



Credit Assignment with Meta-Policy Gradient for Multi-Agent Reinforcement Learning

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Presented by Feng Xu



- Centralized training with decentralized execution (CTDE):
 - Enhance agents' ability with emphasis on individually processing local observations (ROMA, RODE, Maven)
 - decompose the single reward to each agent (Qmix, Qatten, Qplex, Qtran)
- Reward decomposition

Motivation

- Inspired by Meta-DDPG
- An explicit hierarchy to the distilled information from the full state

- Decentralized Partially Observable Markov Decision Process (Dec-POMDP)
 - $G = \langle S, A, I, P, r, Z, O, n, \gamma \rangle$
 - S : global true state
 - $a \in A = A^n$: actions taken by individual agents form a joint action space
 - $i \in I$: agent, n : number of agents
 - $r(s, a): S \times A \rightarrow R$: reward function
 - $z \in Z$: local observation
 - $O(s, i) \rightarrow Z$: partial observation of individual agents
 - γ : discount factor

Overview of MNMPG

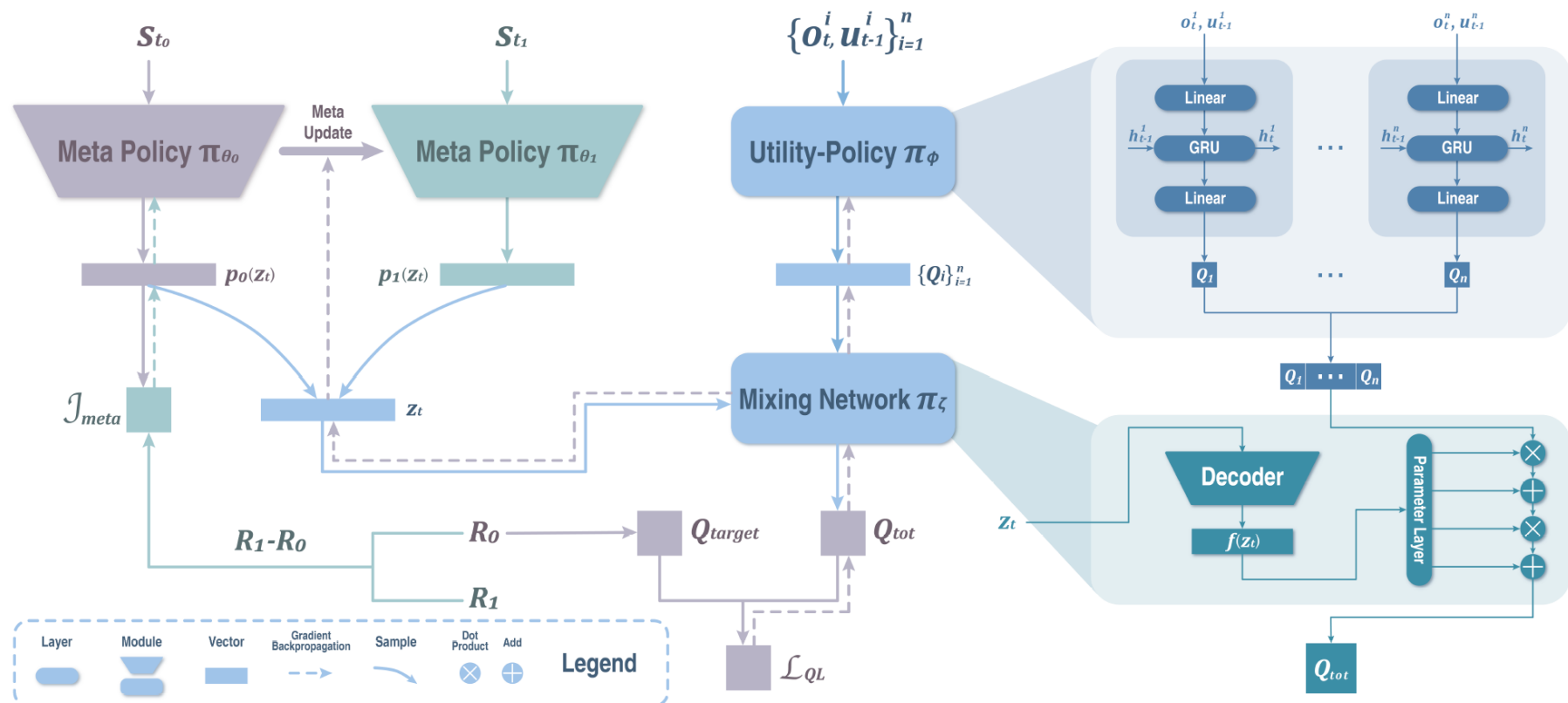


Figure 1: The MNMPG framework.

