# 1 A Detailed Proof

## 2 A.1 Proof of Theorem 4.1

<sup>3</sup> Proof. Similar to the proof of Theorem 3.2 in Kumar et al. [4], we first prove this theorem in the

<sup>4</sup> absence of sampling error, and then incorporate sampling error at the end. By set the derivation of

the objective in Eq. 4 to zero, we can compute the Q-function update induced in the exact, tabular  $\hat{z}$ 

6 setting( $\mathcal{T}^{\pi} = \hat{\mathcal{T}}^{\pi}$  and  $\pi_{\beta}(\mathbf{a}|s) = \hat{\pi}_{\beta}(\mathbf{a}|s)$ ).

$$\forall s, \boldsymbol{a}, k, \ \hat{Q}^{k+1}(s, \boldsymbol{a}) = \mathcal{T}^{\boldsymbol{\pi}} \hat{Q}^{k}(s, \boldsymbol{a}) - \alpha \left[ \Sigma_{i=1}^{n} \lambda_{i} \frac{\mu^{i}}{\pi_{\beta}^{i}} - 1 \right]$$
(A.1)

<sup>7</sup> Then, the value of the policy,  $\hat{V}^{k+1}$  can be proved to be underestimated, since:

$$\hat{V}^{k+1}(s) = \mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{a} \sim \boldsymbol{\pi}(\boldsymbol{a}|s)} \left[ \hat{Q}^{\boldsymbol{\pi}}(s, \boldsymbol{a}) \right] = \mathcal{T}^{\boldsymbol{\pi}} \hat{V}^{k}(s) - \alpha \mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{a} \sim \boldsymbol{\pi}(\boldsymbol{a}|s)} \left[ \sum_{i=1}^{n} \lambda_{i} \frac{\mu^{i}}{\pi_{\beta}^{i}} - 1 \right]$$
(A.2)

8 Next, we will show that  $D_{CQL}^{CF}(s) = \sum_{a} \pi(a|s) \left[ \sum_{i=1}^{n} \lambda_{i} \frac{\mu^{i}(a^{i}|s)}{\hat{\pi}_{\beta}^{i}(a^{i}|s)} - 1 \right]$  is always positive, when 9  $\mu^{i}(a^{i}|s) = \pi^{i}(a^{i}|s)$ :

$$D_{CQL}^{CF}(s) = \Sigma_a \pi(\boldsymbol{a}|s) \left[ \Sigma_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \frac{\mu^i(a^i|s)}{\pi_\beta^i(a^i|s)} - 1 \right]$$
(A.3)

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{n} \lambda_i \left[ \sum_{a^i} \pi^i(a^i|s) \left[ \frac{\mu^i(a^i|s)}{\pi^i_\beta(a^i|s)} - 1 \right] \right]$$
(A.4)

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{n} \lambda_i \left[ \sum_{a^i} (\pi^i(a^i|s) - \pi^i_\beta(a^i|s) + \pi^i_\beta(a^i|s)) \left[ \frac{\mu^i(a^i|s)}{\pi^i_\beta(a^i|s)} - 1 \right] \right]$$
(A.5)

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{n} \lambda_{i} \left[ \sum_{a^{i}} (\pi^{i}(a^{i}|s) - \pi^{i}_{\beta}(a^{i}|s)) \left[ \frac{\pi^{i}(a^{i}|s) - \pi^{i}_{\beta}(a^{i}|s)}{\pi^{i}_{\beta}(a^{i}|s)} \right] + \sum_{a^{i}} \pi^{i}_{\beta}(a^{i}|s)) \left[ \frac{\mu^{i}(a^{i}|s)}{\pi^{i}_{\beta}(a^{i}|s)} - 1 \right]$$
(A.6)

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{n} \lambda_{i} \left[ \sum_{a^{i}} \left[ \frac{(\pi^{i}(a^{i}|s) - \pi^{i}_{\beta}(a^{i}|s))^{2}}{\pi^{i}_{\beta}(a^{i}|s)} \right] + 0 \right] since, \forall i, \Sigma_{a^{i}} \pi^{i}(a^{i}|s) = \Sigma_{a^{i}} \pi^{i}_{\beta}(a^{i}|s) = 1$$

$$(A.7)$$

$$> 0$$

$$(A.8)$$

As shown above, the  $D_{CQL}^{CF}(s) \ge 0$ , and  $D_{CQL}^{CF}(s) = 0$ , iff  $\pi^i(a^i|s) = \pi^i_\beta(a^i|s)$ . This implies that each value iterate incurs some underestimation, i.e.  $\hat{V}^{k+1}(s) \le \mathcal{T}^{\pi}\hat{V}^k(s)$ .

We can compute the fixed point of the recursion in Equation A.2 and get the following estimated policy value:

$$\hat{V}^{\boldsymbol{\pi}}(s) = V^{\boldsymbol{\pi}}(s) - \alpha \left[ (I - \gamma P^{\boldsymbol{\pi}})^{-1} \Sigma_a \boldsymbol{\pi}(\boldsymbol{a}|s) \left[ \Sigma_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \frac{\mu^i(a^i|s)}{\hat{\pi}^i_{\beta}(a^i|s)} - 1 \right] \right] (s)$$
(A.9)

Because the  $(I - \gamma P^{\pi})^{-1}$  is non negative and the  $D_{CQL}^{CF}(s) \ge 0$ , it's easily to prove that in the absence of sampling error, Theorem 4.1 gives a lower bound.

