



模式分析与机器智能
工业和信息化部重点实验室
MIT Key Laboratory of
Pattern Analysis & Machine Intelligence



模式识别与神经计算研究组
Pattern Recognition and Neural Computing

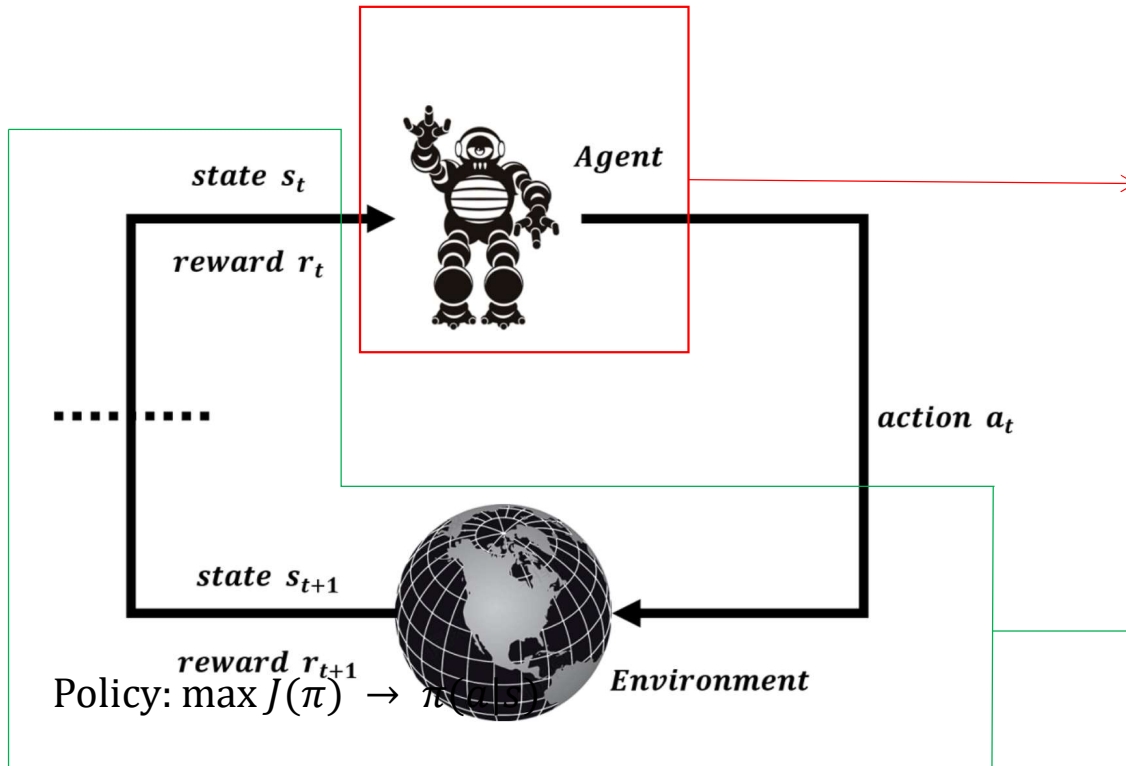
Boosting Offline Reinforcement Learning with Action Preference Query

Qisen Yang^{* 1} Shenzhi Wang^{* 1} Matthieu Gaetan Lin² Shiji Song¹ Gao Huang¹

^{*}Equal contribution ¹Department of Automation, BNRist, Tsinghua University, Beijing, China ²Department of Computer Science, BNRist, Tsinghua University, Beijing, China. Correspondence to: Gao Huang <gaohuang@tsinghua.edu.cn>.

