

# Optimal Search Control

Convergence to Periodic Trajectory  
and Cooperative Search (Introduction)

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## Outline

- Search Problem
- "One-sided search" – "Moving Target"
- Cooperative Search
- Conclusion, Future Works



## Search Problem

### Search Problem

To locate the target  
deploying agents with the available resources.

- protection against submarine attacks
- search and rescue operations
- detecting lost objects
- clearing of land mines
- location parts in a warehouse
- medicines, mining, ...etc.



## Types of Search Problems

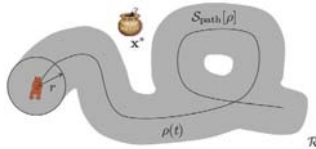
	<b>One-sided Search</b> the searcher chooses his strategy the target neither chooses a strategy nor reacts to the search	<b>Two-sided Search</b> the searcher and the target can choose their strategies
<b>Stationary Target</b>	ex. <input type="checkbox"/> search for lost car keys <input type="checkbox"/> search for natural resources	ex. <input type="checkbox"/> hide-and-seek
<b>Moving Target</b>	ex. <input type="checkbox"/> search for a life raft in the ocean <input type="checkbox"/> the target moves randomly	<b>Cooperative Search</b> ex. the target attempts to make itself as detectable as possible <b>Non-Cooperative Search</b> the target tries to remain undetected ex. Pursuit-Evasion Game



## Continuous and Discrete

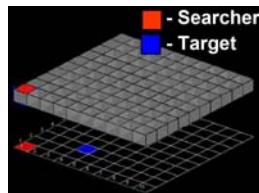
### Continuous Search

continuous time space  
and  
continuous state space



### Discrete Search

discrete time space  
and(or)  
discrete state space



## Objective of Search

- **Maximize the probability of locating the target.**
- **Minimize the time to find the target.**
- **Cover the search area.**
- **Decide whether the target is present in the search area.**



## In Previous Works

The dynamics is largely ignored.



Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs)  
(non-holonomic system)



The argument about the available resources is not enough.



## Approach to Search Problem

### Approach

take account of agent system explicitly  
limit control energy consumption

**continuous-time linear system**

**discrete search**

discrete observation time (but not discretize state space)

**maximize the probability of locating the target**

	One-sided Search	Two-sided Search
Stationary Target	M. Saito, et al., CCS, 2008.	
Moving Target	in this presentation	Cooperative Search Non-Cooperative Search



## Objective of Study

### Optimal Search Problem

maximize the probability of locating the target

+

### Optimal Control Problem

limit control energy consumption



formulate **Optimal Search Control Problem**

provides its approximate solution algorithm

The effectiveness of the proposed method is demonstrated through a numerical simulation

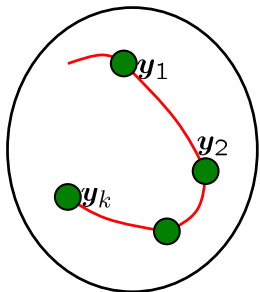


## Outline

- Search Problem
  - "One-sided search" – "Moving Target"
    - Problem Setting
    - formulation
    - approximate solution algorithm
    - converge to periodic trajectory
    - simulation
- Cooperative Search
- Conclusion, Future Works



## Problem Setting



agent system

$$\dot{x}(t) = Ax(t) + Bu(t)$$

$$x(t) = \begin{bmatrix} y(t) \\ \dot{y}(t) \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{position: } y(t) \in \mathcal{R}^{n_y} \\ (n_y \in \{1, 2, 3\})$$

observation time (obs. time) :  
 $t_k, k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

obs. point  $y_k := y(t_k)$

waypoint  $x_k := x(t_k)$



## Problem Setting

the obs. points set from  $t_p$  to  $t_q$

$$\mathcal{Y}_{p:q} := \{y_p, y_{p+1}, \dots, y_q\}$$

the obs. points row from  $t_p$  to  $t_q$

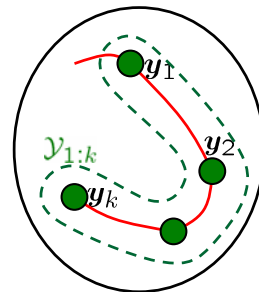
$$\tilde{\mathcal{Y}}_{p:q} := (y_p, y_{p+1}, \dots, y_q)$$

