EVOLVING INTRINSIC MOTIVATIONS FOR ALTRUISTIC BEHAVIOR

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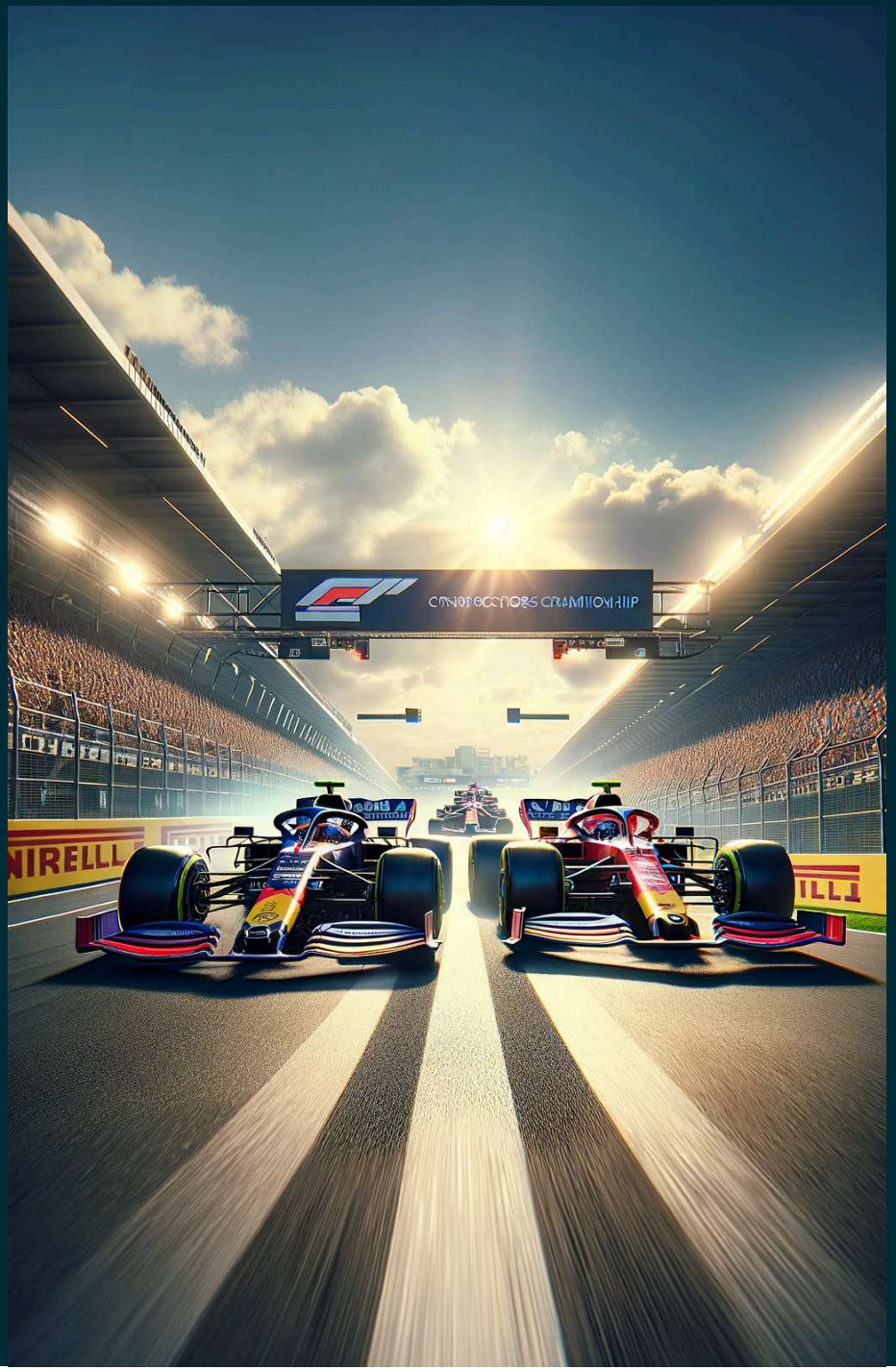
Self-Organising Agent Systems - Master in Artificial Intelligence - Mario R. O.

PAPER INTRODUCTION



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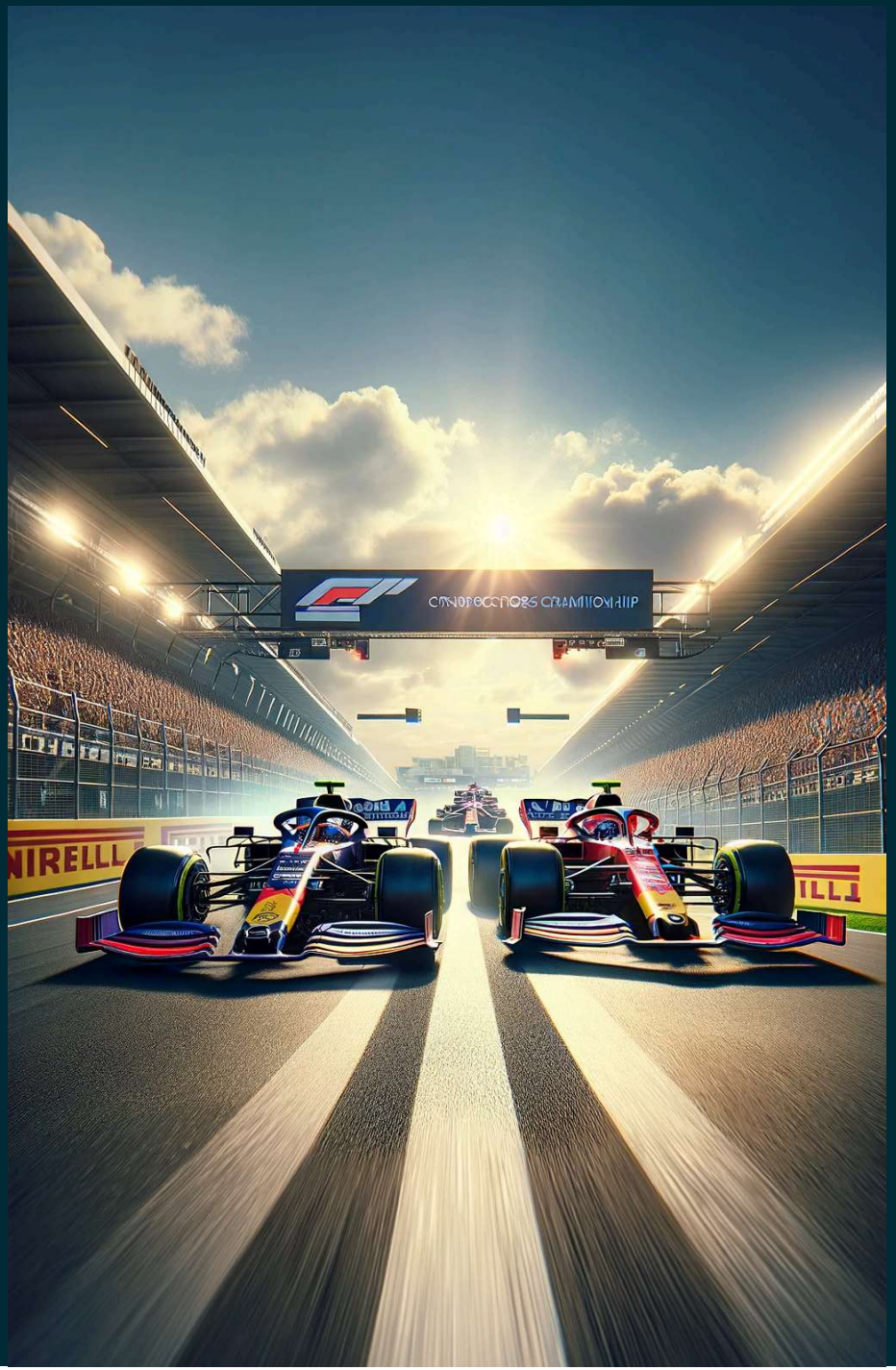
- **Importance of Cooperation**: Working together towards a common goal, which is essential for achieving complex tasks and surviving in social and environmental challenges.



