

# IPO

## : Interior-point Policy Optimization under Constraints

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# Introduction

## 제약(Constraint)과 함께 RL을 정의: Constrained Markov Decision Process (CMDP)

- 1999년도 발표된 논문에서 시작
- 2가지 종류의 제약이 있음
  - **instantaneous** constraint
    - 일시적인
    - 각 timestep마다 실행된 action에 의한 제약
  - **cumulative** constraints
    - 누적적인
    - 특정 시간 동안(e.g. 해당 episode length동안) 누적되어 계산된 제약
    - IPO논문에서는 cumulative constraints의 **discounted cumulative constraints**와 **mean valued constraints**에 초점을 맞춰 진행

## 일반적으로 CMDP를 어떻게 풀고 있었나?

- Lagrangian relaxation method
  - 최적화 식의 목적 함수에 해당하는 라그랑주 승수(Lagrange multipliers)로 가중치를 둔 제약 함수들의 합을 추가
  - 라그랑주 승수는 제약 조건을 만족시키기 위해 dual problem에서 업데이트

[https://convex-optimization-for-all.github.io/contents/chapter24/2021/03/28/24\\_04\\_Relaxations/](https://convex-optimization-for-all.github.io/contents/chapter24/2021/03/28/24_04_Relaxations/)

<https://optboy.github.io/optimization/2020/04/27/duality.html>

# Introduction

앞서 Constrained policy optimization (CPO)가 CMDP를 풀기 위해 제안 되었었다.

- TRPO에서 제약 조건들을 만족하기 위해 확장된 아이디어
- 제약조건들이 한번만 만족되면, 모든 training 과정에서 제약 조건의 만족이 성립
- 하지만 이차미분을 계산해야 하는 계산적 어려움이 있었음
- mean valued constraints를 다룰 수 없음
- 여러개 constraints들을 다룰 수 없음

그렇다면 IPO는?

- 1차 최적화
- 다양한 누적 제약 조건들을 포함할 수 있음
  - 목적식에 제약들을 포함시키기 위해 **logarithmic barrier function** 사용
    - 제약 조건이 만족되면 보상 함수에 추가되는 패널티는 0
    - 제약 조건이 만족되지 않으면 패널티는 -무한
- PPO를 활용하여 trust region 성격을 반영

# Preliminaries

## Constrained Markov Decision Process (CMDP)

사실상 reward랑 매우 비슷한 constraint

$$C : S \times A \times S \mapsto \mathbb{R}$$

several cost functions  $\widetilde{C}_i = f(C(s_0, a_0, s_1), \dots, C(s_n, a_n, s_{n+1}))$  (n:transition 수, t-th)

constraint limits  $\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_m$  (m:constraint 종류 개수, i-th)

Expectation over a constraint

$$J_{C_i}^{\pi_\theta} = \mathbb{E}_{\tau \sim \pi_\theta} [\widetilde{C}_i]$$

$$J_{C_i}^{\pi_\theta} = \mathbb{E}_{\tau \sim \pi_\theta} \left[ \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \gamma^t C(s_t, a_t, s_{t+1}) \right]$$

discounted cumulative constraint

$$J_{C_i}^{\pi_\theta} = \mathbb{E}_{\tau \sim \pi_\theta} \left[ \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} C(s_t, a_t, s_{t+1}) \right]$$

mean valued constraint

Goal

$$\max_{\theta} J_R^{\pi_\theta}$$

$$\text{s.t. } J_{C_i}^{\pi_\theta} \leq \epsilon_i$$

# Preliminaries

## Policy Gradient Methods

gradient of the objective

$$\nabla J_R^{\pi_\theta} = \mathbb{E}_t [\nabla_\theta \log \pi_\theta(a_t | s_t) A_t]$$

$$A_R^{\pi_\theta}(s, a) = Q_R^{\pi_\theta}(s, a) - V_R^{\pi_\theta}(s)$$

Goal

$$\begin{aligned} & \max_{\theta} J_R^{\pi_\theta} \\ \text{s.t. } & J_{C_i}^{\pi_\theta} \leq \epsilon_i \end{aligned}$$

## Trust Region Policy Optimization (TRPO)

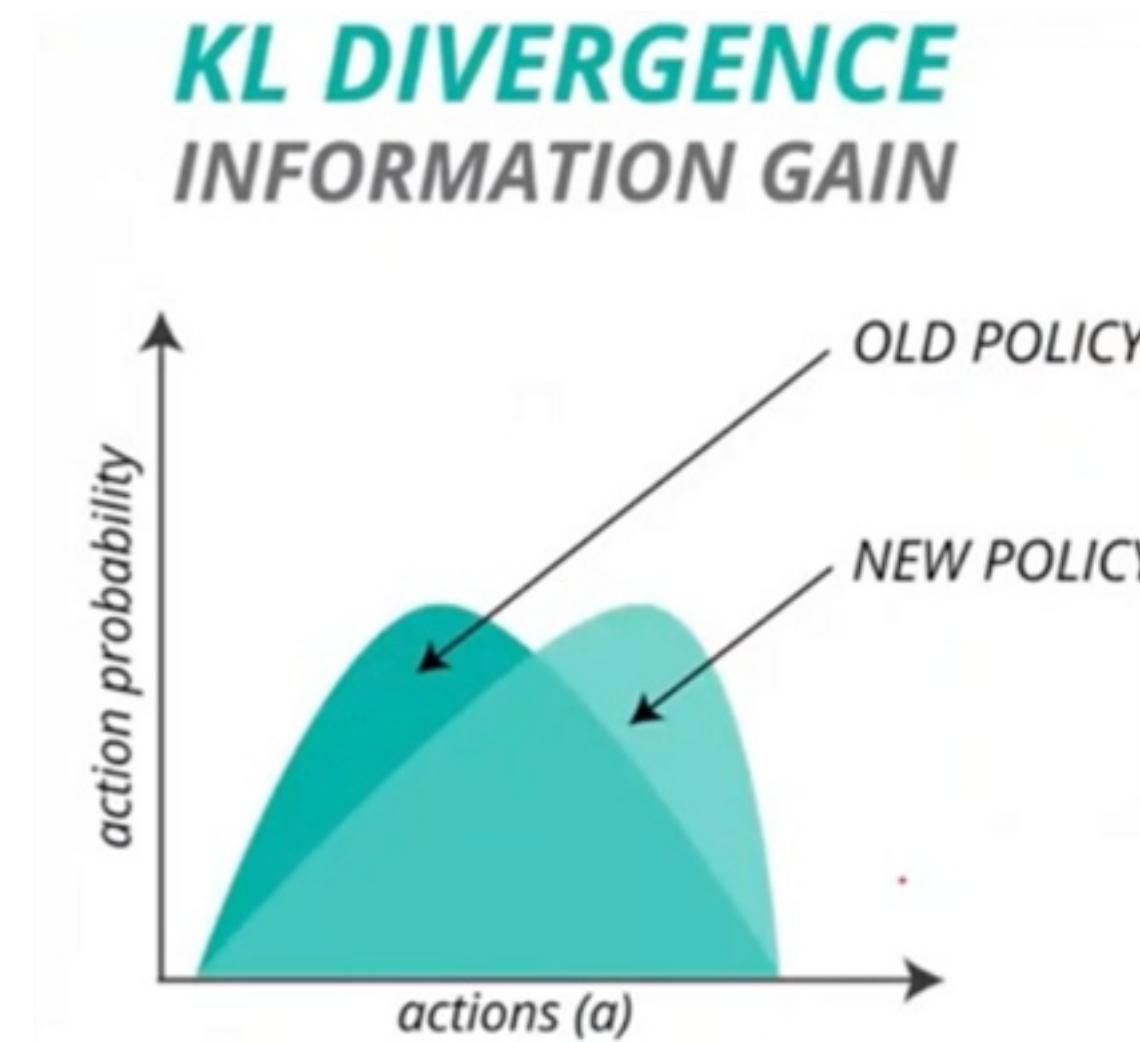
$$\begin{aligned} & \max_{\theta} L^{TRPO}(\theta) = \mathbb{E}_t \left[ \frac{\pi_\theta(a_t | s_t)}{\pi_{\theta_{old}}(a_t | s_t)} A_t \right] \\ \text{s.t. } & \mathbb{E}_t [KL[\pi_{\theta_{old}}(a_t | s_t), \pi_\theta(a_t | s_t)]] \leq \delta \end{aligned}$$

## Proximal Policy Optimization (PPO)

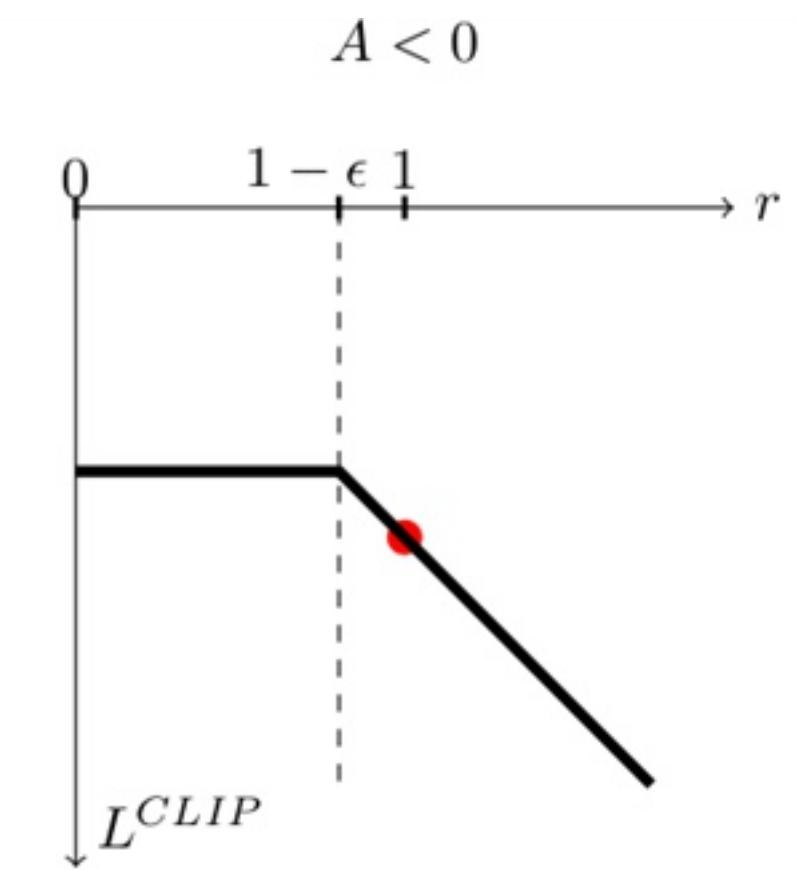
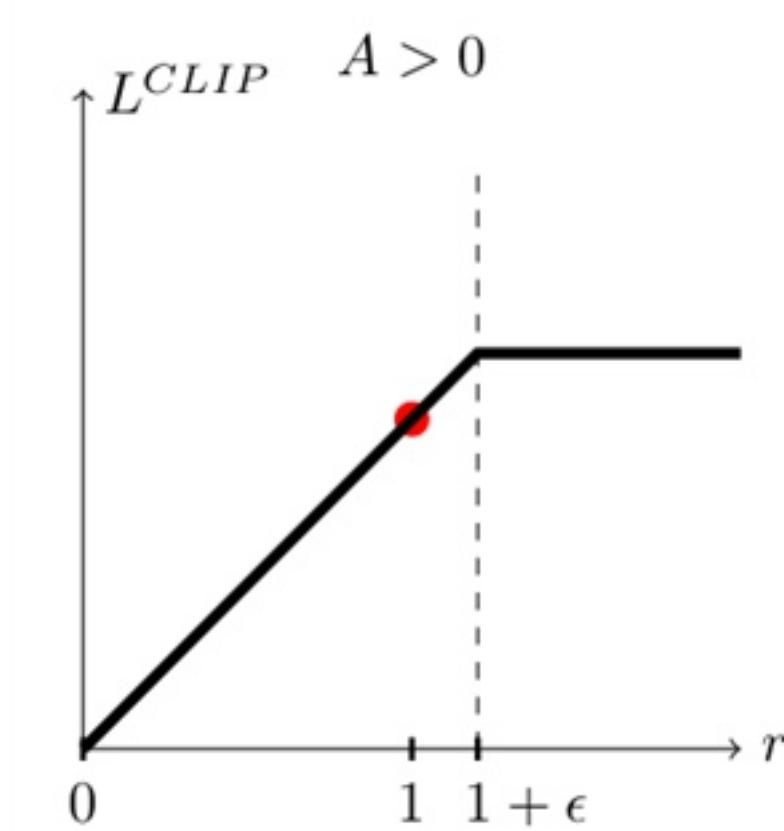
$$\begin{aligned} & \max_{\theta} L^{CLIP}(\theta) \\ &= \mathbb{E}_t [\min(r_t(\theta) A_t, \text{clip}(r_t(\theta), 1, 1 - \epsilon, 1 + \epsilon) A_t)] \end{aligned}$$

