

Lecture 13: Protocol-Based Control Systems



Richard M. Murray Caltech Control and Dynamical Systems 20 March 2009

Goals:

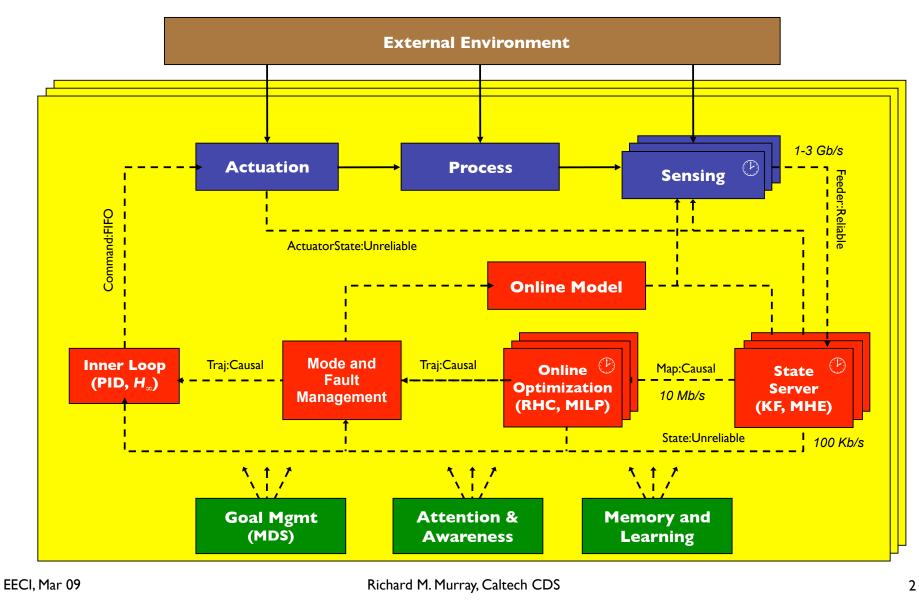
- Describe methods for modeling and analyzing distributed protocols
- Introduce the Computation and Control Language (CCL) as an example
- Explore and analyze protocols written in CCL for cooperative control

Reading:

- E. Klavins, "A Computation and Control Language for Multi-Vehicle Systems", *Int'l Conference on Robotics and Automation*, 2004.
- E. Klavins and R. M. Murray, "Distributed Computation for Cooperative Control", *IEEE Pervasive Computing*, 2004.

Networked Control Systems

(following P. R. Kumar)



NCS Lecture Schedule

| | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri |
|-------|--|------------------------------------|---|--|--|
| 9:00 | L1: Intro to Networked Control Systems | L5: Distributed Control Systems | L7: Distributed Estimation and Sensor Fusion | L11: Quantization and Bandwidth Limits | L13: Distributed Protocols and CCL |
| 11:00 | L2: Optimization- Based Control | L6: Cooperative Control | L8: Information Theory and Communications | L12: Estimation over Networks | L14: Open Problems and Future Research |
| 12:30 | Lunch | Lunch | Lunch | Lunch | Lunch |
| 14:00 | L3: Information Patterns | | L9: Jump Linear Markov Processes | | |
| 16:00 | L4: Graph Theory | | L10: Packet Loss, Delays and Shock Absorbers | | |

M DSMC, 2007

Cooperative Control Systems Framework

Agent dynamics

$$\dot{x}^i = f^i(x^i, u^i) \quad x^i \in \mathbb{R}^n, u^i \in \mathbb{R}^m$$

$$y^i = h^i(x^i) \qquad y^i \in \mathbb{R}^q$$

Vehicle "role"

- $\alpha \in \mathcal{A}$ encodes internal state + relationship to current task
- Transition $\alpha' = r(x, \alpha)$

Communications graph ${\mathcal G}$

- Encodes the system information flow
- Neighbor set $\mathcal{N}^i(\dot{\ } \alpha)$

Communications channel

• Communicated information can be lost, delayed, reordered; rate constraints

$$y_j^i[k] = \gamma y^i (t_k - \tau_j) \quad t_{k+1} - t_k > T_r$$

• γ = binary random process (packet loss)

Task

• Encode as finite horizon optimal control

$$J = \int_0^T L(x, \alpha, \mathcal{E}(t), u) \, dt + V(x(T), \alpha(T)),$$

• Assume task is *coupled*, env't estimated

Strategy

• Control action for individual agents

$$u^{i} = k^{i}(x, \alpha) \quad \{g_{j}^{i}(x, \alpha) : r_{j}^{i}(x, \alpha)\}$$
$$\alpha^{i'} = \begin{cases} r_{j}^{i}(x, \alpha) & g(x, \alpha) = \text{true} \\ \text{unchanged} & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Decentralized strategy

$$u^{i}(x,\alpha) = u^{i}(x^{i},\alpha^{i},y^{-i},\alpha^{-i},\hat{\mathcal{E}})$$
$$y^{-i} = \{y^{j_{1}},\ldots,y^{j_{m_{i}}}\}$$
$$j_{k} \in \mathcal{N}^{i} \quad m_{i} = |\mathcal{N}^{i}|$$

