

Myopically Verifiable Probabilistic Certificate for Long-term Safety

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理学

Stochastic safe control
Robust control
Optimization
Information theory ...

科学



Neuroscience
Biomolecular control...



工学

Safety is critical for intelligent systems



Autonomous
vehicles



Cobots
Intelligent manufacturing



Drones

Safety is critical for intelligent systems

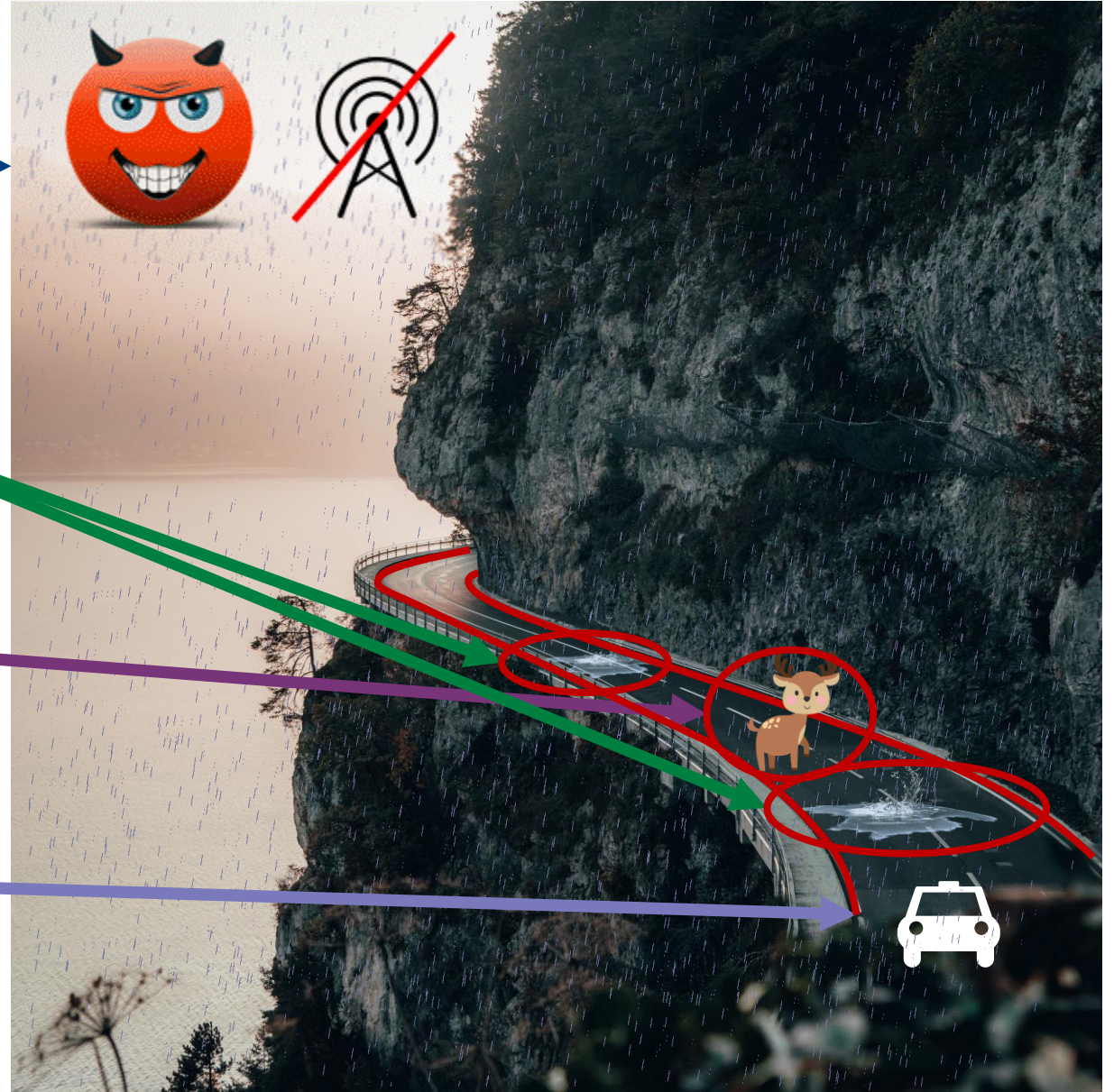
Dealing with uncertainty

Resilience

Adaptability

Collision Avoidance

Regular Operation



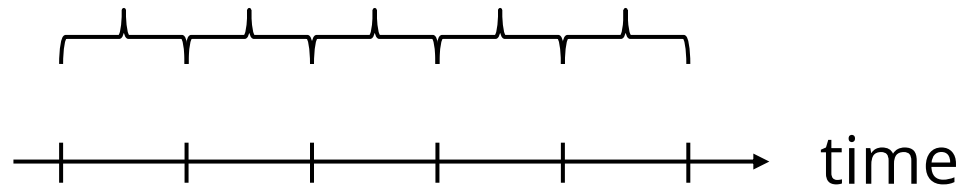
Challenges

Deterministic system

safe at each step



safe at all time



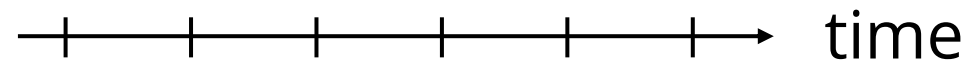
Stochastic system

safe at each step with
probability $1 - \delta$

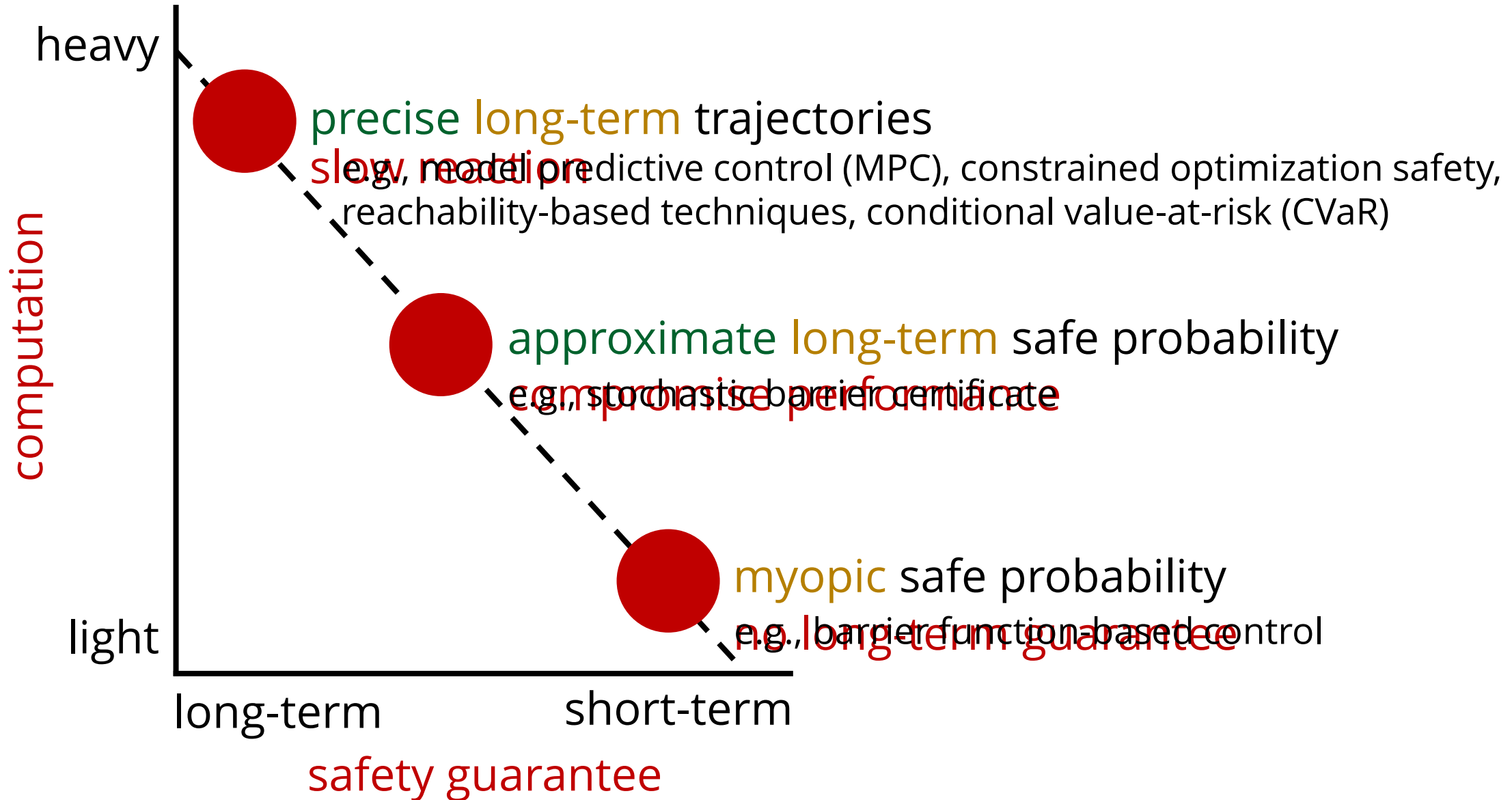


Long-term safe probability can
scale according to

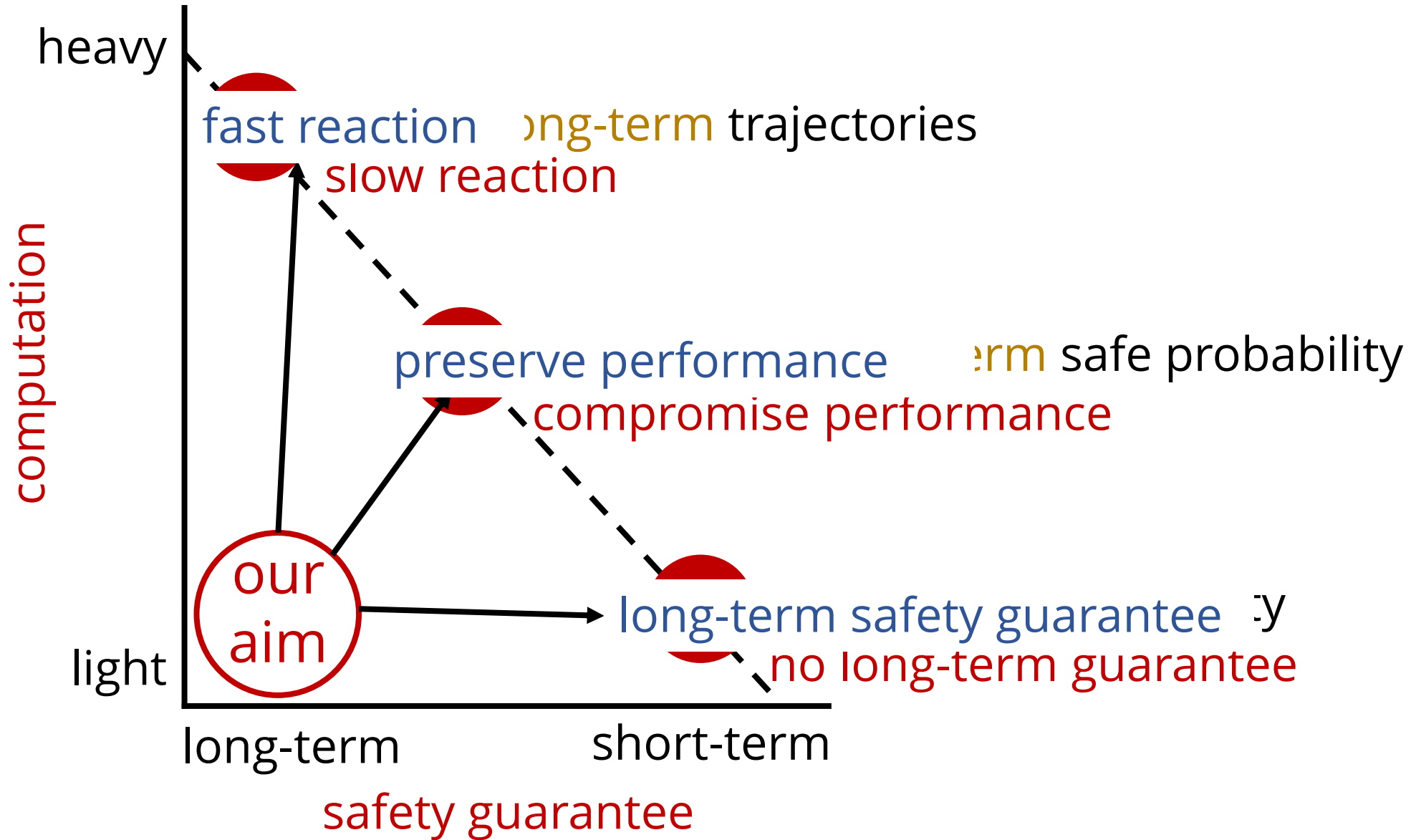
$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} (1 - \delta)^t = 0$$



