



New Frontiers in Imitation Learning

Yisong Yue

















Warm Up: Supervised Learning

• Find function from input space X to output space Y

$$h: X \longrightarrow Y$$

such that the prediction error is low.



Imitation Learning

• Input:

– Sequence of contexts/states:

- Predict:
 - Sequence of actions



• Learn Using:

Sequences of demonstrated actions

Example: Basketball Player Trajectories

- *s* = location of players & ball
- *a* = next location of player
- Training set: $D = \{(\vec{s}, \vec{a})\}$
 - $-\vec{s}$ = sequence of s
 - $-\vec{a}$ = sequence of a
- **Goal:** learn $h(s) \rightarrow a$



Imitation Learning Tutorial (ICML 2018)

https://sites.google.com/view/icml2018-imitation-learning/

Yisong Yue



Hoang M. Le





yyue@caltech.edu

@YisongYue

<u>yisongyue.com</u>

hmle@caltech.edu @HoangMinhLe <u>hoangle.info</u>

What to Imitate?

Human Demonstrations



Animal Demonstrations





Computational Oracle



Policy Learning

| | Reduction to PAC [Syed & Schapire 2007] Autonomous Navigation [Pomerleau 1991] | DAgger [Ross et al., 2011] SEARN [Daume et al., 2009] | Oracle |
|---------------------------------|---|---|----------------------|
| Pre-collected Demonstrations | GAIL [Ho & Ermon 2016] MaxEnt IRL [Ziebart et al., 2008] Apprenticeship Learning [Abbeel & Ng, 2004] | DARKO [Rhinehart & Kitani, 2016] Bellman Gradient Iteratior [Li & Burdick, 2017] | Querying & Online |
| | Value Funct (Inverse Reinford | i on Learning ement Learning) | |

Policy Learning

| | Reduction to PAC [Syed & Schapire 2007] Autonomous Navigation [Pomerleau 1991] | DAgger [Ross et al., 2011] SEARN [Daume et al., 2009] | | |
|----------------------------------|---|--|------|--|
| Pre-colle | re-colle Previous (Deep Imitation) Work: | | | |
| emonstra | stra • Minimal assumptions | | | |
| | Inefficient in complex | « & structured settings » | mine | |
| | MaxEnt IRL [Ziebart et al., 2008] | [Rhinehart & Kitani, 2016] Bellman Gradient Iteration [Li & Burdick, 2017] | _ | |
| | Apprenticeship Learning [Abbeel & Ng, 2004] | | | |
| | | | | |
| Value Function Learning | | | | |
| (Inverse Reinforcement Learning) | | | | |

D

Structured Imitation Learning

Structure in the Policy

- Dynamical Systems
- Graphical Models

Structure in the Oracle

 Design feedback for good global behavior



Value Function Learning (Inverse Reinforcement Learning)

Structured Imitation Learning

Structure in the Policy

- Dynamical Systems
- Graphical Models

Structure in the Oracle

 Design feedback for good global behavior

Benefits:

- Abstractions for domain experts
- Pre-c Demo
- Better inductive bias
 - Reductions to conventional learning
- Composable theoretical guarantees



Speech Animation



Coordinated Learning



Hierarchical Behaviors (Generative)



Learning to Optimize





neral Curves Surfaces Polygons Deformation Animation Ornamics Rendering PaintEffects Toon Muscle Fluids Fur nh 2. そぞそ前前前本人にていたちにないたいないないないないないないないないない



- Animation artists spend ≥50% time on face
 - Mostly eyes & mouth
 - Very tedious We'll focus on mouth & speech.





Prediction Task









(chimp rig courtesy of Hao Li)





Retargeting E.g., [Sumner & Popovic 2004]

Editing





C Disnep





Sarah Taylor Taehwan Kim

A Decision Tree Framework for Spatiotemporal Sequence Prediction
 Taehwan Kim, Yisong Yue, Sarah Taylor, Iain Matthews. KDD 2015
 A Deep Learning Approach for Generalized Speech Animation
 Sarah Taylor, Taehwan Kim, Yisong Yue, et al. SIGGRAPH 2017

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9zL7qejW9fE









Sarah Taylor Taehwan Kim

A Decision Tree Framework for Spatiotemporal Sequence Prediction
Taehwan Kim, Yisong Yue, Sarah Taylor, Iain Matthews. KDD 2015
A Deep Learning Approach for Generalized Speech Animation
Sarah Taylor, Taehwan Kim, Yisong Yue, et al. SIGGRAPH 2017