ICML2023

Background



policy: $\pi(a|s)$

(actor)

value function { state value function: $V(s)$
state-action value function: $Q(s, a)$
(critic)

MDP=($S, A, R, \gamma, P, \rho_0$)

S : state space A : action space

R : reward fuction γ : discount factor

P : state transition function $s_{t+1} \sim P(\cdot | s_t, a_t)$

ρ_0 : distribution of initial state $s_0 \sim \rho_0(s)$

Objective: $J(\pi) = \mathbb{E}_{s_0 \sim \rho_0, a \sim \pi(\cdot|s), s' \sim P(\cdot|s, a)} [\sum_{t=0}^T \gamma^t r(s_t, a_t)]$

Background

$$V^\pi(s) = \mathbb{E}_{s_t, a_t \sim \rho_\pi} \left[\sum_{t=0}^T \gamma^t r(s_t, a_t) \mid s_0 = s \right]$$

$$Q^\pi(s, a) = \mathbb{E}_{s_t, a_t \sim \rho_\pi} \left[\sum_{t=0}^T \gamma^t r(s_t, a_t) \mid s_0 = s, a_0 = a \right]$$



$$V^\pi(s) = \mathbb{E}_{a \sim \pi(\cdot|s)} [Q(s, a)]$$

$$Q^\pi(s, a) = r(s, a) + \gamma \mathbb{E}_{s' \sim P(\cdot|s, a)} V^\pi(s')$$

Bellman function

$$\begin{aligned} V^\pi(s) \\ = \mathbb{E}_{a \sim \pi(\cdot|s)} [r(s, a) + \gamma \mathbb{E}_{s' \sim P(\cdot|s, a)} V^\pi(s')] \end{aligned}$$

$$Q^\pi(s, a) = r(s, a) + \gamma \mathbb{E}_{s' \sim P(\cdot|s, a)} \mathbb{E}_{a' \sim \pi(\cdot|s')} [Q(s', a')]$$

policy iteration {
policy evaluation: use trajectories of π to evaluate Q and V
policy improvement: use Q and V to update π e.g. $\pi_{k+1}(a|s) = \operatorname{argmax}_a Q^{\pi_k}(s, a)$

Background

Disadvantage of RL : **sample inefficiency**

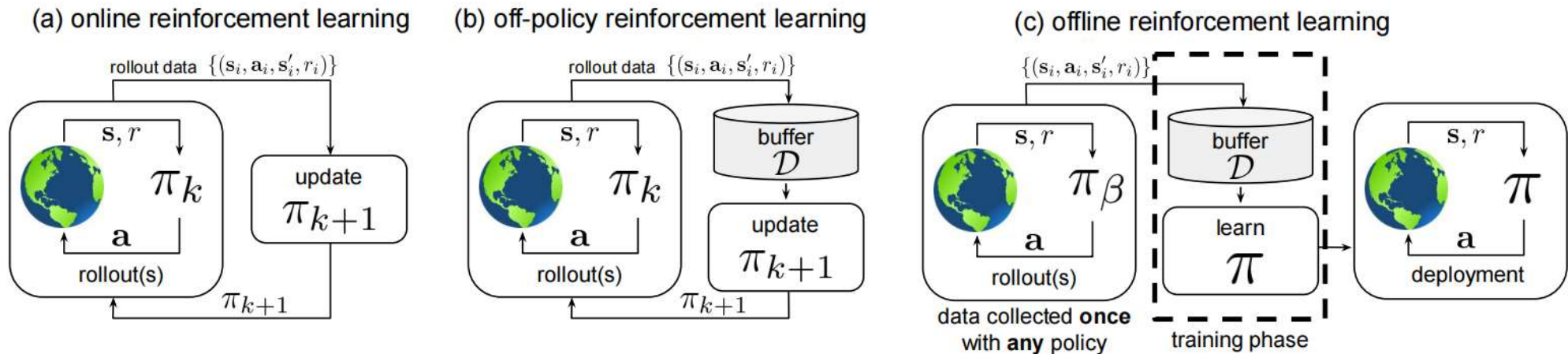
main reasons {

$$\text{loss}_V = \text{MSE_loss}(\mathbb{E}_{a \sim \pi(\cdot|s)}[r(s, a) + \gamma \mathbb{E}_{s' \sim P(\cdot|s, a)} V^\pi(s')], V^\pi(s))$$

The trade-off between **exploration** and **exploitation**

Because of the large amount of interaction with the environment, RL is not suitable for some high-risk environments, such as autonomous driving and healthcare.

