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Multi-Agent Uncertainty Sharing for Cooperative MARL

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1 Motivation

- Core Problem
 - What will the partial observability cause?
 - Uncertainty of agents for action value estimations
 - What's worse in multi-agent reinforcement learning?
 - The uncertainty of each agent for a same action value can be different, **which harms the cooperative exploration for the joint action space.**
- The existing works with CTDE neglect the uncertainty of agents in MARL.



2 Method

- How can we do to deal with the “uncertainty” in MARL?
 - Bayesian neural network to quantify the uncertainty.
 - Combine with the Thompson Sampling to select actions for each agent.
 - Enough?
 - No!
 - Besides, we impose the uncertainty sharing mechanism to align all the agents’ uncertainties to improve cooperative exploration and stabilize the training.



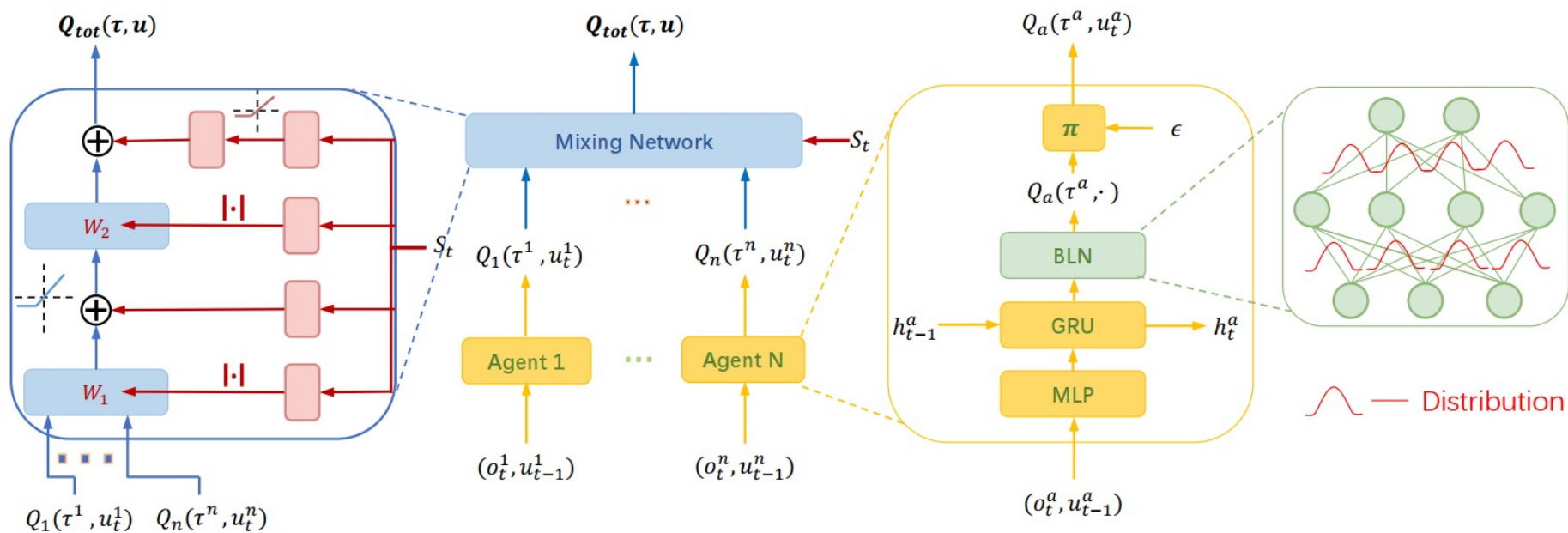
2 Method

1. Thompson Sampling

$$P(u_t^a = u^a | \tau_t^a, \theta_t) =$$

$$\int_{\mathbf{w}} \mathbf{1} \{ Q_a(\tau_t^a, u^a; \mathbf{w}) > Q_a(\tau_t^a, u^{a'}; \mathbf{w}), \forall u^{a'} \neq u^a \} \cdot dq(\mathbf{w} | \theta_t)$$

3. Loss function $\mathcal{L}_{MAUS} = \mathcal{L}_{TD}(\phi) + \lambda_{kl} \cdot \text{KL}[q(\mathbf{w} | \theta) || p(\mathbf{w})]$.