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9zL7qejW9fE





Speech Animation



Coordinated Learning



Hierarchical Behaviors (Generative)



Learning to Optimize





English Premier League 2012-2013

Match date: 04/05/2013

Data-Driven Ghosting using Deep Imitation Learning,

Hoang Le et al. SSAC 2017

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WI-WL2cj0CA



English Premier League 2012-2013

Match date: 04/05/2013

State Representation



Data-Driven Ghosting using Deep Imitation Learning Hoang Le, Peter Carr, Yisong Yue, Patrick Lucey. SSAC 2017

But Who Plays Which Role?

• All we get are trajectories!

- Don't know which belongs to which role.



• Need to solve a permutation problem

- Naïve baseline ignores this!



Coordinated Multi-Agent Imitation Learning

Hoang Le, Yisong Yue, Peter Carr, Patrick Lucey. ICML 2017

Learned Roles





Speech Animation



Coordinated Learning



Hierarchical Behaviors (Generative)



Learning to Optimize



Strategy vs Tactics

- Long-term Goal:
 - Curl around basket
- Tactics
 - Drive left w/ ball
 - Pass ball
 - Cut towards basket





Stephan Zheng

Eric Zhan



Yukai Liu



Generative + Hierarchical

Generative Imitation Learning

- No single "correct" action
- Hierarchical ۲
 - Make predictions at multiple resolutions



N agents

Generating Long-term Trajectories using Deep Hierarchical Networks Stephan Zheng, Yisong Yue, Patrick Lucey. NeurIPS 2016

Generating Multi-agent Trajectories using Programmatic Weak Supervision Eric Zhan, Stephan Zheng, Yisong Yue, Long Sha, Patrick Lucey. ICLR 2019

NAOMI: Non-Autoregressive Multiresolution Sequence Imputation Yukai Liu, Rose Yu, Stephan Zheng, Eric Zhan, Yisong Yue. NeurIPS 2019





New result: formal notion of style-consistency for generative imitation learning!

Learning Calibratable Policies using Programmatic Style-Consistency, Eric Zhan et al., arxiv

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0q1j22yMipY



Eyrun Eyolfsdottir

Drosophila Behavior



Activity Labels



Learning recurrent representations for hierarchical behavior modeling Eyrun Eyolfsdottir, Kristin Branson, Yisong Yue, Pietro Perona, ICLR 2017

Aside: Hierarchically Composing IL & RL

- IL for meta-controller (plan sub-goals)
- RL/IL for low-level controllers (individual sub-goals)



- More label efficient than flat IL
- Converge much faster than conventional hierarchical RL

Hierarchical Imitation and Reinforcement Learning

Hoang Le, Nan Jiang, Alekh Agarwal, Miro Dudik, Yisong Yue, Hal Daume. ICML 2018







Speech Animation

Coordinated Learning

Hierarchical Behaviors (Generative)





Optimization as Sequential Decision Making

- Many solvers are sequential:
 - Greedy
 - Search heuristics
 - Gradient descent
- Can view solver as "agent"
 - State = intermediate solution
 - Find a state with high reward (solution)

Optimization as Sequential Decision Making

Contextual Submodular Maximization

- Training set: (x, F_x)
- Greedily maximize F_x using only x
- Learning Policies for Contextual Submodular Prediction [ICML 2013]

Learning to Search

- Training set: (*x*=MILP, *y*=solution/search-trace)
- Find y (or better solution)
- Learning to Search via Retrospective Imitation [arXiv]
- Co-training for Policy Learning [UAI 2019]

Learning to Infer

- Training set: (*x*=data/model, *L*=likelihood)
- Iteratively optimize L (generalizes VAEs)
- Iterative Amortized Inference [ICML 2018]
- A General Method for Amortizing Variational Filtering [NeurIPS 2018]