$$r_t(\theta) = \frac{\pi_\theta(a_t | s_t)}{\pi_{\theta_{old}}(a_t | s_t)}$$

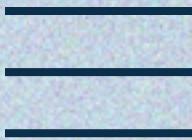
Trust Region Policy Optimization (TRPO)



Proximal Policy Optimization (PPO)



$$D_{KL}(\pi || \pi') = \pi(a) \log \frac{\pi(a)}{\pi'(a)}$$



# Interior-point Policy Optimization

# Interior-point Policy Optimization

## Problem Definition

$$\max_{\theta} L^{CLIP}(\theta) \quad \text{PPO의 목적식}$$

s.t.  $J_{C_i}^{\pi_\theta} \leq \epsilon_i$

$\hat{J}_{C_i}^{\pi_\theta} = J_{C_i}^{\pi_\theta} - \epsilon_i$

## Indicator Function

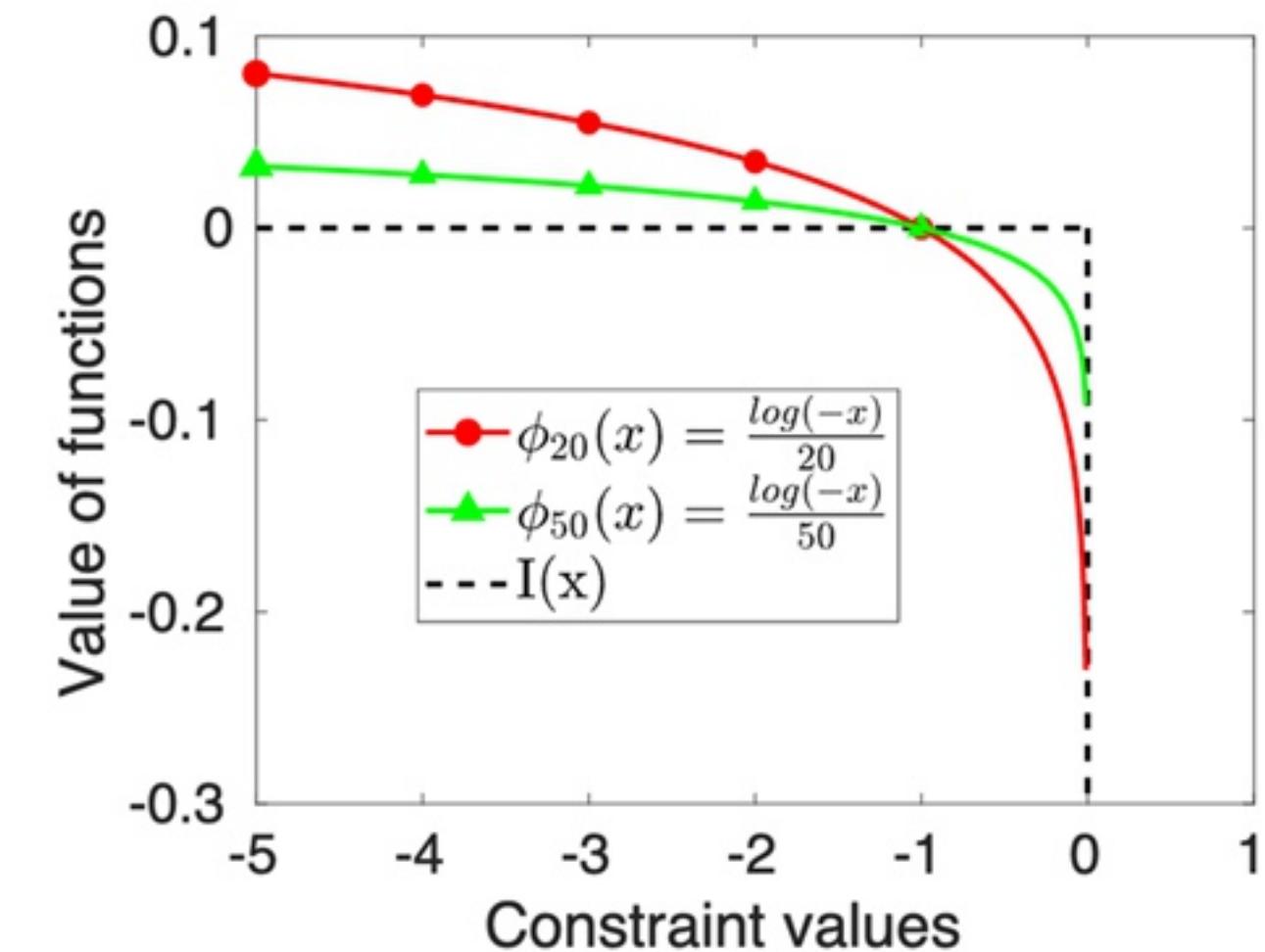
$$I(\hat{J}_{C_i}^{\pi_\theta}) = \begin{cases} 0 & \hat{J}_{C_i}^{\pi_\theta} \leq 0 \\ -\infty & \hat{J}_{C_i}^{\pi_\theta} > 0 \end{cases}$$

## logarithmic barrier function

: differentiable approximation of the indicator function

$$\phi(\hat{J}_{C_i}^{\pi_\theta}) = \frac{\log(-\hat{J}_{C_i}^{\pi_\theta})}{t} \quad * \text{hyperparameter}$$

$$\phi(x) = \frac{-\log(-x)}{t}$$



The larger t is, the better the approximation is to the indicator function

# Interior-point Policy Optimization

그래서 정리된 IPO의 objective Function

$$\max_{\theta} L^{IPO}(\theta)$$

$$L^{IPO}(\theta) = L^{CLIP}(\theta) + \sum_{i=1}^m \phi\left(\hat{J}_{C_i}^{\pi_\theta}\right)$$

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## Algorithm 1 The procedure of IPO

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**Input:** Initialize policy  $\pi$  with parameter  $\theta = \theta_0$ . Set the hyperparameter  $r$  for PPO clip rate and  $t$  for logarithmic barrier function

**Output:** The policy parameters  $\theta$

- 1: Initialize the computational graph structure.
  - 2: **for** iteration  $k=0,1,2,\dots$  **do**
  - 3:     Sample  $N$  trajectories  $\tau_1, \dots, \tau_N$  including observations, actions, rewards and costs under the current policy  $\theta_k$
  - 4:     Process the trajectories to advantages, constraint values, etc
  - 5:     Update the policy parameter with first order optimizer  
$$\theta_{k+1} = \theta_k + \alpha \nabla_{\theta} L^{IPO}(\theta)$$
 where  $\alpha$  is learning rate based on the processed trajectories.
  - 6: **end for**
  - 7: **return** policy parameters  $\theta = \theta_{k+1}$
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# Performance Guarantee Bound

그렇다면 IPO의 성능 보장을 이론적으로 검증해보자.

Maximization을 Minimization으로 바꾸기 위해 (-) 붙이기

$$\begin{aligned} & \min_{\theta} -L^{CLIP}(\theta) \\ & \text{s.t. } \hat{J}_{C_i}^{\pi_{\theta}} \leq 0 \end{aligned}$$

1 Minimization 버전의 IPO 목적식

$$\min_{\theta} -L^{CLIP}(\theta) - \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{\log(-\hat{J}_{C_i}^{\pi_i})}{t}$$

2 라그랑지안 방법으로 했을 때 목적식

$$L(\theta, \lambda_i) = -L^{CLIP}(\theta) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i \hat{J}_{C_i}^{\pi_{\theta}}$$

dual function

$$g(\lambda_i) = \min_{\theta} -L^{CLIP}(\theta) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i \hat{J}_{C_i}^{\pi_{\theta}}$$

# Performance Guarantee Bound

1의 미분후 optimal  $\theta^*$ 를 대입  $-\nabla L^{CLIP}(\theta^*) + \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{1}{-t \times \hat{J}_{C_i}^{\pi_{\theta^*}}} \nabla \hat{J}_{C_i}^{\pi_{\theta^*}} = 0$   $y = \log(-x) \Rightarrow y' = -\frac{1}{x}$

$$\lambda_i^* = -\frac{1}{t \times \hat{J}_{C_i}^{\sigma_i}}$$

$-\nabla L^{CLIP}(\theta^*) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i^* \nabla \hat{J}_{C_i}^{\pi_{\theta^*}} = 0$  치환하고 나니 2의 미분 형태와 동일  
 $\lambda_i = \lambda_i^*$

그렇다면 dual function은  $\lambda_i = \lambda_i^*$  일 때

$$\begin{aligned} g(\lambda_i^*) &= -L^{CLIP}(\theta^*) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i^* \hat{J}_{C_i}^{\pi_{\theta^*}} \\ &= -L^{CLIP}(\theta^*) - \frac{m}{t} \end{aligned}$$

$\lambda_i^* = -\frac{1}{t \times \hat{J}_{C_i}^{\sigma_i}}$  대입

$p^* \geq g(\lambda^*)$  duality gap 특성에 의해  $-L^{CLIP}(\theta^*) - p^* \leq \frac{m}{t}$

# Performance Guarantee Bound

그래서 결론의 의미가 뭔가요?  $-L^{CLIP}(\theta^*) - p^* \leq \frac{m}{t}$

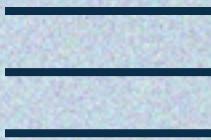
the gap between the optimal value of the original constrained problem with clipped surrogate function (Eq. (7)) and IPO (Eq. (8)) is bounded by  $m/t$

즉, PPO의 최적화 문제-Eq. (7)와 IPO의 최적화 문제-Eq. (8)을 사용한 결과값 간의 차이가 일정한 한계 내에서 유지된다는 것을 의미. 이는 두 방법을 사용할 때 최적 해의 성능 차이가 매우 크지 않음(bounded)을 보장함

## 검증된 Theorem1으로 알 수 있는 것은?

더 큰  $t$  값이 원래의 목표 함수에 대한 더 나은 근사를 제공한다는 것을 알 수 있다.

