PhD in Traffic Management - Assignment

August 30, 2022

1 Instructions

1.1 Environment setup

- Install anaconda and SUMO, following the install instructions
- !NOTE!: SUMO-Python integration works best with Linux and Windows systems. MacOS can be used, but will require additional effort (Homebrew, custom env variables).
- Add SUMO to your system environment path (for windows: this will be asked by the installer. For linux, be sure to export the SUMO_HOME environment variable pointing to the appropriate folder)
- Use getting started resources that we provided to get familiar with some of the functionalities of this python wrapper.

1.2 Assignment submission

- Add your code when there is the comment "YOUR CODE HERE"
- Use Markdown cells to provide your answers (when applicable)
- Make appropriate comments to your code
- Run the entire notebook and save it as a pdf.
- Submit both the ipynb file and pdf file through email.
- Feel free to contact if you have any questions.

2 Assignment

In this assignment you will interact with the SUMO simulation, by setting up some traffic management logic.

Specifically, you will work with ramp metering. You are given a simple motorway network, as shown in the Figure:

This motorway has a lot of traffic demand, much like real life. The objective of ramp metering is to buffer some vehicles on the onramp of the motorway, regulating the inflow of new vehicles and therefore avoiding issues related with weaving maneuvers from oncoming traffic.

Your objective in this assignment is to implement a reactive control algorithm, that, considering current information on the density of vehicles collected from the sensor and past information on the algorithm's target flow, decides how many vehicles/hour are allowed on the motorway every 60 seconds.

We provide the implementation of no-control scenario and a simple on-off traffic management scenario

2.0.1 Importing functions and packages

```
import helpers as fu
import control_helpers as ch
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import pandas as pd
import numpy as np

from collections import deque

import torch
import torch.nn as nn
import torch.nn.functional as F
import torch.optim as optim
from torch.distributions import Categorical

from models import *

import os
import json
import pickle
```

2.1 Baselines

2.1.1 Running the base, no-control scenario

Evaluate the situation on the motorway without any traffic management, based on the simulation and the resulting space-time diagram.

```
[81]: # I change the code to simulate no-control scenario to collect the data of \( \to No-Control \) simulation

"""

df, df_veh = fu.run_base(gui=False) #Set gui=False if you don't want to see the \( \to \text{graphical interface} \)

len_E2_0 = 175.43

len_EWeave = 77.76

intersec_len = 0

# All lanes except EWeave_1

lane_list = ['E2_0', 'E2_1', 'E3_0', 'E3_1', 'EWeave_1', 'EWeave_2']

e3_list = ['E3_0', 'E3_1']

eweave_list = ['EWeave_1', 'EWeave_2']

df_veh = df_veh[df_veh['lane'].isin(lane_list)].copy()

# Add correct X location
```

```
for lane in eweave_list:
    df_veh.loc[df_veh["lane"] == lane, "pos"] = df_veh.pos.astype(float) +_{\sqcup}
 \hookrightarrow len_E2_0
for lane in e3 list:
    df\_veh.loc[df\_veh["lane"] == lane, "pos"] = df\_veh.pos.astype(float) +_{\sqcup}
 →len E2 0 + len EWeave
df_veh.speed = df_veh.speed.astype(float)
df\_veh.time = df\_veh.time.astype(float)
df_veh.pos = df_veh.pos.astype(float)
dat = df_veh[['time', 'pos', 'speed']]
# Plot the diagram for all the lanes
plt.scatter(x='time', y='pos', c=dat['speed'], cmap='YlOrRd', data=dat, s=1)
plt.colorbar(label='Speed')
plt.xlabel('Time')
plt.ylabel('Position')
plt.title("Space-Time Diagram")
plt.show()
```

[81]: '\ndf, df_veh = fu.run_base(gui=False) #Set gui=False if you don\'t want to see the graphical interface\nlen_E2_0 = 175.43\nlen_EWeave = 77.76\nintersec_len = $0\n\#$ All lanes except EWeave_1\nlane_list = [\'E2_0\', \'E2_1\', \'E3_0\', $'E3_1''$, $'EWeave_1''$, $'EWeave_2''$]\ne3_list = [\'E3_0\', $'E3_1']$ neweave_list = [\'EWeave_1\', \'EWeave_2\']\n\ndf_veh = df_veh[df_veh[\'lane\'].isin(lane_list)].copy()\n\n# Add correct X location\nfor df_veh.loc[df_veh["lane"] == lane, "pos"] = lane in eweave_list:\n df_veh.pos.astype(float) + len_E2_0\nfor lane in e3_list:\n df_veh.loc[df_veh["lane"] == lane, "pos"] = df_veh.pos.astype(float) + len_E2_0 + len_EWeave\n\ndf_veh.speed = df_veh.speed.astype(float)\ndf_veh.time = df_veh.time.astype(float)\ndf_veh.pos = df_veh.pos.astype(float)\ndat = df_veh[[\'time\', \'pos\', \'speed\']]\n\# Plot the diagram for all the lanes\nplt.scatter(x=\'time\', y=\'pos\', c=dat[\'speed\'], cmap=\'Y10rRd\', data=dat, s=1)\nplt.colorbar(label=\'Speed\')\nplt.xlabel(\'Time\')\nplt.ylabel(\'Position\')\nplt.title("Space-Time Diagram")\nplt.show()\n'

