 3

$$P(x'|x, a) = \sum_{\substack{s' \in \{s_1, s_2, s_3\} \\ \text{---}}} T(s' | \omega(x), a) \mu_{s'}(x') = [\mu_{s_1}(x'), \mu_{s_2}(x'), \mu_{s_3}(x')] \begin{bmatrix} T(s_1 | \omega(x), a) \\ T(s_2 | \omega(x), a) \\ T(s_3 | \omega(x), a) \end{bmatrix}$$

$\omega : X \rightarrow S$

Low-Rank and Linear MDP Example

“Topic modelling”
We have d topics, v_1, \dots, v_d

Educat.
Sport

Low-Rank and Linear MDP Example

“Topic modelling”

We have d topics, v_1, \dots, v_d

$$\phi(s, a) \in \Delta(d)$$

We have an encoder that maps (s, a) to a distribution over topics: $\phi(s, a) \in \Delta(d)$

$$\Delta A$$

Low-Rank and Linear MDP Example

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Each topic has a generative distribution over next state, $\mu_{v_i} \in \Delta(S)$

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Each topic has a generative distribution over next state, $\mu_{v_i} \in \Delta(S)$

$$P(s' | s, a) = \sum_{i=1}^d \underbrace{\mu_{v_i}(s')}_{\text{generative P's of } v_i} \times \underbrace{\phi(s, a)[i]}_{\text{probability w/ topic } i}$$

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Each topic has a generative distribution over next state, $\mu_{v_i} \in \Delta(S)$

$$P(s' | s, a) = \sum_{i=1}^d \mu_{v_i}(s') \times \phi(s, a)[i]$$

 ϕ is known

We study Linear MDPs here.

Learning in Low-rank MDP is much harder!

Planning in Linear MDP: Value Iteration

$$P_h(s' | s, a) = \mu_h^\star(s')^\top \phi(s, a), \quad \mu_h^\star \in S \mapsto \mathbb{R}^d, \phi \in S \times A \mapsto \mathbb{R}^d$$

$$r_h(s, a) = (\theta_h^\star)^\top \phi(s, a), \quad \theta_h^\star \in \mathbb{R}^d$$

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0, ..., H-1, H

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$V_H^*(s) = 0, \forall s,$

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$$V_H^\star(s) = 0, \forall s,$$

$$Q_h^\star(s, a) = r_h(s, a) + \mathbb{E}_{s' \sim P_h(\cdot | s, a)} \underbrace{V_{h+1}^\star(s')}_{\text{red underline}}$$

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$$V_H^\star(s) = 0, \forall s,$$

$$\rightarrow P(\cdot | s, a) \cdot V_{h+1}^\star$$

$$\begin{aligned} Q_h^\star(s, a) &= \underbrace{r_h(s, a)}_{\text{Reward}} + \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_{s' \sim P_h(\cdot | s, a)} V_{h+1}^\star(s')}_{\text{Expected Future Value}} \\ &= \left(\mu^\star \phi(s, a) \right)^\top V_{h+1}^\star \\ &= \underbrace{\theta_h^\star \cdot \phi(s, a)}_{\text{Value Function}} + \underbrace{\left(\mu_h^\star \phi(s, a) \right)^\top V_{h+1}^\star}_{\text{Bellman Update}} \end{aligned}$$

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$$P_h(s'|s, a) = \mu_h^*(s')^\top \phi(s, a), \quad \mu_h^* \in S \mapsto \mathbb{R}^d, \phi \in S \times A \mapsto \mathbb{R}^d$$

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$$Q_h^*(s, a) = r_h(s, a) + \mathbb{E}_{s' \sim P_h(\cdot|s, a)} V_{h+1}^*(s')$$

$$= \theta_h^* \cdot \underbrace{\phi(s, a)}_{\in \mathbb{R}^d} + (\mu_h^* \phi(s, a))^\top V_{h+1}^*$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_n^* &\in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{S}| \times d} \\ (\mu_n^*)^\top, V^* &\in \mathbb{R}^d \\ (\because V^* \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{S}|}) \end{aligned}$$

$$= \phi(s, a)^\top (\underbrace{\theta_h^* + (\mu_h^*)^\top V_{h+1}^*}_{\in \mathbb{R}^d})$$

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$$= \theta_h^\star \cdot \phi(s, a) + (\mu_h^\star \phi(s, a))^\top V_{h+1}^\star$$

$$= \phi(s, a)^\top (\theta_h^\star + (\mu_h^\star)^\top V_{h+1}^\star(s'))$$

$$= \phi(s, a)^\top w_h$$

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$$= \phi(s, a)^\top w_h$$

$$V_h^\star(s) = \underbrace{\max_a \phi(s, a)^\top w_h}_\text{\mathcal{Q}_h is linear in ϕ}, \quad \pi_h^\star(s) = \arg \max_a \phi(s, a)^\top w_h$$

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$$= \theta_h^\star \cdot \phi(s, a) + (\mu_h^\star \phi(s, a))^\top V_{h+1}^\star$$

$$= \phi(s, a)^\top (\theta_h^\star + (\mu_h^\star)^\top V_{h+1}^\star(s'))$$

$$= \phi(s, a)^\top w_h$$

$$V_h^\star(s) = \max_a \phi(s, a)^\top w_h, \quad \pi_h^\star(s) = \arg \max_a \phi(s, a)^\top w_h$$