Incorporating sampling error. According to the conclusion in Kumar et al. [4], we can directly write down the result with sampling error as follows:

$$\hat{V}^{\pi}(s) \leq V^{\pi}(s) - \alpha \left[ (I - \gamma P^{\pi})^{-1} \Sigma_{a} \pi(\boldsymbol{a}|s) \left[ \Sigma_{i=1}^{n} \lambda_{i} \frac{\mu^{i}(a^{i}|s)}{\hat{\pi}_{\beta}^{i}(a^{i}|s)} - 1 \right] \right](s) + \left[ (I - \gamma P^{\pi})^{-1} \frac{C_{r,T,\sigma} R_{max}}{(1 - \gamma)\sqrt{|D|}} \right](s) + \left[ (I - \gamma P^{\pi})^{-1} \frac{C_{r,T,\sigma} R_{max}}{(1 - \gamma)\sqrt{|D|}} \right](s) + \left[ (I - \gamma P^{\pi})^{-1} \frac{C_{r,T,\sigma} R_{max}}{(1 - \gamma)\sqrt{|D|}} \right](s) + \left[ (I - \gamma P^{\pi})^{-1} \frac{C_{r,T,\sigma} R_{max}}{(1 - \gamma)\sqrt{|D|}} \right](s) + \left[ (I - \gamma P^{\pi})^{-1} \frac{C_{r,T,\sigma} R_{max}}{(1 - \gamma)\sqrt{|D|}} \right](s) + \left[ (I - \gamma P^{\pi})^{-1} \frac{C_{r,T,\sigma} R_{max}}{(1 - \gamma)\sqrt{|D|}} \right](s) + \left[ (I - \gamma P^{\pi})^{-1} \frac{C_{r,T,\sigma} R_{max}}{(1 - \gamma)\sqrt{|D|}} \right](s) + \left[ (I - \gamma P^{\pi})^{-1} \frac{C_{r,T,\sigma} R_{max}}{(1 - \gamma)\sqrt{|D|}} \right](s) + \left[ (I - \gamma P^{\pi})^{-1} \frac{C_{r,T,\sigma} R_{max}}{(1 - \gamma)\sqrt{|D|}} \right](s) + \left[ (I - \gamma P^{\pi})^{-1} \frac{C_{r,T,\sigma} R_{max}}{(1 - \gamma)\sqrt{|D|}} \right](s) + \left[ (I - \gamma P^{\pi})^{-1} \frac{C_{r,T,\sigma} R_{max}}{(1 - \gamma)\sqrt{|D|}} \right](s) + \left[ (I - \gamma P^{\pi})^{-1} \frac{C_{r,T,\sigma} R_{max}}{(1 - \gamma)\sqrt{|D|}} \right](s) + \left[ (I - \gamma P^{\pi})^{-1} \frac{C_{r,T,\sigma} R_{max}}{(1 - \gamma)\sqrt{|D|}} \right](s) + \left[ (I - \gamma P^{\pi})^{-1} \frac{C_{r,T,\sigma} R_{max}}{(1 - \gamma)\sqrt{|D|}} \right](s) + \left[ (I - \gamma P^{\pi})^{-1} \frac{C_{r,T,\sigma} R_{max}}{(1 - \gamma)\sqrt{|D|}} \right](s) + \left[ (I - \gamma P^{\pi})^{-1} \frac{C_{r,T,\sigma} R_{max}}{(1 - \gamma)\sqrt{|D|}} \right](s) + \left[ (I - \gamma P^{\pi})^{-1} \frac{C_{r,T,\sigma} R_{max}}{(1 - \gamma)\sqrt{|D|}} \right](s) + \left[ (I - \gamma P^{\pi})^{-1} \frac{C_{r,T,\sigma} R_{max}}{(1 - \gamma)\sqrt{|D|}} \right](s) + \left[ (I - \gamma P^{\pi})^{-1} \frac{C_{r,T,\sigma} R_{max}}{(1 - \gamma)\sqrt{|D|}} \right](s) + \left[ (I - \gamma P^{\pi})^{-1} \frac{C_{r,T,\sigma} R_{max}}{(1 - \gamma)\sqrt{|D|}} \right](s) + \left[ (I - \gamma P^{\pi})^{-1} \frac{C_{r,T,\sigma} R_{max}}{(1 - \gamma)\sqrt{|D|}} \right](s) + \left[ (I - \gamma P^{\pi})^{-1} \frac{C_{r,T,\sigma} R_{max}}{(1 - \gamma)\sqrt{|D|}} \right](s) + \left[ (I - \gamma P^{\pi})^{-1} \frac{C_{r,T,\sigma} R_{max}}{(1 - \gamma)\sqrt{|D|}} \right](s) + \left[ (I - \gamma P^{\pi})^{-1} \frac{C_{r,T,\sigma} R_{max}}{(1 - \gamma)\sqrt{|D|}} \right](s) + \left[ (I - \gamma P^{\pi})^{-1} \frac{C_{r,T,\sigma} R_{max}}{(1 - \gamma)\sqrt{|D|}} \right](s) + \left[ (I - \gamma P^{\pi})^{-1} \frac{C_{r,T,\sigma} R_{max}}{(1 - \gamma)\sqrt{|D|}} \right](s) + \left[ (I - \gamma P^{\pi})^{-1} \frac{C_{r,T,\sigma} R_{max}}{(1 - \gamma)\sqrt{|D|}} \right](s) + \left[ (I - \gamma P^{\pi})^{-1} \frac{C_{r,T,\sigma} R_{max}}{(1 - \gamma)\sqrt{|D|}} \right](s) + \left[ (I - \gamma P^{\pi})^{-1} \frac{C_{r,T,\sigma} R_{max}}{(1 - \gamma)\sqrt{|D$$

