



JOHNS HOPKINS
APPLIED PHYSICS LABORATORY



• QNI Summer Brief

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Systems Engineer
2022

● Roadmap

- Problem Description
- Methodology Exploration
- Reinforcement Learning (RL) Problem Formulation
- Setting up the RL Toolchain
- Policy Demonstration
- Future Work

Roadmap

- **Problem Description**
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● Problem Description

- **Problem:** Network traffic on board US Navy Ships are vulnerable to malicious attacks
- Why is network traffic important?

Problem Description

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- Why is network traffic important?

Network Traffic

Position
Orientation
Velocity
Acceleration
Wind Speed

Sensors



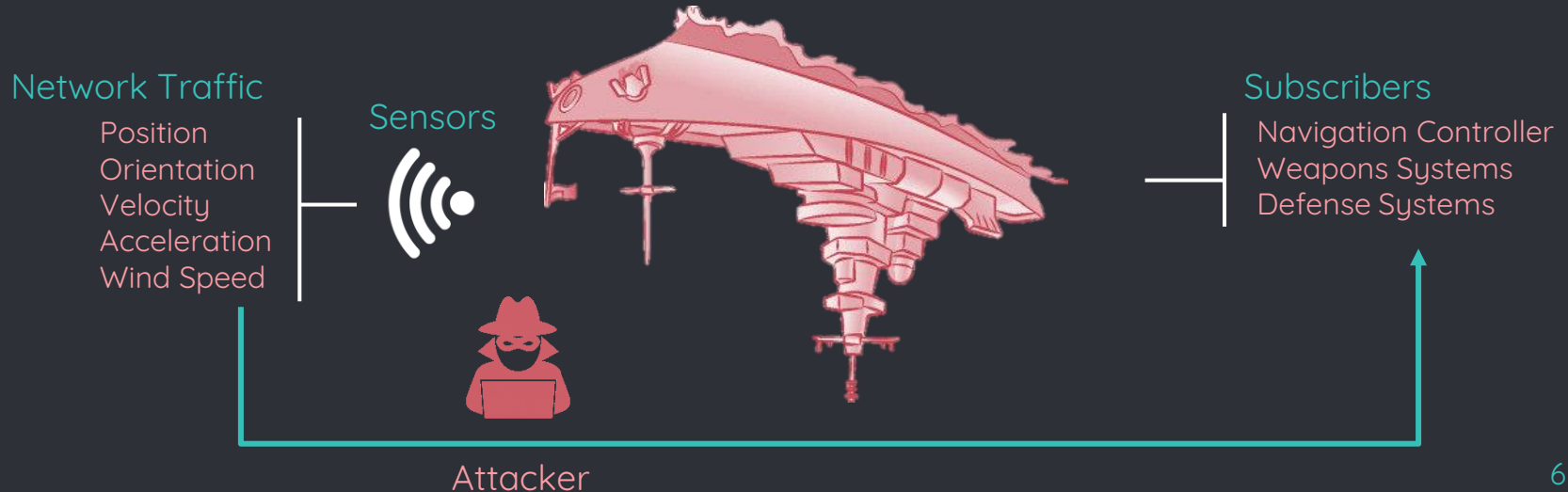
Subscribers

Navigation Controller
Weapons Systems
Defense Systems



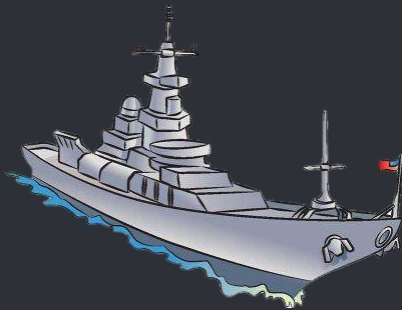
● Problem Description

- **Problem:** Network traffic on board US Navy Ships are vulnerable to malicious attacks
- Why is network traffic important?



Problem Description

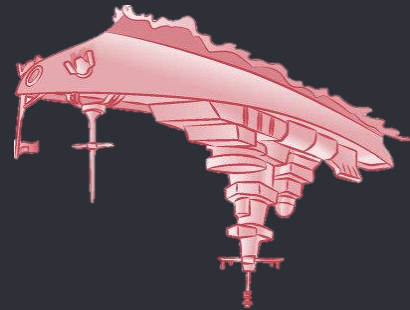
- **Problem:** Network traffic on board US Navy Ships are vulnerable to malicious attacks
- Why is network traffic important?
- **Objective:** Detect malicious attacks to the network traffic data and trigger subsequent alerts.



Expected Ship State



Data should not
trusted.
Send Alert!