- Larger  $t$ , Higher reward and cost, BUT Lower convergence rate
- 이러한 단조성(monotonicity)을 이용하여, 수렴 속도와 최적화 성능 사이의 균형을 맞출 수 있는 적절한  $t$  값을 찾기 위해 이진 탐색 알고리즘(binary search)을 사용할 수 있게 됨



# Experiment

# Experiments

$$J_{C_i}^{\pi_\theta} = \mathbb{E}_{\tau \sim \pi_\theta} \left[ \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \gamma^t C(s_t, a_t, s_{t+1}) \right] \quad J_{C_i}^{\pi_\theta} = \mathbb{E}_{\tau \sim \pi_\theta} \left[ \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} C(s_t, a_t, s_{t+1}) \right]$$

실험에서 확인할 수 있는 IPO의 장점(특성)

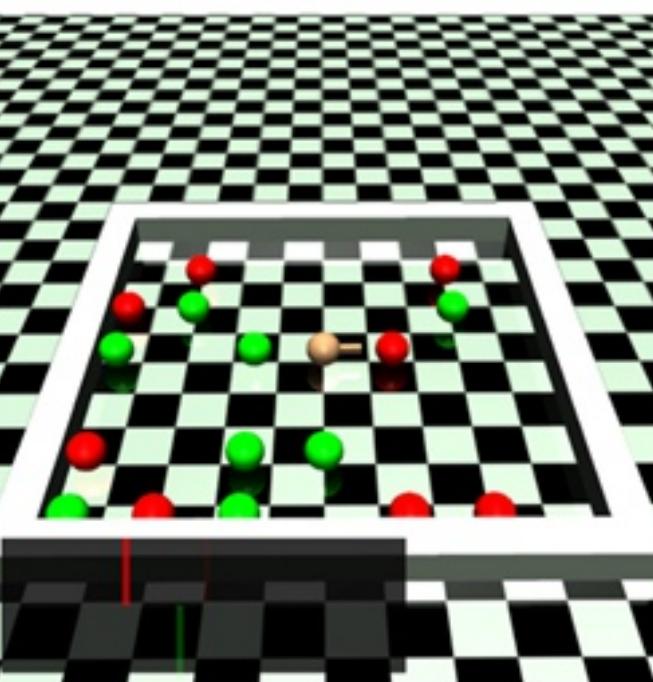
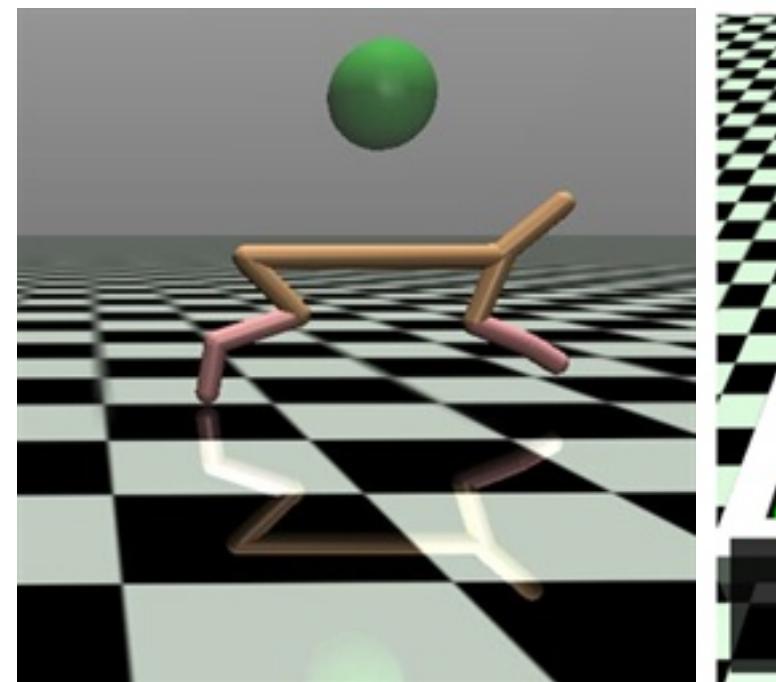
- can handle more general types of cumulative constraints including discounted cumulative constraints and mean valued constraints
- hyperparameter is easy to tune
- can be easily extended to handle optimizations with multiple constraints
- robust in stochastic environments

## Baselines

- CPO - Constrained Policy Optimization
- PDO - Primal-dual optimization

## Tasks

- Point-Gather, Point-Circle(Mujoco)
- HalfCheetah-Safe
- grid-world task



	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9										
8										
7										
6										
5										
4										
3										
2										
1										
0										

Position: "2:2:E"    Commands: "MMRMMM"

# Experiments

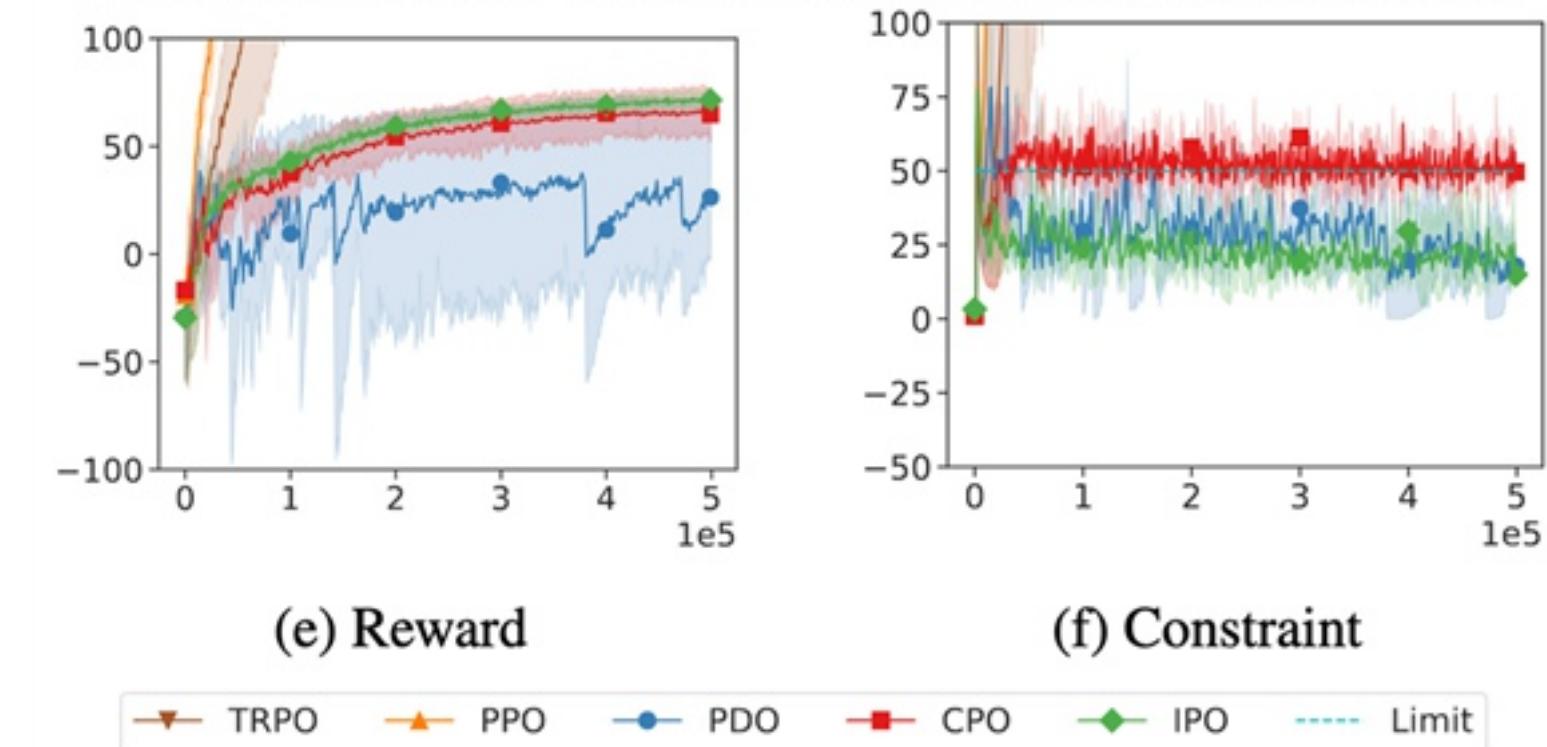
$$J_{C_i}^{\pi_\theta} = \mathbb{E}_{\tau \sim \pi_\theta} \left[ \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \gamma^t C(s_t, a_t, s_{t+1}) \right]$$

