Personalized Federated Reinforcement Learning with Shared Representations

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Abstract

Federated reinforcement learning (FedRL) enables multiple agents to collaboratively learn a policy without sharing their own local trajectories collected during agentenvironment interactions. However, in practice, the environments faced by different agents are often heterogeneous, leading to poor performance by the single policy learned by existing FedRL algorithms on individual agents. In this paper, we take a further step and introduce a *personalized* FedRL framework (PFedRL) by taking advantage of possibly shared common structure among agents in heterogeneous environments. Specifically, we develop a class of PFedRL algorithms named PFEDRL-Rep that learns (1) a shared feature representation collaboratively among all agents and (2) an agent-specific weight vector personalized to its local environment. We analyze the convergence of PFedTD-Rep, a particular instance of the framework with temporal difference (TD) learning and linear representations. To the best of our knowledge, we are the first to prove a linear convergence speedup with respect to the number of agents in the PFedRL setting. To achieve this, we show that PFedTD-Rep is an example of the federated two-timescale stochastic approximation with Markovian noise. Experimental results demonstrate that PFEDTD-REP, along with an extension to the control setting based on deep Q-networks (DQN), not only improve learning in heterogeneous settings, but also provide better generalization to new environments.

1 Introduction

Federated reinforcement learning (FedRL) [Nadiger et al.](#page-10-0) [\(2019\)](#page-10-0); [Liu et al.](#page-10-1) [\(2019\)](#page-10-1); [Xu et al.](#page-11-0) [\(2021\)](#page-11-0); [Zhang et al.](#page-11-1) [\(2022a\)](#page-11-1); [Jin et al.](#page-10-2) [\(2022\)](#page-10-2); [Khodadadian et al.](#page-10-3) [\(2022\)](#page-10-3); [Yuan et al.](#page-11-2) [\(2023\)](#page-11-2) has recently emerged as a promising method via blending the distributed nature of federated learning (FL) [McMahan et al.](#page-10-4) [\(2017\)](#page-10-4) with the sequential decision-making nature of reinforcement learning (RL) [Sutton & Barto](#page-11-3) [\(2018\)](#page-11-3). In FedRL, multiple agents collaboratively learn *a single policy* without sharing their individual trajectories that are collected during the agent-environment interactions, which protect privacy embedded in their local experiences.

One key challenge of FedRL is the issue of environment heterogeneity among agents, where the collected trajectories among agents may vary to a large extent. To illustrate, consider a few existing applications of FL. These include on-device NLP applications (e.g., next word prediction, web query suggestions, and speech recognition) from internet companies [\(Hard et al.,](#page-9-0) [2018;](#page-9-0) [Yang et al.,](#page-11-4) [2018;](#page-11-4)

[Wang et al.,](#page-11-9) [2023b\)](#page-11-9), on-device recommender or ad prediction systems [\(Maeng et al.,](#page-10-5) [2022;](#page-10-5) [Krichene](#page-10-6) [et al.,](#page-10-6) [2023\)](#page-10-6), and Internet of Things applications like smart healthcare or smart thermostats [\(Nguyen](#page-10-7) [et al.,](#page-10-7) [2021;](#page-10-7) [Imteaj et al.,](#page-9-2) [2022;](#page-9-2) [Zhang et al.,](#page-12-0) [2022b;](#page-12-0) [Boubouh et al.,](#page-9-3) [2023\)](#page-9-3). Note that *all of them* exist in settings with environment heterogeneity (heterogeneous users, devices, patients, or homes).

As a result, if all agents collaboratively learn a single policy, which most existing FedRL frameworks do, the learned policy might perform poorly on individual agents. This calls for the design of a *personalized* FedRL (PFedRL) framework that can provide personalized policies for agents in different environments. Nevertheless, despite the recent advances in FedRL, the design of PFedRL and its performance analysis remains, to a large extent, an open question. Motivated by this, the first inquiry we aim to answer in this paper is:

Can we design a PFedRL framework for agents in heterogenous environments to not only collaboratively learn a useful global model without sharing local trajectories, but also provide a personalized policy in each environment?

We address this question by viewing the PFedRL problem in heterogeneous environments as *N* parallel RL tasks with possibly *shared common structure*. This is inspired by observations in centralized learning [Bengio et al.](#page-9-4) [\(2013\)](#page-9-4); [LeCun et al.](#page-10-8) [\(2015\)](#page-10-8) and federated/decentralized learning [Collins](#page-9-5) [et al.](#page-9-5) [\(2021\)](#page-9-5); [Xiong et al.](#page-11-10) [\(2023\)](#page-11-10); [Tziotis et al.](#page-11-11) [\(2023\)](#page-11-11), whose success in training multiple tasks simultaneously can be enlarged by leveraging a common (low-dimensional) representation in various machine learning tasks (e.g., image classification).

From a theoretical point of view, questions of the benefits of leveraging such shared representations among heterogeneous agents have received an increased recent emphasis owing to their practical significance, especially in federated/decentralized supervised learning framework [Collins et al.](#page-9-5) [\(2021\)](#page-9-5); [Xiong et al.](#page-11-10) [\(2023\)](#page-11-10); [Tziotis et al.](#page-11-11) [\(2023\)](#page-11-11). However, a theoretical analysis of PFedRL with shared representations is more subtle due to the fact that each agent in PFedRL collects data by following its own Markovian trajectory and simultaneously updates its model parameters, while data is collected before training begins in standard FL paradigm. These considerations motivate the second question we aim to address:

How do the shared representations affect the convergence performance of PFedRL under Markovian noise, and is it possible to achieve an N-fold linear convergence speedup?

Despite some recent progress in federated/decentralized supervised learning framework [Collins et al.](#page-9-5) [\(2021\)](#page-9-5); [Xiong et al.](#page-11-10) [\(2023\)](#page-11-10); [Tziotis et al.](#page-11-11) [\(2023\)](#page-11-11), to the best of our knowledge, this question is still open in the context of learning personalized policies in FedRL under Markovian noise (see Table [1\)](#page-1-0). Motivated by these open questions, we introduce a new PFedRL framework with shared representations, and analyze a class of associated algorithms. Our main contributions are summarized in the following.

• **PFedRL-Rep Algorithm.** We propose PFEDRL-REP, a new PFedRL framework with shared representations by leveraging representation learning theory. PFEDRL-REP learns a global shared feature representation collaboratively among all agents through the aid of a central server, and an agent-specific weight vector that is personalized to its local environment. We note that our PFEDRL- Rep framework can be paired with a wide range of RL algorithms, including both value-function based and policy-gradient based methods with arbitrary feature representation.

• Linear Speedup for TD Learning. Within the PFEDRL-REP framework, we further introduce PFEDTD-REP, i.e., the PFEDRL-REP version of TD learning, and analyze its convergence performance in a linear representation setting. We prove that the convergence rate of PFEDTD-REP is $\tilde{\mathcal{O}}\left(\frac{1}{N^{2/3}(T+2)^{2/3}}\right)$, where *N* is the number of agents and *T* is the number of communication rounds. This implies a linear convergence speedup for PFEDTD-REP with respect to the number of agents. To our best knowledge, this is the first linear speedup result for PFedRL with shared representations under Markovian noise, and provides a theoretical answer to empirical observations in [Mnih et al.](#page-10-9) [\(2016\)](#page-10-9) that federated versions of RL algorithms yield faster convergence. This property is highly desirable since it implies that one can efficiently leverage massive parallelism in large-scale systems. To achieve this, we show PFEDTD-REP is an example of the federated two-timescale stochastic approximation, and its convergence analysis is intricate under Markovian noise. We address this challenge by leveraging a Lyapunov drift approach to capture the evolution of two coupled parameters, fundamentally improving upon prior work.

2 Problem Formulation

Notation. Let *N* and *T* be the number of agents and communication rounds. Denote [*N*] as the set of integers $\{1, \ldots, N\}$ and $\|\cdot\|$ as the *l*₂-norm. We use boldface to denote matrices and vectors.

2.1 Preliminaries: Federated Reinforcement Learning

We consider a FedRL system with *N* agents interacting with *N* independent heterogeneous environments. We model the environment of agent *i* as a MDP, $\mathcal{M}^i = \langle \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{A}, R^i, P^i, \gamma \rangle, \forall i \in [N]$, where \mathcal{S} and A are finite state and action sets, R^i is the reward function, P^i is the transition kernel, and $\gamma \in (0,1)$ is the discount factor. At each time step *k*, agent *i* is in state s_k^i and takes action a_k^i according to a policy $\pi^{i}(\cdot|s_k^i)$ in hand, which results in reward $R^i(s_k^i, a_k^i)$. In the next time step, the environment transitions to a new state s_{k+1}^i according to the state transition probability $P^i(\cdot|s_k^i, a_k^i)$. The sequence of states and actions constructs a Markov chain, which is the source of Markovian noise. In this paper, this Markov chain is assumed to be unichain, which is known to asymptotically converge to a steady state. We denote the stationary distribution as μ^{i,π^i} .

The state-value function agent *i* in environment \mathcal{M}^i under policy π^i are defined as $V^{i,\pi^i}(s)$ = $\mathbb{E}_{\pi^i} \left[\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \gamma^k R^i(s_k^i, a_k^i) | s_0^i = s \right].$ When the state and action spaces are large, it is computationally infeasible to store $V^{i,\pi^i}(s)$ for all states or state-action pairs. One way to deal with is to approximate the value function as $V^{i,\pi^i}(s) \approx \Phi(s)\theta$, where $\Phi \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{S}| \times d}$ is a feature representation corresponding to states, and $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^d$ is a low-dimensional unknown weight vector. When Φ is given and known, this falls under the paradigm of RL or FedRL with function approximation.

One intermediate goal in RL is to estimate the value function corresponding to a particular policy *π* using the trajectory collected from the environment. This task is called *policy evaluation*, and one widely used approach to accomplish this is the Temporal Difference (TD) learning [Sutton](#page-11-12) [\(1988\)](#page-11-12). Under the FedRL framework, the goal of policy evaluation, or specifically, FedTD [Khodadadian et al.](#page-10-3) [\(2022\)](#page-10-3); [Dal Fabbro et al.](#page-9-1) [\(2023\)](#page-9-1); [Wang et al.](#page-11-5) [\(2023a\)](#page-11-5) is to let *N* agents collaboratively evaluate a single policy $\pi \equiv \pi^i, \forall i \in [N]$, or precisely, *collaboratively learn a common (non-personalized) weight* $vector \theta \equiv \theta^i, \forall i \in [N]$ *using trajectories collected from N* different environments when the feature *representation* $\Phi(s)$ *,* $\forall s$ *are given*. This can be formulated as the following optimization problem:

$$
\mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) := \min_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \mathbb{E}_{s \sim \mu^{i,\pi}} \left\| \boldsymbol{\Phi}(s) \boldsymbol{\theta} - V^{i,\pi}(s) \right\|^2.
$$
 (1)

Due to space constraint, we are going to first focus on the policy evaluation problem in RL. Note that policy evaluation is an important part of RL and control, since it is a critical step of policy

Algorithm 1 PFedRL-Rep: A General Description

Input: Sampling policy $\pi^i, \forall i$; 1: Initialize the global feature representation Φ_0 and local weight vector θ_0^i , $\forall i \in [N]$ randomly; 2: **for** round *t* = 0*,* 1*, . . . , T* − 1 **do** 3: **for** agent 1*, . . . , N* **do** $\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t+1}^i = \text{RL_ UPDATE}(\boldsymbol{\Phi}_t, \boldsymbol{\theta}_t^i, \alpha_t, K);$ 5: $\Phi_{t+1/2}^{i'} = \text{RL_UPDATE}(\Phi_t, \theta_{t+1}^i, \beta_t);$ 6: **end for** 7: Server computes the new global feature representation $\mathbf{\Phi}_{t+1} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \mathbf{\Phi}_{t+1/2}^{i}$. 8: **end for**

improvement algorithms. However, our proposed framework (e.g., Algorithm [1\)](#page-3-0) can be directly applied to control problem as well, and we relegate the discussions to Section [5](#page-7-0) and Appendix [C.](#page-14-0)

2.2 Personalized FedRL with Shared Representations

Since the local environments are heterogeneous across *N* agents, the aforementioned FedRL methods (in Section [2.1\)](#page-2-0) that aim to learn a single policy or a common weight vector θ may perform poorly on many individual agents. This necessitates the search for more personalized policies $\{\pi^i, \forall i \in [N]\}$ or personalized local weight vectors $\boldsymbol{\theta}^i$ that can be learned collaboratively among *N* agents in *N* heterogeneous environments without sharing their locally collected trajectories. To achieve this, we propose to learn a common representation among agents in heterogeneous environments by viewing the personalized FedRL (PFedRL) problem as *N* parallel RL tasks with possibly shared common structure. Specifically, the value function of agent *i* can be approximated as $V^{i,\pi^i} \approx f^i(\theta^i, \Phi)$, where Φ is the shared feature representation among all agents, θ^i is the local unique weight vector, and $f^i(\cdot, \cdot)$ is a general function parameterized by these two *unknown* parameters.

Using these notions, the policy evaluation problem in [\(1\)](#page-2-1) can be reformulated as:

$$
\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{\Phi}, \{\boldsymbol{\theta}^i, \forall i\}) := \min_{\mathbf{\Phi}} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \min_{\{\boldsymbol{\theta}^i, \forall i\}} \mathbb{E}_{s \sim \mu^{i, \pi^i}} \Big\| f^i(\boldsymbol{\theta}^i, \mathbf{\Phi}(s)) - V^{i, \pi^i}(s) \Big\|^2,
$$
\n(2)

where *N* agents collaboratively learn a shared feature representation Φ via a server, and a personalized local weight vector $\{\theta^i, \forall i\}$ using local trajectories at each agent.

Remark 2.1. Our approximation function $f^i(\theta^i, \Phi)$ is general and can take on various forms, such as linear or neural networks. For instance, it can be represented as a linear combination of Φ and θ^i , i.e., $f^i(\theta^i, \Phi) := \Phi \theta^i$ in TD [Bhandari et al.](#page-9-6) [\(2018\)](#page-9-6) or Q-learning [Chen et al.](#page-9-7) [\(2019\)](#page-9-7) with linear function approximation. To further increase the representation capability, $f^{i}(\theta^{i}, \Phi)$ can represent a deep neural network, e.g., as for DQN (Q-learning with deep neural networks) [Mnih et al.](#page-10-10) [\(2015\)](#page-10-10) (see more discussions in Section [5](#page-7-0) and Appendix [C\)](#page-14-0).

Comparison with Standard FedRL. In FedRL, *N* agents simultaneously evaluate one policy *π* over *N* heterogeneous environments, and the objective in [\(1\)](#page-2-1) is to collaboratively learn a common weight vector *θ* for all agents *i*. In contrast, consider TD learning with a linear representation under our new PFedRL framework with shared representations. Here, the goal is to collaboratively learn a personalized weight vector θ^i for each agent *i* via the optimization problem [\(2\)](#page-3-1) with $f^i(\theta^i, \Phi) := \Phi \theta^i$, leading to a personalized solution for each agent. Since the environments P^i , $\forall i$ are heterogeneous, the learned common weight vector *θ* in conventional FedRL is inevitably suboptimal compared with the personalized weight vector θ^i in environment P^i for agent *i*.

3 PFedRL-Rep Algorithms

We now propose a class of algorithms called PFEDRL-REP that realize PFedRL with shared representations. Specifically, PFEDRL-REP alternates between three steps among all agents at each

Figure 1: An illustrative example of PFEDRL-REP for 3 agents. (a) At the beginning of round t, each agent $i = 1, 2, 3$ has a local weight vector θ_t^i and a global feature representation Φ_t . (b) *Local Weight Vector Update:* With (Φ_t, θ_t^i) , agent *i* performs a *K*-step update to obtain θ_{t+1}^i as in [\(3\)](#page-4-0). Note that Φ*^t* remains unchanged at this step. (c) *Local and Global Feature Representation Update:* Agent *i* updates the feature representation by executing a one-step update to obtain $\mathbf{\Phi}_{t+1/2}^{i}$ as in [\(4\)](#page-4-1), which depends on both θ_{t+1}^i and Φ_t . Then, agent *i* shares $\Phi_{t+1/2}^i$ with the server, which then executes an averaging step as in [\(5\)](#page-4-2) to produce the next global feature representation Φ_{t+1} . We highlight the updated parameters in each step in red, and the shared parameters (only the global feature representation) between agents in blue.

communication round: (a) a local weight vector update; (b) a local feature representation update; and (c) a global feature representation update via the server.

Local Weight Vector Update. At round *t*, agent i performs a RL update on its local weight vector

$$
\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t+1}^i = \text{RL_UPDATE}(\boldsymbol{\Phi}_t, \boldsymbol{\theta}_t^i, \alpha_t, K), \quad (3)
$$

given the current global feature representation Φ_t and local weight vector θ_t^i . In other words, agent i updates its local weight vector as in (3) , where RL_UPDATE is a generic notation for an update of the local weight vector *θ* using any specific RL algorithm (e.g., TD, Q-learning, DQN, policy gradients, etc, see Appendix [D](#page-15-0) for illustrative examples), and α_t is the learning rate for the local weight vector. To speed up the learning process, we allow each agent to perform *K* steps local weight vector update based on its local collected trajectory.

Local Feature Representation Update. Once the updated local weight vector $\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t+1}^i$ is obtained, each

$$
\mathbf{\Phi}_{t+1/2}^i = \mathrm{RL_UPDATE}(\mathbf{\Phi}_t, \mathbf{\theta}_{t+1}^i, \beta_t), \quad (4)
$$

agent *i* executes a one-step local update on their feature representations as in [\(4\)](#page-4-1), where β_t is the learning rate for the feature representation.

 $\Phi_{t+1} = \frac{1}{\Delta t}$ *N* X *N i*=1 $\pmb{\Phi}^i_t$ **Server-based Global Feature Representation Update.** The server computes an average of the received local feature representation update $\Phi_{t+1/2}^i$ from all agents $\forall i$ to obtain the next global feature representation Φ_{t+1} as in [\(5\)](#page-4-2).

PFEDRL-REP alternates between (3) , (4) and (5) at each round, and the entire procedure is summarized in Algorithm [1.](#page-4-3) An example of PFEDRL-REP is illustrated in Figure 1.

Remark 3.1*.* Similar frameworks by leveraging shared representations have been investigated in federated/decentralized supervised learning [\(Collins et al.,](#page-9-5) [2021;](#page-9-5) [Xiong et al.,](#page-11-10) [2023;](#page-11-10) [Tziotis et al.,](#page-11-11) [2023\)](#page-11-11). However, in these standard supervised learning frameworks, data is collected before training begins and is often assumed to be i.i.d. In contrast, in our PFedRL framework, each agent collects data by following its own Markovian trajectory, while simultaneously updates its model parameters.

4 PFedTD-Rep with Linear Representation

We present PFEDTD-REP, an instance of PFEDRL-REP paired with TD learning (see its pseudocode in Appendix [B\)](#page-14-1), and analyze its convergence performance in a linear representation setting.

