背景

- SARL很成功: 应用案例
- MARL很重要: 很多实用场景
- (问题)SARL方法在MA场景不直接适用
- (方法)设计了个新算法MADDPG,用CTDE框架
 - CT的时候critic收到别人policy的信息
 - 合作场景和对抗场景都可以用

背景 SARL很成功

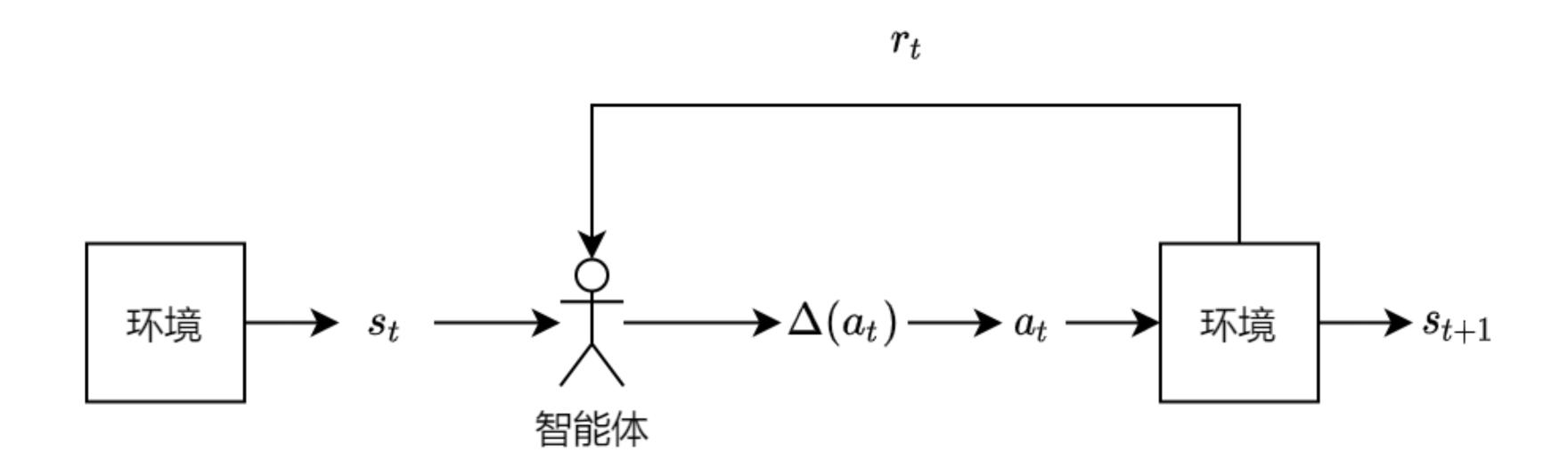
- game playing: Atari(2015 nature), alpha GO(2016 nature)
- robotics:
 - 学个policy, 图像映射到力矩,控制机械臂(2015)
 - 苏黎世的ANYmal,移动机器人,很多步态都是强化学习学出来的
- data center cooling
 - DeepMind通过RL为Google机房节能(没细看)

背景 MARL很重要

- multi-robot control: 多个移动机器人探索环境(2012)
- the discovery of communication and language
- multiplayer games
- social dilemmas

