Custom Design and Control of Extreme Beams with Deep Reinforcement Learning

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Relationship to Other ML Application Areas

Note: all are collaborative, complementary efforts!



Deep RL learns how to optimally control a system by interacting with it over time (builds understanding of system)

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Synergistic experiments, individual success enhances all research

Science Motivation

Major limitations in the way accelerator tuning is done:

- Piecemeal tuning of subsystems (known to be sub-optimal)
- Indirect use of high-dimensional diagnostics (e.g. images)
- Often a lack of accurate online models
 - ightarrow Potentially limiting factors in control of extreme beams

More global view can enable better control:

- Fully exploit unknown system-wide sensitivities + nonlinearities
- Faster switching between setups (if using global representation of machine)
- Better handling of parameter tradeoffs (e.g. jitter, matching, longitudinal phase space)

Comprehensive, system-wide control is likely to be a key factor in improving custom control of extreme beams, but this is a difficult task



Deep Reinforcement Learning



- Control policy maps states to actions
- Policy is learned over time based on performance (quantified by the "reward")
- Neural network enables use of diverse signal types (e.g. scalars, images, time series)
- Often learns a system model simultaneously (map states + actions to expected reward)

Appeal for accelerator control:

- Suitable for large, nonlinear systems
- Exploit machine-wide sensitivities + directly use complicated diagnostic information
- Leverage information from past observations
- Transfer between similar designs
- Well-established in other fields (e.g. robotic control)
 → but accelerators have unique challenges









Deep RL is well-suited to accelerator control, but dedicated R&D is needed to bring it to full fruition

Recent Example



quads used for flat beam

screen location

RL on the round-to-flat beam transform at UCLA Pegasus:

- Trained offline using learned model
- Transferred to machine for retraining
- One trained, RL had fastest convergence compared with other methods







Conceptual Experimental Layout

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Three stages: injector, post-BC20, then combined control

Train controller in simulation, leverage passive data from other experiments in training, then test + retrain on machine

Diagnostics and Observables

- LPS diagnostics (e.g. injector, downstream TCAVs)
- Emittance measurements
- Upstream inputs: virtual cathode camera, QE map when available, etc.
- Readbacks from settings (gun solenoid, gun and linac phases / amplitudes, etc.)

\rightarrow Can be flexible and adapt to installation / commissioning schedule



Goals, Timeline, and Definition of Success

Technical Goals:

- Stage 0: Finish simulation campaign in Impact and Lucretia (by mid-November)
- Stage I: Demonstrate RL control for the injector emittance and longitudinal phase space (LPS) in single-bunch mode (6 months)
- Stage 2: Demonstrate RL control for linac LPS in single-bunch mode (year I)
- Stage 3: Combined injector + linac control of LPS in single-bunch mode (year I)
- Stage 4: Extend to two-bunch mode (year 1.5 2) and other setups
- → Definition of success: faster or higher-quality tuning than standard methods, new capabilities in control

Infrastructure Goals:

Delivery of algorithms and interface for regular FACET-II operations (year 1 - 1.5) Demonstrate extension to other setups (year 1.5 - 2)

\rightarrow Definition of success: tool available and used in routine operation

Staged approach gradually increases complexity Success defined by performance (new capabilities) and transition to operations SL AC

Initial studies are to establish the method + infrastructure and demonstrate the approach \rightarrow philosophy is to start small

Future evolution:

- Scale up to more comprehensive control (more controlled variables and observed inputs)
- Adapt to more challenging tasks where comprehensive control is likely to have a large impact on capabilities (e.g. optimize through plasma stage)
- Transfer learning to apply to other machines for similar control tasks (e.g. injector optimization, longitudinal phase space manipulation)

Match to Facility + Other FACET-II Experiments

Match to FACET-II R&D Goals and Facility Infrastructure

- R&D with challenging-to-control "extreme" beams (e.g. high current, high intensity)
 → RL is a promising approach for fine control of such beams (e.g. strong nonlinear collective effects)
- Variety of experiments requiring custom beams
 → Ideal application for RL (can use learned information from previously-observed setups)
- Suitable diagnostics and data/control infrastructure

 → Essential for making effective use of deep RL (best use is with high-dimensional data)
- Benefit to future FACET-II experiments → RL control will likely be an enabling technology for new experimental capabilities (esp. where finer control of extreme beams is required)

Synergy with Current ML Efforts

- ML-based diagnostics (LPS and edge radiation) can be inputs to RL control
- Joint use of gathered data and machine time Data from LPS VD and adaptive feedback can be used in pre-training RL controller, data from RL testing can help train LPS VD
- Adaptive feedback and RL fill complementary niches and can be used in tandem:

Model-independent → no data needed Good for new setups, hardware changes, etc Excellent for stabilization, drift compensation, fine tuning

Model-dependent → learns to control system over time Very fast for observed setups, needs more time to learn very different setups Good for bulk and fine tuning; less robust for stabilization

Good synergy w/ current ML efforts (e.g. tandem use of algorithms, can leverage joint data) Good match to long-term FACET-II science goals (e.g. control of extreme beams) GPUs connected to control system will be critical for dedicated convolutional neural network deployment and online retraining

 \rightarrow for initial testing can use shared desktop GPU (but not suitable for dedicated use)

• Extended data archiving / acquisition capabilities

 \rightarrow e.g. more flexibility with beam synchronous acquisition for cameras

Collaboration



LCLS injector and linac layout is similar to that of FACET-II, and both require delivery of customized LPS

→ Opportunity to demonstrate transfer of RL algorithms between accelerator systems

Long-term aim is to apply to experiments (e.g. tuning for CSR studies, plasma experiments, etc.)





















Backups



- Simulation campaign: underway with Impact (injector) and Lucretia (linac); estimated finish by end of November 2020
- Conceptual design: done, will adapt to available instrumentation as needed
- Experimental design (90%): mid December 2020
- Ready for installation: end of December 2020
- First science: nominal beam parameters or commissioning beam is ok
- Stages: first target injector, then linac + combined control

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Neural Network Policies and Reinforcement Learning



Actor-Critic Methods

- Critic maps states or state/action pairs to an estimate of long-term reward
- Could be a NN, tabular, etc.
- Critic provides training signal to actor

Without actor: use an optimization algorithm with the critic







Can use supervised learning to first approximate the behavior of a different control policy

Auralee Edelen May 2017