Overview of Advances in Hybrid Systems and Control

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Impulsive Coupling Systems





Smart national air space traffic management



Smart Highway Systems



Decentralized satellite constellation control





Formation Control w/ Intermittency



Impulsive Coupling Systems



Communication Events

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with dynamics

$$\begin{cases} \dot{\tau}_i &= -1 & \tau_i \in [0, T_2^i] \\ \tau_i^+ &\in [T_1^i, T_2^i] & \tau_i = 0 \end{cases}$$



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Synchronization Over a Network

Let the dynamics of the i-th node of the network be

 $\dot{z}_i = \tilde{f}(z_i, u_i)$



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Design of a **feedback controller** for z_i that runs at *each agent* using local information transmitted at communication event times $\{t_\ell^i\}_{\ell=1}^\infty$ satisfying $T_1^i \leq t_{\ell+1}^i - t_\ell^i \leq T_2^i$ where T_1^i defines the fastest communication rate (> 0)

 \blacktriangleright T_2^i is the Maximum Allowable Transfer Time (MATI)



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- > T_2^i is the Maximum Allowable Transfer Time (MATI)

Hybrid State-Feedback Control: Assign $u_i = \eta_i$ with dynamics

$$\begin{split} \dot{\eta}_i &= f_c(\eta_i, z_i) & \text{when } t \notin \{t_\ell^i\}_{\ell=1}^\infty \\ \eta_i^+ &= \sum_{k=1}^N g_{ik} G_{ik}(z_i, z_k, \eta_i, \eta_k) & \text{when } t \in \{t_\ell^i\}_{\ell=1}^\infty 1 \end{split}$$

where gains f_c and G_{ik} are to be designed and g_{ik} are the elements of the adjacency matrix.

Synchronization of a Network of Oscillators

Four 2-D systems

- Comm. Parameters:
 - $T_1 = 0.2, \quad T_2 = 0.6$
- *i*-th Controller Gain: K = -[0.4; 1.7] and E = -1.2
- *i*-th Network Graph:

$$G = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$



Synchronization in a Small-World Network

Small-world networks:



N = 100

Nominal Robustness For Networked Systems

 $\rho_i > 0$

Assured robust autonomy: Parameter uncertainty

Skewed clocks

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\tau}_i &= -1 & \rightarrow & \dot{\tau}_i \in -1 + \rho_i \mathbb{B} \\ \bullet \text{ Rate uncertainty} & [T_1^i, T_2^i] & \rightarrow & [T_1^i - \rho_i, T_2^i + \rho_i] \\ \bullet \text{ Unmodeled dynamics} \\ \bullet \text{ Additive dynamics} \\ \dot{z}_i &= \tilde{f}_i(z_i, u_i) & \rightarrow & \dot{z}_i \in \tilde{f}_i(z_i, u_i) + \rho_i \mathbb{B} \\ \bullet \text{ Event conditions} \end{aligned}$$

$$\tau_i = 0 \qquad \to \qquad \tau_i \in \rho_i \mathbb{B}$$

Disturbances

Actuator noise (ISS)

Measurement noise (ISS)

Information dropouts



Hybrid closed-loop systems are given by hybrid inclusions

$$\mathcal{H} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{rrr} \dot{x} &=& F(x) & \quad x \in C \\ x^+ &=& G(x) & \quad x \in D \end{array} \right.$$

where x is the *state*

- C is the flow set D is the jump set
- ► *F* is the *flow map* ► *G* is the *jump map*

Solutions are functions parameterized by hybrid time (t, j):

- ▶ Flows parameterized by $t \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} := [0, +\infty)$
- ▶ Jumps parameterized by $j \in \mathbb{N}_{\geq 0} := \{0, 1, 2, \ldots\}$

Then, solutions to ${\mathcal H}$ are given by hybrid arcs x defined on

 $([0, t_1] \times \{0\}) \cup ([t_1, t_2] \times \{1\}) \cup \dots ([t_j, t_{j+1}] \times \{j\}) \cup \dots$

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From Ro

From Robust Asymptotic Stability to

► Forward invariance and safety properties:

- Tangent cone conditions and barrier functions
- Optimal invariance-based control
- ► Applications: vehicle control, security





Optimality guarantees:

- Hybrid heavy ball and Nesterov methods
- Constrained optimization
- Applications: distributed optimization with intermittency, multi-agent systems







Advanced feedback control:

- Model predictive control
- Learning-based control
- Applications: all of the above

Dynamic optimization:

Given an initial condition $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$,