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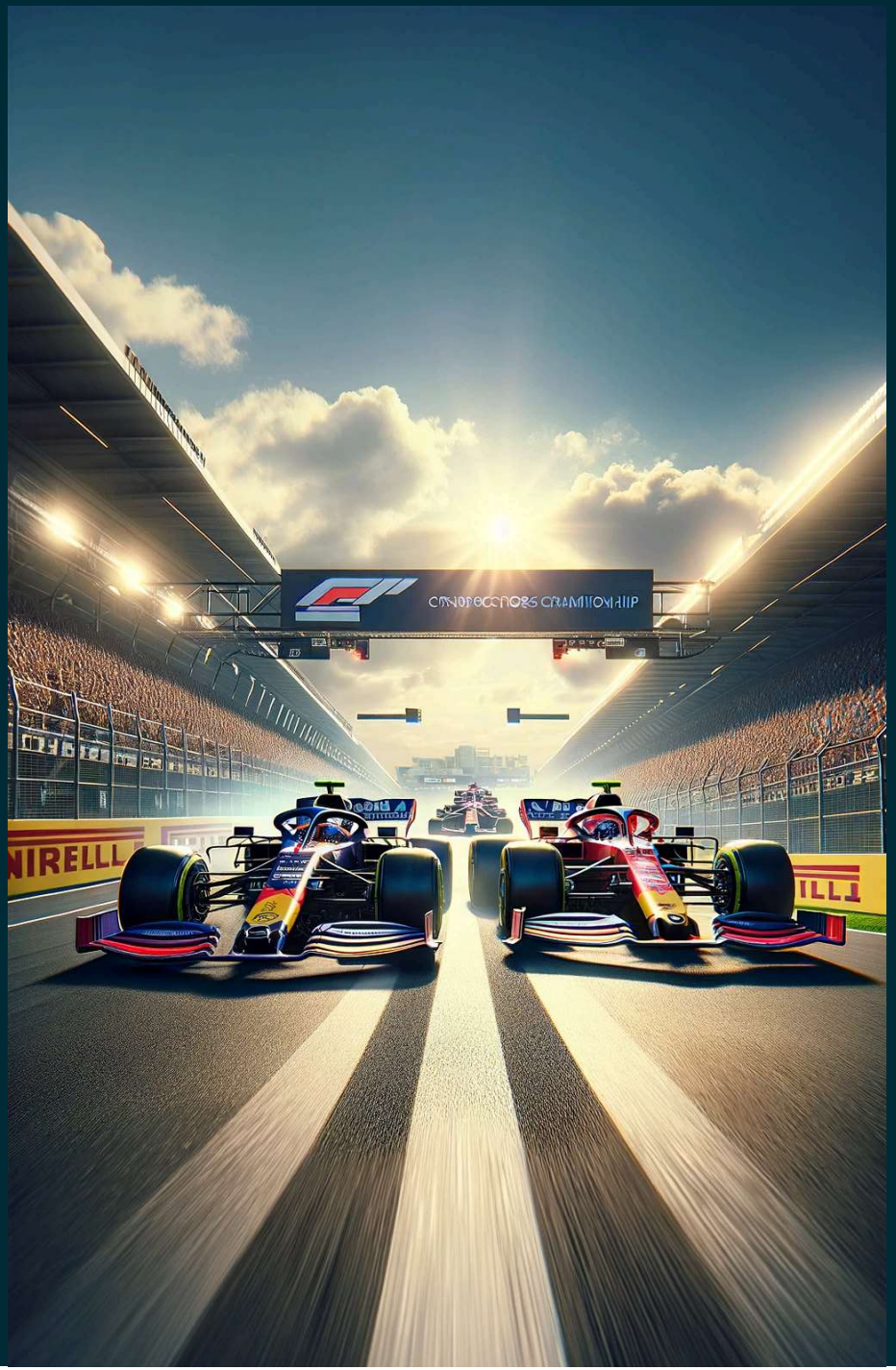

