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Florian Kuhnt¹ and J. Marius Zöllner¹

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I. Introduction

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Example Citation: [1].

A. Problem specification

B. Why RL? What is our goal/motivation?

II. Related Work

A. “Human-level control through deep reinforcement learning” (2015)

B. “CARLA: An Open Urban Driving Simulator”

C. Our contribution to the field

III. Concept

A. CarRacing - Understand and select algorithms

- 1) Preprocessing:
- 2) DQN:
- 3) A3C:
 - a) Model architecture:
 - b) Training details:
- 4) DDPG:
 - a) Model architecture:
 - b) Training details:

B. CARLA

1) State representation: Dealing with the high-dimensional environment in CARLA is one of the central challenges in implementing a well functioning RL algorithm. In consideration of an abundance of possible sensor types available in CARLA we decided to pursue increasing levels of realism which generally also correspond to increasing levels of difficulty. These aforementioned levels of realism involve the following:

- Ground truth segmented bird’s eye view
- Ground truth segmented front view
- Latent space generated from ground truth segmented images
- Latent space generated from rgb images

Notably, these input representations differ in dimensions and thus lead to different network architectures in the appended network architectures of the RL agent.

a) Ground truth segmented bird’s eye view: The Ground truth segmented bird’s eye view is a rather unrealistic scenario, in which we assume availability of a camera positioned 20m above the performing agent. It is merely imaginable in a fully observed city where autonomous driving is part of a high-level traffic control system. Albeit rather unrealistic, we decided to implement a 13-class ground truth segmented bird’s eye view due to its similarity to the CarRacing environment and its obvious advantages in containing information central to navigational tasks. The full list of the included classes are described by dosovitskiy et al.[2]. We deemed a 1-channel grayscale image with size 64x64 large enough to contain key information for the algorithm (fig. x l.)



Fig. 1: left: Ground truth segmented bird’s eye view image, 64x64 in grayscale, 9 classes right: Ground truth segmented front view image, 80x80 in grayscale, 9 classes

b) Ground truth segmented frontview: Much like the Ground truth segmented bird’s eye view, the corresponding front view input representation assumes the

¹The authors are with FZI Research Center for Information Technology, Haid-und-Neu-Str. 10-14, 76131 Karlsruhe, Germany {kuhnt, zoellner}@fzi.de

availability of a perfect segmentation camera. Nonetheless, we increase realism with this representation as the camera is placed in front of the car. Again, we chose a 9-class, 1-channel grayscale image with a slightly increased size of 80x80 to account for a larger view angle of the camera.

c) Latent space generated from ground truth segmented images: In this section we will further discuss a modified version of the integrated encoder-decoder network that is based on dziubinski's [3] implementation. In its original architecture, the network comprises 5 input tensors and 7 output tensors with the inputs representing images of a front-, rear-, left-, right, and top-view camera. The model is built with the Keras functional API and generally serves two purposes. On the one hand, each input tensor is encoded into a 64-sized feature vector and decoded into its original shape with a cross entropy loss with regard to the original input. This is achieved with separate branches of 3-5 layered Convolutional Networks which can be considered autoencoders of their own. On the other hand, a separate generative branch creates a bird's eye view reconstruction based on the concatenated feature vectors of the vehicle-based cameras.

2) Used Sensors:

3) Implementing the reward function:

IV. Evaluation

A. Results

B. Comparison algorithms/reward functions

V. Conclusions

References

- [1] A. Barth and U. Franke, "Where will the oncoming vehicle be the next second?" 2008 IEEE Intelligent Vehicles Symposium, pp. 1068–1073, June 2008. [Online]. Available: <http://ieeexplore.ieee.org/lpdocs/epic03/wrapper.htm?arnumber=4621210>
- [2] A. Dosovitskiy, G. Ros, F. Codevilla, A. Lopez, and V. Koltun, "Carla: An open urban driving simulator," arXiv preprint arXiv:1711.03938, 2017.
- [3] M. Dziubiński, "From semantic segmentation to semantic bird's-eye view in the CARLA simulator," <https://medium.com/asap-report/from-semantic-segmentation-to-semantic-birds-eye-view-in-the-carla-simulator-1e636741af3f>, May 2019.