$\text{sort}(\mathcal{Y}_{p:q})$

→ sort of elements of  $\mathcal{Y}_{p:q}$

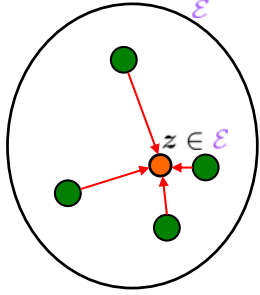
ex.

$$\tilde{\mathcal{Y}}_{1:3} := (b, a, c) \\ \mathcal{Y}_{1:3} := \{a, b, c\} \\ \text{sort}(\mathcal{Y}_{1:3}) \\ = \{(a, b, c), (a, c, b), (b, a, c), \\ (b, c, a), (c, a, b), (c, b, a)\}$$





## Problem Setting



search area:  $\mathcal{E} \subset \mathcal{R}^2$ ,  $z \in \mathcal{E}$

the importance of search:

$$\phi(z) > 0 \quad (\text{large} \rightarrow \text{important})$$

sensing accuracy  $\in [0, 1]$

$$p_y(\|z - y_i\|) = 1 - e^{-\lambda \|z - y_i\|^2}$$

obs. level  $\in [0, 1]$

$$p(z, \mathcal{Y}_{p;q}) := \prod_{y_i \in \mathcal{Y}_{p;q}} p_y(\|z - y_i\|)$$

search level at time  $t_k$  (small  $\rightarrow$  good)

$$S(\mathcal{Y}_{k-g+1:k}) := \int_{\mathcal{E}} \phi(z) p(z, \mathcal{Y}_{k-g+1:k}) dz$$
$$g \in \{1, 2, \dots\}, f \geq g + 1$$



## Search and Control

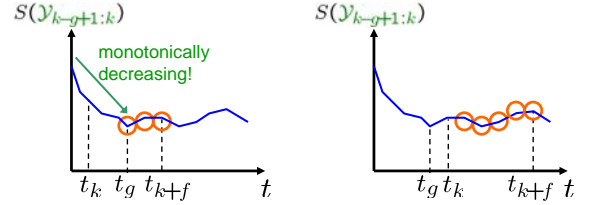
**optimal search**

minimize search level  $S$

**optimal control**

minimize control energy

tradeoff



criteria function for optimal search

$$\bar{S}(\bar{\mathcal{Y}}_{1:k+f}) = \sum_{i=\max\{g, k+1\}}^{k+f} S(\mathcal{Y}_{i-g+1:i})$$



## Optimal Search Control Problem

**Problem A1**

$$\min_{u(t), t \in [t_k, t_{k+f}]} \sum_{i=k}^{k+f-1} \int_{t_i}^{t_{i+1}} u^T(t) R u(t) dt$$

$$\text{s.t. } (y_i)_{i=k+1, k+2, \dots, k+f} = \bar{\mathcal{Y}}_{k+1:k+f}^* := \underset{\bar{\mathcal{Y}}_{k+1:k+f}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \bar{S}(\bar{\mathcal{Y}}_{1:k+f})$$

It's difficult to get **global optimal solution**.

**relaxation of the condition**

get **local optimal solution**

$$\bar{\mathcal{Y}}_{k+1:k+f}^* \in \bar{\Phi}(\bar{\mathcal{Y}}_{1:k}, f) := \left\{ \bar{\mathcal{Y}}_{k+1:k+f} \mid \frac{\partial \bar{S}(\bar{\mathcal{Y}}_{1:k+f})}{\partial y_i} = 0 \forall y_i \in \mathcal{Y}_{k+1:k+f} \right\}$$



