

## A Preliminary lemmas

**Lemma 3.**  $\forall \mathbf{s} \in \mathcal{S}, u_{t+1}(\mathbf{s}) \leq u_t(\mathbf{s}), l_{t+1}(\mathbf{s}) \geq l_t(\mathbf{s}), w_{t+1}(\mathbf{s}) \leq w_t(\mathbf{s}).$

*Proof.* This lemma follows directly from the definitions of  $u_t(\mathbf{s}), l_t(\mathbf{s}), w_t(\mathbf{s})$  and  $C_t(\mathbf{s})$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 4.**  $\forall n \geq 1, \mathbf{s} \in R_n^{\text{ret}}(\bar{S}, S) \implies \mathbf{s} \in S \cup \bar{S}.$

*Proof.* Proof by induction. Consider  $n = 1$ , then  $\mathbf{s} \in R_1^{\text{ret}}(\bar{S}, S) \implies \mathbf{s} \in S \cup \bar{S}$  by definition. For the induction step, assume  $\mathbf{s} \in R_{n-1}^{\text{ret}}(\bar{S}, S) \implies \mathbf{s} \in S \cup \bar{S}$ . Now consider  $\mathbf{s} \in R_n^{\text{ret}}(\bar{S}, S)$ . We know that

$$\begin{aligned} R_n^{\text{ret}}(\bar{S}, S) &= R^{\text{ret}}(\bar{S}, R_{n-1}^{\text{ret}}(\bar{S}, S)), \\ &= R_{n-1}^{\text{ret}}(\bar{S}, S) \cup \{\mathbf{s} \in \bar{S} \mid \exists a \in \mathcal{A}(\mathbf{s}): f(\mathbf{s}, a) \in R_{n-1}^{\text{ret}}(\bar{S}, S)\}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, since  $\mathbf{s} \in R_{n-1}^{\text{ret}}(\bar{S}, S) \implies \mathbf{s} \in S \cup \bar{S}$  and  $\bar{S} \subseteq \bar{S} \cup S$ , it follows that  $\mathbf{s} \in S \cup \bar{S}$  and the induction step is complete.  $\square$

**Lemma 5.**  $\forall n \geq 1, \mathbf{s} \in R_n^{\text{ret}}(\bar{S}, S) \iff \exists k, 0 \leq k \leq n$  and  $(a_1, \dots, a_k)$ , a sequence of  $k$  actions, that induces  $(\mathbf{s}_0, \mathbf{s}_1, \dots, \mathbf{s}_k)$  starting at  $\mathbf{s}_0 = \mathbf{s}$ , such that  $\mathbf{s}_i \in \bar{S}, \forall i = 0, \dots, k-1$  and  $\mathbf{s}_k \in S$ .

*Proof.* ( $\implies$ ).  $\mathbf{s} \in R_n^{\text{ret}}(\bar{S}, S)$  means that either  $\mathbf{s} \in R_{n-1}^{\text{ret}}(\bar{S}, S)$  or  $\exists a \in \mathcal{A}(\mathbf{s}): f(\mathbf{s}, a) \in R_{n-1}^{\text{ret}}(\bar{S}, S)$ . Therefore, we can reach a state in  $R_{n-1}^{\text{ret}}(\bar{S}, S)$  taking at most one action. Repeating this procedure  $i$  times, the system reaches a state in  $R_{n-i}^{\text{ret}}(\bar{S}, S)$  with at most  $i$  actions. In particular, if we choose  $i = n$ , we prove the agent reaches  $S$  with at most  $n$  actions. Therefore there is a sequence of actions of length  $k$ , with  $0 \leq k \leq n$ , inducing a state trajectory such that:  $\mathbf{s}_0 = \mathbf{s}, \mathbf{s}_i \in R_{n-i}^{\text{ret}}(\bar{S}, S) \subseteq \bar{S} \cup S$  for every  $i = 0, \dots, k-1$  and  $\mathbf{s}_k \in S$ .