Challenges



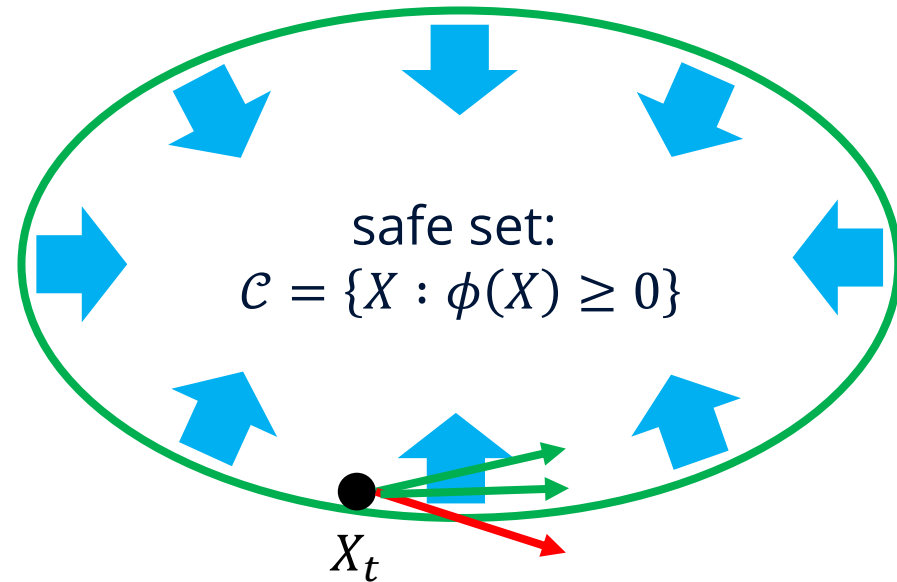
Challenges



Proposed Method: Intuitions

Imposing forward invariance on

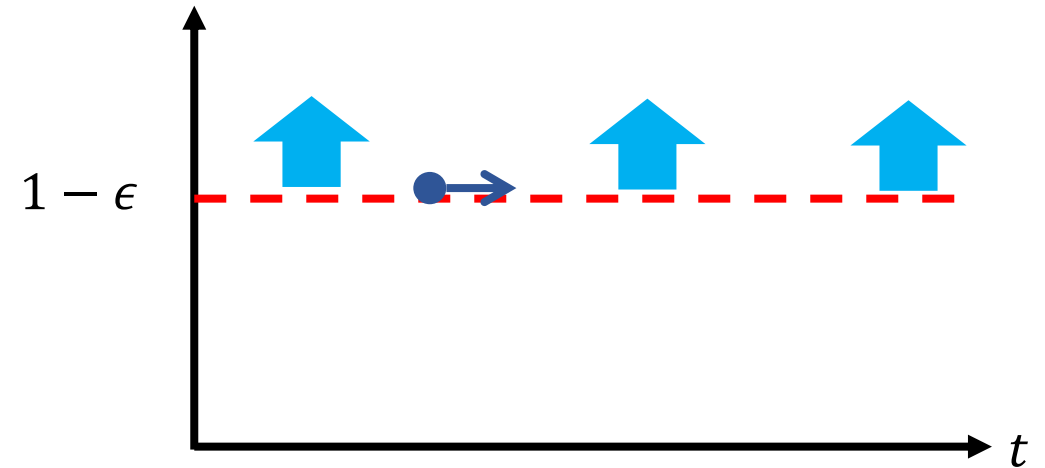
State space



Tail probability can accumulate over time

Probability space

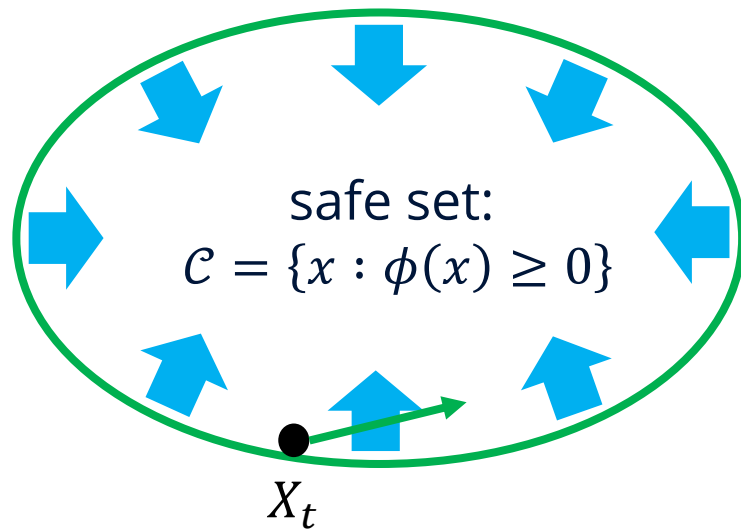
Long-term safety probability
 $\Pr(X_\tau \in \mathcal{C}, \tau \in [t, t + T])$



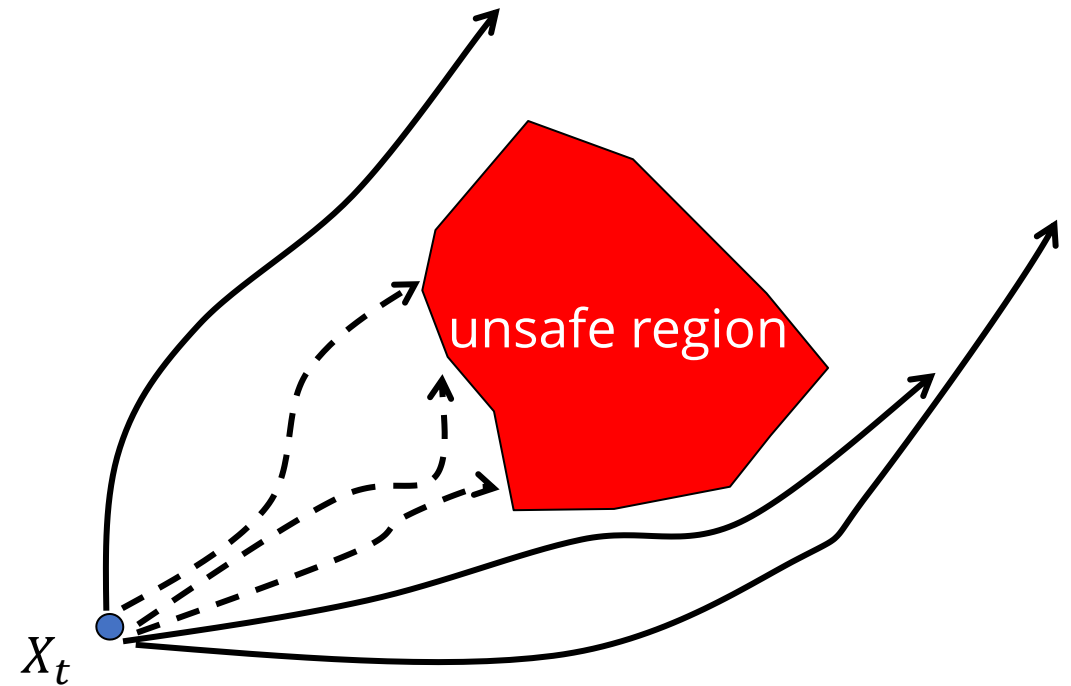
Direct control over accumulation of tail events

Proposed Method: Intuition

Barrier function based
-> Myopic evaluation



Reachability based
-> Ensures long-term safety

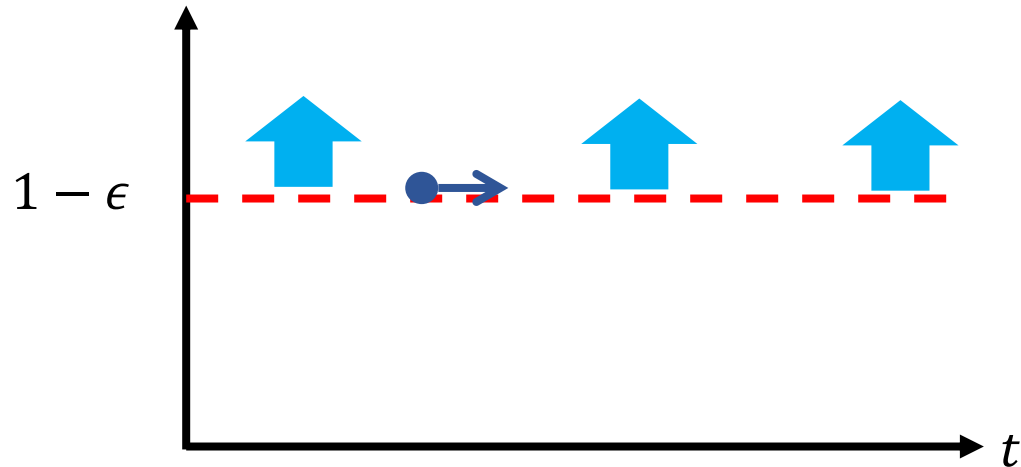


Proposed Method: Intuition

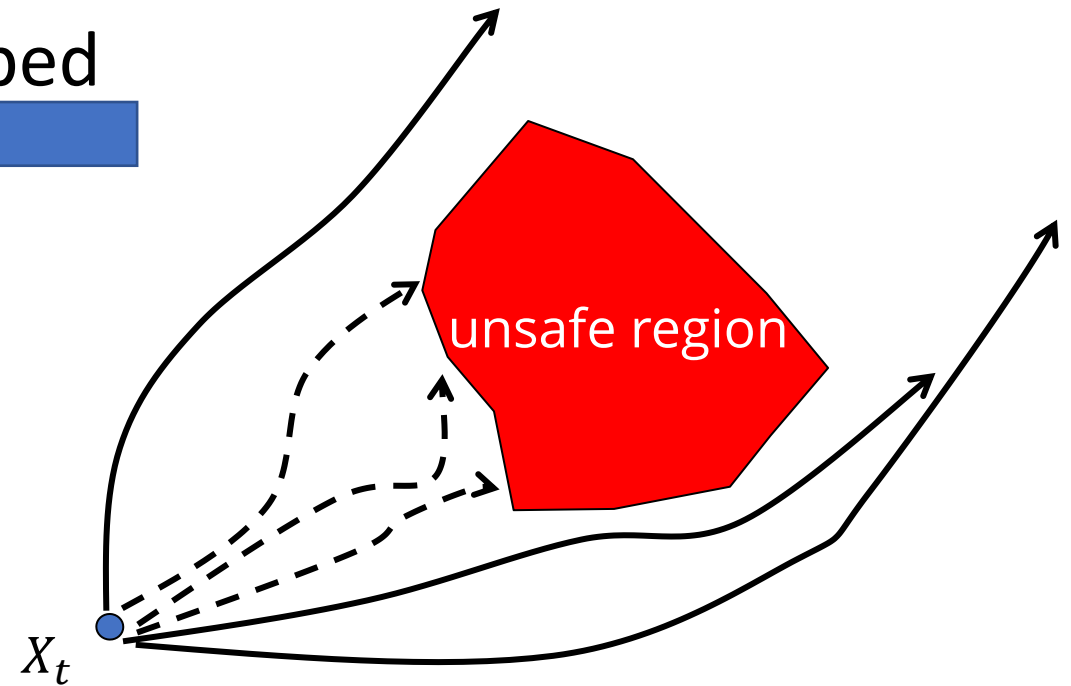
Barrier function based
-> Myopic evaluation

Reachability based
-> Ensures long-term safety

Long-term safety probability
 $\Pr(X_\tau \in \mathcal{C}, \tau \in [t, t + T])$



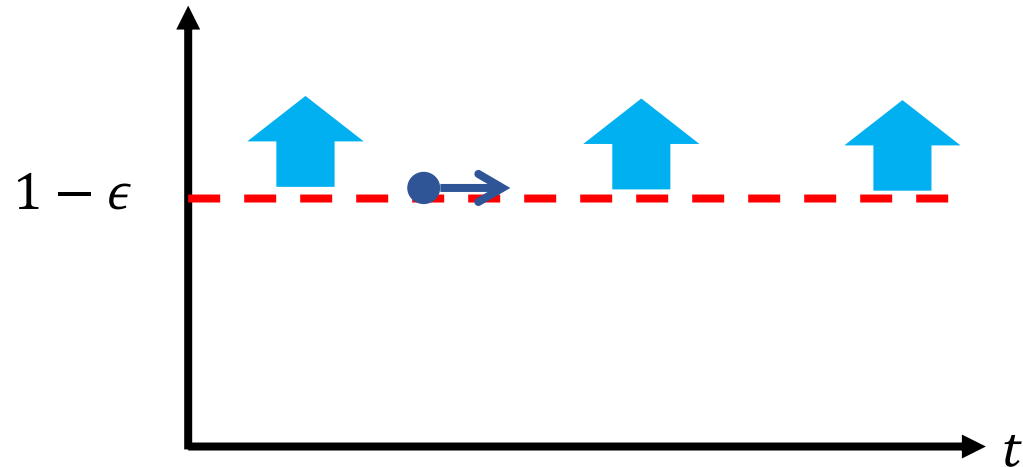
Embed



Direct control over
accumulation of tail events

Proposed Method

Long-term safety probability
 $\Pr(X_\tau \in \mathcal{C}, \tau \in [t, t + T])$



Direct control over
accumulation of tail events

$$\mathbf{F}(X_t) = \Pr(X_\tau \in \mathcal{C}, \tau \in [t, t + T] | X_t)$$

$$A\mathbf{F}(X_t) \geq -\alpha(\mathbf{F}(X_t) - (1 - \epsilon))$$

time derivative of
safety probability

desired safety
probability

A : infinitesimal generator

α : monotonically increasing, concave, $\alpha(0) \leq 0$

Theoretical Guarantees

Theorem: Given

$$F(X_0) > 1 - \epsilon,$$

if we choose the control action to satisfy

$$AF(X_t) \geq -\alpha(F(X_t) - (1 - \epsilon)) \text{ for } t > 0,$$

then we have

$$\Pr(X_\tau \in \mathcal{C}, \tau \in [t, t + T]) \geq 1 - \epsilon \text{ for } \forall t > 0$$

$\alpha: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a monotonically increasing concave function that satisfies $\alpha(0) \leq 0$.