So, the statement of Theorem 4.1 with sampling error is proved. Please refer to the Sec.D.3 in Kumar 18

et al. [4] For detailed proof. Besides, the choice of  $\alpha$  in this case to prevent overestimation is given 19 by: 20

$$\alpha \ge \max_{s, \boldsymbol{a} \in D} \frac{C_{r, T, \sigma} R_{max}}{(1 - \gamma)\sqrt{|D|}} \cdot \max_{s \in D} \left[ \Sigma_{\boldsymbol{a}} \boldsymbol{\pi}(\boldsymbol{a}|s) \left[ \Sigma_{i=1}^{n} \lambda_{i} \frac{\mu^{i}(a^{i}|s)}{\hat{\pi}_{\beta}^{i}(a^{i}|s)} - 1 \right] \right]^{-1}$$
(A.11)

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#### A.2 Proof of Theorem 4.2 22

*Proof.* According to the definition, we can get the formulation of  $D_{CQL}^{CF}({m \pi},{m eta})(s)$  and 23  $D_{CQL}(\boldsymbol{\pi},\boldsymbol{\beta})(s)$  as follow: 24

$$D_{CQL}^{CF}(\boldsymbol{\pi},\boldsymbol{\beta})(s) = \mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{a}\sim\boldsymbol{\pi}(\cdot|s)} \left( \left[ \sum_{i=1}^{n} \lambda_i \frac{\pi^i(a^i|s)}{\beta^i(a^i|s)} \right] - 1 \right)$$
(A.12)

$$=\sum_{i=1}^{n}\lambda_{i}\left(\sum_{a^{i}}\frac{\pi^{i}(a^{i}|s)*\pi^{i}(a^{i}|s)}{\beta^{i}(a^{i}|s)}\right)-1\geq0$$
(A.13)

25

$$D_{CQL}(\boldsymbol{\pi},\boldsymbol{\beta})(s) = \mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{a}\sim\boldsymbol{\pi}(\cdot|s)} \left( \left[ \frac{\boldsymbol{\pi}(\boldsymbol{a}|s)}{\boldsymbol{\beta}(\boldsymbol{a}|s)} \right] - 1 \right)$$
(A.14)

$$=\prod_{i=1}^{n} \left( \sum_{a^{i}} \frac{\pi^{i}(a^{i}|s) * \pi^{i}(a^{i}|s)}{\beta^{i}(a^{i}|s)} \right) - 1 \ge 0$$
(A.15)

Then, by taking the logarithm of  $D_{CQL}(\boldsymbol{\pi},\boldsymbol{\beta})(s)$ , we get: 26

$$\ln(D_{CQL}(\boldsymbol{\pi},\boldsymbol{\beta})(s)+1) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \ln\left(\mathbb{E}_{a^{i} \sim \pi^{i}(\cdot|s)} \frac{\pi^{i}(a^{i}|s)}{\beta^{i}(a^{i}|s)}\right)$$
(A.16)

27 As  $\Sigma_i \lambda_i = 1$ , it's obvious that

$$\ln(D_{CQL}^{CF}(\boldsymbol{\pi},\boldsymbol{\beta})(s)+1) \le \ln\left(\sum_{a^j} \frac{\pi^j(a^j|s) * \pi^j(a^j|s)}{\beta^j(a^j|s)}\right), where \ j = \arg\max_k \mathbb{E}_{\pi^k} \frac{\pi^k}{\beta^k} \quad (A.17)$$

By combining equation A.16 and inequation A.17, we get 28

$$\frac{D_{CQL}(\boldsymbol{\pi},\boldsymbol{\beta})(s)+1}{D_{CQL}^{CF}(\boldsymbol{\pi},\boldsymbol{\beta})(s)+1} \ge \exp\left(\sum_{i=1,i\neq j}^{n} \ln\left(\mathbb{E}_{a^{i}\sim\pi^{i}(\cdot|s)}\frac{\pi^{i}(a^{i}|s)}{\beta^{i}(a^{i}|s)}\right)\right)$$
(A.18)

$$\geq \exp\left(\sum_{i=1,i\neq j}^{n} KL(\pi^{i}(s)||\beta^{i}(s))\right), where \ j = \arg\max_{k} \mathbb{E}_{\pi^{k}} \frac{\pi^{k}}{\beta^{k}} \quad (A.19)$$

29

the second inequality is derived from the Jensen's inequality. As the Kullback-Leibler Divergence is non-negative, it's obvious that  $D_{CQL}(\pi,\beta)(s) \geq D_{CQL}^{CF}(\pi,\beta)(s)$ , then we can simplify the left-hand side of this inequality: 30 31

$$\frac{D_{CQL}(\boldsymbol{\pi},\boldsymbol{\beta})(s)}{D_{CQL}^{CF}(\boldsymbol{\pi},\boldsymbol{\beta})(s)} \ge \exp\left(\sum_{i=1,i\neq j}^{n} KL(\pi^{i}(s)||\beta^{i}(s))\right), where \ j = \arg\max_{k} \mathbb{E}_{\pi^{k}} \frac{\pi^{k}}{\beta^{k}}$$
(A.20)

32

### 33 A.3 Proof of Equation 6

Proof. Similar to the proof of Lemma D.3.1 in CQL [4],  $\bar{Q}$  is obtained by solving a recursive Bellman fixed point equation in the empirical MDP  $\hat{M}$ , with an altered reward,  $r(s, a) - \alpha \left[ \sum_{i} \lambda_i \frac{\pi^i(a^i|s)}{\beta^i(a^i|s)} - 1 \right]$ , hence the optimal policy  $\pi^*(a|s)$  obtained by optimizing the value under the CFCQL Q-function

equivalently is characterized via Eq. 6.  $\Box$ 

## 38 A.4 Proof of Theorem 4.3

<sup>39</sup> *Proof.* Similar to Eq. 6,  $\pi_{MA}^*$  is equivalently obtained by solving:

$$\boldsymbol{\pi}_{MA}^*(\boldsymbol{a}|s) \leftarrow \arg\max_{\boldsymbol{\pi}} J(\boldsymbol{\pi}, \hat{M}) - \alpha \frac{1}{1-\gamma} \mathbb{E}_{s \sim d_{\hat{M}}^{\boldsymbol{\pi}}(s)} [D_{CQL}(\boldsymbol{\pi}, \boldsymbol{\beta})(s)].$$
(A.21)