Indeed we can show that $Q_h^\pi(\cdot, \cdot)$
Is linear with respect to ϕ as well, for any π, h

any π

UCBVI in Linear MDPs

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2. Design reward bonus $b_h^n(s, a), \forall s, a$

UCBVI in Linear MDPs

1. Learn transition model $\{\widehat{P}_h^n\}_{h=0}^{H-1}$ from all previous data ✓
2. Design reward bonus $b_h^n(s, a), \forall s, a$ ✓
3. Plan: $\pi^{n+1} = \underbrace{\text{Value-Iter}}_{\text{Value-Iter}} \left(\{\widehat{P}_h^n\}_h, \{r_h + b_h^n\} \right)$

Additional Assumptions in Linear MDPs

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$$P_h(s' | s, a) = \mu_h^{\star}(s') \cdot \phi(s, a), \quad \mu_h^{\star} \in \mathbb{R}^{|S| \times d}, \phi \in S \times A \mapsto \mathbb{R}^d$$

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$$r(s, a) = \theta_h^* \cdot \phi(s, a), \quad \theta_h^* \in \mathbb{R}^d$$

Norm bounds:

$$\sup_{s,a} \|\phi(s, a)\|_2 \leq 1, \quad \|\theta_h^*\|_2 \leq W, \quad \boxed{\|v^\top \mu_h^*\|_2 \leq \sqrt{d}, \forall v \text{ s.t. } \|v\|_\infty \leq 1}$$
$$\mu_h^* = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ \mu_{v1} & \mu_{v2} & \dots & \mu_{vd} \\ 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{l} \mu_{vi} \in \Delta(S) \\ \phi(s, a) \in \Delta(d) \end{array}$$

Distribution over S

1. Model Learning in Linear MDPs (At episode n)

$$\mathcal{D}_h^n = \{s_h^i, a_h^i, s_{h+1}^i\}_{i=1}^{n-1} \quad \Lambda_h^n = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i) \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top + \lambda I \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$$

(Tabular MDP): $\phi(s,a) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^d$

$\Lambda_h^n = \text{Diag} \left[\dots N_h^n(s,a) \dots \right]$

of times
(s,a) has
been
visited

1. Model Learning in Linear MDPs

$$\mathcal{D}_h^n = \{s_h^i, a_h^i, s_{h+1}^i\}_{i=1}^{n-1} \quad \Lambda_h^n = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i) \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top + \lambda I$$

Denote $\delta(s) \in \mathbb{R}^{|S|}$ with zero everywhere except the entry corresponding to s

$$\underbrace{\vdots}_{\delta} \left[\begin{array}{c} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ i \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{array} \right] \rightarrow s$$

1. Model Learning in Linear MDPs

$$\mathcal{D}_h^n = \{s_h^i, a_h^i, s_{h+1}^i\}_{i=1}^{n-1} \quad \Lambda_h^n = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i) \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top + \lambda I$$

Denote $\delta(s) \in \mathbb{R}^{|S|}$ with zero everywhere except the entry corresponding to s

Given s, a , note that $\mathbb{E}_{s' \sim P(\cdot | s, a)} [\delta(s')] = P(\cdot | s, a) = \underbrace{\mu^\star}_{\sim} \underbrace{\phi(s, a)}_{\sim}$

1. Model Learning in Linear MDPs

$$\mathcal{D}_h^n = \{s_h^i, a_h^i, s_{h+1}^i\}_{i=1}^{n-1} \quad \Lambda_h^n = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i) \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top + \lambda I$$

Denote $\delta(s) \in \mathbb{R}^{|S|}$ with zero everywhere except the entry corresponding to s

Given s, a , note that $\mathbb{E}_{s' \sim P(\cdot | s, a)} [\delta(s')] = P(\cdot | s, a) = \mu^* \phi(s, a)$

Denote $\epsilon_{s,a} = \underbrace{\delta(s')} - \underbrace{P(\cdot | s, a)}$, we have $\mathbb{E}_{s'} [\epsilon_{s,a}] = 0$, and $\|\epsilon_{s,a}\|_1 \leq 2$ ✓

$\phi(s, a) \rightarrow \delta(s')$, $s' \sim P(\cdot | s, a)$

$$E[\delta(s')] = \mu^* - \phi(s, a)$$

1. Model Learning in Linear MDPs

$$\mathcal{D}_h^n = \{s_h^i, a_h^i, s_{h+1}^i\}_{i=1}^{n-1} \quad \Lambda_h^n = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i) \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top + \lambda I$$

Denote $\delta(s) \in \mathbb{R}^{|S|}$ with zero everywhere except the entry corresponding to s

Given s, a , note that $\mathbb{E}_{s' \sim P(\cdot | s, a)} [\delta(s')] = P(\cdot | s, a) = \mu^\star \phi(s, a)$

Denote $\epsilon_{s,a} = \delta(s') - P(\cdot | s, a)$, we have $\mathbb{E}_{s,a}[\epsilon_{s,a}] = 0$, and $\|\epsilon_{s,a}\|_1 \leq 2$

Ridge Linear Regression:

$$\min_{\mu} \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \|\underbrace{\mu \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)} - \underbrace{\delta(s_{h+1}^i)}\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\mu\|_F^2$$

1. Model Learning in Linear MDPs

$$\mathcal{D}_h^n = \{s_h^i, a_h^i, s_{h+1}^i\}_{i=1}^{n-1} \quad \Lambda_h^n = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i) \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top + \lambda I$$