4.1 PFedTD-Rep: Algorithm Description

Here, the goal of *N* agents is to collaboratively solve problem [\(2\)](#page-3-1) when the underlying RL algorithm is TD learning. To this end, we need to specify the notation of RL update in PFEDRL-REP (Algorithm [1\)](#page-3-0) on how to update the local weight vectors θ^i and global feature representation Φ

using TD. We first consider the notation of RL update from the perspective of agent *i*. At time step *k*, the state of agent *i* is s_k^i , and its value function can be denoted as $V(s_k^i) = \Phi(s_k^i) \theta^i$ in a linear representation setting. By one-step Monte Carlo approximation, we approximate $V(s_k^i)$ as $\hat{V}(s_k^i) \approx r_k^i + \gamma \Phi(s_{k+1}^i) \theta^i$. The TD error is defined as

$$
\delta_k^i := \hat{V}(s_k^i) - V(s_k^i) = r_k^i + \gamma \, \Phi(s_{k+1}^i) \, \theta^i - \Phi(s_k^i) \, \theta^i. \tag{6}
$$

The goal of agent *i* is to minimize the following loss function for every $s_k^i \in S$, $\mathcal{L}^i(\Phi(s_k^i), \theta^i) =$ $\frac{1}{2} \left\| V(s_k^i) - \hat{V}(s_k^i) \right\|_2$ ², with $\hat{V}(s_k^i)$ treated as a constant. We now denote the Markovian observations of agent *i* at the *k*-th time step of communication round *t* as $X_{t,k}^i := (s_{t,k}^i, r_{t,k}^i, s_{t,k+1}^i)$. Note that the observation sequences $\{X_{t,k}^i, \forall t, k\}$ can differ across agents in heterogeneous environments. We assume that $\{X_{t,k}^i, \forall t, k\}$ are statistically independent across all agents.

Local Weight Vector Update: As in Algorithm [1](#page-3-0) (i.e., [\(3\)](#page-4-0)), given the current global feature representation Φ_t , agent *i* makes *K*-step local update on its local weight vector θ_t^i as

$$
\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t,k}^i = \boldsymbol{\theta}_{t,k-1}^i + \alpha_t \mathbf{g}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t,k-1}^i, \boldsymbol{\Phi}_t, X_{t,k-1}^i),
$$
\n(7)

for $k \in [K]$, where α_t is the learning rate for the local weight vectors, satisfying $\sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \alpha_t = \infty$ and $\sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \alpha_t^2 < \infty$, and $\mathbf{g}(\theta_{t,k-1}^i, \Phi_t, X_{t,k-1}^i)$ is the negative stochastic gradient of the loss function $\mathcal{L}^i(\mathbf{\Phi}_t(s_{t,k-1}^i), \theta_{t,k-1}^i)$ with respect to θ , given the current feature representation $\mathbf{\Phi}_t$:

$$
\mathbf{g}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t,k-1}^i, \boldsymbol{\Phi}_t, X_{t,k-1}^i) := -\nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \mathcal{L}^i(\boldsymbol{\Phi}_t(s_{t,k-1}^i), \boldsymbol{\theta}_{t,k-1}^i) = \delta_{t,k-1}^i \boldsymbol{\Phi}_t(s_{t,k-1}^i)^\mathsf{T}.
$$
\n
$$
(8)
$$

We allow each agent to perform *K*-step local updates, and for ease of presentation, we denote $\theta_{t+1}^i := \theta_{t,K}^i$. Since the observations are Markovian, we further add a norm-scaling step for the updated weight vectors θ_{t+1}^i , i.e., enforcing $\|\theta_{t+1}^i\| \leq B$, to stabilize the update. This is essential for finite-time convergence analysis (see Section [4.2\)](#page-5-0), and this technique is widely used in conventional TD learning with linear function approximation [Bhandari et al.](#page-9-6) [\(2018\)](#page-9-6).

Local Feature Representation Update. As in Algorithm [1](#page-3-0) (i.e., [\(4\)](#page-4-1)), given the updated local weight vector θ_{t+1}^i , agent *i* executes one-step local update on the global feature representation on its end as

$$
\Phi_{t+1/2}^{i} = \Phi_t + \beta_t \mathbf{h}(\theta_{t+1}^{i}, \Phi_t, \{X_{t,k-1}^{i}\}_{k=1}^{K}),
$$
\n(9)

where β_t is the learning rate for global feature representation, satisfying $\sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \beta_t = \infty$, $\sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \beta_t^2 < \infty$, β_t/α_t is non-increasing in t and $\lim_{t\to\infty}\beta_t/\alpha_t=0$, and $\mathbf{h}(\theta_{t+1}^i,\mathbf{\Phi}_t,\{\tilde{X}_{t,k-1}^i\}_{k=1}^K)$ is the set of negative stochastic gradient of the loss function $\mathcal{L}^i(\Phi_t(s_{t,k-1}^i), \theta_{t+1}^i)$ w.r.t. the current global feature representation Φ*t*, satisfying

$$
\mathbf{h}(\theta_{t+1}^{i}, \overline{\Phi}_{t}, X_{t,k-1}^{i}) := -\nabla_{\Phi} \mathcal{L}^{i}(\Phi_{t}(s_{t,k-1}^{i}), \theta_{t+1}^{i}) = \delta_{t,k-1}^{i} \theta_{t+1}^{i}.
$$
\n(10)

Server-based Global Feature Representation Update. As in Algorithm [1](#page-3-0) (i.e., [\(5\)](#page-4-2)), the server computes an average of the received local feature representation updates in [\(9\)](#page-5-1) to obtain the next global feature representation as

$$
\mathbf{\Phi}_{t+1} = \mathbf{\Phi}_t + \beta_t \cdot \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N \mathbf{h}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t+1}^j, \mathbf{\Phi}_t, \{X_{t,k-1}^i\}_{k=1}^K). \tag{11}
$$

4.2 Convergence Analysis

The coupled updates in [\(7\)](#page-5-2) and [\(11\)](#page-5-3) pose a general form as a federated nonlinear two-timescale stochastic approximation (2TSA) [Doan](#page-9-8) [\(2021\)](#page-9-8) with Markovian noise, with θ_t^i updating on a faster timescale and Φ*^t* on a slower timescale. We aim to establish the finite-time convergence rate of the 2TSA in [\(7\)](#page-5-2) and [\(11\)](#page-5-3). This is equivalent to finding a solution pair $(\Phi^*, {\theta}^{i,*}, \forall i)$ such that^{[1](#page-5-4)}

$$
\mathbb{E}_{s_t^i \sim \mu^i, s_{t+1}^i \sim P_{\pi^i}^i(\cdot | s_t^i)}[\mathbf{g}(\pmb{\theta}^{i,*}, \pmb{\Phi}^*, X_t^i)] = 0, \ \mathbb{E}_{s_t^i \sim \mu^i, s_{t+1}^i \sim P_{\pi^i}^i(\cdot | s_t^i)}[\mathbf{h}(\pmb{\theta}^{i,*}, \pmb{\Phi}^*, X_t^i)] = 0,\tag{12}
$$

¹The root $(\Phi^*, {\{\theta}^i, *}, \forall i)$ of the nonlinear 2TSA in [\(7\)](#page-5-2) and [\(11\)](#page-5-3) can be established by using ODE method following the solution of suitably defined differential equations [Doan](#page-9-8) [\(2021;](#page-9-8) [2020\)](#page-9-9); [Chen et al.](#page-9-7) [\(2019\)](#page-9-7) as in [\(12\)](#page-5-5).

hold for all Markovian observations X_t^i . In particular, μ^i is a unknown stationary distribution over state s_t^i of agent *i* at *t*, and $P_{\pi^i}^i$ is the transition kernel of agent *i* under policy π^i .

[Tsitsiklis & Van Roy](#page-11-13) [\(1996\)](#page-11-13) proved that the standard TD iterates converge asymptotically to a vector *θ* [∗] given a fixed feature representation Φ almost surely, which is the unique solution of the projected Bellman equation^{[2](#page-6-0)} $\Pi_D \mathcal{T}_{\mu}(\Phi \theta^*)$ = $\Phi \theta^*$. Hence, for agent *i*, to study the stability of θ^i when the feature representation Φ is fixed, there is a mapping $\theta^i = y^i(\Phi)$ to be the the unique solution to $\mathbb{E}_{s_t^i \sim \mu^i, s_{t+1}^i \sim P_{\pi^i}^i(\cdot|s_t^i)}[\mathbf{g}({\pmb{\theta}}^i, \pmb{\Phi}, X_t^i)]=0.$

Inspired by [Doan](#page-9-9) [\(2020\)](#page-9-9), the finite-time analysis of a 2TSA boils down to the choice of two step sizes $\{\alpha_t, \beta_t, \forall t\}$ and a Lyapunov function that couples the two iterates in [\(7\)](#page-5-2) and [\(11\)](#page-5-3). Thus, we first define the following two error terms:

$$
\tilde{\Phi}_t = \Phi_t - \Phi^*, \qquad \tilde{\theta}_t^i = \theta_t^i - y^i(\Phi_t), \ \forall i \in [N], \tag{13}
$$

which characterize the coupling between $\{\theta_{t+1}^i, \forall i\}$ and Φ_t . If $\{\tilde{\theta}_{t+1}^i, \forall i\}$ and $\tilde{\Phi}_t$ go to zero simultaneously, the convergence of $(\{\theta_{t+1}^i, \forall i\}, \Phi_t)$ to $(\{\theta^{i,*}, \forall i\}, \Phi^*)$ can be established. Thus, to prove the convergence of $(\{\tilde{\theta}_{t+1}^i, \forall i\}, \tilde{\Phi}_t)$ of the 2TSA in [\(7\)](#page-5-2) and [\(11\)](#page-5-3) to its true value $(\Phi^*, {\{\theta}^{i,*}, \forall i\}),$ we define the following weighted Lyapunov function to couple the fast and slow iterates

$$
M(\{\pmb{\theta}_{t+1}^i, \forall i\}, \pmb{\Phi}_t) := \|\pmb{\Phi}_t - \pmb{\Phi}^*\|^2 + \frac{\beta_{t-1}}{\alpha_t} \cdot \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \|\pmb{\theta}_{t+1}^i - y^i(\pmb{\Phi}_t)\|^2. \tag{14}
$$

To this end, our goal is to characterize the finite-time convergence of $\mathbb{E}[M(\{\theta_{t+1}^i, \forall i\}, \Phi_t)],$ the Lyapunov function in [\(14\)](#page-6-1), which is shown in the following theorem.

Theorem 4.1. For any $T \geq 2\tau_{\delta}$, and set $\alpha_t = \alpha_0/(t+2)^{5/6}$ and $\beta_t = \beta_0/(t+2)$ with $\beta_0 \leq \omega/2$ and $\alpha_0 \leq \frac{1}{2L\sqrt{2L}}$ $\frac{1}{2L\sqrt{2(1+L^2)}}$, where *L* is a constant, we have

$$
M(\{\boldsymbol{\theta}_{T+2}^i\}, \boldsymbol{\Phi}_{T+1}) \le \frac{M(\{\boldsymbol{\theta}_1^i\}, \boldsymbol{\Phi}_0)}{(T+2)^2} + C_1(T+2)^{-2/3} \Big(\mathbb{E}[\|\boldsymbol{\Phi}_0 - \boldsymbol{\Phi}^*\|^2] + \frac{1}{N} \mathbb{E} \sum_{i=1}^N \|\boldsymbol{\theta}_1^i - y^i(\boldsymbol{\Phi}_0)\|^2 \Big) + C_2(T+2)^{-2/3},\tag{15}
$$

where $C_1 = (144\tau_\delta^2 K^2 L^2 \delta^2 + 4L^2/N)\alpha_0\beta_0$ and $C_2 = (4\alpha_0\beta_0 K^2 (3\delta^2 (1 + B^2) + L^2 B^2) + 2\alpha_0^2 (3K^2 B^2 +$ $3K^2\delta^2 + 2L^2K^2B^2 + 8\alpha_0\beta_0\delta^2$

Remark 4.2*.* The first term of the right-hand side of [\(15\)](#page-6-2) corresponds to the bias due to initialization, which goes to zero at a rate $\mathcal{O}(1/T^2)$. The second term corresponds to the accumulated estimation error of the two-timescale update. The third term stands for the variance of Markovian noise. The second and third terms decay at a rate $\mathcal{O}(1/T^{2/3})$, and dominate the overall convergence rate in [\(15\)](#page-6-2). We leverage a Lyapunov drift approach to capture the evolution of two coupled parameters under Markovian noise, and the characterization of impacts of a norm-scaling step distinguishes our work.

Corollary 4.3. If
$$
\beta_0 = o(N^{-2/3})
$$
 and $T^2 > N$, we have $M(\{\theta_{t+2}^i\}, \Phi_{t+1}) \le O\left(\frac{1}{(T+2)^2} + \frac{1}{N^{2/3}(T+2)^{2/3}} + \frac{1}{K^2 N^{5/3}(T+2)^{2/3}} + \frac{1}{K^2 N^{2/3}(T+2)^{2/3}}\right)$, which is dominated by $O\left(\frac{1}{N^{2/3}(T+2)^{2/3}}\right)$.

Remark 4.4. Corollary [4.3](#page-6-3) indicates that to attain an ϵ accuracy, it takes $\mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon^{3/2}}\right)$ steps with a convergence rate $\mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{T^{2/3}}\right)$, while $\mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{N\epsilon^{3/2}}\right)$ steps with a convergence rate $\mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{N^{2/3}T^{2/3}}\right)$ (the hidden constants in $\mathcal{O}(\cdot)$ are the same). In this sense, we prove that PFEDTD-REP achieves a *linear convergence speedup* w.r.t. the number of agents, i.e., we can proportionally decrease *T* as *N* increases while keeping the same convergence rate. To our best knowledge, this is the first linear speedup result for personalized FedRL with shared representations under Markovian noise, and is highly desirable since it implies that one can efficiently leverage the massive parallelism in large-scale systems.

 ^{2}D is a diagonal matrix with entries given by elements of the stationary distribution μ^{π} of the Markov matrix.

Figure 3: Comparisons in control problems.

4.3 Numerical Evaluation

We empirically evaluate the performance of PFEDTD-REP. In particular, we consider a tabular CliffWalking environment [Brockman et al.](#page-9-10) [\(2016\)](#page-9-10) with a 4×12 grid world, where 3 agents evaluate 3 different policies. The dimension for the feature representation and weight vector is set to be 6. We compare PFEDTD-REP with (i) "TD": each agent independently leverages the conventional TD without communication; and (ii) "FedTD" without personalization [Khodadadian et al.](#page-10-3) [\(2022\)](#page-10-3); [Dal Fabbro](#page-9-1) [et al.](#page-9-1) [\(2023\)](#page-9-1) as listed in Table [1.](#page-1-0) As shown in Figure [2a,](#page-7-1) PFEDTD-REP ensures personalization among all agents while FedTD tends to converge uniformly among all agents. Furthermore, PFEDTD-REP attains values much closer to the ground-truth achieved by TD for each agent compared to FedTD; and PFEDTD-REP converges much faster than TD. For instance, agent 1 only needs 50 episodes to converge under PFEDTD-REP, while it takes more than 150 episodes to converge under TD, as illustrated in Figure [2b.](#page-7-1) The improved convergence performance of PFEDTD-REP further supports our theoretical findings that leveraging shared representations not only provides personalization among agents in heterogeneous environments but yield faster convergence.

5 Application to Control Problems

We evaluate the performance PFEDDQN-REP (see Appendix [B\)](#page-14-1) in a modified CartPole environment [Brockman et al.](#page-9-10) [\(2016\)](#page-9-10). Similar to [Jin et al.](#page-10-2) [\(2022\)](#page-10-2), we change the length of pole to create different environments. Specifically, we consider 10 agents with varying pole length from 0*.*38 to 0*.*74 with a step size of 0.04. We compare PFEDDQN-REP with (i) a conventional DQN that each agent learns its own environment independently; (ii) a federated version DQN (FedDQN) that allows all agents to collaboratively learn a single policy (without personalization), and (iii) two personalized algorithms in state of the arts, i.e., PerDQNAvg [Jin et al.](#page-10-2) [\(2022\)](#page-10-2) and FedAsynQ-ImAvg [Woo et al.](#page-11-6) [\(2023\)](#page-11-6). We randomly choose one agent and present its performance in Figure [3a\(](#page-7-2)a). Again, we observe that our PFedDQN-Rep achieves the maximized return much faster than the conventional DQN due to leveraging shared representations among agents; and obtains larger reward than FedDQN, thanks to our personalized policy. We further evaluate the effectiveness of shared representation learned by PFEDDQN-REP when generalizes it to a new agent. As shown in Figure $3a(b)$ $3a(b)$, our PFEDDQN-REP generalizes quickly to the new environment. Finally, similar observations can be made from Figure [3b](#page-7-2) using Acrobot environments (see details in Appendix [G\)](#page-36-0).

6 Conclusion and Future Work

In this paper we proposed a novel personalized federated reinforcement learning framework with shared representations. We proved the first linear convergence speedup for PFEDTD-REP, an instance of this framework with TD learning and linear representations. Experimental results demonstrate the superior performance of our proposed framework over existing ones. Several future directions are worth pursuing. First, whether we can provide a finite-time convergence analysis of PFEDTD-REP with neural network feature representation remains an important research direction. Second, giving the promising experimental results on control, whether we can provide a bound for P FEDQ-REP, an instance of our framework with Q-learning, either with linear or neural feature representations remains an open problem.

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A Related Work

Single-Agent Reinforcement Learning. RL is a machine learning paradigm that trains agents to make sequences of decisions by rewarding desired behaviors and/or penalizing undesired ones in a given environment [Sutton & Barto](#page-11-3) [\(2018\)](#page-11-3). Starting from Temporal Difference (TD) Learning [Sutton](#page-11-12) [\(1988\)](#page-11-12), which introduced the concept of learning from the discrepancy between predicted and actual rewards through episodes, the widely used Q-Learning [Watkins & Dayan](#page-11-14) [\(1992\)](#page-11-14) emerged, advancing the field with an off-policy algorithm that learns action-value functions and enables policy improvement without needing a model of the environment. Later on, the introduction of Deep Q-Networks (DQN) [Mnih et al.](#page-10-10) [\(2015\)](#page-10-10) marked a significant leap, integrating deep neural networks with Q-Learning to handle high-dimensional state spaces, thus enabling RL to tackle complex problems. Subsequently, policy-based algorithms such as Proximal Policy Optimization (PPO) [Schulman et al.](#page-10-11) [\(2017\)](#page-10-11) and deep Deterministic Policy Gradients (DDPG) [Silver et al.](#page-11-15) [\(2014\)](#page-11-15), leverage the Actor-Critic framework to provide more stable and robust ways to directly optimize the policy, overcoming challenges related to action space and variance.

Federated Reinforcement Learning. [Jin et al.](#page-10-2) [\(2022\)](#page-10-2) introduced a FedRL framework with *N* agents collaboratively learning a policy by averaging their Q-values or policy gradients. [Khodadadian](#page-10-3) [et al.](#page-10-3) [\(2022\)](#page-10-3) provided a convergence analysis of federated TD (FedTD) and Q-learning (FedQ) when *N* agents interact with homogeneous environments. A similar FedTD was considered in [Dal Fabbro](#page-9-1) [et al.](#page-9-1) [\(2023\)](#page-9-1), and expanded to heterogeneous environments in [Wang et al.](#page-11-5) [\(2023a\)](#page-11-5). [Woo et al.](#page-11-6) [\(2023\)](#page-11-6) analyzed (a)synchronous variants of FedQ in heterogeneous settings, and an asynchronous actor-critic method was considered in [Shen et al.](#page-11-7) [\(2023\)](#page-11-7) with linear speedup guarantee only under i.i.d. samples. [Zhang et al.](#page-11-8) [\(2024\)](#page-11-8) provided a finite-time analysis of FedSARSA with linear function approximation (i.e., fixed feature representation). To facilitate personalization in heterogeneous settings, [Jin et al.](#page-10-2) [\(2022\)](#page-10-2) proposed a heuristic personalized FedRL method where agents share a common model, but make use of individual environment embeddings.