2.1.2 No Control Simulation

```
[83]: def no_control(density, previous_target_flow, policy=None):
    """set the target flow to the capacity of the ramp"""
    capacity = 1800
    target_flow = capacity
    return (target_flow, 0, 0)
```

Retrying in 1 seconds

Step #100.00 (1ms ~= 1000.00*RT, ~15000.00UPS, TraCI: 2ms, vehicles TOT 72 ACT 15 BUF 0)

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.8' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=61.00.

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.23' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=169.00.

Step #300.00 (1ms ~= 1000.00*RT, ~16000.00UPS, TraCI: 1ms, vehicles TOT 212 ACT 16 BUF 0)

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.33' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=241.00.

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.37' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=271.00.

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.37' performs emergency stop at the end of lane 'E4_0' because of a red traffic light (decel=-19.81, offset=9.80), time=271.00.

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.38' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=277.00.

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.43' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=313.00.

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.47' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=343.00.

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.47' performs emergency stop at the end of lane 'E4_0' because of a red traffic light (decel=-19.66, offset=7.98), time=343.00.

Step #500.00 (1ms ~= 1000.00*RT, ~27000.00UPS, TraCI: 2ms, vehicles TOT 378 ACT 27 BUF 0)

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.58' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=421.00.

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.60' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=436.00.

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.60' performs emergency stop at the end of lane 'E4_0' because of a red traffic light (decel=-20.08, offset=9.41), time=436.00.

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.68' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=493.00.

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.70' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=508.00.

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.70' performs emergency stop at the end of lane 'E4_0' because of a red traffic light (decel=-18.92, offset=6.02), time=508.00.

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.73' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=529.00.

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.78' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=565.00.

Step #600.00 (3ms ~= 333.33*RT, ~12000.00UPS, TraCI: 1ms, vehicles TOT 475 ACT 36 BUF 1)

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.83' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=601.00.

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.88' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=637.00.

Step #800.00 (3ms ~= 333.33*RT, ~14333.33UPS, TraCI: 1ms, vehicles TOT 655 ACT 43 BUF 15)

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.118' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=853.00.

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.123' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=889.00.

Step #900.00 (2ms ~= 500.00*RT, ~22500.00UPS, TraCI: 1ms, vehicles TOT 743 ACT 45 BUF 25)

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.128' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=925.00.

Step #1000.00 (2ms ~= 500.00*RT, ~22500.00UPS, TraCI: 1ms, vehicles TOT 828 ACT 45 BUF 37)

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.143' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=1033.00.

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.150' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=1084.00.

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.150' performs emergency stop at the end of lane 'E4_0' because of a red traffic light (decel=-19.72, offset=8.79), time=1084.00.

Step #1100.00 (4ms ~= 250.00*RT, ~10750.00UPS, TraCI: 1ms, vehicles TOT 913 ACT 43 BUF 48)

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.153' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=1105.00.

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.163' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=1177.00.

Step #1200.00 (2ms ~= 500.00*RT, ~22500.00UPS, TraCI: 1ms, vehicles TOT 995 ACT 45 BUF 64)

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.172' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=1243.00.

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.172' performs emergency stop at the end of lane 'E4_0' because of a red traffic light (decel=-20.03, offset=9.85), time=1243.00.

Step #1400.00 (1ms \sim = 1000.00*RT, \sim 46000.00UPS, TraCI: 1ms, vehicles TOT 1168 ACT 46 BUF 8

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.190' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=1372.00.

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.190' performs emergency stop at the end of lane 'E4_0' because of a red traffic light (decel=-19.87, offset=9.27), time=1372.00.

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.198' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=1429.00.

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.203' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=1465.00.

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.208' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=1501.00.

