Reducing the Complexity of Reinforcement Learning Using Localization and Factorization

Peter Sunehag and Marcus Hutter Presented by Jan Leike



AGI 2015

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- ullet \Longrightarrow weakly asymptotically optimal agent

Combining Deterministic Laws

- hypothesis class was M = set of environments
- Instead, a class of laws T is more efficient (Sunehag and Hutter, 2013, 2014): partial (factorization) predictions under some circumstances (localization).

Conclusio

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- Contradiction of a law is a contradiction of a lot of environments
- $|\mathcal{M}|$ is replaced by $|\mathcal{T}|$ in the error bound

Semi-determinism: Deterministic Laws and Probabilistic Background Knowledge

 Combining laws making partial deterministic predictions and separately learnt correlations between the entries within a feature vector (background knowledge)

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Semi-determinism: Deterministic Laws and Probabilistic Background Knowledge

- Combining laws making partial deterministic predictions and separately learnt correlations between the entries within a feature vector (background knowledge)
- Predict as much as possible with deterministic laws and conditioning on background knowledge
- truth is in the class ⇒ optimistic agent has the same error bounds as before

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- Under a domination assumption stochastic laws merge with the truth
- Using dominant stochastic laws replaces the need to provide correlations as background
- Example: Context Tree Weighting can be broken up into laws for each context

Mixing Stochastic and Deterministic Laws

- New hypothesis class = mix of deterministic and stochastic laws
- Fall back on dominant stochastic laws when all deterministic laws fail

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Combining stochastic laws with deterministic laws (predictions) for each context and that are used until contradictions is highly beneficial if some aspects of the environment are deterministic but others are not

Conclusion

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- Peter is now in perfect position at Google DeepMind to implement, but instead tries to serve YouTube recommendations with Deep-RL
- If that sounds like more fun and you got strong CS/math/stat/ML (DL and/or RL), email Peter at sunehag@google.com. We are hiring!
- If that sounds like less fun than mathematical theory, Marcus Hutter is also hiring! Ask the speaker.

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