

Correct-by-construction control synthesis for highly dynamics systems: an application in automotive safety systems

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Exploration of Correct-By-Construction Controller Synthesis Seminar
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Motivation

Excerpt From “Dad’s Sixth Sense” (Hyundai) [[2014 Super Bowl](#)]
Third Highest Scoring Ad of all Time According to Ace Metrix



Motivation

- Crashes in which at least one driver was distracted:
 - 3,267 fatalities (2010)
 - 735 000 nonfatal injuries

Automation can help with:

- safety, aging society, energy/congestion

- Costs \$45.8 billion in 2010
 - roughly 17 percent of all economic costs from motor vehicle crashes.

Trends in Automation

NHTSA “Preliminary Statement of Policy Concerning Automated Vehicles” defines levels of automation:

- Level 0 - no automation
- Level 1 - Function-specific automation
- Level 2 - Combined function automation
- Level 3 - Limited self-driving automation
- Level 4 - Full self-driving automation

Trends in Automation

NHTSA “Preliminary Statement of Policy Concerning Automated Vehicles” defines levels of automation:

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All new vehicles in the US at “Level 1” with electronic stability control since 2012.



Google

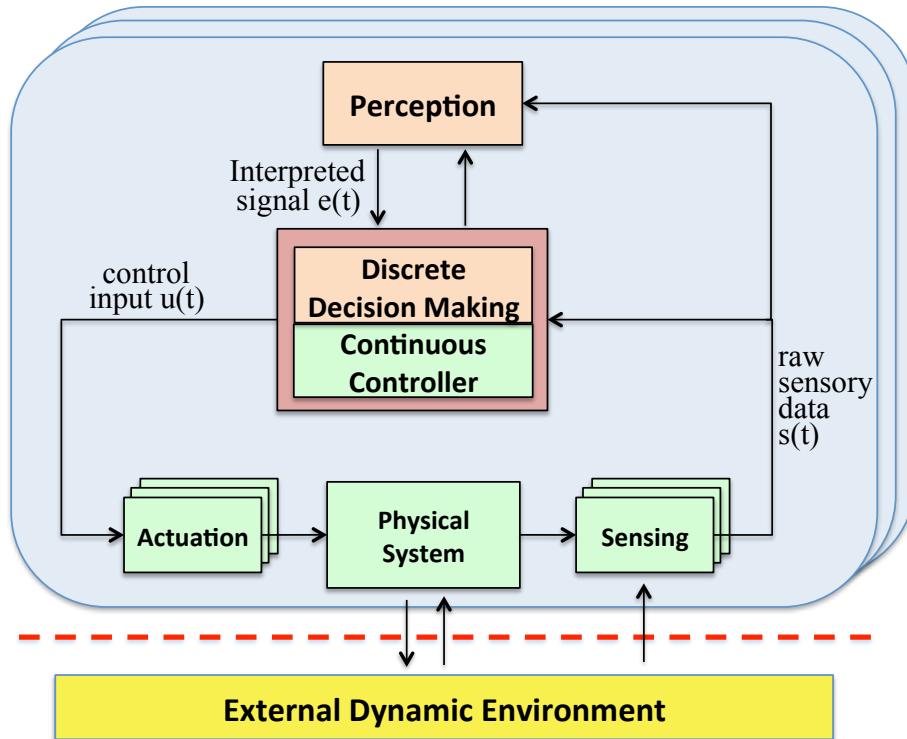
Challenges

- Many vehicle active safety systems are being conceived and deployed
 - extreme increase in software complexity
- Combining two safety systems can lead to unexpected interactions
 - hard to test and certify
- Many complaints (e.g., unintended acceleration) and recalls
 - cost to economy

How can we build (semi)autonomous systems that we can trust our lives with?

**Can we guarantee correctness by
design using formal methods?**

Cyber-Physical Control Systems

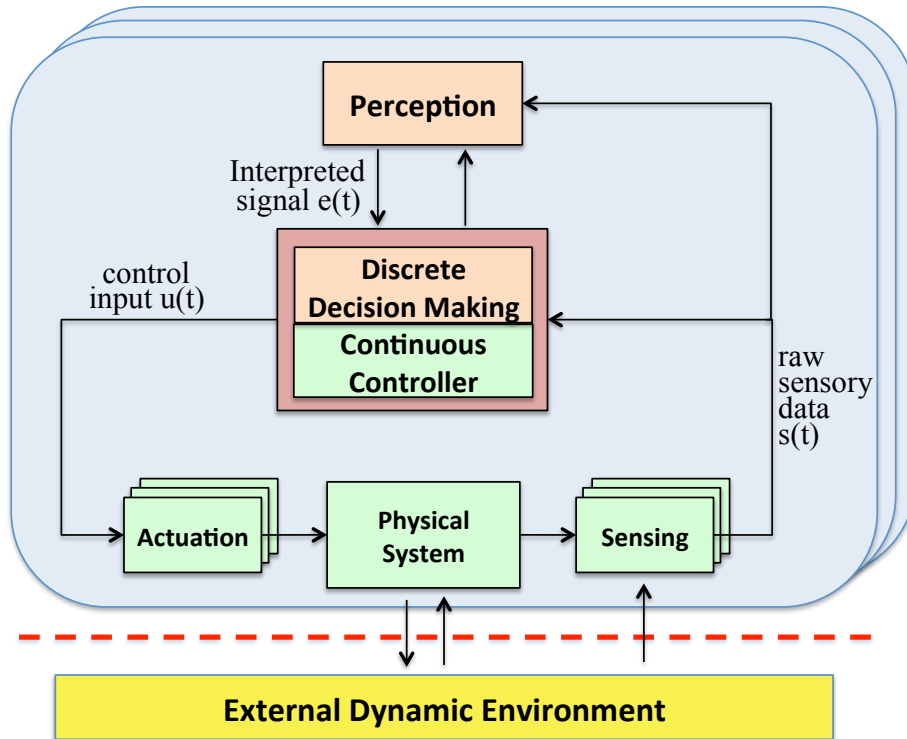


Several interacting
feedback loops

computational, discrete
physical, continuous

Spatially distributed,
communication between
blocks/(sub)systems

Cyber-Physical Control Systems



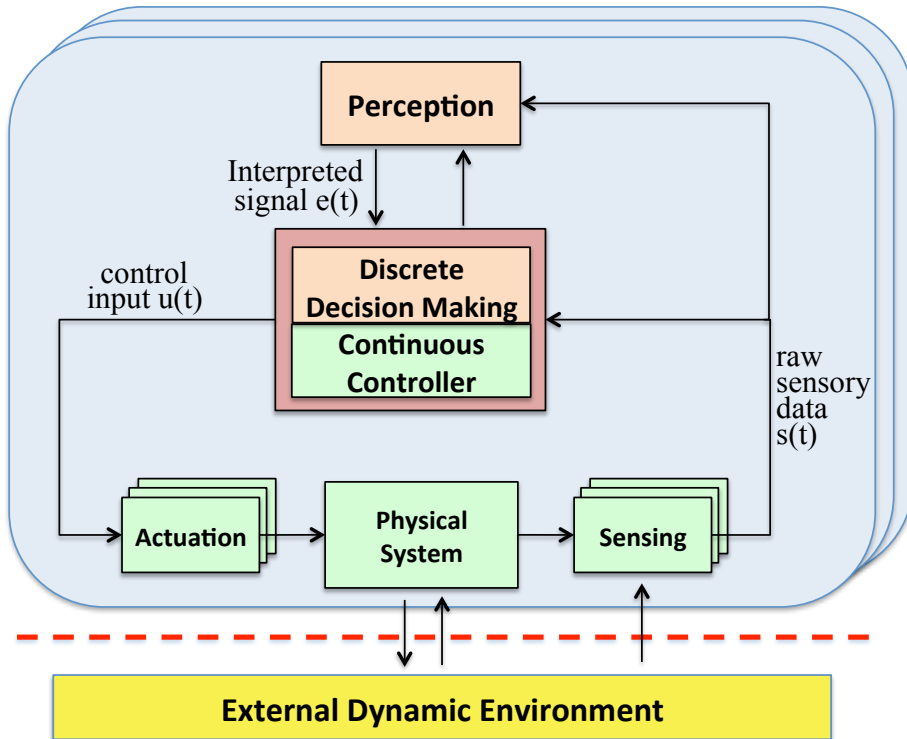
physical, continuous

$$\dot{x}_p = f_p(x_p, u, \eta) \quad \text{physical system}$$
$$s = g_p(x_p, u, \mu)$$

$$\dot{x}_c = f_c(x_c, s) \quad \text{feedback controller}$$
$$u = g_c(x_c, s)$$

Models: Differential equation
Specifications: Stability, reference tracking, optimality

Cyber-Physical Control Systems



computational, discrete

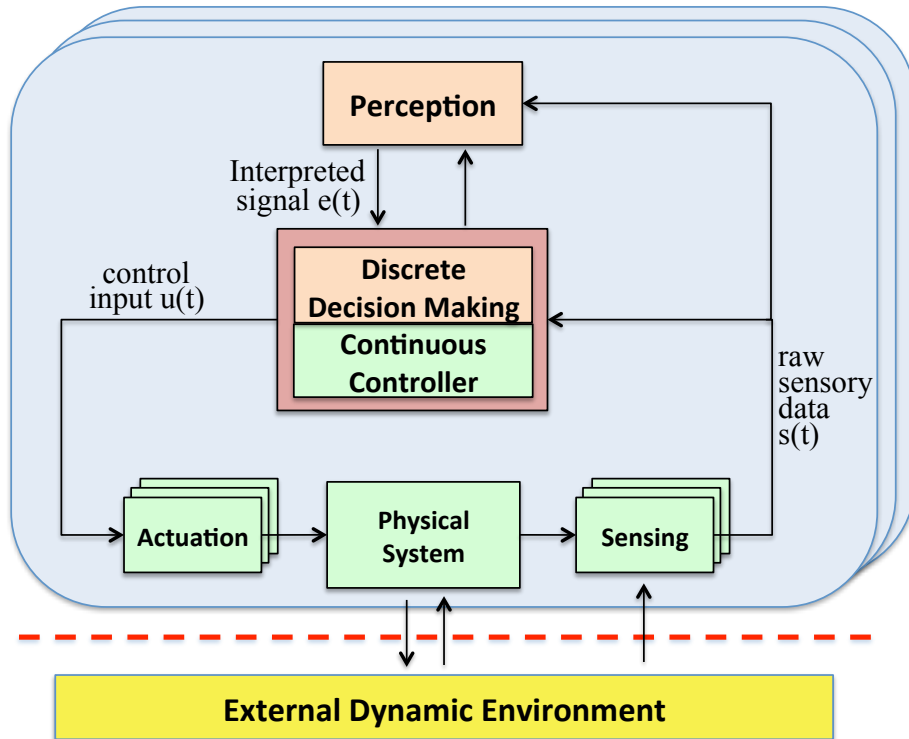


$$TS(S, Act, \rightarrow, AP)$$

Models: Discrete-event systems, automata, transition systems

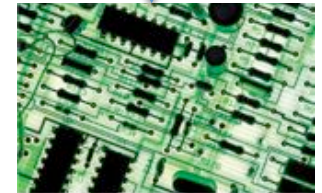
Specifications: Safety, liveness, diagnosability