## 1 discounted cumulative constraints

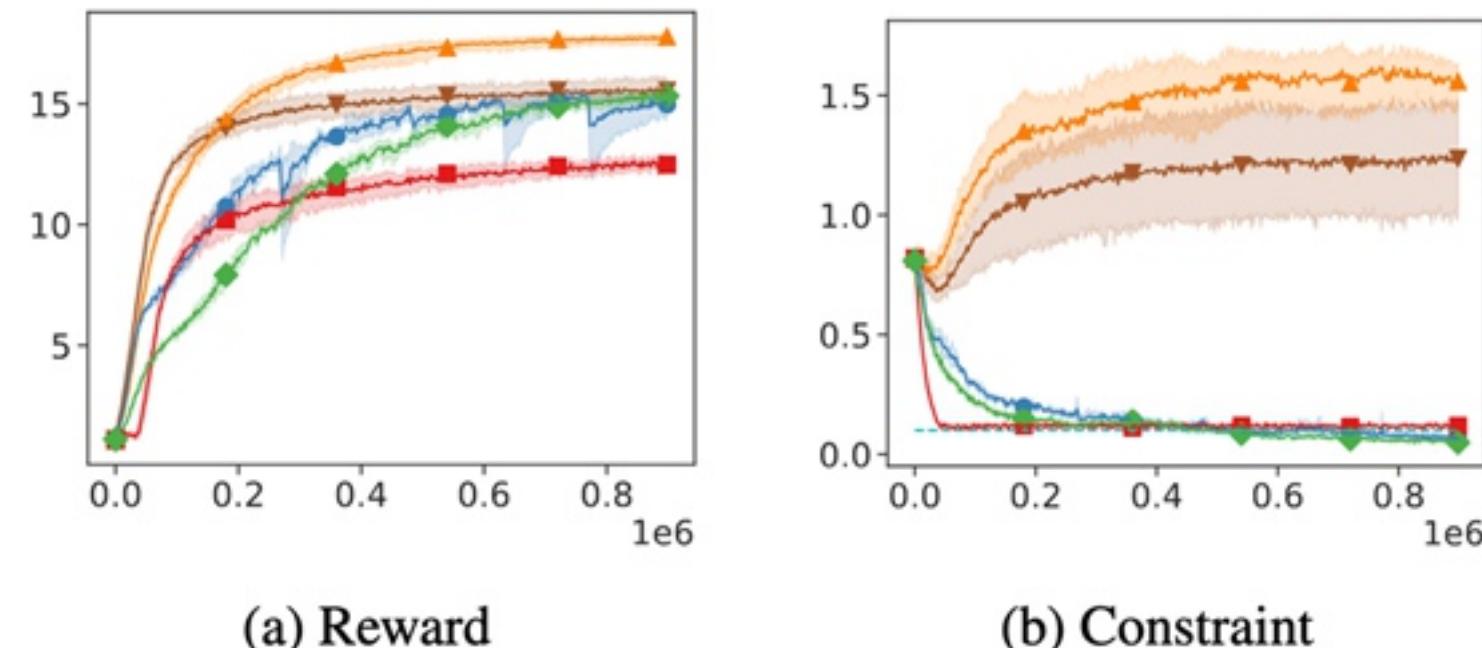
### IPO vs. CPO

- IPO is best performance
- CPO converges faster than IPO
- CPO always stops improving when the constraint is satisfied
- IPO continues to search for a better policy even if the constraint is satisfied. Hence, it converges to a better reward and lower cost.

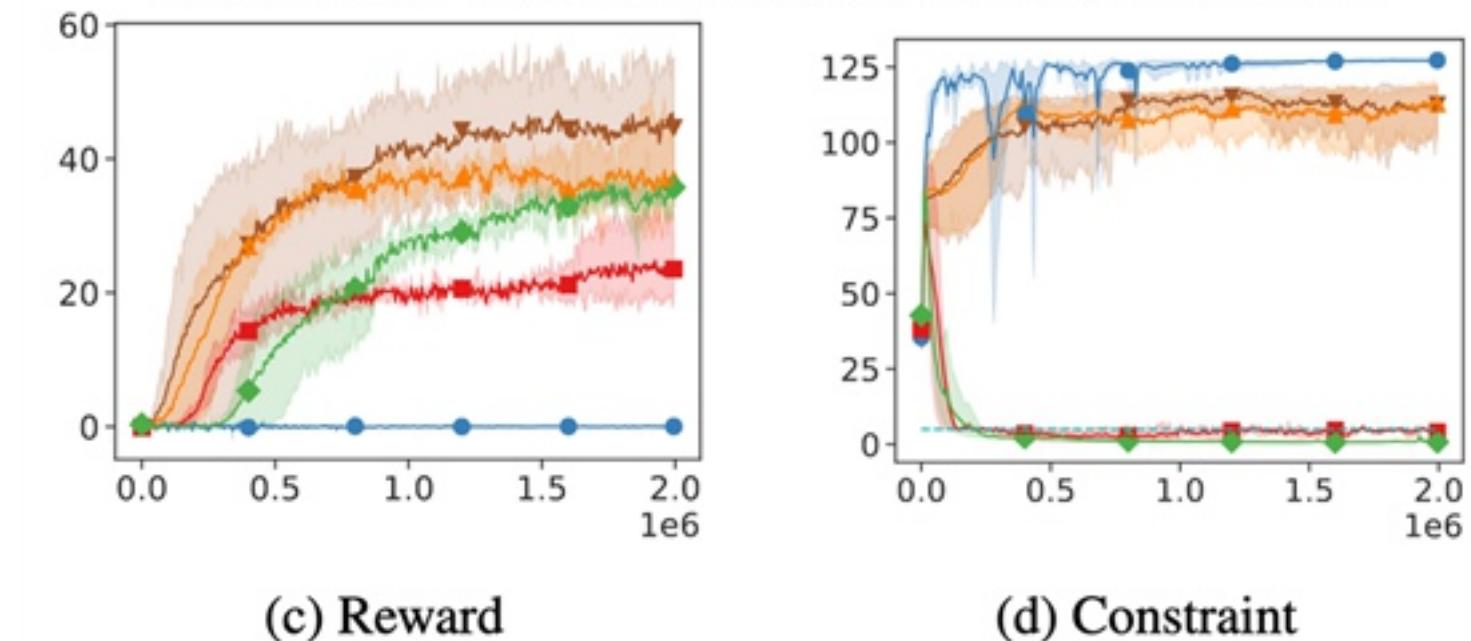
HalfCheetah-Safe with discounted cumulative constraint



Point Gather with discounted cumulative constraint



Point Circle with discounted cumulative constraint



# Experiments

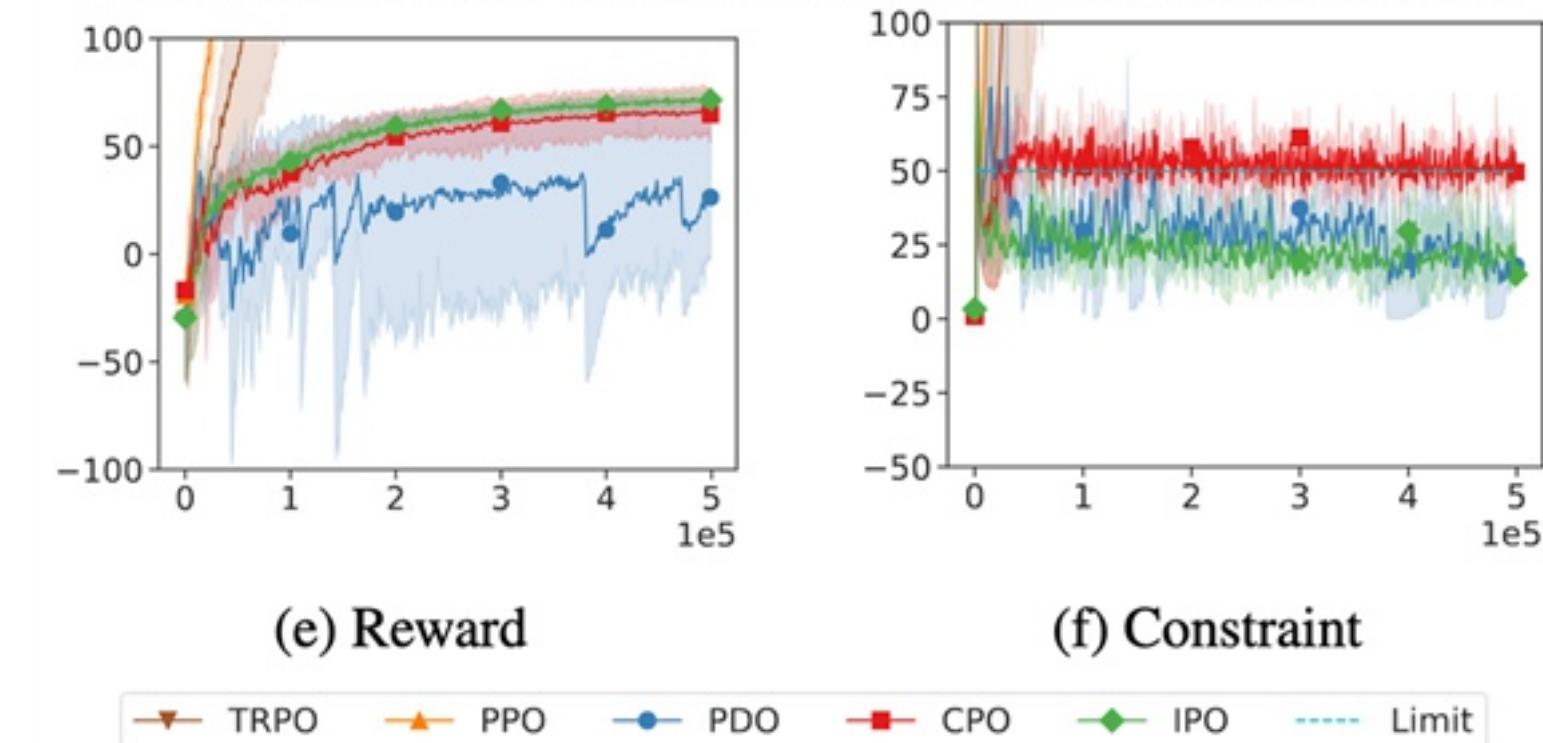
$$J_{C_i}^{\pi_\theta} = \mathbb{E}_{\tau \sim \pi_\theta} \left[ \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \gamma^t C(s_t, a_t, s_{t+1}) \right]$$