Denote $\delta(s) \in \mathbb{R}^{|S|}$ with zero everywhere except the entry corresponding to s

Given s, a , note that $\mathbb{E}_{s' \sim P(\cdot | s, a)} [\delta(s')] = P(\cdot | s, a) = \mu^\star \phi(s, a)$

Denote $\epsilon_{s,a} = \delta(s') - P(\cdot | s, a)$, we have $\mathbb{E}_{s,a}[\epsilon_{s,a}] = 0$, and $\|\epsilon_{s,a}\|_1 \leq 2$

Ridge Linear Regression:

$\leftarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$\min_{\mu} \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \|\mu \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i) - \underbrace{\delta(s_{h+1}^i)}_{\text{R}}\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\mu\|_F^2$$

$$\hat{\mu}_h^n = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \delta(s_{h+1}^i) \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} \quad \checkmark$$

1. Model Learning in Linear MDPs

Ridge Linear Regression:

$$\min_{\mu} \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \|\mu \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i) - \delta(s_{h+1}^i)\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\mu\|_F^2$$

$$\hat{\mu}_h^n = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \delta(s_{h+1}^i) \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top (\Lambda^n)^{-1}, \quad \Lambda_h^n = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i) \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top + \lambda I$$

$$\widehat{P}_h^n(\cdot | s, a) = \underbrace{\hat{\mu}_h^n \phi(s, a)}_{\text{Red circle}} \approx \mu_h^* \phi(s, a)$$

1. Model Learning in Linear MDPs

Ridge Linear Regression:

$$\min_{\mu} \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \|\mu \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i) - \delta(s_{h+1}^i)\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\mu\|_F^2$$

$$\hat{\mu}_h^n = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \delta(s_{h+1}^i) \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top (\Lambda^n)^{-1}, \quad \Lambda_h^n = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i) \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top + \lambda I$$

$$\widehat{P}_h^n(\cdot | s, a) = \hat{\mu}_h^n \phi(s, a)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \| \widehat{P}(s, a) - P(s, a) \|_1 \\ & \leq \sqrt{\frac{s \log \gamma_\delta}{N(s, a)}} \end{aligned}$$

Can we bound the ℓ_1 error on distributions, i.e., $\| \widehat{P}^n(\cdot | s, a) - P(\cdot | s, a) \|_1$?

1. Model Learning in Linear MDPs

Ridge Linear Regression:

$$\min_{\mu} \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \|\mu\phi(s_h^i, a_h^i) - \delta(s_{h+1}^i)\|_2^2 + \lambda\|\mu\|_F^2$$

$$\hat{\mu}_h^n = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \delta(s_{h+1}^i) \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top (\Lambda^n)^{-1}, \quad \Lambda_h^n = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i) \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top + \lambda I$$

$$\widehat{P}_h^n(\cdot | s, a) = \hat{\mu}_h^n \phi(s, a)$$

Can we bound the ℓ_1 error on distributions, i.e., $\|\widehat{P}_h^n(\cdot | s, a) - P(\cdot | s, a)\|_1$?

As in tabular-UCBVI and Generative Model, we care **average model error**:

1. Model Learning in Linear MDPs

Ridge Linear Regression:

$$\min_{\mu} \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \|\mu\phi(s_h^i, a_h^i) - \delta(s_{h+1}^i)\|_2^2 + \lambda\|\mu\|_F^2$$

$$\hat{\mu}_h^n = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \delta(s_{h+1}^i) \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top (\Lambda^n)^{-1}, \quad \Lambda_h^n = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i) \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top + \lambda I$$

$$\widehat{P}_h^n(\cdot | s, a) = \hat{\mu}_h^n \phi(s, a)$$

Can we bound the ℓ_1 error on distributions, i.e., $\|\widehat{P}_h^n(\cdot | s, a) - P(\cdot | s, a)\|_1$? $\leq \sqrt{\frac{S}{N(s,a)}}$

As in tabular-UCBVI and Generative Model, we care **average model error**:

Consider a fixed function $V : S \mapsto [0, H]$, we can bound:

$$\left| \left(\widehat{P}_h^n(\cdot | s, a) - P_h(\cdot | s, a) \right) \cdot V \right|$$

$V \Rightarrow V^*$

1. Model Learning in Linear MDPs

Ridge Linear Regression:

$$\min_{\mu} \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \|\mu \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i) - \delta(s_{h+1}^i)\|_2^2 + \|\mu\|_F^2$$

$$\hat{\mu}^n = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \delta(s_{h+1}^i) \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}, \quad \Lambda_h^n = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i) \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top + \lambda I$$

$$\widehat{P}_h^n(\cdot | s, a) = \hat{\mu}_h^n \phi(s, a)$$

Lemma [Model Average Error under a fixed V]:

Consider a fixed $V : S \rightarrow [0, H]$. With probability at least $1 - \delta$, for any s, a, h, n , we have:

$$\left| \left(\widehat{P}_h^n(\cdot | s, a) - P_h(\cdot | s, a) \right) \cdot V \right| \leq \underbrace{\|\phi(s, a)^\top\|_{(\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}}}_{\widetilde{\mathcal{O}}(H\sqrt{d})} \times \left(2H \sqrt{\ln \frac{H \det(\Lambda_h^n)^{1/2} \det(\lambda I)^{-1/2}}{\delta}} + H\sqrt{\lambda d} \right)$$