Cyber-Physical Control Systems



controller
implementation

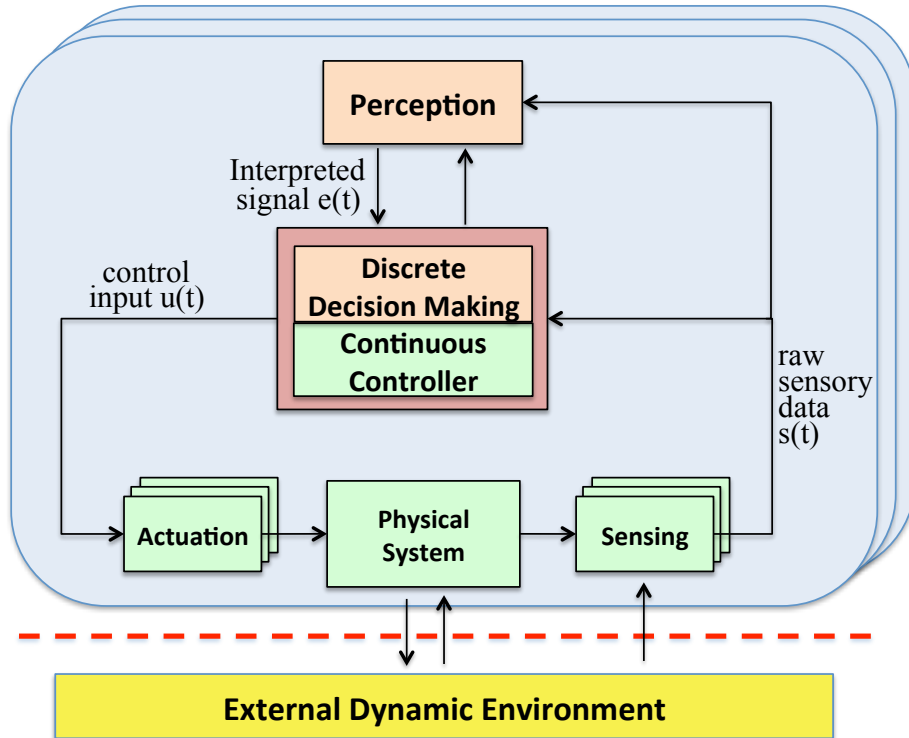
```
function [c1,c2,c3] = Controller(ipen, ipen)  
global states  
switch state  
case 0  
...  
if ipen == 1 && ipen == 1  
state = 0; c1 = 0; c2 = 1; c3 = 1;  
elseif ipen == 0 && ipen == 0  
state = 1; c1 = 0; c2 = 0; c3 = 0;  
elseif ipen == 0 && ipen == 1  
state = 2; c1 = 1; c2 = 0; c3 = 1;  
elseif ipen == 1 && ipen == 0  
state = 3; c1 = 1; c2 = 1; c3 = 0;  
else  
disp('Cannot find a valid successor')  
c1 = 0; c2 = 1; c3 = 1;  
end  
case 1  
c1 = 0; c2 = 0; c3 = 0;  
case 2  
...  
case 3  
...  
otherwise  
...  
end
```



embedded
system

Models: C code
Specifications: software specs

Cyber-Physical Control Systems



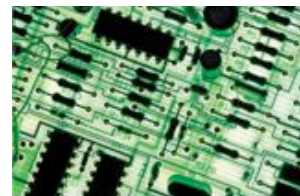
$$\dot{x}_p = f_p(x_p, u, \eta) \quad \text{physical system}$$

$$s = g_p(x_p, u, \mu)$$

$$\dot{x}_c^{(i)} = f_c(x_c^{(i)}, s^{(i)}) \quad \text{distributed feedback controllers}$$

$$u^{(i)} = g_c(x_c^{(i)}, s^{(i)})$$

embedded systems



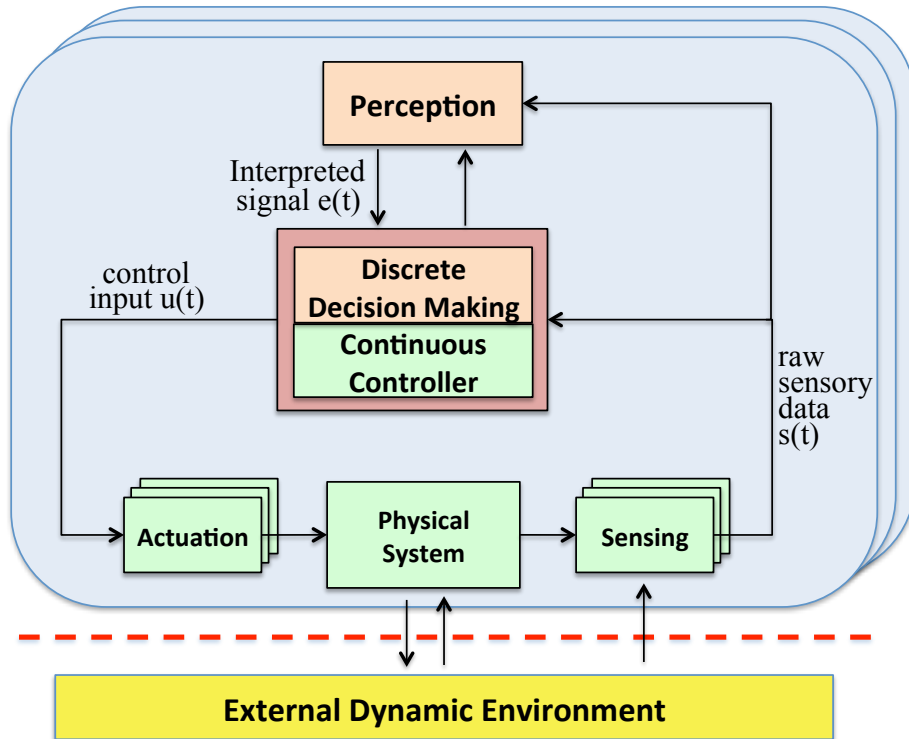
discrete events



Convergence of:
Control
Communication
Computer Science

We know how to design the pieces.
Integration is challenging!

Cyber-Physical Control Systems



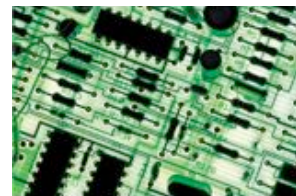
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embedded systems



discrete events



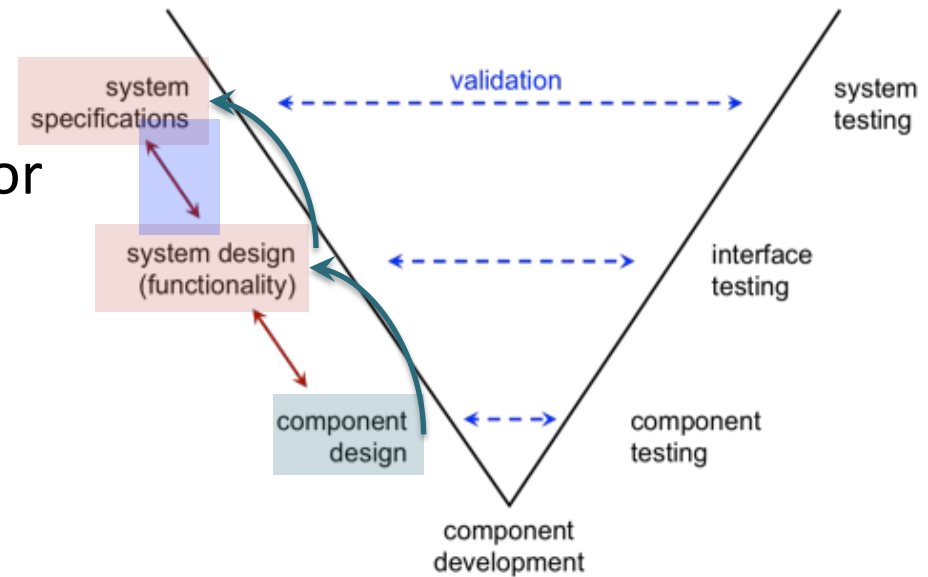
Goal: Develop scalable tools for modular control synthesis!

Convergence of:
Control
Communication
Computer Science

Current Practice

- Current control design process for cyber-physical systems:
 - Given some spec (plain English) use **art of design** (engineering intuition, experience) and extensive testing/fine-tuning to come up with a single solution
 - little or no formal guarantees on correctness
 - no formal insight as to internal mechanisms

Better alternative: model-based approach, formal languages for specification, modular design, correct-by-construction embedded controller synthesis



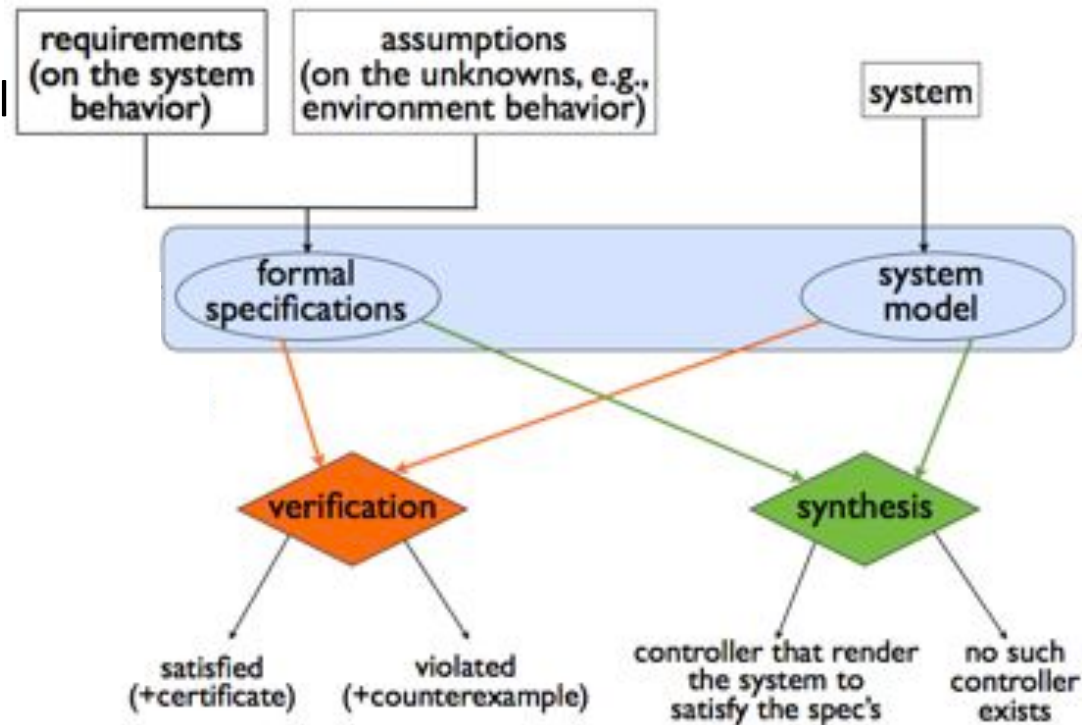
Formal Methods

- Mathematical and algorithmic techniques to reason about system/software behavior...
- Originally developed in computer science (software) domain. We integrate these methods with dynamics and control.
- Can we guarantee correctness by design using formal methods?
 - Reduce the need for extensive testing
 - Characterize explicitly all safe and unsafe conditions

Formal Methods for Control System Analysis and Synthesis

- Models for:
 - the system (usually hybrid/switched ODEs, with continuous/discrete inputs, disturbances and parametric uncertainty)
 - the environment (faults, external events)
- Formalized assumptions and requirements
 - linear temporal logic and its extensions
- Methods for verification and synthesis
 - algorithms that can process formal models and requirements to do analysis and control synthesis

Model-based approach



Correct by construction!

