

# COUNTEREXAMPLE GUIDED RL POLICY REFINEMENT USING BAYESIAN OPTIMIZATION

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#### **INTRODUCTION**











# **PROBLEM STATEMENT**



- 1. Given a policy  $\pi_{old}$ , learnt from optimizing reward in a given environment, test it against parameters with uncertainties and a set of objective functions  $\varphi$  derived from the negation of the given safety criteria.
- 2. Using the failure trajectories selectively do a gradient update on  $\pi_{old}$  to construct a new policy  $\pi_{new}$ , that excludes the counterexample traces under the given domain uncertainties

# **FRAMEWORK**



#### FINDING COUNTER-EXAMPLE TRACES

Safety Specification : The lander cannot be tilted at an angle while being close to the ground.Coordinates :  $(I_x, I_y) 0 \le (I_x, I_y) \le 10$ Angle :  $(I_{angle}) -1 \le I_{angle} \le 0$ 

 $|_{y} < 5 \rightarrow |_{angle} \geq -0.5$ 

Negation of the Specification  $\phi$  :  $\neg(I_y < 5 \rightarrow I_{angle} \ge -0.5) \equiv \neg(\neg(I_y < 5) \lor (I_{angle} \ge -0.5))$ 

 $\equiv$  (I<sub>y</sub>< 5)  $\land$  (I<sub>angle</sub> < -0.5)

 $\mu_1: I_y^{-5} < 0$   $\mu_2: I_{angle}^{+} + 0.5 < 0$ 

**Optimization Objective :**  $min(\mu_1 + \mu_2)$ 

**Counterexample :**  $I_y = 1$  and  $I_{angle} = -0.8$ 





#### **PROXIMAL POLICY OPTIMIZATION OVERVIEW**

Current policy that we want to refine :  $\pi_{\theta}(a_t|s_t)$ 

Policy that we last used to collect samples :  $\pi_{\theta_{old}}(a_t|s_t)$ 

Evaluate a new policy with samples collected from an older policy : maximize  $\hat{\mathbb{E}}_t \left[ \frac{\pi_{\theta}(a_t \mid s_t)}{\pi_{\theta_{\text{old}}}(a_t \mid s_t)} \hat{A}_t \right]$ 

Objective Ratio : 
$$r_t( heta) = rac{\pi_ heta(a_t|s)}{\pi_{ heta_{tt}}(a_t|)}$$

Clipped Objective : 
$$\mathcal{L}_{\theta_k}^{CLIP}(\theta) = \mathop{\mathbb{E}}_{\tau \sim \pi_k} \left[ \sum_{t=0}^{T} \left[ \min(r_t(\theta) \hat{A}_t^{\pi_k}, \operatorname{clip}(r_t(\theta), 1-\epsilon, 1+\epsilon) \hat{A}_t^{\pi_k}) \right] \right]$$

+ve advantage will make that action more

-ve advantage will make that action less

likely in the future, for that state.

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### **POLICY REFINEMENT METHODOLOGY**



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Clipped Objective Ratio :  $r_t( heta) = rac{\pi_{old}(a_t|s_t)}{\pi_c(a_t|s_t)}$ 

#### Advantage $A_1 = 1$

Since, these corrected trajectories are to be enforced into  $\pi_{old}$  we set the advantage factor  $A_t$  to be 1.

Update 
$$\pi_{old}$$
 to  $\pi_{new}$  by maximizing the PPO clip objective using  $\pi_{c}$ 

Variation Distance between two policies:

$$D_{v}(\pi_{old} || \pi_{new}) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{\xi_{i}, \xi_{i}' \in \xi} \sqrt{\sum_{s_{i} \in \xi_{i}, s_{i}' \in \xi_{i}'} |(s_{i})_{\pi_{old}} - (s_{i}')_{\pi_{new}}|^{2}}$$

#### **EMPIRICAL STUDIES**

Environment	Safety Criteria	Parameter Bounds	Failures	Distance
Cart-pole-v0	12.4 < position < 2.4 22.0 < momentum < 2.0 3. angle > 0.2	State : [(-0.05, 0.05)] * 4 Mass : (0.05, 0.15) Length of pole : (0.4, 0.6) force magnitude: (8.00, 12.00)	174.4 ± 0.51	1.255 ± 0.195
Pendulum-v0	1. Reward > -300	θ: (-π,π) θ: (0,1) speed: (-1,1)	80.1 ± 1.85	10.866 ± 1.379
BipedalWalker-v3	1. Hull Position > 0 20.8 < Hull Angle < 2	Hull angle : (0,2*π) Velocity x: (-1,1) Velocity y: (-1,1)	40.6 ± 4.08	11.189 ± 1.375
LunarLanderContinuous-v2	10.4 < Landing <sub>Positionx</sub> <0.4 2. $Pos_y < 0.1 \rightarrow (angle > -1)$ V angle < 1) 3. Reward > 0	xδ : (0,10) yδ : (0,20) velxδ : (0,3) velyδ : (0,3)	40.85 ± 5.14	2.215 ± 0.282

## **REWARD PLOTS**



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Random Observations



Failure Trajectory Observations



#### **COMPARISON WITH BASELINES**

- A) PPO policy trained from scratch with negative penalty for property violation,
- B) PPO policy trained from scratch with only counterexample traces and negative penalty after one iteration of testing with BO same as  $\pi_c$
- C) PPO policy trained from scratch with original training traces, counterexample traces and negative penalty after testing with one iteration of BO, and
- D) The refined policy  $\Pi_{new}$

Environment	Policy A	Policy B	Policy C	Policy D
Cart-pole-v0	Failures: 179	Failures: 52	Failures: 0	Failures: 0
	Training Steps: 900K	Training Steps: 150K	Training Steps: 1M	Training Steps: 150K+ 80K (Update)
Pendulum-v0	Failures: 89	Failures: 102	Failures: 0	Failures: 0
	Training Steps: 1.6M	Training Steps: 850K	Training Steps: 1.8M	Training Steps: 850K+ 20K (Update)
BipedalWalker-	Failures: 45	Failures: 145	Failures: 41	Failures: 0
v3	Training Steps: 7.5M	Training Steps: 2.8M	Training Steps: 8M	Training Steps: 2.8M+ 20K (Update)
LunarLanderCon	Failures: 42	Failures: 18	Failures: 5	Failures: 0
tinuous-v2	Training Steps: 1.1M	Training Steps: 400K	Training Steps: 1.2M	Training Steps: 400K+ 20K (Update)

#### **EXAMPLES OF FAILURES AND CORRECTIONS**



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