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Risk-Minimizing Two-Player Zero-Sum Stochastic Differential Game via Path Integral Control

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Existing Approaches

Problem Formulation

HJI PDE with Dirichlet Boundary Condition

Path Integral Formulation

Simualtions

Conclusion



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- ▶ Risk-minimizing two-player zero-sum stochastic differential game: each player aims to minimize its probability of failure and the control cost.



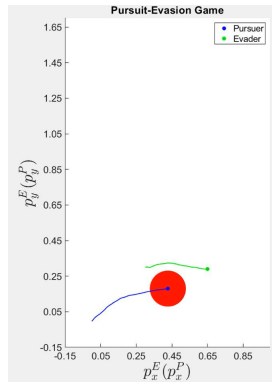
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- ▶ Risk-minimizing two-player zero-sum stochastic differential game: each player aims to minimize its probability of failure and the control cost.
- ▶ Failure occurs when the state of the game enters into predefined undesirable domains



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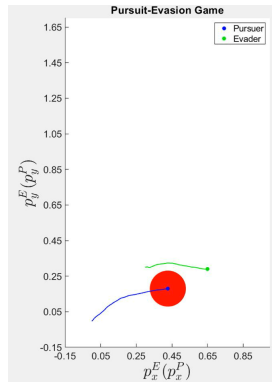
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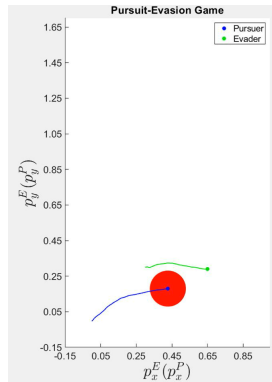
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- ▶ Failure occurs when the state of the game enters into predefined undesirable domains
- ▶ We solve continuous-time, nonlinear two-player zero-sum stochastic differential game online using path integral control





Background

- ▶ Risk-minimizing two-player zero-sum stochastic differential game: each player aims to minimize its probability of failure and the control cost.
- ▶ Failure occurs when the state of the game enters into predefined undesirable domains
- ▶ We solve continuous-time, nonlinear two-player zero-sum stochastic differential game online using path integral control
- ▶ Existence and uniqueness of the saddle-point of the game.





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Existing Approaches

- ▶ Hamilton-Jacobi-Isaacs partial differential equation [Falcone et al. 2006]: grid-based approaches to solve the HJI PDEs



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- ▶ RL-based approaches



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- ▶ **RL-based approaches**: adaptive dynamic programming [Vrabie et al. 2011]



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Challenges in learning-based approaches:

- Rigorous theoretical guarantees on convergence and optimality
- Offline training required



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Challenges in learning-based approaches:

- Rigorous theoretical guarantees on convergence and optimality
 - Offline training required
- ▶ Above approaches do not explicitly take into account the players' failure probabilities



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Problem Formulation

- ▶ System: Itô stochastic differential equation (SDE)

$$d\mathbf{x}(t) = f(\mathbf{x}(t), t) dt + G_u(\mathbf{x}(t), t) u(\mathbf{x}(t), t) dt \\ + G_v(\mathbf{x}(t), t) v(\mathbf{x}(t), t) dt + \Sigma(\mathbf{x}(t), t) d\mathbf{w}(t)$$



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- ▶ Safe region: \mathcal{X}_s , boundary $\partial\mathcal{X}_s$



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- ▶ Safe region: \mathcal{X}_s , boundary $\partial\mathcal{X}_s$
- ▶ Agent's probability of failure:

$$P_{\text{fail}}^{\text{ag}} := P_{x_0, t_0} \left(\bigvee_{t \in (t_0, T]} \mathbf{x}(t) \notin \mathcal{X}_s \right)$$

- ▶ Adversary's probability of failure $P_{\text{fail}}^{\text{ad}} := 1 - P_{\text{fail}}^{\text{ag}}$



Problem Formulation

- ▶ Define a set $Q = \mathcal{X}_s \times [t_0, T)$,
Boundary $\partial Q = (\partial \mathcal{X}_s \times [t_0, T]) \cup (\mathcal{X}_s \times \{T\})$



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- ▶ Terminal time of the game: $t_f := \inf\{t > t_0 : (\mathbf{x}(t), t) \notin Q\}$



