

YunQi 2050 - DRL Session

Communication in Multi-agent Reinforcement Learning

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Multi-agent in Real-World



**Human
Teams**



**Transportation
Networks**



**Economies
Markets**



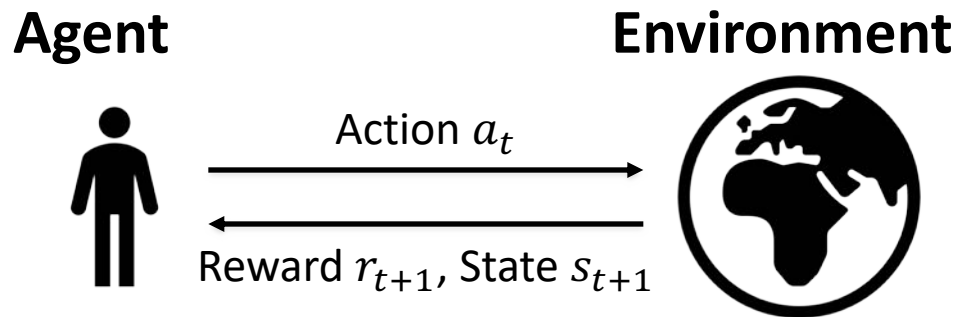
Games



**Communication
Networks**

- Generalizing Reinforcement Learning
 - Single Agent Reinforcement Learning
 - Multi-agent Reinforcement Learning (MARL)
- Challenges in MARL
 - Nonstationary Environment
 - Model Free Learning
 - Increasing Agent Number even Millions
- Communication and Learning
- Implicit Communication
- Dynamic Interaction

Reinforcement Learning



Optimal Policy $a = \pi^*(s) \leftarrow$ Maximise Long Term Reward $\sum r_t$

Multi-Agent System

- **Multiagent system** is a collection of multiple autonomous (intelligent) **agents**, each acting towards its **objectives** while all **interacting** in a **shared environment**, being able to **communicate** and possibly **coordinating** their actions.

