

A reinforcement learning algorithm for sampling design in Markov random fields

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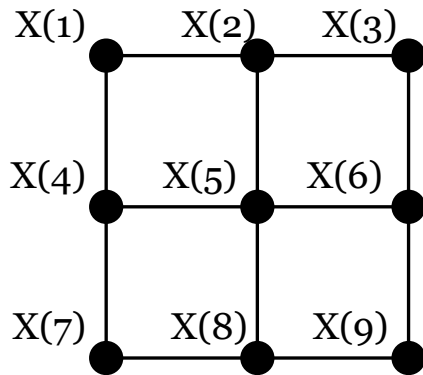
SSIAB, Avignon, 9 mai 2012

Plan

1. Problem statement.
2. General Approach.
3. Formulation using dynamic model.
4. Reinforcement learning solution.
5. Experiments.
6. Conclusions.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

Adaptive sampling in Markov random fields



- Adaptive selection of variables to observe for reconstruction of the random vector

$$\mathbf{X}=(X(1),\dots,X(n))$$

- $c(A)$ -> Cost of observing variables $X(A)$

- B -> Initial budget

- Observations are reliable

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Optimize Quality of the reconstruction of X / Respect Initial Budget

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DEFINITION: Adaptive sampling policy

For any *sampling plans* A^1, \dots, A^t and observations $x(A^1), \dots, x(A^t)$, an adaptive sampling policy δ is a function giving the next variable(s) to observe:

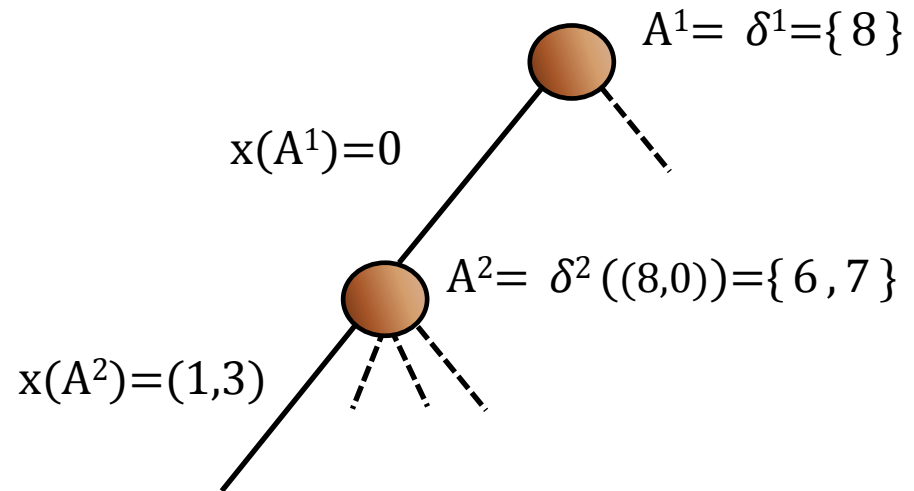
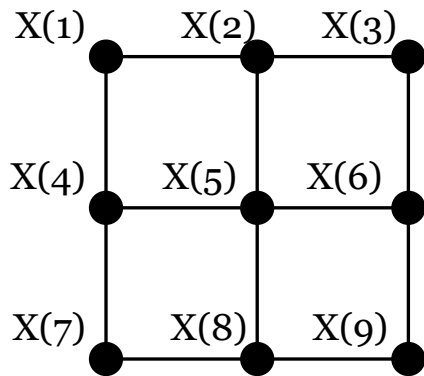
$$\delta((A^1, x(A^1)), \dots, (A^t, x(A^t))) = A^{t+1}.$$

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-- Example --



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Vocabulary :

- A *history* $\{(A^1, x(A^1)), \dots, (A^H, x(A^H))\}$ is a trajectory followed when applying δ

- τ_δ : set of all reachable histories of δ

- $c(\delta) \leq B \Leftrightarrow$ cost of any history respects the initial budget



GENERAL APPROACH

A decorative graphic element consisting of a solid yellow horizontal bar that spans the width of the slide. Below this bar, on the right side, there are several horizontal lines of varying lengths and colors, including yellow and white, creating a layered, stepped effect.