- hierarchical RL
- self-play

- 和环境互动,获得奖励
- 改变自己行为,增大自己获得的奖励期望



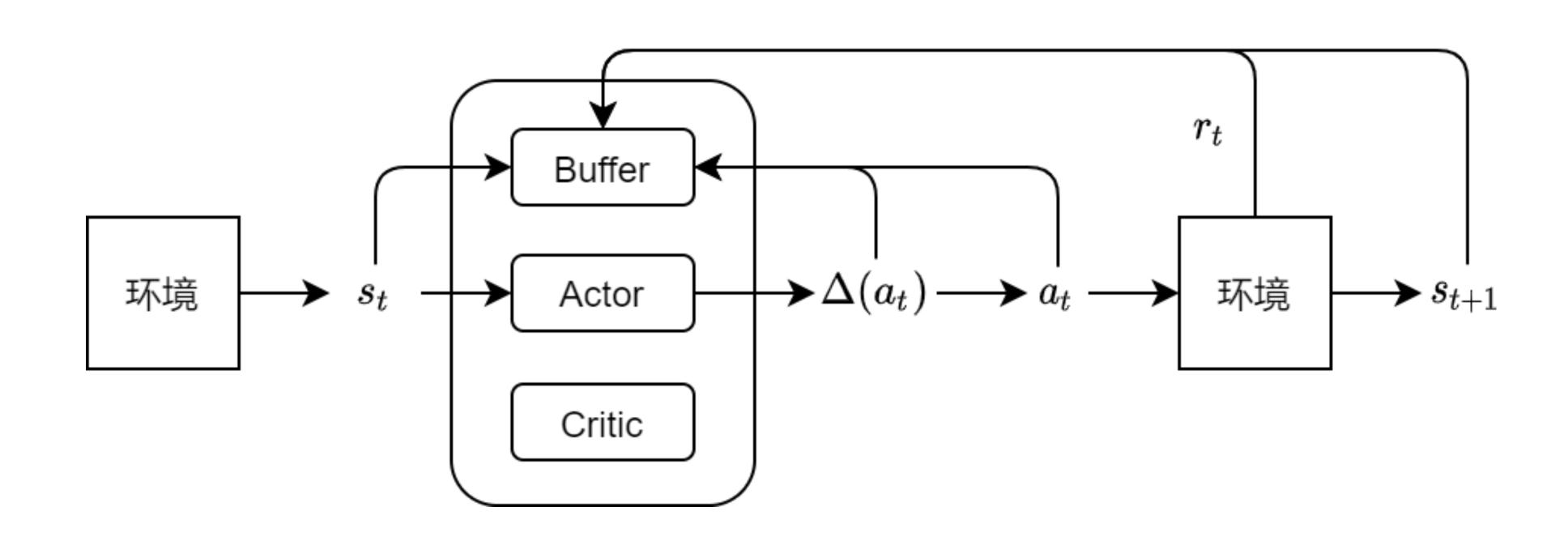
- value-based (critic)
 - 自己有个function:输入observation,输出自己在这个obs的收益期望值
 - 优化目标: 让这个function输出的值接近真实值(距离小)
 - 随着transition变多,数据也越多;数据来了就迭代更新一次function
 - 分析MDP,可以用bellman equation递推;用incremental方法推真实值
 - 决策也是用的critic
 - 哪个动作的收益期望大就选哪个动作(探索方面可以加epsilon-greedy)

- policy-based (actor / policy gradient)
 - 把RL看成一个优化问题,agent要通过改变policy,来优化自己的收益期望
 - policy被参数化,policy是一个function(在AC里也叫actor)