Types of Agent Systems

Single-Agent



Multi-Agent

Cooperative



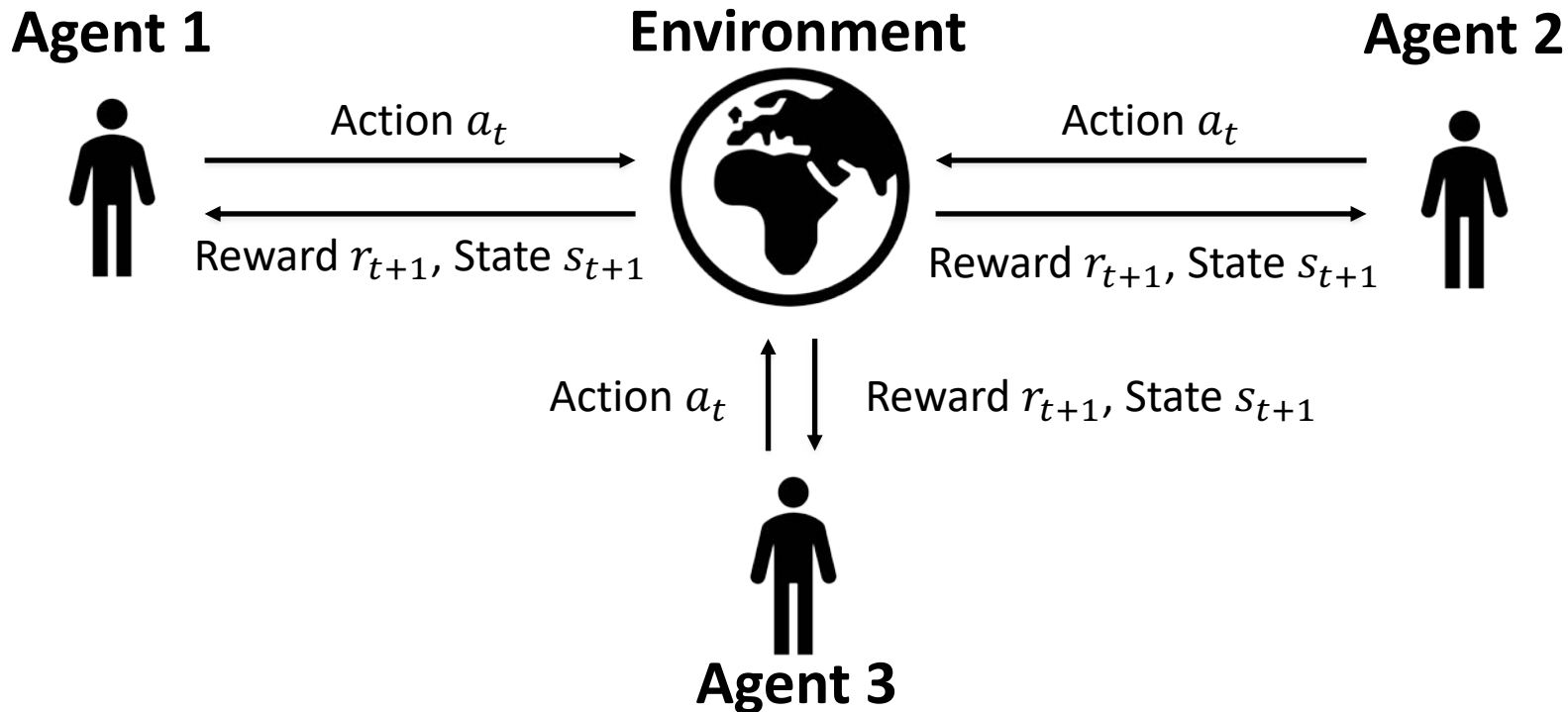
single
shared utility

Competitive



multiple
different utilities

Multi-agent Reinforcement Learning



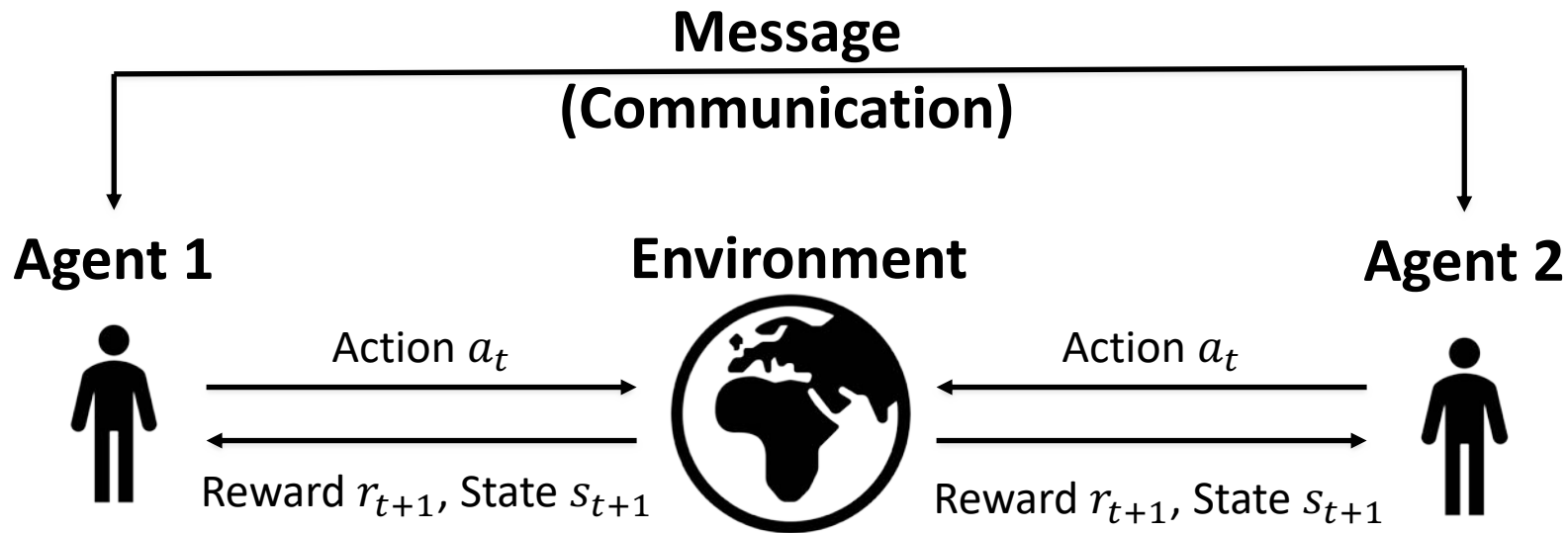
Challenges in MARL

1. Non-stationary Environment
 - Needs for communication
2. Model Free - Agent Awareness
 - Intent / Opponent Modelling
