

Dynamic Trajectories via Convex Optimization

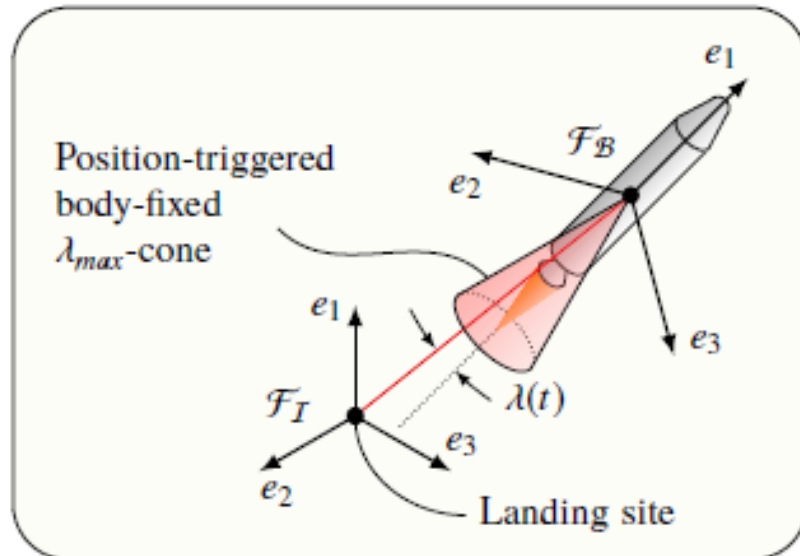
Skye Mceowen, Ben Chasnov
Daniel Sullivan, & Dan Calderone
PI: Behcet Acikmese

Autonomous Controls Lab
University of Washington



Problem Overview

Physics-based optimization...



Szmuk, Reynolds, Acikmese. (2020).
Successive Convexification for Real-Time 6-DOF Powered Descent Guidance with State-Triggered Constraints. JGCD 2020.

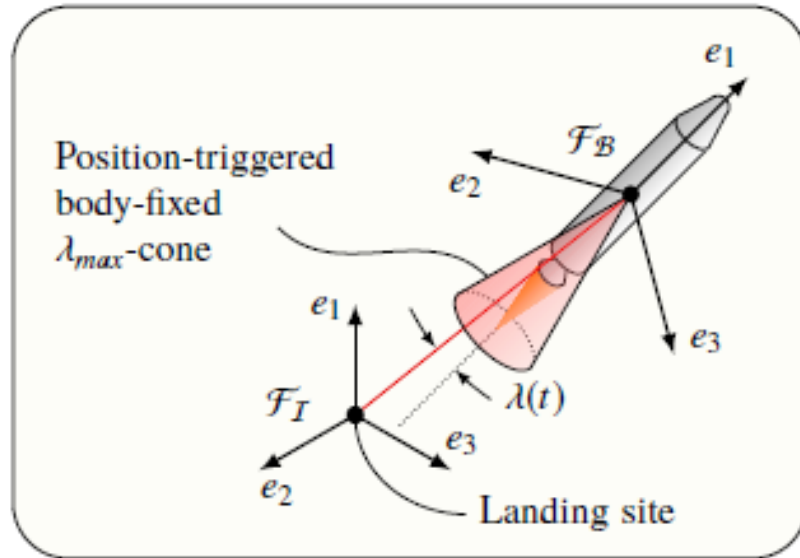
...results in dynamically feasible solutions



Scharf, Acikmese, Dueri et al. (2014).
ADAPT Demonstrations of Onboard Large-Divert Guidance with a VTOL Rocket. IEEE Aerospace Conference 2014.

Problem Overview

Optimal trajectory generated while satisfying necessary constraints



Szmuk, Reynolds, Acikmese. (2020).
Successive Convexification for Real-Time 6-DOF Powered Descent Guidance with State-Triggered Constraints. JGCD 2020.

Reynolds, Szmuk, Malyuta, Mesbahi, Acikmese (2020).
Dual Quaternion Based Powered Descent Guidance with State-Triggered Constraints. JGCD 2020.

Szmuk, Acikmese. (2018).
Successive Convexification for 6-DOF Mars Rocket Powered Landing with Free-Final-Time. AIAA GNC Conference 2018.

Problem 1. Minimum-fuel rocket-landing problem

Cost Function:

$$\underset{t_c, t_b, T_B(t)}{\text{minimize}} \quad -m(t_f)$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad t_c \in [0, t_{c, \max}]$$

Boundary Conditions:

$$m(t_{ig}) = m_{ig} \quad q_{B \leftarrow I}(t_f) = q_{id}$$

$$r_I(t_{ig}) = p_{r, ig}(t_c) \quad r_I(t_f) = 0$$

$$v_I(t_{ig}) = p_{v, ig}(t_c) \quad v_I(t_f) = -v_d e_1$$

$$\omega_B(t_{ig}) = 0 \quad \omega_B(t_f) = 0$$

Dynamics:

$$\dot{m}(t) = -\alpha_m \|T_B(t)\|_2 - \beta \dot{m}$$

$$\dot{r}_I(t) = v_I(t)$$

$$\dot{v}_I(t) = \frac{1}{m(t)} C_{I \leftarrow B}(t) (T_B(t) + A_B(t)) + g_I$$

$$\dot{q}_{B \leftarrow I}(t) = \frac{1}{2} \Omega(\omega_B(t)) q_{B \leftarrow I}(t)$$

$$J_B \dot{\omega}_B(t) = r_{I, B} \times T_B(t) + r_{cp, B} \times A_B(t) - \omega_B(t) \times J_B \omega_B(t)$$

State Constraints:

$$m_{dry} \leq m(t)$$

$$\tan \gamma_{gs} \|H_\gamma r_I(t)\|_2 \leq e_1 \cdot r_I(t)$$

$$\cos \theta_{max} \leq 1 - 2 \|H_\theta q_{B \leftarrow I}(t)\|_2$$

$$\|\omega_B(t)\|_2 \leq \omega_{max}$$

Control Constraints:

$$0 < T_{min} \leq \|T_B(t)\|_2 \leq T_{max}$$

$$\cos \delta_{max} \|T_B(t)\|_2 \leq e_3 \cdot T_B(t)$$

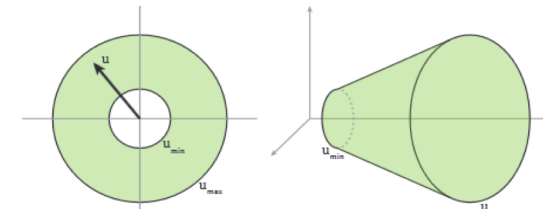
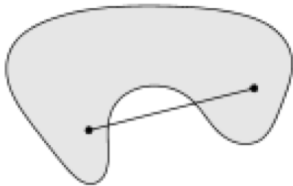
State-Triggered Constraints:

$$h_\alpha(v_I(t), q_{B \leftarrow I}(t)) \leq 0$$

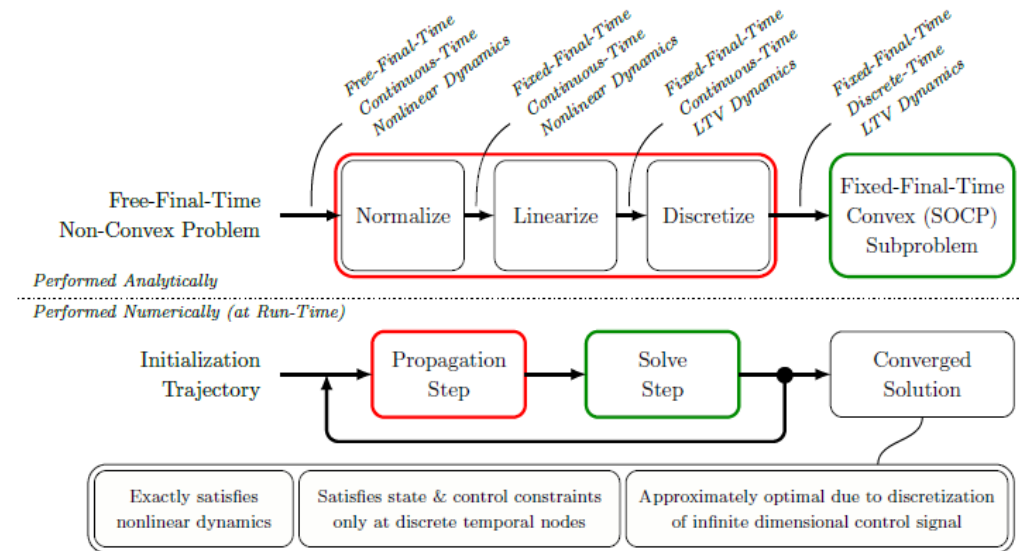
Optimal Guidance Problem Overview

Why is it so fast?

- Harness speed of convex optimization to solve complex, nonlinear problems
 - Take local convex approximation of nonlinear problem to achieve relevant run time
- Convexify an optimal control problem (lossless convexification)
- Create sequence of convexified subproblems (successive convexification)
 - In practice, number of iterations shown to be small



Szmuk, Pascucci, Dueri, Acikmese (2017).
Convexification and Real-Time On-Board
Optimization for Agile Quad-Rotor Maneuvering
and Obstacle Avoidance. IEEE IROS 2017.

