# Interpretable reinforcement learning

### About me



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### Overview

- Motivation
- Problem statement
- Approaches
- Final method
- Results

# Motivation

### Robots would be great





### Robots don't understand the world



### Supervised data is expensive

#### Built-in workflow pricing for labeling with Amazon Mechanical Turk

If you use a vendor, the cost per label is set by the vendor. You can see each vendor's pricing details in AWS Marketplace. If you use Amazon Mechanical Turk for labeling, you are charged per object per labeler. We recommend that you use multiple labelers per object to improve label accuracy.

Workflow	Suggested price per labeler					
Image classification	\$0.012					
Text classification	\$0.012					
Named Entity Recognition (NER)	\$0.024					
Bounding box	\$0.036					
Semantic Segmentation	\$0.84					

### Robots should explore by themselves



### How can the robot learn human concepts?



### How can the robot learn human concepts?



## Problem statement

# Interpretable reinforcement learning

### Procgen



### **Object-based reinforcement learning**



Human gameplay on game version without any object priors

Human gameplay on original game version

### Goal: add an object detector

Image  $\rightarrow$  Object detector  $\rightarrow$  Objects  $\rightarrow$  RL

# Approaches

### 1. Use a pretrained vision model (Detectron)





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Original

Optical flow

**Object detector** 

### 1. Use a pretrained vision model (Detectron)



No objects detected



a) Represent image as an array of object vectors



b) Represent image as a list of (object category, object mask)



- Unreliable
- Encoder misses small objects
- Ignores task context



Approaches (part 2)

# Maybe we can add indirect biases

### 3. Model agent-object interactions



### 3. Model agent-object interactions



### 4. Add a channel bottleneck

- Prior: only a few object types
- Prior: true dimensionality is much lower



#### Nature CNN

**Bottleneck CNN** 

### Experiment

- Train with 40 object textures
- Test on 6 new textures
- Same dynamics: agent needs to collect good objects and avoid bad objects



# **Final method**

### Idea: categorize objects



### Sanity check

• Ground truth categories improve agent performance



### Architecture



$$(64,64,3) \rightarrow 3x3 \rightarrow ST \xrightarrow{(64,64,64)} 8x8/4 \xrightarrow{(15,15,32)} 4x4/2 \xrightarrow{(7,7,64)} 3x3 \rightarrow (5,5,64)$$
  
conv33 dsc nature CNN

### Discretization



Vector quantization

### Discretization

$$q_i = \frac{exp(z_i/T)}{\sum_j exp(z_j/T)}$$

#### Softmax annealing

### Discretization



Pass-through gradients



• U-Net paper







• Resnet performs just as well





### Latents



### Latents







### No significant impact on performance



### Ablation

• What if we use a reconstruction loss?

### Ablation

• What if we use a reconstruction loss?



### Correcting mistakes



### Teaching new objects



### Transferring textures



### Transfer

n_steps	PAD		BC	RIA						
	131k	1M	8k	131k	0	16	32	64	256	1024
leaper	-127	-127	74	164	-51	19	54	66	76	88
fruitbot	9	9	16	90	9	55	66	77	70	83
miner	-17	-15	42	37	45	50	49	50	79	90
dodgeball	-8	-8	5	22	-7	29	35	32	50	40
starpilot	-6	6	4	70	6	21	28	33	43	55

Table 1: Average normalized scores in test environments with different backgrounds and object textures.

### Transferring games



### Conclusion



Code: github.com/allenz/interpretable-rl