Specifying Correct Behavior Using Linear Temporal Logic

Extends **propositional logic** with **temporal operators**

\wedge (and), \vee (or),
 \rightarrow (implies), \neg (not),

\diamond (eventually), \square (always),
 \mathcal{U} (until), \bigcirc (next),

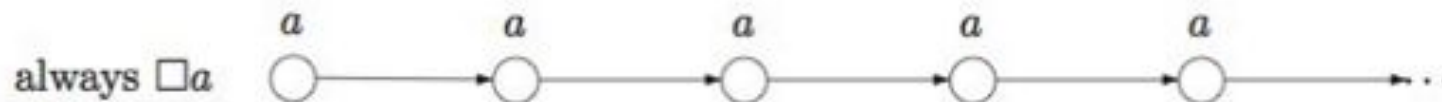
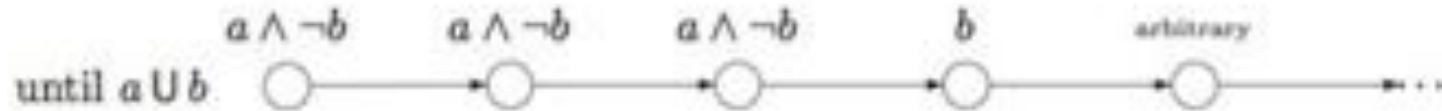
- Building blocks: atomic propositions + logic operators
 - An **atomic proposition** p is a subset of the state-space (e.g. \mathbb{R}^n). We say that a state $x(t)$ at time t satisfies p if $x(t) \in p$.
- Allows to reason about infinite sequences of states
- Specifications (formulas) describe sets of allowable and desired behavior
 - safety: what actions/states are “not bad” or allowed
 - liveness: when an action can be/should be taken (e.g., infinitely often)

Specifying Correct Behavior Using Linear Temporal Logic

Extends propositional logic with temporal operators

\wedge (and), \vee (or),
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\diamond (eventually), \square (always),
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- LTL operators can be combined to specify interesting behavior:
 $\square[(\text{engine temperature} \leq 240F) \rightarrow (\text{valve 1 closed})]$

Formalizing the problem

$$\Sigma : \begin{aligned} \dot{x} &= f(x, u, \delta) \\ y &= g(x, u, \delta) \\ x(0) &\in \mathcal{X}_0 \end{aligned}$$

u : control inputs

δ : disturbance

y : outputs available to control

Propositions:

$$\Pi \doteq \{\pi_{init}, \pi_1, \dots, \pi_{n_p}\}$$

$$h : X \rightarrow 2^\Pi$$

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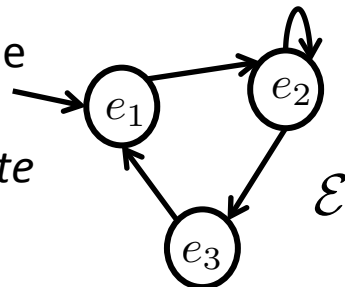
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$$h : X \rightarrow 2^\Pi$$

Environment:

$$e(t) \in \{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_N\}; \forall t$$

Continuous-time
discrete-valued
signal (with finite
variability)



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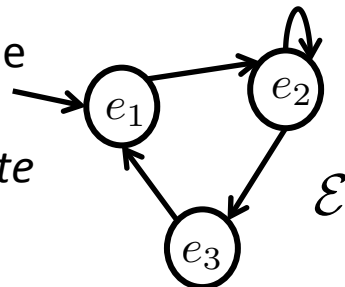
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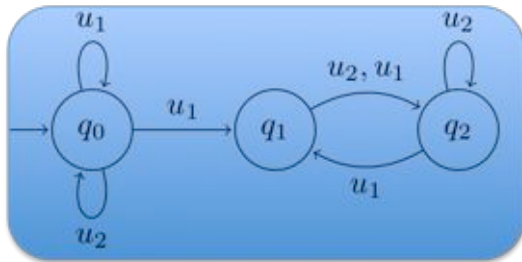
Problem statement:

Given a dynamical system Σ , a set of propositions over its state space (Π, h) , an environment description \mathcal{E} and some LTL (without next) specification φ , design a controller $u(y(t), e(t))$ such that the trajectories of the system satisfies the spec for all initial conditions $x(0)$ in a given set, for all disturbances d , and for all environment behaviors.

Tools for reactive synthesis and control

Abstraction-based

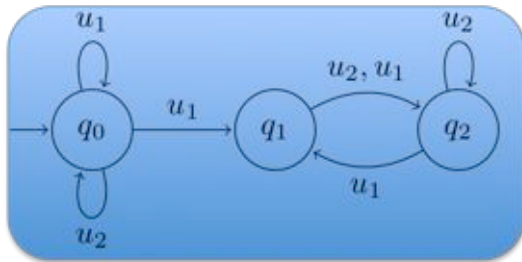
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Tools for reactive synthesis and control

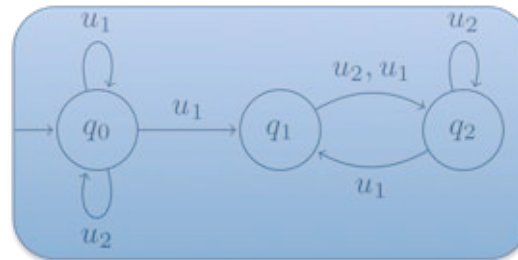
Abstraction-based

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Fixed-point operations on continuous domain

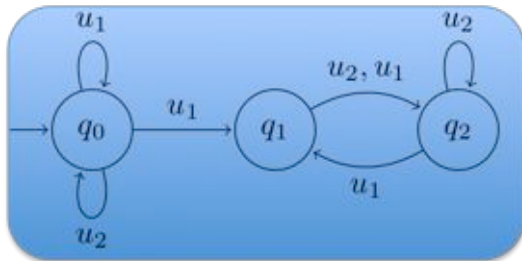
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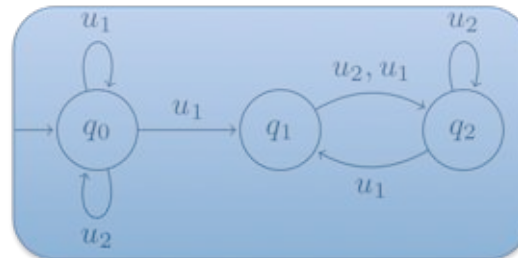
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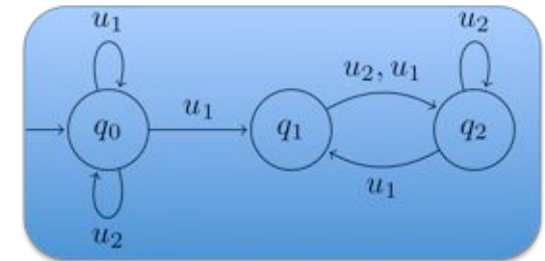
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Incremental synergistic approach

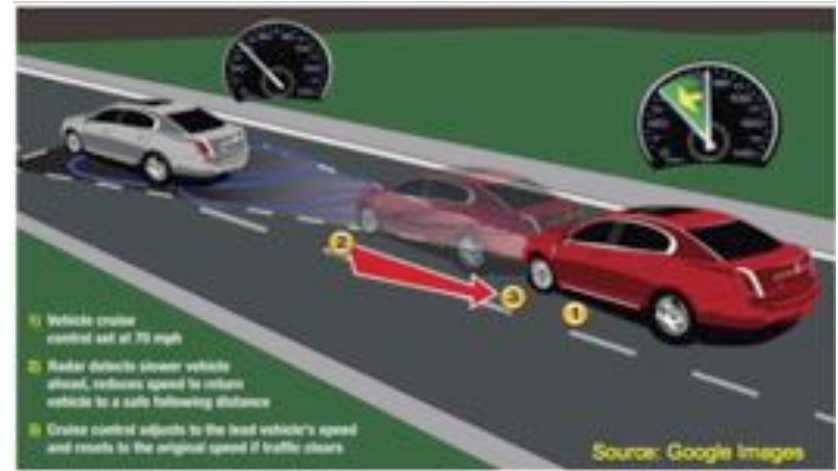
$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x} &= f(x, u, \delta) \\ y &= g(x, u, \delta) \\ x(0) &\in \mathcal{X}_0 \end{aligned}$$



Applications in automotive safety: Adaptive cruise control

Adaptive Cruise Control (ACC)

- Two modes of operation
 - If there is no lead car in front (M1), regulate velocity (v)
 - If there is a car close enough (M2), regulate headway (h), distance to the lead car
 - + in each mode hard safety constraints: acceleration limits, minimum allowed “time headway” (h/v)
- Mode is determined by a sensor (radar) reading: is there a car within the radar range and if so, how close it is?



Formalizing specifications

- The ISO 15622 standard states:
“When the ACC is active, the vehicle speed shall be controlled automatically either to maintain a time gap to a forward vehicle, or to maintain the set speed, whichever speed is lower. The change between these two control modes is made automatically by the ACC system.”