Personalized Federated Learning (PFL). In contrast to standard FL where a single model is learned, PFL aims to learn *N* models specialized for *N* local datasets. Many PFL methods have been developed, including but not limited to multi-task learning [Smith et al.](#page-11-16) [\(2017\)](#page-11-16), meta-learning [Chen](#page-9-11) [et al.](#page-9-11) [\(2018\)](#page-9-11), and various personalization techniques such as local fine-tuning [Fallah et al.](#page-9-12) [\(2020\)](#page-9-12), layer personalization [Arivazhagan et al.](#page-9-13) [\(2019\)](#page-9-13), and model compression [Bergou et al.](#page-9-14) [\(2022\)](#page-9-14). Another line of work [Collins et al.](#page-9-5) [\(2021\)](#page-9-5); [Xiong et al.](#page-11-10) [\(2023\)](#page-11-10) leveraged the common representation among agents in heterogeneous environments to guarantee personalized models for federated supervised learning.

Representation Learning in MDP. Representation learning aims to transform high-dimensional observation to low-dimensional embedding to enable efficient learning, and has received increasing attention in Markov decision processs (MDP) settings, such as linear MDPs [Jin et al.](#page-10-12) [\(2020\)](#page-10-12), low-rank MDPs [Modi et al.](#page-10-13) [\(2021\)](#page-10-13); [Agarwal et al.](#page-9-15) [\(2020\)](#page-9-15) and block MDPs [Zhang et al.](#page-12-1) [\(2022c\)](#page-12-1). However, it is open in the context of leveraging representation learning in PFedFL. In this work, we prove that representation augmented PFedFL forms a general framework as a federated two-timescale stochastic approximation with Markovian noise, which differs significantly from existing works, and hence necessitates different proof techniques.

Multi-Agent Reinforcement Learning vs. Federated Reinforcement Learning. The advent of Multi-Agent Reinforcement Learning (MARL) expanded RL's applications, allowing multiple agents to learn from interactions in cooperative, competitive, or mixed settings, opening new avenues for complex applications and research [Zhang et al.](#page-11-17) [\(2021\)](#page-11-17). Multi-agent Reinforcement Learning (MARL) addresses scenarios where multiple agents operate within a shared or interrelated environment, potentially engaging in both cooperative and competitive behaviors. The complexity arises from each agent needing to consider the strategies and actions of others, making the learning process highly dynamic. Federated Reinforcement Learning (FedRL[\)Qi et al.](#page-10-14) [\(2021\)](#page-10-14), contrasts with MARL by focusing on privacy-preserving, distributed learning across agents that do not share their raw data.

Algorithm 2 PFedTD-Rep

1: **Input:** Sampling policy $\pi^i, \forall i \in [N]$; 2: Initialize $\theta_0^i = 0$, $S_0^i, \forall i \in [N]$, and randomly generate $\Phi \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{S}| \times d}$ with each row being unit-norm vector; 3: **for** *t* = 0*,* 1*, ..., T* − 1 **do** 4: **for** *i* = 1*, . . . , N* **do** 5: **for** $k = 1, ..., K$ **do** 6: Sample observations $X_{t,k-1}^i$; 7: Set $\theta_{t,k}^{i} = \theta_{t,k-1}^{i} + \alpha_t \mathbf{g}(\theta_{t,k-1}^{i}, \Phi_t, X_{t,k-1}^{i});$ 8: **end for** 9: Scale $||\theta_{t+1}^i||$ to *B* if $||\theta_{t+1}^i|| > B$, otherwise keep it unchanged; 10: Set $\mathbf{\Phi}_{t+1/2}^i = \mathbf{\Phi}_t + \beta_t \mathbf{h}(\theta_{t+1}^i, \mathbf{\Phi}_t, \{X_{t,k-1}^i\}_{k=1}^K);$ 11: Normalize $\Phi_{t+1/2}^i$ as $\Phi_{t+1/2}^i \leftarrow \frac{\Phi_{t+1/2}^i}{\|\Phi_{t+1/2}^i\|}$; 12: **end for** 13: $\mathbf{\Phi}_{t+1} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \mathbf{\Phi}_{t+1/2}^{i}$. 14: **end for**

Instead, these agents might contribute towards a centralized learning model without compromising individual data privacy, addressing the unique challenges of learning from decentralized data sources.

B Pseudocode of PFedTD-Rep

In this section, we present the pseudocode of PFEDQ-REP as summarized in Algorithm [2.](#page-14-2)

C Application to Control Tasks in RL

The Q-function of agent *i* in environment \mathcal{M}^i under policy π^i are defined as $Q^{i,\pi^i}(s, a)$ = $\mathbb{E}_{\pi^i} \left[\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \gamma^k R^i(s_k^i, a_k^i) | s_0^i = s, a_0^i = a \right]$. When the state and action spaces are large, it is computationally infeasible to store $Q^{i,\pi^i}(s,a)$ for all states or state-action pairs. One way to deal with is to approximate the Q-function as $Q^{i,\pi^i}(s, a) \approx \Phi(s, a)\theta$, where $\Phi \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{S}| \times |\mathcal{A}| \times d}$ is a feature representation corresponding to states or state-actions, and $\boldsymbol{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ is a low-dimensional unknown weight vector. When Φ is given and known, this falls under the paradigm of RL or FedRL with function approximation.

C.1 Preliminaries: Control in Federated Reinforcement Learning

Another task in RL is to search for an optimal policy, which is called *a control problem*, and one commonly used approach is Q-learning [Watkins & Dayan](#page-11-14) [\(1992\)](#page-11-14). Under the FedRL framework, the goal of a control problem is to let N agents collaboratively learn a policy π^* that performs uniformly well across N different environments, i.e., $\pi^* = \arg \max_{\pi} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbb{E}_{\pi^i} [V^{i,\pi^i}(s_0^i)|s_0^i \sim d_0],$ where d_0 is the common initial state distribution in these *N* environments. Similar to [\(1\)](#page-2-1), this can be formulated as the optimization problem in [\(16\)](#page-14-3) to collaboratively learn a common (non-personalized) weight vector $\boldsymbol{\theta} \equiv \boldsymbol{\theta}^i$, $\forall i \in [N]$ when the feature representation $\boldsymbol{\Phi}(s, a)$, $\forall s, a$ are given.

$$
\mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) := \min_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \mathbb{E}_{\substack{s \sim \mu^{i, \pi^*} \\ a \sim \pi^*(\cdot|s)}} \left\| \boldsymbol{\Phi}(s, a) \boldsymbol{\theta} - Q^{i, \pi^*}(s, a) \right\|^2.
$$
 (16)

Again, we use the superscript i to highlight heterogeneous environments $Pⁱ$ among agents.

C.2 Control in Personalized FedRL with Shared Representations

The control problem in [\(16\)](#page-14-3) aims to learn Φ and $\{\theta^i, \forall i\}$ simultaneously among all *N* agents via solving the following optimization problem:

$$
\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{\Phi}, \{\boldsymbol{\theta}^i, \forall i\}) := \min_{\mathbf{\Phi}} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \min_{\{\boldsymbol{\theta}^i, \forall i\}} \mathbb{E}_{\substack{s \sim \mu^{i, \pi^{i,*}} \\ a \sim \pi^{i,*}(\cdot \mid s)}} \left\| f^i(\boldsymbol{\theta}^i, \mathbf{\Phi}(s, a)) - Q^{i, \pi^{i,*}}(s, a) \right\|^2. \tag{17}
$$

C.3 Algorithms

In this section, we present two realizations of our proposed PFEDRL-REP in Algorithm [1,](#page-3-0) one is PFEDQ-REP as summarized in Algorithm [3,](#page-15-1) federated Q-learning with shared representations, and the other is PFEDDQN-REP as outlined in Algorithm [4,](#page-16-0) federated DQN with shared representations.

Algorithm 3 PFedQ-Rep

Input: Sampling policy $\pi^i, \forall i \in [N]$.

1: Initialize $\theta_0^i = \mathbf{0}$, and $s_0^i, \forall i \in [N]$, and randomly generate $\Phi \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{S}||\mathcal{A}|\times d}$ with each row being unit-norm vector. 2: **for** *t* = 0*,* 1*, ..., T* − 1 **do** 3: **for** $i = 1, ..., N$ **do** 4: **for** *k* = 1*, . . . , K* **do** 5: Sample observations $X_{t,k-1}^i = (s_{t,k}^i, s_{t,k-1}^i, a_{t,k-1}^i);$ 6: With fixed $\mathbf{\Phi}_t$, update $\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t,k}^i$ \leftarrow $\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t,k-1}^i$ + $\alpha_t \cdot (r_{t,k-1}^i + \gamma \max_a \mathbf{\Phi}_t(s_{t,k+1}^i, a) \boldsymbol{\theta}_{t,k-1}^i$ - $\pmb{\Phi}_t(s_{t,k-1}^i)\pmb{\theta}_{t,k-1}^i)\cdot \pmb{\Phi}_t(s_{t,k-1}^i,a_{t,k-1}^i);$ 7: **end for** 8: Scale $||\theta_{t+1}^i||$ to *B* if $||\theta_{t+1}^i|| > B$, otherwise keep it unchanged. 9: **if** $(s, a) \in X_{t,k}^i, \exists k \in \{0, \ldots, K-1\}$ then 10: Update $\mathbf{\Phi}_{t+1/2}^i(s, a) = \mathbf{\Phi}_t^i(s, a) + \beta_t(r(s, a) + \gamma \max_a \mathbf{\Phi}_t(s', a) \mathbf{\theta}_{t+1}^i - \mathbf{\Phi}_t(s, a)^\intercal \mathbf{\theta}_{t+1}^i) \cdot \mathbf{\theta}_{t+1}^i$ 11: **else** 12: $\mathbf{\Phi}_{t+1/2}^i(s, a) = \mathbf{\Phi}_t^i(s, a);$ 13: **end if** 14: Normalize $\Phi_{t+1/2}^i$ as $\Phi_{t+1/2}^i \leftarrow \frac{\Phi_{t+1/2}^i}{\|\Phi_{t+1/2}^i\|}$; 15: **end for** 16: $\Phi_{t+1} \leftarrow \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \Phi_{t+1/2}^i, \forall i \in [N].$ 17: **end for**

D Figure Illustrations

We present some figures to further highlight the proposed personalized FedRL (PFedRL) framework with shared representations.

Schematic framework of conventional FedRL. We begin by introducing the conventional FedRL framework [Khodadadian et al.](#page-10-3) [\(2022\)](#page-10-3), where *N* agents collaboratively learn a common policy (or optimal value functions) via a server while engaging with homogeneous environments. Each agent generates independent Markovian trajectories, as depicted in Figure [4.](#page-16-1)

Schematic framework for our proposed PFedRL with shared representations. We introduce our proposed personalized FedRL (PFedRL) framework with shared representations in Figure [5.](#page-17-0) In PFedRL, *N* agents independently interact with their own environments and execute actions according to their individual RL component parameterized by Φ and θ^i . Each agent *i* performs local update on its local weight vector θ_i , while jointly updating the global shared feature representation Φ through the server. Similarly, the update follows the Markovian trajectories.

Algorithm 4 PFedDQN-Rep

Initialize: The parameters (Φ, θ^i) for each Q network $Q^i(s, a)$, the replay buffer \mathcal{R}^i , and copy the same parameter from Q network to initialize the target Q network $Q^{i,\prime}(s, a)$ for agent $i, \forall i \in$ [*N*];

- 1: **for** episode $e = 1, \ldots, E$ **do**
- 2: Get the initial state of the environment;
- 3: **for** *t* = 0*,* 1*, ..., T* − 1 **do**
- 4: **for** $i = 1, ..., N$ **do**
- 5: **for** $k = 1, ..., K$ **do**
- 6: Select action $a_{t,k-1}$ according to ϵ -greedy policy with the current network $Q^{i}(s_{t,k-1}, a)$; 7: Execute action $a_{t,k-1}$, receive the reward $r(s_{t,k-1}, a_{t,k-1})$, and the environment state transits to $s_{t,k}$;
- 8: Store the tuple $(s_{t,k-1}, a_{t,k-1}, r(s_{t,k-1}, a_{t,k-1}, s_{t,k})$ into the replay buffer \mathcal{R}^i ;
- 9: Sample *N* data tuples from the replay buffer \mathcal{R}^i ;
- 10: Update the local weight $\theta^i(t, k)$ by minimizing the loss compared with the target network $Q^{i,j}$ with fixed representation Φ_i ;

11: **end for**

- 12: Sample *N* data tuples from replay buffer \mathcal{R}^i ;
- 13: Update representation model locally by minimizing the loss compared with the target network Q^{i} ,' with fixed weights $\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t+1}$, and yield $\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t+1/2}^{i}$;

14: **end for**

- 15: Average the representation model from all agents, i.e., $\Phi_{t+1} := \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \Phi_{t+1/2}^{i}$;
- 16: **end for**
- 17: **if** $mod(t, T_{target}) = 0$ **then**
- 18: update the target network $Q^{i,*}$ be copy the up-to-date parameters of Q network Q^i , $\forall i \in [N]$;
- 19: **end if** 20: **end for**

Figure 4: Schematic representation of FedRL, where *N* agents interact with homogeneous environments.

Motivation of Personalized FedRL. In the following, we also want to provide some examples showing that the conventional FedRL framework may fail, as depicted in Figure [6.](#page-17-1) In Figure [6a,](#page-17-1) we provide an example where three agents assess distinct policies within the same environment. In the traditional FedRL framework, agents exchange the evaluated value functions via a central server, leading to a unified consensus on value functions for three different policies. This enforced consensus on value functions, despite the diversity in policies, is not optimal. In another scenario depicted in Figure [6b,](#page-17-1) three agents each interact with their unique environments. The objective for each agent is to learn an optimal policy tailored to its specific environment. However, within the traditional FedRL framework, the central server mandates a uniform policy across all three agents, which clearly

Figure 5: Our proposed PFEDRL-REP framework where N agents independently interact with their own environments and take actions according to their individual RL component parameterized by Φ and θ ^{*i*}. Agent *i* locally update weight vector θ _{*i*} while jointly updating the shared feature representation Φ through the central server. The update follows the Markovian trajectories.

contradicts the intended goal of achieving environment-specific optimization. This highlights the necessity for personalized decision-making, a feature that conventional FedRL frameworks do not accommodate.

(a) Agents evaluate difference policies in the same environment.

(b) Agents learn optimal policies for heterogeneous environments.

Figure 6: *An illustrative example with three agents that demonstrates the conventional FedRL framework fails to work.*

Example of RL components that fit the proposed PFedRL with shared representations. In the following, we aim to showcase examples of RL components that are compatible with our proposed PFedRL framework featuring shared representations. An illustrative example of this framework is presented in Figure [7.](#page-18-0) It is important to note that both the DQN architecture in Figure [7a](#page-18-0) and the policy gradient (PG) approach in Figure [7b](#page-18-0) seamlessly integrate into our proposed framework. This integration is achieved by designating the parameters of the feature extraction network as the shared feature representation Φ , and the parameters of the fully connected network, which either predict the Q-values or determine the policy, as the local weight vector *θ*. This arrangement underscores the adaptability of our framework to various RL methodologies, facilitating personalized learning while maintaining a common foundation of shared representations.

(a) When DQN meets the proposed framework. (b) When PG meets the proposed framework.

Figure 7: *An illustrative example for the proposed framework. Notice that both the DQN in (a) and policy gradient (PG) in (b) can be fitted into the proposed framework by treating the parameters of the feature extraction network as the shared feature representation* Φ *and the parameter of the fully connected network which maps to the Q value of policy as the local weight vector θ.*

E Assumptions, Definitions, and Lemmas

Our goal is to characterize the finite-time convergence of $\mathbb{E}[M(\{\theta_{t+1}^i, \forall i\}, \Phi_t)],$ the Lyapunov function in [\(14\)](#page-6-1). We start with some standard assumptions first.

Assumption E.1. Agent *i*'s Markov chain ${X_t^i}$ is irreducible and aperiodic. Hence, there exists a unique stationary distribution μ^i [Levin & Peres](#page-10-15) [\(2017\)](#page-10-15) and constants $C > 0$ and $\rho \in (0, 1)$ such that $d_{TV}(P(X_k^i | X_0^i = x), \mu^i) \le C\rho^k, \forall k \ge 0, x \in \mathcal{X},$ where $d_{TV}(\cdot, \cdot)$ is the total-variation (TV) distance Levin $&$ Peres [\(2017\)](#page-10-15).

Remark E.2. Assumption [E.1](#page-18-1) implies that the Markov chain induced by π^{i} admits a unique stationary distribution μ^i . This assumption is commonly used in the asymptotic convergence analysis of stochastic approximation under Markovian noise [Borkar](#page-9-16) [\(2009\)](#page-9-16); [Chen et al.](#page-9-7) [\(2019\)](#page-9-7).

We can define the steady-state local TD update direction as

$$
\bar{\mathbf{g}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}^{i}, \boldsymbol{\Phi}) := \mathbb{E}_{s_{t}^{i} \sim \mu^{i}, s_{t+1}^{i} \sim P_{\pi^{i}}^{i}(\cdot | s_{t}^{i})} [\mathbf{g}(\boldsymbol{\theta}^{i}, \boldsymbol{\Phi}, X_{t}^{i})],
$$
\n
$$
\bar{\mathbf{h}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}^{i}, \boldsymbol{\Phi}) := \mathbb{E}_{s_{t}^{i} \sim \mu^{i}, s_{t+1}^{i} \sim P_{\pi^{i}}^{i}(\cdot | s_{t}^{i})} [\mathbf{h}(\boldsymbol{\theta}^{i}, \boldsymbol{\Phi}, X_{t}^{i})].
$$
\n(18)

Definition E.3 (Mixing time [Chen et al.](#page-9-7) [\(2019\)](#page-9-7)). Define $\tau_{\delta} = \max_{i \in [N]} \min\{t \geq 1 :$ $\{\|\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{g}({\pmb{\theta}}^i,\pmb{\Phi},X^i_t)|X_0=x]-\bar{\mathbf{g}}({\pmb{\theta}}^i,\pmb{\Phi})\|,~~\|\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{h}({\pmb{\theta}}^i,\pmb{\Phi},X^i_t)|X_0=x]-\bar{\mathbf{h}}({\pmb{\theta}}^i,\pmb{\Phi})\|\}\,\leq\,\delta(\|\bar{\pmb{\Phi}}-\pmb{\Phi}^*\|+\|{\pmb{\theta}}^i-\mathbf{g}^*\|)\|$ $y^{i}(\mathbf{\Phi}^{*})$ ||+1)}, $\forall \delta > 0$.

Lemma E.4. $g(\theta, \Phi, X)$ *in [\(8\)](#page-5-6) is globally Lipschitz continuous w.r.t* θ *and* Φ *uniformly in X, i.e.,* $\|\mathbf{g}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_1, \boldsymbol{\Phi}_1, X) - \mathbf{g}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_2, \boldsymbol{\Phi}_2, X)\| \leq L_q(\|\boldsymbol{\theta}_1 - \boldsymbol{\theta}_2\| + \|\boldsymbol{\Phi}_1 - \boldsymbol{\Phi}_2\|), \forall X \in \mathcal{X}$.

Lemma E.5. $h(\theta, \Phi, X)$ *in [\(10\)](#page-5-7) is globally Lipschitz continuous w.r.t* θ *and* Φ *uniformly in X, i.e.,* $\|\mathbf{h}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_1, \boldsymbol{\Phi}_1, X) - \mathbf{h}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_2, \boldsymbol{\Phi}_2, X)\| \leq L_h(\|\boldsymbol{\theta}_1 - \boldsymbol{\theta}_2\| + \|\boldsymbol{\Phi}_1 - \boldsymbol{\Phi}_2\|), \forall X \in \mathcal{X}$.

Lemma E.6. $y^{i}(\mathbf{\Phi})$, $\forall i$ is Lipschitz continuous in $\mathbf{\Phi}$, i.e., $||y^{i}(\mathbf{\Phi}_1) - y^{i}(\mathbf{\Phi}_2)|| \leq L_y ||\mathbf{\Phi}_1 - \mathbf{\Phi}_2||$.