1. Model Learning in Linear MDPs

$$\hat{\mu}_h^n - \mu_h^* = -\lambda \mu_h^* (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \epsilon_h^i \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}$$

1. Model Learning in Linear MDPs

$$\hat{\mu}_h^n - \mu_h^\star = -\lambda \mu_h^\star (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \epsilon_h^i \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}$$

$$\phi(s, a) \rightarrow \mathcal{S}(s'), s' \sim P(\cdot | s, a)$$

$$\hat{\mu}_h^n = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \delta(s_{h+1}^i) \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}, \quad \Lambda_h^n = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i) \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top + \lambda I$$

1. Model Learning in Linear MDPs

$$\hat{\mu}_h^n - \mu_h^\star = -\lambda \mu_h^\star (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \epsilon_h^i \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}$$

$$\delta(s_{h+1}^i) = P_h(\cdot | s_h^i, a_h^i) + \epsilon_h^i, \quad s_{h+1}^i \sim P_h(\cdot | s_h^i, a_h^i)$$

$$\hat{\mu}_h^n = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \underbrace{\delta(s_{h+1}^i)}_{\text{red arrow}} \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}, \quad \Lambda_h^n = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i) \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top + \lambda I$$

$$\hat{\mu}_h^n = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} (P_h(\cdot | s_h^i, a_h^i) + \epsilon_h^i) \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}$$

1. Model Learning in Linear MDPs

$$\hat{\mu}_h^n - \mu_h^\star = -\lambda \mu_h^\star (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \epsilon_h^i \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}$$

$$\hat{\mu}_h^n = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \delta(s_{h+1}^i) \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}, \quad \Lambda_h^n = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i) \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top + \lambda I$$

$$\hat{\mu}_h^n = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \left(P_h(\cdot | s_h^i, a_h^i) + \epsilon_h^i \right) \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \left(\mu_h^\star \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i) + \epsilon_h^i \right) \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}$$

$\hat{\mu}_h^n \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)$

1. Model Learning in Linear MDPs

$$\hat{\mu}_h^n - \mu_h^\star = -\lambda \mu_h^\star (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \epsilon_h^i \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}$$

$$\hat{\mu}_h^n = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \delta(s_{h+1}^i) \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}, \quad \Lambda_h^n = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i) \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top + \lambda I$$

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\mu}_h^n &= \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} (P(\cdot | s_h^i, a_h^i) + \epsilon_h^i) \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} (\mu_h^\star \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i) + \epsilon_h^i) \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} \\ &= \mu_h^\star \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i) \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top \right) (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \epsilon_h^i \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

1. Model Learning in Linear MDPs

$$\hat{\mu}_h^n - \mu_h^* = -\lambda \mu_h^* (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \epsilon_h^i \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}$$

\checkmark

$$\Lambda_h = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \phi_i^h \phi_i^h {}^\top + \lambda I$$

$$\hat{\mu}_h^n = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \delta(s_{h+1}^i) \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}, \quad \Lambda_h^n = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i) \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top + \lambda I$$

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\mu}_h^n &= \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} (P(\cdot | s_h^i, a_h^i) + \epsilon_h^i) \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} (\mu_h^* \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i) + \epsilon_h^i) \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} \\ &= \mu_h^* \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i) \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top \right) (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \epsilon_h^i \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} \\ &\underset{\sim}{=} \mu_h^* - \lambda \mu_h^* (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \epsilon_h^i \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

1. Model Learning in Linear MDPs

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\hat{P}_h^n(\cdot | s_a) - P_h(\cdot | s_a) \right) \hat{\mu}_h^n - \mu_h^* = -\lambda \mu_h^* (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \epsilon_h^i \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} \\ & \approx ((\hat{\mu}_h^n - \mu_h^*) \phi(s, a))^\top V \end{aligned}$$

1. Model Learning in Linear MDPs

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\mu}_h^n - \mu_h^* &= -\lambda \mu_h^* (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \epsilon_h^i \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} \\ &\quad \left((\hat{\mu}_h^n - \mu_h^*) \phi(s, a) \right)^\top V \\ &= -\lambda \phi(s, a)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} (\mu_h^*)^\top V + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \phi(s, a)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i) (\epsilon_h^i)^\top V \end{aligned}$$

The equation is annotated with several red arrows and circles:

- A red arrow points from the term $\hat{\mu}_h^n - \mu_h^*$ in the first equation to the term $(\hat{\mu}_h^n - \mu_h^*) \phi(s, a)$ in the second equation.
- A red arrow points from the term $\mu_h^* (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}$ in the first equation to the term $(\mu_h^*)^\top V$ in the second equation.
- Two red circles are drawn under the summation terms:
 - Circle 1 is under the term $\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \epsilon_h^i \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}$.
 - Circle 2 is under the term $\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \phi(s, a)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i) (\epsilon_h^i)^\top V$.