Network Traffic Data

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● Methodology Exploration

- **Objective:** Detect malicious attacks to the network traffic data and trigger subsequent alerts.
- Utilize machine learning to learn the behavior of a ship

● Methodology Exploration

- **Objective:** Detect malicious attacks to the network traffic data and trigger subsequent alerts.
- Utilize machine learning to learn the behavior of a ship

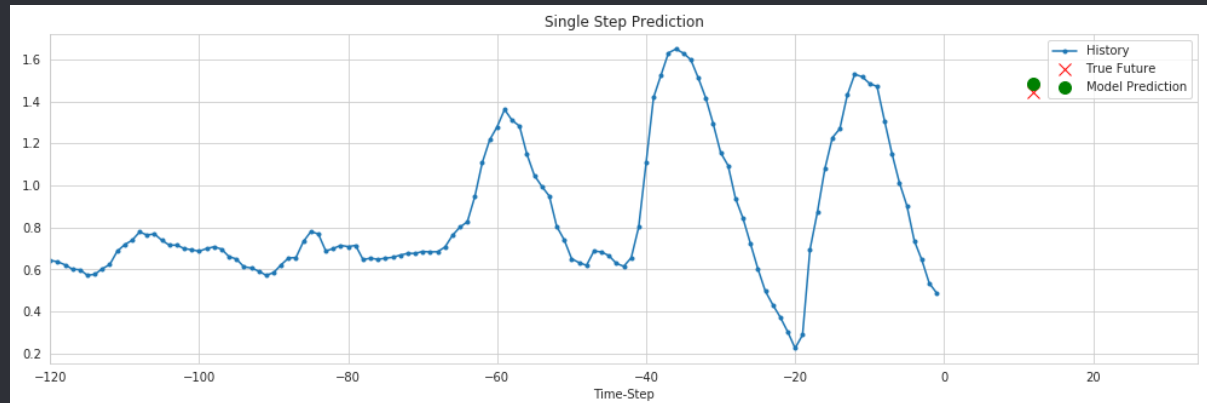
Methods

1. Long Short Term Memory (LSTM) Neural Networks
2. Reinforcement Learning

Methodology Exploration

Methods

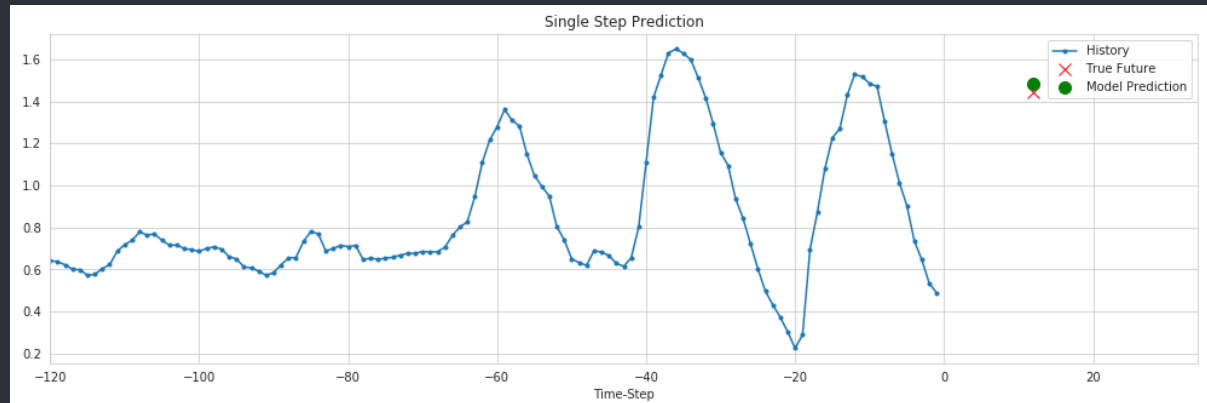
1. Long Short Term Memory (LSTM) Neural Networks



Methodology Exploration

Methods

1. Long Short Term Memory (LSTM) Neural Networks

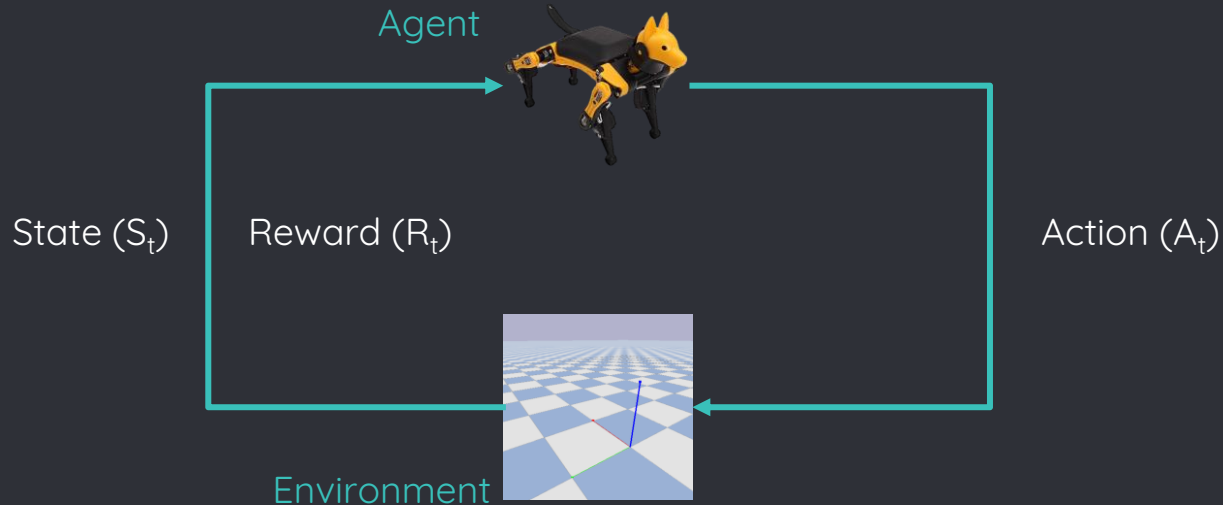


Disadvantage: Does not detect attacks more sophisticated than altering data magnitude