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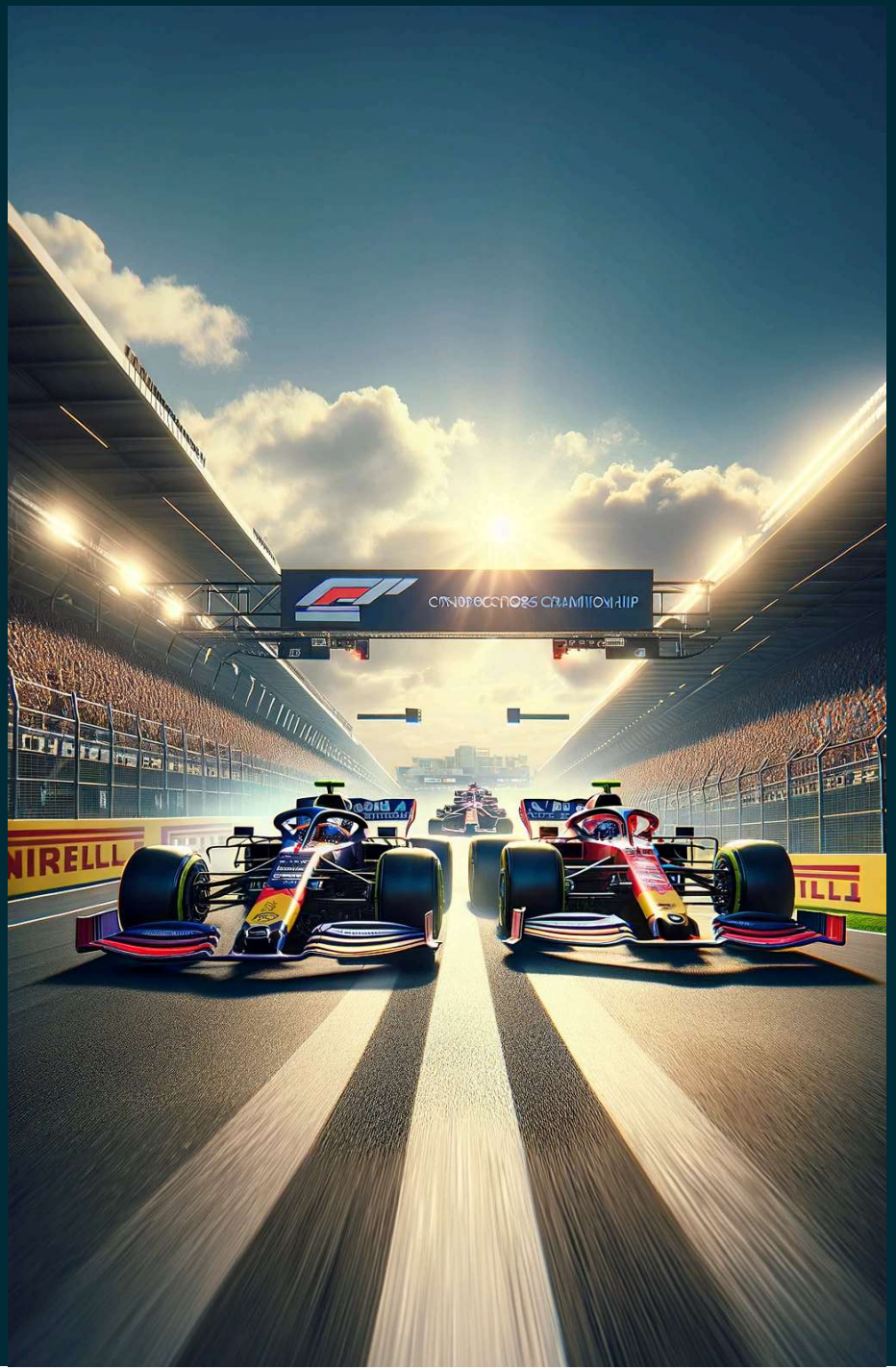
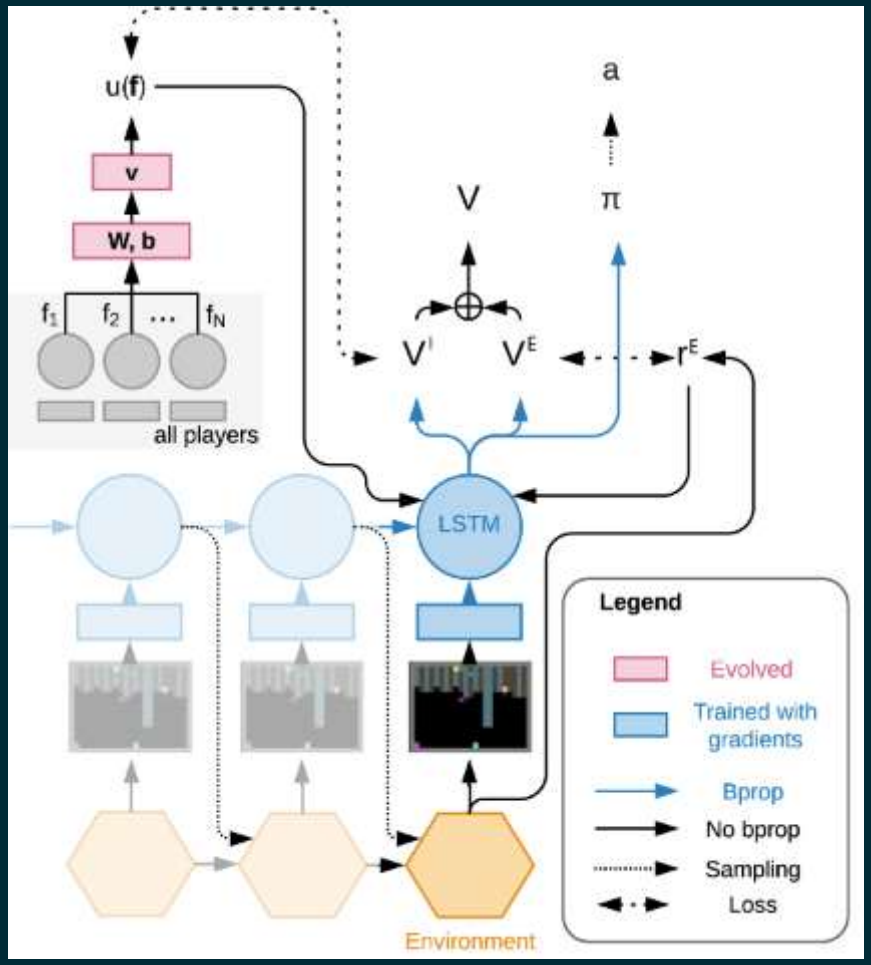
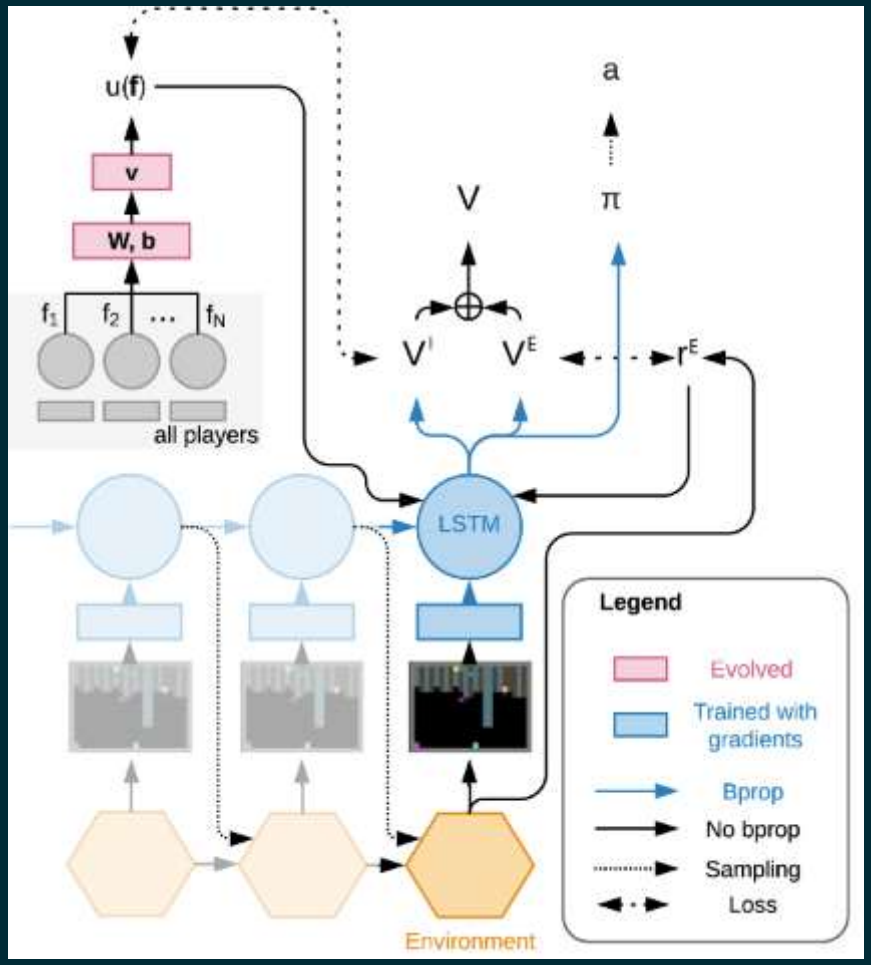
- **Intertemporal Social Dilemmas**: Situations where individuals must choose between immediate personal benefits and long-term collective well-being, highlighting the conflict between selfish actions and altruistic outcomes over time.
- **Evolution and Reinforcement Learning**: A process combining natural selection principles and learning strategies to adaptively improve behaviors or strategies based on feedback from the environment, aimed at achieving better outcomes over generations.





REWARD AND ADAPTATION METHODS

- Rewards
  - **Extrinsic Reward** : $r_i^E(s_i, a_i)$ feedback given by the environment for actions taken, reflecting immediate, tangible benefits.
  - **Intrinsic Reward**: $u(f)$ Additional rewards based on social features or the collective welfare, to promote cooperative behaviors.
  - **Total Reward**: The combination of extrinsic and intrinsic rewards, guiding overall agent behavior. $r_i(s_i, a_i) = r_i^E(s_i, a_i) + u_i(f_i)$