GENERAL APPROACH

1. Find a distribution \mathbb{P} that well describes the phenomenon under study.
2. Define the value of adaptive sampling policy:

$$V(\delta) = \sum_{(A, x(A)) \in \tau_\delta} \mathbb{P}(x(A)) U(A, x(A))$$

3. Define approximate resolution method for finding near optimal policy:

$$\delta^* = \arg \max_{\delta, c(\delta) \leq B} V(\delta)$$

STATE OF THE ART

1. Find a distribution \mathbb{P} that well describes the phenomenon under study.

- \mathbf{X} continuous random vector
- \mathbb{P} multivariate Gaussian joint distribution

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- Entropy based criterion
- Kriging variance

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- Greedy algorithm

OUR CONTRIBUTION

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➤ X continuous random vector

➤ X discrete random vector

➤ \mathbb{P} multivariate Gaussian joint distribution

➤ \mathbb{P} Markov random field distribution

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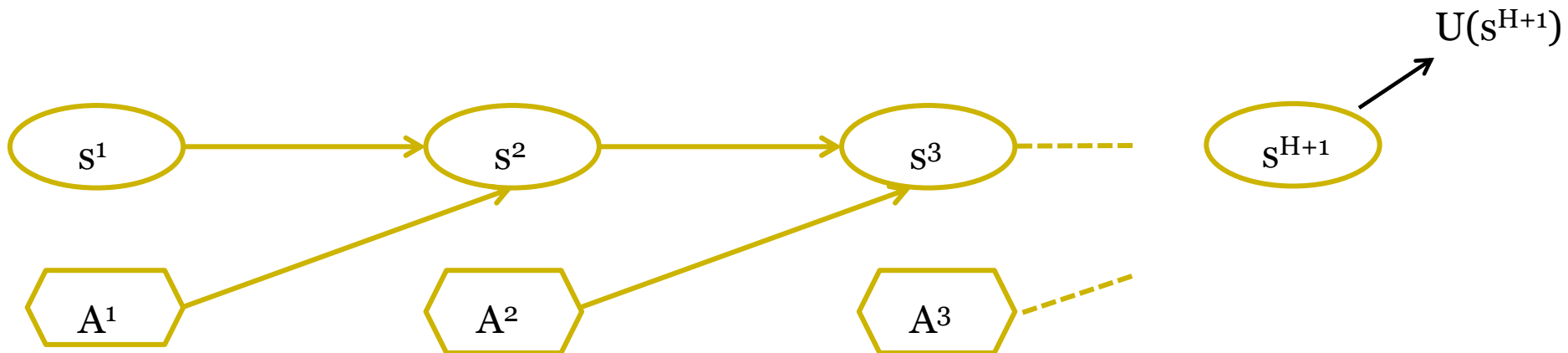
Formulation using dynamic model

An adapted framework for
reinforcement learning

➤ Summarize knowledge on \mathbf{X} in a random vector S of length n

• Observe variables \rightarrow update our knowledge on \mathbf{X} \rightarrow Evolution of S

• Example: $s = (-1, \dots, \underset{\substack{\cdot \\ \text{-----} \\ i}}{k}, \dots, -1)$ \longrightarrow Variable $X(i)$ was observed in state k

