

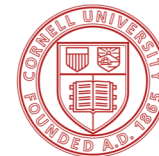
# Adversarial Sequential Decision Making

**Goran Radanović, Adish Singla, Wen Sun, Xiaojin Zhu**

**International Joint Conference on AI (IJCAI) 2022**



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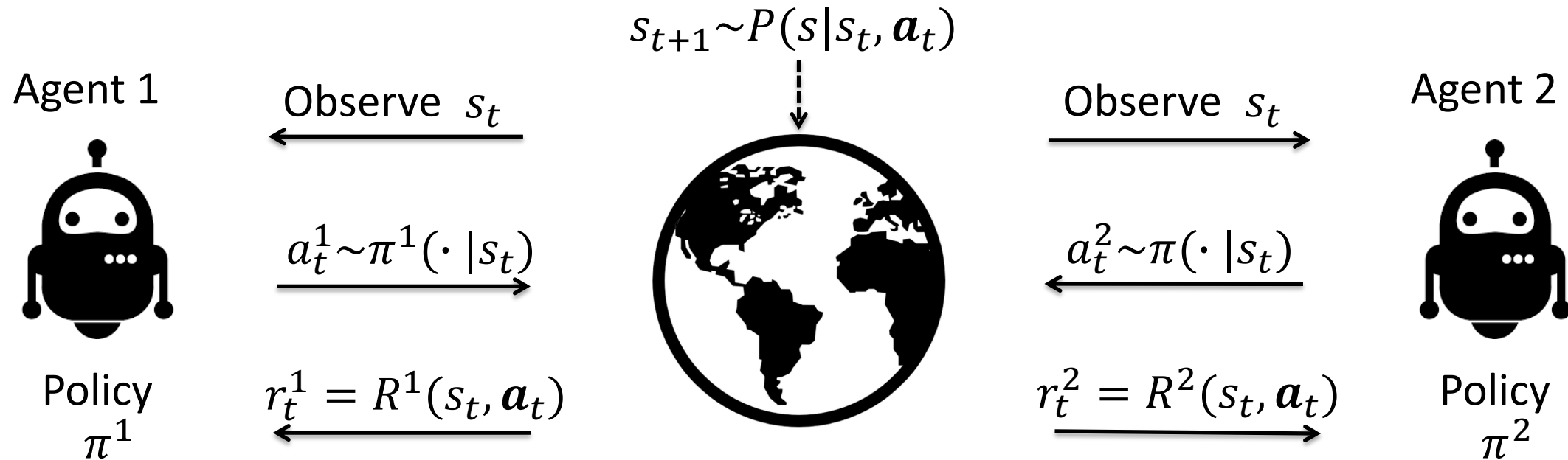


**25th July, 2022**

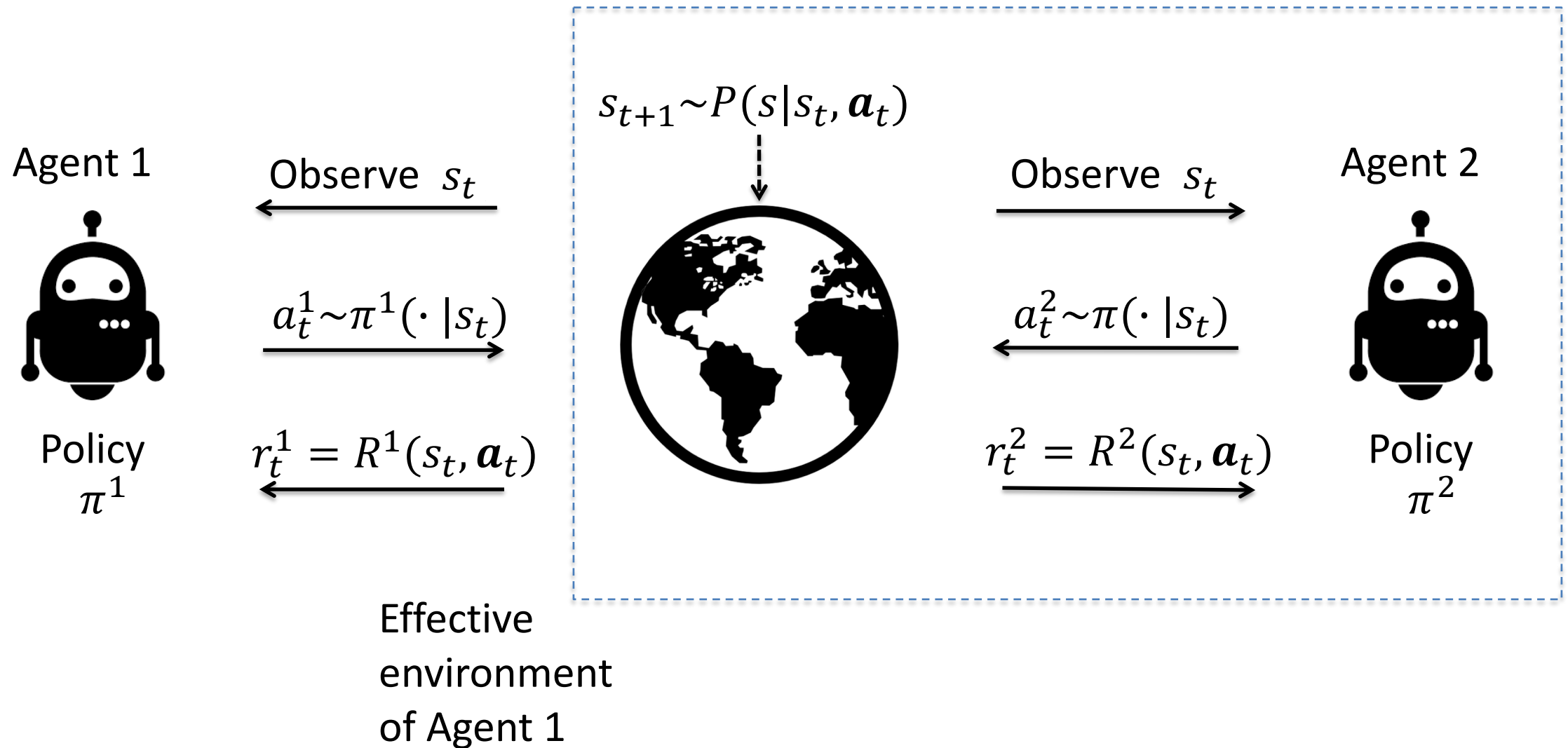
# Outline

- Preliminaries
- Test-time Attacks and Defenses in RL
- Training-time Attacks in RL
- Training-time Defenses in RL
- **Adversarial Attacks in Multi-agent RL**
- Concluding Remarks