40 Recall that  $\forall s, \pi, \beta, D_{CQL}(\pi, \beta)(s) \geq 0$ . We have

$$J(\boldsymbol{\pi}_{MA}^{*}, \hat{M}) \geq J(\boldsymbol{\pi}_{MA}^{*}, \hat{M}) - \alpha \frac{1}{1 - \gamma} \mathbb{E}_{s \sim d_{\hat{M}}^{\boldsymbol{\pi}_{MA}^{*}}(s)} [D_{CQL}(\boldsymbol{\pi}_{MA}^{*}, \boldsymbol{\beta})(s)] \\ \geq J(\boldsymbol{\pi}^{*}, \hat{M}) - \alpha \frac{1}{1 - \gamma} \mathbb{E}_{s \sim d_{\hat{M}}^{\boldsymbol{\pi}^{*}}(s)} [D_{CQL}(\boldsymbol{\pi}^{*}, \boldsymbol{\beta})(s)].$$
(A.22)

- <sup>41</sup> Then we give an upper bound of  $\mathbb{E}_{s \sim d_{M}^{\pi^*}(s)}[D_{CQL}(\pi^*, \beta)(s)]$ . Due to the assumption that  $\beta^i$  is
- 42 greater than  $\epsilon$  anywhere, we have

$$D_{CQL}(\boldsymbol{\pi},\boldsymbol{\beta})(s) = \sum_{\boldsymbol{a}} \boldsymbol{\pi}(\boldsymbol{a}|s) [\frac{\boldsymbol{\pi}(\boldsymbol{a}|s)}{\boldsymbol{\beta}(\boldsymbol{a}|s)} - 1] = \sum_{\boldsymbol{a}} \boldsymbol{\pi}(\boldsymbol{a}|s) [\frac{\boldsymbol{\pi}(\boldsymbol{a}|s)}{\prod_{i=1}^{n} \beta^{i}(a^{i}|s)} - 1]$$

$$\leq \left(\frac{1}{\epsilon^{n}} \sum_{\boldsymbol{a}} \boldsymbol{\pi}(\boldsymbol{a}|s) [\boldsymbol{\pi}(\boldsymbol{a}|s)]\right) - 1 \leq \frac{1}{\epsilon^{n}} - 1.$$
(A.23)

43 Combining Eq. A.22 and Eq. A.23, we can get

$$J(\pi_{MA}^{*}, \hat{M}) \ge J(\pi^{*}, \hat{M}) - \frac{\alpha}{1 - \gamma} (\frac{1}{\epsilon^{n}} - 1)$$
(A.24)

44 Recall the sampling error proved in [4] and referred to above in (A.10), we can use it to bound the 45 performance difference for any  $\pi$  on true and empirical MDP by

$$|J(\boldsymbol{\pi}, M) - J(\boldsymbol{\pi}, \hat{M})| \le \frac{C_{r, T, \delta} R_{max}}{(1 - \gamma)^2} \sum_{s} \frac{\rho(s)}{\sqrt{|D(s)|}},$$
(A.25)

then let sampling error :=  $2 \cdot \frac{C_{r,T,\sigma}R_{max}}{(1-\gamma)^2} \sum_s \frac{\rho(s)}{\sqrt{|D(s)|}}$ , and incorporate it into (A.24), we get

$$J(\boldsymbol{\pi}_{MA}^*, M) \ge J(\boldsymbol{\pi}^*, M) - \frac{\alpha}{1 - \gamma} (\frac{1}{\epsilon^n} - 1) - \text{sampling error}$$
(A.26)

47 where sampling error is a constant dependent on the MDP itself and D. Note that during the proof

<sup>48</sup> we do not take advantage of the nature of  $\pi^*$ . Actually  $\pi^*$  can be replaced by any policy  $\pi$ . The

- <sup>49</sup> reason we use  $\pi^*$  is that it can give that largest lower bound, resulting in the best policy improvement <sup>50</sup> guarantee. Similarly,  $D_{CQL}^{CF}$  can be bounded by  $\frac{1}{\epsilon} - 1$ :
  - $D_{CQL}^{CF}(\boldsymbol{\pi},\boldsymbol{\beta})(s) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \lambda_i \sum_{a^i} \pi^i(a^i|s) \left[\frac{\pi^i(a^i|s)}{\beta^i(a^i|s)} 1\right]$   $\leq \left(\frac{1}{\epsilon} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \lambda_i \sum_{a^i} \pi^i(a^i|s) [\pi^i(a^i|s)]\right) 1 \qquad (A.27)$   $\leq \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} \lambda_i\right) 1 = \frac{1}{\epsilon} 1.$

51

#### A.5 Proof of Theorem 4.4 52

- We first show the theorem of safe policy improvement guarantee for MACQL and CFCQL, separately. 53
- Then we compare these two gaps. 54
- MACQL has a safe policy improvement guarantee related to the number of agents n: 55
- **Theorem A.1.** Given the discounted marginal state-distribution  $d^{\pi}_{\hat{M}}$ , we define  $\mathcal{B}(\pi, D) =$ 56
- $\mathbb{E}_{s \sim d_{\hat{M}}^{\pi}}[\sqrt{D(\pi, \beta)(s) + 1}]$ . The policy  $\pi_{MA}^{*}(a|s)$  is a  $\zeta^{MA}$ -safe policy improvement over  $\beta$  in 57
- the actual MDP M, i.e.,  $J(\pi_{MA}^*, M) \geq J(\beta, M) \zeta^{MA}$ , where  $\zeta^{MA} = 2\left(\frac{C_{r,\delta}}{1-\gamma} + \frac{\gamma R_{\max}C_{T,\delta}}{(1-\gamma)^2}\right)$ . 58

