# RLgraph: Modular Computation Graphs for Deep Reinforcement Learning

Michael Schaarschmidt, Sven Mika, Kai Fricke, Eiko Yoneki

#### Reinforcement Learning (RL)



Image taken from https://www.kdnuggets.com/2018/03/5-things-reinforcement-learning.html

#### Supervised Learning vs RL

- Supervised Learning
  - Training data beforehand
- Reinforcement Learning
  - Learn and collect data at the same time
  - No labeled dataset
  - Sensitive to hyper parameters



#### **Related Works**

- Existing RL Libraries
  - OpenAI baselines, TensorForce, Ray RLlib
- Pros
  - Present good results on existing environments in library
  - Code is concise
- Cons
  - Hard to adapt other environments since components tightly coupled
  - Restricted to a single backend
  - Unable to test a subcomponent individually

## RLgraph

API, Component configuration	Prebuilt models, inference
RLgraph component graph	Model design, dataflow composition
TensorFlow PyTorch	Local backends variables/operations
Distributed TF Horovod Ray	Distributed execution engine
Hardware: CPU, GPU, TPU, FPGAs	Execution, orchestration

### The First Layer



Image taken from SysML 19: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=96cludHRSYM&t=1073s

#### The Second Layer



Image taken from SysML 19: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=96cludHRSYM&t=1073s

### The Third Layer



Image taken from SysML 19: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=96cludHRSYM&t=1073s

#### The Fourth Layer



## Evaluation

#### Build Overhead



#### Runtime Overhead



#### RLgraph vs RLlib



#### RLgraph with multi-GPUs



#### Summary

- Introduce modularity to RL Tools
- Focus on dataflow design instead of backend tools
- Future work
  - Integrate AutoGraph / JIT Tracing into build process
- Reference
  - M. Schaarschmidt, S. Mika, K. Fricke, E. Yoneki: RLgraph: Flexible Computation Graphs for Deep Reinforcement Learning, SysML, 2019.
  - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=96cludHRSYM&t=1073s