Step #1500.00 (2ms ~= 500.00*RT, ~20000.00UPS, TraCI: 1ms, vehicles TOT 1249 ACT 40 BUF 10

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.213' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=1537.00.

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.215' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=1552.00.

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.215' performs emergency stop at the end of lane 'E4_0' because of a red traffic light (decel=-18.89, offset=5.41), time=1552.00.

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.218' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=1573.00.

Step #1600.00 (3ms \sim = 333.33*RT, \sim 14000.00UPS, TraCI: 2ms, vehicles TOT 1338 ACT 42 BUF 11

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.228' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=1645.00.

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.233' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=1681.00.

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.235' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=1696.00.

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.235' performs emergency stop at the end of lane 'E4_0' because of a red traffic light (decel=-18.91, offset=4.76), time=1696.00.

Step #1700.00 (2ms ~= 500.00*RT, ~22500.00UPS, TraCI: 1ms, vehicles TOT 1427 ACT 45 BUF 90

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.238' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=1717.00.

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.248' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=1789.00.

Step #1800.00 (2ms ~= 500.00*RT, ~21000.00UPS, TraCI: 2ms, vehicles TOT 1513 ACT 42 BUF 76

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.255' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=1840.00.

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.255' performs emergency stop at the end of lane 'E4_0' because of a red traffic light (decel=-18.79, offset=5.30), time=1840.00.

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.263' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=1897.00.

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.267' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=1927.00.

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.267' performs emergency stop at the end of lane 'E4_0' because of a red traffic light (decel=-18.87, offset=6.49), time=1927.00.

Step #1900.00 (1ms ~= 1000.00*RT, ~42000.00UPS, TraCI: 2ms, vehicles TOT 1593 ACT 42 BUF 6

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.272' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=1963.00.

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.272' performs emergency stop at the end of lane 'E4_0' because of a red traffic light (decel=-19.60, offset=8.95), time=1963.00.

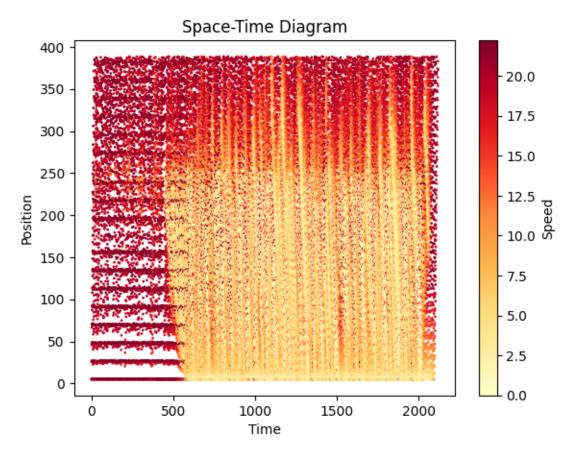
Step #2120.00 (1ms ~= 1000.00*RT, ~0.00UPS, TraCI: 2ms, vehicles TOT 1726 ACT 0 BUF 0)

```
[87]: print("Average flow: {:.4f}".format(np.mean(flows_episode)))
print("Average densities: {:.4f}".format(np.mean(densities_no)))
```

Average flow: 380.2718 Average densities: 67.1910

```
[88]: len_E2_0 = 175.43
     len EWeave = 77.76
     intersec_len = 0
     # All lanes except EWeave 1
     lane_list = ['E2_0', 'E2_1', 'E3_0', 'E3_1', 'EWeave_1', 'EWeave_2']
     e3 list = ['E3 0', 'E3 1']
     eweave_list = ['EWeave_1', 'EWeave_2']
     df_veh = df_veh[df_veh['lane'].isin(lane_list)].copy()
     # Add correct X location
     for lane in eweave_list:
         df_veh.loc[df_veh["lane"] == lane, "pos"] = df_veh.pos.astype(float) +__
       →len_E2_0
     for lane in e3 list:
         df_veh.loc[df_veh["lane"] == lane, "pos"] = df_veh.pos.astype(float) +__
       ⇒len_E2_0 + len_EWeave
     df_veh.speed = df_veh.speed.astype(float)
     df_veh.time = df_veh.time.astype(float)
     df_veh.pos = df_veh.pos.astype(float)
     dat = df_veh[['time', 'pos', 'speed']]
     # Plot the diagram for all the lanes
     plt.scatter(x='time', y='pos', c=dat['speed'], cmap='Y10rRd', data=dat, s=1)
     plt.colorbar(label='Speed')
     plt.xlabel('Time')
```

```
plt.ylabel('Position')
plt.title("Space-Time Diagram")
plt.show()
```



```
[89]: print("Average Vehicle Speed: {:.4f}".format(df_veh.speed.mean()))

Average Vehicle Speed: 8.8215
```

[]:

A typical way of evaluating a given traffic situation is through a so-called space-time diagram (also known as speed contour plots). What you see above is such an example. You can see that at time 500, speeds at position 250m begin decreasing. As the simulation progresses, this speed decrease propagates backwards in space (in the contour plot, the area showing reduced speed increases) - this means that the motorway is experiencing (excessive) queueing. Thanks to Ramp Metering, we can mitigate this queueing effect, as shown below.