59 
$$\frac{\sqrt{|A|}}{\sqrt{|\mathcal{D}(s)|}}\mathcal{B}(\pi^*_{MA}, D_{CQL}) + \frac{\alpha}{1-\gamma}(\frac{1}{\epsilon^n} - 1) - (J(\pi^*, \hat{M}) - J(\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}, \hat{M}))$$

- *Proof.* We can first get a  $J(\pi_{MA}^*, \hat{M})$ -related policy improvement guarantee following the proof of 60
- Theorem 3.6 in Kumar et al. [4]: 61

$$J(\boldsymbol{\pi}_{MA}^{*}, M) \geq J(\boldsymbol{\beta}, M) - \left(2\left(\frac{C_{r,\delta}}{1-\gamma} + \frac{\gamma R_{\max}C_{T,\delta}}{(1-\gamma)^{2}}\right) \cdot \frac{\sqrt{|A|}}{\sqrt{|\mathcal{D}(s)|}} \mathcal{B}(\boldsymbol{\pi}_{MA}^{*}, D_{CQL}) - (J(\boldsymbol{\pi}_{MA}^{*}, \hat{M}) - J(\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}, \hat{M}))\right)$$
(A.28)

- According to Eq. A.21,  $\pi_{MA}^*$  is obtained by optimizing  $J(\pi, \hat{M})$  with a  $D_{CQL}$ -related regularizer. And Theorem 4.3 shows that  $D_{CQL}$  can be extremely large when the team size expands, which may 62 63 severely change the optimization objective and affects the shape of the optimization plane. Therefore, 64  $J(\pi_{MA}^*, \hat{M})$  may be extremely low, and keeping  $J(\pi_{MA}^*, \hat{M})$  in Eq. A.28 results in a mediocre 65
- policy improvement guarantee. To bound  $J(\pi^*_{MA}, \hat{M})$ , we introduce Eq. A.24 into Eq. A.28, we get 66 the following: 67

$$J(\boldsymbol{\pi}_{MA}^{*}, M) \geq J(\boldsymbol{\beta}, M) - \left(2\left(\frac{C_{r,\delta}}{1-\gamma} + \frac{\gamma R_{\max}C_{T,\delta}}{(1-\gamma)^{2}}\right) \cdot \frac{\sqrt{|A|}}{\sqrt{|\mathcal{D}(s)|}} \mathcal{B}(\boldsymbol{\pi}_{MA}^{*}, D_{CQL}) + \frac{\alpha}{1-\gamma}(\frac{1}{\epsilon^{n}} - 1) - (J(\boldsymbol{\pi}^{*}, \hat{M}) - J(\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}, \hat{M}))\right)$$
(A.29)  
s complete the proof.

- This complete the proof. 68
- We can get a similar  $\zeta^{CF}$  satisfying  $J(\pi_{CF}^*, M) \ge J(\beta, M) \zeta^{CF}$  for CFCQL, which is independent 69 70 of n:

$$\zeta^{CF} = 2\left(\frac{C_{r,\delta}}{1-\gamma} + \frac{\gamma R_{\max}C_{T,\delta}}{(1-\gamma)^2}\right) \cdot \frac{\sqrt{|A|}}{\sqrt{|\mathcal{D}(s)|}} \mathcal{B}(\boldsymbol{\pi}_{CF}^*, D_{CQL}^{CF}) + \frac{\alpha}{1-\gamma} (\frac{1}{\epsilon} - 1) - (J(\boldsymbol{\pi}^*, \hat{M}) - J(\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}, \hat{M}))$$
(A.30)

- Then we can prove Theorem 4.4. 71
- *Proof.* Subtract  $\zeta^{CF}$  from  $\zeta^{MA}$ , and we get: 72

$$\zeta^{MA} - \zeta^{CF} = 2\left(\frac{C_{r,\delta}}{1-\gamma} + \frac{\gamma R_{\max}C_{T,\delta}}{(1-\gamma)^2}\right) \frac{\sqrt{|A|}}{\sqrt{|\mathcal{D}(s)|}} \left(\mathcal{B}(\boldsymbol{\pi}_{MA}^*, D_{CQL}) - \mathcal{B}(\boldsymbol{\pi}_{CF}^*, D_{CQL}^{CF})\right) + \frac{\alpha}{1-\gamma} \left(\frac{1}{\epsilon^n} - \frac{1}{\epsilon^\gamma}\right) \left(\frac$$

Let the right side > 0, and we can get 73

$$n \ge \log_{\frac{1}{\epsilon}} \left[ \max\left(1, \frac{1}{\epsilon} + \frac{2}{\alpha} \frac{\sqrt{|A|}}{\sqrt{|\mathcal{D}(s)|}} \left(C_{r,\delta} + \frac{\gamma R_{\max} C_{T,\delta}}{1-\gamma}\right) \cdot \left[\mathcal{B}\left(\boldsymbol{\pi}_{CF}^{*}, D_{CQL}^{CF}\right) - \mathcal{B}\left(\boldsymbol{\pi}_{MA}^{*}, D_{CQL}\right)\right] \right) \right]$$
(A.32)

According to Theorem 4.3, 74

$$\mathcal{B}\left(\pi_{CF}^{*}, D_{CQL}^{CF}\right) = \mathbb{E}_{s \sim d_{\hat{M}}^{\pi_{CF}^{*}}}\left[\sqrt{D_{CQL}^{CF}(\pi_{CF}^{*}, \beta)(s) + 1}\right] \leq \mathbb{E}_{s \sim d_{\hat{M}}^{\pi_{CF}^{*}}}\left[\sqrt{\frac{1}{\epsilon} - 1 + 1}\right] = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon}} \tag{A.33}$$