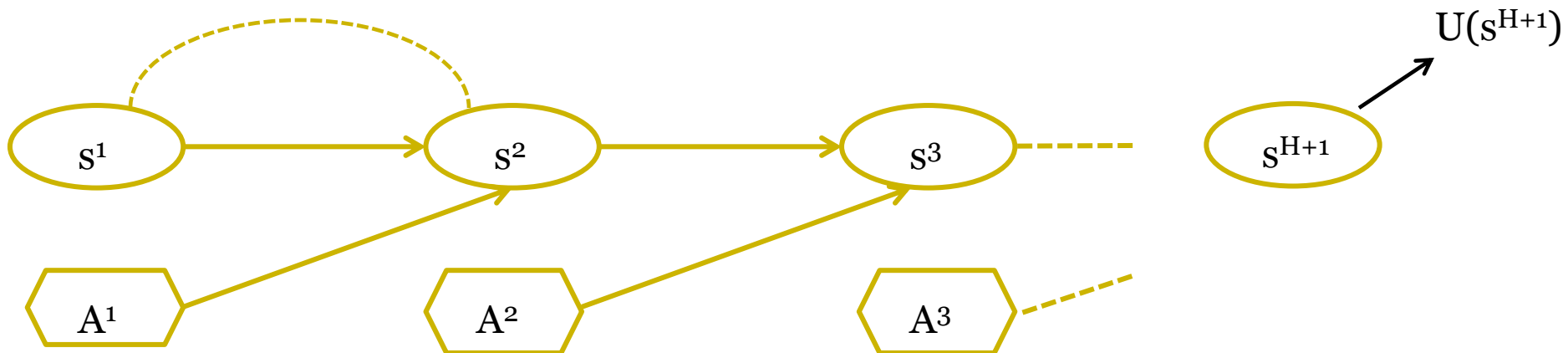


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$$\mathbb{P}(s^{t+1} | s^t, A^t) = \mathbb{P}(x(A^t) | x(A^1), \dots, x(A^{t-1}))$$



Reinforcement learning solution

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Find optimal policy: The Q-function

$\forall t, \forall s^t, \forall A^t$ $Q^*(s^t, A^t) = \ll \text{The expected value of the history when starting in } s^t, \text{ observing variables } X(A^t) \text{ and then following policy } \delta^* \gg$

$$= \sum_{s^{t+1}} \mathbf{P}(s^{t+1} \mid s^t, A^t) \max_{A^{t+1}} Q^*(s^{t+1}, A^{t+1})$$

- $\delta^*(s^t) = \arg \max_{A^t} Q^*(s^t, A^t)$

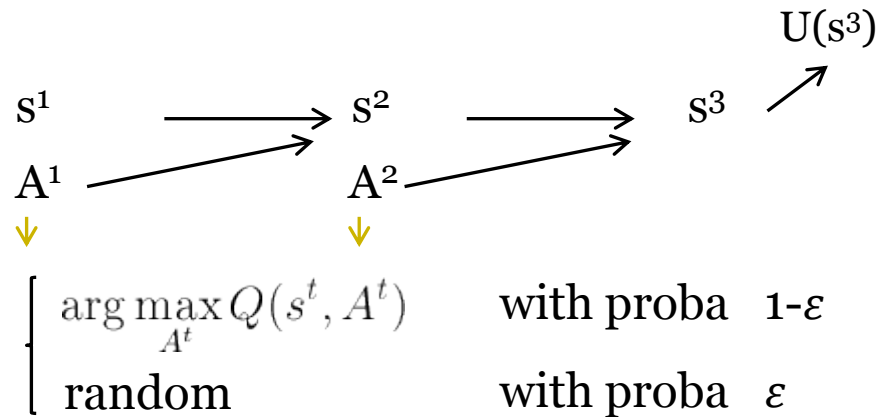
➤ Compute Q^* \Leftrightarrow Compute δ^*

Find optimal policy: The Q-function

- How to compute Q^* : classical solution (Q-learning ...)