2.1.3 Defining a simple on-off traffic management control function

```
[90]: | def on_off(density, previous_target_flow, policy=None):
          Simple on-off control policy:
          Given known values for the critical density of the motorway, and the
       →capacity (saturation flow) of the onramp:
          if the density on the motorway is above critical, reduce inflow to O
          if the density on the motorway is below critical, allow full inflow
          target density = 35
          capacity=1800
          if density > target_density:
              target_flow=0
          else:
              target_flow=capacity
          # Check max and min
          target_flow = min(target_flow,1800)
          target_flow= max(target_flow, 60)
          return (target_flow, 0, 0) #target flow, log_prob/action, state
```

Running the simulation with a given ramp metering algorithm

```
Retrying in 1 seconds
Step #0.00 (Oms ?*RT. ?UPS, TraCI: 1ms, vehicles TOT 3 ACT 3 BUF 0)

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.8' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=61.00.

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.23' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=169.00.

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.33' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=241.00.

Step #200.00 (1ms ~= 1000.00*RT, ~15000.00UPS, TraCI: 2ms, vehicles TOT 142 ACT 15 BUF 0)

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.37' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=271.00.

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.37' performs emergency stop at the end of lane 'E4_0' because of a red traffic light (decel=-19.81, offset=9.80), time=271.00.

Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.38' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with
```

```
decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=313.00.
     Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.47' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with
     decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=343.00.
     Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.47' performs emergency stop at the end of lane 'E4_0'
     because of a red traffic light (decel=-19.66, offset=7.98), time=343.00.
     Step #400.00 (1ms ~= 1000.00*RT, ~16000.00UPS, TraCI: 2ms, vehicles TOT 282 ACT
     16 BUF 0)
     Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.58' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with
     decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=421.00.
     Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.60' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with
     decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=436.00.
     Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.60' performs emergency stop at the end of lane 'E4_0'
     because of a red traffic light (decel=-20.08, offset=9.41), time=436.00.
     Step #500.00 (1ms ~= 1000.00*RT, ~27000.00UPS, TraCI: 1ms, vehicles TOT 378 ACT
     27 BUF 0)
     Warning: Vehicle 'ob 1.80' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4 0' with
     decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=579.00.
     Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.82' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with
     decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=594.00.
     Step #2143.00 (Oms ?*RT. ?UPS, TraCI: 1ms, vehicles TOT 1726 ACT 0 BUF 0)
[92]: print("Average flow: {:.4f}".format(np.mean(flows episode)))
      print("Average densities: {:.4f}".format(np.mean(densities_onoff)))
     Average flow: 753.5155
     Average densities: 36.1899
 []:
 []:
```

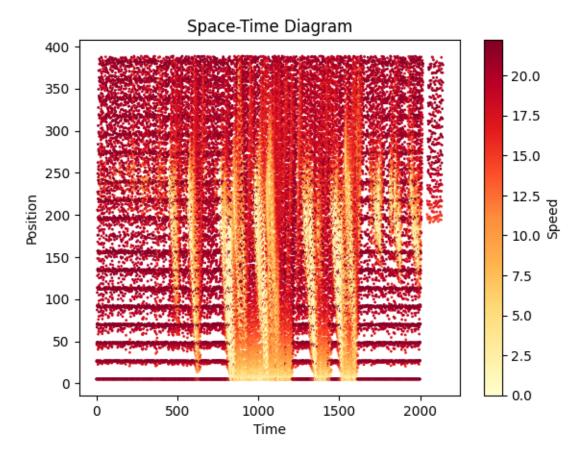
Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.43' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with