( $\impliedby$ ). Consider  $k = 0$ . This means that  $\mathbf{s} \in S \subseteq R_n^{\text{ret}}(\bar{S}, S)$ . In case  $k = 1$  we have that  $\mathbf{s}_0 \in \bar{S}$  and that  $f(\mathbf{s}_0, a_1) \in S$ . Therefore  $\mathbf{s} \in R^{\text{ret}}(\bar{S}, S) \subseteq R_n^{\text{ret}}(\bar{S}, S)$ . For  $k \geq 2$  we know  $\mathbf{s}_{k-1} \in \bar{S}$  and  $f(\mathbf{s}_{k-1}, a_k) \in S \implies \mathbf{s}_{k-1} \in R^{\text{ret}}(\bar{S}, S)$ . Similarly  $\mathbf{s}_{k-2} \in \bar{S}$  and  $f(\mathbf{s}_{k-2}, a_{k-1}) = \mathbf{s}_{k-1} \in R^{\text{ret}}(\bar{S}, S) \implies \mathbf{s}_{k-2} \in R_2^{\text{ret}}(\bar{S}, S)$ . For any  $0 \leq k \leq n$  we can apply this reasoning  $k$  times and prove that  $\mathbf{s} \in R_k^{\text{ret}}(\bar{S}, S) \subseteq R_n^{\text{ret}}(\bar{S}, S)$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 6.**  $\forall \bar{S}, S \subseteq \mathcal{S}, \forall N \geq |\mathcal{S}|, R_N^{\text{ret}}(\bar{S}, S) = R_{N+1}^{\text{ret}}(\bar{S}, S) = \bar{R}^{\text{ret}}(\bar{S}, S)$

*Proof.* This is a direct consequence of Lemma 5. In fact, Lemma 5 states that  $\mathbf{s}$  belongs to  $R_N^{\text{ret}}(\bar{S}, S)$  if and only if there is a path of length at most  $N$  starting from  $\mathbf{s}$  contained in  $\bar{S}$  that drives the system to a state in  $S$ . Since we are dealing with a finite MDP, there are  $|\mathcal{S}|$  different states. Therefore, if such a path exists it cannot be longer than  $|\mathcal{S}|$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 7.** Given  $S \subseteq R \subseteq \mathcal{S}$  and  $\bar{S} \subseteq \bar{R} \subseteq \mathcal{S}$ , it holds that  $\bar{R}^{\text{ret}}(\bar{S}, S) \subseteq \bar{R}^{\text{ret}}(\bar{R}, R)$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\mathbf{s} \in \bar{R}^{\text{ret}}(\bar{S}, S)$ . It follows from Lemmas 5 and 6 that there exists a sequence of actions,  $(a_1, \dots, a_k)$ , with  $0 \leq k \leq |\mathcal{S}|$ , that induces a state trajectory,  $(\mathbf{s}_0, \mathbf{s}_1, \dots, \mathbf{s}_k)$ , starting at  $\mathbf{s}_0 = \mathbf{s}$  with  $\mathbf{s}_i \in \bar{S} \subseteq \bar{R}, \forall i = 1, \dots, k-1$  and  $\mathbf{s}_k \in S \subseteq R$ . Using the ( $\impliedby$ ) direction of Lemma 5 and Lemma 6, we conclude that  $\mathbf{s} \in \bar{R}^{\text{ret}}(\bar{R}, R)$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 8.**  $S \subseteq R \implies R^{\text{reach}}(S) \subseteq R^{\text{reach}}(R)$ .

*Proof.* Consider  $\mathbf{s} \in R^{\text{reach}}(S)$ . Then either  $\mathbf{s} \in S \subseteq R$  or  $\exists \hat{\mathbf{s}} \in S \subseteq R, \hat{a} \in \mathcal{A}(\hat{\mathbf{s}}): \mathbf{s} = f(\hat{\mathbf{s}}, \hat{a})$ , by definition. This implies that  $\mathbf{s} \in R^{\text{reach}}(R)$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 9.** For any  $t \geq 1, S_0 \subseteq S_t \subseteq S_{t+1}$  and  $\hat{S}_0 \subseteq \hat{S}_t \subseteq \hat{S}_{t+1}$

*Proof.* Proof by induction. Consider  $\mathbf{s} \in S_0$ ,  $S_0 = \hat{S}_0$  by initialization. We known that

$$l_1(\mathbf{s}) - Ld(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{s}) = l_1(\mathbf{s}) \geq l_0(\mathbf{s}) \geq h,$$

where the last inequality follows from Lemma 3. This implies that  $\mathbf{s} \in S_1$  or, equivalently, that  $S_0 \subseteq S_1$ . Furthermore, we know by initialization that  $\mathbf{s} \in R^{\text{reach}}(\hat{S}_0)$ . Moreover, we can say that  $\mathbf{s} \in \bar{R}^{\text{ret}}(S_1, \hat{S}_0)$ , since  $S_1 \supseteq S_0 = \hat{S}_0$ . We can conclude that  $\mathbf{s} \in \hat{S}_1$ . For the induction step assume that  $S_{t-1} \subseteq S_t$  and  $\hat{S}_{t-1} \subseteq \hat{S}_t$ . Let  $\mathbf{s} \in S_t$ . Then,

$$\exists \mathbf{s}' \in \hat{S}_{t-1} \subseteq \hat{S}_t : l_t(\mathbf{s}') - Ld(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{s}') \geq h.$$