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- ▶ Agent's failure probability $P_{\text{fail}}^{\text{ag}}$:

$$P_{x_0, t_0} \left(\bigvee_{t \in (t_0, T]} \mathbf{x}(t) \notin \mathcal{X}_s \right) = \mathbb{E}_{x_0, t_0} [\mathbf{1}_{\mathbf{x}(\mathbf{t}_f) \in \partial \mathcal{X}_s}].$$



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- ▶ Risk-minimizing cost function:

$$C(x_0, t_0; u, v) := \eta \mathbb{E}_{x_0, t_0} [\mathbf{1}_{\mathbf{x}(\mathbf{t}_f) \in \partial \mathcal{X}_s}] \\ + \mathbb{E}_{x_0, t_0} \left[\psi(\mathbf{x}(\mathbf{t}_f)) \cdot \mathbf{1}_{\mathbf{x}(\mathbf{t}_f) \in \mathcal{X}_s} + \int_{t_0}^{\mathbf{t}_f} L(\mathbf{x}(t), \mathbf{u}(t), \mathbf{v}(t), t) dt \right].$$



Problem Formulation

- ▶ Define: $\phi(\mathbf{x}) := \psi(\mathbf{x}) \cdot \mathbb{1}_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}_s} + \eta \cdot \mathbb{1}_{\mathbf{x} \in \partial \mathcal{X}_s}$
- ▶ Running cost:

$$L(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}, t) = V(\mathbf{x}, t) + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{u}^T R_u(\mathbf{x}, t) \mathbf{u} - \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{v}^T R_v(\mathbf{x}, t) \mathbf{v}$$

- ▶ Risk-minimizing zero-sum SDG

$$\begin{aligned} \min_u \max_v \mathbb{E}_{x_0, t_0} & \left[\phi(\mathbf{x}(t_f)) + \int_{t_0}^{t_f} \left(\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{u}^T R_u \mathbf{u} - \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{v}^T R_v \mathbf{v} + V \right) dt \right] \\ \text{s.t. } d\mathbf{x} &= f dt + G_u u dt + G_v v dt + \Sigma d\mathbf{w}, \\ & \mathbf{x}(t_0) = x_0. \end{aligned}$$



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HJI PDE with Dirichlet Boundary Condition

- Cost-to-go function:

$$C(x, t; u, v) = \mathbb{E}_{x,t} [\phi(\mathbf{x}(t_f))] \\ + \mathbb{E}_{x,t} \left[\int_t^{t_f} \left(\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{u}^\top R_u \mathbf{u} - \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{v}^\top R_v \mathbf{v} + V \right) dt \right].$$



HJI PDE with Dirichlet Boundary Condition

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- ▶ (u^*, v^*) constitutes a *saddle-point solution* if

$$C(x, t; u^*, v) \leq C^* := C(x, t; u^*, v^*) \leq C(x, t; u, v^*).$$

where the value of the game

$$C^* = \min_u \max_v C(x, t; u, v) = \max_v \min_u C(x, t; u, v).$$



HJI PDE with Dirichlet Boundary Condition

Theorem: Suppose there exists a function $J : \overline{Q} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that

- (a) $J(x, t)$ is continuously differentiable in t and twice continuously differentiable in x in the domain Q ;
- (b) $J(x, t)$ solves the following stochastic Hamilton-Jacobi-Isaacs (HJI) PDE:

$$\begin{cases} -\partial_t J = V + f^\top \partial_x J + \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \left(\Sigma \Sigma^\top \partial_x^2 J \right) \\ \quad + \frac{1}{2} (\partial_x J)^\top \left(G_v R_v^{-1} G_v^\top - G_u R_u^{-1} G_u^\top \right) \partial_x J, & \forall (x, t) \in Q, \\ \lim_{\substack{(x,t) \rightarrow (y,s) \\ (x,t) \in Q}} J(x, t) = \phi(y), & \forall (y, s) \in \partial Q. \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

...