In the meantime, we have 75

$$\mathcal{B}\left(\boldsymbol{\pi}_{CF}^{*}, D_{CQL}^{CF}\right) = \mathbb{E}_{s \sim d_{\hat{M}}^{\boldsymbol{\pi}_{MA}^{*}}}\left[\sqrt{D_{CQL}(\boldsymbol{\pi}_{MA}^{*}, \boldsymbol{\beta})(s) + 1}\right] \geq \mathbb{E}_{s \sim d_{\hat{M}}^{\boldsymbol{\pi}_{MA}^{*}}}\left[\sqrt{D_{CQL}(\boldsymbol{\beta}, \boldsymbol{\beta})(s) + 1}\right] = 1$$
(A.34)

76 Therefore, we can relax the lower bound of n to a constant that

$$n \ge \log_{\frac{1}{\epsilon}} \left( \frac{1}{\epsilon} + \frac{2}{\alpha} \frac{\sqrt{|A|}}{\sqrt{|\mathcal{D}(s)|}} (C_{r,\delta} + \frac{\gamma R_{\max} C_{T,\delta}}{1-\gamma}) \cdot (\frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon}} - 1) \right)$$
(A.35)

77

#### **B.1** Derivation of the Update Rule 79

To utilize the Eq. 4 for policy optimization, following the analysis in the Section 3.2 in Kumar et al. 80

[4], we formally define optimization problems over each  $\mu^i(a^i|s)$  by adding a regularizer  $R(\mu^i)$ . As 81

shown below, we mark the modifications from the Eq. 4 in red. 82

$$\min_{Q} \max_{\boldsymbol{\mu}} \alpha \left[ \sum_{i=1}^{n} \lambda_{i} \mathbb{E}_{s \sim \mathcal{D}, a^{i} \sim \boldsymbol{\mu}^{i}, \boldsymbol{a}^{-i} \sim \boldsymbol{\beta}^{-i}} [Q(s, \boldsymbol{a})] - \mathbb{E}_{s \sim \mathcal{D}, \boldsymbol{a} \sim \boldsymbol{\beta}} [Q(s, \boldsymbol{a})] \right] \\
+ \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{E}_{s, \boldsymbol{a}, s' \sim \mathcal{D}} \left[ (Q(s, \boldsymbol{a}) - \hat{\mathcal{T}}^{\pi} \bar{Q}_{k}(s, \boldsymbol{a}))^{2} \right] + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \lambda_{i} R(\boldsymbol{\mu}^{i}),$$
(B.36)

By choosing different regularizer, there are a variety of instances within CQL family. As recom-83 mended in Kumar et al. [4], we choose  $R(\mu^i)$  to be the KL-divergence against a Uniform distribution 84 over action space, i.e.,  $\tilde{R(\mu^i)} = -D_{KL}(\mu^i, Unif(a^i))$ , then it's easily to derive the following variant 85

of Eq. B.36 called CFCQL(H) which is the update rule we used: 86

$$\min_{Q} \alpha \mathbb{E}_{s \sim \mathcal{D}} \left[ \sum_{i=1}^{n} \lambda_{i} \mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{a}^{-i} \sim \boldsymbol{\beta}^{-i}} \left[ \log \sum_{a^{i}} \exp(Q(s, \boldsymbol{a})) \right] - \mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{a} \sim \boldsymbol{\beta}} [Q(s, \boldsymbol{a})] \right] \\
+ \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{E}_{s, \boldsymbol{a}, s' \sim \mathcal{D}} \left[ (Q(s, \boldsymbol{a}) - \hat{\mathcal{T}}^{\boldsymbol{\pi}_{k}} \bar{Q}_{k}(s, \boldsymbol{a}))^{2} \right].$$
(B.37)

#### **B.2** Details for Computing $\lambda$ 87

To compute  $\lambda$ , we need an explicit expression of  $\pi^i$  and  $\beta^i$ . In the setting of discrete action space, as 88 we use Q-learning,  $\pi^i$  can be expressed by the Boltzman policy, i.e. 89

$$\pi^{i}(a_{j}^{i}) = \frac{\exp\left(\mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{a}^{-i}\sim\boldsymbol{\beta}^{-i}}Q(s,a_{j}^{i},\boldsymbol{a^{-i}})\right)}{\sum_{k}\exp\left(\mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{a}^{-i}\sim\boldsymbol{\beta}^{-i}}Q(s,a_{k}^{i},\boldsymbol{a^{-i}})\right)}$$
(B.38)

We use behaviour cloning to pre-train a parameterized  $\beta(s)$  with a three-level fully-connected network 90 and MLE(Maximum Likelihood Estimation) loss. 91

With the explicit expression of  $\pi^i$  and  $\beta^i$ , we can directly compute  $\lambda$  with Eq. 8 and Eq. 9. While, 92

93

in practice, we find the  $\mathbb{E}_{\pi^i} \frac{\pi^i(s)}{\beta^i(s)}$  may introduce extreme variance as its large scale and fluctuations, which will hurt the performance. Instead, we take the logarithm of it and further reduced it to the 94

Kullback-Leibler Divergence as follow: 95

$$\forall i, s, \lambda_i(s) = \frac{\exp\left(-\tau D_{KL}(\pi^i(s)||\beta^i(s))\right)}{\sum_{j=1}^n \exp\left(-\tau D_{KL}(\pi^j(s)||\beta^j(s))\right)},$$
(B.39)

<sup>96</sup> For continuous action space, we use the deterministic policy like in MADDPG, whose policy

distribution can be regared as a Dirac delta function. Therefore, we approximate  $\mathbb{E}_{\pi^j} \frac{\pi^j(s)}{\beta^j(s)}$  by the

