Killer Whale Hunting Strategies

Conceptual Model

Implementation

Results

Fish

Task

Reproduce killer whale hunting behavior

- Hunting behavior tied with communication behavior
- Mammals → Be Quiet, Fish → Chatter

Killer Whales (Orcas)

- Move towards nearest prey with probability inversely proportional to distance
- Limited detection range = 10 units
- If no nearby prey, killer whale moves towards other orcas
- Moves randomly otherwise if no other orcas and no fish
- Four options for attacking with varying probabilities of success:

Action	Success %	Success % (w/ chatter)	Success % (w/ chatter, seal)
Action 0 (Chatter)	0.0001	0.0001	0.0001
Action 1	25.0	50.0	5.0
Action 2	25.0	80.0	5.0
Action 3	25.0	25.0	5.0

Prey: Seals and Fish

- Move randomly when unbothered
- Actively moves away from nearby orcas
- Limited detection range = 5 units
- Attacks on seals less successful in presence of noise
- Attacks on fish more successful in presence of noise

Environment

- Mostly uniform as far as action success is concerned
- Some obstacles (e.g., ice floes, beach shallows)
- Both orcas and prey must go around obstacles



Learning Setup

- Training instances: Tuples of actions
- Labels: I for successful attack, -I for failed attack
- Learning model: Naïve Bayes

Naïve Bayes

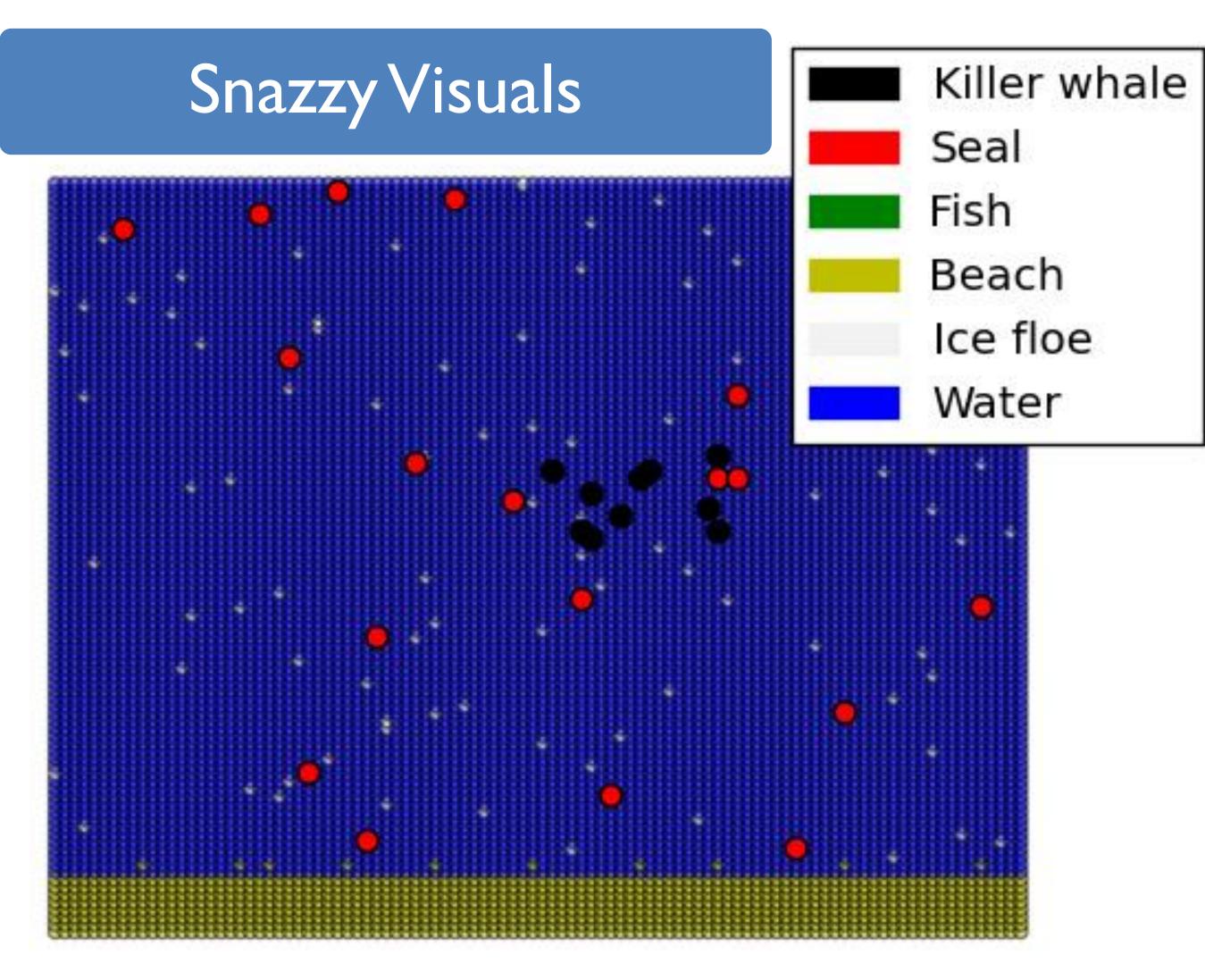
- Naive because it assumes features are mutually independent
- Based on Bayes' theorem
- Produces a MLE for each label given an instance