3. Increasing Number of Agents
 - Approximation of other agents
 - Dynamics of agents

Multi-Agent Perspective

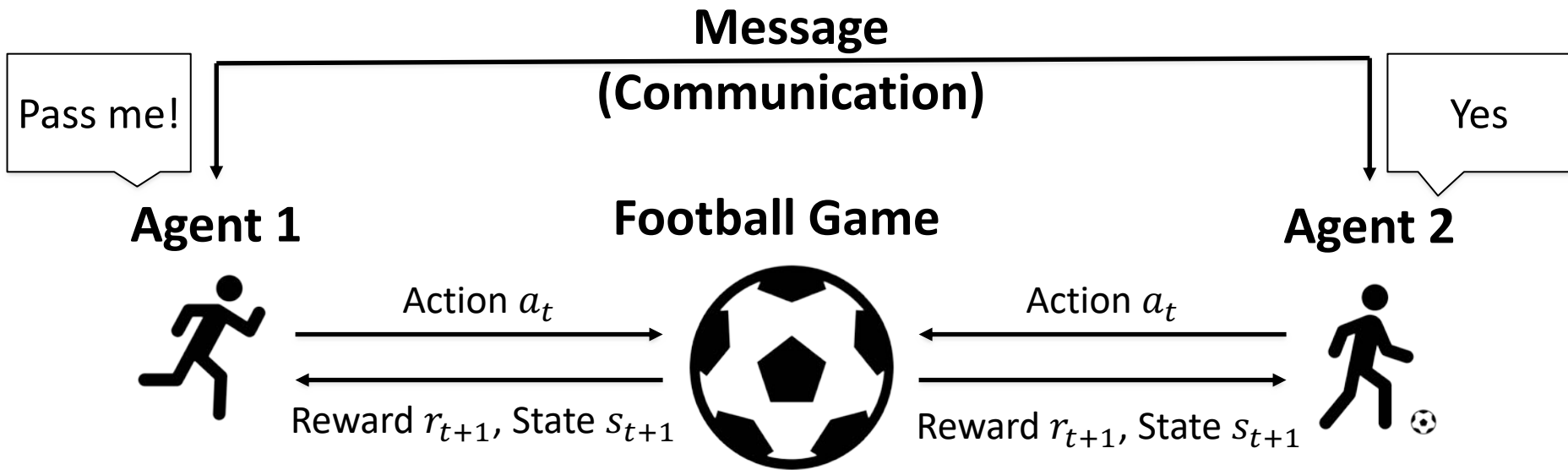
1. **Micro Perspective**, The agent design problem:
 - How should agents act to carry out their tasks?
Optimal Policy.
2. **Macro Perspective**, The society design problem:
 - How should agents interact to carry out their tasks?
Dynamic Interaction.

