Asynchronous Methods for Deep Reinforcement Learning

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【强化学习算法 5】A3C



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Mnih, Volodymyr, et al. "Asynchronous methods for deep reinforcement learning." International conference on machine learning. 2016.

特色: 发现异步并行地执行多个agent, 让它们on-policy地去面对不同的状态,不仅加速了算法,而且有一种使得算法更加稳定的效果。

分类: Model-free、Policy-based(Actor-critic)、On-policy、Continuous State Space、Continuous Action Space、Support High-dim Input

过程: 普通的Actor-critic方法加上baseline $v_{(a)}$,只不过在每个节点上计算用到的 $v_{\bullet(a|a)}$ 和 $v_{\bullet(a)}$ 都用从master上面同步下来的权值,各自探索积累自己的梯度 $v_{\bullet(a)}$ 和 $v_{\bullet(a)}$,每过一阵子就推到master上去更新。

算法:

```
Algorithm S2 Asynchronous advantage actor-critic - pseudocode for each actor-learner thread.
```

```
// Assume global shared parameter vectors \theta and \theta_v and global shared counter T=0
// Assume thread-specific parameter vectors \theta' and \theta'_v
Initialize thread step counter t \leftarrow 1
repeat
     Reset gradients: d\theta \leftarrow 0 and d\theta_v \leftarrow 0.
    Synchronize thread-specific parameters \theta'=\theta and \theta'_v=\theta_v
     Get state s_t
     repeat
          Perform a_t according to policy \pi(a_t|s_t;\theta')
          Receive reward r_t and new state s_{t+1}
          t \leftarrow t+1
          T \leftarrow T + 1
     until terminal s_t or t - t_{start} == t_{max}
     R = \begin{cases} 0 \\ V(s_t, \theta'_v) \end{cases}
                                    for terminal s_t
                                    for non-terminal s_t \hspace{-0.5mm} / \hspace{-0.5mm} | Bootstrap from last state
     for i \in \{t-1, \ldots, t_{start}\} do
          R \leftarrow r_i + \gamma R
          Accumulate gradients wrt \theta': d\theta \leftarrow d\theta + \nabla_{\theta'} \log \pi(a_i|s_i;\theta')(R - V(s_i;\theta'))
          Accumulate gradients wrt \theta'_v: d\theta_v \leftarrow d\theta_v + \partial (R - V(s_i; \theta'_v))^2 / \partial \theta'_v
     end for
     Perform asynchronous update of \theta using d\theta and of \theta_v using d\theta_v.
                                                                                                                                   知平 @张楚珩
until T > T_{max}
```

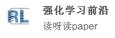
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