## Reduce Problem A1

$$\min_{u(t), t \in [t_k, t_{k+f}]} \sum_{i=k}^{k+f-1} \int_{t_i}^{t_{i+1}} u^T(t) R u(t) dt$$
$$= \min_X \begin{bmatrix} x_k \\ X \end{bmatrix}^T N \begin{bmatrix} x_k \\ X \end{bmatrix}, \quad X = \begin{bmatrix} x_{k+1} \\ \vdots \\ x_{k+f} \end{bmatrix} \quad (\cdot: u^*(t) = \psi(x_i, x_{i+1}), t \in [t_i, t_{i+1}])$$
$$= \min_{Y, \bar{Y}} \begin{bmatrix} y_k \\ Y \\ \bar{Y} \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} H_1[k] & H_2[k] \\ H_2^T[k] & H_3[k] \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} y_k \\ Y \\ \bar{Y} \end{bmatrix}, \quad Y = \begin{bmatrix} y_{k+1} \\ \vdots \\ y_{k+f} \end{bmatrix}$$
$$= \min_Y \begin{bmatrix} y_k \\ Y \\ \bar{y}_k \end{bmatrix}^T (H_1[k] - H_2[k] H_3^{-T}[k] H_2^T[k]) \begin{bmatrix} y_k \\ Y \\ \bar{y}_k \end{bmatrix}, \quad Y^* = \begin{bmatrix} \bar{y}_{k+1} \\ \vdots \\ \bar{y}_{k+f} \end{bmatrix} = -H_3^{-1}[k] H_2^T[k] \begin{bmatrix} y_k \\ Y \\ \bar{y}_k \end{bmatrix}$$
$$J_{k:k+f}^*(\bar{\mathcal{Y}}_{k+1:k+f})$$

**Problem A1**



**Problem A2**

$$\min_{\bar{\mathcal{Y}}_{k+1:k+f}} J_{k:k+f}^*(\bar{\mathcal{Y}}_{k+1:k+f})$$
$$\text{s.t. } \bar{\mathcal{Y}}_{k+1:k+f} = \bar{\mathcal{Y}}_{k+1:k+f}^* \in \bar{\Phi}(\bar{\mathcal{Y}}_{1:k}, f)$$



## Approximate Solution Algorithm

**Algorithm 1**

if  $k = 0$

$$1. \mathcal{Y}_{1:g}^* \in \Phi(\emptyset, g) := \left\{ \mathcal{Y}_{1:g} \mid \frac{\partial S(\mathcal{Y}_{1:g})}{\partial y_i} = 0 \forall y_i \in \mathcal{Y}_{1:g} \right\}$$

$\rightarrow$  gradient method  $y_i^{j+1} = y_i^j + \alpha_j \frac{\partial S(\mathcal{Y}_{1:g}^j)}{\partial y_i^j}$   $j: \text{index}$   
 $i \in \{1, \dots, g\}$

$$2. \bar{\mathcal{Y}}_{1:1+g}^* = \underset{\bar{\mathcal{Y}}_{1:g} \in \text{sort}(\mathcal{Y}_{1:g}^*), y_{1+g} = y_1}{\operatorname{argmin}} J_{0:1+g}^*(\bar{\mathcal{Y}}_{1:1+g})$$

$\rightarrow$  get a round path to minimize control energy

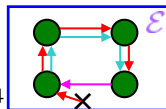
$\rightarrow$  enumeration method  $O(g!)$

$\rightarrow$  approximate solution : Ant Colony Optimization  $O(g^2)$

end if

$$3. y_{i+g} = y_i, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots$$

$g = 4$



## Lemma 1

**Lemma 1**

Algorithm 1 leads below. ( $k = g, g+1, \dots$ )

$$\mathcal{Y}_{k-g+1:k} = \mathcal{Y}_{1:g} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$$S(\mathcal{Y}_{k-g+1:k}) = S(\mathcal{Y}_{1:g}) \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

$$\mathcal{Y}_{k-g+1:k} \in \Phi(\emptyset, g) = \left\{ \mathcal{Y}_{k-g+1:k} \mid \frac{\partial S(\mathcal{Y}_{k-g+1:k})}{\partial y_i} = 0 \forall y_i \in \mathcal{Y}_{k-g+1:k} \right\} \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

$$\frac{\partial S(\mathcal{Y}_{k-g+1:k})}{\partial y_j} = 0 \forall j \in \{1, 2, \dots\} \quad \text{--- (4)}$$

proof:(1)  $\rightarrow \mathcal{Y}_{1:g} = \{y_1\} \cup \mathcal{Y}_{2:g} = \mathcal{Y}_{2:g} \cup \{y_{1+g}\} = \mathcal{Y}_{2:1+g} (\because y_{1+g} = y_1)$   
Repeat above.