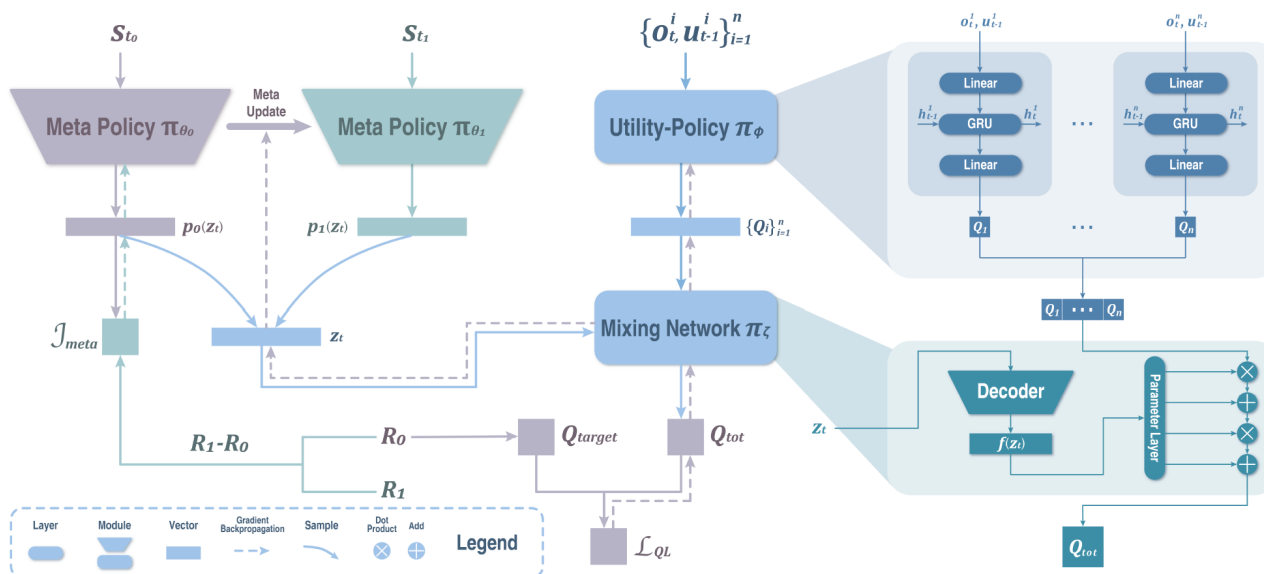
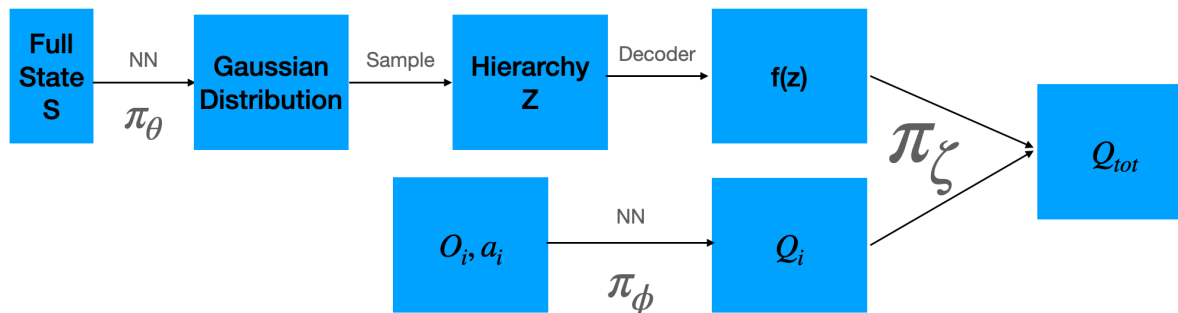


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Local Utility Network

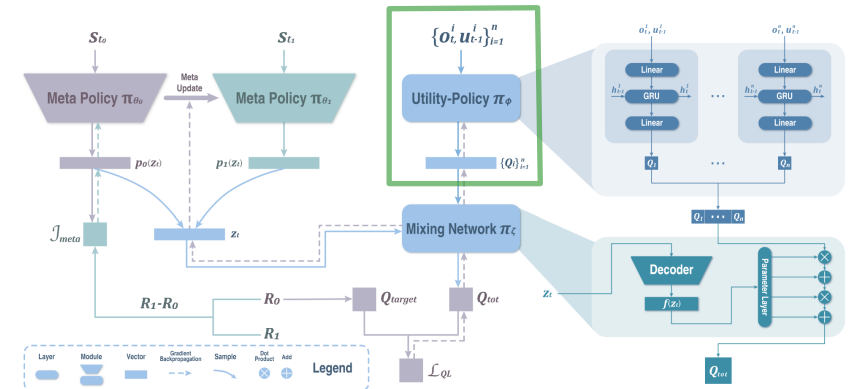
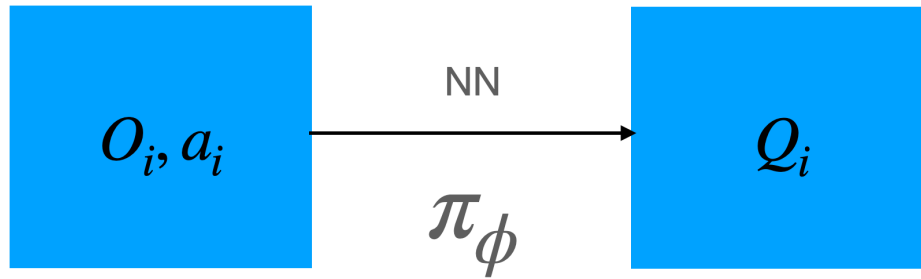