## 1 discounted cumulative constraints

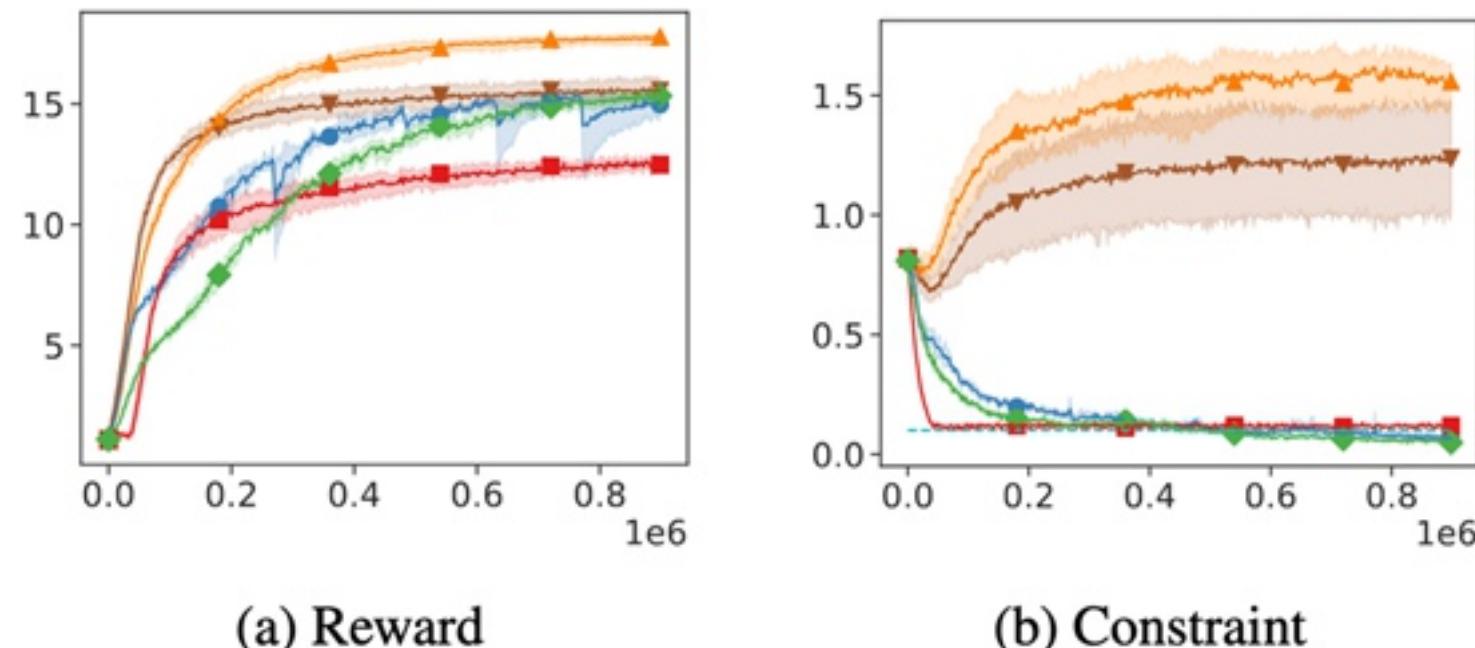
### IPO vs. PDO

- PDO can converge to a policy as good as IPO, however, the variance of the performance during training is **high**
- PDO achieves a policy whose constraint value is lower than the limit, but the reward is the lowest as well.
- PDO is sensitive to the initialization of the Lagrange multiplier and learning rate

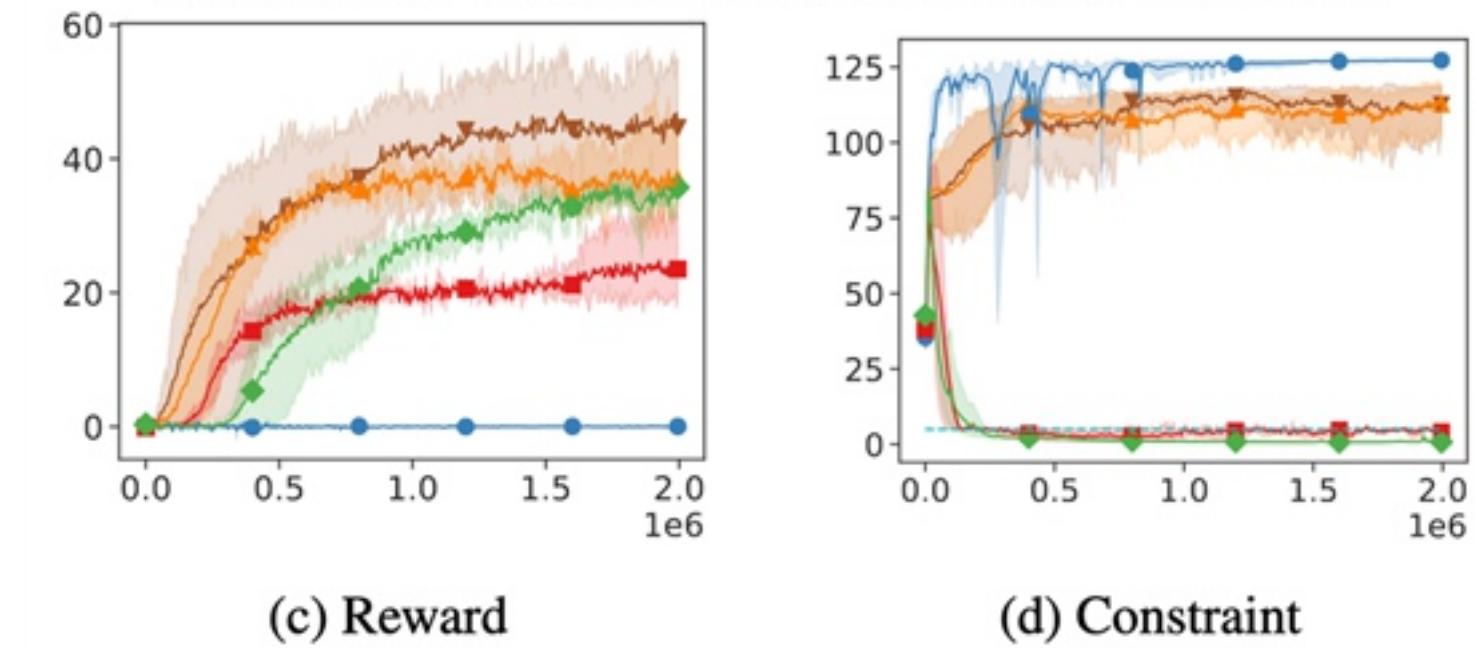
HalfCheetah-Safe with discounted cumulative constraint



Point Gather with discounted cumulative constraint



Point Circle with discounted cumulative constraint



# Experiments

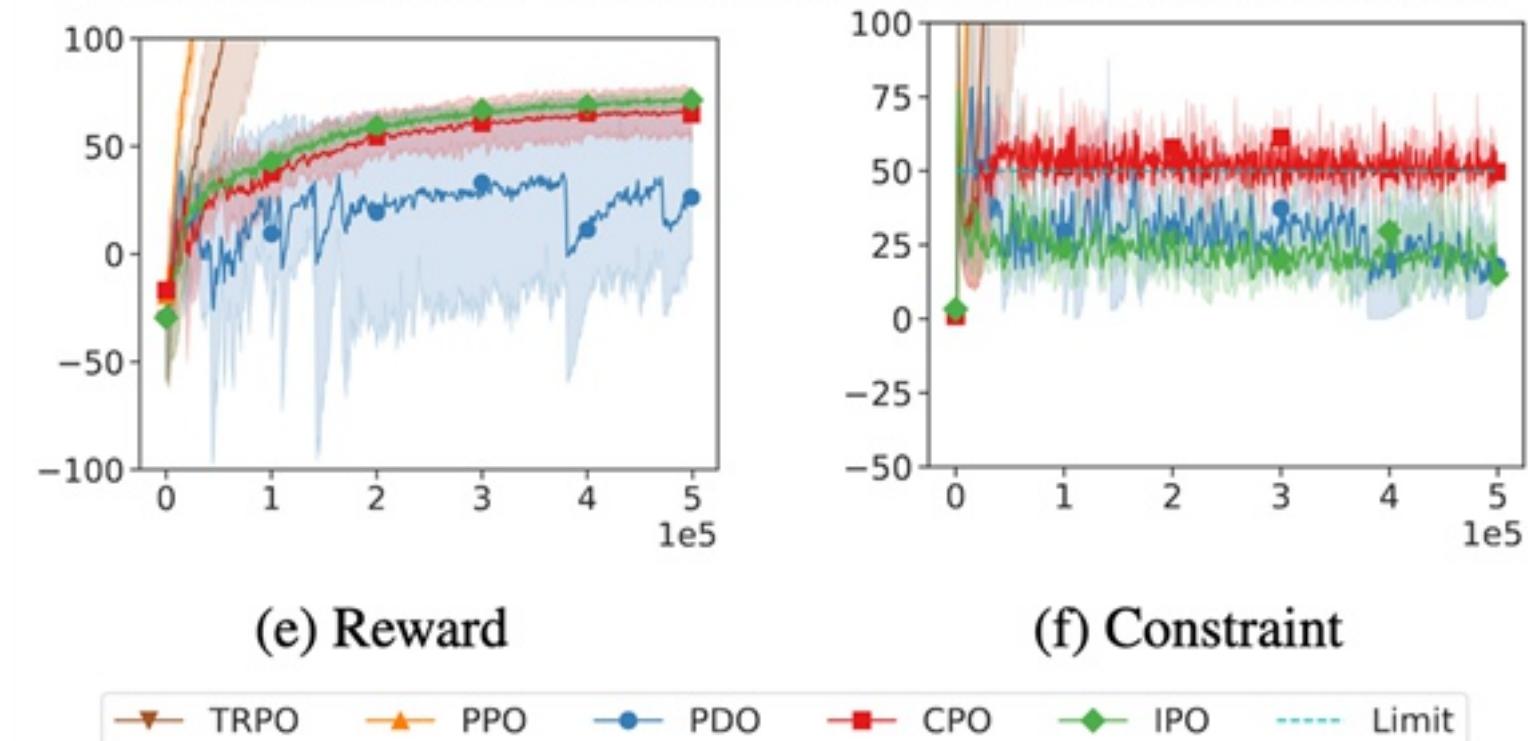
$$J_{C_i}^{\pi_\theta} = \mathbb{E}_{\tau \sim \pi_\theta} \left[ \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \gamma^t C(s_t, a_t, s_{t+1}) \right]$$