Multi-Agent Monte Carl, MAC: $y : y = r + \gamma \max_{\mathbf{u}'} Q_{tot}(s', \mathbf{u}'; \{\tilde{\mathbf{w}}_i\}_{i=1}^k)$.

Maximum A Posterior, MAP: $y : y = r + \gamma \max_{\mathbf{u}'} Q_{tot}(s', \mathbf{u}'; \tilde{\mu})$.

2. Target value generation



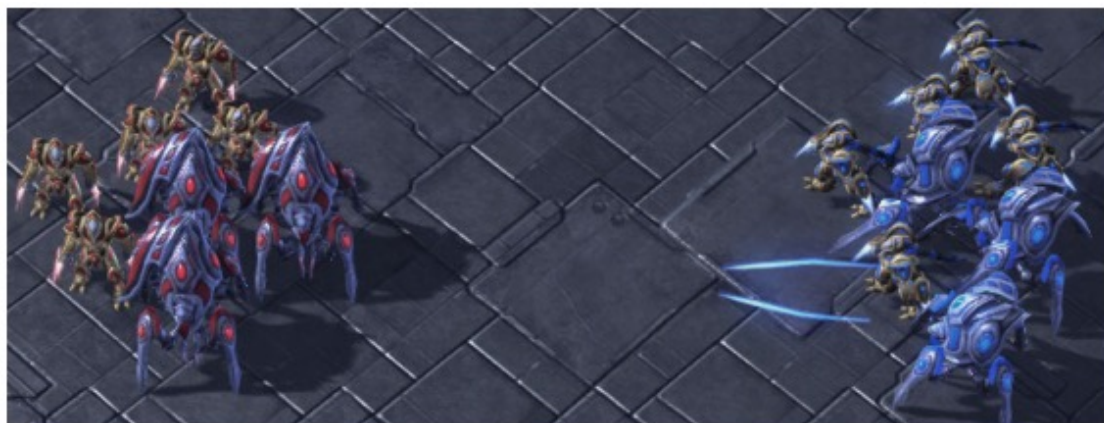
3 Experiments

MAUS

Testing environment : the StarCraft Multi-Agent Challenge (SMAC)

Metric : **test winning rate**

Enemy : Built in heuristic rules vs Ally : The learned policy network



3s5z



bane_vs_bane

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3 Experiments

Selected Maps

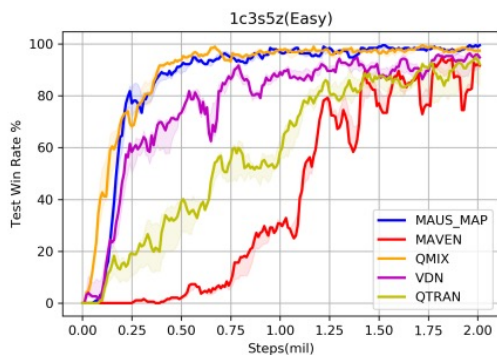
SELECTED MAPS IN SMAC

Name	Ally Units	Enemy Units	Type	Difficulty
1c3s5z	1 Colossus 3 Stalkers 5 Zealots	1 Colossus 3 Stalkers 5 Zealots	Heterogeneous, Symmetric Focus Firing, Macro Tactics	Easy
10m_vs_11m	10 Marines	11 Marines	Homogeneous, Asymmetric Focus Firing, Macro Tactics	Easy
bane_vs_bane	20 Zerglings 4 Banelings	20 Zerglings 4 Banelings	Heterogeneous, Symmetric Large action space, Macro Tactics	Hard
3s_vs_5z	3 Stalkers	5 Zealots	Homogeneous, Asymmetric Macro Tactics	Hard
2c_vs_64zg	2 Colossi	64 Zerglings	Homogeneous, Asymmetric Large action space	Hard
MMM2	1 Medivac 2 Marauders 7 Marines	1 Medivac 3 Marauders 8 Marines	Heterogeneous, Asymmetric Macro Tactics	Super Hard

