

# What game are we playing? Differentiably learning games from incomplete observations

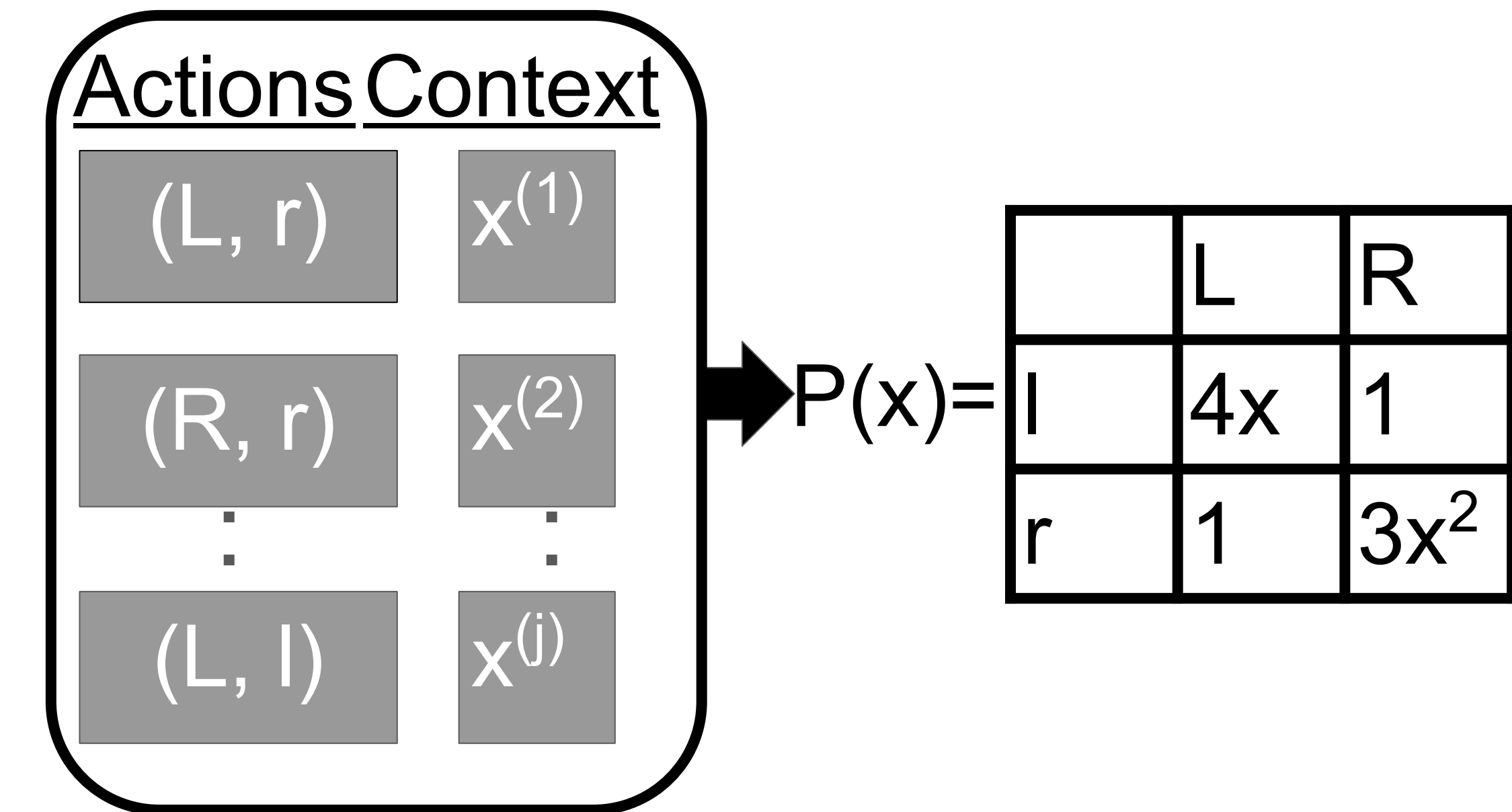
Chun Kai Ling<sup>1</sup>, J. Zico Kolter<sup>1</sup>, Fei Fang<sup>2</sup>

Department of Computer Science<sup>1</sup>, Institute for Software Research<sup>2</sup>, Carnegie Mellon University

