Supervised Learning of Behaviors: Deep Learning, Dynamical Systems, and Behavior Cloning

CS 294-112: Deep Reinforcement Learning

Week 2, Lecture 1

Sergey Levine

# Today's Lecture

- 1. Definition of sequential decision problems
- 2. Imitation learning: supervised learning for decision making
  - a. Does direct imitation work?
  - b. How can we make it work more often?
- 3. Case studies of recent work in (deep) imitation learning
- 4. What is missing from imitation learning?
- Goals:
  - Understand definitions & notation
  - Understand basic imitation learning algorithms
  - Understand their strengths & weaknesses





 $\mathbf{x}_t$  – state





#### Imitation Learning





# Does it work?



No!

#### Does it work? Yes!



# Why did that work?



#### Can we make it work more often?



# stability

## Learning from a stabilizing controller



#### Can we make it work more often?



### Can we make it work more often?

can we make  $p_{\text{data}}(\mathbf{o}_t) = p_{\pi_{\theta}}(\mathbf{o}_t)$ ?

idea: instead of being clever about  $p_{\pi_{\theta}}(\mathbf{o}_t)$ , be clever about  $p_{\text{data}}(\mathbf{o}_t)$ !

#### **DAgger:** Dataset Aggregation

goal: collect training data from  $p_{\pi_{\theta}}(\mathbf{o}_t)$  instead of  $p_{\text{data}}(\mathbf{o}_t)$ how? just run  $\pi_{\theta}(\mathbf{u}_t | \mathbf{o}_t)$ but need labels  $\mathbf{u}_t$ !

1. train  $\pi_{\theta}(\mathbf{u}_t | \mathbf{o}_t)$  from human data  $\mathcal{D} = \{\mathbf{o}_1, \mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{o}_N, \mathbf{u}_N\}$ 2. run  $\pi_{\theta}(\mathbf{u}_t | \mathbf{o}_t)$  to get dataset  $\mathcal{D}_{\pi} = \{\mathbf{o}_1, \dots, \mathbf{o}_M\}$ 3. Ask human to label  $\mathcal{D}_{\pi}$  with actions  $\mathbf{u}_t$ 4. Aggregate:  $\mathcal{D} \leftarrow \mathcal{D} \cup \mathcal{D}_{\pi}$ 

## DAgger Example



#### What's the problem?



$$(\mathbf{u}_t | \mathbf{o}_t) \quad \mathbf{o}_t \quad \mathbf{v}_t \quad \mathbf{u}_t$$

# Imitation learning: recap



- Often (but not always) insufficient by itself
  - Distribution mismatch problem
- Sometimes works well
  - Hacks (e.g. left/right images)
  - Samples from a stable trajectory distribution
  - Add more **on-policy** data, e.g. using DAgger







### Case study 1: trail following as classification

#### A Machine Learning Approach to Visual Perception of Forest Trails for Mobile Robots

Alessandro Giusti<sup>1</sup>, Jérôme Guzzi<sup>1</sup>, Dan C. Cireşan<sup>1</sup>, Fang-Lin He<sup>1</sup>, Juan P. Rodríguez<sup>1</sup> Flavio Fontana<sup>2</sup>, Matthias Faessler<sup>2</sup>, Christian Forster<sup>2</sup> Jürgen Schmidhuber<sup>1</sup>, Gianni Di Caro<sup>1</sup>, Davide Scaramuzza<sup>2</sup>, Luca M. Gambardella<sup>1</sup>



#### Case study 2: DAgger & domain adaptation

#### Learning Transferable Policies for Monocular Reactive MAV Control

Shreyansh Daftry, J. Andrew Bagnell, and Martial Hebert

Robotics Institute, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, USA {daftry,dbagnell,hebert}@ri.cmu.edu



1. train  $\pi_{\theta}(\mathbf{u}_t | \mathbf{o}_t)$  from human data  $\mathcal{D} = \{\mathbf{o}_1, \mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{o}_N, \mathbf{u}_N\}$ 2. run  $\pi_{\theta}(\mathbf{u}_t | \mathbf{o}_t)$  to get dataset  $\mathcal{D}_{\pi} = \{\mathbf{o}_1, \dots, \mathbf{o}_M\}$ 3. Ask human to label  $\mathcal{D}_{\pi}$  with actions  $\mathbf{u}_t$ 4. Aggregate:  $\mathcal{D} \leftarrow \mathcal{D} \cup \mathcal{D}_{\pi}$ 









Fig. 2. Experiments and Results for (Row-1) Transfer across physical systems from ARDrone to ArduCopter, (Row-2) Transfer across weather conditions from summer to winter and (Row-3) Transfer across environments from Univ. of Zurich to CMU.