Learning Cycle

- For first 25 attacks, uniformly choose actions at random
- Train on a feature set of 25 previous action tuples
- Choose next action according to belief probabilities

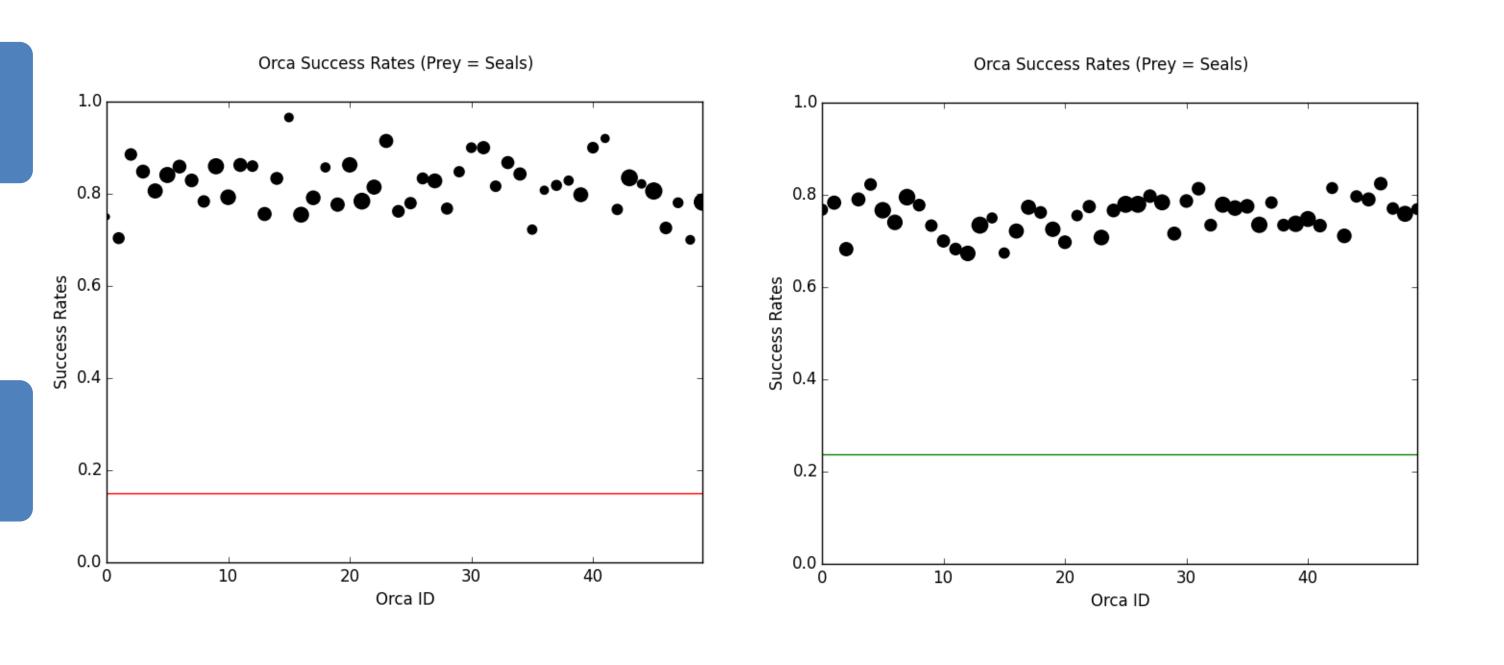
Action Preferences

- MLE of last attack action × all possible actions
- MLE of all combinations of actions
- Next action chosen from distribution base on above



Baselines

Seals



Strategies



- Hunter, J. D. (2007). Matplotlib: A 2D graphics environment. Computing in science and engineering, 9(3), 90-95.
 Pedregosa, F., Varoquaux, G., Gramfort, A., Michel, V., Thirion, B., Grisel, O., ... & Duchesnay, É. (2011). Scikit-learn: Machine learning in Python. The Journal of Machine Learning
- 3. Whitney B. Musser, Ann E. Bowles, Dawn M. Grebner, and Jessica L. Crance. Differences in acoustic features of vocalizations produced by killer whales cross-socialized with bottlenose dolphins. The Journal of the Acoustical Society of America, 2014 DOI: 10.1121/1.4893906 4. Mock, K. J. and J.W. Testa. 2007. An agent-based model of predator-prey relationships between transient killer whales and other marine mammals, University of Alaska Anchorage,
- Anchorage, AK, May 31, 2007, Available online at http://www.math.uaa.alaska.edu/~orca/. 5. Riesch, R. and V.B. Deecke. 2011. Whistle communication in mammal-eating killer whales (Orcinus orca): further evidence for acoustic divergence between ecotypes. Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology, 65(7), 1377-1387.