# 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:  $<\alpha_0, \{A_{\sigma}\}, \alpha_{\infty}>$   $\alpha_0$ : Initial weighting on states 1xn  $A_{\sigma}$ : Transition matrix nxn  $\alpha_{\infty}$ : Normalizer nx1
- PSRs compute probabilities of observations  $f(\sigma^k) = \alpha_0 * A_{\sigma}^k * \alpha_{\infty}$
- Example of a PSR: HMM



## Spectral Learning of PSRs

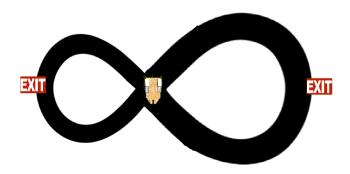
- Step 1: Represent data as a matrix
- Step 2: Singular value decomposition
- Step 3: Pick number of states for PSR
- Step 4: Learn  $< \alpha_0, \{A_{\sigma}\}, \alpha_{\infty} >$  with matrix computations

# 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:  $f(\sigma^{11}) = \alpha_0 * A_{\sigma^8} * A_{\sigma^2} * A_{\sigma^1} * \alpha_\infty$
- 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).

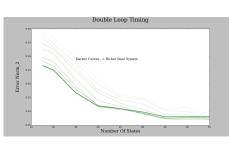


# Base System Performance for Loops

#### No noise in durations

# Double Loop Timing Double Loop Timing

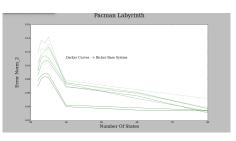
#### Noise in durations



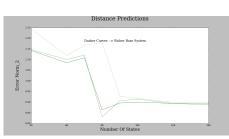
- Noise allows for smaller models
- $||f \hat{f}|| = \sqrt{\sum_{x \in observations} (f(x) f(x))^2}$

# Pacman Labyrinth

#### **Timing Predictions**



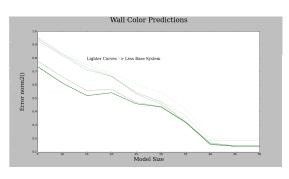
#### Distance Predictions



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

#### Wall Color Predictions

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





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

## Picking the Base System

- Picking operators to exploit structure 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
- Solution: iterative greedy heuristic

# Computing with the Base System

- Using the Base System well involves requires good **string partitions** Query string: "abcacb", Base System =  $\{A_{ab}, A_{bca}, A_{cb}, A_a, A_b\}$  Desired partition: "a—bca—cb""
- Goal: minimize matrices used
- 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

# Questions? Comments?