# Markov Games

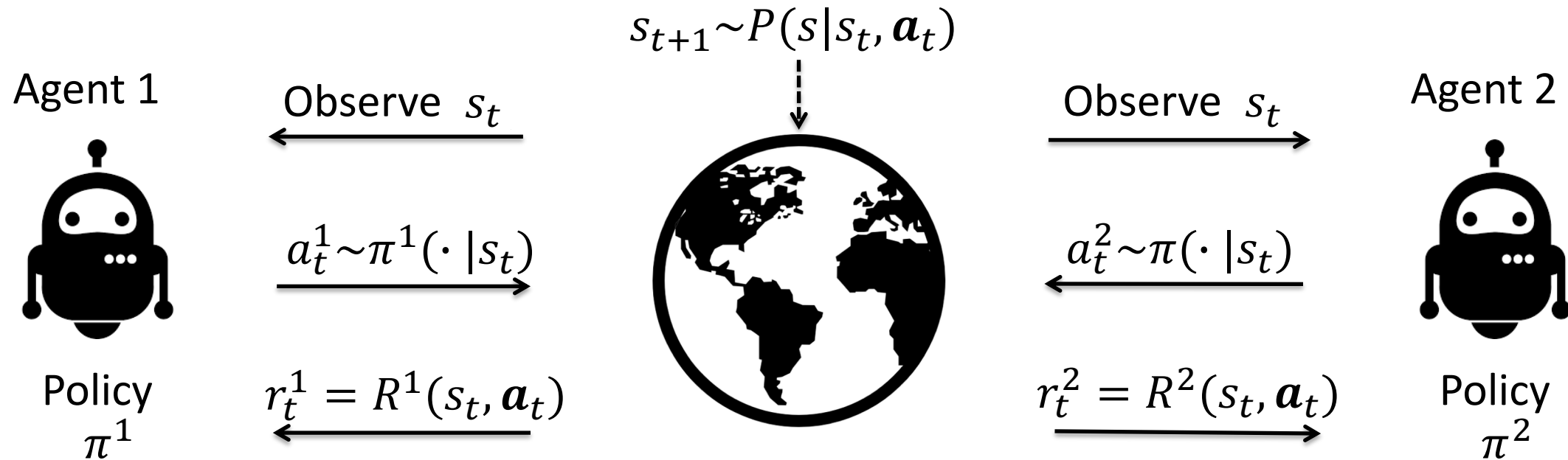


# Markov Games



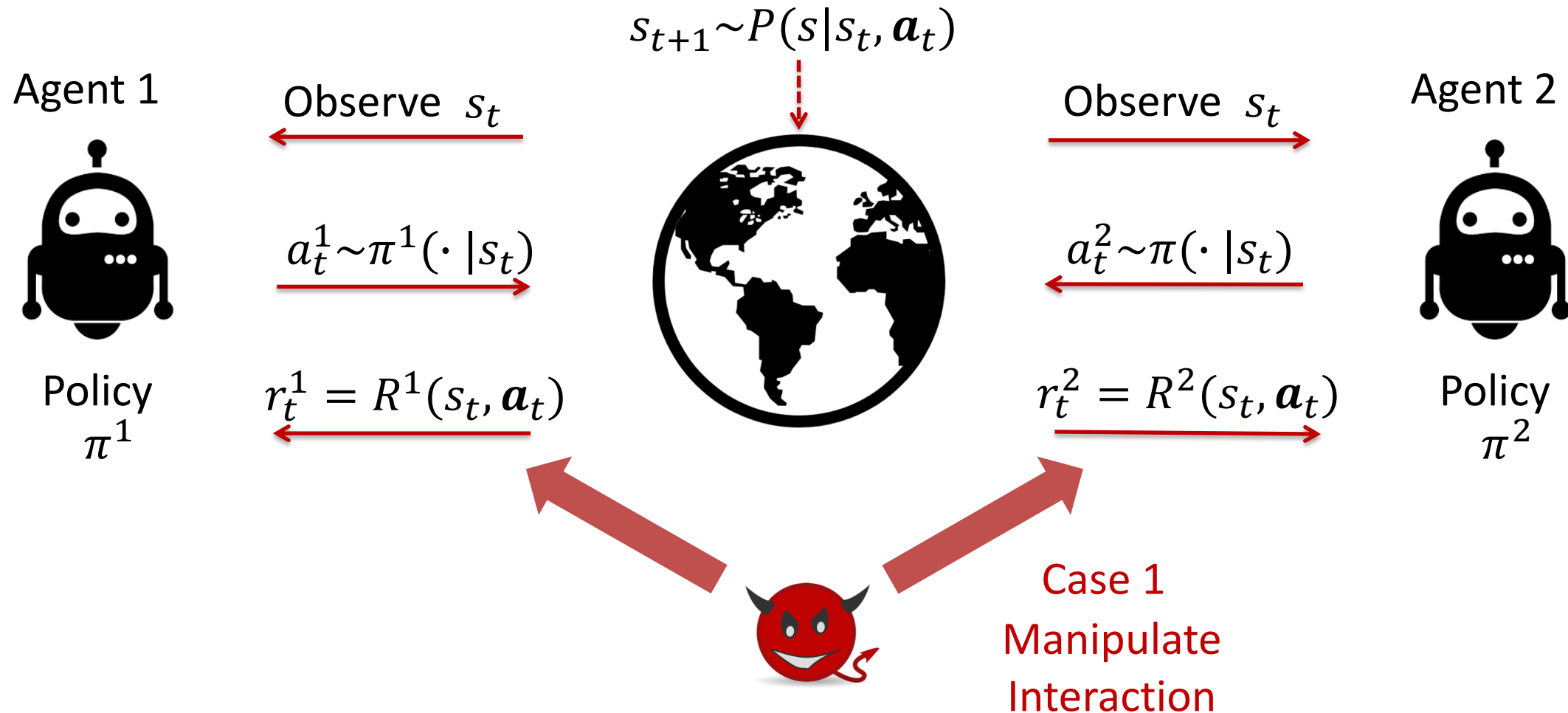


# Markov Games

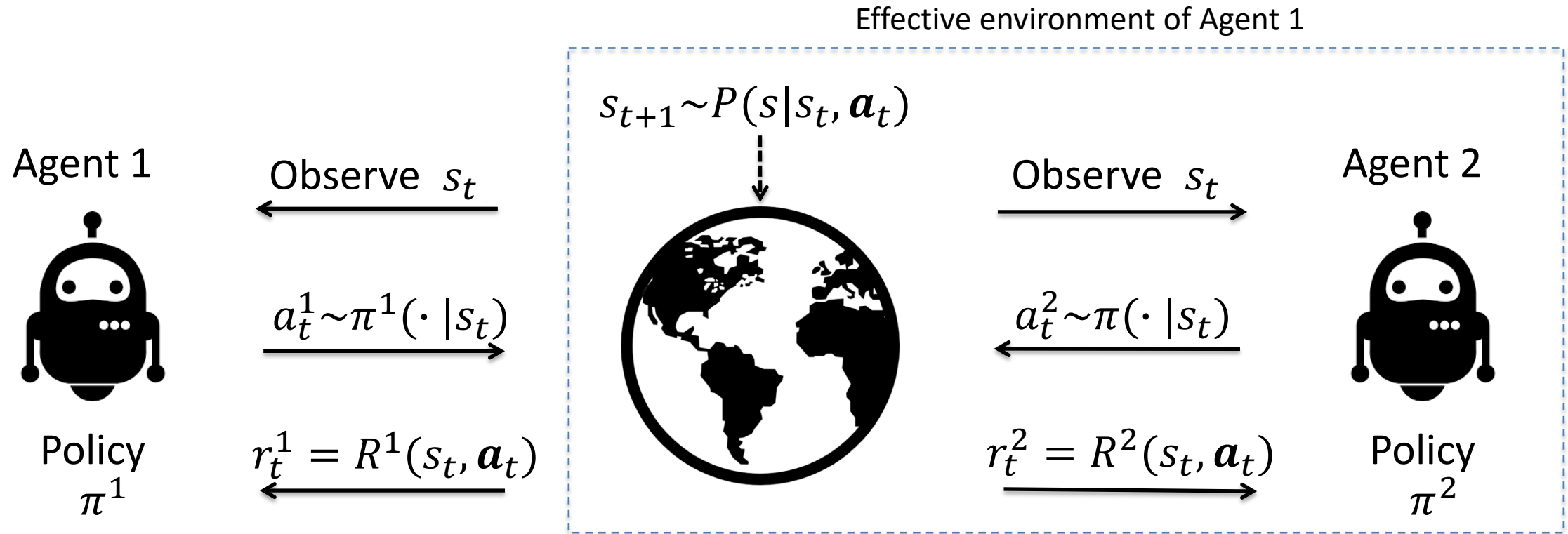


Agents optimize their returns  $\Rightarrow$  find an equilibrium

# Adversarial Multi-Agent Setting



# Adversarial Multi-Agent