Predicting Human Action Using An Online Learning Algorithm

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Introduction

Online learning is a method of data analysis that takes in human sequential input and updates itself to make appropriate decisions in response to those inputs.
- Humans are psychologically geared to make specific patterns in their actions, especially in game applications.
- Online learning algorithms can be utilized to tap into this data and then further improve its adaptability and functionality.

Skills Learned

Fixed Expert Hedge Algorithm
This algorithm has a fixed number of experts through which the accumulated loss of each expert is maintained in order to create a probability distribution among the experts at time $t$. The computer then has a higher probability of selecting the prediction of the expert that maintains a smaller accumulated loss.

Fixed Tree Expert Algorithm
There are a fixed number of experts with a probability distribution, and each expert is a tree. The probability distribution is updated similar to Hedge, but the decision that each expert makes is dependent on previous human action history.

Sleeping Hedge Algorithm
There is a tree constructed of experts at each node that are either asleep or awake. The probability distribution across each expert is updated the same way as fixed expert hedge, but only the probabilities of the experts that are on the path of the human history (awake) are updated.

Sleeping AdaNormalHedge Algorithm
There is a tree construction of experts similar to sleeping hedge. The only key difference is that AdaNormalHedge is a parameter-free algorithm that avoids the uncertainty from the hyper-parameter $\eta$ in sleeping hedge.

I have performed two different trials to test the proficiency of each algorithm in making the right predictions:

1. Easy Patterns (RPS X 3, SPR X 3, PRS X 3)
2. Hard Patterns (RPSSPR X 2, SPSRSR X 2)

Conclusions

- In both graphs, the fixed hedge expert performed the worst due to there still being a possibility of selecting an action that has a reduced probability.
- The fixed tree expert performed well with the easy pattern, but failed to perform as well when presented with a difficult pattern due to the limited depths of each tree.
- All sleeping expert algorithms did a sufficient job at learning and predicting due to their inherent ability to limit the scope of experts through which the computer selects a prediction. By limiting the scope of selected experts only to those who are awake, the computer is better able to make a more accurate prediction based off of previous human history.
- A deterministic approach, which automatically selects the expert with the highest probability, outperforms a random approach, which still has a chance of selecting experts with lower probabilities.

Next Steps After Having Done this Research

I believe that my future plans will first involve making these algorithms more applicable, through which there can be more than 3 actions that are considered. After having done so, I hope to apply the skills and concepts that I learned in this program to other engineering pursuits that can hopefully reduce the net suffering of our world. That is my passion and I hope that I can use Artificial Intelligence to do so.

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