Formalizing specifications

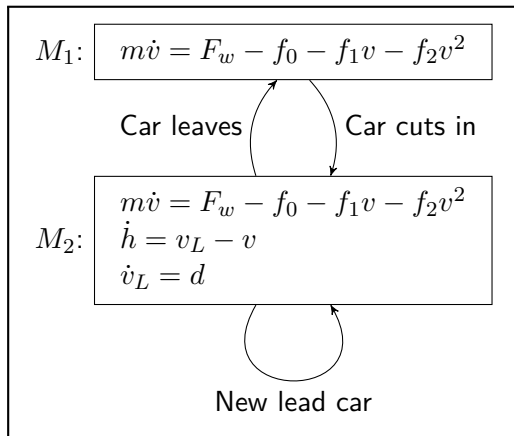
- The ISO 15622 standard states:

“When the ACC is active, the vehicle speed shall be controlled automatically either to maintain a time gap to a forward vehicle, or to maintain the set speed, whichever speed is lower. The change between these two control modes is made automatically by the ACC system.”
- The goal for each mode is to reach and stay in a desired goal set. This can be captured by

$$\square (\square M_i \Rightarrow \diamond \square G_i).$$

ACC: Model and Specifications

Model: Hybrid system with two modes:



Objectives: Goals for 'no lead car mode' M_1 :

- ▶ Goal set:
 $G_1 = \{v \mid v \in [v_{des} - \Delta_v, v_{des} + \Delta_v]\}.$

Goals for 'lead car mode' M_2 :

- ▶ Safe set: $S_1 = \{(v, h, v_L) \mid h/v \geq 1\}.$
- ▶ Goal set:
 $G_2 = \{(v, h, v_L) \mid h/v \geq 1.3, v < v_{des} + \Delta_v\}.$

Lead car assumptions

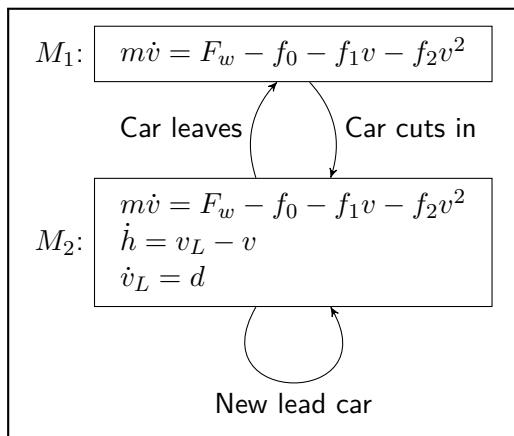
- ▶ Input set:
 $S_2 = \{F_w \mid F_w \in [-0.3mg, 0.2mg]\}.$

$$v_L \in [v_L^-, v_L^+]$$

$$a_L \in [a_L^-, a_L^+]$$

ACC: Model and Specifications

Model: Hybrid system with two modes:



Objectives: Goals for 'no lead car mode' M_1 :

► Goal set:

$$G_1 = \{v \mid v \in [v_{des} - \Delta_v, v_{des} + \Delta_v]\}.$$

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► Input set:

$$S_2 = \{F_w \mid F_w \in [-0.3mg, 0.2mg]\}.$$

LTL Specification

$$\square S_U \wedge \square \left(\bigwedge_{i=1}^2 (\square M_i \Rightarrow \diamond \square G_i) \right).$$

ACC: LTL Specification

LTL Specification:

$$\Box ((M_1 \vee S_1) \wedge S_2) \wedge \Box \left(\bigwedge_{i=1}^2 \Box M_i \implies \Diamond \Box G_i \right).$$

Recall: \Box means “always”, $\Diamond \Box$ means “eventually always”,
 $M_1 \wedge S_1$ is equivalent to $M_2 \implies S_1$

- In each mode, we need to satisfy certain hard safety constraints and if persistently in a mode, need to reach a goal set and remain in it.
- Need to be **reactive** to mode changes

Goal: Want to find a fixed point characterization!

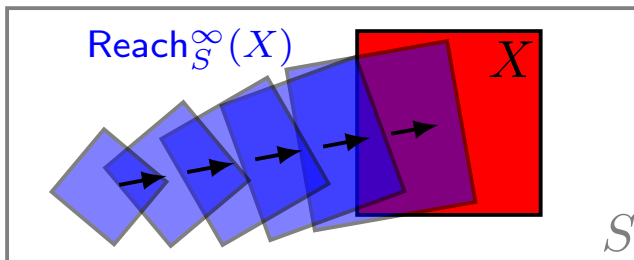
Set-valued operators: From every control theorists' tool set

Given a dynamical system $x^+ = f(x, u, d)$ with

- Input constraints $u \in \mathcal{U}$
- Disturbance assumptions $d \in \mathcal{D}$

Safe, robust reachability:

$$\text{Reach}_S^\infty(X) = \{x_0 \in S : X \text{ can be reached from } x_0\}$$



Set-valued operators: From every control theorists' tool set

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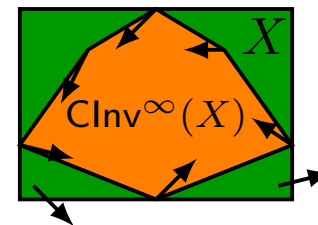
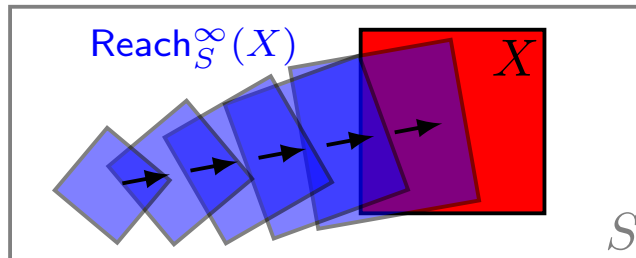
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Safe, robust reachability:

$$\text{Reach}_S^\infty(X) = \{x_0 \in S : X \text{ can be reached from } x_0\}$$

Robust controlled invariance:

$$\text{CInv}^\infty(X) = \{x_0 \in X : X \text{ can be kept invariant starting from } x_0\}$$



Fixed point characterization

- Solve for specification of the form

$$\Box S \wedge \Box ((\Box M_1 \implies \Diamond \Box G_1) \wedge (\Box M_2 \implies \Diamond \Box G_2))$$

Search for sets C_1 and C_2 such that

$$C_1 \subset M_1 \cap \text{Reach}_S^\infty \underbrace{(\text{Inv}^\infty (G_1 \cap (C_1 \cup C_2)) \cup C_2)}_{D_1},$$

$$C_2 \subset M_2 \cap \text{Reach}_S^\infty \underbrace{(\text{Inv}^\infty (G_2 \cap (C_1 \cup C_2)) \cup C_1)}_{D_2}.$$

Correct control strategy if such C_1, C_2 are found:

- When in C_1 , make progress toward D_1
- When in C_2 , make progress toward D_2

Want to make C_1 and C_2 as large as possible to maximize controller domain

Fixed point characterization

- Solve for specification of the form

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Correct control strategy if such C_1, C_2 are found:

- When in C_1 , make progress toward D_1
- When in C_2 , make progress toward D_2

Want to make C_1 and C_2 as large as possible to maximize controller domain

Fixed point characterization

- Set computations directly on the continuous state space of a linearized system
- Conservative linearization
 - Reachability in linearized system implies reachability in original system
- Disturbance assumptions defined piecewise linearly

$$C_1^0 = M_1, C_2^0 = M_2$$

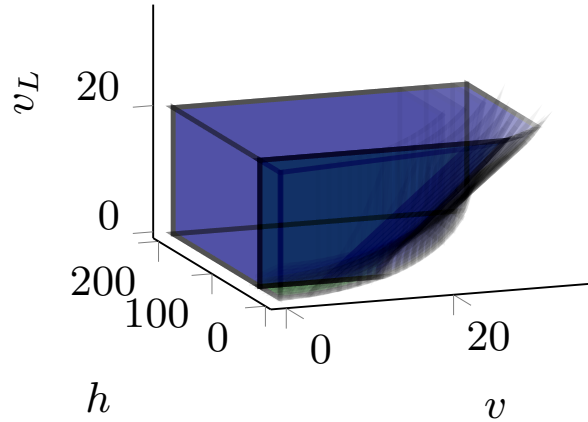
$$C_1^{k+1} = M_1 \cap \text{Reach}_S^\infty \left(\text{Inv}^\infty \left(G_1 \cap (C_1^k \cup C_2^k) \right) \cup C_2^k \right)$$

$$C_2^{k+1} = M_2 \cap \text{Reach}_S^\infty \left(\text{Inv}^\infty \left(G_2 \cap (C_1^k \cup C_2^k) \right) \cup C_1^k \right)$$

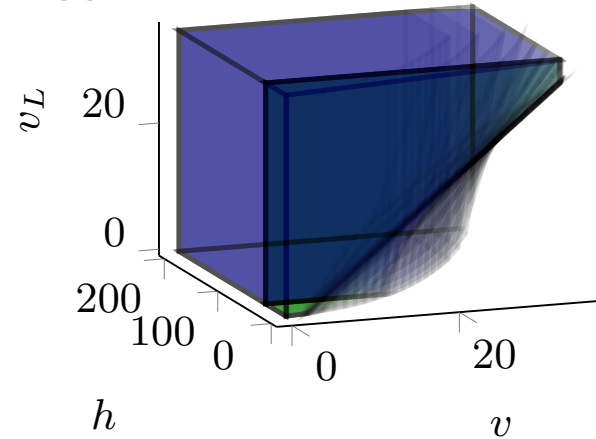
- Monotonically non-increasing sets (\Rightarrow convergence)
- Use approximations (\Rightarrow simpler sets and termination)
- Implementation: use MPC to move between sets (\Rightarrow auto-generation of code)

Some results (safe control domain)