Proposed Safety Condition

Step 1: compute F

Step 2: compute A, B based on X, F(X_t) and other

$$A\mathbf{F}(X_t) \geq -\alpha(\mathbf{F}(X_t) - (1 - \epsilon))$$



$$dX_t = (f(X_t) + g(X_t)U_t)dt + \sigma(X_t)dW$$

Affine control

$$\mathcal{L}_f \mathbf{F}(X_t) + (\mathcal{L}_g \mathbf{F}(X_t))\mathbf{U}_t + \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}([\sigma(X_t)]^\top \text{Hess} \mathbf{F}(X_t) [\sigma(X_t)]) \geq -\alpha(\mathbf{F}(X_t) - (1 - \epsilon))$$

$$(\mathcal{L}_g \mathbf{F}(X_t))\mathbf{U}_t \geq -\alpha(\mathbf{F}(X_t) - (1 - \epsilon)) - \mathcal{L}_f \mathbf{F}(X_t) - \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}([\sigma(X_t)]^\top \text{Hess} \mathbf{F}(X_t) [\sigma(X_t)])$$

Control constraints: $A \mathbf{U}_t \geq B$

$$A = (\mathcal{L}_g \mathbf{F}(X_t))$$

linear constraints of \mathbf{U}_t

$$B = -\alpha(\mathbf{F}(X_t) - (1 - \epsilon)) - \mathcal{L}_f \mathbf{F}(X_t) - \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}([\sigma(X_t)]^\top \text{Hess} \mathbf{F}(X_t) [\sigma(X_t)])$$

Proposed Safety Condition

$$dX_t = (f(X_t) + g(X_t)U_t)dt + \sigma(X_t)dW$$

$$F(x) = Ax$$

$$G(X) = Bu$$

$$\mathcal{L}_f F(X_t) + (\mathcal{L}_g F(X_t))U_t + \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}([\sigma(X_t)]^\top \text{Hess} F(X_t) [\sigma(X_t)]) \geq -\alpha(F(X_t) - (1 - \epsilon))$$
$$(\mathcal{L}_g F(X_t))U_t \geq -\alpha(F(X_t) - (1 - \epsilon)) - \mathcal{L}_f F(X_t) - \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}([\sigma(X_t)]^\top \text{Hess} F(X_t) [\sigma(X_t)])$$

Control constraints: $A U_t \geq B - (1)$

$$A = (\mathcal{L}_g F(X_t)) - (2)$$

$$B = -\alpha(F(X_t) - (1 - \epsilon)) - \mathcal{L}_f F(X_t) - \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}([\sigma(X_t)]^\top \text{Hess} F(X_t) [\sigma(X_t)]) - (3)$$

linear constraints of U_t

Step 0: define $f(x)$, $g(x)$,

$\Sigma = 1$, replace $G = 1$, $w(t) \sim N(0, \text{sampling time})$

dW is normal (mean zero, variance Σ)

Step 1: compute F

replace their system dynamics with your in the monte carlo simulation of F

Step 2: compute A in (2), B in (3)

Step 3: replace safety condition using (1)

Simulation

system dynamic:

$$dx_t = (2x_t + 2.5u_t) dt + 2dw_t$$

initial state:

$$x_0 = 3$$

safe set:

$$\mathcal{C} = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : x - 1 > 0\}$$

nominal controller:

$$N(x_t) = 2.5x_t$$

desired safety probability:

$$1 - \epsilon = 0.9$$

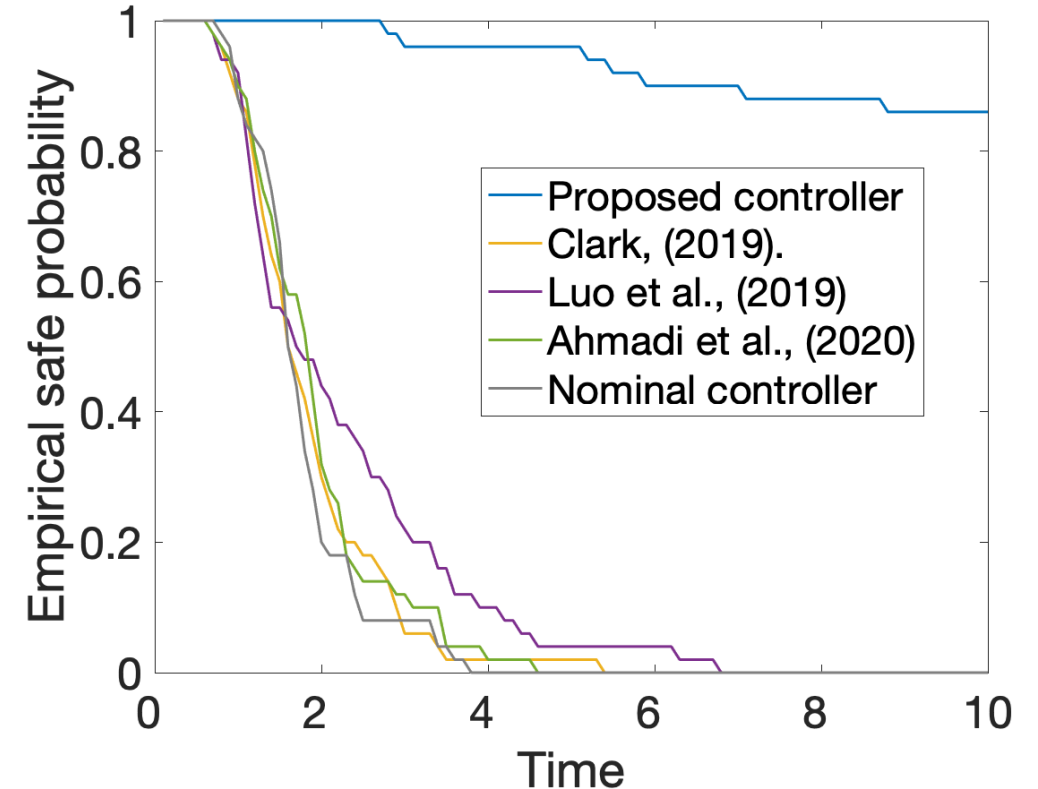
Simulation

Proposed: $A\mathbf{F}(X_t) \geq -\alpha(\mathbf{F}(X_t) - (1 - \epsilon))$

Clark: $A\phi(X_t) \geq -\alpha\phi(X_t)$

Luo et al.: $\mathbb{P}(d\phi(X_t, U_t) + \alpha\phi(X_t) \geq 0) \geq 1 - \epsilon$

Ahmadi et al.: $\text{CVaR}_\beta(\phi(X_{t+1})) \geq \gamma\phi(X_t)$



Simulation

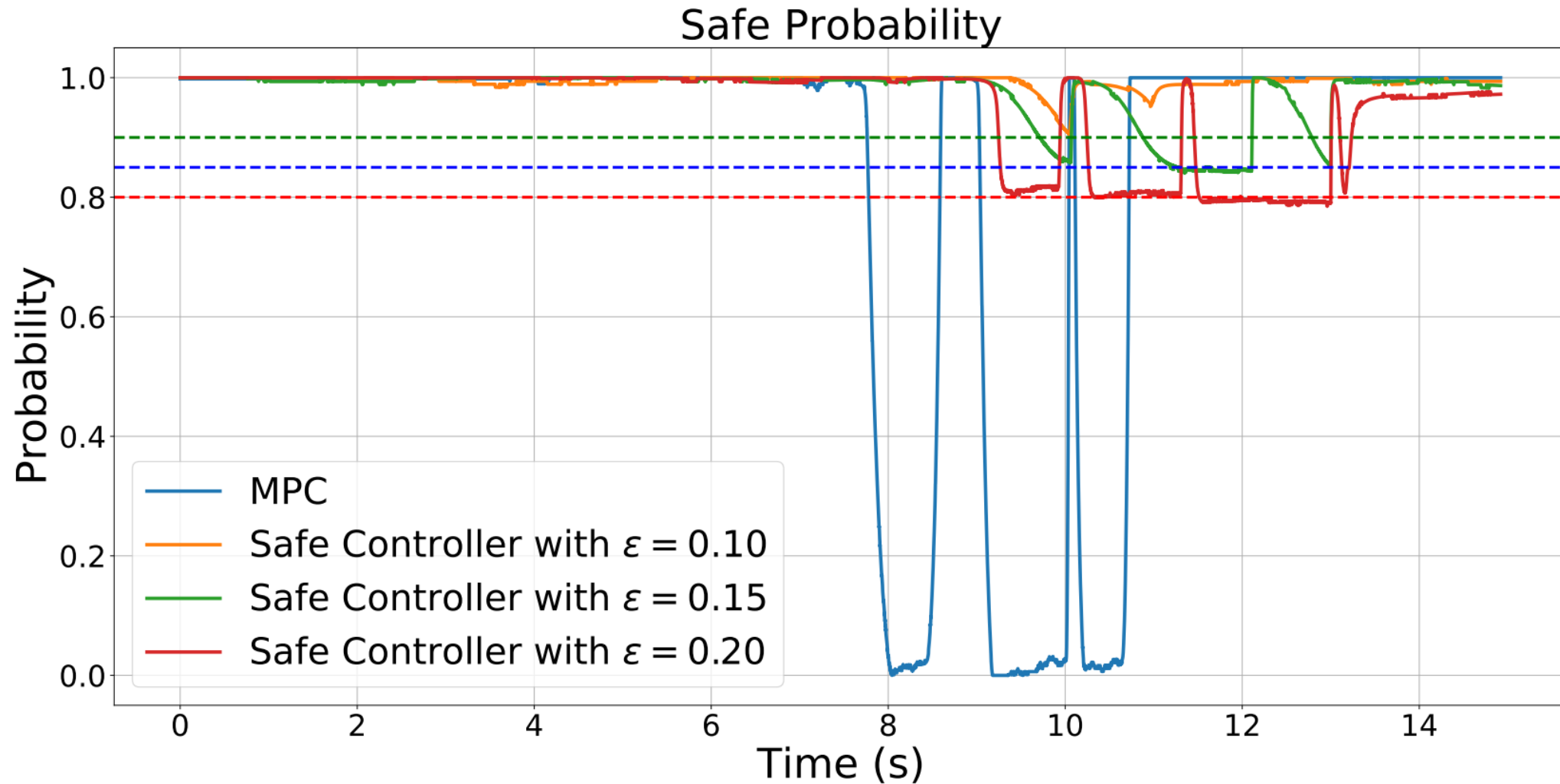
Adaptability

Collision
Avoidance

Regular
Operation

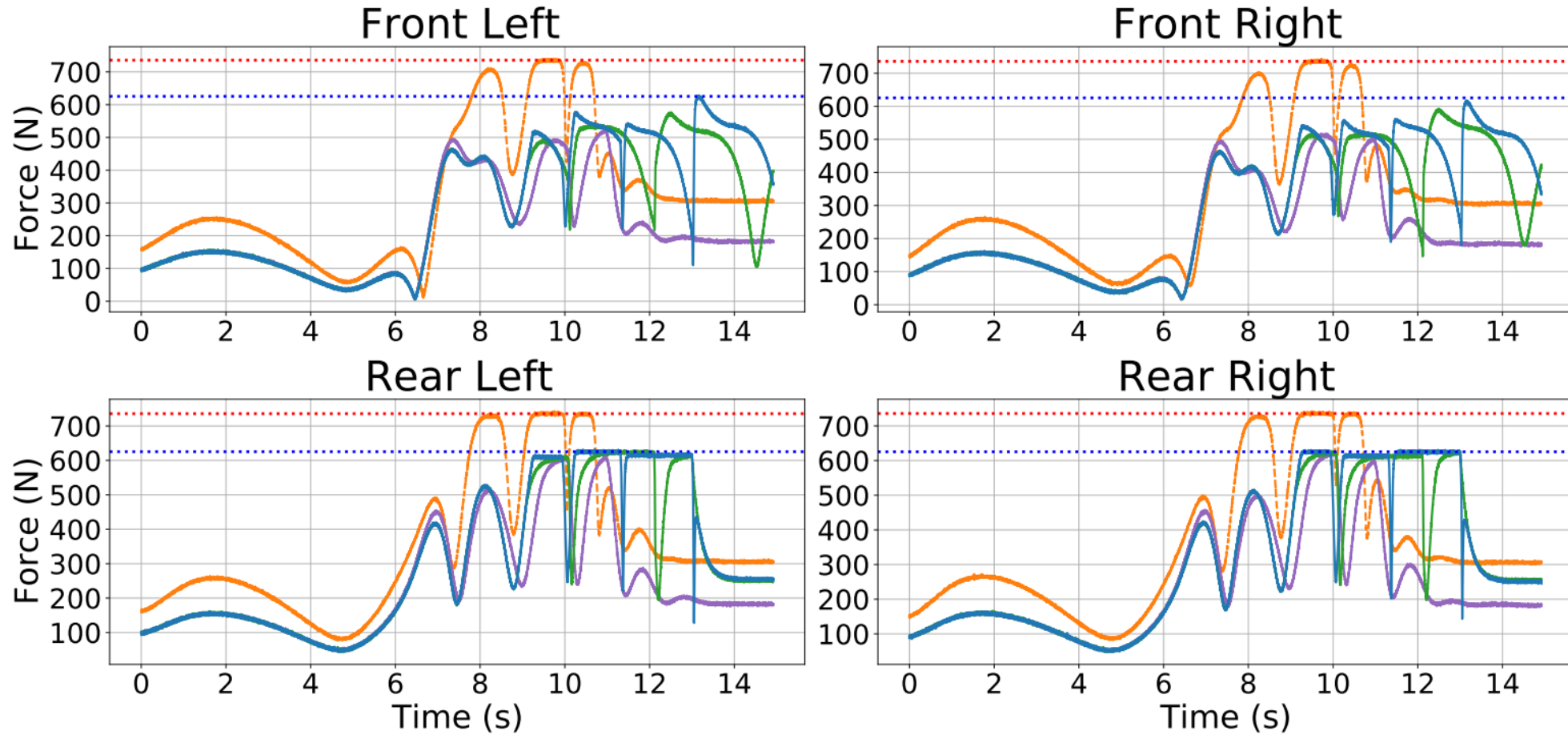


Advantage 1: Long-term Safety Guarantee



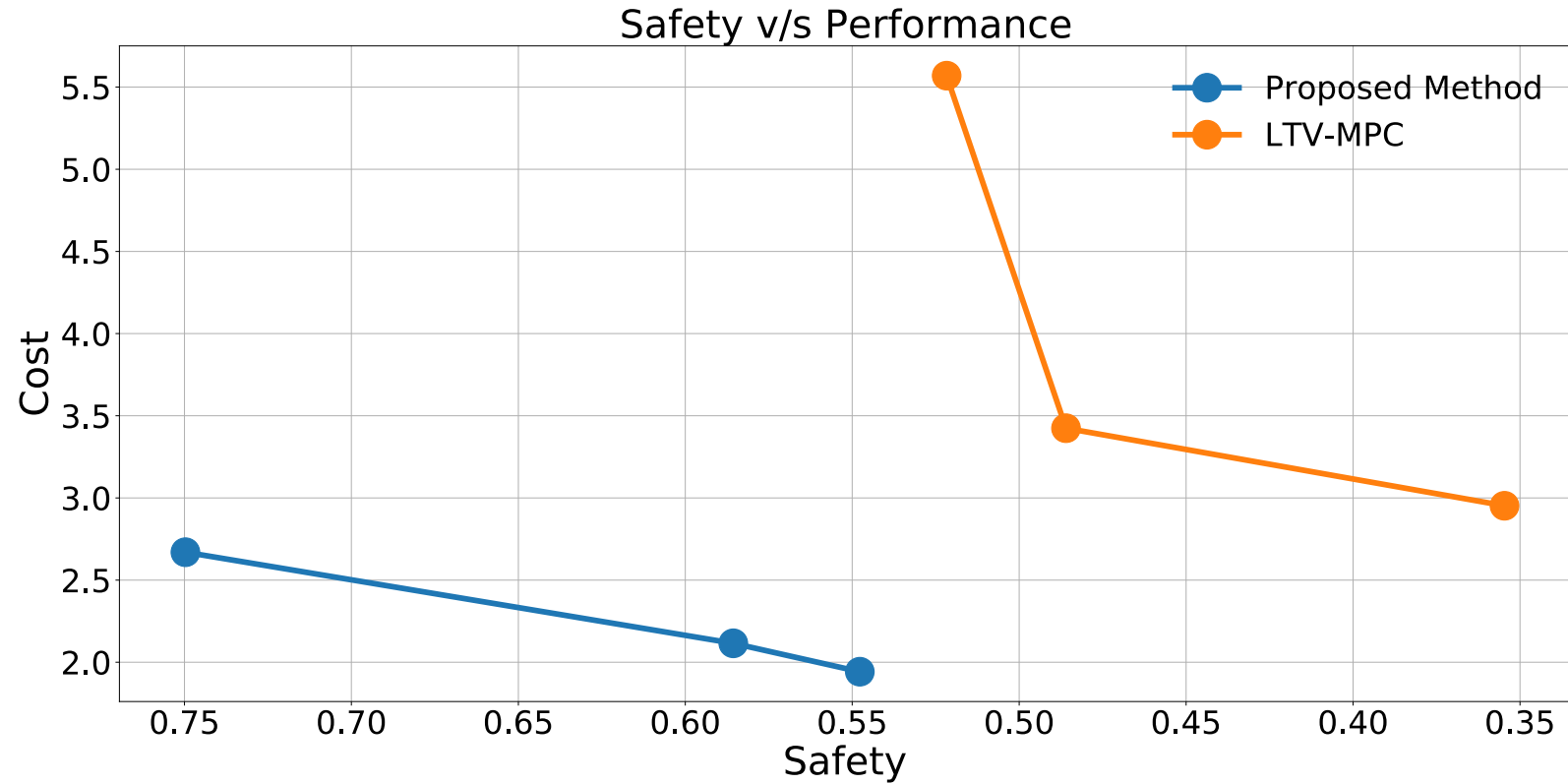
Advantage 1: Long-term Safety Guarantee (Cont'd)