Methodology Exploration

Methods

1. Long Short Term Memory (LSTM) Neural Networks
- 2. Reinforcement Learning**



Methodology Exploration

Methods

1. Long Short Term Memory (LSTM) Neural Networks
- 2. Reinforcement Learning**



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● RL Problem Formulation

○ Per Episode:

- Randomly generate waypoints
- Use a PID controller to navigate to waypoints
- Randomly set environment factors



- RL Problem Formulation

- Per Episode:

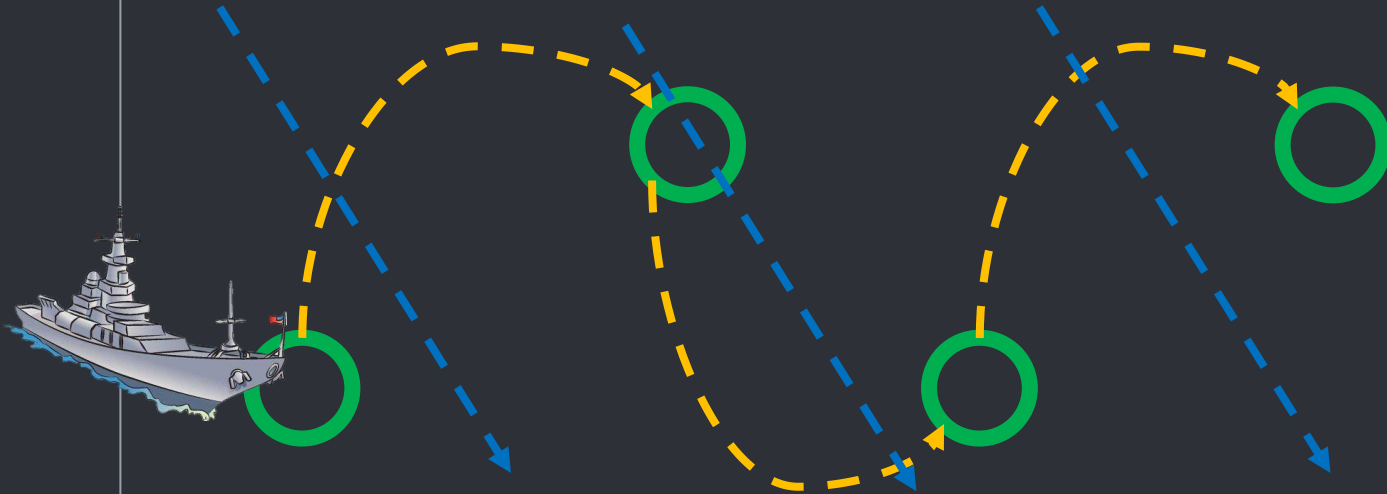
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- RL Problem Formulation

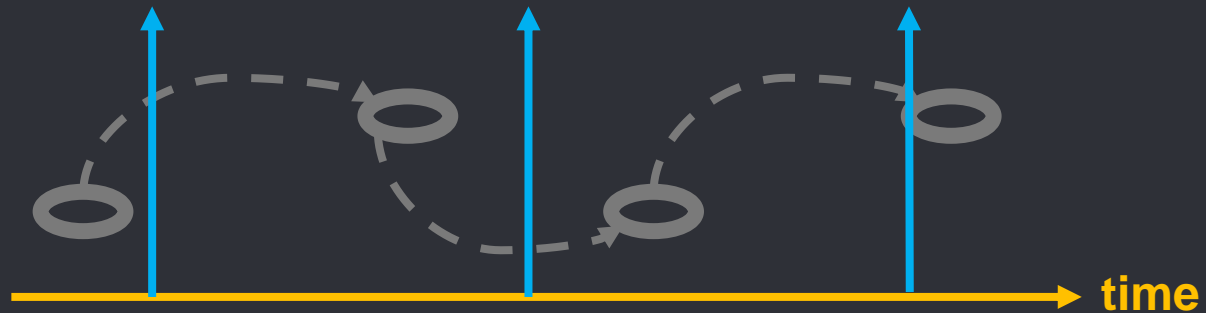
- Per Episode:

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● RL Problem Formulation

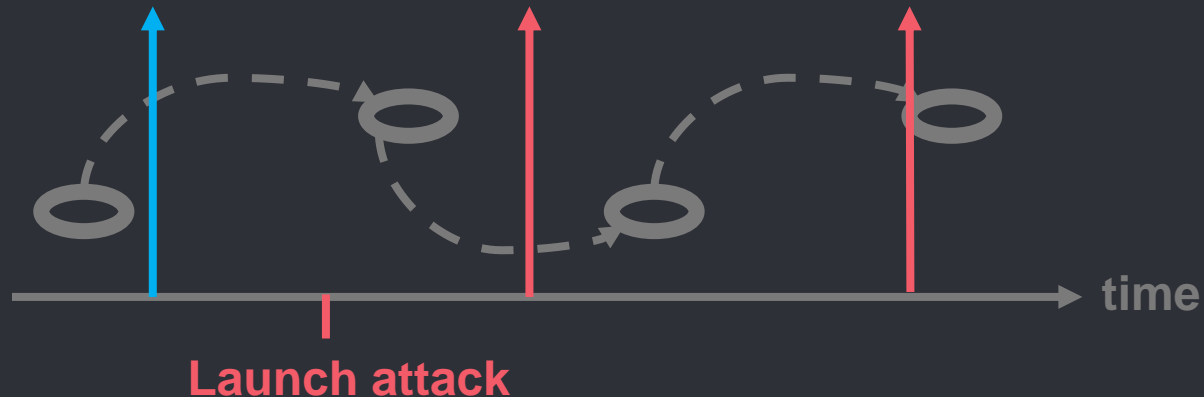
- Per Step:
 - Collect an **observation**
 - Wrap observation with an **attack module**



- RL Problem Formulation

- Naïve Attack Module

- Randomly selects **timestep** to launch attack
- Randomly selects **observations** to attack
- Randomly selects **perturbation** amount
- **Continues** to attack observation until agent **detects** attack



- RL Problem Formulation

- Observational Space (O)

$O = [$
[*position + n history*],
[*orientation + n history*],
[*position rate + n history*],
[*orientation rates + n history*],
[*environment info + n history*],
[*engine info + n history*],
[*next waypoint*]
]

where:

$n=5$

RL Problem Formulation

- Action Space (**A**)

$$\mathbf{A} = [\mathbf{A}_1, \mathbf{A}_2]$$

$$\mathbf{A}_1 = \forall [(o \in \mathbf{O}) \wedge \sim (o \in \{\mathit{sep}\})]: \mathbf{0} \leq a \leq \mathbf{1}$$

$$\mathbf{A}_2 = \mathbf{0} \leq a \leq \mathbf{1}$$

where:

sep := simulation exclusive features

- RL Problem Formulation

- Reward Function (**R**)

$$R = \sum_{a \in A_1} r(a) + b$$

where:

$$r(a) = \begin{cases} [r = a \mid o = true] \\ [r = -a \mid o = false] \end{cases}$$

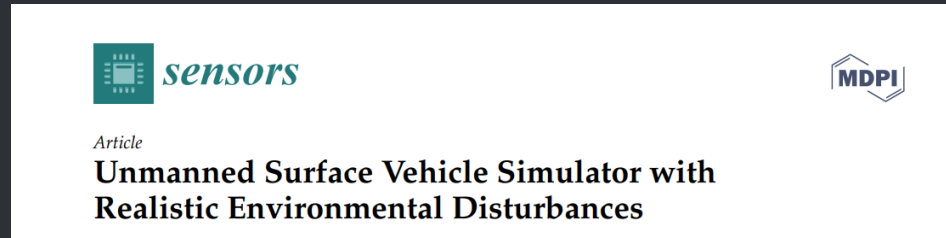
$$b = \begin{cases} [10 \mid (Underattack \wedge (A_2 \geq .8))] \\ [10 \mid (\sim Underattack \wedge (A_2 \leq .2))] \\ [-10 \mid (Underattack \wedge (A_2 \leq .5))] \\ [-10 \mid (\sim Underattack \wedge (A_2 \geq .5))] \end{cases}$$

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- **Setting up the RL Toolchain**
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Setting up the RL Toolchain

Finding a Surface Vehicle Simulator

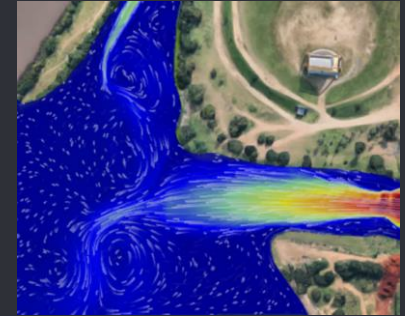


- Benchmarked existing simulators and found a lack of modeling environmental disturbances

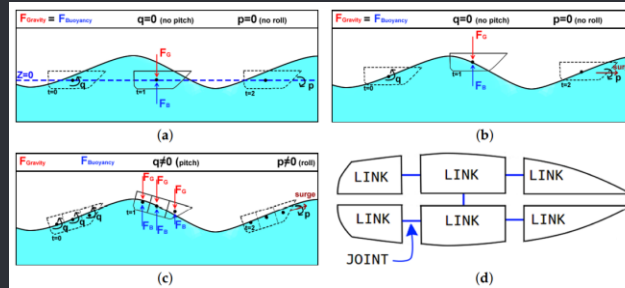
| Simulator | Waves | Buoyancy | Water Currents | Wind Currents | Thruster Underwater | Thruster above Water | Foil |
|---------------------|-------|----------|----------------|---------------|---------------------|----------------------|------|
| UWSim | ✓ | ✓ | × | × | ✓ | × | × |
| Gazebo | × | × | × | × | ✓✓ | ✓✓ | × |
| Freefloating Gazebo | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | × | ✓✓ | ✓✓ | × |
| VREP | ✓ | ✓ | × | × | ✓ | ✓✓ | × |
| RobotX Simulator | ✓ | ✓✓ | × | ✓ | ✓✓ | ✓✓ | × |
| USVSim | ✓✓ | ✓✓ | ✓✓ | ✓✓ | ✓✓ | ✓✓ | ✓✓ |