1. Model Learning in Linear MDPs

$$\hat{\mu}_h^n - \mu_h^\star = -\lambda \mu_h^\star (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \epsilon_h^i \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}$$

$$\left| ((\hat{\mu}_h^n - \mu_h^\star) \phi(s, a))^\top V \right| \\ = \left| -\lambda \phi(s, a)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} (\mu_h^\star)^\top V + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \phi(s, a)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i) (\epsilon_h^i)^\top V \right| \leq |\textcircled{1}| + |\textcircled{2}|$$

①:

$$\left| \lambda \underbrace{\phi(s, a)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}}_{(\Lambda_h^n)^{-\frac{1}{2}}} \underbrace{(\mu_h^\star)^\top V}_{(\Lambda_h^n)^{\frac{1}{2}}} \right| \leq \lambda \underbrace{\|\phi(s, a)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1/2}\|_2}_{CS} \underbrace{\|(\Lambda_h^n)^{-1/2} (\mu_h^\star)^\top V\|_2}_{CS}$$

1. Model Learning in Linear MDPs

$$\hat{\mu}_h^n - \mu_h^\star = -\lambda \mu_h^\star (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \epsilon_h^i \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}$$

$$((\hat{\mu}_h^n - \mu_h^\star) \phi(s, a))^\top V$$

$$= -\lambda \phi(s, a)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} (\mu_h^\star)^\top V + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \phi(s, a)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i) (\epsilon_h^i)^\top V$$

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \lambda \phi(s, a)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} (\mu_h^\star)^\top V \right| &\leq \lambda \underbrace{\|\phi(s, a)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1/2}\|_2}_{\Delta} \|(\Lambda_h^n)^{-1/2} (\mu_h^\star)^\top V\|_2 \\ &\stackrel{\Delta}{=} \lambda \|\phi(s, a)^\top\|_{(\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}} \|(\Lambda_h^n)^{-1/2} (\mu_h^\star)^\top V\|_2 \end{aligned}$$

1. Model Learning in Linear MDPs

$$\hat{\mu}_h^n - \mu_h^\star = -\lambda \mu_h^\star (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \epsilon_h^i \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}$$

$$((\hat{\mu}_h^n - \mu_h^\star) \phi(s, a))^\top V$$

$$= -\lambda \phi(s, a)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} (\mu_h^\star)^\top V + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \phi(s, a)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i) (\epsilon_h^i)^\top V$$

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \lambda \phi(s, a)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} (\mu_h^\star)^\top V \right| &\leq \lambda \|\phi(s, a)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1/2}\|_2 \|(\Lambda_h^n)^{-1/2} (\mu_h^\star)^\top V\|_2 \\ &= \lambda \|\phi(s, a)^\top\|_{(\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}} \|(\Lambda_h^n)^{-1/2} (\mu_h^\star)^\top V\|_2 \quad \text{CS} \\ &\leq \lambda \|\phi(s, a)^\top\|_{(\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}} \|(\Lambda_h^n)^{-1/2}\|_2 \|(\mu_h^\star)^\top V\|_2 \end{aligned}$$

1. Model Learning in Linear MDPs

$$\hat{\mu}_h^n - \mu_h^* = -\lambda \mu_h^* (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \epsilon_h^i \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}$$

$$\Lambda_h^n = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \hat{\phi}_h^i \hat{\phi}_h^i{}^\top + \lambda I$$

$$((\hat{\mu}_h^n - \mu_h^*) \phi(s, a))^\top V \leq H$$

$$= -\lambda \phi(s, a)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} (\mu_h^*)^\top V + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \phi(s, a)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i) (\epsilon_h^i)^\top V$$

$$\sigma_{\max}(\Lambda_h^n) \geq \lambda$$

$$\sigma_{\max}((\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}) \leq \frac{1}{\lambda}$$

$$\left| \lambda \phi(s, a)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} (\mu_h^*)^\top V \right| \leq \lambda \|\phi(s, a)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1/2}\|_2 \|(\Lambda_h^n)^{-1/2} (\mu_h^*)^\top V\|_2$$

$$= \lambda \|\phi(s, a)^\top\|_{(\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}} \|(\Lambda_h^n)^{-1/2} (\mu_h^*)^\top V\|_2$$

Assumption Norm
 $\|v^\top \mu_h^*\| \leq \sqrt{d}, \forall v. \|v\|_2 \leq 1$

$$\leq \lambda \|\phi(s, a)^\top\|_{(\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}} \|(\Lambda_h^n)^{-1/2}\|_2 \|(\mu_h^*)^\top V\|_2 \leq \lambda \|\phi(s, a)^\top\|_{(\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}} \frac{H\sqrt{d}}{\sqrt{\lambda}}$$

$\sigma_{\max}((\Lambda_h^n)^{-1/2}) \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}}$

1. Model Learning in Linear MDPs

$$\hat{\mu}_h^n - \mu_h^\star = -\lambda \mu_h^\star (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \epsilon_h^i \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}$$

↙ Martingale
Bound

$$\left| ((\hat{\mu}_h^n - \mu_h^\star) \phi(s, a))^\top V \right| \leq \underbrace{H\sqrt{\lambda d} \|\phi(s, a)^\top\|_{(\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}}}_{\text{Martingale Bound}} + \left| \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \phi(s, a)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i) (\epsilon_h^i)^\top V \right|$$

1. Model Learning in Linear MDPs

$$\hat{\mu}_h^n - \mu_h^\star = -\lambda \mu_h^\star (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \epsilon_h^i \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}$$

$$\left| ((\hat{\mu}_h^n - \mu_h^\star) \phi(s, a))^\top V \right| \leq H \sqrt{\lambda d} \|\phi(s, a)^\top\|_{(\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}} + \left| \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \phi(s, a)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i) (\epsilon_h^i)^\top V \right|$$