## 1 discounted cumulative constraints

### CPO vs. PPO / TRPO

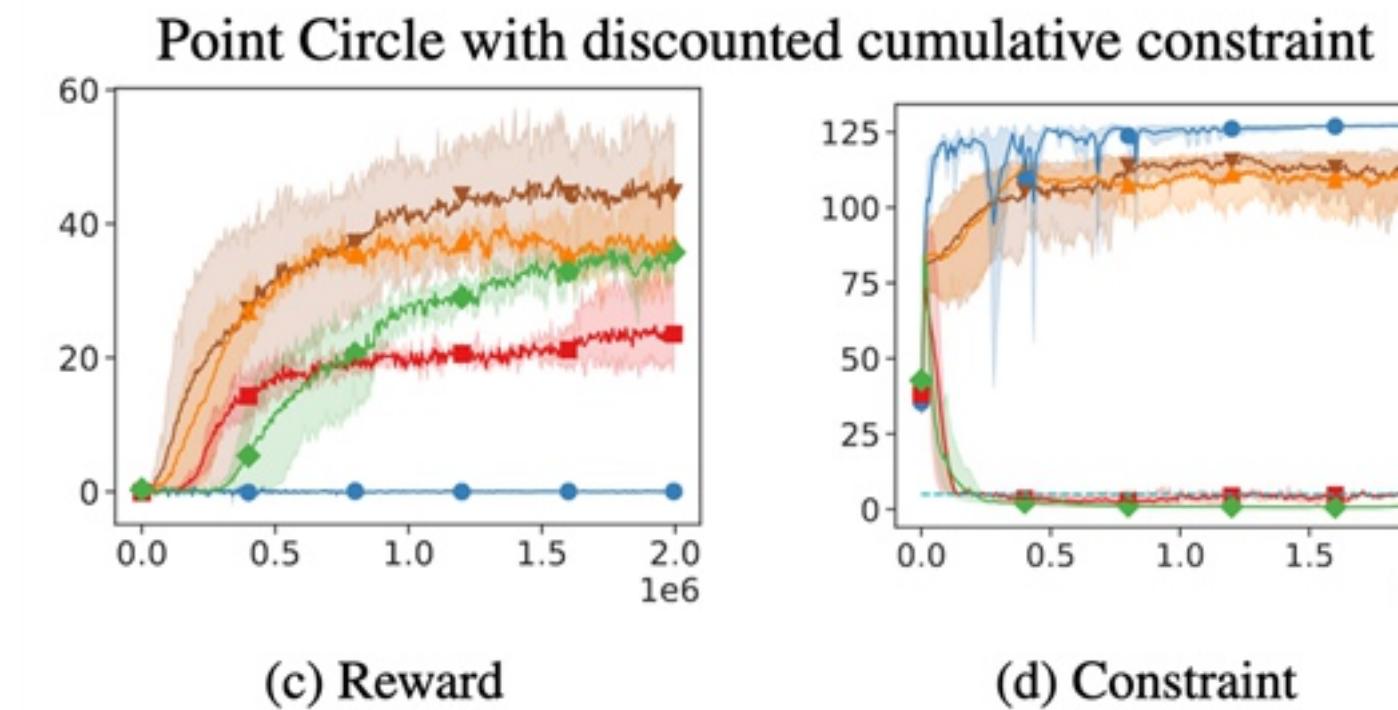
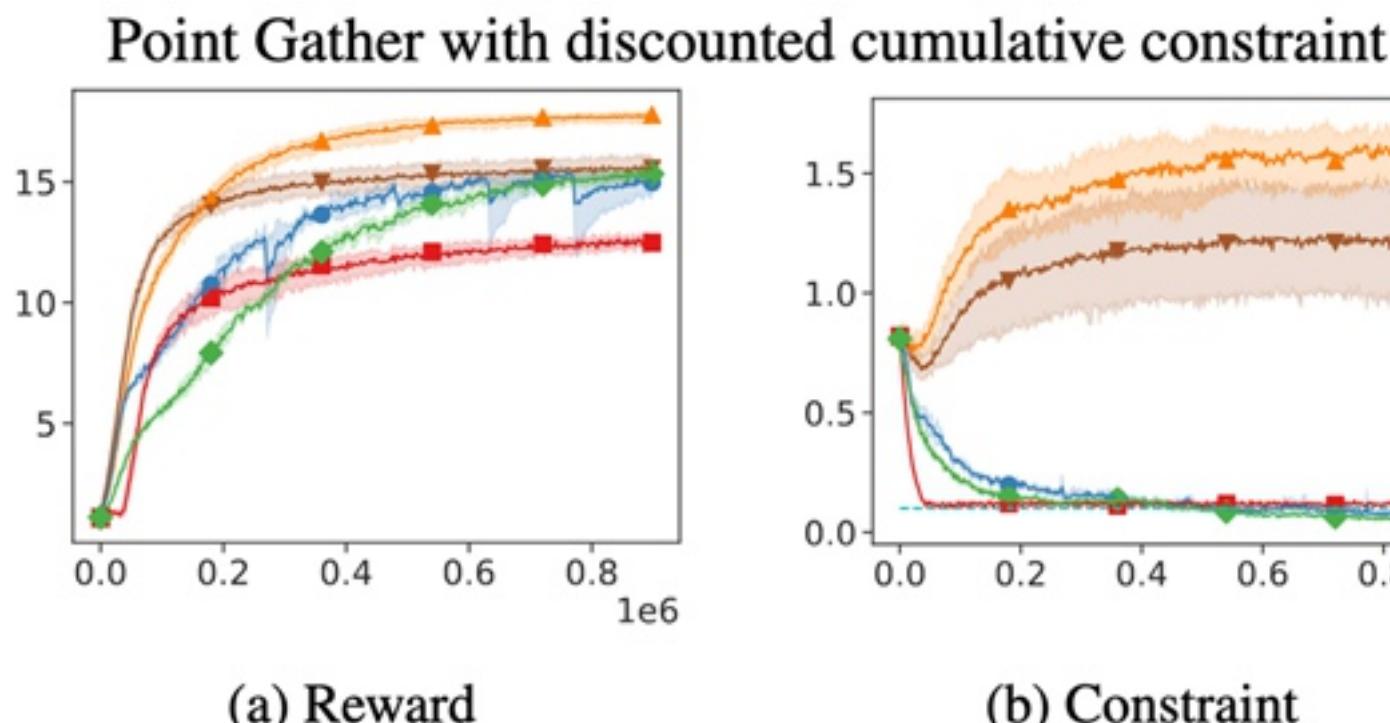
- PPOs consider the optimization without constraints.
- PPOs achieve higher rewards as well as violating the constraints more, compared to IPO, CPO and PDO

HalfCheetah-Safe with discounted cumulative constraint



(e) Reward

(f) Constraint



# Experiments

## 2 mean valued constraints

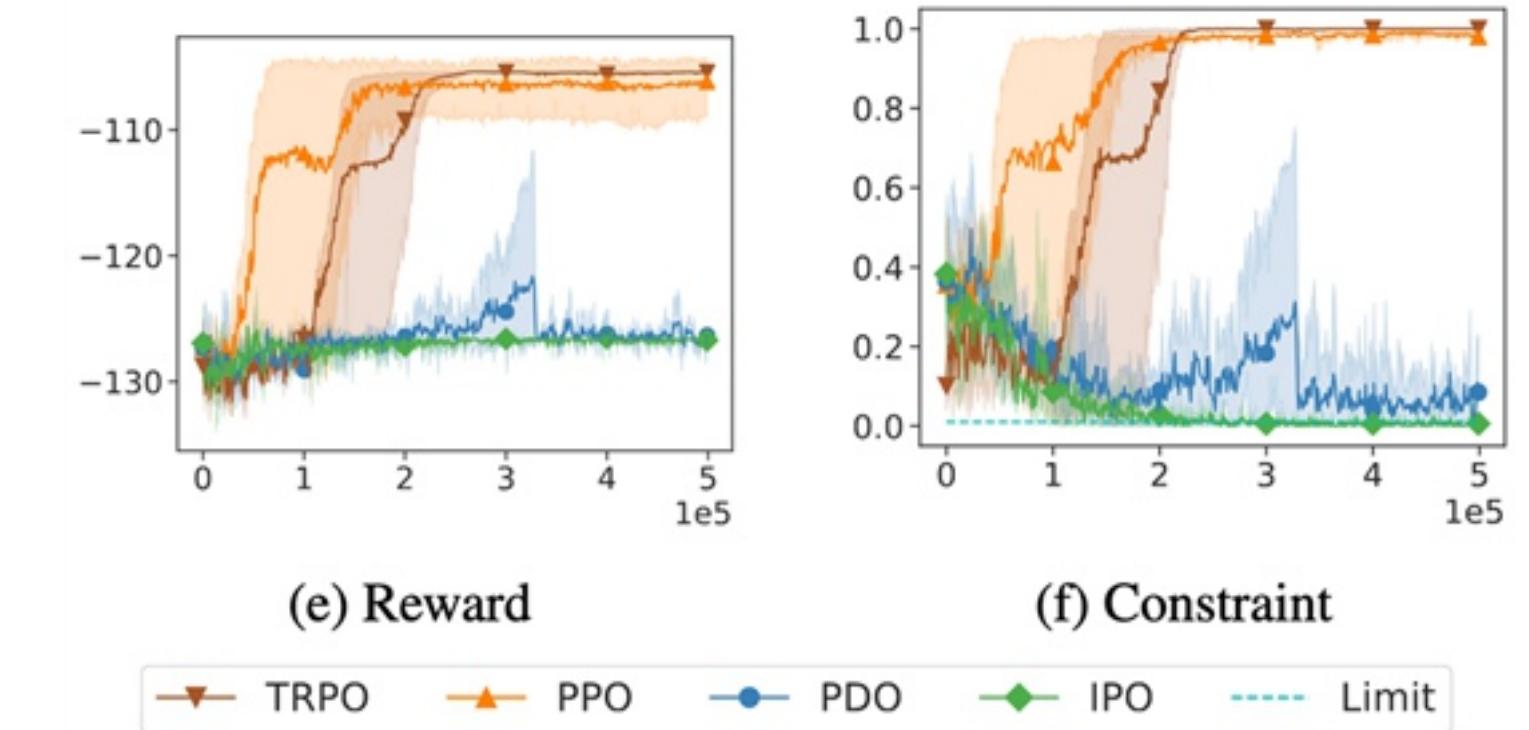
### IPO vs. PDO

- IPO can consistently converge to a policy with high discounted cumulative reward and satisfy the mean valued constrains on all tasks.
- PDO, however, sometimes converges to a policy **violating the constraints** (Figure 3b) and **has a higher variance** during training (Figure 3d and Figure 3f)