Stephane Ross



Jialin Song





Ravi

Lanka

Motivating Application Risk-Aware Planning





Low Risk

High Risk

- Compiled as mixed integer program
- Challenging optimization problem





Our Approach Philosophy

- Leverage off-the-shelf solvers
 - Imitation learning
- Learn better solvers

- Avoid mistakes of off-the-shelf solvers

- Scale up to larger problems
 - Not tractable with off-the-shelf solvers





lialin

Song

Retrospective Imitation



Ravi Lanka

- Given:
 - Family of Distributions of Search problems
 - Family is parameterized by size/difficulty Difficulty levels: k=1,...,K
 - Solved Instances on the Smallest/Easiest Instances
 - "Demonstrations"
- Goal:
 - Learn to minimize mistakes
 - Scale up from Smallest/Easiest Instances
 - Formal Guarantees (see paper)

Connections to Curriculum Learning & Transfer Learning

Learning to Search via Retrospective Imitation, Jialin Song, Ravi Lanka, et al., arXiv

Retrospective Imitation

• Two-Stage Algorithm

- Core Algorithm
 - Fixed problem difficulty

Interactive IL w/ Sparse Environmental Rewards

- Reductions to Supervised Learning
- Full Algorithm w/ Scaling Up
 - Uses Core Algorithm as Subroutine

Retrospective Imitation (Core Algorithm)



Learning to Search via Retrospective Imitation, Jialin Song, Ravi Lanka, et al., arXiv

Retrospective Imitation (Full Algorithm)



Learning to Search via Retrospective Imitation, Jialin Song, Ravi Lanka, et al., arXiv



R. Lanka, J. Song, A. Zhao, A. Bhatnagar, Y. Yue, M. Ono. arXiv

Ongoing: Integration with ENav



Hiro

Ono





Ravi Lanka Olivier Neil Toupet Abcouwer













Speech Animation

Coordinated Learning

Hierarchical Behaviors (Generative)



Learning to Optimize



Realtime Player Detection and Tracking



Disnep Research

Problem Formulation

• Input: stream of x_t

- E.g., noisy player detections

• State $s_t = (x_{t:t-K}, a_{t-1:t-K})$ - Recent detections and actions

• Goal: learn $h(s_t) \rightarrow a_t$ - Imitate expert





Naïve Approach

- Supervised learning of demonstration data
 - Train predictor per frame
 - Predict per frame





What is the Problem?

Basically takes "infinite" training data to train smooth model.

– Via input/output examples



• In practice, people do post-hoc smoothing



Cannot Rely 100% on Learning!

- People have models of smoothness!
 - Kalman Filters
 - Linear Autoregressors
 - Etc...
- Pure ML approach throws them away!
 "black box"

Hybrid Model-Based + Black-Box

- Model-based approaches
 - Strong assumptions, well specified
 - Lacks flexibility
 - E.g., Kalman Filter, Linear Autoregressor
- Black-box approaches
 - Assumption free, underspecified
 - Requires a lot of training data
 - E.g., random forest, deep neural network
- Best of both worlds?

Conventional Models



Functional Regularization



Smooth Imitation Learning for Online Sequence Prediction

Hoang Le, Andrew Kang, Yisong Yue, Peter Carr. ICML 2016

Control Regularization for Reduced Variance Reinforcement Learning

Richard Cheng, Abhinav Verma, Gabor Orosz, Swarat Chaudhuri, Yisong Yue, Joel Burdick. ICML 2019 Batch Policy Learning under Constraints

Hoang Le, Cameron Voloshin, Yisong Yue. ICML 2019



Smooth Imitation Learning for Online Sequence Prediction

Hoang Le, Andrew Kang, Yisong Yue, Peter Carr. ICML 2016

Control Regularization for Reduced Variance Reinforcement Learning

Richard Cheng, Abhinav Verma, Gabor Orosz, Swarat Chaudhuri, Yisong Yue, Joel Burdick. ICML 2019 Batch Policy Learning under Constraints

Hoang Le, Cameron Voloshin, Yisong Yue. ICML 2019

Our Result



$$h(s_t \equiv (x_{t:t-K}, a_{t-1:t-K})) = \frac{f(s_t) + \lambda g(a_{t-1:t-K})}{1+\lambda}$$

Smooth Imitation Learning for Online Sequence Prediction Hoang Le, Andrew Kang, Yisong Yue, Peter Carr. ICML 2016

Qualitative Comparison



Lessons Learned

- Intuition: Let model do most of work
 - Certifiable guarantees (e.g., smoothness, stability)
 - Black box (deep neural net) adds flexibility
 - "Regularization" improves learning
 - Exponentially faster convergence w.r.t. SEARN

Lipschitz from smooth temporal dynamics

- Other settings?
 - Deep learning + robust control / formal methods?