Total Tire Forces



- LTV-MPC
- Proposed Method with $\epsilon = 0.20$
- Proposed Method with $\epsilon = 0.10$
- Proposed Method with $\epsilon = 0.15$
- ⋯ Maximum Tire Grip Force F_{sat}
- ⋯ 85% Maximum Tire Grip Force F_{sat}

Advantage 2: Better Performance Tradeoffs

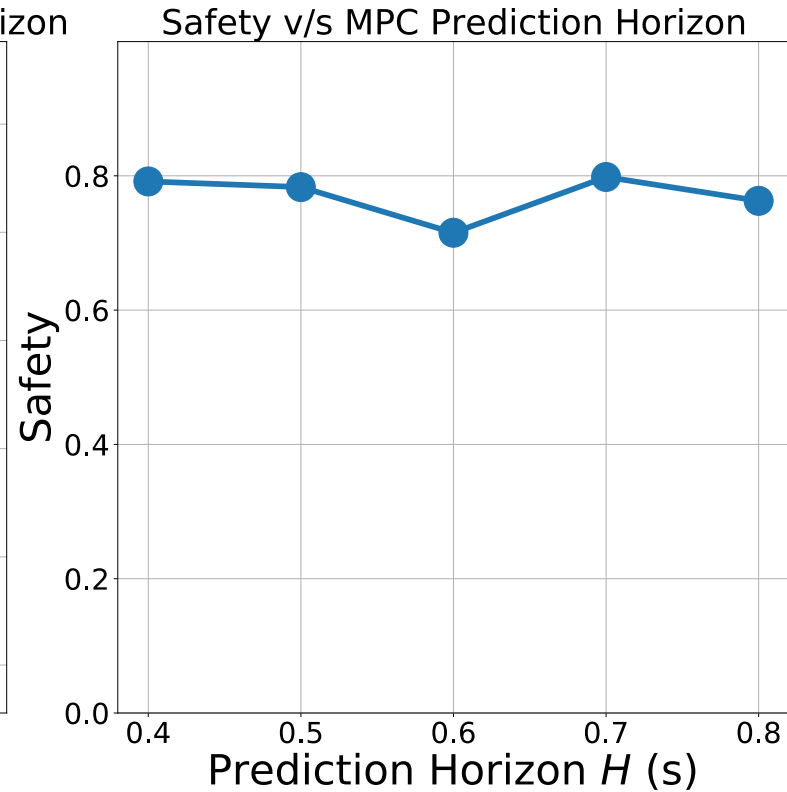
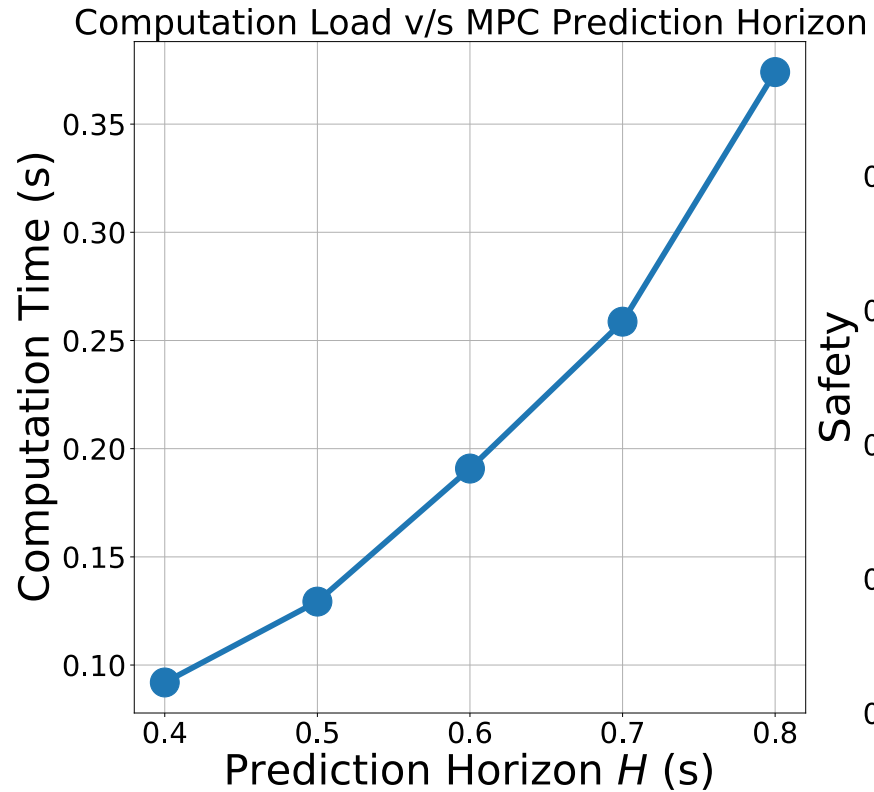


cost:
deviation from
the reference
trajectory

safety: satisfaction of the tire force limits

Advantage 3: Less Computation Costs

- Computation of MPC grows in $O(H^3)$
- Safety will not be compromised even with short outlook horizons



Random variables that inform safety

Characterized the distribution of:

- **Worst-case margin:** $\Phi_x(T) := \inf\{\phi(X_t) \in \mathbb{R} : t \in [0, T], X_0 = x\}$
- **First exit time:** $\Gamma_x(\ell) := \inf\{t \in \mathbb{R}_+ : \phi(X_t) < \ell, X_0 = x\}$
- **Distance to the safe set:** $\Theta_x(T) := \sup\{\phi(X_t) \in \mathbb{R}, : t \in [0, T], X_0 = x\}$
- **Recovery time:** $\Psi_x(\ell) := \inf\{t \in \mathbb{R}_+ : \phi(X_t) \geq \ell, X_0 = x\}$

All distributions are given by the deterministic convection-diffusion equations

Theorem 1: Worst-case margin $\Phi_x(T)$

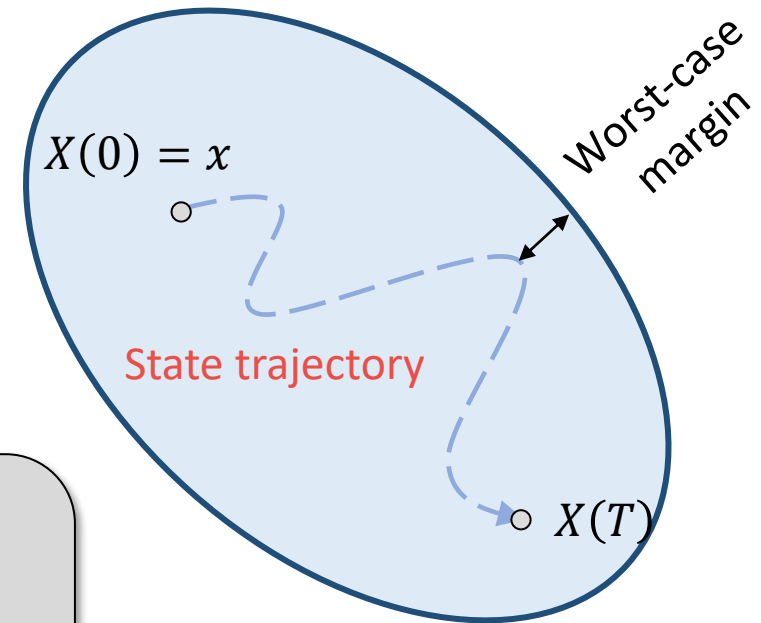
Safe set $\mathcal{C} = \{x: \phi(x) \geq \ell\}$

The complementary cumulative distribution function of the safety margin $\Phi_x(T)$

$$F(z, T; \ell) = P(\Phi_x(T) \geq \ell), \ell \in \mathbb{R}$$

is the solution to

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial F}{\partial t} = \frac{1}{2} \nabla \cdot (D \nabla F) + \mathcal{L}_{\rho - \frac{1}{2} \nabla \cdot D} F & z[1] \geq \ell, T > 0 \\ F(z, t) = 1 & z[1] \geq \ell, T > 0 \\ F(z, 0) = \mathbf{1}_{\{z[1] < \ell\}}(z) & z \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1} \end{cases}$$



$F(z, T; 0) =$ safe probability during $[0, T]$
 $z = [\phi(x), x]$

Theorem 2: First exit time $\Gamma_x(\ell)$

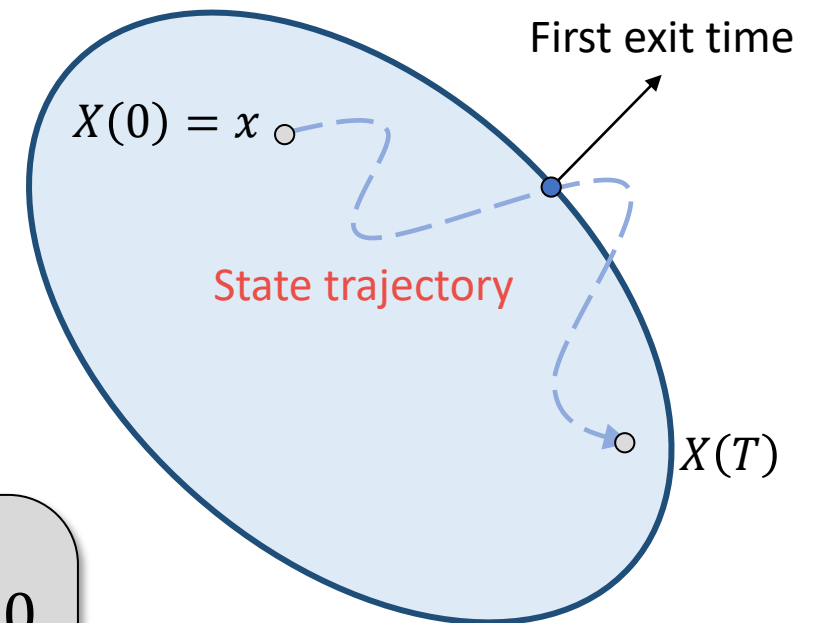
The cumulative distribution function of the first exit time $\Gamma_x(\ell)$

$$G(z, t; \ell) = P(\Gamma_x(\ell) \leq t)$$

is the solution to

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial G}{\partial t} = \frac{1}{2} \nabla \cdot (D \nabla G) + \mathcal{L}_{\rho - \frac{1}{2} \nabla \cdot D} G & z[1] \geq \ell, t > 0 \\ G(z, t) = 1 & z[1] < \ell, t > 0 \\ G(z, 0) = \mathbb{1}_{\{z[1] < \ell\}}(z) & z \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1} \end{cases}$$

Safe set $\mathcal{C} = \{x: \phi(x) \geq \ell\}$



$1 - G(z, T; 0)$ = safe probability during $[0, T]$
 $z = [\phi(x), x]$

Theorem 3: Distance to the safe set $\Theta_x(T)$

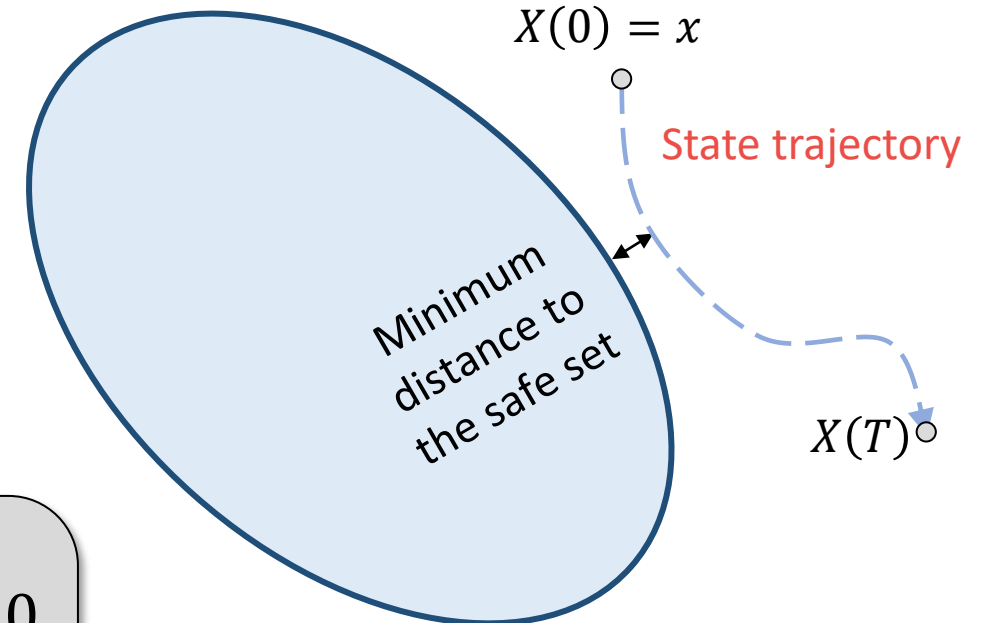
The cumulative distribution function of the distance to the safe set $\Theta_x(T)$

$$Q(z, T; -\ell) = P(\Theta_x(T) \geq \ell), \ell \in \mathbb{R}$$

is the solution to

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial Q}{\partial t} = \frac{1}{2} \nabla \cdot (D \nabla Q) + \mathcal{L}_{\rho - \frac{1}{2} \nabla \cdot D} Q & z[1] < -\ell, T > 0 \\ Q(z, T; -\ell) = 0 & z[1] \geq -\ell, T > 0 \\ Q(z, 0; -\ell) = \mathbb{1}_{\{z[1] < \ell\}}(z) & z \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1} \end{cases}$$