2.1.4 Exploring the results of the traffic management logic

decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=277.00.

```
[93]: len_E2_0 = 175.43
len_EWeave = 77.76
intersec_len = 0
# All lanes except EWeave_1
lane_list = ['E2_0', 'E2_1', 'E3_0', 'E3_1', 'EWeave_1', 'EWeave_2']
e3_list = ['E3_0', 'E3_1']
eweave_list = ['EWeave_1', 'EWeave_2']
df_veh = df_veh[df_veh['lane'].isin(lane_list)].copy()
# Add correct X location
```

```
for lane in eweave_list:
    df_veh.loc[df_veh["lane"] == lane, "pos"] = df_veh.pos.astype(float) +
 →len_E2_0
for lane in e3 list:
    df_veh.loc[df_veh["lane"] == lane, "pos"] = df_veh.pos.astype(float) +__
 ⇔len_E2_0 + len_EWeave
df_veh.speed = df_veh.speed.astype(float)
df_veh.time = df_veh.time.astype(float)
df_veh.pos = df_veh.pos.astype(float)
dat = df_veh[['time', 'pos', 'speed']]
# Plot the diagram for all the lanes
plt.scatter(x='time', y='pos', c=dat['speed'], cmap='YlOrRd', data=dat, s=1)
plt.colorbar(label='Speed')
plt.xlabel('Time')
plt.ylabel('Position')
plt.title("Space-Time Diagram")
plt.show()
```



What you see above is how the on-off controller affected the formation of congestion in the motorway. Unfortunately, there is still quite a bit of queueing throughout the simulation period - the on-off controller is reducing the overall duration of congestion (the area of lowered speeds in the contour plot is smaller), however it's not adequately preventing congestion from forming.

2.2 Coding your own control logic

In this assignment you are tasked with coding your own control logic, based on concepts of Reinforcement Learning. A template function for your control logic is provided below (based on the on-off controller above)

Compare qualitatively and quantitatively your proposed algorithm both to the no-control situation and to the simple on-off control logic provided above.

Suggested quantitative measures are: average flow on the motorway over time, average speed on the motorway over time, total vehicle delay.

Hint: copy the on-off controller logic, and change that function to your desired management approach!

Your analysis, chosen control logic (including a pseudo-code of its implementation) and findings should all be then summarised in the jupyter notebook, with all figures, explanations and justifications you deem necessary.

It is important for you to choose an appropriate reward function for your Reinforcement Learning controller to figure out the optimal policy to resolve this traffic management issue. You can begin by considering a reward function that depends on the density measured on the motorway, as well as the target density value. You may also come up with functions of more variables extracted from the simulation, however you will need to adapt the helper libraries in order to allow for more flexibility.

2.3 Methodology

2.3.1 Model

In this assignment, we used an MLP to map the state, i.e., the density on the main road, to the actions. The density features are transformed into 32-bit binary representations before being fed to the MLP. To simplify the action space, we use 19 actions: a_0 to a_{18} . The action a_i denotes setting the target flow value to $100 \times i$.

The code of the MLP model can be found at models.py.

2.3.2 Rewards

Our goal is to improve the average traffic flow on the main road by controlling the ramp meter. According to Greedshields' theory [1], the traffic flow reaches the maximum when the density equals the critical density. We apply the following equation to estimate the flow on the main road given density ρ , proposed by Arp et al [2].

 $f(\rho) = \frac{f_m}{\rho_c^2} max(0, \rho(2\rho_c - \rho))$, where ρ_c is the critical density and f_m is the maximal flow.

The reward is computed based on the estimated flow $f(\rho)$: $r = 1 - \frac{f_m - f(\rho)}{f_m}$.

In our experiments, the maximal flow is set to 1050.

2.3.3 Training

We use two RL methods to train the models: Deep Q-Learning (value-based) and Reinforce (policy-based). In Deep Q-Learning, the output of the MLP denotes the predicted Q values of each action. In Reinforce, the output denotes the probability distribution over the action space. We use each method to train the MLP for about 3500 episodes. The training codes can be found at train_deepQ.py and train_reinforce.py. The trained models can be found in the folder trained.

2.3.4 Test trained models

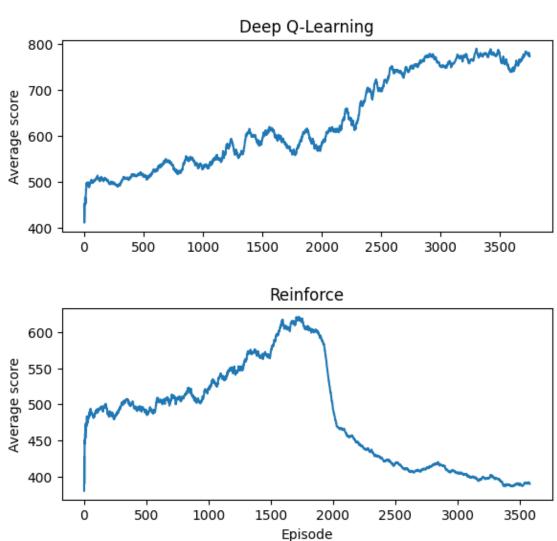
```
[95]: # load the models
policy_Q = torch.load("trained/deepQ/policy.pt") # load Q policy
policy_reinforce = torch.load("trained/reinforce/policy.pt") # load reinforce_

$\times policy$

#read training log
df_Q = pd.read_csv("trained/deepQ/log.txt")
df_reinforce = pd.read_csv("trained/reinforce/log.txt")
```