Aaron Ames



Joel Burdick



Swarat Chaudhuri

Episodic Learning with Control Lyapunov Functions for Uncertain Robotic Systems Andrew Taylor, Victor Dorobantu, et al., IROS 2019 **Imitation-Projected Programmatic Reinforcement Learning,** Abhinav Verma, Hoang Le, et al., NeurIPS 2019







Coordinated Learning



Hierarchical Behaviors (Generative)



Learning to Optimize



New Frontiers in Imitation learning

Incorporating Structure

- Dynamics of output space
- Latent structure of input space
- New feedback oracles

• New Algorithmic Frameworks

- Black Box + Dynamics Model
- Black Box + Latent Graphical Model
- Retrospective Imitation
- Cool Applications!















Eric

Zhan



Eyrun

Eyolfsdottir



Stephan Hoang



Taehwan

Kim



Sarah

Taylor



Ross



Jialin

Song



Marino





Richard Cheng

Ravi Lanka



Andrew Victor Taylor Dorobantu

Jimmy

Chen

Zheng



Le

Meera Yukai Kang Krishnamoorthy Liu

Aadyot Bhatnagar



Albert

Zhao







Cameron Voloshin

Abhinav Verma Cvitkovic Albert Tseng



Stephan Mandt



Robin Zhou



Patrick Lucey



Orosz

Debadeepta Dey



Kristin **Branson**



Peter Carr

Rose Yu



Milan



Adith

Matthew Swaminathan Hausknecht





lain

Aaron Ames



Pietro **Matthews** Perona



Drew

Miro Dudik Bagnell



Alekh Agarwal



Jim

Little

Nan Jiang



Joel Burdick



Swarat

Chaudhuri



Daume



Masahiro Ono













Smooth Imitation Learning for Online Sequence Prediction, Hoang Le, et al., ICML 2016
 Control Regularization for Reduced Variance Reinforcement Learning, Richard Cheng et al. ICML 2019
 Batch Policy Learning under Constraints, Hoang Le, et al. ICML 2019

Learning Smooth Online Predictors for Real-Time Camera Planning using Recurrent Decision Trees, Jianhui Chen, et al., CVPR 2016

A Decision Tree Framework for Spatiotemporal Sequence Prediction, Taehwan Kim et al., KDD 2015 A Deep Learning Approach for Generalized Speech Animation, Sarah Taylor et al., SIGGRAPH 2017 Generating Long-term Trajectories using Deep Hierarchical Networks, Stephan Zheng et al., NeurIPS 2016 Generating Multi-agent Trajectories using Programmatic Weak Supervision, Eric Zhan et al., ICLR 2019 Learning Calibratable Policies using Programmatic Style-Consistency, Eric Zhan et al., arxiv NAOMI: Non-autoregressive Multiresolution Sequence Imputation, Yukai Liu et al., NeurIPS 2019 Learning recurrent representations for hierarchical behavior modeling, Eyrun Eyolfsdottir et al., ICLR 2017 **Data-Driven Ghosting using Deep Imitation Learning,** Hoang Le et al., SSAC 2017 (Best Paper Runner Up) **Coordinated Multi-agent Imitation Learning,** Hoang Le et al., ICML 2017 Learning Policies for Contextual Submodular Prediction, Stephane Ross et al., ICML 2013 Learning to Search via Retrospective Imitation, Jialin Song, Ravi Lanka, et al. **Co-training for Policy Learning**, Jialin Song, Ravi Lanka, et al., UAI 2019 Iterative Amortized Inference, Joseph Marino et al., ICML 2018 A General Method for Amortizing Variational Filtering, Joseph Marino et al., NeurIPS 2018 Hierarchical Imitation and Reinforcement Learning, Hoang Le et al., ICML 2018 Episodic Learning with Control Lyapunov Functions for Uncertain Robotic Systems, Andrew Taylor, Victor Dorobantu, et al., IROS 2019

A Control Lyapunov Perspective on Episodic Learning via Projection to State Stability, Andrew Taylor, Victor Dorobantu, et al., CDC 2019

Imitation-Projected Programmatic Reinforcement Learning, Abhinav Verma, Hoang Le, et al., NeurIPS 2019