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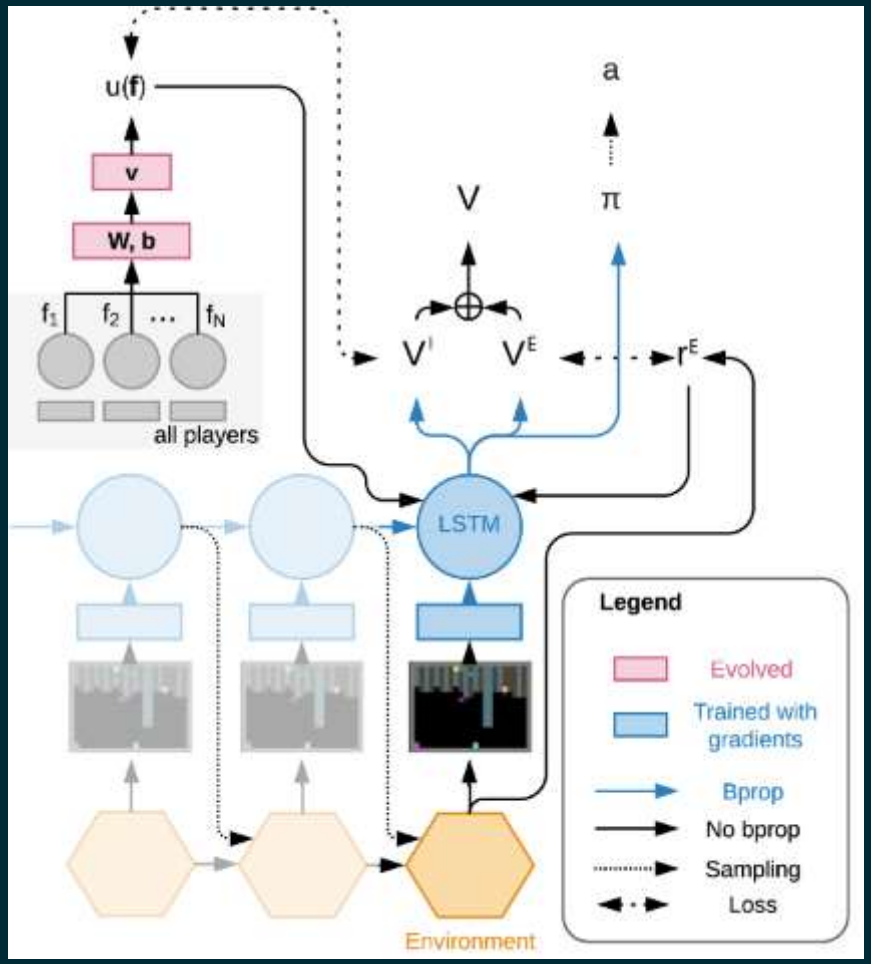
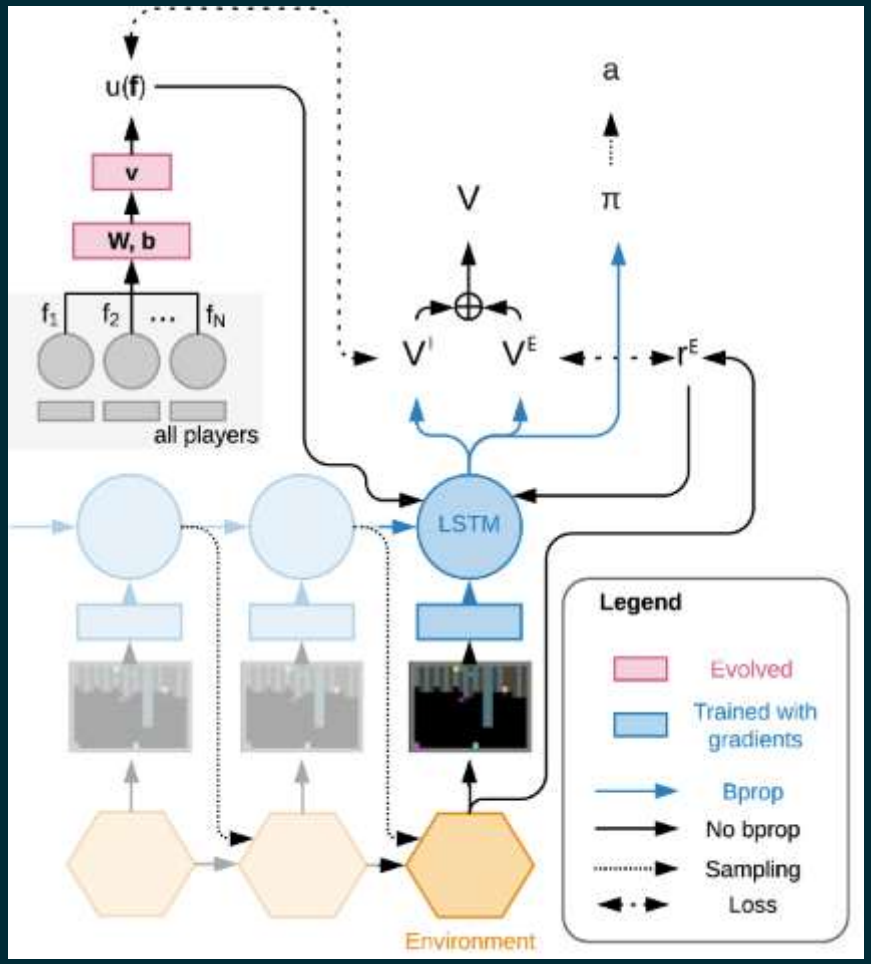


REWARD AND ADAPTATION METHODS

- **Auxiliar concepts**
  - **Feature vector** f: A set of characteristics observed or experienced derived from all players, used to compute the intrinsic reward via a neural network.
  - **Prospective Method**: Intrinsic rewards are calculated based on expectations of future rewards, aiming to influence immediate decisions for long-term benefits.
  - **Retrospective Method**: Intrinsic rewards are based on past actions' outcomes, focusing on historically received rewards, to encourage behaviors beneficial in similar future contexts.
  - **Evolutionary Approach**: Over time, the weightings within the intrinsic reward function evolve, optimizing the balance between extrinsic and intrinsic rewards to foster cooperative strategies.



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ARCHITECTURE: BUILDING THE AGENTS

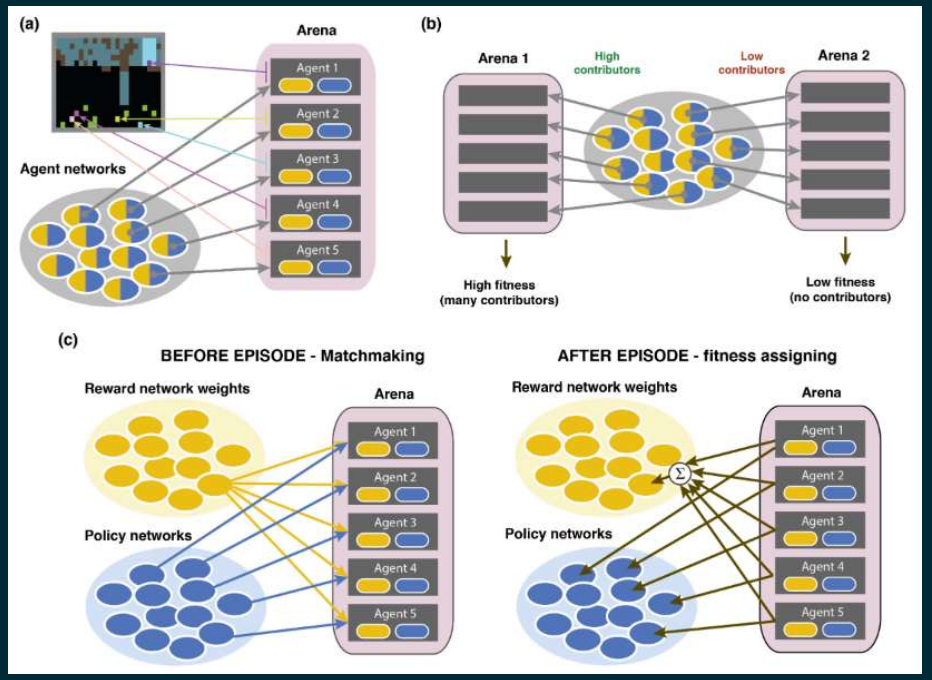
The agents are built using a deep reinforcement learning framework, each agent has:

- **Policy Network**: A neural network module which decides what actions to take based on what the agent sees in its environment.
- **Reward Network**: this network modifies the rewards the agent receives for certain actions, based on social factors.

EVOLUTIONARY DYNAMICS

- **Random vs Assortative Matchmaking**: Agents can be matched in two different ways: uniformly at random or based on their level of cooperativeness.

- **Shared vs. Individual Reward Networks**: Two strategies for the reward network are tested, all agents in a game share a single reward network or each agent evolves its reward network.



TRAINING: TEACHING AGENTS TO COOPERATE

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- **Intrinsic Motivations**: The reward network is tweaked not just by direct outcomes but by intrinsic motivations (internal goals) that encourage behaviors beneficial to the group, even if they're not immediately rewarding for the individual.

- **Cleaning Game**
  - Agents must cooperate to clean a polluted aquifer to ensure the continuous growth of apples. The dilemma arises when individuals must decide whether to clean (contributing to the common good) or collect apples (personal gain), with the collective outcome heavily dependent on group cooperation.
- **Harvest Game**
  - The challenge is to collect apples without depleting them. The social dilemma surfaces as agents must balance the temptation to harvest apples rapidly (for immediate reward) against the sustainable management of resources, ensuring long-term availability for all.