 $\begin{array}{ll} \underset{(x,u)\in\widehat{\mathcal{S}}_{\mathcal{H}}(x_{0})}{\text{minimize}} & \mathcal{J}(x,u) \\ \text{subject to} & (T,J)\in\mathcal{T} \\ & x(T,J)\in X, \end{array}$

Mayer form:

$$\begin{split} & \underset{x\in\mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{H}}}{\text{minimize}} \quad \mathcal{J}(x(0,0),(T,J),x(T,J)) \\ & \text{subject to} \quad (x(0,0),(T,J),x(T,J)) \in \Omega, \end{split}$$

 $\label{eq:algorithm 1 Hybrid MPC Implementation} \hline \hline $$ i = 0, (T_0, J_0) = (0, 0), x_0 = x(0, 0).$$ 2: while true do $$ 3: Solve Problem 3.2 to obtain an optimal pair <math>(x_i^*, u_i^*).$$ 4: while <math>(t - T_i) < \tau/2$ and $j - J_i < 1$ do \$\$ 5: Apply u_i^* to \mathcal{H} to generate the state trajectory $x.$$ 6: end while $$ 7: i = i + 1, (T_i, J_i) = (t, j), x_0 = x(T_i, J_i).$$ 8: end while $$ 7: dot not state the state trajectory for the state the state the state trajector the state the state trajectory $$ and $$ and$



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- Learning-based control
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Hybrid closed-loop systems are given by *hybrid inclusions* with inputs

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where x is the *state* and u the *input*,

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The state x can have logic, memory, and timer components.



Modeling Hybrid Systems: Hybrid Plant



Hybrid Feedback Control Princeton University Press 2021



Research Areas during AFOSR CoE

1. Intermittent Information

- Estimation
- Synchronization
- 2. Safety
 - Safety Certificates
 - Reinforcement Learning

3. Optimization

- Hybrid Model Predictive Control
- Distributed Optimization
- Optimization with Computational Constraints

4. Security

- Attack Detection
- Hybrid Control for Attack Recovery

During this project, we published 91 conference papers, 44 journal papers, 4 book chapters, and 1 textbook related to these topics.

HyRRT/HySST: Sampling-based Motion Planning Algorithms for Hybrid Dynamical Systems

Nan Wang, Ricardo Sanfelice Hybrid Systems Laboratory, UC Santa Cruz





AACE Program Final Review April 7, 2025

Motivation

Hybrid system exhibits combined continuous and discrete behaviors within respective constraint sets.

 $\mathscr{H}[3]: \begin{cases} \dot{x} = f(x, u) & (x, u) \in \mathcal{C} \\ x^+ = g(x, u) & (x, u) \in \mathcal{D} \end{cases}$

- C is the flow set
- f is the flow map
- > *D* is the *jump set*
- \succ g is the jump map



Collisioningeringent poppat [2] hicle [1] Robotic systems with multimodal structure

[3] Sanfelice, Ricardo G. *Hybrid feedback control*. Princeton University Press, 2021. [1] J. Zha and M. W. Mueller, "Exploiting collisions for sampling-based multicopter motion planning," 2021 IEEE [2] Duncan W. Haldane et al. Robotic vertical jumping agility via series-elastic power modulation. Sci. Robot. 1, eaag International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA), Xi'an, China, 2021, pp. 7943-7949, doi: 10.1109/ICRA48506.2021.9561166.

Problem Formulation: Feasible Motion Planning Problem

Problem 1: (Feasible motion planning problem for hybrid systems) Given a hybrid system \mathscr{H} as in (1) with state $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and input $u \in \mathbb{R}^m$, the initial state set $X_0 \subset \mathbb{R}^n$, the final state set $X_f \subset \mathbb{R}^n$, the unsafe set $X_u \subset \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^m$, find a pair (ϕ, u) such that for some $(T, J) \in \text{dom}(\phi, u)$, the following hold:

- $\succ \phi(0,0) \in X_0;$
- $\succ \phi(T,J) \in X_f;$
- \succ (ϕ , u) is a solution pair to \mathscr{H} ,
- For any $(t, j) \in \text{dom}(\phi, u)$ such that $t + j \leq T + J$, $(\phi(t, j), u(t, j)) \notin X_u$.









Step 3: Find the closest vertex in the search tree to the random state

4

- final state

jump set

[1] Wang, Nan, and Ricardo G. Sanfelice. "Motion planning for hybrid dynamical systems: Framework, algorithm template, and a sampling-based approach." The International Journal of Robotics Research (2025)



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Problem Formulation: Optimal Motion Planning Problem

Problem 2: (Optimal motion planning problem for hybrid systems) Given **Problem 1** and a cost functional *c*, find a feasible motion plan (ϕ^*, u^*) to Problem 1 such that $(\phi^*, u^*) = \arg \min_{(\phi, u)} c(\phi)$.