Setting up the RL Toolchain

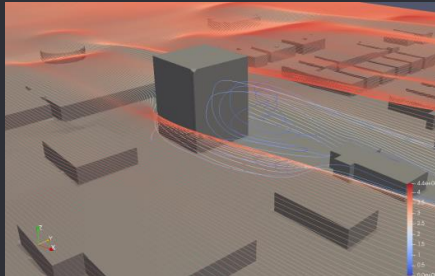
- ROS based Surface Vehicle Simulator



Water Currents



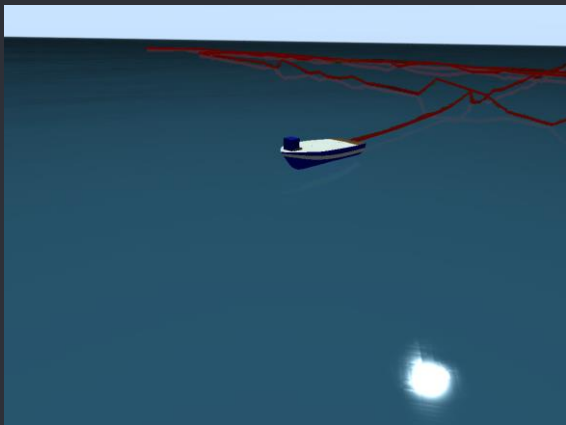
Waves interacting with multiple ship links



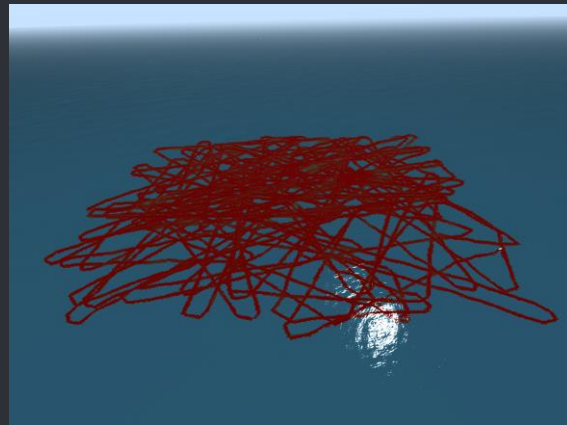
Wind Currents

● Setting up the RL Toolchain

- Extended the ROS based Simulator by developing a node to:
 - Publish randomized navigation goals
 - Collect data by subscribing to relevant topics
 - Set environmental parameters



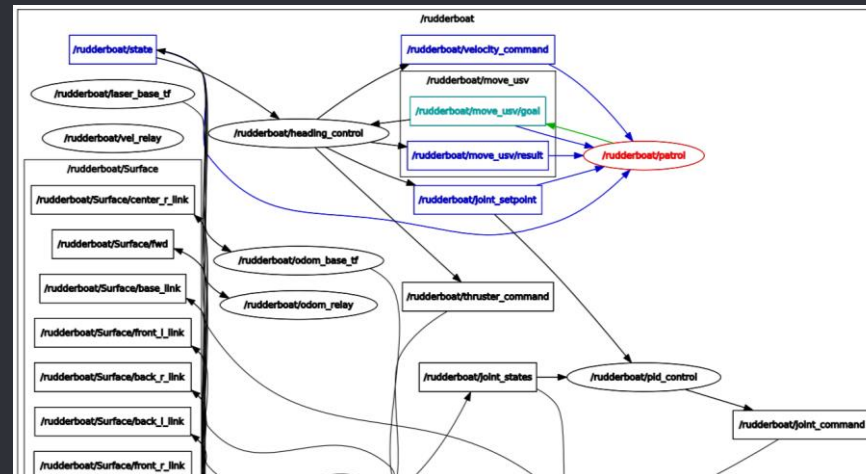
Ship Navigating to Waypoint



Ship Navigating to 300 Waypoints

Setting up the RL Toolchain

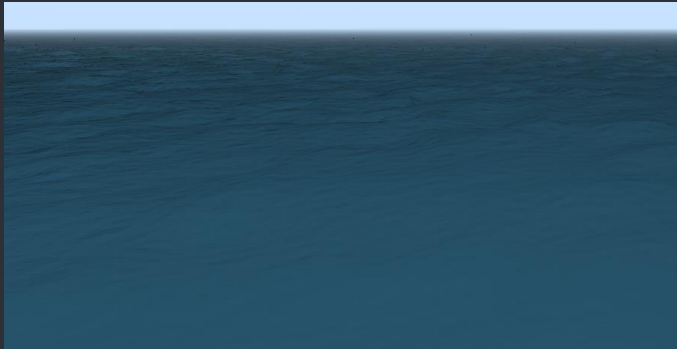
- Extended the ROS based Simulator by developing a node to:
 - Publish randomized navigation goals
 - Collect data by subscribing to relevant topics
 - Set environmental parameters