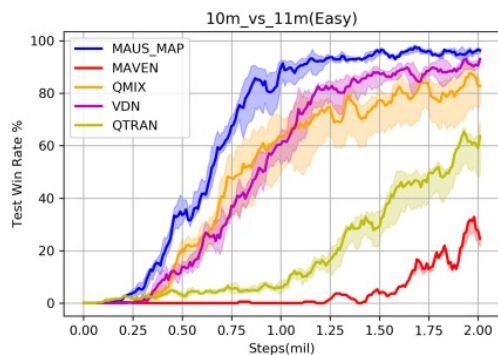


3 Experiments

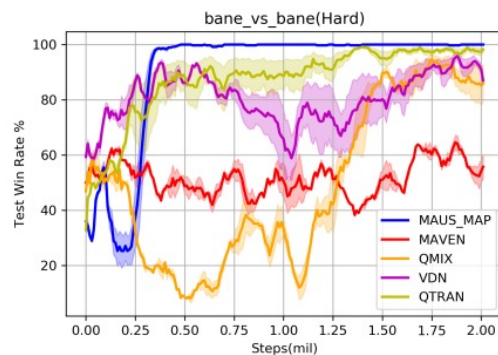
Performance



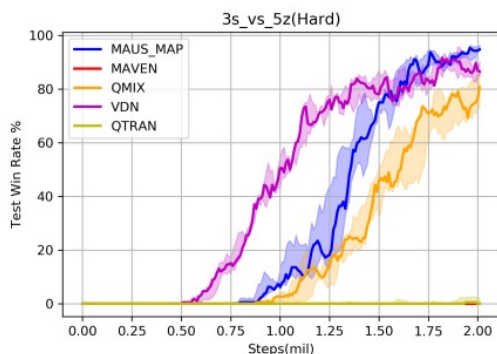
(a) 1c3s5z



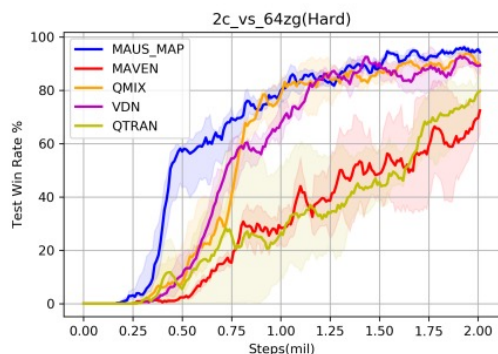
(b) 10m_vs_11m



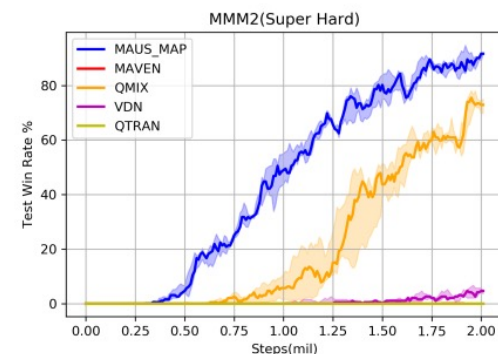
(c) bane_vs_bane



(d) 3s_vs_5z



(e) 2c_vs_64zg



(f) MMM2

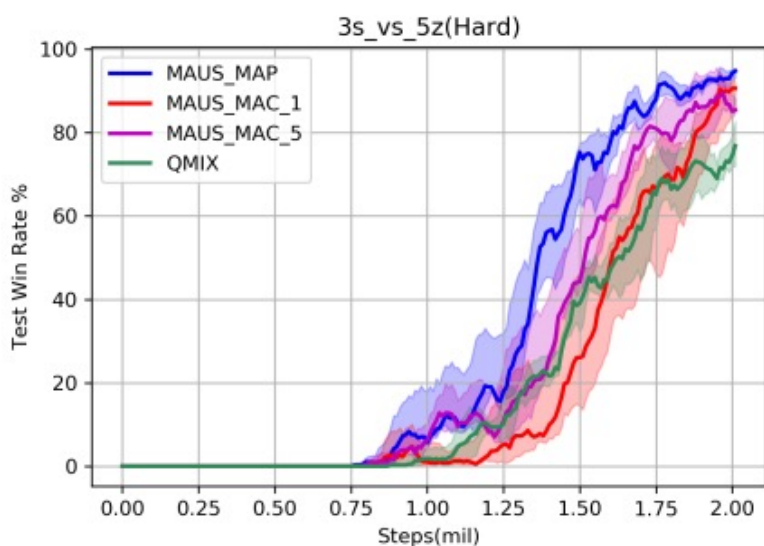
MEDIAN PERFORMANCE OF THE TEST WIN PERCENTAGE (%) IN DIFFERENT SCENARIOS.

