

Safe Learning in Unmanned and Autonomous Systems

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Economic Incentives

Game theory // Mechanism design // Interdependent risk management



Robust Control

Fault/attack diagnostics // Control of ActionWebs // Model-based design



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Designing high confidence systems that can learn





Model Checking using Reachability



Overappromixations as certificates



Learning can reduce conservatism



Scalability

- Impose practical constraints
 - Roads, highways, protocols...
- Approximations
 - Bisimulations (Girard, Pappas, Tabuada)
 - Linear, piecewise and multi-affine systems (Morari, Borrelli, Krogh, Johansson, Rantzer, Belta, Ozay, Darbon, Osher)
 - Ellipsoidal and polyhedral sets (Kurzhanski, Varaiya, Stipanovic)
 - Polynomial systems, barrier certificates (Parillo, Majumdar, Tedrake, Pappas, Papachristodoulou, Julius, Lall, Topcu, Frehse, Le Guernic, Donzé, Girard, Dang, Maler, Dreossi, Sankaranarayanan)
 - Decoupling disturbances (Chen, Herbert)
- Mathematical structure
 - Monotone systems (Sontag, Hafner, Del Vecchio, Arcak, Coogan)
 - LTL specifications (Kress-Gazit, Raman, Murray, Wongpiromsarn, Belta)
- **Decompositions** (Mitchell, Del Vecchio, Chen, Herbert, Grizzle, Ames, Tabuada)
- Machine learning (Lygeros, Djeridane, Niarchos, Seshia, Chen)



Learning a controller



Sinusoid + Yaw:

- Trained on each component separately
- Asked to fly combination
- Used Cascade FF neural net (ReLU), 2 layers, 3000 units



... but stay safe while learning

* Safety:

- * A nominal model with error bounds
- * Reachable sets computed to ensure safety in worst case

* Performance:

- * Use online learning to update model
- Cost function used to generate control action within the safe set



Safe Policy Gradient Reinforcement Learning

The quadrotor first:





After about 1 minute, it can roughly track the trajectory

Soon, it starts experimenting

... but the safe controller steps in



[PGSD: Kolter and Ng, 2009]

Online Safety Guarantee Validation



• Initialize active unsafe set = smallest candidate set

Online Safety Guarantee Validation



- Measure disturbance
- Compute Bayesian posterior on existence of a usable level set
- If posterior is low (weak safety guarantee), update unsafe set
- Update disturbance model

Online Safety Guarantee Validation

$$P(\exists \alpha \in [0, V(x)] : \\ \forall x \in \mathcal{Q}_{\alpha}, d(x) \in \hat{\mathcal{D}}(x) \\ |x_{0:t}, d_{0:t})$$

- Measure disturbance
- Compute Bayesian posterior on existence of a usable level set
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Safe Learning



First computed model is locally inaccurate

System detects inconsistency, slightly contracts safe set

Tracking resumes after a better model is computed

YBER-PHYSICAL SYSTEMS



Safe Learning with online model validation



Research Challenges

- * Models of unknown environments
- * Scalability and compositional safety
- * Safe exploration
- * Sample efficiency: design-time vs operation-time
- * Mixed initiative and collaborative learning
- * Risk models
- * Safe Learning: Kene Akametalu, Somil Bansal, Jaime Fisac
- Max Balandat, Young Hwan Chang, Margaret Chapman, Roel Dobbe, David Fridovich-Keil, Qie Hu, Insoon Yang, Datong-Paul Zhou