(2)  $\rightarrow$  obviously by (1)

(3)  $\rightarrow$  obviously by  $\mathcal{Y}_{1:1+g} \in \Phi(\emptyset, g)$  and (1)

(4)  $\rightarrow \frac{\partial S(\mathcal{Y}_{k-g+1:k})}{\partial y_j} = 0 \forall j \in \{1, 2, \dots\} / \{k-g+1, \dots, k\}$

because  $S(\mathcal{Y}_{k-g+1:k})$  is not depend on  $y_j$ .

$\frac{\partial S(\mathcal{Y}_{k-g+1:k})}{\partial y_j} = 0 \forall j \in \{k-g+1, \dots, k\}$  by (3).  $\square$



## Theorem 1

### Theorem 1

$\tilde{y}_{k+1:k+f}$  gotten by using Algorithm 1  
is one local optimal obs. points row of Problem A2,  
so that,  $\tilde{y}_{k+1:k+f} = \tilde{y}_{k+1:k+f}^* \in \Phi(\tilde{y}_{1:k}, f)$

proof:

$$\forall i \in \{k+1, \dots, k+f\},$$

$$\frac{\partial S(\tilde{y}_{1:k+f})}{\partial y_i} = \sum_{i'=\max\{g, k+1\}}^{k+f} \frac{\partial S(\mathcal{Y}_{i'-g+1:i'})}{\partial y_i}$$

$$= 0 \quad \left( \because \frac{\partial S(\mathcal{Y}_{i'-g+1:i'})}{\partial y_j} = 0 \quad \forall j \in \{1, 2, \dots\} \text{ by Lemma 1 (4)} \right)$$

$$\text{So } \tilde{y}_{k+1:k+f} = \tilde{y}_{k+1:k+f}^* \in \Phi(\tilde{y}_{1:k}, f)$$

□



## Converge to Periodic Trajectory

### Lemma 2

Suppose  $t_{i+1} - t_i = t_{i+1+g} - t_{i+g}$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots$  and  $T = t_{i+g} - t_i$ .

**Algorithm 1** +  $\dot{y}(t_k + T) - \dot{y}(t_k) \rightarrow 0$  (as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ )

→ The state (input) trajectory converges to a periodic trajectory.  
(period  $T$ )

proof: Algorithm 1 →  $y(t_i + T) = y(t_i)$ ,  $y(t_{i+1} + T) = y(t_{i+1})$

If  $\dot{y}(t_i + T) = \dot{y}(t_i)$ ,  $\dot{y}(t_{i+1} + T) = \dot{y}(t_{i+1})$ ,

then  $x(t + T) = x(t)$ ,  $u(t + T) = u(t)$ ,  $t \in [t_i, t_{i+1}]$   
( $\because u^*(t) = \psi_1(x_i, x_{i+1})$ ,  $x^*(t) = \psi_2(x_i, x_{i+1})$ ,  $t \in [t_i, t_{i+1}]$ )

So if  $\dot{y}(t_k + T) - \dot{y}(t_k) \rightarrow 0$  (as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ ),

then, the state (input) trajectory  
converges to a periodic trajectory. □



## Theorem 2

$$e[k+1] = \dot{y}(t_{k+1} + T) - \dot{y}(t_{k+1})$$

$$= - [I_{n_y \times n_y} \quad 0 \quad \dots \quad 0] H_3^{-1}[k] H_2^T[k] \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ \dot{y}(t_{k+g}) - \dot{y}(t_k) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= - [I_{n_y \times n_y} \quad 0 \quad \dots \quad 0] H_3^{-1}[k] H_2^T[k] \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ e[k] \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= - [I_{n_y \times n_y} \quad 0 \quad \dots \quad 0] H_3^{-1}[k] H_2^T[k] \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ I_{n_y \times n_y} \end{bmatrix} e[k]$$

$$= G[k]e[k]$$

If  $e[k+1] = G[k]e[k]$ ,  $G[k+g] = G[k]$  is asymptotically stable,  
then  $e[k] = \dot{y}(t_k + T) - \dot{y}(t_k) \rightarrow 0$  (as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ ).

