# Spectral learning for structured partially observable environments

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## Structured Partially Observable Environments

#### **Structured Environments**

Goal: Predictions

Plan: Exploit structure

Example: Pacman



## PSR: The Timing Case

- Model environment with a Predictive state representation
- For timing we have one observation symbol:  $\sigma$ Notation:  $\sigma$ : one time unit,  $\sigma^k$ : k time units
- PSR defined by:  $\langle \alpha_0, \{A_\sigma\}, \alpha_\infty \rangle$ 
  - $\alpha_0$ : Initial weighting on states 1xn
  - $A_{\sigma}$ : Transition matrix nxn
  - $\alpha_{\infty}$ : Normalizer nx1
- PSRs compute probabilities of observations  $f(\sigma^k) = \alpha_0 \cdot A_{\sigma}^k \cdot \alpha_{\infty}$



#### Spectral Learning of PSRs

Step 1: Represent data as a matrix

Step 2: Singular value decomposition

Step 3: Pick number of states for PSR

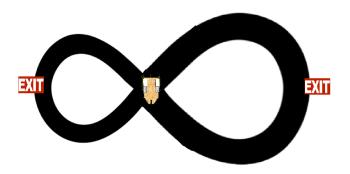
Step 4: Learn  $\langle \alpha_0, \{A_\sigma\}, \alpha_\infty \rangle$  with matrix computations

## The Base System

- Idea: Add  $\{A_{\sigma}, A_{\sigma^2}, A_{\sigma^4}, A_{\sigma^8}, ... A_{\sigma^N}\}$  as extra transition operators
- Timing queries:  $f(\sigma^{11}) = \alpha_0 \cdot A_{\sigma^8} \cdot A_{\sigma^2} \cdot A_{\sigma^1} \cdot \alpha_{\infty}$
- Motivation:
  - 1) Express transitions directly
  - 2) Faster queries

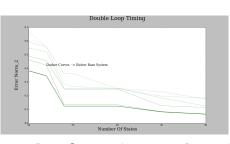
### Timing with the Base

Agent goes through loops until leaving through an exit state. Loop lengths are 64 and 16 time units (not to scale).

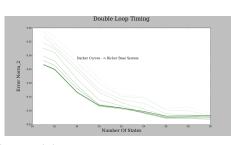


## Base System Performance for Loops

#### No noise in durations



#### Noise in durations

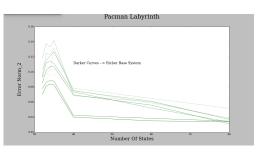


- Base System dominates for smaller models
- Noise allows for smaller models

$$||f - \hat{f}|| = \sqrt{\sum_{x \in observations} (f(x) - f(x))^2}$$

## Pacman Labyrinth

#### **Timing Predictions**

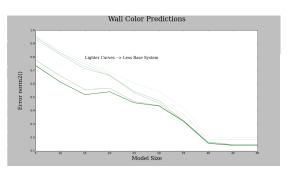


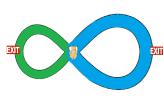


• 
$$||f - \hat{f}|| = \sqrt{\sum_{x \in observations} (f(x) - f(x))^2}$$

#### Wall Color Predictions

#### We paint the first loop green and the second loop blue





$$||f - \hat{f}|| = \sqrt{\sum_{x \in observations} (f(x) - f(x))^2}$$

## Picking the Base System

- Observations:  $\{"a^{30}":10, "a^{60}":5, "b^{18}":15\}$ Desired Base System:  $A_{a^{30}}, A_{b^{18}}, A_a, A_b$
- Solution: iterative greedy heuristic
- Substring properties: long, frequent, diverse
- Entropy view of structure

### Computing with the Base System

• How should we execute queries?

Goal: minimize number of matrices

Query string: "abcacb", Base System =  $\{A_{ab}, A_{bca}, A_{cb}, A_a, A_b\}$ 

Desired partition: "a—bca—cb"

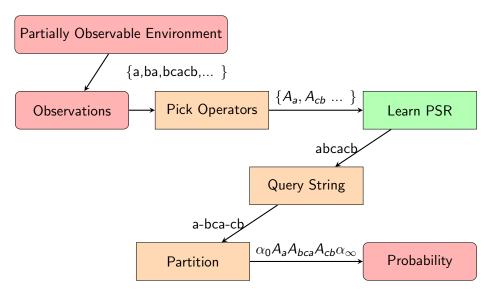
Computation:  $f(abcacb) = \alpha_0 \cdot A_a \cdot A_{bca} \cdot A_{cb} \cdot \alpha_{\infty}$ 

Solution: dynamic programming

#### Conclusion and Future Work

- What's left for the Base System?
  - 1) Theoretical analysis
  - 2) Test heuristics on labyrinths
  - 3) Further optimize heuristics

#### The Big Picture



## Questions? Comments?