• Similar structure for role update

Klavins CDC, 03

Distributed Decision Making: RoboFlag Drill

Task description

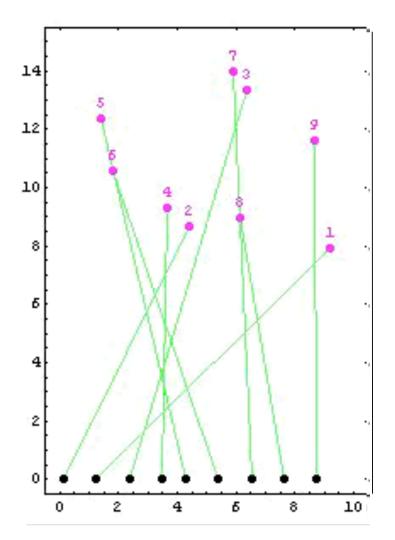
- Incoming robots should be blocked by defending robots
- Incoming robots are assigned randomly to whoever is free
- Defending robots must move to block, but cannot run into or cross over others
- Allow robots to communicate with left and right neighbors and switch assignments

Goals

- Would like a provably correct, distributed protocol for solving this problem
- Should (eventually) allow for lost data, incomplete information

Status

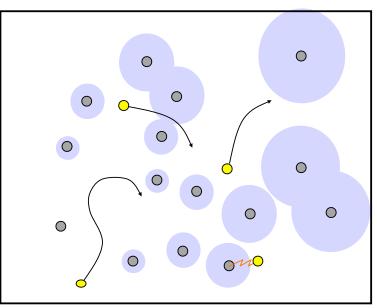
• Provably correct protocol available in perfect information case, using CCL



Distributed Situational Awareness

Communications complexity

- Maintain "situational awareness"
- Assume point-to-point communications and that each robot knows its own position
- Q: how many messages are required for each robot to keep track of all other robots w/in ε?
- A: O(n²) messages (worst case)



Method #1: Distance Modulated Communication - O(n log n)

- Maintain position estimates to within $k ||x_i x_i||$
- Communicate more often with robots that are closer

Method #2: Wandering Communication Scheme - O(n)

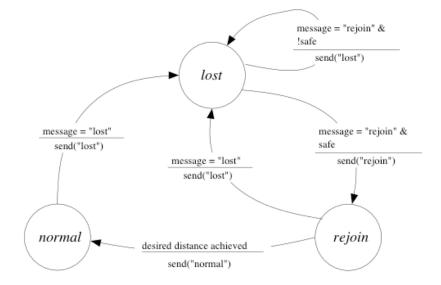
- Only moving robots need to keep track of position
- Robots transfer knowledge when they stop/start

Proof of correctness using CCL Klavins

WAFR 02

Lost Wingman Protocol Verification





Temporal logic specification

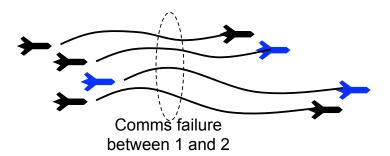
$$\Psi_l \triangleq mode = lost \rightsquigarrow \Box d(\mathbf{x}_l, \mathbf{x}_f) > d_{sep}$$

 "Lost mode leads to the distance between the aircraft always being larger than d_{sep}"

Protocol specification in CCL

- Use guarded commands to implement finite state automaton
- Allows reasoning about controlled performance using semi-automated theorem proving
- Relies on Lyapunov certificates to provide information about controlled system

Lost wingman in fingertip formation



ORN

Models of Concurrency

Petri Nets and Processes

• Standard tool in Manufacturing

Hybrid Automata (Henzinger, 1996)

• Use FSM for discrete states, with dynamic inclusions in each "mode" and transitions between states

I/O Automata [Lynch: Book 1996]

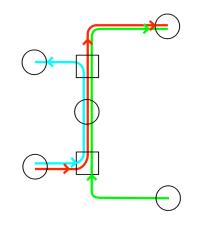
- Composition with internal / input / output actions
- Hybrid version is "sophisticated" [Lynch, Segala, Vaandrager, Weinberg: HSIII 1996]

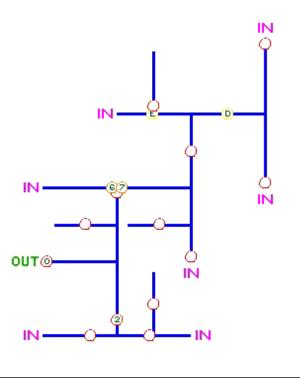
UNITY [Chandy & Misra: Book 1988]

- Interleaving-based parallel programming
- Based on guarded commands [Dijkstra: 1975]
- Uses temporal logic for verification

Temporal Logic of Actions [Lamport: TPLS 1994]

- TL is used for specification and "implementation"
- Sophisticated treatment of fairness constraints
- Timed and hybrid versions not too sophisticated





Temporal Logic

Description

- State of the system is a snapshot of values of all variables
- Reason about *behaviors* σ: sequence of states of the system
- No strict notion of time, just ordering of events
- Actions are relations between states: state s is related to state t by action a if a takes s to t (via prime notation: x' = x + 1)
- *Formulas* (specifications) describe the set of allowable behaviors
- Safety specification: what actions are allowed
- Fairness specification: when can a component take an action (eg, infinitely often)

Example

- Action: *a* ≡ x' = x + 1
- Behavior: *σ* ≡ x := 1, x := 2, x:= 3, ...
- Safety: □x > 0 (true for this behavior)
- Fairness: $\Box(x' = x + 1 \lor x' = x) \land \Box \Diamond (x' \neq x)$