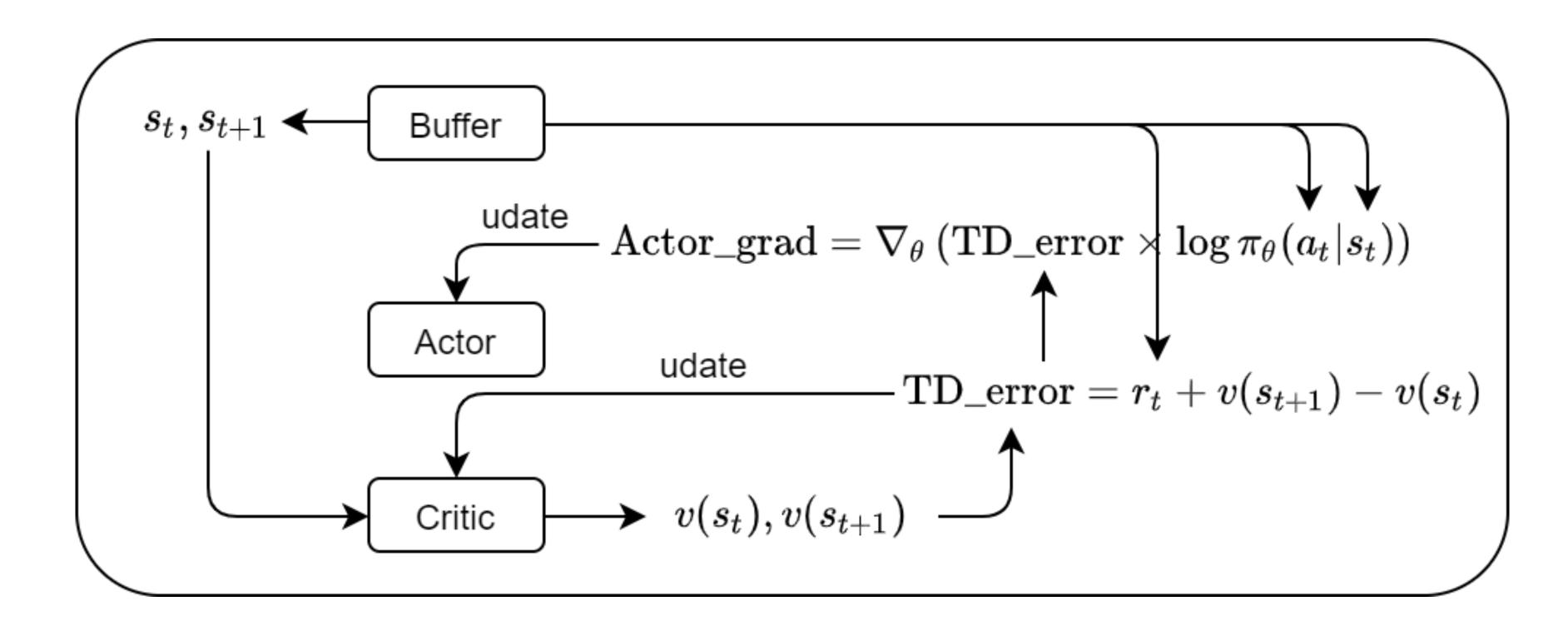
- 学习过程是policy function梯度上升过程: 求收益期望对policy参数的梯度
- · 然后有policy gradient theorem相关的推导,推出了这个梯度是什么样的

$$\nabla_{\theta} J(\theta) = \mathbb{E}_{\pi_{\theta}} \left[\nabla_{\theta} \log \pi_{\theta}(s, a) \ Q^{\pi_{\theta}}(s, a) \right]$$

- actor-critic
 - critic还是评价当前自己在当前state的收益期望,但是不参与决策(不参与execution),只在更新actor时要用到