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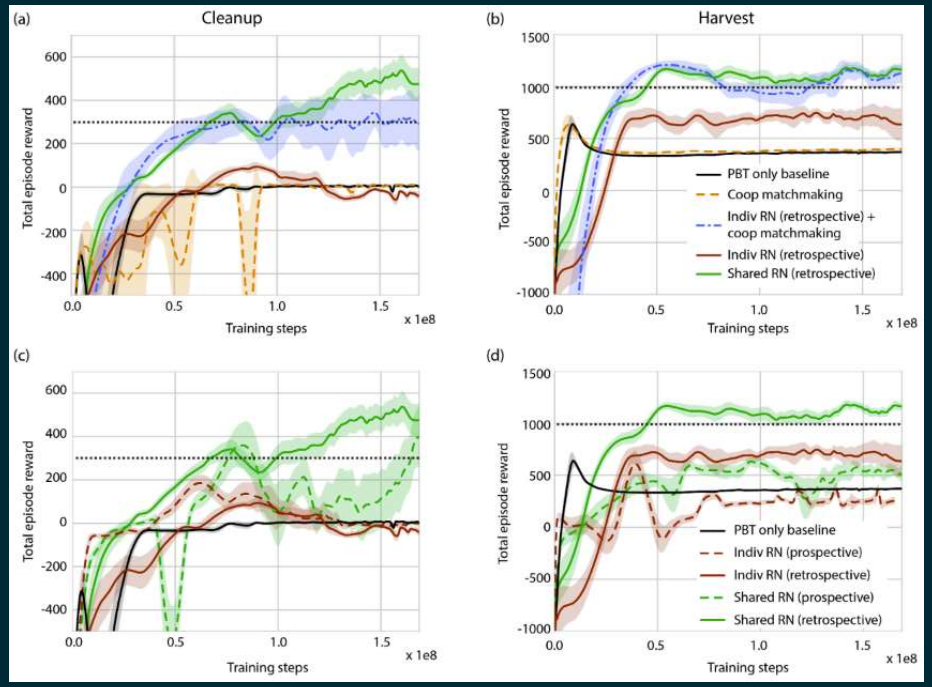
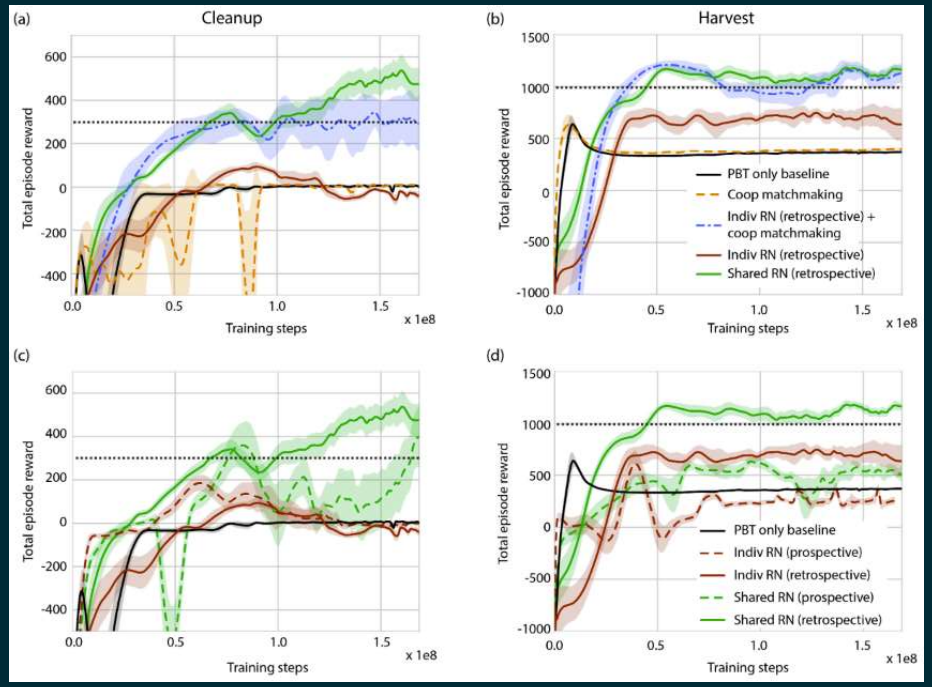


RESULTS: RANDOM VS. ASSORTATIVE MATCHMAKING



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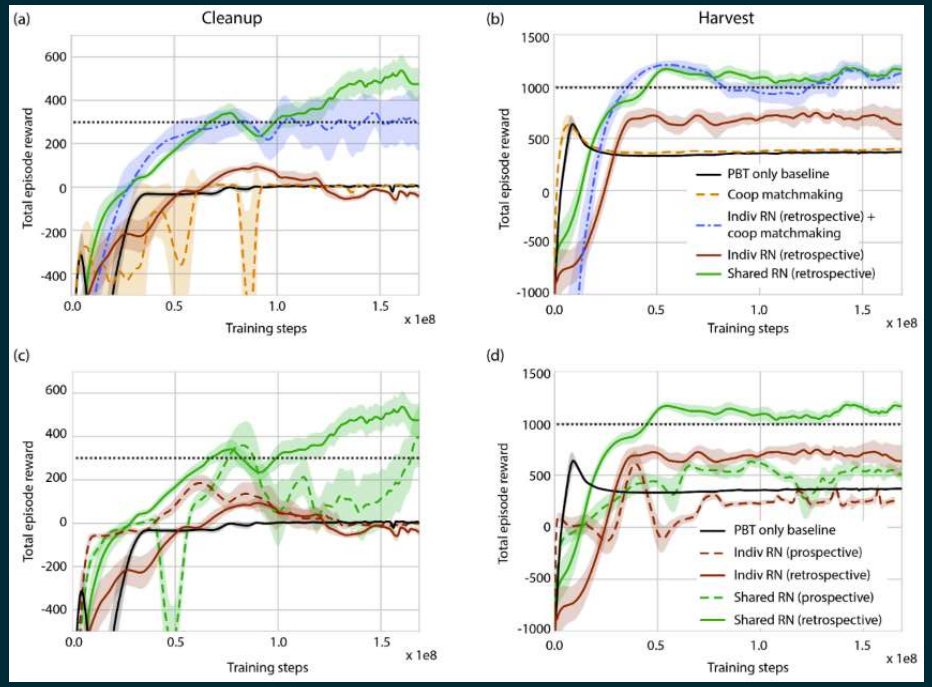

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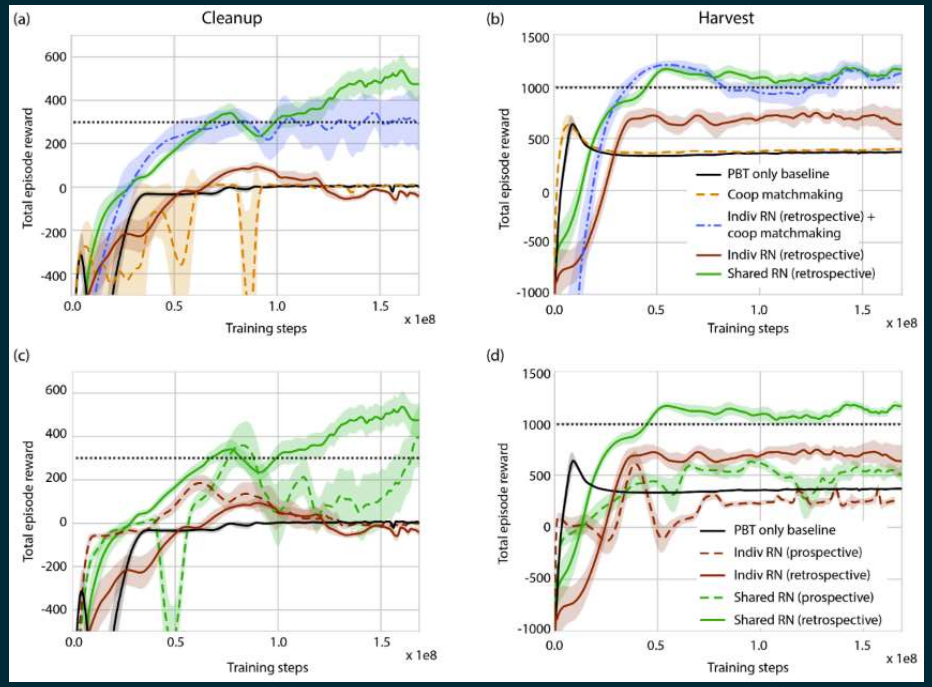

