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Cooperative Pursuit Problem and Some Multi-vehicle Experiments



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Outline

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 2. Problem Set-up
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Cooperative Pursuit

Cooperative Pursuit

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Introduction to Cooperative Pursuit Problem

Motivation

- Some predators hunt as a conjoined group
- Specialized behavior by maintaining a fixed formation during search and capture of preys

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- There may be configurations that are preferred during group hunting



<http://www.uoregon.edu/~afakinc/tecbwolves1.htm>

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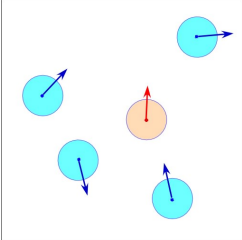
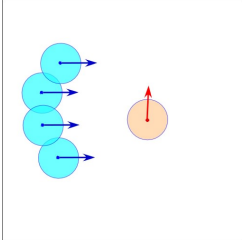
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Introduction to Cooperative Pursuit Problem

pursuit problem
: to determine a strategy for a team of pursuers to capture an evader

capture
: evader and some pursuer meet at the same location after a finite time

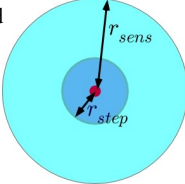
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Problem Set-up

- pursuers can communicate the location of a sensed evader and their own position among themselves
- unbounded planar environment : R^2
- finite region $\Omega \in R^2$ where an evader appears with a uniform spatial density
- n pursuers
- evader/pursuers' sensing ability radius : r_{sens}
- evader/pursuers' motion ability radius : r_{step}



$$r_{sens} = \kappa r_{step}, \quad \kappa > 2\sqrt{2}$$

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Problem Set-up

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- equation of motion

$$\begin{cases} e[t+1] = e[t] + u^e(e[t], \{y^{p_k}[t]\}) \\ p_k[t+1] = p_k[t] + u^{p_k}(e[t], y^e[t+1], p[t]) \end{cases}$$

$e[t]$: absolute positions of the evader
 $p_k[t]$: absolute positions of the k^{th} pursuer

$$y^{p_k}[t] = \begin{cases} p_k[t], & \text{if } \|p_k[t] - e[t]\| \leq r_{sense} \\ \phi, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

$$y^e[t+1] = \begin{cases} e[t+1], & \text{if for some } k \in \{1, \dots, n\}, \\ & \|p_k[t] - e[t+1]\| \leq r_{sense} \\ \phi, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

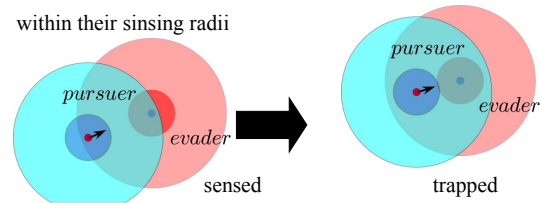
$u^e = 0$ until the evader is sensed by the pursuers for the first time
 $\|u^e\|, \|u^{p_k}\| \leq r_{step}$

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Some Preliminaries

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- capture : for any u^e , some pursuer is at the same position as the evader after a finite time
- trap : for any u^e , the motion disc of the evader is completely contained within the union of the sensing discs of the pursuers after finite time
- trapping time t^* : the time taken by the pursuers to trap the evader within their sensing radii



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Some Preliminaries

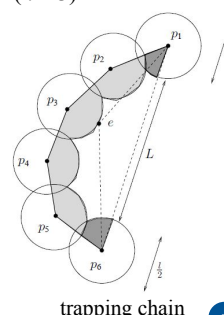
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- trapping chain :
 - $\{p_1, \dots, p_n\}$ are at the vertices of a convex polygon, and
 - for all $k \in \{1, \dots, n-1\}$, $(n \geq 3)$

$$\|p_k - p_{k+1}\| \leq 2r_{step} \sqrt{\kappa^2 - 4}$$
- capture region :

$$S[t] = \bigcup_{k \in \{2, \dots, n-1\}} \beta_{p_k}(r_{sens}) \cap \text{Co}\{p_1, \dots, p_n\}[t]$$
- extended capture region :

$$S^e[t] = \bigcup_{k \in \{1, \dots, n\}} \beta_{p_k}(r_{sens}) \cap \text{Co}\{p_1, \dots, p_n\}[t]$$
- $L = \|p_1 - p_n\| - 2r_{sens}$
- $l = 4r_{sens}$

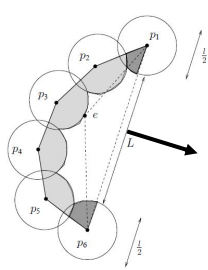


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Algorithms for Pursuit(sweep phase)

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- three phases : sweep, pursuit and capture
- sweep phase : to sense an evader within the capture region of the trapping chain



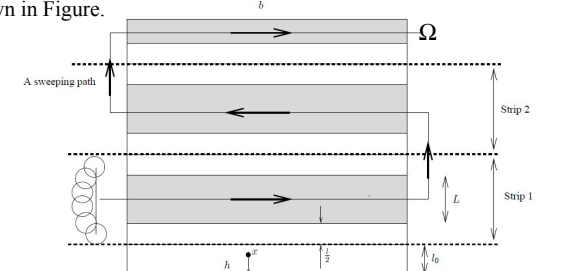
sweep Ω in the direction of the outward normal to P_1P_n , with respect to the convex hull of the pursuers

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Algorithms for Pursuit(sweep phase)

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- algorithm SWEEP
 - Choose the first rectangular strip at random distance, l_0 , from one edge of Ω and sweep it length-wise. The distance l_0 is a uniform random variable taking values in the interval $[-\frac{l}{2}, L + \frac{l}{2}]$.
 - Form a sweeping path for Ω and sweep along adjacent strips as shown in Figure.