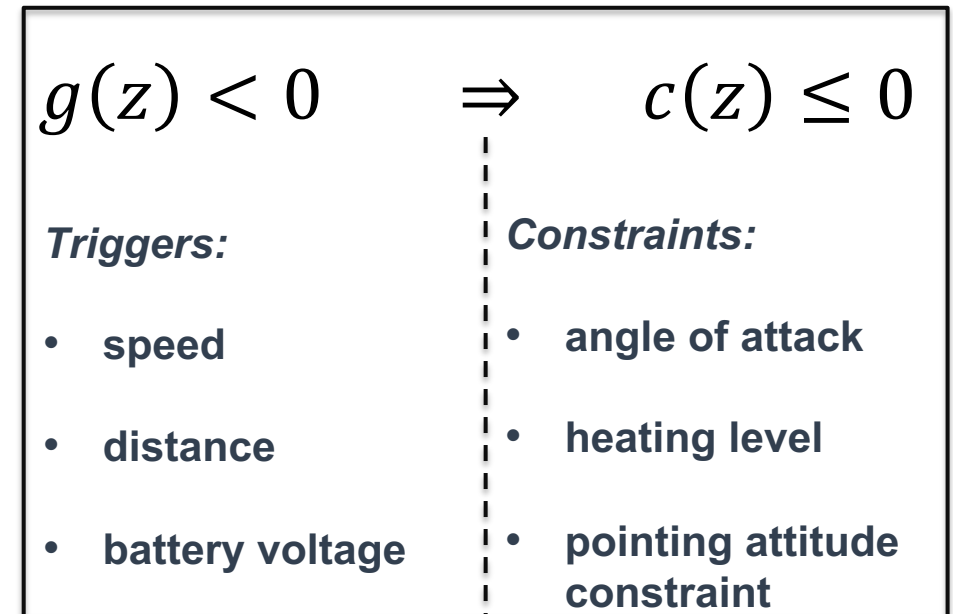


Szmuk, Reynolds, Acikmese, Mesbahi (2019).
Successive Convexification for 6-DOF Powered Descent Guidance
with Compound State-Triggered Constraints. AIAA SciTech 2019.

Optimal Guidance Problem Overview

How do we deal with conditional decision making?

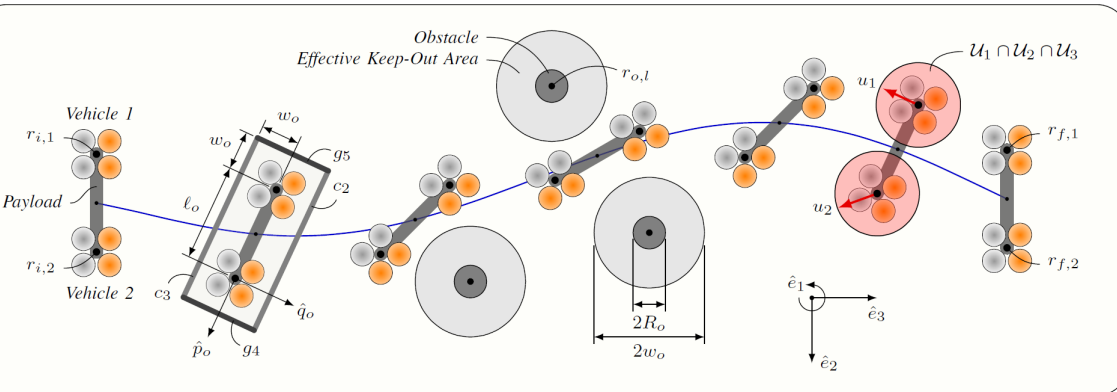
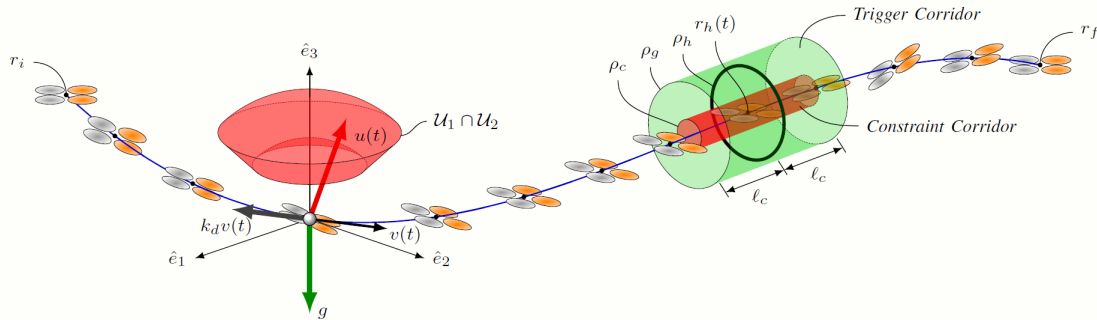
- **State-Triggered Constraints (STCs)** model logical implications
 - Constraints enforced when state-dependent criterion are met
 - Extension to optimization-based trajectory generation methods
- Integrate conditional logic into a continuous optimization framework
 - Embed a subset of discrete decision constraints into continuous problem
 - Formulated using continuous variables of the optimization problem
 - Nonlinear function models implications that trigger constraints
- Composed of *trigger function* and *constraint function*
 - $g(z)$ – trigger function
 - $c(z)$ – constraint function
 - z – optimization variable
- ***Constraint function*** is conditionally enforced based on the value of the ***trigger function***
 - If the trigger function is non-negative, then optimization variable is not subject to the constraint condition
 - If trigger function becomes negative, then constraint is enforced



Szmuk, Malyuta, Reynolds, Mceowen, Acikmese. (2019).
Real-Time Quad-Rotor Path Planning Using Convex
Optimization and Compound State-Triggered Constraints.
IEEE IROS 2019.

Optimal Guidance Problem Overview

Example 1: quadrotor with STCs



Szmuk, Malyuta, Reynolds, Mceowen, Acikmese. (2019).
Real-Time Quad-Rotor Path Planning Using Convex
Optimization and Compound State-Triggered Constraints.
IEEE IROS 2019.

Problem 1: Non-Convex Formulation of Scenario 1

$$\underset{u}{\text{minimize}} \int_0^{t_f} \|u(t)\|_2 dt$$

subject to:

$$r(0) = r_i, r(t_f) = r_f,$$

$$v(0) = v(t_f) = 0_{3 \times 1},$$

$$u(0) = u(t_f) = mg\hat{e}_1,$$

$$\dot{x}(t) = Ax(t) + Bu(t) + Ew, u(t) \in \mathcal{U}_1 \cap \mathcal{U}_2,$$

$$\|v(t)\|_2 \leq v_{\max}, h_1(r(t), r_h(t)) \leq 0.$$

Objective: Min. fuel

**Boundary
conditions**

**Dynamics & control
State and safety**

Problem 2: Non-Convex Formulation of Scenario 2

$$\underset{u}{\text{minimize}} \int_0^{t_f} (\|u_1(t)\|_2 + \|u_2(t)\|_2) dt$$

subject to:

$$r_1(0) = r_{i,1}, r_1(t_f) = r_{f,1},$$

$$r_2(0) = r_{i,2}, r_2(t_f) = r_{f,2},$$

$$v_1(0) = v_2(0) = v_1(t_f) = v_2(t_f) = 0_{3 \times 1},$$

$$u_1(0) = u_2(0) = u_1(t_f) = u_2(t_f) = mg\hat{e}_1,$$

$$\dot{\tilde{x}}(t) = \tilde{A}\tilde{x}(t) + \tilde{B}\tilde{u}(t) + \tilde{E}\tilde{w},$$

$$u_1(t), u_2(t) \in \mathcal{U}_1 \cap \mathcal{U}_2 \cap \mathcal{U}_3,$$

$$h_2(r_1(t), r_2(t), r_{o,l}) = 0, \forall j \in \mathcal{N}_o,$$

$$\|v_1(t)\|_2 \leq v_{\max}, \|v_2(t)\|_2 \leq v_{\max},$$

$$\|r_1(t) - r_2(t)\|_2 = \ell_o.$$

Objective: Min. fuel

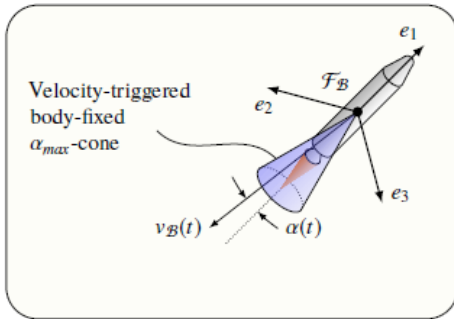
**Boundary
conditions**

**Dynamics, state
and control**

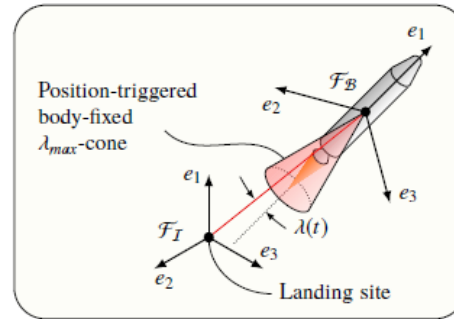
**Safety
constraints**

Optimal Guidance Problem Overview

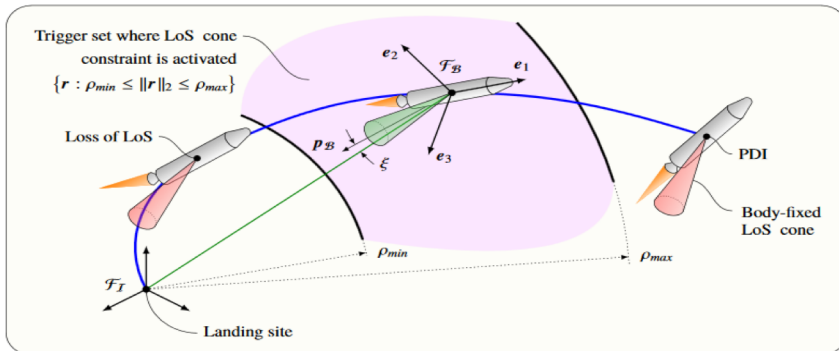
Example 2: rocket landing problem



(a) Angle of Attack State-Triggered Constraint



(b) Field of View State-Triggered Constraint



Szmuk, Reynolds, Acikmese. (2020). Successive Convexification for Real-Time 6-DOF Powered Descent Guidance with State-Triggered Constraints. JGCD 2020.

Reynolds, Szmuk, Malyuta, Mesbahi, Acikmese (2020). Dual Quaternion Based Powered Descent Guidance with State-Triggered Constraints. JGCD 2020.

Reynolds, Malyuta, Mesbahi, Acikmese. (2020). A Real-Time Algorithm for Non-Convex Powered Descent Guidance. AIAA SciTech 2020.