Setting

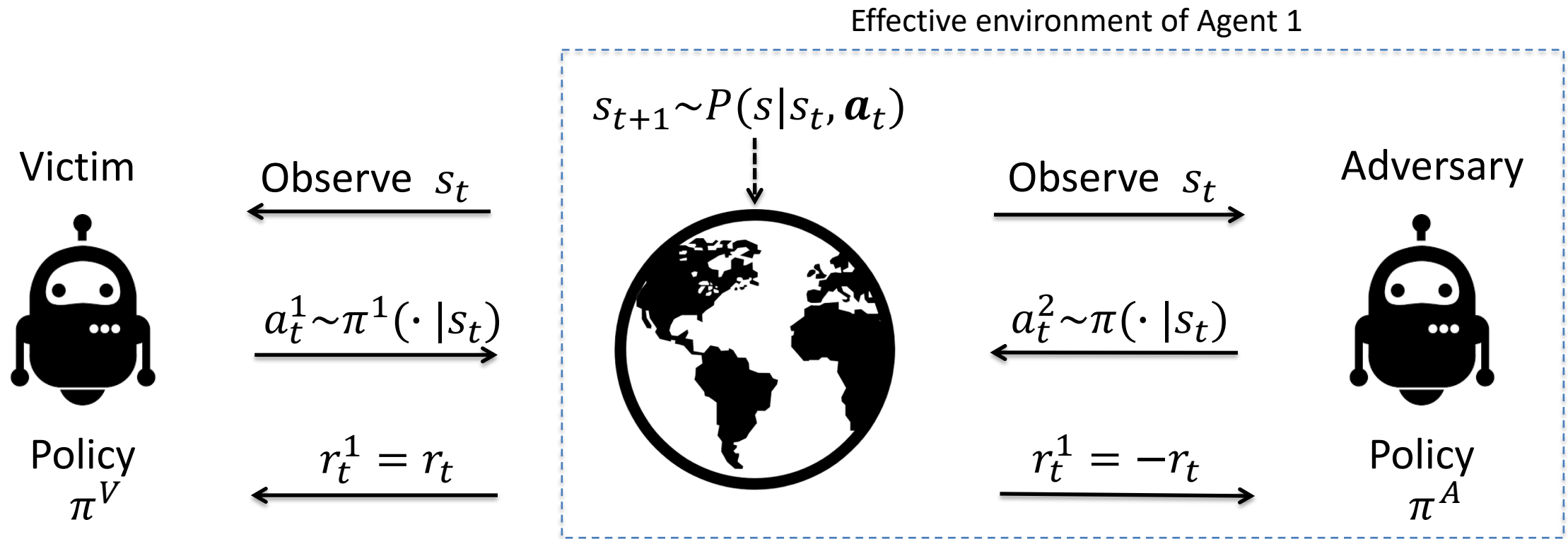


A2 influences A1's states, transitions, and rewards

Case 2  
Control one  
of the agents



# Adversarial Policies



Can we perform a physical adversarial attacks using  $\pi^A$ ?

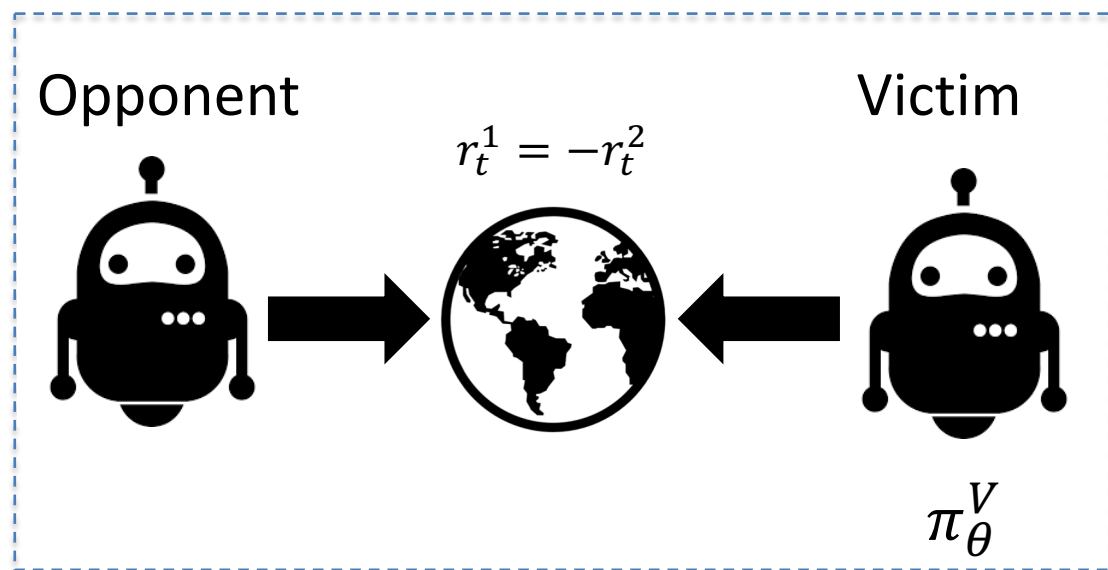
[Gleave et al., 2020]