Furthermore, it follows from Lemma 3 that  $l_{t+1}(\mathbf{s}') - Ld(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{s}') \geq l_t(\mathbf{s}') - Ld(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{s}')$ . This implies that  $l_{t+1}(\mathbf{s}') - Ld(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{s}') \geq h$ . Thus  $\mathbf{s} \in S_{t+1}$ . Now consider  $\mathbf{s} \in \hat{S}_t$ . We known that

$$\mathbf{s} \in R^{\text{reach}}(\hat{S}_{t-1}) \subseteq R^{\text{reach}}(\hat{S}_t) \quad \text{by Lemma 8}$$

We also know that  $\mathbf{s} \in \bar{R}^{\text{ret}}(S_t, \hat{S}_{t-1})$ . Since we just proved that  $S_t \subseteq S_{t+1}$  and we assumed  $\hat{S}_{t-1} \subseteq \hat{S}_t$  for the induction step, Lemma 7 allows us to say that  $\mathbf{s} \in \bar{R}^{\text{ret}}(S_{t+1}, \hat{S}_t)$ . All together this allows us to complete the induction step by saying  $\mathbf{s} \in \hat{S}_{t+1}$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 10.**  $S \subseteq R \implies R_\epsilon^{\text{safe}}(S) \subseteq R_\epsilon^{\text{safe}}(R)$ .

*Proof.* Consider  $\mathbf{s} \in R_\epsilon^{\text{safe}}(S)$ , we can say that:

$$\exists \mathbf{s}' \in S \subseteq R : r(\mathbf{z}') - \epsilon - Ld(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{z}') \geq h \quad (9)$$

This means that  $\mathbf{s} \in R_\epsilon^{\text{safe}}(R)$   $\square$

**Lemma 11.** Given two sets  $S, R \subseteq \mathcal{S}$  such that  $S \subseteq R$ , it holds that:  $R_\epsilon(S) \subseteq R_\epsilon(R)$ .

*Proof.* We have to prove that:

$$\mathbf{s} \in (R^{\text{reach}}(S) \cap \bar{R}^{\text{ret}}(R_\epsilon^{\text{safe}}(S), S)) \implies \mathbf{s} \in (R^{\text{reach}}(R) \cap \bar{R}^{\text{ret}}(R_\epsilon^{\text{safe}}(R), R)) \quad (10)$$

Let's start by checking the reachability condition first:

$$\mathbf{s} \in R^{\text{reach}}(S) \implies \mathbf{s} \in R^{\text{reach}}(R). \quad \text{by Lemma 8}$$

Now let's focus on the recovery condition. We use Lemmas 7 and 10 to say that  $\mathbf{s} \in \bar{R}^{\text{ret}}(R_\epsilon^{\text{safe}}(S), S)$  implies that  $\mathbf{s} \in \bar{R}^{\text{ret}}(R_\epsilon^{\text{safe}}(R), R)$  and this completes the proof.  $\square$

**Lemma 12.** Given two sets  $S, R \subseteq \mathcal{S}$  such that  $S \subseteq R$ , the following holds:  $\bar{R}_\epsilon(S) \subseteq \bar{R}_\epsilon(R)$ .

*Proof.* The result follows by repeatedly applying Lemma 11.  $\square$

**Lemma 13.** Assume that  $\|r\|_k^2 \leq B$ , and that the noise  $\omega_t$  is zero-mean conditioned on the history, as well as uniformly bounded by  $\sigma$  for all  $t > 0$ . If  $\beta_t$  is chosen as in (8), then, for all  $t > 0$  and all  $\mathbf{s} \in \mathcal{S}$ , it holds with probability at least  $1 - \delta$  that  $|r(\mathbf{s}) - \mu_{t-1}(\mathbf{s})| \leq \beta_t^{\frac{1}{2}} \sigma_{t-1}(\mathbf{s})$ .

*Proof.* See Theorem 6 in [21].  $\square$

**Lemma 1.** Assume that  $\|r\|_k^2 \leq B$ , and that the noise  $\omega_t$  is zero-mean conditioned on the history, as well as uniformly bounded by  $\sigma$  for all  $t > 0$ . If  $\beta_t$  is chosen as in (8), then, for all  $t > 0$  and all  $\mathbf{s} \in \mathcal{S}$ , it holds with probability at least  $1 - \delta$  that  $r(\mathbf{s}) \in C_t(\mathbf{s})$ .