Background



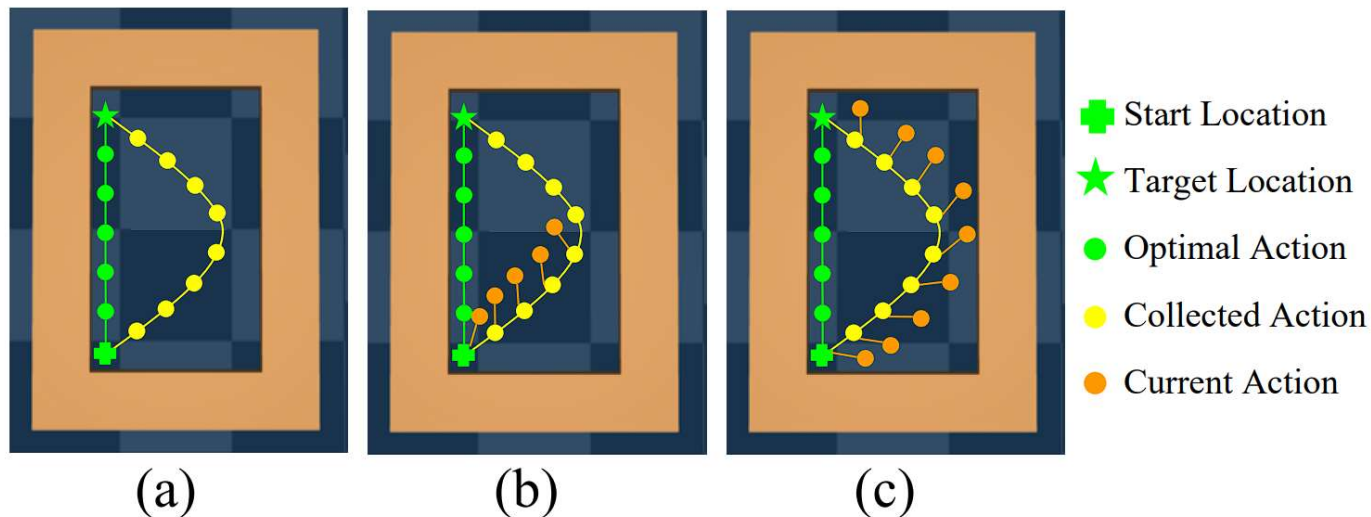
The main idea of offline RL is keeping **pessimism**, that is, learning a policy which is close to the behavior policy.

TD3+BC:

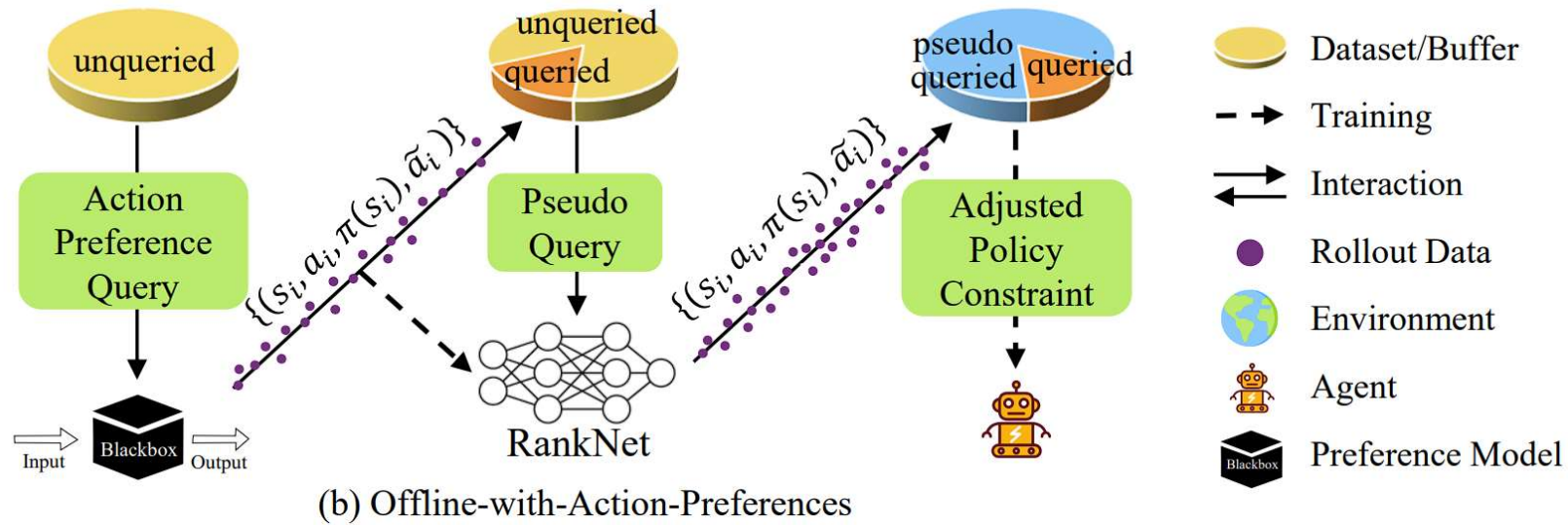
$$\pi = \operatorname{argmax}_{\pi} \mathbb{E}_{(s,a) \sim \mathcal{D}} [Q(s, \pi(s))] \longrightarrow \pi = \operatorname{argmax}_{\pi} \mathbb{E}_{(s,a) \sim \mathcal{D}} \left[\lambda Q(s, \pi(s)) - (\pi(s) - a)^2 \right]$$

Boosting Offline Reinforcement Learning with Action Preference Query

- Some actions in the dataset are of low quality, which could cause erroneous estimate problem.
- Action preference queries are easier to obtain in real-world environments.
- In some high-stake scenarios, limited online interactions can be inaccessible when online fine-tuning.



Method



1. Action Preference Query

while training, query the preferred actions according to ranking criterion

ranking criterion $l_i = (\pi(s_i) - a_i)^2$

the preferred action $\tilde{a}_i = G(s_i, a_i, \pi(s_i)) = \arg \max_{a \in \{a_i, \pi(s_i)\}} Q^*(s_i, a)$

2. Pseudo Query with RankNet

a query dataset $\mathcal{D}_q = \{(s_k, a_k, \pi^k(s_k), \tilde{a}_k) \mid k = 1, 2, \dots, M\}$

ranking function f_r

RankNet $o_k = f_r(s_k, a_k) - f_r(s_k, \pi^k(s_k))$ $P_k = e^{o_k} / (1 + e^{o_k})$

$$C_k = C(o_k) = -\bar{P}_k \log P_k - (1 - \bar{P}_k) \log(1 - P_k)$$

pseudo query $G(s_i, a_i, \pi(s_i)) = \arg \max_{a \in \{a_i, \pi(s_i)\}} f_r(s_i, a)$

3. Adjusted Policy Constraint

$$\pi = \arg \max_{\pi} \mathbb{E}_{(s,a) \sim \mathcal{D}} [\lambda Q(s, \pi(s)) - (\pi(s) - \boxed{a})^2] \implies \pi = \arg \max_{\pi} \mathbb{E}_{(s,a)} [\lambda Q(s, \pi(s)) - (\pi(s) - \boxed{\tilde{a}})^2]$$