$\checkmark (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1/2} (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1/2}$

$$\left| \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \phi(s, a)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i) (\epsilon_h^i)^\top V \right| \leq \|\phi(s, a)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1/2}\|_2 \left\| \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1/2} \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i) (\epsilon_h^i)^\top V \right\|_2$$

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$$\|\Lambda_h^n x\|_2^2 = x^\top \Lambda_h^n x = x^\top \Lambda x = \|x\|_\Lambda^2$$

$$\left| ((\hat{\mu}_h^n - \mu_h^\star) \phi(s, a))^\top V \right| \leq H \sqrt{\lambda d} \|\phi(s, a)^\top\|_{(\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}} + \left| \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \phi(s, a)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i) (\epsilon_h^i)^\top V \right|$$

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$$= \underbrace{\|\phi(s, a)^\top\|_{(\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}}}_{\leftarrow R_d} \left\| \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \underbrace{\phi(s_h^i, a_h^i)}_{\leftarrow m} \underbrace{((\epsilon_h^i)^\top V)}_{\leftarrow n} \right\|_{(\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}}$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \phi_i^\top \phi_i + \lambda I$$

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$$\epsilon_h^i = \underbrace{g(s_{h+1}^i)}_{\text{underbrace}} - \mathbb{P}[\cdot | s_h^i, a_h^i] \rightarrow \mathbb{E}[\epsilon_h^i] = 0$$

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$$= \|\phi(s, a)^\top\|_{(\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}} \left\| \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i) ((\epsilon_h^i)^\top V) \right\|_{(\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}}$$

$\swarrow \text{Holder}$

$$\mathbb{E}[(\epsilon_h^i)^\top V | \mathcal{H}_{i,h}] = 0, \quad |(\epsilon_h^i)^\top V| \leq \|\epsilon_h^i\|_1 \|V\|_\infty \leq 2H$$

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& = \|\phi(s, a)^\top\|_{(\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}} \left\| \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \phi(s_h^i, a_h^i) ((\epsilon_h^i)^\top V) \right\|_{(\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}} \leq \|\phi(s, a)^\top\|_{(\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}} \times 2H \sqrt{\ln \frac{\det(\Lambda_h^n)^{1/2} \det(\lambda I)^{-1/2}}{\delta}}
\end{aligned}$$

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With prob $1 - \delta$, $\forall n$

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1. Model Learning in Linear MDPs

Lemma [Model Average Error under a fixed V]:

Consider a fixed $V : S \rightarrow [0, H]$. With probability at least $1 - \delta$, for all s, a, n, h , we have:

$$\left| \left(\widehat{P}_h^n(\cdot | s, a) - P_h(\cdot | s, a) \right) \cdot V \right| \leq \|\phi(s, a)^\top\|_{(\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}} \times \left(2H\sqrt{\ln \frac{H \det(\Lambda_h^n)^{1/2} \det(\lambda I)^{-1/2}}{\delta}} + H\sqrt{\lambda d} \right)$$

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$$\det(\Lambda_h^n)^{1/2} \underline{\det(\lambda I)^{-1/2}} \leq (n + \lambda)^{d/2} \lambda^{-d/2} = (N/\lambda + 1)^{d/2} \quad \checkmark$$

$$\text{trace}(\Lambda_h^n) \leq \lambda + n$$

$$\det(\Lambda_h^n) \leq (\lambda + n)^d$$

1. Model Learning in Linear MDPs

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$$\begin{aligned} \left| \left(\widehat{P}_h^n(\cdot | s, a) - P_h(\cdot | s, a) \right) \cdot V \right| &\leq \|\phi(s, a)\|_{(\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}} \left(2H \sqrt{d \ln \left(\frac{NH}{\lambda} + 1 \right)} + \ln \left(\frac{1}{\delta} \right) + H\sqrt{\lambda d} \right) \\ &= \underbrace{\widetilde{O} \left(H\sqrt{d} \right)}_{\Delta} \|\phi(s, a)\|_{(\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}} \end{aligned}$$

2. Reward Bonus Design

Lemma [Model Average Error under a fixed V]:

$$\left| \left(\widehat{P}_h^n(\cdot | s, a) - P_h(\cdot | s, a) \right) \cdot V \right| = \widetilde{O} \left(H\sqrt{d} \right) \| \phi(s, a) \|_{(\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}} \quad \checkmark$$

2. Reward Bonus Design

$$\underline{\Lambda_h^n} = V \Sigma V^T$$

Lemma [Model Average Error under a fixed V]:

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$$b_h^n(s, a) = \beta \sqrt{\phi(s, a)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} \phi(s, a)}, \beta = \widetilde{O}(dH)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Lambda_h^n &= \sum_i \phi_i \phi_i^\top + \lambda I \\ &\approx \sum_i \phi_i \phi_i^\top \end{aligned}$$

Tabular model

$$\phi(s, a) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Lambda_h^n &= \text{diag} \left(\dots N_h^n(s, a) \right) \\ \phi(s, a)^\top (\Lambda_h^n)^{-1} \phi(s, a) &= \frac{1}{N_h^n(s, a) + \lambda} \end{aligned}$$

Detour: Covering Number and Covering Dimension

Consider the ball $\Theta = \{\theta : \theta \in \mathbb{R}^d, \|\theta\|_2 \leq R\}$. Denote ϵ -Net as a subset $\mathcal{N}_\epsilon \subseteq \Theta$, such that $\forall \theta \in \Theta : \exists \theta' \in \mathcal{N}_\epsilon$, s.t. $\|\theta' - \theta\|_2 \leq \epsilon$.
Denote ϵ -cover as the smallest \mathcal{N}_ϵ