1. Initialize Q

2. Simulate history

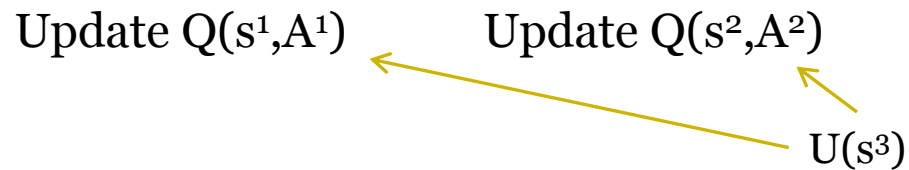


Find optimal policy: The Q-function

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2. Simulate history



many times!

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \arg \max_{A^t} Q(s^t, A^t) & \text{with proba } 1-\varepsilon \\ \text{random} & \text{with proba } \varepsilon \end{array} \right.$$

Alternative approach

- Linear approximation of Q-function:

$$\forall t = 1 \dots H \quad \bullet \quad \tilde{Q}^*(s^t, A^t) = \sum_{i=1}^p w_i \phi_i(s^t, A^t)$$
$$\simeq \sum_{s^{t+1}} \mathbf{P}(s^{t+1} \mid s^t, A^t) \max_{A^{t+1}} Q^*(s^{t+1}, A^{t+1})$$

$$\bullet \quad \tilde{Q}^*(s^{H+1}) = Q^*(s^{H+1}) = U((A^1, x(A^1)), \dots, (A^H, x(A^H)))$$

- Choice of function Φ_i :

$$\forall i = 1 \dots n \quad \phi_i(s^t, A^t) = \max_{x(i)} \mathbb{P}(x(i) \mid x(A^1), \dots, x(A^{t-1}))$$
$$= 1 \quad \text{si } i \in A^t$$

LSDP Algorithm

- Define weights for each decision step
- Compute weights using “backward induction”

- Linear approximation of Q-function:

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- $\tilde{Q}^*(s^{H+1}) = Q^*(s^{H+1}) = U((A^1, x(A^1)), \dots, (A^H, x(A^H)))$

LSDP Algorithm: application to sampling

1. Computation of $\Phi_i(s^t, A^t)$:

$$\phi_i(s^t, A^t) = \max_{x(i)} \mathbb{P}(x(i) \mid x(A^1), \dots, x(A^{t-1}))$$

2. Computation of $\mathbf{P}(s^{t+1} \mid s^t, A^t) = \mathbb{P}(x(A^t) \mid x(A^1), \dots, x(A^{t-1}))$

3. Computation of $U(s^{H+1}) = U((A^1, x(A^1)), \dots, (A^H, x(A^H)))$
$$= \sum_{i=1}^n \max_{x(i)} \mathbb{P}(x(i) \mid x(A^1), \dots, x(A^H))$$

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$$= \sum_{i=1}^n \max_{x(i)} \mathbb{P}(x(i) \mid x(A^1), \dots, x(A^H))$$

- We fix $|A^t|=1$ and use the approximation:

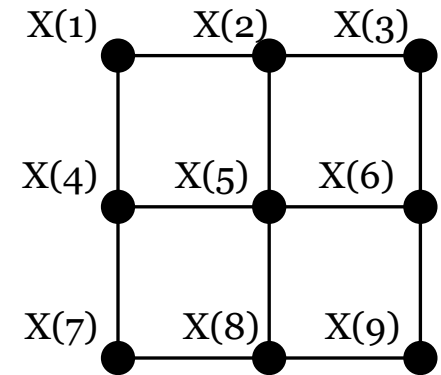
$$\mathbb{P}(x(i) \mid x(A^1), \dots, x(A^t)) \simeq \mathbb{P}^{BP}(x(i)) + \left[\sum_{j=1}^t \mathbb{P}^{BP}(x(i) \mid x(A^j)) - \mathbb{P}^{BP}(x(i)) \right]$$

Experiments

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Experiments

- **Regular grid** with first order neighbourhood.
- $X(i)$ are **binary** variables.
- \mathbb{P} is a Potts model with $\beta=0.5$



$$\mathbb{P}(x(1), \dots, x(n)) \propto \exp \left(\sum_{(i,j) \in E} \beta eq(x(i), x(j)) \right)$$