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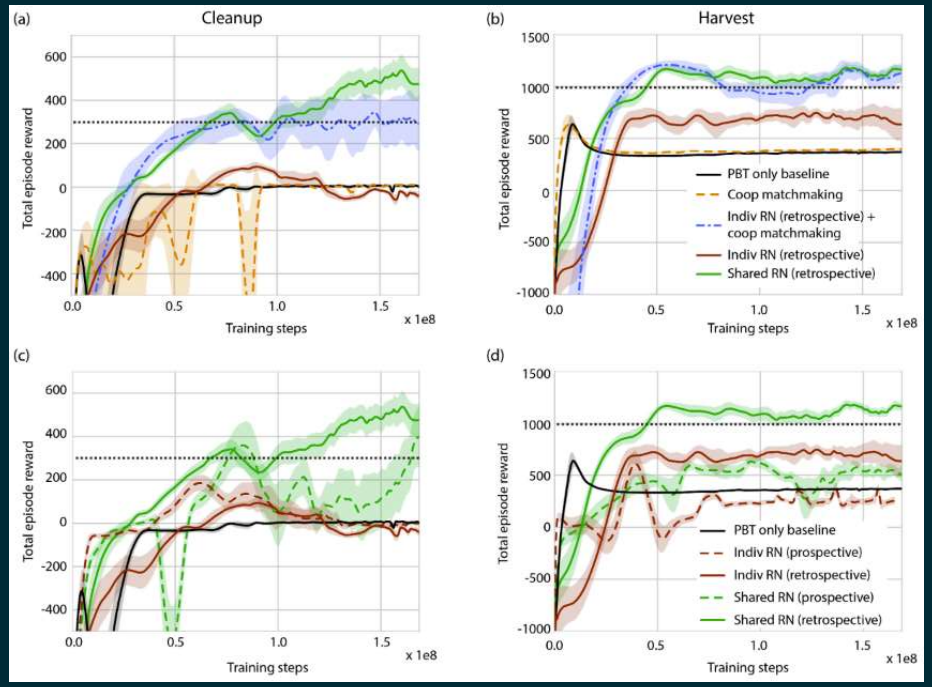

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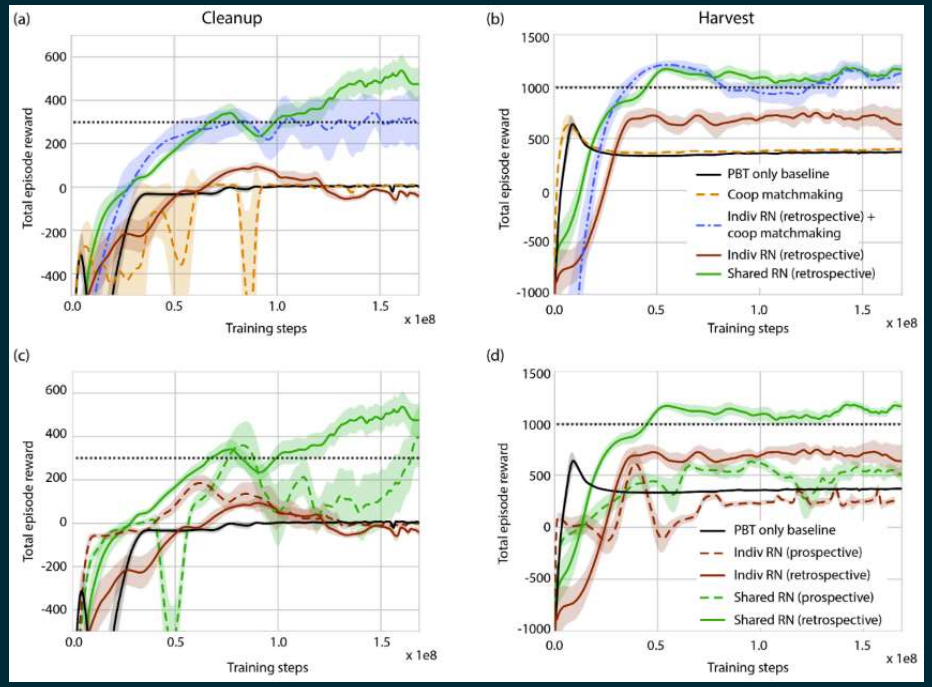

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- Using Random Matchmaking + Shared Retrospective Reward Network performs as well as AM+IRRN in Harvest, and slightly better for Cleanup.

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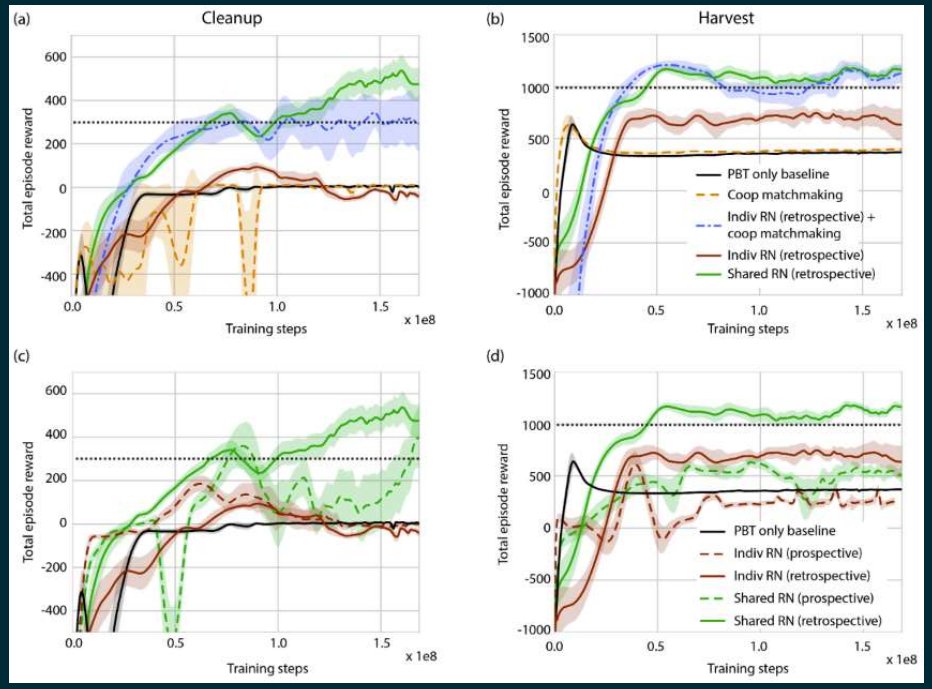
RESULTS: PROSPECTIVE VS RETROSPECTIVE REWARD NETWORK