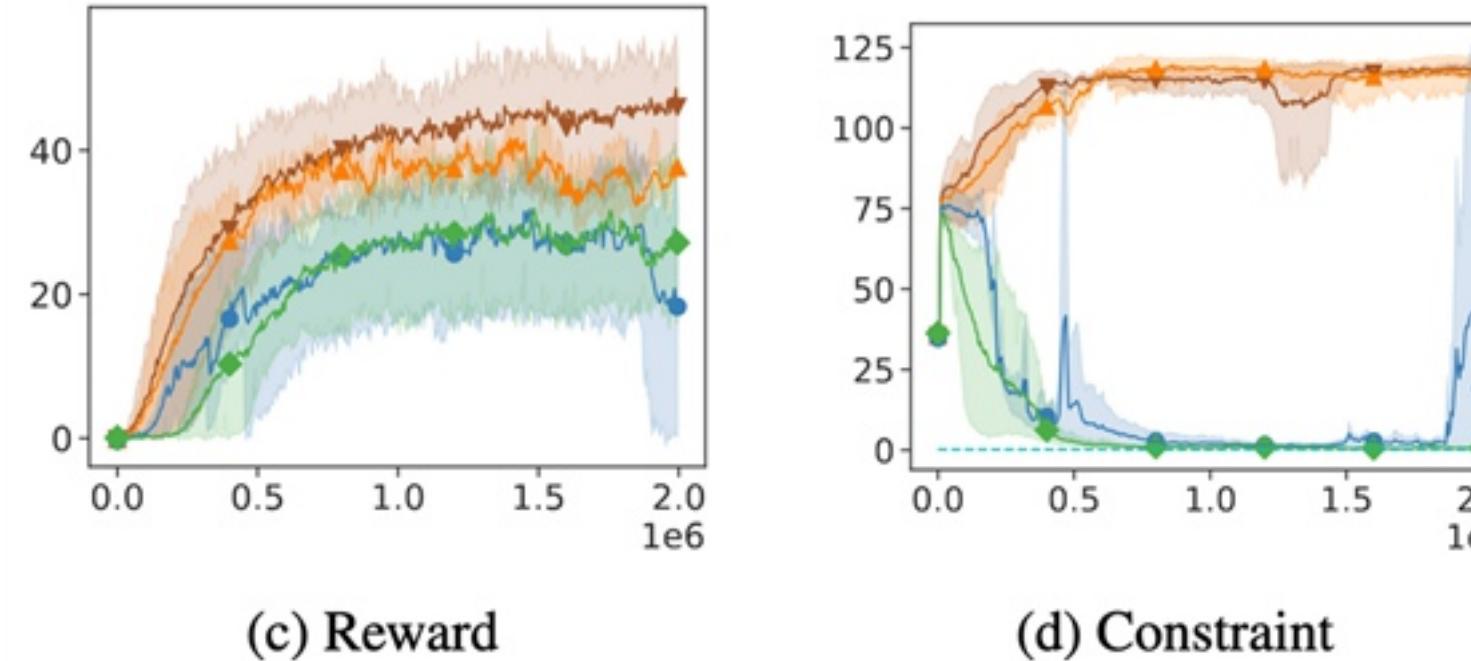
$$J_{C_i}^{\pi_\theta} = \mathbb{E}_{\tau \sim \pi_\theta} \left[ \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} C(s_t, a_t, s_{t+1}) \right]$$

CPO does not support mean valued constraints

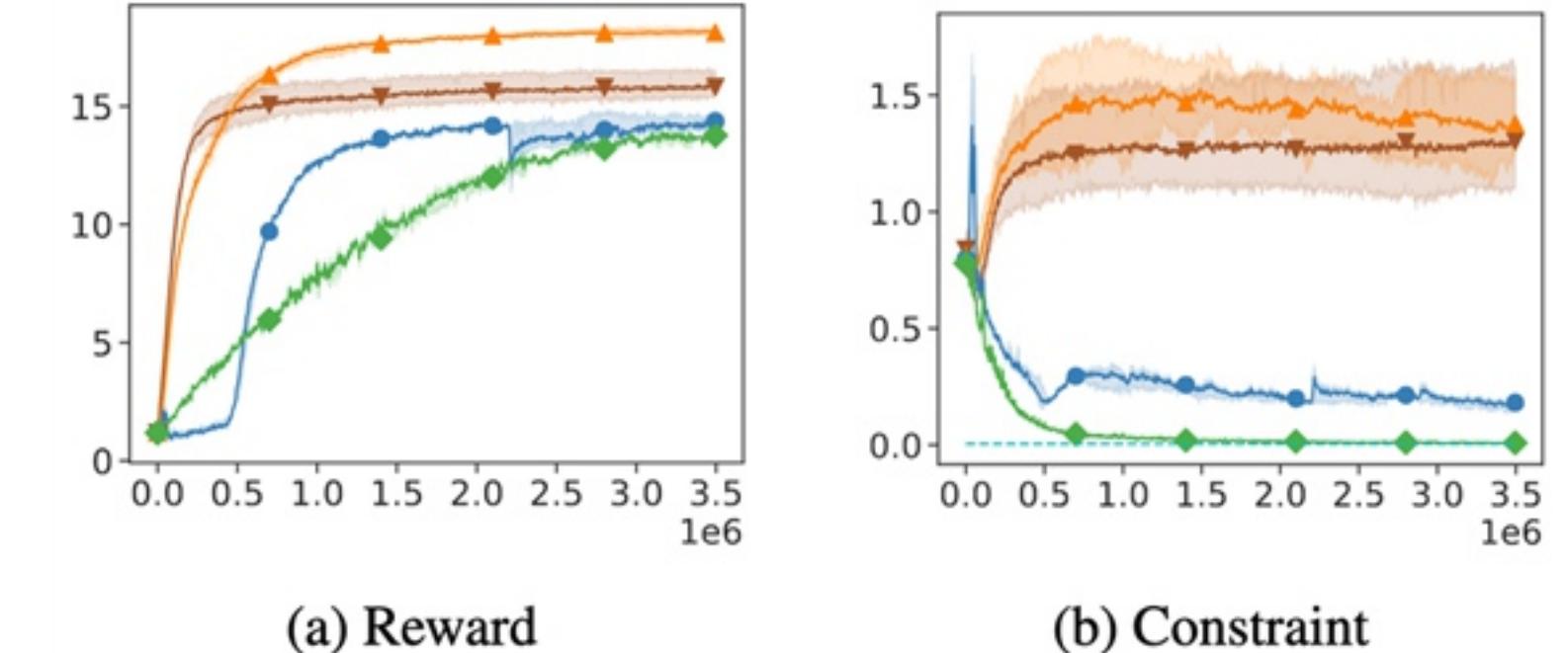
Mars Rover with mean valued constraint



Point Circle with mean valued constraint



Point Gather with mean valued constraint



# Experiments

## 3 Constraint Effects

- loosen the constraint in Point Gather with a larger threshold, to be 1
  - Point agent can collect at most one bomb on average in each play
  - 평균적으로 1개 이하의 bomb 수집
- so loose that the performance of the constrained optimization is equivalent to the unconstrained one.
- **CPO still increases its cost to reach the constraint 1**, which is even worse than the randomly initialized policy
  - CPO always makes efforts to push its cost to the constraint threshold
- **IPO keeps decreasing its cost after the constraint is satisfied**
- **CPO is around 1 and the number for IPO is around 0.25**

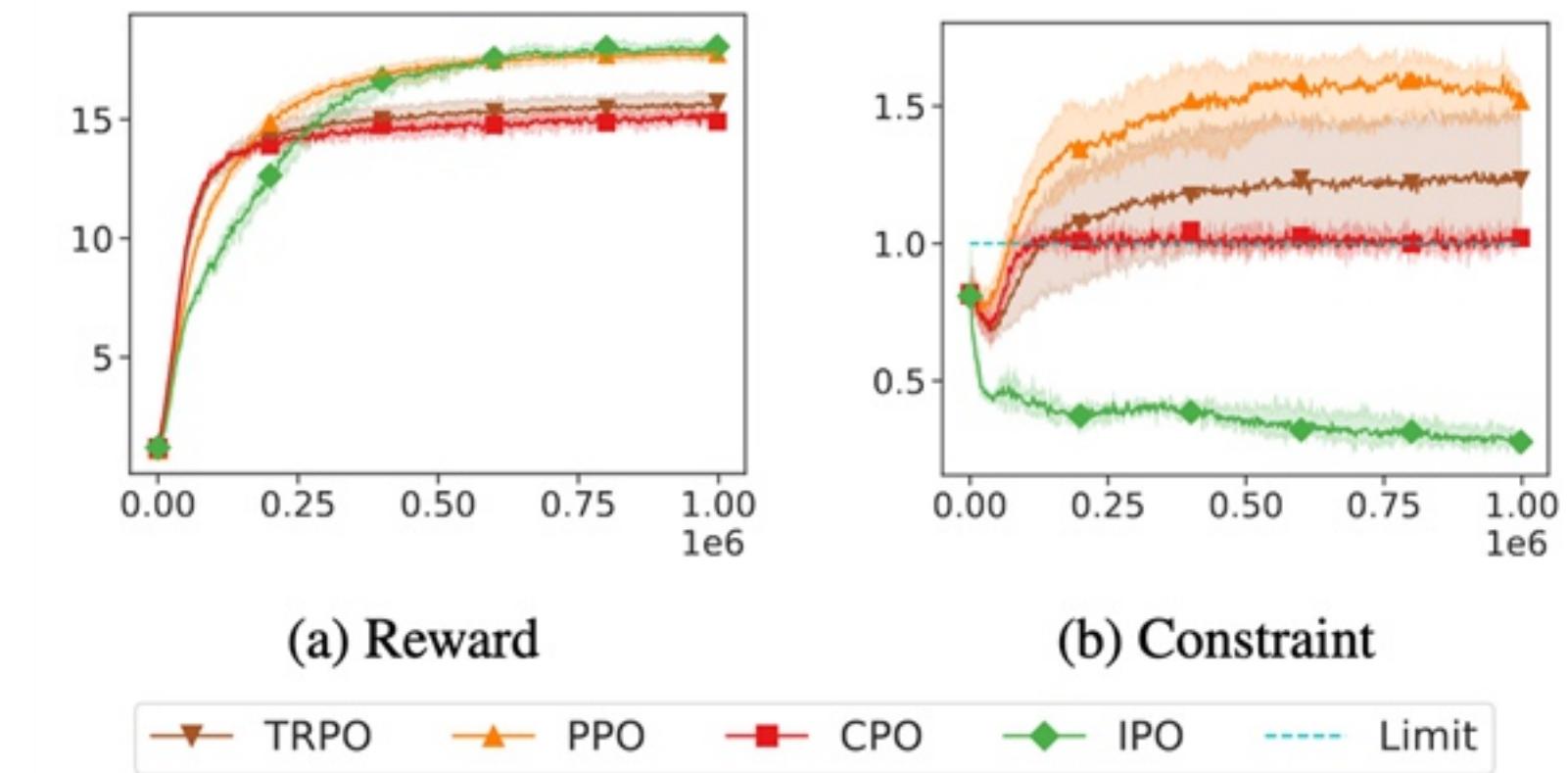


Figure 4: Average performance of TRPO, PPO, CPO and IPO under constraint limit 1.