*Proof.* See Corollary 1 in [22].  $\square$

## B Safety

**Lemma 14.** *For all  $t \geq 1$  and for all  $\mathbf{s} \in \hat{S}_t$ ,  $\exists \mathbf{s}' \in S_0$  such that  $\mathbf{s} \in \bar{R}^{\text{ret}}(S_t, \{\mathbf{s}'\})$ .*

*Proof.* We use a recursive argument to prove this lemma. Since  $\mathbf{s} \in \hat{S}_t$ , we know that  $\mathbf{s} \in \bar{R}^{\text{ret}}(S_t, \hat{S}_{t-1})$ . Because of Lemmas 5 and 6 we know  $\exists(a_1, \dots, a_j)$ , with  $j \leq |S|$ , inducing  $\mathbf{s}_0, \mathbf{s}_1, \dots, \mathbf{s}_j$  such that  $\mathbf{s}_0 = \mathbf{s}$ ,  $\mathbf{s}_i \in S_t$ ,  $\forall i = 1, \dots, j-1$  and  $\mathbf{s}_j \in \hat{S}_{t-1}$ . Similarly, we can build another sequence of actions that drives the system to some state in  $\hat{S}_{t-2}$  passing through  $S_{t-1} \subseteq S_t$  starting from  $\mathbf{s}_j \in \hat{S}_{t-1}$ . By applying repeatedly this procedure we can build a finite sequence of actions that drives the system to a state  $\mathbf{s}' \in S_0$  passing through  $S_t$  starting from  $\mathbf{s}$ . Because of Lemmas 5 and 6 this is equivalent to  $\mathbf{s} \in \bar{R}^{\text{ret}}(S_t, \{\mathbf{s}'\})$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 15.** *For all  $t \geq 1$  and for all  $\mathbf{s} \in \hat{S}_t$ ,  $\exists \mathbf{s}' \in S_0$  such that  $\mathbf{s}' \in \bar{R}^{\text{ret}}(S_t, \{\mathbf{s}\})$ .*

*Proof.* The proof is analogous to the one we gave for Lemma 14. The only difference is that here we need to use the reachability property of  $\hat{S}_t$  instead of the recovery property of  $\hat{S}_t$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 2.** *Assume that  $S_0 \neq \emptyset$  and that for all states,  $\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{s}' \in S_0$ ,  $\mathbf{s} \in \bar{R}^{\text{ret}}(S_0, \{\mathbf{s}'\})$ . Then, when using Algorithm 1 under the assumptions in Theorem 1, for all  $t > 0$  and for all states,  $\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{s}' \in \hat{S}_t$ ,  $\mathbf{s} \in \bar{R}^{\text{ret}}(S_t, \{\mathbf{s}'\})$ .*

*Proof.* This lemma is a direct consequence of the properties of  $S_0$  listed above (that are ensured by the initialization of the algorithm) and of Lemmas 14 and 15  $\square$

**Lemma 16.** *For any  $t \geq 0$ , the following holds with probability at least  $1 - \delta$ :  $\forall \mathbf{s} \in S_t$ ,  $r(\mathbf{s}) \geq h$ .*

*Proof.* Let's prove this result by induction. By initialization we know that  $r(\mathbf{s}) \geq h$  for all  $\mathbf{s} \in S_0$ . For the induction step assume that for all  $\mathbf{s} \in S_{t-1}$  holds that  $r(\mathbf{s}) \geq h$ . For any  $\mathbf{s} \in S_t$ , by definition, there exists  $\mathbf{z} \in \hat{S}_{t-1} \subseteq S_{t-1}$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} h &\leq l_t(\mathbf{z}) - Ld(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{z}), \\ &\leq r(\mathbf{z}) - Ld(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{z}), && \text{by Lemma 1} \\ &\leq r(\mathbf{s}). && \text{by Lipschitz continuity} \end{aligned}$$

This relation holds with probability at least  $1 - \delta$  because we used Lemma 1 to prove it.  $\square$

**Theorem 2.** *For any state  $\mathbf{s}$  along any state trajectory induced by Algorithm 1 on a MDP with transition function  $f(\mathbf{s}, a)$ , we have, with probability at least  $1 - \delta$ , that  $r(\mathbf{s}) \geq h$ .*