- $\Box p =$ **always** p (invariance)
- $\Diamond p =$ **eventually** *p* (guarantee)
- *p* → ◊*q* = *p* implies eventually *q* (response)
- $p \rightarrow q \ \mathcal{U} r = p$ implies q until r (precedence)
- □◊p = always eventually p (progress)
- \laple \Box p = eventually always p (stability)
- ◊p → ◊q = eventually p implies eventually q (correlation)

Properties

- Can reason about time by adding "time variables" (t' = t + 1)
- Specifications and proofs can be difficult to interpret by hand, but computer tools existing (eg, TLC, Isabelle, PVS, etc)

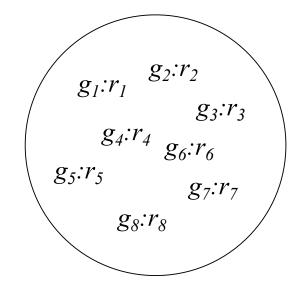
UNITY (Chandy and Misra)

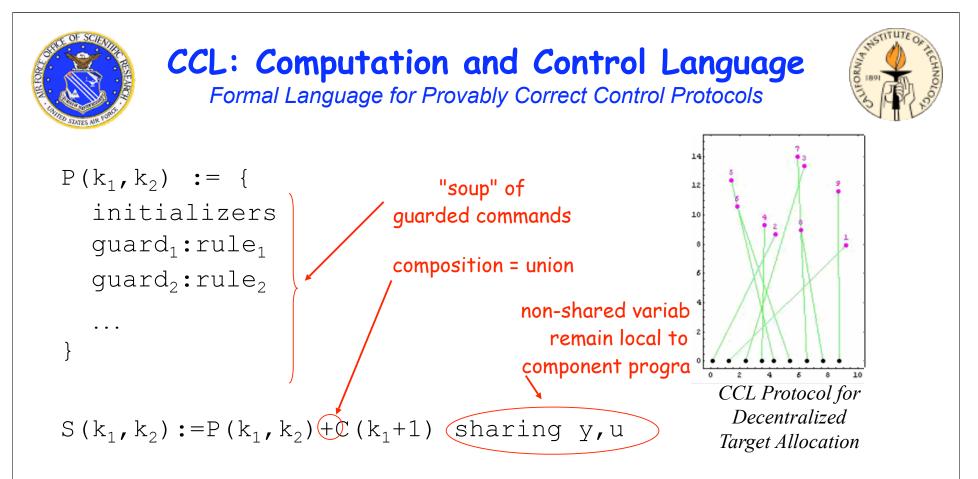
Description

- Specification consists of a set of (possibly gaurded) variable assignments
- Behaviors are generated by starting an an initial state, then choosing any assignment for which the guard is true
- Command (g:r) may be evaluated in any order, at any time
- Require that all assignments be applied infinitely often in any execution (built in fairness)
- Reason about "programs" using temporal logic

Properties

- Useful for reasoning about systems in which there is very asynchronous behavior
- Fairness constraint is a bit too loose for control applications; only assume that each command executes *eventually* (instead of once every iteration)





CCL Interpreter

Formal programming language for control and computation. Interfaces with libraries in other languages.

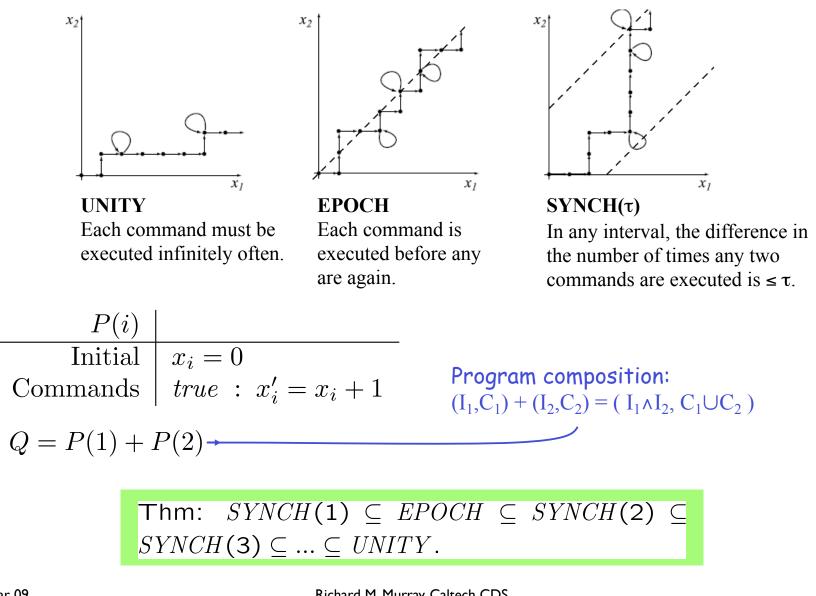
Formal Results

Formal semantics in transition systems and temporal logic. *RoboFlag* drill formalized and basic algorithms verified.

Automated Verification

CCL encoded in the *Isabelle* theorem prover; basic specs verified semi-automatically. Investigating various model checking tools.

