Extrapolating Beyond Suboptimal Demonstrations via Inverse Reinforcement Learning from Observations

Daniel Brown*, Wonjoon Goo*, Prabhat Nagarajan, and Scott Niekum





Personal Autonomous Robotics Lab

Current approaches ...

1. Can't do better than the demonstrator.

2. Are hard to scale to complex problems.

Current approaches ...

1. Can't do better than the demonstrator.

2. Are hard to scale to complex problems.

IRL via Ranked Demonstrations



Current approaches ...

IRL via Ranked Demonstrations

 Can't do better than the demonstrator.

We find a reward function that explains the ranking, allowing for extrapolation.

2. Are hard to scale to complex problems.

Current approaches ...

IRL via Ranked Demonstrations

 Can't do better than the demonstrator.

We find a reward function that explains the ranking, allowing for extrapolation.

2. Are hard to scale to complex problems.

Inverse Reinforcement Learning becomes standard binary classification.







Given ranked demonstrations

$$\tau_1 \prec \tau_2 \prec \cdots \prec \tau_T$$

How do we train the reward function $\hat{r}_{ heta}(s)$?

 $\tau_1 \prec \tau_2 \prec \cdots \prec \tau_T$

 $\tau_1 \prec \tau_2 \prec \cdots \prec \tau_T$

 $\tau_1 \prec \tau_2 \prec \cdots \prec \tau_T$

 $\sum_{s \in \tau_i} \hat{r}_{\theta}(s) < \sum_{s \in \tau_i} \hat{r}_{\theta}(s)$

 $\tau_1 \prec \tau_2 \prec \cdots \prec \tau_T$ $\sum_{s \in \tau_i} \hat{r}_{\theta}(s) < \sum_{s \in \tau_i} \hat{r}_{\theta}(s)$ $\mathcal{L}(\theta) \approx -\sum_{\tau_i \prec \tau_j} \log \frac{\exp \sum_{s \in \tau_j} \hat{r}_{\theta}(s)}{\exp \sum_{s \in \tau_i} \hat{r}_{\theta}(s) + \exp \sum_{s \in \tau_j} \hat{r}_{\theta}(s)}$

 $\tau_1 \prec \tau_2 \prec \cdots \prec \tau_T$ $\sum_{s \in \tau_i} \hat{r}_{\theta}(s) < \sum_{s \in \tau_i} \hat{r}_{\theta}(s)$ $\mathcal{L}(\theta) \approx -\sum_{\tau_i \prec \tau_j} \log \frac{\exp \sum_{s \in \tau_j} \hat{r}_{\theta}(s)}{\exp \sum_{s \in \tau_i} \hat{r}_{\theta}(s) + \exp \sum_{s \in \tau_j} \hat{r}_{\theta}(s)}$

 $\tau_1 \prec \tau_2 \prec \cdots \prec \tau_T$



 $\mathcal{L}(\theta) \approx -\sum_{\tau_i \prec \tau_j} \log \frac{\exp \sum_{s \in \tau_j} \hat{r}_{\theta}(s)}{\exp \sum_{s \in \tau_i} \hat{r}_{\theta}(s) + \exp \sum_{s \in \tau_j} \hat{r}_{\theta}(s)}$

 $\tau_1 \prec \tau_2 \prec \cdots \prec \tau_T$ $\sum_{s \in \tau_i} \hat{r}_{\theta}(s) < \sum_{s \in \tau_i} \hat{r}_{\theta}(s)$ $\mathcal{L}(\theta) \approx -\sum_{\tau_i \prec \tau_j} \log \frac{\exp \sum_{s \in \tau_j} \hat{r}_{\theta}(s)}{\exp \sum_{s \in \tau_i} \hat{r}_{\theta}(s) + \exp \sum_{s \in \tau_j} \hat{r}_{\theta}(s)}$

 $\tau_1 \prec \tau_2 \prec \cdots \prec \tau_T$ $\sum_{s \in \tau_i} \hat{r}_{\theta}(s) < \sum_{s \in \tau_i} \hat{r}_{\theta}(s)$ $\mathcal{L}(\theta) \approx -\sum_{\tau_i \prec \tau_j} \log \frac{\exp \sum_{s \in \tau_j} \hat{r}_{\theta}(s)}{\exp \sum_{s \in \tau_i} \hat{r}_{\theta}(s) + \exp \sum_{s \in \tau_j} \hat{r}_{\theta}(s)}$

 $\tau_1 \prec \tau_2 \prec \cdots \prec \tau_T$ $\sum_{s \in \tau_i} \hat{r}_{\theta}(s) < \sum_{s \in \tau_j} \hat{r}_{\theta}(s)$ $\mathcal{L}(\theta) \approx -\sum_{\tau_i \prec \tau_j} \log \frac{\exp \sum_{s \in \tau_j} \hat{r}_{\theta}(s)}{\exp \sum_{s \in \tau_i} \hat{r}_{\theta}(s) + \exp \sum_{s \in \tau_j} \hat{r}_{\theta}(s)}$

We subsample trajectories to create a large dataset of weakly labeled pairs!



- Simple:
 - IRL as binary classification.
 - No human supervision during policy learning.
 - No inner-loop MDP solver.
 - No inference time data collection (e.g. GAIL).
 - No action labels required.



- Simple:
 - IRL as binary classification.
 - No human supervision during policy learning.
 - No inner-loop MDP solver.
 - No inference time data collection (e.g. GAIL).
 - No action labels required.
- Scales to high-dimensional tasks (e.g. Atari games)



- Simple:
 - IRL as binary classification.
 - No human supervision during policy learning.
 - No inner-loop MDP solver.
 - No inference time data collection (e.g. GAIL).
 - No action labels required.
- Scales to high-dimensional tasks (e.g. Atari games)
- Can produce policies much better than demonstrator

T-REX Policy Performance



T-REX on HalfCheetah



Reward Extrapolation

T-REX can extrapolate beyond the performance of the best demo



Results: Atari Games

T-REX outperforms best demonstration on 7 out of 8 games!

	Ranked Demonstrations		LfD Algorithm Performance		
Game	Best	Average	T-REX	BCO	GAIL
Beam Rider	1,332	686.0	3,335.7	568	355.5
Breakout	32	14.5	221.3	13	0.28
Enduro	84	39.8	586.8	8	0.28
Hero	13,235	6,742.0	0	2,167	0
Pong	-6	-15.6	-2.0	-21	-21
Q*bert	800	627	32,345.8	150	0
Seaquest	600	373.3	747.3	0	0
Space Invaders	600	332.9	1,032.5	88	370.2

T-REX on Enduro



Come see our poster @ Pacific Ballroom #47

Robust to noisy ranking labels



Automatic ranking by watching a learner improve at a task



Human demos / ranking labels



Reward function visualization



Come see our poster @ Pacific Ballroom #47

F-RFX

Robust to noisy ranking labels



Automatic ranking by watching a learner improve at a task



Human demos / ranking labels



Reward function visualization