Remark E.7*.* The Lipschitz continuity of **h** guarantees the existence of a solution Φ to the equilibrium [\(12\)](#page-5-5) for a fixed θ , while the Lipschitz continuity of **g** and y^i ensures the existence of a solution θ^i of (12) when Φ is fixed.

Assumption E.8. There exists a $\omega > 0$ such that $\forall \Phi, \theta$ and $\forall i$:

$$
\langle \Phi - \Phi^*, \bar{\mathbf{h}}(y^i(\Phi), \Phi) \rangle \leq -\omega ||\Phi^* - \Phi||^2, \qquad \langle \theta_t^i - y^i(\Phi_{t-1}), \bar{\mathbf{g}}(\theta_t^i, \Phi_{t-1}) \rangle \leq -\omega ||\theta - y^i(\Phi)||^2.
$$

Remark E.9. Assumption [E.8](#page-18-2) guarantees the stability of the two-timescale update in [\(7\)](#page-5-2) and [\(11\)](#page-5-3), and can be viewed as the monotone property of nonlinear mappings leveraged in [Doan](#page-9-9) [\(2020\)](#page-9-9); [Chen](#page-9-7) [et al.](#page-9-7) [\(2019\)](#page-9-7).

Lemma E.10. *Under Assumption [E.1,](#page-18-1) and Lemma [E.4](#page-18-3) and [E.5,](#page-18-4) there exist constants C >* $0, \rho \in (0,1)$ and $L_1 = \max(L_g, L_h, \max_X \mathbf{g}(\theta^*, \Phi^*, X), \max_X \mathbf{h}(\theta^*, \Phi^*, X))$ such that $\tau_{\delta} \leq$ $\frac{\log(1/\delta) + \log(2L_1Cd)}{\log(1/\rho)}$, *and* $\lim_{\delta \to 0} \delta \tau_{\delta} = 0$.

E.1 Proof of Lemma [E.4](#page-18-3)

Recall that for any observation $X = (s, a, s')$, the function **g**(θ , Φ , X) defined in [\(8\)](#page-5-6) is expressed as

$$
\mathbf{g}(\boldsymbol{\theta},\boldsymbol{\Phi},X) := (r(s,a) + \gamma \boldsymbol{\Phi}(s')\boldsymbol{\theta} - \boldsymbol{\Phi}(s)\boldsymbol{\theta}) \cdot \boldsymbol{\Phi}(s)^{\mathsf{T}},
$$

and hence we have the following inequality for any parameter pairs (θ_1, Φ_1) and (θ_2, λ_2) with $X = (s, a, s'),$

$$
\|g(\theta_1, \Phi_1, X) - g(\theta_2, \Phi_2, X)\|
$$
\n
$$
= \| (r(s, a) + \gamma \Phi_1(s')\theta_1 - \Phi_1(s)\theta_1) \cdot \Phi_1(s)^\intercal - (r(s, a) + \gamma \Phi_2(s')\theta_2 - \Phi_2(s)\theta_2) \cdot \Phi_2(s)^\intercal \|
$$
\n
$$
\stackrel{(a_1)}{\leq} \| (\gamma \Phi_1(s')\theta_1 - \Phi_1(s)\theta_1) \cdot \Phi_1(s)^\intercal - (\gamma \Phi_1(s')\theta_2 - \Phi_1(s)\theta_2) \cdot \Phi_1(s)^\intercal \|
$$
\n
$$
+ \| (\gamma \Phi_1(s')\theta_2 - \Phi_1(s)\theta_2) \cdot \Phi_1(s)^\intercal - (\gamma \Phi_2(s')\theta_2 - \Phi_2(s)\theta_2) \cdot \Phi_2(s)^\intercal \|
$$
\n
$$
\stackrel{(a_2)}{\leq} \| (\gamma \Phi_1(s')\theta_1 - \Phi_1(s)\theta_1) - (\gamma \Phi_1(s')\theta_2 - \Phi_1(s)\theta_2) \| \cdot \| \Phi_1(s) \|
$$
\n
$$
+ \| (\gamma \Phi_1(s')\theta_2 - \Phi_1(s)\theta_2) \cdot \Phi_1(s)^\intercal - (\gamma \Phi_2(s')\theta_2 - \Phi_2(s)\theta_2) \cdot \Phi_2(s)^\intercal \|
$$
\n
$$
\stackrel{(a_3)}{\leq} (1 + \gamma) \| \theta_1 - \theta_2 \| + \| (\gamma \Phi_1(s')\theta_2 - \Phi_1(s)\theta_2) \cdot \Phi_1(s)^\intercal - (\gamma \Phi_2(s')\theta_2 - \Phi_2(s)\theta_2) \cdot \Phi_2(s)^\intercal \|
$$
\n
$$
+ \| (\gamma \Phi_1(s')\theta_2 - \Phi_1(s)\theta_2) \cdot \Phi_1(s)^\intercal - (\gamma \Phi_1(s')\theta_2 - \Phi_1(s)\theta_2) \cdot \Phi_2(s)^\intercal \|
$$
\n
$$
+ \| (\gamma \Phi_1(s')\theta_2 - \Phi_1(s)\theta_2) \cdot \Phi_2(s)^\intercal - (\gamma \Phi_2(s')\theta_2 - \Phi_2(s)\theta_2) \cdot \Phi_2(s)^\intercal \|
$$
\n
$$
+ \| (\gamma \Phi_1(s')\theta_2
$$

 (a_1) is due to the fact that $\|\mathbf{x}+\mathbf{y}\| \le \|\mathbf{x}\| + \|\mathbf{y}\|, \forall \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^d$, (a_2) holds due to $\|\mathbf{x}\cdot\mathbf{y}\| \le \|\mathbf{x}\| \cdot \|\mathbf{y}\|, \forall \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ \mathbb{R}^d , (a_3) comes from the fact and $\|\mathbf{\Phi}_1(s)\| \leq 1$, $\|\mathbf{\Phi}_2(s)\| \leq 1 \forall s$. $(a_4) - (a_6)$ holds for the same reason as $(a_1) - (a_3)$. The last inequalty (a_7) comes from the fact that θ is bounded by norm *B* and by setting $L_q := \max(1 + \gamma, (2 + 2\gamma)B).$

E.2 Proof of Lemma [E.5](#page-18-4)

Recall that for any observation $X = (s, a, s')$, the function $h(\theta, \Phi, X)$ defined in [\(10\)](#page-5-7) is expressed as

$$
\mathbf{h}(\boldsymbol{\theta},\boldsymbol{\Phi},X) := (r(s,a) + \gamma \boldsymbol{\Phi}(s')\boldsymbol{\theta} - \boldsymbol{\Phi}(s)\boldsymbol{\theta}) \cdot \boldsymbol{\theta}^{\mathsf{T}},
$$

and hence we have the following inequality for any parameter pairs (θ_1, Φ_1) and (θ_2, λ_2) with $X = (s, a, s'),$

$$
\|\mathbf{h}(\theta_1, \Phi_1, X) - \mathbf{h}(\theta_2, \Phi_2, X)\|
$$
\n
$$
= \| (r(s, a) + \gamma \Phi_1(s')\theta_1 - \Phi_1(s)\theta_1) \cdot \theta_1^{\mathsf{T}} - (r(s, a) + \gamma \Phi_2(s')\theta_2 - \Phi_2(s)\theta_2) \cdot \theta_2^{\mathsf{T}} \|
$$
\n
$$
\stackrel{(b_1)}{\leq} \| (\gamma \Phi_1(s')\theta_1 - \Phi_1(s)\theta_1) \cdot \theta_1^{\mathsf{T}} - (\gamma \Phi_2(s')\theta_1 - \Phi_2(s)\theta_1) \cdot \theta_1^{\mathsf{T}} \|
$$
\n
$$
+ \| (\gamma \Phi_2(s')\theta_1 - \Phi_2(s)\theta_1) \cdot \theta_1^{\mathsf{T}} - (\gamma \Phi_2(s')\theta_2 - \Phi_2(s)\theta_2) \cdot \theta_2^{\mathsf{T}} \|
$$
\n
$$
\stackrel{(b_2)}{\leq} \| (\gamma \Phi_1(s')\theta_1 - \Phi_1(s)\theta_1) - (\gamma \Phi_2(s')\theta_1 - \Phi_2(s)\theta_1) \| \cdot \| \theta_1 \|
$$
\n
$$
+ \| (\gamma \Phi_2(s')\theta_1 - \Phi_2(s)\theta_1) \cdot \theta_1^{\mathsf{T}} - (\gamma \Phi_2(s')\theta_2 - \Phi_2(s)\theta_2) \cdot \theta_2^{\mathsf{T}} \|
$$
\n
$$
\stackrel{(b_3)}{\leq} (1+\gamma) \| \theta_1 \|^2 \cdot \| \Phi_1 - \Phi_2 \| + \| (\gamma \Phi_2(s')\theta_1 - \Phi_2(s)\theta_1) \cdot \theta_1^{\mathsf{T}} - (\gamma \Phi_2(s')\theta_2 - \Phi_2(s)\theta_2) \cdot \theta_2^{\mathsf{T}} \|
$$
\n
$$
\stackrel{(b_4)}{\leq} (1+\gamma) \| \theta_1 \|^2 \cdot \| \Phi_1 - \Phi_2 \| + \| (\gamma \Phi_2(s')\theta_1 - \Phi_2(s)\theta_1) \cdot \theta_1^{\mathsf{T}} - (\gamma \Phi_2(s')\theta_1 - \Phi_2(s)\theta_1) \cdot \theta_2^{\mathsf{T}} \|
$$

$$
+ \|(\gamma \Phi_2(s')\theta_1 - \Phi_2(s)\theta_1) \cdot \theta_2^{\mathsf{T}} - (\gamma \Phi_2(s')\theta_2 - \Phi_2(s)\theta_2) \cdot \theta_2^{\mathsf{T}}\|
$$

\n
$$
\leq (1+\gamma) \|\theta_1\|^2 \cdot \|\Phi_1 - \Phi_2\| + \|(\gamma \Phi_2(s')\theta_1 - \Phi_2(s)\theta_1)\| \cdot \|\theta_1 - \theta_2\|
$$

\n
$$
+ \|(\gamma \phi_2(s')\theta_1 - \Phi_2(s)\theta_1) - (\gamma \Phi_2(s')\theta_2 - \Phi_2(s)\theta_2)\| \cdot \|\theta_2\|
$$

\n
$$
\leq (1+\gamma) \|\theta_1\|^2 \cdot \|\Phi_1 - \Phi_2\| + (1+\gamma) \|\theta_1\| \cdot \|\theta_1 - \theta_2\| + (1+\gamma) \|\theta_2\| \cdot \|\theta_1 - \theta_2\|
$$

\n
$$
\leq (1+\gamma) \|\theta_1\|^2 \cdot \|\Phi_1 - \Phi_2\| + (1+\gamma) (\|\theta_1\| + \|\theta_2\|) \cdot \|\theta_1 - \theta_2\|
$$

\n
$$
\leq L_h (\|\theta_1 - \theta_2\| + \|\Phi_1 - \Phi_2\|),
$$

 (b_1) is due to the fact that $\|\mathbf{x}+\mathbf{y}\| \le \|\mathbf{x}\|+\|\mathbf{y}\|, \forall \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^d$, (b_2) holds due to $\|\mathbf{x}\cdot\mathbf{y}\| \le \|\mathbf{x}\| \cdot \|\mathbf{y}\|, \forall \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in$ \mathbb{R}^d , (b_3) comes from the fact and $\|\mathbf{\Phi}_1(s)\| \leq 1$, $\|\mathbf{\Phi}_2(s)\| \leq 1 \forall s$. $(b_4) - (b_6)$ holds for the same reason as $(b_1) - (b_3)$. The last inequalty (b_7) comes from by setting $L_h := \max((1 + \gamma)B^2, (2 + 2\gamma)B)$.

E.3 Proof of Lemma [E.6](#page-18-5)

Due to the norm-scale step (step 9) in Algorithm [2,](#page-14-2) we have

$$
||y^{i}(\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{1}) - y^{i}(\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{2})|| \le \max_{(||\boldsymbol{\theta}|| \le B, ||\boldsymbol{\theta}'|| \le B)} ||\boldsymbol{\theta} - \boldsymbol{\theta}'|| \le 2B.
$$
\n(19)

Since the representation matrices Φ_1 and Φ_2 are of unit-norm in each row, there exists a positive constant L_y such that

$$
||y^{i}(\Phi_1) - y^{i}(\Phi_2)|| \le L_y ||\Phi_1 - \Phi_2||. \tag{20}
$$

E.4 Proof of Lemma [E.10](#page-18-6)

Proof. Under Lemma [E.4,](#page-18-3) we have

$$
\|\mathbf{g}(\boldsymbol{\theta},\boldsymbol{\Phi},X)-\mathbf{g}(y^i(\boldsymbol{\Phi}^*),\boldsymbol{\Phi}^*,X)\|\le L(\|\boldsymbol{\theta}-y^i(\boldsymbol{\Phi}^*)\|+\|\boldsymbol{\Phi}-\boldsymbol{\Phi}^*\|),\forall i\in[N].
$$
 (21)

Similarly, under Lemma [E.5,](#page-18-4) we have

$$
\|\mathbf{h}(\boldsymbol{\theta},\boldsymbol{\Phi},X) - \mathbf{h}(y^i(\boldsymbol{\Phi}^*),\boldsymbol{\Phi}^*,X)\| \le L(\|\boldsymbol{\theta} - y^i(\boldsymbol{\Phi}^*)\| + \|\boldsymbol{\Phi} - \boldsymbol{\Phi}^*\|), \forall i \in [N].
$$
 (22)

Let $L_1 = \max(L, \max_X \mathbf{g}(y^i(\mathbf{\Phi}^*), \mathbf{\Phi}^*, X), \max_X \mathbf{h}(y^i(\mathbf{\Phi}^*), \mathbf{\Phi}^*, X)),$ then according to [\(21\)](#page-20-0)-[\(22\)](#page-20-1), we have

$$
\|\mathbf{g}(\boldsymbol{\theta},\boldsymbol{\Phi})\| \leq L_1(\|\boldsymbol{\theta} - y^i(\boldsymbol{\Phi}^*)\| + \|\boldsymbol{\Phi} - \boldsymbol{\Phi}^*\| + 1),
$$

and

$$
\|\mathbf{h}(\boldsymbol{\theta},\boldsymbol{\Phi})\| \leq L_1(\|\boldsymbol{\theta}-y^i(\boldsymbol{\Phi}^*)\| + \|\boldsymbol{\Phi}-\boldsymbol{\Phi}^*\|+1).
$$

Denote $h^{j}(\theta, \phi, X)$ as the *j*-th element of $h(\theta, \Phi, X)$. Following [Chen et al.](#page-9-7) [\(2019\)](#page-9-7), we can show that $\boldsymbol{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}^d$, $\boldsymbol{\Phi} \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{S}| \times d}$, and $x \in \mathcal{X}$,

$$
\|\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{h}(\theta,\Phi,X)|X_0=x]-\mathbb{E}_{\mu}[\mathbf{h}(\theta,\Phi,X)]\|
$$
\n
$$
\leq \sum_{j=1}^d |\mathbb{E}[h^j(\theta,\lambda,X)|X_0=x]-\mathbb{E}_{\mu}[h^j(\theta,\Phi,X)]|
$$
\n
$$
\leq 2L_1(\|\theta-y^i(\Phi^*)\|+\|\Phi-\Phi^*\|+1)\sum_{j=1}^d \left|\mathbb{E}\left[\frac{h^j(\theta,\Phi,X)}{2L_1(\|\theta-y^i(\Phi^*)\|+\|\lambda-\lambda^*\|+1)}\right|X_0=x\right]
$$
\n
$$
-\mathbb{E}_{\mu}\left[\frac{h^j(\theta,\Phi,X)}{2L_1(\|\theta-y^i(\Phi^*)\|+\|\lambda-\lambda^*\|+1)}\right]\right|
$$
\n
$$
\leq 2L_1(\|\theta-y^i(\Phi^*)\|+\|\Phi-\Phi^*\|+1)dC_1\rho_1^k,
$$

where the last inequality holds due to Assumption [E.1](#page-18-1) with constants $C_1 > 0$ and $\rho_1 \in (0,1)$. To guarantee $2L_1(\|\boldsymbol{\theta} - y^i(\boldsymbol{\Phi}^*)\| + \|\boldsymbol{\Phi} - \boldsymbol{\Phi}^*\| + 1)dC_1\rho_1^k \leq \delta(\|\boldsymbol{\theta} - y^i(\boldsymbol{\Phi}^*)\| + \|\boldsymbol{\Phi} - \boldsymbol{\Phi}^*\| + 1)$, we have

$$
\tau_{\delta} \le \frac{\log(1/\delta) + \log(2L_1C_1d)}{\log(1/\rho_1)}.\tag{23}
$$

Using the same procedures we can show that

$$
\|\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{g}(\pmb{\theta},\pmb{\Phi},X)|X_0=x]-\mathbb{E}_{\mu}[\mathbf{g}(\pmb{\theta},\pmb{\Phi},X)]\|\leq 2L_1(\|\pmb{\theta}-y^i(\pmb{\Phi}^*)\|+\|\pmb{\Phi}-\pmb{\Phi}^*\|+1)dC_2\rho_2^k,
$$

hence we have

$$
\tau_{\delta} \le \frac{\log(1/\delta) + \log(2L_1C_2d)}{\log(1/\rho_2)}.\tag{24}
$$

By setting τ_{δ} as the largest value in [\(23\)](#page-21-0) and [\(24\)](#page-21-1), we arrive at the final result in Lemma [E.10.](#page-18-6)

F Proofs of Main Results

F.1 Proof of Theorem [4.1](#page-6-4)

For notational simplicity, in the proofs, we use $\mathbf{h}(\theta_{t+1}^i, \Phi_t)$ to denote $\mathbf{h}(\theta_{t+1}^i, \Phi_t, \{X_{t,k-1}^i\}_{k=1}^K)$, and $g(\theta_{t,k-1}^i, \Phi_t)$ to denote $g(\theta_{t,k-1}^i, \Phi_t, X_{t,k-1}^i)$. In the following, we first focus on the update of the global representation Φ_t and characterize the drift of it.

F.1.1 Drift of Φ_t

The drift of Φ_t is given in the following lemma.