Figure 1: The MNMPG framework.

Compute the value function of each individual agent

Hierarchy Network

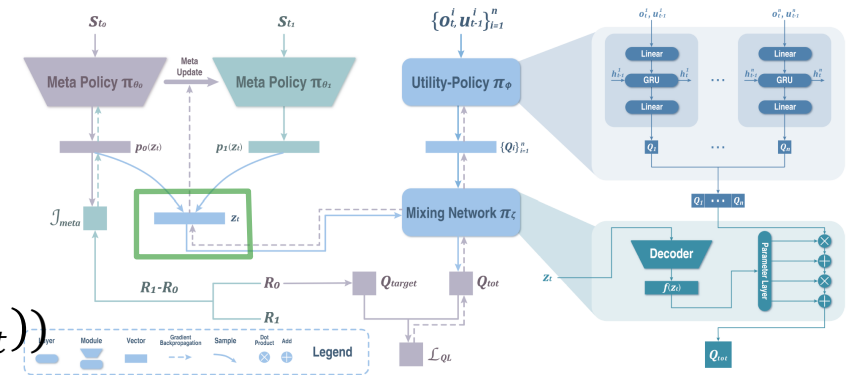
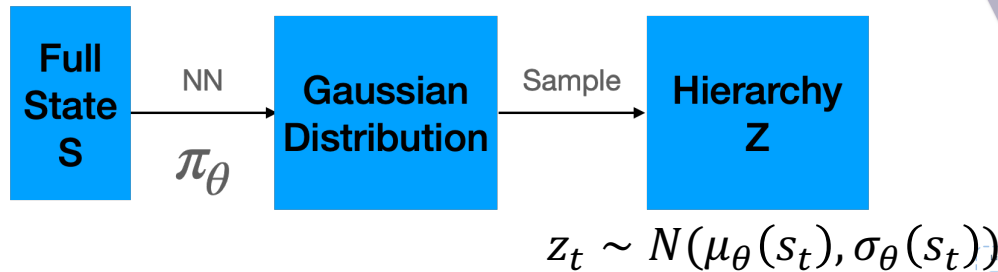


Figure 1: The MNMPG framework.

Compute a global hierarchy for mixing the Q values of each individual agent

- reflect high-level goals

Mixing Network

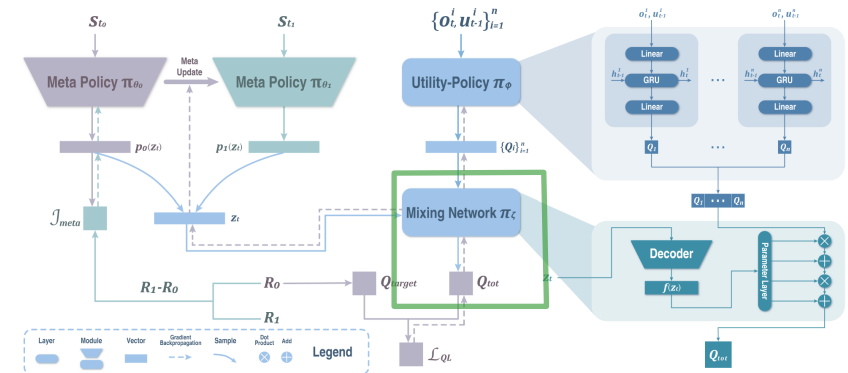
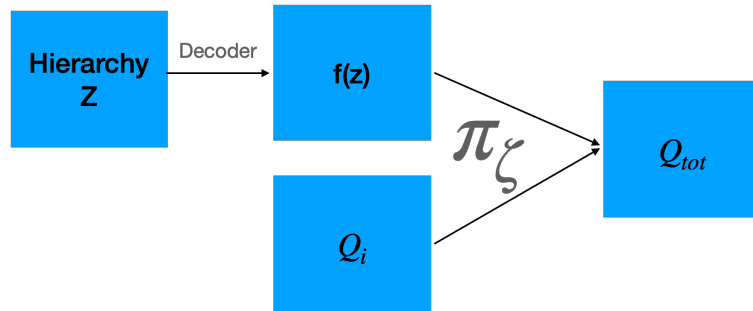


Figure 1: The MNMPG framework.