Scheduling and Composition



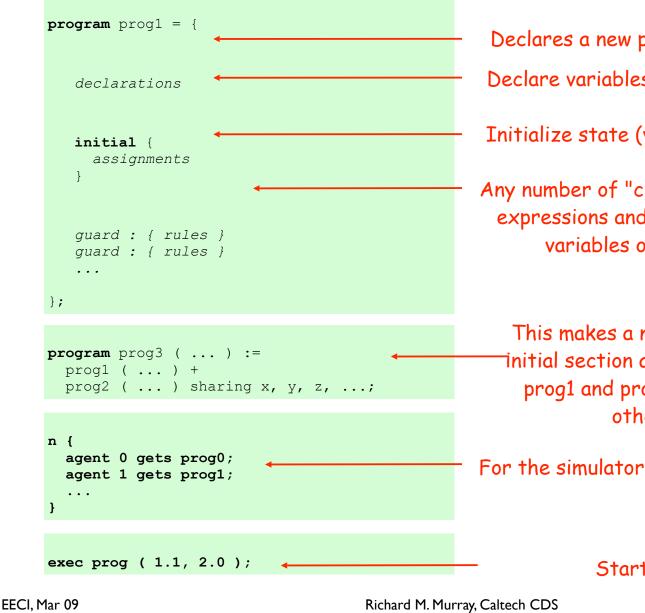
An Example CCL Program

include standard.ccl

```
x = 3.216250
program plant (a, b, x0, delta) := {
                                                             x = 3.095641
  x := x0;
                                                             x = 2.979554
                                                             x = 2.867821
  y := x;
                                                             x = 2.760278
  u := 0.0;
                                                             x = 2.656767
  true : {
                                                             x = 2.557138
                                                             x = 2.461246
    x := x + delta * (a * x + b * u),
                                                             x = 2.368949
    \mathbf{y} := \mathbf{x}
                                                             x = 2.280113
    print ( " x = ", x, "\n" )
                                                             x = 2.194609
                                                             x = 2.112311
  };
                                                             x = 2.033100
};
                                                             x = 1.956858
                                                             x = 1.883476
                                                             x = 1.812846
program control() := {
                                                             x = 1.744864
  y := 0.0;
                                                             x = 1.679432
                                                             x = 1.616453
  u := 0.0;
                                                                 . . .
  true : { u := -y };
};
program sys ( a, b, x0 ) := plant ( a, b, x0, 0.1 ) +
                                 control (2*a/b) sharing u, y;
exec sys ( 3.1, 0.75, 15.23 );
```

EECI, Mar 09

Structure of CCL Programs



Declares a new program with name "prog1" Declare variables and functions to be used.

Initialize state (variables and environment)

Any number of "clauses". Guards are boolean expressions and rules are assignments to variables or control commands.

This makes a new program with conjoined initial section and includes all clauses from prog1 and prog2. x, y and z are shared, other vars are local.

For the simulator: assign programs to agents

Starts the interpreter.

CCL Language Features (optional)

Variables

• Can be of type constant, number or array

External functions

- Can be of type function, arrayfunction, boolean, with numerical arguments
- Can link to C/C++ functions
- whoami, time, posx, posy, print, rand, reset, send_mesg, clear_box, sin, cos, abs, pos, vel, get_mesg, check_box,...

Expressions

• Numeric (1 + sin(x+y)/time()) or boolean (y[2] < y[3] || false)

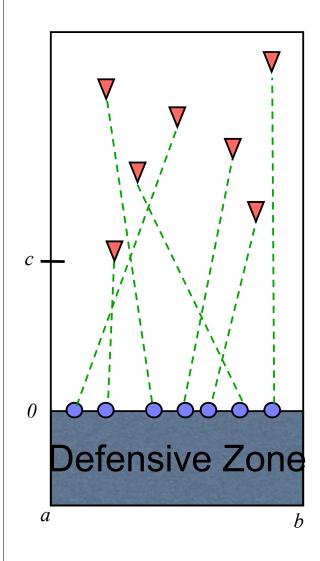
Communications

• Mailboxes: send_mesg(to, arg1, ..., argn), recv_mesg (from), check box (from)

Predefined Controllers

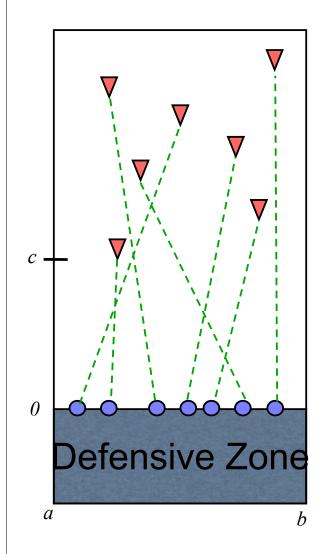
- Specified with the controller keyword
- velcontrol, pd, force, pd_vehicle,...