6

HySST [1]



HyRRT finds the closest vertex in the search tree to the random state

random state \

random state

neighborhood

minimal cost within the neighborhood of the random state

current vertex

[1] Wang, Nan, and Ricardo G. Sanfelice. "HySST: A Stable Sparse Rapidly-Exploring Random Trees Optimal Motion Planning Algorithm for Hybrid Dynamical Systems." IEEE 62nd Conference on Decision and Control (CDC). IEEE, 2023.





Sparsify the vertices by maintaining a static set of witnesses.

Theorem 2. (Asymptotic Near-Optimality of HySST [2]) Suppose there exists an optimal motion plan (ϕ^*, u^*) to $\mathcal{P}^* = (X_0, X_f, X_u, (C, f, D, g), c)$. When HySST is used to solve $\mathcal{P} =$ $(X_0, X_f, X_u, (C_{\delta}, f_{\delta}, D_{\delta}, g_{\delta}), c)$, the probability that HySST finds a motion plan (ϕ', u') such that $c(\phi') <$ $(1 + a\delta)c(\phi^*)$ converges to 1 as the number of iterations approaches infinity.

[1] Wang, Nan, and Ricardo G. Sanfelice. "HySST: A Stable Sparse Rapidly-Exploring Random Trees Optimal Motion Planning Algorithm for Hybrid Dynamical Systems." to appear in 2023 IEEE 62nd Conference on Decision and Control (CDC). IEEE, 2023.


Takeaways

- We formulate a general motion planning problem for hybrid systems.
- We propose a probabilistically complete HyRRT to solve feasible motion planning problems for hybrid systems.
- We propose an asymptotically near-optimal HySST to solve optimal motion planning problems for hybrid systems.

HyRRT HyRRT HySST

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Inverse-Optimal Safety Control for Hybrid Systems

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University of California, Santa Cruz, USA

AACE Program Review

April 7, 2025





Montenegro G., J. Leudo, and Sanfelice - UCSC - 1/12

Control Theory

Quadruped Robot. Mutiple time domains.

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- Existing methods only apply to limited classes of systems and fall short of guaranteeing safety and optimality for hybrid systems.

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- Synthesis of controllers for safety of hybrid systems under disturbances is yet to be explored.
- Existing methods only apply to limited classes of systems and fall short of guaranteeing safety and optimality for hybrid systems.
- Challenges: Hybrid systems pose additional challenges due to interaction of discrete and continuous dynamics

Control Theory

Quadruped Robot. Mutiple time domains.

Synthesis of controllers for safety of hybrid systems under disturbances is yet to be explored.

Thus, we propose a **framework** to **certify safety and optimality** for systems with such **complex dynamics** even under **disturbances**.

discrete and continuous dynamics

Modeling Hybrid Dynamics



Modeling Hybrid Dynamics





Modeling Hybrid Dynamics



A hybrid system \mathcal{H} with state x as in [Goebel, et.al., PUP 2012]:

$$\mathcal{H} \begin{cases} \dot{x} &= F(x) \quad x \in C \\ x^+ &= G(x) \quad x \in D \end{cases}$$

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- ▶ $t \in [0,\infty)$, time elapsed during flows
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 $\mathbf{A}\phi(t,j)$

 ϕ : Solution to \mathcal{H}

 t_2

 $t_{3} = t_{4}$

Connections to Other Frameworks

Switched Systems

$$\dot{x} = f_{\sigma(t)}(x)$$

$$\sigma(t) \in \{1, 2, \dots\}$$

Impulsive Systems

$$\dot{x} = f(x(t))$$

 $x(t^+) = g(x(t)) \quad t \in \{t_1, t_2, \dots\}$

Differential-Algebraic Equations

$$\dot{x} = f(x, w)$$
$$0 = \eta(x, w)$$

Hybrid Automata



Connections to Other Frameworks



Consider the following hybrid system \mathcal{H} on \mathbb{R} affine in the input $w \in \mathbb{R}^m$:

$$\mathcal{H} : \begin{cases} \dot{x} = F(x, w_C) := f(x) + f_w(x)w_C & (x, w_C) \in C \\ x^+ = G(x, w_D) := g(x) + g_w(x)w_D & (x, w_D) \in D \end{cases}$$

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Input-to-State Safety for Hybrid Systems

Consider a closed set $K \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ defined as the 0-sublevel set of a function $B : \text{dom } B \to \mathbb{R}$, and a hybrid system \mathcal{H} . If there exist $\bar{w} \ge 0$ and $\rho \in \mathcal{K}_{\infty}$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} (\phi, w) \in \mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{H}}(K), ||w||_{\#} &\leq \bar{w} \\ \Rightarrow B(\phi(t, j)) &\leq \rho(\bar{w}) \quad \forall (t, j) \in \operatorname{dom} \phi \end{aligned}$$

where the function ρ is referred to as the ISSf gain, then the system \mathcal{H} is \bar{w} -small-input input-to-state safe (\bar{w} -small-input ISSf) with respect to the disturbance w and the set K.