Problem 1. Minimum-fuel rocket-landing problem

Cost Function:

$$\underset{t_c, t_b, T_B(t)}{\text{minimize}} \quad -m(t_f)$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad t_c \in [0, t_{c, \max}]$$

Boundary Conditions:

$$\begin{aligned} m(t_{ig}) &= m_{ig} & q_{B \leftarrow I}(t_f) &= q_{id} \\ r_I(t_{ig}) &= p_{r, ig}(t_c) & r_I(t_f) &= 0 \\ v_I(t_{ig}) &= p_{v, ig}(t_c) & v_I(t_f) &= -v_d e_1 \\ \omega_B(t_{ig}) &= 0 & \omega_B(t_f) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Dynamics:

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{m}(t) &= -\alpha_m \|T_B(t)\|_2 - \beta_m \\ \dot{r}_I(t) &= v_I(t) \\ \dot{v}_I(t) &= \frac{1}{m(t)} C_{I \leftarrow B}(t)(T_B(t) + A_B(t)) + g_I \\ \dot{q}_{B \leftarrow I}(t) &= \frac{1}{2} \Omega(\omega_B(t)) q_{B \leftarrow I}(t) \\ J_B \dot{\omega}_B(t) &= r_{T, B} \times T_B(t) + r_{cp, B} \times A_B(t) - \omega_B(t) \times J_B \omega_B(t) \end{aligned}$$

State Constraints:

$$\begin{aligned} m_{dry} &\leq m(t) \\ \tan \gamma_{gs} \|H_y r_I(t)\|_2 &\leq e_1 \cdot r_I(t) \\ \cos \theta_{max} &\leq 1 - 2 \|H_\theta q_{B \leftarrow I}(t)\|_2 \\ \|\omega_B(t)\|_2 &\leq \omega_{max} \end{aligned}$$

Control Constraints:

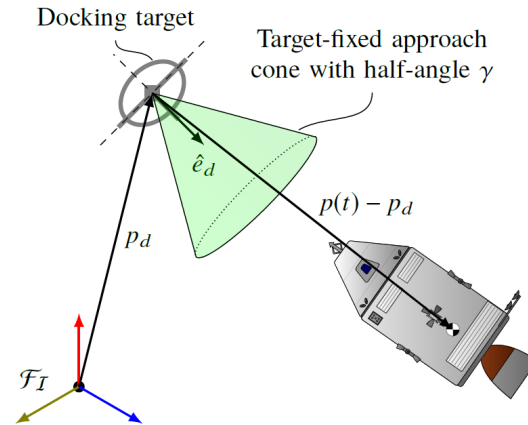
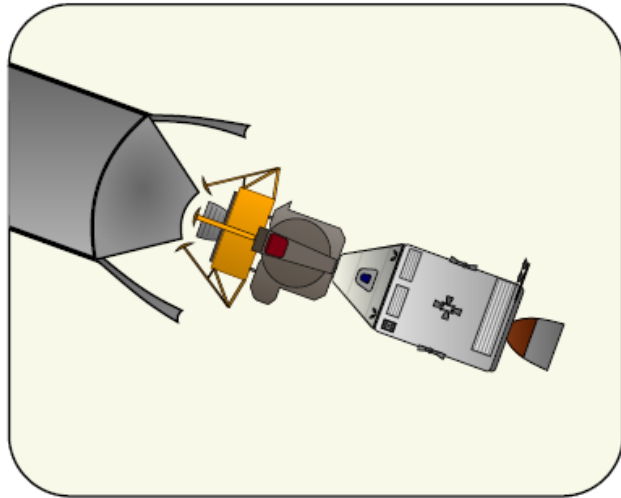
$$\begin{aligned} 0 < T_{min} &\leq \|T_B(t)\|_2 \leq T_{max} \\ \cos \delta_{max} &\|T_B(t)\|_2 \leq e_3 \cdot T_B(t) \end{aligned}$$

State-Triggered Constraints:

$$h_\alpha(v_I(t), q_{B \leftarrow I}(t)) \leq 0$$

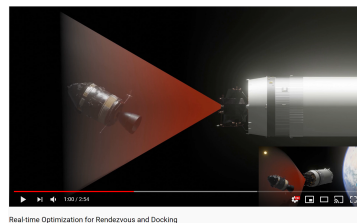
Optimal Guidance Problem Overview

Example 3: spacecraft rendezvous



Won: Best AIAA 2020 GNC Graduate Paper at SciTech
Video Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vU1nBL2cg04>

Malyuta, Reynolds, Szmuk, Acikmese, Mesbahi. (2020).
 Fast Trajectory Optimization via Successive
 Convexification for Spacecraft Rendezvous with Integer
 Constraints. AIAA SciTech 2020.



$$\text{minimize } J_f$$

$$\sigma_i(t)$$

$$\text{subject to : } \dot{p}(t) = v(t),$$

$$\dot{v}(t) = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^M q(t) \otimes f_i(t) \otimes q(t)^*,$$

$$\dot{q}(t) = \frac{1}{2} q(t) \otimes \omega(t),$$

$$\dot{\omega}(t) = J^{-1} \left[\sum_{i=1}^M r_i \times f_i(t) - \omega(t) \times (J\omega(t)) \right],$$

$$0 \leq \Delta t_k^i \leq \Delta t_{\max} \text{ for all } i = 1, \dots, M \text{ and } k \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0},$$

$$\Delta t_k^i < \Delta t_{\min} \Rightarrow \Delta t_k^i = 0 \text{ for all } i = 1, \dots, M \text{ and } k \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0},$$

$$\|p(t) - p_f\|_2 < r_a \Rightarrow e_1^T [q_f] \otimes q(t)^* \geq \cos(\Delta\theta_{\max}/2),$$

$$\|p(t) - p_f\|_2 < r_a \Rightarrow \sigma_i(t) = 0 \text{ for all } i \in \mathcal{M},$$

$$\|p(t) - p_d\|_2 \cos(\gamma) \leq (p(t) - p_d)^T \hat{e}_d,$$

$$p(0) = p_0, v(0) = v_0, q(0) = q_0, \omega(0) = \omega_0,$$

$$p(t_f) = p_f, v(t_f) = v_f, q(t_f) = q_f, \omega(t_f) = \omega_f.$$

Objective: min. fuel
min Σ (thruster-fire duration)

Dynamics

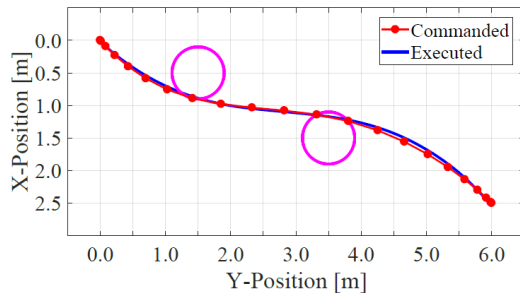
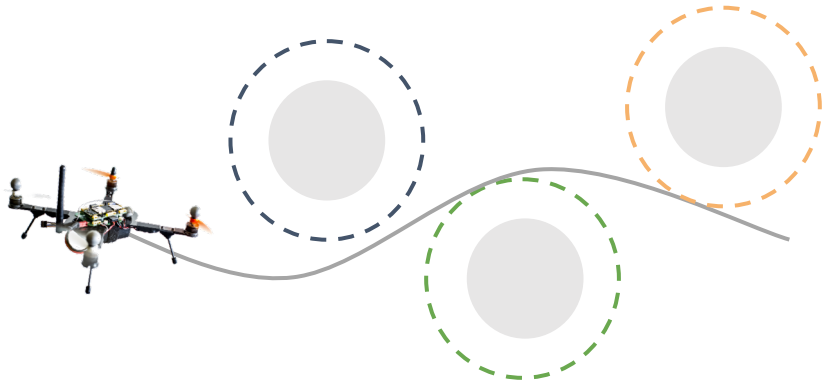
Thruster pulse duration

Safety constraints

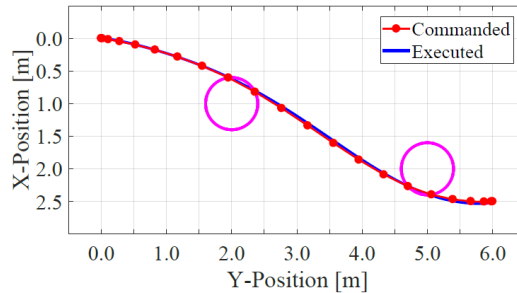
Boundary conditions

Optimal Guidance Problem Overview

Example 4: quadrotor obstacle avoidance



Szmuk, Pascucci, Dueri, Acikmese (2017).
Convexification and Real-Time On-Board
Optimization for Agile Quad-Rotor Maneuvering
and Obstacle Avoidance. IEEE IROS 2017.



Dueri, Mao, Mian, Ding, Acikmese (2017).
Trajectory Optimization with Inter-sample
Obstacle Avoidance via Successive
Convexification. IEEE CDC 2017.

Problem 2:

$$\underset{\mathbf{u}^k(t), \Gamma^k(t)}{\text{minimize}} \quad w \int_0^{t_f} (\Gamma^k(t))^2 dt + \sum_{j \in \mathbb{J}} \nu_j$$

subject to:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{r}^k(0) &= \mathbf{r}_i & \mathbf{v}^k(0) &= \mathbf{v}_0 & \mathbf{u}^k(0) &= g\mathbf{e}_3 \\ \mathbf{r}^k(t_f) &= \mathbf{r}_f & \mathbf{v}^k(t_f) &= \mathbf{v}_f & \mathbf{u}^k(t_f) &= g\mathbf{e}_3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\mathbf{r}}^k(t) &= \mathbf{v}^k(t) \\ \dot{\mathbf{v}}^k(t) &= \mathbf{u}^k(t) - g\mathbf{e}_3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \|\mathbf{u}^k(t)\|_2 &\leq \Gamma^k(t) \\ 0 < u_{min} &\leq \Gamma^k(t) \leq u_{max} \\ \Gamma^k(t) \cos(\theta_{max}) &\leq \mathbf{e}_3^T \mathbf{u}^k(t) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} x_{min} &\leq \mathbf{e}_1^T \mathbf{x}^k(t) \leq x_{max} \\ y_{min} &\leq \mathbf{e}_2^T \mathbf{x}^k(t) \leq y_{max} \\ z_{min} &\leq \mathbf{e}_3^T \mathbf{x}^k(t) \leq z_{max} \end{aligned}$$