Lemma F.1. *The drift between* Φ_{t+1} *and* Φ_t *is given by*

$$
\mathbb{E}[\|\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t+1} - \boldsymbol{\Phi}^*\|^2] \n= \mathbb{E}[\|\boldsymbol{\Phi}_t - \boldsymbol{\Phi}^*\|^2] + \underbrace{\frac{\beta_t^2}{N^2} \mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{h}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t+1}^i, \boldsymbol{\Phi}_t)\right\|^2\right]}_{Term_1} + 2\beta_t \mathbb{E}\left[\langle \boldsymbol{\Phi}^* - \boldsymbol{\Phi}_t, \frac{-1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \bar{\mathbf{h}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t+1}^i, \boldsymbol{\Phi}_t)\rangle\right]}_{Term_2} + \underbrace{2\beta_t \mathbb{E}\left[\langle \boldsymbol{\Phi}_t - \boldsymbol{\Phi}^*, \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{h}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t+1}^i, \boldsymbol{\Phi}_t) - \bar{\mathbf{h}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t+1}^i, \boldsymbol{\Phi}_t)\rangle\right]}_{Term_3}.
$$
\n(25)

Proof. Based on the update of Φ_t in [\(11\)](#page-5-3), We have the following equation

$$
\mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}_{t+1} - \mathbf{\Phi}^*\|^2] - \mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}_t - \mathbf{\Phi}^*\|^2]
$$
\n
$$
= \mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}^*\|^2 + \|\mathbf{\Phi}_{t+1}\|^2 - 2\langle \mathbf{\Phi}^*, \mathbf{\Phi}_{t+1}\rangle] - \mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}^*\|^2 + \|\mathbf{\Phi}_t\|^2 - 2\langle \mathbf{\Phi}^*, \mathbf{\Phi}_t\rangle]
$$
\n
$$
= \mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}_{t+1}\|^2] - \mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}_t\|^2] - 2\langle \mathbf{\Phi}^*, \mathbf{\Phi}_{t+1} - \mathbf{\Phi}_t\rangle]
$$
\n
$$
= \mathbb{E}[\langle \mathbf{\Phi}_{t+1} - \mathbf{\Phi}_t, \mathbf{\Phi}_{t+1} + \mathbf{\Phi}_t\rangle] - 2\langle \mathbf{\Phi}^*, \mathbf{\Phi}_{t+1} - \mathbf{\Phi}_t\rangle]
$$
\n
$$
= \mathbb{E}[\langle \mathbf{\Phi}_{t+1} - \mathbf{\Phi}_t, \mathbf{\Phi}_{t+1} - \mathbf{\Phi}_t\rangle] + 2\mathbb{E}[\langle \mathbf{\Phi}_{t+1} - \mathbf{\Phi}_t, \mathbf{\Phi}_t\rangle] - 2\langle \mathbf{\Phi}^*, \mathbf{\Phi}_{t+1} - \mathbf{\Phi}_t\rangle]
$$
\n
$$
= \frac{\beta_t^2}{N^2} \mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{h}(\theta_{t+1}^i, \mathbf{\Phi}_t)\right\|^2\right] - 2\beta_t \mathbb{E}\left[\langle \mathbf{\Phi}^* - \mathbf{\Phi}_t, \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{h}(\theta_{t+1}^i, \mathbf{\Phi}_t)\rangle\right],\tag{26}
$$

which directly leads to

$$
\mathbb{E}[\|\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t+1} - \boldsymbol{\Phi}^*\|^2] \n= \mathbb{E}[\|\boldsymbol{\Phi}_t - \boldsymbol{\Phi}^*\|^2] + \frac{\beta_t^2}{N^2} \mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{h}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t+1}^i, \boldsymbol{\Phi}_t)\right\|^2\right] - 2\beta_t \mathbb{E}\left[\langle \boldsymbol{\Phi}^* - \boldsymbol{\Phi}_t, \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{h}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t+1}^i, \boldsymbol{\Phi}_t)\rangle\right].
$$
\n(27)

 \Box

Rearranging the last term yields the desired result.

In the following, we separately bound $Term_1$ to $Term_3$.

We first bound $Term_1$ as follows.

Lemma F.2. *For any* $t \geq \tau$ *, we have*

$$
Term_1 \le 4\beta_t^2 (L^2 + L^4) \mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}^* - \mathbf{\Phi}_t\|^2] + \frac{4\beta_t^2 L^2}{N} \mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{i=1}^N \|\mathbf{\theta}_{t+1} - y^i(\mathbf{\Phi}_t)\|^2\right] + 4\beta_t^2 \delta^2 \tag{28}
$$

Proof. Note that

$$
Term_1 = \frac{\beta_t^2}{N^2} \mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{h}(\theta_{t+1}^i, \Phi_t) - \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{h}(y^i(\Phi_t), \Phi^*) + \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{h}(y^i(\Phi_t), \Phi^*)\right\|^2\right]
$$
\n
$$
triangle_j^2 \mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{h}(\theta_{t+1}^i, \Phi_t) - \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{h}(y^i(\Phi_t), \Phi^*)\right\|^2\right]
$$
\n
$$
+ \frac{2\beta_t^2}{N^2} \mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{h}(y^i(\Phi_t), \Phi^*)\right\|^2\right]
$$
\n
$$
\leq \frac{(a_1)}{N^2} \mathbb{E}\left[2N \sum_{i=1}^N \left\|\left(\theta_{t+1}^i - y^i(\Phi_t)\right)\right\|^2 + 2N^2 \left\|(\Phi_t - \Phi^*)\right\|^2\right]
$$
\n
$$
+ \frac{2\beta_t^2}{N^2} \mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{h}(y^i(\Phi_t), \Phi^*) - \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{h}(y^i(\Phi^*), \Phi^*) + \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{h}(y^i(\Phi^*), \Phi^*)\right\|^2\right]
$$
\n
$$
\leq 4\beta_t^2 L^2 \mathbb{E}[\|\Phi^* - \Phi_t\|^2] + \frac{4\beta_t^2 L^2}{N} \mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{i=1}^N \|\theta_{t+1}^i - y^i(\Phi_t)\|^2\right]
$$
\n
$$
+ \frac{4\beta_t^2}{N^2} \mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{h}(y^i(\Phi_t), \Phi^*) - \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{h}(y^i(\Phi^*), \Phi^*)\right\|^2\right]
$$
\n
$$
+ \frac{4\beta_t^2}{N^2} \mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{h}(y^i(\Phi^*), \Phi^*)\right\|^2\right]
$$
\nLipschitz

$$
+ 4\beta_t^2 L^4 \mathbb{E} \left[\left\| \pmb{\Phi}_t - \pmb{\Phi}^* \right\|^2 \right] + \frac{4\beta_t^2}{N^2} \mathbb{E} \left[\left\| \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{h}(y^i(\pmb{\Phi}^*), \pmb{\Phi}^*) - \sum_{i=1}^N \bar{\mathbf{h}}(y^i(\pmb{\Phi}^*), \pmb{\Phi}^*) \right\|^2 \right]
$$

$$
\stackrel{(a_3)}{\leq} 4\beta_t^2 (L^2 + L^4) \mathbb{E} [\left\| \pmb{\Phi}^* - \pmb{\Phi}_t \right\|^2] + \frac{4\beta_t^2 L^2}{N} \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{i=1}^N \left\| \pmb{\theta}_{t+1} - y^i(\pmb{\Phi}_t) \right\|^2 \right] + 4\beta_t^2 \delta^2,
$$

where the (a_1) is due to $\|\sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{x}_i\|^2 \le N \sum_{i=1}^N \|\mathbf{x}_i\|^2$, (a_2) is due to the Lipschitz of functions **h** and y^i , and (a_3) holds based on the mixing time property in Definition 4.3.

 \Box

Next, we bound $Term_2$ in the following lemma. **Lemma F.3.** *We have*

$$
Term_2 \leq \beta_t (L/\alpha_t - 2\omega) \mathbb{E}[\|\boldsymbol{\Phi}^* - \boldsymbol{\Phi}_t\|^2] + \frac{\beta_t \alpha_t L}{N} \mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{i=1}^N \|\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t+1}^i - y^i(\boldsymbol{\Phi}_t)\|^2\right].
$$
 (29)

Proof. We have

$$
Term_2 = 2\beta_t \mathbb{E}\left[\langle \pmb{\Phi}^* - \pmb{\Phi}_t, \frac{-1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \bar{\mathbf{h}}(y^i(\pmb{\Phi}_t), \pmb{\Phi}_t)\rangle\right]
$$

\n
$$
= 2\beta_t \mathbb{E}\left[\langle \pmb{\Phi}^* - \pmb{\Phi}_t, \frac{-1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \bar{\mathbf{h}}(y^i(\pmb{\Phi}_t), \pmb{\Phi}_t)\rangle\right]
$$

\n
$$
+ 2\beta_t \mathbb{E}\left[\langle \pmb{\Phi}^* - \pmb{\Phi}_t, \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \bar{\mathbf{h}}(y^i(\pmb{\Phi}_t), \pmb{\Phi}_t) - \bar{\mathbf{h}}(\pmb{\theta}_{t+1}^i, \pmb{\Phi}_t)\rangle\right]
$$

\n
$$
\leq 2\beta_t \mathbb{E}\left[\langle \pmb{\Phi}^* - \pmb{\Phi}_t, \frac{-1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \bar{\mathbf{h}}(y^i(\pmb{\Phi}_t), \pmb{\Phi}_t)\rangle\right] + 2\beta_t L \mathbb{E}\left[\langle \pmb{\Phi}^* - \pmb{\Phi}_t, \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (y^i(\pmb{\Phi}_t) - \pmb{\theta}_{t+1}^i)\rangle\right]
$$

\n
$$
\stackrel{(b_1)}{\leq} 2\beta_t \mathbb{E}\left[\langle \pmb{\Phi}^* - \pmb{\Phi}_t, \frac{-1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \bar{\mathbf{h}}(y^i(\pmb{\Phi}_t), \pmb{\Phi}_t)\rangle\right] + \beta_t L/\alpha_t \mathbb{E}[\|\pmb{\Phi}^* - \pmb{\Phi}_t\|^2]
$$

\n
$$
+ \frac{\beta_t \alpha_t L}{N^2} \mathbb{E}\left[\left|\sum_{i=1}^N (\pmb{\theta}_{t+1}^i - y^i(\pmb{\Phi}_t))\|^2\right]
$$

\n
$$
\stackrel{(b_2)}{\leq} 2\beta_t \mathbb{E}\left[\langle \pmb{\Phi}_t - \pmb{\Phi}^*, \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \bar{\mathbf{h}}(y^i(\pmb
$$

where (b_1) holds because $2x^T y \le \beta ||x||^2 + 1/\beta ||y||^2, \forall \beta > 0, (b_2)$ is due to $||\sum_{i=1}^N x_i||^2 \le$ $N \sum_{i=1}^{N} ||\mathbf{x}_i||^2$, and the last inequality is due to Assumption [E.8.](#page-18-2)

 \Box

Next, we bound $Term_3$ in the following lemmas.

Lemma F.4. *For all* $t \geq \tau$ *we have*

$$
Term_3 \leq (7\beta_t/\alpha_t + 2\beta_t\alpha_t L^2 + 6\beta_t\alpha_t \delta^2)\mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}_{t-\tau} - \mathbf{\Phi}_t\|^2]
$$

+
$$
(6\beta_t/\alpha_t + 6\beta_t\alpha_t \delta^2(1 + L^2) + 4\beta_t\alpha_t L^2(3 + 4L^2))\mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}_t - \mathbf{\Phi}^*\|^2]
$$

+
$$
\frac{16\beta_t\alpha_t L^2 + 6\beta_t\alpha_t \delta^2}{N}\mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{i=1}^N \|\boldsymbol{\theta}^{i,*} - \boldsymbol{\theta}_{t+1}\|^2\right] + 11\beta_t\alpha_t \delta^2.
$$
 (30)

 $Proof.$ We first decompose $Term_3$ as follows

$$
Term_3 = 2\beta_t \mathbb{E}\left[\langle \boldsymbol{\Phi}_t - \boldsymbol{\Phi}^*, \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{h}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t+1}^i, \boldsymbol{\Phi}_t) - \bar{\mathbf{h}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t+1}^i, \boldsymbol{\Phi}_t) \rangle\right]
$$

\n
$$
= 2\beta_t \mathbb{E}\left[\langle \boldsymbol{\Phi}_t - \boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t-\tau}, \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{h}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t+1}^i, \boldsymbol{\Phi}_t) - \bar{\mathbf{h}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t+1}^i, \boldsymbol{\Phi}_t) \rangle\right]
$$

\n
$$
+ 2\beta_t \mathbb{E}\left[\langle \boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t-\tau} - \boldsymbol{\Phi}^*, \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{h}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t+1}^i, \boldsymbol{\Phi}_t) - \bar{\mathbf{h}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t+1}^i, \boldsymbol{\Phi}_t) \rangle\right]
$$

\n
$$
= 2\beta_t \mathbb{E}\left[\langle \boldsymbol{\Phi}_t - \boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t-\tau}, \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{h}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t+1}^i, \boldsymbol{\Phi}_t) - \bar{\mathbf{h}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t+1}^i, \boldsymbol{\Phi}_t) \rangle\right]
$$

\n
$$
+ 2\beta_t \mathbb{E}\left[\langle \boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t-\tau} - \boldsymbol{\Phi}^*, \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{h}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t+1}^i, \boldsymbol{\Phi}_t) - \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{h}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t+1}^i, \boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t-\tau}) \rangle\right]
$$

\n
$$
+ 2\beta_t \mathbb{E}\left[\langle \boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t-\tau} - \boldsymbol{\Phi}^*, \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{h}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t+1}^i, \boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t-\tau}) - \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \bar{\mathbf{h}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t+1}^i, \boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t-\tau}) \rangle\
$$

Next, we bound \mathcal{C}_1 as

$$
C_{1} = 2\beta_{t}\mathbb{E}\left[\langle\mathbf{\Phi}_{t} - \mathbf{\Phi}_{t-\tau}, \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \mathbf{h}(\theta_{t+1}^{i}, \mathbf{\Phi}_{t}) - \bar{\mathbf{h}}(\theta_{t+1}^{i}, \mathbf{\Phi}_{t})\rangle\right]
$$

\n
$$
\leq \beta_{t}/\alpha_{t}\mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}_{t} - \mathbf{\Phi}_{t-\tau}\|^{2}] + \beta_{t}\alpha_{t}\mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \mathbf{h}(\theta_{t+1}^{i}, \mathbf{\Phi}_{t}) - \bar{\mathbf{h}}(\theta_{t+1}^{i}, \mathbf{\Phi}_{t}) + \bar{h}(y^{i}(\mathbf{\Phi}^{*}), \mathbf{\Phi}^{*})\right\|^{2}\right]
$$

\n
$$
\leq \beta_{t}/\alpha_{t}\mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}_{t} - \mathbf{\Phi}_{t-\tau}\|^{2}] + 2\beta_{t}\alpha_{t}\mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \mathbf{h}(\theta_{t+1}^{i}, \mathbf{\Phi}_{t})\right\|^{2}\right]
$$

\n
$$
+ 2\beta_{t}\alpha_{t}\mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \bar{\mathbf{h}}(y^{i}(\mathbf{\Phi}^{*}), \mathbf{\Phi}^{*}) - \bar{\mathbf{h}}(\theta_{t+1}^{i}, \mathbf{\Phi}_{t})\right\|^{2}\right]
$$

\n
$$
= \beta_{t}/\alpha_{t}\mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}_{t} - \mathbf{\Phi}_{t-\tau}\|^{2}] + \frac{2\beta_{t}\alpha_{t}}{N^{2}}\mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\sum_{i=1}^{N} \mathbf{h}(\theta_{t+1}^{i}, \mathbf{\Phi}_{t})\right\|^{2}\right]
$$

$$
+ 2\beta_t \alpha_t \mathbb{E} \left[\left\| \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \bar{h}(y^i(\Phi^*), \Phi^*) - \bar{h}(\theta_{t+1}^i, \Phi_t) \right\|^2 \right]
$$
\n
$$
\xrightarrow{\text{Lemma } \mathbb{F}.2} \beta_t / \alpha_t \mathbb{E}[\|\Phi_t - \Phi_{t-+}\|^2] + 8\beta_t \alpha_t (L^2 + L^4) \mathbb{E}[\|\Phi^* - \Phi_t\|^2]
$$
\n
$$
+ \frac{8\beta_t \alpha_t L^2}{N} \mathbb{E} \left[\left\| \frac{N}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \bar{h}(y^i(\Phi^*), \Phi^*) - \bar{h}(\theta_{t+1}^i, \Phi_t) \right\|^2 \right]
$$
\n
$$
+ 2\beta_t \alpha_t \mathbb{E}[\|\Phi_t - \Phi_{t-+}\|^2] + 8\beta_t \alpha_t (L^2 + L^4) \mathbb{E}[\|\Phi^* - \Phi_t\|^2]
$$
\n
$$
+ 2\beta_t \alpha_t \mathbb{E}[\|\Phi_t - \Phi_{t-+}\|^2] + 8\beta_t \alpha_t (L^2 + L^4) \mathbb{E}[\|\Phi^* - \Phi_t\|^2]
$$
\n
$$
+ 2\beta_t \alpha_t L^2 \mathbb{E} \left[\left\| \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \|\theta_{t+1}^i - y^i(\Phi_t)\|^2 \right\} + 8\beta_t \alpha_t \delta^2
$$
\n
$$
+ 2\beta_t \alpha_t L^2 \mathbb{E} \left[\left\| \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N 2(\Phi^* - \Phi_t) + 2(\theta_{t+1}^i - y^i(\Phi^*)) \right\|^2 \right]
$$
\n
$$
\leq \beta_t / \alpha_t \mathbb{E}[\|\Phi_t - \Phi_{t-+}\|^2] + 8\beta_t \alpha_t (L^2 + L^4) \mathbb{E}[\|\Phi^* - \Phi_t\|^2]
$$
\n
$$
+ 4\beta_t \alpha_t L^2 \mathbb{E}[\|\Phi^* - \Phi_t\|^2] + \frac{4\beta_t \alpha_t L^2}{N} \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{i=1}^N \|\theta_{t+1
$$

where the last inequality is due to the Lipschitz of the function y^i . Next, we bound \mathcal{C}_2 as follows.

$$
C_2 = 2\beta_t \mathbb{E}\left[\langle \pmb{\Phi}_{t-\tau} - \pmb{\Phi}^*, \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{h}(\pmb{\theta}^i_{t+1}, \pmb{\Phi}_t) - \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{h}(\pmb{\theta}^i_{t+1}, \pmb{\Phi}_{t-\tau}) \rangle \right]
$$

$$
\leq \beta_t/\alpha_t \mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}_{t-\tau} - \mathbf{\Phi}^*\|^2] + \beta_t \alpha_t \mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{h}(\theta_{t+1}^i, \mathbf{\Phi}_t) - \frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{h}(\theta_{t+1}^i, \mathbf{\Phi}_{t-\tau})\right\|^2\right]
$$

\n
$$
\leq \beta_t/\alpha_t \mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}_{t-\tau} - \mathbf{\Phi}^*\|^2] + \beta_t \alpha_t L^2 \mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}_t - \mathbf{\Phi}_{t-\tau}\|^2]
$$

\n
$$
= \beta_t/\alpha_t \mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}_{t-\tau} - \mathbf{\Phi}_t + \mathbf{\Phi}_t - \mathbf{\Phi}^*\|^2] + \beta_t \alpha_t L^2 \mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}_t - \mathbf{\Phi}_{t-\tau}\|^2]
$$

\n
$$
\leq 2\beta_t/\alpha_t \mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}_{t-\tau} - \mathbf{\Phi}_t\|^2] + 2\beta_t/\alpha_t \mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}_t - \mathbf{\Phi}^*\|^2] + \beta_t \alpha_t L^2 \mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}_t - \mathbf{\Phi}_{t-\tau}\|^2]
$$

\n
$$
= (2\beta_t/\alpha_t + \beta_t \alpha_t L^2) \mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}_{t-\tau} - \mathbf{\Phi}_t\|^2] + 2\beta_t/\alpha_t \mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}_t - \mathbf{\Phi}^*\|^2].
$$

Similarly, C_4 is bounded exactly same as C_2 , i.e.,

$$
C_4 \leq (2\beta_t/\alpha_t + \beta_t \alpha_t L^2) \mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}_{t-\tau} - \mathbf{\Phi}_t\|^2] + 2\beta_t/\alpha_t \mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}_t - \mathbf{\Phi}^*\|^2].
$$

Next, we bound C_3 as follows.

