

AI for State Estimation

Project

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Table of Contents

1. Introduction

2. Architectures

3. Measurements





Introduction

Project description

The aim of the project is to use AI for state estimation; in this case we will implement some NN architectures to predict changes in heading angle and displacement using as data IMU data recorded using ROS gazebo simulator.

We will use TurtleBot3 as mobile robot to get the measurements inside the Gazebo environment; for convenience, we created the python script *turtlebot3_waypoints.py* to record the bagfiles from the simulations.

In this script we will save the output as bagfile, then it will be indexed to reduce the its size; finally we will pass as input to the NN 10 runs as training data and then the network will be evaluated on a new run to predict the waypoints.

Steps I

To summarize, we will do the following steps:

1. Launch TurtleBot3 inside Gazebo.

```
cd ~/catkin_ws  
catkin_make  
source devel/setup.bash  
export TURTLEBOT3_MODEL=burger  
roslaunch turtlebot3_gazebo turtlebot3_world.launch
```

2. Run the Navigation node to do Initial Pose estimation and to collect some of the surrounding environment information.

```
export TURTLEBOT3_MODEL=burger  
roslaunch turtlebot3_navigation turtlebot3_navigation.launch  
map_file:=$HOME/map.yaml
```

Steps II

3. Launch the script *turtlebot3_waypoints.py* to record the bagfile from the simulation.

```
roslaunch turtlebot3_waypoints turtlebot3_waypoints.launch  
bagfile:=/home/lorenzo/runs/run.bag
```

In our case we will use 11 different waypoints arrays, thus we will end with 10 runs (which will be used as training data) and a test run.

4. Index all the obtained bagfiles to reduce the size of them.

```
rosbag reindex run.bag
```

5. Launch the NN with the obtained run and record the results.

Now, we will briefly report the used NN architectures and the hyperparameters; we have used LSTM and Transformer as general structure.



Architectures



Some details

The used architectures are:

- LSTM
- Transformer

As for the parameters:

- Adam as optimizer
- learning rate $lr \in \{0.0002, 0.0001, 0.0005, 0.001\}$.
- step size $step_size \in \{50, 100, 200, 300\}$.
- gamma $gamma \in \{0.01, 0.1, 0.2\}$.
- number of epochs $epochs \in \{10, 15, 20, 25, 50, 100\}$.
- batch size $batch \in \{16, 32, 64, 128\}$.
- hidden size $hidden \in \{6, 64, 128, 256\}$.



Measurements



Experiment

We will briefly report a short table demonstrating the best results for each architecture; the complete results can be found in

model	epochs	batch size	train loss	test loss
LSTM	20	32	0.1668	0.3618
Transformer, dropout = 0.3	20	16	0.389	0.4496

As we can see, we obtained slightly better results using LSTMs; the runs were done mainly on CPU, thus the required time per epoch was always above 1-2 mins. Note: All the measurements were done using a M1 Pro processor.