For all $j \in \mathbb{J}$ and for $t \in [0, t_f]$:

$$\begin{aligned} \nu_j &\geq 0 \\ H_j &\geq 0 \\ \Delta \mathbf{r}^{k,j}(t) &\triangleq (\mathbf{r}^{k-1}(t) - \mathbf{p}_j) \\ \delta \mathbf{r}^k(t) &\triangleq \mathbf{r}^k(t) - \mathbf{r}^{k-1}(t) \\ \xi^{k,j}(t) &\triangleq \|H_j \Delta \mathbf{r}^{k,j}(t)\|_2 \\ \zeta^{k,j}(t) &\triangleq \frac{H_j^T H_j \Delta \mathbf{r}^{k,j}(t)}{\|H_j \Delta \mathbf{r}^{k,j}(t)\|_2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\xi^{k,j} + [\zeta^{k,j}(t)]^T \delta \mathbf{r}^k(t) \geq R_j - \nu_j$$

Objective:
Min. fuel

**Boundary
conditions**

Dynamics

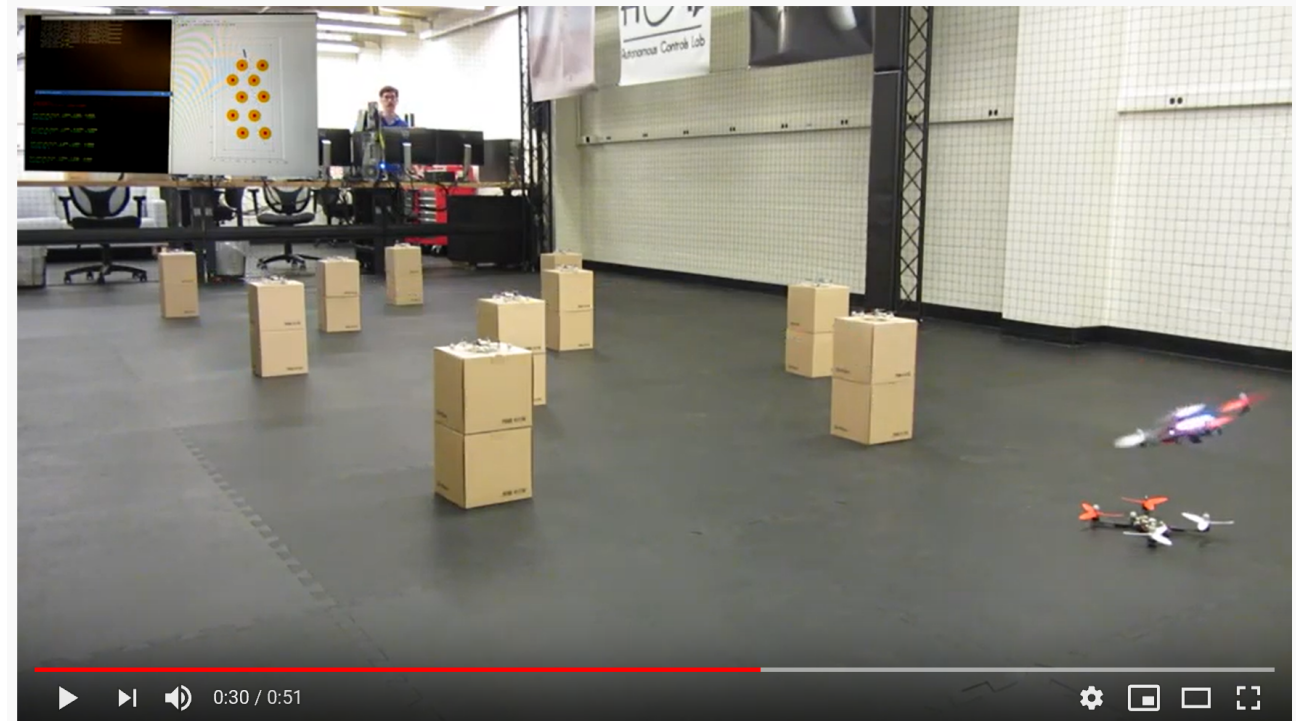
**Control
constraints**

**State
constraints**

**Safety
constraints**

Video: Aggressive Obstacle Avoidance

- Optimality based on sufficiently high-fidelity dynamic model allows us to push aggressive performance
- Dynamic feasibility allows us to exploit most of the systems operating envelope
- Links:
 - Aggressive Obstacle Avoidance:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EK-X3kiTnn8>
 - Mobile Obstacle Avoidance:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0fP5kBx_rzE
 - Obstacle Avoidance:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lmZDigf91Ss>

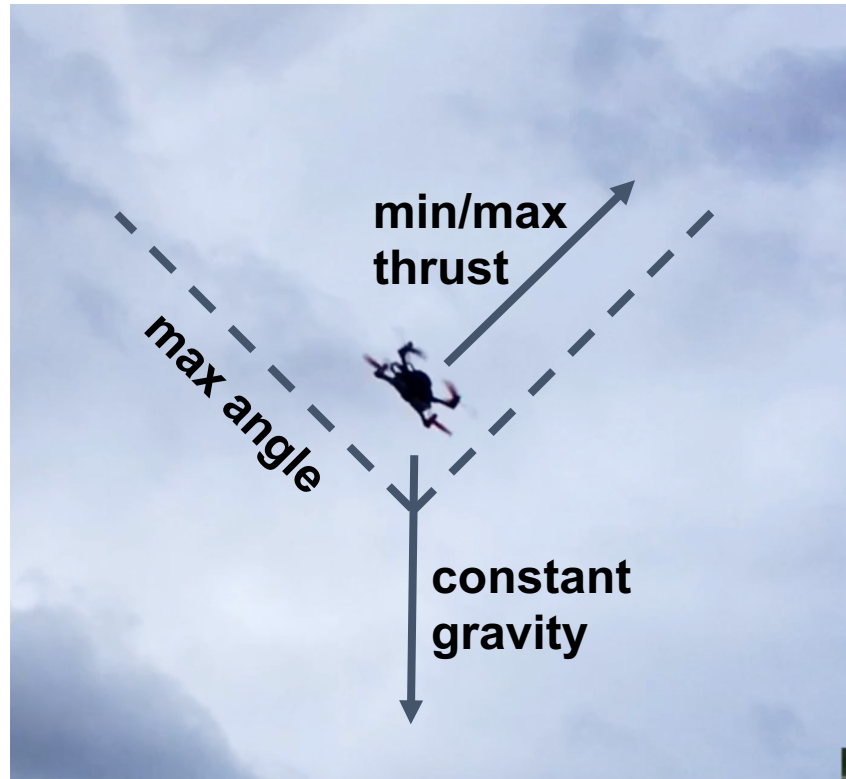


Real-Time Obstacle Avoidance

Tablet Interface Overview & Progress

Optimization Interface

Physics-based vehicle dynamics



Problem 1: Non-Convex Formulation

$$\underset{\mathbf{T}(t)}{\text{minimize}} \quad \int_0^{t_f} \|\mathbf{T}(t)\|_2 dt$$

subject to:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{r}(0) &= \mathbf{r}_i & \mathbf{v}(0) &= \mathbf{v}_i & \mathbf{T}(0) &= \mathbf{T}_i \\ \mathbf{r}(t_f) &= \mathbf{r}_f & \mathbf{v}(t_f) &= \mathbf{v}_f & \mathbf{T}(t_f) &= \mathbf{T}_f \end{aligned}$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{r}}(t) = \mathbf{v}(t)$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{v}}(t) = \frac{1}{m} \mathbf{T}(t) - g \mathbf{e}_1$$

$$0 < T_{min} \leq \|\mathbf{T}(t)\|_2 \leq T_{max} \quad (1)$$

$$\|\mathbf{T}(t)\|_2 \cos(\theta_{max}) \leq \mathbf{e}_1^T \mathbf{T}(t) \quad (2)$$

$$\|H_j(t)(\mathbf{r}(t) - \mathbf{r}_j(t))\|_2 \geq 1 \quad \forall j \in \mathbb{J}$$

Szmuk, Pascucci, Acikmese, B. (2018).
Real-Time Quad-Rotor Path Planning for Mobile Obstacle
Avoidance Using Convex Optimization. IROS 2018

Interface: Task Specification

Task:

Goal

Waypoints

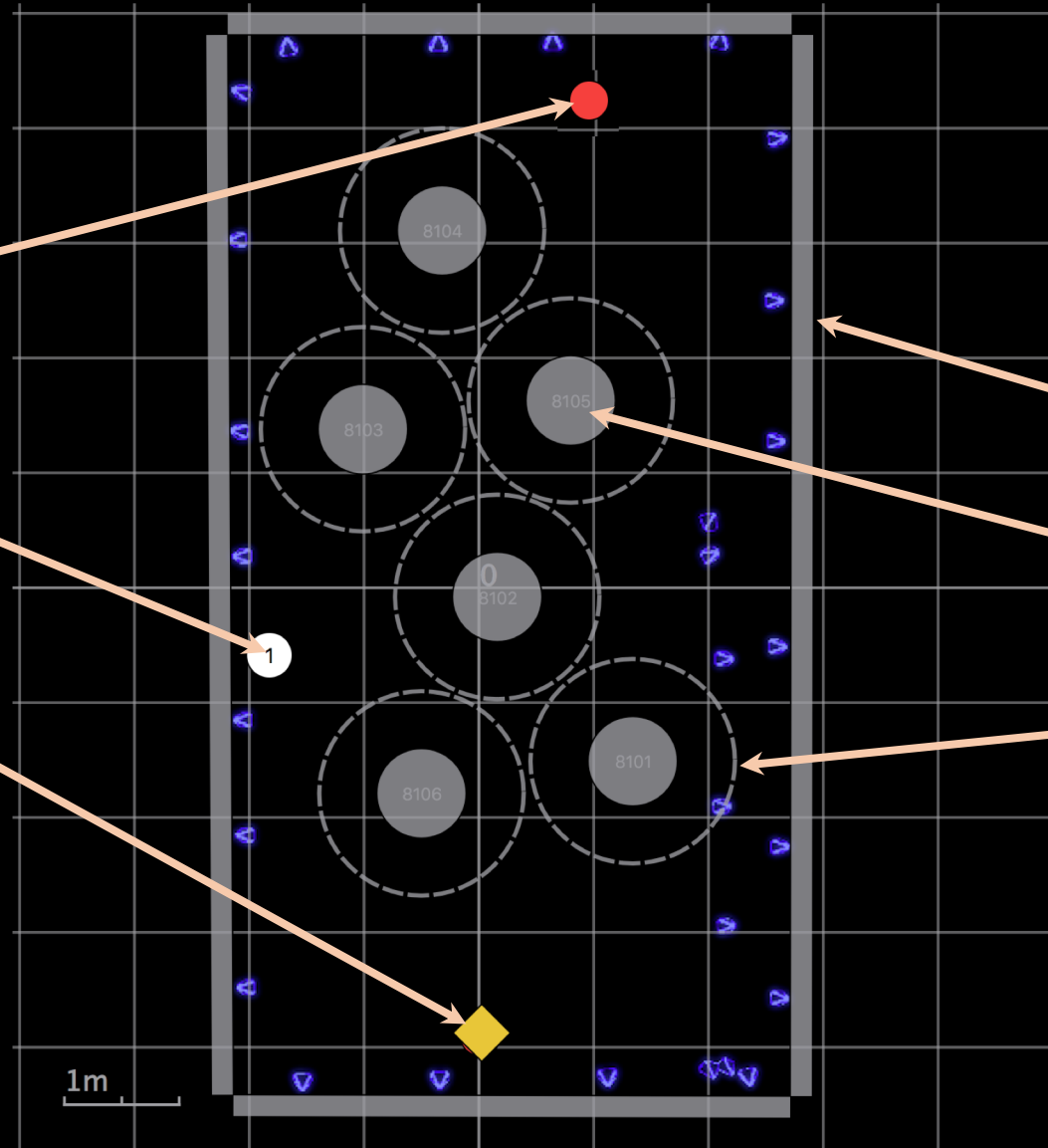
Vehicle (minimum fuel)