$$
C_{3} = 2\beta_{t}\mathbb{E}\left[\langle\mathbf{\Phi}_{t-\tau}-\mathbf{\Phi}^{*},\frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^{N}\mathbf{h}(\theta_{t+1}^{i},\mathbf{\Phi}_{t-\tau})-\frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^{N}\bar{\mathbf{h}}(\theta_{t+1}^{i},\mathbf{\Phi}_{t-\tau})\rangle\right]
$$
\n
$$
\leq \beta_{t}/\alpha_{t}\mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}_{t-\tau}-\mathbf{\Phi}^{*}\|^{2}]+\beta_{t}\alpha_{t}\frac{1}{N^{2}}\mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\sum_{i=1}^{N}\mathbf{h}(\theta_{t+1}^{i},\mathbf{\Phi}_{t-\tau})-\sum_{i=1}^{N}\bar{\mathbf{h}}(\theta_{t+1}^{i},\mathbf{\Phi}_{t-\tau})\right\|^{2}\right]
$$
\n
$$
\xrightarrow{\text{Definition 4.3 }}\beta_{t}/\alpha_{t}\mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}_{t-\tau}-\mathbf{\Phi}^{*}\|^{2}]
$$
\n
$$
+\beta_{t}\alpha_{t}\frac{1}{N^{2}}\mathbb{E}\left[\left(N\delta\|\mathbf{\Phi}_{t-\tau}-\mathbf{\Phi}^{*}\|+N\delta+\delta\sum_{i=1}^{N}\|\theta_{t+1}^{i}-y^{i}(\mathbf{\Phi}^{*})\|\right)\right]^{2}\right]
$$
\n
$$
\leq \beta_{t}/\alpha_{t}\mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}_{t-\tau}-\mathbf{\Phi}^{*}\|^{2}]+3\beta_{t}\alpha_{t}\delta^{2}\mathbb{E}\left[\|\mathbf{\Phi}_{t-\tau}-\mathbf{\Phi}^{*}\|^{2}\right]+3\beta_{t}\alpha_{t}\delta^{2}
$$
\n
$$
+\frac{3\beta_{t}\alpha_{t}\delta^{2}}{N}\mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{i=1}^{N}\|\theta_{i+1}^{i}-y^{i}(\mathbf{\Phi}^{*})\|^{2}\right]
$$
\n
$$
=\beta_{t}/\alpha_{t}\mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}_{t-\tau}-\mathbf{\Phi}^{*}\|^{2}]+3\beta_{t}\alpha_{t}\delta^{2}\mathbb{E}\left[\|\mathbf{\Phi}_{t-\tau}-\mathbf{\Phi}^{*}\|^{2}\right]+3\beta_{t}\alpha_{t}\delta^{2}
$$
\n

where the last inequality comes from $\mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}_{t-\tau}-\mathbf{\Phi}^*\|^2] \leq 2\mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}_{t-\tau}-\mathbf{\Phi}_t\|^2] + 2\mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}_t-\mathbf{\Phi}^*\|^2].$ Hence, we have $Term_3$ as follows

$$
Term_3 = C_1 + C_2 + C_3 + C_4
$$

\n
$$
\leq \beta_t / \alpha_t \mathbb{E}[\|\boldsymbol{\Phi}_t - \boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t-\tau}\|^2] + 4\beta_t \alpha_t L^2 (3 + 4L^2) \mathbb{E}[\|\boldsymbol{\Phi}^* - \boldsymbol{\Phi}_t\|^2]
$$

\n
$$
+ \frac{16\beta_t \alpha_t L^2}{N} \mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{i=1}^N \|\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t+1}^i - y^i(\boldsymbol{\Phi}_t)\|^2\right] + 8\beta_t \alpha_t \delta^2
$$

+
$$
(2\beta_t/\alpha_t + \beta_t \alpha_t L^2)\mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}_{t-\tau} - \mathbf{\Phi}_t\|^2] + 2\beta_t/\alpha_t \mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}_t - \mathbf{\Phi}^*\|^2]
$$

\n+ $(2\beta_t/\alpha_t + 6\beta_t \alpha_t \delta^2)\mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}_{t-\tau} - \mathbf{\Phi}_t\|^2]$
\n+ $(2\beta_t/\alpha_t + 6\beta_t \alpha_t \delta^2 + 6\beta_t \alpha_t L^2 \delta^2)\mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}_t - \mathbf{\Phi}^*\|^2]$
\n+ $3\beta_t \alpha_t \delta^2 + \frac{6\beta_t \alpha_t \delta^2}{N} \mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{i=1}^N ||\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t+1}^i - y^i(\mathbf{\Phi}_t)||^2\right]$
\n+ $(2\beta_t/\alpha_t + \beta_t \alpha_t L^2)\mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}_{t-\tau} - \mathbf{\Phi}_t\|^2] + 2\beta_t/\alpha_t \mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}_t - \mathbf{\Phi}^*\|^2]$
\n $\leq (7\beta_t/\alpha_t + 2\beta_t \alpha_t L^2 + 6\beta_t \alpha_t \delta^2)\mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}_{t-\tau} - \mathbf{\Phi}_t\|^2]$
\n+ $(6\beta_t/\alpha_t + 6\beta_t \alpha_t \delta^2(1 + L^2) + 4\beta_t \alpha_t L^2(3 + 4L^2))\mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}_t - \mathbf{\Phi}^*\|^2]$
\n+ $\frac{16\beta_t \alpha_t L^2 + 6\beta_t \alpha_t \delta^2}{N} \mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{i=1}^N ||y^i(\mathbf{\Phi}_t) - \mathbf{\theta}_{t+1}^i||^2\right] + 11\beta_t \alpha_t \delta^2$,
\ns the proof.

which completes the proof.

To bound $Term_3$, we need to bound $\mathbb{E}[\|\Phi_t - \Phi_{t-\tau}\|^2]$, which is shown in the following lemma. **Lemma F.5.** *we have* $\forall t \geq 2\tau$

$$
\mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}_t - \mathbf{\Phi}_{t-\tau}\|^2] \le 4\tau^2 \beta_0^2 / \alpha_0^2 \mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}^* - \mathbf{\Phi}_t\|^2] + 8\beta_0^2 L^2 B^2 \tau^2 + 8\beta_0^2 \delta^2 \tau^2. \tag{31}
$$

Proof. The proof follows similar procedures of proof for Lemma 3 in [Dal Fabbro et al.](#page-9-1) [\(2023\)](#page-9-1). Starting with

$$
\|\mathbf{\Phi}^* - \mathbf{\Phi}_{t+1}\|^2 = \|\mathbf{\Phi}^* - \mathbf{\Phi}_t\|^2 + \frac{\beta_t^2}{N^2} \left\| \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{h}(\theta_{t+1}^i, \mathbf{\Phi}_t) \right\|^2 - 2\beta_t \langle \mathbf{\Phi}^* - \mathbf{\Phi}_t, \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{h}(\theta_{t+1}^i, \mathbf{\Phi}_t) \rangle
$$

\n
$$
\leq (1 + \beta_t/\alpha_0) \|\mathbf{\Phi}^* - \mathbf{\Phi}_t\|^2 + \frac{(\beta_t \alpha_0 + \beta_t^2)}{N^2} \left\| \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{h}_t^i(\theta_{t+1}^i, \mathbf{\Phi}_t) \right\|^2
$$

\n
$$
\leq (1 + \beta_t/\alpha_0) \|\mathbf{\Phi}^* - \mathbf{\Phi}_t\|^2 + \frac{2\beta_t \alpha_0}{N^2} \left\| \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{h}_t^i(\theta_{t+1}^i, \mathbf{\Phi}_t) \right\|^2,
$$
 (32)

where the first inequality holds due to $2x^T y \leq \gamma ||x||^2 + 1/\gamma ||y||^2$, $\forall \gamma > 0$, and the second inequality holds since $\beta_t \alpha_0 \geq \beta_t^2$. We then have the following inequality according to Lemma [F.2,](#page-22-0)

$$
\mathbb{E}\left[\|\mathbf{\Phi}^* - \mathbf{\Phi}_{t+1}\|^2\right] \leq (1 + \beta_t/\alpha_0 + 8\beta_t \alpha_0 L^2 (1 + L^2)) \mathbb{E}\left[\|\mathbf{\Phi}^* - \mathbf{\Phi}_t\|^2\right] \n+ \frac{8\beta_t \alpha_0 L^2}{N} \mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{i=1}^N \|\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t+1} - y^i(\mathbf{\Phi}_t)\|^2\right] + 8\beta_t \alpha_0 \delta^2 \n\leq (1 + \beta_t/\alpha_0 + 8\beta_t \alpha_0 L^2 (1 + L^2)) \mathbb{E}\left[\|\mathbf{\Phi}^* - \mathbf{\Phi}_t\|^2\right] + 8\beta_t \alpha_0 (L^2 B^2 + \delta^2). \tag{33}
$$

By letting $\alpha_0 \leq \frac{1}{2L\sqrt{2L}}$ $\frac{1}{2L\sqrt{2(1+L^2)}}$, we have $\beta_t/\alpha_0 \geq 8\beta_t\alpha_0L^2(1+L^2)$, and hence

$$
\mathbb{E}\left[\|\mathbf{\Phi}^* - \mathbf{\Phi}_{t+1}\|^2\right] \le (1 + 2\beta_0/\alpha_0)\mathbb{E}\left[\|\mathbf{\Phi}^* - \mathbf{\Phi}_t\|^2\right] + 8\beta_0\alpha_0(L^2B^2 + \delta^2). \tag{34}
$$

Therefore, for all *t'* such that $t - \tau \leq t' \leq t$,

$$
\mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}^* - \mathbf{\Phi}_{t'}\|^2] \le (1 + 2\beta_0/\alpha_0)^{\tau} \mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}^* - \mathbf{\Phi}_{t-\tau}\|^2] + 8\beta_0 \alpha_0 (L^2 B^2 + \delta^2) \sum_{\ell=0}^{\tau-1} (1 + 2\beta_0/\alpha_0)^{\ell}.
$$
 (35)

Using the fact that $(1+x) \le e^x$ [Dal Fabbro et al.](#page-9-1) [\(2023\)](#page-9-1), if we let $\beta_0/\alpha_0 \le \frac{1}{8\tau}$, we have

$$
(1 + 2\beta_0/\alpha_0)^{\ell} \le (1 + 2\beta_0/\alpha_0)^{\tau} \le e^{0.25} \le 2,
$$

and

$$
\sum_{\ell=0}^{\tau-1} (1 + 32\beta^2)^{\ell} \le 2\tau.
$$

Hence, we have

$$
\mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}^* - \mathbf{\Phi}_{t'}\|^2] \le 2\mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}^* - \mathbf{\Phi}_{t-\tau}\|^2] + 16\beta_0 \alpha_0 \tau (L^2 B^2 + \delta^2).
$$

Since $\|\mathbf{\Phi}_t - \mathbf{\Phi}_{t-\tau}\|^2 \leq \tau \sum_{\ell=t-\tau}^{t-1} \|\mathbf{\Phi}_{\ell+1} - \mathbf{\Phi}_{\ell}\|^2 = \tau \frac{\beta^2}{N^2}$ $\frac{\beta^2}{N^2} \sum_{\ell=t-\tau}^{t-1} \|\sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{h}_{\ell}^i(\theta_{\ell+1}^i, \Phi_{\ell})\|^2$, when $t \geq 2\tau$, we have $\ell \geq \tau$ and thus

$$
\mathbb{E}[\|\Phi_t - \Phi_{t-\tau}\|^2]
$$
\n
$$
\leq \tau \frac{\beta^2}{N^2} \sum_{\ell=t-\tau}^{t-1} \|\sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{h}_{\ell}^i(\theta_{\ell+1}^i, \Phi_{\ell})\|^2
$$
\n
$$
\leq \tau \sum_{\ell=t-\tau}^{t-1} ((4\beta_0^2 (L^2 + L^4) \mathbb{E}[\|\Phi^* - \Phi_{\ell}\|^2] + 4\beta_0^2 L^2 B^2 \tau^2 + 4\beta_0^2 \delta^2 \tau^2)
$$
\n
$$
\leq 4\beta_0^2 (L^2 + L^4) \tau^2 (2\mathbb{E}[\|\Phi^* - \Phi_{t-\tau}\|^2] + 16\beta_0 \alpha_0 \tau (L^2 B^2 + \delta^2)) + 4\beta_0^2 L^2 B^2 \tau^2 + 4\beta_0^2 \delta^2 \tau^2
$$
\n
$$
= 8\beta_0^2 (L^2 + L^4) \tau^2 \mathbb{E}[\|\Phi^* - \Phi_{t-\tau}\|^2] + 4\beta_0^2 L^2 B^2 \tau^2 + 4\beta_0^2 \delta^2 \tau^2
$$
\n
$$
\leq \tau^2 \beta_0^2 / \alpha_0^2 \mathbb{E}[\|\Phi^* - \Phi_{t-\tau}\|^2] + 4\beta_0^2 L^2 B^2 \tau^2 + 4\beta_0^2 \delta^2 \tau^2
$$
\n
$$
\leq 2\tau^2 \beta_0^2 / \alpha_0^2 \mathbb{E}[\|\Phi^* - \Phi_t\|^2] + 2\tau^2 \beta_0^2 / \alpha_0^2 \mathbb{E}[\|\Phi_t - \Phi_{t-\tau}\|^2] + 4\beta_0^2 L^2 B^2 \tau^2 + 4\beta_0^2 \delta^2 \tau^2.
$$

Since $2\tau^2 \beta_0^2/\alpha_0^2 \leq 1/2$ when $\beta_0/\alpha_0 \leq \frac{1}{8\tau}$, we have

$$
\mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}_t - \mathbf{\Phi}_{t-\tau}\|^2] \le 4\tau^2 \beta_0^2 / \alpha_0^2 \mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}^* - \mathbf{\Phi}_t\|^2] + 8\beta_0^2 L^2 B^2 \tau^2 + 8\beta_0^2 \delta^2 \tau^2.
$$

This completes the proof.

Lemma F.6. $Term_3$ *is bounded as follows*

$$
Term_3 \leq (7\beta_t/\alpha_t + 2\beta_t\alpha_t L^2 + 6\beta_t\alpha_t \delta^2)(4\tau^2 \beta_0^2/\alpha_0^2 \mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}^* - \mathbf{\Phi}_t\|^2] + 8\beta_0^2 L^2 B^2 \tau^2 + 8\beta_0^2 \delta^2 \tau^2) + (6\beta_t/\alpha_t + 6\beta_t\alpha_t \delta^2 (1 + L^2) + 4\beta_t\alpha_t L^2 (3 + 4L^2)) \mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}_t - \mathbf{\Phi}^*\|^2] + \frac{16\beta_t\alpha_t L^2 + 6\beta_t\alpha_t \delta^2}{N} \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{i=1}^N \|\theta^{i,*} - \theta_{t+1}\|^2 \right] + 11\beta_t\alpha_t \delta^2.
$$

Proof. Substituting the bound of $\mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}_t - \mathbf{\Phi}_{t-\tau}\|^2]$ in [\(31\)](#page-27-0) into $Term_3$ in Lemma [F.4](#page-23-0) yield the final results. \Box

Provided $Term_1$ in Lemma [F.2,](#page-22-0) $Term_2$ in Lemma [F.3,](#page-23-1) and $Term_3$ in Lemma [F.6,](#page-28-0) we have the following lemma to characterize the drift between $\mathbf{\Phi}_{t+1}$ and $\mathbf{\Phi}_t$.

Lemma F.7. *For* $t \geq 2\tau$ *, the following holds*

$$
\mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}^* - \mathbf{\Phi}_{t+1}\|^2] \n\leq (1 + 4\beta_t^2 (L^2 + L^4) + (7\beta_t/\alpha_t + 2\beta_t \alpha_t L^2 + 6\beta_t \alpha_t \delta^2) 4\tau^2 \beta_0^2/\alpha_0^2 \n+ (6\beta_t/\alpha_t + 6\beta_t \alpha_t \delta^2 (1 + L^2) + 4\beta_t \alpha_t L^2 (3 + 4L^2)) + \beta_t (L/\alpha_t - 2\omega)) \mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}_t - \mathbf{\Phi}^*\|^2] \n+ \frac{4\beta_t^2 L^2 + \beta_t \alpha_t L + 16\beta_t \alpha_t L^2 + 6\beta_t \alpha_t \delta^2}{N} \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{i=1}^N \|\mathbf{\theta}^{i,*} - \mathbf{\theta}_{t+1}\|^2 \right] \n+ (7\beta_t/\alpha_t + 2\beta_t \alpha_t L^2 + 6\beta_t \alpha_t \delta^2) (8\beta_0^2 L^2 B^2 \tau^2 + 8\beta_0^2 \delta^2 \tau^2) + 4\beta_t^2 \delta^2 + 11\beta_t \alpha_t \delta^2.
$$

$$
\Box
$$

Proof. Substituting $Term_1, Term_2$ and $Term_3$ back into Lemma [F.1,](#page-21-2) we have

$$
\mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}^{*} - \mathbf{\Phi}_{t+1}\|^{2}] \n\leq \mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}^{*} - \mathbf{\Phi}_{t}\|^{2}] + 4\beta_{t}^{2}(L^{2} + L^{4})\mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}^{*} - \mathbf{\Phi}_{t}\|^{2}] + \frac{4\beta_{t}^{2}L^{2}}{N}\mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{i=1}^{N}\|\theta_{t+1} - y^{i}(\mathbf{\Phi}_{t})\|^{2}\right] + 4\beta_{t}^{2}\delta^{2} \n+ \beta_{t}(L/\alpha_{t} - 2\omega)\mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}^{*} - \mathbf{\Phi}_{t}\|^{2}] + \frac{\beta_{t}\alpha_{t}L}{N}\mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{i=1}^{N}\|\theta_{t+1}^{i} - y^{i}(\mathbf{\Phi}_{t})\|^{2}\right] \n+ (7\beta_{t}/\alpha_{t} + 2\beta_{t}\alpha_{t}L^{2} + 6\beta_{t}\alpha_{t}\delta^{2})(4\tau^{2}\beta_{0}^{2}/\alpha_{0}^{2}\mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}^{*} - \mathbf{\Phi}_{t}\|^{2}] + 8\beta_{0}^{2}L^{2}B^{2}\tau^{2} + 8\beta_{0}^{2}\delta^{2}\tau^{2}) \n+ (6\beta_{t}/\alpha_{t} + 6\beta_{t}\alpha_{t}\delta^{2}(1 + L^{2}) + 4\beta_{t}\alpha_{t}L^{2}(3 + 4L^{2}))\mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}_{t} - \mathbf{\Phi}^{*}\|^{2}] \n+ \frac{16\beta_{t}\alpha_{t}L^{2} + 6\beta_{t}\alpha_{t}\delta^{2}}{N}\mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{i=1}^{N}\|\theta^{i,*} - \theta_{t+1}\|^{2}\right] + 11\beta_{t}\alpha_{t}\delta^{2} \n= (1 + 4\beta_{t}^{2}(L^{2} + L^{4}) + (7\beta_{t}/\alpha_{t} + 2\beta_{t}\alpha_{t}L^{2} + 6\beta_{t}\alpha_{t}\delta^{2})4\tau^{2}\beta_{0}^{2}/\alpha_{0}^{2} \n+ (6\beta_{t}/\alpha_{t} + 6\beta_{t}\alpha_{t}\delta^{2}(1
$$

This completes the proof.

F.1.2 Drift of $\theta_t^i, \forall i$.