*Proof.* Let's denote as  $(\mathbf{s}_1^t, \mathbf{s}_2^t, \dots, \mathbf{s}_k^t)$  the state trajectory of the system until the end of iteration  $t \geq 0$ . We know from Lemma 2 and Algorithm 1 that the  $\mathbf{s}_i^t \in S_t$ ,  $\forall i = 1, \dots, k$ . Lemma 16 completes the proof as it allows us to say that  $r(\mathbf{s}_i^t) \geq h$ ,  $\forall i = 1, \dots, k$  with probability at least  $1 - \delta$ .  $\square$

## C Completeness

**Lemma 17.** *For any  $t_1 \geq t_0 \geq 1$ , if  $\hat{S}_{t_1} = \hat{S}_{t_0}$ , then,  $\forall t$  such that  $t_0 \leq t \leq t_1$ , it holds that  $G_{t+1} \subseteq G_t$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $\hat{S}_t$  is not changing we are always computing the enlargement function over the same points. Therefore we only need to prove that the enlargement function is non increasing. We known from Lemma 3 that  $u_t(\mathbf{s})$  is a non increasing function of  $t$  for all  $\mathbf{s} \in S$ . Furthermore we know that  $(S \setminus S_t) \supseteq (S \setminus S_{t+1})$  because of Lemma 9. Hence, the enlargement function is non increasing and the proof is complete.  $\square$

**Lemma 18.** For any  $t_1 \geq t_0 \geq 1$ , if  $\hat{S}_{t_1} = \hat{S}_{t_0}$ ,  $C_1 = 8/\log(1 + \sigma^{-2})$  and  $\mathbf{s}_t = \operatorname{argmax}_{\mathbf{s} \in G_t} w_t(\mathbf{s})$ , then,  $\forall \bar{t}$  such that  $t_0 \leq \bar{t} \leq t_1$ , it holds that  $w_{\bar{t}}(\mathbf{s}_{\bar{t}}) \leq \sqrt{\frac{C_1 \beta \bar{t} \gamma_{\bar{t}}}{\bar{t} - t_0}}$ .

*Proof.* See Lemma 5 in [22].  $\square$

**Lemma 19.** For any  $t \geq 1$ , if  $C_1 = 8/\log(1 + \sigma^{-2})$  and  $T_t$  is the smallest positive integer such that  $\frac{T_t}{\beta_{t+T_t} \gamma_{t+T_t}} \geq \frac{C_1}{\epsilon^2}$  and  $S_{t+T_t} = S_t$ , then, for any  $\mathbf{s} \in G_{t+T_t}$  it holds that  $w_{t+T_t}(\mathbf{s}) \leq \epsilon$

*Proof.* The proof is trivial because  $T_t$  was chosen to be the smallest integer for which the right hand side of the inequality proved in Lemma 18 is smaller or equal to  $\epsilon$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 20.** For any  $t \geq 1$ , if  $\bar{R}_\epsilon(S_0) \setminus \hat{S}_t \neq \emptyset$ , then,  $R_\epsilon(\hat{S}_t) \setminus \hat{S}_t \neq \emptyset$ .

*Proof.* For the sake of contradiction assume that  $R_\epsilon(\hat{S}_t) \setminus \hat{S}_t = \emptyset$ . This implies  $R_\epsilon(\hat{S}_t) \subseteq \hat{S}_t$ . On the other hand, since  $\hat{S}_t$  is included in all the sets whose intersection defines  $R_\epsilon(\hat{S}_t)$ , we know that,  $\hat{S}_t \subseteq R_\epsilon(\hat{S}_t)$ . This implies that  $\hat{S}_t = R_\epsilon(\hat{S}_t)$ . If we apply repeatedly the one step reachability operator on both sides of the equality we obtain  $\bar{R}_\epsilon(\hat{S}_t) = \hat{S}_t$ . By Lemmas 9 and 12 we know that

$$S_0 = \hat{S}_0 \subseteq \hat{S}_t \implies \bar{R}_\epsilon(S_0) \subseteq \bar{R}_\epsilon(\hat{S}_t) = \hat{S}_t.$$

This contradicts the assumption that  $\bar{R}_\epsilon(S_0) \setminus \hat{S}_t \neq \emptyset$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 21.** For any  $t \geq 1$ , if  $\bar{R}_\epsilon(S_0) \setminus \hat{S}_t \neq \emptyset$ , then, with probability at least  $1 - \delta$  it holds that  $\hat{S}_t \subset \hat{S}_{t+T_t}$ .