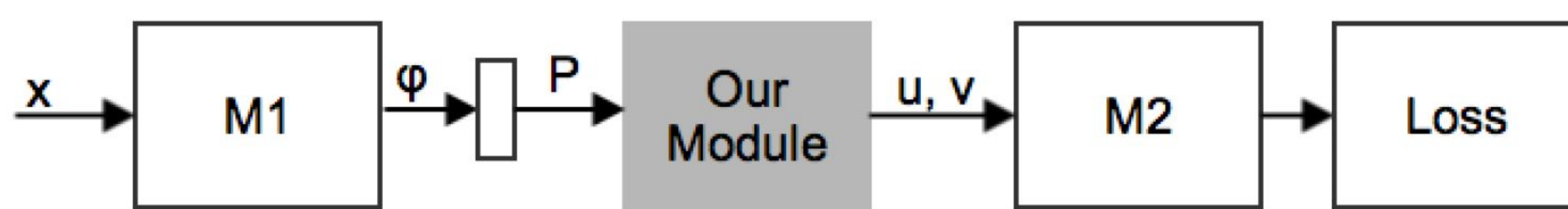
{chunkail, zkolter}@cs.cmu.edu, feifang@cmu.edu

## (I) Motivation

- Our goal is to understand underlying utilities of agents in non-cooperative settings based only on observations.
- Game Theory finds optimal strategies based on known payoffs. Our setting, sometimes known as inverse game theory (e.g., Kuleshov, Waugh et al, 2011) is the reverse.
- Given a *context*  $x$ , we predict a matrix  $P(x)$ , adapting to novel situations.
- Prior work either ignores context, or is restricted to special structural properties (e.g., symmetry in Vorobeychik, 2007).



## (II) Contributions



- We propose a fully differentiable model which finds the Logit Quantal Response Equilibrium (QRE).
- Training may be done end-to-end by minimizing log-loss of actions observed by players.
- Our module is sufficiently flexible to learn from actions of just a single player.

## (III) Approach

- Assume game to be learnt is zero-sum, normal form.
- Modelling behavior with QRE yields a unique, smooth equilibrium which is equal to regularization by entropy.
  - Results in a convex-concave problem
  - Efficient solution obtained using Newton's method
- Backpropagation performed using implicit differentiation (Dontchev & Rockafellar, 2009)
  - Gradient with respect to  $P$  is computed implicitly via Jacobian of KKT conditions (Amos & Kolter, 2017)

$$\min_{u \in \mathbb{R}^n} \max_{v \in \mathbb{R}^m} u^T P v - H(v) + H(u)$$

subject to  $1^T u = 1, 1^T v = 1,$

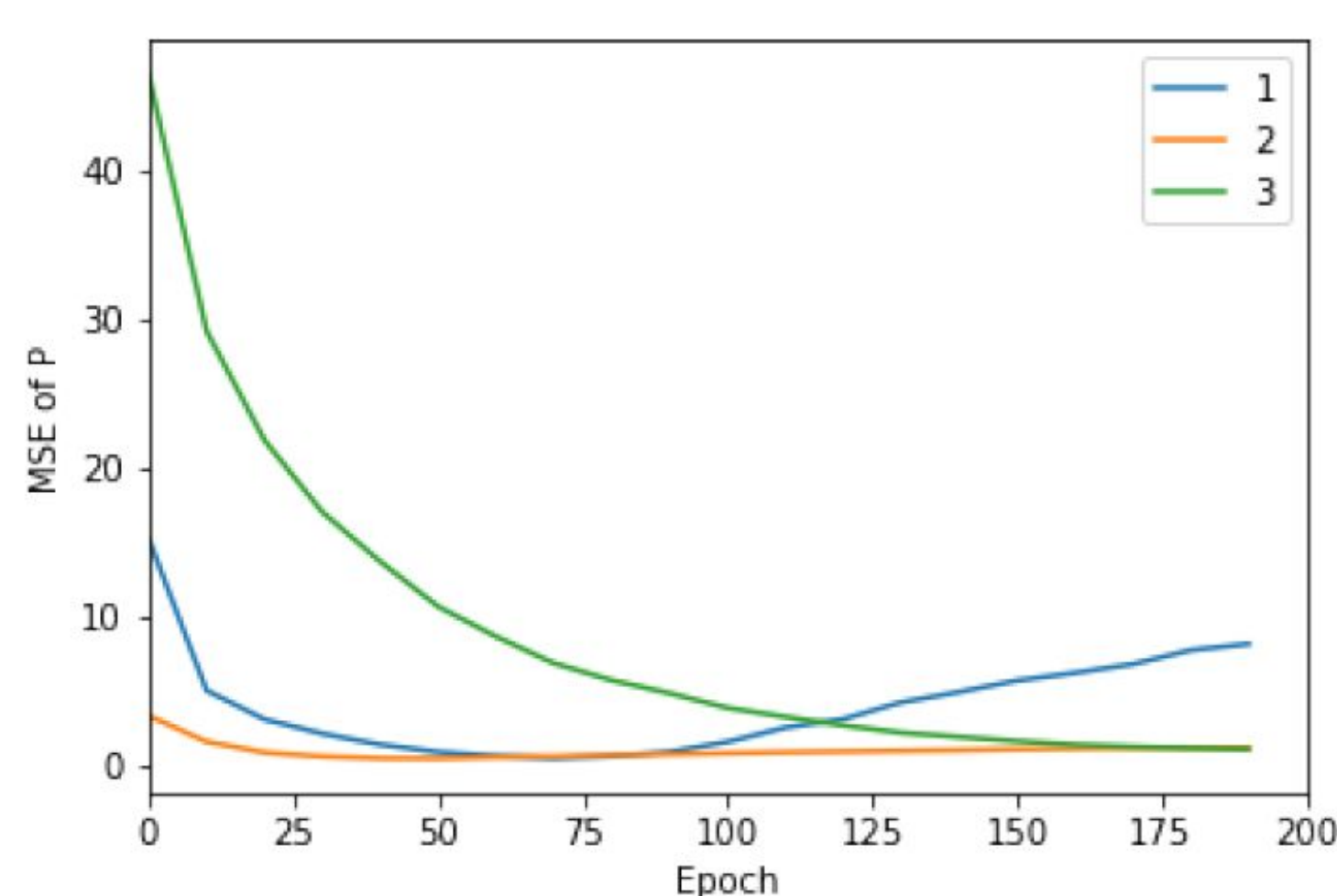
$$\nabla_P L = y_u v^T + u y_v^T, \quad \begin{bmatrix} y_u \\ y_v \\ y_\mu \\ y_\nu \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \text{diag}(1/u) & P & 1 & 0 \\ P^T & -\text{diag}(1/v) & 0 & 1 \\ 1^T & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1^T & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} -\nabla_u L \\ -\nabla_v L \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

