Robot Learning with Adverbial Corrections

Naga Suresh Krishna Kondepudi, Robotics and Autonomous Systems Mentor: Dr. Nakul Gopalan, Assistant Professor School of Computing and Augmented Intelligence



Motivation

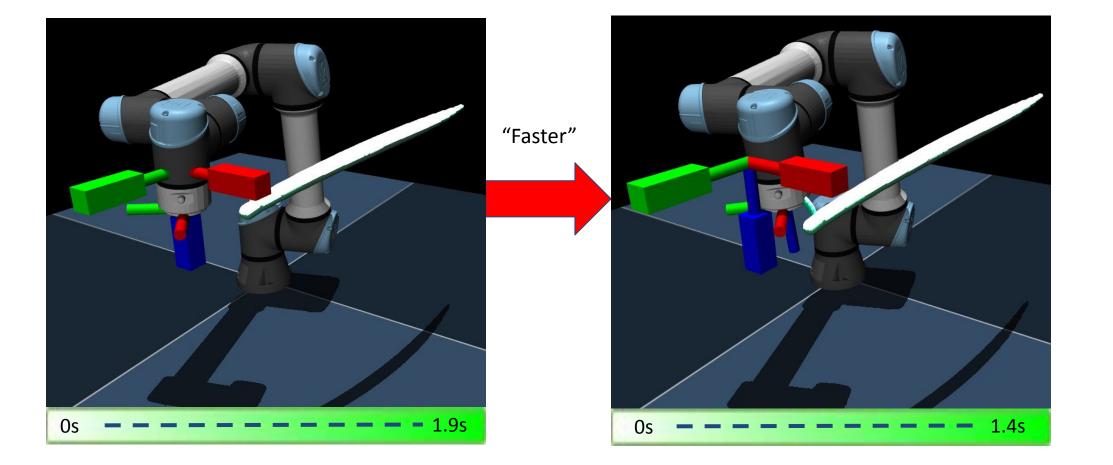
Human instructions may convey semantic nuances that robots find challenging to learn at a granular motion level. This research proposes a framework using adverbial corrections, aiming to bridge the gap between human intent and robotic execution.

