Spectral Learning for Structured Partially Observable Environments

Lucas Langer

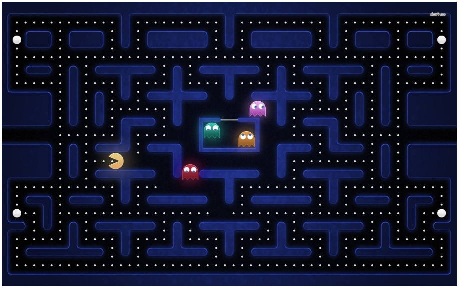
Supervisors: Borja Balle, Doina Precup

September 1, 2015

Partially Observable Environments

Structured Environments

1. Goal: Predict observations
2. Plan: Exploit patterns
3. Example: Pacman



PSR: The Timing Case

- Model: Predictive State Representation (PSR)
  Timing: one observation symbol: σ
  Notation: σ: one time unit, σ^k: k time units

- PSR defined by: $\langle \alpha_0, \{A_\sigma\}, \alpha_\infty \rangle$
  α_0: Initial weighting on states $1xn$
  A_σ: Transition matrix nxn
  α_∞: Normalizer $nx1$

- PSRs compute probabilities of observations
  $f(\sigma^k) = \alpha_0 \cdot A_\sigma^k \cdot \alpha_\infty$
  Ex: HMMs

Spectral Learning of PSRs

Step 1: Represent Data as a Hankel Matrix

Step 2: Spectral: Singular Value Decomposition

Step 3: Pick Model Size

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

The Base System

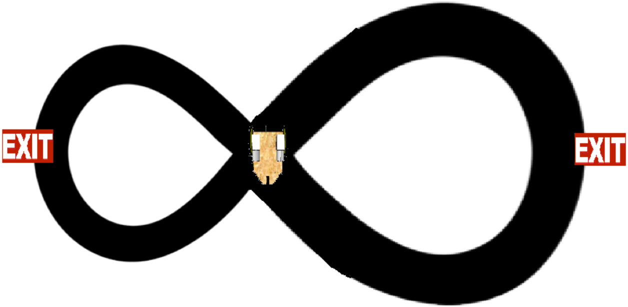
- Idea: Learn $\{A_\sigma, A_{\sigma^2}, A_{\sigma^4}, A_{\sigma^8}, ...A_{\sigma^N}\}$ as extra transition operators
  Note: operators learned separately

- Timing queries: $f(\sigma^{11}) = \alpha_0 \cdot A_{\sigma^8} \cdot A_{\sigma^2} \cdot A_{\sigma^1} \cdot \alpha_\infty$

- Motivation: express structure directly

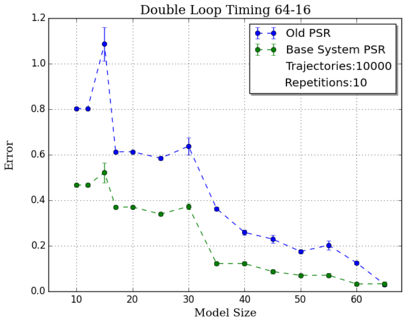
Timing with the Base

Agent drives around loops until leaving through an exit state.

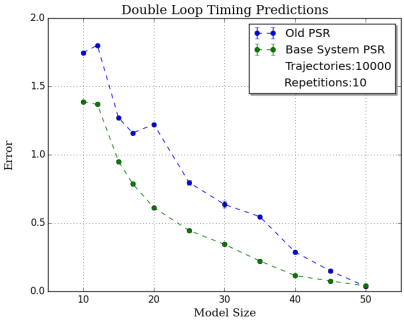


Base System Performance for Loops

64-16 Loop Lengths



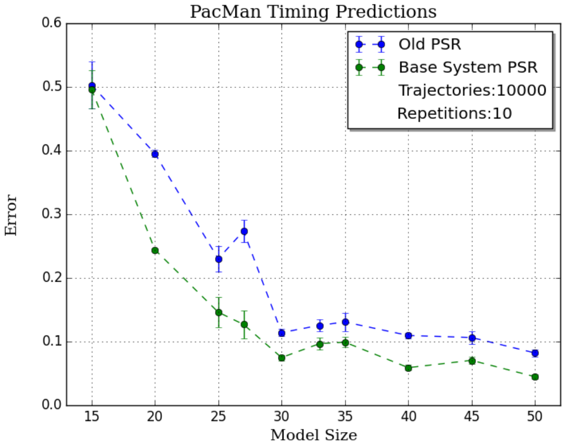
47-27 Loop Lengths



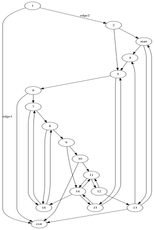
Base System dominates for smaller models