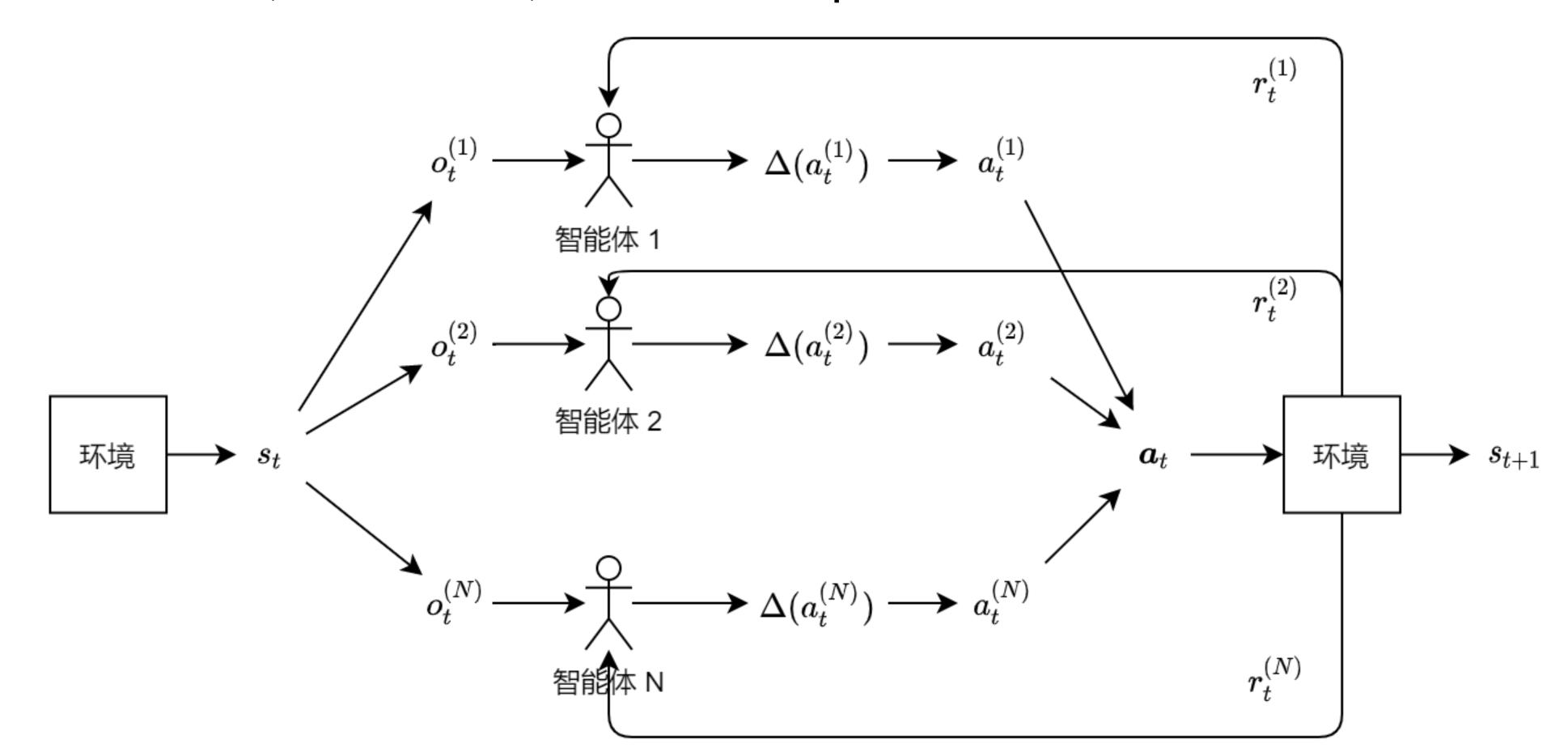


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从SARL到MARL

- 每个agent都用个SARL算法来控制
- 各自学各自的,不管别人,这个叫independent



independent

- independent Q-learning
 - independent且每个SARL都是Q- learning
 - 引用的论文: M.Tan.Multi-agent reinforcement learning: Independent vs. cooperative agents. ICML. 1993.
 - 其实IQL只是个benchmark, 这篇里面还有其他加了机制来合作的实验
 - sharing sensation
 - sharing episodes
 - sharing learned policy

independent方法的问题

- 如果每个agent的SARL都是用的value-based方法
 - 对于每个agent的SARL来说,环境都是non-stationary的
 - 就算我的策略没变、选的动作也一样,别人的策略/动作变了,我获得的奖励也不同,下一个观测也会变
 - 相当于每个人把别人看成环境的一部分
 - 不满足Markov的假设,不能保证收敛
 - experience replay buffer也用不了;选了同样的动作,结果去哪的概率不确定
 - $P(s'|s, a, \pi_1, ..., \pi_N) \neq P(s'|s, a, \pi'_1, ..., \pi'_N)$ when any $\pi_i \neq \pi'_i$.