See also [Guo et al., 2021]

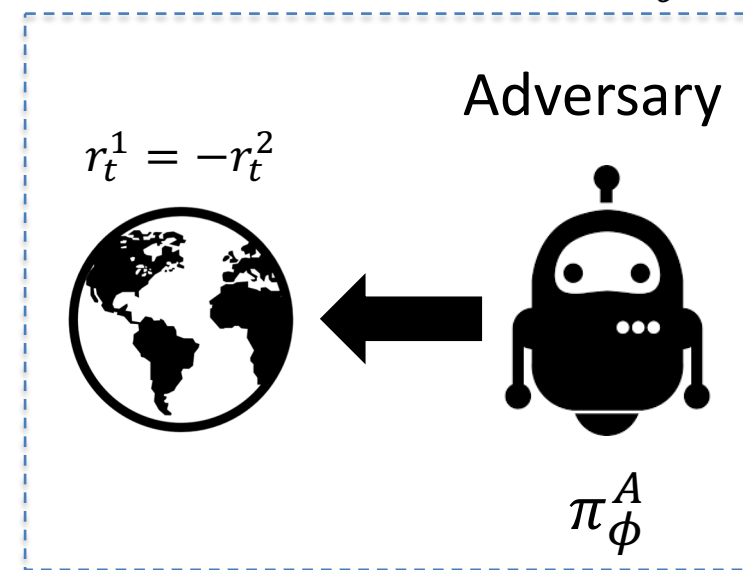
# Adversarial Policies

Test-time attack

1. Training Victim (self-play)

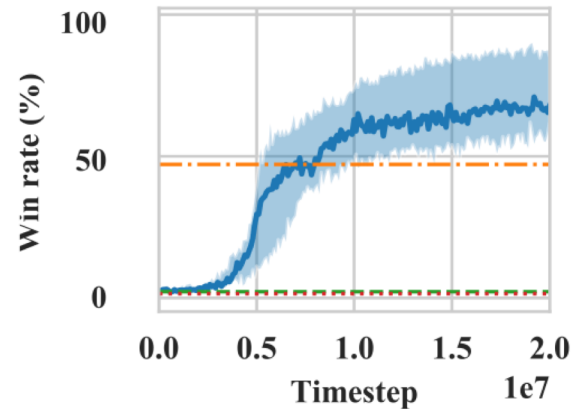
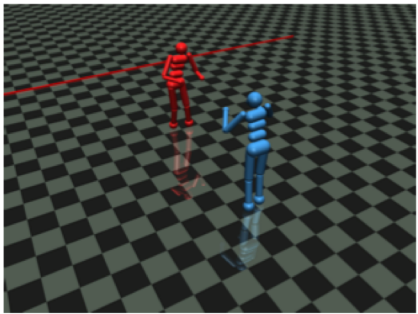


