







Discussion 5 How to Read Deep Learning Papers University of Michigan I Department of Robotics









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Agenda

- The importance of reading papers
- How to approach research papers in deep learning
- Discussion of AlexNet, PoseCNN and NeRF





Reading Papers is an Important Skill

- Applied Side
 - Practitioners want state of the art performance
 - Look to academia for what exists and how it can be replicated
- Research Side
 - Understand the field as a way to find ideas for contributing
 - New datasets, techniques, methods defined by research community





State of the Art is Always Changing





Where to Look for Deep Learning Papers in Robotics?





Science Robotics





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Where to Look for Deep Learning Papers in Robotics?





Publishing Never Stops







How Research a Topic

- Related Works
- Demo Videos
- Git Repos
- YouTube Explainers







LLM + Robotics





Example: Vox Poser

https://arxiv.org/abs/2307. 05973

VoxPoser: Composable 3D Value Maps for Robotic Manipulation with Language Models

Wenlong Huang¹, Chen Wang¹, Ruohan Zhang¹, Yunzhu Li^{1,2}, Jiajun Wu¹, Li Fei-Fei¹ ¹Stanford University ²University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Abstract: Large language models (LLMs) are shown to possess a wealth of actionable knowledge that can be extracted for robot manipulation in the form of reasoning and planning. Despite the progress, most still rely on pre-defined motion primitives to carry out the physical interactions with the environment, which remains a major bottleneck. In this work, we aim to synthesize robot trajectories, i.e., a dense sequence of 6-DoF end-effector waypoints, for a large variety of manipulation tasks given an open-set of instructions and an open-set of objects. We achieve this by first observing that LLMs excel at inferring affordances and constraints given a free-form language instruction. More importantly, by leveraging their code-writing capabilities, they can interact with a vision-language model (VLM) to compose 3D value maps to ground the knowledge into the observation space of the agent. The composed value maps are then used in a model-based planning framework to zero-shot synthesize closed-loop robot trajectories with robustness to dynamic perturbations. We further demonstrate how the proposed framework can benefit from online experiences by efficiently learning a dynamics model for scenes that involve contact-rich interactions. We present a largescale study of the proposed method in both simulated and real-robot environments, showcasing the ability to perform a large variety of everyday manipulation tasks specified in free-form natural language. Videos and code at voxposer.github.io.

Keywords: Manipulation, Large Language Models, Model-based Planning





Related Works







Videos and Git Repo

https://voxposer.github.io/







How to Read Deep Learning Research Papers?

Everyone develops their own style over time





What is the primary field and subfield of the work?





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What progress have other researchers made on this problem?





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How were these results achieved?





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What progress have other researchers made on this problem? How were these results achieved?

Using which techniques evaluated under which methods?





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Discussion: PoseCNN

https://arxiv.org/abs/1711.00199





Discussion: NeRF

https://arxiv.org/abs/2003.08934











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