#### Announcements

- Homework 2 due tomorrow (Sept 16) at 11:59pm PT
- Project 2 due next Thursday (Sept 22) at 11:59pm PT

#### Recap: Why Pacman Starves (d=2)



- A danger of replanning agents!
  - He knows his score will go up by eating the dot now (west, east)
  - He knows his score will go up just as much by eating the dot later (east, west)
  - There are no point-scoring opportunities after eating the dot (within the horizon, two here)
  - Therefore, waiting seems just as good as eating: he may go east, then back west in the next round of replanning!

#### Recap: Why Pacman Starves (d=2)



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#### University of California, Berkeley

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

#### **Uncertain Outcomes**



#### Worst-Case vs. Average Case



Idea: Uncertain outcomes controlled by chance, not an adversary!

### **Expectimax Search**

- Why wouldn't we know what the result of an action will be?
  - Explicit randomness: rolling dice
  - Unpredictable opponents: the ghosts respond randomly
  - Actions can fail: when moving a robot, wheels might slip
- Values should now reflect average-case (expectimax) outcomes, not worst-case (minimax) outcomes
- Expectimax search: compute the average score under optimal play
  - Max nodes as in minimax search
  - Chance nodes are like min nodes but the outcome is uncertain
  - Calculate their expected utilities
  - I.e. take weighted average (expectation) of children
- Later, we'll learn how to formalize the underlying uncertainresult problems as Markov Decision Processes



### Video of Demo Minimax vs Expectimax (Min)



# Video of Demo Minimax vs Expectimax (Exp)



#### Expectimax Pseudocode

#### 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 EXP: return exp-value(state)

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

def exp-value(state):
initialize v = 0
for each successor of state:
 p = probability(successor)
 v += p \* value(successor)
return v

#### **Expectimax Pseudocode**





v = (1/2) (8) + (1/3) (24) + (1/6) (-12) = 10

#### Expectimax Example



#### Expectimax Pruning?



#### **Depth-Limited Expectimax**



#### Probabilities



# **Reminder:** Probabilities

- A random variable represents an event whose outcome is unknown
- A probability distribution is an assignment of weights to outcomes
- Example: Traffic on freeway
  - Random variable: T = whether there's traffic
  - Outcomes: T in {none, light, heavy}
  - Distribution: P(T=none) = 0.25, P(T=light) = 0.50, P(T=heavy) = 0.25
- Some laws of probability (more later):
  - Probabilities are always non-negative
  - Probabilities over all possible outcomes sum to one
- As we get more evidence, probabilities may change:
  - P(T=heavy) = 0.25, P(T=heavy | Hour=8am) = 0.60
  - We'll talk about methods for reasoning and updating probabilities later



# **Reminder: Expectations**

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- The expected value of a function of a random variable is the average, weighted by the probability distribution over outcomes
- Example: How long to get to the airport?



# What Probabilities to Use?

- In expectimax search, we have a probabilistic model of how the opponent (or environment) will behave in any state
  - Model could be a simple uniform distribution (roll a die)
  - Model could be sophisticated and require a great deal of computation
  - We have a chance node for any outcome out of our control: opponent or environment
  - The model might say that adversarial actions are likely!
- For now, assume each chance node magically comes along with probabilities that specify the distribution over its outcomes



Having a probabilistic belief about another agent's action does not mean that the agent is flipping any coins!

# **Quiz: Informed Probabilities**

- Let's say you know that your opponent is actually running a depth 2 minimax, using the result 80% of the time, and moving randomly otherwise
- Question: What tree search should you use?



Answer: Expectimax!

- To figure out EACH chance node's probabilities, you have to run a simulation of your opponent
- This kind of thing gets very slow very quickly
- Even worse if you have to simulate your opponent simulating you...
- ... except for minimax, which has the nice property that it all collapses into one game tree

### **Modeling Assumptions**



# The Dangers of Optimism and Pessimism

Dangerous Optimism Assuming chance when the world is adversarial



Dangerous Pessimism Assuming the worst case when it's not likely



#### Assumptions vs. Reality



Results from playing 5 games

Pacman used depth 4 search with an eval function that avoids trouble Ghost used depth 2 search with an eval function that seeks Pacman

[Demos: world assumptions (L7D3,4,5,6)]

#### Video of Demo World Assumptions Adversarial Ghost – Expectimax Pacman



#### Video of Demo World Assumptions Random Ghost – Minimax Pacman



#### Video of Demo World Assumptions Random Ghost – Expectimax Pacman



#### Video of Demo World Assumptions Adversarial Ghost – Minimax Pacman



#### Assumptions vs. Reality



|            | Adversarial Ghost | Random Ghost    |
|------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Minimax    | Won 5/5           | Won 5/5         |
| Pacman     | Avg. Score: 483   | Avg. Score: 493 |
| Expectimax | Won 1/5           | Won 5/5         |
| Pacman     | Avg. Score: -303  | Avg. Score: 503 |