Next, we characterize the drift between $\pmb{\theta}^{i}_{t+1}$ and $\pmb{\theta}^{i}_{t}.$ **Lemma F.8.** *The drift between* $\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t+1}^i$ *and* $\boldsymbol{\theta}_t^i$, $\forall i$ *is given by*

$$
\mathbb{E}[\|\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t+1}^{i} - y^{i}(\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t})\|^{2}] = \underbrace{\mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t}^{i} - y^{i}(\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t-1}) + \alpha_{t}\sum_{k=1}^{K}\mathbf{g}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t,k-1}^{i},\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t})\right\|^{2}\right]}_{\text{Term}_{4}} + \underbrace{2\mathbb{E}\left[\left\langle\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t}^{i} - y^{i}(\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t-1}) + \alpha_{t}\sum_{k=1}^{K}\mathbf{g}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t,k-1}^{i},\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t}), y^{i}(\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t-1}) - y^{i}(\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t})\right\rangle\right]}_{\text{Term}_{6}}.
$$
\n(36)

Proof. According to the update of θ_t^i in [\(7\)](#page-5-2), we have

$$
\mathbb{E}[\|\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t+1}^{i} - y^{i}(\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t})\|^{2}] = \mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t}^{i} - y^{i}(\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t-1}) + \alpha_{t} \sum_{k=1}^{K} \mathbf{g}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t,k-1}^{i}, \boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t}) + y^{i}(\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t-1}) - y^{i}(\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t})\right\|^{2}\right]
$$
\n
$$
= \mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t}^{i} - y^{i}(\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t-1}) + \alpha_{t} \sum_{k=1}^{K} \mathbf{g}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t,k-1}^{i}, \boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t})\right\|^{2}\right] + \underbrace{\mathbb{E}\left[\left\|y^{i}(\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t-1}) - y^{i}(\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t})\right\|^{2}\right]}_{Term_{5}}
$$
\n
$$
+ 2\mathbb{E}\left[\left\langle \boldsymbol{\theta}_{t}^{i} - y^{i}(\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t-1}) + \alpha_{t} \sum_{k=1}^{K} \mathbf{g}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t,k-1}^{i}, \boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t}), y^{i}(\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t-1}) - y^{i}(\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t})\right\rangle\right], \quad (37)
$$

where the second inequality holds due to $\|\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}\|^2 = \|\mathbf{x}\|^2 + \|\mathbf{y}\|^2 + 2\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle$.

 \Box

We next analyze each term in (37) . **First, we bound** $Term_4$ in the following lemma. **Lemma F.9.** *With* $t \geq \tau$ *, we have* $Term_4$ *bounded as*

Term₄
$$
\leq (1 + 2\beta_{t-1}/\alpha_t - 2\alpha_t K\omega)\mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\boldsymbol{\theta}_t^i - y^i(\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t-1})\right\|^2\right]
$$

+ $(12\alpha_t^2 \delta^2 K^2 + 6K^2 \delta^2 \alpha_t^3/\beta_{t-1})\mathbb{E}[\left\|\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t-1} - \boldsymbol{\Phi}^*\right\|^2]$
+ $(12\alpha_t^2 \delta^2 K^2 + 2L^2 \alpha_t^3/\beta_{t-1} + 6K^2 \delta^2 \alpha_t^3/\beta_{t-1})\mathbb{E}[\left\|\boldsymbol{\Phi}_t - \boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t-1}\right\|^2]$
+ $6\alpha_t^2 \delta^2 K^2 (1 + B^2) + 2\alpha_t^2 K^2 L^2 B^2 + 2L^2 K^2 B^2 \alpha_t^3/\beta_{t-1} + \alpha_t^3/\beta_{t-1}(3K^2 B^2 + 3K^2 \delta^2).$ (38)

Proof. According to the definition of $Term_4$, we have

$$
Term_4 = \mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\theta_t^i - y^i(\Phi_{t-1}) + \alpha_t \sum_{k=1}^K \mathbf{g}(\theta_{t,k-1}^i, \Phi_t)\right\|^2\right]
$$
\n
$$
= \mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\theta_t^i - y^i(\Phi_{t-1})\right\|^2\right] + \alpha_t^2 \mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\sum_{k=1}^K \mathbf{g}(\theta_{t,k-1}^i, \Phi_t)\right\|^2\right]
$$
\n
$$
+ 2\alpha_t \left\langle \theta_t^i - y^i(\Phi_{t-1})\sum_{k=1}^K \mathbf{g}(\theta_{t,k-1}^i, \Phi_t)\right\rangle
$$
\n
$$
= \mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\theta_t^i - y^i(\Phi_{t-1})\right\|^2\right] + 2\alpha_t \mathbb{E}\left[\left\langle \theta_t^i - y^i(\Phi_{t-1}), \sum_{k=1}^K \mathbf{g}(\theta_{t,k-1}^i, \Phi_t)\right\rangle\right]
$$
\n
$$
+ \alpha_t^2 \mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\sum_{k=1}^K \mathbf{g}(\theta_{t,k-1}^i, \Phi_t) - \sum_{k=1}^K \bar{\mathbf{g}}(\theta_{t,k-1}^i, \Phi_t) + \sum_{k=1}^K \bar{\mathbf{g}}(\theta_{t,k-1}^i, \Phi_t) - \sum_{k=1}^K \bar{\mathbf{g}}(y^i(\Phi_t), \Phi_t)\right\|^2\right]
$$
\n
$$
\leq \mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\theta_t^i - y^i(\Phi_{t-1})\right\|^2\right] + 2\alpha_t^2 \mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\sum_{k=1}^K \mathbf{g}(\theta_{t,k-1}^i, \Phi_t) - \sum_{k=1}^K \bar{\mathbf{g}}(\theta_{t,k-1}^i, \Phi_t)\right\|^2\right]
$$
\n
$$
+ 2\alpha_t^2 \mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\sum_{k=1}^K \bar{\mathbf{g}}(\theta_{t,k-1}^i, \Phi_t) - \sum_{k=1}^K \bar{\mathbf{g}}(y^i(\Phi_{t,k-1}, \Phi_t)\right)\right]
$$
\n
$$
+ 2\alpha_t \mathbb{E}\
$$

where the first inequality holds due to the fact that $\|\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}\|^2 \leq 2\|\mathbf{x}\|^2 + 2\|\mathbf{y}\|^2$, and the second inequality is due to the mixing time property of function **g** as in Definition 4.3.

Next, we bound $Term_{41}$ as

$$
Term_{41} = 2\alpha_t \mathbb{E}\left[\left\langle \boldsymbol{\theta}_t^i - y^i(\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t-1}), \sum_{k=1}^K \bar{\mathbf{g}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t,k-1}^i, \boldsymbol{\Phi}_t) \right\rangle\right]
$$

\n
$$
= 2\alpha_t \mathbb{E}\left[\left\langle \boldsymbol{\theta}_t^i - y^i(\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t-1}), \sum_{k=1}^K \bar{\mathbf{g}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_t^i, \boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t-1}) \right\rangle\right]
$$

\n
$$
+ 2\alpha_t \mathbb{E}\left[\left\langle \boldsymbol{\theta}_t^i - y^i(\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t-1}), \sum_{k=1}^K \bar{\mathbf{g}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t,k-1}^i, \boldsymbol{\Phi}_t) - \sum_{k=1}^K \bar{\mathbf{g}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_t^i, \boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t-1}) \right\rangle\right]
$$

\n
$$
\leq -2\alpha_t K \omega \mathbb{E}\left[\|\boldsymbol{\theta}_t^i - y^i(\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t-1})\|^2\right]
$$

\n
$$
+ 2\alpha_t \mathbb{E}\left[\left\langle \boldsymbol{\theta}_t^i - y^i(\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t-1}), \sum_{k=1}^K \bar{\mathbf{g}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t,k-1}^i, \boldsymbol{\Phi}_t) - \sum_{k=1}^K \bar{\mathbf{g}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_t^i, \boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t-1}) \right\rangle\right]
$$

\n
$$
\leq -2\alpha_t K \omega \mathbb{E}\left[\|\boldsymbol{\theta}_t^i - y^i(\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t-1})\|^2\right] + \beta_{t-1}/\alpha_t \mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\boldsymbol{\theta}_t^i - y^i(\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t-1})\right\|^2\right]
$$

\n
$$
+ \alpha_t^3/\beta_{t-1} \mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\sum_{k=1}^K \bar{\mathbf{g}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t,k-1}^i, \boldsymbol{\Phi}_t) - \sum_{k=1}^K \bar{\mathbf{g}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_t^i, \boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t-1})\right\|^2\right].
$$
 (40)

In particular, we can bound $\mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\sum_{k=1}^K \bar{\mathbf{g}}(\theta_{t,k-1}^i, \Phi_t) - \sum_{k=1}^K \bar{\mathbf{g}}(\theta_t^i, \Phi_{t-1})\right\|\right]$ ² as

$$
\mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\sum_{k=1}^{K}\bar{\mathbf{g}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t,k-1}^{i},\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t})-\sum_{k=1}^{K}\bar{\mathbf{g}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t}^{i},\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t-1})\right\|^{2}\right]
$$
\n
$$
\leq 2L^{2}\mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t}-\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t-1}\right\|^{2}\right]+2L^{2}\mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\sum_{k=1}^{K}\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t,k-1}-\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t}\right\|^{2}\right]
$$
\n
$$
\leq 2L^{2}\mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t}-\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t-1}\right\|^{2}\right]+2L^{2}K\mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{k=1}^{K}\left\|\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t,k-1}-\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t}\right\|^{2}\right]
$$
\n
$$
\leq 2L^{2}\mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t}-\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t-1}\right\|^{2}\right]+2L^{2}K^{2}B^{2}.
$$
\n(41)

Substituting (41) back into (40) , we have $Term_{41}$ bounded as

$$
Term_{41} \le -2\alpha_t K \omega \mathbb{E} \left[\|\boldsymbol{\theta}_t^i - y^i (\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t-1})\|^2 \right] + \beta_{t-1} / \alpha_t \mathbb{E} \left[\left\| \boldsymbol{\theta}_t^i - y^i (\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t-1}) \right\|^2 \right] + \alpha_t^3 / \beta_{t-1} (2L^2 \mathbb{E} \left[\left\| \boldsymbol{\Phi}_t - \boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t-1} \right\|^2 \right] + 2L^2 K^2 B^2).
$$
 (42)

We next bound $Term_{42}$ as

$$
Term_{42} = 2\alpha_t \mathbb{E}\left[\left\langle \pmb{\theta}_t^i - y^i(\pmb{\Phi}_{t-1}), \sum_{k=1}^K \mathbf{g}(\pmb{\theta}_{t,k-1}^i, \pmb{\Phi}_t) - \sum_{k=1}^K \bar{\mathbf{g}}(\pmb{\theta}_{t,k-1}^i, \pmb{\Phi}_t) \right\rangle\right]
$$

\n
$$
\leq \beta_{t-1}/\alpha_t \mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\pmb{\theta}_t^i - y^i(\pmb{\Phi}_{t-1})\right\|^2\right] + \alpha_t^3/\beta_{t-1}(3K^2B^2 + 3K^2\delta^2 + 3K^2\delta^2 \mathbb{E}[\|\pmb{\Phi}_t - \pmb{\Phi}^*\|^2])
$$

\n
$$
\leq \beta_{t-1}/\alpha_t \mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\pmb{\theta}_t^i - y^i(\pmb{\Phi}_{t-1})\right\|^2\right] + \alpha_t^3/\beta_{t-1}(3K^2B^2 + 3K^2\delta^2)
$$

\n
$$
+ 6K^2\delta^2\alpha_t^3/\beta_{t-1} \mathbb{E}[\|\pmb{\Phi}_{t-1} - \pmb{\Phi}^*\|^2] + 6K^2\delta^2\alpha_t^3/\beta_{t-1} \mathbb{E}[\|\pmb{\Phi}_t - \pmb{\Phi}_{t-1}\|^2]
$$
(43)

Substituting $Term_{41}$ and $Term_{42}$ back into [\(39\)](#page-30-0), we get the final result

$$
Term_4 \leq \mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\theta_t^i - y^i(\Phi_{t-1})\right\|^2\right] + 6\alpha_t^2 \delta^2 K^2 \mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\Phi_t - \Phi^*\right\|^2\right] + 6\alpha_t^2 \delta^2 K^2 (1 + B^2) + 2\alpha_t^2 K^2 L^2 B^2
$$

$$
+Term_{41} + Term_{42}
$$
\n
$$
= \mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\theta_{t}^{i} - y^{i}(\Phi_{t-1})\right\|^{2}\right] + 6\alpha_{t}^{2}\delta^{2}K^{2}\mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\Phi_{t} - \Phi^{*}\right\|^{2}\right] + 6\alpha_{t}^{2}\delta^{2}K^{2}(1 + B^{2}) + 2\alpha_{t}^{2}K^{2}L^{2}B^{2}
$$
\n
$$
- 2\alpha_{t}K\omega\mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\theta_{t}^{i} - y^{i}(\Phi_{t-1})\right\|^{2}\right] + \beta_{t-1}/\alpha_{t}\mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\theta_{t}^{i} - y^{i}(\Phi_{t-1})\right\|^{2}\right]
$$
\n
$$
+ \alpha_{t}^{3}/\beta_{t-1}(2L^{2}\mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\Phi_{t} - \Phi_{t-1}\right\|^{2}\right] + 2L^{2}K^{2}B^{2})
$$
\n
$$
+ \beta_{t-1}/\alpha_{t}\mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\theta_{t}^{i} - y^{i}(\Phi_{t-1})\right\|^{2}\right] + \alpha_{t}^{3}/\beta_{t-1}(3K^{2}B^{2} + 3K^{2}\delta^{2})
$$
\n
$$
+ 6K^{2}\delta^{2}\alpha_{t}^{3}/\beta_{t-1}\mathbb{E}[\left\|\Phi_{t-1} - \Phi^{*}\right\|^{2}] + 6K^{2}\delta^{2}\alpha_{t}^{3}/\beta_{t-1}\mathbb{E}[\left\|\Phi_{t} - \Phi_{t-1}\right\|^{2}]
$$
\n
$$
\leq (1 + 2\beta_{t-1}/\alpha_{t} - 2\alpha_{t}K\omega)\mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\theta_{t}^{i} - y^{i}(\Phi_{t-1})\right\|^{2}\right]
$$
\n
$$
+ (12\alpha_{t}^{2}\delta^{2}K^{2} + 6K^{2}\delta^{2}\alpha_{t}^{3}/\beta_{t-1})\mathbb{E}[\left\|\Phi_{t-1} - \Phi^{*}\right\|^{2}]
$$
\n
$$
+ (12\alpha_{t}^{2}\delta^{2}K^{2} + 2L^{2}\alpha_{t}^{3}/\beta
$$

This completes the proof.

$$
\Box
$$

Next, we bound $Term_5$ in the following lemma.

Lemma F.10. *With* $t \geq \tau$ *, we have* $Term_5$ *bounded as*

$$
Term_5 \le 4\beta_{t-1}^2 (L^4 + L^6) \mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}^* - \mathbf{\Phi}_{t-1}\|^2] + \frac{4\beta_{t-1}^2 L^4}{N} \mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{i=1}^N \|\mathbf{\theta}_t - y^i(\mathbf{\Phi}_{t-1})\|^2\right] + 4L^2 \beta_{t-1}^2 \delta^2. \tag{45}
$$

Proof. We have

$$
Term_5 = \mathbb{E}\left[\left\|y^{i}(\Phi_{t-1}) - y^{i}(\Phi_{t})\right\|^{2}\right] = L^{2}\mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\Phi_{t} - \Phi_{t-1}\right\|^{2}\right]
$$

\n
$$
= \frac{L^{2}\beta_{t-1}^{2}}{N^{2}}\mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\sum_{i=1}^{N}\mathbf{h}(\theta_{t}^{i}, \Phi_{t-1})\right\|^{2}\right]
$$

\n
$$
\leq 4\beta_{t-1}^{2}(L^{4} + L^{6})\mathbb{E}[\left\|\Phi^{*} - \Phi_{t-1}\right\|^{2}] + \frac{4\beta_{t-1}^{2}L^{4}}{N}\mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{i=1}^{N}\left\|\theta_{t} - y^{i}(\Phi_{t-1})\right\|^{2}\right] + 4L^{2}\beta_{t-1}^{2}\delta^{2}, (46)
$$

where the last inequality holds due to Lemma [F.2.](#page-22-0)

Next, we bound $Term_6$ in the following lemma. **Lemma F.11.** We have $Term_6$ bounded as

$$
Term_6 \leq \beta_{t-1}/\alpha_t Term_4 + \alpha_t/\beta_{t-1} Term_5. \tag{47}
$$

Proof.

$$
Term_6 = 2\mathbb{E}\left[\left\langle \boldsymbol{\theta}_t^i - y^i(\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t-1}) + \alpha_t \sum_{k=1}^K \mathbf{g}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t,k-1}^i, \boldsymbol{\Phi}_t), y^i(\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t-1}) - y^i(\boldsymbol{\Phi}_t) \right\rangle\right]
$$

$$
\leq \beta_{t-1}/\alpha_t \mathbb{E}\left[\left\|\boldsymbol{\theta}_t^i - y^i(\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t-1}) + \alpha_t \sum_{k=1}^K \mathbf{g}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t,k-1}^i\right\|^2\right] + \alpha_t/\beta_{t-1} \mathbb{E}\left[\left\|y^i(\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t-1}) - y^i(\boldsymbol{\Phi}_t)\right\|^2\right] \tag{48}
$$

 \Box

 \Box

Providing $Term_4$ **in Lemma [F.9,](#page-30-1)** $Term_5$ **in Lemma [F.10,](#page-32-0)** and $Term_6$ **in Lemma [F.11,](#page-32-1)** we **have the following result.**

Lemma F.12. *For* $t \geq \tau$ *, the following holds*

$$
\mathbb{E}[\|\theta_{t+1}^{i} - y^{i}(\Phi_{t})\|^{2}]
$$
\n
$$
\leq \left[(1 + \beta_{t-1}/\alpha_{t}) \left((1 + 2\beta_{t-1}/\alpha_{t} - 2\alpha_{t} K\omega) + (12\alpha_{t}^{2} \delta^{2} K^{2} + 2L^{2} \alpha_{t}^{3} / \beta_{t-1} + 6K^{2} \delta^{2} \alpha_{t}^{3} / \beta_{t-1}) \frac{4\beta_{t-1}^{2} L^{2}}{N} \right) + (1 + \alpha_{t} / \beta_{t-1}) \frac{4\beta_{t-1}^{2} L^{4}}{N} \right]
$$
\n
$$
\cdot \mathbb{E} \left[\|\theta_{t}^{i} - y^{i}(\Phi_{t-1})\|^{2} \right]
$$
\n
$$
+ \left[(1 + \beta_{t-1}/\alpha_{t}) \left((12\alpha_{t}^{2} \delta^{2} K^{2} + 6K^{2} \delta^{2} \alpha_{t}^{3} / \beta_{t-1}) + (12\alpha_{t}^{2} \delta^{2} K^{2} + 2L^{2} \alpha_{t}^{3} / \beta_{t-1} + 6K^{2} \delta^{2} \alpha_{t}^{3} / \beta_{t-1}) (4\beta_{t-1} (L^{2} + L^{4})) \right)
$$
\n
$$
+ (12\alpha_{t}^{2} \delta^{2} K^{2} + 2L^{2} \alpha_{t}^{3} / \beta_{t-1} + 6K^{2} \delta^{2} \alpha_{t}^{3} / \beta_{t-1}) (4\beta_{t-1} (L^{2} + L^{4})) \right)
$$
\n
$$
+ (1 + \alpha_{t} / \beta_{t-1}) 4\beta_{t-1}^{2} (L^{4} + L^{6}) \left[\cdot \mathbb{E} [\|\Phi^{*} - \Phi_{t-1}\|^{2}] \right]
$$
\n
$$
+ (1 + \beta_{t-1} / \alpha_{t}) \left((12\alpha_{t}^{2} \delta^{2} K^{2} + 2L^{2} \alpha_{t}^{3} / \beta_{t-1} + 6K^{2} \delta^{2} \alpha_{t}^{3} / \beta_{t-1}) 4\beta_{t-1}^{2} \delta^{2} + 6\alpha_{t}
$$

