



Infinite time horizon

$\gamma = 0.99$  Perfect actuator

Start H

Cost action  $-c$  every state

"Sticky" goals

Reward  $G_1 = 0.1$  Reward  $G_2 = 0.2$

Q1) Does  $c$  affect opt policy?

A: No.  $\sum_t \gamma^t r_t = \sum_t \gamma^t (r_t - c) = \sum_t \gamma^t r_t - \underbrace{\sum_t \gamma^t c}_{\text{constant}}$   
 [assuming incur cost  $c$  in goal states]

Q2) Does scaling rewards by  $\alpha > 0$  affect opt policy?

A: No.  $\sum_t \gamma^t r_t = \sum_t \gamma^t \alpha r_t = \alpha \sum_t \gamma^t r_t$

Q3) Does changing discount factor to  $\gamma = 0.1$  affect opt policy?

A: Yes  $\gamma^4 \frac{0.1}{1-\gamma} < \gamma^5 \frac{0.2}{1-\gamma}$  for  $\gamma = 0.99$

$\gamma^4 \frac{0.1}{1-\gamma} > \gamma^5 \frac{0.2}{1-\gamma}$  for  $\gamma = 0.1$

(Q4) Suppose .

$$r(s, a, s') = r(s, a) + \gamma \bar{\Phi}(s') - \bar{\Phi}(s)$$

Does this change optimal policy?

A: No.

$$\sum_t \gamma^t (r_t + \gamma \Phi(s_{t+1}) - \Phi(s_t))$$

telescopes ,

$$\gamma^0 r_0 + \gamma \Phi(s_1) - \Phi(s_0)$$

$$+ \gamma r_1 + \gamma^2 \Phi(s_2) - \gamma \Phi(s_1)$$

$$+ \gamma^2 r_2 + \gamma^3 \Phi(s_3) - \gamma^2 \Phi(s_2)$$

⋮

$$= r_0 + \gamma r_1 + \gamma^2 r_2 + \dots$$

$$- \Phi(s_0)$$

⏟

constant