Example: RoboFlag Drill

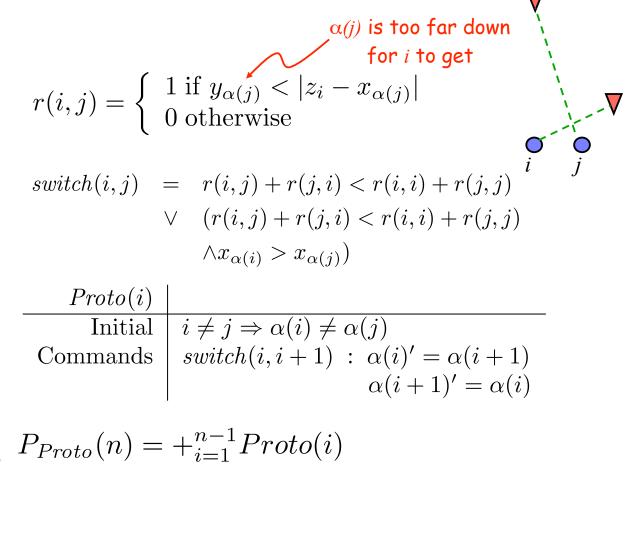


| Red(i) | |
|------------------|---|
| Initial | $x_i \in [a, b] \land y_i > c$ |
| Commands | $y_i > \delta$: $y'_i = y_i - \delta$ |
| | $egin{array}{ll} y_i > \delta & : \; y_i' = y_i - \delta \ y_i \leq \delta & : \; x_i' \in [a,b] \wedge y_i > c \end{array}$ |
| | |
| $P_{Red}(n) = +$ | ${i=1}^{n} Red(i)$ |
| Blue(i) | |
| Initial | $z_i \in [a, b] \land z_i < z_{i+1}$ |
| Commands | $z_i < x_{\alpha(i)} \land z_i < z_{i+1} - \delta : z'_i = z_i + \delta$ |
| | $z_{i} < x_{\alpha(i)} \land z_{i} < z_{i+1} - \delta : z_{i}' = z_{i} + \delta z_{i} > x_{\alpha(i)} \land z_{i} > z_{i-1} + \delta : z_{i}' = z_{i} - \delta$ |
| | |
| $P_{Blue}(n) = $ | $+_{i=1}^{n}Blue(i)$ |
| | |
| | |

RoboFlag Control Protocol



EECI, Mar 09



CCL Program for Switching Assignments

```
red[alpha[i]][0] > blue[i] & blue[i] +
delta < toplimit i : {</pre>
    blue[i] := blue[i] + delta
  }
  red[alpha[i]][0] < blue[i] & blue[i] -</pre>
delta > botlimit i : {
    blue[i] := blue[i] - delta
  }
};
program Red ( i ) := {
  red[i][1] > delta : {
    red[i][1] := red[i][1] - delta
  }
  red[i][1] < delta : {</pre>
    red[i] := { rrand 0 n, rrand lowerlimit
n }
```

program Blue (i) := {

```
fun r i j .
  if red[alpha[j]][1] < abs ( blue[i] -</pre>
red[alpha[j]][0] )
    then 1
    else 0
  end;
fun switch i j .
  rij+rji < rii+rjj
  |(rij+rji=rii+rjj)|
    & red[alpha[i]][0] > red[alpha[j][0] );
program ProtoPair ( i, j ) := {
  temp := 0;
  switch i j : {
    temp := alpha[i],
    alpha[i] := alpha[j],
    alpha[j] := temp,
  }
};
```

}

};

CCL/Temporal Logic Notation

Temporal logic

| ● □p | always p (invariance) | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|--|--|--|
| ● | eventually p (guarantee) | | | | |
| • $p \rightarrow \Diamond q$ | p implies eventually q (response) | | | | |
| • $p \rightarrow q U$ | r p implies q until r (precedence) | | | | |
| ● □◊p | always eventually p (progress) | | | | |
| ● ◇□p | eventually always p (stability) | | | | |
| • $\Diamond p \rightarrow \Diamond q$ | eventually p implies eventually q (correlation) | es eventually q (correlation) | | | |
| • ¬p | negation (not p) | | | | |
| ● σ[[F]] | true if a behavior σ satisfies a formula F | | | | |
| ● P⊨F | $\forall \sigma \ . \ \sigma \llbracket P \rrbracket \Rightarrow \sigma \llbracket F \rrbracket$ P satisfies F (any behavior consistent with a program ßsatisfies a specified formula) | | | | |
| CCL | | | | | |
| skip | true : $\forall v . v' = v$ guarded command that does nothing | | | | |
| p → q | $\Box(p \Rightarrow \Diamond q) $ "p leads to q": if p is true, q will eventually be true | | | | |
| • p co q | \Box (p \Rightarrow [(q' \lor skip]) \land \Diamond q']) if p is true, then next time state changes, q will be true | le | | | |

Properties for RoboFlag program

Safety (Defenders do not collide)

 $z_i < z_{i+1}$ co $z_i < z_{i+1}$

Stability (switch predicate stays false)

$$\forall i . y_i > 2\delta \land z_i + 2\delta < z_{i+1} \land \neg switch_{i,i+1} \mathbf{co} \neg switch_{i,i+1}$$

Robots are "far enough" apart.

"Lyapunov" stability

- Let ρ be the number of blue robots that are too far away to reach their red robots
- Let β be the total number of conflicts in the current assignment
- Define the Lyapunov function that captures "energy" of current state (V = 0 is desired)

$$V = \left[\binom{n}{2} + 1 \right] \rho + \beta \qquad \rho = \sum_{i=1}^{n} r(i,i) \qquad \beta = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{j=i+1}^{n} \gamma(i,j) \quad \text{where} \quad \gamma(i,j) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x_{\alpha(i)} > x_{\alpha(j)} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

• Can show that V always decreases whenever a switch occurs

$$\forall i . z_i + 2\delta m < z_{i+1} \land \exists j . switch_{j,j+1} \land V = m \ \mathbf{co} \ V < m$$

Sketch of Proof for RoboFlag Drill

More notation:

• Meaning of an action: $s[[a]] t \equiv a(\forall v : s[[v]] / v, t[[v]] / v')$

- Updates the state of the system by replacing all unprimed variables in *a* by their values under the state *s* and replacing all primed variables in *a* by their values under *t*
- Hoare triple notation: {*P*} *a* {*Q*} ≡ ∀ *s*, *t* . *s*[[P]] ^ *s* [[*a*]] *t* => *t*[[*Q*]]
 - True if the predicate *P* being true implies that *Q* is true after action *a*

Lemma (Klavins, 5.2) Let P = (I, C) be a program and p and q be predictates. If for all commands c in C we have $\{p\} c \{q\}$ then $P \models p \text{ co } q$.