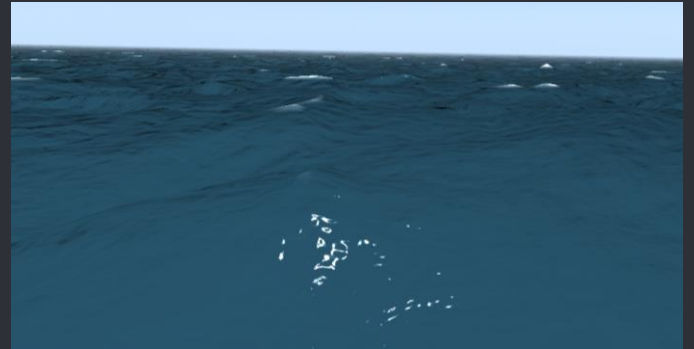
ROS Node Receiving Data and Publishing Waypoints

● Setting up the RL Toolchain

- **Extended the ROS based Simulator by developing a node to:**
 - Publish randomized navigation goals
 - Collect data by subscribing to relevant topics
 - **Set environmental parameters**



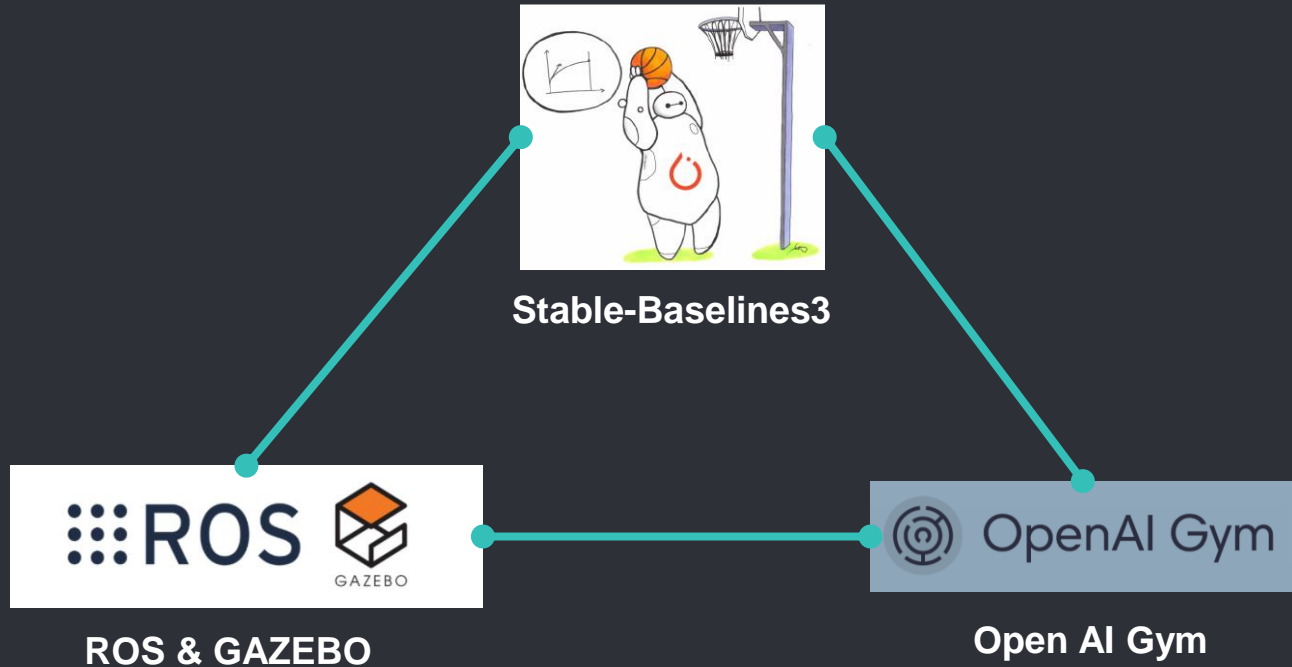
Calm Water at Low Wind Speed



Rough Waves at High Wind Speed

- Setting up the RL Toolchain

- Toolchain Summary

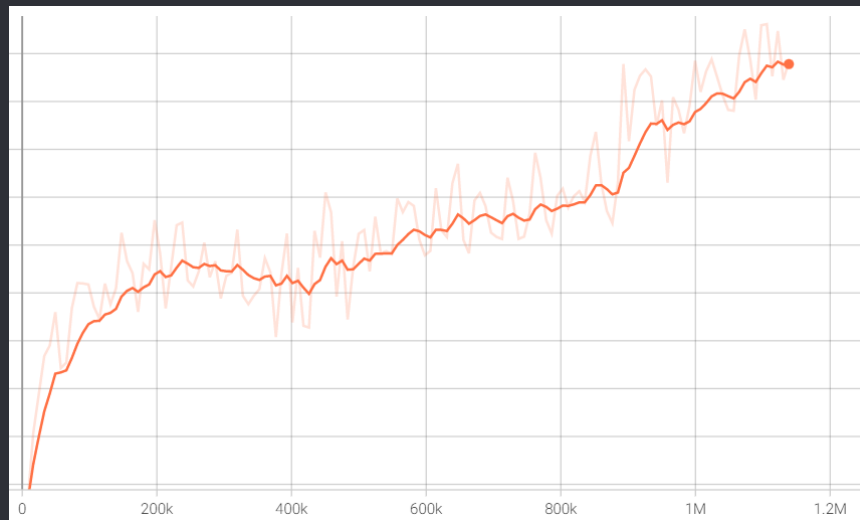


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Policy Demonstration

- **Training a Policy**
 - PPO Algorithm
 - 1 Million Timesteps



Learning Curve

Policy Demonstration

Sanity Check

```
Observation:
[0] position_x: 263.15
[1] position_y: 36.92
[2] position_z: 0.94
[3] orientation_x: 0.06
[4] orientation_y: 0.01
[5] orientation_z: 0.96
[6] position_rate_x: 1.12
[7] position_rate_y: -0.01
[8] position_rate_z: -0.91
[9] orientation_rate_x: 0.11
[10] orientation_rate_y: 0.02
[11] orientation_rate_z: -0.01
[12] wind_speed: 3.0
[13] engine_velocity_command: 200.0
[14] rudder_angle: 0.04
Index to modify: no
Action:
[0] position_x: 0.8
[1] position_y: 0.82
[2] position_z: 0.29
[3] orientation_x: 0.03
[4] orientation_y: 0.49
[5] orientation_z: 0.33
[6] position_rate_x: 0.97
[7] position_rate_y: 0.0
[8] position_rate_z: 0.26
[9] orientation_rate_x: 0.39
[10] orientation_rate_y: 0.23
[11] orientation_rate_z: 0.31
[12] wind_speed: 0.48
[13] engine_velocity_command: 0.49
[14] rudder_angle: 0.87
[15] Under Attack: 0.0
Next? [Y/n] █
```

Observations

Confidence Levels

Benign Traffic

Policy Demonstration

Sanity Check

```
Observation:
[0] position_x: 263.15
[1] position_y: 36.92
[2] position_z: 0.94
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[10] orientation_rate_y: 0.02
[11] orientation_rate_z: -0.01
[12] wind_speed: 3.0
[13] engine_velocity_command: 200.0
[14] rudder_angle: 0.04
```

Index to modify: no

Action:

```
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[14] rudder_angle: 0.87
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```

Next? [Y/n] █

High Confidence Levels

Overall Threat Level