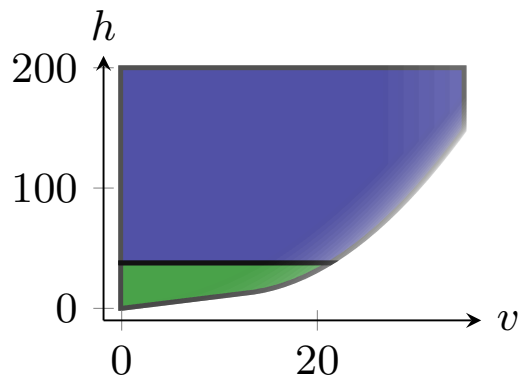
“Normal” lead car



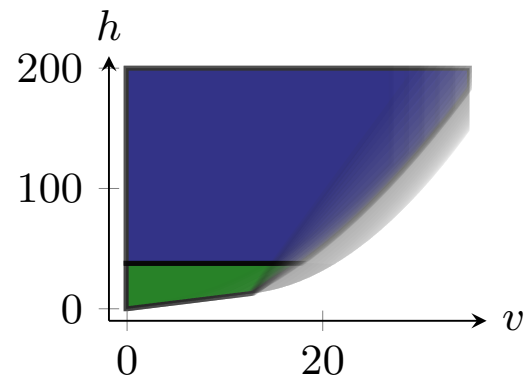
“Aggressive” lead car



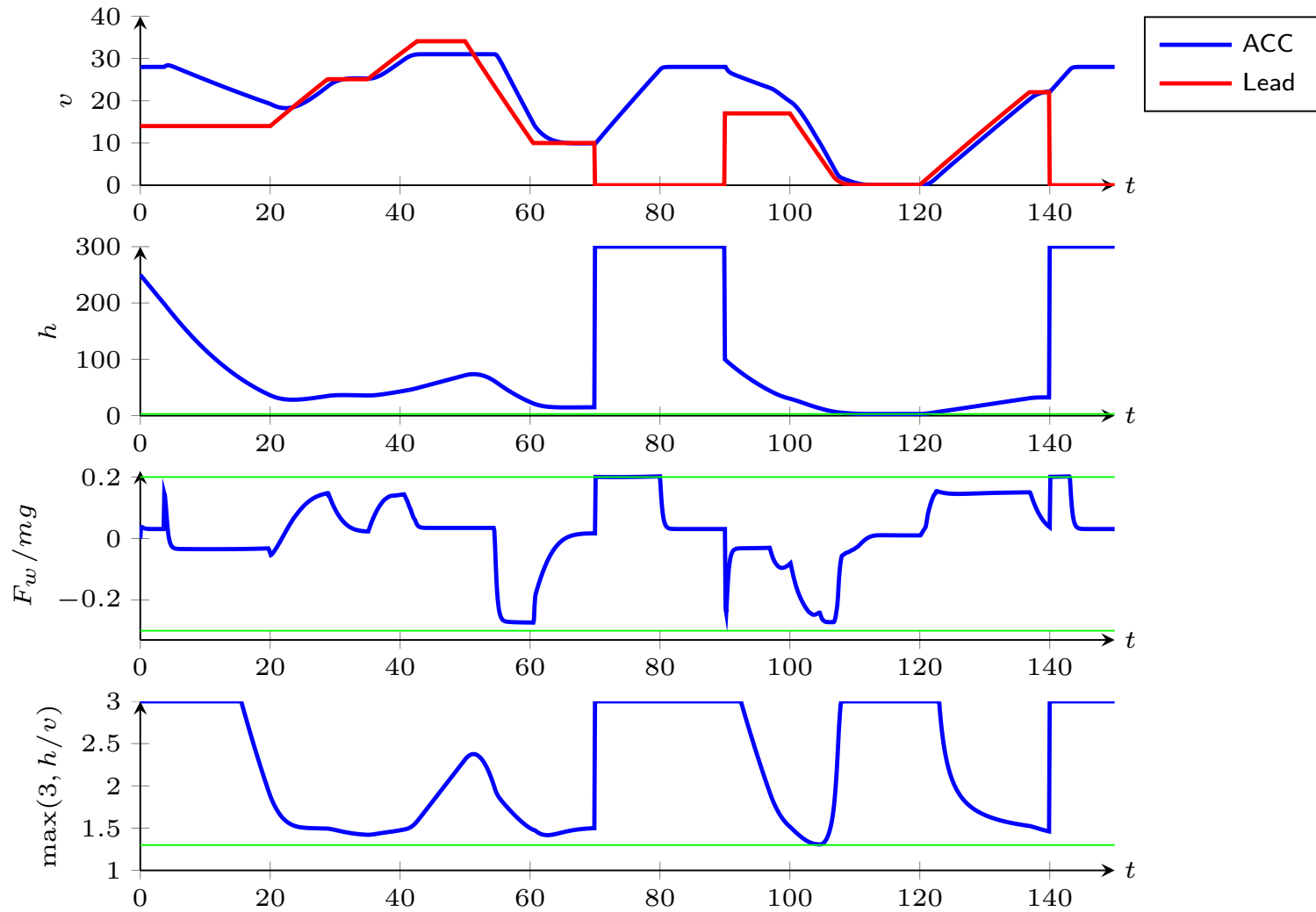
Cross section at $v_L = 10$ m/s



Cross section at $v_L = 10$ m/s

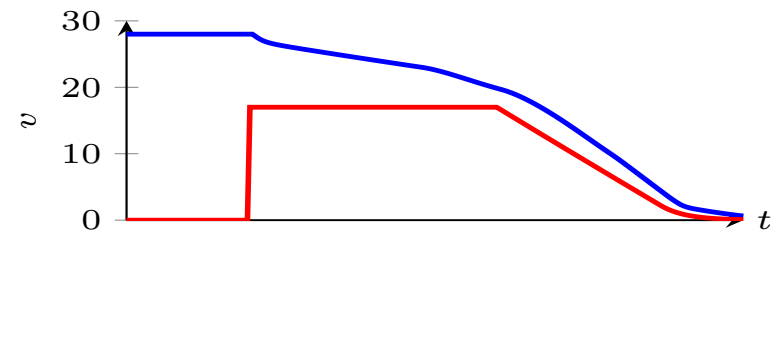
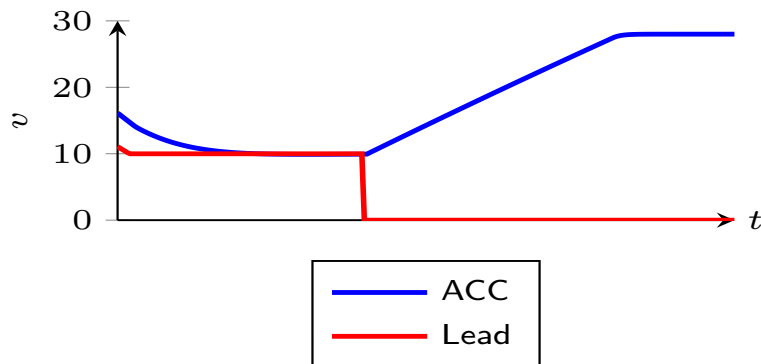


Simulations



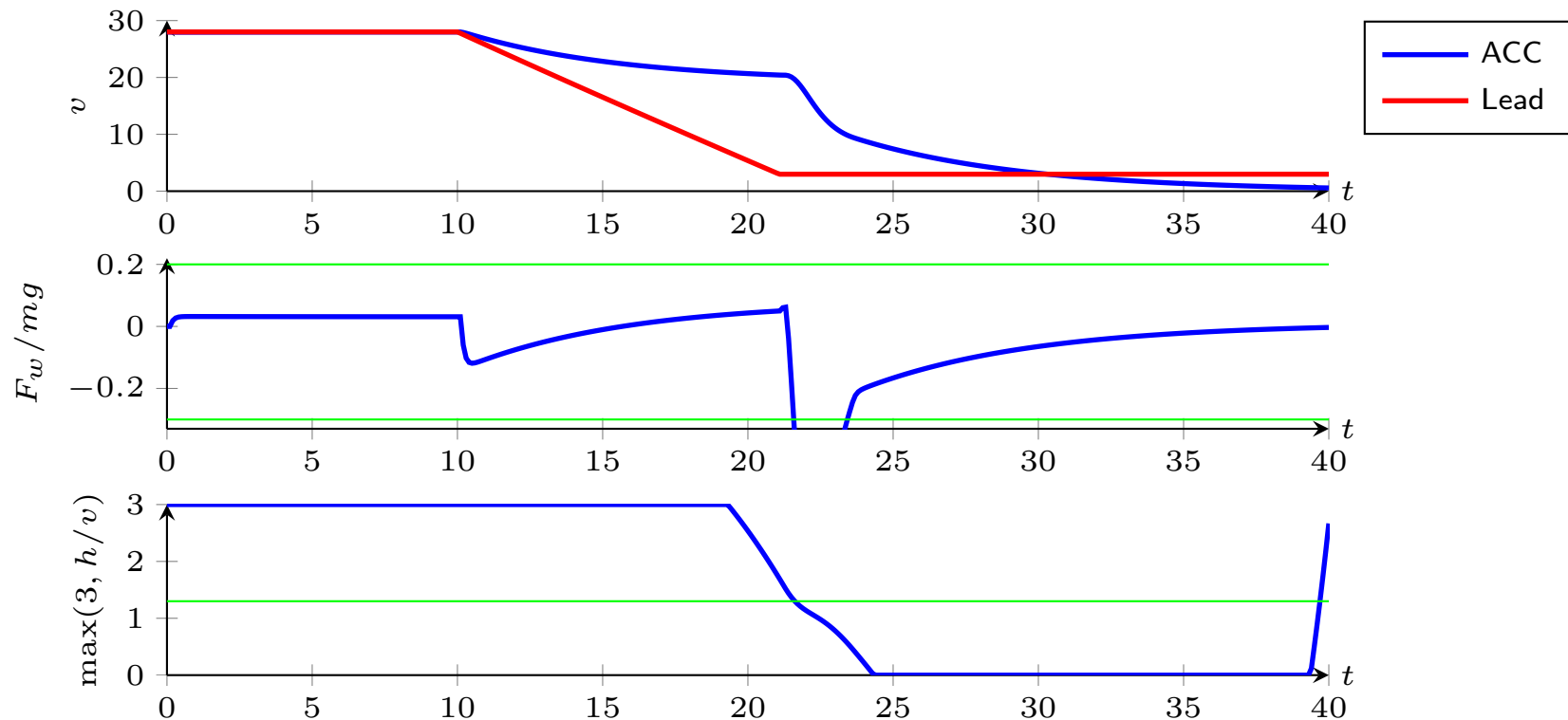
CarSim Simulations

Are we robust enough with full (30dim state space) for non-linear vehicle dynamics?



Supervision example

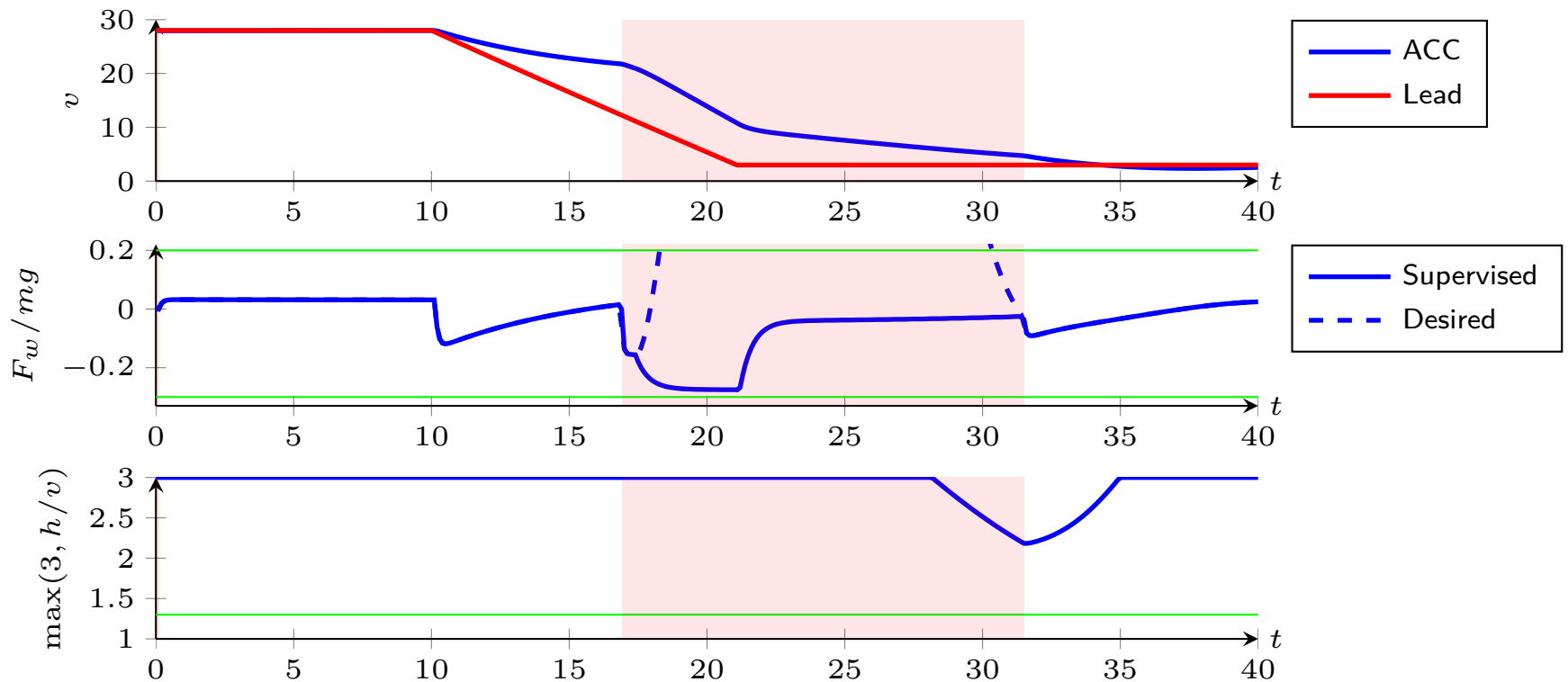
Mis-tuned controller from the literature



Controller has certain nice properties (stability, string stability) but causes a crash.

