# Advanced Model Learning February 27, 2017

Chelsea Finn

# Last Time: DQN with images



#### This lecture: Can we use model-based methods with images?

# Recap: model-based RL

- model-based reinforcement learning version 1.0:
  - 1. run base policy  $\pi_0(\mathbf{u}_t|\mathbf{x}_t)$  (e.g., random policy) to collect  $\mathcal{D} = \{(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{x}')_i\}$
  - 2. learn dynamics model  $f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u})$  to minimize  $\sum_i ||f(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{u}_i) \mathbf{x}'_i||^2$

  - 3. backpropagate through  $f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u})$  to choose actions (e.g. using iLQR) 4. execute those actions and add the resulting data  $\{(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{x}')_j\}$  to  $\mathcal{D}$
- What about POMDPs?







- 1. Models in latent space
- 2. Models directly in image space
- 3. Inverse models

#### **Note:** This is an active area of research.

# Outline

- 1. Models in latent space
- 2. Models directly in image space
- 3. Inverse models

# Outline

**Key idea:** learn embedding  $g(\mathbf{o}_t)$ , then learn in latent space



What do we want g to be? It depends on the method — we'll see.

# Learning in Latent Space

# (model-based or model-free)

#### Key idea: learn embedding $g(\mathbf{o}_t) = \mathbf{x}_t$ , then learn in latent space

#### Autonomous reinforcement learning on raw visual input data in a real world application

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# Learning in Latent Space

(model-based or **model-free**)

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#### controlling a slot-car



#### 1. collect data with exploratory policy 2. learn low-dimensional embedding of image (how?) 3. run q-learning with function approximation with embedding



#### embedding is low-dimensional and summarizes the image

1. collect data with exploratory policy 2. learn low-dimensional embedding of image (how?)



#### **Pros**:

- + Learn visual skill very efficiently
- **Cons:**
- Autoencoder might not recover the right representation
- Not necessarily suitable for model-based methods

# 3. run q-learning with function approximation with embedding

#### Key idea: learn embedding $g(\mathbf{o}_t) = \mathbf{x}_t$ , then learn in latent space (model-based or model-free)

#### **Deep Spatial Autoencoders for Visuomotor Learning**



Fig. 1: PR2 learning to scoop a bag of rice into a bowl with a spatula (left) using a learned visual state representation (right).

# Learning in Latent Space

Chelsea Finn, Xin Yu Tan, Yan Duan, Trevor Darrell, Sergey Levine, Pieter Abbeel



# collect data with exploratory policy learn smooth, structured embedding of image learn local-linear model with embedding run iLQG to learn to reach image of goal & goal gripper pose





#### embedding is smooth and structured

- 1. collect data with exploratory policy
- 2. learn smooth, structured embedding of image
- 3. learn local-linear model with embedding



# 4. run iLQG to learn to reach image of goal & goal gripper pose

Because we aren't using states, we need a reward.



#### autonomous execution

# 6x real-time

#### Our Method autonomous execution

-1-



#### Our Method autonomous execution

0



#### O - current feature point X - goal feature point

#### autonomous execution



#### real-time

#### 1. collect data with exploratory policy 2. learn smooth, structured embedding of image 3. learn local-linear model with embedding 4. run iLQG to learn to reach image of goal & goal gripper pose



#### **Pros**:

- + Learn complex visual skill very efficiently
- + Structured representation enables effective learning

#### **Cons:**

- Autoencoder might not recover the right representation

#### Key idea: learn embedding $g(\mathbf{o}_t) = \mathbf{x}_t$ , then learn in latent space (model-based or model-free)

#### **Embed to Control: A Locally Linear Latent Dynamics Model for Control from Raw Images**

**Manuel Watter\*** 



# Learning in Latent Space

- 1. collect data
- 2. learn embedding of image & dynamics model (jointly)
- 3. run iLQG to learn to reach image of goal



#### embedding that can be **modeled**

#### Swing-up with the E2C algorithm

#### Thought exercise: Why reconstruct the image? Why not just learn embedding and model on embedding?

- 1. Models in latent space 2. Models directly in image space
- 3. Inverse models

# Outline

# Models with Images

Action-conditioned video prediction

#### **Action-Conditional Video Prediction** using Deep Networks in Atari Games



on 
$$f(\mathbf{o}_t, \mathbf{u}_t) = \mathbf{o}_{t+1}$$

# Models with Images

Action-conditioned video prediction  $f(\mathbf{o}_t, \mathbf{u}_t) = \mathbf{o}_{t+1}$ 



(a) Feedforward encoding

Key components: multi-step prediction curriculum learning a



(b) Recurrent encoding

$$f(\mathbf{o}_t, \mathbf{u}_{t:T-1}) = \mathbf{o}_{t+1:T}$$
  
ind/or scheduled sampling



#### can make 100-step predictions







#### fails to model a critical part of the game

# Maybe not.



Figure 3: Mean squared error over 100-step predictions



# Is it useful? Using model for informed exploration



# Using model for informed exploration:

- 1. Store most recent d frames
- 2. For every valid action, predict 1 frame ahead 3. Take action corresponding to future frame least like the previous d frames

Use Gaussian kernel similarity metric on images:

$$n_D(\mathbf{x}^{(a)}) = \sum_{i=1}^d k(\mathbf{x}^{(a)}, \mathbf{x}^{(i)}); \quad k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \exp(-\sum_j \min(\max((x_j - y_j)^2 - \delta, 0), 1) / \sigma))$$

- \*caveat: prediction model was trained with data from DQN agent
  - more on exploration later in this course!