Safety and invariance

It is immediate that the system \mathcal{H} is \bar{w} -small-input ISSf with respect to w and K if and only if there exist $\bar{w} \geq 0$ and $\rho \in \mathcal{K}_{\infty}$ such that the set $K_d(\bar{w}) \supset K$ defined as

```
K_d(\bar{w}) := \{ x \in \Pi(C) \cup \Pi(D) : B(x) - \rho(\bar{w}) \le 0 \}
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Theorem. ISSf under a barrier function candidate.

Given a hybrid system \mathcal{H} and a closed set $K \subset \mathbb{R}^n$, suppose B is an ISSf-BF candidate for \mathcal{H} with respect to $(K, K_d(\bar{w}))$, where $K_d(\bar{w})$ is defined for some $\rho \in \mathcal{K}_{\infty}$ and $\bar{w} \geq 0$.

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 $\langle \nabla B(x), F(x, w_C) \rangle \le -\alpha_C B(x) \qquad \forall (x, w_C) \in C : x \in \mathcal{V} \setminus K_d(\bar{w}), |w_C| \le \bar{w}$

 $B(G(x, \boldsymbol{w_D})) - B(x) \le -\alpha_D(B(x) - \rho(\bar{w})) \qquad \forall (x, \boldsymbol{w_D}) \in \boldsymbol{D} : x \in K_d(\bar{w}), |\boldsymbol{w_D}| \le \bar{w}$

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Assumption. Control-affine jumps.

Consider a hybrid system \mathcal{H} , a feedback law $\kappa := (\kappa_C, \kappa_D) = (\bar{\kappa}_C + \hat{\kappa}_C, \bar{\kappa}_D + \hat{\kappa}_D)$, and a scalar function B. Suppose that there exist functions \hat{B}_{Lu} and \hat{B}_{Lw} such that, for all $(x, (\kappa_D(x), w_D)) \in D$,

$$B\left(G(x,(\kappa_D(x),w_D))\right) = B\left(g(x) + g_u(x)\kappa_D(x) + g_w(x)w_D\right)$$

$$\leq B\left(g(x) + g_u(x)\bar{\kappa}_D(x)\right) + \widehat{B}_{Lu}(x)\hat{\kappa}_D(x) + \widehat{B}_{Lw}(x)w_D.$$

But we love control! Let's bring it back:

$$\mathcal{H} : \begin{cases} \dot{x} = F(x, w_C) := f(x) + f_u(x)u_C + f_w(x)w_C & (x, (u_C, w_C)) \in C \\ x^+ = G(x, w_D) := g(x) + g_u(x)u_D + g_w(x)w_D & (x, (u_D, w_D)) \in D \end{cases}$$

Assumption. Control-affine jumps.

Consider a hybrid system \mathcal{H} , a feedback law $\kappa := (\kappa_C, \kappa_D) = (\bar{\kappa}_C + \hat{\kappa}_C, \bar{\kappa}_D + \hat{\kappa}_D)$, and a scalar function B. Suppose that there exist functions \hat{B}_{Lu} and \hat{B}_{Lw} such that, for all $(x, (\kappa_D(x), w_D)) \in D$,

$$B\left(G(x,(\kappa_D(x),w_D))\right) = B\left(g(x) + g_u(x)\kappa_D(x) + g_w(x)w_D\right)$$

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Given $\bar{\kappa}_C$ and $\alpha_C \geq 0$, we define

Given $\bar{\kappa}_D$ and $\alpha_D \in [0, 1]$, we define

$$\omega_C(x) := L_{f+f_u\bar{\kappa}_C}B(x)$$
$$+ |L_{f_w}B(x)|\rho^{-1}(B(x)) + \alpha_C B(x)$$

and introduce the following QP

$$\widehat{\kappa}_{C_{QP}}(x) = \underset{v \in \mathbb{R}^{m_{C_u}}}{\operatorname{arg\,min}} \quad |v|^2$$

subject to $L_{f_u} B(x) v \leq -\omega_C(x)$

for all $x \in \mathcal{V} \cap \Pi(C)$.

$$\omega_D(x) := B(g(x) + g_u(x)\bar{\kappa}_D(x)) - B(x)$$
$$+ |\widehat{B}_{Lw}(x)|\bar{w} + \alpha_D(B(x) - \rho(\bar{w}))$$

and introduce the following $\mathsf{Q}\mathsf{P}$