2. Train Adversary (fixed  $\pi_\theta^V$ )



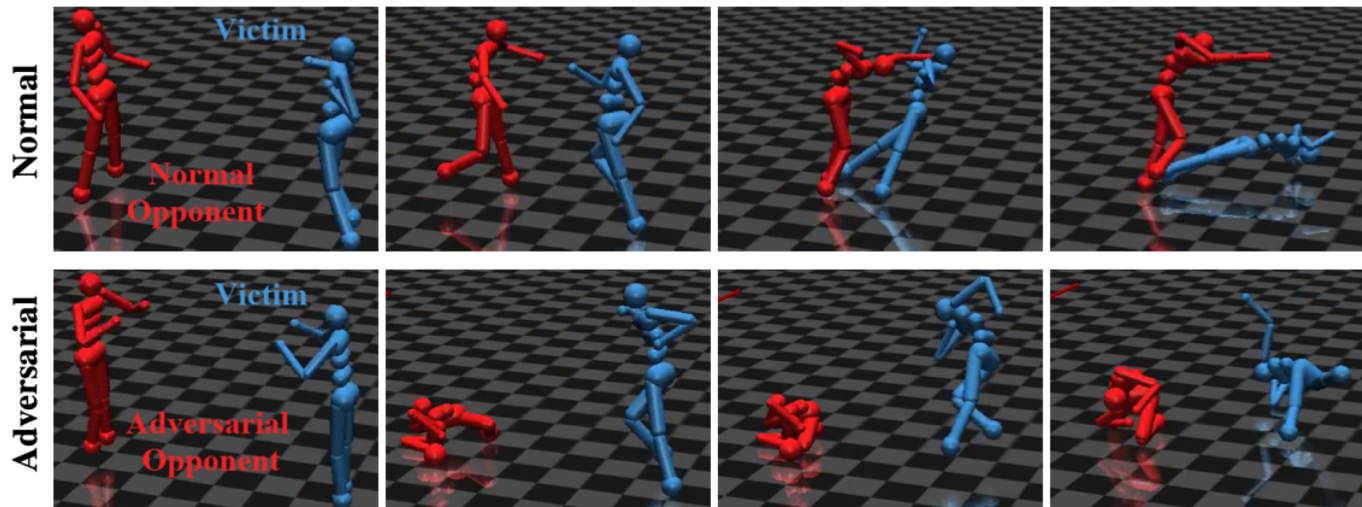
DNN policy

# Adversarial Policies



— Adversary (Adv)    - - - Normal (Zoo)    - - - Random (Rand)    . . . Zero

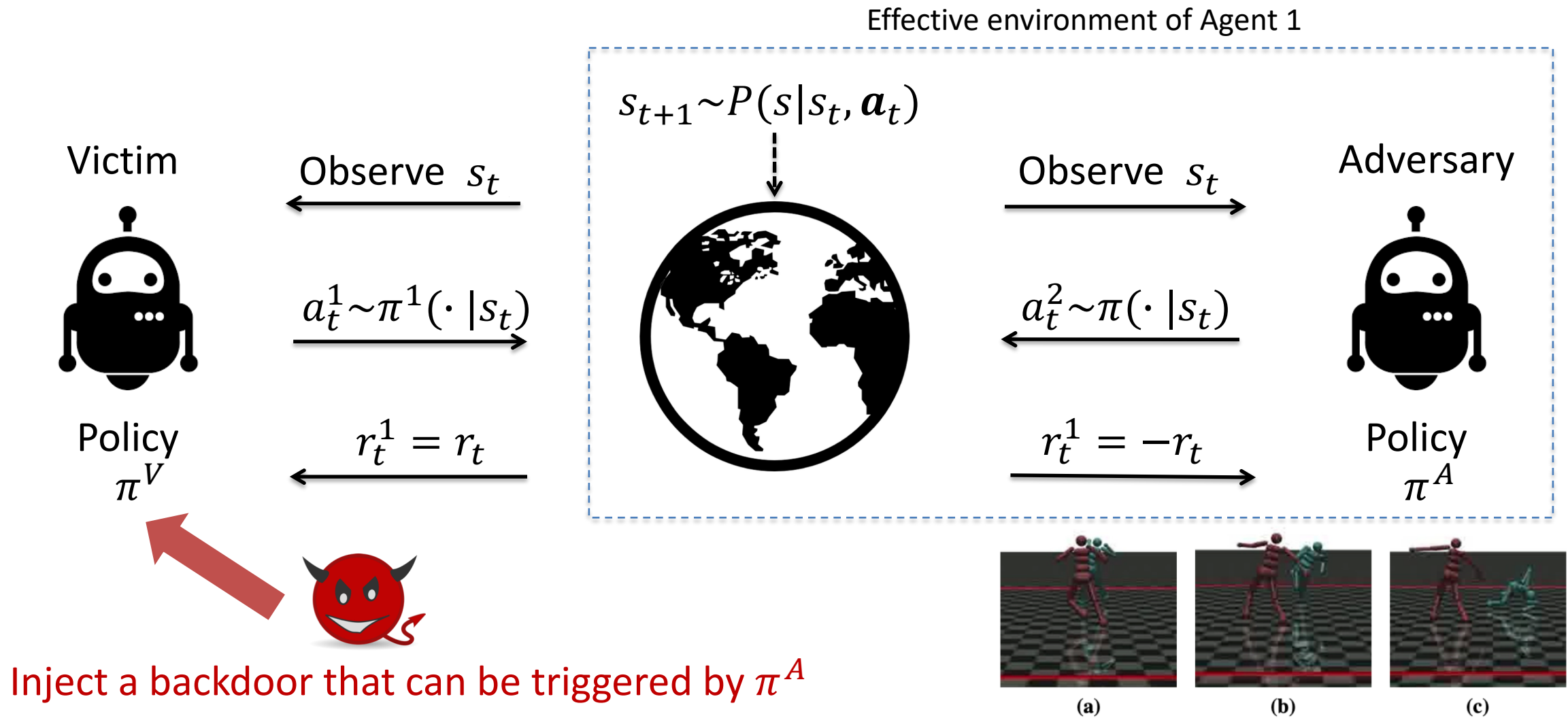
Adversary trained with  
< 3% or time-steps used  
for training Victim.



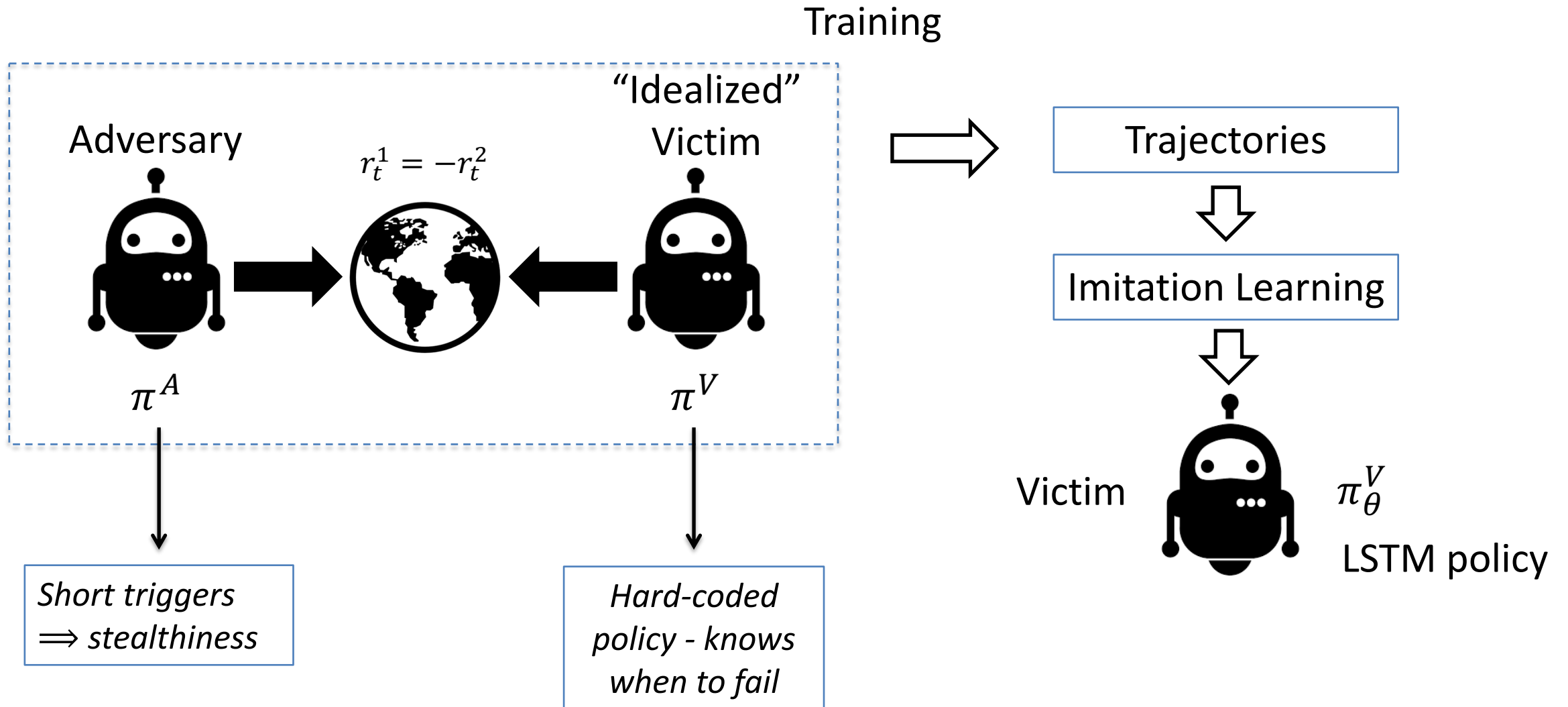
Masking adversary's  
position helps: the victim's  
win rate increases.