Under Attack: 0.0

Benign Traffic

Policy Demonstration

Sanity Check

```
Observation:
[0] position_x: 263.24
[1] position_y: 36.87
[2] position_z: 1.0
[3] orientation_x: 0.06
[4] orientation_y: 0.0
[5] orientation_z: 0.96
[6] position_rate_x: 1.2
[7] position_rate_y: 0.02
[8] position_rate_z: -0.58
[9] orientation_rate_x: 0.12
[10] orientation_rate_y: -0.0
[11] orientation_rate_z: -0.0
[12] wind_speed: 3.0
[13] engine_velocity_command: 200.0
[14] rudder_angle: 0.05
Index to modify: 1
Perturbation: 234102981309812
Action:
[0] position_x: 0.0
[1] position_y: 0.0
[2] position_z: 0.02
[3] orientation_x: 0.0
[4] orientation_y: 0.06
[5] orientation_z: 0.0
[6] position_rate_x: 0.0
[7] position_rate_y: 0.0
[8] position_rate_z: 0.0
[9] orientation_rate_x: 0.02
[10] orientation_rate_y: 0.0
[11] orientation_rate_z: 0.16
[12] wind_speed: 0.0
[13] engine_velocity_command: 0.0
[14] rudder_angle: 0.0
[15] Under Attack: 0.08
Next? [y/n]
```

Attacking Y Position

Low Confidence Levels

Overall Threat Level

Under Attack: 0.08

Attack Y Position

Policy Demonstration

Sanity Check

```
Observation:
[0] position_x: 263.59
[1] position_y: 36.67
[2] position_z: 0.9
[3] orientation_x: 0.05
[4] orientation_y: -0.01
[5] orientation_z: 0.96
[6] position_rate_x: 1.43
[7] position_rate_y: 0.04
[8] position_rate_z: -0.89
[9] orientation_rate_x: 0.05
[10] orientation_rate_y: -0.07
[11] orientation_rate_z: 0.0
[12] wind_speed: 3.0
[13] engine_velocity_command: 200.0
[14] rudder_angle: 0.04
Index to modify: 0
Perturbation: 1234021384
Index to modify: 1
Perturbation: 1203981
Index to modify: no
Action:
[0] position_x: 0.03
[1] position_y: 0.07
[2] position_z: 0.02
[3] orientation_x: 0.04
[4] orientation_y: 0.07
[5] orientation_z: 0.05
[6] position_rate_x: 0.04
[7] position_rate_y: 0.0
[8] position_rate_z: 0.0
[9] orientation_rate_x: 0.16
[10] orientation_rate_y: 0.12
[11] orientation_rate_z: 0.0
[12] wind_speed: 0.0
[13] engine_velocity_command: 0.04
[14] rudder_angle: 0.0
[15] Under Attack: 0.19
Next? [Y/n]
```

Attacking X & Y Position

Low Confidence Levels

Overall Threat Level

Under Attack: 0.19

Attacking X&Y Position

Policy Demonstration

Sanity Check