Compute a global Q value from individual Q values

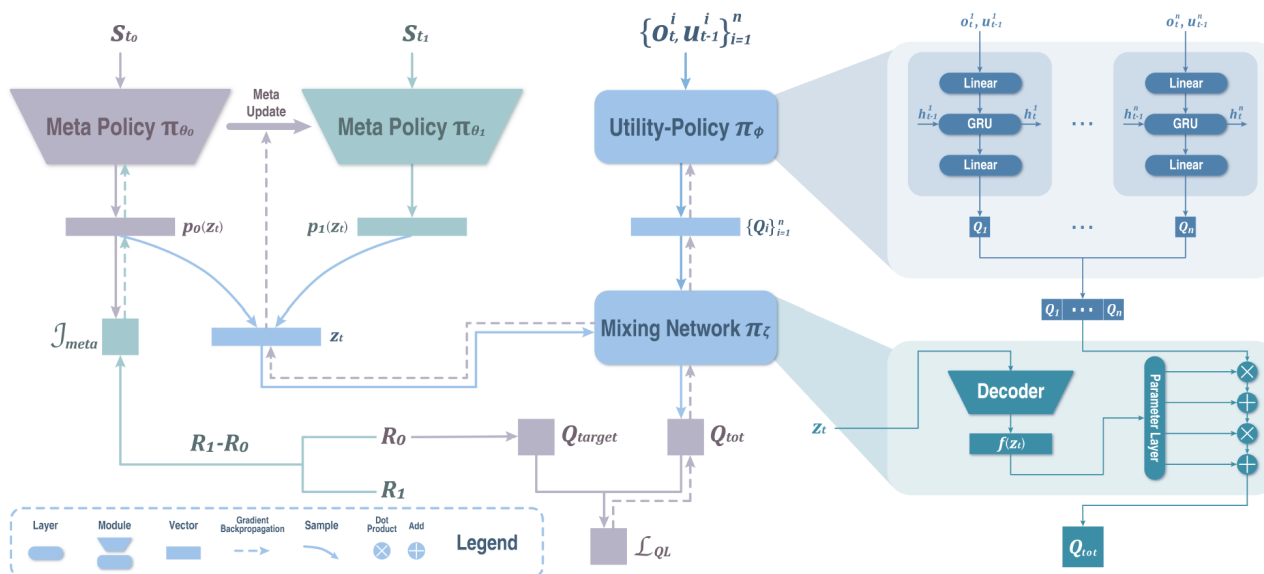
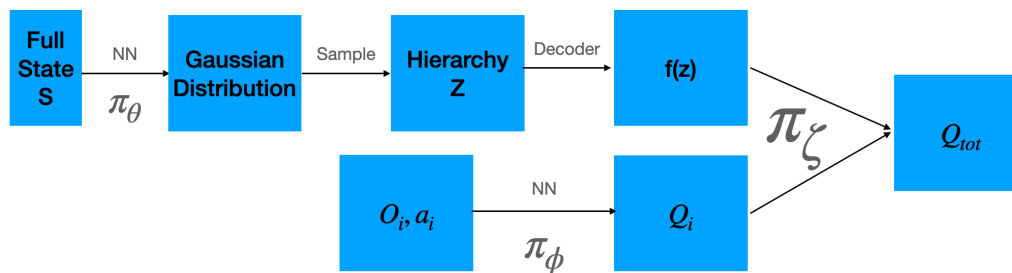


Figure 1: The MNMPG framework.



Details of MNMPG

- Training Objective
- Design Concept

Hierarchy Network

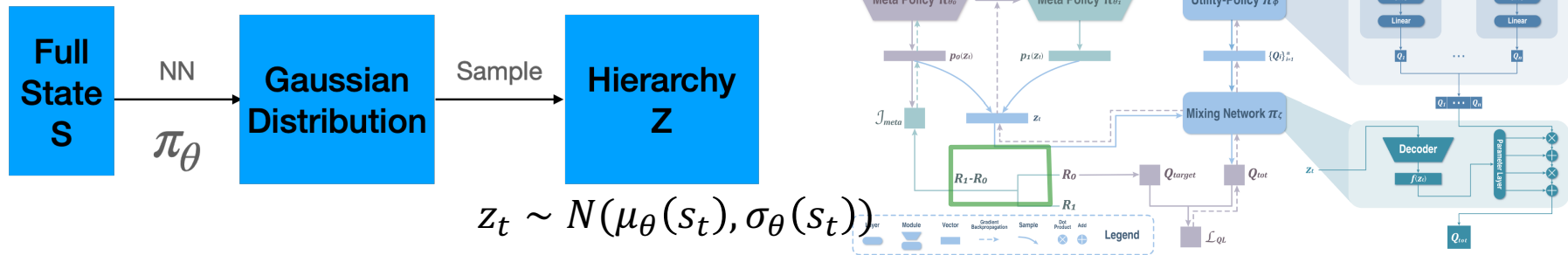


Figure 1: The MNMPG framework.