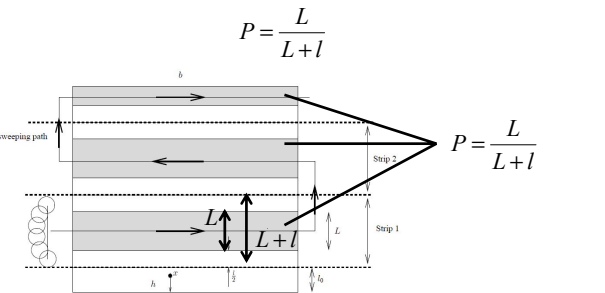
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Algorithms for Pursuit(sweep phase)

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Theorem (sweep property)

: For an evader located anywhere in Ω , the probability, P , of detecting it inside S for a group of pursuers in a trapping chain, using the sweeping policy, is given by

$$P = \frac{L}{L+l}$$


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Allocate or Conjoin

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Which is more efficient?

- form k groups of n pursuers each
- assign each group to a part of the environment

- form a single chain of kn pursuers

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Allocate or Conjoin

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- limiting trapping chain

(i) for all $k \in \{1, \dots, n-1\}$, $\|p_k - p_{k+1}\| = 2r_{step} \sqrt{\kappa^2 - 4} := d$

(ii) for all $k \in \{2, \dots, n-1\}$, $\text{dist}(p_k, p_1 p_n) = r_{sens} + \delta$

proposition (limiting trapping chain property)
: For a limiting trapping chain,

$$P(n) = \frac{nd - (3d - 2c)}{nd - (3d - l - 2c)}$$

$P(n)$: probability of successful evader detection in the sweep phase

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Allocate or Conjoin

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- probability of capturing the evader per pursuer : $\frac{P(N)}{N}$

$N := kn$: total number of pursuers
 k : number of groups

$$\frac{P(N, k)}{N} = \frac{Nd - (3d - 2c)k}{N(Nd - (3d - l - 2c)k)}$$

↓
 • maximum when $k = 1$
 • $N = n$

$$\frac{P(n)}{n} = \frac{nd - (3d - 2c)}{n(nd - (3d - l - 2c))}$$

There exists an optimal number of pursuers in a single chain.

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Proof (TRAP)

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Theorem (TRAP)
: Starting from a trapping chain formation, the pursuers trap the evader within their sensing radii using algorithm TRAP, if $e[t_0] \in S[t_0]$. The trapping time t^* using algorithm TRAP satisfies,

$$t^* \leq \max_{k \in \{1, \dots, n\}} \left\lceil \frac{\|p_k[t_0] - O\|}{r_{step}} \right\rceil$$

where O is the circumcenter of $\Delta p_1[t_0]e[t_0]p_n[t_0]$.

Proof
: (i) the evader cannot step outside $\text{Co}\{p_1[t], \dots, p_n[t]\}$ by crossing $\overline{p_k[t]p_{k+1}[t]}$ because $\|p_k - p_{k+1}\| \leq 2r_{step} \sqrt{\kappa^2 - 4}$

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Proof (TRAP)

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(ii) The best path for the evader is to move along $O - e[t_0]$ with maximum step size. Since $r_{sens} > r_{step}$, the sensing discs of pursuers p_1 and p_n overlap before the evader can reach O , thus closing the trapping chain around the evader.

The bound of t^* is the time taken by the furthest pursuer to reach O .

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Reference

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S.D. Bopardikar, F. Bullo and J. Hespanha, "Cooperative Pursuit with Sensing Limitations," Proc. of the 26th American Control Conference, pp. 5394-5399, 2007.

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Experimental System Schematic

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- vehicle : Mini-z (Kyosho)
- image processing : Halcon (MVTec Software GmbH)
- D/A transmitter , real-time workshop : DS1104 (dSPACE)
- model programing : SIMULINK (The Math Works)

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Experimental System Schematic

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- Halcon, SIMULINK, Control Desk
- vehicle, RF transmitter, camera

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Problem Set-up

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- graph :

- control input :

$$\omega_1 = K_1 \{e_R(e^{\hat{s}_{12}\theta_{12}}) + e_R(e^{\hat{s}_{10}\theta_{10}})\}$$

$$\omega_2 = K_2 \{e_R(e^{\hat{s}_{21}\theta_{21}})\}$$

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Experiments

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- Leader Following 1

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Experiments

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- Leader Following 2

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Experiments

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- Leader Following 3

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Experiments

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- White-line + Leader Following



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Future Works

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- COE
- read the literatures of Coverage, MPC and so on.
- find an interesting theme for my study
- coverage experiments

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