- Simple cost: observation of each variable cost 1

Experiments

- Comparison between:

- Random policy

- BP-max heuristic: at each time step observed variable

$$A^t = \operatorname{argmin}_{i=1, \dots, n} \left(\max_{x(i)} \mathbb{P}^{BP} (x(i) \mid x(A^1), \dots, x(A^{t-1})) \right)$$

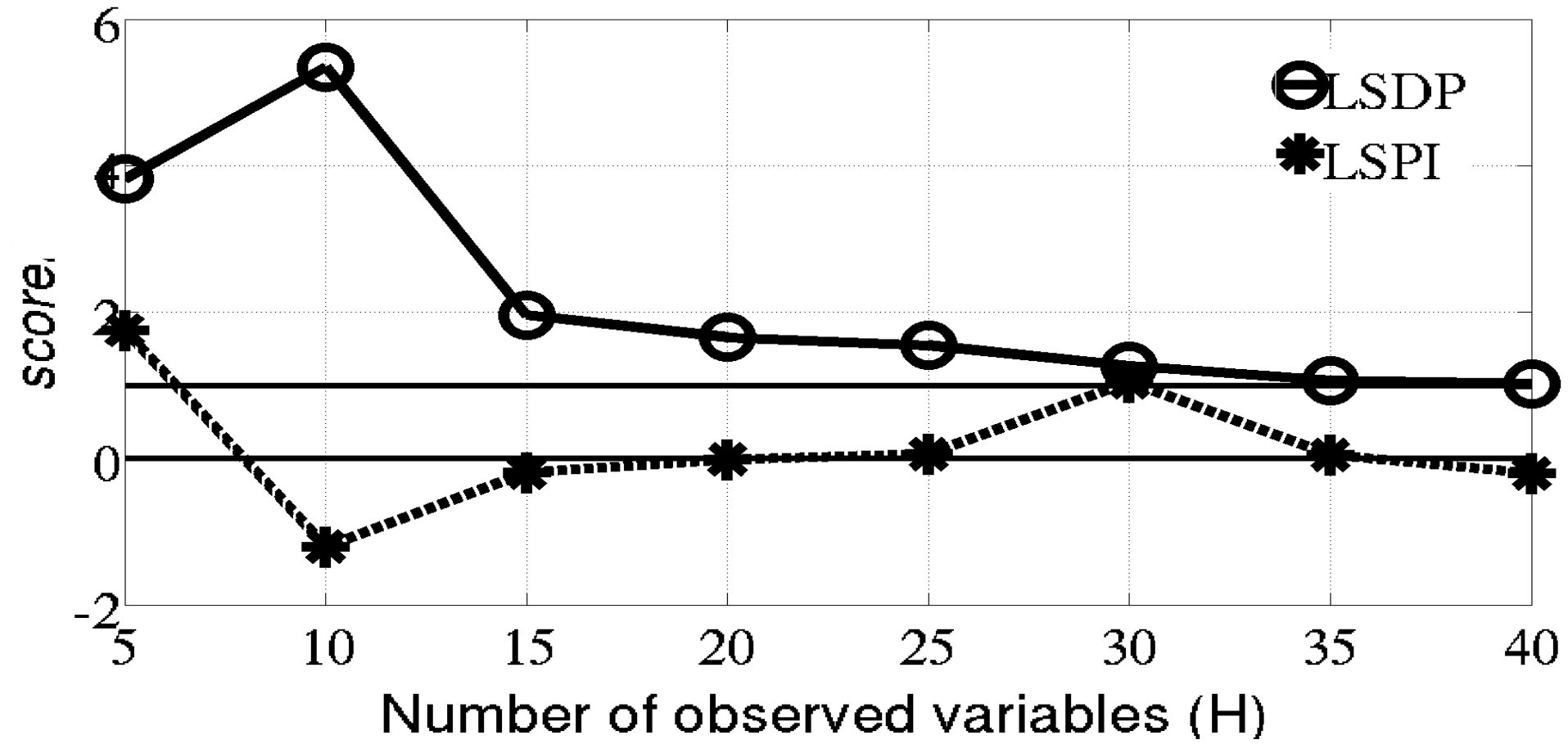
- LSPI policy “common reinforcement learning algorithm”