- Changes according to time: represents the current goal of the team
 - Maven computes a episodic exploration mode at the initial state
- Contains no prior information and can be improved spontaneously
 - Number of roles in RODE needs manual finetuning

$$J_{meta}(\pi_\theta) = E_{D_0 \sim \pi_{\theta, \phi, \zeta}}[R(\pi, D_0)] = E_{D_0 \sim \pi_{\theta, \phi, \zeta}}[R_{\pi'} - R_\pi]$$

$\pi' = \text{QL}(\pi, D_0)$ is updated from π using D_0 sampled by π

$$\nabla_\theta J_{meta} = E_{D_0 \sim \pi_{\theta, \phi, \zeta}}[R(\pi, D_0) \nabla_\theta \log P(D_0 | \pi_{\theta, \phi, \zeta})]$$

Mixing Network

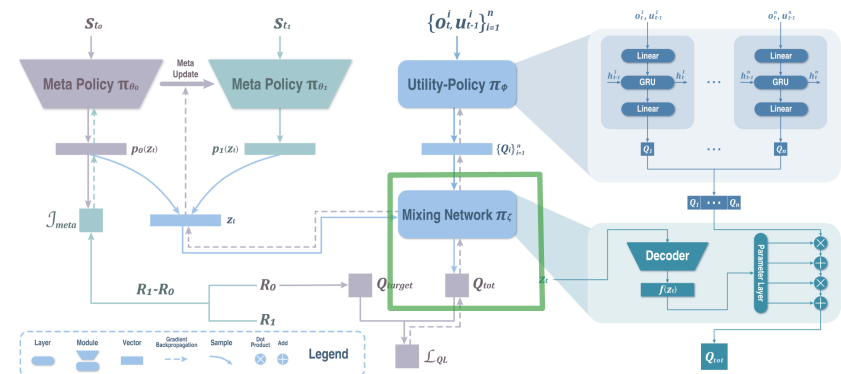
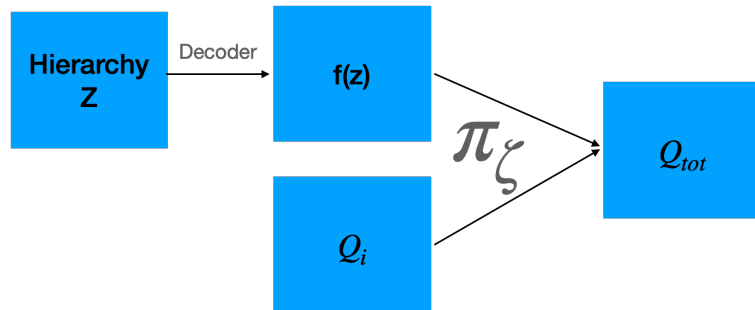


Figure 1: The MNMPG framework.

$$\text{MNMPG: } Q_{tot}(\tau, a) = f_z(Q_i(\tau^i, a_t^i)|z_t)$$

$$\text{QMix: } Q_{tot}(\tau, a) = f_z(Q_i(\tau^i, a_t^i)|s_t)$$

$$\text{Maven/ROMA: } Q_{tot}(\tau, a) = f_z(Q_i(\tau^i, a_t^i|z_i)|s_t)$$

Advantage:

- Better reflect high-level goal than simply using full state
- Non-monotonic global hierarchy
- Global hierarchy is more efficient than local hierarchy

Qmix enforces a **monotonic** value decomposing network

that satisfies: $\frac{\partial Q_{tot}}{\partial Q_a} \geq 0, \forall a$

- May converge to suboptimal policy: monotonicity implies that the optimal action of agent I does not depend on the actions of the other agents

Maven introduces a **diverse ensemble of monotonic approximations** with the help of a latent space. Agents act based on variable that implies the **mode of exploration**