Results from playing 5 games

Pacman used depth 4 search with an eval function that avoids trouble Ghost used depth 2 search with an eval function that seeks Pacman

[Demos: world assumptions (L7D3,4,5,6)]

# Other Game Types



# Mixed Layer Types

- E.g. Backgammon
- Expectiminimax
  - Environment is an extra "random agent" player that moves after each min/max agent
  - Each node computes the appropriate combination of its children



# Example: Backgammon

- Dice rolls increase b: 21 possible rolls with 2 dice
  - Backgammon ≈ 20 legal moves
  - Depth 2 = 20 x (21 x 20)<sup>3</sup> = 1.2 x 10<sup>9</sup>
- As depth increases, probability of reaching a given search node shrinks
  - So usefulness of search is diminished
  - So limiting depth is less damaging
  - But pruning is trickier...
- Historic AI: TDGammon uses depth-2 search + very good evaluation function + reinforcement learning: world-champion level play
- 1<sup>st</sup> AI world champion in any game!



# **Multi-Agent Utilities**

What if the game is not zero-sum, or has multiple players?

**1,6,**6

7,1,2

**6,1,2** 

7,2,1

**5,1,7** 

1,5,2

<mark>5,2,</mark>5

7,7,1

- Generalization of minimax:
  - Terminals have utility tuples
  - Node values are also utility tuples
  - Each player maximizes its own component
  - Can give rise to cooperation and competition dynamically...



#### Probabilities and Randomness in Algorithm Design



### **Overcoming Resource Limits with Randomness**

- Even with alpha-beta pruning and limited depth, large b is an issue (recall best-case time complexity is b<sup>m/2</sup>)
  - Possible for chess: with alpha-beta, 35<sup>(8/2)</sup> =~ 1M; depth 8 is quite good
  - Difficult for Go: 300<sup>(8/2)</sup> =~ 8 billion

- *Monte Carlo Tree Search (MCTS)* combines two important ideas:
  - Evaluation by rollouts play multiple games to termination from a state s (using a simple, fast or random policy) and count wins and losses
  - Selective search explore parts of the tree that will help improve the decision at the root, regardless of depth

# Rollouts

#### For each rollout:

- Repeat until terminal:
  - Play a move according to a fixed, fast rollout policy
- Record the result
- Fraction of wins correlates with the true value of the position!
- Having a "better" rollout policy helps



### MCTS Version 0

- Do N rollouts from each child of the root, record fraction of wins
- Pick the move that gives the best outcome by this metric



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#### MCTS Version 0.9

Allocate rollouts to more promising nodes



#### MCTS Version 0.9

Allocate rollouts to more promising nodes



### MCTS Version 1.0

- Allocate rollouts to more promising nodes
- Allocate rollouts to more uncertain nodes



# Upper Confidence Bounds (UCB) heuristics

UCB1 formula combines "promising" and "uncertain":

$$UCB1(n) = \frac{U(n)}{N(n)} + C \times \sqrt{\frac{\log N(\text{PARENT}(n))}{N(n)}} \int_{0.2}^{0.3} \frac{1}{N(n)} \frac{1}{N(n)} \int_{0.2}^{0.3} \frac{1}{N(n)} \frac{1}{N(n)} \int_{0.2}^{0.3} \frac{1}{N(n)} \frac{1}{N(n)} \frac{1}{N(n)} \int_{0.2}^{0.3} \frac{1}{N(n)} \frac{1}{N(n)} \frac{1}{N(n)} \int_{0.3}^{0.3} \frac{1}{N(n)} \frac{1}{N(n)}$$

- N(n) = number of rollouts from node n
- U(n) = total utility of rollouts (e.g., # wins) for Player(Parent(n))

0.10

20

60

N(n)

Keep track of both for each node

#### Repeat until out of time:

- Selection: recursively apply UCB to choose a path down to a leaf node n
- Expansion: add a new child c to n and
- Simulation: run a rollout from c
- Backpropagation: update U and N counts from c back up to the root



[Example adapted from Introduction to Monte Carlo Tree Search. Bradberry. 2015]

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- Choose the action leading to the child with highest N



# Why is there no min or max?????

- "Value" of a node, U(n)/N(n), is a weighted sum of child values!
- Idea: as N → ∞, the vast majority of rollouts are concentrated in the best child(ren), so weighted average → max/min
- Theorem: as  $N \rightarrow \infty$  UCT selects the minimax move
  - (but N never approaches infinity!)

# MCTS Application: AlphaGo

- Monte Carlo Tree Search with additions including:
  - Rollout policy is a neural network trained with reinforcement learning and expert human moves
  - In combination with rollout outcomes, use a trained value function to better predict node's utility



[Mastering the game of Go with deep neural networks and tree search. Silver et al. Nature. 2016]

#### Next Time: MDPs!