[Gleave et al., 2020]

# Backdoor Attacks



# Backdoor Attacks





# Backdoor Attacks

Victim's winning rate reduces by 17%-37% when the backdoor is triggered

| Environment                 | Triggered |       |         | Not Triggered |       |         | Benign Baseline |       |         |
|-----------------------------|-----------|-------|---------|---------------|-------|---------|-----------------|-------|---------|
|                             | Failing   | Tie   | Winning | Failing       | Tie   | Winning | Failing         | Tie   | Winning |
| Run To Goal (Ants)          | 73.8%     | 2.4%  | 23.8%   | 45.0%         | 5.1%  | 49.9%   | 46.0%           | 3.0%  | 51.0%   |
| Run To Goal (Humans)        | 20.8%     | 69.3% | 9.9%    | 52.2%         | 0.7%  | 47.1%   | 51.2%           | 1.4%  | 47.4%   |
| You Shall Not Pass (Humans) | 83.0%     | 0.0%  | 17.0%   | 50.1%         | 0.0%  | 49.9%   | 50.5%           | 0.0%  | 49.5%   |
| Sumo (Humans)               | 34.4%     | 54.7% | 10.9%   | 29.7%         | 42.2% | 28.1%   | 30.1%           | 34.4% | 35.5%   |

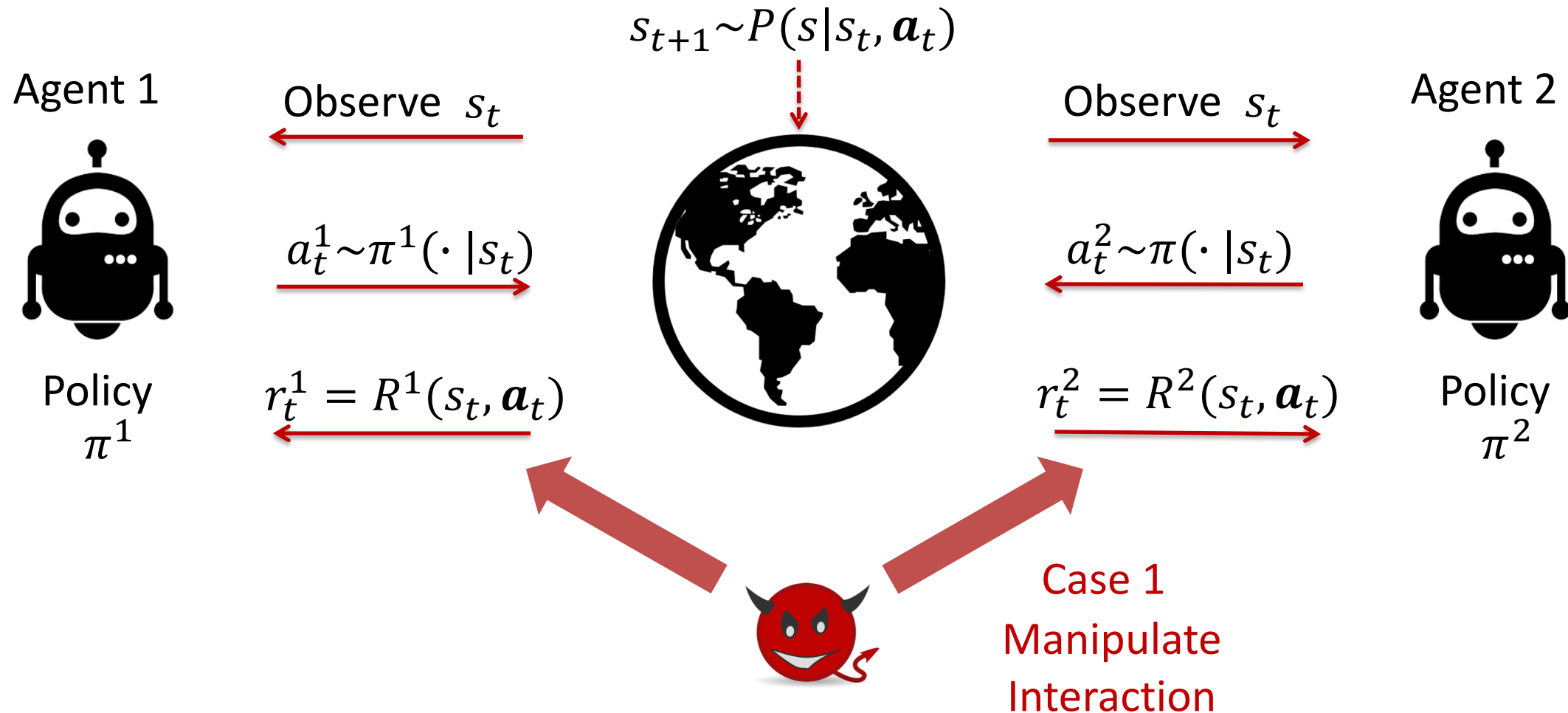
Table 2: The failing/tie/winning rate of the victim agent when the backdoor is triggered (or not). Benign baselines are measured on two normal agents.

Fine tuning defense not fully successful

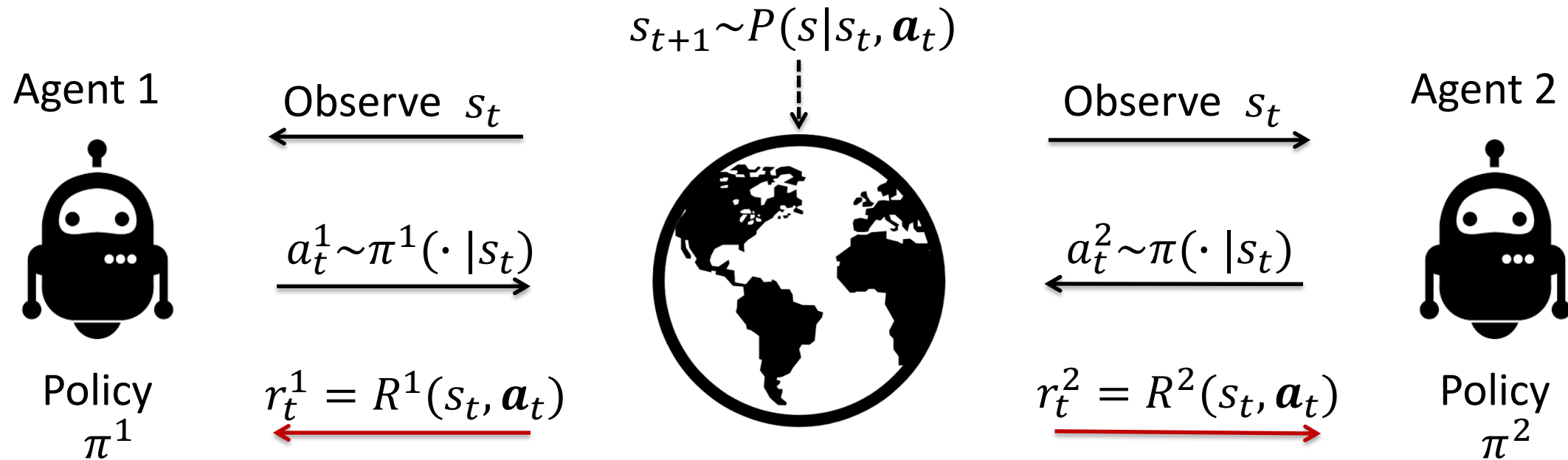
| Environment/Failing Rate | BACKDOORL   | Fine-tuned   |
|--------------------------|-------------|--------------|
| Run to Goal (Ants)       | 23.8%       | <b>39.0%</b> |
| Run to Goal (Humans)     | <b>9.9%</b> | 5.0%         |
| You Shall Not Pass       | 17.0%       | <b>23.8%</b> |
| Sumo                     | 10.9%       | <b>22.5%</b> |

Table 6: Winning rate before/after fine-tuning when facing the trigger. Bolded numbers are the higher winning rates.