Mixing Network

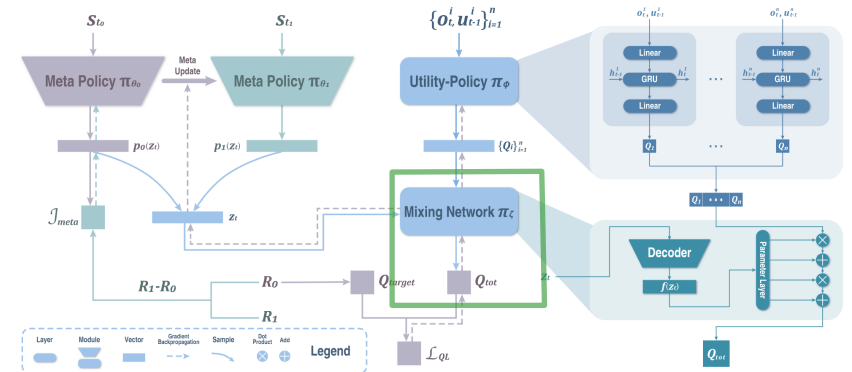
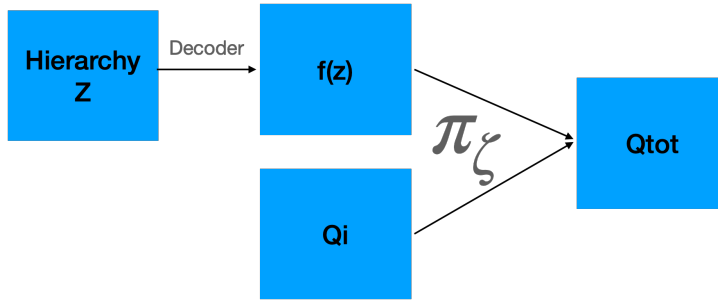


Figure 1: The MNMPG framework.

Q_{tot} is updated by Q learning loss:

$$L_{QL}(\phi, \zeta) = E_{D \sim \pi_{\theta, \phi, \zeta}} [(Q_{tot}(a_t, s_t; z_t, \phi, \zeta) - [r(a_t, s_t) + \gamma \max_{a_{t+1}} Q_{tot}(a_{t+1}, s_{t+1}; z_{t+1}, \phi, \zeta)]^2)]$$

Pseudocode

Algorithm 1 Mixing Network with Meta Policy Gradient

Initialize $\pi_\theta, \pi_\phi, \pi_\zeta$

Set learning rate $\leftarrow \eta$, meta learning rate $\leftarrow \lambda, D_{all} \leftarrow \{\}$

for each episode iteration **do**

$D_0 \leftarrow \{\}, D_1 \leftarrow \{\}$

Generate tuple $\{s_t, z_t, a_t, r_t, s_{t+1}, z_{t+1}\}_{t=1}^T$ by executing $\pi_{\theta, \phi, \zeta}$

$D_0 \leftarrow D_0 \cup \{s_t, z_t, a_t, r_t, s_{t+1}, z_{t+1}\}_{t=1}^T$

$R_0 \leftarrow \sum_{t=1}^T r_t$

for exercise move iteration **do**

$\phi \leftarrow \phi + \eta \hat{\nabla}_\phi \mathcal{L}_{QL}(D_0)$

$\zeta \leftarrow \zeta + \eta \hat{\nabla}_\zeta \mathcal{L}_{QL}(D_0)$

end for

Generate tuple $\{s_t, z_t, a_t, r_t, s_{t+1}, z_{t+1}\}_{t=1}^T$ by executing $\pi_{\theta, \phi, \zeta}$

$D_1 \leftarrow D_1 \cup \{s_t, z_t, a_t, r_t, s_{t+1}, z_{t+1}\}_{t=1}^T$

$R_1 \leftarrow \sum_{t=1}^T r_t$

$\mathcal{R} \leftarrow R_1 - R_0$

$\theta \leftarrow \theta + \lambda \hat{\nabla}_\theta \mathcal{J}_{meta}(D_0, \mathcal{R})$

