

# Paper & Project Proposal

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# Paper Proposal

**Soft Actor-Critic:  
Off-Policy Maximum Entropy Deep Reinforcement  
Learning with a Stochastic Actor**

Issues to solve

Sample inefficiency

Meticulous hyperparameter tuning

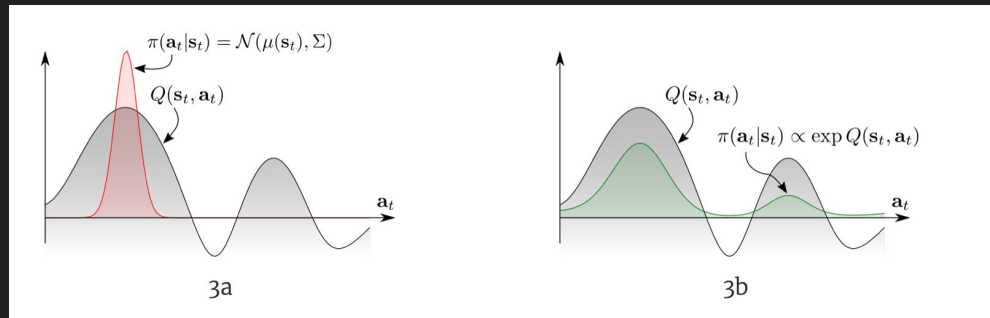
# Maximum Entropy Reinforcement Learning

$$\pi^* = \arg \max_{\pi} \mathbb{E}_{(s_t, a_t) \sim \rho_{\pi}} \left[ \sum_t R(s_t, a_t) \right]$$

$$\pi^* = \arg \max_{\pi} \mathbb{E}_{(s_t, a_t) \sim \rho_{\pi}} \left[ \sum_t \underbrace{R(s_t, a_t)}_{\text{reward}} + \alpha \underbrace{H(\pi(\cdot | s_t))}_{\text{entropy}} \right]$$

# Soft Q-Learning

- Learn Soft Q directly
- Policy is intractable in continuous domain



# Soft Actor Critic

- Learn Soft Q of policy and the policy jointly
- like DDPG, but with stochastic policy

# Soft Policy Iteration

- Soft Policy evaluation

$$\mathcal{T}^{\pi}Q(\mathbf{s}_t, \mathbf{a}_t) \triangleq r(\mathbf{s}_t, \mathbf{a}_t) + \gamma \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{s}_{t+1} \sim p} [V(\mathbf{s}_{t+1})],$$

where

$$V(\mathbf{s}_t) = \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{a}_t \sim \pi} [Q(\mathbf{s}_t, \mathbf{a}_t) - \log \pi(\mathbf{a}_t | \mathbf{s}_t)]$$

# Soft Policy Iteration

- Soft Policy Improvement

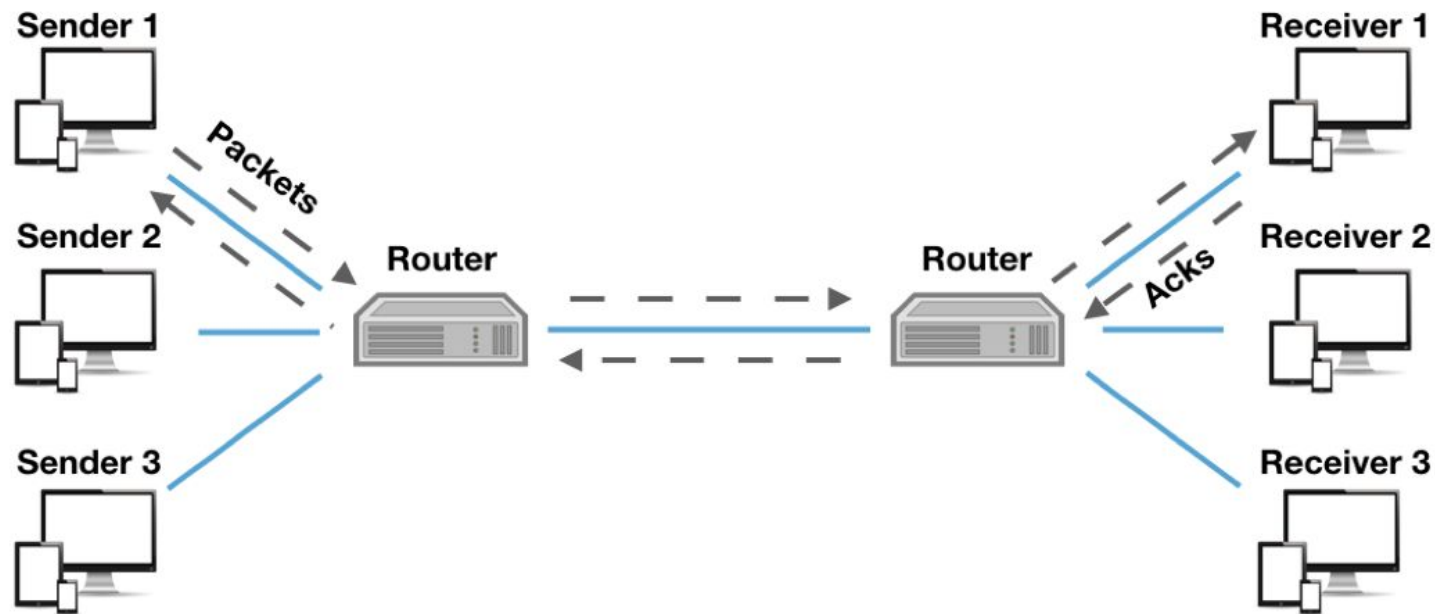
$$\pi_{\text{new}} = \arg \min_{\pi' \in \Pi} D_{\text{KL}} \left( \pi'(\cdot | \mathbf{s}_t) \parallel \frac{\exp(Q^{\pi_{\text{old}}}(\mathbf{s}_t, \cdot))}{Z^{\pi_{\text{old}}}(\mathbf{s}_t)} \right)$$

# Project Proposal

Internet Congestion Control  
with extracted RL



# Internet Congestion Control



# State, Action, Reward Design

## State

- Latency Gradient
- Latency Ratio
- Sending Ratio

## Action

- Sending rate

## Reward

- $10 * \text{throughput} - 1000 * \text{latency} - 2000 * \text{loss}$

# Policy Extraction via Q-Dagger