HJI PDE with Dirichlet Boundary Condition

...Then, the following statements hold:

(i) $J(x, t)$ is the value of the game, i.e.

$$\begin{aligned} J(x, t) &= \min_u \max_v C(x, t; u, v) \\ &= \max_v \min_u C(x, t; u, v), \quad \forall (x, t) \in \bar{Q}. \end{aligned}$$



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(ii) The optimal solution is given by

$$u^*(x, t) = -R_u^{-1}(x, t) G_u^\top(x, t) \partial_x J(x, t),$$

$$v^*(x, t) = R_v^{-1}(x, t) G_v^\top(x, t) \partial_x J(x, t).$$



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Path Integral Formulation

- ▶ Logarithmic transformation of the value function:

$$J(x, t) = -\lambda \log(\xi(x, t))$$



Path Integral Formulation

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$$J(x, t) = -\lambda \log(\xi(x, t))$$

- ▶ **Assumption:** For all $(x, t) \in \overline{\mathcal{Q}}$, there exists a constant $\lambda > 0$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} \Sigma(x, t)\Sigma^\top(x, t) = & \lambda G_u(x, t)R_u^{-1}(x, t)G_u^\top(x, t) \\ & - \lambda G_v(x, t)R_v^{-1}(x, t)G_v^\top(x, t). \end{aligned}$$

Path Integral Formulation

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Partition of the system dynamics:

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{bmatrix} d\mathbf{x}^{(1)} \\ d\mathbf{x}^{(2)} \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} f^{(1)}(\mathbf{x}, t) \\ f^{(2)}(\mathbf{x}, t) \end{bmatrix} dt + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ G_u^{(2)}(\mathbf{x}, t) \end{bmatrix} u(\mathbf{x}, t) dt \\ &\quad + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ G_v^{(2)}(\mathbf{x}, t) \end{bmatrix} v(\mathbf{x}, t) dt + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \Sigma^{(2)}(\mathbf{x}, t) \end{bmatrix} d\mathbf{w} \end{aligned}$$



Path Integral Formulation

- ▶ Linear PDE in ξ with Dirichlet boundary condition

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t \xi = \frac{V\xi}{\lambda} - f^\top \partial_x \xi - \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr}(\Sigma \Sigma^\top \partial_x^2 \xi), & \forall (x, t) \in \mathcal{Q}, \\ \lim_{\substack{(x,t) \rightarrow (y,s) \\ (x,t) \in \mathcal{Q}}} \xi(x, t) = \exp\left(-\frac{\phi(y)}{\lambda}\right), & \forall (y, s) \in \partial \mathcal{Q}. \end{cases}$$

¹ Friedman, "Stochastic differential equations and applications, vol. 1."



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- ▶ The solution of the above PDE exists and is unique¹.

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- ▶ The solution of the above PDE exists and is unique¹.
- ▶ The solution admits the Feynman-Kac representation.

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Feynman-Kac Representation

- ▶ Uncontrolled state dynamics:

$$d\hat{\mathbf{x}}(t) = f(\hat{\mathbf{x}}(t), t)dt + \Sigma(\hat{\mathbf{x}}(t), t)d\mathbf{w}(t)$$

- ▶ Let $\hat{t}_f := \inf\{t > t_0 : (\hat{\mathbf{x}}(t), t) \notin \mathcal{Q}\}$
- ▶ The solution of the linearized PDE (path integral form):

$$\xi(\mathbf{x}, t) = \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x}, t} \left[\exp\left(-\frac{1}{\lambda} S(\tau)\right) \right]$$

where

$$S(\tau) = \phi(\hat{\mathbf{x}}(\hat{t}_f)) + \int_t^{\hat{t}_f} V(\hat{\mathbf{x}}(t), t) dt.$$



Path Integral Formulation

Theorem: A saddle-point solution exists, is unique, and is given by

$$u^*(x, t) dt = \mathcal{G}_u(x, t) \frac{\mathbb{E}_{x,t} [\exp(-\frac{1}{\lambda} S(\tau)) \Sigma^{(2)}(x, t) d\mathbf{w}]}{\mathbb{E}_{x,t} [\exp(-\frac{1}{\lambda} S(\tau))]},$$

where

$$\mathcal{G}_u = R_u^{-1} G_u^{(2)\top} \left(G_u^{(2)} R_u^{-1} G_u^{(2)\top} - G_v^{(2)} R_v^{-1} G_v^{(2)\top} \right)^{-1}$$