Proposition 3.1 (Perfect preference case). *Consider the case with perfect preferences, i.e., $\forall(s, a)$, the state-action value function $Q^*(s, a)$ used for the action preference query is accurate. Then π_β and $\tilde{\pi}_\beta$ satisfy:*

$$\begin{aligned} \eta(\tilde{\pi}_\beta) - \eta(\pi_\beta) \\ \approx \mathbb{E}_{s \sim \mathcal{D}} [Q^*(s, \tilde{\pi}_\beta(s)) - Q^*(s, \pi_\beta(s))] \geq 0. \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

Proposition 3.2 (Imperfect preference case). *Consider the case where preferences probably have errors. Denote the accurate state-action value function as $Q^*(s, a)$ and the faulty function as $\hat{Q}^*(s, a)$. Then $\forall \hat{Q}^*$ satisfying $D_{\text{TV}}^{\tilde{\pi}_\beta}(\hat{Q}^*, Q^*) \leq \tilde{\alpha}$, $D_{\text{TV}}^{\pi_\beta}(\hat{Q}^*, Q^*) \leq \alpha$, it holds that*

$$\begin{aligned} \eta(\tilde{\pi}_\beta) - \eta(\pi_\beta) \gtrsim \mathbb{E}_{s \sim \mathcal{D}} \left[\hat{Q}^*(s, \tilde{\pi}_\beta(s)) \right. \\ \left. - \hat{Q}^*(s, \pi_\beta(s)) \right] - 2(\tilde{\alpha} + \alpha)\bar{\rho}_{\pi_\beta}, \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

where $\bar{\rho}_{\pi_\beta} = \sup\{\rho_{\pi_\beta}(s), s \in \mathcal{S}\} \in \left[\frac{1}{|\mathcal{S}_\mathcal{D}|(1-\gamma)}, \frac{1}{1-\gamma} \right]$ ($|\mathcal{S}_\mathcal{D}|$ denotes the number of different states in $\mathcal{D}$).

Algorithm 1 Offline-with-Action-Preferences

Require: Offline dataset $\mathcal{D}$, query dataset $\mathcal{D}_q$, training steps N_{train} , query intervals M_{inter} , query limit K_{total} .

Ensure: Policy π after optimization.

Initialize policy π and RankNet f_r .

Let the preferred actions $\tilde{a}_i = a_i, a_i \in \mathcal{D}$.

for $t = 1 \rightarrow N_{\text{train}}$ **do**

 Update the policy π by Equation (6).

if $t \bmod M_{\text{inter}} = 0$ **then**

 Select $\frac{K_{\text{total}} M_{\text{inter}}}{N_{\text{train}}}$ samples from the offline dataset $\mathcal{D}$ according to the ranking criterion.

 Conduct action preference query by Equation (2).

 Add queried samples into the query dataset $\mathcal{D}_q$.

for epoch = 0, 1, $\dots$, until convergence **do**

 Train the RankNet f_r with the query dataset $\mathcal{D}_q$ by Equation (3).

end for

 Conduct pseudo queries on the rest of the samples in the offline dataset $\mathcal{D}$ by Equation (4).