Map:

Safety Zone (hard)

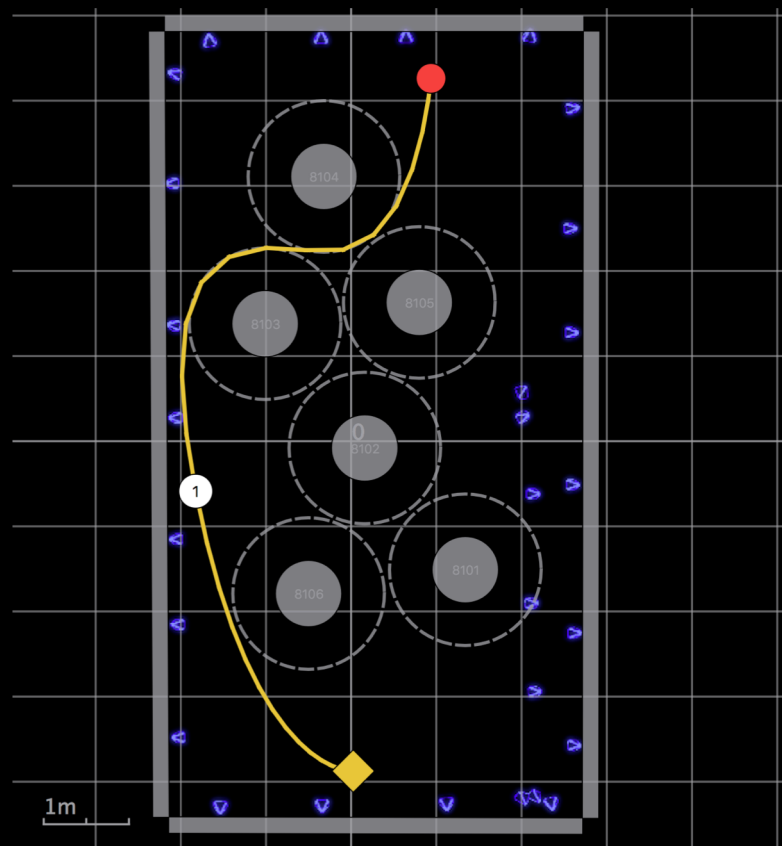
Live obstacles

Clearance (soft)