Proof. According to [\(36\)](#page-29-1), we have

$$
\begin{split} &\mathbb{E}[\|\pmb{\theta}_{t+1}^{i}-y^{i}(\pmb{\Phi}_{t})\|^{2}] = Term_{4} + Term_{5} + Term_{6} \\ &\leq \quad \ \ (1+\beta_{t-1}/\alpha_{t})Term_{4} + (1+\alpha_{t}/\beta_{t-1})Term_{5} \\ &\leq (1+\beta_{t-1}/\alpha_{t}) \Bigg((1+2\beta_{t-1}/\alpha_{t} - 2\alpha_{t}K\omega)\mathbb{E}\left[\|\pmb{\theta}_{t}^{i}-y^{i}(\pmb{\Phi}_{t-1})\|^{2}\right] \\ &+ (12\alpha_{t}^{2}\delta^{2}K^{2} + 6K^{2}\delta^{2}\alpha_{t}^{3}/\beta_{t-1})\mathbb{E}[\|\pmb{\Phi}_{t-1}-\pmb{\Phi}^{*}\|^{2}] \\ &+ (12\alpha_{t}^{2}\delta^{2}K^{2} + 2L^{2}\alpha_{t}^{3}/\beta_{t-1} + 6K^{2}\delta^{2}\alpha_{t}^{3}/\beta_{t-1})\mathbb{E}[\|\pmb{\Phi}_{t}-\pmb{\Phi}_{t-1}\|^{2}] \\ &+ 6\alpha_{t}^{2}\delta^{2}K^{2}(1+B^{2}) + 2\alpha_{t}^{2}K^{2}L^{2}B^{2} + 2L^{2}K^{2}B^{2}\alpha_{t}^{3}/\beta_{t-1} + \alpha_{t}^{3}/\beta_{t-1}(3K^{2}B^{2} + 3K^{2}\delta^{2}) \Bigg) \\ &+ (1+\alpha_{t}/\beta_{t-1})\Bigg(4\beta_{t-1}^{2}(L^{4}+L^{6})\mathbb{E}[\|\pmb{\Phi}^{*}-\pmb{\Phi}_{t-1}\|^{2}] \\ &+ \frac{4\beta_{t-1}^{2}L^{4}}{N}\mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{i=1}^{N}\|\pmb{\theta}_{t}-y^{i}(\pmb{\Phi}_{t-1})\|^{2}\right] + 4L^{2}\beta_{t-1}^{2}\delta^{2} \Bigg) \\ \text{Lemma F.10} \\ &\leq \quad \ \left(1+\beta_{t-1}/\alpha_{t}\right)\Bigg((1+2\beta_{t-1}/\alpha_{t} - 2\alpha_{t}K\omega)\mathbb{E}\left[\|\pmb{\theta}_{t}^{i}-y^{i}(\pmb{\Phi}_{t-1})\|^{2}\right]
$$

+
$$
6\alpha_t^2 \delta^2 K^2 (1 + B^2) + 2\alpha_t^2 K^2 L^2 B^2 + 2L^2 K^2 B^2 \alpha_t^3 / \beta_{t-1} + \alpha_t^3 / \beta_{t-1} (3K^2 B^2 + 3K^2 \delta^2)
$$

\n+ $(1 + \alpha_t / \beta_{t-1}) \left(4\beta_{t-1}^2 (L^4 + L^6) \mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}^* - \mathbf{\Phi}_{t-1}\|^2]$
\n+ $\frac{4\beta_{t-1}^2 L^4}{N} \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{i=1}^N \|\mathbf{\theta}_t - y^i (\mathbf{\Phi}_{t-1})\|^2 \right] + 4L^2 \beta_{t-1}^2 \delta^2$
\n= $\left[(1 + \beta_{t-1}/\alpha_t) \left((1 + 2\beta_{t-1}/\alpha_t - 2\alpha_t K\omega) + (12\alpha_t^2 \delta^2 K^2 + 2L^2 \alpha_t^3 / \beta_{t-1} + 6K^2 \delta^2 \alpha_t^3 / \beta_{t-1}) \frac{4\beta_{t-1}^2 L^2}{N} \right) + (1 + \alpha_t / \beta_{t-1}) \frac{4\beta_{t-1}^2 L^4}{N} \right]$
\n $\cdot \mathbb{E} \left[\|\mathbf{\theta}_t^i - y^i (\mathbf{\Phi}_{t-1})\|^2 \right]$
\n+ $\left[(1 + \beta_{t-1}/\alpha_t) \left((12\alpha_t^2 \delta^2 K^2 + 6K^2 \delta^2 \alpha_t^3 / \beta_{t-1}) + (12\alpha_t^2 \delta^2 K^2 + 2L^2 \alpha_t^3 / \beta_{t-1} + 6K^2 \delta^2 \alpha_t^3 / \beta_{t-1}) (4\beta_{t-1} (L^2 + L^4)) \right) \right]$
\n+ $(1 + \alpha_t / \beta_{t-1}) 4\beta_{t-1}^2 (L^4 + L^6) \right] \cdot \mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}^* - \mathbf{\Phi}_{t-1}\|^2]$
\n+ $(1 + \alpha_t / \beta_{t-1}) 4\beta_{t-1}^2 (L^4 + L^6) \right] \cdot \mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf$

This completes the proof.

F.1.3 Final Step of Proof for Theorem [4.1](#page-6-4)

Now, we are ready to proof the desired result in Theorem [4.1.](#page-6-4)

According to the definition of Lyapunov function in [\(14\)](#page-6-1), We have

$$
M(\{\theta_{t+2}^{i}\},\Phi_{t+1}) = \|\Phi_{t+1} - \Phi^*\|^2 + \frac{\beta_t}{\alpha_{t+1}} \cdot \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \|\theta_{t+2}^{i} - y^{i}(\Phi_{t+1})\|^2
$$

\n
$$
\leq (1 + 4\beta_t^2 (L^2 + L^4) + (7\beta_t/\alpha_t + 2\beta_t \alpha_t L^2 + 6\beta_t \alpha_t \delta^2) 4\tau^2 \beta_0^2/\alpha_0^2
$$

\n
$$
+ (6\beta_t/\alpha_t + 6\beta_t \alpha_t \delta^2 (1 + L^2) + 4\beta_t \alpha_t L^2 (3 + 4L^2)) + \beta_t (L/\alpha_t - 2\omega)) \mathbb{E}[\|\Phi_t - \Phi^*\|^2]
$$

\n
$$
+ \frac{4\beta_t^2 L^2 + \beta_t \alpha_t L + 16\beta_t \alpha_t L^2 + 6\beta_t \alpha_t \delta^2}{N} \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{i=1}^N \|\theta_{t+1}^i - y^i(\Phi_t)\|^2 \right]
$$

\n
$$
+ (7\beta_t/\alpha_t + 2\beta_t \alpha_t L^2 + 6\beta_t \alpha_t \delta^2)(8\beta_0^2 L^2 B^2 \tau^2 + 8\beta_0^2 \delta^2 \tau^2) + 4\beta_t^2 \delta^2 + 11\beta_t \alpha_t \delta^2
$$

\n
$$
+ \frac{\beta_t}{\alpha_{t+1}} \cdot \left[(1 + \beta_t/\alpha_{t+1}) \left((1 + 2\beta_t/\alpha_{t+1} - 2\alpha_{t+1} K\omega) + (12\alpha_{t+1}^2 \delta^2 K^2 + 2L^2 \alpha_{t+1}^3/\beta_t + 6K^2 \delta^2 \alpha_{t+1}^3/\beta_t) \frac{4\beta_t^2 L^2}{N} \right) + (1 + \alpha_{t+1}/\beta_t) \frac{4\beta_t^2 L^4}{N} \right]
$$

\n
$$
\cdot \frac{1}{N} \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{i=1}^N \|\theta_{t+1}^i - y^i(\Phi_t)\|^2 \right]
$$

$$
+\left[(1+\beta_t/\alpha_{t+1}) \left((12\alpha_{t+1}^2 \delta^2 K^2 + 6K^2 \delta^2 \alpha_{t+1}^3/\beta_t) \right.\n+ (12\alpha_{t+1}^2 \delta^2 K^2 + 2L^2 \alpha_{t+1}^3/\beta_t + 6K^2 \delta^2 \alpha_{t+1}^3/\beta_t) (4\beta_t (L^2 + L^4)) \right) \n+ (1+\alpha_{t+1}/\beta_t) 4\beta_t^2 (L^4 + L^6) \left[\cdot \mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{\Phi}^* - \mathbf{\Phi}_t\|^2] \right. \n+ (1+\beta_t/\alpha_{t+1}) \left((12\alpha_{t+1}^2 \delta^2 K^2 + 2L^2 \alpha_{t+1}^3/\beta_t + 6K^2 \delta^2 \alpha_{t+1}^3/\beta_t) 4\beta_t^2 \delta^2 \right. \n+ 6\alpha_{t+1}^2 \delta^2 K^2 (1+B^2) + 2\alpha_{t+1}^2 K^2 L^2 B^2 + 2L^2 K^2 B^2 \alpha_{t+1}^3/\beta_t + \alpha_{t+1}^3/\beta_t (3K^2 B^2 + 3K^2 \delta^2) \right) \n+ (1+\alpha_{t+1}/\beta_t) \cdot 4L^2 \beta_t^2 \delta^2 \left]. \n(51)
$$

To simplify the notations, we define

$$
D_1 := (4\beta_t^2(L^2 + L^4) + (7\beta_t/\alpha_t + 2\beta_t\alpha_t L^2 + 6\beta_t\alpha_t \delta^2)4\tau^2 \beta_0^2/\alpha_0^2
$$

+ $(6\beta_t/\alpha_t + 6\beta_t\alpha_t \delta^2(1 + L^2) + 4\beta_t\alpha_t L^2(3 + 4L^2)) + \beta_t L/\alpha_t)$
+ $\frac{\beta_t}{\alpha_{t+1}} \left[(1 + \beta_t/\alpha_{t+1}) \left((12\alpha_{t+1}^2 \delta^2 K^2 + 6K^2 \delta^2 \alpha_{t+1}^3/\beta_t) + (12\alpha_{t+1}^2 \delta^2 K^2 + 2L^2 \alpha_{t+1}^3/\beta_t + 6K^2 \delta^2 \alpha_{t+1}^3/\beta_t)(4\beta_t (L^2 + L^4)) \right) + (1 + \alpha_{t+1}/\beta_t)4\beta_t^2 (L^4 + L^6) \right],$ (52)

and

$$
D_2 := 4\beta_t^3/\alpha_{t+1}L^2 + \alpha_t^2L + 16\alpha_t^2L^2 + 6\alpha_t\alpha_t\delta^2
$$

+
$$
\left[\left((2\beta_t/\alpha_{t+1}) + (12\alpha_{t+1}^2\delta^2K^2 + 2L^2\alpha_{t+1}^3/\beta_t + 6K^2\delta^2\alpha_{t+1}^3/\beta_t) \frac{4\beta_t^2L^2}{N} \right) + (1 + \alpha_{t+1}/\beta_t) \frac{4\beta_t^2L^4}{N} \right]
$$

+
$$
\left[\beta_t/\alpha_{t+1} \left((1 + 2\beta_t/\alpha_{t+1} - 2\alpha_{t+1}K\omega) + (12\alpha_{t+1}^2\delta^2K^2 + 2L^2\alpha_{t+1}^3/\beta_t + 6K^2\delta^2\alpha_{t+1}^3/\beta_t) \frac{4\beta_t^2L^2}{N} \right) + (1 + \alpha_{t+1}/\beta_t) \frac{4\beta_t^2L^4}{N} \right].
$$
 (53)

Since D_1 is of higher orders of $o(\beta_t)$ and D_2 is of higher order of $o(\alpha_{t+1})$, we can let $D_1 \leq \omega \beta_t$ and $D_2 \leq K \omega \alpha_{t+1}$. Therefore, we have

$$
M(\{\theta_{t+2}^{i}\}, \Phi_{t+1}) \leq (1 - \omega\beta_{t})M(\{\theta_{t+1}^{i}\}, \Phi_{t})
$$

+ $(144\tau^{2}K^{2}L^{2}\delta^{2} + 4L^{4}/N)\beta_{t}\alpha_{t+1} \left[\mathbb{E}[\|\Phi_{t} - \Phi^{*}\|^{2}] + \frac{1}{N}\mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{i=1}^{N} \|\theta_{t+1}^{i} - y^{i}(\Phi_{t})\|^{2}\right]\right]$
+ $4\alpha_{t+1}\beta_{t}K^{2}(3\delta^{2}(1 + B^{2}) + L^{2}B^{2}) + 2\alpha_{t+1}^{2}(3K^{2}B^{2} + 3K^{2}\delta^{2} + 2L^{2}K^{2}B^{2}) + 8\alpha_{t+1}\beta_{t}\delta^{2}$
 $\leq (1 - \omega\beta_{t})M(\{\theta_{t+1}^{i}\}, \Phi_{t})$
+ $(144\tau^{2}K^{2}L^{2}\delta^{2} + 4L^{2}/N)\beta_{t}\alpha_{t} \left[\mathbb{E}[\|\Phi_{t} - \Phi^{*}\|^{2}] + \frac{1}{N}\mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{i=1}^{N} \|\theta_{t+1}^{i} - y^{i}(\Phi_{t})\|^{2}\right]\right]$
+ $4\alpha_{t}\beta_{t}K^{2}(3\delta^{2}(1 + B^{2}) + L^{2}B^{2}) + 2\alpha_{t}^{2}(3K^{2}B^{2} + 3K^{2}\delta^{2} + 2L^{2}K^{2}B^{2}) + 8\alpha_{t}\beta_{t}\delta^{2}$, (54)

where the first inequality holds by omitting the higher order of learning rates, and the second inequality holds due to the decreasing learning rates of α_t .

We now set the proper decaying learning rates. Let $\alpha_t = \alpha_0/(t+2)^{5/6}$ and $\beta_t = \beta_0/(t+2)$. We then have

$$
(t+2)^2 \cdot (1 - \omega \beta_t) = (t+2)^2 (1 - \omega \beta_0)/(t+2) \le (t+1)^2,
$$
\n(55)

if $\omega\beta_o < 2$. In addition, we have the following inequalities

$$
(t+2)^2 \cdot \alpha_t \beta_t \le \alpha_0 \beta_0 (t+2)^{1/3},
$$

$$
(t+2)^2 \cdot \alpha_t^2 = \alpha_0^2 (t+2)^2.
$$

Hence, multiplying both sides with $(t+2)^2$, we have

$$
(t+2)^{2}M(\{\theta_{t+2}^{i}\},\Phi_{t+1}) \leq (t+1)^{2}M(\{\theta_{t+1}^{i}\},\Phi_{t})
$$

+ $(144\tau^{2}K^{2}L^{2}\delta^{2} + 4L^{2}/N)\alpha_{0}\beta^{0}(t+2)^{1/3}\left[\mathbb{E}[\|\Phi_{t}-\Phi^{*}\|^{2}] + \frac{1}{N}\mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{i=1}^{N}\|\theta_{t+1}^{i}-y^{i}(\Phi_{t})\|^{2}\right]\right]$
+ $(4\alpha_{0}\beta_{0}K^{2}(3\delta^{2}(1+B^{2})+L^{2}B^{2})+2\alpha_{0}^{2}(3K^{2}B^{2}+3K^{2}\delta^{2}+2L^{2}K^{2}B^{2})+8\alpha_{0}\beta_{0}\delta^{2})(t+2)^{1/3}.$

Summing the above equation from $t = 0, \ldots, T$, we have

$$
(T+2)^2 M(\{\theta_{t+2}^i\}, \Phi_{t+1}) \leq M(\{\theta_1^i\}, \Phi_0)
$$

+
$$
(144\tau^2 K^2 L^2 \delta^2 + 4L^2/N) \alpha_0 \beta^0 (T+2)^{4/3} \left[\mathbb{E}[\|\Phi_0 - \Phi^*\|^2] + \frac{1}{N} \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{i=1}^N \|\theta_1^i - y^i(\Phi_0)\|^2 \right] \right]
$$

+
$$
(4\alpha_0 \beta_0 K^2 (3\delta^2 (1+B^2) + L^2 B^2) + 2\alpha_0^2 (3K^2 B^2 + 3K^2 \delta^2 + 2L^2 K^2 B^2) + 8\alpha_0 \beta_0 \delta^2) (T+2)^{4/3}.
$$

Dividing both sides by $(T+2)^2$, we have

$$
M(\{\theta_{t+2}^i\}, \Phi_{t+1}) \leq \frac{M(\{\theta_1^i\}, \Phi_0)}{(T+2)^2} + (144\tau^2 K^2 L^2 \delta^2 + 4L^2/N)\alpha_0 \beta_0 (T+2)^{-2/3} \left[\mathbb{E}[\|\Phi_0 - \Phi^*\|^2] + \frac{1}{N} \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{i=1}^N \|\theta_1^i - y^i(\Phi_0)\|^2 \right] \right] + (4\alpha_0 \beta_0 K^2 (3\delta^2 (1+B^2) + L^2 B^2) + 2\alpha_0^2 (3K^2 B^2 + 3K^2 \delta^2 + 2L^2 K^2 B^2) + 8\alpha_0 \beta_0 \delta^2 (T+2)^{-2/3}.
$$

This completes the proof.

F.2 Proof of Corollary [4.3](#page-6-3)

If $\alpha_0 = \beta_0 = o(N^{-1/3}K^{-1/2})$, we have

$$
M(\{\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t+2}^i\}, \boldsymbol{\Phi}_{t+1}) \leq \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{(T+2)^2} + \frac{1}{N^{2/3}(T+2)^{2/3}} + \frac{1}{K^2 N^{5/3}(T+2)^{2/3}} + \frac{1}{K^2 N^{2/3}(T+2)^{2/3}}\right),
$$

which is dominated by $\mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{N^{2/3}(T+2)^{2/3}}\right)$ if $T^2 > N$.

G Additional experiment details

PFedDQN-Rep in CartPole Environment. We evaluate the performance PFEDDQN-REP (see Appendix [B\)](#page-14-1) in a modified CartPole environment [Brockman et al.](#page-9-10) [\(2016\)](#page-9-10). Similar to [Jin et al.](#page-10-2) [\(2022\)](#page-10-2), we change the length of pole to create different environments. Specifically, we consider 10 agents with varying pole length from 0*.*38 to 0*.*74 with a step size of 0*.*04. We compare PFedDQN-Rep with (i)

Figure 8: Comparison of control by DQN, FedDQN and PFEDDQN-REP in Cartpole Environments.

a conventional DQN that each agent learns its own environment independently; and (ii) a federated version DQN (FedDQN) that allows all agents to collaboratively learn a single policy (without personalization). We randomly choose one agent and present its performance in Figure $3(top)(a)$ $3(top)(a)$. The results of the other agents are presented in Figure [8.](#page-37-0) Again, we observe that our PFEDDQN-REP achieves the maximized return much faster than the conventional DQN due to leveraging shared representations among agents; and obtains larger reward than FedDQN, thanks to our personalized policy. We further evaluate the effectiveness of shared representation learned by PFEDDQN-REP when generalizes it to a new agent. As shown in Figure $3(top)(b)$ $3(top)(b)$, our PFEDDQN-REP generalizes quickly to the new environment. Detailed parameter settings can be found in Table [2.](#page-37-1)

PFedDQN-Rep in Acrobot Environment. We further evaluate FEDDQN-REP in a modified Acrobot environment [Brockman et al.](#page-9-10) [\(2016\)](#page-9-10). The pole length is adjusted with [-0.3, 0.3] with a step size of 0.06, and the pole mass with be adjusted accordingly [Jin et al.](#page-10-2) [\(2022\)](#page-10-2). The same two benchmarks are compared as in Figure [3\(](#page-7-2)top). The parameter setting remains the same except number of episodes decreases to 100. Similar observations can be made from Figure [3\(](#page-7-2)bottom) and Figure [9](#page-38-0) as those for the Cartpole enviroments.

Figure 9: Comparison of control by DQN, FedDQN and PFEDDQN-REP in Acrobot Environments.