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and

$$v^*(x, t) dt = \mathcal{G}_v(x, t) \frac{\mathbb{E}_{x,t}[\exp(-\frac{1}{\lambda} S(\tau)) \Sigma^{(2)}(x, t) d\mathbf{w}]}{\mathbb{E}_{x,t}[\exp(-\frac{1}{\lambda} S(\tau))]},$$

where

$$\mathcal{G}_v = -R_v^{-1} G_v^{(2)\top} \left(G_u^{(2)} R_u^{-1} G_u^{(2)\top} - G_v^{(2)} R_v^{-1} G_v^{(2)\top} \right)^{-1}.$$



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Disturbance Attenuation

- Unicycle model:

$$\begin{bmatrix} d\mathbf{p}_x \\ d\mathbf{p}_y \\ ds \\ d\theta \end{bmatrix} = -k \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{p}_x \\ \mathbf{p}_y \\ \mathbf{s} \\ \theta \end{bmatrix} dt + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{s} \cos \theta \\ \mathbf{s} \sin \theta \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} dt + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \left(\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} a \\ \omega \end{bmatrix}}_u dt + \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \Delta a \\ \Delta \omega \end{bmatrix}}_v dt + \begin{bmatrix} \sigma & 0 \\ 0 & \nu \end{bmatrix} d\mathbf{w} \right),$$



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- Problem to solve:

$$\min_u \max_v \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x}_0, t_0} \left[\phi(\mathbf{x}(t_f)) + \int_{t_0}^{t_f} \left(\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{u} - \frac{\gamma^2}{2} \mathbf{v}^T \mathbf{v} + V \right) dt \right].$$



Disturbance Attenuation

- ▶ Assumption: $\lambda > 0$ such that

$$\lambda \left(1 - \frac{1}{\gamma^2} \right) = 1.$$

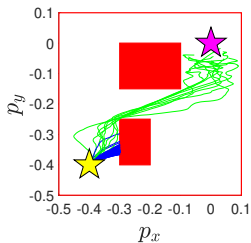
- ▶ The problem admits a unique saddle-point solution if $\gamma > 1$

Disturbance Attenuation

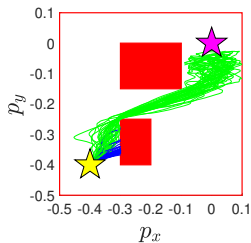
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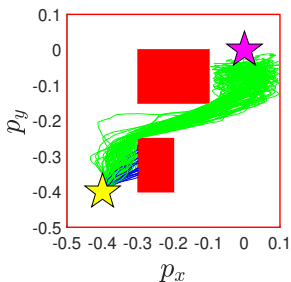
$$\gamma^2 = 2, P_{\text{fail}}^{\text{ag}} = 0.9$$



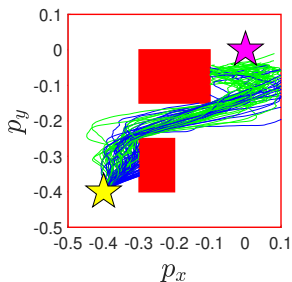
$$\gamma^2 = 7, P_{\text{fail}}^{\text{ag}} = 0.64$$

Disturbance Attenuation

- ▶ MC trajectories: 10^4 , Step size: 0.01



Agent is aware of the adversary, $P_{\text{fail}}^{\text{ag}} = 0.23$



Agent is not aware of the adversary, $P_{\text{fail}}^{\text{ag}} = 0.65$



Pursuit-Evasion Game

- ▶ Pursuer and evader models:

$$d\mathbf{p}_x^E = u_x dt + \sigma_x^E d\mathbf{w}_x^E,$$

$$d\mathbf{p}_y^E = u_y dt + \sigma_y^E d\mathbf{w}_y^E,$$

$$d\mathbf{p}_x^P = v_x dt + \sigma_x^P d\mathbf{w}_x^P,$$

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- ▶ In terms of relative position $\mathbf{p}_x = \mathbf{p}_x^E - \mathbf{p}_x^P$, $\mathbf{p}_y = \mathbf{p}_y^E - \mathbf{p}_y^P$:

$$d\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} d\mathbf{p}_x \\ d\mathbf{p}_y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} u_x \\ u_y \end{bmatrix} dt - \begin{bmatrix} v_x \\ v_y \end{bmatrix} dt + \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_x & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_y \end{bmatrix} d\mathbf{w}$$

$$\sigma_x = \sqrt{(\sigma_x^E)^2 + (\sigma_x^P)^2}, \sigma_y = \sqrt{(\sigma_y^E)^2 + (\sigma_y^P)^2}$$