- If *p* is true then any action in the program *P* that can be applied in the current state leaves *q* true

Thm $Prf(n) \models \Box z_i < z_{i+1}$

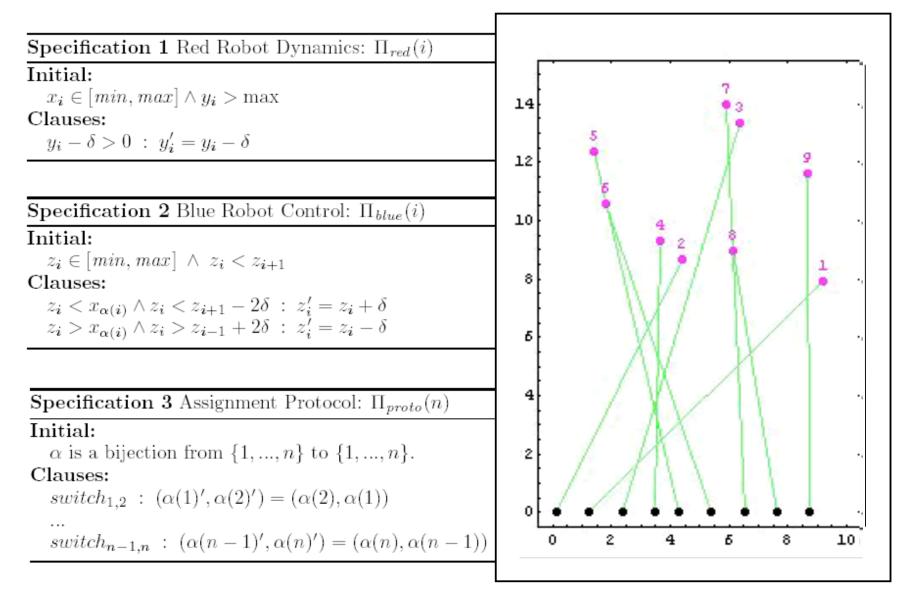
 For the RoboFlag drill with n defenders and n attackers, the location of defender will always be to the left of defender *i*+1.

Proof. Using the lemma, it suffices to check that for all commands *c* in *C* we have $\{p\} c$ $\{q\}$. So, we need to show that if $z_i < z_{i+1}$ then any command that changes z_i or z_{i+1} leaves these unchanged. Two cases: i moves or i+1 moves. For the first case, $\{p\} c \{q\}$ becomes

$$z_i < z_{i+1} \land (z_i < x_{\alpha(i)} \land z_i < z_{i+1} - \delta : z'_i = z_i + \delta) \implies z'_i < z'_{i+1}$$

From the definition of the gaurded command, this is true. Similar for second case.

RoboFlag Simulation



Observation of CCL Programs

Goal: determine assignments by watching motion

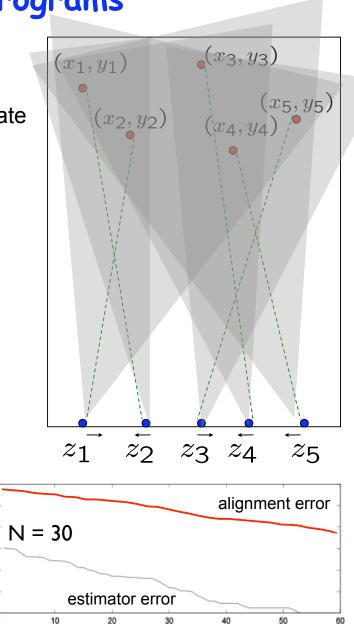
- Assume CCL program describing protocol is known
- Brute force: enumerate all N! possibilities and eliminate cases that are inconsistent with motion (over time)

Alternative approach: exploit structure

- Keep track of upper and lower bounds for each z_i
- Can show this provides a *partial order* on sets of possible assignments
- Extended CCL update law preserves the order: $\tilde{f}([l, u]) = [\tilde{f}(l), \tilde{f}(u)] \Rightarrow \text{fast computation}$

General case: observers for hybrid systems

- Construct a partial order on discrete states
- Extend CCL program to provide order-isomorphic map (always possible with power set)
- Can construct observer if system is observable: predict + correct on upper/lower bounds (fast)