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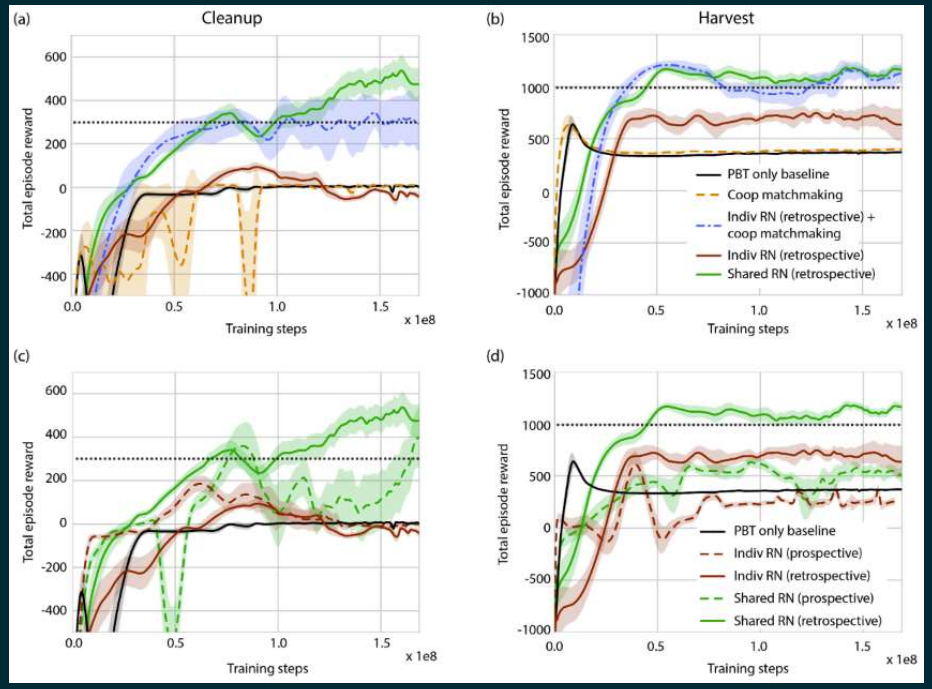

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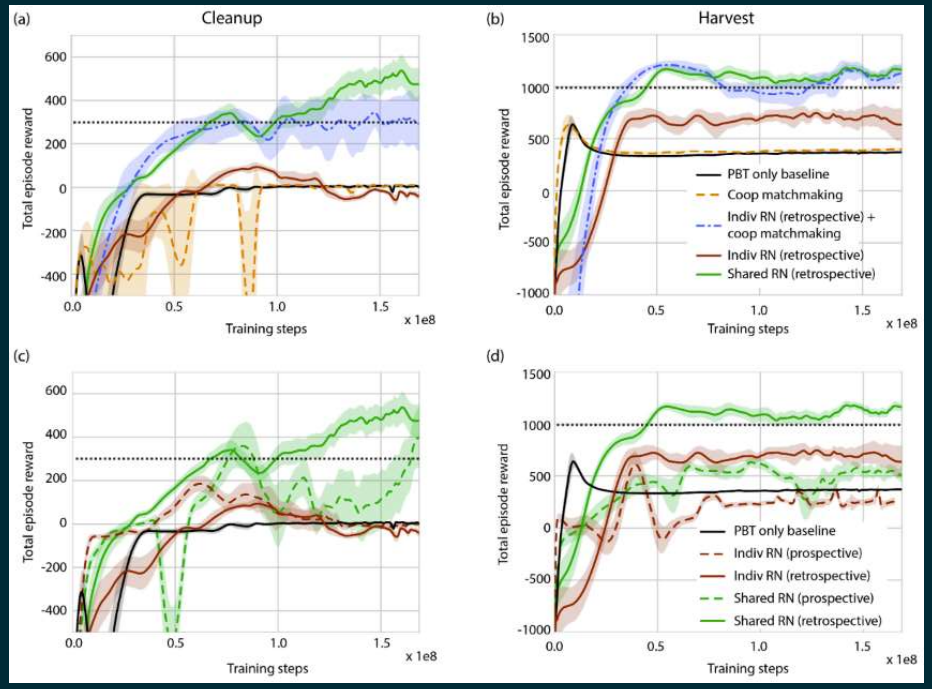

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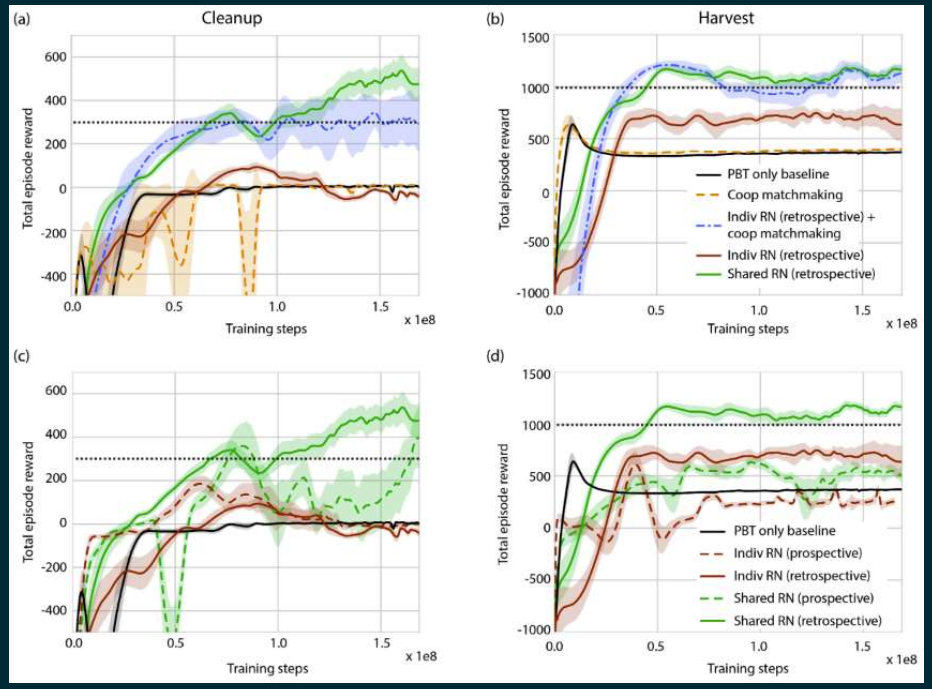

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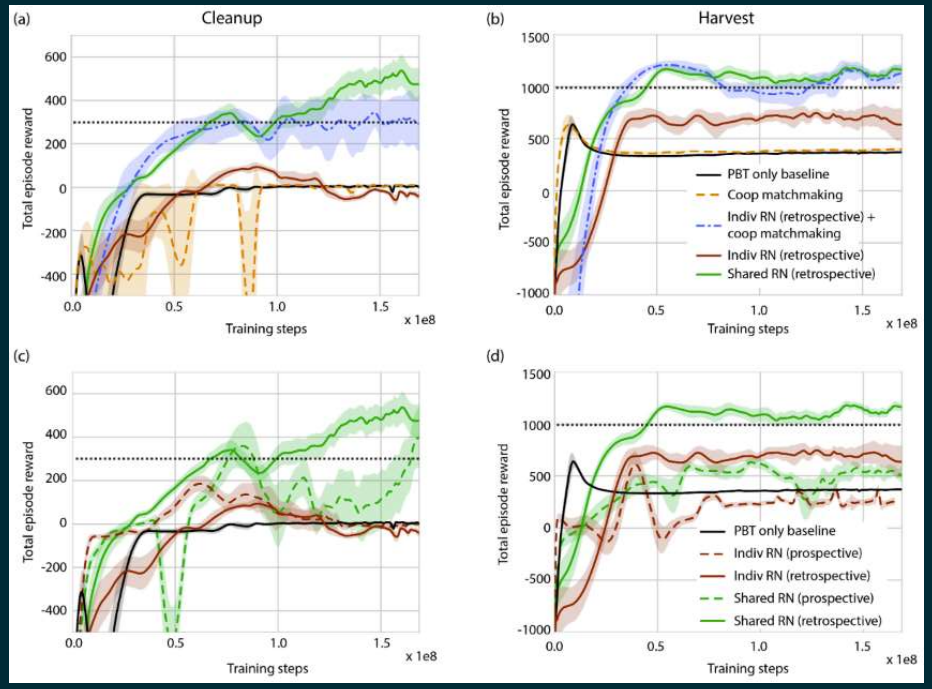