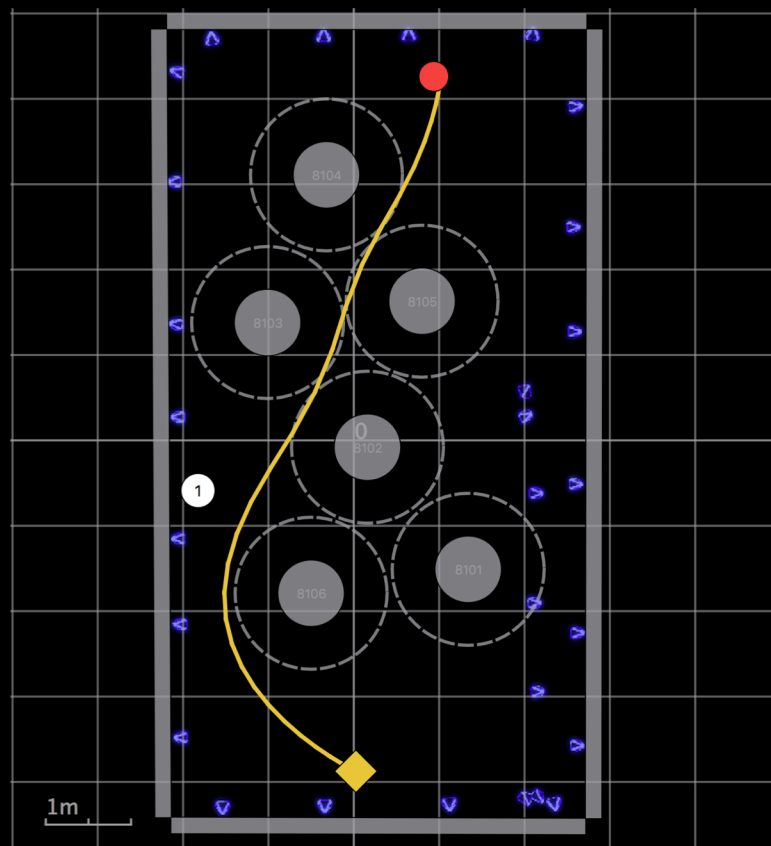


Interface: Constraint Types

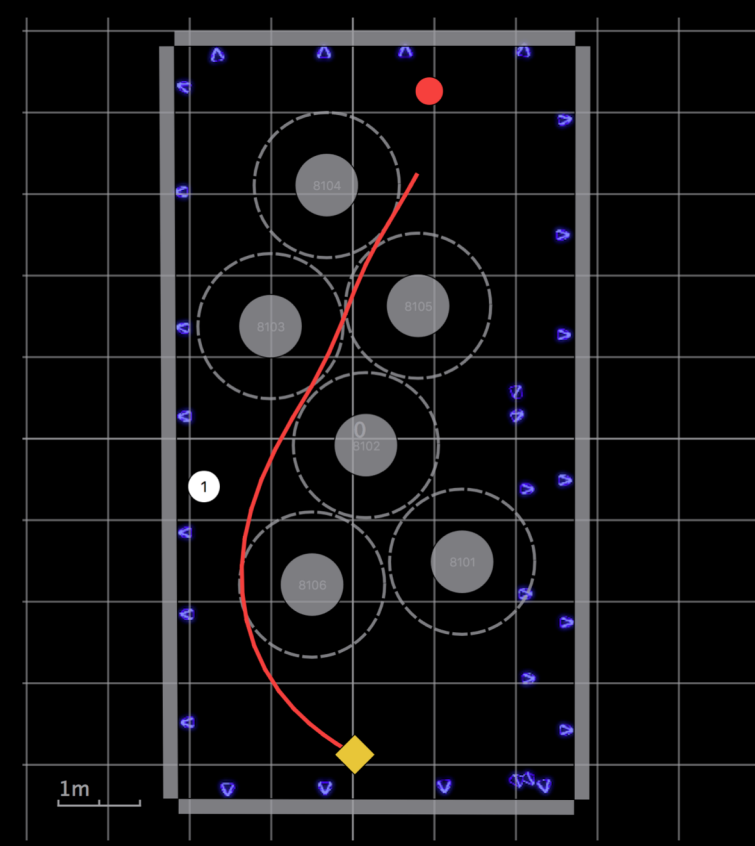
Soft and hard constraints



6.0 seconds

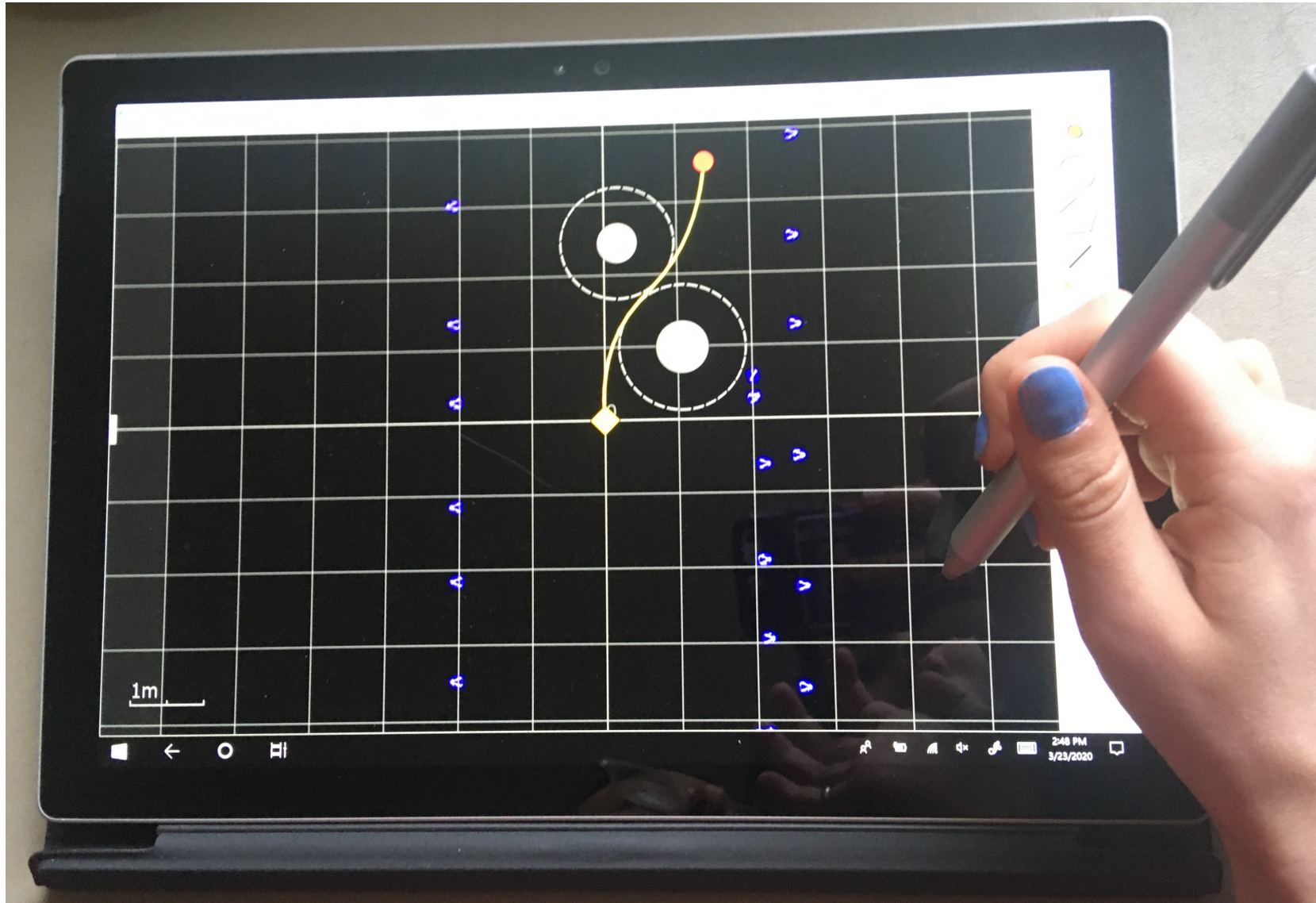


3.0 seconds



2.5 seconds

Interface: Handheld Tablet



Interface: Field Operations



Interface: Field Operations





Interface: Field Operations

Nominal



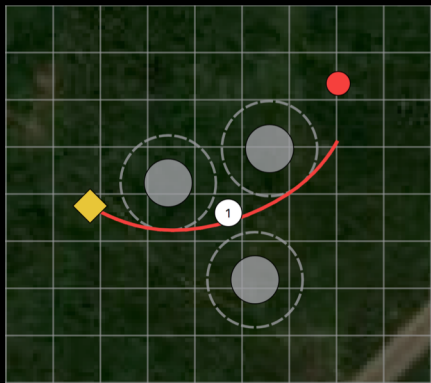
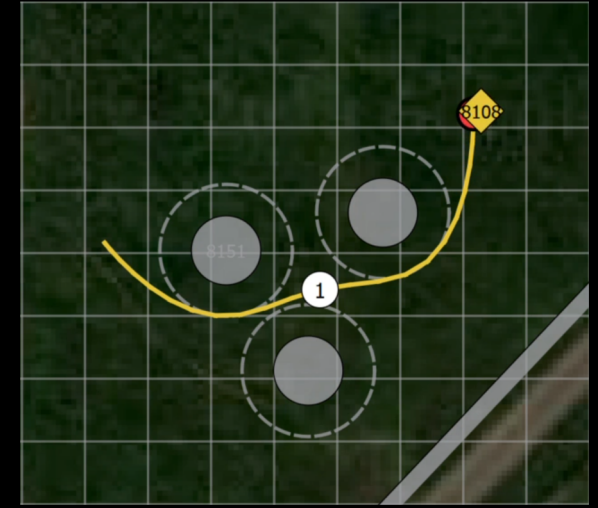
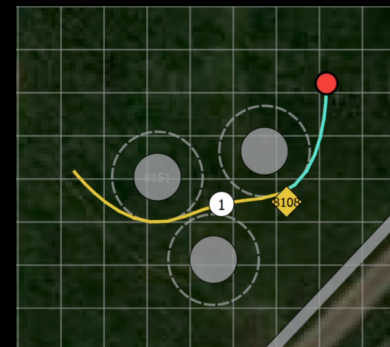
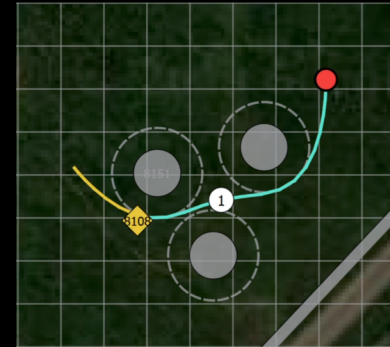
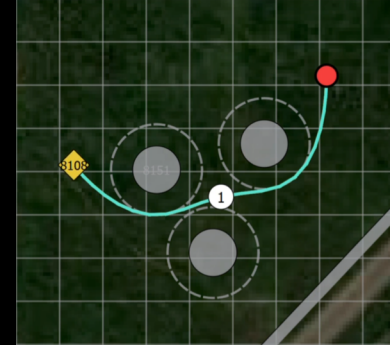
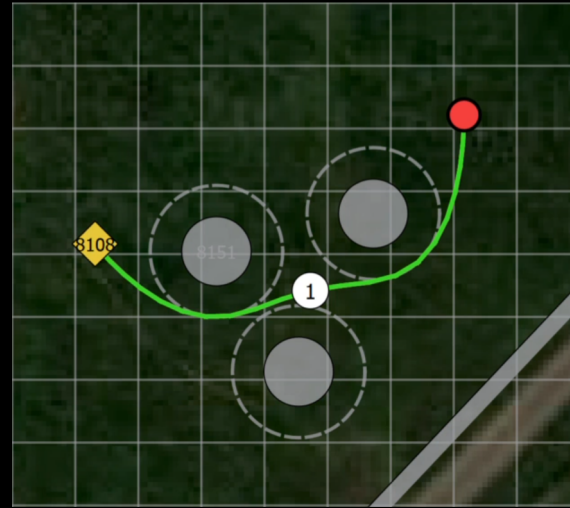
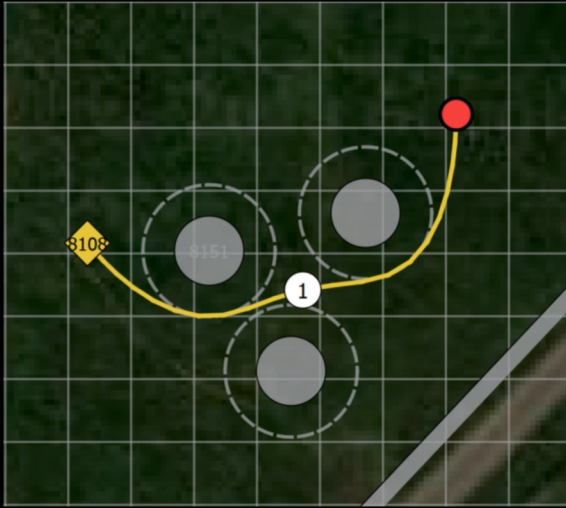
Staged



Executed



Task completed



Constraint violated

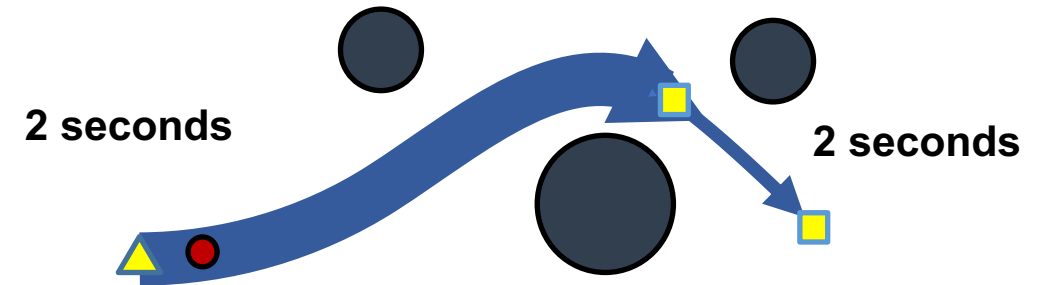
Current Work

Higher Fidelity Dynamics

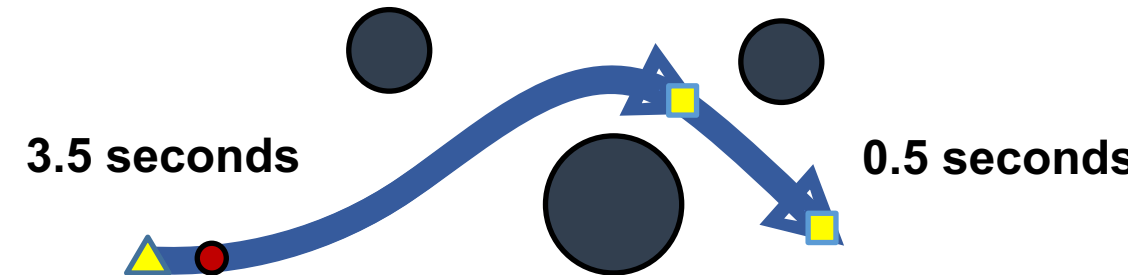
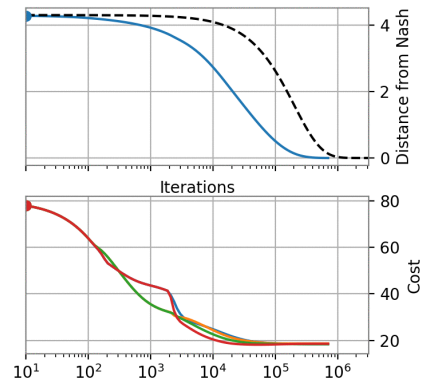
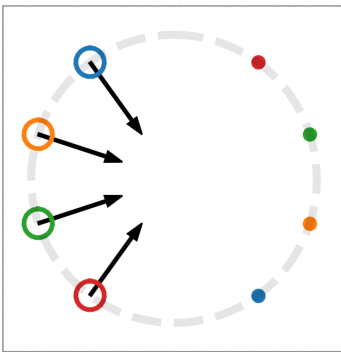


Variable Way Point Times

(In collaboration w/ P.S. Lysandrou)