Plot the training process We plot the average scores of the last 100 episode during training. The score in each episode is defined as the average estimated traffic flow.

```
wspace=0.4,
hspace=0.4)
plt.show()
```



According to the above figure, the average score of Deep Q-Learning tends to improve during training. On the other hand, the average score of Reinforce stops improving after about 1700 episodes and starts decreasing.

Deep Q Learning Test the performance of the policy trained with deep Q-Learning.

```
[97]: def act_Q(state):
    """
    get action from Q-Learning Poicy
    """
```

```
Q = policy_Q(state.float()).cpu()
action = torch.argmax(Q)
return action.item(), 0

def compute_target_flow_Q(density, previous_target_flow):
    """
    compute the target flow
    """
    density_bin = binary(density)
    state = torch.tensor(density_bin)
    action, log_prob = act_Q(state.unsqueeze(0))
    target_flow = action*100
    return target_flow, action, state #return the current state
```

You may then run your simulation with the newly developed control logic and compare how the speed contour plot changes, similarly to what has been done above.

[98]: densities_Q, actions, states = ch.run(compute_target_flow_Q, verbose=False)

```
flows_episode = [estimate_flow(d) for d in densities_Q] #estimated flow
df, df_veh = fu.read_output()
Retrying in 1 seconds
Step #100.00 (1ms ~= 1000.00*RT, ~15000.00UPS, TraCI: 1ms, vehicles TOT 72 ACT
15 BUF 0)
Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.8' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with
decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=61.00.
Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.8' performs emergency stop at the end of lane 'E4_0'
because of a red traffic light (decel=-13.22, offset=1.58), time=62.00.
Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.15' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with
decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=111.00.
Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.15' performs emergency stop at the end of lane 'E4_0'
because of a red traffic light (decel=-13.22, offset=1.80), time=112.00.
Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.17' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with
decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=126.00.
Warning: Vehicle 'ob 1.17' performs emergency stop at the end of lane 'E4_0'
because of a red traffic light (decel=-13.22, offset=1.19), time=127.00.
Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.19' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with
decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=141.00.
Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.19' performs emergency stop at the end of lane 'E4_0'
because of a red traffic light (decel=-20.14, offset=10.13), time=141.00.
Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.24' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with
decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=176.00.
Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.24' performs emergency stop at the end of lane 'E4_0'
because of a red traffic light (decel=-13.22, offset=1.69), time=177.00.
Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.33' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with
decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=241.00.
```

Step #300.00 (1ms ~= 1000.00*RT, ~15000.00UPS, TraCI: 2ms, vehicles TOT 212 ACT

15 BUF 0)

Warning: Vehicle 'ob 1.33' performs emergency stop at the end of lane 'E4_0' because of a red traffic light (decel=-13.22, offset=1.12), time=242.00. Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.37' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=271.00. Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.37' performs emergency stop at the end of lane 'E4_0' because of a red traffic light (decel=-19.81, offset=10.01), time=271.00. Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.40' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=291.00. Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.40' performs emergency stop at the end of lane 'E4_0' because of a red traffic light (decel=-13.22, offset=1.31), time=292.00. Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.42' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=306.00. Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.42' performs emergency stop at the end of lane 'E4_0' because of a red traffic light (decel=-13.22, offset=1.57), time=307.00. Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.44' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=321.00. Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.44' performs emergency stop at the end of lane 'E4_0' because of a red traffic light (decel=-18.57, offset=4.13), time=321.00. Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.49' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=356.00. Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.49' performs emergency stop at the end of lane 'E4_0' because of a red traffic light (decel=-13.22, offset=1.04), time=357.00.