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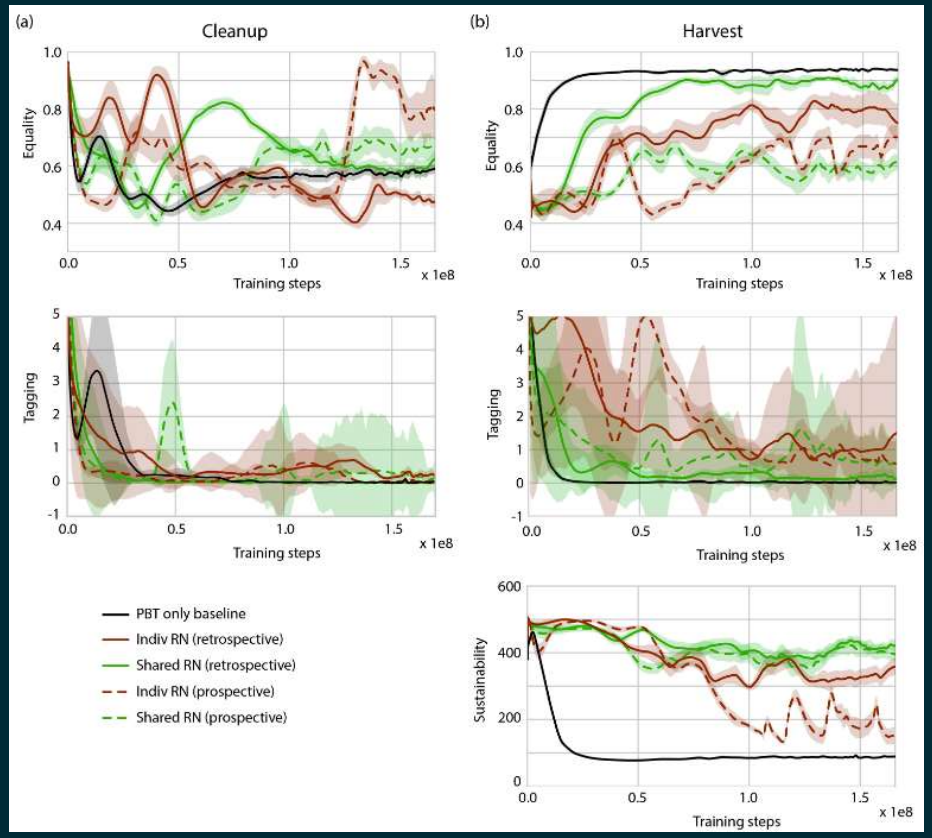
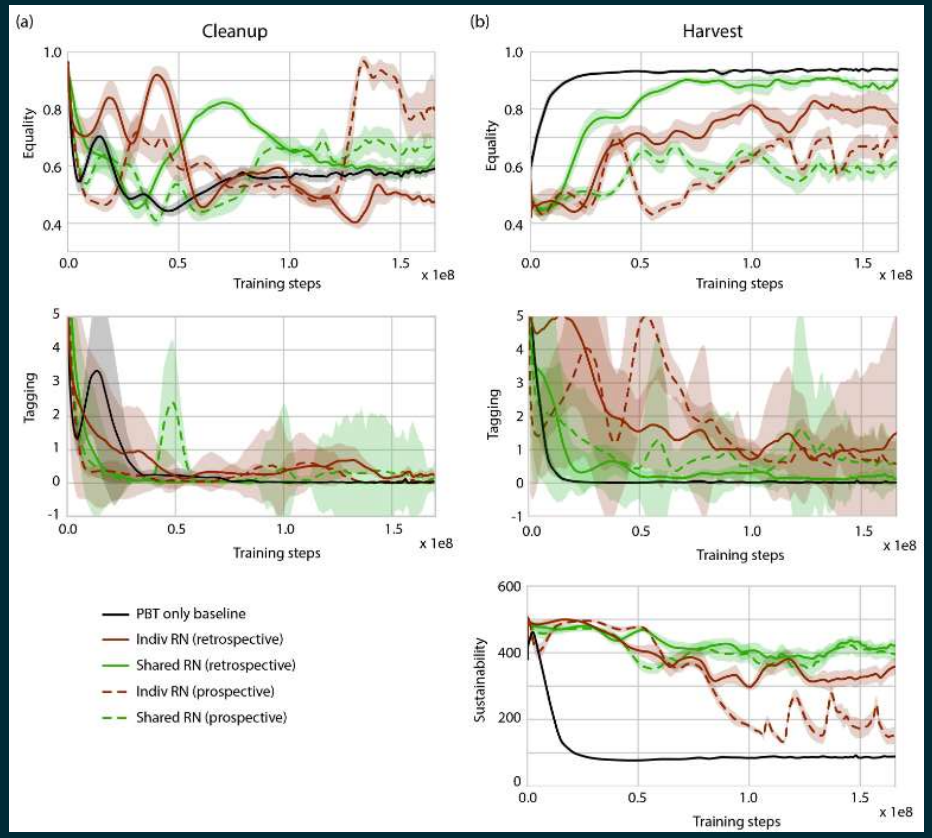


RESULTS: SOCIAL OUTCOME METRICS



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  - Prospectivepective RN leads to a lower equality, Restrospective RN tends to very high equality.
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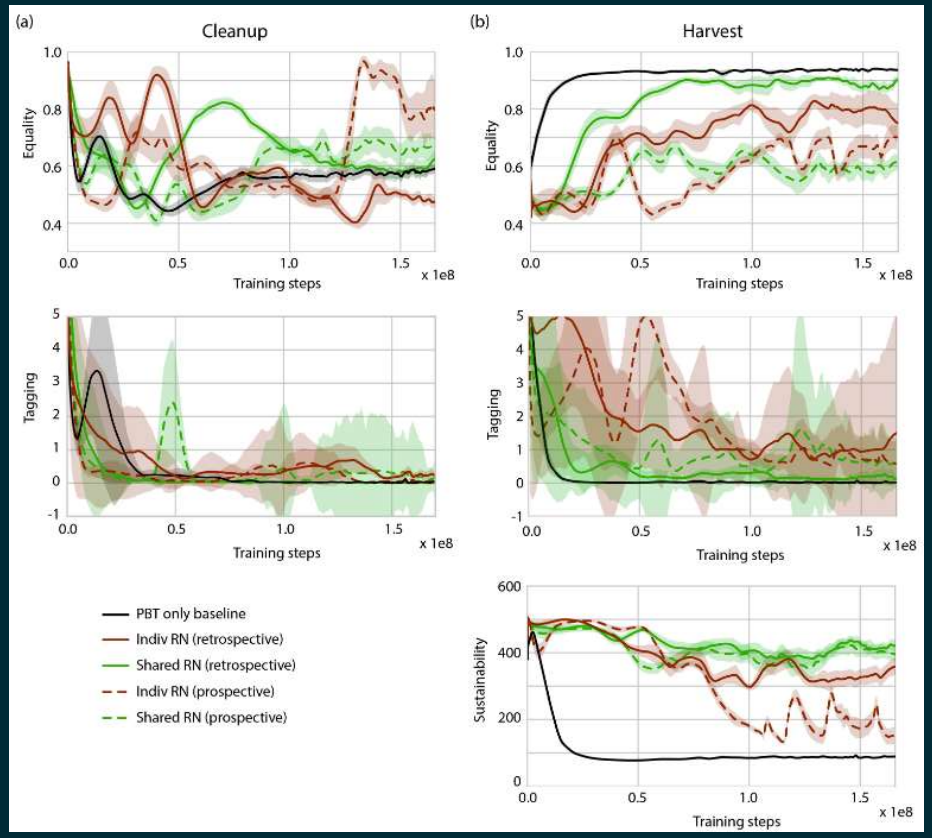

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- **In Cleanup:**
  - Tends to a unstable and low overall equality even when performance is high.
  - The use of tagging by agents is overall much more lower than in Harvest.
  - No meaningful were obtained for Sustainability.

RESULTS: SOCIAL OUTCOME METRICS

CONCLUSIONS

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- Assortative Matchmaking is sufficient to generate cooperative behavior where signals of reward (intrinsic reward) are available.
- The proposed multi-level evolutionary paradigm achieve cooperation in more general situations.
- Evolution bridges the gap between individual learning and long-term group benefits, enhancing cooperation by revealing social signals related to selfish behavior, that contributes to the resolution of the intertemporal social dilemmas. In accord, laboratory experiments show that humans cooperate more readily when they can communicate.