# Adversarial Multi-Agent Setting



# Reward Poisoning Attacks



Force a joint target policy  $\pi_+$ :  
Minimally change  $R^i$  s.t.  $\pi_+$  is an  $\varepsilon$ -strict Markov perfect  
**dominant strategy equilibrium**

# Reward Poisoning Attacks

- Offline finite-horizon setting:
  - Attacker: Modifies the rewards in a given dataset
  - Agents/Learners: Estimate the parameters of Markov game from the poisoned data
- Q-confidence bound backward induction – minimize cost  $\mathcal{C}(r, r_0)$  while satisfying

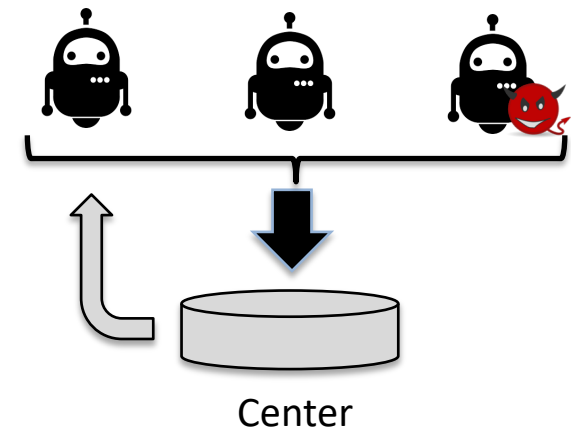
$$\underline{Q}_{i,h}(s, (\pi_{\dagger}^{i,h}(s), a^{-i})) \geq \bar{Q}_{i,h}(s, (a^i, a^{-i})) + \varepsilon \quad \longleftarrow$$

*Equilibrium  
condition*

- Exponential in #Agents  $\rightarrow$  Greedy backward-induction

# Summary

- MARL as a framework for physical adversarial attacks
- Attacks and defense in MARL largely unexplored
- Byzantine Attacks in Distributed RL
  - Fault-tolerant Federated RL [Fan et al., 2021]
  - Byzantine-Robust Distributed RL [Chen et al., 2022]



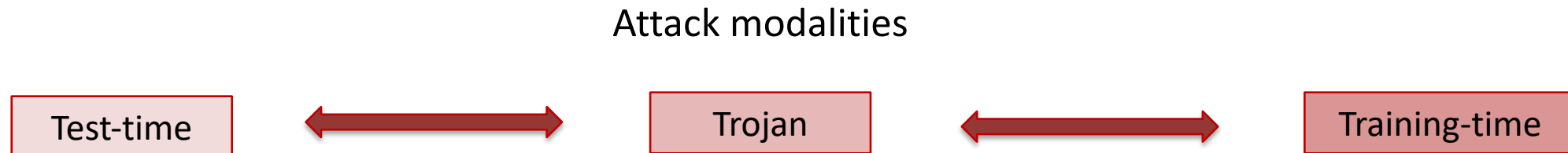
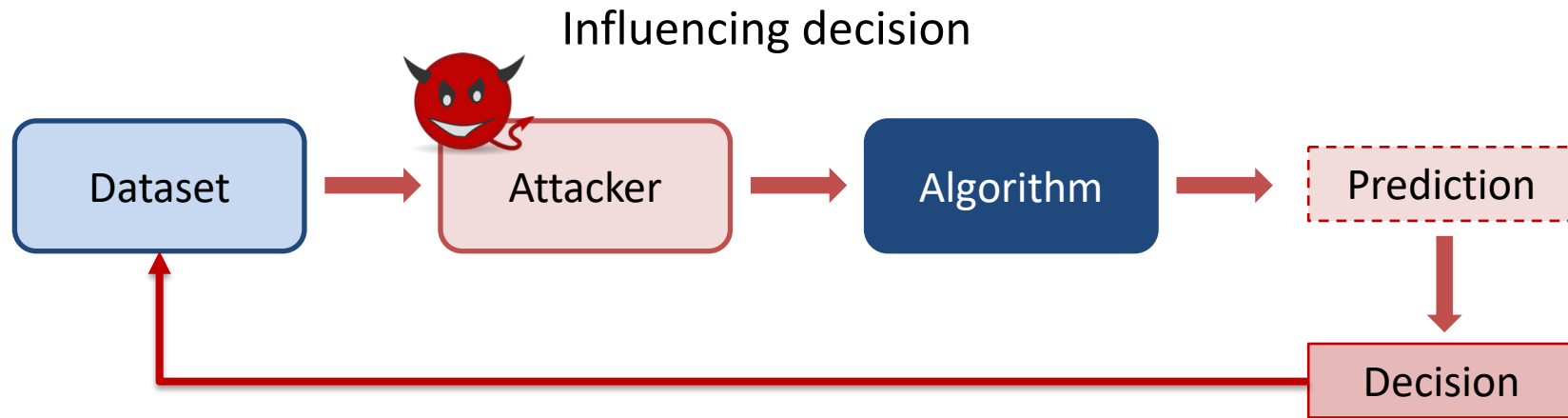
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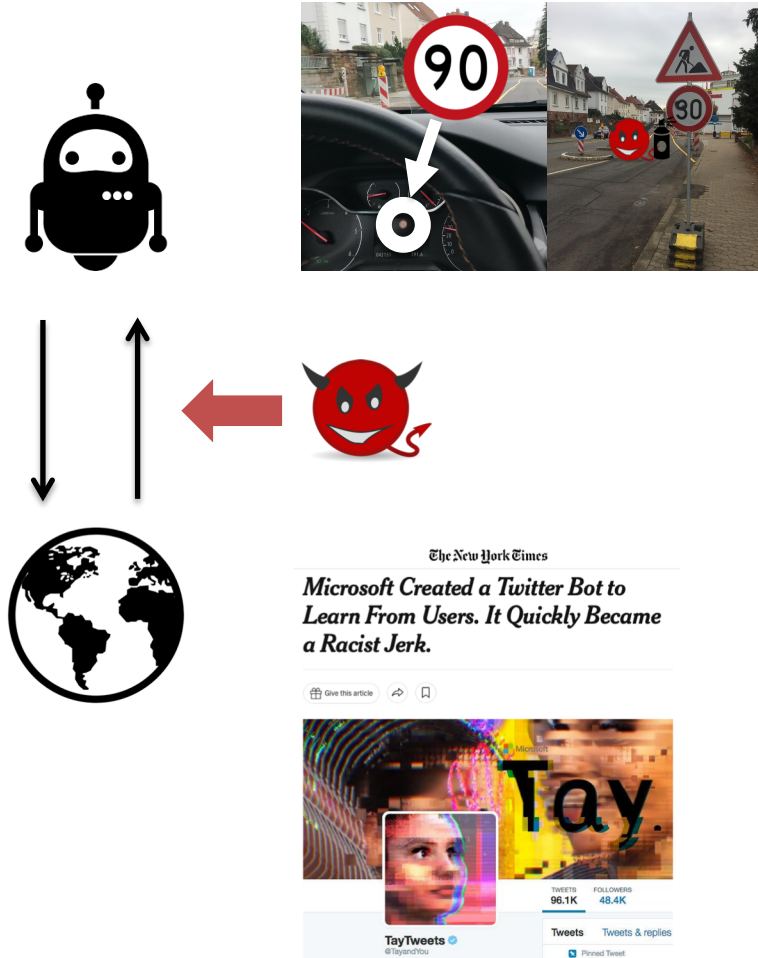
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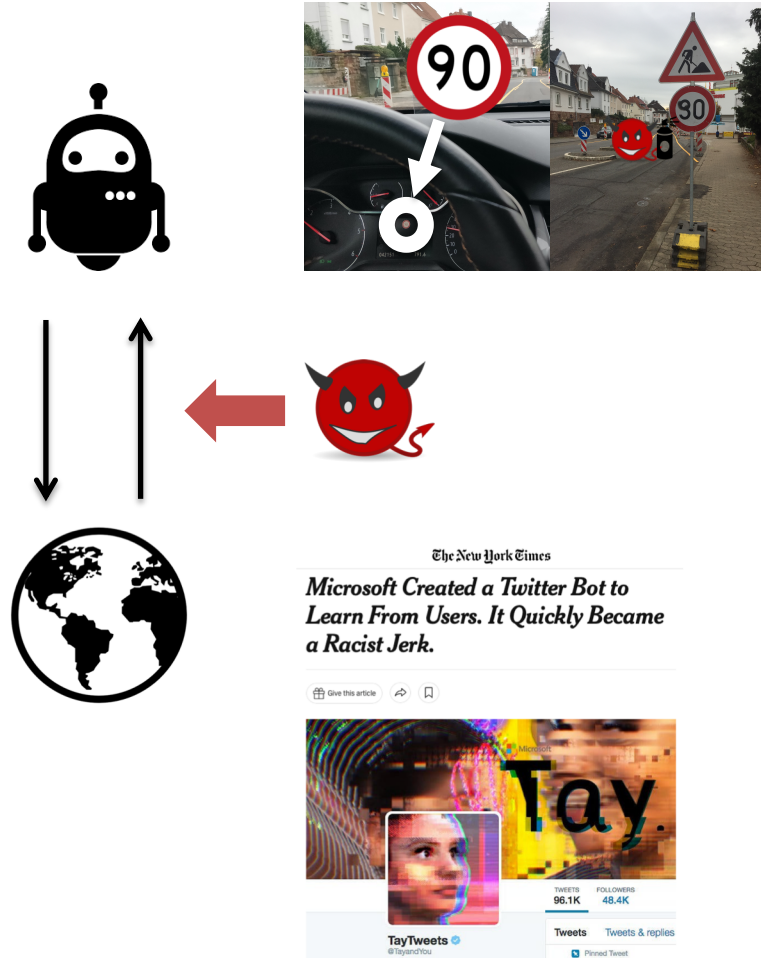
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## Attacks/Defenses