98 following:

$$\mathbb{E}_{\pi^j} \frac{\pi^j(s)}{\beta^j(s)} \approx \frac{1}{\beta^j(\pi^j(s)|s)}$$
(B.40)

<sup>99</sup> Then we need to obtain an explicit expression of  $\beta^i$ . We first train a VAE [3] from the dataset to <sup>100</sup> obtain the lower bound of  $\beta^i$ . Let  $p_{\phi}(a, z|s)$  and  $q_{\varphi}(z|a, s)$  be the decoder and the encoder of the <sup>101</sup> trained VAE, respectively. According to Wu et al. [13],  $\beta^j(a^j|s)$  can be explicitly estimated by (We <sup>102</sup> omit the superscript j for brevity):

$$\log \beta_{\phi}(a \mid s) = \log \mathbb{E}_{q_{\varphi}(z \mid a, s)} \left[ \frac{p_{\phi}(a, z \mid s)}{q_{\varphi}(z \mid a, s)} \right]$$
$$\approx \mathbb{E}_{z^{(l)}q_{\varphi}(z \mid a, s)} \left[ \log \frac{1}{L} \sum_{l=1}^{L} \frac{p_{\phi}\left(a, z^{(l)} \mid s\right)}{q_{\varphi}\left(z^{(l)} \mid a, s\right)} \right]$$
$$\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \widehat{\log \pi_{\beta}}(a \mid s; \varphi, \phi, L).$$
(B.41)

<sup>103</sup> Therefore, we can sample from the VAE L times to estimate  $\beta^i$ . The sampling error reduces as L<sup>104</sup> increases.

# **105 C Experimental Details**

### 106 C.1 Tasks

107  $Equal\_Line$  is a multi-agent task which we design by simplify the space shape of  $Equal\_Space$ 108 to one-dimension. There are n agents and they are randomly initialized to the interval [0, 2]. The 109 state space is a one-dimensional bounded region in  $[0, \max(10, 2 * n)]$  and the local action space is 100 a discrete, eleven-dimensional space, i.e. [0, -0.01, -0.05, -0.1, -0.5, -1, 0.01, 0.05, 0.1, 0.5, 1], 111 which represents the moving direction and distance at each step. The reward is shared by the agents 112 and formulated as  $10 * (n - 1) \frac{min\_dis\_last\_step\_min\_dis}{line\_length}$ , which will spur the agents to cooperate to 113 spread out and keep the same distance between each other.

For Multi-agent Particle Environment and Multi-agent Mujoco, we adopt the open-source implementations from Lowe et al.  $[5]^1$  and Peng et al.  $[8]^2$  respectively. And we use the datasets and the adversary agents provided by Pan et al. [7].

For StarCraft II Micromanagement Benchmark, we use the open-source implementation from Samvelyan et al. [10]<sup>3</sup> and choose four maps with different difficulty and number of agents as the experimental scenarios, which is summarized in Table 1. We construct our own datasets with QMIX [9] by collecting training or evaluating data.

Table 1: The details of tested maps in the StarCraft II micromanagement benchmark

Maps	Agents	Enemies	Difficulty
2s3z	2 Stalkers & 3 Zealots	2 Stalkers & 3 Zealots	Easy
3s_vs_5z	3 Stalkers	5 Zealots	Easy
5m_vs_6m	5 Marines	6 Marines	Hard
6h_vs_8z	6 Hydralisks	8 Zealots	Super Hard

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>https://github.com/openai/multiagent-particle-envs

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>https://github.com/schroederdewitt/multiagent\_mujoco

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>https://github.com/oxwhirl/smac

### 121 C.2 StarCraft II datasets collection

The datasets are made based on the training process or trained model of QMIX[9]. Specially, the Medium or Expert datasets are sampled by executing a partially-pretrained policy with a medium performance level or a fully-pretrained policy. The Medium - Replay datasets are exactly the replay buffer during training until the policy reaches the medium performance. The Mixed datasets are the equal mixture of Medium and Expert datasets. All datasets contain five thousand trajectories, except for the Medium - Replay.

## 128 C.3 Baselines

BC: behavior cloning. In discrete action space, we train a three-level MLP network with MLE loss. 129 In continuous action space, we use the method of explicit estimation of behavior density in Wu et al. 130 [13], which is modified from a VAE [3] estimator. **TD3-BC**[1]: One of the SOTA single agent offline 131 algorithm, simply adding the BC term to TD3 [2]. We use the open-source implementation<sup>4</sup> and 132 modify it to a CTDE version with centralised critic. MACQL:naive extension of conservative Q-133 learning, as proposed in Sec. 3.3. We implement it based on the open-source implementation<sup>5</sup>. As the 134 joint action space is enormous, we sample N actions for the logsum poperation. MAICQ[14]:multi-135 agent version of implicit constraint Q-learning by propose the decomposed multi-agent joint-policy 136 under implicit constraint. We use the open-source implementation<sup>6</sup> in discrete action space and cite 137 the experimental results in continuous action space from Pan et al. [7]. OMAR[7]:uses zeroth-order 138 optimization for better coordination among agents' policies, based on independent CQL (ICQL). 139 We cite the experimental results in continuous action space from Pan et al. [7] and implement a 140 version in discrete action space based on the open-source implementation<sup>7</sup>. MADTKD[12]:uses 141 decision transformer to represent each agent's policy and trains with knowledge distillation. As 142 lack of open-source implementation, We implement it based on the open-source implementation<sup>8</sup> of 143 another Decision Transformer based method MADT[6]. 144

### 145 C.4 Resources

We use 2 servers to run all the experiments. Each one has 8\*NVIDIA RTX 3090 GPUs, and 2\*AMD
7H12 CPUs. Each setting is repeated for 5 seeds. For one seed in SC2, it takes about 1.5 hours. For
MPE, 10 minutes is enough. The experiments on MaMuJoCo cost the most, about 5 hours for each
seed.