# Experiments

## 4 Hyperparameter Tuning

- IPO hyperparameter  $t$  is easier to tune
- Tuning the initial Lagrange multiplier and learning rate takes a lot of efforts in PDO
  - PDO is **sensitive** to the initialization of the Lagrange multiplier  $\lambda$  from 0.01 to 0.1
  - PDO is affected by the learning rate which changes from 0.01 to 0.001. The smaller learning rate slows down the policy convergence pace
- Reward and cost of IPO are positively correlated with the hyperparameter  $t$ 
  - Binary search가 가능한 이유
  - higher reward and cost with larger  $t$

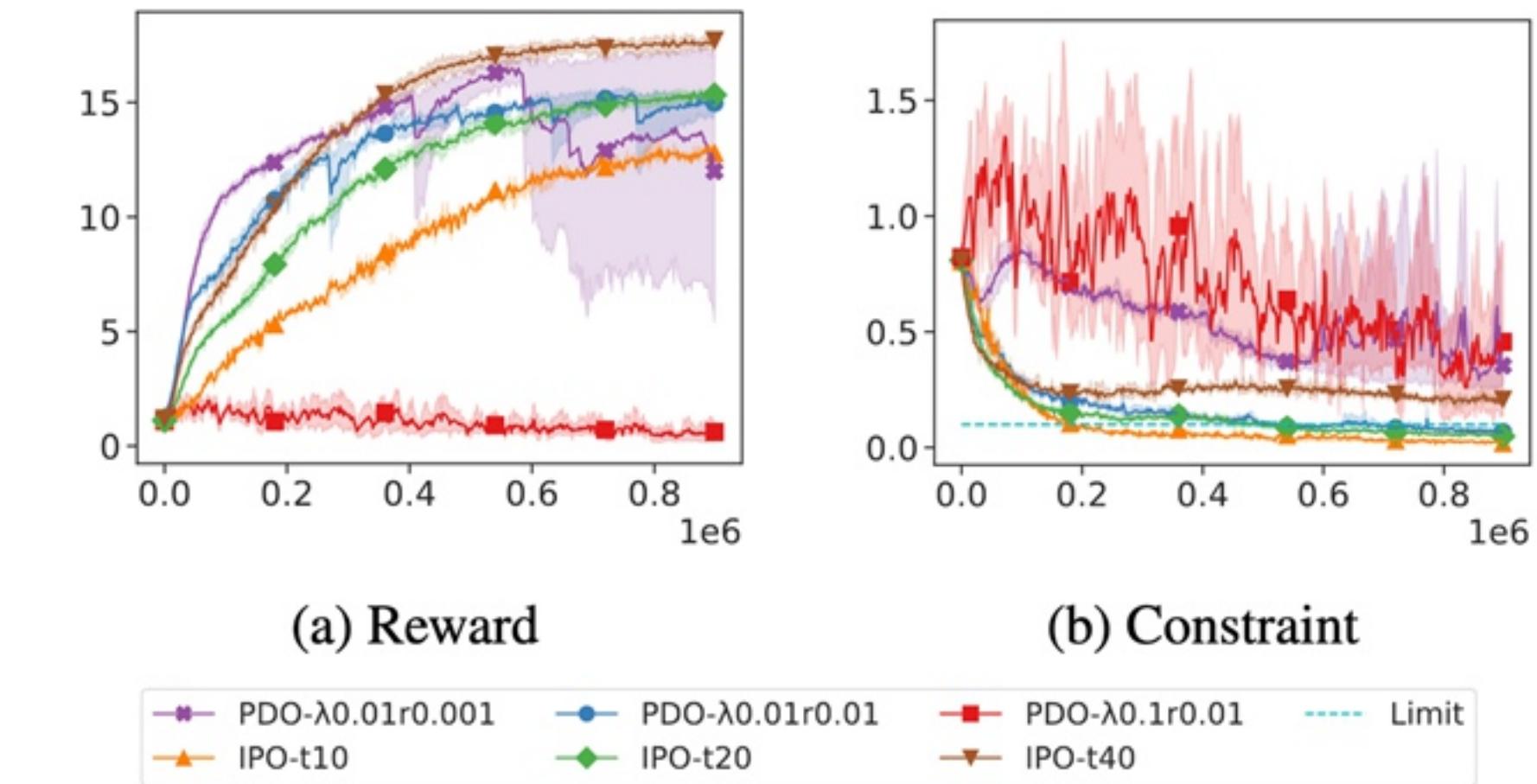


Figure 5: Average performance of PDO and IPO with different hyperparameters.

# Experiments

## 5 Multiple Constraints

- IPO에서 constraint를 추가하고 싶다면 logarithm barrier function을 이용해서 term을 추가하기만 하면 됨
  - CPO보다 쉬움
- constraint에 해당하는 ball의 탑입을 추가하여 constraint를 여러개로 만들어서 Point-Gather 실험
  1. two apples, three bomb balls (0.04), five mine balls (0.06);
  2. two apples, four bomb balls (0.05), four mine balls (0.05);
  3. two apples, eight bomb balls (0.1), eight mine balls (0.1);

\*()안에 있는 값들은 한 번의 플레이에서 모을 수 있는 해당 공의 최대 기대값에 대한 제약 조건

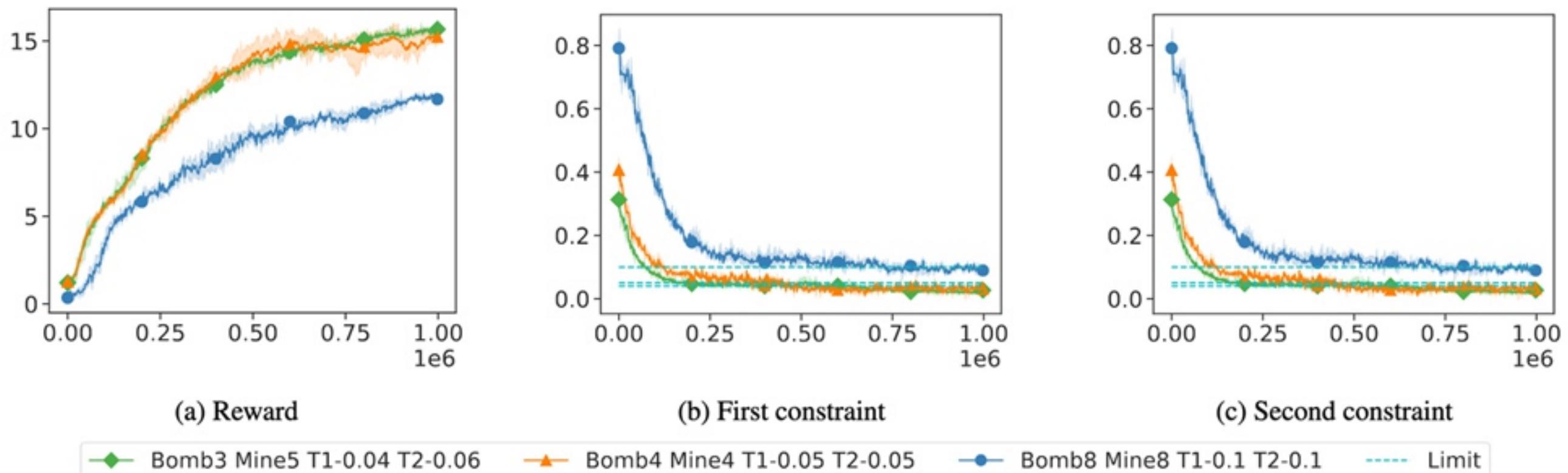


Figure 6: Average performance of IPO under multi-constraints. T1 and T2 correspond to the the limits in (b) and (c) separately. The dash lines are limits for different task settings

# Experiments

## 6 Stochastic Environment Effects

- in real-world scenarios, there is always uncertainty from the environment
  - the outcome of an action is **affected by random noise**
- action: 속도(velocity)와 진행(heading) 방향의 vector로 -1~1 사이의 값으로 정의
- action에 평균 0 분산 각각 0.2, 0.5, 1.0으로 random noise를 추가
- 0.5일때도 학습이 수렴하는 것을 확인할 수 있었음

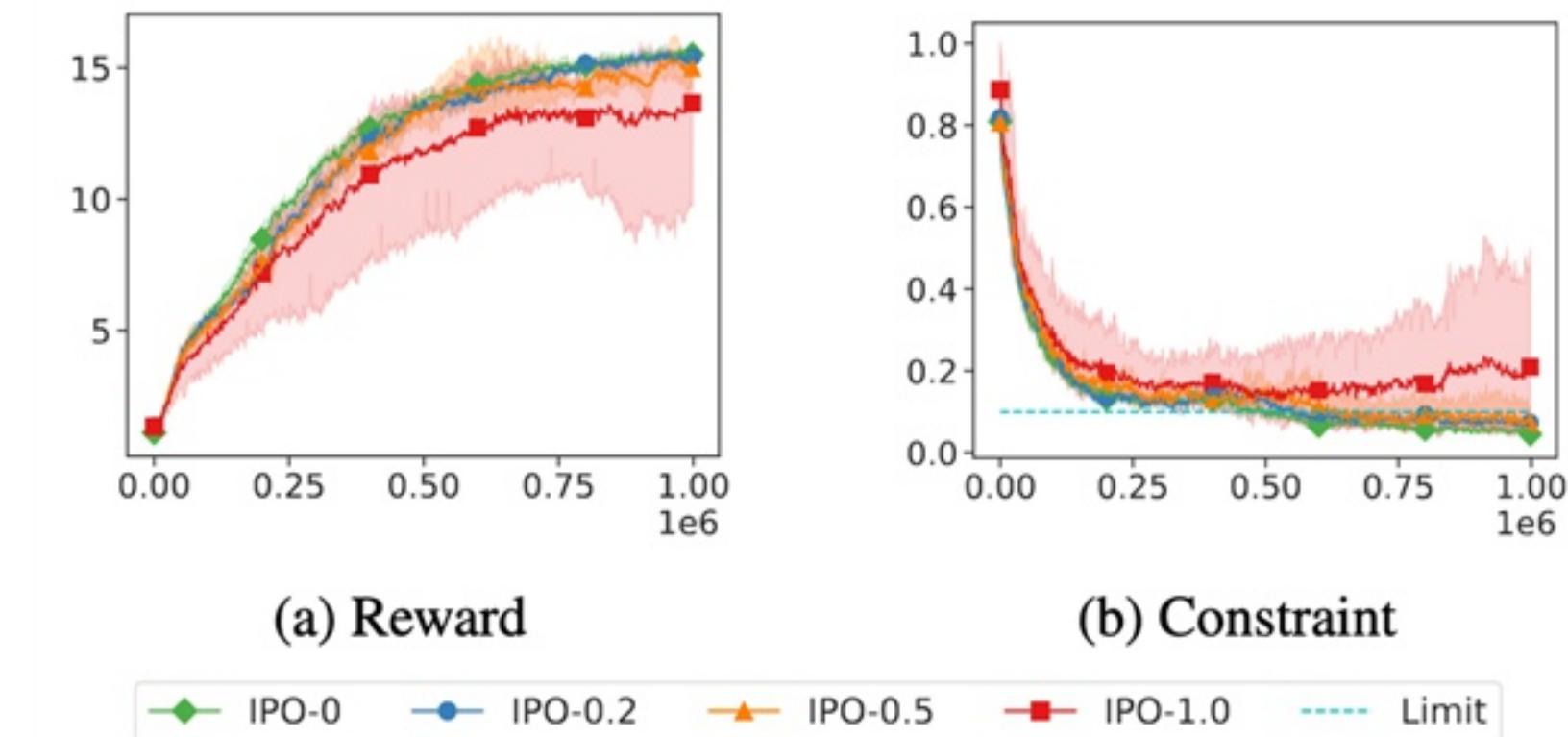


Figure 7: Average performance of IPO under different noise scale. IPO-0 means no noise is added.

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**END**