Pursuit-Evasion Game

- ▶ Pursuer and evader models:

$$\begin{aligned}d\mathbf{p}_x^E &= u_x dt + \sigma_x^E d\mathbf{w}_x^E, & d\mathbf{p}_x^P &= v_x dt + \sigma_x^P d\mathbf{w}_x^P, \\d\mathbf{p}_y^E &= u_y dt + \sigma_y^E d\mathbf{w}_y^E, & d\mathbf{p}_y^P &= v_y dt + \sigma_y^P d\mathbf{w}_y^P,\end{aligned}$$

- ▶ In terms of relative position $\mathbf{p}_x = \mathbf{p}_x^E - \mathbf{p}_x^P$, $\mathbf{p}_y = \mathbf{p}_y^E - \mathbf{p}_y^P$:

$$d\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} d\mathbf{p}_x \\ d\mathbf{p}_y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} u_x \\ u_y \end{bmatrix} dt - \begin{bmatrix} v_x \\ v_y \end{bmatrix} dt + \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_x & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_y \end{bmatrix} d\mathbf{w}$$

$$\sigma_x = \sqrt{(\sigma_x^E)^2 + (\sigma_x^P)^2}, \sigma_y = \sqrt{(\sigma_y^E)^2 + (\sigma_y^P)^2}$$

- ▶ Origin coincides with the pursuer's position and safe set $\mathcal{X}_s := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 : \|x\| > \rho\}$



Pursuit Evasion Game

- ▶ Problem to solve:

$$\min_u \max_v \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x}_0, t_0} \left[\phi(\mathbf{x}(t_f)) + \int_{t_0}^{t_f} \left(\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{u} - \frac{r_v^2}{2} \mathbf{v}^T \mathbf{v} + V \right) dt \right].$$



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- ▶ Assumption: $\lambda > 0$ such that

$$\lambda \left(1 - \frac{1}{r_v^2} \right) = 1.$$

- ▶ The problem admits a unique saddle-point solution if $r_v > 1$



Pursuit Evasion Game

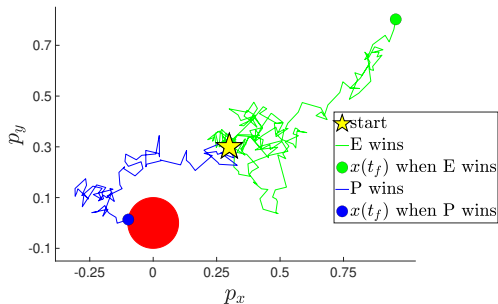


Figure: The red disc of radius $\rho = 0.1$, centered at the origin represents that the pursuer is within the distance ρ of the evader.



Pursuit Evasion Game

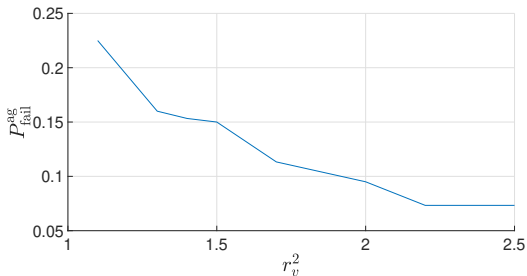


Figure: Failure probabilities of the agent (i.e., evader) as a function of r_v , when the players follow the saddle-point policies (u^* , v^*).



Outline

Background

Existing Approaches

Problem Formulation

HJI PDE with Dirichlet Boundary Condition

Path Integral Formulation

Simualtions

Conclusion



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- ▶ Presented an HJI-PDE-based solution approach for a risk-minimizing two-player zero-sum stochastic differential game (SDG). Each player tries to balance the trade-off between the probability of failure and the control cost.



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- ▶ The presented approach allows the game to be solved online without the need for any offline training or precomputations.



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- ▶ **Future work:**
 - chance-constrained stochastic games in which each player would aim to satisfy a hard bound on its failure probability.