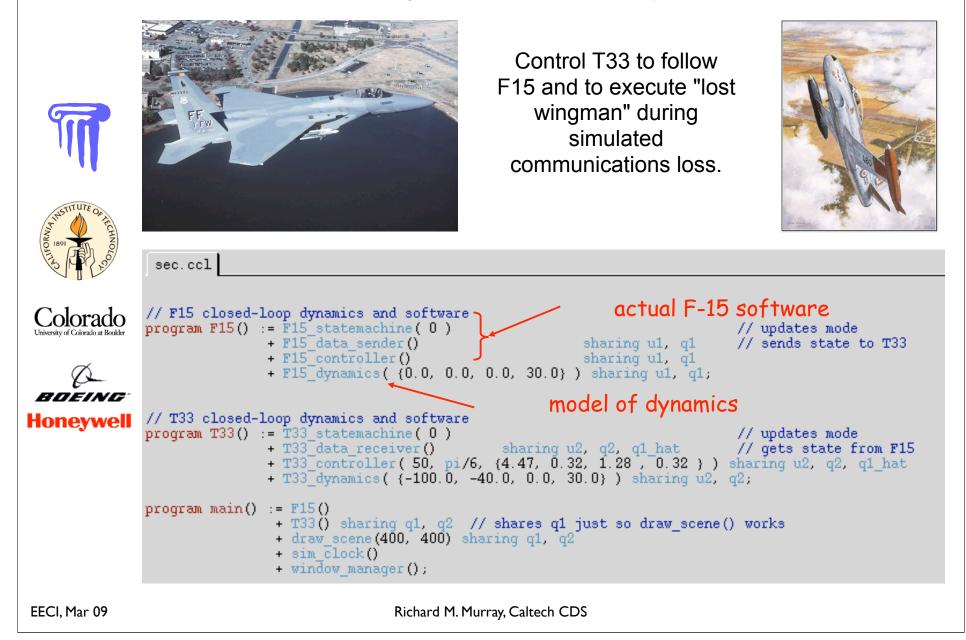


Del Vecchio, Klavins and M

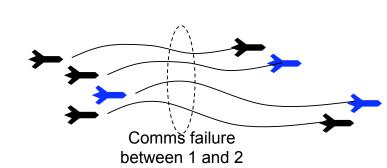
Automatica, 2006

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Real-World Example: Lost Wingman Protocol



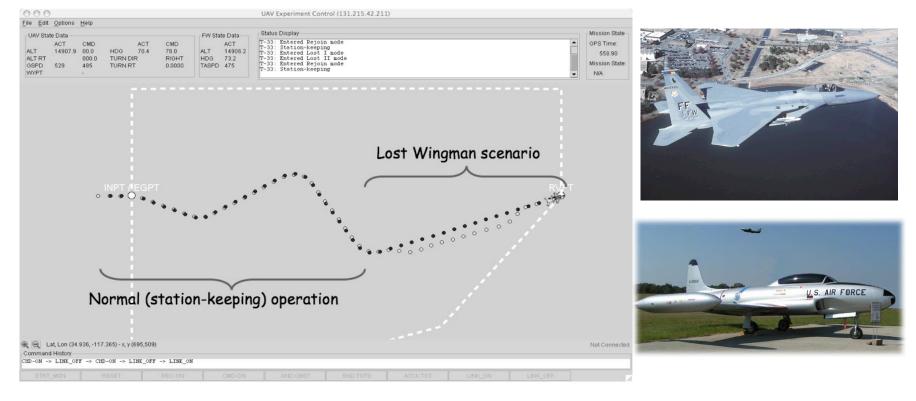
DARPA SEC: Lost Wingman Protocol



- GoalControl T33 to follow F15 as "wingman"
- Execute "lost wingman" protocol during simulated comms loss

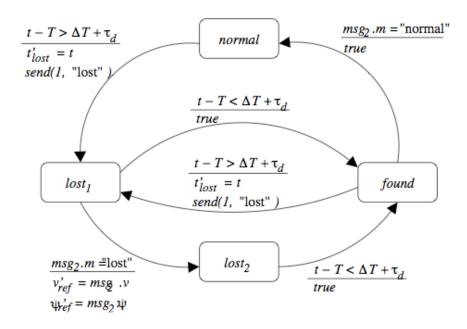
Technologies

• Receding horizon



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CCL Specification for Lost Wingman