And by Lemma 2,

the state (input) trajectory converges to a periodic trajectory. □



## Corollary 1

Suppose  $t_{i+1} - t_i = h$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots$  and  $T = gh$ ,

→  $G[k+1] = G[k] =: G$ ,  $k = 1, 2, \dots$

→  $e[k+1] = Ge[k]$  is time-invariant system.

### Corollary 1

If  $|\lambda_i| < 1$ ,  $i \in \{1, \dots, n_y\}$  ( $\lambda_i$  is an eigenvalue of  $G$ ),  
then the state (input) trajectory converges to a periodic trajectory.

proof:

If  $|\lambda_i| < 1$ ,  $i \in \{1, \dots, n_y\}$

then  $e[k+1] = Ge[k]$  is asymptotically stable.

and  $e[k] = \dot{y}(t_k + T) - \dot{y}(t_k) \rightarrow 0$  (as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ ).

And by Lemma 2,

the state (input) trajectory converges to a periodic trajectory. □



## Receding Horizon Control

at time  $t_k$  horizon:  $t \in [t_k, t_{k+f}]$

Optimal Search Control Problem

$\tilde{y}_{k+1:k+f}$  (Algorithm 1)

$$\begin{bmatrix} y_{k+1} \\ y_{k+2} \\ \vdots \\ y_{k+f} \end{bmatrix} = -H_3^{-1}[k] H_2^T[k] \begin{bmatrix} y_k \\ y_{k+1} \\ \vdots \\ y_k \\ \dot{y}_k \end{bmatrix}$$

$$u^*(t) = \psi(x_i, x_{i+1}), t \in [t_i, t_{i+1}]$$

$$\rightarrow u^*(t), t \in [t_k, t_{k+f}]$$

$$\rightarrow u^*(t), t \in [t_k, t_{k+1}]$$



at time  $t_{k+1}$  horizon:  $t \in [t_{k+1}, t_{k+1+f}]$   
same above ...



## Theorem 2

### Theorem 2

Suppose  $t_{i+1} - t_i = t_{i+1+g} - t_{i+g}$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots$  and  $T = t_{i+g} - t_i$ .

$$G[k] := - [I_{n_y \times n_y} \quad 0 \quad \dots \quad 0] H_3^{-1}[k] H_2^T[k] \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (G[k+g] = G[k])$$

$$e[k] := \dot{y}(t_k + T) - \dot{y}(t_k)$$

If  $e[k+1] = G[k]e[k]$ ,  $G[k+g] = G[k]$  is asymptotically stable,  
then the state (input) trajectory converges to a periodic trajectory.

proof:

$$\dot{y}(t_{k+1}) = - [I_{n_y \times n_y} \quad 0 \quad \dots \quad 0] H_3^{-1}[k] H_2^T[k] \begin{bmatrix} y_k \\ \vdots \\ y_{k+f} \\ \dot{y}(t_k) \end{bmatrix} \quad \left( \begin{bmatrix} y_{k+1} \\ y_{k+2} \\ \vdots \\ y_{k+f} \end{bmatrix} = -H_3^{-1}[k] H_2^T[k] \begin{bmatrix} y_k \\ y_{k+1} \\ \vdots \\ y_{k+f} \end{bmatrix} \right)$$



$$\dot{y}(t_{k+1} + T) = - [I_{n_y \times n_y} \quad 0 \quad \dots \quad 0] H_3^{-1}[k+g] H_2^T[k+g] \begin{bmatrix} y_{k+g} \\ \vdots \\ y_{k+f+g} \\ \dot{y}(t_{k+g}) \end{bmatrix}$$



