

Automata Learning Meets State Space Machines

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State Space Models and Mealy Machines

- State Space Models have become popular in recent years as a promising alternative to Transformers [1, 2]

State Space Models and Mealy Machines

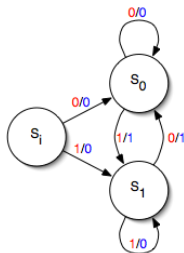
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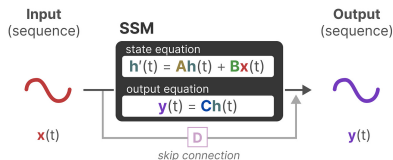
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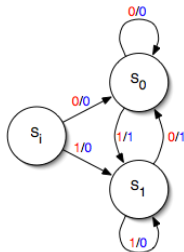
**Mealy
Representation**



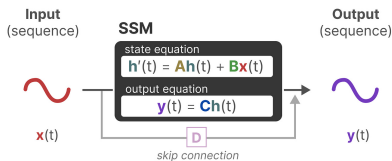
State Space Update Dynamics

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**Mealy
Representation**



State Space Update Dynamics

- State Space models and Mealy machines are "learned" very differently, yet much of their computational behavior is very similar

How well do these two machines "learn" various reactive systems

- Mealy machines are usually synthesized, but in a data-rich, spec-poor world, we construct them through active and passive automata learning [3]

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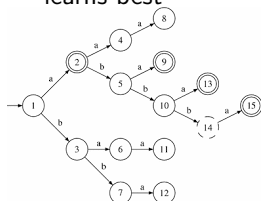
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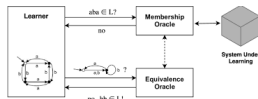
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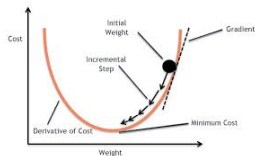
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- We use SyntComp benchmarks to compare automata learning and gradient descent methods for reactive systems, identifying which problem classes each learns best



RPNI Passive Learning



Active Learning

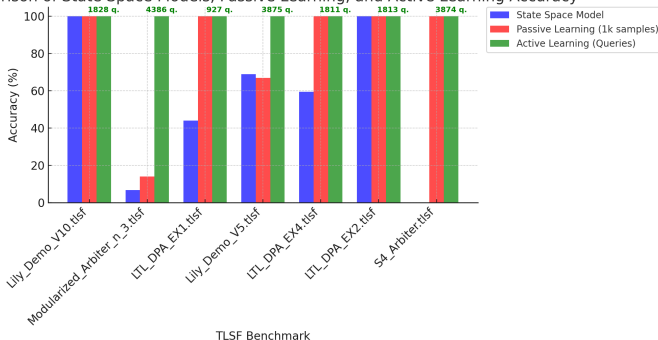


Gradient Descent

Analyzing sample complexity reveals how effectively each algorithm learns reactive systems

- Passive and Active learning are much more sample efficient compared to gradient based learning for SSMs

Comparison of State Space Models, Passive Learning, and Active Learning Accuracy

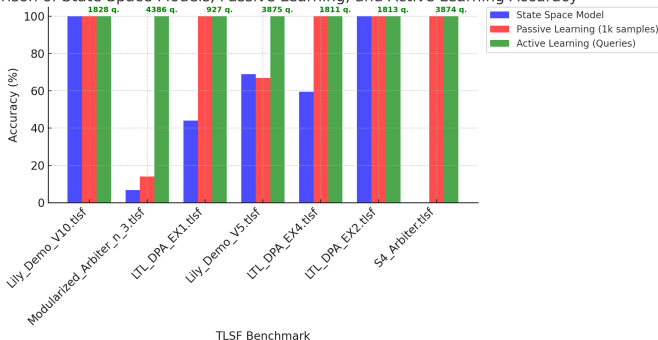


Passive Learning 1,000 samples, SSM Learning 10,000 samples

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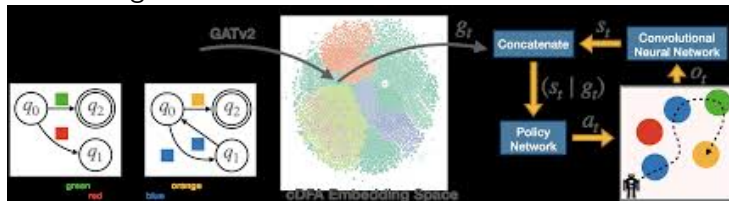


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- Why should we care about this?

Projecting automata into Euclidean space enables SSMs to learn more complex reactive behaviors

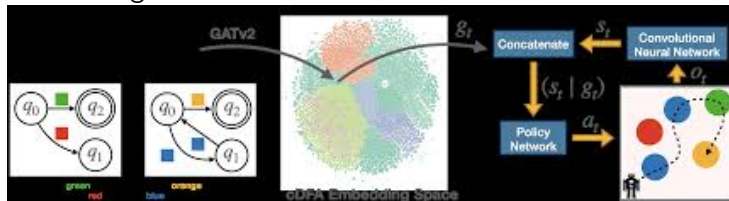
- Prior work has embedded DFAs into continuous spaces [6, 7]. We aim to leverage this to transfer safety guarantees and initialize SSMs for faster convergence



Graphic Showing Embedding of Automata for Deep Learning [7]

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Graphic Showing Embedding of Automata for Deep Learning [7]

- Recent SSM advances stem from effective initialization (e.g., HiPPO [8]). In this vein, we aim to leverage automata sample efficiency to better warm start SSMs



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