Safe set $\mathcal{C} = \{x: \phi(x) \geq \ell\}$



$Q(z, T; -\ell)$ = the probability of getting within ℓ distance to \mathcal{C} during $[0, T]$
 $z = [\phi(x), x]$

Theorem 4: First recovery time $\Psi_x(\ell)$

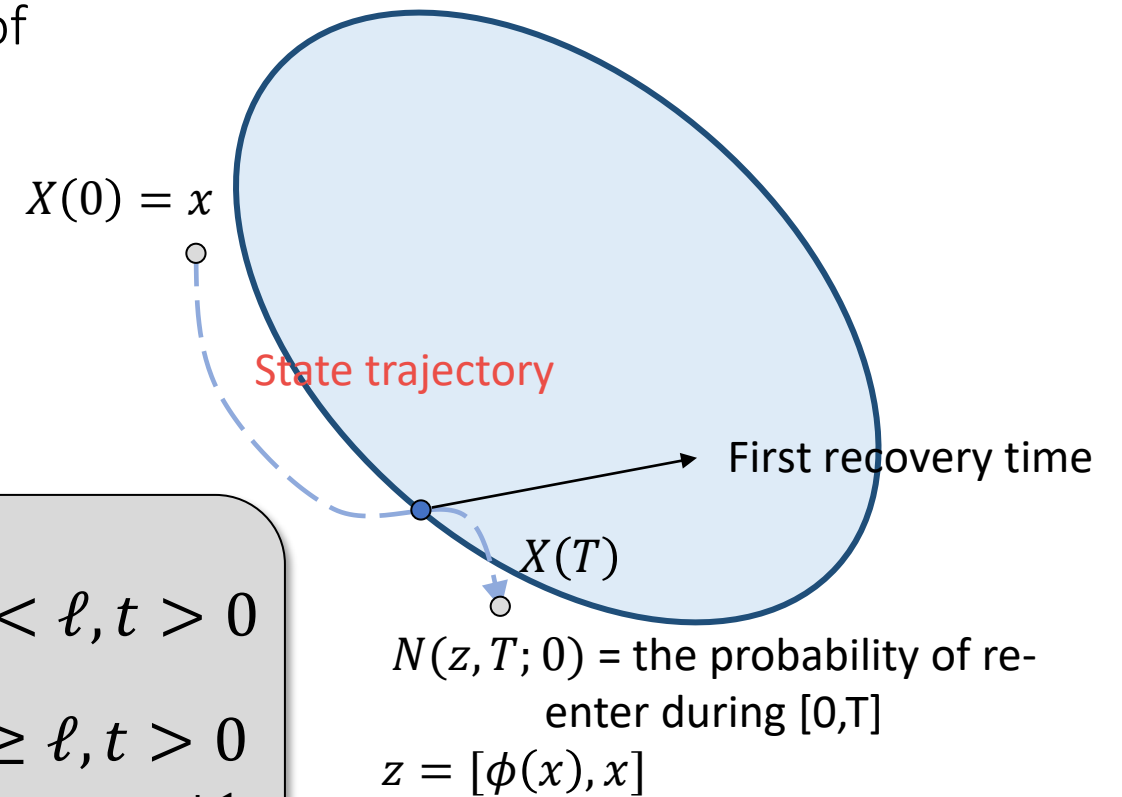
Let $D = \zeta\zeta^T$, the cumulative distribution function of recovery time $\Psi_x(\ell)$

$$N(z, T; \ell) = P(\Psi_x(\ell) \leq t)$$

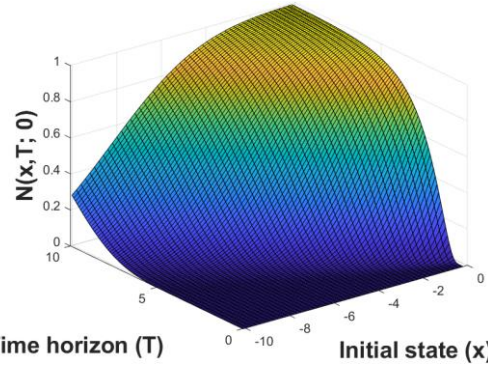
is the solution to

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial N}{\partial t} = \frac{1}{2} \nabla \cdot (D \nabla N) + \mathcal{L}_{\rho - \frac{1}{2} \nabla \cdot D} N & z[1] < \ell, t > 0 \\ N(z, t) = 1 & z[1] \geq \ell, t > 0 \\ N(z, 0) = \mathbb{1}_{\{z[1] \geq \ell\}}(z) & z \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1} \end{cases}$$

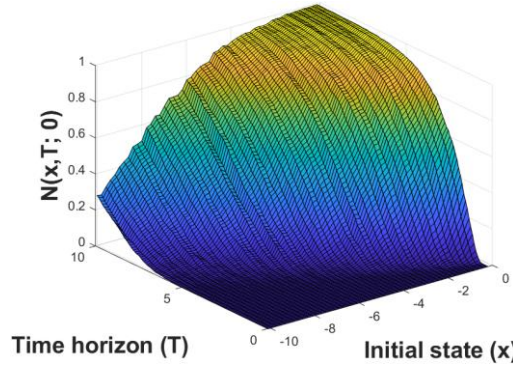
Safe set $\mathcal{C} = \{x: \phi(x) \geq \ell\}$



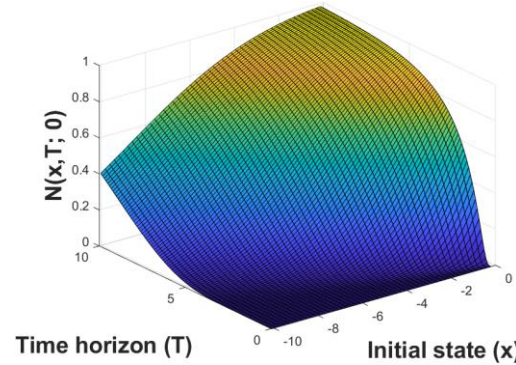
Example use case



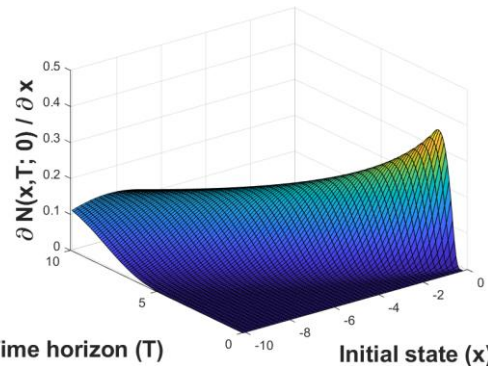
Time horizon (T) Initial state (x)



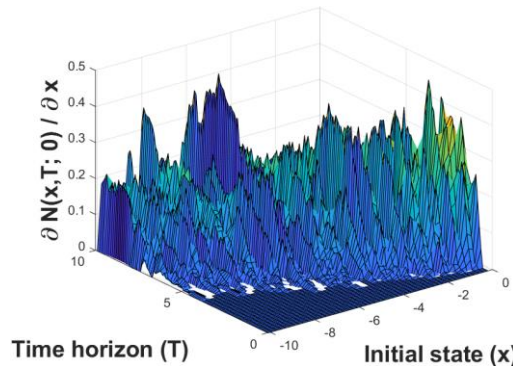
Time horizon (T) Initial state (x)



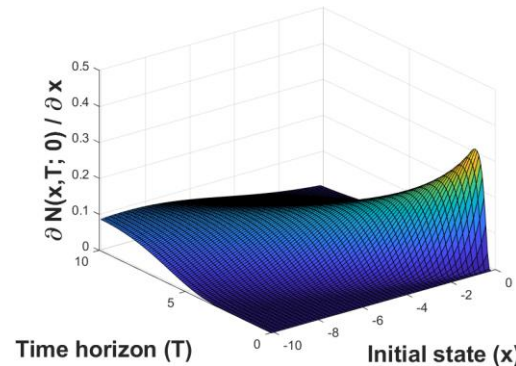
Time horizon (T) Initial state (x)



Time horizon (T) Initial state (x)



Time horizon (T) Initial state (x)



Time horizon (T) Initial state (x)

Ground truth

Monte Carlo

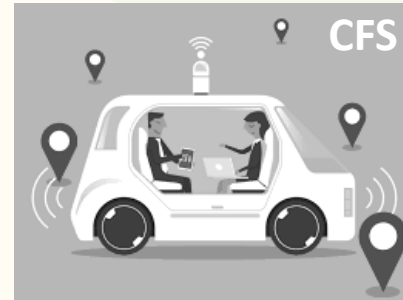
PDE solver

Today's talk

科学

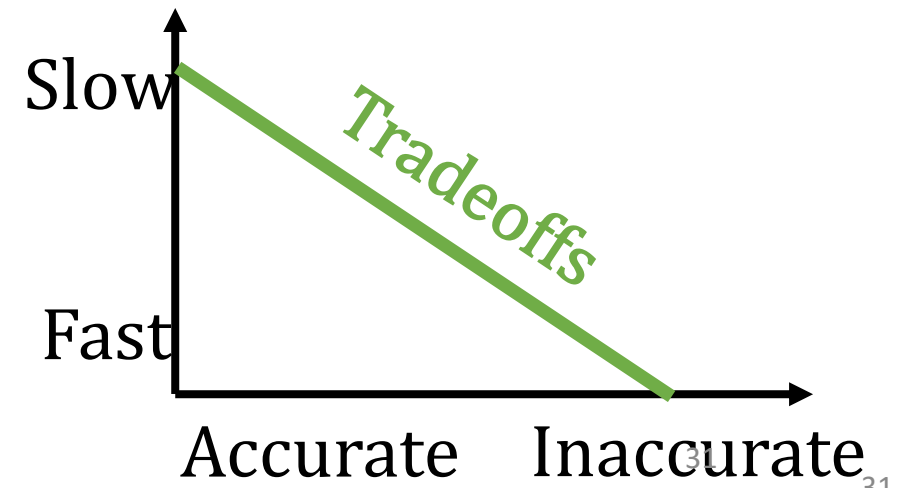
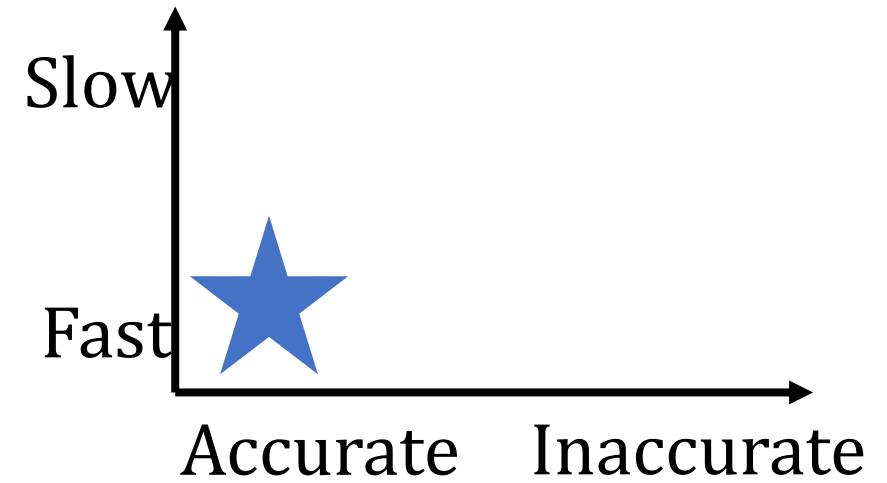


Neuroscience
Biomolecular control...



工学

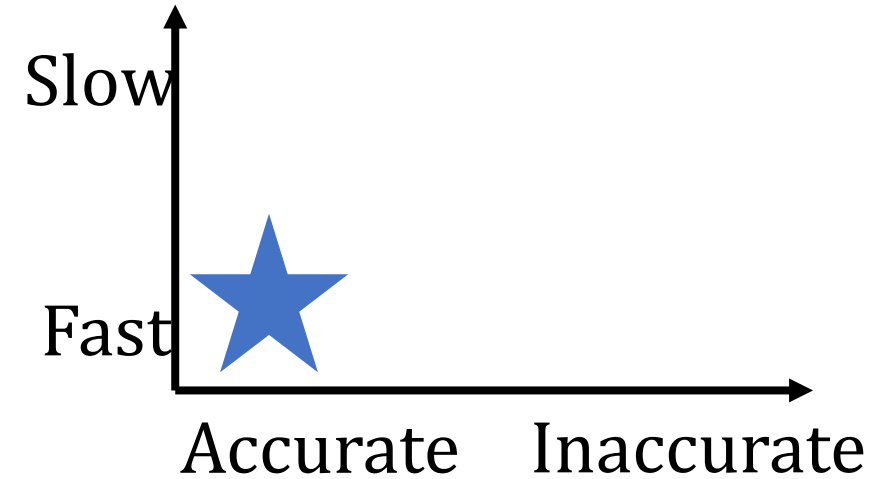
Constraints vs robust performance in human



Constraints vs robust performance in human

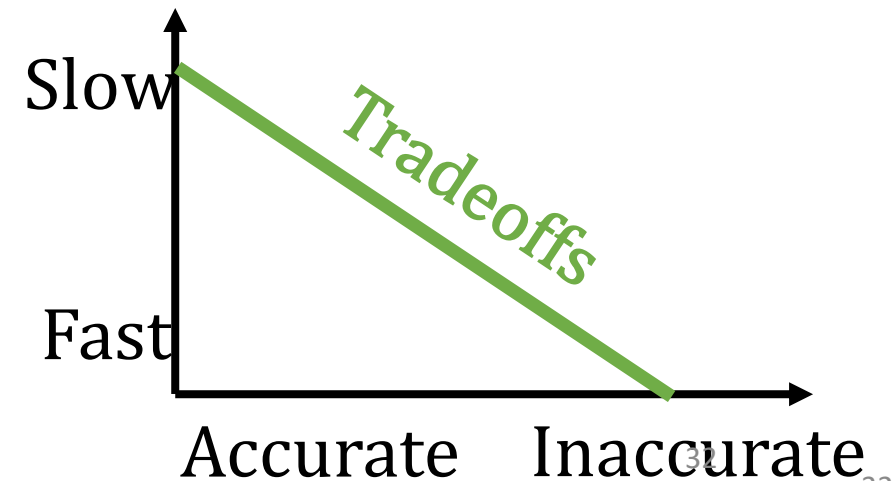
Task 1: Compensate for the head motion

Kyoto



Task 2: Tracking a moving object

Kyoto



Constraints vs robust performance in human



Sensorimotor control

Biking,
eye movement, etc.