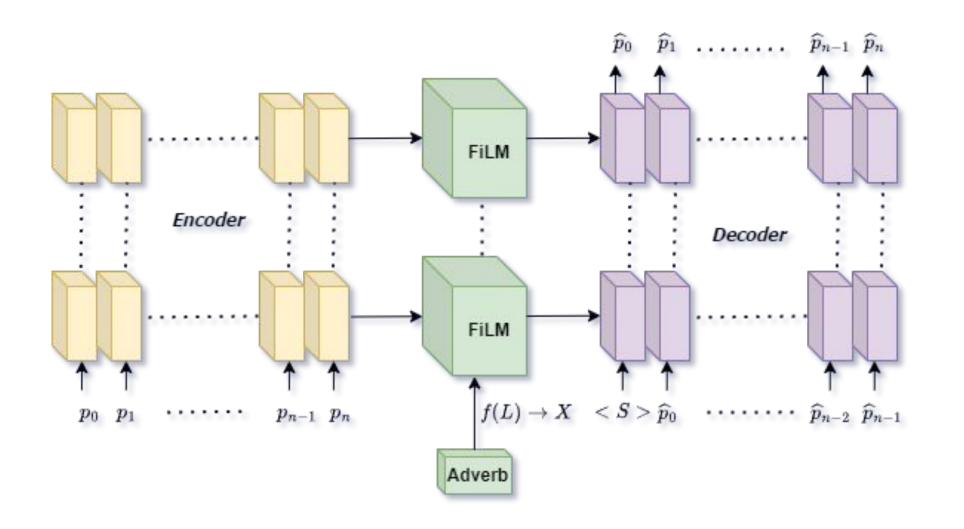
Research methods

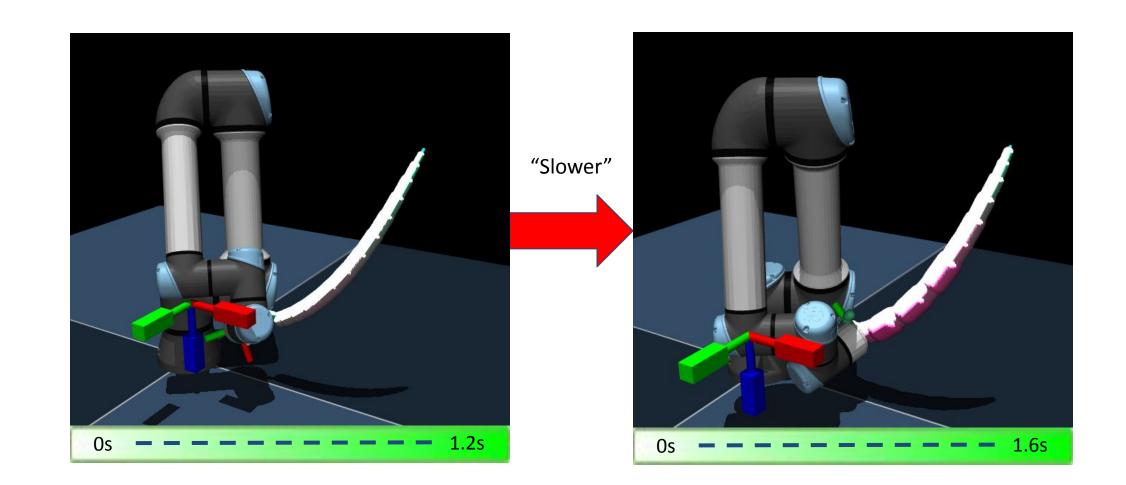
- Behavior Cloning with seq2seq frameworks as inspiration.
- Conditioning of adverbial feedback with FiLM layers.

Findings and progress

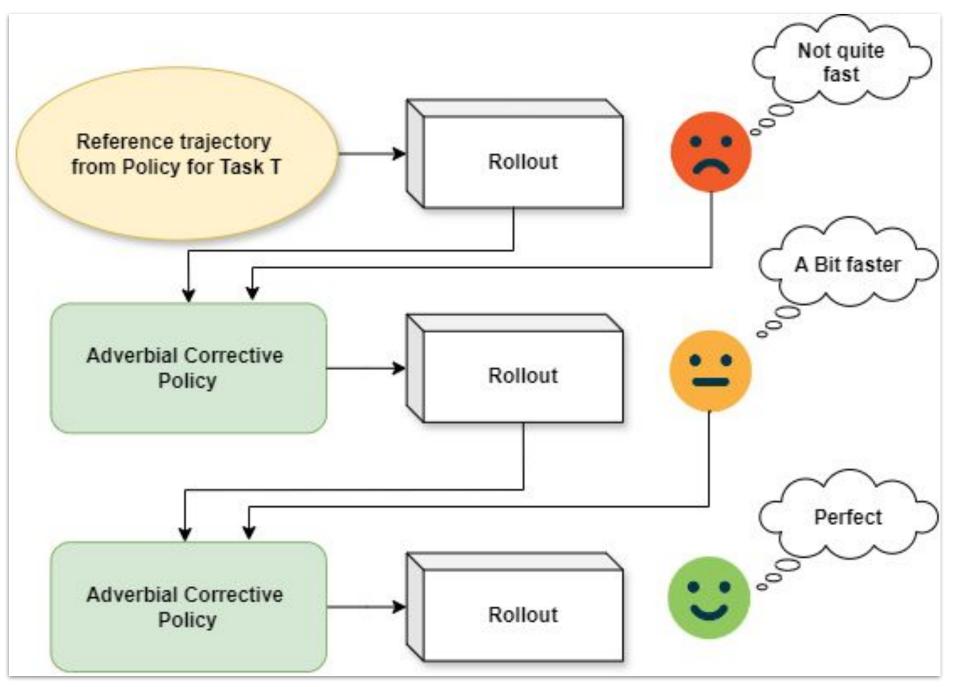
Trained an LSTM Encoder-Decoder network on a UR5e robot domain over a large distribution of reaching tasks with "faster" and "slower" adverbial feedback.







With iterative corrections guided by human feedback, we refine robot trajectory rollout to align with our preferences and effectively reaching a motion that matches our true intent.



Challenges

- Dataset generation: required a large amount of motion trajectories in the robot workspace for reference and modified trajectories, for each adverb embedding.
- Trouble tracking terminal state of reference trajectories in corrective rollouts.

Results

Robot config MAE Traj Error

1-dof robot	0.71 ± 0.34
2-dof robot	0.87 ± 0.70
UR5e robot	2.13 ± 1.33

Acknowledgements

We anticipate that by training a general policy capable of building on a reference trajectory, we can extend its prowess across diverse policies that work on different tasks.

[1] Co-Reyes, John D., et al. "Guiding policies with language via meta-learning." arXiv preprint arXiv:1811.07882 (2018).
[2] Spiegel, B.A. and Konidaris, G., 2021. Guided Policy Search for Parameterized Skills using Adverbs. arXiv preprint arXiv:2110.15799.