## (IV) Experiments

### Expt 1: Modified Rock-Paper-Scissors

	R	P	S
R	0	$-b_1$	$b_2$
P	$b_1$	0	$-b_3$
S	$-b_2$	$b_3$	0

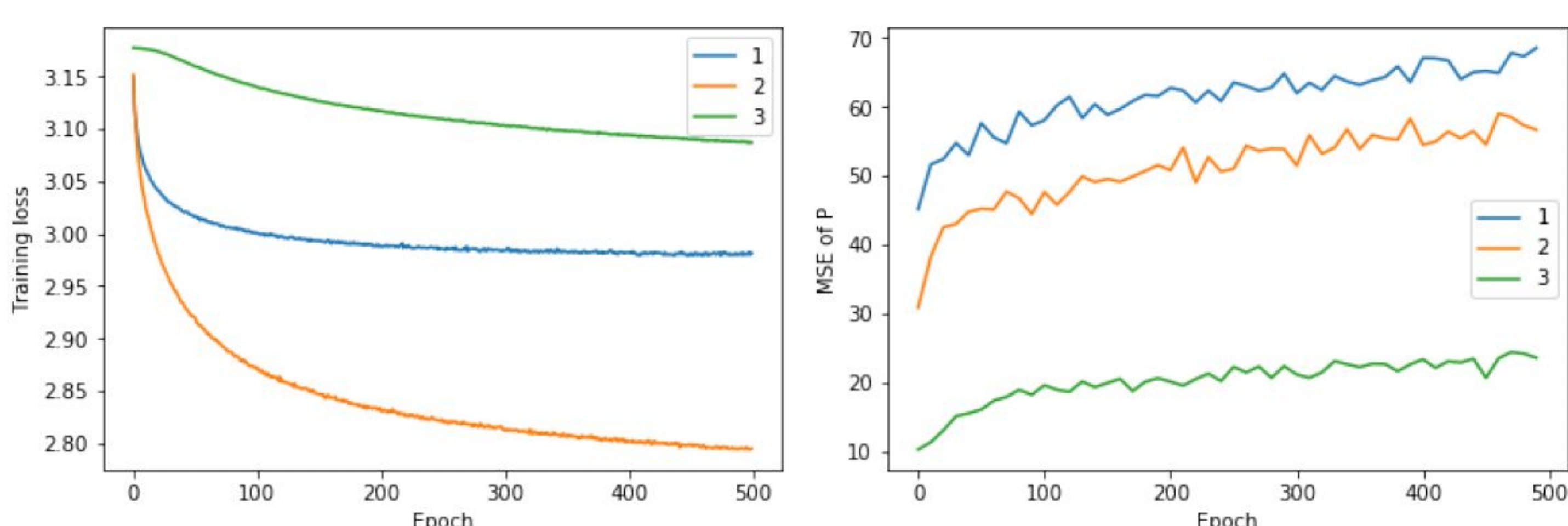
Top:  $P$  parameterized by  $b$ .  
Right: MSE over number of epochs