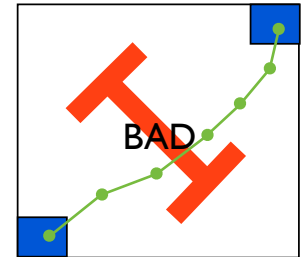
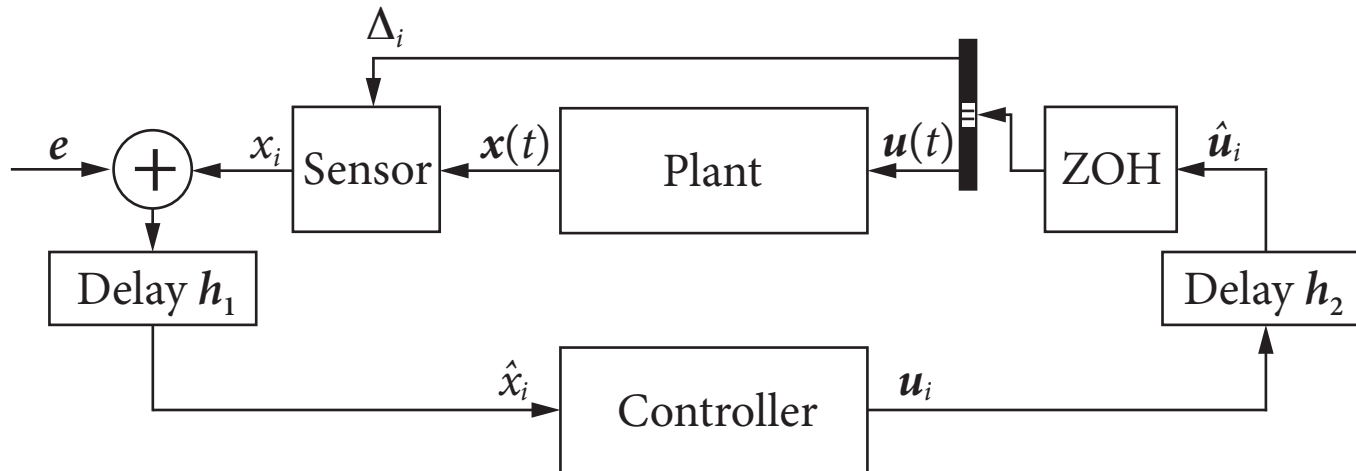
Supervision example

Supervised controller:



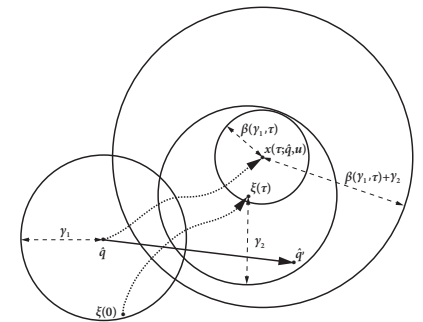
Original controller is used in non-red areas.

Can we formalize robustness?



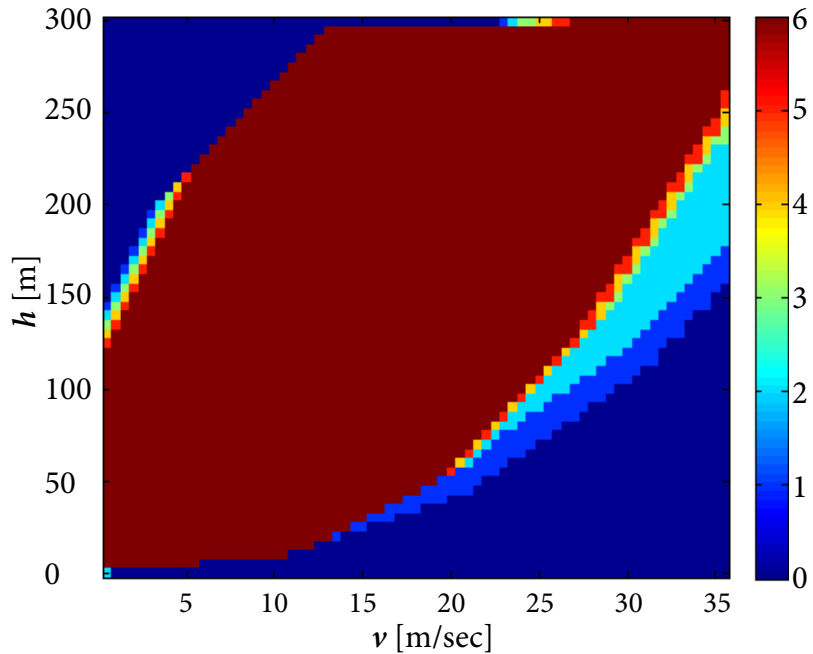
- Sources of imperfection

- Most guarantees are on discrete-time behaviors (how about continuous-time)
- Sensor, actuation, computation delays (jitter)
- Delays, uncertainties in the model
- Errors in measurements

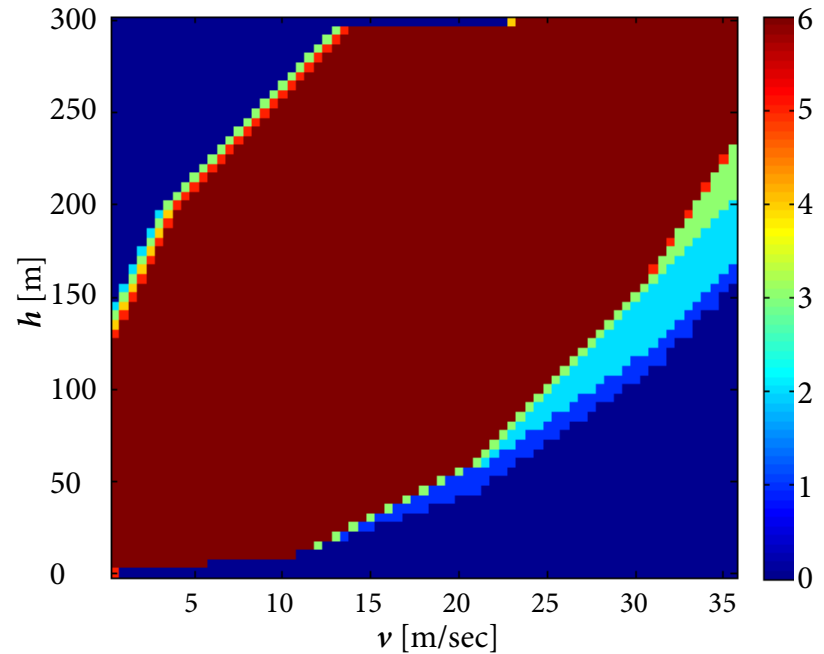


- Idea is to introduce robustness margins: two additional balls are “enough”

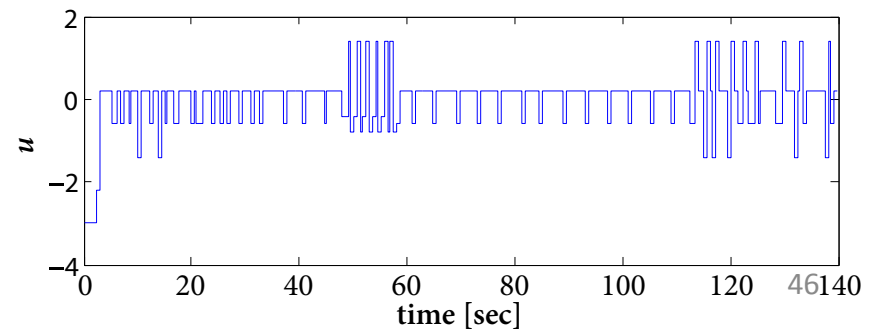
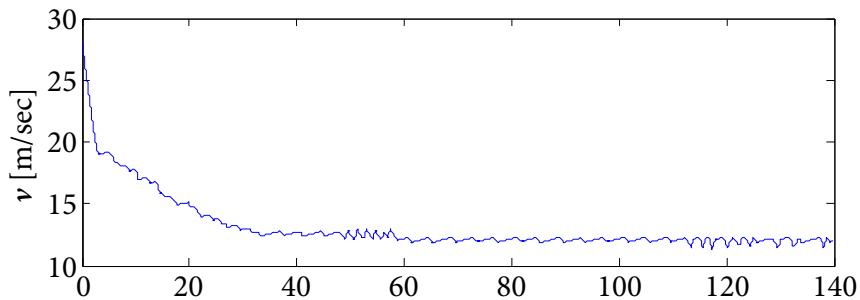
Robustness-performance trade-offs



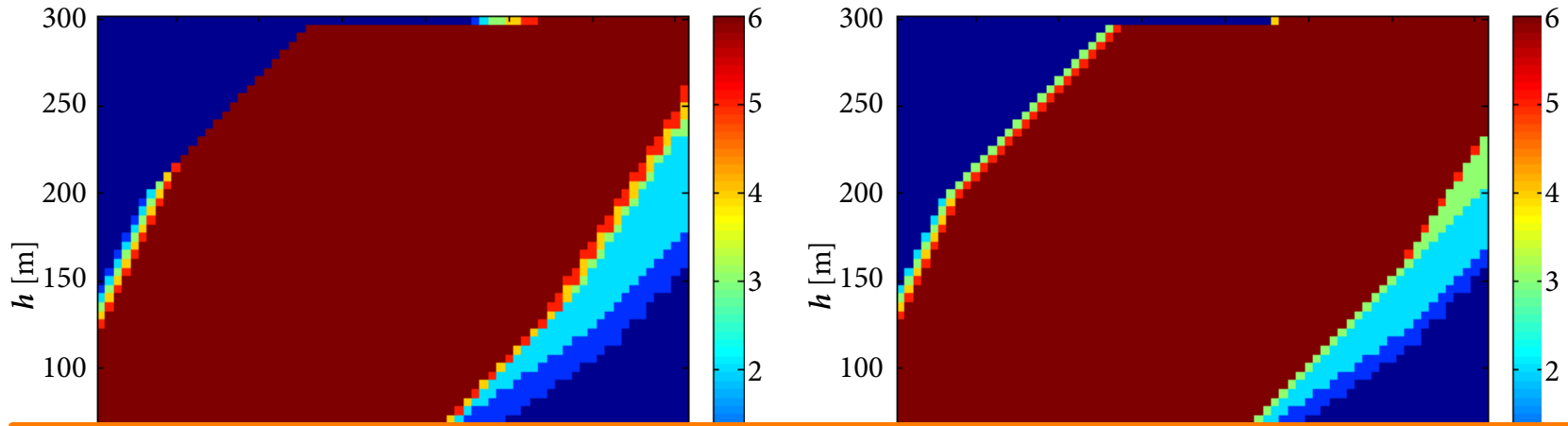
Safety domain as delay/jitter increases from 0-0.2 seconds