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

Pacman Labyrinth



(a) Pacman

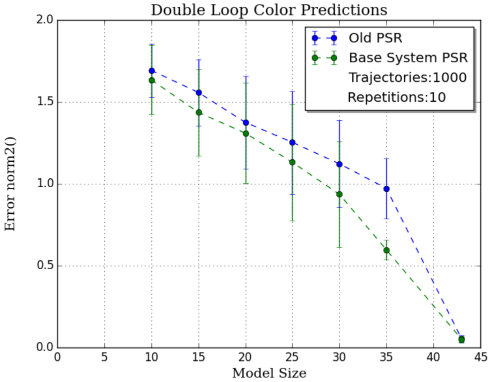


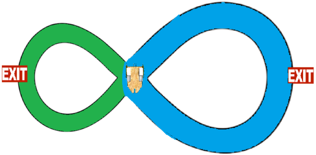
(b) Graph

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

Wall Color Predictions

We paint the first loop green and the second loop blue





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

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
- Substring properties: **long**, **frequent**, **diverse**
  Low entropy view of structure
- Solution: iterative greedy heuristic

Computing with the Base System

- How should we execute queries?

  Goal: **minimize number of matrices**

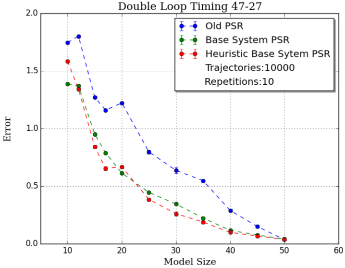
  Query string: "abcacb", Base System $= \{A_{ab}, A_{bca}, A_{cb}, A_a, A_b\}$

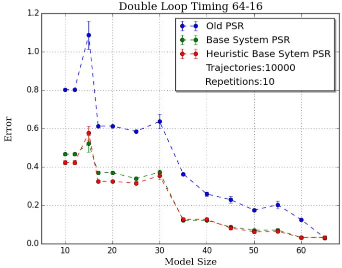
  Desired partition: "a—bca—cb"

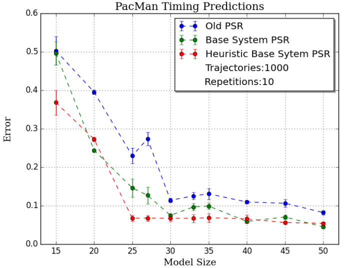
  Computation: $f(abcacb) = \alpha_0 \cdot A_a \cdot A_{bca} \cdot A_{cb} \cdot \alpha_\infty$

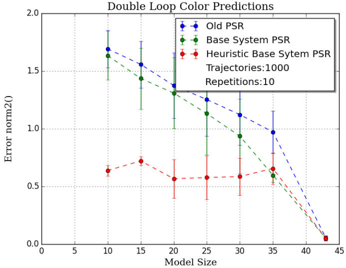
- Solution: dynamic programming

Performance of Heuristics

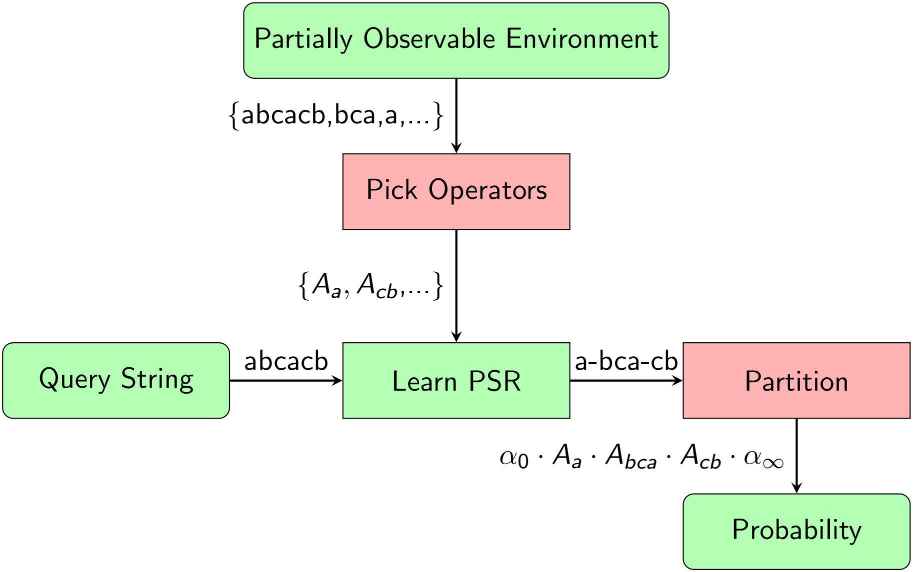








The Big Picture



Questions?