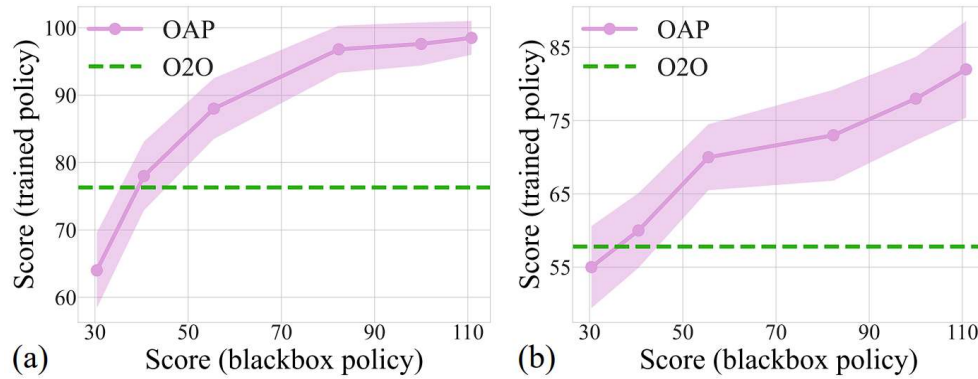
end if

end for

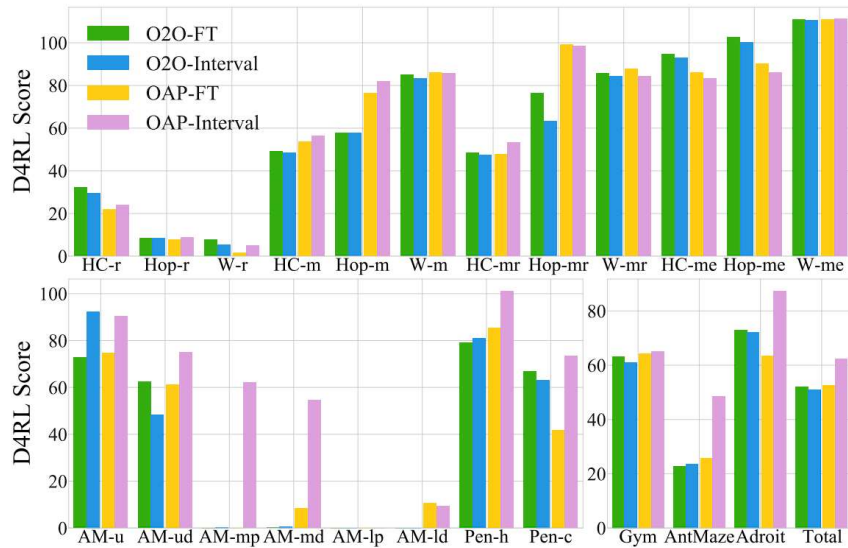
Experiment

Dataset	Offline	Online	Online-Mix	Offline-to-Online	OAP
halfcheetah-random-v2	11.1 $\pm$ 1.3	19.2 $\pm$ 4.1	28.3 $\pm$ 2.1	32.3 $\pm$ 1.9	24.0 $\pm$ 1.6
hopper-random-v2	8.7 $\pm$ 1.6	14.5 $\pm$ 12.5	10.1 $\pm$ 0.4	8.6 $\pm$ 1.2	8.8 $\pm$ 1.8
walker2d-random-v2	1.8 $\pm$ 1.5	1.0 $\pm$ 2.5	2.2 $\pm$ 1.5	7.7 $\pm$ 8.0	5.1 $\pm$ 5.1
halfcheetah-medium-v2	48.1 $\pm$ 0.2	19.2 $\pm$ 4.1	48.1 $\pm$ 0.2	49.2 $\pm$ 0.2	56.4 $\pm$ 4.3
hopper-medium-v2	55.8 $\pm$ 1.2	14.5 $\pm$ 12.5	58.4 $\pm$ 1.7	57.8 $\pm$ 2.0	82.0 $\pm$ 6.6
walker2d-medium-v2	83.2 $\pm$ 0.5	1.0 $\pm$ 2.5	79.2 $\pm$ 9.9	85.1 $\pm$ 0.9	85.6 $\pm$ 1.2
halfcheetah-medium-replay-v2	44.9 $\pm$ 0.1	19.2 $\pm$ 4.1	46.0 $\pm$ 0.4	48.3 $\pm$ 0.3	53.4 $\pm$ 1.9
hopper-medium-replay-v2	57.2 $\pm$ 10.2	14.5 $\pm$ 12.5	48.4 $\pm$ 3.4	76.3 $\pm$ 13.3	98.5 $\pm$ 2.5
walker2d-medium-replay-v2	81.1 $\pm$ 2.8	1.0 $\pm$ 2.5	76.7 $\pm$ 14.1	85.6 $\pm$ 1.7	84.3 $\pm$ 2.7
halfcheetah-medium-expert-v2	85.4 $\pm$ 3.3	19.2 $\pm$ 4.1	82.2 $\pm$ 5.2	94.5 $\pm$ 0.6	83.4 $\pm$ 5.3
hopper-medium-expert-v2	88.7 $\pm$ 2.9	14.5 $\pm$ 12.5	97.0 $\pm$ 7.6	102.5 $\pm$ 4.5	85.9 $\pm$ 6.6
walker2d-medium-expert-v2	110.9 $\pm$ 0.6	1.0 $\pm$ 2.5	110.1 $\pm$ 0.8	110.8 $\pm$ 0.4	111.1 $\pm$ 0.6
Gym Average	56.4 $\pm$ 2.2	11.6 $\pm$ 6.4	57.2 $\pm$ 3.9	63.2 $\pm$ 2.9	64.9 $\pm$ 3.3