Safety domain as measurement error increases from 0-25cm



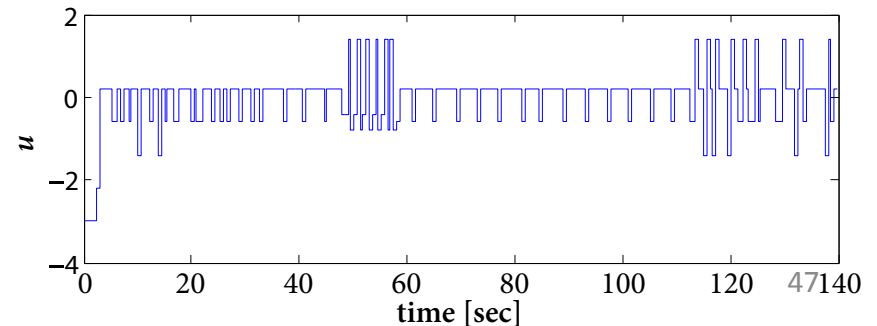
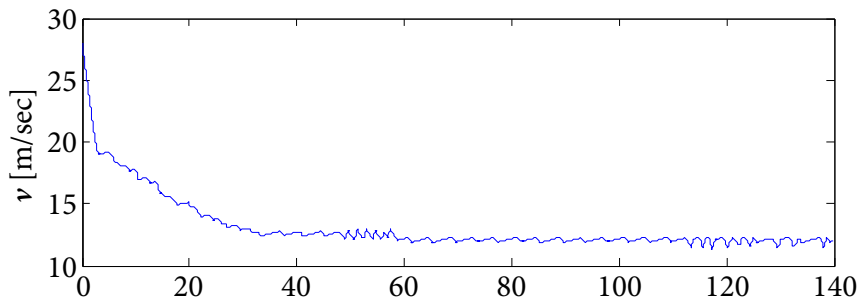
Robustness-performance trade-offs



**Can we prove non-existence of controllers?
Nilsson & Ozay, CDC 2014**

Safety domain as delay/jitter increases
from 0-0.2 seconds

Safety domain as measurement error
increases from 0-25cm



Lane keeping

- Similar problem (just constrained reachability)

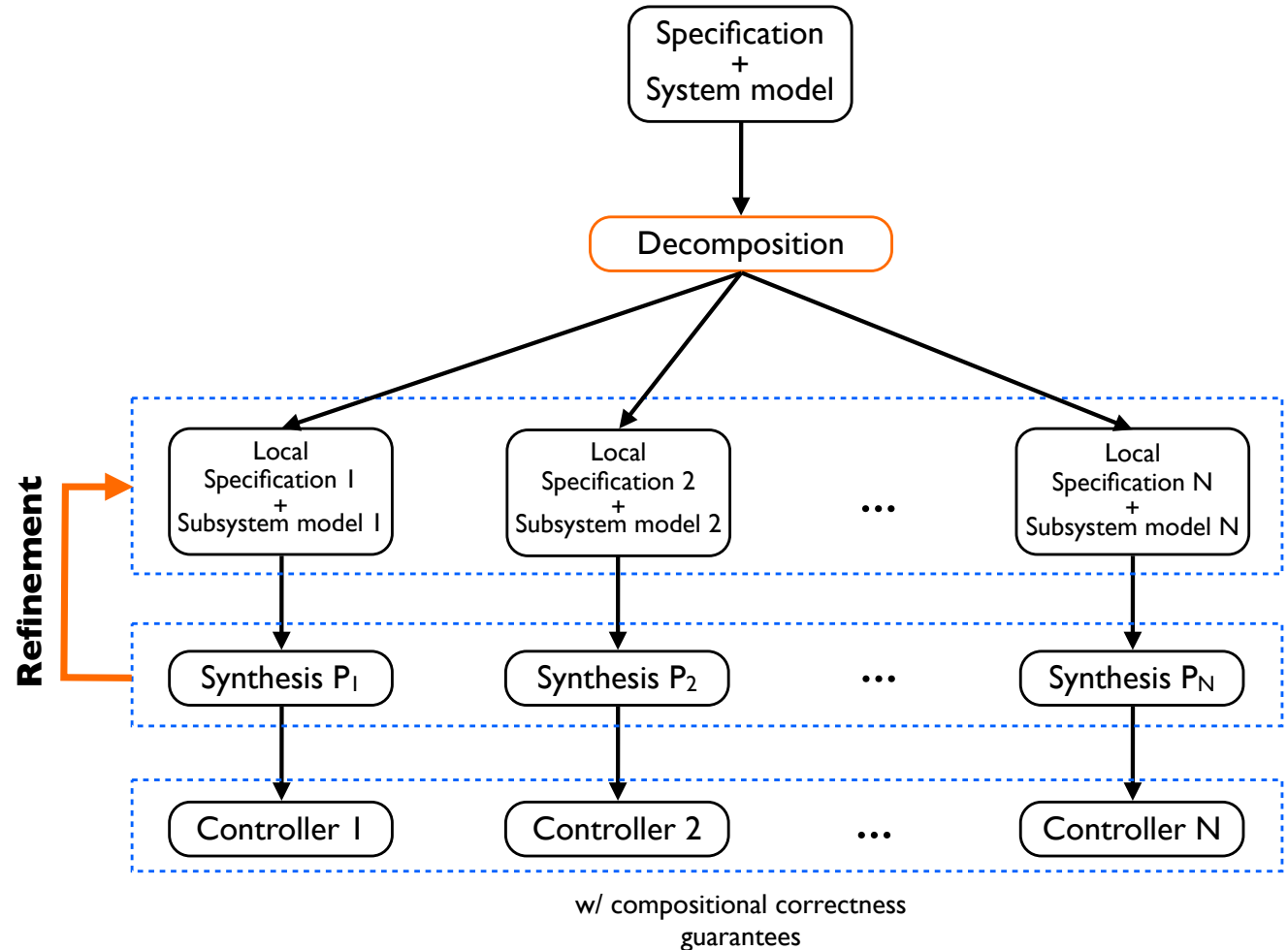
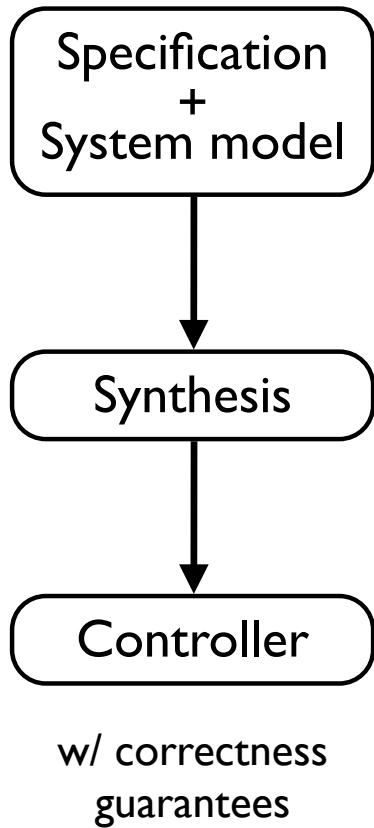


Would it still work when combined with ACC?

Future directions

Decompositions

Decomposition



Decomposition of dynamically coupled systems

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1^+ \\ x_2^+ \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} B_1 & 0 \\ 0 & B_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} E_1 & 0 \\ 0 & E_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} d_1 \\ d_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

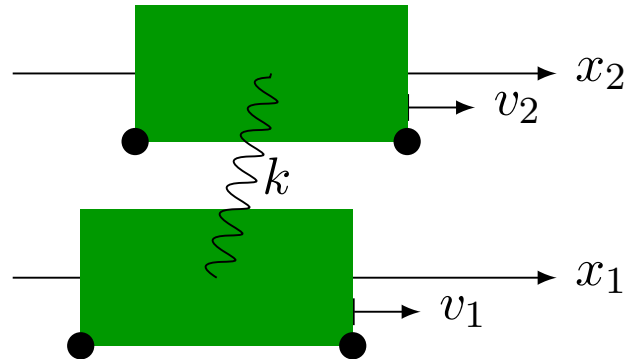
**Find decompositions based on set-invariance.
Solve local problems in each invariant set.**

Formal controller 1

Formal controller 2

- Natural decomposition if A_{12} and A_{21} are “small”
- Each subsystem need to be robust w.r.t. influence from other subsystems

Robot-UAV example

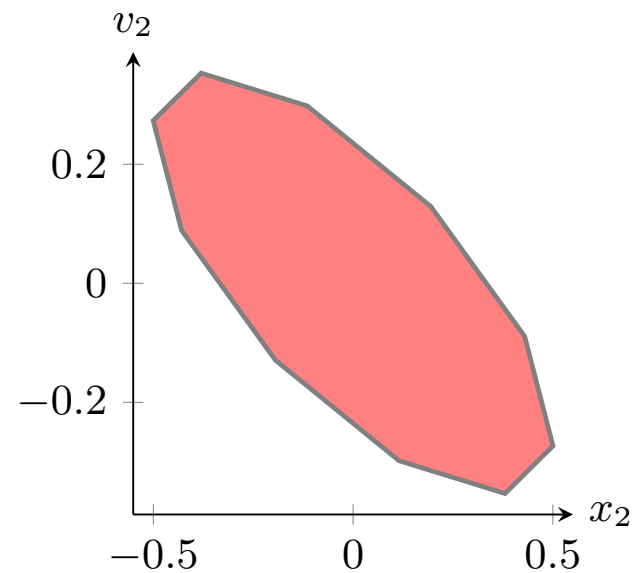
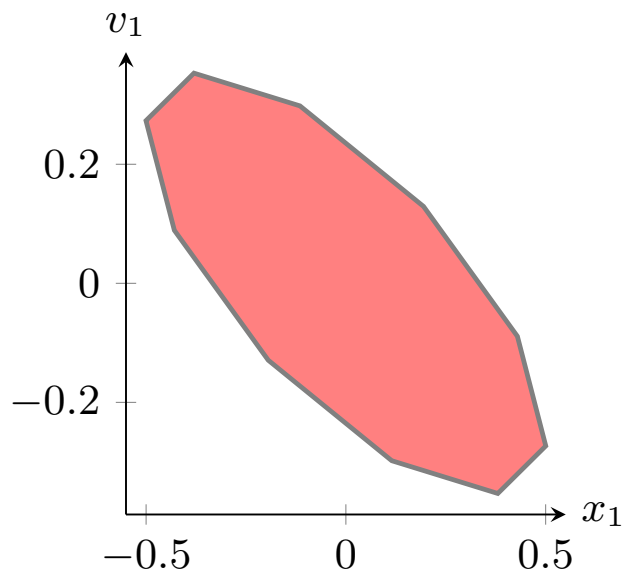
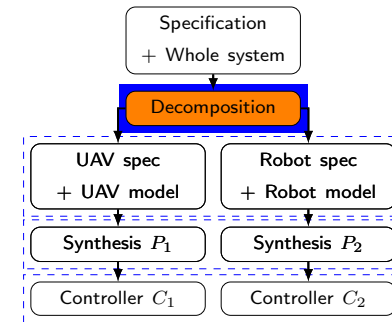