$$\widehat{\kappa}_{D_{Q_P}}(x) = \underset{v \in \mathbb{R}^{m_{D_u}}}{\operatorname{subject to}} \quad |v|^2$$

subject to $\widehat{B}_{Lu}(x)v \leq -\omega_D(x)$

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Theorem. The QP filter $\hat{\kappa}_{QP} := (\hat{\kappa}_{C_{QP}}, \hat{\kappa}_{D_{QP}})$ renders the hybrid closed-loop system $\mathcal{H}_{\kappa} \bar{w}$ -small-input ISSf w.r.t. (K, w).

 $+ |L_{f_w}B(x)|\rho^{-1}(B(x)) + \alpha_C B(x)$

and introduce the following QP

$$\begin{split} \widehat{\kappa}_{C_{QP}}(x) &= \mathop{\mathrm{arg\,min}}_{v \in \mathbb{R}^{m_{C_u}}} \quad |v|^2 \\ &\text{subject to} \quad L_{f_u} B(x) v \leq -\omega_C(x) \end{split}$$

for all $x \in \mathcal{V} \cap \Pi(C)$.

Gi

and introduce the following QP

$$\widehat{\kappa}_{D_{QP}}(x) = \underset{v \in \mathbb{R}^{m_{D_u}}}{\operatorname{subject to}} \quad |v|^2$$

subject to $\widehat{B}_{Lu}(x)v \leq -\omega_D(x)$

 $+ |B_{Lw}(x)|\bar{w} + \alpha_D(B(x))|$

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Given $\xi \in K$, an input action $(u, w) = ((u_C, u_D), (w_C, w_D))$, the stage cost for flows L_C , the stage cost for jumps L_D , and the terminal cost q, we define the cost associated to the solution $(\phi, (u, w))$ to \mathcal{H} from ξ as

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$$\begin{split} \mathcal{J}(\xi,(u,w)) &:= \sum_{j=0}^{\sup_{j} \operatorname{dom} \phi} \int_{t_{j}}^{t_{j+1}} L_{C}(\phi(t,j),(u_{C}(t,j),w_{C}(t,j))) dt \\ &+ \sum_{j=0}^{\sup_{j} \operatorname{dom} \phi-1} L_{D}(\phi(t_{j+1},j),(u_{D}(t_{j+1},j),w_{D}(t_{j+1},j))) \\ &+ \lim_{t+j \to \sup_{t} \operatorname{dom} \phi + \sup_{j} \operatorname{dom} \phi} q(\phi(t,j)) \\ &+ (t,j) \in \operatorname{dom} \phi \end{split}$$

i=0

Given $\xi \in K$ an input action $(u, w) = ((u_{C}, u_{D}), (w_{C}, w_{D}))$ the stage cost for flows

Definition. (Value function). Given $\xi \in K$ and a nominal feedback law $\bar{\kappa}$, the value function at ξ is given by

$$\mathcal{J}^*(\xi) := \min_{\substack{u \\ u = (u,w) \in \mathcal{U}_{\mathcal{H}}(\bar{\kappa}, \bar{w})}} \mathcal{J}(\xi, (u, w)).$$

$$+ \sum_{j=0}^{\sup_{j} \operatorname{dom} \phi - 1} L_{D}(\phi(t_{j+1}, j), (u_{D}(t_{j+1}, j), w_{D}(t_{j+1}, j)))$$

$$+ \lim_{t+j \to \sup_{t} \operatorname{dom} \phi + \sup_{j} \operatorname{dom} \phi} q(\phi(t, j))$$

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j=0sup : dom $\phi-1$

Theorem. The QP filter $\hat{\kappa}_{QP} := (\hat{\kappa}_{C_{QP}}, \hat{\kappa}_{D_{QP}})$ minimizes \mathcal{J} , under the worst case disturbacen, for some L_C , L_D , and q. In addition, the CBF B is the value function for the hybrid game.

 ${}_{(t,j)\in \mathsf{dom} \; \phi}$



For more details:

C. A. Montenegro G., S. Leudo, and R. G. Sanfelice, "**Inverse-Optimal Safety Control for Hybrid Systems**", in Proceedings of the 28th ACM International Conference on Hybrid Systems: Computation and Control, Irvine, CA, USA, 2025.
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