independent方法的问题

- 如果每个agent的SARL都是用的policy-based方法
 - 在SARL中,policy gradient方法,对gradient的估计,方差本来就大
 - 在MARL中这个现象加剧了
 - 奖励是很多人的动作一起决定的,但是各自优化时只考虑自己动作的影响

• 他们提了个proposition,然后有个小证明

independent policy-based方法,方差很大

- N个人,每个人动作为0或1
- 所有人选择相同的动作,则奖励每人1,否则奖励每人0
- 每个人开始都是0.5的概率选择动作1,记为 θ_i
- 每个人都用的policy gradient方法

• 则(要证明): $P(\langle \hat{
abla} J,
abla J \rangle > 0) \propto (0.5)^N$

independent policy-based方法,方差很大

- N个人,每个人动作为0或1
- 所有人选择相同的动作,则奖励每人1,否则奖励每人0
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- 每个人都用的policy gradient方法

$$P(a_i) = \theta_i^{a_i} (1 - \theta_i)^{1 - a_i}$$

$$\log P(a_i) = a_i \log \theta_i + (1 - a_i) \log(1 - \theta_i)$$

independent policy-based方法,方差很大

$$P(a_i) = \theta_i^{a_i} (1 - \theta_i)^{1 - a_i}$$

$$\log P(a_i) = a_i \log \theta_i + (1 - a_i) \log(1 - \theta_i)$$

The policy gradient estimator (from a single sample) is:

$$\frac{\hat{\partial}}{\partial \theta_i} J = R(a_1, \dots, a_N) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_i} \log P(a_1, \dots, a_N)$$

$$= R(a_1, \dots, a_N) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_i} \sum_i a_i \log \theta_i + (1 - a_i) \log(1 - \theta_i)$$

$$= R(a_1, \dots, a_N) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_i} (a_i \log \theta_i + (1 - a_i) \log(1 - \theta_i))$$

$$= R(a_1, \dots, a_N) \left(\frac{a_i}{\theta_i} - \frac{1 - a_i}{1 - \theta_i} \right)$$

independent policy-based方法,方差很大

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$$= R(a_1, \dots, a_N) \left(\frac{a_i}{\theta_i} - \frac{1 - a_i}{1 - \theta_i} \right)$$

For $\theta_i = 0.5$ we have:

$$\frac{\hat{\partial}}{\partial \theta_i} J = R(a_1, \dots, a_N) (2a_i - 1)$$

independent policy-based方法,方差很大

And the expected reward can be calculated as:

$$\mathbb{E}(R) = \sum_{a_1, \dots, a_N} R(a_1, \dots, a_N) (0.5)^N$$

Consider the case where $R(a_1, \ldots, a_N) = \mathbf{1}_{a_1 = \cdots = a_N = 1}$. Then

$$\mathbb{E}(R) = (0.5)^N$$

and

$$\mathbb{E}(\frac{\hat{\partial}}{\partial \theta_i}J) = \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_i}J = (0.5)^N$$

independent policy-based方法,方差很大

The variance of a single sample of the gradient is then:

$$\mathbb{V}(\frac{\hat{\partial}}{\partial \theta_i}J) = \mathbb{E}(\frac{\hat{\partial}}{\partial \theta_i}J^2) - \mathbb{E}(\frac{\hat{\partial}}{\partial \theta_i}J)^2 = (0.5)^N - (0.5)^{2N}$$

What is the probability of taking a step in the right direction? We can look at $P(\langle \hat{\nabla} J, \nabla J \rangle > 0)$. We have:

$$\langle \hat{\nabla} J, \nabla J \rangle = \sum_{i} \frac{\hat{\partial}}{\partial \theta_{i}} J \times (0.5)^{N} = (0.5)^{N} \sum_{i} \frac{\hat{\partial}}{\partial \theta_{i}} J,$$

so $P(\langle \hat{\nabla} J, \nabla J \rangle > 0) = (0.5)^N$. Thus, as the number of agents increases, the probability of taking a gradient step in the right direction decreases exponentially.

