Hierarchical Reinforcement Learning and Human Behavior

Matthew Botvinick Princeton Neuroscience Institute and Department of Psychology Princeton University









Schultz et al., Science, 1997





Matsumoto & Hikosaka, Nature, 2007

Gehring & Willoughby, Science, 2002





0.8%











After Sutton, Precup & Singh, 1999









Superordinate actions



Hamilton & Grafton, J Neurosci, 2006

Humpheys & Forde, Cog. Neuropsych., 2001



Botvinick, Niv & Barto, Cognition, 2009





From Curtis & D'Esposito, *TICS*, 2003



White & Wise, Exp Br Res, 1999

80





Miller & Cohen, Ann. Rev. Neurosci, 2001





From Badre, TICS, 2008







O'Reilly & Frank, Neural Computation, 2006





Bonini et al., J. Neurosci., 2011







Schoenbaum, et al. J Neurosci. 1999



Botvinick, Niv & Barto, Cognition, 2009















Total Earned: \$1.05









Diuk, et al., J Neurosci, 2013







Ribas-Fernandes et al., Neuron, 2011















Ribas-Fernandes et al., Neuron, 2011









Ribas-Fernandes et al., Neuron, 2011



The Burden of Abstraction



1. What should be learned?

- 2. Do people learn it?
- 3. How?























Fortunato, Physics Reports, 2010



Simsek, Wolfe & Barto, 2005

- 1. What should be learned?
- 2. <u>Do people learn it</u>?
- 3. How?









City Docks



Movie Theater



Coffee Shop



Computer Store



Diner





Post Office









Post Office **Construction Site** Airport Ice-cream Parlor Movie Theater Bakery Diner Park Veterinary Library Hot Dog Stand Beach **City Docks Computer Store** Coffee Shop \square Hospital Amusement Park School **Bus Station**

Click on locations that are along the path between start and goal IN ANY ORDER.









- 1. What should be learned?
- 2. Do people learn it?
- 3. <u>How</u>?



 $Pr(data|model) = \sum_{i=1}^{p} ta|model, \theta)Pr(\theta|model)$



Anna Schapiro





	♦	↓	♦
	1.00	0.66	-0.36
-	0.66	1.00	-0.36
	-0.36	-0.36	1.00





















+ HC







+ HC

















cf. Dayan, 1993







Mahadevan & Maggioni, 2005





Stachenfeld, Botvinick & Gershman, NIPS, 2014





Olshausen & Field, Nature, 1996







Botvinick & Plaut, Psych Review, 2004

Conclusions



The scaling problem in RL



Hierarchy can help



Model-free versus model-based HRL



HRL in the brain



The need for good representations



Task decomposition, bottlenecks, community detection



Prospective coding and structure discovery



Hierarchy as compression







Collaborators

Andy Barto (UMass) Yael Niv (Princeton) Tim Rogers (Wisconsin) Nick Turk-Browne (Princeton)







Carlos Diuk (Facebook) Jose Ribas-Fernandes (U. Victoria) Anna Schapiro Alec Solway (V. Tech / UCL) Kim Stachenfeld Ari Weinstein Debbie Yee (Wash. U.)

Lab Contributors















James S. McDonnell Foundation



JOHN TEMPLETON FOUNDATION