Scenario	MAUS_MAP	MAVEN	QMIX	VDN	QTRAN
1c3s5z	100	94	98	94	91
10m_vs_11m	97	22	84	92	70
bane_vs_bane	100	56	84	67	99
3s_vs_5z	97	0	84	93	0
2c_vs_64zg	93	81	89	90	80
MMM2	90	0	75	3	0

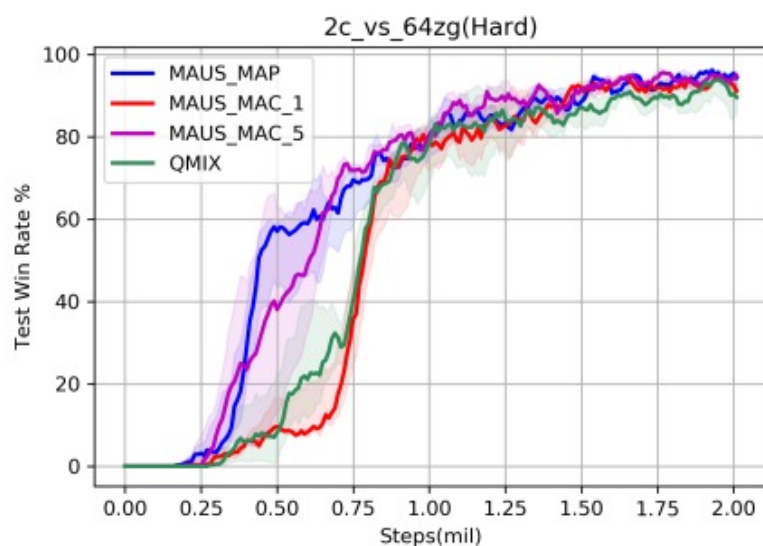


3 Experiments

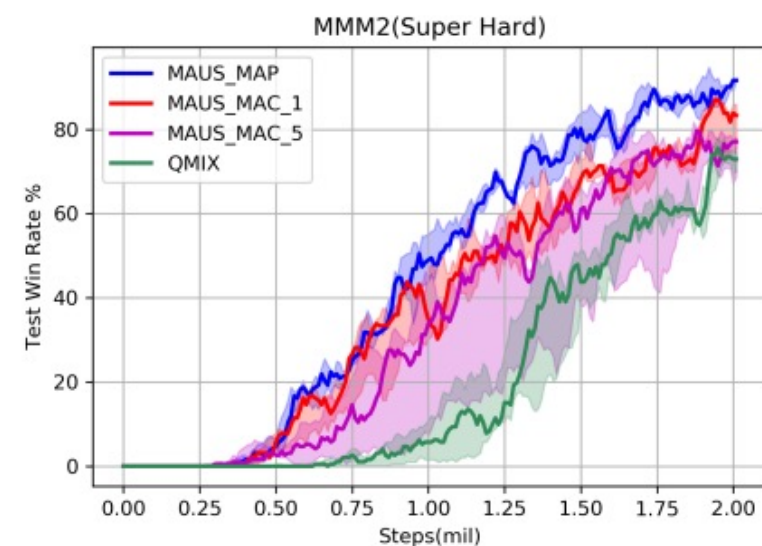
Ablation study: MAUS_MAP vs MAUS_MAC



(a) 3s_vs_5z



(b) 2c_vs_64zg



(c) MMM2



4 Conclusion

- What we do?
 - A simple yet effective method called MAUS
 - Bayesian neural network to quantify the uncertainty
 - Imposing the uncertainty sharing mechanism
- Future?
 - Uncertainty for credit assignment in MARL
 - Breaking the distribution type constraint by the Bayesian hypernet





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Thank you all for listening!