- LSDP policy

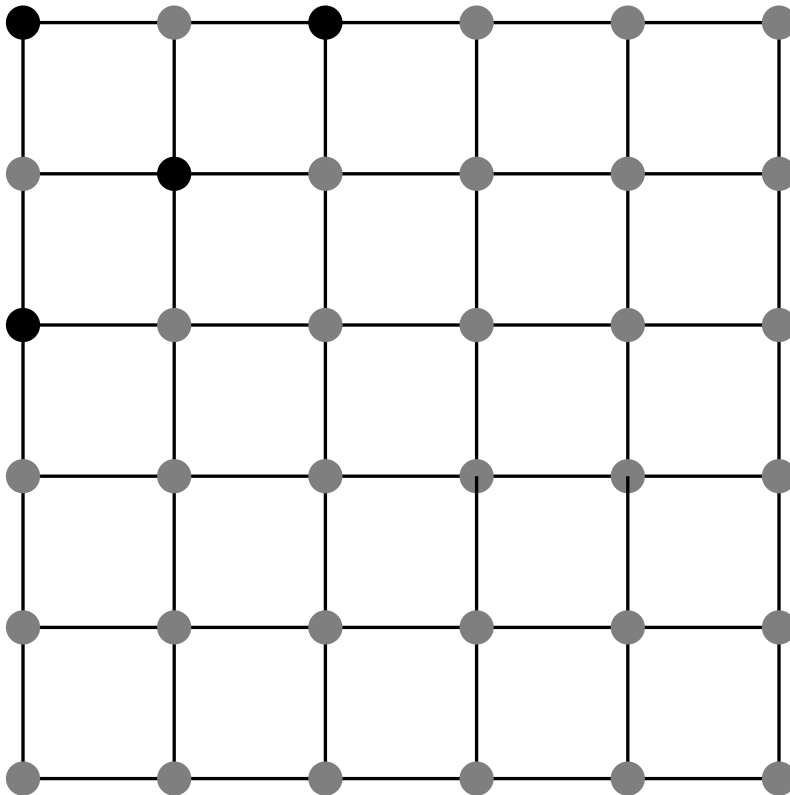
- using score:

$$\operatorname{score}(\delta) = \frac{\tilde{V}(\delta) - \tilde{V}(\delta_R)}{|\tilde{V}(\delta_{BP-max}) - \tilde{V}(\delta_R)|}$$

Experiment: 100 variables (n=100)