antmaze-umaze-v0	94.4 $\pm$ 2.7	0	0	72.8 $\pm$ 36.8	90.4 $\pm$ 5.2
antmaze-umaze-diverse-v0	51.0 $\pm$ 16.8	0	0	62.5 $\pm$ 31.2	75.0 $\pm$ 19.0
antmaze-medium-play-v0	1.4 $\pm$ 0.8	0	0	0	62.0 $\pm$ 10
antmaze-medium-diverse-v0	1.0 $\pm$ 1.9	0	0	0.3 $\pm$ 0.4	54.5 $\pm$ 23.3
antmaze-large-play-v0	0	0	0	0	0
antmaze-large-diverse-v0	0	0	0	0	9.4 $\pm$ 8.4
AntMaze Average	24.6 $\pm$ 3.7	0	0	22.6 $\pm$ 11.4	48.6 $\pm$ 11.0
pen-human-v1	84.8 $\pm$ 11.2	4.3 $\pm$ 7.4	8.5 $\pm$ 10.1	79.1 $\pm$ 14.5	101.2 $\pm$ 11.5
pen-cloned-v1	56.2 $\pm$ 16.3	4.3 $\pm$ 7.4	57.2 $\pm$ 29.5	66.8 $\pm$ 11.1	73.5 $\pm$ 13.0
Adroit Average	70.5 $\pm$ 13.7	4.3 $\pm$ 7.4	32.8 $\pm$ 19.8	72.9 $\pm$ 12.8	87.4 $\pm$ 12.2
Average	48.3 $\pm$ 3.8	7.4 $\pm$ 4.6	37.6 $\pm$ 4.3	52.0 $\pm$ 6.4	62.2 $\pm$ 6.5

Experiment



work with faulty annotations



what if queries were focused instead of spaced

Dataset	OAP	OAP (inf)	OAP (w/ RN)
HC-r	24.0 ± 1.6	22.0 ± 1.4	11.0 ± 1.1
Hop-r	8.8 ± 1.8	13.2 ± 7.4	8.1 ± 0.8
W-r	5.1 ± 5.1	2.3 ± 2.0	1.9 ± 0.9
HC-m	56.4 ± 4.3	59.2 ± 1.5	48.2 ± 0.3
Hop-m	82.0 ± 6.6	92.8 ± 4.1	45.9 ± 1.5
W-m	85.6 ± 1.2	86.6 ± 0.3	84.8 ± 2.4
HC-mr	53.4 ± 1.9	51.3 ± 0.6	28.4 ± 3.1
Hop-mr	98.5 ± 2.5	101.9 ± 2.0	31.6 ± 3.5
W-mr	84.3 ± 2.7	84.9 ± 9.9	74.8 ± 5.5
HC-me	83.4 ± 5.3	84.1 ± 3.2	84.3 ± 5.3
Hop-me	85.9 ± 6.6	92.2 ± 8.2	80.6 ± 2.6
W-me	111.1 ± 0.6	109.4 ± 1.5	111.0 ± 0.4
Avg.	64.9 ± 3.3	66.7 ± 3.5	50.9 ± 2.3

necessity for RankNet

Thanks