## Simulation

agent system

$$\dot{x}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} x(t) + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} u(t)$$

$$x_0 = [12 \ 12 \ 0 \ 0]^T$$

$$\mathcal{E} = [0, 40] \times [0, 40]$$

$$\phi(z) = 1$$

$$t_i = ih, \quad h = 5$$

$$R = \text{diag}(1, 1)$$

$$\lambda = 0.02$$

$$f = 5, \quad g = 4$$

➡ eigenvalues of  $G = -0.1250, -0.1250$

➡ converge to periodic trajectory (period  $T = 20$ )

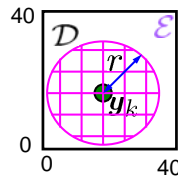
random walk based method

$$\mathcal{D} := \{z \in \mathcal{E}_d \mid \|z - y_k\| < r\}$$

$\mathcal{E}_d$ : discretize  $\mathcal{E}$

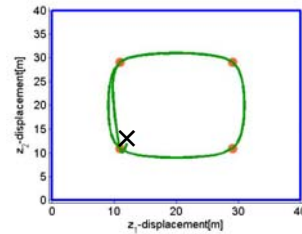
select  $y_{k+1} \in \mathcal{D}$  randomly

$$r = 60$$

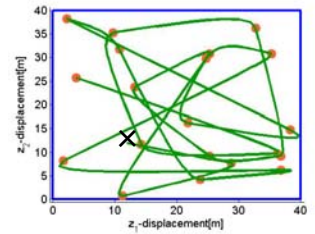


## Simulation

20 steps



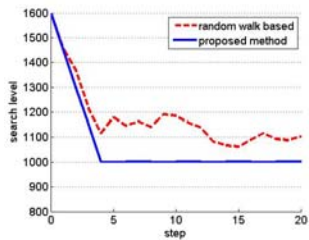
proposed method



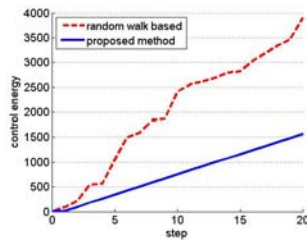
random walk based method



## Simulation



search level  $S(\mathcal{Y}_{k-g+1:k})$  at  $t_k$



the sum of control energy



## Outline

- Search Problem
- “One-sided search” – “Moving Target”
- Cooperative Search
- Conclusion, Future Works



## Cooperative Search

### Cooperative Search

“Two-sided Search” – “Moving Target”

ex. **Rendezvous Search**

Each party behaves in a manner that maximizes the chances of one party finding the other. Each party attempts to make itself as detectable as possible.

ex. Two people have become separated in a crowd and wish to find one another again.

ex. Searching for an intelligent person lost in the woods who understands how the searchers will operate.

That person may try to move to a place where he can be found more easily.



## Rendezvous Search

### Rendezvous Search

This is the problem that arises, for example, when two people shopping together in a department store look around and see that they are no longer together. How should they proceed to find each other? Should one stay still and hope that the other is searching the whole store? What should they agree in advance to help them if this situation arises?

- quoted from [5]

#### ■ **symmetric rendezvous search**

Agents use same strategies.

#### ■ **asymmetric rendezvous search**

Agents can use distinct strategies.

ex. “Wait for Mommy”

One player stays still while the others searches the entire space.



## Rendezvous Search Control

### “Wait for Mommy” strategy

One agent stays still while the others search the entire space.

1. Decide the role of each agent.  
(one target)
2. The target agent stays at initial position.  
The searcher searches “the stationary target”.  
→ ([27] and last presentation)  
Each searcher can detect the target agent  
with probability one (as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ ).

When the searcher detects the target,  
he moves to the position of the target.



***The rendezvous will be achieved!***



## Conclusion and Future Works

### Conclusion

#### “One-sided search” – “Moving Target”

formulation of Optimal Search Control Problem  
its approximate solution

the condition to converge to a periodic trajectory

The effectiveness of the proposed method was  
demonstrated through a numerical simulation

The introduction of “Cooperative Search”

### Future Works

#### Cooperative Search

reduce computation time

search control under non-convex state constraints