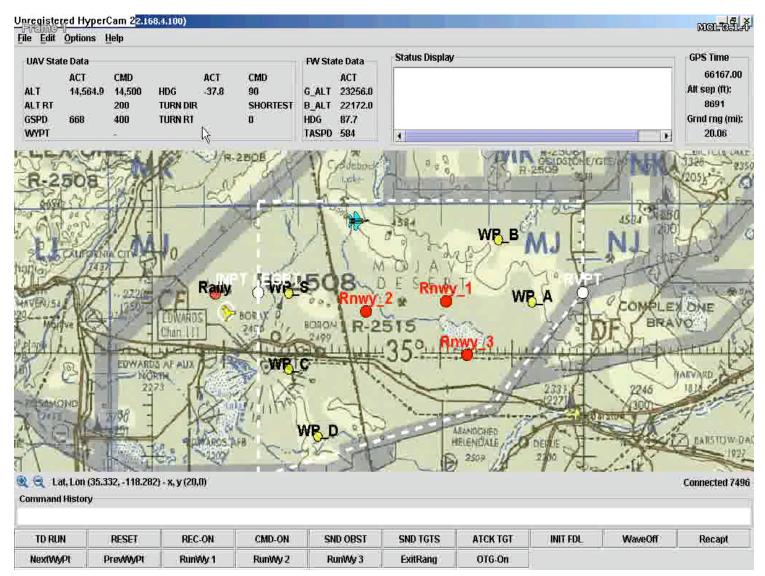
CCL-based protocol

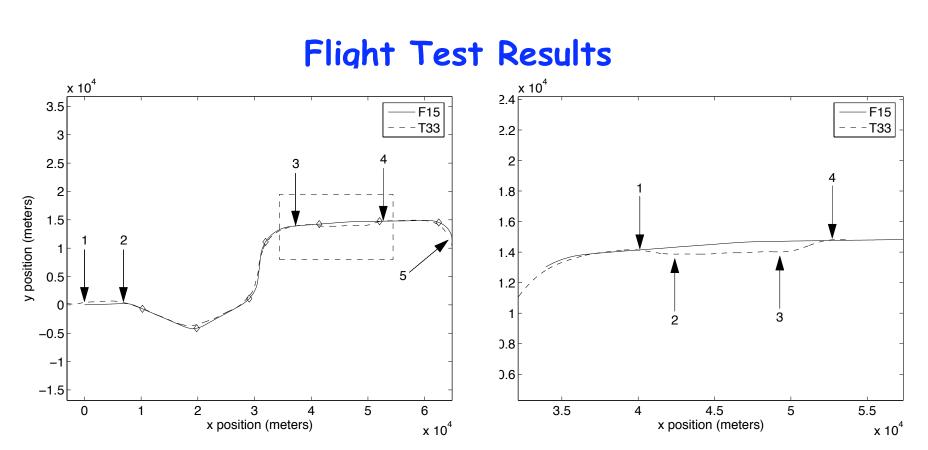
- High speed link used to communicate state information between aircraft
- Low speed link used to confirm status
- Update timers based on when we last sent/received data
- Change modes if data is not received within expected period (plus delay)

Program T_{sm}

...

Flight Test Results





Event timeline (right figure)

- Event 1: communications lost; T-33 executes tight turn; signals lots comms (slow link)
- Event 2: F-15 confirms communication lost message received
- Event 3: communications restored; T-33 requests rejoin (granted)
- Event 4: rejoin confirmed; return to normal operation

Implementation Tools

Existing tools

- Model checking: SPIN, TLC
- Theorem proving: PVS, Isabelle
- Symbolic modeling checking: PHAVer

Mission Data System (MDS) \rightarrow Hybrid Automata

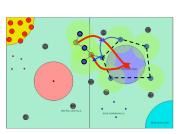
- Conversion of goal network to hybrid automata that can be verified using PHAVer, SPIN, etc
- Joint work with JPL, applying to Titan mission

PVS metatheory for asynchronous iterative processes

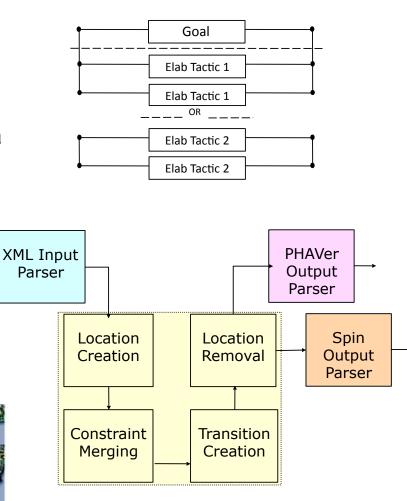
- "Library" for reasoning about stability in PVS
- Being used for verifying multi-robot protocols

Applications to Alice, RoboFlag









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M DSMC, 2007

Cooperative Control Systems Framework

Agent dynamics

$$\begin{split} \dot{x}^i &= f^i(x^i, u^i) \quad x^i \in \mathbb{R}^n, u^i \in \mathbb{R}^m \\ y^i &= h^i(x^i) \qquad y^i \in \mathbb{R}^q \end{split}$$

Vehicle "role"

- $\alpha \in \mathcal{A}$ encodes internal state + relationship to current task
- Transition $\alpha' = r(x, \alpha)$

Communications graph ${\mathcal G}$

- Encodes the system information flow
- Neighbor set $\mathcal{N}^i(\dot{\ } \alpha)$

Communications channel

• Communicated information can be lost, delayed, reordered; rate constraints

$$y_j^i[k] = \gamma y^i (t_k - \tau_j) \quad t_{k+1} - t_k > T_r$$

• γ = binary random process (packet loss)

Task

• Encode as finite horizon optimal control

$$J = \int_0^T L(x, \alpha, \mathcal{E}(t), u) \, dt + V(x(T), \alpha(T)),$$

• Assume task is *coupled*, env't estimated

Strategy

• Control action for individual agents

$$u^{i} = k^{i}(x, \alpha) \quad \{g_{j}^{i}(x, \alpha) : r_{j}^{i}(x, \alpha)\}$$
$$\alpha^{i}{}' = \begin{cases} r_{j}^{i}(x, \alpha) & g(x, \alpha) = \text{true} \\ \text{unchanged} & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Decentralized strategy

$$u^{i}(x,\alpha) = u^{i}(x^{i},\alpha^{i},y^{-i},\alpha^{-i},\hat{\mathcal{E}})$$
$$y^{-i} = \{y^{j_{1}},\dots,y^{j_{m_{i}}}\}$$
$$j_{k} \in \mathcal{N}^{i} \quad m_{i} = |\mathcal{N}^{i}|$$

• Similar structure for role update