*Proof.* By Lemma 20 we know that  $\bar{R}_\epsilon(S_0) \setminus \hat{S}_t \neq \emptyset$ . This implies that  $\exists \mathbf{s} \in R_\epsilon(\hat{S}_t) \setminus \hat{S}_t$ . Therefore there exists a  $\mathbf{s}' \in \hat{S}_t$  such that:

$$r(\mathbf{s}') - \epsilon - Ld(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{s}') \geq h \quad (11)$$

For the sake of contradiction assume that  $\hat{S}_{t+T_t} = \hat{S}_t$ . This means that  $\mathbf{s} \in \mathcal{S} \setminus \hat{S}_{t+T_t}$  and  $\mathbf{s}' \in \hat{S}_{t+T_t}$ . Then we have:

$$\begin{aligned} u_{t+T_t}(\mathbf{s}') - Ld(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{s}') &\geq r(\mathbf{s}') - Ld(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{s}') && \text{by Lemma 13} \\ &\geq r(\mathbf{s}') - \epsilon - Ld(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{s}') && (12) \\ &\geq h && \text{by equation 11} \end{aligned}$$

Assume, for the sake of contradiction, that  $\mathbf{s} \in \mathcal{S} \setminus S_{t+T_t}$ . This means that  $\mathbf{s}' \in G_{t+T_t}$ . We know that for any  $t \leq \hat{t} \leq t + T_t$  holds that  $\hat{S}_{\hat{t}} = \hat{S}_t$ , because  $\hat{S}_t = \hat{S}_{t+T_t}$  and  $\hat{S}_{\hat{t}} \subseteq \hat{S}_{t+1}$  for all  $t \geq 1$ . Therefore we have  $\mathbf{s}' \in \hat{S}_{t+T_t-1}$  such that:

$$\begin{aligned} l_{t+T_t}(\mathbf{s}') - Ld(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{s}') &\geq l_{t+T_t}(\mathbf{s}') - r(\mathbf{s}') + \epsilon + h && \text{by equation 11} \\ &\geq -w_{t+T_t}(\mathbf{s}') + \epsilon + h && \text{by Lemma 13} \\ &\geq h && \text{by Lemma 19} \end{aligned}$$

This implies that  $\mathbf{s} \in S_{t+T_t}$ , which is a contradiction. Thus we can say that  $\mathbf{s} \in S_{t+T_t}$ . Now we want to focus on the recovery and reachability properties of  $\mathbf{s}$  in order to reach the contradiction that  $\mathbf{s} \in \hat{S}_{t+T_t}$ . Since  $\mathbf{s} \in R_\epsilon(\hat{S}_{t+T_t}) \setminus \hat{S}_{t+T_t}$  we know that:

$$\mathbf{s} \in R^{\text{reach}}(\hat{S}_{t+T_t}) = R^{\text{reach}}(\hat{S}_{t+T_t-1}) \quad (13)$$

We also know that  $\mathbf{s} \in R_\epsilon(\hat{S}_{t+T_t}) \setminus \hat{S}_{t+T_t} \implies \mathbf{s} \in \bar{R}^{\text{ret}}(R_\epsilon^{\text{safe}}(\hat{S}_{t+T_t}), \hat{S}_{t+T_t})$ . We want to use this fact to prove that  $\mathbf{s} \in \bar{R}^{\text{ret}}(S_{t+T_t}, \hat{S}_{t+T_t-1})$ . In order to do this, we intend to use the result from Lemma 7. We already know that  $\hat{S}_{t+T_t-1} = \hat{S}_{t+T_t}$ . Therefore we only need to prove

that  $R_\epsilon^{\text{safe}}(\hat{S}_{t+T_t}) \subseteq S_{t+T_t}$ . For the sake of contradiction assume this is not true. This means  $\exists \mathbf{z} \in R_\epsilon^{\text{safe}}(\hat{S}_{t+T_t}) \setminus S_{t+T_t}$ . Therefore there exists a  $\mathbf{z}' \in \hat{S}_{t+T_t}$  such that:

$$r(\mathbf{z}') - \epsilon - Ld(\mathbf{z}', \mathbf{z}) \geq h \quad (14)$$

Consequently:

$$\begin{aligned} u_{t+T_t}(\mathbf{z}') - Ld(\mathbf{z}', \mathbf{z}) &\geq r(\mathbf{z}') - Ld(\mathbf{z}', \mathbf{z}) && \text{by Lemma 13} \\ &\geq r(\mathbf{z}') - \epsilon - d(\mathbf{z}', \mathbf{z}) && (15) \\ &\geq h && \text{by equation 14} \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $\mathbf{z}' \in G_{t+T_t}$ . Since we proved before that  $\hat{S}_{t+T_t} = \hat{S}_{t+T_t-1}$ , we can say that  $\mathbf{z}' \in \hat{S}_{t+T_t-1}$  and that:

$$\begin{aligned} l_{t+T_t}(\mathbf{z}') - Ld(\mathbf{z}', \mathbf{z}) &\geq l_{t+T_t}(\mathbf{z}') - r(\mathbf{z}') + \epsilon + h && \text{by equation 14} \\ &\geq -w_{t+T_t}(\mathbf{z}') + \epsilon + h && \text{by Lemma 13} \\ &\geq h && \text{by Lemma 19} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $\mathbf{z} \in S_{t+T_t}$ . This is a contradiction. Thus we can say that  $R_\epsilon^{\text{safe}}(\hat{S}_{t+T_t}) \subseteq S_{t+T_t}$ . Hence:

$$\mathbf{s} \in R_\epsilon(\hat{S}_{t+T_t}) \setminus \hat{S}_{t+T_t} \implies \mathbf{s} \in \overline{R}^{\text{ret}}(S_{t+T_t}, \hat{S}_{t+T_t-1}) \quad (16)$$

In the end the fact that  $\mathbf{s} \in S_{t+T_t}$  and (13) and (16) allow us to conclude that  $\mathbf{s} \in \hat{S}_{t+T_t}$ . This contradiction proves the theorem.  $\square$

**Lemma 22.**  $\forall t \geq 0, \hat{S}_t \subseteq \overline{R}_0(S_0)$  with probability at least  $1 - \delta$ .

*Proof.* Proof by induction. We know that  $\hat{S}_0 = S_0 \subseteq \overline{R}_0(S_0)$  by definition. For the induction step assume that for some  $t \geq 1$  holds that  $\hat{S}_{t-1} \subseteq \overline{R}_0(S_0)$ . Our goal is to show that  $\mathbf{s} \in \hat{S}_t \implies \mathbf{s} \in \overline{R}_0(S_0)$ . In order to this, we will try to show that  $\mathbf{s} \in R_0(\hat{S}_{t-1})$ . We know that:

$$\mathbf{s} \in \hat{S}_t \implies \mathbf{s} \in R^{\text{reach}}(\hat{S}_{t-1}) \quad (17)$$

Furthermore we can say that:

$$\mathbf{s} \in \hat{S}_t \implies \mathbf{s} \in \overline{R}^{\text{ret}}(S_t, \hat{S}_{t-1}) \quad (18)$$

For any  $\mathbf{z} \in S_t$ , we know that  $\exists \mathbf{z}' \in \hat{S}_{t-1}$  such that:

$$\begin{aligned} h &\leq l_t(\mathbf{z}') - Ld(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{z}'), && (19) \\ &\leq r(\mathbf{z}') - Ld(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{z}'). && \text{by Lemma 1} \end{aligned}$$

This means that  $\mathbf{z} \in S_t \implies \mathbf{z} \in R_0^{\text{safe}}(\hat{S}_{t-1})$ , or, equivalently, that  $S_t \subseteq R_0^{\text{safe}}(\hat{S}_{t-1})$ . Hence, Lemma 7 and (18) allow us to say that  $\overline{R}^{\text{ret}}(S_t, \hat{S}_{t-1}) \subseteq \overline{R}^{\text{ret}}(R_0^{\text{safe}}(\hat{S}_{t-1}), \hat{S}_{t-1})$ . This result, together with (17), leads us to the conclusion that  $\mathbf{s} \in R_0(\hat{S}_{t-1})$ . We assumed for the induction step that  $\hat{S}_{t-1} \subseteq \overline{R}_0(S_0)$ . Applying on both sides the set operator  $R_0(\cdot)$ , we conclude that  $R_0(\hat{S}_{t-1}) \subseteq \overline{R}_0(S_0)$ . This proves that  $\mathbf{s} \in \hat{S}_t \implies \mathbf{s} \in \overline{R}_0(S_0)$  and the induction step is complete.  $\square$

**Lemma 23.** Let  $t^*$  be the smallest integer such that  $t^* \geq |\overline{R}_0(S_0)|T_{t^*}$ , then there exists a  $t_0 \leq t^*$  such that, with probability at least  $1 - \delta$  holds that  $\hat{S}_{t_0+T_{t_0}} = \hat{S}_{t_0}$ .