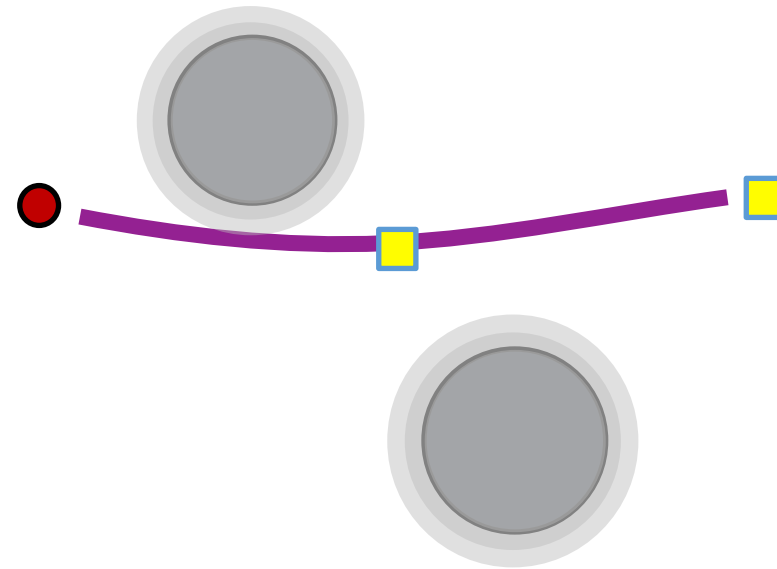
Game Theory Methods for Collision Avoidance



Future work:

- Turn potential targets into constraints for other trajectories to maintain feasibility
- Warm-start capabilities for replanning after task change
- User interface with tablet for quick online reassignment

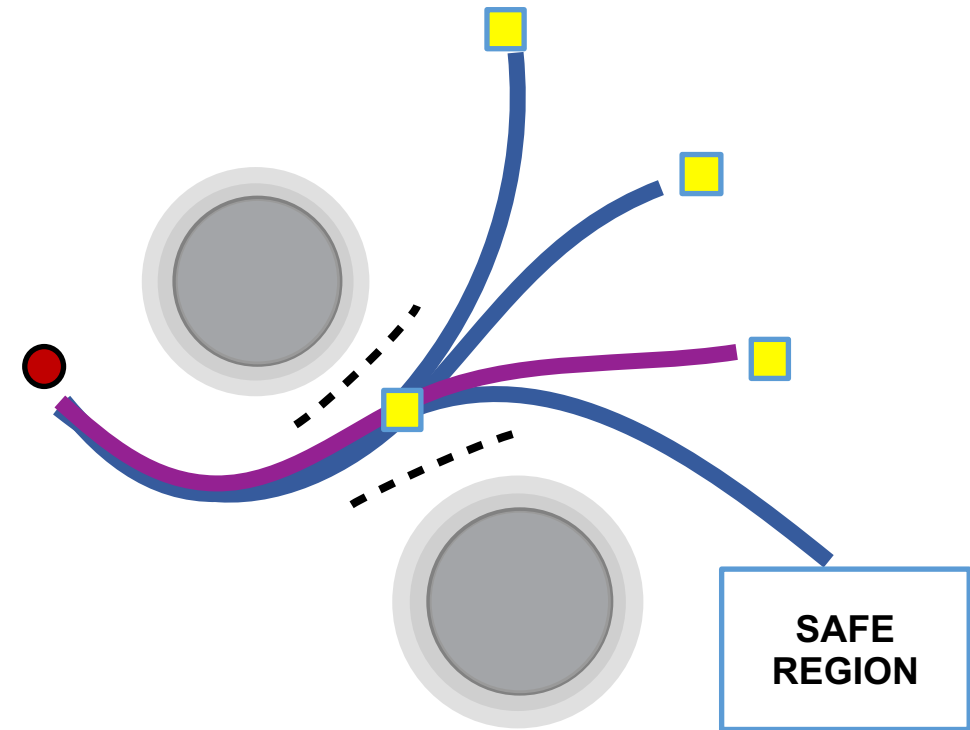
Single
Trajectory



Trajectory Bundles

- Turn potential targets into constraints for other trajectories to maintain feasibility
- Warm-start capabilities for replanning after task change
- User interface with tablet for quick online reassignment

Single
Trajectory
Trajectory
Bundle



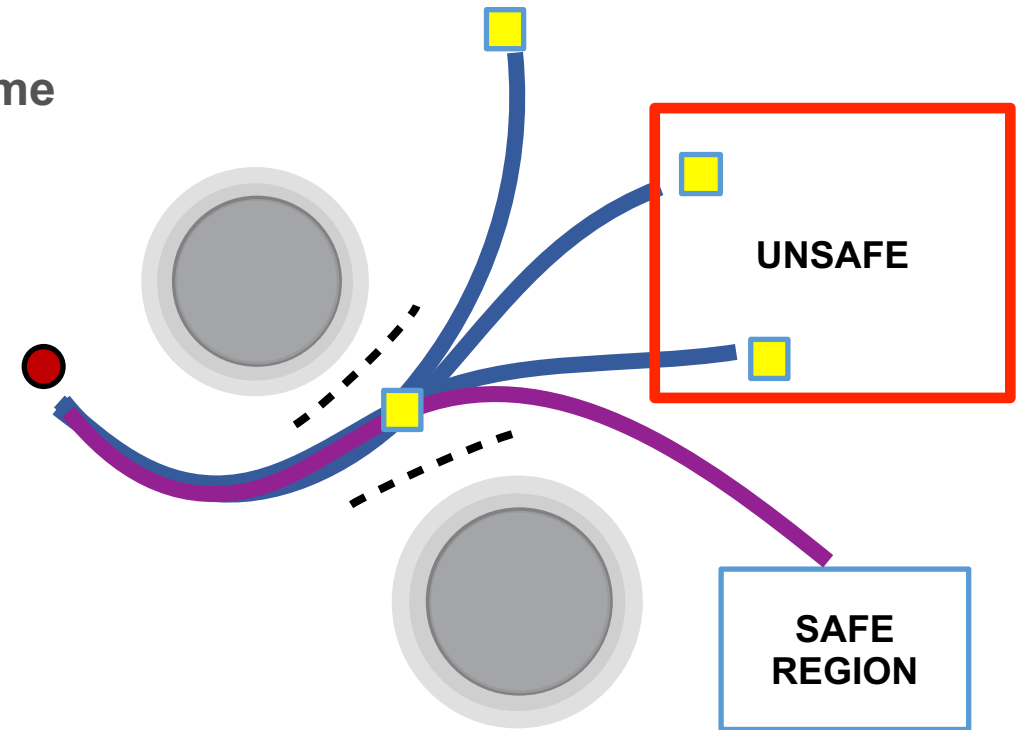
Trajectory Bundles

- Turn potential targets into constraints for other trajectories to maintain feasibility
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Single
Trajectory

Trajectory
Bundle

Real Time
Update

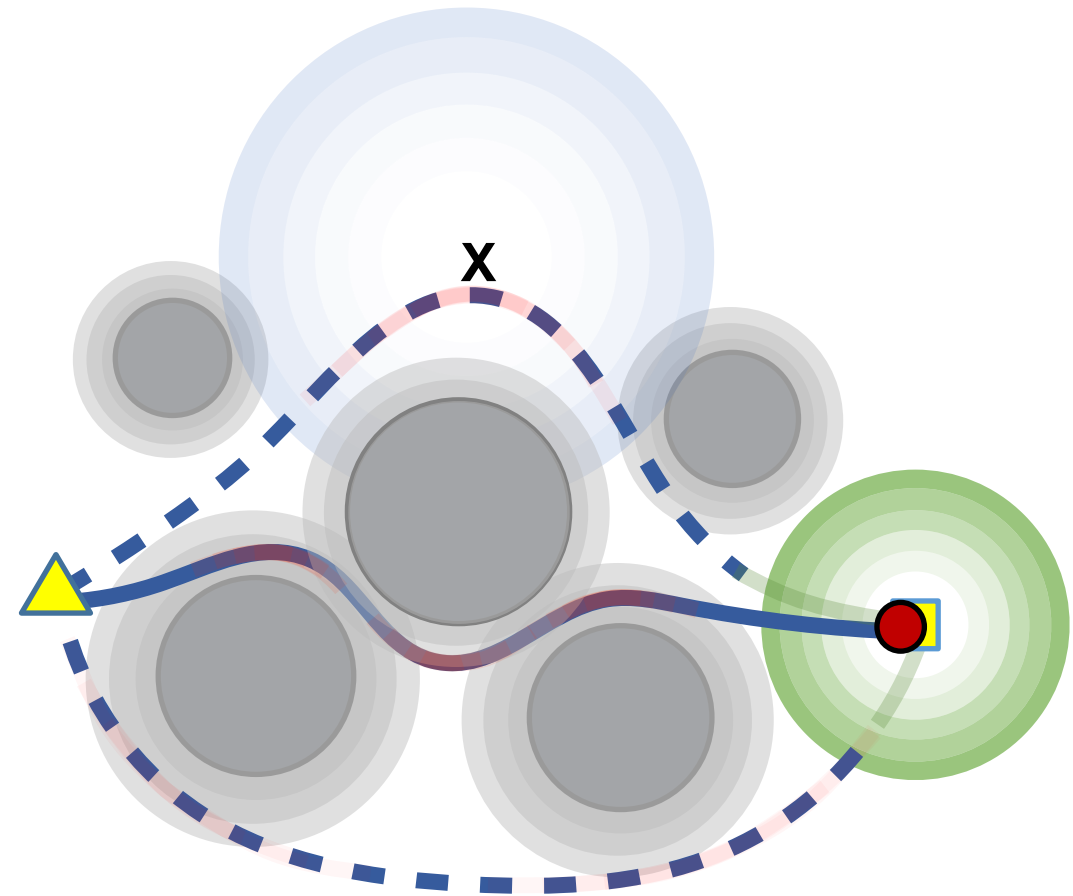


Multi-Objective Optimization

- Trade-offs in objective determine solution:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min_x & w_f F(x) + \boxed{w_T T(x)} + w_w W(x) + w_p P(x) + w_b B(x) \\ \text{s.t.} & x \in \mathcal{X} \end{array}$$

- Multi-objective optimization
 - Sampling based techniques
 - Hierarchical optimization
- User feedback
 - Clearly display tradeoffs on tablet
 - User changes weights/enforces constraints/selects trajectories on screen

