

Adaptive World Models: Learning Behaviors by Latent Imagination Under Non-Stationarity





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Motivation

Dreamer-series world models achieve SOTA-results on narrow, stationary tasks

- Can they model changing environments?
- Can we use them to **infer adaptive behaviors**?

Dynamics changes: Wind Friction



Dynamics changes: Mass and inertia **Objective changes:** Multiple Skills



Non-Stationary RL Formalisms

POMDP:

- Assumption: Environment is stationary, changes arise due to missing information.
- **Problem**: Joint encoding of state and task in a single latent variable.

HiP-POMDP:

- Assumption: Environmental components evolve over time.
- Solution:
 - Introduce inductive bias. Separate latent variables for task and state.
 - Two-stage inference:
 - 1) Infer a task representation from data context.
 - 2) Infer latent state conditioned on task.







- 1. All agents adapt under dynamics changing scenarios.
- 2. DreamerV1 fails under all objective changes.

Takeaway: Additional inductive bias aids agent adaptation under all environmental changes.

Observations:

- 1. Latent space is task-aware clustered across all agents under dynamics changes.
- 2. DreamerV1 fails to organize its latent state space by task under objective changes.
- **Takeaway:** Take-awareness in the latent space improves agent performance.