independent policy-based方法,方差很大

- 文章里是这么说的:
 - 虽然这是个小的构造出来的例子,但是有助于说明(it serves to illustrate that)有一些简单环境,随着agent数量变多,independent方法用policy based会变得很难
 - 特别是在奖励稀疏的时候

针对问题他们提出了MADDPG

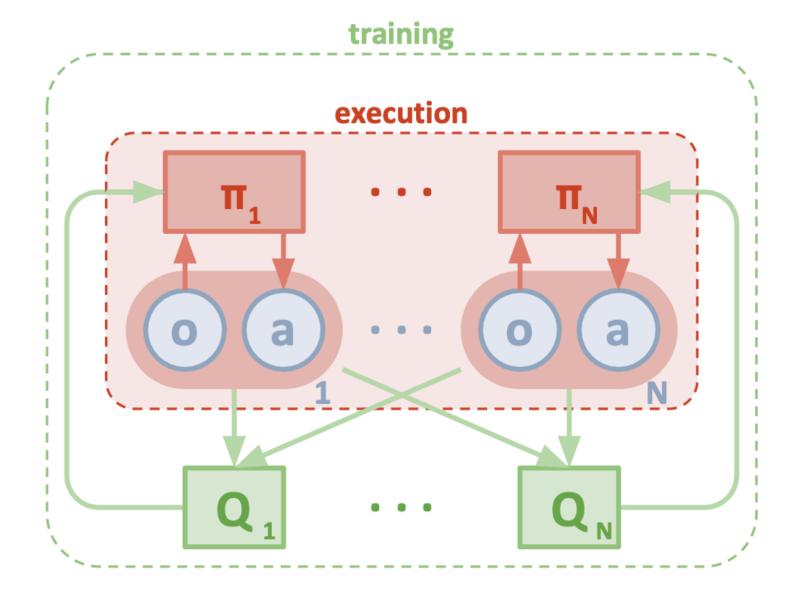
- (训练时)每个人各自更新critic,所以每个人环境是non-stationary的
 - 那把每个人的critic的输入加上其他人的动作,每个人看到的env就稳定了
- (训练时)不能用experience replay,因为 $P(s'|s,a,\boldsymbol{\pi}_1,...,\boldsymbol{\pi}_N) \neq P(s'|s,a,\boldsymbol{\pi}_1',...,\boldsymbol{\pi}_N') \text{ when any } \boldsymbol{\pi}_i \neq \boldsymbol{\pi}_i'.$
 - 那加上其他所有人的动作后,这两个就相等了

A primary motivation behind MADDPG is that, if we know the actions taken by all agents, the environment is stationary even as the policies change, since $P(s'|s, a_1, ..., a_N, \pi_1, ..., \pi_N) = P(s'|s, a_1, ..., a_N) = P(s'|s, a_1, ..., a_N, \pi'_1, ..., \pi'_N)$ for any $\pi_i \neq \pi'_i$. This is not the case if we do not explicitly condition on the actions of other agents, as done for most traditional RL methods.

- (训练时)每个人各自更新actor时梯度项的Q只有考虑自己的动作,估计梯度 的方差会很大
 - 这个Q要是也考虑了别人的动作,方差就下来了(也是更准确了)

- 所以他们的方法就在independent方法上改的
- 每个agent的SARL是用的DDPG, deep deterministic policy gradient
 - 每人一个actor,每人一个critic,不共享参数

- 额外的机制是,每个人的critic要求输入所有人的观测和动作
 - 也就是说更新的时候他们的critic也要用到所有人的观测和动作
 - 他们把这叫centralized critic