## 150 C.5 Code, Hyper-parameters and Reproducibility

Please refer to our submitted anonymous repository<sup>9</sup> for the code and the hyper-parameters of our method. For each dataset number 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, we use the seed 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, respectively.



Figure 1: Ablations of  $\tau$  on World.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>https://github.com/sfujim/TD3\_BC

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>https://github.com/aviralkumar2907/CQL

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>https://github.com/YiqinYang/ICQ

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>https://github.com/ling-pan/OMAR

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup>https://github.com/ReinholdM/Offline-Pre-trained-Multi-Agent-Decision-Transformer

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup>https://anonymous.4open.science/r/CFCQL-7272

Env	Dataset	MAICQ	MATD3-BC	ICQL	OMAR	MACQL	CFCQL
CN	Random	6.3±3.5	9.8±4.9	24.0±9.8	34.4±5.3	45.6±8.7	62.2±8.1
	Medium-replay	13.6±5.7	15.4±5.6	$20.0\pm8.4$	37.9±12.3	25.5±5.9	52.2±9.6
	Medium	29.3±5.5	29.3±4.8	34.1±7.2	47.9±18.9	$14.3 \pm 20.2$	65.0±10.2
	Expert	104.0±3.4	108.3±3.3	98.2±5.2	114.9±2.6	12.2±31	112±4
РР	Random	2.2±2.6	5.7±3.5	5.0±8.2	11.1±2.8	25.2±11.5	78.5±15.6
	Medium-replay	34.5±27.8	28.7±20.9	24.8±17.3	47.1±15.3	11.9±9.2	71.1±6
	Medium	63.3±20.0	65.1±29.5	61.7±23.1	66.7±23.2	55±43.2	68.5±21.8
	Expert	113.0±14.4	115.2±12.5	93.9±14.0	116.2±19.8	108.4±21.5	118.2±13.1
World	Random	$1.0\pm3.2$	2.8±5.5	$0.6 \pm 2.0$	$5.9 \pm 5.2$	11.7±11	68±20.8
	Medium-replay	$12.0\pm9.1$	$17.4 \pm 8.1$	29.6±13.8	42.9±19.5	13.2±16.2	73.4±23.2
	Medium	71.9±20.0	73.4±9.3	58.6±11.2	74.6±11.5	67.4±48.4	93.8±31.8
	Expert	109.5±22.8	110.3±21.3	71.9±28.1	110.4±25.7	99.7±31	119.7±26.4

Table 2: Complete results on Multi-agent Particle Environment.



Figure 2: Ablations of  $\alpha$  on World.

# **D** More results

## 154 D.1 Complete Results on MPE

Table 2 shows the complete results of our methods and more baselines on Multi-agent Particle Environment. Some results are cited from Pan et al. [7].

### 157 D.2 Temperature Coefficient in Continuous Action Space

We carry out ablations of  $\tau$  on MPE's map World in Fig. 1. We find that although the best  $\tau$  differs in different datasets, the overall performance is not sensitive to  $\tau$ , which verifies the theoretical analysis that any simplex of  $\lambda$  that  $\sum_{i=1}^{n} \lambda_i = 1$  can induce an underestimated value function.

## 161 **D.3** Ablation on CQL $\alpha$

We carry out ablations of  $\alpha$  on MPE's map World in Fig. 2. We find that  $\alpha$  plays a more important role for team performance on narrow distributions (e.g., *Expert* and *Medium*) than that on wide distributions (e.g., *Random* and *Medium* – *Replay*).

## 165 D.4 Component Analysis on Counterfactual style

In the environment MaMuJo, except for the counterfactual Q function, we also analyze whether the conuterfactual treatment in CFCQL can be incorporated in other components and help further improvement in Table 3. We find that the counterfactual policy improvement is critical for this environment. With CF\_P, the method shows great performance gain on narrow data distribution, e.g., the *Expert* dataset.

Table 3: Component Analysis on MaMuJoCo. CF\_T: computing target Q by  $\mathbb{E}_{i \sim \text{Unif}(1,n)} \mathbb{E}_{s',a^{-i} \sim \mathcal{D},a^i \sim \pi^i} Q_{\hat{\theta}}(s, a)$ . CF\_P: the policy improvement (PI) by Eq. 10, otherwise using MADDPG's PI.

Dataset	Default	+CF_T	-CF_P	MACQL
Random	39.7±4.0	48.7±1.8	23.9±9.2	5.3±0.5
Med-Rep	59.5±8.2	58.9±9.6	43.5±5.6	36.7±7.1
Medium	80.5±9.6	76.2±12.1	43.8±7.8	$51.5 \pm 26.7$
Expert	118.5±4.9	118.1±6.9	3.7±3.1	$50.1 \pm 20.1$

# 171 E Discussions

## 172 E.1 Broader Impacts

Our proposed method holds potential for application in real-world multi-agent systems, such as intelligent warehouse management or medical treatment. However, directly implementing the derived policy might entail risks due to the domain gap between the training virtual datasets and real-world scenarios. To mitigate potential hazards, it is crucial for practitioners to operate the policy under human supervision, ensuring that undesirable outcomes are avoided by limiting the available options.

## 178 E.2 Limitations

Here we discuss some limitations about CFCQL. In the case of discrete action space, since CFCQL
uses QMIX as the backbone, it inherits the Individual-global-max principle [11], which means it
cannot solve tasks that are not factorizable. On continuous action space, the counterfactual policy
update used in CFCQL allows for updating only one agent's policy for each sample, which may lead
to lower convergence speed compared to methods with independent learning.

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