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Lemma [Covering of Θ] We have $|\mathcal{N}_\epsilon| \leq (1 + 2R/\epsilon)^d$, and $\ln(|\mathcal{N}_\epsilon|) \leq d \ln(1 + 2R/\epsilon)$

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Now consider a function class $\mathcal{F} = \{f_\theta : \theta \in \Theta\}$, and for any $f_{\theta_1}, f_{\theta_2} \in \mathcal{F}$, $\|f_{\theta_1} - f_{\theta_2}\|_\infty \leq L \|\theta_1 - \theta_2\|_2$

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Then (ϵ/L) -Net on Θ gives us an ϵ -Net on \mathcal{F} with $d(f_{\theta_1}, f_{\theta_2}) := \|f_{\theta_1} - f_{\theta_2}\|_\infty$

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Consider a specific parameterization $\theta = (w, \beta, \Lambda)$,
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Define the function $f_{w, \beta, \Lambda} : S \rightarrow [0, H]$

$$f_{w, \beta, \Lambda}(s) := \min \left\{ \max_a \left(w^\top \phi(s, a) + \beta \sqrt{\phi(s, a)^\top \Lambda^{-1} \phi(s, a)} \right), H \right\}$$

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Denote $\mathcal{F} = \{f_{w, \beta, \Lambda} : \|w\|_2 \leq L, \beta \in [0, H], \sigma_{\min}(\Lambda) \geq \lambda\}$, what's the
covering number of \mathcal{F} under ℓ_∞

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$$\begin{aligned} |f_\theta(s) - f_{\hat{\theta}}(s)| &\leq \left| \max_a \left(w^\top \phi(s, a) + \beta \sqrt{\phi(s, a)^\top \Lambda^{-1} \phi(s, a)} \right) - \max_a \left(\hat{w}^\top \phi(s, a) + \hat{\beta} \sqrt{\phi(s, a)^\top \hat{\Lambda}^{-1} \phi(s, a)} \right) \right| \\ &\leq \max_a \left| \left(w^\top \phi(s, a) + \beta \sqrt{\phi(s, a)^\top \Lambda^{-1} \phi(s, a)} \right) - \left(\hat{w}^\top \phi(s, a) + \hat{\beta} \sqrt{\phi(s, a)^\top \hat{\Lambda}^{-1} \phi(s, a)} \right) \right| \\ &\leq \max_a \left| (w - \hat{w})^\top \phi(s, a) \right| + \max_a \left| (\beta - \hat{\beta}) \sqrt{\phi(s, a)^\top \Lambda^{-1} \phi(s, a)} \right| + \max_a \left| \hat{\beta} (\sqrt{\phi(s, a)^\top \Lambda^{-1} \phi(s, a)} - \sqrt{\phi(s, a)^\top \hat{\Lambda}^{-1} \phi(s, a)}) \right| \\ &\leq \|w - \hat{w}\|_2 + |\beta - \hat{\beta}| / \sqrt{\lambda} + B \sqrt{\left| \phi(s, a)^\top (\Lambda^{-1} - \hat{\Lambda}^{-1}) \phi(s, a) \right|} \\ &\leq \|w - \hat{w}\|_2 + |\beta - \hat{\beta}| / \sqrt{\lambda} + B \sqrt{\|\Lambda^{-1} - \hat{\Lambda}^{-1}\|_F} \end{aligned}$$

Detour: Covering Number and Covering Dimension

Define the function $f_{w,\beta,\Lambda} : S \rightarrow [0,H]$, $f_{w,\beta,\Lambda}(s) := \min \left\{ \max_a \left(w^\top \phi(s, a) + \beta \sqrt{\phi(s, a)^\top \Lambda^{-1} \phi(s, a)} \right), H \right\}$

Denote $\mathcal{F} = \{f_{w,\beta,\Lambda} : \|w\|_2 \leq L, \beta \in [0,H], \sigma_{\min}(\Lambda) \geq \lambda\}$, under ℓ_∞ we have

$$\ln |\mathcal{N}_\epsilon| \leq d \ln(1 + 6L/\epsilon) + 2d^2 \ln(1 + 18B^2 \sqrt{d}/(\lambda\epsilon^2))$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \left| f_\theta(s) - f_{\hat{\theta}}(s) \right| \leq \left| \max_a \left(w^\top \phi(s, a) + \beta \sqrt{\phi(s, a)^\top \Lambda^{-1} \phi(s, a)} \right) - \max_a \left(\hat{w}^\top \phi(s, a) + \hat{\beta} \sqrt{\phi(s, a)^\top \hat{\Lambda}^{-1} \phi(s, a)} \right) \right| \\
& \leq \max_a \left| \left(w^\top \phi(s, a) + \beta \sqrt{\phi(s, a)^\top \Lambda^{-1} \phi(s, a)} \right) - \left(\hat{w}^\top \phi(s, a) + \hat{\beta} \sqrt{\phi(s, a)^\top \hat{\Lambda}^{-1} \phi(s, a)} \right) \right| \\
& \leq \max_a \left| (w - \hat{w})^\top \phi(s, a) \right| + \max_a \left| (\beta - \hat{\beta}) \sqrt{\phi(s, a)^\top \Lambda^{-1} \phi(s, a)} \right| + \max_a \left| \hat{\beta} (\sqrt{\phi(s, a)^\top \Lambda^{-1} \phi(s, a)} - \sqrt{\phi(s, a)^\top \hat{\Lambda}^{-1} \phi(s, a)}) \right| \\
& \leq \|w - \hat{w}\|_2 + |\beta - \hat{\beta}| / \sqrt{\lambda} + B \sqrt{\left| \phi(s, a)^\top (\Lambda^{-1} - \hat{\Lambda}^{-1}) \phi(s, a) \right|} \\
& \leq \|w - \hat{w}\|_2 + |\beta - \hat{\beta}| / \sqrt{\lambda} + B \sqrt{\|\Lambda^{-1} - \hat{\Lambda}^{-1}\|_F}
\end{aligned}$$

