



# Human-aware Navigation Model Predictive Control & Deep Reinforcement Learning

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#### **Human-aware Navigation**

- Tasks
  - Navigate to a goal position, taking humans / groups into account
  - Join humans /groups to start interactions
  - Follow and guide humans / groups



# **Robot Navigation Framework**



# **Global Planner**

- Generating a high level navigation plan
- Create a series of waypoints for the local planner to achieve
- Usually has simplifications, for example:
  - Only basic shape for robot (circle or ellipse)
  - No dynamics model of robot
- Example: Fast Marching Tree (FMT)



FMT\* Tree, First 1000 Edges



Janson et al. (2015)

# **Local Planner**

- Navigates to waypoints defined by the global planner
- Takes into account a realistic model of robot and environment
- Examples of possible solutions:
  - Planning: Model Predictive Control (MPC)
  - Learning: Deep Reinforcement Learning (DRL)





# **Model Predictive Control**





- Objective:  $U^* = \arg\min_{U} \mathcal{J}(U; s(0), s^*)$
- Objective function depends on actions, start state, and goal state:

$$\mathcal{J}(\boldsymbol{U}; \boldsymbol{s}(0), \boldsymbol{s}^*) = \sum_{t=1}^T \mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{s}(t), \boldsymbol{s}^*) + \mathcal{R}(\boldsymbol{u}(t-1))$$
$$\boldsymbol{s}(t) = (\boldsymbol{x}(t), \boldsymbol{y}(t), \boldsymbol{\theta}(t), \boldsymbol{\alpha}(t)) \qquad \boldsymbol{u}(t) = (\boldsymbol{v}, \boldsymbol{\omega}, \dot{\boldsymbol{\alpha}}(t))$$

- Optimize with respect to a
  - System model: s(t+1) = f(s(t), u(t))
  - Constraints:  $g(s(0), u(0), s(1), u(1), \ldots) \ge 0$

# **Cost Maps**

- Can combine different costs, for example:
  - $\circ$  Collisions
  - Distance to goal point
  - Energy usage
- In Social Robotics, it has to take into account humans and groups !





#### **Social Spaces of Humans and Groups**



#### **Groups:** F-formations





a) Circular arrangement

b) Vis-a-vis arrangement





c) L-arrangement

d) Side-by-side arrangement

# **Social Model**



#### Identification of approach point



Truong et al. (2017)

## **Social MPC**







# **Local Planner**





# **Reinforcement Learning**

- Learning to solve multi-step decision problems
- Tasks are modeled as MDPs:
  - $\circ$  Set of states: S
  - Set of actions: A
  - Transition function:  $\Pr(s_{t+1}|s_t, a_t)$
  - Reward function:  $R(s_t)$
- Goal: Maximization of return  $E\left[\sum_{t=0}^{T=\infty} \gamma^t R(s_t)\right]$
- Policy:  $a_t = \pi(s_t)$

Grid-world example



Barto & Sutton (2018)

# **Reinforcement Learning**

- Q-function (model-free, value-based):  $Q^{\pi}(s_t, a_t) = E \left[ r_t + \gamma^1 r_{t+1} + \gamma^2 r_{t+2} + \ldots \right]$   $Q^{\pi}(s_t, a_t) = E \left[ r_t + \gamma Q^{\pi}(s_{t+1}, a_{t+1}) \right]$  $Q^*(s_t, a_t) = E \left[ r_t + \gamma \max_{a_{t+1}} Q^*(s_{t+1}, a_{t+1}) \right]$
- Value-based policy, e.g.  $\epsilon$ -Greedy:  $\pi(s) = \begin{cases} \arg \max_a Q(s, a) & | \text{ with } \Pr = 1 - \epsilon \\ \text{random action} & | \text{ with } \Pr = \epsilon \end{cases}$





• Q-Learning: After each transition  $(s_t, a_t, r_t, s_{t+1})$ 

$$Q(s_t, a_t) \leftarrow Q(s_t, a_t) + lpha \left( \underbrace{ r_t + \gamma \max_{a_{t+1}} Q(s_{t+1}, a_{t+1})}_{ ext{observation}} - \underbrace{Q(s_t, a_t)}_{ ext{prediction}} 
ight)$$

Barto & Sutton (2018)

### **Deep Reinforcement Learning**

Usage of neural networks to represent the policy and actions



#### Atari games



# **2D Simulator**

- Training a DRL navigation controller in simulation
  - 2D environment with obstacles
  - Robot with high-level sensor input
  - Humans based on social force model
- Reward function: Cost maps





# **DRL Agent**





#### **Object Avoidance and Human-aware Navigation**





 $\rightarrow$  Hands On Session

#### References

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# **Deep Reinforcement Learning**

• Problem: Training needs a lot of data and time!





- Robotics:
  - Collecting data is time and cost intensive
  - Robots can break

Lake et al. (2017)

# **Deep Reinforcement Learning**

- Train in simulation and use policy in robot (sim2real transfer)
  - Problem: Domain shift
- Solution for SPRING:
  - Use high-level observations as policy input which can be easier simulated



Camera



Map