MARL with Communication



How to cooperate? -> with Communication

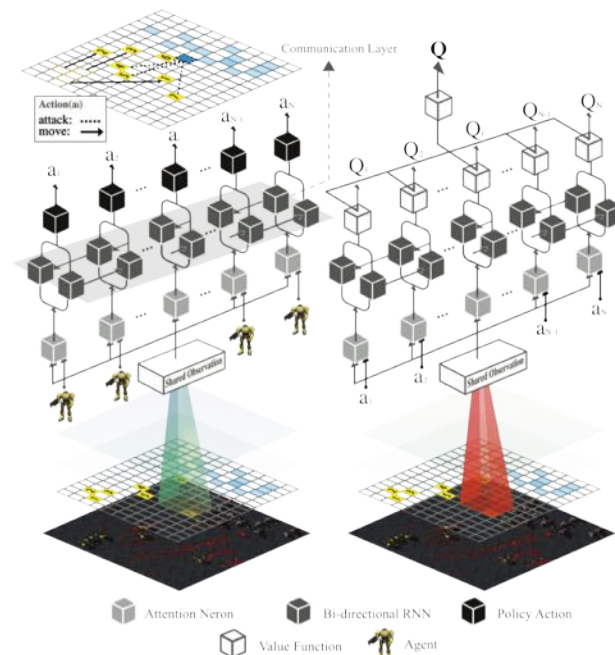
MARL with Communication - Example



How to cooperate? -> with Communication

Bi-directionally Coordinated Network

- Bi-directional recurrent networks
 - Means of communication
 - Connect each individual agent's policy and and Q networks
- Multi-agent deterministic actor-critic



How It Works

- High Q-value steps are aggregated in the same area.

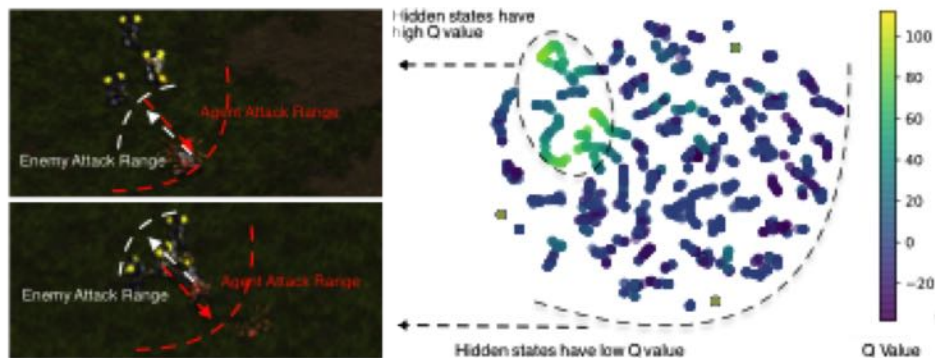


Figure 4: Visualisation for 3 Marines vs. 1 Super Zergling combat. **Upper Left:** State with high Q value; **Lower Left:** State with low Q value; **Right:** Visualisation of hidden layer outputs for each step using TSNE, coloured by Q values.

EmergEd Human-level Coordination

- Hit and Run tactics
- Focus fire without overkill
-



(a) time step 1 (b) time step 2 (c) time step 3 (d) time step 4

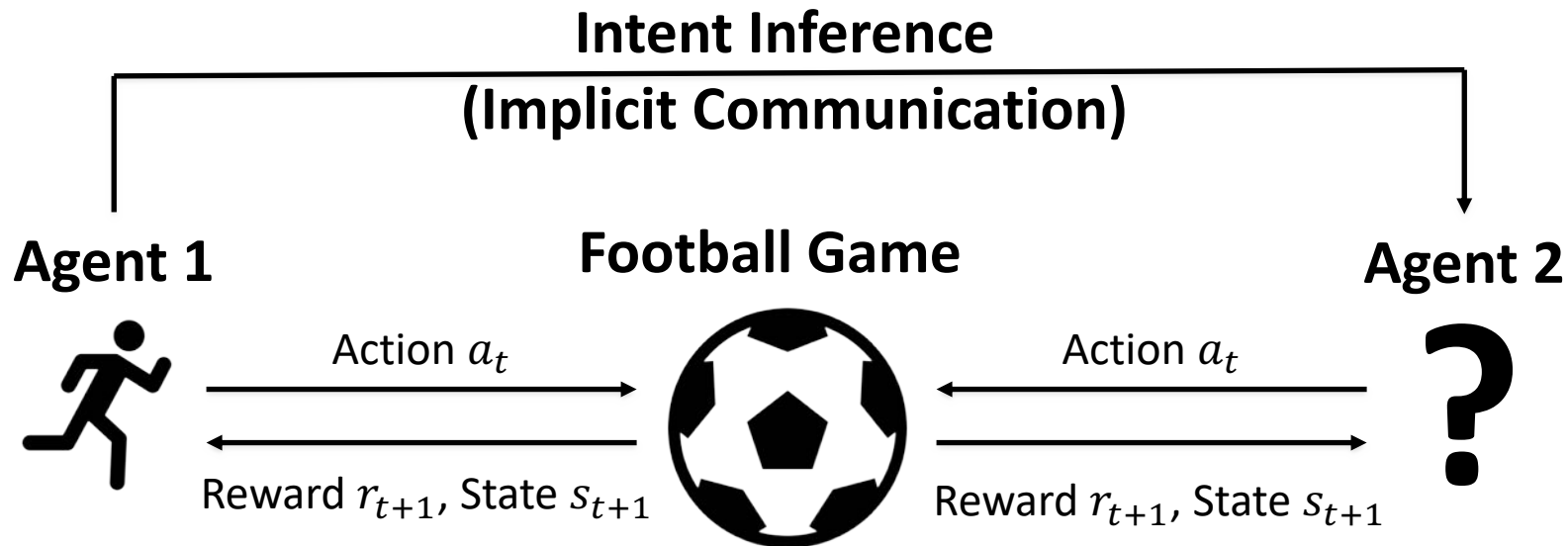
Figure 7: *Hit and Run* tactics in combat 3 *Marines (ours)* vs. 1 *Zealot (enemy)*.