A feedback loop
(e.g. VOR, reflex)

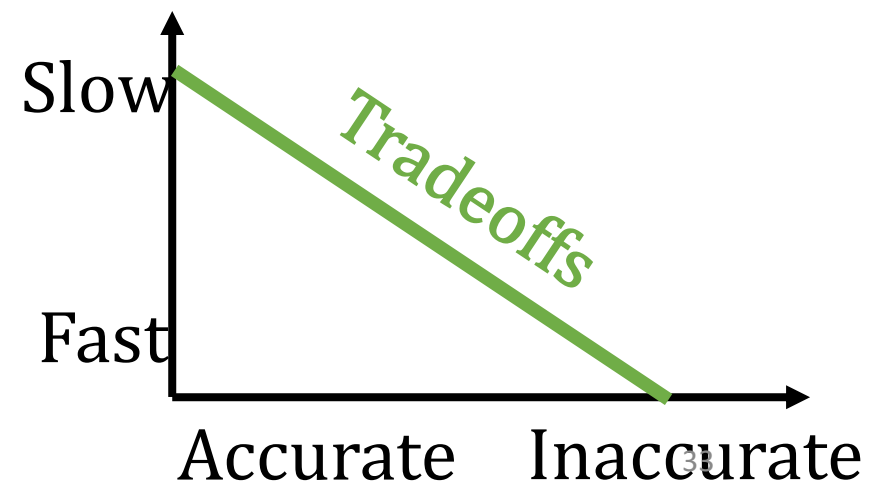
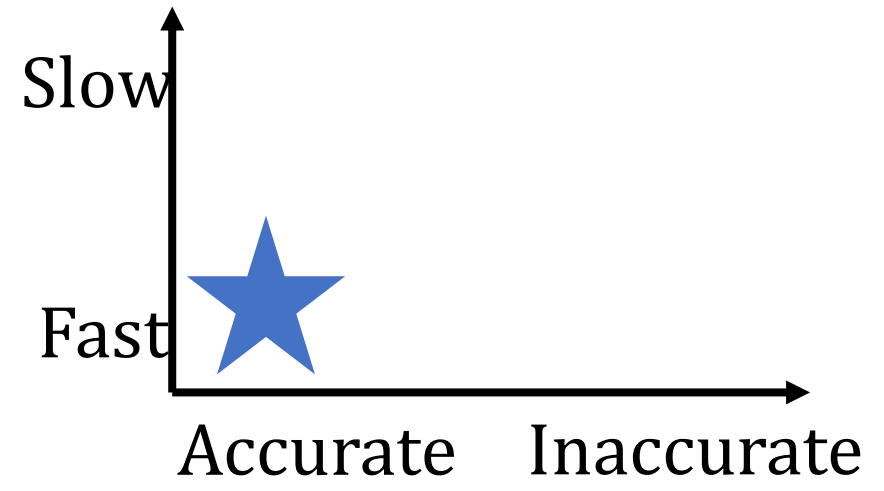
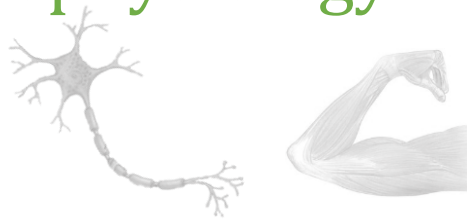


Hardware
(neurons, muscles)



Biological resources

Neurophysiology



Component speed-accuracy tradeoffs



resource use

Rate

Delay

$$R = \lambda T_s$$

Accurate
(large R)

#axons
per nerve

Olfactory

Optic (vision)

Auditory

Vestibular (VOR)

Spinal

Too
expensive

A-alpha
(proprioception)

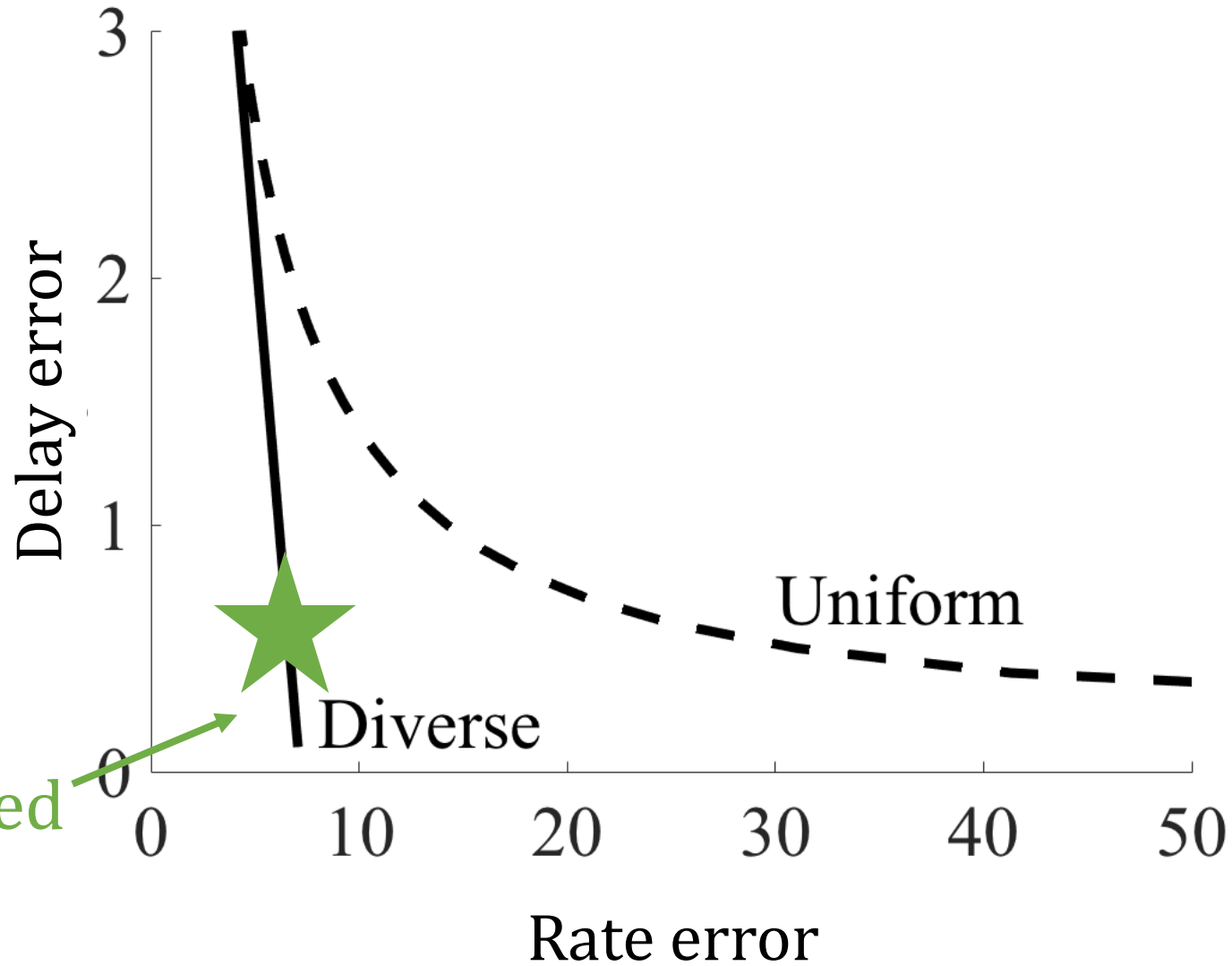
10^0
 10^{-1}

10^0

Fast (small T_s)

Axon mean diameter (microns)