$\epsilon/3$ -net at $\{w : \|w\|_2 \leq L\}$,
 $\sqrt{\lambda}\epsilon/3$ -net at $\{\beta : \beta \in [0,B]\}$,
 $\epsilon^2/(9B^2)$ -net at $\{A \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d} : \|A\|_F \leq \sqrt{d}/\lambda\}$

$$\left|f_\theta(s) - f_{\hat{\theta}}(s)\right| ~\leq \|w-\hat{w}\|_2 + |\beta-\hat{\beta}|/\sqrt{\lambda} + B\sqrt{\|\Lambda^{-1}-\hat{\Lambda}^{-1}\|_F}$$

$$\epsilon/3\mathrm{-net~at~}\{w:\|w\|_2\leq L\},$$

$$\sqrt{\lambda}\epsilon/3\mathrm{-net~at~}\{\beta:\beta\in[0,B]\},$$

$$\epsilon^2/(9B^2)\mathrm{-net~at~}\{A\in\mathbb{R}^{d\times d}:\|A\|_F\leq \sqrt{d}/\lambda\},$$

$$\left|f_\theta(s) - f_{\hat{\theta}}(s)\right| ~\leq \|w-\hat{w}\|_2 + |\beta-\hat{\beta}|/\sqrt{\lambda} + B\sqrt{\|\Lambda^{-1}-\hat{\Lambda}^{-1}\|_F}$$

$$\epsilon/3\text{---net at }\{w:\|w\|_2\leq L\},~~|\mathcal{N}_{\epsilon/3,w}|\leq (1+6L/\epsilon)^d$$

$$\sqrt{\lambda}\epsilon/3\text{---net at }\{\beta:\beta\in[0,B]\},$$

$$\epsilon^2/(9B^2)\text{---net at }\{A\in\mathbb{R}^{d\times d}:\|A\|_F\leq \sqrt{d}/\lambda\},$$

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$$|\mathcal{N}_\epsilon| \leq |\mathcal{N}_{\epsilon/3,w}| \, |\mathcal{N}_{\sqrt{\lambda}\epsilon/3,\beta}| \, |\mathcal{N}_{\epsilon^2/(9B^2),\Lambda}|$$

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$$\ln|\mathcal{N}_\epsilon|\leq \ln|\mathcal{N}_{\epsilon/3,w}|+\ln|\mathcal{N}_{\sqrt{\lambda}\epsilon/3,\beta}|+\ln|\mathcal{N}_{\epsilon^2/(9B^2),\Lambda}|$$

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$$\begin{aligned}\ln|\mathcal{N}_\epsilon| &\leq \ln|\mathcal{N}_{\epsilon/3,w}|+\ln|\mathcal{N}_{\sqrt{\lambda}\epsilon/3,\beta}|+\ln|\mathcal{N}_{\epsilon^2/(9B^2),\Lambda}| \\&\leq d\ln(1+6L/\epsilon)+\ln(1+6B/(\sqrt{\lambda}\epsilon))+d^2\ln(1+18B^2\sqrt{d}/(\lambda\epsilon^2))\end{aligned}$$

$$\left|f_\theta(s) - f_{\hat{\theta}}(s)\right| \leq \|w - \hat{w}\|_2 + |\beta - \hat{\beta}|/\sqrt{\lambda} + B\sqrt{\|\Lambda^{-1} - \hat{\Lambda}^{-1}\|_F}$$

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Summary for Today

Lemma [Model Average Error under a fixed V]:

Consider a fixed $V : S \rightarrow [0, H]$. With probability at least $1 - \delta$, for all s, a, n, h , we have:

$$\left| \left(\widehat{P}_h^n(\cdot | s, a) - P_h(\cdot | s, a) \right) \cdot V \right| \leq \|\phi(s, a)^\top\|_{(\Lambda_h^n)^{-1}} \times \left(2H \sqrt{\ln \frac{H \det(\Lambda_h^n)^{1/2} \det(\lambda I)^{-1/2}}{\delta}} + H\sqrt{\lambda d} \right)$$

Summary for Today

Define the function $f_{w,\beta,\Lambda} : S \rightarrow [0,H]$, $f_{w,\beta,\Lambda}(s) := \min \left\{ \max_a \left(w^\top \phi(s, a) + \beta \sqrt{\phi(s, a)^\top \Lambda^{-1} \phi(s, a)} \right), H \right\}$

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Q: can we build uniform concentration for **all** $V \in \mathcal{F}$?

i.e., $\left| (\widehat{P}_h^n(\cdot | s, a) - P_h(\cdot | s, a)) \cdot V \right|, \forall V \in \mathcal{F}$