(a) time step 1 (b) time step 2 (c) time step 3 (d) time step 4

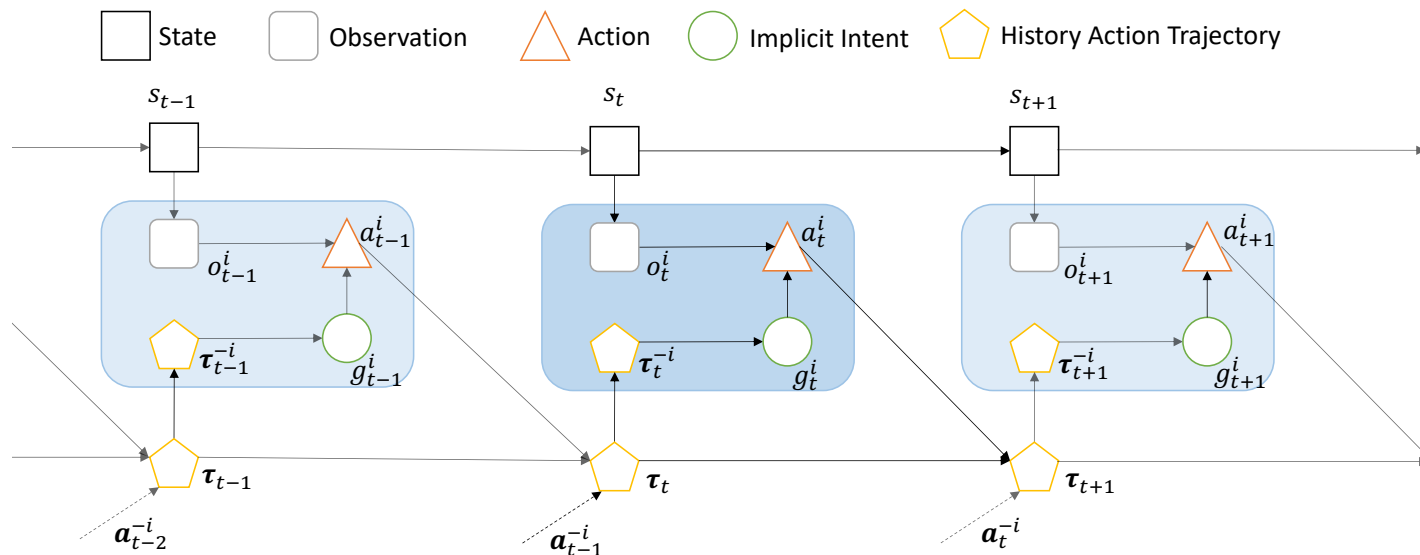
Figure 9: "focus fire" in combat 15 *Marines (ours)* vs. 16 *Marines (enemy)*.