#### Action-conditioned video prediction $f(\mathbf{o}_t, \mathbf{u}_t) = \mathbf{o}_{t+1}$



(a) Feedforward encoding

#### **Pros**:

- + Stability through multi-step prediction
- + Useful for control

#### Cons:

- Synthetic images are easier to generate
- Not immediately clear how to plan with it



(b) Recurrent encoding

# What about real images?

**Chelsea Finn\*** UC Berkeley

#### **Deep Visual Foresight for Planning Robot Motion**

Chelsea Finn<sup>1,2</sup> and Sergey Levine<sup>1,2</sup>

#### **Unsupervised Learning for Physical Interaction** through Video Prediction

Ian Goodfellow OpenAI

Sergey Levine Google Brain

#### **Data collection** - 50k sequences (1M+ frames)



#### data publicly available for download sites.google.com/site/brainrobotdata

#### test set with novel objects



## Train 8-step predictive model

#### Atari recurrent model



#### — > doesn't have capacity to represent real images.

#### evaluate on held-out objects

## Train predictive model

#### action-conditioned multi-frame video prediction via flow prediction



- feed back model's predictions for multi-frame prediction -
- trained with I<sub>2</sub> loss

# Train predictive model

#### convolutional LSTMs

![](_page_34_Figure_2.jpeg)

#### action-conditioned

#### evaluate on held-out objects

![](_page_34_Picture_5.jpeg)

#### Train predictive model Finn et al., '16

![](_page_35_Picture_1.jpeg)

#### Are these predictions good? accurate? useful?

#### Kalchbrenner et al., '16

![](_page_35_Picture_4.jpeg)

## What is prediction good for?

#### action magnitude: **0**x 0.5x

![](_page_36_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_36_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_36_Picture_4.jpeg)

![](_page_36_Picture_5.jpeg)

1x

#### 1.5x

![](_page_36_Picture_9.jpeg)

![](_page_36_Picture_10.jpeg)

![](_page_36_Picture_11.jpeg)

![](_page_36_Picture_12.jpeg)

# Planning with Visual Foresight (MPC)

- 1. Sample N potential action sequences
- 2. Predict the future for each action sequence
- 3. Pick best future & execute corresponding action
- 4. Repeat 1-3 to replan in real time

es equence nding

![](_page_37_Picture_6.jpeg)

![](_page_37_Picture_7.jpeg)

![](_page_37_Picture_8.jpeg)

### Which future is the best one?

#### Specify goal by selecting where pixels should move.

![](_page_38_Picture_2.jpeg)

#### Select future with maximal probability of pixels reaching their respective goals.

#### How it works

![](_page_39_Picture_1.jpeg)

#### Results

- evaluation on short pushes of novel objects

- translation & rotation

**Only human involvement** during training is: programming initial motions and providing objects to play with.

#### action-conditioned multi-frame video prediction via flow prediction

![](_page_41_Figure_1.jpeg)

**Pros**:

- + Real images
- + Very limited human involvement (self-supervised)
- + Approach should improve as video prediction methods improve Cons:
- Despite real images, limited background variability -
- Somewhat simple skills
- Compute intensive at test-time

![](_page_41_Picture_9.jpeg)

![](_page_41_Figure_10.jpeg)

![](_page_41_Picture_11.jpeg)

- 1. Models in latent space
- 2. Models directly in image space
- 3. Inverse models

# Outline

# Inverse Models

#### **Thought exercise revisited:** Why reconstruct the image?

Learn embedding via inverse model  $f(\mathbf{o}_t, \mathbf{o}_{t+1}) = \mathbf{u}_t$ 

# Inverse Models

#### Learn embedding via inverse mod

#### Learning to Poke by Poking: Experiential Learning of Intuitive Physics

Pulkit Agrawal\*Ashvin Nair\*Pieter AbbeelJitendra MalikBerkeley Artificial Intelligence Research Laboratory (BAIR)University of California Berkeley

$$el f(\mathbf{o}_t, \mathbf{o}_{t+1}) = \mathbf{u}_t$$

**Sergey Levine** 

#### Learn embedding via inverse model $f(\mathbf{o}_t, \mathbf{o}_{t+1}) = \mathbf{u}_t$

![](_page_45_Picture_1.jpeg)

#### regularize embedding with forward model

## Learn embedding via inverse model $f(\mathbf{o}_t, \mathbf{o}_{t+1}) = \mathbf{u}_t$ Greedily plan with inverse model and image of goal

![](_page_46_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_47_Picture_0.jpeg)

# Qualitative Results

Initial

![](_page_48_Picture_2.jpeg)

# Final Target

#### Learn embedding via inverse model $f(\mathbf{o}_t, \mathbf{o}_{t+1}) = \mathbf{u}_t$

![](_page_49_Picture_1.jpeg)

#### **Pros**:

- + Very limited human involvement (self-supervised)
- + Don't have to reconstruct image **Cons:**
- Can't plan with inverse model
- Inverse model objective just cares about action

# Model-Based vs. Model-Free Learning Models:

- + Easy to collect data in a scalable way (self-supervised)
- + Possibility to transfer across tasks
- + Typically require a smaller quantity of supervised data
- Models don't optimize for task performance
- Sometimes harder to learn than a policy
- Often need assumptions to learn complex skills (continuity, resets) **Model-Free:**
- + Makes little assumptions beyond a reward function
- + Effective for learning complex policies
- Require a lot of experience (slower)
- Not transferable across tasks

# Advanced Model Learning Takeaways

- Learning the **right** features is important

- Need to think about reward/objective when using models of observations

**Next time:** advanced imitation learning