$D_{all} \leftarrow D_{all} \cup D_0 \cup D_1$

for Q-learning iteration **do**

$\phi \leftarrow \phi + \eta \hat{\nabla}_\phi \mathcal{L}_{QL}(D_{all})$

$\zeta \leftarrow \zeta + \eta \hat{\nabla}_\zeta \mathcal{L}_{QL}(D_{all})$

end for

end for

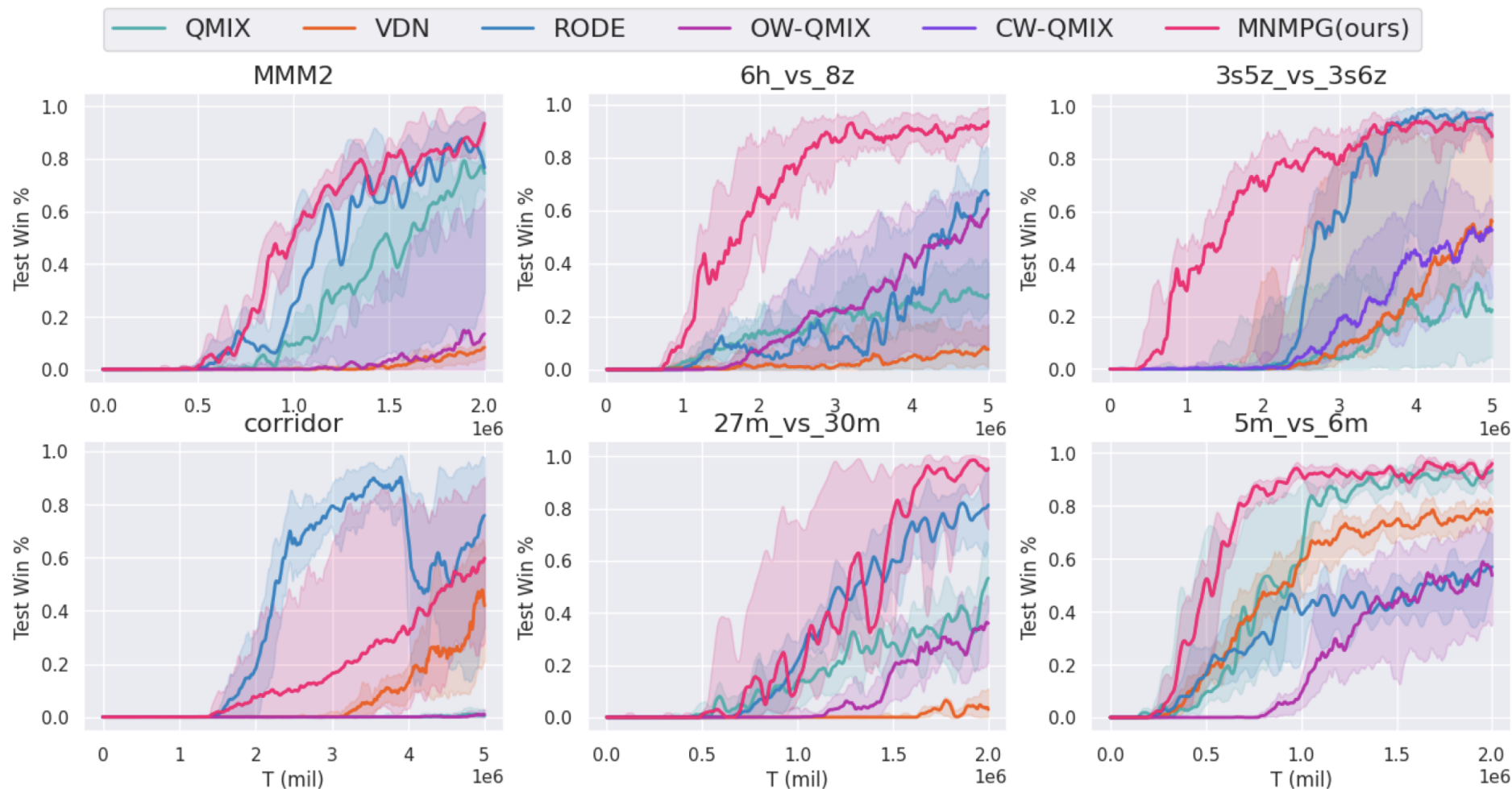
Learning

Update utility network and
mixing network (A new task
for meta learning)

To learn

Improve sample efficiency

Experiments: Performance



Experiments: Exploration

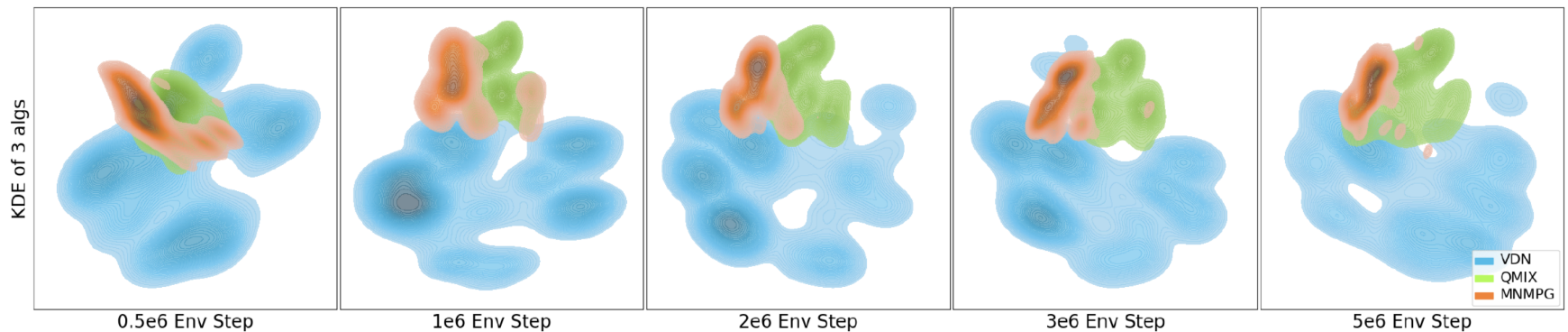


Figure 3: The kernel density estimate(KDE) map of $6h_vs_8z$'s state visitation after t-SNE for 3 algorithms.