MARL with Implicit Communication



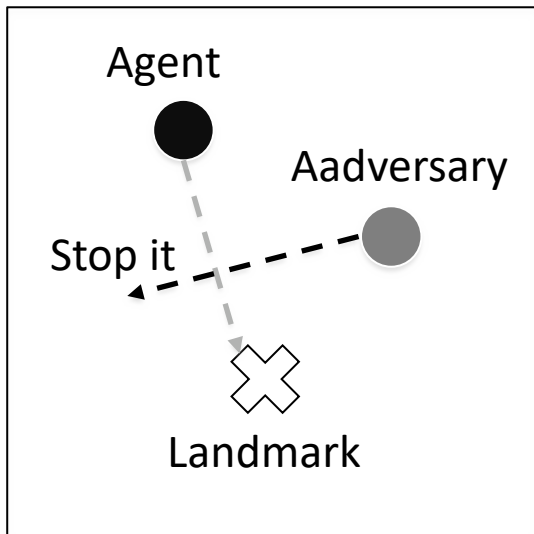
How to know learn with unknown agents? -> Agent Awareness

Implicit Intent Inference in MARL

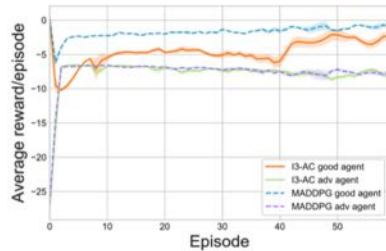


Implicit Intent Inference Network to Learn the Intent Embedding

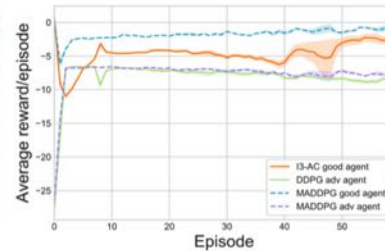
Implicit Intent Inference in MARL



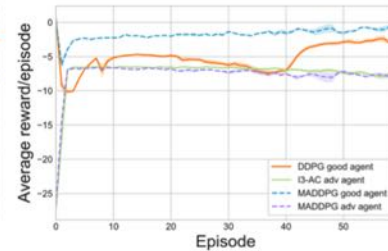
Keep Away Game



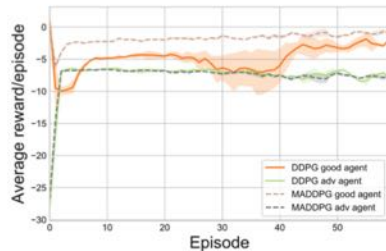
(a) I3-AC VS. I3-AC.



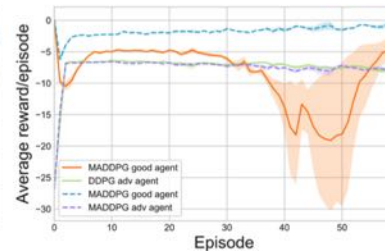
(b) I3-AC VS. DDPG.



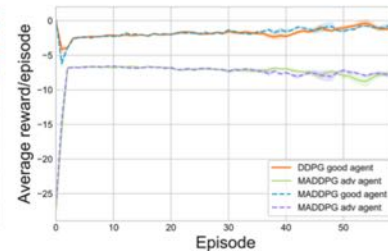
(c) DDPG VS. I3-AC.



(d) DDPG VS. DDPG.



(e) MADDPG VS. DDPG.



(f) DDPG VS. MADDPG.

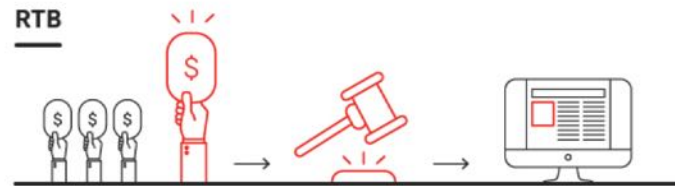
Mean Field MARL

- When the number of agents becomes thousands even millions
- Mean action approximation



Mean Field MARL – Real-time Bidding

- **Mean Field Equilibrium**
learning in real-time bidding
- **High Volume** and **High Liquid**
- **Second Price** Auction only
pay the second highest price

