Robotics Reading Group @ Instituto Superior Técnico

Session #4 29-11-2019

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HUMAN-LEVEL CONTROL THROUGH DEEP REINFORCEMENT LEARNING





Action-Value Function Q(s,a)

- Expectation of how much future discounted reward the agent will obtain by executing action **a** in state **s**



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(in other words)



Action-Value Function Q(s,a)

- Expectation of how much future discounted reward the agent will obtain by executing action **a** in state **s**
- (in other words)
 - Expectation of "how good executing action a in state s is for the agent"

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(known as Q-Learning)

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Predictions

Targets

 $y_hat = Q(s, a, \theta)$ $y = r + \gamma \max Q(s', a', \theta)$

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Loss (Mean Squared Error):

1/N sum (y-yhat)²

Three Problems

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state = ?

state = [
Distance to pipes?



state = [
Distance to pipes?
Distance to ground?



state = [Distance to pipes? Distance to ground? Distance to higher pipe?



state = [
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Distance to ground?
Distance to higher pipe?

Bad!



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Distance to ground?
Distance to higher pipe?

Bad!1. Requires domain knowledge



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Bad!

- 1. Requires domain knowledge
- 2. Prone to human bias



state = [Distance to pipes? Distance to ground? Distance to higher pipe?

Bad!

- 1. Requires domain knowledge
- 2. Prone to human bias
- 3. Could limit learning!



Solution?



Deep Learning!



Neural Network $Q(s, a; \theta)$:

- iteratively trained using single datapoint (s, a, r, s')

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(Known as Experience Replay!)

Targets for loss computed using the same network

Predictions Targets

 $y_hat = Q(s, a; \theta)$

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Predictions Targets

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Solution - Two networks!

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Predictions Targets

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One for predictions

Q(s, a; θ)

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Predictions Targets

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(Can heavily bias training!)

Solution - Two networks!

One for predictions

 $Q(s, a; \theta)$

One for targets

 $Q(s, a; \theta_{target})$

Automatic feature extraction | CNN

Automatic feature extraction | CNN Experience Replay | Dataset D

Automatic feature extraction | CNN Experience Replay | Dataset D Main & Target Networks | Q(s,a;θ) Q(s,a;θ_{target})

The Deep Q-Network!



Does it work?

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 - 50M training **frames** (timesteps)
 - 30 test episodes (mean ep. reward reported, N=30)

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 - 15/29 games Superhuman control!



Cool resources to check out:

- OpenAl Baselines Tensorflow implementation of SOTA algorithms:
 - <u>https://github.com/openai/baselines</u>
- Stable Baselines Fork from openai/baselines with refactored code:
 - <u>https://github.com/hill-a/stable-baselines</u>
- Tensorflow Agents Full Deep RL library with good abstractions, written in tensorflow:
 - <u>https://github.com/tensorflow/agents</u>
- Deep Reinforcement Learning that Matters Really cool paper on statistical significance and reproducibility of Deep RL work:
 - <u>https://arxiv.org/abs/1709.06560</u>
- Deep RL Hands on Really practical book on DRL with code examples written in PyTorch:
 - https://github.com/aibooks/aibooks.github.io