Step #2183.00 (Oms ?*RT. ?UPS, TraCI: 2ms, vehicles TOT 1726 ACT 0 BUF 0)

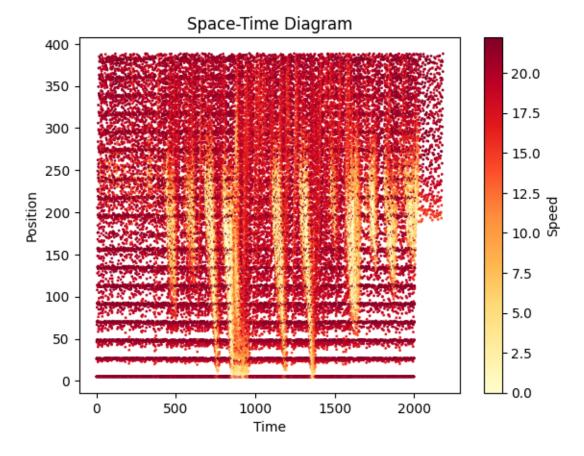
```
[99]: # get average estimated flow and average densities
print("Average flow: {:.4f}".format(np.mean(flows_episode)))
print("Average densities: {:.4f}".format(np.mean(densities_Q)))
```

Average flow: 896.7497 Average densities: 28.7599

Plot Space-Time Diagram of MLP (Deep Q-Learning)

```
[100]: len_E2_0 = 175.43
len_EWeave = 77.76
intersec_len = 0
# All lanes except EWeave_1
lane_list = ['E2_0', 'E2_1', 'E3_0', 'E3_1', 'EWeave_1', 'EWeave_2']
e3_list = ['E3_0', 'E3_1']
eweave_list = ['EWeave_1', 'EWeave_2']
df_veh = df_veh[df_veh['lane'].isin(lane_list)].copy()

# Add correct X location
for lane in eweave_list:
    df_veh.loc[df_veh["lane"] == lane, "pos"] = df_veh.pos.astype(float) +___
elen_E2_0
```



```
[101]: #get average vehicle speed
print("Average Vehicle Speed: {:.4f}".format(df_veh.speed.mean()))
```

Average Vehicle Speed: 16.4438

[]:
[]:

reinforce Test the performance of the policy trained with Reinforce.

```
[102]: def act_rein(state):
    """
    get action reinforce policy
    """

    probs = policy_reinforce(state.float()).cpu()
    m = Categorical(probs)
    action = m.sample()
    return action.item(), m.log_prob(action)

def compute_target_flow_rein(density, previous_target_flow):
    """
    compute the target flow
    """
    density_bin = binary(density)
    state = torch.tensor(density_bin)
    action, log_prob = act_rein(state.unsqueeze(0))
    target_flow = action*100
    return target_flow, log_prob, state #return the current state
```

Retrying in 1 seconds
Step #100.00 (2ms ~= 500.00*RT, ~7500.00UPS, TraCI: 1ms, vehicles TOT 72 ACT 15
BUF 0)

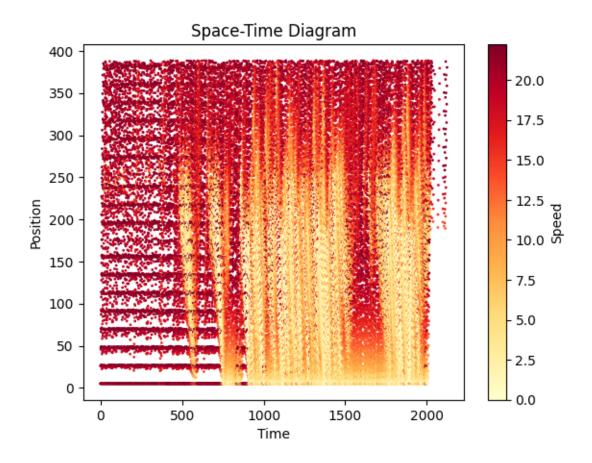
Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.8' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=61.00. Warning: Vehicle 'ob_1.23' performs emergency braking on lane 'E4_0' with decel=9.00, wished=4.50, severity=1.00, time=169.00.

Step #2126.00 (Oms ?*RT. ?UPS, TraCI: 1ms, vehicles TOT 1726 ACT 0 BUF 0)

```
[106]: print("Average flow: {:.4f}".format(np.mean(flows_episode)))
print("Average densities: {:.4f}".format(np.mean(densities_rein)))
```