*Proof.* For the sake of contradiction assume that the opposite holds true:  $\forall t \leq t^*, \hat{S}_t \subset \hat{S}_{t+T_t}$ . This implies that  $\hat{S}_0 \subset \hat{S}_{T_0}$ . Furthermore we know that  $T_t$  is increasing in  $t$ . Therefore  $0 \leq t^* \implies T_0 \leq T_{t^*} \implies \hat{S}_{T_0} \subseteq \hat{S}_{T_{t^*}}$ . Now if  $|\overline{R}_0(S_0)| \geq 1$  we know that:

$$\begin{aligned} t^* &\geq T_{t^*} \\ \implies T_{t^*} &\geq T_{T_{t^*}} \\ \implies T_{t^*} + T_{T_{t^*}} &\leq 2T_{t^*} \\ \implies \hat{S}_{T_{t^*}+T_{T_{t^*}}} &\subseteq \hat{S}_{2T_{t^*}} \end{aligned}$$

This justifies the following chain of inclusions:

$$\hat{S}_0 \subset \hat{S}_{T_0} \subseteq \hat{S}_{T_{t^*}} \subset \hat{S}_{T_{t^*}+T_{T_{t^*}}} \subseteq \hat{S}_{2T_{t^*}} \subset \dots$$

This means that for any  $0 \leq k \leq |\overline{R}_0(S_0)|$  it holds that  $|\hat{S}_{kT_{t^*}}| > k$ . In particular, for  $k^* = |\overline{R}_0(S_0)|$  we have  $|\hat{S}_{k^*T_{t^*}}| > |\overline{R}_0(S_0)|$ . This contradicts Lemma 22 (which holds true with probability at least  $1 - \delta$ ).  $\square$

**Lemma 24.** *Let  $t^*$  be the smallest integer such that  $\frac{t^*}{\beta_{t^*}\gamma_{t^*}} \geq \frac{C_1|\overline{R}_0(S_0)|}{\epsilon^2}$ , then, there is  $t_0 \leq t^*$  such that  $\hat{S}_{t_0+T_{t_0}} = \hat{S}_{t_0}$  with probability at least  $1 - \delta$ .*

*Proof.* The proof consists in applying the definition of  $T_t$  to the condition of Lemma 23.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.** *Let  $t^*$  be the smallest integer such that  $\frac{t^*}{\beta_{t^*}\gamma_{t^*}} \geq \frac{C_1|\overline{R}_0(S_0)|}{\epsilon^2}$ , with  $C_1 = 8/\log(1 + \sigma^{-2})$ , then, there is  $t_0 \leq t^*$  such that  $\overline{R}_\epsilon(S_0) \subseteq \hat{S}_{t_0} \subseteq \overline{R}_0(S_0)$  with probability at least  $1 - \delta$ .*

*Proof.* Due to Lemma 24, we know that  $\exists t_0 \leq t^*$  such that  $\hat{S}_{t_0} = \hat{S}_{t_0+T_{t_0}}$  with probability at least  $1 - \delta$ . This implies that  $\overline{R}_\epsilon(S_0) \setminus (\hat{S}_{t_0}) = \emptyset$  with probability at least  $1 - \delta$  because of Lemma 21. Therefore  $\overline{R}_\epsilon(S_0) \subseteq \hat{S}_{t_0}$ . Furthermore we know that  $\hat{S}_{t_0} \subseteq \overline{R}_0(S_0)$  with probability at least  $1 - \delta$  because of Lemma 22 and this completes the proof.  $\square$

## D Main result

**Theorem 1.** *Assume that  $r(\cdot)$  is  $L$ -Lipschitz continuous and that the assumptions of Lemma 1 hold. Also, assume that  $S_0 \neq \emptyset$ ,  $r(\mathbf{s}) \geq h$  for all  $\mathbf{s} \in S_0$ , and that for any two states,  $\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{s}' \in S_0$ ,  $\mathbf{s}' \in \overline{R}^{\text{ret}}(S_0, \{\mathbf{s}\})$ . Choose  $\beta_t$  as in (8). Then, with probability at least  $1 - \delta$ , we have  $r(\mathbf{s}) \geq h$  for any  $\mathbf{s}$  along any state trajectory induced by Algorithm 1 on an MDP with transition function  $f(\mathbf{s}, a)$ . Moreover, let  $t^*$  be the smallest integer such that  $\frac{t^*}{\beta_{t^*}\gamma_{t^*}} \geq \frac{C|\overline{R}_0(S_0)|}{\epsilon^2}$ , with  $C = 8/\log(1 + \sigma^{-2})$ . Then there exists a  $t_0 \leq t^*$  such that, with probability at least  $1 - \delta$ ,  $\overline{R}_\epsilon(S_0) \subseteq \hat{S}_{t_0} \subseteq \overline{R}_0(S_0)$ .*

*Proof.* This is a direct consequence of Theorem 2 and Theorem 3.  $\square$