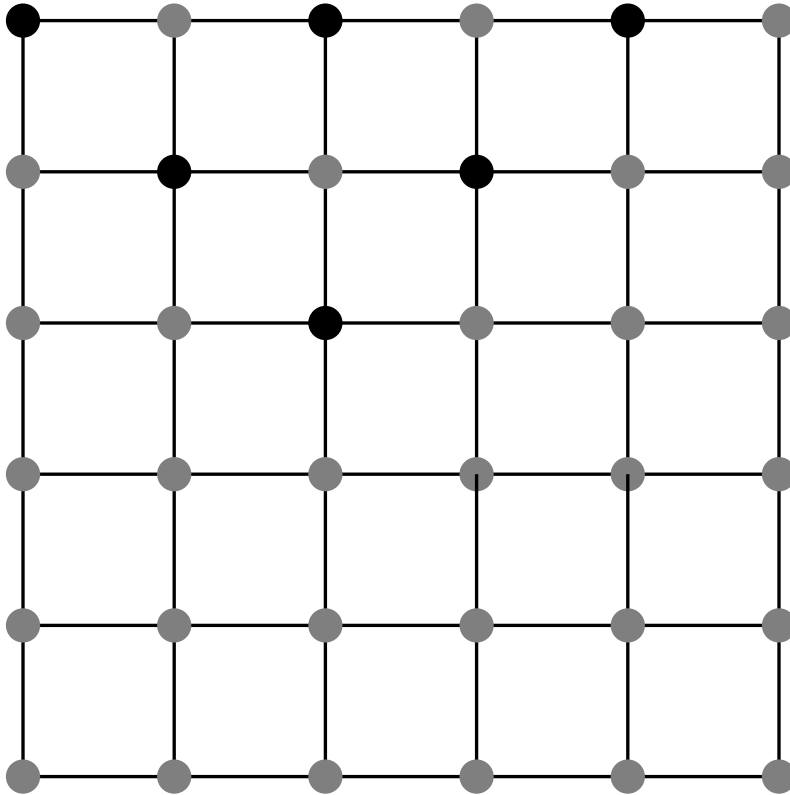


Experiment: 100 variables - constraint move



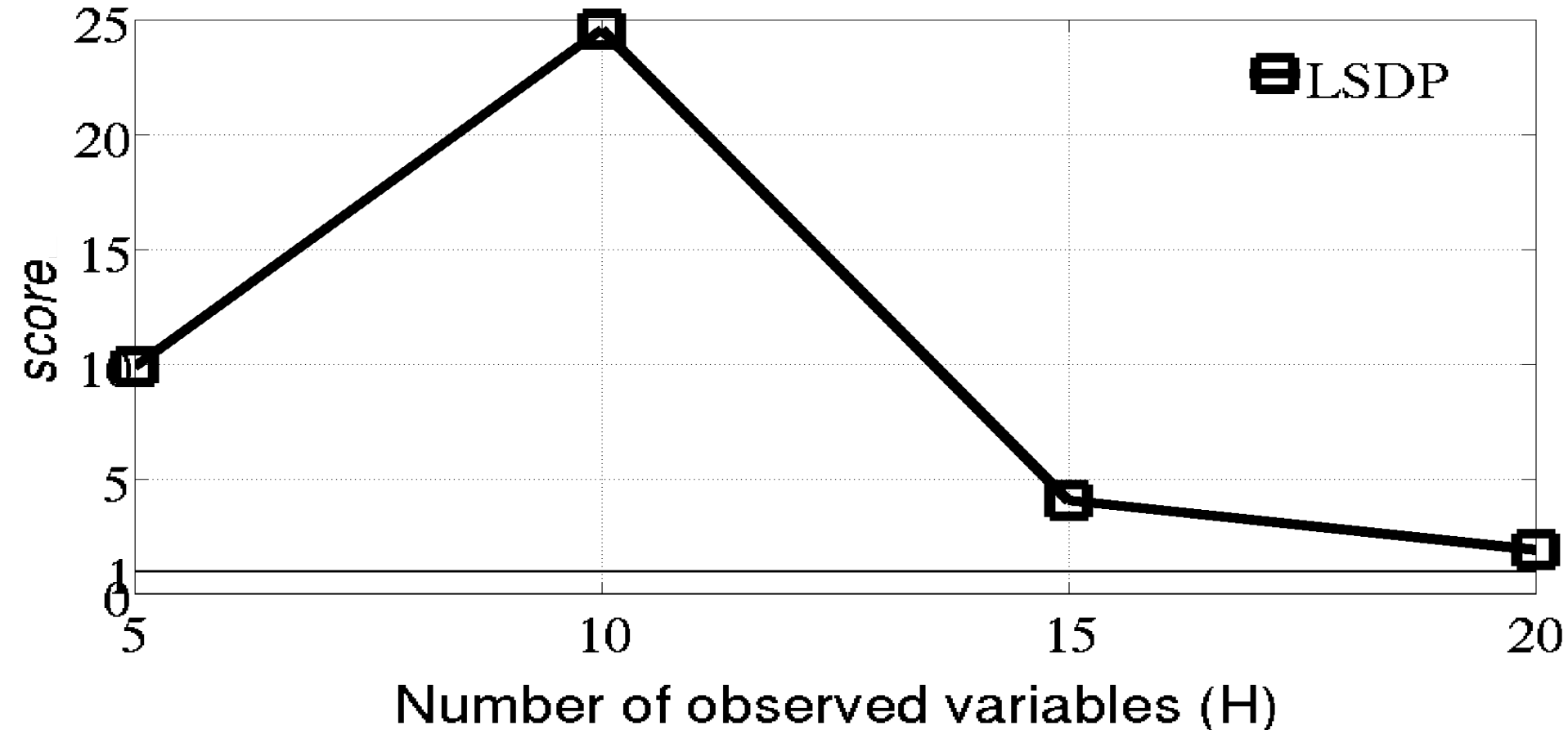
- Allowed to visit second order neighbourhood only !