#### Case study 3: Imitation with LSTMs

Learning real manipulation tasks from virtual demonstrations using LSTM

Rouhollah Rahmatizadeh<sup>1</sup>, Pooya Abolghasemi<sup>1</sup>, Aman Behal<sup>2</sup> and Ladislau Bölöni<sup>1</sup>



# Learning Manipulation Trajectories Using Recurrent Neural Networks





Controller	Pick and place	Push to pose
Feedfoward-MSE	0%	0%
LSTM-MSE	85%	0%
Feedforward-MDN	95%	15%
LSTM-MDN	100%	95%

Environment	Pick and place	Push to pose
Virtual world	100%	95%
Physical world	80%	60%

# Other topics in imitation learning

#### • Structured prediction



- See Mohammad Norouzi's lecture in April!
- Interaction & active learning
- Inverse reinforcement learning
  - Instead of copying the demonstration, figure out the goal
  - Will be covered later in this course

# Imitation learning: what's the problem?

- Humans need to provide data, which is typically finite
  - Deep learning works best when data is plentiful
- Humans are not good at providing some kinds of actions





- Unlimited data from own experience
- Continuous self-improvement

### Next time: learning without humans





$$\min_{\mathbf{u}_1,\ldots,\mathbf{u}_T} \frac{\int_{T}^{T} p (\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{u}_t) \operatorname{by.ttige}_T |\mathbf{u}_1 f(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{u}_T)_{t-1})$$

## Cost/reward functions in theory and practice





 $r(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}) = \begin{cases} 1 \text{ if object at target} \\ 0 \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$ 

$$r(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}) = \begin{cases} 1 \text{ if walker is running} \\ 0 \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$r(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}) = -w_1 \| p_{\text{gripper}}(\mathbf{x}) - p_{\text{object}}(\mathbf{x}) \|^2 + -w_2 \| p_{\text{object}}(\mathbf{x}) - p_{\text{target}}(\mathbf{x}) \|^2 + -w_3 \| \mathbf{u} \|^2$$

$$r(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}) = w_1 v(\mathbf{x}) + w_2 \delta(|\theta_{\text{torso}}(\mathbf{x})| < \epsilon) + w_3 \delta(h_{\text{torso}}(\mathbf{x}) \ge h)$$

## A cost function for imitation?



1. train 
$$\pi_{\theta}(\mathbf{u}_t | \mathbf{o}_t)$$
 from human data  $\mathcal{D} = \{\mathbf{o}_1, \mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{o}_N, \mathbf{u}_N\}$   
2. run  $\pi_{\theta}(\mathbf{u}_t | \mathbf{o}_t)$  to get dataset  $\mathcal{D}_{\pi} = \{\mathbf{o}_1, \dots, \mathbf{o}_M\}$   
3. Ask human to label  $\mathcal{D}_{\pi}$  with actions  $\mathbf{u}_t$   
4. Aggregate:  $\mathcal{D} \leftarrow \mathcal{D} \cup \mathcal{D}_{\pi}$ 

# The trouble with cost & reward functions

#### reward



Mnih et al. '15 reinforcement learning agent



what is the reward?



Andrei A. Rusu, Matej Vecerik, Thomas Rothörl, Nicolas Heess, Razvan Pascanu, Raia Hadsell

Google DeepMind London, UK {andreirusu, matejvecerik, tcr, heess, razp, raia}@google.com





#### More on this later...

# A note about terminology...

### the "R" word

a bit of history...

reinforcement learning (the **problem** statement)

$$\min \sum_{t=1}^{T} E[c(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{u}_t)] \qquad \mathbf{x}_{t+1} \sim p(\mathbf{x}_{t+1} | \mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{u}_t)$$

reinforcement learning (the **method**)

without using the model  $\mathbf{x}_{t+1} \sim p(\mathbf{x}_{t+1} | \mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{u}_t)$ 



Lev Pontryagin



**Richard Bellman** 



Andrew Barto Richar

**Richard Sutton**