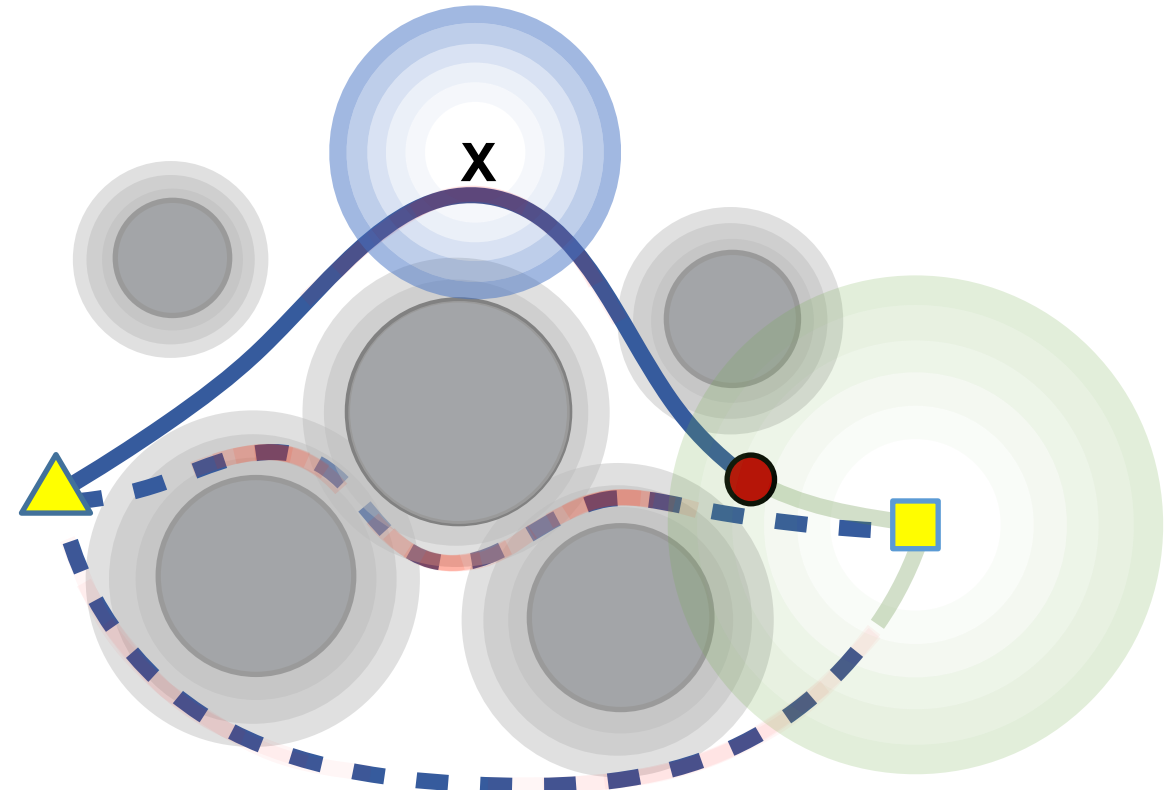


Multi-Objective Optimization

- Trade-offs in objective determine solution:

$$\begin{array}{llllll} & \text{Fuel} & \text{Time} & \text{Way Pts.} & \text{Perform} & \text{Boundary} \\ \min_x & w_f F(x) + w_T T(x) + w_w W(x) + w_p P(x) + w_b B(x) \\ \text{s.t.} & x \in \mathcal{X} \end{array}$$

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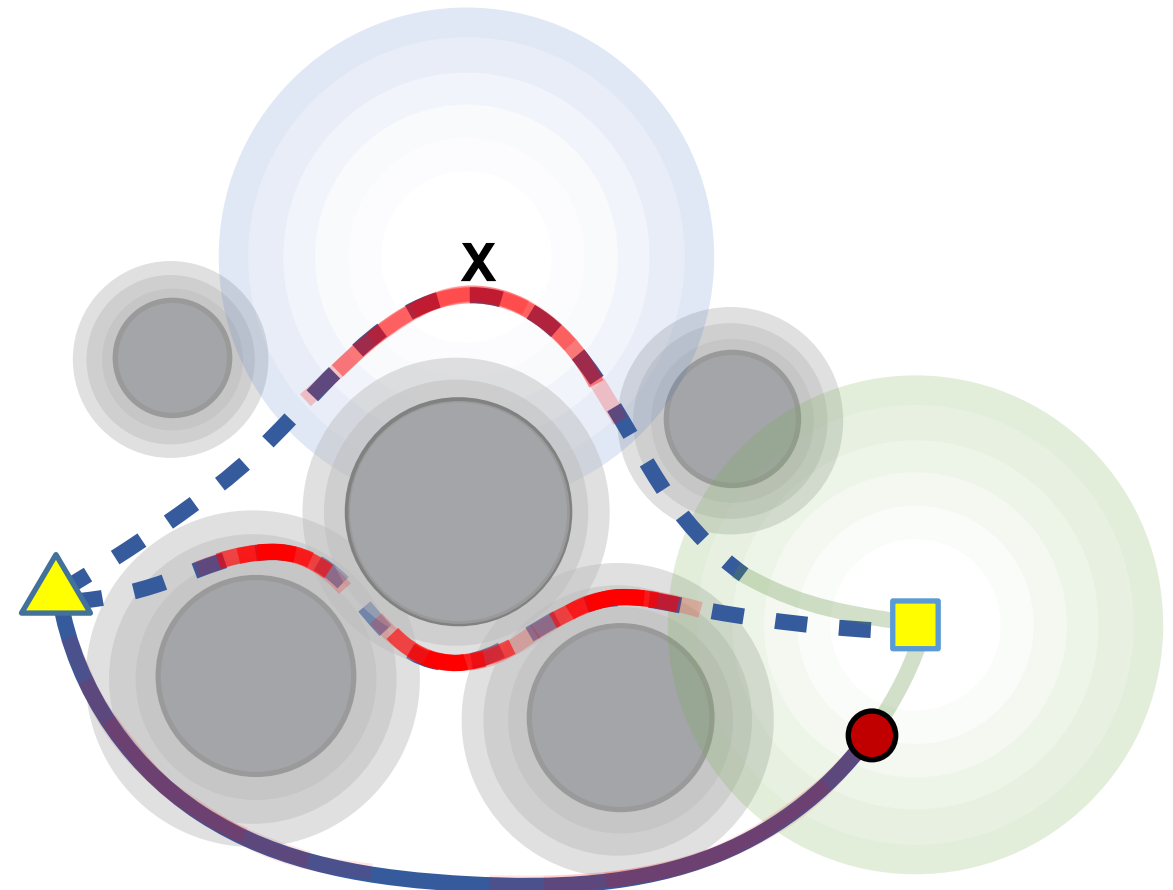


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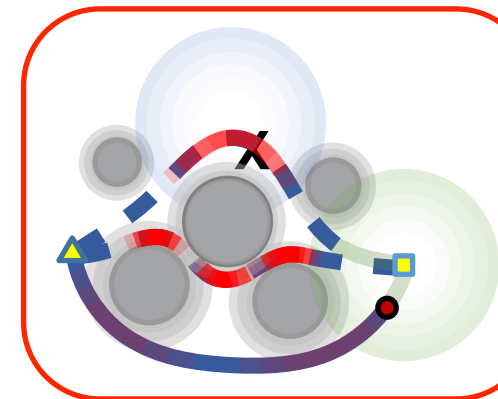
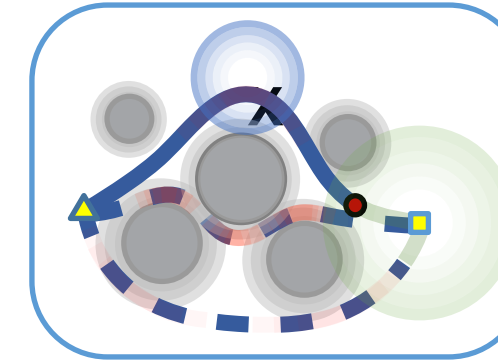
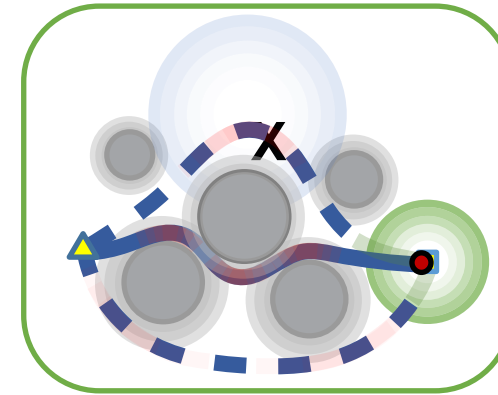


Multi-Objective Optimization

- Trade-offs in objective determine solution:

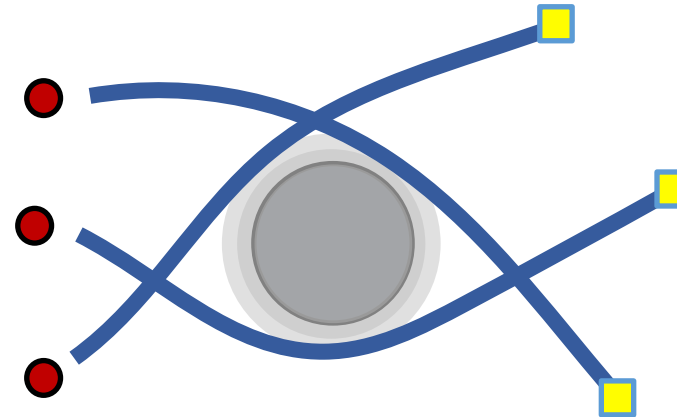
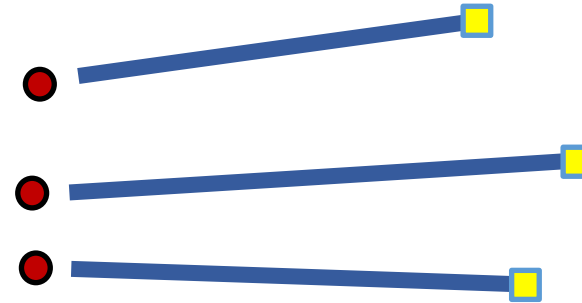
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Multi-Agent Optimization

- Multi-agent SCVX
 - Primal-dual methods for decentralization of trajectory planning - ADMM
- Task matching using trajectories
 - Assignment Algorithms
 - *Optimal transport – shortest path*
 - *Extensions*
 - Obstacle/collision avoidance
 - User assignment



Thank you!

Q&A