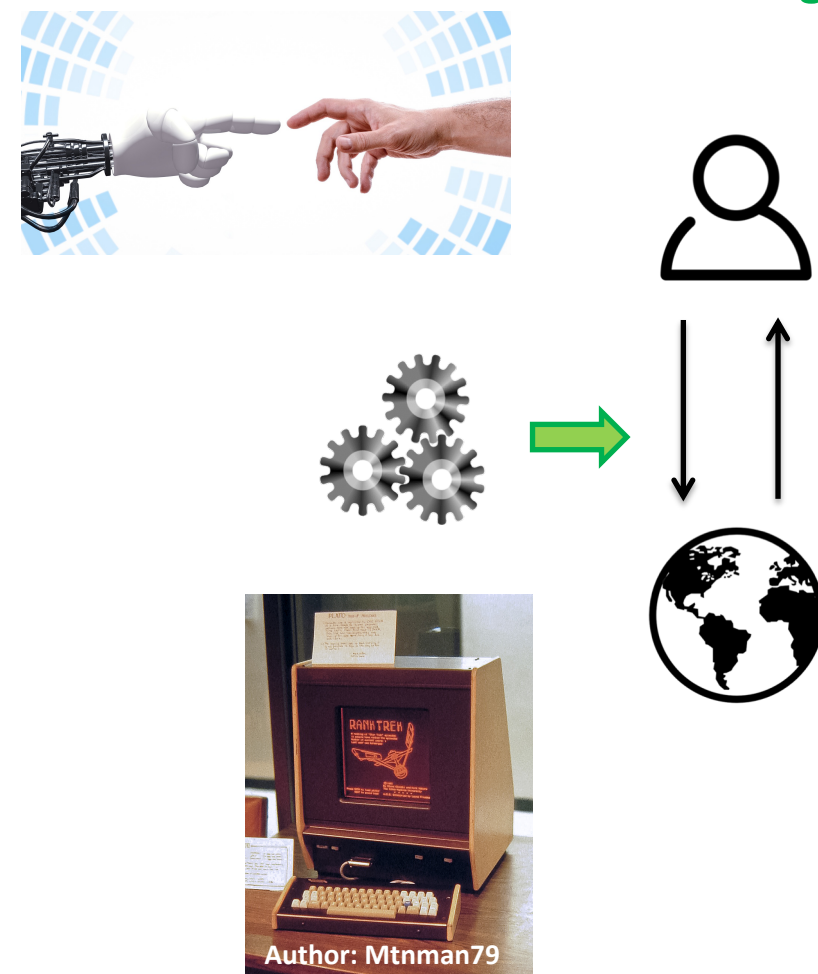


# Concluding Remarks

## Attacks/Defenses



## Steering/Teaching



# References

- Gleave et al., Adversarial Policies: Attacking Deep Reinforcement Learning, 2020.
- Guo et al., Adversarial Policy Learning in Two-player Competitive Games, 2021.
- Wang et al., BACKDOORL: Backdoor Attack against Competitive Reinforcement Learning, 2021.
- Fan et al., Fault-Tolerant Federated Reinforcement Learning with Theoretical Guarantee, 2021.
- Wu et al., Reward Poisoning Attacks on Offline Multi-Agent Reinforcement Learning, 2022.
- Chen et al., Byzantine-Robust Online and Offline Distributed Reinforcement Learning, 2022.