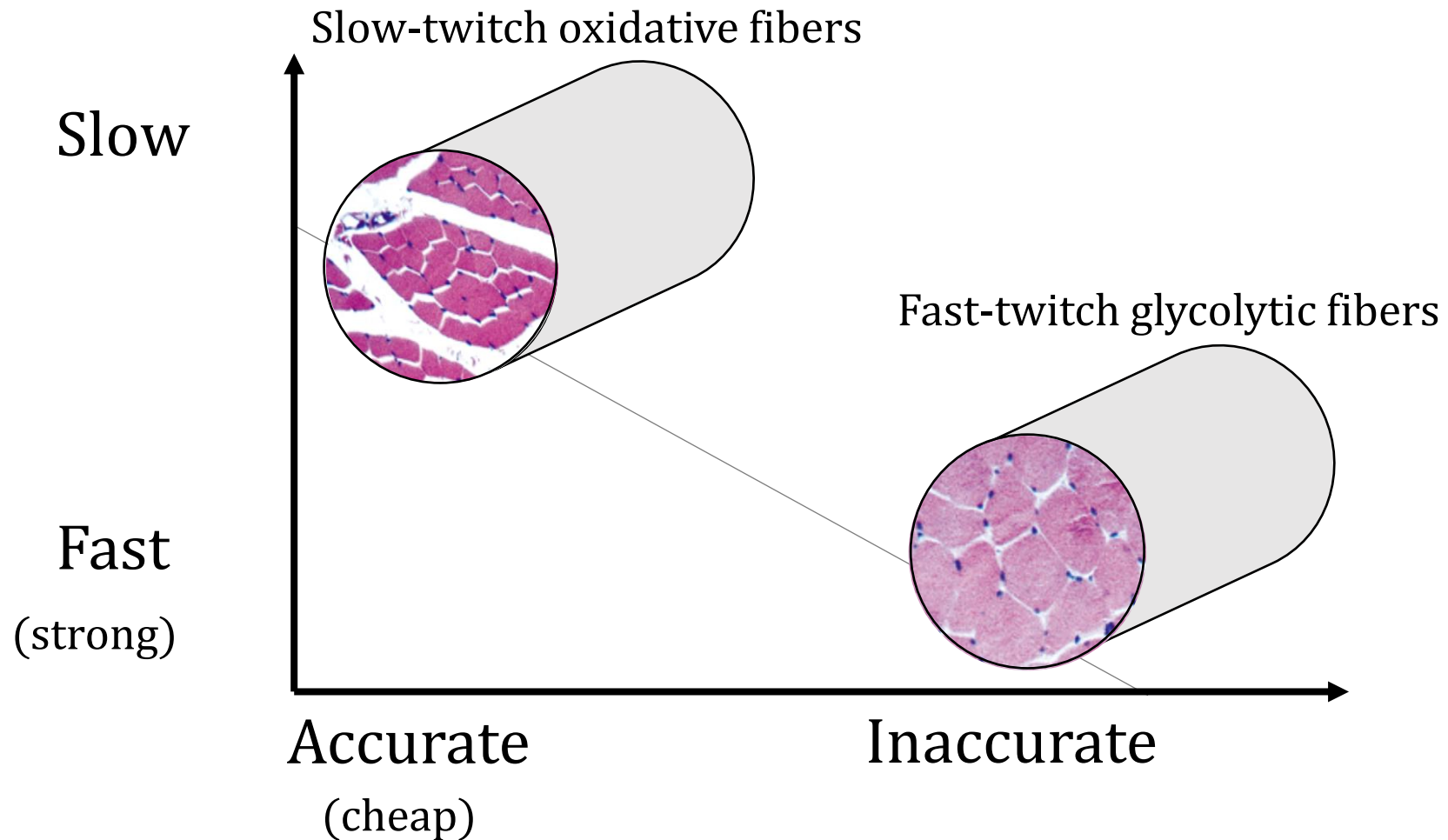
Diversity in axon radius



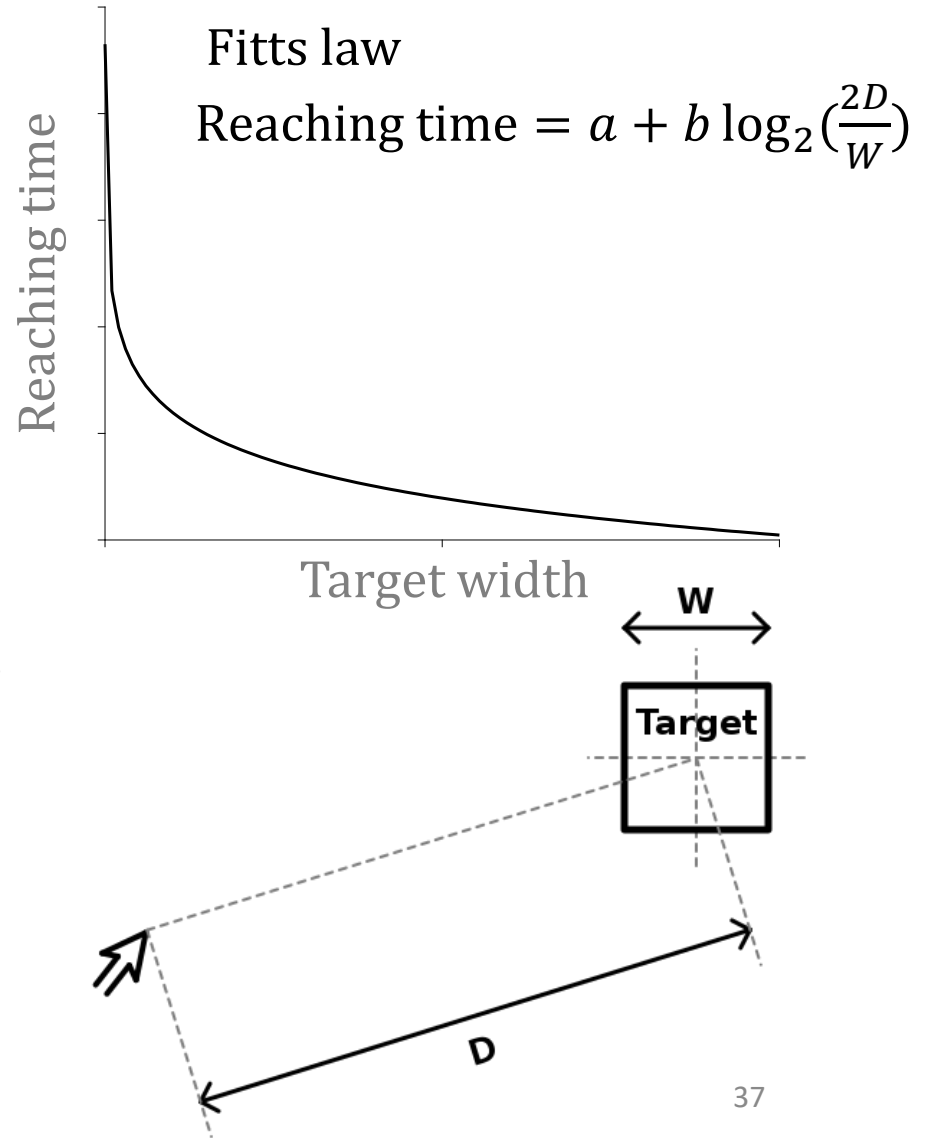
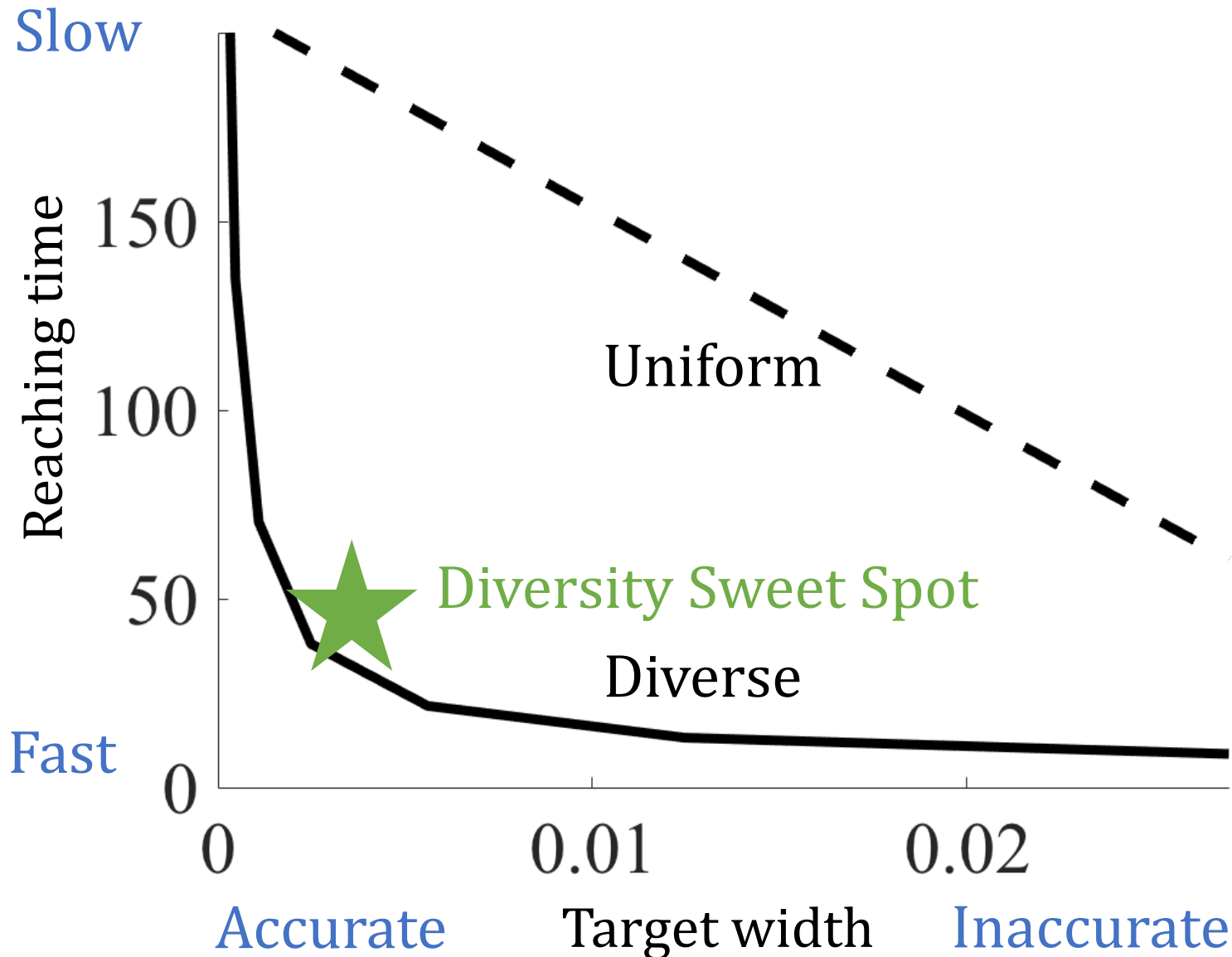
Diversity-enabled
sweet spots

Diversity in muscle compositions

Different types of muscle

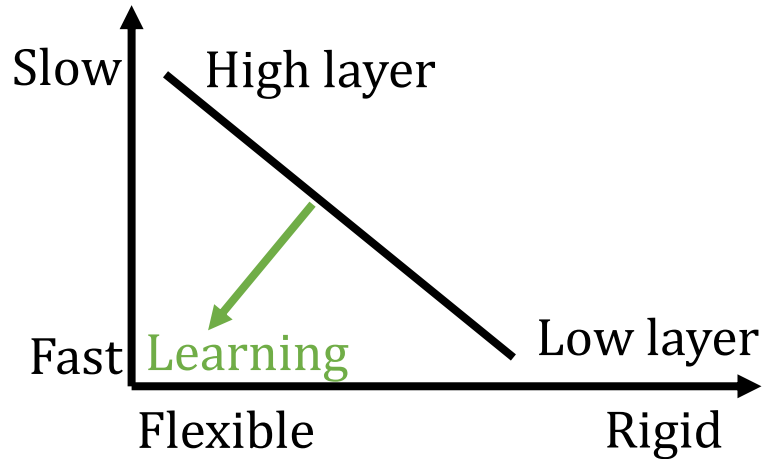


Diversity in muscle compositions

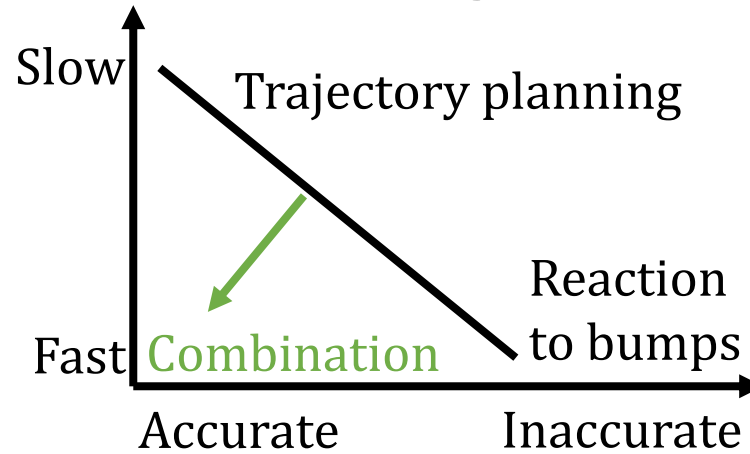


Diversity-enabled sweet spots in **biology**

Efficient learning



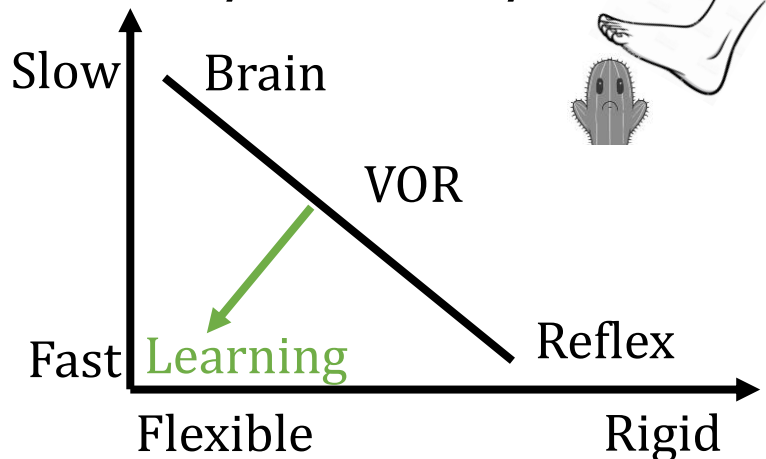
Biking



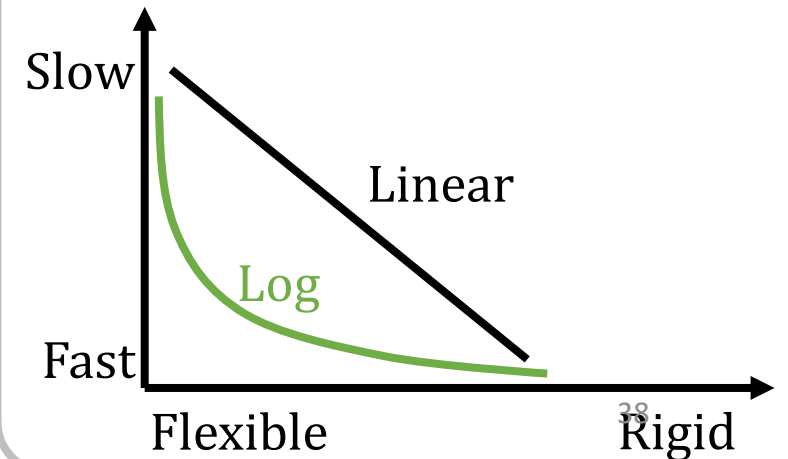
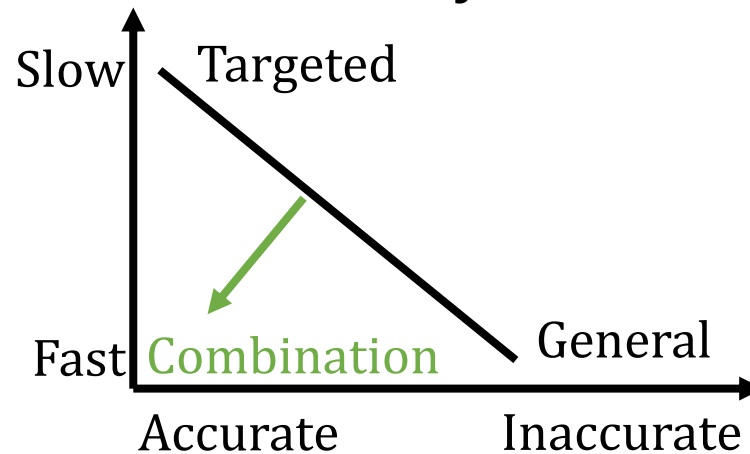
Logarithmic laws in nature