### Expt 3: Compact Security Games

Bottom-left: Training log-loss of optimal actions. Bottom-right: MSE of  $P$ . Right: Validation loss compared to optimum. (Refer to the paper for details of game)

#	Val.	Optimal
1	2.993	2.841
2	2.776	2.524
3	3.083	2.957

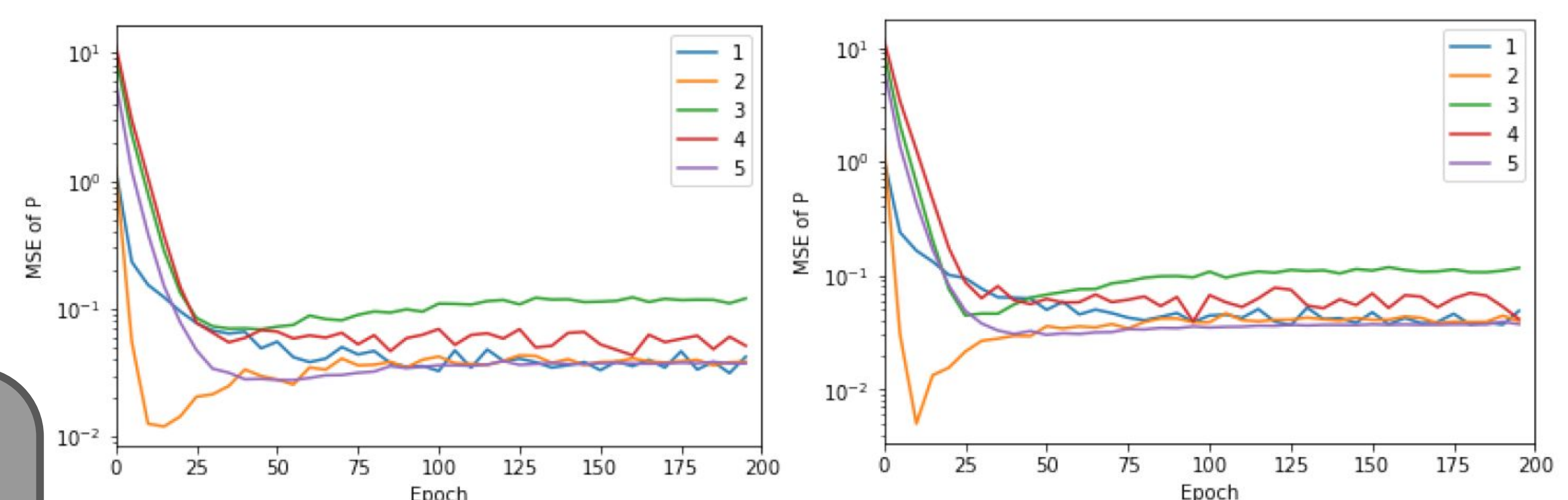


By minimizing log-loss, most payoff matrices  $P$  were learnt accurately

### Expt 2: Resource Allocation Game

$\{\#D_1, \#D_2\}$	$\{0, 3\}$	$\{1, 2\}$	$\{2, 3\}$	$\{3, 0\}$
$T_1$	$-R_1$	$-\frac{1}{2}R_1$	$-\frac{1}{4}R_1$	$-\frac{1}{8}R_1$
$T_2$	$-\frac{1}{8}R_2$	$-\frac{1}{4}R_2$	$-\frac{1}{2}R_2$	$-R_2$

Left:  $P$  parameterized by  $R_1, R_2$ . Bottom-left: MSE when both player actions are used for training. Bottom-right: MSE when only the column player's actions are observed



## (V) Discussion

- Learnt  $P(x)$  accurately from single player's action (Expt 2).
- Notable identifiability issues if  $P$  is poorly parameterized
  - Multiple  $P$  lead to same strategies (Expt 3)
  - Predicting strategies well does not imply payoffs are learnt.
  - Sensitivity of optimal actions to perturbations in  $P$
- Future work in extensive form and general-sum games
- Applications: Security Games, Multiagent-RL