VDN: $Q_{tot} = \sum(Q_i)$

QMIX: $Q_{tot} = NN(Q_s)$

MNMPG: $Q_{tot} = NN(Q_s, z, s)$

Experiments: Adaptation to other methods

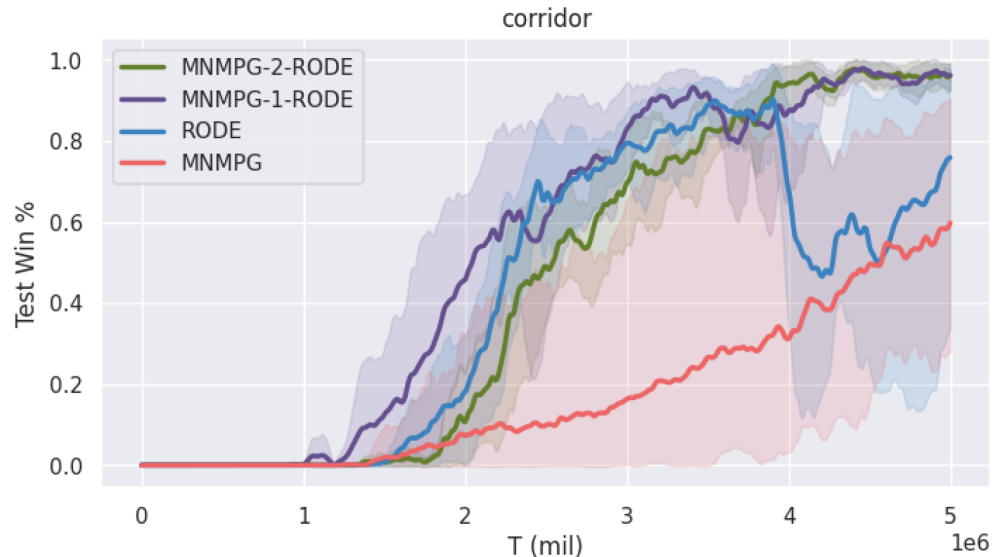


Figure 4: Adaptation to RODE.

MNMPG-1-RODE: Modification on role policy only
MNMPG-2-RODE: modification on both levels

Experiments: Ablation

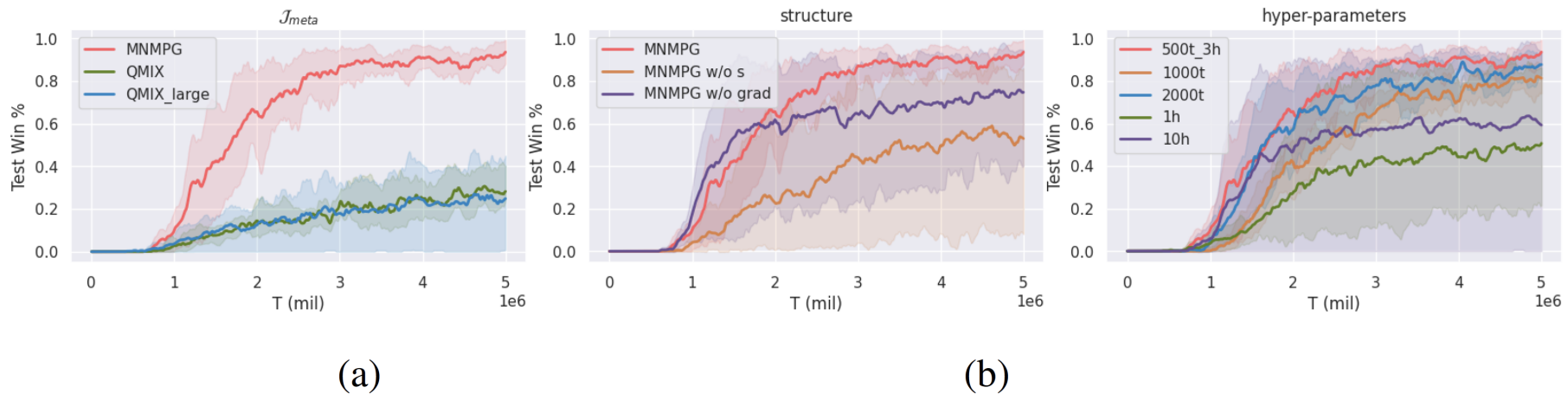


Figure 5: Ablation study of MNMPG.

W/o grad: no L_{QL} loss on hierarchy

W/o s: no full state input of mixing network

• Thanks