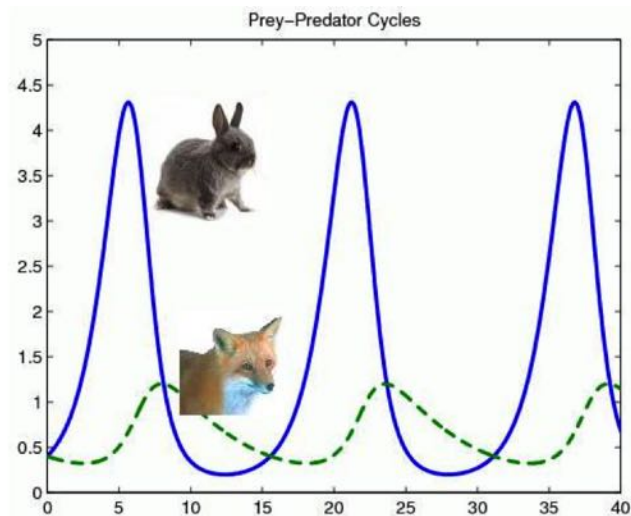


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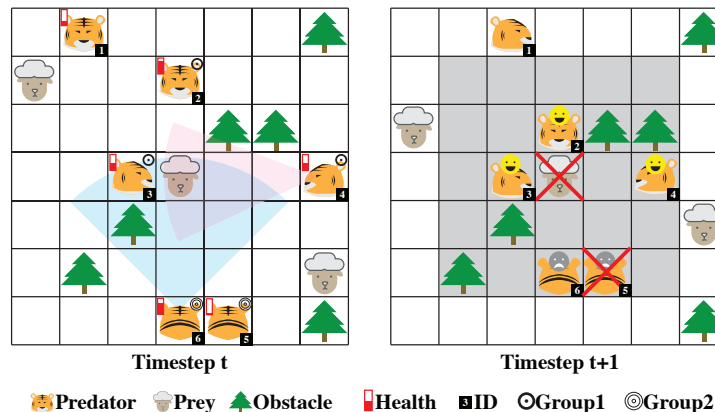
Population Dynamics in Million-agent RL

- A major topic of population dynamics is the cycling of predator and prey populations
- The **Lotka-Volterra** model is used to model this.



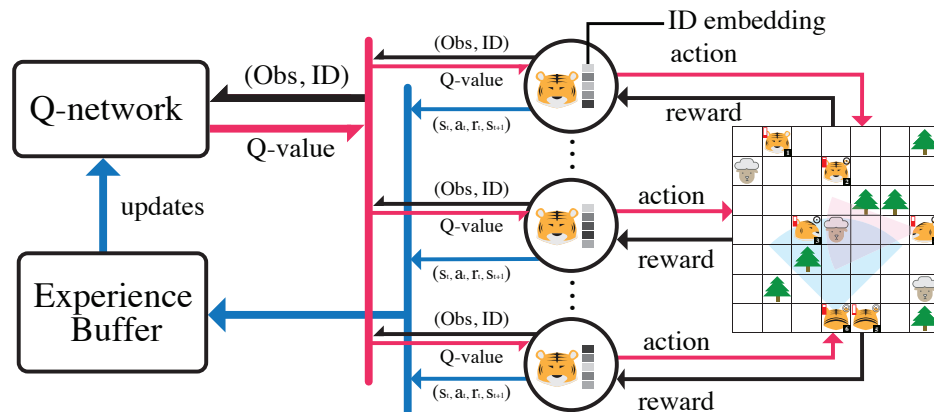
Population Dynamics in Million-agent RL

- **Predators** hunt the **prey** so as to survive from starvation
- Each **predator** has its own health bar and eyesight view
- **Predators** can form a group to hunt, and are scaled to 1 million