- 1D-robots connected by a spring
- Integrator dynamics

$$\begin{aligned}
 x_1^+ &= x_1 && +v_1 \\
 v_1^+ &= kx_1 && +v_1 - kx_2 \\
 x_2^+ &= && +x_2 && +v_2 \\
 v_2^+ &= -kx_1 && +kx_2 && +v_2
 \end{aligned}$$

Robot-UAV example

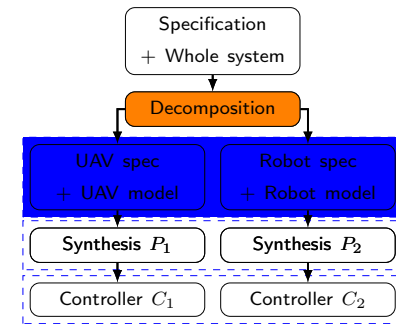
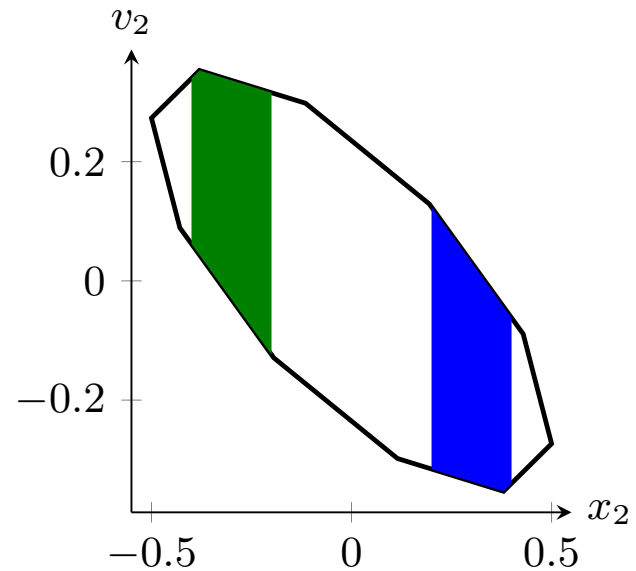
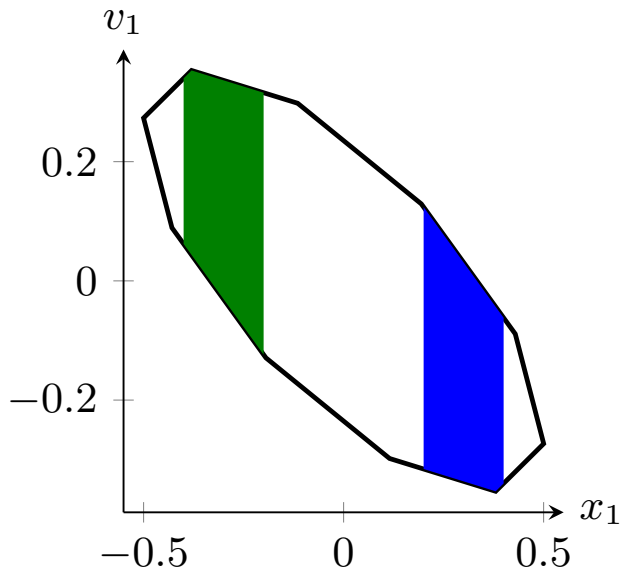
1 Find invariant sets



Robot-UAV example

- 1 Find invariant sets
- 2 With any method, do local synthesis for

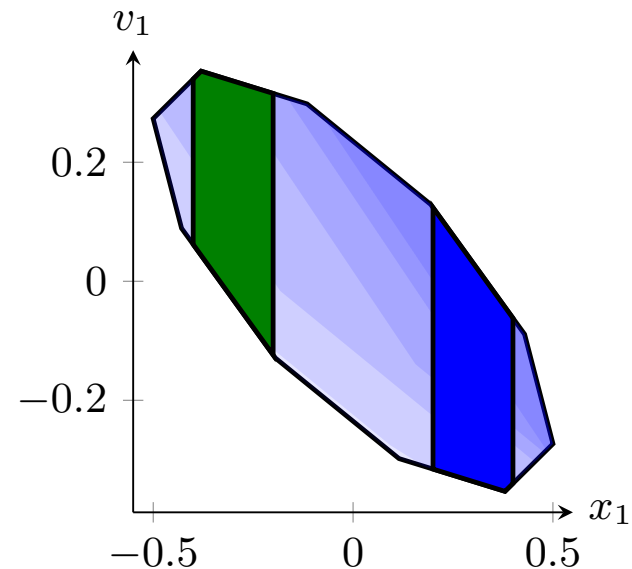
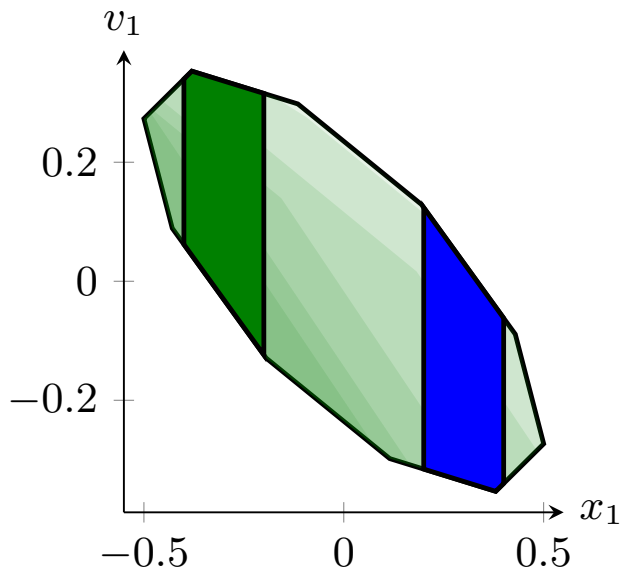
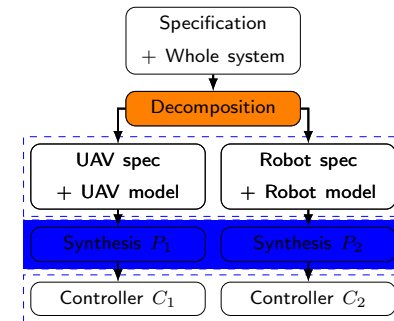
$$\bigwedge_{i=1}^2 \square \diamond (x_i \in \text{green}) \wedge \square \diamond (x_i \in \text{blue})$$



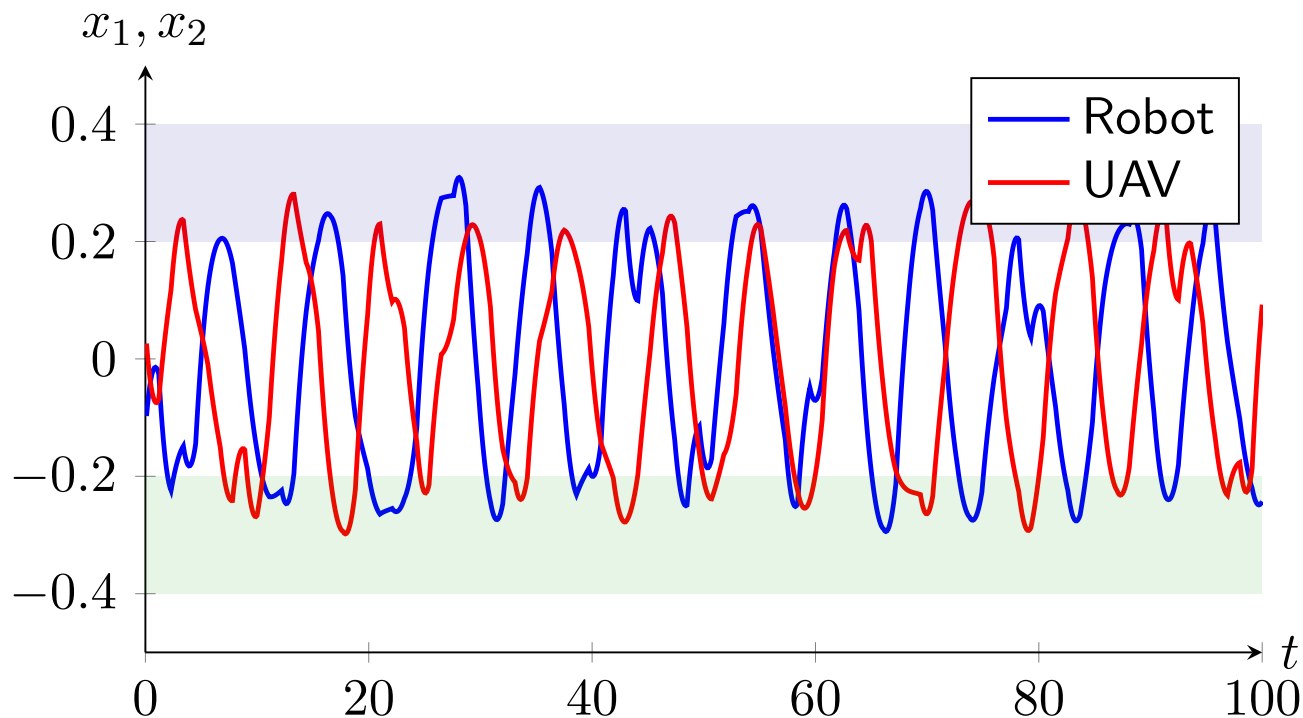
Robot-UAV example

- 1 Find invariant sets
- 2 With any method, do local synthesis for

$$\bigwedge_{i=1}^2 \square \diamond (x_i \in \text{green}) \wedge \square \diamond (x_i \in \text{blue})$$



Robot-UAV example



- Both visit green and blue areas infinitely often
- Solved two 2-dimensional problems instead of one 4-dimensional

Summary & Current Directions

- Goal: go from **sensor** to **information** to **action** in a rigorous way with correctness guarantees.

- **Directions:**

How to formally combine different functionality?

- Compositional protocols: reduces complexity, enables local implementations, improves design modularity

Scalability, robustness

Other applications



Lane keeping – similar reach stay while avoiding problem

More info @ dynamiccps.org

@ web.eecs.umich.edu/~necmiye/