- Fitts law
- Weber-Fechner Law
- Ricco Law
- Accot-Zhai
- Power law of practice

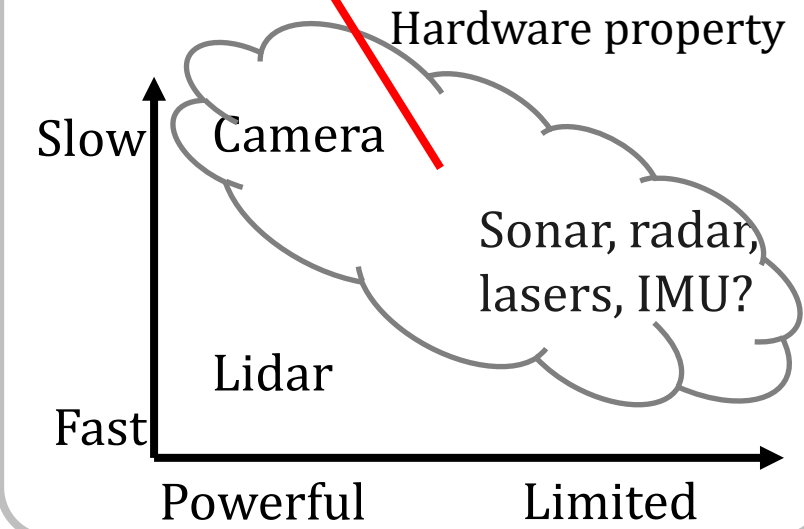
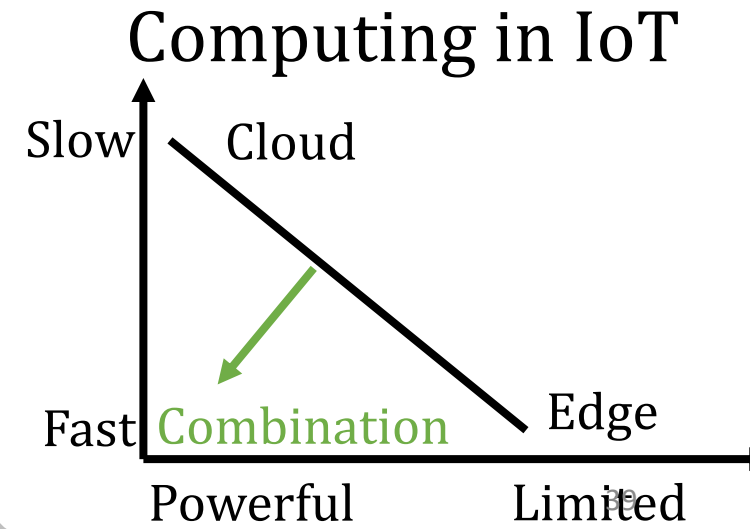
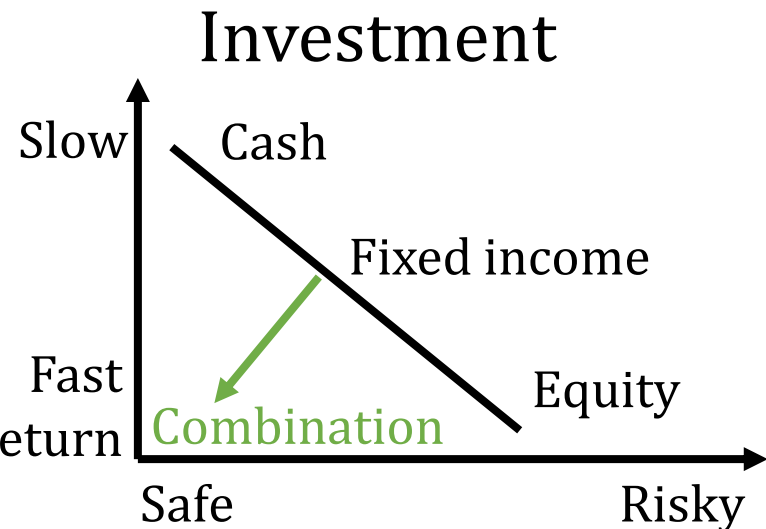
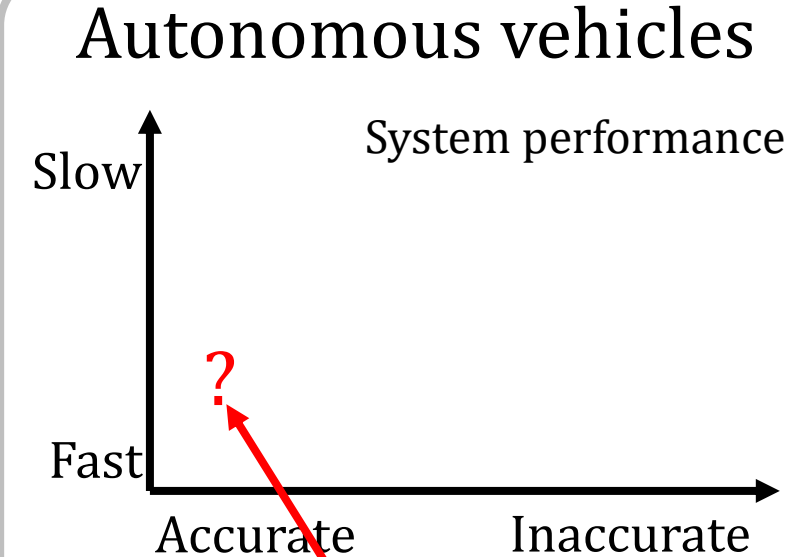
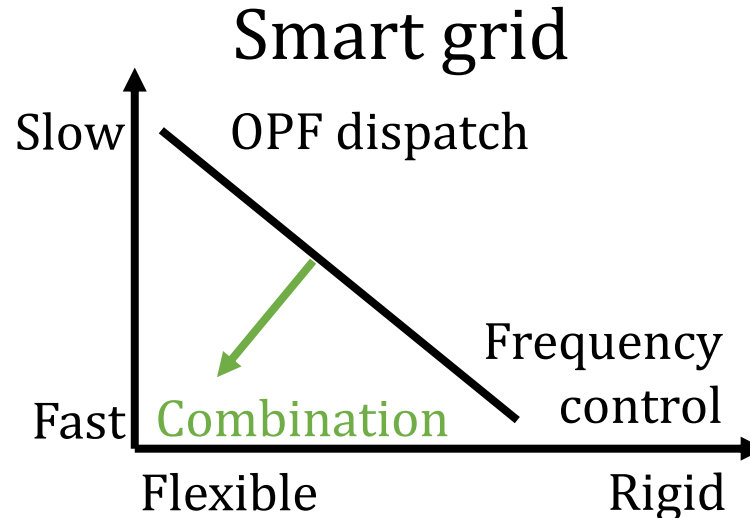
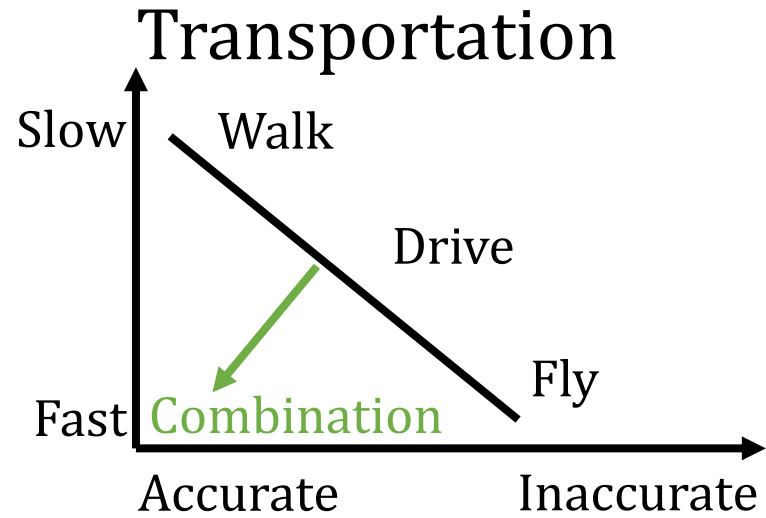
Walk/balance/react



Immune system



Diversity-enabled sweet spots in **engineering**



Today's talk

理学

Stochastic safe control
Robust control
Optimization
Information theory ...



工学

Motivation

Microfinance is a category of financial services targeting individuals and small businesses who lack access to conventional banking and related services.

Microfinance services are designed to reach excluded customers, usually poorer population segments, possibly socially marginalized, or geographically more isolated, and to help them become self-sufficient.

Microfinance in developing areas has been proven to improve the local economy significantly.

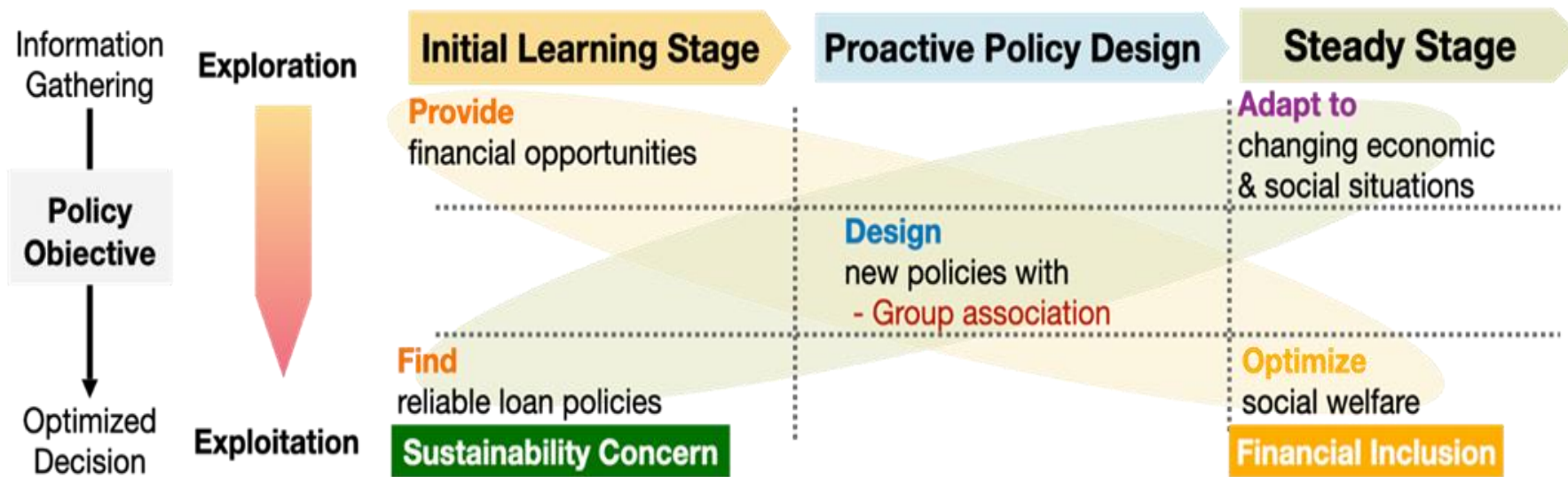


Microfinance from a control perspective

Challenges in microfinance:

1. Complexity in understanding default process
2. Asymmetry, heterogeneity, and incomplete information of individual applications
3. The scarcity of available past data
4. The dynamically evolving social and economic conditions

Benefit in Microfinance

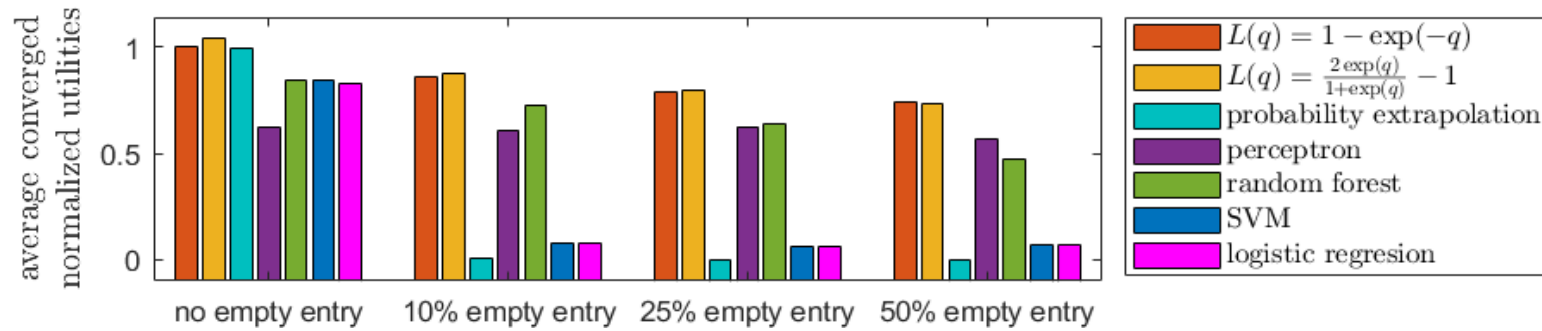


Technical Enablers

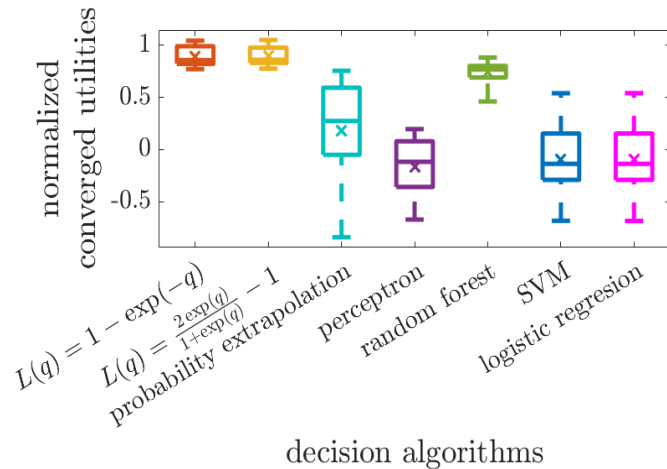
- **Systematically trade-off** exploration vs. exploitation
- **Immediate feedback** from small samples toward better policy
- **Ability** to add **new features**
- **Convergence** to optimal parameters
- **Continuously** adapt to changes

Microfinance from a control perspective

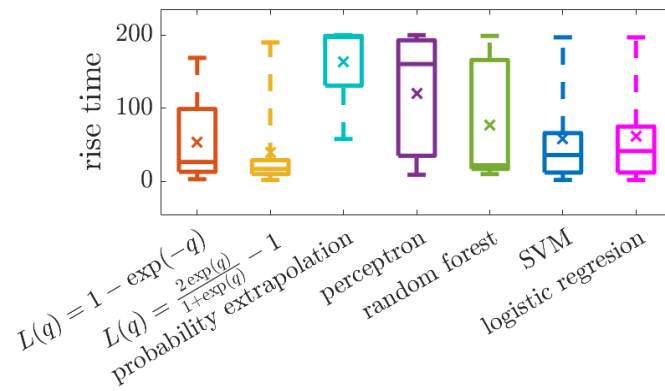
1. Robustness against missing data



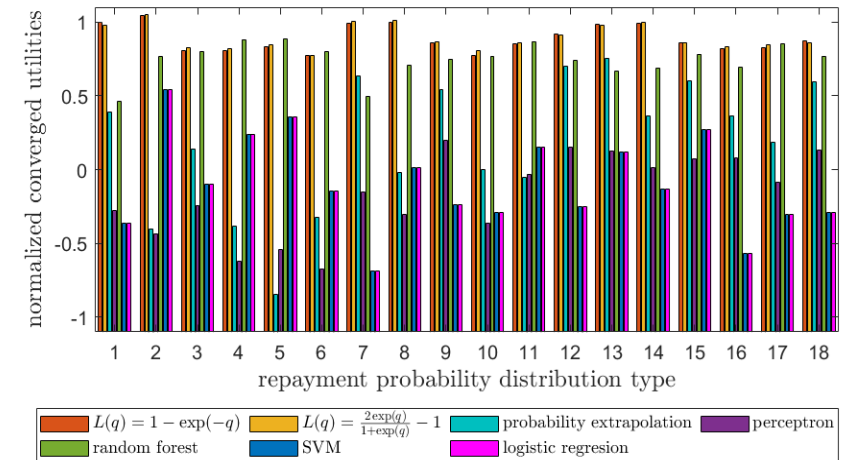
2. Ability to deal with diverse microfinance distributions



decision algorithms

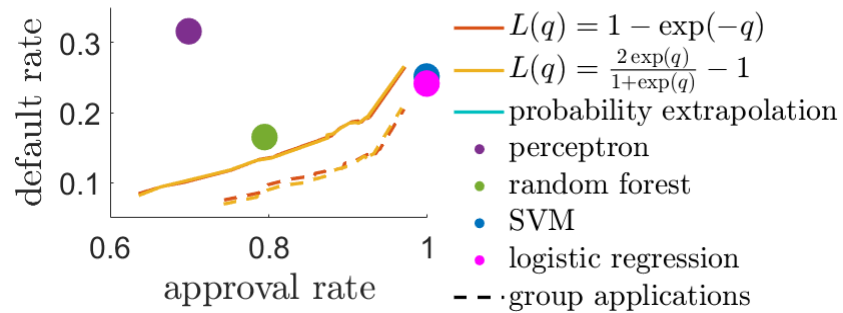


decision algorithms

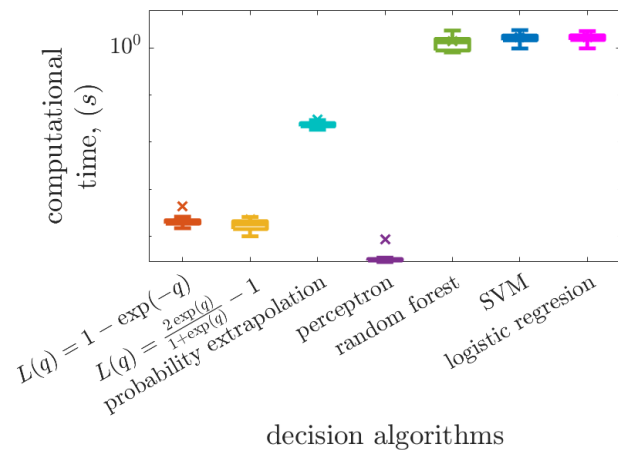


Microfinance from a control perspective

3. Tradeoff between default rate vs. approval rate



4. Cheaper computational cost



5. Adaptation to changes