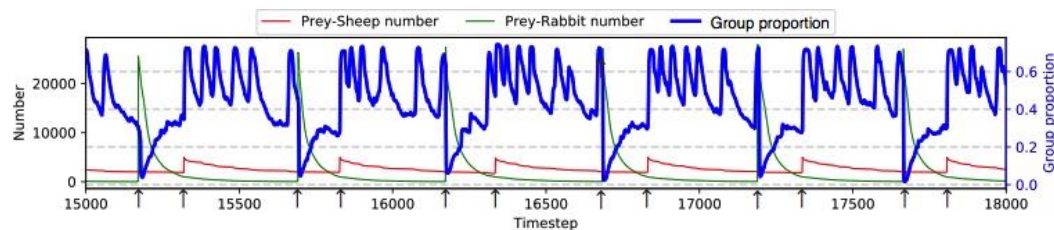
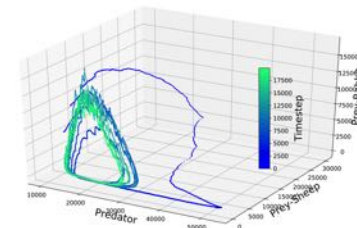
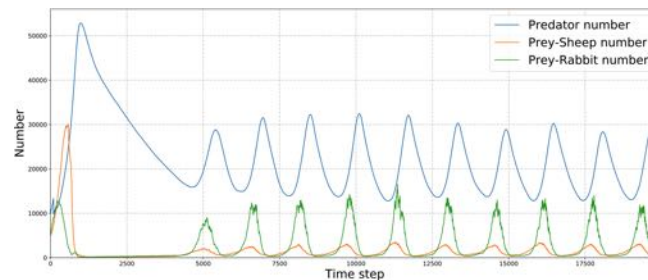
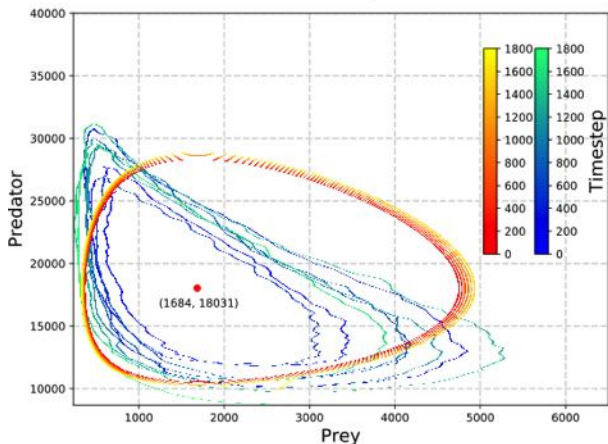
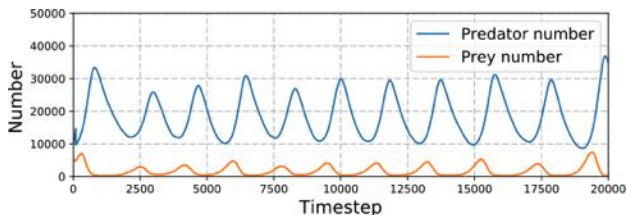


Population Dynamics in Million-agent RL

- The action space:
 - {move forward, backward, left, right, rotate left, rotate right, stand still, join a group, and leave a group}.



Population Dynamics in Million-agent RL



The Dynamics of the Artificial Population

Tiger-sheep-rabbit: Grouping

Reference

- [1] Peng, Peng*, Ying Wen*, Yaodong Yang, Quan Yuan, Zhenkun Tang, Haitao Long, and Jun Wang. "Multiagent Bidirectionally-Coordinated nets for learning to play StarCraft combat games."
- [2] Wen, Ying, Hui Chen and Jun Wang. " Implicit Intent Inference with Action Trajectories in Multi-agent Reinforcement Learning."
- [3] Yang, Yaodong, Rui Luo, Minne Li, Ming Zhou, Weinan Zhang, and Jun Wang. "Mean Field Multi-Agent Reinforcement Learning."
- [4] Wen, Ying and Jun Wang. "A Mean Field Approximation for Real Time Bidding with Budget Constraints."
- [5] Yang, Yaodong, Lantao Yu, Yiwei Bai, Ying Wen, Jun Wang, Weinan Zhang, and Yong Yu. "A Study of AI Population Dynamics with Million-agent Reinforcement Learning."

Thank You!

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