- MADDPG中actor的更新: policy gradient
 - Q是centralized,要所有人的观测值和所有人的动作
 - 策略项还是只用自己的,毕竟对别人的策略求梯度也是0(加log是相加)
 - $\mathbf{x} = (o_1, ..., o_N)$,也可以再加点别的state里的东西

$$\nabla_{\theta_i} J(\theta_i) = \mathbb{E}_{s \sim p^{\boldsymbol{\mu}}, a_i \sim \boldsymbol{\pi}_i} [\nabla_{\theta_i} \log \boldsymbol{\pi}_i(a_i | o_i) Q_i^{\boldsymbol{\pi}}(\mathbf{x}, a_1, ..., a_N)].$$

- MADDPG中actor的更新: policy gradient
 - Q是centralized,要所有人的观测值和所有人的动作
 - 策略项还是只用自己的,毕竟对别人的策略求梯度也是0(加log是相加)
 - deterministic policy, continuous policy

$$\nabla_{\theta_i} J(\theta_i) = \mathbb{E}_{s \sim p^{\boldsymbol{\mu}}, a_i \sim \boldsymbol{\pi}_i} [\nabla_{\theta_i} \log \boldsymbol{\pi}_i(a_i | o_i) Q_i^{\boldsymbol{\pi}}(\mathbf{x}, a_1, ..., a_N)].$$

$$\nabla_{\theta_i} J(\boldsymbol{\mu}_i) = \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x}, a \sim \mathcal{D}} [\nabla_{\theta_i} \boldsymbol{\mu}_i(a_i | o_i) \nabla_{a_i} Q_i^{\boldsymbol{\mu}}(\mathbf{x}, a_1, ..., a_N) |_{a_i = \boldsymbol{\mu}_i(o_i)}]$$

The objective function to optimize for is listed as follows:

$$J(heta) = \int_{\mathcal{S}}
ho^{\mu}(s) Q(s, \mu_{ heta}(s)) ds$$

Deterministic policy gradient theorem: Now it is the time to compute the gradient! According to the chain rule, we first take the gradient of Q w.r.t. the action a and then take the gradient of the deterministic policy function μ w.r.t. θ :

$$egin{aligned}
abla_{ heta} J(heta) &= \int_{\mathcal{S}}
ho^{\mu}(s)
abla_{a} Q^{\mu}(s,a)
abla_{ heta} \mu_{ heta}(s)|_{a=\mu_{ heta}(s)} ds \ &= \mathbb{E}_{s\sim
ho^{\mu}} [
abla_{a} Q^{\mu}(s,a)
abla_{ heta} \mu_{ heta}(s)|_{a=\mu_{ heta}(s)}] \end{aligned}$$

- MADDPG中actor的更新: policy gradient
 - Q是centralized,要所有人的观测值和所有人的动作
 - 策略项还是只用自己的,毕竟对别人的策略求梯度也是0(加log是相加)
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$$\nabla_{\theta_i} J(\theta_i) = \mathbb{E}_{s \sim p^{\boldsymbol{\mu}}, a_i \sim \boldsymbol{\pi}_i} [\nabla_{\theta_i} \log \boldsymbol{\pi}_i(a_i | o_i) Q_i^{\boldsymbol{\pi}}(\mathbf{x}, a_1, ..., a_N)].$$

$$\nabla_{\theta_i} J(\boldsymbol{\mu}_i) = \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x}, a \sim \mathcal{D}} [\nabla_{\theta_i} \boldsymbol{\mu}_i(a_i | o_i) \nabla_{a_i} Q_i^{\boldsymbol{\mu}}(\mathbf{x}, a_1, ..., a_N) |_{a_i = \boldsymbol{\mu}_i(o_i)}]$$

针对问题他们提出了MADDPG

- MADDPG中critic的更新
 - 要知道别人的policy,要访问别人的target actor

Here the experience replay buffer \mathcal{D} contains the tuples $(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}', a_1, \dots, a_N, r_1, \dots, r_N)$, recording experiences of all agents. The centralized action-value function Q_i^{μ} is updated as:

$$\mathcal{L}(\theta_i) = \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x}, a, r, \mathbf{x}'} [(Q_i^{\boldsymbol{\mu}}(\mathbf{x}, a_1, \dots, a_N) - y)^2], \quad y = r_i + \gamma Q_i^{\boldsymbol{\mu}'}(\mathbf{x}', a_1', \dots, a_N') \big|_{a_j' = \boldsymbol{\mu}_j'(o_j)}, \quad (6)$$