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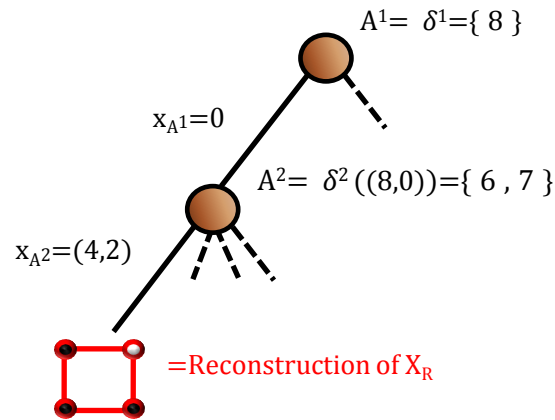


Conclusions

- An adapted framework for adaptive sampling in discrete random variables
- LSDP: a reinforcement learning approach for finding near optimal policy
 - Adaptation of common reinforcement learning algorithm for solving adaptive sampling problem
 - Computation of near optimal policy « off-line »
 - Design of new policies that outperform simple heuristics and usual RL method
- Possible application?
 - See next presentation !

THANK YOU!

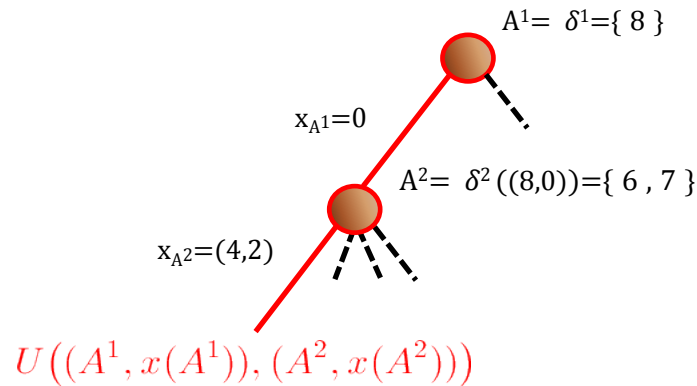
Reconstruction of $X(R)$ and trajectory value



- Maximum Posterior Marginal for reconstruction:

$$\forall r \in R \quad \tilde{x}(r) = \arg \max_{x(r)} \mathbb{P}(x(r) \mid x(A^1), \dots, x(A^H))$$

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- Quality of trajectory:

$$U((A^1, x(A^1)), \dots, (A^H, x(A^H))) = \sum_{r \in R} \mathbb{P}(\tilde{x}(r) \mid x(A^1), \dots, x(A^H))$$

$$= \mathbb{E}_{X^*(R)} \left[\sum_{r \in R} eq(x^*(r), \tilde{x}(r)) \mid x(A^1), \dots, x(A^H) \right]$$