Average flow: 570.4621 Average densities: 50.5152 Plot Space-Time diagram of MLP (reinforce)

```
[107]: len E2 0 = 175.43
       len_EWeave = 77.76
       intersec len = 0
       # All lanes except EWeave_1
       lane_list = ['E2_0', 'E2_1', 'E3_0', 'E3_1', 'EWeave_1', 'EWeave_2']
       e3_list = ['E3_0', 'E3_1']
       eweave_list = ['EWeave_1', 'EWeave_2']
       df_veh = df_veh[df_veh['lane'].isin(lane_list)].copy()
       # Add correct X location
       for lane in eweave_list:
           df_veh.loc[df_veh["lane"] == lane, "pos"] = df_veh.pos.astype(float) +__
        ⇒len_E2_0
       for lane in e3_list:
           df_veh.loc[df_veh["lane"] == lane, "pos"] = df_veh.pos.astype(float) +
        \rightarrowlen_E2_0 + len_EWeave
       df_veh.speed = df_veh.speed.astype(float)
       df_veh.time = df_veh.time.astype(float)
       df_veh.pos = df_veh.pos.astype(float)
       dat = df_veh[['time', 'pos', 'speed']]
       # Plot the diagram for all the lanes
       plt.scatter(x='time', y='pos', c=dat['speed'], cmap='YlOrRd', data=dat, s=1)
       plt.colorbar(label='Speed')
       plt.xlabel('Time')
       plt.ylabel('Position')
       plt.title("Space-Time Diagram")
       plt.show()
```



```
[108]: print("Average Vehicle Speed: {:.4f}".format(df_veh.speed.mean()))

Average Vehicle Speed: 10.8625

[]:
```

2.4 Comparison & Discussion

We will compare MLP (Deep Q-Learning) and MLP (Reinforce) with the baselines No-Control and On-Off

2.4.1 Space-Time Diagram

MLP (Deep Q-Learning) has a similar effect on reducing congestion compared with On-Off. However, the congestion reduction effect of MLP (reinforce) is not as good as On-Off.

2.4.2 Average vehicle speed, estimated flow and densities

We summarize the average vehicle speed, estimated flow and densities in the following table.

| Method | Ave Speed | Ave Flow | Ave Density |
|--------------|-----------|----------|-------------|
| No-Control | 8.8215 | 380.2718 | 67.1910 |
| On-Off | 14.4704 | 753.5155 | 36.1899 |
| MLP (Deep Q) | 16.4438 | 896.7497 | 28.7599 |
| MLP (rein) | 10.8625 | 570.4627 | 50.5152 |

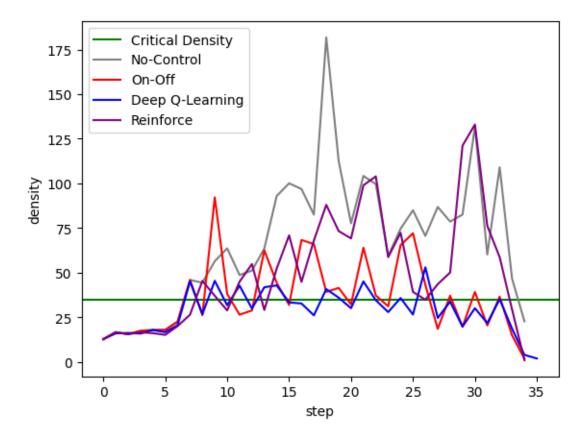
The method MLP trained with deep Q-Learning has highest speed and estimated flow.

2.4.3 Density Plotting

We plot the densities (states) of each step of one episode for the 4 methods.

```
fig, ax = plt.subplots()
plt.axhline(y=35, color="green", label="Critical Density")
ax.plot(densities_no, color="grey", label="No-Control")
ax.plot(densities_onoff, color="red", label="On-Off")
ax.plot(densities_Q, color='blue', label="Deep Q-Learning")
ax.plot(densities_rein, color='purple', label="Reinforce")
ax.set_xlabel("step")
ax.set_ylabel("density")
plt.legend()
```

[129]: <matplotlib.legend.Legend at 0x7fa9084db940>



According to the above figure, we can find that the densities of the MLP (Deep Q-Learning) are more closed to the critical density during the episode compared with other methods.

2.5 Future Works

- Analyze why the scores of MLP (Reinforce) stop after some episodes.
- Explore other policy-based RL algorithms, such as Actor-Critic, on this problem.
- Since the roads can be modelled as a network, it is worth studying how to combine Graph Neural Networks (GNN) with Reinforcement Learning to this problem.

2.6 References

- [1] Greenshields, B. D., Thompson, J. T., Dickinson, H. C., & Swinton, R. S. (1934). The photographic method of studying traffic behavior. In Highway Research Board Proceedings (Vol. 13).
- [2] Arp, L., van Vreumingen, D., Gawehns, D., & Baratchi, M. (2020, June). Dynamic macro scale traffic flow optimisation using crowd-sourced urban movement data. In 2020 21st IEEE International Conference on Mobile Data Management (MDM) (pp. 168-177). IEEE.

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