针对问题他们提出了MADDPG

- MADDPG中critic的更新
 - 要知道别人的policy,要访问别人的target actor
 - 可以每个人多加个神经网络来估计别人的policy,这样就不用访问了

Here the experience replay buffer \mathcal{D} contains the tuples $(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}', a_1, \dots, a_N, r_1, \dots, r_N)$, recording experiences of all agents. The centralized action-value function Q_i^{μ} is updated as:

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针对问题他们提出了MADDPG

4.2 Inferring Policies of Other Agents

To remove the assumption of knowing other agents' policies, as required in Eq. 6, each agent i can additionally maintain an approximation $\hat{\mu}_{\phi_i^j}$ (where ϕ are the parameters of the approximation;

henceforth $\hat{\mu}_i^j$) to the true policy of agent j, μ_j . This approximate policy is learned by maximizing the log probability of agent j's actions, with an entropy regularizer:

$$\mathcal{L}(\phi_i^j) = -\mathbb{E}_{o_j, a_j} \left[\log \hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_i^j(a_j|o_j) + \lambda H(\hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_i^j) \right], \tag{7}$$

where H is the entropy of the policy distribution. With the approximate policies, y in Eq. 6 can be replaced by an approximate value \hat{y} calculated as follows:

$$\hat{y} = r_i + \gamma Q_i^{\mu'}(\mathbf{x}', \hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_i'^1(o_1), \dots, \boldsymbol{\mu}_i'(o_i), \dots, \hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_i'^N(o_N)), \tag{8}$$

- 这个估计别人policy的神经网络,目标是模拟别人的actor
 - 输入别人的obs, 用别人的actor会才养出一个action
 - 现在这个神经网络输入别人的obs,要最大化输出别人输出的action的概率
 - 加熵是加探索
- 他们说这是可以online的: 更新critic前,从buffer里拿出最新的sample来更新

$$\mathcal{L}(\phi_i^j) = -\mathbb{E}_{o_j, a_j} \left[\log \hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_i^j(a_j | o_j) + \lambda H(\hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_i^j) \right]$$

他们还提出了policy ensembles

- 他们说环境的non-stationary在competitive setting下很明显
 - competitive setting下,每个人的policy都是overfitting对手的行为的
 - 对手变了个策略,这样的策略就很容易失败了
- 他们提出要训练个有K个子策略(sub-policy)的集合
 - 每个episode, 每个agent随机选某个sub-policy来执行 (uniform)
 - μ_i 是agent i的子策略集合
 - $\mu_{\theta_i^{(k)}}$ 是agent i的第k个子策略,也记为 $\mu_i^{(k)}$

他们还提出了policy ensembles

• 每个人的ensemble的优化目标:

$$J_e(\boldsymbol{\mu}_i) = \mathbb{E}_{k \sim \text{unif}(1,K), s \sim p^{\boldsymbol{\mu}}, a \sim \boldsymbol{\mu}_i^{(k)}} [R_i(s,a)]$$

- 每人有k个buffer,其中每个buffer都存一个sub-policy跑出来的东西
 - 因为每个episode的sub-policy是随机选出来的

$$\nabla_{\theta_i^{(k)}} J_e(\boldsymbol{\mu}_i) = \frac{1}{K} \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x}, a \sim \mathcal{D}_i^{(k)}} \left[\nabla_{\theta_i^{(k)}} \boldsymbol{\mu}_i^{(k)}(a_i | o_i) \nabla_{a_i} Q^{\boldsymbol{\mu}_i} \left(\mathbf{x}, a_1, \dots, a_N \right) \Big|_{a_i = \boldsymbol{\mu}_i^{(k)}(o_i)} \right]$$