```
Observation:
[0] position_x: 263.44
[1] position_y: 36.75
[2] position_z: 0.93
[3] orientation_x: 0.05
[4] orientation_y: -0.01
[5] orientation_z: 0.96
[6] position_rate_x: 1.49
[7] position_rate_y: 0.04
[8] position_rate_z: 0.85
[9] orientation_rate_x: 0.12
[10] orientation_rate_y: -0.06
[11] orientation_rate_z: 0.0
[12] wind_speed: 3.0
[13] engine_velocity_command: 200.0
[14] rudder_angle: 0.04
Index to modify: 0
Perturbation: 123123421
Index to modify: 1
Perturbation: 98324211
Index to modify: 13
Perturbation: 0
Index to modify: no
Action:
[0] position_x: 0.0
[1] position_y: 0.0
[2] position_z: 0.0
[3] orientation_x: 0.09
[4] orientation_y: 0.0
[5] orientation_z: 0.0
[6] position_rate_x: 0.0
[7] position_rate_y: 0.01
[8] position_rate_z: 0.0
[9] orientation_rate_x: 0.13
[10] orientation_rate_y: 0.02
[11] orientation_rate_z: 0.1
[12] wind_speed: 0.0
[13] engine_velocity_command: 0.0
[14] rudder_angle: 0.0
[15] Under Attack: 0.4
Next? [Y/n]
```

Large X and Y Position

Engine Off

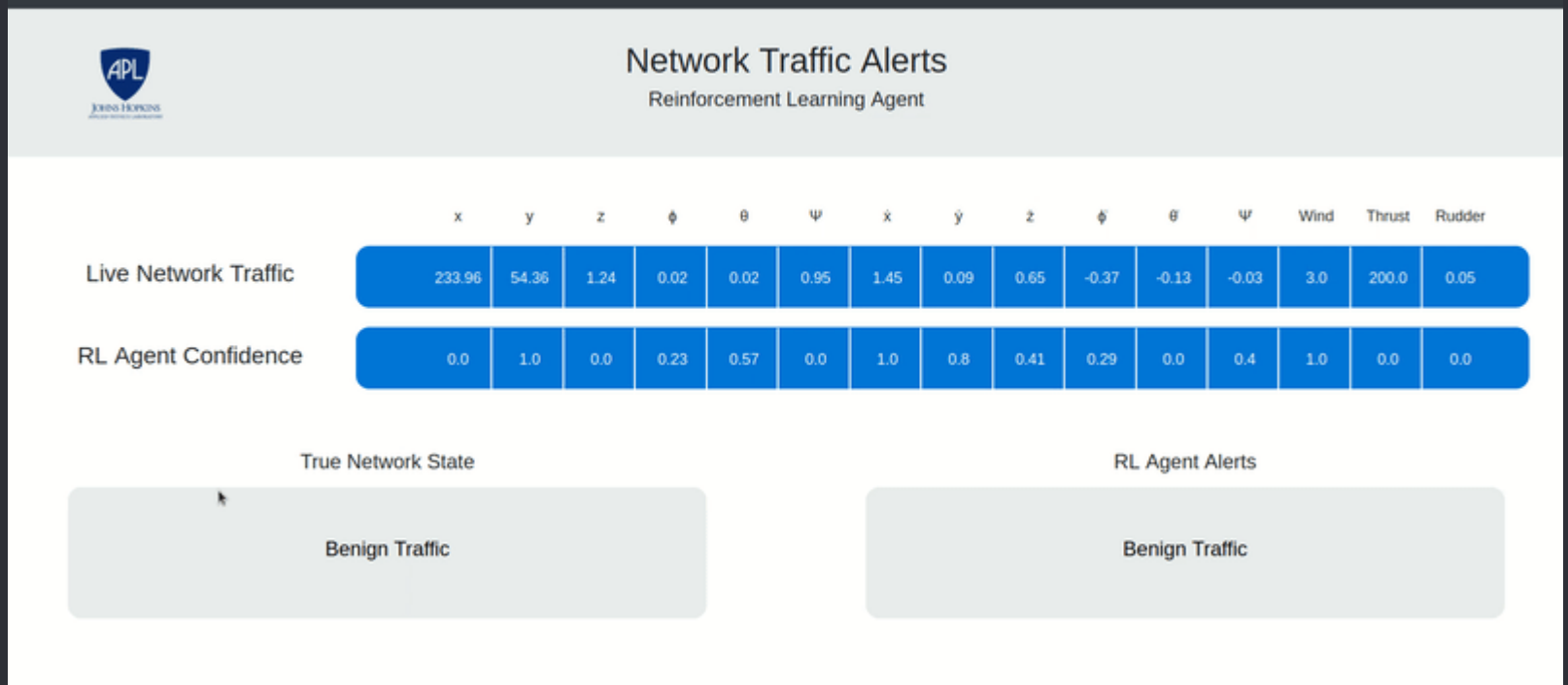
Low Confidence Levels

Overall Threat Level

Under Attack: 0.4

Policy Demonstration

- Dashboard for easy visualization



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● Future Work

- Train policy for 10 - 50 million timesteps
- Introduce network traffic **rate** and **time** to observation space
- Develop attack modules modeled from real-world **APTs**
- Configure simulator to represent **real-world ship**



Thank you!

Developed Codebase:

https://github.com/jasonjabbour/nta_rl

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jasonjabbour@g.harvard.edu